

Ron Williams Dog World Profile

Whilst growing up in Crows Nest Sydney my family always had a pet dog. I acquired my first dog Oscar an Australian Cattle dog when I was about 10 years of age a friend Ray Skews had the mother. Oscar was very loyal and extremely protective of me, he wouldn't let anyone touch me. He even nipped Mary a couple of times when we were courting. He was the family watchdog and was excellent with small children, when my sister married and lived with us even though he was at least 7 years of age he was great with my nephew and niece. I lost him to old age when he was 14 years.

When Mary and I married I moved to Ulmarra and we didn't get another dog until we moved into our own home in South Grafton. As Mary has told our first dog was a Frenchbulldog Beau. We had French bulldogs for 23 years and then after much heartbreak changed to Border Terriers. Although Mary does a lot of the training all our dogs are registered in both our names. I was there to show and trial sometimes, when needed. Mary and Beau failed 18 Novice Obedience Trials, then I took him in and he achieved his first pass, followed quickly by 2 more and gained his CD Most of the time when going to shows I have been the Roadie, there to accompany, drive and help.

However this changed when our first Border Terrier litter was born and my next dog was CH. Willbeauette Annike Lass TD. I trained and showed Annike, gaining her Australian Championship. I took Annike to a few Agility classes, but we didn't progress far. Sadly we lost Annike suddenly in 2010. I have also trained and shown Banquo, Beatrice, Conan, Bronte Phryne and Poppy in conformation. When Bronte had a litter we kept Poppy who is my dog. I have achieved her Australian Champion in conformation and her TDX and passed her T7, she just has one pass to go to get her tracking Champion.

I am keenly interested in the dogs progressing in tracking. I am the one who gets to set tracks for our dogs and lay in the wet grass so the dogs can jump all over me and lick me to death when they find me. I now handle Poppy in tracking trials. I also did most of the training of the six BT's for their ETs, lost some bark when I came off the bike a couple of times. It was a great thrill and achievement to get their ET's especially our first Corrie's everyone was cheering when we crossed the line.

In the late 70's Mary and I became involved in the Executive of GDOC, I have held several positions over the years just completing my 42nd term as President. We also became involved in instructing with the club. In 1981/82 we participated in the Canine Council's Instructor's course. I completed the course when I passed my practical in April 1982. Around this time I also completed an Obedience Stewards course and since then have enjoyed stewarding at Obedience trials especially in the UD, UDX ring. After acquiring Corrie our Border Terrier I attended a card writing course with Clarence Kennel Club and enjoy helping out as a Card Writer at Breed Shows.

Mary and I were greatly honoured to receive life membership of GDOC in December 2004. I have enjoyed volunteering many hours instructing and working for the club, it is great to meet so many people and witness their progress with their canine pals as they pass through their classes.

I have also gained great pleasure and enjoyment of our own dog's achievements over the years. I won't bore you with these as Mary has already covered them. We have made many wonderful friends with people we have met through the Dog World. In the future I am keen to continue as we are, but also go to Brisbane with Mary and get our dogs involved in Earth Dog work.