



**ASSISTANCE DOGS EUROPE  
FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**31 OCTOBER, 1 – 2 NOVEMBER  
2003  
GERMANY**

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# Assistance Dogs Europe

## Opening Speech by Peter Gorbing President of the Interim Board of Assistance Dogs Europe

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It gives me great pleasure to welcome all delegates to the 4<sup>th</sup> Conference of Assistance Dogs Europe here in the great city of Berlin. Amongst the delegates I can see many old friends for whom this annual get-together is always a highlight of the year. I also see many new faces and I extend a very warm welcome to those of you who are attending an Assistance Dogs Europe Conference for the first time.

These conferences offer us all a unique opportunity to spend time with people who are doing very similar work to us – please do use this opportunity to network with everyone and share ideas, good practice and ideals. However, we also decided at our conference last year in Paris that we would work towards the creation of unified standards for all assistance dog organisations that want to be affiliated to ADEu and I hope that by the end of this conference, we will have taken some major steps forward with this work.

The Interim Board that you elected last year have met during the year and have moved forward with many of the priorities that were highlighted at our conference in Paris.

The constitution that we so cordially agreed has been registered with the authorities in Belgium and we await confirmation that ADEu is formally registered. However, I propose that we now operate under the terms of the Statutes that we agreed. We have now opened a bank account in accordance with the wishes of the conference. We have also prepared a proposal for membership that will be discussed on Sunday.

A series of standards have been put together and these were circulated to affiliates prior to the conference. It is hoped that these standards will be agreed here in Berlin and will form the basis for the development of an accreditation system for future members of ADEu. It is my view that we will not have a credible case for promoting common access rights for assistance dog partnerships across Europe until we have agreed standards and an accreditation system in place. There is no reason in my mind why we cannot achieve this very quickly and I hope that the standards being put forward by the Interim Board will be agreed here in Berlin. Once we have standards in place, our next task will be to set up a system to ensure that they are adopted by individual programmes that are members of ADEu via a system of accreditation.

Many of you know that I am a member of the Board of Assistance Dogs International (ADI) and that I have been encouraging ADI to become more international in its outlook. Historically, ADI has been dominated by United States-based programmes and in fairness to these programmes, they have been the prime motivators behind the growth of ADI. This situation may well change over the next year.

The ADI Board have unanimously agreed that a proposal should be put to members at the next ADI Conference that is being held in Vancouver in April 2003 to radically change the structure of ADI towards a federal one – whereby ADI will encourage the setting up of regional Boards representing members in Europe, North America, Asia, South America and so forth. It is the great hope of the ADI Board that ADEurope will become part of ADI. At the same time, discussions are to be held with many other assistance dog and animal therapy organisations to see if there is a will to come together to create one worldwide body that can represent the overall interests of the movement. It is my passionate belief that we in Assistance Dogs Europe should embrace this development within ADI. The structure that ADI is proposing will allow assistance dog and therapy programmes in Europe to develop our work through a relatively autonomous European Board whilst at the same time benefiting from the strength that can be derived from being part of an international networking and support movement as well as the financial benefits that come from being part of ADI.

A move towards being part of ADI would not negate any of the work that we are currently doing and indeed, will help to ensure, if we agree to work as part of ADI, that we in Europe are able to join ADI very much on equal terms with ADI programmes. I hope that we will be able to debate these issues over the next few days. I have circulated a paper on this matter for discussion at our business meeting on Sunday.

There is much work to do over the next couple of days, much networking to be done and lots of fun to be had. I am very grateful to all the members of the Interim Board for all their work during the year. We all owe a great debt of thanks to Elma Burg who has continued to work tirelessly as the Secretariat of ADEu and there is no doubt that we would not be in the position we are in today without Elma's work and unflagging enthusiasm.

Finally, I must thank Tracey Kalychnuk-Mueller and her team from "Tierische Leistung" and Hubert and Ursula Heiner and their team from "Hunde für Handicaps" for all their hard work in putting this conference together. Without their work we would not be gathered here today.

Once again, I welcome you to Berlin and trust that we will all have a great conference.

Peter Gorbing  
President – Interim Board

# **Assistance Dogs Europe**

## **Report on Interim Board Activities 2002/3**

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### **Statutes**

The Statutes have been registered in Belgium as agreed at the last conference. We have yet to have confirmation that they have been formally accepted.

### **Logo**

A logo has been developed and will be launched at the Berlin conference

### **Affiliation Fees for 2003**

Affiliation fees have been requested from programmes and will mostly be collected at the Berlin Conference.

### **Finance**

A bank account has been set up and is operational. This Euro account was set up in the UK and current signatories are Peter Gorbing and Andy Cook. It is hoped to find a Treasurer at the Berlin conference and once the new Board is elected, the number of signatories should be extended.

A grant application was put together and submitted to the Assistance Dog Institute Fund in the U.S.. This application was successful and a grant of \$2,500 (about 2,500Euros) was received.

### **Membership Proposals**

The Interim Board has worked on a membership proposal to put to the conference for approval. If agreed, these proposals would become operational from January 2004.

### **Internal Directory**

An internal directory of members is being compiled and should be launched at the Berlin Conference.

### **Standards**

The Board have compiled draft standards to be presented for discussion at the Berlin Conference. The standards selected have based on those produced by Assistance Dogs International (ADI), although there has been much work done to ensure that they are relevant to European programmes. The standards cover all assistance dogs and AAA and AAE dogs.

Initial discussions have been held by the Board on the best options or introducing the standards and developing an appropriate accreditation process. This will be the primary task for the next Board.

### **Access Issues**

A major discussion at the Berlin conference will focus on the potential for ADEu to develop an access campaign which will relate to the whole of Europe.

**PR Programme**

There was no Pet Night in Brussels in 2003.

To date, no specific promotional material has been produced, but this will be developed in line with an access programme. There has been discussion about producing a simple card that outlines what an assistance dog is.

The website has been developed during the year. We carried out an exercise to ask members what they wanted to get from the website but we had a very limited response. Work on this will continue. We have registered a new domain name.

**2003 Conference**

The Board has supported our German partners in putting together the 2003 Conference in Berlin.

Initial work has been carried out to resolve the likely venues for forthcoming conference. The likely venues are Belgium (2004) and Austria (2005).

**Peter Gorbng**  
**On behalf of Interim Board**  
**October 2003**

# **Assistance Dogs Europe Conference – Berlin 2004**

Business Meeting Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2003

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At the Conference Business Meeting the following was agreed:

## **1. Minimum Standards for Assistance Dogs**

The Minimum Standards relating to assistance dogs presented by the Board to the conference were agreed as a whole. It was accepted that the Standards will be worked on and improved in future years. It was agreed that the Standards be circulated during the forthcoming year for any suggested amendments which could then be voted on by the membership either during the year or at the next conference.

## **2. Finance Report**

The Finance Report presented by the President was agreed.

## **3. Elections to the Board**

- Peter Gorbing, "Dogs for the Disabled", UK, president
- Paul Lambilotte, HACHIKO, Belgium, secretary
- Debra Buttram, AIUCA, Italy, treasurer
- Andy Cook, Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, UK
- Anki Celander, Svenska Service- och Signalthundsförbundet, Sweden
- Janet van Keulen, Stichting Hulphond Nederland, The Netherlands
- Nannerl Wenger, Partnerhunde, Austria

## **4. Membership Proposal**

The Membership Proposals submitted by the Board relating to assistance dog programmes were agreed.

## **5. Future Conferences**

It was agreed that the 2004 Conference will take place in Westende, Belgium and Salzburg, Austria in 2005.

# Assistance Dogs Europe

Accounts for the Year Ending 31st December 2003

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<b>Euro Account</b>	
Income	Euros
Conference Fees	3050.00
Affiliation Fees	1475.00
Total Income	4525.00
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Interim Board Meeting Travel	316.00
Conference Expenses	2038.04
Conference Equipment	330.00
Office Expenses	212.16
Internet Expenses	314.16
Bank Charges	2.56
Total Expenditure	3212.92
<b>Balance</b>	<b>1312.08</b>
Held as:	
Bank	1532.44
Creditors	220.36
<b>Total</b>	<b>1312.08</b>
<b>Sterling Account</b>	
Income	£
Conference Fees	0.00
Affiliation Fees	135.18
Grant from ADInst	1453.69
Interest	0.50
Total Income	1589.37
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Interim Board Meeting travel	133.72
Interim Board Meeting Expenses	420.00
Bank Charges	4.00
Total Expenditure	557.72
<b>Balance</b>	<b>1031.65</b>
Held as:	
<b>Bank</b>	<b>1031.65</b>

# What's new on the EU Pets Regulation<sup>(1)</sup>

Department for Environment,  
Food and Rural Affairs  
UK

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## Implementation date of the EU Regulation on the movement of pet animals

The European Commission have confirmed that this Regulation is implemented from **3 July 2004**. However, there is a transitional period when Member States may run their national rules and the new EU system concurrently until 30 September 2004.

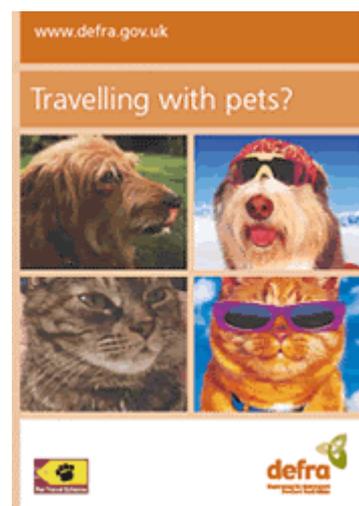
**You can still use your PETS\* certificate to enter or re-enter the UK until it expires. Vets can also issue PETS certificates until 30 September 2004 which can be used until they expire.**

- Passports are now being issued to pet owners by Local Veterinary Inspectors. You are strongly advised to get a passport but if you have to travel before you can get one you can still get and use a PETS certificate.
- If your dog or cat is travelling abroad with a PETS certificate to enter another EU country before 30 September 2004 you are advised for additional reassurance to also get an Export Health Certificate (or a PETS 5 for France). For more advice on how to get one, contact your local Animal Health Divisional Office.
- Dogs, cats and ferrets must be treated against ticks and tapeworms before being allowed to enter the UK. For pets with passports the treatment will be recorded in that document. For dogs and cats with PETS certificates, you will need to get an official tick and tapeworm certificate from a vet in the country in which your pet is treated. This certificate will only be available in certain countries. More information is given below in the section on transitional arrangements.
- Dogs, cats and ferrets must not have been outside any of the qualifying countries in the 6 calendar months immediately before travelling to the UK and must enter the UK using an approved transport company and route.

## EU Regulation on the movement of pet animals

The European Regulation on the animal health requirements for the non-commercial movement of pet animals was published on 13 June 2003 as EC Regulation No. 998/2003. It came into force on 3 July 2003 and will apply from 3 July 2004. The Regulation can be downloaded from the European Union (EU) website.<sup>(2)</sup>

The Regulation sets out the requirements for the movement of pet animals (dogs, cats and ferrets) travelling within the European Community, and into the Community from non-EU countries. It also refers to importation requirements applying to rodents, domestic rabbits, birds (except certain poultry), ornamental tropical fish, invertebrates (except bees and crustaceans), amphibians and reptiles. We are still waiting for



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\* The Pet Travel Scheme (PETS) is the system that allows pet animals from certain countries to enter the UK without quarantine as long as they meet the rules. It also means that people in the UK can, having taken their pets to these countries, bring them back without the need for quarantine.

more information from Brussels about requirements relating to some of these species. For dogs and cats, the Regulation will allow the rules of the UK Pet Travel Scheme to continue largely unchanged for 5 years. The main changes relate to the introduction of a pet passport for dogs, cats and ferrets, an expanded list of qualifying countries, and the requirements for other species.

We have produced a brief of questions and answers<sup>(3)</sup> about the Regulation which will be updated as necessary.

## **EU pet passport**

Dogs, cats and ferrets meeting the necessary requirements may move between EU Member States if they are accompanied by an EU pet passport. All these countries will recognise this document. The final version of this passport was published on 27 November in the Official Journal of the European Union L312. You can view and print the passport from the European Union website<sup>(4)</sup>. Certain non-EU listed countries may also issue a passport. Gibraltar will do so.

This passport will replace the existing PETS 1 certificate and will be accepted for entry to the UK from other Member States and from other qualifying countries. It will also replace the PETS 5 and other documents currently required to enter EU countries. There are some special arrangements for pet owners whose animals have a valid PETS certificate (see transitional arrangements below).

If you are currently preparing your animal for PETS, you are strongly advised to get a passport instead of a PETS certificate. However, if you have to travel before you can get one you should get a PETS certificate. If you are exchanging your PETS certificate for a pet passport, you must take to the vet your pet's vaccination record and the date it was microchipped. Your vet may already have these details but if you have a record of the date it was microchipped, please take it with you. The date must be entered in section III of the passport. **You must continue to vaccinate your pet against rabies on time.**

Passports may only be issued by Panel 2 Local Veterinary Inspectors (LVIs) and are now being made available to pet owners. Check with your surgery that they are issuing passports.

The passport contains details of the pet owner and the animal including its microchip number, the date it was microchipped, rabies vaccination and blood test details. There are also sections to record the tick and tapeworm treatment. Dogs and cats entering or re-entering the UK need to comply with all these requirements. If the animal is going to an EU country and not returning to the UK, all that will be required are the microchip and vaccination details recorded in a passport\*. The blood test required for UK entry can be carried out if necessary after the animal has traveled to another qualifying country. See below for requirements for ferrets.

\* Note that for entry to Sweden and, from qualifying countries other than the UK, the Republic of Ireland, a satisfactory blood test and tick and tapeworm treatment are also required. Check with your local Animal Health Divisional Office or the authorities of the country concerned for more details about entering those countries. There are no requirements for animals travelling between the UK and Ireland.

The passport does not have a section for a "Valid from" date to be recorded. This is the date from which the passport can be used to enter or re-enter the UK. It is calculated as follows: for dogs and cats it is 6 calendar months from the date the blood sample was taken which gave a satisfactory blood test result (this is the date shown in the first paragraph of section V of the passport). Your pet requires only one satisfactory blood test and 6 month wait **provided** the subsequent rabies booster vaccinations are given by the required.

## **Non-EU countries certificate<sup>(5)</sup>**

A Decision establishing an official veterinary certificate to accompany pet dogs, cats and ferrets entering the EU (including the UK) from non-EU countries has been published.

(Please note that in the "Notes for guidance" on this certificate, the heading at "(A)" has now been corrected to read "Entry in a Member State other than Ireland, Sweden and the United Kingdom"). This certificate must be accompanied by supporting documentation, originals or certified copies, of the vaccination record and, for dogs and cats, the blood test result, both bearing the animal's microchip number.

You need to be aware of the following. **The certificate will not become valid for entry to the UK for 6 calendar months from the date shown in section V. However, it is only valid for entry to the EU and subsequent travel within the EU for 4 months** from the date it was signed or endorsed, or until the 'valid until' date shown in Part IV, whichever is earlier. You should therefore delay getting the certificate until a month or two before you travel to ensure that it will still be valid when you enter the UK.

The certificate does not have a section for a "Valid from" date to be recorded. This is the date from which the certificate can be used to enter or re-enter the UK. It is calculated as follows: for dogs and cats it is 6 calendar months from the date the blood sample was taken which gave a satisfactory blood test result (this is the date shown in the first box of section V of the passport). For ferrets, it is 6 calendar months from the date of the rabies vaccination.

### **Current certificates**

From 1 October 2004, vets will not issue PETS re-entry certificates (PETS 1), PETS 5 certificates or, for movement of dogs and cats within the EU, Export Health Certificates.

### **Qualifying countries<sup>(6)</sup>**

Dogs, cats and ferrets will be able to enter the UK from qualifying countries provided they meet the relevant requirements. The EU has published the list of qualifying countries<sup>(6)</sup>. All PETS-qualifying countries are in the list except Northern (Turkish) Cyprus.

All the new accession countries became qualifying countries on 3 July 2004. These countries are Czech Republic, Latvia, Slovenia, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary and Slovakia. Cyprus and Malta are already PETS countries. Some other countries have also been added to the list and qualified from 3 July. They are Aruba, Croatia, the Faroe Islands, French Guyana, Greenland, the Grenadines, the Netherlands Antilles and St Pierre & Miquelon. There are not yet any approved routes from these countries to the UK. Animals that enter the UK on an unapproved route must be licensed into quarantine with a view to obtaining early release. This must be arranged before the animal travels to the UK.

There will still be free movement within the British Isles, including between the UK and the Republic of Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands. However, owners with PETS documents are advised to take these with them when travelling with their animal. Pets can be carried on any route within the British Isles subject to the transport company's agreement and conditions of carriage.

### **Transitional arrangements<sup>(7)</sup>**

Special arrangements have been agreed with the EU for dog and cat owners whose animals have valid PETS certificates issued before 1 October 2004. The Decision<sup>(7)</sup> establishing transitional arrangements has been published.

The Decision permits dogs and cats to enter EU countries, except Sweden and the Republic of Ireland which have their own rules, using a valid PETS certificate from 3 July 2004. However, we strongly recommend that to avoid confusion or delay you use an EU pet passport or an official veterinary certificate where possible. If you are using a PETS certificate to enter another EU country before 30 September 2004 you are advised for additional reassurance to also get an Export Health Certificate (or a PETS 5 for France). Please note that while you can use a PETS certificate to enter most EU countries, you will not be able to use the certificate to return **direct** to the UK from some of them

### **EU countries**

· if you travel with your dog or cat from the UK to another EU country it can enter that country using a valid PETS certificate. You are also advised to get an Export Health Certificate (or a PETS 5 for France) if travelling before 1 October 2004. Your pet will be able to return to the UK using its PETS certificate;

### **Non-EU listed countries**

· if you take your pet from the UK to a non-EU listed country you will be able to return to the UK using a valid PETS certificate. If you return via an EU country before 1 October 2004 you may be able to enter that EU country with the PETS certificate but should check the entry requirements with the authorities of that EU country. From 1 October 2004 you will be able to enter other EU countries using a PETS certificate.

### **EU and non-EU listed countries**

· if your pet is resident in an EU country other than the UK, or a non-EU listed country, and has a PETS certificate issued before 1 October you will be able to use the certificate to enter the UK until its 'valid until' date;  
· animals entering the UK with a PETS certificate must also be accompanied by an official tick and tapeworm treatment certificate. You are advised to check in advance that a vet will be able to issue this.

Please contact the PETS Helpline if you need further information.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/quarantine/pets/contacts.htm>

(1)

What's new on the EU Pets Regulation?

[http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/quarantine/quarantine/regulation/eu\\_reg.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/quarantine/quarantine/regulation/eu_reg.htm)

(2)

Regulation on the movement of pet animals

[http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l\\_146/l\\_14620030613en00010009.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l_146/l_14620030613en00010009.pdf)

(3)

Questions and answers

[http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/quarantine/quarantine/regulation/eu\\_reg\\_qa.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/quarantine/quarantine/regulation/eu_reg_qa.htm)

(4)

View and print EU Passport

[http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l\\_312/l\\_31220031127en00010013.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l_312/l_31220031127en00010013.pdf)

(5)

Non-EU countries certificate

[http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2004/l\\_065/l\\_06520040303en00130019.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2004/l_065/l_06520040303en00130019.pdf)

(6)

List of qualifying countries

[http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2004/l\\_094/l\\_09420040331en00070009.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2004/l_094/l_09420040331en00070009.pdf)

(7)

Transitional arrangements

[http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2004/l\\_098/l\\_09820040402en00550056.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2004/l_098/l_09820040402en00550056.pdf)

# **Wolf-behavior observations in assessment to the use of the dog training terminology “ALPHA-wolf”, “Leader of the Pack” and “Dominance”**

by Günther Bloch

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## **Introduction**

Most publications about wolf behavior are based on observations of captive wolves (Bloch and Bloch 2002, Mech 1999, Smith 2002). Group constellations of captive wolves are quite different than in wild wolves. A wolf pack in captivity normally consists of multi-generations of adult wolves. To keep some sort of social status and community it seems inevitable to have some kind of dominance order from “Alpha” to “Omega” (Schenkel 1946, Mech 1999, Zimen 1972, 1986).

Opposite to that, a classical wolf family in the wild is made out of parents and their offspring from the last two years (Bloch and Bloch 2002, Mech 1999, Smith 2002).

In the past only A. Murie (1985) and R. Bass (1992) gathered useful information about the social ranks of wolves in their natural habitat. Recently we got more accurate and spectacular data from Jim Brandenburg (1990) and Dave Mech (1988, 1999, 2000) from their studies on Ellesmere Island. But their observations only described the hunting behavior and the raising of the pups during summer. No observations have been made about juvenile phase of the wolves and their typical observation-learning in winter. After the recently published scientific results of D. Smiths (2002), leader of the Yellowstone wolfs project we'd like to explain the results of our own observations in Banff National Park in Canada (Bloch and Bloch 2001, 2002).

It is widely recognized today that the wolf (*Canis lupus*) is the ancestor of our dog (Coppinger, Feddersen-Petersen, Herre, Mech, Räber, Schenkel, Smith, Trumler, Wachtel, Zimen). Even though there are a lot of differences and dogs have changed in their appearance and behavior during the last several thousand years, in many ways our family dog is still very wolf-like (Zimen 1986).

Therefor modern dog training is unthinkable without using the newer findings in wolf behavior. On the contrary: To have a clear judgment about the complex aggression- and play-behavior of our dogs, to understand their body language, their expressions and their rank towards their human social partner, it is inevitable to learn about ecology and the behavior of the wolf. Based on our studies of timber wolves in the Rocky Mountains, we have come to the conclusion that terminology like “alpha wolf”, “pack leader” and “dominance” have quite a different meaning.

Unfortunately even today people are calling upon the wolf when they want to justify all kinds of different dog-human relationships. Therefor in today's dog training there is almost nothing that is not controversial. To explain “dog” behavior and the resulting training, some dog

trainers argue with “wolf terminology”, like: the use of a spike collar is explained with the “teeth of the wolf mother”. On the other hand, a too soft training or no training at all is explained because “wolves are always friendly”.

### **Study area, -method and –material.**

Banff National Park (6.600 km<sup>2</sup>) is in the Canadian Rockies. Here we studied for 3 years the behavior of 2 wolf packs (Bow Valley Pack and Fairholme Pack). Our study area was the 80 km long and 20 km wide Bow Valley (1250 – 1800 m) between the towns of Lake Louise and Canmore. In this study area, parallel to panorama road (Parkway 1 A), run 2 major transport routes – the Transcanada Highway (TCH) and the Canadian Pacific Railroad (CPR). Besides other minor roads they cut right through the middle of wolf territory. Because of that a lot wolves, deer, elk, bears and coyotes have to die in this European-like infrastructure.

During the years 2000 to 2003 we either followed the wolves with our Four-Wheel-Drive or we wrote down all activities of the wolves in a hideout near their den site. We used a GPS-system and a video camera (Sony Hi 8 digital) as well as a recorder and several cameras (Nokon F 4 and Nikon F 100) with 300 mm (Tamron), 400 mm (Nikon) and 600 mm (Novoflex) lenses. To register the behavior of the wolves we used the ethograms from Dr. Erik Klinghammer and Pat Goodman (2000, 2002) from Wolf Park, Indiana. For tracking the wolves of the 2 packs (Aster, Storm, Hope – Bow Valley Pack, Aspen, Nieve, Isabelle, Christine, Fairmont – Fairholme Park) we used telemetry-equipment (tracking device, omni and hand-held antennas from Wildlife Material Inc./USA).

### **Study Results**

The following research results are based without exception on our direct observations in Banff National Park/Alberta. In about 25% of our time (total of 3158 hours in the field) we had visual contact to the wolves. At the end of the study we concluded –contrary to the results of some biologists (Schenkel 1946, Zimen 1972, 1986) – that the social structure of a “wolf pack is a family structure. The parents “dominate” their offspring in 80 – 90% of all observations through their experience and their superior appearance, their strong will, scent marking behavior and the control of their resources (see table 1 – 6). Most of the previously lower ranking juveniles migrated at the age of 2-3 years in search for a breeding partner, or they died early (see table 2, 3, 5 and 6). The reproducing pair – or better the parents – showed long term social connection and were always the only real long term members of a “pack” (Bloch and Bloch 2002) after their young had left. Dave Mech (1999) and Doug Smith (2002) came to similar results. These results do not go with the thesis of M. Fox (1971) who wrote that juvenile wolves wouldn’t breed because of their lower social rank.

Jim Brandenburg (1990), Dave Mech (1988) and Erik Zimen (1986) wrote that wolf pups have some kind of happy-go-lucky attitude during their first weeks. “Our” wolf parents also behaved very caring and tolerant/ignorant (n = 55) towards their young until the pups were weaned. From then on they began to stop tolerating too active food begging. During 184 interactions we watched the wolves discipline their pups (muzzle grab: n = 46, pushing on ground: n = 39) when they were coming home from hunt. When the (9-10 weeks old) pups wanted to follow the adult wolves when these left the den area, the parents made clear through body language that they had to stay (like biting over their fang: n = 31 or pressing them to the ground: n = 27). That way they “force” them to stay close to the den. The adult wolves who returned from the hunt also enforced their resting time and during that time insisted that the pups kept their distance (muzzle grab: n = 22, pushing on ground: n = 19).

During their first year the pups showed calming signals and “automatic” submission towards the adult wolves, even when the adults did not dominate or threaten them (see table 1 + 4). There was no difference in body language between “food begging” of pups and “active submission” of juvenile wolves like already described in the past by R. Schenkel (1946), D. Mech (1988) and E. Zimen (1986).

During the second year of the young wolves the interactive behavior between parents and offspring did show very few conflicts –except for the breeding time when there was some reproduction competition (see table 2 + 5). As a result – the parents only had to threaten in about 50% of all observations (see table 2 + 5) to get an active submissive behavior of their offspring in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year (see table 3 + 6).

Therefor calming signals or active submission are almost equally for the life of a group as dominance, to either support a friendly atmosphere in general or to keep a social distance in certain situations (Bloch and Bloch 2002, Smith 1999). Based on these new results we therefor don't describe the social rank order in a wolf family as an "alpha concept" but as a "parents-offspring-dominance-system".

### Statistics

The following tables (1 – 6) show how often the parents dominated their submissive offspring in their first 3 years either (with) or (without) previous threatening or impressive behavior (n = 1073)

	Storm (with)	Aster (with)	Storm (without)	Aster (without)	Total: n = 83
<b>Yukon</b>	2	1	21	7	31
<b>Nisha</b>	1	3	26	22	52
<b>Total</b>	3	4	47	29	83

**Table 1 Bow Valley Wolfpack (July 2000 – July 2001):**

**Storm (father), Aster (mother), Yukon (son, 1. year), Nisha (daughter 1. year)**

	Storm (with)	Aster (with)	Storm (without)	Aster (without)	Hope (with)	Hope (without)	Total: n = 107
<b>Yukon</b>	5	0	25	12	0	0	42
<b>Nisha</b>	2	6	14	16	23	4	65
<b>Total</b>	7	6	39	28	23	4	107

**Table 2 Bow Valley Wolfpack (July 2001 – July 2002):**

**Storm (father), Aster (mother), Hope (newcomer), Yukon (son, 2. year), Nisha (daughter 2. year)**

Conclusion:

Wolf, age and duration of migration: "Hope", approx. 1 ¾ years, December 2001

Wolf, age and duration of death: "Aster" approx. 10 ¾ years, November 2001

Note: "Storm" and "Hope" mate in February 2002.

Only one black male, "Nanuk", of the six produced pups survived.

	Storm (with)	Hope (with)	Storm (without)	Hope (without)	Total: n = 112
<b>Yukon</b>	13	0	15	0	28
<b>Nisha</b>	5	17	8	3	33
<b>Nanuk</b>	2	4	27	18	51
<b>Total</b>	20	21	50	21	112

**Table 3 Bow Valley Wolfpack (July 2002 – April 2003):**

**Storm (father), Hope (newcomer and mother), Yukon (son, 3. year), Nisha (daughter 3. year)**

Conclusion:

Wolf, age and duration of migration: "Nisha, 2 ¼ years, July 2002

Wolf, age and duration of death: "Storm", 9 ¾ years, December 2002

"Yukon", 2 ¾ years, December 2002

	Big-One (with)	Kashtin (with)	Big-One (without)	Kashtin (without)	Total: n = 228
Aspen	2	0	5	0	7
Chaser	1	3	20	12	36
Dreamer	2	1	19	16	38
Shadow	2	0	17	14	33
Nieve	1	2	16	19	38
Hope	1	1	22	15	39
Sandy	1	0	12	24	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>228</b>

**Table 4 Fairholme Wolfpack (July 2000 – July 2001):**

**Big-one (father), Kashtin (mother), Aspen (Betamale), Chaser (son 1. year), Dreamer (son 1. year), Shadow (son 1. year), Nieve (daughter 1. year), Hope (daughter 1. year), Sandy (daughter 1. year).**

	Big-One (with)	Kashtin (with)	Big-One (without)	Kashtin (without)	Total: n = 228
Aspen	11	0	3	0	14
Chaser	6	2	19	0	27
Dreamer	2	0	23	4	29
Shadow	3	2	21	7	33
Nieve	1	4	17	18	40
Hope	0	4	8	12	24
Sandy	0	0	11	21	32
Jimmy	3	1	12	23	39
Christine	0	0	20	24	44
Isabelle	0	1	19	19	39
Fairmont	1	0	22	17	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>361</b>

**Table 5 Fairholm Wolfpack (July 2000 – July 2001):**

**Big-one (father), Kashtin (mother), Aspen (Betamale), Chaser (son 2. year), Dreamer (son 2. year), Shadow (son 2. year), Nieve (daughter 2. year), Hope (daughter 2. year), Sandy (daughter 2. year), Jimmy (son 1. year), Christine (daughter 1. year), Isabelle (daughter 1. year), Fairmont (daughter 1. year).**

Conclusion:

Wolf, age and duration of dispersal: "Hope", 1 3/4 years, November 2001

"Jimmy", 1 1/4 years, July 2002

"Christine", 1 1/4 years, July 2002

Wolf, age and duration of death: "Aspen", 4 years, April 2002

"Dreamer", 2 1/2 years September 2002

"Sandy", 2 1/2 years, September 2002

	Big-One (with)	Kashtin (with)	Big-One (without)	Kashtin (without)	Total: n = 182
Chaser	14	0	10	0	24
Shadow	12	0	11	0	23
Nieve	1	2	14	26	38
Isabelle	1	2	1	26	43
Fairmont	0	1	25	28	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>182</b>

**Table 6 Fairholm Wolfpack (July 2000 – July 2001):**

**Big-one (father), Kashtin (mother), Aspen (Betamale), Chaser (son 2. year), Dreamer (son 2. year), Shadow (son 2. year), Nieve (daughter 2. year), Hope (daughter 2. year), Sandy (daughter 2. year), Jimmy (son 1. year), Christine (daughter 1. year), Isabelle (daughter 1. year), Fairmont (daughter 1. year).**

Conclusion:

Wolf, age and duration of dispersal: "Chaser", 2 ¾ years, December 2002

"Shadow", 2 ¾ years, December 2002

"Nieve", 2 ¾ years, January 2003

Note: By the end of April 2003, the Fairholme wolfpack had only four members left: father "Big-One, mother "Kashtin", and their two year old daughters "Isabelle" and "Fairmont".

### **Discussion**

The structure of a social hierarchy of a wolf pack in captivity (offspring cannot migrate, only little use of energy, no cultural learning during hunt and avoidance of hazards) differs very much from the group constellation of a wolf family in the wild. Free living "alphas" are almost always parents, who behave in a "dominant" way simple because of their experience (complex knowledge about their habitat) and their body languages as well as their scent marking behavior. Their "power" (high social rank) is also based on their "knowledge" and their intense "sense of community". Parents "dominate" their young and inexperienced offspring during their first 2 years without bigger problems. But with growing independence a competition for breeding rights is developing. Therefor juvenile wolves are leaving their parents (with a few exceptions). "Wolf families" in the wild are no strict social orders nor are they democratic group constellations.

The concept of an "alpha wolf" as higher ranking animals who is constantly in competition to the older animals in the group, does not help us in judging wolf families in the wild. The terminology "alpha wolf", pack leader" and hierarchy" therefor have to be completely reconsidered and possibly defined. Also the terminology "dominance" is often wrongly interpreted in dog training and leads to completely wrong conclusions with dog owners. Neither wolf nor dog is ever always "dominant" in his life. We (humans) have to see and act "dominant" always in context to the time and situation that we are in. Therefor a dog owner simply cannot have a lasting "dominance problem".

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# Selecting, Training and Testing Dogs

by Katja Thyen

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## **Guide Dogs for the Blind in Germany**

- recognised since 1981 as health aid
- paid for by the health insurance
- costs for one dog range between 15.000 and 20.000 Euros
- roughly 140 Euros paid to the Guide dog Owner (for food, vaccinations, et cetera)

*Guide dogs Supply in Germany based on the:*

“Guidelines for the Selection and Training of Guide Dogs, Selection, Training Period and After-Care towards the Guide Dog Owners”, by the Working Group of the Guide Dog Owners of the German Association for the Blind, December 1989.

*Official document:*

“Quality Criteria for the Selection, Training and Cost Takeover for the Guide Dogs for the Blind”, by the Ministry of Health – Proclamation of the Central Association of the Health Insurance, 19<sup>th</sup> May 1993.

*Concerning:*

- Guide Dog Owners
- Guide Dog Schools
- The Statutory Health Insurance (not the private ones)
- Team Checkers

## **Quality Criteria for the Selection, Training and Cost Takeover for Guide Dogs For the Blind**

### **Six Points:**

1. Selection of Dogs for the Training to become a guide Dog for the Blind (age, size, character, background, breed, health)
2. Training as a Guide Dog (i.e. classical conditioning after Pavlov, comment: “positive enhancement” seems to be unknown at the time)
3. Quality Securing (Guide Dog Schools should declare that they will keep these criteria; they have the obligation to perform the contract)
4. Suitability and Training Course of the future Guide dog Owner, Team-Check (demands on the future Guide Dog Owner; the Training Course and Team-Check)
5. Precondition for the Cost-takeover by the Health Insurance and Transfer of Ownership of the Guide Dog (Team-Check, Rights and Responsibilities of the Guide Dog Owner)
6. Additional Costs for the Guide Dog Owner (monthly payment to the Guide Dog Owner)

☞ **These six points are an exact description how the Guide Dog Supply in Germany should be!**

## The practice

### **Guide Dog Schools in Germania**

- at the moment there are approximately 40 Guide Dog Schools in Germany

### **Guide Dog School Owners**

- most of the Trainers are self-educated Trainers
- only some of them are trained in Orientation and Mobility for the Blind as well
- anybody can run a Guide Dog School
- no control over knowledge concerning training a dog or teaching a person
- Health Insurances “do not care”, especially about the last point or take the “Quality Criteria into consideration.

### **Dogs used (mostly)**

- Retrievers, Golden, Labrador and Half-breed
- Alsatians
- Poodles, (Border) Collies, Half-breeds

### **Background of the dogs**

- bred in the Guide Dog School
- bought as puppy
- bought as 1- or 2-year old dogs

### **Raising of the dogs**

- at the Guide Dog School or
- with puppy-walker families

### **Training of the dogs**

- starts in the first year of the dog most often
- no standard concept

### **Training Course for the future Guide Dog Owner and his/her Guide Dog**

should fulfill at least the following criteria

- duration required from 14 up to 28 days (in practice mostly shorter than 14 days)
- imparting theoretical and practical knowledge (mostly only practical knowledge)
- **the aim -- The Quality Criteria**
- **the Guide Dog Owner** -- development of a “blind” but critical and responsible confidence in the guide dog
- **the Guide Dog** -- accepting his/her future owner as “role model” and “packleader” in a short time
- at the end of the Training Course -- a “Team-Check” by a checking commission

### **Checking Commission**

- an experienced Dog Trainer and/or a Trainer in Orientation and Mobility
- (has done at least one course on checking a Guide Dog Team)
- a representative of the Self-Help-Organisation for the Blind
- a representative of the Health Insurances

In practice the Checking Commission are only a Dog Trainer together with a Trainer in Orientation and Mobility.

**The Health Insurances often do not use the neutral instrument of Quality Control.**

# Hearing Dogs for Deaf People

by Andy Cook

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## INTRODUCTION

The idea of training hearing dogs to assist deaf people was first introduced to the UK as a three-year pilot scheme in 1982.

The organisation's first employees, Tony Blunt and Gillian Lacey, were recruited to put the scheme into operation and the first dog, Favour - a white and tan mongrel, destined to pioneer the work of the Charity - was chosen from the National Canine Defence League Rescue Centre in Newbury. As a stray from a rescue centre, Favour epitomised the ethos of Hearing Dogs and together with Tony and Gillian, the idea of training dogs to assist deaf people became a reality.

The absolute aim of Hearing Dogs is to improve the lives of deaf people through the selection, training and placement of one of our specially trained dogs. The extra appeal of our charity is that in doing so we are able to offer a good appreciative home to an otherwise unwanted dog.

The following letter was sent to the RNID in 1981 (International Year of the Disabled) following publicity about the forthcoming launch of the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf scheme. The lady who wrote it asked that her letter be used wherever possible to promote the specialist training of dogs to assist deaf people ...

..."It has given me new heart to learn that deaf people have not been forgotten in the year of the disabled. But it would be wise to realise that although you may educate people to our needs, they will never really understand the world in which we live.

How far will technology have to advance before it can replace that very chewed dog lead in my cupboard, or dry my tears, or make me go out, or let me sleep properly knowing that no harm can come to me because of that warm furry body.

We have power cuts, and man-made gadgets develop faults. I cannot cuddle or play with gadgets, and they do not give me a welcome when I come in. My home will still be silent and I have at present all the silence in deafness that I can cope with. Gadgets only show me how deaf I am, but with my dog I did not feel deaf and that is what is so very important. I recently lost my dog in tragic circumstances. Nothing can ease the pain in my heart, or bring comfort to me. I cannot explain the emptiness I feel due to his loss. If I wanted a dog there would be no problem, but my dog has got to be so much more because I cannot hear things as you do, so how can I train him when I don't understand sounds myself. But I have to replace him for peace of mind."

The feelings expressed in this letter highlight the loneliness and isolation felt by so many deaf people struggling in a hearing world, and this is probably one of the main reasons our organisation has been so successful.

As expressed in this letter, deafness can be a very isolating and lonely disability, and for those people who find technical equipment unreliable, impractical, restricting and disabling, a hearing dog can offer a reliable and practical alternative, with the added benefit of allowing the recipient constant companionship, greater confidence and security.

## LOGO



**Hearing Dogs**  
*for Deaf People*

I shall try to explain exactly why and how hearing dogs change lives.

In 2002, twenty years after the Charity was founded, we decided to change our look and logo, to the one you see now. The dog featured in the logo is a working hearing dog called Tanner.

Our mission is: "To offer greater independence, confidence and security to deaf people by providing dogs trained to alert them to chosen everyday sounds."

In addition to the obvious benefits of being told when there is a sound, the therapeutic value of the dogs cannot be underestimated.



As you can see from this partnership photo of Mike Sullivan and his hearing dog Flint, which was taken free of charge by top London photographer Tim Flach, the bond between dog and deaf person is very strong. Incidentally, Flint was selected from the RSPCA in Southampton - just one of many rescue dogs that go on to be hearing dogs.

## DEAFNESS AND PARTNERSHIP SHOT

One in seven of the adult population in the UK has a hearing loss and over half a million of those are severely or profoundly deaf and could potentially benefit from a hearing dog. So what happens when someone applies for a hearing dog?

Some referrals come via professionals such as hearing therapists, and all applicants need to supply a recent audiological assessment. But most people make direct contact requesting an application form themselves.

This is another of Tim Flach's partnership photos showing the close bond between Dominic and hearing dog Bingo. The photo also shows Dominic's bone-anchored hearing aid, not a cochlear implant as many people think.



In applying for a hearing dog the deaf person is expressing a need. It is the responsibility of the Charity's skilled staff to assess that need and hopefully train a dog to help them. Initially the deaf person is sent information and an application form. The information outlines the main factors we consider to be important for a hearing dog placement to be successful.



Tim Flach's lovely photo here of Jacqueline Calcutta and hearing dog Sox underlines the fun, companionship and joy that a hearing dog brings.

## LEWKNOR

So where is Hearing Dogs for Deaf People based? Until May 2002 the Lewknor Training Centre here was our headquarters, situated just off the A40 in Oxfordshire. Many of our older hearing dogs were trained here, and it was a centre much-loved by both staff and recipients alike.

### BEATRICE WRIGHT TRAINING CENTRE

In order to best serve deaf people applying for a hearing dog in the north of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland, this small centre in Cliffe near Selby in North Yorkshire was purchased. It was named after one of our co-founders, Lady Beatrice Wright, who sadly died in 2003.



### THE GRANGE

In 1996 a stud farm near Princes Risborough in Buckinghamshire was bought by Hearing Dogs and a five-year-long conversion programme began. Slowly departments were moved across from Lewknor to the Grange, and in May 2002 the Grange became the Charity's headquarters.

It was hoped we could keep Lewknor running as a satellite training centre alongside the Grange, but due to financial constraints it was with much sadness that Lewknor closed and the decision was made to sell it. However, the purchase and purpose-built conversion of the Grange here has allowed us to place over 125 dogs a year with deaf people as well as improving the operations of our Socialising Department.

### SOUNDS

So, what sounds can a hearing dog be trained to tell deaf people about?

The main sounds to which the dogs are trained:-

- the telephone ring
- the doorbell
- the cooker timer
- the alarm clock
- the baby monitor
- the smoke alarm (and fire bell in public places)

We also train the dogs to respond to the call - which you will hear about later on - and is a sound that has saved many recipients' lives.

### GUIDELINES

The guidelines for who can apply for a hearing dog:

- you have a severe or profound hearing loss
- you need assistance to make you aware of the sounds, and can use this help regularly at home and maybe at work
- you desire independence from family or colleagues or spend a lot of time alone or with another deaf or disabled person(s)
- no other dogs live in the house (although sometimes it is possible to place a hearing dog in a home which has an elderly pet dog or retired hearing dog)
- you have the motivation and ability to provide regular exercise and grooming, suitable food and medical care
- you genuinely enjoy the close companionship of a dog and want to form a working partnership with one
- you are over 18 years of age

### SELECTING DOGS

Many of the dogs we select are rescue dogs. In fact 75% of dogs selected by Hearing Dogs for training come from rescue centres or similar around the UK. We take most breeds, crossbreeds and mongrels and all shapes and sizes. The only breeds we tend not to take are the guarding breeds and working strain Collies. We take dogs from eight weeks to three years of age.

When selecting dogs from rescue we are looking for those that are friendly, confident yet submissive, people-orientated and, of course, alert to sounds.

### **SOCIALISING**

Once we have selected a dog, he will then be placed with one of our volunteer socialisers.

### **GETTING USED TO TRAFFIC**

During the socialisation period, the puppies or young dogs will be taken out and about to get them used to different situations including busy streets.

### **HEELWORK TRAINING**

The socialisers bring the young dogs into puppy class regularly, where they start to learn general obedience training including walking to heel and general control in a range of distracting situations.

### **MEETING OTHER ANIMALS**

An important part of the socialisation period is getting the puppies used to meeting other animals, including livestock. We want them to be comfortable with other animals, but not overly interested in them.

### **RECALL RACES**

Another important but fun part of socialising are the recall races. The socialiser will stand a distance away from the puppy who, when released, should race back to the socialiser. This is often done outside off the lead, and will give some indication as to whether the puppy is distracted or has good recall.

### **ASSESSMENT**

After socialisation the dogs will come back into the training centre for a two-week assessment. During this fortnight they will be tested on all sorts of things including behaviour, obedience and handling.

### **TRAINING**

One of the first sounds that a hearing dog will respond to in the day is the alarm clock. Both recipient and dog are asleep - note the dog is in her own bed not the recipient's!

### **ALARM CLOCK**

When the alarm clock sounds, the hearing dog will immediately race to the bed and, depending on the size of the dog, will either put two paws on the recipient to wake them, or if a small dog will jump on the bed fully.

As with all of the training, the dogs love working to the alarm clock. Dogs are always rewarded for their work – either with some fuss or a treat. Our dogs work without commands, off their own initiative, once they have learned to associate these sounds with “the good things in life”.

### **ALERT FOR DOORBELL**

When a hearing dog hears the doorbell sound, she will find the recipient and, again depending on the size of the dog, will sit and touch the recipient with one or two paws. When the hearing dog has alerted, the recipient will ask “What is it?” and open her arms. The dog will then lead to the source of the sound - in this case the door. If the recipient does not have clear speech, then the dog will respond purely to hand signals. Having led her to the door, the hearing dog will wait quietly for her recipient to open the door. When the recipient opens the door, the hearing dog is trained to sit quietly and not jump up at the visitor. For many dogs, the reward for working to the doorbell is simply the enjoyment of meeting the visitor.

### TELEPHONE, LISTENING TO SOUND

Another sound to which we train the dogs to respond is the telephone. Often there is a minicom next to the telephone - many deaf people use the minicom as they cannot hear on a traditional phone. The minicom is just one of the text telephones available to deaf people. Upon hearing the telephone ring, the hearing dog will find her recipient and alert her in the same way as for the doorbell.

The recipient will ask "What is it?" and give the hand signal, whereupon the dog will lead them to the telephone.

### CALL, THE SEND

All our hearing dogs are trained to respond to the "call help". If the deaf person is, say, in one part of the house and someone needs to call them, they can send the dog to find them and bring them back. Again this will be done with hand-signals.

### CALL, THE FIND

The hearing dog, having been sent to fetch their owner, will race to find them. Hearing dogs love this sound!

### CALL, WHAT IS IT? AND LEAD

On finding their recipient, the hearing dog will alert in the usual way. When asked "What is it?", they will then turn to lead their owner back to the sender.

### CALL, LEADING BACK TO SENDER

This call is very important, and has been used for real by many recipients and, as has been mentioned, has even saved people's lives.

One example is a hearing dog called Valentine. Her owner, June's father-in-law was staying in the house, and on this occasion when June was at the bottom of her garden, he fell out of bed having suffered a stroke. He was able to get Valentine's attention and sent her to call June. Valentine found June in the garden and brought her back to her father-in-law, whereupon an ambulance was called and he was safely taken to hospital. This is a good example of how hearing dogs work without commands.

### SMOKE ALARM

All our hearing dogs are trained to danger sounds such as the fire bell, burglar alarm, carbon monoxide alarm and smoke alarm.

One of the most important sounds to which the dogs are trained to alert in the home is the smoke alarm.

On hearing the smoke alarm sound, the hearing dog will search out her recipient and alert them in the usual way.

However, in order to differentiate the danger sounds from any other sound, on being asked "What is it?" the hearing dog is trained NOT to lead to the source of the sound but to drop straight to the floor. This is a clear indication to the recipient that there is possible danger, and it is then up to them to locate what it is and take appropriate action.

Many of our working hearing dogs have alerted their owners to the smoke alarm, and saved their owners' and others' lives. One such dog, Max, lives with his deaf and partially sighted owner Shirley-Anne in Scotland. One day Max alerted Shirley-Anne with his paw and dutifully lay down, indicating that he had heard the fire alarm. Shirley-Anne praised him but when she checked with her mother, who is hearing, there appeared to be no fire in the house and no alarm sounding. So they went back to what they were doing.

Max alerted Shirley-Anne again and when she did not respond, he tried alerting her mother instead, only this time, instead of lying down he ran to the back door. She obliged by opening it and followed Max into the garden, where he alerted her with his paw once again and then lay down. This time Shirley-Anne's mother heard the smoke alarm - it was coming

from next door! Looking through their kitchen window she could clearly see the black smoke and immediately called the fire brigade.

It turned out that their neighbour had gone out, but had left a frying pan on the stove which had caught fire. Max's prompt and persistent reaction meant that the fire brigade arrived in time to save the two dogs that were locked in the house.

## **PRE-PLACEMENT**

### **OUT AND ABOUT**

It takes 16 weeks to train a hearing dog to respond to all the sounds mentioned above. At the end of that four months, the recipient with whom the dog has been matched, is asked to stay at one of our training centres for a week to begin the bonding process and to learn how to practise all the above sounds with the dog.

Part of the pre-placement process will involve the dog's trainer, the recipient and dog going out and about in a busy town.

### **IN SHOP**

During this week the recipient will take their dog into shops to make sure the dog behaves as an assistance dog should in a public place.

Hearing dogs, just like guide dogs, are afforded the same access to public places like supermarkets, shops, restaurants and hotels, as they are assistance dogs. Here. Boxer is showing how well-behaved he is even when surrounded by dog food!

This placement training continues in the home of the recipient over a period of several months, until our Placement Instructors feel that the dog is ready to qualify for its Final Test. After passing the Final Test, all dogs are strictly monitored for the rest of their working life, by way of home visits, phone calls and email/letter.

We retain ownership of every dog that we train, and are responsible for giving full advice and support to both dog and deaf recipient.

### **BARBARA BIRD AND CERIE**

Here is a quote from another of our recipients about her hearing dog Cerie. "My hearing dog Cerie is my helpmate, my friend, my protector - and she's fun! I never envisaged how big a difference she would make to my life."



Cerie is another rescue dog - she came from the NCDL in Bridgend, but is now making a huge difference to Barbara's life, even more so since Barbara lost her husband who was her ears. Again, Tim Flach took this photo, one of his ten partnership photos that epitomise the bond between hearing dog and owner.

### MICHAEL MION AND FIDGET



Michael says of Fidget, "Fidget has given me a new lease of life. Her intelligence, love and gentleness have ended my isolation." Again, Fidget was a rescue dog and Michael was a very reserved, shy person before they came together. Now Fidget accompanies Michael on fund-raising ventures, and they have even appeared on local television and radio - something Michael would never have envisaged before Fidget came into his life.

### PAT PRESTON AND HARRY

To sum up what Hearing Dogs for Deaf People is trying to do, you see another of Tim Flach's delightful photos. This is Pat Preston and her hearing dog Harry, encompassing our vision: COMPANIONSHIP FOR AN INDEPENDENT LIFE.



I do hope you have learned a little bit about Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, and have enjoyed finding out about how these dogs - most of which were abandoned or unwanted - can make a huge difference to the lives of deaf people.

Andy Cook

photograph courtesy of Tim Flach  
Copyright ©2002 Hearing Dogs for Deaf People



# Travelling around Europe with an Assistance Dog

by Gemmy Laudy

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You can find the talk of Gemmy Laudy:  
<http://Verdi.Sittyweb.nl>

## Text for an ID-card in several European languages:\*

### Dutch

De houder van deze kaart wordt begeleid door een hulphond van "*name of the organisation*" (Organisatie voor het opleiden van Hulphonden) in ... *name of the country in Dutch*. Deze hond is opgeleid om iemand die motorisch gehandicapt of doof is te helpen in het dagelijks leven

### English

The owner of this card is being accompanied by an assistance dog of "*name of the organisation*" in ... *name of the country in English*. This dog is trained to assist this person and to provide the necessary physical and emotional support to be more independent.

### French

Le titulaire de cette carte est accompagné d'un chien d'assistance de "*name of the organisation*" (Association des Chiens des Assistances) au(x) ... *name of country in French*. Ce chien a été entraîné à apporter à son maître soutien et réconfort dans sa vie quotidienne dans le but d'une autonomie améliorée.

### German

Der Besitzer dieser Karte wird von einem Behinderten-Begleithund des Vereins "*name of the organisation*" (Assistenzhunde e.V.) in ... *name of the country in German*, begleitet. Dieser Hund wurde dazu ausgebildet, seinem Besitzer zu helfen und die notwendige physische und emotionale Unterstützung zu geben, damit dieser unabhängiger sein kann.

### Italian

Il presente cane d'assistenza, preparato e affidato da "*name of the organisation*" (Associazione Cani di Assistenza) in ... *name of the country in Italian*, è stato addestrato per assistere questa persona, prestando un sostegno sia fisico che emotivo per aiutarla ad essere più autonoma e indipendente. Siete pregati di dare libero ingresso ovunque ad entrambi. Grazie.

### Norwegian

Beholder denne korte bli følgje ved hjelphund fra "*name of the organisation*" (Stiftelse Hjelphund) in ... *name of the country in Norwegian*. Denne hund er utdanne for noen denne er funksjonshemma or døv for hjelpe i dagligen liv.

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\* When you miss this text in your language, please translate this text into your language and send it to [secretariat@assistancedogseurope.info](mailto:secretariat@assistancedogseurope.info); thank you very much.

### Portuguese

O titular de este (deste) bilhete de identidade tem o cão de assistência de “*name of the organisation*” (Associação de caes de assistencia) de ... *name of the country in Portuguese*. O cao tem sido adestrado para proporcionar apoio e ajuda a seu proprietário e desta maneira melhorar sua autonomia.

### Spanish

El titular de este carnet está acompañado de un perro de asistencia de “*name of the organisation*” (Asociación de Perros de Asistencia) de ... *name of the country in Spanish*. Este perro ha sido adiestrado para proporcionar apoyo y ayuda a su dueño y mejorar así su autonomía.

### Swedish

Ägaren till denne identitetshandling ackompanieras av en assistanshund från “*name of the organisation*” (Foundation Assistance Dog) in ... *name of the country in Swedish*. Hunden är tränad till att assistera dess ägare samt att ge ägaren nödvändig fysisk och emotionell understöd för att kunna uppnå en större självständighet.

English	Dutch	French	German	Italian	Norwegian	Portuguese	Spanish	Swedish
UK	Engeland	Angleterre	England	Inghilterra	England	Inglaterra	Inglaterra	England
France	Frankrijk	France	Frankreich	Francia	Frankrike	França	Francia	Frankrike
The Netherlands	Nederland	Pays Bas	Die Niederlande	Paesi Bassi	Nederland	Países Baixos	Los Países Bajos	Nederländerna
Germany	Duitsland	Allemagne	Deutschland	Germania	Tyskland	Alemanha	Alemania	Tyskland
Italy	Italië	Italie	Italien	Italia	Italia	Itália	Italia	Italien
Spain	Spanje	Espagne	Spanien	Spagna	Spania	Espanha	España	Spanien
Portugal	Portugal	Portugal	Portugal	Portogallo	Portugal	Portugal	Portugal	Portugal
Norway	Noorwegen	Norvège	Norwegen	Norvegia	Norge	Noruega	Noruega	Norge
Sweden	Zweden	Suède	Schweden	Svezia	Sverige	Suécia	Suecia	Sverige

# Assistance Dogs Europe

## Notes from AAA/AAT/AE Workshop

- We all agreed on having standards for the team, as a person-dog team, and not just for the dog on its own, which means team evaluations not just dog testing.
- We all agreed on the following definitions for AAA/AAT/AE:

### Animal Assisted Activity

**AAA** provides opportunities for motivational, educational, recreational, and/or therapeutic benefits to enhance quality of life. AAA is provided in a variety of settings, may be group or individual in nature and may be implemented for persons of any age. AAA may be delivered by specially trained professionals, para-professionals, and/or handlers, in association with animals that meet specific criteria.

### Animal Assisted Therapy

**AAT** is a goal-directed intervention in which an animal-handler team that meets specific criteria is an integral part of the treatment process. AAT is directed and/or delivered by a health/human service professional with specialized expertise and within the scope of practice of his/her profession. AAT is designed to promote improvement in human physical, social, emotional and/or cognitive functioning. AAT may be provided in a variety of settings, may be group or individual in nature and may be implemented for persons of any age. This process is documented and evaluated.

### Animal Assisted Education

**AAE** is a goal-directed intervention in which an animal-handler team that meets specific criteria is an integral part of the program designed to improve cognitive functioning. AAE is directed and/or delivered by an educational professional with specialized expertise, and within the scope of practice of his/her profession. AAE may be provided in a variety of settings, may be group or individual in nature and may be implemented for persons of any age. This process is documented and evaluated.

AAA may have any of the characteristics listed below. AAT and AAE are each required to have all 3.	AAA	AAT	AAE
<b>Goals and objectives</b>	General or specific, not necessarily individual	Specific for each individual	Specific for each individual
<b>Health/human service professional</b>	May be involved in sessions	Must deliver and/or direct sessions	Must deliver and/or direct sessions
<b>Observation and documentation</b>	Not necessary	Necessary and progress must be measured	Necessary and progress must be measured

- We were not able to agree on terms to use, other than not to use “therapy” in the name describing the dog. This is because not all programs are therapy (in fact the majority of programs throughout the world are activity or AAA) and because the dog may be involved in a program of therapy but is not *the* therapy. Some terms discussed:

**“social visiting dog team”:**

Person-dog team that is deemed suitable for employment in institutes in AAA/AAT/AAE programs (possibly the personal dog of the handler). Training for the handler, evaluations for the team (handler-dog) and team training not mandatory, but available, if necessary.

**“social dog”**

A dog specially trained and placed within a family home for employment in AAA/AAT/AAE with a member/s of the family. Sometimes, persons with whom these dogs are placed are not able to have another type of assistance dog due to their inability to handle the dog alone or due to a severe disability, the dog is not able to help them gain autonomy.

**“social residential dog”:**

A dog specially trained and placed in an institute so that the institute may employ it in AAA/AAT/AAE programs within the structure. *(Personal comment: I have problems with this “category” and don’t believe in placing dogs in institutes. I strongly believe that the majority of dogs placed in institutes are not well cared for and do not have a strong point of reference. In an American study a few years ago, residential dogs were found to have a life span of 8 years if they lived until the time of death in an institute. The major cause of death was cardio-circulatory problems that seemed to be stress related. Many other dogs were removed from institutes within two years of placement due to:*

- *Behaviour problems;*
- *Extreme obesity;*
- *And/or for dis-intoxication from pharmaceuticals.*

*Can we guarantee the team in this situation? Who is the handler that guarantees the well being of the dog at all times?)*

**“Social dog” or “social dog team”:**

Using the term social dog for **all categories** was also discussed. Some persons believed that this didn’t seem “serious” enough, as if any dog should be considered social. I believe that it would simplify things to use the one term, but am not adamant about it. If we will have evaluation and standards for the team instead of only for the dog, perhaps social dog team for all categories makes more sense. At this point, either there would be no residential dogs or they would be approved only together with handlers, one of whom would be with them at all times that the dog is in the institute.

**Debra Buttram**  
**January 2004**

# Assistance Dogs Europe

## Notes from PR/Website Workshop

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### Website Discussion

It was agreed that it would be desirable to have a 'general' site and a 'members only' site.

The 'members only' site could contain the following:

- Information from the Board
- Trainers discussion groups
- Directory relating to technical programme issues

The 'general' site could contain the following:

- Directory of programmes
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
- Information for potential new members
- Sponsor information and links
- News
- Standards
- Research links
- Appeal for funds

Overall, it was agreed that the website should be kept quite simple and regularly updated.

### Activities Discussion

It was agreed that the following activities should be considered:

- Week-long seminars/training sessions for trainers
- ADEu acting as a catalyst for exchanges between programmes
- ADEu to set up a fund to support a joint training programme
- ADEu to keep in touch with Human Rights issues
- Positive stories to be shared via website (new)
- Anti-dog issues to be tackled.

**Peter Gorbng**  
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