

Finnish Lapphund Club of NSW

Annual Report 2020

INC9896034





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President Report

Bushfires, flooding and Covid, what a year it has been!

We end the 2019-2020 financial year with 171 financial members with the majority of members holding multi year membership. We thank our members for their continued support and support for the NSW Lappie Community.

This year the committee voted unanimously to extend all current members membership by one year, without the requirement for renewal or the annual membership fee. With the current climate, household budgets experiencing uncertainty and the club being limited in the services and activities it can provide to members, it was decided that this was appropriate.

Unfortunately Covid has seen the cancellation of our much loved annual events; including the Lappie Adventure Camp, 2020 Breed Specialty Show, Dogs on Show Breed stand and Dog Lovers Show Breed Stand. My thanks to the committee members who worked tirelessly on planning these events prior to their cancellation. Special mention to Katrina Long, Kaylene Innes and Caroline Anderson.

In November 2020 the club supported the NSW Trainee Judges Program Coordinators with the bi-annual breed lecture for trainees. We developed a Judges Training Resource which contained the breed extendard, the FCI breed standard extension and a gallery containing show results and critiques from a 2019 Finnish breed specialty. The later section of the resource included Lapphunds that received excellent, very good, and good gradings, and included a variety of coat colours and markings. The booklet was 96 pages, colour printed with cover and bound, resulting in a very professional and user friendly resource. The Judges Training Coordinators were extremely impressed with the resource appreciative. The trainee judges likewise. My thanks to Sue and Wayne Sharp who travelled from Victoria to deliver the Swedish Lapphund breed lecture, and also delivered the Finnish Lapphund lecture.

Unfortunately in North West Sydney we now have an individual who is deliberately breeding their two Finnish Lapphunds, without kennel club registration, without appropriate health testing and selling the resulting puppies on Gumtree for a premium price. Buyers are not screened and instead are sold to the first people to contact the breeder, with the puppy and cash handed over the next day from a public car park. The Finnish Lapphund community is small, with kennel club registered breeders working together for the best interests of the breed. As such, the individual was quickly identified. As this persons Finnish Lapphunds were from interstate breeders, the club assisted with the situation, intervening and obtaining two of the four puppies from the litter, one which had already been rehomed twice by the age of 12 weeks. Both puppies were underweight and had fleas. We flea treated, vaccinated and vet checked the puppies, provided appropriate nutrition, and then homed each puppy with appropriately screened and responsible owners. Additionally we provided support to a third puppy owner, assisting them with all of the information and advice that a breeder would normally provide.



Unregistered breeding is not in the best interests of the breed and the resulting puppies owners, and we are highly concerned with this activity. We encourage our members to be vigilant and report any potentially suspicious activity to the committee.

I would especially like to thank Caroline Anderson, a newcomer to the committee this year, who coordinated many Lappie meets in Sydney. Thank you Caroline, I know members greatly appreciated these meets.

Thank you to our dedicated committee members for their wonderful work throughout the year.



Ms Lauren Vial
President





Vice President Report

It was a very quiet year for the VP role in 2019/20 with our show, adventure camp and fundraising cancelled there hasn't been much for the VP to assist with. Hopefully when the world starts to settle down from COVID-19 there might be more interesting things for the VP to assist with in the future.

I'm looking forward to better times.

Cassandra Howard

Mrs. Cassandra Howard
Vice President





Secretary Report

It is with great pleasure that I provide the following Secretary's Report. Most people are now aware that the Secretary is responsible for the overall governance of the company and also for compliance and reporting to relevant bodies such as DogsNSW.

The implementation of good governance practices in our club has resulted in a continual improvement in the management of processes and the transparency of governance for members.

Over the past year my role has encompassed the following:

- The overall management of processes.
- Provision of agendas for meetings
- Providing minutes of meetings.
- Ensuring records of members' and committee are kept in compliance with the DogsNSW and our own constitution.
- Ensuring legal requirements are meet or exceeded

In this extreme climate of COVID-19. I would like to say a sincere thank you to all who have contributed and assisted over the past year. Fingers crossed for a successful 2021.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mrs Katrina Long'.

Mrs Katrina Long
Secretary





Treasurer Report

Opening balance 1st July 2019 \$5,738.11

Closing balance 30th June 2020 \$10,748.37

Audit successfully completed by Club auditor Vanja Neus 2nd August 2020

Treasurers job this year has been consistent with membership payments and general expenses for the running of the club. There was less work due to the cancelation of our show, adventure camp and fundraising due to covid-19. As the world gets back to some kind of normalcy we might be able to hold those events in 2021. Time will tell.

Cassandra Howard

Mrs. Cassandra Howard
Treasurer





Show Secretary Report

The 2020 Finnish Lapphund Club of NSW speciality being held on 18th of July 2020 was cancelled.

An extremely difficult decision, however given the uncertainty and increasing social distancing restrictions we were left with no option.

The FLCNSW wishes to ensure the safety and well being of our Judge, volunteers, members and exhibitors.

We will be back bigger and better in 2021. Stay safe and look out for one another.

We are hoping the COVID-19 situation within Australia will allow our 2021 to be conducted in a safe and happy environment.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K Long'.

Mrs Katrina Long

Show Secretary





Breed Liaison Report

In the role of Breed Liaison Officer I have had 11 enquiries about the breed through the FLCNSW website this year. All the enquiries were for puppies and the enquirers had already researched the breed before contacting me, though some had questions about the breed beyond simply registering interest in acquiring a puppy. I answered relevant questions and directed them to the Member Breeders page and other relevant pages such as health on the website. All the enquiries were primarily interested in having a Finnish Lapphund as a pet companion. Some were interested in engaging in sports with them too.

December 2019 - I answered expressions of interest in adopting 6 month old Okkie from Queensland who needed rehoming in NSW.

There were a lot of enquiries. I was responsible for contacting all the interested parties to let them know when Okkie was no longer available. Unfortunately, due to ill health I was unable to attend the Dog Lovers Show 2019 which was held in Homebush that year. The Dogs on Show 2020 at Orchard Hills, usually held in June, had to be postponed due to COVID-19.

I was not involved in the rehoming of an unregistered litter of puppies from Windsor who were being sold on Gumtree, which was handled by other members of the committee. There was a lot of interest in adopting these puppies but due to the FLCNSW website being down, I was not receiving any breed enquiries until the web issues were fixed.

In general I am aware Finnish Lapphunds are becoming a much more known and recognised breed (at least in Sydney). Judging by breed enquiries and discussions with people out and about, the Lappie has lived up to its reputation of being a friendly, gentle and intelligent breed with a big personality. I'm often asked on my travels how much a Lappie puppy costs. Several people say to me "my next dog will be a Lappie" and ask about how to find reputable breeders when the time comes.

Hopefully it won't be too long before life goes back to normal and there are more opportunities for the community to meet and learn about this beautiful breed.

Miriam Perl

Mrs Miriam Perl
Breed Liaison





Activities and Events Coordinator Report

Since November 2019 when I took over the position of Events Coordinator, there have been twelve events, including nine park meetups and two beach visits. Each event has been attended by several members, with numbers varying between eight and over thirty attendees. Several members of the public have attended various events to meet Lapphunds in person and learn more about the breed. Thank you to Joy Mak and Monique Krestan who organised events in Sydney and Newcastle respectively. In June 2020, an online event was also held encouraging members to post videos of their dogs performing tricks learnt during COVID-19 social distancing.

With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, opportunities for further events have been limited. The Lappie Adventure Camp and plans for a group snow trip have been indefinitely postponed. I look forward to planning more events once community transmission of COVID-19 reduces and restrictions have been lifted further.

Caroline Anderson

Ms Caroline Anderson

Activities and Events Coordinator





Fundraising Officer Report

I came into this position mid way through the year. Unfortunately all plans for fundraising were put on hold due to the covid-19 outbreak. A committee decision was made to not to hold any fundraising due to NSW going into lock down and the loss of many jobs.

Fundraising will begin again when we are more sure of holding our main events in the future.

Kaylene Innes

Ms Kaylene Innes
Fundraising Officer





Publicity Report

Covid! Where do I start? What a year it has produced. With government enforced restrictions and general uncertainty about public events.

Unfortunately our major events were cancelled. Sydney Royal breed stand, Dog lovers, Dogs on Show to name a few. For the safety of our members, the public and committee all smaller events were also put on hold. Cancelling the Lappie Adventure camp was so unfortunate.

We hope 2021 proves to be the event of the century! We look forward to what 2021 can hold. We can't wait to get back out there and show the world our beautiful breed.

Mr Jame Vial
Publicity Officer





Webmaster Report

With the 2019/20 year seeing two of our larger events cancelled, there was significantly less involvement through the website this year.

After a hiccup with the domain renewals, the website and emails are running as normal again, thanks to the assistance of the president's helpers.

I will not be re-electing for the position of webmaster.

I thank my fellow committee members for their patience during my time with the FLC NSW and wish the club well in future.

I look forward to attending future events as a member (once this Covid-19 debacle is over) and will continue to be a supporter of the club.

Dileeni Wettasinghe

Ms Dileeni Wettasinghe
Webmaster





Health Officer Report

Position Vacant

