

My Breeding Background

I bred my first litter of Border Collies in 1996, and was involved in Dog Obedience for many years. I'm very proud that one of the pups from my very first Litter went on to be the National Agility Champion of Australia. My own dogs have enjoyed Obedience, and Sheep Herding (as a sport). We attend the occasional Dog Show.

In 2006 I was lucky enough to go to and train in England with Jan Fennell, the original Dog Listener. (See the rest of my website) I now run a service helping dog owners learn to understand their dogs' behaviour. This includes learning about canine natural instincts, canine thinking, decision-making and the resultant behaviours. This assists owners to provide the force-free leadership a confident well trained dog needs, in order to be happy, calm and responsive when given a command. It also can assist owners to resolve undesirable dog behaviours, such as jumping up, excessive barking, or fear-aggression.

So why do I breed? Especially when there are so many unwanted but deserving dogs awaiting new homes at shelters. I believe there will always be new owners who wish to purchase young puppies of their chosen breed, from reputable breeders (not pet shops or unethical large 'production-focussed' kennels) and I am committed to influencing the integration of Dog Listening principles into breeding, with the aim of positively effecting puppy temperament in the longer term. I strive for 'calm, clever and cuddly' family companions – that can also be trained to enjoy a range of Dog Sports.

My breeding aims and principles – Temperament & Health

When I came to live in Tasmania and decided to start breeding Border Collies here in about 2006, I did a lot of research to find a breeder who would assist me in selecting the right Border Collies to breed with, and who shared my focus on 'temperament' and 'health' and focusing on improving Border Collies as excellent family companions, as well as their other skills in herding, agility, obedience.

I was lucky enough to meet the owners of BeathBorder Collies in South Australia. They are now retired, but were well-regarded, professional Border Collie breeders who had adopted Dog Listening principles into the way they interacted and supervised their Kennel of 14 Border Collies. Like me, they considered their dogs an integral part of the family, not just a hobby.

My dogs live indoors, and whelp indoors – not in separate quarters away from the house. I am retired and am home full time for the duration of the puppies' time with us.

My dogs are exercised off property in a wide range of environments, mixing with a wide range of people, kids and dogs. All my dogs live together 24/7 (plus the cat!) and operate as a natural pack - but are respectful and bonded with me as their human leader. It is a joy to be able to observe a group of dogs living naturally and contentedly in this way.

Three of my current four Border Collies came to me from BeathBorders, including my current Male Stud, Rory (BeathBorders Silver Fox), and our young red and white Breeding Female Miss Floss (BeathBorders Dame Flora). Once BeathBorder's owners retired, I was lucky enough in 2016, to obtain a young black and white puppy, Miss Abbey (Hobbsview Bonaer), from local Tasmanian Border Collie breeder, Louise Rowlands.

Confirmation of Health and Temperament

Rory and Floss have had the full range of Health Tests available for Border Collies – a BAER hearing test, an Eye Test with a Vet Eye Specialist, a Full DNA Profile, and been tested against known Border Collie inheritable diseases (CL – Ceroid Lipofuscinosis, TNS – Trapped Neutrophil Syndrome and CEA Collie Eye Anomaly) plus Hip and Elbow Xrays to help prevent Hip Dysplasia and Elbow problems. My Vet, Dr David Boersma, of the Sandy Bay Holistic Vet Clinic, is available to confirm all these tests, their results, and explain any scientific aspects. As well Dr Boersma can confirm the general health of all my dogs, who he has cared for since they were 8 weeks of age, as well as my attention to detail, in maintaining their health and fitness.

I am happy to provide Referees ie families who own one, or more, of our pups, and I always encourage potential new owners to have a chat with these families. There are testimonials on the Webpage, and I can supply the names and phone numbers of these families, on request.

I encourage potential new puppy families to undertake these sorts of checks. Additionally, I provide a full money-back guarantee, should a puppy exhibit any genetic health problems. Additionally, all my dogs are fed on completely natural diets and our Vet, Dr David Boersma of Sandy Bay Holistic Vet Clinic (Hobart), specialises in homeopathic medicine, so I aim for minimum drug intervention.

I seek to place my puppies in suitable homes, where the puppy and the new owners will be happy, so I ask potential owners to provide me with information to help in the matching process – please see attached PDF file for relevant information.

