

# The BBNA Baroa

*Basenji Breed Network Australia Limited*

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November/December 2013

*BBNA wishes you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2014*



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Editor Carol Benson



Hello and Happy New Year,

This is my last magazine as Editor, Chantel Qualischefski will be taking over producing the Baroo for 2014. I'm sure she'll do a great job.

I hope you have enjoyed the magazine thus far and will continue to enjoy and contribute to it in the years to come.

Membership is continuing to grow, and may I also remind you that membership comes due each year on the 31<sup>st</sup> December, so if you haven't already, please renew soon and help to keep BBNA financial.

Hope you all enjoy this edition.

Cheers

Carol



# BBNA LTD.....Board Notes, Events and News

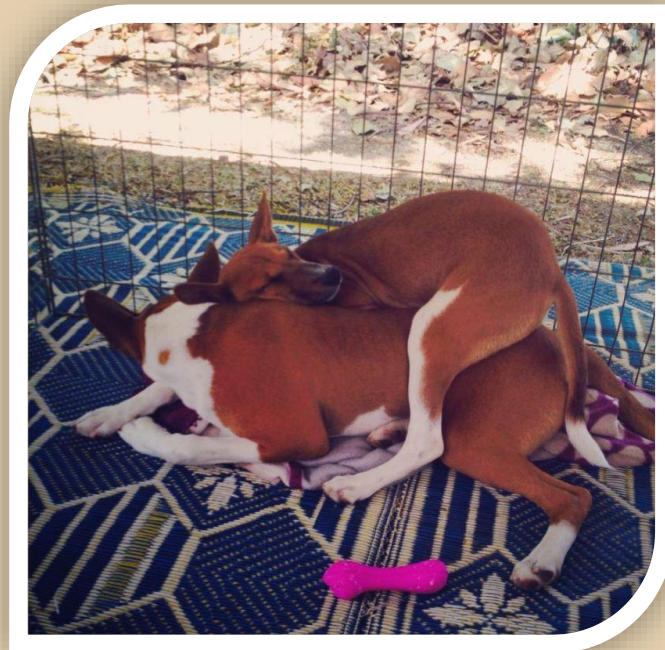
BBNA held our first General Meeting by Skype on Thursday night December 12<sup>th</sup>, some lively discussion ensued.

A record entry of 23 Basenjis were at the Caboolture Show, it was wonderful to see our breed so well represented over the 3 days.

Our fundraising efforts have raised some much needed money for the Club to continue promoting our breed. The BBNA Board would like to thank members CarolAnn Worsham and Nicole Verrall for their generous donations of goods which were sold to raise funds.

PlayGroups continue to add new members who enjoy getting together for fun times with our basenjis. BBNA Logan City PlayGroup co-ordinator Katrina Harper and family have moved to Hervey Bay. BBNA would like to thank Katrina for hosting the playgroup during 2013, we had some wonderful times at her house.

The BBNA Calendar was also very popular and a great fund raiser. Members are reminded that for their Basenjis to be included in next years calendar they must submit a high quality photo via email before the end of September.



# BBNA 2ld Members In the Show Ring









Please submit your photos to The Editor [basenjibreednetworkaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:basenjibreednetworkaustralia@gmail.com) for inclusion in The Baroo.

## Miscellaneous Mischief

By Maggie Moss

I will start with Yip Yip Yodel! my name is Shema, I live with my mum in New Zealand. For 2 years I was a Show Girl Basenji but now I reside at my forever home with my mum.

I am 10 years old, have a cosy home and a huge yard to explore. Every morning we walk to a park with three friends and their humans for a rip roaring run around the park, even if it rains, how is that for a Basenji. I must have my rain coat on though or I get upset. Most of the day I curl up on my cushion, follow the sun, check what's going on thru the window and if its fine might help in the garden. Then late afternoon we go for sniff walkies around the streets, then it's Dinner.

Mum decided to enter me in the Dog section of the 'Masters Games' an all types of sports events held over a week. We would do agility and cross country. (Her first mistake). I would much rather just cruise along sniffing and walking than doing the agility course, the only good reason to do it was the chicken treats.

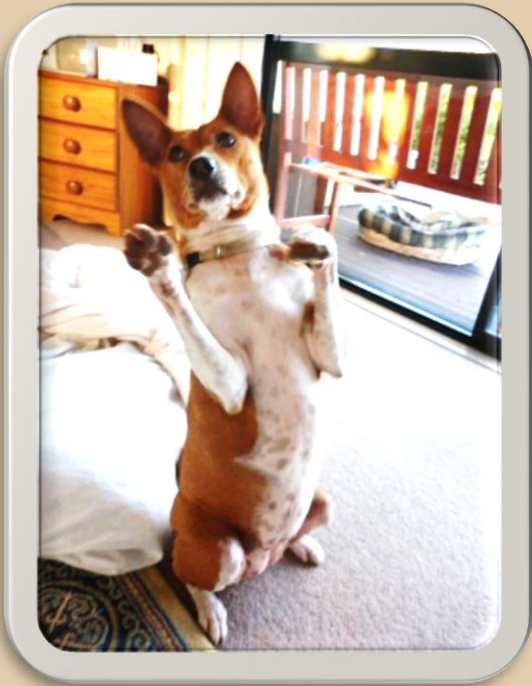


Our club area is not secure, it is a public park, and humans /dogs can surprise you from all directions, mum thinks I am doing a good job if I can stay in the ring.

I had started the agility jumps ok and we were half way around when I saw someone I knew (what were the chances of this human and dog walking at the exact same time as we were running!!) Well I forgot about agility and was off like a thunderbolt going to sort this dog out. I was just having a sniff when some stranger grabbed me, I let out the most blood curdling scream, the human let me go in fright, then I calmly trotted back to mum wondering what all the fuss was about. Cross country was cancelled.



Mum said she has stopped trying to put a square peg in a round hole (whatever that means) now we just tag along with Grade One Obedience and I teach puppies their manners. I am very good at maternal discipline. Despite my appalling behaviour at the Masters Games, this year I have learnt to SIT pretty and Ride a Skate Board.



Last month I went to the vet Dentist. Had 3 teeth out and clean up. Now mum cleans my teeth for me with a Yum chicken flavoured tooth paste. I get so upset when I am left at the vets. My lead was left hanging on the out side of my crate so I pulled it inside and chewed it in half. A costly day for mum, \$300 for the Vet plus a new lead.

My newest challenge is I have a new neighbour with 3 cats, I hate CATS. How dare they come over to my back yard? Now I have to double sniff my fence line every day scanning each blade of grass for any trace of evidence from night invaders.

Mum says...

Shema has never been cat friendly. I do have a good fence to keep Shema secure. In a previous life I remember chasing after Basenji after cat crawling thru neighbours back yard and having to explain ("before I call the police") why I was on hands and knees under the shrubbery! I have been traumatised ever since.

# BBNA Basenji PlayGroup

## BBNA Logan City Basenji PlayGroup



# BBNA Townsville Basenji PlayGroup



# BBNA Gold Coast Basenji PlayGroup



# Candle, A Christmas Story

By Sally Ann Smith

Human history did not record the pawprints made by a faithful little Basenji who followed the three wise men out of Egypt on their quest for the Christ Child. But we have not forgotten and it has passed from mother to pup for these two thousand years.

Long ago, as humans reckon time, a Star suddenly appeared in the sky. Looking up, we were curious, and listened intently in the council chambers of the mighty, for we were an ancient breed even then and companions of the great lords of Egypt. The philosophers and priests told of a prophecy they felt had come to pass--a glorious soul had come to teach love and peace to all living beings. It had been decided that three wise and learned men would seek out this beautiful soul, and bring Him gifts of precious ointments and gold.

Word of this event spread quickly throughout our Basenji network, for even our cousins in the rainforests had seen the Star, and had been amazed at its brightness. The feeling we had cannot easily be described, Basenjis do not think in words. We can only say we felt awe and joy that such a soul would come bringing light to our dark planet. For long ages we had been concerned about conditions we had observed among men, and yearned for such a soul to come.

Now at this time in Egypt, in the royal household, there lived a particular young Basenji girl who had always sought out the company of learned men. She was gentle, refined and small for a Basenji, and as is our tradition she was given the name "Candle" because she brought a glow into human hearts when she was near.

The bond between Candle and the man she called master went deep, and when she learned he was to be a member of the expedition to find the soul whose splendor was reflected in the Star, she would not be denied her place at his side. Faithfully she travelled, and the journey was not always easy.

They went to a far country, and finally came to the place where the young child was. The wise men went to the child, knelt down and gave Him gifts, but little Candle was suddenly very shy. She could see the glory around this wonderful child, and the Angels about Him that the humans seemed not to notice. But the Angels saw Candle, too, and gently asked: "What is it you want, little one?" "I too, would like to bring a gift to this young king," she said, "but I have nothing to offer except love".

Love is the greatest gift one being can give another," said the Angels, and in honor of your devotion we here declare your breed shall always wear white to commemorate the pure light in your heart. "And Basenjis will remember this moment when you bowed down before the child, and will be quick to bow, both in work and play".

Their eyes will be far seeking and will never lose sight of the stars, just as yours never lost sight of the Great Star in the sky this night. They will go quietly through the world, just as you came quietly to this place. And, little Candle, the flame of love in their hearts will never go out, and they will watch over their humans with care and concern, and become the guardians of their spirits.

So saying, the Angel bent down to pet the littlest Basenji, but Candle was suddenly overwhelmed by the majesty of the Angel and she covered her eyes with her paws. So that is where the Angel's touch fell, and that, my dear young Basenjis, is why all true Basenjis have white on their feet. And that is why the humans have gifts under the tree. They give each other presents to remember what the wise men brought to the child so long ago. "And," we added, "We're sure if you sniff carefully, you'll find an extra fancy treat has been wrapped up for each of us, too".

Bandit and his sister were thoughtful for a moment after they heard the story. "Don't you think it's time we let our humans know about this?" said Bandit. "Let's give it to them as our Christmas present!" suggested his sister. The idea startled our pack at first, but in time we grew to like it.

Other Basenjis we consulted agreed, so we have here presented to you, as our Christmas gift, the legend of the Littlest Basenji.

# The Ames Family's Tassie Tales

Summer is here in the north of Tasmania. We have all acclimatised to the weather and think 16 degrees is a lovely warm day. Over the past few weeks we have been lucky enough to catch up with a couple Basenji friends for play dates in Launceston, and look forward to more fun times to come.

From back left we have Rune, Isabella & I, Etta, Levis & Neo.



November 17 saw us all meeting with Neo & Etta, and their lovely mum Michelle. Levis had met Neo at a dog show once before, but the rest of the family was new for Rune and Isabella. It was a hot day at Windsor Park, outside of Launceston...and when I say hot I of course now mean close to 20 degrees (what a softie!), and the five dogs had a good time running and exploring off-lead. How wonderful to have found a handful of great fenced off-leash parks in and around Launceston, only half an hour from where we are living now. Levis was his usual disinterested self, more inclined to sniff around the park than receive affection, and Rune decided to keep an eye on Neo to make sure he didn't have too much unapproved fun. The girls, Isabella and Etta spent most of their time together, with Etta determined to sit on Isabella to keep her still. Thanks Michelle for bringing the dogs along for fun times!

On 9 December we had a great time meeting up with a gorgeous young tri Basenji named Tassie, and her owner Mags. The duo, and Mags' husband were tripping around Tasmania from Western Australia and were keen to meet other Basenjis along the way. Tassie was bred by our friends Jenni & Richard Palmer and named "Tassie" by her new owners because that's where she came from – Tassie! Rune loved playing with her, although he had to learn how to play gentle with a girl since he is used to rough-housing with big ol' Levis, but by the end of the day I think he was pretty smitten. And Isabella, who never plays with other dogs at the dog park and is always stuck by my side simply adored getting rough and ready with Tassie. Such a wonderful day!

Tassie & Rune running through the grass in Trevallyn.



Isabella & Tassie having a play.



# BBNA Poets' Corner

## My First Basenji By Maggie Moss

My first Basenji I called Emma, born Fayrelyn Vena in 1986 in QLD Australia. A small fine Basenji weighing on average 8 to 9 Kg. Cheeky and mischievous.

We shared many adventures, obedience class for social skills, beach walks, exploring cane paddocks, and boat rides, she also enjoyed the company of my cat Kenasi.

We wrote regularly to the BHAQ Scroll. I learnt a lot and valued immensely the Basenji information and chat the Scroll provided.

One of our favourite friends in Airlie Beach, N/Queensland was Mary Vlasak. Emma used to play with her dog while Mary taught me how to make Porcelain Dolls.

Mary wrote this poem. (first published in the Basenji Scroll June/July 1990)

### ***Emma the Basenji***

*A Basenji is a bouncy dog  
That's filled in side with springs,  
They leap and climb and jump and swing  
You'd think that they had wings.*

*Basenji's taste is excellent,  
Nothing cheap for them.  
Yes Emma the Basenji  
Has chewed my chair again.*

*She lately ate the rocking horse,  
She ate the lamb skin rug,  
And yet she's so adorable  
She ends up with a hug.*

*By Mary Vlasak*

When my mother was not well Emma and Kensai flew with me to NZ to live in Auckland with her and life continued on in a big City. We lived with my mum close to a large park and made lots of Dog walking friends, even some Basenji's.

We joined a 'Fun Hound Racing Club' and I often think of this time it was the most fun Emma had; she loved to chase the lure.

Most fun for the humans were the Dash Hounds hilarious to watch running, cheating by taking short cuts, waiting for the lure to come around again had us in fits of laughter. Another special memory was going to church each year for the Animal Blessing, my mum loved coming with us.

Emma was very fit and healthy 'til her last month of life .A biopsy showed a chronic form of liver disease. ie not enough working liver to sustain life.

She died in my arms on 20 November 1998

Thank you Emma

For your fun, for your attitude, the growls, the Yodels

For staying with me for as long as you did,

I loved to walk with you, enjoying the friends we made together

The stories we wrote, the adventures we shared, the memories we made.

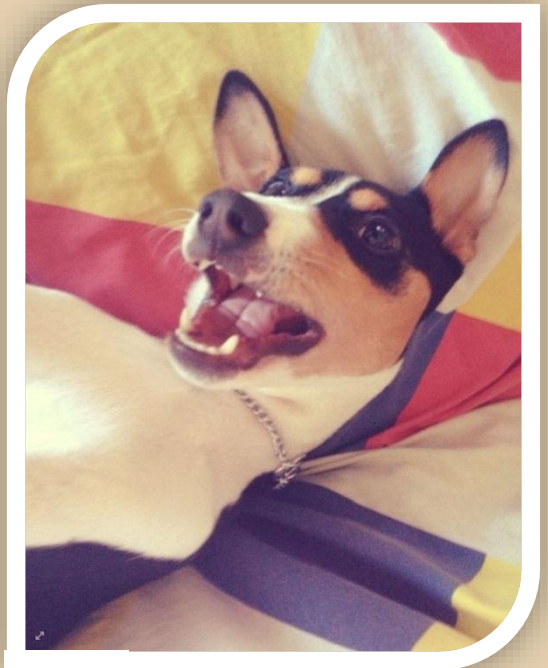
I learnt so much from you, I felt privileged you chose to stay by my side.



# BBNA Gallery



**Rosie and Zulu**



**Dexter**



**Ginny**



**Jet**



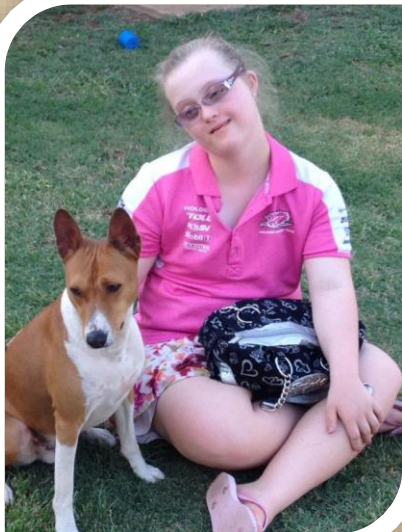
**Model, Essie and Ruffy**



**Levis and Rune**



**Amun-Ra and Isis**



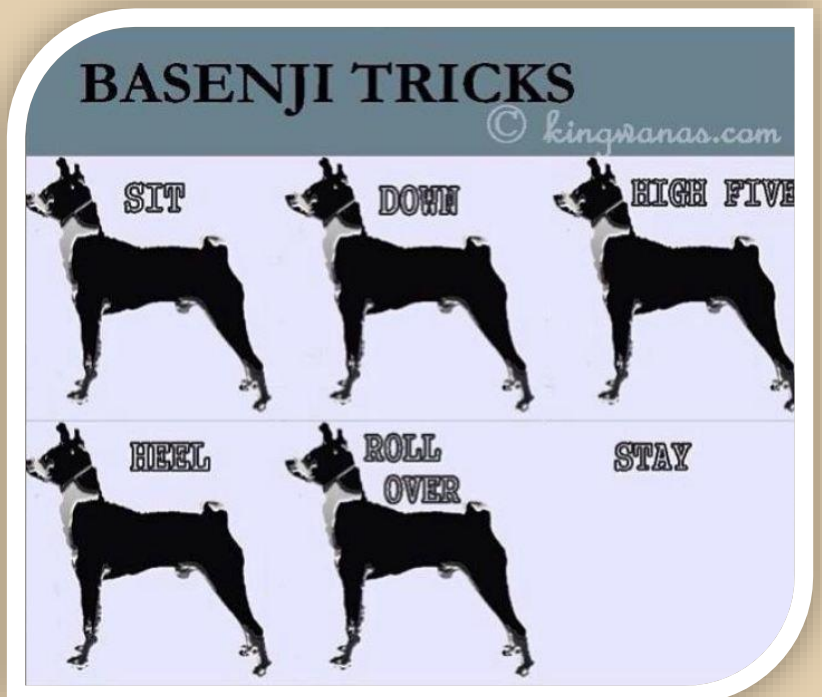
**Zoomy and Friend**



**Bashiri**



**Roxy**



BBNA Baroo is a Bi Monthly Magazine.

The BBNA Baroo welcomes your contributions. Articles covering all facets of the Basenji are welcome for our Editors consideration.

We accept Show and Trial reports and appreciate photos that accompany these events.

Please note the name of the photographer of pictures you send so that proper credit is given.

Please contact us at: [basenjibreednetworkaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:basenjibreednetworkaustralia@gmail.com)

The deadline for material submitted for consideration in the next BBNA Baroo Issue:

5th of the month preceeding the next Issue

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