

Rex and Burmese Cat Fanciers of  
South Australia Inc

# Rex Files

No. 1  
January 2012

The **Rex and Burmese Cat Fanciers of South Australia Inc** is a **GCCFSA-affiliated club** for lovers of Devon Rex, Cornish Rex, Selkirk Rex and Burmese. The club aims to promote these breeds in a fun and friendly manner. We welcome breeders as well as pet owners and show exhibitors. Members get together on a regular basis for meetings and social events. The club brings out a quarterly magazine and holds a show every year.

Joining is easy: just fill in one of the membership forms and return it with the fees.

For more information, visit <http://rex-fanciers.weebly.com/>

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# Rex Files

## January, 2012

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Welcome to the first (and somewhat delayed) newsletter for the year. Any suggestions on what you want to read about or any comments are welcome.

If you want to know when and where the next meeting is, please contact us and we look forward to seeing you soon.

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### "Rex Files"

In line with the clubs name change, does anyone propose a name change for the newsletter? If you have any suggestions, please let us know.



## Rex and Burmese Cat Show

The Rex and Burmese cat show will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2012 at Clovelly Park Primary School gymnasium, 1 Renown Place, Clovelly Park SA 5042 .

## Breeder Profile

Get to know the members of the Rex and Burmese Cat Fanciers of South Australia. This edition we talk to **Jenny Simmons**, Devon Rex breeder and President of the Rex and Burmese Cat Fanciers of SA Inc.

**Q - What is your favourite breed of cat?**

Devon Rex.

**Q - Do you have a favourite animal (other than cats of course)?**

My favourite animal is cat a of course. My other favorite animal is the Brittany Spaniel.

**Q - How long have you been a breeder?**

I have been breeding Devon Rex for about 8 years. Before that I bred various breeds of dogs and Appaloosa horses.

**Q - What has been your favourite holiday?**

My favorite holiday was about 18years ago when Roger our girls and myself when 4x4 through the Simpson Desert and ended up in Airlie Beach.

**Q - What is your ideal day?**

My ideal day is a day when all my family gets together for a good meal.

**Q - Do you have a favourite book or movie?**

Don't get time to read or go to movies.

## "The Diggers' Menagerie" by Barry Stone



### Summary

From the Boer War to the conflict in Vietnam, from the Somme to Afghanistan, from beasts of burden and bomb detectors to providers of companionship and light relief for the men and women in war, animals have played a vital role in Australian military campaigns. Dogs, **cats**, pigeons, camels and horses, among others, all took part.

Here Barry Stone documents, through letters, journals, photographs and first-hand accounts, the stories of myriad creatures who went off to various wars and peacekeeping missions with Australian soldiers — adding a poignant layer to our military history. Highlighting individual stories, he follows not just their wartime adventures, but in some cases what happened to animals after the wars had ended, who survived and how.

Source: <http://shop.abc.net.au/products/diggers-menagerie-tpb>

## Arthritis in Dogs and Cats

The following article is from:

### Vets4Pets

Ridgehaven

Mawson Lakes Northgate

Angle Vale

Golden Grove Salisbury Park

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It is a fact that our pets are living longer and longer, just like us. There are many reasons for it; extensive vet care, good nutrition and improved quality of life, just to mention a few. As a result of living longer our pets experience different problems such as increased need for dental treatment and more old age diseases such as dementia and arthritis. Arthritis is a medical term which means inflammation of the joint. Osteoarthritis is chronic arthritis often referred to as degenerative joint disease or DJD.

DJD can be primary which is rare and secondary which occurs as a result of joint abnormality or damage that happens first before arthritis sets in. Common reasons are hip dysplasia, issues with kneecaps, degenerative cartilage problems like OCD (osteochondritis dissecans) and others.

Arthritis is usually more pronounced in obese and large breed dogs although no breed or species is spared. Previous injury or surgery often makes your pet more susceptible to arthritis.

### **What are the symptoms?**

Pain, lameness, difficulties in getting up, jumping in and out of the car, going upstairs and downstairs, reluctance to go for a walk and exercise are some of them. In some cases the pet may refuse to use leg/s or refuse to do anything. Some pets may stop eating, get lethargic or aggressive. Joints may make a grating noise (crepituce), be loose, swollen or the range of motions can be reduced. In advanced cases a deformity of the leg or joint may be visible.

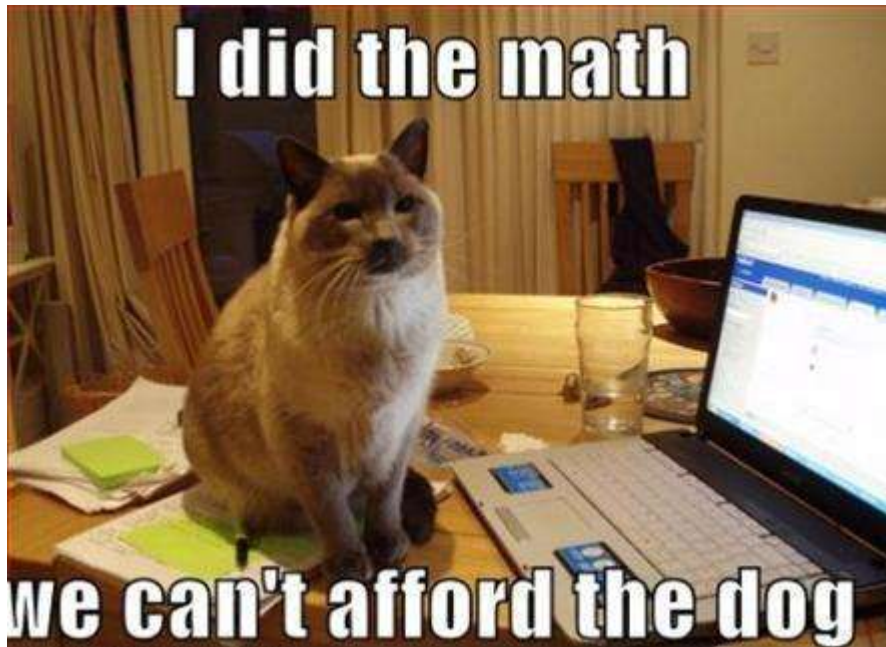
## **What can I do to help?**

There are many things that can be done to help your pet. Medications, physiotherapy and light exercise are good places to start. Medications (non steroidal drugs, glucosamine, pentosan injections) will help manage pain and inflammation. Physiotherapy will maintain the normal range of joint movement as much as possible and improve the lubrication of joints. Exercise, on the other hand, helps with muscle tone and as a result of this the joints stay tight and damage that occurs as a result of joint laxity is minimised.

Diet is another important factor. Some commercially available prescription diets can make all the difference. Sea food extracts (green lip mussels, shark cartilage), fish oils and other oils with high ratio of essential fatty acids interfere with inflammatory pathways in the body and reduce the need for other medications.

If there is severe joint damage then surgery can be the only option. The faulty parts are removed and the joint is examined thoroughly. Joints can be removed e.g. femoral head excision or even replaced with a total joint replacement implant (e.g. hip replacement). The bottom line is that good management is important and starts from day one when you get a puppy or kitten. Exercise them wisely (no strenuous exercise when young especially large dogs since joints are weak and body is heavy) and feed them a quality diet. Even these simple measures may be enough to slow down the progression of arthritis.

2012 has proven to go by just as quick as last year. Best of luck for upcoming cat shows.



Once again if you have any suggestions or comments please let us know.

*~~~The end~~~*