

It is now three weeks since Cyclone Larry devastated the North Queensland region, including destroying the banana plantations and sugar cane fields. However it is all too easy to forget as time passes, so we ask you to read these anecdotes and do what you can. since then another cyclone has hit Western Australia and massive flooding has occurred in the Northern Territory. We have no reports from these regions from dog people but trust they are all safe and sound.

North Queensland Cyclone Relief Funds

Several funds are in progress amongst the dog people, of course we cannot vouch for those about which we have no information, but on this page are a few of which we have been made aware, and we are sure they are really worthy and completely legitimate.

One of our NQ correspondents, Susan Hannan, has done her best to keep us posted ... and she has passed on to us the following anecdotes.....

To The Committee CCCQ

As the committee is aware many of our fellow exhibitors in North Queensland have lost homes and property after the devastation from Tropical Cyclone Larry. In order to be able to donate some much needed money to those who are affected Thuringowa City Kennel Club Inc would like to request that the CCCQ waive the 15% levy for entry for the Easter Good Friday Show.

This donation would be used to help only those in need and a committee will be set up from the three clubs in the Townsville region to process the distribution of any monies.

Thank you for considering this proposal.

CHRISTINE REED PRESIDENT THURINGOWA CITY KENNEL CLUB INC.

Update 10/4/06, the CCCQ have granted us permission to donate the 15% levy to the Disaster Fund and they will administer that component of the fund raising effort.

From LeyJanes

Have been speaking to the CCC over the last 2/3 days. They are forwarding shipments of dog food etc donated by Purina to Innisfail and Cairns. The Cairns shipment I will take to Innisfail. I have been trying to call people in that area. Pat and I will go to Innisfail this weekend to see what can be done

As someone recently said, as much as we may all squabble and fight at times, the pure bred dog fraternity does rally in times of adversity.....I know most of you live up this way (FNQ) - but please pass this on to your counterparts down south!!! This is certainly a show that deserves to be well supported! There are some exhibitors up this way who REALLY need a helping hand right now - I know a lot of us up here are doing what we can to assist others in time of need, but we are not able to do it all by ourselves - and some of these people need a LOT of help!! Also there are a few dog people in Townsville with spare runs, pens etc who are willing to look after your dogs while you rebuild, re-fence etc. PS And thank you to these Townsville people!!!

Good things and bad things ...- just to let you know the types of things that are happening up this way lately.....

Was at the hairdressers tonight having my "ash blondes" covered once again, and there was a woman there from Innisfail, who is currently staying with family in Cairns as they lost everything - had photos and her address to verify - which Centre Management confirmed with Innisfail police (sad indictment that this had to occur - but so many are rorting the system.....) - her family had given her a voucher for a cut and colour to help cheer her up - well, she became a little teary and the stylist told everyone what had happened - there was a quick whip around - her 2 kids now each have a new push bike and she has a voucher for \$400 from Target and then Centre Management obviously were in touch with other retailers who came to the party with other vouchers, plus accomodation for them all for 1 night, dinner and breakfast, at a Cairns resort..... had to leave with partially wet hair as tears are contagious for me.....

How about the Mobil service station operator in Innisfail, who raised the price of fuel by \$1.00 per litre the day after the cyclone hit his home town???? The police finally closed him down.....Couldn't get through to Townsville- normally a 4 hour drive - in time for Amanda's graduation ceremony last night - highway was still cut at the time we would have had to leave by.....All cheaper flights were full - Sunstate airlines. QANTAS wanted \$500 for each of us!!!! Alternative route was via the Lyndsay Highway - a 13 hour drive due to road conditions that way.....Of course, the highway is now open but with extreme care.....



Amanda Hannan

From Ley James

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From Terri Greig

This is from a lass in Townsville, she has been communicating with me about having a puppy..... what a girl.....and they say pet people in our breed are to be treated with scepticism..... sounds like she has a heart of gold.....

Hello Terri.....Well what a day I have had....I have been organizing things to go north...Pet Cafe and some pet food reps have donated pet food to go up, so that's great. Decided to ring around and ask other pet shops if they wanted to contribute, some have already organized stuff and have arranged for it to go up... One pet shop told me they are not interested in sending stuff up...And were very rude about it...I told them that Pet Cafe and some other reps are donating pet food and her response was I am not interested in sending stuff up...Great Pet Shop they are, don't really care about the welfare of animals and obviously only interested in the money side of owning a pet shop...So I was very disappointed in their lack of effort and care factor...It's only dry pet food but it's better than nothing...I picked up a chainsaw for another friend in Innisfail, they paid for it over the phone and when I picked it up the shop also chucked in fuel oil, an extra chain and stuff free of charge.Their comment was 'anything to help those poor buggers in need'.... So some people are more then willing to give others are not...I really don't understand how people can not care as such and not want to donate or help....what is wrong with people today?.....well I'd better go, got heaps of stuff to organize and phone calls to make ...take care..... and if you know anyone needing pet food in Innisfail let me know because if we can get there on Saturday i am willing to drop pet food off to them..Jodie

At National DOG - THE Ringleader Way we immediately contacted Thuringowa KC and offered seven subscription to be used as prizes or raffled to raise funds, and were delighted to hear back within a few days "We took the opportunity to raffle one subscription at a show in Proserpine on Sunday, this raised over \$280.00",

We feel sure however that many of our readers, including those in other parts of the world, will also want to help if they can, so we have decided to offer a very special incentive, for every donation up to \$50 the name of the donor will go into a draw for a half page advertisement in a forthcoming issue of the winner's choice, and for every donation of more than \$50, a full page advertisement. The committee of Thuringowa KC have kindly consented to administer this fund, and have opened a separate bank account to handle and re-distribute the funds, but please be sure when you send your donation to clearly indicate that it is in response to the National DOG Cyclone Relief Fund. Chris asks that people send an email with details of their address, donation and ID number used on direct deposit, also the date, to bydahl@bigpond, so that the committee will find it easier to keep track of those eligible to go into the draw. Their contact details are Mrs C Reed, Thuringowa City Kennel Club Disaster Relief PO Box 7411, Garbutt 4814. Unfortunately I could not wait any longer for the BSB number or we would miss our deadline!

Appeals are also being conducted by Mrs Kim Frame (Secretary of the Innisfail KC) PO Box 50W, Westcourt, Qld 4870 or Mrs Tui Dixon (Secretary of the Toy Dog Club of Nth Qld) PO Box 1494, Ingham, Qld 4850.

On the Sunday we (the Toy Dog Club Fund Raising Committee) were at a fund raising sausage sizzle at Cotters Market Townsville. Luckily as it turned out later, this was a very profitable one. However, the McKenzies and I were 2 hours from home and unable to begin cyclone preparations, as we were at the time expecting it to hit in our area, Cardwell. Getting home at about 5pm, we went straight into throwing the sausage sizzle gear under the house and filling the van with dog cages, trolleys etc, to evacuate. We sat out the cyclone, all prepared for the dogs at least. As things turned out we had little consequential damage, lost a great number of trees and the driveway became one big culvert.

Tuesday morning we heard that the roads were negotiable. So armed with the sausage sizzle profits (and the permission of the members), firstly stopping off to borrow a dog trailer, we shopped in Ingham for essentials and set off for our members in Innisfail two of whom had lost everything. We had one member who still had a phone (Maree Germon) who drove out with messages to our members who had lost everything (Albina & Tilda Lazzarich & John Mack). Some three hours later my daughter Alaina and I arrived at the Lazzarich property. They had had no communication from anyone as their phone was lying in the paddock along with most of their worldly goods. Also the mobile phone towers were down so communication by mobile was impossible as we discovered previously. We were the first to arrive and found utter devastation. Prior to leaving home we had arranged for my daughter to move out of her home, leaving kennels and chook pens free as Maree had found that Mrs Lazzarich would not leave her chooks. However, there was no moving her full stop and we left having delivered food for all and \$300 in cash (very useful as no ATMs were working). We then visited Mr Mack who had moved into a boardinghouse and had his dogs in their trolleys as dogs are not welcome at such establishments. Mr Mack was so grateful for the \$200 we gave him from the club and happy for his dogs to be looked after. We still have them. He is still looking for a new home if you know of one.

Looking in on Albina on the way home we got to Silky Oak only to be turned back to Tully at the river was up. That night we spent in the car park of the Tully IGA. Luckily we met up with some ex-in-laws of my daughter's who offered their home from which they had been evacuated and we spent the next three days there. No power and drinking water but at least somewhere to let the dogs out for a run and to sleep without being attacked by the myriads of mossies.

So we the oldies of the dog world were not the last off the mark this time, in fact we were probably the first doggy people to help out. Maybe there is something to be said for having been around a long time and having had some less than happy experiences ourselves.

Whilst I was away apparently a committee was formed by local clubs to raise funds for the people affected. As I was not present I cannot say what came of this. However an article in the local paper "The Sun" of Townsville stated that "they would be helping "PEDIGREE" dogs/owners". It also included the Toy Dog Club of NQ in this statement. We would like it known that the specific inclusion of only pedigreed dogs at such a time we find quite offensive. We feel sure such statements will not endear our dog fraternity to the general public, but of course it might all have been mistakenly reported as so often happens in cases like this. In any event, please help!!! Any donation, no matter how small, will be put to good use.

TUI DIXON

From Katrina

We have generators at our house now so I have been able to get on the computer. Thank you all so much for your concern. I'm sorry I haven't been able to ring you all back but I am getting upwards of 40 phone calls a day and I can't manage them all. We are OK, our house has about \$100,000 damage and we don't know if we will be able to continue living here until the repairs are started. Every 2nd house needs work, some are completely destroyed. My cousin has offered us her holiday home at Bramston Beach so we may go there if needed. Dogs are OK., Kramer (Cocker) was very stressed for 2 days after but the GSD and Bubbles were fine about it all.

The day after the cyclone my dear nana (90 years old) had a heart attack and was taken to hospital. I managed to sit with her and love her for 2 hours before she died as they were transporting her to the airfield for transfer to Cairns. So we are organising a funeral in the worst circumstances you could imagine. The rain won't stop and 1/2 our house is leaking water. Oh well, on the positive side all the renovations we were planning are going to be done for us now. Gotta look on the bright side!!

Anyway, thanks all and it just goes to show that the dog world looks after its own when the times are tough even though we may bicker and squabble at times. Gary Hickey is coming from Townsville tomorrow with 300 kgs of dog food for me so if any of you other northerners want some or know someone in need please ring me. Albina Lazzarich (Cavs) lost her entire house. So sad. Heather Fuimara (Bullies) was hit in the head with a roller door. I can't get hold of Wanda (Labs) but I heard she lost part of her house. Anyway thank you thank you thank you and I will chat to all of you soon.



Katrina's house



Lazzarich house