

BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF VICTORIA

Breed of Dog: Bernese Mountain Dog

Rescue Group Name: Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Victoria

Website: www.bmdvc.com.au

Name of Contact: Felicity Broome

Contact Details: 0412 34 6961 or email felicitybroome@hotmail.com

Information about the breed: The Bernese Mountain Dog is a large, sturdy working dog with striking black tan and white distinctive markings and the long double coat. They are a gentle and placid dog devoted to their family.



The Bernese Mountain Dog is a working dog that had its origins in the farm areas of Switzerland, principally the Canton of Bern where most examples of the breed were concentrated in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

They are a strong and sturdy farm dog that in their native country were

used extensively for herding and also for draft work when carting milk to the local cheese factories or produce to the local markets. They were also watchdogs around the farm and the herds and this required a calm natured, self-confident dog, devoted to his home and his people that the breed still exhibits today.

Ideal owners for this breed: Someone who is absolutely sure that they want to commit to a life long companion. Someone who has the time to train the dog in obedience, particularly in the first six months of the dog's life, has time to walk the dog regularly and to groom the dog.

Bernese are excellent companions for children, and love to be included in all family activities. Bernese are not suited to being left outside and given food once a day. Puppies and young dogs are often quite boisterous during their

adolescent stage and for this reason they are often not recommended for families with children under the age of 10 years.

How the rescue program works: The temperament, health and suitability for re-homing is assessed. From the list of people waiting, the most suitable family is chosen, depending upon the dog's requirements and previous living circumstances. We try to arrange a two week trial for the new owners, whenever possible, to make sure that the dog is going to suite their lifestyle. If the dog is not suitable, then it is returned and a new home is sought. We try and match an appropriate family with each dog to provide the most stable environment for the dog.

Dogs re-homed through the club include Bernese rescued from a pound, RSPCA, shelter or neglectful home as well as dogs whose owners use the club as a resource to re-home their dog when they are unable to keep them.

The Guardian Angel Fund was established to assist with emergency funding. This helps to pay for fees to retrieve a dog in need, pay for necessary vet bills such as desexing, vaccinations, surgery if required. Donations are gratefully accepted by payment to the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Victoria - Rescue fund. Address to Treasurer found on the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Victoria Website.