

A collection of black silhouettes on a yellow background. At the top, several butterflies of various sizes are scattered. In the upper right, a person is shown sitting on a large, shaggy dog. To the right of the person, a smaller, sleeker dog is standing and looking towards the left.

S

haggy
dog
stories



conversations with a silicone dog

an art project by tom hackett



never seen dog breeder

this is the tale of his replica

The fall 1980



she will climb up onto my Belgian Shepherd Jet and sit on him as a cushion

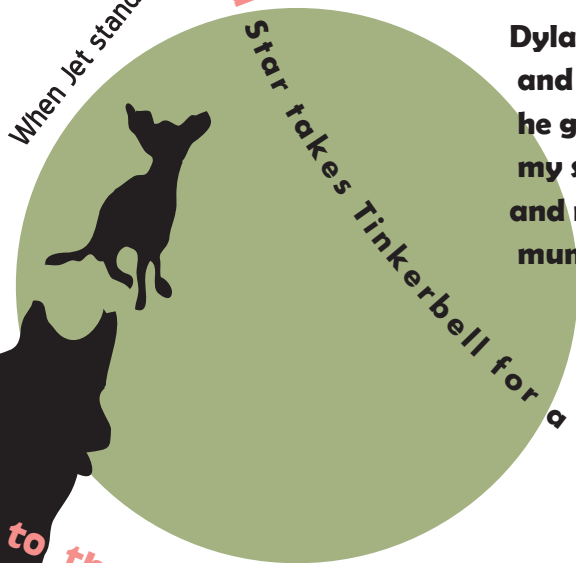
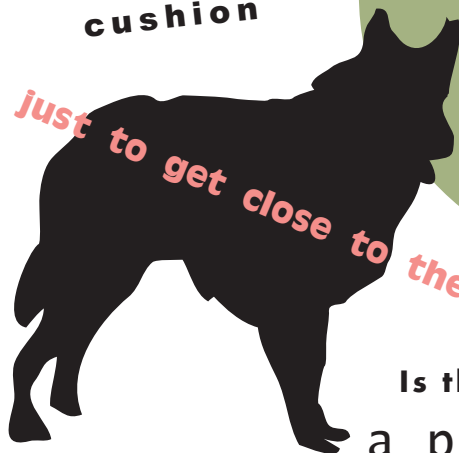
My 14 year old German Shepherd makes a run for it

One of my dog's Tinkerbell who is teacup Chihuahua/miniature Daschund cross

Dylan is a little bit happy and a little bit naughty he growls at people my sisters and my mum



just to get close to the sun



When Jet stands up he Star takes Tinkerbell for a walk around the garden while she grips his tail in her mouth

Is the urban dog walker more or less approachable?

TRUE

You catch the eye.....good

You smile.....good

They reciprocate.....good and so it begins.....



My old labrador/alsation 1st cross, Fritz was a bit of a celebrity where we lived. He was the only one who ever had a slate at our local indian corner shop. He used to take himself down the road go into the shop & gently take a packet of Quavers from out of the box & then leave the shop and go back home proudly carrying his crisps. No matter where they moved the quavers box he always found it and if he could not reach the box he sat there & barked & howled until someone gave him a packet. I used to go to the shop and Raj would say to me "Mrs Walker your dog he been stealing again". I used to say "come on then what's his slate this week?" ans would pay the dogs bill. I knew exactly how many he had because he always ate them in the lounge in his chair & the packets were there.

SCARED

HE USED TO EAT SARDINES & BANANAS

this woman had a bull terrier and a toddler

she let it off the lead on scarborough beach

it ran up to a donkey and leapt up locking its teeth onto the donkeys buttocks

IT WAS HORRIBLE THEY COULDN'T GET IT OFF

The workers have hearts of

GOLD

He was a cruelty case from the local dogs home aged about 18 months but he had such a great life with us and he was a softy. My grandsons learnt how to walk with the dogs help. They used to pull themselves up on him and he would walk so gentle with them holding on to him. Even if they twisted his skin as they pulled themselves up he would never snap at them.



One Sunday we took him in the local woods for a run & as we were walking through we heard him barking from up ahead. When we got to him he was stood over a dead pheasant barking like mad. There was a shoot taking place on the estate so my husband felt under it's wing & it was still warm so he told me to wait there while he got the van. Fritz stood guard over the pheasant until his dad came back & watched hubby put the pheasant under the drivers seat

Usually Fritz sat on the front seat between us but not this time he was laid on the floor in the back keeping his eye on his bird When we got home he watched hubby pluck it and clean it and put it in the oven. We were going to have a pheasant salad for tea, so once it was cooked I left it out on the kitchen table to cool

Unfortunately though the dog played 'finders keepers' & stole the pheasant off the table and ate the lot. This was the first and only time that dog stole food of the table but no way was he letting us have HIS pheasant

the noise they make is akin to braying donkeys

Kayleigh helps herself to bananas

A German Dwarf-biterA.K.A
A.K.A miniature Pinscher A.K.A....

CHIPSO

OUR CAT AND DOG WERE BEST FRIENDS

catches squirrels, while waiting

for his owner to steam him some chicken

and other fine delicacies

lucky chipso

He was 18 when we had to have him put to sleep because his back end went and it broke our hearts, but he really did bring a lot of joy into so many peoples lives. His beautiful brown eyes charmed many an old lady & they were always bringing him fresh bones & treats

R.I.P Fritz

you were a lovely dog x



ROSIE

don't want any, no mate....



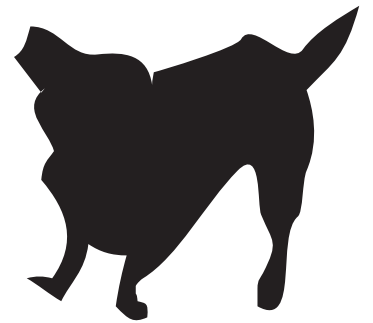
IS

He's a Cocker Spaniel Blue Roan...



he steals food, wrappings from food

SCARED



eats own poo and bananas



Upon picking myself up and shouting at the owner to get his dog on a lead and get control of it, I was told in quite an aggressive way to f*ck off, walk on, that if he came across the road to me



While walking with two dogs one Sunday afternoon a dog ran out of its house, across the main road and got into an altercation with one of my dogs.

This resulted in both my mum and me

I stood my ground, and was still arguing with him when he said again to walk on, that he was a naughty man and he would not be messed with. He said he didn't care how big my 'old man' was
F * * K OFF!!!!

SNOEIGID

falling down onto the pavement



I WOULD

What a twat!!!

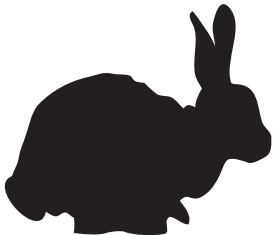
NOT

Sunbather

in

BIKINI...

LIKE IT



middle aged man in the shade of a tree

INSECT

watching



captain the spaniel



Lottie
Jumps in pools,
Runs around
fast, is two
years old and
goes to play with
other yorkshire
terriers



He used to chase race horses

We acquired two dogs and while dragging them around

sirrus the lakeland terrier jumped onto the trampoline to jump over the fence, luckily he is chipped, but he still managed to escape from the police station

Teddy, nicknamed SPY after Bob Carupees. She hates hedgehogs and will wait for 3 hours for them to come out so she can bark at them and gets her nose pricked. She also barks at horse chestnuts for hours



Harry the rescue dog is epileptic and takes diazepam



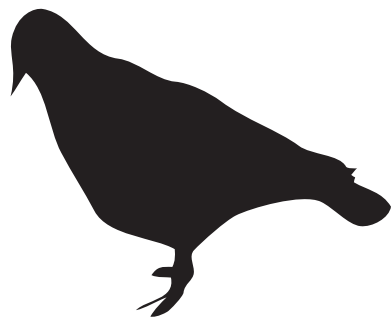
boy was a rescue dog. found in a hedge he stole a string of sausages from someone's back door



IF I SEE HIM AGAIN I'LL GET MY RIFLE!



I noticed a lump in my groin and now I am having a hernia op



hernia op

harry avoided

puddles

7stone

he removed corks out of wine bottles
feet like saucers



Bentley chews plaster from the corner
pulled children along on a sledge



Our dog set fire to our sofa by chewing a box of matches on
I put mustard on the walls,
that stopped it!
of the room

Tilly was our border terrier and went missing from our front verge. We walked all aorund the park looking for her and put up a reward notice in the car park. This woman got a call from her sister who saw the notice and she brought Tilley back and claimed the reward. This was despite her picking her up from outside our house.



CHRISTMAS DAY

he **died** in my

arms



Ruby the labradoodle IS A NON SHEDDY DOG

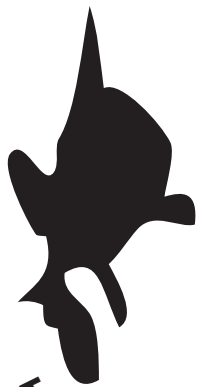
who
grabs
cardigans

AND

carries socks around

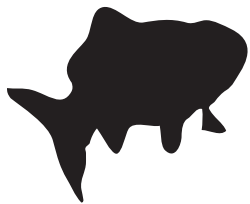


the minute we
leave the house, bob the
beagle will rip the bin bag out
of the bin, open it and drag the
remains of last night's take away
upstairs and hide it under the bed
or somewhere. You find some
various bits all over the place.
He also has a habit of
eating fox poo



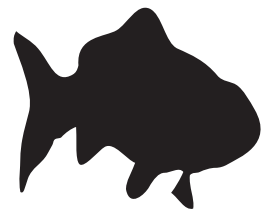
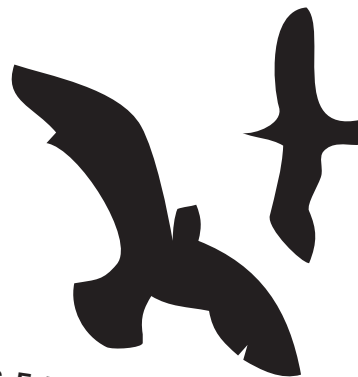
I took
him fishing
with my
friends,
Jasper ate
all the bait
while we
were not
watching

He chased a seagull in Skegness



his tail is

lopped off

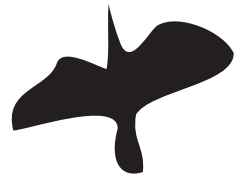


If anyone trumps
Jasper will sniff
his own bum
to check it
wasn't him

Billy

our rescue
dog was tied
to one of our
cars when
we were
camping,
and we
drove off
towing him
round the
field

then came running back with a look of terror on his face
BEING CHASED BY HUNDREDS OF SEAGULLS
He is now scared of seagulls



He is now scared of seagulls



DAISY
barks at the
sea is ten months
old and recognises
other Cockapoo's



Our Staffie is **scared**

JASPER FELL ASLEEP AND ROLLED OFF THE SOFA

HE WAS VERY SURPRISED

of the kids

We took Jed climbing mountains and he'd run right **U**p **to** *and peep over them* the edges

he gets his

ears pulled



a dog barks and my ears pricked up.....only to realise it was

he was really affectionate when I was pregnant

Colin the pug is silly

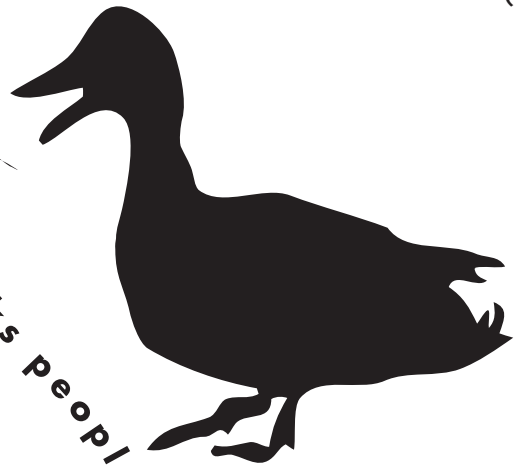
& ADORABLE



Bruno is scared of teddies and tea towels but was very protective when I was pregnant

he's called trumpet, short for trumpet voluntary as he barks with the volume of a church organ

had an Alsatian/Lab cross who used to go after ducks people used to shout



he's called 'locksmith' as everytime I pick up his lead he makes a bolt for the door

my son did a poo in the garden and ruby the dog came and ate it

how totally ludicrous!



GET YOUR DOG ON A LEAD

arm in arm lovers



I TOLD HIM HE COULDN'T HAVE TREATS UNTIL HE FINISHED HIS DINNER. HE THEN RAN TO THE KITCHEN. GULPED HIS DINNER. RAN BACK AND

Threw
UP

Joey my Jack Russell is as

he
pee'd
on the matt

s o f t
a s
g r e a s e

Paris survived

Pavo

WELLAWELLAWELLAHUUH!

Our puppy ripped the room to shred and devastated everything but left a box of 6 eggs untouched

he rolls on his back, especially for girls

He only barks at the postman



BOBBY
ATE
ALL
OF
MY
CHOCOLATES
FROM
MY
ADVENT
CALENDAR



He chased after ducks and ran into the river.....



she licks you like *hell*... like you're

her dinner

he
runs
around
with



a
frisby
over
his
head
looking
very
proud
of
himself



she budge you off the bee

Our dog managed to get inside the cardboard box and eat the Easter eggs

LUNAR the siberian husky
has piercing blue eyes

Lizzie the beagle stole from someone else's barbecue. She also fell down a cliff in Cromer and we had to walk round miles to rescue her

I was walking along and my dog **Grace** fell into a B.T. manhole at the side of me

Zac lived for **8** years

BIG **P**ILE

We have a history of Alsatians

& Deefa **D** f o r
d o g

they clean each other's

HE ATE SOME TIN OXIDE
AND HAD TO TAKE SOME
CHARCOAL

Our dog pisses
everywhere

Ears

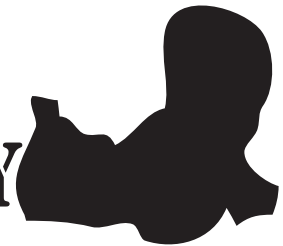


Willow and Rowena are sisters taken from their mother

Sits in front
of the basket

GETS
CARRIED
AROUND
LIKE
A

BABY



and takes a walk

Maddie, mad as a hatter was found in the lake district

AROUND THE

B L O C K

too drunk
to notice

Ella

is intuitive

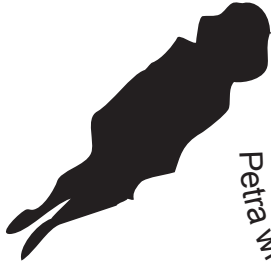
**JIMMY EATS FOOTBALLS
CHEWS THEM UP
EATS CARROTS**



would get

I
mouthless
a type

her mother used to bring her meals up to her in her room



Petra when 9 could not leave her bedroom in case bright the mastiff attacked her

we had a three legged mongrel

I was bullied into walking the three peaks

RUBY

Daddie shut the baby gate

Gus

fell down

the
Labradoodle
is a non sheddy dog



**I
HAD
TO
CARRY
THE
DOG
IN
THE
RUCSAC**

*I was 18 and on my way to buy a washer.
I walked into a yard and a man
shouted*

r u n !

*The dog bit me
on the back
and I had to
have stitches,
I still have the*



a circumcised ceramic dog...curious

s c a r s



Honey is a whippet-lurcher cross who was found with a crushed foot by the side of a road in Kent

ELEGANTLY

Toby the **COCKER** spaniel eats memory sticks

As a child my dog Dinky a Yorkshire terrier, was my best friend, we slept together, we were inseparable.

homer the labrador welcomed the burglar with a pile of shoes



a very

got from done roaming, they get them from **death row**

fostered in Workshop

GOOD WITH CHILDREN
She spins round with the washing machine

jumped on my

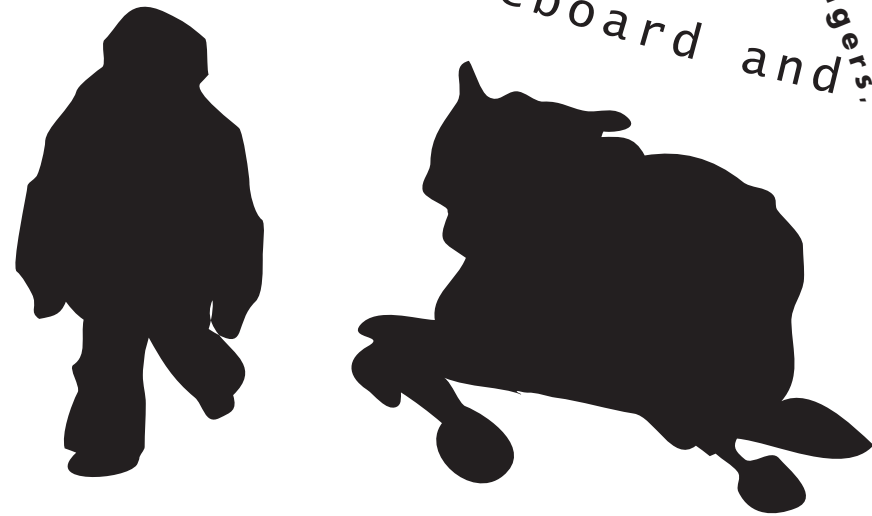
We took Dinky to Great Yarmouth. Dinky was left in the car. My parents forgot to wind down the window. Dinky wilted and died

BRITISH BULL DOG

self-aware dog.

My parents drove around Yarmouth looking for a vet. They put him on my knee. They told me later he had gone on Holiday

My Phoebe bites Postman's fingers and wouldn't let him back on skateboard and she is medium and black



I forgot till I was 21 and I saw him on a photo. I asked my mum 'did I used to have a dog?' And it all came flooding back

let him back on

h e

wouldn't eat his chappie on christmas day, even when grannie put some brandy

on
it

Bailey can tell the time

he wandered in and my mum turned and said.....

it must be 8 O'clock

Polly is having her eye removed



Lexie the Alsatian is scared of the dark. She will only go out if Wesley the Yorkie goes out first

I love my

golden labrador, he



why?

does so many funny things.

He got his head stuck in a metal fence in a cow field for about 10 minutes



He wouldn't hurt a fly!



Sam S t r u g g l e d
to walk is daft



&



YOU NOTICE nature more

They become aware

they choose

ignore or smile



My rescue boxer likes to chase hares and rabbits



he also eats raspberries from the bush

Brilliant

hope it all works out for you buddy

TOSS THE COIN

Tim fell in a hole in the moors

OSCAR

he is a bit sa

luckily some younger dogs found him

LOOKS

like a baby

They sit in a circle on collapsible chairs. Dappled light shimmers across the more intense looking man who addresses the fold. He was a young gun, no doubt brought in to shake up the department. Sadly the normal tranquillity is laid impotent by the latent intensity and underlying threat that prevails

if

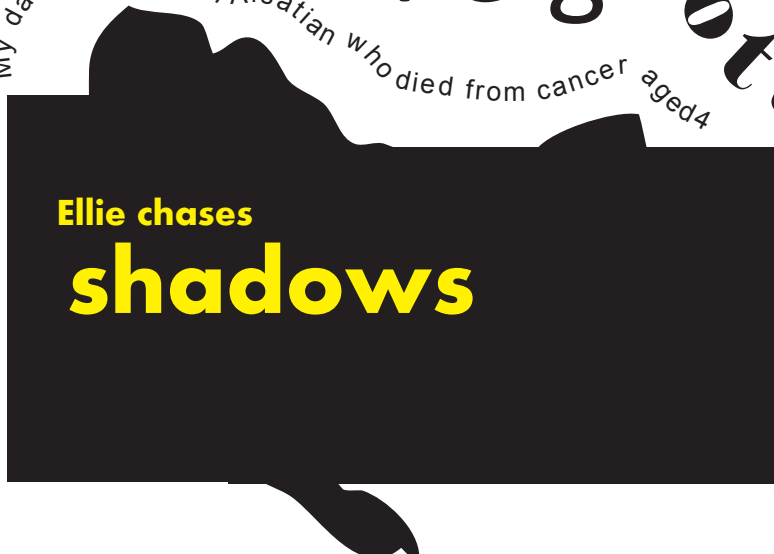
only scottie could

he brings both the bowl and the spoon to us

he's crazy

leg and bottom ARM

My daughter had an Alsatian who died from cancer aged 4



Ellie chases shadows

I was visiting some friends near

who had an old wolfhound

Avignon

who was friendly enough all evening till I go up to fetch a jumper then it bit my

they were most apologetic



Monty the Labrador eats rubbish and cow pats, he fell in a pond



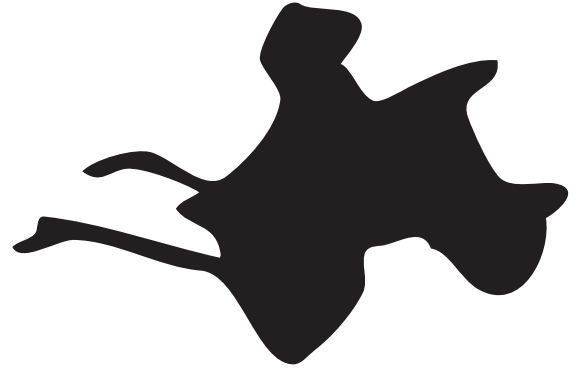
I got hunted by a pack of Jack Russells



Jinny rspca rescue dog is partially sighted, needs glasses



Murphy takes his bed time bear, which tells him its bedtime

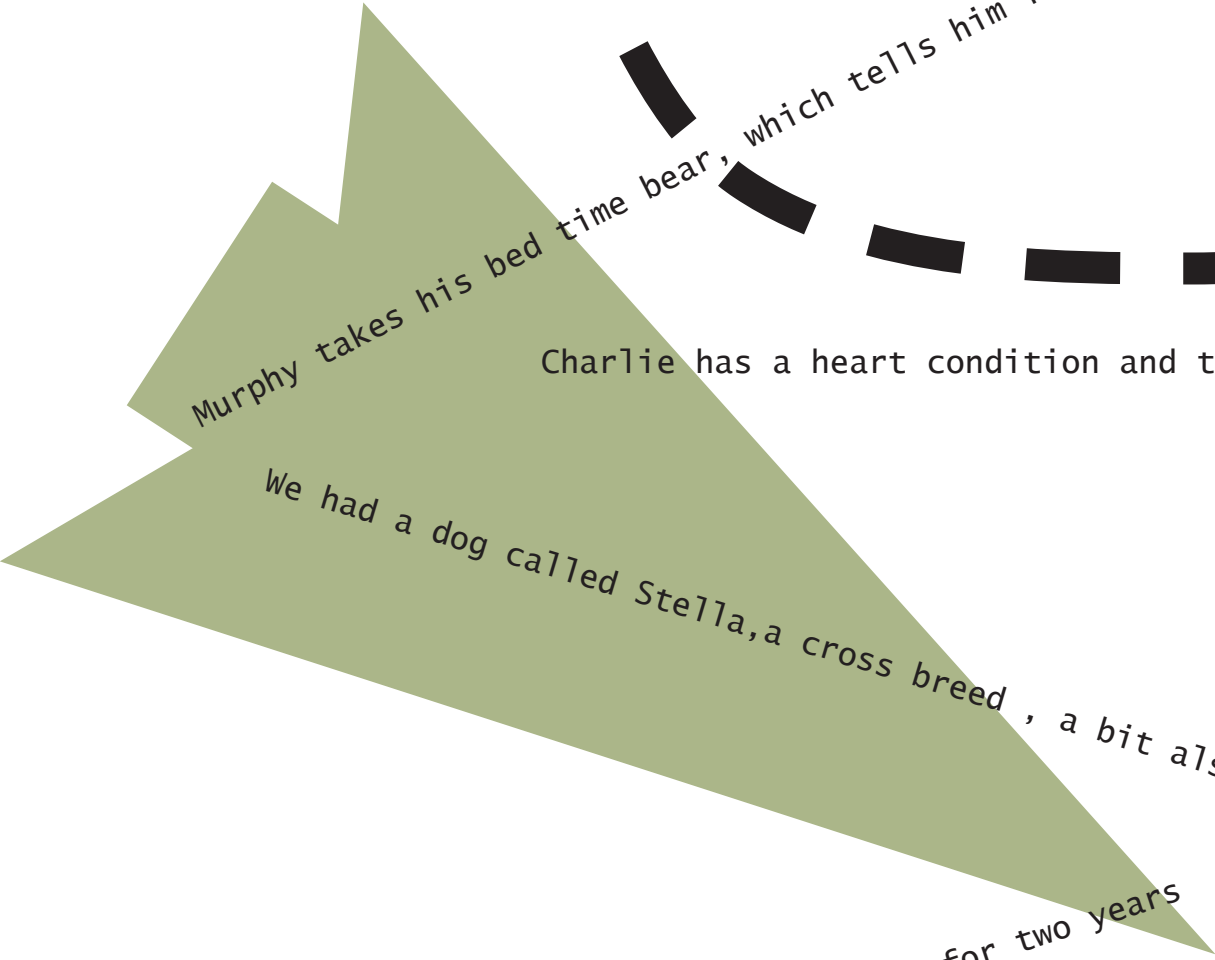


Charlie has a heart condition and takes water tables

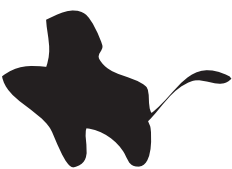


We had a dog called Stella, a cross breed , a bit alsation, head like velvet, very gentle

We had two Westies and two Labs everyday together for two years



Summer gets self concious when eating



Luke got bitten by 'boots' the sheepdog

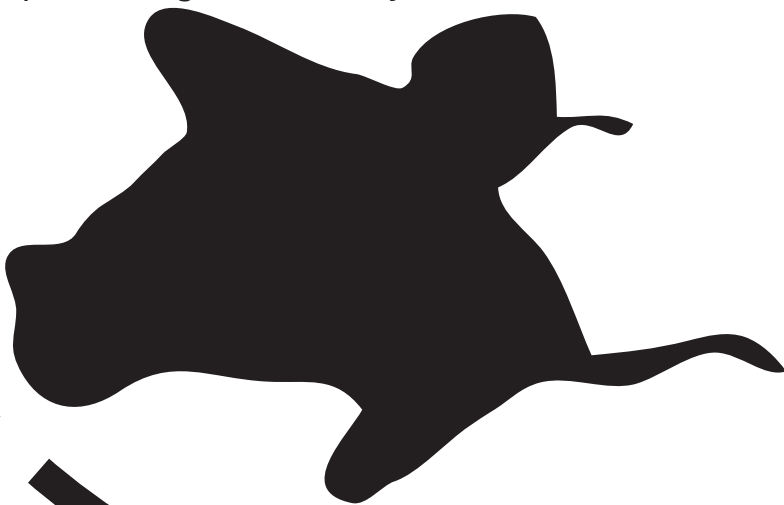
I was bitten by a whippet when I was 11



Poppy the black Labrador doesn't get fazed by other dogs



Jack the spaniels got taken by a man in a white van



George the boxer butts the window to communicate with the cat



There is no
PUNCH line

Jacko stands in front of the TV and recognizes the sounds of friends cars

I was never that bothered by dogs, obsessed up in a cat ended up falling for Tricia a keen dog lover, so ended up in a house with her and Marty, her Chocolate Labrador. It was tricky at first as he growled at me whenever we were getting up close. But I got used to him, and more important him to me. Things really softened between us when he saw me nursing Tricia through a bout of food poisoning. He kind of understood we both loved her

it is funny peculiar

SO SAD

SO SAD

IT'S

A

sad sad situation

She lost a boyfriend and

dog

E a s i l y

You cannot carry a cup of tea while pushing
a **wheelbarrow**



I was dumbstruck

Clouding over...that's better

In the woods they are reticent and less humour
it is So
even the breeze is hot

1940's ex-council
buying a Bunting
he was he

Anyway, one day I was home alone and fell down the stairs, knacker my spine. It killed and I couldn't move. Marty found me and started to bark relentlessly, so much it roused Mrs C, the old lady next door, who came round to complain. Luckily I saw her silhouette through the glass door and managed to shout her for help. She called 999 and the ambulance took me in. The hospital managed to get the swelling on my lower back down, and save the odd twinge all is normal

A man sitting glittering with the morning paper

One thing is certain.....
I will never do

P a n a m a

a b o u n d s

H O T

he pick up a bit of dead wood and runs around with it.

our dog adores wood!

he's completely batty

it had original fire places

he had always worked in the auto industry

The doctors told me had I not been seen quickly the damage could have been much more serious and permanent. Don't get me wrong, I still love cats, but I just can't imagine any amount of miaowing having the same effect. So I owe a big, huge debt of gratitude to good old Marty. He really had my back covered

to me it became crystal clear, I was an
outsider
stepping in

I BROKE DOWN



I call Laura Lola and Lola Laura.



he pricked himself on the holly

he's a lovely fella, he's a lovely fella

He started patting him like a real dog, saying



out in the house of fun

hang on...I've spotted one...intercept!..

INTERCEPT!

whoops! only a child.....easy mistake

He was a bush beating gun dogging pheasant picker



Jericho woofs

Jericho is stupid

but NOT the pheasant pickers son.

with



D jiggly kind of walk

an utter shame



Wait...wait until it

comes to you

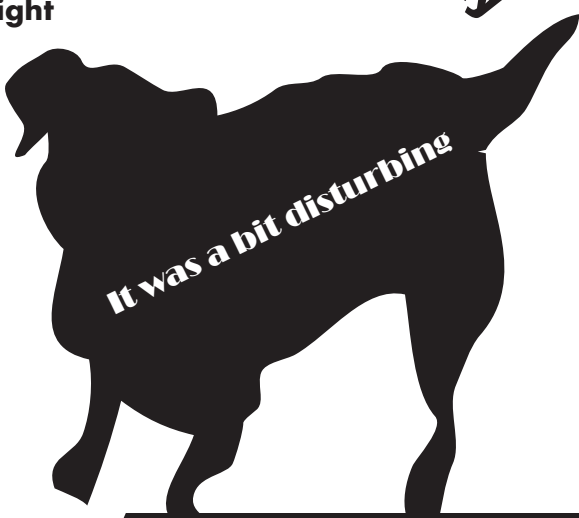
YES... it does

It looks funny

I have thought long and hard about what to say about Basil, you see he is such an important part of myfamily and now he is in his twilight years and not at all healthy, which makes me rather melancholy

BRUNO

he steals children's toys, food and is very sneaky I took her to my friends and She took her birthday



It was a bit disturbing

Rather than writing an anecdote I think this sums him up

Oakley the lhasa apso was my daughters then she moved

I take a look into his



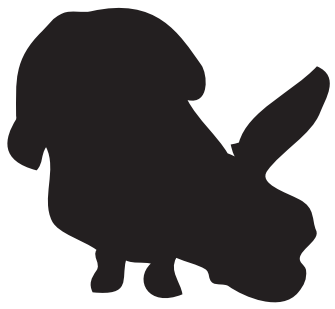
eyes and I find a whole

A JAPANESE AKITA
CROSS BULL MASTIFF

cake out



conversation
without saying
one word



is Smooth and black and parties to Michael Jackson music very late

Bruno

but he ain't no

CRIMINAL

Denny the spinger spaniel

so we have to keep everything in **SAME** **th_e** PLACE



is
blind
We & deaf
clean Jazz's teeth
with a toothbrush,
just normal toothpaste

ice creams all round

he picks from the plants

X

Newcy brown the labrador loves tomatoes, satsumas and watermelons

the other doing sports, **h**er..... doing animal care
they had just finished their exams.... **h**im
going window fitting
going to College in September

but think better

ducks

she'd chase landing in the middle

I think about going over to the dog show at Winterton

NOT
walking
SHOWING



This is about **Dip** the black lab was a gun dog



OF A POND



that
b i t
comes later

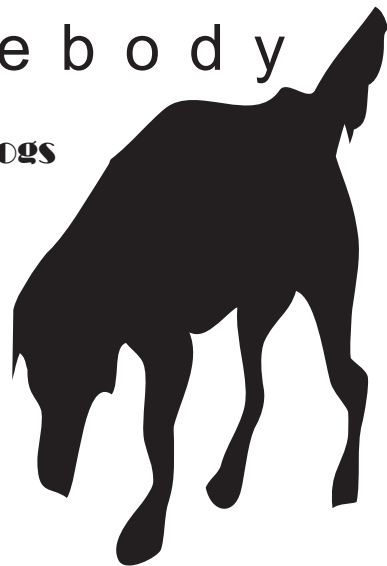
the paddock posts



STOLE

s o m e b o d y

Ruby does not like dogs
they scare her



I was grooming Barney the Labradoodle and snipped a matt out of his tail, only to find I had removed 4 inches of his tail

Oscar, the Jack Russell is

**spirited
& CRAZY**

there was **blood**
everywhere

He had **2** operations



brothers **2** Sam is **blind**
but Bob

Yorkshire terriers

audio locates things for him



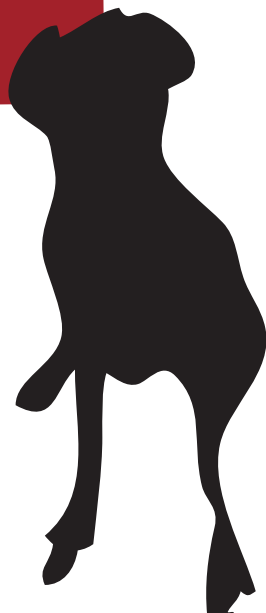
an ex coursing greyhound from Ireland

ONE OF OUR DOGS IS diabetic
THE OTHER

wakes

me up AT 6.30AM
WITHOUT FAIL

he once knocked a rider off
INJECTION
an
to make sure I give the other



he leaps with
crossed
legs



in a funny
way



I was looking after Sparkle
mongrel on Romney Marsh

a

she was a renowned Houdini

T wiglet the wolfhound runs

Luckily they saw the

funny

side



I took her for a walk on Littlestone beach
and she's disappeared

saw some people in the distance and went towards them

& 2

she's mounting
topless
sunbathers and licking off the sun cream



i saw this dog yesterday but it wasn't
Harley
you

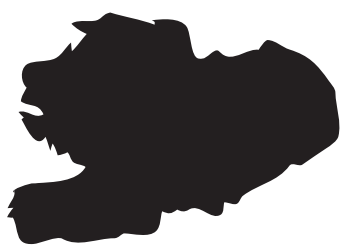
is a pain
is naughty. He chews
anything up including teddy bears
he's a working spaniel

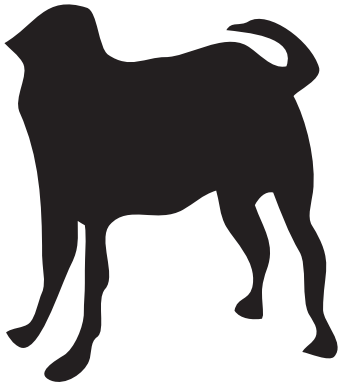


s n i f f e r

at this juncture dogs are in limited

s u p p l y





Billy

We had a dog called Benji we used to give ice to cool down. He'd bury the ice cubes and look for them later



Brook

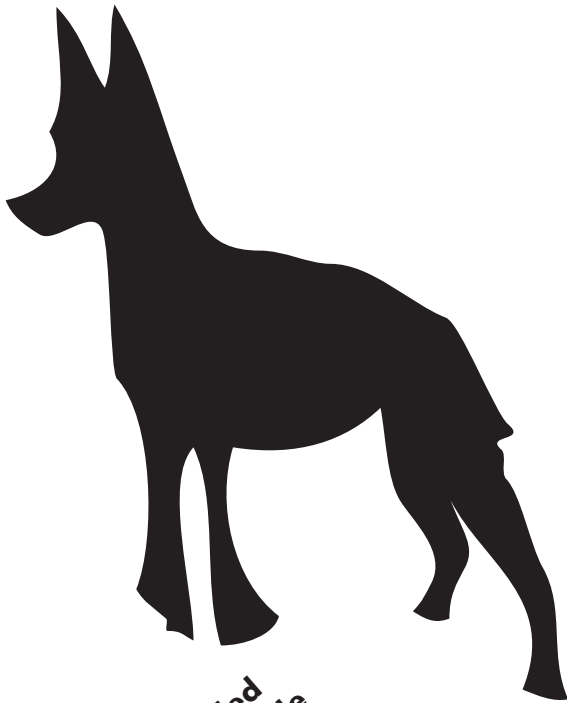
lived a fortnight in the sheds by the river Angler. the gamekeeper said he'd shoot him as he was taking out all the birds



heroes

pulled him up by th neck collar

2



used to go down the horse yard and steal carrots from the feed buckets

honey

our labdrador

when I was **younger**

I was hanging out at the rec and I saw a whole

Load of guys

that I fancied

over my

and I **t**ripped

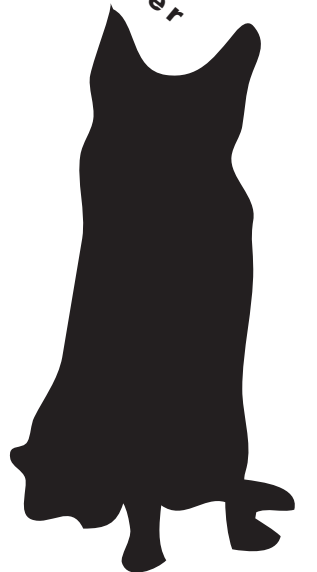
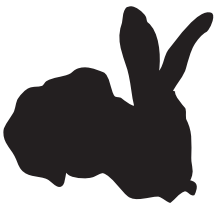
border collie

JAKE CHASES TAILS



He responded to hand, whistle and voice. You could never point or he'd jump. I once pointed at a deer and

he 6ft
tried to scale a fence



Ella a German Shepherd is on her last legs

Our Jack Russell scaled the christmas tree and ran off with the

I sit with my book like an artist.....

GOSH.....

I might even be
one

Star

we **Never** saw

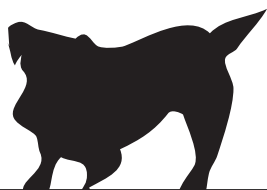
it
AGAIN

KILL

A man in a **Kasabian** T shirt

Bud the rottweiler

but used to work in pub security. would never yap at children but attacks on the command



alone again naturally

a decent man wearing a short sleeved checked shirt



goes round collecting my dirty knickers
and socks and sorts them all out

Young mums push younger babies

Alfie the Shih Tzu Schmauzer

they're good company when you are

ON SOMEHOW
YOUR OWN
You miss them all the more on cold days

she asked me if I was a dog **lover.** or
whether I just **liked** dogs

And where do you put your
when they have gone?

loss

draw in

A horse drawn funeral cortege is travelling down the road. I want to take a closer look
when the nights

I said I could not admit to
being a **dog lover**

The girl with the big
tattoos on her thighs

SAID

*I want a horse when
I die. I don't even
like horses, but I
want one*

but
the yellow **dog**

seems a tad disrespectful



I had become very much
aware of the profound
bond between
owner and
dog

i t c u t d e e p



She chases after squirrels

CROWS
CROW.....

Poppy was my mother in laws dog but pulled her over and broke her hip



water trickles by.....

TAFF horse and

used to reared up like a horse and broke icy puddles

only dogs children and bears can shit in the woods

SHE ALSO SUFFERS FROM **ASTHMA**

ducks quack an splash

like

the man with the artificial leg did not

mrs **CROW**

he filled it with polystyrene chippings so it would float

OUR PETER THE

CAGED

ALSATIAN

my mother has alzheimer's and she becomes animated when Harry our biscuit cockapoo comes in

his leg... not the dog



POSTMAN

who tried to hit him with his bag

my dog bruno chased a



I GOT BIT

ON THE

face



well.....it's different!



It looked really

funny

a smile...a gentle ripple of laughter

when she lays down she rolls over you tickle her belly and she shakes one leg

TIA

Dexter

THE BORDER TERRIER

like **Shakin Stevens**

a bee and rolled on a Peap crab



I am an **Artist...**

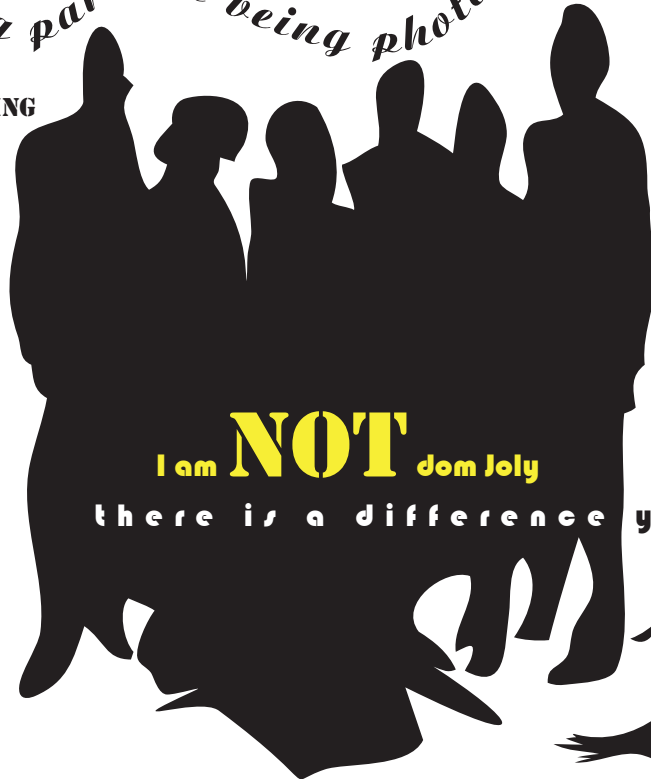
A wedding party is being photographed...



I RESIST WHEELING INTO SHOT...

We had **2** Lucy & Paddy Westies

Since Paddy



I am **NOT** Dom Joly

there is a difference you know....since you ask

gotta cat ciled shortcake gotta cat called flash but **no dogs**

LUCY suffers from

anxiety

She keeps looking for him

She comes for a cuddle between the legs

Spied in his bed in the kitchen

my do take me places familiar

my dog takes me places strange

my dog takes me places

Dolly is having her eye removed



WOO from meg

mana used to sign birthday cards

they were

LIZARDS MARGERINE S

my friend used to stroke the dog head to tail and say I bet I can make my dog wash itself. The dog always did. Her party trick never failed as her hand was covered in



HER COCKER SPANIEL

with dog's FACES

as if sung by jimmy pursey



I was walking in derbyshire admiring the sheep over a gate and this collie comes from nowhere and sinks its teeth into my

catf

she asked if I was into all that form and content stuff. I said I don't really thing that one can exist without the other

Bob the border collie climbed

Ben Nevis aged 7

snowden & the Cairngorms AND

& SCAFELL PIKE

Its owner said

sorry

I then realized it had ripped my trousers and gouged a hole in my boots

I said don't

worry

probably frightened it





shaggy dog stories an art project by tom hackett



his newspaper contains text fragments and stories collected through canine conversations with people walking dogs, triggered by a series of walks in Scunthorpe and at Rufford park during 2014, where I pushed around wheelbarrows containing yellow silicone rubber dogs. The text composition is tangential rather than 'straight' journalism'. Various passing thoughts, reflections and observations also filter into the pages as testimony to this series of long summer days walking a yellow rubber dog sat inside a black wheelbarrow in the perils of the midday sun

My fascination with the social function of dog ownership began when as an accidental dog sitter I found myself entering into the curious and interactive world of canine ownership. My sudden immersion into this suburban sub culture was revelatory and powerful. I became attuned to the phenomena of the 'dog as social nexus'. Normally the encounter of a lone male wandering the streets after dark would trigger a default reaction of mistrust. Given the appendage of a shaggy dog, I was deemed safe. And more than that, I became potential friend material with the other dog walkers I encountered. People stopped, smiled and had stories to swap. The fact that social interaction takes place via a proxy form, is arguably of equal value as a process to the content of the dialogue itself. The words I collected vary from the profoundly moving to the banal and comedic. As an artist I am intrigued by the notion of 'common ground' however tenuous, as a basis for social togetherness and harmony in our often messed up

World



ISBN 978-0-9574290-1-7

published by tom hackett art dialogues: november2014

published alongside the sculpture installation 'shaggy dog stories'

20-21 visual arts centre
church Square, scunthorpe DN15 6TA
27/09/14 to14/03/15

the orangery, rufford country park
Ollerton, Nottinghamshire NG22 9DF
03/04/15- 31/05/15

project production and publication funded by grants for the arts arts council england, 20-21 visual arts centre, and nottinghamshire county council.

special thanks to rachel hackett, matt bunn, lenny, the dogs, the owners, the others, nottinghamshire county council, rufford, 20-21, north lincolnshire council and arts council england for their valued support

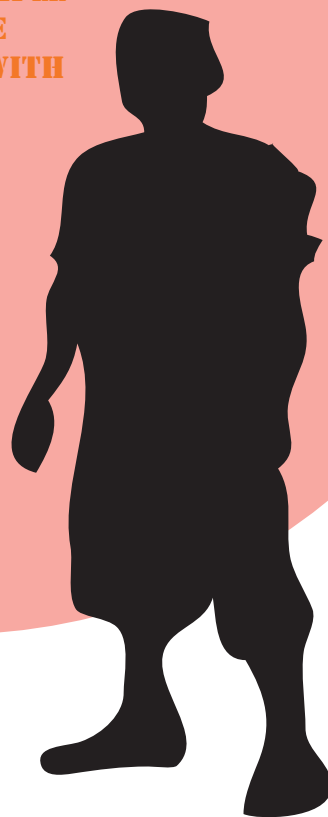
all images and and layout by tom hackett, all images and text subject to copyright

project curation by dominic mason and diana pasek-atkinson

further info on www.tomhackett.org or tom hackett sculpture facebook



**THE RULES ARE SIMPLE
DO NOT ENGAGE
UNLESS ENGAGED WITH**



Perhaps it is all about being rather than planning

Perhaps it is a way of feeling purposeful without purpose

Perhaps it is both the process and the subject