

## Year of Induction 2000

### *CATEGORY: Prominent Person*



### **MR. Jack Thomson - Victoria**

Jack Thomson back in the 50's decried the fact that he required two dogs, a Pointer for quail and snipe and a Retriever for water fowl. Subsequently he read somewhere about this wonder German dog and the article gave some history as to how they were first evolved by the German hunting fraternity.

So Jack decided to try the same exercise. He selected hinting friends at that time (about 1954) chose a good Pointer dog and crossed him with a spaniel bitch. In due course he came up with a fairly close approximation of the GSP as he had seen pictured. Jack considered these were excellent dual purpose gundogs and decided to try to get the real thing.

Enquiries overseas culminated in his contact with Michael Brander a knowledgeable Scottish breeder and hunter and in 1962 the first GSPs arrived in Australia. The first offspring from this pair were registered in Victoria in April 1964. This was the start of the breed and it was to become one of the most popular dual purpose breeds in Australia. Jack was to import more dogs from England, and New Zealand and bred over 300 litters in a 30 year period making the GSP the fastest established new breed in the history of any breed of dog introduced into Australia.

#### **Club Official:**

Jack was to be the founding President of the German Shorthaired Pointer Club in 1965 its first Life Member, Patron of the Victorian and Western Australian Clubs and was invited by the then KCC to join the Field and Retrieving Advisory Panel in 1971. He was to be made a Life Member of the KCC some years later.

Jack was the first person to own and train 3 generations of Field and Retrieving Trial Champions and at one time there was not one kennel which did not start with or have a Dunfri dog in their pedigree.

**Judge & Competitor:**

Having established the breed Jack then became a Breed judge, Retrieving Trial judge, a Pointer and Setter Field Trial judge and a judge for Utility Field Trials to Championship level taking him to appointments in all States of Australia.

Along the way as a competitor Jack made up 6 Field Champions, 6 Retrieving Trial Champions, 2 Show and Retrieving Trial Champions and 1 Show and Field Champion.

Throughout Australia there are well over 60 Dunfrius dogs titled in all facets of dog work and we all owe our pleasure and satisfaction in our association with this breed to Jack Thomson.