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‘Dog-umentary’ sends message of love for all companion animals

Filmmaker Andrew Einspruch will launch the ‘dog-umentary’ *Seven Days with Seven Dogs* at a one-off meet-the-filmmaker screening at the Astor Cinema in Mt. Lawley on Friday, 22 February at 6:30 pm. The documentary – heart-warming, uplifting, and funny – reminds us about care and responsibility for animals, and the enrichment that animals bring to our lives. Einspruch will be on hand to introduce the screening, and will conduct a Q&A following.

Seven Days with Seven Dogs follows the story of seven mostly elderly and health-challenged rescued dogs from the Ballyonree Animal Sanctuary as they journey from drought-stricken NSW down the scenic Great Ocean Road in Victoria. Shot by AFI Award winning cinematographer, Anthony Jennings, the film takes us on a fun and at times chaotic doggie holiday of a lifetime. The dogs enjoy lots of new experiences, from staying at five-star, “five-paw” accommodation to taking a horse-drawn gypsy caravan ride.

“We wanted to make each day a jewel for our dog, Suki, who had an inoperable mass on her lymph,” Einspruch says. “A road trip with the other members of our pack was just the ticket – because humans aren’t the only ones who need to smell the roses.”

The film’s message is one of love and care for the four-legged members of the family. Says the film’s director Billie Dean, “Caring for a dog is an important responsibility. It needs time and dedication. But the rewards of love, affection, and companionship are returned a thousand times over.”

Einspruch and Dean, who once trod the boards as comedians, bring plenty of humour to the screen, as well as their obvious heartfelt love for the animals.

Seven Days with Seven Dogs is also catching on in the online world as well. YouTube views of the trailer exploded from a few hundred in November to almost 13,000 in just a matter of weeks. Comments have been universally positive.

The screening is a fundraiser for the Ballyonree Animal Sanctuary. Tickets are \$15, and can be purchased directly from the Astor Cinema in Mt. Lawley. Phone: (08) 9370 1777.

DVDs will be available on the night, or can be purchased from www.laughingowl.com.au.

For more information:

Trailer: <http://www.laughingowl.com.au/7days7dogs/short.htm>

First six minutes of the documentary: <http://www.laughingowl.com.au/7days7dogs/6mins.htm>

Media information: <http://www.laughingowl.com.au/7days7dogs/media.htm>

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