

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION/FOREWORD.....	6
SECTION 1 the emotional side of things.....	7
Realisation: coping with realising that you own an incontinent dog.....	7
SECTION 2 explaining the science of urinary incontinence	9
What is urinary incontinence?.....	9
What can genuine urinary incontinence be confused with?.....	9
What problems does it cause the dog and its owners?	9
How is continence controlled normally and how might this control be lost?.....	9
What are the causes of urinary incontinence in juvenile animals?.....	11
What are the causes of urinary incontinence in adult animals?	14
How is urinary incontinence investigated?.....	18
What are the options for treating urinary incontinence?.....	21
What outcomes can be expected for individual treatment methods?.....	27
What long-term care might be needed for a dog with incontinence?	29
SECTION 3 case illustrations.....	31
Fliss: an incontinent Golden Retriever puppy and her treatment for ectopic ureter	31
Tara: an incontinent adult Doberman pinscher and her treatment for urethral sphincter mechanism incompetence.....	32
SECTION 4 discussing your dog's health with your veterinarian	33
Knowing when to say goodbye.....	35
SECTION 5 further information	35
How to cope with losing your dog.....	36
Glossary of terms used by veterinarians.....	40