

### **Julie's story by Geoff Genever**

Common knowledge has it that the major source of conflict between neighbours results from barking dogs. If this is so, the dog of choice would be a Basenji, which does not bark. It is one of the world's pure bred species and whose females all come on heat once a year at the same time, dependent on which hemisphere they live in. In fairness, it should be said that some of them yodel, don't like other dogs and have been known to dislike their owners.

Our Basenji is called Julia. This name was given by the pet shop from which we bought her. It's not a name we would have chosen, but as she appeared to respond to it we decided to keep it; we normally call her Julie. She was approximately three months old when we bought her and that was 15 years ago. In all honesty I'm not sure who owns who, for at times she chooses to display a sense of authority. I do know however, that there is a strong bond of affection between us, and we dread the day when she is no longer with us.

Postscript: Julie died on Sunday 8th November 2015

