

Dear Readers

August 2005



Beverley Cuddy is Editor and Publisher of *Dogs Today*. The magazine was launched in 1990 and has been short-listed for many awards



▲ At least David Prowse got to cover his face when he wore this ridiculous costume!



Every now and again, even though we've been doing this magazine since 1990, someone sends you something really unexpected. The range of official *Star Wars* costumes for dogs and cats fitted very firmly into that category.

I thought I'd seen everything. I'd already seen all sorts of fancy dress costumes for dogs - outfits for weddings, dog bikinis, fake fur coats, frilly knickers... I could go on. (I very fondly remember those wonderful readers who recreated whole episodes of *Star Trek* in their back garden with their own dogs - see photo above right.)

But these *Star Wars* costumes were much more bizarre somehow. The designers had come up with a way of making dogs look like very large-headed people by giving them false arms.

I wasn't a great *Star Wars* fan myself, but Karen is and her dog Max (left) was a very willing model of the Darth Vader outfit. When I saw the Yoda costume it reminded me that Jonathan Ross had named his Boston Terrier after the little goblin-esque character, as they looked so alike.

It seemed obvious that the costume had found its perfect destination, so off it went with an invite to bring the real Yoda to the Wag & Bone Show.

Below is a photo Jonathan took of Yoda dressed up. If you regularly watch his chat show on a Friday night on BBC1 you'll have seen the picture before. I enclosed a

note with the costume saying we'd love Yoda to come to the Wag & Bone Show as he's already such a great Look-alike - without any enhancement. Plus he'd also be a great entry in the OK9 class of the Wag & Bone Awards being such a high-profile top dog.

If you saw the show - Jonathan opened the evening with a good five minutes about Wag & Bone and by the sound of it he's planning on bringing Yoda to compete on the day.

Even if your dog doesn't naturally look like anyone famous - or you - there are other ways of taking part.

Remember those marvellous people last year who changed their appearance to match their dogs? Get making those human doggie costumes now! And remember - leave your *Star Wars* dog and cat costumes at home, at Wag & Bone we don't want any dogs to dress up - just people!



STOP PRESS

Should you be desperate to order your own *Star Wars* costume telephone 0845 1300 818 or go to www.joke.co.uk to see the full range!



Beverley