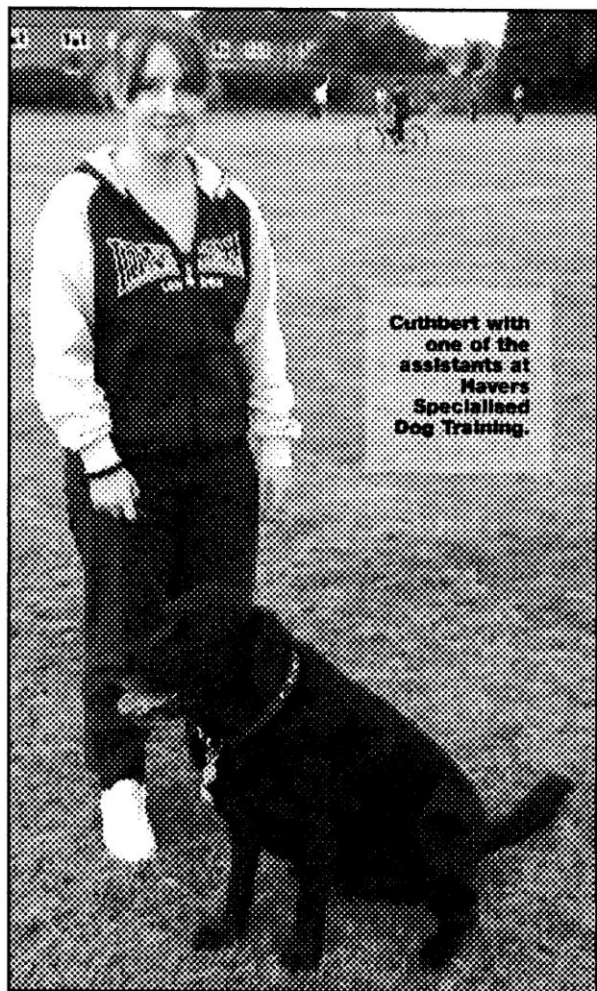


# DOG TRAINER SAVES AGGRESSIVE LABRADOR



Cuthbert with one of the assistants at Havers Specialised Dog Training.

Heidi has shown what proper training can achieve

By LUCY KNIGHTON

**A LABRADOR that was at risk of being put down after it bit two postmen has been saved thanks to the skill of a Markfield dog trainer.**

Steven Havers was approached by the dog's owner, Heidi Price from Nottingham, after she was ordered by a court to prove that her dog, named Cuthbert, was not dangerous.

Ms Price entrusted the dog to Mr Havers, who worked with him on a four-and-a-half week intensive training course to try and alter his aggressive behaviour.

The course was designed to

address behavioural issues by means of re-establishing his position within a simulated pack environment.

The home assessment Mr Havers conducted had evidenced that the relationship Cuthbert had with his owner was protective and territorial.

Following this session Mr Havers concluded that the dog was not a dangerous animal, rather a dog with rectifiable issues.

During his stay he was exposed to known catalysts and using approved animal training techniques

Cuthbert's fears and anxieties surrounding these stressors were adapted, in response his behaviour altered to that of acceptance.

Ms Price said: "All animals have an instinctive need to

protect their pack but Steven has enabled me to understand my dog and to make him part of my pack consequently relinquishing him of this responsibility.

"I am extremely grateful of the bond Havers Specialised Dog Training has enabled me to form with my dog who has now become truly a woman's best friend."

Mr Havers said: "As a result of the hard work and application of the specialised training programme Heidi has undertaken, she went to court where she won her battle to prove Cuthbert can no longer be classed as a dangerous dog.

"Our sincere congratulations go to Heidi, as she has shown what proper training and determination can achieve."