

Ivan Herds Sheep and Shepherds!

(with Photo)

Don't be too surprised if the next time you see the dog pictured in these columns he will be receiving an award in the winner's enclosure at a major Sheep Dog Trials competition!

Ivan (that's his name) has been in the care of the Offaly SPCA for a few weeks and his fosterer is convinced that he has been very well trained as a working dog. She bases her diagnosis on the fact that when she takes him on an off-leads walk with other dogs he seems to regard it as his personal responsibility to keep herself and the other dogs together in a nice tidy flock. 'Now I know', she says, 'what it's like to be a sheep!'

As he has not been claimed by his former owner, Ivan is now available for re-homing.

At the moment, he does have one behavioural problem. He loves chasing cars. That should not be too serious, however, because he clearly is highly intelligent and very trainable. Incidentally, he is just as happy in a living room as he is in the great outdoors.

Anyone interested in meeting Ivan with a view to adoption is invited to 'phone the OSPCA dog manager on 086 8262986.