

# Big screen debut of rottweiler Taz

**FILMGOERS** across the country are set to see a new star make her debut on the big screen.

Taz weighs six stone, has glossy black hair, won't get out of bed for less than £250 a day and already has two television appearances to her name.

Taz, a burly rottweiler, was rescued at two years old by dog trainers Barry and Lynn Black and is now in demand as a film star.

Barry, of Squires Close, Strood, sent a photograph of Taz to Pinewood studios and they snapped her up.

Another rottweiler was in a film being shot in Ghana, but it had bitten the actor and cast members petitioned for it to be sacked.

Taz is almost identical to the other dog, so she was offered the role in *Deadly Voyage*.

Barry took her to the studios and she auditioned.

At first the casting director said Taz looked too gentle and might not be suitable, but she soon proved him wrong.

"They wanted her to go for

**By KLARE KENNETT**

someone's throat and as I already knew this was required, I was prepared," said Barry.

"I ran across the studio towards Taz and she jumped up at me and grabbed me by the throat and we grappled."

What the film crew did not see was the golf ball Barry had hidden under his chin, which is what Taz had taken hold of.

The film-makers were impressed.

They offered Barry a role as a stuntman, but Taz's temperament is so calm that actors volunteered to do their own stunts with her.

Taz could be on screen at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival in France this year.

But Taz is no starlet. She is nine years old, which in human terms is a veteran 63 years.

Barry and Lynn run a training school specialising in problem dogs.

Contact him on 01795 719755.