



THE GOOD COMPANION

Official Publication of the ACT Companion Dog Club Inc
November 2009 Volume 21 No. 3



*SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL
CREEDS AND BREEDS!*

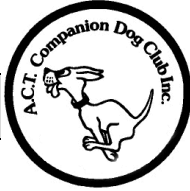
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Cover picture: Montage of clip art

It's important to know:

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ABOUT OUR CLUB

The ACT Companion Dog Club (CDC), established in 1958 as the first dog training club in the ACT, has an average membership of around 800 each year.

It is a non-profit organisation relying mostly on volunteers to run activities with some assistance from the ACT Government. About 120 instructors volunteer their time to conduct classes in obedience, flyball and agility from February to November each year. The club also has an active group visiting nursing homes and special schools for the enjoyment of the residents.

While much of the work in maintaining and running the club is undertaken on a volunteer basis we do have some paid help. Kathy Bush is employed for 15 hours a week as club administrator and the mowing of the grounds is undertaken by contractors.

The aims and objectives of the club are to :

- train members and their dogs, of whatever breed, in dog obedience and other related canine skills, using motivational training methods;
- promote participation and training in a range of dog sports;
- promote and participate in dog training and other activities associated with dog training;
- promote responsible dog ownership and breeding practices and the general welfare of dogs;
- support the rights of dog owners, provided that such ownership is conducted in a responsible manner;
- actively promote community interaction with dogs;
- provide facilities necessary or convenient for its activities;
- promote positive relationships between owner and dog; and
- enhance the development of social skills of dogs.

COMMITTEE 2009-10

President: Gary Kingdon (Comp Day) T 6299 9991 (h)
Senior Vice-President: Vince Bush (Security, Development) T 6292 3661 (h)
Junior Vice-President: Sue Keal (Agility Liaison)
Treasurer: Lesley Pothan (Flyball Liaison)
Secretary: Toni Magi (Publicity)
Committee members: Lynn Harden, Katrina Morton (Shop and Housekeeping), Hilarie Kemp (Clubhouse Maintenance), Anne Robertson (Magazine and Obedience Trialling Liaison), Judith Barlow (Grounds Maintenance), Tony Turner (Dances with Dogs), Cathy Vaughan

Obedience training sub-committee

Convenor: Louise McKay
 Members: Vince Bush, Mary-ann Fisher, Diane Kingdon, Gary Kingdon, June Rowe

Development sub-committee

Convenor: Vince Bush
 Members: Lynn Harden, Tony Turner, Cathy Vaughan

Flyball training and competition sub-committee

Convenor: Lesley Pothan
 Members: Jocelyn Greenwood, Jessica McNamara, Jaci Van Campenhout

Agility training and trialling sub-committee

Convenor: Veronica Doerr
 Members: Di Adams, Wendy Downing, Denise Iglesias, Sue Keal, Greg Leek, Andrea Neale, Allan Schmidt, Lara Sedgmen, Airlie White

Library: Karen Haines
Rally-O: Desiree Campbell T 6281 4976
Dogs-As-Therapy: Joyce Thompson

Website: www.actcdc.org.au
Webmaster: Vic Rogers
webmaster@actcdc.org.au

CLUB ACTIVITIES

BASIC OBEDIENCE TRAINING

The club offers classes for all breeds of dogs in basic obedience training. These classes will help you understand canine behaviour and will teach you how to teach your dog to be a well-behaved companion. The focus is on teaching practical skills such as walking on lead without pulling; to sit, drop and stand; to sit quietly for pats; to come when called; to wait for dinner; and to socialize appropriately with dogs and people.

The club teaches through positive reinforcement. That means that you show your dog what behaviour you want it to produce and you reward it for doing so. The dog soon learns that if it repeats the behaviour it will be rewarded and so the learning cycle begins.

Dogs may attend from three months of age, provided they have been fully immunized.

You will need to ring up to book your dog in (see contact details previous page). You should do this several weeks in advance of your desired entry date to ensure that you will get a place. Dates for the next course can be found in the Calendar (back page).

RALLY-O

Rally-O is an obedience competition that requires the handler and dog team to negotiate a course at heel and perform various manoeuvres such as sits, downs, stands, stays and various turns.

See the previous page for more information about holiday Rally-O activities.

DOGS-AS-THERAPY

Members and their dogs visit nursing homes and special schools to provide pet therapy for the residents.

Suitable dogs are those that are people and dog friendly dog and that aren't fazed by much that goes on around them.

Contact the Dogs-as-Therapy Convenor for more information (see next page).

COMPETITIVE DOG SPORTS AT CDC

Obedience Trialling - Obedience trials (competitions) aim to demonstrate a high degree of handler-dog team work and precision over a range of exercises at different levels of skill. Exercises include heelwork, retrieving, scent work, directions from a distance and stays. Dogs must have passed the Transition level to be admitted to the basic trialling class.

Agility - This is a dog sport where you teach your dog to negotiate different obstacles such as jumps, tunnels, see-saws, A-frames, dog walks and weave poles. Once you have gained some basic skills, the challenge is to learn how to 'steer' your dog from one obstacle to another on a course, and the courses change each time so that you and your dog are constantly being challenged to improve your skills.

Dogs must be:

- at least 14 months old to ensure the dog's skeletal and musculature system is strong enough;
- physically sound and not over weight; and
- under control off-lead around other dogs and activities (however no minimum CDC obedience training level is required).

Contact the Agility Training and Trialling Sub-Committee Convenor for more information.

Flyball - In this sport dogs clear four hurdles, spring a ball from a 'box', and return to their handler over the hurdles. It is a fast and furious team sport that ball mad dogs really enjoy.

Dogs must be:

- at least 12 months old to ensure the dog's skeletal and musculature system is strong enough;
- physically sound and not over weight; and
- under control off-lead around other dogs and activities.

Contact the Flyball Training and Competition Sub-Committee Convenor for more information.

FEES 2009-10

Joining fee (per household)	\$40
Annual subscription (per household)	\$70
Training fees per dog per year	
• Obedience	\$40
• Agility	\$50
• Flyball	\$40
• Ground use only	\$40

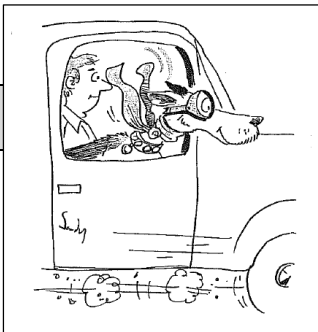
CONTACT US

By phone: 6295 7764
 By mail: PO Box 4048, Kingston, ACT 2604
 In person: Jerrabomberra Lane, Symonston, ACT

• Mon - Fri	10.00am - 1.00pm
• Thurs	7.30pm - 9.00pm
• Sun	9.30am - 12 noon

Website: www.actcdc.org.au

The ACT Companion Dog Club gratefully
acknowledges the financial assistance of



WHAT'S ON OVER THE HOLIDAYS?

Does the club host a Christmas Party for members?

Yes. The Annual Awards and Christmas function will be held on Sunday 6 December from 5.30pm. Tickets – covering the cost of a spit roast, salads, desserts and drinks - are available from the club office for \$20.00. Awards for significant obedience, agility, flyball, retrieving and tracking training and trialling achievements as well as contributions to the club will be presented during the evening. Come and join club members and instructors for a relaxing evening.

Are obedience training classes held over December and January?

No. Obedience training classes start again on Wednesday 3 February, Thursday 4 February and Sunday 7 February. Your membership fees cover you for 12 months – there is no need to reenrol if your membership is up-to-date. Simply turn up in time for class (see page 37 for details).

Are any club activities on over the summer break?

Yes. Agility fun 'n games will be held in rings 1-3 from 7.30 – 9.00pm every Wednesday evening over December and January (excluding 23 and 30 December). All members currently participating in agility classes are welcome to come along and enjoy team-based games. Senior triallers will also continue to practice in rings 1-3 on Tuesday evenings over the break.

Desiree Campbell will host Rally-O activities on Tuesday evenings from 7.00-8.00pm over December and January (excluding 29 December and 27 January) for any club members wishing to maintain and practice their obedience skills with their dogs in a relaxed social setting. All levels welcome.

Can I use the club grounds over the holidays?

Yes. Financial members and their dogs may use the grounds at any time over the break except from 22-24 January when the grounds will be closed for spraying. Please observe club etiquette for using the free running areas and always clean up after your dog.

Is it ok to wear thongs during club activities in the warmer weather?

No. For safety reasons, thongs, scuffs or other unsecured footwear are not allowed in training classes. Handlers should wear either enclosed shoes or sandals that can be securely fastened.



FROM THE DOG KENNEL

Welcome to the November issue of *The Good Companion* magazine. This is a bumper issue – the first to be published since the club's Annual General Meeting in August. It brings you information about the club's achievements in 2008-09 as well as news of current happenings and holiday activities. My thanks to those members who have contributed items for this edition, especially Lucy Jesiolowski, Phillipa Gill and Dr Sandra Hassett.

I have taken over the editing of *The Good Companion* from Jenny Marshall, and look forward to bringing you the magazine every two months next year.

Contributions and suggestions are always welcome. Please contact me at birdwellsetters@ozemail.com.au with your ideas.

Photo: Anne with her Irish Red and White Setter 'Derry'



GETTING TO KNOW ... ANNE ROBERTSON, MAGAZINE EDITOR

I became aware of setters during high school when I borrowed the book *Champion Dogs of the World* by Richard Glyn from my local library. It had the most glorious photos in it, including one of a windswept Gordon Setter on a hillside. My heart was captured.

My first 'setter' was actually a cross-breed Irish Setter/Labrador puppy found through a newspaper ad. 'Bernie' was black with red points – just like a Gordon Setter – but inherited the coat, ears and rib cage of a Labrador. I trained him to his CD (Companion Dog) obedience title and he lived to the grand age of 16. Some years later, and with more knowledge of dogs, I acquired the real thing, one of Kerry Bell's Lochtay Gordon Setters, and stumbled upon agility training with 'Jess' after joining CDC. Around the same time I rescued 'Maddie', a very troubled Irish Setter from the RSPCA and became interested in behavioural training theory and practice.

In 1999 I had the good fortune to foster and then adopt another Irish Setter, a seven year old retired show dog, 'Storm', and trained and competed with him in agility competition for several years. Dear Storm passed away just shy of his 15th birthday in 2007. Shortly after adopting Storm I discovered the existence of the fourth breed of setter, the rare Irish Red and White, and arranged to import a dog from New Zealand. I ventured into the strange world of dog showing and earned a championship title with 'Mallory'. Around the same time I also acquired a young Irish Setter, 'Faith', Storm's grand niece. She has gone on to achieve multiple titles in agility competition but now enjoys a life of leisure.

The most recent addition to the household is 'Dastardly Derry', a wayward adolescent Irish Red and White Setter who found himself in need of a new home in 2008. Life for Derry and I is anything but leisurely as I try to apply and build on everything I have learnt from life and my other setters about dog training.

I have been an obedience instructor at the club since 1992, an agility instructor since 1998 and have served on the Main Committee and the Agility Sub-committee at various periods in the past.



PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

I would like to welcome all new members to the club, who have started off their dog training classes since the last edition of the magazine. Undertaking dog training is an important part of being a responsible owner with a dog that can be taken out safely into the wider community. The classes will not only teach you how to train your dog to respond correctly to you, but also provide an opportunity for socialisation of your dog with other dogs and people, which is an important but frequently overlooked part of dog development. I hope that your training at the club goes well, you get satisfaction and enjoyment out of the training and that the club can help you achieve your aims.

Spring started off its normal erratic way this year, with some warm, sunny weather to lull us into a false sense of comfort before nature unleashed winter back onto us. The cold change certainly showed up the 'fair weather' trainers. The last Comp Day on 27 September was certainly a challenge for dogs, handlers and the judges. Those who achieved passes did so under extreme conditions - so well done. To those who were less fortunate on the day, I hope that this won't deter you and you won't give up. Even the best of dogs have their off days and if yours did not perform well on the day it is perfectly understandable. I had to repeat a couple of classes in my early days of dog training, so I know the disappointment you may be feeling. Use the experience as a chance to grow the skills of both you and your dog - I am sure that you will find it easier the second time around, and you may even achieve the coveted blue ribbon.

The generally warmer weather and the introduction of daylight saving has created good conditions for taking our dogs for a walk in the morning and evening, and being able to see clearly where we are going and what we are doing. However, with the warmer weather it is important to remember our dog's welfare in hot conditions. Just as we ensure that our dog is kept warm and dry during the colder

months, we also have to ensure that during the hotter months our dog does not get over hot, suffer heat stress or dehydration.

As well as the standard warning about not leaving your dog in a car in the sun (even with the windows open the interior of a car can reach levels that are dangerous to a dog's health), you are also reminded to ensure that your dog has somewhere to shelter out of the sun and access to plenty of water. Do not work or walk your dog excessively in the heat. When you go for a walk make sure that you take water for your dog as well as yourself; you can get water pouches for your dog to drink out of that you can fold up and put in your pocket afterwards. When you are in classes at the club if you feel that your dog is showing signs of heat stress, don't be afraid to excuse yourself from the class and go and give your dog a drink at one of the water stations (preferably not, however, when your class is practising stays!).

Since the last edition of the magazine we have had the club's AGM. This is reported elsewhere in the magazine, along with the annual reports. We welcome four new members to the committee as well as welcoming back the majority of last year's committee. If you have any points about or suggestions on the running of the club, please do not hesitate to let the committee know, either by putting a note in the Suggestion Box outside the office; sending us an email or raising matters directly with a committee member. Your opinions and feedback are important to the club and all will be given consideration by the committee.

Spring marks the start of some not-so-welcome visitors being seen around the club grounds. I am referring to snakes, which have been known to be in the Back Paddock as well as along the fence lines where the grass and undergrowth on the other side of the fence gives them some shelter. Please take care and look out when walking or exercising your dogs in these areas.

I regret that I must apologise to club members about a couple of noticeable matters concerning the upkeep of club

facilities. Firstly, the recent condition of the grounds with the excessively high grass and weeds affecting the training of dogs. The club has unfortunately suffered some problems with the grounds maintenance and mowing contract of late. This matter is being looked into to ensure that we don't have a repeat of this problem. A working bee is also scheduled for late November to catch up on some tasks. Secondly, the lack of doggy poo bags around the grounds. This was due to supply problems which have now been resolved. While the club provides

poo bags as a courtesy and convenience, as part of being a responsible dog owner members should carry bags with them whenever they go out with their dog (it is about the only good use of plastic shopping bags that I know of!). So if the club supply does run out you should still carry your own bags with you to pick up your dog's 'deposits' on the club grounds.

I wish you all the best for Comp Day this session and season's greetings for Christmas and the New Year.



THANKS FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

The Committee and members thank the following Instructors for giving their time for Session Four (August-September):

Obedience: Gillian Atkins, Stuart Barr, David Berriman, Janne Blunden, Julia Bowden, Desiree Campbell, Heather Carswell, Julie Cutts, Amanda Day, Amanda Delaney, Chris Erwin, John Green, Joan Hall, Lynn Harden, Peter Hendriks, Naarilla Hirsch, Hilarie Kemp, Lidia Lea, Maureen Lewis, Toni Magi, Louise McKay, Cath Perry, Fay Peters, Barry Pigram, Greg Preston, Louise Raisin, Anne Robertson, Werner Roth, Barry Rumstron, Mike Slee, Joyce Thompson, Barbara Toohey, Leisel Trompf

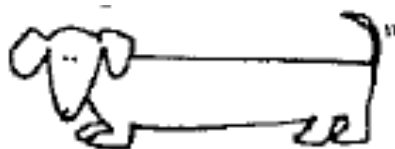
Flyball: Jess McNamara, Lesley Pothan, Ilona Van Galen

The Committee and members thank the following Instructors for giving their time for Session Five (October-November):

Obedience: Ian Beckingham, Pam Beesley, Janne Blunden, Desiree Campbell, Mary Dalgarno, John Green, Joan Hall, Lynn Harden, Linda Harper, Naarilla Hirsch, Di Kingdon, Gary Kingdon, Wendy Laigne-Stuart, Maureen Lewis, Mike Lynch, Hilarie Kemp, Toni Magi, Louise McKay, Katrina Morton, Helen Mosslar, Cath Perry, Fay Peters, Barry Pigram, Louise Raisin, Holly Rieger, Anne Robertson, Lindsay Rye, Michael Slee, Liz Smith, Joyce Thompson, Leisel Trompf, Jo Washington-King, Cathy Vaughan

Agility: Di Adams, Chris Atyeo, Judith Barlow, Loris Cameron, Denise Iglesias

Flyball: Jess McNamara, Lesley Pothan, Ilona Van Galen



**There will be no obedience training classes in December and January.
Classes resume on
Wednesday 3 February, Thursday 4 February and Sunday 7 February 2010.
See you then!**



THE VET IS IN – SUMMER DANGERS

© Dr Sandra Hassett, Animal Medical Centre, Phillip, 2009

Sandra is a life member of the ACT Companion Dog Club.

HEAT STRESS IN DOGS

The warmer weather is just around the corner and once again it is worth remembering just how susceptible our canine friends are to heat stress. This is because dogs cannot sweat to cool themselves, they can only pant for evaporative cooling (like our sweating), lose radiant heat from their body and rest in cool places to avoid the heat build up.

Classic situations in which heat stress develops include:

- Dogs in which the panting mechanism is compromised – this applies particularly to 'brachycephalic' dogs – all the short-nosed breeds.
- Dogs in which the ability to radiate heat from their bodies is compromised – this applies to dogs who have heavy layers of subcutaneous fat or who have very heavy coats. Whilst the fat and the coat prevent heat from penetrating on hot days they also prevent heat dissipating when the dog is active and this can be lethal.
- Very hot situations – the classic and lethal example being locked in a car on a hot day where the temperature soars in no time at all.
- Very humid situations – evaporative cooling by panting is not nearly as effective in humid conditions
- High levels of muscle activity – this can occur in poisoning situations such as snail bait or 1080 poisoning. It can also occur in other conditions that cause convulsions such as epilepsy. However the most common cause is excessive exercise on a hot day when a dog is over-excited and over-stimulated – for example doing agility, chasing a ball, running or playing with their owners or chasing stock or wild-life. The dog's brain tells them to keep going even when their body is crying out for them to stop.

Classic signs of heat stress include:

- Elevated core temperature – signs of stress develop over 40 C and over 42.7 C the cells of the body start to break down resulting in organ failure.
- Excessive panting – commonly with the tongue fully extended, often with saliva dripping off it, often with foam forming as they avoid swallowing so they can keep panting.
- Bright red or congested purple gum colour.
- Ataxia (staggering), shaking or trembling and/or wanting to lie down.
- Vomiting and/or diarrhoea, often containing blood.
- Increased heart rate.
- Abnormal behaviour including poor performance, anxiety or distress and progressing to fitting, collapse and coma.

Treatment of heat stress includes:

- Cooling – cool, running water, such as from a hose or shower spray, is the most effective method of cooling at home. The dog's temperature does need to be monitored however so that hypothermia (chilling) does not occur. Make sure you wet all the way through the coat to the skin and focus on areas where the skin is most exposed such as the belly. If you don't have running water available use any water, including dampened towels, and try to get some breeze blowing across the dog to assist with evaporative cooling.
- Prevent further heat generation – stop the dog running around, move it into the shade.
- Treatment of shock and tissue necrosis – severe heat stress requires immediate veterinary attention and intensive medical treatment.

Prevention of heat stress:

- Take appropriate precautions if you are taking your dog in the car on a hot day. Unless you have appropriate barriers so that you can properly ventilate the car you should never take your dog with you and leave them in the car on hot days, even for a few minutes. Don't think that parking in the shade will be effective – the sun moves!
- Provide plenty of fresh cool water to drink.
- Provide a cool environment – air conditioning, ice vests or mats, fans etc are all useful indoors. Make sure there is plenty of shade where your dog is kept outside. Consider some cool sand and water – the clam shell pools/sand pits for small children, ½ with sand and ½ with water – work very well.
- Provide cooling treats – frozen, stuffed kongs, a frozen dish of water as well as a fresh one, ice cubes in the water bowl, frozen food treats all help to keep their temperature down.
- Clip long or dense coats to provide better opportunities for radiant heat loss and make it easier to cool them with water. Groom out any dead coat that may be similarly affecting heat loss.
- Avoid exercise in hot weather, especially in hot humid weather. Avoid exercising in the heat of the day. If you must do so then wet the dog down first and monitor them closely.
- Invest in a digital rectal thermometer. They give a read out within seconds. If the dog's core temperature rises above 40 C you MUST stop exercise and start active cooling. If you are trialling or training and your dog's core temperature is already over 40 C you should seriously rethink the class.

So with a little care and forethought it is possible for both you and your dog to enjoy the balmy summer months!

SNAKE BITE IN PETS

In Canberra the first snakes generally emerge around October and continue to be active until about April. We mainly see browns, red-bellied blacks and occasionally tiger snakes. Most snake bites are the result of the dog or cat attacking or harassing the snake, rather than the reverse.



Snake venom contains multiple toxins which may cause paralysis, break down muscle tissue or prevent blood from clotting. The bite wounds themselves are generally very small and hard to find. The most common cause of death is respiratory paralysis but problems with ongoing bleeding and muscle damage can result in slow and complicated recovery after the initial crisis.

Symptoms:

Usually the first symptoms are acute collapse with frothing at the mouth and blue to grey gums, followed rapidly by death. Some dogs will show an initial period of excitement with trembling, salivation, vomiting, diarrhea and muscle spasm before they collapse.

Any possible snake bite should be taken very seriously. Once the dog starts to collapse the deterioration is very rapid. The best approach is to take the dog to the vet as quickly as possible, even if you are not sure if they have been bitten and even if they are still running around and acting normally. Once they start to deteriorate you may simply not have time to get to the vet before they die.

Always ring ahead if you have a dog or cat with a potential snake bite. Ringing ahead ensures that all appropriate preparations for resuscitation and treatment are ready for your arrival. Minutes matter in snake envenomation.

If your pet is not showing symptoms the vet usually admit them and place a catheter in their leg. This is so we have immediate access to administer drugs (such as anti-venom) if they

deteriorate. We then monitor the very closely until either symptoms develop or we are confident that a bite did not take place. This may be several hours.

Treatment for snake bite involves administering antivenin and supporting the animal's breathing and circulation. Many animals need to be placed on oxygen and need to be ventilated to keep them alive until the antivenin works and the paralysis is reversed. Some animals need multiple doses of antivenin. They may improve initially and then deteriorate again or may simply not respond adequately to the first dose of antivenin. Some animals recover from the initial collapse but continue to bleed and need more antivenin to counter this. Some animals react to the antivenin and need additional medication to control the reaction before further antivenin can be administered.

Snake bite in cats:

Cats seem to be relatively more resistant to snake bite than dogs and symptoms may take longer to develop and initially appear less severe. However some cats do deteriorate acutely, just as described for dogs. A progressive weakness leading to paralysis, a very mournful meow and dilated pupils are more common. As with dogs, an immediate trip to the vet is indicated and treatment is essentially the same.

General tips to avoid snake bites:

- Don't walk your dog off lead in long grass during the summer. Stick to areas where the grass is cut short and you can clearly see ahead.
- Don't let your dog plunge into the bushes or long grass, especially chasing balls or toys. If you are walking them off lead watch them closely and call them back if they stray towards these areas.
- Keep your garden tidy and free from long grass, overgrowth or old, untidy wood heaps which are a favourite resting place for snakes.
- If your cat is a hunter then have them wear a collar with multiple bells. Some cats actively hunt snakes.
- If you have chickens or other pets or livestock make sure that their food is well secured so that rats and mice are not attracted to your yard and thus will not attract snakes.
- If you have a problem with rats or mice make sure you deal with it rather than allowing numbers to build up.
- Consider snake proof fencing for your dog's yard especially if you are close to a reserve.
- Make sure the grass around your dog's yard, or around the whole yard if you back onto a reserve or bush, is kept very short.

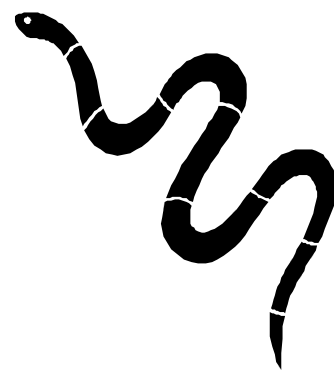
~ BE AWARE ~ SNAKES IN THE GRASS

When using the club grounds in the warmer weather be aware that snakes may be about.

Before using the free-running paddocks walk noisily around the area and check around taps and drinking bowls before letting your dog off-lead.

If you do see a snake, vacate the area and let the snake go on its way. Tell other members about your sighting if they are on the grounds and likely to go to the same area.

If you need urgent veterinary care after hours, on weekends or public holidays contact the Animal Emergency Veterinary Centre, Unit 15, 2 Yallourn Street, Fyshwick, Phone 6280 6344



New Honorary Life Members

Two club members – Greg Preston and Gary Kingdon – were awarded Honorary Life Membership at the club's Annual General Meeting in August. Greg is profiled below. Look out for Gary's profile in the next edition.



Greg with his beloved Newfoundland 'Bumpo'

Greg Preston joined the ACT Companion Dog Club about 12 years ago and became a Level 1 instructor in 2002. Although not one to be on committees and other organised bodies, Greg has given great assistance to the club through various channels: he regularly instructs classes and is frequently willing to step in when there is a shortage of instructors for a session; he turns up every Comp Day to help set up - often coming out to the club on the day before to ensure that the postholes for the temporary rings are clear and the caps can come off; and he assists by judging on some Comp Days.

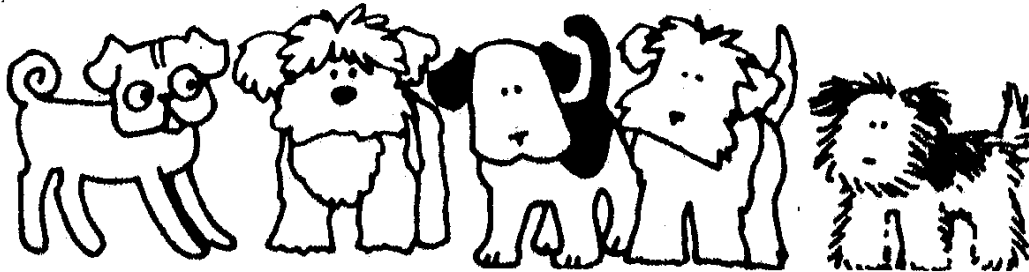
Perhaps Greg's most valuable contribution to the club, however, is the range of maintenance tasks that he undertakes around the grounds and the clubhouse. Often without being asked, Greg will carry out repairs and maintenance - all in his own time and often at his own expense for materials. He has repaired fences, fixed taps, replaced lights, unblocked drains, fixed doors and many other things. Much of the work he does goes on in the background, unnoticed and unsung by most people, but his assistance makes the tasks of the Grounds and Clubhouse managers much easier. Additionally, the work he has undertaken has saved the club considerable expense.

Honorary Life Membership is granted to Greg Preston in recognition of his unstinting support to the club over the years instructing classes and carrying out the many and varied maintenance tasks that he has done. Congratulations Greg!

Thanks to Lynn Harden for capturing Greg and Bumpo for posterity.

Introducing the Obedience Training Sub-Committee

by Louise McKay (Convenor)



The obedience training conducted at the club does not happen just by accident, but is the outcome of a series of training courses developed by the Training Sub-Committee (TSC). This sub-committee is responsible for all obedience training matters at the club including, amongst other things, the course syllabus, training methods, instructors rosters etc.

One of the aims of the TSC is to ensure that the training that the club is providing is meeting the requirements of the members or handlers. The initial levels of the training courses (Beginners to Advanced) are aimed at the pet dog training level: giving handlers the ability to train their dog to a level where it is obedient and a good canine member of the community. Above the Advanced level the training is aimed at more precise exercises for those who wish to progress to higher levels of dog training or dog sports, such as Obedience Trialling, Agility, Flyball and Tracking.

The TSC currently consists of the following club instructors: Louise McKay (Convenor), Diane Kingdon, June Rowe, Mary-ann Fisher, Vince Bush and Gary Kingdon. Between them these instructors have a considerable number of years of experience in dog training.

To ensure that the club is providing the training that meets the requirements of handlers, the TSC readily accepts, in fact relies on, feedback from club members. If there are ways that you think that the club can provide better training, or if the training is not meeting what you set out to achieve with your dog, please let the TSC know. To do this you can write out your comments or suggestions and leave them in the Suggestions Box outside the office, send an email to ObedienceClasses@actcdc.org.au or talk to one of the TSC members directly.

Your feedback is always welcome. While we cannot guarantee that your suggestions will be acted on immediately or introduced in full, due to other issues or constraints, they will be given proper consideration.



**IS YOUR DOG'S ATTENDANCE CARD WHITE ?
IF SO, YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS DUE FOR RENEWAL.
PLEASE CONTACT THE CLUB OFFICE**



TRAINING TUX ~ A member's story ~ By Lucy Jesiolowski

Lucy Jesiolowski owns 'Tux', a young exuberant Bearded Collie. Training has had its frustrations but Lucy has persevered and gained first place in Intermediate at the August Comp Day. Lucy has kindly provided this snapshot of her training experiences with Tux.

I got Tux at three months old from a Bearded Collie breeder in Canberra. His breeder has been great from the start and has helped from grooming to personality traits, to just loving him for what he is.

I wanted to train Tux to curb that busy nature of a working dog. I didn't realise I would have my work cut out for me. I started Tux at CDC almost straight away. Tux was always a challenge. We

were the ones who would always be sitting away from the other dogs. No amount of food or toys would interest Tux. He was always more interested in what was going on elsewhere. I once asked his breeder when he was likely to settle down. She said she had a thirteen year old that she was still waiting to settle down! So, sounds like it's in the breed!

I'm not sure when the turning point came for me. I think it was a combination of Tux growing up, learning to train my dog, understanding that Tux is never going to be a dog that sits and looks at me constantly, and that the only ones we are competing against are ourselves.

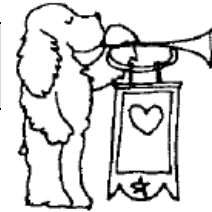
After four sessions at Intermediate level I started getting a bit frustrated. All the instructors at the club have been absolutely terrific. No one ever said my dog was bad, silly or useless. The most constant message was to have fun. So one Comp Day we went out and had fun and we got a blue ribbon! Yes, we can do it!

Even though Tux is full of energy at school, at home he has settled into our life easily. Chinta the two year old Siamese cat is clearly boss. Tux puts himself to bed at night in the laundry when he gets tired. And when we have visitors, he does use his manners.

I'm enjoying Tux a lot more now. I have learnt that part of what made him difficult at the beginning, is what I love about him. He just loves having fun. I think we work more as a team ... sometimes ('cos we flunked out at last Competition Day in September)! Oh well, something else to work on. I would eventually like to train Tux in agility as he loves jumping, running and just being active.

Maybe we might get more blue ribbons ... then again maybe we won't. But it doesn't matter. I already know I have the best dog in the world and I am the best judge of that!

COMP DAY RESULTS ~ 2 AUGUST



Co-ordinator – Gary Kingdon

INTERMEDIATE

Judge: Amanda Delaney

1st Anne Madden & Ziva

2nd Jennifer Marshall & Harry

Judge : Heather Carswell

1st Lisa Keogh & Spud

2nd Margaret Saxby & Reggy

3rd Lexie Donald & Latte

Judge: Louise McKay

1st Lucy Jesiolowski & Tux

2nd Pamela Scott & Buddy

3rd Sean Noble & Major

Other passes:

Alison Britliff & Archer

Lynn Peever & Rosie

Mark Rounds & Basil

Susanne Klein & Kaiser

Fay Peters & Clancy

ADVANCED

Judge: Barbara Feeken

1st Sarah Guiver & Phoebe

2nd Alina Menkarska & Zenna

3rd Therese Kropman & Grace

Judge: Helen Mossler

1st Christopher Hudson & Mara

2nd Matthew Guest & Bonnie

3rd Joycelyn Featherston & Nim

Other passes:

Christie Hartfiel & Nuggett

Lyn Wee & Shado

Lyn Williams & Saddu

TRANSITION

Judge: Vince Bush

1st Barry Gray & Riley

2nd Marjorie Todd & Marley

3rd Leisl Vellnagel-Dunn & Lucy

Other passes:

Ann Lising & Coco

Jeanette Mitchell & Paddy

Marika Mueller & Kelvey

PRIMARY COMPANION

Judge: Anne Robertson

1st Lynn Harden & Gracie

2nd Al Klov dahl & Jethrow

CCD

Judge: Werner Roth

1st Emma Bush & Lacey

2nd Anne Robertson & Derry

COMP DAY RESULTS ~ 27 SEPTEMBER

Co-ordinator – Gary Kingdon

Comp Day coincided with the coldest September day in 40 years with the mercury peaking at only 7.5 degrees with wind gusts reaching 63 km/h. My thanks to all those who turned out on the day to judge or help in other ways: Mike Slee, Greg Preston and Diane Kingdon for helping with setting up; to Mary-ann Fisher and Amanda Day for doing Check-in; to Lynn Harden, Anne Robertson, Louise Raisin, Vic Rogers; Naarilla Hirsch; Kathy Bush, Werner Roth, Mike Slee and Joyce Thompson for judging, and Emma Dunst for helping with judging; to Diane Kingdon for acting as photographer; and to Lynn Harden, Al Klov dahl and Diane Kingdon for helping dismantle the rings afterwards.

INTERMEDIATE

Judge: -

1st Judith Upton & Keady

2nd Leniss Freebody & Zoe

3rd Barry Pigram & Poco

Judge : Vic Rogers

1st Fiona Hall & Leo

2nd Shirley Scanlan & Scooter

3rd Moiya Ford & Lily

Judge: Louise Raisin

1st Jodie Thompson & Maddy

2nd Diane Mollet & Hector

3rd George Baillie & Helo

Other passes:

Teena Cooper & Misty

Peta Haesler & Quinn

Trish Bootes & Megs

Stephanie Cooper-Vassalakis &

Jo Kenner & Lily

Mireille Winter & Spartan

Zeke

Celia Cotton & Dodge

Tracey Pearce & Pepper

ADVANCED

Judge: Gary Kingdon

1st Fay Peters & Clancy

2nd Kathleen Thompson & Jasper

3rd Helena Hultgren & Kindy

Judge: Naarilla Hirsch1st Janda Gooding & Bella

Other passes:

Lynn Peever & Rosie

TRANSITION**Judge: Kathy Bush**1st Phillip Thorp & Bessy

Other passes:

Jocelyn Featherston & Nim

PRIMARY COMPANION**Judge: Michael Slee**1st Anna Dacre & Thomas**CCD****Judge: Werner Roth**1st Jessica Parker & T**OPEN****Judge: Werner Roth**1st Lidia Lea & Sabre2nd Michele Reid & Bella3rd Susanne Lein & Kaiser2nd Lesley Page & Bella3rd Pamela Hunt & Samuel

Therese Kropman & Grace

Fred Towicz & Jazz

2nd Magareth Stumpel & Squirt

COMMITTEE CAPERS

The Main Committee meets on the last Tuesday of every month (except December). Copies of committee minutes are available from the club office. Some of the matters discussed at recent meetings are noted below.

**25 August 2009**

- Inaugural meeting of 2009-10 Committee
- Roles and responsibilities of committee members – approved

29 September 2009

- Instructors' Library – requested Training, Agility, Flyball, Obedience Trialling, and Dances with Dogs sub-committees to nominate new titles for purchase
- Narrabundah Lane – discussed options for improving condition of verge
- Training – approved sub-committee members
- Shop – discussed extending range of training products available
- Clubhouse flooring – approved quotes to replace flooring in club room, instructors' room and office

27 October 2009

- End-of-year awards function – approved date (6 December) and arrangements
- Obedience trialling – approved trialling dates for 2010, addition of Simon and Liesl Vellnagel-Dunn to sub-committee, and uploading of annual award forms to website
- Agility – approved fun 'n games activities over December and January
- Instructors – noted Training Sub-Committee's intention to conduct a survey of instructors; agreed for Shop Manager to investigate cost of branded clothing
- Shop – noted loss of stock arising from break-in
- Flyball – approved purchase of new flyball box
- Dances with Dogs – discussed options for training venue including insurance implications
- Development – discussed initial priorities identified by sub-committee regarding membership, infrastructure, grounds, volunteer base and training disciplines

AGILITY ACTION



Convenor – Veronica Doerr

Pre-Agility

CDC ran a trial 'pre agility' class in September which ran for four weeks preceding the session 5 intake. People on the Agility waiting list were invited to attend a half hour class each week to give them and their dogs some basic skills without equipment before starting Level 1 and equipment work. The classes were well received and the Agility sub-committee will be assessing the class with a view to offering it as a regular class.

Demonstration

CDC represented the sport of Agility at the Dogs Day Out held on 20 September at Lake Ginninderra. Thank you to Jenny & Rascal, Anne & Faith, Amanda & Tandookie, Pam & Teddy, Jo & Jodi & Mouse, Lara & Rogan & Polo, Lucy & her Cavs and Veronica & Katydid who attended the event to show case the sport to the ACT public. The demonstration was well-received and as well as having our dogs run a mini-course, the less experienced dogs demonstrated some of the process of training for agility.

Mock Trial

As part of CDC's ongoing support of the Dogs ACT's agility judges training scheme a mock trial was held at CDC on 30 August. The courses were designed and judged by the three trainee judges and our members appreciated the opportunity to run their dogs in trial-like conditions.

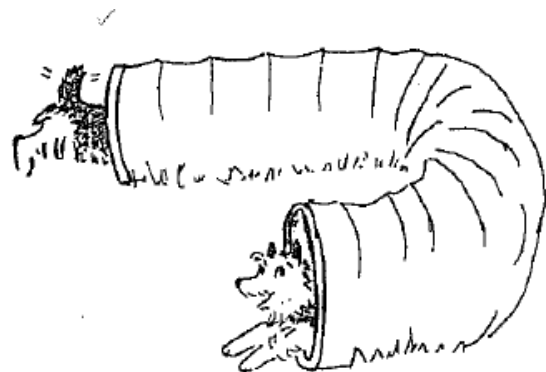
Competitions

A Jumping ribbon trial was held at CDC on 18 August in much less foggy conditions than our previous ribbon trial! Thanks to super efforts by our judge, stewards and competitors the trial was over within two hours so that our judge could catch a plane shortly after. If you think your dog might be nearly ready to trial in agility, consider entering a ribbon trial - they are small and relaxed trials.

CDC held a double Agility, Jumping and Snooker trial on 19 September. Although entry numbers were again good they were down a little on other trials we've

conducted this year due to a clash with the Coffs Harbour trials which attracted some of our regular Sydney competitors. However, local triallers and especially the trial manager appreciated the more relaxed atmosphere of the trial and the decent finishing time! CDC members again did well at the trials winning 11 of the 14 classes offered and placed in every class (see results below).

The Dogs ACT State Agility Titles were conducted at Belconnen Dog Obedience Club's grounds on the Saturday of the October long weekend. CDC Members won six of the eight State Title classes offered – Kate & Scully won Novice Agility, Andrea & Angus won Novice Jumping, Linda & Tosca won Open Jumping and Greg & Kellie won Open Agility, Master Agility and Master Jumping! After the standard classes the Agility and Jumping Dog of the Year finals were run. The finals entry is by application with competitors submitting their top five results achieved at Canberra trials in each class over the past year. Eight entries were accepted for each event. The winner of 2009 Jumping Dog of the Year was Greg Collins and his Koolie cross Ag Ch Kellie. Winner of the 2009 Agility Dog of the Year was Allan Schmidt and his Border Collie Ag Ch Jack. Well done to these two teams.



In memory of 'Jinx'

14 August 1995 – 12 September 2009



Belgian Shepherd 'Jinx' (Ch Barakuma Kyshane CDX ADM JDM) will be remembered by many of the club's agility and obedience fraternity as an exceptionally talented, graceful and consistent performer in the trial ring. Jinx and her handler and owner, Phillipa Gill, represented the ACT on a number of occasions. Phillipa has kindly provided some memories of a wonderful dog. Valé Jinx.

Jinx came into my life at a time when I was at home with two young children and became my 'escape'. Above everything, she was a devoted family dog who, as far as she was concerned, owned me, not the other way around. She loved the beach and our dam and spent many hours swimming with my two children chasing sticks and tennis balls.

Jinx was a champion in the show ring and won many Best of Breed and a few Best in Group awards. However, our passion was for agility, followed by obedience.

We did some obedience trials in Sydney while we were doing breed shows. On one memorable occasion we both ended up in a heap on the ground in the middle of our heeling component. Jinx managed to orientate herself in the correct heeling position without a word or signal from me and we continued on our merry way. We still scored 196 out of a possible 200 and won the trial. Jinx gained her Open obedience title (CDX) but by that time she had really started to excel in agility so didn't go on to gain her utility (UD) title.

Jinx was at her best in agility. She just loved it and was known for her weaving speed and technique and her jumping ability. She was one of a handful of large dogs competing at that time, and one of the first large dogs to consistently beat the medium-sized dogs over both agility and jumping courses. She gained her masters agility and jumping (ADM and JDM) titles - achieving many, many wins and placings.

Some of the highlights were NSW Agility Dog of the Year and ACT Agility Dog of the Year. She won at both national and state level and represented the ACT on many occasions in teams competing around Australia. She was part of the winning ACT CDC team at the National Agility Challenge in Canberra in 2002. During her career she also won Masters and Open (now Excellent) Agility at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. She was the first Belgian Shepherd in Australia

to gain her Masters Agility and Jumping titles. She also featured on the cover of *Clean Run Australia* and *Top Dog Australia*.

Jinx was chosen as one of only ten dogs Australia-wide to participate in the 2000 Purina Incredible Dog Challenge. She won the Incredible Head to Head Challenge and was a crowd favourite with some of the children having a go with her on the basic courses. She didn't care - she still did everything for them. This event was later made into a TV show.

She also did flyball and was in several CDC teams, usually handled by my then 10 year old daughter.

Jinx was also a Pets-As-Therapy dog for a while. One particular memory is of a young girl from our pony club who had been severely injured in a horse riding accident and as a result was physically and mentally disabled. Jinx would go and find the lass and sit for ages beside her wheelchair with her head on her lap.

Jinx was - to us - irreplaceable, and I consider myself very lucky to have owned such a dog.



JUMPING RIBBON TRIAL - ACT Companion Dog Club 18th August 2009

Master Jumping - Judge: Mr Allan Schmidt (NSW) SCT: 47 sec

- 1st Dash AD JDM JDO GDX SD SPDX Border Collie Tammy Watts 34.88
- 2nd Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri CDX RRD ADM ADO JDM JDO GDX SPDM SDM Hungarian Vizsla Lara Sedgmen 38.00
- 3rd Bordercheck Autumn Styx CDX ADM JDM GDM ADO JDO SDX SPDX Border Collie Airlie White 38.16
- 4th Manthamin Jessie ADM2 JDM4 JDO2 ADO GD SD SPD Border Collie Karen Edwards 42.77
- 5th Cavregis White Knight ADX JDX JDO GD Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Lucy Williams 44.07
- 6th Ch Rustufarion Kryptomaniac JDX SPD GD ADX CD ADO JDO SD Puli Vikki Evans 44.12
- 7th Cavregis Marilyn Merlot ADX ADO JDX GD Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Lucy Williams 45.38

Excellent Jumping - Judge: Mr Allan Schmidt (NSW) SCT: 44 sec

- 1st Charlie AFCH JD SPD Associate Rebecca Jones 31.99
- 2nd Dalibel Full of Chaos JD Schipperke Jenny Marshall 34.84
- 3rd Teddy CDX AD JD Associate Pam Beesley 35.65
- 4th Cody JD Associate John MacDonald & Kathleen Thompson 38.96
- 5th Piobaireachd JD Associate Gail Ransom 41.44

Novice Jumping - Judge: Mr Allan Schmidt (NSW) SCT: 36 sec

- 1st Watersmeet I'm Harry Cocker Spaniel Anne Lewis 26.97

AGILITY AND GAMES TRIAL - ACT Companion Dog Club - 19th September 2009 - AM

Novice Agility - Judge: Mrs Judy van der Vegt (NSW) SCT: 60 sec

- 1st Elshamah Bella Associate Maureen Lewis 53.71
- 2nd(NQ) Raegaz Blue Kyungu JD Australian Cattle Dog Di Adams 37.06
- 3rd(NQ) Derry Associate Anne Robertson 48.39

Excellent Agility - Judge: Mrs Judy van der Vegt (NSW) SCT: 63 sec

- 1st Stollie AD JDX GDX SPD SD Associate M McKenzie 48.81
- 2nd Cuebiyar Set In Stone CD AD JDX GD SPD Australian Shepherd Denise Iglesias 51.34
- 3rd(NQ) Sallson Lindas Lad AD JDX GD SD ET Welsh Corgi Pembroke Linda Tunbridge 51.36

Master Agility - Judge: Mrs Judy van der Vegt (NSW) SCT: 49 sec

- 1st AgCh Kellie ADM JDM ADO JDO10 GDX SDX SPDX Associate Greg Collins 33.61
- 2nd Bordercheck Autumn Styx CDX ADM JDM GDM ADO JDO SDM SPDX Border Collie Airlie White 36.19
- 3rd AgCh Cricket ADM JDM ADO JDO GDM SDM SPDM Associate Ronnalyn Shawyer 36.29
- 4th Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri CDX RRD ADM ADO JDM JDO GDX SPDM SDM Hungarian Vizsla Lara Sedgmen 41.47
- 5th Raffy ADX ADO JDX JDO GD SPD SD HT ET Associate Michelle Tunbridge 43.61

6th Callisto ADX JDX ADO JDO GDX SPD SD CD HT Associate Naarilla Hirsch 45.90
 7th Montkhan Bold Warrior CD ADM2 ADO2 JDM GDX SDX SPDX Schnauzer (Miniature) R Israel 48.33

Master Snooker - Judge: Mr Ashley Roach (NSW) SCT: 49 sec

1st Bordercheck Autumn Styx CDX ADM JDM GDM ADO JDO SDM SPDX Border Collie Airlie White 41.14
 2nd Spinifex Spitfire JDM ADM CD ADO SPDM GDM JDO SDX Australian Kelpie Vikki Evans 46.60
 3rd(NQ) Jai ADM JDM ADO JDO GDX SDX SPDM Associate Jenny Marshall 46.86

Excellent Snooker - Judge: Mr Ashley Roach (NSW) SCT: 50 sec

1st Callisto ADX JDX ADO JDO GDX SPD SD CD HT Associate Naarilla Hirsch 47.41
 2nd Catch ADM JDM ADO GDX SPDX SD Border Collie Shanna Brough 44.09
 3rd(NQ) Skipper CD ADX ADO JDX JDO GDX SPDX SD Associate Sue Keal 42.43

Novice Snooker - Judge: Mr Ashley Roach (NSW) SCT: 53 sec

1st Bordercheck Tandookie GD ADX ADO JDX JDO SPD Border Collie Amanda Delaney 41.02
 2nd Toolalla Quincy AD JD SPD Koolie Di Scheimer 48.12
 3rd Blayhouncha Kiss Me Kate GD SPD Border Collie CL Daniel 52.49
 4th Minx Associate Maureen Lewis 47.05
 5th Storm JD AD Associate MacDonald & Thompson 49.33
 6th Cody JD Associate MacDonald & Thompson 50.06
 7th Michelago Mick AD JD SPD CCD Associate Sharon Bowditch 42.82

AGILITY AND JUMPING TRIAL - ACT Companion Dog Club 19th September 2009 - PM

Master Agility- Judge: Mrs Judy van der Vegt (NSW) SCT: 49 sec

1st AgCh Kellie ADM JDM ADO JDO10 GDX SDX SPDX Associate Greg Collins 29.55
 2nd Bordercheck Autumn Styx CDX ADM JDM GDM ADO JDO SDM SPDX Border Collie Airlie White 33.02
 3rd Raffy ADX ADO JDX JDO GD SPD SD HT ET Associate Michelle Tunbridge 39.37
 4th Chapford White Wonder ADX JDM GD SPDX Poodle (Toy) Marilyn Hepburn 39.82
 5th Gus ADM7 JDM4 ADO10 JDO8 GDM SDM SPDX Associate Tina Woollard 43.26
 6th Cavregis Hermione CD ADM3 ADO5 JDM JDO GDX SPDX SDX Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Lucy Williams 48.35
 7th Xlandi Fabia ADM2 ADO2 JDM JDO SDX SPDX GDX Schnauzer (Miniature) Nelly Felczynski 48.37
 8th Cavregis White Knight ADX JDX JDO GD Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Lucy Williams 48.93

Open Agility - Judge: Mrs Judy van der Vegt (NSW) SCT: 49 sec

1st AgCh Kellie ADM JDM ADO JDO10 GDX SDX SPDX Associate Greg Collins 24.16
 2nd AgCh Jack ADM ADO JDM JDO GDM SPDM SDX Associate Allan Schmidt 26.30
 3rd Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri CDX RRD ADM ADO JDM JDO GDX SPDM SDM Hungarian Vizsla Lara Sedgmen 30.72
 4th Toolalla Quincy AD JD SPD Koolie Di Scheimer 30.92
 5th Van Diemen CD ADM JDM JDO GD ET Associate Pam McDougall 35.60
 6th Blayhouncha Deje Vue CD ET ADX JDX SPDX GDX SD JDO Border Collie PC Bulliman 37.70
 7th Skipper CD ADX ADO JDX JDO GDX SPDX SD Associate Sue Keal 37.76
 8th Alhambra Bill Owen AD JD SD GD English Springer Spaniel Lesli Cameron 38.22
 9th Cavregis White Knight ADX JDX JDO GD Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Lucy Williams 39.39
 10th Xlandi Fabia ADM2 ADO2 JDM JDO SDX SPDX GDX Schnauzer (Miniature) Nelly Felczynski 40.30
 11th Fieldgold Scottish Loch CDX JDX ADX GD SPD SD JDO NRD Golden Retriever Laraine Frawley 43.88
 12th Cody JD Associate MacDonald & Thompson 44.22

Excellent Agility - Judge: Mrs Judy van der Vegt (NSW) SCT: 54 sec

1st Sallson Lindas Lad AD JDX GD SD ET Welsh Corgi Pembroke Linda Tunbridge 36.70
 2nd Cuebiyar Set In Stone CD AD JDX GD SPD Australian Shepherd Denise Iglesias 44.15
 3rd Teddy CDX AD JD ET Associate Pam Beesley 48.42

Novice Agility - Judge: Mrs Judy van der Vegt (NSW) SCT: 59 sec

1st Delta FDX GD JD SPD Associate Rebecca Jones 32.31
 2nd Cody JD Associate MacDonald & Thompson 39.90
 3rd Zu-Lou JDX SPD GD Associate Tina Woollard 44.49

Novice Jumping - Judge: Mr Ashley Roach (NSW) SCT: 30 sec

1st Rulett On The Waterfront Portuguese Water Dog Marilyn Hepburn 29.97
 2nd(NQ) Anna Associate Michelle Tunbridge 24.03
 3rd(NQ) Blayhouncha Kiss Me Kate GD SPD Border Collie CL Daniel 21.12

Excellent Jumping - Judge: Mr Ashley Roach (NSW) SCT: 40 sec

1st(NQ) Mahkoolma Jack Peter JD AD Jack Russell Terrier C Woodward 44.32

2nd(NQ) Cody JD Associate MacDonald & Thompson 40.50
 3rd(NQ) Dalibel Fullof Chaos JD Schipperke Jenny Marshall 49.03

Master Jumping - Judge: Mr Ashley Roach (NSW) SCT: 40 sec

1st AgCh Kellie ADM JDM ADO JDO10 GDX SDX SPDX Associate Greg Collins 27.94
 2nd AgCh Cricket ADM JDM ADO JDO GDM SDM SPDM Associate Ronnalyn Shawyer 32.43
 3rd Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri CDX RRD ADM ADO JDM JDO GDX SPDM SDM Hungarian Vizsla Lara Sedgmen 32.91
 4th Spinifex Spitfire JDM ADM CD ADO SPDM GDM JDO SDX Australian Kelpie Vikki Evans 33.51

Open Jumping - Judge: Mr Ashley Roach (NSW) SCT: 37 sec

1st AgCh Kellie ADM JDM ADO JDO10 GDX SDX SPDX Associate Greg Collins 26.18
 2nd Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri CDX RRD ADM ADO JDM JDO GDX SPDM SDM Hungarian Vizsla Lara Sedgmen 31.13
 3rd Spinifex Spitfire JDM ADM CD ADO SPDM GDM JDO SDX Australian Kelpie Vikki Evans 34.72
 4th Toolalla Quincy AD JD SPD Koolie Di Scheimer 36.22

DOGS – AS – THERAPY



By Joyce Thompson, Manager

Since the AGM in August the group has been working as usual. We have expanded into another nursing home -Southern Cross Apartments, a new facility in Campbell. The group has been received with enthusiasm by residents and staff alike.

New members are always welcome. The group is small and dedicated - older members and new share a sense of achieving something very worthwhile. It is not just a one way street - we meet people with many diverse histories who are only too willing to talk to an interested listener and share memories from their past lives. The dogs are, of course, the prime subjects, but conversations can range from experiences during the wars and the great depression to early milk deliveries in the bush!

The dogs need not be highly trained, but must be very socially inclined, both with other dogs and people. Over exuberance has to be restrained and handlers need to be completely in control. It helps if the people end of the lead is happy to interact and enjoys the experience of visiting the elderly.

If you feel that you and your dog fit the bill and you have the time to spare during weekdays, please do not hesitate to contact me. You may visit as many nursing homes as you wish depending on your time restraints - no pressure. As well as dispensing a lot of pleasure to many people you and your dog will be sure to make new friends.

VALÉ - TILLY

The Dogs-as-Therapy group has very recently lost a much valued long time member. 'Tilly', a Tenterfield terrier and her best friend, Pam Peppercorn, joined the team more than ten years ago.

A very special little dog, Tilly brought a great deal of happiness to many people during her weekly visits to the elderly residents in nursing homes all over Canberra. She found many laps to sit on and received lots of cuddles. Disabled children loved her and walked her round school grounds until her legs tired. She performed all her 'duties' happily and with a sense of fun, but never lost her dignity. We called her the princess. She loved everyone and was loved in return.

Rest now Tilly - we will all miss you.

Joyce Thompson and all the members of the Dogs-as-Therapy group, both past and present.

DANCES WITH DOGS (DWD)



GETTING TO KNOW ... TONY TURNER

Tony Turner, a member of the club's Main Committee, is responsible for initiating the dog sport, Dances with Dogs, at the club.

I came back to Australia in Nov 2003, after 15 years as a volunteer abroad in the Middle East. Instead of returning to Adelaide and school teaching, I took up a Govie position here in Canberra. I acquired my first dog (Aztec) through the Golden Retriever Rescue (NSW) and my second Golden, Lacey, from Lynn Harden when she moved to New Zealand a few years ago. With no previous dog training experience, I joined the club because of its fantastic facilities.

I have been an obedience instructor for three years – but my passion today is 'Dances with Dogs' (DWD) ... indeed, I have recently returned from Coolangatta where I attended three weeks of DWD training as a competitor and future judge.

As an obedience instructor, I most enjoy watching handlers develop stronger, more positive relationships with their dogs. It has been exciting to see some of my ex-students become instructors themselves.

What impresses me most about our club is its grounds/facilities, variety of activities on offer and the forward-looking attitude of the Main Committee. As a member of the Australian National Kennel Council's National DWD Committee and the club's Main Committee, my goals for the coming year are to successfully launch DWD training in the ACT; hold the first fully-sanctioned DWD competitions in the ACT; and, hopefully to initiate DWD judges training in the region. There has been a surprising amount of red tape to work through in reaching these ends. This has been time consuming, a little frustrating and delayed the desired DWD launch date by several months. However, the most important thing is getting it right ... and we are moving well in that direction.

OBEDIENCE TRIALLING

The Obedience Trialling sub-committee is establishing a Yahoo notification list to keep club members informed about trialling activities including mock trials, trial dates and training initiatives.

Any member who is currently participating in trialling classes at the club or participating in trials is welcome to join. Please contact Anne Robertson at birdwellsetters@ozemail.com.au for further information.

RECENT TITLES

Congratulations to the following members for their recent titles:

Companion Dog

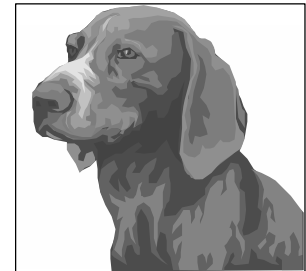
Barbara Oliver and Associate Lottie Matilda CD

Companion Dog Excellent

Lara Sedgmen and German Shorthaired Pointer Topnotch Lord CDX NRD

Tracking Dog

Wendy Laigne-Stuart and Weimeraner Ch Sinaway Zorros Mark TD



Event - Date	Host Club	Judge	Grading
Track 1 – 16 July 2009	Metropolitan Midweek	Ineke de Wit	Excellent
Track 2 – 26 July 2009	Tracking and Rescue Dog	Ann Howard	Pass
Track 3 – 2 August 2009	Tracking and Rescue Dog	Helen Schaken	Very Good

If you have any trial results or titles you would like included in the magazine please email them to birdwellsetters@ozemail.com.au.

When we Work Together

By Barbara H Fiala

Please be patient with me.

If I'm not doing it right, I may not understand how to, just yet.

Please show me again, and I will try harder this time.

I don't know your language yet, but take time to teach me,

And I will learn.

Watch my body language, so you will know when we've practiced enough, when I'm
confused, or when I'm tired.

If I'm very young, it may be hard for me to focus.

This world is fun, and full of interesting things.

I will do my exercises if you take some time to play with me.

I need attention from all my family. This gives me a feeling of belonging.

Exercise tires me out so I don't get into so much trouble.

I enjoy our workouts together.

Obedience training builds my confidence so I am less fearful, feel less stress and tension.

It also helps me to control myself, and my behaviour, and it is fun.

The more we work together, the closer I feel to you.

The stronger the bond, the greater my affection and respect for you.

Love

Your Best Friend

Reproduced from *Off-Lead* (June 1994)

THE SPORN SUPREMACY (with apologies to Robert Ludlum) **By Joyce Thompson**

During the last few months dogs have been seen walking sedately around the grounds wearing a rather odd looking harness - dogs that previously were hauling their owners along are now models of good behaviour. This transformation has largely been brought about by the advent of the Sporn harness.

When I was first introduced to this great piece of equipment I was very dubious as to its effectiveness. I have always been an advocate for head collars, and I still believe that a head collar is best for head control. As a Session Manager I have fitted many dogs with Haltis and Gentle Leaders, and although they are very successful in most cases, sometimes the dog and handler team is not comfortable with this method of control - either because the dog's head does not conform to size, the dog stresses too much or (as in my case) the dog simply slips it off no matter how it is adjusted.

However with the Sporn the head is not involved at all. The collar sits low on the dog's neck and the guide lines run through two sets of 'D' rings ,through protective woolly sleeves and under the dog's front legs. The lead is attached to the large ring behind the dog's head. The guides are then adjusted with an easy slide so that they are not too loose and do not slip down - sounds complicated but it is really very simple. The dog very quickly learns that if he pulls against the harness he will feel it tighten, so he doesn't pull. There does not appear to be any discomfort to the dog at all, and the pain in the owner's shoulders is removed forthwith!

All this sounds like magic, but there is a downside (isn't there always). As I have pointed out above there is no head control with the Sporn and if the dog decides to lag it is quite difficult, depending on the dog's size to persuade the dog to move forward and leave whatever he finds so fascinating - that's where your training comes in - you need to learn how to get your dog's focus back to you. Otherwise you will be there until he decides to move on.

So to sum up, the Sporn is a very good aid for handlers who have dogs who lunge at other dogs, or are being pulled all over the place. In many cases it is better for both dog and handler than the head collar. However, it is still only a teaching aid and nothing replaces the bond formed between dog and handler achieved by good training.

Sporn harnesses are available from the club shop in sizes from small to extra large, and should be fitted by instructors or session managers to ensure that they are fitted properly.



Congratulations!

Instructor Emma Dunst and husband Darrin on the arrival of
 baby Madisynne Rose on 23 July 2009

It was good to see Madisynne helping her mum with judging
 at the September Comp Day!



Our Dog Grooming Services:

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- ✂ Trim**
- ✂ Full Clip**
- ✂ Style Clip**
- ✂ Nail Trimming**

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BEHIND THE SHOP COUNTER

GETTING TO KNOW ... KATRINA MORTON

Hi, my name is 'Polly' and I have a playmate whose name is 'Hayley'. We would like to tell you a bit about our mum, Katrina Morton, and us. I have been at the club since I was a four month old puppy in October 2000 and have attained the level of Primary Companion. Hayley has been with the club since August 2006 when she was only 12 weeks old and is at Advanced level. Our mum became a Level 1 Instructor in 2002 and a member of the Pets-as-Therapy group in 2003 with me and then, when Hayley was old, enough she joined in, too. In 2005 Katrina was elected to the club's Main Committee and took on the responsibility of Shop Manager which she has held since. She is also responsible for housekeeping.



In August 2006 I was formally recognised as an Approved Assistance Dog. This means that whenever mum needs to go to the shops I am able to accompany her without any problems. Hayley also aspires to become an Assistance Dog but is currently focusing on her obedience training.

Katrina strives to make the club's shop an asset for all club members and hopes that if there are any problems she can rectify them in a speedy and congenial manner. If you have any comments or concerns about the shop or housekeeping please leave a message for Katrina at the office, with Emma

in the shop, or in the suggestion box near the front door.

OPENING TIMES

Wednesdays	10.00 -11.30am
Thursdays	7.15-8.45pm
Sundays	9.15-11.45am

NEWS FROM THE SHOP SHELF

By Katrina Morton, Shop Manager and Emma Bush, Assistant

Well another year is nearly over and Christmas is only a few weeks away!

Have you considered buying something special for you or your dog to be put under the Christmas tree?

We have a large range of Black Dog training halters, leads, collars and clickers. For the fashion conscious, we also have a range of treat pouches and bags in various colours and prices that you might find useful.

Due to popular demand the Sporn Halter is still available. These are very popular with handlers who are in need of extra control of their dog (see the article by Joyce Thompson in this issue for more information). Prices range from \$31.00 to \$39.50 depending on the size you require.

Please note that any halters, collars and Sporn Halters should be fitted by one of our instructors to ensure the correct size is used by your dog, so please talk to the session manager, your instructor or staff in the shop who are more than willing to arrange the fitting of these items.

Another very practical and popular item that we have in the shop is the Pooch Pouch. This is a simple and innovative solution for storing (unused) poo bags and promoting responsible pet

ownership by simply attaching the pouch to your dog lead. A packet of 10 Degradable Dog Waste Bags can be easily inserted into your Pooch Pouch so you are never caught empty-handed. These items can be bought individually at a cost of \$3.00 and \$1.85 respectively. Also every time you buy a Pooch Pouch and packet of Waste Bags you can get a second packet of Waste Bags for \$1.15, making a total outlay of \$6.00.

The ever popular 'Kongs' are in stock and are available at various prices depending on the sizes. The 'Kong' can be used as a training aid as well as a way of keeping your dog amused for hours, by simply putting either some treats in it sealed with peanut butter or vegemite. Your dog will keep itself busy by trying to get the food out and at the same time have heaps of fun. We also have a large range of toys for your canine's amusement.

For triallers and senior trainers we have retrieving dumbbells, these come in four different sizes and are an indispensable training item. Also available are Trial Entry Books which can be bought for \$7.50 per book or 20c for a single entry form.

The shop is located inside the clubhouse but access is also available from the outside window or the inside servery.

Apart from training aids, hot and cold refreshments are also available including pies, sausage rolls, pasties, toasted sandwiches, chips and chocolates.

Don't forget your four-legged friend also, we have Beef Ears for \$1.40 each or \$15.00 per dozen, Pigs Ears for \$1.90 each or \$21.00 per dozen (due to price increase with wholesalers) and Liver Treats \$5.00.

Opening hours are: Wednesday 10am – 11.30am, Thursday nights 7.15pm – 8.45pm and Sundays 9.15am – 11.45am.

Please remember that the shop facilities are there for all members of the club. We hope that we can supply you with all your training and treat requirements.

If you have any questions regarding the items available or need a special order, please don't hesitate to speak to Emma or I in the shop at any time during the shop's opening hours or leave a message in the office.

We wish your family (including your pets, of course) and friends a merry and safe Christmas and we look forward to seeing you again when classes start in February 2010.

PRODUCT AND PRICE LIST

COLLARS - BLACK DOG BRAND

Limited Slip	\$26.00
Gentle (Reg) all sizes	\$21.00
Gentle (Super) all sizes	\$24.00
Whippet	\$21.00
Large Sighthound	\$23.00
Agility/ Flyball 23 - 40cms	\$23.75

COLLARS - OTHER BRANDS

Small/Medium/Large	\$4.00
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CLICKERS

I-Click Clickers (no wrist strap)	\$8.50
Plastic clicker (small no wrist strap)	\$4.95

LEADS - BLACK DOG BRAND

Tracking long	\$26.50
Double (clip) lead 19 & 25mm	\$28.50
Hands free training belt	\$50.25
19mm lead for hands free	\$15.00

TRAINING AIDS - BLACK DOG BRAND

Treat Pouches	
Show	\$18.50
Regular	\$27.00
Large	\$31.00
Pouch Liner (Regular)	\$10.00
Pouch Liner (Large)	\$14.00

HARNESSES

Flyball Harness	\$58.85
Shoulder Bags	\$37.50

TRAINING CARRY BAG

Carry All Bags	\$57.50
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'NO PULL' TRAINING AIDS

SPORN Halters:	
Small 9 - 12"	\$31.00
Medium 12 - 17"	\$34.00
Large 16 - 24"	\$36.50

THE YEAR IN REVIEW – 2008-09

The Club held its Annual General Meeting on 19 August 2009. Reports tabled at the meeting are provided below. Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2009 are available on request.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Gary Kingdon

A common theme of previous President's reports has been the comment that the preceding year seems to have passed quickly. I would endorse that feeling; it does not seem 12 months since I took over the mantle of President. It was a busy year in many areas. Not all goals were achieved in the year, but I think that this reflects the busy lifestyle that many people lead nowadays and that the majority of the committee are in fulltime employment.

As will be covered in the Treasurer's Report, the club remains in quite a healthy state financially. However, this situation should not allow us to become complacent. The club made an overall loss in the year and the reasons for this will need to be assessed and addressed.

I think that it goes without saying that the mainstay of the club's financial situation and the lifeblood of its ongoing existence is the income received from joining fees and annual subscriptions of the ordinary members. Although we have managed to achieve higher intakes of new members over the last year in comparison to the previous two years, at the same time we are having high numbers of members drop out, so our overall membership numbers are not increasing. While it can be argued that it was ever thus, and people will stop coming to classes when they feel they have achieved what they started for from dog training, there remains the question of whether or not we are meeting their requirements. We ignore the requirements of the basic handlers and our ability to attract new members at our peril. This matter is another that will need to be addressed by the committee.

The club grounds are still a cause for concern as although they have greened up since summer, they are full of weeds and very rough in some areas. Once the replacement and securing of the pump for the bore has been completed, so that a more regular and consistent water supply for irrigation is ensured, it may be necessary to pay attention to ways of improving the grassing and surface of the grounds, especially in the trialling rings.

On the training front, the increase in Instructors' membership fees and reductions for those undertaking classes, as approved at the last AGM, have unfortunately not been as successful as was hoped. Getting instructors for classes remains a problem and it is only through the dedication and generosity of a core of instructors who regularly take classes, and some of whom take two, or even three, classes a session, that the commitments for the lower level classes have been able to be met over the last year.

An ex-shipping container was purchased with the assistance of a grant from the Department of Sports and Recreation of the ACT Government. This container is being used for the storage of obedience trialling equipment, thereby freeing up space in the Agility shed for storage of their equipment.

The Agility, Trialling and Flyball sub-committees all had busy years organising and running a number of trials and competitions. Club members participating in trials enjoyed varying levels of success during the year, with a number obtaining titles in their respective field.

This year saw the start of a new dog sport for the club: Dances with Dogs. Tony Turner is on the national committee for this dog sport and should be introducing it in the ACT in the not-too-distant future, once a number of support issues have been resolved.

An instructor's dinner was held this year as a small gesture of thanks for the efforts by our instructors and the support given to the club. Unfortunately, the dinner was not overly well supported. Personally, I think that we do not show enough appreciation to the club's instructors and in some ways take them for granted. I believe that more tangible ways of recognising our instructors should be introduced.

As is usual, there are a considerable number of people to thank in this annual report, for their contribution to the ongoing function and success of the club. Firstly, grateful thanks must go to all those instructors who have instructed a class during the year, especially those who have answered the call for more than one session. The club would not be able to carry on without your ongoing generosity in giving your time and effort. Thanks also to those senior instructors who have undertaken the task of being Session Manager. This job is an essential one for the successful running of classes and sessions throughout the year and the role has many responsibilities.

Secondly, thanks go to the all the sub-committees and the convenors for their contributions during the year. The efforts of the sub-committees can sometimes go unnoticed, but they provide important support for the functioning of the club.

The manager of the Dogs-As-Therapy program, Joyce Thompson, earns a vote of thanks through her continued interest in and organisation of this element of the club. It is something that goes largely unnoticed by most of the club members, but provides the club with valuable PR and, as has been documented in numerous other reports, provides a welcome contribution to the well-being of the patients in the various places the team visits.

Thanks also to Kathy Bush for her efforts in the office and her endeavours to ensure that the administration of the club runs smoothly. Kathy is a mainstay of the club office and is instrumental in keeping the membership database up to date and chasing up the payment of renewal fees. She also provides corporate knowledge on the functioning of the club and is a source of valuable guidance if the committee starts trying to do things that will not work.

A special mention must be made of Karen Haines, who unstintingly looks after a valuable club asset in managing the library. She willingly dedicates herself to this task as a way of supporting the club. She is also adept at chasing up instructors for the return of overdue library books or videos. Unfortunately, there have been a number of books go missing over the year; either with no record of them being withdrawn in the loan book or having been borrowed by a person with incorrect contact details.

There are a considerable number of other club members who have earned thanks over the year in their support for the club. These include those who have turned up for working bees; or have helped set up on Comp Days; or have assisted with the running of trials and competitions by acting as stewards etc; or undertaken other voluntary work. There are too many to list by name and there is the chance that I might miss someone, so please take this as a personal thank you for your efforts. You know who you are.

Finally, thanks to those who have served on the Committee in the past year. There have been a couple of changes in the membership of the committee in the year: Bronnie Hayek and Simon Hurlbut both had to step down due to changes in work commitments, and Toni Magi and Tony Turner came on to the committee in their place. A number of the committee are not standing for re-election: Wendy Downing, Jenny Marshall, Vic Rogers and Lara Sedgmen. Thank you for your efforts and contribution to the running of the club.

OBEDIENCE TRIALLING REPORT - Jenny Marshall (Convenor)

This year CDC held three trials in November, April and early August.

The November trial was held on a wet and cold Friday night with the assistance of local judges and club members who came out to steward. Judges commented on the standard of competitors and several club members were successful in gaining titles.

In April this year we held a double trial in late April which was very successful with 108 entries on the day. Once again local judges were used and a big thank you to stewards who assisted on a very long day.

Our third trial was held in conjunction with the ACT Gundog Society and saw a larger than expected UD and UDX entry which required us to use a 4th judge. This time we used a mix of interstate and local judges and several club members were successful on the day.

Thanks go to all those members that help out at the trials as without your assistance we could not hold these very successful events throughout the year.

AGILITY REPORT - Lara Sedgmen (Convenor)

Training - In what seems to be a Canberra-wide trend, Agility at CDC has not enjoyed the high numbers of intakes as in previous years. However our higher classes are well-attended and we have welcomed several new triallers into the senior classes over the past 12 months. Special thanks must again go to Airlie White for maintaining the waiting list, organising intakes and scheduling classes and instructors this year.

The success of agility at CDC is entirely dependent on the availability of instructors to take classes. The sub-committee would like to thank all those instructors who took classes this year. Without their continued commitment, there simply wouldn't be any agility at CDC.

Equipment - Due to the success of tunnel snugglers purchased last year, a further three snugglers were purchased and approval for several more to replace all current tunnel fasteners at CDC was gained, which we are currently trying to source.

With the removal of Obedience trialling equipment from the shed we are currently looking at the re-arrangement of the agility equipment in the shed to bring it into line with OHS concerns in relation to the ease of moving it around.

We are also looking to replace some of the heavier equipment (eg A-Frame, see-saw) with lighter constructed items.

Trials - CDC was again responsible for conducting the largest number of agility trials in the local area. Seventeen trials were conducted during 2008-2009. Trials continue to be well-attended by Canberra, Sydney and regional participants.

The sub-committee cannot run our trials without considerable help from members to stewards, and to assist with catering and administration. The commitment of these people, some of whom do not participate in agility, is greatly appreciated by all triallers. To those dedicated members and their families who turn out to help at CDC agility trials, I express the sub-committee's heartfelt gratitude. I'd also like to thank Katrina Morton and Kathy and Emma Bush who've run the shop to provide food for our triallers on trialling days. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Instructors Course - The ASC conducted an agility instructors course during the year with the following people qualifying as agility instructors:

- Denise Agnew
- Chris Atyeo
- Lucy Williams
- Veronica Doerr

Two further participants are expected to qualify as instructors before the end of the year. Club members from Belconnen Dog Obedience Club and Goulburn also attended the course.

On a personal note I would like to thank every member of the sub-committee for their efforts this year. The amount of work done behind the scenes is extensive and is undertaken by members in addition to their instructing and training commitments.

DOGS-AS-THERAPY REPORT - Joyce Thompson (Manager)

As always the Dogs-as-Therapy group has been very active over the past year. The group has added another nursing home to our list for a monthly visit - Southern Cross Apartments run by Southern Cross Care in Campbell. They are, as are all the other nursing homes on our list, very appreciative of our visits.

Three new teams have joined the group during the year:

- Graham McCann and his Flatboat Retriever Purdy
- Tony Ayers and his Schipperke Sammy
- Sue Kelly and her Labrador Ash

Many thanks to them, and to all our other long standing members. Be assured that your visits are eagerly anticipated by the many dog loving residents who are unable to enjoy the company of their own beloved pets. The Club thanks you all for your continuing commitment.

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE REPORT - Judith Barlow (Manager)

The drought continues ... as can be seen from the state of the grounds. Nothing was planted over the last 12 months because unfortunately we don't have the spare water to look after new plants. We have held a few working bees to tidy up the grounds and my grateful thanks go to those who pitched in and worked hard. Special thanks to Greg Preston who continues to fix so many problems around the clubhouse and grounds. He so calmly and capably takes care of so much!

The club uses nothing but bore water to irrigate the grounds. So far the bore has continued to supply water, even if at times it delivers less water than what we would like. I would like to get the grounds fertilised, cored and sprayed for weeds but this utterly depends on our water supply. I am reluctant to have lush, vigorously growing grass (in spring) that we cannot keep the water up to - in the heat of summer.

To all those who have been doing rain dances and getting us some rain, please keep it up!

YUCK! - SCOOP THE POOP



As a matter of courtesy to other users of the grounds, and in the interests of hygiene, please clean up after your dog.

Be prepared whenever you come to grounds by ensuring you have a plastic bag or two with you. Keep some in the car, in your pocket and in your training bag so that you are never left without.

Not sure how to use the bag?

Simply put your hand inside the bag – like a glove – scoop up the offending pile, reverse your hand out of the bag and tie the neck of the bag in a knot. Then dispose of thoughtfully! Ask an instructor if you need a lesson or two!

FLYBALL REPORT - Lesley Pothan (Convenor)



Annual Report 2008/2009

Club of the Year

At the Annual General Meeting of the Australian Flyball Association, Canberra X-Factor (ACT Companion Dog Club) was named 'Club of the Year'.

This award is granted to the Club which has contributed the most to the sport of Flyball during the year, calculated by:

- The number of competitions hosted - 25 points per competition;
- The number of competitions entered: (fast teams 10 points, subsequent teams 2 points)
- The number of qualified Judges within the club - 5 points per Judge.

Many thanks to the Australian Flyball Association for awarding this honour to Canberra X-Factor (ACT Companion Dog Club).

Banners

The committee purchased 2 new X-Factor banners which we have been taking to comps locally and when we travel to other cities and towns. These banners help to promote the sport of Flyball generally and our club in particular.

New Members

We've changed the way we accept new members to the team, allowing beginners to start at any time of the year. This has made our team very accessible, and we've welcomed a number of beginners who are now competition ready. Kioloa, the comp we host on the coast, will see the debut of Humphrey, Boomer, and Dusty.





Comp Results

Kioloa Surf'n'Turf 2008

X-Factor 2 (Pac, Brodie, Tansy, Sophie & Jackie) loved their 2nd place prize: Chukkas! X-Factor (Lucy, Dharma, Jock & Zac) loved their 3rd place prize: Chukkas! X-Factor 3 (Beau, Foxie, Jenna, Ebby, Skye & Max) loved their 3rd place prize: Chukkas!

Boorowa 2008

Canberra X-Factor fielded two teams at the Boorowa Irish Woolfest competition. X-Factor Xceptionals picked up 3rd place in Division 2 and X-Factor Xtraterrestrials came 2nd in Division 3.

Sunset Claws Flyball 2008

X-Factor X-ceptionals lived up to their name and took 2nd place after an almost faultless comp. X-Factor X-traterrestrials also unfortunately lived up to their name (space cadets) and were placed, erm, last.

Flyballin in the Sun 2008

X-Factor X-Ceptionals (Pac, Dharma, Jasper, Zac) took home 1st place in Division 2, while X-Factor X-Citables (Jenna, Kelly, Russ, Peanut, Foxy Lady, Max) were excited to be awarded 5th place in Division 3.

Flyball Frolic, 2008

We hosted this beautiful comp on the West Lawns in front of Old Parliament House. Canberra X-Perienced placed 1st in Division 2 and Canberra X-Perts were also 1st, in Division 3.

Canberra Royal, 2009

We sent 3 teams to the Canberra Royal: Canberra X-Ceptionals 3rd Place Division 2 Best Time 19.988 secs, Canberra X-Press 2nd Place Division 3 Best Time 22.225 secs, Canberra X-Treme 3rd Place Division 4 Best Time 23.516 secs

Million Paws Walk, 2009

Canberra X-Perienced 2nd Place Division 2 (Pac, Dharma, Jasper, Kiera, Jenna (and Humphrey bravely doing recalls) Best Time 20.646. Canberra X-Citables 2nd Place Division 2 (Russ, Russell, Burra, Foxy Lady, Zac & Max) Best Time 27.5 secs Division 4 Best Time 23.516.

Albury Border Challenge Cup, 2009

Canberra X-Perienced 2nd Place Division 2 (Pac, Dharma, Jasper, Kiera, Jenna (and Humphrey bravely doing recalls) Best Time 20.646. Canberra X-Citables 2nd Place Division 2 (Russ, Russell, Burra, Foxy Lady, Zac & Max) Best Time 27.5 secs Division 4 Best Time 23.516.

Southerly Muster 2009

Canberra X-Factor's team came first in 3rd Division, beating the newly formed 'Mudd on the Paws' by 3-one-hundredths of a second in a countback. Congratulations to Dharma, Jasper, Lucy, Sophie and Kiera.



Plans for 2009/2010

New Equipment

The team has been operating with two Flyball Boxes - one 'good' box and one with an old mechanism that is increasingly difficult to use. We would like to purchase at least one new box to assist with training and to use in competitions.

It may also be wise to refurbish existing boxes.

New Uniforms

New team members have not had access to uniforms for more than a year. Increasingly, Canberra X-Factor (ACT Companion Dog Club) is looking like Australia's most dishevelled Flyball Club. We would like to purchase new uniforms (summer and winter) that team members can then buy when they represent the club in competitions.

Ideally, new uniforms would comprise: a new branded t-shirt, a new branded wet weather jacket, branded caps, and branded fleece jackets.

Mixed Training

This year we introduced mixed training sessions, accepting beginners every week and teaching them the basics alongside team training at each Wednesday and Sunday session.

This has not only made the club more accessible to new members, but is also helping with early socialising of new dogs, by getting beginners used to the excitement of team racing in lanes adjacent to their beginner lessons.

We plan to continue mixed training during the coming year.

Team Communications

During the year we started a blog which is keeping team members up to date with our activities. We plan to keep the blog, which is attracting readership from all over the world. The blog is linked to the CDC website. Between these two online communications we attract at least two Flyball enquiries every week - many of which have translated into new members joining the club.

<http://xfactorflyball.blogspot.com>

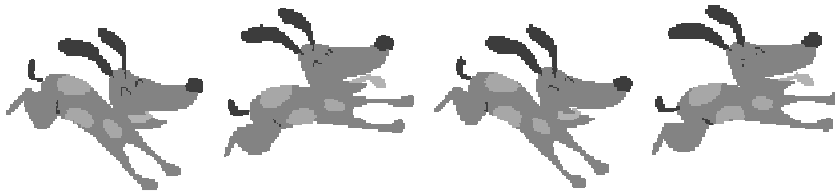
We have also moved to an e-newsletter format, which we hope to issue at least every two months.

To sign up for the newsletter, go to the blog and complete the details on the left hand panel.

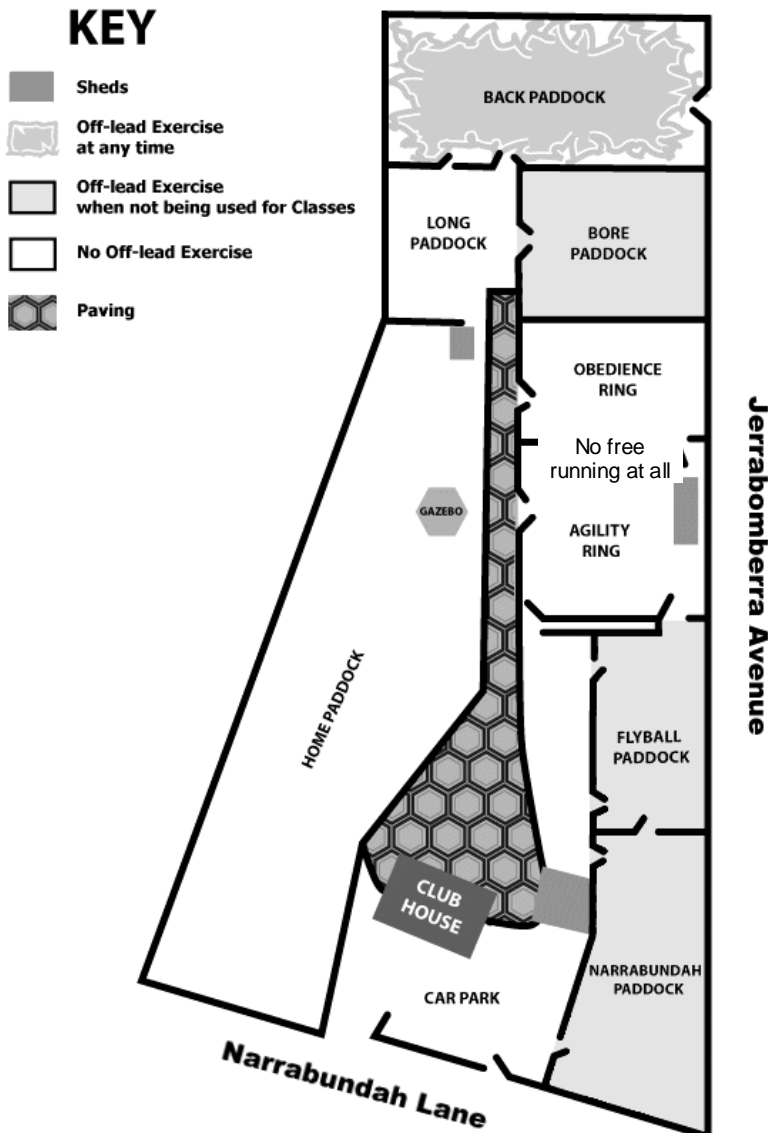
Some of our Flyballers



FREE RUNNING AT OUR CLUB



Please make sure you read (and follow) the rules detailed in the Club's pamphlet on exercising your dog off-lead on the grounds. If you haven't got a copy, ask at the office.



You are responsible for your dog's behaviour, so **watch your dog and be in control at all times**. Keep moving around the area while your dog is free running with other dogs to avoid dogs congregating in one spot as this can create tension and over-excitement.

Remember: if someone else is already in an area running their dog **you must ask if it's OK** for you to join them. Some people use our exercise areas when their dogs are recovering from injury and do not want them highly excited by being joined by other dogs. Not all dogs are friendly towards dogs they don't know and not all dogs know how to interact with dogs of greatly differing sizes. So **ASK FIRST**.

Please **limit your time to 15 minutes** when there are others wishing to use an area, especially if you are not willing to have other club members and their dogs join you.

Please note that the **obedience and agility rings**

are not to be used for free running at any time, nor are you permitted to walk your dogs through these areas because you don't want to put your dog on lead to walk down the path.

Bitches in season are not permitted on the club grounds for free running or classes **at any time**. The smell left behind by the urine and discharge of a bitch in season is an overwhelming distraction to male dogs and to many other bitches.

TRAINING TIMES

OBEDIENCE	Wednesday	Thursday	Sunday	Competition Day
Puppy (Kindi)	10.00 am	7.30 pm	9.30 am	n/a
Beginners A	10.00 am	7.30 pm	9.30 am	assessed in class
Beginners B	10.00 am	7.30 pm	9.30 am	assessed in class
Intermediate	10.00 am	7.30 pm	10.30 am	Sunday 10.00 am
Advanced	10.00 am	7.30 pm	10.30 am	Sunday 10.00 am
Transition	10.00 am	7.30 pm	10.30 am	Sunday 10.00 am
<i>Trialling stream</i>				
CCD & Novice	10.00 am	7.30 pm	10.30 am	* Sunday 10.00 am
Open Φ	10.00 am	7.30 pm	9.30 am	* Sunday 10.00 am
Utility	by arrangement contact the office			* Sunday 10.00 am
<i>Companion stream</i>				
Primary Φ	10.00 am	7.30 pm	10.30 am	Sunday 10.00 am
Secondary Φ	10.00 am	7.30 pm	10.30 am	Sunday 10.00 am

Φ instructors are only provided for these classes if handler numbers warrant it
 * you must book in at least one week prior to Comp Day

AGILITY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Sunday
Level 1	6.45pm - 8.15pm			
Level 3			7.00pm - 8.30pm	
Level 4			7.00pm - 8.30pm	
Novice	7.00pm - 8.30pm			
Excellent/Masters		7.00pm - 8.30pm (inc Dec-Jan)		
Fun 'n Games			7.30pm - 9.00pm (inc Dec-Jan)	

FLYBALL	Wednesday	Sunday
All classes		1.30pm - 3.30pm
Competition Training	7.00pm - 8.30pm	



"You will be going on a long walk."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS ~ 2009 - 2010

November	Sun 22	Special General Meeting (12 noon)
December	Sat 5 (pm)	Limited use of grounds due to Beagle Club Christmas Party
	Sun 6	Annual Awards Night and Christmas Function – 5.30pm
	Tues 8	CDC Agility Ribbon Trial (Games) – 6.00pm set up for 6.30pm start
January	Thurs 7	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Obedience Ribbon Trial
	Thurs 14	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Obedience Ribbon Trial
	Mon 18	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Agility Ribbon Trial
	Fri 22	CDC Grounds closed for spraying
	Sat 23	CDC Grounds closed for spraying
	Sun 24 (am)	CDC Grounds closed for spraying
February	Wed 3	Session 1 training classes start
	Thurs 4	Session 1 training classes start
	Sun 7	Session 1 training classes start
	Sat 13	CDC Agility and Jumping Trial
	Tues 16	CDC Obedience Ribbon Trial
	Wed 17	Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Jumping Ribbon Trial
	Tues 23	CDC Obedience Ribbon Trial
	Sat 27	Royal Canberra Show Agility Jumping and Games Trial
	Sun 28	Royal Canberra Show Agility Jumping and Games Trial
March	Sat 13	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Agility and Jumping Trial
	Tues 16	CDC Agility Games Ribbon Trial
	Sat 27	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Obedience Trial
	Sun 28	Competition Day
	TBA	ACT German Shepherd Dog Association Obedience Trial
	Wed 31	Easter - No training classes
April	Thurs 1	Easter - No training classes
	Sat 3	Dogs ACT Fundraising Agility Trial
	Sun 4	CDC Agility and Jumping Trial
	Sun 4	Easter - No training classes
	Wed 7	Session 2 training classes start
	Thurs 8	Session 2 training classes start
	Sun 11	Session 2 training classes start
	Wed 21	Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Ribbon Jumping Trial
	Sat 24	CDC Obedience Trial
	Sun 25	Anzac Day – training classes will be held