



# THE GOOD COMPANION

Official Publication of the ACT Companion Dog Club Inc  
September 2010 - Volume 22, Number 5



*Introducing Dances with Dogs - our newest club activity  
Quattro's first year at school - a member's story  
Celebrating 'Styx' - our newest agility champion  
The year in review - 2009-10  
New tricks and games for your dog*

# THE GOOD COMPANION

SEPTEMBER 2010 - VOLUME 22 NUMBER 5

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*Cover picture: Club member Tony Turner with Golden Retrievers 'Aztec' and 'Lacey' getting in the mood for the club's newest activity - Dances With Dogs (DWD). The club's DWD classes started in September. See pages 14 for more information.*

### **It's important to know:**

The opinions and claims expressed in this publication, whether in articles, correspondence or in any other form, are not necessarily those of the ACT Companion Dog Club Inc. Neither the Editor nor the ACT Companion Dog Club Inc accepts responsibility for the accuracy of these items nor endorses the opinions or services of third parties mentioned in this publication. The ACT Companion Dog Club Inc gives permission for the reprinting of articles appearing in The Good Companion, except where copyright has been stated, although credit must be given to the Club and the author.

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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 occasional assistance from government grants. About 120 instructors volunteer their time to conduct classes in obedience, flyball, agility and Dances with Dogs from February to November each year. The club also has an active therapy 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: an office administrator, office assistant and shop assistant.

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.

The club caters for disabled access with paved paths, designated parking spaces and toilet facilities.

## COMMITTEE 2010-11

**President:** Vacant

**Senior Vice-President:** Anne Robertson (Magazine Editor)

**Junior Vice-President:** Judith Barlow (Grounds Maintenance and Security)

**Treasurer:** Lesley Pothan (Flyball Liaison)

**Secretary and Public Officer:** Lynn Harden (Website)

**Committee members:** Pauline Dikmans (Magazine Design), Mary-Ann Fisher (Obedience Trialling liaison), Katrina Morton (Shop, Housekeeping and Clubhouse Maintenance), Andrea Neale (Agility Liaison), June Rowe (Obedience Training Liaison), Tony Turner (Dances with Dogs)

### **Obedience training sub-committee**

Convenor: June Rowe

Members: Joan Hall, Cath Perry, Louise Raisin

### **Obedience trialling sub-committee**

Convenor: Leisl Vellnagel-Dunn

Members: Mary-Ann Fisher, Jenny Marshall, Fay Peters, Anne Robertson

### **Flyball training and competition sub-committee**

Convenor: Lesley Pothan

Members: Jessica McNamara, Jaci Van Campenhout

### **Agility training and trialling sub-committee**

Convenor: Veronica Doerr

Members: Di Adams, Wendy Downing, Denise Iglesias, Andrea Neale, Allan Schmidt, Lara Sedgmen, Airlie White, Loris Cameron, Naarilla Hirsch, Jon Hunt, Pamela Hunt, Maureen Lewis

**Library:** Karen Haines

**Rally-O:** Desiree Campbell

**Dogs-As-Therapy:** Joyce Thompson

Email: [agt@home.com.au](mailto:agt@home.com.au)

**Secom Security** T 1300 138 769 or 1300 360 535

# 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 next page). You should do this several weeks in advance of your desired date to ensure that you will get a place. Dates for the next course can be found in the Calendar (see page 47).

## 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.

## 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 and that aren't fazed by much that goes on around them.

## COMPETITIVE DOG SPORTS AT THE CLUB

**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 overweight; and
- under control off-lead around other dogs and activities (however no minimum obedience training level is required).

**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 overweight; and
- under control off-lead around other dogs and activities.

**Dances with dogs** - In this sport handlers take obedience skills to a new level by performing routines to music with their dogs. All you need to get involved is a love of music, the desire to have a great time with your dog and a commitment to positive reward training. DWD is suitable for handlers of all ages and dogs of all breeds, sizes and ages.

For more information on any of these activities refer to the relevant contacts on page 1.

**Have a comment or idea you'd like to share?**

*Drop a note in our suggestion box in the clubhouse foyer or email  
suggestions@actcdc.org.au*

**FEES 2010-11**

Joining fee (per household)	\$40
Annual subscription (per household)	\$70
Training fees per dog per year	
• Obedience	\$40
• Agility	\$50
• Flyball	\$40
• Dances with Dogs	\$40
• Ground use only	\$40
Instructors fee	\$20

**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

See website for email contact addresses at [www.actcdc.org.au/contact/index.html](http://www.actcdc.org.au/contact/index.html)  
 We welcome your feedback.



**FROM THE DOG KENNEL**

**Editor – Anne Robertson**

Welcome to the spring issue of *The Good Companion* magazine for 2010. My thanks to the following members who have contributed articles for this edition: Tony Turner, Sandra Hassett, Airlie and Ron White, Michael Monck, Louise McKay, Joyce Thompson, Veronica Doerr and Katrina Morton.

This issue also contains the reports tabled at the club's Annual General Meeting by the former President Gary Kingdon and convenors of the club's trialling, training, agility, flyball and dogs-as-therapy activities.

Regular readers will notice that this issue of the magazine has reverted to its former A4 black and white format and has been produced in-house with an aging photocopier. The club's Committee is investigating printing costs and methods to determine whether we can afford colour production. In the meantime members who wish to see the magazine in its full-colour glory can download it from our website at [www.actcdc.org.au/magazine/index.html](http://www.actcdc.org.au/magazine/index.html).

Contributions and suggestions for the magazine are always welcome. The deadline for the next issue is 15 October. Please contact me at [birdwellsetters@ozemail.com.au](mailto:birdwellsetters@ozemail.com.au) with your ideas.



Above: Anne with her Irish Red and White Setter 'Derry'.  
 Photo by June Rowe



**Would you like to advertise your business in the club's magazine?**

We distribute about 300 copies of the magazine to members several times a year.  
 It's a great way to get your name out there.

Please email [magazine@actcdc.org.au](mailto:magazine@actcdc.org.au) if you would like to discuss advertising opportunities.



## WHAT'S COMING UP AT OUR CLUB?

### **When is the next Comp Day being held?**

Competition Day is held on the last Sunday of each obedience training course to assess whether a handler/dog team are ready to be promoted to the next level. The next Comp Day will be held on Sunday 26 September from 10.00am. Note: No trialling assessment (CCD, CD, Open, UD or UDX) will be conducted due to the double obedience trial the previous day.

### **When is the next working bee on?**

Our next working bee will be held on Saturday 18 September from 8.30am – 12.30pm. Please come along and help out for an hour or two. Bring yourself, bring your gloves, bring your wheelbarrow, bring your trailer! Refreshments will be provided. You are welcome to bring your dog to the working bee but he must remain tethered until the work is done.

### **Are obedience training classes held over the October long weekend?**

There will be no obedience training classes on Wednesday 29 September, Thursday 30 September or Sunday 3 October due to the long weekend. Obedience training classes start again on Wednesday 6 October, Thursday 7 October and Sunday 10 October.

Your membership fees cover you for 12 months – there is no need to re-enrol for the next training session if your membership is up-to-date. Simply turn up in time for class (see page 46 for details).

### **What obedience and agility competitions are coming up? Can I come and watch?**

All members are welcome to come and watch any formal agility and obedience competitions (trials) held on the club grounds. An Obedience trial will be held on Saturday 25 September from 9.00am. An Agility trial will be held on Saturday 30 October from 8.30am. Dog/handler teams compete in these trials to assess their training skills against nationally recognised standards and to gain official titles (the canine equivalent of university degrees!).

### **When can I use the club grounds?**

Financial members and their dogs may use the grounds at any time for exercise and training purposes when classes are not on. Please observe club etiquette for using the free running areas (see page 45) and always clean up after your dog. Please note that some parts of the grounds may be closed to general access when formal agility and obedience trials are on.

### **Where can I find out more?**

See the Calendar of Events on page 47.



### **Want to keep in touch with the latest activities at the club?**

Information is available from:

- our website - [www.actcdc.org.au](http://www.actcdc.org.au)
- club noticeboards (inside and outside the clubhouse)
- your instructors
- the session manager on the grounds at Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday obedience training classes
- the Good Companion magazine
- the club office

## Membership due?

### You can now renew online – how easy is that!

Go to the club's website - [www.actcdc.org.au](http://www.actcdc.org.au)

Download the Membership Renewal form at  
[www.actcdc.org.au/about/form.html](http://www.actcdc.org.au/about/form.html)

Complete the form and send it back to the club via e-mail

Then pay your fees online using direct credit facilities

BSB : 032729

Account : 235628

Reference : Your surname and phone number

Make sure your reference will easily identify your payment and don't forget to keep your receipt

You don't even have to leave your house!



#### IS YOUR DOG'S ATTENDANCE CARD:

#### GREEN ?

**IF SO, YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS DUE FOR RENEWAL BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER.**

#### WHITE?

**IF SO, YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS DUE FOR RENEWAL BY THE END OF NOVEMBER.**

## THANKS FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

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

**Obedience:** Judith Barlow, Stuart Barrow, Pam Beesley, Janne Blunden, Desiree Campbell, Bruce Chapman, Jan Clemson, Julie Cutts, Anna Dacre, Amanda Day, Mary Dalgarno, Amanda Delaney, Veronica Doerr, Emma Dundst, Christina Erwin, Josie Featherstone, Barbara Feeken, Laraine Frawley, Miriam Gellibrand, Joan Hall, Lynn Harden, Linda Harper, Peter Hendriks, Carolyn Henry, Naarilla Hirsch, Hilary Kemp, Jane Kenehan, Renee Kyle, Lidia Lea, Leko McCulloch, Mick Monck, Helen Mosslar, Bern Ni Beirne, Cath Perry, Fay Peters, Barry Pigram, Louise Raisin, Holly Rieger, Anne Robertson, Werner Roth, June Rowe, Murray Rye, Lindsay Rye, Lara Sedgmen, Mike Slee, Jo Strong, Joyce Thompson, Cathy Vaughan, Paula Zylstra

**Flyball:** Jess McNamara, Lesley Pothan, Ilona Van Galen, Jaci van Campenhout

**Agility:** Greg Collins, Wendy Downing, Naarilla Hirsch, Anne Robertson, Lara Sedgmen, Linda Spinaze

**Dances With Dogs:** Tony Turner

## GETTING TO KNOW ...THE NEW COMMITTEE

The club's management committee for 2010-11 was appointed at the Annual General Meeting in August. Profiles of the members are provided below.

### **Katrina Morton**

- Joined the club in October 2000.
- Qualified as an obedience instructor (Level 1) in 2002.
- Current dogs – Polly (Golden Retriever) 10 years old, trained to Primary Companion Level, Dogs-as-Therapy and Assistance Dog for Katrina; and Hayley (Golden Retriever) 5 years old, trained to Advanced level and training as an Assistance Dog.
- Interests at the club – companion training and instructing, Dogs-as-Therapy, Committee, Shop.
- Hopes for the club in 2010-11 - to put the divisiveness behind and get on with running a top-class dog obedience club.
- What Katrina likes best about the club – that the club and grounds are recognised as a first-class facility by members and visitors from other clubs.

### **Lynn Harden**

- Joined the club in 2002.
- Qualified as an obedience instructor (Level 1) in 2004.
- Current dog - Gracie (Border Collie X), 10 years old, rescued two and a half years ago. Lynn says "We've had a lot of history challenges to overcome. She was scared even to pick up a toy and a rolling ball was very scary. Now when she gets really excited because I've come home, she grabs a soft toy and we play a very noisy game."
- Interests at the club – companion training, Dances With Dogs.
- Hopes for the club in 2010-11 – to bring a lot more instructors back to the club.
- What Lynn likes best about the club - being around dogs and dog-centric people.

### **Andrea Neale**

- Joined the club in February 2009 after moving to Canberra.

- Andrea is not an instructor. She says "I can't manage my own dogs let alone anyone else's!!"
- Current dogs - two naughty Border Collies: Angus (3.5 years old) and Bronte (6.5 years old) who are mother and son. Their speciality is eating!
- Interests at the club - agility (to date) but looking forward to broadening her horizons.
- Hopes for the club in 2010-11 – to foster an increased sense of community across all disciplines.
- What Andrea likes best about the club – Andrea says "I have enjoyed my time with CDC so far and have really enjoyed meeting others who are as nuts about their dogs as I am about mine and making new friends in a new place."

### **June Rowe**

- Joined the club in 1968.
- Qualified as an obedience instructor in 1970.
- Currently dogless - has previously owned and trained Labradors, German Shepherds and Golden Retrievers.
- Interests at the club - club administration, companion training.
- Hopes for the club in 2010-11 - increased membership and efficient administration.
- What June likes best about the club - the wide variety of dogs and people.

### **Mary-Ann Fisher (photo next page)**

- Joined the club in 2004.
- Qualified as an obedience instructor (Level 1) in 2005. Currently undertaking the Level 2 instructor's course.
- Current dogs - Coco (black Curly-coated Retriever) 6.5 years old. Coco has attained her Companion Dog (CD) title and is now competing at Open level. Lelah (Golden Retriever) 3.5 years old. Lelah has attained her Community Companion Dog (CCD) title and is now working towards her CD title.

- Interests at the club - obedience trialling, helping members develop strong relationships with their dogs and working at higher levels.
- Hopes for the club in 2010-11 - getting some good rains to help the grounds recover after years of drought.
- What Mary-Ann likes best about the club - the club is a fabulous community facility. Mary-Ann says "I really appreciate having a good place to train my dogs and to take classes. It's also a great place to meet other people who are committed to their dogs and to share ideas."



#### **Tony Turner (featured on our cover)**

- Joined the club in January 2005.
- Qualified as an obedience instructor (Level 1) in 2006. Qualified as a nationally recognised Dances With Dogs judge in 2009.
- Current dogs – two Golden Retrievers: Aztec 6 years old (rescued) and Lacey 7 years old (rehomed).
- Interests at the club - developing Dances With Dogs as an integral component of the club's suite of dog-sport activities.

- Hopes for the club in 2010-11 – 'unity in diversity': the ability to cater for the different requirements of the club's diverse membership while building a strong central club. Tony says "I would like to see far greater engagement with our main through-population (pet dog owners) in ways that encourage more membership renewals because we know and meet their needs."
- What Tony likes best about the club – Tony says "The physical facility is amazing; its rich history; the diversity of well-organised activities; and its potential, which is only limited by what we do or don't do."

#### **Judith Barlow**

- Joined the club in 1990.
- Qualified as an obedience instructor (Level 1) in 1992 and subsequently qualified as a Level 2 obedience and agility instructor.
- Current dogs – two Brittneys. Sharnie, 7 years old, black 'n white 'n tan - a colour rarely seen in the breed ring, soft temperament, unusually shy for a Brittany, enthusiastic with people she knows. Judith says: "I showed her in the breed ring and gained her Championship title but she is too shy to have an ongoing career there. She was and is very friendly to other dogs but she needed and got told off by other dogs during her adolescence to teach her to restrain her 'in-your-space' Brittany enthusiasm. I compete with her in agility, where she continually reminds me to always be positive – no down moments from me for even a micro-second! We have tried Retrieving but I have not put enough training into her water retrieves for that discipline. She would like to do Earthdog work, she is an efficient digger ... as demonstrated by the state of my backyard when a field mouse moved into the yard for a while ..."
- Judith's second Brittany is Bree, 5.5 years, orange and white roan - a typical colour for the breed, ebullient temperament, typical of the breed, enthusiastic about everything. Adopted at 19 months old, her fourth and now 'forever' home. Judith says "She had no manners and a

number of bad habits but I have improved her people-acceptability a lot. She clearly didn't get enough socialisation with other dogs when she was young and that is a problem I have to manage, as she is too much for some dogs and does not socialise well with many dogs. I compete with her in agility where her over-the-top attitude is great fun. It has been interesting to see her pointing ability surface. She had no idea about stalking birds or butterflies when I got her, but she is keen on them now. And she would dearly like to catch a rabbit but just hasn't worked out how!"

- Previous dogs now swimming after the ducks under the Rainbow Bridge: Rikki - Grand Champion Aluksi Erikka ADX JDX GD CD, a Finnish Spitz "barking bird dog", 1996-2009 and Toffee ADM CDX ET, Terrier X, 1990-2004. Judith says "she looked like a Cairn Terrier but cattle dog size. Discussion about her breeding was endless."
- Interests at the club - agility and obedience.
- Hopes for the club in 2010-11 (and beyond) - to improve the grounds and motivate the instructors. For the club to be a centre of dog training excellence and to have highly motivated instructors and committees.
- What Judith likes best about the club - to train her dogs at the club with others who like to train theirs.

#### **Pauline Dikmans (photo right)**

- Joined the club in March 2010.
- Pauline is not an instructor. She says: "No ... maybe one day, if I become good enough."
- Current dog – Mac, Kelpie X (Border Collie / Blue Cattle Dog), 7 years old - was a very good working cattle dog (cows and stud bulls) but now he is learning how to become a 'town dog'.
- Interests at the club - mainly companion training but will have a go at Dances With Dogs to have some fun with Mac.
- Hopes for the club in 2010-11 - that everyone works together for a successful club. Pauline says "I would like to learn more about the club and participate in activities to help the club. I am also looking forward to helping prepare the bi-monthly magazine and by doing this

learn more about the club, its management and activities."

- What Pauline likes best about the club - the really friendly people she has met and the loads of assistance that everyone gives you to help train and enjoy your companion.



#### **Lesley Pothan**

- Joined the club in 2002.
- Qualified as an obedience instructor (Level 1) in 2007 and also instructs Flyball.
- Current dogs – Dharma (Border Collie X) 8 years old, CDC Flyball Dog of the Year in 2008; Molly (Shih Tzu) 1 year old, in training.
- Interests at the club – flyball and beginner obedience training
- Hopes for the club in 2010-11 – to keep growing and to respond to the needs of the wider community.
- What Lesley likes best about the club – the grounds.

### Anne Robertson

- Joined the club in 1991.
- Qualified as an obedience instructor (Level 1 and 2) in 1992 and 2001 respectively. Qualified as an agility instructor in 1998.
- Current dogs – Ch Truestone Kiwi Expat, aka 'Mallory' (Irish Red and White Setter), 11 years old; Kiltimagh Rainy Day ADX JDX ADO GD SD SPD aka 'Faith' (Irish Setter), 10 years old; Derry CCD AD JD (Irish Red and White Setter), 4.5 years old, rescued two years ago.
- Previous dogs – Jess (Gordon Setter) who introduced Anne to the club and agility, Maddie (an Irish Setter rescued from the RSPCA) who introduced Anne to behavioural training, and Storm (Irish

Setter), a rehomed retired show dog who demonstrated that you can teach an old dog new tricks at the age of seven.

- Interests at the club – behavioural training, clicker training, obedience and agility trialling.
- Hopes for the club in 2010-11- to foster openness and communication within the club and to meet the training needs and interests of members and instructors alike.
- What Anne likes best about the club – meeting people with similar interests, providing opportunities for her dogs to socialize, the great facilities.

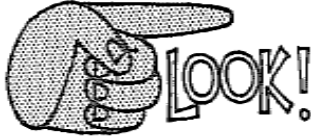
*Photos by Simon Vellnagel-Dunn and June Rowe*

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## ~ Step on up - we need you! ~

Our club is a not-for-profit organization run primarily by volunteers for the benefit of members interested in training their dogs for companionship and sporting activities.

### **The club currently has three vacancies on its management committee: the President's position and two ordinary committee positions.**



Members of the Committee contribute to the club's management by providing oversight for various activities. Particular areas that we are seeking help with on the committee include co-ordination of the club's bi-monthly Comp Day arrangements, clubhouse and grounds maintenance, security, sponsorship, social activities for members and long-range development. Our aim is to build a network of members behind-the-scenes who are willing to help committee members with these and other activities.

**If you feel that you can contribute** in any of these areas, and are interested in working with other members to sustain and build the club **please step forward!**

**Please submit your expression of interest for any of these positions to the club's Secretary by Monday 20 September.** Include your contact details, some information about yourself, and the particular activities you'd like to volunteer for. The Committee will consider expressions of interest at its next meeting.

## COMMITTEE NOTES



The club's Main Committee meets on the last Tuesday of every month (except December). Copies of committee minutes are available from the club office. The incoming 2010-11 committees has met twice since the Annual General Meeting. Some of the matters discussed are noted below.

### 17 August 2010

- We discussed procedural, regulatory and governance arrangements.
- We assigned roles and responsibilities for the club's management.
- We co-opted June Rowe on to the committee to fill a casual vacancy.
- We agreed to develop a communication framework to share information and to strengthen bonds between the club's various fraternities (eg members, instructors, trialling, agility, flyball, Dances with Dogs).
- We adopted a fee structure for the club's newest activity - Dances with Dogs.

### 31 August 2010

- We agreed on new decision-making processes on contentious issues that come before the Committee. These processes allow for consultation with sub-committees unless issues are particularly time-critical.
- We agreed that non-voting proxies can be nominated by sub-committees to attend Committee meetings when their committee representative is unable to attend. This arrangement will be reviewed in November.
- We agreed to seek expressions of interest from the club membership to fill the President's vacancy and two general committee positions. Expressions will be considered at the September meeting.
- We endorsed the membership of the Flyball, Agility, Obedience Training and Obedience Trialling Sub-Committees (see page 1). A Sub-Committee is being formed to co-ordinate Dances with Dogs activities.
- We acknowledged the club's financial position and recognised the need to motivate and retain instructors to support and build the club's membership base.
- We circulated a draft communication framework to sub-committees for comment. Comments will be presented at the September meeting with a view to finalising and implementing the framework.
- We agreed to host a Canberra visit by UK obedience judge and precision performance trainer Kamal Fernandez in mid-2011. This will be pursued on a cost-recovery basis. This initiative is also dependent on cost-sharing with interstate organisations that are taking the lead on bringing Kamal to Australia.
- We agreed to replace the club's photocopier and will consider quotes at our September meeting (including colour printing capacity). This will provide greater flexibility for the production of the club's magazine and other printed material.
- We started planning the club's end-of-year activities (including identification of annual awards).
- We agreed to seek financial assistance from Dogs ACT to purchase new timing gates for agility.
- We approved obedience trial dates for 2011 and will forward these to Dogs ACT for approval.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 28 September at 7.00pm.

**Please have a chat with any member of the committee if you have any questions or would like to help out in any way. Every pair of hands lightens the load for all of us and strengthens our club.**

You can also email us at [committee@actcdc.org.au](mailto:committee@actcdc.org.au) or [executive@actcdc.org.au](mailto:executive@actcdc.org.au).

## ~ COMP DAY RESULTS ~ 1 AUGUST 2010



The weather was not ideal for our last Competition Day, being cold and blustery, but at least the rain held off until after it was over.

As usual there are a number of people who contributed to the running of the day and who are thanked for their contribution: Vince Bush, Greg Preston and Mike Slee for setting up the rings; Kathy Bush and Kate Etchells for doing check-ins; Anna Dacre for turning up to do check-ins, but then accepted an emergency call to do Beginners' assessments; Toni Magi, Michael Monck and Renee Kyle for helping dismantle the rings and put away equipment afterwards; Michael Morton



Above: Josie & Nim keeping an eye on the action.  
Photo by Simon Vellnaaqel-Dunn

for running the BBQ, providing breakfast and other sustenance for a large number of people; and June Rowe for taking the photos of winning dogs. Special thanks to the instructors who did the judging on the day, staying out in the cold conditions: Amanda Delaney, Heather Carswell, Lynn Harden, Mike Slee, Louise McKay, Gary Kingdon and Barbara Feeken.

Thanks also to the Obedience Trialling Sub-committee again, for running the trialling level entries as a Mock Trial, with Werner Roth judging CCD and Julie Cutts judging Novice and Open entries.

There were mixed results across the rings. Not sure if it was the wind or what, but quite a number of dogs did not perform as expected, or rather did things that were unexpected, such as seeing what was happening in the next ring instead of doing a recall – or having a wonderful run around the club grounds.

For those who passed on the day – congratulations on your achievement. Commiserations to those who missed out, but do not give up. You will find it easier the second time around.

Results on the day were:

### BEGINNERS

1<sup>st</sup> Emily Lloyd & Henry

1<sup>st</sup> Sophie Rimes & Banjo

### INTERMEDIATE

**Judge: Amanda Delaney**

1<sup>st</sup> Pauline Dikmans & Mac

**Judge: Lynn Harden**

1<sup>st</sup> Kate Etchells & Tia

**Judge: Heather Carswell**

1<sup>st</sup> Marisha Van Harmelen & Elwood

Other passes:

Sue Bagnall & Levi

Lyn Willson & Kato

Geoff Farrell & Reggie

Enzo D'ambrogio & Hercules

Sandra King & Sintro

2<sup>nd</sup> John Clark & Jordy

2<sup>nd</sup> Naarilla Hirsch & Arcus

2<sup>nd</sup> Karen Neil & Torah

Andris Tebecis & Simba

David Gosling & Manny

Karen Hall & Jess

Tamsin Barnsley & Faris

3<sup>rd</sup> Wendy Lones & Jack

3<sup>rd</sup> Paul Tarjan & Leo

3<sup>rd</sup> Eleanor Scott-Findlay & Micky

Anna Nappo & Matilda

Karin Batschi & Byron

Barry Sreeves & Chloe

Jane Greagg & Ziggy

**ADVANCED****Judge: Mike Slee**1<sup>st</sup> S Kim Dawson & Koda2<sup>nd</sup> Emma Bush & Waffle3<sup>rd</sup> Melissa Tuite & Pez**Judge: Gary Kingdon**1<sup>st</sup> Michael O'Reilly and Sebastian2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Hammond and Molly3<sup>rd</sup> Scott Gledhill and Willow

Other passes:

Julia Dunstan &amp; C'ane

Darryl Alexander &amp; Elle

Rachel Kirvan &amp; Reef

Hugh McMillan &amp; Bundy

Natalie Currey &amp; Saaba

**TRANSITION - Judge: Louise McKay**1<sup>st</sup> Renee Haisell & Darby**PRIMARY COMPANION - Judge: Barbara Feeken**1<sup>st</sup> Stuart Barrow & Koko (NQ)2<sup>nd</sup> Shalyn Lester & BJ (NQ)3<sup>rd</sup> Michelle Reid & Bella (NQ)**COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG (CCD) - Judge: Werner Roth**1<sup>st</sup> Cath Perry & Jasper (Q) –  
95/1002<sup>nd</sup> Anna Dacre & Tom (Q) –  
92/1003<sup>rd</sup> Fay Peters & Clancy (Q) –  
91/100

Other passes: Steve Jamieson &amp; Ivy (Q) – 85/100

**COMPANION DOG (CD) - Judge: Julie Cutts**1<sup>st</sup> Anne Robertson & Derry (Q) –  
186/2002<sup>nd</sup> Elizabeth Deane (NQ)3<sup>rd</sup> Mary-Ann Fisher (NQ)**OPEN (CDX) – Judge: Julie Cutts**1<sup>st</sup> Karen Haines & Freya (NQ)2<sup>nd</sup> Lidia Lea & Sabre (NQ)3<sup>rd</sup> Cath Perry & Leah (NQ)**ANNUAL AWARDS - ARE YOU IN THE RUNNING?**

Each year the club formally recognizes club members that have excelled in training their dogs – through Comp Day performances and at formal trials. We also recognize members who have made special contributions to the club during the year.

Details of some of these awards are listed below. You are welcome to nominate club members for these awards – drop a note in the Suggestion Box in the clubhouse foyer or speak to any member of the Committee before the end of October.

**Junior Handler of the Year Award**

This trophy was presented to the club by Jim Fraser, the first Patron of the club. The Jim Fraser Trophy is presented to a junior handler (under 16) who has made outstanding progress with his or her dog throughout the year.

**Most Improved Dog Trophy**

This trophy was donated by the Goulburn Dog Training Club for the handler/dog team which has shown the greatest improvement during the year.

**Handler of the Year Award**

This award was donated by June Rowe. The award goes to the person judged to have shown outstanding handling skills during the year.

**Flyball Dog of the Year**

This award requires the dog to produce a quality performance in competition over the year and for the handler to contribute substantially to the organisation and running of flyball competitions throughout the year as well as training at the club.

**Obedience Dog of the Year**

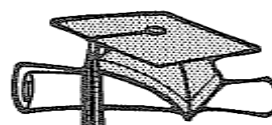
This award requires the dog and handler to have achieved at a high level in obedience competition and for the handler to have made a contribution to the running of the club.

**Morris Encouragement Award**

This award is presented to the dog and handler who have overcome difficulties in their flyball training and are now making good progress.

**Certificates of Appreciation**

Certificates are awarded to any member of the club in recognition of outstanding contributions during the year.



## *Congratulations to our recent Comp Day place-getters!*

L-R First row – Emily & Henry, Karen & Freya, Cath & Jasper; Second row – Kate & Tia, Kim & Koda, Michael & Sebastian; Third row – Renee & Darby, Sophie & Banjo.



*Did you have your photo taken on Comp Day?*

*Copies of photos can be ordered from the club office.*

*\$1.00 each for digital copies (emailed) and \$2.00 for colour prints*

*Photos by June Rowe*





## DANCES WITH DOGS (DWD)

**By Tony Turner, Co-ordinator**

### **What happened at our information meetings during August?**

About 30 people turned out, in awful weather, to find out more about Dances with Dogs classes during August. Each night went for about an hour and had a great atmosphere; topics covered included the global and Australian history of the sport; the differences between Heelwork to Music and Freestyle; what training will look like; the social and competitive sides of the sport; library and reference books, DVDs and other materials; and importantly, how all participants will have input to how we do it.

From these two meetings 25 people have signed up to start classes commencing 1 Sept 2010. There will be three parallel classes running Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday nights from 7.00 – 8.30pm, held in blocks of approximately eight weeks. A typical eight-week block will be made up of one 90 minute class each week for 6 weeks. On the seventh week there will be a half-day weekend seminar featuring a prominent interstate DWDer and the eighth week will generally be free or catch up. We will attempt to run two series of classes from September to December and then start again in February.

There are DWD competitions organised in Sydney in November and December and already some of our team have indicated an interest in entering ... they will be ready by then.

If anyone is still interested in joining the gang, there are just a few spots available so please contact me as soon as possible.

### **So what is Heelwork to Music?**

Heelwork to Music (HTM) is one of the two competition disciplines of Dances with Dogs. It is performed to, and interpretive of, a piece of music selected by the handler. In this sport the handler and dog move in constant, close formation in a number of the

HTM positions. Routines last anything from just over one minute at Starter's level, up to four minutes at the Advanced level. As teams progress up the levels, the duration, number and complexity of moves all tend to increase.

So how many basic position/moves are there? Actually there are at least 64! Let's start with the traditional obedience heel position as No 1. That is, dog on the handler's left side, dog's shoulder next to the handler's left leg. O.K. in this position the dog and handler can both move forward, backwards, sideways to the left and sideways to the right. So we now have four position/moves. Now, keeping the dog on the handler's left side, have the dog rotate 180 degrees, shoulder next the left leg, but now the dog is facing in the opposite direction to the handler. From this position, handler and dog can move together (holding the orientation) – handler forwards, dog backwards; handler backwards, dog forwards; handler sideways to the left, dog to its right; and handler sideways to the right, dog to its left. Great, so now we have 8 position/moves! Repeat these on the right side and we are up to 16! Have you now worked out the other 16? Dog positioned square across the front of the handler, facing the handler's right – handler moves right (sideways), dog moves forward (holding position); handler moves left, dog moves backwards (holding position); handler steps forward, dog side steps to its left (holding position); handler moves backwards, dog side steps to its right (holding position). So four more position/moves! Yes, now turn the dog 180 degrees, thus facing the handler's left ... and we get four more. Repeat these behind the handler and the grand total becomes 64!

In Starters, with only around one minute to use in our routine, the expectation is that a team would use just a few of these positions – and those would be the simpler moves. In class, I will provide handout diagrams and we will work through these slowly and build more flexibility into which move the handler wants to use.

Turns are interesting, if the DWD heel position is maintained – they count for scoring. If they involve leaving the heel position, they don't count. During a routine, handlers are required to have a minimum 60% HTM positioning – but this leaves up to a massive 40% of the time for turns, tricky transitions from one HTM position to another (eg

through the handlers legs) and a bow at the end etc.

Typically HTM is performed to music with a strong and obvious beat – like marching – it can look spectacular.

In the next issue we'll profile Freestyle.



## **~ WATCH OUT ~ KANGAROOS ABOUT !**

When using the club grounds in the cooler months be aware that kangaroos share our neighbourhood. Please slow down when approaching and leaving the club and be on the lookout for wildlife.

Kangaroos often graze on the road verges along Jerrabomberra Avenue and Narrabundah Lane in the early morning, evening and at night and occasionally venture on to the club grounds.

They have also been known to join our evening classes, to laze under the wattles in the Narrabundah Paddock and to use the club grounds as a thoroughfare to greener pastures.

If you see a kangaroo on the grounds, keep your dog on lead and let the kangaroo go on its way. Tell other members about your sighting if they are on the grounds and likely to go to the same area. Remember - it is against the law to let your dog menace wildlife.

If you come across a kangaroo that has been injured while at the club:

- phone Canberra Connect on 13 22 81 – business hours
- phone 6207 2127 (Southside) or 6207 1679 (Northside) – after hours

Be sure to give the animal's precise location.

If your dog needs 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.

## Quattro's first year at school – A member's tale

By Mick Monck

Quattro turned one this year. In dog years, that makes him around seven. In the same time I have aged around 23 years. In dog years that makes me well over 100.

The year began with a wander through the kennels at the RSPCA where Quattro figured I was gullible enough to be his owner. He apparently had some behavioural issues with resource guarding but after an in depth conversation with the staff it was decided he could come home with me and chew my shoes and dig holes in my backyard.



He first came to the dog club early in 2009 and attended the Adult Beginner class. Our instructor quickly worked out that Quattro was a handful and gave me some great pointers on how to work better with him. I'm also convinced she gave him some pointers on how to get more out of me. The basics were learnt pretty quickly with him picking up sits, drops etc very fast and moving onto the more advanced exercises of heeling shortly after. Having completed Beginners we then moved onto Intermediate and Advanced.

The Intermediate course went fairly well but we began to stumble in the Advanced classes. My excuse is that he is in his rebellious years and I'm waiting for him to come home with his eyebrow pierced one day. Recalls were routinely followed with a quick sprint to the other end of the field and back again. Class exercises often consisted of on-lead wrestling with other 'students'. And so it went. Needless to say, I was quite nervous about the fast approaching Comp Day.

The Comp Day began well. I took Quattro for a big walk beforehand to get some of his energy out and then took him to the club grounds early for some more running before the test. As predicted he ran around like a mad man with the other dogs and I was hopeful this would calm him down when I needed it. Unfortunately, things didn't quite work out that way.

The test began with some loose lead walking and some heeling. Quattro can pull at times but generally he is pretty good, not today though. He pulled at the lead and put quite simply, wasn't interested in playing by my rules. The heeling was not so successful either. After a while he found his groove and began to cooperate some more and we managed to get through the other exercises with a bit, but not too much, trouble. Somehow, with the helpful suggestions from the judge, we did enough to pass.

Despite the difficulties we have had in the Advanced class we have now moved onto Transition and, while Quattro still gets over excited, we are progressing well.

The last twelve months has been enjoyable for both of us and we have made some good friends at the club. The instructors have been great and I'm sure that, as naughty as Quattro is, he would be much naughtier if it wasn't for the knowledge I have gained here. In fact, it's been so much fun that I have recently completed the Level 1 instructors course so I can hopefully help others enjoy their dogs as much as I do. We hope to start agility training in the coming months as well but in the meantime we'll keep working in the Transition class and look forward to meeting some more great people at the club.

## Triumph over adversity

# The story of the club's newest Australian Agility Champion 'Styx'

By Airlie and Ron White

*Agility Champion Bordercheck Autumn Styx CDX ADM JDM GDM SDM SPDM ADO JDO*



tricolour girl – Bordercheck Autumn Styx.

We had been thinking about another Border Collie puppy for a while and casting around for a breeder. Found one and she had a litter ready to go. There were orders for all the pups but we thought we would have a look anyway to get a feel for what the litter was like for the future.

The pups were lovely and we were delighted to be told that we could take our pick if we wanted one now. My leaning was to a chocolate and white puppy but unknown to me, Ron had identified a little chocolate tricolour girl which followed us around as the pick of the group. Following a further visit Ron and I walked away with the chocolate

The gods must have been shining on us that day as what a brilliant choice she was. Right from the start she was a delightful pup with an obsession for retrieving, a feisty side which came to the surface if she thought she was about to be jumped on by a larger dog and a huge drive to please us.

She took to agility like she was made for it. She was fast, smart and completely driven to do the next obstacle as quickly as possible. This did not come without its challenges as while Styx was lightning fast, Airlie was not. We agreed that we would not slow her down and to live with the faults and wrong courses while Airlie worked on a system for distance handling. With this approach Styx got her novice titles in 2005 as some distance handling tactics started to work and she won the ACT CDC Novice Agility Dog of the Year award.



We knew something was wrong when Styx struggled to run out a couple of runs but nothing could prepare us for how wrong. A trip to the vet and a blood test quickly resulted in a transfusion and a diagnosis of Immune Mediated Hemolytic Anemia, something which most dogs don't recover from.

There were more complications as Styx reacted very badly to the treatment. For a while there we did not think she would make it with blood tests, trips to the specialists in Sydney, liver biopsies, infections and several surgeries but that incredible drive pulled her through – she just never gave up.

After a very long and uncertain nine months and in just her second trial after starting trialling again she got 3rd place in the Excellent jumping final at the Agility Nationals in Sydney in mid-2006. At that stage she did not look much like Styx – more like a terrier cross. She had been recently clipped to reduce skin infections and to clear out the largely dead coat but her eyes were bright, the will was strong and our Styx was back!

While Styx stayed on immune lowering drugs for a further two years, she has remained well and competed in agility with some fantastic results. Always fast, mostly accurate, Styx barks her way around the courses – always seeming to be saying 'hurry up Mum and catch up with me'.

Styx' Excellent, Open and Masters agility and jumping titles were earned from mid-2006 to early 2008. During this time we also successfully competed in all of the agility games most notably in strategic pairs where Styx, handled by Airlie, and our older Border Collie Ghillie, handled by Ron (who has never trained or trialled a dog), competed together to get their Excellent Strategic Pairs titles - a fantastic family effort and a lot of fun.



In between her agility trialling, Airlie and Styx also managed to compete in obedience trials and Styx gained her CCD in 2007, CD in 2008 and CDX title in 2009.

After gaining her Masters Jumping and Agility titles Styx continued to compete in agility with us hoping but never quite believing she would get that elusive Agility Champion Title. However, in 2009 there were enough first places in the bag to 'give it a real go' and after some months of nervous stuff ups by Airlie, we gained the final 1st place in Masters Agility at the Canberra Royal in February 2010, together with the final qualification for Styx' Strategic Pairs Masters title with Vikki Evans and Bloke.

So many people helped Styx and Airlie along the way with advice, white wine training and camaraderie. Particular thanks must go to Jenny Marshall who made the time to work with us to develop our distance handling while not slowing Styx down.

Styx turned 7 years in April this year. We continue to have fun in agility while training in obedience for UD and hope to have many more happy years with our little Styx.

*Thanks to Lara Sedgmen for providing the photos of Styx in action.*

## GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

**We are holding a spring working bee on Saturday 18 September from 8.30am to 12.30pm.**

Please come and help prune, trim and tidy the grounds. We will be tidying the edges of the competition rings and free-run paddocks near the workshop.

Please bring:

- gardening gloves
- secateurs and pruning gear
- whipper-snipper
- wheelbarrow
- trailer - if you have one!



Morning tea and good company will be provided.

Contact Judith Barlow at [grounds@actcdc.org.au](mailto:grounds@actcdc.org.au) for further information.

## INTERESTED IN DOGS - AS - THERAPY ?

**By Joyce Thompson, Co-ordinator**

The club's Dogs-as-Therapy group has been operating in Canberra for the best part of 20 years. During this time a variety of dog breeds have joined our ranks and charmed and delighted the elderly residents of aged care nursing homes. Residents, more often than not, will remember the furry visitor better than the person at the other end of the lead. They have their favourites and we regularly hear someone ask "where is the big brown dog" or "the little white one" should their special dog be absent.

The following is a list of breeds whose contributions to the team have been warmly welcomed over the years. Many are not with us anymore, but their memory lingers. Our past dogs include - Golden Retrievers, a Weimaraner, a German Shepherd, Keeshonds, Labradors, Miniature Schnauzers, Australian Cattle Dogs, Miniature and Standard Poodles, a Beagle, Tenterfield Terrier, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Border Collies, English Pointer, Cavalier/Maltese X, Schipperke and some dogs of an unknown parentage.

The present team consists of large and small dogs - a Dachshund, Miniature Schnauzers, Cavoodle, Miniature and Standard Poodles, Siberian Husky, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Whippet, Irish Wolfhounds, Golden Retrievers, Beagle, Irish Setter, Flat-coated Retriever, Labrador and a Saluki.

These many and varied breeds have been listed to show that there are not just certain breeds that make good therapy dogs. They do, however, have one thing in common - they are exceptionally well-socialised, friendly dogs, both with their own kind and especially with humans. They are trained to be gentle and not to react to unfamiliar situations and equipment which may appear to them to be threatening such as wheelchairs, walking frames and such like. It is, of course, the handler who is responsible for making sure their dog is coping well and not stressed, and it is remarkable how quickly the dog becomes confident in its new role.

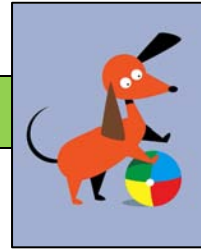
We are always looking for new teams to join the group, and if you have a dog you feel would enjoy this very social activity, please do not hesitate to ask for more information about times and locations. I can usually be found at the Club on Sunday and Wednesday mornings, and I would be delighted to meet you and make the acquaintance of your best friend.

*If you are interested, please see Joyce's contact details on page 1.*

*Below: Some of the current Dogs-As-Therapy breeds: L-R Rhodesian Ridgeback, Siberian Husky, Beagle and an Oodle.*



# GAMES TO PLAY WITH YOUR DOG



**By Louise McKay**

Playing appropriate games with your dog can have significant benefits for both of you. It can foster a closer bond, provide physical and mental stimulation, and teach you both some new behaviours. A dog that gets plenty of exercise and mental stimulation is more relaxed and content, which in turn makes your life more enjoyable.

A different game will be featured in each issue of the magazine, so if you have a favourite game that you'd like to share with other members, please email your suggestions to [meanddogs123@yahoo.com.au](mailto:meanddogs123@yahoo.com.au).

## Home run obstacle course

This is principally an outdoor game with the aim of getting our dogs focused on us and comfortable with a whole range of surfaces and objects. The more objects and surfaces your dog encounters during their life the easier it is for them to accept new experiences as they arise. It can have the added benefit, for those wanting to go into Agility later on, of helping to improve your dog's awareness of his back end (seriously, most dogs seem to have little idea about what their back legs are doing).

The objective is to get your dog, which will be off lead (mostly so you can't force it to comply with your wishes), happily through all elements of the obstacle course without any physical assistance from you. You can prompt, shape, lure and motivate with whatever your dog enjoys.

What you need before you start the game:

- Look for as many different surfaces as you can find around the house. Examples might be:
  - Tarpaulin (plastic)
  - Old square of carpet
  - Plank of wood (wide enough for your dog to walk on)
  - Few bricks placed together in a square or rectangle
  - Old piece of lino
  - Wading pool (with or without water)
  - Sand (kids sandpit perhaps)
- Look for as many different objects as you can find around the house. Examples might be:
  - Garbage bin
  - Ladder (laid flat on the ground so not used for climbing!)
  - Cardboard box
  - Broom (as an upright, jump bar or just flat on the ground)
  - Umbrella (open or closed)
  - Hula hoop (flat to start with then can use to help teach your dog to jump through)
  - Bicycle
  - Cone
  - Rope
  - Tyre
  - Flapping plastic bag tied to something
  - Kite
- Motivators
  - number of very tasty treats
  - favourite toys
  - happy enthusiastic owner

You need to lay out an obstacle course that is safe for both you and your dog to negotiate (let's face it you don't want to end up on your backside because you tripped over part of your course or find yourself at the vet because the timber you picked had nails left in it).

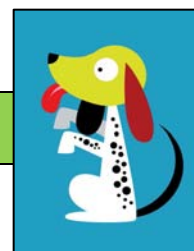
Start with a small number of things and gradually build these up as your dog gets more confident. Your job is to set the order that you do the course and to encourage your dog to look to you for direction and to help build your dog's confidence in all the funny things you introduce.

A simple and fun course might be:

1. Starting position with the dog sitting inside the hula hoop which is laid flat on the ground (or you could use an old tyre or circle made with rope). You may need to spend time getting your dog comfortable with this. Mark and reward for walking into the circle and extend to mark and reward for walking into the circle and sitting.
2. Next might be the ladder laid on the ground – the idea is to get your dog to walk along the middle of the ladder so that it has to pick its feet up to avoid each rung. This is great for back-end awareness. Most dogs will take the easy way out and walk around the ladder if they can, so it's your job to get your dog lined up at one end and then to lure him to stay walking the length of the ladder. An alternative to a ladder might be lengths of PVC pipe laid out in a similar pattern. Mark and reward for each step initially.
3. Next might be walking over a yellow brick road (few bricks laid flat on the ground)
4. Next might be jumping up onto a very low table or sturdy low cardboard box (obviously dependent on the size, weight and age of the dog).
5. Next might be walking past the open umbrella and stopping to do a trick your dog enjoys (could teach him to go around the umbrella while you stand holding it).
6. Next might be walking over the tarpaulin. This can be scary as it makes a different noise to many other surfaces. Reward heavily for any willingness to walk on this surface. If your dog doesn't want to step onto the tarpaulin take his toys and treats and other humans and sit on the tarpaulin and wait for him to make any step towards you. Be patient and mark and reward all forward progress. Whatever you do, don't force your dog onto the tarpaulin.
7. End with the home run back to the starting point and more rewards.
8. It's your job to help your dog understand what it needs to do and to give it the motivation to want to work with you, so start with a very high rate of reinforcement during the obstacle course. As your dog builds confidence it becomes more fun for us and for the dog as we try out new and different combinations and we can mix things up a bit more. The only downside is that someone has to clear things away at the end!

## TRICKS TO TEACH YOUR DOG

By Louise McKay



We humans like to distinguish between obedience exercises (like heeling, sitting and staying) and tricks. To our dogs, however, it's all just behavior. How much they enjoy performing the behavior depends on how rewarding we make it. So go on, have some fun, and teach your dog some new behaviours. They provide a great opportunity to hone your training skills, build a bond with your dog and make him more receptive to learning.

Teaching your dog some fun tricks can have some real benefits for the both of you. Just like playing games it can help to foster a closer bond, provide physical and mental stimulation, and really help you as a trainer to improve your timing, which will help in all areas of your obedience training.

As owners we often seem more relaxed and forgiving in teaching tricks and so it often becomes the dog's favourite training experiences. The more your dog learns, the more he is capable of learning and tricks often give us a chance to really practice shaping a new set of behaviours in a completely motivational way without the pressure of competition getting in the way.

A different trick will be featured in each magazine, so if you have a favourite trick that you'd like to share with others please email your suggestions to [meanddogs123@yahoo.com.au](mailto:meanddogs123@yahoo.com.au).

### **Wipe your feet**

This is a fun behaviour to teach your dog and can be really useful in wet weather by helping to reduce the number of dirty paw marks on your floor after you get back from a walk. Mind you 'Calum', my Golden Retriever, always requires additional towel work before he is allowed back inside as it's never just his feet that are wet!

You'll need to have on hand:

- A mat or a towel
- A really yummy but preferably non-messy treat to hide under your mat. This could be swapped for a toy if your dog is more toy motivated but it will be a little harder unless the toy is quite flat
- A good variety and quantity of really yummy small and easily digestible treats (chicken, hot dog, raw mince, cheese etc mixed with little dog size kibble)
- A quiet non-distracting environment in which to train (you need to be the best game in town when training something new)

The basic idea involves hiding a treat that your dog wants under the mat and by building a certain level of frustration to get the treat most dogs will eventually use their feet to try and 'dig' or 'scratch' it out – this natural behaviour is what we make use of to shape 'wipe your feet'.

Steps might include the following:

1. Start by laying your mat on the ground (I prefer a mat because it's harder for the dog to move it)
2. Either put your dog on a stay or have someone hold him while you make a fuss about placing a yummy food treat under the mat and towards the middle. You want your dog to be watching and keen to get the treat but not able to beat you to it!
3. Stand on the edge of the mat (you don't want it to move) and release your dog to look for the hidden treat but don't say anything else. This is where you need to be clear about what behaviours you're going to mark and reward. In the beginning we will want to reinforce any interaction with the mat, other than the dog going underneath the mat to help itself.
4. Some behaviours we could mark and reward are:
  - Head lowered to sniff the mat
  - Nose touch on the mat
  - One foot on the mat
  - Two feet on the mat
  - Any foot movement on the mat
  - Any digging/scratching with front feet on the mat
  - Three feet on the mat
  - Four feet on the mat
  - Any movement of back feet
5. When you're rewarding the dog, throw the treat onto the mat rather than feeding from your hand as this will help to keep the dog interested in the mat. If it loses interest or you lose patience you could:
  - move away and do something it knows well so that you can mark and reward that and then come back to the mat and try again (this is a very short break)

- show it the treat under the mat and quickly hide it again (ie reignite interest in the treat)
  - go do something the dog really enjoys and try again sometime later
6. No matter what partial behaviour your dog throws at you remember to keep progressively upping the ante (with appropriate rewards) so that you don't get stuck. So for example, if your dog starts by lowering its head, if we mark and reward that behaviour more than three or four times our dog might get fooled into thinking that what we want is related to head movement and not progress any further. The trick is to be patient and quiet and wait for your dog to try something different.
  7. Some dogs will immediately use their feet to try and dig the treat out – mark and jackpot reward the instant this happens. Once you're at this point you need to build duration by waiting for more 'digging' before you mark and reward or more feet on the mat.
  8. Only after you are consistently getting the behaviour should you start to associate a verbal cue with it. There's no point telling your dog to 'wipe your feet' while he's looking at you with that 'dah' expression or pawing at your hand or the million other non-digging behaviours we see on the way to learning something new.

The important thing is to have fun with your dog. If the dog doesn't get it at first, don't worry and don't force the issue. It's actually interesting for us to have to break down a trick into all the component parts and look for alternate ways to get our dogs to do something that doesn't come naturally. Your dog has to be in the game to learn something new and confusion is the biggest downer, so be patient and of course be prepared with lots of small yummy treats for rewarding each step along the way.

## **Meeting with the RSPCA, July 2010**

In July, the RSPCA's CEO, Michael Linke, invited a number of animal rescue groups and other interested parties to a meeting. Committee members Lesley Pothan and Tony Turner attended the meeting on behalf of our club.

Michael opened the meeting with a discussion on the RSPCA's philosophy and desire to work closely and build relationships with other like-minded organisations. The attendees were asked if they had any concerns which they would like to add to the agenda. The number of dogs handed over to Domestic Animal Services (aka 'the pound') by the RSPCA was top of the list. Other issues raised included puppy farms, the sale of puppies in pet shops and some of the RSPCA's legal requirements.

The RSPCA has a limited number of kennels, so if there is no room to house a stray dog then it is sent to the pound. It was apparent that these are not easy decisions for staff at the RSPCA to make. The rescue groups suggested that the RSPCA hand over some of the surrendered dogs to them for re-

homing which would in turn free up kennels for stray dogs and hopefully reduce the number of dogs sent to the pound.

Michael explained that for the RSPCA to relinquish the responsibility of a dog to a rescue group, the RSPCA would need to be very certain that the rescue group would take the same care and apply a similar set of guidelines to prospective owners as they do. It was agreed that the RSPCA would develop agreements with rescue groups here in Canberra. The rescue groups present were very excited about this prospect and believed this to be a great step forward.

Similar meetings will be held three or four times a year.

Tony and Lesley discussed training matters with Michael and the relationship between CDC and the RSPCA. It was agreed that a meeting between the RSPCA and CDC's Committee would be of benefit and improve understanding of each other's roles.



## THE VET IS IN - PARVOVIRUS

© Dr Sandra Hassett, Animal Medical Centre, Phillip

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

*Recent press reports have highlighted an outbreak of deadly Parvovirus in the Canberra region, a potentially fatal disease in dogs. Please have a chat to your vet and ensure that your dog is protected. Club members are required to show proof of vaccination when joining the club and must declare that their dog is immunised when renewing membership.*

Parvovirus first appeared in 1978. It is a virus that primarily attacks the gastro-intestinal tract but also affects the immune and cardio-vascular systems. The virus is shed in all the infected dog's discharges (faeces, vomit and diarrhoea) and the shed starts prior to symptoms and continues for approximately ten days. The virus can survive in the environment, for example in the soil, for long periods of time. This is especially the case if the climate is warm and reasonably humid. It is also very resistant to heat and many disinfectants. This means it can be spread (by flies, on the soles of shoes or car tyres etc) so that even if your dog never leaves the back garden the virus can actually come to the dog.

Parvovirus is endemic in many areas of Australia where the dog population is high, many dogs are unvaccinated and the climate is temperate and humid. The western suburbs of Sydney are an example. Parvovirus can affect other canines including foxes (and dingoes) and these can act as a reservoir for infection. Facilities such as dog pounds and shelters are particularly at risk of outbreaks as the dogs they see are often young, unvaccinated and have immune systems that are compromised by stress, poor nutrition and concurrent parasite burdens. Once a facility is contaminated it is very difficult to re-sterilise the area.

After exposure there is an incubation period of 7-14 days. Clinical signs can vary but in severe cases there is rapid onset of depression, loss of appetite and abdominal pain. This is followed by vomiting and passing large quantities of bloody diarrhoea. The dog dehydrates rapidly and can go into shock, needing intensive care treatment for support. The treatment is focused on maintaining hydration and electrolyte balances, controlling pain, minimising secondary infection and stimulating the immune system. Even with intensive care up to 30% of severely affected animals will die. The virus destroys the lining of the intestines and the pain associated with this is intense. The immune system is overwhelmed so that the dog's ability to fight the infection is greatly reduced. Death is commonly the result of sepsis and dehydration. In very young puppies the virus can attack the heart and often these pups are simply found dead.

Vaccination is the main mechanism for control of parvovirus and is particularly important in puppies. Symptoms can still develop if the dog is incubating the virus at the time of vaccination so the all clear cannot be given for 14 days after vaccination.

The vaccination protocol is best determined by discussion with your veterinarian and depends on the dog's age, general health and potential exposure.



## Introducing the Obedience Training Sub-Committee

### By June Rowe, Convenor

The role of the Obedience Training Sub-committee is to manage the club's courses in obedience training. This has many aspects:

- Evaluating new ideas for dog training
- Designing and amending the syllabus
- Training our club instructors
- Writing and revising our Instructors handbooks (about 300 pages)
- Holding instructors training courses for Level 1 and Level 2
- Running bi-monthly instructors meetings
- Managing occasional workshops with interstate or overseas experts
- Rostering instructors and finding replacements
- Delivering the Beginners lectures each two months
- Writing and updating the Members Handbook
- Researching books about dog training and advising the main committee on suitable books to purchase for the instructors library

Currently the committee comprises June Rowe (Convenor), Cath Perry, Joan Hall and Louise Raisin. We are always interested to hear from members if they have any concerns, complaints, suggestions and compliments. Please remember that all our instructors and committee people are volunteers and they deserve and need a few pats. Like your dogs, they also need motivating!

You can contact June Rowe at [junerowe@yahoo.com](mailto:junerowe@yahoo.com) or leave a message with the club office.

## FLYBALL FEATS



### By Lesley Pothan, Convenor

Flyball training is held twice a week – on Sunday afternoons from 1.00-3.00pm (April to September) or 3.00 – 5.00pm (October to March) and Wednesday evenings from 7.00pm to 8:30pm. Beginner dogs are given specialised instruction during our Sunday class while more advanced dogs do exercises to refine their skills. Beginners can join this class at any time of the year. At our Wednesday evening session competition-ready dogs go through their teamwork training as well as focusing on individual problems.

You are welcome to come and watch our training sessions if you'd like to see what Flyball is all about.

More information about flyball training at the club can be found on our blog - <http://xfactorflyball.blogspot.com>. The link also appears on the CDC website.



## AGILITY ACTION



**By Veronica Doerr, Convenor**

### Welcome to new Level 1 students!

Once again, we had such a large number of people interested in starting agility in Session 4 that we had to recruit an additional instructor at the last minute to accommodate everyone. Special thanks to Linda Spinaze and Anne Robertson for taking the class, and special congratulations to everyone in the class for passing the fitness test! It's rare to find that everyone is keeping their dogs at an appropriate weight, so keep up the good work! I hope you are all enjoying your first foray into agility training.

### Changes this spring

The Agility Sub-Committee is continuing to work little by little at making some improvements, so keep your eyes out this spring for the new trolley (chained and locked to the inside of the shed for security reasons, but which should help with OH&S issues when moving A-frames etc.), some better security around the shed, and hopefully a noticeboard that can be read even when the shed is locked up. We are still investigating appropriate options given the high levels of break-ins and vandalism that the club experiences, but we hope we can find ways around those problems.

### Spring trialling season just around the corner

After a bit of a quiet winter, with most evening ribbon trials held at Tuggeranong, we are getting ready to launch into the spring trialling season, with lovely weather for spending weekends outdoors with our dogs. In particular, we will be hosting a large trial on Saturday 30 October, which should be a great day out and a wonderful opportunity for people new to agility (or even just wondering what we are all about) to come

to the club and have a look. Put it in your diaries now!

### National Agility Trial, Perth

Three of the club's members made the long trip to Perth to compete in the National Agility Trial in May. Here they are just before their departure.



L-R: Tammy Watts with Sweep and Dash, Lucy Williams with Duke and Mini and Rebecca Jones with Charlie and Delta

### Ode to Agility

*Agility, agility – a test of one's ability.  
My dog can climb, weave, leap and run  
So naturally I join the fun.  
Of course I give it all I've got  
But my dog is agile – I am not.  
She thinks the sport is pretty nifty  
But then, she's neither fat nor fifty.  
Her enthusiasm can't be beat  
But, oh, my back and, oh, my feet!  
While my dog completes the course content  
I seek out the linament.  
Agility, agility - a test of one's senility!*

Anon



## OBEDIENCE TRIALLING

### Forthcoming obedience trials at CDC

The next obedience trial at CDC will be held on Saturday 25 September 2010 in conjunction with the ACT Gundog Society. All levels (Community Companion Dog, Companion Dog, Open, Utility and Utility Dog Excellent) will be held. For full details look for the schedule on the club's noticeboards or go to the Calendar of Events on the Dogs ACT website at <http://www.actca.asn.au/Calendar1.htm>. Spectators are welcome but please leave your own dog at home.

### September Comp Day for trialling levels

Comp Day assessment for trialling levels will not be held on Sunday 26 September due to the double obedience trial the previous day. Instead, the club is hosting a master class for aspiring UD and UDX handlers. Registrations for the master class have now closed.

### Yahoo Group for club triallers

Want to keep up with obedience trialling activities at the club including practice trials, trial dates and training initiatives? If so, join our Yahoo Groups notification list. Any member who is currently participating in trialling classes at the club or participating in trials is welcome to join. Please email [actcdc\\_obedience\\_triallers-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:actcdc_obedience_triallers-subscribe@yahoo.com) to subscribe or contact Anne Robertson at [birdwellsetters@ozemail.com.au](mailto:birdwellsetters@ozemail.com.au) for further information.

### Results from our last obedience trial on 3 July 2010

#### Community Companion Dog : Judge - Sid Schuck (NSW)

1st	Barry Runnstrom	Bojharni Fast fred	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	94
2nd	Jenny Deysing	Caspar	Associate	91
3rd	Angela Hagedorn	Arajoel Zara	Border Collie	90
4th	Lt Col and Mrs S and Mr T and Miss P Hurst	Ch Yarrowfell High Fashion	Dalmatian	90
5th	R and A Butler	Jasper	Associate	89
6th	Fay Peters	Kelarden Laird of the Manor	Golden Retriever	86
7th	Sue Howie	Wingdari Strike Me Lucky	Australian Kelpie	81
8th	Cheryl Neal	Jet	Associate	78

#### Novice : Judge - Sid Schuck (NSW)

1st	Ian Foster	Abtei Dual Diva	German Shorthaired Pointer	196
2nd	Kathleen Thompson	Jasper	Associate	193
3rd	Heather Hilliard	Asher	Associate	182

#### Open : Judge - Damien Bourne (NSW)

1st	Mr R & Ms A White	Ag Ch Bordercheck Autumn Styx CDX GDM SDM SPDM ADO JDO	Border Collie	197
2nd (NQ)	Laraine Frawley	Fieldgold Scottish Loch CDX ADX JDX ADO JDO GD SPD SD NRD	Golden Retriever	
3rd (NQ)	Karen Haines	Eukanmanura Aroha (Imp NZ) ET CD	Siberian Husky	

**Utility Dog : Judge - John Green (ACT)**

1st	R Henderson	Starkad Did it My Way CDX	Border Collie	183
2nd (NQ)	Laraine Frawley	Granble Fieldgold Grail UD AARD ADX JDX GDX SD	Golden Retriever	
3rd (NQ)	Janet Perkins	Henry CDX JDX ADX	Associate	

**Utility Dog Excellent : Judge - John Green (ACT)**

No qualifiers or placegetters

## RECENT TITLES



Above: Lara celebrating the Vet's award for the Fittest Dog in the Endurance Test conducted at the National Weimaraner Show in Adelaide earlier this year. Her heart rate measured just after completing the 20km test was the same as her resting heart rate before the test began two hours earlier. Not bad for an 'old lady' approaching her 8<sup>th</sup> birthday!

**Endurance Test**

- Wendy Laigne-Stuart's Weimaraner (Long Hair) Ch Sinaway You Can Hope CCD ET (Lara)
- Wendy Laigne-Stuart's Weimaraner (Long Hair) Syrinx Devil Inth D Tail ET (Riley)

- Wendy Laigne-Stuart's Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Dancestar Mi Guy ET (Guy). Guy is the second Wheaten in Australia to get their ET.

**Community Companion Dog**

- Anne Robertson's Irish Red and White Setter Derry
- Leisl Vellnagel-Dunn's Miniature Schnauzer Wahnfried Sapphire Lucyspring (Lucy)

**Agility Dog**

- Jenny Marshall's Schipperke Ch Dalibel Fullof Chaos JD GD (Rascal)
- Anne Robertson's Irish Red and White Setter Derry
- Karen Edward's Border Collie Wynella Cap (Cap)

**Jumping Dog**

- Anne Robertson's Irish Red and White Setter Derry

**Open Jumping Dog (3)**

- Karen Edward's Border Collie Jessie

**Gamblers Dog**

- Karen Edward's Border Collie Wynella Cap (Cap)

**Gamblers Dog Excellent**

- Karen Edward's Border Collie Jessie

**Snooker Dog**

- Jenny Marshall's Schipperke Ch Dalibel Fullof Chaos JD GD (Rascal)





**CONGRATULATIONS!**

If you have any trial results or titles for any canine sports disciplines you would like included in the magazine please email them to [birdwellsetters@ozemail.com.au](mailto:birdwellsetters@ozemail.com.au).

**Remember to submit your title applications and results for the club's end-of-year awards.** Submissions closed 7 November. The application form can be downloaded from [www.actcdc.org.au/about/form.html](http://www.actcdc.org.au/about/form.html).



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## THE YEAR IN REVIEW – 2009-10

The Club held its Annual General Meeting on 10 August 2010. Reports tabled at the meeting are provided below. Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2010 are available on request.



### PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Gary Kingdon

Another busy year for the club has passed. There have been some successes and the Committee has achieved a lot of what we set out to achieve, but there has also been some aims that we did not achieve over the year. In some ways there does not seem to be enough time to do everything.

Financially, the club has not done particularly well this year, mainly due to events outside of our control. The club suffered a number of vandal attacks and break-ins during the year, ranging from direct forced entry into the clubhouse to vehicles being driven into the gates in the back paddock and main entrance. These events resulted in not only loss of stock in some cases, but also the requirement to pay for damage repairs, not all of which were claimable under insurance. Another incident that involved considerable expense was the underground leak near the water tank, which required a digger to be brought in to rectify the fault. Additionally, there were some major maintenance expenses in the year, such as the replacement of the flooring in the clubhouse. All these incidents led to a drain on the club's financial resources.

Full details will be covered in the Treasurer's report regarding this aspect, but I think that the incoming committee will have to look at ways of fund-raising in order to meet all the ongoing operating costs as well as future development requirements.

I would reiterate what I said last year about the club primarily existing on income from the joining fees and annual subscriptions of ordinary members. The number of new members joining the club has not improved significantly over the year (the latest intake is about 40 down on the same intake last year). I still believe that it is the people who are only interested in pet dog training that form the greater majority of our basic level entry members, and who the club must concentrate on in order to keep the club going. Retention is more likely to occur if handlers are enjoying the training they are receiving, they consider that the exercises are relevant to their requirements and they feel that they are achieving something useful. Progression on to higher level obedience training, with its higher and more precise standards, or other dog sport activities can follow once the handlers have had their basic requirements met. Changing lifestyles and demographics means that the club has to be flexible in its approach to dog training and making the option of joining the club an attractive one.

I also said in my report last year that I did not think that the club showed enough appreciation to its instructors and more tangible ways of recognizing the instructors should be introduced. Over the last year recognition of our instructors has been achieved in a number of ways:

- Public acknowledgment was made in a supplement of *The Canberra Times* on 5 December 2009 as part of International Volunteers Day.

- The club was fortunate in being able to access a grant for payment to instructors to recompense them to some extent for the costs incurred in volunteering their services to the club.
- The Committee approved the free issue to each instructor of a shirt and hat in the club's colours, with the club's name, logo and 'Instructor' embroidered on them. Not only was this aimed at making instructors readily identifiable, with a measure of uniformity, but also it was seen as a marketing tool, with the club's name and brand being able to be seen around the community. The first issue of the shirts and hats was achieved for the majority of the instructors taking classes in Session 1 this year, with a second issue later taking care of the remaining instructors.
- Accepting that the shirts did not offer much warmth or protection for instructors in winter, the Committee further agreed to the free issue to those taking classes in the colder months of a fleece jacket or a rain jacket (subsidized to the value of the fleece), both embroidered with the club's identification.

While receipt of the grant money may have been the most popular with the instructors, considerable favourable feedback has been received on the instructors' clothing. The issue of the clothing may have had a high initial financial outlay, but the ongoing costs for new instructors completing their Level 1 courses will now be a relatively minor ongoing cost. Moreover, the appreciation and goodwill achieved through the issue of the clothing is considered to outweigh the costs in the longterm.



*Above: A typical Comp Day scene  
Photo by Simon Vellnagel-Dunn*

Unfortunately, the club was not successful in applications for other grants. Applications were made to various government departments or agencies for grants for new flooring, a solar generation capability and replacement office IT equipment. Consequently, the club had to meet the full cost of the flooring installation, we will not get the capability to generate power and reduce the club's power bill and the office computer and the photocopier will have to last a little longer.

All the sub-committees and the Dogs-as-Therapy team also had a busy year and their respective reports follow. Highlights from the reports for each group are:

- The Agility Sub-committee had increased numbers of people starting agility training and hosted the largest number of agility trials in the ACT region. Maintaining and upgrading the agility equipment also took considerable time and effort by those involved in this discipline.
- The Obedience Trialling Sub-committee hosted five trials during the year, introducing the concept of ribbon trials to the club for one of them. This method proved popular and will most probably be repeated for future trials. The Sub-committee welcomed a number of new club members taking up obedience trialling during the year. Club members achieved 26 qualifications (passes) during the trials hosted by the club and congratulations are extended to them.
- The Flyball Sub-committee's busy year included entering teams in 11 competitions, and hosting three of them. Additionally, a number of flyball demonstrations were put on at

venues around the region. Club members participating in flyball competitions enjoyed varying levels of success during the year, with a number obtaining titles.

- The Obedience Training Sub-committee achieved some good efforts in the year: running two Level 1 instructor's courses and starting a Level 2 course; producing a booklet on games for instructors to use in training classes; providing training tips and other advice for all members in the magazine; and organizing regular instructors' meetings. The roster manager in particular did well in managing to arrange instructors for all classes in every session over the year, which in itself is an achievement, but can be an extremely frustrating task. Special mention must be made of the efforts by the Sub-committee's convenor in reintroducing seminars and workshops by visiting presenters. These activities were a feature of the club that was of considerable benefit to the club in the past and which has been sadly lacking over the last few years.
- The Dogs-as-Therapy team continued their good work throughout the year, quietly working away in the background, visiting nursing homes on the southside. Although the team has managed to keep its overall numbers up, they are always looking out for new members to join their ranks and anyone with an appropriately-natured dog should consider this worthwhile activity. The value of visits by these dogs to nursing home patients, in improving the morale and well-being of the patients, is well recognized. The publicity for the club from the team is invaluable.

This year has seen the start of a new dog sport for the club: Dances with Dogs. Although training has not yet begun to the schedule originally planned, there were some issues that had to be overcome first, notably the selection and arrangement of a suitable venue. Tony Turner is on the national committee for this dog sport and will be introducing it in the ACT soon, starting with public meetings at the club on 11 and 13 August and training starting at the end of August.

The problems with the grounds irrigation system were finally overcome during the year and the system is now set up as was originally intended and a better supply of water available for the grounds. The grounds themselves are still in less than ideal condition, with weeds still prevalent and the ground surface rough and eroded in some areas. A plan is underway to improve the grounds, but this will not provide an overnight solution and is another demand on the club's finances that will need to be taken into consideration.

As 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:

- Sincere thanks must go to all those instructors who have instructed an obedience class during the year, especially those who have taken classes in more than one session or even two classes in the one session. Your support is essential to enabling the club to meet the demands for training from new members. Without your time and effort the club would not be able to carry on.
- Thanks also to those 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.
- The efforts of the members of all the sub-committees are also acknowledged. Their contributions are important to the overall activities of the club.
- A vote of thanks goes to the manager of the Dogs-as-Therapy program, Joyce Thompson, and her team members for their contribution to this special area of the club's activities.

- Thanks to Kathy Bush for running the office for another year, looking after the membership database and ensuring that members pay their membership renewals.
- Karen Haines must receive acknowledgement for her work in managing the club's library. Her interest and dedication to this task is a great benefit to the club. It is a time-consuming job, especially when new books or DVDs come into the library and have to be catalogued etc, and can go unrecognised. It can also be a thankless task, particularly when instructors ignore her requests to return books or videos that they have held out for more than the allowed time, sometimes well overdue.
- Greg Preston deserves thanks for his continuing effort in undertaking maintenance tasks in the background, fixing fences in particular, without prompting or requests. His identifying repairs that need doing and completing the work at his own initiative have saved the club the expense of getting in commercial companies to undertake the work.
- Thanks go to Lynn Harden who has done a commendable job taking over the club's website and other IT support matters. Changes that Lynn has introduced to the website are a good start to getting it looking more interesting and appealing. All we need now is some more time to review the contents of the various pages to ensure that they are up to date and relevant.
- Lesley Pothan, the Treasurer, deserves a special mention for her efforts in getting the club into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by introducing a direct debit payment option for people wanting to join or renew their membership of the club. There may still be some minor issues to resolve, but they are not insurmountable and will result in a more efficient method of handling payments.

There are also 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; have helped set up on competition days; have assisted with the running of trials and competitions by acting as stewards etc; or undertaken other voluntary work. Thank you for your contribution to the club's activities.

Finally, thanks to those who have served on the committee in the past year and contributed to the overall management and oversight of the club. There were a number of changes of committee members during the year with Di Kingdon, Anne Robertson, Jo Washington-King and Lynn Harden all standing down at various times in the year. There are also a number of the committee who are not standing for re-election: Hilarie Kemp, Toni Magi, Cathy Vaughan and Sue Keal. Thank you for your efforts and support to the running of the club.

In closing, I would like to address an issue that I think is of major concern to the club. That is the activity of instructors in taking obedience classes and general support for the club.

Even though there have been about ten new instructors joining the ranks after successfully completing their Level 1 course over the year, the number of active instructors does not seem to have increased. Finding sufficient instructors for all the lower level classes in all sessions continues to be a problem for the Obedience Training Sub-committee and the roster manager. This frustration with trying to get instructors to cover all training commitments was a contributing factor that led to the resignation of the convenor of the sub-committee, who was also doing the roster, within the last two weeks. The valuable contribution of this person to the club in an area where it was sorely needed has now been lost.

While some instructors are unable to take classes due to reasons beyond their control, such as job changes, work commitments or illness, the instructional load remains a burden for a comparatively small number of instructors. If each obedience instructor on the club's instructor list volunteered to take just one Level 1 class for the whole of one session a year it would help ease the burden (and the roster manager's headaches) considerably. Possibly the changes to

entitlement to instructor's membership fees, introduced at the Special General Meeting in November 2009, may encourage instructors to be active again.

Unfortunately, there seems to be factions within the club where their particular activity takes precedence over the requirements and well-being of the club itself. Being busy or heavily involved in an activity, to the extent that they cannot spare any time to help with the needs of the club in other areas is self-serving. They are busy in their activity because they choose to be, not necessarily because the club needs them to be. The club's primary area of hurt is in meeting commitments in obedience classes; instructing in or being involved in other activities is not helping meet that hurt. To be a club instructor and enjoy the associated advantages and privileges there should be an obligation and commitment to take an obedience class during a year. To do otherwise is just taking advantage of what the club offers, particularly if the club's classes are used to train their own dog. If the club cannot maintain people joining the club and progressing through the classes there will not be members and their dogs to take up the other activities.

Similarly, being too busy to support the club in general is just taking advantage of the club without contributing anything. While some people do not like being on committees there are many other ways that support can be provided when volunteers or help are called for. However, there is often a lack of response on these occasions due to their involvement with their chosen activity. The question must be asked, are they really interested in the club or only in what it can provide for their particular interest?

## **OBEDIENCE TRAINING SUB-COMMITTEE'S REPORT – Louise McKay**

This has been a very busy year for the Obedience Training Sub-Committee (TSC) as our list of major activities and achievements below clearly highlights. None of it is possible without the ongoing support and commitment of the members of the TSC, the Main Committee, our instructors and our members.

Our instructors continue to make many valued contributions to the club by willingly and generously taking obedience classes, Beginner introductory lectures, Level 1 course lectures and peer groups, acting as reserves, being on stand-by to reserve, undertaking the role of session manager and judging and assisting on Comp Day. And our dedicated Librarian, Karen Haines, continues to work hard to keep the library well supported and in good shape.

Support from the Main Committee over the year has allowed us to progress our major objectives and in particular, the purchase of clothing for active instructors, seeking the volunteer grant to assist with petrol, the provision of funds that allowed us to add to the library, and financial backing for undertaking the seminars and workshops have all been significant contributions that have helped to make life as a volunteer instructor more enjoyable and satisfying.

Without this ongoing support and goodwill it would not be possible to do the things we do and be the club we are. So thank you to everyone who has played a part, big or small, in making the obedience aspect of the club continue to grow and prosper. It is greatly appreciated.

One of the primary goals of the current TSC has been to promote a higher level of instructor participation by offering services and facilities that are likely to improve motivation, further develop our training skills and knowledge, and enhance people's willingness to take classes or actively contribute in some other way. To this end, we have sought to create new opportunities for the ongoing development of instructors by:

- providing additional and current reading material for the library;
- providing additional resources to use in classes;
- organising instructor training sessions over the summer break; and
- organising workshops and seminars using Australian and/or overseas trainers.

The TSC's other significant focus this year has been on increasing our pool of available instructors by promoting and running a Level 1 course, with a Level 2 course planned to kick off in August.

## Major activities and achievements during the year

The following is a list of the major activities and achievements of the TSC over the last twelve months:

- Activities were organised for instructors over the summer break from mid-December 2009 to late January 2010 to provide instructors with an opportunity to learn some new things and have fun with their dogs. The activities included:
  - Tricks and shaping
  - Games to play with your dog
  - Dancing with dogs
  - T-Touch

Whilst numbers were generally quite low (ranging from four to ten) all the sessions were well received by those who did attend, with a request for the idea to continue.

- Seminars/workshops
  - Dog Behaviour and Training seminar with Underdog Training held 18 April 2010
    - 40 people attended with very positive feedback received
    - Run at a financial loss of \$464 due to lower than expected numbers
  - Debra Millikan Pet Dog Training seminar/workshop held 16-17 July 2010
    - 40+ people attended again with very positive feedback received
    - Generated a profit in the order of \$250
- Ali O'Brien Obedience Trialling workshop scheduled and organised for 12-13 November 2010
- Level 1 Instructors Course, run from mid-March to the end of May 2010
  - 8 started the course, with two dropping out for personal reasons
  - 3 have now qualified as instructors
  - 3 are currently finishing their assists and practical exams
  - Level 1 course lectures digitally recorded for inclusion in the Library (excludes lectures from weeks 1 and 4)
- Level 2 Instructors Course
  - Organised to kick off on 2 August with six starters
  - Review of the Level 2 Handbook underway
- Games Handbook
  - A *CDC Games Handbook* was developed and distributed to all instructors by the TSC to help engage members and instructors alike by making classes more fun. This is a living document and will be supplemented with some of the games Deb Millikan demonstrated during the July workshops
- New library acquisitions

The Main Committee provided a one-off budget to the TSC for the purchase of new library material and subsequently the following books and DVDs were purchased. There is some fabulous material contained in these books and DVDs and I would urge instructors to take full advantage of the library.

Author	Title
Barbara Handler	Successful Obedience Handling, 2nd Edition
Bobbie Anderson	Building Blocks for Performance
Brenda Aloff	Canine Body Language – a photographic guide
Carloyn Krause	Try Tracking
Clarissa von Reinhardt	Chase - Managing your Dogs Predatory Instincts
Diane Peters Mayer	Conquering Ring Nerves
Gail Fisher	The Thinking Dog - Crossover to Clicker Training
Jane Killion	When Pigs Fly - Training Success with Impossible Dogs
Jean Donaldson	Train Your Dog Like a Pro
Karen & McConnell	Play Together, Stay Together

Leslie McDevitt	Control Unleashed - 3 x DVD
Leslie McDevitt	Control Unleashed - book
Leslie Nelson	Really Reliable Recall DVD
Leslie Nelson	Really Reliable Recall booklet
M Book & C Smith	Right on Target
M Smith & S Bosbyshell	Building a Bridge From Training to Testing
Pamela Dennison	The Magic of Shaping (2 x DVD)
Pamela Dennison	Bringing Light to Shadow
Pat Miller	Play With Your Dog
Pat Miller	Positive Perspectives 2 - Know your Dog, Train your Dog
Pat Miller	Power of Positive Dog Training
Patricia McConnell	The Cautious Canine
Patricia McConnell	Feisty Fido
Sheila Booth	Training in Drive
Sophia Yin	How to behave So Your Dog Behaves
Sue Sternberg	Serious Fun - Play like a Dog
Susan Garret	Crate Games - For Self Control & Motivation (DVD)
Susan Garret	Ruff Love
Turid Rugaas	Barking - The Sound of a Language

- Document wallets were prepared for new members and handed out at the Beginners lectures at the start of the April session. The wallets include the following information:
  - The Members Handbook
  - The ACT Companion Dog Club leaflet
  - Off-lead exercise areas
  - Understanding Motivational Training
  - Leadership
  - Aggressive Dog Policy
  - Tricks to Teach Your Dog
  - Motivators
  - Markers
  - Lures and rewards
  - Targeting, Scenting, Retrieving (Bite Inhibition)
  - Retrieving-Give and Take, Pick up and Give, Retrieving.

These worked very well and we propose to continue using this approach into the future. All instructors have been advised about this approach via email.

- Review of all printed material pertaining to obedience training has commenced but is not yet complete, including:
  - Website
  - Members Handbook
  - Training Handouts
  - Level 2 Instructors Handbook
- Business as usual activities
  - Manage the roster for obedience classes
  - Organise and run bi-monthly Instructor Meetings
  - Publish and distribute Instructor's Bulletin
  - Articles covering the following general areas provided for inclusion in each Good Companion magazine:
    - Training tips
    - Recipes
    - Trick to teach your dog
    - Game to play with your dog

- Write up of seminars

### **Items on the TSC's radar for future development**

There are a number of additional priority items on the TSC's radar, which with sufficient resourcing, will be investigated in the coming year:

- Improving communication with our instructors
- Motivational training more strongly applied to our instructor body (not just our dogs!)
- Reducing the size of obedience classes
- Regular lectures to the public on Choosing a Puppy/Before You Buy a Puppy
- Puppy pre-school (pre-kindergarten socialisation)
- Growl classes
- Ongoing seminars and workshops

The following members contributed to the TSC during the year: Vince Bush, June Rowe, Cath Perry, Joan Hall, Louise Raisin, Gary Kingdon, Di Kingdon, Mary-Ann Fisher and Veronica Doerr.

### **OBEDIENCE TRIALLING SUB-COMMITTEE'S REPORT – Jenny Marshall**

This year, CDC's Obedience Trialling Sub-Committee hosted five trials in November, February, April, June and July attracting 224 entries. For the first time this year, we experimented with a 'ribbon' trial format for the February trial, judging the classes over three separate evenings and relying on competitors to help with stewarding. This format has been used successfully for agility trials for some years and its introduction was generally well-accepted by our obedience competitors.

Competitors earned 49 qualifications at our obedience trials this year, including 26 qualifications by club members (11 at CCD level, 6 at CD level, 7 at Open level and 2 at UD level). It has been pleasing to welcome some new triallers to the sport and to welcome back some experienced triallers with new dogs after long absences from the trial ring. Two members have attained their UD titles during the year (Laraine Frawley with Golden Retriever 'Banner' and Wayne Myles with Border Collie 'Gemma') while two others (Helen Thompson with Border Collie 'Banjo' and John Gryniewicz with German Shepherd 'Keera') are working towards their UDX titles, the highest achievement in the sport.

I would like to acknowledge the following judges who have supported our trials during the year – Anne and Richie Butler, Julie Cutts, Charlie Giles, John Green, Terry Griffin, Jill Kaldor, Leo Kuipers, Pat Looker and Sid Schuck. I would also like to thank those competitors and other club members who have helped with stewarding and other tasks to ensure that our trials have run smoothly. In particular, I am grateful to Desiree Campbell and June Rowe for their work behind the scenes on trial days.

This year the Obedience Trialling Sub-Committee has also hosted 'mock' trials for members at the club's Competition Days. This initiative has been very well-supported by members who have been keen to experience trial-like conditions and to obtain tips and hints to improve their performance. I am grateful to senior triallers Werner Roth and Jo Hagan and ANKC judges Julie Cutts and Charlie Giles for officiating at these events.

Another initiative taken by the Sub-Committee this year has been the establishment of a private Yahoo group to keep club members up-to-date with trialling and training activities. The group has attracted 21 members to date. Any members participating in trialling classes are welcome to subscribe. Details are on the trialling noticeboard in the clubhouse.

In closing, I would like to thank the other members of the Sub-Committee for their contribution to the club's obedience trialling activities – Mary-Ann Fisher, Fay Peters, Anne Robertson, Werner Roth and Leisl and Simon Vellnagel-Dunn.

## **AGILITY SUB-COMMITTEE'S REPORT – Veronica Doerr**

### **Training**

Bucking the general worldwide trend of decreasing participation in dog training, agility at CDC has seen quite high numbers of new participants this year, with large intakes organised for Sessions 1, 2 and 4. To accommodate as many new starters as possible, we have been fortunate in being able to organise two instructors, instead of the usual one per class, for some of our lower level classes. Of course, keeping people training for the long-term remains a challenge, as people sometimes tend to start agility forgetting that it will involve actual training – that dogs don't naturally run obstacle courses perfectly! Continued thanks go to Airlie White for the monumental job of maintaining the waiting list, organising intakes and scheduling classes and instructors this year. Thanks also to the Agility Sub-Committee members as well as Greg Collins, who performed the fitness and control tests and the introductory lectures at intakes.

We wouldn't be able to do anything without our volunteer instructors. Particular thanks to everyone who volunteered to teach a class this year. It can sometimes be a thankless job, especially on cold dark nights. We really appreciate the enthusiasm of our instructors and we value the large amount of time they put into planning sets for our classes and helping each individual student progress.

### **Equipment**

Due to the success of the tunnel snugglers, we have now purchased several more sets, making equipment set-up much faster for classes and trials.

We purchased and painted a lightweight A-frame, which can be easily transported across the training field and set up by just two people. This goes some way toward addressing the most significant OH&S issues in agility. We plan to continue addressing those issues through further reorganisation and modification to our shed and hopefully the purchase of a lightweight see-saw.

Our equipment needs regular maintenance, and we were unable to secure a dedicated equipment manager on the Agility Sub-Committee after the loss of Greg Leek (who is taking time out from agility to pursue various motorsports). To keep up with maintenance, a number of agility members have chipped in to replenish pegs, fix and/or replace broken poles, clean, paint, repair, etc., often just because they saw it needed to be done, not because they were asked. Special thanks to Denise Iglesias, Di Adams, Greg Collins, Chris Atyeo, Judith Barlow, Judith Barlow's father (who does quite a lot for us without ever having met most of us), Joycelyn Greenwood, and Barry Gray for these welcome contributions, and to everyone who participated in working bees.

### **Trials**

CDC conducted the largest number of agility trials in the local area. We were also able to provide facilities for the Tuggeranong Dog Training Club to maintain their planned number of trials despite poor summer conditions at their training grounds. This type of cross-club co-operation is absolutely vital for the survival of agility in Canberra.

Running an agility trial is a considerable undertaking, including advertising, organising several hundred entries, planning a running order that minimises conflicts between rings, organising judges and stewards, feeding up to 14 judges and stewards, and keeping competitors fed and happy. Lara Sedgmen has continued to take on the lion's share of this work, serving as trial secretary and trial manager, and the Agility Sub-Committee would like to thank her for playing these pivotal roles. Many thanks as well to Denise Iglesias and Wendy Downing for organising

stewards, Di Adams and Airlie White for organising ribbons and prizes, Allan Schmidt for various trial manager tasks, Heather Carswell for preparing qualifying cards, Andrea Neale for doing all the little bits and pieces that no one else wants to do, and the entire catering team (Pam Beesley, Veronica Doerr, Wendy Downing, Kate Etchells, Naarilla Hirsch, Jenny Marshall, Anne Robertson and Linda Spinaze) for keeping judges and stewards well-fed. Thanks also to the many, many members who have stewarded at trials during the past year. Finally, our heartfelt thanks to Katrina Morton and Kathy and Emma Bush who've run the shop to provide food for our triallers on trialling days – spending fairly long and busy hours in the kitchen without even the opportunity to watch much of the action. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

### **Additional activities**

Our everyday responsibilities tend to keep the Agility Sub-Committee quite busy, leaving little time for new initiatives. However, a few individuals took it upon themselves to augment our normal efforts. Anne Robertson hosted Agility Fun 'N Games sessions over the summer break which were very well received. Jenny Marshall organised judges' training and mock trials at CDC, allowing us to gain some extra training practice under trial conditions. Denise Iglesias and Chris Atyeo experimented with running a pre-agility class, to see if it would be valuable to devote some dedicated time to training foundation skills (that are no longer emphasised in obedience classes at the club following the change in syllabus). Sample size was too low for a proper evaluation, but the preliminary conclusion was that we could simply try to have a better instructor:student ratio in our lower level classes to help teach foundation skills that some students will be lacking.

Personally, I would like to thank all members of the Agility Sub-Committee for their efforts this year, including Greg Leek (who left us partway through the year) and Sue Keal (who served as our representative on Main Committee). The amount of work done behind the scenes is extensive and is not always obvious to Main Committee or regular club members. The Sub-Committee does it all with an admirable level of cooperation and mutual respect. You have all been a pleasure to work with!

### **FYBALL SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT – Lesley Pothan**

It has been another busy year for the CDC X-Factor flyball team.

Over the last year membership has slowly built up and hopefully this trend will continue. In the main, people joining the team are from outside the club rather than existing members going through obedience training. This is an area we need to concentrate on over the coming year. There was quite a bit of interest shown at the club on Comp Days and Open Days where the flyball team provided demos which has led to new members.

#### **Training**

The new format for training classes has been a huge success. Combining all levels in the same session enables the experienced flyballers to assist the newer members of the group and the newer members get a feel for some competitive racing helping out with box loading and ball shagging. It's also good for the newer members to see that even the experienced dogs sometimes get it wrong.

#### **Competitions**

CDC X-Factor competed in a number of competitions over the year:

- Southerly Muster – Sutherland – 8 August 2009
- Surf 'n Turf – Kioloa – 5 September 2009
- Flyball @ Pets Day Out – Dapto – 27 September 2009
- Irish Flyball Fling – Boorowa – 4 October 2009

- 11<sup>th</sup> Australian Flyball Champions – 17-18 October 2009
- Flyball Frolic – Canberra by the Lake – 7 November 2009
- Flyball Fun in the Sun – Tuggeranong – 29 November 2009
- Canberra Royal Show – EPIC – 27-28 February 2010
- Camden Show – Camden – 20 March 2010
- Million Paws Walk ACT – Rond Terrace Canberra – 16 May 2010
- Sunset Claws – BDOC – 13 June 2010

CDC X-Factor successfully hosted 3 competitions this year:

- Surf 'n Turf – Kioloa – 5 September 2009
- Flyball Frolic – Canberra by the Lake – 7 November 2009
- Million Paws Walk ACT – Rond Terrace Canberra – 16 May 2010

### **Demonstrations**

CDC X-Factor provided several flyball demonstrations with the most memorable being the Moss Vale Show in March this year.

### **New team shirts**

CDC X-Factor has a fresh swish look when competing after purchasing new team shirts earlier this year.

### **Equipment**

CDC X-factor purchased a new lighter model flyball box this year and will embark on fund raising in the coming year to enable the purchase of a newer style box that better absorbs the impact of very fast dogs hitting the box.



*Above: Flyball fun at recent Open Day.  
Photo by Bronnie Hayek*

### **The dogs**

CDC X-Factor have a mix of new and old dogs who all enjoy flyball. Some have been doing flyball for a number of years with some serious titles (Zac, Burra and Dhama).

Some have retired but enjoy an occasional run – they don't forget what to do or the hype of a competition. We have a number of retired dogs that join us at Kioloa for the Surf 'n Turf comp (Jenna, Mitch, Rocket and Tansy).

A number of new dogs this year have just started competing (Boomer, Humphrey, Dusty, Logan and Lukah).

Then there are the very reliable dogs in their prime (Jasper, Keira, Russ and Russell). And some not so reliable (Max and Peanut) but they always have fun.

We have also welcomed a number of new dogs that are still learning the tricks and will hopefully be competing by the end of the year.

### **Thanks**

I would like to thank the Sub-committee for their valued support over the last year: Jess McNamara – Competitions, Ilona Van Galen - Publicity and Jaci Van Campenhout – Training. I

would also like to thank those 'retired' flyballers who on occasion run their dog or lend their dog to be run in a comp to help make up a team.

And to all the team members thanks for supporting the CDC X-Factor team and I look forward to another successful year of flyball.

## **DOGS-AS-THERAPY REPORT – Joyce Thompson**

The committed members of the Dogs-as-Therapy group have continued to actively operate during the year visiting nursing homes mainly on the southside of Canberra. The city and surrounds have spread so far since the group began nearly 20 years ago that it is impractical to try to cover the entire area so regrettably we limit ourselves to the southside of town – which keeps us quite busy enough.

Our member numbers remain static and an influx of new blood would be very much appreciated, Anyone with a dog-friendly and people-loving dog who can spare an hour on weekday mornings will be welcome to join us.

A much-loved canine member, 'Tilly', belonging to Pam Peppercorn, died during the year. Tilly was a therapy dog par excellence for many years and she is very sorely missed by all of us. Her work continues with Pam's new dog, a Whippet called 'Elle'. She has very big paw prints to follow, but she is learning quickly with Pam's experienced guidance.

The club thanks each and every one of our teams for their commitment during the year. You all bring great pleasure to many people who cannot enjoy the company of their own much loved pets. Please continue the good work and, once again, accept our thanks for your valuable contribution to the group.

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## **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!*

*There are several green bag dispensers located around the grounds for your convenience.*



## NEWS FROM THE SHOP SHELF

### OPENING TIMES

Wednesdays	10.00 - 11.30am
Thursdays	7.30 - 8.45pm
Sundays	9.15 - 11.45am

**By Katrina Morton, Shop Manager and Emma Bush, Assistant**

Welcome to our new and continuing members.

We have a large range of Black Dog training halters, leads, collars and clickers that you may find very useful. As well, for the fashion conscious we have a range of treat pouches and bags in various colours and prices.

Due to popular demand the 'Sporn Halter' is still available. These are very popular with handlers who are in the need of extra control of their dog. Prices range from \$31.00 to \$39.50 depending on the size you require.

Following the Debra Millikan seminar and by popular demand the shop now has in stock the SENSE-ible and SENSE-ation harnesses. If you are interested in finding out more about these aids please speak to your instructor or session manager. These range from \$25.00 to \$40.00.



Please remember that any halters, collars and harnesses should be fitted by one of our instructors to ensure the correct size is used by your dog. Staff in the shop are more than willing to arrange the fitting of these items for you.

A very popular promotion that we have in the shop at present is the Pooch Pouch. This is a simple and innovative solution to promote responsible pet ownership by simply attaching to your dog lead. Also to go with it is a packet of 10 degradable dog waste bags that can be easily inserted into the pouch.

These items can be bought individually at a cost of \$3.00 and \$1.80 respectively. Also each time a Pooch Pouch and packet of waste bags is bought you can get a second packet of bags for \$1.20, making it a total of just \$6.00. Alternatively, you can purchase the same Black Poop Bags from the shop that we use in our dispensers at a cost of \$18.00.

Also, for agility and obedience trialling members, we have Trial Entry Books which can be bought for \$7.50 per book or 20c for a single entry form.

We still have 'Kongs' in stock and they are available at various prices depending on the size. The 'Kong' can be used as a training aid as well as a way of keeping your dog amused for hours, by simply putting some treats, peanut butter, vegemite etc inside of it. Your dog will continue to keep itself amused by trying to get the food out and at the same time having heaps of fun. We also have a large range of toys for your dog - tennis ball throwers, tennis balls, hi-bounce balls as well as a variety of tug toys.

For the handler interested in training their dog in the art of 'fetch', why not invest in the very popular 'dumbbell'. Prices range from \$9.90 through to \$14.90, depending on the size.

I have recently sourced another supplier for standard collars and leads. These are now available at a very competitive price, but very good quality.

Both hot and cold refreshments are available as are a range of snacks, including pies, sausage rolls, pasties, Continental Cup-a-Soup, 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), liver treats \$5.00 per bag and pork chews \$6.00 per bag. I personally know three dogs that thoroughly enjoy these!

If you have any requests for specific items or a range of goods, please leave a note with the staff in either the shop or front office. I also welcome any feedback on the services we provide at the shop.

Please remember that the facilities of the shop are there for all members of the club and I hope that we will be able to supply you with all your handler and dog requirements.

On behalf of Emma and myself we look forward to serving and meeting you and hope that you and your four legged friend enjoy your time at the club.

## PRODUCT AND PRICE LIST

### COLLARS – BLACK DOG BRAND

Gentle (Reg) all sizes	\$21.00
Gentle (Super) all sizes	\$24.00

### COLLARS – OTHER BRANDS

Generic collars – assorted sizes	\$4.00
Standard collars	\$16.00
Flyball collars	\$22.00 to \$23.00

### CLICKERS

I-Click Clickers (no wrist strap)	\$8.50
Plastic clicker (small no wrist strap)	\$5.00

### LEADS

Single ended leads - **NEW**	\$15.00
Double ended leads - **NEW**	\$20.00
Black Dog Tracking long lead	\$26.50
Black Dog Double (clip) lead 19 & 25mm	\$28.50
Black Dog Long line	\$19.50
Click 3	\$15.00
Generic Single 16mm	\$4.00
Generic Double	\$10.00
Generic Long Lead (25m)	\$16.00

### CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG

Pooch Pouch	\$3.00
Biodegradable Poo Bags x 10 (green)	\$1.80
Poo Bag Rolls (black roll)	\$18.00

### BEVERAGES

#### HOT

Tea & Coffee (inc decaf)	\$1.00
Tea - herbal	\$1.50
Milo	\$1.00
Cup-a-Soup	\$1.20

#### COLD

Coke v arieties	\$2.70
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### 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
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### CARRY BAGS

Shoulder Bags	\$37.50
Carry All Bags	\$57.50

### 'NO PULL' TRAINING AIDS

Sporn Halters:	
Small 9 - 12"	\$31.00
Medium 12 - 17"	\$34.00
Large 16 - 24"	\$36.50
X-Large 23 - 33"	\$39.50
Gentle Leader - all sizes	\$20.00
Training Halters – Mini/S/M/L	\$26.50

### DUMBELLS

Small	\$9.90
Medium	\$11.90
Large	\$13.90
Extra Large	\$14.90

### MUZZLES

Kra-mar EziFit sizes 0,1,2,4,5	\$10.00 to \$15.00
Beaupets sizes 0,1,5,6	\$10.00 to \$16.00
Small to Medium	\$11.00 to \$13.00

### DOG TREATS

Liver (100gm)	\$5.00
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Schweppes Drinks	\$3.00	Beef Ears (single)	\$1.40
Bottled Water	\$2.20	Beef Ears (pkt 12)	\$15.00
Cascade Apple Juice	\$2.40	Pigs Ears (single)	\$1.90
Lemon Lime and Bitters	\$2.60	Pigs Ears (pkt 12)	\$21.00
Lipton Iced Tea	\$3.00		
Powerade/Gatorade	\$3.00	<b>DOG TOYS</b>	
Fruit Box Juice	\$1.00	Kong – Bounzer	\$10.00
Spring Valley Juice	\$2.50	Kong – small	\$12.50
Ginger Beer	\$2.40	Kong – medium	\$17.50
		Kong – large	\$21.00
<b>FOOD</b>		Dog Sign	\$4.50
Pies	\$3.00	Dog Chew Toys	\$3.00
Pasties	\$2.30	Wacky Woofers (sml single)	\$5.00
Sausage Rolls	\$2.60	Wacky Woofers (large single)	\$6.50
Sandwiches (Toasted or Plain)	\$3.00	Tennis Bone (regular)	\$6.50
Biscuits	\$0.20	Stretchy Tennis Ball	\$6.00
Chips (varieties)	\$1.70	Tennis Ball Thrower	\$4.50
Twisties	\$1.70	Tennis Balls (each)	\$1.00
Chocolate and Health Food Bars	\$2.00	Spikey Ball	\$2.50
Lifesavers and Fruit Tingles	\$1.20	Ball with Food Insert	\$4.50
		Rope Bone (small)	\$2.50
<b>TRIALLING DOCUMENTS</b>		Rope Bone (large)	\$3.00
ANKC rule books (Agility, Tracking)	\$7.50	Crazy Bone (large)	\$3.00
Trial Entry Forms - each	\$0.20	Hi Bounce Balls w/out hole	\$5.00
Trial Entry Forms - book (100)	\$7.50	Red Dumbbells	\$5.00
		Aqua Toy	\$5.00
<b>BOOKS</b>		Red Kong Bones	\$5.00
Who's the Boss	\$22.00		
Ideal Dog	\$25.00	<b>CLUB LOGO PRODUCTS</b>	
Training Your Dog	\$5.00	Club Stickers	\$1.50
Solving Dog Problems	\$15.00	Club badges – cloth (small)	\$2.00
Companionship Dog Training	\$6.50	Club badges – cloth (large)	\$4.00
		Club badges - metal	\$3.50
<b>AEROGARD</b>			
Pump Pack	\$8.50		

**PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE**

**RECIPES FOR DOGS** - The following dog biscuits have been available from our shop on Comp Days. Now you can make them yourself! You can purchase 'bone shaped' cutters through any good supplier of baking utensils. Store as you would homemade people biscuits.

**Parmesan Cheese Biscuits**

1 cup rolled oats  
 1/3 cup margarine  
 1 cup boiling water  
 2 tablespoons parsley  
 2 chicken or beef stock cubes  
 1/2 cup milk  
 1 egg  
 2-3 cups plain whole wheat flour  
 1 cup inexpensive parmesan cheese

Combine rolled oats, margarine and boiling water and stand for 10 minutes. Stir in parsley, stock cubes, milk, cheese and egg. Mix well. Add the flour one cup at a time, mixing well after each cup to form a stiff dough. Knead until dough is not sticky (approx 3-4 minutes). Roll out

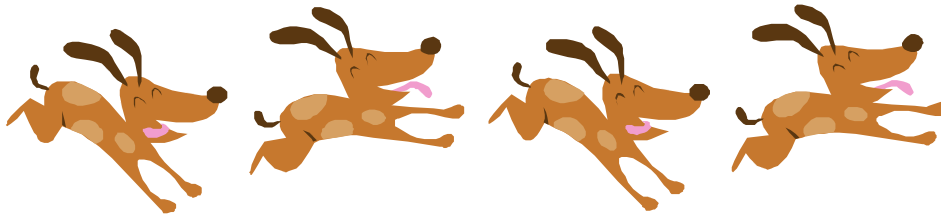
dough to 1/2 inch (1.5 centimetres). Cut with cookie cutter or form shape and bake at 325 degrees C for 35-45 minutes or until golden brown.

**Peanut Butter Biscuits**

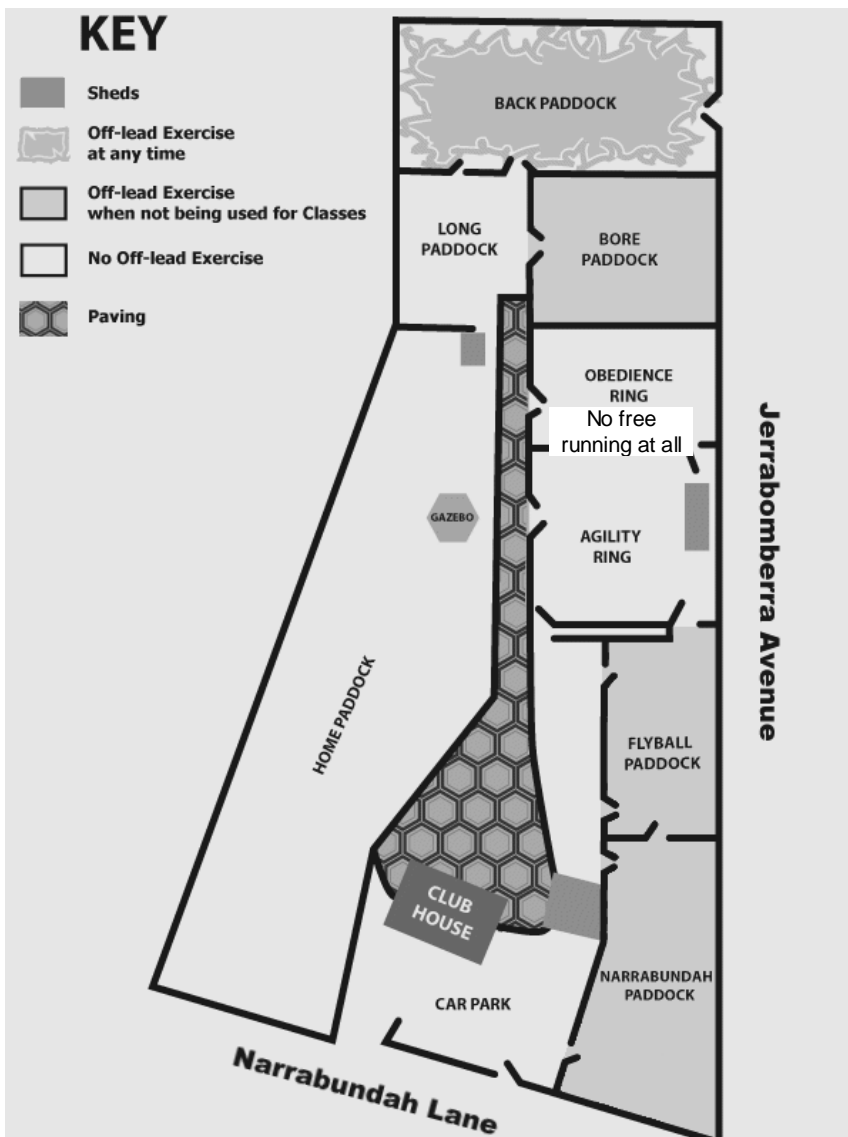
1 1/2 cups water  
 1/2 cup canola oil  
 2 eggs  
 3 tablespoons smooth peanut butter  
 1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour  
 1 1/4 cups white plain flour  
 1/2 cup rolled oats

Mix water, oil, eggs and peanut butter with a whisk. Add flour and rolled oats. Combine well. Knead until dough is not sticky (approx 3-4 minutes). Roll out dough to 1/2 inch (1.5 centimetres). Cut with cookie cutter or form shape and bake at 400 degrees c for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown. Turn off oven and leave biscuits in for approx 20 minutes to help to crisp.

## 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 getting 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 other members wishing to use an area, especially if you are not willing to have other 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(CD)	10.00 am	7.30 pm	10.30 am	Sunday 10.00 am
Open (CDX)	10.00 am	7.30 pm	9.30 am	Sunday 10.00 am
Utility (UD) & UDX	by arrangement contact the office			Sunday 10.00 am
<i>Companion stream</i>				
Primary	10.00 am	n/a	10.30 am	Sunday 10.00 am
Secondary	10.00 am	n/a	10.30 am	Sunday 10.00 am

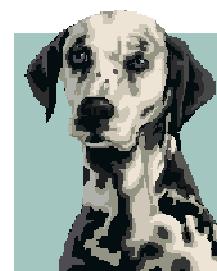
Note:  
 Instructors are only provided for the Open and Companion classes if handler numbers warrant.  
 Members must register to participate in the Trialling assessments at least one week prior to Comp Day.  
 See registration sheets on Trialling noticeboard in the clubhouse

AGILITY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Level 1	6.45pm - 8.15pm		
Level 2	6.45pm - 8.15pm		6.45pm - 8.15pm
Level 3			6.45pm - 8.15pm
Level 4	6.45pm - 8.15pm		
Novice	6.45pm - 8.15pm		
Excellent			6.45pm - 8.15pm
Masters		6.45pm - 8.15pm	

FLYBALL	Wednesday	Sunday
Beginners and Advanced training		1.00-3.00pm (April to September) 3.00 – 5.00pm (October to March)
Competition training	7.00pm - 8.30pm	

Note:  
 Times for agility and flyball classes may vary depending on the season. Please check with the convenors of these activities at the beginning of each training session.

*A grandfather was delivering his grandchildren to their home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian dog. The children started discussing the dog's duties. "They use him to keep crowds back," said one child. "No," said another, "He's just for good luck." A third child brought the argument to a close. "They use the dogs," she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrants."*



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS ~ 2010

## SEPTEMBER

Sat 4	CDC Agility and Jumping Trial
Mon 13*	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Agility Ribbon Trial – 6.30pm
Sat 25	CDC Obedience Trial – 9.00am ACT Gundog Society Obedience Trial at CDC – not before 1.00pm
Sun 26	Competition Day – 10.00am Linda Bennett Master Class for aspiring UD and UDX handlers (pre-registration required) – 9.30am
Wed 29	Labour Day weekend – No training classes
Thurs 30	Labour Day weekend – No training classes

## OCTOBER

Sat 2*	ACT Agility & Jumping State Titles at Tuggeranong Dog Training Club – 9.00am
Sun 3*	Labour Day weekend – No training classes Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Jumping and Games Trial – 9.00am
Wed 6	<b>Session 5 obedience training classes start</b>
Thurs 7	<b>Session 5 obedience training classes start</b>
Sat 9*	Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Obedience Trial – 9.00am
Sun 10	<b>Session 5 obedience training classes start</b>
Wed 20*	Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Jumping Ribbon Trial – 6.30pm
Sat 30	CDC Agility and Jumping Trial – 8.30am
Sun 31	Cut-off date for annual titles and pointscore awards.

## NOVEMBER

Fri 5	CDC Obedience Trial – 6.00pm (TBC)
Tues 16	CDC Ribbon Agility Trial – 6.30pm
Sat 27	ACT Gundog Society Obedience Trial – venue TBA
Sun 28	Competition Day – 10.00am

## DECEMBER

Sun 5	CDC Xmas BBQ and Annual Awards - TBC
Mon 6*	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Snooker Ribbon Trial – 6.30pm

\* Not held at CDC grounds

Jumping, Snooker, Gamblers and Strategic Pairs are varieties of agility competition.

Trial schedules are available from the Dogs ACT website at <http://www.actca.asn.au/Calendar1.htm>