



THE GOOD COMPANION

Official Publication of the ACT Companion Dog Club Inc
March 2010 - Volume 22, Number 1



*~ CELEBRATING 2009 AWARD WINNERS ~
~ VALE PAT OSWALD-SEALY ~
~ NEW AGILITY CHAMPION ~
~ AND MORE ~*

ACT COMPANION DOG CLUB INC

THE GOOD COMPANION

MARCH 2010 - VOLUME 22 NUMBER 1

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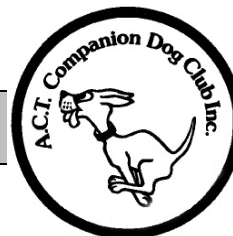
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Cover picture: Agility Dog of the Year - Allan Schmidt's Border Collie Jack (left); Obedience Dog of the Year - Lara Sedgmen's German Shorthaired Pointer Polo (centre) and Flyball Dog of the Year Jaci van Campenhout's Border Collie Jasper (right). Photos of Jack and Polo by Lara Sedgmen.

It's important to know:

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ABOUT OUR CLUB



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

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

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

The aims and objectives of the club are to :

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

COMMITTEE 2009-10

President: Gary Kingdon T 0421 884 114 (m)
Senior Vice-President: Vince Bush (Security) T 0411 759 832 (m)
Junior Vice-President: Sue Keal (Agility Liaison) T 0418 632 754 (m)
Treasurer: Lesley Pothan (Flyball Liaison) T 0421 041 032 (m)
Secretary: Toni Magi (Publicity) T 0438 659 890 (m)
Committee members: Lynn Harden (Development and Website), Katrina Morton (Shop and Housekeeping), Hilarie Kemp (Clubhouse Maintenance), Anne Robertson (Magazine and Obedience Trialling Liaison), Judith Barlow (Grounds Maintenance), Tony Turner (Dances with Dogs), Cathy Vaughan (Social Secretary), Jo Washington-King (Comp Day)

Obedience training sub-committee

Convenor: Louise McKay
 Members: Vince Bush, Diane Kingdon, Gary Kingdon, June Rowe

Obedience trialling sub-committee

Convenor: Jenny Marshall
 Members: Mary-Ann Fisher, Fay Peters, Anne Robertson, Werner Roth, Simon and Leisl Vellnagel-Dunn

Flyball training and competition sub-committee

Convenor: Lesley Pothan
 Members: Jocelyn Greenwood, Jessica McNamara, Jaci Van Campenhout
Centurion Security T 1300 138 769 or 1300 130 515

Development sub-committee

Convenor: Lynn Harden
 Members: Desiree Campbell, Tony Turner

Agility training and trialling sub-committee

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

Webmaster: Lynn Harden
webmaster@actcdc.org.au

Library: Karen Haines

Rally-O: Desiree Campbell

Dogs-As-Therapy: Joyce Thompson T 6281 4343 (before 9.00pm). Email: agt@home.com.au

CLUB ACTIVITIES

BASIC OBEDIENCE TRAINING

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

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

Dogs may attend from three months of age, provided they have been fully immunized. You will need to ring up to book your dog in (see contact details next page). You should do this several weeks in advance of your desired entry date to ensure that you will get a place. Dates for the next course can be found in the Calendar (see page 46).

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

Contact the club office to be put on the waiting list.

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

Dogs must be:

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

For more information on any of these activities refer to the relevant contacts on page 2.

FEES 2009-10

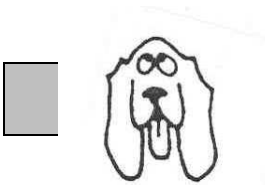
Joining fee (per household)	\$40
Annual subscription (per household)	\$70
Training fees per dog per year	
• Obedience	\$40
• Agility	\$50
• Flyball	\$40
• Ground use only	\$40
Instructors fee	\$20

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

Website: www.actcdc.org.au



FROM THE DOG KENNEL

Editor – Anne Robertson

Welcome to the first issue of *The Good Companion* magazine for 2010. This issue brings you information about the club's award winners for 2009 as well as news of current events and up-coming activities. My thanks to those members who have contributed articles for this edition, especially Kath McQuarrie, Barry Gray, Chris Atyeo, Liz Smith and Leisl and Simon Vellnagel-Dunn.

The Good Companion is published every two months during the training year. The deadline for routine copy is 15 April, 15 June, 15 August and 15 October. Contributions and suggestions are always welcome. Please contact me at birdwellsetters@ozemail.com.au with your ideas.

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



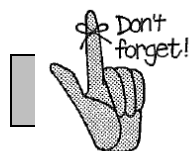
THANKS FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

The Committee and members thank the following Instructors for giving their time in Session One (February - March):

Obedience: Gillian Atkins, Stuart Barr, Pam Beesley, Ian Beckingham, Janne Blunden, Evon Bowler, Desiree Campbell, Heather Carswell, Grant Coles, Veronica Doerr, Chris Erwin, Barbara Feeken, John Green, Jacqui Griffin, Terry Griffin, Joan Hall, Pam Handyside, Lynn Harden, Linda Harper, Peter Hendriks, Carolyn Henry, Sue Keal, Hilary Kemp, Di Kingdon, Gary Kingdon, Lidea Lea, Maureen Lewis, Mike Lynch, Toni Magi, Louise McKay, Frances Marsh, Jenny Marshall, Katrina Morton, Bernadette Ni Beirne, Cath Perry, Barry Pigram, Greg Preston, Vic Rogers, Werner Roth, June Rowe, Lara Sedgmen, Margareth Stumpel, Joyce Thompson, Barbara Toohey, Tony Turner, Cathy Vaughan, Jane Vickers, Jo Washington-King, Paul Zylstra

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

Agility: Di Adams, Greg Collins, Laraine Frawley, Joycelyn Greenwood, Naarilla Hirsch, Sue Keal, Patricia Looker, Anne Robertson



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 class. The next Comp Day will be held on Sunday 28 March from 10.00am.

Some special activities are planned for our March Comp Day – keep an eye on the Noticeboard for more details.

When is the next working bee on?

Our next working bee will be held on Saturday 20 March from 9.00am. Please come along and help out for an hour or two. Bring yourself, bring your gloves, 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 at Easter?

There will be no obedience training classes on 31 March, 1 April and 4 April due to Easter. Obedience training classes start again on Wednesday 7 April, Thursday 8 April and Sunday 11 April.

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 45 for details).

What trials are coming up? Can I come and watch?

Members are welcome to come and watch any trials on the club grounds – but please leave your dog at home. Agility trials will be held on Tuesday 16 March from 6.30pm; Saturday 3 April from 8.30am; Sunday 4 April from 9.00am, and Tuesday 20 April from 6.30pm. An Obedience trial will be held on Saturday 24 April from 10.00am. Dog/handler teams compete in these trials to assess their training skills against nationally recognised standards and to gain official titles.

When can I use the club grounds?

Financial members and their dogs may use the grounds at any time for exercise and training purposes. Please observe club etiquette for using the free running areas (see page 44) and always clean up after your dog. Please note that some parts of the grounds may be closed to general access when trials are on.

Where can I find out more?

See the Calendar of Events on page 46.

IS YOUR DOG'S ATTENDANCE CARD:

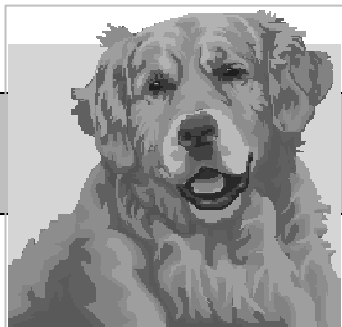
BLUE ?

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

PINK ?

IF SO, YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS DUE FOR RENEWAL BY THE END OF MAY

PLEASE CONTACT THE CLUB OFFICE



PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

GARY KINGDON

To all new members of the Club, welcome to the CDC. I hope that your training goes well and the club meets your expectations in learning how to train your dog and develop the relationship between you and the dog. Whatever your aims and desires for training your dog I hope that the club can help you achieve them.

To existing members, welcome back. I hope you had a good and enjoyable break (but did not forget to continue with your training practice!) and I wish you all the best for your training in 2010.

Congratulations to those members who gained awards and titles at the club's annual awards function in December. Also, congratulations to those handlers who passed the last Competition Day in November.

To all of you, the club and its instructors are here to help you train your dog. The only way that we can know if we are achieving this objective is feedback from you. If there are any areas where you think that we are not meeting your expectations, things could be improved or any other suggestions that you may have, please do not hesitate to either note them down and put them in the

Suggestion Box outside the office, raise them with your instructor or the Session Manager, members of the Training Sub-Committee or with members of the Committee (see page 2 for details). This feedback is the main way that we can improve the club. As the saying goes, 'If you are happy with the club, tell others. If you are not, tell us.'

Canberra experiences extreme weather with temperatures over 30 degrees during the summer months. Handlers should be mindful of the dangers of exercising or training during hot weather. The safety and well-being of dogs and handlers is paramount. Instructors and handlers should not hesitate to take a break from instruction or training if the weather is affecting them or their dogs.

Due to the recent rain, the club grounds are looking better than they did twelve months ago, but there are still a lot of weeds around, with burrs etc that will get into dogs' coats. We have a project to improve the grounds, but this is still a work in progress and there is no immediate solution.

Please read through the magazine. It is our main communication channel between the club and you, our members. There are some interesting articles and important notices, plus other things that may be use to you.

Happy training!



As long as human beings think that animals do not feel,
animals have to feel that human beings cannot think.

Arthur Schopenhauer, German philosopher, 1788 - 1860

Vale – Patricia Oswald-Sealy

Patricia Oswald-Sealy was a long-time member of the ACT Companion Club – a generous instructor and keen competitor in obedience and agility trials. Our thanks to her friend Kath McQuarrie for providing this tribute to Pat.



Above: Pat (right) with Jack and Kari and Kath (left) with Holly following completion of an ACT Endurance Test

Patricia Oswald-Sealy died on Monday 4 January 2010 aged 68 years, suddenly and unexpectedly in the end – following a course of chemotherapy.

Initially diagnosed with cancer and undergoing surgery in 2006, Pat had two very active and productive years free from illness until 2009 when further treatment was required, leaving her debilitated and weak. Despite this, she remained positive throughout and had great plans for her life.

Pat's service was conducted in the Chapel of the Norwood Park Crematorium on 12 January 2010 by a university friend from the 1960s and in the company of family and friends drawn from her varied interests – bushwalking, genealogy, the gym and dogs including agility, obedience and conformation.

Pat possessed a keen intellect and an analytical mind and was a great conversationalist. She had worked for the CSIRO including a period examining NASA rock specimens from outer space. She was a 'fit-aholic' and had the highest aerobic reading at her gym prior to her illness. She loved bushwalking and had a strong passion for Ireland and genealogy – in particular her family history which she researched and recorded in great detail. She was a perfectionist.

Pat began exhibiting Miniature Schnauzers in the 1980s, starting with solid blacks from Jan Finn's Elimbari line and then going on to show with John Sparkes (Wahnfried). She had great success in obedience trialling particularly with Wahnfried Jack Frost, and later in agility with Kari, Mizzy and Kyama. Pat bred several litters of Miniature Schnauzers and was a competent stud master. She had a small grooming/boarding business which she operated from her home. Nothing was too good for her dogs and she was always concerned for their care and welfare during her hospital

stays. Her surviving dogs – Mizzy and Kyama – will now go to Perth with Pat's daughter, Lisa, and enjoy family life with three grand children.

Pat was a fierce competitor in whatever she undertook and always turned her active mind to the best way to achieve her goal. We will miss her at agility trials in her pink lycra suit with the lightning flashes up the side. She was a generous instructor in both obedience and agility and always prepared to offer advice and encouragement to others. She competed very successfully to CDX level in obedience and was an equally ribboned competitor in agility, most recently enjoying the games events at trials.

Pat maintained email contact with her friends throughout her illness. Her mind never rested and she fought to stay alive with all the tenacity she showed in other aspects of her life.

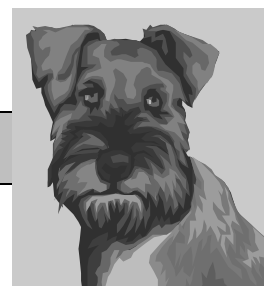
A life well-lived and productive – but regrettably too short.

Well done 'dog whisperer'. We will miss you.

A dog's bill of rights

By Carolyn Krause

I have the right to give and receive unconditional love.
I have the right to a life that is beyond mere survival.
I have the right to be trained so I do not become the prisoner of my own behavior.
I have the right to adequate food and medical care.
I have the right to fresh air and green grass.
I have the right to socialize with people and dogs outside my family.
I have the right to have my needs and wants respected.
I have the right to special time with my people.
I have the right to only be bred responsibly – if at all.
I have the right to some time and space all my own.
I have the right to be foolish and silly, and to make my person laugh.
I have the right to earn my person's trust and to be trusted in return.
I have the right to be forgiven.
I have the right to die with dignity.
I have the right to be remembered well.



DOGS – AS – THERAPY

By Joyce Thompson, Co-ordinator

Dogs-as-Therapy members and their dogs visit nursing homes and special schools around Canberra to provide pet therapy for the residents.

Visits resumed in February, following a short break over the festive season.

New members are always welcome. The dogs need not be highly trained, but must be very socially inclined, both with other dogs and people. It also helps if their handlers are happy to interact and enjoy the experience of visiting the elderly and younger folk with special needs.

Enquiries always welcome. Contact details appear on page 2.

ANNUAL AWARDS – 2009

The Club held its Annual Awards presentations on 6 December 2009. These included the presentation of perpetual trophies, keepsakes for members who have earned official titles with their dogs, and certificates of appreciation to members who have made a special contribution to the club during the year. Details of recipients are provided below.

Congratulations to all members for their efforts and contributions during the year.

The award year runs from 1 November to 31 October.



DOG OF THE YEAR AWARDS

AGILITY DOG OF THE YEAR - Allan Schmidt and Border Collie Jack

This award was established by Margaret McNicol, a past President and life member of CDC to recognise achievement in the sport of agility. It is based on performances in ACT competition throughout the year and recognises dogs that not only gain qualifications, but also get top placings in doing so.

Allan and Jack achieved 11 first places in Masters-level competition during the award year. They have been one of the most nationally recognized agility teams for many years and have consistently represented the ACT at national agility trials. Allan never takes his agility too seriously, always helps to lighten the mood at trials and encourages all his students, from the absolute beginners to his fellow competitors in Masters events. Allan and Jack are a joyful team to watch, with Allan's signature shoulder turns sometimes propelling Jack on lightning-fast clean runs, and sometimes (especially in Masters Gamblers) propelling him along some entirely different course, but one that is just as much fun for the audience to watch. Training and trialling should always be as fun and as seemingly effortless and smooth as Allan and Jack make it look.

FLYBALL DOG OF THE YEAR - Jaci van Campenhout and Border Collie Jasper

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.

Jaci and Jasper started flyball in early 2008. In less than two years Jasper has become a Flyball Master, achieving a total of 400 competition points. At training sessions and in competition, Jasper rarely puts a foot wrong, displaying an ever-willing competitive spirit and a beautifully consistent style. This year, Jasper and his handler Jaci have attended 12 competitions in Canberra and NSW – more than any other Canberra X-Factor team member. Jaci has recently joined the X-Factor Flyball Committee as Training Manager. Together this dog and handler are perfect recipients for this award.

OBEDIENCE DOG OF THE YEAR - Lara Sedgmen and German Shorthaired Pointer Topnotch Lord CDX (Polo)

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.

Polo achieved his Companion Dog title at the age of 19 months and ten months later also achieved his Open (CDX) title. Lara is a longstanding member of the club who actively competes with her dogs in obedience, agility and retrieving trials. Lara has previously served on the Main Committee, convened the Agility Sub-Committee, managed the club's agility trials and instructed agility classes. She is also a keen photographer and routinely photographs other members' dogs competing in obedience and agility trials and freely makes her work available for use in the club's magazine.

Goldberg Trophy for Competition Day scores - Emma Bush and Golden Retriever Lacey

The Joan Goldberg Trophy is presented to the handler and dog team who have gained the best performances on Comp Days for the year.

Emma and Lacey achieved 1st place in each Comp Day level they entered in 2009, gaining creditable marks.

Most Improved Dog Trophy - Anne Robertson and Irish Red and White Setter Derry

Twelve months ago Anne had a dog that was flighty, reactive and with a very short attention span. Through patient training and persistence, plus consistent hard work, Anne has turned Derry into a dog that is capable of performing in both agility and obedience trials. During this time Anne has calmly accepted Derry's shortcomings and lapses in behaviour or performance, and thought of other ways to train him in a particular exercise or to improve his standard. While Derry is still a work-in-progress, his handler's rising to the challenge of training him and getting him to the stage he is at now is both remarkable and noteworthy.

Cleo Award for Companion Level - Trevor Bruhn and Border Collie Giles

The winner of this year's Cleo award for best achievement in Companion class has worked hard and progressed steadily since joining Secondary Companion. He and his dog won the award in 2008 with a Bronze Medal performance on Competition Day and have gone on to achieve a Silver Medal in 2009 - with the potential to go all the way to Gold.

Junior Handler of the Year Award - Shannon Prichard and Groodle Kimba

The Jim Frazer Trophy is presented to a junior handler who has made great progress throughout the year.

Shannon started training at the club in August 2008, with her six month old, over-sized Groodle, Kimba. She has worked her way through the levels and is now training in Advanced. Shannon has never given up, and worked consistently with her dog, even when Kimba has been a bit difficult. She has listened to advice from her instructors and put it into practice. She has missed only a few weeks instruction during her time at the club.

Handler of the Year Award - Tony Ayers and Schipperke Sam

This award goes to the person judged to have shown outstanding handling skills during the year.

Tony Ayers and Sam are in Secondary Companion class. Tony has managed to achieve this level despite severe disabilities: he is deaf and mute. Yet he still manages to communicate with

his dog and his dog responds well to him. He has attended classes regularly throughout the year and his performance with his dog shows that he puts time in outside of class. Tony's instructor in the Secondary Companion class has commented very favourably on his performance and dedication.

Tony has also made a contribution to the club through his participation in working bees as well as attending events such as the awards evening in 2008.

Although he may not have achieved such high level obedience training as those who are trialling their dogs, to reach the standard that he has with the handicaps that he has overcome is an accomplishment that few of us can imagine.

Tony is awarded the Handler of the Year award not because of his disabilities, but for what he and his dog have achieved despite this.



OBEDIENCE POINT SCORE AWARDS

These awards are based on the scores gained in obedience trials sanctioned by the Australian National Kennel Council.

Jo Ballard Award for Community Companion Dog (CCD) – Awarded to Sharon Bowditch and Australian Cattle Dog X Michelago Mick with a total of 264 points out of a possible 300.

This award is presented to the dog/handler team who achieve the highest aggregate score qualifying for their Community Companion Dog (CCD) title. It is named in honour of Jo Ballard, a longtime club member who trained one of the more difficult breeds, Parson Jack Russell, to the highest level. She was a patient trainer and a persistent trialler.

Novice (CD) Point Score Trophy – Awarded to Lara Sedgmen and German Shorthaired Pointer Topnotch Lord (Polo) with a total of 576 points out of a possible 600.

This award is presented to the dog/handler team who achieve the highest aggregate score qualifying for their Companion Dog (CD) title.

Open (CDX) Point Score Trophy – Awarded to Lara Sedgmen and German Shorthaired Pointer Topnotch Lord (Polo) with a total of 562 points out of a possible 600.

This award is presented to the dog/handler team who achieve the highest aggregate score qualifying for their Open (CDX) title.

Gumboot Trophy for Open Obedience – Awarded to Laraine Frawley and Golden Retriever Fieldgold Scottish Loch (Loch) with a total of 972 points out of a possible 1000.

The Gumboot trophy was donated by Vikki Evans to encourage members to continue trialling after gaining their CDX title. It is awarded to the dog/handler team who achieve the five highest qualifying Open passes in local trials during the year after gaining their title.

Utility (UD) Point Score Trophy

This award is presented to the dog/handler team who achieve the highest aggregate score qualifying for their Utility Dog (UD) title. It was not awarded in 2009 as no team gained their UD title during the year.

AGILITY AWARDS

These awards are based on results gained in agility and jumping trials sanctioned by the Australian National Kennel Council.

Novice Agility Dog of the Year - Kate Etchells and Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Fyrefly River Dance (Scully) with five first places out of a possible six.

This award is presented to the dog that has achieved the highest placings across its 3 novice agility and 3 novice jumping qualifications to gain its Agility Dog (AD) and Jumping Dog (JD) titles.

Clear Round Award - Lara Sedgmen and Hungarian Vizsla Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri (Rogan)

This award recognises consistency in competition held in the ACT throughout the year and is based on the number of qualifications gained at local trials regardless of placings. Lara and Rogan also received this award in 2007 and 2008.

FLYBALL AWARDS

Morris Encouragement Award - Des Dickie and Kelpie Max

This award was donated by Justin Allen in memory of his dog Morris, who, from undistinguished beginnings went on to be an excellent flyball competitor. The award is presented to the dog and handler who have overcome difficulties in their training and are now making good progress.

Des and Max have been with CDC flyball since early 2008. Although his natural exuberance, enthusiasm, speed, and his certainty that two balls are better than one sometimes conflict with his focus, Max has made great progress in 2009, achieving an average of 17 points each time he competes and attaining his Flyball Dog Champion title. In part this may be due to his parents' (Des and Marianne) strategic decision that Des's physical strength was required to deal with this large, cheerful, strong and determined kelpie in the excitement of the competition ring.

NEW OBEDIENCE INSTRUCTORS

- Jane Vickers
- Bernadette Ni Beirne
- Margareth Stumpel

INSTRUCTORS SERVICE AWARDS

- 10 years – David Berriman
- 20 years – Joyce Thompson and Gary Kingdon



CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

- Bruce Chapman and Linda Harper – for dedicated support to the club by regularly travelling from the South Coast to Canberra to instruct at the Wednesday morning classes during the year.
- Heather Carswell – for preparing qualifying cards at all of the club's agility trials (and helping in the kitchen) despite the fact that her own dog, Maverick, can no longer participate in agility.
- Greg Collins – for instructing agility classes in every session in 2009.
- Joycelyn Greenwood – for consistently stewarding at the club's agility trials and helping with equipment repairs.
- Naarilla Hirsch – for instructing agility classes in every session she was available in 2009.

- Werner Roth – for contributing to the running of the club's obedience trials, support for Comp Day judging at trialling levels and mentoring of triallers during 2009.
- Mike Slee – for providing ongoing support to the club by regularly taking classes and helping set up Comp Days during the year.
- Ron White - for stewarding at most of the club's agility trials in 2009.

CANINE GOOD CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

Awarded to members who regularly participate in Dogs-as-Therapy activities.

- Sue Kelly and Labrador Ash
- Graham McCann and Flat-coated Retriever Purdy
- Debbie Perrin and Miniature Schnauzer Jasper



TITLES

Each year the club recognizes the achievements of members who have competed in various dog sports and earned nationally recognized titles. Competitions are regularly held in the ACT and throughout Australia at which dog and handler teams can test their competence against nationally-agreed performance standards in obedience, agility, flyball, tracking, herding, retrieving, endurance and heelwork to music.

Members earned 111 titles across five of these disciplines during the year. Details of upcoming trials at CDC are listed in the Calendar of Events on page 46.

AGILITY

Denise Iglesias	Casey	ADX, JDX, GD, SPD	Australian Shepherd
Linda Spinaze	Tosca	JDO, JDM	German Shorthaired Pointer X
Geoff Woodman	Ch Perrecca Tralee	AD, GD, JDX	Golden Retriever
Geoff Woodman	Palkorra Ria Athena	ADM	Golden Retriever
Geoff Woodman	Perrecca Xanthe	JD	Golden Retriever
Lesli Cameron	Alhambra Bill Owen	AD, JDX, GD	English Springer Spaniel
Lesli Cameron	Sonza Tyr	JDM, SDX	English Springer Spaniel
Sarah Kirkwood	Issen Honey Blossom	SD, ADX	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
Sarah Kirkwood	Irishmoor Yormiboi Oscar	AD, GD, SD, JDX	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
Patricia Oswald-Sealy	Wahnfried Anita	ADX, JDX, ADO, SD, GD	Miniature Schnauzer
Laraine Frawley	Granble Fieldgold Grail	GDX	Golden Retriever
Richard Johnston	Lisa	JD	Australian Cattle Dog
Loris Cameron	Maisongabbi Bijou Garnet	JD, AD, SD, SPD, GD	Miniature Schnauzer
Loris Cameron	Maisongabbi Likea Sprite	SPDX, GDM	Miniature Schnauzer
Lucy Williams	Cavregis Hermione	JDM, ADM3, ADM4, ADO5, ADO6, JDO2, SDX	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
Lucy Williams	Cavregis White Knight	ADX, JDX, JDO, GD	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
Lucy Williams	Cavregis Marilyn Merlot	ADX, ADO, JDX, GD	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
Di Adams	Star	JD, GD	Australian Cattle Dog
Sue Keal	Skipper	SD, GDX	Cattle Dog X
Sue Keal	Ch Kaemajae Gungadin	SD	Labrador
Judith Barlow	Bree	AD, JDX	Brittany
Laraine Frawley	Fieldgold Scottish Loch	ADX, SD, JDO	Golden Retriever
Lara Sedgmen	Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri	GDM, SDM, SPDM	Hungarian Vizsla

Vikki Evans	Ch Rustufarion Kryptomaniac	ADX, JDM, JDO, SD	Hungarian Puli
Airlie White	Bordercheck Autumn Styx	GDM, SDM	Border Collie
Jenny Marshall	Dalibel Fullof Chaos	JD, GD	Schipperke
Kate Etchells	Scully	AD, JD, GD, JDX	Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever

RETRIEVING

Laraine Frawley	Fieldgold Scottish Loch	NRD	Golden Retriever
Lara Sedgmen	Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri	RRD	Hungarian Vizsla

OBEDIENCE

Lara Sedgmen	Topnotch Lord	CD, CDX	German Shorthaired Pointer
Naarilla Hirsch	Callisto	CDX	Associate
Wendy Rattigan	Thundova Tabu	CCD	Siberian Husky
Barbara Oliver	Lottie Matilda	CCD, CD	Associate
Kathy Bush	Dykinta Southern Salute	CD	Golden Retriever
Cath Perry	Perrecca Ashwood	CD	Golden Retriever
Sharon Bowditch	Michelago Mick	CCD	Australian Cattle Dog
Vikki Evans	Ch Rustufarion Kryptomaniac	CD	Hungarian Puli
Airlie White	Bordercheck Autumn Styx	CDX	Border Collie
Kate Etchells	Scully	CD	Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever

FLYBALL

Joycelyn Greenwood	Keira	AFCh, FM	Border Collie X
Joycelyn Greenwood	Burra	ONYX	Kelpie X
Jessica McNamara	Peanut	FD, FDX, FDCH	Kelpie
Jessica McNamara	Zac	ONYX	Jack Russell
Claire Wyatt	Humphrey	FD, FDX	Labrador X
Donna Cameron	Foxie Lady	FDCH	Fox Terrier
Lesley Pothan	Dharma	FMCh	Border Collie X
Garry Greenwood	Dusty	FD, FDX, FDCH	German Coolie
Catherine Woodward	Russell	FD, FDX, FDCH	Jack Russell Terrier
Des Dickie	Max	FD, FDX, FDCH	Kelpie

TRACKING

Wendy Laigne-Stuart	Ch Sinaway Zorros Mark	TD	Weimeraner
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Tales out of school – Rally-O over the summer break

By Desiree Campbell

Rally Obedience or 'Rally-O' is one of the newest of the canine sport disciplines. Founded in the United States by Charles L (Bud) Kramer at the turn of this century, Rally-O was developed with a view to injecting new interest into obedience. Rally-O is a combination of obedience and agility where dog and handler teams use the directional signs of obedience exercises to run through a numbered course similar to an agility course. Courses vary in length and complexity.

Rally-O has taken off big time in North America, the United Kingdom and even New Zealand, where it is now on a par with obedience and agility. Alas, it has failed to gain acceptance in Australia, shunned by obedience and agility triallers and the various canine associations. Efforts to popularise the sport in the ACT in the early 'noughties' were made by the Tuggeranong, Belconnen and CDC dog clubs, with each hosting inter-club competitions open to all comers.



One particularly memorable pre-Christmas competition at Belconnen had dogs looking around, embarrassed, disowning their handlers who had to sing a Christmas carol at one station. While many found Rally-O fun or refreshing, and some (who didn't do well in formal obedience) achieved great success, interest in the activity as a serious competition option pretty much disappeared by 2004.

CDC has been running Rally-O as a summer time activity for the past three years for members who find the holiday break a test of their good intentions to keep up their training. Starting weekly on the first Tuesday evening in December following Comp Day and ending with the Australia Day long weekend, it has

proved a popular 'summer school' activity with members and their dogs. We treat it as a light-hearted way to strengthen the working relationship between dogs and their handlers and also to maintain and improve obedience skills while having a lot of fun in a relaxed social setting.

We set up at least two courses (more if required) and instructors are on hand to make sure teams understand what the signs mean and how to perform the exercises. There are no tests or competitions - everyone's a winner as everyone benefits from the experience. There is no hassle or stress as everyone goes through each course at their own pace.

Rally-O suits the more active, 'distracted' dog. You know the ones – they spend too much time looking to make mischief and not enough time listening to the teacher! It is so gratifying to see the working relationship between dogs and handlers grow each week as the serious side of training makes room for the lighter side, with lots of rewards, praise, distraction and movement suiting dogs that have found formal classes a bit of a challenge.

This past summer saw a great turn out each week. Members came with their dogs, every or any week, and had a go. We attracted a wide range of dogs from beginner to trialling standard. Some dog/handler teams struggled a little at the start - the dogs caught on pretty quickly but the poor humans often took a bit longer. By the end of January, however, all dogs showed a huge improvement in their obedience skills and owners in their handling skills.

The club will continue to hold Rally-O summer schools, so watch out for notices later in the year and consider coming along for a bit of fun and training. Many thanks to Maureen Lewis, Greg Preston, Mary-Ann Fisher, Mike Slee and the other instructors who helped out over the break.

Want to know more about Rally-O? Go to http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rally_obedience.

Photo reproduced from <http://www.akc.org/events/rally/>.

Who are the people in our neighbourhood?

Wondered about the new building that has appeared on the land to the east of our back paddock? Rumour has it that the Canberra Society of Model & Experimental Engineers will be our new neighbours. The Society operates the Kingston Miniature Railway which is currently situated in Geijera St. Kingston, adjacent to the Railway Museum.

The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club is located to our west. According to its website, all the trucks going to and fro over the summer break have been resurfacing and maintaining the racing track.

Capital Indoor Plant Hire shares our northern boundary. The company operates a 2000sq metre heated glasshouse on the property and a wholesale nursery on the South Coast.



**~ 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 agility 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.

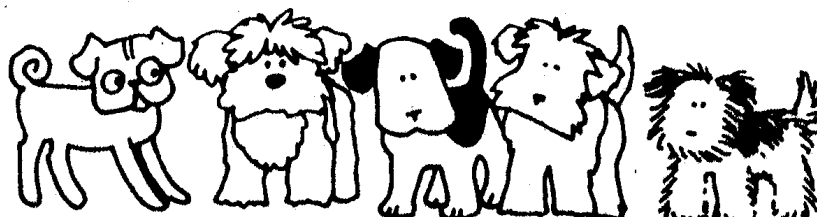
If you come across a kangaroo that has been injured while at the club:

- 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.

OBEDIENCE TRAINING



By Louise McKay, Convenor

Train the trainer – Invitation to participate in the Level 1 Instructor Course

A Level 1 Instructors Course will start on Monday 15 March 2010 and run for ten weeks. Lectures and demonstrations will be held on Monday nights (except Easter Monday) from 7.00 - 9.30 pm, with practical classes held in conjunction with training days. The course will cover teaching club obedience classes from Kindergarten up to Advanced level.

Club members who have trained a dog to Advanced or higher levels are invited to nominate to participate in the course. If you are interested in making a contribution to the club and would enjoy passing your knowledge on to the next generation of owners please leave your name and contact details at the office.

Full details of the course are available from the club office.

Let us know what you think

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

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

Games to play with your dog

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.

The Crazy Owner/Good Dog game

This game is focused on getting your dogs to enjoy walking with you nicely (versus dragging you from one interesting smell, or dog, to the next). Walking calmly by your side and ignoring the environment is a pretty unnatural behaviour for dogs, so to counter that you need to adopt a playful attitude and work on make the learning process more fun and exciting.

The reason this game is called the Crazy Owner will soon become obvious and if you are worried about what your neighbours might think if they see you walking around strangely then you might want to try it out in your backyard first. And as it's best to start any new game in a quiet location with few distractions, this is good advice even for those exhibitionists out there.

Make sure you have lots of small treats at the ready and are in the mood for fun. With your dog on lead, show him that you have treats and head off, adopting a walking pattern that is completely erratic and unpredictable in regard to direction, pace, and types of steps. No direct routes or consistent paces for you in this game! We want your dog to think that you're the most interesting game in town. Then, anytime you have your dog's attention and the lead is loose, 'mark and reward' the behaviour and praise enthusiastically. As your dog's attention increases you can reward with food less often and rely on praise and the fact that you're both having fun together. An example of the game might look like this: You take a few quick steps and then change direction and stop. If you have your dog's attention 'mark and reward', then move off giving your best version of a goose step for a couple of paces, again rewarding when your dog is with you, then turn right and speed up, then zig-zag using a long loping type of step, then do a complete about face and walk off normally, rewarding all appropriate behaviour along the way. Such unpredictable behaviour on your part can make you very interesting (yes, to observers as well as your dog). And being rewarded for any attention and a loose lead will not go unnoticed by your dog, so you won't have to be 'crazy' on your walks forever.

Keep the game short to begin with so that you finish well before your dog loses interest.

Using 'tricks' to train your dog

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.

Teach your dog to shake hands

Follow this step-by-step guide to teach your dog to shake hands:

- Start by being prepared with lots of small tasty treats that are easily accessible to you but not to your dog (tiny bits of sausage, cabanossi, chicken, cheese etc on a bowl on a table or in a bum bag attached to your waist).
- Start with your dog sitting.
- Crouch or kneel down in front of your dog so that you're facing each other.
- Take a small and tasty piece of food and hold it in your hand in such a way that the dog can't take it until you're ready to give it to him.
- Be quiet – no cues should be given until the dog is offering his paw consistently.
- Now hold your hand with the food in it close to the dog's nose (so he knows if you have something tasty) and then move your hand to about the height of your dog's chest.
- Most dogs will first try and mouth your hand trying to get at the food (but don't release the food for this response). If your puppy bites too hard give a high pitched 'yelp' and stop the session and try again a little later.
- Many dogs (and especially puppies) having failed with their mouth will then lift their paw to try and scratch the food out of your hand. This is the basis of the 'shake hands'.
- As soon as their paw touches your hand 'mark and reward' with the food in your hand.

- Repeat this process a couple of times. Once you think your dog has the idea (ie touch the hand and the food is magically made available) then try holding your hand in the same way but with no food. If your dog still contacts your hand with his paw 'mark' and 'jackpot' with lots of treats from your stash.
- Have a break.
- Come back and start again with food in your hand the first time. If your dog immediately touches your hand with his paw then start to add the cue of 'shake' or 'say hello'. If he doesn't, then just back track a little.
- The second time, open your palm and see if your dog will still touch your hand with his paw.
- What you're aiming for is the dog to make contact with his paw against your open flat hand.

Once you have the 'shake hands' going, it can be turned into a 'high five' or a wave by repositioning your hand and distance from the dog!

The important thing is to have fun with your dog. If your 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 alternative ways to get our dogs to lift their paws if this doesn't come naturally.

For example, you could try moving your hand around so the dog is a bit off balance and the second their paw comes off the ground – 'mark and reward' that. Your dog has to be in the game to learn something new and confusion is the biggest downer, so be patient.



THE VET IS IN - VACCINATION

© Dr Sandra Hassett, Animal Medical Centre, Phillip

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

Reproduced from the Pet Health Bulletin, Spring 2009

Please note: Members are required to show proof of vaccination when joining the club and must declare that their dog is vaccinated when renewing membership.

Vaccination in cats and dogs has always been a topical issue, more so of late. The Australian Veterinary Association (AVA), the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) and the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP) have reviewed existing vaccination guidelines and have presented new recommendations. The new vaccination guidelines published by the AVA recommend annual check-ups but administration of certain vaccinations in dogs and cats only once every three years.

These vaccinations include:

- Dogs - Modified live virus vaccine for Canine Distemper, Parvo and Adeno viral infections. These vaccines are commonly referred to as 'C3'.
- Cats - Feline Herpesvirus, Calicivirus and Panleukopenia vaccines. These vaccines are generally known as 'FLU' or 'F3' vaccination.

The following vaccinations will still be necessary annually in dogs and cats:

- Dogs – Kennel Cough vaccine
- Cats – FIV, FLV and inactivated F3

Please discuss your vaccination concerns with your veterinarian during your appointment. Remember, too, that annual check-ups are an essential part of your pet's health care and preventive maintenance, even if a vaccine is not administered.

Exercise finished

~ The chronicle of Lucy and Summer ~

By Leisl and Simon Vellnagel-Dunn



Above: Leisl with Lucy and Simon with Summer

And so ended our first year of school ...

Lucy and Summer came into our lives in October 2008, but were in our hearts long before they were born as we were wait-listed with our breeder - John Sparks in Pambula - way back in 2007.

Lucy and Summer were too young to attend the final term of 2008 at CDC, so they attended a private puppy school.

In February 2009 the family started school at CDC and were fast-tracked to Intermediate level.

Our first class with Tony Turner was a lot of fun. More play time than hard work, but we learnt how to sit, down, heel (after a fashion) and recall on lead. The most enjoyable part of the session was meeting heaps of new people who shared the same love of dogs. Summer and Lucy made a lot of friends and even managed to catch up with some of them on the Million Paws Walk.

Canberra is a small place for dogs, too, it seems.

Both Lucy and Summer passed Intermediate at Comp Day in late March but I'm not quite sure how Lucy passed with Leisl's heart beating and hands shaking during the test. People have since told us that you must try not to be nervous in a test as your dog will also become stressed but in this case I think Lucy stepped up a notch to carry Leisl through!

It was in Advanced that we realised that it wasn't the dogs who were actually attending school but their owners. Tony once said: "Your dog will always be trying to please you. It just might not always understand exactly what it is you are asking it to do". We went home that night and realised what that expression was behind Lucy's huge eye brows - the 'What the ???' look! So it became important for us - the trainers - to be trained to perfect our cues and to be consistent in their use.

We also learnt about the 'Three P's' from Tony – practice, persistence and, perhaps most of all, patience. We started doing a 'five treat train' in the mornings before breakfast on the lounge room carpet and then after work we'd spend 5-10 minutes training the girls before taking them for a walk. They trained well in the warmth of the lounge room during winter but not so well on the cold and sometimes frosty ground outside.

We graduated Advanced class to run into Fay Peters in Transition. Boy, were we to learn a thing or two here! So the first class was a bit embarrassing with Leisl having to parade around the ring by herself to learn that she could not walk a straight line. It was then that the training of Leisl – without Lucy - commenced. Her work colleagues thought she was a bit strange doing right, left and about turns in the office kitchen at lunch times. In any case, it worked miracles as Lucy managed to ribbon in her Transition exam that term. Thank you, Fay!

Summer became somewhat precious on the wet, cold, foggy grass that Transition Comp Day and had to re-sit her down component the next week. We both decided to do the Primary Companion stream after Summer passed Transition a week later.

Primary Companion with Mike Slee was a heap of fun and challenges – especially heeling off-lead – but tricks and jumps

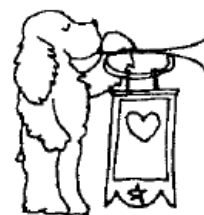
brought so much joy into our lives. We learnt a number of party tricks for Christmas Day, like jumping through our arms and speaking on command.

After failing Primary Companion in the sleet (yes, *that* miserable September Comp Day) we joined the Trialling stream with Fay again and entered our first obedience trial at Tuggeranong Dog Training Club in October. We competed as naive first-timers but learnt so much from the judges who were so kind and constructive in their criticisms. The best advice was to carry a hip flask full of whiskey to partake of a nip or two before going into the ring but we're not sure Lucy likes the taste? Maybe we haven't got it quite right yet? Lucy gained a qualifying score at Tuggeranong and has since achieved a second pass at CDC so she is now just one pass short of obtaining her Community Companion Dog (CCD) title. We plan on achieving titles with both Lucy and Summer in 2010 and continuing with training at CDC where the whole family has a heap of fun.

We hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas with your pooches. We discovered Lucy has a liking for paté and freshly shucked oysters straight from the Christmas table. Apparently twelve months at dog school does not quite make the perfect dinner guest! We'll continue our training in 2010 and hope to meet many more fellow dog lubbers!



~ COMP DAY RESULTS ~ 29 NOVEMBER 2009



By Gary Kingdon, Co-ordinator

Thanks are due to a number of people for helping prepare and run the day: Vince Bush for helping set up on the Saturday; Toni Magi for helping prepare on the day and doing check-in with Mary-Ann Fisher; Greg Preston and Desiree Campbell for helping organise things in the various rings; Katrina Morton, Emma Bush and Bronnie Hayek for running the shop; June Rowe for taking photographs of the winners; and Werner Roth, Alan Anderson and a number of handlers - whose names I did not get - for helping dismantle the rings afterwards. Thanks also to those who undertook the task of judging on the day: Emma Dunst, Tony Turner, Toni Magi, Pam Beesley, Mike Slee, Kathy Bush, Anne Robertson, Joyce Thompson and Werner Roth.

Results on the day were:

INTERMEDIATE

Judge: Tony Turner

1st Elizabeth Tracey & Georgie

2nd Margaret Burns & Chippy

3rd Anthony Bryant & Reggie

Judge : Toni Magi

1st T Manelius & Starbucks

2nd S Ireland & Jessie

3rd C Haisall & Darbo

Judge: Emma Dunst

1st K Moeller & Ruby

2nd S Turnbull & Uma

3rd R Banks & Jamie

Other passes:

E Agrali & Smiley

D Whitney & Duffy

J Horsfield & Abbie

L McCulloch & Toto

E Merrin & Rory

M Herba & Taxi

Jo Strong & Zoe

Kim Fehey & Truffles

Lisa McInnes & Toby

Poppie Webham & Winston

ADVANCED

Judge: Mike Slee

1st J Upton & Keady

2nd T Pearce & Pepper

3rd H Wanschers & Mister

Judge: Pam Beesley

1st M Ford & Lily

2nd M Saxby & Reggie

3rd S Pensko & Molly

Other passes:

C Cotton & Louie

TRANSITION - Judge: Kathy Bush

1st - Michele Reid & Bella

2nd Fay Peters & Clancy

3rd Alina Menkarska & Zenna

Other passes:

Pam Hunt & Joe

Lyn Wee & Shado

Helena Hultgren & Kindy

Lynne Peever & Rosie.

PRIMARY COMPANION - Judge: Anne Robertson

1st Paula Wills & Alex

2nd Steve Jamieson & Ivy

SECONDARY COMPANION - Judge: Joyce Thompson

Silver medallion -

Bronze Medallion -

Alan Anderson & Kip

Lynn Harden & Gracie

COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG - Judge: Werner Roth

1st Brian Thorp & Bessy

2nd Chris Erwin & Inka

3rd Barry Gray & Riley

COMPANION DOG - Judge: Werner Roth

1st Linda van Bommel & Tunda

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

By Judith Barlow, Co-ordinator

Three working bees have been held over the summer break.

Thanks to Peter Alabaster; Deborah; Loretta Basel; Barry Gray; Karen Haines; Pamela Hunt; Michael and Katrina Morton; Bronnie Hayek; David, Debbie, Aidan, Jessica and baby Jorja Charman; Graham Wilson and Anne Robertson for their hard work.

The grounds and fence lines were whipper-snipped and mown to within an inch (a saying which doesn't convert to metric!), many weeds were removed, clubhouse gutters cleared and various trees and bushes pruned. The work crew was fed and hydrated with cold water, hot coffee, yummy bikkies and a superb cake.

During all the hard work in the pre-Christmas working bee certain items were discovered amongst the grass:

- 5 tennis balls
- 4 beer bottles
- 3 odd socks
- 2 babies nappies (yuck!), and
- an old iron axe head

The Christmas wheelie bin was duly adorned with these decorations!

The next working bee will be held on Saturday 20 March, starting at 9.00am. Please bring:

- trailer - if you have one!
- pruning gear and gardening gloves
- leaf rake or 'hands'

Below: David Charman and Graham Wilson tackling a dead tree during a New Year working bee



Getting to know our President and newest Honorary Life Member



Two club members – Greg Preston and Gary Kingdon – were awarded Honorary Life Membership at the club's Annual General Meeting last August. Greg was profiled in the last issue. Gary's profile appears below. A prize awaits anyone who captures Gary on film – with or without his beloved Goldies – and sends the photo in for the magazine.

Gary joined the club in 1988 with a Rottweiler, Helsa, and in 1989 undertook the Level 1 Instructor Course. He progressed through to training at novice level with Helsa, but she died in 1992. He remained dog-less until 1997 when he got a Golden Retriever, Queenlee The Stubbie (aka 'Stubbie').

More success was obtained with Stubbie and they gained their Companion Dog title, achieving 2nd place at the ACT State Titles in the process. In 1999 Gary undertook the Level 2 Instructor Course.

Gary has been a regular instructor at the club at both Level 1 and Level 2 classes. He has served on the club's committee on several occasions as Maintenance Manager, Grounds Manager and Competition Day Manager, although not all simultaneously. He has also donned the odd Santa suit at the club's Christmas function. Gary was elected President at the club's Annual General Meeting in 2008 and again in 2009.

Gary currently has part-ownership of two Golden Retrievers, Storm and Maggie. When time permits he is taking Storm through CCD (Community Companion Dog) training.

Getting to know ... other committee members Hilary Kemp and Lynn Harden

Hilary Kemp – Clubhouse Maintenance

Our family has had dogs for many years - mainly Standard Poodles and Airedale Terriers with some 'bitzers' as well. I started obedience training with the Knox Obedience Dog Club in Melbourne with my first Standard Poodle. We moved to Canberra in the late 1990s and joined the ACT Companion Dog Club.

Over the last few years I have become involved in dog rescue which has broadened my experience of different breeds. I rejoined the club after a break from training my own dog and began taking some of my foster dogs to classes both for training and socialisation to improve their rehoming prospects.



As a result of bringing several foster dogs to training I have been through the beginner syllabus quite a few times - and each time I learn something new. This variety is one of things I really enjoy about training dogs. I also like the satisfaction of working with a dog that may have missed

out on many of the experiences we take for granted with our own dogs - like going for walks on the lead, spending time in the house and basic manners like sitting for dinner.

I started instructing at the beginning of 2009 and as a very new instructor am impressed by the depth of experience of so many of the club's instructors and their willingness to share tips and ideas with those less experienced. So far I have mainly instructed at Beginner level - one of the best things about Beginners is seeing the handlers develop in confidence and how much enjoyment the dogs get from coming to the club.

Lynn Harden – Convenor, Development Sub-Committee



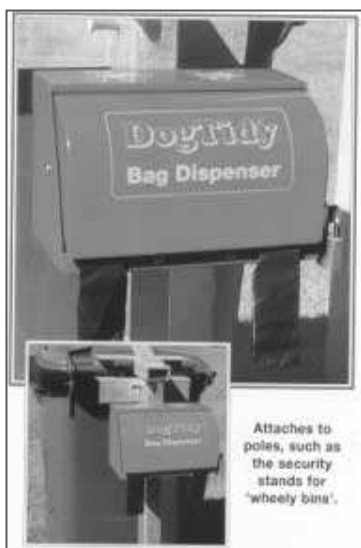
Above: Lynn and Gracie

I've loved dogs for longer than I can remember. I have a scar on my hand from an over-familiar encounter with a spaniel and its bone that I apparently got when I was less than two. I got my first dog the same day I moved into the first house I owned - well, me and the bank!

With various dogs, at various times and locations, I have attended several different dog training clubs in New Zealand and Australia but the ACT Companion Dog Club felt a lot friendlier than any of the others. This may be because when I started training at CDC, I got on particularly well with several of my class mates and we enjoyed training together right through to Secondary Companion level. We were usually pretty visible on Comp Days as we sat down to a post-comp picnic with champers to toast our successes and failures on the day.

I took the Level 1 instructors course in 2004 partly to help me to better train my own dog and partly because I wanted to help other people have the same enjoyment of a reasonably well-trained dog as I have myself. Oh, yes, and partly because I really wanted to be able to park closer to the clubhouse on wet days!

I think that the ethos of the club is generally admirable and I think we offer a great range of activities enabling members to keep on going beyond the basics of obedience training. As a new member of the committee, I hope to help to maintain what we have and to help develop even better practices so that our club becomes the dog training facility of choice in Canberra!



Have you seen our new poo bag dispensers?

The shiny green metal dispensers are fixed to various posts and fences around the club grounds.

They hold black, biodegradable plastic bags which can be torn off the roll as needed.

Please let the session manager know if any of the dispensers have run out of bags.



Our Dog Grooming Services:

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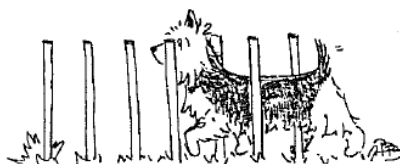
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AGILITY ACTION



By Veronica Doerr, Convenor

Welcome back to classes in 2010!

First of all, a huge welcome back to agility classes for 2010, and congratulations to all the club's annual award winners! After what I hope was a relaxing summer break for all of you, we are looking forward to a great set of classes this year, with a good number of people starting in Level 1 (hope you are having fun!) and lots of people who started last year getting close to thinking about trialling. I know I found myself faced with much more equipment at my first class of the year than my dog and I had seen for many months, which was both exciting and daunting. Regardless of whether you worked on some foundation fundamentals over the summer or whether you had a complete break from agility, I hope you had a smooth start to classes and are beginning to feel that synchronised connection with your dog again (think Ice Dancing but with your partner doing the Moguls, or possibly Ski Jumping).

Valé Patricia Oswald-Sealy

The agility community was saddened to learn of the passing in January of Patricia Oswald-Sealy, a devoted CDC member, a lively addition to the agility community, and an energetic lover of Schnauzers. Pat was always a big personality and lived her life with gusto, and we will all miss her energy on the field.

We hope you are running perfect agility courses with all your dogs at the Rainbow Bridge, Pat!

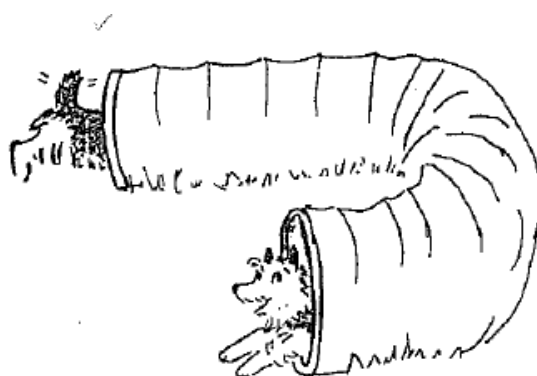
Mock trials and fun 'n games nights

A special thank you to Anne Robertson for running some Fun 'n Games nights over the summer break, where we all got a chance to practice basic skills in a relaxing and laughter-filled environment. Another special thank you to Jenny Marshall and trainee

judges Patricia Looker and Lucy Williams for running three mock (practice) trials over the summer break, where we got a chance to reward our dogs in the ring, so they don't accidentally learn that trials = no rewards!

Competitions

On 13 February we launched the 2010 trialling year at CDC with one of our wettest trials ever! Planned as an evening trial to escape the summer heat, competitors were instead drenched by unseasonal record-breaking rain. Nonetheless, about half of the handlers who entered the trial decided to brave the weather and the squishy feeling inside their wet shoes (or between their toes in the case of the dogs) to try to run courses fast and clean. Congratulations not just to all the successful teams, but to everyone who came out to give it a go, and especially to everyone who worked hard to keep the event running and to keep our judges and stewards happy!



STARTING OVER

~ A member's story ~

By Barry Gray

Barry Gray was an early convert to agility in 1993 and trialed very successfully with his Bearded Collie "Molly". After a long break, Barry has returned to CDC with a new Beardie, Riley, and has started training her in agility. Barry has kindly provided this account of his reintroduction to the sport – as a beginner in Level 1. Thanks to Lara Sedgmen for her portrait of Riley.

Having trained a dog before in agility, I felt I would not be an outright 'beginner'. However, my beginner status was made very apparent during my first class when I got an indication of how much the sport has evolved since I last competed. My current training partner is Riley, a friendly bouncy Beardie and we are currently competing at the CCD (Community Companion Dog) level in obedience.

What is Agility?

In Agility your dog has to negotiate an obstacle course against the clock. My previous experience of agility was nothing but positive. It's fun, you make friends with like-minded people, and the dogs love it as – let's face it – running and jumping does tend to come naturally to them (although there are exceptions).

It was therefore never a case of "Will I ...?" or "Should I...?" do agility again but "I can't wait until Riley is 14 months old so I can get back into agility". As it turned out we got to start a month earlier as the club piloted a series of lessons to introduce some basic handling skills. It was at this first lesson where I came across terms that I'd never heard of in relation to agility or agility training – front cross, rear cross, targeting, shaping and shadow handling. Are you sure this is agility training? Well I'm definitely a beginner then!

The biggest shock that first night, however, was being told my dog needed to lose some weight – quite a surprise for someone who thought his dog was fine in that regard. This served as a timely reminder that the puppy diet of two meals a day should be trimmed down to one, much to Riley's disgust. It did have an upside though – when training with food treats Riley was even more attentive than usual. The preference for lean agility dogs is understandable as landing from jumps puts stress on the joints and excess weight exacerbates the stress loading.

The introductory training sessions focused on shadow handling, the 'two-on – two-off' method of coming off contact equipment, and walking on a plank. Shadow handling is where the dog follows the handler's outstretched hand on the left or right. The natural tendency is for your dog to want to revert back to your left side if it has done any obedience training. Shadow handling introduces the dog to working on both the right and left sides of the handler.

Agility equipment includes steep A-frames, elevated dog walks and see-saws. Again, for the safety of the dogs and to discourage dogs launching themselves off the obstacles from an unsafe height, dogs are required to touch a lower portion of these obstacles on the descent. The 'two-on – two-off' method gets dogs to stop at the bottom of the obstacle with two front



legs on the ground and the two rear legs still on the obstacle. This ensures a controlled descent. In this beginner stage the descent was very shallow from a low height. Luring was the method of choice to help the dogs into the correct position.

The dog walk is introduced with a plank on the ground. The plank is 300mm wide. This will easily accommodate the gait width of small dogs, but larger breeds have to think where they put their feet, particularly their hind legs as in a normal gait their feet can be outside the width of the plank. It doesn't usually take long for dogs to learn to place their feet appropriately, but the low training heights ensure that the learning is done safely as well as giving the dogs confidence before any height or pitch is added. It was during this stage of our training that we were introduced to the idea of shaping behaviour. Shaping is where you wait for the dog to exhibit the desired behaviour which you then mark and reward. The dog then has to think "What did I just do to get that reward?" and hopefully repeats the behavior to elicit another reward. Shaping was something I remembered from beginner lessons in obedience training but because luring with food was so successful I never paid it any further thought. Shaping is, however, regarded very highly by the instructors as it gets our dogs to think for themselves.

This then brings us to the Beginner class proper. This class had a mix of people who had and hadn't done the pre-agility class. So for those who had done the pre-agility course the first few weeks were a revision and an opportunity to reinforce the early lessons and in week three Riley exhibited perfect shaping behaviour. The dogs are often off-lead when training, and as most are young and still very playful, there is always a temptation to go and have a romp with another off-lead dog. This temptation came to the fore the following week when pairs of dogs repeatedly ran riot around the ring, totally ignoring their owners' calls to come. The unfortunate but common element in all those cases was Riley, as she loves playing chase. Everything was back under control in week five with good progress being made in the 'two-on – two-off' technique.

Weave poles were introduced mid-session. This is an obstacle where the dog has to weave in and out of twelve poles set in a line 60cm apart. This is one behaviour which is not natural to a dog and is probably the hardest to teach. There's nothing better than seeing a dog weave well and it is an obstacle where a lot of time can be gained or lost in competition. So, as our instructors advised that practice was essential, it was off to Bunnings for some garden stakes and PVC conduit to set up poles in the back yard. Week six had us approaching jumps and tunnels with our dogs running by our side. Being so focused on me, Riley would often follow me around the obstacles and so I used a technique to get her to focus on a baited target at the far end of the obstacle rather than me.

In the last few weeks of the beginners class we began to string several jumps and tunnels together in a straight or curved line. The contact obstacles and weavers were still done separately at this point as we were still working up to the full heights and needed to have good verbal control of our dogs. Unfortunately, this isn't the case with Riley. Her desire to go over the dog walk and A-frame is so strong that she will bolt over them, even if it means breaking a stay command (a big no no!). So a lot of reinforcing and proofing of stays is required.

Riley's enthusiasm shows she enjoys training, so, if you'd like to do a fun activity with your dog to complement obedience, consider agility.

In closing, I'd like to thank our instructors (Christine Atyeo and Denise Iglesias) for their time and enthusiasm as we had a very enjoyable and successful 'introduction' to agility.

Interested?

Contact the club office if you would like to be put on the list for agility training. Dogs must be 14 months old to start training (but can be wait-listed until old enough). Dogs do not have to complete a minimum level of formal obedience training at the club but must be able to demonstrate off-lead control around other dogs and activities.

AGILITY TRIAL RESULTS

GAMES RIBBON TRIAL - ACT Companion Dog Club - 8 December 2009

Master Snooker - Judge: Mr Allan Schmidt SCT: 62 seconds

1st Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri CDX RRD ADM ADO JDM JDO GDM SPDM SDM
(Hungarian Vizsla) Lara Sedgmen 57.5 - 51

Excellent Snooker - Judge: Mr Allan Schmidt SCT: 64 seconds

1st Bordercheck Tandookie GD ADX ADO JDX JDO SPD SD (Border Collie)
Amanda Delaney 49.91 - 50
2nd Guimere Sweep JDX GDX SD SPDX (Border Collie) Tammy Watts
32.44 - 48
3rd Alhambra Bill Owen AD JDX SD GD (English Springer Spaniel)
Lesli Cameron 55.41 - 46

Novice Snooker - Judge: Mr Allan Schmidt SCT: 52 seconds

1st Cavregis White Knight ADX JDX JDO GD (Cavalier King Charles Spaniel)
Lucy Williams 32.40 - 43
2nd Windeyer Pip (Border Collie) Maureen Lewis 26.51 - 42
3rd Michelago Mick AD JD SPD CCD (Associate) Sharon Bowditch 32.03 - 42
4th Grand Ch Daingeann Kobi ET JD GD - (Hungarian Vizsla) Helen
Mosslar 36.00 - 42
5th Baleburra Lisa JD (Associate) Richard Johnston 44.22 - 42
6th Beljekali Pingdemonium HSA(s) AD JDX JDO GD CDX (Belgian Shepherd
Dog) Chris Atyeo 24.59 - 41
7th Delfa FDX GD JD SPD (Associate) Rebecca Jones 31.98 - 41
8th Charlie AFCH GD JD SPD (Associate) Rebecca Jones 34.73 - 41

EVENING AGILITY AND JUMPING TRIAL - ACT Companion Dog Club -13 February 2010

Novice Agility - Judge: Mr Terry Griffin (NSW) SCT: 67 seconds

1st Wintergem Moonlight Lord CCD (Field Spaniel) Simon Hewlett 47.85
2nd Derry (Irish Red and White Setter) Anne Robertson 53.71

Excellent Agility - Judge: Mr Terry Griffin (NSW) SCT: 67 seconds

1st(NQ) Henry CDX JDX AD (Associate) Janet Perkins 71.20
2nd(NQ) Storm JD AD (Associate) John MacDonald & Kathleen Thompson 67.20
3rd(NQ) Mahkoolma Jack Peter JD AD (Jack Russell Terrier) C Woodward 70.39

Master Agility - Judge: Mr Terry Griffin (NSW) SCT: 63 seconds

1st Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri CDX RRD ADM ADO JDM JDO GDM SPDM SDM
(Hungarian Vizsla) Lara Sedgmen 57.00
2nd(NQ) Cavregis Marilyn Merlot ADM ADO JDX GD (Cavalier King Charles Spaniel) Lucy
Williams 84.81
3rd(NQ) Cavregis Hermione CD ADM4 ADO6 JDM JDO2 GDX SPDX SDX (Cavalier King
Charles Spaniel) Lucy Williams 71.72

Open Agility - Judge: Mr Terry Griffin (NSW) SCT: 63 seconds

1st Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri CDX RRD ADM ADO JDM JDO GDM SPDM SDM
(Hungarian Vizsla) Lara Sedgmen 43.96
2nd Cavregis Hermione CD ADM4 ADO6 JDM JDO2 GDX SPDX SDX (Cavalier King
Charles Spaniel) Lucy Williams 63.00

Open Jumping - Judge: Ms Jenny Marshall (ACT) SCT: 38 seconds

1st Bordercheck Autumn Styx CDX ADM JDM GDM ADO JDO SDM SPDX (Border
Collie) Airlie White 28.40
2nd Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri CDX RRD ADM ADO JDM JDO GDM SPDM SDM
(Hungarian Vizsla) Lara Sedgmen 30.25
3rd Cody JD (Associate) John MacDonald & Kathleen Thompson 35.06

- 4th Manthamin Jessie ADM2 JDM5 JDO2 ADO GD SD SPD (Border Collie) Karen Edwards 35.18
- 5th Storm JD AD (Associate) John MacDonald & Kathleen Thompson 35.28

Master Jumping - Judge: Ms Jenny Marshall (ACT) SCT: 40 seconds

- 1st Bordercheck Autumn Styx CDX ADM JDM GDM ADO JDO SDM SPDX (Border Collie) Airlie White 29.94
- 2nd Ch Hanafor Rousel Vieri CDX RRD ADM ADO JDM JDO GDM SPDM SDM (Hungarian Vizsla) Lara Sedgmen 31.24
- 3rd Spinifex Spitfire JDM ADM CD ADO SPDM GDM JDO SDX (Australian Kelpie) Vikki Evans 31.84

Excellent Jumping - Judge: Ms Jenny Marshall (ACT) SCT: 40 seconds

- 1st Cody JD (Associate) John MacDonald & Kathleen Thompson 30.80
- 2nd(NQ) Grand Ch Daingeann Kobi ET JD GD (Hungarian Vizsla) Helen Mosslar 49.00
- 3rd(NQ) Mahkoolma Jack Peter JD AD (Jack Russell Terrier) C Woodward 43.57

Novice Jumping - Judge: Ms Jenny Marshall (ACT) SCT: 37 seconds

- 1st Minx (Associate) Maureen Lewis 30.65
- 2nd Wintergem Moonlight Lord CCD (Field Spaniel) Simon Hewlett 32.49
- 3rd Steadfast Wotta Stunna (Border Collie) Andrea Neale 33.55

RECENT TITLES



Agility Champion and Strategic Pairs Masters

Airlie White's Border Collie Bordercheck Autumn Styx (Styx) CDX ADM JDM GDM ADO JDO SDM SPDM

Airlie and Styx are the fourth handler/dog team in the ACT to gain their Agility Champion title. This title was introduced in 2006 and requires the team to gain 10 first place qualifications and 10 first, second or third place qualifications in Masters Agility and 10 first place qualifications and 10 first, second or third place qualifications in Masters Jumping after gaining their Masters titles (ie 54 passes in all). Airlie and Styx follow in the steps of Allan Schmidt and Border Collie Jack, Greg Leek and Border Collie Zac and Greg Collins and Coolie X Kellie.

Well done!



Agility Dog Masters

Linda Spinaze's German Shorthaired Pointer X Tosca ADM JDM SPD GD

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.



Above: Tosca, photo by Lara Sedgmen

In memory of 'Bollie'

Marashar Armani ADX JDM JDO GD ET PT

By Chris Atyeo

Bollie, a much-loved member of the CDC and ACT agility community, died unexpectedly in October 2009. In this tribute, his handler Chris Atyeo recounts life with Bollie – from his early challenging days to maturity.



For years I had been undertaking research for my next dog. I knew exactly what I wanted: a big dog, able to guard and to fit into my family, able to do obedience. A big dog with 'presence', but one that didn't scare visitors. We had previously owned Rottweilers and knew how scared people were of certain breeds.

We arrived at the breeders to choose our pup from the eight available. There were seven black and one fawn. We took all of the pups out on to the lawn and I ran backwards, calling 'pup, pup, pup' looking for the most responsive one. Up they leapt and chased me, tongues lolling, and tripping over big puppy feet. All except one.

This pup took one look and decided that - for whatever reason - it wasn't for him, grabbed a toy and hid under a bush. At this point I ignored all my reading and advice from friends and experts about how to choose the perfect dog and chose the wayward puppy - based solely on his colour not his behavior - because he was fawn and somehow looked more wretched than the others.

We called him 'Bollie', shortened from 'Bollie-Blaps', an Afrikaans translation of 'What-A-Mess', a chaos-making dog created by Frank Muir for a children's book. In doing so I forgot that not only should you be careful what you wish for, you should also

be careful what you call things, as they tend to behave as they are called.

When we took Bollie to have his booster and check over, the vet was impressed by his seemingly calm temperament, this being reinforced by his slow, steady heartbeat. I was encouraged: I'd chosen an unflappable pup that had a robust personality. What became apparent years later, is that under stress, Bollie shut down and his heart never raced. He had mild bradycardia and even after completing a 20 km endurance run his heart rate was still below an average resting rate.

I was looking forward to puppy classes at our vet's practice, pleased to have this opportunity to show off my new pup and to have him play with other pups. Bollie was terrified. He cowered behind me and on my lap for the first few weeks, but slowly, ever so slowly, he came out of his shell. Our vet said that meeting lots of new, friendly dogs was the only way to overcome his fear. We were instructed, or rather prescribed, to meet a dog a day. We worked hard on this. Some days it would take nearly an hour of walking around the suburb before seeing someone new. Then we'd give chase, asking if we could meet their dog as ours was under medical orders to do so!

Bollie had a landscaping vision that we endured but didn't share. The chicken wire that I erected to protect my shrubs just seemed to challenge him, to egg him on to break through and dig up even more plants. Shrubs in pots were sitting ducks, they were dug out in seconds. When he ran out of shrubs and pots he turned his attention to my younger trees and ring-barked them. For reasons unknown to us, he dug up irrigation pipes - across lawns and garden beds he excavated them and then chewed the heads off the sprinklers.

Not content with the garden, Bollie then tried to remodel me, jumping up and head butting me in the face. A week later, in extraordinary pain, I found that he'd loosened a tooth and caused an infection that required root canal therapy. I mentioned his knack of head butting visitors in the crotch to his breeder. She laughed and said that this was a well-known Briard

trait. Not surprisingly, this information doesn't get shared around until the animal is added to your family! What was mentioned, was the Briard coat, which was described as 'dirt repellent'. This meant that Bollie would collect mud and detritus in his coat and gradually shed it all over the house.

Just getting to dog training was unpleasant. Bollie was carsick for the first twelve months of his life, then one day it just stopped. Maybe he was just tired of the fasting before travel.

On the obedience side Bollie continued to be a challenge. We were not novice dog owners, but he marched to a different drum and it took a lot of work and patience to create a household that suited everyone. For instance, greeting visitors at the front door with dirty socks and underwear wasn't acceptable, nor was jumping and weeing on human friends in his excitement at their arrival. Some never returned. To counter this we trained ourselves to put dirty washing out of his reach and, over a number of years, taught him to sit to greet friends, with a toy in his mouth.

Bollie and I never 'clicked' at obedience. We never felt like a team. I decided to start agility to see if that would suit us more. Bollie wasn't the fastest dog to catch on in class, but we were persistent and progressed through the levels. Entering tunnels was scary for a while, but we overcame his fear by sending his favourite red heeler friend through first and letting Bollie chase him. Things rapidly changed from Bollie being a dog who hated tunnels to one unable to resist an invisible drag into the tunnel. He behaved as though he was being sucked into a vortex. This often fatal - or at least disqualifying - attraction lasted a number of years before the effects weakened.

Bollie grew into a lovely big shaggy dog, and often we'd be asked what he was crossed with. I really didn't have the heart to tell a parcel deliverer from Australia Post who said he 'hadn't seen an Afghan for years', that he still hadn't seen one. Bollie looked and talked 'Wookiee' and gathered Star Wars fans wherever he went.

By the time he was mature Bollie had lost his fear of dogs, and we went from one extreme to another. Suddenly it was the dawning of a new era, seeing if any new dog he met was interested in a hump. It was embarrassing, knowing full well that with barely time for an introduction, Bollie would be testing out any new dog. Bollie took the inevitable rejection in good humour and would often be chased by a snarling dog while he'd have a great smile on his face.

Slowly, without us noticing, Bollie grew into a good dog. He was fairly obedient, a conscientious guard dog, he competed reliably in agility, was fantastic with our kids and cats and only ever dug to bury bones.

He had a great attitude to life and greeted all of his friends with overwhelming enthusiasm.

Bollie was never a high scoring obedience and agility dog. He challenged us with behaviours which took years to overcome. But, with the passage of time, many of these issues now seem trivial and possibly even worth going through again. While he wasn't the dog that I thought I wanted, he was the dog that we got and, in the end, the best dog that we've ever owned.

In October 2009, when he was nearly eleven years old, Bollie suddenly died of cancer. He had seemed so alive that we thought he'd live until his teens, but it wasn't to be.

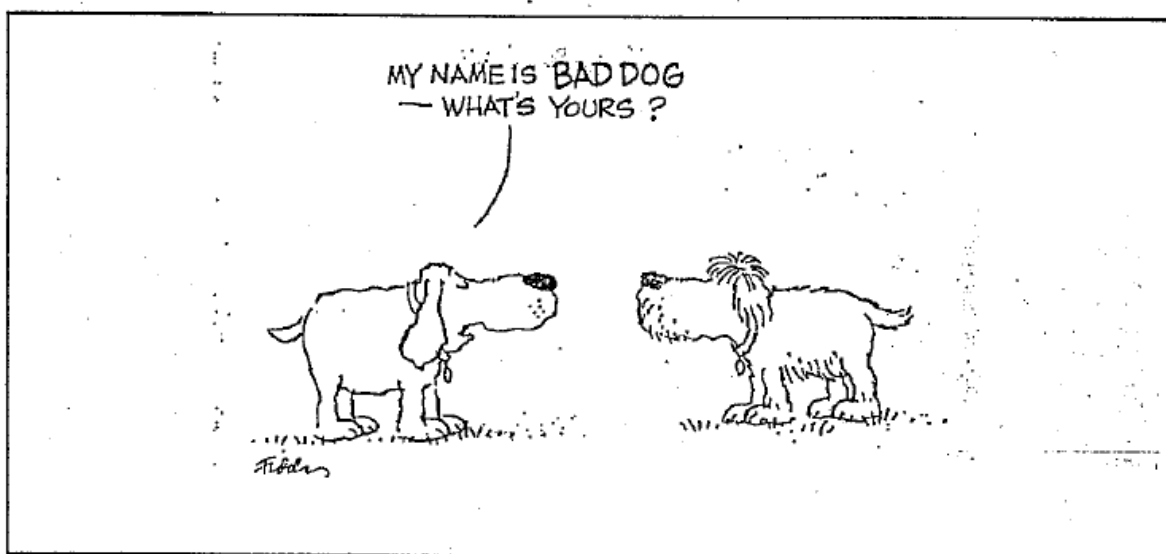
Want to keep in touch with the latest activities at the club?

~ Keep an eye on the club's noticeboards ~

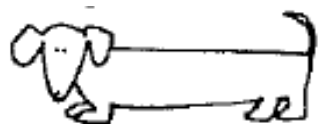
Notices about club activities – training, agility, flyball and obedience trialling - are posted on the noticeboards in the foyer and on the back wall of the club house.

Information is also available from:

- The Good Companion magazine
- the club office
- your instructors
- the session manager
- www.actcdc.org.au



OBEDIENCE TRIALLING



Comp Day practice ('mock') trials for all levels

The Obedience Trialling Sub-committee will host practice trials for members in conjunction with the March Comp Day. Subject to demand, all levels (CCD, CD, CDX, UD and UDX) will be offered. Where possible, ANKC judges will be engaged to judge classes, with senior triallers critiquing the performance of less- experienced triallers and providing constructive feedback. Any member training at trialling level is welcome to participate. Please register your interest on the sheets provided on the Obedience Trialling noticeboard in the clubhouse by 21 March.

Forthcoming obedience trials at CDC

The next obedience trial at CDC will be held on Saturday 24 April 2010 commencing at 10.00am. All levels (Community Companion Dog, Companion Dog, Open, Utility and Utility Dog Excellent) will be held. Entries close 7 April 2010. 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>.

New Yahoo Groups for club triallers

The Obedience Trialling Sub-committee has established a private Yahoo Groups notification list to keep club members informed about trialling activities including mock trials, trial dates and training initiatives.

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

OBEDIENCE TRIAL RESULTS

OBEDIENCE TRIAL – ACT Companion Dog Club - 6 November 2009

Community Companion Dog (CCD) – Judge: Leo Kuipers

1st	Edinglen Inspiration	Bearded Collie	Barry Gray	89
2nd	Tehya New Year's Angel	Border Collie	Brian Thorp	88
3rd	Ch Alhambra Annie Lennox	English Springer Spaniel	Chris Motbey	87
4th	Wintergem Moonlight Lord	Field Spaniel	Simon Hewlett	87
5th	Milnholm Jazz Dancer	Welsh Corgi (Cardigan)	J Dreezer	78

Novice (CD) - Judge: Leo Kuipers

1st	Vidiem Emerald Moonglow CCD ET	Hungarian Vizsla	J & T Washington-King	191
2nd	Watersmeet I'm Harry CCD JD	Cocker Spaniel	Anne Lewis	175
3rd (NQ)	Michelago Mick AD JD SPD CCD	Associate	Sharon Bowditch	115

Open (CDX) - Judge: Sid Shuck

1st	Trixie CDX	Associate German	Sue Gryniewicz	184
2nd	Topnotch Lord CDX NRD	Shorthaired Pointer	Lara Sedgmen	179

Utility Dog (UD) - Judge: Terry Griffin

1st	Dual Ch (OC) Jacktrades Just Magic UDX	Australian Shepherd	JJ Kielly	196
2nd	Starkad Did it My Way CDX	Border Collie	R Henderson	187
3rd (NQ)	Minimbah Precious CDX ADM JDM SDX GDX ADO JDO SPDX	Border Collie	Airlie White	124

Utility Dog Excellent (UDX) - Judge: Ritchie Butler

1st	Triwizard Yankees Magic UD	Australian Shepherd	JJ Kielly	194
2nd (NQ)	Gadhar Sweat n Cheers (AI) UD TD ADX JDX GD SPD HT	Border Collie	Judy Roger	118
3rd (NQ)	OC Banjo UD ADM JDM ADO JDO GDX SPD SD ET	Associate	Helen Thompson	61

RIBBON OBEDIENCE TRIAL – ACT Companion Dog Club -9 February 2010**Open (CDX) – Judge: Terry Griffin**

1st	Icemist Silver Ghost CD	Samoyed	R Schuck	193
2nd (NQ)	Cuebiyar Set in Stone CD AD JDX GD SPD	Australian Shepherd	Denise Iglesias	174
3rd (NQ)	Ch Kyushu WatchMyButNothers CD	Schnauzer	Kath McQuarrie	124

RIBBON OBEDIENCE TRIAL – ACT Companion Dog Club - 23 February 2010**Community Companion Dog (CCD) – Judge: Charlie Giles**

1st	Abtei Dual Diva	German Shorthaired Pointer	Ian Foster	97
2nd	Theya New Years Angel	Border Collie	Brian Thorp	94
3rd	Wahnfried Sapphire LucySpring	Miniature Schnauzer	Leisl Vellnagel- Dunn	80

Utility Dog Excellent (UDX) – Judge: Charlie Giles – No qualifiers**RIBBON OBEDIENCE TRIAL – ACT Companion Dog Club – 2 March 2010****Utility (UD) – Judge: Patricia Looker**

1st	ClanheathPerfect Gem UD AD JD	Border Collie	Wayne Myles	177
2nd (NQ)	Callisto ADX ADO JDX JDO GDX SD SPD CDX HT	Associate	Naarilla Hirsch	168
3rd (NQ)	Fionavar Hawker Hunter CDX AD JD	Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever	Werner Roth	160

Novice (CD) – Judge: Patricia Looker

1st	Kizserhund Just Diamonds	German Shepherd	Sandra Hassett	188
2nd	Wintergem Moonlight Lord CCD JD	Field Spaniel	Simon Hewlett	183

FLYBALL FEATS



By Lesley Pothan, Convenor

Flyball training is held twice a week – on Sunday afternoons from 3.00pm to 5.00pm, and Wednesday evenings from 7.00pm to 8:30pm. Beginners are always welcome.

Events – past and present

The X-Factor Flyball team had a busy finish to 2009 hosting the annual Flyball Frolic in November. In 2009 the competition consisted only of local teams. It was a very relaxed day with our two teams doing well.

Both X-Factor teams came first in their divisions during Fun in the Sun, another local competition held in Tuggeranong as part of the Community Festival in December.

2010 is shaping up to be a busy year for the X-Factor team with our new dogs eager to show off their flyball skills. The team has just taken part in a two day flyball competition held as part of the Canberra Royal Show. This event provides an excellent opportunity for Canberrans to be part of the fun and excitement of flyball.

We have several demonstrations planned for March including:

- Moss Vale – 13 March
- CDC Competition Day – 28 March
- Dogs Day Out – 28 March

X-Factor has also been invited to host a competition at this year's RSPCA Million Paws Walk on 17 May.

Blog

More information about the X-Factor team can be found on our blog - <http://xfactorflyball.blogspot.com>. The link also appears on the CDC website.



*Flying pug at a CDC Flyball demonstration
(Photo by Lara Sedgmen)*

Shelter dog – Packed and ready to go

By Liz Smith

Liz Smith is a Level 1 instructor at the club with many years of involvement with 'second-hand' dogs. She has recently completed the Certificate IV in Companion Animal Services (Canine Good Citizen) course conducted by the Delta Society Australia.



Above: Secondhand dogs – first rate pets – Liz Smith's Atticus (Cocker Spaniel) and Jem (Cattle Dog X)

So you are looking for that new dog? You have dog sport fever? Your interest may be in obedience, flyball, agility, dancing, herding or all of these. Hopefully the dog you choose to go on this journey with you will share some of your goals and interests - a natural herder for the sheep gazers; a ball mad dog for the flyballers; a keen, fast, graceful and athletic dog for agility; an eager to please, enthusiastic dog for obedience; one with a good sense of rhythm for dancing ... Well maybe that one is asking too much!

Did you know that many of the traits dog sport enthusiasts long for are the very reasons many pet owners surrender their dogs to shelters around the country? The puppy that Mr and Mrs "Oh, but we had such a lovely quiet Labrador when we were growing up" brought home does not, in fact, meet their expectations. They find him demanding, destructive, noisy, and rough with the children and can't understand why he did not come ready trained or teach himself anything along the way. Perhaps the children who promised they would look after him reneged. The ultra-lazy laid back dog who isn't bothered with much has much less chance ending up at a shelter, although this can happen.

During my years as a pooch pal walker at the RSPCA I would often say to myself, or tell my temporary charge, "Wow, you would make such a great 'something or other dog' if I was in the market". All these mostly young dogs needed was some outlet for their energy, drive and playfulness. They were already showing what their preferred jollies were in life. Some would sell their soul for a treat and were so easy to train in basic cues. Others didn't care for walks, food or other dogs but would do anything for 'gimme the ball'. Once a few rules were taught these guys were the easiest to exercise. I also encountered the combo package of these two plus

speed and elegance – agility anyone? Sure you can shop around for a puppy but then you have to wait for them to grow up a little so you can hit the jumps, whirls and balls.

Since leaving home at the age of 22 I have had four shelter dogs, usually two at a time. The Cattle Dog x Cocker Spaniel who was six months old when I got him was a fun, action packed, destructive dynamo who cemented his place in the Brisbane RSPCA obedience demo team at the ripe old age of nine when I got interested in positive training. The Ridgeback x Kelpie was 12 months when she came to live with us and did not do much except love everyone she met. Unlike many shelter dogs, she was very laid back.

My next dog came about when I was working as an instructor at the RSPCA in Brisbane. Late one night after teaching a class I was chatting to the night watchman while waiting for my lift home. Someone had just dropped off a five month old Cocker Spaniel. It was love at first sight and I enjoyed a very happy eleven years with Atticus. He, too, joined a demo team but this time it was CDC and his specialty was tricks. I like to think we were jacks of all trades. A bit of obedience, agility and dancing.

About seven years ago, and down to one dog, I was half-looking for a dog that was middle-aged to hang with Atticus who was advancing in years. The local RSPCA just happened to have a 29 kilo Cocker Spaniel. He had come in as a stray (boy, the pickings must have been good around those bins!). I was having a break from doggy sports so his weight did not worry me. Just for fun I took him to CDC for a couple of terms where he won second place in Transition. He also slimmed down to 17 kilos very quickly. He is now 13 and has an enlarged heart, diabetes, and pancreatitis and is still as funny as all get out.

This dog was the first one to have a few 'issues' with some other dogs. Who better to handle this than someone who has a genuine interest in dog behaviour and training? Many competitors and instructors at CDC fall in to this category. Despite his occasional reactivity to other dogs he is much travelled. There is the odd situation that I know will challenge him so I simply 'manage' around it. Really, it has not been a big issue in our life.

No prizes for guessing where my next dog will come from. How about yours?

Hagar



COMMITTEE CAPERS



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

November 2009

- Approval for purchase of weedkiller for use on club grounds and external doormat for clubhouse.
- Decision to conduct Open Day in early 2010.
- Puppy pens to be reinstalled in Narrabundah and Flyball paddocks for kindi socialization purposes.
- Six members completed Level 1 instructors course and sat theory exam.
- Approval to issue official club polo shirts and hats to instructors in recognition of their contribution and to improve the 'corporate' identity of the club.

January 2010

- Welcome to new Committee member Jo Washington-King. Jo comes to CDC from the Rockingham Dog Club in Western Australia. Jo to take over Comp Day management from Gary Kingdon.
- Grant application submitted to ACT government for installation of solar electricity generation equipment.
- Social Secretary (Cathy Vaughan) to investigate options for an end-of year function. Anne Robertson to co-ordinate 2010 title and annual award processes.
- No transition classes to be offered in Session 1 and Primary and Secondary Companion classes to be combined for Session 1 due to lack of instructors.

February 2010

- Approval to host professional development workshop/seminars for instructors in April and July using guest trainers and behaviourists.
- Tony Turner to continue exploring suitable venue for Dances with Dogs training.
- Approval to replace gates in Back Paddock.
- Approval to modify office procedures to enable electronic payments.
- Grant application for replacement of floor coverings not approved. Alternative funding options to be considered.

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!

NEWS FROM THE SHOP SHELF

OPENING TIMES

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

By Katrina Morton, Shop Manager

A new year has started and to assist our new and current members a Product and Price List for shop goods is provided below.

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

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

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

Pooch pouches are also a very popular item. This is a simple and innovative solution to promote responsible pet ownership that can easily be attached to your dog lead so you are never without a poo bag. Also available are packets of ten degradable dog waste bags that can be inserted into the pooch pouch. These items can be bought individually at a cost of \$3.00 and \$1.85 respectively. Also each time you purchase a pooch pouch and packet of waste bags you can get a second packet of waste bags for \$1.15, for a discounted outlay of \$6.00.



We now have 'Kongs' in stock and these 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 stuffing some treats, peanut butter, vegemite etc inside of it. Your dog will keep himself busy by trying to get the food out of it and at the same time having heaps of fun. During the warmer weather why not put some beef, chicken or vegetable stock inside of the Kong then put it in the freezer overnight. This will keep your dog's fluids up during the day while providing amusement.

We also have in stock obedience dumbbells suitable for trialling. Prices range from \$9.95 through to \$14.95, depending on the size. These are a great training aid for teaching your dog a formal retrieve. Also available are Trial Entry Books which can be bought for \$7.50 per book or 20c for a single entry form.

I would like to thank all members who supported the 'Ovarian Cancer' fund raising program by purchasing Black Dog brand 'pink' collars, leads and treat pouches. If anyone would like to place an order please advise shop assistant Emma Bush or I.

Both hot and cold refreshments are available including pies, sausage rolls, pasties, toasted sandwiches, chips and chocolates.

Don't forget your four-legged friend. We have dehydrated beef ears for \$1.40 each or \$15.00 per dozen, pigs ears for \$1.90 each or \$21.00 per dozen (due to a price increase from our wholesalers) and liver treats at \$5.00.

If you have any requests for specific items or a range of goods, please leave a note with shop staff or the club office. We also welcome any feedback on the service we provide.

We look forward to serving and meeting you and hope that you and your canine buddies enjoy your time at the club.

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

PRODUCT AND PRICE LIST

COLLARS - BLACK DOG BRAND

Gentle (Reg) all sizes	\$21.00
Gentle (Super) all sizes	\$24.00
Agility/ Flyball 23 - 40cms	\$23.75

COLLARS - OTHER BRANDS

Small/Medium/Large	\$4.00
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CLICKERS

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

LEADS - BLACK DOG BRAND

Tracking long lead	\$26.50
Double (clip) lead 19 & 25mm	\$28.50
Long line	\$19.50

LEADS - OTHER BRANDS

Click 3	\$15.00
Leather Single	\$5.50
Single 16mm	\$4.00
Double	\$10.00
Long Lead (25m)	\$16.00

CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG

Pooch Pouch	\$3.00
Biodegradable Poo Bags x 10 (green)	\$1.85
Poo Bag Rolls (black)	\$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 (390mls)	\$2.70
Schweppes Drinks	\$3.00
Bottled Water	\$2.20
Cascade Apple Juice	\$2.40
Lemon Lime and Bitters	\$2.60
Lipton Iced Tea	\$3.00
Powerade/Gatorade	\$3.00
Fruit Box Juice	\$1.00

TRAINING AIDS - BLACK DOG BRAND

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

HARNESSES

Flyball Harness	\$58.85
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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	\$9.95
Medium	\$11.95
Large	\$13.95
Extra Large	\$14.95

MUZZLES

Kra-mar Ezifit sizes 0-5	\$10.00 to \$15.00
Beaupets sizes 0-6	\$10.00 to \$16.00
Small to Medium	\$11.00 to \$1300

DOG TREATS

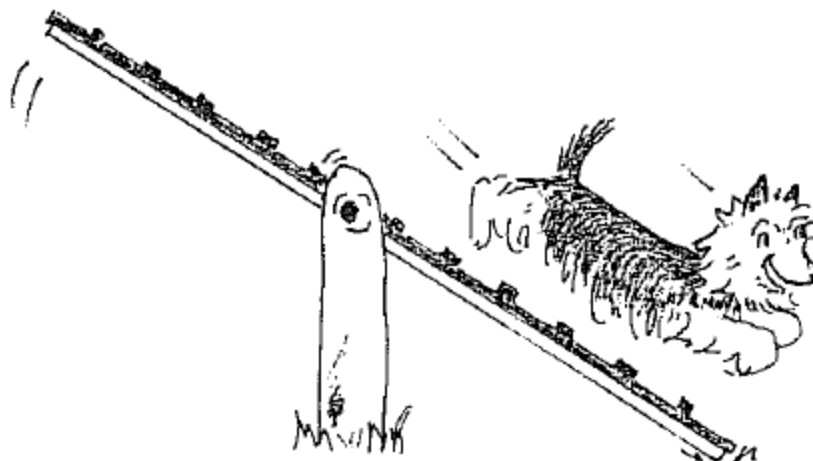
Liver (100gm)	\$5.00
Beef Ears (single)	\$1.40
Beef Ears (pkt 12)	\$15.00
Pigs Ears (single)	\$1.90
Pigs Ears (pkt 12)	\$21.00

DOG TOYS

Kong – Bounzer	\$10.00
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Spring Valley Juice	\$2.50	Kong – small	\$12.50
Ginger Beer	\$2.40	Kong – medium	\$17.50
		Kong – large	\$21.00
FOOD		Dog Sign	\$4.50
Pies	\$3.00	Pet Strobe Lights	\$8.00
Pasties	\$2.30	Wacky Woofers (sml single)	\$10.00
Sausage Rolls	\$2.60	Wacky Woofers (large single)	\$13.00
Sandwiches (Toasted or Plain)	\$3.00	Tennis Bone (regular)	\$12.50
Biscuits	\$0.20	Stretchy Tennis Ball	\$12.00
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
TRIALING DOCUMENTS		Rope Bone (large)	\$3.00
ANKC rule books	\$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
BOOKS		Red Kong Bones	\$3.00
Who's the Boss	\$22.00	Dog Chew Toys	\$3.00
Ideal Dog	\$25.00	Red Dumbbells	\$5.00
Training Your Dog	\$5.00		
Solving Dog Problems	\$15.00	CLUB LOGO PRODUCTS	
Companionship Dog Training	\$6.95	Club Stickers	\$1.50
		Club badges – cloth (small)	\$2.00
AEROGARD		Club badges – cloth (large)	\$4.00
Pump Pack	\$8.50	Club badges - metal	\$3.50

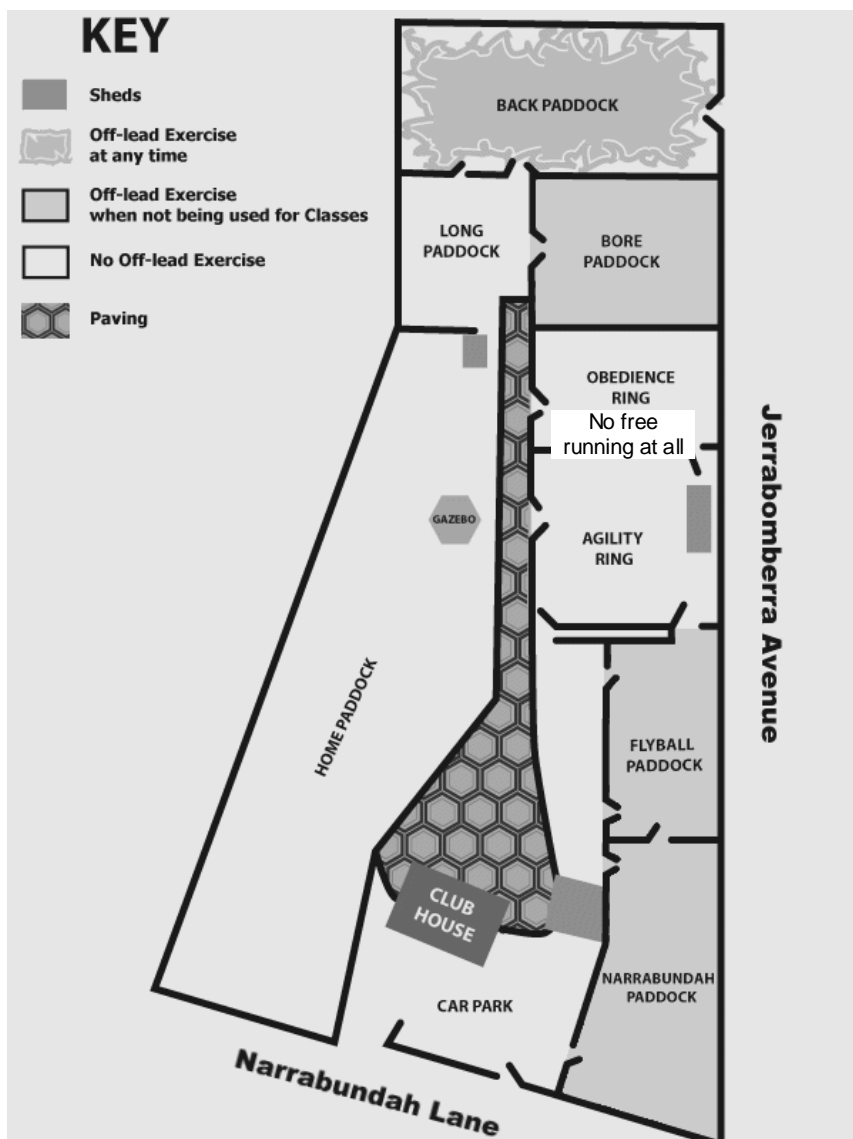
PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE



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	7.30 pm	10.30 am	Sunday 10.00 am
Secondary	10.00 am	7.30 pm	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	Sunday
Level 1	6.45pm - 8.15pm			
Level 2	6.45pm - 8.15pm			
Level 3			7.30pm – 9.00pm	
Level 4			7.30pm – 9.00pm	
Novice	8.15pm-9.30pm			
Excellent				
Masters		7.30pm – 9.00pm	7.30pm – 9.00pm	

FLYBALL	Wednesday	Sunday
All classes	7.00pm - 8.30pm	3.00 – 5.00pm

Note:

Times for agility and flyball classes vary depending on the season. Please check with the conv enors of these activities at the beginning of each training session.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS ~ 2010

MARCH

Tues 2	CDC Obedience Ribbon Trial (CD and UD) – 7.30pm
Sat 13*	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Agility and Jumping Trial – 6.30pm
Tues 16	CDC Gamblers Ribbon Trial – 6.30pm
Sat 20	Maintenance Working Bee – 9.00am
Sat 27	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Double Obedience Trial – 9.00am
Sun 28	Competition Day – 10.00am
Wed 31	Easter - No training classes Instructors Meeting – 7.00pm

APRIL

Thurs 1	Easter - No training classes
Sat 3	Dogs ACT Fundraising Agility Trial at CDC – 8.30am
Sun 4	Easter - No training classes CDC Agility and Jumping Trial – 9.00am
Wed 7	Session 2 training classes start
Thurs 8	Session 2 training classes start
Sat 10*	Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Double Obedience Trial – 9.00am
Sun 11	Session 2 training classes start
Sat 18	Dog Behaviour and Training Seminar for instructors and members – 12 noon – 9.15pm
Tues 20	CDC Jumping Ribbon Trial – 6.30pm
Sat 24	CDC Obedience Trial - 10.00am
Sun 25	Anzac Day – training classes are on

MAY

Sat 1	2010 Royal Canberra Show Obedience Trial – venue TBA
Sun 2	ACT State Obedience Titles – venue TBA
Sat 8	CDC Open Day 10.00am – 2.00pm
Sat 15	ACT Gundog Society Double Agility Trial at CDC – 9.00am
Sun 16*	RSPCA Million Paws Walk
Mon 17*	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Snooker Ribbon Trial – 6.30pm
Mon 24	Instructors Meeting – 7.00pm
Sun 30	Competition Day – 10.00am

JUNE

Wed 2	Session 3 training classes start
Thurs 3	Session 3 training classes start
Sun 6	Session 3 training classes start
Wed 9	Queen's Birthday – No training classes

Thurs 10	Queen's Birthday – No training classes
Sat 12	CDC Agility and Jumping Trial
Sun 13	Queen's Birthday – No training classes CDC Obedience Trial
Wed 23*	Dogs ACT Fundraising Agility Trial Tuggeranong Dog Training Club – Jumping Ribbon Trial – 6.30pm

JULY

Sat 3	CDC Obedience Trial
Wed 14*	Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Jumping Ribbon Trial - 6.30pm
Mon 19	Instructors Meeting – 7.00pm
Sat 24 July	Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Agility and Jumping Trial

AUGUST

Sun 1	Competition Day – 10.00am
Wed 4	Session 4 training classes start
Thurs 5	Session 4 training classes start
Sun 8	Session 4 training classes start
Tues 10	CDC Annual General Meeting
Tues 17	CDC Gamblers Ribbon Trial – 6.30pm
Sat 21*	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Agility Trial
Sat 28*	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Double Obedience Trial

SEPTEMBER

Mon 13*	Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Agility Ribbon Trial – 6.30pm
Sat 18	CDC Agility and Jumping Trial
Sat 25	CDC Obedience Trial – AM ACT Gundog Society Obedience Trial at CDC - PM
Sun 26	Competition Day – 10.00am
Wed 29	Labour Day weekend – No training classes
Thurs 30	Labour Day weekend – No training classes

OCTOBER

Sat 2	Dogs ACT State Agility Titles – venue TBA
Sun 3*	Labour Day weekend – No training classes Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Agility and Jumping Trial
Wed 6	Session 5 training classes start
Thurs 7	Session 5 training classes start
Sun 10	Session 5 training classes start
TBA*	Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Obedience Trial
Wed 20*	Tuggeranong Dog Training Club Jumping Ribbon Trial – 6.30pm
Sat 30	CDC Agility and Jumping Trial
Sun 31	Cut-off date for lodging applications for titles and Annual Awards.

NOVEMBER

Sat 6	CDC Obedience Trial – PM
Tues 16	CDC Ribbon Agility Trial
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>

