

Queanbeyan and District Dog Training Club Inc

THE NEWSHOUND

May 2009



We have a roof to keep out bad weather - Thanks to a working bee



Well trained Intermediate dogs during the Sit Stay on
Assessment Day

YOUR 2009 CLUB COMMITTEE

General Club contact information is also on the webpage at:

www.queanbeyandogs.org.au

Club email address: jacqui.griffin@optusnet.com.au Phone: 0422 729 162

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TRAINING TIMES SUNDAY MORNING

PUPPIES / KINDERGARTEN	9.00	to	10.00	am
BEGINNERS	9.00	to	10.00	am
INTERMEDIATE	10.00	to	11.00	am
ADVANCED	10.00	to	11.00	am
COMMUNITY COMPANION	9.00	to	10.00	am
RECREATION	9.00	to	10.00	am
NOVICE	10.00	to	11.00	am

Bitches in season are not permitted at training classes. All dogs are to remain on leash whilst at training classes unless they are doing an exercise controlled by an Instructor.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to all new members to the Club and congratulations on wanting to learn more about 'responsible dog ownership in our local community'. The Club's aim is not only to teach handlers how to train a dog to be more obedient, but to also socialise them with a very wide range of other dogs of all shapes, sizes and temperaments.

The life blood of any community based dog training organisation such as ours is the quality of volunteers who give their time and expertise freely and happily. To assist our own hardy group of instructors and committee members to carry out this task, we are very pleased to inform you that several club members have successfully completed the Clubs Instructors Training Course and this session will be assisting experienced instructors to run the classes. I am sure these new instructors will be running their own classes in the near future. If any members think they would like to do the Instructors training course please have a chat with one of the Club Instructors or Committee Members.

Around the end of this term of training our Club will be conducting an official ANKC sanctioned Dog Obedience Trial on our grounds. This event attracts some very good trialling dogs and handlers from all over the local district and quite often attracts entries from the South Coast, Sydney and even interstate. I am sure that our Trial Manager (Chris Motbey) will be around looking for volunteers to assist in running this event when the time gets closer.

Many of our members like to utilise the Council's designated off-leash free run areas situated in various locations around Queanbeyan. As you may now be aware, the nearest free-run area to our training grounds is situated directly diagonal to the entrance of our grounds. Usage of this area is probably at it greatest during our training sessions on a Sunday morning. I would like to ask members using these areas to always abide by the common rules applying to free-run areas. Some of these rules include picking up your dog faeces, carrying sufficient water, asking permission of people already using the area if your dog(s) can run with their dog(s) before letting them off leash; always be alert and watch your dog. These areas are great places to relax and talk with other dog owners from our local community. As you may have heard the Council is planning to close the off-leash free run area across the road from the Club and their current plan is to provide a new improved area in the Jerrabomberra area, we will keep members informed of any further developments.

During the break since the last training session Committee organised a working bee to do some improvements on the grounds. I was very pleased with the number of members that spared time on Saturday and/or Sunday to work hard for the Club and I was particularly impressed that a couple of non members also came and were most productive and enthusiastic. The working bee produced some very obvious results with the roof over the containers and the fence to enclose the area behind the containers. These are two improvements that will make dog training at the Club grounds a little more pleasant particularly when the weather is a bit extreme.

See you on the training grounds.

Richard Herba
Acting President

DOG OFF LEAD AREAS – QUEANBEYAN DISTRICT

A dog that is in a public place must be under the effective control of some competent person by means of an adequate chain, cord or leash in accordance with the Companion Animals Act 1998.

Dog owners who allow their dogs in a public place without a chain, cord or leash are guilty of an offence and will be fined.

This does not apply to:

- A dog accompanied by a competent person in an area declared to be an off lead area; or
- A dog engaged in the droving, tending or working of stock; or
- A dog being exhibited for show purposes; or
- A dog participating in an obedience class, trial or exhibition; or
- A police dog; or
- A dog secured in a cage or vehicle or tethered to a fixed object or structure.

The following are the currently approved off lead areas in the Queanbeyan area:

- **Southbar Road:** This area is fenced and is often referred to as ‘The Scar’. It is situated on a busy link road and ground cover is generally asphalt.
- **Hoover Road:** Situated diagonally opposite the entrance to the Queanbeyan & District Dog Training Club. Stop at the gate to the Hoover Reserve and walk approximately 100 metres along the track. Area is well fenced, isolated from residential areas, shade trees which makes it a very popular off lead area.
- **Edwin Land Parkway:** Located off Cooma Street and ends at River Drive.
- **High Street:** Sign posted area opposite intersection of Thurrallilly Street.
- **Crest Road:** Water reservoir reserve.
- **Garryowen Reserve:** Situated in Nimmitabel Street.
- **Kinleyside Avenue, Jerrabomberra:** The area is fenced with small linked chain which makes it ideal for small dogs. Area is quite small in size but secure.

More detailed information, including location maps, relating to these off leash areas can be obtained from the official Queanbeyan City Council web site.

Maps of the areas can be found on this Web Page:

<http://www.qcc.nsw.gov.au/page.aspx?page=73>

Notice board

Check the Club Website for your Class syllabus
Be prepared for next Sunday's lesson by reading about what will be taught

See your dog's photo taken on Assessment Day
www.queanbeyandogs.org.au

These items (and more) are on sale each Sunday Morning

- a range of equipment for your dog
- dog treats – for training rewards
- treat bags - plastic lined and with velcro tabs
- poo bag holders - fasten on to your dog's leash
- ANKC Obedience Trial Rules – pocket sized books





Bendora



Boarding Kennels & Cat Flats

Pleasant rural location where we provide secure accommodation for your pets

Phone: **(02) 6241 1042** Mobile: **0428411042**

Manager: **Richard Herba** Owner: **Peter Burgess**

Your pet's happiness is important to us

- * **Discounts for two pets sharing the same yard**
- * **Your special diet is fed to your pet**
- * **Required medication is dispensed on time**

Easy to get to!
Visible location on the
FEDERAL HIGHWAY
WATSON ACT

Going to the Coast for a weekend soon?
Book your pet into Bendora Boarding Kennels
drop off Friday before 5 pm and pick up Sunday before 5 pm

Our staff have a genuine love of animals and will care for your pet with as much attention as they give their own animals.

Assessment Day 5 April 2009

Assessment Day was the morning after daylight savings time ended, so everyone was up and about bright and early. The day combined a short test of the dogs and handlers, some yummy nibbles (for both) and the drawing of the Easter raffles - so many hampers - so many winners both in the rings and outside.

Thanks go to those wonderful people who helped out on the day and particularly those who volunteered to Judge, set up rings, cook all the food and sit at the check in table as well as deal with various other responsibilities that needed to be done.

Beginners Ring 1 Judge Marianne Wyatt

- 1st Julie Parducci with Timmy
- 2nd Andrew Ringwold with Bonnie
- 3rd Deborah Bailey with Oscar

Beginners Ring 2 Judge Mara Herba

- 1st Brenton Smith with Jesse
- 2nd Keith Cheetham with Zulu
- 3rd Simone Meredith with Rubie

Beginners Ring 3 Judge John Gryniec

- 1st Sharon Schultz with Yvie
- 2nd Michelle Richards with Patch
- 3rd Amanda Polsen with Pippy



Other passes went to:

Amanda Edwards with Izzy, David Burnet with Billy, Rebecca Ringwold with Chester, David Bailey with Paxton, Sandy Thompson with Rafferty, Martin Elms with Poppy, Matthew Ridley with Callie, David Brooks with Flynn, Gary Sweeney with Milo, Stephanie Jones with Jessie, Erin Douchi with Bonnie, Andrew Maryat with Henry, Brianna Smith with Pepper, Fiona Hale with Polly, Jolien Mikosza with Rikki, Kat Davies with Stooze

Intermediate - Judge Kathy Griffiths

- 1st April Polsen with Keesha
- 2nd Renee Catullo with Beau
- 3rd = Fay Grunsell with Crystal

Other passes went to:

Therese Smith with Rusty
Vicki Thomas with Bundy

Advanced Judge: Alec Hempstead

- 1st Nick Pinkerton with Finn
- 2nd Nathan Banks with Tia
- 3rd Ed Crosson with Chris

CCD Judge: Alec Hempstead

- 1st Mara Herba with Willy Q (94/100)

Novice Judge: Alec Hempstead

- 1st John Fraser with Angel N / Q



3 Secrets to Better Dog Training

There are many approaches to training a dog, almost every successful method involves positive reinforcement techniques. Their effectiveness can be enhanced by remembering three simple secrets.

Start Young

We've all been told a thousand times "you can't teach an old dog new tricks." That popular saying, of course, is not entirely true. Any dog, regardless of age, can learn new things. However, like most old adages, it is remembered because it contains a kernel of truth. Dogs, like humans, are much more receptive to learning new behaviours when young. The earlier you are able to start training your dog, the more effective the training will be.

If you weren't able to start training your dog when he was younger, don't fret. Training at any age will help alter behaviours. However, if you do have the chance, start training early and you'll reap the benefits.

Remain Gentle

Dogs are social animals and develop a real attachment to their owners. That attachment is at the heart of successful dog training. A dog who trusts his owner and who wants to please his companion is far more likely to remain attentive and compliant during the training process. Make a commitment to be gentle when training. A gentle dog owner will find himself with a willing dog rather than a rival. Instead of a battle of the wills, training can become a cooperative exercise. Under those conditions, training tends to take less time and be far more effective, as well as being pleasant for dog and human.

Emphasise Prevention

A strong emphasis on preventing inappropriate behaviour reduces the need for corrections and can help the dog learn what is preferred

The basic goal of prevention is to intervene before a problem is created instead of simply responding to the problem. Instead of waiting for the dog to make a mistake to correct, the prevention-minded owner will keep close watch and will intervene early to prevent mistakes in the first place.. These can range from urinating indoors or stealing food off tables to running out of an open door or gate or fence climbing / jumping.

By starting early, remaining gentle and emphasising prevention, any reasonable method of dog training can show better results. These three secrets, if always operating in the background, serve to increase the effectiveness of any training done.

Your First Obedience Trial

After months and months of training you now decide that you are ready to enter your first obedience trial - but are you? Are you so overjoyed that your dog has finally 'got it right' that you decide that you are both ready for the 'test'? Hopefully it is more than that and you are convinced that your dog will get it right every time, regardless of what is happening around them.

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Before entering a trial it is important that you are certain that your dog will continue to happily work with you and basically, that they are 'bomb proof'. Many activities happen at a trial that could possibly engender a different response from your dog from what you have seen during practice. For example, dogs competing in adjacent rings could be sent for retrieval of their dumbbell and your dog could see this as an opportunity for a game. Also, sausage sizzles are often on offer at trials and the smell of freshly cooked sausages and onions - yum - could be enticing to your dog, so it is important that you and your dog are prepared for as many different situations as possible. As a final check, you will need to be confident that he will work without your continual assistance such as feeding, guiding, talking etc as none of these 'practices' are permitted in the trial ring.

A very good trialling opportunity is coming up with the Club's annual all breeds dog obedience trial being held on Saturday 11 July at Hoover Road, Queanbeyan.

If you are in Community Companion Dog (CCD) level or higher, your dog may be trained well enough to participate. Ask your Instructor for an informal assessment. The CCD competition format and exercises are similar to the Club's CCD class – trained and assessed.

What you need to do to enter the Club trial:

- be a financial member of Dogs NSW – the State body which oversees the running of each Club's trials
- Have your dog registered with the appropriate section of the Dogs NSW (cross breed and non pedigree dogs are included on the Associate Register). Your dog will get a unique number to identify him and record any passes at obedience trials.
- Fill out an entry form and post it off before the closing date.

If you want to have a look at dogs doing formal obedience trialling where they can gain obedience titles, come along on the day, or volunteer to help out.

Anyone who is available on the day and would like to help out stewarding, in our “shop” or putting up / pulling down rings – *we're always grateful for volunteers!*

**If you leave the ring as if you have won the class,
your dog will never know or care**

Queensland Jackaroo and 'The Man'

A Queensland jackaroo is overseeing his herd in remote territory when suddenly a brand-new BMW advances out of a dust cloud towards him. The driver, a young man in a designer suit, Gucci shoes, Ray Ban sunglasses and YSL tie, leans out the window and asks the cowboy, 'If I tell you exactly how many cows and calves you have in your herd, will you give me a calf?'

The jackaroo looks at the man, obviously a yuppie, then looks at his peacefully grazing herd and calmly answers, 'Sure, why not?'

The yuppie parks his car, whips out his Dell notebook computer, connects it to his Cingular RAZII V3 cell phone, and surfs to a NASA page on the Internet, where he calls up a GPS satellite navigation system to get an exact fix on his location which he then feeds to another NASA satellite that scans the area in an ultra-high resolution photo. The young man then opens the digital photo in Adobe Photoshop and exports it to an image processing facility in Hamburg, Germany.

Within seconds, he receives an email on his Palm Pilot that the image has been processed and the data stored. He then accesses a MS-SQL database through an ODBC connected Excel Spreadsheet with email on his Blackberry and, after a few minutes, receives a response. Finally, he prints out a full-colour, 150-page report on his hi-tech, miniaturized HP LaserJet printer and finally turns to the cowboy and says, 'You have exactly 1,586 cows and calves.'

'That's right. Well, I guess you can take one of my calves,' says the Cowboy.

He watches the young man select one of the animals and looks on amused as the young man stuffs it into the trunk of his car.

Then the Jackaroo says to the young man, 'Hey, if I can tell you exactly what your business is, will you give me back my calf?'

The young man thinks about it for a second and then says, 'Okay, why not?'

'You work for the Australian Government', says the Jackaroo.

'Wow! That's correct,' says the yuppie, 'but how did you guess that?'

'No guessing required.' answered the jackaroo. 'You showed up here even though nobody called you; you want to get paid for an answer I already knew, to a question I never asked. You used all kinds of expensive equipment that clearly somebody else paid for. You tried to show me how much smarter than me you are; and you don't know a thing about cows this is a herd of sheep. Now give me back my dog.'



I rescued a human today by Janine Allen

Her eyes met mine as she walked down the corridor peering apprehensively into the kennels. I felt her need instantly and knew I had to help her.

I wagged my tail, not too exuberantly, so she wouldn't be afraid. As she stopped at my kennel I blocked her view from a little accident I had in the back of my cage. I didn't want her to know that I hadn't been walked today. Sometimes the overworked shelter keepers get too busy and I didn't want her to think poorly of them.

As she read my kennel card I hoped that she wouldn't feel sad about my past. I only have the future to look forward to and want to make a difference in someone's life.

She got down on her knees and made little kissy sounds at me. I shoved my shoulder and side of my head up against the bars to comfort her. Gentle fingertips caressed my neck; she was desperate for companionship. A tear fell down her cheek and I raised my paw to assure her that all would be well.

Soon my kennel door opened and her smile was so bright that I instantly jumped into her arms.

I would promise to keep her safe. I would promise to always be by her side. I would promise to do everything I could to see that radiant smile and sparkle in her eyes.

I was so fortunate that she came down my corridor. So many more are out there who haven't walked the corridors. So many more to be saved. At least I could save one.

I rescued a human today.



Carla and Sophie at the Sutton Fair



Drop stays being demonstrated at the Sutton fair.

Timing Tips

The quickest way to mess up dog training is to not watch your timing.

Let's say you are trying to teach your dog to sit. You say sit, you see him sit, then he starts to get up again, and NOW you say "Good boy!"

You just taught him that sit means to touch his behind to the ground and get right up again. Good training requires you to reward him (some say with a treat, some say with words) when he does it right. So, good dog training starts with training yourself to be quick - on the ball - and to pay attention. As soon as his behind touches the ground, that is when you say "Good boy!" and pet him. That accomplished two things. First, you rewarded him for doing it right instead of when he did it wrong. Second, you rewarded him before he had a chance to do something wrong. All that should be required of your dog in the beginning is to sit for a second. He will sit longer next time since he now has a chance to relate the praise he loves to an action.

Using good timing is all you need to teach some new things to your dog.

Doing these things is not new to him, but doing them on command is. So next time you see him doing something cute, make up a command word and say it, and say "Good boy!" He may look at you like you're crazy the first time. Keep watching for him to do this cute action again, say the command word, and praise him. He will soon put this action together with the command word and praise.

This method can even be used to help speed up that little trip outside at night for your dog to toilet just before bedtime. Get in the habit of taking your dog to the same spot every night, and saying a command word (go, potty, etc.) when you see your female dog squat or your male dog lift his leg. Add "Good dog!" Then take him right back inside.

Pretty soon, you can take him outside to his spot to relieve himself quickly and get right back into the warm house - instead of having him think it is a good time to wander the entire yard looking for a good spot.



Vaporised war dog receives posthumous medal

Some of Australia's unsung military heroes have finally been recognised for their bravery.

For the first time, unofficial medals have been awarded to the country's courageous canines.

In September 2007, explosive detection dog Razz was working in Afghanistan when he found a large roadside bomb.

Defence Force Trackers and War Dogs Association president George Hulse says the Taliban detonated the device moments before Australian troops moved in to try to defuse it.

"It was a huge bomb and poor Razz wasn't only killed in action, he was vaporised," he said.

His trainer, Lance Corporal Craig Turnbull, says Razz not only saved his life but the lives of the troops around him.

"A bad experience, but better than one of our soldiers," he said.

Six medals, two of them posthumous, were presented today at a ceremony at Brisbane's Enoggera Army barracks.

Story as posted on Mar 5, 2009 7:15pm AEDT on www.abc.net.au

DIARY DATES - May - July 2009

MAY

3	Sunday	Q&DDTC: New Term starts
2	Sat	Dogs ACT State Obedience titles
3	Sun	RNCAS Obedience Trial
28	Thursday	Q&DDTC: Committee meeting - 6.30 pm

JUNE

25	Thursday	Q&DDTC: Committee meeting - 6.30 pm
28	Sun	Q&DDTC: Assessment Day

JULY

11	Sat	Q&DDTC: all breeds Obedience Trial
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AUGUST

2	Sunday	Q&DDTC: New Term starts
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Thank You

To all who donated towards our Easter Hamper Raffle.
Your generosity added a needed amount of \$ 445 to the Club coffers

Congratulations to all the winners

Queens Birthday weekend - Sunday 7 June

TRAINING IS ON

Bring your dog out to class that Sunday

Million Paws Walk – Sunday 17 May 2009

Why not after Obedience Classes on Sunday 17 May 2009 head on over to the Million Paws Walk. It's a great opportunity to socialise your pet and take part in the all the fun events.

The Walk starts at Stage 88, Commonwealth Park, and follows a scenic path around the edge of beautiful Lake Burley Griffin.

As well as the walk, there will be entertainment, displays, stalls, giveaways and a host of other activities.

Whatever your age, whether you're a pet owner or not, you're invited to join in the fun of the day!

For more information or to register online go to www.millionpawswalk.com.au.