

Paws Express

Newsletter of
Alexandra & District
Dog Obedience Club



April 2019

Patrons: Betty Tulloch, Doug Norman B.Sc.(Hons), B.Vet.Sc.(Hons)

Welcome!

Dear members,

It is wonderful to see so many dedicated dog lovers each Sunday. I do hope everyone enjoys their sessions because we enjoy helping you.

A point I mentioned at announcements about two weeks ago I believe is worth bringing to everyone's attention again.

That is : how do we go about choosing a dog for ourselves?

Did we purchase the dog through a breeder, through a "puppies for sale" site, an advertisement in the newspaper or did a friend or acquaintance give it to us for nothing?

Whichever way our best friend came to us, did we research its breed or background, the pros and cons so to speak? Or did we just say I want one of those because they are big, small, cute, cheap or free. Are they a working dog, hunting type, retrieving dog or other type?

These inherited traits do make a difference when we are training them to be our dearly loved companions.

Happy training.

Barb Tanner, ADDOC President

Introducing **Selkie**, Julee's new puppy.

Cloud is wondering when the "real" owners are coming to get this annoying piece of black fluff! "She's been here long enough - she can go home now! What do you mean?? She's ours?? Sigh..."



Committee Members 2019

Barbara Tanner (President)
Bronwyn McFadyen (Vice Pres.)
Deb Callaway(Secretary)
Jeanne Roberts (A/Treasurer)
Andy Cowan
Ann Laherty-Hunt
Jamie Laherty-Hunt
Pam Poole
Jeanne Roberts
Julee Hosking

Life Members

Betty Tulloch
Greg Tulloch (Dec)
Lynne Walter
Maggie Hamill
Julee Hosking
Bronwyn McFadyen

Honorary Members

Doug Norman B.Sc(Hons) B.Vet.Sc(Hons)
Doug Walter
Mike Hosking
Chris Chester
David Roberts

Newsletter: Ann Jelinek

Welcome to new members

Sally & Willow (Chesapeake Bay Retriever)
Alannah & Kobe (Finnish Lapphund)
Sara & Scout (Golden Retriever)
Jude & Teddy (Labrador Retriever)
Jody & Billie (Poodle/KelpieX)
Kath & Duke (Mastiff/Great DaneX)
Barb & Sacha (Daschund)
Michelle & Angus (Labrador/KelpieX)
Judy & Ricco (German Shepherd)

**** Join the Alexandra & District Dog Obedience Club on Facebook ****

VALE - Rosey Chester

I first met Rosey when her and Chris were in Murrindindi Computers. I think we got chatting because her old dog “Zack” was asleep at her feet and we discovered that we were both idiotic dog lovers.

When they left Murrindindi Computers, Zack had passed away and little Peanut came into their lives and Rosey decided that she wanted to train Peanut with Alexandra Dog Obedience. She always filled out her membership form with
Dogs Name: *Peanut* Breed: *Miniature Great Dane!*

Rosey threw herself wholeheartedly into training and the Club. You would see Rosey coming across Briggs Oval at top speed in her scooter with Peanut running as fast as his little legs could go. Sometimes, if she put a turn in, Peanut would swing out the side like a water skier behind a boat! She would turn up for training rain hail or shine – sometimes it was so cold that little Peanut would be shaking, so she would just pick him up and put him on her lap. Win win for both of them – he would be warm and he would keep her warm at the same time.

She had a great sense of the ridiculous and took some of the quite innocent and unintentional comments in her stride! (there’s one of those comments right there!) She was told once to start off the heeling on her left leg and walk out smartly. Rosey just got the giggles and said “that could be tricky” Made us all laugh!

She took on the role of Treasurer because she felt that would be one major way she could contribute to the Club. And we were grateful for her exemplary work! I am quite sure there were other Clubs and Organisations that Rosey was part of, who found that whatever role she took on, she threw herself at it with great gusto!

She was always smiling! Somedays she might be a bit quieter than usual and you knew that it was a bad day for her, but not one complaint!

It think it would be fair to say that she loved our Club. It was only a month ago that she came along to help out with our new member orientation day. She didn’t stay long, but obviously wanted to come along and help. She loved our Club and we loved her!

To Chris, We knew that she was being was being looked after because you were always there for her!

Alexandra & District Dog Obedience Club’s heart goes out to Chris and the boys, the wider family and, of course, little Peanut. Rosey will be very very missed! But lots of memories, all good! RIP Rosey.

Julee and all ADDOC members.



Rosey with Peanut





Training Tips



A very warm welcome to 2019 to everyone – those members who are re-joining us, as well as all our new members.

Most of you will have seen me on the oval with my 5mth old, Golden Retriever puppy, Quinn. It has been 8 years since we had a puppy in our household and I am having a lot of fun making sure he learns how to be a confident, socially well-adjusted member of our household and society. But, in this time, much has changed in how you begin developing a relationship with your new puppy! It has also been a great opportunity for me because I've been able to tryout with Quinn some of the updated methods of doing things that I've learnt in the past 8 years, PLUS I'm suddenly on the other end of the leash and instead of helping you, I'm in a class trying to do as my Instructor asks!!!!

In this article I'd like to share with you a concept I've found to work really well with Quinn:

PARTNERSHIP requires **TEAMWORK** needs **LEADERSHIP**.

What is a PARTNERSHIP?

In a partnership you and your partner work together and to work well together it is necessary to communicate with your partner (your dog) and to listen to your partner (your dog). Dogs communicate with us using body language and facial expression and we communicate with them using movement, expression, breathing and personal space.

So, watch your dog, be aware of where they are and what they are doing. Learn about dog body language so you can tell exactly what your partner is trying to tell you. You can be sure your dog is aware of you and responding to all your body language.

For a **PARTNERSHIP** to be really successful it requires **TEAMWORK** which in turn needs **LEADERSHIP** from someone on the team.

In my partnership with Quinn I have appointed myself the **LEADER** of our **TEAM**. I am setting the boundaries and establishing what the rules are; e.g. walk on the lead without pulling; wait at the door until invited in; come when called no matter what you're doing.

To be an effective leader and encourage Quinn to work with me I must **COMMUNICATE** effectively with him.

How do I do this?

By keeping everything **SIMPLE** and talking very little. I have actually only this week begun to introduce the **VERBAL** commands "Sit" and "Wait" and "Heel", but Quinn knows the **HAND** signals and follows my body language. The only **VERBAL** commands I have used are "Come", "Close" and "Let's Go"- only said **ONCE** and with **HAND** signals which Quinn already knows.

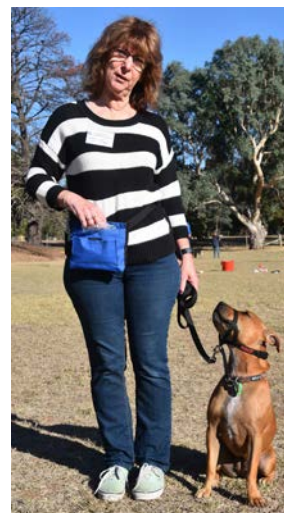
So, give it a go and I hope you have as much fun as I'm having!!! Jeanne.



*"Always remember, the dog is never wrong.
The information they are receiving is either
incorrect or confusing".*

~ Author unknown

Congratulations to Graduates



Deb with Maya
Foundation to FCC1



Jenny with Maggie
Foundation to FCC1



Caitlin with Remy
Foundation to FCC1

Competition success

ADDOC members recently had success at competitions around Victoria.

Retrieving Trials

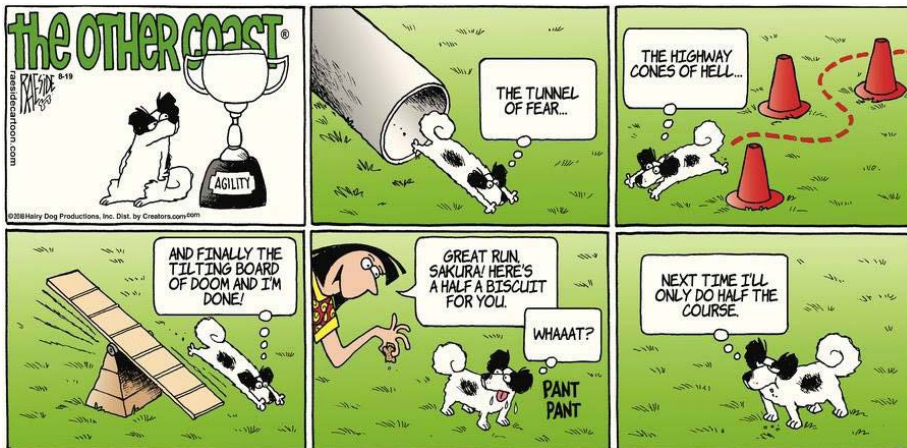
Dogs at the Novice Level have to complete 3 Retrieves – 1 on land, 1 across water and 1 in water. To actually finish a trial, which means your dog has retrieved all three birds is good, a bonus if you get a place!!! You don't get a score unless you place and 3 wins is required for a Title.

Bronwyn's Jade finished the Novice Trial on both the 2nd and 3rd March, and Saffie finished the Novice Trial on the 3rd March. A really good result!

Jeanne entered Jasper on the 2nd March and did well on the 1st and 2nd runs but withdrew him before he finished the 3rd run because he put the bird down to check out where the dog who'd run before him had had a pee!!! So Jeanne needed to go out and correct him . Oh well!!!).



Brownwyn & Saffie



Steph & Georgie

Rally Obedience Trials

Steph with Georgie came 1st in Ring, Rally Novice Obedience Trial with 99 points!! Tied for Highest Score in Trial, at the Croydon & District Dog Obedience Club Trial last December.

Joyce and Nessie are having good results in Rally Obedience. Joyce and Nessie with a Pass at Albury on March 24th and another Pass (89) at Croydon on March 31st. Debbie and Toffee gained a Pass (81) at Croydon on March 31st as well.



Deb & Toffee, Joyce & Nessie

Club training fun!



Julee & Alannah playing Whip It with Kobe
Whip It: Stage 1 - Build desire, Stage 2 - Impulse control



Julee & Jenny playing Whip It with Maggie



Pam & Julee playing Whip It with Diesel

Congratulations!

Stick with it award 2018:
Katrina Heyward



Katrina with Milo



Deb with Maya

**Greg & Betty Tulloch -
most improved handler
award 2018:**
Deb Loveday

Kids and Dogs - staying safe

Supervise, Supervise, Supervise

We are always told to supervise children and dogs to make sure 'nothing happens'. But realistically, incidents can happen in a split second, and you can't supervise 100% of the time. This is where home management comes into play. Use crates and baby gates to separate your children and dogs if you know you can't supervise adequately. Supervision means active supervision.

You need to be actively supervising all interactions between your kids and dogs which means being there. It is not enough to be watching from the kitchen window washing dishes, while your children play with the dog in the back yard.

Canine body language

Learning to read your dog's body language is vitally important if you want your supervision to be effective. Dogs indicate stress in many subtle ways such as showing the whites of their eyes, turning their heads away and lip licking. Learn what is normal for your dog/s and what their stress signals are. If you can learn to identify the more subtle signs of stress your dog shows, this puts you in a very effective position for your kids and your dog/s. Some dogs can tolerate only so much before they show more overt signs such as growling and snapping.

There are three categories of interactions between kids and dogs:

• Enjoyment

Things are going well. Your dog's body language is relaxed and your children are being appropriate. Continue to supervise. While there is no need to intervene at this stage, be prepared to. Enjoyment can turn to tolerance very quickly.

• Tolerance

You have noticed some stress signals from your dog and things look a bit tense.

How can you improve the situation? Could it be as simple as asking your children to move away, or calling your dog to you? Be prepared to intervene if you can't improve it.

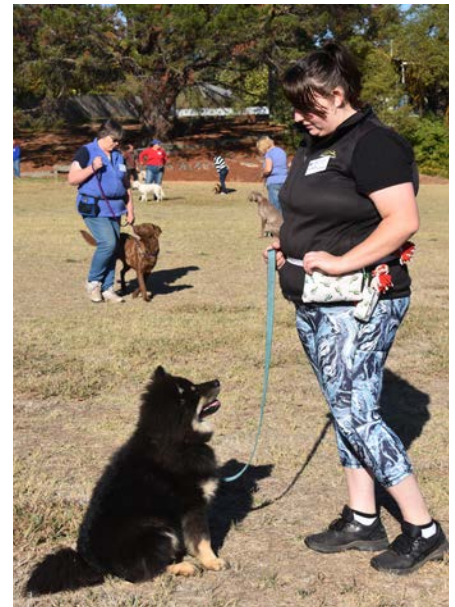
• ENOUGH

Intervene immediately. If you don't, things could go bad and your child will get bitten. Your dog has had enough and is looking for a way out. Separate your kids and dog/s and give your dog some time and space to relax. Think about how you can prevent this situation from occurring again.

Appropriate play around dogs

Many bites occur when children are playing around dogs. Children can be noisy, rough, unpredictable and uncoordinated! They can be unaware that their actions are threatening or scary to a dog. Discourage rough and inappropriate play around dogs.

(Extract from RSPCA QLD Animal Training and Behaviour document)



Alannah with Kobe, Finnish Lapphund



Vicki with Winx, Rhodesian Ridgeback

Alexandra & District Dog Obedience Club Inc.

Training on Sunday mornings in Alexandra (except for public holidays, days of Total Fire Ban and a break over December & January).

Memberships - Due February (C5 vaccination certificate to be sighted)

Annual membership

1 or 2 dogs/1 handler (single) \$15.
1 dog/2 handlers (dual) \$20.
2 dogs/2 handlers (same family) \$15 each.

Cost per class \$3 -
\$21 per block of 7 classes paid in advance and is non-refundable.