

Paws Express



Newsletter of
Alexandra & District
Dog Obedience Club Inc

December 2022

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

*Merry
Christmas*



To all our members and their families and of course your much loved four-legged darlings; on behalf of committee and instructors may I wish you a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

To those who attended our breakup day, thank you for the delicious food and gifts for our raffle. Congratulations to everyone who won a ribbon in the games and everyone else who participated.

Deb Calloway (club secretary) won our \$300 first prize in the raffle. Lucky you 😊 enjoy.

Remember please, Your Dog, Your Responsibility over Christmas. Don't allow family or friends to feed treats from the Christmas table. Some foods are very bad for your dog to eat.

See you all next year, our training starts again on February 5th.

ADDOC President

Barb Tanner

Committee Members 2022

Barbara Tanner (President)
Julee Hosking (Vice Pres.)
Debbie Callaway (Secretary)
Geoff Hyland (Treasurer)
Jeanne Roberts
Ann Laherty-Hunt
Jamie Laherty-Hunt
Bronwyn McFadyen
Fiona Mackey
Jenny Hyland

Life Members

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

Honorary Members

Doug Norman B.Sc(Hons) B.Vet.Sci

Mike Hosking
Chris Chester
David Roberts

Instructors

Jeanne Roberts
Barb Tanner
Julee Hosking
Ann Jelinek
Pam Poole
Jenny Hyland
Sally Freeman
Kat Howard
Debbie Callaway

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

Newsletter: David Roberts

Alexandra Show 11th November 2022



Paul & rosettes for "Milo" 1st Rally Novice,
"Matilda" 2nd CCD 3rd Rally Novice



Bronwyn & "Saffy" 2nd Rally Novice



Joyce & "Nessie" 1st Rally Advanced and CCD



Faith & "Candy" 3rd CCD



Lyndall & "Storm" 1st Beginners' Obedience



John & "Sergie" 2nd Beginners' Obedience



Mark & "Daisy" 3rd Beginners' Obedience



Display Table

SCENT WORKSHOP 20TH NOVEMBER 2022



Paige & "Willow"



Chris & "Knox"



Clive & "Jess"



Paul & "Matilda"



"Lola"



"Penny"



Sally & "Willow"



"Zip"



Joh & "Melba" taking a break





TRAINING TIPS ENGAGEMENT.

“Reach deeper during training and find a way to connect with your dog from the heart, not from a leash and collar”. ~Zac George~

In our Obedience Program at ADDOC we place great emphasis on showing you how to get FOCUS from your dog before you can teach him new skills because without FOCUS you will find it very difficult to teach your dog anything. However, we are also teaching something even more fundamental, the real foundation stone that’s required. This is ENGAGEMENT, because if you don’t have engagement then your dog will not be focused.

So, what exactly is ENGAGEMENT?

To understand engagement, it helps to understand what it is not. Engagement is not a dog who is fixated or obsessed with a reward such as toys or food, or even barking to grab your attention

Engagement is your dog paying sustained attention to you because it wants to be with you and be involved in whatever activity you are going to do together. To foster and develop this closeness we can use food, toys, play or some other type of interaction that you know your dog loves.

You might think that this sounds exactly like Focus, but it is more than that. Engagement is having a connection with your dog. It means your dog stays with you, not only physically but also, and importantly, mentally, without being asked to. This in turn leads to it being focused on you and wanting you to initiate a fun activity you can both participate in.

An engaged dog wants to focus and work with you, paying attention to you no matter what you are doing or where you are together e.g. An engaged dog will watch its human intently for their next word; it will check in when on a walk, either on lead or off lead. Without engagement you will struggle to teach new behaviours. You need to build a strong desire for the food, toys and/or play you have. Do this by making your training fun and exciting e.g. Let’s say you know your dog loves to fetch a ball. You will have his

complete attention/ focus – he will be engaged with you – while you hold the ball. Use it to lure him into a sit, immediately mark that behaviour with a happy “Yes!” and then throw the ball for him. When he picks up the ball call “Come!” and repeat the exercise. You are creating a special training environment where your dog is naturally paying attention to you and where your dog is an eager participant. Without him realising it you are teaching two behaviours you want him to learn, “Sit” and “Come” while you’re both having fun. After a short while stop the session and put the ball away then simply talk to your dog and tell him how wonderful he is.

This is an engaged dog that will stay with you and focus on you. Once you have developed an environment where your dog pays continuous attention to you then you have a dog that is very easy to train.

Here are a few easy ways to develop engagement with your dog

1. We all walk our dogs, so, watch your dog (no talking on your mobile) and reward him freely for checking in with you i.e. looking up, or looking back at you.
2. Trick training. Teach your dog a few tricks. There are many tricks, Spin, Middle, Paws Up, Sit Pretty, to name just a few.
3. Nose work. Dogs love to use their noses. Toss small treats all over your lawn and watch your dog have fun finding them. Have a collection of various sized containers and hide treats in some of them, let your dog “nose” them out.
4. Hide & Seek. This can be played inside or outside. You hide and let your dog find you.
5. Indoor food games. “Now-you-see-it! Now you don’t!” or “The Cup Game”. You will need 3 or 4 plastic cups. Show your dog a treat. Place it under one of the cups then move them all about. Let your dog have fun finding the hidden treat.
6. A sniffing walk. When you go for a walk, let your dog meander and sniff as much as he wants to.

Everything our dogs do is based on motivation. They are motivated to access something pleasant. Motivated to avoid something unpleasant. Using the above activities, you are motivating your dog to want to engage with you – you are fostering engagement. ENGAGEMENT will guarantee FOCUS and a happy, well-adjusted dog who is easy to train and a pleasure to work with.

Ref: “Building Engagement With Your Dog”, Dogster Magazine.

“How to Train Your Dog to be Engaged With You”, Nate Schoemer



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all members and their families. Enjoy the summer break, but don't forget to play and have fun with your dog!

Jeanne, Jasper & Quinn.



GRADUATES

Foundation Transition Class to Family Companion Certificate Level 1.



Julie & "Coco"

Clive and "Jess", Joh & "Melba" (no images).



WHAT YOUR DOG CAN'T EAT OVER CHRISTMAS



Onions & Garlic

Both onions and garlic are poisonous to dogs. It is best to avoid these at all times, especially over the Christmas break.



Avocados

Whilst the fruit of the avocado is not toxic to dogs, the stone poses a big risk of causing obstruction in the stomach or intestines if swallowed.



Chocolate

Chocolate contains theobromine which can cause seizures, coma and heart failure.



Sultanas, Grapes, Raisins & Currants

Sultanas, grapes, raisins and currants are all toxic to dogs and can lead to kidney failure. These ingredients are commonly found in mince pies, Christmas pudding and fruit cake.



Stuffing

Stuffing contains onions and garlic which can destroy red blood cells, causing life-threatening anaemia.



Turkey & Chicken Skin

Skin and fat trimmings may contribute to upset tummies and pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas).



Bones

Ham and poultry bones (or any bone) can become stuck in the throat or even pierce your dog's intestinal tract.



Gravy

While it's very tasty, gravy is too salty and fatty for your dog.



Nutmeg

High levels of nutmeg can result in severe hallucinations, elevated heart rates and skin flushing.

PETBARN



Welcome NEW MEMBERS

18th September 2022	Leanne Dwight & <i>Billy</i>
Peter Alexander & <i>Teddy</i>	Jeremy Walgers & <i>Monte</i>
Marion Carmichael & <i>Storm</i>	Karen Moore & <i>Bonny</i>
Lauren Nott & <i>Ollie</i>	Frank Devries & <i>Peanut</i>
Julie Devries & <i>Milo</i>	Jo Noble & <i>Buddy</i>
Abbie Dyson & <i>Earle</i>	Jill Marler & <i>Ruby</i>
Paige Horton & <i>Willow</i>	Jacqui Symons, Evan Sparks & <i>Pocket</i>
Fiona Mackey & <i>Verona</i>	



Alexandra & District DogObedience Club Inc.

Training on Sunday mornings
in Alexandra (except for
public
holidays, days of Total Fire Ban and
abreak 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.