

Paws Express



Newsletter of
Alexandra & District
Dog Obedience Club Inc

June 2023

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

WELCOME!



Dear members, we the committee and instructors of your club pride ourselves on being warm and welcoming to everyone and I believe every person who has joined us and stayed have shown the same commitment. It is lovely to see happy dogs and smiling owners every Sunday morning regardless of weather conditions. Through our club I hope you form new friendships for your dog and yourself, enjoy learning with like-minded people and having fun. I would like to extend a big welcome to our newest members and congratulations for choosing to engage with your dog in our obedience classes.

REMEMBER HAVE FUN 🐾🐾
Barb Tanner

Join the Alexandra & District Obedience Club on Facebook

Committee Members 2023

Barbara Tanner (President)
Julee Hosking (Vice Pres.)
Debbie Callaway (Secretary)
Geoff Hyland (Treasurer)
Jeanne Roberts
Ann Laherty-Hunt
Jamie Laherty-Hunt
Shane (Frog) Frean
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.Sc(Hons)
Mike Hosking
Chris Chester
David Roberts

Instructors

Jeanne Roberts
Barb Tanner
Julee Hosking
Ann Jelinek
Pam Poole
Jenny Hyland
Trudie Brooks
Debbie Callaway
Joyce Turner

Newsletter: David Roberts

MEMBERS' COMPETITION 30TH APRIL 2023



Paul and *Matilda*, Qualifying Certificate (QC), 3rd Rally Novice. Kat and *Milo* 3rd CCD.



Joyce Turner and *Nessie*, QC, 1st CCD.



Janene and *Maxi* QC, 2nd Rally Novice.



Di and *Poppy*, QC in Rally Novice.



Trudie and *Lola*, QC, 1st Rally Novice, 2nd CCD.



Silly Hat Day – 28th May 2023. To show support for our VP, Puppy Instructor and friend, Julee. Some of the Club Members wearing their silly hats.



GRADUATES

Family Companion Certificate to Level 4



Chris and Knox



John and Sergie



Sue and Baz

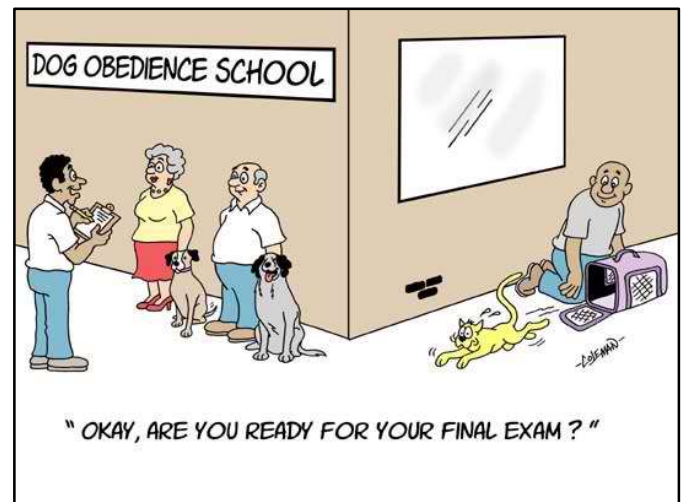


Mark and Daisy

Foundation to Family Companion Certificate



Fiona and Verona



EDITOR'S PIC OF THE MONTH



A sea of golden retrievers congregated at the birthplace of the breed's first litter in the Scottish Highlands. The first golden retrievers were born in 1868 (*Washington Post*).



TRAINING TIPS

THE SCIENCE BEHIND POSITIVE TRAINING

“Positive training puts the emphasis on teaching a dog what to do, not continually punishing a dog for not doing what we want.” Victoria Stillwell.

I received my first Golden Retriever, Moses, 52 years ago this November. What I knew about dog training then was – absolutely nothing!!! However, along with the puppy I also received a book “The Golden Retriever” and one of the chapters was devoted to “Training your Golden Retriever”. My interest was captured, and I decided to “train” Moses by following the instructions religiously, much to the amusement of our neighbours who used to hang over the fences to watch. Only farm dogs were “trained” back then. Why was I wasting my time? Now, looking back at the methods I used, I shudder. While I was never deliberately cruel, and I used cracker biscuits as a reward, I most definitely used force. How training has evolved in the past 50 years and only for the better.

Now with our greater understanding of dogs and how they learn we can work together with them using a much kinder, more gentle method to help them learn and along the way we learn as much from them as they do from us. The method I used 50 years ago was based on our understanding of what people thought they knew about animal behaviour then. But science is an ever-evolving field and our training at ADDOC today is based on our new and deeper understanding of how our canine companions learn and feel.

Positive training has several names: reward-based training; positive reinforcement training; force-free training but they are all based on a philosophy where dogs, and other animals, are only taught using humane force free techniques that encourage dogs to learn, problem

solve and think.

POSITIVE TRAINING – What it does:

- Sets dogs up for success and relies on management strategies to solve any problems that arise. Punishment, intimidation or domination cause stress, anxiety, and behaviours that we don’t want and are counterproductive.
- Doesn’t only refer to the positive reinforcement used but also to the positive attitude of the human to make it possible.
- Teaches with respect, love, and kindness.
- Works with the dog mentally, physically, and emotionally.
- Encourages relationship building and clear communication.
- Gives us confident dogs and develops a strong bond between the dog and it’s human.
- Encourages the dog to listen and respond. Making good choices.

POSITIVE TRAINING – What it doesn’t do:

- Give dogs free rein to do whatever they want to. We do set boundaries around what our dog can and can’t do e.g. toilet inside, race madly around the house jumping all over the furniture, jumping up on family members and visitors etc. **BUT** we use food rewards, toys, praise and play to teach and mark the behaviour we want. I use a verbal cue to interrupt an unwanted behaviour and then redirect to a wanted behaviour – then I praise and reward. It takes persistence, patience and consistency but it works.

I want a dog who is a friend and companion. One who is excited and happy to work with me. A dog who looks at me with a smile on his face and a madly wagging tail.

At ADDOC we want that for all our members and their dogs which is why we use the Science Based method of Positive Training.

Ref: Victoria Stillwell: The Science Behind Positive Training; The Truth Behind Positive Training.

“Effective training is a partnership between you and your dog based on trust, love and science. Strengthen your bond and train force-free.”

~Unknown~

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS



April, Puppies	Lauren Kirby & <i>Jack</i>
Steven Kirby & <i>Lola</i>	Dylan Burr, Abbey Williamson & <i>Winston</i>
Margaret Baker & <i>Paddington</i>	Mandy Willaton & <i>Pinky</i>
Pam Thompson & <i>Bindi</i>	Nicole and Hayden Simpson & <i>Tucker</i>
Fiona Buchan & <i>Lucy</i>	Kristelle Leary & <i>Wombat</i>
Cathy Keogh & <i>Dolly</i>	
Sam Ackerman & <i>Rosa</i>	
April, Beginners	Phillip Campbell & <i>Shelby</i>
Cat Thomas & <i>Louie</i>	Jacqui Symons & <i>Pocket</i>
Megan Boerlage & <i>Koda</i>	
June, Puppies	Donna Howson & <i>Possum</i>
David Wallace & <i>Ellie</i>	Brett and Tahlee Christie & <i>Maisy</i>
Bade Bishop & <i>Crumpet</i>	Erin and Nate Boyd & <i>Gus</i>
Jenny Renfrey & <i>Theodore</i>	
June, Beginners	Terry Nicholson & <i>Poppy</i>
Leo Dynes & <i>Diesel</i>	

