

Paws Express

Newsletter of
Alexandra & District
Dog Obedience Club



November 2018

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

Welcome!

Well dear members, here we are almost at the end of our training year.

It has been a year of changes with highs and lows.

Some of us have had to and still are fighting for our health and quality of life; some of us have had to say goodbye to our much loved best friends (and the reason for being part of this club) and some of us have finally realised that actually practicing what our instructors teach us each week DOES WORK. Amazing isn't it!!!

So dear members, practice, patience and praise over the Christmas break and we will see extremely well trained doggies next year.

Do be aware of what is fed to your dog over the festive period, plenty of fresh water every day and a safe and cool place to lay their heads.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all,

Barb Tanner, ADDOC President



Ann & Millie
having fun with
agility!

Committee Members 2019

Barbara Tanner (President)
Bronwyn McFadyen (Vice Pres.)
Deb Callaway (Secretary)
Rosie Chester (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

Elizabeth & Mochi (Maltese X)
Julie & Bonza (Labrador)
Sienna & Yuki (Labradoodle)
Barb/David & Sacha (Daschund)
Elisha & Frankie (English Pointer X)
Jane & Bertles (Wolfhound/MastiffX)
April & Tovi (Aust. Cattle Dog)
Rod & Chloe (Labrador)

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

ADDOC AGM November 2018



Congratulations!

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

Stick with it award:
Katrina Heyward with Milo



Highest scoring aggregate
CCD (Community Companion Dog)
Ann with Zip

Highest scoring aggregate
Rally Novice
Joyce with Nestle



Dog club fun



Christina with Gus on weave poles



Sienna with Yuki



Kristen with Heath



Training Tips



The 3 Principles of Dog Training (Part 2)

In the last newsletter I talked about Principal No 1: Motivation, and Principal No 2: Your Dog Must Feel Safe.

Now let's look at Principal No 3: Training Is a Step-by-Step Process.

In spite of the various labels assigned to them, such as: 'he's really naughty,' 'he's doing it to spite me,' he's doing it deliberately,' our dogs do not deliberately set out to make our lives difficult.

So, the next time you have a problem ask yourself "Why?" before you react and if you are confident you're providing positive motivation and your dog's environment is non-threatening, then consider these points:

1. **Clarity of your cues**

Make your commands clear and simple; don't mix your cues, ask for one action at a time and take it slowly, give your dog time to think; don't become cross if your dog doesn't respond correctly – look to yourself..... check your cue and make changes. Go back to basics if necessary. You need – Patience! Practice! & Persistence!

2. **Lack of understanding**

Does your dog simply not understand? Many dogs will appear to be 'messaging around'.....fiddling, scratching a 'non-itch', shaking etc when they simply don't know what you're asking them to do.

3. **Blocking**

Have you just introduced a new concept? Take as an example the exercise 'finish right'. You have worked on this for a week and your dog is performing beautifully. Now you introduce 'finish left' and he has trouble and goes to the right several times – he's not stupid, but his first learnt behaviour is interfering with his ability to learn the new behaviour. Take it slowly and be patient!

4. **Dissatisfaction & Non-Payment**

Your dog will work for what it wants and fortunately we control most of what our dog wants. So, take this scenario, your dog can sit, always does a beautiful recall and then suddenly he won't sit or won't come. Look for the reason. What's changed? Have you stopped giving him a really "special" reason to sit or come to you. This can simply be a treat, lots of praise, a game with a tug toy (or a combination of all three), but it must be something that triggers a "happy" response so that your dog wants to sit or come when called. Would you keep working if your boss suddenly decided to discontinue paying your salary and expected you to work because it made him/her "happy"? I know I wouldn't!!!

As you can see, when you are training your dog there are many factors to consider when he doesn't respond as you hope. It is sometimes frustrating when this happens, but we must stop and think first before acting. This is not only of course much better for our relationship with our dog, it also enables us to achieve our training goal and, very importantly, it gives us a much greater insight into the understanding our dog's behaviour.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone. Good luck and happy training over the break. See you all again in Feb.2019. Jeanne

Ref: Joan Donaldson. Dog Training 101; The Good Companion,
Nov. 2017, Vol 29, No 4.

Congratulations to Graduates



Kristen & Mark with Heath
Foundation to FCC1



Andy with Keith
Foundation to FCC1

Bob Graham Agility Workshop, 27 October 2018



Andy & Keith



Bronwyn, Bob & Saffie



Russell & Derrick



Julee, Cloud & Bob



Julie & Mojo



Kristen & Heath



Pam & Morgana



Ann & Zip



Ann & Millie



Mary & Fyodor

Alexandra Show 2018



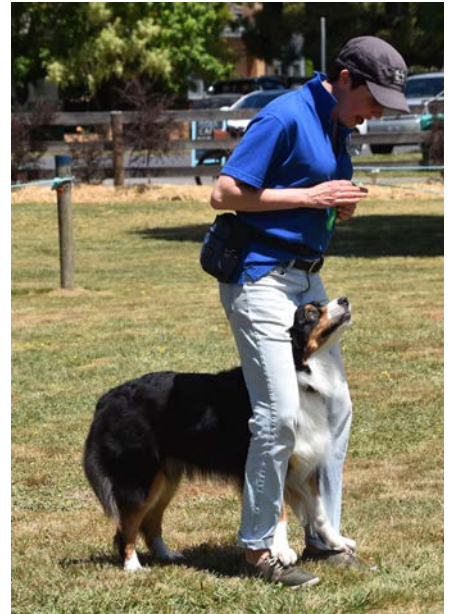
Beginners Obedience Trial - Judge: Jamie Laherty Hunt
1st: Bronwyn & Saffie 3rd: Gail & Trudi 2nd: Helen & Molly



Deb's Toffee - great recall!



Rally - Judge: Julee Hosking
1st : Steph & Georgie
2nd: Ann & Millie
3rd: Joyce & Nestle



Steph & Georgie display

CCD - Judge: Pam Poole
1st : Ann & Zip
2nd: Russell & Derrick
3rd: Ann & Millie



An important reminder for the festive season

- Don't feed your pet these foods...

So which Christmas foods should you keep away from your dogs (or cats!) at all costs? The Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) warns us about these eight common foods which dogs can't eat, among others:

1. Chocolate

Most pet owners are well-aware of this already, but it's an easy one to forget at Christmas. That tasty advent calendar, or those bars of Toblerone wrapped nicely under the tree, can be highly toxic to your pet even in small quantities.

On a related note... Can dogs eat ice cream? The answer is maybe not; some dogs are lactose intolerant, so feeding them part of your ice cream cone – even if it's not chocolate flavoured! – can lead to diarrhoea, stomach pains, noxious gas, and skin irritations. Unfortunately, these two favourite human desserts are some of the worst things you can feed your dog.

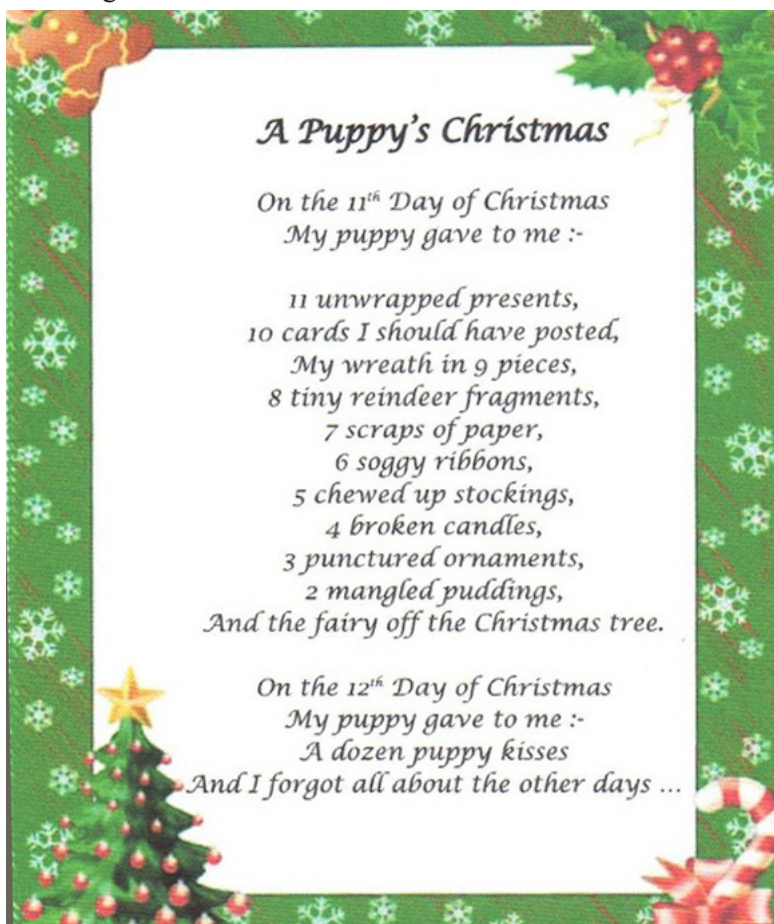
2. Nutmeg

Adding a dash of nutmeg to your eggnog this Christmas? Don't fling it around – it's actually one of the lesser known poisonous foods for dogs. The Australian Veterinary Association warns that nutmeg can cause dogs to suffer from tremors, seizures, issues with the nervous system and even death.

3. Grapes and raisins

Are grapes bad for dogs? Sadly, yes.

Thanks to the traditional plum pudding, Aussies probably consume more raisins at Christmas time than through the entire remainder of the year! Both raisins and grapes, though, can cause acute kidney failure in your dog, so be careful not to give them a handful of leftovers.



4. Avocados

It's avocado season and they are a popular Christmas food. But they also contain a toxin which can damage the heart, lungs and tissue of many different animals, including Fido. Fortunately the effect in dogs is usually mild – definitely keep avocados away from any pet birds though!

5. Macadamia nuts

Australia is the world's largest producer of macadamias; the Australian Macadamia Society estimates that currently there are around six million macadamia trees in Australia! These popular Christmas nuts can also be toxic to dogs, though. Symptoms generally present within 12 hours and can include vomiting, hypothermia and elevated heart rate. Keep any nutty treats wrapped under the tree!

6. Onions and garlic

It's amazing what some dogs will crunch into; both onions and garlic can cause gastric irritation and anemia if eaten in large quantities, so be mindful of this when preparing turkey stuffing or Christmas vegetables.

7. Turkey skin, pork crackling, sausages and fatty meats

Unfortunately, these staples of a good Christmas lunch are foods which can all lead to inflammation of the pancreas in dogs due to high fat content. They're not the best for owners, either! (although we can't deny they're delicious).

8. Alcohol

'tis the season to be jolly, and we tend to celebrate the festive season with beer, wine and bubbles. According to the AVA though, even small amounts of alcohol can kill a pet. Half-empty glasses, spilled drink, even fermented fruit and other foods – make sure you keep them out of reach.



~ VALLE ~

"Dogs leave pawprints on our hearts!"

~Unknown.

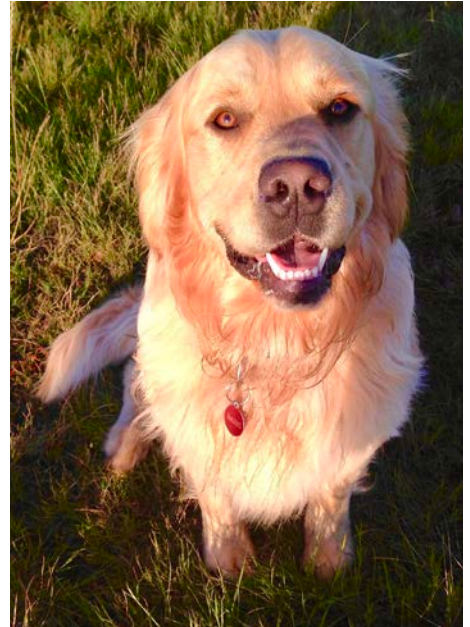
**We remember all the four-legged friends
we have said "good-bye to" this year.**



Julie's Puzzle
3.06.2011 – 12.12.17



Jeanne's Midas
27.04.2003 –
29.09.2018



Jamie & Ann's Angus
15.04.2015 – 11.10.18
"Our beloved boy"



Barb's Oscar
6.08.2007 –
23.09.18



Andy's Wally
Sir Wallace Quirk 1, Earl of Buxton
circa 2014 – 23.01.18

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.