

Paws Express

Newsletter of
Alexandra & District
Dog Obedience Club



September 2018

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

Welcome!

Warm greetings to all members and well done for attending training during these very chilly past weeks.

We have now passed the half way point of the year in our training and I am hopeful that you all feel that you have achieved a lot.

Remember that no two dogs are the same and each one achieves differently. Having said that, it also depends hugely on how much effort and love you put into your dog's wellbeing and training.

Always bring a happy positive attitude to club along with your poo bags and your four legged best friend.

Happy training

Barb Tanner, ADDOC President



Jamie with Angus - showing off their tree climbing skills!

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

Committee Members 2018

Barbara Tanner (President)
Bronwyn McFadyen (Vice Pres.)
Deb Callaway (Secretary)
Rosie Chester (Treasurer)
Andy Cowan
Bonnie Clark
Ann Laherty-Hunt
Jamie Laherty-Hunt
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

Gay Garlick & Snowy (Jack Russell)
Amanda O'Meara & Roly (Parsons Terrier)
Lyn Scotchmoor & Penny (Labrador)
Rebecca Stone & Maddie (Mixed breed)
Leah Robertson & Angus (Border Collie)
Michael Handsby & Ferdi (German Shorthaired Pointer)
John Macciani & Bella (Labrador)
Caitlin Clavarino & Remy (Weimaraner)
Barbara Jackson & Harry (Border Collie)

Kylie Bright workshop, 29 July 2018

Kylie is an Instructor with the National Dog Trainers Federation, as well as running her own private classes in Bright.

Kylie's workshop was open to all financial members. It was really good fun and a terrific learning opportunity for ADDOC members and their dogs.



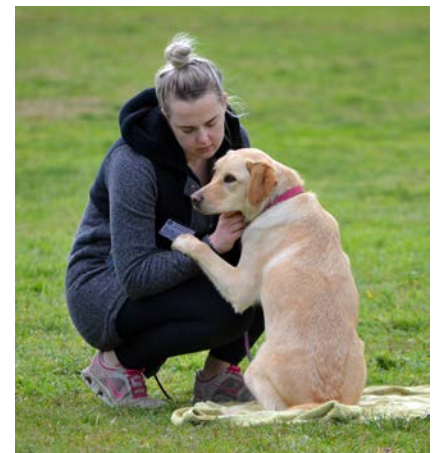
Kylie with Gail & Trudi



Kylie giving advice to Leah with Angus & Deb with Heff



Lyn with Penny



Tara with Maisy



John having a tug game with Bella



Leah's Angus - great focus!



Jenny with Maggie



Training Tips



The Principles of Dog Training (Part 1)

There are three principles of dog training which can help you to train your dog so that he is a more enjoyable companion. The more you master these principles the faster and more effectively you will be able to train your dog.

Principle 1: There is no *Free Lunch in Dog Training*.

Principle 2: The *Dog Has to Feel Safe*.

Principle 3: Training is a *Step-by-Step Process*.

In this article I will talk about Principles 1 & 2.

Principle No 1 is all about **motivation**. You need to motivate your dog to want to learn. Dogs aren't born with engagement and focus. It needs to be shaped and maintained and this is your job!

Your dog will not work because it gives him a great sense of achievement. He doesn't think that staying and coming when called are very important. To him they can actually interfere with what he does find very important like staying in the park, or chasing the cat, or jumping up and licking your face. You need to provide a very strong motivation for him to choose to come or stay!

Dogs require immediate, positive reinforcement and this provides the motivation for them to respond in a way that we enjoy and find useful.

Ways for you to do this:

1. Be a cheerful, interesting trainer; engage with your dog and stay focused on him.
2. Use tasty, high value treats and/or toys to keep his focus on you.
3. Provide variety by breaking up your training into a short work session and then a happy energetic play session.

These suggestions will help you motivate your dog to co-operate with you willingly.

Principle 2 is about how your dog feels. If your dog is worried or afraid this will be uppermost in his mind and training will go nowhere. Principle 2 is also about motivation. If your dog is anxious, nervous, hyped up or overstimulated by the situation he finds himself in, he is unable to focus on puzzles – which is what training is. He will have no motivation to work with you.

Before you begin training, pay close attention to your dog's body language and if he doesn't feel safe address that before doing anything else.

Principle 3 will be looked at in detail in the next newsletter. Good luck and happy training, Jeanne.

Reference: Joan Donaldson. Dog Training 101; Meagan Karnes. Tough Love: Are you squashing your dog's work ethic?

Congratulations to Graduates



Vicki & Stella: FCC2 to Advanced



Moira & Charlie: Transition to FCC1



Steve & Helen with Leo: Transition to FCC1

Thanks and farewell Maggie!

Back in October 1991, not long after she arrived to live in our area, Maggie Hamill and two other like minded people, decided it was time for Alexandra to have a dog obedience club. Alexandra & District Dog Obedience Club Inc was born!

Maggie was no stranger to the dog obedience world having obtained her German Shepherd's "Companion Dog Excellent" (CDX) title and she was more than happy to share her knowledge.

The small group of people who came along to see what this obedience "thing" was all about on that first morning, were super impressed at what Maggie could do with her dog. I think everyone thought that it was way out of our reach, but with Maggie's "take no prisoners" training methods, those people soon realised that they too could achieve high standards with their dogs.

Maggie was always supportive and encouraging but if you did wrong by your dog – look out! She could not abide any form of cruelty to the dogs and one of her dogs, Nicky, became hers when Maggie had a go at the owner for hitting the dog!

Nowadays Maggie has her two Great Danes, Sam & Mr Darcy, who she obviously loves and has a special bond with both of them.

Maggie and her husband, Ian, are now moving on to the next phase of their lives. They are building a new home at Moama and Ian will be working out of Echuca Police Station. Maggie will still be working for Foodworks and I am guessing she will get involved with the local netball teams (her other love). She has already researched what dog obedience clubs are in the area and I say "watch this space" - Echuca might have a new Instructor at a new obedience club!

Maggie, on behalf of the members of the Alexandra & District Dog Obedience Club Inc, I would like to say thank you. Without your vision and drive back in 1991, we might not be the strong club that we are today. I for one, over the years, have appreciated your sense of humour, toughness and logic! We all wish you the best for the future. Keep training! Julee



Lois Cliff, Maggie Hamill, Sue Snow



Marysville Ph

Maggie & Sam



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.