

# Paws Express

Newsletter of  
Alexandra & District  
Dog Obedience Club



September 2020

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

## Welcome!

Dear members, hoping this message finds you all healthy and coping reasonably well within our restrictions. A huge positive is that we are fortunate to be living in regional Victoria and not Melbourne!

Our premier has today given us a road map to take us out of restrictions. From midnight on the 13th of September regional Victoria will be following Step 2 restrictions. What does that mean for our club? It means we still will not be able to meet for training.

Your committee and instructors will be monitoring the situation and as Step 3 can only take place if COVID numbers are below 5 over a fourteen day period in regional Victoria, we will contact all members via Facebook and email when we can recommence training.

Meanwhile keep up your positive training with your beautiful doggies, give them lots of love and they will return it. How about some lovely and funny stories on our Facebook page as Julee has suggested.

Missing everyone

Barb Tanner

ADDOC President

## How do dogs "see" with their noses?

TED-Ed : <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1271444302868773>



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

## Committee Members 2020

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

## 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

Sophie & 'Luna' (Groodle)  
Blake & 'Bailey' (Groodle)  
Drew & 'Rebel' (Heeler CoolieX)  
Bonnie & 'Charlie' (Labradoodle)  
Jacqui & 'Maisie' (Kelpie)  
Leo & 'Freddy' (Kelpie)  
Daniel & 'Lena' (Coon HoundX)  
Di & 'Poppy' (Kelpie)  
John & 'Red' (Kelpie)  
Julie & Lilly' (Keeshond)

## Julie Hosking's reflections on her dogs and ADDOC

When I was a kid, we had a black Cocker Spaniel called Texie. A number of years after Texie left us, I was given a Border Collie/Kelpie and, to this day, still reckon he was one of the most intelligent dogs I have ever known. His name was Ruff. I loved that dog and don't think I will ever forget the day Ruff went to the Bridge. After that there was Skip, a Corgie/Kelpie. Another smart dog who I spent most of my teenage years with.

As a young newly wed I craved another dog. My husband at that time was a good cricketer and one of the Club's he was thinking about playing for, found out that I liked German Shepherds and offered to get us one if he played for them. Neither of us liked the idea, he didn't play for that Club and we got a golden Cocker Spaniel called Tangles. And that began my love of gun dogs. When Tangles was about two, we got Holly, a black Cocker Spaniel.

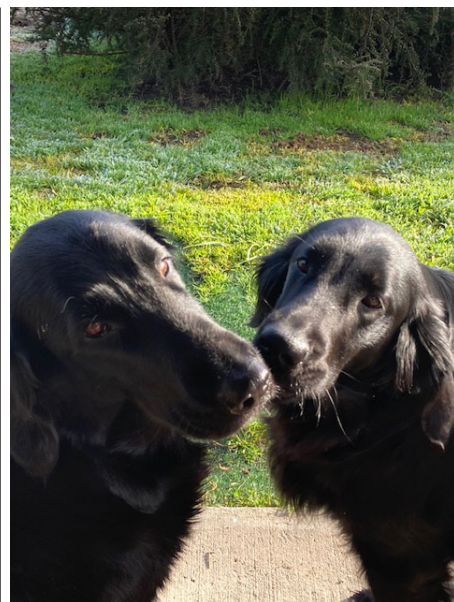
Over the years, my first marriage didn't quite go to plan and I met Mike, who loves dogs as much as I do. I bought Mike a yellow Labrador that we named Ruger. Not long after we got him, the Alexandra & District Dog Obedience Club (ADDOC) started up and I convinced Mike that we should go along. Which we did on their very first day. Who would know that I would still be here nearly 30 years later! We spent a lot of time doing obedience work with Ruger and it turned out he was one of the funniest, happiest dogs I had ever owned. But he wasn't technically mine!

I wanted to do obedience with my very own dog and spent hours poring over books on different dog breeds. We even went and checked out Bull Mastiffs and Bouvier De Flanders. But I kept coming back to the gun dogs. Then one day, I found a picture of 4 or 5 black dogs sitting on a hilltop with the wind blowing through their fur. Flatcoated Retrievers!! Never heard of them, but beautiful and I wanted one!

Not long after seeing that picture, I went to a Dog Show with friends, looking for their Belgian Shepherd and I spotted, in the gun dog ring, a black dog with a beautiful long flowing coat. I went and spoke to the owner who met me outside the ring and we sat on the grass and the dog was all over me! Love at first sight! The person was a Flatcoat breeder called Judy Kennon and the dog was called Chance (Mishkador Black Chance). Judy invited Mike and I to a Flatcoat get together, which was being held on her parents property, a few weeks later.

I could not wait. That was where I met all these beautiful dogs and lovely people. It was a fabulous day and I put my order in with Peter & Helen Eley who were going to have a litter on the ground in a matter of months. As it turned out, it didn't happen that quickly and I had to wait a bit longer to get my first Flatcoat, Australian Champion Kellick Black Rook. The wait was well worth it and that's where it started.

Twenty seven or so years on and I now have Cloud and Selkie. I can't imagine NOT having a Flatcoat in my life. They are just the best! And I am still thoroughly enjoying being a part of ADDOC and looking forward to next year (hopefully without lockdowns) and celebrating our 30th birthday throughout the year. What an achievement! Go us!



Cloud & Selkie kisses



Julie and Kerry Warne with Billy at ADDOC, mid 1990's



Julie with Cloud



## Club Training - Fun Activities



Bonnie & Charlie



Julie & Lilly



Drew & Rebel



Sophie & Luna



## Club Training - Fun Activities



Blake & Bailey



Drew & Rebel



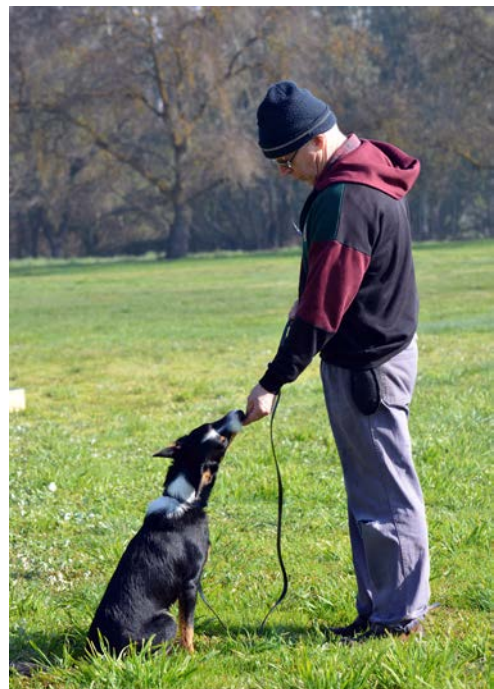
Jamie's Barry



Daniel & Christine's Lena



John & Red



Leo & Freddy



## Club Training - Fun Activities



Jamie & Barry



Sue & Moogi Dindi



Di & Poppy



Daniel, Christine & Lena



## Training Tips



### TEN TOP TRAINING TIPS TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR PUPPY OR OLDER DOG.

These hints are really aimed at helping members with their new puppies, BUT, as it's been SO long since we have been in a class, they can be a useful reminder for all of us.

#### **A training checklist!!**

They are to help you develop your training skills and enable you to gain an understanding of how your dog learns and how you can best help him learn.

Everyone wants an obedient, well socialised dog that is a pleasure to live with.



Always train using positive reinforcement.

Use small treats that your dog can easily swallow. You will marvel at the ease with which your dog will want to co-operate.



Be a leader.

This means that you are the teacher and your dog is the learner.



Set your dog up for success.

Set your environment up to help your dog make good choices. Dog proof your house. This avoids mistakes and helps prevent bad habits from developing.



Dogs learn very quickly.

Keep everything very clear and simple. Stay calm and give your dog time to realise what you are asking.



Establish a routine.

A routine will assist both you and your dog with many training processes.



Provide for your dog's basic needs.

Ensure your dog's needs are met daily. These include – appropriate food; fresh, clean water; shelter; exercise; companionship and play. This will reduce the likelihood of unwanted behaviours from developing.



Always reward good behaviour.

By positively rewarding (reinforcing) good behaviours you avoid inadvertently reinforcing any bad behaviours, this means they are less likely to be repeated.



Avoid using your dog's name in a negative tone.

Dog's need to associate their name with pleasure, this in turn will help you obtain their attention quickly and reliably when you really need to.



Avoid punishing your dog for mistakes.

Punishing your dog for a "mistake" only damages your relationship with it and reduces its trust in you. Mistakes will usually be caused by carelessness or inattention on your part!



Don't allow or encourage behaviour that you do not want, in a puppy or older dog.

Puppies grow into adult dogs very quickly. So gently, but firmly, discourage any behaviour which will be unacceptable when the puppy is fully grown, such as jumping up on you or anybody else. Continue to be consistent throughout the rest of your dog's life.

*Ref: Perth's Animal Training Specialists*





## Training Tips



### The “YELLOW COAT” and what it means

You may have seen a couple of dogs at training wearing what we call a “yellow” coat with the words “**IN TRAINING. GIVE ME SPACE**”.

This is to let all the other members know that this dog is nervous if their dogs come too close. They need some extra space to stay relaxed and happy.

So the next time you see a dog wearing a “yellow” coat, either at training or when you’re out and about with your dog, be sure to stay well back and give the dog and its owner plenty of space.



## Let Them Sniff

### *Why is it important to let your dog sniff on walk?*

- Dogs "see" the world through their noses
- Slow scent/sniffy walks let your dog absorb and process all the scents
- Gives you insights into their behaviours
- Mentally and physically stimulating
- Decreases their heart rate
- Decreases their stress levels
- Improves behaviour
- It's their walk not yours



[www.welfare4animals.org](http://www.welfare4animals.org)



FACEBOOK.COM/OFF THE LEASH DAILY DOG CARTOONS



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### 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.