

ALEXANDRA & DISTRICT DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB INC

President's Report for 2014 – 2015

I am very pleased to present the Alexandra & District Dog Obedience Club Inc Annual Report for 2014 – 2015. We have had a very productive and successful year with several new and exciting additions to our club programme.

February 2015 saw the introduction of a new Obedience Program. Over the summer break a small sub-committee worked hard to choose the content and structure of the programme. We now offer training at three different levels – Kinder; Family Companion Certificate and Advanced Levels A & B. This new program is still in its infancy with changes being made when necessary but we are delighted with the start we have made and the promise of better things to come. It is very rewarding to see committed, enthusiastic handlers arriving each Sunday for class regardless of the weather.

The club continues to offer Rally Obedience and Agility classes which are enjoyed by all. However, another new initiative this year was the introduction of tracking classes, at the end of February. We are fortunate to have the assistance of Di Cameron, one of our club members who is an experienced and highly successful tracking handler. This has resulted in a small group of members keen to enter tracking trials who meet regularly for training with Di.

Once again this year we have been out and about with our dogs showing the public how fantastic they are. "Congratulations" to everyone who came along and took part in our obedience demonstrations which were held at - the Yea Market (October 2014) and the Alexandra Show and the Yea Show (November 2014). In May 2015 we also had a great turnout for the demonstration before the RSPCA Million Paws Walk and then we all enjoyed the lovely walk around the Pondage.

Our Christmas Breakup Day goes from strength to strength and on the final Sunday in November there was much laughter and fierce competition with dogs and handlers having fun together. We were all ready for the bar-b-q lunch which followed!

April 19th the club held its inaugural "Fun Day". This was a tremendous success and will become an annual club event. Once again members and their dogs played together and competed against one another in some interesting games and relays. The sausage sizzle was delicious and the lack of sausages afterwards meant the dogs missed out on their "sausage race"!

Advertising continues to play a vital role in making the public aware of our club and what we can offer. We have regular articles in the local papers, the Alexandra "Standard" and the Yea "Chronicle", also pamphlets and business cards at the Veterinary Clinics and posters on all the local notice boards. Recently there was a terrific article, written by Julee Hosking, with beautiful photos, in the Murrindindi Guide.

The most exciting new advertising venture for the club is the launch today of our new website!!!!

On a sad note, the Committee had to accept the resignation of Erynn Cossart-Walsh. Erynn had been an active club member for 5 years. She was a Committee Member and held the position of Secretary as well as conducting interesting and innovative Obedience Classes. The club is very sorry to lose Erynn.

2014 – 2015 has been a very exciting, busy year for the Alexandra and District Dog Obedience Club. This has been made possible by the ongoing support and commitment of the current Club Executive:- Julee Hosking – amazing Secretary, Membership and Advertising Officer and Obedience Instructor; Rosey Chester – diligent Treasurer and aspiring Web Master; Bronwyn McFadyen – Vice President, as well as, patient and efficient Enrolment Officer. There are also our dedicated and enthusiastic General Committee Members and Obedience Instructors - Lynne Walter, Pam Poole, Mary Davies and Barbara Tanner. A very big personal “thank you” to you all for your continued belief in our vision for the club, your hard work and, above all, your friendship.

Finally, to all the ADDOC club members, a special “thank you” as well. Your wholehearted participation in all club activities makes our efforts very worthwhile and satisfying.

Jeanne Roberts

President