

## ALEXANDRA & DISTRICT DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB INC.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2016 – 2017

This will be my third and final Annual Report on the progress and activities that have seen Alexandra & District Dog Obedience Club experience another very busy and rewarding year. 2016 – 2017 saw the club enjoy many successes and continue to work hard to provide quality Obedience classes for Alexandra and the surrounding district.

Our primary focus as an Obedience Club is to deliver the best instruction we can to our members and their canine companions. To achieve this, the Instructors are continually evaluating the content of their classes and where necessary making changes and updating information and exercises.

To fulfil this goal, this year, changes have been made to the introductory classes offered at ADDOC. There is now a 12 week Foundation Programme consisting of a 6 week Kinder programme with a class for Puppies up to 12 months of age, and a Beginners class for all dogs over 12 months of age. This is followed by a 6 week Transition class. This class is designed to assist members with the “transition” to the more formal obedience classes in the 18 week Family Companion Class.

The Club has also organised two Obedience Workshops both of which were conducted by Kylie Bright, an Instructor with the National Dog Trainers Federation of Australia.

- 22/4/2017. A workshop for any interested general member to attend and the support was excellent with very positive feedback.
- 28/10/2017. A workshop for the Club Committee and the Instructors which was also extremely well received.

In the Advanced Classes the Instructors are providing support and encouragement to any members who are interested in taking their dogs further by competing in Rally and Obedience Trials. There are also a small number of members who participate in Conformation Shows, Tracking and Retrieving Trials with their dogs.

The ADDOC Committee has introduced two major administration initiatives this year:

- The date of the Annual General Meeting has been moved from the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in August to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in November. We believe this will make the planning of the club programme for the year much easier.
- There have been five new positions created: Obedience Programme Co-ordinator; Membership Officer; Newsletter Editor; Media/Public Relations Officer and Web Master. As well the Committee has approved an Instructor's Sub-Committee which will meet regularly and report back to the Committee.

Some important Activities that have occurred since my last report are:

#### 2016.

- August 7<sup>th</sup>. Club walk around town followed by Annual General Meeting. An excellent turn up of members and dogs took part in the walk and attended the AGM.
- August 14<sup>th</sup>. “Doglympics” Fun Day. Over 30 members and their dogs had fun with the Olympic themed activities and afterwards, enjoyed a well earned sausage sizzle provided by the Committee.
- November 13<sup>th</sup>. Celebration of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the Alexandra P & A Show. We took as our theme “Our Dogs in Our Community” and conducted a Member's Competition with a Rally Obedience Trial and a Community Companion Dog Trial. We ran an Agility Demonstration and the Obedience Demonstration team performed their very 1<sup>st</sup> Demonstration to Music! There was a terrific attendance of 40+ members who came along to participate and show their support.

- December. For the first time the club took part in the Alexandra Christmas Tree Display in the Shire Hall with an ADDOC themed Christmas Tree.  
The Committee held a “Thank You” lunch to show the Club’s appreciation to the many members who turn up early and stay late whenever they are needed as helpers.

#### 2017.

- March 4<sup>th</sup>. The Alexandra “150 Year Celebration”. The club attended and ran Obedience Class Demonstrations; manned an Information gazebo and talked to interested members of the public.
- April 9<sup>th</sup>. Members Competition for the Advanced A & B classes with a Rally Novice Trial and a Community Companion Dog (CCD) Trial.
- May 28<sup>th</sup>. Member’s Competition/Fun Day. This was our first combined competition/fun day and it proved to be very popular. There was a Beginners Obedience Trial, a Rally Novice Trial and a Community Companion Dog Trial. They were followed by games and fun for everyone plus a sausage sizzle provided by the Committee.
- October 1<sup>st</sup>. Members Competition for the Advanced A & B classes with a Rally Novice Trial and a Community Companion Dog (CCD) Trial.
- November 11<sup>th</sup>. Alexandra P & A Show. The club ran a Members Competition with a Beginners Trial; a Rally Novice Trial and a Community Companion Dog (CCD) Trial. As well we had an Information Gazebo and presented an Assistance Dog Demonstration.
- November 17<sup>th</sup>. A small group of members, with their dogs, attended the University of the Third Age (U3A) Happy Hour.

This year the Club reluctantly accepted the resignation of one of its long time members, Lynne Walter. Lynne is a Life Member and Past President as well as an Instructor, with over 35 years experience in several Obedience Disciplines, she has played a significant role in the life of the Club and will be dearly missed by her many friends. We wish Lynne and her husband Doug, much happiness in the future and thank them for being part of our lives.

Finally I wish to say a huge thank you to the Executive: Vice-President – Bronwyn McFadyen; Secretary – Julee Hosking; Treasurer – Rosey Chester and to the General Committee Members: Barbara Tanner, Pam Poole, Lynne Walter, Russell Glenn, Mary Davies and Lyn Sproles and Instructors, Jessica Torrance and Maggie Hamill. You have continued to provide amazing support, enthusiasm, dedication and friendship, with some of you filling a dual role, both as a member of the committee and as an instructor. I have been fortunate to have such a strong team in the background making me look good!

The success of a club depends on the strength of its members. Thank you to all of you for your support, your willingness to assist when extra help is needed and most of all for your love of, and dedication to, your four legged friends! Well done everyone.

It has been a privilege to hold the position of ADDOC President for the past 3 ½ years. I wish the Club and the new President and Committee all the very best for the future.

Jeanne Roberts  
President

