

CROYDON CAPERS

AUGUST 2017 EDITION



George Todd

13.9.1929 ~ 7.7.2017

R.I.P

NEWSLETTER OF CROYDON AND DISTRICT OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB





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Our instructors are a dedicated bunch of dog lovers who, like the mailman, will be there for you come rain, hail or shine. If you cannot attend your class please let your instructor know by email or text, some time during Sunday. The office although staffed CANNOT take phone calls to relay to your instructor.

This year we have been fortunate to gain nine new instructors. They will soon be taking classes of their own and we welcome them with open arms. Some classes have already had these new instructors attending as trainees and they are doing brilliantly. All our instructors are volunteers who make a selfless commitment to the club, not only attending for the one hour they teach a class but also taking time to prepare an interesting class for you and often give extra time after a class if needed.

Many of our dogs wear yellow bandanas while training. The yellow bandana is not an indication that the dog is necessarily aggressive or otherwise a problem but rather this dog needs or does better with more personal space. This can be for many different reasons such as shyness or anxiety or just an over exuberant dog that jumps and lunges because he wants to play, or maybe even a dog who may be recovering from illness or injury. Please respect those dogs and ask the handler prior to approaching that dog. Similarly, remember you are your dog's advocate and are the one to ensure your dog does have the space

it requires. If you think your dog would benefit from having personal space at club please see our equipment shop staff to purchase a bandana.

People who have reactive dogs experience an assortment of difficulties some other dog owners never encounter. I often hear of people walking their dogs at night when nobody is around to prevent meeting people who do not understand the daily struggles the reactive dog owner goes through. Funnily enough one of the biggest difficulties for a reactive dog is the outgoing but uncontrolled dogs and their owners' lack of perception. Walks should be relaxing and pleasurable; and usually are when dogs can relax and enjoy their walk if they don't have to contend with other people and their 'friendly' dogs. The principal question here is 'what can we do about those other people?'

Sorry to say, the answer is 'not much'. But there is good news; those other people and their dogs are not our responsibility, and in all fairness, we cannot regulate what they do. We can get frustrated or angry, we might even shout, or make a sarcastic remark or even try to educate

Continued over >

YELLOW BANDANNA?

A number of our dogs at CDODC wear yellow bandannas... this is because they might be hyper, nervous, protective, or excitable.

Please give these dogs SPACE and ask the handler for permission BEFORE you or your dog approach.





Chiefly Chatter cont.

them; but ultimately, we can't regulate their actions. Looking deeper at who it is that is hurt by all that stress, irritation and exasperation, we realise it's not that other person and their dog who just move on without a backward gaze. We are the ones who dwell on it, who may rant and curse and turn it over in our minds and then increasingly feel guilty about it. In the end it's our dogs who sense their buddy is upset and this will only add to the stress they are already experiencing.

We need to take control of ourselves and our dogs and focus on that! Sharpening our management skills when handling our dog, avoiding those difficult situations whenever possible. By improving our dog's "let's go" behaviour, and making sure we both walk away quickly and without hesitation to diffuse any potential problems. Being ready when a loose dog approaches from a distance; by being prepared to shout "stop", throwing treats or even popping an umbrella to keep that dog at bay. Firmly asking a person to retrieve their dog not requesting it or explaining why they should but being resolved and kind. Being prepared to present a calm exterior and smile in the face of ignorance, and just move on.

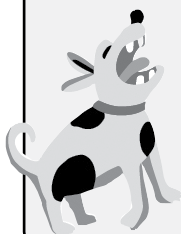
When taking your dog out you are the one who can choose the location of where you are going. Good visibility and alternative ways around mean you won't get cornered. If you find yourself in a situation you weren't expecting, then get your dog and yourself out of there; be prepared to calm your dog, distract with a game, throw treats into the grass to encourage scenting behaviour; anything that will help. Don't worry about what others may think; ignore any comments from well meaning 'helpers'. It's your dog, you are the one who knows your dog best and what works for the both of you. Then when it's all over, reflect, what could you have done differently? Could the outcome have been different? Later when you are home and you and your dog are relaxed, rant and rave if you feel it will make you feel better but more so remind yourself how awesome your dog is no matter what others say or do.

At club we teach appropriate lead and space etiquette, and you can pass this on to others when the opportunity arises if they are open to learning. No matter how friendly or non-threatening a dog may seem these two skills are mandatory for every handler/dog team.

Enjoy your dogs.

Barb

Excessive Barking



Please note: It is not acceptable for members to allow their dogs to continually bark whilst at Club. Complaints from neighbours to Council can make it very difficult for the Club to be seen as a group of responsible dog owners.

If your dog barks while tethered at Club, it may be advisable to put the dog in a covered, well ventilated crate thus removing visual stimulation, often the cause of barking. 🐾



I first met George over 20 years ago when he was trialling a German Shepherd at Knox. They were introduced to me as George and Don.

Hmmm... I thought, this is awkward. I didn't quite know who was who and had to wait until someone else addressed him. So the only way I could remember the correct names, was to say to myself... George the Gentleman and Don the dog.

How true that turned out to be. George was a true Gentleman.

He was always happy to lend a hand or offer a bit of training advice. Mind you, with that quiet, strong northern accent of his, you had to "tune in" and listen intently to understand what he was saying.

I'm not sure why George moved from Knox Dog Club to Croydon, but we were very happy he did. Being one of the few men in the trialling group at Croydon, George was often asked to do a stand for examination of the dogs.

This exercise is difficult enough as it is...but with George doing it, almost next to impossible. He was like the pied piper of dogs...they loved him. I think they knew what a kind, generous person he was. That and he was a soft touch with his "special treats". Boy, did the dogs love mugging George for his treats. I think George secretly loved it too.

George would often get to dog club early and set up all the rings. Liz decided one day that she too would get there early to help set up, only to discover that George had beaten her to it. So of course, Liz tried to get there even earlier the next week but you guessed it, George had struck again – all the rings were set up and ready for action. This went on for a number of weeks with the same result. In the end, Liz conceded defeat.

On the occasions that George did not attend Dog Club, we would attempt to set up the rings ourselves. Well, what a poor effort that was. Wonky lines, narrow rings, ropes that didn't go all the way round – I think you get the picture.



George Todd

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We now have a laminated ring setup guide showing us the George Todd way of setting up the rings. Works every time.

George trained and trialled a number of dogs over the years. There was Don and Rona (both German Shepherds), Cara the Rottweiler (owned by Diane) and finally Ben, the Border Collie.

Ben was too much for his previous owner and George was kind enough, to not only give Ben a new home, but enrich his life with new experiences, a new family and much love.

They were a perfect match. They trained and trialled to the highest level in Obedience.

The Croydon Dog Club has a perpetual trophy named in his honour. It is the George Todd Utility Excellent Trophy and I am glad he was around to see it presented the last couple of years.

One of our favourite memories of George was celebrating his 80th Birthday. What a sneaky lot we were...We presented George with a birthday card at Club and sang Happy Birthday to him. Little did he suspect that Diane had organised a get together with us after club had finished. You should have seen his face as we walked through the front door, one by one, by one. The line snaked all the way down the driveway. It still makes me smile today.

So, we are here to honour a wonderful friend and a true Gentleman. You will be sadly missed, George.

Rest in peace.

Rebecca McGroarty



Dogs Victoria has its say...

Dogs Victoria has its say in state government's plans for major animal welfare reform

Written by Terri Macdonald

Reprinted from Dogs Vic Mag July 17

While Dogs Victoria has been engaged with the Victorian Government on legislation relating to domestic animals and breeding (see our member updates on Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farn and Pet shops) Bill 2016) and our status as an Applicable Organisation, members should know that we have also been involved in consultations over broader changes to animal welfare legislation in Victoria.

In September 2016, the Victorian Government released a draft action plan on animal welfare, entitled Improving the Welfare of Animals in Victoria 2016 –2021. The Draft Action Plan proposed the following three key priority areas aimed at improving animal welfare in Victoria.

1. Develop new, contemporary laws for animal welfare in consultation with Victorian stakeholders and the community
2. Ensure collaborative approaches would underpin knowledge, commitment and investment in animal welfare
3. Ensure that compliance and enforcement is both efficient and effective

This broad based plan covered all animal welfare in Victoria, including domestic animals, livestock and wildlife. It was produced by the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) on advice from the Government's Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC). The AWAC was formed by the Government to provide guidance on animal welfare related issues and currently has members representing key organizations

including animal rights groups, the Australian Veterinarian Association (Vic Division), Municipal Associations of Victoria, the RSPCA and Greyhound Racing Victoria. While Dogs Victoria is not a member of this committee (its members are appointed until August 2018) we will be actively petitioning for membership following the completion of the current committee's term.

A public consultation period over the animal welfare Draft Action Plan was undertaken by the DEDJTR and closed 11 October 2016. Dogs Victoria made a submission to the review in which we expressed strong support for evidence based animal welfare reform. We also noted, that given one of the priority areas was for government to collaborate with stake holders, we would be more than pleased to participate in the review.

In February this year, Dogs Victoria attended a full day seminar held by the DEDJTR as part of further consultation with stake holders on the government's review of animal welfare. It was made clear in the seminar that the government intends to revise and replace the current Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (1986) and review all associated codes, regulations and guidelines under this Act. The DEDJTR outlined its broad proposal for the revised Act (which ambitiously seeks to be a one size fits all welfare approach), and sought feedback on areas of concern from stakeholders. While it is difficult at this stage to determine the potential pitfalls (as the proposal is still in its preliminary stages) it was made clear at the seminar that the Department (and government) would not be rushing this review, and that (learning from past mistakes) there would be what was termed as 'broad and genuine' consultation. In keeping with this approach, the Department

told participants that a discussion paper (known as a White Paper) would be released in 2017 for public consultation, and that any legislation (possibly around 2018) will be released in draft for further feedback.

Dogs Victoria has made it clear to the government that, as the representative organization of some 10,000 pedigree dog owners and breeders (making us the largest, not for profit, domestic animal and breeder organization in the state), we need to have a seat at the table on any legislation that will have an impact on our members and their interests. We will continue to advocate for evidence based animal welfare reforms and, while we agree that more can be done to improve existing regulations and laws, any changes need to have the support of not only sector groups, but animal owners and the community more broadly if they are to be successful. 🐾



Members are responsible for the behaviour of their children at all times.

Children must NOT approach a dog without the owner's permission.

Congratulations to Merrae Balaam

who passed her ANKC Dog Obedience Community Companion Dog (CCD) Judges Licence Practical Test on Saturday 24th June. She was mentored by Clive Makepeace, CDODC Life Member and Full Panel ANKC Judge.

We look forward to Merrae judging CCD at our upcoming Obedience Trial on 3rd December.

Basic Obedience Passes

CONGRATULATIONS to the following club members who have recently passed the Basic Obedience Test.

If you have ordered your certificate and not received it please call into the office on any Sunday between 10.30 – 11.00 am to collect it.

Wayne Bongers & Seeza
Cindy Christensen & Riley
Derek Coles & Zak
Hanna Condon & Ruby
Anitra Doyne & Mak
Lisa England & Lucy
Kelly Gilmour & Cookie
Sarah Hird & Penny



Peter Kaczmarek & Zak
Kerry Salomon & Miami
Lauren Scoble & Murray
Belinda Tebbet & Flynn
Eric Van Zuyden & Bella
Eric Van Zuyden & Chip
Merrilyn Wickens & Pixie Luna



Reprinted from Dogs Vic Mag June 2017

Routine health care for Dogs

Dogs should be vaccinated against potentially fatal diseases, and receive regular preventive treatments for parasites such as fleas and worms. Dogs should also be regularly groomed and checked daily for signs of illness.

Vaccinations

Vaccination is the only prevention for dogs against fatal diseases such as parvovirus, distemper and hepatitis. Talk to your veterinarian regarding appropriate vaccination schedules. Viruses can spread within the dog population as quickly as the human cold spreads from person to person. Dogs can be vaccinated from six weeks of age for protection against:

Parvovirus

This disease is highly contagious and in more than 80% of cases, fatal. This virus attacks the intestines causing blood stained diarrhoea, vomiting with severe abdominal pain and weakness. Immediate veterinary attention is required as the disease can progress extremely quickly (i.e in the space of 24 hours) and is usually fatal unless treated aggressively early in the course of this disease. In very young puppies, the virus can invade the heart muscles, causing difficulties in breathing and death within a few hours.

It is not necessary to have contact with other dogs for this disease to spread to your dog. This virus is so persistent in the ground over many years that the environment around an infected dog needs to be cleaned with potent disinfectants to prevent spread to other dogs. Outbreaks occur regularly throughout Australia – especially in summer.

Hepatitis

A highly contagious disease which spreads to unvaccinated dogs of any age. However, canine hepatitis is more severe when dogs younger than two years become infected. Symptoms include high fever, depression and acute abdominal pain and death can occur within 24-36 hours. Dogs that recover may develop long term liver and kidney problems and can act as carriers spreading this disease to other dogs for many months. Ideally all dogs that come on to or travel off your property should be fully vaccinated.

Distemper

This disease is extremely contagious to all dogs of any age and often fatal. Symptoms can include coughing and sneezing, nasal and eye discharge and depression. Muscle tremors, fits and paralysis can occur later in this disease. As the virus attacks the nervous system the recovery rates even with treatment can be low and recovered dogs may have permanent brain damage.

Canine cough

Caused by several highly infectious diseases, this illness is spread wherever dogs congregate such as dog parks and boarding kennels. Affected dogs have a dry hacking cough that persists for weeks and can result in pneumonia. Vaccines are available including those that are given intra-nasally and act to directly protect for this disease within a week. However, yearly boosters are required.

In short, as a minimum guideline all dogs should visit your local veterinarian once a year and the appropriate vaccine cover can be selected during a routine health check. Worming can be planned for the year along with other parasite protection.



Parasites – fleas and worms



Dogs should be given regular treatments to prevent them from suffering from fleas and worms. Dogs can carry intestinal worms such as roundworm, whipworm, hookworm and tapeworm. Dogs are infected via uncooked meat, rodents and also through the skin from larvae on grass (whipworm), or from fleas. Even ingestion of material in contact with ground can be enough to cause infection. Dogs with worms may show tell-tale sign – poor or dull coat, anaemia (pale gums), diarrhoea, pot bellied appearance, weight loss and tail skidding. You may see white segments or worms in the droppings.

Fortunately, you can stop worms cycling in your dogs with regular worm treatments. Ask your vet for advice about which worming products to use and how often to use them. Note that worms can also be harmful to dog owners, which is another reason why it's important to prevent them.

Fleas can cause itching, chewing and licking. The skin may become red and inflamed. You might see fleas on your dog, or you might see small dark flecks (flea 'dirt') in the fur and on the skin. If your dog has fleas it's important to treat the house, your dog and all other pets in the household. Your vet can recommend safe and effective products to use.

Heartworm

Heartworm is a very different disease from intestinal worms and is poorly understood by dog owners. Mosquitos spread this blood borne parasite so a dog can be infected without leaving the property. Heartworm is a parasite which attaches itself to arteries in the heart causing heart and lung disease and eventually, death.

Heartworm is difficult and costly to treat. Wherever there are mosquitos there exists the possibility of heartworm disease for your dog. There are many different types of heartworm preventions ranging from daily tablets to monthly tablets or "spot on's" and yearly injections. Your local veterinarian will offer the most appropriate treatment for this parasite for dogs living in your region.

Grooming

All dogs need regular grooming, but longhaired dogs need more coat care than shorthaired dogs. A longhaired dog should be combed and brushed once a day while a dog with short hair will only need brushing twice a week. Get a brush and comb that are suited to the hair type of your dog. Some dogs with 'wool' type coats, that grow continuously, will also require regular clipping.



Checking for signs for ill health

You should check your dog each day for any signs of illness. These might include the following:

- Sickness or diarrhoea
- Significant weight change (in either direction) over a short period
- Loss of appetite
- Drinking much more or less than normal
- Lack of energy/sleeping more than usual
- Unusual swelling
- Skin conditions
- Limping
- Coughing
- Unusual bleeding
- Signs of pain, such as sensitivity to touch
- Runny eyes or nose
- Changes in behaviour

If you are worried about the health of your dog, contact your local vet. 🐾



Vision Loss

Reprinted from Pets Mag July 17

Any dog can go blind but fortunately this can sometimes be prevented. Caroline Zambrano discovers how to tell if your dog has vision loss and how quality of life is not compromised by darkness.

Raj, a three year old Akita, loved chasing ball and played regularly with his owner. One day, his owner threw the ball across to Raj but he didn't even notice. Raj went for an examination at Melbourne's Animal Eye Care clinic, where veterinary ophthalmologist Dr Robin Stanley discovered that his pupils were larger than normal and that they did not respond to lights.

A deeper eye exam revealed bilateral retinal detachments, where the back part of the eye (retina) separated from the underlying, vascular part of the eyeball (choroid), which could be a sign of glaucoma, high blood pressure, exposure to certain toxins or a hereditary condition, Dr Robin explains. "We checked Raj's blood pressure and blood tests were all normal. Some large breed dogs have inflammation that causes the retina to detach and cortisone can help reduce this inflammation. We started Raj on oral cortisone," the vet says.

In the meantime, the Akita didn't cope too well with living in sudden darkness. "Being a large, active dog, Raj was bumping into things a lot. His owner didn't cope too well, either," Dr Robin says. "The good news is that within five days, Raj's vision was back to normal!"

Dr Robin, who has been working in ophthalmology for more than 30 years and is the first veterinary eye specialist to be trained in Australia, says vision loss is a common canine eye problem caused by a number of reasons, including poor breeding and chronic health conditions.

"Unfortunately, we see a lot of inherited

defects that can cause blindness. Responsible breeders will have their breeding dogs checked for genetic eye diseases," he says. If you are interested in getting a purebred dog, ask the breeder if they had their breeding dogs' eyes checked. This shows a breeder who is keen and aware of inherited eye diseases, Dr Robin says.

Some cases of vision loss are related to diabetes – increased sugar levels, which cause cataracts to form. Veterinary ophthalmologists are also seeing sudden vision loss due to retinal inflammation (reaction in the nerve tissue) and SARDs (sudden acquired retinal degeneration), which is incurable Dr Robin explains.

Dogs of any breed and age can become blind. Some of the inherited eye conditions can be present at birth or develop shortly after, but more commonly between five and eight years of age. "We often see cataracts in young Cavaliers, Bichon Frises and Miniature Schnauzers," the vet says.

Some dogs are born blind due to a genetic eye disease, such as retinal dystrophy but, fortunately, congenital eye problems are rare in Australia, Dr Robin says. Untreated eye infections can also cause blindness. Conjunctivitis is a common problem in dogs that can be caused by dry eye, a lack of tears. "Tears are very important in providing nutrition to the cornea. Without tears, many dogs will develop corneal scarring and this can result in blindness," he says.

PRA

Progressive retinal atrophy (PRA), an inherited disease seen in a wide range of dogs, is the most common cause of inherited vision loss and is usually presented with poor night vision, Dr Robin explains. Breeds most commonly affected by PRA include Labradors, Australian Cattle Dogs, Poodles and Cocker Spaniels.



Gemma

14/8/2007 ~ 18/8/2017



I loved you dearly – my Gemma

So this is where we part, baby girl, and you'll run on, around the bend. Gone from sight, but not from mind, new pleasures there you'll surely find.

I will go on; I'll find the strength, life measures quality, not its length. One long embrace before you leave, share one last look, before I grieve.

There are others, that much is true, but they be they, and they aren't you. And I, fair, impartial, or so I thought, will remember well all you've taught.

Your place I'll hold, you will be missed, the fur I stroked, the nose I kissed. And as you journey to your final rest, take with you this...

I loved you dearly.

Ann Statham

In Memory of Prince

27/10/2007 ~ 10/8/2017



Our beloved Border Collie who passed away in his sleep on Thursday 10th August 2017, from a burst tumour on his spleen.

He will be sadly missed by us and everyone who knew him.

Roger and Rita Thomas

Dogs come into our lives to teach us about love, they depart to teach us about loss.

A new dog never replaces an old dog; it merely expands the heart. If you have loved many dogs your heart is very big.





Vision Loss cont.

Other very important common eye diseases include cataracts (cloudy lenses) and glaucoma (increased eye pressure), Dr Robin says. "Small white fluffy dogs" (ie Maltese) are also prone to developing sudden vision loss in middle age commonly due to inflammation of the retina," he adds.

Older dogs – like older humans – are prone to developing senile (age related) cataracts. We also see poorer close up and have poorer night vision due to ageing changes in the lens." Diabetes – an obesity related but mostly hereditary disease – can also cause blindness in dogs. Dr Robin, who performs cataract removals in two to three diabetic dogs a week, says diabetes seems to be increasingly common in dogs. Unfortunately, vision loss is not reversible with diabetes treatment.

"Once the increased sugar gets into the lens, the sugar metabolized to sorbitol and this causes the cataract to form. In humans, cataracts can take years to develop but in dogs, particularly diabetics, the cataracts can develop very quickly," Dr Robin explains.

Responsible Breeding is Key

With many inherited eye diseases, little can be done to treat blindness once breeding has taken place. "To prevent ongoing problems, breeders need to be aware of what eye problems occur in their breed, review their own breeding and have their breeding dogs' eyes checked. And if you ever have a dog with eye problems, let the breeder know," Dr Robin says.

Many Australian National Kennel Council breed clubs are proactive about health checking their dogs' eyes and run regular veterinary eye examination days through the Australian Canine Eye Scheme (ACES) (ava.com.au/aces). Dr Robin is one of the assessors for ACES and believes the scheme is valuable for breeders and ultimately the dog owners.

"One of the important things that the AECS does is produce reports of the findings for each breed. I think this is very important as it can be used to help breeders work out any problems they have," he says, "We have many breeders who organize group bookings and on these days, we might have 10 to 40 dogs being checked. The dogs and their owners find this an enjoyable social experience."

Improving Quality of Life

Dogs that develop vision problems adjust to blindness over time, Dr Robin explains. "In our experience, there is a period of disorientation that lasts about two to three weeks. However, after this time, anxiety and confusion lessen greatly," he says. "Dogs begin to rely more heavily on their other senses, such as hearing and smell, to help them get around. In fact, there also seems to be some sort of 'radar' that helps dogs navigate their environment."

Until a dog learns to negotiate their territory, here are some tips from Dr Robin:

- Keep the environment as stable as possible, i.e. keep furniture, food and water bowls in the same position
- Educate small children about approaching the dog without startling him
- Supervise your dog's exercise, especially in unfamiliar surroundings
- If you have other pets, place different sounding bells on their collars so your dog knows where they are
- Ensure your dog does not have access to roads and traffic, or the backyard pool!
- Place barriers to stairs and stair landings – at least until your dog learns how to use these

Visit animaleyecare.com.au for more advice. Also check out blinddogs.net, pepedog.com and blinddog.info/coping

Continued opposite >

Vision Loss cont.

"In my experience, most dogs cope extremely well; it's the owners we worry about," Dr Robin says. "One of the great things about working with dogs is that they make the best out of every situation. They just get on with it and use their other senses."

Dr Robin says vision loss doesn't cause pain and dogs do not need to be put to sleep because they are blind. In fact, "a recent study surveying owners of blind dogs found that many owners felt that their relationship to their dog improved and the majority of owners perceived their dogs to have a moderate to excellent quality of life," he says.

How can you prevent your dog from losing his vision? Examine your dog's eyes regularly. Look for any changes in colour of the eyes, squinting or increased discharge, Dr Robin advises. "Although most cases of diabetes are genetic, it's important to keep your dog at a healthy weight and feed a quality/appropriate diet," he adds.

If you are concerned about your dog's vision, speak to your veterinarian who will be able to diagnose blindness and can refer cases to veterinary ophthalmologists as required.

Signs that your dog may be losing her vision

- Misjudging heights
- Bumping into things
- Showing confusion in new or changed surroundings
- General clumsiness and disorientation
- Eye rubbing or squinting
- Cloudy, discoloured or inflamed appearing eyes; excessive tearing; abnormally large pupils
- Being easily startled, becoming quieter or more reserved 🐾



Kilsyth Chelodina Festival

Home of the Eastern Long Necked Turtle
Organised by

Friends of Elizabeth Bridge Reserve Inc
Kilsyth Community Action Group



2017 Kilsyth Chelodina Festival

Sunday 12th November

**Elizabeth Bridge Reserve
Durham Road, Kilsyth.**



Mark the date in your calendar as we now have some fabulous entertainment booked including...

- ★ **The Croydon District Obedience Dog Club Demonstration Team** who last year stopped the show with their wonderful dogs
- ★ **Kofi Kunkpe Music and his West African Drumming Workshop**
- ★ **The spectacular Ruccis Circus**
- ★ **...and lots of stalls** for you to do some early Christmas shopping.

This is a FREE festival, possible with the generous funding of a grant from Yarra Ranges Council and offers something for everyone.



Banish the Barking

Reprinted from Dogs Life Mag July/Aug 2017

Barking is normal, natural response for dogs but it can be a noisy problem for your neighbours. Kristie Bradfield discovers how to get a little peace and quiet.

Barking is just like talking: it's how dogs communicate with their owners, neighbours and other dogs. While some barking is normal, it becomes a problem when it doesn't stop. It can be frustrating for everyone, including your dog. The good news is that there are things you can do to break the habit.

Boredom Barkers

Queensland dog trainer Tenille Williams says dogs can bark excessively for a number of different reasons. "The most common reason I see is boredom, followed by lack of socialisation and separation anxiety," she says. When a dog is bored and decides to bark at everything and anything, it's highly rewarding to them and so the cycle continues into a habit quite easily."

Boredom is perhaps the most common reason why suburban dogs bark excessively. Left home alone for long stretches of time, these dogs have very little to occupy them. When faced with boredom day after day, it makes perfect sense to them to try communicate with the world.

Boredom busting isn't an expensive exercise and Tenille says there are plenty of toys and puzzles to keep dogs entertained for hours. But a lot of owners make some rookie mistakes. "Sometimes people try these toys and put some kibble inside. This falls straight out and it's all over in a minute," she says. While loading up the KONG isn't exactly rocket science, there is a knack to it. "The first key is to use food that sticks inside. You can still use your dog's kibble, but 'glue' it together with some pet mince or similar." For hotter months, Tenille suggest freezing the toy with food and a little chicken

or beef stock inside to provide a doggy ice block that lasts even longer and keeps your dog cool.

Food puzzles are a fantastic way to alleviate boredom but they won't work if you have just fed your dog. "Feeding beforehand is the most common reason dogs quickly lose interest in these food puzzles," Tenille explains. To maximise the toy's effectiveness, the dog trainer suggests splitting the meal into several mini challenges across a selection of different toys and puzzles. To eat, your dog must solve the puzzle. The harder the puzzle, the less he will bark excessively.

It's important to remember that these food puzzles only work when the toy and tasty treat inside are highly valued. If you regularly feed your dog the same food you put inside the puzzles, she'll be less inclined to work for it. The same goes for the toys you use, Tenille says it's important not to leave the toys around the house or the yard. "Keep their value high by only offering the toy when you leave. Also, have a few different options that you can rotate from day to day."

Reactive Barking

Some dogs have difficulty processing particular stimuli such as other dogs, cats, bike riders or the postie. When confronted with these things, the dog doesn't know how to react, so his response is generally an overreaction borne out of excitement, frustration or fear. Reactive barking is very common and can be a result of poor breeding or a lack of socialisation. "Socialisation is a hot topic that is widely misunderstood," Tenille says. "Puppies have a critical window of time in which socialisation is very important. Both a lack of socialisation and incorrect socialisation can cause reactivity problems."



Continued on page 16

Charmaine Lee Oodles of Spoodles




DOG GROOMING

Shop 6, Wood Street, Nunawading
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-  Located in a tranquil environment opposite Wood Park, Nunawading – plenty of parking near Nunawading train station.
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 - Carding and Hand Stripping
-  DIY Services Only – Exclusive to Croydon Members Only between June – September. Appointment Essential.

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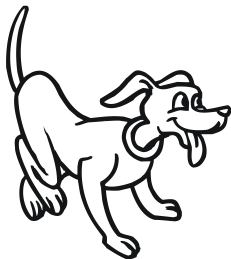
Banish the Barking cont.

Socialisation isn't just about puppy play dates. The lessons learned and the experiences encountered will shape your dog's whole life. "Socialisation is about learning how to deal with the human world confidently and calmly," Tenille explains. She suggests exposing your dog to many different environments, sounds, people and animals. It is very important that these experiences are positive and that your dog is calm and in control. "Getting this right in puppyhood before 16 weeks of age can definitely make a major difference to the way your dog reacts to things as a dog, including how much they bark," Tenille says.

Tenille suggests that owners of older dogs with reactive barking issues should consult an expert trainer. "Don't give up on your dog! There are lots of reasons dogs bark and a trainer will be able to help you get to the cause of the issue."

Getting along with Neighbours

Stand in your backyard any afternoon during the working week and there is a very good chance you'll hear the bark of an anxious dog. Dogs suffering from separation anxiety get very distressed when their owner is away from home for any length of time. Some may react by being destructive, others may look for ways to escape and others will bark incessantly. It's this reaction that can cause big problems, especially with the people living around the dog. Animal behaviour consultant Alisa Sannikova says that there are a few things you can do to keep the peace.



"The simplest solution is to get your dog out of the area altogether," Alisa says. She suggests enrolling your dog in doggy day care or hiring a dog walker to get them out of the yard. For these solutions to work, it's important to know what triggers the barking. "Set up a webcam or a sound recorder to determine the time of day your dog is most likely to bark. You can then schedule an interruption when it would be most useful."

Alisa says the second solution is to remove the triggers. "For dogs barking in backyards, keeping them in the house during the day will often reduce most of the noise," she says. "Visual triggers such as birds can be removed by closing blinds or covering windows in fogging film, while sounds can be covered up by a loud radio or white noise generator."

If your neighbour has approached you about the barking, Alisa suggests being proactive. "Be approachable and let your neighbours know that you are aware of the problem and what steps you are taking to resolve it. Most people will be happy to let you know directly if the barking gets worse. In this case, you find out if your strategies are helping within a day or two, rather than weeks later from an official letter."

If you have exhausted all the simpler options with no luck, the next step is to get some professional help. "With positive reinforcement methods, it's possible to pinpoint the source of the problem and reduce the dog's need to bark in the first place," Alisa says. And this would be music to your neighbours' ears.

Is exercise the key?

Are you exercising your dog enough? The RSPCA suggests taking your dog for a long walk in the morning before work. Just like with humans, exercise is a great way to reduce anxiety levels in our furry friends. When anxiety is reduced, problem barking is also reduced. 🐾

TS. CH. T.CH. Fernfall Gallant Trooper

UD, RRD, ORA, RA, ET.

6.2.2006 ~ 30.5.2017



*If it should be that I grow frail and weak,
And pain should wake me from my sleep,
Then you must do what must be done,
For this last battle can't be won.*

*You will be sad, I understand,
Don't let your grief then stay your hand,
For this day, more than the rest,
Your love and friendship must stand the test.*

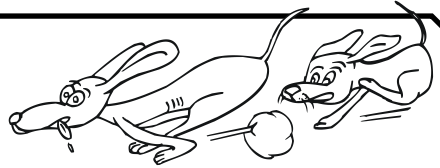
*We've had so many happy years,
What is to come will have no fears;
You would not want me to suffer... so,
When the time comes... please let me go.*

*Take me to where my needs they'll tend,
But stay with me until the end,
And hold me firm and speak to me,
Until my eyes no longer see.*

*I know in time you will agree,
It is a kindness you do to me;
Although my tail its last has waved,
From pain and suffering I have been saved.*

*Do not grieve that it must be you,
Who has to decide this thing to do.
We've been so close – we two these years –
Don't let your heart hold any tears.*

Anon.



Dog Club Shop

Did you know that this shop is run for you the handlers and your dogs? Prices are always lower than pet shops, vets and supermarkets.

We sell most items you may need for your dog. The majority of our treats are made in Australia and are available to purchase in bulk.

Let us know what you need and we will try to obtain it for you.

10% Discount if you bring this edition of Capers (excluding pigs ears and flea products).

Opening hours...

8.30 am – 11.30am



Coffee and Snacks

Coffee and Sausages are available for sale in the Clubhouse every Sunday during training hours. Coffee/Tea/ Ovaltine/ Soft Drinks, etc.

ALL AVAILABLE



Rainy Day Games

Reprinted from Dogs Life Mag

Cold weather giving you the winter blues? Try these top five indoor activities to keep you and your dog active, writes Kylie Baracz.

1. Hide and Seek

If you haven't tried this yet, you really need to. This game can provide hours of fun for you and your pet. First, find a good hiding place away from your dog's view. Once you are settled, call out your dog's name. You'll be surprised how quickly they find you! Once they've come to you, give them a pat or a treat and start all over again.

2. Treat Hunt

This game is great for those dogs that are food oriented. Grab a handful of your dog's favourite treats (make sure they are small) and hide them all over the house/a specific room. Make sure your dog is in another room so he doesn't know where they are hidden. Take note where you have hidden each treat, just in case your dog needs a little help. Then let your dog out of the room and say "Find" and point out one of the spots where there is a treat. Your dog will then go around the room/house sniffing out all the treats. Make sure to give him a good pat and maybe an extra treat at the end of the game.

3. New Tricks

Teaching your dog a new skill can take some time, but it's a great way to tire him out. If you have a puppy, a rainy day can be a good time to teach the basics – sit, stay and come. Other tricks to teach include roll over, play dead and shake paw.

4. Fetch

It might be too wet to play fetch outside, but you can still adapt the game for indoor fun. First find an area that is free from breakable objects, such as a corridor or hallway. Choose a toy or soft ball and either roll or gently throw the object away from your dog. Once your dog retrieves the

item, say "Drop" and reward your dog with a pat or a treat. Repeat as many times as you like.

5. Tug of War

This is an easy game to play as most dogs know what to do when you pick up a tug toy or rope. As with Fetch, you will need to find a space with no breakable objects. Pick up a tug toy or rope and hold one end. With the other end, call your dog and slightly shake the object. When your dog grabs the other end, pull at your end and enjoy the tug of war fun! Make sure your dog knows the "release" command so neither of you get hurt. 🐾

Homemade Dog Biscuits

Reprinted from Pets Mag

Ingredients

- 2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup rolled oats
- ½ cup peanut butter
- 1 cup hot water

Method

1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Line a baking tray with baking paper.
2. Combine flour and rolled oats, stirring with a wooden spoon.
3. Add in peanut butter, then gradually add ¼ cup of water at a time until the mixture has a sticky and yet blended consistency. If required, add more water.
4. Take mixture and separate into teaspoon sized balls, then place on baking tray at least 10cm apart. Flatten with a fork until each biscuit is no higher than 2cm.
5. Bake for 40 minutes, or until biscuits turn golden brown.
6. Cool on a rack for at least two hours until treats are cool to the touch.

Remember, your dog is going to eat these and it may not have the sense to stop eating if something is too warm.

Get the ball rolling

Get the ball rolling for pooches' peace of mind

Reprinted from Herald Sun

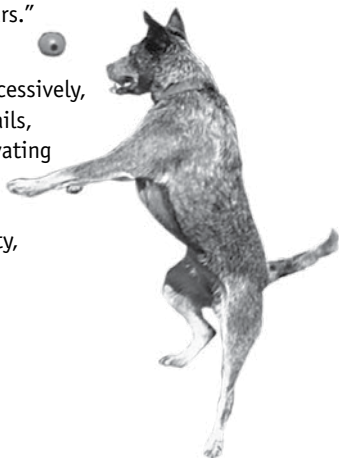
Ball games are an important way for dogs to exercise their minds, not just their bodies. Throwing a ball around with your pooch can even be preferable to a pat, says Lort Smith Animal Hospital animal behaviour specialist Dr Gabrielle Carter.

"A lot of dogs can be quite hand shy. They don't like people reaching over their head to pat them, and they don't like being hugged or confined," Dr Carter said. Many dogs, particularly those moved between homes and shelters, battled anxiety and mental distress. Ball games and reward based training offered ways to ease their anxiety.

"It's very predictable because the dog knows what's going to happen... and they have a sense of control," Dr Carter said. She said giving dogs predictability and control through ball games was a way to engage them while helping them feel safe.

"Mental distress is just as important as pain and we have a responsibility to try and manage excessive anxiety... The dog's brain works in the same way as ours." Dr Carter said.

Dogs licking excessively, chasing their tails, constantly salivating or clawing at things could be suffering anxiety, she added. 🐾



Dogs Victoria Registers

Reprinted from Dogs Vic Mag

Registration with Dogs Victoria is different to council registration, which is required by law. Please ensure you register your new dog with the council in which you reside.

Any dog can be registered with DOGS Victoria.

The difference between the purebred register and the associate register is that to be on the purebred register your dog has to be of known, recognised and registered parentage of the same breed.

A pedigree purebred dog can be listed on either the main register (blue certificate) or limited register (orange certificate).

A dog on the main register (blue certificate) has full rights. The dogs on this register can be shown in conformation shows in order to gain titles and may be bred from to other main register dogs of the same breed and have their progeny registered as purebreds.

The limited register (orange certificate) indicates that the dog is pedigreed but cannot be shown at conformation shows nor can the dog be bred with and have the progeny registered as pedigreed puppies.

To be on the associate register a dog does not need to have known parentage. Dogs on any of these registers are eligible to compete in obedience, agility and many other trial and dog sports. Dogs must be desexed to be included on the associate register. 🐾

Are you looking for a website that lists dog friendly parks and beaches, pet friendly holidays. How to select a pet to suit your lifestyle and laws affecting pets in your municipality?

This information is now only a click away

www.i-pet.com.au

Interested in obedience trialling your dog?

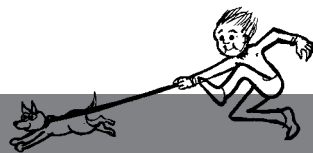
Pop over to the roped-off trial practice rings on Sunday morning and take a look at what you can achieve with your beautiful dogs. We are happy to answer your questions. All sizes and breeds are capable of reaching high standards, so when you pass Basic 2 give it a try! You will be amazed what your dogs can learn. ***It's not just quality heeling...*** there's directed jumping, retrieving, send aways, and later on scent discrimination.

We are fortunate to have highly experienced tutors at the top of their game but of course a lot of dedication, time and effort is required by each dog/handler team. Our trial members take part in Obedience trials statewide and interstate. The group enjoys fantastic camaraderie both during training and at events.

Once you have **passed Basic 2**, put your name down for the **Advanced Class**, a prerequisite to joining the trial group. Please see the form on the desk in front of the office.



Tracking Report



Kennel & 'call' name	Owner	Date	Venue	Grade
Tammyscott (Tammy)	Pam Scott	10.06.2017	GSDCV Haddon	T3 Good <i>Tracking Dog title</i> 😊
Mercedes Meg CCD RE (Meg)	Pam Scott	17.06.2017	Bendigo ODC	T2 Good
Mercedes Meg CCD RE (Meg)	Pam Scott	8.07.2017	TCV Broadford	T3 Good <i>Tracking Dog title</i> 😊
Mercedes Meg CCD RE TD (Meg)	Pam Scott	27.07.2017	Ballarrat ODC	T4 Pass
Mercedes Meg CCD RE TD (Meg)	Pam Scott	12.08.2017	TCV Inverleigh	T5 Pass
Tammyscott TD (Tammy)	Pam Scott	12.08.2017	TCV Inverleigh	T4 Good
Tullacrest Celtic Drift (AI) CDX RN TDX (Drift)	Lorraine Holland	14.08.2017	TCV Inverleigh	Tracking Champion! 😊

Obedience Triallers' Report



Congratulations to the following members and their beautiful dogs who gained passes at recent obedience trials:

HASTINGS & DISTRICT ODC 17/6/17

OPEN RING – Judged by Mr. Denis Cody

Sue Timperley and Inneslake Simply Irresistible CD (Elsa) 1st place, score 193.

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF VIC. 25/6/17

COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG RING (CCD)
Judged by Dawn Howard

Pia Butcher and Pawsitive Secret Attraction (Alfie) 1st Place, Score 96.

Karen Soo and Pawsitive The Main Attraction (Indi) 2nd Place, Score 89

OPEN RING (CDX) Judged by Lorna Piper

Karen Soo and AusFX Hunting High n Low CD (Hunter) 2nd Place, Score 183

QUEENSLAND STATE TRIAL 1/7/17

OPEN RING – Judged by Dawn Ayton

Lorraine Holland and Tullacrest Celtic Drift (AI) CDX RN TDX (Drift) 5th Place, Score 190, Title.

BROKEN HILL ALL BREEDS OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB 23/7/17

OPEN RING – Judged by MR N MacDonald

Lorraine Holland and Tullacrest Celtic Drift (AI) CDX RN TDX (Drift) 1st Place, Score 185.

VICTORIAN STATE TRIAL 5/8/17

OPEN RING – Judged by Mr Gordon Parsons

Lorraine Holland and Tullacrest Celtic Drift (AI) CDX RN TDX (Drift) 6th Place, Score 180.

SHETLAND SHEEPDOG CLUB OF VIC 12/8/17

OPEN RING – Judged by Mr. Fred Brueckner

Sue Timperley and Inneslake Simply Irresistible CD (Elsa) score 187.



Lorraine Holland and her Border Collie T.Ch Tullacrest Celtic Drift (AI) CDX RN (Drift)



Karen Soo and her Australian Shepherds AusFX Hunting High n Low CD (Hunter) and Pawsitive The Main Attraction (Indi)



Pia Butcher and her Australian Shepherd Pawsitive Secret Attraction (Alfie)



Rally O Report

Working Dog RTG Group 5 Rally O Trial at KCC Park Saturday 3rd June.

AM – Excellent A

Sue Timperley with Inneslake Simply Irresistible (Elsa) managed to gain their 4th Excellent A pass under Judge Dawn Ayton, score of 83. According to Sue, *"Err.... handler error, two retrievers and we will forget about the afternoon trial! Elsa worked beautifully, she deserves a better handler!!"*

We all have days like that Sue. Elsa works well because of all the hard work you have put in during training.

PM – Master Class

Jacinta Burke with Bella, managed to get their third Master pass with a score of 90.

Gippsland ODC (Morwell) Open Rally O Trial Monday 12th June.

AM – Master Class

Jacinta Burke with Bella, gained their fourth Master pass with a score of 93 under Judge Fred Brueckner.

PM – Master Class

Jacinta Burke with Bella, gained their fifth Master pass with a score of 94 under Judge Dawn Ayton.

Jacinta reported, *"Dawn commented at the afternoon presentations that Bella was the best heeling dog that she had had all day. She did not take her eyes off her handler. I felt very proud of my little girl."* Great work Jacinta and Bella.

Bobbie Terrill's extensive report on her Queen's Birthday triumphs at the Gippsland 3-day trials.

Starkehre Run Lola Run RN Rally Novice (RN)

11.06.2017 Bairnsdale & DDOC

Judge Kim Holden, Score 100, 4th place
Judge Ross Carlson, Score 98, 2nd Place.

11.06.2017 East Gippsland DOC

Judge Dawn Ayton, Score 93, 3rd Place, Novice Title

Judge Fred Brueckner, Score 96, 2nd Place

TS GRAND CH. TRI CH (T)(RO) NEUTER CH. Rosarott Basko's Pride UD RAE HSA(s) ET WWPD

Rally Advanced Excellent (RAE)

Bairnsdale & DPDC 10.06.2017

Judge Kim Holden, Score RA 'B' 99, 1st Place

Judge Ross Carlson, Score RE 'B' 97 1st Place

RA 'B' 98 1st place.

Judge Kim Holden, Score RE 'B' 99, 2nd Place

11.06.2017 East Gippsland DOC

Judge Fred Brueckner, RE 'B' 98 1st place.

East Gippsland DOC 11.6.17

Judge Fred Brueckner, RE 'B' 96 1st Place

Judge Dawn Ayton, RE 'B' 98 1st Place

RE 'B' 97 1st Place

Gippsland ODC 12.6.17

Judge Graham Eades, Score RE 'B' 98 1st Place

Judge Dawn Ayton RE 'A' 85 2nd Place, RAE Title

Judge Graham Eades, Score RA 'B' 97 1st Place

Judge Fred Brueckner, RA 'B' 96 2nd Place.

In addition Basko was also awarded the inaugural "Gippsland Riviera" highest aggregate Rally score over the three day long weekend.

This award celebrates the above three obedience clubs 30 year mark for the conduct of these trials.

Hastings Obedience Dog Club Rally O Open Trial Saturday 17th June

PM – EXCELLENT

Sue Timperley and Inneslake Simply Irresistible (Elsa) scored 88 under Judge Lorna Piper which was their final pass required to achieve the Excellent Title.

Great work Sue and Elsa. We expect to see you and Elsa now gunning for the Master Class title!

Jacinta and Bella have been working towards their Rally Master Title. After Hastings last Saturday Jacinta said:



MASTER CLASS

"Well we have done it. Bella has achieved her Rally Master title and she did it in only six weeks. On Saturday morning she scored 92 under judge Julie Morrison and then in the afternoon scored 89 and title under judge Fred Brueckner. Now it gets really serious. We have to score over 90 if we are to get passes towards her Rally Obedience Champion."

Excellent work Jacinta and Bella!

Broadmeadows Obedience Dog Club Open Rally O Trial – Sunday 25th June

In the morning, Bella was in another space and not interested in working. I ended up making three retries and was disqualified by Dawn Ayton. The weather was cold and a bitter wind was blowing. At lunchtime, the lady in the canteen had some crispy fried eggs that she couldn't sell and asked if would Bella like one. I said that she could have one. The lady brought out two and I let Bella have one, which she ate with gusto. I then thought that the other would make a tasty treat for the afternoon trial. With the promise of another tasty egg Bella went into the ring to score 92 and third place under judge Lynn Klecka. This was her first pass towards her Rally Obedience Champion title. Quite a long way to go yet.

Maybe so Jacinta, but every journey starts with one step. You now have a solution for inspiring Bella on those cold windy trial days!

Australian Shepherd Club of Victoria performance weekend - Rally O Novice, 25th June

Karen Soo reported... Hunter and I were awarded a score of 96 and placed Second in a very busy ring. This is his third pass in Novice and his title. I am very proud of this boy as he worked very well. We also gained an Obedience CDX pass on the same day.

Great job Karen. On to Rally O Advanced now.

German Shepherd Club Open Rally O

ADVANCED CLASS

Maddie Hoare with Cooper gained her second Advanced pass. Well done only one more for your Advanced title.

MASTER CLASS

Jacinta Burke with Bella had a disastrous obedience trial last weekend BUT this weekend Jacinta tells us ... *"Bella redeemed herself... She worked beautifully in the ring to achieve a score of 96. There were four people on 96 and Bella came third in the ring on countback. I was very proud of her today."* Congratulations Bella and Jacinta. We look forward to the next instalment Jacinta, what will Bella have in store??

Dogs Victoria State Double Open Rally O Trial – 5th August

AM – RALLY ADVANCED A

Maddie Hoare, with her Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Cooper, explains, *"The morning didn't go so well. Coops actually worked well but I was disqualified because I touched him to get his attention when he was going after the toys, which I was told was a correction and a DQ."*

The toys of course were a distraction in the Off-Set figure of eight exercise. Strange, Maddie, we have never seen Cooper go after the distractions while training at Croydon!

AM – RALLY MASTER CLASS

Jacinta Burke, with her Cardigan Corgi Bella, scored 92.

PM – RALLY ADVANCED B

Maddie Hoare, with her Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Cooper, again explains, *"The afternoon went much better and we got a pass (and our Advanced title!!) with 88 points - which given the torrential rain during the whole afternoon trial - I was pretty happy. Hope training (at Croydon) didn't get washed out."*

Well done on the Advanced Title Maddie, especially in the torrential rain. On to Excellent level next, and NO there wasn't any rain at Croydon in our morning training!

CDODC OFFICE HOURS

PLEASE NOTE:

The office hours are from **9.15am – 10.30am**

Certificates **ONLY** will be available from

10.30am – 11.00am

The office will **CLOSE at 10.30am sharp**, so that the volunteers who work on the desk can collect their dogs and go to their training classes.



Remember...

If you think you're a person of some influence
try ordering someone else's dog around.

Cowboy Wisdom

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



2017

Aug	Tue 15	7.30pm Committee Meeting
Sept	Tue 19	7.30pm Committee Meeting
Oct	Tue 17	7.30pm Committee Meeting
Nov	Sun 5	Melb Cup Weekend - NO TRAINING
	Tue 21	7.30pm Committee Meeting
	Sun 26	Fun Day - Last Training Day
Dec	Sun 3rd	Open Obedience & Rally Trial

Unless otherwise stated the following activities are conducted each week:

Wednesday 6:30pm & 7:30pm Puppy Pre-School

Sunday 9.00am – 12:00pm

Obedience Training – Puppies, Basic, Advanced
Trial Classes · Flyball Training · Agility Training

Visit www.cdodc.com.au