

CROYDON CAPERS

OCTOBER 2017 EDITION

CDODC success
at the
Royal Melbourne Show



Congratulations to Pia Butcher and Alfie (left) who came 1st Place, Score 91 in Community Companion Dog (CCD) and Karen Soo and Indi, 2nd Place in the same ring, score 89.

Don't forget CDoDC Fun Day
Sunday 26 November... put it in the diary!

NEWSLETTER OF CROYDON AND DISTRICT OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB





Committee of Management 2017/2018

Croydon & District Obedience Dog Club Inc.

Registration Number A008190W ABN: 82 580 068 107

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	Fiona Blake
Basic 2	Ken Leeming &
	Linda Hedges
Advanced Obedience	Anne Mann
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October 2017 ©Croydon & District Obedience Dog Club Inc.



We only have a few weeks until the end of our training year. This is often a bittersweet time for CDODC volunteers as we can't interact with you and your dogs; although I'm sure all instructors look forward to spending a bit more time with their own dogs and family during the summer. Our instructors do a wonderful job, trying to give each handler and dog the attention they need. This is not always possible in the larger classes we have been dealing with this past year. Class numbers will now be kept to a much more manageable level.

Please remember however, we are 'instructors' not trainers, we teach you to train your dog. You need to do the work during the week and this includes continuing training during the summer break and to some extent training never stops during your dog's life.

Often handlers lack confidence in their abilities and in the capacity to trust their dog. What is confidence? The dictionary defines it as having certainty in one's own skills and abilities, and being able to rely on yourself or someone else. It is nothing to do with how you present yourself but rather knowing you can do something and trusting those you around you to do their part.

Confidence is comprised of agency, competence and experience, whether we are speaking of ourselves our instructors or our dogs.

Agency is realising we have control over our circumstances. It is not possible to be confident we are prevented from making choices or influencing our own lives. This holds true also for our dogs; they need to know how their response can control the situation. Control on our part does not only mean managing every negative aspect we encounter or managing every aspect of our environment; it is about recognising that we are able to control our responses regardless of what we are facing. Agency becomes possible through competence.

Competence is about being capable, and having built the skills to handle what may confront

Continued over >



**TRAINING RESUMES
SUNDAY
4th FEBRUARY 2018**

*This piece of paper belongs
on your fridge.
Enjoy your summer break and we
hope to see you in the new year.*



Chiefly Chatter cont.

us. Confidence is built when we know we can do the job at hand by becoming competent in whatever skill we need. Competence is built by learning and practice. Each of us can work on skills by refining and practicing them to become more competent. We expect our dogs to live in our world and it's the skills we teach them that allows this. Competence is confirmed by experience.

Experience is about what has happened to us in the past and allows us to decide how to act in the present. Positive experience builds resilience and this allows us (and our dogs) to become confident. Resilience grows when we experience a high ratio of positive to negative experiences; not all experiences need to be positive but there needs to be a high ratio, and frequent small positive experiences are much more beneficial

that one large positive experience. A high rate of positive reinforcement is equally important to ourselves and our dogs.

Confidence is built by developing these three aspects and our confidence in others is built through connection. The more we know our dogs and nurture their confidence the more that connection grows and therefore more confidence we have in each other.

None of us are born brimming with confidence; it's something we learn and build both in ourselves by being nurtured and by nurturing it in others.

Is there a small thing you can do today to help build your dog's confidence or someone else's?

Have a wonderful and safe summer break and most importantly enjoy your dogs,

Barb

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.

Rachel Berka & Alfie
Libby Clarke & Kingsley
Karen D'Amico & Gazza
Jordyn Dehnert & Anka
Jane Egan & Archie
Amanda Ferreira & Grace
Emma Gayfer, Angeli Gayfer & Rosie
Zoe Glenister & Bilko
Samantha Gray & Oscar
Vicki Harper & Ruby
Robert Hodgkinson & Jeep
Josie Hovens & Billy



Andrew Julian & Belle
Tamsin Killeen, Jess Killeen & Jazz
Anne Mann & Echo
Yvonne Melville & Cassidy
Lynne Miller & Torben
Lynda O'Loughlin & Storm
Nicholl-Jeanne Santoro & Coco
Michelle Schwab & Bonnie
James Soo & Raven
Bobbie Terrill & Lola
Barney Zwartz & Nessie



FUN DAY **Last Sunday** **in November** **Training +** **Fun & Games**



ALL CLASSES @ 9.15 am

ACTIVITIES will start at 10.15am

Entry fee to games and competitions \$2.00
(50% Fee donated to the Victorian Animal Aid Shelter)

ENTRIES TAKEN 9.15am to 10.30am

- ★ Fastest Recall ★ Lure Racing
- ★ Rally O ★ Flyball ★ Agility
- ★ Obedience Demonstration
- ★ Demonstration Team

BBQ and Canteen Available



Dog Park Bullies

Reprinted from Pets Magazine August 2017

Danielle Chenery explores what happens when dog parents behave badly at the dog park.

Just like parenting children, being a pet parent can leave you at the mercy of everyone's advice. Without knowing your dog's story, many are quick to judge and jump in with personal opinions on how you should be looking after your dog. And, just like with children, nowhere is this more common than at the local park.

Laura Greaves, pet parent to Tex (nine) and Delilah (six), both Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, has experienced this firsthand. Tex has an anxiety disorder, which was only diagnosed when he was six. This sometimes manifested as snappiness towards some other dogs. "Now that his anxiety is properly managed (with environmental management and Prozac), he is rarely anything other than friendly with other dogs," Laura explains. "Once I was walking both dogs and heard a woman loudly remark to her friend. 'Oh, one of those dogs is nice but the other one is terrible. 'Tex was the 'terrible' dog, in her opinion. I don't recall ever having seen this woman before, so I don't know where she got her so called information about either of my dogs. I explained to her about his condition – I've done a lot of research so I was able to hit her with all sorts of facts and figures

– and she looked a little sheepish, though she didn't apologise. But the worst occasion was when a woman said "Oh, I've heard ALL about these dogs' in a really snide tone. It turned out that the owner of a dog that had tried to attack Tex had been telling anyone who would listen, including this woman, that Tex had attacked his dog. It was completely untrue and made me quite angry."

Ignorance around anxiety disorders in dogs doesn't help. "People think 'anxiety' means being a bit afraid of the vacuum cleaner, when in fact it's a physiological condition that means the dog's brain is wired in such a way that they can't predict the outcome of events and therefore perceive virtually everything as a real threat," Laura says. "Tex doesn't understand that a dog that comes barreling up to him at the park is probably friendly (though, thanks to medication, he is now a lot calmer in this scenario), and sometimes he will act defensively in accordance with what he sees as a genuine threat."

Anxiety aside, however, just like we expect small children to like everyone, there is an expectation put upon dogs that they should all like one another; not the most realistic scenario. "Some people are lucky enough to have a dog that loves everyone and everything but, with an estimated one in five dogs having an anxiety disorder, plenty of people's dogs

FOR DOGS' SAKE, PICK UP

Please clean up after your dog to ensure that dogs retain their rights to parks, beaches, dog-friendly accommodation facilities, walking trails and other public places.



Dog Park Bullies cont.



are not like that,” Laura says, “It is a bizarre expectation anyway – why should they like each other just because they’re the same species? Nobody expects every human to like every other human.”

Another common dog park issue is which dogs belong in the small dog section, Lynette Graham, who has a 23 month old Husky called Snow, experienced this when Storm was three months old. “We took him to the dog park for the very first time and being a puppy he was very excited and had boundless energy. We took him into the small dog section. We would have been there about a minute and this older lady’s Maltese Terrier started growling and barking at our puppy. Storm, being a puppy, went to play and jumped on her dog. I quickly pulled him off and she started having a go at me telling me that our dog was too big for the park and he belongs in the big dog park. I explained to her that he was three months old and was excited; she told me to take him away.

“To keep the peace, I took him into the big dog park until he ran up to a massive dog to play and was knocked down and nearly bitten. I then had a lady from the small dog park tell me to bring him back in. So we then took him back into the little dog park and the old lady had another go at me. Then to my surprise, the rest of the people suddenly asked her to leave us

alone and to take her grumpy old dog with her. They said that Storm is a puppy and has every right to be in the little side. She then took her dog and left. Everyone told me to stay and let him play. I felt so bad but my dog had the same rights as any other dog to be in the park.

“I think some people think that they have more rights at dog parks than others. I don’t know why but I have found it more in the little dog park than the big one,” she adds.

The point of the park

The way pet parents respond at the dog park is also dependent on why they are at the park as well. For some, it’s time to connect with their dogs and so human interaction isn’t the main game. Giselle, who has two Labradors says the dog park is her place to recharge and spend time with her dogs. “I avoid people and try to interact solely with my dogs. I also have a dog that came from a puppy farm and, as a result is highly anxious and was terrified of people. Although she is better now, when I am out in public with her, I have to spend the entire time watching her behaviour and looking for potential triggers so we don’t impede on other people’s experiences. I imagine I seem like a grumpy old man who doesn’t like people and is extremely dismissive because I want everyone to have a positive experience and we

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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. 🐾



Dog Park Bullies cont.

are continually in a state of training, so I will often walk away mid-conversation to tend to my dogs," she says.

"I have experienced a lot of bullying at these parks, especially initially because I don't think I'm very friendly. I can very much attest to these parks having a crowd of regulars, though. Every new dog and their owner is privately critiqued upon entry and need to prove themselves before the regulars welcome them. I realise this probably sounds incredibly awful and it's very uncomfortable to watch; however, I can only imagine it stems from the countless negative experiences people have in the parks in terms of untrained dogs and unapologetic owners. It seems to be very rare that someone will admit fault if their dog starts a fight or behaves antisocially. It seems everyone has an opinion and it rarely paints their precious dog or themselves in a bad light. Once you're

welcomed by the regulars, though, the dog park is nothing but supportive.

"I think this all occurs because people's pets are extremely important to them and it results in vulnerability. There is a large variety of dogs that come to the park and everyone has a different assessment on what they deem appropriate behaviour. As a result, I think they form a 'safe' group of friends and struggle to welcome newcomers because they have been burnt on so many occasions previously.

Park politics

At the end of the day, we're love our dogs and we're trying to do what's best for them. If you find yourself in a questionable situation, remember to be polite, but also to admit that it's rarely as black and white as one dog being wrong and the other being right. After all nobody's pawfect. 🐾

Helping man's best friend to stress less

Reprinted from Herald Sun 30/9/17

How good are you at reading your pet's body language? Most pet owners can read their pets very well in a familiar environment but may be taken unawares when the pet is out of their comfort zone, such as at the vet or around unfamiliar people.

The vet might have suggested your pet be muzzled or even sedated to continue with an examination. Perhaps you were surprised, as you hadn't heard a growl or even a tooth bared. Early signs of stress in dogs and cats can be subtle unless you are very experienced. It is good to pick up these signs early to avoid a potentially nasty situation, especially if children are involved.

In dogs, early signs of stress and anxiety can be as simple as moving away from whatever is worrying them. They might move their head to one side if restrained or walk away to a safe spot. If unable to escape, this can escalate to panting, yawning and licking their lips. These signs may occur with trembling or shaking. Dogs will also often show the whites of their eyes as they try to turn away and look sideways.

If a child is patting your dog while it is displaying such behaviour, separate the child from the dog. Next time you are at the vet look carefully to see if your pooch shows these signs of stress. You can then assist to calm or distract your pet while restraining them and following the vet's direction. 🐾



Reprinted from Pet Mag Aust 2017

What can you do to help your pet live a long, happy and healthy life? Tim Falk reports

Regardless of whether you own a dog, cat, bird, rabbit or horse, we all want our pets to live the fullest lives possible. And we're willing to do whatever it takes to keep our pets happy, from feeding the best diet and grooming at the right time, to making sure they get all the love and attention they need.

But do you know what to do to help your pet live a long, happy and enjoyable a life as possible? A content and healthy pet is the product of a holistic approach to their care, covering everything from diet and exercise to training, behaviour, mental stimulation and human interaction.

Let's take a closer look at the key things you can do to help your pet live long and prosper.

You are what you eat

Whether you own a Siamese or a Shih Tzu, feeding a balanced diet is essential to your pet's health and wellbeing. A dog or cat should always be fed a diet suitable for his or her life stage. "High quality commercial diets are generally nutritionally complete and balanced, containing all the necessary vitamins and minerals," Sydney small animal veterinarian

Dr James Crowley says. "They are formulated specifically for the life stage (puppy, adult, senior), size (toy and small breeds, standard, or large and giant breeds) and medical conditions of the dog or cat. All the hard work has been done for you by the pet food company."

Dry (kibble or biscuit) food is nutritionally similar to canned food, but is usually cheaper and encourages better dental development. Dr James also points out that the quality of the food is important, as there are significant differences between budget (supermarket) food and premium.

"A good diet should be complete and balanced. Look for an AFFCO (Association of American Feed Control Officials) statement on the side of the packet. This confirms that the food has been tried and tested and is proven to be healthy and balance," he says. And don't forget that an ample supply of clean, fresh water is also a must.

Exercise the body and mind

Diet and exercise go hand in hand when it comes to helping your pet stay in excellent shape. Regular exercise will ensure your pet stays in a healthy weight range and can help reduce the risk of numerous health problems. But regular physical activity isn't the only exercise component owners need to consider; it's also important to challenge your pet mentally. According to Caedmon Foy from The

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.





Live Long and Prosper cont.

Positive Pet Project, a pet training behaviour consulting service based in Brisbane, mental stimulation is incredibly important for any animal.

"Imagine how boring it can be stuck in a house or backyard all day. All animals have natural behaviours, like digging, jumping, foraging, running and chasing. Mental stimulation is all about providing opportunities for our pets to exhibit these behaviours and it helps our pets live well balanced and fulfilled lives," he says. Animals who are not given appropriate opportunities to exhibit their natural behaviours will exhibit them in inappropriate ways, such as digging holes in the lawn, scratching furniture or pulling washing off the line.

For dogs, one of the great ways to provide much needed mental stimulation is through regular training. If your pet spends time working out what behaviour you are asking for in exchange for a treat, this type of problem solving can boost your pet's brain power. Training is also an opportunity for owners and dogs to communicate, to understand better what the other is asking and to build a better relationship with your furry friend.

"The same sorts of benefits apply to training any pet. It helps your pet understand what behaviours you want it to do, which, in turn, makes it so much easier for owners and pets to live together," Caedmon says.

Dr Jo Righetti, animal behaviourist and host of radio show Talking Pets every Thursday night on 2UE Talking Lifestyle, says mental stimulation is essential for a pet's mental and physical health. Without it, pets can suffer from stress and boredom.

Staying Healthy

When you take on the important responsibility of owning a pet, it's up to you to ensure you look after every aspect of your furry friend's

health. One of the most crucial jobs you'll need to stay on top of all year round is parasite prevention.

"You need to protect against external parasites (fleas, ticks) and internal parasites (intestinal worms, tapeworms)," Dr James says. "Ticks can be deadly for cats and dogs, fleas can be too, in extreme circumstance (flea bite anaemia), intestinal parasites are usually not deadly but can cause significant gastrointestinal upset and other diseases."

Your vet will be able to offer advice on the best way to protect your pet against parasites, which brings us to another simple but critical thing you can do to help your pet live to a ripe old age: take him to the vet for an annual checkup. "Annual vaccinations are important in their own right – they protect your dog, cat or rabbit against serious life threatening disease. Sure, these diseases are now quite uncommon, but this is thanks to the majority of pet owners being diligent and proactive in having their pets vaccinated," Dr James says.

However, these regular check ups for a vaccination are about so much more than the needle. Your pet's vet will perform a thorough physical examination of your pet. You can raise any concerns or queries you may have, such as a lump that has developed on your pet or the occasional cough your pet has.

"Your vet may pick up something you hadn't noticed, such as dental disease in your pet or a heart murmur in your dog. For the aged pet, six monthly check ups are a good idea, especially if they are on regular medication that may require blood or urine testing to monitor systemic health such as kidney or liver function," Dr James explains.

The Hard Yards

Doing everything required to help your pet live a long and satisfying life isn't always easy. Some jobs, such as giving medication or taking



your dog for a walk on a cold winter's day can often seem like chores. Others, such as cleaning up after your pet, can be downright unpleasant.

But they're the jobs that simply need to be done if you want to give your pet the best possible quality of life. Before getting a pet, Caedmon says it is vital that you understand exactly what is involved.

"It's important to understand the ongoing costs of feeding and vaccinating the pet you choose to make sure they stay physically healthy. Potential owners also need to understand the time required for training and provide adequate exercise and company to their animal. If you work long hours and are away from home often, depending on the pet you choose, this can cause loneliness, boredom and problem behaviours. Owning a pet is a commitment to meet that animal's health needs for its lifetime."

Despite the chores and responsibilities that come with pet ownership, if you're a true animal lover, all the hard work is completely worth it. The love and companionship a pet brings into your life is simply unbeatable and by giving your pet all the love and attention she deserves, you'll be giving her the best shot at a lifetime of health and happiness.

"Spend time working out what it is your pet likes to do and then provide them with the opportunity to do it," Caedmon says. "It will make them happy and I don't know any pet owner who doesn't get a great sense of joy from watching their pet having fun." 🐾



Reprinted from Dog's Life Magazine Oct 2017

As our friends get older, they can lose their grip on reality, Carrol Baker explores the ins and outs of doggy dementia.

First you notice your active senior dog no longer wants to play fetch. Then he starts roaming around the house at night, and unusually has an 'accident' on the new living room rug. Canine Cognitive Dysfunction (CCD) also known as Dogzeimers or Canine Alzheimer's – is a disease caused by physical and chemical changes to the brain that manifest in a range of altered behaviours. Dr Natalya Higgins from Greencross Vets Ocean Reef says generally dementia in dogs can present in one of two ways. "Failure to recognise owners, or becoming more clingy." You may also notice your pooch staring at a bare wall or getting confused looking for his food bowl.

It's a disease that's surprisingly common. According to the Australian Veterinary Association, CCD occurs in approximately 12 – 14% of dogs older than 10. If the dog is past its 14th birthday, that number jumps

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Doggy Dementia cont.

significantly, adds Dr Natalya. Some research shows 41% of older dogs than 14 will have symptoms of Canine Cognitive Dysfunction. Smaller canine breeds are also more susceptible to the disease because they generally live longer than larger breeds.

Dr Natalya says the condition shouldn't be confused with simply getting older. Canine Cognitive Dysfunction is not a normal part of canine aging. Hearing loss and slight loss in vision are normal age related changes in dogs.

What's going on?

Canine Cognitive Dysfunction is characterised by an accumulation of a type of beta amyloid plaque and neuron loss. The result is potentially significant changes to signaling and pathways within the brain, which can manifest in many ways. "Changed behaviours can include disorientation and confusion, lethargy, soiling indoors, irritability, increased aggression, loss of appetite, pacing or repetitive behaviour, and changes in sleeping patterns," says Dr Natalya.

A dog may also show an increase in anxiety levels and exhibit behaviours like excessive licking or staring at walls. If you feel your pet could be suffering from CCD, your first port of call should be your vet so your dog can get the care it needs.

Is it really CCD?

There are some diseases such as cancer and thyroid conditions that can mimic the symptoms of CCD. "Urinating inside could be renal disease or a urinary tract infections for example," says Dr Natalya. "Increased vocalisation, or decreased physical activity could be the result of arthritis, and loss of appetite could be dental disease." If you think your aging pet could be suffering from CCD, jot down any changes in the dog's behaviour and take some video footage so

you can show your vet. The more information you can provide the better picture your vet can get of the changes in behaviour,

Coping with change

For pets with CCD, change can be challenging and your dog will find comfort in familiarity. Dr Natalya recommends sticking to similar routines for feeding, walking and bed time. "Try to keep stress to a minimum, give your older dog more opportunities to use the toilet outdoor, and know that moving things like furniture around could be distressing for your dogs," she says.

Treating canine cognitive dysfunction

The good news is that there are some medications that may be effective in treating the symptoms, although prescriptions may vary depending on the issues. A dog could be prescribed medication to treat anxiety, to promote better rest at night, and/or to reduce cell damage and blood flow to the brain, says Dr Natalya. The right diet and supplements may also help to manage the disease. "There are diets especially formulated for older dogs and supplements high in multivitamins and antioxidants to help brain function," she adds.

It's also a good idea to keep your pet's brain active by teaching him simple new tricks, and as your dog ages, continue taking him for walks and providing appropriate gentle exercise.

If your dog is displaying signs of CCD, don't lose heart. "Not all cases display all of the symptoms, and not all cases are severe. It may be mild symptoms that are easily managed and the treatments can work really well and improve the dog's quality of life," says Dr Natalya. 🐾

The Tiny Killer

By Dr Katrina Warren

Reprinted from *Pets Magazine*

Paralysis ticks are back in season and for some Australians, they never left.

Did you know?...

Even if you're using a preventative medication or treatment, it's recommended you still regularly search your pet for ticks.

Did you know?...

An adult female tick can lay anywhere between 2000 and 3000 eggs!

Fact...

More than one tick can prey on your pet. If you find one, continue your search in case others are also using your animal as a meal.

Paralysis ticks are the single most dangerous parasite for dogs on the eastern coast of Australia, with just one tick capable of causing paralysis and even death. They usually live in bushy coastal areas and are most prevalent from spring to autumn but, worryingly for pet owners, in some areas, they may occur at any time of year.



Not to scale.

STOP THE PRESS!

Researchers are working on new ways to combat Canine Cognitive Dysfunction. University of Sydney scientists have been able to reverse the effects of dementia on a Cocker Spaniel called Timmy using stem cell therapy. While a definitive cure might still be a long way off, there is hope.



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.



Dogs Victoria's Amend the Bill Campaign

Written by Terri MacDonald

Reprinted from Dogs Vic Mag September 2017

The Victorian Government announced plans to table amendments to its Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy farms and Pet shops) Bill 2016 (Bill) in May, with the expected date just after the winter sittings of parliament, around August. While members will have received a briefing on the status of the amended Bill, we take this opportunity to examine how we got to this point, and what it means for the future of Dogs Victoria.

The changes made to the Bill were largely the result of a strategic, grass roots campaign and lobbying effort led by Dogs Victoria, which called for the government to #amendthebill. Fortunately, our campaign was supported by many other organisations also negatively impacted by the Bill, particularly the cat clubs – and there is strength in numbers.

However, we had many challenges to overcome back in September 2016, when we first saw the Bill. Dogs Victoria was seen by government (and the public) as very much a kennel registry body, preoccupied with the running of dog shows and events and largely insular. While we may argue differently, the reality was that the government did not even consider consulting with us.

A further complication in our lobbying efforts was that our Applicable Organisation status was up for renewal in 2017, and the Minister flagged that she was not inclined to grant its renewal unless we adopted the same largely commercial provisions that applied to breeders registered as Domestic Animal Businesses (DABs). These provisions were in the Code for Breeding and Rearing of Domestic Animal Business (the Code) and had been central to the Puppy Farm Bill. Her view was that, while the legislation exempted Applicable Organisations from the Code, we were supposed to have incorporated that into our Rules and Regulations anyway. However, many of the provisions in the Code had

nothing to do with animal welfare per se, but were about commercial operations and business practice. Applying this to Dogs Victoria members was trying to fit a round peg in a square hole. It was, in short, a circular argument.

It seemed we were at an impasse. Without our Applicable Organisation status, the very existence of Dogs Victoria was at threat. On top of this, Dogs Victoria was told by many, including professional lobbyists, that the passing of the Puppy Farm Bill into law was a fait accompli.

However, with the support of some 10,000 Dogs Victoria members, we rallied, and challenged the Bill. It was obvious that the original Bill had a number of both intended and unintended consequences, and that it would be virtually impossible for local government to enforce it. Dogs Victoria engaged in the political process, lobbying first to have the Bill sent to committee for review on the basis that it had been written without sector consultation. Dogs Victoria and its members, spoke to politicians, the media and engaged in the public debate. A parliamentary petition calling for the Bill to be reviewed was successful and the committee process ensued. It was clear that the passing of the Bill was no longer assured when inherent problems with the Bill came to light.

While everyone agreed that unregulated puppy mills were not acceptable, both in terms of animal welfare and community standards, there were serious doubts cast on whether the Bill would actually achieve this goal. It was recommended by the committee that the government go back to the drawing board, consult with the sector (including Dogs Victoria) and make amendments. To the credit of the government and the Minister, they did just that.

In the meantime Dogs Victoria underwent serious self assessment. We acknowledged that we had to modernise, and that we needed to understand community attitudes to dogs and

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Charmaine Lee
Oodles of Spoodles



DOG GROOMING

Shop 6, Wood Street, Nunawading
0414 330 792

- 🐾 Located in a tranquil environment opposite Wood Park, Nunawading – plenty of parking near Nunawading train station.
- 🐾 Our key focus is that we create a happy and relaxed environment – we are passionate about dogs and their welfare.

Services

- Full Groom (Complete Makeover), All Breeds.
 - Spa and Mud Bath
 - Tidy (Spa Bath, Pads, Nails, Face)
 - Carding and Hand Stripping
- 🐾 DIY Services Only – Exclusive to Croydon Members Only between June – September. Appointment Essential.



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Dog Laws Savaged

By Alex White

Reprinted from the Herald Sun

Laws governing dangerous dogs have been slammed as costly, confusing and a threat to innocent animals. Pet owners, local councils and veterinarians are among the 450 people and groups calling for restricted dog breed laws to be overturned or changed, in submissions made to a Victorian parliamentary inquiry.

Dog owner Michael Rexter described an 11 month legal battle to save his two American Staffordshire terriers, Brutus and Coco, as painful and upsetting. The pair were classified as a dangerous breed in 2013 and were confiscated by council workers. "They had never bitten anyone," Mr Rexter said. "My dog still suffers anxiety from the experience. This law doesn't work and a lot of innocent dogs are being hurt."

The animals were impounded throughout the legal process before being returned home last year. Since the law was introduced in 2012, legal clashes over confiscated dogs have led to

three Supreme Court trials and 19 VCAT hearings. The Municipal Association of Victoria warned local councils faced hefty legal bills and could not find qualified experts required to classify animals as dangerous breeds.

Veterinarian recommended animals to be classed on behaviour not genes. However, several submissions supported tougher regulations on restricted breeds. One victim described a harrowing daylight attack from three pit bulls while walking her two dogs. She urged the Government to continue raising awareness that some dog breeds could unexpectedly become vicious.

The Australian Medical Association said hospitals treated multiple dog attack victims every year and owners should be held accountable for their animals' behaviour. Minister for Agriculture, Jaala Pulford said it was important to get the laws right.

Ms Pulford has imposed a moratorium on the destruction of restricted breed dogs while the inquiry is underway. 🐾

Fido Feels Just Like We Do

Reprinted from Herald Sun

Dogs have emotions just like people, according to new research. Gregory Berns, a professor of neuroeconomics at Emory University, Atlanta, who has been testing the results of MRI scans on his dog's brain, has discovered our canine friends use the same part of the brain as humans to "feel".

His initial goal was to determine how dogs' brains work and what they think of humans. By looking directly at their brains and bypassing the constraints of behaviour, MRIs can tell humans about dogs' internal states.

He found there was a striking similarity between dogs and humans in both the structure and function of a key brain region: the caudate nucleus. In humans, the caudate plays a key role in the anticipation of things we enjoy, like food and love. 🐾



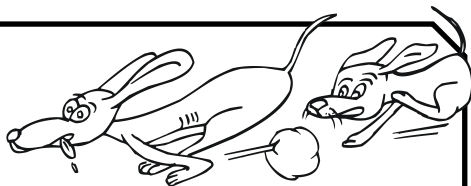
Amend the Bill cont.

their breeding had changed. If we were to survive as an organisation – and as a fancy – we needed to change as well.

Dogs Victoria has now set out to recast itself as the representative organisation for everything related to pedigree dogs and responsible dog ownership in Victoria. We are engaging with the political process and lifting our public profile. We are also undergoing internal changes, which involved improved compliance regulations and processes. While we are not adopting the entire Code for Breeding that the Minister had pushed for, we are making some changes that are based on animal welfare and best practice around breeding and animal husbandry. We have long claimed that Dogs Victoria members set the bar in terms of best practice and ethics. We need to ensure that is true, for both now and into the future.

Those changes and our discussions with the Minister bore fruit when our Applicable Organisation status was renewed in May. We have also been consulted on amendments in the Puppy Farm Bill. While there is still much to be discussed with the Minister and the Department, we are firmly involved in the political process and able to represent the interests of our members in that.

Members will have heard of changes that are occurring in other states, with Queensland and South Australian governments both recently introducing puppy mill legislation that includes registered breeders. The Australian Capital Territory also recently announced a ban on the Greyhound racing industry (and there is a review here in Victoria) despite the same ban being overturned in NSW. Governments across the country are taking an active interest in domestic animals, their care and breeding. If we are to have any influence on the decisions being made we need to be actively involved in the political process and generate public support. The future of pedigree dogs will depend on how successful we are. 🐾



Dog Club Shop

Did you know that this shop is run for you the handlers and your dogs?

Prices are usually lower than pet shops, vets and supermarkets.

We sell...

- 🐾 Sentinel
- 🐾 Training treats
- 🐾 Australian pigs ears
- 🐾 Biscuits
- 🐾 Toys and much more



Come and have a look at our products and our prices.

We can source most products so ask us if you can't see it.



Kiosk

Coffee/Tea/Hot Choc is available in the Kiosk every Sunday during training hours.

We also stock soft drinks, juices and water. Sausages are also on sale.



Obedience Triallers' Report

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

MOORABBIN ODC 27/8/17

UTILITY RING (UD) – Judged by Ms Yvonne Ross
Anne Mann and Ellagant Great Rhythm CDX RE TD (Rhythm) 1st place, score 191.

NOVICE RING (CD) Judged by Mr Gordon Parsons
Lesley Camilleri and Scanandamble Lady of Luxemburg CCD (Macey) 2nd Place (on countback) Score 185.

KNOX OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB 30/9/17

UTILITY RING (UD) Judged by Graham Eades
Pauline Williams and Adensley Fire N Ice CDX (Chester) 2nd Place, Score 188.

OPEN RING (CDX) Judged by Mr Gordon Parsons
Sue Timperley and Inneslake Simply Irresistible CDX RN (Elsa), 3rd Place, Score 181, Title.

FRANKSTON ODC 8/10/17

NOVICE RING (CD) Judged by Mr Ray Ashman
Lesley Camilleri and Scanandamble Lady of Luxemburg CCD (Macey) 1st Place, Score 173.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB OF VICTORIA 14/10/17

NOVICE RING (CD) Judged by Mrs Dawn Ayton
Lesley Camilleri and Scanandamble Lady of Luxemburg CD (Macey) 2nd Place, Score 180. Title. Lady Aspley Trophy for Highest Scoring Golden Retriever.

COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG RING (CCD)
AM Trial – Judged by Mrs Noelene McIlroy
Clive Makepeace and Iamgoldn Fire Cracker (Kayla) 2nd Place, Score 91.

PM Trial – Judged by Mrs Dawn Howard
Clive Makepeace and Iamgoldn Fire Cracker CCD (Kayla) 1st Place, Score 93, Title.

ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW 23/9/17

Judged by Ms Jill Houston (WA)

COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG RING (CCD)
Pia Butcher and Pawsitive Secret Attraction (Alfie) 1st Place, Score 91. Title.

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

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GSD DOG CLUB OF VIC 7/10/17

UTILITY RING (UD) Judged by Mr Barry Cotton
Pauline Williams and Adensley Fire N Ice CDX (Chester) 1st Place, Score 197. Highest scoring non-GSD in trial.

COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG RING (CCD)

Trial 1 – Judged by Ms Norma Meany
Bobbie Terrill and Starkehre Run Lola Run RE (Lola), 1st Place, Score 93

PM Trial 2 – Judged by Ms Merrae Balaam
Bobbie Terrill and Starkehre Run Lola Run RE (Lola), 1st Place, Score 91

GSD DOG CLUB OF TASMANIA 21/10/17

Bobbie Terrill and Starkehre Run Lola Run CCD RE (Lola), 1st Place, Score 92, Title.



Bobbie Terrill's Rottweiler, Starkehre Run Lola Run CCD RE (Lola)



Sue Timperley's Shetland Sheep Dog, Inneslake Simply Irresistible CDX RN (Elsa)



**Clive Makepeace and his Golden Retriever,
Iamgoldn Fire Cracker CCD (Kayla)**



**Lesley Camilleri and her Golden Retriever,
Scanandamble Lady of Luxemborg CD (Macey)**



**Anne Mann and her Australian Shepherd, Ellagant
Great Rhythm CDX RE TD (Rhythm)**



**Pauline Williams' Border Collie Adensley Fire N Ice
CDX (Chester)**



Croydon Rockets Flyball

Flyball at CDODC seems to have had a bit of a resurgence over the past few years. We have had lots of handlers wanting to train their dogs – I mean it is doggy heaven if you have a crazy, ball obsessed dog that will run all day and lives to chase balls, sticks, frisbees - just about anything you will throw to them really.

But for many of the handlers, they did not really want to go that extra step to start competing with their dog in the many competitions that are run in Victoria every couple of weeks during the Flyball season.

However, from struggling to put together a team a few years ago, we are now in a position where we sometimes have to ballot dogs in and out of the two teams we enter regularly and even better, we have sufficient enthusiastic dogs and handlers now to field a third team in future events if we chose to do so.

For those of you who are not familiar with Flyball it is not called 'drag racing' for dogs for nothing. It is a high powered, energetic and very noisy activity for dogs of all breeds, sizes and temperament. In fact a small, energetic dog who loves to run is highly prized in any Flyball team as a 'height' dog. It is these dogs that determine how high the jumps are set that

all dogs in the team have to negotiate when they are racing. As you can imagine, if dogs are not having to waste too much energy running over 8 jumps of 14" when they can jump 7", their run time will be much quicker. [Flyball originated in the US (where else?), which is why we talk in feet and inches rather than metric measurements.]

In a Flyball competition, teams are placed in divisions according to their best racing times. Then, depending on the competition format, 2 teams in a division will be drawn to run against each other in the best of 3 or 5 heats per race. Teams of 4 to 6 dogs will be entered by a club so that dogs can be rotated and rested for a race if there are more than 4 in the team. The start dog, who is usually hyped up to the point it's handler is having difficulty holding it back, is released under the judge's orders with the aim of reaching the start line as the countdown light turns green (just like at the drag races). From there, each dog runs towards a 'box', jumping 4 hurdles set 10' apart at varying heights, depending on the team's height dog measurement, triggers the box to release a ball, which they must catch, and return over the hurdles to their handler. The next dog is released to cross the start line until all 4 dogs



Croydon Rockets Flyball cont.



in the team have completed their runs. The aim is to run fast and 'clean' – i.e. no false starts, no dropped balls, no missed hurdles, no early passes on the start line. The team that wins the most heats wins the race. At the end of the day all races and heats are counted to determine the placings in each division.

As you can imagine the racing is accompanied by frenzied barking from excited dogs, high pitched encouragement from excited handlers and cheering from the sidelines. To say nothing of the noise from crated dogs in the team canopies because they want to be out racing as well. The silence at lunchtime on competition day is eerie!

Croydon has had a great season so far (with only one or two competitions to go). We have had new dogs join the team, handlers getting out of their comfort zone to ball shag, box



load and steward – all necessary duties at a competition, and some good results including:

Croydon Rockets All sorts – 3rd in Division 5 and Mixed Bag 1st in Division 6 at Frankston 'On the Fly' competition. Simba, handled by Yvonne came to his first competition, just for a look, but due to Tess's injury was thrown in at the deep end after lunch, and went from Rookie Flyball dog to earning his first title. In addition Bones, handled by Halina also earned his first Flyball title.

Croydon Rockets Blasters finished 4th in Division 4 (with a fastest time of 22.063 seconds) and NQR finished 3rd in Division 5 at Hasting's Pets Day Out

For the first time in many years Croydon is once again hosting a Flyball competition at the Lilydale Show on 19 November. This will be a huge learning curve for us all and entails lots of organisation. We are very grateful for the support and advice we receive from Anne Coleman who has been an Australian Flyball Association Representative for many years and a wealth of information. Thank you also to Florence Chiu for coming up with the idea, getting the project off the ground and keeping us all motivated.

For anyone that might like the idea of Flyball, wants to find out more, and is keen to experience the excitement of a Flyball competition, come along to the Lilydale Show (nice and local), support our teams and add to the noise! 🐾



Chris Esh Photography



Rally O Trial Results

Only a few of the current Rally Obedience participants are entering trials and they certainly deserve recognition for the effort they put in.

In horrible conditions for trialling many brave souls participated in the:

Moorabbin and Districts Obedience Dog Training Club Open Rally O Trial - Sunday 27th August

PM – Master Class

Jacinta Burke and Bella gained a score of 94 under judge Ross Carlson. Jacinta explains:- *“It was a cold day with icy winds and intermittent rain...our score of 94... gave us equal first in the ring but second on count back. We were very lucky to go into the ring during a fine spell and I was very happy with Bella’s performance even though we had the usual barking. This gave Bella her fourth pass towards her Rally Obedience Champion title.*

Great result Jacinta, especially in the very wintry conditions. You’re almost half way now to the **Rally Champion Title**.

Jacinta already has her Rally Master Title but is still competing at Master level working her way to **Rally Obedience Champion**. After gaining 7 passes (each pass 85 points or more) for her Master Title she now needs 10 more passes (each pass 90 points or more) at Master level to gain the **Champion Title**.

Ballaarat (correct spelling!) **Dog Obedience Club** held Open Rally O Trials on 24th September and Jacinta Burke and Bella competed. They had to be in Ballarat and lining up for Check-in at 8am! That needs a few “brownie points” in itself.

I’ll let Jacinta tell you about her day in her own words:-

I must admit that I was questioning my sanity as I was driving on the Western Freeway to Ballarat in the torrential rain. By the time we arrived the heavy rain had passed. The day, however, was

cold and blustery with intermittent showers. In the morning, Bella was not all that enthused about going into the ring. We got a pass of 86 but not enough points for a Rally Obedience Champion pass so it was disappointing. In the afternoon, after a long rest and me telling her she only had to get 90, she went into the ring a different dog. She worked beautifully and got a score of 99 and first in the ring. We now have 5 passes towards our Rally Obedience Champion requirement of 10 Passes of 90 or above. I was so proud of my little girl. Thanks team for all your help on Sunday mornings. I appreciate your hard work.

Congratulations Jacinta, overall a very successful day.

Our newest trial participant Cindy Christensen tasted success at **Knox Obedience Dog Club Open Rally O Trial** on Saturday 30th September.

Cindy and her dog Riley participated in **Rally Novice** and Cindy takes up the story:- *Riley and I gained a pass with 89 points at Knox Dog Club - fifth place overall.*

A few handler errors – I gave the signal in the “Moving Stand” too quickly and he sat – did the retry perfectly. Riley lost focus in the “weave / return” - sniffing duck poo I think - but otherwise worked well.

Was fun and I am looking forward to Frankston Club comp next Sunday at KCC park.

Congratulations and well done Cindy. May your success continue at next week’s trial.

Jacinta Burke and her dog Bella had a busy weekend attending Rally O trials on both Saturday 30th September and Sunday 1st October. The following is Jacinta’s report on her very successful weekend.

*Saturday, 30th September started out cold and had intermittent light showers at the **Knox Obedience Dog Club Obedience and Rally trial**. By the afternoon when the Rally O trial was on, conditions had improved slightly. Bella was not*

Rally O Report cont.



as enthusiastic as she could be but still managed to get a Master Class pass of 91 points and fourth in the ring under judge Gordon Parsons.

On Sunday, 1st October at the **Melton Dog Obedience Club** there was a cold wind blowing but the predicted showers for the afternoon did not eventuate. Overall it was good trialling conditions, cloudy and cool. In the morning, Bella achieved a nice score of 97 and fifth in the ring under judge Mark Klecka. In the afternoon, under judge Kim Houlden, Bella achieved a nice score of 96 to give her the eighth Master Class score over 90 towards the ten needed for her Rally Obedience Champion title. We are slowly but surely getting there.

Well done Jacinta and Bella. I can remember you starting out on the Rally Champion quest and it doesn't seem that long ago! Only two further 90+ scores to go.

Following on from the previous weekend's success in her first trial Cindy Christensen and her dog Riley participated in the **Frankston Dog Obedience Rally O Trial** at KCC Park today, 8th October.

In **Rally Novice** Cindy and Riley scored a perfect 100! What a way to follow up your first trial result. Fantastic effort Cindy.

Fantastic news from the **Werribee Obedience Dog Club Trial** held on Saturday 21st October – Jacinta Burke and Bella achieved their final two qualifying scores to attain the **RALLY OBEDIENCE CHAMPION TITLE!**

Congratulations Jacinta, it's been a long haul with many ups and downs along the way. Here's Jacinta's report on the Werribee Trial:-

Well we have good news.

At Werribee in the morning trial Bella got 92 and second place in the ring. In the afternoon, we didn't do quite as well having to do two retrievals but thankfully we had 90 points which was enough for her to pass for her Rally Obedience Champion. I was absolutely thrilled. She is now a **Rally Obedience Champion and a Triple Champion**. As far as we know she is the first corgi (not just Cardigan Corgi) to do so. I am so proud of my little girl. So we didn't have to go to Eastern's trial which was just as well given the weather!

We're all waiting to hear what's next for this brilliant team.

Gary McArthur
Rally O Coordinator



"Old dogs, like old shoes, are comfortable. They might be a bit out of shape and a little worn around the edges, but they fit well."

Bonnie Wilcox



Tracking Report

Kennel & 'call' name	Owner	Date	Venue	Grade
Tammyscott TD (Tammy)	Pam Scott	26.8.2017	Dogs Vic State Tracking Trial, Inverleigh	T5 Pass

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.

Snake Alert

Reprinted from Manningham Leader

With the weather warming, pet owners are being urged to safeguard their animals from snake bites. Australian Veterinary Association spokesman Dr David Neck said snakes tended to be more active towards the end of the day, often the time residents were taking their furry friend for a walk. Dr Neck said owners should keep their dog on lead close to bushland and clear rubbish or places snakes could hide. 🐾



Do you want a trophy?

All handlers whose dogs have gained a title since 1st April 2017 are entitled to a trophy which will be presented at our 2018 AGM. Simply send Ingrid Krueger jrtmum@gmail.com a copy of your Title Certificate.

If you wish to be considered for one of our Perpetual Trophies, please make sure that you give a list of all the passes you have received since last April and qualifying scores you have earned to Ingrid Krueger – jrtmum@gmail.com – Please remember she does not have E.S.P.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



2017

Nov	Sun 5	Melb Cup Weekend - NO TRAINING
	Tue 21	7.00pm Committee Meeting
	Sun 26	Fun Day - All classes at 9.15am
Dec	Sun 3rd	Open Obedience & Rally Trial
2018		
Feb	Sun 4th	CLUB RESUMES

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