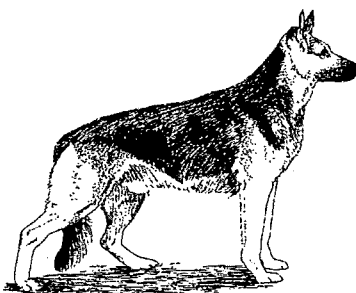
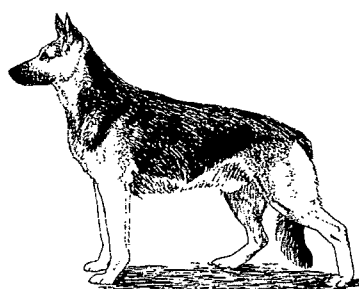
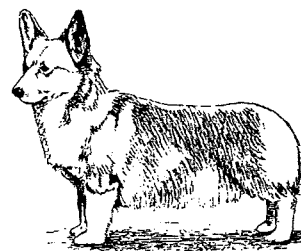
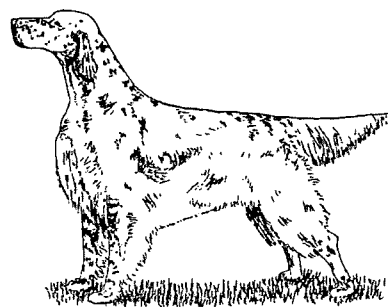
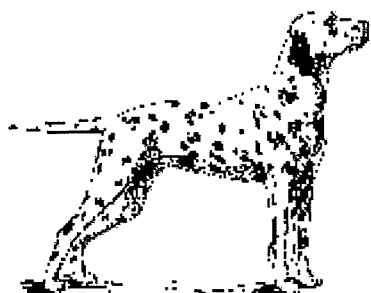


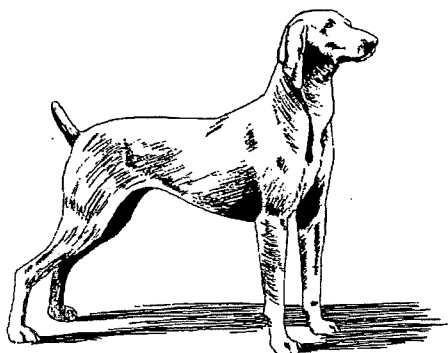
# FAITHFULLY YOURS



**ESTABLISHED 1954**

incorporation No A5419H

ABN 79 874 613 605



**Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc**  
**Breakwater Road, Belmont Common**  
**GEELONG VIC 3220**  
**Phone: 5243 4555**

**February 2007**

**Issue No**

**174**

**GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC****Patron – Mr Fred Lehrmann****Office Bearers for 2006/2007**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Jim Ball	5248 4154	Public Officer
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT (1)</b>	David Gravalin	5248 5480	Training
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT (2)</b>	Debbie Schultz	5245 6155	Administration
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Lyn Wills	5282 3129	
<b>TREASURER</b>	Stephen Eldridge	5261 2820	Property Officer
<b>TRIAL SECRETARY</b>			
<b>AGILITY</b>	Pam Convery	5229 0145	
<b>OBEDIENCE</b>	Luba Hopkins	-	
<b>GENERAL COMMITTEE</b>	Scot Everett	5241 3171	Canteen Manager
	Peter Baker	5221 1524	Equipment Manager
	Victor Douglas	5241 5401	Grounds Manager
	Helen Read	5248 4889	Hall Manager
	Sandy Malady	5221 5784	Publicity Officer
	Leonie Kelleher	0417 358 149	Social Secretary
<b>NON-COMMITTEE</b>	Tina Button	0414 363 556	Training Supervisor
	Jenni Peppin	0413 011 822	Membership Officer
	Elaine Longshaw	5255 4603	Minutes Officer
	Alex Shackleton	-	Shop Manager
	Barbara Thorogood		Training Manager
	Vacant		Bar Manager
	Robyn Youl	5367 6415	Librarian
	Peg Pope	5229 6511	Assistant Librarian
	Jenny Chase	5229 2818	Newsletter Editor
	Alan Pescott		Webmaster
	Bernie Thomas	0438 068 202	Raffle Steward

*The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of the Editor or the Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc. All Committee and Sub-Committee reports bear the name of the respective Club Officers. The Editor and/or Committee reserves the right to correct, alter, re-arrange or refuse, without prejudice, any copy submitted for publication.*

Weekday Office Hours:- Thursdays, 2.00pm to 6.30pm

All correspondence should be addressed to:-

**THE SECRETARY**  
**PO BOX 186**  
**GEELONG VIC 3220**

If you would like to contribute articles etc. for publication in "Faithfully Yours", please forward them to The Editor, c/- the above address, hand in at the office or email to [chaseja@ncable.net.au](mailto:chaseja@ncable.net.au)

Please remember the closing date for all Newsletter items is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month



**Club website – [www.godc.org.au](http://www.godc.org.au)**

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## NEW MEMBERS

The Committee, Instructors and Members would like to welcome the following new Members who have joined the Club recently. We hope you enjoy your training.

<u>Member</u>	<u>Dog's Name</u>	<u>Dog's Breed</u>
Catherine Taylor & Shane Olsen	Jesse	Border Collie
Barry Hauenstein	Max	Jack Russell Terrier
Jerry Nurzinski	Bronte	Labrador
Debbie & Keith Murray	Cobber	Labrador
Pamela Blick	Molly	Border Collie
Andisha Coppan & Martin Butterfield	Dexter	Golden Retriever
Anthony Harrison & Christine Harrison	Talon	Staghound X
	Mara	American Bulldog
Gwenda Hansford	Carlos	Poodle
Paul Chapman & Laurel Smyth	Cooper	Boxer X Labrador
Penny Scott & Kaye Widdowson	Archie	Rottweiler
	Daisy	Corgi X
	Bethan	Poodle
Carolyn & Alan Tompkins	Bella	Boxer X Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Bryony Herbert	Pip	Border Collie
Tonia & Bene Cochran	Vesi	Red Heeler X
Julian Percy & Rebecca Wakeling	Coco	Labrador X Kelpie
Monika Fraser	Karly	Boxer
Jessica Marshall	Shelby	Kelpie X
Wade Mortensen & Briodu Scottles	Austin	Border Collie
Kaz Paton	Polly	Kelpie X
Marg Williams	Mac	Miniature Poodle
Joan Crosbie	Tasha	Border Collie X Aust Cattle Dog
Zoe Barth & Suzanne Windsor	Coco	Staffordshire Bull Terrier X Whippet
Andrea Neale	Angus	Border Collie
	Bronte	Border Collie

## CLUB CALENDAR

### March

Sunday	4 March	Normal training. Class 1 Intake. Puppy Intake for fully vaccinated puppies under 6 months
Monday	5 March	Agility Trial training. Equipment setup 5.30pm
Tuesday	6 March	Obedience Trial training – 7.15pm
Sunday	11 March	<b>LABOUR DAY WEEKEND. NO TRAINING</b>
Thursday	15 March	Newsletter closes for articles, reports etc.
Sunday	18 March	Normal training.
Monday	19 March	Agility Trial training. Equipment setup 5.30pm <b>Instructor's Meeting – 7.30pm</b>
Tuesday	20 March	Obedience Trial training – 7.15pm
Sunday	25 March	Normal training. Newsletter available
Monday	26 March	Agility Trial training. Equipment setup 5.30pm
Tuesday	27 March	Obedience Trial training – 7.15pm

## CLUB INSTRUCTORS

*Vice President (Training)*

David Gravolin

*Training Supervisor*

Tina Button

*Assistant Training Supervisors*

Desma Dickeson

Colin Humphreys

Joan Brophy

Leonie Kelleher

Moira McNair

Fred Lehrmann

Victor Douglas

Val Moeller

Sandy Malady

Kim Ciezarek

John Shields

Kath Devlin

Pam Convery

Helen Read

Ray Millard

Robyn Everett

Andrew Wallace

Trish Gavaghan (Agility)

Peter Baker (Agility)

Glenys Murray (Agility)

### Welcome to our Trainee Instructors

Anne Macrae (Agility)

Jenny Chase (Agility)

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**"He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion"**

**-- Unknown**



**REPORTS****REPORTS****REPORTS****REPORTS**

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**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Well, the New Year is under way. As it is a dry month please be careful of snakes under the trees and out in the oval areas. Make sure you have water available for your dog and don't leave them in your car as the temperature in there can rise substantially in a very short time. There are dog boxes available for you to use. If you can help out in the Canteen on Sunday mornings please see Scott. He will appreciate all the help he gets. Also please help out at our upcoming Agility and Obedience Trials if you can. See our Trial Secretary Pam for details. That is all for me. Happy training and good luck.

**Jim Ball**  
**President**

**TRAINING SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

Hi everyone, we have been back a month and the main issue has been the weather with the extreme hot days. Again there have been reports of dogs left in cars. Heat stress in dogs is not nice and often leads to collapse and death. If it is not necessary for you to take your dog then leave them at home with plenty of water and shade.

Each month I will be adding a few tips on dog management, this month the topic is heat stress. Signs to look for- Heavy panting (mouth wide open, tongue fully exposed)

- dog will try to get maximum intake of fresh air
- unstable on feet
- wet print from sweating out of pads
- Collapse, eyes unfocussed. (this is extreme stress)

If your dog shows any of these signs on a warm day, be sure to only let them drink small amounts of water, if they take it. Place dog in cool water up to their belly or get them to lay down on a cool towel in the shade or inside and of course if you are concerned call your Vet.

Over the next couple of months we will be having weekends where there is no training due to Labour Day and Easter. Take note of what your Instructor tells you and keep practicing. April's Promotion Day will appear in no time.

In June we will be having a Workshop with Steve Austin. Keep an eye out for the flyer with all details.

Finally, Good Luck to everyone entering trials over the next month.

Happy training

**Tina Button**  
**Training Supervisor**

**TRIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Just a quick report regarding the decision of February's General Meeting. As I said in my last report, the perpetual Agility Trophy was full and the Meeting voted to stay with just one Trophy for Agility Dog of the Year, with the same points system used in the past, applying to Agility, Jumping and Games. Our Patron, Mr Fred Lehrmann, has kindly offered to donate the perpetual

## REPORTS

## REPORTS

## REPORTS

## REPORTS

Trophy. The Meeting also asked the Trial sub-Committee to make any decisions regarding changes the 2008 schedule and we will meet in the near future to make the necessary alterations.

Don't forget the request for Specialty Sashes for our Agility Trials or Obedience Trials. If you would like to donate a sash I will need to know by Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Monday night Agility and Tuesday night Obedience training are both back in full swing and everyone is working towards the first VCA Trials of the year. The Obedience group have around 25 Members attending each week, which is a combination of both VCA Trial Members and Club Graduate Members and they are all working well together. Don't forget if you are unable to attend training either let your Instructors know or leave a message on the Club's answering machine. There is also an attendance sheet available for the Obedience group if you know in advance that you will not be attending.

Our "How you can help at the Trials" Sheet will be out at the end of March. There are usually a wide variety of jobs to fill and we would really appreciate your help, even if it is only for an hour or two. Trials are a great way of seeing where your training is heading if you wish to become competitive, but even if you have no desire for Titles, Trophies and such, just to see really good dogs and their handlers working is well worth the effort.

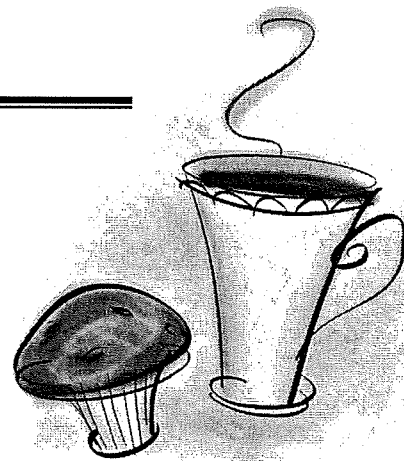
**Pam Convery**  
Agility Trial Secretary



## CANTEEN CAPERS

*Hello. To every one returning after the Xmas break,  
WELCOME BACK!*

*To new members, I'd like to introduce myself & extend a personal welcome to you all. My name is Scot Everett. I've been the Canteen Manager for only a few months. My wife & son, Robyn & Scott have been in the G.O.D.C. for a couple of years now, so we're pretty much new comers, although we've owned dogs for most of our lives. Robyn's father, Ron, worked in the office at the Kennel Control Council many years ago & I am a groomer by trade. Please make use of the Canteen while you're at training, we provide hot tea & coffee, cold drinks, hot food & snacks. The Canteen is of course a fundraiser for the club. The Canteen along with other fundraising activities help us to both keep pace with increasing costs & to keep membership fees as low as possible. Every second week Cathy lights up the BBQ for a Sausage Sizzle over the interval break, \$1ea, BARGAIN!*



*I encourage you to find time on Sundays to come down to the club grounds a little early. Grab some smoko & watch the first session, stroll around & watch the different classes from the sideline. I promise you'll be enthused when you see what you & your dog can learn to do, with patience & perseverance. Feel free to talk to members about what their dogs are capable of during interval.*

**CANTEEN CAPERS (continued)**

The G.O.D.C is NOT merely a training organization! We are a club & love people to become involved, ask questions & join in the fun. There's so much more to take part in than 'Obedience Training'. While 'Obedience Training' is the starting point - because before going on to any of the other disciplines, your little darlings MUST be controllable 'OFF LEAD'. You may like to go on to Agility, Tracking or Fly Ball, or to go further in Obedience Training & become involved in Obedience Trials. Please feel free to pop over to the Canteen if you have any queries. I'll point you in the direction of the best people to talk to, in relation to your particular inquiry.

Over the Xmas break the canteen floor was ground & treated with special two pack paint. The end result is excellent much easier to clean & a life time warranty will save a lot of time & money for many years to come. Thank you to those who helped move things out of & back into the canteen & to those who were here to oversee the work. Due to work & other commitments I was unable to be present.

Looking forward to a great year @ G.O.D.C.  
Scot Everett

# Julz Embroidery

For all your embroidery needs  
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Mobile: 0412 170094  
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Bath towel (70cm x 130cm)	\$20
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(varies according to size)  
Towels available in beige, mocha, brick red & mid blue

**A big Thank  
You goes to  
Julz  
Embroidery  
for supplying  
GODC with  
some  
fantastic  
prizes which  
were  
presented at  
our End of  
Year Club  
Dog  
Olympics  
2006**

## GENERAL MEETING - 6<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2007

---

Meeting opened: 8.04pm

**Apologies:** D. Schultz, J. Wong, D. Gravalin, L. Bruton, T. Button, Millard family.

Acc: C. Davies

Seconded: J. Brophy

Carried

### Business arising from the Minutes

1. Julie Hovell's advertisement should have been placed in the last Newsletter but the information had not been passed across to Editor from Committee.

Acc: A. Shackleton

Seconded: L. Kelleher

Carried

### Correspondence Out

1. Helen Read regarding Club agreeing to using Clubrooms for Animal Actors Workshop.
2. Helen Read regarding her concerns for Club's financial situation.
3. Jenny Chase regarding publishing general meeting's financial report in the Newsletter.

### Correspondence In

1. Department of Human Services – Smoke free guide.

### Business arising from Correspondence

Nil

### Treasurer's Report

S. Eldridge read written report and asked that all accounts be passed for payment.

Acc: J. Brophy

Seconded: C. Davies

Carried

### Other Reports

Canteen Manager:	Written report
Display Team Leader:	Nil report.
Hall Manager:	Nil report.
Grounds Manager:	Nil report.
Publicity Officer:	S. Malady advised that volunteers were required for Wheat Bix Triathlon on February 26. Five volunteers had already accepted, and she would go around classes on Sunday to see if there were any other takers. Each volunteer will get \$25.00.
Raffle Steward:	Nil report.
Shop Manager:	Nil report.
Social Secretary:	Nothing currently planned. Members should watch Notice Board / Newsletter.
Training Supervisor:	Nil report.
Trial Secretary Sub-Committee Report	Committee met on January 15 <sup>th</sup> . Written report submitted.
Acc: J. Brophy	Seconded: S. Malady
	Carried

### General Business

1. P. Convery reported that Agility Dog of the Year perpetual trophy was now full, and wanted to know whether this should be continued, or should there be three trophies provided. Discussion followed and it was agreed to stay with the one trophy of Agility Dog of the Year. F. Lehrmann offered to donate, as sponsor, the cost of providing a new perpetual trophy for this title.
2. Agility Trial for next year has been gazetted as Anzac Day. A new date to be arranged.
3. Trial Sub-Committee organizing dates for July Trial (July 26 & 27).
4. M. McNair spoke about the Surf Coast Shire's new dog laws requiring all owners with dogs to carry a poo bag at all times whilst out or face prosecution. Further meetings will ensue between the



independent group of dog owners organized to approach the Shire and present their views.

5. A. Shackleton has obtained further information regarding the grant application as discussed in previous meeting.
6. "Please Give Me Space" vests were obtained from the Animal Expo and shown to Members in attendance. General discussion followed regarding their use.
7. It was moved by A. Shackleton that the Club order 1-2 vests in each available size to be placed in the Club shop should they be recommended for Members' purchase.

Seconded: P. Convery

Carried

8. F. Lehrmann asked what the ruling was in regard to 'action shots' appearing in Club photos on walls. This was discussed and no 'action shots' other than those using Club equipment are to be displayed.
9. Heat Policy was discussed. VCA has NOT set rules. Common sense should prevail. The Training Supervisor can curtail training or it can be done on the day.

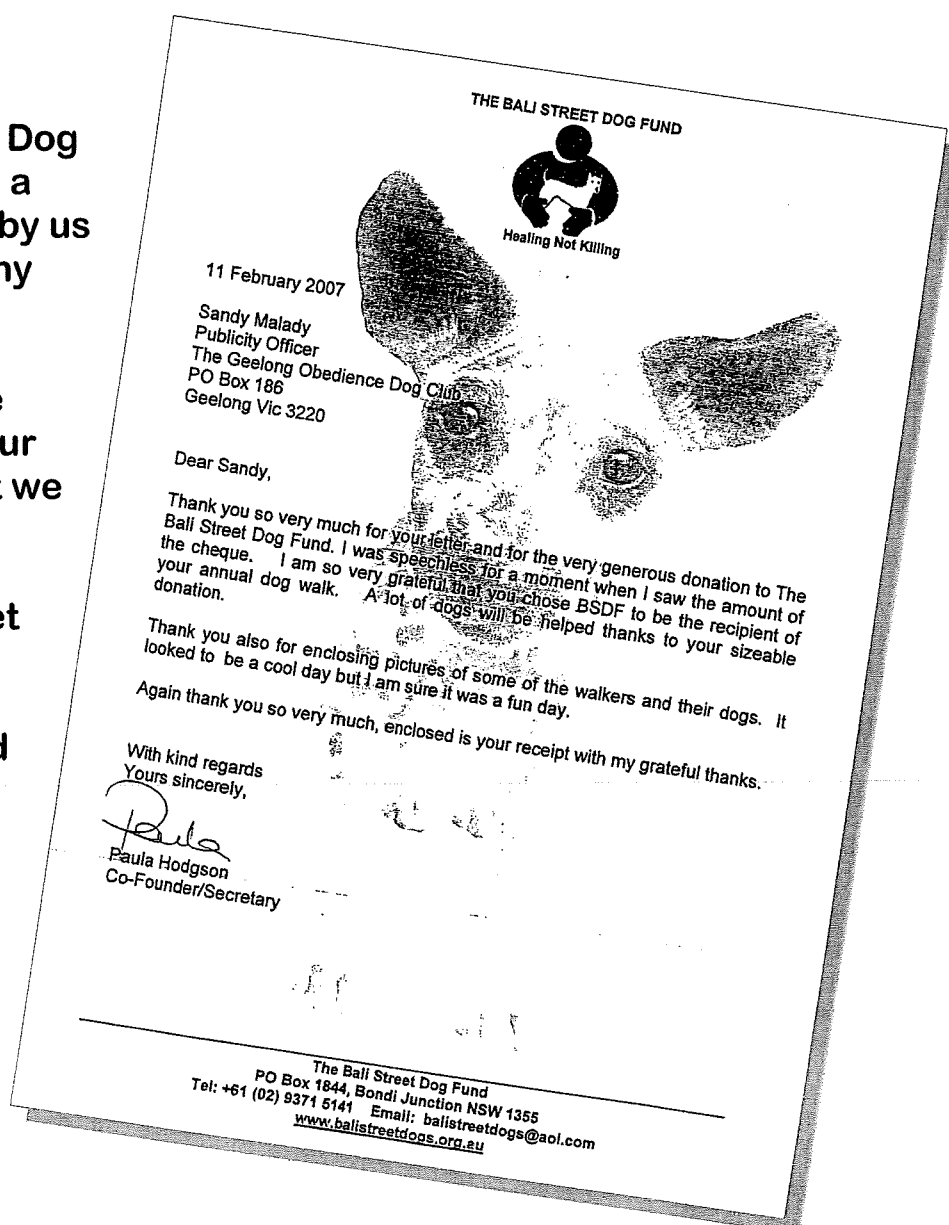
As there was no further business the Meeting closed 9.02pm.



**The Geelong Obedience Dog Club Annual Dog Walk is a charity event that is run by us to raise funds for a worthy cause.**

**The 2006 Walk was once again well attended by our Members and as a result we were able to donate \$691.05 to this year's recipient - The Bali Street Dog Fund.**

**The Bali Street Dog Fund is a totally non-profit organization and every cent they raise goes directly to medicines and food for the dogs and cats of Bali.**



## LIBRARY NEWS

Our generous donor of fifty breed and training books has replied to the personal thankyou card I sent him. Because of his enormous knowledge of dogs I think he would be a marvellous keynote speaker at an Instructor's Inservice Day.

He is currently researching pit bulls, staffords and bulldogs. David Archer is a canine researcher who spends - in his own words - "a lot of time (and money) researching". He is a valuable human resource and we need to sequester his involvement with our Club.

Yes, I have read all of his books - and gained an enormous knowledge of dogs I had vaguely heard of but had never bothered to pursue their genetics, their history or temperament.

The collection on the Spitz breeds is absolutely brilliant reading. When you tie this into books about Wolves and Wild Dogs, the connection is so clear.

Why ever did I not think of this before.

The Geographical range of the Spitz/wolf breeds is incredible. Across the northern regions - America/China/Japan, the People of the Deer in Alaska, and then it spreads southwards and as the dogs move into warmer climates they become smaller but are still recognised as Spitz breeds. Call them if you like - mini wolves. Altered by the need to welcome a small Spitz into a family home while retaining the guarding temperament.

Their coats were altered for cosmetic concerns - for colour and texture. Their bodies became shorter coupled - because they were fed by humans they no longer needed the length of loin and strongly angulated hindquarters to hunt or pull a sled.

They retained the depth of chest. A dense double coat BUT a skull that was short haired. Over time the angulation of the eyes was altered to become more forward looking and that breeding changed the structure of the skull to accommodate the new eye position.

### **LIBRARY COMPETITION**

*Answer the Question - WHO ARE THE MINI SPITZ BREEDS?*

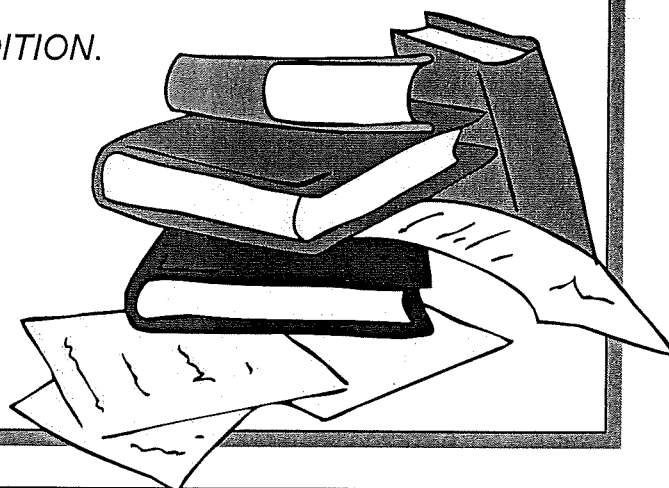
### **PRIZE TO BE WON**

**JACK LONDON - HIS COMPLETE WORKS.**

**- A SUPERBLY BOUND COLLECTOR'S EDITION.**

*Please submit your entry at the Library which is located inside the main building. The Library is staffed by our volunteers between the first and second training sessions each Sunday. The competition winner will be the first correct entry received.*

**Happy Heeling - Robyn**



## A Wag's Tail

*... as dictated by "Wolf" the Poodle, to  
Kayelle, His Human.*

I went to Nana's yesterday, spent the night, and have just come back home with her.

They are both drinking the 'steamy stuff' and Nana is and telling tales on me. Where is my privacy? Where is my freedom to express myself?

My so-called "Darling Nana" told Kayelle that I made her get out of bed four times through the night, just to let me into the garden for no good reason at all, that I didn't even wee. Kayelle says that Nana shouldn't have been "sucked in". My own mother has betrayed me!

And THEY speak of loyalty.

\*

I try to sleep, but Kayelle wakes me up all the time by snuggling her face into my hair. Then she says stuff like "Oooh you smell beautiful! Like baby powder!" and the worst of all is when she croons "Kissy-wissy-wissey in your widdle widdle ears!"

It might be good to pretend I need to throw up at these times, but I need to be kind.

I suppose sometimes she can't help herself, poor girl. She should have had a litter or two of puppies, but it looks like I'm IT!

I don't WANT to smell like "Baby-Bloody-Powder". Just because I'm a poodle and I don't smell like a Real 'Smelly Dog'- does NOT mean that I don't want to. If she would just take me to an old dead rotting animal, I would happily roll in it and come back home feeling complete, but she hasn't done that yet, not even once! It's HER fault that I smell like a sweetie little girl-dog bitch.

If she let me smell like the True Boy-Dog that I am, I could get a decent nights bloody sleep.

\*

Brad is staying at our house for a while. He is my Very Special Friend.

He looks and smells like he is very tough... like what I truly am inside of my 'Poodle Outer-Being'... that's why I love him so much, and that's the reason I have to roll around in his clothes as if they are Dog-Nip. I want to get his Very Macho Smell on me.

Unfortunately he is also a little bit disrespectful - he laughs, because he doesn't think that I am as Macho as he is. I will prove one day that I am - by biting his nose. Very hard indeed! Then the whole world will know how Very Macho I really am as a Poodle.

\*

We visited Brad again yesterday, and I liked the smell of his Big Manly Boots. For a start, they are made out of Dead Cow which is good in itself... but it gets even better! After he has worn them for a whole day, they have the exquisite Aroma of Dead Cow PLUS Sweaty Man! Nothing gets better than that.

So, as they had a friendly chat together, I



**A Wag's Tale (continued)**

stuck my head right inside of one boot because I have heard that one can reach the 'Ecstasy of Heaven' by such methods. Unfortunately, such promises often misfire... there is a price to pay.

I got my head stuck and had to run around the room to try to get it off. It was not a nice experience at all, and I will try very hard not to be tempted again. I wish they didn't laugh at me... I'm just a sweet innocent little poodle who deserves love and understanding.

\*

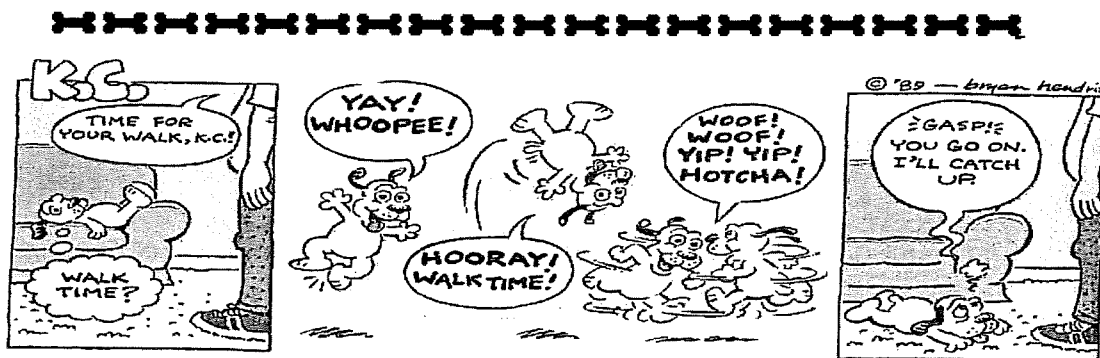
Ear hair? Ear hair? What do you mean ear hair! How rude. I'm French! O.K. ... so I'm originally German, but the French would never have taken us Poodles on if we had ugly Ear Hair. I once saw a dog in the bedroom,

on the back of the door, that did exactly what I did when I did it. When I barked, he barked. When I growled at him, he growled back. I stepped to the side, he followed me... I ran away then turned back to tell him off, only to find that he faced me head on and challenged me... cheeky bugger!

Now THAT dog had BAD ear hair! HE aughta have his ear hair plucked! NOT ME.

NOOOOO!

*This piece was written by Kayelle. It is the second of a three part series. The final installment will be appearing in the March 2007 edition.*



## CLASS TIMES

**First Session**

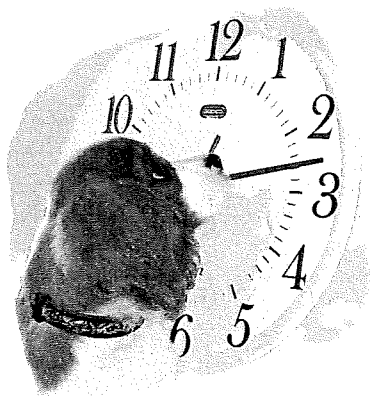
9.15am to 10.15am

Puppies under 6 months  
Merit - Merit Revision - Graduate  
Graduate Revision - Advanced Agility  
Tricks Class - Social Class

**Second Session**

10.45am to 11.45am

Beginners - Beginners Revision  
Agility Foundation - Beginners Agility  
Intermediate Agility



*So that you can get the maximum benefit please be in your designated area with your dog prepared and ready to start on time. In classes where equipment is used offering your assistance with the setup will reduce delays.*

## Phoebe vs the Leaf Blower



Apex Bette Ya Bottom Dolla (Phoebe) – Apex Boxers Dunedin NZ

Printed with permission

*All members should be aware of the need for canine social skills before, during and after Class. Your dogs are your responsibility and canine etiquette and lifestyle skills are just another part of the learning process.*

*Don't make the mistake of assuming that because in your eyes, your canine companion is the most sociable creature going, that all dogs are the same. Or, that your sweet social companion is really the angel you imagine. By observing the social skills below your four-legged friend will become the welcome visitor, instead of the one you wish to avoid.*

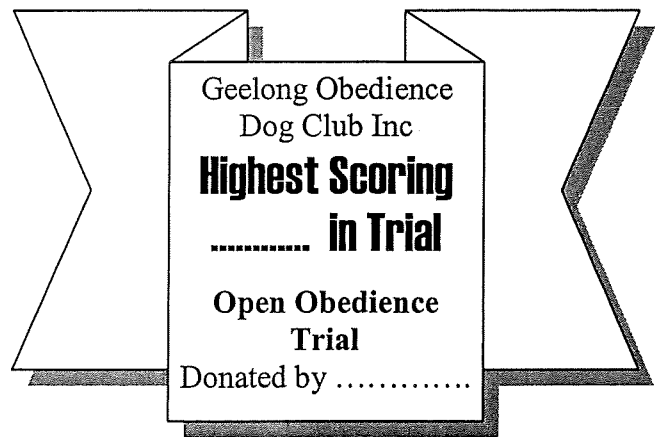
## CANINE ETIQUETTE

- Not all dogs like the “in your face” attitude of other dogs. Having another dog bound at them face on and putting paws on the back are considered very bad manners in dog terms and usually result in an angry response, particularly from a more mature dog. Sadly, it is often the mature dog that is labeled an angry dog and one to be avoided, when all he/she is really saying is – “where are your manners?”
- Not all dogs like their space invaded and some don't like the space of their handler invaded either, as they often feel the need to be protective, again resulting in an angry response.
- “Eye-balling: (the fixed stare) is also unacceptable behaviour, as this is seen as a challenge in dog terms and particularly if one or both dogs tense their body, rise up on their toes and generally make themselves look more threatening. Unless you are constantly aware of your dog's

**Canine Etiquette (cont)**

behaviour these early signals can go unnoticed, resulting in two dogs lunging at each other. By being vigilant you can avoid these situations by turning your dog away, breaking the eye contact and giving him/her something to do like a sit, drop or stand and then rewarding for the attention he/she has paid to you.

- If you would like your dog to meet another dog, sit your dog beside you and ask the handler if it is okay, BEFORE releasing your dog to play. If the answer is "No" please respect the owners decision as there is probably a very good reason, which may not be obvious.
- Do not allow your dog to approach a dog that is tied up and unattended.
- If you are talking, always be aware of what your dog is doing at the end of the lead. Often we become so involved in our own social activity that we forget that our four-legged friend has his or her own social activity going on at the same time at the end of the lead.

**SPECIALTY SASHES**

*Members are invited to donate a Highest Scoring Sash for their particular breed at our Agility, Jumping and Games Trials in April or at our Open Obedience Trials in July.*

*The approximate cost per Sash is \$18.00 which also includes a printed Donor acknowledgement.*

*There is a surprisingly wide selection of colours to choose from. A chart and samples are available at the office. Please see our Trial Secretary, Pam Convery to order your Specialty Sash.*

*The closing date for placing Specialty Sash Orders for the 2007 Trials is Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2007.*

**ADVERTISING RATES FOR "FAITHFULLY YOURS"**

Advertisements are restricted to a maximum of 12 half pages per issue.

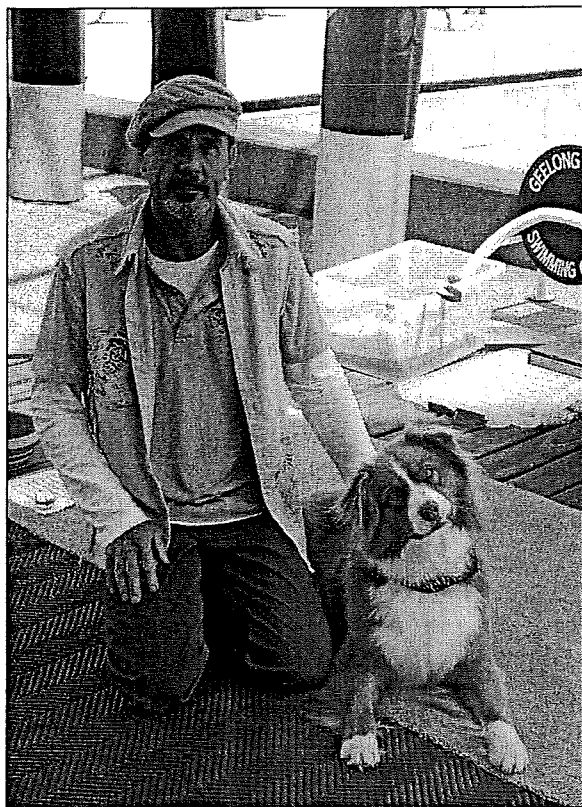
**RATES**

Up to 1/8 page Line Advertisement	1 Edition	\$ 2.00
Half page Advertisement	1 Edition	\$10.00
Half page Advertisement	12 Months      6 issues (bi-monthly)	\$50.00

Half page "Title" and "Vale" notices are provided free to all Members. Copy must be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. If you would like photos etc returned, please provide a suitably sized SSAE.

*Please note that we do not advertise puppy litters.*





## WOWING THEM AT SKANDIA GEELONG

Skandia Geelong Week was held 26 – 28 January. It is the biggest keel boat regatta in the southern hemisphere. This year the theme “above and beyond sailing”, included events both on and off the water and attracted a significant non sailing audience. This annual event draws over 400 yachts, 4500 competitors and some 100,000 visitors to the Geelong Waterfront area.

The Shoreside Entertainment Program for the weekend listed 60 live acts including a number of Roving Performers. ‘Dog Trix with the Amazing Amigo’ was amongst those booked to entertain. This proved to be none other than our very own Agility and Tricks Class Instructor Peter Baker with his Aussie Shepherd ‘Amigo’. They were a very

popular act. Peter was quite surprised with just how quickly and easily a crowd formed to watch them go through their paces. ‘Amigo’ was far from daunted by the close proximity of the audience and in fact proved to be quite the showman, enjoying his day.

If this has sparked your interest, why not join in with Peter and ‘Amigo’ and give the Tricks Class a go. It is held during the first session, most Sundays.

Requirements to join the Tricks Class: - You must have achieved your Merit Certificate, and be dedicated.



## VCA TRIAL RESULTS

**K9 Agility Club Inc – Open Agility, Jumping & Games Trial – Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2007**

**Excellent Snooker**

Jenny Chase

Tylker Ganesh CDX ADX JDX SD ET (Cooper)  
Boxer

1<sup>st</sup> Pass

3<sup>rd</sup> Place

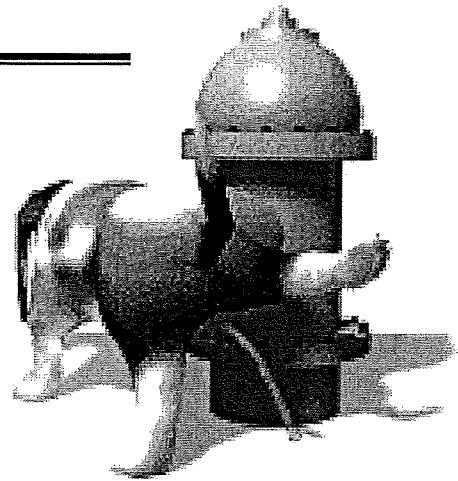
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## A POETRY PAWS

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### Piddlin' Pete

*by Leslie Sarony*



A famous dog once came to town  
Known to his friends as Pete  
His pedigree was ten yards long  
His looks were hard to beat

And as he trotted down the road  
'twas beautiful to see  
His work at every corner  
Every post and every tree

He never missed a land mark  
He never missed a post  
For piddling was his masterpiece  
And piddling pleased him most

The city dogs stood looking on  
In deep and jealous rage  
To see this little country dog  
The piddler of his age

They smelt his efforts one by one  
They smelt him two by two  
But noble Pete in high disdain  
Stood still 'til they were through

Then when they'd smelt him everywhere  
The praise for him ran high  
But when one smelt him underneath  
Pete piddled in his eye

Just then to show these city dogs  
He didn't care a damn  
He strolled into the grocers shop  
And piddled on the ham

He piddled on the cornflakes  
He piddled on the floor  
And when the grocer threw him out  
He piddled up the door

Behind him all the city dogs  
Debated what to do  
They'd hold a piddling carnival  
The hoop they'd put him through

They showed him all the piddling posts  
They knew about the town  
And off they set with many a wink  
To wear the stranger down

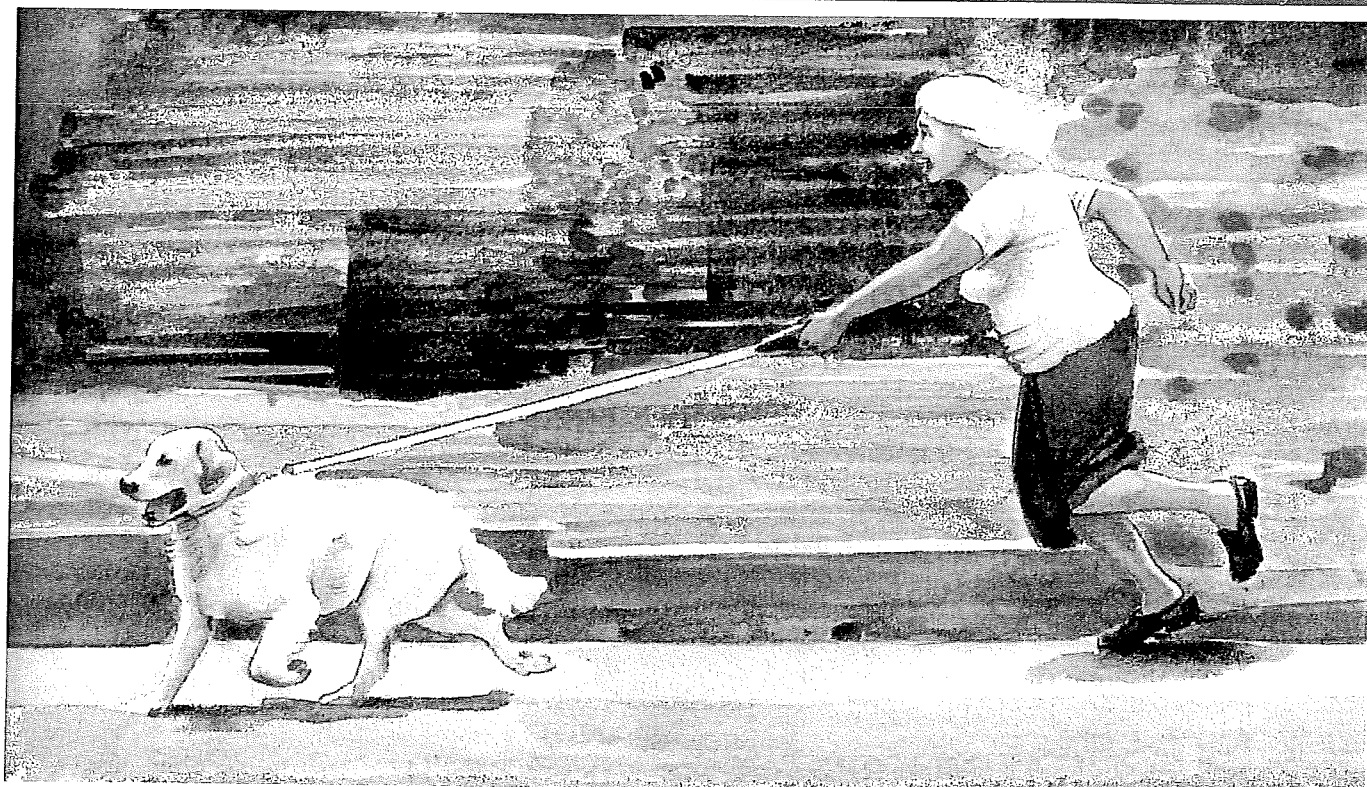
But Pete was with them all the way  
With vigour and with vim  
A thousand piddles more or less  
Were all the same to him

And on and on went noble Pete  
As tireless as a windmill  
And very soon those city dogs  
Were piddled to a standstill

Then Pete an exhibition gave  
Of all the ways to piddle  
With double drips and fancy flips  
And now and then a dribble

The city dogs said farewell Pete  
Your piddling did defeat us  
But no one ever put them wise  
That Pete... he had diabetes.





# WALKING THE DOG

By Roy Hunter

*Reprinted courtesy of Off-Lead Magazine,  
and Bendigo "Recall"*

Do we really need an article on walking the dog I can hear you say. Well, my observations of people indicate that we certainly do. Many, many people do not seem to know how to 'walk' with their dog. We get some over-keen obedience people who will not let their dog relax. We get the other end of the scale, where the dog dictates where, when and how he will walk, and others who just 'walk beside their dog', who would just LOVE a little ATTENTON.

Let us take the first category. I have seen for myself and been told by other people, of obedience handlers, walking their dogs (always to heel), accompanied by such commands as 'watch me', 'pay attention', 'don't sniff', 'leave that', etc. The poor dog is never allowed to be a dog. I have had dogs in for training that have forgotten how to enjoy. They don't know how to play. Charlie Wyant, the greatest, always said, "a dog that doesn't know how to play, won't

work". Some dogs just have never learned to play and seem disinterested. John Rogerson tells us that dogs can be taught to play! Anyway, let's get back to the obedience fanatic who won't let their dog play, but trains all the time, even when going for a walk. This dog may win prizes. This dog may do well in an actual competition where it works like a robot. But has it got any quality of life? Does the Judge take into account the manner of working? Would the dog, perhaps, work better if at times it was allowed to sniff the ground and learn what is going on around him. Or allowed to show an interest in a low flying plane, or allowed to look at a cat, etc?

The other extreme is where the dog takes the handler for a walk. Stopping wherever it wants for as long as it wants, constantly sniffing and peeing, pulling the handler along or lagging so badly that it has to be pulled along. You do see some very sorry sights. The handler stops to talk to a friend, the dog like a spoiled child says 'come on' and the obedient, well-trained owner/parent obliges. Or the dog, no longer being the centre of

### Walking the Dog (continued)

attraction, jumps on the other person (and we all know what co-operation we get from our friends. "Oh, that's OK. I've only got my old jeans on"). The dog, not only is allowed to sniff everywhere, it is also allowed to lick, thus putting itself in jeopardy.

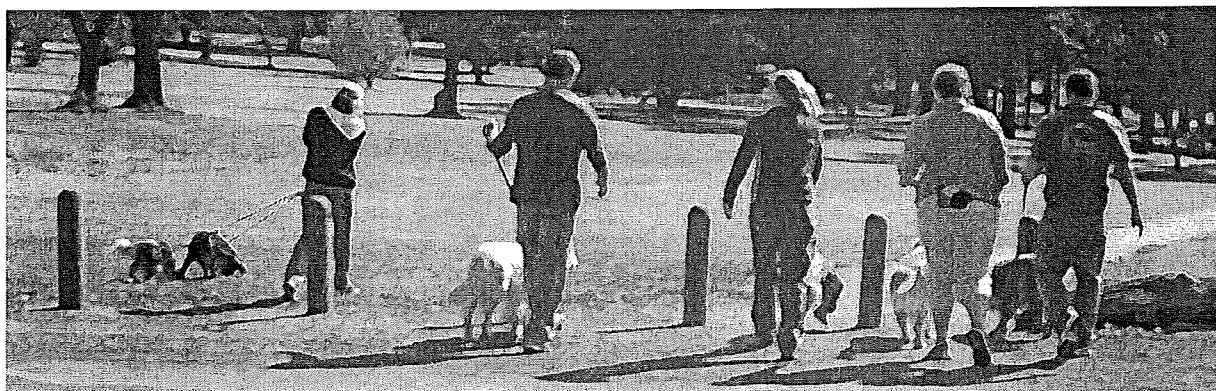
The idea of course is somewhere between the two. Firstly, we can use a walk to be with our dog, to give him some **QUALITY TIME**. Don't just walk along with the dog at the end of a lead, thinking our own thoughts and the dog thinking his own thoughts. Once in a while stand still and just fondle the dog's head, at the same time lightly passing your hand over his nostrils. Let him take scent from you. Every so often run backwards a couple of paces, calling his name like you did when you trained for the recall. As he approaches you, run forward again, turning him in towards you in an anti-clockwise circle and run forward a few paces. This will not only motivate and excite him and thus help make the walk more enjoyable, it is also going to make your "left hand finish" faster and more accurate. Another fun thing you can do on your walk is to spin your dog in an anti-clockwise circle. Use the leash, either guiding his head, or on the outside of his left stifle (thigh) to turn him through the circle. I use the command "Left Circle" and the dog quickly responds to the command. Later on you can introduce "Right Circle". This attention from you to the dog will increase the attention from dog to you. It will also increase the rapport between you. **BUT**, also give him time to do his own thing too.

We can use a walk for training purposes. We also have to acknowledge that a dog needs relaxation. The purpose of a walk is not so

(or just so) the dog can relieve itself. If you cannot train your dog to go to the toilet in your garden, then please pick up any solid material that he leaves in the street or elsewhere. We take him for a walk so that he can be a dog and investigate the environment. We, as humans, do this with our eyes. The dog does it with his nose. People look at pretty flowers, bright colours, etc. A dog gets his pleasure by smelling the canine equivalents. He must be allowed to sniff to live a full life. That does not mean he must be allowed to sniff whenever he wants to. We must control it. He must not be allowed to pull on the lead. But – this does not mean he has to walk 'to heel' all the time. He can go out in front. He can go wide. He can lag, provided that he does not make the leash tight. He can look about him; watch the cat lurking on the doorstep, look at low flying helicopters. Don't we? He can observe the flies buzzing around in front of him, greet another friendly dog. And so on.

Yes, we can use the walk for training purposes. We can also help our ring work by showing the dog the difference between work and walk. When he is walking he can do anything he wants, within reason, other than pull on the lead. When he is working, he has to be attentive to the task in hand. It is when we take him for a walk that we can make him aware of the difference. Now when we go into a training class, or an obedience competition, he knows where he stands. This is all he really needs, **TO KNOW WHERE HE STANDS**. This requires consistency on our part.

As part of our walk, a small part, we can train. We can have the dog walk 'at heel' formally for thirty or forty yards at a time, say twice,

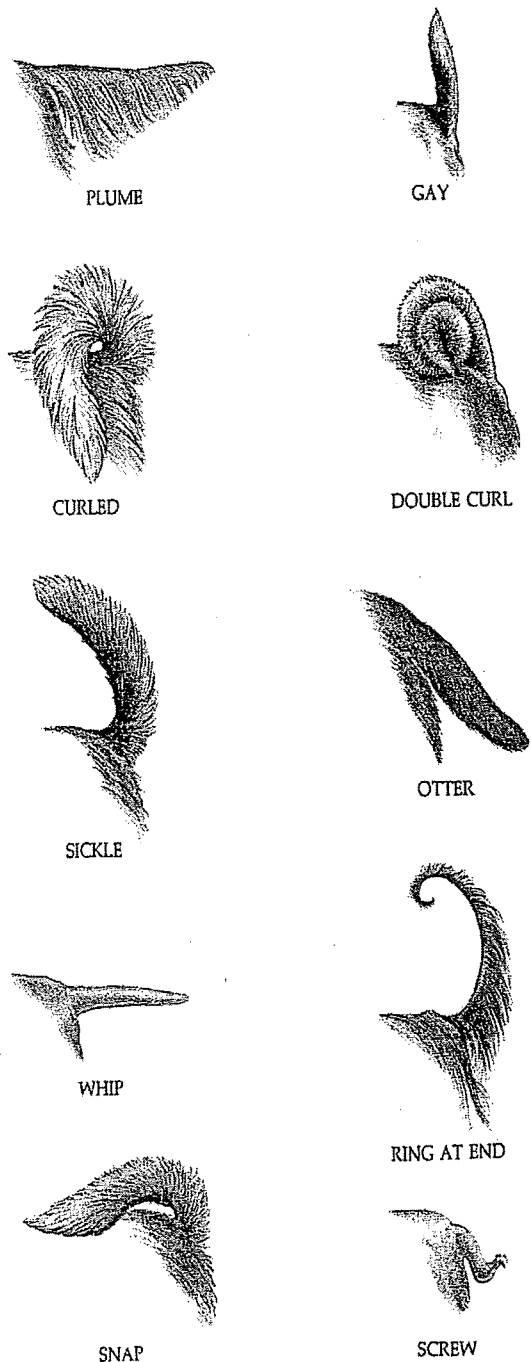


### Walking the Dog (continued)

on a mile walk. We can practice turns. We can do short recalls on the lead. We can do finishes. We can get eye contact with the dog sitting. I suggest that while doing the training part of the walk, you do not do 'downs'. Too many downs, associated with heelwork, can cause a lagging dog. However, 'downs' can be practiced during the walking part of the outing. We can use the relaxation of the dog to suddenly put in a 'down'. There is no need to shout but make your commands crisp. In this way, we can train for instant 'downs' and 'drops' on recall without affecting our heelwork. The recall can also be practiced as part of the going for a walk. When the dog is concentrating on something else, suddenly give your command, and if there is not a response within one second, he gets jerked towards you. Don't forget to praise or give other rewards.

We do not have to stand about for hours while the dog sniffs at what to him must be something really fascinating. You know the scene. The dog literally pushes his nose into the ground at a certain place and would be happy to stay there all day. I have said that the dog must be allowed to sniff. I also said that although we allow him freedom on a walk, we CONTROL it. With every dog I have come in for training, we quickly develop an understanding that when I say "enough", he has to pack up whatever he is doing and continue moving. I am consistent with my timing and he gets 10 seconds to enjoy his smell or whatever. I then command "enough" and he gets one second; to join me before getting a jerk on the leash. Most dogs, when they have been with me for one day, get to know for how long they can sniff, etc. Of course I do not interrupt them when urinating, etc.

We know we are using the walk, partly for the enjoyment of the dog and partly for his education. It is, of course, also good for us. We are getting exercise. We are getting fresh air. Would you go for a walk in all climatic conditions if you didn't have a dog to take out?



### Different Tail Types

**Q:** What do you get if you cross a dog and a cheetah?

**A:** A dog that chases cars - and catches them!





## AROUND ABOUTS



Right: Karen Millard and Madison take a short break

Left: Young Branko is focusing in well for Leonie Kelleher

### At Obedience Trial Training, Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2007 — Although

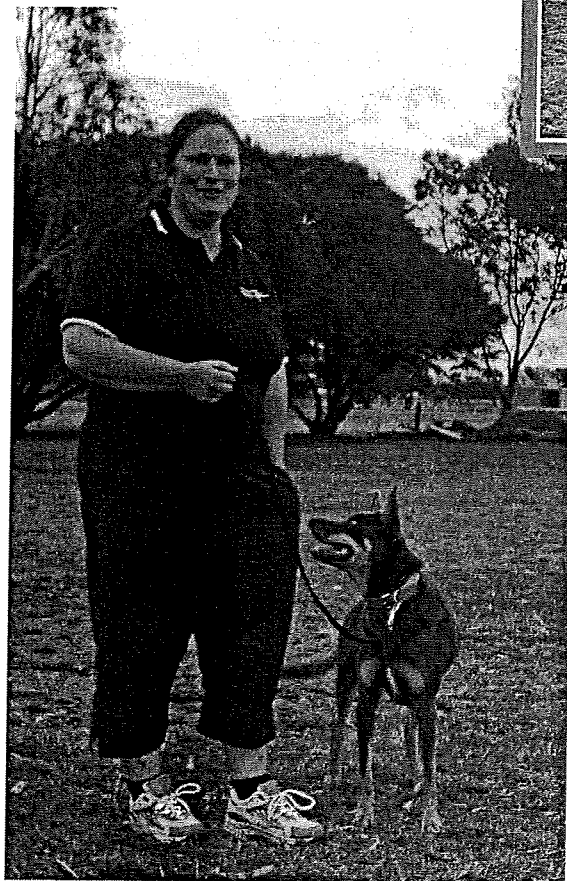
it was a drizzly evening quite a few Members turned up to work their dogs. Very soon the ability to train in the daylight will be gone, so everyone spread themselves out and made the most of this luxury while they had the chance.



Above: Golden Retrievers Bella and Brody and Rottweiler Kali practice a lovely Out of Sight 3 minute Sit Stay.

Right: Joy Mayhew and Janelle Convery discuss the Dumbell Retrieve.

Left: Are you getting something from the pocket? Club Secretary Lyn Wills and Dusty





# FLEA CONTROL

Dr. Chris Brown - Burke's Backyard 2004

Pet owners don't like to admit that their dogs have fleas. In fact, fleas can be very hard to see, particularly in dark coated animals. Here is an easy method of detecting fleas that doesn't cost anything and can be done at home. Wet an A4 sheet of white paper. Hold the paper next to your pet's rump (where fleas love to congregate). Ruffle the fur so that bits of dirt from the coat fall onto the wet paper. Streaks of red (wet flea poo) are tell-tale signs that fleas are present.

## Control Methods.

Flea control requires a two-pronged approach: both the pet and its environment must be treated. Only 5% of a flea population is on the animal, the rest is in the environment (10% pupae, 35% larvae, 50% eggs).

## Non Chemical

There has been very little credible research done on herbal treatments. Their only potential use is as a deterrent to fleas on a flea-free animal. They may be the safest for humans to use, but their effectiveness at this point in time is doubtful.

The most effective "non-chemical" flea control is daily vacuuming of all the hard to reach places, including sofas, beds, mattresses, cushions, curtains and doormats. Used in conjunction with proper topical controls, vacuuming will help to reduce fleas and eggs in the environment. Special attention should also be paid to the animal's

bedding, which should be washed in bleach and aired to dry regularly.

## Chemical

The older generation of topical flea control products (especially organophosphate baths and powders) is now completely obsolete. The latest treatments are top-spots, which are much safer for both pets and humans. These are topically applied chemicals that disperse through the skin's oils. They are applied monthly. They include Advantage, Frontline and Revolution. They all kill fleas around 24 hours after a flea has bitten a treated animal. Frontline also sterilizes any eggs that may be laid in the 24 hour period after drug contact, so it may provide more efficient environment control. Frontline also controls ticks when used every two weeks.

Use a flea bomb to treat the pet's environment. These may be very effective means of control, but prolonged exposure or ingestion can be harmful so it is important to follow the directions closely. Cover fish tanks, remove pets, close cupboards, don't leave food out and wipe down food preparation surfaces after application. Stay out of the house for at least two hours after using the bomb, and air the rooms after returning. Exposure to particulate matter in the bombs is a health risk, so allow the dust to settle. It is also important not to leave any pilot lights on or naked flames burning.



**Reminder!**

## Club Membership Cards

Members please note that it is a Club requirement that you wear your Membership Card at all times when on the Club grounds. If you leave your Membership Card at home you will need to call into the Office to collect a day pass before attending your Class.

# VCA TRIAL SCHEDULE

## March 2007

*Subject to Amendment*

Please Note :

(S) Showgrounds, Epsom Rd, Ascot Vale, Vic 3032 Melway Ref 28 E12

(P) KCC Park, 655 Westernport Highway, Skye Vic 3977 Melway Ref 128 J12

Date	Fixture	Affiliate	Venue	Judging	VicDog
Sat 3	REST TO BREED OBEDIENCE TRIAL	ROTTWEILER CLUB OF VIC	(P)		
	AGILITY TRIAL	KNOX OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB		9.00am	
	INSTINCT TEST	SOUTHERN OBED DOG TRAINING CLUB			
Sun 4	REST TO BREED OBEDIENCE TRIAL	RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK CLUB	(P)	8.30am	Jan
Sat 10	REST TO BREED OBEDIENCE TRIAL	GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB	(P)	8.00am	
	AGILITY & OBEDIENCE TRIAL	WARRNAMBOOL DOG TRAINING SCHOOL			Jan
	LURE RACING & EARTHDOG PRAC	LURE RACING & EARTH DOG CLUB	(P)		
Sun 11	AGILITY & OBEDIENCE TRIAL	WARRNAMBOOL DOG TRAINING SCHOOL			Jan
Sat 17	AGILITY TRIAL	BAIRNSDALE & DISTRICT OBED CLUB		9.00am	
	OBEDIENCE TRIAL	SOUTHERN OBED DOG TRAINING CLUB		10.00am	
	OBEDIENCE TRIAL	SOUTHERN OBED DOG TRAINING CLUB		2.00pm	
	HERDING INSTINCT TEST	VICTORIAN HERDING ASSOCIATION			
	TRACKING TEST	TRACKING CLUB OF VIC		7.15am	
Sun 18	AGILITY TRIAL	BAIRNSDALE & DIST DOG OBED CLUB		8.30am	
	TRACKING TEST	TRACKING CLUB OF VIC		7.15am	
	OBEDIENCE TRIAL	WARRINGAL OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB			
	TWILIGHT LURE COURSING	RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK CLUB	(P)	1.00pm	
Sat 24	OBEDIENCE TRIAL	GISBOURNE & DISTRICT OBED CLUB		9.30am	
	RETRIEVING TRIAL	LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB			Mar
Sun 25	OBEDIENCE TRIAL	KNOX OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB		9.30am	Jan
	RETRIEVING TRIAL	LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB		7.45am	
	HERDING INSTINCT TEST	VICTORIAN HERDING ASSOC		8.00am	
Sat 31	AGILITY TRIAL	BORDER COLLIE CLUB	(P)	8.30am	Feb
	DOUBLE OBEDIENCE TRIAL	BALLAARAT DOG OBED CLUB		9.00am	
	EARTHDOG TEST	LURE RACING & EARTH DOG CLUB	(P)		Feb