

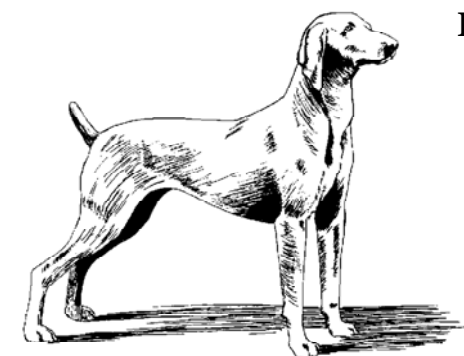
FAITHFULLY YOURS



ESTABLISHED 1954

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

June 2009
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201

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC

Patron – Mr Fred Lehrmann

Office Bearers for 2008/2009

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VICE-PRESIDENT (2)	Vacant		Administration
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TREASURER	Heather Cook	52296867	Property Officer
TRIAL SECRETARY	Paul Gearon	52296867	
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	Theo Rain		Equipment Manager
	Victor Douglas	5241 5401	Grounds Manager
	Barb Pownall	0418993203	General Committee 1
	Jim Ball	52484154	General Committee 2
	Alex Shackleton		Shop Manager
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	Brendan Jagtenberg		Webmaster

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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 **Pam Convery at jcgret@ozemail.com.au**

Please remember the closing date for all Newsletter items is the 15th of each month

Club website – www.godc.org.au



CLUB CALENDAR

July

Saturday	4 July	Trial Working Bee commencing at 9.00 am
Sunday	5 July	Normal training. Class 1 Intake. Puppy Intake for fully vaccinated puppies under 6 months
Friday	10 July	Trial Working Bee commencing at 5.30pm
Saturday	11 July	OPEN OBEDIENCE TRIALS
Sunday	12 July	OPEN OBEDIENCE TRIALS. <u>NO TRAINING</u>
Wednesday	15 July	Newsletter closes for articles, reports, etc
Sunday	19 July	Normal Training
Monday	20 July	Instructor's Meeting - 7.30 pm
Sunday	26 July	PROMOTION DAY

August

Sunday	2 August	Normal training. Class 1 Intake. Puppy Intake for fully vaccinated puppies under 6 months
Tuesday	4 August	General Meeting – 8.00 pm unless otherwise advised

CLUB INSTRUCTORS

Vice President (Training)

Sandy Malady

Training Supervisor

David Gravalin

Assistant Training Supervisors

Sandy Malady

Kim Ciezarek

Obedience

Joan Brophy

Leonie Kelleher

Colin Humphreys

Victor Douglas

Val Moeller

John Shields

Helen Read

Kath Devlin

Wendy Ganly

Desma Dickeson

Andrew Wallace

Agility

Trish Gavaghan

Glenys Murray

Alex Shackleton

Simmon Hellebrand

Lyn wills

Anne Macrae

Peter Baker

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

**When you quiet the outside world, your own
heartbeat may deafen you.**

**If your work becomes play then what will your
play become?**



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to the new Members, I hope you achieve your goals here at Geelong.

The time has come to ask Members for assistance at our Obedience Trial which is to be held on the 11-12th July. We are also requiring assistance at our working bees on Saturday 4th July and Friday 10th July. If you have any time to spare please see Paul our Trial Secretary.

We will be holding a First Aid course in dogs later in the year, If you are interested in attending please let me know. It will most likely be held on a Sunday after Classes and cost will depend on the number of attendees.

Thank you to the Members who contributed to the Walkathon, close to \$500 was raised.

Finally, I would like to wish all Members competing at the Obedience trial - good luck, I hope the Geelong crew gain Passes and Titles. All Members are welcome to come down and spectate, just remember that you cannot bring your own dog unless you are competing.

Until next time

Tina Button –President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Steve Austin weekend was a great success as always. Thanks must go to Tina for all the efforts she puts in.

Not a great deal has been happening but remember we do have a Promotion Day coming up next month, so start training. Well done to Janelle Convery and Rookie on your CCD Title.

I will be missing for a few weeks as I am having knee surgery on July 1st, thanks to my beautiful 89kg St. Bernard, Maddison who, in the process of playing with me, fell on my knee and has caused some damage. So take care, see you all soon and happy training

Karen Millard – Secretary

SHOP MANAGER'S REPORT

Sales have been slow but steady in the shop in the last couple of months. The new range of Club clothing offers some toasty-warm options for these winter months – why not buy a Club fleece beanie to keep you as warm as your furry mate!

Stocktake sale is now on! Please help save the Shop Manager from having to count *everything*.

A small range of old-style Club clothing is on special at below cost price. Come and grab a bargain. Other items are on sale on the small table – prices as marked.

Feel free to come in and browse. Shop times are:

8.30am to 9.00am

9.45am – 10.15am

11.45am – noon

All shop profits support Club activities!

Alex Shackleton - GODC Shop Manager

ALCOA FOUNDATION

Often the time and effort of our Volunteers are not recognised enough in the community. This is not the case at ALCOA. Over the years, the generosity of ALCOA FOUNDATION is second to none in funding various communities and charities such as, local hospital projects, sporting or musical events, environmental programs, community education, disadvantaged schools, etc.

But it doesn't stop there. For many years now, Alcoa has been encouraging its employees to become Volunteers in the Community through a number of different programs. The Bravo! Program recognises Alcoa employees who perform more than 50 hours of Volunteer work in their own time by giving a donation of US \$250 to the organisation where the Alcoaan performs their voluntary work.

So, next time you rest your bones or socialise with your friends on the Club's lovely new benches, ponder for a moment and applaud both, Theo's efforts as a Volunteer and ALCOA's generosity towards our Club.

Editors note: Prior to joining our Club, Theo was a volunteer for the Salvos.



CLUB RAFFLE
WIN A 2 DAY STAY AT
“THE GLEN”

AIREYS INLET

PET FRIENDLY ACCOMODATION

PRIZE VALUED AT \$ 700
DRAWN 12TH JULY 2009

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE.



LOYALTY

Author Unknown

You can't buy loyalty, they say,
I bought it though, the other day
You can't buy friendships, tried and true
Well just the same, I bought that too.

I made my bid and on the spot
Brought love and faith and a whole job lot
of happiness, so all in all
The purchase price was pretty small

I bought a single trusting heart,
that gave devotion from the start
If you think these things are
NOT FOR SALE
Buy a brown-eyed puppy with a wagging tail.





VALE

“BRIDIE”

I received Bridie for Christmas from my wife in 2001. She was a 7 week old bundle of fluff who only wanted to cuddle up under my jumper all the time.

Off we went to Puppy School, where she learnt her initial socialisation and obedience training. Following this, Bridie and I completed the Beginners Class and then passed the Merit Class.

However, Bridie had a strong mind of her own and so we didn't quite make the Graduate Class. Formal recall was a challenge to her, but she often performed the recall at home or at the beach, which was a favourite place, as she enjoyed swimming in the ocean and running after the ball.

As with most Border Collies, Bridie was a very active dog and enjoyed going for a run with me. She was a very special companion for me and loved by all the members of the family. Her gentle and warm nature endeared her to everyone she met.

Unfortunately, Bridie developed arthritis causing a severe spinal problem, which was painful and beyond repair, so sadly she was put to sleep on Thursday 28th May 2009. Farewell Bridie

Victor Douglas – Instructor and Grounds Manager

Cesar Millan Seminar

Friday 12th June a few Instructors and Committee took a trip to Melbourne to Cesar Millan live on stage at the Hisense Arena.

Cesar is well known for his work with Oprah Winfrey, his TV series “The Dog Whisperer” on the Bio channel and he has also written a number of books.

The Seminar consisted of seven topics ranging from discussions about dogs in general to specific needs of owners and dogs and rehabilitation techniques. There was approximately an hour of practical where Cesar worked with local dogs with issues from aggression to timidity.

He is an entertaining speaker and his Seminar was strongly based on pet dog owners and problems they encounter. His knowledge is extensive in rehabilitating dogs. He clearly states that he is not a trainer, he rehabilitates dogs with behaviour problems.

The Club library will have a copy of two of his books and his DVD's available for borrowing.

I would like to thank Paul and Heather for being our taxi drivers at short notice, and to the Instructors who attended with an open mind.

Tina Button

Indoor Winter Games

Karin Larsen Bridge. Reprinted from Dogs Life July/August 2003

Your dog's favourite activity is probable walking, right? But what do you do when it's just too cold or dark or wet outside? Staying motivated to walk in winter is often hard for people, yet many dogs thrive in the cooler weather, feeling more energetic than ever. Next time you stagger home from work hardly able to lift your feet, only to be greeted by your best buddy beating his leash or ball for action - why not put aside a bit of time for some indoor fun?

There are literally hundred of things you can train your dog to do in the comfort and safety of your own home, ranging from 'serious' obedience manoeuvres to fun tricks and games.

In most cases your dog will learn a new lesson better if he's first taught in the relatively distraction free environment of your home. Not to mention the mental stimulation will tire your dog more effectively than physical exercise. Now you've got the perfect excuse to grab your training bag and stay inside away from the rain.

Basic Training

Some exercises are considered fundamental **behaviours** that all dogs should master to ensure they are safely under control. The most popular are the three positions, sit, stand and down. By teaching three positions rather than two, your dog will never know which position you are going to ask for next. This keeps the training game much more interesting!

- Level 1:** **Sit** - standing in front of your dog, move a food treat above your dog's head. As the head goes up the bottom goes down - 'sit' happens!
 Stand - hold a food treat directly in front of your dog's nose, then, slowly move it forward in the same line - 'stand' happens!
 Down - hold a food treat in line with your dog's nose, move it slowly down between his paws - 'down' happens!
- Level 2:** Drop the food lure and use your hand in exactly the same way. Reward your dog after each successful position change.
- Level 3:** Repeat the procedure with your dog at your left side.
- Level 4:** Add movement, walk forward before asking your dog for 'sit', 'stand' or 'down'.
- Level 5:** See if your dog will respond to the hand signal only and/or the word signal only.
- Level 6:** How much distance can you add? Will your dog sit, stand and drop on your cue from 10 feet away?
- Level 7:** Will your dog respond if you are sitting in a chair? Lying down? What if your dog is behind you? What if he can't see you?

Position changes are simple yet they can be made more challenging by moving up a level. Next time your dog's starts begging for attention, give him 15 position changes in quick succession – all with a lovely smile on your face and a juicy treat at the end. Still begging for more? Go for 15 more minutes.

It's amazing how quickly your dog will decide the bed in the corner is looking pretty good again.

Targeting

Targeting is a very useful and an easy skill to teach your dog, and requires very little space.

Indoor Winter Games (continued)

The easiest thing to teach your dog to 'target' is your hand. You want to get your dog to touch your hand with his nose whenever you present it in a special way - such as a fist rather than a normal open hand.

To start, put a treat in your hand and close it to form a fist. Standing just in front of your dog, drop your fist down a few inches from his nose. It is highly likely that your dog will reach forward and sniff, immediately praise and give your dog the treat. Repeat, this time with your fist a little further away, so your dog must move a little to reach out and 'touch' the target – again, reward immediately. If your dog fails to reach the target quickly, take your hand away, move around a few steps then try again. Your hand dropping in and out of his line of vision is likely to attract him, as too the smell of the treat, so if he hasn't noticed your hand, don't just leave it dangling – remove it and try again. If your timing is good and your treats are tasty, your dog will soon be moving several feet to touch his nose to your fist.

The next step is to remove the treat from your hand and repeat, keeping the rest of your gestures exactly the same. If your dog touches your fist – reward immediately from the other hand. This way your dog is learning that even though he may not be able to smell a treat in your fist, he will still get a reward from reaching out and touching.

When your dog is reliably touching your hand every time it is presented, you can add your 'cue word' – "touch". You can make this exercise harder by holding your hand up high so he has to jump for it or down low so he has to crawl under a coffee table or chair. Swap hands; make sure your dog is happy to move towards either hand.

Now you have an invisible lead or lure, which can direct your dog towards you wherever you are. Targeting is most common method of training and handling performance animals such as seals, dolphins and other animal actors. Once your dog understands the principles of targeting, you can extend this repertoire to lots of other desired behaviours.

"Close the door please!"

Put a post-it-note or similar on your fist and get the dog to 'touch' as before, making certain the dog touches right on the post-it-note. Now, move the post-it-note onto a cupboard door and encourage your dog to 'touch'. Quite quickly your dog should transfer his touch from your hand to the cupboard door. Now open the door and ask your dog to 'touch' again. At first reward any attempts to put the nose to the door, then slowly reward only stronger pushes – soon your dog will be shutting cupboard doors around the home more reliably than the kids!

"Go find Mum!"

Start training this game by having 'Mum' or another person standing directly opposite you about three to four meters away. Get Mum to hold out her fist while you cue 'go touch'. When your dog is happily running to whoever holds out their fist, change your cue to include the name of the person – "Mum, go touch". Reward immediately the dog touches the target, slowly increase the distance and start moving around corners.

As your dog starts to understand the game you can change your cue to something simple like "find Mum"! Now for the fun part! Hand your dog a 'secret message' (or your dirty socks) and tell him to 'Find Mum'. Mum might not be impressed, but I'm sure your friends will be, and so will your dog with this terrific rainy day game to include the whole family members. Eventually your dog will learn the names of everyone one in the household.

Your dog 'nose' best

Scenting games are a perfect indoor activity and your dog is sure to love them. The dog's sense of smell is truly amazing. No technology can come close to matching the dog's ability to track and identify different

Indoor Winter Games (continued)

smells. The good news is that as your dog already knows how to use his nose (and loves to do so), all you have to do is find fun ways to put it into action.

Hide and seek

This is a great way to expend lots of mental and physical energy indoors. You can hide food treats, favourite toys or even people.

Start with a yummy treat or favourite toy. Show it to your dog and tell him to 'sit stay' (or get someone to hold him). Hide the object somewhere simple, such as under a pillow or behind a table leg. At this point your dog is allowed to watch. Go back to your dog and release him in an excited voice with a cue such as 'Find it'. Your dog will race to the hiding spot, feeling very clever. Reward him for his 'find'.

Repeat several times, hiding the treat in different places. Next, remove your dog from the room while you hide the treat in one of the places you used before. Bring him in and tell him to "find it!" Your dog will rush around looking for the treat. Depending on how 'smell orientated' your dog is, he may first 'look' in the previous spots but soon he'll realise the quickest way to 'get the goods' is literally to follow his nose. There are lots of variations to this game. If you prefer, you can hide multiple treats, then allow your dog into the room while you encourage him to 'find' them. Your dog may spend quite a lot of time double-checking he hasn't missed any with this one! If you hide a toy, reward your dog with a short game, or if you hide a person they might want to also reward the 'find' with a little treat.

Once your dog understands this game, it can develop into a traditional game of hide and seek with one person hiding and your dog looking throughout the house. My Border Collie goes crazy for this game, not only does he get to use his nose, but in his mind he is seeking out and 'rounding up' the stray sheep - opps, I mean kid!

The Ball in the Bucket

Remember the old trick using three cups when you have to guess the one that has the pea under it? If your dog has been playing hide and seek, he'll learn this game in a snap. Put a favourite toy or treat under a light plastic beach bucket. Tell your dog to "find it!" Next, add a second bucket and a third and repeat it. At first, your dog may knock all the buckets down to find the ball, but soon he will learn he can save himself the effort by using his nose – reward heavily when he gets it right first time.

Which one smells like me?

It's easy for your dog to identify your scent on an object. The more recently you have touched the object, the 'hotter' your scent will be. Your job is to teach your dog that he will be rewarded for choosing an object with your scent on it, over an object without your scent. (To avoid putting your scent on an object, you need to not touch it or use gloves or tongs).

Show your dog two objects; say two dowels - one with your scent on, one without. If your dog goes to take the scented object, praise him and reward him. If he chooses the unscented dowel, say nothing, pause and try again. Next, put the dowels on the ground and ask your dog to "find it!" – again, praise and reward for the right dowel and ignore any mistakes. Before long your dog will understand that only the object with your scent on it earns a reward. At this point you can start adding more dowels and/or other objects. Your dog should eventually be able to find your scent even among a hundred or more objects!

My dog can spell – can yours?

It's easy to use your dog's scenting abilities to make them look like a genius. Buy a set of alphabet letter in wood or plastic. Take out letters of the word you want your dog to spell and handle them freely to

Indoor Winter Games (continued)

scent them. You might ask your dog to spell his name or yours, or ask him “what kind of animal are you?” The other letters should be kept clean – avoid touching them with your bare hands as much as you can (use gloves or tongs). Get an assistant to lay out all the letters, then get ready to impress as your clever dog picks out the letters of your chosen word. They may not be in spelling order, but hey – still pretty good for a dog and most people will never guess he’s using scent to do it.

Speak to me

Most dogs can be taught to speak or bark on cue quite easily. What prompts your dog to bark naturally? Is it the doorbell? Or maybe, dinner being made? Waving a toy in front of him? Getting the lead out? Encourage your dog to bark using one of these prompts, as well as a visual signal such as opening and closing your hand. Reward and praise as soon as you get the faintest noise. Repeat your signal and reward for any response.

As your dog gets the idea, save your reward for the loudest or quickest responses. If you need an “off switch”, wait until your dog has barked a few times, then say ‘enough’ in a quiet voice, accompanied by a different hand gesture such as a finger to the lips and follow immediately with a treat. Work on both the ‘on’ (bark) and ‘off’ (quiet) switch, rewarding both intermittently. This is often an effective way to improve problem barking and also a great way for a barker to let off steam at a time that suits you!

Different cue words will give this trick a different ‘feel’, for instance “speak” has a different feel to “**alert**”, which has a different feel to “sing for your supper”. In every case the dog is simply barking on cue, but people listening will perceive it a different way. A useful way to spend a rainy day.

Fun Tricks

There is no limit to the number and variety of simple tricks you can teach your dog in the quiet and comfort of your own home. Tricks such as shake hands, wave, roll over, play dead, roll up in a blanket, carry a basket, sneeze, spin, scratch, beg, weave through your legs, ‘put away your toys’, just to mention a few. Let your imagination run wild.

Quick Fixes

Absolutely exhausted? All right, cheat a little and get out an activity ball filled with treats. Dogs love to roll these balls around trying to get the dried treats to fall out. Another alternative is to tear rags into long strips. Roll into each strip a little treat and tie into knots. Make the bundle as tight as possible and then give it to your dog to explore and dissect. Most dogs become really absorbed trying to reach the hidden delectable treats. In some cases the center treasures could be a tennis ball or other popular toy.

Share a Feel-Good Moment

There's more to life than running around and playing games. Had a tough day? How about a little touch therapy? Get a glass of wine and a doggy comb and incorporate a good grooming/massage session into your after work wind-down. Your dog will love the attention - after all, a snuggle on the couch is what being an indoor dog is all about.



Goorambat Excalibur CCD

'Rookie' - Golden Retriever

Whelped: 10/12/2007

1st Pass – Berwick Obedience Dog Club 17/5/09 – 94pts – 1st Place

2nd Pass – Knox Obedience Dog Club (AM Trial) 15/6/09 – 96pts – 1st Place

3rd Pass – Knox Obedience Dog Club (PM Trial) 15/6/09 – 92pts – 2nd Place

When Rookie came to live with us as an 8 week old puppy, he was always looking for cuddles and even now as an 18 month old it is still his favourite past time.

His mental development has been fairly slow, but his performances at Knox recently, proved that there is light at the end of tunnel.

Regardless, he is still a delight to live with and as they say around the Trial rings, you always bring the best dog home. On to Novice now, which will really test out the maturity.

Janelle Convery



the



THE 4 D's – Train for a Reliable Response

Help your dog become reliable in all situations by varying the practice situation. Most trainers call this “proofing” the exercise. Try not to change more than one aspect of an exercise at once. The typical variables for Obedience exercises all start with the letter D. Change only one “D” at a time.

DELIVERY – of reward

Very early on in the training you will want to randomize the delivery of your reward. Start to reward only the very best of the behaviours. If you're changing another D Criteria, you may want to go back to delivering the rewards on a higher ratio.

DISTANCE

The “come when called”, if the dog is 3 metres away from you. Now it's time to try moving away a little further.

DURATION

The dog is steady on her Sit Stay for 15 seconds, now it's time to try extending the exercise a little.

DIVERSITY - of context

The dog performs well in her usual, calm training environment (home, yard, Obedience Class), now it's time to complicate matters a little by introducing distractions or taking her to a new training site, which is distraction enough in itself. Will she walk as nicely on a slack leash in the park, as in your back yard? Will she sit and stay in your living room if you walk to the closet and put on your overcoat? Will she come if called while the doorbell is ringing?

As you're increasing one criteria, decrease another. For example – If you are working on Diversity, decrease Distance and Duration, but increase rate of the Delivery of the reward

Terry Ryan – Legacy by mail - Pullman, Washington

KID-PROOF YOUR DOGS, DOG-PROOF YOUR KIDS

Norma Bennet-Woolf - Top Dog Journal – November 1998

High pitched laughter peeling behind her, Nancy ran around the corner of the house smack bang into the dog chained by the garage. Unnerved by the noise and startled by the child, the dog lunged and bit Nancy on the nose. She screamed, and the dog bit again. Nancy ended up with several stiches to her face and nightmares: the dog was euthanised for biting and both families were traumatised.

The tragedy could have been avoided if Nancy's parents and the dog's owners had been prepared.

1. First of all, the dog should never be chained outside unattended. Most dogs of guard or working heritage suffer personality quirks when tied and many become downright aggressive. Dogs are better off in fenced areas, where they can see the barrier between them and the world, where they can feel somewhat safe from noisy, frolicking children.
2. In addition, many dogs instinctively equate the high-pitched sounds of children with the distress sounds of prey animals and they react by biting the child, as they would have bitten the prey animal in the wild.

Secondly, children should be taught how to behave around dogs, even if their own family does not own a dog. For example -

1. A child should never approach a strange dog without asking the owner if it's OK to pat the dog.
2. If a child sees a loose dog on the street, he should not approach it even if he knows the dog belongs to his friend. He should tell someone that he saw the dog, but should make no attempt to pat or grab it.
3. Nor should he scream or run away, for these actions can result in an attack by the dog. A running being frequently says 'prey' to the dog and triggers the chase response in his brain. Once triggered, this response is almost impossible to interrupt. The dog is reacting to chemical stimulus, not rational thought, and is extremely difficult to sidetrack.
4. Most dogs, even those that are well trained, do not consider children as figures of authority.
5. Furthermore, since children frequently stare intently at animals, a dog may feel threatened by this short person who is trying to catch him. Even the best natured dog may bite to protect himself in these circumstances, especially if he feels cornered.
6. Once a child is given permission to approach a dog, she should present her closed fist for the dog to sniff. This protects the fingers in case the dog is frightened and tries to nip.
7. Children should never hug a dog that is not their own, and should only hug their own dog very gently if the dog can tolerate the hug.
8. Children should be taught to never hit dogs with their hand or an object.
9. To lower their voices when playing with the dog.
10. To leave the dog alone when he's sleeping, eating or ill
11. To never tease a dog in any fashion. Many dog bites occur because the child teases the pet beyond endurance.

Dog owners share the responsibility for bite prevention as well. They should socialise their puppies to small children at an early age. It helps to buy from a breeder who has started this socialisation prior to puppy purchase, for the younger the puppy is exposed to gentle children, the more tolerant of children it will become.

The Many Attractions of Trialling

Active Dog – Author Gary Somerville

Just training your dog for general Obedience is a great idea, but taking them to the next level and regularly participating in Trialling adds a new dimension to the training.

Trialling involves taking your dog around a course of obstacle and tests your dog's obedience against the accuracy with the obstacles course. The reward is a strong sense of achievement from knowing that you can successfully train your dog and improve their character. Your dog also admires you more as the pack lead.

Trialling benefits both owner and dog as it tests the working relationship and ability on a competitive basis. Dogs are creatures of habit, so teaching them to walk alongside you in varying conditions – on or off the lead and with or without distractions – is a useful skill they will have for life.

Trialling is a good way to teach you and your dog how to develop the competitive spirit and is one of the few sports where males and females compete against each other.

Training and Trialling bridges the gap between you and your dog by creating a common bond of understanding and cooperation. Because your dog tries to please you it helps to ripen their personality, devotion and ability.



Training Clubs help to spread the good word on the right training and treatment of dogs as well as some good care techniques. It's also important to mention that it is an enjoyable leisure activity for owners as well.

Another great element to Trialling is that it allows you and your dog to visit various Trials around the country and introduces you to another group of dog owners. It is also the human way in which the basic characteristics of any breed can be polished and preserved.

I personally get a glow out of my involvement

Infact, the skills learnt through Trialling are very effective when it comes to training animals for acting purposes. Several of my 'students' have successfully appeared on television because they have achieved the highest level of Obedience.



Congratulations

Meinhard Breiberg 40 years of Club Membership

After a rough childhood in an orphanage, then being drafted into the Estonian Army at 17, Meinhard survived the war and Allied POW Camp and married Maria, a German lass. They migrated to Australia around 1951-52.

Virtually broke with 2 kids they took on any job that came their way to make the start for a new home which 'Jack of all trades' Meinhard built and Maria worked as a Nurses aid at the Geelong Hospital. In 1969 they both joined our Club and were very active Members, which later earned them both Life Memberships.

In 1970 Meinhard, Colin Kitchenmaster and I had a Meeting at my place to discuss a dream of mine and a plan that I had drawn to have a Clubhouse. Meinhard "volunteered" to be the builder/supervisor as he was by then a "brickie". Little did we expect him to totally involve himself in the task, he actually supplied lots of the materials needed. This generosity enabled us to build a bit bigger and finish within the time limit we had set. Apart from that he involved himself in all other areas, Committee, Supervisor, Instructor, President, Demo Team Leader as well as Grounds Manager. Maria ran the Kitchen for a long time until her illness stopped her in 1984.

Meinhard was and still is, in his heart, a Club person and a good friend of mine because he helped me to fulfil my dream. Straight forward and controversial at times, never the less the Club is deep in his heart, also disappointed in recent years in the way the old long time Members are shoved aside: but that is nature, the old dog is chased out of the pack.

I hope that I have the pleasure of his friendship and the Club an astute Member for many more years, perhaps to celebrate his 50th Anniversary.

For now, Happy 40th Anniversary. Fred Lehrmann

Congratulations also to the following longstanding Members, who have been Members for 30 years or more

Karl Heyne - 1/6/1954

Fred Lehrmann - 1/6/1954

Bernadine Thomas - 1/6/1963

Dorothy Tilley - 22/2/1970

Terhee Gordon - 1/6/1970

Bruce Cairns - 30/5/1971

Cath Davies - 25/2/1973

Lesley Spurr (Gaylard) - 8/7/1973

Colin Humphreys - 1/6/1976

Phyl Bergin - 2/10/1978

Jim Ball - 21/2/1979

Graham Douglas - 21/2/1979

Ray's Outdoors



Ray's Outdoors are offering Club discount
to all Club Members

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Thank you to Ray's Outdoors for their Club
support

What is BITSA?

BITSA (Breed Identification Through Scientific Analysis) is a leading-edge breed identification test that uses enhanced DNA analysis to provide an accurate history of your dog's breed*. It works by applying the latest DNA science to analyse hundreds of snippets of your dog's DNA where dog breed information is found. These snippets are then cross referenced against an extensive genetic database to provide a breed signature – or a series of breed signatures.

Breed Identification Made Easy

Safe and painless, the non-invasive cheek swab test is easy to complete and can be done in the comfort of your home. Simply rub the supplied cotton swabs on the inside of your dog's cheek, place it in the sleeve provided and put the sample in the mail and your BITSA results will be sent back to you.

BITSA Benefits

- Identifies the breeds that make up your dog
- Offers insight into behaviour and personality
- Uncovers potential health issues
- Applies a simple, safe and non-invasive sampling method
- Gives you the assurance of knowing who your dog really is
- Enables you to form an even closer bond with your loved pet

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For further information go to www.gtlaboratories.com/pets

Workshop/Seminar news

Steve Austin 23rd – 24th May.

A great turnout of Members, Instructors and Committee as well as visitors from other Clubs, the weather was chilly but fine. Steve gave an informative Seminar, with a combination of theory and practical on the Saturday and Practical session on Sunday.

Thank you to the Committee for their assistance in running the Seminar and to Wendy Mitchell for some wonderful photos.



Simbah doing scent detection. Lucky he's not a bomb detector dog

