FAITHFULLY YOURS



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February 2014 Issue No 250

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC Patron – Mr Fred Lehrmann Office Bearers for 2013/2014

| PRESIDENT VICE-PRESIDENT (1) VICE-PRESIDENT (2) SECRETARY TREASURER TRIAL SECRETARY | Roland Linford Jim Ball Brendan Jagtenberg Christine Jagtenberg Kathy Taylor Tina Button | 0438 414 917 52 411 886 | Public Officer Training Administration Property Officer |
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| | Stephen Eldridge Victor Douglas Bob Tunicliffe Doreen Linford Vacant | 0448415401 | Equipment Manager Grounds Manager Hall Manager Social Secretary/Publicity Officer Shop Manager |
| NON-COMMITTEE | Wendy Ganly Christine Jagtenberg Robyn Youl Stephen Eldridge | 0438 414 917 | Training Supervisor Membership Officer Minutes Officer Librarian Assistant Librarian |
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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.

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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 <u>Pam Convery at janelle.convery@bigpond.com</u>

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

Club website – www.godc.org.au



CLUB CALENDAR

February

| Sunday | 2nd February | Term 1. Training commences for all Members. |
|----------|---------------|--|
| Sunday | 9th February | Normal Training. |
| Saturday | 15th February | Newsletter closes for articles, reports etc |
| Sunday | 16th February | Normal Training. |
| Monday | 17th February | Instructor's Meeting - 7.30pm |
| Sunday | 23rd February | Normal Training. |

CLUB INSTRUCTORS

Vice President (Training) Training Supervisor Assistant Training Supervisors Jim Ball Wendy Ganly Helen Read Tina Button



Wendy Ganly

Heather Miller

Alex Shackleton

Julie Cooke

Karalyn Bell

Christine Jagtenberg

Obedience

Wendy Eck John Shields Victor Douglas

Trish Gavaghan Bev Petrass Susan Axe Doreen Brooks Val Moeller Kath Devlin Tony Stewart

Agility

Glenys Murray Vanessa Bridges Carole Sparks Sandra O'Hara

Rally O

Wendy Ganly

<u>Flyball</u>

Sally Hunt

Presidents Report January 2014

A big welcome to all our new Members who commence training on the 2/2/2014, and a big welcome back to our existing Members. I wish you all success with your training in 2014 and with the help of our band of volunteer Instructors I am confident you will achieve the goals that you set for yourselves and your dog, just remember these are our furry friends so have fun out there .This year 2014 marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of Geelong Obedience Dog Club and with your help we hope to make it a memorable year. The Committee has already started to put together some ideas i.e. 60th anniversary Trial, commerative pens and is still looking at more ideas , if any Member has a suggestion please feel free to see myself or any other Committee Member .

It was suggested at one of our Committee Meetings that we produce a "5 minutes with" type article of Committee Members for our media publications and as the President I got the dubious honour of being first cab of the rank so to speak.

5 minutes with Roland Linford

Q. Who is Roland Linford

A. I am a 64 year old retired Engineer. I worked for Holden for 26 years mainly as a Senior Quality Engineer and for a while Manager of Quality Services, responsible for the Laboratory (Chemical & Metallurgical analysis) Audit & Test (Engine compliance testing). & Geometric & Dimensional Checking Centres. I also have a Diploma in Advanced Statistics from RMIT. a qualified Internal Auditor recognised by Standards Australia and a qualified Health & Safety Representative.

Q. Married

A. Yes married to Dot for 34 years and have 3 children, 2 boys and a girl. Nick the eldest is a Civil Engineer and is currently on extended leave for 3 months in South America. Last heard of in some Inca ruins in Bolivia but was heading towards Peru to trek to the Machu Pichuu ruins. Ben also an Engineer works for Michelin Australia ,recently married spent his honeymoon touring Australia in a campervan that he converted himself (Dad helped to put the final touches to the conversion so they could start their honeymoon). Alaine our daughter and youngest child as got half a degree in Sports Management but decided to spend time skiing so spent the Australian winter working/skiing in Falls Creek and is presently working/skiing in "Whistler" Canada. Thanks to Facebook/Skype we manage to keep in touch with our children on a regular basis.

Q.What are your plans for 2014.

A. This being the 60th year The Committee and I will be working hard to make this another successful year. We again will be holding Committee Meetings every month as against every two months we find this way things do not get lost over time and jobs get done. A typical Meeting lasts for approx. two hours, previously we tried to keep our Meetings to one hour but found this impossible so resign ourselves to minimum two hours.

I have some personal plans for 2014. First off I have enrolled on a course with a Physiologist to try and lose weight (watch this space) secondly, Dot & I have decided to buy a caravan, and have decided that a European made van will meet our requirements so we are planning trips to Horsham /Dapto NSW/ and maybe Queensland depending were we find the van we want. **Roland Linford - President G.O.D.C**

Treasurer's Report

Firstly I would like to thank all the people who have helped out in our fundraising efforts this last year. Thank you too, to the Members who spent their hard earned money in supporting our fundraiser events. The Club could not do without any one of you. We have raised about \$3,500.00 so far this year, which will be put to good use improving and maintaining the Club and equipment. Keep up the good work. We have some expensive but important repairs and maintenance to attend to in the next few months so we are going to need lots of help with suggestions, organising and particularly you helping out where you can.

I hope everyone has had a wonderful Christmas and are getting ready to enjoy the next year learning lots from our wonderful Instructors to help you in training your dogs. They are a dedicated group of people who are willing to help/advise you with anything you need to know. Just ask. Remember there is no such thing as a silly question.

The Members doing Agility have this year worked very hard and have raised their own money to spend on upgrading the Agility equipment to the high standard required for competition and the safety of the dogs. Thank you Trish and your team of helpers for your efforts. Thank you to all the Members who supported their efforts by entering the Fun Agility events. Thank you Carole Sparks for organising the purchase of the rubber surfacing materials required. I believe there will be a working bee to renew the surface on the equipment as soon as possible so if you can help out that would be great.

Once again it is almost time for GODC to review the cost of Membership Fees. We need to make a decision this year about raising fees so that we can catch up with inflation ready for next year. The Committee will need to discuss this with you later in the year.

The inflation rate at the moment is 2.20%. In order to remain in the improved financial position we have managed to attain in the last 12 months the Club fees have to keep up with the cost of living. I suggest that as a matter of form the fees should be automatically increased each year in accordance with the inflation rate. That would mean an increase only of maybe \$1 - \$2 each year. If we leave it any longer to make a decision about this it would mean a bigger increase of maybe \$10 or more.

I look forward to seeing you all in the coming year and wish you all the best in your dog training efforts. **Kathleen Taylor - Treasurer**

Social Secretary Report 21/01/2014

Christmas Hamper

Thank you all the members who donated items for this raffle. Funds raised was \$ 291.00

G.A.W.S. Christmas Collection

A huge amount was collected for the Geelong Animal Welfare. The Staff where very surprised and grateful of the amount donated. Thank to all the Members who contributed to this worthy cause.

Christmas Party & Awards Night

What a great night. Awards, Music, Food a plenty, thank you Nanette for the food & to Tina & John for the entertainment. The atmosphere was delightful. Thank you to all the members who attended. I hope you all enjoyed the night as I did. Also a big thank you to the committee for making this night a huge success. Funds raised from the raffle was \$ 175.00

Social Secretary Report 21/01/2014 (continued)

Car Boot Sale

Apologies for the cancellation. I did not get the correct information when I enquired about the advertising for this event. Was advised two weeks before event was to take place, was not told the local papers closed for Christmas. **Dot Linford - Social Secretary**

CANTEEN REPORT Tuesday January 21st 2014

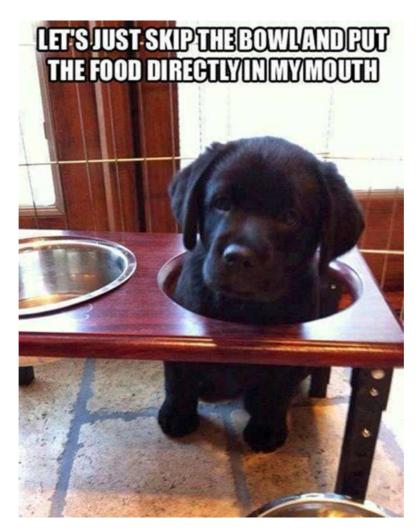
Good to be back and thinking about what lies ahead for this year.

Firstly, thank you to everyone who participated in the Christmas Treats fundraiser at the end of last year. We made a profit of \$389.80. The response from Club Members exceeded our expectations. It was a good learning curve for us and I'm sure that we can not only streamline the work but add to the offerings this year.

This week we have taken delivery of the new grill plate for the Canteen. The old one had well and truly gone past its use-by-date. According to the Warranty, it was purchased in 1997 so it was entitled to be retired. The replacement is exactly the same as the old one and will be ready for action for the start of the Club year in February.

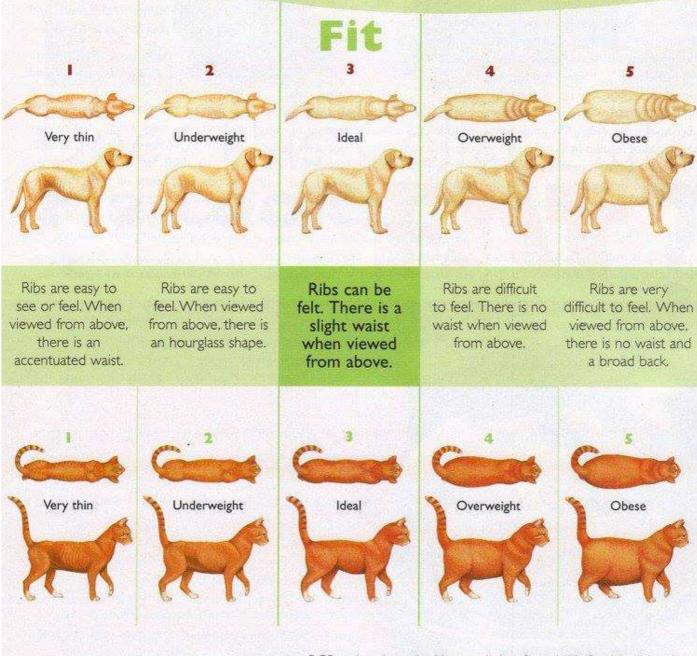
I look forward to another year in the Canteen, as well as helping to promote the Club on Trial days and contributing to Fund Raising activities.

Nanette Tunnicliffe - Canteen Manager



Not Sure if Your Pet Is Fit or FAT?

In general, dog and cat owners should be able to feel their pet's ribs through a thin layer of fat and see a defined "waist" between the ribs and hips. "You should not be able to see all of a pet's ribs and spine," says Dr. Buisson. "And if you have to really press hard to find his ribs under fat, he's too big." Your veterinarian will be able to give you a more accurate picture of your pet's weight and health based on individual factors; however, you can check the BCS scale below to get an idea of where your pet falls on the weight spectrum:



BCS scale adapted with permission from Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc.

From the Librarian

The Papillon, Poetry Prompts & Patients.

What is a Papillon?

It is a wee canine with pronounced ears – like the wings of a butterfly.

Hence the name, Papillon. French for Butterfly.

As it matures it grows a profuse single coat. A single coat means there is no undercoat so shedding is not so much of an issue. The texture of the coat is like human hair. The ears also grow hair which reaches the shoulders.

A Toy breed, it is small, light & easy to carry. It's bone structure cannot sustain being sqashed or squeezed. Highly intelligent, it needs to be trained from an early age to maximise potential as a Poetry Prompt. The more behaviours it presents the more prompts it creates for poetry. The most important command: Stay while writing is happening so the dog is not a distraction. Either on patients lap, bed, floor or in travel box. Papillon Rusty has worked at Grant Lodge since he was 3 months old. Buster, the resident PAT Dog tolerates his exhuberance and bad canine manners.

The Venue: Grant Lodge. A High Level residential care facility Bacchus Marsh, Victoria, Australia. Member of Dementia Care Australia. Spark of Life approach to residents embraces individual Poetry writing with patients. The Life Style Co-ordinators Robin & Erin could not be more supportive of the Poetry writing program. Each patient has a bound & laminated 'Life Story Book' which includes poetry, photos and a personal biography. Relatives are encouraged to email, create blogs and contribute photos to their special person's 'Life Story Book ' which is maintained & updated by Robin & Erin. Patients love them and spend hours browsing. All patients who become involved in the writing process are "poets". Being defined as a poet leads to a higher level of involvement and increased self esteem. Rusty is a weekly visitor.

The resident poet speaks while I record. Decisions on topic and style are first. Choice of words are part of the recording process. I use paper backed with carbon so I can leave the original with the patient & take the carbon for typing. Poems are typed & emailed back the same day as Adobe attachments. Top left hand corner: Date/Title/Author/Prompt. Poems are laminated & bound into patient's 'Life Story Book' by Life Style Co-ordinators who also illustrate them. Concrete and Acrostic poems are popluar. As poems are associated with rhyme and being clever, the concept of poems not rhyming is a real springboard for the aspiring artist.

PAPILLON PROMPTS:

The Whole Dog:

Describing Rusty. Rusty is ... Adjectival Poetry Past Memories of Dogs. Dogs You Have Owned. A Single Experience with a Dog. Specific observation and memory skills. The Neighbour's Dog. A Relative's Dog. Small Dogs/ Large Dogs. Losing a Dog. The story of The Rainbow Bridge. www.petloss.com/rainbowbridge.htm

The Coat:

It is long, soft & silky – adjectival poetry, alliterative poetry [soft,silky,smooth,etc] Different textures of dogs' coats - short, wiry, rough - pictures of familiar breeds with distinctive coats - adjectival poetry

Different types of human hair Female & Male + facial hair. *First visit to the Hair Dresser, *The Hair Do Disaster, * My first Perm *I remember their hair..... Mother ... Father. *My first Shave. *The Barber's Shop. The Locket [take in one as a prompt – originally for a lock of hair – hence the name] – inspires poignant memories. Can be written as a concrete poem in the oval shape of a locket. Make locket templates. *Modern Hairstyles of Youth [Mohawks, Dreadlocks, Multiple Dying, Shaved Patterns]

The Ears: The most prominent characteristic of the Papillon

2/2 The Papillon. Poetry, Prompts & Patients

Describing **Rusty's** ears. **Rusty's** ears are ... Adjectival Poetry. A outline of a Papillon head for Concrete Poetry. Simply write the poem around the ears. Eavesdropping as a Child. 'Sticks & Stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me!' How true is that? The best advice of my life. I wish I'd never listened.

'All the better to hear you with My Dear' **'Little Red Riding Hood'** of course. Write a Fractured Fairy Tale Poem. Try Dramatic Dialogue.

Recall **Little Red Riding Hood** –**recall** other wolf Fairy Tales. Summary Poems. **The Eves:** The eyes are deep brown.

Rusty's eyes. I remember my dog's eyes

My eyes are ...

Colours of other people's eyes

Blue eye beauty

Grey eye greedy

Black eye blackie

Brown eye brownie [Andrew Lang Nursery Rhyme Book 1897]

What do you think?

The Paws: Hare shaped.

*Wet muddy feet inside – about paws and people's feet

Many remember as a child being jumped on by a dog. Fear

The Teeth: Set in a small jaw.

*Bitten by a Dog.

*Nursery stories about wolves. *Fractured Fairy Tale - the wolf's point of view

Nightmares about large 'things' with sharp teeth

Human Teeth: *The Tooth Fairy *The Dentist *Toothache *Dentures [endless issues: acquiring them, losing them, disomfort]

The Tail: Long curved over the back. *Tail Talk [being greeted, when a dog is sad -observations of own dogs] *Two-up – heads 'n' tails of coins – traditional Australian pre-decimal currency Gambling Game. *Tail Docking *The homophone **Tale** *A Happy/Funny/Sad Tale

Behaviours: *Meet & Greet [Dog puts forepaws on patient's legs or bedside] Small PAT dogs are nursed. Patients enjoy grooming. Must be house-trained, lead & crate trained. **Basic Behaviours** – Patients are empowered by telling the dog what to do: **Sit, Drop, Stand, Come.** Keep active handling to 5 minutes. Nursing, or lying on Patient's bed – as long as the dog is not stressed.

Tricks: * Playing the Keyboard, *Running through a cat tunnel. * Jumping a Hoop or Stick * HIND LEGS TRICKS: *Walking *Waltzing to Music * Marching to Music: * Sitting & Begging on a box or chair * Staying in Crate * Finding Treats under Witches Hats * Speaking – [is learning to count] * Rolling over & over *Pick Pocket *Pushing the Barrel

A group activity with heaps of laughter & fun. Encourages focus. What is Rusty doing? Verbal Communication.

Just like a Circus – poetry prompts galore. *My First Circus *My Favourite Circus Animal *My Favourite Circus Act * All that Poo! {Elephant poo – collecting it for the garden] * Circus People *The Big Top * Dreams of Joining the Circus * A Job at the Circus [Circuses employ local labour] *The Circus Arrives *Sounds and Smells of the Circus.

Poetry is about a gamut of emotions. Poetry is Fun. Poetry can be sad too.Never dwell on a prompt. Sometimes the poet patient is not in the mood. Dogs don't appeal to everyone. Poem: I hate dogs! [Acrostic perhaps] Not got a dog – try a furry toy!

Robyn Youl

SNAKE WATCH

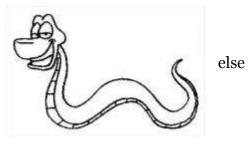
Whenever you are out walking please be aware that it is Snake season and what you do when you see a snake is also important

Firstly stop

Secondly point at the snake and call "snake" so that anyone around you will be made aware

Thirdly make sure your dog is safe if you have it with you

And lastly move away slowly



SANTA CLAUS ARRIVES ON THE LAST DAY OF TRAINING 2013







AWARDS NIGHT AND CHRISTMAS PARTY 2013



Vanessa Bridges



Nanette Tunicliffe







END OF YEAR AWARDS

Obedience Dog of the Year



Mason Janelle Convery

Associate Dog of the Year

Tootsie Margaret Brown

NADAC Dog of the Year

Peyto Vaness Bridges

Committee/Instructor of the Year

Nanette Tunicliffe

Why Do Dogs Leave Earth First? a child answers

Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife Lisa, and their little boy Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle.

I examined Belker and found that he was dying of cancer. I told the family we couldn't do anything more for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home.

As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for six-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. The young boy, Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away.

The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. We sat together for a long while after Belker's Death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives.

Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why."

Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation. It has changed the way I try to live.

He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life – like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?"

The Six-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

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