

# Paws Express



Newsletter of  
Alexandra & District  
Dog Obedience Club Inc

April 2024

Patrons: Betty Tulloch, Doug Norman B.Sc.(Hons), B.Vet.Sc.(Hons)



Welcome, welcome, welcome everyone to another training year. Many of you are now in new classes for the seven weeks block, have lots of fun and learn lots. Jeanne our obedience co-ordinator puts in a huge amount of work and time in organising our classes, all in her own time. On behalf of all members, a

very big thank you to you Jeanne.

As instructors we love helping you and enjoy each Sunday meeting you and your dogs. Please remember though that we do get up early rain hail or shine to arrive and set up before starting time, if you are unable to attend class please let someone know.

A very warm welcome to our newest members and their pups, looking forward to helping you over the next seven weeks.

Happy training  
Barb Tanner



Join the Alexandra & District Obedience Club on Facebook

#### Committee Members 2024

Barbara Tanner (President)  
Debbie Callaway (Vice Pres.)  
Geoff Hyland (Secretary/Treasurer)  
Jeanne Roberts  
Shane (Frog) Freaan  
Fiona Mackey  
Jenny Hyland  
Rosalie Collins  
Janene Millar  
Sandice McAuley

#### Life Members

Betty Tulloch  
Greg Tulloch (Dec)  
Lynne Walter  
Maggie Hamill  
Julee Hosking (Dec)  
Bronwyn McFadyen  
Jeanne Roberts

#### Honorary Members

Doug Norman B.Sc(Hons) B.Vet.Sc(Hons)  
Mike Hosking  
Chris Chester  
David Roberts

#### Instructors

Jeanne Roberts  
Barb Tanner  
Ann Jelinek  
Pam Poole  
Jenny Hyland  
Trudie Brooks  
Debbie Callaway  
Joyce Turner  
Lyn Scotchmoor

Newsletter: David Roberts



## TRAINING TIPS

# HOW TO SHOW YOUR DOG YOU LOVE THEM.

*“Dogs are not just pets, they are family”  
~Unknown~*

A warm welcome to 2024 to all our members. If you are returning after the summer break, it's lovely to see you all and we welcome you and your terrific dogs back for another year of fun and accomplishment. If you are a new member of our club, then we are delighted to have you join us. I wish you all a positive, rewarding year of training with ADDOC.

We all come together every Sunday morning motivated by a common purpose, love of our dogs and because of that love, a determination to help them grow into well adjusted, delightful members of our family and community.

We all love to be loved and so do our four-legged friends. As humans we naturally show our love and affection to one another by touch – with kisses, hugs, and cuddles. But how do we show our dogs that they are special to us, and we love them? Some dogs enjoy kisses, hugs, and cuddles BUT some of them don't. Dogs express love through body language, such as a happy tail, perky ears, and loving licks.

Whether your dog likes to be cuddled or not there are many other ways to show our dogs that we love them.

**COMMUNICATION.** Talk to your dog. Tell them! Especially in a sing-song cheerful tone.

**FACIAL EXPRESSION.** Put on a happy face – smile, laugh and raise your eyebrows when talking to your dog.

**TREATS.** High value training treats or rewards. There is nothing more bonding than using rewards (and praise) when working with your dog. It then gets the three best things in the world: to be with you, learn a behaviour and eat, all at the same time!

**FOOD.** Your dog is totally dependent on you for its meals, so show them they can depend on you by providing them with nutritious meals. The best quality dog food you can afford, to keep them happy and healthy, will show it how much you care.

**RESPECT.** Mutual respect in your relationship with your dog will foster trust, and a sense of security. Ways to show respect include:

- Paying attention to and reading their body language.

- Not hovering over or forcibly taking away key resources, e.g. their food.
- Knowing – and not touching, pulling, or poking – areas they dislike. E.g. ears.
- Avoiding punishment, yelling, or other fear-based interactions.
- Hugging, scratching, and petting with care.
- Asking visitors to show your dog the same respect.
- Teaching children how to properly interact with all dogs.

**EXERCISE/PLAY/TRICKS.** Spending quality time with



your dog taking it for a walk, a swim, or playing a game e.g. “fetch”, “tug-a-war”; or teaching a new trick e.g. “middle”, “spin”, gives it physical exercise and mental stimulation.

Dogs are enthused by learning new things. They thrive on attention, and mental activities (games/tricks) are a fun way to provide this, build engagement and prevent boredom and destructive behaviour. All these shared activities demonstrate love and strengthen the bond with your canine friend.

**TOUCH/GROOMING.** Not all dogs are fond of being touched, so be guided by your dog's behaviour. The best areas to pet, scratch, or rub a dog are usually:

- Ears
- Hard-to-reach spots, like along the neck and under their collar.
- Chest
- Upper back

Just like you, dogs feel good and can appreciate their world much better if they are clean and well groomed! While not all dogs love a bath, they usually love to be brushed.

**FINALLY.** Basically, showing love and affection to your dog involves understanding their world and respecting their boundaries. You will reap the benefits and enjoy a warm, loving relationship with your canine friend that will enrich your life and that of your family.



*“Before you get a dog, you can't quite imagine what living with one might be like; afterwards, you can't imagine living any other way!”*

*Caroline Knapp ~*



## WALKING YOUR DOG MAKE YOUR WALK A TRAINING OPPORTUNITY!

A simple walk around the block is full of many opportunities to have fun while asking your dog to think through some

simple training exercises. This is what I do with both my dogs. Because of their age differences, one of them is 14 months and the other is 5 years old, I walk them separately so that I can tailor their activities to suit them.

Make sure you have your dog's favourite treats and that they are aware of it.

A walk can be so much more than "just a walk", and you can make it interesting and rewarding for you and your dog.

- **Begin at the gate.** Ask your dog to sit and wait while you open the gate. Go through and then invite your dog to join you and sit nicely beside you rather than go charging off down the street. This is difficult for the dog at first, so be patient, calm and just WAIT for your dog to work it out.
- **Give your dog "personal time".** I do this by allowing him to sniff and explore on a loose lead. This is important. Roughly one-third of a dog's brain is dedicated to olfaction (the sense of smell). It doesn't seem fair to deny them a wonderful opportunity to have a good sniff-fest!!!

When you're ready, throw some training into the mix, always keeping the walk light-hearted and enjoyable for the animals on both ends of the leash.

Here are a couple of ideas that can help you incorporate some basic skills into the walk:

- **Practice a quick response to your dog's name.** When he turns and looks at you, sometimes mark and reward on the fly as you keep moving, and sometimes mark and back up a few steps, encouraging your dog toward you, then deliver several small treats (one after another, rather than a handful at once), paired with praise and petting.
- **Recall challenges.** People often assume they need an extra-long lead in order to practice what looks like a real-life recall. But you can provide excellent training on a regular length lead. The hardest part of coming when called is

not the distance the dog travels back to the handler. The hardest part of coming when called is choosing to leave an exciting distraction in favour of returning to you—whether he is 2 metres away or 20 metres away. Be sure to give plenty of praise and rewards.

Good luck, have fun and happy walking! Jeanne, Quinn and Crusoe.

~ *Good training is undramatic* ~ Michael Ellis

Ref: Whole Dog Journal ([www.wholedogjournal.com/](http://www.wholedogjournal.com/))



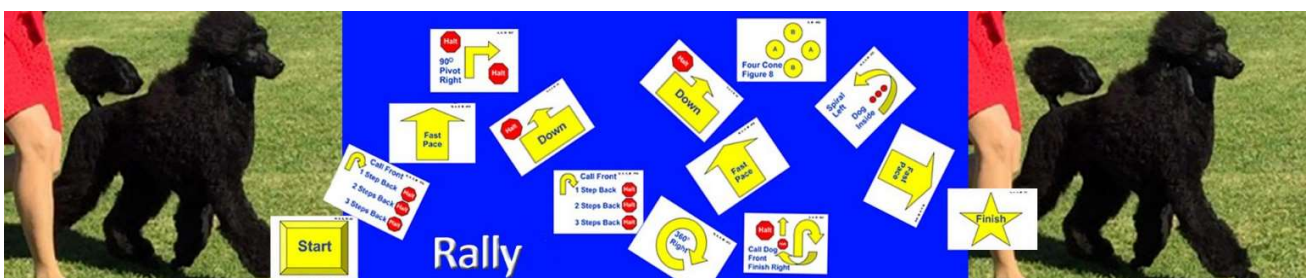
# SAVE THE DATE



**ADDOC MEMBER'S COMPETITION**  
 Our 1<sup>st</sup> Member's Competition is coming up.  
**DATE:** SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024  
**VENUE:** BRIGGS OVAL  
**START TIME:** RALLY NOVICE – 9.45am; CCD – 10am. **RA & CD will follow on from RN & CCD.**

**RALLY NOVICE (Levels 4 & 5 only).**  
 Judge – Debbie Callaway.  
**RALLY ADVANCED (Level 5 only).**  
 Judge – Debbie Callaway.  
**COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG OBEDIENCE (Levels 4 & 5 only).**  
 Judge – Pam Poole.  
**COMPANION DOG OBEDIENCE (Level 5 only).**  
 Judge – Pam Poole.

\*Competitor numbers can be collected on the day of the competition.  
 \*Qualifying Certificates will be awarded for a score of 75% and over.  
 \*Rosettes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.  
**Entries close: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May.**  
 An entry form is available at training OR email Jeanne: [jkr48@iinet.net.au](mailto:jkr48@iinet.net.au)  
*\*\*Be sure to enter, have some fun with your dog and enjoy the friendly competition!\*\**



# GRADUATES

## Foundation to Family Companion Certificate FCC Level 1



Cath and Dahlia

THE CHOICE TO CHOOSE	
	<p><b>WHY DOGS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO MAKE CHOICES</b></p> <p>BEHAVIOUR PROBLEMS ARE FAR LESS LIKELY WHEN DOGS ARE ALLOWED TO MAKE A CHOICE</p> <p>FORCE / FEAR / INTIMIDATION / PHYSICAL MANIPULATION TAKES AWAY FREEDOM OF CHOICE &amp; HAS NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES</p>
<p><b>THE BENEFITS OF CHOICE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BUILDS SELF CONFIDENCE</li> <li>• DECREASES FEAR / STRESS / ANXIETY</li> <li>• BUILDS PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS</li> <li>• INCREASES RESILIENCE</li> <li>• PREVENTS LEARNED HELPLESSNESS</li> <li>• IMPROVES WELLBEING / TRUST</li> <li>• IMPROVES QUALITY OF LIFE</li> <li>• CREATES A SENSE OF SECURITY</li> <li>• HELPS US TO UNDERSTAND WHAT MOTIVATES BEHAVIOUR</li> </ul>	<p><b>EXAMPLES OF CHOICE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TO DISENGAGE / WALK AWAY</li> <li>• TO INTERACT WITH A PERSON / ANIMAL</li> <li>• TO ALLOW TOUCH</li> <li>• TO MOVE CLOSER TO A TRIGGER WITHOUT BEING LURED</li> <li>• TO TAKE A BREAK FROM AN ACTIVITY</li> <li>• TO SNIFF / EXPLORE WHEN OUT WALKING</li> <li>• DIFFERENT AREAS TO SLEEP</li> <li>• WHICH TOY TO PLAY WITH</li> <li>• WHICH GAME TO PLAY</li> <li>• WHICH TREAT TO CHOOSE</li> </ul> <p><i>Dogs Disclosed</i></p>

## Family Companion Certificate to Level 4



Paige and Willow



Mandy and Pinky



Jo and Melba



Rosalie and George



David and Ellie



Bronwyn and Pearl



Levels 4 & 5 show how you can work close to other dogs by keeping your dog's "focus" on you. Lovely work

# Welcome NEW MEMBERS

<b>4<sup>th</sup> February</b>	
Nicole Boon & <i>Phoenix</i>	Freya Worne & <i>Lola</i>
Meg Bonsema & <i>Cowgirl</i>	Judy Maraspin & <i>Sandi</i>
Adam Boshevski & <i>Rosie</i>	Sandice McAuley & <i>Ellie</i>
Jenny Laycock & <i>Peppa</i>	Tricia Maxfield & <i>Whiskey</i>
Tomara/Michael Horner & <i>Petey</i>	Gaby Dickson/Barb Zylac & <i>Belle</i>
Leanna Boyce & <i>Barney</i>	Consuella Middleditch & <i>Raven</i>
Teresa Hewson/Kevin Dodemaide & <i>Jack</i>	Susan Marchinton & <i>Teddy</i>
Belinda Walden & <i>Murphy</i>	
<b>7<sup>th</sup> April</b>	
Rosalie Collie & <i>Martha</i>	Krystal Forward & <i>Abby</i>
Bert Obernhumer & <i>Bella</i>	Chris Biegger & <i>Finch</i>
Donna Meggitt & <i>Rocky</i>	Alastair Murdoch & <i>Lucy</i>
Cara Garbutan & <i>Hobi</i>	Barb Linton & <i>Peanut</i>
Jo Appleby & <i>Rosie</i>	Chris Watson & <i>Jax</i>
Ros Kuhlmann & <i>Eve</i>	Jan Knight & <i>Charlie</i>
Lisa Parnis & <i>Pepper</i>	Ruth Butler & <i>Suki</i>
Joanne Holmes & <i>Lexi</i>	

