

# Howler



[www.hillsdogclub.com](http://www.hillsdogclub.com)

[www.facebook.com/hillsdogclub](https://www.facebook.com/hillsdogclub)

October 2023



*Tully and Ollie- with titles at Penrith Obedience and Rally Trials*



*Well done Judith and Barrett at Pointer Trial*



*Michelle with Darcy and Carole with Piper at Grafton Scent-work Trial - Achievements!*

*Truth!*



**Dog Safe Backyard  
Monthly promotions**

The mission of Hills Dog Club Inc. is to enhance the human-dog relationship through training, education and the promotion of good breeding practices within our community.



## IMPORTANT DATES.

### General meetings 2023:

11 Oct                      8 Nov                      13 Dec

Watch this space for future event dates.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Hello everyone,

We're a bit late with the Howler this month, sorry. Mea Culpa.

If you have requests for articles, please email us. We are up for some new content. Send us your stories, recommendations of outdoor walks and anything else dog or dog training related.

Happy training everyone.

*Editor, Graphic Designer  
Tony Vink*



*From left to Right: Lorraine, Belvane, Kerry, Janet, Pam and Colleen*

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23 Years ago whilst walking my dog. I met a lady walking her blue cattle dog. After talking to her for awhile she said she was going up to Castle Hill next week to join the Hills Dog School, so off we went. We discovered they were starting an Instructors Course so we thought we would join and learn more about our dogs. Little did we know we would become great friends and be teaching at Dog School each week for many years. During this time we made many friends.

13 Years ago Lorraine contracted Parkinsons Disease but she did not give up. Young Robert Smiles would carry a chair over to Lorraine's class 4 and back again each week enabling her to carry on. However after a stroke she ended up in a nursing home. Even though she could not speak she would still smile as we remembered things we did together in the past. Lorraine came with me to pick up my new Golden Retriever puppy. The puppy was 7 months old and she insisted on sitting on Lorraine's lap all the way home. Lorraine was wearing a black tracksuit and by the time we arrived home she was covered in dog hair, I never did ask her how she removed all the hair. But she would just smile.

Rest in Peace my friend

Judith Stanley





## PROMOTIONS - SEPTEMBER 2023

### Beginners 8 to Graduate

- Susan with Morse the Boxer
- Matt with Evie the Kelpie X
- Linda with Brodi the FC Retriever
- Kirsten and Izzy the Frenchie X

### Intermediate to Advanced

- Manika with Missy the Aussie Shepherd



*Matt and Evie*



*Susan and Morse*



*Linda and Brodi*



*Kirsten and Izzy*





## *K9 Companion Award*

### **An Assessment for Club Members only**

This Award is open to members with dogs in Class 8 or above

Assessments will be held: **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 starting from 7.15pm**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 starting from 10.45am**

#### **The following elements are essential to undertake the test:**

- Dogs must be at least 12 months of age. They must have completed our Beginners Course or be in Class 8 (or higher) of the Club's Course.
- Proof of Council registration, microchipping and a current vaccination or equivalent certificate.
- The dog should be presented in a clean and tidy manner.
- The dog should be fitted with an appropriate collar or restraint for that dog (i.e., collar, gentle collar, head collar and harness), and be on a leash. **No check chains** are to be used.
- The Handler must carry a plastic bag at all times to clean up after his/her dog.
- Training treats are not to be given during exercises. Verbal praise is, however, permitted.
- The Handler may offer food rewards at the finish of each individual exercise.
- A number of both verbal and hand cues are permitted during exercises.
- The Handler must have an 80% pass rate on the theory assessment and 100% on the practical assessment.
- If you do not achieve 100% in your practical assessment, you will be able to re-sit the practical test without charge when the next K9 Assessments are held.
- The cost of the assessment is \$20.00.
- For full details of the Award and information on exercises talk with your Class Instructor.
- **Please obtain an application form at the office, and submit it with your \$20 fee at least 2 weeks prior to the test date.**
- Once you have paid you will be given your test booklet with all the practical exercises listed and explained, plus your homework questionnaire.
- **To allow time for marking, your written homework must be submitted at the Office at least 1 week prior to the practical test.**

## DO YOU HAVE A SAFE BACKYARD?

**AS the days grow longer and warmer our pets are more likely to enjoy their outdoor space more, so it is time to do a backyard audit!**

### Necessities

Covered shaded space throughout the day.

Access to water - a large bowl that cannot be tipped over or one that fills automatically.

Food bowl

Safe fences and this includes around the pool, spa even if your pet can swim - they can get into difficulty and become tired if they can't get out of the pool

Working and lockable gates

Clear away sticks - some dogs can chew on these and end up with splinters and puncturing of their mouth

Clean areas - pick up excrement daily and dispose to avoid parasites.

Ensure pool chemicals, gardening sprays and snail bait are locked away to ensure accidental poisoning does not occur.

### Outdoor enrichment

To prevent anxiety have a fun outdoor area. Is your backyard fun?

Toys of different sizes - indestructible, safe (not tennis balls, sticks or artificial toys that can be eaten)

Kongs can be hidden in the garden with food inside to encourage searching

Roll up a towel with kibble inside and hide

Put toys in a cardboard box

Hide food in tyres etc

You could leave a snuff mat outside

### Must dos

Some plants can be toxic - make sure you check these a list can be found on <https://pets4life.com.au/dogs-and-toxic-plants-in-australia-list/> and some of these may absolutely surprise you.

Other plants can cause skin irritations such as Ivy.

Lillies and bay laurels can cause stomach aches, sago palms and bamboo can induce vomiting.

Avoid bulbs such as daffodils and tulips that can be poisonous as well as azaleas.

Talk to your garden centre - there may be substitute plants that look the same however are not toxic.

Ensure bins cannot be tipped over

If your dog happens to bark at people going by perhaps block off their site or access to the gate.

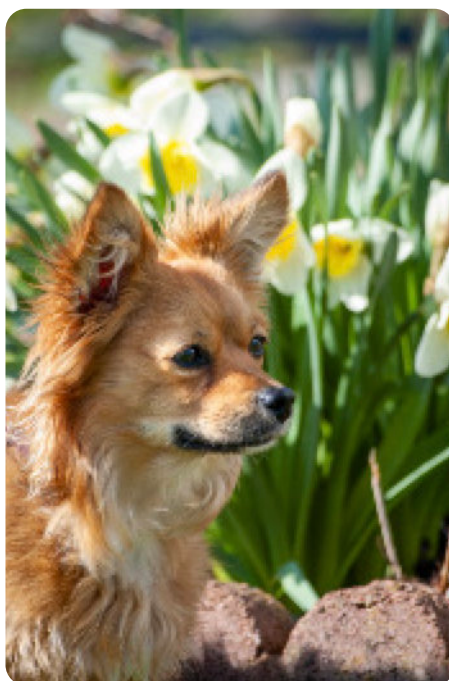
Ensure that dogs cannot jump on things that can then get them over the fence - eg tables, bins, chairs, boxes.

BBQs smell so good to dogs - make sure these are cleaned and dogs cannot pull things down on themselves or get to rank food, old bones or skewers.

Tables and chairs - check the table to see that there is nothing on there that could be considered dangerous, that they can't pull the tablecloth.

Small dogs can be attacked by birds or wild cats depending on where you live so always ensure there is a place they can go to hide.

If you have had a party or have small children check that there are no balloons, toys or other items that the dog can ingest, cause choking or illness.





## Luxuries

Camera to check on your dog throughout the day

Hire a Dog Nanny to come and play while you are away.

Self feeder

A doggy door to allow the dog to go in and out of the house - some of these can be operated by a reader on the dogs collar that will open the dog door, and for renters you may be able to get a door panel from the hardware store that has a doggie door that fits and is lockable that fits in a sliding glass door.

*Not a good idea to leave a dog with a bone - these can be problematic - best to save uncooked soft bones until you can supervise.*

## MORE RESOURCES ON DOGS AND TOXIC PLANTS IN AUSTRALIA

<http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/pets/dogs/dog-health/toxic-plants-for-dogs>

<https://www.aspc.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants><http://www.weeds.mangrovemountain.net/dogs.html>

<http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/poisons/>

<https://www.rspcansw.org.au/learn/pet-hazards/toxic-plants-for-pets>

***IF YOUR DOG SHOWS ANY SIGNS OF ILLNESS, TAKE YOUR DOG TO THE VET IMMEDIATELY!***





## "Commander-in-Chomp: Biden's Dog Declares War on Secret Service!"

G'day, mate! Looks like Commander, President Biden's trusty German Shepherd, has been in a bit of strife lately, sinking his teeth into yet another Secret Service officer, and this ain't the first time he's done it. It's been happening so often; I reckon the poor bloke's probably thinking Commander's got a taste for American law enforcement.

So, this last nibble occurred on a Monday evening, and they had to call in the medics right there at the White House. The dog's been at it since October 2022, taking a chomp at Secret Service agents like they're a plate of meat pies at a footy game.

They had to go and sue to get the word out!

The White House crew said they're working on some fancy "leashing protocols and training" for Commander. I mean, fair dinkum, the White House must be more nerve-racking than a kangaroo in a boxing match for a pup like him. The First Family's been trying their best, but the White House grounds are a wild place, mate!

Now, this isn't the first time one of the Biden dogs has been in the doghouse. The other one, Major, had a few nips as well and had to skedaddle to a family friend's place in Delaware. They got Commander later that year, as a little puppy, in December 2021.

In the land down under, we know dogs have their quirks, but Commander's taken the cake. He's

bitten more agents than a swarm of mozzies on a hot summer night. Let's hope they sort him out soon, mate.

Aussie Interpretation by ChatGPT.

Original article:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-66932087>

# NOTICE IS GIVEN OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF HILLS DOG CLUB INC.

When: ..... Wednesday **11 October 2023** - 7:30pm

Where: ..... Meeting Rooms at Castle Hill Showground.

Who: ..... All club members are welcome to attend.

## AGENDA

1. Open Meeting
2. Attendance and Apologies
3. Confirmation of Minutes.
4. Business arising from the Minutes.
5. Correspondence
6. Treasurer Report
7. New Members
8. Chief Instructors Report
9. Education Officer Report
10. Show Secretary Report
11. Trial Secretary Report
12. Publicity Officer report
13. Club Trophy Secretary Report

## GENERAL BUSINESS

- Annual Awards
- Annual Donations





# FANCY SOME TIME IN BALI?

*Calling all members, friends, instructors & trainers*

During July/August this year I spent a month volunteering at Bali Animal Welfare Association (BAWA).....



Motivated by this, I'd love to get together a group of people from Hills Dog Club to volunteer there in July 2024. The minimum time commitment requested by BAWA is 4 consecutive days.



BAWA is a registered non-profit organisation whose aim is to help, rescue, rehabilitate and rehome animals in need. It runs a shelter, public vaccination clinics, and has a 24/7 hotline and ambulance.

BAWA's tireless and sometimes heartbreaking work takes place within a culture whose first priority is rarely non-human animals. In contrast with Australia, Indonesian dogs seldom enjoy the privileged position of being loved family members.



I know many of you might worry that you wouldn't cope with what you might encounter. To this I can only suggest that, if these animals must endure what fate has dealt them, the least we can do is bear witness to it, and offer as much quality time and care as possible.

This is a voluntary position, so you will need to cover your own costs. If you're in any way interested, I'd love to fill you in, so come find me at the club!

Please say YES!  
You won't regret it



Why not check out BAWA's website, under the Save Lives With Us tab?  
<https://bawabali.com>



"I promise you, your smiles will far outnumber your tears."

Genevieve Young  
HDC Instructor

## TRAINING TIMES

Mon. 7pm -> Puppies\*,  
Beginners, Graduate &  
Intermediate classes

8pm -> Advanced class

\*Puppy classes are for dogs  
12-20 weeks.

Tue. 10:30am -> All Classes

### IMPORTANT:

**No** classes held on  
public holidays

**No** Tuesday classes  
held in  
school holidays

Forgotten to bring treats  
to training? **Lamb Treats**  
are on sale at the office for  
**\$6 a packet.**

## CLUB MEETINGS

Club Meetings HDC General Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, (except January), in the clubhouse. Meetings start at 7.30pm. All welcome! Tea and coffee provided. Ratified copy of Minutes can be viewed at the Office. Club financial year is 1st Jan. to 31st Dec.

## CORRESPONDENCE

All Club correspondence or enquiries should be addressed in writing to The Secretary, PO BOX 392 Round Corner NSW 2158 or [infohillsdogclub@gmail.com](mailto:infohillsdogclub@gmail.com) Hills Howler is available at the clubhouse on training days/nights and online. All members are encouraged to contribute. For admin purposes, please keep us informed of change of email address.

## NEWSLETTER

Send all inquiries and contributions to [hillshowler@gmail.com](mailto:hillshowler@gmail.com)

## WATCH THIS SPACE FOR NOTICES

Visit our web page for more information

[www.hillsdogclub.com](http://www.hillsdogclub.com)

Get digital Howler via email?  
Use the QR code to sign up  
It is FREE.



## Ground Rules

1. As a condition of membership, all dogs are required to be properly vaccinated according to current veterinary guidelines.
2. Members are responsible at all times for the behaviour of their dog/s whilst present on the training grounds or representing the club.
3. All dogs must have properly fitted equipment and remain on lead at all times (unless instructed otherwise by a club instructor). No check/choker chains are to be used on any dogs in Puppy, Beginners or Graduate classes.
4. A member shall not ill-treat a dog at any time. Any such action may give rise to suspension or expulsion from the Club by resolution of the Committee.
5. Bitches in season and/or dog/s which are unwell or have an infectious condition are not permitted on the obedience training grounds.

6. Members are to pick up after their dog/s and help keep the grounds clean and tidy.
7. Adequate sensible dress with appropriate footwear (no thongs, scuffs or bare feet) is required to be worn by handler during training.
8. Dogs are not to be left unattended whilst on the training grounds unless crated or tethered in a safe area. Members are reminded not to approach dogs that are confined. All dogs are to be kept under control and supervised while at the counter or in the clubhouse.
9. The Club reserves the right to ask any member to muzzle or in extreme cases, remove their dog/s from the training grounds. If a muzzle is required this must remain in place whilst on the club grounds. This will be at the discretion of the Committee.
10. Members who use Club equipment must ensure it is returned to the storeroom and stored correctly after classes are

conducted.

11. Children are welcome to attend classes provided they are supervised by an adult/parent/guardian at all times.
12. Child members (aged 7 to 11 are to be accompanied by an adult/parent/guardian in classes) and Junior members (aged 12 to 15 under adult/parent/guardian supervision on grounds) are welcome to train providing they have sufficient control of their dog during classes. This will be at the discretion of the class/chief instructor.
13. The Club is in operation if the dog building doors and roller shutter are open. ie: from 5:45 Mondays and from 10:00 am Tuesdays

Check us out on Facebook  
'Like' our page to get Club updates

<https://www.facebook.com/hillsdogclub/>





# HILLS DOG CLUB INC. - 2023/24 COMMITTEE

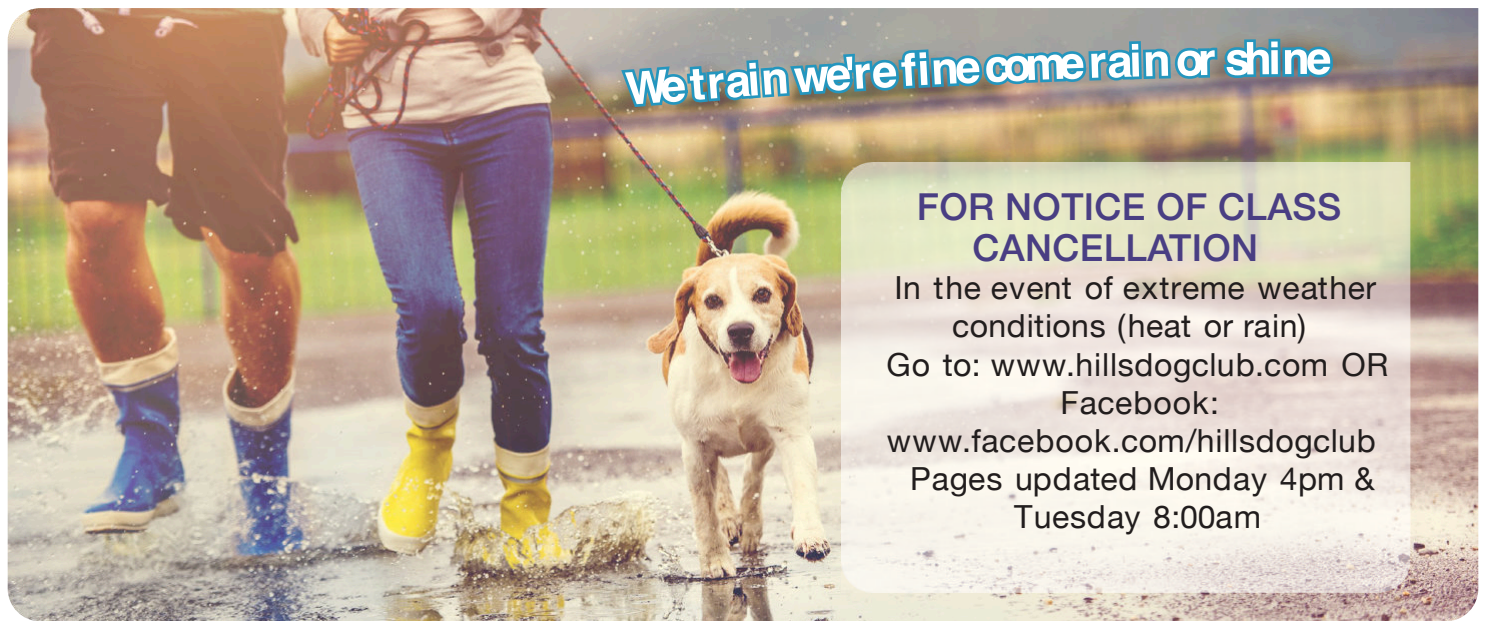
PRESIDENT: - - - - - Carole Hatley  
VICE PRESIDENT: - - - - - Anne Small  
VICE PRESIDENT: - - - - - Bob Watters  
SECRETARY: - - - - - Jane Lamont  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY: - - - - Belvane Parsons  
TREASURER: - - - - - Lynne Sheather  
ASSISTANT TREASURER: - - - - Janet Power  
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: - - - - - Lea-Anne Laughton  
TRIAL SECRETARY: - - - - - Judy McCartney  
SHOW SECRETARY: - - - - - Janet Power  
PUBLIC OFFICER: - - - - - Lynne Sheather  
PUBLICITY OFFICER: - - - - - Natalie Conway  
EDUCATION OFFICER: - - - - - Genevieve Young  
EQUIPMENT OFFICER: - - - - - Bob Watters  
REGISTRAR: - - - - - Jane Lamont

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:  
- - - - - Peter Guenther  
- - - - - Michelle Raymond  
- - - - - Kathy Cocks  
- - - - - Karen Richardson  
- - - - - Carolyn Jensen  
- - - - - Kathy Zaia

TROPHY STEWARDS:  
TRIAL: - - - - - Jessica Leckie  
SHOW: - - - - - Janice Lyons  
CLUB: - - - - - Carole Hatley  
AUDITOR: - - - - - Mr T. Newton  
PATRONS : - - - - - Mrs Luci Ellem  
- - - - - Ms Peta Clarke  
- - - - - Dr Peter Gangemi, Lord Mayor,  
The Hills Shire Council

Contact club committee members: [Infohillsdogclub@gmail.com](mailto:Infohillsdogclub@gmail.com)

LIFE MEMBERS: **Peter Guenther, Hazel Baldwin (deceased), Dianne Atkins (deceased), Janet Power, Belvane Parsons, Anne Small, Betty Cansdale (deceased), Robyn Jones, Janice Lyons, Vicki Gresser, Lynne Sheather.**



We train we're fine come rain or shine

**FOR NOTICE OF CLASS CANCELLATION**  
In the event of extreme weather conditions (heat or rain)  
Go to: [www.hillsdogclub.com](http://www.hillsdogclub.com) OR  
Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/hillsdogclub](https://www.facebook.com/hillsdogclub)  
Pages updated Monday 4pm & Tuesday 8:00am

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