

The HILLS HOWLER



April 2017

www.hillsdogclub.com

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

Upcoming Meeting Dates

12th April
10th May
14th June
12th July

9th August
13th September
11th October
8th November
13th December

John Rogerson
22nd & 23rd April,
2017

Pg. 26 for more details



NO TRAINING

Tuesday 11th April (School Holidays)

Monday 17th April (Easter Monday)

Tuesday 18th April (School Holidays)

Tuesday 25th April (Anzac Day)



Do you want to receive your Howler via email?

Email: hillshowler@gmail.com

Hills Dog Club Inc 2016/2017 Committee

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Vice President: Kellie Neville Mb: 0408 027 874 E: neville_200@hotmail.com

Vice President: VACANT

Secretary: Vicki Gresser Ph: 9871 5734 E: vicki.gresser@optusnet.com.au

Assistant Secretary: Deidre O'Brien Ph: 9654 9171 E: obrien.hamely28@bigpond.com

Treasurer: Lynne Sheather Ph: 9634 1497 E: lshe4963@bigpond.net.au

Assistant Treasurer: Janet Power Ph: 9639 9987 E: powerjanet@optusnet.com.au

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Trial Secretary: Tiki Freizer Mb: 0419 488 493

Show Secretary: Janet Power Mb: 0419 313 848

Committee: Anne Small Mb: 0417 414 877

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Registrar: Jody Smith Mb: 0418 169 656 E: jawsmith@bigpond.com

Auditor: Mr T Newton

Patron: Mrs Betty Stepkovitch

Trophy Stewards: **Trial**—Kerry Richards and Janice Lyons **Show**—Pauline Hartwell and Samantha Ibbott-Cordi

Club Trophy Steward: Genevieve Young Mb: 0419 161 042 E: genevieve.young@optusnet.com.au

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



Notice is given of the **General Meeting** of the Hills Dog Club Inc.
to be held on
Wednesday 12th April 2017,
in the Meeting Rooms, at Castle Hill Showground.
Commencing after the AGM.
Everyone is welcome to attend.

Agenda:

- 1 Open Meeting
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Confirmation of minutes of the previous
General Meeting
- 4 Business arising from the minutes
- 5 Correspondence
- 6 Presidents Report

- 7 Secretary's Report
- 8 Treasurer's Report
- 9 New Members
- 10 Other Reports:
 - Show Secretary
 - Chief Instructor
 - Trial Secretary
 - Publicity Officer
- 11 Sub-Committee Report
- 12 Committee Recommendations
- 13 General Business

INTERCLUB 2017



When: Saturday 29th July, 2017

Its a great club day out against other club's which is an event held each year.

We need dogs in CCD, Novice, Open and UD.

If you are unsure what class you can compete in or whether you are able too, please come and see Vicki at the club on Mondays or Tuesdays for more information.

Its a fun day and handlers and dogs do every exercise in their class including stays whether they pass or not.

We consider this a fun day out for all so if you are interested come and see us.

Vicki Gresser

- FREE MEMBERS BOARD -

The Club has decided to include a FREE notice board column in the Howler each month for club members. This will be a maximum of 3 lines for one (1) month and will be non commercial.

- MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE -

The Hills Howler newsletter is written by members, for members. The views expressed here are not necessarily the views of the Hills Dog Club Inc. and the club does not accept responsibility for any information, articles or advice published.

- NOTICE BOARD -

Leave your dog "on lead" at all times unless your instructor requests otherwise.

Please bring correct money to training for ground fees.

No thongs or bare feet in classes. Closed shoes are preferable and safer.

Please wear your membership card at all times. It makes everyone's life easier!

All dogs on the training grounds must be vaccinated under Club rules.

Bitches in season are not permitted to attend class. You may still come and watch, but she may not.

Yes, training is on when it rains. Bring a raincoat and wear boots. If it is very wet we will train under the covered ring.

Extreme Weather Policy

If the temperature reaches 35° or higher the Club reserves the right to either halt, suspend or cancel training.

FORGOT TO BRING TREATS TO TRAINING?

Don't worry! We have lamb treats for sale at the office for just \$5 a bag.

All correspondence to:

The Secretary,
Hills Dog Club Inc.
56/159 Ridgescrop Drive,
Castle Hill NSW 2154

FOR NOTICE OF CLASS CANCELLATION

In the event of extreme weather conditions (heat or rain)

Go to:

www.hillsdogclub.com

OR find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/hillsdogclub

Pages updated
Monday 4pm & Tuesday 8:45am

Hills Dog Club Inc

TRAINING TIMES

Monday 7pm Puppies, Beginners, Graduate & Advanced
8pm Triallers

Puppy classes are for dogs 12-20 weeks. NO CLASSES HELD ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Tuesday 10.30am All Classes NO TUESDAY CLASSES HELD IN SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

CLUB MEETINGS

The club meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, except January, in the clubhouse. Meetings start at 7.30pm. All welcome! Tea and coffee provided. Club financial year is 1st January to 31st December.

CORRESPONDENCE

All Club correspondence or enquires should be addressed in writing to The Secretary, 56/169 Ridgeway Drive, Castle Hill, NSW, 2154.

NEWSLETTER

Hills Howler is available at the clubhouse on training days/nights and online. All members are encouraged to contribute.

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 graduation classes.
4. A member shall not ill-treat a dog at any time. Any such action may give rise to the suspension or expulsion from the Club by resolution of the Committee.
5. Bitches in season and/or dog/s with an un-well or infectious condition are not permitted on the obedience training grounds.
6. Members are to pick up after their dog/s and help keep the training 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.

Promotions

Beginners to Graduate

Linda with Bonnie the Fox Terrier x
Dionne Bock with Nala the Toller
Fiona Baldwin with Zac the Border Collie
Sarah and Imogen Bowe with Jake the Labradoodle
Michelle Raymond with Darcy the Mini Schnauzer
Michelle Raymond with Zac the Mini Schnauzer
Rachel Johnson with Scully the Kelpie x Jack Russell
Bob Watters with Gus the German Shepherd Dog

Graduate to Advanced

Marilyn Courts with Meika the Cavalier King Charles Cocker Spaniel
Jenny Lingley with Lucy the Border Collie
Jane Carpenter with Henry the Golden Retriever

WOW...CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!

What a month of PROMOTIONS!

**You should all be very proud of yourselves and continue
along as Denise Fenzi always says to do**

“Train the dog in front of you”.

Kellie





Hills Dog Club Inc

Obedience AND Rally-O Trial

When: Saturday May 13th, 2017

Where: Castle Hill Showground

Start Time: Obedience @ 9am

Rally-O @ 1pm

Volunteers Needed

Please contact Tiki Friezer on:

bondsmum@bigpond.com

**We will also have Not Your Average Dog and Pets on the Park
on the day to purchase goodies.**

YOU CAN COMFORT YOUR FEARFUL DOG



IT WON'T REINFORCE THEIR FEAR

facebook.com/4PawsUniversity

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Fear is an emotion. Emotions are involuntary responses.

Reinforcement refers to an increase in behaviour. Behaviours are voluntary responses.

Fear is something you feel. Behaviour is something you do.

Here's an example: In the movie JAWS, actors had to appear to be afraid of a mechanical shark. Their eyes widened, they opened their mouths, they screamed. But they weren't experiencing fear. Their brains were not releasing the neurotransmitters and hormones that prepare the body for fight or flight. They were simply acting.

Dogs, however, are not actors. They do not fake being afraid in order to get paid (attention, treats, invitation on the bed). If they are exhibiting the behaviours associated with fear, they are feeling afraid.

Don't believe me? Feel their chest and check and compare their heart rate to when you know they are relaxed. Dogs can't will their heart to beat faster just to get your attention.

Fear is an involuntary emotional reaction. For dogs, it can be triggered by fireworks, thunderstorms, veterinary exams, the behaviour of other dogs, etc. Just because we can't perceive the threat doesn't mean it's not real to our dogs.

What about giving treats to a fearful dog? When we pair the presence of a scary stimulus (at a reasonable distance/intensity/duration, of course - desensitization is always important) with something the dog LOVES, we change the underlying association. The dog can learn to associate fireworks with frisbee time or vet visits with hot dogs. This is what counter conditioning is all about.

Here's another example: You're terrified of spiders. We go to a local football field. While standing at one goal line, a person with a tarantula in a glass case appears at the other goal line. You see the spider. I give you \$100. The spider goes away. Now, we repeat this multiple times. At some point, when the person with the spider re-appears, you will reach out your hand, anticipating payment.

Through this process, we can change your emotional response to the presence of spiders.
Spiders predict cash.

That does not make you MORE afraid of the spider.

Now, can you CONTRIBUTE to your dog's fear? Absolutely!

If you don't recognize the signs of fear - or you do and ignore them - and force your dog into a situation that he is afraid of, you can certainly contribute to their fear. Like taking a fearful dog to a dog park to "get used to" other dogs, or picking up and holding a small dog that is afraid of strangers, so that strangers can pet him/her.

If we try to pet a fearful dog who just wants to leave the situation, holding them still and forcing "soothing" massage is just adding something unpleasant to an already bad situation. Listen to your dog. If your dog is leaning against you and seeking that physical contact, then he/she may be comforted by being stroked. But if your dog is looking away, leaning away, or otherwise trying to escape your well-meaning affection, you're better off just removing him from the situation.

When we take away opportunities for our dogs to escape or avoid the things they fear, we can make things worse.

Dogs don't "get used to" scary things through repeated and forced exposure. What they get used to is that we put them in situations where avoidance doesn't work, forcing them to protect themselves. When avoidance stops working, aggression is often the only option left.

And, yes, this applies to dogs whose fear manifests as aggressive behaviour just as much as for dogs who cower and hide. Fear is the emotion behind the behaviour. Change the emotion and the behaviour will change, too.

If someone tells you that comforting your dog will reward their fear, replace the word "fear" with another emotion and ask yourself if it still makes sense. For example, "giving a dog treats just reinforces his frustration," or "petting your dog reinforces his disgust." Does that make sense? Like fear, frustration and disgust are feelings. No one can will themselves to be disgusted. If we could, diets would be SO much easier!

Can you teach a dog to be afraid of something? Of course. You can create a negative association by pairing a neutral stimulus with an aversive. This was first shown in 1920 with the Little Albert study.

This is why knowledgeable trainers don't recommend using aversive's. Over 100 years of scientific research into learning has shown that you can create negative associations.

So, unless the form of comfort you give to your dog is AVERSIVE (something he wants to escape or avoid) to your dog, you aren't going to create a negative association.

And yet, there are those who insist your response will "prove to the dog" there's something to fear. The only way you can know what the dog is learning, either by association or consequence, is the dog's behaviour. Everything else falls in the mind-reading category.

While it is a longstanding and much-repeated belief in the training world (and there are so very many of them), it doesn't hold up to what science tells us about learning and behavior.

Join me on April 23, 2017 for Fear & Anxiety, a webinar to explore causes, contributors, and strategies to reduce stress and build confidence. Will be recorded for those who can't attend live.

<http://www.growlsnarlsnap.com/dogbehaviorhelp>

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With Hills

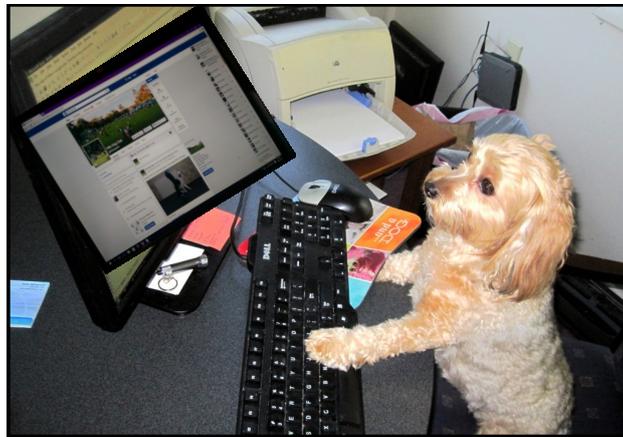
Hills Dog Club Community Page

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Click: **Like**

Notifications: **Follow**

Please Note: **All you need is a internet connection to view this page**



Hills Dog Club Members

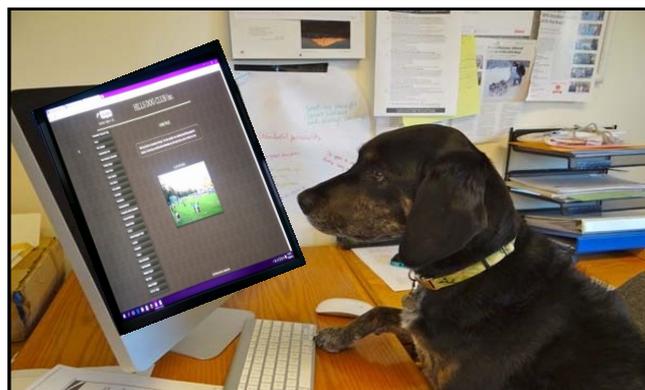
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Click: **Ask to Join**

Please Note: **Admin will ask to confirm Membership**

Hills Dog Club Webpage

<http://www.hillsdogclub.com/>



The Long Walk Home

A tribute to Bailey 10.9.03- 4.2.17

By Julie Turner

I walked along our track today and I'm aggrieved to say
That you were not beside me and I felt a great dismay.
With all the stops and starts, you had a bigger plan,
To have me smell the roses and let nature work it's hand.

I walked along our track today and passed your favourite bin,
But today was very different, no dog poo to put in.
I walked along without you, trotting at my heal
You were the best companion, you were the real deal.

I wanted just one true love, who would always be around
I wanted lasting loyalty and a man I never found.
My friends said "best to get a dog" and miss out on all the crap
And so I started to agree, what girl could argue that?

So I did a little research, and Don Bourke well he just knew
And the pup that I bought home was a Maltese X Shih Tzu.
The first two years were tricky as I had to learn the ropes
Those teeth they chewed on everything, I almost gave up hope.

I lost many dance shoes and a brand new sequin top
He loved the glam and glitter, see he wasn't "just a dog".
I turned my back for just a jiff and once I spun around
Well Bailey he was covered in sequins, from tail to tip of crown.

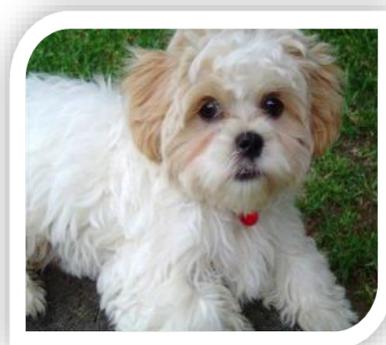
The Hill's Kennel and Training Club was were the answer lay,
So Tuesdays were spent at dog school with sit and drop and stay.
Belvane she took the puppy class and what a kindly heart
It was positive training that we used and fun, right from the start.
For ten years on a Tuesday he'd catch up with all his mates
Now Bailey's playing with Lyn's Corey, by heaven's pearly gates.

He'd watch my every dance class atop that silver case
Lynda, Louie & myself putting all those steps in place.
He reminded me of that loyal dog, on the tuckerbox near home
And there he'd sit for hours with nere a thought to roam
In tribute at my dance class when the ladies cock their leg
They have nailed the move called the "Bailey" in honour of my friend.

The house is just so quiet now, no brown eyes looking up
And how the time has flown since you were just a pup.
Your name it means THE DELIVERER and you certainly played your part
No longer sitting by my side but forever in my heart.

Lynda knows the story for she's seen me at my worst
I remember when she lost her TJ, grief it's such a curse.
Beside me in my darkest day when B was such a brat
You'd come and nuzzled close and I'd give YOU, the biggest pat.

And when my Mum was near the end, MS had its way
I snuck you in the nursing home and on her bed you'd stay.
Her hands, she couldn't curl them to give my dog a pat
So we stroked your fur together and I swear Bailey, was grinning like a cat.



All our dogs do teach us, lessons strong and ever steady
And Bailey's school was open and this student she was ready!
The school for fools it wasn't and you will get my jist
The class is for the living, make sure you check his list.

Make sure you stretch on rising and always take that nap
And if sadness cloaks your loved ones, climb up onto their lap.
At all times avoid biting when a simple growl will do
And never leave without goodbye and a friendly tail wag too.

Find the joy in small things, go walking everyday
And when the sun is setting don't miss the beauty where it lay.
Don't ever pass up joyrides, feel the wind rush through your hair
And rollover for a belly rub, from those who really care.

When you get the chance, just dance 'cause in the end we're dust
And feeling good will return, in that we place our trust.
And if what you want lays buried, well dig and dig and dig
For patience will be rewarded perhaps with some doggy jig.

I walked our track this morning and I pondered on our trips
Jesse & Madelyn will miss you and all your clever tricks.
Movie night the last one, I'm so pleased we broke the rule
We snuck you onto the lounge under the blanket, you were no fool!

And when I'd read to Izzy in foster care each week
She was so excited to meet you, she was putty at your feet.
And when I called you naughty and sent you to your mat
That five year old just pursed her lips & cried "I don't agree with that".

I walked our track this morning and I miss the joy we shared
The stories of your adventures, the ones that curled my hair.
The day I left the gate unlocked and gardened the hours away
Till the neighbours called to tell me, to their home you'd strayed.
Panicked I hurried over, to find you curled up on their lounge
With two teenagers, a treats bowl, watching MJ in surround sound

And there are many stories but the one I have most often told
Was you off lead on the oval, in the red footy markings were you rolled.
I turned away for just a minute and when I turned back
I saw my white dog, well he was pink, but there's nothing wrong with that!

I walked along our track today and the pain it weighted me down
And the only dog that I could find was black and he hung around.
That not so friendly visitor was back to howl at me
For those of you who know Black Dog, he's not the dog to see.

The rain has come with such relief because I won't walk tomorrow
Bailey, you know that there is so much pain and a drowning kind of sorrow.
And if you have not loved a pet and if you can't relate
Then just think of losing a friend or perhaps your best mate.

I walked along our track today and I walked it all alone
Bailey I miss you so very much and it's a long walk home



Give dog adoption serious thought first

Bringing a dog into the family is a decision that should be thoroughly considered and not made on a whim.

Baulkham Hills Shire Council, in conjunction with Hills District Kennel and Training Club Incorporated, will hold a talk about the responsibilities of owning a dog.

Information will be provided by a veterinarian, an animal behavioural instructor, an animal groomer and animal control officers from the council.

Topics covered will include how to select the right breed, where to purchase a dog, health and maintenance, training, grooming, council regulations and responsibilities.

The meeting will be held on December 1, 7pm-8.30pm in the George Bell Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground Carrington Road, Castle Hill.

Admission is free but bookings are essential.

To book call Cris on 9639 5755 or Dianne on 9654 3833.

OWNING A DOG . . . (Front row, from left) the Kennel Club's Pam Wood, Janice Lyons and Belvane Pasons, and (back row) Ron Fairclough and Geraldine Kearney, the council's companion animal officers.



Training is not what you do the moment you need your dog to behave. It is what you do to prepare for those moments.

It's football season here in the U.S. I'm not really a sports fan, but I enjoy getting together with friends to watch a game. But I wasn't surprised to learn how much training an NFL player does during football season. Their weekly schedule includes multiple meetings on offensive and defensive strategies, workouts and physical therapy, and, of course, training practice.

Players have FOUR practice sessions for every one game they play.

Remember when your group obedience instructor talked about the importance of practice outside of class? Maybe that sounds familiar, but that was the part of class where the trainer went on and on about boring stuff (yeah, I know, I saw you checking your phone while I was talking). But the boring stuff is where you'll find the real secret to a well-behaved dog.

We trainers practice our dogs' training A LOT.

We don't just teach a dog "heel" and then pour ourselves a glass of bubbly to celebrate our perfection.

Teaching the concept of walking at our side, in a straight line, at a snail's pace (compared to their normal speed) is only the beginning. Once the dog has learned the behaviour, we practice it in parking lots and outdoor shopping centers. We practice 100 yards away from other dogs, then 50, then 25. We practice around shopping carts and bicycles and...well, I think you're starting to get the idea.

I call it the Green Eggs & Ham part of training. Can you do it in a house? Can you do it with a mouse? Can you do it here and there? Can you do it anywhere?

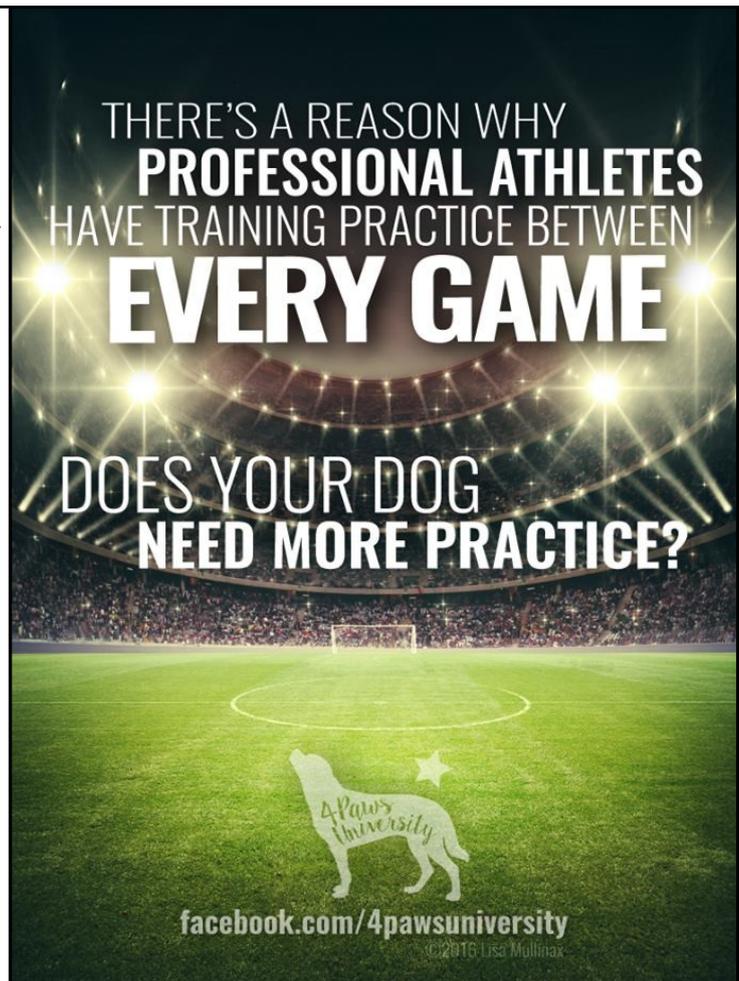
Because simply teaching a behaviour in class or in your living room does nothing to prepare your dog for the times you REALLY NEED him to give you his full attention and walk nicely on leash.

The practice isn't just for your dog, by the way. It's also for you. Training is a mechanical skill, as Bob Bailey always says. It takes practice to get the coordination and timing down so that we can effectively communicate with our dogs. If you're fumbling with the leash and treats in the living room, will you be ready when you encounter a dog on a walk?

It often takes a lot of convincing to get my clients to stop taking their reactive dogs on regular walks in the neighbourhood and instead spend two weeks practicing in a less stressful environment. When they finally give in and take my advice, that two weeks of practice results in a team that is in sync and ready for the next challenge.

Don't wait for the moment you encounter a distraction to start your dog's training. Practice that training until you and your dog are working like a team instead of adversaries.

Soon, you'll be a well-oiled machine ready to take on any challenge.



How Does My Puppy Learn?

By John Rogerson



Having acquired your new puppy, how do you go about teaching him all of the commands that are necessary in order to end up with a well socialised and easily controlled adult? One thing is for sure and that is without any formal education your pride and joy will end up being out of control and a liability to you and your family. Puppies have no concept of how to interpret and obey commands as they grow and mature and, like children, must have some formal education if they are to realise their full potential. So we will begin by examining how a puppy learns in order to understand how we can train it.

There are basically two types of behaviour, innate behaviour which means pre-programmed in at birth, and learned behaviour which means that it is acquired as the result of personal experiences in the environment.

Innate behaviour can be manipulated genetically and will depend on your chosen breed of dog and how strong certain traits were in its parents and grandparents. This is unfortunately where lots of pet owners get things wrong as they select a breed on its looks rather than on its likely behaviour. Most dogs that end up with behaviour problems are merely displaying normal behaviour for that breed but in an inappropriate environment!

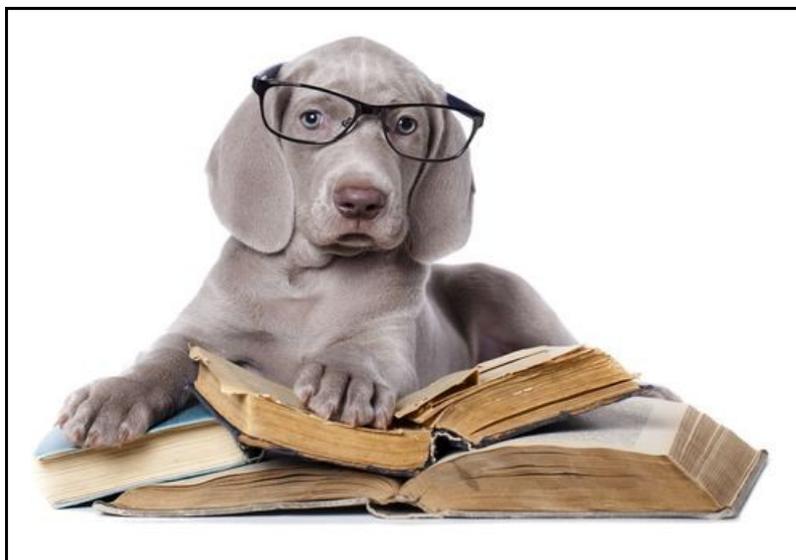


Learned behaviour is what we are more interested in because we can manipulate the learning process so that we end up with a well-trained dog that has learned to display only appropriate behaviour within its environment. For training to begin you will need two basic ingredients, one is a reason for the puppy to adopt a particular behaviour, and the other is your ability to influence how your puppy reacts to certain situations. And so we come to Thorndyke's Law of Effect which basically says that behaviour changes because of its consequences. If a behaviour has a pleasant consequence then that behaviour will be likely to be repeated. If a behaviour has an unpleasant consequence, it is less likely to be repeated. Simple isn't it? Well it would be apart from one significant point and that is that the dog must associate its actions with something pleasant in order to want to repeat the behaviour or something unpleasant in order to avoid the behaviour on the next occasion. Thus, punishing a dog more than two seconds after the event will be doomed to failure as the punishment cannot be linked to the crime in the dogs mind. Similarly rewarding the dog more than two seconds after a desirable behaviour will not increase the likelihood of the behaviour being repeated. Promising a reward at some point in the future or threatening punishment is also unlikely to get the required behaviour!

Rewards have to be given immediately for them to be effective and the type of reward given will have a bearing on how strong the behaviour becomes. A pat on the head and the words "good boy" will be sufficient for a simple behaviour such as sitting on command. But calling a dog away from other dogs when it is playing will need something much more rewarding such as a game with a favourite toy or a tasty food treat in addition to the pat on the head and the words "good boy".

Most owners are totally unaware of the multitude of rewards that are available to them for use in training. By answering the following questions you should end up with a list of rewards that you can make use of in training your puppy.

1. Name five things, in order of importance, that your dog would choose to play with if he or she were given a free choice in the matter.
2. Name five foods in order of preference that your dog would like to eat if given a free choice.
3. Which of these forms of physical attention does your dog like the most? Place them in order of his preference: stroking, cuddling, patting, tummy tickling, scratching.
4. Name five places that your dog would choose to go if a free choice was given and what would he choose to do when he arrived there?
5. Which words or phrases start your dogs tail wagging happily and which words or phrases cause a tail lowered, ears back, looking sorry for itself expression?
How did you do with the questions?



If your dog's favourite thing to play with is another dog, if he has no real desire to be stroked, cuddled etc., and would choose to go somewhere by himself and do something independently of you when he arrived there then you do not really have much chance of influencing his behaviour and will have to resort to using food for the time being until you have built up a better relationship with your pet.

If your dogs favourite toy is the one that you supplied for him to play with, if he likes to be stroked and touched and would choose to go somewhere with you and wanted to be around you when he got there then you will have a major influence on how his behaviour develops.

One of the most important things to teach your puppy is to come back when he is called and this training is best started when he is just a few weeks old and as soon as he has settled into your environment. It is a big mistake to wait until the puppy is a few months old to start this training as he will want to explore further afield by then which makes training him to come to you much more difficult. Begin in the house by calling his name and using the command "come". Offer him a food treat as an inducement and remember to smile and appear inviting. There is no need to bellow the command, just an ordinary spoken voice will do. When your puppy arrives expecting the food treat stroke him first, tell him what a good puppy he is and then give one small treat, wait for three seconds and repeat the sequence of touch, speak and treat at least seven more times. Use small pieces of his ordinary dog food and do not be tempted to use anything extra tasty.

Special food treats are going to be reserved for when you go outside where there may be many distractions for him to cope with. The sequence or rhythm of rewards is crucial to teaching a good recall. Remember that you do not simply want your puppy to come to you, grab the food and then wander away again, you want him to come and remain with you in the expectation that there are more rewards to come.

Just as soon as he is reliable in coming to you whenever you call him in the house it is time to start taking him outside and repeating the lessons. The sooner that you do this the better as his instinct to explore will not be very well developed and he will usually not wander too far away. It is best to use a fully enclosed area away from roads for the first lessons. The trick now is to repeat the training but now you must keep him guessing as to what reward(s) he will get when he returns, when he will get them (three seconds, five seconds etc.) and how many rewards he will get. When you have repeated this lesson a few times you are ready to put Mr. Thorndyke's law into effect. For this last stage in your training you are going to teach a consequence to the behaviour of coming when called and a consequence of disobeying the command to return. For this stage you will need a fifteen-foot length of very fine cord attached to your puppy's collar and an assistant who is known to him. Let your puppy off the lead but allow it to trail the line behind. When your puppy is preoccupied in sniffing or exploring, call him back to you. If he comes to you then explode with excitement and give several rewards. If he does not come immediately then have your assistant stand on the end of the line to restrict his movements. Walk up to your puppy and show him all of the rewards that you had for him. You can tease him with them but do not let him have anything. Then calmly walk away and ignore him. Ask your assistant to take their foot off the line and you will probably find that your puppy will run to you. Be a little cool and rejecting, do not offer any rewards! Your puppy should wonder why you are not giving him anything and will probably try to attract your attention but just go on ignoring him. When he does wander away, call him to you and when he comes running you should shower him with rewards. It usually only takes a few sessions for the puppy to realise the consequences of his actions and you should then get a good, fast recall each and every time that you call him.

Remember that if you have good control over your dog then he will enjoy more freedom than a dog that is out of its owner's control.



The next important behaviour to teach is walking on a leash so that your arm is not pulled out of its socket.

You may be interested to know that a canine beautician, can tell within minutes how hard the dog pulls on the lead without ever having seen the owner walking it. This is because when they put a lead on to restrain it for grooming, if the dog pulls and struggles against the restraint, then it follows that the dog will do the same when it is being walked.

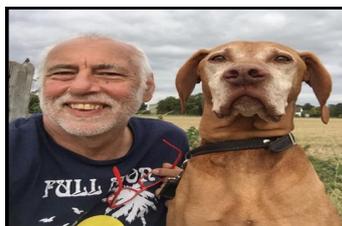


Just think of the concept of how most owners introduce their puppy to a collar and lead. They attach a soft collar for a few minutes each day until the puppy accepts it. They then attach a lead and let the puppy drag the lead around to get it used to that piece of equipment. Is it then surprising to see owners being dragged around when they are at the end of this lead? Any puppy can learn how to walk correctly on a lead by teaching them how to accept being restrained. This is done by attaching a soft collar and lead and fastening the lead to a fixed object. The puppy should then be groomed and handled all over, ignoring any wriggling and struggling and only releasing it when it is calm and accepting of the restraint. If this is done everyday before the puppy was old enough to go out for walks then pulling on the lead would never arise. This is due to a process referred to as premature conceptual learning. Fancy words that simply mean that when an animal is still very young we can imprint lots of information about the world in which it lives before it has the chance to explore these boundaries for itself. Thus, if we teach a puppy to accept that, when fastened on a collar and lead to an immovable object, its world only extends to the extremity of the lead and struggling, biting at the lead or pulling has no effect on the restraint then it will usually accept this for life.

House-training is one of the simpler tasks to teach a young dog because most arrive completely housetrained, courtesy of their mother! What the pup's mother will have taught her puppies is to move away from their sleeping area and seek out an alternative surface to the one that they rest on in order to eliminate on. To continue this training you must simply provide access to a surface or surfaces for your puppy to eliminate on that are different to those that it rests or sleeps on. This is how it is achieved. First of all keep a diary of your puppy's eating times, resting times and elimination times for around three days. You should notice a pattern emerging here where the puppy wants to sleep at certain times, is hungry at certain times and wants to go to the toilet at certain times and on certain surfaces. All you need to do, armed with this knowledge, is to predict when the danger times are likely to be when he wants to go and give him access to YOUR preferred toileting surface, whilst denying him access to anything other than his preferred sleeping surface. - simple! The only problem is that the surface that you choose may not be as attractive as the surface that he chooses. To encourage him to use the surface that you decide he should use all you need to do is transfer the smell of his urine and faeces to this surface via a pair of rubber gloves and then take him there at the appropriate times and allow him to sniff. A little trick here is to scatter small food treats in a large circle around this area which will encourage him to sniff the ground and then, nature will do the rest.

- Don't use ammonia based cleaning agents to clean up afterwards as the smell often encourages the dog to use these areas again.
- Don't scold your dog physically or try and rub its nose in the mess. This will have the effect of making your dog hide from you when he wants to go to the toilet thus making the job of house-training much more difficult for you to accomplish.
 - Only scold your dog verbally if you catch him in the act of going to the toilet.
- Keep a daily diary of elimination times, exercise times, your dogs preferred toileting surfaces etc. This makes it easy for a behavioural specialist to then provide you with a programme that will cure even the most difficult house-training problems.
 - Always inform your vet if you notice any sudden change in your dogs toileting behaviour.
- Be patient and try not to clear up any mess with your dog in attendance as this may have the effect of him learning to mess on the floor in order to gain attention.

It is a sad fact that some breeders make the job of house-training much more difficult for owners by keeping their puppies on just one type of surface. Without at least two surfaces available it is an impossible job for mum to teach her puppies how to move to an alternative surface when they want to go to the toilet. So when you go to get your puppy ask to see where the litter is being kept and then ask to see where they go to the toilet!



Car travel usually presents few problems, as long as the puppy is given many opportunities to associate going in the car with pleasant experiences. For many puppies the first car journey is very traumatic when they leave their mother, brothers and sisters for the first time and the car takes them to a new and strange place. Often the second journey is taken in the car to go to the vets and that again is not a particularly pleasant experience so you can see the reason that some puppies fear the car as a vehicle that will transport them to somewhere they may not choose to go themselves! The best, and safest, place for your puppy to be in your car is behind a sturdy dog guard or, better still, a purpose-made dog cage that can be removed from the car and taken into the house. Start in the house by getting your puppy used to spending short amounts of time in the travelling cage by feeding small portions of his food inside. If you can also use the cage to let your puppy rest inside when he becomes tired, then so much the better. This will habituate him to the cage and decrease any suspicion that he may hold toward it. The next step is to put the cage in the car and allow the pup to spend some time in it with you sat in the driver's seat. A few food treats usually help to get the puppy to settle. There is no need to go anywhere or start the engine, just sit and let the puppy realise that nothing unpleasant is going to happen. When your puppy is relaxed and confident then you can get him out and either take him for a walk or play with him so that he comes to associate going in the car with a very pleasant outcome. When he eagerly tries to jump in by himself then you can take him on as many short journey as possible, making sure that he has something in the cage to occupy his mind. It is usually not necessary to sedate a young dog that is a bad traveller and this can often make matters worse, just use the above advice and your new dog will look forward to trips out in the family car.

Socialisation and what it means

It is a common mistake to think that by merely taking your puppy to lots of places where there are people and other dogs then it will grow up to be well socialised. Socialisation means learning how to behave in a socially acceptable manner with other people and animals within the community. Strange as it may seem the puppy's mother begins the socialisation process by becoming more and more rejecting of her puppies which then forces them to seek social relationships elsewhere. A mother that is too protective of her puppies and constantly gives in to their demands for affection and attention does immeasurable harm to their proper social development.

The best way of achieving good social contact with people is to teach your puppy to play with toys so that this activity becomes one of the highlights of his day. Make sure that you teach your puppy to understand the rules under which games are played as, just like children, being allowed to win too many games can turn a puppy into a bully who gets bad tempered when he loses. Likewise, if he loses every game that he plays then he will not want to play with you at all. Retrieving is one of the best games to play with a puppy and it is incredibly easy to teach.

First, find something that your puppy is interested in, perhaps a sock or a glove or, alternatively a toy that you have bought for him. When he is wide awake and looking for mischief then get the toy or article and tease him with it. Throw it a short distance and allow him to run and pick it up - DO NOT CHASE AFTER HIM - that will make him think that you are competing for the toy and force him into taking avoiding action. Wait for a minute and you will see that he takes it to a particular spot in the room and lays down with it to chew. SLOWLY get up and move toward him without looking him in the eye and then sit and extend your arm and stroke him and gently reassure him with your voice. Do not attempt to take the toy from him at this stage. When he finally releases the toy, quickly tease him with it and return to the spot that you originally through it from and allow him to pick it up and take it to his 'safe' spot. Once again go quietly over and sit with him and stroke him as before and then repeat the whole process once again and for as long as he retains an interest in playing the game. Play in this manner for a couple of sessions and then change the game slightly. Now you are going to throw the toy and when you pup runs out to pick it up, go and sit in the spot that he usually takes it to. Guess what? He will probably bring it right to you and lie alongside or behind you to be stroked. Repeat this several times and then move your position a distance of two yards or so in any direction. It is quite possible that your puppy will still take the toy to the old location and lie down with it so just ignore him for a few seconds then use your voice to encourage him to come closer to you. Scratching your nails on the carpet will usually do the trick. When he comes to you remember to praise well with your voice and hands before you even think about taking the toy away to throw it for him once again. A couple more sessions and your puppy should bring the toy to you wherever you are sitting and all that remains is to use several toys now so that he releases the one that he has in order to chase and retrieve the one that you have. Remember that if he picks up anything that he should not have it is then easier (and safer) to call him to you with the words "good boy, fetch" rather than the words "bad boy, leave."

When he has learnt to retrieve correctly for you then you can introduce him to all of your friends that visit the house by simply throwing the toy for your puppy to retrieve. Do this a couple of times and then give the toy to them to throw for the pup while you exit the room for a short while. Of course if you were to stay in the room then the puppy would ignore your friends and want to play with you but for the few minutes that you are absent then they become a welcome playmate. This is far better than allowing your puppy to either use your friends as though they were toys or worse, growing up in fear of people that come to visit.

As for socialisation with other dogs all you need to do is find a friend who owns a mature, sensible adult dog and allow your puppy contact with it a couple of times each week under close supervision. Remember that you should not allow your puppy to do anything to the adult in play that will get him into trouble if he tries it on with other dogs when he gets older. It is your role to teach him what is acceptable and what is unacceptable play behaviour. Of course a sensible mature dog will have a great influence on his developing play behaviour around other dogs as well. If you are your puppy's best friend then you should experience few problems and with a little care and understanding he should grow into a much loved and admired family pet.

So there you have it, some examples of how you can very simply and quickly train your puppy using a system that satisfies all of the rules by which the dog learns. Of course if you do not take the time and trouble to teach your dog these things then the environment will do it for you, by rewarding actions in your dog that you will then find unacceptable. But you cannot blame your dog for that, it is either down to you formally educating your puppy or leaving him to educate himself.

by John Rogerson

<https://www.johnrogerson.com/>

Dogs are on the furniture again!



Where did they ever get the idea it was OK to get on the furniture?

Perhaps as a puppy you thought it was cute, you may have even helped them to get up there.

Someone in the household may have fed them while they were on the lounge. They may see the lounge as a happy place to be – they were tickled, brushed, patted, talked to and played with, cuddled in a storm – all on the lounge. The lounge is a truly comfortable place to be and that is where your dog loves to be.

Am I right?

Pros of Dog on Lounge	Cons of Dog on Lounge
They are close to you and feel part of the family	The lounge could smell a bit like their bed
Your dog is comfortable	Dirty foot prints
Dog can see out window better	Lounge needs vacuuming and cleaning more often
Great springboard for the dog	No room for you or your guests
	The lounge could be torn, eaten, chewed
	Lounge guarding could occurs – see notes!!!
	Good spot to chew on bones – very messy
	Lounge wears out quickly – needs replacing!

While the list of cons is quite long – it is perfectly Ok if you decide to let your dogs on the furniture – it's your house, your decision and you set the rules. Some dogs even have their own lounge.

However, if problems occur such as lounge guarding, growling or lifting their lip when someone wants the spot it may not be OK - you will need to do some positive training and provide a nice spot on the floor that is just as appealing.

Hints and tips to get your puppy / dog off the furniture

Best tip is not to allow the dog / puppy on any furniture in the first place. However if its too late for that try the following:

Teach “go to mat” – Simply set up a lovely spot close to where you normally sit in the lounge room, with a lush bed for your dog. Use the word “MAT”.

Lure the puppy to the mat and when they are on the mat – reward them.

Call your puppy to you – reward and then again “Mat” - point to the mat and step to the matt luring the puppy. When the puppy is on the mat “reward.”

Do this several times and repeat each day. Ask them to sit or drop on the mat and always reward. Soon they will know that the mat is a good place - they get a treat when they are there and it’s a great game.

Provide a special toy on their mat or a chew stick – always on their mat.

If they try to get on the lounge – stand up and repeat the process – “mat” and reward.

Have special mats in other rooms around the house –

In the office – ask them to go to “Mat” while you are on the computer or doing homework.

In the kitchen “mat” to keep them out of the way while you are cooking.

On the deck –“mat” instead of begging for food from guests.

In the lounge room – while watching TV or entertaining guests.

Most importantly - don’t forget when you are finished - reward the behaviour with a pat, food or a walk or special game.

Take a mat with you if you visit family, or go for a picnic, or outing.

“My dog growls at me when I want him to get off the lounge”

Lounge Guarding (growling or protecting his area).

Prevent access - Barricade dog from the room with the lounge.

When dog is allowed in to lounge room “park” dog at your feet with a lead on. Reward when the dog is calm.

Teach “OFF” - Throw some food on the floor – say “Off” – Reward again.

Do this several times. **Use “OFF”** – and the reward could be **“Let’s go for a walk” (but only once the dog is off the lounge).**

Incorporate Mat Training as above into training sessions each day.

You could also get on the floor with your dog.
Make being on the floor a good thing – play a game.



Always use a happy tone and be positive.

“I don’t mind my dog on the furniture – but he just won’t move over!”

Teach targeting – the “Touch” command asks your dog to touch your hand.
Hold your hand where the dog has to move over on the couch. Reward.

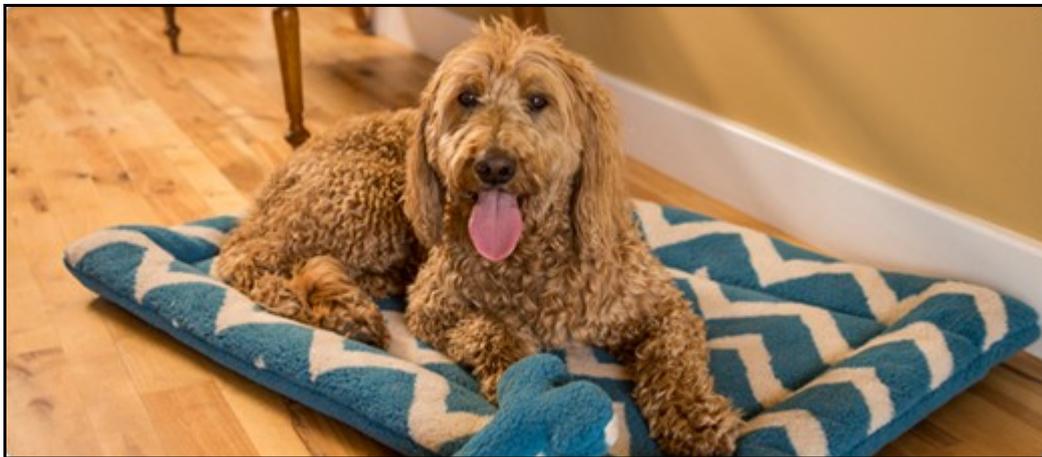
Some clips to help you with this

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHlaPazDkNY> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttEZKk-DtMo>

“My dog launches onto my lap when I am having a cup of coffee”

This is common of dogs who have no boundaries who haven’t had the opportunity of obedience training –some rescue dogs or new dogs to the household.

It is important to teach – **wait, stay, off, matt, sit, drop.**



Get the obedience training in and solid. Reward, Reward, Reward.

Ask your dog to come and reward, wait or stay in front of you – reward and then allow dog to jump up on your lap when you ask them.

I know of several dogs who wait at their owner’s feet until they say “Cuddle time” and the dog gleefully pops up on their lap.

Training is individual and can be unique to your dog and your requirements. Be creative, try different types of training. Be consistent and ask everyone else in the household to do the same.

One owner says her use of essential oils, clove and peppermint (20 drops each) in 1/2 cup cleaning vinegar and 1/2 cup water.....sprayed on wash cloths or hand towels and laid on furniture keeps her dogs off the furniture. Be careful they don’t chew it that could be poisonous.

See Member’s Manual for training and ask your Instructors for help if you are having problems!

Written By: Narelle Brown; Puppy 1 Instructor

NOTICE IS GIVEN

Hills Dog Club Inc.
Annual General Meeting
12th April, 2017

Agenda

1. Open Meeting
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting
4. Financial Statement
5. President's Report
6. Secretary's Report
7. Chief Instructor's Report
8. President to declare all positions vacant
9. Election of Returning Officer & Scrutineers
10. President to vacate chair, hand meeting over to returning officer
11. Returning officer reads nominations received & calls for nominations for vacant positions
12. Election of Office Bearers
13. Nominations & Elections of Patrons
14. Nomination & Election of Auditor
15. Trophy Presentation by President
16. Close Meeting

Please Note: ALL COMMITTEE POSITIONS are declared vacant and Hills Dog Club Inc welcomes Members nominations.

Nomination forms for all Committee positions can be found on pg. 25 of this month's Howler.

Please Note: The minutes of the 2016 AGM were printed in the March 2017 edition of the Howler.

HILLS DOG CLUB Inc.

Introducing

The

K9 Companion Award

An Assessment for Club Members only

Hills has introduced a K9 Companion Award for Club members with dogs in Class 8 or above and will hold Assessments as follows.

Monday Night 22ndth May 7.00pm

The following elements are essential to undertake the test:

- Dogs must be at least 12 months of age. They must have completed our Beginner 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. **Note – 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 Hand this form into the office at least 3 weeks before the test date with your \$20.00 fee

Name of Handler: _____

Dogs Name: _____

Phone number & email address: _____

Paid _____

Nomination of Committee & Office Bearers

I wish to nominate _____
For the position of _____
Nominated by: _____
Seconded by: _____
Accepted _____

This form must be returned to The Secretary no later than 21 days before the AGM

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I wish to nominate _____
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Nominated by: _____
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Hills Dog Club Inc. proudly presents:

John Rogerson revisited!



John Rogerson
KCAI, (ADV. WT., ADV BEH)

Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd April 2017

**See our Club web page
for more details!**

<http://www.hillsdogclub.com/>

John Rogerson revisited. A Seminar with John Rogerson KCAI, (ADV. WT., ADV BEH)

Yes, I will be attending the John Rogerson Seminar, I have ticked the appropriate box.

Club Member 2 Day \$ 150

Club Member 1 Day \$ 90

Non Member 2 Day \$ 200

Non Member 1 Day \$ 120

Name.....

Contact Phone number/s.....

Email.....

Enclosed is my cheque/money order being payment for the following day/s.

(Please make payable to Hills Dog Club Inc.)

Saturday \$..... Sunday \$..... Saturday & Sunday \$..... Total \$.....

Post to: Hills Dog Club Inc. c/- D.Atkins 9 Colbran Ave, Kenthurst NSW 2156.

Enquiries: diatkins@bigpond.net.au