

# Howler



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

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

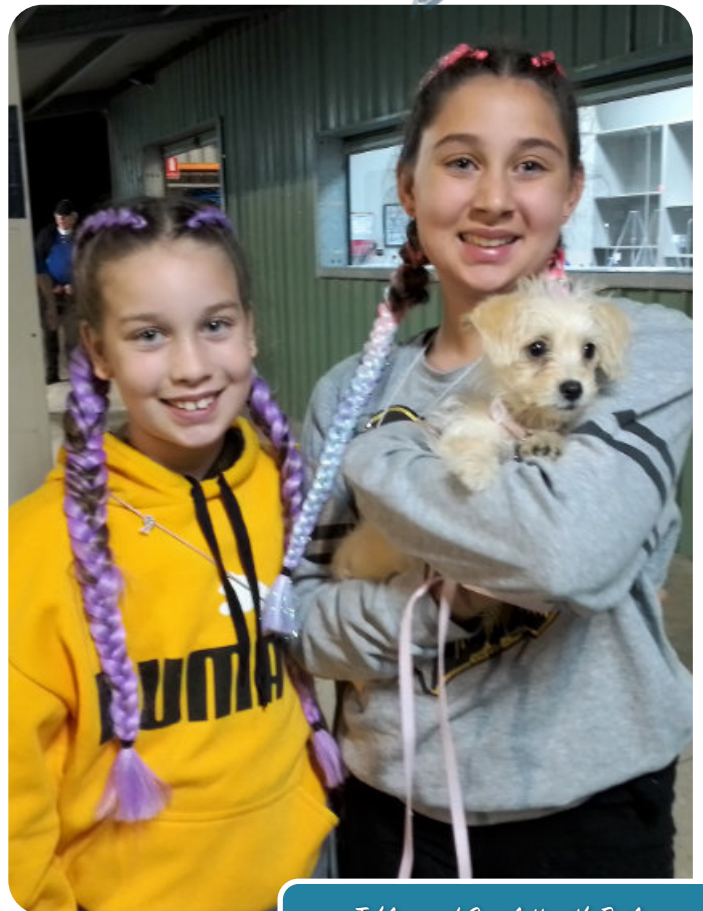
May 2023



*Brad and Archie*

THIS TEAM HAVE BEEN PROMOTED TO BEG. 3 AFTER COMPLETING PUPPIES 4

WELCOME TO SOME OF THE MANY NEW MEMBERS WITH THEIR BRAND NEW PUPPY



*Tahlia and Scarlett with Bailee*

No training 16th May



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:

10 May	14 Jun	12 Jul
9 Aug	13 Sep	11 Oct
8 Nov	13 Dec	

NO TRAINING

Tue 16<sup>th</sup> May  
(Grounds closed - Council use)

EDITOR'S NOTE

Hello everyone,

It has been.... Wait, before I forget, please note that there will be no training at the club on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May due to an event held by the council, and, after all , they own the grounds so...

It has been a quite month , April, what with school holidays and public holidays but there we are. It will be good to see many members and their dogs on the grounds again soon.

Note that the Monday evening classes can be a little coolish, some dogs may not like it, most humans don't like it, dress both dogs and humans appropriately. Which reminds me, always wear closed shoes on the grounds.

So the main reminder in this issue is the K9 Companion award (p7). This is a test that is open to all members and their dogs and all members are encouraged to give it a go. As a rule anyone who has got to Beginners 8 would be able to pass, if in doubt, ask your instructor. The other event on offer at the club is the Canine Dental Lecture on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May. (p3)

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From the editorial side of things, I would like to encourage every member who has a story or anecdote or famous recipe for cookies (for humans or dogs) to send them in. We would love to find out about dog friendly parks, beaches coffee shops or any place you have personally taken your dogs. The article on p5 will give you all the little things that may help you.

We have also dug up and republished a lovely anecdote and background about the Stay written by Maureen Shepherd. Enjoy that on p4.

As always, thank you for your continued support of the club, and we wish you a wonderful month with your canine companions.

Editor, Graphic Designer  
Tony Vink





## PROMOTIONS - MARCH 2022

### Intermediate to Advanced

- Jess with Hamish the Cavalier



*Jess and Hamish*

Very slow month for promotios. :-)

Well done to Jess and here wonderful Cavalier Hamish who have been promoted to Advanced Class. That's where we get to some really tricky stuff and we encourage everyone to aim for this class.



## Canine Dental Lecture

Lecture by **Christine Hawke**

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Large Meeting room 7:30 pm



All members welcome to attend





*This reflection was originally published in the Howler many years ago. The above is a recreation of the photo Maureen writes about here.*

## PLEASE STAY

By Maureen Shepherd

This is an impromptu snapshot of seven dogs, at various stages of training, doing what three handlers of a single mind requested. Which of course, was a "Down Stay". This was not a set exercise, nor predetermined, nor have these seven dogs as a group, done this in such close proximity before. But the three handlers never doubted for one nano second the dogs' obedience and willingness to comply.

This scenario came about just as we three had finished our "Dog Chat". Realising that time had got away from us, there was a general rush to gather and put away. Without even bothering to see what the other two were doing, it seems we all just put our dogs

down where they were, said "stay" and walked off in three different directions. Upon my return I marvelled at the scene. Called out to the boss "Hey Di, this is how stays should be done". There was a call for a camera and Hey Presto! The dogs were of course praised, they did not go mad, they were not fed, and we three did not return to the heel position. All dogs did as asked without question, and did not expect a gold medal for their efforts. Then the boss asked for the written word to go with said photo. So ...

*"The stay exercises should not cause any more angst than a dog being asked to 'come'."*

The exercises in the competitive obedience ring all have a practical basis. They are not just circus tricks – although sometimes I do wonder! The stays and most particularly the down, being a very stable position, is called upon many times throughout a dog and handler's life together. It can be lifesaving.

The stay exercises should not cause any more angst than a dog being asked to "come". It is not rocket science. Perhaps a more common sense approach might be adopted, for in continually doing trial group stays with a dog that has, or is beginning to have a problem, may not be the answer. A more natural practical demonstration once the dog knows the true meaning of the word stay, may be more beneficial. So to coin a modern phrase, it might just pay to climb out of the square you live in and try a simple straight forward living by what you have learned approach, to the dreaded stays, in asking your dog to remain where placed is a very normal and natural part of training, as easy on the mind as recall.

Most of us do not spend years training just for a blue card. We dedicate ourselves to enhancing the quality of life for our dogs, so that they may join in most of our daily activities without being a nuisance or embarrassment to others, and so becoming a true Canine Companion (CD). This is what it is all about. To be able to stay in a crowded room, a shopping mall, a park etc in a calm accepting manner, no demands. No expectation, other than quietly waiting for your return, is a most satisfying feeling for both. Ten little people were very satisfied with themselves Tuesday morning!





## TIPS FOR AUTHORS OF ARTICLES FOR THE HOWLER.

At Howler HQ we are always happy to receive correspondence and submissions for inclusion in our monthly newsletter. We have a core of prolific writers for the Howler and we honour their passion for all things dogs, training, breeding. Having said that, we also welcome occasional authors, people who have something to get off their chest, want to share an experience or an A-ha moment in their path with their dogs. All of our contributors are valuable and we thank you again.

As editor and layout designer, our current Howler Team has produced over 50 editions of Howler. This significant body of work has taught us a few things about producing a newsletter and how to get things done. Yeah, I know, we have occasional hick-ups but that is normal.

To facilitate a smoother workflow on the editing and layout side of things and to help authors to submit their work without too much fuss, we have put together a few guidelines for submission of articles .

### *Tips of the trade:*

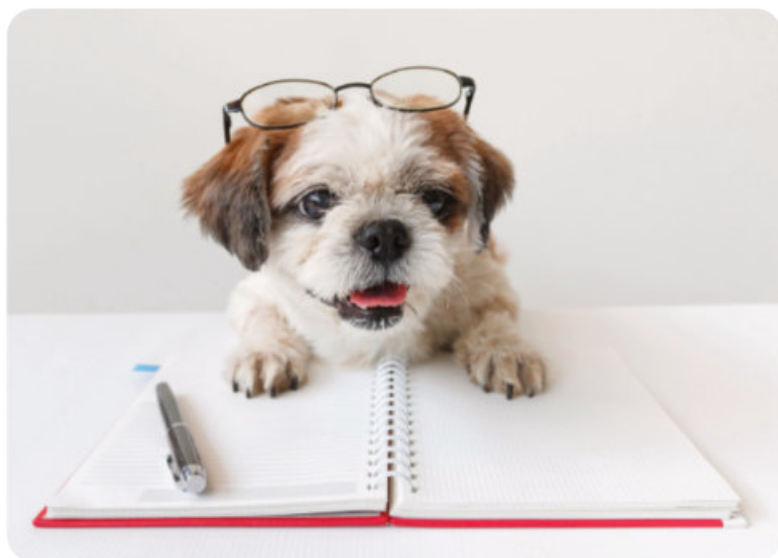
Because articles are laid out in the Howler to conform to a pre-planned look and feel, and articles are individually placed and the accompanying images added according to available space, it is useful to supply the components of an article separately. A Text Document and Images.

### *Document Formatting:*

- Use as little (fancy) formatting as possible. Stick to normal text, using only bold, italics and underline to emphasise different parts of your work if necessary.
- Use basic paragraphs. Bullet points and/or number points are very effective too, but keep it simple for clarity.

### *Content:*

- It's your own. We think that's pretty clear. However, sometimes we have published articles with express permission from authors who did not send in their work personally.
- Appropriate and of interest to the Howler's intended audience. Again, this sounds straightforward... anything dogs right? Well, yes and no. There are a myriad of topics which are totally fair game. Training techniques, used on other animals/people. Safety tips, Health, Grooming, Play, Animal Psychology. More than this, we really love stories about personal experiences you have had with your dog or pets.
- Include a title (be creative!)





## Images:

• Send photos you own or have taken yourself and which you give us the right to use with your article. And on that topic:

a. Copyrights: **Don't send or use images from the internet** unless you can supply the original web link with proof that it falls in the Creative Common free to use licence. Using images from the internet may land us in trouble.



b. Labelling Images. If possible, the names of persons and dogs (animals) that appear in the image should be used as the file name:

for example: *Ellen and Ava in the park.jpg*

c. More is better: If you have three or four different images to accompany your article, send them all. We might use them all or just a few or one.

• We may source our images from paid stock image sites (photos, illustrations, graphs etc.). If you have a certain look in mind, you can write a note at the bottom of your article to give us an idea of what to look for. Eg: *[to editors: a photo of a dog in a baby stroller would look great with this article]*

• Most important request. Do **not embed images** in documents. There are multiple reasons: Firstly it makes placing the article in a layout problematic for our Layout artist. Secondly, some software programs tend to reduce the quality of the images when we try to extricate them from the document which then leaves us with a poor photo to use in the article.

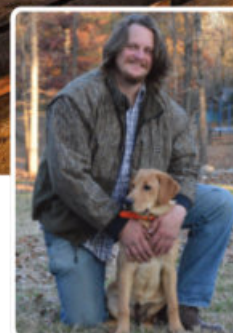
• Image types. Most image file types are acceptable, **jpg, png, tiff, eps**, (pdf and gif too : just be aware that pdf's are like documents with jpegs embedded and they get reduced in quality according to the compression settings used when the pdf was saved... sorry its technical. - and gifs are mostly moving image or very low (bad) quality)

• Image size. If your image is below 100Kb, it will be too low in resolution, it may be a copy of a copy of a copy... Try to get the original image file. They tend to be from 800Kb to over 3 Mb.

• We use the following order of Preference for image use in the Howler:

- First images with People and Dogs (up to 3)
  - Then photos of Dogs or People only (whatever is appropriate)
  - Then group Photos (Over 3 people)
  - Then Stuff.
  - Then Landscapes... which hardly ever get used, we are not National Geographic.
- So that's why more is better.

The above points are not rules or absolute laws, just things to do to make both our authors and the editorial team's work a little easier. If you are in doubt about anything you can email us to check, or better still, after all is said and done, just send what you have.



**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 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023 @ 7.15pm**

**Tuesday morning 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023 @ 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 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 in to the office at least  
3 weeks before the test date with your \$20.00 fee**

Name of Handler: \_\_\_\_\_

Dog's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Paid \_\_\_\_\_

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

When:..... Wednesday **10 May 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

Confirmation Judge 2025 list selection





# Hills Dog Club Inc.

## 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

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 en-  
quiries should be addressed in writ-  
ing to The Secretary, POBOX 392  
Round Corner NSW 2158 or

**NOTE EMAIL ADDRESS for  
all contacts at Hills Dog Club**

[infohillsdogclub@gmail.com](mailto:infohillsdogclub@gmail.com)

Hills Howler is available at the club-  
house 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 [hillsowler@gmail.com](mailto:hillsowler@gmail.com)

## NOTICE:

FUTURE NOMINATIONS  
TBA

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/>



## BOOK REVIEW.

*Jock of the Bushveld*

By Sir Percy FitzPatrick.

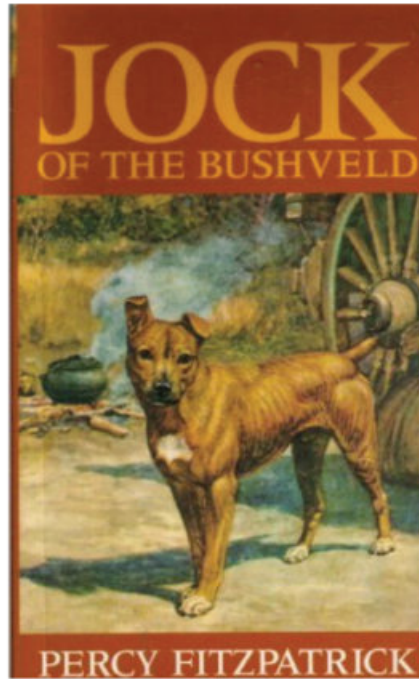
Longmans, Green and Co, 1907

Reviewed by Tony Vink.

As an expat, South African boy, this book pulls at my heart-strings. Granted it has been some time since I read the book and I had almost forgotten about it when I was reminded of this true story told by the author from his days as a transport rider in the lowveld of South Africa, an area now more famously known as the Kruger National Park.

Jock of the bushveld was originally written as a children's book, and I still read it to my boys who are 10 and 12 now, however there are references to practices and society which are not in vogue anymore and will need some gentle explaining as I come to it.

The young man, FitzPatrick, needing a companion as men do in those lonely times, happens upon a litter of Staffordshire Bull Terrier cross puppies, owned by a fellow



transporter. The quintessential runt of the litter becomes the star of the book. They have many adventures along the way and Jock turns out to be a loyal and courageous dog who will be deterred by nothing and no-one. Learning valuable life lessons as a pup; defending his dinner from the chickens to wild animal chases and stand-offs; grappling with baboons and generally protecting his owner. He is well loved and well behaved. (Where

can we get a dog like this today?) There are hunts gone right and hunts gone wrong, men behaving badly and being noble. It was a different age where living in the wild was very dangerous and a dog had to be taught very clearly what the rules were to survive.

Funny anecdotes about other dogs and men will give you a good laugh, like the dog with a sense of humour and the line of carriers who diverted from the path to circle around Jock who eyed them suspiciously.

The book gives a truthful recollection of how life was in the early nineteenth century in South Africa. I particularly recognise the three-legged cast iron pot with its perpetual stew- never empty and supplying all travelers of nutrition with a combination of hare, bush pig, chicken or whatever other game was available, topped up with the occasional vegetable if they were lucky. At home I still have a set of these pots and on occasion I will do a great 'Potjie kos' with Ox-tail, veg and wine... but I digress.

Let me finish by saying that this book will delight you mostly, surprise you some and eventually leave you melancholically sad- it's not Disney. You'll love it.



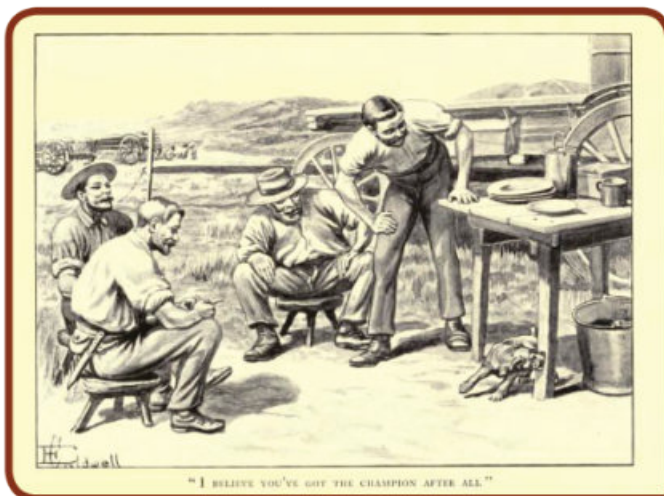
Since the book was published in 1907, it is now in the public domain and can be read and listened to online. Hereunder are the links to both media options.

Here's a link to the Librivox version of the book: <http://bit.ly/JockoftheBushveld>

If you'd like to read the book go to: <http://bit.ly/JockOTBbook>

The second movie was a 3D animation, published in 2009: <http://bit.ly/Jock3Danimation>

And there is even a statue of Jock in Barberton: <http://bit.ly/JockStatue>



"I BELIEVE YOU'VE GOT THE CHAMPION AFTER ALL."

*The books in the public domain also contain the original illustrations by the authors personal friend*



# HILLS DOG CLUB INC. - 2023/24 COMMITTEE

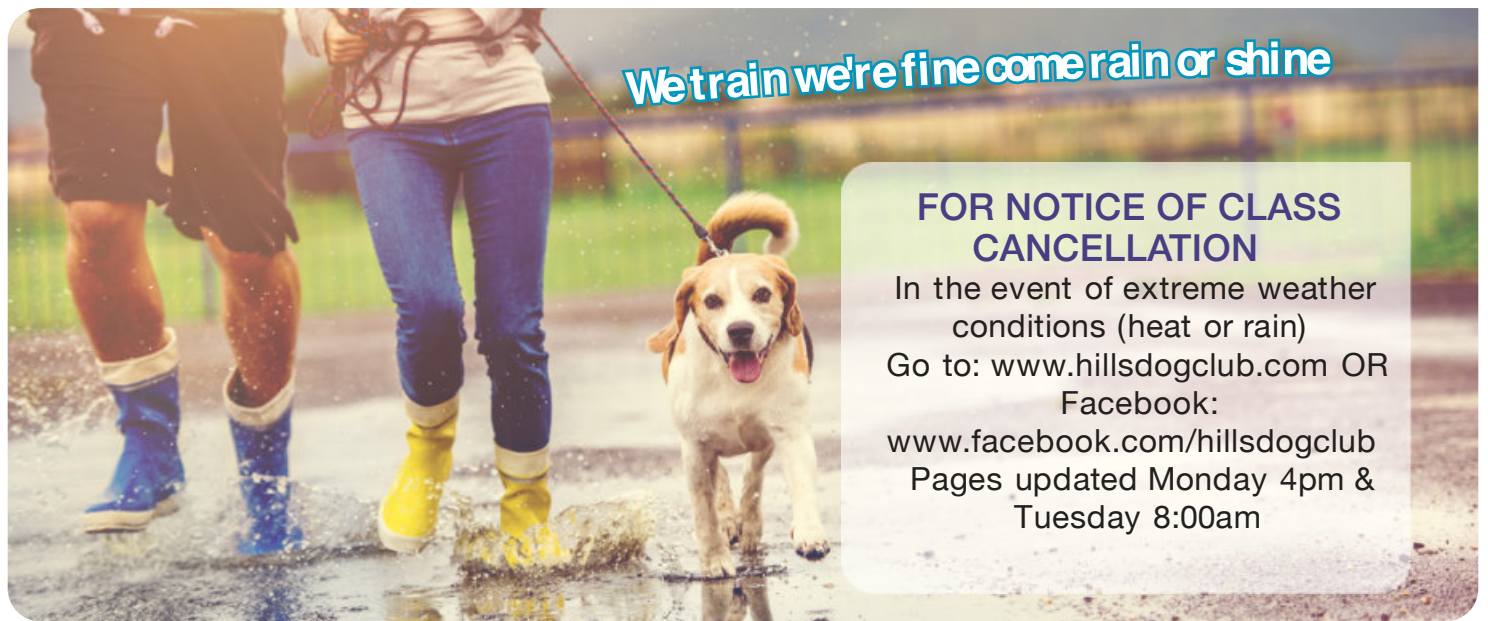
PRESIDENT: - - - - - Vanessa Van Vugt  
 VICE PRESIDENT: - - - - - Anne Small  
 VICE PRESIDENT: - - - - - Bob Watters  
 SECRETARY: - - - - - Jane Lamont  
 ASSISTANT SECRETARY: - - - - Belvane Parsons  
 TREASURER: - - - - - Lynne Sheather  
 ASSISTANT TREASURER: - - - - Janet Power  
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: - - - - -  
 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:  
 - - - - - Laura Hadfield  
 - - - - - 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  
 - - - - - 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.**



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