

PAWPRINT

KNOX OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB

APRIL 2017



Meryl Birchall with Raulf

Awarded Most Successful Dog at the
Cavalier Club's Open Agility Trial

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KNOX OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC

(Affiliated with the Victorian Canine Association Inc.)

Knox Park, Cnr. Ferntree Gully & Scoresby Roads, Knoxfield, Vic 3180
PO Box 1093, Mountain Gate, Vic 3156 Telephone (03) 9763 1444

As usual, March has flown by. The number of new members joining has been similar to previous years. I always find it interesting when new members start and comment on how many members the club has. Just in case you are wondering, last year we printed approximately 650 renewal notices. Not everyone renews, but in the last few years we would be at around 1,000 members prior to sending out the renewals.

For those family members that come down each week and don't actually train the dog, please consider offering your help to the club, even if it is just occasionally. By now you should be aware that we run a canteen and dog shop each week, a BBQ on the 1st Sunday of the month and the bar is open each week. All these areas are always looking for extra help. There are also maintenance jobs which need attending to. So if you think you can help in any way, please leave your details at the office or canteen. And if you think you can't help because you don't know about serving people or dog equipment, we will provide guidance and training.

Till next month
Trevor May

By the time you read this, our Obedience daylight saving classes will have finished. There are several people we need to say thank you to starting with Peter, Bob, and Chris, the instructors who turn up and give up their free time on a Tuesday night.

On behalf of the instructors I would like to say thank you to the club members who turned up and enjoy the classes we presented. On a personal note, I would like to thank Peter, Bob, and Chris for the support you all have shown me, it's really appreciated.

Margaretha Hovens
Vice President.

The Dog Cafe

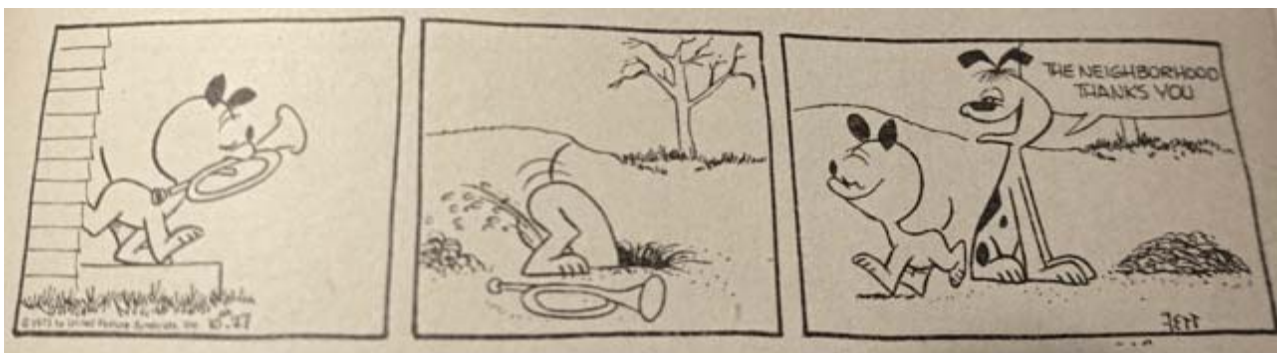
120 Boronia Road, Boronia 3155



Open
Thursday to Sunday
9:00am to 4:00pm

The café is a place where you can come with your fur-babies and enjoy some special time together or even meet some new friends.

Facebook - The Dog Café
thedogcafeboronia@gmail.com
www.thedoggiecafe.com.au
Enter at rear via Park Crescent



ABOUT PAWPRINT

Pawprint, our monthly newsletter is full of information, training tips and important news about club happenings. Pick up your copy on the FIRST SUNDAY of each month - they are found on the counter at the club kitchen or the sign-up office window.

THE TEAM

Luke Kenny
Christine Devlin
Marta McKenzie
Nola Williams
Kristy Proudlock
Norman Morcom

Articles appearing in this magazine are considered to be of interest to the members, but do not necessarily express the opinions of the Committee or of the Editor.

Legal note: The Editor and the Committee of the KODC accept no responsibility for the accuracy of claims made by advertisers in this magazine

4th GENERATION STARTS FOUNDATION

Our Foundation Class had its youngest ever participant during March. Nola Williams' 16-week-old miniature poodle puppy Sapphire had a wonderful fun time and learned lots very quickly. Sapphire started Baby Puppy class and Foundation Class on the same day.

Little Sapphire is the 4th generation of Nola's poodles she's trained at KODC. We've had a few members train more than 4 dogs at our club, but we don't know of anyone else who's trained a continuous mother-to-daughter lineage for 4 generations.



*Photo courtesy of Raw Imagery Professional
Photography in Ferntree Gully*

Sapphire's mother Pearl (4 years old) and grandmother Crystal (10 years old) are currently in our agility group and each has earned titles in obedience, rally-o and dancing as well as agility.

Around 15 years ago, Sapphire's great-grandmother Bonny (now deceased) and Nola were in our club's obedience demonstration team of dogs and handlers which gave choreographed displays at various events all around Melbourne. So little Sapphire has a long heritage of training success to live up to.

facebook

Facebook Page:

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

Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/136733145581/>

**KODC Treat
Pouches**
ONLY \$25 AT THE SHOP



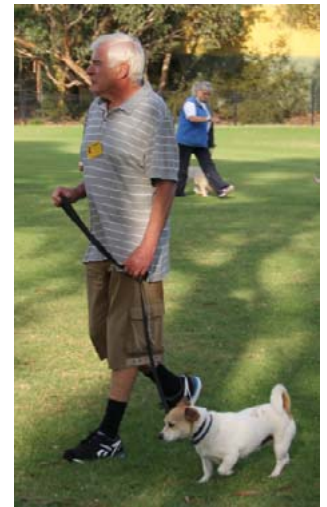
*Anna & Czar
gained their Rally Novice Title*



*Chris & River
gained their CCD Title*

TIPS ON HEELING AND HEEL POSITIONS

- Work on Turns, (left, right, left & right about) as well as 270 & 360 degrees.
- Practice on side steps and backing up.
- Teach both finishes at the same time, it helps the dog to learn to discriminate cues
- Train heel position from all angles and approaches
- Slow, stop and go heeling around the obstacles.
- Work on perfecting sits at your side, making them faster and straighter
- Heel in tiny circles in both directions.
- "Reverse finish". That means start in heel position and ask the dog to front



WARRNAMBOOL OBEDIENCE, AGILITY & JUMPING TRIAL

Each March, the Warrnambool Dog Training School runs a combined event for Agility, Jumping & Obedience.

With only 50 members, the club managed to run 4 trials for Agility, Jumping & Obedience, over 2 days.

The competitors said that the weather was kind, sunny but not too hot, the grounds were well maintained and green.

KODC club member, Marta McKenzie and her border collie, Georgia, had a very successful trial, scoring 3 passes in Companion Dog Excellent and securing a CDX Title.

Georgia's formal kennel name is now Khayoz Heavens Star RN CDX



Below: The scenery at Warrnambool Dog Training School on competition day



TRAINING WITH DISTRACTIONS

For trainers of all skill levels, proofing behaviour for reliability, despite strong environmental distractions is one of the most elusive training goals. But hope is on the horizon. Here are 3 techniques that can set up both you and your dog for successful distraction training.

Start small

Training proceeds more rapidly if dogs are set up for success. The fewer opportunities your dog has to rehearse incorrect responses, the higher the percentage of correct responses you will see as the behaviour develops.

When training your dog to respond reliably to your cues despite distractions, start small. If you have taught your dog to sit in your living room, chances are slim that he will be successful if your next practice session takes place at midday Saturday at a local farmers' market! Introduce new distractions gradually.

Make a list of potential distractions for your dog and rank each on a 1–5 scale. Let 1 be a very mild distraction (music playing in the background, perhaps), and 5 a more serious distraction (cats running past just fifteen feet away). Remember that distractions are cumulative—multiple level-one distractions in a given environment can really add up quickly!

If your dog cannot respond reliably to a cue 5 feet away from where someone is jogging, he may be able to respond 50 feet away. Start where he is successful and move closer to the distraction incrementally once the dog is successful.

Higher rate of reinforcement

Increasing the rate of reinforcement can be an effective way to keep your dog's attention despite environmental distractions. Increasing the reinforcement rate means temporarily lowering other criteria for correct responses. For instance, if you have been teaching polite leash walking in a low environment and your dog averages twenty paces for a single reinforcement, when training in an environment with new distractions you may need to temporarily reduce your criteria so you are reinforcing your dog every four steps. In a significantly more distracting environment, you may need to reward every single step initially, and then gradually increase criteria for distance according to your dog's success.

Higher value of reinforcement

Use better stuff!

"Your reinforcement has to smell and be more appealing than that dog's butt."

If in a new environment your dog won't respond to a low-level reinforcement like kibble, try something better—steak, hamburger, liver, cheese, or whatever he likes best.



AROUND THE GROUND



AROUND THE GROUND



BAIRNSDALE BLITZ

This year, Alois and Martha Schnider blitzed the Bairnsdale agility trial with their border collies Chloe and Bella and came home with a mountain of passes and prizes.



You can see a full list of their 10 passes on the Trials Report page elsewhere in this publication. But particularly noteworthy results were Alois & Chloe's two First Places in Masters Jumping. All four of them combined to also take out Second Place in Masters Strategic Pairs which is a complicated event.

Bairnsdale is a popular holiday location, particularly during the languid days of autumn. There's quiet boating and fishing on the Gippsland Lakes. It generally has a quiet relaxing feel. But the atmosphere in Bairnsdale is greatly enlivened by the activity of their annual 2-day agility trial that attracts participants from throughout Victoria and New South Wales. Excited dogs and their busy handlers add a different vibe.

We cannot leave a report on the Bairnsdale trial without mentioning Susan Witty's little Pep, whose pass in Novice Snooker gave him his SD title. Pep is notable as having a perpetually joyous attitude which is reflected in him always appearing to be smiling bright-eyed in any photo.



DAISY, DAISY, GIVE ME YOUR ANSWER DO

Among the pocket rockets in our agility group is Tracey Beresford's little cavoodle Daisy. This scribe would love to be able to ask Daisy what is it that makes her run so fast. Please Daisy, let us all in on your secret.

Masters Jumping is the fastest of all agility events, but it's an event where the diminutive Daisy excels.

During March, Tracey ran Daisy to many successes at the Warrnambool and Cavalier Club trials. Among their achievements were two first places in Excellent Agility plus a first and two second places in Masters Jumping.

Perhaps part of Daisy's secret may be that the poodle part of her parentage has endowed her with particularly long legs. Those legs have gained her the nick-name "Spider-Monkey" at home.



MIGHTY MIDGETS

Each March the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club runs an agility trial for dogs of any breed, providing they are on the short side. Only dogs jumping at the two lowest heights can enter. It's fondly referred to as "The Midgets Trial". This year it was again a wonderful success.

KODC has earned a reputation for the prowess of its small agility dogs and our club was represented in 19 out of the 23 events.



Some of our newer participants really showed the way at the Midgets Trial. Foremost among them, Meryl Birchall with her toy poodle Raulf convincingly won the overall "Most Successful Dog at the Trial" award with a First and three Second Places. They also gained Raulf's Novice Jumping title on the way.



Denise Basile also impressed with her sheltie Bella.



Norm Morcom's mini poodle Pearl picked up a couple of first places in jumping and pairs.



Even Alois Schnider got in on the act. He normally runs much larger Chloe (see opposite page), but ran Mimi while Anne Warren is getting back to full mobility.

Congratulations to our members who have gained titles and passes in their trials.

Norman Morcom with Bonola Silver Blackpearl RA JD

Excellent Jumping	Cavalier KCS Club	18/3/17	1 st Place
Novice Strategic Pairs	Cavalier KCS Club	18/3/17	1 st Place

Meryl Birchall with Hoku Petite Raulf

Novice Jumping	Cavalier KCS Club	18/3/17	2 nd Place
Novice Jumping	Cavalier KCS Club	18/3/17	2 nd Place
Novice Agility	Cavalier KCS Club	18/3/17	1 st Place
Novice Strategic Pairs	Cavalier KCS Club	18/3/17	2 nd Place

Martha Schnider with Montulata Jades Gem CCD RE ADM JDM GD SD SPDX

Masters Strategic Pairs	Bairnsdale & Dist DOC	4/3/17	
Masters Strategic Pairs	Bairnsdale & Dist DOC	5/3/17	2 nd Place
Excellent Gamblers	K9 Agility Club	3/12/16	
Excellent Gamblers	Bairnsdale & Dist DOC	5/3/17	Title GDx

Alois Schnider with Inaword Chlo RE ADX JDM JDO GDX SDX SPDX

Master Strategic Pairs	Bairnsdale & Dist DOC	4/3/17	
Master Strategic Pairs	Bairnsdale & Dist DOC	5/3/17	2 nd Place
Masters Gamblers	Bairnsdale & Dist DOC	5/3/17	3 rd Place
Masters Jumping	K9 Agility	11/2/17	
Master Jumping	Bairnsdale & Dist DOC	4/3/17	1 st Place
Master Jumping	Bairnsdale & Dist DOC	5/3/17	1 st Place
Master Jumping	Bairnsdale & Dist DOC	5/3/17	2 nd Place
Master Jumping	Warrnambool DTS	11/3/17	
Master Jumping	Warrnambool DTS	11/3/17	
Master Jumping	Warrnambool DTS	12/3/17	1 st Place
Master Jumping	Warrnambool DTS	12/3/17	
Master Jumping	Warrnambool DTS	12/3/17	2 nd Place
Master Jumping	Warrnambool DTS	12/3/17	2 nd Place

Susan Witty with Pep CD RE JD AD

Novice Snooker	Bairnsdale & Dist DOC	4/3/17	Title SD
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Margaret Keil with Ch Aukero Limited Edition

Novice Gamblers	Bairnsdale & Dist DOC	5/3/17	
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Alois and I won First Place in Novice Strategic Pairs. A humorous aspect was that Alois was running Anne Warren's dog Mimi and I was running Nola's dog Pearl, so we each had those ladies' names on our competitor/exhibit numbers on our arms.

Even the judge joined in the banter we were copping by announcing "Ladies, you may enter the ring".

Any midget dog trial is always a happy affair with less time stress than normal trials.

Crystal and I also gained First Place in Excellent Jumping with a time less than half the SCT set by the judge.

Tracey Beresford with Daisy JDX AD

Master Jumping	Warrnambool DTS	11/3/17	1 st Place
Master Jumping	Warrnambool DTS	11/3/17	2 nd Place
Excellent Agility	Warrnambool DTS	12/3/17	1 st Place
Excellent Agility	Warrnambool DTS	12/3/17	1 st Place

Marta McKenzie with Khayoz Heavens Star RN CD

Companion Dog Excellent (Open)	Warrnambool DTS	11/3/17	1 st Place
Companion Dog Excellent (Open)	Warrnambool DTS	11/3/17	1 st Place
Companion Dog Excellent (Open)	Warrnambool DTS	12/3/17	2 nd Place

Anna Myers with Czar

Rally Obedience Novice	Berwick ODC	15/5/16	
Rally Obedience Novice	Southern ODC	12/11/16	2 nd Place
Rally Obedience Novice	Southern ODC	12/11/16	Title RN

ANOTHER GRAND CHAMPION TITLE FOR MAC

On Saturday 25th March, we successfully completed a level 10 night track around the streets of North Cranbourne. Mac worked very well under warm conditions. This will entitle Mac to earn his Track & Search Grand Champion Title.

With the approval of Dogs Victoria, Mac will be known as O.GRAND CH. TS GRAND CH.TCH YEOVILLE MASTERMIND UDX RAE AD JD ET

Needless to say I am very happy we made it. This will close the chapter on the Track & Search Title for us.

Mac has earned 23 titles in 7 events to this day, nearing his 10th birthday.

He is my one and only and I love him more than myself.

Marta



Around The Ground



WHY CHOCOLATE IS NO GOOD FOR DOGS

With Easter coming there will be chocolate everywhere. The toxic ingredient in chocolate is a bitter-tasting stimulant called theobromine. It's naturally found in cacao beans from which chocolate is derived. The amount of theobromine in chocolate typically depends on the type. Darker, purer chocolate tend to have the highest levels but it's also found in milk and white chocolate.



Theobromine mainly affects the heart, central nervous system and kidneys. Symptoms will occur between 4 and 24 hours after your dog has ingested chocolate.

Theobromine doses in the region of 100-150 milligrams per kilogram of body weight are toxic to dogs. A Labrador weighing 30 kg consuming a 500 gram bar of dark chocolate is highly toxic. However, a West Highland Terrier weighing just 10kg should be reduced by two-thirds.

Signs of chocolate poisoning include vomiting, diarrhea, restlessness, increased urination, tremors and seizures.

It can be hard to tell how much chocolate your dog has eaten. Best to contact your Vet for advice.



Knox Obedience Dog Club Membership Fees

Juniors (10-16 years)	Yearly Fee \$30 + Joining Fee \$25 = \$55
Single Adult (17 years and over)	Yearly Fee \$50 + Joining Fee \$25 = \$75
Family Unit (2 Memberships included) Additional Memberships (Adult \$20, Junior \$10)	Yearly Fee \$80 + Joining Fee \$25 = \$105
Pensioner/Senior	Yearly Fee \$30 + Joining Fee \$25 = \$45
Dual Pensioner/Senior	Yearly Fee \$50 + Joining Fee \$25 = \$65

*Children under the age of 10 are not permitted to have control of a dog in any of the classes.

Note: Joining Fee is paid for the first year only, or if membership has not been renewed within 21 days of the due date. The financial year begins on the 1st November and ends on the 31st October

REDUCED FEES APPLY for new memberships after mid year. See Office Staff for details.

INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

CLUB RULES

No bitches in season permitted on or near the training ground.

No dogs allowed on the ground without a lead, unless under the supervision of an Instructor.

No children other than child handlers permitted on the training ground.

No smoking is permitted while attending class, in the clubhouse, under the covered area outside the Clubhouse, or within 5 metres of any active Class.

No hitting a dog, except when trying to prevent a fight or prevent a dog biting a person.

Unless crated, Dogs are not to be:

- left unattended,
- tied to a car,
- tied to any Clubhouse structure,
- left in the Clubhouse, or
- left in the care of children under 10 years old.

Instructors may secure their dogs as they deem appropriate while instructing.

Dogs are allowed in the Clubhouse, excluding areas set aside for the preparation or serving of food, except on such days as Committee considers inappropriate. No dogs are to be left in the Office, except those belonging to the Club members working there.

Dog droppings to be cleaned up **immediately**.

Handlers must be a **financial member** of the club to attend training and use of the club facilities.

All members must wear their current membership card while attending training.

Any dog showing visible signs of any **disease** or **injury** will be asked to leave the training ground and to seek veterinary advice.

A dog that has bitten, or in the opinion of the training panel shows an extreme tendency of unprovoked aggression towards people, **must** be muzzled.

Members have the right of appeal against muzzling if it can be proved, beyond doubt, that the dog was provoked.

Removal of a muzzle will be decided by the committee, at the recommendation of the Training Panel.

YELLOW BANDANAS

The Knox Obedience Dog Club has available Yellow Bandanas to identify dogs that may need a bit of space around them.

The reason for needing one could be:

- Nervousness
- Recovery from an operation (i.e.: convalescing)
- Unsociable to people or other dogs

When approaching a yellow bandana dog please make sure your dog doesn't go running up to it freely, just as the handler of the yellow bandana dog should be mindful of the space around their dog at all times.

So if you feel your dog needs to be given their own space, then go to the office and obtain a bandana for the day. Please return them when you have finished, so that other dogs can have their turn.

AVOID DOGS TIED UP AND IN CRATES

You may have noticed that some members and instructors who use the Competition Obedience and Agility rings leave their dogs unattended, either in a crate or tied up, while they are working or helping other members.

Also, some instructors tie their dogs up to the goal posts whilst they are teaching a class.

PLEASE AVOID LETTING YOUR DOG APPROACH ANY DOG THAT IS LEFT UNATTENDED.

SUNDAY TRAINING TIMES

8:30-9:30am	First Session (Classes 2, 3 & 4)
9:45-10:45am	Second Session (Baby Puppies, Beginners, Advanced Puppies & Class1)
From 8:30am	Obedience Trial Work
From 8:30am	Rally-O Trial Work
8:15-9:00am	Agility Advanced Trial Work
9:05-9:45am	Agility Intermediates
9:50-10:30am	Agility Beginners
10:50-11:40am	Foundation

KODC COMMITTEE 2017

President	Trevor May
Vice President	Margaretha Hovens
Vice President	Luke Kenny
Treasurer	Vicki Reid
Club Secretary	John Nielsen
Ass. Secretary	Megan Pepprell

General Committee Members

David Thorn	Nola Williams
Debra Cartledge	Norman Morcom
Kirsten Petersen	Patricia Roberts
Martha Schnider	Susan Witty

TRAINING CALENDAR

APRIL	2017		
Sunday	2	Normal Training	
Tuesday	4	Agility Twilight Training	
Sunday	9	Normal Training, except Agility	No Agility Training (Moorabbin Trial)
Tuesday	11	Agility Twilight Training	
Sunday	16	NO TRAINING	Easter Weekend
Tuesday	18	Agility Twilight Training	
Sunday	23	Normal Training	Class Testing (2); Games Workshop in Agility
Tuesday	25	NO TRAINING	Anzac Day
Sunday	30	Normal Training	Class Testing (B, P, 1, 3)
MAY	2017		
Tuesday	2	Agility Twilight Training	
Sunday	7	Normal Training	
Tuesday	9	Agility Twilight Training	
Saturday	13		KODC Tracking Trial at Ballarat
Sunday	14	Normal Training	KODC Tracking Trial at Ballarat
Tuesday	16	Agility Twilight Training	
Sunday	21	Normal Training, except Agility	Class Testing (2); No Agility Training (Stratford Trial)
Tuesday	23	Agility Twilight Training	
Sunday	28	Normal Training	Class Testing (B, P, 1, 3)
Tuesday	30	Agility Twilight Training	
JUNE	2017		
Sunday	4	Normal Training	
Tuesday	6	Agility Twilight Training	
Sunday	11	NO TRAINING	Queen's Birthday Weekend
Tuesday	13	Agility Twilight Training	
Sunday	18	Normal Training	Class Testing (2)
Tuesday	20	Agility Twilight Training	
Sunday	25	Normal Training	Class Testing (B, P, 1, 3)
Tuesday	27	Agility Twilight Training	

INSTRUCTORS 2017

Agility - Norman, Alois, Wendy

Obedience Ring Work - Marta, Tim, Gordon

Rally Obedience - TBA

Tracking - Trevor

Foundation - Alois, Christine, Anne, Norman

Baby Puppy - Megan, Patricia

Advanced Puppy - Peter

Beginners - Kristy, John

Class 1 - Bob, Ray, Warwick

Class 2 - Mark

Class 3 - John, Peter

Class 4 - TBA





OBEDIENCE

RALLY-O

TRACKING

AGILITY

