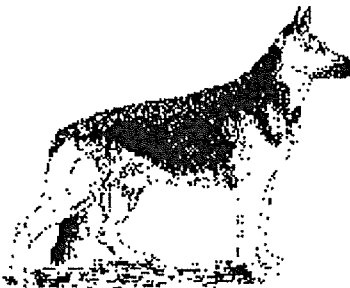
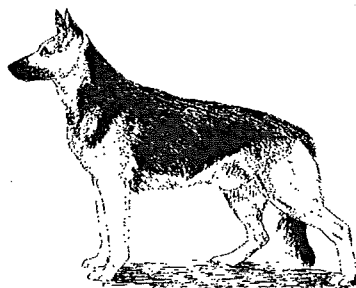
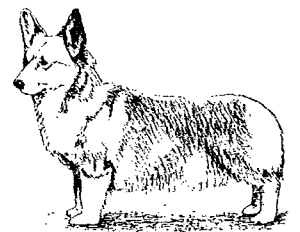
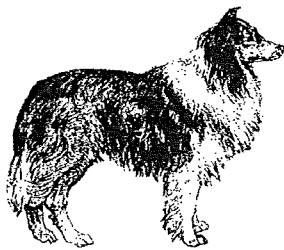
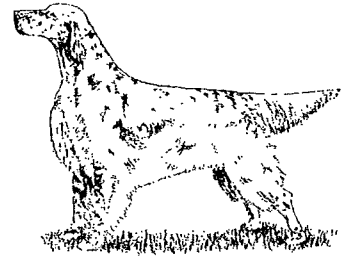
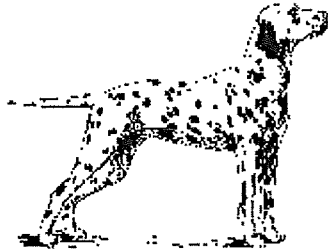


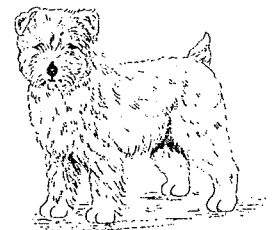
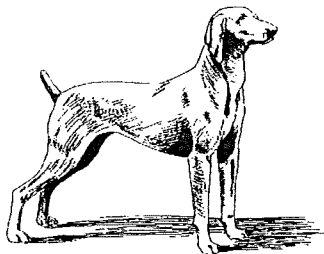
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Incorporation No A5419H

ABN 79 874 613 605



Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc
PO Box 186
GEE LONG 3220
Phone: 52 434 555

April 2002
Issue No
121

CLUB CALENDAR

May

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--|
| Thursday | 2 May | Puppy Kinder for puppies 8 – 16 weeks |
| Friday | 3 May | Trial Working Bee – to be advised |
| Saturday | 4 May | BACK-TO-BACK AGILITY TRIAL |
| Sunday | 5 May | Class 1 Intake. Puppy Intake for fully vaccinated puppies under 6 months |
| Sunday | 12 May | Spirit of the West entries close |
| Wednesday | 15 May | Newsletter closes for articles, reports, etc |
| Saturday | 18 May | Spirit of the West Challenge |
| Sunday | 19 May | Puppy Intake for fully vaccinated puppies under 6 months |
| Monday | 20 May | Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm |
| Sunday | 26 May | Newsletter available |

June

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|--|
| Sunday | 2 June | Class 1 Intake. Puppy Intake for fully vaccinated puppies under 6 months |
| Tuesday | 4 June | General Meeting – 8.00 pm unless otherwise advised |
| Thursday | 6 June | Puppy Kinder for puppies 8 – 16 weeks |
| Sunday | 9 June | Queen's Birthday weekend. NO TRAINING |
| Saturday | 15 June | Newsletter closes for articles, reports, etc |
| Sunday | 16 June | Puppy Intake for fully vaccinated puppies under 6 months |
| Monday | 17 June | Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm |
| Sunday | 30 June | Newsletter available. End of financial year for all departments |



CLUB RULES

1. Your membership is valid from 1 July to 30 June each year and it is your responsibility to renew your membership by the due date, as **ALL** overdue memberships incur a joining fee. Only financial members may train on the grounds. **(Membership renewal forms will be included in May's Newsletter).**
2. It is essential that your dog is fully vaccinated before training begins. Members must produce current vaccination certificate on joining and renewing membership. There is also a vaccination for the prevention of Canine Cough, which you can discuss with your Vet. **(Please Note: A current vaccination certificate must be sighted when you renew your membership).**
3. Bitches in season must not be brought onto the Club grounds, nor should dogs that are unwell. It is advisable however, for you to attend classes to keep up with the lesson being taught at your level.
4. Exercise your dog before Class, but dogs must be on lead half an hour before and after Classes.
5. No dog is to be left tied up and unattended on the verandah and for the safety of all, please refrain from congregating on the verandah with your dog except when you are at the Office or going to the Equipment Shop

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC

Committee for 2001/2002

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------------|---|
| PRESIDENT | Arthur Thorogood | 52 441 819 | Public Officer |
| VICE-PRESIDENT (1) | Colin Humphreys | 52 822 683 | Training |
| VICE-PRESIDENT (2) | Barbara Mackey | 52 414 243 | Administration |
| SECRETARY | Donna White | 52 561 625 | |
| TREASURER | Joanne Dunoon | 0438522390 | Property Officer |
| TRIAL SEC/ASS SEC | Linda Hunter | 52 484 467 | |
| GENERAL COMMITTEE | Anne Salaviejus | 52 502 556 | Canteen Manager |
| | Victor Douglas | 52 415 401 | Grounds Manager |
| | Barbara Thorogood | 52 441 819 | Hall Manager |
| | Sandy Malady | 52 215 784 | Publicity Officer |
| | Yvette Swan | 52 612 588 | Social Secretary |
| | Terry Thomas | 52 414 649 | Assist. Grounds Manager |
| NON-COMMITTEE | Desma Dickeson | 52 789 585 | Training Supervisor/ Display Team Leader |
| | Petrina Hare | 52 504 777 | Shop Manager |
| | Sylvia Noblett | 52 817 442 | Librarian |
| | Arty Chase | 52 292 818 | Bar Manager |
| | Pam Convery | 52 290 145 | Newsletter Editor jcgret@ozemail.com.au |
| | Helen Green | 52 486 664 | Webmaster |
| | John Wallace | 52 784 734 | Raffle Steward |
| | | | |

The opinions in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc. All Committee and Sub-Committee reports bear the name of the respective Officer.

All correspondence should be addressed to: -

THE SECRETARY

PO BOX 186

GEELONG 3213

Club's website address - http://members.tripod.com/geelong_odc

Newsletter closing date for all items – 15th of each month

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi and welcome to all new Members.

Well we are coming to a very busy time in the next few weeks – Promotion Day on the 28th followed by our Back-to-Back Agility and Jumping Trials on the 4th of May. Many hands are still needed to help out at the Trial in all facets. The Trial Secretary, Grounds Manager and Canteen Manager all require help in their various departments to make this Trial work.

The Promotion Day will see if what you learned can be put into practice and gain a Pass.

The Spirit of the West Challenge comes up on the 18th of May and we will require a good representation to hold on to the Shield and keep the dreaded Wooden Spoon at bay. So remember, there is a Class for you to enter whether you are in Puppies, the Trialling Class or a Class in between. It is a fun day, so come along and compete.

Happy training

A.L Thorogood – President

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Thanks to those members who supported our Hot Cross Bun Drive. How many of you ended up giving yours away as Easter pressies? The club raised \$198.00. Thanks to Cindy Davies who raised over \$100.00 in orders. Great effort!

The movie/meal deal get together was cancelled. Thanks to those few people who did register an interest. Perhaps later in the year?

If you have any ideas on a Club social, please come forward and share them.

Yvette Swan - Social Secretary.

RAFFLE STEWARD'S REPORT

A raffle will be held at the Back-to-Back Agility and Jumping Trials on Saturday 4th May. First prize, which has been donated by Agility Dogs of Geelong, is a pass to the Suzanne Clothier Seminar – valued at \$250.00 (see advertisement this issue). There will be minor prizes also.

For members not attending the Trials on the 4th May, who wish to purchase tickets, I will be pre-selling tickets on Sunday 28th April. The raffle will be drawn on Saturday 4th May. Please help your Club by supporting this effort.

John Wallace – Raffle Steward



SPIRIT OF THE WEST CHALLENGE

President's Park, Heaths Road, Werribee

Saturday 18th May 2002 - Commencing 1.00pm

Classes are available for all members, even our newest puppies and dogs. This is a great social day and you may also win a ribbon. The Club needs 3 members in each Class so that points count towards the Shield, so check with your Instructor as to which Class to enter.

Entries close at the end of training on Sunday 12th May

INNER STRENGTH

Submitted by two members who unfortunately didn't leave their names

- ❑ If you can start the day without caffeine
- ❑ If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains
- ❑ If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles
- ❑ If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it
- ❑ If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time
- ❑ If you can overlook it when those you love take it out on you when through no fault of yours, something went wrong
- ❑ If you can take criticism and blame without resentment
- ❑ If you can relax without liquor
- ❑ If you can sleep without the aid of drugs
- ❑ If you can resist treating a rich friend better than a poor friend
- ❑ If you can face the world without lies and deceit, prejudice against creed, colour, religion, gender, preference or politics.....

THEN you have reached the same level of development as your dog!!!

RAFFLE NEWS!!!!

SUZANNE CLOTHIER SEMINAR PASS

Valued at \$250.00

Kindly donated by Agility Dogs of Geelong

(Exactly who is Suzanne Clothier?)

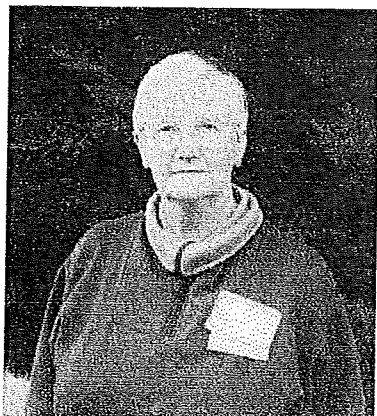
Involved professionally with dogs since 1977. Background is widely varied with experience in breeding, kennel management, grooming, tattooing, showing, training, canine midwifery, puppy aptitude testing, instructing, behaviour consultations, in-home training, K9 Search & Rescue, holistic health care and various club memberships and activities (show/trial superintendent/secretary, and obedience chairman). Served as a committee member for the American Humane Association's Task Force for the Development of Humane Standards for Dog Training).

Taken from the Suzanne Clothier - Biography

Seminar will be held during her Australia wide visit in March 2003

Raffle tickets will be on sale on Sunday,
28th April and at our Back-to-Back Agility & Jumping Trials on
Saturday, 4th May. Raffle will be drawn at the Trial

MEET YOUR INSTRUCTORS



MOIRA MC NAIR

I was born and bred in Melbourne and did not come to live in Torquay until I retired from full time work in the health field, working as a nurse at hospitals such as Alfred, Royal Children's and Box Hill.

I had not been long in Torquay when my cousin gave me one of a litter of pups. As I had had no previous experience in dog training I joined the Geelong Obedience Dog club on 11th September 1988 hoping that in no time I would have the perfect dog companion.

Some of you will remember Dinah, a Kelpie X who barked incessantly during training sessions and even worse was inclined to bite if she thought fit. It was some time before she passed her Basic Certificate.

Following the above struggle I offered to help with training and early in 1995 I became a "Subbie" and spent time with Colin, Cath Davies and Monica Smith to name a few from whom I received valuable advice about teaching handlers how to train their dogs and in due course I passed the test. I have been an Instructor since 1996 and have greatly enjoyed helping handlers and their dogs meet the standards required to gain Obedience qualifications.

I continue to come to GODC because I enjoy the work and the fellowship and last but not least I have Lucy my Golden Retriever who I hope will achieve her Basic Certificate sometime in the future. I know she is spoilt but she is much loved and is making improvement slowly.

In addition to the above, I play golf once or twice a week; enjoy spinning and knitting and am involved in fund raising for the local community centre. I try to keep my house and garden in some sort of order, belong to the Geelong Probus Club and am taking lessons in using the computer (this is really hard work for an old girl!!!)

So you can see that being retired can be quite busy. **Moira McNair**

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB COOK BOOK

It is time to pull out those favourite recipes you have kept secret for so long and share them with other Members.

Our Club will be producing our very own cookbook and we would like contributions from all members. As there will be a "Canine Section" you can also submit your canine companions favourite recipe if he or she has one

**Collection of recipes will close on
Sunday 23rd June
With the Cookbook available early in July**

Write out your recipe, seal it in an envelope, address it to "Cookbook" and drop it into the Office during training. You can either sign your name, your dogs name or a catchy pseudonym.

NEW MEMBERS

The Committee, Instructors and Members would like to welcome the following new Members who have joined the Club recently. We hope you achieve your goals with your canine companions.

17/03/2002

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Davis Peter | McKeown Family | Tuscas Kerri Anne | Kelly Elizabeth |
| Johnstone Rachel/Kilbourne | Mark | Williamson Family | Murphy Family |
| Walsh Family | Godwin Family | | |

7/04/2002

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Webb Kelly | Treloar Family | Bright Family | Hose Jason |
| Matheson Kylie | Miller Family | Hallsworth Family | Curry Family |
| McMahon Sally | Pike Family | Curtis Brian | |
| Riches Michelle/Thornton | Grant | McKee Family | Kelsall Family |
| Kupresanin Family | McGifford Family | Innes Family | O'Conner Frank |
| Pickles Family | Pickard Family | Hobbs Julie | Spalding Narelle |
| Lane Family | | | |

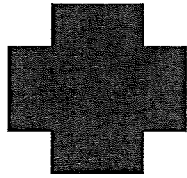


VACCINATION CERTIFICATES REQUIRED

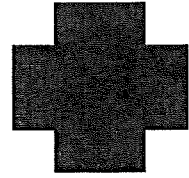
Could the following Members please have their Vaccination Certificates sighted at the Office as soon as possible.

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| "Zoe" – Gray Steve | "Wally" – Curry Family | "Tully" – Agnew Denise |
| "Trysdy" – Wilson Yvonne | "Toby" – McDonald Elly | "Toby" – Borlase Family |
| "Toby" – Elliott Family | "Teah" – Robertson Family | "Sonny" – Wilson Thea |
| "Snoopy" – Daher Heather | "Sasha" – Hovey Jacob | "Ruby" – Yarker Michael |
| "Roxy" – Hoskin Family | "Rolo" – Egan Therese | "Oliver" – Weiss Heather |
| "Nargie" – Finn Anita | "Murphy" – Robertson Carolyn | "Mrs Wilson" – Dallimore John |
| "Moses" – Fraser Bev | "Molly" – Stevenson Shannon/Bryan | Chris |
| "Molly" – Walsh Family | "Mindy" & "Kema" – Pierri John | "Max" – Higgins Family |
| "Lucky" – Petawanit Toi | "Lockie" – Ortlipp Family | |
| "Lizzie" & "Lucy" – Noggler Richard/Rus | Tamara | "Lillian" – Hewitt Penny |
| "Kirby" – Dixon Tam | "Kimba" – Naylor Family | "Kelly" – Frawley Helen |
| "Jonah" – Dunlop Emily | "Jock" – Rogers Family | |
| "Jess" – Hutchinson Kim/McCutcheon | Scott | |
| "Jeffrey" – Lowe Trudi/Abikhair | John | |
| "Jasper" & "Poppy" – Millard Elizabeth/Corney | Robert | "Hansi" – Hodgson Beryl |
| "Gracie" – van Veldhoven | Jamie | |
| "George" – Collins Chloe/Brockman | Steve | "Dee J" – Sleep Justine |
| "Chilli" – McMahon Sally | "Cheetos" – Tomaras Family | |
| "Brocky" & "Riley" – Wilkie Family | | "Bichon" – DeLage Marie |
| "Bella" – Jennings Clint | "Beau" – Wallace James | "Bandy" – McPhee Robyn |
| "Amy" – Gook Candida/Eastwood | Stephen | " ? " – Della-Porta Family |



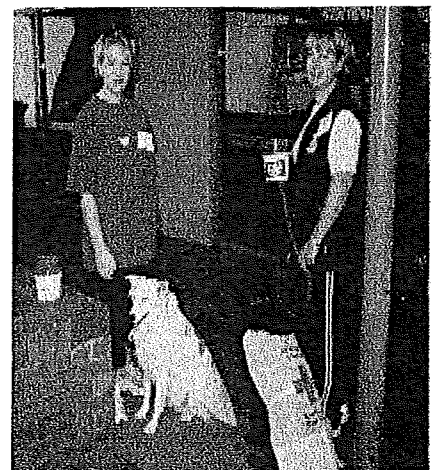
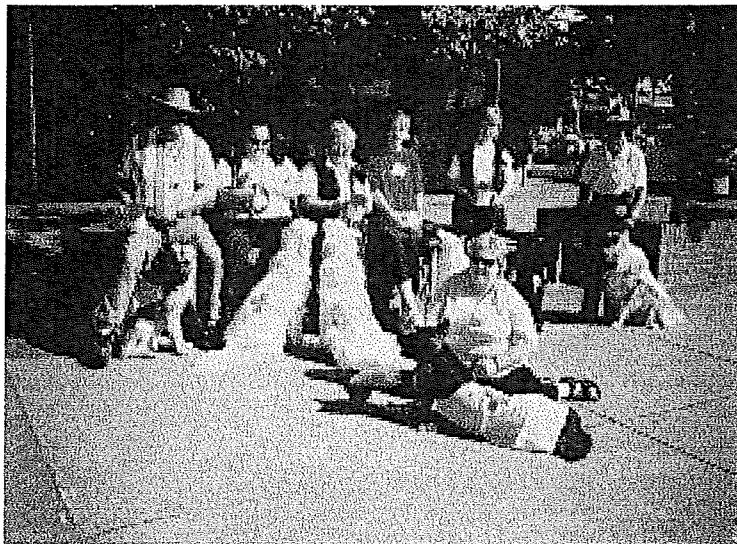


Red Cross Appeal



On Saturday the 21st March the Club collected for the Red Cross. The event was held at the Waurm Ponds Shopping Centre. We had a total of eight members who volunteered their time for this worthy cause. I would like to extend a thank-you to Pam Convery, Janelle Convery, Leonie Kelleher, Linda Hunter, Fred Lehrmann, Meinhard Breiberg and Bill Jackson. It would have been nice to see some new members participate as it's good socialisation for your dog and not to mention how smart the dogs look wearing the red cross capes. (See Pictures). The club raised a total of \$430.05 for the Red Cross which was an excellent achievement in just three hours.

Sandy Malady
Publicity Officer



The Dog's Cold Nose by Arthur Guiteman

Sent in by Elaine Longshaw

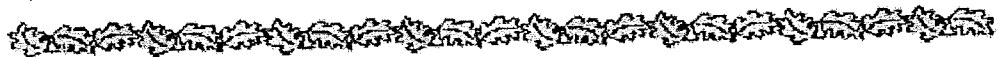
When Noah, perceiving 'twas time to embark
Persuaded the creatures to enter the Ark,
The dog, with a friendliness truly sublime,
Assisted in herding them two at a time.

He drove in the elephants, zebras and gnus,
Until they were packed in like a box full of
screws,
The cat in the cupboard, the mouse on the shelf,
The bug in the crack; then he backed in himself.

But such was the lack of available space
He couldn't tuck all of him into the place;
So after the waters had flooded the plain
And down from the heavens fell blankets of rain
He stood with his muzzle thrust out through the
door

The whole forty days of that terrible pour!

Because of which drenching, zoologists hold,
The nose of a healthy dog always is cold!



What is an Obedience Title?

Author Unknown

"Not just a triumph, not just a stepping stone to a higher Title, not just an adjunct to competitive scores, a Title is a tribute to the dog that bears it, a way to honour the dog, an ultimate memorial. It will remain, in the record and in the memory, for about as long as anything in this world can remain. Few humans will do as well or better in that regard. And although the dog himself doesn't know or care that his achievements have been noted, a Title says many things in the world of humans, where such things count.

A Title says your dog was intelligent, and adaptable, and good-natured. It says that your dog loved you enough to do the things that please you, however crazy they may have sometimes seemed. And a Title says that you loved your dog that you loved to spend time with him because he was a good dog, and that you believed in him enough to give him yet another chance when he failed, and that, in the end, your faith was justified.

A Title proves that your dog inspired you to that special relationship enjoyed by so few; that in a world of disposable creatures, this dog with a Title was greatly loved, and loved greatly in return. And when that dear short life is over, the Title remains as a memorial of the finest kind, the best you can give to a deserving friend, volumes of praise in one small set of initials after the name.

An Obedience Title is nothing less than the love and respect given and received and recorded permanently."



TRIAL RESULTS

Gisborne Obedience Dog Club - Agility Trial – 23rd March

| | | | | |
|----------------|-------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Trish Gavaghan | "Meg" | Novice Agility | 1 st Pass | 3 rd Place |
|----------------|-------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|

Agility Club of Victoria – Easter weekend

| | | | | |
|----------------|-------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Trish Gavaghan | "Meg" | Novice Agility | 2 nd Pass | 3 rd Place |
| Trish Gavaghan | "Meg" | Noice Jumping | 1 st Pass | |

Eastern Suburbs Obedience Dog Club – Obedience – 25 February

| | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Tara Middleton | Ch Megajames Aileen Girl | Novice Obedience | "Highest Scoring Geelong Member" | |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|--|

UNINTENTIONAL TRAINING

Lonnie Sebela – Off Lead Magazine

My philosophy in obedience training is that, for the most part, the dog does only what the trainer teaches him to do. The trainer, not the dog, is responsible for the dog's good or bad behaviour. This is the first thing I tell my new students at each beginning Class. The owner, I explain, cannot stop the dog from learning, and it is up to that person whether the dog learns that he may behave as an obnoxious fool or as an obedient companion. I tell my students to keep this fact in mind should a problem arise in the future. Hopefully, if the student does encounter subsequent problem behaviour he will then be able to solve his own problem by first asking himself the question, "How did I teach my dog to do this?"

As I watch handlers work their dogs in practice, or as I sit at ringside and listen to the moans of exhibitors, I hear the same complaints over and over again; "Why does he always do that?" or "How could he do that to me?" The question they should really be asking themselves instead is, "How did I teach my dog to do that?" The problem usually boils down to a simple case of **UNINTENTIONAL TRAINING**.

Unintentional training can take many forms. Most commonly it occurs because the trainer repeats one routine so often that the dog does it without waiting for the command. **This teaches ANTICIPATION**. A less obvious form of this undesirable training takes place when the trainer allows the dog to perform unwanted behaviour repeatedly without correction. The trainer may, in fact, be encouraging this behaviour without even realising it. **This teaches INCONSISTENCY**. Another form of accidental training comes from the trainer not making the exercise completely clear to the dog, or testing the dog before he is fully trained as to what is required of him. **This teaches CONFUSION**. But the most detrimental form of unintentional training comes in the form of punishing the dog for making a mistake in trying to do something he has not yet been taught. **This teaches FEAR**. In whatever form, unintentional training is something trainers should become aware of and try to eliminate totally from their training programs.

ANTICIPATION

I'm sure at one time or another every trainer has taught his dog to anticipate a command. The dog will learn to anticipate anything if done over and over enough times. After all, that is the way dogs learn!! Teaching anticipation is one of the most common training errors and it is usually easy to identify. Once the trainer perceives what is happening, he can reverse the trend to compensate for over-drilling on that particular routine.

One remedy is to first eliminate the anticipated portion of the exercise or command. Then the trainer can work back up to incorporating that portion of the exercise or command gradually, performing that part only occasionally. For instance, if the dog is anticipating the drop in the "drop on recall" exercise, the trainer should begin doing only straight recalls until the dog no longer show signs of anticipating the drop. Then he should gradually begin dropping the dog occasionally. A good rule of thumb is to do one "with" for every ten "without". At no time should the trainer ask the dog to do more than one drop for every three straight recalls. The ratio will depend on the individual dog – for some; one in five might still be too frequent.

Another way to avoid "teaching" anticipation is by varying the exercise. Varying the training can mean adding just about anything to the exercise to keep the dog guessing. For example, a trainer whose dog anticipates the drop signal in the "signal exercise" should practice returning for a surprise examination one time; then leave the room and return the next time; another time return and release the

Unintentional Training (continued)

dog; and yet another time signal him to do either the sit or recall. **The trainer should avoid doing the same thing twice in a row because repetition is what trains the dogs, and the wise trainer will never want the dog to be able to guess what will happen next.**

One more way to keep from teaching anticipation is to specifically teach the dog not to anticipate! Actually, the trainer will just be showing the dog to pay close attention. Instead of the trainer teaching the dog that he will hear the command to “finish” after every sit in front, the trainer can occasionally “fake-out” the dog by preceding any actual command to finish with some form of nonsense command, like “Hugo, SMILE” or “Charlie, LISTEN”. Of course, if the dog pays attention and sits there “smiling and listening,” the trainer would then praise him. On the other hand, if the trainer has already taught the dog to anticipate and the dog does, in fact, finish before the command to finish is given, the trainer should gently correct the dog and remind him to pay attention. Eventually, this teaches the dog to listen for specific commands and not just any old word that comes out of the trainer’s mouth.

INCONSISTENCY

Inconsistency is something that should seem obvious as the root of many training stumbling blocks. But the obvious sometimes gets over-looked. Many trainers have problems with the dogs they have taught to “walk” the broad jump or run under the bar jump. More surprising is the number of trainers who have taught their dogs such habits as jumping up, gatecrashing or incessant barking – all through inconsistent training. To correct problems like these, the trainer must first recognise that the problem is one of unintentional training. In most cases, after the cause of the problem has been identified, consistency in a proper method correction is the answer.

One cause of inconsistency in training is human nature. When a person fails once, he tends to “try, try again”. This is a serious error in any dog-training program. If the dog goofs once, little harm is done. But a trainer who asks that dog to try it again without correcting the problem is asking that dog to do it wrong again. The first try was a mistake – but rehearsing that mistake is teaching the dog to do it wrong. An example of this is the trainer who allows his dog to run under the bar jump more than once without doing something to prevent it happening a second time. It is easier for the trainer to be inconsistent and say, “What the heck – maybe he’ll get it right this time,” and try again.

Teaching the dog poor or inconsistent household manners is even easier. The trainer has merely to ignore any poor behaviour until it becomes ingrained. Trainers can easily become indifferent to their dog’s behaviour outside the ring. After all, if the dog is getting good scores, who cares if the trainer can’t open the car door without being trampled? The trainer should keep in mind that repeated disobedience becomes a learned behaviour. Bad behaviour must be nipped in the bud before it becomes habit. The trainer must not teach his dog that he can tear through the door one time and not the next. **Another example is the trainer who repeatedly issues increasingly louder commands until he teaches the dog that it isn’t really necessary to respond until his master’s voice reaches full crescendo.**

The trainer is the only person responsible for setting up guidelines for his dog’s behaviour. It is important that he set up good ones and that he be consistent in following through with corrections when necessary – always remembering that repeating a mistake is practicing to err.

CONFUSION

Many trainers tend to over-estimate their dog’s understanding of a given exercise and they confuse

Unintentional Training (continued)

their dogs by expecting more than the dog is capable of giving. It is the tendency of the egotistical human to "test" the dog on an exercise before he is fully "trained" on that exercise. **The trainer may feel that the dog is ready because the dog has done it correctly twice in succession. Or, the trainer may not necessarily feel that the dog is ready, but he tests him anyway just to see what the dog can do. This is a bad practice to get into.** Obviously the dog cannot do something he has not learned. Therefore, when the dog does it wrong, the trainer has several choices he can make. First, he can correct the dog, which will further confuse him. Or, he can fail to correct the dog, which done repeatedly will reinforce the mistake. Or, he can choose to help the dog, which the dog will soon come to expect on a regular basis. Since none of these choices will aid the dog in mastering the exercise, the trainer should resist the impulse to prematurely test the dog he is training

One way to avoid confusion in training is to define the exercise from the dog's point of view. For instance, the dog may understand the "retrieve over the high jump" exercise to mean that he must go and get the dumbbell by using the shortest distance between the two points "even if" the jump is in the way. The trainer may not have made it clear to the dog that the version of this exercise required for competition is to jump the high jump first, no matter where the dumbbell lands, get the dumbbell and carry it back over the jump to the trainer. The way the dog sees what is expected of him may be totally different from the way the trainer sees it.

Another way for the trainer to keep from confusing his dog is to avoid starting with the completed exercise. The trainer should treat each part of the exercise as though it were an exercise in itself – because it is exactly that for the dog. The trainer should not expect the dog to do the "directed jumping", for instance, if he is not yet doing the go-out properly. The trainer should not get the mistaken impression that because his dog does it right once or twice, that he necessarily fully comprehends the lesson. **The dog will not perform incorrectly on purpose to spite or embarrass his handler. The dog performs incorrectly for one reason only – he is confused about the exercise.** He may be confused because he doesn't understand or because he has become fatigued or inattentive but, nonetheless, he is confused. When the trainer sees that his dog is confused, the best thing for him to do is interrupt the exercise. The trainer should stop testing the dog and return to the business of training as soon as he notices that the dog is "winging it".

If the trainer begins "helping" the dog by giving extra commands or by using the word "no" in training practice the dog will be even more confused when the trainer asks him to do this exercise later on in the real trial without help. The person who has managed to train his dog to a high degree of confusion such as this is usually confused enough himself not to realise that the problem is self induced – one of unintentional training. This same trainer will fume with contempt in a trial when his little pooch cautiously pauses over each scent article, looking up as if to say, "Am I getting warm yet, Pal? What do you say there, Buddy? Will you give me a clue?"

FEAR

The most deplorable instance of unintentional training is that of the trainer punishing his dog for something that he should only be correcting him for. We all know who this trainer is – his dogs are clearly recognisable because, whether or not he teaches them anything else, the one thing he has taught his dog is fear.

There are only two reasons for a trainer to punish his dog. One is to stop a deliberate attempt at all-out defiance. The other is for self-gratification or the need to get "revenge" on the dog for frustrating the trainer. Most people are probably too ashamed to admit that at some time in their lives they have struck a dog for the second reason. But if the trainer is punishing the dog in training, he is either doing

Unintentional Training (continued)

it for the second reason or he is grossly misinterpreting the dog's behaviour as overt defiance. This is a relatively easy thing to do. **Most dog people are a little bit guilty of anthropomorphizing, and it is easy for the trainer to think that the dog "knows better" and is deliberately goofing up to make him look foolish. Yet how can a rational adult actually think that his dog would deliberately make mistakes just to spite or aggravate him? If dogs were capable of that type of thinking, no dog in his right mind would choose to foul up, knowing the punishment he would receive.**

If the trainer remembers that his dog's performance is a product of his training, he will not be so quick to put the blame of disobedience on his dog's shoulders. Trainers who punish their dogs do so because they hold the dog responsible for his own actions and believe that the dog has chosen an incorrect response over the correct response. This, of course, is ridiculous!!! If the dog has a clear understanding of the exercise and has not been taught confusion, inconsistency or anticipation, he will pick the correct response every time. Punishment and violence serve only to further confuse the dog, especially if he does not understand the exercise or has become unsure of himself through his trainer's impatience.

Trainers can be very blind to unintentional training. I recall one example of a man who had unintentionally trained his dog to do a slow, slinking recall by using heavy leash corrections and a harsh tone of voice. The man was very dissatisfied with the dog's performance and, with a sort of "I'll-fix-him" attitude, he proceeded to shout and correct the daylights out of the dog, dragging him even more sternly into a sit-front. It is unfortunate that this dog had to be punished for his owner's mistakes. The trainer who is on the lookout for unintentional training errors will be more likely to recognise them when they crop up, he will not blame his dog, and he will adjust his training accordingly.

Human nature dictates that unintentional training will probably always exist, but if the trainer can anticipate it and expose it in his training program he may be able to see clearly enough where the blame belongs and assume the responsibility for all of his dog's behaviour – right or wrong.



OWNER SHOCKED WITH DEAD DOG'S RESURRECTION

A woman who had her dead dog transported by plane for burial was shocked when she picked it up and found that the dog was alive.

Romanian airport workers thought the dog had died in transit and decided to replace it with a matching dog from an animal shelter. They hoped no one would notice. The officials at Bucharest's Otopeni airport didn't realize the dog was already dead before it arrived. They thought they would face legal action, as they mistakenly thought it had died while in their care.

The woman, from Germany, wanted her original dog to be buried in its native Romania. An airport spokesman told the paper: "No one would have noticed the difference, except that her dog was dead and the new one was alive. I don't think she would ever have noticed. It was quite a surprise for her. When she spoke she didn't make any sense."

When she recovered from the shock and realized what had happened, the woman decided to adopt the replacement dog.

“HOMEWORK”

The following article is reprinted from Faithfully Yours – Issue Number 19 1987 – and was written by Dick Wiltink who was Assistant Training Supervisor at the time. Dick was a respected Judge and competitor and was elected President of the Club in October 1999, but sadly passed away before he had a chance to complete the role he had enthusiastically accepted. This article is as relevant today for Promotion Days and Trials as it was in 1987.

“Homework”. Doesn’t it remind us of our own school days! There are still some of us who take our homework seriously, but there are others who either leave the homework until the last day or don’t bother at all. In dog training, any dog will perform only to the extent that it was trained by its handler.

In Obedience Trials, I have seen many handlers blaming their dogs for not performing and overheard many excuses for lost points on heeling, stand for examination, the recall and probably most of all the long sits and downs. Of course it is always the dog’s fault, and the statement “My dog does every exercise perfectly at home”, is always heard.

There are a lot of handlers who take their homework very seriously and regularly train their dog. However, on Trial days even some of these dogs do not perform and lose points, even though each dog prior to the Trial was trained to a “t”.

I have talked to a lot of these handlers and found that indeed they had put a lot of time into training their dog. But when I asked them where they trained their dog the answer was the same, most of them had trained their dogs either in a park or on an oval and some of them even in their backyard. But all of them assured me that their dog had done all the exercises faultlessly. The answer is rather simple. These dogs were trained on their own without any interruptions or interference. Whether you train a small dog or a large dog, my question to you is why go into hiding.

I am a great believer in training a dog on the footpath instead of a park, but I will never tell my handlers to “go to town” straight off. And I also know that when one takes a German Shepherd or a Dobermann or Great Dane or a Rottweiler to the local shopping centre or to town, one has that unfortunate feeling that one walks alone, as people tend to scare away from a person with a large dog on a leash.

There is however, a vast difference between (a) a person with a dog (whether it be a large or small dog) on a leash and (b) a person with a dog (large or small) who continuously jumps up or runs around the handler sniffing and barking at anything in its path. It is thus no wonder that people will let person (b) have all the road. If on the other hand people see a handler with a well-behaved dog at heel, they will stop and watch and some may even want to talk to the handler and touch the dog.

It is also easy to see that handler (b) has never done his homework, especially if they owned the dog from puppy hood. Puppies should be taught from the beginning how to walk next to the master on leash and they should be introduced to all sorts of objects and noises. The handler in instance (a) has done his homework and if he/she owned this dog from puppy hood he/she was aware of the critical periods in the puppy’s life and has provided the correct environment and learning techniques. This handler can be assured that the dog is developing emotionally and socially to its full potential.

To start this “road training”, I always tell handlers to stick to their own environment. Put the dog on a leash and on the first day of training turn left outside their front gate. All exercises can be taught on the footpath. The “sit” is a must at every kerb while the handler waits until the road is clear of traffic before crossing. In between crossings, the “stand” and the “down” can be practised. One can also practise the left and right turns by crossing over to the other side of the road providing it is clear of traffic.

Homework – Dick Wiltink – Faithfully Yours Issue 19 1987 (continued)

This “road training” has all sorts of advantages, one has distractions like other dogs and cats crossing one’s path, people walking by, children on bikes or playing ball, children running past screaming and swinging their school bags, cars and motorbikes going past and some cases people on horses.

The biggest advantage of this “road training” is that the handler and the dog become more aware of each other and both become more alert. And whilst this “road training” is certainly good for the dog it also helps the handler to train themselves to walk in a straight line and so cut out the 45 degree angle we so often see at Club Classes.

Crooked sits, stands and downs are easily corrected on the footpath. If the dog has a habit of doing these exercises crookedly, then practise them close to a fence or wall. Have just enough room for the dog to heel next to you then make him sit, stand or drop. After practising this for a while you can slowly move further away from the fence or wall.

Stand for Examination. What better ways than letting other people touch your dog? I have already said that people will stop and watch a handler of a well-behaved dog on a leash, so why not ask them to touch your dog? No matter how much effort and homework we put into training our dogs there still remains one very important problem and that is “routine”. All the effort and time spent on training our dogs seems to be lost once the dog gets into a routine and it may take months to get the dog out of it.

For instance, if we leave home with the dog and at the front gate we turn left and train the dog on that stretch of road for a week, then that has become a routine to the dog. The dog will become sluggish and anticipates the next exercise. To avoid this we should the next day, turn right outside the front gate or we should cross to the other side of the road, which for us may be just the other side of the road, but to the dog it is a whole new world.

Training times are very important too. A dog has a built in alarm clock and if we train our dog every afternoon at say 4 o’clock and one day something comes up which means that we are unable to go at that time some dogs will put up quite a performance while other dogs will sulk and even refuse to eat. Training times should therefore, be altered day to day.

Exercises like the recall should also be varied. For instance, start with leaving the dog in a sit position and walk away for some 15 metres, then turn and call him. Next time, leave the dog and walk away for only 10 metres or lengthen this to 20 metres. Vary the time between turning to face him and calling him and also the time that he sits in front of you before giving him the command to finish. That way we put some variations into the exercise, but never alter the principal feature. All of this can be practised on the footpath.

In Obedience Trials or Class tests most points are usually lost in the long sits and down exercises. One can see dogs breaking their position when they hear a noise or if they see another dog walking or working in the next ring. It would be fair to assume that these dogs were trained in a park or on an oval. Other dogs break position when the time is up and just before their handler has returned to them and in these cases it can be assumed that these handlers never altered or varied their training times in these exercises. No fault of the dogs, they stayed for the principal time and probably thought they had done a good job. Remember the built in alarm clock.

Exercises in Novice, Open and Utility can be altered and do not necessarily have to be practised in the same order as they are listed in the manual. This way we eliminate anticipation by the dog. He must guess our next move and so he becomes more alert and attentive.

Class tests and Obedience Trials can either be fun for the dog and handler or can be a day of sheer frustration. It all depends on how well we do our **“HOMEWORK”**.

Rosemary O'Sullivan
90 Coonawarra Drive
Lara Vic 3212

April 11, 2002

President, Committee and Instructors
Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc
P O Box 186
GEELONG VIC 3220

Attention: Arthur Thorogood

Dear Arthur

I am writing to yourself and committee and instructors to say firstly, how much I thoroughly enjoy my training days at Geelong Obedience Dog club and secondly, a very big thank you to everyone involved with the Geelong Obedience Dog Club for their training, support, organisational skills and, most importantly, friendship.

The incredible amount of 'behind the scenes' organisation that is entailed to ensure the smooth running of such a large Club certainly needs a lot of hard working dedicated people and I commend both yourself and all of your committee in doing such a fantastic job.

Also a very big thank you to those wonderful people that have assisted me with my dogs both in and out of class. I have come home from training every Sunday and had a fabulous feeling of achievement and support and the next Sunday could not come around quickly enough.

Thank you to one and all you are to be commended for such a magnificent Club.

Keep up the excellent work.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rosemary O'Sullivan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Rosemary O'Sullivan

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB

A Success Story:

Reprinted from Faithfully Yours – Issue Number 21, 1988 - as a prelude to the possible production of a "History of Geelong Obedience Dog Club" book for the Club's 50th Anniversary in 2004

"Back in 1954 a group of Geelong dog lovers started obedience training in front of the Geelong International Harvester factory on an open paddock. In April 1955 they became an affiliate of the Kennel Control Council under the name of "Geelong German Shepherd and Obedience Dog Club".

Over the following years they were forced to move from ground to ground, but in 1970 they moved to a ground they could finally call their own. Situated on the Belmont Common in Breakwater Road, Geelong this was an ideal spot for dog activities. That same year the Club proudly held an Obedience Trial on the home ground.

The next goal was to have their own Clubhouse, a very costly project. To help cover the cost, bottle drives were held, thousands of bottles were collected and sold by members. Through this and the generosity of the City of South Barwon Shire, building could commence.

On the 18th November 1973 the new Clubrooms were ceremoniously opened by Mr Hayden Birrell MLA. A very proud day indeed because this marked the fact that even though this Club was now the second Club in Victoria to own a Clubhouse they were the first to actually build it with help of their members.

Popularity grew and an Obedience Demonstration Team was formed. Invitations for demonstrations started coming in and even organisers from the Geelong Gala and the Melbourne Show sent invitations and why not, because with white pants, white shirts, blue ties and navy blue Blazers, this was by far the best dressed team. The team is still very popular and an important part of the Club although the uniform has changed somewhat.

The Clubrooms have so far been extended twice to accommodate members and equipment. The Club, now known as "Geelong Obedience Dog

Club" does not only conduct obedience classes but for some time now have also been heavily involved into Community Welfare programmes.

In 1987, a sub-committee started work on a Public Awareness program on Responsible Dog Ownership. Months of preparation went into this, a date had to be set, guest speakers to be organised and pamphlets to be printed and distributed. On the set date accommodation for 80 people was catered for, but that night, they did not expect anyone to turn up. It was very cold and the fog was so thick that driving the car was near impossible. To the amazement of everyone concerned more than 200 people attended, some came from Melbourne and as far as the Western District. Needless to say this night was a huge success, so much so that some Shires around Geelong have already made plans to have the Club demonstrate and debate Responsible Dog Ownership at local schools

To further expand the Club activities the Club has now also an Agility program for its members. Agility is an "obstacle" course for dogs over 18 months old and is conducted under strict supervision. On the 13th of September 1987 the Club held the first Agility Trial in Victoria under the guidelines of the Kennel Control Council. The next Agility Trial is being held at Breakwater Road, Belmont Common in Geelong on the 24th April 1988 and a good attendance is expected.

Training sessions are still on Wednesday evenings from 7 till 8 pm, but with the finish of daylight savings, training will commence on Sundays from 9.30 till 10.30 in the mornings. Present membership is in excess of 400 members including Instructors, aspiring Instructors and Certified Instructors. There is also a very active Social Committee who organise fun days especially for the children and dance nights for the adult members.

Anyone wishing to join the Club

DOG TOYS AND HOW TO USE THEM

Original article from the "Dumb Friends League"

Reprinted from "Guns n Sashes" and "Knox Obedience Dog Club Newsletter"

"Safe" Toys

There are many factors that contribute to the safety or danger of a toy. Many of those factors, however, are completely dependent upon your dog's size, activity level and personal preference. Another factor to be considered is the environment in which your dog spends his time. Although we can't guarantee your dog's enthusiasm or his safety with any specific toy, we can offer the following guidelines.

Be Cautious

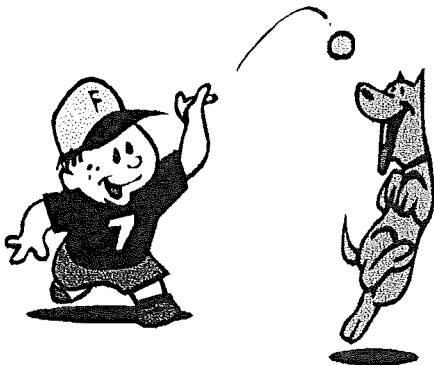
The things that are usually the most attractive to dogs are often the very things that are the most dangerous. Dog proof your home by checking for string, ribbon, rubber bands, children's toys, pantyhose and anything else that can be ingested.

Toys should be appropriate for your dog's current size. Balls and other toys that are too small can easily be swallowed or become lodged in your dog's mouth or throat. Avoid or offer any toys that aren't "dog proof" by removing ribbons, strings, eyes or other parts that could be chewed and/or ingested. Avoid any toy that starts to break into pieces or have pieces torn off.

You should also avoid "tug-of-war" toys, unless they'll be used between dogs, not between people and dogs. Ask your Vet about which rawhide toys are safe and which aren't. Unless your Vet says otherwise, "chewies" like hooves, pig's ears and rawhides should be "supervision-only" goodies. Very hard rubber toys are safer and last longer.

Take note of any toy that contains a "squeaker" buried in its centre. Your dog may feel that he must find and destroy the squeaker source and could ingest it, in which case squeaking objects should be "supervision only" toys. Check labels for child safety, as a stuffed toy that's labelled as safe for children under three years old, doesn't contain dangerous fillings. Problem fillings include things like nutshells and polystyrene beads; however, even a "safe" stuffing isn't truly digestible.

Remember that soft toys are not indestructible, but some are sturdier than others. Soft toys should be machine washable.



TOYS WE RECOMMEND

Active Toys

- Very hard rubber toys like Nylabone-type products and Kong-type products. These are available in a variety of shapes and sizes and are fun for chewing and carrying around.
- "Rope" toys that are usually available in a "bone" shape with knotted ends.
- Tennis balls make great dog toys, but keep an eye out for any that could be chewed through and discard them.

Distraction Toys

- Kong-type toys, especially when filled with broken up treats or, even better, a mixture of broken up treats and peanut butter. The right size Kong can keep a puppy or dog busy for hours. Only by

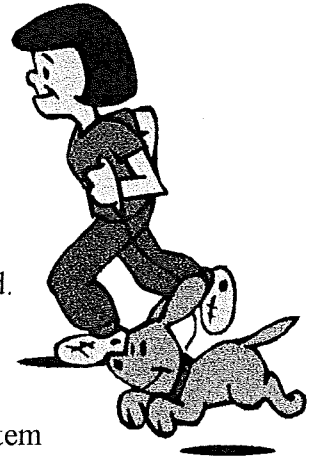
Dog Toys and How to use them (continued)

chewing diligently can your dog access the treats, and only in small bits – very rewarding! Double check with your Vet about whether or not you should give peanut butter to your dog.

- “Busy box” toys are large rubber cubes with hiding places for treats. Only by moving the cube around with his nose, mouth or paws can you dog access the goodies.

Comfort Toys

- Soft stuffed toys are good for several purposes, but aren’t appropriate for all dogs. For some dogs, the stuffed toy should be small enough to carry around. For dogs that want to shake or “kill” the toy, it should be the size that “prey” would be for that size dog (mouse-size, rabbit-size or duck-size).
- Dirty laundry, like an old t-shirt, pillowcase, towel or blanket, can be very comforting to a dog, especially if it smells like you! Be forewarned that the item could be destroyed by industrious fluffing, carrying and nosing.



Get the most out of Toys

- Rotate your dog’s toys weekly by making only three or four toys available at a time. Keep a variety of types easily accessible. If your dog has a huge favourite, like a soft “baby” you should probably leave it out all the time, or risk the wrath of your dog!
- Provide toys that offer a variety of uses – at least one toy to carry, one to “kill”, one to roll and maybe one to “baby”.
- “Hide and Seek” is a fun game for dogs to play. “Found” toys are often much more attractive than a toy which is blatantly introduced. Making an interactive game out of finding toys or treats is a good “rainy-day” activity for your dog, using up energy without the need for space.
- Many of your dog’s toys should be interactive. Interactive play is very important for your dog because he needs active “people time”. By focusing on a specific task, like repeatedly returning a ball, Kong or Frisbee or playing “hide and seek” with treats or toys, your dog can expel pent-up mental and physical energy in a limited amount of time and space. This greatly reduces stress due to confinement, isolation and/or boredom. For young, high-energy and untrained dogs, interactive play also offers an opportunity for socialisation and helps them learn about appropriate and inappropriate behaviour with people and with other animals, like jumping up or mouthing.

FRIVOLOUS LAW SUITS

June 1998: A 19-year-old Carl Truman of Los Angeles won \$74, 000 and medical expenses when his neighbour ran over his hand with a Honda Accord. Mr.Truman apparently didn't notice there was someone at the wheel of the car, when he was trying to steal his neighbour's hubcaps.

October 1999: Jerry Williams of Little Rock Arkansas was awarded \$14,500 and! medical expenses after being bitten on the buttocks by his next-door neighbour's beagle. The beagle was

on a chain in its owner's fenced-in yard, as was Mr. Williams. The award was less than sought because the jury felt the dog might have been provoked by Mr. Williams who, at the time, was shooting it repeatedly with a pellet gun.

May 2000: A Philadelphia restaurant was ordered to pay Amber Carson of Lancaster, Pennsylvania \$113,500 after she slipped on soft drink and broke her coccyx. The beverage was on the floor because Ms. Carson threw it at her boyfriend 30 seconds earlier during an argument.

CANINE LIFE RULES

Sent in by Carmen Sahajdak & Rex

If dogs could teach us we would learn things such as:

1. When loved ones come home, always run to greet them
2. Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride
3. Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy
4. When it's in your best interest – practice obedience
5. Let others know when they have invaded your territory
6. Take naps and stretch before rising
7. Run, romp and play daily
8. Thrive on attention and let people touch you
9. Avoid biting, when a simple growl will do
10. On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass
11. On hot days, drink lots of water and lay under a shady tree
12. When you are happy, dance and wag your entire body
13. No matter how often you are scolded, don't buy into the guilt thing and pout run right back and make friends
14. Delight in the simple joy of a long walk
15. Eat with gusto and enthusiasm. Stop when you have had enough
16. Never pretend to be something you are not
17. If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it
18. When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by and nuzzle gently.

Applying the above lessons to your life should make it a little less RUFF!!

UP COMING TRIALS

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Saturday 1 June | Croydon & District O D C | Agility (2) | |
| Sunday 2 June | Keilor O D T C | Obedience | Closes 19 May |
| | Murray Valley O D C | Endurance | |
| Saturday 8 June | Bairnsdale O C | Obedience | Closes 29 May |
| | Tracking Club of Vic | Tracking | Closes 24 May |
| Sunday 9 June | East Gippsland O D C | Obedience | Closes 29 May |
| | Tracking Club of Vic | Tracking | Closes 24 May |
| Monday 10 June | Gippsland O D C | Obedience | Closes 29 May |
| | Gippsland O D C | Agility (2) | Closes 29 May |
| | Tracking Club of Vic | Tracking | Closes 24 May |
| Saturday 15 June | Dalmatian Club of Vic | Endurance | |
| | Southern O D T C | Tracking | |
| | Australian Shepherd Club | Agility (2) | |
| Sunday 16 June | Southern O D T C | Tracking | Closes 29 May |
| Saturday 22 June | Bendigo O D C | Tracking | Closes 3 June |
| | Mornington O D C | Obedience | |
| Sunday 23 June | Bendigo O D C | Tracking | Closes 3 June |
| Monday 24 June | Bendigo O D C | Tracking | Closes 3 June |
| Saturday 29 June | Hastings & Dist O D C | Obedience | Closes 17 June |
| | GSD Club of Vic | Endurance | Closes 31 May |
| Sunday 30 June | Eastern Suburbs O D C | Tracking | |
| | Broadmeadows O D C | Obedience | Closes 10 June |