



Yaps & Yelps

Journal of Northern Suburbs Dog Training Club Inc February March 2009 No 1

Website www.nsdogtraining.org.au

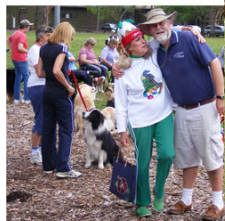
Members only page can be accessed by user name - nsdtc, password - barbara



**F
u
n**



& games



**C
h
r
i
s
t
m
a
s

2
0
0
8**

at NSDTC

Welcome to our new members

Training your dog is fun & owning an obedient dog is a pleasure

11/10/08

Ben, Susan, Paul & Nicholas Cowdrill with **Sabastian**
Tanya Dham with **Otto**
Lara Everett with **Buster**
Don & Annette Ferrier with **Bella**
Elise, Darren & Leonie Fox with **Bree**
David Gray with **Sophie**
Pauline Hastie with **Tegen**
Vicky & Gemma Hogg with **Oscar & Ellie**
Alison, Richard, Katie & Emma Jackson with **Charlie**
Jackie Kingston with **Sanchez**
Kerren & Clive Lumsden with **Cino**
Vivienne & Richard Morrow with **Zorba**
Lisa Phillips & Melanie Staples with **Che & Buddy**
Allan Toohey & Andrew Foxworth with **Britneay & Rusty**
Hilary & Andrew Tucker with **Tashi**
Lauren Wall with **Fudge**

25/10/08

Justine Arnold with **Lilly**
Jorry Blanch with **Angie**
Gary & Terri Cohen with **Milo**
Vicki & Simon Fenech with **Enzo**
Denise, Simon, Emma & Sam Godfrey with **Ollie**
Peter & Ruth Havrlant with **Lilly**
Rebecca Krilich with **Pippy & Zali**
John & Deirdre Lea with **Chilli**
Kate, Stephen & Cameron McRobie with **Oscar**
Helen Palombo with **Dodge**
Jo Piggott with **Ruby**

Lisa, Bruce, Jaydon & Jaslyn Rouse with **Trouper & Hermoine**
Terri Stewart with **Brenna**
Melinda & Colin Williams with **Diesel & Maggie**

8/11/08

Fenella Clarke & Elli Dunphy with **Gromit**
Kerrie Dietz with **Bonnie**
Richard Hui with **Spike**
Fiona Dixon Hughes with **Henry & Josie**
Jane, Andrew, Angela & Hamish Smith with **Fergus**
Maree Thompson with **Molly**
Helen Walker with **Billy**
Felicity Edmonds, Lucia Bidenko, Joseph Wells with **Crumpet**
Susanne West with **Scruffy**

15/11/08

Rosemary Miller with **Angel**
Ben Murphy with **Seb**

29/11/08

Liz, Mark, Rachel, Sophie, Charlotte & Nicholas Middleton with **Morris**
Jessica Shaw with **Angus**
Ben Prince with **Buddy**

5/1/09

Francesca, Paul & Chantelle Jobberns with **Zara Belle**
Donella Cheetham with **Meg**
Jo Eckton with **Mazie**
Kinson Lau with **Java**
Angus, Lyn, Alice & Gordon Cottee with **Erin**

Congratulations on your promotion

11.10.08

To 3rd Class

Vicki Baard & Belle
Tracey Geary & Ben

18.11.08

To 2nd Class

Tracy Cornish & Addie

25.1.08

To 2nd Class

Bert Sheridan & Motzico
Susan Rankcom & Leo
Franz Landgraf & Bakari
Lesley O'Brien & Honey
Pam Rushworth & Ju Ju

To 3rd Class

Nicola Davies & Diesel
Dianne Johnston & Ginnes
Eve Park & Yogi

To 4th Class

Genevieve Colebourn & Becky

1.11.08

To 2nd Class

David Gray & Sophie
Lisa Phillips & Buddy
Melanie Staples & Che
Vicky Hogg & Oscar

15.11.08

To 2nd Class

Linda Fletcher & Indi
Peter Havland & Lilly
SusanneWest & Scruffy
Jorry Blanch & Angie
Morgan Elliott & Max

To 3rd Class

Barry Connors & Mischa

Some of you will already have heard the great news, but just in case you missed it -

**NSDTC Instructor Janine Prior
was honoured by the Federal Government on Australia Day
& has been awarded the Order of Australia - Civilian (AM)**

Many, many congratulations Janine, from each & every one of us at the Dog Club.

From The Editor

**Happy New Year to everyone.
May 2009 be your best year yet!**

Northern Suburbs Dog Training Club is a not-for-profit, community organisation dedicated to promoting the socialisation, training & welfare of our canine companions.

Yaps & Yelps is your club magazine & aims to provide snippets of information on training, articles supplied by club members & results of those who are trialling their dogs in obedience & agility.

Articles, news items, photos, suggestions & jokes, etc can be left at the table or emailed to ginny.l@tpg.com.au

Please note - in order to avoid internet viruses, emails **MUST** include

'Info for Yaps & Yelps'
in the email subject line otherwise emails will be deleted unopened.

Enjoy the fun of working with your dog.

Puppy Pages

The excitement of getting your puppy is over - now the real fun begins!!!

Your puppy has to learn to live within your family which has become its pack. They have to learn to behave well with other dogs & people in the park, on the street & when friends visit.

Puppies should not be taken onto the street & into parks until they've had their final (3rd) vaccination against distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus & kennel cough. This means for the first few weeks your puppy will be with you mainly in your house & garden.

You can take them to visit friends in their homes if you are sure they have had their dogs fully vaccinated or they don't have any pets. It is a very good idea to book into a pre-puppy school where they can safely mix with other puppies of the same age who have had their vaccinations. These are usually held at your local vet hospital & are designed to help you to learn how to cope with early training & with socialising puppies of the same age.

Puppies at 2-6 months of age are like sponges - they soak up information at an amazing rate. Remember - they can just as easily learn bad habits as well the good behaviours.

Toilet training - puppy bladders are not fully developed & they need to go to the toilet often! You need to take them outside as soon as they wake up, within ten minutes of being fed & after ten minutes of play (if you're playing inside with the puppy).

Choose two words, one which means 'go & do a wee' & one which means 'go & do a poo'. When you take your puppy outside, watch them & as soon as they squat, say 'good (your word)' & give lots of praise & a treat as they finish. Puppies will usually do a poo about 4 times a day. One of the best training regimes is to take your puppy outside every two hours & using your 'toilet' word encourage them to perform. When they start to squat, say 'good' as they're going, then give lots of praise & a treat when they've finished. This takes time, but if you do it regularly for about 3 days you'll have a pretty reliable toilet regime in place.

There will always be mistakes!! If this happens don't carry on as though the world is about to end, just gently say 'ooohhh' or 'uh uh' & clean up the mess, (don't use an ammonia based cleaner as this will encourage the pup to go in that place again).

Remember - when they get the urge they act very quickly. One minute they're playing, the next minute they're peeing on your carpet.

Some of the signs that your pup is about to go to the toilet are:

Sniffing the floor

Circling

Whimpering

Taking off suddenly to another room or area. They often do this when they want to poo.

Feeding - the breeder or rescue group will give you a diet sheet. Stick to this for the first week or so, while the pup settles into their new home. If you want to change their diet - do it **very slowly**. To begin the changeover, substitute about one quarter of the old diet with the new diet & take about 7 days to change over completely.

Grooming - most people think grooming means occasionally remembering to brush, comb or wash your dog. Not right - it must be done **daily** so you can check every millimetre of your dog's body for ticks, fleas, grass seeds, cuts & scratches as well as brushing & combing to ensure there are no tangles & to short cut the need for frequent sweeping of your floors!

If you make grooming time fun whilst your puppy is young, you'll make life easier for the dog & yourself later on.

Choose a specific place for grooming. Start by giving a treat when your pup comes to the grooming place, then get them to sit whilst you carefully check & groom their head, forelegs & upper body. Then get them to lie down so you can check & groom their belly, in arm pits, between their hind legs, their tail & hind quarters. Whenever they're quiet & still, give a treat & lots of gentle praise. It'll take a few weeks for your puppy to understand they can't leave in the middle of a session - be patient!!

Basic obedience commands - watch, sit, lie down (drop), walk with me (heel) & come.

To gain the best results you need heaps of praise, patience, persistence & lots of treats.

You always need to have some treats in your pocket (the only exception is when you're in the shower or walking out the door for work!) in case your pup does something good.

Harsh training methods are unnecessary, we teach by **telling, showing, praising & rewarding**.

All obedience commands should be a single word. Dogs learn the sound, the actual word you use is irrelevant.

Watch - to teach anything to your dog they must be watching you (paying attention).

Using a piece of food, take it to their nose then up to your face whilst saying 'watch' & back to their nose. If their eyes followed the treat, praise & reward them with the treat. Repeat 3 times at least 3 times every day.

Sit - again using a food treat, hold it close to their nose, move it slowly up & backwards over the top of their head, whilst saying 'sit'. As soon as their bottom hits the ground (even if it's only for 2 seconds!) praise & treat. Repeat 3 times, at least 3 times every day. Remember - if you ask your puppy to sit in non-training time, you **MUST** praise & give them a treat if they obey.

Lie down - usually we use 'drop' or 'down' for this movement. If you're going to say 'down' to mean get off the couch or don't jump up on me, then use 'drop' when you want the dog to lie down.

To teach this we start with the pup in a sitting position. Let the pup smell the treat in your hand, then slowly take it downwards, keeping your hand & the treat close to their chest until you reach the ground, then very slowly move it along the ground between their front legs. If your pup lifts their rump, just very gently put your other hand on their rump to remind them that this part must stay down too. Make sure you praise & reward **whilst the pup is lying down**.

Walk with me - we use the term 'heel' for this command. We want the dog to walk on our left side with their head about level with our knee. Of course part of this is teaching them, not only to walk in this position, but that they must not pull.

Take the lead in your right hand & keep it loose. Take a number of small, soft treats in your left hand & hold it with the palm facing backwards so the pup's nose is almost in your hand. Say 'heel' & take a couple of confident steps forward & dispense a treat or two. Say 'heel' again & take another 2 or 3 steps forward, praise & reward. Be satisfied with about 5 repeats of this routine in each training session. Make sure the 'heel' command is said in a pleasant, inviting tone - you are asking the dog to walk with you, not giving a marching order to the troops!

Come - to get your pup to come to you, **you** have to be the best, most interesting & fabulous thing in their world.

So how to achieve this? Food, toys, a happy voice, lots of pats & cuddles & a bouncy attitude from you will go a long way to making you special in your pup's eyes.

Start by having your pup on lead, let them know you have treats in your left hand, walk a few steps, then say your dog's name & 'come' (in a happy voice). Take a few steps backwards (don't pull on the lead!) - they will turn & come back towards you. Touch their collar, give them the treats & lots of praise plus a quick cuddle.

Now walk forwards a few steps & repeat. The important part is when they reach you -**you** have what they want - treats, praise & cuddles. **You** are the most special thing at this moment.



Ku-ring-gai K9 Award Winners

The Mayor of Ku-ring-gai, Councillor Elaine Malicki, presented our successful club members with their certificates & leads. All passed their tests with flying colours.

Congratulations to

Tricia Nicola & Pandora, John Jonker & Racey, Tracey Geary & Ben, Nicola Davies & Diesel, Dianne Johnston & Guinness, Judy Perrin & Fernie & Darien Northcote & Zia



Obedience Championship

15 November 2008

Congratulations to

Shanoss My Secret Wish OC

(Secret to her friends)

&

Shannon Cross

her owner, breeder & trainer

Tips for Agility

The greatest fun you can ever have with your dog!

with thanks to Tracey Elder

Agility is a sport in which a person directs a dog through an obstacle course.

It is an exciting sport for the handler, the dog & spectators (it's certainly a crowd pleaser at the Sydney Royal Easter Show).

Agility demonstrates a dog's ability to be agile, versatile & quick. Any person with any breed of dog can participate in agility ... all you need is a positive attitude, commitment & proper training for both the dog & the handler.

Agility is a great way to exercise while building a strong bond between you & your dog.

The benefits are unlimited for dogs & people of all ages & backgrounds.

Believe me... you & your dog deserve to have this much fun!

Eligibility for Agility training starts after you reach 3rd Class at NSDTC.

But before you get too excited let's start from the beginning.....

Northern Suburbs Dog Training Club is modelled on what is called a 'Train the Trainer' methodology.

After you join the Club you are introduced to an experienced instructor in canine matters who will train YOU to train your dog.

Each Saturday afternoon you & your dog will join your designated group ... then following your instructor's command '*forward*' your hour of training will begin.

During your lesson you will follow a range of commands that will normally include '*Sit your dog*'... '*Stand your dog*'.... '*Drop your dog*' ... etc

These commands are basic to dog obedience & the many other activities you can do with your dog ... they are also basic to the development of leadership ... & they are basic to the development of '*having the greatest fun you can ever have with a dog - Agility*'.

Every time your instructor gives a command such as "*Sit your dog*"... that is the prompt for you to translate that command to your dog ... because you are the trainer of the dog & the role of the instructor is to pass on their experience to you.

Without a well-defined development of leadership roles between dog & handler Agility is not the sport to consider.

Northern Suburbs Dog Training Club offers the facilities for Agility training ... & every member of the Club is eligible to become involved in the wonderful sport of Agility as soon as you have reached 3rd Class.

From the Editor - We all wish Tracey a quick recovery from the back problems she is currently suffering. Get well quickly - we want you back with us - healthy, active & pain free!

Tips for Obedience Training

Some ideas to stop your dog jumping up

Thanks to Gael Goldsack & her Bernese Mountain Dog friends. The following ideas were developed mainly for active working dog breeds but you'll find they apply to all dogs of all ages.

If you own a small dog simply adapt your lead length & actions to suit your dog's size & activity levels.

1. Try leaving a 2m lead attached & dragging on the floor all the time you are home with your dog. The humans can stand on the middle of the lead, where it hits the floor near his front feet & the pup cannot jump (can't get front feet more than a few cms off the ground). Totally **ignore** him when he tries to jump (no yelling or pushing at him, which he sees as play). Only pat him when he has either 4 on the floor or is sitting. Standing on the lead will give him no other choice. Step on the end first then 'walk up it' until he has no room to lift his front legs more than a couple of cms off the ground. Reward him once he calms down, even if only for a second. Talk in a low, steady tone of voice. Not high, squeaky or excited.
2. Having a few treats in your hands when you come in the door can help to lure him into the sit as well. Don't forget to praise & treat again the moment he gets the idea & sits.
3. Simply ignore him at times of high arousal, like for the first 5 minutes after you come into the house. Keep turning your back to him & don't speak to him until he gives up & lies down or walks away. At this moment, very quietly praise him & give a treat.
4. If he will carry a toy in his mouth, try having 'a present' to give him when you get home. Mine will all stop jumping up & instead run in circles around me as soon as I give them 'a coming home present' like an old stuffed toy - or sometimes a piece of junk mail, a glove, your car keys, etc.
5. Try walking into the dog if he comes running or bouncing at you. Keep a mild, neutral little smile on your face. Don't stare hard straight at him & certainly don't talk or yell. Don't push him with your hands, keep hands down at your sides. Instead, just start walking immediately towards him & 'body block' him. You are just coming into his personal space & if he doesn't move you will kind of run into him. Your attitude is 'Oops! Well, I'm sorry Fido, but I was walking there & you didn't pay attention. You didn't get out of my way. Oh well'. He should back up fast after a couple times of this. Also if he is already up on his hind legs, he will just fall over backwards.
6. Are there lots of other dogs in the house? Times of 'arousal', when all dogs are excited, are hardest for a pup to handle. Maybe put the other dogs elsewhere & let Wild Child spend some quality, peaceful, one-on-one time with Mum.
7. Is the pup getting enough **physical** exercise? A 10 minute walk around the block on a long lead twice a day may not be enough to take the edge of his exuberance. Please remember that pups under 6 months should not be taken for really long walks - 15 minutes, twice a day maximum & no jogging!
Will he retrieve a ball or toy **rolled along** the ground? Wrestle or play tuggie with you? That can help to tire him out but **don't throw a ball** for a pup **under 6 months** of age (you can damage his still developing joints).
Free play in the garden, house or a lead free park are alright so long as he doesn't rough house with other dogs. Digging in a sand pit or playing in a very shallow pool of water are great ways of getting rid of excess energy.

8. How much **mental** exercise is he getting? Working dog breeds in particular need a job! They need mental stimulation. Working breeds were developed to 'do something', not just look cute lying around on our couches. Lack of mental stimulation can lead to boredom & frustration & this in turn leads to all sorts of behavioural problems. Is he going to weekly training classes, learning to use his brain? (for anything such as 'find', tricks, obedience, drafting, whatever.) Even just 5-10 mins of training two or three times each day at home will help him focus & tire him out mentally.
9. Hand feed part of each of his meals. Use the NILIF approach - 'Nothing In Life Is Free'. Make him sit or drop & wait for each handful.
10. If you have a male puppy is he neutered? Sometimes that takes the edge off overly pushy or boisterous behaviour.
- Don't worry, by the time he is 7 or 8 years old, he will probably calm down.....hee-hee-hee!!!

Leads, collars & footwear

Permanent wear collars

By law, in NSW, all dogs must wear a collar with a tag at all times, showing at least the owner's address & phone number. This means the collar & tag must be on the dog even when they are in your house or garden .

The ideal collar for permanent wear is made from leather or a synthetic material with a buckle or click-together clasp.

Collars for training & general walking

There are many types of training collars. In the 'old days' trainers used the check (or choke) chain. This is now out of date & considered unnecessarily harsh.

The modern-day equivalent is the martingale or training collar. This collar is made from a woven material & is adjusted to tighten to a specific point so when the dog pulls it feels the collar tighten & with training, gets the message to ease off. This type of collar has an added benefit - should the dog get a fright & pull backwards, the collar will tighten but will not slip off the dog's head.

There is also the halter type collar which gives the handler greater control of the dog's head & fore quarters. This needs to be fitted by an experienced person. There are a number of brands & each has its own particular method of fitting & effect. (NSDTC sells a number of halter type collars. Our instructors are happy to help you find what will best suit your dog).

NB. The martingale & halter type collars **must not be left on the dog when the owner is not present**. Both can cause severe injury or even strangulation. Use only for training or walking.

Leads

A soft cotton lead, approximately 750mm to 1m long is ideal for training purposes. Long leads get in the way & make it even harder for novice handlers to organise their hands, the food treats & themselves! Chain leads are not a good idea either as they are very hard on the hands. A long lead is great for just going for a walk, because it lets you give your dog a bit more freedom to sniff all the messages left by other canines.

Footwear (for handlers!) -

The club's ground rules state - handlers are advised to wear sensible footwear. Bare feet, thongs or scuffs are not acceptable. This rule is to ensure the safety of all club members & is a requirement of Dogs NSW.

I am your dog

Thanks to Julie Parrott who received this from one of her friends

The years go so very fast & before you know it, that romping pup is old & grey muzzled. All their lives they sit by our sides while we read, watch TV & work on our computers. Every so often they come & lay their heads in our laps, toss our elbow with their muzzle or gaze into our eyes & wait for us to notice them.

Take a moment now to remember what they mean to you. I am your dog & I have a little something I'd like to whisper in your ear. I know that you humans lead busy lives. Some have to work, some have children to raise. It always seems like you are running here & running there, often much too fast, often never noticing the truly grand things in life.

Look down at me now, while you sit there at your computer. See the way my dark brown eyes look at yours? They are slightly cloudy now. That comes with age. The grey hairs are beginning to ring my soft muzzle.

You smile at me; I see love in your eyes. What do you see in mine? Do you see a spirit? A soul inside, who loves you as no other could in the world?

A spirit that would forgive all trespasses & prior wrong-doing for just a simple moment of your time? That is all I ask. To slow down, if even for a few minutes, to be with me.

So many times you have been saddened by the words you read on that screen, of others of my kind, passing. Sometimes we die young & oh so quickly, sometimes so suddenly it wrenches your heart out of your throat. Sometimes, we age so slowly before your eyes that you may not even seem to know until the very end, when we look at you with grizzled muzzles & cataract clouded eyes. Still the love is always there, even when we must take that long sleep, to run free in a distant land.

I may not be here tomorrow; I may not be here next week. Someday you will shed the water from your eyes, that humans have when deep grief fills their souls & you will be angry at yourself that you did not have just 'one more day' with me. Because I love you so, your sorrow touches my spirit & grieves me.

We have NOW, together. So come, sit down here next to me on the floor & look deep into my eyes. What do you see? If you look hard & deep enough we will talk, you & I, heart to heart. Come to me not as 'alpha' or as 'trainer' or even 'Mum or Dad', come to me as a living soul & stroke my fur & let us look deep into one another's eyes & talk. I may tell you something about the fun of chasing a tennis ball or I may tell you something profound about myself or even life in general.

You decided to have me in your life because you wanted a soul to share such things with. Someone very different from you & here I am. I am a dog, but I am alive. I feel emotion, I feel physical senses & I can revel in the differences of our spirits & souls.

I do not think of you as a 'dog on two feet' - I know what you are & who you are. You are human, in all your quirkiness & I love you still.

Now, come sit with me, on the floor. Enter my world & let time slow down if only for 15 minutes. Look deep into my eyes & whisper into my ears. Speak with your heart, with your joy & I will know your true self. We may not have tomorrow, but we do have today & life is oh so very short.

So please - come sit with me now & let us share these precious moments we have together.

Love, on behalf of canines everywhere

Your Dog

Obedience Title Winners



Geoff Woodman & Tammy, Janice Liang & Jasper, Judy Perrin & Fernie,
Victor Liang & Toby, Karin Bridge & Matilda & Di Hollett & Billy

Agility Title Winners



Peter Kirkwood & Bazza, Anna Uther & Holly & Keshi, Maggie Young & Gypsy & Toby,
Jane Hempel & Nitro, Judy Bratter & Bindi & Evie, Karin Bridge & Matilda,
Nicole Keller & Lea, Indi & Alpha, Allison Harvey & Kelly & Jacky Walker & Fergus
Allison & Kelly won the Club Agility Trophy
for gaining the highest score during the year in club competitions



Christmas fancy dress



parade at NSDTC

**A Healthy Dog
is
a Happy Dog**

**Australian Stem Cell Breakthrough
Helps Pets with Arthritis**
Ku-Ring-Gai Veterinary Hospital
www.kvhvet.com.au

Four of our club dogs were included in the first 40 dogs to benefit from this world first, technological breakthrough at Ku-Ring-Gai Veterinary Hospital.



Ngairé Chant's Sassy, a 13 year old German Shepherd cross who had her right hip & both knees treated. See a video of Sassy on YouTube - just type in 'Sassy stem cells' & see the truly amazing improvement in her mobility.

Ginny Legh's Pippin, an 11.5 year old Border Collie/Kelpie cross with severely arthritic joints, had both elbows & both hocks treated. She's now acting like a 7 year old dog instead of an old lady!



Sharon Househam's Tully & Tascha, are active, pure bred Border Collies. Both have had injuries to their hind legs. Tully had both his knees treated & Tascha had both hips & one hock done. They're now pretending they are real farm dogs, helping Mum with the cattle!

Dr Angus Ross, a senior veterinary partner at Ku-Ring-Gai Veterinary Hospital & one of our Club Patrons says -

‘Animals suffering arthritis have been successfully treated by taking a small amount of their own fat which is subsequently digested, purified & the concentrated stem cell extract is injected back into a damaged joint. To date over 40 patients have been treated with an average response rate of over 80% in terms of improvement in quality of life, movement, range of motion of joints & pain control.

This process involves many advances in veterinary medicine & surgery including the use of minimally invasive liposuction for fat harvesting through to CAT scan guided transplantation to ensure minimal invasion & the highest levels of accuracy.

Due to the complex nature & higher level skills & equipment required, this procedure is exclusively performed at Ku-Ring-Gai Veterinary Hospital by Dr Angus Ross & Dr Jamie Geddes, senior veterinary partners & developers of the regenerative processes.

For more detailed information please call Dr Ross or Dr Geddes on 9449 4111
or for further technical information visit <http://www.regeneus.com.au/>

A few comments from the dog's owner s -

Sassy & Pippin both had marked arthritic changes on X ray & CT scan. Tully & Tascha had both suffered trauma to their hind legs & were at risk of developing arthritis as they aged.

At the time our dogs were treated, the procedure involved surgically removing a fat pad from each dog's lower abdominal area. Now in some cases, the vets are doing this with liposuction which is much less invasive.

Each dog spent about 8 hours at the hospital, where they were fully screened to make sure they were otherwise fit, had X rays &/or CT scans done & the fat pad surgically removed. They rested under close supervision, while their stem cells were processed & then under heavy sedation or anaesthetic, their own stem cells were injected back into the joints requiring treatment.

Apart from having pain medication for a couple of days after the procedure & antibiotic cover for a week, the dogs were able to continue with their normal life style. Exercise was slightly reduced until their sutures, (at the fat donor site), were removed 10 days after the transplant.

The improvement in each dog's freedom of movement & the reduction of pain in their joints was evident within 5 days of the stem cell transplants. All the dogs have maintained their initial improvement & in fact are showing continuing improvement.

Hot weather & care of your dog

- Don't leave dogs in cars (even for a few minutes with the windows open!!)
- Exercise them during the early morning or late evening hours
- Make sure there is always plenty of cool water available
- If they have to be outside, make sure they have plenty of cool hideaways
- Preferably let them inside with you in an air conditioned room!
- Be wary of snakes if walking in the bush or long grass
- Check daily for ticks (ticks are most prolific in warm, humid weather)
- Evacuate your pets early if you are threatened by bushfire
- Consider having long, dense coated dogs clipped, but don't shave them (sunburn protection)

A Healthy Dog is a Happy Dog

Understanding & Managing Cancer

*Our thanks to Dr Angus Ross, one of our Club Patrons,
for his permission to include this article.*

Most of us have had exposure to people with malignant cancer & have seen the devastating effects of the disease.

Unfortunately cancer is also a common occurrence in our pets as well. Luckily we can take major steps to prevent pain & suffering & provide excellent quality of life for a given time.

Issues to Consider

Benign vs. Malignant

A cancer is essentially the result of a tissue cell dividing without control. Vets see an enormous number of pets with low grade benign cancers such as lipomas (fat cell tumours) & papillomas (skin cell tumours) that have no real effect on the day to day life of a pet.

Causes

Causes of cancer are generally multi-factorial with a mixture of genetic & environmental influences. Issues such as diet, activity, pollutants & exposure to chemicals play an important role. The genetic issue is a big one because specific breeds more commonly get malignant cancers eg. bone tumours in Rottweilers & splenic tumours in German Shepherds.

Symptoms

The symptoms of cancer range from cancer specific problems such as lameness with bone tumours or a skin lump or bloated abdomen with abdominal tumours. Non specific symptoms can also occur including weakness, lethargy, weight loss, irritability & not eating. Some tumours cause symptoms by stimulating other body systems e.g. testicular tumours can cause pigmentation & thickening of the skin, enlargement of the mammary glands & behavioural changes.

Planning for Care of Dogs with Cancer

Assessment & planning are probably the most important steps.

Firstly your Vet will take a detailed history including eating, drinking, toileting habits & any other specific symptoms & then perform a thorough physical examination. In some cases, the symptoms are non-specific & thus the problem requires a little more investigation.

Further diagnostic work includes blood & urine testing, ultrasound, x-ray, tissue biopsy & analysis either through cell analysis (cytology) or complete tissue biopsy (histopathology), which is much more accurate. Other advanced techniques such as CT, MRI & nuclear scintigraphy are sometimes advised.

Tissue samples will be sent to the pathologist who will generally be able to answer four questions after analysis of a tissue sample.

Answers to the following questions allow better management decisions to be made.

- (a) What type of cancer it is & thus what is its origin?
- (b) Has it been completely removed?
- (c) Is it likely to re-grow locally?
- (d) Is it likely to spread?

Control and Treatment Options

Always the first consideration is maintaining the most important thing - **good quality of life**.

In determining how to best approach dealing with pets with cancer, assuming that we already have a specific diagnosis, 3 issues are at commonly addressed.

The nature of the cancer - this looks at the site of the tumour, the stage of the tumour, how aggressive it is, how likely it is to spread or recur & the nature of the tumour eg. is it likely to cause pain, what are the statistical life expectancies of the cancer in question?

The patient - what are the issues that need to be addressed in the pet? Is the dog well & pain free; is it concurrently sick from the tumour; has the tumour caused other problems that need to be addressed e.g. blood loss, breathing problems? What other conditions does the dog have that need to be addressed? For instance it would be questionable whether you would consider providing invasive treatment to a 16 year old dog with chronic kidney failure if the type of tumour only gives a life expectancy of 3 months.

The owner - how much does the owner understand & what biases have they gained during previous experiences with cancer in both humans & animals; what is their attitude towards chronic diseases, palliative care, life expectancies, costs & invasive treatments?

There are **two main treatment options** for pets with malignant cancer -

Conservative therapy - providing good pain control & alleviating symptoms to ensure a good quality of life is often the best decision. This ensures that the pet may live slightly longer with comfort & a definitive decision to euthanase can be made once this course of action is no longer appropriate. This is a good option for older animals with concurrent diseases that are not in too much pain.

Surgery - the best option is to get rid of the visible disease with as wide a clear tissue margin as possible & surgery is usually the best method. Care must be taken with surgery not to go overboard in trying to get excessively clear margins because of the recuperation & discomfort associated with radical surgery.

Other treatment options are -

Chemotherapy - depending on the type of tumour, chemo can be used alone or in conjunction with surgery. Chemo in dogs is not curative. Not all cancers respond to chemo & the decision to treat depends on the whole picture & what is right for the dog.

Radiation therapy - radiation therapy works very well on susceptible tumours because it treats the tumour at the site with minimal side effects. The down side is that the doses should be given daily, which is seldom practical & the pet needs to be anaesthetised each time.

Ancillary & Complimentary Therapies - there are many ancillary treatments for tumours. Ask your Vet for advice prior to embarking on ancillary or complimentary therapies.

Dealing with cancer in a pet is a very upsetting & difficult ordeal. However with good assessment, discussion & planning, decisions can be made based on sound information, which will ensure that the pet's quality of life remains high for whatever time they have.

Web Site Link- www.csuanimalcancercenter.org

This site is by Colorado State University Vet School, probably the best cancer facility in the world & it has easy reference material & good quality links.

It's only a few weeks before Easter & all the goodies are on sale now!

All the following foods are **highly toxic for dogs**

Chocolate - milk, semi-sweet, dark or cooking
Anything containing Xylitol (artificial sweetener)
Macadamia nuts
Kernel of all stone fruits
Grapes & raisins
Pips of pears & apples

Onions - cooked or raw
Potato peelings or green potatoes
Garlic - in large amounts
Mouldy or spoiled foods
Raw yeast dough
Alcohol

Trial Results

Obedience & Agility triallers - please enter your results in the Trial Results folder in the Club office. This is the best way to ensure results appear in Yaps & Yelps.

Obedience

CDD = Community Companion Dog CD = Companion Dog CDX = Companion Dog Excellent
UD = Utility Dog UDX = Utility Dog Excellent O.CH = Obedience Champion

Owner & Dog	Date	Event	Result
Emma Carpenter & Ember	5.10.08	DOGS NSW State Obedience Titles	CCD - Qual
Emma Carpenter & Ember	11.10.08	United Retriever Club of NSW	CCD - Qual
Emma Carpenter & Ember	15.11.08	Macquarie Towns All Breeds DTC	CCD - Title
Mo Kramer & Amy	28.11.08	Hills District K&TC	CCD - Title
Shannon Cross & Secret	18.10.08	Southern Highlands K&OC	UD - Qual 3rd place
Shannon Cross & Secret	19.11.08	Southern Highlands K&OC	UD - Qual 1st place
Shannon Cross & Secret	1.11.08	Sutherland DTC	UD - Qual 1st place
Shannon Cross & Secret	15.11.08	Macquarie Towns All Breeds DTC	Obedience Championship

Agility

AD = Agility Dog JD = Jumping Dog SD = Snooker Dog GD = Gamblers Dog SPD = Strategic Pairs
O=Open X= Excellent M=Masters are added to the above as more advanced titles are gained

Owner & Dog	Date	Event	Result
Anna Uther & Holly	25.10.08	Hawkesbury Agility Club	JD - Qual
Anna Uther & Holly	26.10.08	Brush Farm DTC	ADM - Qual
Jane Hampel & Nitro	25.10.08	Agility Dog Club	JDM - Title

NSDTC has a very extensive library & equipment store

Library

Members are reminded they are able to borrow books, journals, videos & DVDs on many aspects of dog training, agility, puppy training, dog breeds, behavioural problems in dogs & much, much more.....

The librarians will be there before & after training each Saturday & will help you select books ,tapes or DVD's to suit your needs.

Please be sure to return whatever you borrow by the return date so others can benefit too.

Equipment store

We also have an extensive range of good quality equipment for your dog.

Our equipment officers will help you select the most appropriate collar, head halter or lead for your dog.

They are very experienced in knowing what will best suit your dog & will make sure whatever you choose is correctly fitted.

They will show you how to use head halters - there are numerous types available & each has a special way of fitting & use.

Our equipment officers are available every Club day before & after class.

We buy good quality equipment in bulk so you will benefit from prices that are considerably lower than in most pet shops.

MOVEMBER

Prostate Cancer Research & Beyond Blue



Going..



Thanks to
Nicholas Gray
&
NSDTC
members
we raised over
\$7000.00



Going...



Gone!



All you'll need to know

- New Members - Enrolment by 2.15 pm please.
- All dogs must be **FULLY IMMUNISED** (Veterinary Certificate required plus 2 weeks from date of last vaccination). Please read NSDTC Vaccination Policy opposite.
- Junior Members are 12 to 15 years of age.
- Training equipment (leads, training collars, etc) can be purchased at the Clubhouse.

MEMBERSHIP FEES: for full financial year - 1 July to 30 June

- Single \$40 (\$20 joining fee & \$20 annual subscription)
- Junior Members \$30 (\$10 joining fee & \$20 annual subscription)
- Pensioners, other bona fide concessions & those owning rescue dogs \$30 (\$10 joining fee & \$20 annual subscription)
- Dual/Family Membership \$50 (\$30 joining fee & \$20 annual subscription)
- Those joining 1 January to 31 May receive a \$10 reduction in membership fee

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEES are due by 30 June each year.

GROUND FEES: \$3 per class per dog for all members except Juniors & Pensioners who pay \$2.

YAPS & YELPS The Club journal is published every two months & is available from the table at the clubhouse.
Articles for Yaps & Yelps are welcomed & may be left at the table or emailed to The Editor, Ginny Legh at ginny.l@tpg.com.au

TRAINING is held in the Dog Rings, St Ives Showground every Saturday, February - November inclusive. NB. No training on Public Holidays

OBEDIENCE:

Saturdays 3.00 - 4.00pm Adv Puppies, First, Adv First, Second & Third classes
Every second Saturday Classes start for New Members & New Puppies

Saturdays 1.30 - 2.30pm Fourth (CCD & CD) & Fifth (CDX) Classes

Saturdays 12.30 - 1.30pm Sixth (UD) Class

Wednesday 7.30 - 8.30pm Training for Instructors only

***AGILITY:** Beginners First Saturday & Monday of the month
All levels Saturdays 9.30 - 12 noon
Night Agility Mondays all levels 7.00 - 9.30pm

***FLYBALL:** All levels Alternate Saturdays 2.15 - 2.45pm

NB. Agility
New memberships
**can only be
accepted on
Saturday
afternoons**

*Dogs must be at least **1 year old & in Third Class or above** to start Agility or Flyball

NSDTC Vaccination Policy

- NSDTC Inc requires a **minimum C3** (distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus) vaccination after the age of 12 weeks for all puppies **less** than **12** months old.
- All dogs joining or renewing that are 12 months to 3 years of age must have had at least a C3 vaccination in the preceding 12 months.
- Dogs joining or renewing over the age of 3 years who have not had a C3 vaccination in the preceding 12 months must be referred to the Club Veterinary Officer or nominee with their most recent vaccination certificate or letter of exemption from their vet.
- As Bordetella and Parainfluenza are not **normally** life threatening to healthy dogs, these vaccinations are optional but **recommended** and owners are reminded that these will be required if the dog is to be boarded in kennels.
- All vaccination certificates must be signed by a registered veterinary surgeon.
- Homeopathic 'vaccinations' will not be accepted.

REMEMBER. A delay of two weeks after the final puppy vaccination is required before puppies are permitted to join classes.

PARKING

- Parking for Club Members who are **not** instructing or doing other club related duties is to the LEFT of the road as you enter the showground.
 - The parking area on the right, nearer the Clubhouse, is for "on duty" Club Members who need to leave their dogs, carry equipment, etc.
- Thank you.

CLUB & GROUND RULES

Please adhere to the following rules. They are for the benefit of all members & the general public who use St Ives Showground.

- All dogs must be on lead during club training times (except when off lead work is directed by an instructor during class).
- Dog droppings must be cleaned up & placed in a bin. (Always carry extra plastic bags!).
- Each week pay your \$3.00 ground fee at the Clubhouse & collect your ticket.
- Always wear your name tag.
- The dog rings are a leash free area EXCEPT on Saturdays.
- The main oval may be used for leash free exercise, so long as no other organised event is taking place.
- Members should wear sensible footwear - no thongs, bare feet or high heels.

Highlights from the General Meeting held on Saturday 25th October 2008

Business Arising from the Minutes:

The uncollected renewal name tags were posted out. The new publications for the library have arrived.

Penny Dalzell asked that some extra details/requests from the last Brenda Aloff committee report to the August G M be minuted:

- 1) That the corner of the clubhouse be set-aside for Brenda's lunch on Saturday (Agreed)
- 2) That the club gazebos be available for use on both days of the seminar (Agreed)
- 3) That the Louise Lennon Pavilion be booked by the club when showground allocations for 2009 are submitted (Done)

The next Brenda Aloff committee meeting would be held on 12th November.

The people who assist by collecting & transporting Brenda from the airport & on sightseeing excursions be reimbursed for their costs (petrol, food etc) if requested.

To date 39 people had booked & paid.

Sandy Fry informed the meeting that she had done a balance sheet on expenditure & projected earnings for the seminar & that on current figures a shortfall of nearly \$3,000 dollars was expected.

The secretary noted that the proposed subsidy for NSDTC instructors attending the seminar would be taken from club funds set aside for seminars.

The motion carried at the committee meeting re subsidy for instructors was put to the General Meeting for ratification after firstly being amended by the mover, Bronwen Maurer. The motion now reads:

"That those on the Brenda Aloff organizing committee be reimbursed in full & other NSDTC instructors who have instructed at least 20 times in the year & other club workers who have completed at least 20 hours be offered a 50% subsidy provided they register by 24th November 2008. A 10% subsidy should also be offered to the general club membership". Seconded by Ginny Legh. Carried unanimously. This information would be sent to all instructors & included in announcements.

Business Arising from Correspondence:

The account for additional showground usage was inaccurate. The secretary has spoken to KMC & the matter is being investigated.

A sub-committee will be set up to update the constitution & put forward a notice of motion for acceptance of the amendment at the 2009 AGM. The notice of motion is to be circulated to all club members with their renewals in May.

It was moved by Pam Rushworth & seconded by Judy Perrin "That the Constitution sub-committee will be comprised of Cyril Hart, Jenny Scamps, Sandy Fry & Barbara Rogleff". (Carried)

Treasurers Report: Given by the Treasurer, Deb Selby.

Business Arising from Treasurers Report:

Current Balance \$78,833.09 as at 30th September 2008. All the advances to the Brenda Aloff fund are now complete (\$6,000 total)

Obedience Training Report: Given by Chief Instructor, Judy Perrin

The October Tellington Touch talk by Andy Robertson was postponed, as she was overseas.

Di Tulley & Marj Jackson will give a talk on the new UDX exercises early in 2009

The new Student Profile form is now in use. Demonstrations given to 2nd & 3rd classes on hand signals & to 4th classes on footwork

Agility Training Report: Given by Chief Instructor Russell Clarke.

Agility training is still going well. Allison won the 2008 Agility Pointscore. Judy and Ollie the most improved this month

Obedience Trial Report: Given by Trial Secretary, Eve Park.

Eve thanked Jenny Scamps for securing a Purina ProPlan sponsorship for our trial.

Ashley Roach (Manly Club) will be the Dogs NSW rep. NSDTC needs to provide a rep for Manly under our reciprocal arrangement

Jay Rossiter has increased the value of her trophy for the highest scoring Golden Retriever to \$100.

Joe Rossiter has offered his services as Scorekeeper again

Agility Trial Report: Given by the Trial Secretary, Russell Clarke. Jenny Hamilton has offered to be Trial Secretary in training

The judges for 2009 have been selected. This year it is proposed we contract 2 new judges

Peter Westwood - Novice agility and jumping **Jenny Taylor** - Excellent agility and jumping

Ed Szmelter - Masters agility and jumping **Darryl Turley** - RQH

Pat Walsh - Open jumping Ashley Roach - Open agility

Membership Secretary's Report:

The membership currently stands at 327

Publicity / Newsletter / Archives Report:

The last Yaps and Yelps for the year is out. Website to updated ASAP

Library Report:

Three Patricia McConnell booklets have been purchased for the library. The books donated by Bronwen Maurer are now in the library with duplicates being given to instructors. Brenda Aloff's new book "Getting Connected" will be obtained.

General Business:

- The water leak into the kitchen is still happening during rain. The secretary will again contact KMC
- Stock of promotion cards was low. To date Ginny had printed them. Ginny to get a quote from Ngair print in quantity.
- There is an on-going problem with the electrical circuit breakers being located in the store room. It was agreed that we should obtain quotes to move the fuse box out of the store room & move the refrigerators to a separate circuit. Pam & Kay will get quotes.
- It was moved by Barbara Rogleff & seconded by Jenny Scamps that a Handbook/KK9 sub-committee consisting of Gael, Sandy, Judy, Bronwen, Di, Ginny & Denise be set up to update the handbook for 2009. Carried unanimously

PATRONS

Mr Stoyan Rogleff Mayor of Ku-ring-gai, Cr Elaine Malicki
Dr Angus Ross Dr Michael Eaton Dr Marc Simpson

CLUB EXECUTIVE & COMMITTEE

President:	Sandra Fry	9416 6080
Club Secretary:	Gael Goldsack	94873656
	(Postal Address - PO Box 426 Turramurra 2074)	
Treasurer:	Debbie Selby	9477 4430
Vice Presidents:	Di Hollett	9984 8488 (Finance)
	Eve Park	9449 1941 (Admin)
Chief Instructors:	Judy Perrin	9449 7388 (Obedience)
	Russell Clarke	9997 1798 (Agility)
Joining Enquiries:	Sandra Fry	9416 6080

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Clubhouse Coordinator & KK9 Coordinator: Bronwyn Maurer

Clubhouse Catering: Anna Uther

Council & Showground Liaison Officer: Barbara Rogleff

Librarian: Ruth Hyde

Assistant Librarian & Purchasing Officer: Jenny Scamps

Membership Secretary: Pam Rushworth

Assistant Membership Secretaries: John Jonker

Newsletter Editor: Ginny Legh

Obedience Demonstration Coordinator: Vickie Dean

Publicity Officer & Web Coordinator: Nicholas Gray

Training Equipment Officer: Kay Luke

Assistant Training Equipment Officer: Barbara Gurney

Trial Equipment Officers: Obedience: Andy Seitz

Agility: Geoff Woodman

Trophy Officer (general): Patricia Woodman

Trial Committee (Obedience)

Trial Manager: Andy Seitz

Trial Secretary: Eve Park

Chief Steward: Gael Goldsack

Trophy Officer: Denise Wigney

Catering Officers: Kay Luke & Kay Hogan

Trial Committee (Agility)

Trial Manager: Andy Seitz

Trial Secretary: Russell Clarke

Chief Steward: Phil Palangas

Trophy Officer: Tracey Elder

NSDTC DOGGY DIARY DATES



February - April 2009

Saturday 7 Feb	New members. BYO BBQ 5.00pm
Saturday 14 Feb	Flyball training 2.15pm
Saturday 21 Feb	New members. General Meeting 4.00pm
Saturday 28 Feb	Brenda Aloff Seminar . NB. No training for 4 th , 5 th & 6 th classes
Sunday 1 March	Brenda Aloff Seminar
Saturday 7 March	New members. Trial steward training 4pm BYO BBQ 5pm
Saturday 14 March	Flyball training 2.15pm
Saturday 21 March	New members. Trial steward training 4pm
Wed 25 March	Committee Meeting 7.30pm
Saturday 28 March	Flyball training 2.15pm
Saturday 4 April	New members. BYO BBQ 5.00pm
Saturday 11 April	Easter Saturday - no training
Saturday 18 April	Flyball training 2.15pm. General Meeting 4.00pm
Saturday 25 April	New members. NB Demo for Ignite The Flame 12.30 pm
Sunday 26 April	NSTDTC Obedience Trial

