



Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Inc.





A Note from the President



Welcome fellow dog lovers.

A warm welcome from the Committee and our instructors, to both those continuing to train their dogs, and to new members of BDOC. We hope that you and your dogs find the classes a lot of fun and help you to become even better mates.

Please remember that for this session, *all Sunday obedience classes start at 9.00am*, avoiding that '10.30 wilting in the heat' which works against the enthusiasm of both dogs and humans.

The final Assessment day for 2008 was a great success and everyone certainly enjoyed the sausage sizzle. Many thanks to members of the Committee for their work on this, especially John Riley, Jenny Stott, Karl Newport, and Cliff Brock, as well as the instructors who judged and stewarded for the assessments. The Club's Annual Awards are also presented on Assessment Day and these are listed elsewhere in the Newsletter. Congratulations to all our Award recipients.

A small and enthusiastic group of instructors is busy revising our obedience syllabus. This is a huge task but as it has not been revised for many years, we will all benefit by the revision. We hope to see the revised syllabus implemented in June 2009.

Our library is also undergoing changes. Many of our books are quite old and out of date, and we are looking to purchase new materials. *If you have any books or other materials that you would like to donate to BDOC, please leave them at the office.*

This is a good time to remember to always be aware of what your dog is doing at the end of the lead. If other dogs are tied up, make sure that your dog doesn't invade their space, as many dogs don't react well to another dog getting in their face, no matter how friendly they are. If you are standing around chatting, this is a great opportunity to practice your dog's sit and wait if he wants to rush to the end of the lead and get to other dogs.

Finally, we will be running another obedience instructors course early this year. *Please talk to your instructor or give your name to the Office if you are interested in becoming an instructor.* Instructors are the backbone of the Club and find it a rewarding experience. Remember, you don't have to be in the trialling classes to become an instructor.

Happy dog training.

*Barbara Brown
President*

BDOC Committee

President

Barbara Brown

Vice-President

Elaine Temby

Treasurer

Maki Koyama

Secretary

Jan Horley

Assistant Treasurer

Max Darvill

Committee Members

Ray Leckie
John Riley
Jenny Stott
Karl Newport
Dai Thomas
Lucy Williams
Cliff Brock

Office hours

Thursdays 7-9 pm
Sundays 9-11 am

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Corner Flemington Road and
Sandford Street Mitchell ACT

Contact details

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*please note this has been
changed back to the original
number from 6-1-09*

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Website

www.bdoc.asn.au



Session dates 2009

	<i>Session 1</i>		<i>Session 2</i>		<i>Session 3</i>		<i>Session 4</i>		<i>Session 5</i>	
	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Sun</i>
<i>Week 1</i>	29 Jan	1 Feb	2 April	5 April	11 June	14 June	6 Aug	9 Aug	8 Oct	11 Oct
<i>Week 2</i>	5 Feb	8 Feb	16 April	19 April	18 June	21 June	13 Aug	16 Aug	15 Oct	18 Oct
<i>Week 3</i>	12 Feb	15 Feb	23 April	26 April	25 June	28 June	20 Aug	23 Aug	22 Oct	25 Oct
<i>Week 4</i>	19 Feb	22Feb	30 April	3 May	2 July	5 July	27 Aug	30 Aug	29 Oct	1 Nov
<i>Week 5</i>	26 Feb	1 Mar	7 May	10 May	9 July	12 July	3 Sept	6 Sept	5 Nov	8 Nov
<i>Week 6</i>	12 Mar	15 Mar	14 May	17 May	16 July	19 July	10 Sept	13 Sept	12 Nov	15 Nov
<i>Week 7</i>	19 Mar	22 Mar	21 May	24 May	23 July	26 July	17 Sept	20 Sept	19 Nov	22 Nov
<i>Week 8 Assessment Day</i>	26 Mar	29 Mar	28 May	31 May	30 July	2 Aug	24 Sept	27 Sept	29 Nov (Sun)	29 Nov
<i>Public holidays</i>	<i>Mon 9 Mar Canberra Day</i>		<i>Fri 9 April, Mon 12 April Easter</i>		<i>Mon 8 June Queen's Birthday</i>				<i>Mon 5 Oct Labour Day</i>	

Training times

Obedience

Thursdays:

Levels 1 and 3 at 7 pm

Level 2 at 8 pm

Novice, Primary Companion and Open - TBA

Sundays:

All levels at 9 am

Agility

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 6.30–8.30 pm

Flyball (TBC)

Tuesdays 6.30–8 pm and Sundays 8–9 am

Newsletter contributions

We try to publish a newsletter at the beginning of each session. Photos and articles are most welcome. We can only put in what we get! If pictures of an event are missing from the newsletter, it is because we haven't had any! Also, of course, there is limited space, too. Please take some photos at training sessions, agility and flyball, and other events, so we have some good records and can show others what we do.

If your photo or article is not original (i.e. if it is not taken or written by you), please ensure copyright is not being violated. We cannot reproduce photos or articles unless specific permission is given by the author. We can refer to websites.

It would be very helpful if photos were sent separate from the text, as JPEGs or TIFFs, and not embedded in a Word document. Word seems to cement them in there so they cannot be moved, resized or otherwise changed. Also, a brief caption in the title would make it much easier for the editor to put the right words with the right pictures!

Please send your contributions to:

Sally Berridge

Email: sallymb@homemail.com.au

Phone: 6241 7001



BDOC Awards for 2008

These are our highest awards for the Dog of the Year in obedience, agility and flyball

BDOC 2008 Obedience Dog of the Year

Kinya (OC Kingsway Double Jeopardy AD JDX) trained by Patricia Looker

BDOC 2008 Agility Dog of the Year

Tina (Cavregis Hermione CD ADM2 ADO4 JDX JDO GDX SPDX SD) trained by Lucy Williams

BDOC 2008 Flyball Dog of the Year

Ernie handled by Carolyn Shrives

Obedience Awards

Best Lady Handler Heather Brennan and Jack (Saginer Jack Sparrow CD)

Best Gentleman Handler Leo Kuipers and Jack (Grand Ch Vanstaff Black Jack CDX)

Best Junior Handler Daniel O’Kane and Rosie

President’s Trophy Scott White and Bella

Eva Memorial Trophy John Riley and Lily (Greydove Cognac in Cream CD)

Forsvar Obedience Trophy Leo Kuipers & Jack (Grand Ch Vanstaff Black Jack CDX)

Agility Awards

Best Agility Dog Award, Open Agility Dog, Open Jumping Dog, Agility Games Dog, Most Consistent Agility Dog Awards Lucy Williams and Tina (Cavregis Hermione CD ADM2 ADO4 JDX JDO GDX SPDX SD)

Best Jumping Dog Award Lucy Williams and Duke (Cavregis White Knight AD JD)

Most Improved Agility Dog Award Werner Roth and Max (Fionavar Hawker Hunter CDX AD JD)

ANKC Obedience titles (1 November 2007–31 October 2008)

Community Companion Dog (CCD)

Cliff Brock and Duncan (CH Burrawan Ballentine Beau) CCD

Dai Thomas and Bonnie (Barrawan Blue Bonnets) CCD

Companion Dog (CD)

John Riley and Lily (Greydove Cognac in Cream) CD

Heather Brennan and Jack (Saginer Jack Sparrow) CD (both CCD & CD this year)

Companion Dog Excellent (CDX)

Lesley Hopkinson and Archie (Eraky Endless Story) CDX

Leo Kuipers and Jack (Grand Ch Vanstaff Black Jack) CDX

Utility dog (UD)

Elaine Temby and Honour (Spanomac On A Mission) UD AD JD ET

Obedience Champion (OC)

Pat Looker and Kinya (OC Kingsway Double Jeopardy AD JDX)

ANKC Agility Titles

Agility Dog (AD) and Jumping Dog (JD)

Werner Roth and Max (Fionavar Hawker Hunter) CDX AD, JD

Lucy Williams and Duke (Cavregis White Knight) AD JD

Lucy Williams and Min (Cavregis Marilyn Merlot) AD JD

Agility Dog Excellent (ADX) and Jumping Dog Excellent (JDX)

Sandra Johnson and Ra (Xarnego Mr Ra Ra) ADX, JDX

Agility Dog Masters (ADM)

Pam McDougall and Van Dieman CD ADM JDM JDO GD ET

Games Titles (Gamblers, Strategic Pairs and Snooker)

Lucy Williams and Stella (Cavregis Graduation) CD, ADM, ADO2, JDM, JDO, GDX, SPDX, SD

Further Masters Titles, Open Titles and Games Titles

Lucy Williams and Tina (Cavregis Hermione) CD, ADM2, ADO4, JDX, JDO, GDX, SPDX, SD



Flyball points and titles

<i>Handler</i>	<i>Dog's name</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Title</i>
Keiko Foster	Shoga	555	Flyball Master
Kellie Woodcoe	Murray	192	Australian Flyball Champion
Carolyn Shrives	Ernie	150	Australian Flyball Champion
Fiona Lester	Buffy	13	Flyball Dog
Fiona Lester	Tia	129	Flyball Dog Champion
Max Darvill	Maddie	194	Australian Flyball Champion
Mark Gaston	Eric	20	Flyball Dog Excellent
Rhonda Cameron	Jezzabell	28	Flyball Dog Excellent
Rhonda Cameron	Zeke	178	Australian Flyball Champion
Ian McConachie	Chilli	58	Flyball Dog Champion
Ian McConachie	Bonnie	63	Flyball Dog Champion
Louise Sharp	Nala	87	Flyball Dog Champion
Cassandra Butterworth	Shadow	69	Flyball Dog Champion
Leigh Cameron	Max	77	Flyball Dog Champion
Jocelyn Taylor	Willow	43	Flyball Dog Excellent



Dai and Bonnie receive their award.



Barbeque time - much appreciated. And it helped to fill the club's coffers.



Suzanne organising the puppy class.

Duncan, aka Burrawan Ballentine Beau, also gained his CCD qualification in 2008.



Daniel O'Kane and Rosie receive the Best Junior Handler Award.



John Riley receives the Eva Memorial Trophy.



Lucy Williams with Tina – Agility Dog of the Year.



Heather Brennan (with Jack) receives the Best Lady Handler Award.



Patricia Looker and Kinya receive the Obedience Dog of the Year Award..



Public seminar on canine health care issues

Dr Michael Archinal, also known as Dr Ark, is a Canberra's own celebrity vet, who is a regular on Mornings with Kerri-Anne (WIN/Ch 9), Dogs Life Magazine and ABC 666's Saturday morning talk-back radio. As well, he practices day-to-day at more than one veterinary hospital in the Canberra region. We were pretty lucky to have him as the guest speaker for the first public seminar the Club organised for Adult Learners' Week!

A sizable crowd of about 40 people turned up on the evening of Friday, 5th September.

Dr Ark gave a short talk on four topics each, namely, Alzheimer's in dogs, The basics of dog nutrition, Current vaccination trends and acupuncture for small animals.

As Dr Ark suggested, members of the audience were able to ask questions as they arose, and did not need to wait until the end of talk for a separate Q&A session. This format generated

lively interactivity, and people were literally queuing up to ask questions! The queue continued on, even after the talk and casual Q&A session while the participants enjoyed a light supper.

A few myths were debunked: like have you ever heard of raw egg white being bad for your dog? Well, according to Dr Ark, he has never come across a dog being sick from ingesting raw egg white. In fact, the protein of egg white is most digestible for dogs and hence a nutritional food for them. So, go ahead and give your dog a fresh egg if he seems to be having a little tummy upset.

Also, there are some dog owners who claim that our dogs are over-vaccinated and that you should never need a yearly booster. If you believe such a claim, consider the fact that the deadly parvo virus has new strains popping up every now and again. One of these new strains was recently detected in Goulburn, NSW. So your dog may be at risk from a new strain if you haven't

updated your dog's vaccination. If you are still unsure, there are once-every-three-year C3 vaccinations available now in most veterinary hospitals. Besides, remember that keeping your dog's vaccination current is a Club requirement.

The seminar was organised as part of the Adult and Community Education program, supported by the ACT Government. We were grateful for the funding provided, as the Management Committee was able to organise a public seminar for the first time. We were very much encouraged by the positive feedback from the participants and we are planning to organise another seminar this year.

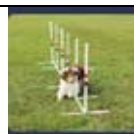
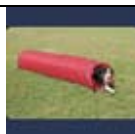
Finally, the Committee would like to thank Dr Archinal, Kath McQuarrie, Dean Gardiner and all BDOC members who donated their time and effort to make the seminar so successful.

*Maki Koyama
Treasurer, BDOC*

AES Technology – agents for Innotek

Back Yard Agility Products PVC

Price list and details –



					
PDT00-1 1029	PDT00-1 1030	PDT00-1 1032	PDT00-1 1033	PDT00-1 1034	PDT00-1 1031
3' Closed Tunnel	10' Open Tunnel	Weave Poles	Ring Jump	Weave Pole Guide	Bar Jump
Length - 335cm Diameter - 54cm	Length - 300cm Diameter - 54cm	Height - 81cm Width - 270cm Depth - 59cm Weave Pole Guides optional	Height - 102cm Width - 79cm Depth - 58cm Adjustable Ring Height 11cm to 68cm	For use with Weave Poles (sold separately) Easily snap on and off	Height - 80cm Width - 124cm Depth - 57cm Adjustable Bar Height 9cm to 76cm
\$159.00	\$159.00	\$109.00	\$109.00	\$29.00	\$109.00

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Outback camping with dogs

Barbara Brown

I love camping with my dogs, and my dogs sure like camping with me. I bush walk in National Parks but I camp and walk with my dogs in State forests (my favourites are the South East forests and the ones along the Murray River). In late June and early July, when the temperatures were way down in Canberra, we decided to take the dogs and head 'back of Bourke' to get some warmer weather.

We drove to Goonoo State Forest for the first night, north-west of Dubbo. This is a fabulous white ironbark forest. The trees were in flower and wattle birds were everywhere. The forest has plenty of flat, grassy areas for camping and lovely tracks for walking. We passed through Walgett on the road towards the Narran Lake Nature Reserve (no dogs allowed) and camped on a track in red dirt Callitris pine country. On through Bourke, and then we camped at the Warrego River overflow. It had rained about two weeks before we set out so there was water everywhere with many water birds and lovely grass for the tent. Moving on to Willetts Crossing on the Paroo River, we stopped for four days, camping right on the river, again on grass! We got permission from the manager of 'Terra Mia' station which runs down to the Paroo and he kindly directed us to good walking tracks along the river where white necked herons, egrets and pelicans abound. He also told us where he had set baits as they run goats on this property. You do have to be very careful about baits



when traveling with dogs in the outback.

We had some other great camp sites on our way up to Cunamulla and then back to NSW through Job's Gate. One of the last ones was near Schwegers Bore in the Pilliga State Forest. We stayed two nights to watch the birds coming into drink at the bore in the late afternoon.

Most of the towns you go through have good areas for running your dogs off-lead for a break when traveling.

Keep up your obedience training if you want to take your

dogs outback. We experienced sheep, cattle, wild pigs, goats, and of course kangaroos. If you want to walk with your dogs off-lead, you need to be able to call them back from these beasts! You also need to be aware of where they are at all times and make sure they are crated or tied up at night. I took crates as an emergency but my dogs slept in their traveling spaces in the back of the vehicle.

So next time you feel the cold in a Canberra winter, pack up your dogs and head 'back of Bourke'.



Dogs' Day Out at Lake Ginninderra

Patricia Looker

The northside Dogs' Day Out was held at Lake Ginninderra on Sunday, 16 November. A group of BDOC members persuaded their dogs to give up some of their swimming and grass-rolling time to do some work while they were there, so that the general public could see the benefits of dog training.

The dogs showed walking on a loose lead; following directions to sit, down and stand; the process of teaching a dog how to come when called starting on lead and going all the way to drop on recall; retrieving; scenting; stays; steady for pats; wait for dinner; and food refusal. To top it off, Rosie gave a demonstration of her trick catalogue – rolling over, begging, catching the ball and weaving through Angela's legs.

The dogs were all very good at concentrating despite the high level of distractions, especially when a few members of the public with assorted dogs wandered through the area while we were performing!

Thanks to those folk pictured here and also to Lesley and Archie who managed to escape the picture-taking.



L to R:

Adele	Terry•	Anne	Sally	Elaine	Alice	Susan	Werner	Angela
⊕		⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕
Mischa		Alvin	Bruno	Honour ⊕ Hilary	Killian	Buster	Max	Rosie ⊕ Blake

*Devlin was relaxing in the dog van watching out for the NRMA.

Belconnen Dog Obedience Club Inc.

Holidays with dogs

Sally Berridge

Further to Barabra's article on camping with dogs, many of us want to take our dogs with us on holidays. So many places make it difficult, and then there is the cost of kennels, the possibility of our dogs getting sick while boarding, and of course the hard part of leaving our special friends to be cooped up in runs while we are away. But there is a growing movement and awareness in the community that well-trained dogs can be accommodated on some holidays. I found a wonderful book in Dymocks called *Holidaying with dogs* by Willie Bedford (www.holidayingwithdogs.com.au). It is a directory to more than 2 000 B&Bs, caravan parks, camping grounds, cottages and motels etc. where dogs are welcome. Some places impose conditions, and, of course, all want well-behaved dogs. Also, the book gives some good hints such as always travelling with your dog's vaccination certificate in case of emergencies.

Agility demonstration at the Forde off-leash dog park

Lucy Williams

LEND LEASE DONATES \$300!

On a warm Saturday afternoon in Forde (Gunghalin), some members of BDOC took a set of agility equipment to the new off-leash park opening organized by Lend Lease (the property developer for that area) for a demonstration.

Fun was had by all, and the BDOC volunteers impressed quite a number of dog owners and prospective members with their skills of obedience and agility, and also handed out pamphlets to onlookers.

Many thanks to the team: Lucy Williams, Charlie and Liz Giles, Pam McDougall, Anne Lewis, Werner Roth, Sandra Johnston and of course their canine companions that were the stars of show.

Above: Pam and Van Dieman strut their stuff.

Lucy and Min demonstrating some of their agility skills.

Anne is giving some information to an interested spectator.





Training tips: doing homework

Patricia Looker

'Doing homework' has definite connotations, doesn't it, and most of them are not particularly inspiring or pleasant.

Perhaps it's better to look on your dog training homework as 'relationship building' rather than a chore. Indeed, unless you build the relationship with your dog, his skills are unlikely to progress very fast or far.

You don't have to take your dog to a special spot to do your training. In fact, if you do that you may be teaching your dog to 'behave properly' only in one particular place.

Your home should be your first training ground. Practise having your dog sit and stay/wait for every meal. Do some tummy rubs and 'body handling' while your dog keeps you company in front of the TV. Take your treats with you when you go into the backyard to hang out the washing or do some gardening and practise a few comes and some sits and downs. Teach your dog to respond to a 'leave it' command if he tries to wrest the rake from you, and that 'come' means to return to you with the gardening glove that he's just stolen. Don't forget to praise and reward your clever dog's responses.

Get your dog to sit when visitors come to the door, to be still while you open the door and to greet them nicely. How many other uses can you put those simple commands to so that your lives can be less hectic?

When you take your dog out for his daily walk, don't forget to pack some of his rewards along with the pooh bags. Start

as calmly as possibly by getting your dog to sit and wait to have his collar and lead put on and then again at the door or gate. Remember to praise and reward steady behaviour. During your walk, remember to use the techniques you've been taught to get your dog to walk without pulling.

Walking without pulling can take a while to teach to some dogs, especially those with excitable temperaments. It's a skill well worth putting the effort into, though. If you think that your dog will be part of your life for say 12 years, a six-month investment is really not much to have a pleasant 11½ years of pull-free walking. And don't be fooled – while head collars and harnesses help you control a physically strong or highly excitable dog, they do not magically 'fix' pulling. They are merely an aide to give you some extra control while you train your dog not to pull. Indeed, most dogs will work out within a very short space of time how to hold their bodies to put their weight into whatever restraining device you care to clip on. So, by all means use one of these training aides if you find your dog difficult to manage, but don't think you have bought a non-pulling dog with the purchase price.

Practise sits at curbs and when other people, dogs, or bicycles approach so that your dog is under control and learns to be steady. If people in the street want to pat your dog, get him to sit first so that he's less able to jump up at them or tangle them

in the lead. Again don't forget the praise and reward for a job well done.

As you walk along, periodically practise the 'come' exercise so that your dog learns, or is reminded, of the need to come to you every time you call. You can do this quite simply on the lead by saying your dog's name, praising him when he turns his head to look at you, giving the 'come' command and moving backwards if you need to, to encourage him in to you. Don't forget to give generous praise and a reward for this one. Having a dog with a reliable recall could quite literally be a matter of life or death, so practise this one often.

So, even though you may not have a lot of spare time, you can do a lot of 'homework' with your dog in your everyday activities. After all, the exercises you are both learning are designed to help your dog become a well-adjusted, responsive, manageable pet not just a dog who can perform various actions on command in class.

Above all enjoy building your relationship and learning together.

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