

WANGARATTA KENNEL & OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC

# Welcome to all new members & their dogs for July August

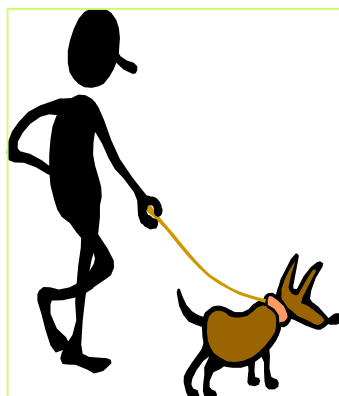
Articles of interest are welcome as well as Results from Trials or shows & other Official canine disciplines. Email to: [maree@mcmedia.com.au](mailto:maree@mcmedia.com.au)

Newsletter publications are:

February , April, June, August, October, December

⇒ Results no more than

**Welcome to all new members and those returning to the club. We have had a very busy couple of months with our very successful champ show on 29th & 30th June. Many members had their dogs entered and were successful. A special congratulations to Dianne Costello & Wig the Manchester Terrier and Julie Hourigan with Blitzzen the Aussie shepherd. Wig gaining puppy in Group and 3rd place puppy sweepstakes and Blitzzen Intermediate in Group. Well done to both.**



**We are now starting to prepare for our August Obedience and Agility Trials which will be on the 10th & 11th August. We would ask for as many of you as possible to give us a hand to run these events which will not only give you an insight into what competition is all about, it also helps the club continue to bring you as members the availability of grounds that are kept up to standard for the best training & competition area possible.**

**Dianne Costello has started her flyball course and would welcome more interested people to participate. You don't have to have any experience because you'll be taught what is required. Just come along and have some fun with your dogs**

Happy training....



Our goal is to teach you and your dog to work together with respect

Show Results/ Trial results	2
Club news	-3
Part 11 Dog sports	4-7
Calendar of events	8



# SHOW & PERFORMANCE RESULTS

## Wangaratta K&ODC Champ Show

Maree McCabe's (Hung wirehaired Vizsla)

Ch Habanero Emotional Rescue CD ET

BOB x 2

Dianne Costello's ( Manchester Terrier)

Dixiedaly Black Jack

BOB x 2 & Puppy In Group x1

3rd place puppy sweepstakes-Sun

Anne Pirie's (Greyhound)

Ch Brantarby Winter Warrior

BOB x 2

Aust/Nt Ch Xilone Tiger Eye

BOB x2

Janet Palmer's (Doberman)

Coppertop Its Raining Men

DCC x 2

Julie Hourigan's (Aust Shepherd)

Ch Ovensview Santas Blitzen

BOB x 1, Intermediate in Group x1

Ch Ovensview hot Chilli Women

BOB x 1 & RUBOB x 1

## Melbourne Dog Club

Sarah Kennedy's (Greyhound)

Ch Brantarby Winter Crusade

DCC & BOB x 2

## Yerong Creek Champ Show

Dianne Costello's (Manchester Terrier)

Dixiedaly Black Jack

BOB x 2

## Bulla Park Warringal Club Agility Day

Dianne Costello's (Stumpy Tail Cattle dog)

Hideherder Strike A Light AD JD RN ET

2x passes Jumping Dog Excellent

Giving Timins his JDX Title

**Congratulations !!!!**

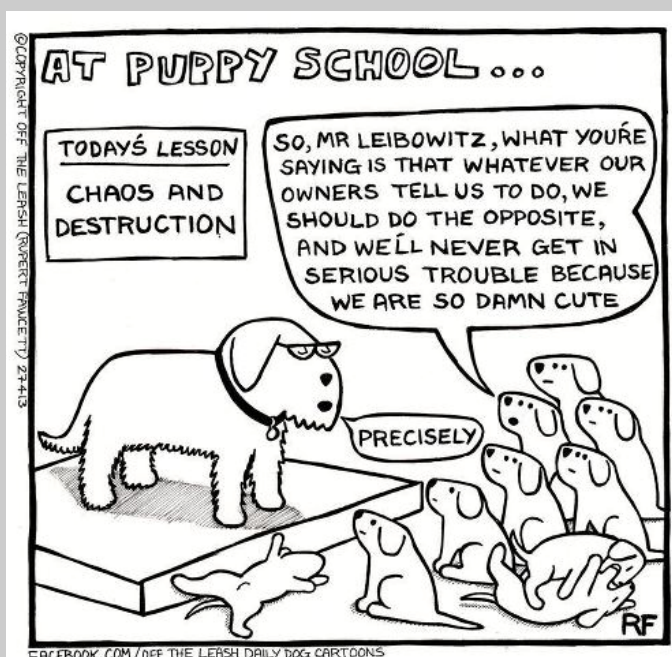
# Every gourmet Butchers

## Club News!

Our June show 29th & 30th has come and gone with everyone agreeing it was a huge success. Cold mornings, sunny days and pleasant surroundings made for a great weekend

With approximately 400 dogs being judged by New Zealand & Queensland judges over the weekend, three of the clubs members entered, Dianne Costello's Manchester Terrier "Wig" aka Dixiedaly Jack Black won Puppy in Group on Saturday & Best of breed both days. Julie Hourigan's "Blitzen" aka Ovensview Santas Blitzen won Best of Breed & Intermediate in Group Sunday & Maree McCabe's "Indi" aka Ch Habanero Emotional Rescue CD ET won Best of Breed both days. Other members competed in groups such as the hound Group, Utility Group, Toy Group, Gundog Group, Terrier Group & Working Dog Group

These are just some of the members competing on the weekend. Feedback from exhibitors was very positive from complementing the grounds, to loving the catering and yummy homemade produce available in the canteen. We were very lucky to have members volunteer to ticket write and next year would love more members make themselves available to ticket write to save paying professionals charging the club for jobs members are able to do. So please come along next year and offer yours services. A course will be run prior to the show for those who have no experience. Don't forget our Obedience and Agility trials are coming up in August and we will need all the help we can muster to again make it a successful weekend. Put your name in at the office asap so the committee can allocate a job to you.



## PART 11—DOG SPORTS

Dog Sports refers to a range of competitions, usually run as ANKC events, in which dogs demonstrate various skills such as jumping, scenting and retrieving. In the last issue I explained Rally Obedience (Rally O). Rally O provides a good foundation for traditional obedience, so let's see what's required if you want to compete at Obedience Trials.

### COMPETITIVE OBEDIENCE

Once you have completed your basic training, the next classes will prepare you and your dog for competitive obedience and rally O.

#### Organisation of the Competitions

Obedience Trials are official competitions where handlers and their dogs demonstrate their skills in performing set obedience exercises. Performances are scored against the Australian National Kennel Club (ANKC) standard set out in the official rules which can be found at *Rules for the Conduct of Obedience Trials* at <http://www.ankc.org.au/Rules.aspx>.

There are five levels of difficulty which, from beginning to hardest, are Community Companion, Novice, Open, Utility and Utility Excellent.

At each level, the challenge is to perform the exercises to a standard that will earn you a Qualifying score (a Q), which is at least 170 out of 200 points and at least 50% in every exercise in all classes except CCD where a qualifying score is 85% or better and at least 50% in every exercise. Dogs must perform the required actions on the first command and, unlike Rally O, during each exercise the handler isn't allowed to touch the dog or speak to it, except for the commands. Between exercises you are encouraged to praise your dog. As for all dog sports, food, toys, clickers and bumbags cannot be taken into the ring.

Gaining a Q earns a 'leg' towards the dog's title. At each level/class, three qualifying scores under at least two different judges enables a handler to apply for their dog's title, being Community Companion Dog (CCD), Companion Dog (CD), Companion Dog Excellent (CDX), Utility Dog (UD) and Utility Dog Excellent (UDX) respectively. Once you attain your title you are ready to move on to the next level.

It can be a quite a challenge to get a Q, but there is great satisfaction in being able to achieve the required standard and attain a title, especially at the higher levels.

#### The Exercises

Dogs do individual exercises such as heeling, retrieving, jumping, and stand for exam where the handler and dog team perform their exercises alone in the ring. The stays are performed in a group with a minimum of 3 dogs to a maximum of 10 dogs just as you do in class.

**Heeling;** - All classes contain heelwork in which the dog must maintain that close position by the handler's left side while the judge calls a pattern which includes all three paces (normal, fast and slow), all the turns (left, right, left about, and right about) and all the positions (halt/automatic sit, stand and down).

In the first class, the Community Companion (CCD) class, this is performed on lead. In CCD the judge is particularly looking for a loose lead performance from the team.

How well the dog stays in the heel position through all the paces and turns, how quickly and neatly it performs the positions, how neatly the handler cues the dog and how well the handler and dog work together as a team are all assessed by the judge in scoring the team's performance.

You don't have to be perfect to pass, but you do need to keep your errors to a minimum and demonstrate good teamwork.

In all other classes heeling is performed off lead. Just to make it even harder, in UD the handler can only use hand signals and must not speak to the dog and in UDX the handler can use voice or signals but not both to direct the dog.



Left: Kevin with Bronson on lead in the CCD class

Right: Maree with Indi off lead in the Novice class.



### *Lovely heekwork*

**Stand for exam** - The examination starts at the CCD level with the dog on lead in a stand-stay and the handler standing at least 75cms in front while the judge runs his hands over the dog's head and body. In all the other classes, the exam is done off lead and with the handler progressively further from the dog.

Marks are lost if the dog moves its feet and you will fail this exercise if your dog moves all four feet or sits down. As this is a temperament test, the dog will also fail if it shows resentment or shyness towards the judge.



### *Recall*

Jasper comes straight to Julie on the recall in CCD class

### *Stand for Examination*

Left Janet waits for the Judge to do stand for examination in CCD class



**Recall** - In CCD the dog is left on a stay/wait while the handler walks at least 12m away; in Novice the distance is at least 15m away and in Open as well as being around 25m away the dog has to come and then immediately down on the handler's command and wait for a further command to come.

Points are lost for such things as untidy sits and not moving briskly. If the dog comes before it's called or doesn't come on the first call it gets zero.

*Now, if you can do these three exercises -  
heeling on lead, stand for examination on lead, and a 12m recall -  
You and your dog can do group sit and down stays, you now know the  
exercises required for the  
Community Companion Dog class.*

**Change of Position** - This exercise is introduced in Novice as an option to the retrieve. The dog is left in a stand stay at a 3m distance and the judge directs the handler to down their dog and then return to the heel position. The dog must respond quickly to the down and remain in position until after the handler has returned to it.

In Open, the change of position is an alternative to the broad jump and the dog is required to go from a stand to a down to a sit, then a recall and a finish with the handler at 5metres distance. In Utility this same sequence is used but it forms part of that whole heeling without speaking exercise; and in UDX there are six changes of position at a 10metre distance.

Your dog shouldn't move forward when changing position (doing so attracts increasing penalties up the classes) and should respond promptly to commands.

#### *Change of Position*

Rory goes straight down in front of Billy and waits for Billy to return to him.



**Retrieving** - dogs retrieve dumbbells by sight both on the ground (the flat) and over a jump, they retrieve gloves, seek back articles, scent discrimination articles and cloths. Basically the dog sits by the handler and waits until it is told, and on one command goes and picks up the object, brings it back and sits in front of the handler and then gives it to the handler when he asks for it - none of this running off with the ball to see if the handler can catch him or chucking the ball at the handler because it's faster, not in obedience competition, thank you!

In Novice retrieving is an optional alternative to the *Change of Position* and is a short dumbbell retrieve on the flat (at least 4m).

Marks are lost for such things as slowness and of course if the dog goes before it's told or doesn't bring the dumbbell back and give it to you, it fails.

**To be successful in the Companion Dog (Novice) class you will need to be able to do four exercises off lead - heel, stand for examination, a 15+m recall (with a finish), and either change of position (stand to down) or a short retrieve. You also need to be able to do your group sit and down stays.**

In Open, retrieving a dumbbell both on the flat and over a jump is required and the distances are greater than in Novice.

In Utility and UDX, the retrieves have a twist. The first retrieve is of the handler's 'lost' article that is placed on a track walked by the dog and handler when they're not looking and requires both scenting/tracking and retrieving. The dog is supposed to track back and find the article and, of course, bring it back. In UDX, an additional article, scented by the steward is placed as a decoy.

Raglan retrieves his dumbbell over the jump in Open Class



The next retrieve in these higher classes is of scented articles placed where the dog can see them. In UD the dog needs to use its nose to work out which articles you've touched as opposed to the 12 articles that the steward has touched. The dog does this 3 times: once with a metal article, once with leather and once with wood. In UDX, the dog must pick out the judge's scented article from among ten articles.

#### *Scent Discrimination*

Kinya searches among the articles for the one with Patricia's scent on it.



## SPONSOR- The Vine hotel

The final retrieve in Utility is an optional exercise. Three gloves are lined up 6 metres apart and 12 metres from and behind the dog and handler. The judge will nominate one of the three gloves and the handler and dog must turn around and then the dog is sent for the nominated glove - he can see all three, but he must get the one the handler sends him for. In UDX, three smaller articles are placed in the same configuration but usually the dog can't see any of them. He must follow his handler's direction to find and retrieve the correct article.

**Broad Jump** - The alternative to the *Change of Position* in the Open class is the broad jump. The dog is left sitting in front of a flat, wide jump while the handler walks to the side of the jump. (The jump distance is twice the dog's shoulder height.)

The dog is then commanded to jump and on landing it must turn right and go to sit in front of the handler. Marks are lost for such things as not jumping straight across, not sitting in front and as usual, the dog must wait for the command and must jump on the first command or it gets a zero.

**Other individual exercises in the higher classes** - In Utility and Utility Excellent classes there are several other exercises which require dogs to jump as directed, refuse food offered by the judge, speak on command, and run out from the handler as directed.

**Stays (Group exercises)** - All classes do off-lead stays. The dogs are lined up 1.5 metres apart and must maintain the position they were left in while the handlers walk away for varying lengths of time.

In CCD, Novice and Open, sit and down stays are performed. In CCD and Novice handlers are in the ring at 10m and 12m respectively. In Open and in Utility, handlers leave their dogs in the ring and go out of sight. All dogs need plenty of group practice to confidently remain in position in a line of dogs, many of whom they won't know. This is an exercise well worth taking your time over - once 'broken' stays can be very hard to 'fix'.



**Handlers leave their dogs in the down-stay.**

### Want to know more?

You can ask Kevin, our Chief Instructor, or one of the club members who trials for more information. If you want to see what goes on at a trial, why not take yourself (without your dog) to one of the local clubs and watch the action. Most trailers will be willing to chat to you as long as they're not about to enter the ring - so, if you're told not now, but come back a bit later on, don't feel offended, it's just that the handler is getting themselves and their dog mentally prepared for the challenge ahead. Just remember to go without your dog as only dogs entered in the trial are allowed on the grounds on trial days. This Club will hold an obedience trial in August – hopefully you'll be one of the participants!

Submitted by Patricia Looker

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 2013

Intermediate in Group



- ⇒ INTAKE FOR BEGINNERS IS WEDNESDAY 3rd WITH LECTURE IN CLUBROOM 7PM SHARP—**NO DOGS**
- ⇒ 1st Hungarian Vizsla Club Victoria Restricted to Gr 3 obedience trial
- ⇒ 20th & 21st Albury & Border KC Rally & Obedience Trials
- ⇒ 26th Kennel club meeting @ 8pm in clubroom—**NO 8PM CLASSES**



August 2013

Puppy in Group



- ⇒ INTAKE FOR IS FIRST WEDNESDAY 7th WITH LECTURE IN CLUB ROOMS 7PM SHARP—**NO DOGS**
- ⇒ **Working bee to go through the Agility equipment date TBA**
- ⇒ SPECIAL MEETING PRIOR TO TRIAL DATE TBA...
- ⇒ 10th & 11th Wangaratta Obedience & Agility Trials
- ⇒ 28th Kennel club meeting @ 8pm in club room **NO 8PM CLASSES**

September 2013



- ⇒ Intake for beginners Wednesday 4th with lecture in clubrooms 7pm sharp—**NO DOGS**
- ⇒ 25th Kennel club meeting @ 8pm clubroom **NO 8PM CLASSES**

