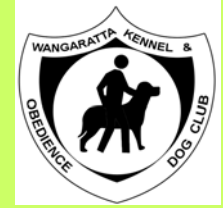


September / October 2009

Newsletter Date 2/9/09

# Newsletter

No 44



WANGARATTA KENNEL & OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB Inc

## Special points of interest:

- Obedience Report
- Tracking Workshop
- Heel Work Article
- Trial Results
- Puppies needs
- Advanced class & Agility training
- Most improved member for Sept

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## OBEDIENCE REPORT— Maree (Chief Instructor)

This month has seen a good number of people continuing with obedience after the basic beginners class. It has been interesting to see handler and dog starting to work together, Congratulations to Rob & Max (White GSD) graduating to Brown class last Wednesday, Well done to you both. It is also pleasing to see a nice group of members that are up to trialing stage and are working to prepare for their first trial along with

those who have started already. The next trial being in Albury 31st October & 1st November. Practice will intensify closer to the date with a mock trial for those entering. For those of you who have a bit of trouble, don't be disheartened it will happen with patience and determination. I am pleased to announce we have a new Instructor with us in the new year, and I will tell you more about it soon. Happy Training...Maree

## HEEL WORK – RIGHTABOUT TURN!!

This is the only turn involved during your dog's first few lessons of heel work and I see each month students have a lot of trouble executing this turn without dragging the dog around or even being able to get their dog to focus as they attempt it.

This article may help those of you who are having trouble understanding how to get your dog to join you at your left leg as you make the turn.

(Tucker . 2000) writes In doing this turn you are trying to lay the foundation of the straight line concept in his mind. Until now you have held the leash in your right hand. For convenience, when you carry out this right-about turn, take the entire leash in your left hand in one grasp so that you take hold of it about 25cm away from the clip. This will leave your right hand free so that you can pat your right leg, to encourage your dog to do a right-about turn as you say 'Fido, heel'.

While you do this keep your left hand down to his height for it might be necessary to give him a jerk if, and only if, he does not respond to your encouraging command. As soon as you see him give the first sign of response to the turn, praise him.

In doing this manoeuvre make sure that you turn on the spot and return along the same line that you came on. If you do a U turn, your dog will bow out. Ensure at all times that the leash is slack, even when there is only the 25-cm length between you and the dog. If you pull it tight, he will pull outwards.



Maree...

Happy Training...

Reference:

Tucker. M. 2000 (*Dog training made easy. Chpt 9 Heel work p.67, 68*) Lansdowne Publishing Sydney NSW 2000 Australia. & Howell Book House NY



# Trial results

## Restricted to German Breeds Obedience trial—June ,KCC Park

⇒ Sheridan Hicks

Truganini Dreamtime Doberman

**1st Place CCD 94 points, Giving Owen his “CCD TITLE”**

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!!**

⇒ Sheridan Hicks

Becagem Hot Asset Doberman

**2nd Place Novice 188 points giving Sorrow her “NOVICE TITLE”**

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

⇒ Sheridan Hicks

Sunniva Beautiful Vision Doberman

**3rd Place Novice 183 points**

Albury & Border Kennel Club— July

⇒ Billie Louwrier ( Saturday Trial)

**TCH Pastoreman Baronessa CDX - German Shepherd**

**First Place UD 184 points, Giving Jacqui her “UTILITY TITLE”**

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!!**

⇒ Billie Louwrier ( Sunday Trial)

**TCH Pastoreman Baronessa CDX - German Shepherd**

**3rd Place Open 194 points**

⇒ Sheridan Hicks

**Sunniva Beautiful Vision— Doberman**

**1st Place Novice 194 points, giving Holi her “NOVICE TITLE”**

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

⇒ Sheridan Hicks

**Truganini Dreamtime— Doberman**

**2nd Place Open 193 points**

**Wangaratta Kennel & Obedience Dog Club, August**

⇒ Sheridan Hicks “AM Trial”

**Truganini Dreamtime— Doberman**

**1st Place Novice 181 points**

⇒ Sheridan Hicks “PM Trial”

**Truganini Dreamtime— Doberman**

**1st Place Novice 185 points Giving Owen his “NOVICE TITLE”**

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!!**

## TRACKING WORKSHOP—SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER

A Tracking Workshop will be held on the 24th October 2009 for those interested in knowing what it is all about.

The cost will be \$25.00 for Wangaratta members \$30.00 for non Wangaratta members. Lunch will be provided as well as morning and afternoon tea.

The day will start at 9am with a presentation by two Tracking Judges from the Tracking Club of Victoria, Trish Wileman & Peter Miller. This will be followed by a practical hands on

lesson how to get your dog started.

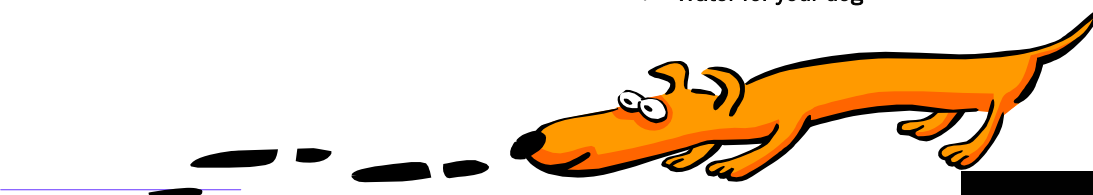
Thing you will need to bring with you on the day are:

- ⇒ **6-8 old socks (yours not the families) or you can buy cheap socks from the cheap shop and wear them in your waist band when you come.**
- ⇒ **Lead of at least 6-8 foot in length and a flat collar or harness if you have one.**
- ⇒ **Water for your dog**

⇒ **Comfortable clothes & runners.**

⇒ **Plenty of food for rewards on the socks and at the end of a track. The best are cabarna (sausage), hotdogs cut up. Cheese or any kind of food your dog would die for. Have the food in a bag or container.**

More details will be coming, look out for a flyer and requirements on the day.



*May the scent  
be with you*

The object of this aspect of training is to teach your dog to follow by scent a selected trail. So the dog is eventually capable of following a specific scent to the exclusion of other distractions, and at the same time indicating to the handler any item of property left on or adjacent to the track.

The object of the day is to teach you the basic concept of tracking with your dog. This will include hands on tracking but also track plotting, track laying, equipment, and most important aspect how the dog tracks and why??



## PUPPIES & THEIR NEEDS



We have a few new puppies in the club. These babies are going through changes as all pups do, so to make sure they are getting the most positive and successful training experiences possible, we have to be aware of the need for much socialization not only with other dog's young and old, but other animals as well. This includes cats and other pets. This is done as soon as the puppy comes home. With supervision by you

at all times when introducing a new member to the family so that no accidents happen or that a boisterous puppy doesn't wear out it's welcome and be beaten up by an older dog or scratched by the family cat. It is always good to do the introductions slowly and in small bouts. Never leave a new puppy alone with an older dog in the beginning until you are sure the new pup is accepted fully, otherwise you may come home to a disaster.

Always supervise the pup in play then put him to bed in a crate for time out when the play becomes to hyper. This is not only for the puppies benefit but it gives the older dog or cat a rest. Do this and all will be well.

Remember it's good to get your young pup use to all sorts of different people and places but until he has all his needles don't take him where other dogs pee or poo. Only clean places. Parvo is still around



## Introduction to advanced class

As a way of explaining what goes on in each class on a Wednesday night for those who have just joined the 8pm class or those who will shortly do so, from the beginners course.

When the beginners course is completed those handlers will automatically graduate to the 8pm class to polish up what you have learned in the beginners class. You also have a chance to see the other people who have been in the advanced class longer and are almost at or are competing in competition

and see how they handle their dogs as they also go through the basics just the same as you. This is what happens even if your dog is highly trained it still has to put through the most basic of exercises to either reinforce or tighten up any part of heeling, sitting in the right place, retrieving or the drop that the dog is having trouble with before going into competition.

Next year we will have another instructor to help out (Sheridan) so we may change class times for those in the 8pm class, so

the handlers coming out of beginners will have a session on their own instead of being in the advanced class and in so doing this the advanced class can also concentrate on more advanced exercises the red class are really not up to yet.

We have some almost ready to tackle a trial in Oct/Nov @

Albury, so keep up the good work, you can do it.



The advanced class at 8pm.

## Agility & how to use it for obedience training

Agility has cropped up as a sport some are interested in and would like to train their dogs in as a fun thing to do together. These members have seen an Agility competition recently at Wangaratta and think they might like to try it.

Because of the interest shown I have decided to incorporate a bit of Agility into our advanced obedience classes. This would

mean that the dog and handler will experience a different way of controlling and getting your dog to listen and learn commands along with the normal obedience.

Each week we will bring out some of the lighter equipment to practice on and so half of the hour session will be obedience the other Agility. If there are people who do not want to in-

clude Agility in their training session please come and see me (Maree) and we can discuss what your needs are and try to accommodate you.

The class enjoyed the change in routine as did the dogs. I would be interested in seeing a small group who would be willing to come a little earlier to set up some equipment for the 8pm session and be able to stay and put it away. (Let me know).

*Remember training a dog does have to be fun.*

*Break it up in work and play increments, so both of you enjoy it!!!*

## Most Improved Member for September

This goes to Brendan and Reid (Beagle). I have been very impressed the way Brendan has put in the commitment to train Reid who is a very strong Beagle, and in the beginning was very hard for Brendan to handle.

I have watched Brendan and Reid over the past 2 months and can see a big improvement.

Brendan has had to use a halt to control the headstrong Reid. But I see each week that they are starting to work as a team.

The two had a go at Agility one training night and I think they may do well in the future, as they both had a lot of fun.

Well done Brendan, keep up the good work.

I will be watching!!!

