

HORNSBY DOG TRAINING CLUB

(Affiliated with Dogs NSW)



The Post

September Issue 2012

Contact Us

Email hornsbydogtrainingclub@hotmail.com

Website www.hornsbydogtrainingclub.org.au

Post P O Box 3257, Asquith NSW 2077

TRAINING INFORMATION

WHERE: Rofe Park, Galston Rd, Hornsby Heights

WHEN: Sundays (rain, hail or shine except long weekends)

CHECK-IN: All dogs must be checked-in prior to training. Please do not allow your dog to approach others until check-in is complete.

A **\$2.00 ground fee** is payable at check-in.

Please keep your dog on lead and under control at all times both before and during class.

Please ensure your dog or puppy has been

FULLY VACCINATED before coming to training.

We also recommend vaccination against kennel cough. Talk to your vet for further information.

The Hornsby Dog Training Club teaches obedience exercises for dogs of all ages, shapes and sizes on Sunday afternoons.

The club is run entirely by friendly volunteers who enjoy seeing new dogs progress through the classes to become good canine citizens.

The Club welcomes new members looking for an obedient and friendly family pet, and those wishing to proceed further to the field of competitive obedience trialing.

CLASS TIMES:

Puppy Class: 1:00 - 2:00pm

Introduction Class: 2:00 - 3:00pm

Class 1: 3:00 - 4:00pm

Class 2: 3:00 - 4:00pm

Class 3: 3:00 - 4:00pm

Class 4: 3:00 - 4:00pm

Advanced & Trialing: 2:00 - 3:00pm

TESTING:

All Classes 2:00 - 3:00pm

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5 Easy Rules of Training

- ◆ **ATTENTION** get your dogs attention ie use their name
- ◆ **LURE** the dog into desired position using food with the appropriate hand signal (introduce word once dog is displaying action ie SIT)
- ◆ **MARK** the action using voice ie "good"
- ◆ **REWARD** with the lure (food) and a pat and praise
- ◆ **RELEASE** the dog with a word ie "OK"



The Post



Secure your dog inside the car and do not let him stick his head out of the car window. It may look cool but is bad for his eyes! [http://www.buzzfeed.com/eccae/21-eyes!](http://www.buzzfeed.com/eccae/21-eyes)

Doggie Health Issues—Eye Problems

Check your dog's eyes every week for abnormalities such as discharge or redness. Watch for signs of squinting, avoiding light or rubbing his eyes.

An infection can be caused by many things and can occur very quickly; the most common causes are bacteria and viral. If your dog gets something in his eye such as a piece of grass or dust—it can have bacteria on it which can result in an infection.

Discourage your dog from jumping head first into long grass or having his head out of the car window.

This may result in an eye infection from foreign bodies, dust and pollutants entering the eye.

See your vet immediately if you suspect an eye problem.

Any dried matter in the corner of your dog's eyes should be gently cleaned away with a cotton swab moistened with warm water. Be careful not to rub over the eye with cotton as the fibres can cause irritation.

Further reading—[Dog's eye Problems](#)



"In those heels this is going to be a short walk."

<http://www.fotosearch.com/photos-images/pug-dog.html#>

Owners Health Issues — Walking shoes

"I see lots of knee injuries and joint pain caused by wearing the wrong shoes while exercising" says Michelle Collins Physiotherapist

When walking your foot hits the ground heel first and then rolls gradually from heel-to-toe. So, you will need a flexible sole and more bend in the toe similar to a runner. You should be able to twist and bend the toe area. A flat or slightly raised supportive, cushioned heel in a light weight design is preferable.

A thick, wide or rigid heel will cause your foot to slap down rather than roll. This slows down forward movement and increases the chance of shin and joint pain. Always have an expert fitting and seek help from a physiotherapist. A Physiotherapist will work on rehabilitation and treatment of the painful area, and may suggest stretches, exercises or even orthotics or other strapping for pronation or over pronation of the foot, to reduce future injuries.

Michelle has kindly agreed to provide information for our newsletters. Michelle is the director of Northern Districts Physiotherapy (Eastwood & Epping)

<http://www.ndpe.com.au/profiles.html>

Chauffeuring the Dog

Fines - You must not drive with a dog on your lap.

In NSW the fine is \$397 and three demerit points. Ouch!!!

A motorcyclist must not ride with an animal between himself and the handlebars.

A dog must be tethered on an open trailer, ute or truck trailer so as not to fall off.

Hot in the Car !

The RSPCA warns motorists about the dangers of leaving animals, especially dogs unattended in cars and on the back of ute trays.

All animals are affected by heat stress.

Here are some important facts regarding dogs in hot cars:

- ◇ A dog left in a car can die within as little as 6 minutes as they are not able to sweat to cool themselves
- ◇ A dog panting inside a car will raise the temperature even more quickly
- ◇ Leaving the window down or parking in the shade does little to stop the temperature rising in the car.
 - * All animals are affected by heat stress.

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Chief Instructor's Report — Jo Tucker

Spring is here along with all the nasties that affect our dogs. Ticks flea's snakes warm weather etc.

Ticks Every spring and summer we are impacted by paralysis ticks. A single tick can kill a dog. *The best treatment is prevention.*

- * Check your dog DAILY.
- * Ask your vet/vet nurse or one of the club's instructors if you are unsure how to check your dog
- * Use a tick collar and a spot on tick prevention.
- * Advantix is effective – needs to be applied every two weeks (**warning: don't use this if you have cats - this brand is toxic to cats**)
- * Please be guided by your vet as to which product is best for your dog
- * Fleas are also a problem and there are products available for treatment of the dog and to treat the animal's environment i.e. floors furniture dog bedding etc.
- * Use a flea spray and wash bedding regularly

Big Win for Blacktown

Pound Recently, some members from the HDTC and GSD League along with Dr Rob Zammit and the CEO of Animal Welfare League attended a meeting at Blacktown Council where there was a unanimous vote for the mandatory desexing of all dogs and cats at Blacktown Pound. It was a wonderful win for animals as this will mean puppy farmers can no longer acquire entire dogs and cats from the pound to carry on back yard breeding.

Backyard Puppy Farming Many of these animals are kept in atrocious conditions and sold to unsuspecting new owners, who do not know if their new pet is a result of a mother son mating or similar and may end up with an appalling genetic condition or disease, or as a result of poor nutrition as a puppy, end up with something incurable, suffer and then have to be put to sleep? . These puppy farmers also lead new owners to believe they are buying a purebred dog; how will the general public know the background of the puppy?

Case - I received a phone call from a woman who wanted German Shepherd Rescue to take one of her dogs who she thought was pregnant . I asked her when did she last have her season - the woman had no idea. She couldn't keep the dog if she was having pups. It turned out that they had acquired 2 German Shepherds from a puppy farmer: a brother and a sister not de sexed and were to be used as guard dogs at a commercial premises. The breeder knew the dogs were to be kept on these premises at all times. The owners would go home to their warm beds and a hot meal and these dogs were left to guard heavy machinery (as if it couldn't look after itself). Nature took its course and brother and sister mated and produced 11 puppies. All the puppies were sold except they stupidly decided to keep one little girl and you guessed it. She and her father mated and she had 8 puppies. This is the dog that needed to be rehomed along with her puppies. She gave birth to these little babies on one of the coldest winters in Western Sydney without any help except her mother watching. (*another issue*). There was no whelping box no extra food just a cold oily concrete floor. These puppies to date all

appear to be normal at this stage but they should not be here. If the owners had taken some responsibility and had at least one of the dogs desexed then this would not have happened.

Help is available—A number of our members have rescued dogs. These dogs have been rescued from pounds or organisations and their owners have taken responsibility to get them desexed (if they haven't already been), vet checked and most of all love and train them!!! What a different life they have now that you have opened your hearts and your homes to these neglected animals! Some rescue dogs come with issues. Some major some not so bad but still issues due to the fact they may have been unwanted and dumped and along the way treated badly.

We are very happy to help you and if we are unable we can refer you to good folk who can. Often it is a case of patience kindness love and lots of rewards (if they are not too frightened to enjoy a treat).

We are delighted with the dedication of our members who come along every Sunday to train their dogs with enthusiasm. We hope that we reward that dedication by sharing our knowledge and experience. Apologies if we are an instructor short every now and then. Good news is that we have 2 new instructors on board taking the puppy classes and I am very grateful for the extra load they are taking off us tired older folk!!

Happy training and see you at the club.

Jo Tucker Chief Instructor

The Post

Have you heard of the POOPs Program?

The Pets of Older Persons (POOPs) program assists socially isolated elderly people by offering assistance with their pets in times of crisis. The POOPs Program aims to keep pets and their elderly owners happy, healthy and together in their own homes for as long as possible.

POOPs is based in Sydney but assists clients throughout NSW whenever possible through RSPCA NSW Shelters and Branches.

POOPs services:

- Temporary foster accommodation and/or emergency boarding of the pet should the owner require medical treatment, respite or other assistance
- Assistance with veterinary treatment at the RSPCA Sydney Vet Hospital
- Assistance with pet grooming
- Home visits to assist the elderly with basic pet care

Who is eligible for POOPs?

Designed to help people 65 years of age or older who are socially isolated and require assistance with care of their pets. Palliative care patients of any age who are socially isolated may also access POOPs services.

What does it cost?

Where possible, clients pay the veterinary, grooming and boarding fees at the time of service. POOPs clients receive a discount on all services and payment plans can be arranged if required. All cases will be assessed on an individual basis. The POOPs program is not government funded and relies on donations and grants for support.

Interested in Volunteering ?

- Transportation of animals to local vets
- Walking or feeding animals - mostly dogs but also cats, birds, fish and other small animals
- Temporary foster care of animals whilst owners are in hospital or respite – mostly dogs and cats but also birds, fish and other small animals
- Donating goods, time or money to POOPs

To volunteer and for more information, email poops@rspcansw.org.au or phone: 02 9782 4408

Photo from Free Digital Photos.net



Velma's Pets As Therapy (charity) Seeking More Volunteers!

Do you enjoy making people smile and brightening the lives of frail and challenged adults and children?

People should own or have access to a friendly, healthy, well mannered pet that loves meeting strangers; available a few hours per week or fortnight; and prepared to train to learn health and safety procedures, new pet training skills and to pay a joining fee of \$195.00 which includes training, uniform, 12 months membership and inclusion on insurance.

For full details, please go to: <http://www.velmaspetsastherapy.com.au/velmas-pets-as-therapy-visiting-program/> Or email Velma at: velma@velmaspetsastherapy.com.au

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Off-leash dog areas in Hornsby Council area

Dedicated off-leash areas

There are five dedicated off-leash areas in Hornsby Shire for dog owners to exercise and train their animals. These areas are:

- Asquith Park, Rotherwood St, Asquith
- Crossroads Reserve, corner Turner and Berowra Waters Rds, Berowra Heights
- Greenway Park, Shepherds Drive, Cherrybrook
- Rofe Park, Galston Rd, Hornsby Heights
- Ruddock Park, Eucalyptus Drive, Westleigh
- Dawson Avenue Parkland, Dawson Ave, Thornleigh

All the areas are fully fenced with double gate entrances and have waste bins, dog waste bags and water.



Shared off-leash areas Two other shared sites are available. **At both of these sites dogs are NOT PERMITTED during organised sport and games and maintenance activities.**

- Epping Oval, Norfolk Rd, Epping
- Ron Payne Reserve, Woods St, North Epping

Using off-leash areas

To ensure off-leash areas are safe and enjoyable for everyone, please consider other users:

- **Keep your dog in sight**
- **Your dog must be under control by voice**
- **Pick up and dispose of all waste correctly**
- **Do not let your dog rush at or harass other dogs and people**

Keep your dog on a lead until it is inside the fenced area and put it back on a lead before leaving.

Some dogs can get hyperactive at this fun time—if you sense your dog needs time out put him on lead for a while, offer some water and reassess. Always end on a positive note and remove your dog if it is causing problems for other dogs/ humans.

From <http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/services/pets/off-leash-dog-areas>

President's Report 2012

I would like to begin by sincerely thanking the loyal members of the Club committee and the Club Instructors who have throughout the year remained dedicated to the running of the Club, its continuation and the welfare of all members and their canine friends.

The Club's membership numbers have remained reasonably constant at around three hundred and the number of members attending training is similar to previous years.

We are seeing a worrying erosion of our instructor numbers which is increasing the pressure on the ones remaining.

Jo Tucker our Chief Instructor, has been valiantly wrestling with the roster to keep the number of classes constant but we need to increase our instructor numbers of the club to remain viable.

We have examined strategies for the introduction of basic agility. This will again be in our sights as we believe it will keep our members coming back for training. Most of our instructors are happy to receive teaching in agility and it only remains now for us to find a suitable mentor. For the time being agility remains as a fun activity within the normal training structure.

The club has found it increasingly difficult to find members who are willing to give their time on an ongoing basis to help instruct the classes and run the Club. The committee have struggled with this problem for some time and any ideas or strategies to overcome this problem will be gratefully received.

Our Obedience Trial this year ran smoothly and efficiently and all people who contributed are to be congratulated.

Entries have remained fairly constant. We had a great response from members and friends who helped organise and run the trial. We have them to thank for its success. As a mark of our gratitude to everyone involved, the club organised a Thank you Dinner which proved to be a very happy and social evening.

Our small band of members working on the committee and instructing remain positive of the Club's future and are constantly on the lookout for new associates to bring innovative ideas and fresh enthusiasm. We look forward to a successful year of training t Hornsby Dog Training Club

John Sharp President

Secretary's Report 2012

At the time of the 2012 AGM membership was 95 ; compared to 123 in 2011.

The number of members prior to the cut off point was 280 compared to 329 in 2011.

The Club has not participated in any community events this reporting year. We have had some of our members competing in trials with some success.

The Club held one obedience trial this year which was unfortunately cut short by heavy rain.

Don Day Secretary



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“Do I really have to wear this coat out?”

New Editor

Hi , I have taken on the editor’s role of The Post. I am fairly new to the club, commencing earlier this year with our fourth dog Syrus—a black miniature poodle. There is nothing like jumping in boots and all to learn about a club and to help out. So being new, I would love your help.

Please send me your stories, photos, articles and questions for sharing with the members. We will learn from each other, have a laugh and no doubt have compassion for each other’s dilemmas.

I can see there are quite a few dogs with heaps of character at our club and I am sure they get into all sorts of mischief, make us laugh and teach us heaps.

Please email your items to me at gurang@optusnet.com.au . Regards *Narelle Brown*

What Happened at the AGM 24/8/12

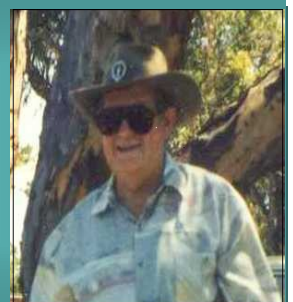
Our new crew for the next year:

President	Kathy Sharp
Vice President	Jo Tucker and John Sharp
Secretary	Don Day
Assistant Secretary	Rose Day
Treasurer	Anne Eddins
Publicity Officer	Rowena Bennett
Committee Members	Rowena Bennett, Graeme Brown, Narelle Brown, Alvera Nicolaou, Susan Williams, Bruce Moon
Chief Instructor	Jo Tucker
Deputy Chief Instructor	Tony Farmer
Trial Manager	Tony Farmer
Trial Secretary	Anne Eddins
Chief Steward	Kathy Sharp
Patron	Jill Kaldor (Member Dogs NSW Obedience & Tracking Committee with many years of experience in judging nationally and with much involvement at the Royal Easter Shows)

Vale Victor Taylor

Vic passed away in early August, just 11 months after his wife of over 60 years, Marge. He was 93 years old, and would be remembered by quite a number of our older members.

One of a group of founders of our Club, circa 1969/70, he was a very active member for many years and held the positions of President and Chief Instructor during this time.



Getting to know our Instructors—Chief Instructor—Jo Tucker

(first in a series of articles about the great instructors at HDTIC)

Jo grew up on a farm in New Zealand where her love of all animals began.

“We had about 4 or 5 working dogs and a ‘house dog’ which was invariably a German Shepherd who I am sure the working dogs turned their noses up at. Looking back now I am amazed the working dogs lived so long as all they had to eat was big dog biscuits called Tux and every now and then some ‘dog tucker’ which was usually some poor old ewe that we kept as ‘killers’ for the dogs. The two original dogs lived until they were about 20 or older. They were both deaf and nearly blind but they were ‘worked’ till almost the day they died. They loved nothing more than going out around the stock and after 9 or more hours in the heat and or the cold, their very stark kennels were heaven. No bedding therefore no extra warmth in a frosty winter must have been hard but they knew nothing else. I look at my two German Shepherds who are shuffled inside in the heat of our Sydney summer to loll about in the air conditioning and think how lucky they are compared with the farm dogs of the world! “

Jo and her husband Graham have had Shepherds for about 25 years; their first dog was bought through a newspaper advertisement. There is no way Jo would buy a puppy from an ad today but they were new to Australia living in Lane Cove in the late ‘80’s with no network, no internet. “We were burgled while we were out one night. I was terrified. The low life that had broken in through our back window had picked up a knife from the knife block and discarded it when he knew no-one was home. We came home to a mess and quite a few things missing. I said half jokingly while we were waiting for the police that we should get a guard dog and my husband said what a good idea.”

So Bodger arrived in their lives. However with a dodgy heart and hip dysplasia he didn’t live as long as expected.

“I took him to Rofe Park for training and I remember David Le Lievre taking our class and stopping it for a while so I could take a breather as Bodger was a bugger. If he didn’t want to do anything he just wouldn’t. I still have huge empathy for owners of dogs that for whatever reason do not want to do anything. I stayed at Hornsby Dog Training Club until Bodger acquired his Class 2. I don’t think I could have faced pursuing further education for this boy so he lived out his life getting his 2 walks a day and looking after his family.”

Bodger died in 1998 and it took 2 years for Jo and Graham to contemplate another dog as their loss of Bodger was so huge and they missed him so much.

“I can’t remember what made me decide on another Shepherd and of course Graham was reluctant as most husbands are but when we went to see Eric’s litter we fell in love. There were 9 puppies in the litter and all vying for the shoe laces on Graham’s shoes. 4 on one and 5 on the other. Eric was last out when his mother whelped him but he was second out from his little cubby to meet us that day. I thought that was such a good sign!!”

Eric holidayed in NZ – a jet-setting dog! “We didn’t have to put him quarantine but he was in a crate for about 6 hours before during and after the flight. AQIS were very good and as was the kiwi equivalent MAF. I don’t think MAF realized the importance of paralysis tick inspection as they just checked his feet and that was it. That was a job in itself and perhaps that’s why they gave up at the feet. Eric had ticklish feet and did not want them looked at any time let alone when he had been in a crate for too long! They let me in while they were checking him and of course as soon as he knew his mummy was there he was jumping and crying with joy and ‘let me out now!!!’ yelps. As soon as he was let out he just knew it was holiday time and he was so happy. He used to wear goggles for his eyes because he used to stick his head out the car window and I was worried he would get dust etc in them. It was a happy time for us all.”

Eric died on the 24th April 2012 at 11.30pm after he suffered with the dreaded bloat. “He was nearly 11 and it was heartbreaking to make that decision to let him go. He was already high as a kite from the morphine and I guess he was much happier than I was. He slipped away in my arms looking at the person he loved the most in the world. When I got home our younger boy at the time Jethro came running out to see where his beloved Eric was - that was hard. Jethro slept on Eric’s bed for about 2 weeks. He was not himself and of course he missed Eric terribly.”

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Jo was involved with the whole breeding process including being at the birth of Jethro .

“ That is why I know we have a special bond and I have to thank his breeder Anne Eddins for that among other things. Well Jethro and I became a bit of a show item. He started to win! We were so thrilled because it takes many years to have a winner and Jethro was only 10 months. Don't get me wrong. He came last too. On this day I was telling those who wanted to listen: Look at that beautiful animal. He's a winner. He did go into the ring first as he was the eldest but during the proceedings he went from 1st to 2nd to 3rd then missed several placings down to 9th! I was mortified. Best thing that ever happened (I think.....) put me back right down off me pedestal. The reason he was last was because he was far too tall and that was what stopped his showing in the end. He is a big dog for a shepherd and way above the breed standard but of course we love him!!!”



Jethro was soon joined by cousin Elly May who has proved to be the naughtiest most lovable dog.

“Elly May has had her time in the show ring and maybe she will again but she doesn't enjoy it much being such a mummy's girl, so we will concentrate on obedience with her and Jethro. I can hear you all saying I need to.

These two together are not good ambassadors for obedience when I have them out together as they feed off each other and play up. If you have seen me with them you will notice I am flapping along like a tea towel so I bring them to the club separately and I am getting there with theirs and my education. You can look at me with my two and think to yourselves well we are not that bad after all!!!”

Jo is also involved in German Shepherd Rescue which we will feature in the next issue of Post.

There is no doubt that our dogs, shape us, teach us, and drag us through the highs and depths of emotions and Jo's personal experiences show us why she is so well respected and sought out at Hornsby Dog Training Club. Thanks for sharing this information and for all the volunteer hours you give to HDTCC!



IN OUR NEXT ISSUE WE
WILL CONTINUE THIS
SERIES OF ARTICLES ON
GETTING TO KNOW OUR
INSTRUCTORS.

How do you become an Instructor?

Please have a chat to Jo if you would like to become an Instructor.

“I would love to talk to you and as I always say *“if I can do it anyone can”*. I firmly believe if you love dogs and you can communicate then go for it. It is very rewarding, highly unpaid, hard work but a lot of fun. We have a fantastic support network in the clubhouse and we have a knowledgeable team of instructors who are positive and approachable and happy to answer questions.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY Print this page for future reference

December 2012 Last training day is the first Sunday in December - 2nd December 2012

Christmas Party is the second Sunday in December - 9th December 2012 (See details below)

January 2013 Puppy classes will be held In January on Sunday 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th



Time : 9.30am—10.30am

Puppies from 8-16 weeks

February 2013 Training begins Sunday 3rd February 2012

Christmas Party 9 December 2012

Where : Club House Role Park Galston

When : Sunday 9 December 2012

Time : 12 pm (midday)

Lunch, soft drinks, tea and coffee provided

What to bring: Folding table, chair, BYOG and dog

Energy for fun and games

DOGS IN FANCY DRESS COMPETITION—DRESS TO IMPRESS

Fun for all the family!

Please let us know if you are coming so we can plan the celebrations. Return the slip below to the clubhouse as soon as you can! Photos from clipart



RSVP Christmas Party

YES, we are able to attend the Christmas party on Sunday 11 December

Number attending: _____

Name(s) _____

Name of Dog (s) _____