

HORNSBY DOG TRAINING CLUB INC

(Affiliated with Dogs NSW)



The Post

March Issue 2013

TRAINING INFORMATION

Contact Us
Email hornsbydogtrainingclub@hotmail.com
Website www.hornsbydogtrainingclub.org.au
Post P O Box 3257, Asquith NSW 2077

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.

COST—A \$2.00 ground fee is payable at check-in—Put your money in the tin on the table

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.

Initial Membership fee \$30.00 Renewal \$10.00

CLASS TIMES:
Puppy Class: 1:00 - 2:00pm
Introduction Class –New Members 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

Inside this issue:

HDTDC Training info	1
Dog health Issues	2
Editors Report	3
Multi Dog House-holds	3-4
Understanding Humping and How to Prevent	5
Annual Obedience Trial—we need your help	6
Getting to Know Our Instructors	7
Resources	8

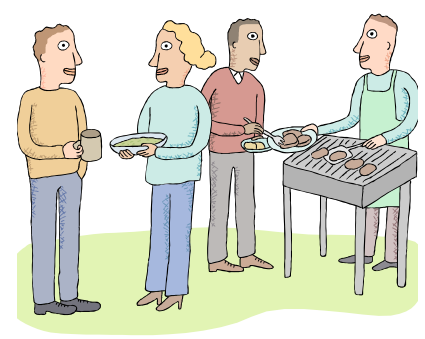
Free Barbecue every 2nd Sunday from 1.30pm

Come along on for a free BBQ.

Drinks can be bought from the clubhouse and free tea and coffee available. Have a chat by the Barbie before class.

Don starts cooking early and it is ready from 1.30pm onwards. For Members and family.

Remember dogs on lead always until 4 pm.



Did you know there is a toilet inside the club house members can use ? - just in case!

The Post

Dog Health Issues — Skin Allergies—Scratch Lick Scratch



Grrrrrr! Scratch
scratch, scratch Grrrr!



Bottle Brush—Pollen



Wandering Jew

Dogs can have allergies just like us, caused by all sorts of things. Sometimes it can be quite difficult to determine just exactly what the cause is. They may sneeze, have a runny nose, red eyes or may just simply scratch and lick and scratch and lick, which makes their condition worse.

The main thing is to get vet advice quickly so that the allergy can be treated and your dog prevented from experiencing pain, frustration and depression from constant unpleasant symptoms.

There is a [quiz](#) on Itchfreepets.com.au to help sort out the reason for the allergy.

Try to keep a diary of food eaten, places your dog has visited, where he likes to lay or play to establish when it started. It is also common for the allergy to appear between 1 -3 yrs of age.

Environmental Allergies—Dust, mould and pollen. If you think this is affecting your dog, wipe his feet with Methylated spirits to remove the pollen when he comes into the house and stop him from licking. Wash the dog with special shampoo and wash bedding regularly.

Food Allergies—have you changed your dog's food? Or treats? Perhaps the dog is missing out on some vital nutrition. You may want to invest in food drops that add fatty acids to their diet for good skin and coat. Eg Ilium Nutriccoat, Megaderm and Cod liver Oil

and Evening Primrose Oil capsules.

Flea allergy—is your flea treatment up to date? Has your dog been bitten by mozzies, flies, fleas or something else?

Yeast infection— skin smells stale like yeast—losing hair—red greasy skin and flaky spots. Often is present along with other skin infections.

Bacterial infections—red weeping sores, scratching, usually found in folds of skin. There is also **demodicosis, the mange, parasites, ringworm and otitis.**

An allergy could also be caused by something in the garden—perhaps your dog is laying in a cool area that has Wandering Jew or Mondo grass. Even the pollen from red bottle brush can be a problem. See website [Allergy Free Gardening](#) for a list of common everyday plants that may cause a problem for your dog.

There is treatment available — Clarantyne (just like we take) and other antihistamines, steroids, de-sensitization of the allergen, and sprays. Anti scratch collars.

Always consult your vet.

A Contraceptive pill for male dogs!

Are you reluctant to castrate your dog? Castration is no longer the only way to achieve important health and behavior benefits for male dogs.

Along with the obvious need to prevent unwanted litters, castration solves undesirable behavioral problems such as wandering, aggression and prostate disease.

There is a new treatment - a contraceptive implant that can be administered by your vet that does not require anaesthetic.

The new treatment provides 6 months sterilization—effective within 14 days and with trials of over 500 dogs over 8 years have shown no side effects. Safe, effective, humane, reversible, no surgery.

Want to know more? Click on the link www.peptech.com and Ask your vet !

January 2013

Editor's Report

Hi Everyone It seems so long since our last newsletter in January. Everyone seems to be back into routine and attending dog training on Sunday!

Our household is now full of energy with two dogs trying to rule the roost. Hope the article on Multi Dog Households sorts out a few issues for other multi dog households. Some people may not have any problems, however if both dogs are demanding there may be a few issues to sort out. Let me know if you have some extra hints and tips!

A few weeks ago I attended the Hawkesbury Agility Trial—what fun— we were just visiting, watching some friends trialing their dogs.

Such dedicated folk—with the first round at 7pm and a second round at 12pm and home at 2.30am : it is a big commitment. If you are thinking of agility attend one of these events to see what is involved. Our friend Trudi from Dog Logic had a clear round with her Australian Shepherd and there was a smile from ear to ear and roars of applause from her fans on the sideline! Masters events are amazing to watch with very complex set ups with dogs going in and out of a number of tunnels and back again, scrambling up A frames and over jumps, weaving through poles and on a time clock too! I was most impressed by the skills of the owners and dogs. Dogs from tiny little Silkys to very large Wolfhounds participated—jumps reduced for the little ones.

This reminds me our club has the Obedience Trial on 16 March and if you would like to volunteer for a few hours please email me—I will get the right person to ring you. We need help with all sorts of things from catering to stewarding.



Narelle Brown

**PS Please consider putting your hand up for the Obedience Trial in 16 March
Montview Oval—please, please, please!**

Multi Dog Households

Information from the Dog Logic trainers Trudi and Julie who have helped us settle Holly and Syrus.

Were we in la la land when we thought a second dog would be good? Did we think that our two poodles would love each other because they are the same breed and have a wonderful place to live with really great owners? Ha ha ha We have learnt a lot about introducing a new dog to the household.

DogLogic trainers advised that we must first build a relationship with each dog. For convenience and to be fair to the dogs we feed them at the same time, walk them at the same time and play and train at the same time – however treating them as one entity can mean the dogs work as one entity independent of you.

Hint No. 1 Have individual control of each dog by creating a unique relationship with each dog

I certainly found this true – when Holly came to live with us Syrus was well behaved and we knew how to get things done: he anticipated my next move and I his. However Holly didn't know the rules and this upset Syrus, while he was trying to sit she would be jumping all around him and me and it was chaos. When we were attempting to teach Holly to weave through the sticks, Syrus would push in through the sticks pushing Holly out of the way and then demanding a treat .

What we are currently working on is getting Holly to work with Graeme and I individually – 5 mins of training each day is great. We also do training with Syrus – Holly can watch but not participate – behind glass door.

If we don't have this personal relationship with each – they will take over and make any or all decisions regarding how they should act and behave in any given situation regardless of our wishes.



Multi Dog Households (continued)

More importantly their interaction with each other will be governed by them, which can lead to leadership challenges, disagreements, and fights. *This is currently happening where Syrus will decide if Holly comes in to a room or get too close to me, he will stand between us and constantly monitors where Holly is.*

Hint 2 – Don't expect each dog to learn at the same rate

Treating them as one unit may compromise their learning ability – it may also impact and change their canine personalities. For example a timid dog may be overshadowed and bullied by a more dominant dog. The timid dog may get frustrated and not enjoy training.

Hint 3 – Get a Grip on Guilt

Apparently dogs don't feel guilt- they are simplistic creatures that do not understand abstract thought. Humans tend to over-analyse and deal with their animals as per the human world. Some may feel guilty if they don't walk their dogs every day, or leave them alone for too long or don't feed them at the same time every day. Guilt interferes with the freedom to develop individual relationships.

Once you take guilt out of the equation you can work with each dog individually and start to make a difference.

Try these:

- Put one dog out while you are working with the other to maximize focus and minimise distraction.
- Take one dog out for the day – instead of two
- Get the basics right – sit , down, stay so that they can give you their full attention
- Walk them individually a couple of times a week to have some “one- on- one time” and to prevent separation anxiety
- Make sure they know their names and respond to them individually and not together. Have the dogs sit in front of you and say one dog's name and offer a treat to that dog. The other dog is not to move off the sit. Then say the other dog's name and offer the treat to that dog.
- Groom and handle them individually
- Feed them in separate areas or separate rooms. Don't allow them back together until they have both finished eating and the bowls have been picked up off the ground.

Holly use to run immediately to Syrus bowl to finish off any remains and Syrus would always check out her bowl. I now remove the bowls even if they have not finished after 15 minutes. It is interesting that it is now not so interesting—as there is nothing there and they don't have to stress about the food.

- If you are patting one dog, don't allow the other dog to muscle in. Have them sit in front of you and calmly pat one for no longer than a second or two and then pat the other. Change the order so that they both learn that if they wait they will be reward with a pat.

This initially scared me – I knew that Syrus would hate it if I touched Holly (there is me over analyzing) and I didn't want them to fight. So to avoid a fight I would pick Holly up and then pat Syrus. Now I can give Holly a big hug and I do push Syrus away – it is only for a moment and then vice versa.

Holly loves a cuddle and wants to get in on the fun. She has not learnt boundaries and always comes jumping around Syrus when I am patting him. Syrus is still not sure whether she is safe at this close range. I will be working on this and stopping Syrus from strategically standing between Holly and I, so I can't reach her.

Finally Julie and Trudi reiterate that the best way of keeping the peace is to have a pack mentality and forget equality. It doesn't exist in the dog social structure that is based on status and hierarchy. Your dogs will have already established a pack order with each other and the people in the household. Treating dogs equally can encourage the dogs to feel the need to compete and challenge each other to re-establish the pecking order and interfere with their individual wants and needs.



Remember no matter what, **you** develop the guidelines and house rules for them to follow and **you** make **ALL** the decisions!

Thanks Trudi and Julie – I feel empowered to manage these gorgeous two!

Narelle Brown

Understanding & Preventing Humping!

Mounting, humping, humpty do, piggy backing: whatever you call it in polite society most dogs will hump when they are pups because, it is to them, normal playing behaviour. It should not be encouraged as it will cause problems with other dogs who take exception to having unwanted advances. If left to get worse it becomes unpleasant and embarrassing for all and sundry (humans I mean, humping dogs couldn't care less. Although bare in mind the Humpers are having fun, Humpees generally are not)

It can be a sign of excitement i.e. when new people or dogs appear. But it is also a form of seeking attention. Remember that any attention from the pack leader is valued whether or not it is to reward or 'punish' a dog. So when your dog is humping just remove them from the back of the Humpee or much better still remove them prior to them getting their leg over. So, you should be able to read the pre humping signs: Often Humper puts his or her head over Humpee's neck and then perhaps puts a leg over the back of Humpee and then it is amazing how quickly Humper will get down to business. Not only does it cause fights but it can seriously damage Humpee.

Steps to take to prevent humping:

As soon as they start as pups, stop it by gently removing them from the back of their playmate and give them something else to focus on. This doesn't mean let them move onto another pup necessarily but give them a toy to play or throw a ball for them. I call it changing the subject.

Be aware of the signs. Too much interest in one particular pup i.e. sniffing, jumping on, chasing. While they are doing this divert them and steer them to something else. Depending on the dynamics of the play group Humper can be moved to play with another pup but do not let Humper start again on the new dog. If they are playing nicely then by all means let them continue and praise the good behaviour. Remember though even if they are playing nicely always interrupt the play because it can easily turn to aggression and one pup will end up having a bad experience.

Don't forget you are the pack leader and when you want them to stop playing then ensure they do stop playing. It may seem tough love but it stops them becoming aggressive and dominant and will make life much easier for you when they are older dogs.

In the early stages of puppyhood and onto teen years it doesn't matter whether your pup is male or female, spayed or neutered they can, and they do still, hump. Generally other dogs are the go but Nanna's leg feels quite nice also and often they have a favourite cushion. They grow out of that quickly but do not encourage it and absolutely do not laugh as that may encourage them more. Just remove them from the offending article (sorry Nanna) and give them something else to play with.

Not another leg or a cushion!

The problem becomes more serious as the dogs get older and therefore bigger and stronger and fights ensue. No dog enjoys being humped and it should never be allowed to get that far. Stop it when they are puppies or as soon as they start whatever their age.

Jo Tucker

60TH ANNUAL OBEDIENCE TRIAL & GUNDOG WORKING TEST

16 MARCH 2013 (COME WATCH THE TRIAL OR HELP OUT IF YOU CAN)

Background

In March every year, HDTC holds its annual Obedience Trial – a competition that attracts around 150 of the best-trained dogs in NSW. This is one of many similar trials held throughout the year by obedience clubs around the country and is one way HDTC contributes to the dog training community. There are several levels of competition ranging from the basic exercises you are familiar with (heeling, sitting, recall etc) to quite complicated exercises involving jumping, retrieving and scent work. Successful competitors attain titles and awards.

The main trial is held on a Saturday evening, however, preparation starts months beforehand and, in particular, setting up the oval ready for the event commences around midday on the Saturday. Equipment (jumps, ropes, scoreboards, tables) needs to be transported from Rofe Park to Montview Oval and then the competition rings assembled (usually 8 roped-off areas 45m x 15m). The judging starts in the early evening and usually finishes around 10pm.

Each ring is presided over by an accredited Judge and, depending on the level of competition, they will judge 10-20 dogs during the evening. The Judges are assisted by Stewards drawn from our HDTC membership and their role is to ensure the smooth operation of the trial – making sure the competitors are available on time, setting up jumps and other equipment and generally helping the Judges. We try to allocate 2-3 Stewards to each ring.

We need as many HDTC members to volunteer as possible. This is a chance for you to help your Club and at the same time provides you with an opportunity to see some of the best-trained obedience dogs in the country. It is a great night and you will certainly pick up some hints that will help with your own training.

When Hornsby Dog Training Club will hold its 60th Annual Obedience Trial and Gundog Working Test on Saturday 16th March 2013

Where At Montview Oval, Montview Parade, Hornsby Heights.

Time Judging commences at 3:00pm for the Gundog Working Test. Judging finishes 10pm



We need your help No experience required – we will ‘train’ you beforehand and we always have at least one experienced Steward in each ring please leave your name and phone number at the Clubhouse or email Tony Farmer on tonyandquita@bigpond.com

5 Easy Rules of Training

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

Don't leave your dog in the car!

Did you know that in December 2012 NRMA rescued 112 dogs from cars?

January 2013

Getting to Know our Instructors— Sue Williams

When and why did you first take an interest in dog training?

I have been besotted by dogs as long as I can remember. My first pup came when I was 12 yrs old after years of begging my parents... and we were camping. My frugal father wangled a free 5 day old terrier from the pound (it's mother having died in a car accident the day before). I laugh when I recall that my mother instantly demanded a premature baby's feeding bottle, teat and formula – so much for saving money! This little pup, Heidi, who was smaller than the length of my hand, shared my sleeping bag and I happily cleaned up its widdle and poo! Heidi survived and went with us to Papua New Guinea – I learnt so much from watching her responses and behaviours, some of which were very problematic as she became very defensive in the new environment. She taught me some very valuable lessons about trying to see life through a dog's eyes.

How did training differ from what it is now?

Training dogs 30 years ago, or even 15 years ago, was all about 'control' and 'discipline'. It included jerking choker collars, reprimands and lots of laboured repetition. Thinking back, I mostly remember that dog classes were regimented, serious and stressed strict obedience. Although the results for some owners could be very successful in terms of a well trained dog,

I believe that many dogs, simply because they lived to please their master or mistress, **endured** rather than **enjoyed** the training. And, of course, many owners found the process frustrating, stressful and unrewarding – not to mention the dogs! – and so gave up.

Tell us about your dog(s)

Over the last 30 odd years I have mostly had Dane crosses 'good home wanted' or 'dog pound' teenagers or adult dogs. My

wonderful companion now is Dibley, a black, mostly Labrador, pup from Queanbeyan Pound. We have been together for 7 years and share a common attitude to life:

What I have been able to achieve with Dibley, using the reward-based approach to training, is an attitude which means that we both enjoy the time together and look forward to it. Time spent training is not seen as 'training', rather it is experienced as a bonding activity, having fun and games.



Some of us get stuck in our ways with our dog training - how can we challenge ourselves a little more?

What I have learnt over the years at the Companion Dog Club in the ACT, using the reward-based approach, is:

don't be afraid to **look like an idiot** when attempting to be the most interesting and exciting person whilst getting your dog's attention and rewarding it; and

don't try and compare yourself and your dog with others' progress, as there are a multitude of factors that will affect this; and

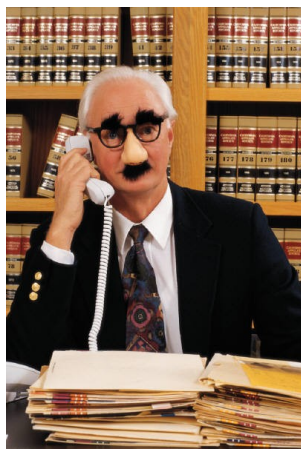
Probably, the most valuable lesson I have learnt is that when things do not go as expected, try to look at the situation through your dog's eyes. They are amazingly observant and respond to body language, tone of voice and the environment in a way that we humans are sometimes switched off to.

I enjoy the process of dog training, not simply the result. It is fascinating and so much fun to explore communicating with our canine friends. I have to laugh at how closely Dibley observes my instructions, and how easy it is for me to mess it up! Dogs are usually wanting to please and so forgiving.

What would you like to see Hornsby Dog Training Club doing in the next few years?

This committed club has the tradition and ongoing capacity to include our local community of dog owners, whether they are looking for a social outlet with their canine companion and family, or aspire to competitive levels of obedience ... or somewhere in-between.

The Post



Now I have your attention—take a look at the resources!

Clipart

Resources

Magazine

1. **Urban Animal**—now available at the Clubhouse—this is a free magazine for pet owners—it is an easy read and has lots to offer. Grab one next time you are at the club. Urban Animal have agreed to provide our club with 100 of issue 30 + the latest issue 32. They would also like feedback on the magazine from our members. Please either email Urban Animal direct at editorial@urbananimal.net or link to them on Facebook or send feedback to me (gurang@optusnet.com.au) and I will pass on with our thanks.

2. **Dogs Life Magazine and website** <http://www.dogslife.com.au/competitions>

Websites—Food and Accessories

1. **My Pet Warehouse** <http://www.mypetwarehouse.com.au/>

2. **Paws for Life** <http://www.pawsforlife.com.au/>

Books

Dr Hugh—My Life with Animals

Interesting Websites

2GB Talking Pets <http://www.2gb.com/newsletter-only-item/talking-pets>
(Skin problems—itch and dermatitis issues)

Need a holiday—Want to take the dog? Check out Stayz pet friendly accommodation <http://www.stayz.com.au/pet-friendly-accommodation/nsw>

2. **Doggie Rescue** <http://www.doggierescue.com/index.html>

3. **Animal Welfare League NSW** <http://www.awlnsw.com.au/>

4. **Camp K9 website** www.campk9.com.au Book now for the September 2013 camp.

5. **Purina**—<http://www.purina.com.au/>

For Sale or Wanted?

Would you like to advertise in this Newsletter?

If you have doggie items that you would like to give away or sell or need.

Send your email to

gurang@optusnet.com.au

Subject line : Hornsby Dog Training Club.

For Sale section

Can you recommend any pet friendly accommodation?

I am sure our members would be interested in somewhere that is secure and safe for pets and equally relaxing for owners.

Beachside?????? Chalet????? Resort?????

Email to: gurang@optusnet.com.au



do?LOGIC
DOG TRAINING

www.doglogic.com.au

For all ages from puppies through to adult dogs
Individual & custom designed programs
tailored to fit your lifestyle,
We come to you

Trudi Thorpe
trudi@doglogic.com.au
02 9591 1886
0419 999 975

Julie Adams
julie@doglogic.com.au
02 9560 1808
0421 053 438

