

# Dog Talk News

ISSUE 01/2022

A well trained dog is a happy dog

Bayside Companion  
Dog Training  
School



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@BCDTS



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**Committee members 2022:**

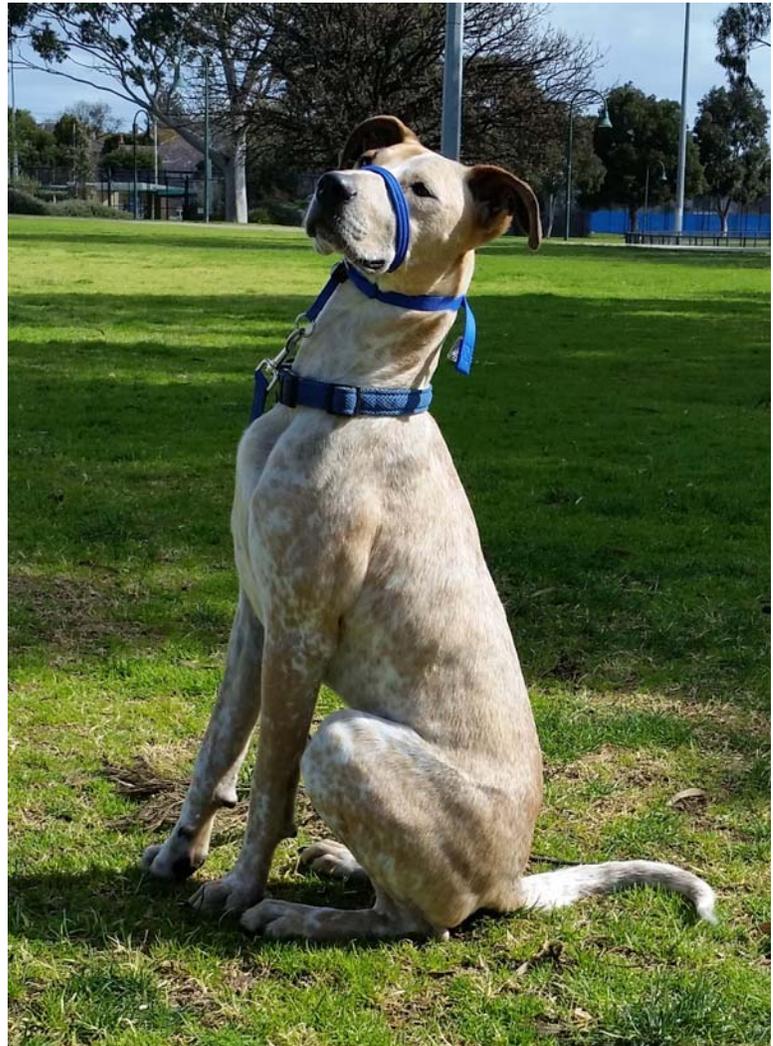
Marion Bower, Barry Gilbert, Diane Ishac, Debbie Lack, Terry Lack, Helen Musgrave, Claire Aldham,

**Office Bearers:**

President: Terry Lack  
Vice President: Barry Gilbert  
Treasurer: Marion Bower  
Secretary: Debbie Lack

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ABN 92 051 781 961



**Harry being a very good boy**

**OUR TRAINING TIMES & PLACE**

Venue: Hodgson Reserve, Higgins Road, Bentleigh

Times: Thursdays 10:45 am

Sundays 9:45 (White & Yellow)

10:45 (Green & above)

New Memberships & Renewals: Registration 30 minutes before class.



**Closed Easter Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2022**



## Welcome to New Members

This page is for all our new members - we hope to make you feel welcome and more at home. You have joined an organisation that is unfamiliar to you and perhaps uses unfamiliar jargon and procedures. It may be a little bewildering being in a group of people and dogs-please relax and try to enjoy the time learning and working with your dog.

Please feel free to ask your Instructor to explain anything they have said and do not be embarrassed by something your dog does or doesn't do.

We understand that your dog may be *very* excited or anxious to be surrounded by so many other dogs and people and may not be as responsive to your commands as they are at home. This highlights a major benefit of training in a group situation –eventually they will become more obedient in a high distraction situation or more at ease in a crowd.

We also know and understand the frustration that may accompany the training of a dog - we have all been there! The good news is that it doesn't last forever. It helps to be dealing with these issues amongst understanding and supportive fellow dog owners – we aim to be both!

If you have any problems, speak to an Instructor!

## Ground Rules

For everyone's comfort and safety we have some useful ground rules and guidelines.

- Do not allow your children to approach any dog/puppy without asking the owner's permission. If permission is given, always supervise your child's interaction with a dog.
- Always approach a dog with the hand low to pat the dog under the chin, not on top of the head.
- Please remember to wear your badge at times when training at the club. If you forget it, please see the Helpers in the Office for a day pass.
- Please understand that no Instructor or Helper is authorised by this club to give veterinary advice. We do not recommend any brand-name products and we advise you to consult your vet for information regarding your dog's health or comfort.
- You are required to immediately clean up after your dog. Lined red plastic buckets and scoopers are provided. Green buckets with drinking water are also provided.
- Chains and leads can be purchased in the Administration/Office building. Head collars can also be fitted and purchased.

## Upgrades

Congratulations to all those members who have been upgraded recently, especially to those who have graduated from Beginners (white dot) class. Keep up the good work!

**How do you get an upgrade?**  
Your Instructor will determine when you and your dog are ready to tackle the next level. An upgrade is given to the

Handler/Dog team, with clear emphasis on the understanding of the handler. If you feel that you are ready, don't hesitate to ask to be considered for an upgrade - maybe your Instructor will suggest areas to concentrate on to earn this upgrade. It may be that the handler is ready but the dog is not quite ready; in this case a little patience will ensure a more enjoyable training experience at the next level!



## Special Congratulations to those who graduated to Blue class

- Sandra Watkins and Cody
- Amelia Anje and Ruby
- Deborah Osher and Levi
- Karen Chambers and Maggie
- Andrea Murkies and K2
- David Orlanski and Jin
- Peter Zidich and Zee Zee
- Robert Burcher and Sheba

## Graduates to Red Class

- Anita Boyle and Chester
- Rosalynne Sampson and Juliette

## Report of Annual General Meeting for 2022

The AGM was conducted on the 6<sup>th</sup> March outside the school office and attended by members and the outgoing committee. Official business conducted included the reports from the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. After nominations, the committee was unanimously voted back to office for another year.

The president, Terry Lack welcomed everyone to the AGM for 2022. He thanked the retiring committee for all their hard work during the past year particularly with all the new rules and procedures needed to operate during the pandemic.

As we returned to a more normal training schedule we have welcomed the The Old English Sheepdog Dog to our numbers.

With increased demand for dog training, the club has been able to accommodate the overflow from other clubs that have unfortunately limited their numbers in recent months.

As a training club we will always be available to help those who require assistance in times of need. Naturally, these increased numbers have placed a greater burden on our volunteers who, have to their credit taken all in their stride with great success.

The Vice President, Barry Gilbert thanked EVERYONE.

The committee for all the help as he navigated his first year VP.

The office volunteers Lorraine, Marj, Gillian, Debbie, Sue and Joy who kept the office running smoothly

The outside team for setting up signage, agility equipment etc. Special mention was given to the Bell Ringer.

The instructors for their dedication and enthusiasm.

The club could not operate without all of these people. THANKYOU.



The Treasurer, Marion Bower tabled copies of the financial reports for 2021 for attendees to inspect. Even with Covid lockdowns we reported an operating surplus which give a healthy start to the 2022 year

Strong membership registrations (this includes 2020 and 2021 memberships to date were 2,648). In 2022 our club is at 808 members, as of today.

Unanimous support given by a show of hands and all Office Bearers and General Committee Members were elected unopposed.

The elected Committee for 2022 is:

President:	Terry Lack
Vice-President:	Barry Gilbert
Secretary:	Debbie Lack
Treasurer:	Marion Bower
General Committee:	Helen Musgrave, Claire Aldam and Di Ishac

The appointment of the BCDTS Committee for 2022 was hence finalised, there being 7 Committee members (as stipulated in the BCDTS Rules) and being effective as of 6/03/2022.

Upon the opening of General business, several topics were discussed, including rewards for members and further nominations for gifts to worthy causes.



### Vale – Pebbles

We are all sad to hear of the recent passing of Pebbles, whose presence at the school particularly in and around the office will be greatly missed.

She was always ready to receive lots of pats and cuddles from her human friends and could often be seen carrying her prized possessions around in her mouth.

She will be forever remembered in the hearts and memories of those who knew her.



## Terry's Tips

- Use your dog's name to get their attention then follow it up with a command.
- Give commands once. You don't want to sound like a broken record.
- When your naughty dog eventually returns to you, don't punish them, they may not come back next time.
- Don't yell at your dog. You wouldn't like being yelled at so don't do it to your dog.
- When at the park practice recalls, even with a long lead if necessary. Once recalled praise your dog and release back to play. Repeat this often varying the time between recalls and releases.
- Whilst heeling on lead, practice you turns, occasionally stopping to sit, drop or stand your dog before continuing your walk.

Remember variety is the spice of life so mix it up and have most importantly **HAVE FUN**



## **BBQ Risks**

Autumn represents mild days and cooler nights, great BBQ weather. What we love may not be healthy for your dog. So, if you doggy friend is joining you here are some risks to watch out for;

- Cooked bones - T-Bones, Ribs, Chicken wings etc. These can splinter and cause internal damage.
- Kebab skewers - Can cause splinters and puncture wounds to the mouth and gut.
- Sausages - These contain high amounts of fat and can cause diarrhea.
- Seafood shells - Prawns, mussels and oysters may smell delicious to a dog but make sure they do not consume the shell.
- Onions - Anything in the onion family is toxic to dogs. This includes garlic, shallots, chives etc.
- Alcohol - This should never be given to pets.

Their livers struggle to break down alcohol, leading to damage that can be fatal. Always supervise you pet near BBQs, watch for hot fats and liquids. Never feed hot scraps or food from the burner. When finished at the BBQ always clean up scraps, rubbish and any leftovers so they are not consumed by other dogs.

## **Puffer Fish & the Beach**

Off to the beach? It's always a great place to visit, play ball, run in the sand, splash in the water and play with friends. It's a great place for dog owners as well.

There can however be some hidden nasties lurking at the dog beach. One such danger is the Puffer fish, also called the Blowfish. Autumn represents the end of the life cycle for the Puffer fish and some can be washed up on shore creating a risk for our dogs and even ourselves. Puffer fish contain a neurotoxin which if ingested can act very quickly, causing vomiting, drooling, lethargy and eventually leading to seizures and paralysis if not treated. Puffers can cause poisoning if chewed or licked, even if dead, so best to keep on the lookout and avoid them. It's always important to keep a look out for what your dog may be ingesting at the beach, particularly if they are a snacker. In addition to avoiding the Puffers be on the lookout for discarded fishing line and hooks, seaweed and kelp, which may smell delicious to a dog but if consumed can cause intestinal blockages and an expensive trip to the vet.

Please, ask your vet for advice if you think you dog has ingested any nasties

Do you have questions that you would like addressed in our newsletter? Let me know your suggestions – your Instructor or the team in the Office will point me out. We are always looking for interesting stories or photos so let us know your ideas!

Barry Gilbert