



March-April 2018



Happy Easter

THE MAGAZINE OF THE
CANINE OBEDIENCE CLUB
OF TOWNSVILLE INC

COMPANION DOG MAGAZINE

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2017-2018 OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PO Box 991, Aitkenvale QLD 4814
Heatley Park, Fulham Road, Heatley

Patron: Cr Jenny Hill, Mayor of Townsville

OFFICE BEARERS

* President	Mal Holland	0418 730 542	demal4@bigpond.net.au
* Vice-President	Noel McPherson	0439 789 703	noelmcp@bigpond.com
* Secretary	Judy Forbes-Faulkner	4772 5982	judyforf@bigpond.net.au
* Treasurer	Renate Linder	4728 4172	bshounds@bigpond.com
Asst. Treasurer	Vacant		
Trial Secretary	Linda King	0419 659 860	linda.joyce.king@gmail.com
Asst. Trial Secretary			
Training Coordinator	Noel McPherson	4721 2639	noelmcp@bigpond.com
Training Coordinator Asst			
Magazine Editor	Diane MacIntyre	4773 3887	dandr11@aapt.net.au
Catering Officer	Everyone		
Trophy Officer	Diane MacIntyre	4773 3887	dandr11@aapt.net.au
Records Officer	Judy Forbes-Faulkner	4772 5982	judyforf@bigpond.net.au
* Tracking Coordinator	Janette Cussons	0417 614 261	jcussons2@bigpond.com
Asst Tracking Coordinator	Debbie Schmidt	0417 708 961	debsheba2@hotmail.com
Publicity and Demo Officer	Diane MacIntyre	4773 3887	dandr11@aapt.net.au
Property Officer	Renate Linder	4728 4172	bshounds@bigpond.com

Executive Committee Members

Debbie Schmidt	0417 708 961	debsheba2@hotmail.com
Leisa Cassidy	0428 250 866	yarts@westnet.com.au
Lisa Sinclair		
Carolyn Lynn		
Jens Didriksen		

Plus positions above marked with an *

COCT INC LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs. D. Dobson (deceased)	Dr. R. Taylor (deceased)
Mrs. A. Tunstal	Mrs. V. Litster
Mr. E. Morris (deceased)	Mr. B. Woodward
Mrs. C. Woodward	Mrs. E.K. Greenwood
Mr. P. Litster (deceased)	Mrs. H. Taylor
Mr. D.R. Greenwood	Mrs. S.M. Fielder
Mrs. A. Annesley	Ms D MacIntyre (active)
Mrs C O'Shea (active)	Ms Judy Forbes-Faulkner (active)
Mr Mal Holland (active)	Ms Renate Linder (active)
Miss A. Dobson (PH.D)	Ms Louise Ashworth
Miss Janette Cussons (active)	

**The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor
or committee members of the COCT Inc.**

All Office bearers, committee members and instructors of the Canine Obedience Club of Townsville Inc. are unpaid volunteers who give freely of their time in an effort to help you to train and trial your dogs.

General monthly meetings held first Monday of the month February to December at 7.30pm

Annual General Meeting held first Monday in August

Executive Committee meetings held as called by Secretary

Club Web Site: www.coct.com.au



Canine Obedience Club of Townsville Inc



Canine Obedience Club Townsville Inc

President's Report

The year 2018 is away to a heady start with two of the clubs' members in full training, both of whom are Trainee Judges undergoing full instruction. Julie Doig is being mentored by Judy Forbes Faulkner in the art of Rally O Judging. Julie has taken to this task with great zeal and it is comforting to see her judging a number of dogs each Thursday night under Judy's watchful eye. Over in left field we have Debbie Schmitt undertaking the role of Trainee Track and Search Judge being mentored by myself. We are fortunate to have Kim Dawson coming up from Rockhampton in April to add to Debbie's knowledge. Kim and her dog have attained the title of Track and Search Grand Champion, and she will run a small "Talk Fest" during the tracking weekend while she is here to judge and compete. It is also possible we will have Janette Cussons and Carolyn Lynn applying to be accepted for Track and Search Judges to commence training next year.

I would love to see some member/s put their hand up to become a Trainee Obedience Judge. It has been a number of years since we had any one keen enough to want to become an Obedience Judge, however we are still hopeful.

Out in the tall grass of Alice River Janette & Debbie are running a course most weekends to teach students how to set tracks. This is a very difficult time in the land of tall grass and the heat of tropical Townsville. In addition to the track setting they have also been introducing a few new members to the art of tracking with an introductive course for new people with their dogs.

COCT Inc has twenty-one Life Members, six of whom are still active with the club on a weekly basis, two are now deceased and with the passing of Ted Morris makes three. Ted passed away on the 24th January 2018 just a couple of months short of his ninety seventh birthday. Ted was a great character and he lived for his kelpie Blitz who was an outstanding dog with Masters Titles in Agility and Jumpers and some Agility games, Endurance Dog and an Obedience Champion. Ted was still competing when he was well into his eighties. He was buried beside his wife Hazel and Blitz overlooking the country side at the Crematorium. Read Sister Jeannie Johnson's tribute to Ted further in the magazine.

The Tracking Group had planned a Tracking Workshop and Mock Tracking Trial on the 2nd, 3rd and the 4th of March 18 but unfortunately the much needed rain that we have all been waiting for has meant the cancellation of this event.

See you in the bush or in the ring.

Mal Holland, President COCT Inc

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Your Club Membership allows you to not only attend weekly classes, but to also participate in activities, competitions, and meetings throughout the year.

- 🐾 Receive emails on upcoming club activities eg Obedience, Rally Obedience and Tracking Workshops
- 🐾 Participate in Club demonstrations eg RSPCA Million Paws Walk and Townsville City Council Pet Expo
- 🐾 Attend our Monthly General Meetings held the first Monday of each month (except January), and are entitled to vote
- 🐾 Receive notification via email of Annual General Meeting held in August
- 🐾 Nominate for a Position as either Office Bearer or as part of the Executive Committee (see inside page of magazine for Positions). You need to be a financial member of the Club for a minimum of three months before nominating for a position.
- 🐾 Eligible for annual Title and Perpetual Trophies if competing in trials.

Membership are due for renewal by 30 June each year to continue training and attend club events. Lapsed members will have their names removed from the Club's email list and until renewed can no longer attend classes.

All members are welcome to come along to Obedience, Agility and Tracking Trials to observe or offer assistance with setting up, Stewarding and help in the kitchen. It's a great introduction to the world of trialling and getting to know us better!

.....

*Don't make the mistake of treating your dogs like humans,
or they'll treat you like dogs*

Just Briefly



Keep up to date with the rules for
Obedience, Rally-O,
Agility, Endurance and
Tracking

as issued by the ANKC.

They are free to download from their website
<http://www.ankc.org.au/Rules.aspx>

Back issues of the magazine
can be downloaded from
our website www.coct.com.au
Catch up on articles
you may have missed on trials,
behaviour, training and
feature stories.

Club T-Shirts are available from the Club Shoppe on Tuesday night. They are made from a durable cotton material, great for wearing to training, at trials to fly the Club's colours, and will last forever!

Cost - \$46.

Also available at very reasonable prices are cloth webbing leads, martingale collars, long leads, and treat bags

Have you enjoyed your classes, love dogs, and would like to help others train theirs? The club has openings for several Trainee Instructors.

The minimum requirement is that you have completed basic training and have had some trialling experience, or have been an Instructor in another club.

You will be paired with an experienced instructor who will take you through week by week theory and practical on how to teach handlers to train their dogs.

All instructors are volunteers who started off just like you – taking a dog through classes, graduating into Class 4, and then becoming interested in the training program.

To find out more ask to talk to Noel, our Training Co-ordinator.



Calling all Class 4 handlers !!

Handlers who have graduated from Class 3 are welcome to continue their training in Class 4 from 8.00-9.00pm on Tuesday night.

This Class is less structured than Classes 1-3, but can be used to start learning new obedience exercises like heel off lead, change of position, broad jump, and retrieving the dumb bell or just keep skills up to date.

It is a great way to keep your dog active, socialised, and mentally stimulated.

Feel free to let your Instructor know what you would like to learn on the night as classes are quite flexible.

Thursday night training is a great opportunity to have one-on-one training with an experienced instructor. If you have a particular problem that you want advice on, want to prepare for entry into a competition or simply want to take advantage of an extra night's training you are welcome to attend.

Training commences around 6.30pm for about an hour, and after your session with the instructor can practice more on your own. It's free!

Frisbee Training !!

Second Monday of the month at 6:30pm with sign in at 6:15pm.

Financial COCT Members or Registered Handlers can have a trial night for just a \$5 training fee. To continue you will need to become a TOADS member. Dog sport approved discs for sale on any training night at the club house.



HOW DO I GET INVOLVED WITH COMPETITIONS ??

All dogs regardless of breed can compete in obedience, agility, tracking and endurance, but first you need to join Dogs Queensland (CCCQ). There is a joining fee plus annual fee to pay for either single or joint membership.

PEDIGREE DOGS WITH PAPERS

Download the Application Form for New Membership 2017 from the Dogs Queensland website <http://www.cccq.org.au/New-Member-Information.aspx>.

CROSS BREED AND NON-PEDIGREE DOGS

Download and complete the above form for New Membership PLUS the Associate Register Form <http://www.cccq.org.au/Member-Forms.aspx> – scroll down to Registrations and select Associate Register (AR). Up to two (2) dogs may be registered to a membership with the initial registration, with any subsequent registrations to the membership, to be dogs eligible for registration on the General or Limited Registers. Members who subsequently wish to register extra dogs that have been acquired under special circumstances or from a registered welfare organisation may apply for dispensation to do so. All applications for registration are to be accompanied by a certificate of de-sexing from a veterinarian.

WHAT'S HAPPENIN'?

2018 CLASSES : NEXT CLASS COMMENCING TUESDAY 17 APRIL 2018

Registrations are now open for the second Pet Dog Training Class commencing 17 April 2018 with the Introduction Talk. Find out more about the club and where your training can take you from Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced and Upskill to Trialling or just for fun. Training continues all through your dog's life, it's not just a 10 week course! We would love to see you all progress over coming weeks as your skills and bond with your dog grows. Please arrive prior to 7.00pm and if for any reason you can't attend advise our Training Co-ordinator or your Instructor by 1.00pm on the 17th April.

Looking forward to our current Beginners class progressing to Intermediate in Term 2!

THURSDAY NIGHT OBEDIENCE TRAINING

General Obedience and Rally-O practice will recommence from Thursday 1 February 2018 (weather permitting) from 6.30pm at no charge to Members. To make the night all the more enjoyable everyone is expected to help assist in the set up or packing up of equipment.

2018 OBEDIENCE, AGILITY and TRACKING TRIALS

The COCT Inc 2018 trialling season starts with the first double obedience and agility trial on 6-7 April followed by a double Tracking and single Track and Search trial 14 & 15 April. As we are no longer a Judge's Training Club our obedience and agility trials have been rationalised to five double trials a year.

Check out the Trial Calendar at the back of the mag and pencil dates into your calendar or preferred digital device of trials you want to enter. Remember Obedience and Agility entries are via K9 Entries

www.k9entries.com/using.php and close a fortnight before the trial. Check the Dog World for any unexpected changes to Judges.

COME AND BE INVOLVED !! CLUB MONTHLY MEETINGS

Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7.30pm at the Clubhouse at Heatley Park. Everyone is welcome to attend if you would like to contribute, offer help or just find out more of what goes on in the running of your Club. Next meeting is **Monday 5 March 2018** followed by **Monday 9 April 2018 (second Monday due to Easter)**. We would love to see you there! If you would like to help in any way, no matter how small, it would be very much appreciated.



Did you know ...

Queensland Government Queensland Dog Breeder Register

The Queensland Government has introduced laws to promote responsible breeding of dogs, these laws apply to any dog born on or after 26 May 2017. A person who sells, advertises, or gives away a dog must have a Supply Number. The Supply Number allows the person who bred a dog to be contacted. Exemptions do apply, so visit the website www.qdbr.daf.qld.gov.au to learn more.



Summer is still here ... even though March heralds the start of Autumn it is still hot in the North. Try these easy ways to keep Fido cool

Ice cubes Freeze weak solutions of chicken or beef broth in ice cube trays.

Dog cooling mats Activated by pressure, these gel mats can stay cold for up to four hours.

Cool bandana Wet a piece of cloth and put it in the freezer to make a cool bandana for your dog.

Slippery brick Freeze half an ice cream container with water, layer with dog treats or fruit (apple, watermelon, banana, blue berries) top with water and freeze. Makes a giant tasty ice block that will last for hours.



Summer is still here And along with that of course is high temperatures heating up the footpaths and roads where we walk our dogs. While we wear shoes for protection our dogs don't, and you could end up burning or damaging their paws.

1. Walk Your Dog When It's Cool

This is an obvious tip, but one that sometimes isn't considered enough. We all want to take our dog for a walk but we have to be mindful of the temperature and when and where to walk them. The best time is early morning before 7.00am or late afternoon / early evening, when the footpath is cooler. Be careful at the beach as the sand can be searing hot. If you can't leave your hand on the surface for 5 seconds or longer then it is too hot for your dog's paws.

2. Toughen Your Dog's Paws

During cool times of the day, you should walk your dog on pavement, because the hard and rough surfaces will toughen the pads on your dog's paws. This will help to make the pads tougher, providing a natural resistance to damage from hot surfaces.

3. Stay On The Grass When It's Hot

If you have to take your dog out during the warmer times of the day, be sure to stay on the grass and stick to shady areas. Stay away from footpaths or any paved areas to avoid burning. A shady park can be a great place to take your dog on a warm afternoon.



The wonders of the World Wide Web – Our club's website has been discovered by a Girl Scout troop in California. Their Scout Leader Cindy Powell contacted our Secretary Judy to express their gratitude on finding the page with links to other resources on our website. She says her Scouts found it extremely useful towards gaining their 'Pets' badge, the purpose of which is to make sure they know how to keep their pets happy and healthy. The girls suggested it would be nice send us this link they found <https://online.maryville.edu/online-bachelors-degrees/psychology/dog-behavioral-training-resource-guide/> that has a lot of info on dog behavior and training. Cindy said that during their last badge, the girls learned about being a good "Digital Citizen", and how it would be great to show that they did their absolute best to contribute positively to the lives of others by sharing the link with our Club. Thank you Cindy and your Girl Scout Troop, we were thrilled that you found our website useful and for contacting us!

Training Report February 2018

Hi and happy 2018, the Year of the Dog.

Teresa and I went to the Chinese New Year celebrations at the Casino and had a great night. It was made a little more special when six very young Chinese girls got up and performed a piece on stage dressed in Dalmatian outfits, so ironic that we had 8 pups tucked in bed at home.

All things training, well classes got underway on Tuesday night 23rd January and have been running for 4 weeks so far and no issues currently. Jens as most of you know did an injury to his leg prior to classes starting so has not been able to instruct his class so far and likely will be out for a while yet, get well Jens we miss you on Tuesday nights.

Carolyn, Julie and myself are running the 3 Beginners classes, along with Judy and a good-sized class for Intermediate, and Joy holding the fort with a class of two in Advanced. Thanks very much team and hopefully we will get all our training nights in.

We are way short of helping those who contact us to join the classes, with many going it alone and others getting private help. Not much of a Year of the Dog in front for training over 2018 from the club, maybe a good year to focus on our own dogs and competition instead.

Currently taking registrations for the April class and it is filling fast. Good luck to Julie with her new charge Gus and will enjoy meeting him in the near future.

Thanks all and----See you all in the paddock during the year.

Noel McPherson,
Training coordinator.

TRACK SETTING, MAPPING AND STEWARDING WORKSHOP 2018

The commencement of the 2018 tracking season is not far away and as a need had been identified to increase the numbers of people able to set, map and steward tracks for tracking trials this workshop was planned. Recent years have seen tracking judge training which has meant the trainees are required to set and map multiple tracks hence a high percentage of the tracks were set and mapped by said trainees without the need for extra help. With this over the time had arrived to get more involved in this aspect of tracking trialling and what better way to learn more about your competition tracks than to learn how to set, map and steward them.

While the number of current trackers was small the band was enthusiastic and with the aid of some others very interested in starting their own tracking journey with their dogs the course started with a theory session on the 24th January 2018. While the start number was higher work and prior commitments took their toll on a number of people and the amount of weekends they could attend and Jens injury to his leg has sidelined him and Zelic for a considerable time.

The first session involved theory. This was conducted at the COCT clubhouse and covered such topics as: property “manners / rules”, personal protection requirements (water, hats, snakes...the list goes on). Before moving on to the requirements of each level track. How to use natural and man-made markers to identify the track when setting. With the final topic the requirements for a map for a trial.

From here we moved out to the tracking grounds for the COCT at Alice River. Three practical sessions were conducted over three weekends. With the Saturday of each weekend involving participants walking the areas they would set their tracks in and then planning and setting their track under the guidance of one of the local tracking judges. Tracks set then the must have “bush smoko” before heading home to draw the map for the next day. The Sunday saw each participant steward “their” track with a handler and dog from one of the other tracks running the track. This meant not only did each handler learn new skills in regards to track setting but also were able to gain a little tracking time in the bush for their dog. Bush time is always good when for some people it is very hard to get. Each weekend followed the same pattern.

Amazing work by all involved. While all maps were good to very good the artistic skills of some saw brilliant maps drawn. The enthusiasm, the will to learn and help each other was awesome. This was made even more fantastic by the weather – the only way to describe the weather was hot, feral and humid on each day.

A special mention to those new to tracking who braved the weather and “unknown” world of tracking to help. I hope the short introductions to article work and the fun “run away games” has given you somewhere to start. It is hoped that later in the year a Beginner’s Tracking Workshop will be held so stay tuned for further information later in the year.

Finally special mentions to Janette Cussons for all her assistance as always with all the things tracking requires – flags ribbons, smoko,..... and Carolyn Lynn who also oversaw the stewarding as well as all other assistance. Lastly thanks for background assistance from Mal Holland tracking mentor extraordinaire.

Almost forgot - we have at least one tracker eager to give track setting and mapping at a trial come trial season. Look forward to seeing your track and map Julie and a dog and handler working it.

Debbie Schmidt.
Assistant Tracking Officer.



Above : Julie Combridge and German Shepherd Zara



Above : Tanya Hill and Doberman Tucker



Above : Michael and German Shepherd Saxon



Above : Carolyn Lynn and Kelpie Kelly



Above : Peter and German Shepherd Odin



Above Greg and German Shorthaired Pointer Zara



Above : Janette and German Shepherd Jax



Above : Track Setting



Above : Time for a well earned smoko break

VALE EDWARD (TED) MORRIS

LIFE MEMBER COCT Inc

Have you ever spent time standing in front of the Honour Boards in the Club House and wondered just who were those people whose names are listed up there? What was their contribution to the Club and what made them so great that they were given a Life Membership? In the early years of the Club Life Memberships were not too easy to come by. I guess this was because the Club was in its infancy and every member was equally committed to ensure that this Club would be a success.

The Club was founded by in 1971 by Mrs D. Dobson, her daughter Dr A Dobson and Ms A Tunstall. The first training ground was in Belgian Gardens at the Tai Kwondo Academy. Amongst the first group of members were Ted Morris, Ted Ive, Margaret Hamilton (later Ive), Chris and Bob Woodward, Doug and Elaine Greenwood. A glance at the Honour Boards will show just how much the Club owes to these pioneer members.

Mr E Morris aka Ted, was the third Life Member of the Club. For some people reading this it will come as a big shock to learn that Ted's name was up there years before some of the other Club Icons they had on pedestals. Why was Ted made a Life Member?

Ted was made a Life Member of the fledgling Dog Obedience Club because he worked hard to establish the good name of the Club. Ted attended every Townsville City Council Meeting until his wife Hazel died in 2003. For over 32 years Ted was in the Townsville / Thuringowa Council Offices either promoting the benefits of having an Obedience Club within the City of Townsville / Thuringowa or negotiating whatever funds or sponsorship deals he could for the Club. Ted was passionate about the Club.

It was Ted Morris who got the Club involved in the AVA Pet Ed programme for Primary Schools and then persuaded the Townsville City Council to support this initiative. In the later years when David Kiddsley arrived at the Club from Sydney, the pair of them teamed up in promoting the benefits of having Obedience- trained dogs in the home: David Kiddsley on The Strand, Ted anywhere and everywhere he could find a listening ear.

I met Ted and Hazel when I joined the Club in 1991 with my first GSD, Elijah. Turning up at the Club on the first night not knowing a single soul and holding tightly on to the lead of my exuberant 5 months old puppy was not the easiest of experiences. Elaine Greenwood introduced herself to me and then took me over to meet Ted and Hazel. When I met Ted, Hazel was very limited in her movements. Ted brought her to Tuesday Night Training for as long as it was physically possible for Hazel to do this. For many years prior to her illness, Hazel was one of the amazing ladies whose culinary skills delighted Tuesday Night trainees and those dog Triallers who travelled long distances to compete at Townsville.

Ted was a Working Dog man, his great loves were Australian Cattle Dogs and Kelpies. Ted had the Cattle dogs, Hazel was the Kelpie person. It may come as a surprise to most of you to learn that Ted's wonderful Kelpie, Blitz, actually belonged to Hazel. He was given to Hazel by his Rockhampton breeder who was a very close friend of theirs.

Photo : Ted Morris with his Kelpie Blitz

The Craigalen Perpetual Trophy was donated by Ted in memory of his first Obedience titled dog, a Red Australian Cattle Dog. It was actually a bitch and like Blitz was a joy to watch in the ring. In the early years of the Club, Tracking was not offered by the Club so Ted was unable to



get his Obedience Championship with her, as one of the prerequisites for an Obedience Champion was TDX as well as UD and in order to do Tracking, the prerequisite was CD.

COCT was the first Obedience Club in Queensland to offer Agility. This was also another dog sport that required CD before you could compete in the Agility Ring. Ted was a builder and fitter and turner by trade. He put his hand up to help make the Agility Equipment and to maintain it.

The storage area for all the Club's Equipment was the area underneath the stage in the Community Centre, the entrance to this space was a small door in the exterior back wall. Ted's workshop was at his home at Rosslea. Ted suggested that the Club invest in a small ride-on mower to make ring maintenance easier. It was not just the rings that Ted was concerned about but his next idea -the box trailer which would make setting up and taking down the Agility Equipment much easier. Once the box trailer arrived, it needed a home, so another storage area adjacent to the stage was purloined from the Community Centre. As Agility became more popular, more equipment had to be built and maintained and soon the allocated areas became too small. In the meantime, Bob Woodward had successfully negotiated with the Council for a skillion room to be erected on to the back wall of the Community Centre, this is the Club Room that we have today. Ted then drew up the plans for a new Storage Shed to hold all of the Club's Equipment.

Ted was an Instructor and also part of the Club's Demonstration Team which Doug Greenwood had organised. Ted loved being part of the Demo Team and he and Blitz in later years did a star turn, " Where did I put my keys?" Blitz would thrill the onlookers by finding Ted's car keys.

Ted Morris was one of those regular dependable members who could be relied upon to turn up to help set up the rings on Tuesday nights and for trials - always with Hazel in tow, to be there for the inevitable working bees to keep the club's section of Heatley Park in good nick. He took every opportunity to present to the public the benefits of having a well-trained pet. David Kiddsley with Ginger (GSD), Sheila Fielder with Randal (GSD) and Ted Morris with Blitz (Kelpie) were the nucleus of COCT's AVA Pet Ed Team that went into various Primary Schools to teach the children about Responsible Pet Ownership.

He attended the monthly Club meetings, was open to new ideas - to the new dog sports such as the various forms of Agility - Gamblers etc, to Rally-O, and was always on the look-out for new ways of keeping COCT in the public eye. He and Hazel made new members, like myself, feel welcome; he was interested in people, he encouraged the novice Triallers and, when asked, would offer them tips to help them with training their dogs. Ted did not play Club politics. He was not afraid to express his opinion.

Ted was a great story-teller. He held the collective memory of this Club from Day One in 1971 until the time when Blitz, his last dog, died. Hazel had died several years prior and Ted became a less frequent member around the Club but he still maintained contact with those members who had been part of the early journey such as Sheila and Laurie Fielder, Mal and Dawn Holland, Doug and Elaine Greenwood, Bob and Chris Woodward.

Ted was probably the only person in Queensland who had an unblemished Driving Record. He never ever had a speeding ticket. He drove all over Queensland. Mal will know if he was still driving just prior to his death. Those of us who knew Ted Morris will miss him very much. We will miss his stories, his friendship, his warm personality and his love for dogs, especially the Kelpie and the other Aussie Working Dogs. My faith tells me that Ted will be having a great time in eternity, he and his beloved Hazel will be catching up with his old mates and no doubt watching some of the Kelpie Trials with the legends of breed and Blitz dancing around his feet.

Ted Morris was a good man. He was fair, upright and honest and he brought these qualities to his membership of COCT. He deserved to be a Life Member of the Club.

Sister Jeannie Johnson
Member, COCT Inc

WELCOME TO NEW ARRIVALS

It was a busy day in the McPherson household on Sunday 21 January 2018 with 8 new Dalmatians coming into the world. Mum Addy did a very smooth job starting with a girl at 1.30pm Sunday and finished a large female at 5.30pm, ending up with an even litter of 4 males and 4 females, all weights around 380-470 grams.

It was a very tiring build-up but all were cleaned up and settled by 10.00pm, with Addy happy for a feed and all the pups feeding well and sleeping on and off. Really relaxed enjoyable whelp and a great result with 8 an easy number to cope with.

Right : A gentle clean



Left : Time for a sleep

Right : they all fit in there a few hours ago.



Look at those spots coming out! This is their first journey into the back yard at 4.5 weeks and they loved it. Asti rolled and played with the pups and Addy was okay with that, so a very relaxed Mum.



AND A SAD FAREWELL

It was also a time to say farewell to a very dear friend who put a smile on my dial every day of his life. Pasco broke all the moulds and is missed terribly in our home and from his many friends. Rest in Peace Mate.



Dogs Sleep Badly After a Stressful Experience

Dogs fall asleep faster but get less deep sleep after a bad experience compared to after a good experience. We all know the feeling when something bad happens in the day and then we just can't sleep at night. It turns out that, just like humans, dogs' sleep is affected by bad experiences – but the effects are not quite the same.

A new paper by Dr. Anna Kis ([Hungarian Academy of Sciences](#)) (including members of the [Family Dog Project](#)) took EEG measurements of dogs sleeping after a good or bad experience. While humans take longer to fall asleep after a bad day, the dogs fell asleep more quickly after a bad experience than after a good one. This is thought to be a protective response to stress. But, just like humans, dogs did not sleep as well after the bad experience, showing their sleep was disturbed.

16 pet dogs took part in the study, which took place over 3 sessions. The first session was a practice one so the dogs could get used to the equipment and being in the lab. In the next two sessions, the dogs had a good or bad experience, followed by 3 hours of sleep. Half the dogs had the good experience first followed by the bad experience, and half the dogs had the bad experience followed by good. At least 5 days elapsed between these two visits to the lab.



The good experience was 6 minutes in which the dog was petted every time it went to the owner, was spoken to nicely, and played fetch or tug depending which it preferred. The bad experience also lasted 6 minutes and started with the dog having their leash tied to the wall and being left alone in the room. After 2 minutes, the owner came back in and ignored the dog, but did go stand near it. Then an experimenter came in and approached the dog in a threatening manner before stopping, sitting on the ground, and looking at the dog for 3 minutes without responding to it.

After the good or bad experience, the dog was taken to another room and prepared for the sleep measurements. It took about 10 minutes to put on the electrodes for the EEG recordings, and this was done in a manner reasonably consistent with the good or bad experience the dog had just had. So either the dog got lots of petting and nice talk while it happened, or the experimenter ignored the dog as much as they could during the process.

During the three hours after the bad experience, the dogs got an average of 72 minutes sleep and the duration of a sleep cycle was 56 minutes. After the good experience, the dogs took longer to go to sleep, and on average they got 65 minutes sleep with a sleep cycle of 51 minutes.

The different stages of sleep were also affected by the dogs' experiences. After the negative experience, dogs had a longer period of REM sleep, which is characterized by rapid eye movements (hence the name). The researchers had predicted a change in the amount of REM sleep because it has been associated with emotional processing. Non-REM sleep was higher after the positive experiences. This is when the deepest sleep occurs, so after negative experiences the dogs got less deep sleep.

The researchers also found that the dogs' personalities were linked to how they behaved with the owner. For example, dogs that were rated as more agreeable and less open hid behind their owner more when the experimenter was sitting and looking at them in the negative experience. In turn, some of these behaviour differences were linked to changes in the sleep cycle.

What this means is that individual differences in how the dogs responded to the experiences were also reflected in changes in their sleep. The scientists suggest further research on this topic, and on links between sleep and welfare in dogs.

This is the first time that good or bad experiences have been shown to affect how well a dog sleeps. The paper is open access and you can read it via this link [Subscribe to Companion Animal Psychology](#).

IT'S ALL IN YOUR DOG'S EYES

How to get your dog to look at you, and why it yields better training results.

By Pat Miller, CBCC-KA, CPDT-KA

www.whole-dog-journal.com/issues/19_2/features/Its-All-in-Your-Dogs-Eyes_21394-1.html?ET=wholedogjournal:e277704:1450346a:&st=email&s=p_Grabbag071617

Teaching our dogs to look at us is important for training; if we have their attention, we can get them to work with us. If we can keep their attention, we can keep them working with us even in the face of distractions. These things are big accomplishments, but the value of teaching eye contact is even bigger!

I have done behavioral assessments on thousands of shelter dogs over the years. I've adopted a few of them, fostered several more, and helped find forever homes for many. Even after decades of shelter work, I am still touched to my soul by the dog who walks up to me, looks me squarely in the eyes, and sends me the powerful, electric message, "I know how to communicate with you." That's what teaching eye contact does for our dogs: it opens the door for interspecies communication.

It's really not natural for dogs to offer direct and prolonged eye contact. In the dog world, direct eye contact is a threat, and the appropriate response to a direct stare is to look away as a deference or appeasement behavior ("I'm not challenging you/please don't hurt me!"). In many human cultures, however, direct eye contact is considered polite – it means the other is focused and attentive – and it has certainly come to mean that in the dog training world. Like so many other behaviors we expect of our dogs that are alien to their own basic natures, we've come to expect our dogs to look at us when we ask them to, and to maintain eye contact for extended periods of time in a variety of contexts.



Eye Exercises

Because eye contact is important for training purposes, we teach eye contact exercises in our classes at Peaceable Paws. Here are some of the exercises that we practice in our basic classes:

Capturing Eye Contact – When dogs come to class for the first time, they are understandably distracted. Rather than letting our students beg and plead for their dogs' attention, we tell them to sit in a chair and wait. The instant their dog looks at them or even glances in their general direction, they click their clickers and feed their dogs a treat.

You can do the same with your dog. Practice at home first, in the least distracting environment, then when he's ready, take him out in public. Sit on a chair with your dog in front of you, leashed if necessary, and wait. The instant he looks at you, or near you, click (or use your verbal marker) and feed a high-value treat. You're reinforcing offered attention – teaching your dog that if he chooses to look at you, he can make you click. Over time, "shape" for longer eye contact (reward increasingly longer moments of eye contact), and then for eye contact when you're walking. When your dog is doing well with it, take him out in public and practice there – in a park, on a bench outside your neighborhood pet supply store, in front of the post office, in the lobby of your veterinary clinic . . . the possibilities are endless.

Name Game – If your dog is not offering attention, you can always ask for it – if you've taught him that his name means "Look at me for something wonderful!" This is just like "charging" the clicker: say his name, and then feed him a tasty treat when he looks at you. Repeat this game regularly, until your dog instantly swivels his head toward you at the sound of his name. Then practice with increasing levels of distraction. Now you can get his attention if he doesn't offer it.

Zen Attention – Getting attention is one thing; keeping it is sometimes an entirely different matter. This exercise makes it clear to your dog that eye contact gets reinforced (not just looking at the treat), and allows you to shape for duration. With your dog sitting in front of you, hold a treat straight out at arm's length to the side. He will likely watch the treat. Just wait. Here's the Zen part. In order to get the treat he has to look away from it – back at you. The instant he looks at you (as if to say, "Hey, what's the

deal here?”) you click and feed him the treat. Then do it again. Most dogs figure this out amazingly quickly. When he comprehends that looking at you – not the treat – gets the click (and treat), you can add your “Watch me” cue, and start shaping for eye contact of longer duration.

Me, Not That – Now it’s distraction time. With your “Watch me” cue solidly installed, ask a family member or friend to walk past while you’re reinforcing your dog for looking at you. Use a high rate of reinforcement at first (click and treat a lot) – then decrease the frequency as your dog figures out the game. If he looks away, use his name or your “Watch me” cue to get his attention back. Click and treat! Gradually increase the intensity of the distraction: Start walking with your own dog toward your human distraction, have your friend whistle, clap his hands or jingle car keys while walking past, then jog, then bounce a ball ... get creative!

Take it on the Road – When he’s doing well with his eye contact games, take him out in public and practice there – in a park, on a bench outside your neighborhood pet supply store, in front of the post office, in the lobby of your veterinary clinic . . . the possibilities are endless. With each successful session under your belt, you can plan for a more distracting venue the next time.

Windows to the Soul

If we pay attention to teaching eye contact only for training purposes, we are missing out on one of the most fulfilling aspects of the behavior: our dog’s ability to use his eyes to communicate with us. As behavior science continues to explore and acknowledge the cognitive capabilities of our canine companions, we are realizing that our dogs may possess “theory of mind.”

Theory of mind (often abbreviated ToM) is the ability to attribute mental states – beliefs, intents, desires, pretending, knowledge, etc. – to oneself and others, and to understand that others have beliefs, desires, intentions, and perspectives that are different from one’s own. It is sometimes expressed in “levels” like this:

Level 1 – I know.

Level 2 – I know you know.

Level 3 – I know you know I know.

And on and on...

Although science may not be ready to conclusively grant ToM to dogs, it’s hard to argue that they can’t attain at least Level 1, probably Level 2, and possibly Level 3. When our Kelpie, Kai, sees us packing his training bag and gets all excited, it seems like a clear indication that he knows he’s going to agility class. When he dances happily in front of us, making strong direct eye contact, one might suggest he’s saying, “I know you know we’re going to agility class.” And when he runs to the door and looks purposefully back at us, one could hypothesize that he’s saying, “I know you know I know we’re going to agility class!”

This isn’t just an academic exercise. Humans who have close relationships with their dogs recognize ToM communications in their daily interactions with their canine family members – and it often involves eye contact:

Bonnie, our Scotti/Corgi/Poodle-mix, comes and sits next to me as I type on my computer, looking intently into my eyes. “Oh,” I realize. “She has to go out.” As we walk toward the back door, Lucy, our Cardigan Welsh Corgi, runs ahead of us, stops in front of the bookcase, looks at me, looks at the top shelf of the bookcase, and looks toward the door. “Oh,” I realize. “She wants me to take her out and throw the Frisbee that is sitting on top of the bookcase.”

I’m assessing a dog at the shelter who looks somewhat stressed and shut down. I say “Sit!” and his eyes light with joy as he plops his bottom to the ground and looks into my eyes as if to say, “Finally! Someone who knows what I know!”

You may have your own examples of this kind of cognitive communication with your dog. To nurture this thrilling connection, pay even closer attention to your dog’s efforts to communicate with you. When he makes eye contact, contemplate what he’s trying to tell you and respond appropriately. By reinforcing his eye-contact communications you will encourage him to communicate more, and you’ll get better and better at translating his messages.

When dogs learn the value of communicating through eye contact, it opens up a whole new door in the relationship between the two of you, and makes your time together even more rewarding and satisfying for you both.

Pat Miller, CBCC-KA, CPDT-KA, is WDJ’s Training Editor. She lives in Fairplay, Maryland, site of her Peaceable Paws training center, where she offers dog-training classes and courses for trainers. Miller is also the author of many books on positive training. Her two most recent books are Do Over Dogs: Give Your Dog a Second Chance at a First-Class Life, and How to Foster Dogs; From Homeless to Homeward Bound.

DIGGER THE ANZAC WAR DOG BRAVERY COMMEMORATED

Digger the ANZAC War Dog was a dark brown and white bulldog who accompanied his owner, Sergeant James Harold Martin, during his three and a half years with the AIF. Digger's remarkable service is described as how he 'went over the top' 16 times and had been through some of the worst battles on Gallipoli and the Western Front in WWI.

In 2017, the Australian War Animal Memorial Organisation (AWAMO), a not for profit that raises awareness of the bravery shown by all war animals established a memorial at West Croydon RSL in South Australia to commemorate Digger's unique and incredible story.

Digger the ANZAC War Dog's story

Digger accompanied his owner, Sergeant James Harold Martin, during his service overseas and is said to have served three and a half years with the AIF.

Martin, an electrician from Hindmarsh in South Australia enlisted on 18 September 1914, at the age of 22. Digger seems to have been a stray dog that attached himself to soldiers training at Broadmeadows and followed them down to the troopships. Martin adopted him as a mascot and he and Digger sailed from Melbourne on 20 October 1914.



Martin served initially with 1 Division Signal Company on Gallipoli but transferred to 2 Division Signal Company in July 1915. He remained with the company, attached to the Engineers, during his service on the Western Front in France and Belgium. Digger's remarkable service is described how Digger 'went over the top' 16 times and had been through some of the worst battles on Gallipoli and the Western Front. He had been wounded and gassed at Pozieres in 1916, shot through the jaw, losing three teeth, was blinded in the right eye and deaf in the left ear. At the sound of a gas alarm, it was reported that Digger would rush to his nearest human companion to have his gas mask fitted. There are also accounts of how Digger would take food to wounded men stranded in no man's land, sometimes bringing back written messages.

Martin returned to Australia on 12 May 1918 and was discharged medically unfit. Digger accompanied him as strict quarantine regulations relating to the arrival of dogs in Australia from overseas did not come into force until June 1918. He and Digger settled in Sydney. Upon their return to Australia, Sergeant Martin and Digger continued to do their bit for the war effort by attending ceremonies and marches in support of recruitment, fundraising and returning men.

Digger had been wounded and gassed at Pozieres in 1916 and needed cod liver oil for his burns. This was expensive so a picture postcard of Digger, wearing the inscribed silver collar made for him on his return to Australia was produced. The money realised from its sale was used to buy the oil. It is said that the dog was also presented with a free tram and rail pass so that he could accompany Martin.

Digger the ANZAC War Dog died, as an old dog, on Empire Day (24 May – year not known) when he was frightened by the celebratory fireworks. Thinking he was under fire again he attempted to jump the fence but failed and fell back with a burst blood vessel. Digger managed to crawl back into the house and died on Martin's bed. Martin was in the Prince of Wales Hospital at Randwick at the time, but he arranged through Mrs J A Little, a volunteer who visited the hospital twice a day to help the soldiers there, to have Digger's hide tanned. This is at the [Australian War Memorial](#), Canberra.

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR 2018

LUNA NEW YEAR OF THE BROWN EARTH DOG

According to the [Chinese Zodiac](#), 2018 is the year of the Dog and its characteristic word is ACTION!

The year of the Earth Dog 2018 comes just after the Year of the Fire Rooster (2017) and before the year of the Earth Pig (2019).

Chinese New Year of the Dog 2018 begins on Friday 16th of February and ends on 2019 Lunar New Year's Eve on 4th February, and is the 4715th Chinese year. According to the Chinese Horoscope calendar, 2018 is the Male Earth Dog year. Brown is connected to the earth. Therefore, 2018 is also called the year of the Brown Dog. The Dog occupies the eleventh position in the 12-year cycle of Chinese zodiac. You are a "Dog Chinese zodiac animal" if you are born in one of these years: 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006, 2018.

In Chinese astrology each zodiac year (rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog and pig) is not just associated with an animal sign, but also one of five elements: Gold (Metal), Wood, Water, Fire, and Earth...the year of 2018 meets element of Earth, so 2018 is a Earth Dog Year.



The Chinese Horoscope 2018 predicts that this year of the Brown Earth Dog is going to be a good year in all respects, but it will also be an exhausting year. You will be happy, yet frustrated, rested, yet tired, cheerful, yet dull! Planning, postponing and negligence are words you will need to remove from your vocabulary during this year. Refreshed and regenerated, the Dog will accelerate the initiation of all things, but this will bring, in the same time, pressure and stress in the everyday life.

People born in the year of the Dog are conservative and full of justice. Because of their loyalty, Dogs are valued in the workplace. They rarely break rules, except for people important to them. In life, they only wish to live quietly with their family.

Compatibility : Bestmatch: Rabbit **Best group:** Tiger, Horse **Incompatible:** Dragon

A Sneak Peek of What Year 2018 Will be Like for You:

- 🐭 Rat 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008 – The year will be kind to you. It is a fairly good year for you.
- 🐮 Ox 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985, 1997, 2009 – It may appear to be a good harvest for the Ox, but do take some precautions.
- 🐅 Tiger 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998, 2010 – You can expect the year to be a very good year for you. Dog year for you will be extremely wonderful! You will prosper this year when involved in projects.
- 🐰 Rabbit 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011 – It is not exactly a good year nor is it a bad year. Be careful in all business ventures.
- 🐉 Dragon 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012 – This is generally not a good year for you. If you must travel, do be careful.
- 🐍 Snake 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001, 2013 – It is a great year for the Snake.
- 🐎 Horse 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002, 2014 – A great year for the Horse to enjoy themselves.
- 🐐 Goat 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003, 2015 – A great year for the Goat !
- 🐒 Monkey 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004, 2016 – It is a good time for your hard work as they will all be recognised.
- 🐓 Rooster 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, 2017 – If you need to make good decisions, make it now. Generally, quite a good year.
- 🐕 Dog 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006, 2018 – It is your year, so do be careful in whatever you wish to do.
- 🐖 Pig 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007, 2019 – It is a year of fulfillment for you. You might do well this year.

HISTORY OF THE CHINESE ZODIAC

There are 12 Chinese zodiac signs, in the following order: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig. Each sign is named after an animal, and each animal has its own unique characteristics. Do you know why the 12 Chinese zodiac animals are in the sequence above? The following story reveals legendary reasons, and some of the characteristics of the 12 animals. The story is widespread (and widely varying) among Chinese. Although it is made up, it is an interesting tale!

The Heavenly Gate Race Story — Reasons for Zodiac Rankings

Long, long ago, there was no Chinese zodiac. The Jade Emperor wanted to select 12 animals to be his guards. He sent an immortal being into man's world to spread the message that the earlier one went through the Heavenly Gate, the better the rank one would have.

Early Risers: Quick-Witted Rat and Diligent Ox The next day, animals set off towards the Heavenly Gate. Rat got up very early. On his way to the gate, he encountered a river. He had to stop there, owing to the swift current. After waiting a long time, Rat noticed Ox about to cross the river and swiftly jumped into Ox's ear. The diligent Ox did not mind at all and simply continued. After crossing the river, he raced towards the palace of the Jade Emperor. Suddenly, Rat jumped out of Ox's ear and dashed to the feet of the Emperor. Rat won first place and Ox was second.

Competitive and Fast: Tiger and Rabbit Tiger and Rabbit came third and fourth because both are fast and competitive, but Tiger was faster. (Rabbit got across the river by hopping on stepping stones and a floating log.)

Good-Looking Dragon and Crafty Snake Good-looking Dragon was fifth and was immediately noticed by the Jade Emperor, who said Dragon's son could be sixth. But Dragon's son didn't come with him that day. Just then, Snake came forward and said Dragon was his adoptive father; so Snake ranked sixth.

Kind and Modest Horse and Goat Horse and Goat arrived. They were very kind and modest and each let the other go first. The Jade Emperor saw how polite they were and ranked them seventh and eighth.

Jumping Monkey Monkey had fallen well behind. But he jumped between trees and stones, and caught up to be ninth. Last were Rooster, Dog, and Pig.

These 12 animals became guards of the Heavenly Gate.

Why No Cat — Enmity Between Cat and Rat Although Cat and Rat were neighbors, the former always bullied the latter, and Rat felt very angry but dared not say it out loud; therefore, he sought revenge on Cat. Upon hearing the Emperor's decree Rat chuckled to himself and thought: "This is an opportunity". The sleepyhead Cat kicked open Rat's door, ordering Rat to keep him informed of when he was going to the Emperor's birthday party, and Rat readily promised that he would. On the morning, however, Rat left quietly without informing Cat. Cat didn't wake up until the race was over and it was too late — he was not able to make it into the cycle.

After the party, a great enmity grew between Cat and Rat, so that rats scatter in all directions when a cat appears. An alternative version of the story says that Cat and Rat got as far as crossing the river together on Ox's head, but Rat pushed Cat into the water (and Cat was washed away and drowned or didn't get back to the Heavenly Gate in time to get a ranking). Of course, this is only a story. Cats didn't even exist in China when zodiac animals first came about!



CANINE OBEDIENCE CLUB OF TOWNSVILLE INC

2018 OBEDIENCE AND AGILITY TRIAL CALENDAR

ENTERING TRIALS

Preferred method of entry for trials is through K9 Entries.

Click here to start <https://www.k9entries.com/using.php>

COMPETITORS PLEASE NOTE

It is an expectation that competitors will assist with ring setups, changes and stewarding when requested

Open Agility offered on all trials

Date	Time	Trial	Judge
April 6 th	7:00 pm	Obedience Rally O	Cathy O'Shea Roel Wittkamp
April 7 th			
Trial 1	3:00 pm	Agility Jumpers –	Tim Fairchild Roel Wittkamp
Trial 2	7:00 pm	Agility and Gamblers Jumpers - Obedience	Roel Wittkamp Tim Fairchild Cathy O'Shea
May 18 th	7:00 pm	Obedience Rally Obedience	Tricia Williams CDX, CD and CCD Mal Holland UDX and UD Heidi Christoffel
May 19 th			
Trial 1	2:00 pm	Agility and Gamblers Jumpers	Annette Gniel Judy Forbes-Faulkner
Trial 2	7:00 pm	Obedience	Tricia Williams CDX, CD CCD Judy Forbes-Faulkner UDX & UD
	4:00 pm	Rally O Agility Jumpers and Snooker	Heidi Christoffel Judy Forbes-Faulkner Annette Gniel
July 20 th	7:00 pm	Obedience Rally O	Barry Cotton Barbara Murfet
July 21 st			
Trial 1	2:00 pm	Agility and Snooker Jumpers	Tim Fairchild Heather Northover
Trial 2	7:00 pm	Agility and Pairs Jumpers Obedience	Heather Northover Tim Fairchild Barry Cotton
	4:00 pm	Rally O	Barbara Murfet

Date	Time	Trial	Judge
August 3 rd	7:00 pm	Obedience	Lisa Sinclair CD and CCD (CDX?) John Baumann UDX and UD John Baumann
		Rally O	
August 4 th			
Trial 1	2:00 pm	Agility and Gamblers Jumpers	Roel Wittkamp Sandra Walker
Trial 2	7:00 pm	Agility and Pairs Jumpers Obedience	Sandra Walker Roel Wittkamp Lisa Sinclair CD and CCD (CDX?) John Baumann UDX and UD John Baumann
	4:00 pm	Rally O	
August 31 st	7:00 pm	Obedience Rally O	Keith Millington Kathy Millington
September 1 st			
Trial 1	2:00 pm	Agility and Gamblers Jumping -	Jody Brown Michael Cowman
Trial 2	7:00 pm	Agility - Snooker Jumpers Obedience Rally O	Michael Cowman Jody Brown Jody Brown Kathy Millington Keith Millington

Why Title A Dog?

Not just a brag, not just a stepping stone to a higher title, not just an adjunct to competitive scores, a title is a tribute to the dog that bears it, a way to honor the dog, an ultimate memorial. It will remain in the record and in memory for as long as anything in this world can remain. Few humans will do as well or better in that regard.

And though the dog itself doesn't know or care that its achievements have been noted, a title says many things in the world of humans, where such things count.

A title says your dog was intelligent and adaptable, and good-natured. It says that your dog loved you enough to do things that please you, however crazy they may have sometimes seemed.

And a title says that you loved your dog, that you loved to spend time with it because it was a good dog, that you believed in it enough to give it yet another chance when it failed, and that, in the end, your faith was justified.

-Sandra Mowery

CANINE OBEDIENCE CLUB OF TOWNSVILLE INC

2018 TRACK and SEARCH AND TRACKING TRIAL CALENDAR

COST : \$20 per entry (includes breakfast)

Entries close 14 days prior to the trial

NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED

Contact Trial Secretary Judy Forbes-Faulkner for further information

Mobile 0427 725 982

NOTES FOR COMPETITORS

- 🐾 Fields restricted to 8 per trial
- 🐾 Handlers restricted to no more than 1 entry in a trial unless less than 8 entries
- 🐾 Ballot to be held if more than 8 entries per day
- 🐾 Entry fees refunded to balloted dogs

All trials – vetting 6:00 am, start 6:30 am

Date	Trial	Judge	Location
April 14 th	Track and Search	Mal Holland	Verbeena Court Annandale
April 15 th	Tracking	Mal Holland	Black River Road Alice River
April 15 th	Tracking	Carolyn Lynn	Black River Road Alice River
May 12 th	Track and Search	Heidi Christoffel	Verbeena Court Annandale
May 13 th	Tracking	Heidi Christoffel	Black River Road Alice River
May 13 th	Tracking	Debbie Schmidt	Black River Road Alice River
June 16 th	Track and Search	Roel Wittkamp	Verbeena Court Annandale
June 17 th	Tracking	Roel Wittkamp	Black River Road Alice River
June 17 th	Tracking	Debbie Schmidt	Black River Road Alice River
July 14 th	Track and Search	Deborah Lamprecht	Verbeena Court Annandale
July 15 th	Tracking	Deborah Lamprecht	Black River Road Alice River
July 15 th	Tracking	Janette Cussons	Black River Road Alice River



BACK PAGE FUNNIES



Sharon, you and I both know there is a pill wrapped in that slice of ham



AT LAST ... RAIN !!



THE END