

## PROUDLY CELEBRATING OVER 30 YEARS

 OF PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP

- PRESIDENT'S REPORT
- LEARN MORE ABOUT ENDURANCE
- LEARN MORE ABOUT RALLY 'O'
- SEPARATION ANXIETY:

Busting common myths
Annual General Meeting Monday 3 September 2012 All members are invited.


President's Report

## G'day Everyone,

Our Annual General Meeting on the $3^{\text {rd }}$ of September marks the end of this particular committee. I'll take this opportunity to say a huge THANKYOU to the outgoing committee. It's not until you get involved in the day to day management of the club that you realise how much is involved in making Saturdays happen.
Everyone is aware of the wet, muddy \& altogether slippery condition of the grounds. We're in touch with the appropriate council department and hope to be able to convince them that works are required - watch this space! For those who are new (er) to the club - the club spent over $\$ 30,000$ on the grounds some years ago - we laser graded, seeded etc. We asked the council for some help (money!) to get improved drainage and soil treatment, but we were told nothing was available. Before we had these works done the grounds were so bad that the council contractor who cut the grass would only "slash" our grounds i.e. it was so rough that he wouldn't risk damaging his mower deck! This left the grass way to high so the club was forced to buy a tractor etc. and cut the grass ourselves! When the football ovals in the area were replanted with "drought proof" grass, we asked for some funding to improve our grounds, yet again, nothing was available. Let's hope the councillors we elect in October will be more understanding of our rather straight forward needs. Given our large membership and that we pay rates, dog registration, etc. - we receive very little in the way of support.

On a personal note - thanks to Janet \& Larry for talking Zaphod and me into entering the German Shepherd Dog Club's endurance trial at Altona on the $23^{\text {rd }}$ of June. Often it takes someone else to give you a push to get started on these things read more about Endurance Trials elsewhere in this newsletter. If there is enough interest from members we'll look into running one ourselves. If you are interested, catch up with me or drop me a note via the club's email berwickodc@fastmail.fm If we get a reasonable response, we'll run an information session and, maybe, organise a few training runs to get you ready for the Trial. It's a great way to get out \& about with your dog.

[^0]That's all for now,

Make sure you have fun with your FC (Faithful Companion)
Happy Training
Ron


## Berwick Flyball

## Racing Teanns

Rebecca has been coming to Flyball Comps all her life, now finally she gets to run a dog!!

As the only Junior Handler at Berwick, Bec runs Molley (an experienced Flyball dog) and has been doing a great job, even showing up some of the more seasoned handlers with her starts and crosses.

Shown here at the Canberra Royal at the Flyball National Championships.

Janice and her little pocket rocket Astro are our team's newest members.

Astro has been improving steadily and is a great addition as a fast height dog (Janice is doing OK too!!)

Flyball is now in its off season over the winter months, our last comp was in June in Portland and our next at Frankston in September.

We decided to give our team dogs a break from training through June, but were still hoping to get some Beginner and Intermediate classes in. Unfortunately the weather has not been kind and the grounds have been too wet to be safe for both dogs and handlers.

We will endeavour to post a message on the BODC Facebook page to let you all know when training is to be cancelled.

Training times are as follows:
Team: 11.30am

Intermediate: 12.30 pm

Beginners: 1.00pm


If your dog loves to run, and you'd like to get fit together, training for an endurance title could be great fun for both of you!

An endurance test is set over a distance of 20 kms and is split into three sections, the first being eight kilometres. The second and third are six kilometres. There is a break of 15 minutes between the first and second sections and 20 minutes between the second and third sections. All this is carefully watched over by a judge. The dog's fitness and condition is monitored by a team of vets who examine each dog during the breaks

On a rainy morning on Saturday, 26 May 2012, my friend Marika and I set the alarms early and got ourselves and my 2 Staffordshire Bull Terriers, Eddie and Molly to Springers Leisure Centre at Tatterson Park in Keysborough, for the Hungarian Vizsla Club of Victoria's 2012 Endurance Test. Our judge was Dawn Ayton, and our pace setter was Berwick's own Stephen Pearson!

There was a mixture of breeds running, my Staffords, a Jack Russell Terrier, a Golden Retriever, a Doberman, a few Vizslas (of course), a Cattle dog and a Weimaraner. We nervously set off and though it was cold the rain gave us a break for most of the test. We settled into the $1^{\text {st }} 8 \mathrm{~km}$ section quickly and I only fell off my bike once! The $2^{\text {nd }}$ and $3^{\text {rd }} 6 \mathrm{~km}$ sections were pretty uneventful except that my Molly realised that if she stopped to go to the toilet she got to run really fast in order to catch back up to her place, so she did so, multiple times! The runner with the Golden Retriever had an injury and a spectator thankfully stepped in and took his place enabling his dog to complete the test successfully.

After the $3^{\text {rd }}$ section and final vetting and willingness test (a small on lead recall and walk to make sure the dog is still willing to be with you) we all successful passed the test, $100 \%$ pass rate! We had a bbq lunch then were presented with our pass certificates and ribbons and went home to relax and reflect on our clever dogs, now known as

Kimbastaff Heart O Glass CCD FMX ET (Eddie) Saracen River of Faith CCD FMCH ET (Molly)


Kimbastaff Heart O Glass CCD FMX (Eddie) Belinda O'Shea
Saracen River of Faith CCD FMCH (Molly) Belinda O'Shea handled by Marika Tamer


Hungarian Vizsla Club of Victoria
Saturday, 26 May 2012
Judge: Ms Dawn Ayton [V]

## Berwick Obedience Dog COuG Newsletter

A few weeks later on Saturday, 23 June 2012, Janet Fry and Ron Blanchfield braved the cold rainy weather to run their Labrador, Larry and Vizsla, Zaphod in the German Shepherd Dog Club of Victoria endurance test at Cherry Lake, Civic Parade, Altona.

They also both passed and their dogs are now known as

| BACKTOTHELAB KING RAY CCD FMX JD ET (Larry) | Article written by |
| :--- | :--- |
| Magyar Varazs Nitetraka ET (Zaphod) | Belinda O’Shea |



German Shepherd Dog Club of Victoria Inc SATURDAY, 23 June 2012 Judge Ray Ashman
Cherry Lake,
Civic Parade, Altona


Ron and Zaphod


Janet and Larry

## Berwick Obedience Dog COuG Newsletter



So you may have seen the signs out in the obedience ring and even given it a go before class or at the members' competition. Rally O (also known as Rally Obedience) began in 2000 in America. It was originally devised by Charles L. "Bud" Kramer from the practice of doing a variety of interesting warmup and freestyle exercises. It is cross between Agility where you have a set course to follow and Obedience with a twist. The focus is on fun and excitement for the dog, handler and spectator.

Rally O began as a ANKC sport in Victoria this year and to date there has been 5 trials. The concept is a single continuous performance with no orders from the judge other than to begin the course. The handler may talk and praise to his or her dog as much as they want throughout the whole performance and give hand and/or body signals. There is no limit to how much you can communicate to your dog making Rally O achievable for anyone at any level of training and in the Novice class you can even clap or snap your fingers!

Rally O is designed so that dogs in all levels of training may participate. As the dog and handler gain skill, more difficult courses are designed which will improve you and your dogs' performance levels and confidence. You may find that your dog focuses more on you as a result of training in Rally O and your dogs heeling improves dramatically.

There are a few important things you need to know before doing Rally O . The most important is that the signs must be on your right and ALL direction stations are done in front of the sign. When lining up at the start, be a few steps away from the sign. This allows you to be at full pace when the timer starts. This is only important for placing's and you don't need to sit at the Finish sign. All stations must be executed within a meter of the sign. I prefer to be in front of the sign so I can have a quick look if I forget what I am doing. In a trial you get to walk the course first without your dog. If you can I suggest you do the same in the club Rally O ring.

Everyone starts with 100 points and you lose points for various things. The main things are lack of teamwork, dog out of position and tight leads etc. Additional points may be lost for cones being knocked over or doing turns around signs.

All you need to do to start is get familiar with the signs (download the rules from the ANKC website http:// www.ankc.org.au/media/scripts/doc_download.aspx?did=1212) and keep your dogs focus for around 2 minutes. So if you find the CCD ring too daunting, want to take obedience to another level, improve your heelwork or just have fun, Rally O maybe for you!



Article written by Hollie Edwards

Rally Obedience Judges Score Sheet

p
Interference w/ handler
Poor sit, down, stand, front
Slowiresistant response Touch jump, cone, post, sign 3 points
CON Lack of control
EB Excessive barking
C Loud/intmidating command
10 points
T Incorrectly perfiormed station
COL Ineligible collar/halter
STN Station not attempted
UNM Dog unmanageable
Deductions:
TIME: $\qquad$ SCORE: $\qquad$

Come to the office to get a Discount Voucher which enables you to purchase a bag of Nutrience where ever they are stocked (i.e. Robbo's Pet Barn) at a special discounted price.

## \$20 off a large bag \$10 off a small bag

What a bargain!


## Separation anxiety: busting common myths

## Myth \#1:

My dog definitely doesn't have separation anxiety, my neighbours never hear any barking.
Dogs affected by separation-related distress can show a variety of signs. Vocalisation such as barking or whining is one of the main signs, along with destruction. However sometimes signs are more subtle \& silent, such as pacing, panting, refusing to eat, trying to escape and self-trauma. Observing your dog's behaviour while you are away is the only way to know what they are actually doing. Using a webcam, video recorder or even tape recorder can give you and your vet important information. There is a big difference between a distressed dog and a dog barking at someone walking past or playfully destroying its bedding.

## Myth \#2:

## My dog knows he has done the wrong thing. He looks so guilty when I get home.

Dogs are extremely good at interpreting our body language and will quickly work out when we are angry. The "guilty look" is actually your dog trying to appease you. How we respond when we get home won't stop their behaviour in the first place - most separation-related behaviours occur within 30 minutes of our departure and dogs that are distressed aren't thinking about anything that will occur hours later. There is no evidence that dogs feel guilt or spite. (Despite this, over half of owners surveyed in a US study a few years ago firmly believe that dogs can act out of spite.)

## Myth\#3:

## Separation anxiety occurs because we treat our dogs like people \& we spoil them instead of treat-

 ing them like dogsA couple of studies have looked at exactly this myth. Both found that spoiling dogs (letting them sleep on beds or furniture, feeding them from the table, sharing snacks) or anthropomorphic behaviour (confiding in them, celebrating their birthday) did not increase the occurrence of the dog developing separation problems compared to dogs that weren't spoiled or treated like people. However I wouldn't recommend a free-for-all with no household rules. Dogs that have had obedience training are less likely to have behaviour problems in general. Consistency is always the key. Dogs are less anxious with routine and predictability.

## Myth \#4:

## Getting another dog will fix separation anxiety.

In a small number of cases, the presence of another dog will help dogs affected by separation-related distress. However the presence of other animals is unlikely to help the dogs that are overly attached to one particular owner. By all means, get another dog if you really want two dogs but don't do it just to fix the behaviour problem. You could just end up with another set of problems.

## Facts:

Destruction and vocalization can be due to a number of reasons besides separation anxiety. You need direct observation to be sure.

If the behaviour occurs when family members are present and accessible, it isn't separation anxiety.
Dogs affected by separation-related distress are more likely to also suffer from noise phobias and other anxiety disorders.

Separation anxiety is more common in geriatric dogs. Senility may be a contributing factor.
Separation anxiety can be successfully treated. If you think your dog may be affected, seek help. Start with your local vet.

## Diane van Rooy BVSc MANZCVSc (animal behaviour), Masters candidate

[^1]
## Berwick Obedience Dog e@ub Newsletter



# SUPPORTER OF 

THE BERWICK
OBEDIENCE
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## Berwick Obedience Dog COnG Newsletter

## Manct P)

The Berwick Obedience Dog Club has available Yellow Bandanas to identify dogs that may need a bit of space around them. The reason for needing one could be:

- Nervousness
- Recovery from an operation (i.e.: convalescing)
- Unsociable to people or other dogs

When approaching a handler and dog with a yellow bandana, we should:

- Be respectful of their space
- Ask the handler if they are happy to socialize with your dog

When approaching a yellow bandana dog please make sure your dog doesn't go running up to it freely, just as the handler of the yellow bandana dog should be mindful of the space around their dog at all times.

Quite often handlers of yellow bandana dogs have put a lot of work into dealing with specific problems with them, so it would be disappointing if all their hard work was lost.

So if you feel your puppy needs to be given their own space, then go to the office and obtain a bandana for the day. Please return them when you have
 finished, so that other puppies can have their turn.

This is not something the BODC is forcing on handlers as it is your choice and for the wellbeing of your dog/puppy.
We also sell "Give me Space" bandana's in the shop if anyone is interested in purchasing one for their own use.

$20 \%$ off vaccinations and consultations to all BODC members
on presentation of current membership badge


## REMEMBER TO CALL YOUR DOG EVERY 90 SECONDS

## Off-Leash Area Rules

* Do not enter when the flag is displayed - Obedience, Agility or Fly ball class is in progress.
* Dog owners using this area are responsible for their dogs and injuries or damage caused by them.
* Always consult those already using the area before entering.
* Only stay 5 minutes if others are waiting.
* Clean up after your dog.
* Dogs showing signs of aggressive behavior towards people or other dogs must be removed from the area immediately.
* Maximum of 8 dogs at a time.
* All dogs must wear a collar and owners must carry a leash at all times while in the area.
Owners must not leave their dogs unattended while in the area.
No toys are to be used in the off leash area on club days
* No young children permitted in the area.


## Reminder to all Off-Leash Area Users.

The Committee would like to remind all members of two rules for the off-leash area.

1) No toys or balls in the off leash area during club hours.
2) Beginners are not to use the off leash area.
(unless during training with a BODC instructor)
These rules are not on the fence, as they are only during club hours.


The club shop has on sale Advocate, Revolution \& Sentinel Flea products way below Vet and Pet Store Prices starting from \$46.00.

## Berwick Obedience Dog Club Members Price List

| ADVOCATE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4 to 10 kg | \$50.00 | (3pk) |
| 10.1 to 25 kg | \$55.00 | (3pk) |
|  | \$95.00 | (6pk) |
| OVER 25 KG | \$60.00 | (3pk) |
|  | \$100.00 | (6pk) |
| REVOLUTION |  |  |
| 5.1 to 10 kg | \$48.00 | (3pk) |
|  | \$80.00 | (6pk*) |
| 10.1 to 20 kg | \$53.00 | (3pk) |
|  | \$87.50 | (6pk*) |
| 20.1 to 40 kg | \$58.00 | (3pk) |
|  | \$95.00 | (6pk*) |
| SENTINEL |  |  |
| 4 to 11 kg | \$80.00 | (6pk) |
| 11 to 22 kg | \$85.00 | (6pk) |
| 22 to 45 kg | \$90.00 | (6pk) |

*Includes Bonus Canex Wormer
(PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

How much is that doggy in the window?

## Did you know that the BODC has a great shop?

With friendly service and prices well below your regular pet shop! Hours: 12.30pm-4.00pm

Why not come in and check us out for your obedience training, agility, flyball and trialling gear needs.

We stock a great range including:
Leads - Leather, nylon

- Webbing (90, 120 \& 180cm)
- Adjustable/ multipurpose
- Snub

Collars - Limited slip collars*

- Correction chains*
- Gentle leaders*
- Training collars
- Easy Walk Harness

*The correct sizes all expertly fitted to your pooch!
Car harnesses
Treat pouches
\% Kongs \& Treat balls
Squeaky toys (for training)
Oio UD Articles
ois Show arm bands
Dog crates (By Special Order)
Club clothing (incl. polo shirts, windcheaters,
vests, beanies, caps \& hats)
Club travel mugs (no more spilling drinks!)


## SHOP SPECIALS



* If we don't have something that you need, see if we can order it in for you.


New members will be enrolled on the first ( $\left.1^{\text {st }}\right)$ Saturday of each month from 12.30 pm

Please bring along your dog's current vaccination certificate.


## CONTACT US AT:

Berwick Obedience Dog Club, P.O. Box 23,
Narre Warren North 3804 Phone 9796-9496
berwickodc@fastmail.fm


FIND US AT:
McKenzie Lane, Narre Warren North.
Victoria 3804

Melways Map 108 Ref. E8
http://www.berwickodc.asn.au

## CAR PARKING

If the Car park is full, please park on the hill between the Football Ground and the Dog Club, Parking on the street is NOT allowed, as it is illegal to do so!!!!!


Parking on the grassy hill is available if the oval is not in use.

## "WHEN THE CLUB IS CLOSED"

REMEMBER:- When the predicted high temperature on the Friday evening news is greater than or equal to 3oc the club is closed.
*** PLEASE ALWAYS CHECK THE NEWSLETTER, NOTICEBOARDS \& WEBSITE FOR FURTHER
 INFORMATION***

Easter Weekend - Sat 7th April 2012
Queens Birthday Weekend - Sat 9th June 2012 AFL Grand Final Day - Sat 29th Sept 2012 CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR BREAK 2012/2013 CLUB CLOSED - AFTER OUR XMAS FUN DAY DEC 1st DEC 2012 \& WILL RE-OPEN SAT 2ND FEB 2013

## Training Times

## OBEDIENCE

1.30pm to 2.15 pm - Beginners \& Red, 2.45pm to 3.45 pm - Yellow, Pink, Green \& Blue Trial Rings 1pm-2:30pm Advanced/Instructors Names must be entered on sheet by 2 pm

Ring stays at 2:30
2:45-3:45 New to Trialling

## AGILITY

From 11.45 am on Saturday's.
Please Note: Agility will only be held if instructors are available on the day.
We ask that all handlers who help in setting up the agility course MUST EITHER have their DOG placed in a crate or left in the car.

## FLYBALL

Team Training: 11.30am - 12.15pm
Intermediate: $12.15 \mathrm{pm}-12.45 \mathrm{pm}$
2 Beginner Sessions: 1.00 pm -1.30 pm $1.30 \mathrm{pm}-2.00 \mathrm{pm}$
Please Note: Fly ball will only be held if instructors
Prepared by the Berwick Obedience Dog Club September/October 2012

## Berwick Obedience Dog COuG Newsletter

## THE COMMITTEE

President - Ron Blanchfield
Vice-President - Stephen Pearson
Secretary - Melissa Scott
Treasurer - Daryl Scott
Committee Members 2011/12
Annette White
Nicole Kendt
Fiona Kelly
Paul Percival
Clare O'Callaghan
 Glenda Smith
KITCHEN - Countenay Smith
OFFICE STAFF - Annette White, Daryl Scott, Glenda Smith ,Fiona Kelly, Tracey Gaffney, Deb McLaughlin
GROUND STAFF - Mark Farrell, Ted Draude
THE INSTRUCTORS
OBEDIENCE "c" currently instructing
Ron Blanchfield " $c$ "
Julie Colman
Sharon Deeker " $c$ "
Ted Draude " $c$ "
Philip Gates " $c$ "
Ti-li Finn " $c$ "
Denise Bailey
Laura Brown " $c$ "
Alan MacDonald " $c$ "
Cheryl Blanchfield
Bernie Gaffney
Tracey Gaffney
Ingrid Jolliffe " $c$ "
Graeme Jolliffe " $c$ "
Kristin Wills " $c$ "

FLY BALL
Nicole Kend $\dagger$
Gordon Chalmers Jenni Veitch Belinda O'Shea HELPER
Chris Moore
RALLY 'O'
Nick Kirchner

Alex McLaughlin "c" Colin Newman "c"
Julie Pocknee "c"
Karon Satchwell "c"
Wayne Satchwell "c" Lisa Sinclair "c" Carla Thomas "c" Paul Percival "c"
Andrea Schmidt "c"
Susan Scott "c" Lara Wilson "c" Ivan Robinson "c" Don Stark "c" Heather Raditsis " $c$ "

AGILITY
Stephen Pearson
Lisa Sinclair
Linda Wilson
Judy Emmett
HELPER
Sharon McLeod Kris Fountain

## RINGS

Barry Cotton



[^0]:    TRAINING TIP (Several people have chastised me for not including a training tip in my reports, I'm flattered that anyone can remember that I used to include a tip in them!)
    When not to train.
    This is a real quick tip - but well worth remembering. Our dogs' are fairly sensitive creatures, but they're really good at picking up "bad vibes". The jury is still out on whether or not we secrete "angry" pheromones, or maybe it's our body language, whatever the manner - there's little doubt FC knows most, if not all, of your moods. When not to train, the instant you feel angry or frustrated - just stop - take a break, throw a ball, sit down and pat FC, tell him/her all about it, whatever; but don't try training - it'll almost always end up a negative experience for both of you.

[^1]:    If you own a golden retriever or Labrador retriever and are interested in taking part in my research project looking at the genetics of separation problems in dogs, please email me at diane.vr@sydney.edu.au or phone 0423087823.

