



THE HOBSONS BAY OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB NEWSLETTER



Volume 1, Edition No. 2

Message from the President

Welcome to the Second Edition of the club newsletter. Winter is upon us, so read the relevant information about looking after your pet in the cold.

Profile of the Day {Trainers}

Janette Wilson, Vice President & Trainer.

First experience with dogs?

My family have always had dogs of various breeds as pets. Before having Cavalier King Charles Spaniel (CKCS), I owned a Borzoi (Russian Wolfhound). There's a big difference not just in size, but in temperament and receptiveness to formal training.

My first experience in formal training was with this club in 2000 with Jesse, and I have been hooked on training dogs ever since.

What is your current dogs name?

BINGO, he is an 8 month old CKCS, small fluffy dog of course.

Why did you choose him?

I chose Bingo because I love the breed (he is my second CKCS). They are loving, versatile, clever and entertaining little dogs. They really are gun dogs in small bodies. I was offered Bingo by his breeder, who is the owner/trainer of several well-known Cavaliers that compete very successfully in Obedience with the Victorian Canine Association.

His mother and his older sister both have titles in Obedience as well as Conformation ("showing"). He comes from very healthy stock, which is very important to me as I recently lost my wonderful Jesse to heart disease.



CLUB NEWS

- Sue Corter fell and broke her wrist, she is in plaster for 4 to 6 weeks. We wish her well & a speedy recovery.
- Nathan Wigmore and wife Nikki are proud to announce the arrival of a baby boy. This is the second baby for the family, congratulations.
- Jackie Couch is off to the UK for an 8 week holiday in June.
- **The club social night has been moved to Friday 30th of May at the Clare Castle Hotel - Port Melbourne**
- Have you looked up the Dogs Victoria Companion Club web site? It's worth a look.

www.dogsvictoria.org.au

"GOOD" DOGS, AND "COMPETITION" DOGS - IT'S ALL ABOUT OBEDIENCE

We all want our dogs to be well-behaved members of the community. But did you know that there is a whole world out there where people and their dogs compete in formal obedience competitions?

VicDog (the Victorian Canine Association) runs a very successful and large competition throughout Victoria, and there are equivalent competitions in other States.

While most of us are not interested in competing, there are some "tragics" in our Club who regularly travel around Victoria to enter competitions and sometimes achieve success!

Vanilla (Michael's Dalmatian girl) has achieved 3 passes in the Community Companion Dog level and now has letters after her name (CCD). She is also well on her way to the next level of Companion Dog (CD).

Jesse (Janette's recently departed little cavalier mate) had the title of Companion Dog Excellent (CDX), and was on the way to achieving Utility Dog (UD).

Janette's young dog Bingo will be entering his first trial later this year, at the level of Community Companion Dog. Successful dogs will have their pedigree documents altered to show that they are "titled", and may also win prizes and trophies!! Of course, all dogs can compete whether or not they are pure bred.

Competition obedience is scary, difficult, frustrating, time-consuming, often cold & wet, often hot & dusty - but always an amazing satisfying journey of teamwork with your canine pal. Competitions are held under very formal conditions, where the actions of the handler and the movements of the dog are carefully scripted and scrutinised.

The exercises range from simple heeling patterns to complex "scent discrimination" (similar to tracking) and "distance control" where dogs are directed by hand signals only from a distance. To compete at higher levels requires years of practice.

If you are interested feel free to chat to Janette or Michael. But be warned - it is addictive!! Stay tuned for the next newsletters, when we will talk about Endurance, Tracking and Agility.

[Profile of the Day {Members}](#)



Jonti (Beagle) & Jules.

Why did you join HBODC?

Jules needed to learn how to try to keep me under control.

How is she doing now?

She is not too bad, but I still have problems understanding her New Zealand accent.

So Jules, why did you pick a beagle?

We wanted a dog that was shorthaired and smooth coated, easy to look after and has a good nature.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. You can purchase rolls of poo bags for \$12 each from the shed.
2. Treats are also available for free too.

ASK VANILLA



Q. I noticed you have a new puppy who comes to training with you, what is her name and what sort of dog is she?

A. Her name is Ahliah, she is a Great Dane, big for a puppy eh!
(I think she & Baxter have a thing going on)

If you have a question for Vanilla, contact Nick or give your question to Vera.

[CLUB WEBSITE...](#) a great way to access training tips and information. Ask Michael if you need any help using the site:

www.hbodc.asn.au/

KEEP YOUR DOG WARM IN WINTER

>Some breeds are more sensitive to cold than others. If your dog has a higher surface area beneath it in relation to its body weight it will be more sensitive to cold weather.

>Kennels should be insulated and raised off the ground by two inches. Make sure there is soft bedding inside to keep doggie warmer.

>Dog coats are becoming more and more popular, especially with short-coated dogs. Waterproof ones are great especially if walking your dog in the rain.

>Choose jackets with materials that insulate and reduce moisture if wet, like wool and cotton.

>Cold weather can also disrupt a dogs' sense of direction, so keep your dog on a leash, especially in bad weather.

(Source "A Dogs Life - Issue 89 May/June 08)

KIDS COMPETITION CORNER

The answer to last months question: Pyrenees mountain dog, called Remy.

Q. How many different classes are there in the dog club?

*Give your answer to Vera, to win a small mystery prize for the first correct entry drawn