

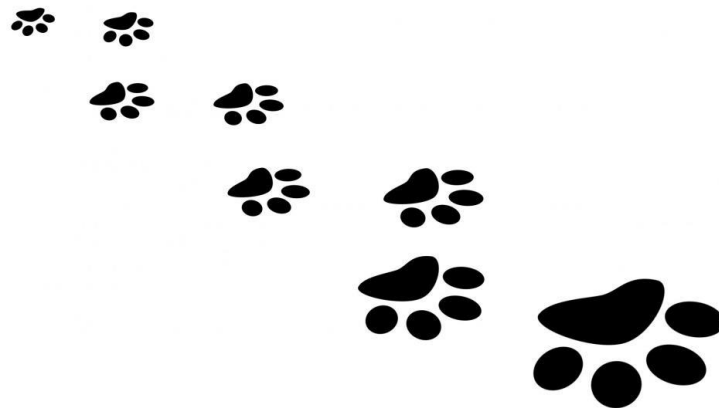
**JULY/AUG 2023**

# THE GROWLER

**Newsletter of the**



**Established 1974**



*Note: Articles appearing in this Newsletter are considered to be of interest to our readers and do not necessarily express the opinions of the Committee of Editor of the S&DODC Inc. Who accept no responsibility for the accuracy of claims made by the advertisers in this Newsletter.*

# SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB Inc.

Inc. No. A0017293M

PO Box 6230, SHEPPARTON VIC 3632

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## **OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE 2021/2022**

**President:** Leigh Williams 0419 315 991 (no private numbers, no calls after 8pm please)  
**Vice President:** Helen Vernon  
**Secretary:** Barb Lloyd  
**Assistant Secretary:** Julie Rafferty  
**Treasurer:** Vacant (Leigh Williams Acting Treasurer)  
**Committee:** Marg Delai, Mellissa Moore, Helen Vernon, Tracey Simmons, David Sanford, Paula Laidlaw  
**Trial Manager:** TBA **Trial Secretary:** Julie Rafferty  
**Property Steward:** TBA **Editor:** Alicia Jones

## **Class Times**

Beginners/Newcomers and Novice and above Classes: 9.00am to 9.45am

Intermediate and CCD Classes: 10.00am to 10.45am

### **Every Sunday – Beginner Class: 9.00am – 9.45am**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: 9.00 am Obedience for Beginners and Novice 10.00am intermediate and CCD  
10.45am RALLY-O Novice – Masters NOSEWORK and TRICKS

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 8.00 am Tricks and Nose work Obedience 09.00 am to 10.45 am, Committee meeting 11am

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 9.00 am Obedience  
10.45 RALLY O Advance and excellent NOSE WORK and TRICKS

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 09.00 am to 10.45am

## **Heat Rule**

When the weather forecast for Sunday by the BOM for Shepparton is 35 deg, or above as declared on the prior Saturday night, there will be no training on Sunday morning even if the weather forecast is revised.



# Membership

Membership year runs from 1st January to 31st December

Intake for new members is on the first Sunday of each month February through to November  
Membership options are listed below. Please note that a non negotiable insurance levy is applicable to all club members who are not Dogs Victoria members

Existing Members Renewal
\$30.00 Single Member
\$60.00 Family Membership 2 adults 2 juniors
\$20.00 Junior Member ages 14 to 17

New Members (includes joining fee)
\$40.00 Single Member
\$70.00 Family Membership 2 adults 2 juniors
\$30.00 Junior Member ages 14 to 17

PLUS

Insurance Levy (applicable to non Dogs Vic members only)
\$8.65 Single/Junior Member
\$16.00 Family Membership

A weekly training fee of \$3.00 applies per class you attend and is paid on the day

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL OUR CURRENT NEW MEMBERS

Name	Dog	Breed	Name	Dog	Breed
BOCHETTI, MANDY	BANJO	Border Collie	LEVER, SHANIA	BAILEY	Cocker Spaniel X
BOSCHETTI, DAMIEN	BANJO	Border Collie	FRASER, JAIME	ABBY	American Bulldog
SHEEDY, MARK	FRANKIE	Staffy X	FRASER, TAKARLYA	ABBY	Am Bulldog
TAYLOR, ANDREA	CLARENCE	Corgi -Pembroke	DURSTON-RYAN,		
DOYLE, BROGAN	LOLA	Labrador	ANGELA	INDIE	Gsd X Malinois
TYMENSEN, EMILY	PENNY	Cocker Spaniel	HUTCHINSON, PAT	INDIE	Gsd X Malinois
MERCER, JASON	BETTY	American Staffy	TOLLEY, ANDREA	TARSHA	Vizsla
KELLETT, NICOLE	BETTY	American Staffy			
MCKINNON, ALEX	LOLA	Jack Russel	COSTA, ROS	SPYRO	Jack Russel X
	JET	Lurcher X	ROUW, FONS	SPYRO	Jack Russel X
MCKINNON, SARAH	LOLA	Jack Russel	COSTA-ROUW,		
	JET	Lurcher X	ELAINA	SPYRO	Jack Russel X
MCKINNON, GRACE	LOLA	Jack Russel	COSTA-ROUW,		
	JET	Lurcher X	ADELE	SPYRO	Jack Russel X
MCKINNON,			NORTON, KERRY	LOCHIE	Labrador
LACHLAN	LOLA	Jack Russel	NORTON, ALLY	LOCHIE	Labrador
HUSQIOM, MELINDA	LUNA	Dachshund	NORTON, XAR	LOCHIE	Labrador
FRENNING, KIMA	ALFRED	Border Collie	SUTHERLAND, VIL	LEIA	Labrador X
HEWLETT, DANIEL	ALFRED	Border Collie	WOODS, JOSH	LEIA	Labrador X
BODHANKAR, JEN	TILLY	Poodle Mini	MELBOURNE,		
FICHERA,			ROBYN	BELLA	POMERANIAN
CHITRARANI	LEO	Cavoodle	DONEY, FLORENCE	JET	Poodle Mini
TUCKETT, HAYDEN	REG	Kelpie X	BRENNAN, MARION	PIXIE	Poodle
BARTELS, AMANDA	ALFIE	Dalmatian			



# Graduations

Held the last Sunday-March, May, July, September & October

Eligible—Intermediate class and above

Starting 9.00 am Beginner class is held as normal at 9 am

It is a fun time and you get one on one advice from the judges to help you understand the progress you are making, also it is practice if you intend to enter Open Trials. The obedience exercises that are practiced in your current class are the exercises upon which you and your dog will be judged individually. The Sit and Down stay are group exercises. There are Certificates & ribbons for place getters & a passing score means you move up to the next class.

Your 3 highest scores earned at three Graduations in the calendar year count towards determining the End of Year Trophies:-

Lady Handler, Male Handler and Junior Handler.

## Exercises -

Intermediate—All exercises are on lead. Heel pattern with sits, stands & drops; sit for examination; recall; sit and down stay as a group.

CCD (Community Companion Dog)- All exercises are on lead except the sit & down stay. Heel pattern with Figure of 8, Sits, Stands & Drops; Stand for examination; Recall, 1 min Sit and 2 min Down stay as a group.

Novice — All exercises are Off lead - Heel pattern with Figure of 8, sits, stands & drops, Stand for examination; Recall; Dumbbell retrieve or Change of position; 1 min Sit and 3 min Down stays.

Open — All excises are Off lead— Heel pattern as above; Stand for examination; Drop on recall; Retrieve dumbbell on flat; Retrieve dumbbell over solid jump or Directed retrieve (gloves); Broad jump or distance control; 3 min Down stay out of sight.

UD (Utility Dog) – upon request

Intermediate & CCD scores— A qualifying score 85, out of 100.

Novice & Open Scores— A qualifying score 170, out of 200.

Handlers pass Intermediate, CCD and Novice once, not necessarily in the same year. Open and above classes can be repeated at any graduation.

## OH&S REMINDER



Please wear appropriate footwear when training your dog in class



### No thongs,

If your dog steps on a thong, you can fall and may need medical attention, plus the noise from thongs can distract or upset your own dog or other dogs. Long coats and flappy skirts/dresses can also distract your dog from training.

**WARNING** - Please do not touch or walk close to unattended dogs that are tied to a fence or post etc. This also includes

dogs that are in crates.



When dogs are tethered or contained they see the area around them as “Their” space and will protect it. Be aware and walk about 2 metres away from them.



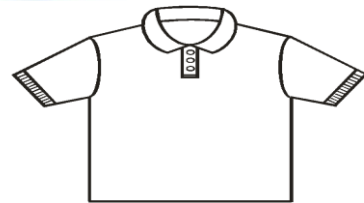
### The Club polo shirts and zip front fleece jackets are now available.

Check out your size in the Clubhouse.

Colour: Royal blue with white trim plus club logo.

Fabric: Drivewear mini-waffle knit, easy care.

Polos: \$30 each, Zip Front Fleece Jackets: - \$38 each



## Club Merchandise Items for Sale

- Club badges (enamel) \$6,50
- Club cloth decals
- Correction chains-quality steel, various prices
- Dog leads (soft) - from \$8.50
- Dumbbells -from \$10 (plastic, floats in water)
- Liver Treats \$3.50
- Pigs ears \$1.70
- Ponchos and Harnesses (various sizes)

## “Please give me space”

At some time, you will see someone wearing these vests. Please respect a member and their dog when wearing this fluoro yellow vest and keep a reasonable distance away from the dog. If possible attract the handler’s attention before approaching. Remember not all dogs are 100% confident or friendly, they may be scared, or reactive around other dogs, or being rehabilitated which is why they are attending the club classes. If you wish to use a vest please speak to one of the instructors.





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## Presidents Page – July / August 2023

Welcome to all our new members that have joined us, it is great to see everyone wanting to train their dogs and to have great family members that are well behaved when they go out in the community. Just remember Rome was not build in a day, it takes time and practice.

A number of our members have been busy travelling to trials in several disciplines including scent work, tricks, obedience, Rally O and tracking with so great results being achieved. It was great to hear that we had 9 members in attendance at a recent Bendigo Obedience/Rally trial, it is fantastic to have such a strong representation from our club and to support another regional club's trial. Although not everyone come away with the results that they would have liked every attempt is a learning experience and as long as you take something away from it there is always next time.

We also had members attending both the tracking and scent work trials that were recently held by the North East Tracking and Scent Club, this is another relatively new club that has been established in the Wodonga area and it is great that we have the opportunity to participate in these sports relatively close to home with Tracking held at Wodonga and Scent Work at Oxley just out of Wangaratta, if you get the opportunity please try to support other regional clubs.

Believe it or not it is time to be on the look out for snakes as the weather starts to warm up. One of my neighbours posted on our estate facebook page a few weeks ago that their dog was at the vet after an encounter with a baby Brown Snake, thankful the dog was alright and returned home from the vet later in the day after observation, but something to be mindful of when out and about, or if your yard has got a bit overgrown over the winter months, it might be time for a spring clean!

It was good to see some improvements made to our grounds with some of the potholes in the driveway patched and the garden around the boundary cleaned up and fresh munch added, it keeps the grounds looking good, thanks to the council.

Some of you may have noticed the railing on the end of the front deck are missing, this damage was done on a Sunday afternoon by a ground of young people, we are very lucky to have great neighbours that keep an eye on our club house, when they noticed the damage being done, they called the Police and myself, but unfortunately the Police did not arrive. They did leave some empty alcoholic beverage cans behind; it is disappointing that this needless damage has been done, it serves no purpose and personally can not see how anyone would get a thrill out of damaging a timber railing on a community group building, but I guess it takes all types to make a community!

We recently held an instructor meeting to talk about how our classes are running and the areas that we can improve on and focus on more. One topic of discussion was the issue of the size of our classes, which is a great problem to have, but does take more resources to ensure that we continue to be able to assist members in class, although we have a core group of instructors, we could always use more to help spread the load and allow our instructors time to spend with their own dogs. If you are interested in assisting the club and learning more, and developing your communication skills that are also useful in other parts of life please come and see me and we can start to develop your skills. This could also come with additional benefits as we will also be looking to book a further session with a professional trainer to help further develop instructors' skills to assist all members of the club.

Keep up your training, remember looses leads are good leads, it takes lots of small happy training sessions to achieve great results, your training should be a highlight of your dogs day and something that they look forward to.

Kind Regards,

Leigh Williams  
President



## VALE: VANNER

“Hearts are broken as we laid to rest our best friend recently after he peacefully crossed the rainbow bridge. The void is huge but the wonderful memories will be with us forever. From bush walks, playing at the oval, walks on the beach, Obedience training and competition, runs on the golf course, visits each night out to the horses, camping on the camping we will miss him.”



Taken from facebook.

**From all of us at the club** to our wonderful volunteer Maree, our condolences, he was such a large personality a perfect compliment to his mum and may your pup keep you to busy to dwell but bring a fraction of the joy we saw you share with vanner.

Its never an easy time but it is so worth the pain to experience the gift of a dogs love and joy.



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# GRADUATION RESULT –30-7-2023

## Intermediate – Judge – Julie Rafferty

(Qualifying score – 85 points)

Place	Name	Dog	Score
1	Amanda Heard	Lucy	93 pts
2	Brendan Forge	Charlie	92 pts
3	Jane Houston	Suki	88 pts
3	Mark Sheedy	Frankie	88 pts

## Community Companion Dog – Judge – Leigh Williams

(Qualifying score – 85 points)

Place	Name	Dog	Score
	No Qualifying scores		

## Novice – Judge – Helen Vernon

(Qualifying score – 170 points)

Place	Name	Dog	Score
1	Paula Laidlaw	Bailey	178 pts

## Open – Judge – Helen Vernon

(Qualifying score – 170 points)

Place	Name	Dog	Score
1	Barb Lloyd	Willow	196 pts
2	Anthony Lockett	Alan	177 pts

## HIGHEST SCORING OBEDIENCE MEMBER JULY GRADUATION



**Amanda Heard and Lucy**



Congratulations to all our competing members, over the winter period you have achieved well deserved passes, placings and titles.

Helen Vernon and her dogs went to Geelong Trial on 8/9 July 2023; cold and bleak weather, however they came home very happy. Tia with CD Title plus 2 Rally Masters passes and 1 first place. Lill with a Rally Masters pass and 3<sup>rd</sup> place, both dogs well on their way to Rally Champion. Awesome Pawsome.



Lill with 3rd place Rally Masters sash/ribbons

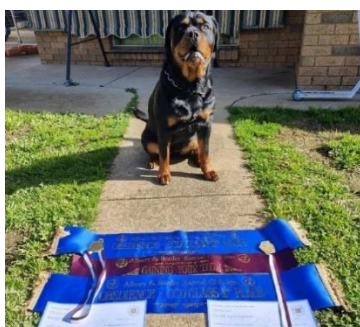


Tia with her lovely sashes/ribbons

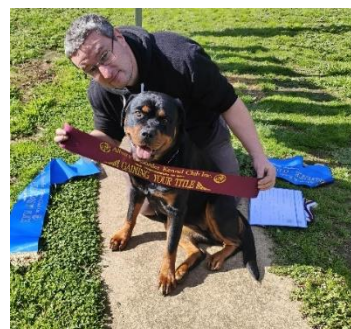


A great result for Belinda Farley who excitedly reported this month that Archie had passed Track 8 to achieve his Champion Tracking Dog Title. Awesome Pawsome. Unfortunately no photo available) so here is one from facebook just so the awesome team stands out

Another very proud and thrilled novice handler is David Sanford who along with Luna at the Albury Trial on 21 July 2023 gained their third pass in CCD (Community Companion Dog) to achieve their title with 97/100 and 98/100, great scores. Awesome Pawsome.



Luna with her lovely sashes, medallions and pass cards and proud handler David.



Meanwhile our intrepid travellers Anthony Lockett and Alan have been away in the warmer states, successfully competing. Following report by Alan 😊

Anthony and Alan



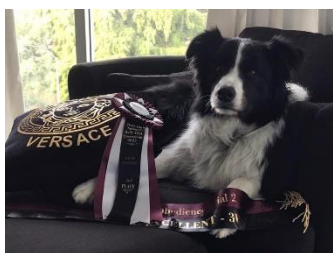
How about a Border Collie being good enough to win in three different disciplines on the same day. WELL IMAGINE NO MORE !!!!

Anthony and I achieved this remarkable feat when we competed in Rally, Obedience and Tricks at the Grafton DOC last week !

With convincing wins in all three categories, we had the statisticians scouring the record books. We also achieved our Trick Dog Novice Title with our impressive 79.3/80.

The final stop on our two-week adventure was at the Illawarra DTC where unfortunately we had two NQ scores in Open Obedience.

The highlight was certainly our third place in Rally Masters at the National Championships.



Me reclining with my high end Versace cushion and sashes/rosette.



**BUT WAIT THERE IS MORE !!!!!**

Alan "The Pupdog" and I have set many goals during our career, some have been successful and some have been dismal failures. However we have never been afraid to put ourselves out there to see how we go.

This year we wanted to improve our obedience so as per usual we set our sights high and have competed well in some very prestigious events. We've managed a 2nd Place at the Sydney Royal Show, a 3rd Place at the Qld State Trials and a 5th Place at the National Championships in Brisbane.

Alan has a wonderful temperament and never seems phased by the big occasion so these results gave us confidence leading into the Victorian State Trials where we were hopeful of a competitive score and high finish.

Our score of 194/200 in our morning trial was enough to secure 1st Place (Open) and a position in the "Winner of Winners" grand finale. The Winner of Winners is where the winners from all of the categories (excluding CCD) from both the am and pm trials are pitted against each other to determine who will be crowned the "STATE OBEDIENCE CHAMPION"

One very tired Pupdog and one very apprehensive handler returned to the ring for what we thought would be our final appearance. However the two judges couldn't separate two of the dogs (us included) so we were summoned back to the ring for a tie breaking run off.

Up against a Shetland Sheepdog who's heeling was flawless we were resigned to (and happy with) an honourable and credible runner up finish. But as we were preparing to re enter the ring we were unaware and oblivious to our rival making a small error on their recall exercise.

This ultimately was the difference between the two dogs but as I didn't know this I was in total shock and disbelief when Alan was announced as the Victorian "STATE OBEDIENCE CHAMPION" for 2023.

The most unexpected wins are usually the most special so this was indeed very, very special. Alan may well be the most obedient dog in the State but I am by far the proudest owner in the country. He is such a beautiful dog and all he wants to do is please me which makes me very, very lucky.

Thankyou to everyone involved.

Anthony and Alan



August 19<sup>th</sup> saw our first time trialer Kellie with Lyla and their sidekicks Alicia with Ziggy head to Wodonga for the Northeast tracking and scent club trial where Lyla Found her track layer convincingly after a wobbly beginning gaining a good to see her kicking off her test 1 and a surprised Alicia Graded good on a test 2 where zig led her on a merry wet and wide track before trying to take his handler back to the car only to be reminded by Alicia he had to find Kellie hiding in the paddock first but as the girls say Ps get Degrees and a good is one up on just a pass 😊

**Results from Bendigo Obedience and Rally Trial held 20 August 2023** will be a little sketchy, due to my losing the detailed catalogue between the presentation area and my car. So, to the best of my memory most Shepparton members had a great day in the sunshine and I apologise to all if the information is incorrect/hazy. Helen and her 2 dogs Lil and Tia, and Anthony and Alan, received passes and placings. Paula and Bailey, Karen and Tipsy, Barb and Willow gained placings and Titles, while Julie with Davey received three 1<sup>st</sup> placings and one 2<sup>nd</sup> placing for Rally. Unfortunately, David's Luna sustained an injury prior to the trial starting and had to be withdrawn, leaving Dave to have an easy day socializing and taking photos. Newby to trialling, Joanne and her red Heeler Harvey showed some very nice CCD heeling (but he forgot how to sit) with a lovely stand for examination, recall and solid stays but unfortunately no pass, keep up the good work, passes are not far away.

Congratulations to all and keep enjoying your sport.

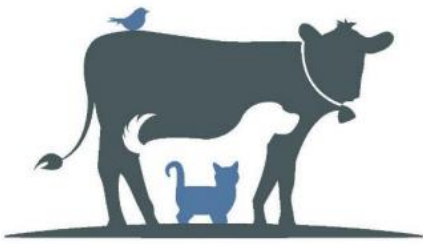


**Dr Anna Richards BVSc.**  
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## BREED PROFILES KNOW WHATS UNDER THE HOOD.....



### Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers:

The Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, or Toller for short, is a medium-sized breed of gun dog bred primarily for hunting. It is the smallest of the retrievers,

Tollers are known to be intelligent, alert, high-energy dogs. They get their name because of their ability to lure waterfowl within gunshot range. The breed originated in southwestern Nova Scotia, Canada, where they were used for tolling and retrieving ducks.



They tend to be very affectionate and outgoing animals with family members and are known for being very patient with children. Reaction to strangers varies from reserved to curious, but often includes some initial caution. He needs early and ongoing socialization to avoid suspiciousness or timidity.



Duck Tollers are working animals and are happiest when they have a job to do. Physical stimulation should be provided for these dogs each day since they may become destructive when they are not exercised enough or left alone for too long. The breed standard states that the dog should have a strong retrieving drive, intense birdiness, endurance and a love for water.

Tollers do not have an aggressive bark. Some have a unique sounding bark known as the "Toller squeal", a high-pitched, howl-like sound which is often referred to as their "singing". When excited or anxious, Tollers tend to whine and "whistle", which can be irritating when done to excess. They do have a growl reserved for violent situations.

Though bright and clever, most Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers are easily distracted and easily bored, which can make training more difficult. Other Tollers are surprisingly strong-willed, testing your rules to see what they can get away with. You must demonstrate consistent leadership and keep training sessions short, upbeat, and challenging.

As with all retrievers, the Toller can be "mouthy" – you must control his tendency to chew on objects and to mouth your hands. Provide a box filled with toys so he can carry something around in his mouth.



# SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC.

ESTABLISHED 1974

PO Box 6230, SHEPPARTON VIC 3632

Email: [sheppartonobedience@gmail.com](mailto:sheppartonobedience@gmail.com)

Website: [www.sheppartonobedience.net](http://www.sheppartonobedience.net)

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