

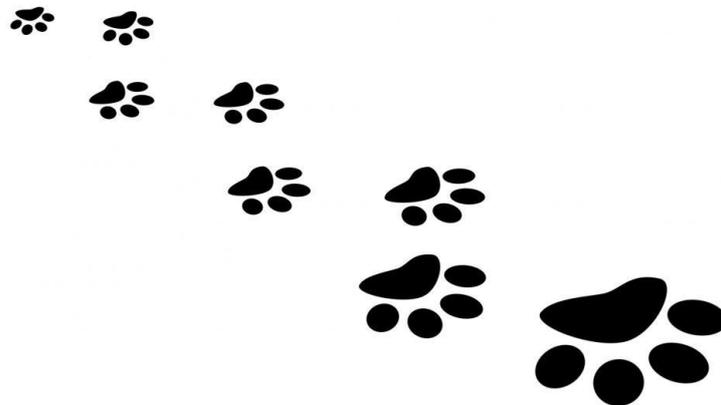
FEB/MARCH 2022

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

LIFE MEMBERS

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Darryl WALKER	Leigh WILLIAMS	Helen VERNON	Paul O'Bryan	

OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE 2019/2020

President: Leigh Williams 0419 315 991 (no private numbers, no calls after 8pm please)
Vice President:
Secretary: Alicia Jones 0411390033 (no private numbers, no calls after 8pm please)
Assistant Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer: Vacant (Leigh Williams Acting Treasurer)
Committee: Marg Delai, Daniel Mitchell, Sharon Allan, Jillien Van Bommel, Mellissa Moore, Helen Vernon & Jillien Van Bommel
Trial Manager: TBA **Trial Secretary:** TBA
Property Steward: TBA **Editor:** Paul O'Bryan

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

1st Sunday: 9.00 am Obedience for Beginners and Novice
10.00 am Agility, Rally-O and Obedience (CCD and Intermediate). The attendees on the day will be split into three (3) groups and each group will rotate through the three disciplines.

2nd Sunday Obedience 10.00 am to 10.45 am, Committee meeting 11am

3rd Sunday Obedience 10.00 am to 10.45 am, Agility/Rally-O 10.45am to 11.45am

4th Sunday Obedience 10.00 am to 10.45am, Every second month on the last Sunday; Graduation testing only 10.00am

Heat Rule

When the weather forecast for Sunday by the BOM for Shepparton is **36 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.



PROGRESSION THROUGH THE OBEDIENCE CLASSES:

Beginner Class: First 4 weeks at the club

Exercises are basic – loose lead walking, sit, stay, drop, recall and turns

Intermediate:

Exercises same as Beginner Class plus –

- Heel pattern with Figure 8, Stand for Examination, Sit Stays, Stand and Drop, Change of Pace
 - Requires graduation pass to train at the next level, Exercises taught in class are the focus of the graduation, Sit, Drop, Heeling, Stand & Stand Stay (**without food**)

Community Companion Dog – CCD:

All of the above exercises to Trial level plus

- Dumbbell and Finish
 - Requires graduation pass to trial conditions for next level

Novice - CD:

All of the above exercises to Trial level plus

- Change of Position, Off Lead work, longer timed Sit and Drop Stays
 - Requires graduation pass to trial conditions for next level

Open - CDX:

All of the above exercises to Trial level plus

- Heel Free, Broad Jump, Dumbbell Retrieve over the Solid Jump, Dumbbell Retrieve on the Flat, Distance Control, Drop on Recall plus Out of Sight Sit and Drop Stays
 - Requires graduation pass to trial conditions for next level

Utility Dog and Utility Dog Excellent – UD & UDX:

These two classes are the top two obedience levels and will be taught on request.

Here when you need us 7 days per week

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE MARCH 2022

I would like to start off by welcoming all our returning member and those of you who are new to the Shepparton and District Obedience Dog Club to the 2022 training year, it is great to have everyone back spending time with their dogs.

As a club we invested in our instructors with all instructors invited to attend a two-day training workshop hosted by the Wangaratta Kennel & Obedience Dog Club Inc (WKODC) in December. The workshop was run by professional trainers Steve and Vicki Austin from Sydney and was a very informative 2 days covering several topics including introducing new puppies, the different types of aggression and strategies to deal with this as well as some scent training, all skills that will help our instructors to improve the training that we provide. I would like to thank all our instructors who attended taking a full weekend after our normal training had finished for the year and in the often-busy month of December. I would also like to thank the WKODC for organising and hosting this weekend, and as always, the excellent food they provided.

With the Shepparton Members that attended WKODC in December we took the opportunity to be able to present a new Life Membership, we would have done this the week before at the Christmas Break up, but the recipient was attending CFA training! A nomination was received last year, and I was pleased to be able to make this presentation, this member has been attending ever since his dog was a puppy, has serviced on the committee, held the position of President and Secretary, instructed, performed maintenance and is always willing to offer advice or a helping hand (especially if it's a German Shepherd). It is great pleasure that I announce our newest Life Member Paul O'Bryan, congratulations and thank you for your support of the club over the years.

In February we finally held our Scent Workshop after having to postpone it on several occasions the prior year due to Covid lockdowns and restrictions. It was wonderful to be able to welcome Sonia Needs back to our Club to run the day. Sonia has run workshops with us in the past and is a very experienced trainer with a wealth of knowledge. As we only had one day with Sonia, we started with a quick information around the relatively new dog sport of Nose Work, Sonia's own admission she could easily spend all day on the theory and how scent works, but due to time we moved straight into the practice. For those that maybe asking what Nose Work is, think Detection Dogs that locates drugs, bombs and other items at airports, we train the dog to recognise certain smells (don't worry, we did not use drugs, the sport uses essential oils) and the dog is trained to give an indication when they find scent that they have been trained to identify. A great day was had by all and at the end of the day we had some very tired dogs and handlers, making them think and learning new things does it every time! If you were interested and wanted to know more, I am sure Helen or any of the other attendees would be more than happy to talk to you about it. A big thank you to Helen and Julie for organising this day, and to Sonia for attending in her busy schedule.

A reminder that Sunday morning training is not going to teach your dog everything they need to know, it is about teaching you how to train your dog, the real gains will be made practicing each day at home, short fun 5-minute training once or twice a day can make all the difference to achieving your goals with your dog, no matter what your goal is, from a sit, going for a walk without having your arm pulled off to competing in a dog sport at the highest level. Remember that we should always end our training with the dog wanting more, never push to the point that they have had enough, better to finish to soon than push to far!

Welcome all to the 2022 training year and enjoy the time you spend with your dog at the Shepparton and District Obedience Dog Club.

Kind Regards,

Leigh Williams
President

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Please remember to wear your name badge each week. This is the only way instructors get to know your name as they have no problem recognising your dog.

Member:	Dog Name:	Breed of Dog
Jane	Zuir	Labrador
Amy	Carlton	Labrador
Beth	Roxy	Pomeranian
Kim	Boots	Smithfield Terrier
Daniel	Ruby	English Staffordshire
Wayne	Bandit	ACD
Brady	Hunter	Great Dane Cross
Nathan	CoCo	Jack Russell
Norm	Daisy	Whippet
Adam	Ghost	Labrador
Bronwyn	Jim	Labrador
Jody	Heidi	GSD
Tabitha	Indy Chuck	BC X Kelpie / Rotty
Lilly	Link	Koolie
Hiedi	Billie	Border Collie
Sandy	Sirus	Murray River curly Retriever
Marli	Lumi	Maremma
Dominic	Bella	German Sheppard
Emma	Lily	Border collie
Ollie	Ned	Border collie
Lindon	Matilda	Labrador x
Melissa	Jetta	Blue heeler
Vicki	Albi	Groodle
Maaja	Winnie	Miniature Schnauzer
Daniel	Loki	Dachshund
Andrew	Jetta	kelpie x lab
Jessica	Loki	Caviller King Charles
cheyenne	Gypsy	German shepherd
Beth	Finn	Lab x kelpie

WORKSHOP

This month saw the much awaited scent work Workshop organised by Helen Vernon with the well respected and accredited instructor Sonia Needs from scent work dogs Australia, the whole day was very much enjoyed by all involved human and canine alike, amazing to watch the boisterous and bouncy settle in to work so calmly and some shy and reserved members coming into their elements, its great to see not only the regular cometicative sports dogs but some new interest in things we can do with our dogs even if not competitively it was great fun and very informative.

Scent Work is the ideal sport for dogs of all ages and abilities.

The sport of scent work is based on the task of working detection dogs to locate an odour and communicate to their handler that the odour has been found.

Detection is done in a variety of environments and often during changing weather or environmental conditions.



Scent Work is a positive, challenging activity that allows dogs of ALL ages, abilities and breeds the opportunity to use their strongest natural sense in a way that is fun, engaging, and builds and strengthens a foundation of trust between the handler and dog.

Handlers take their dogs through a search area which may be set up in a variety of environments (interior, exterior, containers and vehicles). Dogs are trained to recognise specific odours within minutes, and to alert their handlers when those odours are detected. They must work through multiple distractions, often in restricted and cluttered areas. The dog is rewarded immediately for an accurate indication. No obedience necessary!



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The advertisement features a black and white photo of a dog's head on the right side. The background is dark with a paw print graphic at the top right.

Into the Digital Age

The Club has moved into the digital age with its own website and Facebook page.

The website can be found at www.sheppartonobedience.net and will go through a facelift in the near future.

You will now be able to view copies of the Club's newsletter, The Growler each month on both the website and Facebook page.

The Facebook page will be the place to go to find out any information about cancelled training or upcoming events.

We also have an email address if any one wish to get in contact with the Club:
sheppartonobedience@gmail.com



Foundation Agility Class

When: 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month, 8 am to 9 am,
(prior to obedience classes) starting 10th April 2022

Who: Dogs who are in the Intermediate class and above.

Where: S&DODC Clubrooms

Fee: \$3

Puppies are welcome and will learn appropriate handling skills and drills, puppies will not be allowed to jump until they are over 12 months of age.

Bring dog crate, treats and tug toy

All Handlers are to help with setting out and putting away of equipment.

Advise Helen or Julie to book your place

Wednesday pm Agility Class – TBA



TALKING DOG

HOW OUR DOGS COMMUNICATE: each month we will introduce a new area of training or how our dogs communicate. They don't use words nor just one body part, but a whole variety of signals which is why our dogs pick up on things even when we don't talk.The Ears Have it



The position our dog holds their ears can indicate their emotional state as well as communicate their intentions. For example if a friendly dog approaches, amongst many more obvious signal their ears may be slightly lowered to indicate no threat, or perhaps they approached to boisterously with ears high and alert as they are excited and interested, only to be reprimanded by the other dog for good reasons they are being rude and obnoxious and far to presumptuous, you may notice the first dogs ears go down but they still wish to engage. They are now asking more politely in a manner this particular stranger is comfortable with.

You can also gauge what your dog is actually paying attention to before behaviours escalate (not always a bad thing) they will look with their eyes but the ears will hear much more. If my dog is facing away his ears will act like satellites changing direction picking up different sounds, but one ear often stays back showing he is still listening to me and where I am.



illustrations by ©DESIGN LAB CREATIVE STUDIO

NOTE: Fearful or anxious can also be categorised as reactive/aggressive. It's a natural dog reaction to a situation.

Dogs with small or cropped ears can struggle to communicate and other dogs can struggle to understand. its why socialisation with variety of different dogs and breeds is so important.

Countrylink Agility Competition

Countrylink is an inter-club postal agility competition. Originally devised and set up by Barry McDonald of the Kyeamba Kennel & Training Club (Wagga NSW) for local interested clubs within the Riverina and Northern Victoria. The Kyeamba Club continues to administer this competition.

There are 3 rounds per year, with a Novice level course in agility or jumping, being sent to each participating club. Each club organises their competition day and sets an accurate course, so all participants run the same course. ANKC rules apply, time and faults are recorded and sent to Kyeamba club official, who then collates individual and club scores.

Countrylink provides an opportunity to evaluate if you are ready for official competition or to practise your course skills.

Round 1 **Cost:** \$5 (tea & coffee available, BYO food) **Where:** Club grounds, Packham Street, Shepparton

When: Saturday April 9th, 2022 **Time:** 9 am set up for 10 am start

Eligibility: Dogs that can negotiate obstacles off lead.

After competition if time permits, there may be an opportunity to do some practice training. All participants are expected to assist with equipment, stewarding and current trailers to assist with judging.

Please advise Helen or Julie if you wish to compete.

If your not sure who these ladies are just ask we wont bite 😊

so to our next section meet some of the committee who volunteer their time to help you train and enjoy your time at club.

HELEN VERNON

YEARS AT CLUB: 12 years some time as president instructor and multiple committee roles

WHAT KEEPS YOU COMING TO CLUB: My love of dogs , good friends and trialing together

NAME AND BREED OF DOGS: my dogs are border collies

DOG SPORTS OR ACTIVITIES YOUR INTERESTED OR INVOLVED IN: Gosh obedience, rally, sent work, tricks, and when I was fitter agility and jumping.

WHERE DID YOUR INTEREST IN DOG TRAINING START? In 1988 i bought a border collie pup, my good friend Olive suggested SDODC, I only attended for a short time as a dairy farmer I could not get to club enough. After retiring I again had a new pup (Jip) who did very well at trials and kept my interest in training.





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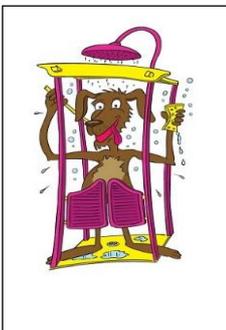
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Handlers

**If you forget to bring treats
to class, remember the
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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.



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Fabric: Driwear 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.



SHEPPARTON & DISTRICT OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC.

ESTABLISHED 1974

PO Box 6230, SHEPPARTON VIC 3632

Email: sheppartonobedience@gmail.com

Website: www.sheppartonobedience.net

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