ISSUE #11

February 2014

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST GIPPSLAND DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB

EGDOC

Coming Events

Sunday 2 Feb 2014

First day of Club for 2014, Current classes and times:

See page 18

Articles for March Newsletter due by Friday 21 February 2014

Please see bottom of p2 for how to contact the editor—Anna Larkin

Disclaimer

The East Gippsland Dog Obedience Club (EGDOC) Inc. takes no responsibility for any injuries or damage to persons or property on club grounds or other venues. EGDOC Inc. accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of any advertisements or articles placed in this newsletter.

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WELCOME to 2014

On behalf of the East Gippsland Dog Obedience Club and its Committee members, we would like to welcome past, present and new members back to the Club for another great year.

A CLUB FOR EVERYONE

This club is not an obedience class.

It is a cooperative club for people who love and enjoy being with their well-behaved companion dogs.

The club is run by a Committee of members who give up their own time to contribute to making the club run well.

The best way to enjoy the club is to get in and help. Big or small, anything you can do to help will make a difference.

NUTRIENCE

REMINDERS for 2013

House keeping

Name Tag - please remember to wear it at the Club. If there is not one on the board please speak with the membership officer. Name tag board is by alphabetical order, Surname first.

Sign the book - this is provided every Sunday for insurance purposes. It is located on the table near the name tag board.

Please pick up after your dog. There is a bin provided for all your garbage & dog poo. Please make sure that poo is in a plastic bag before it goes into the bin.

Free tea and coffee for members - Please clean up after yourself. Feel free to stay after classes and "have a cuppa" and chat with other members. **Soft drinks are $1 ea, chocolates are 50c ea**. Help yourself. There is a money tin in the fridge. This runs on an honour system.

Did you know?

The next Committee Meetings will be announced.

New members are always welcome at Committee meetings and encouraged to participate to have a say in the running of the Club.

A big thank you to all our club members who give up a little of their

time to be part of the EGDOC Committee and contribute greatly to the successful running of the Club.

Your commitment and generosity is greatly appreciated by all.

EGDOC Committee Positions

President: Peter McMaster

Vice President: Natalie Evans

Secretary: Nicole Jenkins

Treasurer: Nicole Newman

Committee Members: Janice Vanatta, Pat Brewer, Frank Vanatta, Mavis Weymouth, Beryl Walden, Casey Stagg, Ana Butcher, Tee Watt, Kathryn Trad, Janet Leemon, Leah Hepworth, Vicki Green

Club Room Supplies: Ana Butcher

Equipment Sales: Natalie Evans = Equipment Officer, plus Nicole Newman, Pat Brewer, Beryl Walden, Janice Vanatta and Peter McMaster

Instructors: Pat Brewer, Sue Bryant, Laura Duck, Sherran Howlett, Peter McMaster, Lynne Rapson, Melissa Tatterson, Frank Vanatta, Janice Vanatta, Kathy Vernon, Beryl Walden, Mavis Weymouth, Leah Hepworth, Natalie Evans

Instructors in Training: Sarah Vranek

Librarian: Anna Larkin

Membership Officer: Natalie Evans

Newsletter Editor: Anna Larkin

Public Officer: Nicole Jenkins

Puppy Preschool Instructors: Sue Bryant, Natalie Evans, Leah Hepworth, Janice Vanatta, Mavis Weymouth

Therapy Dogs: Mavis Weymouth

Raffles/Fundraising: Beryl Walden

Club Awards: Leah Hepworth

Sub Committee Coordinators

Agility: Melissa Tatterson (liaison officer)

Catering at trials: Looking for volunteers to assist at each trial

Obedience: Janice Vanatta

Webmaster: Phil Miller

Contact Details for Newsletter

Anna Larkin
39 Church St Briagolong VIC 3860
shanbally@westnet.com.au
Ph Home: 03 5145 5461
Work Ph: 0437 241 283

Life Members

1984 Val Karpys

1987 Mike White

1987 Karen White

1989 Janice Vanatta

1989 Mavis Weymouth

1990 Rob Williams

1990 Carol Williams

1994 Rex White

1994 Jo Morgan

1998 Joan Kingshott (dec.)

2000 Fiona Gilbert

2000 Alicia Larsen

2001 Willy Lucas

2008 Pat Brewer

2011 Peter McMaster

2011 Kathy Vernon

2011 Lynne Rapson

2011 Beryl Walden

2012 Natalie Evans

2012 Sue Bryant

2012 Frank Vanatta

EGDOC Christmas Break-up Party

On Sunday 15 December, the Club ended its calendar year with a slap-up Party and BBQ.

The Obedience Club members organised an adventure trail. Teams walked around the neighbourhood following clues.

Pat's group look very focussed.

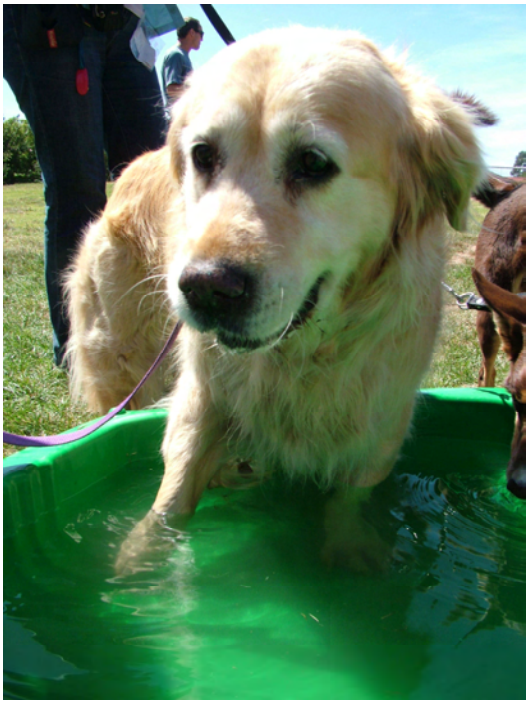
The Agility Group set up an agility relay race.

These couple of reindeers were both impressive over the jumps. . .

. . . while others took the opportunity for some downtime.

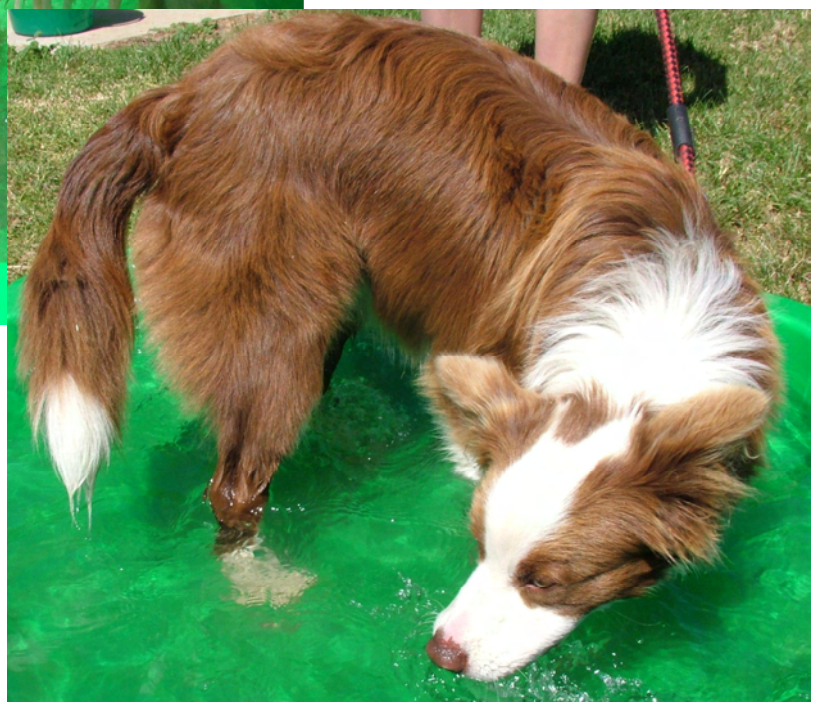
EGDOC Christmas Break-up Party cont'd

Natalie had thoughtfully put out some wading pools to keep our furry friends cool.

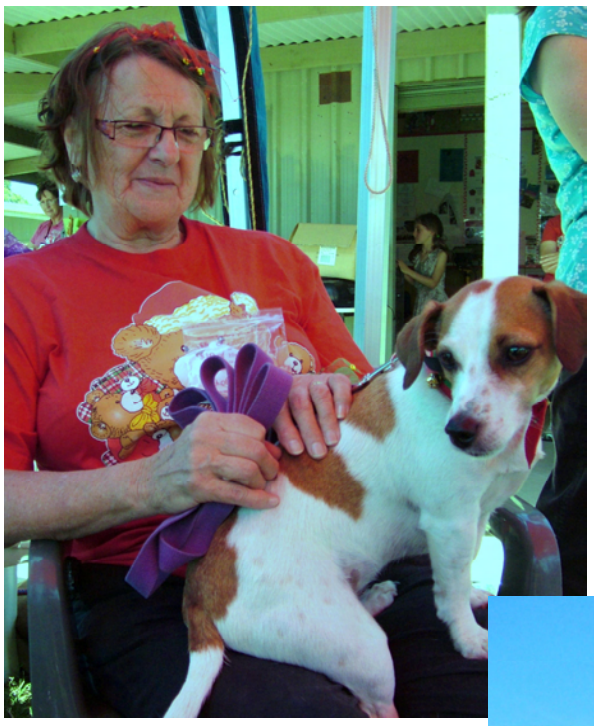


Dogs young and old were grateful for the dip.

This little darling claimed the water bucket as well as the swimming pool.

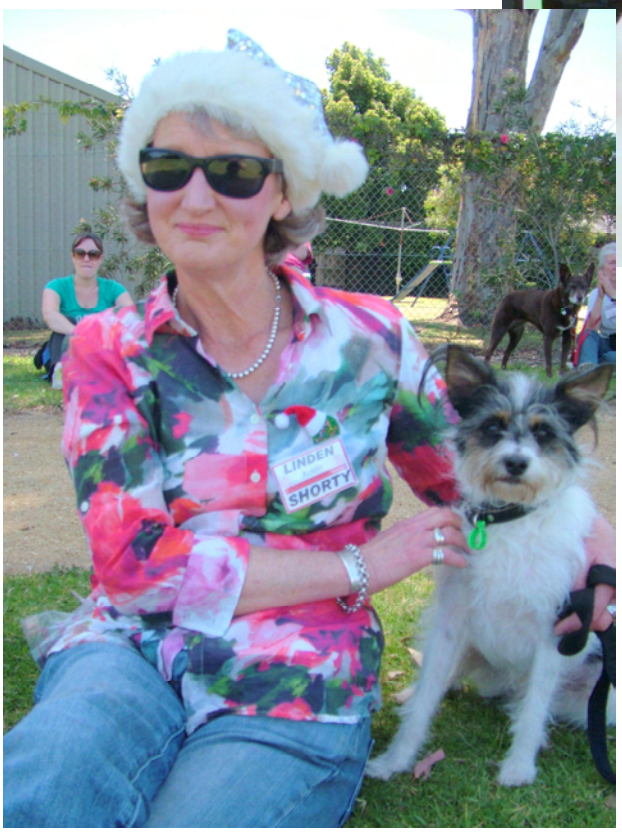


EGDOC Christmas Break-up Party cont'd



Some people sought the shade . . .

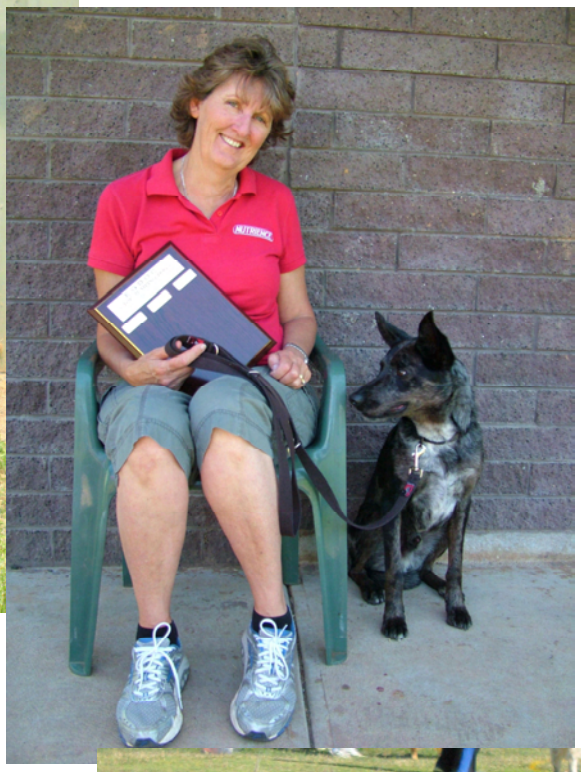
Some caught the sea breezes on top of Nan's shoulders . . .



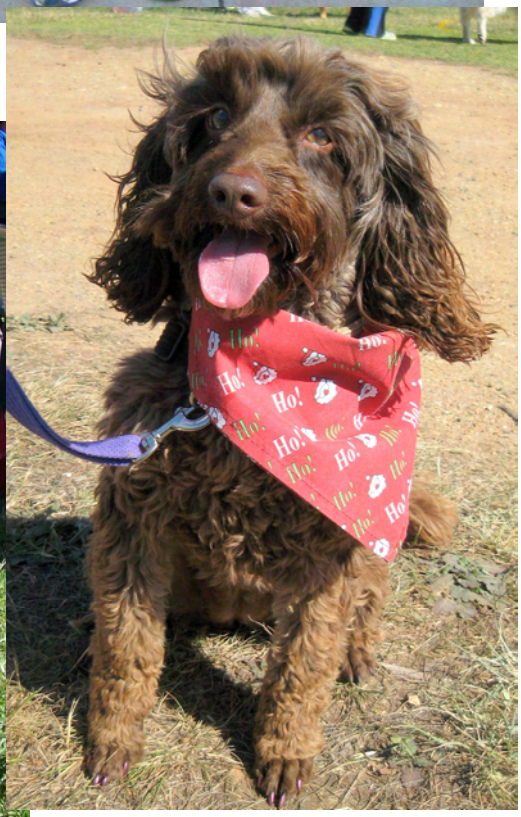
And some seemed to cope with the heat in style and grace.

EGDOC Christmas Break-up Party cont'd

Ana Butcher and Pat Brewer were two of the lucky winners for annual awards.



Some wooed the crowd with their good looks.



EGDOC Christmas Break-up Party cont'd

Some knew they were loved no matter what!

We hope all of our members had a wonderful holiday season and wish you all a happy and healthy New Year.

Our sponsor

NUTRIENCE

Proudly Supports East Gippsland Dog Obedience Club

All Members Recieve
$20 Off 14.55kg and Larger
With Nutrience Breeders & Trainers Vouchers

All Natural Super Premium Pet Food
100% Natural - Not Irradiated - Holistic Formula

For More Information or to Find Your Nearest Outlet
Call: 1800-663-664 or Visit www.nutrience.com/au
Vouchers Provided to All E.G.D.O.C Members on Request From Club Administration

Please see your instructor for your $10 or $20 discount voucher

Our Club is very lucky to have the sponsorship of **Nutrience Pet Food.**

Nutrience supply us with prizes for our trialing events, provide sample bags to club members and offer discounts on their large bags of dog food.

Every purchase you make with a Nutrience voucher is coded back to the Club so Nutrience can track our support.

Buy Nutrience and help your Club prosper!

EGDOC

Holistic Formula
NOT IRRADIATED
FORMULATED FOR ALL LIFE STAGES
Transitioning
When switching from another brand to a Nutrience formula we advise a slow transition between the foods. We recommend mixing the old food with the Nutrience formula slowly over a short period of time.
DAY 1&2
25% Nutrience vs 75% old diet
DAY 3&4
50% Nutrience vs 50% old diet
DAY 5&6
75% Nutrience vs 25% old diet
DAY 7
100% Nutrience
We strongly recommend following the transition guideline as your pet's digestive system will need to adjust to the new diet. Inside the digestive tract there are millions of bacteria known as "flora". The flora are sensitive to change in diet and by changing over diets too quickly it can result in diarrhoea, stomach cramping or gas.
By allowing this transition time to happen over a week it allows the flora to adjust without causing digestive distress.

A Word From Our Sponsors

ARK VET COMPANION ANIMAL VETERINARY CENTRE

SALE DOG WASH

ARK VET COMPANION ANIMAL VETERINARY CENTRE

ARK VET

Business hours:
8.30am - 5.30pm
Monday - Friday
PLEASE PHONE FOR AN APPOINTMENT
5143 3118

Companion Animal Veterinary Centre
320A York Street, Sale
(opposite the car and boat wash)

Dr Steve Postlethwaite
B.V.Sc.(Hons),Cert.(IVAS)

- Our aim at Ark Vet is to provide a caring, professional service, treating your pets as we would our own.
- We see all kinds of pets from puppies to pythons, cats to canaries and guinea pigs to goldfish.
- Medical, surgical and radiographic facilities available, including Veterinary Acupuncture
- Access to Melbourne's best Veterinary Referral Centres
- Off street parking available at rear of clinic, entry off Fitzroy Street

Ark Vet, a healthier future for your pet

Sale Car & Boat Wash

Incorporating #1 Dog Wash - The Number 1 Dog wash

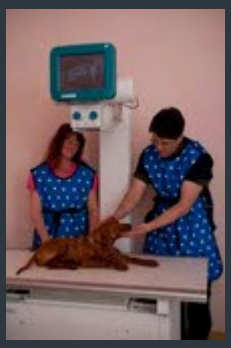
(Sale Car & Boat Wash) is one of the proud sponsors of the EGDOC so why not show them we appreciated their sponsorship!

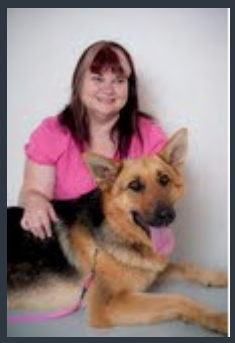
321-325 York Street, Sale

$10 for 10 minutes

A Word From Our Sponsors

MANNIX AND TAYLOR VETERINARY SERVICE





DATAKEY DEVELOPMENTS

VETERINARY SERVICE IN SALE (0429 735 353)

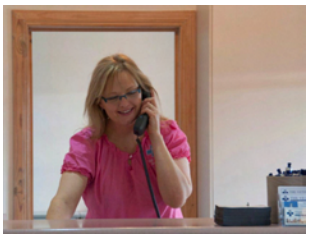
Mason House has had a 4 legged transformation.

Driving along Reeve St you've probably noticed a dramatic change in the Mason House building on the corner near the Safeway petrol station. Mason House was previously a human medical practice and it is now the permanent home base of THE VETS.

The Mason House Surgery has certainly undergone an amazing transformation in its upgrading to meet the standards of our 4 legged friends! This starts with the fantastic parking, so that it is safe to hop out of the car and get to the front door. As you walk in you may notice the solar panels on the roof. This is only a fraction of the panels which are also hidden in the central roof area.

Once inside there is a pleasantly clean and fresh, relaxing light filled waiting area. You may notice there is very little odour. Some of those solar panels are driving a ventilation system that causes an air change every 60 minutes. Making for a more pleasant environment for you and your pet, and better disease control.

There are 2 spacious, pet friendly consulting rooms with seating to create a private area for visiting ill patients that have been hospitalised, and another family friendly room with toys to entertain the 2 legged children. These consult rooms are computerised and also feature large screen LCD tvs so that you can see what the vet sees when they look down your pets ear.



There is a well equipped sterile surgical facility including state of the art anaesthetics, monitoring equipment, intravenous fluid therapy, hospitalisation facilities, digital x-ray, dentistry and ultrasound. The little things that mean better care for your pet have not been overlooked. The surgery has a large glass wall so that post-operative patients can be constantly monitored, not left unobserved in a closed off kennel area.

The mobile VET VAN has been up and running, for several months now. The Vet-Van which is on the road doing house calls caters for vaccinations, sick pet checks, routine worming and flea treatments and also has a pharmacy on board. This service will continue to operate alongside the Mason House Surgery in order to offer local residents a fully integrated, complete veterinary service.

THE VETS is an independent, locally owned veterinary service, operated by Dr Jeremy Mannix and Dr Rachel Taylor. They offer great personalised, professional service and are not part of an impersonal chain. You will see the same vets and nurses every time. They also have state-of-the-art treatment, but that doesn't mean they are more expensive. Many of the features of the clinic weren't all that more expensive to include, but just required a bit of extra care and thought to incorporate. The prices are in line with other 'average-priced vets'. THE VETS operate efficiently and pass on those savings to their clients.

DATAKEY DEVELOPMENTS

THE EGDOC would like to thank DATAKEY DEVELOPMENTS for hosting our website for us.

Phone: 5144 4004:

Web: www.datakey.net.au

Twitter: @datakeydev

A Word From Our Sponsors

BLACKDOG WEAR

Don't forget to check out the new treat totes.. They are very practical and quite cool!

Looking for that addition to help boost the effectiveness of your training? Look no further than Blackdog wear!

The club provides a range of Black Dog products to assist with training. When purchasing through the club you receive the items at a better price than purchasing direct, as well as the club receiving some funds.

Black Dog Wear design and make equipment for Positive Reward Training and go to great lengths to ensure that everything is heavily tested, under all sorts of conditions, by dogs and trainers, before anything goes on sale.

Quality Guarantee is simple - they'll replace a Black Dog product if any of the workmanship or components fail within the first 6 months of normal use. Black Dog Wear don't consider an item which has been chewed as a guarantee issue, chewing is a training issue and not something Black Dog has any control over.

TREAT POUCH - For holding food treats while training. The Spring Mouth Opening makes it easy to get your dog's favourite rewards quickly and easily, yet the pouch springs closed with the touch of a finger - to keep treats secure while you are moving around.

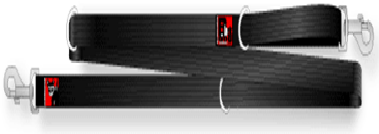
Wide range of collars
Standard Collar- for every day use
Training – offer effective training without the harshness and pain of a chocker chain
Limited Slip Collar - designed to tighten if a dog pulls on the lead making it difficult for a dog to slip its collar
Agility collars -
Bred specific collars Italian greyhound , whippet, sight hound

SMART LEAD - A quality lead for everyday use, with the added advantage of being length adjustable and enabling you to securely tether your dog to a tree or pole without unclipping the lead from your dog, or tying

PLAIN LEAD - is for those trainers wanting a high quality basic lead of a slightly longer length. Lengths available 1m & 1.8m

RALLY LEAD - Designed for Rally Competition, but equally useful as a longer walking lead, 2m

BRACE LEAD - The lead is made from one piece of webbing, knotted around a metal swivel connector at the top - this enables the knot to be loosened and the arms to be adjusted, one shorter, the other longer. It's very handy if you walk 2 dogs of different sizes.



Double Ended Lead - An extremely versatile lead design, it is length adjustable, can also be used as a temporary tether or to connect from a harness to collar etc.
Just a few products with much more available. Please see Natalie or Nicole at 'THE DOG SHOP.'

Items for Sale

Natalie Evans

NEW treat totes

Black dog wear

The Treat Tote will quickly clip to a belt, or trousers, and has security straps if you want to hold it more permanently to a Tote Belt, or Black Dog's Hands Free Training Belt (both sold separately).

On the back there is a zippered security pocket, to hold your phone or personal items while walking/training. The Tote has no mechanical parts to jam or rust, so it can be regularly washed to keep it fresh and clean over a long working life.

The Treat Tote's wide mouth is for easier access for those with larger hands, while it's deeper design is not to hold lots of treats, but to help hold treats securely inside while you run and bend, and you can quickly flip it closed with the magnet clasp. The magnet clasp is easily opened, so it suits those with any lack of dexterity, or arthritis in the hands or fingers.

(**Tote Belt** & **Hands Free Training Belt** are sold separately)

Useful Contact

Thanks Handy Bins for supporting our Agility Trial in October 2013.

HANDY BINS

5144 6111

6 Wade Court, Sale

Need an extra wheelie bin?

NO WORRIES! NO FUSS!

Ideal for:

- Homes
- Farms
- Clubs
- Restaurants
- Caravan Parks

- **ALSO AVAILABLE SKIP BINS**

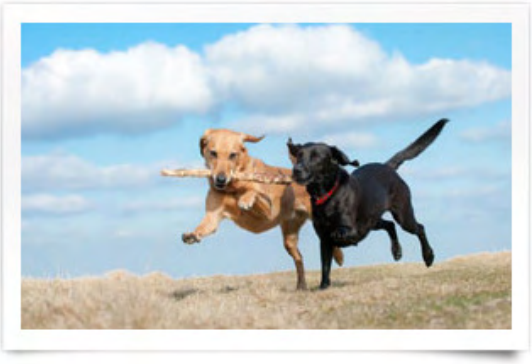
✓ General Rubbish
✓ Cardboard
✓ Paper
✓ Glass
✓ Garden Waste

WEEKEND, SHORT TERM & LONG TERM

Important note for dog owners this summer

HEAT STROKE

HEATSTROKE AND HEAT STRESS IN DOGS



During sweltering Australian summer days, dogs can easily suffer from heat stress and heatstroke - conditions that, without the right treatment, can prove very dangerous or even fatal.

Heat stress occurs when a dog's body temperature rises significantly and it can't cool itself down fast enough. At this stage, they usually:

- pant persistently and quickly
- look stressed and agitated

Heatstroke occurs when the heat stress isn't corrected fast enough and the dogs body temperature continues to rise, resulting in:

- Lethargy
- collapsing and having a seizure
- multiple organ failure, and eventually
- Death

That's why **it's so important** to prevent your dog from developing heatstroke in the first place.

HOW DO DOGS GET HEATSTROKE?

Unlike us, dogs don't sweat. So they can only really reduce their body temperature by panting.

That's why breeds of dogs with shorter airways, like Pugs and British Bulldogs, develop heatstroke far more easily than many others.

HOW CAN I PROTECT MY DOG FROM GETTING HEATSTROKE?

Don't leave your dog unattended in the car

We wouldn't dare do it to children these days, and the same should go for your dog. Unfortunately, leaving dogs in parked cars is one of the major causes of heatstroke. Even with the windows slightly wound down, temperatures inside can rise quickly and beyond your dog's ability to cope. On very hot days it happens even quicker.

Provide shade and water

When you're at home, always ensure your parched pooch has easy access to plenty of water and adequate shade, especially if they are outdoor dogs. When temperatures reach 35°C +, keep your dog indoors and, if possible, in an air-conditioned room as they can still overheat with water and shade.

Make your dog 'summer friendly'

Groom your dog to avoid a matted coat or have its fur clipped. Be extra careful with longhaired, overweight, young and older dogs. Learn more about grooming you dog.

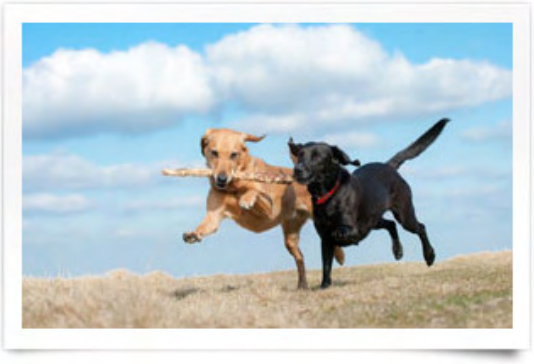
Avoid midday exercise

Australia's summer sun can be brutal in the middle of the day, so keep your walks and play sessions to early mornings and late afternoons when it is cooler.

Important note for dog owners this summer

HEAT STROKE

HEATSTROKE AND HEAT STRESS IN DOGS



DOGS DIE IN CARS

Dogs don't sweat. They cool down by panting. If they are in a hot car, they cannot cool down,

Their core body temperature rises very quickly, often within minutes. Once the core temperature has risen, the dog's organs will go into failure and they will die in great distress.

Dogs can also get heat stress from exercising too much in hot weather.

Old dogs or those with health problems can be more prone to heat stress.

HOW DO I TREAT HEAT STRESS?

If your dog is getting overheated and suffering from **early heat stress symptoms**, such as:

- panting fast
- panting a lot
- getting agitated
- and appearing stressed, then

You may be able to **prevent heatstroke developing** by:

- giving them plenty of cool water
- placing them in front of a fan
- wetting their coat with a cool water shower
- placing a cool wet towel over them

DOES MY DOG HAVE HEAT STROKE?

If you are not sure whether your dog has heat stress, follow the steps above and then take them to your vet immediately.

WHAT IF MY DOG HAS COLLAPSED OR HAS A SEIZURE?

THIS IS A MEDICAL EMERGENCY!

If your dog has developed heatstroke and has collapsed and / or is convulsing:

- wet their coat with a cool water shower or running hose

Call your vet to tell them what has happened and take the dog immediately to the nearest veterinary emergency centre

Taken from:

http://www.pawclub.com.au/Conditions/Heatstroke.aspx

Important note for dog owners this summer

Snake Bite

Snake bite usually happens in the warmer months. Some snakes are active at night or early in the morning on hot days.

Avoiding snakes

Snakes are attracted to water and cool, quiet places.

- Keep your yard clean—cut long grass, clear away woodpiles, corrugated iron or tin and piles of rubbish where snakes like to hide
- When walking your dog, avoid long grass and take extra care near waterways such as dams and creeks
- Be noisy—heavy footsteps and talking disturb snakes and encourage them to leave
- If walking in bushland, particularly near water, keep your dog on a lead close to you
- If you see a snake, move away. Snakes normally bite when they feel threatened

Symptoms of snake bite

Dogs are normally bitten on the limbs. Symptoms can include:

- Sudden weakness and collapse
- Shaking and twitching of muscles, difficulty blinking
- Loss of bladder and bowel control
- Blood in urine
- Vomiting
- Dilated pupils
- Paralysis

Treatment

The closer the bite is to the dog's heart, the more quickly the venom will reach the heart and act. Treatment is based on slowing the venom and getting your dog to a vet as soon as possible.,

- Keep dog a calm and quiet
- Call ahead to alert vet of emergency and take dog to vet immediately
- If vet is a long trip, wrap firm bandage around the wound and up the limb. Snake venom travels through the lymph system rather than veins and arteries. A firm bandage slows the passage of the venom.
- DO NOT WASH OR TOURNIQUET THE WOUND. The poison on the skin can be used to identify the type of anti-venom needed. Apply a firm bandage only. A tight bandage or tourniquet will stop blood flow and could harm your dog

Based on an article on the Victorian RSPCA website
www.rspca.org/health-and-behaviour/seasonal-health/pets-and-snakes

Club Activites

Obedience
Rally-)
Agility
Therapy Dogs
Endurance
Trials

Plus social opportunities for you and your dog

Puppy Pre-school

A safe , clean environment for puppies between 8-14 weeks to socialise and for owners to learn basic puppy handling skills., Only initial vaccination required

Held on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings as required. Please contact Janice on 5143 3345 or Natalie on 0407 842 532 for more details or to register your interest.

Obedience classes

Beginners obedience starts on the first Sunday of each month and is an 8 week class to help socialise you and your dog and provide basic skills in dog handling using positive reinforcement methods. The aim is to have a dog who is bonded with his owner, well-socialised with other people and dogs, attentive and able to respond to basic obedience commands such as Come, Sit and Stay in a distracting environment.

Grade One obedience builds on socialisation, the dog's ability to focus and increasing the duration of stands, sits and stays.

Grade Two obedience is for those who would like to enter obedience trials to gain an obedience qualification.

Rally-O

Rally-O is a fast-moving sport for those who have obedience handling skills and would like challenge themselves and their dog in an enjoyable way.

Signs are placed around a course giving commands such as "Sit and stay for 30 seconds", or "Turn left and drop". Participants and their dogs work the course and are timed. The emphasis is on good handling skills, enjoyment and positive relationship between handler and dog.

Agility

Agility is an active sport . Courses are set up with jumps, tunnels, bridges, weave poles and other items and dogs with their owners are timed as they go through the course. Dogs and owners need to be fit and active.

East Gippsland Dog Obedience Club has established a Foundations of Agility course to teach basic animal and equipment handling skills to those who have completed Beginners Obedience and are interested in moving to Agility.

There is a waiting list for the Foundations of Agility class. Please speak to Melissa Tatterson, the Agility Liaison Officer or one of the instructors if you are interested in going on the waiting list.

Therapy Dogs

Some of our members regularly attend local hospitals and nursing homes to give the people there the opportunity to have healing animal contact.

Endurance

The Endurance Trial is a one-off event held in Winter to demonstrate the a dog's stamina and willingness to work with his owner.

Trials

Obedience, Agility, Endurance and Rally-O trials are held for those who like to compete in their chosen sport.

Club Activities

Come rain
or shine

Classes are held at

The Velodrome in Inglis St Sale on Sunday mornings

Every Sunday morning rain or shine from February to December except Easter Sundays and weekends when a club trial is being run.

- **8:00am** - Agility members set equipment and get started—only experienced agility members can work on the equipment at this time
- **8.30am**—Club members start to arrive and set up—helpers always appreciated Beginner obedience please arrive before 9.00am. Please bring a flat collar and leash—no chocker chains thank you.
- **9:15am sharp**—Beginners and Grade One Obedience classes start
- **10:15am**—Grade Two and Rally-O for those with Beginners & Grade One obedience Foundations of Agility class for those selected from the waiting list

All members are welcome to stay back for a cuppa and a chat after their class.

Check out our website!

www.egdoc.org.au

The website has details of :

- What new members need to bring with them
- More information about Club activities
- Videos and photos
- Club news
- Books, info, web links
- Contact details
- Map of where the club is
- Copies of the newsletter

Copies of the EGDOC Newsletter are available at the Club on Sunday mornings and online

Good-bye to a good friend

VALE - RIP BOBBY

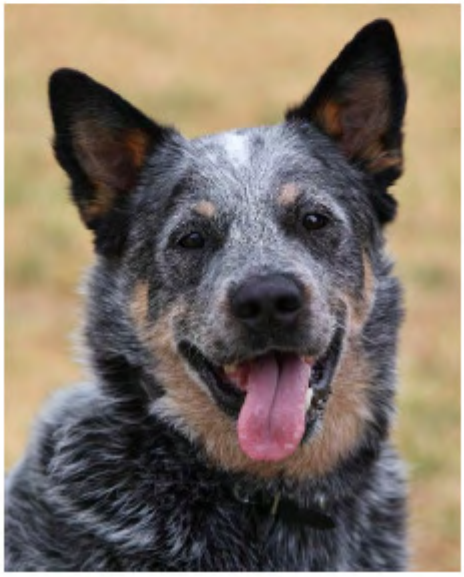
It is with a heavy heart and many tears that yesterday I had to say goodbye to my beautiful Bobby (Jenolian Be My Mate) 29/9/2009 to 8/11/2013.

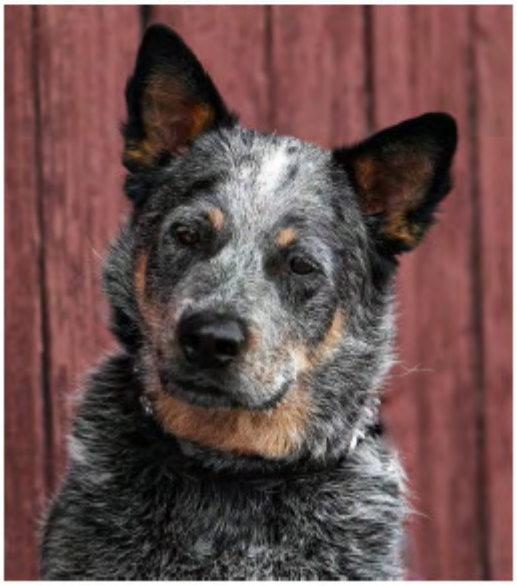
He was suffering badly from what is believed to have been a ruptured bladder as a result of cystitis (a condition that was bought on by auto immune disease). In his short life he achieved his Herding Test Title and Rally O Novice title. He was to compete this weekend at Bairnsdale and Morwell.

Bobby became seriously ill Thursday at 4.30am. After many tests etc. it was found that there was nothing more we could do. He fought the good fight over the last two years but he had had enough - it was time to go and chase cats at the Rainbow Bridge. Michael and I were with him to send him on his way. Bless his heart, we got one final (if not weak) tail wag!!!

Thank you to Amanda at LV vet group - who cried with us, and to Linda for her kind words. Thank you also to everyone for their good wishes. I am truly overwhelmed and blessed with wonderful family and friends. I know that everyone out there knows how we feel. RIP Bobbysox (Bobby Bratstar and Mr Snappy). We love you to the moon and stars and back.

Goodbye my dear friend xoxoxox - Michelle Morrison and Mia





The members of the East Gippsland Dog Obedience Club extend our warm wishers and sympathy to Michelle. We've all been there and we all know just how hard it is to lose a beloved friend.

Copies of the EGDOC Newsletter are available at the Club on Sunday mornings and online at www.egdoc.org.au