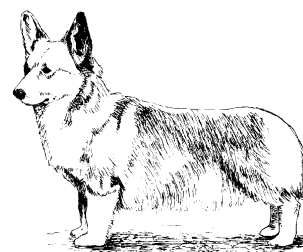
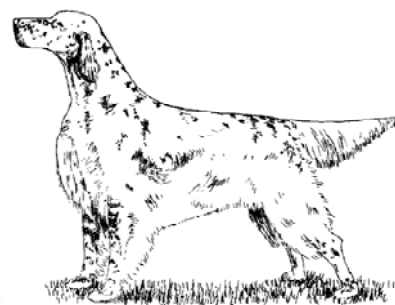


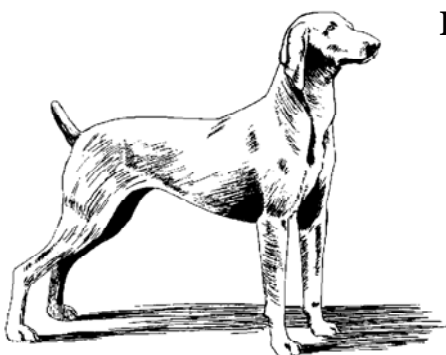
FAITHFULLY YOURS



ESTABLISHED 1954

Incorporation No A5419H

ABN 79 874 613 605



Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc
Breakwater Road, Belmont Common
GEEELONG VIC 3220
Phone: 5243 4555

March 2012

Issue No

229

GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC

Patron – Mr Fred Lehrmann

Office Bearers for 2011/2012

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VICE-PRESIDENT (2)	Stephen Eldridge		Administration
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	Vacant		Equipment Manager
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	Alex Shackleton		Officer
			Shop Manager
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	Christine Jagtenberg	0438 414 917	Membership Officer
	Vacant		Minutes Officer
	Robyn Youl		Librarian
	Stephen Eldridge		Assistant Librarian
	Pam Convery	52 414 786	Newsletter Editor
	Brendan Jagtenberg	0410 261 393	Webmaster

The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of the Editor or the Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc. All Committee and Sub-Committee reports bear the name of the respective Club Officers. The Editor and/or Committee reserves the right to correct, alter, re-arrange or refuse, without prejudice, any copy submitted for publication.

Weekday Office Hours:- Monday, 3.00pm to 7.00pm

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GEELONG VIC 3220**

If you would like to contribute articles etc. for publication in “Faithfully Yours”, please forward them to The Editor, c/- the above address, hand in at the Office or email to [Pam Convery at janelle.convery@bigpond.com](mailto:janelle.convery@bigpond.com)

Please remember the closing date for all Newsletter items is the 15th of each month

Club website – www.godc.org.au



CLUB CALENDAR

March

Sunday	4 March	Normal Training. Newsletter Available
Sunday	11 March	LABOUR DAY WEEKEND. NO TRAINING
Thursday	15 March	Newsletter closes for articles, reports, etc
Sunday	18 March	Normal training
Monday	19 March	Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm.
Sunday	25 March	Normal training.
Friday	30 March	Agility Trial Entries close

April

Sunday	1 April	Normal Training. Newsletter Available
Tuesday	3 April	General Meeting – 8.00 pm unless otherwise advised.
Sunday	8 April	Easter Weekend – NO TRAINING
Saturday	14 April	BACK-TO-BACK AGILITY TRIALS
Sunday	15 April	BACK-TO-BACK AGILITY TRIALS. NO TRAINING
Sunday	15 April	Newsletter closes for articles, reports etc
Monday	16 April	Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm
Sunday	22 April	Fun Day including presentations. Also Induction for
New		Members for Beginners Class and Fully Vaccinated
Puppies		Under 6 months
Sunday	29 April	Normal Training for current Members. New Members Commence Training

CLUB INSTRUCTORS

<i>Vice President (Training)</i>	Colin Humphreys
<i>Training Supervisor</i>	John Shields
<i>Assistant Training Supervisors</i>	Kim Ciezarek
	Desma Dickeson

Obedience

Lyn Wills	Colin Humphreys
Megan Young	John Shields
Kath Devlin	Desma Dickeson
Christine Jagtenberg	Victor Douglas
Wendy Ganly	

Agility

Trish Gavaghan	Glenys Murray
Bev Petrass	Lyn Wills
Susan Axe	Carole Sparks

Val Moeller
Kim Ciezarek
David Gravalin
Tony Stewart



REPORTS REPORTS REPORTS REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well here we are a month back into the swing of training already! A huge welcome to all our new members, it has been great to finally meet some of you after chatting on the phone or via email. I hope your time with us is rewarding and challenging for you and your canine/s.

Its great to see the grounds buzzing with enthusiasm from all the members spending some time their dog/s, remember to put the practice in and you will see the results. Our classes are running quite well and we have introduced the new discipline of Rally O and will be starting back with flyball fairly soon, if you want to know more then please chat with your class instructor.

The new face book page is slowly getting more members, if you have face book and would like to be added hit on the link on the website and it will take you straight there. Also remember to read your doggy gossip that you get online, these are two ways that we can keep you in formed of what is happening within the club.

Thanks to the members who have taken the Cadbury snack packs, all the money we raise from the fund raising efforts go back into the club to purchase new equipment for you the club members, so if you can help out with taking a box when we have drives on your help will always be appreciated.

In closing I would just like to remind you all of dogs in hot cars is not a good combination, please remember to always have windows down part of the way, and if possible park your car in some shade, if it hot then leave your dog/s at home if they have to be left in the car for an indefinite period of time. Thanks to the dedicated committee and instructors for your hard work each week, it is greatly appreciated.

Enjoy your dogs

Leonie Kelleher - President

Library Update:

Your library is currently being given an 'autumn overhaul'. The methodology of dog training is proceeding so quickly that many books are out of date before they are even published. Computer technology has changed the way we learn and the way we teach - this applies to humans and dogs. There is some great stuff to be found on the internet - there is also some absolute rubbish. As a trained librarian I am qualified to cull the library so that we can update it with the best we can utilise free of charge. It will be important to maintain information on a range of training techniques so that we develop a coherent and philosophically sound approach to K9 Education.

A library comprised solely of books is an outdated concept. We are currently cutting back on shelved items and introducing web libraries on a range of training topics. Most of us learn easier by watching a DVD than by reading a text and taking notes as an aid to remembering. DVD's are expensive and there are some great ones out there that are financially not viable options. We have an extremely limited collection of appropriate DVD's available for loan.

It is quite legal to advertise locations of video material on a wide range of training topics. A Yahoo web address is simply that - where you locate what you want to watch. It has another great advantage - it is free This week for some light relief: www.dogtrickacademy.com Check out the weaving chicken. On a more serious note - cross species training makes you a better trainer. If offered an opportunity - grab it.

Robyn Youl - Librarian



Mundoona Raykar Dynasty "Maddison"

23/6/2005 - 18/12/2011

Maddison graduated in Sept 2007
at G.O.D.C and gained her
CCD Title on 28/10/2008.

She has represented G.O.D.C.
In Gala Day Parades, Winchelsea
Festivals and many other Club
promotion events. She had also
appeared in several news paper
articles and drew attention
wherever she went.

Maddie was much loved by us
and will be sadly missed.

Forever in our hearts.
Karen and Ray Millard.



SLOW DANCE

Have you ever watched kids on a merry-go-round?
Or listened to the rain slapping on the ground?
Ever followed a butterfly's erratic flight?
Or gazed at the sun into the fading night?
You better slow down. Don't dance so fast.
Time is short. The music won't last.

Do you run through each day on the fly?
When you ask, "How are you"? Do you hear the reply?
When the day is done, do you lie in your bed.
With the next hundred chores running through your head?
You'd better slow down, don't dance so fast.
Time is short. The music won't last.

Ever told your child, we'll do it tomorrow?
And in your haste, not seen his sorrow?
Ever lost touch, let a friendship die
Cause you never had time to call and say, "hi"
You'd better slow down. Don't dance so fast.
Time is short. The music won't last.

When you run so fast to get somewhere.
You miss half the fun of getting there.
When you worry and hurry through your day.
It is like an unopened gift.... Thrown away.
Life's not a race. Do take it slower.
Hear the music. Before the song is over.

AGILITY NEWS

Welcome back everyone! I hope you have a great 2012 and achieve your agility goals, whatever they may be.

It's good to see our new group of Level 1 dogs and handlers enthusiastically beginning their agility fun under the guidance of Carole, their instructor. Also great to see the return of those in the other classes as they continue their training with Bev, Susan, Vanessa, Gleny's and me. It was good to catch up with everyone despite the hot weather.

I should like to begin this new year by congratulating all those who gained titles and passes with their dogs last year. There are too many to mention but you can be very proud of so many of your fellow GODC members. At the risk of upsetting owners of other breeds I have to point out that in 2011 it was the Border Collies' year of triumph, with Lacey and Star winning the GODC Agility/Jumping trophies for NADAC and VCA respectively. Let's see who is lucky enough to win them in 2012.



Lacey, Carole, Trish and Star with their trophies for Agility/Jumping Dogs of the Year

Now, what's ahead for all of us in 2012? Well, you don't have to wait long for an agility trial at Geelong with GODC hosting its first NADAC trial on 17th March. Well done Janelle for organising three NADAC trials this year as well as the VCA trial coming up in April. We are certainly lucky to have the opportunity to trial at home so often. If you are not trialling yet it would be good to come along and have a look – even better if you could help out in some way.

For those of you still training in Levels 1, 2 and 3 there are many goals for which you can strive but I think the main one is building that special connection with your dog that helps you both work as a team. There are many articles being written these days about this and you can find several of them in the "Clean Run" magazines in our library.

And then there are verbal releases, start line stays, jumping exercises, weaves, contacts, directional cues, distance work.....

So much to work on so make sure you come armed with lots of special treats for your dog, the other member of your team.

Classes

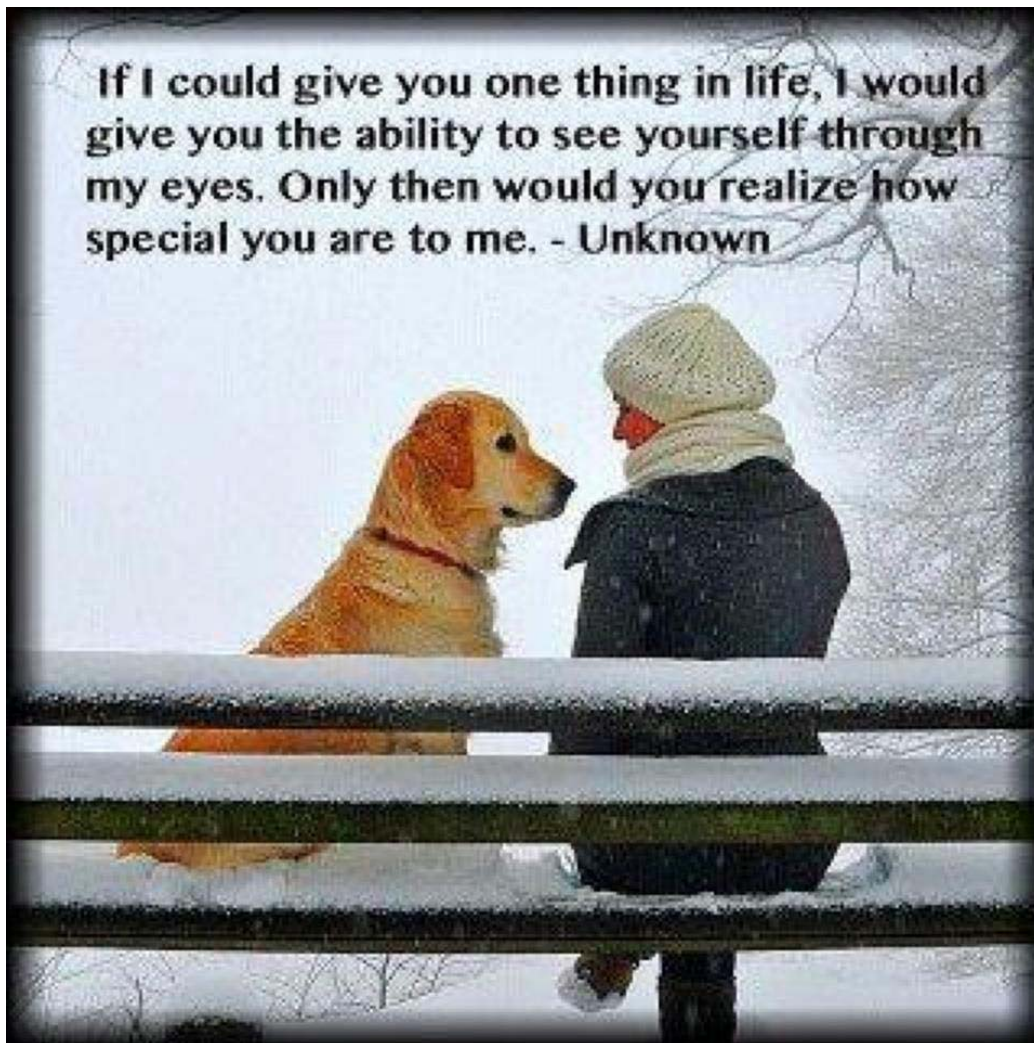
9.00 – 10.00 Level 1 (Carole), Level 3B (Trish, set up at 8.30)

10.15 – 11.15 Level 2 (Bev), Level 3A (Susan)

11.30 – 12.40 Level 4 (Trish, Gleny's, Vanessa)

Trish Gavaghan

If I could give you one thing in life, I would give you the ability to see yourself through my eyes. Only then would you realize how special you are to me. - Unknown



Just so there is zero confusion about what companionship looks like. This could be one of the best photographs I have ever seen to come out of a bad situation.

INCIDENT BOOK

There may be many Club Members who are unaware that we keep an Incident Book in the Office for the purpose of reporting incidents, which occur on the grounds. The following is the procedure for use of the Incident Book.

INCIDENT BOOK CRITERIA

'If a dog rushes at or attacks another dog or person before, during or after Class, both the handler's involved need to see the Training Supervisor or one of the Assistant Training Supervisors and write a report in the Incident Book on the day that it occurs.

The report is to be dated and signed by the complainant and co-signed by the Training Supervisor, Assistant Training Supervisor or Instructor involved.

If a dog repeats the offence three (3) times, at the discretion of the Training Supervisor, Vice President in Charge of Training and the President, the Member will be asked to either remove the dog from the grounds or for the dog to wear a muzzle whilst on the grounds'.




Magnificent: George measures more than 7 ft from nose to tail and weighs 252 pounds- one and is the world's biggest dog, but he's terrified of Chihuahuas...


SCENT GAMES

by John Rice & Suzanne Clothier

Long before you pull out the tracking flags, dust off the utility articles or decide that your dog needs to learn how to use his nose, he's busy using his nose to explore his world. The sense of smell is functional at birth, and from the moment he's born, your dog lives in a world rich with scents. All you need to do is teach the dog specifically how you want him to use his astonishing olfactory powers. The easiest way to accomplish this is through games. The *Scent Work Games* presented below are suitable for any breed at any age from 6 weeks on, but we recommend strongly that these games be a regular part of your puppy's development. All of these games stress reliance on his nose, not his eyesight.


To avoid confusing your dog, we recommend you choose one word, which indicates food or dog toys (we use "SEEK"), and a completely different word for objects with human scent or people themselves (we use "FIND IT"). In this fashion, the dog is always clear about WHAT he's looking for with his nose and will not confuse food scents with human scent. One of the most common problems with using food to teach scent discrimination or tracking is that you must ultimately teach the dog that the food is not what you really meant at all!

 **WHICH HAND?** - This is the simplest of all games. With food or a toy in only one hand, present both closed hands to the dog. Ask him, "Which one?" You may improve upon this game by insisting he touch with a paw or scratch lightly at the correct hand before receiving his treat, or simply have his nose bump your hand. If he gets it wrong, show him the correct hand but **DO NOT** give the treat! Just try again. Add lots of dramatic flair to this - dogs love a good show.

 **LIGHTS OUT** - This one is great fun for the dog. Show your dog a treat (preferably crunchy) or his favourite toy, and then place it out of his sight but easily accessible in a dark room. Tell him to **SEEK** - follow him in to listen for his success, which you will praise enthusiastically. Obviously, the rewards for the dog are multiple - he gets a treat or finds his toy plus a very happy handler. If using a toy, be sure to reward his find with some play before starting again.

When multiple treats or toys are used, this particular game helps to build persistence and trust in the handler. The dog may initially find only 2 out of 3 treats, but he quickly discovers that persistence in searching when you give the **SEEK** command pays off. He learns to believe you - there really is another one there!

You can increase the difficulty of **LIGHTS OUT** by hiding the cookies in less accessible places (like in a shoe, or placed on a low shelf.) This can be practiced outdoors as well as in your car, or a parking lot or anywhere else!

 **HIDE & SEEK** - This is a doggy favourite best played at night or in a darkened house initially. Partially open closets are great (closed closets may not allow sufficient scent to escape), as are shower stalls/tubs with the curtain drawn, standing behind an open door, crouching behind a bush, standing very still near a tree (dogs, like all predators, distinguish movement much better than stationary objects) or sitting on a picnic table or laying across your car's trunk, or wherever!


To add to the dog's eagerness (or in the event that you are unable to sneak away or can't leave the dog), have someone hold the dog. They should be verbally exciting to the dog, asking, "Where did she go? What if she gets lost? Can you **FIND** her?" and release the dog with a **FIND IT** command.

Give the dog a chance to work it out, but if he passes you more than twice, give him a "clue" by making a noise **AFTER** he's passed you the third time. A good clue is a distinctive but brief sound,

Scent Games – John Rice & Suzanne Clothier (continued)

such as clearing your throat or a short whistle that does not allow the dog to find you by using his hearing, but helps him target the general area you are in for further investigation with his nose. However the dog finds you, tons of praise is to be heaped upon his head, and of course a treat or two never hurts. Toy motivated dogs will delight in a game of fetch or tugging as a reward.


As the dog gets more skilled at HIDE & SEEK, you can increase the difficulty of the game by throwing a blanket or tarp over yourself, not moving until the dog actually touches you, or even hiding in an area that the dog can smell you, see you (or part of you) but cannot get to you. This is useful for teaching a scratch or bark alert if desired (commonly used in drug work/search and rescue training). ALWAYS praise the dog generously for his brilliance.

 **WHAT A KLUTZ** This game allows you to show the dog how important his nose is to you. Dogs like to feel useful, and this particular game helps boost a dog's confidence and self-importance. As you are walking, discreetly drop an object you have been carrying or held in your pocket. Continue walking for 10-15 steps, then stop as if mildly concerned, patting your pockets and looking around. Here's your chance to really put on a performance! Ask the dog, "Where is it? Can you help? Can you FIND IT?"


Begin walking back towards the spot where you dropped the article, encouraging the dog to sniff the ground by pointing and telling him to FIND IT. As you get closer to the object, give the dog a little room so that he can find it all by himself. If he needs help, try a subtle kick of the object (after all, you are the klutz who dropped it - why not go ahead and trip over it too?) to bring it to his attention while you pretend not to notice. Once the dog indicates the article, make a huge fuss over this genius who has saved you from dropping an old glove!


Vary the type of article you use, and be sure to include metal objects such as car keys, a crumpled soda can, even a ring or bracelet you have worn. Obviously, be careful when you drop these and be sure you can find them again! Don't use valuable items - just facsimiles. Your dog's ability and willingness to work on metal objects will be helpful in the Utility ring, but more importantly, this skill could come in very handy some day should you lose your car keys. NOTE:- Metal/hard objects do not hold scent as well as fabric or leather. This does not mean that your dog can't find them, just that his reaction may be different and he will probably have to work closer to the object before locating it.

The difficulty of WHAT A KLUTZ can be increased by: longer periods of time between the drop and the search, having the object thrown to the side or even off the path you are travelling, and multiple object drops. Especially fun are surprise set-ups where you plant an object along a path before taking the dog that way. You may point out the object to the dog with a question of "What's that?" and praise him for investigating, or walk past it and then send him back with a FIND IT command. This is a great preparation for tracking dogs who must learn to indicate on found items. A final twist for tracking prospects is the addition of objects dropped by people other than you. Be warned - this can be so much fun for the dog that he'll gladly show you all the neat trash dropped by other folks along the street, in the rest areas, etc.! John had been shown some unusual objects by his dogs while simply out walking.

 **3-2-1-FIND IT** - Use a favourite toy or even just a stick that you come across in the woods. After a few moments of playing with object, hold the dog as you throw the object into grass, brush, woods thick enough to lightly disguise the object. The dog may see and "mark" the fall of the object, but as the difficulty of the game increases, this will only help him define the area he needs to search. Once the object has landed and stopped moving, count to 3 before releasing the dog to "FIND IT." You may gradually increase the time before releasing the dog, and of course, the heaviness of the cover (one good reason to avoid mowing your lawn regularly!)

Scent Games – John Rice & Suzanne Clothier (continued)

 THINGS THAT GET LOST IN THE NIGHT - Using the same rules as 3-2-1-Find It, this game relies on the natural cover of darkness to encourage the dog to use his nose. Instead of marking the fall with his eyes, your dog may listen carefully. Once again, this only helps the dog narrow the area he will have to search. This can be played inside (throwing the object into a dark closet, corner or room) or outside. When beginning this game, don't get too enthusiastic and throw the toy very far. The point of all these games is success, not frustration for the dog. Also, be sure YOU know where the heck it landed in case the dog needs some help.

 ONE & ONLY - This is a more advanced scent game, but extremely useful to teach the dog the concept that only one object is desired from a group of similar objects. I normally start this with tennis balls (my dogs' favourites). Play with the dog for several minutes with the One & Only object you'll want the dog to find. This allows your scent (as well as lots of good dog spit) to thoroughly cover the object. Then move off to an area where you have planted several similar objects. Throw the One & Only into that area, using a 3-2-1-Find It technique. If the dog picks up an incorrect object, say nothing as you take it and put it down or pocket it, but with enthusiasm, give the FIND IT command again, leading the dog back to the general area to be searched if needed. Obviously, when the dog gets it right, reward this with a minute or two of play before repeating ONE & ONLY again. This can be combined with the more difficult levels of 3-2-1-FIND IT for really advanced discrimination by the dog.

Once your dog has mastered these games, any formal scent discrimination exercise becomes a snap for that educated nose. Furthermore, you have learned to understand just how powerfully discriminating a dog's nose can be, and to trust that when it comes to working in a world of scent, your best bet is to follow the guy who knows what he's doing - your dog.



RALLY OBEDIENCE or RALLY-O or just plain RALLY **Sunday mornings between 10.30 - 12.15**

The Rally classes are proving to be very popular. Especially due to the fact that the handler can talk to their furry friend/s.

Every now and again I throw in an Advanced or Excellent sign which throws a spanner in the works keeps everyone on their toes. Last Sunday the sign for a "Halt, pivot left" had the girls and boys scratching their heads. But they all worked it out. I'm pleased to say that both class members are now working through the course very quickly.

Some signs if not read all the way through can result in an exercise being done incorrectly.

A number of Geelong members are working towards entering their first ever Rally Obedience trial to be held at KCC Park over the Easter Weekend. The GODC is very privileged to have one of the first Victorian Rally judges of our own, Heather Miller. Heather will be judging her first ever Novice Obedience Trial and I'm sure you will all wish her well. I don't know who'll be more nervous, Heather or the entrants as it will be new to every one.

Heather has agreed to judge at a Mock Rally Obedience trial to be held on 22 March at the Geelong Show Grounds between 7.00-9.00pm to enable those who wish to know what standard they are up too. It will also be a good training time for Heather too. Contact the Secretary of BDAG on 52484889 for further information.

Happy Rally O'ing
Wendy Ganly

