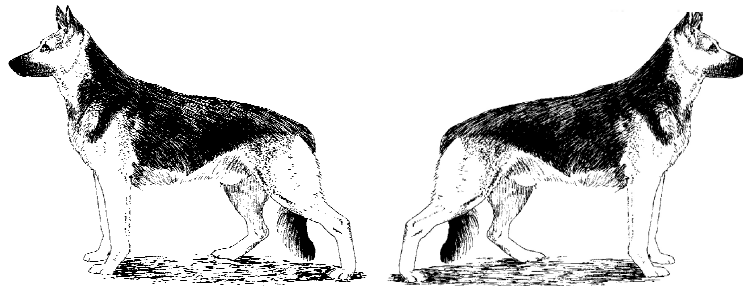
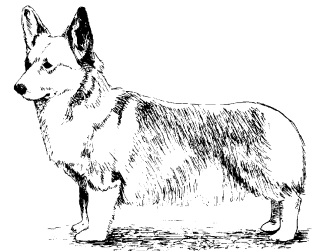
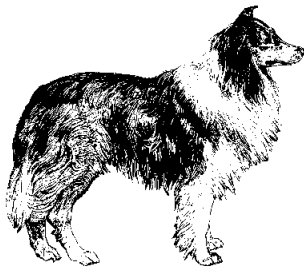
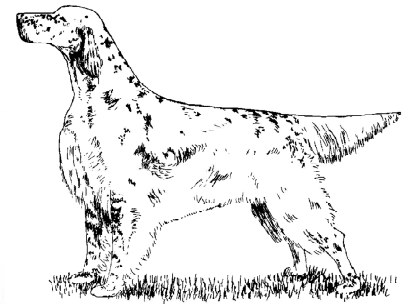
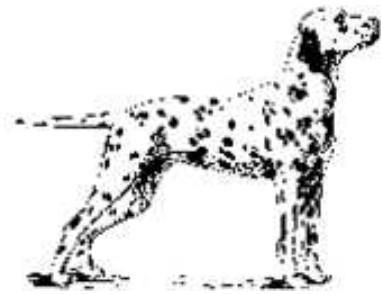


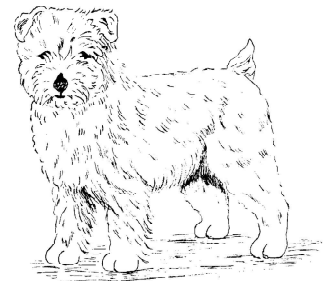
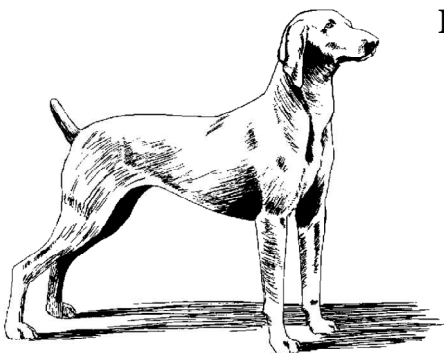
# FAITHFULLY YOURS



**ESTABLISHED 1954**

**Incorporation No A5419H**

**ABN 79 874 613 605**



**Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc**  
**45 – 55 Gundog Lane, Belmont Common**  
**GEELONG VIC 3220**  
**Phone: 5243 4555**

**August 2014**  
**Issue No**  
**256**

# GEELONG OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB INC

**Patron – Mr Fred Lehrmann**  
**Office Bearers for 2013/2014**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Roland Linford		Public Officer
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT (1)</b>	Jim Ball		Training
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT (2)</b>	Brendan Jagtenberg		Administration
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Christine Jagtenberg	0438 414 917	
<b>TREASURER</b>	Kathy Taylor	52 411 886	Property Officer
<b>TRIAL SECRETARY</b>	Tina Button		
<b>GENERAL COMMITTEE</b>	Nanette Tunicliffe		Canteen Manager tunn@ozemail.com.au
	Stephen Eldridge		Equipment Manager
	Victor Douglas	0448415401	Grounds Manager
	Bob Tunicliffe		Hall Manager
	Doreen Linford		Social
			Secretary/Publicity Officer
	Vacant		Shop Manager
<b>NON-COMMITTEE</b>	Wendy Ganly		Training Supervisor
	Christine Jagtenberg	0438 414 917	Membership Officer
			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

All correspondence should be addressed to:-

**THE SECRETARY**  
**PO BOX 186**  
**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:Pam Convery at janelle.convery@bigpond.com)

Please remember the closing date for all Newsletter items is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month

**Club website – [www.godc.org.au](http://www.godc.org.au)**



# CLUB CALENDAR

## August

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>3 August</i>	<i>Normal training</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>10 August</i>	<i>Normal training</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>15 August</b>	<b>Newsletter closes for articles, report, etc</b>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>17 August</i>	<i>Normal training</i>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>18 August</b>	<b>Instructor's Meeting – 7.30 pm.</b>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>24 August</i>	<i>Normal training.</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>31 August</i>	<i>Normal training</i>

## September

<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>3 September</i>	<i>Committee and Non-Committee nominations close</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>7 September</i>	<i>Normal training. Newsletter available</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>13 September</b>	<b>AGILITY TRIALS</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>14 September</b>	<b>AGILITY TRIALS. NO TRAINING</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>15 September</b>	<b>Newsletter Closes for articles, reports etc</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>15 September</b>	<b>Instructors Meeting – 7.30 pm.</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>17 September</b>	<b>Life Membership nominations close</b>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>21 September</i>	<i>Normal training.</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>28 September</i>	<i>Normal training.</i>

# CLUB INSTRUCTORS

<i>Vice President (Training)</i>	Jim Ball
<i>Training Supervisor</i>	Wendy Ganly
<i>Assistant Training Supervisors</i>	Helen Read
	Tina Button

## Obedience

Wendy Eck	Val Moeller	Wendy Ganly
John Shields	Kath Devlin	Christine Jagtenberg
Victor Douglas	Tony Stewart	Heather Miller

## Agility

Trish Gavaghan	Glenys Murray	Alex Shackleton
Bev Petrass	Vanessa Bridges	Julie Cooke
Susan Axe	Carole Sparks	Karalyn Bell
Doreen Brooks	Sandra O'Hara	

## Rally O

Wendy Ganly

## Flyball

Sally Hunt



## What's happening on the Committee, 20/06/2014.

### From the Committee: July 2014

We recently received a donation from Wendy Mitchell Photography for \$66.50 from the Santa Photos taken last year. We appreciate that Wendy is a busy lady and understand the delay and once again thank her for all she does for the club.

She has also recently taken Photos of the Committee, Instructors and their dogs where possible, to replace the old ones. We think these are looking better and thank her for that.

We have been in contact with the Council and invited the Mayor Darryn Lyons to come and present some of our prizes at the recent trial but as you would all be aware he was unable to attend on the day. But we did manage to get a nice write up in the Geelong Advertiser. Hope you had a chance to read it.

We would like to thank our sponsors Vets all Natural and Hanrob Pet Hotel for their generous donations to the trial. It was a great day. There were many pass cards collected and many titles achieved on the day.

Once again the food supplied by Nanette and her merry band of helpers was appreciated by all and helped to make the trial the success it was. You never go home hungry when Nanette is in charge of the food.

Thanks to Tina and her helpers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to keep things running. Good job!!

The weather over the weekend was unpredictable to say the least. It threw everything at us at one time or another but we managed to get through it. Looking forward to the next trial which is 7 weeks away.

Recently we had an extra light put on the Veranda and the light near the outside toilet entry moved, so it gives better coverage of the front door to the shed. Hopefully this will make it easier to lock up in the dark. Cost for this was \$486.00.

**The Committee:**

### FROM YOUR TREASURER

The Term Deposit has been increased by \$5,000 to \$11,172. That has not been earmarked for anything as yet. I think we should decide on a long-term plan for the money we save. There has been talk in the past about extending the awning over verandah and the quote several years ago was for about \$8,000. Do we want to consider something like that? Storage is the most urgent short-term requirement at the moment. At this point the matter of storage could be financed by the fundraising account.

The Dog Trailer was sold for \$1000 and this was deposited into the Fundraiser Account at the Bendigo Bank. Many thanks to Roland for taking charge and organizing the reconditioning of the trailer. He did an amazing amount of work to bring the trailer up to a very good standard, which produced such a good price.

The End of Year Report is my next big job. I expect to find it easier this time and I propose we follow the same procedure that we did last year. I still have some data entries to do on the computer

### **What's happening on the Committee, 20/06/2014.**

before I can start preparing the report and I expect it will take some weeks to get that ready. If all goes well I hope to have the report done by the end of August so it can be presented at the AGM in October.

Now the July Trial is over we plan to contact the Flood Team to organize a meeting and develop a management policy for times of flooding. Those people who have signed up to assist us will be contacted soon to organize this meeting.

**Kathleen Taylor**  
**Treasurer**

### **MY THOUGHTS ON THE CLUB'S OBEDIENCE & RALLY TRIAL**

What a weekend it was for all involved in the Obedience & Rally Obedience trial over the weekend of 12th & 13th July.

To those members who put their hands up to help Thank You. A special mention from me to Nannette for allowing me take one of her helpers as well as Sandra, Kellie and Kelly who I sort of coerced into stewarding on Sunday. Five rings, five judges, needing ten stewards who are willing to stay half a day or a full day are needed for each ring, hence my thanks to the stewards.

To the few who went out after it was all finished on Sunday to pack up Thank you. Your initiative in just jumping in and doing is most appreciated.

If you couldn't make it you missed the chance to see what you can achieve by training for 10 minutes twice a day. What a thrill it is to see those who come along each Sunday enter a trial and gain that precious pass card or as well as the very special 60th Anniversary Ribbon or Rosette.

Rain, hail and sunshine on Saturday and mainly sunshine on Sunday made it a strange weekend for humans and dogs to cope with the weather changes.

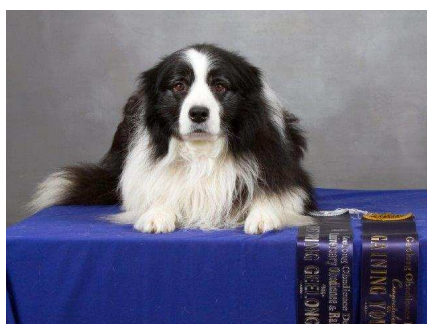
Behind the trial is the Trial Secretary and her helpers who put up with things that don't work, papers missing, names missing, no time for lunch, toilet break etc., etc. Oh if anyone knows how to stop the fax from taking over the phone would be very much appreciated.

My Rally girls and a boy were so amazing. Lots of passes and titles received by all. Congratulations one and all.

**Wendy Ganly**  
**Training Supervisor**



# WINNERS AND GRINNERS FROM THE GODC 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OBEDIENCE AND RALLY TRIALS



# TRIAL RESULTS

## PORUSE DIAMOND DEALER CD TD HTM.I FDCh "GAMBIT" - Australian Shepherd

My Gambit did me proud on Sunday in the Open Trial. No Pass Card however he did gain the HIGHEST SCORING GEELONG MEMBER 60th ANNIVERSARY RIBBON.

Gambit knows he has to heel, do turns, downs, stands, fast & slow pace, fetch a dumbbell on the flat and over the jump as well as change of position from stand, drop, sit and come as well as the 3 minute sit and the 5 minute down stays. Saturday's Drop On Recall was disastrous, he made up his own mind what part of the DOR to do as well as dropping on the Sit Stay and getting up on the Down Stay. Aghhhhhhhh, no pass once again. Oh well another day another dollar.

A wonderful trialler took me aside and showed me a way to change the DOR game for Gambit .

Sunday saw Gambit and I entering the Open Ring again. Oh what a morning. He did everything I asked of him including a magnificent DOR. His scores were the highest he has ever received in any trial he's ever entered. I was becoming confident that This Was The Day he could get his first qualifying score. Ha ha ha, dogs do it every time you think they have it all together then Change of Position happens and Gambit wouldn't drop from the stand position. Aghhhhhhhhhh another day another dollar.

However I was over the moon his scores let me know that he is meant to be in the Open class and he will get his Open title.

My journey with Gambit has been nothing less that brilliant. He has shown me that even though he knows the exercises or tricks he will always do his own thing an even tell me in no uncertain way what he is going to do. Love him to the moon and back

Thanks - *Wendy Ganly*



### MY ANNIVERSARY TRIALS

I first joined the Club in April of 1989 with a Border Collie cross who was a bit of a problem and very energetic. Sasha and I enjoyed Class and after a very short time, our Instructor, Charlie Bartolo, brought me the forms to join Victorian Canine Association (now Dogs Victoria) so that I could Trial Sasha. She ended her career as Sasha Convery CDX and took part in the Club's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Obedience Trial.

Then two Golden Retrievers entered my life, Toby and Brodie, and both took part in Obedience Trials including the Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Obedience Trial.

Then along came two other Golden Retrievers, Mason and Rookie. Rookie is more of a social butterfly, but Mason has excelled in various discipline including Obedience, Agility, Retrieving, Rally O and NADAC Agility and took part in the recent 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Trial of the Club. He has been an absolute pleasure to work with and has an incredible list of Titles.

Along the way I have met some amazing people and their dogs and would thoroughly recommend Trialling to any of our Members. Ask your Instructor or the Office for the details of how to go about it.

Best wishes – Janelle Convery



**4 Paws**

## **Puppy Pre School**

**Educate & Socialize Puppy's 8-16 Weeks**



**Christine Jagtenberg 0438 414 917**

National Dog Trainers Federation (NDTF) Trained Instructor.



## **Paws2Listen™**

**Dog Listener training** at home, for all anti-social behaviours that current training isn't resolving OR for improved performance in your chosen dog sport.

Learn **Canine Communication** and find out what your dog is *really* telling you. Use it to remove the stresses that cause excessive barking, aggression towards people or other dogs, boundary running, fear and shyness, food issues, obsessions, escaping, running away, separation anxiety and anything else your dog has thought up!

A **One-2-One Consultation** takes 2-4 hours, and ongoing support, by phone and email is for *life*. There are no ongoing charges.

**Who makes DECISIONS?**

**Who PROTECTS?**

**Who PROVIDES?**

**Who LEADS?**

**Is it always YOU?**

**Heather Miller** JFIDL Accredited

**0418 790 450**

[pawstolisten@gmail.com](mailto:pawstolisten@gmail.com)



**The Life of the Owner of a Reactive Dog**  
**Celia Bourne , Bristol, United Kingdom. Posted on Facebook 9 July 2014**  
**Friends of Southglos Strays**

To all dog owners who have nice, friendly, sociable, unreactive dogs that love everybody and everything and want to be friends with all the dogs and people around. We, reactive dog owners, would like you to take a minute and read this, and understand what it is like for us to walk our dogs out and about.

To the dog owner who said to me “my dog is friendly and only wants to say hello” as your dog is running towards my reactive, fearful dog: it really doesn’t matter how friendly your dog is. Mine isn’t. My dog is terrified of other dogs (because he’s been attacked before or hasn’t been socialized as a pup and never learnt to interact properly), no matter how friendly they are. If your dog runs up to mine, my dog will most definitely have a go at him, no matter how much I will try to avoid it, and it will destroy all the hard work I’ve put into rehabilitating my dog and teaching him that he doesn’t have to react, but it will also be a very bad experience for your young and friendly dog. Yes, being told off is sometimes useful for young, inexperienced dogs, but being told off by a confident adult who has had enough of your pup’s jumping around, and my terrified, reactive dog are two very different things. Nobody benefits from this situation, so please, call your dog away.

To the dog owner who scowled at me when I politely asked him to call his dog away – I genuinely don’t mean to be rude to you or your dog. I’m trying to protect my dog, make sure his behaviour rehabilitation is successful, but I’m also doing it in your dog’s best interest. Being bitten or growled at is not something you want your dog to experience, and I’m just trying to make sure we can both prevent it.

To the dog owner who said to me that it was their right to have their dog off lead and let him approach any dog he wants – I’m afraid it’s not true. You need to have your dog under control – so either on lead or be able to call him away, otherwise you are not able to prevent him from running up to not only dogs, but also other people (including small children and those who are afraid of or don’t like dogs), cyclists, joggers and others who do not appreciate your dog’s company. Also remember that there are a lot of dogs being walked on lead not because they are reactive, but because they are ill or recovering from illness or surgery, and there are also assistance dogs that are working to make sure their humans are safe – remember that according to the newest legislation if your dog injures an assistance dog, you are liable. So if you see a dog being walked on lead, make sure you have your dog under proper control and don’t allow him to run up to on lead dogs, unless the other owner is happy for him to do so.

To the dog owners with their dog on an extendable or short lead who walks up to other on-lead dogs for their dog to “say hello” – again, sometimes it might be absolutely fine to do so, but DO ASK FIRST. Dogs on lead have a limited opportunity to use their body language properly when greeting other dogs and may feel trapped when unable to move away – even very friendly dogs can find this situation very uncomfortable. If the leads get tangled up and the dogs end up very close to each other and unable to move away, a fight is almost imminent. Don’t risk it.

To the dog owner who said we shouldn’t be walking our dogs as they are reactive, how else would you like us to exercise our dogs? We can assure you we choose the time to walk our dogs carefully – never during school runs or right after everybody comes back home from work; we choose secluded places and don’t take advantage of the lovely dog walking areas you have at your disposal; we pretty much never venture out during the day on Saturdays and Sundays, and either get up ridiculously early in the morning or walk very late at night to avoid bumping into hundreds of dogs and owners enjoying their weekend walkies. We genuinely do our best not to put our dogs and other people’s dogs into difficult situations. But we do have to get our dogs exercised, and if we

want to rehabilitate our dogs, we need to encounter some dogs at a distance too, and sometimes it is when you are out with your very friendly dog, too. All we need is a bit of understanding and space for us to pass with our dog so he doesn't react to yours. So please, put your dog back on lead for a minute.

*And finally, to the lovely dog owners who call their dogs back for us and put them on lead as we walk past trying to keep our dog's focus on us as much as we can. Thank you for your understanding and for not looking at us disapprovingly.*

We are trying our best to make our dogs' lives better, we spend endless hours watching dogs at a distance, following behaviour modification programmes, taking tiny steps forward, and sometimes crying over steps back. It isn't easy, and sometimes we would do anything for our dogs to just stop being "silly" and become sociable butterflies like other dogs are. But life's not always that simple, and we love our dogs and want to help them. So thank you for helping us, too.



### LIBRARY NEWS

I am reviewing the Hubble & Hattie Imprint, [a subsidiary of Veloce Publishing Ltd] dog books. The following have been borrowed through interlibrary loan – so you can access them through Geelong Library. The Publishers will be sending me other titles to review and these will become part of the collection of our own library at Geelong Obedience Dog Club.

The books are sturdily bound, printed on high quality paper and lavishly illustrated. Their comfortable size and weight make them ideal gifts to post – especially for friends and family overseas. Booktopia does not charge postage for Australian purchasers. Readings is also another reliable, Australian owned email order bookshop.

If you are connected to school age children – you may like to recommend or donate to a school library.

As Geelong is a 'stand alone' library you may like to request that your library purchase a copy of its own for all dog club members to borrow direct. As I live in Bacchus Marsh I belong to the local – Lerderderg Library which is a member of the Swift Consortium. All my inter-library loans are free. Hubble & Hattie Series. This imprint was launched in 2009 and "is named in memory of two very special Westies owned by Velove's proprietors." Pressure your library to buy them – or succumb to temptation and indulge yourself by having them in your own bookcase. The ideal gift for doggie friends!

\* Blenski, Christiane, Dog speak. Recognising and understanding behaviour. Veloce Publishing Ltd: Poundbury Dorset U.K., 2012. Profusely illustrated, the introduction Dog Speak, Quick Translator sets the tone for this professionally produced succinctly written manual. Sections:

1. the polite dog – about how dogs appease one another and play according to rules.
2. the aggressive dog – signs to be wary of.
3. The talking dog – how dogs use their whole bodies to express themselves.

Colourful, appropriate illustrations abound in this tiny manual of canine wisdom.

An ideal gift for ages 10 – 100! Especially for new dog owners!

Excellent for School Libraries – Upper Primary to Senior Secondary. Dog Club Libraries.

Order through [www.booktopia.com.au](http://www.booktopia.com.au)

\*Paton-Ayre, Helena, *Dinner with Rover*. Delicious, nutritious recipes for you and your dog to share. Photographer Iain Paton-Ayre. Guest Food Photographer Daly Martin. Veloce Publishing Ltd: Poundbury, Dorset, U.K. 2010.

An abundantly, colorfully illustrated recipe book brimming with meals human may concoct, serve and share with their dogs. Dr. Peter Coleshaw BVSc., MRCVS in his foreward actively promotes natural feeding for dogs, but believes if humans share nutritious home prepared meals with their dogs 'they can't go far wrong'!

*Dinner with Rover* contains breakfast menus, meaty and vegetarian main courses, mouth-watering treats and food for festive occasions.

Each recipe clearly indicates what ingredients are for Rover and what are for Humans Only! Leave It! P.101ff. Lists foods toxic to Rover.

Bone Dry! P.110ff Advises on ways to replace 'industrial dog fuel' with practical, healthy and economical meals for Rover.

All recipes are depicted by superb photos. The text is also interspersed with delightful shots of canine diners.

A special Christmas gift for gourmets and their canine table guests.

Recommended for Secondary School Libraries. Dog Club Libraries.

Order through [www.booktopia.com.au](http://www.booktopia.com.au)

\*Roberston, Julia, *The complete dog massage manual*. Gentle dog care. Photographers Marc Henrie & Henry Robertson.. Veloce Publishing Ltd: Poundbury, Dorset, U.K., 2010

Ch. 1. *How the Dog Works* is a profusely illustrated, easy to follow introduction to Canine Anatomy and Physiology. Use of explicit diagrams and charts enhances learning for the novice masseur and provides excellent revision for the experienced.

The chapters specifically addressing how massage works, techniques to use, muscular health and repair provide in-depth easy to digest information for the student of canine massage.

Illustrations, photographs, charts and the accompanying text reflect not only the expertise of the author, but her ability to communicate information clearly and effectively.

Julia Robertson is an expert in Galen therapy who specializes in Canine Myotherapy. She is responsible for the development of courses ranging from workshops to accredited Diploma Courses in Canine Massage. Julia is a regular monthly feature writer for *The Dog World*. Visit her website: [www.caninetherapy.co.uk](http://www.caninetherapy.co.uk)

A wonderful gift for aspiring veterinarians, canine masseurs and those competing in conformation shows or canine sports.

Highly recommended for Secondary School Libraries as an adjunct to a biology collection or a career guide for senior students. A must have for Dog Club Libraries.

Order through [www.booktopia.com.au](http://www.booktopia.com.au)

\*O'Meara, Ryan, *Clever dog. Life lessons from the world's most successful animal.* Veloce Publishing Ltd., Dorset, U.K., 2011.

The Preface and Introduction set the pace and tone for this delightfully illustrated romp through dogdom. *Clever Dog* is a lesson compendium which examines how he became man's best friend and 'how we might emulate his talents in order to enjoy the same success in our lives.'

Ryan O'Meara's masterful prose keeps the reader entranced, entertained and enthralled. It is a book to browse, to devour and to share. His doggie anecdotes will be hijacked by Story Tellers to impress friends and colleagues.

Ryan O'Meara is a World Animal Day ambassador who has worked with over 2,000 dogs. He is the publisher of K9 Magazine. Visit his website [www.k9magazine.com](http://www.k9magazine.com)

The perfect gift for dog owners and Story Tellers. The ultimate book award for the high achiever Buy it – but don't lend it – it most probably will NOT come back.

Highly recommended for Upper Primary, Secondary School and Dog Club Libraries.

Order through [www.booktopia.com.au](http://www.booktopia.com.au)

**Robyn Youl – Librarian**



## **What is an Obedience Title, Really\*\* by Sandy Mowery of Highland, Wis.\***

\*Not just a brag, not just a stepping-stone to a higher title, not just an adjunct to competitive scores, a title is a tribute to the dog that bears it, a way to honour the dog, an ultimate memorial. It will remain, in record and in memory, for about as long as anything in this world can remain. Few humans will do as well or better.\*

\*And though the dog itself doesn't know or care that its achievements have been noted, a title says many things in the world of humans, where such things count. A title says your dog was intelligent and adaptable and good-natured. It says that your dog loved you enough to do the things that pleased you however crazy they may have sometimes seemed.\*

\*And a title says that you loved your dog, that you loved to spend time with it because it was a good dog, that you believed in it enough to give it yet another chance when it failed, and that, in the end, your faith was justified. A title proves your dog inspired you to that special relationship enjoyed by so few; that in a world of disposable creatures, this dog with a title was greatly loved and loved greatly in return.\*

\*And when that dear, short life is over, the title remains as a memorial of the finest kind, the best you can give to a deserving friend, volumes of praise in one small set of initials after the name. An obedience title is nothing less than love and respect given and received and permanently recorded.

\*

## SOME TIPS FOR THE NOVICE TRIALER

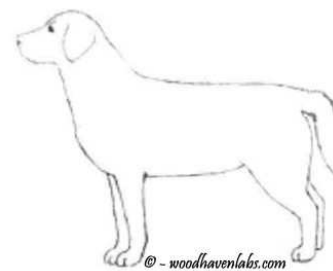
- Get yourself a copy of the Rules which is a valuable tool for the handler. Read the glossary and the exercises in your relevant class. By doing this you will learn to understand what is expected of you and what the judge will be looking for, and where he/she will be deducting the points from you.
- The minimum length of your lead must be 750mm and although there is no maximum length stated in the rule book, consider this; long leads can be awkward to use and frequently get in the way when trying to give signals and particularly when doing left about turns. Consider using a lead 800mm to 1 meter long.
- Make sure that the only exhibit number that you are displaying is the one relevant to the ring you are going in to, and if you are in another ring you must notify the ring stewards.
- Make sure you take the time to toilet your dog before entering the ring. A ten point penalty is incurred for every mishap whilst you are being judged.
- When you enter the ring you are under the control of the Judge and can incur penalties for misbehaviour such as corrections and physical placement of your dog at the start peg. Heeling your dog up to the starting post and giving it a quick flick of the correction collar to get its attention will also get the attention of the judge who will most likely hit you with a penalty for misbehaviour. Apart from the penalty incurred from the judge what does your dog learn if it walks up to the start peg and gets a correction for no reason? It won't be long before your dog resents going into the ring. A dog's experience whilst in the ring should be pleasurable if you wish to obtain optimum performance.
- You are allowed to tell your dog to '*heel*' when moving off from a stationary position but not while you are moving. Telling your dog to '*heel*' whilst you are in motion to try and stop it from lagging will incur a deduction. In fact any additional commands/gestures or noises from the handler such as slapping the side of your leg will incur a deduction.
- Do you really need to use your dog's name when calling it for the recall? Remember that if you use your dog's name prior to the command to '*come*' that there must be a distinct gap between the dog's name and the command to '*Come*'. Failing to do so will incur a deduction, and if your dog comes on its name and before you command it to come, you will receive a nice round figure for that exercise - zero
- Concentrate on where you are going. You need to walk in straight lines and execute neat 90 and 180 degree turns. Try using your peripheral vision to see where the ring ropes are. This will aid you to walk straight.
- Do not adapt your pace to suit your dog. If your dog is lagging and you slow down to compensate for it you will lose more than 50% of your marks and cannot qualify. Likewise if your dog is forging ahead and you increase your pace to keep up with it you will also suffer the same deduction. By adapting your pace to that of your dog you are teaching your dog nothing but bad habits.
- Try to relax and enjoy your experience in the ring. Remember that dog's are very perceptive and will pick up on your nerves. Judges are not 'Ogres' and would love to give everyone a pass card. However they have to be fair and treat every exhibitor equally and deduct points as necessary to ensure the fairness of judging for all competitors. Most judges will gladly give you a few tips if you ask. And finally if you have a query about your score ask the judge immediately because they will forget if you leave it until later. Good luck to you all and remember if you don't get a pass this time – there's always next time. Eric Booth

## Cold Tail, Dead Tail, Limber Tail

### What Is Limber Tail Syndrome?

Limber tail syndrome and "cold water tail" while known to those who work with hunting dogs, may not be familiar to veterinarians. It is most often seen in working breeds like English Pointers, English Setters, Foxhounds, Beagles, and Labrador Retrievers. Ages of affected dogs range from 0.5-9 years old. In English Pointers the most frequent age of onset is reported to be 2 years old.

Typically the presentation is a young adult dog with an acutely flaccid tail that hangs down from the tail base or is held horizontally for 3-4 inches and then drops down. (dog on right) The tail remains in this position even when the dog moves about.



The puppy on the left does not have cold tail. Some dogs which have nice otter tails hold their tail like this while they are standing at rest. The minute they start to move, the tail comes back up to a normal position. Totally different than the dog which has "cold tail".

This is an actual picture of a dog with cold tail. You can see how the tail is clamped to the body.



Photo courtesy of [David Larsen](#)

Pain may be seen on palpation of the tail base and some owners report that the dog seems uncomfortable and painful. The best thing to do is leave the tail alone.

Rest is recommended. Complete recovery is usually seen by 2 weeks and often occurs within a few days although it recurs later during training in 1/3 of the cases. Some owners and trainers feel that anti-inflammatory drugs shorten the recovery time if given when the condition is first seen. You might also use warm packs at the base of the tail which will help the relief of pain.

The cause of limber tail is not known although it is thought to be associated with hard workouts (especially in underconditioned dogs), heavy hunting, and swimming or bathing in water that is too cold or too warm. Some owners reported that they grab the tail as a means of correction. Tail conformation (high set or very active), gender (males more frequently affected), and nutritional factors have also been suggested as possible causes. Ongoing studies suggest that limber tail is associated with muscle damage in the tail with dogs examined early in showing elevated muscle enzymes eg., creatine phosphokinase.

Links to other information on cold tail:

[www.woodhavenlabs.com/limbertail.html](http://www.woodhavenlabs.com/limbertail.html)

[www.working-retriever.com/library/cwtail.html](http://www.working-retriever.com/library/cwtail.html)

# NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

Nomination Forms are now available to nominate or be nominated for the Committee positions as listed below. All Committee positions become vacant at the Annual General Meeting and those current Committee Members wishing to re-stand must nominate again.

Nominations close on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Nomination forms must be completed correctly (one position per form) and placed in the ballot box in the Clubrooms prior to the closing date

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1 x President

2 x Vice Presidents

1 x Secretary

1 x Treasurer

1 x Trial Secretary/Assistant Secretary

(Executive Committee Members must be Members of Dogs Victoria. If you wish to stand for one of these positions, but are not a Dogs Victoria Member, there is provision for the Club to pay your Dogs Victoria Membership Fees)

## GENERAL COMMITTEE

There are seven (7) General Committee vacancies for which you can nominate, but at the first Meeting of the new Committee each of those Members must be prepared to accept one of the following positions

Canteen Manager

Hall Manager

Publicity Officer

Social Secretary

Grounds Manager

Shop Manager

Equipment Manager/Assistant Grounds Manager

## NON-COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Nominations are also called for the following Non-Committee positions. If you wish to nominate for any of the following positions, please use the Nomination Form provided and place the completed form in the Ballot Box in the Clubrooms. Nominations close for ALL positions on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

Librarian

Assistant Librarian

Display Team Leader

Newsletter Editor

Raffle Steward

Training Supervisor

Web Master

Minutes Secretary

Membership Officer

## LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS

Nominations are also called for Life Membership of the Club. If there is someone you think is worthy of Life Membership who meets the criteria, write a brief resume and hand it, in a sealed envelope addressed to, "The Chairperson, Life Membership Sub-Committee", to the Secretary no later than Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2014

**Life Membership Criteria** – 'any person, after a period of 5 years continuous Membership, may be appointed as a Life Member of the Club in recognition of services rendered to the Club. However, under exceptional circumstances the 5-year period may be waived'.

# Nomination Form

---

---

## Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc Nomination Form

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

VCA Membership No  
(where applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded \_\_\_\_\_

---

## Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc Nomination Form

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

VCA Membership No  
(where applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded \_\_\_\_\_

---

## Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc Nomination Form

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

VCA Membership No  
(where applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded \_\_\_\_\_

---

## Geelong Obedience Dog Club Inc Nomination Form

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

VCA Membership No  
(where applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded \_\_\_\_\_

---

Members can complete one or all of the above nomination forms, but remember if they are not filled in completely they will be invalid. Please use a separate nomination for each position. Nomination forms are to be placed in the Ballot box no later than 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.