

# Titahi Bay Canine Obedience Club



## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



*Tramp and Leo*

Editor: Jenny Rutherford  
Email: [jenny.rutherford@ccdhb.org.nz](mailto:jenny.rutherford@ccdhb.org.nz)  
Phone: 04 918 5051 (w) or 027 276 8232  
Fax: 04 385 5360

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*Cover photo – Tramp (on left) is Leo's (on right) friend. They are just having a rest after playing for ages. Leo belongs to Lisa. Leo is an 18 month old Kelpie cross. Lisa has been part of our competition classes this year and has recently graduated to the Senior Competition class.*

*Leo loves to play fetch, tug of war and loves any kind of food. He is from the SPCA*

## Committee Stuff

### Ways of increasing instructors and membership

If any members have any ideas on how we can do this please approach one of the committee members listed above.

### Life Members Board

Quotes are currently being obtained to complete this task. I think this has been in the newsletter long enough. I wonder when those quotes are going to be ready?????

### Canine Good Citizen Award

This is now completed and should be running well next year. Thanks to everyone who were involved in getting this project up and running and to those who will continue to keep this working well in the future.

### Club maintenance

Doesn't the clubrooms look stunning. What a great job. As this is the last newsletter before Christmas I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped with club maintenance. Whether it be planting a tree, trimming the hedges, replacing the broken poo buckets, helping to organise people to fix things or simply keeping an eye on what needs to be done and letting the committee know about it. I would however not like to thank our visiting rats that plagued the clubrooms for a good part of winter despite the efforts of many of our members and kept me occupied taking phone calls about them.

Over the Christmas break please keep an eye on the clubrooms. If you notice any damage please do not hesitate to contact me. I will be working over most of Christmas so you can either call me at work or at home. My contact details are on the front cover of this newsletter.

## Porirua City Dog Control Bylaws

Did you know!!!!

### 1. BYLAWS

Council has prepared bylaws under s20 of the Dog Control Act 1996 for the following purposes:

- (a) Prohibiting dogs, whether under control or not, from specified public places.
- (b) Requiring dogs, other than working dogs, to be controlled on a leash in specified public places, or in public places, specified areas or parts of the district.
- (c) Regulating and controlling dogs in any other public place.
- (d) Designating specified areas as dog exercise areas.
- (e) Limiting the number of dogs that may be kept on any land or premises.
- (f) Requiring dogs in its district to be tied up or otherwise confined during a specified period commencing not earlier than half an hour after sunset, and ending not later than half an hour before sunrise.
- (g) Requiring the owner of any dog that defecates in a public place or on land or premises other than that occupied by the owner to immediately remove the faeces.
- (h) Requiring any bitch to be confined but adequately exercised while in season.
- (i) Providing for the impounding of dogs, whether or not they are wearing a collar having the proper label or disc attached, that are found at large in breach of any bylaw made by the territorial authority under this or any other Act.
- (j) Requiring the owner of any dog (being a dog that on a number of occasions, has not been kept under control) to cause that dog to be neutered (whether or not the owner of the dog has been convicted of an offence against section 53 of this Act).

## Christmas Party



**Date: Sunday 23 November**

**Venue: Club Grounds - Ngatitoa Domain**

**Time: 11 am start**

The Christmas party will be held the first Sunday following our last graduation for 2003 which is on 18 November 2003. This is a great opportunity to enjoy the benefits of the hard work that you have put in over the year and enjoy a day out with your canine friend. Cancellation date is set for 7 December.

Programme:

1100 – Games

1230 – BBQ lunch – **please bring a salad or dessert**

1245 – dog demonstration (Titahi Bay Dog Obedience Club)

1300 – Parade – Fancy Dress Dog – Christmas Theme & Best Trick Competition

These are approximate times.

## Christmas Training

There will be Summer Classes available this year. Training nights are set out below. As you can see we still need instructors. There is a two week period over Christmas when we will not be holding classes.

Date	Instructors
9 December	
16 December	Jenny Rutherford/

6 January	Jenny Rutherford/
13 January	
20 January	

The cost is \$5 per session. Please bring on the night of training. Training commences at 6.30. All grades are welcome (except puppy class). Two instructors will be available on each training night and the class will be split appropriately. You need to contact Mandy Starling if you are interested in attending Summer Classes as we need an estimate of people interested in attending.

## History

These articles were again taken from a booklet called "Obedience Incorporating" put out as part of the NZ Kennel Gazette in August 1988. I liked these articles because I thought they showed a different side to the dog obedience sport. Both of the authors of these articles were happy for them to be reprinted in our newsletter.

### **Remember – It's Only A Hobby**

By John Muir

As the Chairperson of the NZ Kennel Club Obedience Committee, it is my privilege to give you a short introduction to this unique Obedience Supplement.

Obedience within New Zealand has steadily progressed since its introduction in the 1950's and now consists of 43 Associated All Breed Societies, 16 Associated Special Breed Clubs, 4 Recognised Obedience Clubs, 2 Recognised Trials Clubs, 3 Recognised Agility Clubs (23 obedience clubs also approved for Agility training) – 68 Clubs in total.

Obedience Clubs are not just there to train dogs and handlers for competitive obedience, but do an excellent job for local bodies in teaching the domestic dog owners basic control of their chosen pet (sometimes the reverse occurs), in fact this is a major part of the clubs work and many lasting friendships eventuate from simply taking one's dog to obedience training.

Unlike a few professional organisations that have recently emerged, the New Zealand Kennel Club clubs are not expensive to join and offer true rewards for those that treat it as a sporting interest.

I feel sure the articles herein will enlighten the reader in the different aspects of obedience work and variations thereof. Training your dog, whether it be obedience, working trials or agility, develops a real bond between handler and canine.

Obedience in New Zealand is administered on behalf of the New Zealand Kennel Club by the Obedience Committee, who meet twice a year at NZKC Headquarters, Porirua. The Obedience Committee consists of a Zone Representative from each of the five Zones and a Chairperson, who has a seat on the Executive Council. The New Zealand Kennel Club's Director/Secretary acts as Secretary of the Obedience Committee. Zone Representatives are elected annually by the clubs within each Zone and they administer obedience matters within their Zone, they also have to attend Annual Conferences and are responsible for the National Dog Obedience Assembly when hosted by their Zone. Club support is vital to enable Zone Representatives to effectively perform their time consuming duties.

Introduced in 1966, the Rover National Dog Obedience Assembly, held every Labour Weekend, is to Obedience as the Tux National Dog Show at Porirua, is to Breed. Hosted by a different Zone each year, new and old members make and renew friendships in a busy weekend of competitions (not only canine competitions), socialising and culminating with the tense Inter-Zone Competition.

What of the future? Maybe we might see our obedience dogs compete against our United Kingdom counterparts, or closer to home, perhaps Trans-Tasman Agility competitions. Whatever, obedience in its many forms is here to stay.

There is a saying that 'a dog is man's best friend', so:

When you dog presents the dumbbell to the judge  
 Brings back the hot scent cloth again  
 Goes deaf in Distance Control  
 Finds a rabbit's scent more interesting than a human's track

Piddles in the Bendy Tunnel ...

‘Remember – It’s only a hobby’

### **Obedience People – Barry Monaghan**

May I start with explaining why I have been involved in dog obedience since 1961. It all started out by accident I brought a German Shepherd pup that year, and following good advice contacted the local specialist club in my area and turned up at the training venue one Sunday morning, full of enthusiasm, to learn how to train my new friend, only to be advised that at four months of age she was a little young and to come back next year.

This I did, and from there on it all started to happen. I found the doggie people to be very warm and friendly, and that once the show was over, the inquest was just as exciting, either gathering at someone’s house, or adjourning to the nearest licensed premises, to sort out the whys and wherefores, etc.

I would point out that in the sixties, the cost of travel was considerably less than the present day, this only added to the desire to further one’s experience; plus the many contacts that were made, meant the offer of being billeted, kept costs down. We would reciprocate when ‘out-of-towners’ visited us. As can be expected, during the course of many of these excursions, we would experience mechanical breakdowns with vehicles etc, but there was always a friendly helping hand to ensure that you made it home safely.

During the late 60’s and early 70’s, I experienced some personal difficulties and it was then that I discovered what genuine friendship was all about, and my doggie (dog club) friends became even closer friends. Some have since died, whilst others of that era, who are still involved, have my lifelong gratitude. One of the rarest and funny incidents I well remember, was in the mid 1960’s, when Wellington was experiencing a ‘Wahine’ type storm, and motorists were warned against travelling north of Wellington. However, undeterred, I set out for the A & P Show at Palmerston North, one passenger and two dogs in the back seat of the car. On the way north the weather deteriorated, and I was entered in Test B for a 6.00 pm start. The A & P Committee decided to cancel the rest of the day’s programme! Now we all know that Championship Shows can’t just be cancelled as simply as that! Now comes the funny part, and my good friend Andy Dickson, can corroborate what followed, and I think it was Andy acting as ‘spokesman’, approached the A & P Committee and advised them that we hadn’t come that far to have our event cancelled, so we had the entire A & P evening venue to ourselves, with my bitch, ‘Flash’ winning the event!

Back to the original subject of people. In the course of employment, I moved about the North Island extensively and in most centres, where there is an obedience club, I usually make myself known, or just turn up unexpectedly, and I have always been given a very warm reception. It is good to observe how other clubs function.

In conclusion I have two comments to make. It has often been said that obedience in the ‘old days’ was easy by today’s standards. Oh, how wrong those comments are. It has never been easy at the top and handlers with up to five dogs in Test C then was common, and good dogs and handlers are there to be beaten. Finally, as in all hobbies and sports, we have a very minor number of ‘knockers’. These folk, no matter what happens, manage to find some type of ‘trivia’ to moan about. I say to them, don’t be a ‘critic’ be a ‘contributor’, it could be a new experience.

It is my wish to be involved in the ‘Dog Obedience’ fraternity for many years to come.

*I received this comment regarding the article in the September newsletter:*

*“Excellent, interesting newsletter. The person mentioned in the "news from the past" article whose barrow of cement ran away with her was me!!! - Pat Munro”*

## **Member Profile – Amanda Chandler**

### **1. How did you first get started in dog obedience? (What was the dog's name and which club did you start with).**

I was introduced to TBCOC through Mandy about 5 years ago with my first dog Bridee, who is a lovely little challenging Staffy x. Bridee was a challenge but she is a great dog, she finally won a Special Beginners Championship at Upper Hutt 2 years ago, which I am so proud of (thanks to Angelique who put a lot of work

into both of us!!). I gave up obedience with Bridee for two reasons, she didn't enjoy it and I was getting too frustrated with her.

2. Do you remember your first competitions? How did they go?

My first competition was at the Avalon Ribbon Trial, Bridee was about 8 months old, only went along to watch but ended up entering, I knew nothing but really enjoyed my first time in the ring. Funnily enough she broke her stays, which continued throughout the next 3 years of competing with her!! She one her Elementary classes the next couple of shows after that.

3. Do you still get nervous before you compete?

Some shows I still do especially the Nationals or NDTA's, only because more people tend to watch and my dogs have a tendency to act like I have never ever trained them before and it can be a little embarrassing! However, I think my attitude has changed of late and I probably don't get worked up like I used to, I thought what's the point of doing this unless I enjoy it and my dogs enjoy it.

4. How many dogs have you trained? What other pets do you have at home?

Bridee is now retired (at the early age of 4, she is 5 now) and I am now training Buzz who is a 2 year old Farm Beardie, who presents numerous challenges but is heaps of fun (actually he is an absolute clown !!). I also have 2 cats at home Bailee and Spice who I have been competing at cat shows with and I tell you I have now worked out where the term "catty" come from, the cats are great, the people are, well I suppose you can say "INTERESTING"?

5. What is the most memorable event that you have ever been involved with in dog obedience?

Probably the NDTA's have been the best, Christchurch NDTA certainly stands out as one of the best, Jenny Rutherford and I headed down there for 5 days and I had a fantastic time, well from what I can remember we did anyway!!

6. Besides competing do you see any benefits in taking your dog to obedience school? Can you think of any specific situations that this has helped either you or your dogs in every day life or in a special way?

There are huge benefits to taking your dog to Obedience school, the early months of socialising was a huge benefit to Bridee, although these days she is a little grumpy, she still has a lot of dogs she really gets on with. If I had not done this to begin with I think I would have a right little terror on my hands (even tho sometimes I think I do). I also wish that I had done a lot more with Buzz at TBCOC, however you can't turn back time and hopefully I will be around more often with him, as he certainly needs the distraction training and certainly needs more stay training!!!!

7. What do you dislike to see people doing when they are training their dogs?

Well that's a hard one, there are lots of things that I don't like seeing, the worst thing would be physical abuse of the dog, I really get upset when I see this going on, I know that everyone loses it from time to time but what I had to learn is that why punish the dog for something he didn't really understand in the first place (some of the time I don't understand either!!). I have had to learn a lot of patience with Buzz and that can be really hard sometimes, if I am training him and start getting frustrated, I put him away and get him out again later on. However, abuse is something that I can't remember seeing at TBCOC training nights which is a good thing!!

8. Do you or have you ever been involved in any of the other dog world disciplines?

Tried agility for a little while, but enjoyed obedience more!!

9. What are your future plans? What direction do you hope Titahi Bay Canine Obedience Club takes?

Hope to still compete with Buzz for the while, depending on whether he learns to stay or not?! I hope that TBCOC continues getting the support from instructors and members, without them there would be no TBCOC. Not that I have been around a lot lately, but I think that TBCOC committee is doing a fantastic job, they are getting stuck into all the things that need doing, things we talked about doing for the last few years. Good on you committee, keep up the good work!!! I also think the club has been great of late in getting new people into competing, it's the best amount of newcomers we have had competing for a few years now!



## **NDTA 2003**

NDTA (National Dog Training Assembly) – Well this truly is the dog obedience show of the year. It is the nationals not only for obedience but also agility and trials.

This year (as it is every year) the NDTA was held over labour weekend 24 – 27 October at Palmerston North. Every year the NDTA is held in a different Zone. This year it was Zone 3's year to host the event. For those of you who are new to the sport Zone 3 is YOUR Zone. Next year the Assembly will be held in Timaru.

# Titahi Bay Canine Obedience Club



## 25th Anniversary Shield

### Most Improved Handler

## Nomination Form – Shield to be presented at TBCOC's 2004 AGM

I would like to nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
(Handlers name and dog or dogs name)

Because: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

You will find a box in the clubrooms in which to put your nominations.

## Competition

**Who is this?** (Clue: his name appears within the poem). For those who could not work it out the first letter of every line spelt out his name BOUNCE.

As there were no other entries for this competition the poem submitted in the September newsletter has been deemed the winning entry. Billy and Bounce have donated their prize back to the club. Maybe over the Christmas break someone can come up with something. The editor is prepared to extend the closing date for this competition until the end of the year 31 December. Please send me a story, poem – ANYTHING about your dog.

## Training

These tips come from a publication put out by Waimakariri Dog Obedience Club.

**COMING WHEN CALLED:** Always make coming to you a pleasant experience for your puppy. Start teaching the puppy to come by putting it on the lead. Call it to you and if it fails to respond, give the lead a gentle jerk to gain its attention, and then praise it as it is coming towards you. Do not call the puppy when you have no way of correcting it, as it will only learn the bad habit of ignoring you. Once it has got the idea on a short lead, then try it on a longer line. Reward the puppy when it comes to you no matter what has happened before.

**JUMPING UP:** It is most important that your puppy is **never** allowed to jump up at anyone. Always get down to its level when greeting it, and ensure that all four feet are on the ground before you pat or praise. Once again there are several methods, depending upon size of both you and your puppy. The strong command **NO**, must coincide with what ever method you decide to use. Don't use the command **down** if you intend to use this word for the down position. What you really want the dog to do, is to get off, not lay down.

1. When the puppy jumps up, hold onto the front paws until it resists strongly.
2. Knock the puppy off balance, using your knee as it jumps up.
3. Attach the lead to the puppy, and get someone to approach you. As the puppy jumps up, give a sharp jerk backwards using the lead.

*Editors comment: I thought the Jumping Up tip was really interesting as this is one of the most commonly asked questions I am asked when instructing.*

## Results and Shows

Really sorry guys. I didn't get time to get all the results. I will include them in the next newsletter which will be available in February.

## From the Editor

As this is our last newsletter for the year I thought I'd add all the pictures that I have received from club members. I hope you and you canine friends have a really good Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.



This is Finn. He is a 10month old shepherd/lab Finn and his handler, Lisa Carey are currently in of the obedience two courses at the Titahi Bay Canine Obedience Club.



Kaiser is a 2 year old male Rottweiler, who is very good at his visits he makes to schools teaching children to be "Dog Wise". Kaiser is handled by Mandy Starling.