

The Tararua Tailwagger

Newsletter of the Tararua Allbreeds Dog Training Club

Winter 2015

Volume 3, Number 3



What was hopefully the coldest and wettest term of the year is now over, and the days are getting longer again. For those of you returning next term, enjoy the week off and we will see you on August 11. For those who have achieved what they wanted with their dog, or want a short break, and won't be returning next term, we hope you enjoyed your training with the club. Remember to keep your dogs skills well practiced.

Your committee

President:	Anthea Finlayson
Vice President:	Sue Cooper
Secretary:	Cushla Fitzwater
Show Secretary:	Cushla Fitzwater
Treasurer:	Nerolie Morrison
Senior Instructor:	Robyn Bland
Club Captain:	Nicky Redwood
Newsletter Editor:	Sue Cooper
Trophy Steward:	Meredith Pitcher
Members:	Renee Dunbar Kristin Elliott Nathan Morrison Owen Morrison Chris Tews

Training tip

Dogs don't generalise well. This has implications for training. They may know the "sit" command perfectly well at home, for instance, but not obey at class or in the street. This does not mean they are stubborn or stupid, it just means that they don't recognise the command because the surroundings are different. Each command must be practised in a lot of different settings. Eventually the penny will drop – that "sit" *always* means "plant your butt on the ground", wherever you are.

Behaviour tip

Dogs are what is known as "social predators". This doesn't mean that they are snuggling up to you with the eventual aim of eating you! It does mean that they retain at least some of their ancestral predatory behaviours. It's what enables gundogs to point and/or retrieve, herding dogs to herd, and detector dogs to detect (all of which are based on parts of the predatory sequence of behaviours). It can also lead to problems if it is not properly controlled and the dog is not given acceptable outlets for this part of its behavioural repertoire. Breeds and individuals have different levels of predatory behaviour, and a part of it may be exaggerated deliberately by selection and other parts selected against (think Pointers, which have been bred to get "stuck" at the start of the sequence of "search; stalk; rush; chase; bite/hold/shake/kill; dissect and eat").

It's desirable to play games with your dog that will use up some of this predatory energy in an acceptable way, and strengthen the bond between you. You don't have to kill something! A game of fetch is fun for you both. Tug of war is also good provided the dog follows the rules – you start the game, you end the game. Hide toys or food around the house so he has to use his predatory skills to find them – especially good for occupying your dog while you are absent. And chew toys should always be available, to avoid valued possessions being used instead!

Term dates for 2015

Term 1 (at Ashhurst)
27/01/15 – 17/03/15

Term 2 (at Longburn)
07/04/15 – 26/05/15

Term 3 (at Longburn)
9/06/15 – 28/07/15

Term 4 (at Longburn)
11/08/15 – 29/09/15

Term 5 (at Ashhurst)
20/10/15 – 8/12/15

Location of training

In Ashhurst we train at the Manawatu Canine Centre grounds, accessed through the carpark on Cambridge Avenue

Our Longburn facility is in Ngaire Street (first turn on the right after the railway overbridge)

Class times

Classes times will be given out on the first night of term.

Classes last for 30-45 minutes.





Well another term has whizzed by. Thank you to our instructors who have braved the cold and sometimes wet weather this term to help our students train their dogs. It is also encouraging to see so many owners bring their dogs out in the cold and wet weather, so thank you.

With the shortest day behind us we can now look forward to getting more daylight at night. However in the meantime don't forget to make sure you and your dog/s can be seen when out walking.

This term our committee have again been busy with more planning for our August championship obedience and Rally O shows. Next term we will be looking for volunteers to help at the show in the kitchen and with setting up and packing down. We have also had a working bee to help keep the grounds under control. We have another one at 2pm on Saturday 15th August. If you are able to come along for an hour or so and help with keeping the courts maintained it would be appreciated.

Congratulations on those who passed their grading, and to those who didn't quite make it, never mind, look back with pride on how far in your training you and your dog have already come.

Next term starts on 11th August back here at Longburn. Please consider pre-enrolling for next term, either tonight before you leave or via our website. Have a chat to your instructor about what classes are available next term and what the next level classes involve.

As always, enjoy your dog.

Anthea

Upcoming Championship Shows

On the weekend of the 29th and 30th of August the club will be holding two Championship Obedience Tests and two Championship Rally-O Shows at the Manawatu Canine Centre grounds at Ashhurst. The Dominion Collie Club is also holding an Open Obedience Show on the Saturday afternoon. As you can imagine, this is a tremendous amount of work for any club, let alone a small one like ours. While a number of club members have worked hard to get all the planning done, there is still a lot to be done on the actual show days. We would really appreciate any help you can give, whether over the two days of the weekend, or only one day, or even a few hours. No special skills or knowledge of showing are required - just a willingness to get stuck in and give a hand where needed. If you can help, please speak to your instructor or a member of the committee.

Recent Competition Results

Club	Show*	Date	Handler	Dog	Test	Place
Wanganui	Ch	3/05/15	Robyn Bland	Lucas	Novice	1 st
Gisborne	Ch	30/05/15	Robyn Bland	Lucas	Novice	1 st
Avalon	Ch	14/06/15	Robyn Bland	Lucas	Novice	5 th
Titahi Bay	Ch	27/06/15	Anthea Finlayson	Hunter	Novice	5 th
Titahi Bay	Ch	28/06/15	Cushla Fitzwater	Bella	Novice	1 st
Titahi Bay	Ch	28/06/15	Anthea Finlayson	Hunter	Novice	3 rd
Benefit	Ch	11/07/15	Robyn Bland	Lucas	Test A	3 rd
Benefit	Ch	11/07/15	Robyn Bland	Lucas	Test A	1 st

* Ch = championship show, RT = Ribbon Trial

Congratulations to Cushla and her dogs Trade, Bella, Cassie and Jeopardy for their sledding successes – 1st in Autumn Burn and 1st in Sled Dog Derby in four dog rig.

Training the puppy – never too early



Last week Riley, a puppy I co-own with her breeder, came to stay for a few days. Riley is a Golden Retriever, “Speyside Gale Warning”, and is 11 weeks old. She had to fit in with my “pack” of older dogs (14 years, 10 years and 2 ½ years). Everyone had to be safe and feel included.

Tips for keeping harmony are:-

1. A dog crate in the living area gives a safe spot for the puppy to retreat to, a “time out” spot when needed, and a place for settled sleeping.
2. Separating the puppy at eating time gives her time to keep focussed on eating, as well as removing the risk of her getting into an older dog’s dinner bowl – and into trouble.
3. Establish routines as you expect them to be in the future; sleeping arrangements, travel position and expectations re furniture.
4. Make any “training sessions” short, simple and successful; as you are building future behaviours.
5. Make sure all the dogs get their share of attention and some time without the puppy intruding.

Riley is back with her breeder now – and we are missing her.

Happy training!

Meredith

Working bees

Many thanks to those who attended the working bee at our Longburn grounds on the 6th of June – Anthea, Chris, Kathryn, Nerolie, Owen, Stephanie, Sue. The grounds looked much tidier when we left, with some of the overgrown foliage removed and the weeds beaten back.

There is another working bee planned for Saturday August 15th, at 2pm. If you can attend to help it would be appreciated. Bring some gardening equipment if you can. These events only last 1 – 1½ hours (with an optional stop at the pub for a beer or soft drink afterwards), so it won’t take up much of your weekend

While all sorts of things can be used as training treats (cheese, cooked meat, dog sausage etc), sometimes its nice to have something a bit different and with ingredients you know – especially if your dog has allergies or a delicate tummy. Below are a couple of recipes you might like to try. The peanut butter treats are especially good for dogs with allergies – the egg can be left out if necessary although the biscuits will be more crumbly.

Liver cake

500g liver

1 cup wheatgerm

1 cup flour

4 eggs

Garlic

Process everything in a kitchen whizz until sloppy.

Spread on baking paper on a tray or meat dish. Bake

at 180°C for 20 minutes

Cool and cut into small pieces.

These should be frozen until needed.

Peanut butter cookies

100g smooth peanut butter

1 cup pumpkin puree

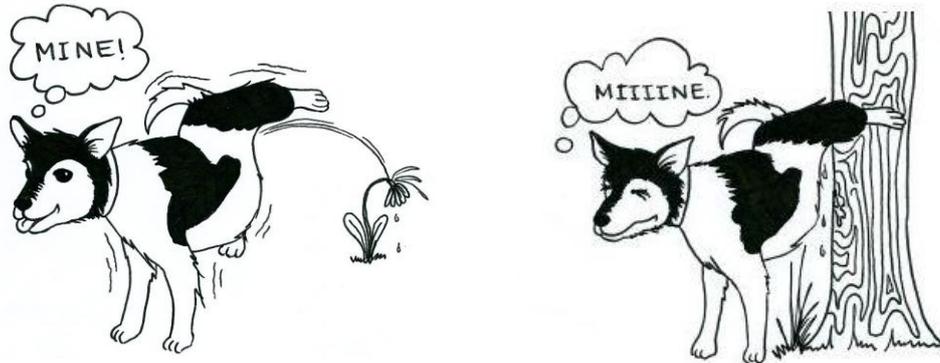
1 egg

Approximately 1 cup rice flour

Mix peanut butter, pumpkin and egg, then add enough rice flour to make a stiff dough. Roll into marble-sized balls, place on baking paper on a tray, and flatten to 2-3mm thick. Bake 10-15 minutes at 180°C, then reduce temperature to 100°C and dry biscuits for a further 30-45 minutes. Biscuits will keep in an airtight container.

"To his dog, every man is Napoleon; hence the constant popularity of dogs." -- Aldous Huxley

Now is the time of year when you realise how well-spent the time expended getting your dog used to having its feet and body handled in Basic was. Keep a towel by the door and wipe off the worst of the mud and mess before the dog comes inside.



Sometimes its not easy being a dog!

Advertisement

"SUPERIOR CHUNKY" PETFOOD ROLL 2.2KG **Original, Lamb and Rice, Chicken, Herb, Possyum 2kg**

- Provides twice the energy of conventional dog rolls, so feed half the amount
- Cost-effective and extremely palatable
- No added water means higher nutritional value per kilogram
- Convenient no mess feeding
- No refrigeration required



Frosts Facts

Hi. I'm Frost, and I live with the editor and make sure that she behaves herself and that my father Ice is kept in his place (Inca the cat is of course the ultimate household authority). I provide some useful information in each newsletter.

Its that time of year when its "out with the old (your green tag) and in with the new (yellow tag)". See how cute I look with my new yellow tag.

If your owner hasn't paid for your registration by July 31st they will be charged extra, so if you are still wearing green, tell them to hustle on down to the council office before Friday. If they don't register you, you could even end up in the pound, and you don't want that!

Contact details for the club:-

Website: www.dogtraining.org.nz For training enquiries, phone Nerolie on 027 616 3083 (after 5pm please)