

DOG TAILS



For dogs that dig the juiciest news

April 2008 Newsletter

Fred's Pass Positive Dog Training Club Inc

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2008 Committee

<u>President</u>	Sarah Baker	Ph:0417 773095
<u>Vice President</u>	Kellie O'Dea	Ph:0412 205872
<u>Treasurer</u>	Fiona Clarke	Ph:89832569
<u>Secretary</u>	Ray Clarke	Ph:89832569
<u>Committee Members:</u>		
	Karen Winzar	Tanya Reichstein
	Alexandria Bailey	

Training Times

OBEDIENCE (Tuesdays)

BEGINNERS	"Snoopy Class"	7.00pm
INTERMEDIATE	"Lady Class"	7.00pm
SOCIAL	"Tricks & Games"	7.15pm
PRE TRIAL		7.00pm
TRIAL		8.00pm

For more info please phone Jackie 8983 2561

TRAINING FEES \$5 first dog
 \$2 subsequent dog

AGILITY (Thursdays)

BEGINNERS/INTERMEDIATE	6.30pm
TRIALLERS	7.30pm

Our agility intake night for new dogs is the first Thursday of each month. Before attending please phone Fiona on 8983 2569.

TRAINING FEES \$5 per dog

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

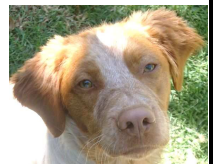
\$10 Single, \$15 Joint or \$20 Family per year

Presidents Welcome

Hi Everyone! Thank goodness the weather has started to dry up and this has been reflected through the numbers in attendance at our **Tuesday night training** classes. Our instructors have been kept busy with so many of you coming out with your beginner dogs, keen to learn the basics and have fun with your pooch at the same time. We hope that our Tuesday nights will only become more popular as the weather continues to improve. Don't forget that you can still pre-pay for 8 classes in advance for the cost of 7 (\$35 instead of \$40) On the 24th March we held a **Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser** outside their Palmerston store (see further in the newsletter for the full article). We had great success with 3 different crews rostered on throughout the day and overall we made about \$400 profit!! Good Going Everyone!! Speaking of fundraising, we also spent every Wednesday night in March selling raffle tickets at the **Casuarina Club's Trivia Night** and throughout the month made over \$800!! My sincere thanks goes out to my raffle ticket selling helpers Karen, Tanya, John and Kellie and also huge thanks to the Casuarina Club for giving us this fundraising opportunity. Gee...I can almost see our new shed materialising before my eyes!

April is a very important month for the club because it marks the start of our **obedience and agility trialling season**. We are holding our April trials over the Anzac Day weekend and our judge is Bill Patterson from Queensland. If you'd like to come and find out what competition Obedience or Agility is all about please see your instructor for further details. For those of you who are entered don't forget that entries close for our May trials on 26th April. See you there! 

Sarah & Cooper the Brittany



SPECIAL OFFER

Book in and pay for an 8-week entry level or intermediate class course and receive one week free!

That's 8 weeks for only \$35

Note: If training is cancelled due to rain that week will not be counted towards your 8 weeks

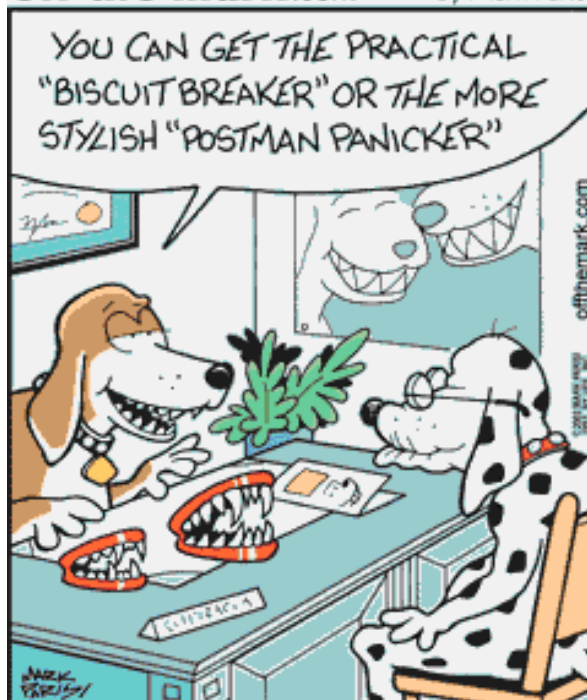
FUNDRAISING

Cadbury Chocolates

Do you or your work-mates enjoy a little pick-me-up when three-thirty-itis comes calling? Well, now you can get through the afternoon and help the club at the same time! Selling a box of delicious Cadbury Chocolates at your workplace is easy and provides vital fundraising dollars for the club. If you would like to help us out please contact Tanya on 0430 181 296.

NOTE Fred's Pass Positive Dog Training Club takes no responsibility for any weight gain experienced during this fundraising activity.

off the mark.com by Mark Paris



GARRARD'S
HORSE AND HOUND

Unit 2, 17 Benison Road, Winnellie
Phone Tanya on 8947 2856

BUNNINGS BBQ FUNDRAISER



On 24th March 2008 (Easter Monday) we held a BBQ Fundraiser at Bunnings Palmerston. We had a great day and the rain stayed away so it was a very successful event.

We couldn't have done it without the support of our loyal contingent of members who gave up time on their public holiday to help out.

My sincerest thanks to you all;

Ray, Fiona, Karen, Trevor, Ruth, Tanya, Gerard, Sarah, Sue, Natasha, Cele, Michael, Kellie, Pete and Ally.



The support from our members means a lot to the committee and we are all primed up for another successful fundraising year for 2008. Don't forget we have a similar fundraising BBQ pencilled in for 29th June outside Harvey Norman, so that should be another great day. And lastly, I also would like to thank Bunnings for their generosity in offering this fantastic opportunity to the club. 🐾

Up and Coming Events

APRIL 2008

- 17 Mock Agility Trial
- 20 Pet Expo – Marrara Indoor Stadium
- 26 Entries close for FP May trials
- 25 *Obedience Trial/Jumping Trial*
Fred's Pass Reserve
- 26 *Obedience Trial/Agility Trial*
Fred's Pass Reserve
- 27 *Agility Trial/Jumping Trial*
Fred's Pass Reserve

MAY 2008

- 13 No Tuesday Obedience Training due to FP Show
- 15 No Thursday Agility Training due to FP Show
- 16 *Obedience Trial/Jumping Trial*
Winnellie Showgrounds
- 17 *Agility Trial/Games Trial*
Winnellie Showgrounds
- 20 No Tuesday Obedience Training due to FP Show
- 23 Entries close for FP June trials
- 29 Mock Agility Trial

JUNE 2008

- 13 Entries close for Darwin Royal Show
- 13 *Agility Trial/Jumping Trial*
Fred's Pass Reserve
- 14 *Agility Trial/Jumping Trial*
Fred's Pass Reserve
- 20 Entries close for 12, 13 & 15 July FP trials
- 27 Entries close for 18 & 19 FP July trials
- 29 Harvey Norman Fundraising BBQ

This month Garrard's Recommends....

TROY HEMOPLEX PASTE

Is a Vitamin, Mineral, Amino Acid Supplement. It is a great booster for dogs that are lacking due to illness, post surgery and before and after trialling. Give 3 times weekly for maintenance or daily if recovering from illness. Dosage is 0.5ml per 10kg, so is a very cost effective product.

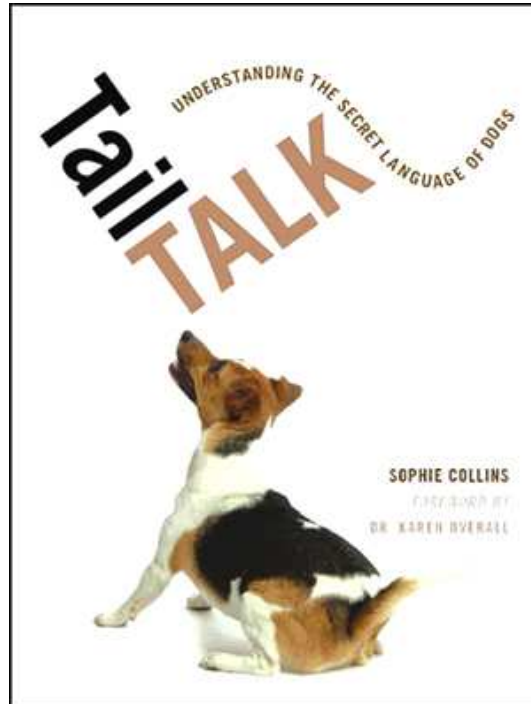
Available in 2 sizes 30ml syringe: \$12.34 or 250ml pot: \$33.42 at Garrard's Horse and Hound.

Reminders & Notices

Every dog, training with us, must be fully **VACCINATED**. Bring your vaccination papers to training and have it recorded. Help us to help you, protect your dog from nasty diseases.

Keep your dog restrained, on a lead and collar unless otherwise instructed. Thanks.

BOOKS WE LIKE...





Your dog is talking. If you can't interpret canine body language, and especially if you are new to dog ownership, Sophie Collins' *Tail Talk* is more than the book you want. It's the book you need. It is indispensable for new owners interested in socializing their new pal with other dogs, and eliminating confusion on both ends of the leash.

This is not a new idea, but Collins packs the book with photos of real dogs of varying sizes and breeds interacting with one another, which is what sets the book apart. Other authors have attempted this, but few have offered so many clear examples that will have owners nodding in recognition.

She begins with the basics, such as ears, eye and head movements and positions used to convey emotions — from friendly glances to expressions of interest, deference and warning. She then moves to "phrases," a term for the sometimes complex signals dogs use to communicate and establish relationships with other dogs.

Collins demonstrates that certain poses, such as when a dog is on its back, can have more than one meaning. The reclining position can mean a dog is relaxed, perhaps waiting for a belly rub; or it might be remaining still while another dog examines him/her to assure them that he/she poses no threat. Each pose and expression is covered in depth and in plain language.

 This book is available from Big W and we give it two paws up 

From the Trial Table

Before the start of the trialling season I thought I would reflect on the huge changes that have happened with agility equipment since I started the sport way back in about 2001. Back then the club had very limited equipment that all packed nicely into a little box trailer. I remember it was a real jigsaw puzzle with each piece having to be packed in a particular order for it all to fit. I think we had 9 jumps in total, one tunnel and one table along with the other stock gear. The gear a club was required to have was minimal but with new rules and new classes we needed more gear.

In the time I have been involved we have gained a second table, a second tunnel, a bigger trailer, replaced the ply on the dog walk, seesaw and a - frame, replaced the weavers, and made more jumps - lots of them!! The tunnels were pegged down with dangerous ockey straps and tent pegs that refused to be banged into the hard ground in the middle of the dry, our tyre weighed about 100kg's and to change the height of the table required a degree in engineering and a lot of patience!




The club members have been furiously fundraising for upgraded equipment and our own shed large enough to store all of our equipment, in particular the agility gear. We have made huge strides towards our goal with \$10,000 in a term deposit. We have had the opportunity to revisit our gear and noticed that some bars were looking daggy, some poles are broken, the dogwalk and a-frame are very Heavy and the first flexi tunnel - now about 9 years old - is starting to wear. So using our colours we have a theme, we have 12 new burgundy sandbags (gone are the ockey straps and tent pegs) we have ordered 2 new green and white tunnels, we are blessed with a donated tyre made from aluminium. Trevor our handy welder has made

extra legs for the table - no more degrees - and our poles have been re-taped in green and white.



We are in the process of making a new sock tunnel from plastic - another back saving idea, rather than the metal 44 gallon drum we have been lugging around. We have a grant to remake a piece of equipment from aluminium - at this stage it looks like the A frame and there are plans to resurface the contact equipment with a safer product and in our colours. In short I think the agility ring is going to look a million dollars at the time of our trials. We have some exciting plans for our obedience equipment which we are also hoping happens in time for the trials. I would like to thank every person now and in the past that has picked up a paint brush or a glue gun and helped make our club equipment what it is today.



Thankyou! 

Fiona & Ellie the big GSP

Fred's Pass supports -

POSITIVE K-9 TRAINING
GENTLE MODERN DOG TRAINING
Basic, puppy and advanced classes



daphnegwen@inet.net.au
Daphne Ph:8988 9078 (a/h) Fax:8988 9070

Daphne is the local supplier for Blackdog collars, leads and harnesses and she also runs Puppy Preschool for pups from 8 to 16 weeks of age on Wednesday evenings in Palmerston. Please contact her for further details.

Coomali Harleys Hope AD JD (Belle)

22.11.95 to 07.04.08

Belle was bred by Daphne and Bob Sellwood from Steve and Carol Beckett's dog Ch Tagetarl Tropical Tonite (Harley) and their bitch, Tagetarl Denim n Lace (Denim). She was 1 of 2 bitches from the litter and was chosen almost as soon as she was born to stay with us. She was the first and to this moment the only pedigree dog I have bred and kept.



Belle and I started Show Training at Fred's Pass in 1996 and entered some shows with the encouragement of Mandy Hammett and Sandy Irlam, who taught us some of the finer points of Dog Showing. Belle became known as the 'friendly cattle dog' at Fred's Pass and remained so for those she knew in those early days. She gained a few Bitch Challenges and was Runner up Bitch Challenge on quite a few occasions. It became evident after her first season and the rough handling of 3 judges in a row, that she was not comfortable in the Show Ring.

Obedience Training wasn't entirely new for Belle, as she had been going into classes as well as show training. This was in 1997 and Belle progressed through the classes quite quickly, starting in Class 1 in May 1997. I decided to concentrate on Obedience Training also at Fred's Pass, which was a traditional club in those days. Once she passed Class 3 (Pre Trial) in July 97, she was able to start Agility Training. I also started to investigate positive reward based training for Obedience thanks to the guidance of Gil Little, the head instructor at the time. Unfortunately for Belle, I was still using a check chain in all of the training except Agility which was held at Gil's place on Sunday mornings and done in a flat collar. Belle grew more and more unhappy about doing anything with a check chain on and was shutting down quickly. At the end of 1997 Belle was dropped out of all formal training. She had become extremely nervous about things taking her by surprise in the outside world, particularly people trying to touch her.

In 1998 Belle and I went to Gil for some private lessons, as the relationship had nearly disappeared between us. It took 6 months of trying different things as motivators for her to become interested in any training and having anything to do with me outside of home. I was also studying for my Dog Behavioural Training Qualification with Delta Australia, which insisted on using only reward based training. The combination of these brought Belle around. She once again started to show an interest in me and the relationship started to build all over again.

In August 2001 she gained her first Novice Agility pass. Belle at 445mm was in Medium and jumping 570mm. To put this in perspective that is almost the same height as the large dogs are jumping now. She had a superb jumping style, which came naturally to her. She gained her 3rd and final pass in June 2003. She was the first dog to compete in Open, which is now Excellent but which was often set at a Masters level, in Alice Springs at the Centralian Show trials in 2003. Her last pass in Agility came in June 04 in Open.

In October 2002, she gained her first Novice Jumping pass and within 7 months had her title with the last pass coming in May 2003 and she gained her first Open Jumping pass in August 2003. The dawn of 2004 saw what turned out to be the last year she would compete in Agility or Jumping. She started to slow down and become unsure of herself on the dogwalk, even falling/jumping off a couple of times. It was difficult to workout what was happening.

Her eyes were checked in June 2004 and found to have some progressive deterioration, which would eventually lead to blindness. She seemed to cope well in good daylight and even under lights but the fading light at sunset would be a problem. It was decided that the trials for the Darwin Royal of 2004 would be her last. As luck would have it both the Agility and Jumping were held in fading afternoon light. She completed the Agility Course overtime and with 2 faults. In the Jumping, she completed the course trusting me to direct and tell her what sort of obstacle was in front of her. She came 3rd in her last trial at the Royal, overtime but no faults. By Christmas 2004 she was totally blind.

Belle loved her Agility and the trust we built up over the years helped her cope with the suddenness of her blindness. She was always a dog to do things her way. I was often her greatest obstacle in the Agility Ring, standing in her way, getting too close, calling late or not at all, calling the wrong obstacle, blind crossing or setting up impossible angles.

Through it all she performed to her best always giving 110% and enjoying what she was doing. She gave me some of the biggest thrills when we were working as a true team in the Agility Ring. More than this she gave me comfort and taught me so much about working with a dog, accepting the things that can't be changed and working on those that can, patience to preserve when obstacles arise and to think outside the square. She was always there for me and through her learnt the true value of positive training.

She was the last dog I will ever train using correction methods. Crossing her over to positive methods was more of a challenge than I ever realized at the time but I am grateful for the opportunity as it taught me so much. She taught me empathy for those less confident dogs, ways to deal with fear, to never give up and there is always something that will motivate a dog. You just have to find it and preserve until you do. Most of all she taught me the true value of having a trusted companion and the value of that relationship.

May you rest in peace Belle now at the Rainbow Bridge with your mum.

- Daphne and Bob Sellwood and Star