
Newsletter



April 2024



YOUR COMMITTEE

Office Bearers

President	Rhonda Cheesman	0408 388 066
Vice President	Brian Arter	9874 1432
Secretary	Liz Bruhn	0410 258 944
Treasurer	Tamara Taylor	0407 096 261

General Committee

Anne Smith, Briar Sutherland, Andrea Sciberras, Dodo Kelly, Martin Rowledge (Chief Instructor)

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Facebook [Eastern Suburbs Obedience Dog Club](#)

INTRODUCTION

Our Club was founded in 1969 to cater for those owners of purebred dogs who were interested in training their dogs to Obedience Trial standard. The club was so successful in this regard that it was

granted affiliation with KCC (Kennel Control Council). In 1979 Victorian Canine Association (now Dogs Victoria) accepted all dogs into Obedience trials and the club was then also opened to all dogs.

CLUB RULES

1. All dogs should be kept on leash at all times, except when given permission to work off lead in class.
2. Handlers wishing to leave their dogs tied up on the Club grounds should only do so if their dogs are safe with people especially around children. No dog may be tied up where it can reach another dog.
3. Dogs must be fully immunised before coming to classes. This should be renewed annually.
4. A dog suffering from any illness or skin problems should not be brought to classes until a Vet has pronounced the condition not contagious.
5. Handlers must remove their dog excreta from the training area.
6. Physical punishment of dogs is not permitted in training classes.
7. Instructors have authority over their classes and may ask a member to take their dog out of class if it is disruptive.
8. Instructors are not permitted to handle and train a member's dog in class.
9. While at the grounds before and after classes please control your dogs.
10. If Committee consider a dog to be aggressive then that dog must wear a muzzle while at the training ground.
11. Dogs in season should not come down to training for four weeks. However, this does not mean you should stop the training of your dog

President's Report

Hello Members,

A warm Autumn welcome to all our members, but especially our 34 new families. I do trust you are enjoying your weekly classes, and that we are inspiring you to have fun with **mans'** best friend (cliché intended). By now, you will be settling into regular training routines with Sunday morning classes, **plus**, your regular training/loose lead walking sessions. At least with the pleasant change of season and the cooler Autumn weather, daily walks now only need to juggle daylight hours or potential rain, rather than the need to avoid the heat too. Of course, Daylight Savings ends Sunday (7th April). As the clocks go back one hour, be prepared for Fido to be out of sorts with the new time schedule for the first few weeks, whilst we humans completely mess with their inbuilt behavioural/reminder cues. I usually spend two weeks slowly aligning Meka back in time.

Shout out to Liz (our Secretary) for pulling together our new look Newsletters. We aim to add informative and relevant information, whilst attempting to keep it light and still entertaining. If you have ANY questions about Eastern Suburbs, your dog(s), the obedience training, home habits concerning you, or community socialising, we invite you to ask your Instructor during your class time.



Or, come to the clubrooms and ask someone on duty. Occasionally though we get a great question we can share with everyone. This month's topic of *Managing Female Dogs in Season* was prompted by such a question in class.

Liz has also collated some excellent information on Fleas and Ticks which most of us hope we will never need... Until we do! Likewise, when we publish a recipe, you can guarantee its Fido approved, easy to make, and a healthy treat option.

We are continuing the **Meet the Committee theme** this month with brief outlines on Liz Bruhn (Secretary) and Tamara Taylor (Treasurer). And, leaving the most exciting 'til last.... Martin Rowledge our Chief Instructor has an exciting update from the Training Panel review.

Thank you everyone for your support and commitment to training, may the cooler months ahead be kind to our field and the weather on Sundays be sunny and inviting.

Happy training,
Rhonda Cheesman



Welcome to our New Members

Handler	Dog	Breed
Chris & Cicilia	Carlos	Dalmatian
John, Alanna, Simone, Aiden	Maggie & Oscar	Border Collie & Golden Retriever
Isabella & Doug	Ziggy	Irish Terrier
Andrew, Anna, Sam, Sienna	Roxy	Groodle
Raymond & Sean	Tamarin	Australian Kelpie
Amy	Indy	Australian Shepherd
Hannah & Paul	Koda	Greyhound
Robert	Teddy	Labradoodle
Jacob & Chelsea	Barkley	Cavoodle
Greg & Amanda	Billy	GSP X
Trish	Bubbles	Lab X Staffy
Bec & Rob	Mollie & Ruby	Border Collie & Golden Retriever
Jeldai	Luca	Finnish Lapphund
Noah & Hazel	Arley / Maple	Setter x Kelpie x Collie
Robyn	Clancy	Australian Cattle Dog
Nick & Ellie	Molly	Cavoodle
Monica	Mogh (Capt Jaytee Kirk)	Smooth Collie
Kate	Rosie	Whippet
Fiona, William, Eleanor	Charlie	Cavoodle
Adrian	Bazil	Beagle x Cavalier
Dariel & Scott	Max	Labradoodle
Liz & Darcy	Lenny	Border Collie
Georgia	Max	Jack Russell

So many of you starting up this year, and it's great to see you all progressing with your dogs!

Meet the Committee - Liz Bruhn, Secretary

- **Can you introduce yourself (and your dog(s)) to us?**

Hi, my name is Liz Bruhn. I'm the Secretary of the club. I have two dogs; Piper, a Jack Russell cross who's feeling his age a bit now and Willow, a mystery terrier cross who certainly isn't feeling her age at all! I have a background in teaching primary, and now do primary and kindergarten science incursions. Piper is a tardis dog (bigger on the inside), he sheds all the time and eats like a garbage truck but I wouldn't be without him. Willow is like a little racing car (think whippet with a terrier head). She was very reactive when we got her and is still very picky about canine friends, she's discovered that many humans carry food though, and that has made them very acceptable.

- **What brought you to the club and how long have you been with us?**

Piper was my first dog ever. He was a bit of a challenge, rolled over pathetically at the rescue center then took over the house when he got home much to the delight of my kids. The day he dashed out the front door and into the middle of our busy street was the day I called the club and signed up, once my heart started beating again! I've been here for around 11 years now and have no plans to stop.



- **What do you love about being part of the committee and part of the club?**

I love training my dogs and the fun they have with it. They are both still learning and though neither of them is destined to do great things they love the challenge and the social interactions (and the food). I enjoy meeting our new member and introducing them to the joys of training and seeing their dogs working with them. I've seen some of our members for a long time now from when they started training in my pink group to becoming an amazing team with their dogs. I'm still stoked when I see how far they have come.

- **If you could give your beginning training self one bit of advice what would it be?**

Don't reward your dog when he gets it wrong, even if it's your fault. Don't forget to have fun, that's really what it's all about.

Meet the Committee - Tamara Taylor, Treasurer



As a child I feared dogs and was super shy. Now my greatest passion and joy in life is my dog Harvey and being one of the instructors with ESODC. Hello, my name is Tamara and I have been a member of ESODC for 6 years with my Spoodle, Harvey.

When Harvey was a young pup, my beautiful friend Rhonda (club President) was a member of ESODC and suggested I come along to club to learn more and build my skills with Harvey. On reflection he has always been a delight but initially we struggled with the usual challenges of jumping up, pulling on the lead and not coming when called. So as soon as classes resumed after Christmas 6 years ago, we came along and haven't looked back.

We love the community here and are always finding new things to learn. Harvey and I started our journey into the Obedience ring in 2022 and achieved our first title CCD, in mid-2023. We have switched over to focus on Rally as we continue to learn what works best for us.

I consider myself a life-long learner and use this drive in my training with Harvey and to continually improve what I offer when teaching/instructing. There are so many ways in which we and our dogs learn. So, finding the right technique for you and your dog to achieve success is key. As an ex-teacher, I love being in a teaching role, albeit only on Sundays. Being an instructor and sharing my passion and supporting people to develop strong connections and clear communication with their dogs is highly rewarding.

I am also honoured to be a part of the Training Panel and on the committee as Treasurer.

Through my roles at ESODC I hope to be able to support the club to provide quality training and assist members to have the type of relationship with their dog that they desire.



Training News and Tips



G'Day all at ESODC,
Where have the first three months of this year gone already?
In the last newsletter I outlined that a small team of instructors (referred to as the Training Panel) and I have been reviewing our current class structure and training content to see if our club is meeting the needs of our members and the wider community.
I also reached out to our membership for feedback on the services we offer so you may have an input into the future of this club.

I am happy to inform you that this review has now been completed by the training panel, (thanks Dodo and Tamara) but I will say that feedback from the general membership was quite disappointing.

The review findings were presented at a committee meeting with proposed recommendations for changes to our class structure and content, which I am happy to say was passed unanimously by the committee.
The Training Panel is now working on updating and finalising the new class structure and training content and rolling this out across all classes offered.

The changes proposed to the committee were:

- 1 enrolment day, being the first Sunday in the month. We are also working on online registrations.
- Three levels of training replacing our current class structure being Foundation class / Intermediate class / Advanced class.
- Foundation class to run for 4 weeks / Intermediate 8 weeks / Advance 8 weeks.
- Class duration to change from 30 to 45 minutes.
- Class start times 9:00am and 10:00am (to give instructors 15 minutes break between classes).

On successful completion of these “formal classes”, expectations are that you will have achieved the necessary standard / level of training with your dog to be able to diversify into other classes / disciplines that may interest you. The classes initially offered include:

- Social Class – For members who are interested in maintaining a connection with the club and having some fun and diversity of training but are not interested in the more “formal obedience” type classes.
- Competitive Obedience Class – For those interested in competing in obedience competitions and learning about the disciplines involved.
- Rally Class – For those interested in learning about and competing in Rally sports.

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In order to complete / review and roll out the above, the expectation is that we will be in a position to start with the new class structure at the beginning of June this year.

I hope you find this as exciting as we are in presenting it to you, as it marks a new era for our club.

I am of course happy to answer any questions you may have regarding this, feel free to email me on martin_esodc@outlook.com or come and have a chat with me at club.

In the meantime, enjoy your training and remember to have fun with your dogs...

Martin Rowledge
ESODC Chief Instructor

Trial Round up

Huge congratulations to Alan Tee and 'Ruby' for their 2nd Place in UD (Utility Dog class) at the Southern Obedience trial on 16th March. Well done team 'Ruby'. Well done indeed.

Please remember to let us know if you get a pass or a place when you trial so we can all celebrate you and your dog's success.



Never give up training your dog, you can do it.

Managing Female Dogs (Bitches) in Season

Did you realise when you decided to bring home a female dog that unless she was already desexed (spayed) she would have 'a Season' twice a year?

There is no definite timeline. The first Season could happen from six months of age to after her first birthday. After the first time it could be six months to nine months apart. The Season can last from three weeks to five weeks.

So it is not easy to plan around being available to supervise her 24/7!

And that is what you will be required to do – supervise her at all times. Many times the neighbourhood dog is blamed for unexpected pups, due to an uninvited visit. But “who let the dog [bitch] out”? So you checked the street and let her run around the front garden or took her for a quick walk when no one was around? She will leave a scent behind and the dogs in the area will follow and find her. Left her alone in the back garden and she was desperate and dug under the fence?! Don't blame the male dog, during the Season approximately ten days from the beginning, the female is fertile and **will go hunting for a male.**



This means:

- NO walks from home – put her in the car and walk her in a safe place on lead and drive her home again.
- NO dog club or socialising for at least four weeks... attend the dog club yourself, watch and listen to the class and return home to train her, if she is in the mood to do so.

Females in Season actually interfere with male dogs working so they are required to be vetted to attend events such as Obedience trials etc.

True story I checked my bitch before I left home, as she was due to be in Season. She was clear and I drove over two hours to a Trial. She was in Season at vetting (bit of blood on a tissue) and I had to leave the site and return home! And how can you tell she is in Season? She could be restless, cleaning herself a lot, urinating more and blood discharge from the vulva (private parts). You will need to protect your floors, furniture etc. Nappies can be purchased for this time which lasts approximately ten days. The discharge will cease but there will be swelling – this is danger time – she will be very willing to accept a male. No definite time frame, 5 to 21 days!

Consider spaying after she is twelve months old. She will not have a Season again and you can relax.

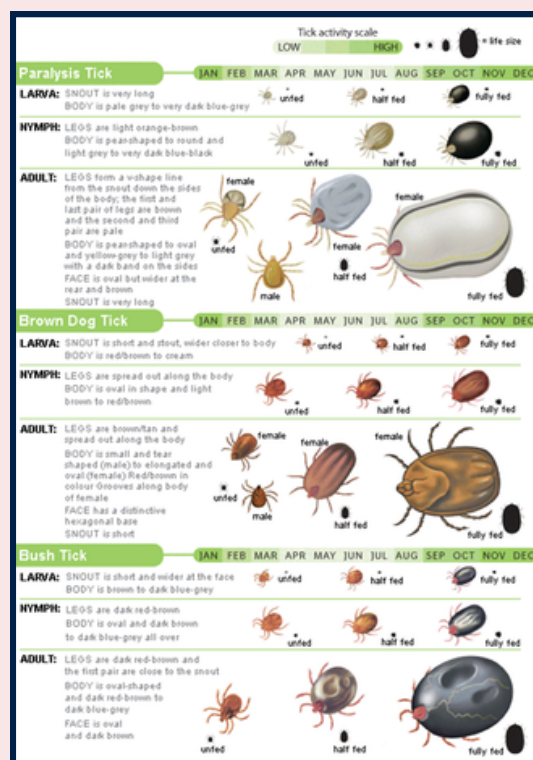
Dodo Kelly

Ticks on Dogs

Recently I've found a few ticks on one of our dogs, he has a white coat and is pretty bald underneath which made them relatively easy to spot, but it got me thinking. While peak season is September to March we've had a warm summer and they are clearly still active.

The ticks we found were bush ticks and he almost certainly picked them up in our garden. They were also probably the nymph form (immature) and very hard to spot. Nymphs are almost like specks of grit or dirt, the give away is that they hang on and if you use a bright light and a magnifying glass you can see those little brown red legs.

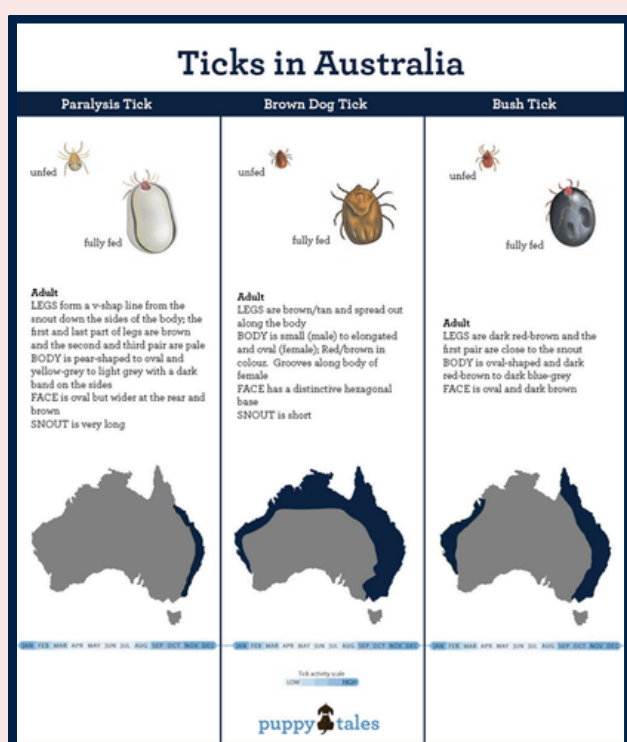
I have seen ticks on Piper in the past, the adult ones are about the size of a wheat or rice grain once they are full and much easier to spot.



The bush and brown dog ticks are less of an issue than the paralysis tick which can cause paralysis and death in a dog. The tick is generally found along the eastern coast of Australia down as far as Bairnsdale but there have been cases in suburban Melbourne.

Prevention is the best solution for both ticks and fleas. Most treatments cover both and often mites as well. If you maintain prevention ticks should not be an issue for you. It goes without saying though, that if you have any concerns or want professional advice as to which treatment is best for your dog or whether they have a tick infestation and how best to deal with it, then your vet is the person to contact.

Liz Bruhn



Liver Loaf for Dogs



Ingredients

- 500g Liver (I use Lamb or beef)
- 2 eggs
- 200g Spelt Flour (wholemeal works too)

Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 180C.
- Line an 8x8" (20cmx20cm) cake tin
- Chop Liver into chunks, add liver and eggs to food processor.
- Process until smooth (wet, sloppy but no chunks)
- Add flour and process until smooth (mine looks like thick whipped dessert)
- Transfer to paper lined baking tin, smooth evenly.
- Cook in preheated oven for approx. 30 mins.
- Leave to completely cool.
- When cold, slice into ~8mm thick slices and freeze slices together as block
- When needed, remove one(or more) slices and defrost before use.
- Chop into smaller bits to use as treats. (I often break into even smaller bits before feeding)



Purple Poppy Day



Purple poppy day is the animal equivalent of ANZAC day, giving us an opportunity to recognize all the animals, dogs, horses, pigeons etc that support our troops in war time. In 2013 the Australian War Animal Memorial Organisation (AWAMO) introduced the purple poppy to Australia; it is sometime referred to as the “Animal Poppy”. Purple poppies are designed to be worn alongside the traditional red one as a reminder of their bravery and that both humans and animals served together. Funds raised from donations and the sale of Purple Poppies are used by AWAMO to establish memorials. They also fund training of support animals to help soldiers with post-traumatic stress, and provide care packages including paying for care for war animals retired from service due to illness, injury and old age after active service.

Purple poppy day is formally celebrated on the 24th February but our club has chosen to recognize our serving animals on the Sunday closest to ANZAC day as the official day is too close to us starting up to do it properly. In the weeks before that Sunday (14/4/24 and 21/4/23) we will be selling purple poppies and bandanas to support this cause. All profits will go to AWAMO.

Poppies \$3
Bandanas \$5



CLUB DATES FOR 2024

October 6th	Obedience Trial - no training
December	Fun Day to be confirmed
December	Last day of training to be confirmed



BM Animals is committed to providing you and your dog with high quality food and treats for optimum health and vitality. Locally sourced, chemical and preservative free, salt and sugar free, high quality food for your furry family member.

Products available:

- Raw meats
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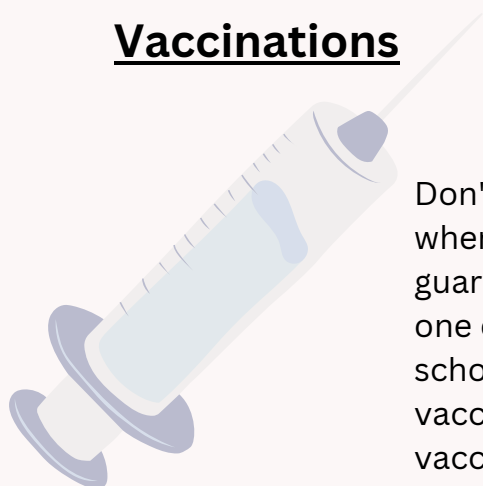
Have a dog with a sensitive tummy or health issues? Chat with John or Maree and they will happily share their knowledge to help you and your dog.

Show your ESODC badge or this flyer to receive 10% off your purchase.

BM Animals
ph: 0488 144 675

1 McLellan Street, Bayswater
w: www.bmanimalscompletenutrition.net

Vaccinations



Don't forget to have your dog vaccinated when the time comes around, to safe guard your dog while out and about, it is one of the requirements of the dog school so as soon as you have re-vaccinated your dog please show the vaccination card to your instructor, or email it to us.