



Hot Dog Newsletter

President's Report

Hello everyone,

We had a wonderful Dogs West agility double header held earlier this year in June, and I commend Suzette Adlem and the volunteers for a job well done. I also would like to thank Maria for running a very successful Dogs West obedience trial. Thanks to all the competitors and volunteers who participated in the trials, and my congratulations to the winners and placegetters.

With regards to trial etiquette—If I could please remind our members participating in trials, their dogs should be on lead near the ring, including approaching and exiting the **trial rings as it can affect a competitor's performance.**

During our Sunday training sessions I have observed several young children holding the leads of their dogs to and from training, please be aware our club policy discourages this practice because dogs can be unpredictable which may lead to injury of the child or dog.

Since my last report, I am happy to announce one of our trainee instructors is now a qualified obedience instructor. Well done Alison and welcome aboard. If anyone in the senior classes is thinking that they might like to in-

struct please speak to Lyn regarding your intention. We encourage new instructors for the club.

It is great to see so many people arriving for training on Sunday mornings—even in this cold and wet weather.

On a final note, we have some of our agility members competing in Queensland at the national agility trials. Good luck to all competitors - especially our members.

See you at training.

Paul Dyer

President

For Your Diaries....

All Sunday class times:

For Puppy & Junior Obedience Classes: Sunday 09:00 am

Advanced Obedience Classes (Level 2 & above): Sunday 10:30 am

There will be no Obedience classes on the public holidays weekends or competition days

Members Competition Trial for Junior, Senior Obedience and Rally O:

Sunday 7th September '14
(NO TRAINING on that day)

We require volunteers for the later classes from 1100hrs, if you can assist, please see the Van Staff at training.

Agility Classes commences:

Wednesday July, from 6:30pm.

New members are required to be assessed. Please read website for more details.

Dancing with Dogs (DWD) Classes:

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:30pm until 31st August '14

Then every Wednesday nights

AGM on Tuesday 24th Nov '14

Please see the club calendar on the website
www.northernsuburbsdogclub.org

Inside this issue:

Diaries	1
Topic of the month	2
	5
Committee members & Instructors	6
Doggie Jokes	6
Advertising Corner	8
Sponsorship Corner	9

Editors Column

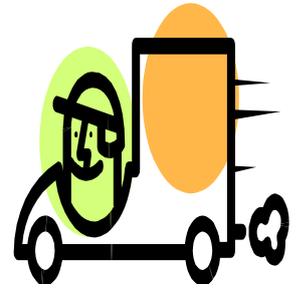
Hi members,

Enjoy reading this edition of Hot Dog. There is plenty to read and do whilst the weather is still wet and windy.

Hope you are keeping up with your dog training.

The AGM for this year is on Tuesday 24th November at 7:00pm in the Carine Hall. Attend and enjoy some supper with us. (no dogs allowed inside).

Carmen Wong



For van driving volunteers, please email:

enquiries@northernsuburbsdogclub.org.

Or speak to the lovely van staff or instructors.

Brain Boosting Games

By Jennifer Messer

<http://moderndogmagazine.com/articles/brain-boosting-games/1721>

Are you a crossword addict? Sudoku fan? Or maybe a **bridge fiend**? If so, you'll be happy to hear that brain games—activities that demand mental problem solving—aren't only fun, they are also good for the mind... both human AND canine.

Memory and learning ability tend to decline with age, in both people and dogs. In fact, the types of brain changes, from normal aging to diseases like **Alzheimer's**, are so similar between dogs and people that dogs are used as a model to study mental decline in human aging. The good news is that brain games help reduce some age-related brain changes. **While it isn't clear yet which specific cognitive exercises work best, the general consensus is that "use it or lose it" holds as true for human and canine minds** as it does for our bodies, so Fido better perk up his ears if he wants to keep track of where the bones are buried in his sunset years. To help you keep those canine cognitive wheels well greased, here are a few awesome brain boosters that most dogs rate with two paws up and a big wag of approval.

ABCs

How many toys does your dog know the names of? Increase his vocabulary by teaching him to retrieve each toy by name. Start with his two favourites, and teach him to fetch them by name one at a time, in a **room with no other toys to choose from**. If he isn't a naturally motivated retriever, use lots of praise, tug, or treats to reward the good fetches. Once he knows the names of two toys, put both on the floor and ask him to fetch them one at a time. Reward correct

choices with whatever turns his crank, and by continuing the game. Respond to incorrect choices by repeating the request, and eventually guiding him toward the right toy if he really needs help. If he can succeed with two, try three or more. This is really tough brain work, so expect to build up his vocabulary very gradually. If you think you might have a doggie Einstein on your hands, check out Rico, the world-famous Border Collie with a 200-word vocabulary, for ideas on how to crank it up a notch (<http://www.aas.org/news/releases/2004/0610rico.shtml>).

One, two, threes

Get some small healthy treats, or kibble. Hold six pieces in one closed hand, and two in the other. Ask your dog to sit, hold your hands shoulder width **apart, about arm's length from your dog, and then open your palms and say "small."** Only let him chow down if he picks the smaller group—just close your palms and start over if he picks the bigger one. You can hand him the six after he gobbles the two—as an added bonus for choosing correctly. Randomly switch **up which hand has the smaller number so he isn't just learning to choose "right" or "left."** If he's SUCH a chowhound that he just beelines for either hand willy-nilly, make him wait a few seconds before you say **"small" so he takes the time to think.** The closer the quantities, the tougher the task: if he can choose correctly between four and five you may need to enrol him in a doggie PhD!

Earning the kibble

Do you waste time and get aggravated searching for your misplaced purse or keys? Let your dog earn some of her kibble by helping you out. Dab these items with the tiniest drop of her favourite essential oil—so little **that you don't even notice it**—and teach her to find them by scent, on request. Rewarding successful search missions with a stuffed chew toy will keep her content as you head out the door, and motivate speedy and reliable retrieves.

Target

Ever find yourself half asleep in bed, only to realize **you didn't close the bedroom door or turn off the light? Hop online or pick up a book on "targeting and clicker training" and teach your dog to use his snout to shut the door, and his paw to flick off the light switch. If you aren't a morning person, you may want to put him in charge of turning the lights on to get you going. And no, you cannot safely teach him to make you a coffee!**

The shell game

Have your dog sit, and let him see you hide one piece of kibble under a cup on the floor. Tell him to **"take it,"** and when he noses or knocks over the cup let him eat the kibble it was hiding. Once he's good at this he is ready for the shell game. Rub kibble on your fingers and along the inside of three mugs lined up in a row, so the smell of it is everywhere—this is a visual tracking game and we don't want him cheating with his talented nose! Let him see you hide a piece of kibble under one of the mugs. Tell him to **"take it"** and give him the kibble when he makes the right choice, no matter how long it takes him, and no matter how many mistakes he makes. Do this many times, hiding kibble under each of the three mugs, one at a time.

When he's good at this step, slide just the kibble-hiding mug to a different spot before telling him to "take it." This is pretty tough, and not all dogs can do it. Finally, if your dog seems gifted, try swapping two mugs and see if he can track the kibble-hiding one. This game is EXTREMELY challenging, so don't start out working him like a grifter or you won't get anywhere! Success at any level means he is no Forest Gump!



Interactive brain games are a fun way to socialize with your dog, while encouraging healthy intellectual exercise at the same time. If you and your pooch enjoy physical activity as much as brainwork, there are also oodles of organized dog sports—agility, tracking, and flyball, to name a few—that work your minds and bodies together. Learning to engage your dog in these activities at just the right skill level is hard brain work for you, too, so now you have lots of activities to choose from that will help keep you BOTH mentally sharp!

Rain of Shine: 9 ways to engage your dog indoors
<http://www.dogster.com/dog-training/engage-dog-indoors>

Dogs need exercise, regardless of the weather. In snow or rain, they still need mental and physical stimulation. That said, there are certainly some days where the weather may be too hot, too cold, or the precipitation too blinding to exercise your dog as you might otherwise like. On these days, it's helpful to have on hand a variety of ideas for ways you can provide your dog with boredom relief in the comfort of your own home. Here are a few ideas you may find helpful!

Food Dispensing Toys - Food dispensing toys are invaluable boredom busters. While rubber Kongs are classic toys and can be stuffed with a great variety of treats and tasties, in the last few years the food dispensing toy market has greatly expanded and there are lots of new and exciting products available. Nina Ottosson has a fantastic (but pricey) line of durable puzzle toys which are dishwasher safe and feature a number of difficulty levels. A less expensive (and slightly less durable) alternative is the newly available Aikiou toy. Other options include: Kong wobbler, Kibble Nibble, Busy Buddy toys, Orbee Treat Spot toys, Tug-a-Jugs, and Buster Cubes.

Story about fear of travelling in the car

Story continues...

2. Kibble Hunt - If you place your dog's kibble in a food bowl, chances are the bowl is empty within 15 seconds and the dog gazes up at you upon finishing as if to say, "is that it?" You can put that food to work for you by making your dog hunt for it with his nose. Instead of dumping the food in his bowl, consider crating him while you hide small piles of food in the house then release him to "kibble hunt." Initially, make the piles very easy to find. As your dog gets better at this game, practice hiding the food in more difficult spots.

3. Tug and Fetch - Tug and fetch are classic dog games that do not require a lot of room. Hallways tend to be great for fetch games, and tug can be played virtually anywhere.

4. Shaping Games - Shaping provides great mental exercise for a dog and a good shaping session can often tire a dog more than a walk that is two or three times as long. Practicing shaping in lots of short sessions will help tire your dog's brain out while relieving stress and boredom. Teaching your dog new behaviours is fantastic for her confidence and will make both of you happy!

5. Learning Games - British trainer Kay Laurence has a fantastic book available called "Learning Games." This fantastic book is chock full of ideas for how to keep your dog mentally and physically stimulated while improving his behaviour. For more fun ideas from Kay, check out her you tube channel.

6. Have a Doggie Play Date! - If your dog has a favourite playmate or friend, consider scheduling a rainy day play date. Before your dog's pal arrives, be sure to puppy proof and pick up all breakables and valuables. As you know, dog play can get quite rowdy!

7. Go on a Socialization Outing - If you are unable to take your dog for a walk, consider taking him for a ride and doing a "fun visit" at the vet's office where he just goes to hang out and get some treats and scratches just for being a great dog. This will provide the added benefit of teaching him that vet visits can be a lot of fun!

8. Play Hide and Seek! - Hide and seek is a great way to exercise your dog's mind and body and recall

skills. Each family member should stock up on great treats. Family members will take turns hiding throughout the house, calling the dog to them, and rewarding her generously when she arrives. When her treats are finished, say "all done!" which is the cue for the next family member to call him.

9. Nosework - Canine nosework is a great new sport that can be done in your house. All you need to start are some boxes and some great treats! For more information on canine nose work, visit www.funnosework.com.

Results for the Dogs West Obedience Trial:

Northern Suburbs who qualified

CCD:

1st M. Brennan with Amorette score of 91 out of 100

CDX :

1st Thea Dines with 181 out of 200

2nd D. Williams with Jewel 181

Rally Advance A:

2nd J. Motta with 89

3rd J. Bull with 76

Rally Advance B:

1st P. Kerr with Max score of 98

2nd J. Saville with Grace score of 98

Rally Excellent A :

2nd D. Simpson with 75

Rally Excellent B:

1st Peter Kerr with Max score of 97 out of 100

2nd R. Caratozzolo with Tia score of 96

Dog Meteorology



Can we go to the park?
Let's go now!
Can we, please?
Can we, can we?

Time for a good shake
in the living room
and then a rub dry
on the Persian rug.

If you want me,
I'll be under your bed.

Wow,
that Frisbee really
goes for miles today!

What the heck
is this stuff?!

Winter 2014



"Dogs Welcome"

A man wrote a letter to a small hotel in a Midwest Town he planned to visit on his vacation. He wrote: I would very much like to bring my dog With me. He is well-groomed and very well behaved. Would you be willing to permit me to keep him in my Room with me at night?"

An immediate reply came from the hotel owner, who wrote:

SIR: "I've been operating this hotel for many years. In all that time, I've never had a dog steal towels, Bedclothes, silverware or steal pictures off the walls Or use them as a colouring book.

I've never had to evict a dog in the middle of the night For being drunk and disorderly. And I've never had a dog run out on a hotel bill. Yes, indeed, your dog is welcome at my hotel. And, if your dog will vouch for you, you're welcome to Stay here, too."

World Best Baby Sitters!

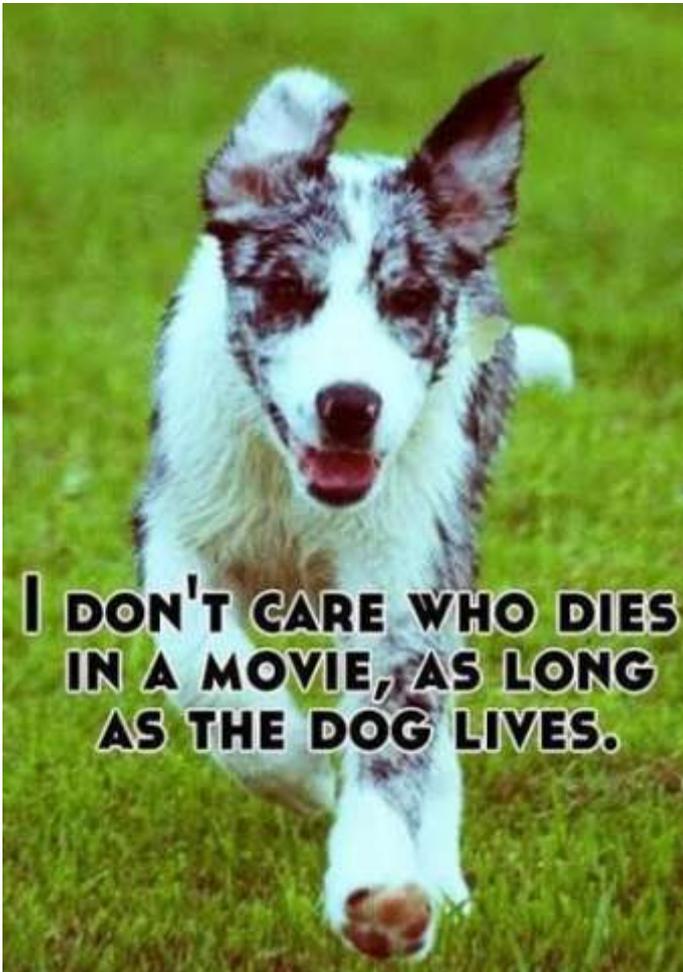




Quote for the day!

“Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea.”

Have you had one of those mornings??



Obedience Instructors

Senior Instructors: Lyn Harrison
Bernice Nesbitt (Puppy Specialist)
Lesley Ross
Frances Coull

Instructors: Suzette Adlem
Marilyn Brennan
Rocco Caratozzolo
Vel Donatti
Paul Dyer
Daniela Fischer
Fay Gretton
Harry Glasgow
Elaine Hughes
Vicki Nemeth
Alison Oddy
Erik Sauter
Ingrid Strong
Dorothy Williams

Trainee Instructor: Linda Castieu
Jamie Atherton

Assistants: Heike Bettell
Jeanette Langley

Agility Instructors

Senior Agility Instructor (Pre-trial): Jody Bronovich
Agility Instructor (Intermediate 2): Irene Levitzke
Agility Instructor (Intermediate 1): Suzette Adlem
Agility Instructor (Beginners): Tracey Lord
Agility Instructor (Beginners): Danielle Simpson

DWD Instructor

Senior Instructor: Vel Donatti

Training Consultant: **Gina O'Keefe**

Club Committee Members

President: Paul Dyer
Vice President: Lesley Ross
Secretary: Daniela Fischer
Treasurer: Harry Glasgow
Committee Members: Maria Caratozzolo
Vel Donatti
Peter Kerr
Christine Murray
Alison Oddy
Emily Quek
Erik Sauter
Carmen Wong



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Members have the opportunity to advertise businesses on the back of our Hot Dog e-newsletter.

Quarter page advertisement will be charged at \$50 per issue of the Hot Dog (Quarterly).

For more information, contact the Club secretary or Hot Dog editor:

secretary@northernsuburbsdogclub.org

hotdog@northernsuburbsdogclub.org



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Wangara **9309 6300**

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Individual store times may vary. Some stores open later on Thursday nights. Check our website for details.