



# Dog Tales



Tasmanian Dog Training Club Inc. Newsletter

APRIL/MAY 2024



PO Box 1199 Launceston  
Email:tasdogclub@gmail.com  
Website:www.tdtc.org.au  
Facebook:tasdogtrainingclub

## Training Course Notes

### Next Sunday Courses:-

#### Commencing 5 May 2024

Basic Obedience - 7 week course - starting at 9.30 am  
Puppy Preschool - 4 week course - starting at 10.00 am

#### Commencing 2 June 2024

Basic Obedience - 7 week course - starting at 9.30 am  
Puppy Preschool - 4 week course - starting at 10.00 am

### NOTE:

Any changes to training will be advertised on the TDTC website and the TDTC Facebook page so we do advise that you check each week before coming to classes.



### COMMITTEE 2023-2024

President: Lyn Deitch  
Vice President: Chris Pontin  
Secretary: David Tomkinson  
Treasurer: Yvonne Tomkinson

#### Members:

Norm Deitch      Nicquel Walker  
Gary Lusted      Trudie Lusted  
Keryn Mahoney   Alan Payne  
Sue Furlonge      Jayne Stickler

### CLASSES CONDUCTED SUNDAYS AT CHURCHILL PARK, INVERMAY

#### **Obedience:**

9.30am Basic Obedience  
10.00am Puppy Preschool  
10.45am Intermediate / Advanced /  
Trialing

#### **Other:**

Rally  
Agility  
Tracking  
Scent Work

**Enquire at office for times and dates**

### UPCOMING TRIALS

Apr 27/28 Agility/Jumping  
May 11 Obedience  
May 12 Rally  
Jun 8/9/10 Tracking  
Jun 15/16 Agility/Jumping  
Aug 3/4 Agility/Jumping  
Aug 17 Obedience  
Aug 18 Rally

**You are welcome to come and watch but please keep your dog away from the trial area.**

### Patron

**Rosemary Armitage MLC**

Suggestions and contributions to Dog Tales in any form are most welcome. Please see Nicquel, leave at the office or submit via the Facebook page. Views expressed and articles printed are not necessarily those of the TDTC Committee or its instructors - they are intended as information for reading and consideration should you feel they are appropriate to your situation.

## Don't share your Easter egg with your pet

Chocolate is toxic to dogs and other pets and ingestion often results in significant illness. Chocolate is toxic because it contains theobromine, a chemical similar to caffeine and used medicinally as a diuretic, heart stimulant, blood vessel dilator, and a smooth muscle relaxant. Theobromine can be poisonous and if eaten by our pets may result in severe clinical signs, especially if they do not receive early medical treatment.

How much chocolate can my dog have? The easy answer to this is none! The amount of toxic theobromine varies with the type of chocolate.

The darker and the more bitter the chocolate, the more dangerous it is to your pets. Cooking or baking chocolate and high quality dark chocolate contains higher amounts whilst, milk chocolate (commonly used in Easter eggs) has less and white chocolate barely poses any threat of chocolate poisoning. The amount of fat and sugar in white chocolate, however, can still make a dog very sick and result in conditions such as pancreatitis!

This means that for a medium size dog, weighing about 20kg it would take only 25grams of baker's or dark chocolate and 250grams of milk chocolate to potentially show signs of poisoning (Approximate figures only.)

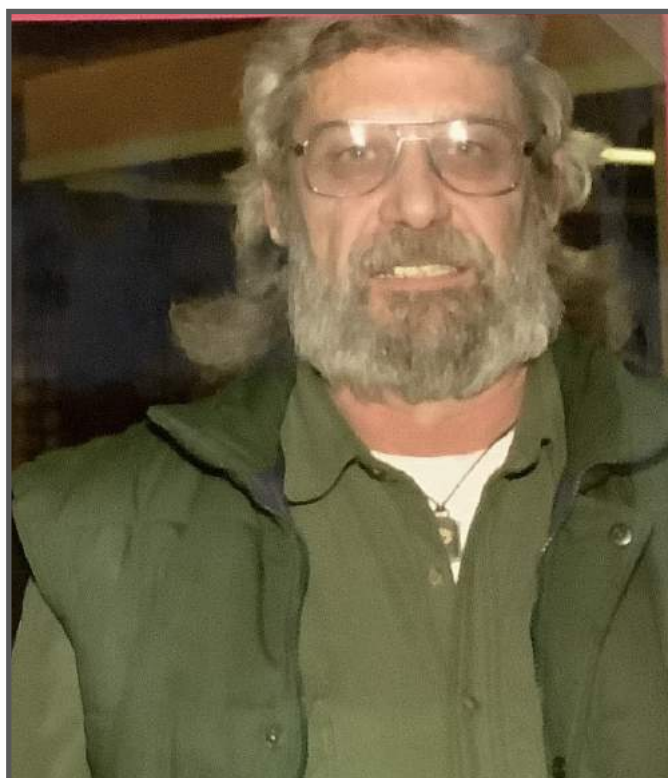
Clinical signs of chocolate poisoning depend on the amount and type of chocolate ingested. For many dogs, the most common signs are vomiting and diarrhea, increased thirst, panting or restlessness, excessive urination, a racing heart rate, muscle spasms (tremors), and occasionally seizures. When in doubt, contact your vet to see if a poisonous amount of chocolate was ingested to begin with or visit the website

<https://www.petcare.com.au/chocolate-toxicity-calculator/>



## Vale Rod Scarman 1951 - 2023

Rod was a life member of TDTC, he joined the club in the early 1980's. He was an active member for about 30 years. He served on the club committee and was an instructor. Rod always enthusiastically volunteered to help with any club activities, from being Santa Claus at the Christmas party to moving agility gear about and laying tracks and stewarding for Tracking and Track and Search trials. He visited club fairly regularly until January 23 when his health deteriorated.



## Welcome to our new February and March members

### Puppies – February Class

Eduardo/Karen & Tiny, Christopher & Jack, Allison/Damian & Dave, Janet/Nack & Mav, Lauren & Sally, Ava/Sam & Benson, Marjorie & Michelle, Tim/Nicole & Tia, Emily/Adam & Poppy, Adrian/Ella/Sarah/Oliver & Bruce

### Basic – February Classes

Sara & Lupa Bianca, Meredith & Stella, Narelle/Leigh/Ruby & Nala, Beag Grace/Alice & Bunny, Alex & Jack, David & Lucy, Katherine/Ian & Penti, Emma & Winky, Lesley/Liam & Kentucky, Leigh/Jodie & Mabel, Lyn & Bosley, Tegan & Bruce, Ryan & Albert, Penny/Rick & Holly, Martin/Georgina/Nico/Sam & Bruce, Ruth & Cassie, Cherie/Sean & Bonnie, Emily & Maggie, Darren/Hayley & Bellatrix

### Basic - March Classes

Eduardo/Karen & Tiny, Allison/Damian & Dave, Janet/Nack & Mav, Lauren & Sally, Ava/Sam & Benson, Kate/John & Zelnisky, Trudy/Jason & Monty, Tim/Nicole & Tia, Emily/Adam & Poppy, Adrian/Ella/Sarah/Oliver & Bruce, Serenity Lee & Winston, Tyson & Bundy, Hazel/Aaron & Myla, Trudy/Jason & Mac, Jodi & Rodrigo, Sharyn/Tim & Anubis, Tarrisha/Ben & Yogi, Tarrisha/Ben & Freddie, Grace & Cricket, Susannah & Molly

My apologies for any omissions or errors in this list, please let me know & I will fix in the next newsletter.

**We hope you enjoyed your time in the various classes and we'll see you back soon for the next exciting step in your training in the coming months.**



February Puppies



January Puppies



## President Waffle – April 2024

I hope everyone has enjoyed a great break over Easter, spending valuable time with friends and family and eating way to much chocolate and definitely not giving any to our dogs

You will see in our Newsletter our very new Rogz display with lots of new equipment from collars to beautiful food or water bowls, come have a look, our prices are very, very competitive. Your feedback would be also appreciated, maybe you would like us to offer something in addition to what we have.

You may notice 4 very tall green poles in the puppy area, we are very excited that we will have a big new weather shade installed very soon, this will give great shade in summer and shelter from the winter showers. Club has worked long and hard to achieve this.

Kendal and Wayne have given their time once again over the break improving the grass area directly in front of club, to ensure that all training and trialling activities will have a much improved area to work on. A huge thank you to Wayne and Kendal.

We did hold a dog gear garage sale recently which was not very profitable as it was extremely hot, a long weekend and we had a trial running. We will hold the garage sale again in the future. Watch club's Facebook page and Website for dates. If you have any dog related gear you don't need anymore, bring it along, priced and with your name and we will endeavour to sell it for you. For just a gold coin donation to club.

All donations go towards club improvements! As always, we endeavour through everything we do to improve our club for the benefit of our members and their dogs.

Recently club hosted a Scent Work trial at UTAS, thank you to committee member and instructor Nicquel for organising this great venue, we had such a successful and fun weekend. My congratulations to all those that got a pass with their great dogs.

Thank you to all the helpers over the weekend, the comradery was second to none, we make some great friendships through our wonderful dog sports.

I would like to thank all our members, our committee, and instructors for their tireless efforts each and every week, without you club would not be able to run.

Lyn, "Bill" & "Hope"



How small dogs view themselves when the doorbell rings 🦊



## Tracking – what's it all about?



Just imagine, you've got up at about 5 AM on a frosty winter morning, you've loaded up your dog, thankful that you put all the gear into the car yesterday and headed down to a property in the Midlands. As it starts to get light, you find the tracking site where there is a group of friendly people all rugged up and drinking coffee. You hand your plastic bag of end treats over to the steward and get your dog out for a walk and toilet. The judge calls everyone up for a briefing and you find out that your track will be run at about 10.30. You have to wait nervously at the camp until then, feeling very grateful for the portaloos.

Eventually you are called and directed to your track, the judge says "Harness up here and start when you are ready". There is just one flag with a sock at the base and a big empty paddock. Making sure your dog sniffs the sock, off you go, it's all going well but suddenly your dog raises his head and then just as you are starting to panic he pounces on a sock. All's well, you're still on track. You keep going and after an eternity your dog goes around a stump or tussock and there is the tracklayer. You have no idea how you got there but thank your tracklayer, judge and steward, perhaps take a photo and then head back to spend a happy day at the camp waiting for presentations. It is totally exhilarating to know that your wonderful dog has just followed a track to the end with just a pat and a treat as a reward.

Tracking is a sport we do in the winter, your dog has to be 6 months old to enter official trials, but a puppy can start learning earlier. It is done on farms in paddocks and in the bush, there are 8 tracks to complete to achieve a Tracking Champion title. These are graded in complexity, with the distance, number of turns and aging time increasing as you go up through the tracks, the higher tracks include added difficulties such as blind starts, acute turns and contamination with cross tracks. You need to pass tests 1 – 3 to qualify for Tracking Dog Title (TD), 4 – 6 for Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX), 7 and 8 for Tracking Champion (T CH), 9 and 10 Tracking Grand Champion (T Grand Ch)

The main reason that I love tracking is that my dogs are so enthusiastic, all training is positively based with plenty of rewards for the dog. We get some glorious days in the bush in winter and being a tracklayer and having someone else's dog find me is almost as exciting as tracking my own dog. It is also good to have a reason to be active during the winter, in fact the winter passes much too quickly when you are tracking.



Pat Hallam

**Some great results for TDTC members from our Scent Work Trial**

**Chris & Annie** - 2nd excellent container,  
3rd master vehicles  
**Elaine & Gene** - 11th novice exterior  
6th novice interior  
6th novice vehicle  
**Lyn & Bill** - 1st excellent interior  
1st master vehicles  
**Lyn & Hope** - 4th advanced container  
4th advanced interior  
3rd advanced vehicle  
**Mel & Luna** - 8th advanced container  
11th advanced interior  
**Nicquel & Merlin** - 8th novice Container  
8th novice exterior  
10th novice interior  
**Nicquel & Jessie** - 5th excellent container  
4th excellent vehicle  
**Nicquel & Bonnie** - 7th novice vehicles  
**Vanessa & Ross** - 2nd advanced vehicles  
5th novice interior  
**Victoria & Sally** - 6th advanced container  
5th advanced exterior  
1st advanced interior  
4th advanced vehicle  
**Barb & Q** - 10th novice exterior  
12th novice vehicle  
**Pat & Rozsa** - 7th novice interior  
10th novice vehicle  
**Pat & Enzo** - 1st novice containers  
**Zoe & Finley** - 7th advanced container  
1st advanced exterior  
9th advanced interior  
**Zoe & Jemima** 4th novice exterior  
1st novice interior

**2024 Scent Work  
Introductory  
Teams**



## Tracking Introductory Course 2024



I'm the one who's always waiting for you.  
Your car has a special sound that I have imprinted  
on my senses, I can recognize it in a thousand.  
Your steps have a magic bell.  
Your voice is music to my ears.  
If I see your joy, it makes me happy!.  
Your scent is the best.  
Your presence moves my senses.  
Your waking up wakes me up  
I contemplate you sleeping and for me you are my  
God, I am happy watching your sleep.  
Your look is a ray of light.  
Your hands upon me, hold the lightness of peace  
and the sublime display of infinite love.  
When you leave, I feel a huge void in my heart.  
I keep waiting for you again and again.  
I am the one who will wait for you all your life today,  
tomorrow and forever:  
I am your dog.

**Living with a dog consists  
of 90% following each  
around, watching each  
other go potty, and  
wondering what the other  
has in their mouth.**



The real meaning of  
Facebook emojis 🤪



I like  
dogs



I LOVE  
dogs



Dogs  
are  
funny



What?  
You  
don't  
have  
a dog?



I can't  
afford  
more  
dogs



What  
do you  
mean  
I can't  
have  
more  
dogs?

www.fotofit.co



My butt hurts

What?



**Here's a tip:**  
**Ring your doorbell on  
your way to bed at  
night.**  
**This will clear the  
dogs off your bed long  
enough for you to get  
in and get  
comfortable.**

**Thank you to the following Contrib-  
utors to the Newsletter:-**

Chris Pontin, Lyn Deitch Pat Hallam,  
Jayne Stickler and David Tomkinson

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the office of

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