



Dog Tales

Tasmanian Dog Training Club
Inc. Newsletter

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

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2025



Training Course Notes

Upcoming Sunday Courses:-

Commencing 2 November 2025

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

Commencing 4 January 2026

Rally Introduction - 5 week course - starting at 9.30 am
Puppy Preschool - 4 week course - starting at 10.00 am

Commencing 11 January 2026

Rally Advanced—3 week course—starting at 11.00 am

Commencing 1 February 2026

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.

RALLY COURSES

The Introductory Course is a very basic 5 week course intended for dogs who have not done any Rally training. Dogs must have basic obedience skills and be able to heel, sit, drop, stand, stay.

The Advanced Course is for dogs who have completed an Introductory course and/or trialling at Novice level and now want to learn the Advanced stations.

For more information, please visit the TDTC



End of Year Sausage Sizzle and Rosette presentation, Sunday 23 November - see page 7

COMMITTEE 2023-2024

President: Lyn Deitch
Vice President: Chris Pontin
Secretary: Nicquel Walker
Assist. Secretary: Keryn Mahoney
Treasurer: Yvonne Tomkinson

Members:

Norm Deitch Alan Payne
Jayne Stickler Victoria Barker
Nicola Kingdon

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

Oct 4/5 Track & Search
Oct 4/5 Agility/Jumping
Oct 11 Obedience /Rally
Oct 12 Rally
Oct 25/26 Scentwork
Nov 22 Scentwork
(NOVICE only)

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 Victoria 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.

PRESIDENTS WAFFLE – October/November 2025

As this will be my last waffle for the year 2025 (which is hard to believe), I would like to take the opportunity to reflect on the past year and thank many. I also look forward to many more wonderful club days and events scheduled and planned for the year ahead. To all my wonderful and loyal friends that supported me and stood by and covered for me during my period of great loss and sadness on the passing of the beautiful loyal Miss Hope and my best friend always by my side “Missa Bill” his loss almost too hard to accept. Thank you.

To all our dedicated instructors, thank you. To club committee and executive thank you. To all our wonderful helpers and volunteers thank you. To our club patron Rosemary Armitage thank you.

Our club is run entirely by tireless volunteers who happily give up their time every Sunday and many days behind the scenes, which contributes to making club what it is today. Take care everyone throughout the upcoming festive season and beyond, treasure your furry four-legged companions.

I look forward to a new year full of fun and learning with our wonderful companions by our side.

I would like to leave you with this:

From time-to-time people tell me relax it’s “just a dog” or it’s a lot of money for “Just a dog” They don’t understand the distance travelled, the time invested, or the cost incurred by “just a dog”

Some of my proudest and happiest moments have been and are with “just a dog”

Many hours passed being my only company “just a dog”, but not for a single moment did I feel deprived. Some of my saddest moments were for “just a dog” and on those gray days, the gentle touch of “just a dog” gave me the comfort and reason to spend the day.

If you also think “it’s just a dog” then you’ll probably understand phrases like “just a friend” “just a sunrise” or “just a promise” Only a dog brings into my life the very essence of friendship, trust and pure unbridled joy. “Only a dog” brings the compassion and patience that makes me a better person. So, the next time you hear the phrase it’s “Just a dog” you just smile because they “just don’t understand”

Lyn



Welcome to our new August and September members

Puppies – August Class

Laura/Todd & Pippa, Adam/Lanai/Toby/Keely & Dug, Stan/Hayden & Bluey, Cindy & Sunny

Puppies - September Class

Patsy & Shep, Alison & Rita, Darren & Brandi, Holly/Thomas & Sassafras

Basic – August Classes

Kirsten & Lacey, Alice & Toby, Jonas/Kirsty & Scout, Amanda/John & Hazel, Rohan & Wilson, Danielle/Martin & Spud, Bianca Aimee & Hugo, Riley/Eva/Tyler & Maple, Nerissa & Ollie, Ro/Minna & Gryffindor, John Walter & Sha, Helen & Daisy, Tayla/Daniel & Gus, Vikki & Quinn, Cassie/Joel/Chelsea & Ollie, Kathryn & Millie, Amy & Jill

Basic - September Classes

Laura/Todd & Pippa, Adam/Lanai/Toby/Keely & Dug, Susan & Jett, Jane & Mauder, Kirrily Bridget & Hector, Vicky/Wesley & Esi, John/Pam & Marshall, Stuart & Max

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.

August Puppies



August & September Basic



September Puppies



TRAINING FOR SPORTS

People often ask “What can I do with my dog when we have done basic training?”

There are quite a few sports you can compete in, some are offered by our club and some are available through other clubs or private trainers. These are all fun and you can choose something that you and your dog can enjoy together.

Disciplines offered at TDTC

Discipline	Training	Trials	Eligibility
Agility/Jumping	not currently offered	Yes	Any breed over 18 months old
Obedience	Sunday training	Yes	Any breed over 6 months old
Rally	See website for availability	Yes	Any breed over 6 months old
Tracking	5-week course starting in March	Yes	Any breed over 6 months old
Track and Search	see tracking course	Yes	Any breed over 6 months old
Scent Work	See website, Introductory and Intermediate courses	Yes	Any breed

Disciplines offered by other Tasmanian clubs

Discipline	Training	Trials	Eligibility
Flyball	Tassie Flying Paws Club	Yes	
Herding months	CPAT	Yes	Working/ Utility Dogs over 9 months
Lure Coursing and Sprint Dog	Lure Coursing Tas	Yes	Any breed over 15 months old
Earthdog	CPAT	Yes	Small terriers plus dachshunds
Endurance	CPAT	Yes	Any breed aged 2 – 8 years
Trick Dog	CPAT	Yes	Any breed over 12 months old
Retrieving and Field trials	Gundog Club of Tas, TGTA	Yes	Gundogs over 6 months

Club contact details can be found on Dogs Tasmania website, CPAT is Canine Performance Association Tasmania, TGTA is Tasmanian Gundog Trial Association. Your dog needs to be registered with Dogs Tasmania to compete in official trials. If your dog is not a registered purebred, you can join Dogs Tasmania and register it as an

Associate (it must be desexed). Associate registered dogs can compete in most disciplines except the ones that specify a particular Breed or Group.

Training for ~~Obedience~~ Teamwork

After the recent Obedience Trial a couple of us were discussing the results. It was quite clear that some dogs were uninterested in teaming up with their owners, especially for the Heel exercise.

I think obedience is an unfortunate and misleading title for what we are attempting to do with our dogs. It's really all about working as a team, not forcing our dogs to perform a meaningless (to them) routine. One of our human failings is to constantly correct what we see as bad or inappropriate behaviour and rarely reward good behaviour. Good behaviour is not just things like sitting on command but perhaps sitting quietly when nothing is happening.

Practicing for trials is not just walking around demanding lots of drops, sits and stands. To make your training routine more interesting, try warming up with lots of changes of pace and turns, don't forget lots of rewards too, they don't have to be food but can be verbal but should be delivered in a higher pitched voice.

Once your dog can do sits, drops and stands on command, try to surprise her/him with Callfronts, where you go into reverse and call your dog as if it was a recall.

You can add in some tricks, if you don't know any have a look at the rule book for Trick Dogs. You could also try some stations from the more advanced Rally courses. Can you do 270 degree turns, sidestep, Figure of 8 with distractions, heel backwards etc?

Have a go at Tracking or Scent Work, the club has classes for these and there are plenty of people in the club who can help you get started. In these disciplines the dog has to make its own decisions which are good for its confidence but may be difficult for some of us to get used to.

Remember it should be fun, while it's lovely to get titles and get letters after your dog's name it's really about your relationship with your 'best friend'.

Pat Hallam



Recently, after walking her dog in the suburbs of Launceston, one of our members was somewhat alarmed to find a paralysis tick just under the fold of her dog's eye. With the onset of spring we should be aware that tick season is also upon us.

PARALYSIS TICKS



It's not often that we see a disease disappear, but that is what is happening right now around Australia.

Only three years ago every summer we would see quite a few cases of dogs (sometimes cats) brought in by their distressed owners because the dog had become paralysed.

The culprit was a tiny (less than 5mm) tick that had lodged in the dog's skin and was sucking blood, and at the same time injecting a toxin into the animal.

The Ixodes paralysis tick lives in Tasmania in the bush and coast, and also all along the Eastern seaboard of the mainland.

After a few days of the tick feeding on the dog the toxin takes affect, and the dog begins to lose strength in the back legs, initially swaying like he was drunk and then being completely unable to stand.

The toxin then affects the front legs and also the voice box and finally the chest muscles. These paralysed dogs were brought to vet clinics where they were hospitalised and treated with a tick antiserum to try to neutralise the toxin in the dog's body.

These dogs needed to be kept very quiet in hospital as excitement or exercise would bring back the paralysis.

Those dogs badly affected by the paralysis tick sometimes even needed to be placed on ventilators for days to keep them alive.

So why is this disease disappearing?

The paralysis tick is still around in the bush, it's toxin is just as deadly as before, but what has changed is that there are new drugs available for owners to give to their pets to keep them healthy.

These medicines are mainly used to kill fleas of dogs and cats, but they have a second purpose - they kill ticks fast, so fast that the ticks don't even have time to inject the toxin into the dog or cat.

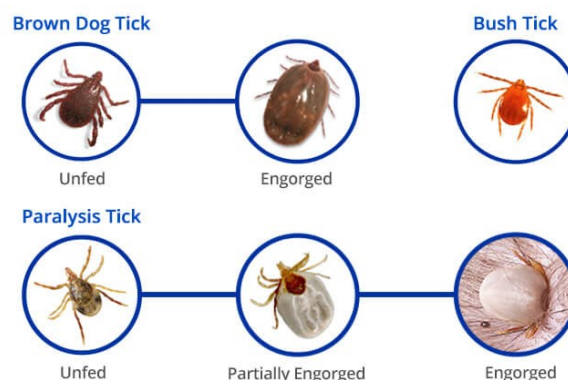
The drugs are easy to give and depending on the manufacturer, one tablet lasts for one month, or three months, and now there is even a spot-on liquid that lasts for six months.

As vets quickly realised how effective these drugs were in preventing tick paralysis, we advised our pet owners to give these medications to their dogs and cats.

Each summer now we see less tick paralysis cases brought in than the year before.

Hopefully in a year or two the tick antiserum we keep in our fridge will not be needed at all.

Written by Dr David Allen (taken from the ANIMAL MEDICAL CENTRE website)



APPLICATION FOR ANNUAL TITLE ROSETTE



Applications are now open for a title rosette for any dog which has attained a title in Obedience, Rally, Agility/Games/Jumping, Tracking, Track & Search, Scentwork in the period from 1 Nov 2024 to 31 Oct 2025.

To apply you must be a current financial member of the club (note: membership expires 30th Sept) and must have been a current member when the title was gained.

Only for titles gained in Tasmania.

One rosette per dog showing all titles

Please email the club on tasdogclub@gmail.com to apply for a rosette.

Please include

1. your name & TDTC Membership number
2. full name of the dog, including titles - (e.g. T.Ch. Nativerun Annie SWN TSDX) check this carefully as this is what will be printed on the rosette
3. Date title(s) was achieved
4. Date title was approved by Dogs Tasmania.
5. Copy of the dog's ANKC Certified Registration showing the dog's full registered name including titles (either scan or photo) (note: NOT the title certificate)

Applications close on Saturday 1st November. Late applications will not be accepted.

Presentations will be held at the club on Sunday 23rd November at 12 noon, followed by a sausage sizzle.

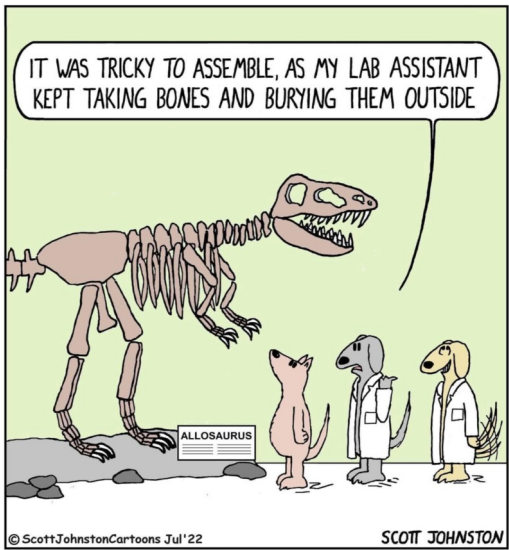
Hope

to see you all

there



Take your Pet to work day



- ◆ **Golden Retriever:** The sun is shining, the day is young, we've got our whole lives ahead of us, and you're inside worrying about a stupid burned out bulb?
- ◆ **Border Collie:** Just one. And then I'll replace any wiring that's not up to code.
- ◆ **Dachshund:** You know I can't reach that stupid lamp!
- ◆ **Rottweiler:** Make me.
- ◆ **Boxer:** Who cares? I can still play with my squeaky toys in the dark.
- ◆ **Lab:** Oh, me, me!!!! Pleeeeeeze let me change the light bulb! Can I? Can I? Huh? Huh? Can I? Pleeeeeeze, please, please!
- ◆ **German Shepherd:** I'll change it as soon as I've led these people from the dark, check to make sure I haven't missed any, and make just one more perimeter patrol to see that no one has tried

how many dogs does it take to change a lightbulb?



- ◆ **Cocker Spaniel:** Why change it? I can still pee on the carpet in the dark.
- ◆ **Pointer:** I see it, there it is, there it is, right there...
- ◆ **Greyhound:** It isn't moving. Who cares?
- ◆ **Australian Shepherd:** First, I'll put all the light bulbs in a little circle...
- ◆ **Poodle:** I'll just blow in the Border Collie's ear and he'll do it. By the time he finishes rewiring the house, my nails will be dry.
- ◆ **The Cat's Answer:** Dogs do not change light bulbs. People change light bulbs. So, the real question is: How long will it be before I can expect some light, some dinner, and a massage?

to take advantage of the situation.
 ◆ **Jack Russell Terrier:** I'll just pop it in while I'm bouncing off the walls and furniture.
 ◆ **Old English Sheep Dog:** Light bulb? I'm

28 July 9, 2011

Oh Great You're Here!



The Tree Just Fainted!

Thank you to the following Contributors to the Newsletter:-
 Chris Pontin, Pat Hallam, Cate Taylor and Victoria Barker

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