



### Welcome Back



Yes, it really is February 2009, as always the Christmas and New Year Break went very quickly, I do hope you had a happy time with family and friends. This year marks the Club's 30 Year anniversary. Congratulations to Margaret Rudd who is still a member, having first joined during 1979. Thank you to Margaret for her recent generous donation of a new Club perpetual trophy – the Margaret Rudd Trophy for Club Agility.

Training starts again on Sunday 1 February, at 7.15am for Advanced Agility and 8.15 Beginners Agility classes followed by Obedience Classes at 9am. The first Sunday back at training is usually very busy and there are often a large number of new members to join our Club. We appreciate your patience, and will do our best to ensure Classes start on time. Don't forget our pre-pay system, where you can pay in advance. \$2 is only marked off when you attend.

The coming month will be a busy time for Committee and Instructors. Arrangements for the Club's Annual General Meeting will be announced as soon as possible and a program for Obedience Classes finalised following a workshop of your Committee and Instructors. Please don't hesitate to offer any ideas you may have about our Dog Club to your instructor, so they can be discussed at the workshop.

### What's Been Happening?

- One of the most obvious fantastic "happenings" is the new veranda addition to our Clubhouse, which is a welcome addition of space to utilise for equipment storage and holding outside meetings. Roy, in company with *wee Penny*, has spent many long hours organising and building this project. Other members have given their assistance, but I think they would all agree that Roy has given an amazing amount of his time and expertise to successfully complete the project. Sincere thanks go to Roy from all members. Please view the photos on our web site at <http://www.mudtc.org.au/renovations.html>

- A Working Bee was held on 17 January and several members and partners came along to give a hand to clean up the clubhouse and surrounds; fix up some maintenance jobs and generally get everything ready for the coming year – thank you all very much. (One particular doggy member was more than pleased with the number of "mates" willing to throw the Frisbee!!!)

- During the break members were given the opportunity to attend classes run by Dianne, Rosie and Jenny. Bob also gave his time to assist individual members. These classes proved very popular and were well attended. The Instructors hope that those who took part enjoyed

the lessons and gained more knowledge of how to train their own dogs. The Club is very grateful to those Instructors who continued to work through the Christmas and New Year period – thank you.

- Our demo team practiced during the Christmas break under Dianne's direction and gave a great performance at the Lions Club Australia Day celebrations at Mollmook Beach. Our Club has attended for several years and is always well received, and this year was no exception. One of the highlights was the opportunity for each handler and dog to show off some wonderful tricks which the crowd really appreciated. Congratulations to the team and to Dianne for a wonderful display. Team members were: Russell and Ebony; Ruth and Diesel; Phil and Guinness, Sarah and Sam, Tracy and Koda, Jenny and Chilli, Rosemary and Flynn, Natalie and Chelsea, Jenny and Billy, Dianne and Lady and Teddy and Roy and Penny - well done everyone.

### What's Happening Soon?



So there has been lots happening over the Christmas / New Year Break and it doesn't stop there. The Club will be involved in an Agility and Jumping Competition to be held at the Milton Show over the weekend of 21 February. President Peter and Instructor Rosie will be the judges and the competitions will be held in the Club's agility area alongside the Clubhouse. Members are encouraged to enter their dogs for this event as it will give you an opportunity to experience the fun of competition, without having to travel long distances. Entry forms can be obtained from Dianne and should be completed as soon as possible.



### Don't Forget

- To check your dog regularly for Ticks
- To keep your dog cool in the hot summer weather.
- Never to leave your dog unattended in the car
- To always carry a plastic bag so you can clean up after your dog
- Not to take your dog with you up the ramp when you pay your training fee
- To always be aware of other handlers and their dogs when getting together before class, and again during classes
- To have a fun time training your dog

Newsletter enquiries to:

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## MEMBERS CORNER

### New Members

A very warm welcome to our new members, who joined this month. As new members please forward your email address to [newsletter@mudtc.org.au](mailto:newsletter@mudtc.org.au) if you would like to receive your newsletter electronically. The same for any current members, please email if you wish to be included on the electronic list for receipt of your Newsletter.

### Member News

Congratulations to members Cheryl and Julie whose photos appeared in the local paper at the end of the year as winners in the local Tennis Club competitions – see you in Melbourne next year ?

### Sad News

A message was received from Danielle, owner of Cruz just after Christmas that Cruz had died as the result of a tragic accident. We are all very sorry and have sent messages to Danielle on behalf of the Club.

### South Coast Pooch takes Slimmer Title

Member Corine's dog Syd, a Border Collie from Vincentia, has won the state title of the 2008 Hill's Pet Slimmer of the Year. Weighing an enormous 37.2 kilograms, Syd was initially taken to his local veterinary hospital as alarmingly this usually voracious eater was refusing food! He was quickly diagnosed with pancreatitis, a painful and serious condition that can occur suddenly in overweight dogs. When Syd was diagnosed with pancreatitis the veterinarian advised he had to lose weight and keep it off to avoid any further complications.

In the following months with the help of his vet and dedicated owner, he shed 10.2 kilograms or approximately 27% per cent of his body weight.

Syd is now enjoying a much better quality of life, is healthier and has had no recurrence of pancreatitis. He has maintained his healthy weight since finishing the program and entering the competition in August this year. Please talk to Corinne at training if you would like more information about Syd's amazing diet success.

### Photo Album

The Christmas Party was a lot of fun, despite the weather's efforts to "spoil the party". All Instructors would like to thank members for the surprise presentation made at the Party, it was very much appreciated.

Ken had the idea to cook breakfast for everyone this year and together with his amazing catering team of Henry, David, Cheryl, Janet and Christel, certainly delivered the goods. Then when the party came to an end so many members chipped in and helped to clear

up – everything was cleared away in record time and no-one would have ever know we had been there. Thank you so much to everyone who helped.

Don't forget to get your thinking caps for next year's Party, it may seem a long way off now, but the year has a habit of just flying by. Would you like to organise something? Please see your Instructor or a Committee member later in the year if you have any ideas to submit to the Committee for discussion, on how we can celebrate at our end of year Party.

Following are some photos taken at our Christmas Party get together, and also some Christmas Day photos – thanks to Margaret and Roy. Please see the full list of Award recipients on our Web site.



The "Chefs" in action



Russell and Ebony – Anne Cook Award



George and Lucky – Runner up Peter Smith & Jimmy Award



Jenny and Billy Peter Smith & Jimmy Award



1st Place Fancy Dress Phar "Jimmy" Lap



2nd Place Fancy Dress Mickey & Bertie – Ping & Pong



3rd Place Fancy Dress Rex & Suzanne The "Footy" Team

What is in this bag?

My New Mate

