

MILTON ULLADULLA DOG TRAINING CLUB INC

NEWSLETTER NO: 39 – JULY 2009

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Hello members

Welcome to the July edition of our Club Newsletter. It has been great to see so many members at training this month, in spite of the bitterly cold early Sunday mornings at Milton Showground. I am sure our dogs really appreciate our efforts.



Margaret Rudd Club Agility Competition

The second of the Club Agility Competitions was held on 19 July. Rick set an excellent course for competitors and there were 20 entrants. Rosie and Pac won the day with Rick and Kelly second and a jubilant Margaret, whose dog Tess was taken through the course by Liz, came in third. Rosie and the marvellous Toshi were fourth. Congratulations to the winning handlers and their dogs and to all other handlers and dogs who took part.

Thank you to Rick who organised the course and to everyone who helped set up and prepare for the day, especially those who arrived almost before the sun had risen!

The third round of competition will be on Sunday 20 September and members are encouraged to enter. Please talk to your Instructor or one of the Agility Instructors for more details. Entry forms are available at the Clubhouse.

Club Championship

Don't forget that our Club Championship is on Saturday 15 August and entries close next Sunday 2 August. Entry forms are available at the Clubhouse, or on our website at <http://www.mudtc.org.au/documents/Brookes-Rudd-Championship-Entry-2009.pdf>

Flyball

If your dog is motivated by chasing a ball, then why not use this to teach the dog flyball? It is great fun for the dogs and you can start to teach the first part of the exercise – how to take the ball from the flyball machine – at an early age. Flyball practice for beginners is held before our 9am classes. Please see either Rosie or Diane for further information.



Understanding and respect are the two key elements to training your dog.

If a dog works out of love for you, it will follow you to the end of the world ... and back! You cannot trust a dog that works out of fear, so be kind to your puppy and

take the time to learn a little about how dogs think before you start your training. What a puppy learns in its first twelve months of life is primarily its imprint for life! This doesn't mean you can't teach an old dog new tricks but it might take a little longer to break old habits!

Try not to have conversations with your dog when you are training, you will only confuse him/her ... keep it simple, keep it consistent. Use simple words like, Sit; Stay; Heel. Reward your dog with a gentle, happy tone and a cuddle or a food treat. (Please don't give your dog chocolate - it is poisonous to them - as are onions - and dogs have died from chocolate toxicity.)

Clicker Training

Our Club promotes the use of Clicker Training and the new four week Quick Start course concentrates on how to train your dog using a clicker.

In her book *Superdog*, Mary Ray describes Clicker training in the following way –
JUST CLICK

The best way to train a superdog is with a clicker. Your dog quickly learns that a click marks the exact moment of a desired action and is always followed with a reward, so precise timing is vital. Think of the clicker as a mini camera, used to try to capture a behaviour. Clicker training is always positive, so ignore unwanted behaviours as much as possible.

Mary Ray is one of the leading dog trainers in the United Kingdom and is the only handler to have achieved such success in many different disciplines of dog training with the same dogs. She has been winner of the Crufts Obedience Championships three times (including this year), - has qualified or won every major British dog agility competition and is the leading authority on Freestyle and Heelwork to Music, having started the sport in the United Kingdom in 1990. Here is a link to her very interesting web site <http://www.maryray.co.uk/> the video clips are well worth watching.

Heelwork to Music

Elvie Meade and her daughter Pam, who came to the Club in May and gave a group of members some guidance in heelwork to music, are very keen to return to our Club again. It is hoped she will be able to visit towards the end of September. If any member is interested to attend this session, please speak to your Instructor. Once a firm date has been arranged, we will make an announcement at training, and also include the details in the August Newsletter and on our website.

MEMBERS CORNER

If you have any stories or information for this section of the newsletter please give them to me on Sundays or email to newsletter@mudtc.org.au

New Members

A very warm welcome to our new members, please forward your email address to newsletter@mudtc.org.au if you would like to receive your newsletter notification electronically. Also current members, please email if you wish to be included on the electronic listing. Don't forget to visit our website at www.mudtc.org.au it is full of great information about our Club. You can also join our web Forum, please see Caraline our Web Administrator or Ken, our sound tech, at training for details.



Congratulations to all those members who graduated this month with their dogs and received their certificates at Sunday training



Amazing Flyball Success

Rosie had recent success with Izabella at Dapto Flyball Competition, gaining her FD Title at the age of 18 months. Izabella was a member of the MUDD on The Paws team and she had 16 clear runs – amazing! (Photo Rosie and Izabella taken at Milton Show 2009). Well done to Ruth, Diane and Rosie who travelled to Kanahooka for the South Coast Dog Training Club's A.A.D.A. Trial. Unfortunately Ruth's dog Diesel was not well. Rosie got a 1st in Intermediate Agility and a Qualifying score in Gamblers. Diane got a 3rd in Starters Agility, and 2nd & a qualifying Score in Starters Jumpers & 2nd & a qualifying score in Elementary Jumpers. The course time was 47sec and we did it in 27sec.

Getting Better

- It was wonderful to see Cheryl at training last Sunday, there to give support to Sarah in the Agility competition with Sam and Oscar. Although still not 100% Cheryl said she is improving slowly which is great news.
- Russell (Ebony) is still recovering from a farm accident on his tractor when he injured his back. Best wishes Russell, and we all hope to see you back at training soon.
- John (Sophie) has been away following an operation. I am sure Ginger is looking forward to Sophie's return, and we all wish John well and hope he can get back to training in the very near future.

Update on John Milton

It is now four months since John's accident. He is making slow progress and hopes to move to Moorong Rehabilitation Centre very soon. For more news please see John's "blog" on our website. Very best wishes John, we are all thinking of you.

Taking a Break

Instructor Bob will be taking a break from the Club at the end of August. Bob and his wife Thelma plan to do some travelling around Australia, and we wish them both a very happy trip. Bob's contribution to the Club is immeasurable and we will miss him very much. Thank you Bob, on behalf of all members, and we certainly look forward to your return, as promised, in a "part time" capacity in the future.

History

This year it is 30 years since the Milton Ulladulla Dog Training Club first started. Here is some history about your Club. If anyone has photos from past times I would appreciate if I could borrow them to scan and keep as a record of the Club's activities.

The Dog Club held its first meeting in June/July 1979 when Colleen Mison was instrumental in the establishment of the Club. Other names, which appear in minutes from 1985, were F Dougherty, R. Reu, E Reu, T Thompson, V Woods, G Moss, L & M Gardner and Steve Grover. The Club has been involved in many different ventures over the years, from Baby Shows (1982), Blessing of the Fleet Parade (from 1980 -1990), running of Milton Showground Markets with the Milton-Ulladulla Basketball Club at Milton Showground during most of the 1980s, demonstrations at the Crooybar Cup (1981), and more recently during the past 10 years, Milton Settlers Fair, Scarecrow Festival, Lions Australia Day and RSPCA Million Paws Walk.



Venue Milton School 1980



Crooybar Cup 1981



Demo Team 2001



Demo Team 2006



Reminders

- Please **don't** bring your dog with you up the ramp when you pay your fees.
- Please show your dog's current vaccination certificate to our Secretary Jenny. She will mark this on your membership card.
- **Please drive slowly** at the Showground