

DOG TRACKS



MERRY CHRISTMAS



President's Message



Our club Annual General Meeting was conducted 30th September.

Special motion results were:

PASSED:

"Agility - young handlers are now from 10 years of age" (obedience remains at 12 years of age).

REJECTED:

"The Club Constiution revamp 2019." (It goes back to committee for futher review due to inconsistencies in the presented document)

Reported was total financial membership of 493 (about half have renewed after the financial year). These numbers are consistent with past years. We continue to attract strong numbers of people joining the club for basic dog training and this community service is a growing role. 'Word of mouth' spreads the message that we are the dog training club to go to in the northern beaches area.

This effort comes as a result of our hard working volunteers, whether they be instructors on the ground, commitee members working behind the scenes, and not to mention the great communication via the website and of course the club magazine Dog Tracks. Website and DT are the content babies of Wendy Jones, as is on the ground presentation at Council Dog Day Outs, and what great results. Members should also keep check of our Facebook page for immediate news updates. FB communiques come from Jo Comber.

The bottom line is that a lot of the club activities are done by a small team of eager volunteers - if any member wants to get involved in helping out, let us know. Committee members wear a badge on the ground and they can take enquiries from potential helpers.

The emphasis of committee in the next six month period will be education; not only for instructors but also general club members so stay tuned for some exciting Ed-news in 2020. Education sub-committee is headed by Committee member Alex Surplice (attends Sunday obedience) and Vice President Jo Comber (attends Saturday Agility), so if you want to make suggestions approach them at the grounds, on our return to training in February, or send an email to the club info@northernbeachesdogtraining.co.au

That's it from me until our return in 2020, except to say keep your pooches safe as the warmer weather continues and nasty biters like paralysis TICKS proliferate. Any changes in usual behaviour or signs of stress should result in you making a dash to the vet.

On behalf of the club committee I wish all members and their families an enjoyable holiday season.

Peter Coulthart
Club President





Christmas PARTY



Good times, party games, fun, feasting and award presentations at the Obedience and Agility Christmas parties held last week.



Barking at Bayview

It was a great day out for the Club at the Northern Beaches Dogs in the Park.



Our Club members did three 15 minute demonstrations of some of the fabulous dog sports our club offers including... Freestyle Frisbee, FrizAgility, Agility and FlyBall.





Dogs and handlers all did amazing job in quite hot conditions. A few of our members won prizes in completions too and also helped out Agility Fit in Canine Fitness demos.



Dogs and handlers went home tired and happy after a fun day in the sun.



Exciting News!

The club would like to welcome Dr Lewis Hunt as a regular contributor to Dog Tracks. He will be providing all sorts of information relating to dog health, care and maintenance.

Dr Lewis Hunt graduated from the University of Melbourne in 2007 and spent the next six months working in the Gold Coast prior to accepting a Surgical Internship in Melbourne. Following his internship he spent three years locuming around the UK, before settling into a small animal practice in London, coincidentally owned by another Australian! He returned to Sydney in 2013, with a wide range of medical and surgical experience under his belt, to work in both emergency medicine and general practice. Dr Lewis is resident surgeon and co-owner of Collaroy Plateau Veterinary Hospital.

Dr Lewis has also become one of the Bondi Vets, and can be seen on the Bondi Vet – Coast to Coast program





I cannot believe that I am wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It only feels like last week that I was getting stuck back into work, full of new ideas and enthusiasm after a break in January. Christmas is a fantastic time of year with so much good food about. Unfortunately many of the foods we eat at this time of year can make our four legged family seriously ill or even kill them if left untreated.

My name is Dr Lewis Hunt. I am one of the (many) hosts on the new Bondi Vet coast to coast TV series, and a joint owner and senior vet at Collaroy Plateau Veterinary Hospital. I love being a vet on the northern beaches of Sydney. I love seeing new puppies and the bonds they form with their owners. I love being able to help them live as happy and healthy lives as possible and being there to look after when they are sick or injured and hopefully help them recover as quickly and painlessly as possible.

Chocolate

can smell it
time there is



calendars, boxes of chocolates, chocolate biscuits and cooking chocolate particularly in deserts.

Like us most dogs love chocolate and long before they see it. At Christmas chocolate everywhere from advent

The major toxin in chocolate is theobromine. The amount of theobromine varies greatly with the type of chocolate. From 16mg/g for cooking chocolate to 2mg/g for milk chocolate and less than 0.05mg/g for white chocolate. The severity and types of clinical signs seen depend on the dose of theobromine ingested and the weight of the dog.

The clinical signs include gastro intestinal upset (vomiting and diarrhoea), hyperactivity/restlessness, drinking and urinating excessively seizures and cardiovascular abnormalities including hypertension and circulatory collapse and death in severe cases. These clinical signs can start with a dose as low as 20mg/kg and get more severe as the dose increases. So unfortunately, a small dog may only need to eat a few grams of cooking or dark chocolate to cause severe clinical signs. If you are concerned your dog has eaten chocolate contact your vet asap.

Depending on when and the amount of chocolate eaten your vet may induce vomiting and use activated charcoal and/or gastric lavage to minimise the absorption of theobromine. Supportive care such as IV fluids and drugs may be used to help excretion of the Theobromine and stabilise your dog.

Ham Bones



Unfortunately I see pancreatitis in the than at any other time

inflammation of the pancreas and the clinical signs include anorexia, lethargy, vomiting diarrhoea and often a very painful abdomen.

Pancreatitis can be caused by many things, but high fat meal is probably the most common. Most owners will tell me they fed the left overs from the Christmas ham and their dog became ill in the following day or two. Treatment usually involves hospitalisation, IV fluids and drugs to control vomiting and pain. Most dogs respond within a couple of days but unfortunately, I have had dogs die from complications associated with pancreatitis.

more cases of weeks following Christmas of year. Pancreatitis is

Grapes



(raisins, sultanas renal failure and

these fruits are everywhere from Christmas platters to Christmas cake and pudding. The toxic component and mechanism is not known. The interesting thing about grape toxicity is that not all dogs are affected and the toxicity does not appear to be dose dependent. This means some dogs can eat a bunch of grapes with no ill effects while another dog may only eat a few sultanas and end up with kidney failure. Due to the idiosyncratic nature of the toxicity I would recommend you contact your vet who may recommend treatment to reduce exposure to the toxin or support the body the kidneys if the toxin has been absorbed.

and currants) can cause acute death in dogs. At Christmas time

Stone Fruits



In-particular mangos, some of my favourite holidays in Sydney.

them. Over the years I have had to surgically remove multiple mango stones from big dogs and peach and nectarine stones from smaller dogs when they become lodged in the stomach or small intestine. If something becomes stuck in the stomach or small intestine of your dog, they will often become very sick very quickly. They will often become anorexic, lethargic and often continue to vomit despite there being nothing in their stomach to bring up. Diagnosis may require a physical examination, abdominal ultrasound and /or radiographs and blood work. Treatment will often require major surgery and lots of TLC in the recovery period. So, the fruit in itself is OK just make sure they can't swallow the stone.

peaches and nectarines are things about the Christmas

Unfortunately, dogs also seem to love

Macadamia Nuts

are everywhere at Christmas.

Dogs are the only species

Macadamia nuts have been

toxic. Clinical signs include weakness,

pyrexia and ataxia or wobbliness. Doses as low as 0.7g/kg of Macadamia

nuts can cause these signs. I recently saw a case in a 12 month old

Staffy cross that presented with marked lethargy, ataxia and a high

temperature that didn't respond to drugs. This went on for 48 hours and

it wasn't until the owners mentioned they had a Macadamia tree in the

backyard that I twigged as to what was going on. Fortunately, these guys

tend to recover within 24-48 hours of stopping exposure to the

Macadamia nut.



where

found to be

lethargy, vomiting,

Onions, Garlic and Chives

are all members of the genus Allium.

These plants contain compounds which

when metabolized can cause damage

to red blood cells. Clinical signs of toxicosis

most commonly occur after a meal containing a large amount fresh, dried

or powdered onions, garlic or chives. Clinical signs include depression,

lethargy pale mucus membranes and increased heart rate or respiratory

rate. If you are concerned contact your vet. Treatment involves

decontamination, minimising absorption of the toxic compounds and

supportive care.



If you are at all concerned your dog has eaten something toxic contact your vet immediately as rapid veterinary attention may just save your dog's life.

I hope you all have an amazing Christmas and new year with no unexpected trips to the vet.

Lewis Hunt

Collaroy Plateau Veterinary Hospital



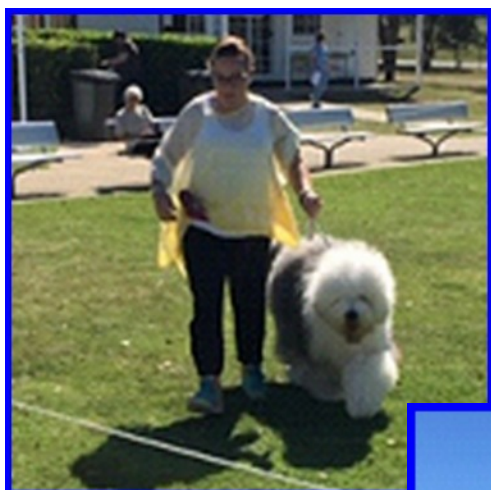


Championship Breed Show



The Club's annual Championship Breed Show was held on October 27th at Orchard Hills. For the first time we held a double show run by our wonderful new Show Manager Debbie Meagher.

The show attracted close to nine hundred entries and under Debbie's management ran like clockwork with everyone reporting back that it was a great day.



Fascinating Facts About Dogs

About 38% of Australian households have a dog.



A dog's sense of smell is 40 times greater than humans.

Humans have kept dogs as pets for over 12,000 years.



Not all dogs can swim..

A dog has 18 or more muscles that control ear movements.



Dogs only sweat through the pads on their feet.

Dogs have three eyelids.



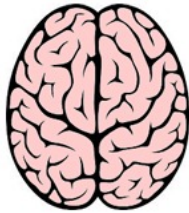
A dog's nose print is as unique as a finger print.

A dog's heart rate is over twice that of humans.



It is said that dogs can predict storms and illness in humans..

Dogs have the same level of intelligence as a 2 year old child.



A dog's brain releases oxytocin, the love hormone, when they play with other dogs or humans.

Dogs sleep curled up to protect their vital organs.



Humans see all rainbow colours, dogs only see grey, yellow and blue.

Humans have about 9,000 taste buds dogs only have 1,700



Dogs eyes contain a membrane which allows them to see in the dark.

Christmas Cranberry & Apple Cookies

- 3/4 x Cup Dried Cranberries
- 1 x Cup Apple Sauce
- 2 x Cups Whole Wheat Flour
- 1 x Teaspoon Ground Cinnamon
- 1/4 x Cup of Milk

Preheat oven to 180 degrees.

Chop cranberries and mix with apple sauce. Once combined add milk, cinnamon and whole wheat flour until dough is well mixed. Add extra flour if too wet. Knead dough into a ball and roll onto a floured surface and cut out shapes with a cookie cutter.

Place on lined baking tray and bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until browned at the edges. Cool, refrigerate or store in air tight container. A special Christmas treat for your dog, so yummy you can eat them!!

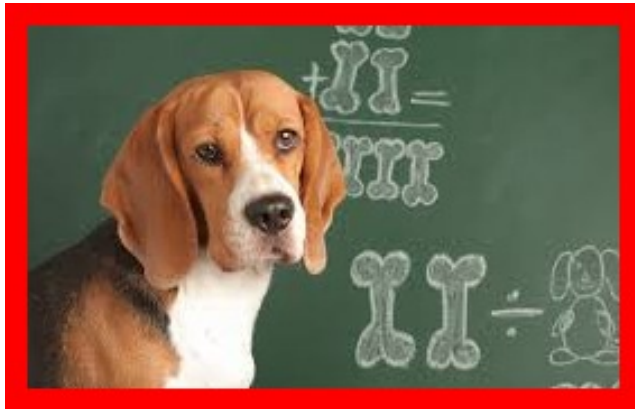


It's Turkey Time



WE WOULD LIKE YOUR IDEAS/SUGGESTIONS

We are planning a number of educational activities for 2020 and would like to know the topics that may be of interest to you with regard to training and understanding more about your dogs.



It can be anything from learning how to cut your dogs nails, grooming tips, understanding what your dog is telling you, trick training, to observing or participating in mock trials.



Also, if you have any suggestions as to people you would like to have come and talk to us about any aspect of dog training, behaviour, trialling, health care or any of the new dog sports please let us know.



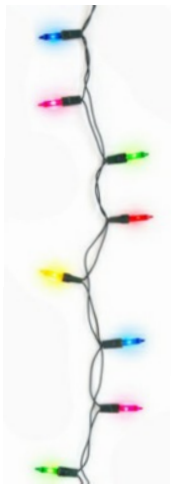
You can email your suggestions to dogtracks@northernbeachesdogtraining.com.au

Decking the Halls Can be Dangerous



Please Remember

With so much fun and activity happening over the Christmas period it is easy for dogs, especially puppies, to get into strife.



Tinsel can be very dangerous as dogs can get tangled up and even strangled. If swallowed can cause major digestive issues.



Fairy lights can cause the same issues as tinsel and the glass bulbs can cut the mouth and stomach if swallowed.

Christmas tree ornaments, especially appealing to the ball mad dog can cut mouths and do damage if ingested.



Snow Globes can contain anti-freeze which can be lethal if swallowed.

Open Gates. In the excitement of friends and family arriving gates can easily be left open and visiting children can often be completely unaware of the dangers of letting a dog out.



Pointsettia Plants can irritate the mouth and stomach and cause vomiting.

Garbage bins especially if full of turkey bones and prawn heads can be particularly appealing to the determined dog.



Welcome to Our New Members

Stephen Bingham & **Lennon & Sunday**
Brigette Burk & **Billie**
Matthew Campbell & **Miyuki**
The Campey Family & **Lily**
Reihana Conaglen & **Mayo**
Brett Culey & **Bear**
The Debelle-Coope Family & **Benji**
Christopher & Diane Egger & **Nina & Rae**
Paula Fisher & **Saskia & Floyd**
The Fowler Family & **Tommy**
Libbett Hopwood & **Leon**
Liz Jenkins & **Sophie**
Kym & Rebecca Jessep & **Sunny**
Barbara Jezersek & **Jeannie**
Belinda Kent & **Kelso**
Yin H Kong & **Loki**
Skye and Sam Lane & **Macchiato "Macchi"**
Andrew Lewis & **Kenzo**
Emma McGeorge & **Mack**
Janice, Steve & Kat Nance & **Max**
The Papallo Family & **Tilba**
Aaron Pauley & **Spud**
Lynette Downey & Morgan Price & **Mish**
Annie Rees & **Bambi**
Gregory Rutkowski & **Kuba**
Marco Salieri & **Mia**
Elena Scott & **Curly**
Elizabeth & Michael Shehadie & **Clancy**
The Smit Family & **Ned**
Janet Taylor & **Piccolo**
The Thompson Family & **Paddy**
Brett Turner & **Bosco**
Astrid Ullmann & **Lilly & Ebony**
Sanna Vahanen & **Louhi**
Andrew Weeks & **Marley**
Mark Weston & **Toffee**
Janette Whitfield & **Banjo**
Rebekah Williamson & **Manuka**
Sarah Young & **Silas**
Sheryll, Wil and Elena Young & **Bowie**



Promotions Obedience

Beginners to Class 1

Margrit Dutton & **Kira**
Skye Lane & **Macchi**
Lynette Hoare & **Hazel**
Barbara Jezerset & **Jeannie**
Pia Young & **Sigh**
Andrew Weeks & **Marley**
Brigette Burk & **Billie**
John Sherwood & **Bindi**
Kirsty Bauer & **Jock**
Jessica Moore & **Chewy**

Class 1 to Class 2

Bev & Tim Byford & **Marley**
Carol & Chris Farnsworth & **Bella**
John Fraanse & **Gus**
Lisa Schmidt & **Tash**
Paulinka Dudele & **Monty**
Patrick Moran & **Blue**
Grace Sinluski & **Rubes**
Maria McManus & **Wagner**
Jill Conner & **Zephur**
Alexandra Neumann & **Kurt**

Class 2 to Class 3

Karen Francis & **George**

Reminder Summer School

Obedience - Beginners & Class 1

Tuesday Evenings 6:30 - 7:30pm

December 17th, January 14th & 21st

Everyone in these classes is more than welcome to
come along.



Happy Christmas

The Committee would like to wish all the members and their wonderful dogs a safe and happy Christmas and a prosperous and exciting New Year.

Have fun in the sun and we will look forward to seeing you back at Deep Creek in 2020.

Obedience starts the first Sunday and Thursday in February, Agility and Flyball the last Saturday in January.

