




# PUPPY Tales



Promoting responsible dog ownership

March 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Flyball 5:30pm Tricks 6:30pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Rally O 5:30pm PPS 6.30pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> NO TRAINING!	<b>8</b> New Membership night	<b>9</b> Flyball 5:30 Tricks 6:30pm	<b>10</b> RDO week 1 at 6:30pm	<b>11</b> Rally O 5:30pm PPS 6.30pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Tricks 9:30am Walk 9:45am Obed. 10am Agility Adv. 10am Flyball Beg. 11:15am Agility Beg. 11:15am	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Flyball 5:30pm Tricks 6:30pm	<b>17</b> RDO week 2 at 6:30pm	<b>18</b> Rally O 5:30pm PPS 6.30pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> Tricks 9:30am Walk 9:45am Obed. 10am Agility Adv. 10am Flyball Beg. 11:15am Agility Beg. 11:15am	<b>22</b> New Membership night	<b>23</b> Flyball 5:30pm Tricks 6:30pm	<b>24</b> RDO week 3 at 6:30pm	<b>25</b> Rally O 5:30pm PPS 6.30pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Tricks 9:30am Walk 9:45am Obed. 10am Agility Adv. 10am Flyball Beg. 11:15am Agility Beg. 11:15am	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Flyball 5:30pm Tricks 6:30pm	<b>31</b> RDO week 4 at 6:30pm			

## 4Legs

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# YOUR CLUB MANAGEMENT

## **Ballaarat Dog Obedience Club Inc.**

Registered No A0012427W

P.O. Box 383 Ballarat, 3350

Ph 5334 2750 (clubrooms)

[www.bdoc.com.au](http://www.bdoc.com.au)

- **PATRON Dr. Richard Lawrence**

- **Committee of Management 2018/2019**

*Office Bearers*

**PRESIDENT:** TERRY LIA

**VICE PRESIDENT:** NORM BAKER

**SECRETARY:** LISA STASZEK

**ASS.SECRETARY:** TAMIKA STASZEK

**TREASURER:** PAT MANN

**ASSISTANT TREASURER:** BRUCE SADLER

**COMMITTEE:-**

JAY LAMONT, KAREN BRERETON, ZOE WERNER, JENNY O'CONNOR, YVONNE ROSS, MARGARET WRIGHT, ROSE MECCA

### **Email**

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[puppytales@bdoc.com.au](mailto:puppytales@bdoc.com.au)

[trial@bdoc.com.au](mailto:trial@bdoc.com.au)

*Contact the BDOC Secretary.*

*Ask questions or get information on club activities.*

*Apply to Puppy Preschool & get information*

*Contact, or send articles to the Puppy Tales Editor.*

*Contact the Trial Secretary.*

### **Discipline Coordinators**

<b>OBEDIENCE:</b>	CAROL HODGES	
<b>R.D.O</b>	GLENN BAKER-GOLDSMITH	
<b>PUPPY PRESCHOOL:</b>	NORM BAKER	0417678382
<b>AGILITY:</b>	TRACY BENDA	
<b>FLYBALL</b>	DANIELLE KIRKHAM	54677290
<b>TRICKS:</b>	SANDY ROXBOURGH	
<b>TRACKING:</b>	JOHN HODGES	5332 3487

### **DISCLAIMER**

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The opinions expressed in any material in this newsletter are not necessarily those of BDOC. The BDOC does not represent or warrant that the information, statements or representations contained in any material are correct, and is not to be held liable or responsible in any way whatsoever for any misstatement or error in the information, statements or representations contained in any material.



# Notices

- As per club policy, it is against our regulations for bitches in season to attend class. We have been made aware of there being bitches in season are attending our Sunday classes and we would appreciate if you do not bring your bitch to class whilst in season as it is unfair to the other dogs who are trying to participate in class and do not need the distraction!

- Kirsten Ennis is a photographer and wishes to capture some of the finer moments of our obedience classes as well as Flyball and Agility. And you may have already seen her around the club in previous weeks. Please speak to an instructor if you do not wish to be photographed.



# Code of Conduct

## BALLARAT DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB, INC

### CODE OF CONDUCT.

This code of conduct clarifies the standard of behaviour required of all members of the **Ballaraat Dog Obedience Club, Inc.**



#### **All members should:-**

- ✚ Treat others with respect, fairness and equality.
- ✚ Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all members regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- ✚ Do not harass, intimidate, bully, threaten (emotionally or physically), verbally abuse or publicly criticise other members.
- ✚ Follow the relevant procedures if there are any issues or concerns of a training, administrative or personal nature.

#### **Committee Members and Instructors should also:-**

- ✚ Carry out their duties in a professional, responsible, honest, conscientious and timely manner.
- ✚ Carry out all official directions and policies in a faithful, impartial and transparent manner.
- ✚ Lead by example promoting the interests of dog training in any discipline.
- ✚ Be an ambassador for the club in particular and dog training in general.
- ✚ Provide guidance to handlers and volunteers through positive role modelling and clear and respectful directions.
- ✚ Not misuse authority or office for the advantage of oneself or other persons.

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**Further to the CODE OF CONDUCT rule, the Club now has a new document-**

### **POLICY AND PROCEDURE ON BULLYING AND INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR.**

The **CODE OF CONDUCT** and the **POLICY AND PROCEDURE ON BULLYING AND INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR** are now working documents of the Ballaraat Dog Obedience Club, Inc.

Copies of the new policy and relevant documentation/forms can be obtained from the office. See the Club Secretary for more information.

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# Tricks Report!

TRICKS TALK FEBRUARY 2021

Hi everyone!

The Sunday morning half-hour tricks class is due to start up again on the 7th March. Start time will be 9 am while obedience is beginning at 9.30, but will return to 9.30 if obedience is starting at 10 am. All welcome – all you need is your dog, a good supply of treats and a sense of humour!

The weeknight group has been meeting on Tuesday nights at 6.30pm just in front of the clubrooms. This will probably revert to Thursday nights after Puppy Pre School within the next few weeks. This Thursday night class is restricted in numbers due to being held inside.

If you have any queries regarding these classes, please email me (Sandy) at [roxburgh\\_nbn@iinet.net.au](mailto:roxburgh_nbn@iinet.net.au) or see me on Sundays over at Agility.

Looking for another way to have fun with your dog?

Teach him to “Find it”!

Use a favourite toy (if he has one) or a treat. Sitting on the couch, play with it yourself, wave it around, then tuck it under your leg. Say ‘find it’ in an encouraging voice. If he does, let him have it and get excited! (Yay! Good dog! What a clever girl/boy!) Repeat a few times, then make it harder – hide it under a cushion. Repeat this a few times, then make it harder again. You will have to put him in a wait/stay or get someone to hold him to hide it further away. Dogs love to search for things! Indulge them!

Always end on a good note, hopefully with your dog wanting more. Not all dogs are good at all things (like us). Proceed in tiny steps if you need to!

Have fun with your dogs!

Sandy & Norm

# Committee Spotlight!

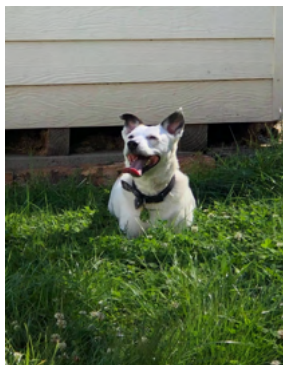
Welcome to the story of Woody!

In 2017, my husband and I made the life changing decision to bring a four-legged friend into our lives. We made our way to the Ballarat Animal Shelter with the idea that we would be adopting a dog called Jess. On arrival though, we were informed that someone else had adopted her, pending pick up. Next to Jess's enclosure, however, was a loud, flighty boy named Woody who was jumping up against the door of his cage, chomping at the bit to get out and say hello. We were told that this six year old Jack Russell cross staffy was found wandering as a stray in Ballarat some months prior. He looked a tad scrawny, and it was clear that he had, had a rough go of life so far, but he was in no way unhappy to meet new people. John and I looked at each other, somewhat apprehensive, but asked the shelter staff if we could take Woody to the outdoor enclosure for a quick play. The second he got outside, he was a completely different dog. The jumping and barking stopped only to be replaced with an instant obsession with the communal chew toy. He brought it to us straight away to be thrown and, when asked to sit, he sat perfectly in anticipation and was overjoyed to show off how well he listened.



On returning inside, we agreed to take the rest of the day to think about this creature and whether he would fit into our lives. I dropped John back at work, sat in the car for a few minutes then said "Stuff it! That dog is coming home with us!" I drove straight back to the animal shelter, filled out the necessary paperwork and shed a tear or two on seeing Woody's face appear from behind the counter, knowing that he was about to have the best day of his life.

It took no time at all for Woody to settle into a routine and become the piece of our hearts that we didn't realise we were missing. But, like everything, dog ownership wasn't without its challenges. It became clear to us very quickly that Woody was not at all friendly with other dogs. After a nasty scuffle at a dog park and aggressive tendencies towards other dogs on our daily walks, we were devastated to think that our boy would have ongoing trouble with socialisation. Seeing as Woody was on the older side and not a young puppy, we felt so unequipped to manage his ability to socialise, especially considering that the animal shelter had no information about his life before us which may have given us an indication as to why he did not get along with other dogs.



After Woody had been with us for some months, it was on an unplanned, lazy drive through Victoria park that we just happened to go past Ballarat Dog Obedience Club in full swing on their usual Sunday mornings. We spoke with Carol, the obedience coordinator about our precious boy and how he was already quite obedient, but that we felt unsafe trying to socialise him with other dogs. We were also keen to have a regular activity for all of us to attend that would improve Woody's obedience skills and teach us more about being responsible and confident handlers. Carol reassured us and was very easy to talk to and gave us the information we needed to take the next step in our lives as dog owners.



And so, the day of our first training session rolled around and John, myself and Woody piled into the car, keen to take on this new and exciting challenge.

On arrival at the club, we were blown away by the amount of people and dogs that were present and, in the hubbub, we momentarily forgot that as much as we were excited by all of these other dogs, Woody was not. As if from out of nowhere, another dog had approached Woody for a sniff and to say hello and Woody instantly snarled, snapped and lunged for the other dog, I think making some contact with its jaw. A flurry of loud voices overlapped, all saying things along the lines of "Move your dog away!", and "Don't make a fuss over the dog, don't baby him!" ...

Confusion, fear, devastation, panic, adrenaline and emotion all ensued and the next thing I knew, I was sitting on the ground, clutching Woody and ugly crying in front of dozens of strangers.

I wanted to quit on the spot. I told John to grab Woody and get us out of here because, surely, this should not be happening. But with the reassurance of an instructor and John



being a more confident person than I am, Woody managed to get through his first lesson without any more issues. I sat in the car and continued to ugly cry...

John became the primary handler and was able to get Woody used to the routine and instructions of obedience class to the point where eventually, after a great deal of time, patience, and reassurance from various instructors, I started being a co-handler. There were still other scuffles along the way and Woody still has the occasional near miss

with other dogs but, for the most part, we are able to manage the situations and get him through each class without any issues.

We have been members of the BDOC for a few years now, and, whilst Woody's social skills with other dogs have only had minimal improvement, he absolutely adores his Sunday's at school and has come a long way with his general obedience, having started in Class One and currently residing proudly in Class Three. We are so proud of our boy, who celebrated his 4th Adoption Anniversary with us on the 20th of Feb. We are eternally grateful to all of the staff at BDOC for their dedication, knowledge, patience and willingness to help us and Woody become the best we can be.

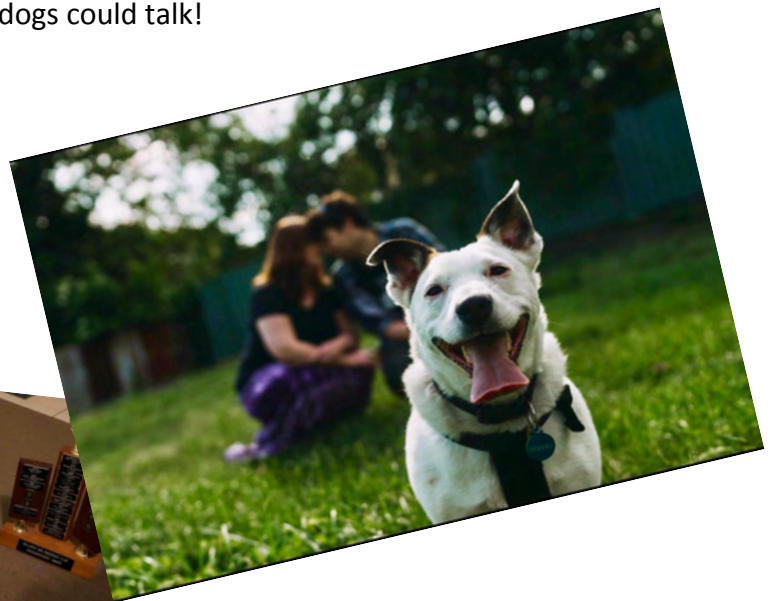


Woody has gone from a scrawny, jumpy stray who was desperate for a play and some love to a (mostly) model canine citizen. You can spot Woody a mile away at BDOC on Sunday's, a white and brown stocky boy with a huge smile on his face and wearing the all-important orange jacket that clearly states "NO DOGS". We have all benefited greatly from BDOC and we are delighted to be able to share in any joy that Woody experiences.

With the exception of his dog aggression, we could not ask for more in a four-legged companion and the years spent with Woody have been the best of our lives. I can only hope that Woody feels the same about us – If only dogs could talk!

By

John, Zoe and Woody







# Canteen

The canteen is open each Sunday morning.

Forms are available in the club room for you to order your food prior to training.

## PRICE LIST

Pies, Pasties and Sausage rolls	\$3.00
Toasted sandwiches	\$3.00
Hot chips	\$2.00
Cappuccino coffee	\$2.00
Chocolate bars	\$2.00
Cans of soft drink	\$2.00
Water (small)	\$1.00
Dim Sims (x2)	\$1.00

# Dog Shop



Come in and say hello to Karen and she will be able to help you with anything you need.



## PRICE LIST

Leads	\$20.00
Martingale collars	\$20.00
Treat bags	\$20.00
Tug toys	\$10.00
Small Dumbbells	\$7.00

We also have the bright yellow "GIVE ME SPACE" vests for \$20.00

**\*\* CANTEEN NOT CURRENTLY OPEN\*\***