

Waikato Canine Obedience Club Inc.

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May 2008



Welcome to Term 2!

May already – where has the year gone? Welcome to our many new members and welcome back to those of you returning for further training.

Training over the winter months means that we are bound to experience a few wet nights, remember that your instructors will be there for you, as we train even when it is wet. Your children are welcome to stay warm and dry in the clubrooms where there is usually a kid-friendly movie playing.

Your committee has been very busy over the past months, upgrading the furniture, resources and the clubrooms. One of the major achievements has been our website. Moving into the online arena has certainly increased our exposure which showed in the number of new enquiries and enrolments for this term. Also, our club recently held its first Ribbon Trial for a few years. Have a look at the website for photos from the day.

The committee has grown by two in the last year, which is great. Andrew and Alice are both recent additions and are already proving their worth. Alice has been competing successfully for a wee while now, and Andrew recently entered his first obedience show. He has kindly offered to supply an article about his experience, so read on to find out about his day. Alice has recently acquired a new puppy that she has begun training. We look forward to hearing about this in our next newsletter.

Once again, it's great to have so many new faces in the club. You've made your first step to becoming even better dog owners. A reminder to those of you who want Council letters that you need a 100% attendance record. You will need to give your name to either your instructor, or Sherie before the final night of term.

Happy training

My first Ribbon Trial by Andrew Rabbitt

I have wanted to go in a ribbon trial for some months, and at last my busy life and a ribbon trial were going to coincide. It was the Manukau Club's ribbon trial at Ardmore and it was 2 weeks before we were going to run the Waikato Canine Obedience Club's Ribbon Trial. I thought that it was a good opportunity to see how they were run and so I wouldn't be completely green for our own competition. On the drive up I started to get the old butterflies. I had never seen a ribbon trial let alone entered one. So can you imagine how I felt when, to my amazement, the rings were inside! I put our names down for two tests, Special Beginners and Elementary. I thought "well, I've driven all the way up here and doing two would be more experience".

First was Special Beginners and I was second in the ring. Then it all went downhill. Our heelwork looked more like we were going for a walk in the park and we didn't even know each other. I forgot that I had a lead and I could give a correction to bring her focus back. Then came the next exercise. I'm thinking to

myself "this has to work, we have been doing this for over 2 years" and I was right, she did it very well and both the sit and down stays went smoothly.

Before the Elementary test I knew that I needed to work on my heelwork (or lack of). I did a bit of heelwork with Gemma inside with some insightful guidance from Wendy. I also kept Gemma in the hall with me so she wasn't so overwhelmed at being inside. Just before we went in to the ring I did a quick intense heelwork session then entered the ring. The heelwork went wonderfully. We got to the come exercise and I set Gemma up, walked away from her, called her but as I'd stood in a different position to normal, she ran up to me and sat next to me, not in front as she should have. Not wanting her to think this was ok, I moved a few steps back so she would go into the correct position. This lost us all the points for that exercise.

There was no big haul of ribbons but I went home with a lot more knowledge and things to work on.

Makes you think...

Two patients limp into two different medical clinics, both with the same complaint. Both have trouble walking and appear to require a hip replacement.

The FIRST patient is examined within the hour, is X-rayed the same day and has a time booked for Surgery the following week.

The SECOND sees his family doctor after waiting 3 weeks for an appointment, then waits 8 weeks to see a specialist, then gets an x-ray, which isn't reviewed for another week and finally has his surgery scheduled for a month from then.

Why the different treatment for the two patients?

The FIRST is a Golden Retriever. The SECOND is a Senior Citizen. Next time take me to a vet!

WOOF!

A reminder of the 2008 Dates

Term 1	29 th January - 1 st April
Term 2	29 th April - 1 st July
Term 3	22 nd July - 23 rd September
Term 4	14 th October - 16 th Dec

Above and beyond the call of duty!



You want me to what?!

New Product

Lennie has recently discovered what she thinks is a very exciting new product. For those of you who've had enough of dog (and cat) hair everywhere, you might like to try out the FURminator. This brush removes the dead and loose hair in your dog's coat that other brushes leave behind.

See Lennie for a demo – you'll be amazed!

Starting Times

Handlers are reminded that Intermediate classes start at 7.45pm.

FOR SALE

The Club has collars, leads, slip chains, clickers, dumbbells & dog treats for sale. See your instructor for details or if you wish to purchase.

Leads:

2m leads	\$10.00
1m training lead	\$15.00
1m training lead - slim rainbow	\$ 8.00
1m training lead – slim	\$13.00
1m training lead – lightweight	\$10.00
Red Leather Collar	\$ 9.00
Slip Chains – 16 to 30 inch	\$ 5.00
Clickers	\$ 5.00
Clickers – pro	\$10.00
Ball on a Rope	\$10.00
Dumbbells	\$ 5.00 to \$ 9.00
Bait Bags	\$16.00
Liver Treats	\$10.00

Don't take a Mucky Pup home...

Did you know... ?

at Washworld Te Rapa we have two self-serve, coin operated dog wash tubs making bathing your dog a breeze!

Dog Wash Opening hours: 8am 'til 6pm daily.
Automatic money changer on site.
Attendant to answer your questions on site 9am to 3pm

WASHWORLD

550 Te Rapa Road, Hamilton