



Hello again. Thank you to everyone who stayed for the Club's AGM to sit in the 'howling gale' at Milton Showground. Fortunately our sound system enabled everyone to hear proceedings, which included an excellent outline of the past year by President Peter. Peter then handed proceedings to Roy who had accepted the role of Returning Officer for the AGM. The following members were elected to Committee positions for the remainder of the 2009 year.

President - Peter Hudson

Vice-President - Rosie Milton

Secretary - Jenny Puglisi

Assistant Secretary - Janet Smith

Treasurer/Public Officer- Henry Muisidlak

Chief Instructor - Diane Richmond

Assistant Chief Instructor - Jenny Patch

Equipment Officers - Jenny Patch and Liz Karasconyi

New Members Register Officers - Cheryl Ball and Margaret Rudd

Assistant New Members Register Officer - Sarah Ball

Publicity Officer - Margaret Rudd

Web Site Administrator - Caraline McLeod

### Events in 2009

The new Committee met for the first time the following week and started work straight away on upcoming events for 2009. The first of 4 agility events to find the winner of the Margaret Rudd Club Agility Trophy for 2009 is to be held on Sunday 24 May starting at 7.30am. Details can be found on the entry form which is available at the Clubhouse or on our web site at <http://www.mudtc.org.au/documents/Margaret%20Rudd%20Agility%20Comp%20Entry%20Form%202009.pdf>.

The first agility course on the 24<sup>th</sup> will be set and judged by Bob. Members are encouraged to come along and support the entrants on the day and to see what an Agility Competition involves. It could be you and your dog next year!

A sub committee has been formed to work on the program for this year's Lynne Brookes and Marion Mann Trophies and details will be available as soon as possible. These two trophies are awarded each year, and cater for both large and small dogs. The competition involves a series of disciplines including a compulsory obedience (heeling) exercise and then a selection of other disciplines. Scores from all the disciplines are added together to find the winner.

The Club's new training classes commence in June and will be Baby Puppy; 4 Week Quick start; Beginners; Intermediate and Advanced. More details will be announced at Sunday training classes.

### Demonstration Team Work

The Club was very pleased to welcome Elvie Mead from Melbourne to training classes on 3 May. Elvie has a wealth of experience in putting together dog formation demonstrations. About 8 members and their dogs had a wonderful time learning a routine to music. It is hoped our Club will be able to use the methods shown by Elvie to refine a performance to use at Club demonstrations in the future.

### Shoalhaven Obedience Trial

The Shoalhaven Dog Training Club is holding an Obedience Trial on Saturday 1 August at the Nowra Showground. This is an excellent opportunity for members to see advanced dogs working in an Obedience Trial. Judging commences at 10am and enquiries can be directed to Ms J Dunston, Trial Secretary 44423 2480 between 8-10pm.

### Dog Breed Groups

In Australia there are 7 recognised Dog Breed Groups:- Toys; Terriers; Gundogs; Hounds; Working Dogs; Utility and Non Sporting. Last month we found out about the Gundogs. This month it is the Toy Group.

Dogs referred to as Toy dogs, and found in the Toy Group of breed registries, may be of the very ancient lapdog type, or they may be small versions of hunting dogs or working dogs, bred down in size for a particular kind of work or to create a pet of convenient size. In the past, very small dogs not used for hunting were kept as symbols of affluence, as watchdogs, and for the very important health function of attracting fleas away from their owners!



Some of the dog breeds in this Group include; Affenpinscher (shown in the photo to the left); Australian

Silky Terrier; Bichon Frise, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahua, Italian Greyhound, Papillon and Yorkshire Terriers and Maltese (shown right – Jamaican Mistee Boy, my first Maltese and known as Whiskie).



### Horse Events

Members are advised that horse events will be held at the Showground on 7 and 14 June. Please enter the showground from the far western entrance and ensure your dog is under control in the vicinity of the horses.

Newsletter enquiries to: Janet 4455 3137 To unsubscribe from this Newsletter please send a blank email to: [newsletter@mudtc.org.au](mailto:newsletter@mudtc.org.au) and type unsubscribe in the subject column.

## 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](mailto:newsletter@mudtc.org.au) Thank you this month to Mark and Diane.

### 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 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](http://www.mudtc.org.au) it is full of great information about our Club. You can also join our web Forum, please see Caraline or Ken, our sound tech, at training for details.

Congratulations to Ken and Cole, Russell and Jess, Kay and Ridge and Keira and Dakota who passed their 8 Week Beginners Course and graduated to Class 1 on 26 April.



Russell & Jess

Ken & Cole

Congratulations to members Diane and Rosie who travelled to Nowra on the 2nd May and achieved some wonderful results:-

### Shoalhaven Jumping Trail

Crama Lady Of The Lake (lady) Gained a qualifying pass and came 3rd the course time was 30seconds and Lady's time was 17.3seconds.

### Shoalhaven Agility Trial

Crama Lady Of The Lake (lady) Gained a qualifying pass and came 3rd, the course time was 53 seconds and Lady's time was 33.6 seconds.

### Shoalhaven Agility & Jump Trial

Also in a regional Heat trial Fidelis Pacalbell (Pac) gained a qualifying Pass and came 4th

### Member News

Welcome back to Instructor Roy, who returns from a local Highland holiday and visit by his family – great to see you back Roy.

Cheryl is still unable to return to training, we are all thinking of her and wish her a speedy recovery. Margaret Rudd continues to recover well from her hip operation and is back in action this month writing the Club's article for the Times.

Woof woof – Hi, I'm Rex - I have been coming to training since I was a very small puppy and here are some photos from my recent 1<sup>st</sup> birthday party.



You mean you really want me to practice food refusal on my birthday?



Here's my best mate Jack – we really enjoyed my birthday cake!

### Winter Time

The temperature is steadily falling, there's an extra blanket on your bed and the winter woollies are making their way to the front of the wardrobe again. Everyone is gearing up for the chilly months ahead - but have you thought about your pet?

If you have an outdoors dog you need to ensure it has a nice warm sleeping spot free from cold draughts and protected from the elements. It's a good idea to elevate your pet's sleeping quarters - even just a little - so cold and damp can't creep in from the ground. A few old blankets and towels for bedding, and your pet should be snug and happy while sleeping.

Depending on what kind of dog you have, it may benefit from a dog coat. Dogs with sleek coats and little fat, like Whippets and Greyhounds, definitely need a coat's extra warmth in winter. A wool-lined coat is excellent as it's a natural insulator that also breathes.

Colder days are more painful for humans suffering arthritis, and the same goes for pets. If your pet is having trouble moving freely and looks to be suffering with stiff, aching limbs, take them to the vet for a check-up. Your vet can prescribe medication to ease their symptoms and advise you on how to care for your pet in the winter months.

They crossed a Newfoundland and a Basset Hound. The new breed is a Newfound Asset Hound, a dog for financial advisors!