

# THE RECALL

*Where obedience meets fun*



Established 1963

NEWSLETTER • TERM 2 2026

## From the President

**Welcome to Term 2 for our new members in Puppy and Beginners classes, and to our enthusiastic longer-term members, as you progress through the levels toward the goals you have set for yourselves and your amazing dogs.**

After a few hiccups at the AGM we now have a full executive team working with the Committee members and the club as a whole.

Please take the time to read the articles and reports in the newsletter and use the links to jump into the Website for more information about the Bendigo Obedience Dog club. The newsletter is a great way to learn about your club and what it achieves not only in the competitive canine world but also in assisting members to learn about and involve their dogs in family life as well as the wider community.

Our club actively celebrates the achievements of each member and their dogs and often these achievements are of a competitive nature. They are hard earned, from the months and years of careful training to the cost of Dogs Victoria memberships, entry fees, travel costs and time. It also takes an element of courage, especially if you have had struggles with your dog, to front up to a competition ring to display your training skills. For some members this comes easily for others it is a challenge on a whole new level. It is also important to recognise that our dogs also find the competition ring difficult, just as moving from training in your backyard to training at the club can be difficult.

Overcoming your dog's uncertainty in any environment is one of the skills we try to teach whether that is for the ring or for daily life.

Our volunteer instructors have experienced many of the same challenges that our members have. It might be a rehomed dog with little known history and for whom the new owners want the very best outcome. Perhaps a puppy, who was a wonderful, fun dog when young and who becomes a teenager with all the issues that an adolescent experiences. Whatever the cause of the unexpected changes our volunteers will endeavour to assist or refer members to trusted, qualified sources to problem solve.

The Bendigo Obedience Dog Club celebrates all our members achievements, because as instructors, or simply members ourselves, we understand that training dogs can be frustrating, takes time, patience and persistence. When we take a new dog into our homes, they may not be quite what we thought they would be. Every small, successful step in achieving a great family pet is celebrated by our instructors even if it doesn't go up in lights.

We look forward to many small positive steps in the coming year for everyone.

**Meredith Marshall**  
**BODC President 2026**

**Remember to visit our webstie for term dates, class times and other club information.**

[www.bendigoobedienceclub.com](http://www.bendigoobedienceclub.com)



**President:** Meredith Marshall  
**Vice President:** Denise Chrystal  
**Secretary:** Bryn Wedgeford  
**Treasurer:** Jodie Bajada  
**Committee:**  
Sharon Donaldson  
Julie Fainges  
Barb Farwell  
Sarah Franks  
Alexandra Gartmann  
Damian Holden  
Clive Hughes  
Sian James  
Gabrielle-Lyn Simmonds  
Deb Wain



# Annual General Meeting & Awards Night

**On Wednesday 18 March our Club held our AGM and Awards Night. On the night, we thanked and congratulated committee and Club members for a successful 2025.**

In presenting our Annual Report, our Club Executive highlighted from 2025:

- \* Maintain engaging classes for handlers and their dogs, with 197 club members
- \* Increasing instructor numbers; with 19 volunteer instructors and assistant instructors
- \* Introducing training note handouts for members at the end of each class
- \* 14 volunteer committee members
- \* Hosting 7 successful competition trials
- \* Hosted 3 workshops across various dog sports
- \* Dog sports programs: 1 for agility, 2 for beginner scent work, and tricks run for the whole year
- \* A new look website and newsletter
- \* New policies around expectations for member conduct
- \* Our demo team in action in the community
- \* The new toilet block delivered from Council after many years of lobbying
- \* Continued investment in equipment and infrastructure.

Our Annual Report is available to view on our website. Click on the link below:

**[www.bendigoodobedienceclub.com/news-1.asp](http://www.bendigoodobedienceclub.com/news-1.asp)**



At the AGM Meredith (President), Alexandra (Secretary) and Sarah C (Treasurer) all stepped down from their positions. We thank them for doing these roles, that can come with heavy workloads, and the manner in which they carried these positions. A special thank you to Sarah who is stepping down from committee after 13 years, while Meredith and Alex will remain on Committee. We also thank retiring committee members: Rob, Dale and Merle.

James Browne took up the Presidency and Nicole Crameri the Treasurer role, however both have since unfortunately resigned. New committee members were introduced: Damien Holden, Sharon Donaldson, Barb Farwell, Sarah Franks and Gabrielle-Lyn Simmonds. Returning committee members are: Meredith (President), Denise (Vice-President), Bryn (Secretary), Jodie (Treasurer), Deb, Sian, Clive and Julie. We thank Meredith, Bryn and Jodie for taking up the vacant executive positions on the committee.

## Celebrating our Club members

On the night we also celebrated a new Life Member induction, presented to Merle Hopman. Over the years Merle’s volunteering has included being a committee member, instructing and helping with many Club events. Congratulations Merle.

Also awarded were Bryn Wedgefjord, Deb Wain and Jodie Bajada. As a group they received the President’s Award for their efforts in updating the design and functions of the website, newsletter and Club marketing brochure, as well as bringing class check-in into the digital era.

Following the AGM, the Club Awards were presented to members for titles gained in various dog sports throughout the 2025 year. The list was extensive, allowing members to come together to celebrate the achievements of handlers and their dogs.

A part of these awards is presenting the Henri Award to the Club member with the highest success throughout the year. We congratulate Nicole Crameri with Bob Pickle on being the 2025 recipient, a back-to-back effort along with the 2024 award.

| 2026 HENRI AWARD |  |                   |        |
|------------------|--|-------------------|--------|
| Position         | Name   | Trained by        | Points |
| 1                | Bob Pickle RA. SWE. TK.A.                            | Nicole Crameri    | 78 pts |
| 2                | Badger JCCA. HWTM.N. DWDF.N.                         | Sian James        | 75 pts |
| 3                | Maggie Magpie JCCA. DWDF.S. HWTM.S. SWN.             | Sian James        | 67 pts |
| Eq 4             | Koendidda Doctor Who (AI) RE JC (Pi)                 | Erica Schelfhorst | 65 pts |
|                  | CH Jonthill Buckle Up Buttercup (AI) RE SWN (Cheeky) | Erica Schelfhorst | 65 pts |
| 6                | Ursiform Humpty Dumpty (AI) TK.S. RN (Torben)        | Bryn Wedgefjord   | 52 pts |

## Do you have a question for Bendigo Obedience Dog Club?

Talk to one of our committee at class, send us a message or email **[bendigoodcmembers@gmail.com](mailto:bendigoodcmembers@gmail.com)**





Top: At the AGM, Merle was awarded with Life Membership of Bendigo Obedience Dog Club. She is pictured here is 2025 President Meredith. Bryn, Jodie and Deb are pictured Meredith receiving their President's Awards for 2025 for their collective efforts on rebranding the website, newsletter and Club brochure.

Above: Club members received Club recognition for their titles gained throughout 2025.

Above right: Bob Pickle (with handler Nicole) went back-to-back for the Club's Henri Award for highest scores from trials.

Right: The Life Members board has been unveiled in the Clubrooms. The board is a fitting tribute to the volunteers of our Club, providing their time over many years.



## First Aid Training

Recently 2025 committee members Nicole and Jodie renewed their first aid qualifications.

Did you know a number of our committee and instructors are first aid trained?

Our Clubhouse houses an AED (defibrillator) machine. It is located on the wall, next the office door.





# Valé Patricia “Pat” Lumsden

4/6/1944 ~ 14/4/2026

I would like to take this opportunity to share a few of my memories of Pat – Life Member of BODC and especially a friend. There are many members of the club who will have lots of their own memories of Pat and the things that she and they did together, but these are a few from me.

Pat joined the club in 1984 and held the offices of Secretary, Treasurer, and President. She was also the Tracking Trial Secretary from it's beginning in 2001 until last year.

I was Secretary when Pat became President in 1996, taking over from Faye Jackson. We shared many trips to Melbourne for meetings. (Thank goodness DogsVic wasn't based at KCC Park then but at the Showgrounds.) Later, we were among the first Clubs to join the Association of Dog Training Clubs, which was formed to give the Obedience Clubs a stronger and more united voice when facing Dogs Victoria. These meetings were

held at Moorabbin's Clubrooms and in those days, there were no freeways and you had to go through the “old” St Kilda Junction where five roads came together (no traffic lights) with trams adding to the chaos. I always drove and usually managed to miss the road to Moorabbin and Pat would quietly say, “We are heading to Dandenong again, Heather. Best take a right turn asap.” We soon discovered we could show the experts 101 ways to get anywhere! There were always plenty of laughs and we would stop at the Carlsruhe service station for a coffee and hot chips on the way home to keep us going, especially on a winter's night.

Pat became our Tracking Trial Secretary in 2001 when the Club held its first Preliminary Tracking Trial. In those days you had to pass a Preliminary Test before you could do Test 1. From then on, Bendigo held a yearly Tracking Trial thanks to Pat's work and help from a lot of members. Our trials were famous and a favourite on the yearly calendar.



Pat served 30 years in the army and knew how to use her voice to bring meetings or crowds to order. Everyone jumped when she “roared”. She ran the trials with military precision and never left anything to chance. She was a legend and wore the badge of “The Red Headed Bitch from Bendigo” with great pride. She and everyone knew it was a term of endearment. Her trifles were legendary (and potent!) and everyone lined up for a serving at events. Graeme and Eric

always appreciated her special ones for them.

Sandra reminded me of the early days of our Obedience Trials when we served a roast lunch for everyone in the big hall next door. Pat oversaw setting the tables and they were done with her usual military precision, complete with tablecloths, cutlery and crockery and she decorated them with camellias from her garden. She was always interested in your family and could remember the

children's names and wanted to know what they were up to. This continued through the years and then included the grandchildren when they were born.

In later years when Pat's health wasn't very good, she still wanted to be involved in the club and always wanted to know what was happening. She liked to attend the trials even if it was only for a short time. I was so pleased to be able to spend time with Pat doing bits and pieces over the past few years and we shared many memories. Thank you, Pat, for your generosity to our Club and to your friends. You had a kind, caring heart and will be missed by many, not just in Bendigo but throughout Victoria and Interstate.

R.I.P. Pat

**Heather Turpie**  
**BODC Life Member**



# Support for fire affected Harcourt



## As a Club we are aware of the devastation of the January fires in the Harcourt area.

During term 1 we asked for Club members to support the Harcourt community, focussing on what dogs and pets might need.

Dog food, engagement toys and bandages of all types were donated by members over a few weeks and given to Harcourt Relief for distribution to families in need.

Harcourt local, and one of our Club members, Mandy Foyster who volunteered her time at the relief hub thanked us for the donation and provided an insight into the situation Harcourt locals found themselves in.

“Thank you to members to supplying toys in particular, as it helped give owners and pets hope in the simple actions of playing with their pets.

Initially there was lots of food, and then came the toys, crates, dog houses and larger infrastructure such as fences around properties. All of these allowed for people to bring their dogs back home, which lifts everyone’s spirits.”

Thanks to Club members that donated to this cause, helping others when needed.



# Volunteers make our Club tick

***Bendigo Obedience Dog Club has been operating for 60 years and over that time many, many volunteers have contributed to supporting thousands of dogs and owners to have a more positive relationship.***

From instructing to helping classes, to keeping grounds maintained and helping communicate opportunities and insights. There have also been many volunteers who have worked to help the Club operate efficiently, develop new training programs, and create facilities in which we can learn with our beloved canine companions.

From time to time you might hear about events or trials being hosted by our club. There are always plenty of opportunities to help out at these dynamic days. Coming to and volunteering at an event is also a great way to see what that aspect of dog training is about and maybe to find a new outlet for you and your dog to pursue with BODC.

We can’t thank our volunteers enough for all the time they offer – which when taken collectively is hundreds and thousands of hours over the history of the Club – so that the Club can be a vibrant and active hub for Obedience and other dog training.

### **Are you interested in volunteering at BODC?**

You don’t need to be on committee to help out. We are currently looking for help on a regular basis:

- Mowing the puppy pens
- Clean the path of any debris from the car park to the club rooms ...and more!

**If you are interested please talk to a committee member or email [bendigoodcmembers@gmail.com](mailto:bendigoodcmembers@gmail.com)**



## We showed our tricks!

**Saturday 21st March saw our Club hold their sixth trick trail at Finn St Reserve under sunny skies and with the temp in the delightful mid-20s.**

This was a triple trick test, meaning there were three rings set up for the day, with each ring offering all trick test judging levels: Starter, Novice, Intermediate and Advanced.

Trial Secretary Denise Chrystal, with assistant Nicole oversaw a successful day, with Denise saying, "Nicole Crameri took on the role of assistant Trial Secretary and had every base covered with a few extra innovations stamping her mark on the day. My work load was significantly reduced. Congratulations on a fabulous first time event Nicole."

Of the behind the scenes work, Denise explained, "It was wonderful to see new and long standing members come together working as a team to accomplish the many tasks to set up the venue.

Friday the poop patrol, judges boxes, competitors numbers, equipment loaded onto the trailer, rooms prepared, food purchased and prepared, rings marked out and raked after having been mown by Council.

Saturday saw the trailer deliver the equipment to the three rings and the team of volunteers began their tasks. Of course this had to be reversed for pack up. Equipment back onto the trailer and delivered to the store shed for unloading on Sunday.

Next task is the paperwork for Dogs Victoria.

So many volunteer hours are required to put these events on. Thank you one and all. Every effort is greatly appreciated and our events could not happen without your valued assistance."

Of course our trial cannot proceed without the appointment of judges and volunteer stewards for each ring. Club member Sharon Donaldson was the Dogs Victoria representative for the day.

Judges Pam Child, Janette Wilson and Sue Cordwell provided support and feedback to competitors, also enjoying the achievements of handlers and their dogs. Of special note - this was Pam's first judging appointment. Congratulations!

Pam also assisted the Club with a mock trial a week earlier for members to run through their tricks under trial conditions at the Club. Pam was able to provide members with constructive feedback and tips for their chosen tricks. Thanks to Pam for giving us your expert opinion and to Denise and Nicole for organising this for Club members.

On trial day, Club members participated across all levels of tricks. There were many stories of success and of



stuggles with missed tricks and dogs running out of the ring (automatic disqualification) among other things. Overwhelmingly, the positive atmosphere amongst Club members and seeing their support of each other is to be commended. We all shared in each other's stories of the day.

Many members and their dogs received passes and titles on the day (passes in tests accumulate to gain a title at a given level). Plenty of happy faces, and great reward for the training completed to achieve these results. Additionally, Denise presented special awards for the Highest Qualifying Members in each ring to Terri Rose and Kenya in the Novice Test - Judge PamChild, Alex Gartmann and Murray in the Novice Test - Judge Janette Wilson and Nicole Crameri and Dotty in the Starters Test - Judge SueCordwell.

Congratulations to these members and their highly skilled dogs.

These Club members were presented with a goodie bag from Trial sponsor Zali & Co. Participants at the trial enjoyed the pop up shop stocking dog products and we thank Zali & Co for their generosity.

Overall it was a successful, fun day for handlers and their dogs, and we look forward to more tricks for the 2027 trial!



## Scent Work – use your dog’s biggest asset!

Article by Alexandra Gartmann

**Have you ever been fascinated by the detection dogs at the airport sniffing for illegal substances – from drugs to fruit? Have you ever felt frustrated because your dog stops walking and is intent on sniffing something you can’t see?**

A human’s brain is dominated by a large visual cortex whilst a dog’s brain is dominated by the olfactory cortex. The olfactory bulb (neural tissue within the dog’s brain) accounts for one eighth of the dog’s brain. It is located in the fore-brain and is responsible for processing scents detected by cells in the nasal cavity. A dog has around 220 million scent receptors in it’s nose – that’s 44 times the number of receptors in our own human nose.

A dog’s sense of smell is probably more important to it than any other sense with the possible exception of touch (in a well-adjusted dog), the sense of smell and the sense of touch are the predominant senses for a dog and they are in place and fully functioning at birth, unlike hearing and sight, which develop later, and taste which, although present at birth and connected to smell, takes a back seat.

A dog’s amazing scenting ability enables them to detect prey and helps them discern a females place in her reproductive cycle. Each dog emits a personal olfactory profile that imparts a wealth of information to other dogs.

The act of marking deposits information about the dog including age, sex, mood, health status, diet, size of pack and rank. A well-socialised dog will engage in mutual sniffing with another dog as a polite greeting. A dog can smell adrenaline and pheromones that we cannot; they can therefore anticipate a fight or flight response from a person or animal before we have a clue. Although it should be noted – a dog cannot rationalise and distinguish why a person is kicking out great clouds of adrenaline in their presence. It may be that the human is scared stiff of dogs, but the dog won’t know this, only that this person is gearing up to fight or flee and should be carefully watched for any sign of an attack.

So, the olfactory bulb is indispensable to a dog, it informs and it forewarns. It also allows the dog to assist us with specific jobs; the dog’s olfactory system is more sensitive than anything we can replicate with modern technology.

Scent work trials involve training dogs to search for specific odours from certain essential oils in several situations called ‘elements’: in containers such as boxes, on the outside of vehicles, inside buildings, and in the outside environment.

Dogs need to find the source of the odour and communicate its exact location to their handler. Dog and handler teams compete to locate the source of the odour within a set time



given by the judge to determine which teams are the fastest and most accurate in their searches. Handlers and dogs need to gain several qualifications at each level to progress to more complex searches at higher levels.

Scent Work was introduced to Australia approximately 12 years ago. Scent Work has been a recognised Dogs Australia sport since 1st July 2020 and competitions have been running since early 2021.

This is a sport for any fitness level of both handler and dog and for any breed of dog Any dog from a Chihuahua to a Great Dane can be very successful at this sport. Any energy level dog can be successful from couch potatoes to those bouncing off the ceiling! Scent Work doesn’t require the levels of physical fitness for both handler and dog required for other sports, so it’s ideal for those retired from other performance sports due to decreasing mobility as well as for young and inexperienced handlers.

Dogs can learn this sport from any age and it’s a behaviour they have practised since they were tiny puppies. Even much older dogs can participate; many at 12 years old have earned their first title in this sport.

Training and giving dogs extended periods using their noses releases chemicals in their brains that give them feelings of pleasure. It helps reduce stress in dogs and can help in working through anxiety. Many people train in Scent Work simply to improve their dog’s well-being.



# Unleashing Natural Instincts: An Introduction to Dog Tracking Sport

Article by Alexandra Gartmann

**Tracking is one of the most natural and rewarding canine sports available, turning a dog's daily sniff-fest into a focused, high-stakes game. Unlike obedience or agility, where the human directs every movement, tracking allows the dog to be the expert, using their extraordinary sense of smell to follow a specific scent trail, locate 'dropped' articles, and find a hidden person.**

Whether for competitive titles or mental stimulation, tracking is a challenging pursuit that deepens the bond between dog and handler.



## What is Dog Tracking?

Tracking is a scent-work sport designed to simulate real-life situations, such as search and rescue or police tracking work. In a formal trial, a 'tracklayer' walks a specific path across varied terrain, leaving behind personal scent—a combination of skin cells, hair, crushed vegetation, and scent from their clothes.

The dog, working on a 10-metre lead and wearing a harness, must pick up the tracklayer's scent from a starting article and follow that trail, sometimes up to four hours after it was laid.

Key components of the sport include:

- *The Track:* A path with several legs and turns.
- *Articles:* Small objects (socks, gloves) dropped by the tracklayer that the dog must find and 'indicate' (usually by lying down beside them).
- *The Finish:* The tracklayer hidden at the end of the line.

## Why Participate?

- *Mental Stimulation:* Tracking is physically and mentally exhausting for dogs. It burns off high energy by challenging them to use their brains. It uses their strongest sense (smell) to follow scent trails, which is mentally stimulating and rewarding.
- *Accessible to All Dogs:* All breeds and ages can track. It is a fantastic outlet for high-drive, independent dogs. All breeds of dogs can learn to track using their natural scenting instincts which is enjoyable and rewarding for them to use. Tracking satisfies a dog's basic need for hunting and using their highly developed ability to follow scents. Breeds with high prey drives, intelligence, and strong scenting instincts, such as hounds, retrievers, and

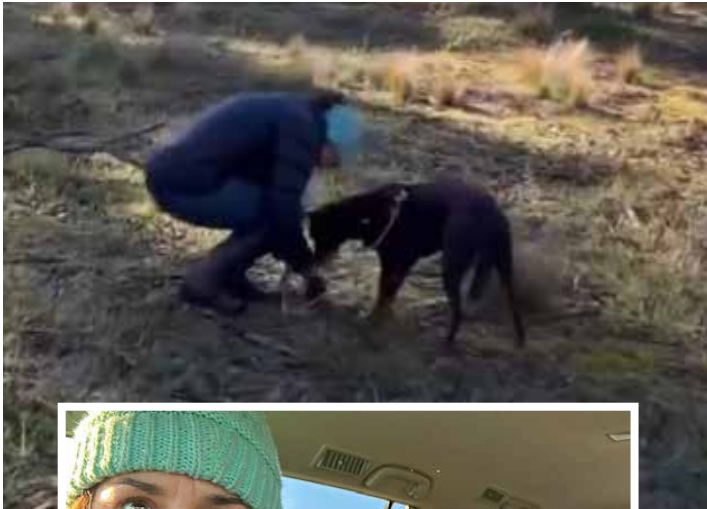


working breeds, often excel and thrive in the sport. From energetic German Shorthaired Pointers to smaller dogs like Mini Dachshunds, many can succeed.

- *Teamwork:* Handlers learn to trust their dog's nose, observing subtle body language changes as the dog works through difficult scenting conditions. It is a collaborative, on-lead activity that builds teamwork between the dog and owner.

There are two types of scents: ground scent and body scent.

- *Ground scent:* is the scent of the ground disturbance left where the tracklayer has come into contact with it. It contains odours coming from the bruising and damaging of grass and foliage, the crushing of roots and the scent of soil bacteria and moulds that are released where soil surfaces have been broken by the tracklayer. As a track ages, the



scent of the decay organisms working on the damaged roots and plants is present.

- **Body Scent:** is a personal scent left by the tracklayer coming from normal body odour left in the air. The tracklayer may have also touched a shrub or grass leaving their scent on it. Scent can also come from particles of skin, hair, clothing, fluff, or shoe leather shed on the track.

Tracking as a dog sport has been in Australia for over 40 years.

Under present rules, in a tracking trial, the track may be from twenty minutes to up to four hours old depending on the level being undertaken.

It's common for Tracking Trials to be held mostly in winter to avoid the increased snake activity and heat during the warmer months of the year. Tracking Trials cover areas of bushland and paddocks. Track & Search Trials cover more urban areas finding lost people in urban or complex environments, requiring the dog to track across vegetation, concrete, and gravel.

### Why get into Tracking?

Tracking provides great enjoyment for owners watching their dogs perform a very natural behaviour, observing just how powerful a dog's sense of smell is. Tracking also provides both mental and physical stimulation for dogs.

Tracking is not for 'fair-weather' trainers because of the timing of most trials during winter. However, for those who

don't mind a bit of mud, it offers an incredible, unparalleled look into the powerful, mysterious world of a dog's senses.

### Competition Levels and Types

Tracking trials are generally broken down into several levels, with increasing complexity:

1. **Tracking Dog (TD):** Usually 400-800m long, aged for 20 minutes to one hour, featuring turns and articles.
2. **Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX):** Longer tracks (1,000-1,200m), older trails (1-3 hours), and deceptive 'cross tracks' to distract the dog.
3. **Tracking Champion (TCh):** Usually 1,200m, minimum of 6 changes of direction some of which are acute angles, a 'blind' start and trails aged from 1.5 hours up to 3 hours.
4. **Tracking Grand Champion (TGrCh):** Usually 1,200m, minimum of 8 changes of direction with several acute angles, a 'blind' start, a diversion track and trails aged from 2.5 hours up to 4 hours.

### How to Get Started

While dogs already know how to sniff, tracking training involves teaching them which scent to follow and how to work alongside a human.

- **Find a Club:** Contact BODC or other local obedience or tracking clubs to find mentors.
- **Essential Gear:** A secure tracking harness and a 10-metre (30-foot) lead are mandatory, as dogs must be worked on-lead in trials.
- **Initial Training:** Start with short, fresh tracks and build motivation, using food rewards (treats) at the start, along the track, and a big reward at the end. BODC has been hosting Intro to Tracking Workshops, and there is an annual tracking training weekend offered by the Tracking Club of Victoria in April every year.
- **Focus on Motivation:** The goal is to make tracking a fun game, not a stressful exercise.



## Congratulations Graduates – Term 1

**Congratulations to handlers and their dogs on their graduation in Term 2.**

If you do not see your name in the Graduations list please check with your instructor.

### Graduation information

- Handlers and dogs graduate at the end of term if they are ready.
- Graduation is judged on the overall progress made throughout the term and the handler's ability to utilise the training methods.
- There is no actual graduation test.
- Instructors will discuss graduating with handlers and dogs not ready to go into the next class level.
- Instructors welcome questions from handlers and will endeavour to assist where possible.

Scan the code to find out more



[www.bendigoobedienceclub.com/obedience-training.asp](http://www.bendigoobedienceclub.com/obedience-training.asp)

| Baby Puppies to Older Puppies                      | Older Puppies to Advanced Beginners |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Erica with Fleur & Orlando                         | Abbey, Nick & Charlie with Luna     |
| Mandy & Jon with Ash                               | Bronley with Zorro                  |
| Sandra with Kosi                                   | Clifton with Eddie                  |
| Sharnie with Charlotte                             | Dean & Sarah with Alfie             |
| Sharon with Boudie and Moet                        | Gail with Bowie                     |
| Older Puppies to Class 1                           | Kirsty with Coco                    |
| Sharon with Bran                                   | Leo with Luna                       |
|  | Ridge & Bronte with Sunny           |
| Beginners to Advanced Beginners                    | Beginners to Class 1                |
| Brooke & Ben with Bonnie                           | Candice & Jarrod with Sprocket      |
| Chanelle & Duncal with Meeko                       | Clare with Watson                   |
| Christian & Katelyn with Rafiki                    | Felicia & Kyle with Bucky           |
| Elaine & Keith with Peggy                          | Max with Maggie                     |
| Erin, Patricia, Kevin, Michaela & Brady with Allie | Shayne with Poppy                   |
| Pauline with Sammi                                 | Advanced Beginners to Class 1       |
| Sally & Jono with Roxy                             | Liz & Phil with Scooby              |
| Saul & Shirley with Muscat                         | Kathy with Sprocky                  |
| Simone with Peggy                                  | Stacey with Bailey                  |
|  | Susie with Max                      |
| Class 1 to Class 2                                 | Class 2 to Class 3                  |
| Anton with Bindi                                   | Barbara with Halo                   |
| Deanne with Digit                                  | Jill with Issy                      |
| Melissa with Charlie                               | Kat with Sonny                      |
| Monique with Ziggy                                 | Stacey with Atlas                   |
| Stacey with Theo                                   |                                     |
| Xavier with Bandit                                 |                                     |
| Class 3 to Class 4/5                               |                                     |
| Helen with Betty                                   |                                     |
| Marjorie with Pearl                                |                                     |
| Shania with Bailey                                 |                                     |



**Term 2 Lake Walk training for Classes 1 - 5  
see page 14 for more information**



## Give me space vests

**Our Club follows a 'Give Me Space' policy and all Club members should follow this instruction at all times, respecting members that choose to wear the yellow vest at Club class times.**



We recently had feedback from a member, where they commented on the struggle to collect a yellow vest when the hanger is in an area that is usually heavily populated with handlers and dogs - this area was quite close to the clubroom door, sheds and instructor parking.



We looked at this, and agreed. You will now find the area to collect the yellow vests is between the BBQ check-in area and the cricket pavillion.

Please be aware of members coming through this area to collect a vest - come to the hanger one at a time, and if you don't need a vest, don't be near this area or on the ground where these handlers and dogs will need to walk down to find a spot safe for them and you.

### Yellow vest reminders

- Handlers wearing yellow vests need at least 2 metres space around them at all times. This applies in all areas of the ground from when you arrive for class.
- Handlers may request to wear a vest or, at the discretion of the Instructor, handlers may be asked to wear a yellow vest for the safety and benefit of the dog needing the space and all other dogs in the vicinity.

More information can be found on our website. Click on the link [www.bendigoodbedienceclub.com/give-me-space-1.asp](http://www.bendigoodbedienceclub.com/give-me-space-1.asp)

## Meet the instructors

| TERM 2   |  |
|--|--|
| Wednesday Classes                              |  |
| Baby puppies (9.15am)                          | Denise Chrystal  |
| Self Help Group (10am)                         | Denise Chrystal, Nicole Cramer (assistant)                         |
| Older puppies (6pm)                            | Alexandra Gartmann, Sarah Franks, Meredith Marshall, Monique Brain |
| Advanced Beginners (6pm)                       | Rob Hopman, Jodie Bajada   |
| Beginners (7pm)                                | Alexandra Gartmann, Sarah Franks, Meredith Marshall                |
| Sunday Classes                                 |  |
| Class 1 (9.30am)                               | Sarah Franks   |
| Class 2 (9.30am)                               | Bryn Wedgeford   |
| Class 3 (9.30am)                               | Greg Hicks   |
| Class 4 - social (10.30am)                     | Clive James  |
| Class 5 - advanced obedience & rally (10.30am) | Merle Hopman   |
| Special Disciplines                            |  |
| Agility (Sunday morning*)                      | Meredith Marshall, Alexandra Gartmann, Sarah Crocker               |
| Tricks (Tuesday night*)                        | Denise Chrystal, Nicole Cramer (assistant)                         |
| Scent work (Thursday night)*                   | Heather Turpie, Sandra Price                                       |

\* Check times with instructors.

## What activities can I do with my dog at BODC?

**Bendigo Obedience Dog Club supports members looking to do different activities with their dogs. The club has training/ workshops in different disciplines and instructors offer help and training advice.**

- Tracking
- Rally
- Track and Search
- Obedience
- Agility
- Scent Work
- Tricks

Do any of these interest you?

Further details will be available on our website soon. In the meantime, speak to one of our instructors or email [bendigoodcmembers@gmail.com](mailto:bendigoodcmembers@gmail.com)



# Last day of Term 1 fun!

Our last day of term 1 training was all about fun for handlers and dogs! We snapped some pics of the fun on the day!





# Adventure Dog 2026

With Wandin's forecast top temperature of 13° C, seven intrepid handlers from BODC and their excited dogs rugged up and headed off to participate in Adventure Dog 2026, a fundraiser event for Animal Aid. The dogs (with their people in tow) took on horse jumps, jelly pools, ball pits, pool noodle forests, foam blocks, mud puddles, colour runs, and commando crawls – some with more relish than others. There was plenty to keep the dogs interested and challenged over the 4km course. There was heaps of laughter, and the dogs all seemed to have a wonderful time. The weather even put on an extra couple of degree so that the team didn't feel too cold while they were moving.

Looking back now, a month later, the team can say they've mostly got the mud rinsed off. Most of the dogs were less-than-impressed with having to have a bath once they got home but the handlers weren't so disinclined.

The team would like to thank Jodie for designing and organising BODC Mud Dog team caps. You might see them being worn around the Club with the mud splatters remaining as evidence of an excellent day out in support of dogs and their care.

Have a think about joining in when the event rolls around again in 2027!



## Tails of Joy Across the Community

Bingo is 4 years old and a very anxious and nervous dog. I thought I would try her at learning how to herd sheep with Chevelle from LL's. She certainly surprised me! Her instinct took over and she found her calling. Now its my turn to learn direction commands and hopefully we can make a decent team together.

- Barb



Molly joined us when we went to Bunnings for an outing! There was plenty for Molly to look at and lots of smiles and pats came her way!

- Juliette

Show us what your four legged friend has been up to!

Send in a photo, along with your name and your dog's name, with a description of where you were and what you're doing. All entries will appear in a 2026 edition of 'The Recall' newsletter and go in the draw for a prize at our last day of training for 2026.\*

Send in your entries to [bendigoodnews@gmail.com](mailto:bendigoodnews@gmail.com)



Here is one of Turbo's favourite tricks... jumping on this stump at the Bright Arboretum. Big brother Rocket patiently looks on.

- Tanya

\* Your description may be edited for space and newsletter content guidelines. We want to see your dogs out in the community or at community-run events, so no official trial stories or photos please. Prize will be drawn at random.



Stay Pawsome

## Term 2 Lake Walk

training for  
Classes 1 - 5

Join Greg and Clive for obedience  
training and a walk on

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June at  
Lake Weeroona**

**9.30am - meet near the Rowing Club**

**Note:**

- No classes will be held at the Club grounds on this day.
- As always, please keep an eye on Facebook for any weather updates.

## Don't forget our website!

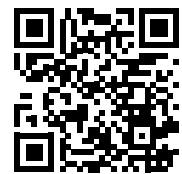
Our website is an  
informative source of Club  
information,  
so keep checking back for  
new content. You will find:

- Enrolment information / yearly fees
  - Calendar of training and events
  - Dog sports information
  - History of our club
- .... and much more!

Feedback is always welcome!  
Please email any suggestions to  
bendigoodcnews@gmail.com



*So don't sit, drop  
or stay - click on the  
code to check out  
our website!*



## Club Sponsors

Bendigo Obedience Dog Club thanks our valued sponsors for their support.



*We'd love to hear from you!*

Do you have any feedback for our newsletter, or maybe you have your own training journey to share, please let us know. Email [bendigoodcnews@gmail.com](mailto:bendigoodcnews@gmail.com)

The contents of this newsletter have been carefully compiled by volunteers and are believed to be correct at the time of publication. Neither the Executive nor the Committee of BODC will be held responsible for any errors or omissions relating to the contents of this newsletter regardless of cause.