



The Tararua Tailwagger

June 2023

**Join us on Facebook for Club news & updates
or letting us know if you aren't able to get to class**

Term 2 is over, and it was great to see your commitment to training and coming to classes even not on the best of days. The progress you all made is amazing, and while not everyone may have passed the assessment, please don't feel bad about it. Some things take time.

We hope to see you all in Term 3, so make sure you complete the application form promptly to ensure your spot. Please refer to the diagram on p. 8 to check what class(es) you can do.

Also, we have some good news for those of you who only failed to pass the course on one exercise. You will have a chance to redo the assessment for this course on the first night of Term 3 (18 July). So please use the break time to practice and continue building the skills.

We are holding training rings for Obedience, Rally-O, and Scent on Saturday, 1st July, so please come along to see what different dog sports involve (see the flyer on p.9)

In this issue, you will find the updates on the results from the most recent competitions and some of our members' most inspiring stories.

The topic for this issue is *Adopting a rescue dog*, and our members tell about their journeys with their best mates who were not very fortunate before they met their forever humans.

We also included a recipe that you can try and a game you can play with your pooch (see pp. 8-9).

Term dates for 2023

Term 1 (at Ashhurst)
7.02.23 – 4.04.23

Term 2 (at Longburn)
2.05.23 – 27.06.23

Term 3 (at Longburn)
18.07.23 – 12.09.23

Term 4 (at Ashhurst)
3.10.23 – 28.11.23

Location of training

In Ashhurst we train at the Manawatu Canine Centre grounds, accessed through the carpark on Cambridge Avenue

Our Longburn facility is in Ngaire Street (first turn on the right after the railway overbridge)

Class times

Classes times will be given out on the first night of term.

Classes last for 30-45 minutes.

Your committee

President: Anthea F.

Vice President: Meredith P.

Secretary: Sue C.

Treasurer: Nerolie M.

Senior instructor: Cushla F.

Publicity Officer: Elizaveta T.

Club captain: Dorothy C.

Enrolment Officer: Elizaveta T.

Members: Jess L., Monique C.,

Owen M., Tanya E.

Non Committee:

Trophy Steward: Uvana C.



CLUB MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

OBEDIENCE & WORKING TRIALS:

Cushla & Journey 05.06.23 Central Working Trials Club, UDX,
Highest qualifier

Cushla and Journey were awarded Colin Easton Memorial Trophy for Excellence in a single trial over King's Birthday weekend! Congratulations, team!



Cushla & Journey



Leesa & Lyric

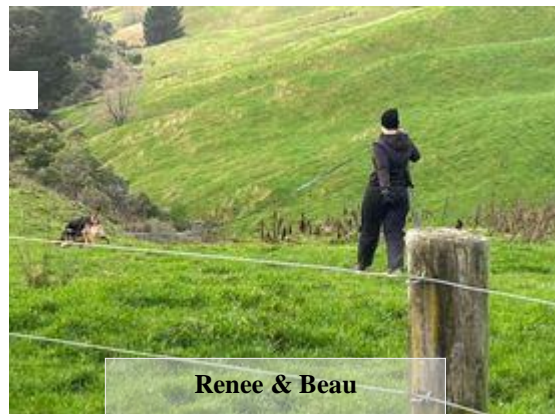
Leesa & Lyric

03.06.23 Central Working Trials Club,
TD, Highest qualifier and Best Hard
Surface Track

04.06.23 Central Working Trials Club, TD, Highest qualifier and Best Hard
Surface Track

Renee & Beau

03.06.23 Nelson DTC, Novice, 3rd place
04.06.23 Nelson DTC, Novice, 3rd place
05.06.23 Nelson DTC, Novice, 4th place
25.06.23 Central Working Trials Club,
Tracking Trial Level 2, A pass



Renee & Beau

CGC:

Renee & Beau 18.06.2023 Feilding DTC, Canine Good Citizen Silver and Gold



Beau



BREED SHOW RESULTS

Meredith & Nevis (CH Speyside Highland Fling CGC B)

3.6.23 Horowhenua Kennel Championship Spay/Neuter class – Best Bitch and Best of Breed

4.6.23 Horowhenua Kennel Championship – Spay/Neuter class – Best Bitch, Best of Breed, Reserve Best of Gundog Group



Meredith & Islay (Speyside Scots Thistle, 10 months)

3.6.23 Horowhenua Kennel Championship – 2nd in a class of 7 Puppy Bitches

3.6.23 Whanganui & District Gundog – 1st in a class of 7 Puppy Bitches, Puppy of Breed

4.6.23 Horowhenua Kennel Championship – 2nd in a class of 8 Puppy Bitches

4.6.23 Whanganui & District Gundog – 1st in a class of 8 Puppy Bitches, Puppy of Breed

Meredith & Oliver (Speyside Ben Riach, 10 months, belongs to K & K Moore)

4.6.23 Horowhenua Kennel Championship – 3rd in a class of 3 Puppy Dogs

4.6.23 Whanganui & District Gundog – 1st in a class of 3 Puppy Dogs



SCENT WORK RESULTS

Horowhenua ODTC held a Dogs NZ Scentwork Trial on the weekend of 17/18 June. Several teams from our Club participated and gained quite a few qualifications.

Renee & Beau: Novice Interior, Novice Vehicle (X2), Novice Exterior, Novice Container A, Novice Container B. Beau gained Novice Container Search title (NCS) and Scentwork Novice (SN)

Christine & Lani: Novice Exterior (this search completed Lani's qualification as Scentwork Novice)

Robyn & Heidi: Novice Containers A&B (x2), and Novice vehicle

Liza and Vega: Novice Containers A&B

Liza and Saoirse: Novice Containers (A&B), Novice Exterior, Novice Vehicle



Beau



Liza with Vega and Robyn with Heidi



Members' success stories

In this edition of *Tailwagger*, we celebrate the successes of three of our members: Tanya, Dorothy, and Monique. All of their dogs have one thing in common: they are all rescue dogs. We hope that the inspiring stories below will encourage and motivate you, and show how through persistence, perseverance, and commitment, you two can achieve great results and strengthen your bond!

Tanya and Drive

Well what can I say? I put a call out to a couple of very good friends that I was on the lookout for a puppy and to get back into obedience competition, and this little bundle turned up like it was meant to be.

I had been out of the dog world for some time supporting my daughter with horses and when she left home I felt it was time to get another dog. A friend contacted me about this little bundle needing a home urgently. I rung for details on a Wednesday, drove to Tauranga on a Friday, and up to Auckland for my first puppy training lesson that Friday night.

Like all - getting a puppy you struggle with getting the right name. Both hubby and myself had bounced a few ideas around but we knew that when I found a puppy, the name would jump out. The 6hr trip gave me a lot of time to ponder and as soon as I met him – DRIVE was going to be his name. Not because of the long drive, and extra travel to get to Auckland, but because he has some key elements I wanted for a competition dog to have: both food and play drive. My fingers bled from mince training, and we have had a few toys destroyed.



In Auckland with my friend and mentor, we started the journey of competition puppy training with me learning foundations and starting from the very beginning. He proved to be a very smart cookie picking up what I was asking fast and it was me who was struggling to keep up the momentum.

Once back home, we learnt some more of his background and that he had not experienced a lot of what a well-brought up puppy would have been exposed to. There was a lot of environment experiences he had missed out on being brought up in a kennel with his mum and sibling. He didn't know what traffic was or other day-to-day noises around the house. So, along with doing short stints of foundation training, we spent a lot of time acclimatising him to different situations like sitting by the supermarket

watching the traffic go past. It didn't take him long to learn and to carry on without worrying. Other smart things he did was put his foot in a bowl to stop it moving around the floor and fold long toys up to carry them without dragging beside him so that he could run faster.

Along with that, he had to deal with pet sheep chasing him, being careful around the horses, and ignoring the cats because they were not happy having an energetic monster around. All that he learnt speedily, like it was alright to clean the cat bowls when they finish but that he was not allowed to eat the cat biscuits sitting in the other room.

As he got older and stronger our walks got longer and he could come with me for rides with the horse with the beach being his most favourite place. Wherever I went, he just wanted to be with me.

While continuing with obedience training, we decided to give agility a



spin as there are some very good skills to learn with the agility foundation training. He excelled there picking up these skills fast, and running fast, with me lagging behind. Though we did have to stop when he started to show signs of lameness of which was a result of a number of issues, one being hit by another dog running at full speed and being weak in his structure as he was growing so fast. Decision was made that we will return to this at a later date - but only when he was fully matured and stronger.

He was 15mths old (August 2021) when we entered our first obedience competition, I was so nervous, hoping I did everything right to ensure I could give him the best ring experience and build his confidence. Though no ribbons on that day, he was a star in my eyes, and we did pick up a minor placing the next day. From then, we were away winning his last Test B in April 2022 and also winning the Central Region Top Novice Dog Ribbon for 2022.

Though it wasn't always easy, and we came up against a couple challenges. The main one was Drive not wanting to leave me if there were men nearby. We are so lucky in our Region to have some amazing obedience friends who took time to help by playing with him and being there to help him work through this. He is also possessive of what he deems to be his, and wants to protect these things from other dogs. Something again that has come from his baby puppy life before he came to me where he had to scarp for his food.

We are now training for Test C. Though no date has been planned for the first competition, we are enjoying the journey. I have learnt so much from my buddy and continue to learn through my own errors. I know he just wants to please and if he doesn't get it right, I have to look back at what I have done. Not only is he a competition dog, he is first and foremost MY PAL, and I feel I am always taking home the best dog on any day. As I tell most, you strive to improve, celebrate what has improved, and the ribbons are just the bonus.

Monique and Echo

My journey with my dog began in March last year. I was doing my usual scrolling through dogs at the SPCA when I came across a 1-and-a-half-year-old border collie cross with different coloured eyes. I applied to adopt her and got a call a week later inviting me to go and look at her. I went up to Napier and fell in love when we met. I took her home that day.

The first few months were rough. I got the puppy blues. I had so much expectation on what it would be like to have a dog and it was different which caused me to question a lot. I didn't know much about her past but from her actions I could tell it wasn't anything good. This meant that I had to very patient with her and try to build trust between us. A month after I got her she got into a dog fight at the dog park which caused me to question a lot about her character and what had happened.

I joined in term 2 at Tararua in 2022 as that is where our family dog had trained 14 years prior. It was an awesome bonding experience and she picked everything up well. I was a little apprehensive with her around other dogs since they fight but she was too focused on me in class to worry about the other dogs.



We flew through basic and intermediate and then started at competition obedience.

This year we have started to compete and in the last 2 months have had a first in Elementary one and two.

My advice for getting a rescue is to be patient. This is all new (possibly, for both of



you) so take time to figure each other out. Also, remember how far you have come. It can be easy to forget the huge improvements the both of you make together.

Dorothy and Coco



I got Coco when she was 6 ½ months old from the Palmerston North SPCA. I was told at the time that she was “an owner surrender” as they had too many puppies, but very soon I realized that this may not have been the case. The way Coco behaved around men displaying strong signs of fear and anxiety made me think that this was a learnt behaviour induced by the way she had been treated.

I had a plan in place to help her deal with that and we worked very hard on this issue. One of the things I did was get different men to feed her from a distance (i.e. put the food on the ground or in her bowl, and walk away) and then slowly get closer to her. Completing the basic and intermediate classes at TADTC also helped a lot with more advice given by the instructors; it also provided an opportunity to socialize Coco in a controlled environment.

After completing the domestic obedience training, I went on to do the CGC (Canine Good Citizen) programme where the concept of obedience and socializing was taken to the next level, and the skills we learnt in the domestic classes were proofed and solidified. It also helped a lot that we had a male instructor who gave me lots of tips to work on Coco’s fear of men. It was a long journey, and I had to be very patient with Coco and simply persevere when things were not moving forward as fast as I wanted, so, eventually, things started to improve. I can see that she managed to overcome her childhood fears, and now she will come up to most strange men and ask for pats.

I am super proud of Coco and how far she has come and achieved the CGC Foundation and Bronze qualification. We are now doing scent work, and she is doing very well and enjoys finding the scent hides. One other interesting thing that I would like to share is that Coco self-taught herself how to calm my special needs son when needed by laying on him acting like a weight blanket!

My advice for anyone looking into getting a rescue dog is to take it slow with your new family member and get to know them and understand what they like, dislike, are afraid of, and excited about. Be patient and consistent with your training and make it fun for your dog by using positive reinforcement (treats, play, toys, etc.) every time they demonstrate the behaviour you expect or do what you ask them to. It is vitally important to teach your children (and their friends who come to visit) to be gentle. I also think that it’s a great idea to start crate training right away so that the dog learns that it has a safe place it can go to if needed.



Tailwagger thanks our contributors for their beautiful stories and helpful advice.

If you have a story that you would like to share, we will be happy to include it in our newsletter. Please email tailwagger.editor@gmail.com

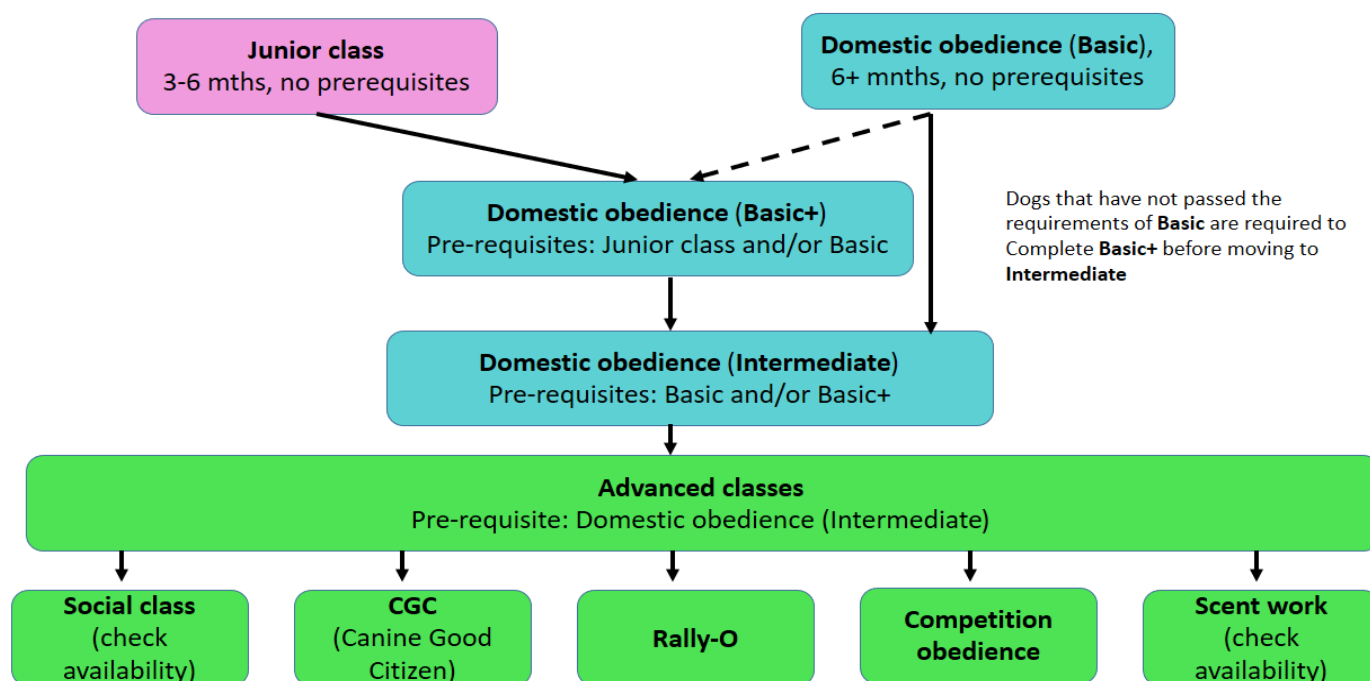


Planning your future training

Please, refer to the figure below to understand the prerequisites for classes and learn about the advanced options that our club offers. Please, note that to take advanced classes, your dog needs to pass Basic/Basic+ and Intermediate levels.

If you have successfully passed the requirements of the Intermediate level, it is a great idea to pick one of our advanced classes to build a stronger bond with your dog and enhance the skills your dog learnt in the domestic obedience classes. Please check our website <https://dogtraining.org.nz/> to know about the classes.

Please, talk to your instructor to discuss the best option for your dog.



Recipe to try: Single source meat treats

(selected, tried and tested by Anthea; tasted and approved by the furry critics)

You can use any kind of raw meat you can slice easily (I use liver, heart cheap steak, chicken breast etc.). You are looking to create a crisp dry treat that you can keep in your pocket without making a mess and that you can easily snap into treat size pieces.

Method:

1. Line an oven tray with baking paper
2. Slice meat thinly (approximately 2-3mm if you can)
3. Place cold tray into cold oven
4. Turn oven on to 150 degrees Celsius
5. Bake for 50 minutes (or a longer if you can't get your slices that thin).
6. Leave tray to dry in oven overnight (with door closed).

Tips:

- If you turn your meat over after 50 min, then turn the oven off, both sides will be crispy.



- You need a really sharp knife.
- Meat is easier to cut if it is still partially frozen.
- Store in a sealed container (if nicely dry/crispy, just in a cupboard will do, if a bit moist, then store in the fridge).

Game to try: Stack of boxes

This game helps with reactivity, recall and being cool with novelty as well as helps boost confidence, optimism, grit and flexibility.

You will need: Your dog, tasty food, cardboard boxes and you.

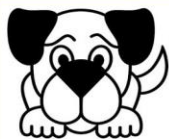
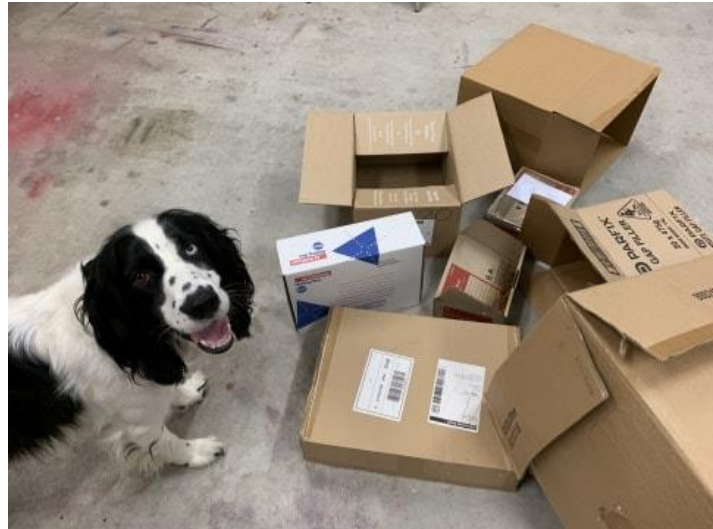
Step 1: Make sure the dog is ok with scatter-feeding on the floor first.

Step 2: Build your stack of boxes. Be creative and include spaces to go over, under, on and through. Scatter some food among the boxes.

Step 3: Allow the dog to investigate and keep scattering food without them noticing it.

Step 4: Observe carefully. Is the dog comfortable and confident?

Step 5: Keep the fun low pressure and build carefully to make sure the dog is confident throughout the game. Every now and then call the dog to you and then send back to the boxes.



Tararua Allbreeds Dog Training Club Training Day

We are running training rings on the Saturday 1st July at 10am at our club grounds in Longburn (17 Ngaire St)



Obedience Ring
(All tests available)

Rally-O Ring
(Courses to be set up)

Scent

\$2 per round.

Tea and coffee will be provided.



Gone but never forgotten



Our thoughts are with Nerolie, Owen and their family, who recently said goodbye to a good boy Christian. Nerolie and Christian enjoyed many years together competing in both Competition Obedience and then Rally-O.

Christian brought love and joy to his humans every day of his 15-year life. He will be dearly missed and remembered by all of us. R.I.P., Christian.

We also send our thoughts to Christine, who had to let her dog Shilah pass beyond the rainbow.

R.I.P. Shilah of Kincardine. Your first few years were devoted to becoming an area search dog for SAR, then Working Trials and tracking and finally scent work. You joined me on many tramps and were an incredibly faithful and loyal companion, always keen to do your best.

Christine



Contact details for the club:

Website: www.dogtraining.org.nz

Facebook: Tararua Allbreeds Dog Training Club

Email: tadtc@yahoo.co.nz – for information & queries

Please, email your news, updates, details and ideas for stories to tailwagger.editor@gmail.com

