



*Your quarterly dog club update: all the latest on the dogs, people, events and happenings at Titahi Bay Canine Obedience Club.*



On May 26 we held a double Championship Rally-O show and Obedience Ribbon Trial. For those who don't know about Rally-O, it was started in the 1990's and is a dog sport that can be enjoyed by dogs and people of all ages and abilities. The dog and handler are required to perform a different exercise every few metres, with points deducted if mistakes are made by either. Rally-O has evolved from Competition Obedience but doesn't require the same level of precision. The main aim is to get a score of 90% or more and earn a qualifying certificate. Once you have gained enough certificates you can get a Dogs NZ title. We also give prizes and ribbons to the 3 best scores in each of 6 grades. If there are ties on points then the fastest to complete the course wins.

Because this was a double show there were a very good number of entries. It was a very successful show and a lot of thanks needs to go to everyone who helped out for the weekend. Special thanks go to Lynette Bell from our club. She was Show Secretary for the first time and did an excellent job. It was a fun weekend so if you want to join in next time then think about helping out on the BBQ, in the kitchen, setting up the rings, being a timekeeper or just come along and have a look.

While we're saying thank yous, I'd like to thank the people that come along to puppy pats. Over the last two terms we have been lucky enough to not only get our regulars visitors, but also many Wellington Free Ambulance staff in uniform and carrying gear, Police in full uniform, Sea Scouts and Girl guides. This is such a positive controlled-experience for the puppies, who will hopefully grow up with the skills needed to confidently meet unknown strangers throughout their lives. If you know of anyone that would like to take part in the next one on the 5th of August, get them to email [craigbcboc@gmail.com](mailto:craigbcboc@gmail.com).

**Craig Prattley**  
President, TBCOC



*A crisp, cool evening of Domestic training at TBCOC*

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**2024 Committee members**

Craig Prattley - President

Geoff Collins - Vice-President

Claudia Samitz - Treasurer

Erin McKenzie - Secretary

Lianne Davies - Class Coordinator

Antonia Allum - Comms and Web

Bronwyn Weir

Glen Robinson

Iain Clarke

Jacqui Austin

Jan McKenzie

Jenny Greer

Lynette Bell

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Every newsletter we will dig deep and publish a profile of one or more of our members and their lovely dogs...



### ***Jacqui Austin***

I joined our wonderful club back in 2007 after meeting my sister's neighbour in Foxton and being encouraged to join a class with our puppy 'Chip'. Thought this would be a good idea after being dragged down the street every time we went for a walk with our previous dog Gadget. Right off the bat we learnt more in week 1 than we did with 3 weeks with another club which we stopped attending because dog, hubby and I were so bored. Chip the Lab became one of the best dogs in Puppy and Dom 1-4 classes (mainly because he just loved treats).

2008, I was invited to sit in on a Committee meeting. I left that night quite bewildered because I was asked to become an instructor, to which I said, 'I don't know anything about instructing'. The reply I got was, 'you know more than the person arriving'. It's funny to look back now on how things have changed. Also, I was asked to become Treasurer for the club and accepted the position at the next AGM; once again I was not confident in this area; but because my husband and I ran our own business the committee thought otherwise 😊😊. I did this for 4 years while moving all the accounts to a new system called MYOB, having a full-time job and raising 3 kids. All my husband did was just laugh.

For 10 years I had various other roles including President, Vice President, and Secretary. I honestly can say I have enjoyed all the various roles I have done. I'm still on the committee 15 years later.

I ran a Sunday Puppy Social Class every Sunday for over 10 years, this was a great success, people who came really enjoyed themselves, we had fun games, safe off-lead play time, basic training, tricks, tunnels and fun courses. It was only late last year that I decided it was time to take back my Sundays. I really miss that side of what I did. I always loved the 'tunnel of love' where dogs ran to their owners while distracted with other owners and dog to the side - everyone knew this was really my cuddle time. I still get people contacting me asking if the class is still running.

My absolute love of what I do is training dogs, seeing them arrive and the massive improvement they make after a few weeks, I love helping people get through the day-to-day and teaching them to have fun with their dogs, all while having good obedience skills.

I have put through a few of my dogs at club. My favourite dog was a Rottie called 'Gemma' who I was told should be put down because of 'behavioural issues', I had to spend a lot more time with her, but in the end her favourite places in the world were club and home because she could let her guard down. In public we only walked on-lead and off when we clearly had the place to ourselves, but at club she could be off lead with another 50 dogs working in close proximity. Unfortunately, she was taken from us at age 5 by an aggressive bone cancer. We now have tweedle-dee and tweedle-dum: Axel/lickalotapus and Odie/snuffaluffagus, two very energetic dogs who just love to run and, you guessed it, lick and sniff.

Have fun training everyone!

***Postscript – since Jacqui wrote her profile, the beautiful Odie tragically has passed away. We all send her and her family our love and condolences.***



- **Term 3**, 2024 begins on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> July (Puppy classes begin 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> July).



- **Graduation** for Term 3 is on Mon 9<sup>th</sup> and Tues 10<sup>th</sup> September.
- All Term 3 classes will be held at either our [Club grounds, Ngatitoa Domain](#), or at [Kākāriki Stables](#) near Battle Hill.
- Our next **Canine Good Basics assessment** is 16<sup>th</sup> September.
- Our next **Canine Good Citizen assessment** day is 13<sup>th</sup> October.
- **Enrolment** for Term 4, 2024 is open 20 Sep (8pm) - 25 Sep (8pm) 2024.
- Don't forget, all enrolment, start, and graduation dates can be found on the [Important Dates](#) page of our website.



Again, over the last few months again, our members and their dogs have had considerable success in a various tests and trials and continue to have fun!



*Maybe it's time for you to take your training to the next level and join our competitors at one of the shows....*

## **Obedience Champ Shows**

Obedience Champ shows have 5 levels starting at Beginners and going through Novice, Test A, Test B to Test C, the highest level. Many shows also have an Elementary class which is a lead-in to Beginners. Just recently, too, some other introductory level classes are beginning to be introduced.

### **Wanganui Show Champ 6/7 April 2024**

*Show 1*

**Jane Gunn & Tosca, 3<sup>rd</sup> Novice**

**Irene Kilford & Robbie, 4<sup>th</sup> Test C**

*Show 2*

**Sherrie McIntyre & Ditto, 1<sup>st</sup> Test B – now a big Test C dog**

**Irene Kilford & Macy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Test B**

### **Avalon Champ Show, 13/14 April 2024**

*Show 1*

**Lynette Bell & Charlie, 4<sup>th</sup> Novice plus award for best retrieve**

**Angelique Aamodt & Orix, 2<sup>nd</sup> Test A,**

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 1<sup>st</sup> Test B**

**Irene Kilford & Macy, 4<sup>th</sup> Test B**

**Irene Kilford & Robbie, 1<sup>st</sup> Test C – now an Obedience Champion**

**Rosemary Mortimer & Hector, 2<sup>nd</sup> Test C**

**Royce Hughes & Blade, 5<sup>th</sup> Test C**

*Show 2*

**David Oliver & Wally, 2<sup>nd</sup> Elementary 1**

**Stephanie McAlister & Frost, 2<sup>nd</sup> Elementary 2**

**Irene Kilford & Macy, 1<sup>st</sup> Test B**

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 5<sup>th</sup> Test B**

**Angelique Aamodt & Turbo, 2<sup>nd</sup> Test C**

### **North Taranaki Show, 20/21 April, 2024**

*Show 1*

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 4<sup>th</sup> Test A**

*Show 2*

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 5<sup>th</sup> Test A**

**Angelique Aamodt & Turbo, 3rd Test C**

*Show 3*

**Anna Hunt & Moxie, 1<sup>st</sup> Elementary 1**

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 4<sup>th</sup> Test A**

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 5<sup>th</sup> Test B**

***Taupo, 11/12 May 2024 (Triple Show)***

*Show 1*

**Irene Kilford & Macy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Test B**

*Show 2*

**Irene Kilford & Macy, 1<sup>st</sup> Test B**

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 1<sup>st</sup> Test A**

**Rosemary Mortimer & Hector, 4<sup>th</sup> Test C**

*Show 3*

**Jane Gunn & Tosca, 4<sup>th</sup> Novice**

**Geoff Collins & Inka, 4<sup>th</sup> Novice**

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 4<sup>th</sup> Test A**

**Irene Kilford & Macy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Test B**

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 5<sup>th</sup> Test B**

**Irene Kilford and Macy were awarded overall top Dog for the weekend!**

***Napier Show, 18/19 May, 2024***

*Show 1*

**Erin McKenzie & Harley, 4<sup>th</sup> Beginners**

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 2<sup>nd</sup> Test A**

**Sherrie McIntyre & Sizzle, 5<sup>th</sup> Test A**

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 2<sup>nd</sup> Test B**

*Show 2*

**Erin McKenzie & Harley, 3<sup>rd</sup> Beginners**

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 3<sup>rd</sup> Test A**

**Angelique Aamodt & Orix, 4<sup>th</sup> Test A**

**Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 2<sup>nd</sup> Test B**

***Nelson Champ Show, King's Birthday Weekend***

*Show 1*

**Geoff Collins & Inka, 5<sup>th</sup> in Novice**

**Irene Kilford & Macy, 3rd Test B**

*Show 2*

Lynette Bell & Charlie, 4<sup>th</sup> in Novice

Irene Kilford & Macy, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Test B



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## ***Dogs NZ Scent Work Novice & Advanced Trials***

In Scentwork trials the prime goal is for dogs to gain Qualifying Certificates for finding Search Odours in a certain amount of time. Within the Dogs NZ code, dogs can win ribbons for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places and these are based on speed. There are also Judges Awards



which are awarded when teams have caught the Judge's eye for some particular attribute of the search – these can be more valued than a placing.

TBCOC dogs have taken part in three DNZ or SSANZ Trials over the last few weeks.



***Dogs NZ Novice, & Advanced Scentwork Trial, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> May (Fielding & Tararua clubs)***

*During the **Saturday Trial** we had the following TBCOC Novice teams qualify in all 5 searches (Container A & B, Vehicle, Exterior, Interior)*

**Antonia Allum & Cairo** with a Judges Merit Award

**Alison Chapman & Rosa**

**Claudia Samitz & Sol**

Other qualifiers were, in alphabetical order:

**Aimee Cotter & Nyx**, Interior and Exterior

**Vicky Disbury & Freya**, 3 out of 3 searches in Exterior, Interior and Vehicle and gaining their NVS title (Vehicle)

**Marion Holman & Aria**, Exterior, Vehicle & Containers A & B

**Alannah Knapp & Breeze** Interior, Vehicle & Containers A & B and with a Judges Choice Award in Vehicle & Container B!!

**Kim Lusby & Tom**, Interior, Vehicle & Containers A & B

**Kylie McCarthy & Murray**, Exterior

**Erin McKenzie & Harley**, Container B

**Jan McKenzie & Geordie**, 2 out of 2 in Vehicle & Exterior

**Jan McKenzie & Solitaire**, Container B with a merit award for the fastest search of 6.97 seconds

Special congratulations to the first time Trialists of **Rosa, Nyx, Tom, Murray, Harley** and

**Solitaire** – they all did themselves proud!

In the **Sunday Advanced** trial there was only one TBCOC entrant. At the Advanced level, the dog needs to find 2 hides in each search.

**Jan McKenzie & Poppy** – qualified in Advanced Exterior & Container Searches



***Dogs NZ Novice, & Advanced Scentwork Trial, 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> June (Horowhenua Club)***

During the Saturday trial we had the following dogs qualify:

**Novice:**

**Lynette Bell & Charlie**, Containers A & B

**Alison Chapman & Rosa**, Interior, Vehicle & Container A (highest qualifier)

**Aimee Cotter & Nyx**, Interior

**Vicky Disbury & Freya**, Interior & Exterior

**Anna Hunt & Moxie**, Container B, Interior, Exterior & Vehicle

**Erin McKenzie & Harley**, Containers A & B, Exterior & Vehicle

**Jan McKenzie & Geordie**, Vehicle

**Jan McKenzie & Poppy**, Interior

**Jan McKenzie & Solitaire**, Containers A & B

**Advanced:**

**Vicky Disbury & Freya**, Vehicle

**Jan McKenzie & Poppy**, Vehicle & Containers

Sunday Trial was a **Novice** Day only, with the following dogs qualifying:

**Lynette Bell & Charlie**, Vehicle & Exterior

**Alison Chapman & Rosa**, Vehicle, Exterior, Container A (fastest dog) and Container B

**Alannah Knapp & Breeze**, Vehicle, Exterior, & Containers A & B

**Erin McKenzie & Harley**, Vehicle & Container A

**Jan McKenzie & Geordie**, Interior, Exterior, & Vehicle

**Jan McKenzie & Solitaire**, Container B

Over the weekend there were 5 titles to be ratified by Dogs NZ:

**Alannah's Breeze** – NCS & NVS

**Vicky's Freya** – NES

**Jan's Geordie** – NVS

**Jan's Poppy** - ACS



### ***Dogs First, SSANZ Novice and Buried Hide Trials, 29 & 30<sup>th</sup> June***

*Day 1 Novice Qualifiers in all four searches – Container, Interior, Exterior & Vehicle*

**Briar Patterson & Albie**

**Marion Holman & Chai**

**Erin McKenzie & Harley**

**Alison Chapman & Rosa** & Judges Choice for Vehicle

**Anna Hunt & Moxie** & Judges Choice for Exterior

**Vicky Disbury & Freya**

**Rachel Fox & Wally** & Judges Choice for Exterior

**Lynette Bell & Charlie**

**Jan Voss & Pearl** & Judges Choice for Containers

*Other qualifying Scores were:*

**Aimee Cotter & Nyx** – 3/4 searches plus Top Team award



**Jan McKenzie & Solitaire** – 3/4 searches

**Zoe Henderson & Suzie** – 3/4 searches

**Sharon Wray & Poppy** – 3/4 searches

**Rachel Thompson & Ziggy** – 2/4 searches

**Nigel Thompson & Colin** – 2/4 searches

**Laura Yale & Noah** - 1/4 searches

*Day 2 Novice and Intermediate Buried Hides – Sand and Water*

### **Novice**

**Claudia Samitz & Sol** – Sand & Water

**Briar Paterson & Albie** – Sand & Water

**Marian Holman & Aria** – Sand & Water

**Alison Chapman & Rosa** – Sand & Water

**Laura Yate & Noah** – Water with Judges Choice award for Sand

**Anna Hunt & Moxie** – Sand & Water

**Rachel Fox & Wally** – Sand & Water

**Jan McKenzie & Poppy** – Sand & Water plus Top Team Award

### **Advanced**

**Brittany Jones & Halley** (owned by Jan Voss) - Sand and Water with Judges Choice award







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## ***Rally Obedience (Rally- O) Champ Shows***

Rally-O has 6 levels – Novice A & B, Advanced A & B and Excellent A & B, as well as Encore which is a course designed with no sits (great for older dogs). Competitors earn Qualifying Certificates to move up a level and gain titles.

***Napier, 19 May 2024***

Show 2

**Erin McKenzie & Harley, 3<sup>rd</sup> Novice A on qualifying points of 99/100**

***Titahi Bay Double Show, 26 May 2024***

**Erin McKenzie & Harley, 2 qualifying certificates in Novice A, Show 1 and in Show 2 with 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Craig Prattley & Abby, Qualifying Certificate in Novice A, Show 2**

**Rosemary Mortimer & Hector, 2 Qualifying Certificates in Novice B**

**Irene Kilford & Robbie, Qualifying Certificates in Advanced B & Excellent A with a 1<sup>st</sup> place in each**







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## ***Canine Good Citizen***

Canine Good Citizen is an award that any dog can do, and you can start your training at our classes at TBCOC. Once you have done your training you can join one of the assessment days that are run from time-to-time at different clubs, where dogs can qualify at four different levels – Foundation, Bronze, Silver, and Gold.

CGC is not easy to pass, and to get all four levels can take some months or even a year or two, depending on the amount of work put in. The next Titahi Bay CGC assessment day is on **13<sup>th</sup> October** and volunteering to help is a good way to find out what CGC is all about. Dogs need to have passed at least Domestic 3 (or Domestic Obedience 2 + the Canine Good Basics exam) to enrol for a club CGC Class.

### **Wairarapa Club CGC Assessment at the end of June**

**Erin McKenzie & Harley** – passed CGC Foundation and Bronze



*Erin and Harley at Hoopers*



## ***Does your dog have the winter blues?***

Does your dog seem a little bit sad and bored at this time of year? If so, they may well be experiencing some sort of seasonal depression! What is termed SAD or Seasonal Affective Disorder in humans, can also occur in dogs.

Research shows that about 40% of dog owners report seeing a significant downturn in the mood of their 4-legged friend in the winter months. Although dogs can't vocalise their emotions in the same way as humans, they can still experience depression in the form of sadness and grief. They may have less energy, sleep for longer periods, and demand more affection from their owners.



One of the primary causes of this winter seasonal slump is a lack of natural light! Fortunately, there are ways to increase your Pup's exposure to light and to lift their mood. One obvious way is to take your dog for a walk during the brightest part of the day or have a play time in the garden at that time.

### **What is the reason behind SAD?**

It is all to do with the effect that light has on hormones. One of these hormones is Melatonin. More of this is produced when light is low – and an increase of Melatonin results in increased feelings of lethargy. The other hormone affected by light is Serotonin. Just as in humans, Serotonin is thought to have a tangible effect on the mood of dogs, affecting appetite and sleep as well.

### **What can we do about it?**

- As lack of light is thought to be one of the major contributing factors to low mood in dogs, increasing your dog's exposure to light is the best way to tackle it.
- Try to maximise the amount of time they spend in the daylight – going for walks in the brightest part of the day and grabbing extra chances to play outside or doing some training or teaching tricks!!
- If the weather is not good, there are no excuses because training play can be done inside and there are lots of brain games to keep your dog stimulated and cheered.
- Having your doggy friends over for a play-date is also a good idea.
- You can also try moving your dog's bed to the brightest spot in your home.

### **Signs to look out for, which may indicate low mood or depression in your dog**

- Loss of appetite or changes in eating patterns
- Excessive attention-seeking or clinginess
- Withdrawal from activities and games they usually enjoy
- Lethargy and sleeping more often
- Barking or howling excessively
- Destructive behaviours such as chewing or digging
- Inability to settle or restlessness
- Toileting indoors
- New behaviours such as reactivity or aggression

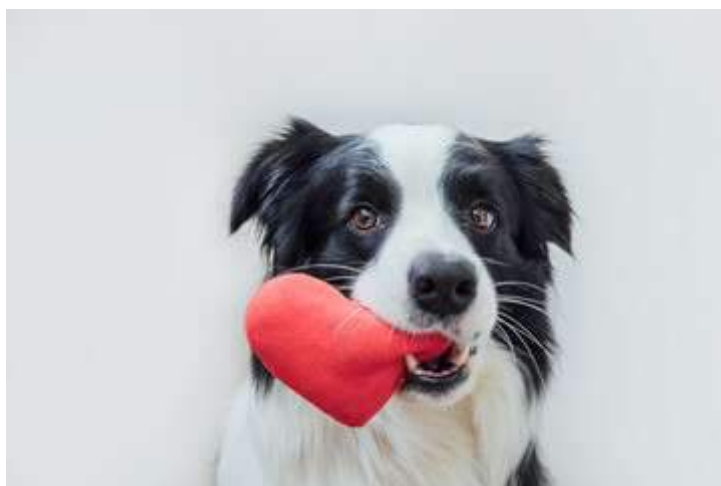
We also need to be aware that depression in dogs can be caused by various things, ranging from an obvious source like SAD to more discreet changes, or even a mix of multiple issues that have accumulated over time. Pain, a new environment or routine, grief, a lack of social, mental or physical stimulation, or even medical conditions can all lead to canine blues.

*If you are worried about your dog's mood, please consult your vet in case there is a medical issue.*



## ***Your dog is all heart!***

- Young puppies have the most rapid heartbeats: 160-200 bpm at birth and up to 220 bpm when they are 2 weeks old.
- An Adult dog's heart beats 60 to 140 times per minute.
- Usually, the larger the dog the slower the heartbeat. A Toy dog's heartbeat can be as high as 180 bpm!

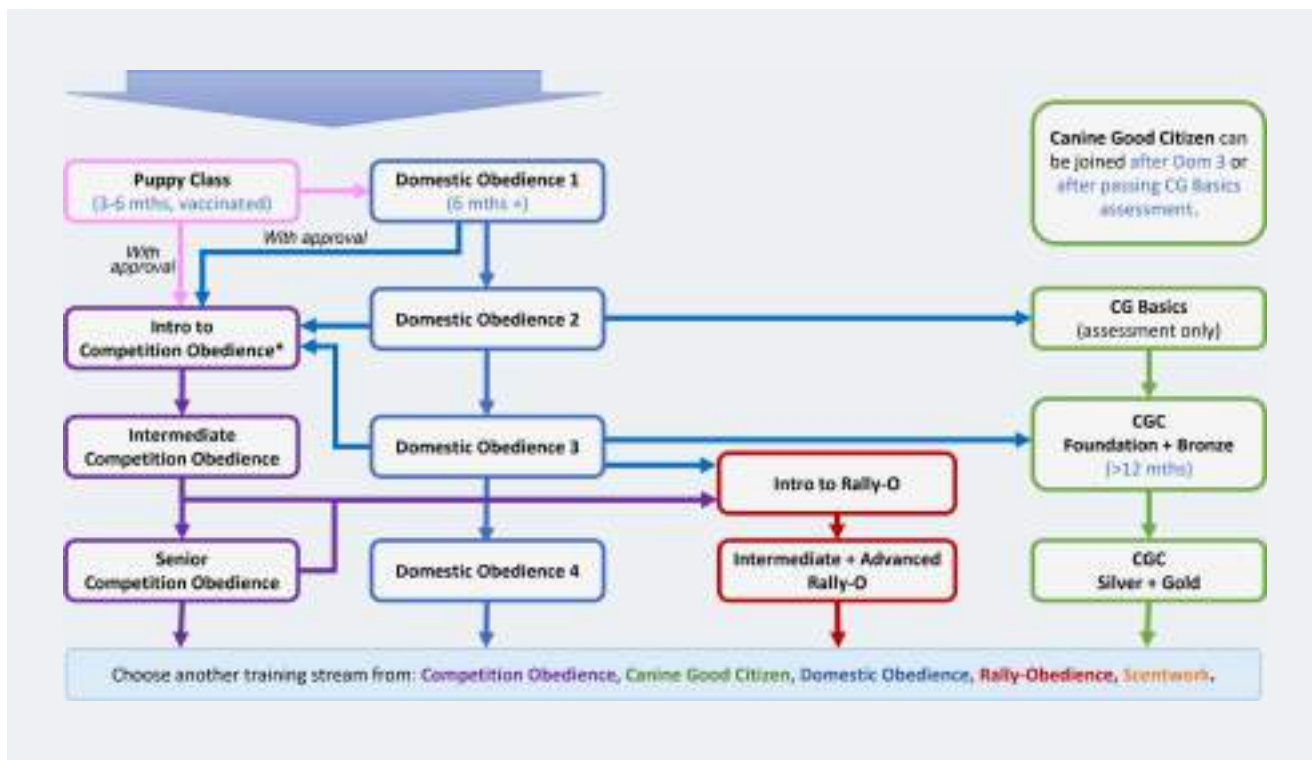


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## **Thinking about which class to take next?**

- Puppy classes – join after 2nd vaccination, from 3-6mths.
- Domestic Obedience – from Domestic 1 through to Domestic 4.
- Canine Good Citizen – from Foundation through Bronze and Silver to Gold.
- Competition Obedience – from Introduction through Intermediate to Senior.
- Rally Obedience - from Novice through Advanced to Excellent.

Have a look at your next training path and which pre-requisites you'll need by clicking on our Quick Reference Guide:



[www.tbcoc.org.nz](http://www.tbcoc.org.nz)

We hope you have enjoyed our new newsletter!

Please email [titahibayobedience@gmail.com](mailto:titahibayobedience@gmail.com) if there is something in particular you would like to see in our next edition.

See you next quarter,  
*The Lamppost Editorial Team*



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