



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

Term 1 enrolments:

10 Jan (8pm) - 15 Jan (8pm) 2024



Wow, that was quick – the editors are back asking me for my content, when it seems that I have only just finished correcting the spelling mistakes in the last one.

Summer is here, and if this is your first Summer with a dog then there are [a few things you need to know](#). Please check our website on some valuable safety tips, but I will just remind you of one. Asphalt can get up to 3 times the air temperature. Prior to Covid we took some dogs to the Tawa Christmas parade and our friends in the local fire brigade measured the road temperature. It was over 30°C and way too hot for our dogs to stand on. After hosing it with water it cooled to about half of that so we followed two firemen around, who dampened the road for us. A very simple test you can do, is put the back of your hand on the surface and count to 10. If it's too hot for you it's too hot for your dog. Remember dry sand can get very hot too.

Grounds (*there's a reason we call Craig our 'Lawn Enforcement Officer' - Ed.*) – some of the weeds that compete with our grass have arrived. I will be looking at having a weed pulling evening, probably on a Wednesday night, some time in January. I will put a note up on [Facebook](#). It's a lovely social time with other club members (you may even get some free training tips) and the more helpers, the quicker it is done.

2023 has been another big year for the club. We have we had two very well attended Championship Shows and have also allowed two other clubs to run their

hundreds of people and their dogs attending our domestic classes. Our competitive members regularly appeared as place-getters, title-holders or qualifiers in Competitive Obedience, Rally-O and Scent Work.

A huge number of our members who compete have been very successful this year – check out the results below and on [Facebook](#). If you are at all interested in competing, watch the Dogs NZ *NZ Dog World* magazine to see where the next competitions are being held, or drop us a line and we can put you in touch with someone who can help.

Volunteers – please remember no one in our club is paid for the time they work at the club. We have some amazing people who put a lot of hours into making your club one of the most successful in the country. That's why last year we, again, won the "Best Domestic Dog Training Club of the Year" for NZ. How could you help? We always need volunteers for work on the grounds and the clubrooms, providing baking for competition shows, help setting up the rings, manning the BBQ and the kitchen or acting as time keepers. If you think that the club has helped you with your dog, then how about giving something back by helping the club? Look on [Facebook](#) and our other communications for opportunities.

Instructors – we are very lucky at TBCOC to have some very enthusiastic trainers who, week after week, give up their time to help other people. It's not an easy job to get a new group each term and try to find what motivates each dog and handler; and in 7 weeks get them ready for an assessment. Especially, also, when you can count on at least one day disrupted with weather/Covid/handler illness/dog illness. But our instructors are a special group - I look at the dogs who are dragging their owners into the club on week one and the look on the instructors faces; and then on week 8 when certificate in hand most walk calmly out - and the instructor face says "they did it, not always sure how, but they did it". Also, the Competition instructors that are obviously doing a good job as the results at competitions show.

I would like, on behalf of all our members, to thank the instructors for all the work they do - for the hours of planning and the skill and fun they bring into training. Personally, I know it makes me feel really proud of the club to see dogs that were in our Puppy classes, now passing Domestic 1, 2,3 and 4, doing well in Rally-O an CGC, and even some that are regularly competing in shows and trials. Something kept those people coming back.

So, do you think you may like to become an instructor or help out with classes? If you have completed our Domestic classes, love dogs, and feel that you would make a great instructor, then let your instructor or myself know. You do not get thrown in at the deep end. We have a process which involves 2-3 terms of shadowing and assisting other instructors.

Also, a huge thank you to our "support crew" who may not be so visible, but without them our club would not survive:

Our committee – we meet every term and come to an agreement on most issues, which is amazing considering that there are so many different areas that concern the club from having people represent us on national committees, judging in all forms of dog sports and competitions, interactions with other clubs in good times and through

Our communications people – Antonia and Jan – keep everyone informed on what's happening with members through our website, Facebook and this brilliant newsletter.

Our people who organise the classes and enrolment each term – Lianne and Antonia.

The regulars – you know who you are! There are way too many to list! Everyone whom I ring to ask if you can do something and you just say OK!! You are the back bone of any club and personally I would like to thank you for saying “yes”!

Have a great Summer break and see you next year!

Craig Prattley
President, TBCOC



2023 Committee Executive:

Craig Prattley - President
Geoff Collins - Vice-President
Erin McKenzie - Secretary
Claudia Samitz - Treasurer

2023 Committee Members:

Lianne Davies - Class Co-ordinator
Antonia Allum - Comms/Web
Jan McKenzie
Bronwyn Weir
Jacqui Austin
Iain Clarke
Glen Robinson
Jenny Greer
Lynette Bell

As well as our committee members, we have a great group of instructors and members who keep our club running, who we would like to introduce you to, so every Lamppost we will publish a profile of one or more of our members and their lovely dogs so that you can get to know your pack.....

Rosemary with Moki and Hector



Rosemary Mortimer

I started training Competition Style Obedience back in the 1980's, at Wellington Canine Obedience Club with an elderly GSD, and then an elderly lab, both rescue dogs. Not great competition prospects, so I bought a GSD pup at a garage sale, and competed with her. I stopped in 1989 after realising that going to dog shows pushing a pram with one hand while holding a lead with a large GSD in the other, was not that much fun. I fully expected never to do it again!

We had various pet dogs along the way, and also times with no dogs. After Sharky, the Blue Heeler, passed away we hadn't had a dog for a few years and

He was OBCH Moki TCQ CDXG, our NZ Heading dog who passed away very recently at twelve years of age. As you can see from the fancy titles, he was pretty good at Competition Obedience and a whole lot of other things, including pet therapy, doggy dancing, finding lost dogs and being the most amazing, sweetest boy ever.

Three years later it was my turn to say 'I've seen a puppy', and we welcomed a Heading dog x BC puppy called Hector (or 'wild boy!'). OBCH Hector TCQ CDXG is now nine years old...and still full of drive to work and play.

I have been instructing Intro to Comp classes (and occasionally Puppies etc.) at TBCOC for most of those years. We now have two Intro to Comp classes, as well as Intermediate and Senior. Newer tests that were introduced, Elementary 1 and Elementary 2 (and more to come), have increased participation in the sport at entry level.

Being out of the sport for around twenty years before starting again with Moki, was a good thing. I came back in fresh with a very different type of dog. Back in the day almost no one used treats, 'just praise'... but for many that meant mostly corrections. When I came back to Competition training I discovered a whole new world of positive rewards-based training, and I embraced that. Over the last 12 years I have learned a lot about the science and art of training with rewards of all types, and creating the drive to work through play.

I am an artist and printmaker in real life, which seems a bit unrelated...but I also see dog training as a creative process, full of problem-solving and creative solutions. I have been fortunate to have worked with great trainers along the way, and had handler places in many seminars and training camps with top International trainers.

TBCOC is the best dog training club in the country (and has won that title from Dogs NZ twice over recent times). The club enthusiastically supports participation in dog sports for their members, and further education for instructors.

Over this last term some of our beautiful, and well-known dogs have sadly crossed over the Rainbow Bridge where they are running happily and free of pain.

Rosemary Mortimer's Moki

Sherrie McIntyre's Indie

Kat Thorstrand Mitchell's Rosie

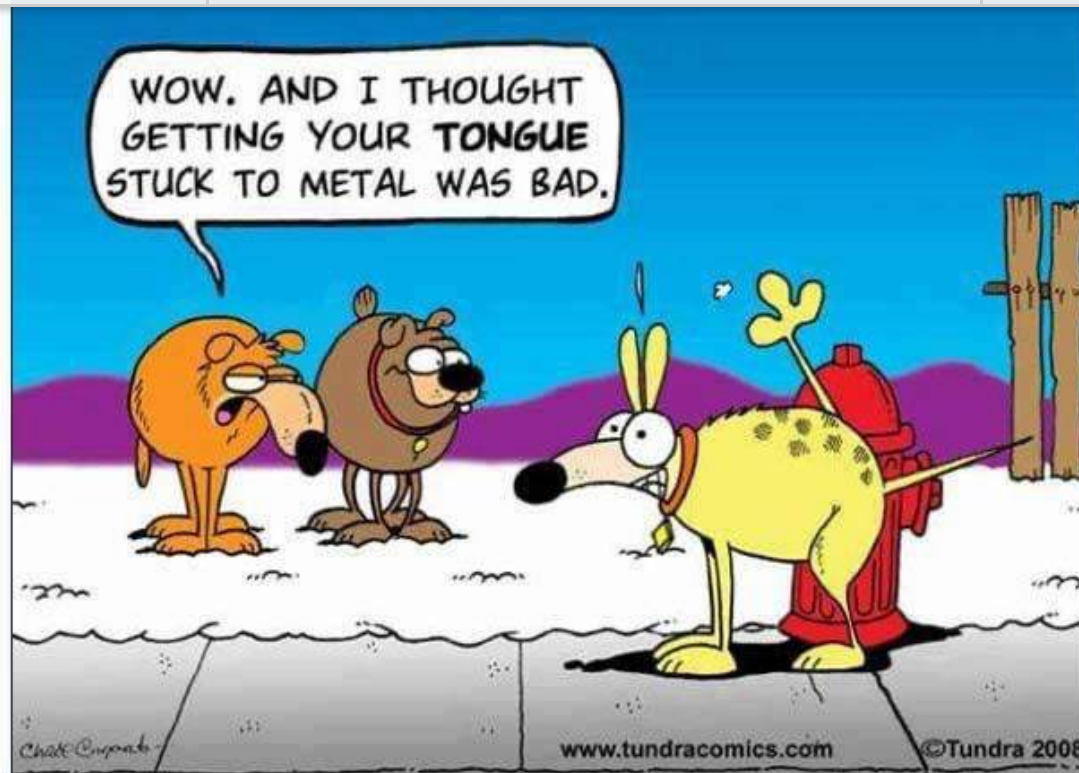
Sue Paterson's Pippi



It is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved
at all.



- **Enrolment** for Term 1 2024 opens 8pm, 10 January.
- **Term 1** begins on 29/30 January (Puppy classes begin 22/23 January).
- All Term 4 classes will be held at the [Club grounds, Ngatitoa Domain](#).
- **TBCOC Obedience Championship Show** - 20/21 January 2024.
- Waitangi Day observance – there may be no classes 5/6 February– please check with your instructor.
- Graduation for Term 1 will be 25/26 March.
- Next **CGB Assessment** (Canine Good Basics) is 2 April. It is open to anyone who has passed Dom 2. [Email us](#) to register for a place. Once you have passed your CGB Assessment you can go straight into CGC Foundation.
- Don't forget, all enrolment, start and graduation dates are on the [Important Dates](#) page of our website.



Wow! Our competitors have been working their tails off! Here are the club's outstanding results from the last few months of trials and competitions.

Competition Obedience

Competition Obedience has 5 levels starting at Beginners, going through Novice to Tests A, B and C – Test C being the most senior. Many shows also have an Elementary class which is a lead in to Beginners.

Central Region Benefit Show - 23/24 September

Show 1

Erin McKenzie & Harley, 4th Beginners

Lynette Bell & Charlie, 5th Beginners

Irene Kilford & Macey, 2nd Test A

Irene Kilford & Robbie, 5th Test C

Show 2

Lynette Bell & Charlie, 5th Beginners

Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 4th Test A

National Dog Show - 5 October*In this invitational competition we had.....***Irene Kilford & Macey, 2nd Novice****Irene Kilford & Robbie, 4th Advanced Rally*****Hawkes Bay - 7/8 October*****Show 1****Erin McKenzie & Harley, 4th Beginners****Alannah Knapp & Sky-Sky, 1st Test B****Angelique Aamodt & Turbo, 3rd Test C****Show 2****Lynette Bell and Charlie, 4th Beginners****Jenny Rutherford and Bob-Bob, 1st in Novice****Alannah Knapp & Sky-Sky, 1st Test B****Angelique Aamodt & Turbo, 3rd in Test C****Show 3****Lynette Bell & Charlie, 1st Beginners****Alannah Knapp & Sky Sky, 3rd Test B****Rosemary Mortimer & Hector, 3rd Test C*****National Dog Training Assembly - 21-23 October*****Show 1****Irene Kilford & Macey, 2nd Test A****Sue Paterson & Malu, 3rd Test B****Show 2****Vicky Disbury & Fenric, 3rd Beginners****Irene Kilford & Macey, 2nd Test A****Alannah Knapp & Sky Sky, 4th Test B****Show 3****Lynette Bell & Charlie, 3rd Beginners****Irene Kilford & Macey, 5th Test A****Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 7th Test A****Angelique Aamodt & Turbo, 7th Test C*****Upper Hutt - 4/5 November*****Show 1****Vicky Disbury & Fenric, 2nd Beginners****Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 2nd Test A****Alannah Knapp & Sky Sky, 2nd Test B**

Rosemary Mortimer & Hector, 2nd Test C

Angelique Aamodt & Turbo, 4th, Test C

[Show 2](#)

Stephanie McAlister & Frost, 4th Elementary 1

Stephanie McAlister & Frost, 2nd Elementary 2

Vicky Disbury & Fenric, 3rd Beginners

Alannah Knapp & Sky Sky, 1st Test B

Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 5th Test B

Irene Kilford & Robbie, 4th Test C

Taupo - 11/12 November

[Show 1](#)

Lynette Bell & Charlie, 4th Beginners

Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 4th Test A

Alannah Knapp & Sky Sky, 1st Test B and now Test C qualified

Angelique Aamodt & Turbo, 5th Test C

[Show 2](#)

Lynette Bell & Charlie, 5th Beginners

Alannah Knapp & Sky Sky, 4th Test B

Hawera, 18/19 November

[Show 1](#)

Lynette Bell & Charlie, 2nd Beginners

Alannah Knapp & Sky Sky, 4th Test B

Angelique Aamodt & Turbo, 5th Test C

[Show 2](#)

Lynette Bell & Charlie, 2nd Beginners

Alannah Knapp & Sky Sky, 3rd Test B

[Show 3](#)

Stephanie McAlister & Frost, 1st Elementary 1 and 2nd Elementary 2; and awarded the trophy for the highest scoring team in Elementary, overall.

Lynette Bell & Charlie, 4th Beginners

Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 4th Test A

Alannah Knapp & Sky Sky, 1st Test B

Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 2nd Test B

Wellington Canine Champ Show - 2/3 December

[Show 1](#)

Lynette Bell & Charlie, 2nd Beginners

Vicky Disbury & Fenric, awarded the Most Magnificent Recall Medal in

Rosemary Mortimer, 5th Test C

[Show 2](#)

Lynette Bell & Charlie, 1st in Beginners - now a Novice dog

Geoff Collins & Inka, 4th in Novice

Angelique Aamodt & Orix, 1st in Test A

Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 2nd in Test A

Cheryl Dickson & Juno, 3rd in Test B

Alannah Knapp and Sky Sky (below left), Lynette Bell and Charlie (below right)



Cheryl Dickson and Juno (below left), Sue Paterson and Malu (below right)



Rally Obedience (Rally-O) Champ Shows

Competitors earn Qualifying Certificates to move up a level and to gain titles.

Central Region Benefit Show - 23/24 September

Show 1

Jenny Rutherford & Peso, qualified in Novice for RN title

Jan Voss & Halley qualified in Excellent for RE title

Irene Kilford & Robbie, 1st Excellent A

Show 2

Irene Kilford & Robbie, 1st Excellent A

National Dog Training Assembly - 21-23 October

Jenny Rutherford & Quota, 1st Excellent A

Jeney Rutherford & Quota, 4th Advanced B

Scent Work (Dogs NZ and SSANZ)

In Scentwork and Nosework Trials the prime goal is for dogs to gain Qualifying Certificates for finding the Search Odours in a certain amount of time. Within the Dog's NZ code, dogs can win ribbons for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places but these are based on speed; and within all codes, there are also Judges Awards which are awarded when teams have caught the Judge's eye for some particular attribute of the search – these are also more valued than a placing. So, like Rally-O it is the Qualifying Certificate that is the prime aim of the game. In SSANZ Nosework, the process for gaining qualifying certificates to move up levels is a little different to that of DNZ but our members really enjoy both codes and appreciate the time people put in to organise, help and judge at all of these trials.

SSANZ Novice & Intermediate Scentwork Trial - 30 Sept/1 Oct

During the **Saturday Trial** we had the following TBCOC teams as Qualifiers....

Antonia Allum & Cairo, Novice Interior, Containers and Vehicle

Jan McKenzie & Geordie, Novice Vehicle, Containers, Exterior and Interior for their first full Novice qualifying certificate

Jan Voss & Maple, Intermediate Vehicle, Container, Exterior and Interior for their first full Intermediate qualifying certificate

Jan McKenzie & Poppy, Intermediate Vehicle, Container, Exterior and Interior for their first full Intermediate qualifying certificate; and the Judges Choice award for teamwork in the Vehicle Search.

In the **Sunday trial**, TBCOC had the following Qualifiers...

Kat Thorstrand-Mitchell & Opal, Novice Interior, Exterior, Vehicle, Containers for their first full Novice qualifying certificate

Jan McKenzie and Geordie, Novice Container and Vehicle

Jan McKenzie & Poppy, Intermediate Container search

This was the first time Scentwork has been included in the Nationals and it was a restricted program only at Novice level, with 3 Searches; Container A, Container B and Vehicle. *Qualifiers were.....*

Sue Paterson & Lani, Vehicle Search

Jan Voss & Halley, Vehicle Search

Jan Voss and Pearl, Containers A & B and Judges Award in Container B

Alannah Knapp & Breeze, Vehicle and Containers A & B and Judges Choice Award in Container A

Brittany Jones and Fitz, Vehicle & Container A

Jan McKenzie & Geordie, Container A & B and Vehicle and pending Dogs NZ ratification, Geordie completed his NCS title (Novice Container Search)

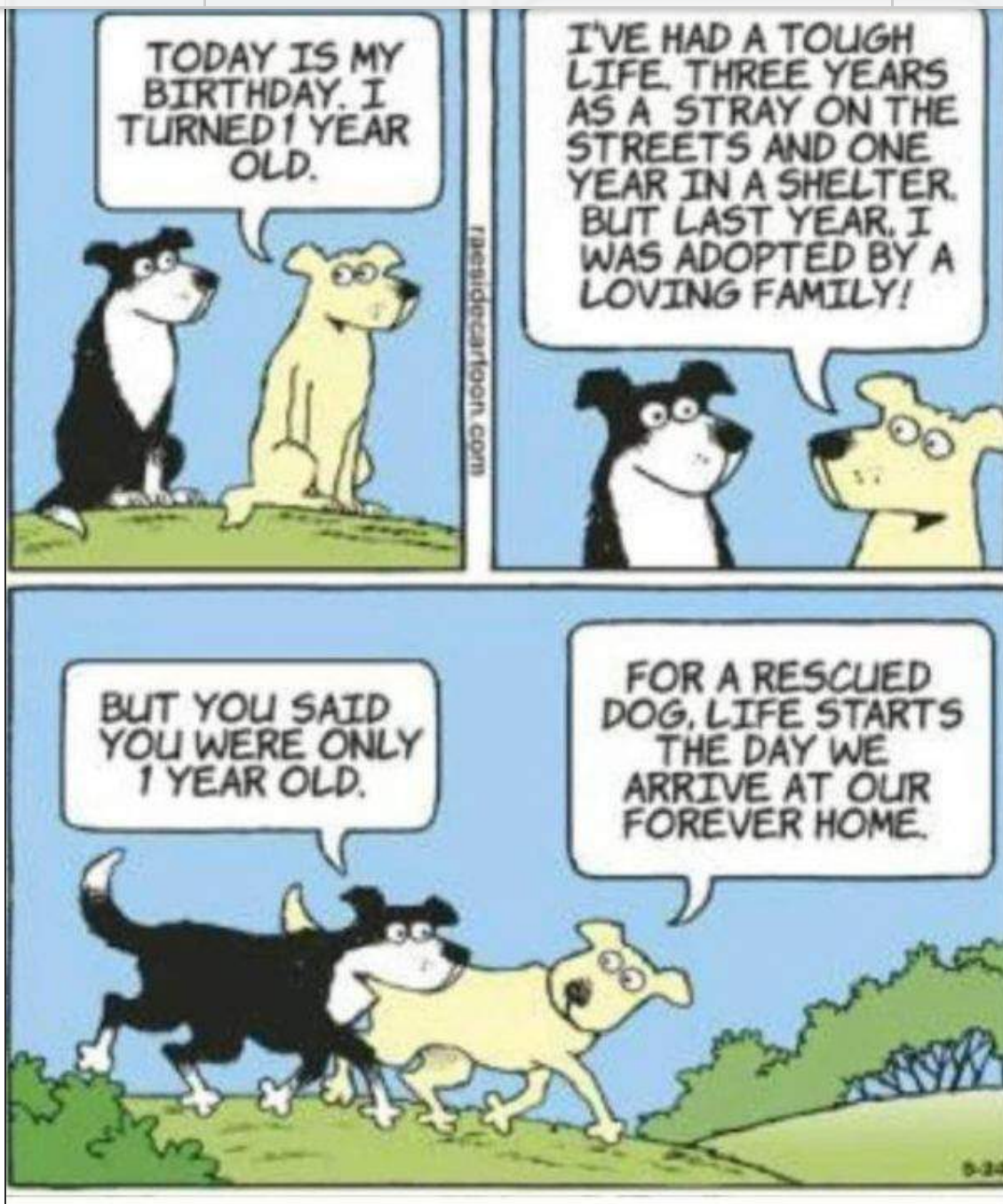
Alannah Knapp and Breeze (below left), Jan McKenzie and Geordie (below right)



Paws n Music

National Dog Training Assembly - 20 October

Jan Voss and Halley, 2nd Starters Freestyle



More about Food –Raw Food Diets for your Dog

Last Newsletter we wrote about Wet and Dry food and their pros and cons. So what about Raw Food? This article provides a balance, with information on Raw Food diets which are continuing to become popular in the dog world. It is perhaps worth mentioning that the editorial committee is writing these articles from a completely neutral position.

probiotics, kelp powder and cold-pressed ground flaxseed. This type of diet is often referred to as BARF – Biologically Appropriate Raw Foods.

An alternative is the Prey model which removes grain and vegetables on the premise you are feeding the entire animal which means the fruit and vegetables are still in the digestive tract of the animal and so they are still apparent.

Commercially processed raw food options which are frozen or freeze-dried, are now also available, providing a good variety of ingredients.

Please note, that it is important to carefully select a diet for your dog after doing your own research and discussing it fully with a trusted Vet.

Some stated benefits of raw feeding are:

- Better digestion
- Healthier skin and coat
- Stronger bones and muscles
- Reduced stool volume and odour
- Healthier teeth and gums
- Fresh, and without preservatives, artificial colours or odours
- Good weight management

Things to consider about raw feeding:

- Ensuring your dog gets a complete and balanced diet is the key and sometimes, creating your own version can leave room for error.
- If raw food is not correctly prepared, cross-contamination can occur, making it important to consider food-safety.
- It is typically a bit more expensive than other dog foods.
- Dog food is not legally required to undergo bacterial testing but most reputable brands will undertake everything in line with acceptable standards.
- Raw food diets can contain bone fragments that are harder for the dogs to digest – and bacteria and parasites in raw food bones can lead to infection. Be aware that cases of intestinal inflammation and infections in some dogs, have occurred which are related to raw food
- If not prepared properly, some raw food diets can be nutrient deficient and can trigger some health problems in dogs.
- Some vets suggest that dogs suffering from cancer or related diseases should not be given raw food as they are more susceptible to bacteria. However, many dogs with cancer do thrive on a raw diet.
- Dogs suffering from kidney or liver diseases should not be given a raw food diet because the high protein levels make digestion difficult.

Transitioning your dog to a raw food diet:

new diet at about 10% and increasing by 10% each day.

- Ensure you feed your dog the right amount of raw food in conjunction with their metabolism, size, age, and activity levels as these factors do affect their overall nutritional requirements.

If you want to transition your dog to a raw food diet, then you should consult your vet to decide what is suitable for your dog.



Santa's sleigh is now in our rear-vision mirror...

Despite being rained off our first date, this year's Dogs Christmas Party was still a raving success! Massive thanks to Lianne and her crew of elves who ensured the smooth running of the event.

The photos were just too embarrassing to show this year... ;)



Fun facts to dazzle your friends and family with

- Dogs are the most popular pets on the planet and 1/3 of all households have at least one dog.
- Dogs evolved from a now-extinct species of wolf – they were domesticated over 20,000 years ago and, broadly, 5 types of dogs had evolved by the Bronze Age. They were: Mastiffs, Wolf-type dogs, Greyhound-type dogs, Pointing dogs and Herding dogs.
- Ancient Egyptians saw dogs as God-like. Dead rulers were often buried with their doggy pals because they believed that the hound would protect them in the after-life.

Dogs are so special to us so please take care to look after them in the heat of the summer!

SCENT WORK VOUCHER

Don't forget that all TBCOC members receive a \$20 discount on [Scent Imprinting](#) courses with Dogs First. Just visit our [website](#) and enter the coupon **za4prwjb**.



We hope you have enjoyed our new newsletter!

Please email 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

www.tbcoc.org.nz



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