

Weimaraner Club of W.A:

- Aims to develop a network of like minded Weimaraner fanatics in Western Australia
- Aims to help pet owners by providing breed information, rescue and fostering service, breeder information, general dog education and training
- Arranges social and fundraiser events throughout the year. Funds will go directly back into the club, especially towards rescue, fostering and adoption



Weim Times

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Enrichment is more than exercise . .

In April I attended a weekend conference in Sydney run by DELTA, an internationally accredited dog training organisation. One of the presenters was a knowledgeable woman by the name of Kerrie Haynes-Lovell, who had spent most of her professional life as an 'exotics' trainer. She said, as dog owners we needed to think MORE like Zoo keepers in order to truly enrich our dog's life! Here is a summary of the most important points in her presentation on enrichment.

Enrichment is more than expensive toys and exercise. One of the most important, and critical differences between OUR lives and that of our dogs can be summarised in one word – choice. A domestic dog living in the suburbs has very few choices in life. We choose

when and where they will be exercised, when and where they will eat (always same time of the day, always in the same manner) when and where they will rest during the day; the list goes on. AND often, when our dog DOES make some (in their eyes) interesting or exciting choices – like rolling in that poo or chasing that white fluffy dog or cat – our wrath descends upon them!

However think of today as the first day in the enriched life of your grateful dog!!! As you read this article, you have made a choice (to sit and read it) and that choice will positively enrich your dog's daily existence.

There are two different types of enrichment – behavioural and environmental. Think about the following and how you can enhance or enrich your dog's environment:

- Her physical habitat (back garden/house/kennel)
- The social structure
- Sensory life
- Food – how is it presented? Is it novel/interesting or not?

- Cognition (how they learn) – this can vary from individual to individual but generally most Weimaraners will learn in a similar way

All of the above are important aspects of your dog's life.

Physical Habitat/Environment:

It is a part of modern life that most city dogs are confined to a sterile, bland (in their eyes, nose) rectangle that is your back yard. Have a look at your backyard through the eyes and nose of your dog! Does it change? Do you introduce new things, ever? The presenter Kerrie made the comment that it is actually very stressful to isolate a social animal such as a dog in a bland, unchanging quadrangle. Once they become stressed they WILL choose dog behaviour to show their stress and anxiety – they will resort to dog behaviour like digging, barking, pulling things off the line. Dogs are social animals (and that is one of the reasons we love them) and we are an important part of their social group. If your dog spends most of its life in your back yard and is not allowed in the house, then it's up to YOU to go out and spend time with your dog in the garden. Eat your meals outside, have your coffee, evening wine outside with the dog, take your computer outside, make your phone calls outside with your dog.

Proprioception is a very important part of the physical health of our Weimaraners, especially as they are a 'gun dog' bred for running, hunting, swimming. Does your back yard have logs, rocks, mulch, grass (long and short) woodchips, or gravel in it? These are the types of surfaces and environmental factors that are important to consider if your dog is confined to your garden for most of the day, as many of ours are. And no – plastic grass doesn't cut it; nor can it be healthy or hygienic.

Water bowls - Kerrie asserted that

most dog owners do not provide enough fresh, clean water for their dogs. This is a simple thing to do that will enrich their lives. Move the water bowls around the garden, don't keep them in the same spot all the time (unless you have an elderly, senile, or sick dog) If you have a rain water tank – provide them some water from that too.

Resting Areas – dogs need more than one. They need an afternoon and morning place to rest safely. Think of the season and the movement of the sun in winter. Hose down shady spots under trees in the summer. If your dog likes to dig a den, a hole for themselves in summer, hose that down every morning so that it is cool and wet. Apart from my dog's beds which are placed in a sheltered place in winter, if it is a crisp, sunny day I also put a mattress out where the afternoon sun is for their afternoon winter sunbake.

Shelter – this is especially important for dogs who are scared of storms. You must spend time with your dog IN the back yard if they are not allowed in the house. Never place a kennel or a crate for your dog down the back of the garden. They will not use it. They would rather lie on bare pavement NEXT to the back door than use a warm kennel at the bottom of the garden – away from you. Put the kennel, or the crate by the back door where the dog can hear and smell her pack's movement in the house.

Freedom from stressors – fireworks, storms, noisy neighbours, neighbours barking dogs for example.

Reduction of outside stimulation (especially if your home is a busy, noisy one) Give your dog a few hours of silence a day. Protect your dog from noisy neighbours or other dogs barking at her by erecting shade cloth barriers, temporary fencing etc.

Increase outside stimulation. If you live alone and/

or your home is a very quiet one, or you only have one dog leave the radio or TV on for your dog during the day. Change the radio channel occasionally. My dog's listening tastes vary between ABC Classic FM and JJJ, depending on how I think they are feeling.

Offer a variety of substrates/surfaces in their environment. This is important for their coordination and proprioception. Some suggestions are grow herbs ground covers where they can walk on it, mulch, straw, lawn (you could some grass uncut for them to sniff and chew on, sand, gravel, logs, rocks, tunnels and the list goes on! The only barriers are your imagination – again – think like a zoo keeper!) Some ideas for activities for your dogs as you tidy up the garden

- When you rake up leaves, grass clippings etc show your dog that you are putting their favourite toy, or stuffed kong underneath the pile and let them sniff, dig and rummage to find it
- If you need to break up hay bales for your vegie patch, insert your dog's favourite toy or kong in the middle and let them rip the hay bale apart

This article will be continued in the next newsletter. Please send in your ideas for further activities to our Facebook page or our website. We value your feedback and would love to hear about what enrichment ideas you do!

Written by Carolyn Gale



President's Report 2013

Carolyn Gale

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the President's Report for the year of 2012/2013. It's been an honour and a pleasure to be President of this vibrant, growing club over the last two years.

Once again we had another superb year for the Weimaraner Club of WA. In areas relating to training we introduced and then encouraged members to learn about the new dog sport of Rally O. We held several workshops aimed at inspiring and encouraging people to take up the activity. Under the direction of Hannah Slocomb, Andrea Maxwell and Christine Weetman we formed several suburban training groups, as well as a small one down south. The hope is that we will be able to have several friendly competition trials soon, between these groups. We now have at least 5 Weimaraners trialling regularly in Rally Trials, with hopefully more to come on board later in the year. The highlight of the world of Rally O this year for our breed was no doubt one of our rescue boys Matrix achieving his Rally Novice title. He was the second Weimaraner in the state to gain his title, and the first short haired Weimaraner. For those who have been around this club long enough you would know how far Matrix has come, and for that we are forever grateful and in awe of this new owner Christine Weetman.

We have **more** Weimaraners than any other breed in the state training and trialling for tracking. Last year a Weimaraner achieved the highest possible qualification in Track and Search – a T and S Dog Excellent, a

Weimaraner achieved Tracking Champion, and another Tracking Dog Excellent, two dogs attained their Tracking Dog qualification, and several for whom last year was their first season training - entered and passed their Track One.

We continued our hugely popular puppy classes in the second half of 2012 and recommenced again in Feb 2013. We refocused our classes based on an Ian Dunbar weekend workshop that Christine Weetman, Bree Pearce and I attended. Many thanks must be extended to the incredible wealth of knowledge that Christine brings to the puppy classes, and Bree's enthusiasm. These puppy classes are tailored to the breed and have been hugely successful in encouraging new puppy owners to not only join the club but also learn more about training and how dogs learn. It is worth noting that The Weimaraner Club of WA is one of only a few single breed clubs who hold specialised puppy classes in WA and the only Weimaraner Club in Australia who holds puppy classes such as these.

The numbers of Weimaraners in the show ring has increased by two dogs this year as we have taken on supporting the Neuter class in every show it is offered. Ch Greydove Fine Romance otherwise known as 'Enya' – owned and loved by the Docherty family - took out the Number 1 Neuter Gundog in WA prize in the dogonline pointscore! A wonderful testament to the quality of our neuter Weimaraner showdogs in this state. It is our hope that some more owners will try this discipline for their dogs as in the long term we would like to encourage more show homes in WA.

The sales of our 2013 calendar far surpassed the sales of our 2012 calendar. We slightly reduced the amount we printed and sold out in 3 weeks. This is one of our major fundraisers for the year and for this thanks must go to Andrea Maxwell, John Schofield and Hannah Slocomb as well the committee for their proof reading expertise! The work for the calendar is a mammoth task and I think you would agree

that each year it just gets better and better.

Our website is the envy of many clubs and has been expertly maintained by Andrea Maxwell. Our club Facebook page is one of the best single breed club pages I have seen. We have 200 members on this page. While several are interstate people who are watching what goes on – many are WA people who are still not financial members of the club. I would encourage you all to take on the task of encouraging each and every Weimaraner owner you meet to join the club. \$15 for a new membership is a fraction of what other Weimaraner Clubs charge and it is vital for us; if we are to ensure our long term survival, that we maintain a large, healthy and happy membership base. This year we are very grateful that Scott Whyatt has taken over the design and production of the bi monthly newsletter. Again, this aspect of our club's activities is the envy of many interstate clubs. I regularly receive positive feedback on the quality of the content and the beautiful presentation of our newsletter – thank you Scott. This year we have tried very hard to encourage committee and club members to write and submit articles on particular aspects that they are interested in.

Since May 2012 the club has rehomed 9 Weimaraners. No doubt the high point of our rescue program in 2012 was successfully removing the destruction order from Frank and Spartan. This process to remove the Destruction Order took me 5 months and many emails, phone calls and consultations with lawyers. We should feel particularly proud of this feat when, two of WA's most experienced rescue groups told me it could not be done. Both dogs are now in loving forever homes. I am forever grateful to Tessa and Wayne Chapman who fostered Frank for 5 months. This year our rescue dogs have been rehomed far and wide; one to Kalgoorlie, one to Carnarvon, one to a 300 acre farm in Esperance (that is a tough gig) and one to a 60 acre horse property in Mt Barker.

Without a doubt the highlight of our

club's growth in 2012/13 is the introduction of the Weimaraner Club Point score, indeed it is why so many people are also here tonight – to be congratulated for the amazing achievements they have attained with their dog this year. Three years ago a small group of us took on the mandate that we wanted to encourage more owners to try dog sports with their Weimaraners and the number of awards that will be given out tonight is testament to the fact that we are winning on this score. The amount of hours that Hannah Slocomb in particular has put into setting this point score system up was phenomenal. I sincerely thank both Hannah and Andrea Maxwell for their tireless efforts in establishing this and for their stunning certificates and awards.

In 2012 we took on the agency to sell the wonderful Australian made dog training range Blackdog. We love this brand because it is well made, made for dog owners and trainers and encourages responsible handling of dogs. This has been another great fundraiser for the club; with all profits of the sales going back into the club, while also creating a very positive profile for the club at Blackdog; a nationally recognised and renowned company – in fact Blackdog love us because we are such good customers! We have also developed an extensive training and dog behaviour library in order to support new puppy owners, owners how might be experiencing behaviour issues, and the adoptive families of our rescue dogs.

Our members love our regular social meets – and at times we have had up to 40 Wild Bananas running amok. It's ironic that I've been wracking my brain over ways to promote this breed – and they did it all on their own. At the beach meets we have had several members of the public come up to us – in awe of the magnificent, friendly sight a pack of Weimaraners. So the lesson learnt there is 'let the dogs promote themselves'!

I hope I haven't missed out on anything or anyone. This is just a snapshot of what our busy club; run by a magnificent committee has been up to this year. It is with great pride and pleasure that I hand over the club; in the healthy and growing state that it is; to others.

Written by Carolyn Gale

2013 Annual General Meeting

We held our Annual General Meeting at the Wembley Hotel on Saturday the 22nd of June. This was the first time we hired a venue, in the past the AGM has been held at my house. Anticipating (and hoping) for an increased attendance, and the fact I don't currently reside in Perth, drove my decision to hire a venue for this year. Little did I realise that the meeting would be held at the same time as the critical opening rugby match between the British and Irish Lions and the Wallabies!! This created a bit of noise and a huge distraction for me – being a Wallabies fan. Other than the noise factor I think the venue was great. We were able to

cater for everyone and this made for a nice, social event. Many also stayed on for dinner afterwards. The food was great and the company even better. We'd value feedback from those who attended on the location and venue itself, so that the new committee can consider this when planning the next AGM and Presentation Night.

We had a magnificent turn out for the AGM, which was wonderful. It gave many people an opportunity to hear, from Andrea Maxwell and I, what amazing and varied things the club had been up to over the last 12 months. I think it was an eye opener for some; who might not have realised the activities and accomplishments we have achieved in 12 short months.

At the AGM we passed the motion that the club would award two Life Memberships – to Mrs Pam Cockroft and Mrs Jennie Oliver for their long standing service and dedication. We are supremely grateful for inspirational role models such as these women; who have, between them devoted at least 60 years of service to the breed. Indeed, in many circles these women's names alone is synonymous with 'Weimaraner.' I was also honoured with Life Membership, for which I am very humbled.

We then elected our new, dynamic and fresh Committee for 2013/2014. I hope you will support them throughout the year.

*Carolyn Gale
Outgoing President*

Club Committee Members 2013-2014

President -	Andrea Maxwell
Vice President -	Scott Whyatt
Treasurer -	Rowena Williams
Secretary -	Christine Weetman
Committee -	Angela Docherty
	Kaye Macpherson-Smith
	Holly Cassin
	Marianne Connell
	Bree Pearce
	Sharon Avidan

Adverse

... food reactions and food allergies

What causes an adverse food reaction (AFR)?

An adverse food reaction is a reaction by an individual animal to a particular food substance. The most common causes of AFR dogs are proteins such as beef, mutton, chicken, wheat, corn, soy, dairy foods, eggs and chemicals such as preservatives, additives or food dyes. An animal usually develops an adverse reaction to a food that it has been receiving for a prolonged period of time in the routine diet.

What are the signs of AFR?

The most common clinical sign of AFR is itching; this leads to chewing, rubbing and scratching with hair loss and redness, particularly involving the face, ears, feet and anus. Some animals may have loose, mucoid stools, intermittent vomiting or diarrhoea.

How is it diagnosed?

Unfortunately skin and blood testing available for the diagnosis of AFR in humans are not reliable for the diagnosis of AFR in the dog. The diagnosis in animals is made by conducting an elimination diet trial. This involves feeding a novel source of protein and carbohydrate that your pet has not received before for a period of six weeks. If your pet has AFR we will see an improvement in itchiness and/or loose stools over this time period. The choice of diet and strict adherence to it is extremely important.

What must you do?

If you want to conduct an elimination diet you must for six to eight weeks, feed your pet using a novel protein and carbohydrate source. Suggestions for novel protein include kangaroo, goat, donkey, horse or venison. Choice of meat can be fed cooked or raw (whole meat only, no mince).

Suggestions for a novel carbohydrate include sweet potato, pumpkin, kidney beans, lentils, barley.

During this period your pet can be fed vegetables (except corn, onion and white potato) and some fruits (pear, melon, pawpaw or banana). Do not offer pasta or rice.

Treats can include dried 100% kangaroo, emu, venison, goat or horse.

Do not feed vitamin supplements, human or animal biscuits, table scraps, rawhides, treats or lollies. Many heartworm tablets and other medications contain meat flavourings and it is recommended these are discontinued for the length of the dietary trial. To provide heartworm protection for your pet during the elimination diet, it is recommended to use a spot on heartworm preventative. Give your pet water to drink; no milk.

Records

It is possible that your pet may have AFR as well as other allergies. As such it is important that you record any differences in your pet whilst being fed the special diet. Any decrease in chewing, scratching, rubbing or any visible change in your pet's skin should be recorded.

Assessment: the rechallenge

At the end of the trial, feed your pet their original diet for 7 days making sure you include all items you were previously feeding your dog. If at any point the signs of itching, redness etc reoccur, stop feeding the original food and return to the elimination diet until the pet returns to normal. If the pet does relapse then a sequential rechallenge is required.

The sequential rechallenge

This is done in order to isolate the individual ingredient or ingredients in the original diet causing your pet's adverse food reaction. A sequential rechallenge involves feeding each of the major food items contained in the original diet paying particular attention to those reported to cause adverse reactions in dogs by adding one pure ingredient to the

elimination diet to determine which individual allergen or allergens is incriminated. Almost all adverse reactions will occur within 5 to 7 days but rarely up to 14 days of exposure to the offending ingredient may be necessary.

Approximately 50% of the challenge ingredient can be added to the elimination diet. Example: for a dog on a horse elimination diet... to rechallenge with chicken; make a meal that is 50% horse meat and 50% chicken meat, feed for 7 days and observe carefully for clinical signs of an adverse food reaction. If there are no clinical signs of itching, redness, scratching etc—move on to the next ingredient. If your pet does develop clinical signs then resume the elimination diet immediately.

Sequential rechallenge diary

- Week 1— 50% elimination diet and 50% chicken
- Week 2— 50% elimination diet and 50% beef
- Week 3— 50% elimination diet and 50% lamb
- Week 4— 50% elimination diet and 50% dairy
- Week 5— 50% elimination diet and 50% wheat
- Week 6— 50% elimination diet and 50% soy
- Week 7— 50% elimination diet and 50% corn
- Week 8— 50% elimination diet and 50% rice

*Written by Dr Amanda Burrows BVMS
MANZCVS FANZCVS*

Consult an animal dermatologist for an assessment and guidance through the process.



Pointscore Results

Most Versatile

TCH Gunclip Smokey Jade CD ET TSDX RN -Bev and Jodie Auld	265
Matrix RN TDX	145
Sinaway Native Navaho HTMN DWDFN JD RN	55
Ch Greydove Blue Moon TD- Carolyn Gale	50
Ch Belbracon Lover Seeker Keeper - Andrea Maxwell	43

Agility

Zeba JDX ADX	20
TCH Gunclip Smokey Jade TSDX ET CD RN—Bev and Jodie Auld	20



Tracking

T.Ch Seamus - Carolyn Gale	155
TCH Gunclip Smokey Jade CD ET TSDX RN -Bev and Jodie Auld	105
Matrix RN TDX - Christine Weetman	90
Ch Greydove Blue Moon TD- Carolyn Gale	30
Ch Gunclip Thunderstruck TD - Lauren Ferguson	10
Belbracon Show Me The Money - Ellen Cathr	5
Belbracon Lover Seeker Keeper - Andrea Maxwell	5
Ghostwind Pace and Grace	5
Gunclip Cosmopolitan	5

Dancing with Dogs

Sinaway Native Navaho HTMN DWDFN JD RN - Cheryl Newby	15
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Showing

Ch Greydove Fine Romance - Angela Docherty	95
Belbracon Lover Seeker Keeper - Andrea Maxwell	38
Grauhund Addicted to Love - Angela Docherty	37
Ch Greydove Blue Moon TD - Carolyn Gale	20
Gunclip Smokey Pink - Diana Theobald	19



Obedience

TCH Gunclip Smokey Jade CD ET TSDX RN—Bev and Jodie Auld	145
Matrix RN TDX - Christine Weetman	55
Sinaway Native Navaho HTMN DWDFN JD RN - Cheryl Newby	40

First Aid For Dogs

From time to time we decide that a refresher on First Aid is in order to be sure that we have the skills to assist our loved ones in the event of a medical emergency. What happens if the other vital member of our family unit, the Weimaraner is suddenly in need of immediate first aid? Would you be prepared? Listed below are some of the more common medical emergencies that occur to dogs and what first aid might be applied in such situations.

Wounds: Be careful, since any animal in pain may try to bite. Muzzle your pet by using a strip of soft cloth, gauze, rope, necktie or nylon stocking. Gently wrap around the nose, under the chin and tie behind the ears. Do not obstruct breathing. A towel placed around the head will help control small pets.

Minor wounds: Wash your hands if possible to avoid further contamination. Wear gloves if you have them. Carefully check the wound. Clip the fur back as needed to clear the area around the wound. Clean out debris using ample amounts of saline, balanced electrolyte solution or Betadine antibacterial scrub (Betadine solution diluted with water to the colour of tea). If these are not available, use regular water. After irrigating the wound, apply antibiotic ointment.

Major Wounds: Place clean gauze or fabric over the wound and apply firm, direct pressure over the bleeding area until the bleeding stops. For serious bleeding, hold the pressure, since continually releasing the pressure to check the wound will hamper clotting. If bleeding does not cease, apply fresh gauze or fabric over the top of previously applied bandages and continue to apply pressure – Seek immediate veterinarian assistance.

Burns (chemical, electrical, or heat): Symptoms include singed fur, blistering, swelling, and redness of skin. Flush burns immediately for at least 10 mins with lots of cool, running water. Apply an ice pack for 15 to 20 minutes. Do not place the ice pack directly on the skin. Instead, wrap the pack in a light towel or cloth. Treating burns: trim fur and dab with antibiotic ointment. For wounds larger than a 20-cent piece, wrap in wet towels and go to a vet to avert risk of infection.

Hit by a car, hard falls or other high-impact injuries: Rush the animal to the closest animal hospital. First, place the dog on a firm surface, such as a plywood board. If a board is not available, place the animal in a blanket. Keep the animal as steady as possible to prevent further injury. Treat for shock.

Shock:

Symptoms include weak pulse, shallow breathing, nervousness, dazed eyes.

- Usually follows severe injury or extreme fright.
- Keep animal restrained, warm (apply blankets as required) and quiet.
- If animal is unconscious, keep their head level with rest of the body.
- Transport the pet immediately to a veterinarian.

Poisoning and Exposure to Toxins

Poisoning is a pet emergency that causes a great deal of confusion for pet owners. In general, any products that are harmful for people are also harmful for pets. Examples include cleaning products, rodent poisons and antifreeze. You also need to be aware of common foods that may be harmful to your pet. Items such as chocolate, raisins, some nuts or seeds and onions are all toxic to dogs.

If your pet's skin or eyes are exposed to a toxic product (such as many cleaning products), check the product label for the instructions for people exposed to the product; if the label instructs you to wash your hands with soap and water if you're exposed, then wash your pet's skin with soap and water (don't

get any into its eyes, mouth or nose). If the label tells you to flush the skin or eyes with water, do this for your pet as soon as possible (if you can do it safely), and call a veterinarian immediately. If you know your pet has consumed something that may be harmful, or if the animal is having seizures, losing consciousness, is unconscious or is having difficulty breathing, telephone your veterinarian or emergency veterinary clinic.

If possible, have the following information available:

- Species, breed, age, sex, weight and number of animals involved
- Symptoms
- Name/description of the substance that is in question; the amount the animal was exposed to; and the length of time of the exposure (how long it's been since your pet ate it or was exposed to it).
- Have the product container/packaging available for reference.
- Collect any material your pet may have vomited or chewed, and place it in a plastic sealable bag to take with you when you bring your animal in for veterinary treatment.

Heat Stroke Prevention and Treatment:

Never leave your pet in the car on warm days. The temperature inside a car can rise very quickly to dangerous levels, even on milder days. Pets can succumb to heatstroke easily and must be treated very quickly to give them the best chance of survival. In addition, Heat stroke can be brought on by activity as well as confinement outside in the heat, and the effects can be devastating. Be aware of the signs of heat stroke:

- Excessive panting
- Laboured breathing that may signal upper airway obstruction
- Bright red mucous membranes in the gums or eyes and/or bright red tongue
- Lethargy and weakness

- High body temperature
- Collapsing and seizures, even coma

If you notice any of these signs, get your pet inside and place a cool, wet towel over him or submerge him in cool or tepid water. Do not use ice, which can damage skin. Provide drinking water, but do not force an animal to drink.

Fractures

Muzzle your pet. Gently lay your pet on a flat surface for support. While transporting your injured pet to a veterinarian, use a stretcher (you can use a board or other firm surface as a stretcher, or use a throw rug or blanket as a sling). If possible, secure the pet to the stretcher (make sure you don't put pressure on the injured area or the animal's chest). You can attempt to set the fracture with a homemade splint, however remember that a badly placed splint may cause more harm than good. If in doubt, it is always best to leave the bandaging and splinting to a veterinarian.

Snake Bite:



Tiger Snake

The first signs of snake envenomation are usually excitement, trembling, salivation and vomiting, gradually developing into weakness, wobbly gait and eventually paralysis. Afflicted dogs often have dilated pupils and slow light reflex, with clotting problems in their blood. Depending on the type of snake and how much venom has been injected, an animal bitten by a snake may show any of the following symptoms.

- Localised swelling and irrita-

tion

- Vomiting
- Drooling and trembling
- Dilated pupils
- Involuntary bladder or bowel release
- Red or brown discolouration of urine
- Rapid breathing and/or panting
- Bleeding from bite wounds or bloody diarrhoea
- Collapse. An animal may collapse immediately but then apparently recover, then develop symptoms over the course of the next hour
- Paralysis (starting with the hind legs and progressing towards the head)

There are a few signs that can indicate what type of snake has envenomated your pet. When bitten by brown snakes some pets may experience a sudden collapse followed by a temporary recovery, while black snake bites will often create an area of localised swelling and irritation.

If you witness the snake biting your pet try to identify the type, however do not waste time trying to find it or kill it. Snakes are protected by law and most snake bites in humans occur when people try to kill snakes. It's generally best to leave the snake alone and concentrate on helping your pet. Veterinary hospitals have facilities to test your pet's blood and quickly determine the type of venom involved.



Dugite

Emergency first aid:

If your pet is still breathing keep him calm and as still as possible to minimise venom absorption. An elevated heart rate will allow the venom to move

more quickly through the bloodstream. Treat them for shock.

Most snake bite wounds are not visible but if a limb has been bitten, apply a pressure bandage over the wound and up the entire leg firmly to limit venom movement through the lymphatics. Do not use a tourniquet to cut off circulation. Do not wash the wound as venom around the outer area may later assist in identifying the type of snake species. If possible move them to transportation utilising a stretcher and seek veterinary assistance ASAP.

Dog First Aid Kits

A basic first aid kit should be carried at all times when you are outdoors with an active dog. Useful items to include are:



- The phone number of your veterinary and the number of your local Emergency After hours hospital. If your dog has an accident, you don't want to waste precious minutes looking for the phone number.
- Photocopies of your pet's medical records and a copy of their microchip/ identification paperwork.
- If your dog needs to take medication we suggest you keep supply of their medication in the kit (Remember, medications need to be rotated out of your First Aid kit—otherwise they may go bad or become useless).
- Muzzle that fits your dog – an injured and frightened animal may bite
- Blunt-ended scissors
- Tweezers
- Bandages (2.5cm and 5cm wide) - you can ask your vet for products designed for dogs,

which are more suitable than human products (e.g. vet wrap).

- Gauze rolls and pads
- Adhesive tape.
- Sterile eye wash and eye lubricant (available at your vet clinic)
- Saline water to wash out any wounds
- Sterile water-based lubricant (such as KY® Jelly) – helps hold fur away from wound
- An Elizabethan Collar to prevent them from licking wounds is useful.
- An old towel or blanket.
- A picnic rug makes a good stretcher too.

Emergency treatment and first aid for pets should never be used as a substitute for veterinary care. But it may save your pet's life before you can get your pet to a professional animal hospital. Below are the contact details for Perth's 24-hour veterinary hospitals. Tear the details off from the above article and store them in a safe place such as your car glove box or First Aid Kit for quick access during an emergency, hopefully you will never need to use them!

Written by Holly Cassin

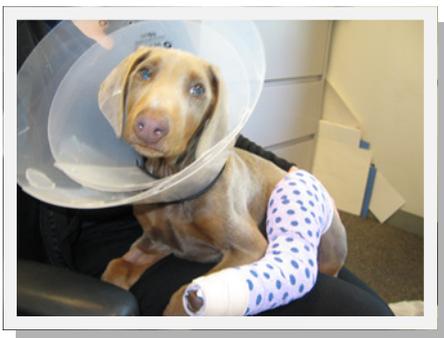
Pictures sourced from various Internet sources

Murdoch University Pet Hospital

Discovery Way
Murdoch
PH: 1300 652 494

Perth Vet Emergency

Wanneroo Rd and Royal St
Yokine
WA 6060
PH: 1300 040 400



Golly Molly!

This is Molly who we fostered early this year.

For a couple of days she looked quite a sad and confused girl. However, with a couple of young Weimaraners as companions, a new yard to explore, walks on lead, swims in the river, and lots of tummy rubs because she is your typical upside-down girl, Molly soon worked out that life had perhaps taken a good turn. Although the dogs were not left together unsupervised for a few weeks Molly fitted in well with my dogs from the start and after a few weeks my husband had become quite used to taking three dogs for a car ride to the shops. As Molly came to us with some baggage my aim was to understand the reasons for her past problems, and to improve her training and behaviour while the process of finding her a new home began.



By fostering Molly we were a link between her and potential homes. I was able to determine what a good dog she could be, how well she responded to training and how she loved people. Molly's sweet yet determined personality slowly unfolded and we became very fond of Molly – had I not already had two dogs I would definitely have wanted to keep her and more than a few times we contemplated trading Molly for one of ours! This made it easy to love and nurture Molly while we prepared her for her new home.

So .. why foster Molly and 'what's in it for me' (and my dogs)?

- I could help her adjust to living in a calm and loving environment in readiness for her new home.
- I grew to understand her unique personality and learnt if she likes children, barks at birds, chases cats, can be crate trained, knows some basic obe-

dience, walks well on lead, likes a bath ...

- My dogs learned to share – me, the water bowls, dog beds and meal times.
 - I could work out if another dog in the family was a good idea for us!
- And 'what's in it for Molly'?
 - She doesn't have to go into a kennel which for many reasons is not a good option for a dog that already has to cope with being displaced from their existing home. (It also saves the Club some money and leaves more funds to help other rescue dogs.)
- She gets to relax and recover from a stressful past, have unlimited one-on-one interactions, rebuild her confidence and have the chance to learn behaviour that will make her more appealing to another family.

Molly stayed with us for almost four months and though it was not always easy having an extra dog in the family she repaid us many times over with her affection and the laughs she gave us. The satisfaction of seeing Molly contented and relaxed made it a win-win situation for us all. It is also very rewarding for an animal lover to be able to help a surrendered or homeless dog.

And yes, it was a bitter sweet moment seeing Molly off to her trial new home, but knowing it was her opportunity for a happy and safe future certainly helped!

Written by Kaye Macpherson – Smith

THE CLUB WOULD LIKE TO SINCERELY THANK BOTH KAYE AND HER VERY PATIENT HUSBAND ROGER FOR SELFLESSLY FOSTERING MOLLY FOR FOUR MONTHS.

Puppy Classes

Puppy Classes recommenced on 24 February 2013 at Carine Open space. This year we have moved to the fenced “puppy pen” area – great in allowing for safe off leash play away from bike/walking paths and interference from other dogs and people walking through our training area.

Training for 2013 is initially being restricted to baby puppies from approximately 12 weeks. The aim is to provide assistance during those important first few months with information as required about:

- socialisation
- bite inhibition
- toilet training
- crate training
- positive reward training techniques
- training of basic commands
- games to make training fun and build your relationship with your pup
- activities for the pup to learn self-control
- introduction to activities such as nose-work, tracking and retrieving - activities at which Weimaraners excel

Attendees have also been provided with a copy of Dr Ian Dunbar’s “After You Get Your Puppy”, a great resource for the period immediately after the puppy comes home, giving information on the most critical issues to address during this period.

A group of 6 puppies and their dedicated owners have been attending fortnightly sessions. Most of the pups have also attended socialisation classes at their local vet.

Thank you to our committed group of trainers who are providing their expertise and often hard won knowledge of our wonderful breed. A number of those assisting have recent experience with the early puppy months and as such are able to provide great advice on what has worked for them, games their dogs like to play, appropriate chew toys and food dispensing toys, and what our puppy owners have to look forward to as their pups move through their different stages of development.



Thanks to Carolyn, Bree, Rowena, Scott, Holly and Martina. Also special thanks to the youngsters that helped give the pups the opportunity to meet and greet kids, especially Brittany for all her good work with Duncan.

Graduation was held on 9 June 2013. We were very lucky to have a break in the weather just in time for training, and pups and owners showed off their individual talents in a series of games and worked through a basic Rally course that demonstrated their changes of position and stretching exercises such as the commando crawl – a particular challenge on the wet grass.

Congratulations to all our class attendees and graduates – Bear, Duncan, Elke, Ellie and Sawyer. Bear and Sawyer showed us how to do a lovely show stack, Duncan showed great his attention and eye contact, as did Ellie. Elke demonstrated her super retrieve and all showed commendable self-control in exercises such as sitting quietly to be greeted and patted, and waiting patiently at the gate until given permission to go through. All pups also

showed us a very enthusiastic and motivated recall. Distractions abounded with a large group of young magpies watching on and pinching the treats as Rowena was setting up the food trail for the nose work exercise.

Congratulations to everyone for the effort they have put into their training and building their relationship with their pups.

It is hoped the graduates will continue training by either joining one of the three Weimaraner Rally-O groups being held around the metro area, or joining their local dog training club to continue on the great foundations they are building and to provide ongoing opportunities for their pups to interact and learn.

Written by Bree Pearce

The Weimaraner Club of WA welcomes the following new members...

Natalie Brooks & Quaid Smith

Emma & Richard Sanys

Jan Kennedy

Kelly Guelfi

Hayden & Jessica Bartlett

Joanne Gorud

Jess Boorman

Brigitte Borelli

Claire Atwell & Geoff Hogan

Ros Buckley

Interview

With a Weimaraner...

Duncan



1. How old are you?

I am seven months old.

2. What is your star sign?

I am a Scorpio.

3. If you were a Disney character what would it be?

DUMBO! No question about it. The little puppy with the big ears. Ever seen an elephant fly? What about a Weimy? That's me!

4. Who is your favourite sporting team?

I would have to say the Eagles. Although, I find this sport business to be rather odd. I'm never sure whether I need to be on guard or not. Mum always yells at the shiny picture box - a clear sign danger is afoot!

5. What/who do you like to chase?

I love to chase other dogs, especially when they are chasing a ball.

6. What is your view on vegetarianism?

A definite no-no in our house. Meat all the way.

7. What is your favourite breed of dog?

A Weimaraner of course!

8. What is your Facebook status right now?

Loving sneaky snuggles with my

Mum and Dad on the couch!

9. Thoughts on vets?

They're ok, I guess, but only when they're feeding me treats.

10. Boy or girl dogs and why?

I am a sook for girl dogs. I simply adore my friend Georgie, even if she doesn't seem to love me back quite as much.



Written by Alyssa Harrison

Books

Carolyn has shared many copies of 'Real Food for Dogs and Cats' to club members and would like them returned if they are no longer needed so she can pass onto others. Please post to Carolyn Gale PO Box 1341 Bunbury 6231. It's a very small book - easily hiding away where you might have forgotten about it!



Rally Wrap

North

Training NOR has been ongoing if slightly sporadic recently. We are still having great fun and training at the Carine open space as it seems to suit most members.

We have had Ghost join our ranks recently and has made an outstanding start at rally, if only we could all be blessed with finishes like his.

The main change for us this quarter is to changing our training times to Sundays at 2pm and holding training every fortnight instead of weekly. This change was made so that training could suit as many people as possible while not overloading us on top of our other commitments.

If you would like to come along please let us know - all are very welcome.

South

The Down South crew have been a bit slack in organising their training sessions but promise to turn over a new leaf! We are a happy little bunch lead by the only boy in the group - the very experienced Shiloh. His presence was sorely missed at the one training session we did have in Bunbury. It was a productive afternoon - with star pupils Maisey and Georgia really competing for the label of 'most improved'. We welcomed a new girl puppy to the group; Hermes - yet another girl for Shiloh to add to his harem!

We plan on being much better at organising ourselves so that we can get together more often and give the city slickers a run for their money. Our next training session is in Busselton at Signal Park on Saturday the 29th of June - any new members are more than welcome! We then plan to have a BBQ at our next training session in Collie in early July. For us in the 'Down South' group - food is a great reward for humans and dogs alike!

Why Adopting an Adult Dog Has its Advantages

But no dog is perfect from Day 1 forward! Here's how to help your newly adopted dog fit into your family fast!

So, you've recently adopted an adolescent or adult dog, or you're planning to adopt one from a rescue group or shelter in the near future. Good for you! It generally takes adult dogs a lot longer to get adopted than those irresistible, pudgy puppies – even when they are calmer, better-socialized, house-trained, and past the “chew everything in sight” stage. Shelter staffers often shake their heads as families pass up ideal, kid-friendly adult dogs in favour of pups of some highly inappropriate breed or type, just because they are puppies.

There are a multitude of benefits when you bring an adult dog into your family. You don't have to deal with those nasty-sharp puppy teeth. And because your dog has her adult teeth, she is less likely to chew everything within her reach. If not already housetrained (and many are), a mature dog at least has the physical ability to hold bowels and bladder for longer periods of time, and can usually learn appropriate bathroom habits quickly, with proper management and training.

Plus, an adult needs to be fed only twice a day, whereas young puppies need lunch as well as breakfast and dinner. Healthy, mature dogs are

capable of more physical activity than puppies, so if you're looking for a ready-made exercise partner, you don't have to wait months for your running buddy to accompany you as you prepare for your next 10k run. As an added benefit, you have that feel-good feeling that comes with adopting a dog who might otherwise not find her forever home.

I do not, by any means, intend to imply that adopting an adult dog is all smooth sailing. Many shelter dogs settle into their new homes without a ripple, but some arrive with minor behavioural challenges, and others carry with them a significant amount of baggage. Don't despair! If you're grounded in the reality that no dog is perfect from the get-go, and you're prepared and poised to help your new dog learn your household rules, conventions, and codes of conduct starting on day 1, his potential for success in your family is very good.

Caveat Emptor

Most shelters do some sort of behaviour evaluation of the dogs in their care, so you may be warned about potentially inappropriate behaviours. This may come in the form of answers on a questionnaire (if your new dog had been surrendered to the shelter by her previous owner), or notes from a staff member or a volunteer based on their observations. If you don't allow yourself to get distracted by the shelter's commotion, you'll have the opportunity to make your own observations about the potential adoptee during an introduction session. Behaviours like lifting his leg in the get-acquainted room, counter-surfing to snatch toys or treats off the table, or leaping into your lap when you sit on a chair are likely to be repeated in his new environment. Again: Don't let these sorts of minor transgressions dissuade you from adopting the dog. All of these are typical for untrained dogs – and absolutely expected from untrained puppies!

What if your new adoptee does seem perfect? While that would be nice, it's also possible that you will experience a “honeymoon period” with your new family member, one that may range anywhere from a few days to several months. Unforeseen behaviours may

manifest over time, as the dog tests new behavioural strategies and discovers which ones are reinforced (by you, by other family members, by visitors, or by the environment), or as she recovers from the recent traumas in her life. She may become bolder about engaging in behaviours that were temporarily shut-down by the stress of her recent life experiences.

If you're prepared for unwanted behaviours to surface, it will be easier to work through them. If tempted to give up when poor manners emerge, keep in mind that your adoptee's previous owner(s) already gave up on her at least once, if not several times.

First Things First

These days, many shelter dogs come with a free “well-pet exam.” Commonly, private veterinarians in practice near a shelter generously offer their services at a discount for dogs adopted from the shelter or rescue. Take advantage of the offer as soon as possible. If your dog doesn't come with a free check-up, make an appointment for the veterinarian you've interviewed and selected to be your dog's doctor.

It's not uncommon for a previously undetected health problem that could lead to behaviour issues to be identified at this time. For example, my husband and I adopted an adult Pomeranian, who lifted his leg and peed in the house – a lot! The veterinarian who provided a reduced-cost exam diagnosed a bladder stone, the removal of which quickly resolved Scooter's house soiling behaviour.

Management is also critical in modifying your adopted dog's behaviour. The more often she gets to practice (and be reinforced for) an inappropriate behaviour, the harder it is to modify that behaviour. The behaviour becomes a well-practiced habit; she'll be convinced that it will pay off if she just tries hard enough, or often enough. Don't wait “to give her time to settle in.” Start reinforcing the behaviours you like the most (such as polite sitting) ASAP.

Common (Mis)Behaviours in Adopted adult Dogs

Here are some common misbehaviours you might find in adult shelter dogs, along with some tips on how to work with them. If you have to prioritize a list of undesirable behaviours that came with your adopted dog, I'd suggest you start with the first two that follow: house soiling and separation anxiety, as they are two that are most likely to cause your dog to lose her happy home, yet again.

House Soiling – Some adult shelter dogs are already housetrained. Some are not. Depending on how house-proud you are, house soiling may be a minor annoyance, or a major affront to your sensibilities. When you bring your shelter dog home, assume she isn't housetrained, and put her on an express puppy housetraining schedule: Under constant supervision (with the help of baby gates, closed doors, and leashes) or in a crate or exercise pen. Of course, you must crate train her if she isn't already, in order to take advantage of this valuable management tool. If you just toss her in her crate and leave, you risk teaching her to hate her crate.

Take her outside every hour on the hour for the first day or two, and reward and praise on the spot when she eliminates. If she seems to be getting the idea, over the course of a few days, gradually give her more house freedom and extend the time between trips outside. If gradual freedom results in house accidents, go back to more supervision (and clean the soiled spots well with an enzymatic cleaner designed for cleaning up animal waste).

If you catch her mid-accident, cheerfully interrupt her with an "Oops! Outside!" Take her to her potty spot – and make a mental note to amp up your supervision and increase her bathroom opportunities. Do not make a big deal, or you risk teaching her it's not safe to go in your presence. Good luck getting her to go to the bathroom on leash if that hap-

pens!

At first, don't crate your dog for more than four hours at a time. That might mean hiring a dog walker if no one in the family can come home and let her out at lunchtime. Eight hours at night is acceptable, as long as she is crated where you can hear her (preferably in your bedroom) if she wakes up and asks to go out. If your dog soils her crate or exercise pen during a reasonable period of confinement, you have a bigger challenge ahead of you. You may need to reverse crate train, which means putting her in the crate for short periods, only when you know she is "empty," and having her under your direct supervision when she's not crated.

If your dog is having inexplicable accidents despite your excellent management, head back to the vet to determine if she has a urinary tract infection (which makes it impossible for her to hold her urine for very long), loose stools (which would make it impossible to hold her bowel movements for long), or some other condition that makes it difficult or impossible for her to be housetrained.

"Marking" is a different behaviour from simple house soiling. It is sometimes (but not always) resolved by neutering. Persistent marking can be caused by stress. If that's the case with your shelter dog, removing as much stress as possible from his life may help. You may need to engage the services of a qualified behaviour professional who uses positive reinforcement methods.

Separation anxiety – Full-blown separation anxiety can be an extremely challenging behaviour to live with, manage, and modify. For starters, most dogs with significant separation or isolation issues don't tolerate a crate well, so the "confine them to keep them out of trouble" option isn't available.

The good news is that many of these dogs actually have separation (have to be with the one person the dog has connected to) or isolation (doesn't like to be left alone) distress, rather than

true anxiety. The intensity of canine behaviour with these conditions is on a continuum from low level intensity (unhappy, but calms down after a reasonably short time, without destroying the house) to extreme panic (dog injures himself, vocalizes non-stop for hours on end, and causes massive destruction to household). If your shelter adoptee is demonstrating anxiety on the extreme end of the continuum, a trip to the veterinarian for anti-anxiety medications is in order. This will make life easier for her, and for you, while you work to modify her behaviours. Dr Karen Overall's very detailed, "Protocol for Relaxation" is useful for modifying separation/isolation distress (dogscouts.org/Protocol_for_relaxation.html). A downloadable, auditory version can be found at championofmyheart.com/relaxation-protocol-mp3-files.

Vocalizing – There are many different kinds of canine vocalizations: barking, whining, howling, yelping, growling, and more. You may not want to stop all of your dog's noisemaking, but there may be some you'd prefer to minimize. It's important that you learn and understand what each one means before simply trying to make them all go away. There may even be some you decide you'd like to reinforce!

Chewing – If you think adopting an adult dog is guaranteed to save you from chewing disasters, think again. While puppies are the masters of chewing behaviour, dogs really do chew throughout their lives. If a dog has been well managed, he will develop appropriate chew-preferences and be reasonably trustworthy around your possessions. If he was allowed to run amuck as a pup and chew whatever he wanted, then nothing in your home is safe.

Of course, you have no way of knowing which you may have, so until she proves otherwise, you'll need to assume that your new dog might chew anything she can get her teeth into. While you're supervising and managing her behaviour for housetraining purposes in her early days with you, keep

an eagle eye out for indications of inappropriate chewing (while, of course, providing her with appropriate chew objects).

In relatively short order you should figure out if you're home free on the chewing issue, or if you'll need to completely overhaul her mouth behaviour management and redirection. Note: If chewing is accompanied by other undesirable behaviours such as general destruction, barking, and aversion to crating, consider separation or isolation anxiety as possibilities.

Jumping up – Remember, your dog's jumping up has nothing to do with dominance. She's probably either trying to greet you, get you to pay attention to her, or perhaps seeking reassurance, if she's stressed or frightened.

The answer to this training challenge is to make sure that no one reinforces her for jumping up. Make sure that every person who wants to greet the dog is prepared to turn his or her back and step away from her when she jumps.

Next, reinforce "sit" very generously, with high-value treats, to help this polite deference behaviour become her default choice (her first behaviour option – the one she chooses when she isn't sure what to do) and make sure everyone gives her attention for sitting. If she's jumping up for reassurance, determine what is stressing her and make that stressor go away until you can help her become comfortable with it.

Pulling on Leash – Lots of dogs pull on leash. As annoying as it might be, don't take it personally – and don't blame dominance for this one, either! Dogs who pull just want to get where they want to go, and they want to get there faster than you do. If you want her to walk politely on leash, reinforce her generously when there's no tension on the leash, and stop moving forward when the leash tightens.

If there are times when you know you won't have time for the "stop and wait for loose leash" dance – for example, if you want her to jog with you – use a different kind of collar or harness that will let her know, "In this outfit you are allowed to pull."

There Might Be More

There's a good chance you will encounter other behaviours that we haven't covered above. In every case, there is a solution to be found that can help your dog become the well-behaved companion you want her to be. You can read good books and search for answers online (and in the WDJ online archives!).

Remember to look for positive solutions; you want your new dog to like you, trust you, and want to be with you. You may need to consult a qualified positive behaviour professional to help you find answers. As you research the behaviour and search for answers, keep these important reminders in your head at all times: Be gentle. Be clear. Be consistent. Be persistent. Be positive. Most of all, for your adopted dog's sake, be her forever person.

Written by Pat Miller, CBCC-KA, CPDT-KA, CDBC, is WDJ's Training Editor. Author of numerous books on positive dog training, she lives in Fairplay, Maryland, site of her Peaceable Paws training centre, where she offers dog training classes and courses for trainers. And published on <http://www.whole-dog-journal.com/issues>

'Down South'

...Tracking is Underway!

Several Weimaraner owners and other interested people have got together to form a keen 'Down South' Tracking Group. We were very lucky to have Bev Auld and Jim Spence from Trackwest come down from Perth to take us all for a refresher/beginner workshop session in early June. This workshop was organised by Nerida and Stuart Dickins of Southern Meadow Kennels in Ludlow.

We now have a set meeting time for further training sessions! We are meeting every second Sunday morning at 9.30am in Ludlow Forrest. Jim is travelling down from Perth to train this lucky group of trackers. We have learnt about flagging and laying tracks, the behaviour of scent in certain conditions and environments and all the novice handlers are now learning to 'read' their dog – probably one of the hardest aspects of the discipline.

So far we have been really lucky with the weather and been able to track in perfect conditions. If you don't hear from me in the next newsletter it's because the mosquitoes (which are in plague proportions in the Ludlow Forrest) – have carried me away!

Written by Carolyn Gale

Blackdog Wear

The Weimaraner Club of WA is pleased to announce that we are now stockists of Blackdog accessories. Blackdog is a wonderful Australian brand who manufacture excellent quality leads, collars, harnesses and training accessories. We will carry a small range of leads, collars and harnesses to sell at social meets, and training events.

If you are after an item that we don't stock, we are happy to make special orders for club members. See their website for a full product listing www.blackdog.net.au/



Interview

With a Weimaraner...

Oscar



1. What is your star sign?

My Barkday is 1 December so that makes me a Sagittarius. I'm not really into all that airy-fairy stuff and Sagittarius is not even a dog, sheez!! All I care about is getting my Barkday paw-resents and pigs ears and all the other doglicious stuff my Mumma gives me to celebrate... BOL (Bark Out Loud for the uninitiated)

2. What is your favourite colour?

Weimaraner grey of course! It's a very useful colour! I can blend into the jungle (okay, okay, park shrubbery) quite easily and then I can jump out to attack any wild beasts that might be lurking close by (damn it, okay, local kids, joggers, my Mum etc). It's pawsome fun!! I think that Weimaraner grey should be the colour of all the furniture in the house too – so much easier to blend in to the couch without our two-leggers discovering us. Very handy if you

are not supposed to be on the furniture in the first place... BOL

3. What do you think will be a major federal election issue?

Well... I know it would NEVER be... But, what I would LIKE to see as a major election issue is Oscar's Law (I know, you think it's named after me right, but it isn't!) Anyway, Oscar's Law is about abolishing puppy factories, banning the sale of dogs from pet shops and promoting adoption through rescue. It is also about educating people about puppy mills and the terrible conditions mill dogs live in. The more people that know about Oscar's Law the better. We aren't all lucky dogs that are bred in happy home environments with the best of care. I have provided a link to their website <http://www.oscarslaw.org/index.php> so do yourself a favour and go and have a read up. You can even send a letter of support for Oscar's Law to federal and local MP's. I am just mentioning this here cause I want to help get the message out there. Go Oscar's Law!! *paw bumps with Carolyn* BOL

4. If you were a sporting star who would it be?

Hmm, that is a tricky one *taps paw against snout, while thinking intently*... You know, I'm not really into sport of the human variety! Although I have heard my Mum say that David Beckham is a 'good looking chappy', so I guess maybe him... Just for the attention he gets from the girls you understand... BOL

5. AFL or Rugby?

I am happy to bark 'neither'! I like my balls round, bouncy and chase-able! The bouncier the better! *wags tail excitedly* I get very excited about bouncy, chase-able balls BOL!!

6. What is two pieces of advice you'd give young pups?

1. When you get to your new fur-

ever home try to make sure you pay attention to the potty training tips. It's not very endearing if you leave any little beige surprise packages or puddles in the house – no matter how cute you are!! The sooner you get this one right the happier you will all be! I got it together after 3 days. My Mum thinks it was her training but I think it's cause I am a smart boy! BOL!

2. Remember – anything in the toy box is yours - do with it what you will! However 'things' – even the stuff just left around on the floor – belongs to your two-legger and you should probably check before taking and chewing it to pieces! I learnt this little snippet as a pup. I tell you though, how was I supposed to know that the shoes I ate were Mum's \$180.00 pair! Sheez, they just tasted like regular old shoes to me! Anyway, stick to the toy box and everything should be sweet!! *paw bump!*

7. What's your favourite activity and why?

TRACKING of course!! I would like to be the best tracking dog in the history of tracking dogs BOL!! I left my run a bit late in life but I am happy to say I am good at tracking and it is my dog-sport of choice. I have a few titles to go but hey it's something to work towards... When I am dreaming Mum says "oh look, Oscar is chasing rabbits", but I am really out there tracking down the lost person; or even working in the airport for customs and sniffing out the bad drugs, illegal food stuffs etc!! Tracking is a pawsome dog sport and I get to use my exceptional sniffing skills too.

8. Are you a winter or summer person?

Well, in the winter you get to snuggle up with your humans and stay nice and



warm. Winter makes cuddling so much more enjoyable. If I play my cards right sometimes I can even wheedle my way under the covers on the bed. Oh, and tracking season is in winter so just another reason to love it! BOL...

9. What do you think sets the Weimaraner apart from other breeds?

Hello! Do I even need to answer this question? Now I don't like to brag or anything BOL – but we are handsome, sleek, smart and loyal. All the good things that any two-legger could possibly want in their fur-friend. We are called the Velcro dog – that is just because we want to be with our people 24/7. We are also sometimes called the dog with the human brain. Being very smart means we can learn just about anything plus we keep the old two-leggers on their toes. I guess we can be a bit stubborn sometimes but that just shows how smart we really are – we will try and pull the fur over your eyes if you let us! BOL

10. Your favourite TV show?

Well, we are not big TV watchers in our house. But if I had to pick a show I think it would be Antiques Roadshow (I don't know if it is on anymore). As soon as the introduction music starts playing – and it doesn't matter where I am in the house/garden – I hear it and come a-running. I get right up close to the screen and do the head tilt. Mumma says she thinks it's just the music that attracts me because as soon as the intro music is over I am out of there BOL...

Written by Marianne Connell

Tallulah

...Goes Speed Dating

There is no point and no space here to speculate why, but since the age of about 18 months my bitch Tallulah has developed what some might call

'fear aggression', others might call 'perceived danger aggression', some plain old 'dog aggression.' But it didn't stop there; she chased cars, children on bikes and skateboards, nipped passing joggers, walkers, other dogs who did not give her space, and (most spectacularly) my elderly neighbour. I have been shouted at by strangers; told I have a 'bad dog', told by others to 'take your dog off the lead', screamed at by two women at the same time to 'socialise my dog'. Going out with her became a frightening, dangerous experience.

Things had to change. With the help of Sam Graham and Jennie Oliver, who both suffered through a very emotional 3 hour *Dog Listening* consult with me; I was instructed to help Tallulah feel safe and slowly move her into a calmer state. Following their wisdom and making lots of my own mistakes I was able to get her to the point where the only trigger was other dogs. Not all dogs, mind you. She is superb with dogs she grew up with and has known since a puppy – any other dog was another story. So, because I had witnessed (and paid for financially) the consequences, my way of 'dealing with it' was to never, ever, not once - allow her to be in a position where she might 'fail' – be exposed to a situation where she would feel that the only solution was to bite. No contact at all with any other dog. That did it (or so I thought) But did it? Was I really helping her 'move on'? Was I really allowing her to grow, improve, to show me she wanted to learn? No – I was far too petrified of the consequences.

A forced move for me out of Perth was a blessing in disguise for Tallulah. There is, quite literally, now, more



space. forced loss of her 'den' – I noticed that she was much friendlier to strangers. In fact, she began to seek affection from strangers in the park. So



I stopped them and asked them to 'treat' her and told them her name so they would recognise her and 'talk' to her next time. To see her little waggy bum as she approached people she didn't know made my heart sing. When she saw another dog from a distance (more space allowed me to feel more relaxed in having her off lead) she would stop, and turn around and literally 'check in' – look at me – as if to say 'What do I do here?'. Often there'd be the look of panic in her face, and I would, no doubt wrongly, reinforce her insecurity by calling her to me and putting her straight on lead. I was too frightened to do anything else. But what did this also 'tell' her? 'Come here – I don't trust you' or 'Come here – I'm scared too, so you should be scared' or 'All dogs are frightening and who KNOWS what they might do, so come here!'

It was time to seek the next stage in her 'rehabilitation'. Here again, Jennie Oliver planted a seed in my mind; why not take Tallulah to 'Speed Dating' at our friend Nerida's kennels just as Jennie had done so successfully with her own dog Nerida is a divine ray of positive canine wisdom who has Shutz-hund trained German Shepherds. She can 'read' dogs very well. She likes dogs to be dogs. She is not frightened to let dogs get their paws 'dirty' in their interaction with others. I had realised I had become too protective of Tallulah, too precious with her, and in so doing had unknowingly cut off many enriching opportunities for her.

I trust Nerida. Most importantly Nerida did not judge Tallulah as a 'bad dog'. She had no history with her, Tallulah

space. O n c e she got over the grief of t h e change i n makeup of her p a c k and the

BREEDER'S REGISTER

This Breeder's Register is not a recommendation of any particular breeder over another. It is not a complete list of all Weimaraner breeders; but is a listing of breeders who are members of the Weimaraner Club of WA and who have paid to have their kennel listed in this Breeders' Register

Refer to the website for mating /litter information.

ASHBOLT

Amanda and Scott Williamson
Sunshine Coast QLD
0418 711 392
sunnyweis@bigpond.com

BROMHUND

J & R & S Mayhew
Melbourne VIC
(03) 9689 5493
bromhund@tpg.com.au
www.bromhund.com.au

FYRESIDE

Marg Cockburn
Hampton VIC
0407 332 479
margcockburn@optushome.com.au
fyreside.net

WEILANDER

Roz Buckley and Bevan Bastin
Bairnsdale VIC
(03) 51579375
weilander@skymesh.com.au
weilanderweimaraners.tripod.com

GRAUSCHATZI

Lenci Millman
Geraldton WA
(08) 9921 4535
lencimillman@westnet.com.au
www.freewebs.com/weimaranergrauschatzi

BELBRACON

Andrea Maxwell
Perth WA
belbracon@gmail.com
www.belbracon.com/home.cfm

liked her and Nerida liked her back. It was SO nice to be around another human who did not criticise, damn, begrudge your own dog. So I was set to take on the next stage of learning for Tallulah and I.

The concept of 'speed dating' is that the 'visiting dog' – is off lead and running free in a long, wide, grassy run that all the kennel dogs have access to at the end of their own kennel runs. The fence is the only thing that separates the dogs. Fences are wonderful things. They allow fearful or stressed dogs to have complete access to other dogs, with the safety of the fence between them. This is STILL interaction! They can sniff, see and get right up close to other dogs, and are 'safe'. Dogs are not silly. They also know that the fence provides an element of safety. This allows them to learn, to experience, to get it 'wrong' and not be hurt.

In the first session we let Tallulah off lead and she spent most of the session ignoring the dogs. She kept to the edge, the boundary of the run – as far away from the other dogs as possible. Ignoring dogs had become another of her strategies to cope and interestingly this was the first in her repertoire here, in this new and strange environment. As Tallulah was ignoring the other dogs, I ignored her and let her be. I did not stress her out but calling her to me (as I was walking along the kennel run fence line and up close to the other dogs) I did not place any expectations on her. I let her watch me be up close and personal with the other dogs. I let her see that the other dogs were no threat, that in fact I was interested, engaged and thrilled to be around them. I fed them, talked to them – all the while being watched by a distrustful, nervous Tallulah from thirty meters away! Towards the end of the first session she came across the middle of the run so I threw her favourite toy for her and engaged with her. Previously Tallulah has 'refused' to play and I had to teach her how to play. This took me about 18 months, and playing in a public space, with other dogs around, was the final element to this skill. It was so thrilling to see her face light up as I threw the toy and she pranced and danced and

chased it!!! Only 6 months prior to this there would have been NO way she would have played with me, in the presence of other dogs! So this, alone was a 'win'.

In the second and third session she trusted me more and was more interested in interacting with the other dogs. She came with me along the fence line, but kept her distance to about 1 meter from the other dogs. Some she would just blatantly bark at, others ignore completely, still others she would be happy for me to feed them and her at the same point. I learnt a lot about her over these two sessions. That she does not like 'rudeness' in dogs (young boisterous lab types who stand on their back legs with their paws on the fence), that she can pick a dog with 'issues' (often similar to her own) that she likes muscle men!! The two pictures supporting this article are of two boys she 'chose' in session four – an 11 year old Rotti male and an entire 9 month old staffy hunk of muscle. Both dogs were calmer, confident, not in your face kind of dogs.

We are now up to session five and each time Tallulah teaches me something about herself. She is now so thrilled to go and runs up and down the fence line and interacts with some dogs. She is so relaxed she rolls around on the grass, right in front of other dogs. She plays in front of them, and even happily uses the agility equipment Nerida has in this lovely big grassy run. I am totally addicted to 'Speed Dating' with my dog! I get far more positive feedback in that hour with her there than I do in two weeks of taking her out elsewhere; to rally o, tracking, to the park.

Written by Carolyn Gale



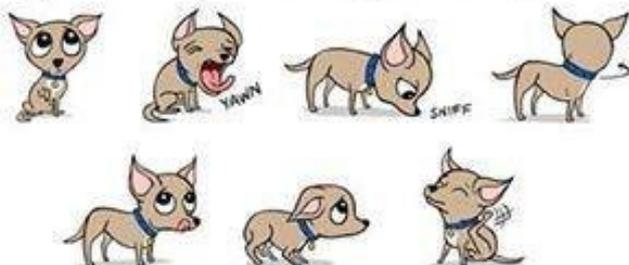
This is the long, wide run that Tallulah uses when she is speed dating

TALKING DOG

Dogs communicate using body language more than they do vocally. Here's a quick guide to get a good idea of what your dog is telling you. Look at the whole of the dog: head, face, body and tail to get a more accurate idea of what the dog is saying.

FEARFUL / ANXIOUS / STRESSED

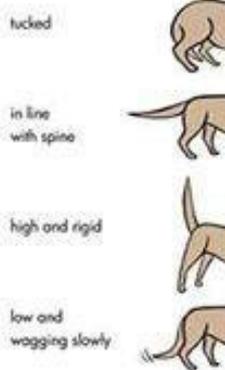
In all cases, respect the dogs need for space and offer signs of appeasement and peace: See the Doggy Dos and Don'ts poster



If not read correctly, stress, anxiety and fear often lead to behaviour commonly termed "aggressive", as the dog attempts to make it clearer that they are uncomfortable: raised hackles are a sign of fear:

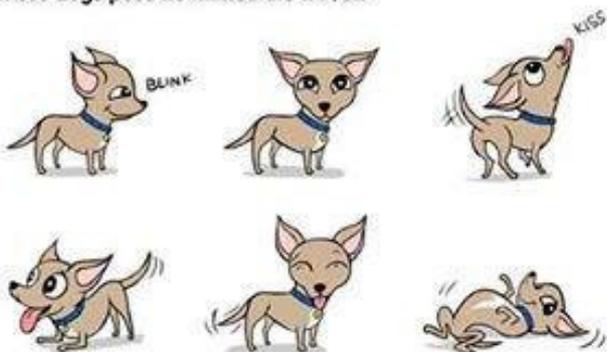


TAIL POSITIONS



CONTENT / HAPPY / SOCIAL

These dogs pose no immediate threat.



TAIL POSITIONS



Brought to you by **JezRose**
 For further resources and information on dog training and behaviour, see www.JezRose.co.uk
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Dates for your diary...

The Gun Dog Club of WA

Championship Show and Open Show Saturday the 24th of August at 10am
 at the Canine Association of WA show grounds Cnr of Ranford and Warton Rds Southern river 6110

Perth Royal Show 2013

Weimaraners will be in the ring on Wednesday the 2nd of October 2013 at Claremont Showgrounds for the 2013 Perth Royal Show!

WEIMARANER CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CONTACT US:

<http://www.weiclubwa.com>

The opinions and views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor, Committee or members of the club, or necessarily endorsed by the Editor, Committee or members of the club.



Top Dogs!

Well done to Amanda Williamson and Supreme Ch Ashbolt Ark Royal 'Lucas' for the following results:

- 4/05/2013 — South Burnett National Best of Breed / Runner-Up Best in Group / Aust-Bred in Group Judge Mr D. Weil (Qld)
- 5/05/2013 — Maree Kennel Club KC Best of Breed / Runner-Up Best in Group / Aust-Bred in Group Judge Mrs K. Sneath (Vic)
- 10/05/2013 — Newcastle and Northern District KC Best of Breed / Runner-Up Best in Group / Aust-Bred in Group Judge Mr G. Missen (Vic)
- 09/06/2013 — Ipswich KC Best of Breed / AUST-BRED IN SHOW Judges Mrs G. Gulbransen (NZ) Mrs J. Rusby (Can)
- 15/06/2013 — Queensland Kennel Council Best of Breed and Group shortlist under Breed Specialist Mr S. Mills (ACT)
- 16/06/2013 — Queensland Kennel Council Best in Group / Aust-Bred in Show under Judge Ms O. Grutzner (VIC)



Well done to Jo Ward and Ch. Grausturm Silver Lining "Sassy" and Zeba for the following results:

Zeba (Handled by Peter Ward)

- 05/05/2013 — Rally-O pass and third place
- 25/05/2013 — Rally-O pass
- 03/06/2013 — Obedience pass (CCD) and third place
- 08/06/2013 — Tracking (TD2) pass

Sassy (Handled by Jo Ward)

- 05/05/2013 — Rally-O pass and third place
- 08/06/2013 — Tracking (TD2) pass

Well done to Jodie Auld and TCH Gunclip Smokey Jade TSDX ET CD RA "Drift" for the following gaining :

- Rally Advanced title
- 2 Legs of Novice Jumping
- 1 Leg of Agility



Well done to Andrea Maxwell and Lulu for the following results:

- Tracking title Track 2



Visit the website
www.weiclubwa.com
 or find us on Facebook!

photo

corner

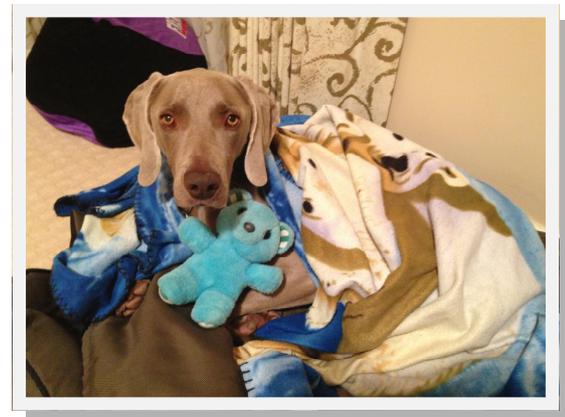
Winter...



HARRY



RAIFE & SNUGGLE BUDDY



LEROY



TARA



SHILOH AND RIVA

WANT YOUR PHOTO IN A NEWSLETTER? Submit your fun Weimaraner photos to swhyatt@gmail.com with a small caption!

DOG CLUBS IN OR AROUND PERTH

AGILITY CLUB OF WA

Club Type: Agility
Ms Deb Baile, 154 Gardiner Road, Karragullen, WA 6111
Phone: 0438 913 585
contact@agilityclubwa.com
www.agilityclubwa.com

CLOVERDALE CANINE COMPANIONS

Club Type: Obedience & Agility
C Freele, PO Box 402
CLOVERDALE WA 6985
Phone: 9402 1807 or
Training 9402 1807 (daytime)
Phone: 9452 8098 after 5pm

GOSNELLS OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB

Club Type: Obedience & Agility
Ms G Kay, 31 Tabubil Gardens,
BALLAJURA WA 6066
Phone: 0414 867 439

GUN DOG CLUB OF WA (INC)

Club Type: Breed Club + Gun Dog Activities
Melinda Auld, 3 Hennessy Drive,
Ashby. WA. 6065
Phone: 9405 3139
m.auld@iinet.net.au

MANDURAH DOG CLUB

Club Type: TRAINING
Karin Smale
Phone: 9582 2546

MIDLAND DOG TRAINING CLUB

Club Type: Obedience & Agility Training
The Secretary, P O Box 1522, Midland. 6936
Phone: 9377 6821 or
Training - Jan Welyky
Phone: 9572 2907
www.midlanddogtraining.com

NORTHERN SUBURBS TRAINING & OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB

Club Type: Obedience & Agility Training
Mrs Frances Coull, PO Box 122,
Greenwood. WA 6924
Phone: 9447 1859
www.northernsuburbsdogclub.org

PERTH TRAINING & OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB (INC)

Club Type: Obedience & Agility Training
Christine Meyer, 12 Barnsley Street,
Queens Park. WA 6107
Phone: 9356 8543
christineX@iinet.net.au

RETRIEVING CLUB OF WA (INC)

Club Type: Training & Competition events for Retrieving Breeds
Ms L Strang, 450 Eagle Street,
MUNDARING 6073
Phone: 9295 0820

ROCKINGHAM DOG CLUB (INC)

Club Type: Obedience & Agility
Ms S Kroon, PO Box 23 ROCKINGHAM 6968
Phone: 9419 7876 or
Head Trainer - Caroline Hille
Phone: 9592 5337
rockinghamdogclub@iinet.net.au
www.rockinghamdogclub.org.au

SOUTHERN RIVER AGILITY & OBEDIENCE DOG CLUB

Club Type: Obedience & Agility Club
Thelma Lynch 42 Fitzwater Way,
Spearwood WA 6163
Phone: 9418 3318 or
for Training enquiries only
Phone: 0401584259
tlynch@tadaust.org.au
www.southernriverdogclub.org.au

TRACKWEST DOG CLUB

Club Type: Training & Events for Tracking
Ms Carol Freele, 27 Aerolite Way,
Beldon. WA 6027
Phone: 9402 1807
cfreele@westnet.com.au
www.trackwest.com.au

Dog activities explained!

Have you considered trying one of the many 'dog sports' with your Weimaraner? The following disciplines utilise the talents and skills of the breed: AGILITY, OBEDIENCE, TRACKING and RETRIEVING.

Go to the Canine Association of WA's website and click on 'Activities and Events' for a step by step guide on how to get started. You must be a member and your dog registered with the CAWA in order for you to compete. See membership applications on the website. If you find the process difficult to understand, please don't hesitate to ask us for help.

AGILITY tests the dog's ability to negotiate jumps, tunnels and obstacles under timed conditions.

OBEDIENCE teaches the dog to watch and listen for instructions from his handler. This is a great way to ensure your dog is socialised.

TRACKING uses the Wei's nose. The dog must follow a scent and 'track'. This is also good for older Weis who may be past running and jumping. Young weis are naturals at this!

RETRIEVING trains 'gundogs' to retrieve decoys from water and land and return it to their handler. What Wei doesn't love to do this?



WEIMARANER
CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Passionate about Weimaraners