

Holdfast Dog Centre Newsletter

The Holdfast Dog Centre is an initiative of the Holdfast Bay Dog Owners Association



Christmas message from the Team

Another year has almost gone, and 2010 has seen some great things happening at the club (and some challenges too). We have had our largest member intake ever. It is especially heart warming to see so many wonderful doggy parents taking the time to train their dogs and help them become good doggy citizens. Watching them develop solid reliable dog interaction skills is amazing, we count ourselves as very fortunate to be able to spend our days with them.

We have had the challenge of losing the clubrooms due to safety concerns. The building was demolished at the end of October. We have been "camping" for quite a few weeks now.

Through these challenges, we have been wonderfully supported by the City of Holdfast Bay Council, doing everything in their power to make the transition as easy as possible. They scheduled demolition and work to be carried out while the trainers were in Sydney on a Dog Trainers Conference. There have been some hiccoughs, particularly with water supply, but the Council has been there for us every step of the way and overcome each difficulty we have presented them with. We are also lucky to have reached an agreement with the Pigeon club to share their premises. This will make our days easier and help us with the day to day

running of the classes and day care.

Membership renewal is due at the end of the year. We ask you to please consider rejoining, even if you are not currently using the services offered, your membership helps us develop services for new and existing dog owners, maintain equipment and property, and supports us when we act as an advocacy group for dogs and their owners. Now more than ever your support can help us work towards a bright future with improved facilities.

Our Christmas party is on December 12th. We hope as many as you as possible can join us. The day will be a fun outing for you and your dogs and a great chance to meet or catch up with other members and their dogs.

When you have a chance, check out our new website www.holdfastdogcentre.com.au

Full details of opening and closing times for the Christmas break, course times for 2011 and Doggy Day Care closures and openings are available. The site is updated regularly, so check back often for new information, updates and photos. Also have a look at YouTube, search for KarynM to see short clips of the dogs at day care.

We wish you all a wonderful, joyous Christmas with lots of family, friends and

love to share. We hope you include your four legged family members in the festivities. They certainly grasp the emotion and joy of our celebrations and enjoy the feelings of family, love and caring that we all wish to be a part off.

We all thank you for your support, encouragement and appreciation. We love being a part of your dog's lives, in classes and the day care and look forward to a fantastic 2011.

Also, I would like to thank the wonderful efforts of our Committee, **Doug, Tania, Toni, Cherie, Kevin, Leanne and Robyn** who help us keep things running smoothly, and provide endless support, backup and assistance to us on a daily basis.

We would also like to say a very special thank you to our small but wonderful team of volunteers, who every week turn up and help us in classes and day care. Thank you so much to **Donna, Sam, Emily, Bridget, Josh and Smitha**, your help is always appreciated.

Enjoy the holidays, your family, your friends (including your four legged ones) and have a safe and happy festive season.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from **Karyn, Jenny, Mary, Anthony, Deb, Shanice and Clinton**.

Volume 10, Issue 4

December 2010

New Website

www.holdfastdogcentre.com.au

Check it out
today!



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Phoenix Files

My name is Phoenix and I am a three year old Leonberger. I have some very exciting news. Santa is coming to the Christmas Party and all the dogs get to see him and sit on his knee. Well, not all of us get to sit on his knee. Mum says I am too big and also a Doofus so it would be too hard. But even the big dogs can sit with him. And get a doggy biscuit. And a cuddle and as long as we have been good all year he might bring us some good stuff on Christmas Day. This did worry me a bit! I know I am a Doofus, which means very smart dog – but even I cant be good all the time. I know in Autumn I dug a couple of really big holes, but I dug up some plants too and put them in there so that should be ok shouldn't it? And sometimes I get very excited and forget to sit and jump up. Mum says I am too big to jump up but even Doofus dogs muck up sometimes. So I hope that is ok. And I have NEVER jumped up at Santa. I haven't ate as much stuff this year either. Not one couch or cushion or bed at all. I have eaten socks. I can't help it, I just love socks. But I never eat two the same, so mum at least has one of every pair. I am very fair like that. When mum finds the eaten socks she calls me a Doofus, so I know it is the right thing to only eat one of each. I like being good. I have barked over the fence at day care a few times because dogs are running around on the oval. I don't think that is a good thing. So I tell them. Mum calls out "Quick,Quick,Quick" which means run very fast back to her. So I do, because I don't think she knows those dogs are out there being naughty, so I don't mind that she wants me then.

I have been very good with my walking. I never pull at all. And I sit when I am asked, even sometimes when I am not asked, because saying Please is a Good Thing.

That seems like a lot of good things and not too many bad things. I am hoping Santa doesn't know that I pull mandarins and figs off the tree or that I play a bit rough with the cat (he asks for it though) and especially I hope he doesn't know that I get sick of my brother Ralph sometimes because he is old and grumpy and tells me off. But because I am a Doofus I just keep out of his way, and even a smart Doofus like me is only dog! I think I should get some very good presents. I wish I could also get some very good food, but Mum says



dogs aren't allowed to have ham and pork and chocolate. That makes me a bit sad, but Mum knows what is right. She is a Doofus too.

Our clubrooms have gone too. I don't know where they went. The building was there when we were at day care, then we had a week off and when we got back someone had taken it. When my stuff goes missing I check in Ralph's bed and in Cruise's bed and in the yard and under the couch. But that building isn't there. I looked at day care, in the corners and in the sheds and under the cubby house but it is gone. Some of the dogs got scared that it had gone. My great friend Chrysler the great dane was too scared to come in the new gate. She just stood there staring at the big gap. My mum and her mum had to run around and dance and give her lots of liver to change her mind. I don't think Chrysler is a Doofus, but I love her anyway. Mum says that one day we will get another clubhouse. We will have to be more careful next time, if we lose another one someone might get mad at us.

I hope you all have a great Christmas and New Year. I miss my friends from day care when we have time off, but it is good to have my mum all to myself. I hope Santa brings your dog lots of presents. They might not have all been as good as me – not everyone is a Doofus Dog you know – but they all try very hard to be good dogs and love hugs and cuddles and presents, but no pork or ham or chocolate. I want a soft cuddly toy, and squeaky toy and a new tug rope. If you see Santa, maybe tell him how good I have been too (just in case he is upset about the cat or the mandarins).



Building Fund

The club has recently opened a building fund, where we can deposit fund raising funds, donations and monies specifically designated for our new clubrooms.

Should you wish to make a contribution, the bank details are below. We also wish to acknowledge with much thanks and appreciation the donations already made.

Thank You

Yvonne & Brett Rowse with Ella - \$1000

Anonymous - \$500 (please let us know so we can thank you personally)

Clare Michell with Lulu \$100

And the very many donations that have been put in the collection tins at day care.

Your generosity will help us fund new clubrooms that will benefit us and future dog owners.

Thank you all so much.



BUILDING FUND

(Please note donations are not tax deductible as we are not a registered gift recipient)

Name: Holdfast Bay Dog Owners Association.

**BSB: 923 100
A/C 060366769**

We will miss you

We will miss you, Jack

This month, a wonderful friend and day care companion, Jack the Labradoodle, passed away suddenly. Jack was much loved by his mum, Lindy and we all adored him too. He was a gentleman, a steady and gentle dog who was nice to everyone, human and dog. We were very fortunate to have known him and spent so many happy hours in his company. He will be very sadly missed. We will think of him often, and imagine him running and sniffing at Rainbow Bridge with other dogs we have known and loved.

Farewell, Jack, miss you good friend. From all your doggy day care mates, human and dog.

Big kisses to you.



Summer and your Dog

Just as it is important for us to keep cool during the hot weather it's very important to keep your furry friend cool too. Dog's don't sweat like us, their method of cooling is by their tongues and feet (not a lot of area really). So don't forget to make sure there is always sufficient cool fresh water for you dog and if you like you can add some ice just like you would for yourself.

Here are some ideas for Doggy Ice block treats to help you keep your friend cool this summer

Using Ice block trays or ice cube moulds you could try freezing the following

1. Mixture of apple and cranberry juices
2. Chicken stock or chicken soup (make sure you keep the salt level low)
3. Yoghurt
4. Pretty much anything that you know your dog enjoys and can be frozen.

If you want to make it look like a real Ice block you could use rawhide sticks instead of wooden ones (please don't use anything you can't let your dog eat!)



To keep your dog amused while home alone you could try freezing dog treats into water or stock in a large icecream container. Then leave the big block of ice on the back lawn for your dog to lick at to get the treats.

Holdfast Dog Centre

The Holdfast Dog Centre is an initiative of
the Holdfast Bay Dog Owners Association

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Web: www.holdfastdogcentre.com.au

Email: info@holdfastdogcentre.com.au

Christmas Party

SUNDAY December 12th 1 pm - 4 pm

Come along and enjoy a fun afternoon of fun, games and
friendship.

Have your dog's photo taken with Santa

Please fill in and return rsvp by

Friday 10th December 2010.



Summer Closure

The times for our summer closures and reopening are listed
below

Thursday 23rd Dec — Final Day Care Day

Friday 24th Dec — Closed (Christmas Eve)

Christmas Day
& Boxing Day — Closed

Summer Closure — Tuesday 28th Dec, 2010 to
Monday 10th Jan, 2011

Tuesday 11th Jan — Day Care Resumes

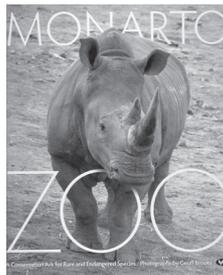
Saturday 5th Feb — Classes Resume

Monarto Zoo Books for Sale

Holdfast Dog Centre have small num-
ber of these books for sale at a very
reduced price of \$15.

Great Christmas Gifts!

To order simply ask Karyn.



Class times for 2011

Full details of 2011 courses on new website
www.holdfastdogcentre.com.au

Please confirm all course times before booking

Bookings and payment required to hold a class position
in courses

Class numbers are limited - book early

Classes Beginning—February 5th 2011

Basic	Sat	8.30am, 9.30 am
	Sun	9.30am, 10.30am
Advanced	Sat	9.30am
	Sun	9.30am
Masters	Sat	8.30am
	Sun	10.30am

Agility Classes

Commencing Saturday April 9th 2011

Masters	12.00pm
Advanced	12.45pm
Basic	1.30pm

Puppy School

Commencing Saturday February 5th, 2011

Puppy 1 12pm

Commencing Saturday February 19th, 2011

Puppy 2 1.15pm

*We look forward to seeing you all at classes
in the new year!*