



FROM THE PRESIDENT

As responsible dog owners, we all see instances of irresponsible dog owners.

- People who don't pick up after their dog
- Dogs are clearly not under effective control – the owner is not watching the dog and/or the dog won't come back when called
- Dogs harassing small children &/or adults
- Dogs behaving in an anti-social way with other dogs

I would like to think that our members are not guilty of any of these problems – we all have a duty to set a good example and encourage others to do the same.

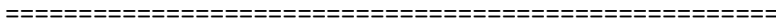
Unfortunately, it is always true that the few spoil things for the many. A month or so ago, there were a number of letters to the editor in the Messenger – many from people who wanted to see dogs banned, or always on lead, on our beaches.

Part of the mission statement for our organisation is "...to promote responsible dog ownership..." and our instructors and volunteers work hard to ensure that this message is understood and practised. An important aspect of responsible dog ownership is to respect the rights of non dog owners in our community.

If you and/or your dog have problems with any of the above issues, I strongly recommend that you discuss this with Karyn or any of our instructors to discuss actions that can be taken to ensure that you and your dog measure up.

On the negative side, these problems are offences and there are stiff fines for offenders.

Doug Kenny
President HDC



PHOTOS WITH SANTA
Saturday December 3rd 2011



Santa will be here for between 9 am and 3.00 pm.

Have your dog's photo taken on Santa's knee
(or next to him if you have a big puppy!)

\$10 each, available on the day or following Saturday during classes.

Inside:

Phoenix Files

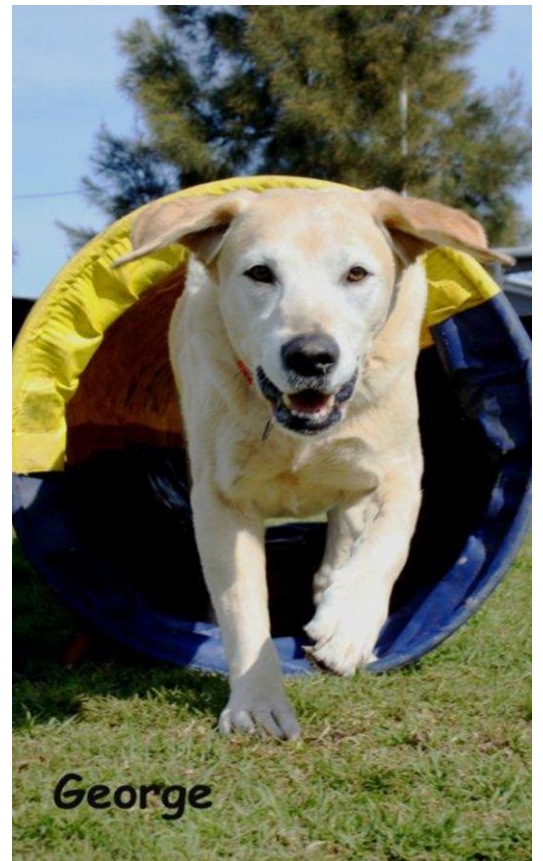
Assistance Dogs Australia

APDT

Christmas Santa Photos

Doggy Fun Day

Calendar – Exciting news



George



My name is Phoenix and I am a Leonberger. I am four years old now. Mum says that I should be growing up now. I don't mind if I am grown up as long as I stay a Doofus. Doofus means very smart dog, and I like being a very smart dog. Sometimes my mum Karyn says that other dogs or people are Doofuses, but I don't know about that. Some weeks at day care we laugh a lot. People are funny about stuff. They laugh a lot when people fall down! One day, my Mum fell down. And it wasn't while lots of dogs were running around, it was when only one dog was with her. Ned curled up around her feet and she stepped back and fell. Jenny said she was a Doofus, but that didn't seem very smart to me. I think dogs are lucky because we have four feet on the ground and we don't fall over hardly at all. After Mum got up and cleaned the coffee off of herself, Mary went and got chalk and drew an outline on the ground so we could see where mum landed. They said it was like CSI. I don't know what that means but it must be something to do with dogs. I was thinking maybe Canines Sniffing Information. But I don't know why they did the chalk thing. Everyone laughed though, and the dogs did sniff (so maybe it is CSI)

This week was Donna's turn. She was filling up the pools with the long hose. It is really two hoses joined into one so it is very long. Mary was picking up poop. People love picking up poop, they do it all day. I make sure the dogs put poop on the ground whenever we can so they don't feel disappointed. I am very good like that, that's why I am a Doofus. Anyway, one of the poops was very squooshy, you know the sort we like rolling in! Mary asked Donna to bring the hose. Donna tried to do that. But the hose was stuck around the pool full of water. If Donna was a doofus like me she would have gone back and unhooked that hose! But she didn't! Pity. She pulled and tugged and pulled and tugged. I thought about helping her, because I am big and strong, but I was still trying to decide when the hose broke. It turned into two hoses! Donna was leaning right back when the hose broke. I think it was about then that Donna wished she was a dog like me. She could have used four legs right then. The two she has started running backwards really really quickly. They went so fast that the rest of Donna couldn't keep up. That doesn't happen with dogs. But it sure did happen with Donna! She sat down. Hard on the ground. I wondered if she had found that squooshy poop but she missed it. That was a shame. Rolling in them can be fun sometimes. When Donna landed on the ground part of her was still going backwards very fast. Her two legs shot up in the air and went flying around. I think this time it was lucky Donna only had two legs, because if she had four she would have been even more tangled up than she was. Lots of us dogs went over there and started jumping around on her. We got pretty excited. We like it when people get on the ground. Mary got excited too. She was laughing. A lot. We like it when people laugh too, so we all started barking and jumping about. Donna got up off the ground and we all wandered off thinking what a good day we were having. Except for the hose. But maybe two hoses are better than one, just like four legs are better than two. I know these things. That's cos I am a doofus. We are glad Donna is ok though, cos she has been taking lots of photos for a calendar. The calendar is very good. I am in it. So are all the other day care dogs. I look very smart in my photos. Everyone will be able to tell I am a Doofus. Everyone should buy one so they can show their friends what a good Doofus looks like! We are very lucky to spend time with such funny clever people. Mary makes the others laugh all the time. One day a puppy was squealing, like puppies do. Mary stuck tissues in her ears and made everyone laugh. Mum said she was a Doofus! But that didn't seem smart, it might make me look a bit silly, and my ears hang down and it wouldn't be nice. But Mary can do it. We all like it when everyone laughs. My tail goes crazy and I have a big smile.



Do you know that it is spring now! Spring means nice things like flowers, and sunshine and nice walks. At home it means fig leaves and figs on the tree. Because I am a Doofus I can jump very high and grab the branches and pull them down and eat the figs and leaves. I like spring. But I don't like fleas so mum puts stuff on my neck that makes them go away. It must be a Go Away or Else sign cos it works really well.. You should get some for your dog. Don't forget to read the rest of the newsletter, about the Fun Day, and Santa Photos, and of course the calendar. Bye for now from your very smart Doofus, Phoenix.

DOGS DAY OUT – DOGGY FUN DAY

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 20TH

10 AM – 4 PM

DOG ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, PRODUCTS

STALLS :

JACKETS : LEADS AND COLLARS : DOGGY TREATS :
DOG BEDS : CALENDARS : RAFFLES :
AUSSIE DOG WASH : FOOD : DRINK : AND MORE!

DISCUSSIONS AND DEMONSTRATIONS:



10.30 AM – BARKING AND OTHER ATTENTION SEEKING SOLUTIONS

11.00 AM – TRAINING DEMONSTRATION- The Holdfast Dogs show their training skills

11.30 AM - AGILITY DEMONSTRATION- The Holdfast dogs show their skills

12 NOON - AGILITY TRYOUTS - Your dog can have turns on the equipment-supervised

12.30 PM – CALMING SIGNALS AND BODY LANGUAGE – What is your dog saying



1.00 PM – RELIABLE RECALLS – Start teaching your dog to love coming when called

1.30 PM - TRAINING DEMONSTRATION- The Holdfast Dogs show their training skills

2.00 PM - BARKING AND ATTENTION SEEKING SOLUTIONS- Incl.Handouts

2.30 PM - AGILITY DEMONSTRATION – The Holdfast dogs show their skills

3.00 PM - AGILITY TRYOUTS – Your dog can have turns on the equipment-supervised

3.30 PM – GROOMING DEMONSTRATION – How to prevent those matts and knots

**TRAINERS, DAY CARE WORKERS, COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEERS WILL BE AVAILABLE WITH INFORMATION
ON CLASSES, DAY CARE, PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS AND GENERAL DOG INFORMATION**

ALL WELCOME – DOGS MUST BE ON LEAD AND COLLAR/HARNESS/HALTER – NO CHAINS OR CHOKERS.

COME FOR AN HOUR OR THE DAY

2012 CALENDARS

We are very excited to announce that we are producing calendars this year.

The calendars feature a dog a day, plus collages and group photos. The dogs are all from our Day care facility, plus a few from Agility and training.

The photographs have been professionally taken and selected by **Donna Dawson, from Max-Scene (donna@max-scene.com)** Donna is from South Africa and we have been very fortunate to have her volunteer her services both at Day care for the last year, and now as our Photographer for the calendar.

We cannot thank her enough for the many many hours of dedicated work she has put in. Taking thousands of photos of dogs at day care, editing through them all, naming the dogs and preparing them for the printer has been a huge task.

The calendar is being printed by **Elite Printing** and should be available by the end of October. They will be on sale at day care, during training classes, on the Fun Day or by phoning in or emailing an order.

A copy will be on display at the Dog Centre.

**Calendars are \$20 each
One month per page, one doggy photo per day
13 Month Calendar – January 2012 to January 2013 incl.**

They will make beautiful Christmas presents and there is something special about having a calendar of dogs that you know, or that belong to the same club as you do.

This is a sample of the dogs, the other 400 are just as adorable!



Orders taken now. Phone text or email.

Ph: 8377 0737 : Mob: 0405 559 150 : Email : info@holdfastdogcentre.com.au

ASSISTANCE DOGS AUSTRALIA

Assistance Dogs Australia is a National Organisation that provide dogs to people with various disabilities. Specially selected puppies are placed in Puppy Raising homes until they are 14 months old, where they are trained just like your dogs, with the added bonus of being allowed places our dogs can't go...like public transport, shopping centres, hotels and restaurants. When old enough, they return to Assistance Dog Australia and undergo a more intense training program designed for the specifics of the person they will live with. All training is done using positive reinforcement, with their training philosophy and ours being a perfect match. Because of this perfect match, we have offered our assistance in keeping an eye on the puppies for that first 14 months, and will be providing training classes, guidance and advice to the dedicated puppy raisers and their very important puppies.

We look forward to seeing these puppies progress to Assistance Dogs in the future.