



Command News

May 2009

Command Dog Training School Web Site: www.dogtraining.com.au



What's my dog saying? By Basil Theofanides

The best place to learn about canine communication and behaviour is observing dogs in the park or at a training school. When a dog first sights another its posture will change. Its ears will prick up and forward, the stance will be upright, its hackles may be raised (sign of caution) and it may even have one paw lifted as though it is pointing. The dog's facial expression may be one of open mouth with tongue out (almost like a smile) and the dog may be eyeballing the other dog. Also, the position of the tail may be erect and wagging (happy & confident) or stiff & rigid (bold and aggressive). As another dog approaches, you may see a change in this posture. The tail may drop (unsure or timid), the ears may flatten out (defensive or submission), the facial expression may change to a closed mouth with a ripple in the lips (fear grin) and it may look away rather than at the dog (submissive act). Moreover, the dog may change its stance to a lowered submissive posture. If this is the case it is accepting the other dog approaching as the more dominant of the two. Essentially the dogs are sizing each other up. Dogs will also solicit play from each other by bowing down at the front with hindquarters (bottom) raised and tail up and wagging. Apart from the dog's body-language it also vocalises. You may have noticed that your own dog barks in a high pitch when excited but also barks in a low tone as warning when someone comes to the front door. The high tone signifies a happy dog whereas a deep bark or growl is a sign of aggression. Dogs also howl, yelp and whine. As you can see, dogs do have a vast array of communication skills. *Cont p2...*



Overseas Student Trainers

Esther, Jocelyn and Jonathan pictured above with Border Collie Jonty have just commenced their C. I. C. (Certificate Instructors Course) with **Dog Trainers Australia**.

Esther - Korea, Jocelyn - Singapore and Jonathan from Hong Kong .

Overseas students attend D.T.A's full time programme. The programme includes over 180 hours of practical hands-on training. Students are assessed on their competency in a number of key areas including basic animal husbandry, training untrained dogs using a variety of methods and planning & delivering training sessions.

If you are interested in becoming a qualified Dog trainer/ Instructor please contact

Basil Theofanides (Nationally Accredited Trainer & assessor)

Phone 1300 655 364

Email : basil@dogtrainersaustralia.com.au

Web : www.dogtrainersaustralia.com.au

*** Basil can be seen on Basil's Boot

Camp "Talk To The Animals" Channel 9

Saturdays 4.00 pm ***



Just For Dogs
Cool in Summer
Warm in Winter

Dogzone day care is fully air -conditioned for your dogs comfort.

Dogzone dogs are given a maintenance brush before going home to help maintain their coats condition minimising the amount of hair loss at home. All you need to do is take your dog home, feed and love it.

Exercise, play, daytime companionship and brushing will have already taken place.

DogZone 53-55 North St Richmond and is owned and managed by professional dog trainer Sally Chan. P: 9427 9888

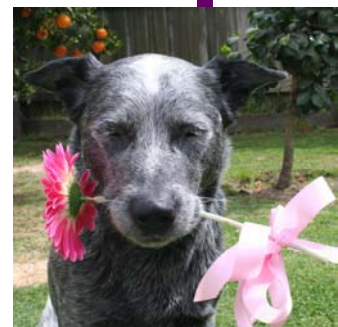
E: sally@dogzone.com.au

W: www.dogzone.com.au



Command Dog Training School

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all mums
a
Happy Mothers Day



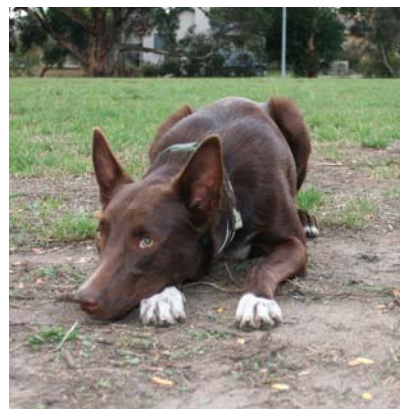
Readers Page



It's Official

**Talk To The Animals returns to
our screens on Saturday 2nd May
Channel 9 at 4.30**

**A face known to us all will be
featured on
Basil's Boot Camp
So make this a must see.
Judy Small**



**H
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Hutch is an 18 month old Kelpie cross and our dog of the month for May.

Hutch is in Intermediate class with C.D.T.S. Michael Garcia at our Blackburn venue, and likes nothing more than for someone to throw a ball for him.

Owner Claire tells us the Hutch loves all his pals at dog training, cheese & doggie chocolate.

But not as much as just that one extra throw of the tennis ball. Hutch's only dislike is the end of class, and when Claire puts his tennis ball away.

Need A Break ?



Best Friend Retreat has not been effected in any way by the fires and is lush and green.

Should you wish a few days or weeks away give Ralph or Coralie a call

Units, caravan sites and tent sits are available.

All sites and off lead areas are fully fenced for your pooches safety.

While you are there take a look at the gift shops as this has to be the best selection I have ever seen.

You can purchase fridge magnets, cushions, earrings, brooches, handbags, playing cards to mention just a few.

I must admit that this is our favourite place to stay.

Don't forget to stop at Port Albert for the best fish and chips in Victoria.

Woodside beach is a must and only a 25 minute drive away.

Web Site : www.thedogshop.com.au

Web Site : www.bestfriend.net.au

*** 2008 State winner, takeabreak

"Best place to stay" ***

National Winner 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008

LIFE BE IN IT 5 PAW AWARD

Australia's Most Dog Friendly Accommodation

cont from p1... How does this relate to humans? If you think about it, we communicate in exactly the same way minus the tail bit. So next time you are calling Butch or Jess whilst standing in a stiff and rigid manner, because you're annoyed that they aren't coming and you're growling "COME HERE", take a look at yourself in the mirror and then you'll understand exactly why your dog is running away from you. WOOF!

Million Paws Walk

The Million Paws Walk will take place on Sunday 17th May. The main purpose of this event is raising funds and with over 144,000 animals finding shelter at the R.S.P.C.A. annually, every dollar counts. As well as the walk, there will be entertainment, display stalls, giveaways and a host of activities. So put your dog on a lead and bring your "Best Friend" to the walk.

A healthy pet for life
**NATURE'S
GIFT**

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Please email me should you have a story