

Howler



www.hillsdogclub.com
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April 2022

A truly wonderful friend - Inspirational woman and leader - Best ambassador - A remarkable person



Dianne Atkins - Chief Instructor
Hills Dog Club

Reminiscences
Condolences
Memories
Farewells
Sobs
Tears & Love
to Dianne Atkins

Quick witted - Very special - Sense of humour



Tough exterior - A big heart

A wonderful person - A pocket dynamo - One in a million - Encouraging - Down to earth - A driving force - Great trainer

The mission of Hills Dog Club Inc. is to enhance the human-dog relationship through training, education and the promotion of good breeding practices within our community.

LIVING WITH COVID AT HILLS DOG CLUB 2022

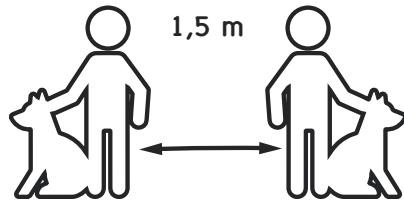
Training at Hills Dog Club has resumed for Monday night and Tuesday morning classes.

- Please be ready for class 10 minutes before start time.
- After arriving, please pay your ground fees (cash or EFTpos), have your card stamped and go to class collection area



Ensure everyone's safety by assisting us with the following guidelines

- **Please stay at home if you are feeling unwell.**
- You will be asked to leave by staff if you show any cold or flu like symptoms.
- Please maintain a distance of 1.5m between yourself and other people and their dogs.



- You are not required to be fully vaccinated or carry proof of vaccination, but all HDC volunteer Instructors, Office and Grounds people are vaccinated
- Hills Dog Club supports use of masks for the safety of yourself and the HDC staff.
- If you have tested positive for Covid-19, please view this link before coming back to Club.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/management/advice-for-confirmed#toc-when-can-i-leave-self-isolation>.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

The above guidelines are based on current advice from NSW Health, Dogs NSW and Hills Shire Council, however the COVID-19 situation can change rapidly.

We encourage you to keep up with government health advice and we will do our best to keep you notified of any changes to our events, or if it's not safe to train, via the community Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/hillsdogclub/>

The guidelines are to ensure that the Club meets its legal responsibilities. These laws from State Government. NSW Health and the Hills Shire Council relate to both your health & safety and how HDC ensure that we all stay safe whilst we train. The financial penalties for failure to comply with these laws are extremely high, along with the financial penalties, Council has told the club we would be given only 1 warning for a breach and then we would be banned from hiring any Hills Council property in the future.

* The club has the right to temperature check any member they feel they need to for safety reasons.

Important Dates.

General meetings 2022:

13 Apr, 11 May, 15 Jun,
13 Jul, 10 Aug, 14 Sep,
12 Oct, 9 Nov, 14 Dec

No training days:

Tuesday 12th April (school holiday)
Tuesday 19th April (school holiday)
Monday 18th April (Easter Monday)
Monday 25th April (ANZAC Day)

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear readers,

I wasn't expecting to pick my pen up again quite so soon (see: my retirement notice, last Howler), but hey, life happens. Which is to say: this edition celebrates the life of one who inspired us all to give above and beyond the call of duty. Because she did.

Our beloved Chief Instructor, Dianne Atkins, passed away two weeks ago. We are deeply saddened by her passing, so indebted to her leadership and will forever be inspired by her generosity of spirit, willingness to instruct and strength of conviction.

I remember the moment I met Dianne because it was – quite literally – the first contact I had with Hills Dog Club. I had been studying with professional trainer Steve Austin and at the end of our final lesson a classmate asked him where we could continue to train and learn. He mentioned a lecture he was giving the following night – as part of HDC's exclusive Instructors' Course, I later learned; not open to walk-ins! – and casually invited us to attend.

When we arrived, he was nowhere to be seen so we stood nervously outside the clubhouse, uncertain whether we would be welcome inside. A few attendees walked past but no one acknowledged us until a curly-haired, eagle-eyed lady approached us. "Can I help you?" she asked. She was polite, but I couldn't help but think we were being appraised. We explained sheepishly that Steve had invited us. She gave a mock scoff. "Of course he did. Typical Steve!" She chuckled, and we all laughed together.

In that (scary) moment, Dianne had invited us to share a joke and suddenly, we were in. Our fates were sealed.

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Judy, Dianne and Judith with their BCs, which were 14 year old litter mates

She waved us inside, other attendees welcomed us, and we enjoyed our first lecture of many – thanks to Dianne's tireless pursuit of education for her instructors. (And yes, we did become club instructors – after we caught up on all our missed homework, of course.)

Creating this Howler was daunting because it is truly impossible to sum up all that Dianne meant to us. But we tried our best – and we know she would be proud of us, because she always was. Thank you, friends, for joining our humble but heartfelt tribute. Vale, Dianne.

Ellen Mok
Editor

Graphic Designer
Tony Vink



*Cover page painting by
Taryn Gibbons, who
donated the original to the
club.*

This month we celebrate the life of our beloved Chief Instructor, Dianne Atkins. Her passing last month has saddened us deeply but we also wish to express our admiration, respect and gratitude for her work, leadership, mentorship and friendship.

In 1989, Dianne Atkins became a member of Hills District Kennel & Training Club. Over those 33 years, she held many active roles which were integral in making the club into what it is today. From Committee Member to Trial Manager and many roles in between, she is best known for serving as Chief Instructor since September 1994. During this time, she led by example with her passion for continuing education and encouraged all to join in on the journey.



Outing to the Zoo!

One of Dianne's greatest legacies is her introduction of positive reinforcement training to our club. This journey is detailed in her own words in the following piece (page 6), written for our club's 40th anniversary in 2019.

Despite her drive for big cultural and systemic change within dog training, Dianne always had time, one-on-one, for anyone who needed a hand. On the training grounds she never hesitated to call out to any member who appeared lost - literally or figuratively. She provided her home phone number to struggling beginners in case they had a training crisis. Instructors both veteran and fledgling knew who to call for help.

Vale, Dianne. Thank you for everything you have given us; as you instructed, we will "walk on like we mean it".

EM.

Dianne Atkins remembered

Alongside a few fellow instructors, Dianne participated in the inaugural Australian Canine Good Citizen study program in 1995/6. This was an internationally known positive reinforcement training program run by Terry Ryan (USA) and hosted by the Animal Welfare League and took place amidst some major changes in Australian animal welfare laws.

Dianne was also a founding member of the Australian Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT) in 1997. She was passionate about continuing education for all dog owners and handlers, not just professional trainers or competitive triallers. This led her to facilitate an incredible amount of ongoing education for our instructors and members. We hosted local and international guests who spoke on such varied topics as animal learning to breed differences, veterinary care to class instruction, sniffer dogs to zoo animals. We visited the zoo and were visited by the dingo sanctuary!

38 years ago I met Dianne at the school bus stop. My 5yr old son pointed to her and said look at that ladies beautiful hair. There she was bright purple hair, tattoos and of course dressed in jeans. I bred and showed my golden retrievers and trained at Hills as I loved trialling.

Dianne loved all dogs and she asked me to train her dog so I did. Late 80's She got Clyde her gorgeous border collie who she loved so much and asked me to train him. I said no do it yourself, of course, she said I CANT. She joined Hills and successfully trained her first dog so I said now you'll trial him, she said I CANT. She loved trialling but was a nervous wreck, however, she successfully got Clyde through his open title. During this time I became chief instructor and Dianne was my No.1 assistant. When I ran an instructors course I said you are going to be an instructor, she said I CANT. I told her to never forget what its like to be a beginner and she was a wonderful instructor who cared for the beginners and gave them confidence to continue.

Together we started Tuesday classes. For years we were the only 2 instructors. She thrived on it. We had so much fun and the Tuesday people became our friends. Of course, her cakes were the best reason to go to training. Together we decided to nurture a group through to trialling but it was hard to find the time at the club. We met at my place and every one of those people, I think about 10 of them, trialed their dog. Many of those ladies are still very dedicated members of Hills today.

I stepped down as Chief instructor due to family reasons and I told Dianne she should take the job. Of course, it was I CANT. Well, she stepped up and stepped up and stepped up right to the top as history tells. For someone who always said I can't and said she definitely could never stand and talk in front of a class she excelled with al she did in the dog world.

Well, that's the doggie side but we had lots of fun in our real lives. A couple of examples, starting with the day she made me get my ears pierced again while we were out shopping on my 40th birthday. I cried and she rolled laughing but held my hand while they shot holes in my ears.

Best memory was when we got the sack from the primary school canteen. Not being allowed to smoke at the school, we would hide in the cupboard in the canteen to smoke. The canteen manager saw us and went and told the principal who stormed down and told us we had to go outside the gate to smoke.

Jeni and Dianne



Well, we did that and when we got back the sausage rolls were burnt so she gave the manager a serve, as you can imagine it was pretty hot and loud. Manager went to principal in tears and down he came and told us we weren't suitable for canteen duty! I think we are still the only ones ever sacked from Kellyville canteen.

We certainly had so many irreverent times. A friend was having coffee with a priest one day and we joined them. I thought our friend was going to have a heart attack expecting Di to drop some juicy swear words. Later we were laughing about it and she assured me she knew how to behave in front of priests and grandmothers and she surely did.

Dianne was very involved with Kellyville soccer club for many years. She was secretary and worked so hard to keep everything in order. Her community spirit was fantastic.

Rough tough exterior but soft as butter I am forever grateful to have had Dianne as my friend.

Jeni Schwebel

OUR CLUB'S JOURNEY TO BECOMING THE FIRST REWARD BASED TRAINING CLUB IN NSW

I started instructing in 1990 and before I became Chief Instructor I believed there was a better way to train dogs. Obedience Clubs did not cater for puppies, and any puppy that joined went into the usual training system. In early 1994 I asked the club if we could run a separate puppy class for young puppies that joined the club, and so our Puppy Class story began. This was the start of 'no check chains' and a reward based training system. Most of the club accepted this system with open arms, and with the support of our President Hazel Baldwin and instructor Alan Butler I got our first puppy class up and running. I instructed it myself weekly for some time until I passed it over to another instructor so I could concentrate on Beginner classes.

In late 1994 I became Chief Instructor. I wrote and introduced a more reward based training programme again with the support of many members including Anne Small and Belvane Parsons who had taken over Puppy classes. In 1995 we began our journey towards introducing an eight week Beginner class. It was not anywhere near as detailed as it is now but it was the start. I presented this to a meeting and to be honest all hell broke loose as I had a 'no check chain' clause in this new booklet. My motion was refused by the Chairperson. But as the movement towards the use of rewards gained momentum so did the numbers of instructors at Hills who believed this method worked. So, not giving up, and with the support of many, I presented my Beginner Class Course again and this time it was accepted at a meeting, and our story begins.

This didn't happen with just one person or just a few. It took the support of many Hills Instructors and Members to change our Club to what it is today.

And if my memory serves me correctly I believe we were the first Dogs NSW affiliated Club in NSW and possibly Australia to have introduced a reward based training system and to have a 'no check chain' clause on our books.

Heading forward, the old saying that it takes a village to raise a child? Well it takes a community to run our Club. It takes so many to keep to the standard we want -- from the Committee to all the Coordinators who do a fantastic job helping me organise our classes, to all our wonderful Instructors and also our workers that help with all the stuff that needs doing.

Dianne Atkins

April 2019



For Dianne

In writing a tribute I hoped never to write, one thought keeps recurring: that apart from Dianne's strength, humility and personal integrity, she was outstanding because everything she did at Hills Dog Club was motivated by consideration for dogs and their wellbeing.

There is no data to show how many dogs and families Dianne assisted during her years of service to the dog world, most notably in her role as Chief Instructor at Hills for almost 30 years; but I know that her reach has been widespread. Her effect in fostering loving, resilient bonds between dogs and handlers cannot be underestimated. She set an impressive example, and her influence in inspiring others to live up to her ideals will extend into the future as her principles live on through her students.

Dianne was an outstanding mentor and role model. She called a spade a spade, was outspoken, and never shied away from the truth. As an unwavering advocate for all animals, she was not afraid to speak on their behalf. Her involvement in Hills Dog Club was the real-world application of her deeply held belief that animals are sentient beings who deserve human compassion and protection.

Dianne created an exceptional sense of community throughout the Club. She made a point of getting to know and understand each one of us, a task that was perhaps aided by her exceptional baking talents. She spent hours every week baking extraordinary treats for instructors and members to enjoy after training. This was Dianne's own form of positive reinforcement, and it certainly kept us coming back! Yet it was much more than that: it was her way of getting instructors and members together, to engage us in conversation, to brainstorm solutions for issues we might have encountered during training sessions. By doing this, she ensured the lines of communication were kept open, and inculcated in her instructors an attitude of enquiry and the desire for lifelong learning.

I always found it extraordinary that Dianne never seemed to need or want thanks. She claimed 'not to have a heart' because she liked to uphold a tough exterior. However, for those of us lucky enough to have known her, we understand that her heart was beyond enormous.

Vale, Dianne. You were a truly wonderful friend and mentor and I will miss you more than I can say. Your generosity and thoughtfulness won't be forgotten, and I will try to carry your many lessons forward (quite possibly on one shoulder à la Pavlov).

Genevieve Young – HDC Instructor

When I was club president 2006/7, Di was still driving forward at a pace much faster than me. We would get one project finished and I would breathe a sigh of relief, thinking I had a few weeks rest. But no, Di would be on the phone to me to explain her next project!

Stays – “walk away with confidence! Stop pussy footing around!”

Heeling – “walk as if you mean it, heel toe heel toe”

Di's drive and enthusiasm will always be with me, as a friend and fellow dog trainer. Every time I practise obedience I will forevermore hear Di's voice commenting.

Robyn Jones, President 2006-7, Instructor

The dog world has lost one of the best ambassadors I know. An inspiring person who not only supported the welfare of all dogs, but also her instructors and club members. So many trainers are where they are today because of Dianne's influence and unwavering support. She will be forever remembered for the work she did.

Kathy Cocks, Instructor and Tuesday Co-ordinator

Dianne Atkins - THANKS for your legacy to HDC Inc. The introduction of reward based training. The years of learning through education from the BEST in the field. All the fun times and wonderful memories.

Belvane Parsons, Asst. Secretary



And who can forget:

Dianne's Cream Puffs, Orange Syrup Cake, Victoria Sponge, and her wonderfully eclectic, experimental Rosemary and Walnut Cake.

Genevieve Young, Education Officer

A truly inspirational woman and leader, Dianne's strength of character and determination

made The Hills Dog Club second to none. Her strong personality let it be known that if you tried to throw her to the wolves, she would return, leading the pack. I will miss you my friend.

Marion Brand, Instructor

Dianne made the Hills what it is today with her positive training, hard work and endless amount of time she put into the club. The advice "reward in place" I will always associate with Dianne.

Pat Bradley, Instructor

Dianne was a remarkable person – kind, generous, brave, forthright and feisty. She was a brilliant organiser, a charismatic and respected leader and a loyal friend. She had loads of courage, drive and determination. She was also highly intelligent with a wicked sense of humour! I'll really miss her. She was unique.

Pam Wood, Instructor

Dianne gave 100% to helping improve gentle methods of training our dogs. Quick witted and a roll of her eyes, you knew what she meant and she wasn't afraid to speak her mind. Dianne will leave an empty space which can't be filled. Thinking of her family & friends who will always miss her as I will.

Shannon Cross, Club Worker

Vale my 'eclectic' friend.

Sandra Elliot, Instructor.

Dianne has inspired so many of us with her passion for learning and her fierce determination to help make the human animal bond a happy experience.

What Dianne achieved in the 30 years of her involvement at this Club has impacted on so many and is leaving a huge gap in our lives.

We have lost someone so very special.

Anne Small, Vice President

Vale Dianne Atkins.

So saddened, selfishly, by our immense loss.

I fear the club will take some time to fully recover.

Hills was Di Atkins. Di Atkins was Hills.

Her shoes will be very difficult indeed for successors to fill.

An inspiring little person with a big heart.

She was the driving force behind so much of what Hills Club achieved on the dog world stage.

RIP Di At.

Maureen Shepherd, Instructor

Dianne's influence on me was enormous. She had a tremendous knowledge about dogs, dog behaviour and training and shared this unselfishly. She delighted in problem solving and organised so many seminars so that Hills members would benefit. On a personal level, I very much appreciated her friendship, sense of humour and intellectual curiosity.

I will miss her.

Judith Walder, Instructor

Dianne with Luci Ellem and Rebecca Bancroft.



Dianne and Annie



Triallers class with Dianne



I met Dianne in 1990 when I joined the club to trial my Dalmatian Chloe. At that stage Dianne was trialling a beautiful Border Collie named Clyde. Both Dianne and I were encouraged by Jeni Schwebel with extra help outside of the Club sessions.

Over the years Dianne and I would go out to Trials on a weekend, also going to various horse shows. Those were the days when she bought a two seater sports car but, because the car didn't have good acceleration speed, she reverted back to her beloved Jeep.

Those times were so interesting to me as she talked and reminisced of the trips with her husband Mick, working their way around Australia on their motorbikes, with a dog in tow. They travelled to so many remote locations.

In 2004 Dianne and I met up in London UK, visiting some of the local tourist spots before travelling separately to Crufts in Birmingham to watch Obedience, other dog sports and some Conformation judging. It was there we caught up with John Rogerson, who Dianne suggested to the Club and he was brought out for a seminar in 1998. That was the pre-cursor of many such seminars with prominent speakers/trainers initiated by Diane for the club over the following years.

Dianne was instrumental in teaching positive based dog training, therefore having a great influence on people's relationship with dogs at the Club and within the Community.

During these times the highlight for me were a number of trips organised to Taronga Zoo for our Instructor courses, showing how the keepers used positive training methods. We were extremely lucky to make behind the scenes visits to Chimpanzee, Gorilla, Seals and plus the Bird Show.

Dianne has left a great legacy at Hills and her achievements will be left to speak for themselves.

For me personally, Dianne was in her element as a proud "Nanny" to her four grandchildren, laughing while in the kitchen teaching them to bake, never mattered that the egg shells went into the batter or flour ended up all over the place. She adored looking after them.

She will be missed on so many levels.

Farewell Dianne,

Janet Power, Asst Treasurer



4 Generations - Norma, Dianne, Aysha and Kelly



*Bob, Janet
and Dianne... On a mission*

I will always remember when I brought my beautiful Border Collie Baxter to the club when he was only twelve weeks old. Well Dianne loved him and she would put him around her shoulders and walk around the grounds on a Monday night looking at the classes, and then when he was too big for that, she would take him on a lead. I was taking puppies with Pam Wood. Dianne was great at organising lunches when we hosted the Interclub challenge and it was wonderful all of us sitting around talking and laughing together. She will be sadly missed and we will never forget all that she did for the club and others.

Dianne was a wonderful person, a great inspiration to me. I give my condolences to all of her family for their terrible loss.

*Deirdre O'Brien,
Instructor.*

From Instructors' Course Class of 2019

I remember when I was a trainee back in 2019 when it was assessment time, the other Trainees said "oh Dianne will watch you from a distance" WRONG, she came and stood right next to me, I was terrified that I wouldn't pass, but fortunately I did pass and I will never forget her words of encouragement, RIP Dianne I will never forget you.

Jenny Hayes, Instructor

What to say?

Dianne at the Club either at Training or meetings was fascinating to watch, there was nothing that was missed or not heard - a pocket dynamo. I was so fortunate to do Dianne's Trainee Instructor course and that's where you really got to understand Dianne's commitment to all that was Hills Dog Club. My heart goes out to Mick and all the family and her friends from many years, a loss to all. Vale Dianne.

Jane Lamont, Instructor



I will forever be grateful for Dianne's leadership, guidance and support during my Instructors' course. Her legacy to assist owners train well behaved four-legged family members is immeasurable. Dianne was 'one in a million', a legend in the dog world and she will be dearly missed.

*Michelle Raymond,
Instructor*

I first met Dianne in person at the instructor course in 2018.

I could not have asked for a more supportive mentor and friend.

She had a great sense of humour -she must have - as she laughed at my German sarcasm. Dianne was always giving feedback, helped, criticised but mostly praised and encouraged me to do more.

I have no idea how I got "sucked" into the dog world so much (Dianne was very good at organising people).

I will always remember Dianne as the driving force

behind my success with my dog and in training other dogs. There was no "I can't" or "maybe not" or "how about later" with Dianne. She signed me up for training pages, helped me in setting up my business and was always there for advice or honest feedback.

She always pointed me in the right direction. Dianne was fair, honest and a very down to earth person. I am privileged to have had her as my mentor and friend.

My condolences to her family in this difficult time. Dianne you will be missed.

Gabriele Loft, Instructor



Dianne and Robert



Winning teams



Dianne and Tony

Dianne was an amazing Dog Trainer. She was instrumental in changing Hills Dog Club to a Positive Reinforcement Dog Club when she became Chief Instructor.

Vale Dianne.

Shirley Tulk, Instructor

Words are not nearly enough to express the great sadness and loss being felt at Dianne's passing and I send my heartfelt condolences to her Family. The Dog Club has lost a driving force who has left an incredible legacy which we will strive to uphold and honour. And I have lost a friend. I am going to miss our conversations on dog training and bouncing off ideas, the chats about our grandkids, the laughter, hearing her voice on my answering machine. Dianne will be so greatly missed.

Karen Richardson, Instructor and Co-ordinator.



Happy serving ice creams at Christmas

I would like to say it was a privilege to know Dianne. You always knew where you stood. Dianne was a great trainer and would find time to help when ever asked. Dianne gave 100% to HDC and to the dog world of Obedience. I have had 3 dogs over the years at Hills and Dianne has helped with each one with different issues. I feel that Dianne will be with many now including Allan having a smoke and talking all things dogs, RIP Dianne.

Kerry Richards, Instructor



Dianne's pup, Jack

I sit in stillness

Mindful of every minute

Her light stays with us

Taryn Gibbons, Member

I started at Hills Dog Club about 26 years ago with a cocker spaniel Cinders. I went through the beginner classes and we could hear Dianne at the other end of the field instructing. No microphone ever needed. I always knew she was in charge and to think I was about to go into her advanced class (as it was called back then) was a bit frightening. Luckily Cinders won her over and she always had a special place in her heart for her. When someone new was coming into class I think I always felt that she would have someone else to instruct and leave us be for awhile. But no - it was amazing how she had eyes in the back of her head. Dianne will have us doing an exercise and you do something wrong and you think phew she is not watching and the next minute you hear I saw that. Your dog is lagging, forging, not doing a tight enough turn, get the dog's attention and heel, ball, toe, these words are stuck in my mind.

Dianne also organised for a group to go to the old Council Chambers where school children would be shown how to behave with dogs. We also did some classes at the deaf school. They were a lot of fun and the children really got a lot from it. I think our dogs enjoyed it as much as the children. More recently there were children and pet nights at the clubhouse on how to look after animals.

After training we used to go to the shed (before the club rooms were built) for morning tea. Everyone would sit around and talk. Wonderful times. I now attend with Holley a Lagotto. When we were away my son rang and told me Holley had escaped. I sent a message to Dianne to see what could be done. Suddenly she was organising everyone and even rang my son to make sure he was coping. She was about to go and help look (even though lives quite a distance away) when Holley was found. Way beyond the call of duty.

Over the years Dianne has organised a very intensive year long instructor's course which included speakers, assignments and practical work. Dianne set up the training manuals. She would run these every few years. I was very proud to be able to be part of the last completed course in 2018-2019. The class presented her with a painting of Abbey (her last dog).

Certainly will be missed. I will try to remember everything you have taught me. Will also miss your baking.

RIP

Rosalind Oliver, Instructor

AGILITY DOG CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC

VALE DIANNE ATKINS

21 March 2022

Dear Hills Dog Club Community,

The Agility Dog Club of NSW Community was saddened to hear of the passing of Dianne. We understand she was a truly loved and valued member of your Club with well over 20 years of ongoing membership, support, and commitment to volunteering within your Club.

Many of our members, as you are aware also belong to the HDC community and have been enriched by Dianne's service to the community with her passion for dogs.

She will be truly missed. As a token of support, the Agility Dog Club will be contributing to her beloved **Bargo Dingo Sanctuary**.

The ADC Community extends its deepest sympathies to Dianne's family and friends.

Yours sincerely



Ryan Fonti

Vice President (Acting President)

Agility Dog Club
of New South Wales inc.



Dianne at Bargo Dingo Sanctuary

CELEBRATING DIANNE

By Michelle Raymond

On Saturday 2nd April, our club held a function to celebrate the life of our amazing Chief Instructor, Dianne Atkins. It was attended by Dianne's immediate family, including her four precious grandchildren and approximately 120 friends and HDC members.



Anne Small, our club's Vice President led the celebration which reflected the family's request for a simple and low key get together. The flowers, food, music and photos were carefully prepared by a band of committee members. A stunning watercolour portrait of Dianne by talented club member Taryn, added a special touch to the surroundings.

Heartfelt tributes were paid by Dr Michelle Byrne, former Mayor of Hills Shire Council, who mentioned the enormous influence Dianne has had on community members over many years. Vicki Austin, professional dog trainer, friend and long-standing supporter of

HDC, referred to the huge impact Dianne has had on positive dog training methods within the dog training world. Mrs Luci Ellem, a close friend and one of our club's patrons also reflected on Dianne's unique qualities that endeared her to so many. Members of her family paid tribute to the strong and cherished wife, mother, daughter, sister and grandmother who will be dearly missed.

It was beautiful to celebrate Dianne in the very place that meant so much to her, especially with the sun emerging in perfect timing. Gazing over our training grounds, you could sense the enormity of the legacy Dianne has established in the dog world and within our club. Her influence is immeasurable and it is incredibly difficult to imagine HDC without her.

Thank you to those who assisted and attended to honour and celebrate Dianne. Her family was overwhelmed by the love and support shown by friends and members of our club.



We train we're fine come rain or shine

FOR NOTICE OF CLASS CANCELLATION
In the event of extreme weather conditions (heat or rain)
Go to: www.hillsdogclub.com OR
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/hillsdogclub
Pages updated Monday 4pm &
Tuesday 8:45am

2021 Trophies and Awards

Congratulations to all our handler and dog teams who have performed so well in the last 12 months.

BRONZE MEDALLIONS

Sonderbar Climb Every Mountain CCD RA
Novice Obedience
Barbara Horsfield

Makuwan Purple Rain CCD RN TK.N

CCD Obedience

WINNER DIANNE ATKINS TROPHY

Gabriele Loft



Barbara and Vanessa



Carole and Vanessa



Dori and Vanessa



Ch. Quinora Tell Me More RA
Rally Obedience
Carole Hately

Cocobo Lightning Flash RN
Rally Obedience
Jess Isaacs

Karleken Mystic Angel RN CCD
Rally Obedience
Louise Horton

Makuwan Purple Rain RN CCD TK.N
WINNER DIANNE ATKINS TROPHY
Rally Obedience
Gabriele Loft

Cocobo Isaacs Image ADX JDX SD SPD JC RN
Rally Obedience
Jess Isaacs

Rozate Blade Runner CCD CDX RE RAE ET
Rally Obedience
Vicki Gresser

Gr.Ch Kirinbell Get Off My Cloud RN ET
Rally Obedience
Samantha Ibbot-Cordi

Karleken Mystic Angel RN CCD
WINNER ABBEY MEMORIAL TROPHY
CCD Obedience
Louise Horton

GOLD MEDALLIONS

Hills Dog Club

PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR TRACKING

Gr.O.Ch. T.Ch. Gadhar Super Nova UDX TSD HSAs HSBs

Sandy O'Neill

Rozate Arctic Bluegrass CCD CD RA

Rally Obedience

Vicki Gresser

Rozate Arctic Bluegrass CCD CD RA

Novice Obedience

Vicki Gresser

Poodlederry Super Star CD RA TKs

WINNER HAZEL BALDWIN TROPHY

Novice Obedience

Karen Richardson

Gr.O.Ch T.Ch Gadhar Super Nova UDX TSD HSAs HSBs

WINNER HILLS DOG CLUB TROPHY

UDX Obedience

Sandy O'Neill



Gabi and Vanessa

TITLE TROPHIES

Samantha Ibbott-Cordi & Gr.Ch. Kirinbell Get Off My Cloud RN ET

RALLY NOVICE TITLE

Samantha Ibbott-Cordi & Gr. Ch. Neut. Ch. Tobenlee Moves Like Jagger CD RA TKs JD ET JC

TRICK DOG STARTER TITLE

Jess Isaacs & Cocobo Lightning Flash RN
RALLY NOVICE TITLE

Shirley Tulk & Inneslake China Doll CCD RN TK.S

TRICK DOG STARTER TITLE

Sandra Elliot & Etherial Hearts N Diamonds SWN
SCENT WORK NOVICE TITLE

Sandra Elliot & T.CH. Rivermaid Chester Cherokee CCD RA SWN
SCENT WORK NOVICE TITLE

Karyn Gresseer & O.CH. RO.CH. Banjo UD RAE ADX JDX GD SD SPD ET
AGILITY DOG EXCELLENT TITLE

Fay Mullan & Trisven Leaving On A Jet Plane SWN
SCENT WORK NOVICE TITLE

Julianne James & Wilsonia Why Not Geordie TK.S
TRICK DOG STARTER TITLE

Karen Richardson & Poodlederry Mister Bojangles CCD CDX RE FS.S HTM.A TK.S
TRICK DOG STARTER TITLE



Jess and Vanessa



Fay and Vanessa

Dori Leadle & T.CH Cassalis Highland Chief CDX RA SWN
ORA

SCENT WORK NOVICE TITLE

Carole Hately & Neut. Ch. Quinora Lennox Vision RN ET
SWN

SCENT WORK NOVICE TITLE

Jo Barnes & Bellebriar American Connection SWN
SCENT WORK NOVICE TITLE



Jo and Vanessa

MULTI TITLE TROPHIES

Vicki Gresser & Rozate Arctic Bluegrass CCD CD RA
RALLY NOVICE, RALLY ADVANCED & COMPANION DOG TITLES

Carolyn Jensen & Biddy
TRICK DOG STARTER & TRICK DOG NOVICE TITLES

Jess Isaacs & Cocobo Isaacs Image RN TK.S ADX JDM
SPD SD GD JC
GAMBLERS DOG, JUMPING DOG MASTER & RALLY NOVICE TITLES

Gabriele Loft & Makuwan Purple Rain CCD RN TK.N
TRICK DOG STARTERS, TRICK DOG NOVICE, RALLY NOVICE & COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG TITLES

Barbara Horsfield & Sonderbar Climb Every Mountain RA CD
RALLY EXCELLENT & COMPANION DOG TITLES

Karen Richardson & Poodlederry Mega Pixel CD RAE FS.I.
HTM.A. TK.S
HEELWORK TO MUSIC ADVANCED & TRICK DOG STARTER TITLES

Karen Richardson & Poodlederry Super Star CD RA TK.S
COMPANION DOG & TRICK DOG STARTER TITLES

Louise Horton & Karleken Mystic Angel RN CCD
RALLY NOVICE & COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG TITLES



Shirley and Vanessa



Karen R. and Vanessa

PERPETUAL TROPHIES

TRACKING TROPHY

Gr.O.Ch. T.Ch Gadhar Super Nova UDX TSD HSAs HSBs
Border Collie
Sandy O'Neill

DIANNE ATKINS TROPHY

Makuwan Purple Rain RN CCD TK.N
Brittany
Gabriele Loft



Louise and Vanessa



Sandy and Vanessa

ABBEY MEMORIAL TROPHY
Karleken Mystic Angel RN CCD
Bernese Mountain Dog
Louise Horton

HAZEL BALDWIN TROPHY
Poodlederry Super Star CD RA TK.S
Toy Poodle
Karen Richardson

HILLS DOG CLUB INC PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR UDX
Gr.O.Ch T.Ch Gadhar Super Nova UDX TSD HSAs HSBs
Border Collie
Sandy O'Neill



Sam and Vanessa

CHAMPION AND GRAND CHAMPION TROPHIES

Gr.O.Ch. T.Ch Gadhar Super Nova UDX TSD HSAs HSB
Grand Champion Obedience
Sandy O'Neill

CH. Trisven Rewrite The Stars
Conformation
Fay Mullan

Gr Ch. Neut Ch.Tobenlee Moves Like Jagger CD RA TK.S JD
ET JC
Neuter Champion
Samantha Ibbott-Cordi

Gr Ch Kirinbell Get Off My Cloud RN ET
Grand Champion Conformation
Samantha Ibbott-Cordi

Ch. Kirinbell The Girls Got Game
Champion Conformation
Samantha Ibbott-Cordi



Genevieve and Vanessa

HONOUR BOARD PLAQUES

Gr.O.Ch. T.Ch Gadhar Super
Nova UDX TSD HSAs HSBs
Sandy O'Neill

CH. Trisven Rewrite The
Stars
Fay Mullan

Gr Ch. Neut Ch.Tobenlee
Moves Like Jagger CD RA
TK.S JD ET JC
Samantha Ibbot-Cordi

Gr Ch Kirinbell Get Off My
Cloud RN ET
Samantha Ibbot-Cordi

Ch. Kirinbell The Girls Got
Game
Samantha Ibbot-Cordi



Vanessa and Carole

SERVICE AWARDS

Tom Wilson	20 years
Jo Barnes	10 years
Genevieve Young	10 years
Robert Henderson	10 years
Vanessa Van Vugt	5 years

PROMOTIONS - MARCH 2022

Beginners to Graduate

- Judy with Maya the Border Collie
- Peter & Cathy Gair with Willow the Mini Groodle
- Jonathon Smith with Murphy the Labrador
- Mary Simonian with Freddie the Cavoodle
- Jessica Isaacs with Hamish the Cavalier
- Caitlin Sallway with Jaskia the Mix
- Raymond Chiu with Luca the Lagotto
- Jennifer Nicolopoulos with Leroy the Pug

Intermediate to Advanced

- Paul Gersbach with Shelley the Border Collie
- Graeme Churchill with Annabella the Lagotto
- Danielle Foster with Remy the Beagle

*Well done to all our
handler and dog teams
who graduated in the
last two months*



Jessica and Hamish

NOTICE IS GIVEN OF THE GENERAL MEETING

of Hills Dog Club Inc.

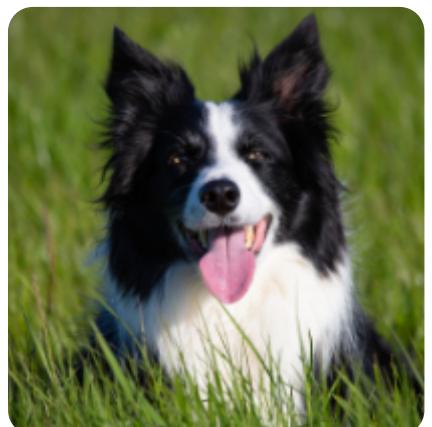
When: **Wednesday 13 April 2022 - 7:30pm**
Where: **Meeting Rooms at Castle Hill Showground.**
Who: **All club members are welcome to attend.**

AGENDA

1. Open Meeting
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of minutes
4. Business arising from the minutes
5. Correspondence
6. Treasurers Report
7. New Members
8. Chief Instructors Report
9. Show Secretary Report
10. Trial Secretary Report
11. Publicity Officer report
12. Scentwork Trial Secretary Report

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. 2024 Championship Shows Judges election
2. Review re-opening for new memberships
3. Dental discussion for Trainee Instructor lecture
4. Changes to B1-4 classes
5. Dog training Community Day
6. HDC Gmail access and actioning
7. Temporary membership review \$1.00 and cash payment JP





NOTICE:

Election of NSW Conformation Judges for Championship Shows being held in 2024

(28th April 2024 & 28th September AM & PM 2024)

will take place at the General Meeting held on 13th April 2022

Nominations of Judges for consideration must be received by 6th April 2022

Nominations need to be emailed to infohillsdogclub@gmail.com

**NO TUESDAY CLASSES HELD
IN SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

Hills Dog Club Inc.

TRAINING TIMES

Mon. 7pm -> Puppies*,

Beginners, Graduate &
Intermediate classes

8pm -> Advanced class

*Puppy classes are for dogs
12-20 weeks.

Tue. 10:30am -> All Classes

CLUB MEETINGS

**NO CLASSES HELD ON
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

NOTE: NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!

Forgotten to bring treats to training?

Lamb Treats are on sale at the office for \$5 a packet

The club meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, except January, in the clubhouse. Meetings start at 7.30pm. All welcome! Tea and coffee provided.

Club financial year is 1st January to 31st December.

CORRESPONDENCE and NEWSLETTER

All Club correspondence or enquiries should be addressed in writing to The Secretary, PO BOX 392

Round Corner NSW 2158 or infohillsdogclub@gmail.com

Hills Howler is available at the clubhouse on training days/nights and online. All members are encouraged to contribute. For admin purposes, please keep us informed of **change of email** address.

NOTICE:
Election of Judges:
See full details
on page 22

Get digital Howler via email?

OR to sign up page or type in
<https://bit.ly/2Jtekhh>
It is FREE



Ground Rules

1. As a condition of membership, all dogs are required to be properly vaccinated according to current veterinary guidelines.

2. Members are responsible at all times for the behaviour of their dog/s whilst present on the training grounds or representing the club.

3. All dogs must have properly fitted equipment and remain on lead at all times (unless instructed otherwise by a club instructor). No check/choker chains are to be used on any dogs in Puppy, Beginners or Graduate classes.

4. A member shall not ill-treat a dog at any time. Any such action may give rise to suspension or expulsion from the Club by resolution of the Committee.

5. Bitches in season and/or dog/s which are unwell or have an infectious condition are not permitted on the obedience training grounds.

6. Members are to pick up after their dog/s and help keep the grounds clean and tidy.

7. Adequate sensible dress with appropriate footwear (no thongs, scuffs or bare feet) is required to be worn by Handler during training.

8. Dogs are not to be left unattended whilst on the training grounds unless crated or tethered in a safe area. Members are reminded not to approach dogs that are confined. All dogs are to be kept under control and supervised while at the counter or in the clubhouse.

9. The Club reserves the right to ask any member to muzzle or in extreme cases, remove their dog/s from the training grounds. If a muzzle is required this must remain in place whilst on the club grounds. This will be at the discretion of the Committee.

10. Members who use Club equipment must ensure it is

returned to the storeroom and stored correctly after classes are conducted.

11. Children are welcome to attend classes provided they are supervised by an adult/parent/guardian at all times.

12. Child members (aged 7 to 11 are to be accompanied by an adult/parent/guardian in classes) and Junior members (aged 12 to 15 under adult/parent/guardian supervision on grounds) are welcome to train providing they have sufficient control of their dog during classes. This will be at the discretion of the class/chief instructor.

**Check us out on
Facebook – Like our page
to get Club updates.**

[https://
www.facebook.com/
hillsdogclub/](https://www.facebook.com/hillsdogclub/)



HILLS DOG CLUB INC - 2021/22 COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: - - - - - **Gordon Fenbow** Mb: 0430 341 235 E: gfenbow@bigpond.net.au
VICE PRESIDENT: - - - - - **Anne Small** Mb: 0417 414 877. E: jonan.65@bigpond.com
VICE PRESIDENT: - - - - - **Vanessa Van Vugt** Mb: 0413 164 449 E: fun@dogwalkingadventures.com.au
SECRETARY: - - - - - **Jane Lamont** Tel: 0400 999 201. E: jcl65301@bigpond.net.au
ASSISTANT SECRETARY: - - - - - **Belvane Parsons** Mb: 0417 418 143 E: freedomfli@bigpond.net.au
TREASURER: - - - - - **Lynne Sheather** Tel: 9634 1497. E: lshe4963@bigpond.net.au
ASSISTANT TREASURER: - - - - - **Janet Power** Mb: 0419 313 848. E: powerjanet@optusnet.com.au
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: - - - - - **Dianne Atkins** Tel: 9654 3833. E: diatkins@bigpond.net.au
TRIAL SECRETARY: - - - - - **Judy Mccartney** Tel: 4506 1000 E: judy10mcc@gmail.com
SHOW SECRETARY: - - - - - **Janet Power** Mb: 0419 313 848. E: powerjanet@optusnet.com.au
PUBLIC OFFICER: - - - - - **Lynne Sheather** Tel: 9634 1497. E: lshe4963@bigpond.net.au
PUBLICITY OFFICER: - - - - - **Natalie Conway** Mb: 0404 878 940. E:pups-dogs@bigpond.com
EDUCATION OFFICER: - - - - - **Dianne Atkins** Tel: 9654 3833. E: diatkins@bigpond.net.au
EQUIPMENT OFFICER: - - - - - **Bob Watters** Tel: 9674 3321 E: bobwatters@bigpond.com
REGISTRAR: - - - - - **Gordon Fenbow** Mb: 0430 341 235 E: gfenbow@bigpond.net.au

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- - - - - **Laura Hadfield** Mb:0432 977 411
- - - - - **Michelle Raymond** Mb: 0402 357 663
- - - - - **Peter Guenther** Tel: 9634 6876
- - - - - **Karen Richardson** Mb: 0438 344 700
- - - - - **Deirdre O'Brien** Mb: 0414 515 233.
- - - - - **Genevieve Young** Mb: 0419 161 042. E: genevieve.young@optusnet.com.au

TROPHY STEWARDS:

TRIAL: - - - - - **Jessica Leckie**
SHOW: - - - - - **Janice Lyons & Kerry Richards**
CLUB: - - - - - **Carole Hately** Mb: 0407 279 057. E: chately@westnet.com.au
AUDITOR: - - - - - **Mr T. Newton**
PATRONS : - - - - - **Dr Peter Gangemi, Mayor, The Hills Shire Council**
- - - - - **Mrs Luci Ellem**
- - - - - **Dr Donna McGrath BVSc (Hons)**

New committee
will be published
next month

LIFE MEMBERS: **Peter Guenther, Hazel Baldwin (deceased), Dianne Atkins, Janet Power, Belvane Parsons, Anne Small, Betty Cansdale (deceased), Robyn Jones, Janice Lyons, Vicki Gresser, Lynne Sheather.**

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