

CHIEF INSTRUCTORS REPORT -AGM

14 September 2025

Overview of the Past Year

The last twelve months have been exceptionally busy for our club. At the close of 2024, encouragement awards were presented to members who demonstrated patience and perseverance in training their dogs. These recognitions were made by instructors who observed the patience and dedication shown during training sessions. Instructors collaborated to organise another successful Christmas Party for all members, marking a joyful end to the year.

As 2025 began, our club was nominated for Volunteers of the Year at the Australia Day Awards Ceremony hosted by Sutherland Council. Three representatives—Shanelle Corben, Lyn Walsh, and our nominator Fiona Dell'Oro—attended the awards ceremony on Australia Day, 26th January 2025.

Members continue to participate in monthly visits to Thomas Holt Village, further strengthening our community ties.

- In March, Instructor Warwick Dawes led a four-week Engagement through Play Course, which proved to be highly successful. There are plans to offer similar courses in 2026.
- We now hold Scent Workshop Sessions once a month on Saturdays.
- Trick, Rally, Obedience, and Agility classes are offered during evenings and some Sundays, in addition to regular Sunday training sessions.

Instructor Development

In May, instructors attended an evening with Peta Clarke, a renowned animal trainer who specialises in positive reinforcement methods for dogs. Peta demonstrated impressive results achieved through these techniques. With many species of animals birds etc.

In June, Instructor Carol Crowe launched an eight-week Canine Life Skills course, after considerable effort in its development. Carol was supported by instructors Lyn Morriss and Vera Auerbach, who also enhanced their teaching abilities through this collaboration.

Instructor Training

August saw six Grade Four members commence the Instructor Course, signifying the club's commitment to developing future trainers.

The contributions of volunteer instructors are deeply appreciated and vital to the club's continued success.

Upcoming Events

- In November, a Thank You Lunch will be held to recognise all instructors.
- The annual Christmas party for members is scheduled, made possible by the hard work of our volunteers, instructors, and committee members.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable remainder of the year with their dogs.

Lyn Walsh