



Winter Newsletter 2019

Committee Members 2019

Thank you to those who have nominated to be members of the committee of the Kyneton Obedience Dog Club for 2019

President: John Flynn

Assistant President: Peter Grant

Treasurer: Julie Grant

Assistant Treasurer: Margaret James

Secretary: Sarah Gill

Assistant Secretary: Graham Rhodes

Committee Members:

Toni Harris

Lindy Ball

Helen Haskings

Graham Rhodes

Margaret James

Ingrid Van der Molen

All nominees accepted their nomination and were elected unopposed at the recent AGM

Thank you to Wendy Ashton and Possum Sullivan for the time they have served on the committee.

You don't have to be on the committee to have input into how our club runs. All club members are able to attend meetings which are held at 11:10am in the club rooms on the last Sunday of every month.

Membership fee increase

At the AGM it was voted unopposed that the annual membership fee be increased to \$25 for singles/families.

The joining fee of \$5 and weekly training fee of \$2 has remained unchanged.

DOG TRAINING

All of our trainers are volunteers and we are always looking for more.

If you would be interested in becoming a trainer please chat to our Chief Instructor - Sharon Velo, who will put your name down for the next "train the trainer" session.

DOG ASSESSMENTS

If you think your dog is ready to be graded please put your name and current class down on the document next to where you pick up your badge. Assessments are held after training on the first Sunday of every month.

RSPCA CUP CAKE DAY

An RSPCA cupcake event will be held at the club rooms in August after training.

Date to be advised!

In the meantime, get baking and try some of the recipes below from the RSPCA website. Recipes for those of us with 2 legs and those we adore who have 4 legs.

[Click here to go to the link of RSPCA cupcake recipes for both you and your dog](#)

WINTER BLUES - KEEPING YOUR PET SAFE AND HAPPY

You are outside in the backyard. The clouds are over head, the wind is chilly and there is a slight dampness in the air. You can't wait to get back inside to sip your favourite hot beverage

and sit in front of the heater. It's the winter blues - and you are not the only one. Your four legged friend is right by your side and can't wait to get back into their bed or favourite resting spot. Here are some tips on how to help your pet fight the winter blues.

Do I have to go outside?

If your pet spends the majority of their time outside then proper outdoor housing is a must. There are fantastic ranges of kennels for dogs and enclosures for cats that offer water, rain, frost and wind protection. Make sure the housing is placed away from the seasonal elements in a position where they feel secure and cosy.

Whether inside or outside make sure your pets bedding is raised off the floor and away from cold drafts including the door ways of kennels. Fill an outside kennel with warm dry blankets that are washed regularly.

Feed me, feed me!

You'll probably notice your pet's appetite will increase during winter. This is especially true in outside pets that will use more energy to keep warm. Keep a close eye on your pet's weight ensuring they are nourished, but not overfed from too many winter snacks.

A very woolly winter's day

Particularly cold winters days can be uncomfortable for slim, younger or older dogs. Try placing a hot water bottle (with warm not hot water) into your pet's kennel. This will soon make a comfortable place to rest. A caution for pets who love to chew, only use warm water and if you have any doubts there are other options such as heating discs and pads. Ask us for more information.

Get my lead!

There's nothing like a walk in the park and some aerobic exercise to get rid of the winter blues. Rug up and head out for your pet's favourite activity. Not only

will your dog love you for it, you'll be feeling fantastic in no time too.

Quick tips for older pets

- Create a warm haven where your older pet can curl up and avoid draughty areas.
- Elevate their bed up off the cold floor. Particularly concrete and hard surfaces.
- Provide thick warm bedding and use heating products where possible.
- Maintain your pet's joint mobility by providing regular exercise (20 minute daily walks on level ground)
- If you believe your pet is in pain please ask us for veterinary advice. Advancements in veterinary medicine make treatment for the ailments of age related disease possible.

<https://www.vetwest.com.au/pet-library/winter-blues-keeping-your-pet-safe-and-happy>