

# Newsletter

December 2021

---

# **SOUTH ISLAND GERMAN SHEPHERD LEAGUE**



PROUDLY SPONSORED AND SUPPORTED BY

Nourrir le corps  Ravitailler l'esprit.  
**Nutrience**<sup>™</sup>

## The King (Senna) and Queen (Lupa) with Father Christmas



## Contact Us

---

Postal Address

P.O Box 2133 Christchurch

Phone

021 2107 984

Email

[Sigsl1965@gmail.com](mailto:Sigsl1965@gmail.com)

Website

[www.sigsl.org.nz](http://www.sigsl.org.nz)

Face Book

South Island German  
Shepherd League

( S.I.G.S.L)

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Subscriptions due 31<sup>st</sup> March each year

New Single Membership: \$45.00

Renewal: \$40.00

New Double/Family Membership:

\$50.00 Renewal: \$45.00 Junior \$10.00

Training/Joining Fee \$80.00 once only fee for the life of your dog.

### TRAINING:

Obedience and Agility TRAINING at:

Canterbury Agricultural Park

Curletts Road, Sockburn

Wednesday evenings from 6.00pm

and Sundays from 9.00am

Training Enquiries –

Blue Gardiner Ph 03 344 0390

Giuliana Petronelli Ph 021 136 1168

Sandra Van Kempen Ph 021 2107 984

## Committee 2021/2022

President – Giuliana Petronelli

Email: [g.petronelli@hotmail.com](mailto:g.petronelli@hotmail.com) Phone 021 136 1168

Vice President – Jane Burgess

Email: [mjdzell@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mjdzell@xtra.co.nz) Phone 027 427 9550

Vice President - Liz Wilkinson

Secretary - Katrina Prendergast

Email: [sigsl1965@gmail.com](mailto:sigsl1965@gmail.com)

Treasurer – Maureen Toland

Email: [borolass74@gmail.com](mailto:borolass74@gmail.com)

Club Captain – Sandra Van Kempen

Email: [vankempenconstruction@gmail.com](mailto:vankempenconstruction@gmail.com) Phone 021 2107 984

Show Secretary – Deb Bannan

Email [d.bannan@xtra.co.nz](mailto:d.bannan@xtra.co.nz) 027 450 1065

### Committee Members

Blue Gardiner – (Head Trainer)

Simon Rayner

Ania Malecka

Jane Dalzell

Barry Black

Annie Black

Natasha Connor

Lynette Baker

Rosie Petronelli

Wayne Middleton

**Patron** – Bruce Mayhew

**Honorary Solicitor** – Christine Eastgate

Corcoran French, P O Box 15, Kaiapoi 7644

Email: [info@corcoranfrench.co.nz](mailto:info@corcoranfrench.co.nz)

**Honorary Vet** - K9HQ Dr Kirsten Wylie

693 Marshland Road

Phone: 03 741 6276

**Honorary Auditor** – Zane Colville, Taxation and Accounting Services.  
PO Box 79 264. Avonhead.

---

Disclaimer: The editor and the South Island German Shepherd League (Inc) accept no responsibility for the accuracy of the claims made by advertisers or articles. Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the South Island German Shepherd League (Inc) or committee or editor.

# Editors Notes



Hi Members.

Welcome to the December edition of the club Newsletter.

Well well well – what do we have here – yip – its December and time for the jolly ole Father Christmas to be checking his list to see who’s been naughty or nice – I think I’m on the nice list, so expecting heaps of pressies under the tree for me and of course Viva has been a good girl so there will be some under the tree for her too.

In this jam-packed issue there’s heaps to see and read – 3 committee member profiles – find out more about those that are on your committee.

Lots and lots of Christmas fun day photos – so hard for me to know when to stop putting photos in because there were so many awesome shots and was such a fun day too – Next year you should ALLLLLLLLLLL come along.

Dog health news – Pyometra – and my own personal story about Viva and her battle with it.

Also an article on the dangers of Barley Grass

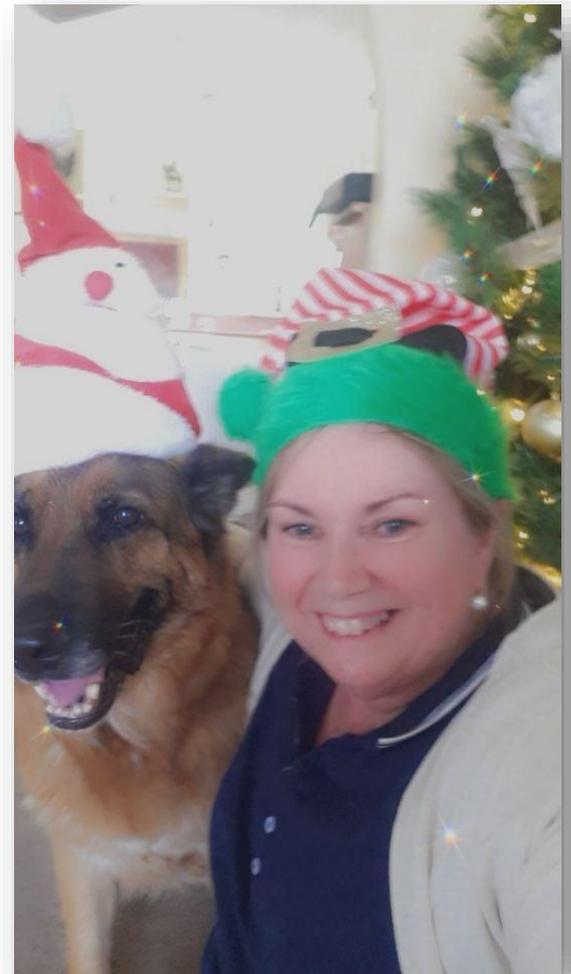
And of course there’s a new news report from our very own roving reporter Michael with all the news of a new sister.

Agility Results for November and December and lots of Agility or Obedience shows to enter

That’s all from me for this issue – If you have any ideas for the next issue please let me know – always happy to hear from anyone – contact me at [mjdzell@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mjdzell@xtra.co.nz)

Have an absolutely wonderful Christmas and New Year

Hugs to your furry friends From Jane and Viva (yes, it’s not a great photo for Viva but she is not very camera cooperative - you should see the bloopers ha ha)



## Honorary Members

Duguld Thomas

Darron Willett

Jo Townsend

Xander Flannigan

R Adcock

Gavin and Carol Black

Jim and Chris Bucknell

P Dixon

Rose Frame

Blue Gardiner

D Louch

J and E Nisbet

D Richards

Dot Saxton

P Ward

Evan and Bev Rahurahu

Tony and Annette Gibson

Alan and Barbara McKernan

Bruce and Judy Mayhew

Elizabeth Wilkinson

Deb Bannan

## Welcome to New Members –

Rosheen and Ross – Frieda

Deepak Joon - Kali

- Jordana Roughan - Storm

- Nathan Potts - Hoi

### Christmas Holiday Training Break

Last official training session of the year Sunday 19th December 2021

If you feel like it, you can still do a bit of training on Wednesday 22nd December 2021

First official training session next year, Sunday 9th January 2022

If you feel like it, you can already unofficial start training on Wednesday 5th January 2022

SIGSL would like to congratulate Karen Wilson and her dog Zeba for the achievement of the Working Trials Grand Champion and Tracking Trials Champion titles. Karen and Zeba are an excellent team and they have a beautiful bond. It is always a pleasure to watch Karen and Zeba working together. Zeba's official name is:

**WT GR CH & TT CH  
ENYA-VON HEISENBERG  
CDXS UDX WDX TDX TTX  
JD RN CGCB**

and with a name like that it's time for Zeba to retire. Although we aren't sure if she's ready. Huge congratulations on such an achievement and happy retirement!



# Presidents Corner

As we draw towards the end of the year, whilst it feels like a mad dash towards the finish, and more often than not, it is; it is important to reflect upon the journey that has brought us to the close of another year.

Another year of Covid-19 it has been, and whilst it is becoming our new normal, there remain a number of uncertainties and new territory for us to traverse in 2022, namely:

- The Covid-19 Protection Framework, aka the traffic light system;
  - DogsNZ affiliated events with mandatory vaccination and CVC's; and
  - SIGSL trainings and gatherings; and
- Fundraising Opportunities; and
- Membership.

## ***Covid-19 and Covid-19 Vaccine Certificates***

### *DogsNZ Events*

As advised by DogsNZ; all affiliated DogsNZ events require mandatory vaccinations and CVC's, whilst individual clubs can determine how their events/gatherings can run. This makes it clear that all participants and spectators must be vaccinated in order to attend, exhibit and/or compete in a DogsNZ affiliated event. As we draw closer to SIGSL's next show in early 2022, we will be in touch with the ways in which we will collect your CVC's so as to make entry to the show and the day(s) itself run as smoothly as possible.

### *SIGSL Trainings*

Committee met on 6 December 2021, and discussed amongst other things, how SIGSL trainings will operate under the traffic light system. On the basis that we are a 'gathering', for the purpose of the legislation, we are able to continue to operate at 'orange', provided training numbers are below 50 people at one time, without making CVC's mandatory. If however, we move to 'red' CVC's will be required to attend training. There will be communication on this as and when we move within the traffic light system.

### ***Fundraising***

Due to a number of cancellations with our usual BBQ fundraising events and other Covid-19 restrictions, we have been limited in our ability to raise funds for 2021, however, the Halswell Bacon fundraiser was fantastic, we have sold the old agility gear, tired couches and are looking at running a chocolate fundraiser in the New Year. Thanks to everyone who has made

donations, purchased and/or given their time to our fundraising efforts. We will keep you posted with the upcoming fundraising events. If you can lend a hand, please let us know.

### ***Membership***

I want to acknowledge and say a huge thank you to the local breeders who support and refer their new puppy owners to our club for domestic and competition training. This has been great for the growth of the club's membership and also contributes to SIGSL having a growing presence at both obedience and agility events. We are looking at hosting show (conformation) training days once a month to add further depth to our newer members exhibiting at conformation shows. If you would like to send your new puppy owners to us, please get them to contact myself or one of the other trainers.

### ***Vice President/Ordinary Committee Member***

In October 2021, Andy Connor advised that he would be stepping down from the Committee and the Vice President role. Again Andy, thank you and your family for your service to our club. In December 2021, the Main Committee appointed Jane Burgess (nee Dalzell) to the Vice President role and retained Wayne Middleton as the eighth ordinary Committee Member, in accordance with clause 11(a)(3) of the SIGSL Constitution. Congratulations Jane and Wayne and thank you for your contributions to the club.

### ***Lease***

At the User Group meetings of the Canterbury Agricultural Park, it has been made abundantly clear that we need to legitimise our interest and existence at the Canterbury Agricultural Park. Our relationship with the Halswell Pony Club is going from strength to strength which is of great importance on the basis that:

- a) their lease boundary sits just outside our clubrooms which means that, we need to continue to work with them now and in the future when we hold events;
- b) their lease renewal of 3x 10 years is proceeding through the last phases of acceptance; and
- c) as the only other volunteer organisation within the park, they can give us insight into the hoops that will exist when we embark on exploring obtaining a lease.

Without a lease, our existence at the Canterbury Agricultural Park is uncertain and our interests are second rate to all other organisations that hold a legitimate interest in the land. We will keep you updated in the New Year with any developments on this front.

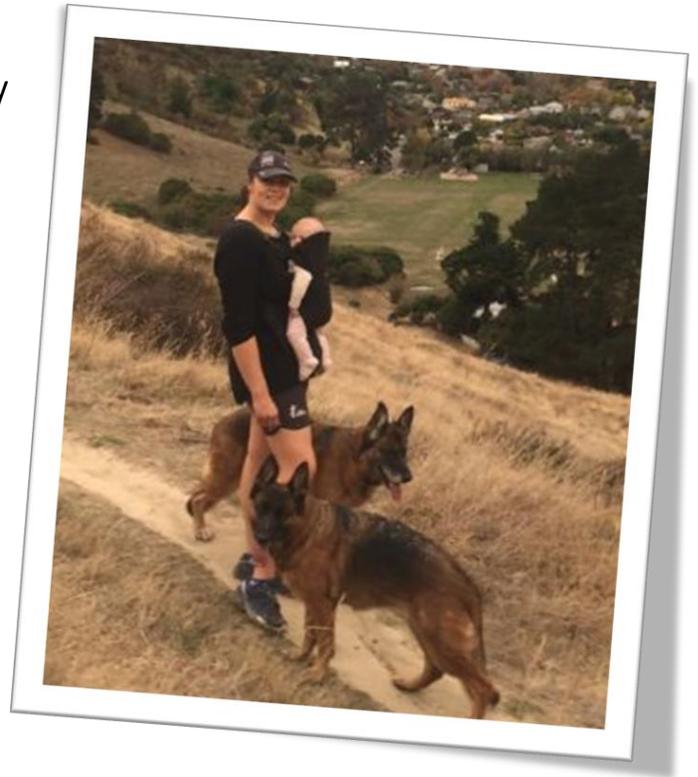
### ***Concluding Remarks***

Our thoughts and condolences are with the families and friends who have lost loved ones this year; both valued members of the German Shepherd Community and our furry four legged friends.

My personal gratitude and appreciation goes to our present committee, trainers and members who give tirelessly to the running, development and growth of our club. Thank you and enjoy a well-deserved break.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please take care, enjoy time with family and friends and have a safe and restful holiday. I look forward to seeing you all in New Year.

Kind Regards,  
Giuliana Petronelli  
President  
South Island German Shepherd League



## Get To know your Committee

Hello SIGSL Members

### The Beginning

My name is Barry Black and in partnership with my wife Annie we own Blackash Kennels and over many years with Von Gavarol kennel's my parent's kennels working together .

I have been involved in the shepherd breed since the day I was born, being raised around German shepherds as a young fella I'd always enjoy playing with puppies. I'd help mum train the dogs for a show doing laps of the paddock on the Massey tractor and I'd watch Dad cut up livestock around our neighborhood to feed the shepherds

My 1<sup>st</sup> shepherd I trained and showed by myself was bred by Mac McNally in Ashburton a lovely bitch Paderborn Xotic. I traveled to show's all over NZ. Back then we would show the Males on a Saturday and bitches on a Sunday as the numbers at shepherd show's would be well over 150 entries.

When at a young age my favorite show was the Easter show in Wellington such good people like Harry Walker and Frank Stills made the show's extra special. I would sit in the back of a Morris 1100 bread van with lots of dogs heading up to catch the ferry in time, sometimes we would have home killed pork in the Van as well to sell to Harry. It helped Mum and Dad with the cost of going up to the show.

Alma von Gavarol a female bitch ahead of her time and achieved winning the gold 3 years in a row under 3 different SV judges at the Wellington show. A record that will never be equaled. When the show entries were massive classes. Junior bitch class normally would have 30 plus entries. No long coat classes back then, we sold them as Pets with no papers.

I started showing Dogs for my parents at a young age and I remember watching other handlers and learning from them. To handle a shepherd to the best of the ability of that dog is an art form and a good handler knows the faults of the dog and can handle in a way to counter those faults. Angela Radford from Cleverland Kennels showed a Sable dog Cleverland Young Turk - watching those two in the ring work as a team was an honour. Also, the Top Kennels in NZ at the time - San Ricco - to watch and learn from Christine & Wayne back then was amazing. I was also very lucky to be trained by David Hall from Gayvilles kennels UK. David was a professional handler in the UK. It is great to see young Shikarna McNally a natural handler, I hope she carries on in years to come, already having great success handling our Girls

San Ricco Morgan was my first Male I owned back in Mid 80's, as a young lad Morgan was strong, powerful and that is where my desire for strong males started.

Training and handling Phillip is a memory that I will never lose, he was a male who if you saw him at a show he just attracted your eye to him and he sure had a motor on him. The last Easter show we attended was under an SV judge Margit van Dorssen. She called Phillip out 1<sup>st</sup> and he went onto Best in Show, she asked me to do more rounds saying this dog loves to run. Phillip's movement was stunning. We also entered Phillip in the National 2008 when a group from the South Island went up. In the individual the German judge went to check Phillip's teeth, and the judge was wearing a large tie, Phillip decided to bite the tie and lock onto when he bent down. I couldn't believe my eyes seeing Phillip locked onto the SV German's tie but as quick as it happened the judge said something in German and Phillip let go. He went on to win the Gold - little shit.

### Breeding & Caring for our Shepherd's

We are lucky to have a lifestyle block which allows our shepherds plenty of room while mixing with sheep, lambs, chickens, cattle I feel what is important in the shepherd is character. Ani does such a super job whelping and raising our little shepherds. When whelping we set up a whelping pen inside with camera on to our bedroom etc. When a bitch starts whelping you can ask Annie, I'm a nervous wreck and only good for giving needles if needed. When we have a litter of puppies and I'm on the ride on mower, I still zoom past them in their play pen, the noise of the cutter and grass flying everywhere is great test. Quite often I walk outside and fire 4/5 shots from my starting pistol and not make a thing about it. We run our dogs everyday down the back track for Minimum of 2km. We use a horse racing track to train prior to shows and the Rakaia River is also great for training doing 5 minute swims.

Each dog has its own diet and it's a matter on working out what is the best for your shepherd. We get trucked to us our fresh beef, tripe, chicken, dog roll's and we prefer grain free dog biscuits. We also add oils, vitamins, and natural products to help keep our shepherds healthy and strong.

My parents have imported to NZ over the year's more than 30 German Shepherds. This has allowed us and other kennels throughout NZ and Australia build depth on their bloodlines

This gets me to my point on bloodlines breeding. There are three key items I check before I even think of a possible mating. Number 1 - Hips/Elbows scores these must be very low for me. Number two - Dm (Clear or Carrier) we mate our girls to clear dogs. Number three and most important Character/Temperament.

Of course, after running over those three steps - then I look into the bloodlines and try to work out the best for our girls. For example, we should all know the faults of our shepherds that we own. If I had a bitch with a short steep croup, I would be looking for a male with correct length/lay of croup. Also, I see no sense in selecting a stud dog that already has the bloodlines

throughout NZ. Introducing new bloodlines like we did with Macho vom Larmorak to NZ has paid off. No other Kennel has those lines making their breed worth very strong.

Each kennel tends to have their own type in their kennel, for Blackash we aim for strong color, a clear difference between the sexes and natural movement. I tend to work out the bloodline breeding program (importing semen etc.) and Annie does the rest in raising our shepherds. Working together is key and yes, it has its moments, but the reward is seeing our shepherds in loving homes and receiving great feedback year after year. We can all breed Multi in Show winner's but the true reward for us is the great feedback we receive from people owning a Blackash shepherd

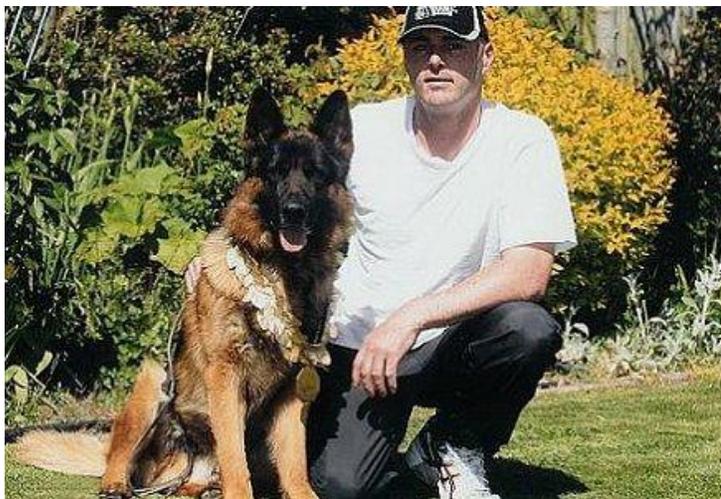
### The Future

Annie and I have joined the committee to help the club into the next ten years.

We have a great team on the committee and most importantly is we all work as a team for the club and the German Shepherd

Photo 1 Myself and my brother Michael in 1978

Photo 2 Phillipp winning his Gold Medal at National




---

## Nutrience

JOIN THE NUTRIENCE PET CLUB, IT'S FREE!

GET MEMBER-ONLY BENEFITS LIKE EXCLUSIVE COMPETITIONS & DISCOUNT COUPONS TO USE AT YOUR LOCAL NUTRIENCE STOCKIST + MORE!

<https://www.nutrience.co.nz/>

Join the Breeders Club - If you're a pet professional who breeds or shows your dogs you can apply to join the Nutrience Breeder's Club. <https://www.nutrience.co.nz/account/register>



Join the Nutrience Club for **FREE** now  
and get Nutrience direct for less

[www.nutrience.co.nz](http://www.nutrience.co.nz)

## Committee Member Profiles

Hi, my name is Annie Black from Blackash Shepherds, A brand new member of SIGSL Committee.

Here's a little about myself and my love of German Shepherds.

My husband Barry Black has been involved in German Shepherds his whole life 40 plus years due to his parents breeding and showing since before he was born.

Barry bought me home my first GS puppy 10 years ago, Karnik. My love for the breed blossomed from that day on.

I jumped in the show ring a couple of years after that, showing for Gavarol Kennels, I was a box of nerves, but the other handlers were great with helping and offering their knowledge and support.

Not long after that we purchased a property out of town, and started our own kennels Blackash Shepherds, where we started breeding and showing our own dogs.

Our aim as breeders has always been to breed good healthy and sound dogs not only for our kennels but for good family homes to have for many years to come.

Everything i have learnt about whelping and raising GS pups came from Carol my mother-in-law of Gavarol Kennels, who has been a godsend with her knowledge and experience, I could not have gotten through the years without her, she has taught me all I know and I am always happy to pass on that knowledge to educate others.

As for showing i have been in the ring many times, with many dogs, not just ours, I'm happy to show for others when need and always give it my best.

I have shown many in show class winners and i have come last in classes, but it doesn't matter where u come you always go home knowing you gave it your best and love those dogs like your kids which they are. You win some you lose some.

We have also attended the SIGSL training on Wednesday nights, which have been great value. Even though you think you are doing what you need, the training has taught us so much more. The members who take training are great, so patient and attentive. Even though we are breeders and show, we always have more to learn for the future.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about me and my love and experience with German shepherds, I'm still learning every day.

Annie Black



Hi I am Rosie,

I have been involved with the club, training and learning from the best for the past 5+ years and on committee and helping with training Wednesdays and Sundays for the past 3 years.

Prior to the wonderful world of German Shepherds, I travelled the world extensively living and working in London, France and Canada following my dreams of travel and adventure. I then moved home to Christchurch where I was born and bred to continue my travel dreams working as a travel consultant for many years. Now with a slight change in path due to the current covid restrictions I have been lucky to spend the last year focusing on my family, Giuliana, Chiara and the two fur children Lupa and Malizia. Next year will bring a new exciting chapter in the Real Estate industry in Sumner and the Bays, my old stomping ground.

My love for animals started with horses from a very young age (basically as soon as I could walk) I was riding and getting amongst the gentle giants.

As a kid I was never allowed a dog despite my constant nagging. Finally my parents gave in and we welcomed Missy, the little Sydney silky, Chihuahua, Jack Russell cross into the fold. She was the dog that I wished to be my tux wonder dog inevitably igniting an interest in agility, albeit broom sticks on chairs in the back yard! We both loved it! Fast-forward a couple of decades and now I have my tux wonder dog! Malizia. Malizia is 4 years old and I have high hopes for her if she is to take after her mother Lupa. I am looking forward to gaining AD next year after a year off on maternity leave!

I love being part of such a fantastic club and feel privileged to be one of the SIGSL family. Merry Christmas and see you all next year.

Rosie Petronelli



# Christmas Fun Day 2021



MERRY CHRISTMAS



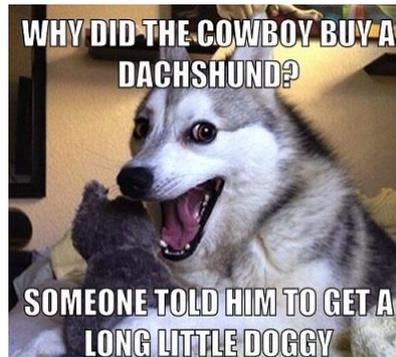
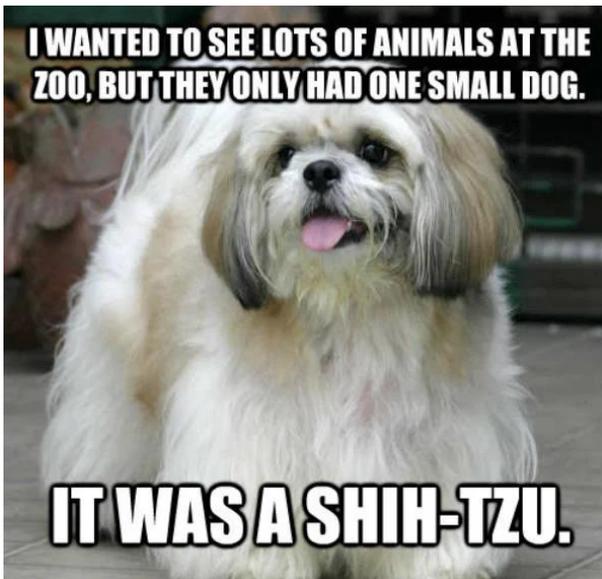




JOKEY.  
JOKEY.  
JOKE.  
JOKE.  
JOKE  
CORNER



Just got my new German Shepherd. He's ugly as hell but he laughs at all my jokes, so...



## Vale For Ellie Vom Eigerwand – (Loved and Owned by Jane and Shaun Dalzell)

*Ellie, Elle, Elle Belle, Smelly Ellie or her full name – Ellie Vom Eigerwand when she was being a ratbag*

In the previous newsletter you would have seen how Ellie received an award for being one of the oldies club.

Sadly she was diagnosed with a heart tumor which had caused her heart to increase 2/3rds the size of a normal heart again – this was also putting pressure on her lungs and she was struggling to breath – We made the heart breaking decision to put her into the long sleep.

03/11/2021 - Surrounded by family at home and so so much love Ellie peacefully went off to sleep and crossed that rainbow bridge.

I got Ellie from a breeder in Amberley and proudly picked her up when she was eight weeks old. She quickly was loved and accepted by me and my 6 kids. We joined SIGSL and our training and initiation into SIGSL began. Oh, what a ride that was indeed. At that point I was interested in the showing side of things, but it was quickly pointed out to me that my dog was not of show quality – What on earth do you mean – look at her she is beautiful. Biiiiig learning curve. She was a bit of a yapper and took a dislike to some men and some dogs – but only at club – We could go to club and her and another dog hated



each other – same dog and her would go on walks side by side and not have any issues. So as fast as our showing days started, they also ended. We then turned our attention to obedience, and I found she loved it – but being a bit of a ‘snapper’ we were not able to compete, she also loved agility. Club has a blue-ribbon policy and I was more than happy to attach a blue ribbon – it meant that she was safer - people and other dogs knew not to approach, which kept her from being put into compromising situations. (Left pic – Ellie proudly displaying the monthly obedience competition trophy that she won in 2013)

At home Ellie was our amazing protector – she guarded our home with complete dedication. We felt secure and safe at home with her on watch, she would curl up on the kids beds and I have recently been told she would mop up their tears and cuddle

and comfort no end. Around 7 years ago I was living in a Housing NZ house and had the 2 dogs (naughty me I only had approval for one) I got busted with 2 dogs and got ordered to reduce to one – My son immediately put his hand up for Ellie. It was incredibly hard for me to let her go to him but all the same I knew she was going to be well looked after and just as importantly she was going to look after him – it was a good deal too as my son lived in a flat in the back yard of my daughter and her partners property – so there was two of my kids looking after her. She had a wonderful life and went on many 4wd adventures e.t.c. Her great love was a ball and terrorising hedgehogs and as what often happens with German Shepherds – every walk or outing had to gather a stick – or half a tree and of course loved to plonk into any puddle or stream.



We will miss Ellie incredibly.

## A Word From Michael



And just like that we are in December! Make sure you are behaving well so Santa comes, and leaves presents for you all! Try not to destroy the Christmas tree, mum and dad told me last year that if I do something bad to the tree then Santa won't have a place to leave the presents! Therefore, I realised that the Christmas tree is the MOST IMPORTANT thing! Come on Santa, I can't wait for all my presents 😊

I have been looking forward to writing this article for a while, I have so much to tell you!

Last time you heard from me I mentioned that my parents want to add a new member to the family, well they did! I don't know how it fully happened, but they come home with this girl her name is Inca. Mum said that they are only fostering her for few days. After 3 days she went to the new owners. My mum was really sad, she gets attached way too easily, but I did comfort her with some cuddles. But to be honest I was glad Inca was gone. All attention back on me 😊!

But guess what? The new owners couldn't keep her because of her barking. She has the most annoying high pitch bark ever!!! Anyway, mum and dad decided that it was a sign and Inca has been in our house ever since. I did hear mum saying that if the right home comes around, she might consider it for Inca, but she's not even looking :O. Don't tell mum but her decisions are pretty questionable at times! Often, she lets her emotions take over. Dad and I try to talk some sense into her but usually once she's emotionally invested you can't change her mind. I suppose that's why I am given so much care, love and time 😊 When Inca arrived, she didn't look quite right, she was very skinny only 24kgs, she was very scared and loud. It is amazing to see her coming out of her shell.

I started to like Inca even though she's very needy and has some kind of separation anxiety. She often thinks she's not going to be included or that we will leave her behind. I tell her that she's family and family always come back for each other. She doesn't trust that yet. Hopefully, she will at some point 😊 However, I am very jealous of her as she is doing agility with mum! I love agility but mum is not letting me do it. During the Selwyn Ribbon Trial mum and Inca placed second in Elementary B. I am very proud of them, especially because at that time Inca was only with us for 3 months. Apparently, the rest of the rounds were a disaster, but it looks like mum didn't care 😊

On that note I have some news too!!! I am now a Novice Trick Dog!!! It is very exciting; it is my first title ever. Unfortunately, it is not recognised in New Zealand, US only 😊 but nevertheless I have gained that title! Mum believes that tricks are a great way to keep me focused on her 😊 I like this kind of training, she gives out so many treats during it!! So, we are on the mission to keep going and get an expert title 😊 who knows maybe even a champion.

It seems like there is not an update without me going to the vet. Yes, you guessed it correctly, I visited the vet again! I have a new vet lady. I just went in, and she didn't touch me, and she didn't really pay much attention to me. I wasn't really listening to what she was talking about because I had to stay focused. What if out of nowhere she would try and take my temperature or give me an injection! Not today vet lady, not today! :D But the vet lady knew, and she didn't do anything! Yes, I won another battle with the vet. On the way back mum told me that we visited the vet to get medication for me to help me be calmer and deal with my anxiety. At first, I was like are you kidding me?! I am me, what if my personality changes, what if all I will want to do is sleep. But of course, I eat my tablets daily. I know my mum won't let anyone hurt me! When I wrote this article I only been on the meds for a month. I noticed changes in myself already, good changes! I am calmer around people; I don't

have that need to jump on them all the time. When I play with mum, I can focus on her instead of on the world around me. I know I am safe with my mum and most importantly when we train to overcome my fears, I understand mum better. Mum said that with the correct training I only need those tablets for 6 months so hopefully by the time I write the next article I will be telling you that I am coming off them 😊

For my birthday, mum got us pup cakes. There were so good! Turns out that the lady who made them also does in-home massage. Mum loved that idea, and she now comes to our house. It is very good for me as I get very excited around new people. So mum uses this lady as training. The lady is force free certified so all she does for an hour is giving me treats. I am starting to trust her more and more. On my 4<sup>th</sup> appointment with her, I rolled over and let her scratch my belly. I love belly scratches. I don't know what's happening to me. I even let her pet me without growling at her. I think I am getting a bit softer. I think you humans call it maturing. Sometimes when she goes near my back, I give the "I am watching you lady, back off". I think she understands dog language because she never pushes me. She never pets me unexpectedly. I always know what she is doing. And then I get treats. It's a win-win situation.

I am keeping an eye on all of you training out there! I even watched your graduation! 😊 You guys are improving every training session. I am so proud of you all! Hopefully you will see me more and more. I really enjoy the walks on Wednesday, I don't think I am ready to be in a class yet! Ahh and btw if you see me with my mum, please don't approach us. I am still learning, and my circle of friends is very limited. 'It is not you, it's me'. Hahaha

Until the next time my friends! Remember to lick your mum and dad's faces! They hate it. Unless it's my dad. He loves it!

Michael



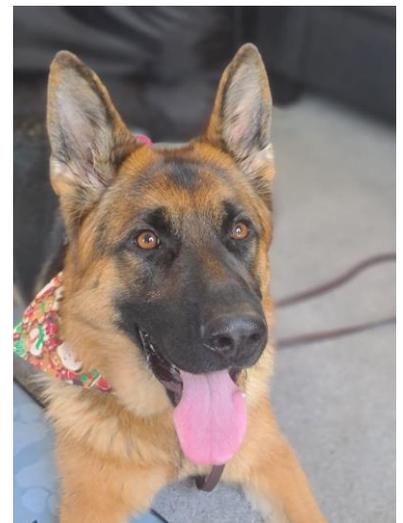
SIGSL Reporter

Below - *Michael*



Right and below right

- *Inca*



# Dog Health - Pyometra

Pyometra can be a tragic illness that is found in reproductively intact bitches. The condition can be a medical emergency but knowing the risk factors and signs to look for can make early detection possible. The earlier pyometra is detected, the better the chance for successful treatment.

**SYMPTOMS:** Pyometra is typically seen in middle-age bitches over the age of 6 years, but can happen as early as the [first heat cycle](#). It usually occurs within 12 weeks after a heat cycle. Pyometra can occur in either a closed or open cervix. In a closed pyometra, the bitch will show signs of illness such as an increase in drinking and urinating, lethargy, [vomiting](#), and abdominal distention. A closed pyometra is likely to cause more severe signs because of the retention of discharge, so it is important to get your dog to your veterinarian if you observe any symptoms. In an open pyometra, you may see bloodstained, thick vaginal discharge, but the bitch may not act as ill. Still, this can become a life threatening situation without proper veterinarian management

**CAUSES:** The complete cause is not fully understood, but does appear to be due to multiple factors. It is believed that the main cause is repeated exposure of the endometrium (the uterus lining) to high concentrations of estrogen during the heat cycle (estrus), followed by high concentrations of progesterone during diestrus (period following the heat cycle when the female is no longer receptive to the male).

This leads to the development of cystic endometrial hyperplasia, which occurs when the lining of the uterus thickens. If a bitch is not bred, the uterus lining continues to thicken, stimulated by the release of the progesterone and estrogen. The uterus lining can then form pockets where bacteria may develop and lead to pyometra. The bacterial infection is typically caused by E. coli that moves from the vagina through the cervix during estrus.

**DIAGNOSIS:** To help diagnose pyometra, your veterinarian will likely run bloodwork to look for an elevation in white blood cells. A radiograph or the preferred method, an ultrasound, of the abdomen should also be performed. These tests will show an enlarged uterus if pyometra is present. Since pyometra can occur during the same time as pregnancy, [pregnancy must be ruled out](#) as the cause of an enlarged uterus.

**TREATMENT:** Pyometra can be treated surgically or with medication. The [surgical treatment of spaying](#) is the preferred treatment in all bitches not intended for breeding, those older than 4 years old that have chronic uterine changes, and those that are ill. Spaying is the only treatment that is guaranteed to prevent a pyometra from recurring.

Medical management with hospitalization, fluids, prostaglandins and the appropriate use of proper antibiotics can be tried in bitches that are still desired to be bred. If medical treatment is not successful after five days, spaying should be considered. If treatment does prove to be successful, the bitch should then be bred on her next heat cycle.

**Personal story** – Earlier this year Viva became ill and had been licking her privates quite incessantly, her vulva was also swollen more than with a usual heat cycle. Off to the vet we went and she was diagnosed with Pyometra. Rather than do emergency surgery there and then, she was prescribed a few days of antibiotics and to see how she went with that. She did perk up when the antibiotics kicked in, but the morning after finishing the antibiotics she was quite ill again and she also went blind overnight. I was taking her outside during the night to go pee and she banged into the door frame – I thought that’s a bit weird but oh well must be just a bit wobbly. In the morning she was banging into even more things and when I looked into her eyes they had turned into a red type of colour instead of brown. We went back to the vet and he was quite amazed that the infection had made that kind of reaction in her – he said its not unheard of but its rare. She was scheduled for surgery the next day and had a full hysterectomy. She was prescribed a lot of antibiotics, painkillers and eye drops for her eyes which returned to normal sight after a few days.

Sadly Viva was not able to make babies, she cycled every four months from when she had her first cycle and when she turned 2 and half, we tried to artificially inseminate her with fresh semen – she did not take – We were given the option of giving her testosterone drops which the vet said may help in that it would suppress her cycle and give her body a chance to recover from the cycle and therefore be ready for puppies to grow. When a dog comes into season its body gets ready to accept babies – all it needs is the male semen. When that doesn’t happen the body has to go back to normal – with Viva – her body was not getting the chance to get back to normal – but with testosterone drops it could also change her temperament – I believe in nature taking its course to a certain degree and did not want to be messing with her in that way - we tried again with natural mating’s several times and she had us fooled good and proper one time insisting she was pregnant – had all the signs but upon ultra sound – no puppies, after this her cycle changed and she was coming into season every 2 months- we tried again for puppies but to no avail –As she was six after the last attempt, she was too old to be having a first litter and so we stopped trying – she was seven years old when she got pyometra.

Pyometra can often be fatal so know what to look for and be aware – there are two types – Open Pyometra – so the infection is able to leak out of the vagina – Closed Pyometra – nastier as it is not able to leak out and so builds up inside.

## Booming Barley Grass Poses Risk To Dogs –

By Chris Barclay (Article taken from The Star Newspaper – November 18 2021)

Penny Wright occasionally lets her beloved Kona romp around Bexley Park but is sure to keep the fox terrier on a tight lead.

Wrights caution is justified as the retired vet is acutely aware of the dangers posed by barley grass.

It is so prevalent at the popular dog park she has put up warning signs for unsuspecting owners, claiming the city council is not doing enough to control the grass

Barley grass long tailed seeds can migrate through a dog's coat skin and ear canal to cause serious health issues.

If it gets into the middle ear, it can be very painful and affect their hearing. It can certainly do some damage Wright said.

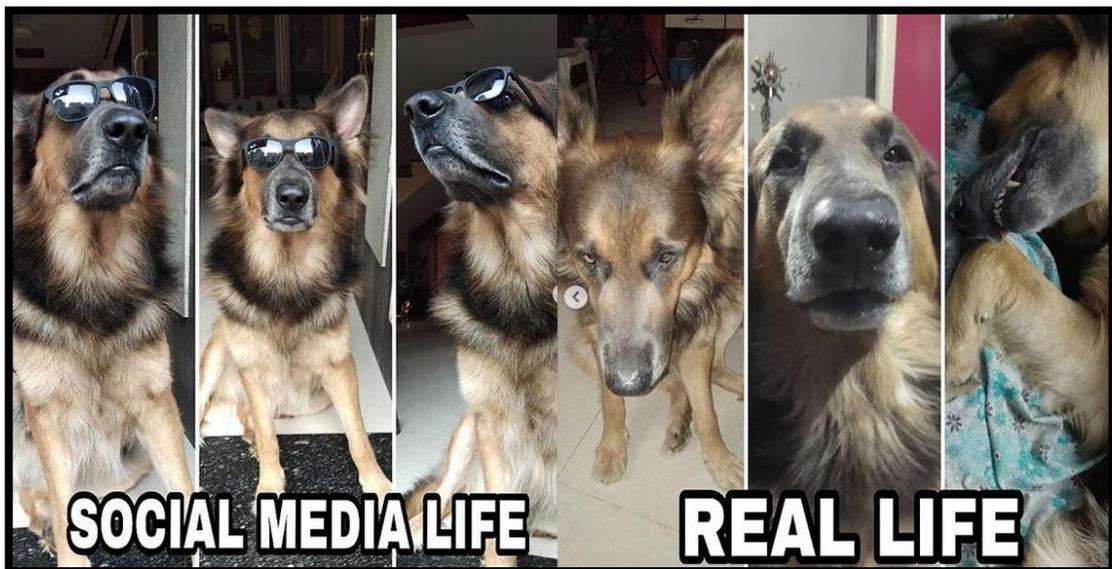
They can cause a weeping wound and swelling if they penetrate through the paws. The awns also cling to animal hair and only move forward – and burrow in – due to the fine barbs on each seed.

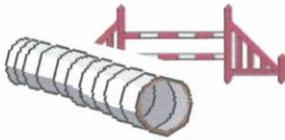
“I've done extensive surgeries tracking barley grass through dog's bodies. One procedure took four hours, the incision was over 18 inches long.” she said.

When she moved to North New Brighton two years ago. Wright checked out dog parks in the vicinity: Bexley, Rawhiti Domain and Horseshoe Lake. She realized Barley Grass was an issue and alerted the city council, as she had previously done with Waimakariri District council staff when living in North Canterbury. “They sent out a ranger (in 2019), emailed them some photos and nothing has happened”. she said. “I could see there was a problem and this year it's booming. It's at a height that a medium to large dog runs through that grass at face level”.

Wright said the best solution is to rip out the barley grass. “Its and annual so it is very shallow rooted, pulling them out is by far the easiest solution. Just throw them in a sack and burn them. The worst thing you can do it just mow it. It just scatters the seeds further”.

The city council's community parks manager Al Hardy said the rangers control the barley grass at the Bexley dog park on an annual basis. With the most recent monitoring carried out on November 5<sup>th</sup>.





**Agility Ribbon Trial**  
Including  
**Elementary and Blackjack**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

at

**Canterbury Canine Obedience Club**

Marylands Reserve,

19 Birmingham Drive, Middleton, Christchurch

**Judging starts: 10.00 am**

Pre-enter online by 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022

at [dogagility.org.nz](http://dogagility.org.nz)

(Elementary C and non-competitive entries can be  
emailed to [bouterey@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bouterey@xtra.co.nz) by 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022)

OR

Enter on the day from 9.00 am

**Cost:** \$2.50 per class online or emailed entries  
\$3.00 per class entries on the day

**Running Order & Judges:**

**Ring 1: Judge: Erin Ball**  
Intermediate, Novice, Senior, Starters

**Ring 2: Judge: Karen de Wit**  
Elementary B, C, A; then Blackjack C, B, A

Show Manager: Robyn Sanders  
Ring Managers: Adrienne Mason & Devon Stevens  
Show Secretary: Gay Bouterey

**Note: Under current Orange Light CPF setting ALL attendees – competitors,  
family members, judges and officials MUST have a valid 'My Vaccine Pass' (or exemption).**

## Next SIGSL Show

26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March

2x Open Shows

Judges TBA

Possibly Agility and Obedience too – TBC



## Results -

10<sup>th</sup> October – Selwyn Ribbon Trial

Elementary B – Ania & Inca 2<sup>nd</sup>

Jumpers C – Rosie and Malizia 2<sup>nd</sup>

### Agility results October, November & December 2021

#### CCATS Ribbon Trail 2/10/2021

##### Elementary B

1) Sophie & Zya

##### Starters 1

11) Sandra & Peppa

##### Novice 1

18) Sandra & Peppa

##### Jumpers C 1

4) Rosie & Malizia  
20) Sandra & Peppa

#### CCATS Champ 6,7/11/2021

##### Starters 1

18) Rosie & Malizia

##### Starters 2

11) Josh & Luna  
12) Rosie & Malizia

##### Jumpers C1

3) Rosie & Malizia  
6) Josh & Luna

##### Jumpers C2

17) Rosie & Malizia

#### CCOC Ribbon Trail 9/10/2021

##### Jumpers C1

2) Josh & Luna  
3) Rosie & Malizia

##### Jumpers C2

2) Rosie & Malizia  
5) Sandra & Peppa

#### Waimakariri Ribbon Trail 21/10/2021

##### Starters 1

3) Josh & Luna  
5) Rosie & Malizia

12) Blue & Milo

##### Novice 1

1) Josh & Luna  
10) Rosie & Malizia

##### Jumpers C1

7) Josh & Luna  
14) Blue & Milo

NEW ZEALAND

2022 DOG AGILITY CHAMPS

# IT'S HAPPENING!

## WHERE?

Mandeville Sports Club  
Swannanoa

## WHO?

Zone 4 are ready to  
get NZDAC back up  
and running

## WHY?

Because who doesn't  
need a NZDAC ???!!!

## WHEN?

Labour weekend  
Oct 21-24 2022

## WHAT?

- . HUGE amazing grounds
- . Pub on site
- . Walking distance from a  
supermarket, fuel station and  
restaurants
- . All your favourite events



**ZONE 4 MANDEVILLE**

## Application For Membership of Dogs New Zealand

<https://www.dogsnz.org.nz/dogsnz/join-online>

**FEES** - One Member of every household pays a higher fee. This covers subscription to our monthly magazine - NZ Dog World. Dogs NZ rules require that one copy of the magazine must go to all households with an adult member.

Please note that the following fees include a one-off joining fee of \$23.00 (Member, Second Member and Overseas Member) and \$5.55 (Junior member).

### Please select one of the following membership types

- |                       |   |          |
|-----------------------|---|----------|
| <input type="radio"/> | 1st Member of Household (includes Magazine)                           | \$107.50 |
| <input type="radio"/> | 2nd Member of Household (no Magazine)                                 | \$56.00  |
| <input type="radio"/> | Juniors (formerly YKC) with Magazine (Optional if under 20 years old) | \$78.05  |
| <input type="radio"/> | Juniors (formerly YKC) Membership (Optional if under 20 years old)    | \$26.55  |
| <input type="radio"/> | Overseas Resident with Magazine (must be resident outside of NZ)      | \$211.00 |
| <input type="radio"/> | Overseas Resident (must be permanently resident outside of NZ)        | \$56.00  |

Entries Close: 17 December 2021

## South Canterbury Dog Training Club

### Championship Agility Event (2) Championship Jumpers Event (2) AD Class

Gleniti Park, Timaru  
Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 January 2022

Judging order: **Saturday:** Ring 1 AD, Sen1, Int1, JC1;  
Ring 2 Sts1, Nov1, JB1, JA1.  
**Sunday:** Ring 1 Sts2, Nov2, JB2, JA2;  
Ring2 Sen2, Int2, JC2.

Judging commences: 8:30am both days, 8:15am course walk.

Judges	Show 1	Show 2
Paul Taylor, Upper Hutt	AD, Sen1, Int1, JC1	Sts2, Nov2, JB2, JA2
Meredith Evans, Leeston	Sts1, Nov1, JB1, JA1	Sen2, Int2, JC2

Entries to: Online via [www.dogagility.org.nz](http://www.dogagility.org.nz)  
Entry fees: Agility & Jumping \$5.50, AD \$5  
Payment: Online banking 03-1714-0021887-00

Prizes and trophies: Ribbons 1st-5th in unsplit events, 1st-3rd in split events.  
Catalogues: Catalogue available.  
Catering: Available both days.

Entries Close: 22 December 2021

## Canterbury Canine Agility Training Society

### Championship Jumpers Event (4) GBKR SNKR ADX Advanced

Mairehau High School, Christchurch  
Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 January 2022

Judging order: **Saturday:** Ring 1 JC1, JB1, JA1, JC2;  
Ring 2 ADXA, SnkrA1, SnkrB1, SnkrC1, JB2, JA2.  
**Sunday:** Ring 1 JA3, JB3, JC3, JB4;  
Ring 2 GblrC1, GblrB1, GblrA1, JA4, JC4.

Judging commences: 9:00am first course walk 8:45am.

Judges	Saturday	Sunday
Graeme Lawson, Rangiora	JC 1, JB 2, JA 2	JB 3, JA 4, JC 4
Wayne Grant, Dunedin	JB 1, JA 1, JC 2, ADXA	JA 3, JC 3, JB 4
Karen de Wit, Waikuku Bch	SNKR A1, SNKR B1, SNKR C1	GBLR C1, GBLR B1, GBLR A1

Entries to: Show Secretary, 2c Granton Lane, Spreydon, Christchurch 8024.

Entry fees: ADX \$5 all other classes \$5.50

Payment: Online banking 03-0866-0289060-000

Some classes may be split, two rings will run at the same time.

Camping available for all but a good walk to the toilets.

Prizes and trophies: Ribbons and prizes to at least 3rd per class

Catalogues: [www.dogagility.org.nz/compevent-info.html](http://www.dogagility.org.nz/compevent-info.html)

Catering: will be available.



Entries Close: 24 January 2022

## Canterbury Canine Obedience Club

### Championship Obedience Test (2) CD Trial

Marylands Reserve, Middleton, ChCh  
Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 February 2022

Judging order: **Saturday:** Ring 1 Nov, Test C;  
Ring 2: Test B, Test A, Beg; Ring 3: CD, CD Silver, CD Gold.  
**Sunday:** Ring 1 Beg, Test A, Test B; Ring 2: Test C, Nov.

Judging commences: 9:00am.

Judges	Saturday	Sunday
Bernadette Thompson, Ashburton	Nov, Test C	Beg, Test A, Test B
Stephanie Pountley, Ashley	Test B, Test A, Beg	Test C, Nov
Maree Gavigan, Rolleston	CD, CD Silver, CD Gold	

Entries to: Online via Dogs NZ website.  
Post: Gay Bouterey, PO Box 9085, Tower Junction, Christchurch 8149.  
Email: [bouterey@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bouterey@xtra.co.nz)

Entry fees: \$12 per test. CD \$10.

Payment: Online banking 03 1594 0058430 00

Self-contained camping allowed on site. Contact [cantycanine@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:cantycanine@yahoo.co.nz) for info.  
Prizes and trophies: Ribbons and prizes to 3rd place.  
Catalogues: Running orders will be emailed. Catalogue available on request.  
Catering: TBA.



Entries Close: 28 December 2022

## Mid Canterbury Dog Training Club

### Championship Agility Event (2) Championship Jumpers Event (3) AD Class ADX Advanced

Ashburton A&P Showgrounds  
Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 February 2022

Judging order: **Saturday:** Ring 1 St1, Snr1, Int1, Nov1, JB2;  
Ring 2 JA1, JC1, JB1, JA2, JC2.  
**Sunday:** Ring 1 ADXA, Snr2, Nov2, Int2;  
Ring 2 AD, JC3, JA3, JB3, St2.

Judging commences: 8:30am, course walk from 8:15am, both days.

Judges	Saturday	Sunday
Kevin Burnette, P North	Nov 1, JA 1, JC 1, JB 2,	ADXA, Snr 2, Int 2
Sallie Remon, Dunedin	Snr 1, Int 1, JC 2,	AD, JA 3, JB 3
Carole Logan, ChCh	St 1, JB 1, JA 2	Nov 2, St 2, JC 3

Entries to: Online entries.

Entry fees: \$5 per AD & ADXA, \$5.50 per Agility & Jumper class.

Payment: Online banking 03 0835 0171078 01  
ref entry reference number and surname.

Onsite camping permitted, \$10 per night. Can be booked online and paid with entries or at the show with Event Secretary. This is now required to be paid to the A&P Showgrounds Committee.

Prizes and trophies: Ribbons to 10% of entries

Catalogues: Free online, printed by request \$3 payable with entry.

Catering: Full available both days.

Entries Close: 6 January 2022

## Waimakariri Dog Training Club

### Championship Jumpers Event (6)

Mandeville Sports Centre, Ohoka  
Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 February 2022

Judging order: **Saturday:** Ring 1 JC1, JA2, JB2, JC3, JA4;  
Ring 2 JA1, JB1, JC2, JA3, JB3.  
**Sunday:** Ring 1 JB4, JA5, JA6, JC6;  
Ring 2 JC4, JC5, JB5, JB6.

Judging commences: 9:00am, first course walks 8:45am, both days.

Judges	Show 1	Show 2
Keri Neilson, Hamilton	JC1, JC2, JA3	JB4, JA5, JB6
Martin Bush, Whakatane	JA1, JB1, JC3, JA4	JC5, JB5
Jess Tansey, Christchurch	JA2, JB2, JB3	JC4, JA6, JC6

Entries to: Online at [www.dogagility.org.nz](http://www.dogagility.org.nz)

Entry fees: \$5.50 per class

Payment: Waimakariri Dog Training Club. Acct: 03-1592-0107913-00

Camping permitted at venue. \$10 per person per night; pay with show entries.

Prizes and trophies: Cash prizes and ribbons to at least 10.

Catalogues: Online at [www.dogagility.org.nz](http://www.dogagility.org.nz)

Catering: Will be available both days.

Entries Close: 27 January 2022

## Canterbury Canine Obedience Club

### Championship Agility Event (2) Championship Jumpers Event (2) ADX Advanced, BJCK, SNKR

Marylands Reserve, Christchurch.  
Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 February 2022

Judging order: Rings will run 1&3, then 2, 1&3 then 2 etc.  
**Saturday:** Ring 1 ADXA, Int1, Nov1, Sen1;  
Ring 2 JA 1, Bjck A1, Bjck B1, Bjck C1; Ring 3 JB1, Sta1, JC1.  
**Sunday:** Ring 1 JB2, JC2, JA2;  
Ring 2 Sen2, Snkr C1, Snkr B1, Snkr A1; Ring 3 Int2, Nov2, Sta2.

Judging commences: 9:00am, First course walk 8:45am.

Judges	Saturday	Sunday
Karen de Wit, Waikuku Bch	JA1, Bjck A1, Bjck B1, Bjck C1	Sen2, Snkr C1, Snkr B1, Snkr A1
Tim Conolly, Dunsandel	JB1, Sta1, JC1	Int2, Nov2, Sta2
Vickie Wilson, Puketotara	ADXA, Int1, Nov1, Sen1	JB2, JC2, JA2

Entries to: Online at [dogagility.org.nz](http://dogagility.org.nz)  
Post: Agility Show Secretary, PO Box 9085, Tower Junction, Christchurch 8149.

Entry fees: Agility, Jumpers, Games \$5.50 per class, ADXA \$5.

Payment: Online banking 03 1594 0058430 00

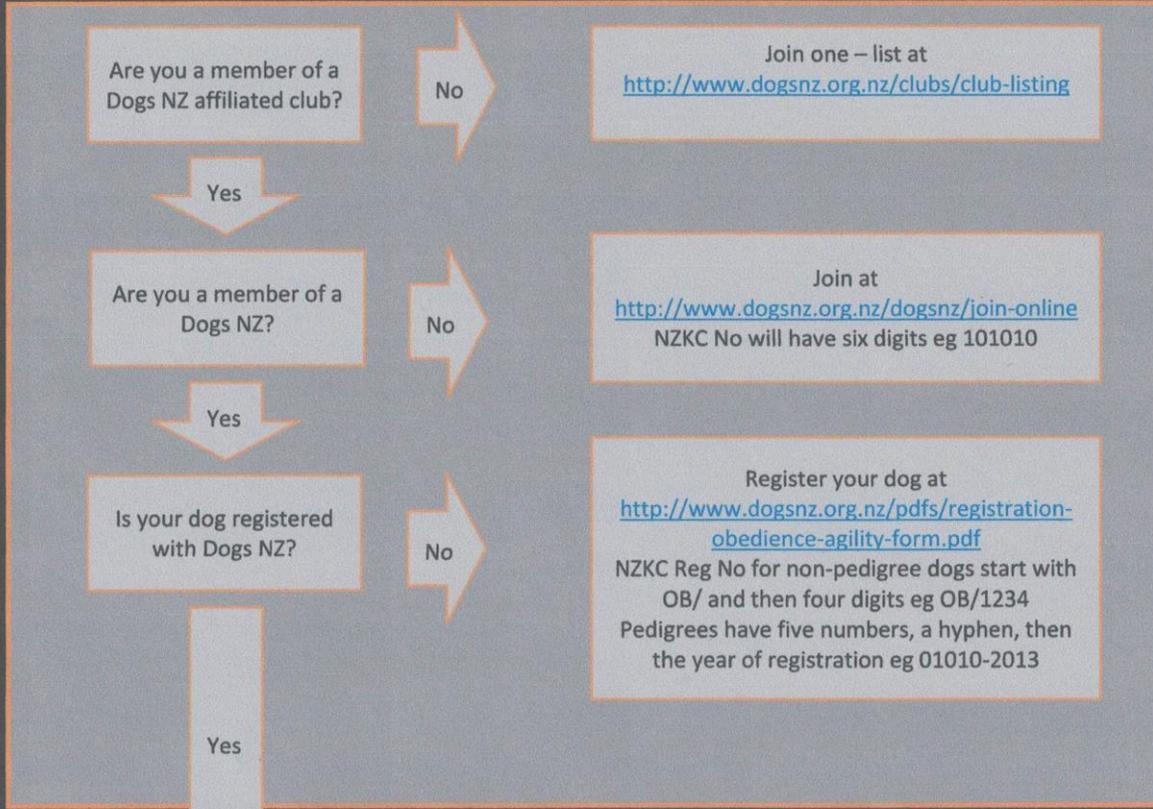
Self-contained camping on site. Contact the club for info: [cantycanine@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:cantycanine@yahoo.co.nz)  
Prizes and trophies: Ribbons and prizes to 10% of class entries (at least 3rd place).

Catalogues: Available online at [dogagility.org.nz](http://dogagility.org.nz)

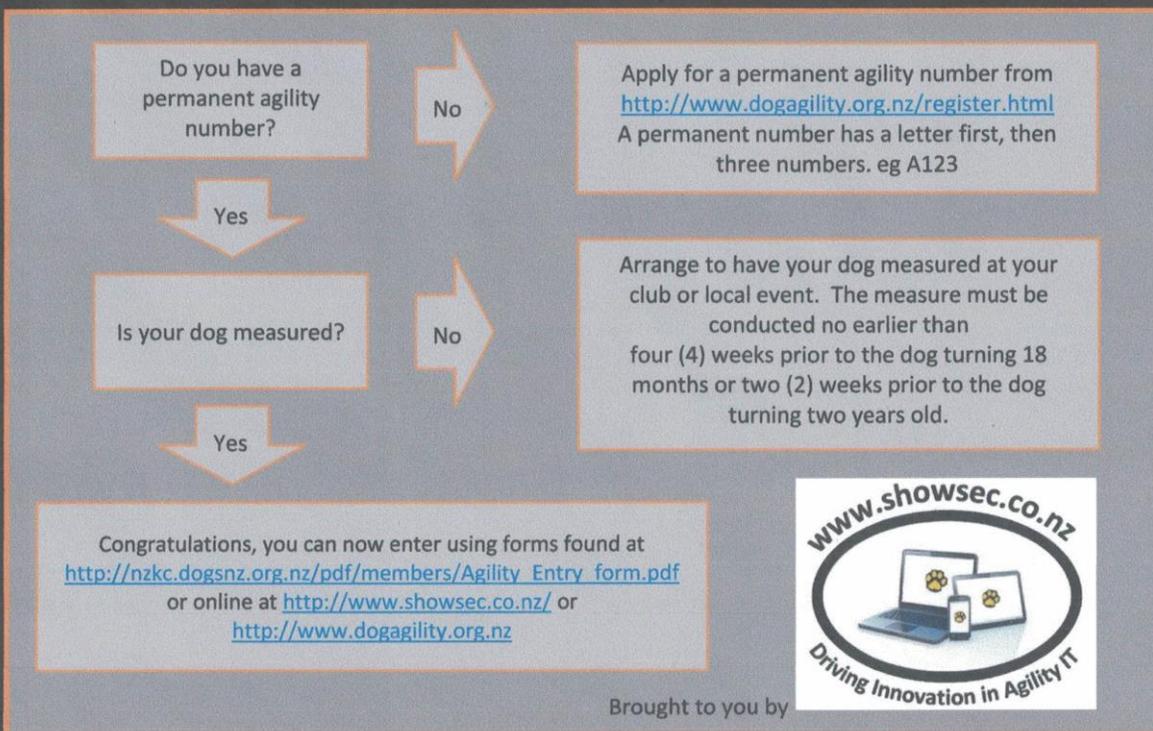
Catering: TBA.



## Entering a Championship Agility/Jumpers/Games Event & AD/ADX Events - Start HERE



## Entering Ribbon Trials - Start HERE



Congratulations, you can now enter using forms found at [http://nzkc.dogsnz.org.nz/pdf/members/Agility\\_Entry\\_form.pdf](http://nzkc.dogsnz.org.nz/pdf/members/Agility_Entry_form.pdf) or online at <http://www.showsec.co.nz/> or <http://www.dogagility.org.nz>



Brought to you by

## Advertising

### **Do you want to advertise here?**

#### **Professionals & Tradies.**

Advertisements:

Quarter Page \$50 per annum minimum of 4 issues (\$12.50 per issue)

Half Page \$100 per annum minimum 4 issues (\$25.00 per issue)

Full Page \$200 per annum with minimum 4 issues (\$50.00 per issue)

You will be invoiced after your advertisement has run the first time.

### **Or Here??**

### **Or Here??**

**Here is your opportunity to advertise yourself  
and/or your business to the wider German  
Shepherd community – and support the club.**

**– Win Win!!!**

**SOUTH ISLAND GERMAN SHEPHERD LEAGUE (INC) MEMBERSHIP FORM**

P.O BOX 2133 Christchurch 8140

Email: [info@sigsl.org.nz](mailto:info@sigsl.org.nz)

Website: [www.sigsl.org.nz](http://www.sigsl.org.nz)



Date.....

Name..... Dogs pet name .....

Address .....

Telephone ..... Email .....

I/We wish to apply/reapply for membership of the South Island German Shepherd League (INC) and attach the appropriate membership payment. I/We undertake to abide by all the rules and regulations presently in force and subsequently enacted, of the Constitution of the South Island German Shepherd League Incorporated. I/We also acknowledge that while SIGSL uses all due care to ensure the safety of its members and their dogs, SIGSL shall not be held liable for any injury that may occur to its members or their dogs while on SIGSL grounds or at SIGSL or related events. I/We acknowledge that while on SIGSL grounds or at SIGSL or related events, I am/we are personally responsible for the control and management of my/our dog(s). And SIGSL shall not be held liable for any incidents that may occur between the dogs or their handlers, owners or any other person.

Yes I agree to receive SIGSL emails relating to events, Newsletters etc.

Signed .....

*(Photos may be taken at shows and Training to be used on SIGSL website, Newsletter and/or SIGSL Facebook page, if you do not wish for photos of yourself and/or dog to be used for this purpose please let us know)*

Annual Subscription: New Member- Single \$45.00. Double \$50.00 – Junior \$10.00 Renewal: Single \$40.00, Double \$45.00, Junior \$10.00 Training Fee \$80.00 (Once only for the life of your German Shepherd) Bank details SIGSL BNZ: **02 – 0842 – 0081118 - 000** Subscription amount paid. Total \$..... Online Cheque Cash received by .....

**Breeder member only below: Website or Newsletter Breeders Page: \$5.00** each per year to be paid with membership.

Kennel Name.....

Contact/s .....

Address .....

Telephone ..... Email .....

**Stud Dog Listing** - Stud Name:.....

Sire ..... Dam .....

Owner/s .....

Address .....

Telephone ..... Email .....

**Office use only** : Total received..... Receipt Issued # .....Membership No: .....