

Baybark Pet Services
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News at Baybark

Autumn at Baybark has been very exciting. Kimmy, my little rescue dog continues to thrive with me, and my other dog Jai has had a little success in the Agility ring. Read on to see how a very dedicated lady has set out to train her own service dog, with a little help from me and read how successful of late the current and new Baybark students have been in the addictive sport of Dog Agility.



Watch for us on Hound TV (Channel 31) sometime in June as I talk about my favorite breed the German Spitz and Kimmy steals the show promoting Pet Rescue.

Until next time, enjoy your dogs, just like I do!

Chris Geary—Baybark Pet Services

A Service Dog in the Making...

For some months now, it has been my privilege to train a lovely standard poodle by the name of Midnight and his owner Anne. This beautiful black boy is destined to be a service dog. Anne, lives in a power wheelchair and had decided for various reasons that she wanted to train her own service dog, rather than have one assigned to her as is the usual process in Australia.



While there is nothing wrong with training your own dog, a service dog must be trained to a level beyond that of most ordinary dogs, the

process can take up to two years, and when you are training via a wheelchair this becomes more difficult.

Midnight is a very quick learner, mastering walking nicely by Anne's chair fairly early on. His puppy training included the commands sit, drop, stand, back, and a few others.

As he progressed towards more complex training he has had to learn to feel comfortable with car rides, getting on the wheelchair lift in Anne's transport vehicle, sitting quietly beside the chair and being confined to a crate on occasion.

While not yet a year old, Midnight must learn to ignore distractions around him when he is working and this area has been the most challenging so far. He is now very large, very strong and still very much a puppy. He loves other dogs, but his exuberance in meeting them is often unwelcomed by the often surprised dog.



He and Anne can regularly be seen around the parks and shops of Bentleigh or McKinnon and they have become local celebrities. Anne adores her dog, and it shows in the dedication she has in training him. As he matures, I believe he is destined to be everything Anne dreams he can be, giving her more independence and of course his, unconditional love.



Baybark Agility dogs enjoy success

You may remember from our last newsletter that a few Baybark agility students were having great fun learning agility with their dogs. I am pleased to announce that the last few months, these, and also new clients have been up on the winners podium many times in the high level competition agility games that are very popular this time of year.

Whippets Banjo and Spice and their owner Sarah have achieved no less than 8 titles in Agility, Jumping and Snooker.



Banjo is now competing at Masters level which is the highest level there is, and

there were many first places gained in competition by both dogs along the way.

Rikki, the terrier mix with his owner Leanne have also gained titles, including Agility Dog and Jumping Dog.

New student Beau, with his Border Collie, Millie has achieved the Jumping Dog title in only three trials—a fantastic achievement considering Beau only began training with Baybark in January this year.



In between trialing, training continues most weeks with the newer students loving this new hobby. Agility is so much fun, and any of the group will tell you without hesitation just how addictive it is.



Any reasonably fit dog over the age of 14 months can train, but they must be 18 months to compete. Dogs must be well mannered and come when called.

For more information on how to join in on this fun hobby see our website www.baybark.com.au/dogsports.html.

Do you know someone with a new puppy 9-14 weeks old?



Baybark runs very successful puppy classes on most Saturday's in Bentleigh where you can learn all there is to know about making your new puppy a happy, well behaved member of the community.

Call Baybark to book on 0419 359079 or 95639711 and checkout our website for more details and photos.



We are on the web!

www.baybark.com.au

check out our Facebook page too

