

Season's greetings to you and your families from Susan and I — what a year this was and we thank you for your support in 2009.

Work continues straight after the festive season planning for a busy 2010.



Above Hans with Sunny; Susan with Odie and Jenny in the front

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- Separation Anxiety
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Let us know what you think and what you would like to see in our newsletter. We would like your ideas of how we can help you live in better harmony with your friend. Please email us your ideas. [Click Here](#)

# K9Coach News

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## NEED FOR SOCIALISATION

As a behavioural trainer, most of the dogs I see have issues—and socialisation seems to increasingly top our list.

A family's busy life may not have space to include going to puppy class with the new family member. Puppies learn 60% of "life learning & skills" before they are 16 weeks old—a once-only chance to work on getting a well socialised and relaxed dog.

What do we mean by socialising our dogs? It is a fairly wide statement as it includes a dog being comfortable in nearly ANY type of situation. Being OK with people, kids, noises like trams and trucks; OK crossing a road, not growling when a person approaches.

Being comfortable when approached by any type of dog, male or female, big or small, on leash or off leash. Correct exposure to "life" results in a more relaxed dog—one that can cope with today's world; mobile phones ringing anytime anywhere; people being rushed and inconsiderate not leaving any space when they pass, so if your dog is not used to that from a young age, the dog may develop anxiety issues that can turn in to



Dogs sitting nicely in a socialisation exercise

aggressive issues. I often use roundabouts in my therapy—as it offers most of these things. Cars and trucks, buses and motor bikes, kids on skate boards, bikes and pedestrians—all in one spot. Finding a bench to sit with your dog (well away from the road) at a roundabout is a great learning experience. Don't respond to when the dog whines or whimpers—let it learn that you as the handler are OK, so it must be OK.

Our Juvenile classes address a lot of these issues and we are starting them again in 2010. Find our more, [click here](#).

## SEPARATION ANXIETY

During the holiday season many family pets may be left at home quite a lot. Please ensure they have access to shade and plenty of water. A dog can dehydrate very quickly and can die of it!!

Not making a fuss helps train our dog to accept that being alone is OK as it's no big issue. However when a dog can never be left

alone because of separation anxiety, it is time to seek professional help. A dog that is *not* OK left alone can do a lot of damage (eg eat through doors, the plaster, the frames etc) to either get in or out of the house.

Humans often make matters worse by trying to calm the dog as we would with a child. The dog's anxiety just gets worse

when we tell the dog "I'll be back in a minute" The dog would react better if we ignored it and stayed calm, make it a routine, no-fuss exercise a little like going to the toilet. Very few dogs get anxious when owners going there...as they have learned that you come back.... Try it and remember, no fuss on return too! Please do seek help if it gets no better.



IN HOME  
**K9 COACH**  
PEOPLE'S CHOICE FOR DOG TRAINING



IN HOME  
**PUPPY COACH**  
PEOPLE'S CHOICE FOR PUPPY TRAINING

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**People's choice for dog & puppy training**

**K9Coach Pty Ltd—including Puppy Coach was founded in 2007 and offers a new way of training and coaching dogs, rather than using old training techniques. Our approach is simple, easy to follow for handlers and dogs alike making training fun and delivering results!**

**We specialise in behavioural modification training and dogs with issues— so let us help you create a better relationship between you and Rover. Our in-home sessions last between 90 min to 2 hours and our program is spread over a fortnight—and most can be done in 2 sessions. Going to 3 sessions is the exception—and the more owners work with us, the quicker the program works.**

**See what other owners have to say about K9Coach in home training and Puppy Coach puppy training. Please [click here](#)**



## Courses for 2010

We have traditionally covered puppy classes during the festive and holiday season particularly as many vets have closed their classes till late January.

We can be running several classes a week and recommend a visit to our site for more details.



Juvenile classes start again in January 2010—and we invite young dogs under one year with socialisation issues to attend and we will start the process off to rectify any behavioural issues the dog is starting to display. Do not hesitate to discuss your young dog's issues with us—we will try all we can to help. Included is a visit to a local shopping precinct where we have it all.

In conjunction with sister organisation, the Australian DogTrainers Academy, training people to become professional dog trainers we will host a further series of our highly successful BYO BOB (build your own Basic

Obedience) classes. Select the specialist subject that suits your needs. There is a great deal of focus on socialisation in these classes, open to dogs over 5 months old. The Academy students will help with issues, under K9C supervision and using the K9C approach.

They are held on Sunday mornings from 11th April to 6th June 2010 in Burwood—with class times @ 11.00am and 12.15pm. Full information will be uploaded on the website in the New Year. Another great opportunity for your dog



**Students in our BYO BOB class**

to learn new skills, eg not to pull, greeting visitors nicely (no jumping), snapping when taking the treat, gate and door manners as well as socialisation.

We obviously also do our obedience refreshers, however every session we will have 15 min or so on that week's specific subject .



Our student trainers had some great learning experiences in the last series held October to December 2009. Hope you can join us. For more details click [here](#). Please feel free to call 9889 8555 to discuss your training needs.