



# July-August 2017 Newsletter



## Hi Everyone

Please find our newsletter for July and August. This year is really flying by, it will be Christmas before we know it. Lots has happened in the last 2 months and we still have lots to achieve between now and the end of the year 😊

Our business comprises two main components, **Consulting and Education**. Our team comprises Behaviour Veterinarians with memberships, Veterinarians working towards their memberships, qualified trainers and our supportive administration team. We also have our friend and colleague, **Dr Kersti Seksel** (Specialist in Veterinary Behavioural Medicine) consulting at regular intervals throughout the year. We pride ourselves on the service we provide to our clients who all have pets with behaviour problems and as our passion is to help these animals we strive to educate Australia on Behaviour through our comprehensive workshops, seminars and webinars. We are overwhelmed with the national interest, feedback and support for our workshops, **thank you Australia**.

Our national tour has commenced and is proving to be very popular with great numbers at our Melbourne and Sydney workshops recently. Thank you so much to all that attended. The feedback has been very pleasing and we are thoroughly enjoying sharing our passion and educating others. See our **Events Calendar** on our website for tour dates and information.

We also hosted the quarterly visit of our wonderful friend and colleague from Sydney, **Dr Kersti Seksel** in early August. It was great to have Kersti here again and she will be returning in November and will conduct a public seminar once again so watch this space.

We have some exciting staff news. **Dr Liz Bailey** has joined the AVBS team and is fitting in really well. **Sophie Rosevear** (Cert IV Companion Animal Training) has also joined us. We now have 5 behaviour vets and 2 behaviour trainers, along with Ana our rehab trainer who is currently completing her Cert IV studies. Meet the girls below in Staff & Clinic News.

Our awesome team continue to work hard both in consulting and education and we couldn't be prouder. Our website contains photos and brief bio's of our team so please jump online and meet our team including our new staff members - if you haven't already.

**[www.avbs.net.au](http://www.avbs.net.au)**

**Yours in Behaviour, Tracey and Tracy**

## Get in touch!



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## SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS.....



This is **Tracy Irons**, our workshop guru. Tracy is a Co-Director of AVBS and presents our physical workshops. She is an amazing presenter who knows her stuff. She has a Cert IV in Animal Companion Training and has over 10 years' experience working with and training dogs/animals.

Tracy is currently conducting our national tour workshops interstate.

If you haven't seen Tracy in action yet, hopefully you'll have the opportunity at one of our future AMO, Dog Bite Prevention, Puppy Preschool ® or Behaviour & Handling workshops. More info on our workshops on the next page.

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS IN SA

### **Animal Management Officer Workshop**

Friday September 15<sup>th</sup>

City of Playford Council

To register please email: [events@avbs.net.au](mailto:events@avbs.net.au)



### **Dog Bite Prevention Workshop**

Thursday September 28<sup>th</sup>

Yankalilla Council Chambers

To register please email: [events@avbs.net.au](mailto:events@avbs.net.au)



# Our popular workshops.....



## PUPPY PRESCHOOL® WORKSHOP

Tracy Irons launched our revamped Puppy Preschool® workshop on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 2017.

Our new comprehensive one day workshop with the optional half day Master Class the following day was a huge success. We are extremely excited that vet clinics across the state are adopting our **puppy preschool® package** providing the best start to our puppy companions. See our website for more details. We run these workshops in Adelaide annually and also interstate, based on expressions of interest. See link below for details:

## ANIMAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER WORKSHOP

A comprehensive one day workshop for council dog rangers/officers, security guards, or anyone who works with unfamiliar dogs. **The workshop covers:** Dog Behaviour, Dog Body Language, Approaching, Handling and Transporting Dogs, Reducing Stress and Improving Welfare for the Dog, Escaping and Barking Dogs, Dangerous Dog Program & Dog Behaviour Assessments. See link below for details:

<http://www.avbs.net.au/workshops-seminars/councils-2>



## DOG BITE PREVENTION WORKSHOP

Do your staff or volunteers:

- come into contact with unknown dogs?
- enter client's homes or yards?
- undertake work on footpaths, reserves or beaches?

**If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions your staff and volunteers are at risk of dog bite**

By attending this 3-hour workshop, they will **learn how to safely work with, and around, unfamiliar dogs**, including:

- how to identify if a dog is likely to bite
- what to do if a dog is likely to bite
- safe handling techniques
- new tactics for interacting with unknown dogs

<http://www.avbs.net.au/workshops-seminars/councils-2>

## AVBS Workshops continued.....



### ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR & HANDLING WORKSHOP

A very popular workshop aimed at Vet clinic staff, Rescue/Shelter staff or anyone that works with or handles animals. This one-day workshop covers animal behaviour, body language, handling techniques, common behaviour problems in dogs and cats. Mental illness, medication and behaviour modification and lots more...

A must-do workshop to ensure you are providing the best possible care for our animal companions and their owners.

National Tour: [Click here for info and dates](#)

The flyer features the AVBS logo at the top left, which includes a stylized mountain range and the text 'Australian Veterinary Behaviour Services'. Below the logo is a row of various dog breeds. The flyer lists several educational offerings, each with a small image of a dog or cat and a brief description. At the bottom, it provides a website link and mentions an upcoming 'Vet Nurse Behaviour Triage' workshop.

**Australian Veterinary Behaviour Services**

**AVBS EDUCATIONAL WEBINARS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**THUNDERSTORM, FIREWORKS & NOISE PHOBIAS IN DOGS**  
Practical Tools for Vets & Vet Nurses to assist with Noise Phobic/Anxious dogs. How A comprehensive webinar recording by Dr Tracey Henderson on common noise phobias in dogs. How to identify anxiety and manage and treat these issues to help our animal companions in their times of need.

**HOW DOGS THINK**  
Have you ever wondered what on earth is going on inside your dog's head? This presentation by Dr Chalette Brown will help you to understand how a dog's brain works and what that means for you when you are trying to manage their behaviour. This session covers dog cognition and psychology; how dogs learn and basic learning theory; what motivates dogs and the currency of information; and how anxiety scrambles normal thinking, learning and processing. The dominance myth will also be addressed.

**MENTAL ILLNESS IN DOGS.....IS IT REAL?**  
Learn the facts about mental health in dogs and what can be done to help these dogs. Dr Chalette Brown covers the signs, their emotional state, understanding what's happening in the brain and what can be done to treat it and help our animal companions.

**HOW TO SPEAK CAT**  
Have you ever wondered what your cat is thinking and feeling? In this presentation Dr Chalette Brown will translate cat language and teach you how to hear, see and understand some of their most common messages. She will also give you tips and advice that you can put into practice to improve your relationship with your cat.

**COMMON CAT PROBLEMS**  
Are You Sure Your Cat Is Getting What It Needs? In this presentation Dr Chalette Brown will cover the causes and possible solutions for common behaviour problems and problem behaviours like scratching, toileting problems, excessive vocalization, aggression, the environmental and behavioural requirements of indoor and outdoor cats.

Visit our website to view our range of educational webinar and presentation recordings, updated regularly! Coming soon is Vet Nurse Behaviour Triage!  
[www.avbs.net.au](http://www.avbs.net.au)

We also have a range of online webinar recordings and presentations. They are all approximately 1 hour long so packed with information. You'll be amazed what you will learn from these recordings. See listing to the left or click the link below to access them directly:

[Online Education Recordings ready to view](#)

## CASE OF THE MONTH....

Case study by Dr Emma Vermeeren



**Thomas**

Meet **Thomas**, an 8 year old Amercian Staffy X. Thomas' main problems are fear/reactive behaviour towards people, cats and dogs, noises and general anxiety.

Thomas is a relatively new AVBS patient. So far, he is going really well on fluoxetine and trazodone in combination with behaviour modification and strict management.

He has a long way to go, but it was so nice seeing his happy face recently and seeing some improvements in his quality of life already.

We look forward to helping Thomas and his owners through his treatment journey.

This handsome boy also has his very own Instagram account, check it out: **thomasthehound**

## Staff and Clinic News....

We are very excited to introduce the newest additions to our awesome team, Sophie and Liz. A huge welcome to you both from the whole AVBS team 😊



### Sophie Rosevear

We warmly welcome the lovely Sophie to our team.

Sophie is our newest trainer at AVBS. After finishing a degree in Animal Science she completed the Delta Cert IV (Companion Animal Training) in 2015. Along with a lifelong love of dogs, her senior dog Toby is the inspiration for her work with special needs pets. Sophie is passionate about providing the support and tools needed for people to understand, manage and care for these animals. She also loves teaching people how to change the emotional and behavioural responses of their dogs through effective, force-free training methods. As well as private consultations Sophie also runs training classes, is a member of the Delta Institute and always keeping up-to-date about the latest and greatest ways to help people and their furry loved ones.



### Dr Liz Bailey

Another warm welcome to the awesome Dr Liz Bailey who has just joined our team. Liz has hit the ground running and is doing a fantastic job. Liz graduated from the University of Liverpool in the UK with a Degree in Veterinary Science in 2013. Liz moved to Australia after graduation to commence work in regional mixed practice in Victoria for 3.5 years before deciding to concentrate solely on small animals in 2017 which enabled her to focus on behaviour consultations. In September 2017 Liz moved to SA to join the AVBS team, and is planning to immerse herself in animal behaviour through both the clinic and the CVE Veterinary Behaviour course, and plans on sitting her Membership exams in 2019. Liz is owned by her two 'special needs' dogs.

## Staff and Clinic News continued.....

### CONGRATULATIONS

### DR CHALETTE BROWN

Our amazing Dr Chalette Brown has recently sat and passed the MANZCVSc (Veterinary Behaviour) examination and passed with flying colours, receiving the Chapter Prize for highest examination marks. **Well done Chalette**, a truly tremendous effort and the team are immensely proud of you.

Here Chalette is receiving the Chapter Prize from Dr Kersti Seksel.

And as promised here is a picture of Chalette and her family, complete with little **Anneliese Kay**, born on April 4 this year. So yes Chalette has been extremely busy and is now enjoying maternity leave.....finally!!

We look forward to welcoming Chalette back in the near future.

