

THE WOOFER

NEWSLETTER OF THE
NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB
ESTABLISHED 2005



May - June - July - August 2020

FROM THE PRESIDENT

A very warm welcome to all the new members who braved the icy cold winds and joined us in August. Despite Covid-19 Restrictions and the wet weather we have managed to get training happening with what we all hope will be a calmer few months left in 2020.

The Annual General Meeting of our Animal Welfare League Branch was held on 21st August, a very restricted affair conducted using Zoom. Our thanks go to all who managed to participate and make up regulation quorum requirements. Most of the Executive positions have remained the same with the exception of Work, Health and Safety Officer. This position is now held by Kathryn McKellar and our thanks to everyone for continuing to volunteer to keeping the AWL Narooma Dog Training Club Branch functioning for another year in such challenging times. It is unfortunate that all competitions, events and fundraising have been curtailed this year. We can only all hope and pray that more normal conditions are back in 2021. In the interim we will just try and keep the training program as regular as possible. I'm sure you will all understand if our program suddenly changes as some things are beyond our control, particularly the weather. For your information the last page of this newsletter is an updated version of the 2020 calendar.

Just as reminder to make sure that social distancing is always observed even when outdoors at Nata Oval. I'm including this short poem, with a bit of humour to lighten our load in these challenging times.

THE GERM

A mighty creature is the germ,
Though smaller than a pachyderm.
His customary dwelling place
Is deep within the human race.
His childish pride he often pleases
By giving people strange diseases.
Do you my poppet, feel infirm?
You probably contain a germ.
Poet: Ogden Nash (1902-71)

Steve Genner - President



ABOUT NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB

Training starts at 2pm. Instructors have other jobs before that time, such as registration, health check of dogs, safety check on the grounds, selling equipment etc. **Where possible, your arrival by 1.45pm will enable us to start all classes on time.**

AWL NSW Narooma Dog Training Club – Branch Executive Committee & Key Personnel

President	Secretary	Treasurer	WH&S Officer
Steve Genner	Carol Hellmers	Peter Nelipa	Kathryn McKellar
Chief Instructor	Instructors		
Jean Page	Peter Nelipa (Obedience/Agility)		
Deputy Chief Instructor	Kathryn McKellar (Obedience/Agility)		
Yve Robinson	Pam Rowley (Rally O), Nina Balas (Rally O)		
Equipment Officer (Interim)	Agility Trailer	Woofers Editors	
Yve Robinson	Peter Nelipa	Yve Robinson, Carol Hellmers	
Equipment Assistant	Registration Assistant	Photographer	
Vacant	Valerie McCauley	Rosy Williams	

Dog Training Enquiries: 0458 953 281

New registrations: 1.15pm, 1st Saturday of every month.

Training times: Every Saturday, weather permitting.
Obedience - Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced: 2pm - 3pm
Agility - Beginners and Advanced: 3.30pm - 4.30pm as per the Calendar
Rally O: 3.30pm – 4.30pm as per the Calendar

Bad Weather? If in doubt, ring Jean – 4473 7776 or Carol – 0458 953 281 after midday

NDTC RULES

- All dogs must be kept on lead in class, unless requested by the Instructor.
- All handlers agree to be responsible for the behavior of their own dog, both ON or OFF lead.
- Children are welcome, but must be under direct parental supervision at all times. Please note children are not covered by AWL insurance.
- Handlers are advised to consult their medical professional regarding tetanus injections.
- NDTC recommends that dog owners hold Public liability, in case of accidents or incidents.
- All members are asked to wear their name badges to all NDTC classes.
- Members are asked to wear appropriate footwear - high heels, sandals and thongs are not suitable when training a dog.
- Lessons will start at the advertised times – if late, you will miss part of the lesson.
- Be a good NDTC member - read the notice board, listen to announcements and practice exercises between weekly lessons.
- Please remember that all Instructors and other NDTC workers are volunteers. Please be respectful of their generosity. It will help the NDTC run more smoothly if you offer assistance when required.
- A first aid kit is available at the ground. See your Instructor if you require assistance.
- Nata Oval is open to the public, so please clean up all dog droppings.
- NDTC conducts a risk assessment of the training area and removes any offending material before classes commence. Nata Oval is a drug, alcohol and smoke free area.

FEES for 2020

Annual registration fees are:

\$40 Adult, \$25 Concession/Junior (over 9 and under 18 years), \$60 Family (any combination).

Lesson Fees - Obedience: \$3.00 per dog. Agility: \$3.00 per dog. Rally O: \$3.00 per dog.

Agility/Obedience combined: \$5.00 per dog. Rally O/Obedience combined: \$5.00 per dog

FROM THE CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

2020 is the year that we are all trying to forget! Thankfully we are slowly getting back to some form of normal life and learning to live with the rules and changes imposed on us all by Covid-19. Phone and Skype consultations with Doctors and Specialists, masks, and social distancing are now all part of our everyday lives. I sincerely thank you all for your co-operation with the changes required at Nata Oval that enable us to continue to offer you dog training programs. Carol Hellmers, our Covid-19 Safety Officer, is doing a wonderful job making sure we are all obeying the rules and keeping safe. The NDTC Committee also thank you for your co-operation.

The whole schedule for this year has been changed. Sadly our in-house competitions, normally held each year, have been cancelled. These include Obedience Handlers Days, Agility and Country Link, and Rally Obedience Competitions. This mean that there won't be any trophies awarded this year, and the end of year Christmas Party is in doubt. Promotions are still being made when appropriate.

The 2020 calendar has been modified again to give fair opportunity to those seeking Agility and Rally O training. Depending on circumstances, such as bad weather or notifications from Council, the calendar may still be subject to change. If you are a Facebook user, please "like" us and keep an eye on postings each week for updates. When possible, notification of any cancellation will be emailed to you direct.

Social distancing rules have made our AWL Branch monthly meetings, instructor training and social gatherings impossible, but normal training for Obedience, Agility and Rally O continue. Handlers in Yellow, Red and Black classes are encouraged to join Rally O. Yellow, Red and Black class Handlers whose dogs are 9 months or older can also join Agility. These classes are one hour long and start at 3.30pm. If eligible, you are welcome to come along, watch and have a free trial.

Lastly, any handler who wants equipment should see Yve at the end of obedience classes. Yve also has good 2^{ad} hand competition tennis balls for sale - 5 for \$3 donation to NDTC. Because of the Covid-19 restrictions all leads, collars, halters etc. are kept in the boot of Yve's car which is parked on the Nata Oval near the entry gate.

Jean Page - Chief Instructor



AWL NSW Narooma Dog Training Club Branch is on Facebook! Please LIKE us and SHARE us



Lyndal and Snoop Dog trying out Agility

DOG ATTACKS!

One of the many issues frequently talked about in our classes is how to deal with dog attacks.

When training, we take part in exercises to help you socialise your dog. Unfortunately, not all dog owners attend obedience classes or socialise their dog. Occasionally we may have to cope with the stray dog rushing up to our pet when out walking. We all know that walking dogs off lead in public spaces is an offence and that heavy fines can be imposed by Rangers on the owners, but there are always owners who break the rules. Most dogs are friendly, they just want to say hello, but sometimes they have other intentions and for a handler this can be a frightening experience. Often a person calls out "Oh, he's alright, he won't hurt anybody". Your answer to that is "But my dog could hurt yours, so please put your dog on the lead". Most handlers will then comply with your request. If you find yourself in this situation the first thing you must remember is to keep CALM. If you squeal, shout, shriek, pull your dog in close to you on a tight lead, or run away, you could be in big trouble. Stand your ground, growl with a deep voice and keep still.

Try and get in the habit of watching for potential trouble without letting your fears go down the lead to your dog. This means walking with your dog BESIDE you on a LOOSE lead. Turn away from the potential threat, tell your dog to SIT, STAY and you stand still. If the offending animal gets no reaction from either you or your dog, it may go away of its own accord. This method has to be practiced. When walking your dog, always have a pocketful of treats. As soon as you see an owner with dog on lead coming towards you, STOP, tell your dog to SIT, STAY, give your dog a treat when it complies, and let the other person walk past. If it is a friend with a dog, you can let the dogs socialise, but not until both dogs are sitting.

Occasionally a Random Attack will take place and it can be serious. Most of these attacks occur in free running areas such as parks or on beaches or as a result of dogs jumping their fences. Once again be aware, always check areas where your dog is running free. If there could be potential trouble, don't let your dog off lead, wait until the area is clear. It may happen that an owner will come into a dog free area and just let their dog off lead without regard to anyone else using the park, and a fight starts. If your dog is ball or stick crazy and another dog decides the ball is his, that is enough to trigger an altercation. Always remember the ball is yours, not your dogs, and only play the game when the area is clear. Dogs rarely fight to the death unless they have been trained to, but they can inflict serious injuries on one another, the situation can be terrifying for both dog and owner.

If a dog fight does happen, you must try and get the dogs separated and under control, without putting yourself in too much danger. Once under control, check for injuries to yourself and your dog. If you get bitten see a doctor, and make sure you have a tetanus injection. Take the dog to the vet - it is important that you have a record of the attack. If the attacking dog owner is reasonable and will co-operate then get their name, address and phone number, and try and come to some agreement on the vet and medical bill expenses.

If the owner won't accept responsibility, will not co-operate in anyway, or if the dog is on its own, then report the incident immediately to the Council Rangers. If Council Ranger is not available then ring the Police, take your dog to the vet and have it checked for injuries. We hope you never find yourself in this situation - these incidents are fairly rare but can be very traumatic for everyone involved.

**Eurobodalla Shire Council Rangers are on duty 5 days a week from 7.30am-4.30pm
(excluding public holidays)**

During these hours contact Council Rangers on 4474 1019

Outside these hours and for emergencies only, such as serious dog attacks, phone 4474 1000

WHOSE JOB IS IT ANYWAY?

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did.

Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job.

Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

CLASS PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to hardworking Handlers and their dogs, who have been promoted up a class in July and August.

Green to Yellow

Michael Mott with Shilo

Jo Barrett with Missy

Kay Davidson with Bella

Lois Sampson with Trix

Yellow to Red

Lois Sampson with Trix

Trish Reid with Magpie



Lois with Trix



Trish with Magpie

FUNDRAISING REPORT

Some good news! The Lions Club Dalmeny monthly markets will start up again on Sunday September 13th and Narooma Dog Training Club (NDTC) will be there with a stall. There are certain restrictions due to Covid-19 that we will be complying with to keep everyone safe - all names and phone numbers of buyers will be recorded for contact tracing, stall holders will be masked, and good social distancing practiced. No food or drinks will be sold, except by licenced vendors. My thanks to those of you who are still giving us supplies of goods to sell. I will be there from 8.30am, with Carol Hellmers assisting, with a variety of very competitively priced items – such as jams, toys, plants. Please come along and visit our stall, say hello and encourage your friends to come down and support us too. The money raised by our stall enables NDTC to support the good work of the Animal Welfare League.

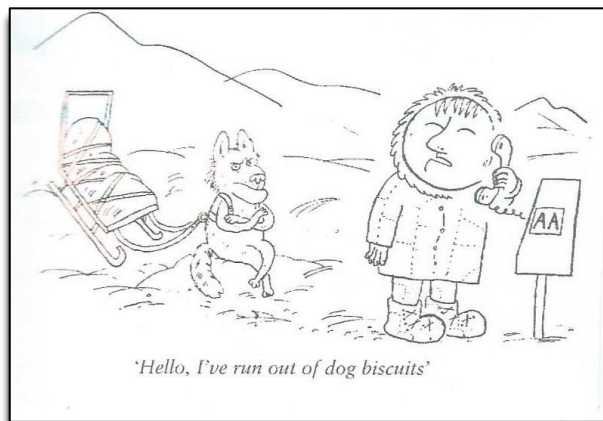
Yve Robinson – Deputy Chief Instructor

NAME THE BREED OF DOG - QUIZ

Just fill in the blanks – answers on the last page!

A ----
B ----
C ----
D ----
E ----
G ---- D ----
H ----
I ---- S ----
J ---- R ---- T ----
K ----
L ---- R ----
M ----
N ----
O -- E ---- S ----
P ---
R ----
S ----
T ---- M ----
V ----
W ----
Y ---- T ----

Cartoons courtesy of Pick of Punch Magazine



**NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB 2020 CALENDAR
COVID-19 UPDATE**

**REVISED and CORRECT as at 22 AUGUST 2020
SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

- September 5 **New Registrations**, Obedience, **Rally O**
September 12 Obedience, **Rally O**
September 18 ZOOM MEETING - AWL Branch, Committee Meeting - Friday 7pm
September 19 Obedience, **Agility**
September 26 Obedience, **Rally O**
- October 3 **LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY WEEKEND – NO CLASSES**
October 10 **New Registrations**, Obedience, **Agility**
October 16 TBA – AWL Branch, Ordinary General Meeting - Friday 7pm
October 17 Obedience, **Rally O**
October 24 Obedience, **Agility**
October 31 Obedience, **Rally O**
- November 7 **New Registrations**, Obedience, **Agility**
November 14 Obedience, **Rally O**
November 20 TBA – AWL Branch, Ordinary General Meeting - Friday 7pm
November 21 Obedience, **Agility**
November 28 Obedience, **Rally O**
- December 5 **TBC - DOGS and HANDLERS CHRISTMAS PARTY**
Pending Covid-19 Restrictions

QUIZ ANSWERS

AKITA
BORZOI
CORGI
DACHSUND
EURASIER
FOX TERRIER
GREAT DANE
HANNOVARIAN SCENTHOUND
IRISH SETTER
JACK RUSSELL TERRIER
KOMODOR
LABRADOR RETRIEVER
MALTESE
NEWFOUNDLAND
OLD ENGLISH SHEEPDOG
PULI
ROTTWEILER
SALUKI
TIBETAN MASTIFF
VIZSLA
WEIMARANER
XOLOITZCUINTLI
YORKSHIRE TERRIER