

THE WOOFER



NEWSLETTER OF THE
NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB
ESTABLISHED 2005



September – October - November – December 2020

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As 2020 draws to a close this is my final report in what has been a very difficult year for us all. But in spite of the challenges we've faced - a late start due to horrific NSW bushfires and then a complete shutdown due to "the virus" - Narooma Dog Training Club has enjoyed the ongoing interest and support of members of our community.

In July, when NDTC finally rebooted obedience training with Covid Safe Rules in place, we had a record number of registrations from new handlers. Seventeen people started to learn basic skills and socialise their dog. August registration numbers were similarly high, making for larger than ideal class sizes. This trend prompted the NDTC Executive Committee to quickly assess our ability to meet demand and stay within health guidelines. A maximum "cap" on numbers for the Beginner/Green class was introduced and bookings from new handlers were taken in advance. It was also decided that the last registration month would be October, so that Instructors could provide an 8-week block of quality instruction - give or take the odd cancellation due to rain! In 2021, we will maintain this new process, as described in the Chief Instructor's Report.

Good news – the reintroduction of our NDTC branded market stall at Dalmeny every second Sunday of the month, has been very successful. This thanks to the efforts of Yve Robinson and Carol Hellmers and other volunteers, Graham Pinney, Peter Robinson and Jo Barrett. Plus there is a long list of helpers behind the scenes who donate a wonderful selection of homemade goodies, plants and gifts for sale on the stall. The December market is always popular so set Sunday 13 for a visit to the Dalmeny Hall, next to the Fire Station in Mort Street.

A highlight of every NDTC calendar is usually the Christmas Party for handlers and dogs. Sadly, Covid-19 restrictions have forced us to adapt – we are not able to share food or drinks and there are no competition trophies to be awarded. However, there will be some fun social distancing happening during the final obedience lesson, and a few other surprises. Getting together with like-minded dog lovers to celebrate the end of 2020 and start the festive season will be a treat in itself. Hopefully 2021 will be brighter for us all!

I would like to sincerely thank all our volunteers, instructors and members of the NDTC Executive team, for their patience and hard work in a very tough year. I would especially like to thank you our registered handlers for your attendance and willingness to adapt to the 'new conditions'. My best wishes to you all for a very happy Christmas and New Year. Stay safe, stay well and love your dog!

Steve Genner
President



ABOUT NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB

Training starts at 2pm. Instructors have other jobs before that time, such as 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	WHS 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), Nina Balas (Rally)		
Equipment Officer	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

Training times: Every Saturday, weather permitting.
Obedience: 2pm - 3pm
Agility: 3.30pm - 4.30pm as per the Calendar
Rally: 3.30pm - 4.30pm as per the Calendar

Bad Weather? At midday, ring Jean 4473 7776 or Carol 0458 953 281

NDTC RULES

- All dogs to 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 2021

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: \$3.00 per dog.

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

REPORT FROM THE CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

We all know what a difficult year 2020 has been, but we have managed to steer our way through without too many dramas. Hopefully 2021 will be much improved as many Government restrictions are currently being lifted. We can all give ourselves a “pat on the back” for sticking to the Covid Safe Rules and regulations this year.

2021 will see some important structural changes to NDTC programs. We are looking forward to reinstating the Blue Class, which is the transition stage of Obedience training between Green and Yellow classes. Promotion days for Blue and Yellow classes, and the Handlers Day competitions for all classes will reappear on the 2021 Calendar. Agility and Rally classes will run in-house competitions throughout the year, and we also hope to run Country Link Agility Competition in collaboration with Wagga Dog Training Club - depending on how they are faring.

The Green Class (beginners) will now only register new handlers every **two** months, with a maximum of 12 handlers joining each time. New handlers will spend two months learning the basics and socialising their dogs, before moving onto the Blue Class. Bookings are now essential, so if you know anyone who is interested in joining Obedience for the first time in 2021, please encourage them to ring and book. **The NDTC phone number is: 0458 953 281.**

Of course, having registered with us this year, you will be welcomed back in 2021 without needing to book. Renewal of your registration for 2021 can be made anytime next year.

My sincere thanks to all handlers who participated in the extra weekday sessions these past few months, making up a class that Lyndal Jenkins, our trainee Instructor, could use to hone her teaching skills. Congratulation to Lyndal, who has now graduated and will be instructing classes on her own in 2021. We are always on the lookout for people interested in becoming an Instructor and will be running instructor training again during 2021. Anyone from Red or Black class who would like to take on the challenge, please contact us. We always need more Instructors - without these dedicated volunteers the club would not exist.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Instructors who worked hard, against the odds, to make our regular Saturday sessions possible: Yve Robinson (Deputy Chief Instructor), Peter Nelipa (Obedience/Agility/Treasurer), Kathryn McKellar (Obedience/Agility/Work, Health and Safety Officer), and Pam Rowley and Nina Balas (Rally Instructors). Special thanks to Amanda Doust (Guest Obedience Instructor), who helped with Red/Black class. You may not realise, but Narooma Dog Training Club is a branch of the NSW Animal Welfare League. We are a unique branch, and highly regarded by the AWL Head Office and our local community. Behind the scenes the NDTC Committee has worked hard to keep us on track. Our Covid Officer Carol Hellmers kept us safe and will continue to do so until restrictions are completely removed. Special thanks to Valerie McAuley for her ongoing help with admin tasks, to Rosy Williams for her fabulous photos, and to Steve Genner our President.

To you, our lovely handlers and dog lovers, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for joining our programs this year. Stay safe, stay positive, and enjoy the festive season as much as possible. I look forward to seeing you all again in February 2021. Give your furry friend a big pat from us and make sure he/she stays away from the Christmas Cookies!

Jean Page
Chief Instructor



RECENT PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to all handlers for their efforts this year, but especially to these handlers who have recently been promoted. Well done! Next time we will do our best to get photos of you all.

Green to Blue Class

Harry Feldman and Bruce
Brenda Cavey and Mindi
Nadine Holt and Zac

Green to Yellow Class

Rosalie Knox and Flicka
Jennifer Banks and Gus
Catherine Renwick and Rudi
Tony Penglase and Chester
Brian Liddy and Ernie

Yellow to Red Class

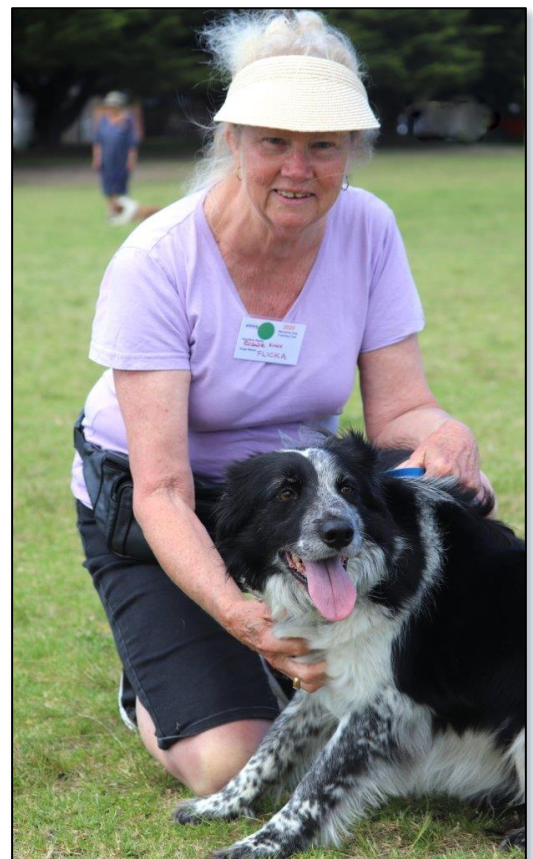
Graham Pinney and Bowie



Nadine and Zac



Brenda and Mindi



Rosalie and Flicka

FUNDRAISING FOR NDTC

The Dalmeny Markets, even under Covid restrictions, have proved very profitable for us in the last few months since they re-opened. Each month we have raised more money than the month before. November was a bumper month with the total of \$450 raised. This market stall is a combined effort of several volunteers who donate goods for sale, manage the stall, grow healthy plants, make jam and pickles, and help with delivery, setup and pack down on the day. Many thanks to them all.

We will decide each month, depending on weather, restrictions and availability of helpers, whether to continue to attend in 2021. Certainly we will be holding a stall on Sunday 13 December, so please come along and support us, and the Lions Club too. You may find just what you need for "Auntie Joan" for Christmas or an upcoming special occasion. Dalmeny, unlike other markets is the only small, local market in Narooma that is selling just re-cycled, handcrafted and homegrown goods. When possible the Lions Club members put on a barbecue, with sausage sandwiches etc but for the moment a Taco van is on site for food and drink purchases. The Lions Club morning teas are delicious, with jam and cream scones so we all hope that they will recommence selling them again soon.

WHERE: Dalmeny Hall, Mort Street Dalmeny (next to the Firestation)

WHEN: Sunday 13 December, 8am-12pm



IF YOU HAVE A DOG

Loss may grieve you, love may leave you,
Idle tongues may lie;
Luck may quit you, trouble hit you,
Fame may pass you by;
Thorns may hurt you, men desert you,
Sunlight turn to fog,
But you're never, ever friendless
If you have a dog.

Douglas Malloch

PLEASE DON'T FORGET ME!

Most pet dog owners include their dogs in their holiday activities, but sometimes, for various reasons, this is not possible. So during the Festive and holiday season, if you want to travel, you should make arrangements for your dog to be properly looked after.

Some of you may have relatives that are prepared to fill the gap for you, by living in your house while you are away. Maybe a good neighbour is prepared to help. If you are lucky, you could still be able to find a space in a reputable kennel - make your booking now. Whatever your arrangements, please make sure your four-legged friend will be well cared for and safe.

You may be fortunate to be able to take pooch with you, in which case you will need to pack his/hers bedding, food and water bowl, favourite toy, and crate or harness for travelling. A spare collar and lead, medications and plenty of poo bags are essential - not forgetting the preferred food and treats. National Parks are out of bounds to dogs, but many caravan parks do allow well behaved dogs on lead. Bookings are necessary - once again don't leave it too late.

If staying at home then you may be having friends and relatives visit. Sometimes a dog finds the big changes in routine difficult to cope with. Small children can be boisterous and noisy - that can be frightening to a dog who is not used to them. It's a good idea to put pooch outside when any strangers first arrive then, when everyone has quietened down, introduce your dog to them on lead if necessary. Do impress on visitors that your dog is not allowed to eat biscuits, cake, lollies or chocolates! There is usually a tempting array of extra goodies around during Christmas celebrations. You may like to put a small parcel under the tree for your dog to unwrap. Dogs have such a powerful sense of smell, so sneak this gift in at the last minute otherwise your dog will get there without you having the pleasure of watching the unwrapping. Pigs ears or a bone are always acceptable, but highly coloured treats should be avoided, and so should cooked bones of any kind.

Now is also the time to be vigilant and keep checking your pooch for ticks. The tick season is upon us again, and medications can be easily forgotten in the general excitement of Christmas. Snakes are also around, another thing to keep an eye out for especially in some of the more remote camping areas. Above all ensure that over the holiday season, whether 2 or 4 legged, that everyone stays safe, relaxes and enjoy themselves.

NOTICE GIVEN

I'm in disgrace and degradation
And yet I told Them the situation;
I whined a lot and walked the floor
And went and sat by the outer door.
But They weren't paying the least attention,
They didn't hear what I tried to mention,
They wouldn't listen to my sad yelp,
So then what happened, I couldn't help!

I gave Them hints and if they scorn them,
They cannot say that I didn't warn Them!

Berton Braley

HANDLER NEWS

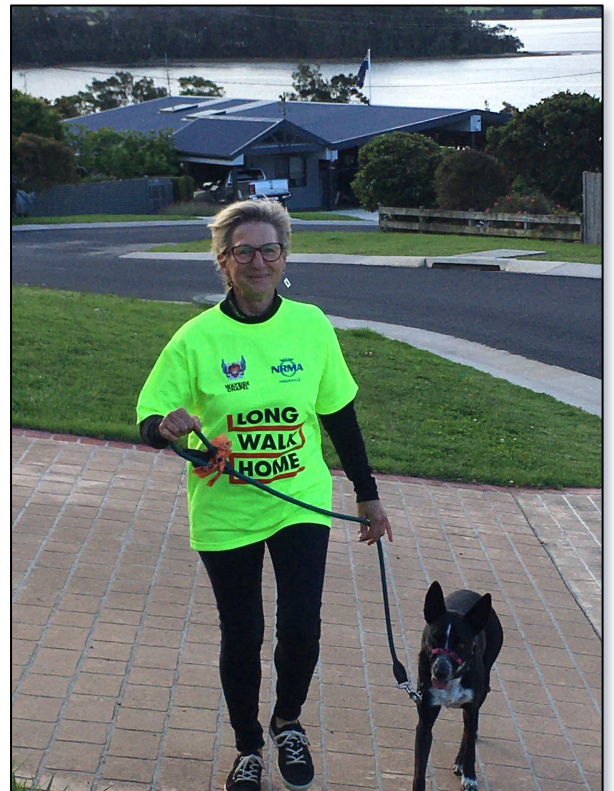
Carol Trevanion, with her two speedy dogs Ripley and Squizl, came 1st in trial competitions recently held in Canberra. You can see them in action at our Agility afternoons. They are a joy to behold!

Pam Rowley and Rollo, Nina Balas and Imogen, Jan Boyce and Jasper also recently attended trials in Canberra, where they all did very well. Bravo to Jan and Jasper who gained the Rally Masters title.

Trisha Reid and Magpie walked long distances together earlier this year, raising \$1,180.56 for the Wayside Chapel. Her generous contribution and efforts will ensure support for people in crisis, those less fortunate than ourselves. Bravo Trisha for your selfless act. Perhaps others can join you on this walk next year.



A Rally Master showing off his ribbon!



Trisha and Magpie go solo walking



Carol working the weavers in our Agility program

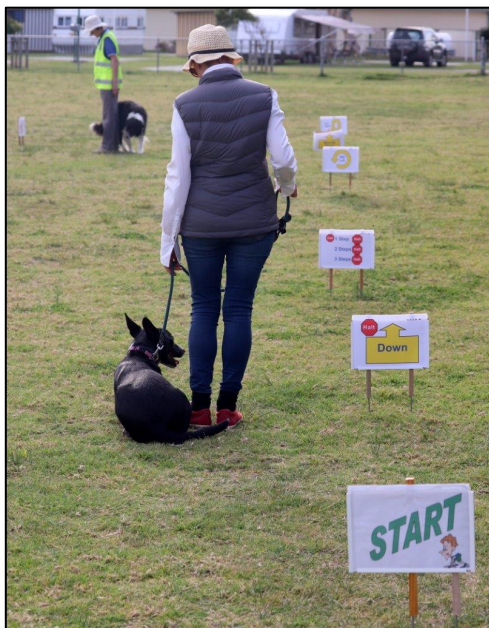
HAVE FUN WITH YOUR DOG!

Graduated from Green Class? Handlers often wonder what comes next. Well, once you have achieved your basic handling skills on lead, and moved up from Green Class, you and your dog are ready to try two other forms of training on offer. These are:

Agility – your dog must be over 9 months of age. The Instructors for this discipline are Peter Nelipa and Kathryn McKellar. Kath and Peter recently ordered some new pieces of equipment from a reputable company that makes lightweight and very safe products. You might like to know that this equipment, an investment in the continuation of the Agility program, is purchased using a combination of monies we receive from your ground fees, donations and sales at the Dalmeny Markets. We look forward to unveiling new equipment in 2021, so do come along and try it out.

Rally (Rally Obedience) – there are no restrictions on the age of your dog. Rally is a bit like a cross country course, but without all the running! Numbered signs are laid out with instructions at each “station”. It’s a fun workout for your brain, as well as keeping your dog interested and attentive. Pam Rowley and Nina Balas are the two lovely instructors who teach this program.

Please do join in these programs in 2021. There are competitions with trophies and awards presented at the end of the year. Agility and Rally will run on alternate Saturdays so you can get involved in both. And the cost is minimal – Obedience plus Agility \$5, Obedience plus Rally \$5. Check out the Calendar on the last page to find out when these training sessions are happening.



Two beautiful Rally Instructors:
Nina Balas with Imogen and
Rally organiser, Pam Rowley



GET TO KNOW THE AGILITY EQUIPMENT

Bowie negotiates the Dog Walk with help from owner Graham



Cath helps Rudi on the Dog Walk



Jessica runs Aria through the Ring – it breaks apart easily if the dog fails to clear the equipment, a great safety feature!



Lyndal gives the command to Snoop Dog to negotiate a Single Jump – see the safety wings on this new equipment!

Instructor Kath with Suzie Q on the Double Spread Jump



Pam sends Rollo over the Broad Jump

TRAINING CLUB 2021 CALENDAR
CORRECT AS AT 20 NOVEMBER
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

February	RETURNING HANDLERS REGISTRATION RENEWAL FEES DUE THIS MONTH
February 6	New Registrations – All Obedience Classes begin
February 13	Obedience, Agility
<i>February 19</i>	<i>Friday 7pm, Ordinary Meeting. Venue TBC</i>
February 20	Obedience, Rally
February 27	Obedience, Agility
March 6	Obedience, Agility
March 13	Obedience, Rally
<i>March 19</i>	<i>Friday 7pm, Ordinary Meeting. Venue TBC</i>
March 20	Obedience, Rally
March 27	Obedience - <u>1ST RALLY COMPETITION</u>
April 3	New Registrations - Obedience, Agility
April 10	EASTER PUBLIC HOLIDAY WEEKEND – NO CLASSES
<i>April 16</i>	<i>Friday 7pm, Ordinary Meeting. Venue TBC</i>
April 17	Obedience, Agility
April 24	Obedience - <u>1ST AGILITY COMPETITION and 1ST COUNTRY LINK</u>
May 1	Obedience, Rally
May 8	Obedience, Agility
<i>May 14</i>	<i>Friday 7pm, Ordinary Meeting. Venue TBC</i>
May 15	Obedience, Rally
May 22	Obedience - <u>1ST HANDLERS DAY</u>
May 29	TBA - Obedience, Agility (Annual Buskers Competition)
June 5	New Registrations - Obedience, Rally
June 12	QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY WEEKEND - NO CLASSES
<i>June 18</i>	<i>Friday 7pm, Ordinary Meeting</i>
June 19	Obedience, Rally
June 26	Obedience - <u>2ND RALLY COMPETITION</u>

Keep up to date with Calendar changes, cancellation due to bad weather, and general dog related news.



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