

# THE WOOFER



NEWSLETTER OF THE  
NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB  
ESTABLISHED 2005

April – May – June 2021

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

In our constantly changing world, the commitment of Narooma Dog Training Club Instructors and other volunteers to the canine education program we offer, remains constant.

For my part, I extend a warm welcome to new handlers who have joined us for the first time this year. Also, a special welcome back to those of you have recently returned to NDTC to continue enjoying the Obedience, Agility and Rally O programs on offer.

Recently we held the first Handlers Day for 2021. Handlers Day is a good opportunity to test your learning and is a way of monitoring your progress as a handler and dog team. There is also an opportunity to win a ribbon, be in the running for one of our end of year trophies, and be promoted to the next class level. If you missed this first Handlers Day, don't worry – there are two more this year. We have also held the very first Agility and Rally O Competitions for 2021. This is exciting news, as we were not able to offer any competitions or award any trophies last year. All results inside this newsletter.

Our very best wishes continue to go out to Chief Instructor Jean Page, who is recuperating from ankle surgery. A lovely bunch of flowers were delivered to Jean from all of us, with our wishes for a successful recovery. Hopefully we will see her back with us late July.

Meantime, special thanks to Yve Robinson who has stepped-up from her position of Deputy Chief Instructor. Yve, like Jean, has dedicated every Saturday to NDTC for countless years. Her experience as an Instructor is extensive, and her attention to the 'behind the scenes' organisation required of both the Chief and Deputy Chief Instructor, is really appreciated. Thank you Yve.

Also in this newsletter – an article about our newest Instructor Kay Davidson and a Revised Calendar on the last page.

Winter is definitely with us now, so rug up and enjoy exercising and training with your dog.

Steve Genner  
President NDTC



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

## **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**

<b>President</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>WHS Officer</b>
Steve Genner	Carol Hellmers	Peter Nelipa	Kathryn McKellar
<b>Chief Instructor</b>	<b>Instructors</b>		
Jean Page	Peter Nelipa (Obedience/Agility)		
<b>Deputy Chief Instructor</b>	Kathryn McKellar (Obedience/Agility)		
Yve Robinson	Pam Rowley (Rally O)	Kay Davidson (Blue/Yellow)	
<b>Equipment Officer (Interim)</b>	<b>Agility Trailer</b>	<b>Woofers Editors</b>	
Yve Robinson	Peter Nelipa	Yve Robinson, Carol Hellmers	
<b>Equipment Assistant</b>	<b>Registration Assistant</b>	<b>Photographer</b>	
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: After midday ring Jean – 4473 7776 or Carol – 0458 953 281

### **NDTC RULES**

- All dogs to be kept on lead in class, unless requested by your 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 family 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/Obedience combined: \$5.00 per dog

## **DEPUTY CHIEF INSTRUCTOR'S REPORT**

I write this report in the absence of our Chief Instructor Jean Page. Jean recently underwent surgery on her ankle and is resting up at home. Her leg is in plaster at present and there are a few weeks of physio ahead before she can return to Nata Oval. Hopefully for the start of August.

Unforeseen bad weather and health issues dogged the handover of my duties as Acting Chief Instructor in recent months. I must thank all those people who came to my aid a few weeks ago, particularly Amanda Doust and Carol Hellmers. Let it be a warning to us all, not to become dehydrated especially on those unusually warm days with high humidity after a solid rain. We make sure there is always plenty of water around for the dogs, but are sometimes inclined to forget about ourselves.

Occasionally we have a dog in a class which, for various reasons, is not comfortable if other dogs or humans invade its personal space. If you feel your dog is being crowded or intimidated by another, then ask the Instructor if you can change places in the lineup. We also have "red coats" to put on the dog, which carry the warning 'I NEED MY SPACE'. Please make life a little easier for both the handler and dog, by following that instruction. Remember that, as with humans, dogs don't always like everyone they meet.

The first Handlers Day for 2021 has been completed. For those of you who have not yet taken part in this activity, or those of you who didn't enter, I urge you to have a go. We run 3 Handlers Days a year during which you are "tested" on your dog handling skills at the level of your class. This applies to Blue, Yellow, Red and Black Classes only. A score for each handler and dog team is recorded. At the end of the year a trophy for the highest scoring partnership is awarded. A Most Improved Handler and Dog trophy is also up for grabs. Each Handlers Day 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons are awarded and it is also possible (but not certain) that you could be promoted to the next class level. Something to work towards, but you can't win unless you enter, so give it a go!

Sometimes, through no fault of your own, you could find yourself in the position where you have to rehome your pet. Or maybe you agree to help rehome a friend's animal. From 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019, the rules about selling or giving away a cat or dog in NSW changed. A heavy fine can be given if you have not complied. These are the new rules:

1. The animal must be microchipped before 12 weeks of age or before selling or giving away, (whichever happens first).
2. Animals 6 months and older must be registered (with your local Council).
3. All advertising for selling and giving away animals must include an identification number. This can be a microchip number, a breeder identification number, or a rehoming organisation's number.
4. Ensure ownership has been transferred once a new home has been found for the animal. This will mean changing paperwork at your local Council offices or depot.

More information can be found for transferring ownership at [www.olg.nsw.gov.au/pet-ownership](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/pet-ownership). Most of you will already have your dogs microchipped. But perhaps you don't realise that all details of your dog also need to be registered with local Council. If by any unfortunate chance your registered dog strays and is picked up by a Ranger, then they are obliged to notify you that they have your dog. You can then go and pick it up. You could be charged for this service. But if you don't have the dog's details registered with Council, then the Ranger will keep it for one week at the pound, after which they can resell or worse. It is also necessary to make sure that your dog has an identification tag on, then if found by anyone they can contact you. I recently went through this process. There are some costs involved but they are minimal. Registering a desexed, microchipped dog with Council cost \$28 for life. A disc with my dog's name, phone number, my daughters phone number, and veterinary clinic in town cost me an additional \$23 from Montague Vet. Money well spent!

Yve Robinson  
Deputy Chief Instructor

## MEET THE INSTRUCTOR

Kay Davidson - NDTC's newest Instructor writes:

*My name is Kay and I moved to a five-acre property in the Shoalhaven area to raise my family over 30 years ago - in that time I have also raised dogs, cats, chooks, ducks, lambs and cows.*

*As a hobby I had a boutique dog minding business, which I loved. Most of the dogs I looked after were people needing their pets minded when going to a weddings or holidaying in the area, but who still wanting to connect with their pet. But I did have local clients and people from farther down the coast that dropped pets off on their way to Sydney. I have also fostered a few dogs and yes, I have been what you would call "a foster fail", as we adopted a mother dog and one of her puppies that we were fostering. We fell in love with both. We had not long said goodbye to our beautiful old cattle dog MD.*

*Like all responsible dog owners, I took my new puppy along to puppy training and then to dog obedience training. In my case the nearest was the Nowra Branch. However, when they were unable to help me with my new adopted dog Bella, we used to drive an hour down the road to Milton to make sure Bella was on track to be a well-trained dog. I was bottle-feeding a lamb at the same time, so she went too. You can imagine the interest in the lamb on a lead! She was a celebrity with the dogs as well.*

*Just before the bush fires in 2019 we retired into the Narooma area. I was keen to reconnect with the dog community and found the AWL Narooma Dog Training Club. This allowed me to continue with Bella's training and meet like-minded people. Jean Page (Chief Instructor) asked if I was interested in training to be an instructor - I thought this would great. I would get to do what I love, working with dogs (heaven!) and serving this community as a volunteer at the same time. Thank you Narooma Dog Training Club, for being there for the community and dog lovers, and for taking me on as a Volunteer.*

Kay is now a fully trained and experienced member of the NDTC Instructor Team. We warmly welcome Kay to our Branch of NSW Animal Welfare League.



Lamby and Bella



Kay and Bella

## **REMINISCENCES OF A DOG CARER**

*Have you ever wondered where rescued dogs go between being picked up by the NSW Animal Welfare League and going to their new adopted home?*

Surrendered dogs are usually picked up from the Council pound or sometimes simply handed in to the Animal Welfare League. They are then tested with other dogs so that the Animal Welfare League can determine whether or not they are suitable to be rehomed. If they are suitable, volunteer foster carers take the dogs into their own home until they are adopted. Ron is one of these very special people. Between 2012 and 2018 he cared for 87 dogs for the Far South Coast Branch of the NSW Animal Welfare League.

After a week or so of being with a dog, Ron and other foster carers send the Animal Welfare League a detailed assessment, along with a nice photograph. They describe the dog's personality, whether or not it is house-trained, and how it interacts with their own dogs. This helps ensure the dog is portrayed accurately in the Animal Welfare League's magazine and online.

### ***Leo's story***

In 2012 Ron lost his Boxer to cancer. Three weeks after admiring a neighbour's female Labrador-cross puppy, on advice, Ron rang the Animal Welfare League and learnt that her brother was in care. The male puppy, Leo, was three months old. The background to Leo and his sister is that the Animal Welfare League had found a dog with three puppies under an abandoned house where people had left them a week or so earlier. One of the puppies was dead. The mother remained terrified of men all her life but was successfully adopted by an executive of the Animal Welfare League. Despite this rough start to life, Leo has never been aggressive to the 87 rescued dogs he has temporarily shared his home with. Ron says Leo is the best dog he has ever had.

### ***Paddy's story***

The longest Ron fostered a dog for is five months. That is Paddy, a victim of abuse. When he was brought to Ron's home, Paddy immediately hid in a corner of the backyard. It was two days before he would come inside Ron's house. Leo and Margo, another rescue dog that Ron has adopted, coaxed Paddy out of the kennel. Three months later Paddy was "as happy as Larry". Ron says Leo is a very stable influence and helped Paddy to overcome his fear of men.

When fostering dogs, Ron says, "sometimes I have a faint hope in the back of my heart that no one will want them". That was certainly true of Paddy, the last dog that Ron fostered.

*The description of Paddy that Ron wrote to help him find a new permanent home*

Paddy is a 2-year-old Mastiff-type dog, weighing 35kg and standing 78cm at the shoulder (about as big as a German Shepherd). He had a rough start to life and was very frightened of men. After a month or so with a male carer he is much more confident, but still needs to be often assured he is a "good boy". He is house-trained, doesn't bark excessively, eats anything and gets on wonderfully with other dogs. Ideally, he would go to a home with another active dog that requires plenty of exercise. He needs to be inside at night.

Paddy found his new home in 2018. Ron has been to see him at his home twice since then and Paddy wags his tail and rolls on his back when he sees Ron. Paddy is clearly well cared for. Ron says that is because the dog's needs are paramount to the Animal Welfare League. "The person has to match the dog, rather than the dog having to match the person." Ron continues to look after friends and neighbours' dogs whenever needed, a testament to Ron's enduring attachment to dogs.





Ron (Left) with Leo and Margo and regular companions Martin and Ella (Right).

*Special thanks to Marion who authored the article "Reminiscences of a Dog Carer".*



Cheska recently rehomed to Yve Robinson

### **PLAY or PREY?**

Many of us like to let our dogs run free before Saturday training sessions. You are welcome to run your dog off lead until 1.30pm – after which all dogs must be on lead.

It's good for the dogs to socialise off lead and works well, providing your dog is still under control and always comes back to you when called. If you are uncertain that this will occur, then it's a good idea to put your dog on a long lead to wander, sniff and socialise while you still have control.

Incidents can occur suddenly between some dogs. They happen quickly, triggered by dog signals, which are unnoticeable to us. After all we are only human and don't always understand dog language and signals. Suddenly the situation can get out of hand, particularly when dogs make high pitched noises from fright. Then they become prey and are open to attack, minor scuffles and fights can happen very quickly. You need to make sure your dog does not become a victim. Even the most placid dog is capable of becoming roused if provoked. Many of us are prone to say "Oh my dog is ok, it won't hurt yours". That's fine, but how do you know the other dog is ok? Always be aware and supervise your dog - it is your responsibility to see it comes to no harm and does no harm to others.

Allow your dog to play but not to become prey. If unsure of another dog's reaction to your furry friend then it is your responsibility to keep it safe by calmly removing it from that situation. If you own a dog that is touchy, then do not put it in a position where it can do harm to others. Spend more time socialising your dog on lead. With practice and a lot of patience on your part, it will gradually calm down and overcome its anxieties.

## COMPETITION RESULTS

### NDTC 1<sup>st</sup> Rally O Competition - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021

1 <sup>st</sup>	Peter Nelipa and Bobby	91 pts
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Michelle Arneson and Scooby	87 pts
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jessica Boulton and Bindi	85pts

### Agility – 1<sup>st</sup> round – Country Link Competition - 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021

1 <sup>st</sup>	Michelle Arneson and Scooby	clear round
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kath McKellar and Suzie Q	clear round
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pam Rowley and Rollo	clear round

### Agility – 1<sup>st</sup> round – NDTC Competition - 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021

1 <sup>st</sup>	Peter Nelipa and Bobby	clear round
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Carol Trevanion and Squizl	clear round
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pam Rowley and Rollo	clear round



Instructor Pam Rowley  
with Peter and Bobby

## 1<sup>st</sup> HANDLERS DAY -22 May 2021

### **Blue Class - Judge - Kay Davidson**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Julie Hart and Jeannie
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Wayne Perry and Odessa
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jane Simmonds and Buddy

### **Yellow Class - Judges - Peter Nelipa/Amanda Doust**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Marianne Becker and Poppy
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Suzanne Joseph and Rickie
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Joely Gelme and Jax

### **Red Class - Judge - Yve Robinson**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Suzanne Joseph and Josie
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Trisha Reid and Magpie
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Michelle Arneson and Scooby



Wayne and Odessa

### **Instructors and Trialing Handlers Class - Judge - Yve Robinson**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Peter Nelipa and Bobby
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## PROMOTIONS

### Blue Class to Yellow Class

Peter Gelme and Jax  
Brenda Cavey and Mindi  
Nadienne Holt and Zac  
Marianne Bekker and Poppy

### Yellow Class to Red Class

Zoe Buckley and Andie





## WELCOME TO NEW HANDLERS

Thank you for choosing to train your dog with us at AWL Narooma Dog Training Club.

### APRIL/MAY GREEN CLASS

Sue Bergus	Harley	Labrador
Ruth Burgess	Penny	Kelpie x
Justin Black	Rocco	French Bulldog
Kathrene Backer	Ivy	Irish Wolfhound
Karen Elphick	Stormy	Great Dane
Austin French	Spot	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
Jacqui Farrell	Clover	Groodle
Lesley Galea	Ziggy	Maltese x
Tess Huston	Percy	Kelpie x
Sandy Livingstone	Pandora	Great Dane
Kerryn Nelson	Sprout	Staffordshire Terrier
Anita Porter	Rosie	Cavoodle



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### JUNE/JULY GREEN CLASS (Pictured below)

Matt Arneson	Daphne	Kelpie
Jessica Boulton	Hero	Koolie
Elizabeth Gunn	Audrey	Labradoodle
Aleeta Hay	Loki	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
Dennis Heritage	Barney	Chihuahua x Pomeranian
Ria Manolias	Cookie	Schmoodle
Geoff Robin	Nessie	Bull Arab x
Peter Warrington	Summer	Golden Retriever





## CONGRATULATIONS TO ...

Pam Rowley and Rollo CCD, Rally Novice.

Pam and Rollo obtained their Rally Excellent Title at NSW Border Collie Club Show and Trial on April 11<sup>th</sup> 2021.

Congratulations from all of us at NDTC to Pam and Rollo (**pictured right**) who are now working towards their Rally Masters title.



## NDTC CALENDAR UPDATE

Correct as at 2/6/2021

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| June 5    | 2pm Obedience ( <b>NEW GREEN CLASS</b> )<br>(Rally O included at 2pm Yellow, 2.30 Blue, <b>3-3.30pm Red/Black</b> )<br>3.30pm <b>AGILITY</b> |
| June 12   | NO TRAINING - Public holiday long weekend  |
| June 19   | 2pm Obedience<br>3.30pm <b>AGILITY</b>   |
| June 26   | 2pm Obedience<br>3.30pm <b>RALLY O</b>   |
| July 3    | 2pm Obedience<br>3.30pm <b>RALLY O 2nd COMPETITION</b>   |
| July 10   | 2pm Obedience<br>3.30pm <b>AGILITY</b>   |
| July 17   | 2pm Obedience<br>(Rally O included at 2pm Yellow, 2.30 Blue, <b>3-3.30pm Red/Black</b> )<br>3.30pm <b>AGILITY</b>                            |
| July 24   | 2pm Obedience<br>3.30pm <b>AGILITY 2nd COMPETITION</b>   |
| July 31   | 2pm Obedience<br>3.30pm <b>AGILITY</b>   |
| August 7  | 2pm Obedience ( <b>NEW GREEN CLASS</b> )<br>(Rally O included at 2pm Yellow, 2.30 Blue, <b>3-3.30pm Red/Black</b> )<br>3.30pm <b>AGILITY</b> |
| August 14 | NO TRAINING - NATA NOT AVAILABLE – TBC Dalmeny Hall  |
| August 21 | 2pm Obedience<br>3.30pm <b>AGILITY</b>   |
| August 28 | <b>2nd HANDLERS DAY</b>  |