

October – November – December 2021

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As 2021 draws to a close, I take this opportunity to review the past year of Narooma Dog Training Club (NDTC) and highlight some achievements.

This year, as with 2020, NDTC's usually buoyant training program has been rather disjointed, with several interruptions caused by Covid lockdowns. This created a lot of uncertainty and to be honest, we did struggle a bit to regain momentum. However, the Executive Committee and Instructor Team did an amazing job keeping things going, rescheduling the 2021 program (many times!) and making sure you, our valued dog owners, were kept well informed. Handler numbers were understandably down on previous years – 92 handlers registered across the three disciplines of Obedience, Agility and Rally Obedience – but that was no surprise.

Despite challenges, the Instructor team demonstrated their “never give up“ attitude. Programs recommenced after the most recent lockdown, with three Green classes to meet a priority need of basic handling skills for pet dog owners, many of whom had been on our waiting list for months. Obedience training remains the backbone of NDTC's well-respected canine education program. Led by Chief Instructor Jean Page, her very experienced and enthusiastic team this year comprised: Yve Robinson, Peter Nelipa, Kathryn McKellar, Pam Rowley, Kay Davidson and guest Instructor Amanda Doust. Without them, there would be no NDTC! My sincere thanks to Jean and all the Instructors for their perseverance and dedication.

NDTC was very pleased to be able to reinstate both Agility and Rally O this year and complete two competitions in each discipline. These programs were lost in 2020, so it was a joy to have them back in the program. Special thanks to Kathryn McKellar and Peter Nelipa for their dedication to the Agility program, and to Wayne Perry for providing a home for the trailer. We are also grateful to Pam Rowley for her expertise as Instructor of Rally Obedience.

In the face of numerous stops and starts, it is remarkable that Chief Instructor Jean Page and her Deputy Yve Robinson were able to nurture Kay Davidson through her Instructor Training Program. Kay is a wonderful addition to the Instructor Team and we are pleased that she has taken on the important role of Work Health and Safety Officer. Thanks go to Carol Hellmers for her outstanding PR skills liaising with Council and Animal Welfare Head Office, which have kept us all up to date with Covid information. Carol is the NDTC Secretary and Covid Safety Officer, as well as taking care of our Facebook page. I'm delighted to announce that Val McCauley stepped into the role of Vice-President this year, as well as continuing to help each week with the sign in procedures. And a big round of applause for Rosy Williams, our official photographer. Her stunning images are regularly uploaded to Facebook and adorn the pages of the Woofers Newsletter, edited by Yve Robinson. As President of NDTC, I always welcome the guidance and support we receive from AWL Head Office and am particularly excited to report that discussions with the Narooma Men's Shed has netted us the use of their new location for our monthly Branch Meetings.

Last, but certainly not least, a special thank you to everyone who attended our programs this year. I wish each and every one of you a wonderful, safe, happy and healthy Festive Season. See you in 2022!

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 Steve Genner	Secretary/Publicity Carol Hellmers	Treasurer Peter Nelipa	WHS Officer Kay Davidson
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Vice President

Val McCauley

Chief Instructor

Jean Page

Deputy Chief Instructor

Yve Robinson

Guest Instructor: Amanda Doust

Equipment Officer

Jean Page

Registration Assistant

Val McCauley

Instructors

Peter Nelipa (Obedience/Agility)

Kathryn McKellar (Obedience/Agility)

Pam Rowley (Rally O) Kay Davidson (Obedience)

Agility Trailer

Peter Nelipa

Photographer

Rosy Williams

Woofers Editors

Yve Robinson

Carol Hellmers

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 O: as per 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 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 2022

Annual registration fees are:

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

Ground 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

FROM THE CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

At the start of training in 2021, we were all looking forward to a great years' training. We started training and instructing again, fresh and optimistic. How wrong we were. The Delta strain of Covid emerged, once again making the organizing of classes quite a challenge. Then some of the Instructors had medical problems which left us short staffed, we were put in lock-down, and just to end the year, a spate of very wet weather. Surely 2022 has to be better.

Christmas is not far away, something to look forward to. Time for us all to relax, maybe catch up with family and friends, get rested and motivated for the new year which, dare I say it, has to be kinder to everyone. I must thank my team of hardworking Instructors who give so much of their time and effort to keeping us going through very trying times. I wish them all very Happy Christmas.

During the festive season your dog may lucky enough to join in family activities. There are certain foods that he should not eat by your dog. For example, Christmas dinners usually mean left-overs which should NOT be part of the diet. Any type of meaty cooked bones, fatty bits of pork, crackling, dried fruit in cakes and puddings, nuts, fancy cheeses, chocolate of any kind, tiny plastic toys and wrapping from crackers are definitely off the menu. They can make your dog very sick, so best avoided. Christmas treats of a big chewy beef bone, pigs ears or rawhide bone will be well received and so much better for their health.

When we finally do get some dry hot summer days, watch out for ticks. They are already around, but will really start making themselves known in humid, hot and windy weather. Ticks of any sort, especially the paralysis variety which if not found can kill a dog, are extremely itchy and unpleasant. Make sure you search your dog's coat each day, paying particular attention to the ears, inside mouth, tail area and between the paws. You can remove ticks with tweezers, or spray with Pyrethrum which can be purchased at a chemist or as a garden spray at hardware stores. If you spray the tick, wait for it to fall or drop out, then kill it. If you pull a tick with tweezers, make sure you remove all the insect quickly before it has time to release its venom. Keep your dog quiet for 24 hours and if he/she shows any ill effects, a trip to a vet is the answer.

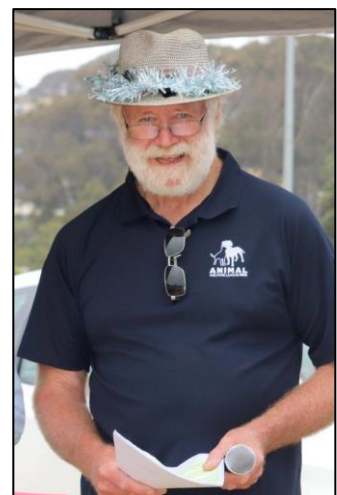
Summer days also mean high temperatures. Dogs can get sunburnt, especially those that have been shorn or have pink noses. Exercise your dog early morning or late afternoon when it is cooler. If taking them to the beach or on a picnic give them shade and water - save the mad ball games for later!

On behalf of the Instructor Team, I wish you a very Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing all your happy faces again in 2022.

Jean Page - Chief Instructor



with Fifi and Chippy



President – Steve Genner

GOLD STAR VOLUNTEERS

Did you know? NDTC is run entirely by volunteers. All the Instructors and the Executive Committee members give freely of their time and expertise to run NDTC. No-one gets paid – only reimbursed for expenses incurred. But there are also some others from within the handler ranks, who deserve gold stars for their support – they are Jo Barrett, Graham Pinney, Marion (Martin Oswin's wife), Rosy Williams and Wayne and Julie Perry.

Jo is a very willing helper on Saturdays. She has filled and distributed water buckets, helped with the set-up of tables and equipment, and undertaken the ground check of Nata Oval. Her least favourite job, understandably, was the pooper scooper ... but it is so essential! Jo has also nurtured lots of pot plants for us to sell at the NDTC stall at Dalmeny Markets.

Graham volunteers his time on Sundays, helping us set up and pack down the monthly Dalmeny Market stall, and carry down boxes of the goodies for sale. We haven't had much luck with the markets this year, with so many lockdowns.

The next Dalmeny Markets is Sunday 12 December, 8am-12midday

Marion was a contributor to an earlier edition of the Woofers Newsletter this year. It takes quite a bit of time to compile interesting articles each quarter, so we were very pleased to have Marion's writing skills and local story in the April/May/June edition. Rosy Williams photos ... where would we be without them! They are fantastic additions to our Facebook page and a wonderful record of NDTC's activities.

Wayne and Julie! They have generously "housed" the Agility Trailer, complete with equipment, in their lockup garage these past two years. This is a huge help, as finding a permanent home for the trailer remains our biggest challenge. Next year, NDTC will lobby Council in earnest to find a permanent solution to this problem.

**If you would like to be a GOLD STAR VOLUNTEER in 2022
we would be delighted to hear from you.**

All positions on the Executive Committee will be up for re-election in July 2022. But if Committee work is not for you, there are always jobs to fill on our regular Saturday training days.

Please call the NDTC phone and have a chat – 0458 953 281.

HOW TO WALK A HUMAN

A Dogs Guide

Humans need exercise. If they don't get it, they become "chubby. It's up to you to save them.

- ✓ Allow your human to tether themselves to you. This keeps them from wandering off or running away.
- ✓ Your human probably needs breaks. Be considerate and stop and sniff often.
- ✓ Bark frequently. Humans have short attention spans.
- ✓ When you go to the bathroom, walk away. If you have trained your human correctly, they will pick it up. Good aerobics.
- ✓ Periodically drag your human as fast as you can. This is called interval training.
- ✓ Do not allow your human to shorten the walk. They are being lazy. Sit in protest if you must.
- ✓ Once you return home, allow your human to remove their tether then lick their face many times. This is positive reinforcement for a job well done.

CHRISTMAS IS FOR GIVING

Christmas is a time for family celebrations and most of us are fortunate enough to be able to enjoy the festive season. It is also the season for giving. Many people and animals through no fault of their own are unable to take part in the holiday. When buying that present for a loved one, spare a thought for the homeless, destitute and lonely. Why not buy just one more item that can be put under the local Christmas tree or donated to a charity.

Animal shelter staff find the festive season particularly traumatic. Suddenly they find themselves inundated with stray animals that are left for days on their own while their owners go out to enjoy themselves. Many pets are just surrendered because their owners are taking a holiday and haven't made arrangements for them. Animal shelters, such as RSPCA and Animal Welfare League, also need our help.

Speaking of Christmas, if you are thinking of taking a holiday away without your dog, now is the time to contact the local kennels. There are three kennels in the Batemans Bay area, one at Bermagui, one at Brogo (small dogs only) and one at Bega. You may be fortunate enough to have found a neighbour who will care for your pet, either in your home or theirs, and some vets will also accommodate pets. Give your dog the gift of a safe and happy Christmas too. If you haven't already done so, please act now as kennel placements are limited.



WELCOME TO NEW HANDLERS – OCTOBER/NOVEMBER GREEN CLASSES

Janine Halasz	Ali	Border Collie
Donna Weiland	Henry	Schnauzer
Robyn Gamble	Ella	Border Collie x Terrier
Teresa Cameron	Ellie	Border Collie x Toy Poodle
Todd Elliston	Rusty	Kelpie x Red Heeler
Ian Thomson	Lockie	Border Collie
Carmen Thomson	Gibbs	Border Collie
Janet Linnee	Dusty	Kelpie x Whippet
Marilyn Fisher	Tradie	Chinese Crested
Theo Cassidy	Jake	Kelpie x German Shepherd
Sara Sadler	Barkley	Cavoodle
Rhondda Moore	Paddy	Border Collie
Kylie Warrington	Jaffa	Labrador
Brad Moffatt	Sadie	Tenterfield Terrier
Pauline Stuart-Fox	Betsy	Whippet
David Connor	Scout	Koolie

Thank you for choosing to train your dog with us.
We look forward to you joining our Blue Class and other training programs in 2022

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR PROMOTION!

Blue to Yellow

Jessica Boulton	Hero
Ria Manolias	Cookie
Karen Elphick	Stormy
Peter Warrington	Summer
Geoff Robin	Nessie
Aleeta Hay	Loki

Yellow to Red

Suzanne Joseph	Rickie
Jennifer Banks	Gus



2021 COMPETITION TROPHIES

Due to circumstances beyond our control, NDTC was unable to conduct the full range of competitions in this year. However, we have awarded the following trophies:

- NDTC Agility - Peter Nelipa and Bobby
- Country Link Agility - Kathryn McKellar and Suzie Q
- Rally Obedience - Michelle Arneson and Scooby
- Most Improved Rally Obedience - Zoe Buckley and Andie
- Most Improved Obedience - Allan Hudson and Mollie

All trophies will be presented in February 2022, when training re-commences.

LOOKING BACK – MASKED AVENGERS 2021

Yve Robinson – Deputy Chief Instructor
Masked up before class!



Checking Covid Certificates
Left to Right – Val McCauley and Pam Rowley

CHRISTMAS 2020

Kay Davidson – our smiling “angel” Instructor



Carol Hellmers sets up the sign in tables – note the bottles of hand sanitiser!



FUNDRAISING EFFORTS in 2021

Why does NDTC fundraise?

NDTC is a Branch of the NSW Animal Welfare League, yet it receives no direct financial assistance from AWL. Some assistance is provided through registration of the agility trailer and insurances. We raise funds to cover our outgoing expenses – stationery, postage, printing, hire of Nata Oval, meeting room hire, trophies and ribbons, and purchase of all equipment ... especially the colourful and safe equipment needed for agility.

How does NDTC fundraise?

Our primary source of income is from your payment of annual registration fee, plus the small ground fee you pay each week that you attend class. These funds keep us afloat each year. But in order to pay for purchase and maintenance of bigger items such as the agility equipment, NDTC volunteers participate in other fundraising activities:

DALMENY MARKETS

NDTC has been running a stall at the Dalmeny Makers Market, the second Sunday of each month, for several years. Up until 2020, when everything went pear-shaped, this stall provided about 50% of the annual income for NDTC. Surpluses in previous years enabled NDTC to give monies to AWL Head Office for the vital work they do rescuing and rehoming animals across the state. Sadly the lockdowns these past two years have meant that income from this source has been greatly reduced. Also sadly, December will be the last markets for NDTC unless we can attract willing volunteers. Yve and Carol are retiring and wish to convey their sincere thanks to all the wonderful donors who grew and made of goods for sale – especially Maree and Bob, Jenny, Tanya and Peter Nelipa, and Jo Barrett.

Would you like to run this monthly market stall for NDTC in 2022?

Please contact us on 0458 953 281 for further information.

RECYCLING PROGRAM

Most recently NDTC has started a recycling program. Thanks to the installation of the Bottle Bank at Narooma Plaza, handlers have been encouraged to bring their recycled bottles, cans and plastics to Saturday at training. Our willing Secretary Carol Hellmers collects them in her garage and once or twice a month, depending on the volume, deposits them all. Each item is worth 10 cents, so volume of goods is the key to success with this program. The festive season is about to arrive, so it would be great if you could save these refundable items across the holiday and bring along in February OR

**Deliver to Carol in Narooma
Phone 0458 953 281 for address**

MEET THE AGILITY INSTRUCTORS – Peter Nelipa and Kathryn McKellar



NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB 2022 CALENDAR

Correct as at 26 November 2021

- FEB 5** 2pm Obedience - **New GREEN CLASS Registrations**
3.30pm Instructor Meeting
- February 12 2pm Obedience
3.30pm Agility (Trailer – Kath)
- February 19 2pm Obedience including Rally O - 2pm Blue, 2.30pm Yellow
3.30pm Agility (Trailer – Kath)
- February 26 2pm Obedience including Rally O - 2pm Blue, 2.30pm Yellow, 3pm Red/Black
- MARCH 5** 2pm Obedience
3.30pm Agility (Trailer – Kath)
- March 12 2pm Obedience including Rally O - 2pm Green, 2.20pm Blue, 2.40pm Yellow
3.30pm Agility (Trailer – Kath)
- March 19 2pm Obedience including Rally O - 2pm Blue, 2.30pm Yellow, 3pm Red/Black
- March 26 2pm Obedience
2pm 1ST RALLY O COMPETITION - Blue/Yellow/Red/Black
- APRIL 2** 2pm Obedience - **New GREEN CLASS Registrations**
3.30pm Instructor Meeting
- April 9 2pm Obedience
3.30pm Agility (Trailer – Peter)
- April 16 **EASTER LONG WEEKEND - NO CLASSES**
- April 23 **ANZAC DAY LONG WEEKEND - NO CLASSES**
- April 30 2pm Obedience including Rally O – 2pm Blue, 2.30pm Yellow
3.30pm Agility (Trailer – Peter)
- MAY 7** 2pm Obedience including Rally O - 2pm Blue, 2.30pm Yellow
3.30pm 1ST AGILITY COMPETITION /COUNTRY LINK (Trailer – Peter)
- May 14 2pm Obedience including Rally O – 2pm Green, 2.20pm Blue, 2.40pm Yellow, 3pm Red/Black
- May 21 2pm Obedience
3.30pm Agility (Trailer Peter)
- May 28 **2pm - 1ST HANDLERS DAY - Blue/Yellow/ Red/Black**
- JUNE 4** 2pm Obedience - **New GREEN CLASS Registrations**
3.30pm Instructor Meeting
- June 11 **QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LONG WEEKEND - NO CLASSES**
- June 18 2pm Obedience
3.30pm Agility (Trailer – Kath)
- June 25 2pm Obedience
3.30pm Agility (Trailer – Kath)
- JULY 2** 2pm Obedience including Rally O - 2pm Green, 2.20pm Blue, 2.40pm Yellow, 3pm Red/Black
- July 9 2pm Obedience
3.30pm Agility (Trailer – Kath)
- July 16 2pm Obedience including Rally O - 2pm Blue, 2.30pm Yellow, 3pm Red/Black
- July 23 2pm Obedience
2pm - 2ND RALLY O COMPETITION - Blue/Yellow/Red/Black
- July 30 2pm Obedience
3.30pm Agility (Trailer – Kath)