

THE WOOFER



NEWSLETTER OF THE
NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB
ESTABLISHED 2016



October-November-December 2022

FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is the last edition of our Woofers Newsletter for 2022, and my last report as President, so it's a good opportunity to look back on our activities this year and celebrate our successes.

2022 has been a year of rebuilding for Narooma Dog Training Club (NDTC). Our AGM saw a changeover in two key positions, those of Chief Instructor and Deputy Chief Instructor. A public presentation was made to Jean Page, to mark her stepping down from the role of Chief Instructor. Jean took over this role in 2019 and was almost immediately faced with the challenges of managing our training programs through two uncertain and rocky years affected by Covid lockdowns, 2020 and 2021. Jean was well supported by Deputy Chief Instructor Yve Robinson, and also a dedicated team of volunteer Instructors. 2022 began with a positive outlook thanks to Jean and Yve, who resigned from the job of Deputy Chief Instructor at the same time. Enter Pam Rowley, interim Chief Instructor, and Kathryn McKellar, who both stepped up to the plate at the AGM to steer us through to the end of 2022. But of course, life happens! After just two months in the job, Pam stepped aside due to family and work pressures, and to spend time with her new border collie puppy "Timmie". Kathryn McKellar now holds the title of Chief Instructor, with Instructor Kay Davidson as her 2IC. Once again the wonderful volunteers of Narooma Dog Training Club have demonstrated their adaptability and resilience in the face of unforeseen change.

We finish the year on a positive note, despite the inclement weather and bouts of illness amongst the Instructor team. Two Rally Obedience Competitions have been completed, along with two Agility and Country Link Agility Competitions. Two Handlers Days were also reinstated this year, facilitating the presentation of trophies for Obedience at the upcoming Dogs' Christmas Party. We haven't been able to hold this fun afternoon since 2019, so we hope you can keep the date free. Details are inside this issue.

This issue is also a great opportunity for me to publicly thank our dedicated team of Instructors (Kathryn McKellar, Jean Page, Yve Robinson, Kay Davidson, Peter Nelipa). And behind the scene the hard working members of our honorary Committee - Peter Nelipa Treasurer, Carol Hellmers Secretary/Publicity Officer, Kay Davidson WH&S Officer and Val McCauley Vice President. NDTC's training programs are also fabulously supported by other wonderful volunteers – Alexis Swadling (who is also a Trainee Instructor) and Jo Barrett, who both help with the ground set up each week; Wayne Perry who garages our agility trailer and equipment; and Jock McKellar, who brings the trailer to NATA Oval when required. Finally, many thanks to and you, dog lovers, who have chosen NDTC to help you train your four-legged friend. I wish all of you a very Happy Christmas and New Year. We hope that you will continue training your dog at home during the holiday period, and that you will rejoin NDTC for what looks to be a promising program in 2023.

Steve Genner
President



**Narooma Dog Training Club,
a Branch of the NSW Animal Welfare League,
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, safety check on the grounds, selling dog 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/Publicity	Treasurer	WHS Officer
Steve Genner	Carol Hellmers	Peter Nelipa	Kay Davidson
Vice President	Val McCauley		
Chief Instructor	Kathryn McKellar	Deputy Chief Instructor	Kay Davidson
Instructors	Yve Robinson (Obedience) Jean Page (Obedience)	Peter Nelipa (Obedience/Agility)	Trainee Instructor Alexis Swadling (Obedience)
Guest Instructors	Amanda Doust, Geoff Chivall		
Dog Equipment	Agility Trailer	Woofers Editors	
Kay Davidson	Jock McKellar	Yve Robinson/Carol Hellmers	
Registration Assistant	Photographer	Other NDTC Volunteers	
Val McCauley	Rosy Williams	Jo Barrett, Wayne Perry	

Dog Training Enquiries: 0458 953 281

Training times: Every Saturday, weather permitting.

Obedience: 2pm - 3pm

Rally Obedience: In class 2pm - pm

Agility: 3.30pm - 4.30pm, as per the Calendar on back page

Rain Cancellation: Please ring NDTC phone – 0458 953 281 after Midday on the day

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 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 2023

Annual registration fees for renewing handlers remain unchanged.

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

Half Yearly registration for renewing handlers commences from 1 July.

Weekly Ground Fee is increased to \$5.00 per dog.

You can join any of the training on offer for this weekly fee.

FROM THE CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

Well here we are nearing the end of another challenging year. Despite what Covid or the weather has thrown at us we have persevered and had many enjoyable Saturday training days with our dogs.

Narooma Dog Training Club is a Branch of Animal Welfare League NSW. Recently Carol Hellmers and I attended the annual AWL NSW conference in Sydney, where we gave a presentation on what we do in our branch. We are the only branch that specialises solely in dog obedience training. We presented a PowerPoint presentation on our history, achievements and our belief that supporting the bond between our handlers and their well-behaved dogs results in fewer, if any of our dogs being surrendered.

It was very interesting hearing from the other branches throughout the state. A recurring theme was, unfortunately, the lack of volunteer helpers. Large areas of the state are being covered by only a few very dedicated volunteers, and yet 100's of dogs and cats are re-homed every year and many more de-sexed and spayed. AWL NSW does get a small amount of government funds but only a fraction of what is granted to the RSPCA. They must rely on fundraising, membership numbers and donations.

One of the presentations was from the "stars" of the television program "Dog House Australia". Matt and Nicole shared with us the work they do, their success stories and how the show is run behind the scenes. A surprising fact was revealed that despite the shows great success, most people don't realised that the set is actually the head office of AWL NSW at Kemps Creek, and that there are 21 branches all around the state.

When you join up with Narooma Dog Training Club, you become members of our program but not a member of AWL NSW, so if you'd like to support this worthy organisation you may want to consider joining AWL NSW. You can do this on their on-line site or we can give you an application form. Don't forget to nominate Narooma Dog Training Club as the Branch that you wish to support.

Like all the branches we would love more volunteers, whether it's helping with instructing or with our weekly set up, or even with our fundraising. If you feel you would like to be more involved, have a chat with our ladies at the sign in desk, or come along to our monthly meetings at the Narooma Men's Shed, and have a cuppa and bicky, and meet the committee. The meeting dates are on our calendar on the back page.

I hope to see you all at our Christmas Party for a fun end of our year and look forward to seeing you all back next year!

Kathryn McKellar
Chief Instructor

VALE FLO

Flo the wonder dog joined NDTC as a puppy ten years ago. She was much loved for her cheeky and loving personality. We remember fondly the joy and laughs Flo gave us with her unique approach to training and her "high jinks", especially in obedience demonstrations.

Flo was a devoted companion to her owners, Amanda Doust and her husband Wayne, and will be greatly missed.



HANDLERS DAY AWARDS

Blue Class

1st place - Caryl Kitchen & Lexi
2nd place - Caroline Thorncraft & Tilly
3rd place - Janet Linee & Marji

Yellow Class

1st place - Donna McLean & Jarrah
2nd place - Ree Liddell & Laney
3rd place - Ian Murphy & Bessie

Red Class

1st place. - Graham Pinney & Bowie
2nd place - Suzanne Joseph & Josie
3rd place - Alexis Swadling & Rocky

PROMOTIONS – From Blue Class to Yellow Class for 2023

Caryl Kitchen & Lexi
Caroline Thorncraft & Tilly
Janet Linee & Marji
Jenny Helmore & Kara
Sally Dart & Coco
Libby Shortridge & Piccolo

CONGRATULATIONS TO AGILITY WINNERS

NDTC Competition – Off Lead

1st Place – Jessica Boulton and Nova

NDTC Competition – On Lead

1st Place - Sally Dart & Coco
2nd Place - Graham Pinney & Bowie
3rd Place – Caroline Thorncraft & Tilly

WELCOME TO OCTOBER/NOVEMBER NEW HANDLERS TWO GREEN CLASSES!

Tina Harris and Morgan * Jenny Ruhno and Merlin
Julian Porter and Charlie * Karen Dempster and Leo
Olivia Ormonde and Ned * Sue Novak and Gabbie
Vivienne Willson and Gilly * John Lundy and Ruby
Scott Bowden and Millie * Jake Bohl and Opie
Chris Goldsmith and Archie * Rob Ritchie and Esmay
Kristen Smith and Ellie * Kara Discombe and Milo
Pauline Simmonds and Chloe * Kristen Kalkman and Sonny
Tom McLean and Gusti * Jackson O'Brien and Mystique
Malcolm Baddeley and Barnum * Jim Harper and Jayd
Nicky Brodie and Frankie * Jeannine Russack and Ronny
Christine Berry and Amber

2022 DOGS CHRISTMAS PARTY
2pm - 4.30pm Saturday 3rd December
NATA OVAL



Please bring a paper plate of your favourite party food to share.

Also a hat, sunscreen, chair and/or picnic rug.

And ... your dog and your family!

- * Games for People and Dogs
- * Fancy Dress - Best Combo Outfit of Handler and Dog
1st, 2nd and 3rd Prizes to be won
- * Trophy Presentations
- * Afternoon Tea & Lucky Door Prize to end the Day

Wet weather venue – advised via email at midday on the day!

Narooma Men's Shed 4A Barker Parade
(Sorry no dogs allowed at this venue)

RESPECT THE RED

From time to time you will see a dog that is sporting a red coat at dog training or maybe when you are out walking your dog. There are many reasons why a dog is wearing a red coat – they could be very nervous, or have a specific behaviour problem that our trainers are helping their handler work through. Or they may just be needing time and space to settle into a group or public situation. Whatever the reason, please respect the red. Give the dog space and do not approach or allow your dog to approach, unless you are specifically invited to do so by the owner.

THANK YOU



SPECIAL THANKS TO ROSY WILLIAMS FOR ALL HER WONDERFUL IMAGES - 2022

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR DOG GOES MISSING

On September 24 Peter Glover and his five sons woke to discover their five-year old black Labrador, Casey, had wandered off from their holiday accommodation in Bermagui. Casey is the companion dog to 12-year-old Juan Glover. There were numerous reported sightings of Casey on that morning but none of them led to her whereabouts. Pretty soon Bermagui's main street was lined with professionally printed placards featuring Casey's photo and offering a \$500 reward. Despite their best efforts, the Glovers had to return to their home in the Canberra area without Casey. By then Peter had increased the reward to \$1,000 and engaged a pet detective. To everyone's relief a ranger from Bega rang Peter on Tuesday October 4 saying Casey had been found in Cobargo. Casey had evidently been well looked after while she was apart from her family.

Peter has the following tips for anyone whose dog goes missing:

- Call the pounds (Council, Animal Welfare League, etc)
- Call the local Vets
- Put up as many posts as possible on Facebook
- Put up posters around the area your dog went missing
- "The one thing we didn't get time to follow up was looking at security cameras to give us an indication of where she was heading," Peter said
- Organise a letter drop into everyone's mailboxes through the Post Office
- Keep your eyes on Gumtree over time, because there are some people who take dogs to breed them or fight. "I found that from my own research," Peter said.
- Get into the microchip register because the Vet will report the dog as lost
- Time is of the essence. Not only do people forget details, but in holiday destinations witnesses move on, animals can travel further and sadly animal thieves are given more time to hide animals.

At no point did Peter give up hope of finding Casey. "I was determined we would find her."
By Marion Williams



Juan is reunited
with his companion dog
Casey.



REPORTS OF DOG ATTACKS IN EUROBODALLA

We are about to enter the Christmas break and can expect Interstate and City visitors to arrive with their dogs for their holidays. A few dog attacks have been reported in our area, none to my knowledge serious. We all need to be aware that suddenly you and your pet may find yourselves in a confrontation, which can be frightening.

The NATA Oval is a public park as well as a designated dog leash free area. Always check that dog free areas are being used sensibly and that dogs are playing under the watchful eye of an owner. Check that all gates are shut before releasing your dog. Many parents also take their children to NATA Oval, and can easily be frightened by boisterous dogs.

Some beaches are time share only so do check with Council before you let your dog loose. Kianga Reef Beach is leash free all year round and is very popular with local and visitor owners. Try and pick a time when it's not too busy and watch out for any hazards, and make sure your dog will come back to you when called, then you can take control of most situations. If the beach is close to a busy road, as is Kianga Reef which is reached by negotiating a long flight of steps, always put your pet back on the lead before leaving the beach area. I have seen many dogs run ahead of the owners and straight onto the road. A recipe for disaster. It can happen so quickly.

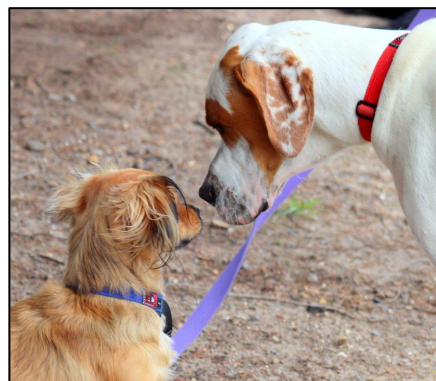
If you are unfortunate to be confronted by an off leash dog that rushes up to your dog suddenly, then do try and stay calm. Tell your dog to Sit/Stay beside you, stand still, while the owner collects their dog. DO NOT SHOUT at the offending animal, this only rouses your dog as well as the offender. Ask the owner politely to put his dog on the lead and remind him that all dogs should be on the lead in public places. The Council Rangers will be about and the fines are quite large.

The above all sounds quite civilised but sometimes dog attacks get aggressive and not all owners are interested in watching their animal's behaviour. You may happen to own a dog that is shy, nervous or overprotective of you. If the situation gets out of control, make sure you don't get between the two dogs. Let your dog loose so that it can decide whether to fight or run, most dogs prefer the latter. Most dogs do not fight once the other dog has submitted by rolling over onto its back. In the event that your dog gets injured and needs veterinary attention try to get the name, address and phone number of the dog's owner, so the vet expenses are charged to them.

Just be aware of these situations, and both you and your dog will have a very happy relationship.
Yve Robinson



Making Friends!



SUMMER SAFETY FOR YOUR DOG

Did you know it takes only 10 minutes for the temperature inside a car to skyrocket by 20 degrees? That's why it's so important NEVER to leave pets in a car on a hot day! Dogs left in a parked car in warm temperatures can very quickly become distressed, dehydrated and even suffer organ failure. Unlike us, dogs can't sweat to cool themselves down, so they are more prone to heat stress and more likely to die quickly in hot conditions, especially puppies and older dogs. Signs of heat stress are excessive panting, reddened gums, blood shot eyes, rapid breathing, salivating, wheezing, vomiting, weakness, staggering and loss of consciousness. If your dog is displaying any of these signs, get them into a cooler location quickly. Wet them down with tap water (not iced water) until their breathing settles down, and offer them a drink of water. If the symptoms persist call your vet for advice.

Here are some easy tips from Instructors of the Narooma Dog Training Club that will help keep your dog cool this Summer:

- Provide shade, and plenty of cool, fresh water.
- Leave your dog in an area that it is well ventilated.
- Keep your dog out of the sun between 10am - 4pm.
- Hot footpaths and sand can burn a dog's feet, so take that walk early in the morning or late in the day, as the sun goes down.
- Give your dog ice blocks to lick. Add vegetable or beef stock and they will love this special treat!

Being sun smart for yourself and your dog will ensure that everyone in the family has a safe and fabulous Summer. On behalf of everyone at the Narooma Dog Training Club Branch of Animal Welfare League, we wish you a wonderful Christmas and New Year.



NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB 2023 CALENDAR

DRAFT – subject to change

February	RETURNING HANDLERS REGISTRATION RENEWAL FEES DUE THIS MONTH
February 7	New GREEN CLASS Registrations - Obedience ONLY
February 11	Obedience, Agility
February 17	Branch Meeting – Midday, Narooma Men's Shed - 14A Barker Parade, Narooma
February 18	Obedience
February 25	Obedience, Agility
March 4	Obedience, Agility
March 11	Obedience
March 17	Branch Meeting – Midday, Narooma Men's Shed – 14A Barker Parade, Narooma
March 18	Obedience, Agility
March 25	Obedience, Agility