

THE WOOFER



NEWSLETTER OF THE
NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB
ESTABLISHED 2016

January - February - March 2025

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to 2025! We are off to a great start with our training programs in what promises to be a good year ahead. The weather gods have been kind to us and we are making excellent progress on a project that will deliver an on-site storage shed for all our equipment. More on that inside this issue ...

So, what is our program all about? Primarily we aim to help you and your dog form a strong and lasting bond that results in years of enjoyment for you both. We want to help you, to help your dog learn good canine manners, be well socialized and be a good companion. Our Saturday training days should be fun times for your dog – most of them do get very excited on arrival at our sign in table. It's lovely for volunteers working in that area – Carol, Amanda, Val and Cheryl – to be greeted so warmly by both dogs and people. But I think our program is about more than training dogs. Getting together each Saturday can be a social time for us humans too. We get to meet new people and their pups, catch up with old friends, have the opportunity to share our love of the canine world, and when needed, show concern for each other. It is easy to forget that each of us has a life outside of dog training, where both good and not so good things do happen.

If you are new to our program, you may not realise that everyone who helps on the day is a volunteer. This includes the very important Instructor team. Currently we have six experienced Instructors who are 'rostered' across our five levels of Obedience classes. We are fortunate to also have one Instructor in training for Obedience (Louise Webb) and one Instructor in Training for Agility (Jessica Boulton). Thank you, Louise and Jessica for taking on this challenge. It requires time and dedication on the part of trainees and we are grateful that you are willing to learn and take on the responsibility. We are also very fortunate to have guest Instructors help us from time to time. The most recent was the helping hand Jeff Chivell gave to the top classes (Red and Black Class) on Saturday 8 March. Jeff is a member of the Horsham Dog Training Club in Victoria, and a highly experienced and very respected dog trainer. Thanks Jeff, for taking the time to visit us and deliver a great lesson.

So, on that high note, it just remains for me to say – enjoy this Newsletter and enjoy your training. If you haven't already done so, please check us out and LIKE us on Facebook.

Wayne Perry
President

Jeff Chivell (centre) with
NDTC Instructor and
Trainee Agility Instructor
Jessica Boulton



ABOUT NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB

Training starts at 10am. Instructors have other jobs before that time, such as registration, safety check on the grounds, selling dog equipment etc. Where possible, your arrival by 9.45am will enable us to start all classes on time.

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

President	Vice President	Secretary/Publicity Officer	Treasurer
Wayne Perry	Valerie McCauley	Carol Hellmers	Peter Nelipa
WHS Officer	Alexis Swadling	Assistant Secretary	Cheryl Wakeham
Chief Instructor	Kathryn McKellar	Deputy Chief Instructor	Kay Davidson
Instructors	Jean Page, Alexis Swadling Peter Nelipa, Wayne Perry	Trainee Obedience Instructor	Louise Webb
		Trainee Agility Instructor	Jessica Boulton
Guest Instructors	Amanda Doust, Jeff Chivell		
Equipment	Agility Trailer	Woofer Editor	
Kay Davidson	Jock McKellar/Geoff Pike	Carol Hellmers	
Registration Assistants		Photography	
Valerie McCauley, Amanda Cassidy, Cheryl Wakeham		Rosy Williams	

Dog Training Enquiries: 0458 953 281

Training times: Every Saturday, weather permitting.

Obedience and Rally Obedience: 10-11am

Agility: 11.30am - 12.30pm, as per the Calendar on back page.

Rain Cancellation: Please ring NDTC phone – 0458 953 281 after 9am, 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 handlers are asked to wear their name badges to all NDTC classes.
- Handlers 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 handler - 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 2025

Annual registration fee for renewing handlers is payable from February 2025.

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

Half Year registration fees are reduced for renewing handlers, commencing from 1 August.

Basic Obedience Program - \$50 for the 2 month program. Bookings essential.

Ground Fee - a fee of \$5.00 per handler is payable each week on attendance.

FROM THE CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

As many of you know, I've been on holidays travelling the countryside with my dog, Suzie Q so I thought I'd talk about the pros and cons of travelling with a dog.

Taking your dog on holidays with you has been made a lot easier in recent years with many caravan parks allowing dogs, not just in tents, caravans and motor homes, but they often have dedicated pet friendly cabins as well. There are also motels and other rental accommodations that welcome your dog. All it takes is a bit of planning and often pre-booking as these rooms/cabins are very popular. When staying in accommodation, make sure to bring sheets or blankets to protect any furniture. You won't be able to wash your pets bedding either so make sure you bring spare dog blankets too, if necessary.

When staying in caravan parks, dogs must be on lead at all times except when in your accommodation, so the purchase of lightweight portable fencing can allow your dog a bit more freedom.

You may also be surprised about the amount of attractions that allow your dog to accompany you. The beach of course is a favourite, but we have taken Suzie Q down a mine in Lightening Ridge, on a paddle steamer in Echuca, into Old Dubbo Gaol, onto steam trains at the Junee Railway Museum and so much more. Always ask as you may be surprised.

Don't forget, when travelling long distances, to make regular stops to toilet your dog and offer water. It's often a great opportunity to see little towns or scenic spots that you may have otherwise, just driven past.

The down side is that you aren't allowed to go into any National Parks with your dog and there will always be activities that don't allow you to include your dog. You will also find that you cannot leave your dog unattended at any time so all of this can sometimes limit your activities, although you may be able to find a local dog daycare centre to help out on occasions. Another solution could be to travel with friends so you can take turns looking after the dog/s.

But despite the occasional inconvenience, we love to travel with Suzie Q and have created many great holiday memories.

Kathryn McKellar
Chief Instructor



Thanks Kath, for the photos!

PROMOTIONS AT THE END OF 2024



Blue to Yellow Class

Lee Torr & Tilly
Tania Lingard & Bula
Geoff Pike & Archie
Val McCauley & Sasha
Jean Page & Bear

Yellow to Red Class

Fiona de Preu & Dusty
Gill McPadden & Keeley
Judy Betts & Titan
Sally Dart & Coco
Ros Johnson & Archie

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2024 TROPHY WINNERS!

OBEDIENCE

Terry Watson Memorial Trophy – Christine Berry and Amber
Most Improved Handler and Dog – Ros Johnson and Archie
Chief Instructor's Encouragement Award – Tania Lingard and Bula

AGILITY

Trish Carty Memorial Trophy – Elisabeth Newfield and Kai
Most Improved Handler and Dog – Fiona de Preu and Dusty
Chief Instructor's Encouragement Award – Stuart Fagan and Morgan

RALLY OBEDIENCE

Intermediate Handler and Dog – Gill McPadden and Keeley
Experienced Handler and Dog – Kara Munn and Gus
Chief Instructor's Encouragement Award – Judy Betts and Titan
Country Link Trophy – Jessica Boulton and Nova

YVE ROBINSON MEMORIAL TROPHY

Awarded to Louise Webb and Lacey
for the Most Improved Rescue Dog and Handler

This is the first time this trophy has been awarded. It is given in memory of Yve Robinson, who founded the Narooma Dog Training Club nearly 25 years ago. Yve held a special place in her heart for all dogs, but especially those who were rehomed or rescued by caring handlers. Her husband Peter, was on hand to make the presentation on 7 December.

Louise has worked hard, showing dedication and immense care in helping Lacey overcome both her physical and psychological challenges. They are very deserving of the award, and the first to have their names engraved on the perpetual trophy. Congratulations! And thanks Louise for this photo of you and Lacey.



“I never met a dog lover I didn’t like.”

Marty Rubin

***“Dogs motivate us to play,
be affectionate, seek adventure and be loyal.”***

Tom Hayden

WELCOME TO NEW HANDLERS

Basic Obedience Program: February/March 2025

Helen Geltch & Buddy

Maben Rees & Charlie

Francesca Rochford and Alan

Mikhaela Sorensen & Finn

Tracey Torrisi & Rocky

Michael Pollack & Ben

Rebecca Joyce & Sadie

Allie Atkin & Daisy

Dianne Blythe & Arthur

Chloe Spear & Sandy

Ro Mueller & Missy

Sad news: Julie Shilling's staffy dog Astra is deceased

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

You might recall that Peter Nelipa, Carol Hellmers and I have been working for the past two years with Council to secure a permanent home for all the gear that our dog club owns and regularly uses. We are delighted to announce that the process of Public Consultation through Council's website is nearing its end. The closing date for submissions to Council is Friday 21 March. Once this process is complete, we envisage that the building of the storage shed (mentioned in my message on the front page) will commence, subject to final quotes from suppliers and their availability to undertake the construction. There are a few remaining negotiations with Council, which we hope will reach a happy conclusion. After which we can get the building started.

Meantime we continue to add to the funds raised for this project, thanks to the fabulous support many of you have given over the 8 years that we have been "saving our pennies" for this project. The storage shed will be a huge help to our volunteers who currently store all the gear in their garages and bring it to training every Saturday. For them, the storage shed can't come soon enough!

Wayne Perry, President

THANKS FOR THE OLD BALLS!

The Committee of Narooma Dog Training Club would like to thank the lovely people of the Narooma Tennis Club for the donation of old tennis balls – no longer fit for the human game, but perfectly suited for playing with our canine friends. We sell these in bags of 5 balls, for just \$3 a bag. We have plenty right now, available every Saturday morning that we are at NATA Oval. Each \$3 goes towards helping us with ongoing costs such as hire of NATA Oval, admin consumables like your badges, and the purchase of new equipment for the agility program. A welcome donation from the Narooma Tennis Club.

PHOTOS from the DOGS' CHRISTMAS PARTY – 7 December 2024

Thanks to Rosy Williams for this photos which make up this snapshot of a fabulous morning!







NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR WAR ANIMALS

Monday 24 February 2025

Sincere thanks to Rosy Williams for representing Narooma Dog Training Club on this special day at Club Narcoma. Sadly, the attendance was low for this moving ceremony which commemorates the amazing feats of endurance, suffering and loyalty of the many animals who gave their all, and are still giving their all, for us in times of conflict. Rosy laid a lovely wreath on our behalf, adorned with purple flowers and ribbon – the colour chosen nationally to commemorate this occasion. Thanks Rosy – we appreciate your efforts on our behalf. In 2026, this event will again take place on 24 February – the date remains the same every year.



The wonderful Rosy, on the left!

NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB 2025 CALENDAR (Subject to change and/or cancellation due to weather conditions)

March 22	Obedience, Agility
March 29	Obedience, Agility
April 5	Obedience (BASIC OBEDIENCE 2 Registration) Agility
April 11	Branch Meeting – 11am, Narooma Men's Shed
April 12	Obedience, Agility
April 19	EASTER LONG WEEKEND – NO CLASSES
April 26	Obedience, <u>1ST AGILITY COMPETITION</u> and <u>COUNTRY LINK</u>
May 3	Obedience, Agility (1 st Agility Comp RAIN DATE)
May 10	Obedience, Agility
May 16	Branch Meeting – 11am, Narooma Men's Shed
May 17	Obedience, <u>1ST HANDLERS DAY</u> (No Agility)
May 24	Obedience, Agility (1 st Handlers Day RAIN DATE)
May 31	Obedience, Agility

**Narooma Dog Training Club,
a Branch of the NSW Animal Welfare League,
is on Facebook!
Please LIKE us and SHARE us with your friends**

