

THE WOOFER



NEWSLETTER OF THE
NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB
AWL BRANCH ESTABLISHED 2016

October-November-December 2024

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Good day to all. We are nearing the end of another year, and what a year it has been. Soon I will be attending the AWL State Conference in Sydney (14th November to 17th November) with our vivacious Assistant Secretary Cheryl Wakeham. I will miss my Blue Class that weekend – I hope they miss me too! My role will be to network with other branches and their representatives, and promote the work of our Branch. We are unique, being the only AWL Branch that offers dog training. I have a loud voice and will let everyone know what are fabulous job we do!

My thanks to all of you who have registered this year – that's 104 dogs registered which exceeds our annual training target. This is right up there for me as an achievement, and I am pleased for all of you responsible people, well done. Included in this number are 9 rehomed dogs - nearly ten percent of our annual registration. On behalf of those dogs who have found new homes, Odessa and I thank their handlers. For those who don't know, Odessa is my rehomed darling Great Dane.

My next task in this message is to issue a big "thank you" to all donors and Handlers, past and current. All Handlers have contributed to our fundraising efforts through the payment of registration fees. It has taken us 7 years, but we have finally reached our fundraising goal - which makes the next thing I talk about possible.

The exciting news! Our PAWS/storage shed project is soon to be put online by Eurobodalla Shire Council for public consultation. This follows many meetings with Tina Smith and other Council staff, by Carol Hellmers, Peter Nelipa and myself. Hopefully there will be no public objections and our path to construction will be clear for early 2025. A little bit of history ... our dog training club was started over 20 years ago by Yve Robinson (she passed away November 2023). She and all subsequent branch members have always been keen to find a permanent home for the large amount of training equipment that we own. Unfortunately, due to rules governing various parcels of Crown Land around NATA Oval, we have had to trim down our original vision of PAWS to a large storage shed located within the swimming pool precinct, with secure access from the oval. Whilst this is in some ways disappointing, it is a positive step forward for us. It means that the agility trailer will no longer be stored on private property, most recently in a shed at my place. There will be no need for volunteers to keep gear in private garages or the back of their cars, and it will reduce the amount of gear we cart to NATA every Saturday to zero. We will do our best to advise you when the project comes online for comment. If you can navigate your way through Council's website, we would appreciate a thumbs up submission from you.

Lastly, I encourage you all to attend our Dogs Christmas Party with your dog and family. There is no cost for the morning and a lot of fun to be had, including an opportunity to get into the Christmas spirit with the Best Handler and Dog Fancy Dress. I have mine and Odessa's outfit at the ready! We award trophies to Handlers who have excelled over the year, there are games with prizes, and a lucky gate prize. Bring a chair or rug to sit on, a plate of party food to share for morning tea, and your dog/dogs on lead.

The date - Saturday 7 December 10am, finishing at 1pm.

Wayne Perry
President and Instructor



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

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. **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
Assistant Secretary	Cheryl Wakeham	WHS Officer	Alexis Swadling
Chief Instructor	Kathryn McKellar	Deputy Chief Instructor	Kay Davidson
Instructors Peter Nelipa, Jean Page, Wayne Perry, Alexis Swadling			
Trainee Agility Instructor Jessica Boulton			
Guest Instructors Amanda Doust, Jeff Chivell			
Equipment	Agility Trailer	Woofers Editor	
Jean Page	Wayne Perry/Jock McKellar	Carol Hellmers	
Registration Assistants		Photographer	
Valerie McCauley, Amanda Cassidy		Rosy Williams	

Dog Training Enquiries: 0458 953 281

Training times: Every Saturday, weather permitting.

Obedience and Rally Obedience: 10am-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 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.
- 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

NO change from last year.

- Annual registration fee for renewing handlers is payable from 1 February 2025.
- \$40 Adult; \$25 Concession/Junior (over 9 and under 18 years); \$60 Family (any combination)
- Half Year registration fees are reduced for renewing handlers, commencing from 1 August.
- Basic Obedience Program - \$50 for 2month program. Booking is essential.

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

FROM THE CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

Here we are with the holidays on our doorstep again so I'd like to remind everyone that having a break from dog training doesn't mean having a break from training your dog.

There are many ways to incorporate your training into your day-to-day life. Many of us ask our dogs to sit for their dinner but this is the perfect time to practice a range of commands.

You can ask your dog to "sit" then "drop" and then "sit" again. Ask your dog to "stand" and "stay" and then move their dinner bowl a distance away before giving them a release command like "okay". Other commands that the more advanced handlers could use for giving treats or raw bones could be "come forth", "finish", "finish left" and "leave" - maybe even practice your long sits and drops.

I'd also like to remind everyone to be careful about the festive foods that you may want to share with your dog. We're all aware that chocolate is poisonous to dogs, but there are other dangerous foods to watch out for as well like raisins, currants and sultanas that will be found in Christmas cake and mince pies. Many lollies, such as candy canes, can contain xylitol which is deadly to dogs. Also macadamia nuts, onions, leeks and cooked bones are all harmful to dogs. There are also choking hazards like stone fruit and corn cobs to watch out for. Remember dogs can be opportunistic and will help themselves if given a chance.

That being said, I'd like to wish everyone a relaxing and fun break and don't forget to show off you and your dog's new skills to friends and family that may be visiting.

See you all next year! We begin on Saturday 1st February 2025.
Kathryn McKellar - Chief Instructor



NAROOMA MEN's SHED

We take this opportunity to thank the wonderful people at the Narooma Men's Shed for the use of their 'lunch room' once a month for our Branch Meetings. At the October meeting we were fortunate to be introduced to Jo van der Plaats, Liberal Candidate for Eden-Monaro, who was visiting the Men's Shed that day. It was terrific to have the opportunity to tell her about our canine education program. All handlers are welcome to join us at these monthly meetings, where we discuss Branch business over a cup of tea. A detailed financial report is given by our Treasurer Peter Nelipa, who takes care of the banking, makes payments and generally oversees the health of our finances. Peter also orders the canine equipment that we sell at training, takes care of donated recycling that generates income for us, and reports directly to the AWL Head Office in Kemps Creek. Thankyou Peter – you are a highly valued, quiet achiever!



Left to right: Wayne, Jo van der Plaats, Wally from the Men's Shed, Carol, Alexis and Kath.

CONGRATULATIONS!

3rd HANDLER'S DAY 2024

Blue Class

- 1st - Jean Page & Bear (Instructor)
- 1st - Tania Lingard & Bula
- 2nd - Geoff Pike & Archie
- 3rd - Roslyn Johnson & Archie

Red Class

- 1st - Louise Webb & Lacey
- 2nd - Alex Newfield & Emma
- 3rd - Kara Munn & Gus

Yellow Class

- 1st - Judy Betts & Titan
- 2nd - Fiona De Preu & Dusty
- 3rd - Val McCauley & Sasha

Black Class

- Tied 1st - Christine Berry & Amber
- Tied 1st - Elizabeth Newfield & Kai
- 3rd - Graham Pinney & Bowie

2nd RALLY O COMPETITION 2024

Yellow Class

- 1st - Ros Johnson & Archie
- 2nd - Gill McPadden & Kelley
- 3rd - Judy Betts & Titan

Red Class

- 1st - Kara Munn & Gus
- 2nd - Trisha Reid & Magpie
- 3rd - Deb Burgess & Sherlock

3rd RALLY O COMPETITION 2024

Yellow Class

- 1st - Gill McPadden & Keeley
- 2nd - Judy Betts & Titan
- 3rd - Fiona de Preu & Dusty

Red Class

- 1st - Kara Munn & Gus
- 2nd - Martin Oswin & Ella
- 3rd - Ian Murphy & Bessie

Black Class

- 1st - Elisabeth Newfield & Kai
- 2nd - Christine Berry & Amber
- 3rd - Ruth Watson & Bailey

3rd AGILITY COMPETITION 2024

On lead

- 1st - Fiona De Preu & Dusty
- 2nd - Ros Johnson & Archie
- 3rd - Geoff Pike & Archie

Off lead

- 1st - Jessica Boulton & Bindi
- 2nd - Elizabeth Newfield & Kai
- 3rd - Jessica Boulton & Nova

Country Link Competition

- 1st - Jessica Boulton & Bindi
- 2nd - Jessica Boulton & Nova
- 3rd - Alex Newfield & Emma



*Left to right – Alex & Emma, Elizabeth & Kai
Fiona & Dusty, Ros & Archie – proud winners!*



RECENT CLASS PROMOTIONS

Green to Blue

Helen Bush & Velma
Geoff Pike & Archie
Arno Schaaf & Jazzy

Blue to Yellow

Debbie McCarthy & Busta
Kalina Reid & Raven



The Instructor Team!

WELCOME TO NEW HANDLERS

Basic Handling Skills Program: October/November 2024

Kay Buckley & Lottie
Richard and Karen Busuttill & Boston
Chris and Jenna Wilson & Scout
Kim Mangan & Sniffer
Paddy Compton & Tassie
Belle and Grace Concannon & Luna
Karen Welsh & Bernie
Charms Battis & Bear
Amber Grant & Daisy
Jude Graham & Sunnie
Julia Walsh & Ziggy
Sarah Davies & Humphrey



THANK YOU ROSY WILLIAMS, FOR ALL YOUR WONDERFUL PHOTOS



2024 DOGS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Don't miss the final Saturday of our 2024 program.

It's fun, friendly and free!

We announce and present trophies for Obedience, Agility and Rally Obedience.

Please join us to celebrate a successful year.



SUMMERTIME FUN AND SAFETY

Here are a couple of tips to keep your dog healthy, happy and safe through the Summer months:

1. Paralysis ticks

The south coast is a hot spot for the deadly paralysis tick. Your vet can advise on the most appropriate preventative measure for your dog. It is important to keep these medications up to date.

2. Snakes!

Black snakes and tiger snakes are a problem in our neck of the bush. Please take care that your dog does not go adventuring without your supervision. Should your dog get bitten, a fast ride to the Vet for immediate attention is required.

3. Allergies and Hot Spots

Hot conditions, combined with humidity, can cause havoc with the condition of a dog's skin. Any sign of redness, itching, excessive scratching or hair loss should be taken seriously and may require veterinary intervention.

4. Heat Stress

As the weather heats up, monitor your dog for heat stress and avoid heavy exercise in the heat of the day. Provide cool shelter, plenty of water, and check the temperature of the road/pavement you walk on, as the paws can easily be burnt. You may also need to take extra rest stops in the shade of a tree.

NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB 2025 CALENDAR

(Subject to change and/or cancellation due to weather conditions)

February 1 Obedience (**BASIC OBEDIENCE 1 and ALL REGISTRATIONS**)
February 8 Obedience, Agility
February 14 Branch Meeting – 11am Narooma Men’s Shed
February 15 Obedience, Agility
February 22 Obedience, Agility
February 24 National Animal Remembrance Day

March 1 Obedience, Agility
March 8 Obedience, Agility
March 14 Branch Meeting – 11am, Narooma Men’s Shed
March 15 Obedience, Agility
March 22 Obedience, Agility
March 29 Obedience, Agility



April 5 Obedience (**BASIC OBEDIENCE 2 Registrations**), Agility
April 12 Obedience, Agility
April 19 Branch Meeting – 11am, Narooma Men’s Shed
April 19 **EASTER LONG WEEKEND – NO CLASSES**
April 26 Obedience, 1ST AGILITY COMPETITION and COUNTRY LINK

May 3 Obedience, Agility (1st Agility Comp RAIN DATE)
May 10 Obedience, Agility
May 16 Branch Meeting – 11am, Narooma Men’s Shed
May 17 Obedience, 1ST HANDLERS DAY (No Agility)
May 24 Obedience, Agility (1st Handlers Day RAIN DATE)
May 31 Obedience, Agility

“We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals”

Immanuel Kant

“Outside of a dog, a book is a man’s best friend.

Inside of a dog, it’s too dark to read!”

Groucho Marx

“Old dogs like old shoes, are comfortable.

They might be a bit out of shape and a little worn around the edges, but they fit well”

Bonnie Wilcox



Narooma Dog Training Club
is on Facebook!
Please LIKE us and SHARE us
with your friends