

DOG TRACKS



Message from the President

Well we are certainly in unprecedented times with social distancing due to the spread of COVID-19.

That means that for now we can't interact face to face at dog training sessions.

It does however give us an opportunity to spend more quality time with our pooches.

We can make day to day interactions mini training sessions even if you are restricted to your house and backyard.

It's not hard to tell that your best friend has a never-ending supply of energy and loves playing with you and anyone who will give them the time of day. To help use up any excess energy, often displayed by destructive boredom tendencies, it's wise to incorporate a playground area for your dog. We're not talking about a jungle gym with slides and a sandbox – rather, something more 'doggie appropriate'.

Some ideas to consider could be ramps, tunnels, low obstacles to jump over (or walk over for an under twelve-month-old pup with his underdeveloped bones).

Some dogs are completely afraid of getting anywhere near water let alone the hose but if you have a dog that loves the water, it could be a fun idea to create a small pond or even an inflatable pool that your pooch can splash in during the warmer weather. This is a great way to expend some of their energy while also keeping your pal cool and well hydrated.

Whatever the activities are, aim to make the time with you fun and maybe also instructive!

All the best
Peter Coulthart

With helpful ideas from Peter's Irish Setter

Hunter



FIRST EDUCATION EVENT FOR 2020

GROOMING YOUR DOG

Toni Barnes from Paws 4 Effect came down to Deep Creek on Sunday March 1st to give everyone a talk on caring for their dog – from a groomer's perspective. About 35 people attended the event where they learned the importance of looking after their dog's coat, skin, ears, eyes and nails.

Toni's top tips were:

1. Always use a good quality pet shampoo and conditioner – NEVER use human shampoo or conditioner
2. Dogs can be washed as often as you like or they need, providing you're using a good shampoo and conditioner
3. When washing your dog start at the head and work back towards the tail.
4. Use a good quality ear cleaner (you can put the cleaner in their ears before you start washing, allowing time for the solution to dissolve the wax, etc) then after the bath use a baby wipe to clean the ears – never stick anything INTO your dogs ears to clean them.
5. Do not pluck the hair in your dog's ears – as this can cause infections. If you suspect your dog has an ear irritation see your vet.
6. All dogs need to be brushed regularly, they all release their coats (i.e. shed/drop hair) short haired breeds tend to drop their hair, where as those with fleece or wool, e.g. Poodles, Poodle crosses etc. the wool/fleece stays within the coat.
7. For long coated dogs a slicker brush needs to be used in conjunction with a comb to ensure you are getting down to the dogs' skin. The slicker brush only works on the top layer
8. Also, for longer haired breeds make sure that the hair between the toes is kept short, also around the eyes to stop irritation
9. Check your dog's nails regularly, especially the dew claw – either clip the nails yourself or get a professional to do it
10. Make sure your dog is comfortable having their feet held and played with, as this makes nail clipping easier for you, or whomever is clipping the nails and is far less stressful for your dog.



After her talk she offered free nail clipping which was very popular



A huge thank you to Toni Barnes

Paws 4 Effect
1/57 Kalang Rd,
Elanora Heights
Tel: 9913 1170

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AND PETS

In response to the recent outbreak of a novel coronavirus, the WSAVA (World Small Animal Veterinary Association) has released an Advisory to assist vets in informing pet owners in this rapidly evolving situation. We have paraphrased the information below in our information segment.

If you are in a high-risk group for being affected by COVID-19, such as those with concurrent health concerns or over the age of 70, please contact your vet regarding the following to assist in minimising the risk of exposure to yourself and others:

- Minimal handling drop-off/pick-ups for pets, to avoid sitting in a waiting room and to minimise contact with staff members or other clients

- Consultations via video call or telephone, with medications provided to pick up from our pick-up box

- Purchase a larger supply of your pet's regular medication or food to reduce the necessity of visits

Please note that the recent reports of canine coronavirus outbreaks in greyhounds in some areas of Australia (such as Victoria) refer to a type of canine coronavirus that is unrelated to COVID-19.

WHAT IS COVID-19?

Coronaviruses belong to the family Coronaviridae. Alpha- and beta-coronaviruses usually infect mammals, whilst gamma- and delta-coronaviruses usually infect birds and fish. Canine coronavirus, which can cause mild diarrhoea, and feline coronavirus, which can cause feline infectious peritonitis (FIP), are both alpha-coronaviruses. These coronaviruses are not associated with the current coronavirus outbreak.

Until the appearance of this new coronavirus (COVID-19), which is a beta-coronavirus, there were only six known coronaviruses capable of infecting humans and causing respiratory disease, including SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus, identified in 2002/2003) and MERS (Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus, identified in 2012). The new coronavirus, COVID-19, is genetically more related to SARS than MERS, though both are beta-coronaviruses with their origin in bats.

Dr Vanessa Barrs, a Professor & Specialist in Infectious Diseases in Animals, and Chair Professor of Companion Animal Health & Disease at the City University of Hong Kong, has stated in an [article in the Wall Street Journal](#) (See link Below) that pets are very unlikely to be contributing to the spread of COVID-19. It may be possible for the coronavirus to infect dogs because a cell receptor protein (known as ACE2), which the pathogen attaches to, has similarities in dogs and humans. This doesn't mean, however, that dogs can get sick from the virus or transmit the virus back to humans.

CAN COVID-19 INFECT PETS?

Currently there is no evidence that companion animals can be infected with or spread COVID-19.

SHOULD I AVOID CONTACT WITH PETS OR ANIMALS IF I AM SICK WITH COVID-19?

The WSAVA has quoted the CDC (Centre for Disease Control in the United States of America) recommendation in their response to this question, which is to avoid contact with pets and other animals if you are sick with COVID-19. This is not based on current information but rather on the potential risk that pets could transmit the virus, as a lot of information is still currently unknown about how COVID-19 behaves. If you would like to read the CDC recommendation see the link below

IF MY PET HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO IS SICK FROM COVID-19, CAN IT SPREAD THE DISEASE TO OTHER PEOPLE?

While we do not yet know for sure, there is no evidence that companion animals can be infected with or spread COVID-19.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY PET DEVELOPS AN UNEXPLAINED ILLNESS AND WAS AROUND A PERSON WITH DOCUMENTED COVID-19 INFECTION?

It is still unknown whether companion animals can get infected by COVID-19; however, if your pet develops an unexplained illness and has been exposed to a person infected with COVID-19, talk to the public health official working with the person infected with COVID-19. They will consult with the local public health veterinarian and will advise you further. If you are advised to take your pet to your local veterinarian, call ahead to inform them that you are coming, so they can arrange an appropriate isolation area. In some cases it may be advisable to take your pet to the Northside Emergency Vet Service (NEVS) instead, for a higher level of isolation care. It is important to remember though that you should only take your pet to a veterinary clinic if you have been instructed to do so by a public health official.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE IN AREAS WHERE THE VIRUS IS ACTIVE?

Currently there is no evidence that pets can be infected with COVID-19. However, the WSAVA advises that in areas where the virus is active pet owners should avoid contact with animals they are unfamiliar with, and should always wash their hands before and after they interact with animals. If owners are sick with COVID-19, they should avoid contact with the animals in their household. If they do need to care for their pet while they are they should wash their hands before and after they interact with them, and wear a facemask.

SHOULD I GET MY DOG VACCINATED AGAINST CORONAVIRUS BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF COVID-19?

The canine coronavirus vaccines available are intended to protect against canine enteric coronavirus infection and are not licensed for protection against respiratory infections. There is no evidence that vaccinating dogs with these vaccines will provide cross-protection against the infection by COVID-19, since the enteric and respiratory viruses are distinctly different variants of the coronavirus.

If you have any more questions regarding COVID-19, you should contact your vet, or Collaroy Plateau Veterinary Hospital on (02) 9982 9439.

Dr Caroline Wood, 3rd March 2020

COLLARROY PLATEAU VETERINARY HOSPITAL (CPVH)



UpDAC

UpDog Australian Classic 2020



I hear you asking what is UpDAC and how does it relate to me. Well, UpDog (USA) facilitate National frisbee events around the world every two years. On the 13-15 March 2020 (yes just before the Corona Virus lockdown) Australia held its inaugural National event. It was held at EPIC in Canberra and they played a series of games and freestyle events.

NSW was well represented with 5 club members travelling south to compete. And compete we did. Some events you needed to qualify for, whilst others were open to everyone to compete.

Newcomer Rachael and her Border Collie Zari, after just two training sessions, played and won. They took out, on a count back, 1st Place in Greedy, they also took out 4th Place in 7UP, an agility crossover game, and took out the Judges Choice – Newcomer award.

Vince, Leire and Molly also had a great weekend. Vince and Molly took out 3rd Place in Far Out (Mens), whilst Leire and Molly held 4th Place in Far Out Womens. Vince and Molly also took out 4th Place Far Out (Combined results).

Then there was our Head Instructor Angela and her Border Collie Fly. Ange & Fly took out 1st Place in Far Out (Womens), 2nd Place Far Out (Combined Results), along with 4th Place in FunKey, 3rd Place in Time Warp, 4th Place in Frizgility (another Agility crossover game) and was awarded 2nd Place as the Midi Overall Team over the entire weekend.

Gus and Caddy were also entered, Gus, my old 12 year old, took well to chasing rollers and did some awesome work, whilst Caddy decided it was all too much and just watched from the sidelines.

Ange and myself also judged across the weekend, giving us great experience to eventually hold our own events. Watch this space.....

Congratulations everyone who took away some great prizes from our wonderful sponsors of the event and thanks for the company. It was a great weekend.

Everything has been placed on hold now, and we look forward to starting up again real soon.

Stay safe and keep practicing.....

Jo Comber



Training Treats and Tips to Use at Home.....

Whilst we always recommend high value treats such as roast chicken or cheese to use when training at the Club at home it can be different.

With less distractions around your dog will focus on you more easily so it is quite permissible to train using kibble or dry treats. Having said that it's a really good idea to have those high value treats available to jackpot great behaviour.

Short training sessions are good, your dog won't get bored and neither will you. Training in the kitchen is ideal if you have space. Make the most of every opportunity to ask for a behaviour and reward the good and don't forget your marker word "Yes" or perhaps try home training using a clicker.

Try ditching the dog bowl for some meals and use the food as the rewards. Especially if you have a young dog repetition is the key.

A New Training Treat to Try

This is great for home training as you can break it into whatever size pieces you want.

Tuna & Cheese Training Treats

- 1 x Cup of Wholemeal Flour
- 1 x Egg
- 1/4 x Cup of Grated Cheese
- 1 x 185g Tin of Tuna in Springwater



Empty tin of Tuna (un-drained) into a bowl and mash.

Add a beaten egg, cheese and flour and combine well together.

Place mixture into a lined baking tray and press out flat with the back of a spoon to around 5mm thick.

Bake at 180° for 20 minutes. Turn over and bake at 140° for a further 45 minutes. When cool break into pieces and store in a container in refrigerator. Small pieces can then be broken off as you train.



Boredom Busters for Cooped Up Canines

These are strange times facing us and our dogs will pick up on our fears and feel our cabin fever. Don't fret if you are in isolation or prefer not to go far from home there are plenty of other things you can do to exercise your dog's body and mind at home apart from throwing a ball in the garden. **Try these boredom buster ideas.....**

The Kong Toy

These are fun and perfect to keep your dog occupied. The Kong toy is hollow and can be stuffed with such things as kibble, cheese and peanut butter. Your dog will play and lick the end of the toy to get the food out.



The Muffin Tin Game

For this game you will need a muffin tin and twelve tennis balls. Cut the treats into tiny pieces and place one in each muffin



cup with a tennis ball on top. You may have to show your dog at first how to play the game by lifting up a ball to show the treat.

This game stimulates your dog's brain. They have to lift up the ball to get the treat and remember where the treats they have already found were if the balls roll back into the cup. As well there is the fun of the chase after any balls that roll away.

The "Go Find Treats" Game

Hide tiny treats around the house or garden. You will have to show your dog how to play the game by saying "Go Find Treats" then leading them to each treat. They will very quickly understand the game and remember different hiding place and run around checking each spot where they have ever found a treat when they hear you call out "Go Find Treats".

The Sandpit

Let's face it most dogs like to dig at some time but some breeds such as terriers live to dig.

So if you have a dog that loves to dig make a sandpit.

Children's shell pits are the easiest way if you don't want to build one and obviously it is an outdoor game, if you get one with a lid one half can be used as a doggy bathing pool in summer.

Fill with clean sand and hide toys in the sand for your dog to find.



The Snuffle Mat



These are great for all types and ages of dogs as they capitalise on your dog's natural urge to sniff and burrow.

Scatter a cup of kibble over the mat and your dog will happily snuffle until every last piece has been found. Snuffling stimulates the mind and also has a tiring effect.

They are also great for slowing down fast eaters.

Use a Snuffle Mat in place of a bowl to feed a dry meal. Even the fussiest dogs love to snuffle.

Puzzle Toys

These are toys where the dog has to push a button or lever to find a treat.

You will be surprised how smart your four legged friend is when it comes to finding treat



Why Not Teach Your Dog Some Tricks?

Figure of 8 - Hold a treat in each hand, dog standing in front of you. With your right hand close to your leg lure dog around your right leg then bring left hand between your legs and lure your dog forward and around left leg then using right hand lure forward between your legs and back around right leg to repeat figure of 8.

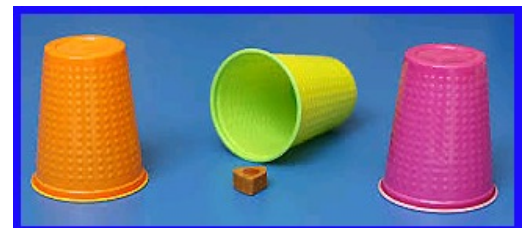
Go Around - Use a cone or similar size object and place in front of you. Lure your dog around it, "Yes" and reward. Once your dog learns to go around position yourself progressively further away then send your dog out and around.

Ring a Bell - Hang a bell from a door handle at nose height. When your dog touches the bell "Yes" and treat then once your dog gets the idea add a voice cue such as "Ring Bell". Can also be taught using a desk bell.



Name That Toy - arrange your dog's favourite toys in a semicircle around you. Give the toy's name cue e.g. "Get Rabbit". When your dog brings the right toy back to you "Yes" and treat.

Three Cup Game - place three plastic cups in a row and hide a treat under one. Start by showing your dog where the treat is then once they get the hang of it start mixing the cups around.



Tug for Tricks - hold a tug toy behind your back then cue your dog to sit in front of you, hold eye contact for ten seconds then "Yes" and play tug. Repeat with other cues, drop, shake paw, spin: always reward with yes and a play tug.



Exercising your dog's mind is as important as exercising their body. We will be sending out more training tips and tricks for you and your dog soon.

Keep Up Your Training

It is so important, especially for our members with young dogs, to keep up a training regime

Beginners....

Focus: Used to get your dog focusing on you.

"Touch" - Hold treat under thumb, palm flat fingers extended. Hold hand out to the side, wait for dog's nose to touch your palm (dog must come to you) then give treat. Cue word "Touch" when nose touches palm "Yes" and treat.

"Spin" - With dog in front hold treat at dog's nose level then move hand slowly out and round in a circle either to the right or left. Cue word "Spin" on completion of circle "Yes" and treat. (Can differentiate between right and left spins e.g. "Spin" and "Twist".)

Watch: Used to get your dog's attention and teach and hold gentle eye contact.

Hold treat between thumb and fore finger to your nose, slowly lower treat to dog's nose the slowly back to your nose then slowly down a second time. Cue word "Watch" (could use "Watching", "Looking" or "Eyes" if you prefer). If dog maintains eye contact "Yes" and treat.

Training Word: Used to tell your dog that you want to train exercises.

Tell your dog "Training" to indicate that you expect their attention as you are about to commence a training exercise. (Could use "Working", "School" or "Attention"). When exercise is finish choose a release word such as "Free", "Release" or "Relax" to indicate that the exercise is over and they are now free to relax next to you but not to pull, play with the next dog or jump up. If any of these occur repeat training word and ask for a behaviour such as a sit or a drop.

Marker Word: Used to mark correct performance of a cue.

The marker word is "Yes" uttered in a positive upbeat manner and must be said the exact moment the correct behaviour is performed. e.g. "Sit" say "Yes" the second the bottom hits the ground and give a treat. "Yes" marks the behaviour and means a treat is coming, it is the bridge between the performance and the treat being given.

Holding the Lead:

Lead is held in your right hand to the front of your right hip close to the body; practise keeping your hand in that position. Your left hand does **NOT** touch the lead.

Treating:

Treats, cut into tiny pieces should be in a training pouch on your front right side. Treats are then passed to your left hand and given in line with your side seam. Hand must be kept close to your leg and not moved forward or out. Remember, where you hold your hand is where your dog's nose will be!!

Practise these exercises for ten minutes once or twice a day

The Right Cues & Hand Signals are so Important

Hand signals should be made with a flat hand, fingers close together so as to give the dog the greatest surface area of vision. Give the voice cue **once** only at the same time as the hand signal.

Heel

Verbal cue "Heel"

Lead is in your **right** hand with your **left** hand resting on the side of your left thigh, elbow slightly bent. Make a smooth forward movement with your left hand, fingertips leading, parallel to and between your leg and the dog's face, stepping off with your left foot.

Drop

Verbal cue "Drop" or "Down"

Change lead to your **left** hand. Move your **right** hand, palm facing and parallel to your body, across to a position in front of the dog's face and then move your hand downwards to point to the ground slightly to the left of your left foot and in line with your body.

Stand

Verbal cue "Stand"

Pass your **left hand** in front of the dog's face with the palm facing towards the dog, fingers pointing downward keeping your arm straight.

Once your hand has passed the dog's face bend your elbow and return your hand to the starting position in front of your left hip. By bending your elbow your hand is now above the dog's head as you bring it back in, thus avoiding giving the dog a double signal.

Stay

Verbal cue "Stay"

Change lead to your **left** hand. Bring your **right hand** around and in towards the dog's face, fingers pointing left so that the palm is facing the dog's nose, but not touching it. Give the verbal cue then return your hand to the starting position. To leave your dog step off with the **right** foot. "Wait" is normally used when doing a recall, "Stay" if you are leaving then returning to the dog.

Recalls

Verbal cue "Stay" or "Wait"

Dog sitting on you left, bring **right hand** around flat palm facing dog's nose. Give verbal cue, leave on right foot, arms straight with hands together in front of you, do not look back. At distance turn on spot to face dog, Raise arms in V above head at the same time call "Come" then bring arms back down to same position. Dog to come and sit in front, do not bend forward as dog approaches.

Welcome to Our New Members

Lara Da Silva & **Luna, Charlie & Archie**
Stephen Bingham & **Lennon & Sunday**
Amy Hosking & **Buddy**
Sara Wright & **Bob**
Creigh Wentzel & **Bailey**
Carole Hindson & **Georgie**
Jonathan Richardson & **Lenny**
Jenny Slavec & **Tori**
Susan Landless & **Max**
Barry Wakeham & **Mia**
Lauren Sullivan & **Nala**
Anna Kondritz & **Rose**
Ikuyo Feldman & **Aki**
Dave Cooper & **Max**
Robert Glasson & **Sulley**
Jeanette Thomson & **Vincent**
Dennis Ravi & **Arlo**
Catherine Rossier & **Nelson**
Julie Knox & **Rosie**
Lucy Strain & **Beau**
Lisa Silva & **Charlie**
Jason Fraser & **Archie**
Sheilah Casey & **Sachi**
Melissa Jones & **Albie**
Janet Testaz & **Ned**
Clare Wainwright & **Baxter**
Fiona Willows & **Dexter**
Keely Hands & **Poppy**
Megan Collins & **Sampson**
Ulla Prowse & **Onni**
Georgina Sheargold & **Mr Bojangles "Bojo"**
Michael Haysler & **Angie**
Hannah Mraz & **Bobby**
Daniel Ford & **Sid**
Alex May & **Sammy**
Winnie Trecartin & **Cody**
Samuel Zacccone & **June**
Karen Poon & **Tali Siow**
Sally Taylor & **Hugo**
Valentina Lim & **Winston**
Raimund Navakas & **Tiger**
Samantha Moffitt & **Jack**
Carmel Sanders & **Marley**
Lesia Mortensen & **Reji**
Turid Klineberg & **Boris**
Sharon Turton & **Yoshi**
Rachael Fullerton & **Zarigüeya**
Julia Robinson & **Jasper**
Ingrid Osterman & **Emil**
Neil Keraunos & **Nelson**

Mireille Marting & **Milo**
Julia Irwin & **Myfanwy**
Belinda Paterson & **Banjo**
Lily Hooper & **Bear**
Willow Matthews & **Ozzy**
Cora Spear & **Lionel**
Colin Relph & **Cali**
Caity Hanson-Waid & **Maverick**
Heidi Vidler & **Meiko**
Melanie Rouse & **Billie**
Carrie Strang & **Angus**
Greg McBurnie & **Luna**
Madelyn Deville & **Toohey**
Sarah Emery & **Bella**
Sharnie Connell & **Baaka**
Bianca Shinya & **Chilli**
Dru Cox & **Fluffy**
Jen MacKay & **Freddie**
Chris Davis & **Sunny**
Emma Jane Hyland & **Roxie**
Heather Williamson & **Oakley**
Claire Downie
Christine Sutherland
Elizabeth Maxworthy & **Daphne**
Zoe Bedford & **Possum**
Joe Babikian & **Marley**
Kelli Holliday & **Ralph**
Coralie Turner-Morris & **Marla**
Melanie Kenny & **Nova**
Richard Berrill & **Coco**
Stacey Daveson & **Bowie**
Linda Zetterlund & **Nusa**
Melanie-Jane Browning & **Minnie**
Lisa Bale & **Oskar**
Jenni Godsell & **Bindie**
Deanne Janszen & **Raksha**
Christian Laws & **Jimmy**
Sheenagh Welling & **Peach**
Lucy Smith & **Charlie**
Alison Hassanein & **Maisy**
Miranda Markezic & **Raven**
Jia Teo & **Shadow**
Rory Graham & **Ned**
John Simmonds & **Lillie**
Tim Michel & **Ivy**
Stephanie Weir & **George**
Jane Toole & **Bonnie**
Lorelle Gina & **Coco**
Leanne Davey & **Chilli**
Aaron Tomkins & **Joey**
Taylor Moroney & **Loki**
Alec Brown & **Peppermint (Minty)**

David Mafi & **Raven**
Jean Hermann
Peter Owens & **Paul Anka**
David Lye & **Charlie**
Michael Marr & **Moka**
Dee Cartmel & **Magic**
Bronwyn Loudon & **Maisy**
Alexandra Power & **Didier**
Vlada Stojanov & **Nala**
Sally McBride & **Midnight**
Trina Hodgett & **Capo**
Samantha Barratt & **Kodi**
Louise Ball & **Remmi**
Richard Bauhof & **Rosie**
Gail Wilmot & **Cookie**
Andrew Cherni & **Yogi**
Susan Flanet & **Obi-Wan**
Emily Fewster & **Daisy**
Julie Lawther & **Dudley**
Samantha Milton & **Raffi**
Sue Szabo & **Molly**
Miklos Beothy & **Alaska**
Suzanne Tuma & **Bailey**
Vicki Besso & **Poppy**
Eloise Fowler & **Tommy & Paddy**
Madeline Gill & **Molly**
Vivienne Hardy
Adam Mills & Lexi
Les Pitman
Lynette Price & **Mish**
Annie Rees & **Bambi**
Daniel Smit & **Ned**
Nadine Lafleur & Polly & **Nora**
Gill Dodd
James Zantiotis & **Henry & Harley**
Elizabeth Dai & **Lucky & Sugar**
Lee Davies & **Skylar & Storm**
Daphne Guillot –& **Lydia & Banji**
Joy Howes & **Jock & Sam**
Trish Wingfield & **Reggie & Luna**
Kathleen Hensley & **Billie & Raven**
Tara Boyle & **Rusty & Ginger**
Judith Moller & **Rosie**
Sandra Hava & **Alfie**
Judith Arruzza
Pat Sharp & **Kevin**
Ross Drysdale & **Cooper**
Pip Condon & **Abby & Zee**





Dogs NSW, as of March 13th, decreed the cancellation of all classes, trials, shows and all other dog events for twenty eight days.

They will review the situation on April 6th. We will keep you updated via our web site and facebook page regarding the recommencement of classes.

In the meantime keep up your training and enjoy time with your dog.

We are always happy to help with any questions or problems you may be encountering.

We can be contacted via email

info@northernbeachesdogtraining.com.au

Our contact phone numbers are on the front page of the website.

