



Dog Chat

Brought to you by
Illawarra Dog Training Club



December 2017/January 2018 Executive Committee Members

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Ground Rules

- Dogs are to be kept on leads at all times, unless in training class and under direct supervision of an instructor
- Dogs are not to be tied to the club house or trees
- Bitches in oestrus (season) shall not be permitted on the grounds while training is in progress
- Classes using club equipment will be responsible for returning this equipment to the correct storage place under the supervision of the class instructor
- Parking on ground is for instructors and workers on that day only. Cars are to be parked no closer to the club house than the southern boundary fence of the electrical sub station
- Pick up your dogs droppings if they foul the ground. Plastic bags are available to ensure responsible disposal
- Be on the alert for other instructors requiring assistance in training their own dogs
- Do not automatically use equipment set up on the ground. It may have just been set up by an instructor who is in the process of preparing to use it. They may also be in the process of using it, but not necessarily in the immediate vicinity
- Equipment such as jumps and obstacles, are not for general use without supervision
- Children are to be kept away from dogs pegged near volunteers cars for both children and dogs safety
- Children are not permitted in class with parents
- **Covered shoes** are to be worn in class no thongs or sandals

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**My sunshine doesn't
come from the skies
It comes from the love
that's in my dogs eyes**

Chief Instructors Report

December 2017/January 2018

We had 1 normal training day in December which was washed out. The following week we had our Xmas breakup day, we had 48 dogs on the ground and 2 Promotions were done that day, with a short training session followed by Games and a Sausage Sizzle. We hope that all who attended had a good time!

Our Club had some successful results at the Wollondilly All Breeds Kennel Club Double Obedience Trial on 9/12 with Instructor David Chester getting his CCD title for Frankie and First CCD pass for Zoe.

This Year in review

- David Chester and Frankie CCD title
- Fiona Moulton and Storm CCD title
- Danni Zietsch and Pepsi CD title
- Tony Gardiner and Ash CD title

A Big Thank You to Carol, Danni, Pam and Kat who represented the club at the Ozzy Doggy Show hosted by Wollongong Council on Australia Day, and heavily promoted the club to the public who attended, and also to Tony for helping get the Gazebo to and from the Council for the event.

Our first day of training in 2018 is 3rd February, and we are expecting a pretty big return to training, as in addition to our Ozzy Doggy Show day promotion we have had also quite a few inquiries for Puppy Courses.

Yellow Bandannas – please give me space

For the New Year another reminder that we want all of our members to enjoy the time spent on the grounds with their dog, so please remember to look out for dogs that are wearing yellow bandannas, these bandannas indicate the dog is uncomfortable near either Dogs OR People and the owner of the dog should be consulted before approaching. All members should be aware that we are our dogs advocate and we can certainly opt out of interactions if we feel it is not in our dogs' interest.

Thanks Mark

Promotions

Class 1 Basic to Class 2 Stabilising:

To be able to be promoted from class 1 to class 2 you and your dog must be able to complete the following exercises:-

1. Your dog is comfortably walking next to your left leg.
2. Your dog is able to sit on command.
3. Your dog is able to stand on command
4. You are able to call your dog back to you on lead and continue walking.
5. You are able to complete left and right turns successfully
6. You are able to complete left and right about turns successfully.
7. Your dog can sit and stay in one position for 10 seconds.

Class 2 Stabilising to Class 3 Challenge:

To be able to be promoted from class 2 to class 3 you and your dog must be able to complete the following exercises:-

1. Your dog is comfortably walking next to your left leg.
2. Your dog can stand on command.
3. Your dog can sit on command.
4. You are able to complete left and right turns successfully.
5. You are able to complete left and right about turns successfully.
6. You are able to call your dog back to you and get them to place finish as one exercise.
7. Your dog can calmly work at fast pace with you.
8. Your dog can stand and stay in one position for 10 seconds.

Class 3 Challenge to Class 4 Finishing:

To be able to be promoted from class 3 to class 4 you and your dog must be able to complete the following exercises:-

1. Your dog must be able to walk comfortably next to your left leg.
2. Your dog must be able to drop.
3. You are able to complete left and right turns successfully
4. You are able to complete left and right about turns successfully
5. You are able to call your dog back to you on lead and have them sit directly in front of you
6. You are able to get your dog to do a place finish as a separate exercise
7. You are able to get your dog to successfully complete and off lead recall.
8. Your dog can calmly work with you at slow pace.
9. Your dog can stay in the down positions for 30 seconds.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following club members on their promotion Class 2 stabilising to Class 3 Challenge:

Jessica and Clancy

Lisa and Prince



Trial News

Obedience trialling is a challenging enjoyable sport for you and your dog. At the club we have instructors and club members who enjoy participating in obedience trials.

Open (C.D.X.)

Obedience trialling at the Open level is of a higher standard than Novice, and introduces jumping, and stays in which the handler is out of sight. The formal exercises are:

- Heel Free
- Stand Free for Examination
- Drop on Recall
- Retrieve Dumbbell on Flat
- Retrieve Dumbbell Over Solid Jump OR Directed Retrieve
- Broad Jump OR Distance Control
- 3 minute Sit Stay - Handler Out of Sight
- 5 minute Down Stay - Handler Out of Sight

Three passes of a minimum of 170 points out of a possible 200 under at least two different judges will qualify the dog for the award Companion Dog Excellent, which follows after the dog's name and is normally abbreviated to C.D.X.



The dumbbell retrieve over jump



The broad jump

Trial Results

Wollondilly All Breeds Kennel Club Double Obedience Trial Saturday 9/12/17

<i>David and Frankie</i>	<i>CCD</i>	<i>92 points</i>	<i>Qualified</i>	<i>3rd pass</i>	<i>CCD TITLE</i>
<i>David and Zoe</i>	<i>CCD</i>	<i>92 points</i>	<i>Qualified</i>	<i>1st pass</i>	
<i>Diane and Curly</i>	<i>CCD</i>	<i>93 points</i>	<i>Qualified</i>	<i>1st pass</i>	
<i>Diane and Curly</i>	<i>CCD</i>	<i>86 points</i>	<i>Qualified</i>	<i>2nd pass</i>	
<i>Tony and Ash</i>	<i>CD</i>	<i>185 points</i>	<i>Qualified</i>	<i>2nd pass</i>	
<i>Tony and Ash</i>	<i>CD</i>	<i>178 points</i>	<i>Qualified</i>	<i>3rd pass</i>	<i>CD TITLE</i>



'It's okay, my dog is friendly...'

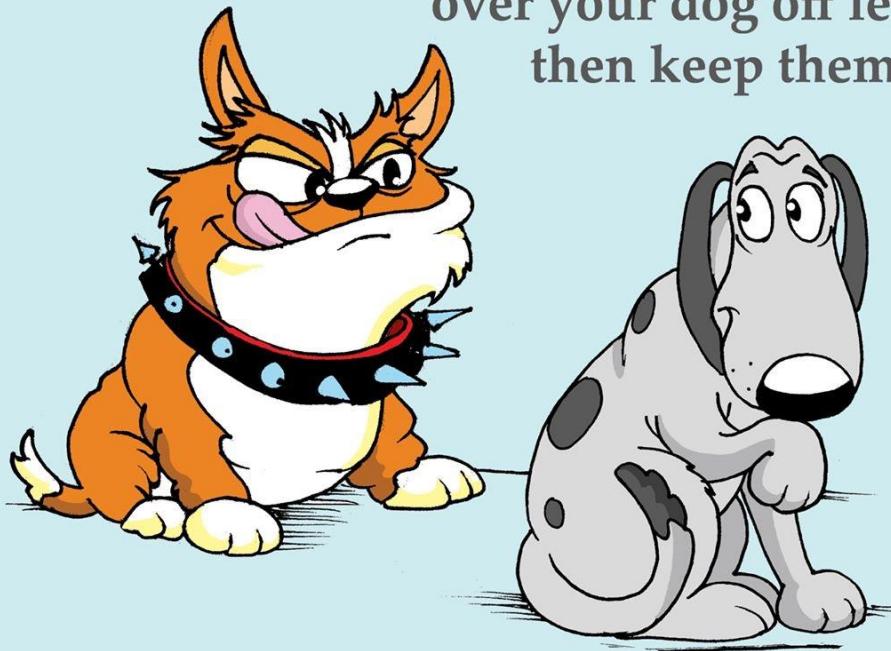
No it's NOT okay! Just because your dog is friendly doesn't mean all dogs are - please remember:

Never let your dog run up to a dog on leash- they could be scared or become reactive.

Try to respect other owners and their need for space.

Not all dogs want the added attention or intrusion.

If you have no voice control over your dog off leash then keep them on.



Doggie Treat of The Month

Turkey and Cranberry Dog Bones

Ingredients

- 3 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 cup shredded cooked turkey
- 1 cup dried cranberries
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup low-sodium chicken broth, or as needed



Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Lightly grease baking sheets, or line them with parchment paper.
2. In a large bowl, whisk the whole wheat flour and baking powder together until thoroughly combined, and stir in the cooked turkey meat and dried cranberries. Make a well in the centre of the flour mixture and drop the egg into the centre; pour in the olive oil and about 1/2 cup of chicken broth. Mix into a soft dough. If mixture is too dry, mix in more chicken broth, about 1 tablespoon at a time, until dough is of desired consistency.
3. Turn the dough out onto a floured work surface and knead for 1 to 2 minutes. Roll the dough out 1/4-inch-thick and cut out with your favourite cookie cutters.
4. Bake until the treats turn brown, about 25 minutes. Turn the oven off and leave the dog treats in the oven an additional 30 minutes to dry out. Refrigerate leftover dog treats.

Breed of The Month

Staffordshire Bull Terrier

The Staffordshire Bull Terrier also known as the “Staffie” is a dog with an old history and a big reputation. It is known for its intelligence, trustworthiness, tenacity and tremendous courage. The Staffordshire Bull Terrier is affectionate, steady and especially fond of children, earning its nickname the “Nanny Dog”. However, without proper training and control the Staffie can display aggression towards other dogs and animals.

Personality

The Staffordshire Bull Terrier resembles other ‘tough’ breeds like the American Staffordshire and Pit Bull Terrier, but these sturdy dogs look a lot tougher than they really are. The motto of many Staffie owners is, “He’s a lover, not a fighter”. Staffies would much rather romp around and play all day than grouse or fight or even stand around looking imposing. They have a zest for life and eat up new experiences with the zeal of a puppy. They love to be with people and they don’t particularly care what the activity is: watching TV, reading a book in the sun, walking, running, going for a ride in the car – the Staffie just wants to be with the people he loves. They also don’t like to make their own choices about what to do, and therefore don’t like being left alone, so Staffordshire Bull Terriers are best suited for active families where someone is always home with them.

Trainability

Staffies can be a handful to train. They are stubborn and wilful and though they love you to pieces, don’t particularly care about doing what they are told. Novice dog owners should consult with a professional trainer who understands the nuances of the Staffie personality. Experienced dog owners should be able to handle this breed just fine. They need confident leadership, a bit of firmness (they can handle the criticism), and 100% consistency. Some trainers recommend letting your Staffie run for a bit before conducting training sessions to help calm his mind and keep him focused.

Committee Members/Instructors with a Staffordshire Bull Terrier

Danielle Zietsch – Pepsi aka Moonglade Angel



Spotlight on Dog Sports

Agility

Dog Agility is a sport open to all dogs, it is the fastest growing of the dog sports and most breeds, from Toys like a Chihuahua to Giant Breeds, like a Great Dane, could be suitable for agility.

Agility is fun sport for dogs and handlers to get fit together. Dogs are required to learn fun obstacles such as hoops, tunnels, weaving poles, scramble, dog walk, table, see saw and jumps.

Obstacle jump heights are suited to the dogs, jumps at 200 mm, 300mm, 400mm, 500 mm or 600mm based on the height of the dog at the withers.

Be aware that a few breeds may not be suitable for agility and it may be advisable they become spectators rather than participants. It is also advisable not to train overweight dogs or dogs with joint problems without consulting your vet first.

Agility training is specialized and offered by select affiliated Clubs. Agility training is through Agility Clubs (specialist) and then some of the Obedience and Training Clubs offer classes as well. Some affiliated Clubs require dogs to have completed basic obedience training before agility training can commence. Other Clubs will train dogs without any prior obedience training.

Puppies could start from eight months of age when their joints and bodies are fully developed. Fit adult dogs can commence training at any age. Some handlers and dogs may only decide to come to training for the fun of it all.....while the serious teams can move into the competition arena at 18 months of age.

The Agility Trial

Agility was originally developed from equestrian show jumping.

The aim of this competition is for a handler to direct their dog around a course of different obstacles to assess and enhance their intelligence and ability. It is an educational and sporting activity intended to improve the dog's integration into society.

Dog Agility competitions are held around Australia and the World. Most weekends Agility Trials happen and offer classes of the various levels of difficulty from Novice to Masters. Courses are set by the Agility Judges and no two courses are ever the same.

Competitions for Agility, Jumping and Agility Games include Novice, Excellent and Master classes. In Agility and Jumping there is also an Open Class which all the dogs compete against each other not just their height category. The Agility Games classes test the handler's strategic skills in classes of Snooker, Gamblers and Strategic Pairs.

A 'clear round' must be obtained to receive a "Qualification" which is no time faults or course faults recorded on the course. As qualifications are gained "Titles" are awarded and the dog will progress to the next higher class, Novice to Excellent and then Master. The highest level of achievement is Agility Champion.

If you are interested in becoming fitter and wish to train your dog in agility or participate in agility trials, please contact your closest affiliated Agility Club or Training Club they will be pleased to assist you.



RIP Monsimbee 'Silver'Prince

2nd December 2006 – 6th February 2018

Our deepest sympathies go out to our Club President Linda Thomas on the loss of her beautiful boy Silver. I don't think anyone could do a better tribute than Linda herself. In her own words :-

He was here for a good time although not long enough, but a dog living in a Thomas house has a fabulous family life.

I've had so much fun training/teaching & sharing with Silver. We couldn't ask for a dog with better manners and obedience. He filled our house with so much love, our shadow, our protector, my carer when I wasn't well, our very best friend. He was an absolute joy to come home to every day, running to get a squeaky toy and his tennis balls for some arvo fun. (even until the last couple of weeks) He loved chasing lizards, catching bees and flies! He has been a mother to our grand doggies, and over the past few years enjoying the company of our grandchildren. You could see the smile on his face when the grand doggies visited from QLD and when Veda (our son's Monsimbee shepherd) came for a play date each Monday. She is so full of life, sometimes I know he was thinking 'oh no, not her again'.

Silver was the first dog I have formally trained, he was the smart one, I had to be trained and with help from very special people we achieved great results.

Our first day at Dog Club (for puppy class), was very overwhelming for us both, but with the assistance of welcoming instructors and Admin, I felt relaxed, we never looked back. He absolutely loved routine and each Saturday (right up to his last one) he was excited to visit Nana and her Border Collie Ava and after lunch when I put my joggers on he knew it was time for Dog Club, to do some training, see some friends and oversee the classes in his second big backyard.

He was such a hairy boy, we will have a little bit of Silver everywhere for quite a while.



Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.

When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor. Those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent. His eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together....



Jasmine a Border Collie “Sharp as a tack”

©

Jasmine was a type of Border collie associated with sweetheart and a top kids dog. Occasionally bluffed with a low growl if her sleep was disturbed that caused a smile. The first time my eldest daughter and I spotted the small collie we strolled through the many rows of kennel/yards at the RSPCA just for a look, so I thought. A wisp of a collie trotted over begging for some affection when we walked past the second time she carried on like she was our new best friend. Before thinking became involved, the wiry built collie had manipulated us to take her home. After the veterinarian gave the pup a once over he estimated she was 7/8th Border collie with a dash of Kelpie and before we left the premises, she had been booked for desexing in a fortnight. She didn't resemble a Border collie mainly seen she looked leggy, wiry with a single layer of coat.

Years and years later I saw a man walking a dog identical to Jasmine leggy, wiry but a lot taller. I asked him what cross his dog had a jaw-dropping expression crossed his face before he got over the shock his dog was mistaken for a mongrel. Composing himself, he said a purebred from a sheep station out west. Perhaps Jasmine's heritage also came from out west? Jasmine entered our life on Sunday 4th January, as did a cat my daughter rescued from the RSPCA. On Friday the 2nd my daughter came to Homebush sales with me to buy a couple of cheap rugs for a destructive horse except the money went towards saving a young pathetically thin stallion from the knackery for \$88. Unexpectedly we became swept up in save the animal crusade the New Year was getting out of control. Unquestionably an impulsive move had my husband not been visiting relatives up north the opportunity would not have been there. If the vet was right six months old, Jasmine was probably born July and named after a brand of tea.

Wimpy was a stray from the outskirts of Sydney and arrived into the household a couple of years before. Taking a look at Jasmine Wimpy bolted under the house to hide staying there for days coming out for meals only. Wimpy appeared frightened by most things and had been dumped or strayed when half-grown. We rescued her from a work-sight, and she survived eating food from the guy's lunchboxes. She looked ridgeback/Staffordshire cross and obviously lacked socialisation-causing timidity. Possibly Jasmine and the new cat became her first proper furry contacts. The pair hung around in a pack but never bonded the way some family dogs do. Whenever the dogs barked at Floyd the dog living in the house behind, my husband whistled them back if not around the bird did by imitating my husbands whistle to perfection. After Jasmine came, the pair became escape artists. Both dogs had the habit skulking around the gate area waiting for someone careless not listening for the gate to click shut. With the coast clear one of the dogs pushed open the gate for the pair to run over to the Wilson's a retired couple several houses away. The reason for the visit was to be stuffed full of chicken forcing Jasmine to refuse her evening meal. The Wilson's, family friends and any hints concerning the dogs,' seemed to fall on deaf ears. The Wilson's both dogs were grossly overweight it was common knowledge their dogs went driving more than taken for a walk. My daughter had seen Mr Wilson drive by with Jasmine and Wimpy I quickly placed a sign and tightened occy strap around the gate to stop their shenanigans...

The Wilson's only had Cindy a black Labrador until they started feeding the Labrador/cross from the corner house before the family had the issue sorted the dog moved house. The Labrador/cross divorced his previous owners preferring the company of the retirees during the long day and getting stuffed with chicken. At times someone forgot the gate procedure to Jasmine and Wimpey's delight to once more race to the Wilson's like a pair of homing pigeons.

I thought Jasmine would make an ideal jogging buddy I soon discovered I was mistaken. She came jogging a few times before she put a stop to that. Her intelligence came into play when she protested she had no intention becoming a jogging buddy. Soon as I was ready to go out the gate "coming for a run" I suggested Jasmine promptly ran into the shed hid in a wheelbarrow her head buried out of sight. Jasmine was always invited just for a laugh at her reaction, being a smart cookie and likely explanation on her habit continuing. When Jasmine, heard the words "coming for a walk" she trotted to the gate happy as Larry sat as her tail swept the footpath.

Because I had horses that needed grain for fuel mice visited occasionally. The oat drum had a lid not quite tight enough. Jasmine proved herself the best mouser known to the family and better than any cat we ever had. Whenever a mouse was discovered in the drum if Jasmine heard the word mouse, she dived into the drum within a split second dived out with a mouse in her mouth it was disgustingly gross if she bit the mouse too hard. I got in trouble from Tom next-door when he found mice in his laundry. "He should talk he leaves dry dog food lying around" my husband grumbled! He complained to the council the council came and went saying everything was in proper order. I earned a mark against my name in his black book. My daughter took Jasmine to some of the horse events Jasmine habitually refused the seat preferring the front floor of the car. We had to sleep in the horse float each time someone moved a fraction Jasmine pulled an ugly face not expected from a Border collie that looked like butter wouldn't melt in her mouth.

Jasmine's love of cats remained a mystery perhaps on the same day of her rescue my daughter rescued a cat or Jasmine once lived with cats? Jasmine got excited in the same manner some dogs behave if they see someone they like or a dog friend out walking. Cats were Jasmine's motivation for an exciting moment. Whenever Jasmine was out walking, the second she spotted a cat in someone's garden she tried her hardest to reach towards the cat wagging her tail madly. Jasmines' skills at reading body language were not crash hot some cats hissed, spat or swiped at her yet her tail wagged ten to the dozen...



Congratulations to George Bartolo on Receiving his OAM

If you've made it through to class 4 then you've had a lesson with George Bartolo. George has been a member of our club since 1972 an incredible 46 years this year! In that time, he served as Chief Instructor for 7 years and President for 6 years. George was awarded Life Membership to the club in 1986. He applied for and gained 2 government grants for improvements to the club's lighting for night training and for a new ride on lawn mower. On the 26th January 2018 George was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for his charitable work within the Wollongong community.

George came to Australia by boat from Malta as a 19-year-old on the 17th September 1959. He showed his community spirit and giving nature whilst still on board the ship by helping to translate for them when a delegation from the Bank of NSW (now Westpac) boarded the ship at Fremantle on the way to Melbourne and Sydney, to encourage people to open an account with the bank.

In 1960 just 1 year after coming to Australia he organised the soccer team for the George Gross Club (Maltese community of Wollongong) and was elected secretary of the club from 1963 to 1965. He was elected president of the club in 1966 and held that position until 1979. During this time, he was responsible for initiating and project managed the construction of the club build on its premises a Lake Avenue Cringila. He also procured the loan and organised the labor from the club's members and the Maltese community. He represented the club in the 1970's in the formation of the Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council, (now known as the Multicultural Communities Council of Illawarra).

He was appointed as a Justice of the Peace in 1968.

During the 1960's, before official translators were employed, George aided members of the Maltese community as a translator, he would also assist them with appointments to the doctors, solicitors and in some court cases voluntarily.

He was a foundation member of the Maltese Community Council of NSW, and was elected Vice President in 1969 and served in that position for a number of years. He was awarded life membership of the council in 1988, was elected President in 1994 and served for 2 terms. From 2003 he held the Council's Secretary position for 3 terms and is currently serving as treasurer since 2009. He had applied for and received grants from Multicultural NSW for the employment of a welfare worker for the Council's Welfare Service for the Aged Maltese Community Program.

George was a foundation member of Cringila United Soccer Club (Macedonian community in the Wollongong area). He helped in forming the club and served as secretary in 1970 for 2 terms. The club is still going strong today.

In 1970/71 he represented the Maltese Community of Wollongong on the Good Neighbour Council Special Community Project to organize the Inaugural Migrant section of the Wollongong Agricultural, Horticultural and Industrial Annual show. He joined the committee and served for 12 years as the Chief Pavilion Stewart, Senior Vice-President and also President for 2 years.

George gained his first Dog Obedience Judge's licence for the Australian National Kennel Council in 1993 and is now a full panel Judge, He has judged in the NSW State Obedience Titles and Queensland State and Australian National Titles.

These are just a few of the numerous commitments George has made to the Wollongong Community.

In her speech before Parliament on 8th February 2018 Sharon Bird acknowledged George's achievement:-

"I have to acknowledge that there were also many locals celebrated in the Australia Day awards. Six local people were recognised in the national awards this year. They all made a wide and varied contribution to our community and nation, and I congratulate them all. Today I'd like to share a wonderful story of one of those honoured: George Bartolo. I've known George a very long time as he is a life member of the Australian Labor Party. George's dedication to his beloved party is a reflection of his strong commitment to taking responsibility for helping out wherever he sees people in need.

George received the Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the Maltese and multicultural communities of New South Wales. The award comes on top of many years of awards recognising George's tireless efforts on behalf of his community. I am always happy to see George's smiling face at Multicultural Communities Council of Illawarra functions. George has been a founding member since 1975, a senior vice-chairman since 2004 and a life member since 2005. He's also been a much-valued and active member of the Illawarra Dog Training Club, the Wollongong Agricultural, Horticultural and Industrial Society, and the George Cross Falcons Club. George is one of those wonderful but humble people that keep our communities going. He told the *Illawarra Mercury*:

I mean, you don't go out of your way to do things so you'll get recognised and get a reward. It's not like that at all. You do it because you like to do it and you want to work with the community, whether it is the Maltese community or the community in general. You just want to help.

Well, George, we are all so happy you got on that boat in 1959 and came to make Wollongong your home, and we, like your family, are so proud of your well-earned Australia Day award".

Congratulation George on your incredible achievement!



The Importance of Trimming Your Dogs Nail's

If you're like me, you love spending time with your dog and take him out for regular walks, but it might surprise you that walking alone may not be enough to keep your dog's nails at the perfect length. It takes time walking on a variety of abrasive surfaces to wear down a dog's nails, so for today's modern dogs, it is important to check their nails regularly to see if they need trimming.

You may have never thought that correctly trimmed nails can greatly contribute your dog's health, but consider what Chinese Traditional Medicine says about the digits. According to this ancient science, the body's energy lines, or meridians, begin at the end of every finger and toe; it is the same for a canine's digits. These energy lines directly connect to the organs and other parts of the body and relate to overall wellbeing.

Nails that are too long can cause our dogs' feet to get out of alignment and interrupt the flow of energy, cause discomfort, affect their health, and cause a variety of problems. Just like anything in nature, the canine body is made up of electromagnetic particles that need to be in harmony for our dogs to be healthy and happy.

Considering the tips of our dog's toes are so important to their overall health and wellness, I would like to share a few points about safe and healthy nail trimming.

First, determine if your dog's nails need a trim by taking a look at the length. They should be fairly short and ideally, they should not be touching the ground on a firm, flat surface.

If they are long, you can start by trimming bit by bit, only 1–2 millimetres at a time. Dog nail clippers should have a U-shaped blade on the top and bottom because it conforms to the shape of your dog's nail and won't squish the nail and cause discomfort when you cut.

That is why I never use flat human nail trimmers.

If your dog's nail profile is U-shaped when you make the first small cut, then it is too long. For dogs with black nails, you can tell they are too long when it has an upside down U with a dark margin and lighter centre.

Continue clipping until you start seeing a small darker centre surrounded by lighter nail. Better still than a nail clipper (though they get the job done) is a rotating file, like a Dremel tool. This makes it easy to slowly file down the nail and avoid hitting the quick. It's important not to set the RPMs too high because it could cause the nail to overheat, causing discomfort. Also, a medium-coarse tip should be used to keep the vibration comfortable for your dog.

Regardless of the tool you're using, keep your dog happy and at ease during a nail clipping session by having good quality, natural treats on hand. When it comes to nail trimming, bribery is definitely allowed!

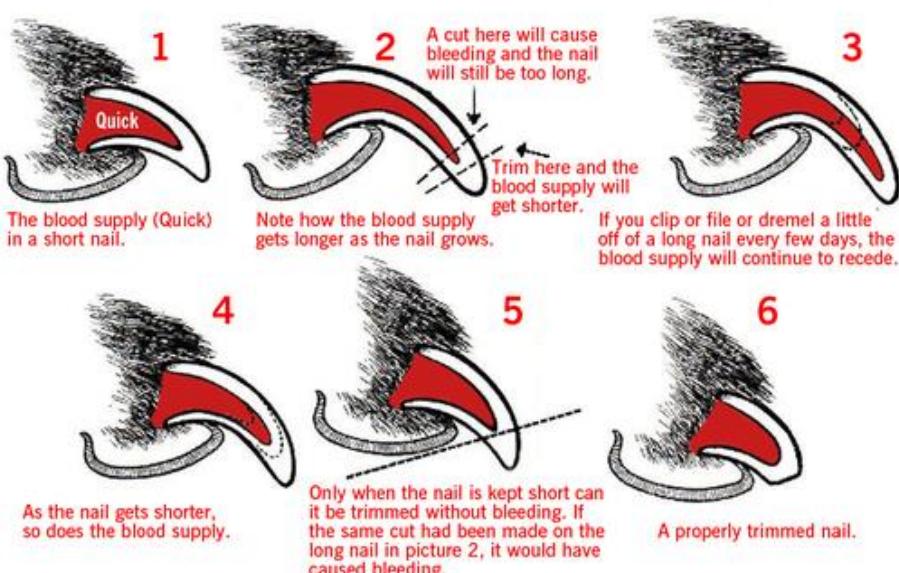
It's natural for a dog to want to move around. When this happens, continue holding the foot gently and move in the direction she wants to move for a moment, then go gently back to the desired position. It is important not to let go of the foot; if you do you will create a bad habit by teaching your dog to wiggle out every time you start trimming. Be gentle and do not fight with your dog, just do not let the foot go or it will be hard to complete the task.

If you hit the quick and cause bleeding, there is no need to panic. There is no way your dog could bleed out. Calmly apply a gauze pad soaked in Healing Solution (peterdobias.com) to the bleeding nail and apply steady pressure. If the bleeding does not stop in five minutes, apply a bandage for four to 12 hours. As an alternative, you can

purchase silver nitrate sticks to stop the bleeding by applying the stick to the injured area. These sticks should be available from your veterinarian or a pet store. Following this simple routine every two to three weeks, you can assure your dog will be moving comfortably and with good energy flow throughout the whole body. Good health starts with a perfect dog pedicure!



Look at the difference well-trimmed nails makes



How to correctly trim your dog's nails

*****Upcoming Events*****

Puppy Prep Classes

**3rd March 2018
7th April 2018**



Lock these dates in your Diary
IDTC Annual Double Obedience Trial

Sunday 8 July 2018

IDTC Annual Christmas in July

Friday 20 July 2018



Website - <https://pawsforacause.com.au>



WINTER IS COMING

Previously known as "Alpha Dog Beds" they now make Premium Australian Made Dog Coats that support Animal Welfare – check out their website.



FREE SHIPPING ON ALL ORDERS



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50% OF PROFITS DONATED TO ANIMAL WELFARE



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