



# DOG CHAT

Brought to you by  
Illawarra Dog Training Club



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**August / September 2020**

**Enriching the lives  
of our canines**



## Contents

- Membership Cards
- Important Dates
- Chief Instructors Report
- Benefits of feeding your dog raw meaty bones
- Doggie treat of the month – Grain free Salmon Pumpkin Dog Treat Recipe
- Environmental Enrichment
- Breed of the month – Australian Kelpie
- Challenge for the Juniors – Dot to Dot
- General Club Information –  
Committee, Instructions, Ground Rules & Promotions.



## Membership Cards

We would like to inform all our members that whilst we have reviewed and worked in the guidelines to keep us all COVID safe we have also reviewed some of our policy and procedures.

Any member on the grounds is asked to wear their membership card. This will allow records to stay up to date, helps us out when recording the information and most importantly it protects you.

In case of an emergency it will help us identify quickly and efficiently.

You may notice you can slide your raffle ticket in the membership card holder so not only can it store your ticket whilst training the instructor can see that the procedure has been followed.

Please do not be offended if an instructor asks to see your card as it is the safety procedure IDTC has adopted.

If you have misplaced your card or holder replacement cards and holders can be purchased at the clubhouse for \$2.00.

## Important Dates

- **Santa Photos for 2020** – 2 dates **Saturday 21 and 28 November 2020**
  - From 2.00pm to 3.00pm
  - Cost \$5.00 and will be emailed to you
  - Dress yourself and your dog up in festive attire for your photo
  - COVID safe distancing will apply
- IDTC Bi-Monthly General Meeting Tuesday 1 December 2020 from 7.00pm, in the Clubhouse all members are welcome to come along.
- Final day of Training for 2020 will be **Saturday 12 December 2020**
  - Dress up yourself and your dog on the last day of training
- First day back to training for 2021 will be **6 February 2021**
- New email account for IDTC [illawarradogtraining@gmail.com](mailto:illawarradogtraining@gmail.com)

## Chief Instructors Report August/September 2020

Firstly, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Tony Gardiner for your support and the kindness you've shown me in learning my new role I couldn't have done it without you!

2020 has certainly thrown some crazy stuff at us and as a club we've had to learn a new kind of normal without the incredible effort of our behind the scenes volunteers and instructors things would not be running as smoothly as they are, so a huge thank you to Carol and Danni for the extra effort they've been putting in each week to keep everyone safe.

Even with all this craziness we've seen an average of 66 dogs on grounds each week and promotions through classes have been fantastic, a direct reflection of all your hard work and dedication. Congratulations everyone!

Now a few things to be mindful of: -

1. Please remember to maintain social distancing when in class and on break this is for your safety and the safety of everyone around you.
2. Yellow Bandanas when you see a yellow bandana dog remember to be respectful of the space of these dogs and handlers. Yellow bandana dogs are not necessarily aggressive they're just a team that require a bit more space to feel comfortable.
3. Ground Fees when you come for training please make sure you have correct change as a part of COVID safe it is important that we aren't passing money between club members. We appreciate your cooperation in this.
4. Vetting it is more important than ever that you are at club in time for vetting so we can record your contact details and give you your ticket that clears you for class. If you arrive late please do NOT go straight into class, we need you to go to the canteen pay your fees and record your details.

Competition dog sports have finally recommenced! We have many of our instructors competing in and getting ready for competition obedience. Our trial results for this period were: -

**Blacktown Kennel Club**  
Fiona and Storm  
Rally Excellent 88 2<sup>nd</sup> Pass  
Rally Advanced (B) 80 Pass

If you are interested in learning what is involved in competition obedience please talk to your class instructor.

*Fiona Moulton.*



## Promotions

### Class 1 Basic to Class 2 Challenge

Karen and Rosso	Stephen and Bluey
Victor and George	Ashley and Rosy
Lorraine and Lenny	Penelope and Sasha
Joe and Frida	Jacquie and Holly
Phillip and Turbo	Sue and Mabel
Troy and Ella	Glenda and Ned
Craig and Indie	Stuart and Poppy
Mitch and Willy	Nora and Opal
Nicole and Archie	Cameron and Archie
Alfie and Tina	Jake and Bobby
Michel and George J	Joe and Philly
Katrina and Hugo	Ursula and Lulu
Treena and Turbo	Laura and Penny
Lauren and Opal	Ryan and Jojo
Fady and Charlie	Corgan and Capy
Floyde and Finn	Carl and Bingo
Leanne and Freddy	Beth and Billy
Sky and Luna	Rosa and Enzo
Karleen and Taylor	Toni and Alf
Vicki and Dennis	David and Archie
Vanessa and Gidget	Ryan and Winter

### Class 2 Challenge to Class 3 Stabilising

Leisl and Cha	Georgia and Winnie
Stephan and Luie	Joe Frida
Lisa and Bear	Greg and Rosie
Julie and Bella	Jenny and Fox
Kylie and Roxy	Ashley and Marvel
Victor and George	Michell and Lara
Sue and Tess	Ursula and Lulu
Floyde and Finn	Karan Yahe
Alfie and Tina	

### Class 3 Stabilising to Class 4 Finishing

Judy and Winnie	Jared and Kush
Grahame and Banjo	Leisl and Cha Cha
Janaya and Winnie	Ellie and Evie
Sue and Mieka	Joe and Frida
Janny and Box	

## Benefits of feeding your dog raw meaty bones

There are many reasons to feed raw bones to your dog. We highly recommend raw bones for dogs that eat a raw diet, but they can be a helpful addition to any diet.

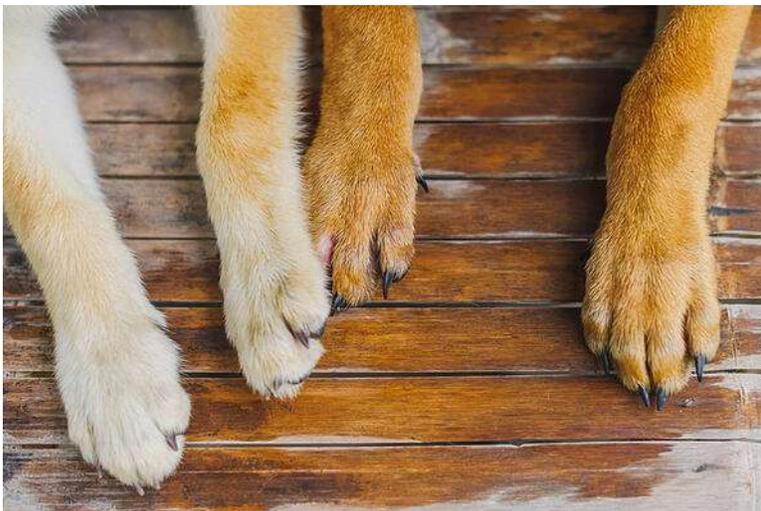
It's a common myth that dogs can't digest bone at all. The truth is, dogs can digest certain types of bones. These bones, called edible bones, are rich in nutrients and can aid in dental care, growth, and digestion.

Bone requires a very acidic environment to break down, which dogs have. Raw fed dogs have an even more acidic stomach environment than kibble fed dogs, making it easier for them to digest bone quickly and efficiently.

Kibble fed dogs should start with smaller, softer bones, like chicken necks. This will allow their body to adjust acidity levels to break down the bone. In time, they will be able to digest any edible bone.

For those looking for a longer lasting chew, recreational bones can be offered as well. Recreational bones are harder and not meant to be eaten, so the risks increase and the benefits go down.

### 1. Maintain Bone Density



Calcium is vital to bone structure. In most commercial diets, calcium is added to ensure that the calcium levels of the diet meet AAFCO regulations for a complete and balanced diet.

Every dog has different calcium requirements, so a food that may be suitable for one dog could be lacking this essential mineral for another. Calcium deficiencies, called *hypocalcaemia*, although not common are severe and life-threatening.

Dogs require calcium for more than just bone structure. Calcium is needed for blood coagulation, muscle contraction, and has a significant effect on vision and heart function. Supplementing additional calcium during growth stages and in larger breeds is vital; use moderation though.

There is such a thing as too much calcium. Like most vitamins and minerals, it's about balance. If you are feeding a diet that contains calcium or bone already, then additional bone should be fed in smaller portions and less frequently.

For a medium to large breed dog, feeding bones a couple of times per week is plenty. Try to rotate calcium supplementation from week to week. If your dog has already enjoyed multiple bones this week, offer a different type of chew, like a bully stick or a yak chew, instead.

Calcium supplementation must be balanced with phosphorus. Together the minerals maintain their skeletal structure. Muscle meat is the most abundant source of phosphorus, so it's present in your dog's diet already. If your dog is on a low protein diet, under 26%, or a diet that is lacking in animal protein, then you should be more cautious about feeding too much bone.

## 2. Dental Health



Chewing is a vital part of dental care. Today we have toothbrushes, toothpaste, food and water additives for dogs; all of which are designed to **prevent dental issues for our pets**. A consistent dental routine for your dog can save you thousands in vet bills.

Of course, your dog's ancestors weren't brushing their teeth, so they relied on things in their diets to maintain keep their teeth strong and healthy.

Beyond the bacteria-fighting enzymes in raw meat, chewing on bones and connective tissues helps to prevent plaque build-up and keep their gums healthy. Whether you are feeding your dog a raw diet or not, feeding raw bones is a great way to add to their dental care routines.

Puppies, seniors, and dogs with compromised dental health should avoid hard bones. Their teeth are more fragile and have a higher risk of being damaged. Avoid feeding bone and other hard chews until their adult teeth have come in.

You could also try something softer, like a tendon or a cow ear. You will still get a dental cleaning effect, but you won't risk your dog damaging their teeth while chewing.

### **3. Mental stimulation**



Bones are a great way to keep a bored dog happy. Chewing is a favourite past time for most dogs, and giving them a bone will help to keep them both physically and mentally occupied. Usually, chewing bones keeps your pup out of trouble and ensures that they are chewing on something healthy instead of your shoes or your baseboards.

Recreation bones, like beef femurs or marrow bones, are great for letting your dog work their jaw, but aren't designed to be consumed. If your dog is a serious chewer with a powerful jaw, or has compromised dental health, stick to softer edible bones that are safe to consume.

## 4. Skin & Coat

Bones contain a variety of minerals that can aid in skin and coat health, and the marrow and cartilage are good sources of collagen. Bones with connective tissues attached are especially beneficial for skin and coat health. Raw meaty bones can be fed to dogs eating any format of food, but can specifically complement a raw diet perfectly.



Use recreational bones to make a healthy bone broth for your dog. Be sure to choose bones that contain marrow and connective tissues, as this will provide the most nutrition.

**Discard the bone after it's been boiled down.** It will be cooked, brittle and has a high chance of splintering if your dog were to chew it again. The broth can then be used as a treat, a supplement, or a meal topper.

### Raw Bone Safety

We've gone over all the good things about feeding raw bones, but let's talk about the safety precautions and potential risks of feeding raw bones. I'd love to tell you that all dogs will do perfectly fine eating raw bones, but that is not the case.

Some bones are safer than others, and some bones should never be fed at all. As mentioned before, puppies, seniors, and dogs with compromised dental health may not be suited for raw bones or other hard chews.

Three types of bones are available for dogs: Edible bones, recreational bones, and cooked or smoked bones.

### Edible Bones

Let's start with edible bones. An edible bone is a bone that is softer, usually hollow, and covered in cartilage or other connective or meaty tissues. Typically, when we talk about edible bone, we are referring to poultry bones. There are some non-poultry bones that I would consider edible, but they are harder to find and way more expensive to source.

Keep in mind that not all poultry bones are safe to feed, even raw. These include weight-bearing bones. Weight-bearing bones are more likely to splinter. Splintered bone fragments can be very sharp and have the potential to cause damage to your dog's oesophagus, stomach, and intestines.

Here are some poultry bones that are safe for your dog to consume completely:



- Wingtips
- Feet
- Necks
- Backs

These bones are very soft. While they still have a crunch, provide dental benefits, and are high in calcium, they will not be a long-lasting chew for most dogs. Necks and backs are much meatier than wings and feet so they will be higher in calories and fat. Keep that in mind when feeding poultry necks or backs

Always choose a size that is appropriate for your dog. Chicken will be the smallest of the poultry bones, so they are well suited to small to medium-sized dogs. They can even be fed to cats. For larger breeds, look for turkey necks. They are much larger and will discourage your dog from swallowing them whole.

If you are watching your dog's weight or counting calories, then make sure you reduce regular feedings to accommodate for the increased calories in the edible bones that you offer. Edible bones can be part of their daily diet, but you will want to avoid giving them too much calcium.

For raw feeders, feeding edible bones with meals is a common and safe way to provide appropriate amounts of calcium in their diet, but if you already feed a diet complete with calcium, then limit edible bones to smaller portions and only as occasional treats.

If you are looking for larger edible bones for bigger breeds, then try a non-poultry bone. Safe non-poultry alternatives include:



- Lamb, pork, venison, and beef ribs
- Pork feet
- Ox and pork tail

Poultry bones have a higher calcium content than other bones, so if you are using edible bones to supply your dog's total calcium needs, then try to incorporate some poultry bones into their diet.

If poultry is an allergy trigger for your dog, opt for lamb or pork ribs instead. They provide the closest amount of calcium to poultry.

## **Recreational bones**

A recreational bone is meant for chewing but not necessarily eating. These bones are much harder and should always be fed with caution and under supervision. They do have nutritional value, but because they are not meant to be consumed, they will not replace the need for edible bone in their diet.

The purpose of offering recreational bones is dental health, jaw exercise, and mental stimulation. It's a nice treat, but is not technically a part of their diet. Dogs can eat these bones, but there are risks.

Don't offer recreational chews to "gulpers." They could end up choking or have an intestinal blockage. Both of these are life-threatening, so only feed bones that you know they're properly chewing.

Some bones are harder than others, and this can affect the safety of the bone. A femur or marrow bone, for example will be very hard. The risk of your dog chipping or breaking a tooth is much higher than it would be with a softer bone.

Certain animals have very dense bones, which can also increase the dental risk. Beef, bison, and other large bovine bones are among the harder, denser bones. While the risk is higher, this doesn't mean that all bovine bones are off-limits.

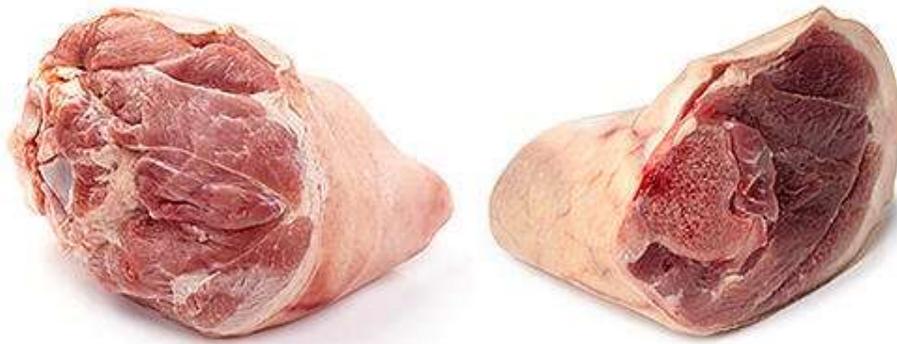
Many dog owners still feed these types of bones to their larger breed dogs as a means of distraction and activity. It's important to know the risk, but you know your dog best. How they chew and their current dental health are significant factors.

A healthy adult dog with appropriate chewing habits will likely do fine with the occasional recreational bone, but if you are concerned, then stick to edible bone only.

Red meat bones, usually bovine, will make up the majority of the recreational bones. Look for beef, bison, elk, moose, or deer bones. The sizes vary depending on the animal, so choose a protein source that is suited to your dog's size and chewing habits.

Some smaller animals like goats, llama, lamb, and pigs also have larger bones that can be fed, but these bones tend to be trickier to find. Talk to your local butcher to find out what kind of bones they can source.

Here are some of the best recreational bones that you can feed:



- Knuckles
- Hock bones
- Kneecaps
- Necks

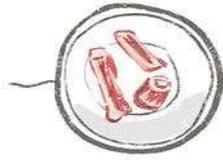
To use recreational bones as a chew, which is the intended purpose, allow your dog to gnaw but not eat. Once the bone has been picked clean of all bits and yummy flavouring, then take the bone away and discard it.

Power chewers will eat just about everything, so be very cautious when feeding these types of bones. Your dog's stomach acids can break down bone, but only in moderation. If your dog has a habit of swallowing large chunks of bone, then recreational bones are probably not the right choice.

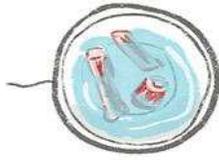
You may want to consider a different type of natural chew that can be broken down easier to prevent choking or digestive issues. Cow ears, tendons, and bully sticks may be better for aggressive chewers, and dogs that are not suited to recreational bones.

Instead of discarding the bone, you can use it to make bone broth. Check out our step by step bone broth recipe.

# HOW TO MAKE BONE BROTH FOR DOGS



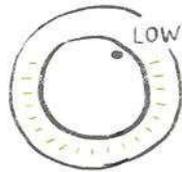
**Step 1**  
Add bones to  
crockpot



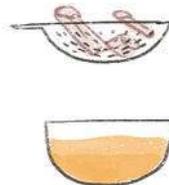
**Step 2**  
Cover with  
water



**Step 3**  
Add 4 tbsp  
of apple cider  
vinegar



**Step 4**  
Cook on low for  
24 hours



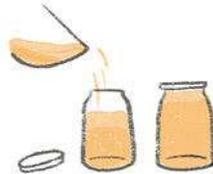
**Step 5**  
Strain out all  
bone



**Step 6**  
Add turmeric,  
coconut oil,  
kelp or garlic  
as desired



**Step 7**  
Let cool  
completely



**Step 8**  
Transfer to  
mason jars for  
storage



**Step 9**  
Refridgerate for  
up to 3 days,  
freeze the rest

**Top food or use to  
hide supplements  
or medication**



Customize it as to suit your dog's needs. Try different recipes to keep it fresh and exciting for your dog. You can also freeze the bone broth into ice cube trays. It's an easy way to portion it and add to any meal.

## Cooked bones



The last form of bone available is a cooked or smoked bone. I highly recommend avoiding this type of bone unless you are very sure that your dog is not consuming them and that they are chewing properly. There are a number of risks associated with cooked or smoked bones.

### **Brittle**

Bones that are cooked or smoked get brittle. The chances of splintering or breaking off into sharp pieces is higher in cooked bone. Pets consuming cooked or smoked bones can lead to sickness, vet visits, and sometimes death.

Pieces and shards of bone can do significant damage to their mouth, and there is a scarier risk of the bone fragments damaging delicate tissues along their digestive tract. Cuts or lacerations to the intestines, stomach, or oesophagus are painful and life-threatening.

### **Broken Teeth**

Cooked bones are more likely to damage teeth as well. Even an adult dog with healthy teeth can be at risk of cracking or breaking a tooth on a hard, cooked bone. While many dogs have been eating cooked bones for years without incident, tooth damage is still a constant risk.

### **Not Edible**

There are very few cooked bones that I recommend for chewing, and none that I recommend as edible. Anyone that prefers cooked bones is probably concerned about the messiness of feeding raw bones, but trust me when I say that the mess beats risking your pet's health and safety.

The only cooked bones that I have ever recommended for recreational chewing are knuckles and kneecaps. These bones are covered in connective tissues, like cartilage. These tasty little bits on the bone will keep your dog engaged and mentally stimulated.

The bone is also round, making it much more difficult to break off large pieces. A flatter or longer bone will crack and break into sharp pieces, while a round cartilaginous bone is much less likely to do that.

All that being said, I still recommend monitoring your dog and taking the bone away once your dog has cleaned it off. The risk of splintering or tooth damage is not gone, just reduced.

### Tips for Feeding Raw Bones



Feeding raw bones can seem a little gross, especially if your dog likes to carry his chews around the house or chew them on the furniture or carpet. A raw bone moving around your home can pose a health risk to you and your family, as the bones will contain the same bacteria as raw meat.

To prevent your dog from spreading these germs around the house, here are some best practices to keep you and your pet safe:

**1. Choose the right spot to feed.** Giving your dog a bone doesn't mean that they need free reign to move about the house with it. Choose a designated spot for your dog to chew, and make sure that it's an easy place to clean after they're done chomping down on their treat.

Feed in their kennel, on a washable mat, tile or linoleum, or outside. This may take some training, but be consistent. When you offer the bone, make sure you offer it in the designated area.

Try to use a vocal command like "spot" or "place" to help them connect the location with the fun of chewing on a bone. If they move from that spot, take the bone from them, walk them back to their place, and repeat the first steps. You may need to do this several times to help your dog understand.

**2. In the summer, feed bones partially frozen.** Nothing is more refreshing on a hot summer day than a nice cold treat. Help your dog stay cool by offering them a frozen bone. It will take them longer to chew, and will keep them hydrated.

**3. Use bones as a training opportunity.** I learned this nifty trick from a co-worker years ago. If your dog is not keen on baths, feed the bone in the bathtub. It's both an easy place to clean, and will help your dog associate the tub or shower with their favourite snack.

In time, you can try to pour small amounts of water on their feet and back to help them get used to getting wet in the tub.

Don't feed a bone while bathing your dog though. You neither want them consuming the soapy water, or bathing in raw meat juice. Feed the bone after the bath as a reward for good behaviour.

**4. Any surface that the bone has touched should be cleaned and sanitized.** If you use a blanket or towel, throw it in the wash. Tile floor or kennel? Wipe it down. Vinegar is a natural disinfectant that can be diluted in water and used to clean surfaces. It's great for cleaning up after your pet because it is non-toxic and safe if your dog licks the surface afterwards.

Most importantly, wash your hands after touching the bone. Avoid letting your dog give you kisses after chewing on the bone. They will likely have some blood, meat, or bacteria on their muzzle from chewing on it. Use a dog safe wipe or washcloth with warm water to wipe down their muzzle and paws. A quick wipe down will help prevent any residue from spreading around your house.

**5. Don't leave bones out.** Edible bones typically have tissues and meat on them. Treat them like raw meat. Whatever your dog doesn't eat in one sitting should be refrigerated. Proper storage will prevent the meat from spoiling, and limit the number of bacteria that are laying around your home.

For recreational bones, even if the bone has been cleaned off by your dog, the bone should be removed and discarded. Leaving a bone out will not only let the bone dry out, making it more likely to splinter or break, but it is also still hosting bacteria from the raw meat. Discarding the bone will prevent pathogens from spreading.

# Doggie Treat of the month

## Grain-free Salmon Pumpkin Dog Treat Recipe



### Ingredients

- 1 1/2 Cups of coconut flour
- 1 Cup canned wild caught salmon, drained.
- 1/2 Cup coconut oil, melted, but not hot
- 1 Large Egg
- 1/2 Cup of pumpkin puree (can also use sweet potato or squash)
- 4 Eggs

### Directions

- 1 Preheat oven to 160°C
- 2 Add all ingredients to food processor. Process until well blended and it easily forms a ball, when rolling into a ball if it feels to wet add a little bit more coconut flour.
- 3 Gently flatten the ball into a disc and place into an airtight container or wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for a minimum of one hour.
- 4 Place the dough disc between two pieces of parchment paper. Using a rolling pin, roll the dough out until it is approx. 5mm thick.
- 5 Using desired cookie cutter shape(s) start cutting and transfer to the prepared baking sheets.
- 6 Bake 18-20 minutes, until golden brown and hard. It is important that biscuits are completely dried out or they will go bad.
- 7 If they are still moist place back in oven until they are dry, hard, crisp
- 8 Store in an air-tight container for a few weeks

# Environmental Enrichment

(Sourced from Australian Veterinary Behaviour Services)

## What is it?

Providing your dog with environmental stimulation and activity to improve its wellbeing.

## Why?

Wild dogs spend a lot of time finding and eating food each day. However, our domestic dogs spend just a few seconds eating food from a bowl, which means they are left with an enormous amount of excess time.

This excess time can result in:

- \* Under-stimulation
- \* Boredom and
- \* Problem behaviours (e.g. Digging, barking, destructiveness).

Environmental enrichment can prevent, reduce, if not eliminate such behaviours.

“But my dog has a big back yard...” -this is the most common comment that we hear. Would leaving a toddler in a big room with no toys be any different than leaving them in a small room with no toys? No.

The space is not the issue; it is the quality of the space.



## The aim of environmental enrichment:

Dogs require both physical, social and mental stimulation requirements every day. The aim is to provide your dog with complexity, unpredictability and choice in its home environment.

## Some suggestions:

\* Physical enrichment: a tired dog is a happy dog!

- ◆ Daily play sessions with owners
- ◆ Daily walks –  
minimum of 30 minutes per day (this does not mean 2 hours once a week, it means EVERYDAY). If you have troubles walking your dog on lead then get help!
- ◆ Games (can be in the backyard or at the park on long lead) – e.g. Ball throwing, Frisbee
- ◆ Trick training
- ◆ Obedience training
- ◆ Agility training
- ◆ Fly ball, doggy dancing



## Mental enrichment - Keep that mind busy!

- ◆ Food dispensing toys
  - \* Kong's
  - \* Treat balls
  - \* Buster Cubes
- ◆ Home-made feeders from empty plastic bottles with lid off
  - \* Can also hang these so dog has to knock food from
- ◆ Scattering food on the lawn
- ◆ Raw marrowbones
- ◆ Ice blocks with dog food/vegies
- ◆ Empty cardboard boxes to tear up – can hide food treats inside
- ◆ Sandpits/wading pools – use a kids clam shell
- ◆ Squeaky toys, rope toys, etc.
- ◆ Hide food around the yard
- ◆ ROTATE TOYS EVERY COUPLE OF DAYS

Note – it is a good idea to feed most of your dog's daily food allowance through activity feeding, rather than in a bowl. Make them 'work' for their food.

## Social enrichment:

Dogs are social animals; so, don't punish them with solitary confinement.

- ◆ Allow your dog inside when you are home. If your dog is too boisterous to come inside then get some help on ways to encourage your dog to be relaxed when inside. Some simple methods to try are:
- ◆ Letting your dog inside after it has played (avoid letting inside when it is having a 'crazy' moment).
  - \* Put your dog on a leash when inside.
  - \* Give your dog something to chew when inside (e.g. Food dispensing toy).
  - \* Use baby gates to control the rooms your dog is in.
- ◆ Doggy day-care, crèche.
- ◆ Play dates – take your dog to a friend's house or vice versa whilst you are at work. Note – supervise initial play sessions and ensure dogs are compatible before leaving them unsupervised.
- ◆ A companion dog – be careful as sometimes then you may have 'double-trouble'. Get some advice on this before doing.
- ◆ Grooming sessions
- ◆ A 'view' of the world – some dogs benefit from being able to see outside their yard.
- ◆ Note – some dogs will bark more at passers-by – this is not desirable.

**IT TAKES SOME EFFORT TO PROVIDE ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT BUT THE RESULTS ARE WELL WORTH IT – PARTICULARLY FOR YOUR DOG'S SANITY!!**

**Look out in future newsletters with a breakdown of ideas and games.**



## Breed of the month

# Australian Kelpie



(Sourced from dogwise.com)  
GROUP – HERDING

### History

The history of the Australian Kelpie begins, as you might imagine, in Australia. Black Collies were imported to the continent to herd livestock in the 1800s from Britain and were crossbred with other breeds that likely even included wild dingoes. The resulting breed was hardy, able to withstand the tough climate of the continent, and capable of working practically nonstop. Ranchers valued them for their intelligence and ability to work independently. The first dog to be called "Kelpie" was bought by a man named Jack Gleeson in 1872 from a Scottish man named George Robertson, and was named after a shape-shifting water spirit from Celtic mythology that could appear as a horse or human. The breed was crossbred with many others since then to become the modern Australian Kelpie we know today. The Australian Kelpie was later exported to other countries around the world, and the breed was especially useful in the United States where it adapted to the climate, terrain, and variety of livestock very easily.



## **Personality**

Australian Kelpie have an independent streak that is greatly beneficial for herding work, but it also means that they need to be mentally challenged, or they may grow bored and engage in destructive behaviour. Despite this independent nature, Australian Kelpies should not be left without human company for long, least of all when they are cooped up indoors. They have a sensitive side that doesn't respond well to harsh rebukes or punishment, but a competent trainer that relies on positive reinforcement will find that these dogs are more than smart enough to follow commands, even at long distances. Australian Kelpies are not overly trusting of strangers, and they are very territorial. Although this makes them great watchdogs who will bark at any sign of danger, it also means they need socialization training from an early age, and it may be best for them if neighbouring pets are not allowed to wander on the property. They need to learn when it is appropriate to react with suspicion and when to allow guests to approach. Novice owners may find the exercise needs of the Australian Kelpie to be too much to handle. They need several walks, a good run each day, and mental exercises, such as learning new tricks or commands, to stay calm and happy.

## **Health**

The Australian Kelpie's health is generally good. The breed may be genetically predisposed to a few conditions that owners should watch out for, however. These include cryptorchidism, hip dysplasia, progressive retinal atrophy, Collie eye anomaly, and cerebellar abiotrophy, which is a neurological condition that affects movement. These conditions are fairly uncommon, but it is important to stay vigilant and keep up with regular vet visits.



## Care

Australian Kelpies require fairly little regular care. Their nails will usually file down naturally as they walk, though they should be checked for damage and trimmed if necessary. Teeth should be brushed regularly as recommended by a veterinarian. Their ears should be checked for signs of debris, parasites, or infection and kept clean. Baths should be given as needed

## Coat Colour and Grooming

Australian Kelpie coats can be short, rough, or smooth and come in several different beautiful colours. They can be black, red, chocolate, black with tan markings, red with tan markings, Smokey blue, or fawn. The Australian Kelpie's grooming needs are low to moderate. A brushing or two per week should help remove dead hair and reduce shedding. They often have double coats with the outer coat being more weather-resistant. Australian Kelpies tend to shed more heavily in the spring, so they may need extra brushing during that time.

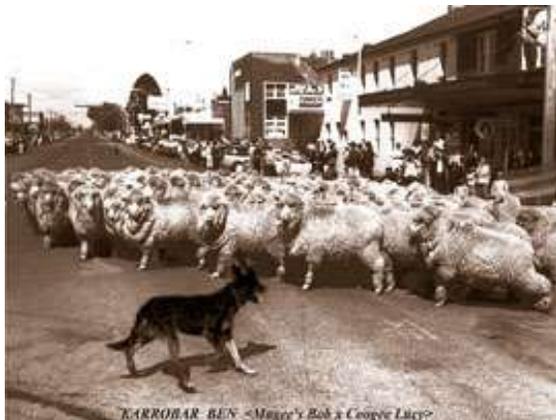
## Children and Other Pets

The natural herding instincts of the Australian Kelpie can make it hard for them to live with small children or other pets, as they have a tendency to nip in order to round up whoever or whatever they feel needs to be herded. Their distrust of strangers may also make things difficult when children have young friends over. However, all these tendencies can be kept under control and redirected to constructive behaviours with the right training, especially if socialization training begins early in life. If you plan to adopt an Australian Kelpie into your family, make sure you are prepared to give them the training they need to provide everyone with a safe and positive living environment, including your new pup

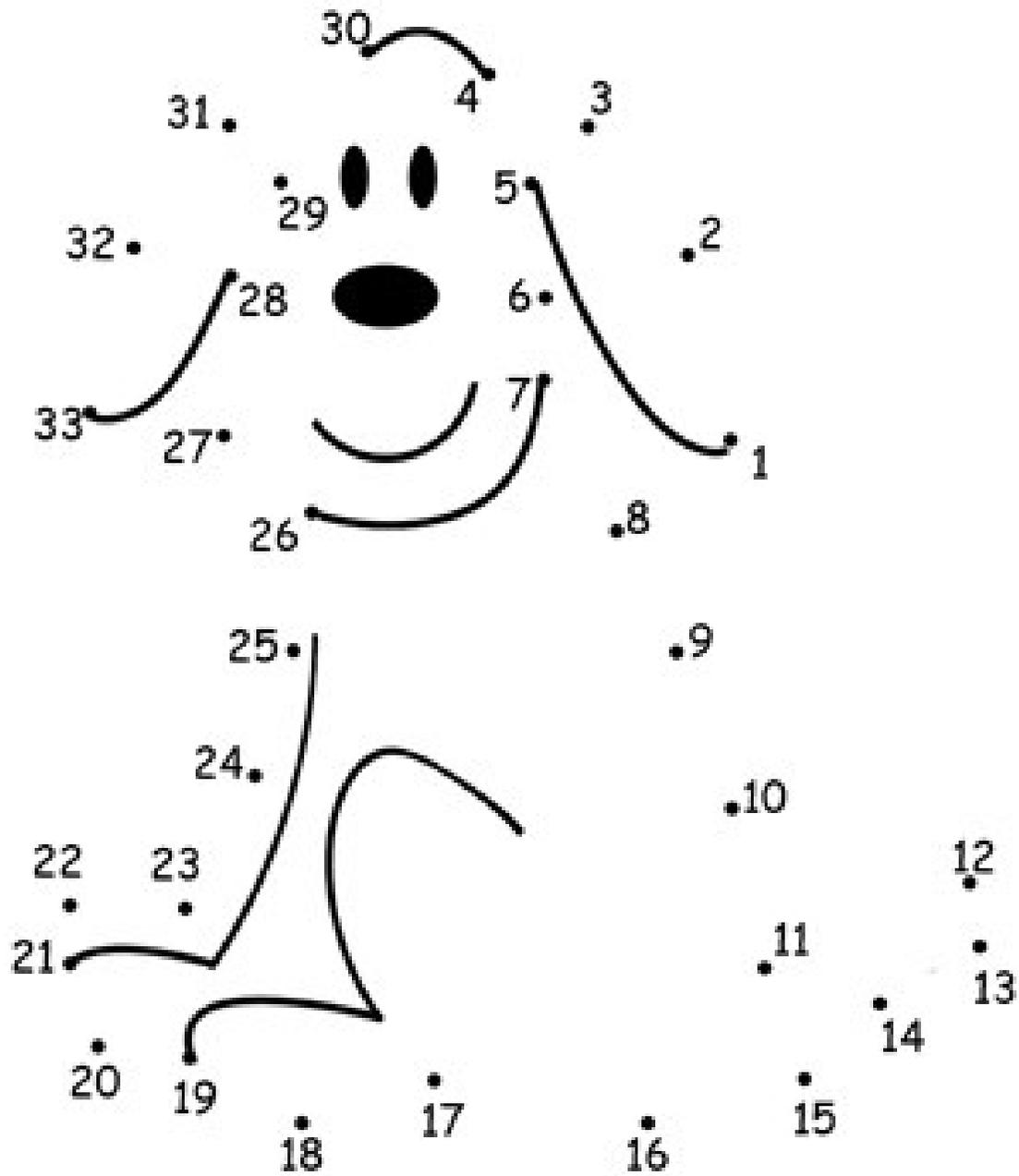


## Breed Characteristics in A Snapshot

<p><b>Adaptability</b> <b>3/5</b></p> <p>Adapts Well to Apartment Living 2/5            Good for Novice Owners 2/5            Sensitivity Level 4/5            Tolerates Being Alone 3/5            Tolerates Cold Weather 1/5            Tolerates Hot Weather 5/5</p>	<p><b>All Around Friendliness</b> <b>3/5</b></p> <p>Affectionate with Family 4/5            Kid-Friendly 2/5            Dog Friendly 3/5            Friendly Toward Strangers 2/5</p>
<p><b>Health and Grooming Needs</b> <b>3/5</b></p> <p>Amount of Shedding 3/5            Drooling Potential 1/5            Easy to Groom 4/5            General Health 3/5            Potential for Weight Gain 2/5            Size 3/5</p>	<p><b>Trainability</b> <b>5/5</b></p> <p>Easy to Train 5/5            Intelligence 5/5            Potential for Mouthiness 5/5            Prey Drive 4/5            Tendency to Bark or Howl 4/5            Wanderlust Potential 4/5</p>
<p><b>Physical Needs</b> <b>4/5</b></p> <p>Energy Level 5/5            Intensity 3/5            Exercise Needs 5/5            Potential for Playfulness 4/5</p>	<p><b>Dog Breed Group:</b>            Herding Dogs  <b>Height:</b>            15 to 20 inches tall at the shoulder  <b>Weight:</b>            25 to 46 pounds  <b>Life Span:</b>            10 to 15 years</p>



## Challenge for the Juniors



## Welcome to our New Members

Ursula with Lulu the Cocker Spaniel  
Glenys with Axel the Cavoodle x Poodle  
Jared with Kush the Rottweiler  
Maureen with Maggie the Chocolate Labrador  
Kathy & Alfie with Tina the Maltese x Poodle  
Caterina with Pepper the Australian Shepherd  
Jake & Liz with Bobby the Labrador  
Robyn with Kara the Karelian Bear Dog  
Stuart with Poppy the Labradoodle  
Marie-Lise & Rodney with Coco the Cavoodle  
Laury with Penny the Labrador x  
Molly with Moses the Kelpie  
Ashley with Marvel the Golden Retriever  
Lezanne with IO the Labrador  
Michael & Kim with George the Great Dane x  
Graeme with Matey the Golden Retriever  
James & Rosa with Enzo the Cocker Spaniel  
David with Archie the English Cocker Spaniel  
Leeann with Freddy the Jack Russell  
Kelly & Matt with Pepper the Great Dane x Mastiff  
Justin & Lorcan with Capri the Lagotto Romagnolu  
Olivia with Apollo the Siberian Husky  
Vanessa with Gidget the Groodle  
Floyde with Finn the Mini Poodle  
Brad with Jessie the Cattle Dog  
Greg & Ros with Daisy the Maltese Shihtzu  
Teresa with Gus the Mini Schnauzer  
Danielle with Zed the Staffy X  
Trevor & Dani with Riley the Bernese Mountain Dog  
Melissa with Magnus the German Shorthaired Pointer  
Wayne with Rocco the Border Collie  
Ruby & Jo with Scout the Toy Poodle  
Meree with Rory the American Staffordshire  
Clayton with Macs the Standard Poodle  
Melissa with the Standard Poodle  
William with Momo the Great Dane x Mastiff  
Ellen & Ben with Rupert the Labrador  
Wendy with Hermoine the Cavalier  
Rachael the Cavalier  
Janet with Ziggy the Aerdale  
Daniel & Lauren with Opal the Poodle  
Terry with Polly the Kelpie X



## 2020/2021

<b>Executive Committee</b>			
<b>President</b>	Linda Thomas		
<b>Vice President</b>	Tony Gardiner		
<b>Chief Instructor</b>	Fiona Moulton		
<b>Treasurer</b>	Carol Zietsch		
<b>Secretary</b>	Danielle Zietsch		
<b>Life Members</b>			
Mark Johnston	Kim P	George Bartolo OAM	
Loreena Tate	Phil Rath		
Dave Cooper	Lorraine Lipman		
<b>Life Members</b>			
Ron Wilson	Kay Jefferys	Tony Gardiner	Carol Zietsch
June Franks	Phil Rath	George Bartolo OAM	
Kyle Charnock	Peter Franks	Bev Charnock (dec)	
<b>Instructors</b>			
Mark Johnston	Linda Thomas	Fiona Moulton	David Chester
Phil Rath	Lorraine Lipman	George Bartolo OAM	
Larissa Woods	Pam Townsend	Dave Cooper	
Heather Kennedy	Geoff Taylor	John Hallett	

Meetings are held Bi-Monthly and are open to club members to attend. We would love to see you.

Next Bi-Monthly Meeting is  
**1<sup>st</sup> December 2020**  
7pm – 8.30pm

IDTC Club House  
JJ Kelly Park  
Swan Street  
Wollongong



## Ground Rules

- Dogs 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 in progress.
- Classes using club equipment will be responsible for returning this equipment to correct storage place under the supervision of the class instructor.
- Parking on the 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 substation.
- Pick up your dog's 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 volunteer's cars for both children and dog's safety.
- Children are not permitted in class with parents.
- Fully enclosed shoes must be worn at all times.

## 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 next to your left leg on command.
3. Your dog is able to stand next to your left leg 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 with you standing beside it, in position for 30 seconds.

Handling the lead with two (2) hands most of the time and using the lead to position the dog. At this stage it is much more important that the handler's mechanics are good-giving clear commands, guiding the dog as necessary, and praising the dog. If the dog makes a mistake and is effectively guided by the handler this is a positive.

## 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 is able to sit next to your left leg on command.
3. Your dog is able to stand next to your left leg 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 sit and stay with you standing in front, in position for 30 seconds.
9. Your dog can stand and stay with you standing beside it, in position for 30 seconds.

At this stage it is expected that to sit and stand, very little guiding is necessary (<3 out of 5 times). Still walking using the lead to position the dog, giving feedback to the dog when it is in position.

## 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 is comfortably walking next to your left leg using a loose leash.
2. Your dog is able to drop next to your left leg on command.
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. Your dog is able to get your dog to do a place finish as a separate exercise.
7. You can get your dog to successfully complete an off-lead recall to front on command.
8. Your dog can calmly work with you at slow pace.
9. Your dog can sit and stay with you standing in front, in position for 30 seconds, returning around your dog.
10. Your dog can stand and stay with you standing in front, in position for 30 seconds.
11. Your dog can stay in the down with you standing beside it in position for 30 seconds

At this stage it is expected that to sit and stand and drop come and place, very little guiding is necessary (<3 out of 5 times). Still walking using the lead but with a loose leash majority of the time.



**DOGSNSW**  
Promoting Responsible Dog Ownership



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**PETFOOD & PRODUCE**

Visit us at [www.idtc.org.au](http://www.idtc.org.au)

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