



# WALKABOUT

January 2020, Issue Number 132

## President's Notes – January 2020

Happy New Year everyone! I can't believe it's 2020. It feels like we're living in the future. I hope you had a wonderful festive season and that the new year brings lots of fun and joy for you and your dog.

We finished off last year with the launch of the Kingborough Dog Owner's Handbook. Please see the separate article in this newsletter for details, including a mention in State Parliament.

Some other good news late last year was the success of our application for a Tasmanian Community Fund grant. This will allow us to replace the dog agility equipment in the Dru

Point dog exercise area in Margate. Many thanks to committee members Venie Phillips and Tony Walch for the effort they put into writing the grant proposal. Congratulations and well done.

This year we will also be replacing some of the dog agility equipment at the Suncoast Dog Park. The existing tunnel, consisting of two 44-gallon drums welded together, was installed many years ago and has now rusted and is no longer useable. One of our members informed us of this, but also managed to source a replacement tunnel which has now been installed. Many thanks Marea.

There have been some recent changes in the laws relating to greyhounds. Several years ago, the law changed to allow greyhounds in public without a muzzle if they had been assessed by an accredited organisation such as GAP or Brightside. Late last year the State Dog Control Act was changed to allow Councils to specify areas where assessed greyhounds would be allowed off-lead. Kingborough Council officers are preparing a report for Council and they will be consulting widely to try to get the best outcomes for all dog owners. KDWA have had input into this process and we are hopeful that greyhounds will eventually be able to run off-lead in specified areas.

As I write this, the weather has turned cold and wet, and we look for gaps in the rain to walk our dogs. The garden, however, is quite happy. I'm sure summer will return soon, and it will be back to getting out early so the pavement is not too hot for dogs' paws. Whatever the weather, I hope you regularly enjoy a good walk with your four-legged friend.

Cheers, Peter



**Charlotte Peterswald  
Property Management**

## KDWA CALENDAR

Sat 1 Feb Dog Recall demonstration, Kingston Beach approx. 10.30 am

Thu 13 Feb Chats\*, Kingston Library Meeting Room 7.30–8.30 pm

Thu 12 Mar Chats\*, Kingston Library Meeting Room 7.30–8.30 pm

Thu 9 Apr Chats\*, Kingston Library Meeting Room 7.30–8.30 pm.

Thu 14 May Chats\*, Kingston Library Meeting Room 7.30–8.30 pm

\*Chats = Committee meeting, members welcome (no dogs)

### Your 2019-2020 KDWA Committee

<p><b>President:</b> Peter McIntosh Email: <a href="mailto:kdwa.tas@gmail.com">kdwa.tas@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Vice President:</b> Venie Phillips Email: <a href="mailto:venie.phillips@gmail.com">venie.phillips@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>Treasurer:</b> Simon Barnsley Email: <a href="mailto:simonbarnsley01@gmail.com">simonbarnsley01@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Secretary:</b> Jan New Clarke Email: <a href="mailto:sujan.newclark@gmail.com">sujan.newclark@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>Committee Members:</b> Georgia Clark, Carl Mann, Sam Scarlett, Tony Walch</p>	<p><b>Public Officer:</b> Ailsa Richard <b>Newsletter Editor:</b> Venie Phillips Email: <a href="mailto:venie.phillips@gmail.com">venie.phillips@gmail.com</a></p>

## Introducing your new committee members

### Simon Barnsley – Treasurer



Simon Barnsley is the new Treasurer for KDWA. He has lived in Kingston for over 25 years and has been a dog owner for all that time - the picture includes his current dog Alfie.

Simon worked for many years in State Government as a corporate services manager. More recently he has worked with various non-government organisations in management roles, most recently with Anglicare Tasmania. He brings experience in working in many diverse financial management roles in large and small organisations.

Having retired from work in September 2019, he is enjoying having the time and opportunity to become involved in local

community organisations.

As a long-term dog owner Simon recognizes the value that KDWA provides in being an effective representative group for dog owners in Kingborough.

### Carl Mann – Property Officer

Carl is returning to 'active duty' after a short absence from the committee. He's a Life Member and has contributed enormously to KDWA in his 20 plus years of membership.

As our Property Officer, Carl will be responsible for keeping track of equipment.

### Su Jan New-Clark – Secretary



Jan is a keen building designer, a crafty-things pursuer and a proud fur-mum to Dusty, the cuddliest brindle American Staffy boy. Jan moved to Kingborough in the last couple of years and has been slowly exploring the region for the best spots to hangout and have adventures with Dusty. She loves lazy afternoons, naps, picnics and road trips. True to her Malaysian roots, she will travel to the ends of the earth for the best food.

## Coming up – keep abreast of what we're doing

Follow the KDWA Facebook page, look out for emails from KDWA or check the KDWA web pages regularly for dates and details of events that are being planned. If you'd like to know more or help organise any of these events, email: [kdwa.tas@gmail.com](mailto:kdwa.tas@gmail.com)

## 'Pop Up' Training Demonstrations

Following on from the *What Dogs Can Do* event last year, KDWA hopes to inspire and motivate dog owners to achieve good recall when they take their dogs to the off-lead dog areas in Kingborough.

Having good recall is actually a legal condition to use these spaces so helping dog owners achieve this is in the community interest. Exercising good recall results in respectful behaviour in shared spaces. Achieving this requires consistency, good observation and the building of trust between dog and owner. It's not easy to do but you can get there with help and guidance from experts in Kingborough.

### Our first 'pop up' training demonstration – Saturday February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Michael Brooks from Southern Obedience Club Tasmania has organised a Club member, Todd Mazur, and his dog Gracie to demonstrate recall on Kingston Beach on Feb 1st, 2020. Gracie has recently qualified as a Community Companion Dog. She is a very young and very, very friendly dog, so perfection may not be on show.

Gracie and Todd will be demonstrating mid-morning (or thereafter) and there will be KDWA members on hand to share information and direct questions on recall to Michael.

Come along and pick up some useful tips!

### Our second 'pop up' training demonstration – March

If you cannot attend the February demo, fear not. KDWA has plans to provide another pop-up in March with the help of Kat Davson-Galle from the Happy Hound Initiative. Some of you will remember Kat from our April 2019 event, *What Dogs Can Do*.

Monitor our website <https://www.dogwalkingtas.org.au/kingborough> or our Facebook page for details of this and any further pop-ups we are lucky enough to present.

We could not provide these demonstrations without the donation of time and skill of trainers in Kingborough. We are so grateful for their willingness to help.

## Dru Point Update

In the October issue of Walkabout (Number 131) we advised that we'd applied for a grant from the Tasmanian Community Fund. **Our application has been successful!** In the next few months we'll receive funding of \$11,650 from the Tasmanian Community Fund. As part of our application Council will be helping with installation costs and KDWA will provide \$2000 (some of this in kind for supervision, mentoring and physical assistance as required).

KDWA has in the past applied for funding from various organisations with no success so we were not too hopeful with this application, despite the hours put in with the application. Our trust in the system is now restored.

### What happens now?

Well, we met with the Tasmanian Community Fund on Monday 13 January to hear about the procedures and the accounting needed before the funds are handed over. A grant deed will be drawn up, requiring our signature, and we're sure many safeguards will be put in place before the funds are handed over. Hopefully this will happen in the next few weeks so we can get on with the work.

### What will be done?

- 1) New agility equipment area will replace the old equipment which built by KDWA nearly 20 years ago. The new equipment will be similar to that at the John Turnbull Park at Lenah Valley.
- 2) A new Puppy Area will be created, separate to but adjoining the present exercise area, with its own entry gate.
- 3) A new watering system will replace the tap and old pipe currently in use.

Hopefully this will all be completed in the first half of this year.

### 2021 and further ahead with our crystal ball!

We have been informed that the old TasWater site in the middle cannot be used for 2 years as it is contaminated. No decision on its use has been made by Council but KDWA will be providing detailed plans for this area by the end of 2020. At present we envisage (if Council allows) a flat area, with entrances on 3 sides from the current exercise area, with a few trees and some seats so that energetic dogs can race around and chase balls etc. This will allow less energetic dogs and their humans to continue walking around the current area without being harassed by the energetic dogs. We would deliberately not do too much in there until we see how it settles down.

If anyone reading the above has any suggestions for improving facilities, or would like to get involved in the process, please contact Tony Walch on 0458 295 399.

## Dedication of new plaque in the Peter Murrell Reserve



The KDWA seat in the reserve was repainted in preparation for the installation of a new plaque which recognizes the contributions made by the late Diane Fuglsang and her mother, Marjory Crossley.

*Diane's husband Chris Fuglsang, her sisters and her grandchildren attended the dedication.*

## Kingborough Dog Owner's Handbook

The Kingborough Dog Owner's Handbook was launched at an event at the Salty Dog in Kingston Beach on 9 November 2019. The handbook is a joint production between Kingborough Council and KDWA. It is a glossy booklet containing a wealth of information, advice and further reading for dog owners.

In his speech at the launch, Mayor Dean Winter credited Cr. Richard Atkinson with the original idea. Since then, many people have contributed including the KDWA committee, Dr. Katrina Ward and Council staff.

There has been considerable interest in the handbook and the story of its development. It has shown how tension and disagreement between a council and a community group can be turned into a positive outcome for everyone. Hopefully this can set an example for wider community interaction with local councils. Indeed, other councils have already shown interest in using the handbook as a basis for a similar document in their own municipalities.

Media coverage included an article in the Kingborough Chronicle, an interview on ABC local radio between Joel Rheinberger and KDWA President Peter McIntosh, and a mention in State Parliament!

Each year, the Legislative Council invites its members to give a short speech, called a Special Interest Matter, about something significant in their electorate. Meg Webb MLC attended the handbook launch and was motivated to speak about the handbook as an example of people working together to negotiate and find solutions.

The handbook is available from the KDWA web site

<https://www.dogwalkingtas.org.au/kingborough> or from the Kingborough Council web site

<https://www.kingborough.tas.gov.au/services/animal-management/dogs/>. There are also a few hard copies available from the Council office.

## Items Available for Ordering Online:

'Dog home alone' key ring (<https://www.dogwalkingtas.org.au/kdwa-keyring>)

This keyring will give you peace of mind and may even save your dog's life, if you live alone.

Attach the keyring to your set of keys and, on the back, write the name and phone number of someone who is willing and able to look after your dog in an emergency.



PLEASE CALL  
NAME:  
PH:

**Cost:** \$6 for one or \$10 for two - *plus* \$5 postage or collect from a committee member.

**KDWA Clothing** ([www.dogwalkingtas.org.au/kdwa-clothing](http://www.dogwalkingtas.org.au/kdwa-clothing))

T-shirts, windcheaters and hoodies for men and women, available in all sizes and a range of colours.

Instructions for ordering are on the webpage. Delivery takes about two weeks; pay on delivery.



## Summer Safety

Watch out for snakes! To minimize risks, keep your dogs on lead in all bush areas and walk only on established tracks.

Consider the safety and comfort of your dogs when they are in the car – remember that the temperature inside a car can rise dangerously high, very quickly, on a warm day.

## New members

The more members we have, the more effective our organisation will be!

A KDWA Membership Application Form is available for you to share with prospective members.

Click [here](#) if you wish to access this.

**NB Your membership fees are NOT DUE till July 1, 2020**