



Kingborough
Dog
Walking
Association

WALKABOUT

August 2021, Issue Number 137

President's Notes – August 2021



As Spring hesitantly arrives and thoughts turn to home maintenance and gardening, why not fuel the hard work with a sausage or two? KDWA is holding a fundraising sausage sizzle on Saturday 28th August at Bunnings in Kingston. You can find further details elsewhere in this newsletter.

The results of Kingborough Council's by-election, precipitated by the election of Mayor Dean Winter to State Parliament, are now known. We congratulate new Mayor Paula Wriedt, and new Councillor Clare Glade-Wright. Our quarterly meetings with the Mayor and Deputy will continue as a way of keeping open the

communication on dog issues in the community.

As part of the by-election process, KDWA conducted a dog survey of the candidates, much as we did prior to the last Council election in 2018. The results show that, overall, candidates were very positive on a range of dog issues, including the question, "What are your views on regarding dogs as sentient beings?" You can view the full results of the survey at <https://www.dogwalkingtas.org.au/kdwa-dog-survey-2021>. We also met with two candidates, Clare Glade-Wright, and Kate Lucas, for a longer discussion on dog issues.

Clarence City Council's review of its dog management policy is nearing completion. The second stage of community consultation closed on 28th July. All input will now be evaluated, and the policy will be finalised and endorsed by the Council shortly.

KDWA wrote a submission which was sent directly to Clarence Councillors and the Mayor. We noted that dogs are an integral part of the community so it is essential to get the policy settings right. We argued the importance of off-lead exercise areas, particularly beaches. We also encouraged the Clarence Council to form a good working relationship with the newly-formed Clarence Dog Owners' Group (CDOG), based on the positive outcomes from our own excellent relationship with Kingborough Council.

Our Annual General Meeting is on Thursday 9th September at 7.30pm. It will be held at the same place as last year, the Kingston Library meeting room. The guest speaker is Trish Brown from Noseworks. There will be drinks and nibbles afterwards. I encourage all KDWA members to come along and vote for your new committee, or even put your hand up to join the committee. It is a very rewarding and enjoyable experience being part of a group dedicated to making life better for our furry companions.

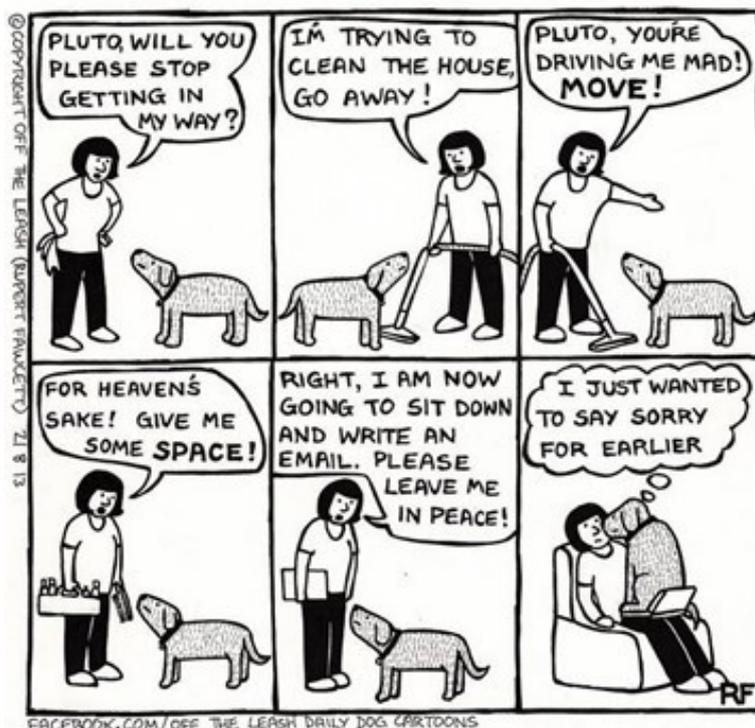
Cheers, Peter.

Your 2020-2021 KDWA Committee

<p>President: Peter McIntosh Email: kdwa.tas@gmail.com</p>	<p>Vice President: Venie Phillips Email: venie.phillips@gmail.com</p>
<p>Treasurer: Simon Barnsley Email: simonbarnsley01@gmail.com</p>	<p>Secretary: Su Jan New Clark Email: sujan.newclark@gmail.com</p>
<p>Committee Members: Georgia Clark, Tony Walch, Katrina Ward, Jess Adams</p>	<p>Public Officer: Ailsa Richard Newsletter Editor: Venie Phillips Email: venie.phillips@gmail.com</p>

KDWA website:
 Click [HERE](#) for KINGBOROUGH | [dogwalkingtas](#)

KDWA Facebook page:
 Click [HERE](#)



KDWA CALENDAR

August 28	9.00 am	Sausage Sizzle Fund Raiser
		Kingston View Greyhound Area opens
September 9	7.30 pm	Annual General Meeting
September 12	9.30 am	Blackmans Bay Foreshore*
October 10	9.30 am	Trial Bay*
October 14	7.30 pm	Committee Meeting
November 14	9.30 am	Margate Tramway Track*
December 12	9.30 am	Boronia Hill Flora Track*

* *On-lead walks*

More detail can be found on the next page and on our website, including Google maps links to help you know where to be.

Annual General Meeting – 7.30pm September 9

The annual General Meeting will be held in the Meeting Room at the Kingston Library.

All committee positions will become vacant and we welcome people to stand for election. Our wonderful Secretary, Su-Jan Clark, will vacate the role after several years. In addition, our indefatigable Vice President (and previous President) Venie Phillips is taking a back seat after many years helping lead our association.

Guest Speaker: We're delighted to have Trish Brown as our guest speaker this year.

Trish is the Scent Work instructor with the Hobart Dog Training Club. She is also a licensed Scent Work judge and a member of the National Scent Work Working Group, the body that oversaw the roll out of Scent Work as a sport in Australia.

Trish is also a Board member of Dogs' Homes of Tasmania, and a volunteer trainer at the Hobart Dogs' Home, working with dogs who need extra help to prepare them for rehoming.

Trish has had dogs all her life and enjoys scent work and tracking with her two dogs - Rennie, a Standard Schnauzer and Nell, a whippet mix.

As part of her presentation, Trish will give a short demonstration of scent work with one of her dogs.

The evening will end with home-made nibbles, wine, tea, coffee and the chance to chat with Trish and members of the committee.

Planned 'Chats & Wags' Walks – Sep - Dec

Meet up with other KDWA members and their dogs for a walk. Walks are held on the second Sunday of each month and start at 9.30 am. In case of inclement weather, the KDWA Facebook page will give notice of any cancellations.

Visit this website for locations and maps used for creating this calendar:

<https://www.kingborough.tas.gov.au/recreation-facilities/tracks-trails/>

September 12 | Blackmans Bay Foreshore

Meet just before 9.30am on pathway near public toilets.

Walk south following path up the hill and towards the lookout. Continue on and turn around wherever the group feel is appropriate.

Catch your breath at outdoor tables at The Beach House, weather permitting.

Host: Venie

October 10 | Trial Bay track, Kettering

Meet just prior to 9.30am at BBQ shelter near public toilets at Trial Bay.

Walk north along foreshore path before returning.

If you've packed a thermos and snacks, enjoy the bay from the shelter or find an appropriate dog friendly café for a post-walk beverage.

November 14 | Margate Tramway track

Meet before 9.30am at Margate oval carpark.

Stroll the Tramway track heading south towards Snug. Cross Channel Highway and visit the end of Gemalla Road. Return by retracing steps.

Visit the Margate Train for beverages and snacks afterwards.

December 12 | Boronia Hill Flora track

Meet prior to 9.30am at the parking area off Jindabyne Road.

Enjoy a 4 km bush walk on a narrow bush track with some steps. Takes approx. 1 hour.

Visit Kingston Beach after for refreshments.



Fund-raising Sausage Sizzle – August 28



Please come along and support KDWA.

WHEN: Saturday 28 August, from 9.00am to 3.30pm.

WHERE: Bunnings Kingston.

WHY: To boost our funds so that we can better promote the interests of our members.

Dealing with poo

Owning a dog means dealing with poo – and this is a continuing challenge, especially in public areas.

If you have a medium to large dog and a small backyard then you'll be well aware of the issue and will have worked out how to deal with it.



If you walk your dog in public areas, you'll understand the need to pick up poo and you'll also be conscious of those who fail to pick up. Not every dog owner is assiduous in picking up and many of our dogs are skilled in finding secluded areas to do their business. As an association, we have to consider what might assist in better managing poo removal and disposal as it frequently frustrates all of us.

Australia has one of the highest rates of pet ownership in the world, with more than one third of Australian households

(38%) owning dogs. Dogs improve the quality of our lives and studies show that exposure to dogs provides many health and social benefits. Animal Medicine Australia estimates there are [5.1m dogs in Australia](#). A single dog produces approximately 340 grams of waste per day. That means Australia's dogs drop a mind-boggling weight in poo, 1,734 tonnes daily or a Sydney Harbour Bridge's worth monthly!

So, if those are the statistics what can we do about it?

Firstly, the Kingborough Council has resolved to introduce compostable bags for all the public dog walking areas where bags are provided; this is a step up on the current biodegradable bags and will reduce the environmental impact from all those bags we use.

Secondly, we are following developments from a project undertaken in South Australia featured recently in the Guardian: (<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2021/apr/11/australian-dogs-poo-the-weight-of-the-sydney-harbour-bridge-each-month-where-should-it-go>) . A local SA dog walking club set out to understand the scale of the challenge, educate their community and provide better ways to compost the contents of dog poo bins.

There is a great deal that needs to be understood about appropriate disposal of dog poo as it does contain pathogens and harmful bacteria, thus it must be handled safely. KDWA will continue to consider this issue and keep members and council informed on what we learn.



Thirdly, we try to stay in touch with the varied signs and approaches that councils use to encourage people to dispose of poo appropriately; here's a photo which gave us a laugh recently.



Another council used humour with this sign but the message is clear – do the right thing or get fined.

Membership Fees in 2021-2022

Membership fees for the financial year 2021-2022 were due on July 1. Please check that your membership is current.

Membership is now \$20 per person per year or \$25 for a family. You can find online and printable memberships forms [here](#).

Local council elections are due to be held next year and, in the following year, Kingborough's Dog Management Plan will be due for review. We will be active in looking after your interests when this happens. Our influence with council is directly related to our numbers – the more members we have, the greater our influence!

You can help KDWA look after the interests of dogs and their owners by keeping your membership current and by encouraging others to become members.

Simon Barnsley, Treasurer

Dedicated Greyhound Area Opens Sat 28 August

Kingborough Council has established a dedicated greyhound area at the Kingston View Drive dog park. After receiving advice from experts in this field, the council has incorporated some changes to improve its suitability for sighthounds, such as greyhounds and whippets: shade cloth has been placed around the fences and a seat has been removed.

While not everyone is happy with this area, the council is attempting to meet the needs of greyhounds while adhering to the requirements of the Dog Control Act.

Kingston Beach notice: 'On-leash until the dog beach'

Council has asked KDWA to help draw people's attention to the zoning for off-leash areas around the Kingston Beach footpaths, carparks and dog beach: dogs must be on-leash until they are actually on the dog beach.

Some dog owners are letting their dogs off-leash too early, sometimes straight from their vehicle; this can cause problems as this is a shared-use area: dogs run the risk of injury from cars and people may be knocked over by boisterous dogs in an on-leash area where dogs running free is not expected.

Please leash your dogs as you get them out of your vehicle and keep them leashed until you are on the dog beach.

A new sign will soon be erected to reinforce this message.

Facilitate shared usage and keep dogs safe.

Doggy dentition – a member’s story

It just so happened that my dog’s dental appointment coincided with dental health month. She has now returned from the clinic, still a bit wobbly from the anaesthesia, but this episode has brought some interesting revelations. The problem isn’t always what you anticipate!

At the 5-year-old mark, and with not the best start to life from a dental health perspective, my dog was starting to show periodontal disease with a bit of redness in the gums, stinky breath and occasional reluctance to chewing. I’d tried less invasive treatment such as chewing and diet adjustment but had not made much headway, so it was time to clear the slate.

The vet discovered gum flaps on her upper back teeth, which may be congenital, and a part of a back tooth missing, possibly a symptom of hurried bone chewing in a previous home. Her teeth are now polished and her gums trimmed. Having opted in for blood tests, it was reassuring that the results came back as they should. The recovery regime includes arnica to aid gum healing, with CoQ10 for antioxidant and regenerative benefits.

If you are battling periodontal disease for your own dog, remember that it often starts with what goes in. Here are some tips to aid dental maintenance.

- Choose a diet that doesn’t leave a starchy residue on teeth.
- Incorporate anti-inflammatories in food, such as turmeric and/or coconut oil. Check with your vet if this could interact with any medications.
- If your dog doesn’t drink enough water, ensure adequate hydration through food or other means which will also help with saliva production to protect teeth and gums. A friend has found success with a warm water layer over their dog’s food, and my vet suggested offering lactose-free milk.

What might be holding you back from booking a dental appointment for your dog? Expense is an understandable deterrent, but remember that it is less expensive and better for your dog to take a preventative approach. Is your dog’s breed sensitive to anaesthesia, making you hesitant to put them under for a simple tooth clean? If a polish is all that’s needed, ask if it could be done without an anaesthetic.

Unfortunately, many dogs are now being bred with hereditary faulty dentition, so we have to look ahead to the next generation and change trends towards more sensible breeding – and show some love to our toothless tigers!

Jess Adams



**Charlotte Peterswald
Property Management**

KDWA online purchases

Items Available for Ordering Online:

'Dog Home Alone' key ring

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

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.

Cost: \$6 for one or \$10 for two *plus* \$5 postage, or phone 0419306021 to collect from a committee member.



[CLICK HERE TO BUY 'DOG HOME ALONE' KEY RING](#)

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.



[CLICK HERE TO BUY 'KDWA CLOTHING'](#)