

Non Agenda item, Eurobodalla Shire Council meeting 22nd Nov. 2016.

Good morning, Madam Mayor, Councillors, General Manager and Council Staff,

I would like to talk to you this morning about why a DOG PARK and ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE (AWL) DOG TRAINING CLUB are urgently needed in BATEMANS BAY

- The success of Dog Training Clubs in both Narooma and Moryua combined with the many 24 hour leash-free areas at both these locations, where less than half of the dogs registered in the Shire reside, only reinforces the need for similar facilities to be made available to the residents of Batemans Bay where over half of the dogs in the Shire reside.
- At present, the existing dog clubs cannot cope with the numbers of pet dog owners requesting help with training their dogs, more facilities are urgently needed.
- The majority of dog problem behaviours reported to Council come from Batemans Bay where there are no dog training classes and no promotion of responsible dog ownership.
- There are no secure 24 hour leash-free areas for pet dogs to be safely exercised, socialised and trained in Batemans Bay.
- A Petition from over 800 residents of Batemans Bay requesting that Council provide a Dog Park and Dog Training Club facilities for pet dog owners in Batemans Bay will be presented to Council.
- Two decades ago 80% of pet dogs spent most if not all of their time alone in backyards, Today 80% of pet dogs spend most if not all of their time living in the family home with their human family. (see, Pets in the City, P.I.A.S. 2010)
- Many families take their dogs with them on holidays. These families seek out dog-friendly destinations to “party” in. Batemans Bay needs a Dog Park to attract this growing market of canine 'tourists'. At present Batemans Bay and the Eurobodalla Shire are not seen as being dog-friendly destinations. (for example, see Destination NSW, and www.doggo.com.au)
- Other Councils allow responsible dog owners the use of Parks, Ovals, and Sporting Fields, both on-leash and off-leash. Berry, for example, allows dogs 24 hour off-leash access to their Sporting Complex. A search of any location on “doggo.com.au” will reveal how other Councils allocate resources for Companion Animal activities and the promotion of Responsible Dog Ownership. They are acutely aware of the resulting huge health, economic and social benefits for all in the community.

DOG PARK

The area designated for a Dog Park must be a secure fenced area in Batemans Bay. With both “small” and “large” dog sections. Have double gates, seating and shade for owners to socialise and exercise their dogs. Have drinking water for both humans and dogs, poo bag dispensers and waste bins and car parking. (As a guide see, UNLEASHED – A guide to successful Dog Parks, Govt. S.A. 2013)

AWL DOG TRAINING CLUB

The area designated for an AWL dog training club, must be fenced and secure, have level grounds and have the basic facilities for a dog club, storage for dog training equipment and car parking. This area in Batemans Bay may be shared with other sporting groups.

NOTE: The area used by the **Pony Club** was deemed **unsuitable** as many of the people who would participate in dog agility (which entails running through a course with a dog) the potted and uneven ground would pose a risk to health and safety for young and old alike.

SUITABLE AREAS IDENTIFIED TO LOCATE THE AWL DOG TRAINING CLUB INCLUDE:

Former Bowling Club: Shared use of the three most northerly greens of the former bowling club, this would require the minimal financial outlay to make suitable and secure for pet dog training. Has car parking, storage, lighting, seating and shade already in place.

- **This area could immediately be made totally separate and independent from the main building and bowling green at that site at minimal cost.**
- **Could also be used as an interim location to get the club started.**

Hanging Rock: shared use of a sporting field or oval, with storage facilities and car parking.

Mackay Park: shared use of sporting field. storage, facilities and car parking.

Thank you, for listening.

Kind regards,

Robert Loftus

Attachments:

- 1) Distribution of Pet Dog Resources in the ESC Area
- 2) Eurobodalla Shire Council as represented on www.doggo.com.au
- 3) Destination NSW, Pet-friendly holiday spots in Sydney and NSW

Distribution of Resources for Pet Dogs in the Eurobodalla Shire Council Area

Narooma Rural Hinterland	Population 2016: 2,570	Population 2036: 2,739
Narooma -North Narooma – Kianga	Population 2016: 3,450	Population 2036: 3,920
Dalmeny	Population 2016: 2,057	Population 2036: 2,314
Total Population:	(2016) 8,077	(2036) 8,973
Estimated Canine Population:	(2016) 3,069	(2036) 3,409
*Dog Training Club		YES
*24 hour Off -Leash area		YES
Tuross Head	Population 2016: 2,266	Population 2036: 2,412
Total Population:	(2016) 2,266	(2036) 2,412
Estimated Canine Population:	(2016) 861	(2036) 916
*Dog Training Club		NONE
*24 hour Off -Leash areas		YES
Moryua Rural Hinterland	Population 2016: 2,674	Population 2036: 2,842
Moruya – Moruya Heads	Population 2016: 3,580	Population 2036: 4,783
Total Population:	(2016) 6,254	(2036) 7,625
Estimated Canine Population:	(2016) 2,376	(2036) 2,897
*Dog Training Club		YES
*24 hour Off -Leash area		YES
Broulee – Tomakin – Mossy Point	Population 2016: 3,048	Population 2036: 4,066
Total Population:	(2016) 3,048	(2036) 4,066
Estimated Canine Population:	(2016) 1,158	(2036) 1,545
*Dog Training Club		NONE
*24 hour Off -Leash area		YES
Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland	Population 2016: 2,573	Population 2036: 2,882
Batemans Bay – Catalina	Population 2016: 4,016	Population 2036: 4,485
Surfside – Long Beach –		
Maloneys Beach – North Batemans Bay	Population 2016: 3,109	Population 2036: 4,013
Surf Beach – Batehaven – Sunshine Bay		
– Denhams Beach	Population 2016: 5,855	Population 2036: 6,412
Malua Bay – Lilli Pilli – Rosedale –		
Guerilla Bay	Population 2016: 2,501	Population 2036: 3,580
Total Population:	(2016) 18,054	(2036) 21,372
Estimated Canine Population:	(2016) 6,860	(2036) 8,121
*Dog Training Club		NONE
*24 hour Off -Leash area		NONE

Note: The Eurobodalla Shire Council figures in the Companion Animal Management Plan 2015-2019, shows that in 2014 the total number of dogs registered in the ESC to be 13,988. This results in a ratio of 38 dogs per 100 people which is twice the national average.

Listing of 1064 dog friendly parks and beaches across Australia

Listings within 2Km, 5Km and 10Km of a location in the Eurobodalla Shire as seen by a family wanting to take their pet dog on holiday with them. (Nov.2016)

LOCATION	2Km	5Km	10Km
Batemans Bay	0	0	0
Surfside	0	0	0
Long Beach	0	0	0
Maloneys Beach	0	0	0
North Batemans Bay	0	0	0
Surf Beach	0	0	0
Tuross Head	0	0	0
Catalina	0	0	1
Batehaven	0	0	1
Sunshine Bay	0	0	1
Denhams Beach	0	0	2
Narooma	0	0	2
North Narooma	0	2	2
Kianga	0	2	2
Dalmeny	1	2	2
Moruya	0	0	2
Moruya Heads	0	1	2
Malua Bay	1	1	3
Rosedale	0	2	4
Guerilla Bay	0	2	4
Broulee	2	3	4
Tomakin	1	3	4
Mossy Point	1	2	4

Off the Leash – beaches, parklands and dining options for owners and their pets to enjoy

Sydney

- [Centennial Parklands, Sydney](#) – One of the state’s most picturesque collections of parks, Centennial Parklands is a short walk or drive from many of Sydney city’s pet-friendly hotels. Give your pet the opportunity to burn off some energy in the vast space of Centennial Parklands, jog around the park, walk through the formal gardens and make use of the huge recreational space available with many on and off-leash areas
- Pet-friendly beaches in Sydney - Treat your pet with a trip to [Sirius Cove](#) in [Mosman](#) on Sydney’s Northern Beaches where you can walk your four-legged friend around the harbour beach and swim in the bay, renowned for its gentle and shallow waters. Or head south of the city to Kurnell’s off-leash [Silver Beach](#) and let your dog splash around in the water or play on the sand while you enjoy prime views across Sydney
- Café Bones, [Leichhardt](#) – If you’re brining your pets on holiday to Sydney you can’t miss out on a trip to Café Bones. An institution among city canines, Cafe Bones is destination dining for pets. Next to the off-leash Hawthorne Canal Reserve, treat your furry friend to a Pupaccino and maybe some of Cafe Bones’ own dog biscuits. Bone Appétit!

NSW

- Pet-friendly beaches along the South Coast – The NSW South Coast has created a variety of pet-friendly public spaces, including beaches, off-leash areas, parklands and cafes, for animals and animal lovers to enjoy. Between 4pm and 8pm daily, sections of [Huskisson Beach](#), [Bawley Point’s](#) [Cormorant Beach](#), [Culburra Beach](#), and their respective neighbouring foreshore reserves, include off-leash access. [Callala Bay’s](#) Red Point Reserve and regions of [Lake Coniola’s](#) waterfront also present ideal destinations to play a game of fetch or explore the shore with your pet. For leash-free fun at any time of the day, make your way to [Shoalhaven Heads](#) and make the most of the dedicated all-hours areas on Shoalhaven Heads Beach and River Road Reserve. While there, pull up for the night or weekend at [Tall Timbers Caravan Park](#), a family-owned and operated park that offers accommodation to suit families who are travelling with pets
- [Estabar Café, Newcastle](#) – A popular spot to sit back and relax with your pet at any time of the day. Whether you’re starting the day off with breakfast after a walk at this sun-drenched cafe overlooking [Newcastle Beach](#), or planning to pop in with your pooch for a Summer afternoon gelato, Estabar Café has the welcome mat out for pets. The [Newcastle region](#) also offers a range of pet-friendly accommodation options. Try [Tantarra Bed & Breakfast](#), a 15-minute drive from Newcastle’s CBD which has a selection of rooms that welcome pets
- Bicentennial Gardens, [Ballina](#) – The Bicentennial Gardens are one of six off-leash locations in the Ballina Shire in far north NSW that offers pet owners the chance to bring their four legged family members while visiting the beautiful Ballina and [Byron area](#). With plenty of open space to roam, the Gardens are a favourite with local pet-owners and visitors alike. For those wishing to make the most of their pet-friendly holiday to the Hinterland, the Ballina Beach Village is one of the most popular accommodation options where families and their furry friends can rest up.

To make sure your pet-friendly holiday experience is positive, here are a few tips to consider when planning your purr-fect family break:

1. When making a booking, always mention that you would like to bring your pet, even if the accommodation is openly pet-friendly
2. Make sure your pet’s vaccinations and flea and worming treatments are up to date before setting off on your holiday
3. Take lots of breaks on your car journey so your pet can relieve themselves, stretch their legs and rehydrate

11 February 2016

Pet-friendly holiday spots in Sydney and NSW

Find the perfect location to getaway where four legged friends are also welcome

Holidays are all about spending time with family and, as pet owners know, that includes four legged family members too. Sydney and NSW are blessed with a wide range of accommodation, leisure activity and dining options where pets are most certainly welcome.

Destination NSW CEO Sandra Chipchase says, "Pets are an integral part of many families and we know that having them along for the holiday journey is an important factor when deciding where to vacation. With so many families choosing to travel with their four legged friends, more and more amazing destinations across NSW are offering stellar pet-friendly experiences.

"From beachside getaways with designated leash-free areas, and great accommodation choices including hotels and caravan parks, travelling with a furry or feathered companion has never been easier. Pet-friendly travel in NSW is an outstanding experience, with everything from custom food menus for dogs and cats, animal minding services and pet pamper packages!"

Consider exploring Destination NSW's selection of great pet-friendly holiday spots.

Five-Paw Accommodation – pet-friendly hotels and caravan parks

Sydney

- [The Hughenden, Woollahra](#) – A boutique hotel that is about as pet-friendly as they come. Close to the heart of Sydney's CBD, The Hughenden offers a large range of rooms suitable for pets including accommodation options with large living spaces to spread out, as well as the option of a private courtyard for selected rooms. You can also bring your pet with you to dine at the hotel cafe and in-house restaurant. Paw-riffic!
- [The Langham, Darling Harbour](#) – If you really want to spoil yourself and your four-legged friend you can't get much better than this luxurious five-star hotel. Taking pet-friendly accommodation to a new level, The Langham offers pet-sitting so owners can take some time-out and enjoy the various hotel services such as the luxurious spa, as well as a pet turn-down service (complete with treat)

NSW

- [Hidden Valley Retreat, Grose Vale](#) – A secluded property in NSW's [Hawkesbury region](#), Hidden Valley Retreat is tucked away on the verge of the Grose wilderness and has acquired a reputation for being both private and pet-friendly. Boasting five settler's cottages to choose from, each with its own unique features and all of which are pet-friendly – think relaxing with your four legged friend in front of an open fire, or sipping champagne on a private verandah after a busy day of bushwalking together.
- [Active Holidays BIG4](#) (25 parks across NSW) – With parks in some of NSW's most popular family and holiday locations, including the [Hunter Valley](#) and [Port Macquarie](#), BIG4 is an easy choice for families who want to getaway with their pets without having to compromise where they holiday. BIG4 has pet-friendly locations across the state, offering a variety of accommodation options to suit all tastes, pet-needs and budgets from poolside villas to budget cabins and a number of caravan and camping sites. BIG4 continues to be a popular choice for pet-loving travellers

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4. Check and observe the off-lead areas at your accommodation and the surrounding areas such as parks and beaches - as these can often change depending on the local council and other regulations
 5. Although many pet-friendly holiday destinations provide beds and bowls, your pet may like the familiarity of having their own bed and bowls from home, so bring them just in case. Also, take more pet food than you think you'll need.

Visit www.sydney.com and www.visitnsw.com to help plan your pet-friendly holiday in 2016.

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