



TAILS OF THE VALLEY

Newsletter

Huon Valley Dog Walking Association
huondogwalkers@gmail.com www.dogwalkingtas.org.au

A NEW YEAR!

It's time for some favourite walks again! The year started with a run and swim at Randalls Bay Beach. On Page 9 is a list of the walks for the next few months. We hope you and your four legged friends will come and meet some old friends and make new friends.



Scarlett and Hooper enjoying the beach at Randalls Bay!

SUMMER SURVIVAL GUIDE

2019/20

...FOR DOG OWNERS

Tips to help you and your dog enjoy the summer and the holiday season happily and safely

Inside...

- Bushfire evacuation planning
- Snake bite information
- Emergency Vet contacts
- Travelling with pets
- Off lead dog exercise areas
- Pet friendly accommodation
- ...and more

Prepared by the Huon Valley Dog Walking Association
huondogwalkers@gmail.com | www.dogwalkingtas.org.au

We hope you have found the information in the latest edition of the Summer Survival Guide to be useful.

While autumn is just around the corner, you should continue to be mindful of keeping your dogs safe when travelling and on hot days, and snakes and bushfires are still potential hazards you may encounter.

The Guide is available in local cafes, visitor centres and pet retail outlets.

We have also provided a list of pet services, exercise areas and pet-friendly cafes and accommodation in the Huon Valley.



CYGNET FOLK FESTIVAL January 2020

This year the HVDWA again fulfilled a regular role at the Cygnet Folk Festival as mobile poo bag dispensers.

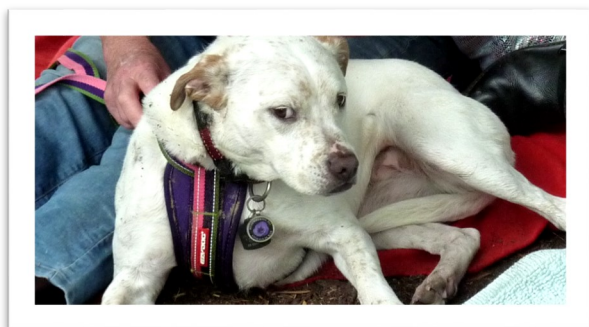
At lot of dogs attend the annual festival with their owners and, as only assistance dogs are allowed at indoor venues, most enjoy the free outdoor concerts under the shade trees of Loongana Park. The dogs were quiet and relaxed as usual, so obviously owners think carefully before bringing their canine companions with them. The environment is noisy and can be unpredictable so would not suit easily stressed dogs. Every single dog we saw was coping very well either at the park, walking the streets past the crowds and buskers or sitting with their people at the outdoor eating areas.



HVDWA no longer has a stall at the festival because the last two years it blew away and that would have happened again this year. Now, thanks to the generosity of Mez and Cate, the Cygnet Community Hub can be used as a base.

It is amazing what a positive response we always receive when we approach dog owners to see if they need extra poo bags. Most have brought bags with them but if they have run out access to more isn't immediately obvious. The nearest static dispenser is at Harvey's Park, opposite The Bottom Pub and many people don't go down that way. The most common response is "Oh, what an excellent service, thank you very much". Even if they don't need bags, dog owners still appreciate being asked. The dogs also appreciate the treats being offered. In addition to poo bags we carry water and a small bowl and spare leads and collars.

As well as offering bags and treats we make sure there are water bowls in Loongana Park and Mez and Cate made sure there is always one outside The Hub. Sometimes the bowls are hard to spot so this year we decided to carry water and a small bowl with us as well. The other items we always have with us are spare leads and collars. Some people don't realise that if there is no specific signage regarding dogs the default position is always that dogs can be present on lead only. This is always the case in Loongana Park and it doesn't change for the festival.



Some lovely visitors enjoying the music in Loongana Park at the Festival

2019 Christmas BBQ

—Many thanks once again to Karen and Peter Cosier for their hospitality. All of the dogs had a wonderful time, either racing around the garden, chasing balls, diving into the pond or snoozing under a tree on a lovely warm day, while their minders shared some wonderful homemade treats!

Below are some of the furry attendees.



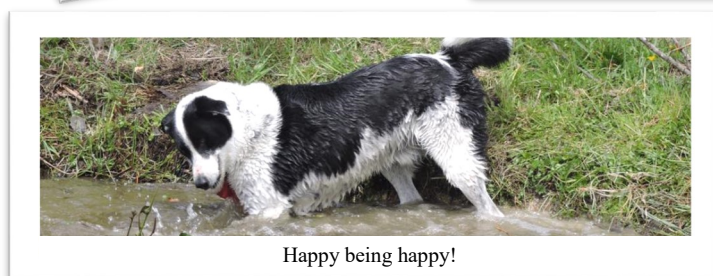
Zari, worn out after all that fun at the party!



Georgie on full alert, looking for more mischief!



Tara taking a breather!



Happy being happy!



Dainty Daisy

Paralysis Ticks

Many people think that there are no paralysis ticks in Tasmania and that they are only found on the mainland. Tragically, we recently learned that this is not the case when the lovely Rose, beloved companion of Hugh and George, was recently poisoned by a tick at her Mountain River home and subsequently died while being treated at the emergency vet clinic.

Hugh and George are devastated, needless to say, and everyone who knows them is saddened by the loss of Rose and shocked because we didn't know that this danger to dogs existed in our state. The paralysis ticks in Tasmania are not identical to those on the mainland but are obviously still deadly. Now that we do know they are here we need to ensure we protect our pets. Ticks are most prevalent in the warmer months so we need to be vigilant now.

Prevention

Prevention is better than cure so the first step should be to use a tick treatment product such as Bravecto or Nexgard. Bravecto Plus is also effective for cats.

The tick attaches itself to the pet and burrows its mouth parts into the skin. It is fairly small when it attaches itself to its host growing in size as it consumes more blood and developing a large grey body. If we find one we need to try to remove the tick immediately using tweezers or a tick hook. If we can grasp the tick's head a twist will usually lift the whole tick off. If we can't remove it we should visit the vet as soon as possible.

Checking for ticks

Checking for ticks should be secondary to this but detecting them early if they are present will help to prevent tick paralysis. To do this use your fingertips starting from the tip of the dog's nose and working down to the tail. Ensure you check between the toes, inside the ears and under the collar. Ticks are most commonly found near the head, ears and neck and in the warm folds of skin under the legs or the tail.

Symptoms

It can take hours or even days before symptoms of tick paralysis appear. If you notice any of these symptoms you should contact the vet immediately:

- Poor co-ordination or paralysis in the legs
- Coughing
- Vomiting or dry retching
- Noisy panting
- Excessive salivation
- Difficulty breathing
- Difficulty swallowing/choking
- Loss of appetite
- Change to bark

We hope our dogs are never affected by paralysis ticks but now that we are aware that this danger exists in Tasmania we trust we can avoid any repeat of the tragedy that befell Rose.

References:

AHVEC

Huon Valley Veterinary Hospital

[Paws for Thought – The Examiner](#)

[5 signs your dog might have a tick – PAW by Blackmores.](#)



Rose with Hugh and George in happier times

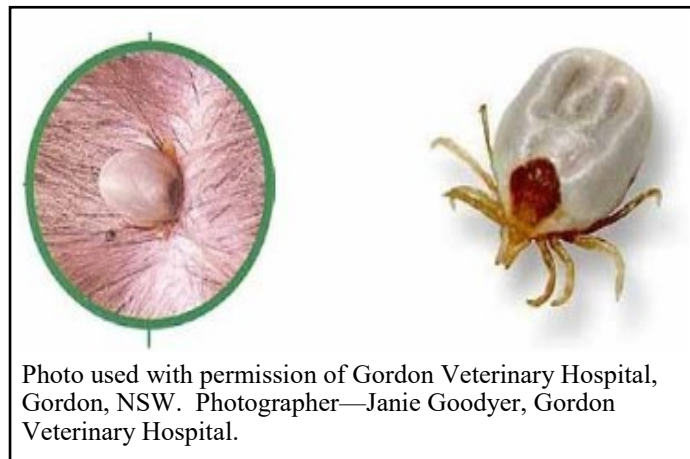


Photo used with permission of Gordon Veterinary Hospital, Gordon, NSW. Photographer—Janie Goodyer, Gordon Veterinary Hospital.

Committee & Meetings

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2020

Jo Ward	President, Walks Coordinator
Val Andrews	Vice President
Heather Brown	Secretary, Newsletter Editor
Karen Cosier	Treasurer, Public Officer
Kerry Salmon	
Katie Hill	
Frances Cooke	
Marlowe Aster	

NEXT MEETINGS

Unless otherwise advised, committee and ordinary meetings are held at 10.00am at DS Café, 12 Main Road, Huonville.

Saturday 22 February

Saturday 28 March

Saturday 25 April

Contact the HVDWA Secretary by email:

huondogwalkers@gmail.com

Phone: 0424 504 043

As a financial member of the Huon Valley Dog Walking Association, your support and input are valued and you're most welcome to join us at monthly committee meetings. However due to venue and time limitations, we ask that you advise the Secretary of your attendance and any topic you want to raise for discussion so that it can be added to the agenda. All members attending the meeting are respectfully requested to keep discussion to within items on the agenda.

Renewals for this financial year are now due.
Fees are still only \$20 for a single or \$25 for a family membership.

You can renew online, in person at a walk or by post.

Details are on the membership form on the last page.

As always, the HVDWA appreciates your support.



New Secretary and Editor

Hi, as the new secretary of HVDWA I am also the new editor of "Tails of the Valley"! Rozel Duncan, the previous secretary and editor is certainly a hard act to follow. Thank you for your handover, Rozel, and your continued support.

I look forward to meeting everyone on walks or at events.

If you would like to contribute articles, photos or recipes for our four-legged friends or volunteer for any activities, please contact me on 0424 504 043 or email huondogwalkers@gmail.com. It's your club and I'd love to hear your suggestions.

Heather Brown

Updates and Events

Spirit of Tasmania

For some time the HVDWA has been attempting to ascertain the design of pet facilities on the two new Spirit of Tasmania vessels. In November, at the suggestion of the Premier's Department, the HVDWA approached The Hon. Robert Armstrong MLC, enquiring about progress.

Mr Armstrong has now informed us that the design is for the pet area to be accessible by pet owners throughout the whole voyage. This is very good news and a great improvement on current facilities and access. At this stage there is no further information in relation to pet friendly cabins. We will continue to follow up.

Huon River Foreshore Shared Pathway

Following a community survey, community meetings will be held on 18 February—registration essential. So far, council communication regarding the proposed pathway has not included reference to dogs and dog walkers. Among recommendations from HVDWA are fixed water bowls and poo bags/bins for dogs, parking areas at various stages along the 7.5km path, separate cycling paths for pedestrian and cyclist safety, kayak launch areas. Contact Huon Valley Council for meeting details.

Emergency Evacuation Procedures for Animals

In December representatives from HVDWA met with Rebecca, Lisa and Angela at Huon Valley Council to discuss improved emergency evacuation procedures for animals based on the experience during bushfires in January 2019. A workshop is planned to further develop appropriate procedures and protocols.

Ranelagh Recreation Ground Management Advisory Committee

Among improvements planned for the area are water fountains for dogs and clearer signage for on-lead and off-lead areas.

Garage Sale—Saturday 7 March

Our next garage sale will be **Saturday 7 March at Cradoc Park**, 10.00am—2.00pm. Funds raised will be used to improve facilities in the off-leash dog exercise areas in Cygnet, Huonville and Geeveston. Donations are most welcome. For collection or delivery details please contact huondogwalkers@gmail.com or phone 0410 603 991 or 0424 504 043.

Dogs' Homes of Tasmania annual Button Day fundraiser - Friday 13 March

HVDWA will be collecting donations in the usual spot outside Woolworths in Huonville from 10.00am - 4.00pm. Please drop by and support the Dogs' Homes and the wonderful work they do in caring for homeless and unwanted dogs.



Garage Sale



Loads of great bargains!

Saturday 7 March 2020

10.00am—2.00pm

Cradoc Hall, Channel Hwy, Cradoc.

Donations welcome!

Please call 0410 603 991 or 0424 504 043 or email to
Huondogwalkers@gmail.com to arrange pick up.

Proceeds from the Garage Sale will go towards equipment for the off lead dog
areas in Huonville, Cygnet and Geeveston.



email: huondogwalkers@gmail.com | web: dogwalkingtas.org.au

WALKS: FEBRUARY—APRIL

ALL WALKS COMMENCE AT 10.00AM Unless specified.

Don't forget to bring poo bags and water for your dog(s).

Please take used poo bags with you.

**If the weather looks inclement on walk day, please check our facebook page or website
www.dogwalkingtas.org.au**

Tuesday 18 February

This is our first twilight walk and starts at 6.00 p.m.

Franklin Foreshore: Meet in the carpark below Petty Sessions (now called Osteria at Petty Sessions). Dogs must be on lead until we are past the Caravan Park but they can then go off lead until we reach the Wooden Boat Shed. The reverse applies on the way back.

Saturday 14 March 10.00 a.m.

Copper Alley Bay: Drive into Cygnet and proceed through the town and the roundabout keeping the Service Station on your left – go past the Yacht Club and drive for about 4kms when you will come to a bridge, once over the bridge turn left into Nichols Road and drive down to the waters edge. This walk is on lead, after which we can go to the Cygnet Dog Park to let the dogs have a run and a play.

Sunday 29 March 10.00 a.m.

Kent Beach, Dover: Take the Huon Highway south to Dover then go through the township into Station Road; continue until you reach Kent Road (on your left); follow Kent Road past the Dover Caravan Park until you come to a sign on your right which reads "Dog Exercise Area—dogs allowed off leash". Park here, then let the dogs go off for a lovely time on a lovely beach. Just a word of caution—this beach is quite close to the road so if your dog doesn't have good recall you might need to keep it on lead.

Tuesday 14 April 2.00 p.m.

Huonville/Ranelagh: Park near the Dog Exercise Area in Heron Street, Huonville, cross the road and walk past the PCYC, turn right then walk on lead up Wilmot Street to the Ranelagh Green. Return to the Exercise Area where the dogs can have a good run and play.

Sunday 26 April 10.00 a.m.

Geeveston: Meet at the main car park behind the Town Hall, walk across Heritage Park to the Platypus Walk, then follow the river as far as the steps at the end of the walk. We then ascend the steps to cross the road, taking care at the top of the steps as the footpath is narrow. Across the road, continue to walk along the river bank and around Memorial Park to the RSL. Pass the RSL and return across the road, down the steps and back along Platypus Walk until we reach the fenced dog walking area where all dogs can go off lead and run and play. We might even see a platypus!



Off lead and under control ?

Several of our walks are 'off-lead' but please be aware that , under the Dog Act, it is the owners responsibility to keep their dog under control and in sight at all times.

We love to see our dogs running free and playing together but sometimes there maybe a distraction or situation where your dog is not responding to you as he/she normally would and needs to go back on the lead. You may need to put your dog on a lead if he or she:

- Has poor recall
- Has a habit of running off out of your sight
- Is aggressive or upsetting other dogs
- Is behaving in a way that endangers itself or others
- Any other situation where you feel that you don't have control of your dog.

In addition to putting a dog on lead for the behaviours outlined, it is an owners prerogative to have their dog on lead during any of the walks if they feel it is in the best interest of the dog.

We hope this information helps you and your dog to have a fun and relaxing walk.

New Members Welcome

If you'd like to become a member, simply fill out this form and send it to the address below or, join us on a walk and deliver it personally!

Membership Application/Renewal form Huon Valley Dog Walking Association (Inc)

To October 2020

Member No (if known).....

Name (s).....

Address

Dog(s) Name(s).....

Phone(s).....

Email (Please print).....

Amount tendered \$..... subscription for

☐ \$20.00 Ordinary Membership OR ☐ \$25.00 Family Membership

My Dog(s) vaccination is current (Yes/No).....

You and your dog(s) participate in Huon Valley Dog Walking Association walks and activities at your own risk. The responsibility for your safety and the safety of your dog rests with you as a responsible member of the Association.

Signed: Date: _/ _/ _

Enquiries to: 26 Duggans Rd. CRADOC 7109
Ph: 0424 504 043 or email: huondogwalkers@gmail.com

Pay: Huon Valley Dog Walking Association (Inc.)

Cash/Cheque/ EFT BSB – 633000 Account No – 144419819

Reference is your surname: _____ or your membership number if you have one.

**Please forward this form with payment to the above address if paying by post.
A receipt and membership card will be issued for new members.**

TOV