

PDWA



December 2011 – January 2012

The PDWA is a voluntary organisation with more than 1000 members and is dedicated to preserving and maintaining the leash-free status of the dog beach at Cameron's Bight, Sorrento.

JOIN NOW!

Membership is FREE
PO Box 89, Sorrento, 3943
www.pdwa.org.au

GOOD NEWS ... AND BAD

After negotiations between the White Cliffs Foreshore Committee and the PDWA it had been agreed to extend the leash-free area to the Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron and the matter was referred to the shire for change of signage.

BUT.....

We have been advised by the foreshore committee that the shire has decided to delay its decision and is now planning to review the hours and restrictions for all dog beaches within its borders and maybe even bring in uniform regulations.

This may well mean leash-free access to Cameron's Bight will be severely restricted.

IS THIS A SMART MOVE IN AN ELECTION YEAR?

We urge all dog owners using the beach, whether they are members of the PDWA or not, to contact the Mornington Peninsula Shire councillors and their chief executive at 90 Besgrove Street, Rosebud, 3939, or to email them at www.mornpen.vic.gov.au to voice your support for the dog beach at Cameron's Bight. Do nothing and you risk losing your 24-hour leash-free beach.

Also mention the present restrictions: dogs have to be on leads between noon and 7pm from Boxing Day until March 1. The PDWA believes the restrictions should end on February 1 because by then the majority of holiday makers will have gone back home.

The PDWA is grateful to the foreshore committee for its decision to contribute to the supply of poo bags but donations for running costs, including maintaining our website, are still needed.

Please donate to our cause by sending your cheque to the above address OR by bank transfer:

Account Name: Peninsula Dog Walkers Assoc. Inc.
BSB: 633 108
Account No: 132764622

OSCAR LAYS DOWN THE LAW

The PDWA is delighted to see progress is being made to ban puppy farms.

New legislation will give RSPCA animal inspectors increased powers to enter puppy farms, inspect animals and prosecute as necessary. Heavy fines for rogue operators will be part of the package and the PDWA hopes that will lead to the eventual elimination of puppy farms.

More needs to be done but at least Oscar's Law, as it has become known, is now a work in progress. Check out the latest and what you can do by visiting the Oscar's Law website.

LOOKING FOR A NEW FRIEND?

It is a sad fact that many of the pups on offer are the product of puppy farms, some worse than others.

Why not visit one of the many organisations who dedicate their time and efforts to save thousands of dogs and cats from being put down every year.

Cameron's Bight dog beach is full of dogs that have been rescued and it is a delight to see them and their new owners enjoying their time together.

RSPCA and Lort Smith are the obvious organisations for adoption but others such as Victorian Dog Rescue take dogs from pounds around Victoria and place them in foster homes before they are adopted out. During their time with their foster carers the dog are assessed and given training before being considered for adoption.

GET FIRED UP ABOUT YOUR PETS

The Peninsula is one of the most fire-prone areas in the state and it is vital that your fire plan includes your pets.

If your fire plan includes leaving your property on days of extreme fire risk, don't just load the animals in the car and think that is enough. You will need to take:

- Plenty of water and a bowl
- Food
- Blankets and towels
- Leads and/or crates with good ventilation
- Medications

Visit the CFA website for comprehensive information about fire plans. Stay tuned to local radio for up-to-date fire and weather information and warnings.

BLAIRGOWRIE ACTION GROUP

BAG was convened four years ago by a group of Blairgowrie residents who were concerned their suburb was being overlooked by the agencies governing the area. BAG's areas of concern include fire awareness and prevention, footpaths, traffic, the ageing population, etc. Those who want to sign up for BAG's newsletter can do so via the internet or emailing Susan Speelman at pspeelman@aapt.net.au

