



## Beyond Obedience: Understanding Behaviour, Science & the Future of Dog Training

### A Talk with Sarah Rutten, Best -selling author of 'The Canine Perspective'

When: **Sunday, 22 March 2026**

Time: **10.30am - 12.30pm**

Where: **DOGS NSW Amenities Building,**

The Bill Spilstead Complex for Canine Affairs  
44 Luddenham Road, Orchard Hills NSW

Cost: **\$80 per person**, including morning tea.

Join respected dog behaviourist and force-free training advocate Sarah Rutten for a thought-provoking session that digs into the science behind how dogs actually learn and why old-school methods might be doing more harm than good.

With over two decades of experience helping dogs and their people, Sarah is known for her straight-talking, no-BS approach. She'll challenge common myths, explain why dominance theory has been debunked, and explore how reactivity, aggression and anxiety are more often signs of stress, not stubbornness.

Topics covered include:

**\* Dominance Theory Debunked**

Where it came from, and why it's time to let it go.

**\* Why Dogs Really Behave "Badly"**

Understanding the role of the nervous system.

**\* What Force-Free Training Actually Is**

(Hint: It's not just about treats)

**\* Body Language & Stress Signals**

Learn to read what your dog is really saying.

**\* The Stats Behind Punishment**

What the research says about long-term effects.

**Unpack the myths.**

**Understand the science.**

**Build better relationships with your dogs.**

NO. OF PEOPLE ATTENDING	COURSE	COST PER PERSON	TOTAL
	'BEYOND OBEDIENCE' TALK	\$80.00	
	*Cost includes morning tea		

#### 'BEYOND OBEDIENCE' TALK BOOKING FORM

PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK LETTERS

Full Name:

Email:

Ph/ Mobile:

Address:

DOGS NSW Membership No (if applicable):



#### PAYMENT OF APPLICATION:

DOGS NSW accounts will issue an invoice for the above application. This can be paid via debit/credit card, or bank transfer. Please quote your invoice number as your payment reference if paying via bank transfer.

**Please complete the Application Form & return to DOGS NSW by email: [info@dogsnewsw.org.au](mailto:info@dogsnewsw.org.au)  
or to PO Box 632 St Marys NSW 1790**