

# INNER DOOG

WITH CLAIRE HOOPER

Claire Hooper is best known across Australia for her role as a Team Captain on Network TEN's *Good News Week* but now Sydney-siders can also hear her each weekday morning as co-host of Mix 106.5s *The Brighter Side of Breakfast* with Dr Andrew Rochford.

Claire resides in Sydney with her rescue dog, Dusty. We caught up with Claire to discover her Inner Dog.

## Where did you find your dog or how did he find you?

Back in 2008 Dusty was found in regional Victoria, spent one night in his local pound, and then was taken down to Melbourne's Lost Dogs Home. That's where I found him; he was a little shell-shocked. It took him 48 hours to stop staring at the wall with his tail between his legs. Then it took a few months before he would even chase a ball. He is now the most cheerful and playful dog I know, although he still jumps at sudden noises.

## What's the best thing about your dog?

He makes friends with everyone. Even people who don't like animals.

## What's the best thing you've taught your dog?

His own name. Although I think for the first year he was just pretending he didn't know it...

## What's the best thing your dog has taught you?

That time spent playing in the sun is never wasted. Also, he taught me that he likes to get put in a harness and get dragged across the park on his back.



Photo by Animax

## If he could change one thing about himself what would it be?

He'd like to be able to reach the ball when it runs under the couch.

## What is his most treasured possession?

Currently my husband's old rugby ball, which is now just a flap of distressed leather. He likes it even better that way, because it knows whose boss.

## If you believe in reincarnation what would he have been in a previous life?

I reckon he was another dog in a previous life. He's just really good at being a dog.

## If he were to describe you in fewer than ten words what would he say?

She's the nice girl who gives me food. 🍖

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