



# Groomingdales News

Tips, advice and some fun facts about our little friends who mean so much to us!

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

Can you believe that Christmas is almost here already? Isn't this just the best time of year for little children? Seeing the delight on their faces as they open their presents from Santa is just wonderful. For me, having all the visitors, turkey dinners and the hustle and bustle of it all brings lots of warmth and happiness. I really hope it's a lovely time of year for you too.

Of course it's a pretty exciting time for our pets, too, as they get to spend lots more time with us during the holidays. Some will especially enjoy all the mischief they can get into with the gifts and decorations.

While it's great to relax and enjoy Christmas, it's also worth taking a little extra care with our pets over this period. A change in routine and all the new strange objects in our homes can provide extra risks for our pets. So, here are a few pointers to make sure your little friends have an enjoyable and safe Christmas too.

First of all keep an eye on your Christmas tree, especially if you see that your pet loves it as much as you do. It's not hard to imagine a large dog knocking it over and trailing it across the living room, or a cat climbing up through the branches to get to the sparkling lights or tinsel!

The festive season brings a temporary change in routine for many pets, so it's not surprising that some get anxious over the new and noisy kids' toys or over all the family gatherings. If you'll have lots of excited little children in your home this season, maybe remind them to play gently near your pets and to slowly introduce them to their new toys. While a remote control car whizzing along the floor can be hilarious for children, it can be absolutely terrifying for pets!

It's likely your dog will beg for a bite of that delicious turkey dinner or your cat may lick its lips in anticipation of a feast of meat. Of course the occasional scrap of pet-friendly food won't hurt them a bit if you want to give them a special treat—just be very careful with turkey leftovers, because dogs and cats tend to get right to the bones and can get them lodged in their throats. It's best to give them a little piece of the meat that has no bones in it if you want to give them something tasty to enjoy with the family. Remind the kids, too, that chocolate agrees with them much more than it does with dogs!

Anyway, the most important thing this Christmas is that you really enjoy it and that you, your family and your pet stay safe and well. I really do hope you get plenty of time to relax and spend precious time with your family because, before you know it, we'll be starting a New Year once again. Have fun and have a lovely Christmas.

*Kim*

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### Are you new to this Newsletter or trying to find a good Dog Groomer?

If you're reading this newsletter for the first time or are looking for a Dog Groomer, please read page 2. There you'll find out how I could really benefit you and provide you with exactly what you're looking for.



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Don't Forget the Dog at Christmas!
- 8 Signs Your Dog is Happy and Healthy
- Less Fortunate Pets This Christmas!
- Does Your Dog have Tear Stains?

### A Wonderful World of Animals!

! Alfie, a flat-coated retriever, is now "Alfie the Arsonist" to his owners, the Gregson family. Ananova.com notes that Alfie caused £6,000 worth of damage when he jumped up on the Gregsons' stove in search of a bite to eat and accidentally flipped a switch that lit up the chip fryer. The Gregsons awoke to smoke detectors late that night and were able to escape the fire unharmed. The fire brigade responded quickly and took care of Alfie's accidental arson.

### V.A.T. Increase!

In January the government will be increasing the current rate of VAT again. This is an additional cost that unfortunately, cannot be absorbed into my business. So I'm afraid there will be a price increase in January to reflect the VAT increase.

"Our best little friends is what we say, so let's treat them well on Christmas Day"

# Why Groomingdales is the Right Choice for You!

## What I can do for you!

I'm sure many of you suffer with "bad doggie odour" given the wonderful weather we experience in the UK; the dogs are continually getting wet. I can offer you a quick and convenient solution to eradicate dog odours, giving you more pleasure in cuddling Rover now he smells so fresh!

The hydro-bath is made from high strength fiberglass meaning it is suitable for all sizes from Maltese Terriers to Great Danes. With an in built heating system it has its very own supply of warm water so you have no worries about your dog keeping warm. The spray head produces a unique hydro-combing action that massages and stimulates the skin, so not only is it the most effective way of washing your dog but also provides a therapeutic water massage. This helps with blood circulation, relieves tired muscles and has been found to be beneficial for arthritis sufferers and older dogs. Water penetrates the coat getting right to the skin removing dry dead skin cells, embedded flea eggs and other materials that can be hidden and hard to get rid of, especially for dogs with longer and thicker coats. Your dog and your home will remain doggy smell free for longer so you're friends and neighbours can visit and you'll not be embarrassed about the odour.

Another excellent advantage is that certain treatment solutions for skin conditions or flea prevention can be added to the water during the hydro-bath. This ensures that maximum benefit is obtained from any treatment as the water spray not only gets deeply into the fur but also reaches the skin which is most important for any type of treatment.

Depending on the size of the dog and the condition of the coat, a bath, brush and dry will take approximately an hour to complete, while you sit back with a cuppa and read the paper, knowing your dog is in the best hands just meters from your front door.

## **Services Offered:**

- Hydro-bath spa experience (bath, brush & dry)
- Full grooming service – all breeds considered
- Nails & Ears
- Pet Esthe product range available to order\*\*
- Dog & Cat accessories\*\*
- Pet Microchipping service
- Client Referral scheme to be launched shortly, keep checking the website for updates & don't forget to ask to join the loyalty scheme to get discounts on future grooms.

\* All services will include a health-check of your canine as well as nail clipping and ear cleaning if necessary.

\*\*Please visit my website for more information on the product range available.

The health-check gives me the basis to determine the product best suited to your dog's skin, coat type and age. I have sourced products that are made of 100% natural ingredients and ones that I consider to be the best in the market. Pet Esthé is a product range unique in its quality, range and results. An amalgamation of the spirit of Paris with the innovation of Japan - producing a synergy all its own. The shampoo range is 100% natural using plant based materials, Dead Sea Salt, Propolis (produced by bees) plus many more of nature's own finest ingredients to produce a range of Super Hypoallergenic Shampoos and Conditioners that are not only gentle on both you and your pets but will not pollute any rivers, oceans or water ways. In addition Pet Esthe offers the Paw Pad Care series developed to care for your beloved pets paw pads. This includes a moisturising gel for paw pads that have become dry and rough as well as an anti slip lotion to help prevent pets from slipping when walking in slippery environments outside or in the home.

So, why not give Rover a new lease of life and a wonderful fresh fragrance this month?

## What you can Expect if from me!

Would you like your dog groomed so that she's looking gorgeous and left just the way you want her to look? Do you want her coat smelling delightful so there's no more 'doggy' smell in your home? Would you like her coat feeling as soft as velvet and just a dream to cuddle? And above all, do you want reassurance that your dog is getting the same gentle care and kindness during grooming that you give her at home?

Well, you've just found a groomer that can provide everything you want, plus much, much more!

With me, you can be sure that your dog will be groomed to the highest standard. You'll be so pleased with how she looks that you'll be proud to walk her down your street and show her off to your neighbours - just like the many other clients I have.

When I advise you on grooming styles for your pet, I always take your preferences, lifestyle and your dog's character into account. The health, safety and welfare of your pet are always my priority, so you can have peace of mind knowing that you'll get the best advice available to help you choose the right options for your dog.

As a good and caring dog owner, you'll want your pet to be healthy and happy. Therefore, it'll be reassuring to know that with me you'll have someone looking out for potential health issues and changes in your dog – some that may only be noticeable during grooming. Early detection of worrying ailments can make all the difference to your pet, so I make sure to keep a close eye during grooming.

Your dog will be well looked after and will always get the 'one to one' attention that she needs. You'll always feel confident that she's in the safest of hands with me; I can assure you of that.

Your pet deserves the best so I only use the best and safest products that will get her coat looking gorgeous but won't ever harm her. Others may choose to use cheaper, inferior products in grooming but that's something I simply will not compromise on.

With me, you'll also have someone to turn to if you have issues or worries about your pet. Advice and help is a free extra service I'm more than happy to provide. You can call me if you ever have any problems or just need to chat about your little friend.

So if you're looking for a groomer who will leave your dog looking fantastic then give me a call. You'll be over the moon when you see what I can do for you and your little furry friend.

## **GROOMINGDALES UK** PROFESSIONAL DOGGIE SPA 🐾

- ✓ **Have your dog gorgeously groomed so that she is left looking and smelling wonderful. You'll be delighted with how she'll look and you'll be so proud to show her off to your family and friends.**
- ✓ **You'll never have to worry when you leave your pet with me. She'll be groomed in a clean, relaxed environment where only the best and safest products are used.**
- ✓ **As a customer of mine, you'll get the respect and service from me that all good dog owners like you deserve.**
- ✓ **Help and advice is freely given so you'll always have someone to turn to if you ever have a problem or a worry about your little friend.**
- ✓ **I use a calm, 'tender loving' approach when grooming, where patience, praise and kindness is assured.**
- ✓ **And of course, kisses and cuddles for your little buddy are provided in abundance. She'll just love being groomed with me and you'll love how she looks afterwards!**

Call for an appointment today. Tel: **01249 721471**

## Don't Forget Your Pet at Christmas!

While some people may decide not to include their pet on Santa's list, more and more of you aren't forgetting about your four-legged member of the family. Christmas gifts for dogs and cats can range from a necessary item to an over-the-top extravagant gift. But however you choose to celebrate Christmas with your pets, you're sure to find something special for them that's within your budget—because some of the best gifts are free!

Some extra play time or a walk through a new area is one gift that a dog is sure to love, as they'll adore the time spent with you and will feel good from the exercise. A new area delights them with new smells and a sense of adventurous travel so, if Christmas gifts for doggies is not your style, you can still make it a special occasion for them, too.

Go for something practical if your pet's belongings are wearing thin. A new collar and lead or a doggie backpack is something useful that you both can enjoy during walks. Or, pick up some nice dishes for their food or a comfortable new bed.

There are plenty of edible and non-edible treats to fill a gift basket for pets if you'd rather go that route. Gourmet cookies, a few bones, some new chew toys, a pet blanket and spa-quality brushes or conditioners will give your pets lots of enjoyment throughout the festive season!

But if you really want to go all out with your Christmas gifts, you can find fun and interesting presents for your canine and feline companions. There's actually a dog-friendly non-alcoholic wine for dogs now, so you can sip your own wine and offer your dogs a beef or chicken-flavored beverage to share at your side. How about a canopy bed or a plush convertible automobile bed? Anything you can imagine for your pet is probably out there, so take a look at pet gifts online or shop around your local pet stores for that perfect find.

However, a pet's real happiness comes from their loving owners and from having all of their needs met, so whatever you choose to do with your pets for the festive season it's sure to please them!

We carry a range of cat and dog beds, toys, bowls, clothing and accessories, please do enquire for more information

### Doggy Quiz

*Dogs were bred for specific jobs and activities. Can you match each breed to its historical use?*

- |               |                                |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Poodle     | A. hunt wolves and bear        |
| 2. Rottweiler | B. house pet for Ming dynasty  |
| 3. Pug        | C. retriever of game           |
| 4. Labrador   | D. herding and guarding        |
| 5. Weimaraner | E. game retriever from water   |
| 6. Shih-Tzu   | F. pet of Buddhist monasteries |
| 7. Pomeranian | G. sheep herder                |

## Pet Humour & Wisdom!

"There is no snooze button on a cat who wants breakfast." - Anonymous

\* \* \*

*Woman to dog trainer:* "My dog goes into the corner whenever he hears a bell ring."

*Dog trainer:* "Well this is normal—he's a boxer!"

\* \* \*

"Dogs come when they're called; cats take a message and get back to you later." - Mary Bly

\* \* \*

"Never try to out-stubborn a cat." - Lazarus Long,

## 8 Signs Your Dog is Happy and Healthy!

The little differences in a dog's behaviour and appearance can tell you a lot about whether they're feeling their best or if they could use a visit to the vet. Is your best little friend showing the signs of health and happiness?

1. Plenty of tail wagging and normal behaviour: Dogs can show a change in character when they're not feeling their best. There's no cause for concern here if your dogs are interested in all of their favourite activities and if they maintain their normal levels of energy. Check behaviour changes with your vet and then a dog trainer if your dogs don't seem their usual selves.
2. Bright and shiny eyes: Redness, cloudiness, discoloration, sensitivity or coloured discharge can signal eye health problems, such as injury, infection or disease.
3. Soft and shiny coat: A clean and silky coat comes from proper grooming and overall dog health. Watch for mats, ticks and fleas to keep a gorgeous coat, and check their diet and skin if you notice any problems.
4. Smooth and healthy skin: Skin that's free from sores, itching, redness and parasites is skin your dog loves to be in!
5. Clean ears: Odor, itching, redness or waxy buildup can indicate a problem with a dog's ears, which may require medical treatment.
6. A Healthy Mouth: Pink gums, clean teeth and non-offensive breath are all signs of good health in dogs. Foul breath can come from a variety of internal issues, so please contact your vet if your dogs have bad breath or if you see any sores in their mouths.
7. Clean Anal Glands: If your dog scoots their bum on the floor or has soreness around the rear, it's time to have their anal glands checked for buildup or infection.
8. Wet and Cool Nose: Dog's noses are so very important to them! It should be slightly moist and cool to the touch without discharge or cracks in the skin.

## Why Dogs Bark!

Some dogs bark inside the house and others do it outside, but why? A social bark is used to greet you and to bark along with other dogs outside, while an alarming bark is used to warn dogs away or to warn you of an intruder. Other barking can come from anxiety or attention seeking. If you're working with your dog to bark less often, the first step is figuring out why he's doing it!

### **Thinking of Less Fortunate Pets This Christmas!**

Your pets, and all those who belong to loving families like yours, are so very lucky to have a wonderful home throughout the year. However, there are many, many homeless and less fortunate dogs and cats who have not yet found owners as good as you. Hopefully they will receive some of the care and attention they deserve when the spirit of Christmas reminds us all to do what we can to help them out.

Please take a moment to think on the needs of rescue animals as you celebrate Christmas with your own pets. These less fortunate animals of the world truly appreciate whatever it is we can offer them, from a small gesture to a major change in their lives!

There are lots of ways to help. Maybe a dog or cat lover in your family would appreciate the gift of you making a donation to a rescue shelter on their behalf. Or, ask the local shelters if there are any items or supplies they specifically need this season.

While the donation of money is often the best way to help these pets they can also get lots of benefit from a donation of your time. Maybe offer to walk a shelter dog with your family one day, or stop by to give homeless cats some love and attention.

If a puppy or kitten is on your family's wish list for the New Year, please consider a dog or cat adoption, as this will bring joy and fulfillment to the pet and to you!

If you could help a pet in need this Christmas that would be so kind of you. The smallest things really can make a world of difference to their lives. Plus, it will leave you feeling great knowing that you've made the lives of a few defenceless animals that little bit better.

### **Newsletter Copyright!**

This newsletter is provided to you every month so that I can give a little bit extra back to you. The content has been carefully selected in order to provide you with the best possible information. Hopefully you find it entertaining

Much of the information and articles have been sourced from a Dog Grooming publication company and it is strictly copyright protected. So I'm afraid it can't be copied or re-used. If you are ever given a newsletter from another groomer with similar information and articles, I'd be grateful if you'd let me know.

**Answers  
to Quiz**  
1 - E  
2 - D  
3 - F  
4 - C  
5 - A  
6 - B  
7 - G

### **Exercising Your Dogs**

Did you know that small dogs may need more exercise than a great big dog does? The amount of exercise needed by dogs depends on their age, breed and level of energy, though they may need more if they have any behavioural problems. Aim for 30 minutes to 1 hour each day, and split the time up if needed. You and your dogs will both feel good from that extra lap around the park!

### **Does Your Dog Have Tear Stains?**

Eye tear stains are quite common in some dog breeds and are caused by a variety of factors, such as allergies or genetics. The dark staining can come from bacteria or yeast that grows in the moisture, but there are things you can do reduce and remove these stains.

The first step is to cut back or eliminate foods and treats that contain artificial colours. A quality dog food will reduce the tear staining and also keep stains from forming around their mouths! Provide your dog with bottled or filtered water, too, as a concentration of minerals in the water will contribute to the stains.

Use a wet cloth to wipe the tears away each day, and talk with your veterinarian about tetracycline or calcium carbonate used for reduction of tear stains. You may also want to have your dog's eyes examined for any possible infection or underlying problems.

### **Get This Newsletter Every Month!**

To continue to provide you with information, help and a little bit of fun, we publish this newsletter at the beginning of every month. There will always be a copy available for you. So, in a month that's between your appointments please drop in to pick one up (it'll be nice to catch up as well). Or if you'd like your newsletter emailed to you every month just leave us your email address or request your newsletter by sending us an email. Once you're on our list we'll send you a copy every month.

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