



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

Hi again everyone and welcome to the September issue of this newsletter.

With the kids going back to school and the cooler weather soon to be with us (sorry for reminding you!), it's likely that some of you will be warming yourselves up with delightful evening treats of hot cocoa along with a chocolate biscuit or two. Although these may be some of our favourite treats, we must keep a tight eye on our dogs whenever chocolate is around.

Shockingly, reports made to the Veterinary Poisons Information Service of dogs being poisoned by chocolate has increased dramatically in the last year. Chocolate can cause severe health issues and even death to our dogs because it contains Theobromine, which is a toxic poison to canines. While many people know not to let their dogs eat chocolate, it is difficult. The real trouble is that dogs love the taste of chocolate and they know how to make us feel guilty, but they really shouldn't get any at all.

The absolute worst type of chocolate for a dog is baking chocolate, because it has the highest concentration of Theobromine. The least harmful is white chocolate and all other types fall somewhere in the middle regarding toxicity. There is no standard amount of chocolate that's okay for a dog to eat, as their ability to handle this toxin is dependent on their size, overall health and the type of chocolate.

If you find that your little friend has dug into your chocolate cake then please be on the lookout for symptoms of poisoning! As the toxins begin to spread through the body, you may notice that they become hyperactive or that they're panting a lot. In more severe cases, there will be vomiting or diarrhoea. Regardless of the symptoms you see, it's important that you contact your vet as soon as possible.

If your dog has already developed a taste for chocolate, you can purchase dog treats that contain carob. Carob tastes a lot like chocolate – you might enjoy it, too – but it does not contain Theobromine. Just be on the lookout for specialty dog treats and you're likely to find some.

Of course it's important not to overdo it on the treats as well – wouldn't want them getting overweight or unhealthy!

Maybe with all that talk of chocolate you should go put on the kettle, grab a couple of chocolate digestives, sit yourself down and enjoy the rest of the information I've shared with you in this newsletter.

See you soon and have a safe and enjoyable time with your best little friends!

Kim

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PROFESSIONAL DOGGIE SPA 🐾

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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.

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NEW CLIENT DISCOUNT!

For new clients during the month of September I'm offering a 10% discount on the hydro-bath spa experience for your precious pooch. Call or email for more details.

A Wonderful World of Animals!

! A blind collie has got himself his own guide dog. Clyde, who is completely blind, relies totally on his companion, Bonnie, who is also a collie. Bonnie stays close to Clyde all the time and guides him to his food and water and when they're out for walks.

The pair were given up for adoption to Meadow Green Dog Rescue centre in Loddon, Norfolk, UK and are looking for a good home where both of them can go together.

Centre manager Cherie Cootes said, "*Clyde would be lost without Bonnie and [they] have to be rehomed together. If Clyde's unsure where he is, he will suddenly go behind her and put his face on her back so she can guide him where he is going. He totally relies on her the whole time. When she walks she tends to stop and make sure he's there - she does look out for him.*"

! A Chinese family borrowed a pet cat from their neighbour to catch a mouse which had invaded their home - only for them to become best friends.

According to ananova.com Mr Li, of Changchun in north east China, borrowed the cat who quickly caught the rodent but let it go after smelling it

"*they just started playing together*" said Mr Li, "*Now they are friends and the cat even cuddles up with the mouse to sleep,*" he said.

My best little friend you shout aloud, groomed to perfection so you can be proud!

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
- Dog Massage and Aromatherapy Packages (with or without hydro bath experience)
- Pet Esthe product range available to order**
- Dog & Cat accessories**
- Pet Microchipping service

* 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 Esthé 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**

The Correct Way to Brush Your Dog!

You've no doubt heard me talk quite a bit about the importance of keeping your dog brushed regularly. It stimulates their skin, removes excess hair and helps to prevent tangles and matting. Whether your dogs have short or long hair, they really do benefit from having a full-body brushing whenever possible.

But while it's important to brush your dog regularly, it's even more important to brush your dog thoroughly using the right brush. A quick run with any old brush over your dog's back and sides will not be enough.

For longhaired dogs or for hair that easily tangles, it's ideal to brush them daily. Shorthaired dogs will also benefit from a weekly brushing.

But what type of brush should you use, and what exactly does a thorough brushing include? The type of brush you should use depends on the length and thickness of hair, as well as susceptibility to tangles.

If your dog's hair is medium to long in length or tends to mat, it's often best to use a slicker brush. These brushes usually have a square or rectangular head of thin wire bristles and they're available in all sizes. For shorthaired dogs, consider using a rubber currycomb. When used in light circles, these feel great on a dog's skin and help you remove excess, dead hair. For curly and thick-coated dogs, you can use a wire-pin brush but it's recommended that you also use a rake if your dog has a thick undercoat.

Of course, brushing should be an enjoyable experience for our dogs, which is why it's important that we're always gentle. This can be difficult when the hair mats or tangles, so think of it as a tangle in your own hair. By holding onto the tangled portion of hair with one hand placed close against the skin and brushing with the other, you can prevent the painful pull to their skin as you would on your own head.

When brushing your dog, you can begin by brushing from the back of the head to the base of the tail. Then brush the chest and sides by going with the grain from top to bottom. If your dog has a very thick undercoat, you can also brush against the grain to remove some excess hair.

Then comes the tricky part! Many dogs end up with mats on their stomachs, in their armpits and on the backs of their hind legs. For large dogs, encourage them to lay down so that you can thoroughly brush out their stomachs. For small dogs, you can hold their front paws with one hand to help them stand on their hind legs whilst you brush their bellies with your free hand. But also try to get under that tail if they'll let you!

Frequent brushing provides a nice bonding time between you and your dog, but it also saves you both from a lot of hassle that comes from mats and tangles.

If you think you need some spray-on conditioner to help with tangles, or need a little more advice on brushes or brushing technique, please just ask, I'll be happy to help.

*"Cats know how to obtain food without labor,
shelter without confinement, and love without
penalties"*

~ Walter Lionel Georg

Famous TV Dogs Quiz!

The following dogs are all TV stars. Can you guess their stage names? Answers are on the back page. Don't be looking!

1. This Poodle was owned by Den Watts in Eastenders
2. This Neapolitan Mastiff has been a star in the Harry Potter films since 2001
3. The slobbering St Bernard who stars in this film of the same name
4. The little Cairn Terrier who went with Dorothy to the Land of Oz
5. This Belgian Shepherd was rescued by Robbie Jackson in Eastenders and more recently looked after by Gus
6. This Bloodhound struck it rich along with the Beverly Hillbillies in the 1960's
7. The Pug who starred in both 'Men in Black' films
8. The most famous Blue Peter dog who was inseparable from John Noakes, who would say, "Get down????"

Choosing a Bed for Your Best Friend!

Many of us don't mind at all when our dogs sleep in our own beds with us; that is, of course, until they start stealing our pillows or taking up more space than we do! But when they sleep elsewhere or if they're not allowed on the furniture, a doggie bed is the next best thing.

There is an unbelievable selection of dog beds on the market, from simple and low cost to extravagant and expensive designer beds. But choosing the right bed is more than a matter of taste; it really all depends on your dog's needs.

When shopping for a bed, it's important to consider your dog's size, how they lay when sleeping, whether they have any health issues and the average temperature of where they sleep.

For smaller dogs that like to curl up in a ball, it's usually best to get a circular or donut-shaped bed that has a nice cushion. You can get a plastic one with a liner or one that is cloth and filled with stuffing. Larger dogs or dogs that like to stretch out will enjoy a larger mat-style bed, doggie mattress or a lounge.

When it's colder, you do have the option of buying a heated bed but they're really not necessary. Dogs are thrilled to have a little blanket and this helps them choose their preferred amount of warmth. If your dog stays outdoors in a shed or kennel, it's often best to get an elevated plastic bed, as this allows for air circulation and keeps them above any wet ground.

You'll find that there are a few different bed filler options, such as foam or stuffing. When testing out beds, look for something that is dense enough to hold your dog's weight but soft enough to provide some comfort. This is especially important if your dog has hip problems or any type of health or age-related soreness. Although some of the nicer fillers raise the price of the item, they tend to last longer and endure more wear and tear.

Last but not least, it's better to opt for something with a removable and washable cover. This is great for when our dogs get dirty, shed a lot of hair or bring those dreaded fleas home! Plus, with all the gorgeous designs, it's nice to keep them looking great in our homes.

But of course what's most important is that our dogs have a comfortable place to rest their little heads for a nice long doggie snooze.

The Devil Dressed in Disguise!

'A limerick about a mischievous little puppy dog'

Because I'm a puppy I know I look cute
So I'm sure you're not really going to give me the boot,
I know you'll forgive me just as those times before
Because with a wag of my tail your heart melts to the floor.

You get all alarmed at the things that I do
But for me it is fun when I chew that big pot of glue,
And what's the big deal if I poop in your shoe
I thought I was being nice leaving it right there for you!

Why don't you have fun when we go to the park
You get to run through all that mud and stay out 'til it's dark,
I thought we were playing chase when you had that big fall
That's why I ran off and refused to come when you called.

When I ate all that chicken I'd forgotten the rule
With it there on the counter I had started to drool,
And I couldn't have known the cat would say no
Maybe I shouldn't have but boy did he go.

I really didn't mean to burst that little boy's ball
You looked awful scared when you saw his dad was that tall,
Maybe it didn't help when I peed on his leg,
It seemed really painful the way he then made you beg.

OK I'll admit I know I could do better
I'll stop eating the plants and chewing your letters,
I'm sure I'll get forgiven when I flash my big puppy eyes
Even though you keep saying I'm the devil dressed in disguise.
- M.J.Hill

Did You Know?

A cat has a total of 24 whiskers, 4 rows of whiskers on each side. The upper two rows can move independently of the bottom two rows. A cat uses its whiskers for measuring distances.

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 and useful.

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. Roly
 2. Fang
 3. Beethoven
 4. Toto
 5. Wellard
 6. Duke
 7. Frank
 8. Shep

Pet Dandruff!

Just like humans, pets get dandruff too. It tends to be seen more in the shorthaired pets but all kinds get it.

Dandruff is usually just the aging dead skin cells scaling and flaking off. While it's normally harmless, in some cases it can indicate an underlying health issue in your pet, such as an infection, allergy or parasites.

So if your pet starts to show signs of dandruff, do not just put it down to its skin. Do a little investigation and maybe see your vet to make sure there are no bigger issues causing the problem.

Please Know That I Really Appreciate It!

You've all been a blessing to me, to my business and, most importantly, to your pets. I am very thankful that you choose me to groom them with the care and attention they deserve.

It's always nice chatting with you when you get your pet groomed, and there's really nothing like working with your lovely little friends throughout the day.

You have helped to make my business a success, and the opportunity to provide pet grooming in our community is simply fantastic. So thank you for all your support.

It's great that you look after your pet so well because there are many who don't. To give your pet the love and care you do is everything they ask of you.

Please be sure to let me know if you ever have any questions or concerns about your pet or any of the services I provide. Your happiness and satisfaction are my top priority (alongside the absolute best care for your pets!), and it's my pleasure to provide the best experiences for you and your special pet.

Thank you

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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