



Hollywood Dogs News



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



Hi again and welcome to another monthly newsletter. It's a little scary how quickly the months are going by. It seems that every five minutes it's the start of a new month. But I guess that's the way it goes and just shows us that we really should be enjoying every minute. I know I'm trying to!

Speaking of fun, did they get you on April Fools day? If they did, I hope it wasn't too embarrassing. I've heard of some incredibly elaborate pranks in previous years. I was going to tell you about a few but I've changed my mind. I wouldn't want to give any of you any ideas to think that you might use them to catch me out!

But isn't it great that the clocks have changed and it's daylight much later? I have to say I really love the long evenings. It's so much more fun to be out with the dogs when it's still daylight. Don't you just get so much more done when it's light outside?

I've been meaning to say a big thank you to everyone who has contributed their ideas to this newsletter. It's lovely to get feedback and many of the ideas have been great. Please keep them coming, as I'd like to make sure that I'm filling this newsletter with the most helpful information.

So Easter is just around the corner. Hmm chocolate Easter eggs, yet another excuse to eat some more chocolate! But please don't forget not to give any to your dog. Chocolate contains some substances that can make dogs seriously ill or even kill them! So please don't be tempted.

Thanks for taking the time to read this newsletter, and I'll be back next month with another one.

Have a lovely April and a Happy Easter.

Rachel



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"If you can look at a dog and not feel vicarious excitement and affection, you must be a cat." ~ Author Unknown

More Fascinating Facts about Dogs:

! A puppy's eyes normally do not open until they are 10 to 15 days old. It usually takes about four weeks for their vision to be complete.

! Just like babies, Chihuahuas are born with a soft spot in their skull, which closes over when they get older.

! Franklin Roosevelt sent a destroyer ship to the Aleutian Islands to pick up his Scottie dog, costing him \$15,000.

! Newfoundlands have webbed feet, which makes them great swimmers.

! At the end of the Beatles' song "A Day in the Life", Paul McCartney recorded a high-pitched dog whistle for his sheepdog.

Did you Know!

It's important that dogs get to play when they are young. It is through play that dogs establish the strengths and weaknesses of other members of their pack, including you.

Dogs that are allowed lots of playtime and are given plenty of toys to stimulate their mind, are much less likely to develop behavioural problems.

I'm an approved member of the Pet Care Trust and British Dog Groomers Association. So you can have peace of mind knowing that while your dog is in my care it will be groomed to the highest standard and will be given the greatest level of care at all times.



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"Man's best friend that's what we say, so how will we treat our friends today?"

It's the time of year for Moulting!

The change of the seasons from Winter, to Spring and then to Summer has always been the natural time of year for dogs to cast their winter coats. In the wild, a dog's natural instincts would have sensed the rise in temperature and the lengthening of the daylight hours. So the process of moulting began readiness for the warmer summer months.

Our domesticated friends still induce this process at this time of year. However, in the last few decades with more dogs living indoors in a centrally heated environment, their senses have gotten somewhat confused. Being inside the warm house stimulates the dog to cast off its coat. Yet, going out into the cold winter air has the opposite effect.

According to a recent UK survey conducted by Dog World, in association with Yumega, this has accounted for 58% of owners saying that their dogs cast their coats all year round. The survey also indicated a sharp rise in the amount of hair that each dog sheds. It is estimated that the extra hair left on furnishings in the home requires an extra half hour of vacuuming every week.

Each hair on your dog will be at one of three stages at any given time.

- The growth phase where the hair is continually growing.
- The resting phase where it has stopped growing but is still attached to the hair follicle. At this stage, the hair can easily detach if touched or rubbed against furnishings or clothes.
- The final phase where the hair is dead and falls out by itself to make way for new hair growth.

So how can you stop this process? Well you can't actually stop the process of your dog's hair growing, just as you can't stop your own hair growing. However, you can certainly assist to remove unwanted dead hair and reduce the nightmare of dog hairs all over your home.

Firstly, your dog's nutrition has a major affect on the condition and strength of his coat. Hair that doesn't receive a balanced level of nutrients soon becomes dull, loose and falls out prematurely. Therefore, oils such as Omega 3 and Omega 6 in your dog's food help nourish the hair and skin by keeping it moist, supple and healthy.

Daily brushing is also important to remove the hair in a controlled manner. Brushing stimulates the natural oils in your dog's coat. However, the type of brush you use can dramatically affect the quantity of hair removed during brushing. Please ask if you need help with choosing a good quality brush that will give you great results.

Grooming your dog at this time of year will greatly help removal of dead hair and undercoat. A deep wash combined with professional shampoos will strip out the unwanted coat leaving the healthy and shiny top coat. The shampoos also condition the remaining hair so that it's stronger and less likely to fall out. If you're having trouble with your dog moulting, please give us a call for more advice on coat care.

Dogs in the News!

! A conscientious mother hen has adopted two orphaned puppies in China. According to Ananova.com, the hen took over the parental responsibilities of the two pups after their mother was poisoned. Owner Cao Fengying said that the hen and mother of the pups had been great friends for two years. After the dog died, the hen took the puppies into her coup and kept them warm. She defends them if anyone approaches and ensures that they eat first during meal times.

! Two dogs in West Yorkshire were left with a sour taste in their mouths when they chased what they thought was a cat. However, they soon turned tail when they discovered they were actually chasing a skunk. According to the Bradford Telegraph, the two dogs suddenly shot off after the animal, leaving owner Dave Bennett standing. Luckily, the two dogs didn't actually catch the skunk but they still managed to get sprayed. "They smelled awful," said Mr. Bennett. "I've bathed them and they still smell really bad." The skunk, which is a rare sight in the UK, is being cared for by the RSPCA until he finds a new home.

"Anybody who doesn't know what soap tastes like never washed a dog."

~ Franklin P. Jones

Why Does my Dog Chase?

Your dog has a natural instinct to chase after other animals or objects that run from it. This comes from their days in the wild when stalking of prey resulted in a frantic chase. So in your domesticated dog it's the actual movement of the animal or object that triggers the chase. This is why you don't often see a dog chasing a parked car or a cat that stands its ground. Instead, your dog is likely to get confused and unsure of what to do next.

The movement of many different things-including small animals, livestock, cars, joggers or runners going by when you're out walking-may trigger the chasing instinct in your dog.

The chasing problem can escalate to a serious level, putting other pets, small animals and farming livestock at great risk. But also, nipping and biting at passing runners or cyclists, or snapping at the wheels of passing cars, can be very hazardous for your dog and the people concerned.

For these reasons, it is so important that you correct the chasing problem in your dog as soon as possible. It starts by making sure that your dog is well socialized so that the movement of these objects is not new to it.

Provide your dog with plenty of excitement to reduce boredom, as this plays a major role in chasing. Plenty of regular exercise will help with this stimulation and will also help with the socialization aspect as well.

For a dog that insists on chasing to the point of obsession you will need to seek further advice and training from a reputable trainer.

Did You Know!

! A dog that is aggressive to people, animals or other dogs is likely to have an underlying problem. Causes of aggression include accidental mistreatment, poor basic training or its perceived role within your pack.

Regardless of the cause, it's imperative to correct any form of aggressive behaviour. Consult a reputable trainer or canine psychologist for help and advice. As with all behavioural issues in dogs, they can be corrected. But it requires the right approach and is likely to take time, persistence and patience. However, it will be worth it to ensure that the aggression does not spiral out of control.

Do Short-Haired Dogs need Groomed?

Many people think that Dog Groomers only ever groom long-haired dogs whose hair needs cut and styled. But in fact it's necessary to groom all types of dogs to ensure that their coats are in tip-top condition. Short-haired dogs like Boxers, Labradors, Dalmatians and Jack Russells etc. all benefit from regular grooming as well. Plus, it can make things a lot better for the owners.

Here are some of the reasons why you should get your short-haired dog groomed:

- Grooming removes the undercoat and loose hairs from your dog's coat. So not only will your dog feel much cooler coming into the summer months but you'll have a lot less cleaning up of hairs from around your home. Just imagine you'll be able to pet your dog or have him rub up against your clothes without you or your furniture being covered in hairs.
- The shampoos and conditioners that we use nourish your dog's coat and skin. Not only will their coat look healthy and shiny, it will prevent that dusty, flaky dandruff. Plus your dog will be left smelling lovely, so no more doggy smell around your home.
- It's a chance to get their nails cut and to thoroughly clean their ears so that nasty infections are avoided. It's also a great opportunity to give them a good check over for lumps or bumps that shouldn't be there. Grooming can detect ailments that may otherwise go unnoticed, thereby ensuring early treatment of a condition.
- Just as we feel great after a shower or bath, so do our dogs. The grooming process helps your dog's overall well-being by removing dead hair and nourishing the coat. Improved circulation, elimination of itching and soothing of skin are also sure to leave your dog looking and feeling great.

National Pet Month 2009!

Healthy Pets make Happy Pets

National Pet Month (NPM) is returning from 4th April – 4th May 2009 to put the wag back into the tails of the United Kingdom's pet population with the theme 'Healthy Pets Make Happy Pets'.

As well as donating money to numerous animal charities, this year's campaign will also seek to raise awareness of the importance of pet health... after all, healthy pets make happy pets!

National Pet Month encourages pet owners to host and join in a variety of events across the nation.

2009 sees the return of the National Pet Month Photographic Competition, in conjunction with Your Dog and Your Cat magazine, in which pet owners can enter snaps of their favourite pet moments in the hope of making their furry, feathered or scaly friend a celluloid star at the climax of National Pet Month. The Ultimate Pet show will be held from 2nd – 4th May.

Why not get involved in National Pet Month 2009 and show everyone what great pet owners you are. And of course it's lots of fun as well.

Training tips?

Is constant petting good for your dog?

Dogs aren't born to be cuddled. The nearest they get to petting one another is short grooming sessions or just curling up together to sleep. Don't overdo petting your dog just to satisfy something in yourself. It is manipulative, can be read as 'homage' by the dog and can, depending upon his personality, set up all sorts of attention seeking behaviours. You, as a human, would not expect to be constantly fussed and touched by everyone, would you! Why should a dog?

To much fuss and attention and touching can lead to a needy, or scared, or stressed, over-protective dog.

Tip provided by Theo Stewart, The Dog Lady.
www.theodoglady.net Tel: 01767 641070

Match the Clue to the Breed!

The following are nicknames and clues of common breeds of dogs. Can you match what clues go with each breed?
i.e. **1F**. Have a go without looking at the answers on the back page.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 1. The Live Wire | } | A. Siberian Husky |
| 2. The Flusher | | B. Lakeland Terrier |
| 3. The Team Racer | | C. Papillon |
| 4. Marched with the Romans | | D. Rottweiler |
| 5. The Stylish Breed | | E. Norwegian Elkhound |
| 6. The "Butterfly" Dog | | F. Wire Fox Terrier |
| 7. War Dog of the Vikings | | G. Poodle |
| 8. The Showman | | H. Sussex Spaniel |

Hollywood Dogs 'Star of The Month'



This months Hollywood Star of the month is Rosie the adorable Springer Spaniel, as you can see we caught her reading the Hollywood Dogs newsletter and she thinks it's quite a read! Now Rosie has something to keep her occupied when she is waiting for her Dad to pick her up from the groomers!

If you would like your dog to be featured as next months 'Star' then please e-mail a photo and some fun facts about your best little friend to info@hollywooddogs.co.uk

"If your dog is overweight, then you're not getting enough exercise!"

~ Author Unknown

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.

The information and articles are strictly copyright protected. So I'm afraid they can't be copied or re-used in any form. If you are ever given or offered a newsletter from another groomer with similar information and articles, I'd be grateful if you'd let me know.

Answers
to Quiz
1F
2H
3A
4D
5G
6C
7E
8B

Hollywood Dogs Website!

Have you checked out the salon website lately? There's always a copy of your monthly newsletter on there for you to share with your friends. The gallery is always changing and maybe there is a picture of your four legged friend on there?

If you have a photo of your dog that you would like to see on the website then please e-mail it to me at info@hollywooddogs.co.uk. I'm always happy to hear from you so drop me a line with any suggestions, it's great to get feedback from you all!

Thank you to everyone who has told me how much they are enjoying the newsletters every month, its great to hear that they are a success!

Thank you for All Your Referrals!

It's always overwhelming and really fantastic to see that so many of you are kind enough to refer me to others. You really are helping to keep my business moving along and for that I am so grateful. Thank you so much.

Please Pass it On!

If you know of anyone that you think could benefit from my services or who may like to read this newsletter then please pass this copy on to them.

Maybe when you've finished reading it you could leave it in a place where others might get to read and enjoy it as well. What about in your hairdressers, dentist or doctors' reception. Or could you take it to your work so that your colleagues could benefit from it as well.

It's always good to reuse and recycle so by passing this newsletter on or leaving it where others could get to read it really would be benefiting everyone.

Get this newsletter every month!

To continue providing you with information, help and a little bit of fun about dogs, 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 me your email address or request your newsletter by sending me an email. Once you're on my list I'll send you a copy every month.

To make an appointment or if you just want to ask a question please contact me at:

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