



Hollywood Dogs News



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

Isn't it great that March has arrived and it's so good that Spring is just around the corner. With a little luck we've seen the back of all that snow and cold weather for a while. Hopefully you weren't affected by it too badly.

While it did cause problems I have to say it was lovely to see all the children out playing in the snow. Kids' doing what kids should be doing is great and of course, there were plenty of 'big kids' out building snowmen and throwing snowballs too! Oh what fun!

But now Spring is coming and I can't wait. That's what I like so much about March, it always feels like a fresh new month where there's an expectation of change and better things to come, (warmer weather at least I hope!). The lengthening of the evenings marks an end of the dark winter months and the change of the season brings with it a sense of newness and hope for the year ahead. Even just seeing the early buds on the trees and the flowers starting to appear seems to lift everyone's spirit.

March is also a really eventful month. Wales and Ireland celebrate their Patron Saints, there's Mother's Day, the changing of the clocks and a few more events to boot.

Oh and speaking of Mother's Day. That's at least one day that all you Mothers out there should be able to put your feet up, sit back and enjoy being looked after for a change. Come on all you Fathers, Sons and Daughters, give Mum a nice Mother's Day (Sunday Mar 22nd) - you know she deserves it!

Anyway, as always I've tried to pack this newsletter full of fun, interesting and useful information for you and your dog. So why don't you go make yourself a cup of tea, sit yourself down, relax and enjoy the rest of this newsletter.

Have yourself a lovely March and I'll speak to you soon.

Rachel



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"Dogs are miracles

with paws"

~ Attributed to Susan Kennedy

More Fascinating Facts about Dogs:

- ! Basset Hounds cannot swim.
- ! It is thought that obesity is one of the most common health problems among dogs.
- ! It is estimated that approximately 70% of Americans sign their pet's name on greeting and holiday cards.
- ! The bible mentions dogs 14 times.
- ! It is thought that the oldest known breed of dog is the Saluki - trained by Egyptians to help them track game.

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.



"Man's best friend that we love lots, keep them brushed to remove those knots"

Why does my Dog Bark so Much?

Some dog's bark more than others, maybe even to the point where it's a total nuisance. Different breeds of dog, such as terriers and the smaller breeds, tend to have higher levels of barking. Also, the personality of your pet can play a part as dogs that are bubbly and excitable do tend to bark more.

But in many cases there is an underlying reason for excessive barking that must be addressed before the behavior can be corrected. For instance:

- Dogs that bark at night or while they are on their own may be suffering separation anxiety!
- Dogs that bark at noises, postmen or people coming to the front door may be assuming the role of 'den' protector or 'territory defender'.
- Dogs that bark when other dogs bark may have simply learnt from imitation. Especially if they have spent time in kennels or near other barking dogs when they were young.

But regardless of the cause, what's really important is that you address the underlying problems before doing any training to correct the behaviour. If you don't then you'll find it difficult to get the correction you want and may even create more problems in the process.

Speak to a reputable dog trainer and spend time studying dog behaviour before doing any training.

Caring for older Dogs!

Just like people, when dogs get older they need to be cared for a little more delicately. But that doesn't mean that all the fun will end! After all, they'll be a wiser old dog and with the passing years are likely to be even more loyal.

It just means that you'll have to make adjustments in your lives to take account of their aging bodies.

Dog's can also sometimes be older than we think especially if we didn't get them as a pup. Different breeds have different ageing patterns. For example, a Great Dane is considered old at six whereas a terrier may be 10, 11 or even 13 before showing major signs of age.

The important thing is to notice the signs and take into account the age of your pet when doing your normal routine with them. That four mile walk they were able to do last year may be just a little too much for them today.

But you don't need to completely wrap them up in cotton wool. Minor adjustments to account for them getting a little older may be all that is needed. Don't cut out exercise completely as obesity and diabetes are two major health issues in older dogs.

Making sure they have a good routine, a healthy diet, regular checks and the correct exercise to reflect their age, should be enough to make sure their golden years are long and happy.

Dogs in the News!

! A Jack Russell in Wolverhampton has become an expert tree climber. Penny, who was recently featured on the BBC news channel, has decided that's it's much more fun to scale the trees in her local park than have a run around on the ground like most dogs. Penny's owner Gwen told the BBC that Penny likes to chase squirrels in the trees, even though she has no chance of catching them. For passers by it's quite a spectacle seeing a dog run along the branches of a tree, 30 feet in the air!

! An Italian woman had to call police to retrieve part of her nose after her dog had bitten it off! According to Annova.com, the woman was asleep in bed when the pet Poodle inexplicably bit off part of her nose. Police had to chase the Poodle around the owner's garden to retrieve the nose before surgeons could sew it back on. The woman, who will have to undergo a lot more reconstructive surgery, has forgiven her pet but is refusing to let it sleep in her bed again!

Salon News!

We are very excited to announce that the latest hydro massage technology is now available to your pet with every visit to Hollywood Dogs. Our new 'Bathing Beauty' hydro massage system has arrived direct from the States and the dogs are loving it already! This amazing treatment gives your dog a soothing massage while they are having their bath, not only will your dog be clean and shiny but it's great for arthritis and for dogs with skin conditions too!

I guarantee your dog will love it and the best part is that this relaxing treatment is included in the price of your groom!

We don't believe in using inferior products on your pet, all our shampoos, conditioners and colognes are imported from the USA. They are the best quality animal shampoos available and we make sure we prescribe just the right shampoo for every coat type and condition.

If your pet is being treated for a skin condition and has a prescription shampoo from your vet then just let us know and we're happy to treat your dog with this for you.

Here's a pic of Bonzo the Old English Sheepdog, a regular at Hollywood Dogs trying out the Bathing Beauty for the first time and he's loving it! Bonzo loves going for long muddy walks and giving big wet sloppy kisses!



Puppy's First Groom!

For a puppy it's so important they learn as soon as possible that grooming is nothing to be feared. Getting them used to being brushed, bathed and even the noise of clippers at a young age, can mean such a difference to them when they get older.

While the actual need for grooming of a puppy will vary from breed to breed, the important thing is to get them used to their surroundings and the process of grooming. This should happen as early as possible. Anytime soon after they've had their puppy vaccinations.

Waiting till a puppy is 7, 8 or even 11 months old before having their first groom, will be so much more stressful on them. Indeed, it's a lot harder and more work for the groomer as well.

Most situations of dogs being nervous about grooming can be blamed on their first few grooming experiences. That's why I take extra special care with puppies so they learn that grooming is a fun and exciting thing to have done.

Oh, you can also be sure that kisses and cuddles will abound when the little cuties are around me!

"From the dog's point of view, his master is an elongated and abnormally cunning dog"

~ Mabel Louise Robinson

Don't delay your Dog's Grooming!

It's really important that your dog gets groomed regularly in order to help keep him happy and healthy.

Different breeds of dog require different intervals between grooming. But experience has shown that leaving even one or two weeks extra between your dogs grooming appointments can create a lot of problems. Here are just a few of the most common:

! A build up of matts and knots on your dog.

The longer your dog's hair gets to grow between appointments then the more likely that it will become knotted. Even with daily brushing it can be much harder to get those knots out. They can easily develop into solid matts which can cause irritation to your dog's skin and damage their coat. Plus when a dog's coat has gotten too long and has become matted then the only option may be to clip off the entire coat. But this will leave your dog looking much, much different!

! Excess hair means more cost to you.

Obviously your dog's hair continues to grow between grooming appointments. So the greater time between clipping then the longer and thicker your dog's hair will be. In most cases it then takes longer to wash and clip, especially if it's matted. This extra work in grooming can therefore result in extra cost for you.

! Potential health issues for your dog.

Not only can matts cause problems for your dog but there are also other potential health problems as well. Ear infections can easily occur because of the extra time between appointments. Hair and dirt will build up in your dog's ears which can cause them pain, irritation and infection which could lead to expensive vet's bills.

Your dog's nails can also grow longer than they should which may lead to complications, especially with dew claws.

! Unnecessary discomfort for your dog.

Most dogs will spend much of their time in the house along with you, where no doubt the central heating will be on to keep you all warm. But just imagine sitting in your living room wearing your warmest outdoor coat with the heating on. You'd feel pretty uncomfortable! But it's no different for your dog when its hair is allowed to grow longer and thicker than it should be. To them it's like wearing a woolly coat on a warm summer's day! Not very pleasant as you'd imagine!

! Reduced chance of finding problems early.

During the grooming of your dog we are always on the look out for any lumps, bumps, cuts or anything that may be a concern to your dog's health. These are things that you may not easily see yourself, especially under a thick coat. But early detection of health concerns can mean all the difference when it comes to your dog recovering again. Therefore, that extra couple of weeks when issues are not detected could be disastrous for your dog!

Overall, allowing more time between your dog's grooming appointments is likely to cost you more money. But most worryingly it may cause discomfort, pain and even lead to health issues for your pet. And that's just not worth it, especially if you add in the worry of having to pay extra vet's bills as well!

Is your dog Showing Stress?

Here are just a few less obvious ways you might spot that your dog is becoming stressed so that you can rescue him early from the situation he is in - whether he's cornered by children, or being towered over (many dogs are not comfortable with a standing person bending over them) or he/she may be feeling intimidated in some way. He may lick his lips. He may yawn. He may pant or start to pace. He may turn his head away from the source of his discomfort. He may tail chase or chew himself or leave sweaty footprints on the floor.

A stressed dog can become an unpredictable dog.

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

"Scratch a dog and you'll find a permanent job"

~ Franklin P. Jones

Did You Know!

! When your dog rolls over on his back he's showing you that he completely trusts you. This is a vulnerable position for your dog as his throat is exposed. Plus he may just want you to scratch his belly!

! Brushing your dog regularly will not only help to keep your dog's coat in great condition but it'll also help your dog to bond with you. Grooming and close contact with its pack members is a very natural process for your dog.

! You should never leave any dog alone with young children or small animals no matter how well you think your dog gets on with them. A dog has a natural predatory instinct which cannot be totally controlled, so in some situations a split second left alone could be tragic.

Doggy Word Search!

The following Word Search contains the names of 10 breeds of dogs. The breeds included are listed on the back page but can you find them first before looking at the names.

K G A O D T S N S A E T T J H R O C G
C O R D S D I A S O R A L E E N O E O
A D E E Y P T E D T O L E L V U R J D
B P D O I I A E E E E S S E Y M R E P
E E C N N R A A P S S T K D A E E A E
G E T P O L R T S P D Y L N Y S T B E
D H O F R W T U R A I R S A M F I U H
I S S C A T R A T P H L S E W E R F S
R H E D S K O I N P E L W Y O L I E D
N S I U C M I I L P J S O R N H S E N
A I C A F S E P H I B H K T O O H M A
I L J M E U U E H T O U P H A T S Y L
S G R S D H R S I E X O L O M I E D T
E N O E A D O S T T E W D T U A T O E
D E K H E E A E G G R A H D P R T B H
O D R G I E F I A D R M T I A O E Z S
H L S C O T T I S H T E R R I E R C E
R O R M S O P Y R T S A O T B T H T T

Hollywood Dogs 'Stars of The Month'



Our Hollywood Dogs 'Stars of the Month' are Bruno and Harry. These Bernese Mountain Dogs are regular visitors to the salon and March is a very special month for them as they have qualified for Crufts this year. We want to wish them all the best of luck! Bruno is 9 years and Harry is 2 years 9 months and I think we all agree that they both look amazing! These gentle giants are a pleasure to be around and we always look forward to their visits to the salon. Good Luck Boys!!!

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

"A dry March and a wet May

Fill barns and bays with corn and hay"

~ traditional saying

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.

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Answers
to Quiz

Boxer
German Shepherd
Scottish Terrier
Whippet
Shetland
Sheepdog
Rhodesian
Ridgeback
Old
English
Sheepdog
Irish Setter
Lhasa Apso
Jack Russell

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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