



# DEEPDALE PETS NEWS!

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



A warm hello and welcome to the Christmas edition of this newsletter! This is a fantastic time of year for children, and it's certainly a wonderful season for us, too, when we're able to spend some time with our family and friends. Our dogs, of course, are included in that group of those we love, so let's have a look in this issue at all the ways in which we can have a safe and happy holiday with our best of friends—our dogs!

Firstly we must recognise that, unfortunately, Christmas can be a terribly stressful time for our pets, as well as an opportunity for them to eat and play with lots of things they shouldn't be having their paws on. Fortunately for us all, it's usually easy enough to prevent any holiday-related problems, though, when we take a moment to view the situation from their perspective...

The following tips may help you do that. But, of course, you know your dogs better than anyone else does, so be sure to think on any other precautions that could help keep them calm—and out of trouble.

1. If decorating your home for the holidays, maybe have a look around to be sure that decorations, ornaments and so on are out of your dogs' reach, especially if they've a tendency to play with any new and interesting items. One thing to keep in mind, too, is that sometimes dogs will snatch objects off tables when no one's looking.

When in doubt, simply keep fragile or potentially dangerous items in a room or area they cannot access, or store the items away when you're unable to keep a watchful eye on the pups.

2. If you'll be having lots of visitors or taking your dogs to visit other people, spend some time preparing them for the excitement before the big day arrives. This is especially important with dogs who haven't yet socialised with a crowd or young children. By introducing them to others in a calm, controlled environment, and gradually increasing the amount of noise and time spent in the situation, you can help prevent them from feeling overly anxious or excited.

Whatever you're doing this Christmas please try to have a little time to yourself so you can relax and enjoy it all.

*Have a Very Merry Christmas!*

## Deepdale Pets

Deepdale Farm House, Leasingham Moor, Sleaford, NG34 8SH

**Tel: 0845 0942448**

**Email: [info@deepdalepets.co.uk](mailto:info@deepdalepets.co.uk)**

**[www.deepdalepets.co.uk](http://www.deepdalepets.co.uk)**

### 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 we could really benefit you and provide you with exactly what you're looking for.

### Inside this Issue:

- Handling Holiday Stress!
- Doggy Christmas Humour
- Planning a Feast Near Fido
- Scrumptious Gift Giving for Dogs!

## THANK YOU

**Thank you for all of your support this year. Please call in for mince pies and wine during this festive period.**

*Rowena*

### A Wonderful World of Animals!

! Jack, a Jack Russell Terrier in South Dakota, chased a mountain lion up a tree! According to *The Huffington Post*, Jack probably 'figured it was just a cat', as he tends to chase them, but this cat weighed approximately 67.5 kilos.

! Dick Van Dyke, an American actor, reports that porpoises saved his life. They pushed his surfboard back to the beach when he'd fallen asleep out at sea.

### Did You Know?

Some of our favourite Christmas time plants are actually poisonous to dogs when ingested: Mistletoe, poinsettia, and the Christmas cactus should always be kept out of reach of dogs.

Attaching the top of your Christmas tree to the ceiling with a hook and ribbon can keep it upright if the dog (or children) should run into it!

*"Toys and squeaks dogs might get to play, when Santa comes on Christmas Day!"*

# Why I'm the Right Choice to Groom your Dog!

## Five Important points to look for when choosing a good Dog Groomer!

It's important to remember that not all groomers are the same and that the service they provide will not always be what you'd expect. It's so important that the person who grooms and cares for your dog does so to the highest standard. Because it's critical that you have trust and confidence in this person, I have highlighted the five benefits that a good groomer will provide to you:

### **1. Assurance that the care and welfare of your dog is their top priority:**

Any good groomer is first and foremost a dog lover, so caring for your little buddy comes as second nature to them and is given at all times. By providing breaks during the clipping process and by never leaving your dog unsupervised, they reduce unnecessary stress while ensuring safety and security. They also attend to your dog's basic needs by providing them with such things as fresh drinking water.

### **2. Grooming of the highest standard that reflects the needs of you and your dog:**

A good groomer must be able to demonstrate the ability to groom your dog to high standards and to provide an appropriate look for your pet. They must have the ability to accurately determine your needs while advising you on different options for style and finish. A good groomer will never inflict pain or undue stress on your pet just to achieve a certain style.

### **3. Understanding of the different temperaments and characteristics of dogs:**

As not all dogs are the same, they cannot all be approached and handled the same. For example, a shy and slightly fearful dog requires calmness and patience, while a lively bouncy dog may require immediate leadership. A good groomer will be able to adapt their approach to meet the psychological and behavioral needs of different dogs to ensure minimum stress during the grooming process.

### **4. Quality products and methods that do not risk the health of your pet:**

A good groomer will never compromise on the quality of products they use on your pet. Cheap dog products are available everywhere, yet they can cause severe health problems for your dog. Therefore, you must be confident that your groomer uses quality controlled professional grooming products. A good groomer will never cut corners with their products just to save money or to provide cheaper prices.

### **5. Advice and information on all aspects of dog ownership:**

It's important that you have someone to turn to when you need advice or help with your dog, and a good groomer will be this person. While groomers cannot offer all of the answers, such as a medical diagnosis, they should be knowledgeable enough to offer some assistance and to point you in the right direction. A good groomer will always attempt to identify and inform you of any physical or behavioral changes that may indicate a health problem. This can make all the difference in recovery, as early detection ensures early treatment.

As a groomer, the above five benefits are the guide by which I provide my services. Dogs and grooming are my passion, not just my business. By bringing your dog to me for grooming, you can be assured that you and your dog will receive all five benefits as well as the care and service that you deserve.

## What you can Expect if you Bring your Dog to 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.

## Deepdale Pets

*"Expert in leaving your dog looking gorgeous"*

- ✓ **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: **0845 0942448**



## When Holiday Stress Affects Our Dogs!

As fun and lovely as Christmas and the holidays can be, it can also get a little rowdy and stressful, too. Maybe you've got lots of little children running round playing, last-minute shopping to do, or it could even be that you're dreading the idea of another tension-filled dinner with grumpy great uncle Leonard.

And when we're feeling rushed or irritable, our dogs certainly feel it, too, as we can see in their behaviours. For example, you may have noticed that people who are typically 'high strung' and on the go tend to have hyper dogs, whereas calm households tend to have relaxed dogs. Other factors affect this, of course, but dogs often mirror our own state of mind and activity level.

This relationship is something worth considering year-round, especially when dogs are having behavioural problems, but it can become particularly important during holidays and other special occasions.

If you notice your dog being a bit more anxious than usual this time of year, try taking them for a longer walk each day. Not only will this help them relax, it'll relieve some of the tension you're feeling and give you some more peaceful, quality time with them.

If your to-do list is too long already, maybe hire a dog walker or pet sitter temporarily.

It's when you have visitors or take them to a friend's home that you both may feel a bit more anxious, though. So, remember, when you're calm and collected, your dogs are more likely to relax and listen properly.

Take a deep breath and speak with cool authority. You certainly can't control the craziness of Christmas, but by remaining calm as possible, you and your dogs can have a pleasant time of it!

## Helpful Training Hint!

You may feel the urge to correct or train your dog when they're acting overly excited due to visitors in your home. While a verbal correction may be necessary and helpful in some circumstances, it's easier and more beneficial to the dog if you provide the training in a calm, controlled environment beforehand.

If you expect that your dog will be anxious or overly excited, try giving them lots of exercise before your visitors arrive. And, as time permits, socialise and prepare them for the visit in the weeks leading up to the occasion.



## Doggy Humour:

### A Dog's Rules for Christmas!

1. Try to be patient with your humans during this holiday. They appear to be more stressed out than usual, so spend lots of time leaning into their legs and licking their faces whenever possible.
2. When they come home with bags full of 'gifts', don't assume that they're all for you.
3. The humans may bring a large tree in the house and cover it with lights and decorations. This makes no sense to us, but because it's so important to them, we need to accept the following:
  - a. Don't pee on this tree or drink the water in which it's sitting.
  - b. Mind your tail when near it.
  - c. Don't chew on the cord that runs from the tree to that funny-looking hole in the wall.
  - d. Don't rip into any packages sitting beneath the tree, including those that smell interesting or have your name on them.
4. Don't eat off the table or ask strangers for a bite off their plates. More importantly, don't take a bite without asking!
5. Observe all rules from #3 when visiting others.

## Thinking of All Dogs this Christmas!

If you're unsure of a gift for someone who happens to be a dog (or cat!) lover, consider making a donation in their name to a local rescue or adoption organisation. Even the smallest of donations, be it a bit of cash or small bag of food, can make a big difference for an animal in need.

## Word Search

Find the hidden dog breeds listed below!

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

\*IRISH SETTER\* OTTERHOUND \*SIBERIAN HUSKY\*  
SCHNAUZER \*SHIH TZU\* BULLDOG \*WELSH CORGI\*

## Planning a Holiday Feast near Fido...

With Christmas comes lots of yummy foods and a house full of loved ones with whom to share them. Well, our dogs want to share, too, of course, so the following are a few things to think on if you're preparing a feast this year.

Firstly, as you know, dogs can get very ill if they eat certain human foods. Goodies to keep away from them include chocolate, onions, garlic, grapes, raisins, mushrooms, potato skins, ham, small cooked meat bones and fat trimmings.

A small bite of other things is usually fine if you'd like to give them a little treat. Aside from poisonous food ingestion, the serious problems generally come when dogs chew into a really big helping of table scraps.

So, with that in mind, you may need to kindly ask visitors and instruct children not to share their food with the dogs. This can be difficult when dogs have got that sorrowful, longing look in their eyes, but people are usually understanding of the dangers!

Also, keep the lid on the bin closed or maybe set the trash outside in case the dogs want to investigate all those delicious smells!

### 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.

## Scrumptious Gift Giving for Dogs!

It's the season of gift giving and you may or may not feel inclined to buy some extra goodies for your best little friend. For lots of dog owners, this really is a great time to pamper your pets with gifts.

From posh presents such as canopy beds, to shiny new necessities such as food bowls, there's certainly no lack of items available for them. However, if you'd like to include your dogs when preparing food and gifts for Christmas, you may want to try baking some doggie biscuits instead!

The Internet provides countless recipes for homemade dog treats, many of which are both healthy and tasty. Containing ingredients such as chicken, peanut butter, and whole wheat flour, they're often simple to make with items you'd already have in the kitchen.

Ingredients should be natural, without any added sugars or artificial colouring, for the dogs' digestive health. And, like any other treats, they should be given sparingly rather than given as a meal.

However you choose to include your dogs in this year's celebration, please have yourself a lovely and memorable time with one another, plus all the rest of your family of course.

### 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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