



# DEEPDALE PETS NEWS!

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

A warm hello to you and your little friends!

No doubt you and your dogs will be spending a little more time indoors now. So in this issue there are some tips to help keep our dogs happy and healthy as housemates.

Just like ourselves sometimes, dogs can get a little stir-crazy when it's dreary out and they've nothing to do but lounge around indoors. They'll soon find ways to entertain themselves though, but more often than not, their idea of fun is the exact opposite of what we'd have them do.

The signs of boredom are fairly easy to spot. They'll groan, sigh, or sit and paw at you even though they've already eaten and been out to the toilet. When that yields no results, they're off to rummage through the bin, chase the cat, and play tug of war with the socks you've dropped! And, sometimes, telling them 'no' isn't enough to stop them. Without mental and physical stimulation, they simply cannot stop themselves.

Spending a little time with them playing games can really make a world of difference, and it's certainly much easier and more fun than repeatedly correcting unwanted behaviours. Fun things to do with them include playing hide and seek, teaching them new tricks, creating a scavenger hunt with toys and treats, and setting up obstacle courses. These activities not only wear them out, they give us a pleasant break from the daily grind as well as a chance to bond.

A few new toys can also really brighten their days. If you tend to avoid buying them because they tear through them so quickly, you might want to consider getting a big bunch of inexpensive ones and letting them go wild with them. The 'tough, long-lasting, tear-proof, super durable' toys are really good too because the dog can rarely destroy them and make a mess.

Solid bones with a meaty filling can also last much, much longer than thin or rolled rawhides; however, they also require monitoring to ensure safety from splinters. You may need to experiment with different brands and materials to find those that are both enjoyable and durable for your dogs.

With Christmas quickly approaching, there's a lot more to keep in mind regarding safety and good behaviours. Stay tuned for next month's issue, which will be full of tips and tricks on making the most of Christmas and the New Year with friends, family, and our wonderful pets.

Rowena

## Deepdale Pets

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

### Inside this Issue:

- 5 Tips for a Hair-Free Home!
- I'll Have Some, Too, Please?
- Doggy Dental Checks!
- Paranormal Research? Dogs Do That, Too!

### A Wonderful World of Animals!

! An Austrian farmer is now making a bit of cash thanks to his runaway heifer, Laura. The cow left her pasture and walked through a shopping centre, where she ate a T-shirt and a couple of bras before security guards were able to detain her—with a skipping rope. According to *Orange News*, the store's spokesman thought Laura 'had the right idea' regarding winter preparations and decided to feature her in the TV adverts.

! A Veterans Dog Training Therapy Act was approved in the United States in mid-October. The act is new legislation that pairs dogs with wounded and disabled veterans. In addition to assisting veterans with PTSD and other conditions, it may save the lives of many dogs. The bill requests that dogs from shelters and foster homes receive the therapy training and get placed with the soldiers rather than purebreds that already have homes and job opportunities.

### Did You Know?

The plastic food bowls we use for our pets can absorb germs as well as odours. Washing them with dish soap and hot water throughout the week helps prevent this. Stainless steel bowls are a better option, however. They also require cleaning, of course, but they are easier to clean and last much longer than their plastic counterparts.

"Want them looking their best all through November? Give us a call, please do remember!"

# 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: **01529 307385**

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## 5 Tips for Keeping a Hair-Free Home!

For many of us, dogs are a part of our families, so we're happy to share the sofa with them and give them hugs when we leave or come home. Unfortunately, even when they're not allowed on the furniture, their hair tends to end up everywhere...

**1. Quick Fixes** – A damp sponge, fabric softener sheet or rubber glove pulled in one direction on furniture or clothing usually puts all the hair in a single pile you can pluck right off. Sometimes it works even better than a sticky roller.

**2. Vacuuming** – Unless your vacuum has special attachments for hair, it may not pick up as much as you'd like. Try adding a few drops of liquid fabric softener to a bottle of water, shake it and spray it on the area, let it sit a while, and then vacuum. It should come right up! A static guard on upholstery can also make it come off easier.

**3. Extra Towels** – Keeping towels or blankets in your pet's favourite spots can save you lots of time on cleaning. They'll collect most the hair and protect your floors and upholstery. Simply shake them outside and toss them in the wash each week.

**4. Brushing** – Nothing controls hair like a good brushing. A slicker brush or one with soft bristles is usually best for gathering excess hair in the coat, though it depends on your breed. Aim to brush them daily while outside. Ruffling the coat a bit will loosen the hairs they've shed from the undercoat as well.

**5. Grooming** – A rich bath and thorough drying leaves the coat sleek and shiny, with very little excess hair. A trimming also reduces the amount of clumps and loose mats that fall to the floor. If your dog has a thick undercoat and sheds a lot, you might consider having it thinned or raked also. Having them groomed regularly will greatly reduce the amount of hair left indoors.

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### Quiz

*Guess which dog is considered to have each trait.*

- |                    |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Hairiest Dog    | A. Chow Chow            |
| 2. Smartest Breed  | B. Old English Sheepdog |
| 3. Least Hairy Dog | C. Basset Hound         |
| 4. Black Tongue    | D. Xolo                 |
| 5. Smallest Breed  | E. Border Collie        |
| 6. Longest Ears    | F. Chihuahua            |

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## Doggy Humour!

A Labrador walked into a telegram office, took a blank card from the desk, and wrote, 'Woof. Woof. Woof. Woof, woof, woof. Woof. Woof. Woof'. The clerk looked at the card and said, 'You might as well add another woof. Ten words is the same price as nine'. 'But,' the dog replied, 'then my message would make no sense at all'.

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### I'll Have Some, Too, Please?

Dogs are firm believers that they need to have some of whatever it is you're eating. If you'd rather not have them trying to stick their noses in your meal, standing beneath your feet as you're cooking, or sitting there looking longingly at your dish as you eat, there are a few things you can do to curb the behaviour.

Ask them to go lay down. Some will lie at your feet and continue to nudge or even whine. In this case, physically direct them away from the table or to another room, and praise them for sitting and staying. Once you've finished eating, you can give them a treat if you'd like. What's most important is that you don't give them a bite while you're eating—at any time. Even if you only do so on occasion, they get the idea that persistence will pay off. The behaviour is much easier to break if you're strict about what is and is not acceptable.

Another trick is to schedule their meals around your own. If they're busy gulping down on their own food, they're less likely to concern themselves with yours. Dogs who are simply obsessed with human foods are not as quick to fall for this, however. Some will ignore their bowls and seemingly go on a 'hunger strike'. But again, if you're consistent in your own behaviours, they will change theirs.

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### Pampering the Paws!

If your dog's paw pads tend to get dry and cracked during the winter, you may want to start using a balm on them this month. Keep in mind, however, that overly moisturizing them can actually cause problems.

Dogs need their pads to be tough, and there's nothing unhealthy about them having rough skin. It's when they split, peel, and bleed that they need extra care.

With the cold and wet weather, now's a good time to get the long hairs on their paws trimmed up, too. Rather than keeping them warm, those hairs tend to get full of mud and knots instead.

### Doggy Dental Checks!

Checking the inside of a dog's mouth can be a lot like trying to convince children to brush their teeth before bed. They don't see the point and want no part of it. However, it really is important for their health (and breath).

Ideally, their teeth should be wiped clean at least once weekly. Gently massaging their muzzle and lips with your fingers can help warm them up to the idea. A little baking soda or doggy toothpaste on a damp cloth helps wipe tartar away, but even a damp cloth alone can make a difference.

Cleaning their teeth also gives you a chance to check for problems that are easier to treat when caught early. Inspect the colour of their gums. They should be pink and may have some natural grey or black marks. Redness or paleness can indicate gingivitis and other health issues.

A build-up of yellow, brown, black or green on their teeth should also be checked. The plaque can lead to loose teeth, cavities, and abscesses, which are incredibly painful in some cases. A light cleaning can be done during grooming; however, you may want to consider a deep cleaning by the vet at least once yearly.

A good diet and supply of bones can also help keep plaque build-up to a minimum.

### Paranormal Research? Dogs Do That, Too!

Although our dogs are incredibly comforting, they can really put us on edge when they sense things that we do not. Perhaps you've experienced this. It's a quiet evening and all seems well, but your dog starts growling or barking and walking timidly by an area for no apparent reason.

Researchers of paranormal activity believe that dogs do this when they sense ghosts, changes in magnetic fields, and a host of other phenomena. Of course, it's quite possible that what they sense is another animal, a high-pitched noise that we can't hear, or even a disruption in weather or seismic activity.

This belief has created yet another job for dogs, though! Some paranormal investigators take highly sensitive dogs to areas that are reportedly haunted. Although the dogs can't report their findings, they can confirm the suspicions of property owners.

Oftentimes, the dogs gravitate to whichever room feels 'off' to people. Their hairs will stand on end, and they'll sniff at the air and become visibly agitated. Perhaps their response is due to the handler's mood and energy. Perhaps not. Either way, they've been gaining lots of attention from TV shows that follow ghost hunters!

### 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.

6.	5.	4.	3.	2.	1.	Quiz Key
C	F	A	D	E	B	

### Newsletter Copyright!

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