

# Pawcasso

Professional Cat & Dog Grooming



0141 959 8111

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. So many that I thought I'd list them on the back page for you.

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 22<sup>nd</sup>) - 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.

Morag & Star. XXX

## Pawcasso Grooming

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*"A cat is more intelligent than people believe, and can be taught any crime."*

*~ Mark Twain*

### 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.

We are approved members of the Pet Care Trust and British Dog Groomers Association. So you can have peace of mind knowing that while your dog is in our care it will be groomed to the highest standard and will be given the greatest level of care at all times.



**City & Guilds  
Qualified**

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

**Meet the Pawcasso Staff!**



I'm Cindy, a Filipina. I have been working in Pawcasso for 2 years now, and I've enjoyed every minute of it.

I'm grateful to Morag for giving me the chance to work at Pawcasso, and for the help and encouragement she has given me on my path to being an excellent Dog Groomer. It takes years to build up an expertise as

there are hundreds of breeds of dogs.

It was my dream to work as a Groomer, and now that dream has come true for me. I love working with dogs every day, and the affection that these wonderful animals (and my great colleagues!) give me.

I used to work with cats also, but stopped after nearly losing a finger from a very nasty infected cat bite in early 2008. Heartfelt thanks to Orthopaedic Consultant Mr. Fazzi and his team at Western Infirmary, who operated twice within 8 days to save my finger.

I am the mischievous one in the shop, and often surprise my colleagues with wicked humour and English words that I definitely never learned in English classes in school in the Philippines...

I am married to a Northern Irishman, my good friend who I knew for nine years before we finally realized we are who we're looking for - soul mates! That's how I came to the UK, to be with him. We're now happily settled in Glasgow, having moved from Northern Ireland at the start of 2007.

Before that, I worked in ocean going yachts as a crewmember, sailing around the world. I haven't finished my circumnavigation though, I changed course to that of married life!

Hope to see you soon  
Cindy

**CREATE A CLAY PAWPRINT!**



Why not create the perfect memento of your pet's PawPrint with these easy to use imprint kits.

Each kit comes with ready to use soft air drying clay,

Available in two sizes £8.50 for a small paw or £9.50 for a large paw.

SAVE ON POSTAGE COSTS AND ORDER DIRECT FROM PAWCASSO OR VISIT

[www.petkeepsakes.org](http://www.petkeepsakes.org)

**We are now taking orders for James Wellbeloved foods.**



***Natural hypo-allergenic dog food and treats***

Naturally healthy hypo-allergenic dog food and treats, all with a single nutritious source of protein - lamb, turkey, duck or fish - and wholesome rice or vegetables

James Wellbeloved has won the coveted accolade of Best Dry Dog Food & Best Dry Cat Food for the second year in a row!!

**We don't have a stockroom, therefore we take your order and call you to collect it when it's in - simple really! Compare our prices. The larger the bag the lower the costs!**

All Flavours	Pets at Home	Pawcasso	Savings
2 Kilo bag	£7.13	£6.00	<b>£1.13</b>
7.5 Kilo bag	£23.48	£21	<b>£2.48</b>
15 Kilo bag	£42.56	£38	<b>£4.56</b>
Pouches * 18	£10.44	£9.44	<b>£1.00</b>

- Bags - Duck & Rice adult or large
- Bags - Fish & Rice " "
- Bags - Lamb & Rice " "
- Bags - Turkey & Rice " "
- Pouches - Lamb & Rice
- Pouches - Turkey & Rice

If you use any other brands why not ask for a comparison quote. We will try to get it cheaper for you.



Glenbrae Veterinary Clinic, Bearsden:  
**0141 942 7070.**

Castlebrae Veterinary Clinic, Dumbarton:  
**01389 765555**

## 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!

## Did You Know!

! 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.

## 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 ageing bodies.

Dogs 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 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!

## 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	E	A
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	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

## March – A Month of Freshness and Hope!

In the Roman calendar March was officially the first month of the year, which was only changed in 1752 to January. In lots of ways March does feel like it's the start of something new. It certainly is a month full of freshness and hope.

Traditionally associated with the Wild Daffodil, March is also a busy month with plenty of events to get us out and about enjoying ourselves. Here are some of them:

**Mar 1<sup>st</sup>** – St David's Day (Wales)  
**Mar 8<sup>th</sup>** – International Women's Day  
**Mar 9<sup>th</sup>** – Commonwealth Day  
**Mar 17<sup>th</sup>** – St Patrick's Day (Ireland)  
**Mar 20<sup>th</sup>** – First day of Spring  
**Mar 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Mother's day  
**Mar 29<sup>th</sup>** – Changing of the Clocks

*"A dry March and a wet May  
Fill barns and bays with corn and hay"  
~ traditional saying*

### 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.

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

## ADVERTISE HERE!

**This newsletter goes out to over 300 cat & dog owners every month. If you have a product or service that could benefit our clients then please contact us.**

*"You can keep a dog; but it is the cat who keeps people, because cats find humans useful domestic animals."*

- George Mikes

### 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 earlier 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!

### 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.

### Get this newsletter every month!

To continue providing you with information, help and a little bit of fun about cats & 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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