

Pawcassö

Professional Cat & Dog Grooming



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

Hello again, and welcome to the March edition of this newsletter.

It's nice to think that spring is getting ever closer and that the cold weather will hopefully soon be behind us. What's really interesting is how the weather and the seasons tend to affect our moods and liveliness. It's certainly good to feel more energised after a little time in the warm sun. But, we're not the only ones who are affected by these shifts. Dogs are, too.

You may have noticed your dog being less active or slightly unhappy throughout the winter, especially if you weren't feeling your best. It's no coincidence. Dogs can suffer mild to severe depression, just as we do, and of course they're very in tune with how we're feeling as well.

The arrival of spring will no doubt be uplifting for everyone; but, until then, there are some things to watch for and try out with your dog if you suspect they're not in the best of moods.

Actual depression in canines isn't much different from that in humans. Symptoms include changes in appetite, sluggishness, lots of sleeping, clinginess and other personality changes. Again, sometimes it is due to dreary weather, but there are other causes.

Dogs can get a case of the blues when something changes about their environment. Maybe their owner is away more often, they've been moved to a new home, or a person or pet that was often around is no longer there. If there's no obvious reason for the changes in behaviour, though, the symptoms could also be due to a health problem. Be sure to have them checked out, and then give some remedies a try.

A few minor changes can really lift a low mood in dogs. Taking them to play at the park, engaging them in games with new toys, and walking them in a new place might perk them up. Pet sitting services are also helpful if the depression is due to loneliness. If none of those measures help, it's certainly worth exploring other treatment options with your dog's vet.

And it never hurts to do all those playful things just for the fun of it! Hope you enjoy the rest of this month's newsletter. There's some more information on a few other conditions that can affect dogs, as well as us.

Morag & Star. XXX

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IS THIS DOG TOO BIG FOR WEE ME????



This is Charlene Grooming Spike the Labradoodle. He's a big angel. Thank god.

Did You Know?

* Dogs and humans are the only species that have a prostate.

* Although the Titanic sunk, three dogs that were on board survived. One was a Newfoundland, which is a remarkably good swimmer in comparison to other breeds. One was a Pekingese, and the other a Pomeranian.



**City & Guilds
Qualified**

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.

"When they see your dog it's praises they'll sing, after you have it groomed for the coming Spring"

Need an Appointment???

We're always busy so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Give us
a all!



Can we remind you that if for any reason you need to cancel an appointment please give us at least 24 hours notice otherwise a cancellation fee will be charged.

All we ask is for a phone call. You wouldn't believe how many people don't bother and if they don't show up we lose money and can't fill the appointment. It is a small business and we are trying to survive. Thanks

SPCA APPEAL

We now have a collection box in the shop for donations. Chuck a can in!!!

We are collecting anything animal related for Dogs, cats, rabbits, hamsters etc....(old or new)

Toys

Collars & leads

Coats

Treats

Foodstuffs (opened or new)

Donations of money (every penny counts)

We are also collecting old towels or blankets for the PDSA Glasgow Animal Hospital

If you are interested in re-homing a pet from the shelters call - **03000 999 999** or visit the website

<http://www.scottishspca.org/>

Thanks so much

Oh, This Gassy Dog!

Dogs are unfairly blamed for all kinds of foul odours, but sometimes it really is coming from them. Flatulence is a fairly common problem in dogs—in the Boxer breed especially—and it can be quite offensive to their owners.

If it should suddenly start happening frequently and your dog shows other signs of not feeling well, it's important that they get medical attention. However, if they're feeling and acting fine otherwise, try curbing the problem with a few adjustments to their food.

Feeding them a low-fibre diet can help. A few small meals throughout the day, rather than one or two large meals, will also stop them from swallowing too much air when eating. Also, you can try giving them dog treats that contain food-grade activated charcoal. These not only help gassiness, they neutralise bad breath. And, of course, you'll want to avoid giving them any table scraps. If none of those tricks help, talk with your vet about using supplements such as simethicone.

Dangerous Dogs!

New Scottish Laws on Dangerous Dogs comes into force across Scotland 26th February 2011 and is designed to more effectively tackle the issue of dangerous dogs.

The Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act was passed by the Scottish Parliament in April 2010 following successful lobbying from Dogs Trust and the Dangerous Dogs Act Study Group.

The Act, which was put forward by Christine Graham MSP, champions the principle of 'deed not breed' whereby a dog is judged on its behaviour rather than its breed, and provides local authorities with greater powers to impose penalties on irresponsible owners.

The issue of dangerous dogs is primarily a social problem and that any solution must address the problem of irresponsible owners. The new Act highlights the responsibility of the owners to prevent dog attacks in order to greater protect the public and places less emphasis on the breed of dog.

The introduction of this Act places a legislative focus on the deed, rather than the breed of dog and will quite rightly hold irresponsible dog owners to account. However, it is vital that Local Authorities provide their officers with adequate training to ensure this Act is properly enforced.

Scotland is leading the way on this issue but more needs to be done across the rest of the UK. The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 (DDA) was a knee jerk piece of legislation which has done little to protect the public and has had massive welfare implications for thousands of dogs who have been put to sleep simply because of their breed. Dogs Trust is continuing to lobby the Government to repeal and replace the current DDA and to introduce the compulsory microchipping of dogs."

Contributed by Nancy Gara

As a dug that husny been tae school
And husny learnt tae read
I find that notice up in the park
Very strange indeed

I saw it on the tree today
Just as I raised ma leg
And as I brought it doon again
I wondered whit it said

I meet ma friends up there, ye ken,
There's Benny Trim and Bobby
I asked them what the notice said –
IT SEEMS YE CANNY JOBBY

Ma human widny let me oot
And I was right disgusted
I canny go up there masel
It seems I'm nae trusted

If I dae wan on the fly
They'll say that I'm a slob
So I've joined the ranks o the unemployed
I canny git a job.

AWWW – for you Cat lovers



Doggy Humour

A man was walking through a hotel lobby and saw three men and a dog sitting playing poker. He stopped and said, *'My, that's one smart dog you've got there'*. One of the card players looked up and said, *'No, not really. Every time he gets a good hand he wags his tail'*.

Massage for Dogs!

No doubt from time to time you'll encounter a rambunctious dog or two. You know the type? The ones that constantly bounce all over the place and nearly knock you over. While it's obvious they intend no harm and just want to play, they're nearly always much too excitable for their own good.

A good trick to get a dog like this calmed quickly is a little massage. Have them sit for you and gently rub their shoulders and legs as you would when giving someone a back massage. The change in their demeanour while doing this can be incredible. Suddenly, you may find that they're sprawled out on the floor, breathing deeply, with their tongue hanging out the side of their mouth. When finished petting and massaging them you may be surprised to find them sitting calmly.

In fact it's really no surprise at all as massage can be a powerful way of triggering an animal's relaxation response. Just like us, dogs can suffer mentally and physically from high levels of stress hormones. And, like us, their minds and bodies benefit from 'feel-good chemicals' that increase during relaxation. Massage therapy is one method of increasing those chemicals in dogs.

A calmer state of mind is only one of its many benefits, though. It not only decreases their stress, it can relieve pain. Dogs that receive massage therapy have also shown quicker recovery from surgeries, improved flexibility, and better circulation.

Of course, providing massage therapy requires far more than simply rubbing their shoulders! A trained therapist assesses the dog's behaviours and monitors their response to various techniques. Different levels of pressure, from light stroking to deep kneading, address different problems as well.

While it's not a substitute for behavioural training or medical treatment, it's certainly beneficial as an alternative and supplemental therapy. If it's something that interests you, you could always schedule an appointment with a trained canine massage therapist. It might also be interesting to get some training on basic techniques that you could use on your dogs at home.

Caring for a Dog's Stuffy Nose

When dogs get nasal congestion, they tend to breathe loudly and snore while sleeping. Sometimes, they'll sneeze. You can't help but feel bad for them, especially since they're unable to grab a tissue and blow their little noses. There are a few things you can do for them, though.

Firstly, it's important to determine the cause of it. Oftentimes the congestion is due to allergies, particularly in the spring and fall. But, it can also come from viruses and bacterial infections. In addition to any medications needed, a few home remedies will make it more tolerable for them.

Putting a few saline nasal drops in their nose can ease the irritation. A vaporizer in the room with them will also help. Some people have noted that a few drops of peppermint oil in the vaporizer have also helped their dogs breathe more easily.

Conversely, if their noses are running, you can soothe them and wipe it away gently with a warm, wet cloth. In that case, it's good to keep them well-hydrated and comfortable, too.

Woollies 4 Waggers Helping Rescues Throughout The UK



Woollies 4 Waggers is a non-profit organisation who rely on their nationwide army of volunteer knitters to create the stunning dog coats which are then featured and sold on their website.

For each coat they ask for a donation and postage costs. You will be helping rescue dogs across the UK while kitting your dog out in a stylish warm jumper.

Woollies 4 Waggers is run completely by volunteers. 100% of donations given for the knitted coats go to **Dogs Trust**.

Visit www.woollies4waggers.co.uk

Dog Trivia Quiz!

1. The name of Odysseus' dog in Greek Mythology was: **A) Argos B) Lassie C) Cheeka D) Sarbi**
2. Dogs show higher intelligence than cats in laboratory tests such as puzzles. **T or F**
3. Some female dogs lift a leg to urinate. **T or F**
4. Hairless dogs have a higher body temp. **T or F**
5. What country worshipped dogs as Gods?
A) India B) Brazil C) Egypt D) Israel
6. Standard poodles were bred for: **A) Hunting B) Fighting C) Companionship D) Looks**

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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.

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DOES MY BUM LOOK BIG IN THIS????

Poppy
the
Cavalier.
Cutie eh?



Myth Busting: Dogs Licking Their Wounds

It's often said that a dog's mouth is cleaner than a human's. And many people believe that dogs lick their wounds—as well as wounds on people—to promote healing. Unfortunately, both of these claims are false.

Dogs' mouths contain as much bacteria as ours do, if not more. While licking sometimes helps them soothe pain or remove excess fluid from the wound, it can actually prevent healing and cause infection if they do it too much.

Quiz Answer Key:

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. A) Argos | 4. False |
| 2. True | 5. C) Egypt |
| 3. True | 6. A) Hunting |

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

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