



DBKC NEWS!



Ramadan is almost complete and Eid will shortly be upon us, so let's take this opportunity to wish you all Eid Mubarak! Whatever you are doing over the Eid break, enjoy yourself.

This month we take some time to explore the subject of Ringworm, we take a closer look at the Siamese cat and challenge you all to have a go at our Summer Quiz! There

are prizes for the top 3 highest number of correct answers, so please do have a go.

We take a break this month from Travel Corner, but it will return next month, and in this month's Ask Pauline, we talk about challenging your dog with some Brain Games!

Tracy Whelan



ISSUE 10 / AUGUST 2013

Contents

Ask Pauline – this month's topic is about stimulating your pet's brain with some 'Brain Game' activities



Monthly Breed Focus – This month we focus on the Siamese Cat



Vets Corner this month looks at the topic of Ringworm

Summer Quiz! Great Prizes for the Winners! See pages 4 & 5.



Training restarts in September

Due to the heat, humidity and the fact that lots of you have been away enjoying a well-earned vacation, we've had a little break from training over the summer. Our final class finished in early July with the end of our most recent Stage 2 group.

Training is however restarting in September when we hope to start a Stage 1, a Stage 2 and our first Stage 3 group. If you would like to enroll, please call us or email newsletter@delmonkennels.com for more information.

Our Saturday afternoon 'open' classes will also recommence in September. We're going to continue with our Doggy Dressage and Skills Circuits course, so if you fancy a bit of fun, please do come along.

Once the cooler weather arrives, we're also hoping to start an Agility specific course. More information to follow!

From September, all courses will once again be held at the Kennels.



Monthly Breed Profile Siamese Cat

This month we're looking at the Siamese Cat. As you can see from the photos above, there are different types of Siamese, that fall into 3 categories; the Traditional, the Classic and the Extreme Wedge, which sounds like it would be more at home on a golf course than a type of cat!

The different types relate to the different body shapes of the cats. The Traditional is a more heavy boned cat with a rounded face, the Classic is also heavy boned but has a more wedge/triangular shaped head, and the Extreme Wedge is a willowy, thin cat with a very wedge shaped head.

When they were first introduced into Europe, the Traditional was the only shape, however as breeders started cross-breeding them for the show ring, the wedge shaped, willowy styles became more popular. However, regardless of which shape you have, the characteristics of Siamese are the same.

The colouring of Siamese is also very distinct and makes them instantly recognizable with the paler base colour and darker points on their face, tips of the ears, legs and tail. They also have incredibly blue eyes, which makes them a very beautiful cat to have around.

Siamese cats are very affectionate with humans and other pets. They typically get on well with dogs and when they know and like them, will happily play and follow them around. They are playful cats who love chase and stalking games.

They are incredibly vocal and have been suggested to be the most vocal of all breeds of cats. Owning a Siamese, I can 100% agree with this! If they want food, affection or attention, they are not backward in telling you. Complete females are also known to make incredibly loud calls when in season ... and in my experience, this is very true!

They make great family pets and love interaction with their humans. So if you consider getting a Siamese, make sure you have a busy family to keep them entertained. Alternatively, if you will need to leave them for periods of time on their own, make sure you leave plenty of toys for them to entertain themselves.

They are a healthy breed with a lifespan of up to 15 years, so if you get one, be prepared for it to be around for a long time.

If you'd like to see a particular breed in a future edition, please email us at newsletter@delmonkennels.com

Ask Pauline

Those of you have that children, will remember those early weeks when they first started school and how they would come home, completely exhausted. This is because they were learning lots of new things and exercising their brains.

So, how many of you take the same approach with your pets? Dogs that have a balanced level of physical and mental exercise are happier and make better family pets. They are less bored and therefore are less destructive around your home.

This month we're going to look at a number of Brain Games you can start with your dogs to get the mental stimulation started. Your dog is capable of learning one new thing every day, so let your creativity free and see what else you can come up with. This is also true for cats, as the photo opposite shows. You can make a simple game for them with a box and toilet roll tubes which will keep them stimulated and happy, and tunes into their natural instincts of finding food.

The first Brain Game we're going to look at is known as a search game. This involves hiding treats, or toys and getting your dog to 'search' for it. You can do this simply using flowerpots or yoghurt pots. The dog will use their sense of smell to find the treat. Start off using 1 or 2 pots to get the dogs attention and to help them learn what you want them to do. Once they understand what they need to do, extend the game using more pots. You can also start to move the pots around after you've placed the treat under one to see if the dog can follow the treat.



Once the concept of the game is understood continue to make it more challenging. You could even put the treat into a small plastic tub before hiding under the flowerpot to see how good their sense of smell really is!

Another type of Brain Game is a learning and recognition game where you teach your dog the different names for different toys and have them select the correct toy when you ask for it by name. This makes a great party trick to show your friends! And is also a great way to get your children involved in training your dog in a calmer setting.

Start with one toy and put it on the floor in front of the dog. You need to refer to the toys using one single word, ie. ball, kong, chicken etc as this will be easier for your dog to understand.

Then slowly teach your dog the name of the toy. Once they know the name of the first toy, add in a second toy and start teaching that name. Then you can start asking for the first toy and the second toy in a random order and over time your dog will differentiate each toy. Keep adding new toys and build up the number of toy words his knows.

With any Brain Game type activity it's important to remember what motivates your dog. Most owners are able to say what it is that motivates their pet and it's usually Food, Love or Play. If you don't know, observe your dog and see what it is that they really love.

Whilst teaching the new games, use positive reward for the appropriate behaviour. For instance, if you ask them to identify the ball amongst their toys and they do it, reward them.

So let your creativity flow and try something new this month! And if you have any photos of your dogs trying out these activities, send them to us as it would be great to see them on our Facebook page.



What you know you know, what you don't know you

Ask Pauline!



Quiz Time

You'd be barking mad not to have a go at our summer, doggy related quiz! Questions include general knowledge, cryptic clues and anagrams*. All answers relate to dogs, real and fictional. Great prizes for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd highest number of correct answers submitted by email to newsletter@delmonkennels.com, before the 24th August 2013.

1st Prize = A place on the next 6 week Stage Training Course

2nd Prize = 2 Play Days

3rd Prize = A Doggy Mud Bath!

- Q1. British Mascot? (7)
- Q2. Sherlock Holmes Novel? (3, 5, 2, 3, 12)
- Q3. Which BBC puppet family owned 'the biggest spotty dog you ever did see'? (3, 10)
- Q4. Dog on the yellow road to Oz? (4)
- Q5. yellow dog from Oz? (5)
- Q6. Bill Sykes' dog in Oliver Twist? (3, 5)
- Q7. In 1973, who was 'The Biggest Dog in the World'? (5)
- Q8. A mound of rough stones? (5)
- Q9. Rib zoo about a Russian Wolfhound? (6)
- Q10. Working dog living on the edge? (6, 6)
- Q11. Either Hamlet, Sandi Toksvig or Hans Christian Anderson! (5, 4)
- Q12. Breed named after English clergyman? (4, 7)
- Q13. A pointed tooth? (6)
- Q14. A.K.A. The Dulux Dog? (3, 7, 8)
- Q15. Heavenly Sirius is also known as this? (3, 4)
- Q16. Darwin's Ship? (6)
- Q17. Skye Terrier who guarded his master's grave? (10, 5)

- Q18. and the Akita who waited at Shibuya Station? (7)
- Q19. Cruella de Vil desired this type of fur coat? (9)
- Q20. Who came home in '43, had courage in '47, and a challenge in '50? (6)
- Q21. Name the first Blue Peter pet? (5)
- Q22. Chef often accompanied by Chalky? (4, 5)
- Q23. Command immortalized by Barbara Woodhouse? (7)
- Q24. Large demonic hound said to haunt the Norfolk coast? (5, 5)
- Q25. Island in Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada? (12)
- Q26. and next to it, eastern part of the mainland? (8)
- Q27. Nursemaid to Wendy, John and Michael Darling? (4)
- Q28. Three headed dog that guarded The Underworld? (8)
- Q29. and another that guarded the Philosopher's Stone? (6)
- Q30. Fish brine co* (6, 5)
- Q31. Dent in Diamond* (6, 7)
- Q32. Name of Charlie Brown's pet? (6)
- Q33. Low frequency loudspeaker? (6)
- Q34. Eric Hill's dog that loves to hide? (4)
- Q35. 1975 Al Pacino movie? (3, 3, 9)
- Q36. International casual footwear brand? (4, 7)
- Q37. Location of Canary Wharf? (4, 2, 4)
- Q38. Sausage served in a roll? (3, 3)
- Q39. Plasticine graduate of Dogwarts University? (6)
- Q40. Small dog, keep out! (4)

Enjoy! And don't forget to send your answers by email to newsletter@delmonkennels.com by the 24th August 2013. The winners will be notified by email and the judges decision is final! Look out for photos of our winners enjoying their prizes in future editions!

Vets Corner

This month we're going to look at Ringworm! Not a pleasant topic, but nonetheless, important.

Although the name suggests this is a worm, ringworm is in fact a fungus. Ringworm is highly contagious and can be spread from pet to pet, and from pet to human, so if you suspect your pet has ringworm, please consult your vet asap.

As you can see from the photo, it causes red, patchy areas on the skin, typically in a ring shape. You will often see the infected area become patchy, with hair loss and bald spots. However, some animals can carry the fungus, without showing any outward signs, so you need to be vigilant, especially if you have other pets the infection could spread to.

Puppies and young dogs are more prone to catch ringworm, but undernourished or stressed dogs are also at greater risk. As the fungus can remain on bedding, bowls and other materials, if diagnosed, you will need to thoroughly disinfect all of these items as part of the treatment, together

with regularly cleaning whilst undergoing treatment.

As part of the diagnosis your vet may use an Ultra-Violet light and take some skin cells for a culture. Once diagnosed and depending on the severity of the infection, treatment can take different forms. Special medicated shampoos can be used, ointments, or even oral medicines. And of course, if severe, a combination of these treatments can be prescribed.

After treatment, you will need to go back to your vet for them to give you the all clear. Even once the skin has cleared up, your animal can still be a carrier of the fungus, so only a vet can confirm whether the treatment has been successful and your pet is clear.

If left untreated, the infection can spread all over the animals body causing discomfort for them, and risk for others, so if you are in any doubt, please consult your vet.

If you have any questions, please send to newsletter@delmonkennels.com



What kind of dog can jump as high as a tall building?

Any type a building can't jump!



"I see under 'special talents' that you always land on your feet. Tell me about that."

Feedback & Suggestions

If you have any feedback, suggestions for articles, or questions for Ask Pauline, please write to us at

newsletter@delmonkennels.com



Delmon Boarding Kennels