



DBKC NEWS!

Father's Day!



Can you believe that we're half way through 2013 already?!

Time is flying and summer has arrived. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for ongoing tips for keeping your pet cool throughout the summer.

In this month's edition we find out all about the Manx Cat in breed profile, we take a month's break from vets corner

to talk about keeping your home healthy when you have pets and we find out about some of our recent adoption success stories.

We can't of course forget that it's Father's Day this month, so Happy Father's Day to all the dads out there!

Tracy



ISSUE 8 / JUNE 2013

Contents

Ask Pauline – this months topic is about submissive behaviour



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



NEW! – Keeping a Healthy Home when you have pets

Travel Corner – This month we discuss how to ensure that travel is stress-less for your pet



Get to Know Us

This month we're going to get to know Asela. His full name is Asela Chamod de Silva Gee Kiyah Nage and he's from Marawila in Sri Lanka, which is on the western coast, north of Colombo.

He's been in Bahrain for 4 and a half years, and worked for Delmon Kennels for 2 and a half years of that time. Whilst in Bahrain, Asela passed his driving test and got his license, which was a great achievement, after all, we've all seen how difficult driving is here!

The thing he likes most about working at the kennels is the opportunity to play with the dogs and in his spare time he likes watching tv.



When he returns to Sri Lanka his goal is to buy a vehicle and have a driving business, possibly working for one of the hotels.



Monthly Breed Profile Manx Cat

This month we're looking at the Manx Cat, which is a breed close to my heart as it originates from my home, the Isle of Man. For those of you that aren't familiar with it, it's a small island in the sea between the UK and Ireland that's famous for being a tax haven, for motorbike racing and of course for the Manx Cat!

As you can see from the pictures, one of the things that makes the Manx different to other cat breeds is the lack of a tail. True, show quality Manx Cats have no tail at all and just have a little dimple where the tail should be, but as a result of cross breeding you can now find varieties of them with stumpy tails, or even with full length tails.

Another key characteristic of the Manx is that the hind legs are longer than the front legs, which creates a continuous arch from shoulders to rump giving the cat a rounded appearance.

The physical characteristics of no tail and longer back legs comes from a genetic mutation that happened when they bred with the local cat population, however the Manx people are great storytellers and love to make up myths and legends about how the Manx came about. These stories range from a cat that bred with rabbit to explain the long back legs, to Noah closing the door of the ark and cutting the tail off!

One thing for sure though is that the breed is very popular, especially in the USA, which is where the majority of Manx Cats now tend to be bred.

The Manx make great family pets and form strong bonds with their owners. They are good with children and other pets and are intelligent and active. They sometimes play more like dogs than cats, particularly loving a good game of fetch!

They are exceptional jumpers because of their strong back legs and often have an unusual rabbit like gait, known as the 'Manx hop'.

Although the traditional view of the Manx is of short-haired only cats, they can now also be found with long hair, again as a result of cross-breeding.

The Manx is much loved on the Isle of Man and even appears on one of their postage stamps, although the number of Manx cats actually living there is relatively small now.

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

Ask Pauline

In this month's article we're going to continue to look at dog behaviour and will look at the topic of submissiveness.

In all dog packs there is a hierarchy with the "Leader" at the top and subordinates below. Within the subordinates there continues to be a hierarchy with some holding higher-ranking positions and some lower positions.

Within the pack it's not unusual for the lower ranking ones to display their lower status by frequent displays of submission, especially when they come into contact with a higher-ranking animal. This is an important and necessary part of pack life to help ensure the pack runs smoothly. It also helps prevent leaders from getting aggressive to show they are in charge.

So let's look at what actions indicate submissive behaviour.

When being submissive with other dogs you will often see behaviours such as rolling onto the side or back and exposing the belly, lowering the head, raising the front paw, ears back against the head, tail down and the eyes down and possibly semi closed.

All of these behaviours are telling the other dog that they are no threat to them and lets them know that they are totally vulnerable and accepting that the other dog is higher-ranking. You often see puppies or insecure dogs demonstrate these behaviours.

So, next time your dog rolls on their back when you're trying to put their lead on or when you're telling them off for something, you will know what they are saying. If this happens, walk away from the situation and encourage your dog to sit in front of you before continuing.



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

Ask Pauline!

Adoption Success Stories!

Following on from last month's article about adopting, we thought we'd share with you some of the success we've had recently.

Pictured below is Scooby. She's a 4 month golden retriever with a permanent foot injury and she needed a fun and loving home that would help her with her injury as she grew.



She was adopted about a month ago and is loving her new family.

Recently we've also found forever homes for a springer spaniel and a german shepherd who are both very happy with their new families.

You may also remember that in our February edition we were looking for a home for Dougal. Well, we're delighted to say we have a family that are very interested in having him and we're hopeful that he will be able to join them shortly.

If you're not sure whether adopting is the thing for you, why not consider fostering. We've recently fostered a lovely golden retriever to a new family and this is a great solution for all concerned because it

gives the potential owners the opportunity to see how it works out, and it puts the animal into a home environment and helps prepare them for living in a permanent home.

If you'd like to find out more or would like to adopt or foster an animal, please give us a call, drop a mail to newsletter@delmonkennels.com or alternatively, check out the adoption page on our website by using your smartphone to scan the code below.



Ebony

On page 3 we talk about some of our recent adoption success stories, and now we're going to find out about Ebony who was adopted from Delmon Kennels in 2008 by Melody Robertson and her family.

Ebony was a beautiful black Labrador who lived happily in Bahrain until 18 months ago when the Robertson family relocated to western France.

As you can see from the photo, Ebony lived in a lovely home with a wonderful garden and was with a family who loved her, even though she was an older dog.

Ebony recently passed away as a result of old age and liver failure. Although the Robertsons really miss her sweet nature, they can be proud of the home and great life that they gave her.

Adopting an older dog can be very rewarding and is often easier than a puppy or a younger dog. If you're considering adopting, please consider an older dog as they are often left till last and can be wonderful, loyal companions.



Travel Corner



Last month's travel corner looked at general pet preparation and planning, and this month we share with you a couple of big asks from pet owners "how can we reduce our pets travel stress" and "how can we mentally prepare ourselves for pet travel".

Pets generally do appear to enjoy air travel but as we all know, our furry friends can be good at hiding the truth! So, as the departure day draws closer we turn our thoughts to how best we can make our pets journey stress free and safe. Being confident they are safe will naturally reduce some of our own stress and anxiety too.

If your pet is young and fit this paragraph may be less relevant for you, but if your pet is a little overweight, elderly, or both, read on. It may be worth considering contacting your vet and making an appointment for them to have a full vital organ screening examination to identify any possible underlying conditions that could flare up during travelling.

The more experienced pet owners mentally absorb this cost as necessary reassurance, as the

information received can highlight any unknown health issues. This then gives owners the opportunity to start to take remedial actions, sooner rather than later.

You may also have heard that certain dog and cat breeds are more susceptible to breathing problems in stressful situations. To a certain extent this is true but why not simply check first with your friendly pet relocater for advice and have a chat with your vet too. Both may suggest caution with regard to flying your pet, particularly if it is for a short trip rather than a permanent relocation move.

When you're happy that your pet is medically fit and is a breed capable of flying, you'll also feel a lot more comfortable. Don't forget to identify a pet friendly airline that understands and accommodates the needs of their pet travelling passengers.

Next month we will take a look at flight crates and answer one of the most asked questions "why does it cost so much to ship my pet".

Keeping A Healthy Home

This month we're going to take a short break from Vets Corner to look at the important topic of Keeping a Healthy Home when you have pets.

We're going to start with 10 Top Tips to help keep your family and your home healthy.

1. Pets should be appropriately vaccinated against disease.
2. You should always wash your hands after touching pets, pet crates, feeding utensils and your pets toys. You could also use hand sanitizer if you don't have easy access to soap and water.
3. Never let pets eat from family plates or walk on surfaces where food is prepared. If you are unsure whether your pet has been on the surface, clean with an anti-bacterial cleaner.
4. Ensure your pets are kept clean and brushed to limit shedding.
5. Don't clean pet cages or litter trays in the kitchen sink as they

could transfer harmful bacteria to food preparation areas. Clean outside if possible, or in the bath. Pet urine, faeces and vomit should be cleaned up immediately and the area cleaned and disinfected.

6. Litter trays should never be kept in the kitchen and they should be emptied daily.
7. Pregnant women should avoid cleaning cat-litter trays as cats harbor toxoplasmosis, a germ that can harm unborn babies.
8. Floors and pet feeding areas should be regularly cleaned and disinfected.
9. If you suffer from allergies, keep pets off your bed and out of your bedroom. They should have a bed of their own, not share with you!

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



Cleaning up after your pet is important in keeping a healthy and happy home.

Dachshunds are ideal dogs for small children as they are already stretched and pulled to such a length that the child cannot do much harm one way or another!



"In retrospect, I could have done more with my lives."

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