



# DBKC NEWS!

## American Independence Day!



In July Americans celebrate their independence day, so happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July to our American friends and customers.

As you can see from the photo above, even the pets are patriotic on this day!

During July the holy month of Ramadan will also begin, so Ramadan Kareem to everyone.

This month we find out about Beagles in our breed profile, we learn about Heat Stroke in pets and how to prevent it and we also learn more in Travel Corner about the different types of crates and why it costs so much to move our pets.

Tracy Whelan



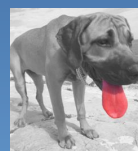
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Travel Corner – This month we discuss crates and the costs involved in a pet move



## Get to Know Us

This month we're going to get to know Asoka Bandara Dissanayaka, or Asoka to those that know him. He's from a town in the north west of Sri Lanka called Galgamuwa.

He's been in Bahrain for 2 and a half years and has worked at Delmon Kennels for most of that time. Asoka is married to Sajee who also works for Delmon Kennels running reception, and they have a little boy who is 10 months old. The things he enjoys about working at the Kennels involves playing with the

dogs and bathing them.

In his free time he enjoys watching scary movies! Sajee doesn't like scary movies though so he usually watches them on his own.

When he returns to Sri Lanka he wants to buy a van so that he can set up a transportation business. He already has a lorry and his brother currently uses this for his work.





## Monthly Breed Profile Beagle

This month we're looking at the Beagle. This is the breed of dog that Pauline first had as a child, and after having one she knew the importance of early training!! Beagles are scent hounds which tell you that they are ruled by their nose, not their brain! So if they smell something interesting, nothing else exists in their world!

As a result of their exceptional sense of smell, you often see them as working dogs in airports sniffing out contraband food or other items. Because they are small and friendly dogs, they are less intimidating to the general public, which is why they have been very successful in this arena.

They have approximately 220 million scent receptors compared to the paltry 5 million or so in humans! So, if you want to train your Beagle, using tasty treats to get his attention is the way to go. The fact that they love their food, also makes training them with food rewards, successful. Their love of food does have a couple of negative sides, one of which is they can be prone to obesity as they mature and the other is that coupled with the sense of smell, they will scavenge, and have been known to raid dustbins, cupboards or even kitchen bins to get at a tasty treat!

They are working dogs and therefore need sufficient exercise

each day, up to 1 hour, if possible. If they are left alone and unexercised, Beagles can become very destructive. They will chew, dig and howl and are excellent escape artists! So please make sure your outside space is secure because if they can find a way to escape, they will. They are a Canine Houdini!

They're good with children and make good family pets. However, they can play rough at times, so do need to be properly socialised and supervised with very young children. The fact that they are so friendly means they're not good guard or protection dogs.

Their coat is smooth and dense and easy to maintain. They need a good brush once a week and their ears need checking as they can suffer from infections.

Anyone who has owned, or lived with a Beagle can testify that the most unique thing about them is the way they vocalize. Beagles don't bark like other dogs, they make a distinct baying howl. Although this is usually made when they catch sight of prey, they can, and do, use it at other times too.

If you'd like to see a particular breed in a future edition, please email us at [newsletter@delmonkennels.com](mailto:newsletter@delmonkennels.com)

## Ask Pauline

In this month's article we're going to look at dogs that are like Canine Houdini's and who constantly try and escape! We're going to ask why they behave this way and also look at things you can do to try and prevent them.

There are many ways they may try and escape; jumping over the fence, squeezing through holes, digging their way out, eating or chewing through the barrier, or even trying to run through doors when you're coming into or going out of, your home. If a dog is determined to escape, they will try anything to achieve their goal, so be prepared!

The main reasons for a dog trying to escape its environment fall into the following categories; Social Isolation/Frustration; Roaming to mate; Fears & Phobias; Separation Anxiety. Let's look at each of these in turn.

Dogs are social animals, preferring to live in packs. Therefore if your dog is left alone for long periods of time without opportunities to interact with you or other dogs, he will try and find something more fun to do. If the area he is kept in, the garden, or a room in your house, is uninteresting and not very stimulating, he will try and get out of there. If he is an active breed of dog, he needs to have an 'active job' to keep him focused. So if these needs are not being fulfilled for him, he will try and escape. To combat this, structure time with your dog, walk him, teach him new tricks, mentally stimulate him by hiding treats or toys or other things that he likes. You can also rotate your dog's toys so they seem new and interesting. And finally, if you're unable to spend time with him or you need to go out for long periods of time, keep him inside.

The maturity process in dogs can start as early as 6 months of age. An intact male is motivated by a strong and natural drive to seek out females and mate.

If there is an 'in season' female anywhere around the vicinity where you live, your male dog will be aware of her due to the strong scent she produces. This will make your male dog very motivated to escape and therefore preventing them can be a challenge! Unless you are planning on breeding your male dog, have him neutered. Neutering helps decrease roaming in about 90% of cases. If you have a female dog and she comes into season, she too will try and escape because the drive to mate is very strong in females too. Therefore, consider having her spayed as soon as possible to ensure that you don't end up with an unwanted pregnancy.

There are occasions when your dog may be escaping to get away from something in the immediate area. He may be afraid, for instance, if there is a loud bang or an unfamiliar noise.

For instance, one of my rescue dogs was terrified of the hairdryer when we first brought him home and would run to escape from it as soon as it was switched on. In cases such as these, once you know what it is that's making him afraid, try and desensitize him to it by gradually introducing him to the source of the fear.

The final reason he may be escaping is because he is suffering from separation anxiety and is trying to get to where you are. If this is the case, you will need to get your dog used to being away from you for longer and longer periods of time. This may take some time to achieve, but is worth it in the long run.

If you do have a Canine Houdini, make sure you identify the reason as soon as possible and then take steps to tackle the problem once and for all.



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

*Ask Pauline!*



## Travel Corner



This month we look at why pet relocation costs can be relatively expensive and provide some information on why you should only use aircraft specification crates (ASC) for pet air travel and also give some basic tips on introducing your pet to the crate.

An optimum sized undamaged ASC provides a safe cocoon around your pet protecting them against most of the rigors of travel. Bespoke sized wooden crates can be constructed to specification but remember these are not accepted by all airlines and are rejected by some countries.

Whether 'plastic off the shelf' or carpenter constructed wooden, all ASC's are well ventilated and robustly constructed to withstand corner impact, plus side to side and end to end compression. Plastic ASC's will have a strong metal hinged semi lockable door grille and a separate top and bottom section [each fits inside each other for semi flat pack storage] retained either with metal screw bolts/plastic wing nuts or robust lockable anti-burst clip mechanism. Contact Delmon Pets Relocators, if you would like wooden crate construction specification details.

Keep in mind unprotected plastic crates can degrade and crack from exposure to heat and sunshine so beware that the crate used years ago by you or your mate and possibly serving as a convenient outside plant pot stand, might not be up to the necessary specifications. By all means snap up a second hand plastic crate, but only when you are happy it is of "optimum" size and in good condition, ie without discolouration, scuffs, surface hairline cracks or metal rust.

It's important that before the travel date arrives, you introduce your pet to the crate and get them accustomed to it. You have a couple of basic choices, unsupervised or supervised. The people at Vari Kennel suggest positive encouragement and supervision will help your pet accept the crate as a nice place to be. Start with the door open and leave a toy or a few tasty nibbles inside. When your pet is comfortably inside gently close the front grille door observing and soothing as needed. Try leaving your pet's line of sight for longer and longer periods until you are happy your pet stays calm. Having gone through this process be prepared for your pet to now be reluctant to leave the crate!

We can all relate to the general high costs of moving our goods and chattels and it's only natural to explore alternative 'do it yourself' options when looking at moving the furriest family member, who quite rightly deserves a high level of care and attention. Many owner's start out with great enthusiasm, only to discover confusing information and a never ending list of issues, requirements and problems. They quickly realise their time and energy could be better used, and at this point, they are usually more than happy to hand over and seek specialist support.

From the outset, successful pet travel does rely on knowing what is needed, and when, and making sure there is enough time to complete all the many sequential processes involved. If each stage is itemized you'll quickly see how labour intensive it is and why pet travel can begin to get pricey.

In most cases an "air ticket" absorbs the majority of total cost and may need to include in transit Pet Hotel Welfare and destination airport clearance fees, which are never offered at "discount" prices! The remaining cost is largely determined by the destination country's requirements and usually does not carry a "quick fix" price tag, simply because each pet move is bespoke. The list can appear endless but most will include the need to obtain an Import Permit for the destination, Government endorsement and Health Certification issuance from the country of departure plus possible Consular approval and attestation too. Some Rabies certification and crate seals also add to the total package costs as do Serological Certificate conversion and endorsements.

Somewhere within the Certification processing costs you'll see pet transfer services and the all important departure airport transfer, which will need specialist involvement and supervision to satisfactorily finish the export procedures.

Next month we will take a brief look at what happens behind the scenes when your pet arrives at Bahrain International's Airport Cargo.

If you have any topics you would like us to cover, drop us an email to [newsletter@delmonkennels.com](mailto:newsletter@delmonkennels.com).





## Graduation!



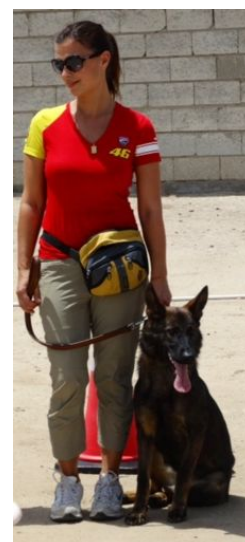
On the 14<sup>th</sup> June we held our second graduation ceremony for the dogs and owners and it was great to see successful students from both Stage 1 and Stage 2!

In total, 32 have passed Stage 1 and 7 have passed Stage 2.

We also had our 2 youngest students pass Stage 1. Trudie and Lovey and Lilly and Ginger!

New classes will start in September for Stages 1 and 2 and we will also begin our first Stage 3 group.

If you would like more information about the training, or would like to register for classes starting in September, please send an email to [info@delmonkennels.com](mailto:info@delmonkennels.com).



## Vet's Corner

At this time of year your pets are susceptible to developing heat stroke. This month we look at the signs of heat stroke and what to do if you suspect your pet has it. We'll also look at a few tips for preventing it.

Cats & Dogs don't perspire the way humans do. They pant and sweat through glands on their pads of their feet. If they get overheated and cannot cool down, they are at severe risk of developing heat stroke, which can be fatal.

If your pet is panting excessively, vomiting, is lethargic and possibly staggering around, these are indications that they could be suffering from heat stroke. The first thing you need to do is remove them from the hot area immediately. The pet does need to go to the vet, however before moving them any further you need start to try and lower their temperature.

You can do this by wetting them thoroughly with cool water. Soak a couple of towels, wring them out, and have the pet lie on one and then cover them with another wet

towel. Don't use very cold water because cooling them too quickly or allowing their temperature to drop too low, can also cause serious illness. Water from the tap, or lukewarm water is best. Ensure the room you have moved them to is cool, but not excessively cold.

Once they start to recover, remove the towels, allow them a drink if they want one, and get them to your vet as quickly as possible for a check up and temperature check.

In this weather it's important that you take steps to keep your pets safe. When they are outside they should have shaded areas and access to water, walk dogs in the early morning or evening only when the temperatures are cooler and never leave them unattended in your car.

If you follow these few preventative steps, you will reduce the risk of your pets suffering from heat stroke this summer.

If you have any questions, please send to [newsletter@delmonkennels.com](mailto:newsletter@delmonkennels.com)



*The best doctor in the world is a vet. He can't ask his patients what's wrong – he just has to know.*

*There is no snooze button on a cat who wants breakfast!*



## Feedback & Suggestions

If you have any feedback, suggestions for articles, or questions for Ask Pauline, please write to us at [newsletter@delmonkennels.com](mailto:newsletter@delmonkennels.com)



Delmon Boarding Kennels