



DBKC NEWS!



The temperatures have increased and the majority of schools have closed and there's no mistaking that summer has arrived!

The holy month of Ramadan has started and it will run through most of July and will end just before the start of the 3 day Eid holidays.

This month Americans also celebrate Independence Day on the 4th July. So if you're celebrating this, have a great

In this month's newsletter we learn about a little dog with a big personality, the Jack Russell.

We also look at the topic of cutting your dogs nails, and we also learn all about hot spots in Vets Corner.

We're entering a very busy boarding period with a full cattery and only a very small number of dog spaces available throughout the summer months.

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So if you're off on vacation, have a great time!

If you have any questions or feedback, please write to us at newsletter@delmonkennels.com

Tracy Whelan



Summer Boarding

To keep your dogs active and having fun whilst they are boarding this summer we've introduced a number of new activities in addition to Swimming in the Hydro Pool. They are offered in blocks of 15 minutes at a time and are available at a reduced rate for boarders.

So when you drop your dog off ask about our new activities and why not sign up your dog to try them out! They include, Mind Games, Weave Poles, Tunnel Work and Sprinkler Fun! If you'd also like us to reinforce basic training with your dog ask about our boarding training options.

So when you drop off, ask for the sign up form and keep

your dog active and happy whilst you're away.

In addition, we also have a new Groom & Spa Menu. So why not consider having your dog groomed before you pick them up? And if you feel like treating them to a luxury mud bath using dead sea mud, that's available too!

Our job is to enable you to go off and enjoy your vacation without having to worry how your precious pets are doing. And if your dog is one of those that likes extra attention, or loves and cuddles, we can help with that too!

Have a great summer!



Monthly Breed Profile Jack Russell

In this month's breed profile we're going to look at a small dog with a large personality, the Jack Russell. The origins of the Jack Russell can be traced back to the 1820's when they were first bred by a hunting enthusiast, the Reverend John Russell.

You may think that because of its size the Jack Russell would make a great apartment dog. However, the Jack Russell is an energetic dog that relies on a high level of exercise and stimulation. Think of them as a large dog, in a small dogs body! They belong to the Terrier Group and their prime drive is to hunt. They are not the kind of dog that likes to lounge around all day and therefore they need outside space to keep them exercised and happy. They are excellent at climbing and digging so having a secure garden is a must.

One of their key attributes is a tempered aggressiveness that gives them the necessary drive to pursue and hunt prey. Historically they have hunted foxes, groundhogs, badgers and vermin although today they are often not used this way. Jack Russell owners will often describe their dogs as, fearless, tenacious, athletic and intelligent and it's these attributes that mean they need both physical exercise and mental stimulation as otherwise they can become

destructive. They are also often described as stubborn at times and aggressive to other animals, and sometimes humans, if not properly socialized and trained, so obedience classes are a must.

Jack Russells are generally healthy dogs however can suffer from hereditary cataracts, congenital deafness, eye disorders and the blood disorder von Willebrand disease.

The typical Jack Russell will be predominantly white in colour (more than 51%), with black and/or tan markings and their coats with either be smooth, rough, or even in some cases a combination of both. Their bodies are sturdy and tough and they will measure between 10 – 15 inches at the withers, weigh between 6.5 – 8 kg and have an average lifespan of between 12 - 14 years.

As a result of their character there have been a number of famous Jack Russells, from Nipper the 'his master's voice' dog to Eddie from the sitcom Frasier and also Milo who starred in the film 'the mask' with Jim Carrey.

So if you're looking for a dog that will keep you on your toes and keep you exercised, the Jack Russell might just be the dog for you!

Ask Pauline!

In this month's Ask Pauline we're going to look at the topic of Nail Cutting. Owners are often nervous of doing it themselves in case they cut too much off and it bleeds, so let's take a closer look at this important topic.

You know yourself that if you leave your finger, or toe nails to grow too long that they can become a nuisance, can be painful, and can actually make doing simple day to day activities sometimes a challenge. Well the same is true for our dogs. If nails are left to grow too long, then they can actually make walking difficult and painful for your dog. They can adopt an unusual walking position which over time can affect their posture and cause back problems.

The photo below showing the cross section of the nail shows the importance of not cutting too far. It's better to trim little and often, rather than take too much. The photo shows the 'quick' which is essentially the blood line and if you cut the 'quick' the nail will bleed. In some dogs the bleeding can be substantial and this can be distressing to both you and the dog.

When cutting, you should cut the nail to within 2 millimetres of the 'quick' and if you see a small trace of blood at the end of nail, this is a good indication that you've gone far enough and you should stop.

The photo below also shows that the cut should be at the 45 degree angle. This is to ensure that when the foot is placed back on the floor that the newly cut nail is flush with the floor.

When it comes to the types of clippers available, there are several types and sizes. You want to ensure that the clippers you use are appropriate to the size of your dog and the hardness of their nails.

Nail cross section



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

Ask Pauline!

The 3 main types of nail cutters are Guillotine, Scissors style and Pliers style and they are shown in the photo below.

Most dogs do not like having their claws trimmed, so start trimming claws in young animals so that they get used to the process. Some dogs will happily sit in your lap or on a table while you trim their claws but many require some form of restraint.

One method to restrain the dog is to place her/him on a table. Stand on the side of the table opposite to the claws you are trimming. Drape your arms and upper body over the dog. When trimming the front claws, keep your left forearm over the neck to keep the dog from lifting its head. Hold the paw in your left hand and hold the trimmer in your right hand.

If your dog tries to stand, lean your upper body over his shoulders to prevent him from rising. If your dog is wriggly, ask a family member to help you.

Once you've done it a few times you'll feel more confident. Alternatively, ask your groomer to trim them for you.



Where are they now?

In November 2011, Violet left Bahrain to relocate to the UK and she was initially living in Lincolnshire before moving down to a new home in Surrey. After being adopted from the BSPCA at 8 months old in early 2005, Violet had always been very placid. Walks were a 20 minute affair on a good day – it seems that she was never suited to the Middle East weather! Once in the UK that all changed and she became much more of an outside dog and would walk all day in the Surrey countryside if we let her.

After two years in the UK, we relocated yet again to Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Violet arrived in the middle of the worst winter in living memory and dealt pretty well with her walks at -30 degrees. We were back to the short walks for a couple of months though! Now that spring is upon us, we have again started the long walks and have a much more active Violet. With a plentiful supply of dog parks and the Rockies just down the road – she gets out plenty and is making lots of friends.

She has settled well after each move and just seems to be getting younger as time passes by. She is more active and social than ever and loves her long 'off leash' walks. For the most part she is well behaved (squirrel chasing aside!)



We had to leave Bahrain swiftly and left Violet with Pauline & Tim for a month, and Tim also handled Violet's trip back to the UK in full. It was great to know that she was being well cared for and that the arrangements were being professionally handled.

Sincere thanks from us all for looking after her so often while we were there and for taking the stress out of our move.

Vets Corner

In this month's Vets Corner we're going to look at the topic of Hot Spots. If you have a Labrador or a Golden Retriever then you are probably familiar with this topic, but if not, read on because your dog may develop one in the future.

Lets start by understanding what a hot spot is. They're a skin infection that is also known by several other names including Moist Eczema or Moist Dermatitis and the medical name is Pyotraumatic Dermatitis. Although the name Hot Spot suggests that the problem is caused by heat, this isn't always the case. Extremely hot weather can trigger certain conditions that allow them to flourish though.

As the photos show, the hot spot is an area of inflammation on the skin that is very painful to your dog. The pain encourages him to excessively lick, bite and scratch at it and this can lead to the wound becoming infected. If the spot isn't treated and the dog continues to traumatize the wound the infection won't clear up and the hot spot will spread. What starts out as a small mark on your dogs skin can grow to a large lesion within a few hours and therefore veterinary treatment is

always recommended.

For some reason, hot spots seem to be particularly common in Labradors and Golden Retrievers, however, all dogs can be susceptible to develop them because there are many causes as we'll discover overleaf.



The causes of hot spots can be linked to:

- Allergies
- Fleas
- A bad reaction to an insect bite
- An injury
- A low immune system
- An excess of the normal bacteria found on your pets skin,
- Or even self harming through boredom or stress

As you can see the causes are varied and therefore you need to be vigilant. If you see your dog obsessively licking or biting at their body, you need to find out why, but be careful because hot spots are extremely painful to the animal.

If your dog has a long coat then it can be difficult to see the hot spot and if you take your dog to the vet for treatment, it is likely that the area around the sore spot will be shaved. This will help you monitor it better, reduce the risk of the hair infecting the lesion even more and allow it to start to dry out. You likely also be given a course of antibiotics.

If your dog is a regular swimmer or loves to jump in any spot of water, then it's important that you thoroughly dry them afterwards. Hot, moist conditions can allow the naturally occurring skin bacteria to excessively multiply and encourage hot spots to form. The same is true when

you bath your dog.

So here are our top tips for spotting and trying to avoid hot spots:

1. Regularly groom and check your dogs skin for any lesions
2. Dry thoroughly after swimming or bathing
3. Monitor your dog for signs of licking or biting their skin
4. Treat any and all skin sores immediately
5. Contact your vet if your think your dog has a hot spot

If you have any questions regarding hot spots or other topics for Vets Corner, drop us an email to newsletter@delmonkennels.com



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