



DBKC NEWS!

Heading



The 16th August is recognized as International Homeless Animals Day and organizations around the world come together to raise awareness of the pet over population issue. On this day they may hold adopt-a-thons and spay/neuter clinics to take small steps in addressing the large over population problem. If there are any activities in your location, please do support them.

The last few weeks have been incredibly busy on the boarding front, so a huge thank you to

Pauline and the team for looking after our pets so we can enjoy a worry free vacation.

In this month's newsletter we find out about the Japanese Bobtail in Breed Profile, we learn about the journey Teddy & Amir undertook when they relocated to Peru and we learn all about the benefits of coconut oil for our pets in this month's Ask Pauline. Vets Corner this month also looks at the topic of Canine Diabetes.

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Happy reading!

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

Tracy Whelan



Where are they now?

Teddy and Amir are well travelled dogs! They originally came from Cambodia to Bahrain where they lived happily, and now they have finally reached their new home in Arequipa, Peru. It was a long trip spanning a couple of months but they are here and they seem to love it. They left Bahrain the day after I did for their first leg of the journey to England. It was a short, direct flight and we picked them up from Heathrow animal center a few hours after they arrived. Everything went very smoothly so a big thank you to the Delmon team for getting them there safely and without too much stress.

In England they spent two months at our house in the countryside near Birmingham. They quickly picked up a

taste for chasing squirrels and enjoyed long walks in the fields with my third dog Maya. England was cold and wet but Teddy especially loved the fire in our living room and spent most of the day curled up in front of it. I left for Peru a month before the dogs did so I could get settled and find us a house. I used another pet moving company to get them from England to Arequipa, Peru.

The company were great and I couldn't be happier with the trip. The dogs spent a week in a boarding kennel in London to get all their paperwork in order before flying.

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Monthly Breed Profile Japanese Bobtail

In this month's Breed Profile we're going to look at the Japanese Bobtail. This is a breed that has featured in a business brand that has become very well known around the world, and in some countries has even reached cult status. Read on and find out which brand it is and to find out more about this lovely breed.

The Japanese Bobtail is native to Japan and Southeast Asia and its origins can be traced back a 1000 years. They were first used by monks to keep vermin away from food stores and over time, developed into family cats as a result of their great personalities.

The breed is named after its most distinctive feature, its bobtail, which looks like a rabbit's tail. At one time it was thought that it might be related to the Manx cat which has no tail as a result of a genetic abnormality. However the genetic issue in the Bobtail is completely unrelated to the Manx. In the Bobtail there will always be a small number of tail vertebrae and the tail will generally be no longer than 3 inches in length. The length and shape of the tail will be unique to each cat, similar to finger prints in the human world.

The Bobtail is a medium sized cat that loves humans and

other pets. They are full of energy, always playful and loving. So if you want a cat that will interact with you and your family then this is the breed for you!

The Bobtail is also a strong and healthy breed, suffering very few medical problems. They tend to have small litters of kittens with the average number being 3 or 4. As a result of this, the kittens are born proportionally larger, they develop at a faster rate and kitten mortality rates are low. Breeders will often keep kittens until they are between 3-4 months old before letting them go to their new homes to ensure they have developed the physical and social skills needed to adapt to a new environment.

Bobtails come in both short and long haired varieties and also in almost every colour. The most popular colour is what we would call calico which is a predominantly white cat with bold patches of red and black.

So have you figured out which business brand features a Japanese Bobtail? Well, it's the 'Hello Kitty' brand which is now globally recognized. The Bobtail is also thought to have been the breed that the lucky 'waving cat' that you see in Chinese restaurants is based upon!

Ask Pauline

Over the last couple of years Coconut Oil has really risen in popularity due to its health benefits, but did you know that it's also a really good supplement to feed your pets and that it can also be used to address a number of common ailments. In this month's Ask Pauline we find out more about it and how it can help improve your pets health.

It's not unusual to see products and furniture made from the coconut wood and leaves, and the flesh and the milk has long been used in many foods and desserts, however in the health and medicine world it's coconut oil which has been found to be of the greatest use.

Coconut oil consists of more than 90% saturated fat, with most of the saturated fat being medium chain triglycerides (MCT). Within the MCT, more than 40% consists of lauric acid which has shown to be preventative against some cancers. The coconut is the richest, naturally available source of lauric acid and also has other antioxidant properties and helps in the absorption of other minerals.

When buying it, look for unrefined coconut oil. You may see the packaging referring to natural or virgin coconut oil. You are mostly likely to find it in the organic aisle of your local supermarket, and it is available in Bahrain.

The other benefit is that it can be given internally or applied externally. If you want to give internally, add it to your pets food over a few weeks. As a rule of thumb you would add 1 teaspoon per 10 pounds of dog or 1 tablespoon per 30 pounds of dog. It is recommended that you start with $\frac{1}{4}$ of the recommended dosage and build up to the recommended level over a 4 week period. If you add too much too quickly, your pet may develop flu-like symptoms. If you want to use externally, use to moisturize skin and keep the coat glossy and shiny.



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

Ask Pauline!

Fed regularly to pets, coconut oil can have the following multiple benefits:

Skin Conditions

- Helps clear up skin conditions such as eczema, flea allergies, contact dermatitis and itchy skin
- Reduces allergic reactions and improves overall skin health
- Makes coats sleek and glossy and deodorizes doggy smells
- Prevents and treats yeast and fungal infections
- Disinfects cuts and promotes wound healing including hot spots, dry skin and bites and stings.

Digestion

- Improves digestion and nutrient absorption
- Aids healing of digestive disorders such as inflammatory bowel syndrome and colitis
- Reduces and eliminates bad breath
- Aids in the elimination of hairballs and coughing

Immune System, Metabolic Function & Bone Health

- Contains powerful antibacterial, antiviral and anti-fungal agents to prevent infection and disease
- Regulates and balances insulin and promotes normal thyroid function
- Helps prevent or control diabetes
- Helps reduce weight and increases energy
- Aids in arthritis or ligament problems

So why not give coconut oil a try and introduce it to your pet, or even into your own diet.

If you already use coconut oil with your pet, please let us know what you've found at newsletter@delmonkennels.com

Vets Corner

In this month's Vets Corner we're going to look at the topic of Canine Diabetes. In humans, Diabetes relates to the body's ability to produce and/or respond to insulin and the same is true in the Canine world.

Insulin is a hormone that is produced in the pancreas and is necessary to help your body digest and convert protein into glucose. Once in the glucose form, it can be absorbed into the bloodstream and used to fuel your body. If your insulin production is working well, other organs in your body including the liver, the brain and your muscles will receive a signal telling them to take the glucose from your blood cells and convert it to energy.

The process is the same in dogs. If your dog suffers from Type 1 diabetes, which is the more severe form of the disease, they will require daily insulin injections to maintain blood sugar balance. An affected dog will often show signs of being hungry a lot of the time. This is because the glucose is not making it to the brain and therefore the brain thinks that the animal is not receiving food. Also, because the insulin is not telling the muscles and other organs to convert glucose to energy, the excess glucose in the blood ends up being carried out of the body in urine, instead of being used as fuel.

Dogs that are obese are at increased risk of developing diabetes, together with female dogs. It is thought that the hormonal changes female dogs undergo when they come into season can have some impact on insulin production. This is especially true of female dogs that are receiving drugs to control heat cycles and therefore this should be discussed in detail with your vet before giving to your dog.



There are several possible causes for canine diabetes including genetic predisposition and pancreatitis. It is also thought that certain breed types are at higher risk of developing diabetes and these include:

- Puli
- Miniature Pinscher
- Samoyed
- Cairn Terrier
- Poodle
- Dachshund
- Miniature Schnauzer
- Beagle

The early symptoms include excessive urination, excessive thirst, constantly appearing to be hungry and weight loss. Later signs include lethargy and depression, cataracts, vomiting and possibly bladder or kidney infections and an enlarged liver. If you think your dog is showing any of these signs, consult your vet who will conduct a number of tests including a complete blood count, chemical profile and urinalysis. These tests should be sufficient in making a diagnosis of diabetes or confirming that your dog does not have it.

If your dog does have diabetes your vet will prescribe a course of treatment that will include daily exercise and lowering the insulin demands and balancing your dogs food and drink needs to more healthy levels. Your dog may also need daily insulin injections depending on how severe the condition is. You may be required to monitor your dogs blood glucose levels on a daily basis and adjust the amount of insulin given.

Please remember that this is a serious issue and therefore if you are in any doubt please consult your vet.

Where are they now ... continued

Then they flew to Amsterdam where they spent a night in the pet hotel at the airport (Who also took great care of them and sent me an email with pictures to let me know they were safe).

Then they had a 14 hour flight to Lima, Peru where they spent another night with a vet who works with the shipping company.

They have now been in Arequipa for about two months and it is very different to Bahrain! We have a big house and a huge garden which the boys love. The altitude was a problem for Amir at first but he seems to have acclimatized now. The best thing about Peru is that there are great hiking trails where the dogs can run.

We go hiking on the nearby volcanos almost every weekend and Amir has discovered that his most favourite activity is chasing Vicunas (Wild animals which look like Llamas but are much faster and slightly bigger). The Vincunas are not as impressed with Amir but they seem to keep out of his way pretty easily and it certainly tires Amir out for the week!

The other good thing about living in Peru as far as Teddy



and Amir are concerned is that the people here eat a huge amount of meat and there are always big bones available for the dogs!

If you have a relocation story you'd like to share with us in a future edition, please drop us an email to newsletter@delmonkennels.com and include a photo of your pet enjoying their new life!



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