

DBKC NEWS!



Anniversary Edition!

So after a few months break we are back! After 9 years in Bahrain I moved to France in April with my husband and our family pets and have taken the last few months to get settled and established.

However, now we are back and in this month's DBKC News we find out more about the Kennels 10 year anniversary! We've put 10 questions to Pauline about the last 10 years so we hope you enjoy finding out about the fun and challenges the Delmon Team have experienced. Happy reading!

Available for Adoption



This is Bones and he's available for adoption now. He's nearly 2 and is a happy, energetic and social young man. He loves chasing after his tennis ball and playing with his friends. He's fully vaccinated and looking for a new, forever home.

If you follow our Facebook page you may have seen a short video about him. If you haven't seen it yet, please do have a look and share it widely across Bahrain so we can find him a loving home soon. Contact Pauline for more information.

10 questions covering 10 years!

Our main feature this month involves turning the tables on Pauline and asking her a number of questions about herself and the kennels business over the last 10 years.

In the first year how many dogs could the Kennels accommodate? And as a comparison, how many can you accommodate today?

When we opened in 2005 we had 20 kennels which seems such a small number in comparison to today! In the second year we added another 20 and today we have 74 kennels and 30 cattery spaces. This means that we can hold 100+ dogs and 30 cats.

The name Delmon Boarding Kennels is understandable because it's a Bahrain company, but how did you arrive at your logo design?

The logo was designed by my daughter Charlie and features a dane that we had called Henry. Henry was adopted by us in Bahrain and it was because of Henry that I got interested in dogs and dog training. Henry is no longer with us, but was a beautiful boy and will always hold a very special place in my heart.

When you started the kennels did you just offer dog boarding, or did you have the full range of services that you offer today?

When we started we offered only dog boarding, cat boarding and swimming. The swimming pool was part of the original design for the kennel facility as it's such a great way of exercising dogs and is really necessary during the hot summer months.

When you started the kennels what were your ambitions for it? What did you hope it would become and how does it compare with where you are today?

At the beginning my ambition was to provide an English style high quality boarding facility and as we have progressed through the years I've continued to be amazed at the demand for this and other pet related services. As the demand grew we added Grooming, Training & Special Care for older pets and those with special requirements.

How do standards of pet care in Bahrain today compare with 10 years ago?

There has definitely been a significant improvement over the last 10 years, but there is still improvement to be made. Pets are seen as an integral part of family life and therefore their families want them to be well looked after. Owners are now more educated about the pet industry and pet health and this continues to improve.

What have you loved most about working with dogs over the last 10 years?

Where do I start! There are so many great things about working with dogs, but I think the thing I love the most is how intelligent they are. Everyday they can surprise you with new capabilities and are always up to tackle new challenges with motivation and a happy smile!

I also love to watch the bond between dogs and their owners develop. Seeing how happy and excited dogs are to see their families after boarding and even after Play Days shows how special the bond is.

Today you help find homes for dogs available for adoption. How many dogs do you think you've rehomed over the last 10 years and when you started the Kennels was it your intention to do this?

We haven't kept detailed records regarding numbers, but it's well over 100. No, it wasn't our intention to help with adoptions, but it worked out that way! We've helped customers rehome animals when circumstances have dictated that they cannot keep them, and we also regularly support both the BSCPA and Tony the Dogfather by helping prepare animals for permanent homes.

We are also lucky to have a benefactor called Conrad who financially supports dogs available for adoption. As a result of this we're able to care for them and spend time training and socialising them so that they are as ready as they can be for their new homes. We're very grateful to Conrad for his continued help and support in making this possible.

What have been the Highs & Lows over the 10 years?

The highs have been the ability to continue to add to and expand the business and offer Play Days, Grooming, Training and Transport. Also, the opening of Delmon Pets Relocators, the first licensed pet relocator in Bahrain, was a great achievement.

The low has been the continued conflicts within Bahrain and the region. This can often lead customers to feel apprehensive and unsettled about living in this area of the world which is a real shame.

What do you hope to achieve within the next 10 years?

Watch this space! One thing that is certain is that we won't be standing still and we will continue to bring new ideas to Bahrain.

If you were to sum up the last 10 years in one sentence what would it be?

It's been fun getting to this point and where have the last 10 years gone!

