

Jersey Dog Handlers Association



Newsletter, April 2019

GROOMING & WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

WE ALL know we should do it! With our increasingly busy lives sometimes a mundane activity like dog grooming can seem like a chore, but what does grooming really do for your pet besides making them look pretty?

Regular grooming is important for your pet's health and wellbeing as well as their appearance. In general terms, a clean pet is a happy pet. No hair in the eyes, clean fur and skin, clipped nails and clean teeth all make for a pet that is comfortable and feel better about themselves. All of these issues can be detrimental to your pet's mental wellbeing.

By grooming on a regular basis you can optimise your pet's physical and mental health and stimulate your pet's natural oils to create a natural healthy glow. It is also good to socialise and that is something that should be started as a puppy. If we don't groom our pets on a regular basis serious side effects could occur which could encourage issues which can lead to expensive vet bills and difficult or even aggressive behaviour from your pet.

A long haired, ungroomed pet can suffer discomfort and skin issues. Hair hanging over your pet's eyes can restrict vision and could cause infections which could alter your pet's capabilities and behaviour. When long hair is not washed or brushed regularly pets often suffer matting which in turn can load your pet with extra weight.

Matting of the hair can be painful and may cause skin conditions. Severe matting restricts blood flow pulling tightly on a pet's skin and making it painful. Don't forget to check between your dog's pads as it can get matted and trap dirt and gravel. Overgrown nails can be very painful and cause a walking disfigurement. Long nails can grow into the pads causing infection and could cause the dog's foot to become disfigured possibly leading to joint problems.

Double coating from irregular brushing leads to extra coating causing your pet to suffer from heat stress. Fleas, ticks and mites are some of the most common parasites than can be fatal to your pet and they thrive on dirty and untreated bodies. Most parasites do not like living on a clean coat.

These days there is no need to have an infestation as there are so many preventative treatments available, whether it is the medicated route or the natural way. If you are the small percent that are unlucky to have a problem, treat your house and car as well as your pets as the infestation will simply comeback. Dental disease can lead to bad breath, tooth loss and reduced appetite which if left untreated could lead to heart, liver and kidney damage. When grooming your pet you should check and clean their teeth. If you are worried about your dog's teeth then speak to your vet.

As spring is approaching we need to think about grass seeds and check our pets for them. Lookout for excess scratching or shaking of the head, constant licking, redness and swelling around an entry point. A grass seed in the nose can be indicated by excessive scratching, sneezing and a mucous discharge.

A grass seed in the ear will again cause excessive scratching, redness and swelling which will eventually develop into an ear infection. There may not be any immediate symptoms if a grass seed has been swallowed but could possibly be indicated by coughing, nausea, lethargy, loss of appetite, breathing difficulties. Undetected grass seeds can lead to abscesses and infections, it is not unheard of for a pet to lose an eye from an undetected grass seed.

The type of grass seed to look out for are the ones that look like spikey arrows and are generally found on the long, dry grasses. They have fibres which allow them to attach to various surfaces and they can get caught up in any type of dog coat, long or short.

Other types of grasses have prickles or burrs, these don't enter the dog's body but they will get caught up in a long coated dog causing the coat to matt. If not checked regularly they become a nuisance and may result in the coat needing to be clipped off. Thorny prickles can dig into your pet's paws and it can be very painful to walk with these in the coat. These are easy to remove if they are large.

If anyone would like any advice I am more than happy to have a chat with you about what is best for your pet.

CLAIRE WHITE

www.jerseyuniordoghandlers.co.uk

2019 COMMITTEE

President:

Christine Marett
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Vice-President:

Valery Johnson

Secretary:

Natasha Ward
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Treasurer:

Samantha Kezourec
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Committee:

Joe Betts, Laney Betts, Rachel Le Masurier, Claire White

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CO-OP NUMBER

The club's Co-Op share number is 325473, please use it if you do not have one of your own or you may wish to donate your dividend to us occasionally.

TOP DOGS & HANDLERS

AT CHANNEL Island Dog of the Year Joe and Laney Betts' Cocker Spaniel, Northquest Taylor Betts was crowned Dog of the Year under all rounder judge Patsy Hollings.

Christine Marett's Cesky Terrier, Lastarean Grace And Favour for Gayteckels was Channel Island Reserve Veteran of the Year.

Our handlers also did very well with Emilie Ward and Yakira Michel sharing top spot in the Junior Handling while Jade Perez won the 17-24 years age group and Christine Marett won the 25 yrs plus age group.

In Guernsey Christine Marett's Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen Limier Didier at Gayteckels was crowned Guernsey Kennel Club Veteran of the Year.

Members also featured in the cards at Crufts. In the placings on Gundog Day was Natasha Ward and her Field Spaniel Alani. On Working Day it was Jane Le Claire and Ruby and David and Jenny Sharrock with Eiger's turn to win place cards.

At the Kennel Club of Jersey's first championship show of the year Christine Marett's Cesky Terrier, Lastarean Grace And Favour for Gayteckels was awarded her third and final Challenge Certificate to become a Champion and Reserve Best Veteran in Show.

Chris Cullen's Tonkory Running Order was awarded the Reserve Challenge Certificate in the Pastoral Group while Jsy Ch Tonkory Xaminer was Best Veteran in Show.

DIARY DATES

September 7th and 8th

Good Citizen Workshop with Neville Uden

November 10th

Annual Companion Show

November 26th

Annual General Meeting and Awards Night

December 3rd

Christmas Party

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to Health and Safety issues flexi/extending leads are not permitted as a training lead at club.

DISCOUNT

Don't forget you can get discount at the following pet stores by showing your membership card, The Pet Cabin, Animal Kingdom and Pets Paradise.

GOOD CITIZEN PASSES

Well done to:

Bronze: Jane Le Claire & Ruby, Ann Appleton & Allfie, Crossbreed, Kelly Moulin & Pepsi, Cocker Spaniel, Maria Duhamel & Ted, Border Collie, Ian Tait & Zara, GSD, Andrew Begg & Simba, Samoyed.

Silver: Yakira Michel & Wispa, Crossbreed, Julia Lecrivain & Zip, Border Collie

Gold: Kelly Moulin & Percy, Cocker Spaniel

TRAINING TIPS

Make sure that you have some nice, tasty treats if you are training your dog with food. Your dog will work much better if the reward is worth having. Would you work for a dry biscuit or a chocolate biscuit?

Also please be aware of what your dog is doing at training. Not all dogs like other dogs in their personal space.

TRAINING DATES

Please note that dates are subject to change at short notice due to events on at the showground.

Summer Term Training Fees due April 30th

May 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th

June 4th, 11th (outside), 18th & 25th

July 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

August 6th & 13th

Autumn Term Training Fees due

September 10th & 17th

September 24th - showground not available

October 1st & 8th

October 15th - showground not available

October 22nd & 29th

November 5th - No training

November 12th & 19th

November 26th AGM & Awards Night (Members Room)

December 3rd Christmas Party