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PET BRANDS



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Canine Zone

The magazine for all dog lovers

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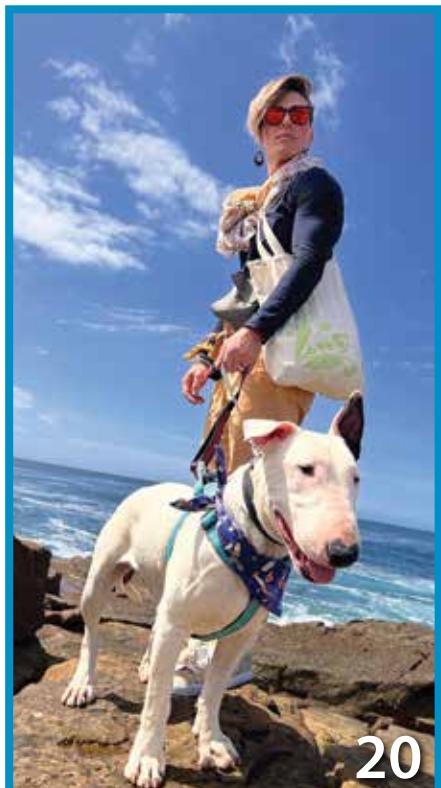
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I know that a lot of people now work from home, so they're always with their dogs, but during the December holidays, it's the perfect time to set new routines and do fun things with your dogs. For example, why not make your own homemade dog treats, not only for your own dogs but as gifts for the dogs of family and friends as well as shelter dogs. Simply Google recipes for dog treats and you'll find tons of easy-to-make and healthy dog biscuit, cupcake, or even sweet potato chew recipes. If you're into crafts, you can put the treats into little gift boxes – and who knows, you might even be able to set up a new small business for yourself with a view to supplying local pet stores.

This is the perfect time of year to arrange a family photo shoot that includes your dogs. There are loads of fantastic photographers in South Africa who specialise in pet photography, and you can frame your photos and turn them into wonderful gifts for family members as well. And what about giving a dog mom or dad a pet photography voucher as a gift that I'm sure will be much appreciated.

The only negative part about this time of year are the fireworks on New Year's Eve, and since we launched in 2011, every single year we've published articles about the dangers and how dogs (and other animals) are traumatised, hurt and killed. Please, please – spread the word and educate – we don't need fireworks to celebrate while harming other living beings. I've never understood how anyone can feel good about buying and setting off fireworks.

This issue is once again jam-packed, and we all so enjoy putting Canine

Zone together. We're most grateful for all your support – whether you're picking up a printed copy at a store or downloading a digital copy from our website – and are so blessed to be working with fantastic sponsors, some of whom have been with us for years! Not only are these top brands, but these sponsors are unique in that they also all give back to shelters in some way, shape or form, so please give them your support to enable them to do even more. A huge thank you to (in alphabetical order) – Animal Travel Services, Complete Pet SA, Kyron, Lionel's Choice Holistic Nutrition, Marltons, McMac Pet SA, Montego Pet Nutrition, Pet Brands, and Pro-Pet, as well as our regular advertisers such as Hound Sleeper and Jock.

We'd also like to thank our 2023 calendar sponsors, Numatic and Jock, who enabled us to once again donate a beautiful fundraising calendar – this year to A New Hope Dog Rescue. And on that note, remember that our shelters have a really hard time during December (not that they don't during the rest of the year), so please help them by donating money, food, toys, blankets or buying from their online stores or even by purchasing their annual calendars.

To end off the year, I want to thank my team for all their support this year and for their hard work and passion. This includes Ian James, Aidan Wiggill, Glyn Price, Patti Barron-Lowe, Chelsea Blake, Francis Olivier and, of course, our wonderful regular contributors Caitlin Balt-Helmrich, Julie Bezuidenhout and Dr Larry Kraitzick. Lastly, here's a shout out of gratitude to all the shelters we've worked with during the year – too many to mention, but including the team at Dogtown, TEARS, DARG and Adora-Bull Terrier Rescue and Rehabilitation – for always making sure we can share wonderful rescue stories with you and who never give up and perform miracles every single day.

To our wonderful readers – here's hoping you have a fun-filled, safe, relaxing and happy festive season and a happy, healthy and prosperous 2023! And, as always, give your fur kids a big cuddle from me!

Sharon

Canine Zone

The magazine for all dog lovers

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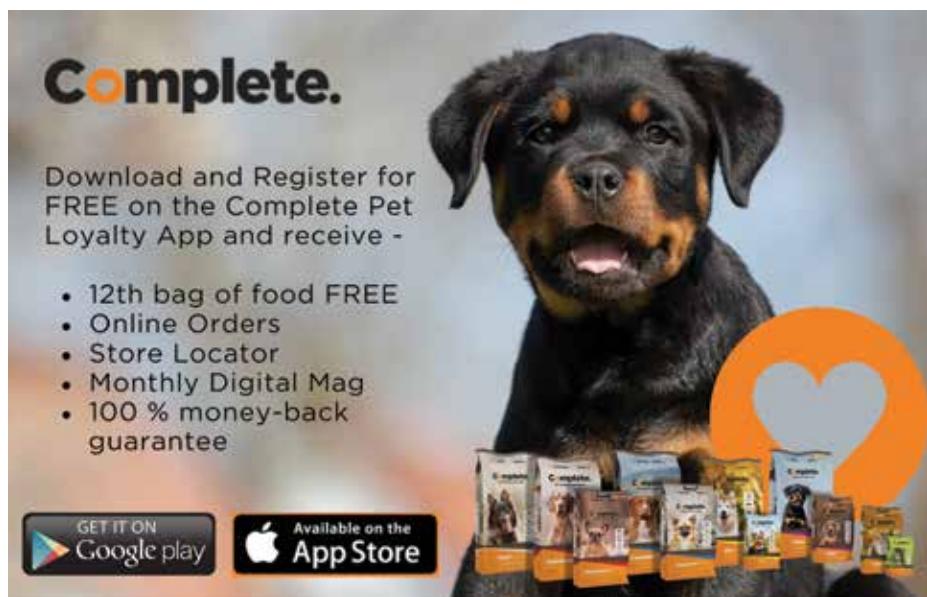
Complete Pet are well-known for their innovative marketing campaigns, high-quality pet food, social media content, YouTube channel and exceptional customer service.

Their unique loyalty programme application has been running successfully for a number of years, but they're excited to announce the new updates, making it much more user-friendly and offering pet parents so much more.

With the Complete Pet Application, you get your twelfth bag of food absolutely free, do your online orders, find a stockist closer to you, and get a monthly newsletter and digital copy of Canine Zone magazine. What's more, Complete Pet now offer their customers a 100% money-back guarantee. There'll also be other rewards to be announced in the future. The Complete Pet Loyalty App is

available for free to download from Google Play and App Store. If you're already a loyalty member, don't forget to remove the old app and download the new app to enjoy the new and improved experience.

Visit the Complete Pet website on www.completepetfood.co.za. Follow them on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and don't miss out on their twice-weekly videos on YouTube @completepets



HAVE YOU MET YOUR MATCH?

A new dating app is now available that will have even those in committed relationships scrolling to find what they're missing in their lives... with permission from their partners, of course. You can do it while relaxing at home, fetching the kids from school, even while out for a date night. It's simple, easy... and guarantees satisfaction.

The Pet Matchmaker App will have South Africans scrolling and swiping all day long. Looking for that new blonde, brunette or ginger has never been simpler – they're all there on your screen, looking for their forever homes. The Pet Matchmaker App makes the matchmaking process easier when looking for a family pet, a companion or even a cheeky cat

with a love for mischief. With one app you'll have access to shelters from across South Africa, enabling pet parents to search for their purr-fect pet.

Marycke Ackhurst from Hill's Pet Nutrition says that the company has been invested in the development of the app as they're committed to clearing the shelters. "There are

thousands of absolutely gorgeous cats and dogs in shelters around South Africa, and we've created an easy and really fun way for pet parents to be able to find a pet that suits their personality and lifestyle." Unfortunately, many pets are surrendered to shelters through no fault of their own, and by adopting a pet you give them a second chance and open a space for another pet who might desperately need it.

Prospective pet parents can apply filters and customise their search when looking for their match. These filters help you find just what you're looking for. You can search by age, size, breed mix, coat colour, pattern and length, disposition, activity level and suitability with other family members. The shelter pets are profiled with their bio, photos, and videos.

Of course, prospective adoptive



parents will need to pass a home check with the regular adoption requirements being met before they're able to take their pet home. This app makes the match, but just like a real date there needs to be a

spark for it to work. The purpose of the app is to get as many pets adopted so that we can clear the shelters and find forever homes. The Pet Matchmaker App is free to download on IOS and Android.

"HELP THEM FEED THEM" - KEEPING FUR BABIES AND THEIR PARENTS TOGETHER



Our pets become our family, they keep us entertained with their quirky antics, are company when sitting alone on the couch, they're always there for us. Our job is to feed them, love them and look after them to the best of our abilities. But with the increased cost of living, more and more families are being forced to turn in their pets to shelters as they can't afford to keep their furry companions any longer. "At Bob Martin, we believe that the best place for a pet is to be with their loving family. They belong together, so let's keep it that way," says Su-Lise

Tessendorf-Louw, Marketing Executive at Bob Martin.

As market leader, Bob Martin, in collaboration with Beeno, Husky and Pamper, has launched an initiative this summer that aims to keep pets and their families together by providing pet food and pet care for worthy beneficiaries for an entire year.

"It's definitely not something pleasant to think about, but in some cases, handing over your pet to a shelter, when you can't afford proper care, may be best for both parties,"

says Tessendorf-Louw. "Many shelters are already overwhelmed and at capacity, and according to the State of Pet Homelessness Index, out of the 4.1m homeless pets, 650,000 cats and dogs are in shelters. Our aim with this initiative is to give the voiceless a voice and assist where there's a need," she adds, and goes on to say, "We're calling on the public to find those stories of pet owners who could use a little bit of help to keep their pets right by their side."

"Keeping your pet healthy, cared-

for and well-fed can be a costly endeavour, especially for people who are struggling just to make ends meet," concludes Tessendorf-Louw.

Bob Martin has launched "Help them feed them", an initiative that aims to keep pets and their owners together by taking care of their food and care requirements for an entire year. The campaign will allow anyone to nominate a family or individual in need. To nominate a potential beneficiary, visit www.helpthem-feedthem.co.za

FOUR PAWS PROVIDES FREE ONLINE TRAINING FOR ANIMAL SHELTERS

FOUR PAWS, the global animal welfare organisation, has launched one of the first-ever online training courses for animal shelters. It's a free e-learning course designed to help shelters increase their local adoption rate by providing best-practice guidelines to help improve the skills and knowledge of shelter staff and volunteers supporting them to overcome the most common challenges to adoption.

The "Shelter Adoption Academy" comes at a time where there's a global rise in the number of pets in animal shelters in the wake of the global pandemic and the war in Ukraine, which has led to a worldwide cost-of-living crisis and a rise in energy prices.

In South Africa, according to the 2022 State of Homelessness Pet Index of Mars Petcare, out of the 14.9 million dogs and cats in South Africa, 4.1 million are considered strays. There are an estimated 300 million "homeless" dogs globally. Many of these homeless animals land up in shelters. The Index shows that a plus for South Africa's animal welfare community is the Index shows the openness of South Africans

to adopt from a shelter.

The report says strong familiarity with, and higher than average consideration to adopt from shelters and rescue centres, drives the "All Pets Cared For" survey category up in South Africa. A total of 77% of the general population would consider adopting from a shelter in the future, compared to the global average of 65%.

The FOUR PAWS Shelter Academy will build knowledge to support a range of practical skills to help shelter staff and volunteers overcome the most common obstacles to shelter adoption and increase their adoption rate.

James Pirnay, FOUR PAWS' Head of Community Engagement, says: "This course couldn't come at a more pivotal time as we're seeing a surge globally in animal shelters becoming overcrowded. Shelters need

immediate help."

The Shelter Academy was developed by experts in the fields of animal welfare, dog behaviour, training, and education specialists. The online course was developed following a successful pilot with a public dog shelter in Ukraine that resulted in a 70% increase in the shelter's local adoption rate. For more information about the course, visit <https://www.four-paws.org/shelter-adoption-programme>.



ADORA-BULL TERRIER RESCUE CALENDAR TIME!



The team at Adora-Bull Terrier Rescue & Rehabilitation is pleased to announce that their "2023 Love, in Black & White" calendars have been printed and are ready to dispatch.

- Option 1 – R195.00 1x A4 Calendar
- Option 2 – R245.00 1x Birthday Calendar
- Option 3 – R345.00 1x Desk pad Calendar

They've put many hours of work into showcasing their amazing dogs, which they hope you'll enjoy. For those who haven't ordered yet, they only have limited numbers of calendars left, so visit www.adorabullterrierrescue.co.za to order.

This year they have a variety of packages to choose from:

- Option 4 – R745.00 1x A4 Calendar, 1x Birthday Calendar, 1x Desk pad Calendar
- Option 5 – R1,395.00 2x A4 Calendar, 1x Birthday Calendar, 1x Desk pad Calendar, 2x Mugs, 1x Cap, 1x Plush Bullie
- Option 6 – R550.00 2x A4 Calendar, 2x Mugs
- Option 7 – R490.00 2x A4 Calendar, 1x Cap
- Option 8 – R535.00 2x A4 Calendar, 1x Plush Bullie
- Option 9 – R995.00 2x A4 Calendar, 1x 3 Months Sponsorship
- Option 10 – R1,695.00 2x A4 Calendar, 1x 6 Months Sponsorship

Proceeds from the calendars go to Adora-Bull to help with their vet care, food and daily Bullie needs. To order visit www.adorabullterrier.com or WhatsApp 072 192 7777.

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This is **LAYAH**
– my niece. Yes,
she's this goofy
in person as
well!
– NAMASHA
RAO-DASS



Meet **LILLY**, our little Queen! – CECILIA DE VILLIERS



Her name is
GRACE. Full of
Love and
Happiness.
– ANNE-MARIE
BOTHА



Madam **FREYA'S**
Sunday morning
hair. – SUNÉ VAN
DER MESCHT



Old man **JAGGER** relaxing. – CLAIRE MACINTOSH



LILLY enjoying her
afternoon nap. A dog's
life can be exhausting.
– SHELLEY MARSHALL

WIN! If your photo is the winning photo, you will receive a fabulous prize from Complete Pet. To enter, e-mail your photo and a sentence or two about your dog/s to editorial@caninezonesa.co.za

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LIEFIE says
Merry
Christmas!
– RENÉ
PRETORIUS



MARLEY and big sister **KAYLEE**. We two sisters are like one. We are bundles of joy and love, making every bad day a better one! – **ELIZE BOTES**



ACE – My beautiful boy.
– MEGAN DURANT



PHOENIX – My gorgeous baby Phoenix who passed away two years ago, and my heart is still missing her.
– SHELLY GARROCK



OORTJIES, STORM, SHELBY and **ROCKY** – Waiting for our yummy biscuits! We love biscuit time.
– CORYN VILJOEN



OBELIX – Our almost eleven-year-old boy enjoying our company while we're having a braai. Here he's not asking for a piece of meat (wink).
– GERALDENE ADENDORFF



Help!



GOT A QUESTION?

E-mail us at
editorial@caninezonesa.co.za
and we will forward your mail to our
behaviourists, Julie Bezuidenhout and
Caitlin Balt-Helmrich to answer



MY DOGS ARE JEALOUS OF EACH OTHER!

I have a male Labrador of four years of age named Hunter, and a six-year-old small cross breed girl named Vivi. Vivi has always been extremely jealous, and if Hunter comes for a love or cuddle, she tries to push in and will even growl at him and he'll then back away. She's very affectionate, but I'm worried that one day he won't back away and he'll bite her, and he's much bigger. It's got to the stage now that when we want to cuddle with him or brush him, we have to put her outside, and then she looks so sad. She also won't let him have any toys when she's around. Is it normal for dogs to be jealous of each other like this? – DENISE MARTIN

CAITLYN SAYS – It's not unusual for dogs to act in ways that seem like jealousy. Often these behaviours come from a place of fear of losing something valuable – toys, food or attention. Dogs may respond to these fears by trying



to scare away the thing that might be a threat to their resources. Given the difference in size, it could become a dangerous situation for Vivi if Hunter does choose to retaliate. Locking her away when you interact with Hunter,

while for her safety, may exacerbate her feelings that he's taking resources from her, and she'll be more reactive. It would be advisable to book a session with a behaviourist to put a plan in place to help Vivi feel more secure.

SAFETY ON WALKS



My husband used to take my Jack Russell for daily walks until one day people were coming out of their driveway and their pack of six dogs attacked our little boy. The dogs' owner was extremely upset

and paid all of Jackie's vet bills, but he was badly traumatised and now gets anxious, shivers and urinates if we even take his leash out. We now just play with him in the garden to avoid upsetting

him, but it's sad that he now doesn't get the walks he so used to enjoy. What are your thoughts? – MARYKE DAVIS

CAITLYN SAYS – Dog attacks, especially those that result in serious injuries and veterinary care, are traumatising. It's understandable that Jackie is nervous about going out for walks, given what happened. If the walks are stressful and scary for him, he isn't missing out by staying home. There are lots of ways that you can enrich his life at home, such as games and training that encourage him to use his brain and body. You can slowly get him used to the idea of walks again by offering exciting treats when he sees the leash and building up his confidence to walking on leash in the garden before taking him onto the road. Perhaps finding a quiet park that you can drive to will help. It would be a good idea to enlist the support of a behaviourist to build his confidence and recover from the trauma.

TRAINING TREATS HAVE BECOME A PROBLEM



Our Boxer, Wendy, went to puppy socialisation classes and two levels of obedience classes, and she's very well behaved and a happy dog. The issue is that she was trained using treats as

a treat to lie in her bed. She'll only do her obedience "moves" when we have treats in hand. The problem is that she's now become overweight because of all the treats. We've now started using

rewards and now won't do certain things without a treat being offered. For example, when we call her to come inside, she'll only come if we show her we're opening the treat tin. She also jumps up on people until we give her

chopped-up carrot or apple instead of biscuits. How do we wean her off reward treats? – WESLEY TAYLOR

JULIE SAYS – This could be seen as a downside, of unintended learning by the dog, when utilising treats during training. When starting out training, treats should be used as lures to get puppies to do positive things in a fun way. Praising with the voice should be used at the same time of treat delivery. This results in treats being a primary reinforcer and the voice being a secondary one, and over a short period these reinforcers are swapped around, using voice as primary and treats as secondary. We then vary the treat delivery so that we establish "good dog" as being the primary reward. Wendy needs to unlearn her current treat regime to understand that she's still a good dog, without receiving the treat. I suggest you consult with an accredited professional behaviourist or trainer to assist you with this.

WE HAVE GATE RUNNERS!

We recently moved into a new home where there's no separation between the front and back gardens. When anyone leaves or enters our property, we have to open and close the gates, and our three dogs rush out and there's lots of screaming, shouting and panic. We're scared they'll be knocked over or will attack passers-by. We now have to lock them inside when coming or going. Is there a way to train them not to rush out of the gate, or what's the best way to handle this? – JOSEPHINA KHUMALO

JULIE SAYS – Having one dog bolting the gate is problematic enough, but when multiple dogs do it, they're influenced by what the group are doing. Shouting, screaming and chasing will add to the dogs' excitement in running further away. All dogs have an ability to learn; however, they first need to unlearn their current behaviours. Teaching them the word "Stay" is a good start, but you'll need professional guidance to assist you. I suggest you mandate an accredited professional behaviourist and trainer to assist you with this.



10 Dog Myths - Busted!

By Caitlin Balt-Helmrich



Dogs and humans have shared an existence for thousands of years, from the first domesticated dogs to the wide variety of breeds and mixes seen today. During this time, our understanding of dogs has grown and developed alongside the species, with new research coming to light regularly about the fascinating complexity of dogs. Despite this, many misunderstandings still exist about dogs, dog guardianship, and dog behaviour. These myths are perpetuated by well-meaning dog guardians, but they can do more harm than good to the dogs at the centre of them. Let's take a closer look at some of these myths.

IT'S BETTER TO GET A PUPPY THAN AN ADULT DOG
 Adopting a puppy is an exciting adventure, but it can be filled with upheaval and turmoil as you and the puppy adjust to life together. Puppies require constant attention, supervision and guidance to shape them to fit into your lifestyle. Adult dogs, regularly overlooked at shelters, have often outgrown the busy puppy stage and can form strong bonds with their guardians even if they're adopted later in life. Some adult dogs at rescue centres have been through difficult experiences, but that doesn't mean that they're "damaged" and traumatised. With love and patience, adult dogs can blossom into integral members of a family, without the havoc of a puppy!

MY PUPPY CAN BE SOCIALISED BY MEETING FRIENDS' DOGS AT HOME

Socialising a puppy is about far more than meeting a couple of different dogs. Proper socialisation includes people, places, sounds, handling, veterinary procedures, other animals (not just dogs) and experiences. One of the main goals of socialisation is helping your puppy learn to ignore things rather than run up and greet every new face. Enrolling in a force-free puppy school to get started on a proper, comprehensive socialisation plan will give your puppy the best start in life.

TWO IS BETTER THAN ONE

Two puppies may seem like a good idea – twice the fun, right? Two puppies will require twice the amount of work as they need to be given time apart to grow their identities separate from one another. If left alone, two puppies will get up to twice as much mischief as one – they may keep each other entertained, but who knows what fun they'll find! You may find it difficult to keep their attention for training as they'll gravitate towards each other and lose interest in you very quickly. Rather adopt one puppy at a time and wait a few months before bringing a second dog into your family.

YOU CAN'T TEACH AN OLD DOG NEW TRICKS

Often used to allow a bit of grace for older dogs who may be set in their ways, this adage is far from true. Whilst puppies and young dogs may be quick to learn, they also lose focus easily. Older dogs, even seniors who've never taken part in training activities, can quickly be conditioned to understand that their actions can reap rewards. Conducting short, fun training sessions with older dogs can help to alleviate boredom and keep their minds sharp.

DOGS NEED WALKS EVERY DAY

Dogs benefit from physical exercise and mental stimulation, but that doesn't require daily walks. Whilst some dogs enjoy regular outings, others may find them stressful, and this can lead to unwanted behaviours at home. Mental and physical exercise



Many misunderstandings still exist about dogs

can be provided at home through games, training and puzzles that encourage your dog to use their brains and bodies. It's equally important for dogs to learn the value of doing nothing and being able to settle and be relaxed in the absence of walks.

STICKING YOUR HAND OUT TO LET A DOG MEET YOU

Sticking your hand out to let a dog sniff you and gauge their reaction can be perceived as rude or threatening behaviour by a dog. It's unsafe and can startle a dog to just reach a hand towards their face. Instead, lower your gaze, relax your body and allow the dog to approach you at their own pace to figure out what you're all about. Once they've had a chance to assess you, they may invite you to interact with them.

THAT GUILTY LOOK...

We all know the look when a dog's done something "wrong" – lowered body, side glances, and avoiding eye contact. Humans often claim "they know they've done something wrong, and they feel guilty", but it's far more likely that what your dog is feeling in that moment is fear of a consequence. They can tell from the change in your voice and body language that something scary might happen, and they're offering appeasement behaviours to try and calm down the situation.

ALPHAS, PACKS AND DOMINANCE

The Alpha theory for dog hierarchy has been widely debunked by scientists, even the scientist himself who coined the theory. This dangerous myth, applied to our family pets, suggests that our dogs must be made to submit to a dominant "Alpha" human, often through pain and intimidation. This type of interaction can lead to increased fear, aggression and mistrust in the relationship between dogs and their humans. Dogs don't recognise their owners as being an Alpha, they're simply frightened of a consequence and adjust their behaviour accordingly. Modern, force-free science indicates that dogs thrive with training that builds communication and trust between them and their guardians,

and that there's never a need for physical corrections, pain or fear in caring for a dog.

MY DOG IS PROTECTING ME WHEN HE BARKS AT STRANGERS OR OTHER DOGS

When being at the park your dog lunges at people or dogs passing by, it may feel like they're trying to protect you. However, it's more likely that they're trying to protect themselves by scaring away something that's frightening them. The reason they may act more "protective" with different guardians is simply that they may feel more or less secure with different people at the other end of the leash.

JUST ONE LITTER BEFORE STERILISING

The miracle of birth and watching a mother dog raise a litter of puppies is alluring. Some people believe that allowing female dogs to have one litter before sterilising can help a dog to become more settled or improve certain behaviours. There's no evidence to support that having one litter before sterilising a dog has any real benefits for her, and it can carry more risks, including complications during pregnancy and birth. If you want to experience a litter of puppies, sign up with a local shelter to be a foster home to a litter in need.

As dog guardians, it's important to stay up to date with modern research to support our understanding of this complex species, and in doing so give them the best possible chance at wholesome, fulfilled lives with us.



So you want to become a VET?



Do you want to become a veterinarian or para-veterinary professional? Only specific qualifications will allow you to register legally in SA.

Do you dream of working with animals? Is your heart set on becoming a veterinarian, veterinary nurse, animal health technician, veterinary physiotherapist, veterinary technologist, or laboratory animal technologist? Or are you already a professional looking to further your studies?

Whether you're wanting to apply for undergraduate studies to become a veterinary or para-veterinary professional, or you're already a qualified veterinarian and wish to specialise, always ensure that the qualification that you're applying for is

eligible for registration with the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) so that you can legally practise in South Africa.

There are a number of international universities offering online degrees in the veterinary or para-veterinary professions, sometimes even at master's or PhD level. While some of these are reputable qualifications, obtaining them will generally not allow you to practise in South Africa or be recognised for purposes of specialisation in a particular discipline.

STUDYING ABROAD

Studying abroad will also not necessarily allow veterinarians to practise in South Africa, unless there's a mutual recognition agreement in place



Is your qualification eligible for registration with the South African Veterinary Council?

between the veterinary council in the country where you studied and the SAVC. Even so, there are only specific institutions and veterinary qualifications that qualify – para-veterinary qualifications don't qualify. If you don't have one of these qualifications, but hold another foreign qualification, you'll be required to write, and pass, the SAVC registration examination – irrespective of whether you're a South African or foreign national.

There are currently a number of South African veterinary graduates who've studied abroad who expected automatic registration to practise in South Africa, but who are now faced with having to take the registration examination, their patrons having neglected to inform them that they won't be allowed to practise automatically in South Africa by virtue of being a South African citizen.

It's therefore of vital importance to do your homework ahead of applying for any qualification in the veterinary or para-veterinary professions, to ensure that it's eligible for registration with the SAVC or, at the very least, that you'll be eligible to write the SAVC registration examination.

Your first port of call is the SAVC website; under the Professions tab there's a link to student information under each profession, where you can find SAVC-accredited qualifications (full list provided below). Information about the registration examination can also be found on the website.

WHERE TO FROM HERE?

It's best to contact the SAVC if you have any queries about qualifications before you start any studies. It's also important to establish that you're embarking on your studies at a reputable training institution. In South Africa, all tertiary training institutions have to be registered with the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET).

You can also get information from the training institutions, the DHET, the Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority (HWSETA)

or the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD).

In relation to online courses, you'll need to find out where the practical training will take place. You can't enrol for an international online course and then do the practical training in South Africa, as this will be a contravention of the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act (No. 19 of 1982).

WHO IS THE SAVC?

The SAVC ensures that the veterinary and para-veterinary professions in South Africa are aligned to international standards.

The SAVC is part of the International Accreditors Working Group, together with the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC), the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), the American Veterinary Medicines Association (AVMA), and the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE).

Through mutual recognition agreements that the SAVC holds with counterparts in the United Kingdom (with the RCVS) and Australia and New Zealand (with the AVBC), veterinary professionals with qualifications from some of the training institutions in these regions can register in South Africa without having to sit the registration examination.

The SAVC monitors institutions and qualifications to ensure the standards of training, which involves monitoring of the individual subjects as well as through regular visits to the training institution. The basis for the mutual recognition agreements is regular visitations to each other's institutions to monitor the agreed upon training standards.

For more information, please contact: Leonie Westcott, Director of Education at the SAVC: director.education@savc.org.za | Mpho Mojanaga, Director of Registrations at the SAVC: director.registrations@savc.org.za | Dinamarie Stoltz, Director of Legal Affairs at the SAVC: director.legalaffairs@savc.org.za

EXPIRATION DANGERS



Many of us probably have an assortment of old and expired pet medication still close at hand, many years after our pet's illness or procedure. Many of us think that the medication might be useful in the future, or we may be unsure how to responsibly dispose of medication that's past its expiry date.

It makes sense that with the rising cost of living, we try to be conscious of not wasting any excess medication. However, using expired medication could not only be ineffective or less effective, it could also cause an adverse event in your pet.

Expiry dates are there for a reason. Manufacturers study and test their products to be effective and tolerated well by pets for the duration of the shelf life. "After the expiry date has passed, the predictability of how the medication will work is severely impacted due to the unpredictability of the medication after expiry; it's not advisable for pet owners to administer expired treatments to their pets," says Alet Joubert, Veterinary Nurse at Boehringer Ingelheim.

DANGERS OF GIVING YOUR PET EXPIRED TREATMENT

It can be hard to pinpoint the dangers due to every

pet reacting differently to medication, as well as the unpredictability of expired medication. "Common side effects could be gastro-intestinal, such as upset tummies and vomiting. However, the danger that is overlooked, is that expired medication can be less effective or even ineffective. This leaves our pets vulnerable to fatal diseases," says Joubert.

There could also be long-term health complications. If your pet's on chronic medication, their disease won't be properly managed, and this could result in progression of the chronic ailment reducing your pet's quality of life. Mismanagement of any chronic illness could lead to a reduced lifespan.

If we treat a pet that gets sick or injured suddenly with expired medication, it's a gamble on whether we're improving the situation or causing more harm.

Having expired medication in the home also increases the risk of accidental ingestion; keep all medication, expired or not, out of reach of pets.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SHELF LIFE AND EXPIRY DATE

When we look at the shelf life of a product, it indicates the time between manufacture and use that the medication is known to be effective and well tolerated. Medication has been studied and proven to be stable and approved for sale and use during this time. In other words, the shelf life is the time between manufacture and expiry. The expiry date is a warning that the medication or product could start to undergo chemical and physical changes after that date.

If pet owners have administered expired treatment to their pet, it's important that they take them to a vet. "The vet would most likely draw blood to ensure the organs are functioning optimally, and they might even encourage your pet to vomit to get rid of the expired medication in their system if they're symptomatic. Depending on their findings, the vet will recommend the appropriate treatment to

The dangers of giving your pet expired treatment

restore your pet's health," explains Joubert further. Once we've established that administering expired medication should be avoided, we need to know how to dispose of it. The most responsible way to dispose of your pet's expired medication would be to take it to a dispensing institution, such as a pharmacy, where they have the resources to correctly dispose of these medicines.

Treatments are meant to help our pets, but they can do more harm than good if administered incorrectly or are expired. It's imperative to develop a habit of checking expiration dates periodically and disposing of any medication past their prime often. "One should think of the cost comparison of topping up a valid prescription medication versus the bill of treating the consequences that come with giving your pet expired medication," concludes Joubert. 



THE RESCUE EXPO 2022



A brand-new initiative brought together animal rescue and rehabilitation groups in Gauteng at Pirates Sports Club in Greenside on Saturday, the 8th of October. This date was chosen to align with World Animal Day – celebrated annually on the 4th of October (the feast day of Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals).

Organisers The Rescue Collective strongly believe that charities working with each other are stronger together.

The Rescue Collective was started by three people who've spent most of their lives involved in animal welfare – Dean Bush, founder of Greyhound Welfare SA, Jennifer Gerner, former vet nurse for Community Led Animal Welfare (CLAW), and Cheryl Hunter, who's been involved across all aspects of animal welfare for more than 30 years.

The Rescue Expo aims to be an annual event, bringing together as many of the NPOs as possible to shed light on all animal welfare, not just dogs and cats, and to educate the general public on their great work in the community – from

donkeys and garden birds to pet rats and parrots. And for consumers to meet the incredibly dedicated people who've devoted their lives to improve the welfare of the animals among us.

Activities included food stalls, a search and rescue demo, train rides, free dog tags, kids' entertainment, donation drop-offs, spot prizes, fundraisers, adopt-a-pup, microchipping, toys, treats, beds and blankets, various stands, and so much more.



The toll of ANIMAL RESCUE

By Janet Gericke



Research presented at the 2019 annual convention of the American Psychological Association looked at employees and volunteers in rescue centres. It found that they're at risk due to constant exposure to animal cruelty, neglect and abandonment. This exposure can trigger burnout, compassion fatigue, depression and anxiety.

Tracy McQuarrie, the founder of Dogtown South Africa, a rescue, rehabilitation and adoption centre based in Hennops River, answers a few key questions to help us understand what it's like to work in rescue.

Can you describe what it feels like to have a calling to work with rescued and abandoned dogs?

I think once you've been made aware of the animal abandonment issue and the awful cruelty that happens first hand, it's something you just can't walk away from. I used to think my job in TV was

stressful, but in animal rescue, every minute life's hanging in the balance, and you need to find a way to get them to safety and care for them.

It does become an obsession because you never want to let them down. Of course, no one can help or save every abandoned dog or cat. The toll of the loss is always at the forefront of your mind, no matter how many lives you've saved. You always remember the losses far more than the successes. We see on social media that when a dog is first rescued and in a terrible state, people rally and share the story. However, when the animal is healed and happy and it's time to find a loving home, the rallying of support dwindles.

Dogtown has a large team of employees. Have you experienced any problems with mental health issues from the team?

We work hard to make sure that everyone gets support. Every time we get a call, which is almost daily, for a dog in distress, the team heads out. From the minute they leave I'm continuously checking my phone, because I know that if they come back empty-handed, they're all going to be down.

Once they know there's a dog out there that needs help and we can't find it, it's distressing. If they do find the dog, they're given full support to get it the best medical care it needs. I'm very aware that they've crawled through water drains and run up and down highways for hours. They're invested in this dog's life now and we give them all the support they need so they can nurture their rescue back to health.

I often find the dogs that took us the longest to rescue and treat really do work their way into the caregivers' hearts, and even when they head off to a loving home (which is always the end goal), they're a little sad to see their buddy leave.

If so, how have you dealt with depression, anxiety, and compassion fatigue? Even just needing a break from the shelter.

We do weekly workshops with our team and sometimes it's about animal care and sometimes it's about people care. When anyone on the team needs to take time off for mental health, we support that, but, generally speaking, they were from past



Many of those who work with animals do so because it's a calling

traumas more than our work.

If anyone needs a day or two off to recharge, they take it. But I've also found that our set-up at Dogtown and the amount of time the caregivers have to spend with each dog helps them not feel overwhelmed. We never overburden a caregiver with too many animals to care for; it's just not conducive to their work. It's already emotionally hard, and to make it physically overwhelming is asking for a disaster.

What's the mood like after a rescue, particularly one where the dog is found in a bad state?

Everyone does their best to focus on the positive. The dog now has a fighting chance to live a life with loving people. We never take the easy way out; we always believe that the fact that the dog came our way is because they needed us, and we give it our all to make sure they get everything they need. But on the few occasions where we've been just too late and haven't been able to save the dog, the team are devastated. It's almost as if the other dogs in our care also know, because it's always so quiet when we lose a special soul.

After visiting several shelters, were you aware of any issues around mental health in any of those that you met?

The biggest problem is that everyone works so hard for very little, so apart from dealing with the stress of caring for and being responsible for so many animals, most rescuers also have the concern of having to make ends meet with their own families. I think that a double load of stress is what makes burnout and compassion fatigue so prevalent in our work. Also the fact that you can never switch off – you're always ready for whatever comes when you answer your phone.

Some stressors that could result in issues could be pay stress due to lack of incoming donations, inability to provide necessary care, rescued dogs being in such a state that euthanasia is required, and overwork. I don't think people understand the number of calls we all get daily and on social media; people can sometimes be cruel if the rescue centre can't drop everything to take in their dog.

The truth is that rescue centres have limited space,

so to take in one animal, another needs to go out, either through adoption, fostering or euthanasia. Whichever side of the rescue spectrum you're on, you can't win.

If you tell people that you're full, they blast you and want to know why you're here, and they get very mean. We understand they're in panic mode and are worried about their pet, but we can't physically create a space for every call we get.

Then those that do euthanise for space are lambasted daily across social media, but what people aren't realising is that every rescue is receiving about 30-40 calls a day from people wanting to surrender their animals. Our adoption numbers are nowhere near 30 a day, so we hit a wall. People need to stop supporting the sale of animals in pet stores and adopt from their local rescues.

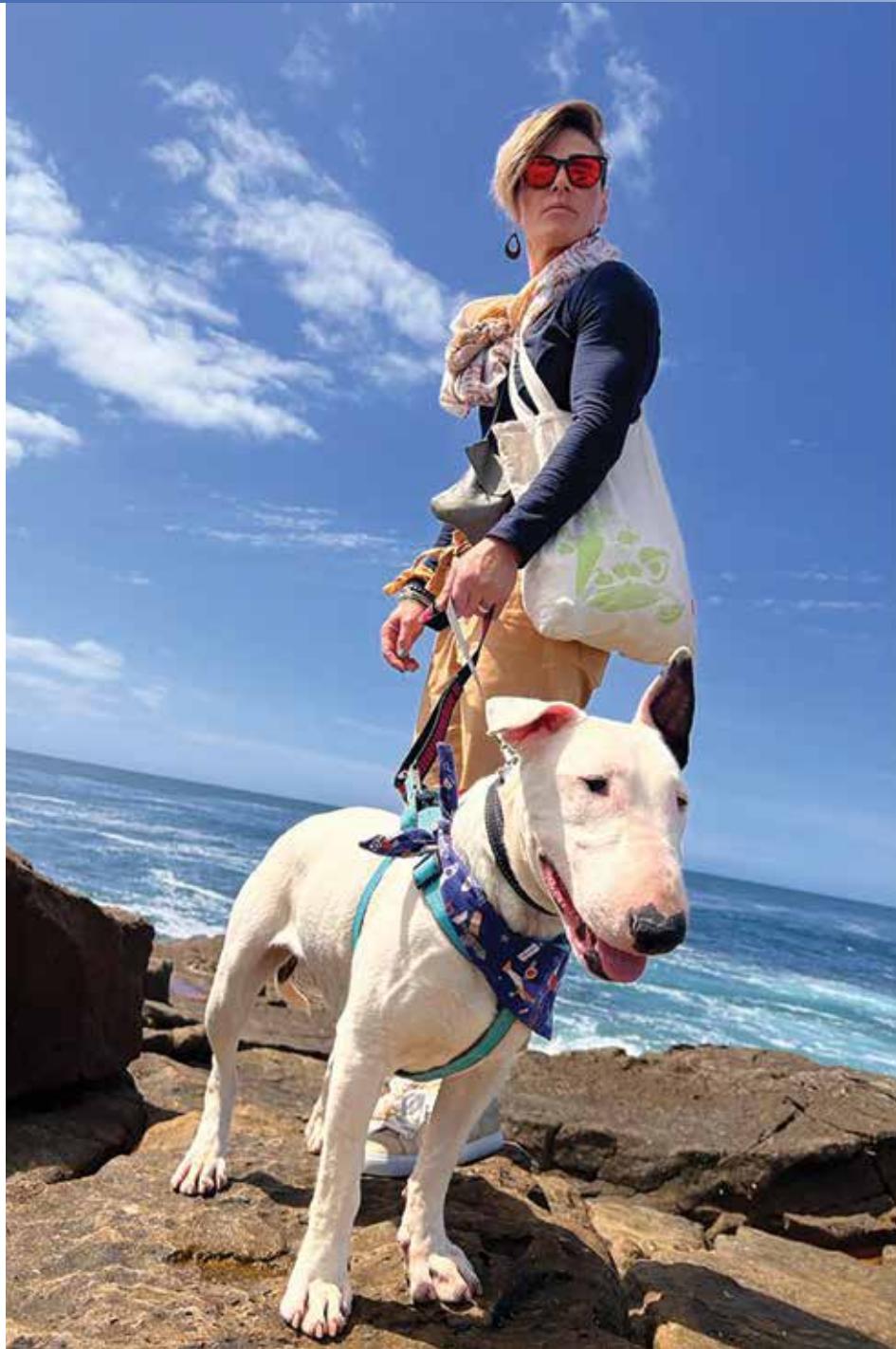
We created the Barkingmad Network to try and assist families with homing their dogs from home to home to take the burden off the shelter and help families responsibly home their dogs with the shelter's support. I believe this is our best option to stop the shelters from becoming overburdened.

At Dogtown, we're at the lowest staff count we've ever been in the past five years as we've sadly seen a considerable decrease in donations. Funding has to be one of the most stressful parts for me, because without funds we can't do anything. Everything we do is fund-related. So, with 25 staff members, we work hard to share the workload and help each other where we can. We need to pull together to make a difference and enrich the lives of abandoned dogs and cats.



Jeeves – from hurricane to hero!

By Louise Brolly



Jeeves had a rough start in the first year of his life. Originally found as a stray by another rescue organisation, his owner was eventually tracked down, but sadly they weren't looking for him and nor did they want him back. He was put up for

adoption and was adopted into a second family.

Sadly, this family complained bitterly about his behaviour and how he wouldn't "listen" and was unruly and uncontrollable. He was then dumped at another organisation with a heavy chain around his neck. We have reason to believe that he was just kept outside all the time and not made to be part of the family at all.

Adora-Bull Terrier Rescue and Rehabilitation then committed to this young chap and brought him to Gauteng where we found him to be the complete opposite. He's smart, funny, and sweet as syrup! We knew with his youth and exuberance we'd need to look for an active home that had children with limitless energy to burn and, most importantly, to be an integral part of the family unit.

A PART OF THE FAMILY

We were extremely excited when we received the application to adopt from the Botha family, expressing the need to give a loving home to a dog after the loss of their previous rescue Bull Terrier, Manny. We all know as animal lovers that no pet can ever be replaced, but Adora-Bull has been witness to the miracle that

a rescue dog's presence can bring to a home where there's been loss and heartache. How a Bull Terrier can bring joy and a (little) mischief and also honour the dogs that have passed this way before them by looking after their new family as best they can.

He's loved, he's wanted, and he's ours. He has a home, a place to belong, and he's filled that hole in our hearts

Jeeves goes for walks on the beach for a little ice cream every so often; he accompanies mom, Mary Lee, to the school to collect his girls or to play with some of the other kids; but most of all, he's brought smiles and love to these youngsters who'll be the next generation of Bull Terrier advocates.

Adora-Bull is grateful to the Bothas and all the other responsible families who've taken a chance on a second-hand Bull Terrier, because they're FIRST-CLASS family members!

OUR BOY JEEVES

By Mary Lee Botha

Every rescue story has the potential to make us believe in the goodness of people again. The second chance that brings us that hope. Jeeves is just that story...

We adopted our Bully, Manny, a couple of years ago, and unfortunately, due to old age and medical issues, we needed to say goodbye to our best friend. Our family was devastated, and we had a hole that we thought couldn't ever be filled.



We've been keen followers of Adora-Bull Terrier Rescue, so we made contact and decided to take the leap and adopt another Bull Terrier for our family, and especially our two daughters who longed for a four-legged companion.

The amount of effort that Adora-Bull made to help us to adopt Jeeves was wonderful. We stay in Mossel Bay, and he was sent to us without hesitation from Gauteng.

When he arrived, it was a shock to the system – he was a whirlwind! We'd forgotten how to deal with a Bullie puppy around. No slippers lying around, no food left untouched... But we soon realised that we didn't need to be qualified for this – we just needed to be present, every day. Jeeves went from unwanted to unbelievable.

He's loved, he's wanted, and he's ours. He has a home, a place to belong, and he's filled that hole in our hearts. He's an amazing dog, one that has the potential to be great, and if he didn't get this second chance, no one would have even known.

Thank you, Adora-Bull, for fighting for the unknown, the nameless, the homeless and the loveless. Your kindness has given one a new place to belong, by our side, our companion and friend.



FINDING FLYNN

By Debbie Davies – KAWS



Knysna Animal Welfare (KAWS) is an NPO situated in the heart of the beautiful Garden Route in the very picturesque town of Knysna. KAWS is the designated municipal pound and is the equivalent of the SPCAs in other towns. It was started over 70 years ago, but, sadly, funding from the municipality was last received in 2020.

Knysna has a mix of the very wealthy, middle class and then extreme poverty. We believe in working together with other rescue groups that have taken on the daunting task of going into

townships and far-reaching, often hidden, outlying areas where the shocking abuse of animals is rampant.

GIVEN AWAY!

In August I was contacted by a wonderful woman and animal saviour, Lucy Morel of CX Township Animals, about a young Border Collie that was found tied up in a chicken coup. Lucy and her team supply rubber kennels for animals that have no shelter from the extreme weather conditions. Amanda Gericke often collects the rubber kennels and

delivers them to the areas surrounding the Rhenendal farming region and the outlying township. She was told by a man working for her that he had his own dog tied up. Upon going out to the property, Amanda was absolutely horrified to see that it was a thoroughbred Border Collie of around 6 – 7 months old.

On further questioning it was discovered that this little dog had been given to the man by a "madam" who lives in Plettenburg Bay because she couldn't be bothered to look after him. At no stage did she check that the man had the means, or indeed the knowledge, of owning this very demanding, intelligent breed. He didn't want to give the dog up – it was an extremely heart-breaking situation for the team to see this obviously very neglected dog tied up on a short rope inside a filthy chicken coup. These determined ladies, together with dog trainer Bianca Jacobs, made it their mission to rescue this boy.

Lucy contacted me on the 20th of August to say they'd secured him and asked if it would be possible for me to find a foster home. Having previously owned two Border Collies, we're very familiar with their needs, so we didn't hesitate in agreeing to taking him in.

A TIME TO HEAL

Flynn arrived at the shelter on Monday the 22nd of August, and he was immediately assessed by

Given away by his previous owner,
this Border Collie is one of the lucky ones

our KAWS vet. He was in a truly pitiful state and weighed only 7kgs; his spine and ribs were clearly visible under his fur. The first task for us was to introduce him to our dog pack and the four cats, which went very smoothly. He then needed to pick up much-needed weight before going in for his neutering. Of course we adopted him – he's been through so much in his short life.

Four months later, Flynn has almost doubled in weight, although he'll always be a very small-framed little Border Collie. He goes for training with Bianca on a Monday and, as expected, he's a very smart boy. His favourite things are his daily walks, his new Dad and, of course, his tennis ball. His security blanket is his best friend, and Bella the Rottweiler has been his best teacher through all of his journey.

There were so many new things he had to get used to – walking on grass, certain sights and sounds – and the ceiling fan still terrifies him. He continues to grow in both weight and confidence, and removing him from his previous environment has given him the opportunity to develop his natural character, which is wonderful to see.

OUR MISSION

We're so grateful to all the animal angels that were part of his incredible rescue journey. Our mission is to raise awareness of the risk of giving your animals away to people without checking exactly where they're going and if the person has both the



financial means and genuine love and caring for the animal. The risk to the animals is very real and in most situations is far from ideal. It's much kinder to hand them in at the local shelter where they'll be assessed and hopefully find a home. 



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FOR THE LOVE OF DOGS

By Linda Poultney



In the shadow of the Northern Drakensberg lies a safe haven for the unwanted, sick, injured or abused dogs of the Hoedspruit community. Jennifer Gorrie has dedicated all of her available time and resources to help these unfortunate dogs since 2012 and has built up a lovely shelter with two big camps for the dogs in her care.

Hoedspruit Paws is situated at 24 Degrees South – off the R531 between Hoedspruit and Kampersrus – in the Limpopo province. Jen makes good use of the space available to host dog walking events on most Sundays. Dog-loving individuals and families habitually join Jen and her pack for a lovely walk in the Lowveld bush, bringing with them gifts of dog food, toys, shampoo or treats. She also runs many other successful fundraising initiatives – such as a recent Women's Month Raffle Competition – to raise funds for the Paws pack.

CARING FOR THOSE WITHOUT A VOICE

In October, Hoedspruit Paws had over 30 dogs in their care, with 29 of those lucky pups staying in the house with Jen and her family! Dog beds are provided for them, but they happily make themselves welcome on the family's couches and beds. The camps are mainly used to keep new dogs and puppies, as well as aggressive dogs, separated from the rest of the pack to avoid disease transmission or fights and related injuries. "They have a huge

"Dogs are so forgiving and have so much love to give."

back yard and then a verandah covered area on one side of the house, and on the other side they have access to the pool," Jen said when asked about the living arrangements for the Paws pups. "I like to think of it as a home away from home for them."

Jen diligently campaigns for the voiceless dogs of the Hoedspruit area – educating people on responsible dog ownership. She's been known to sit on stakeouts for days to try to get a scared stray to trust her enough to take it in for veterinary care and to find it a new home. Through Hoedspruit Paws, she's helped hundreds of dogs with veterinary treatments, rehoming, sterilisations and vaccinations. Every Hoedspruit resident knows that they can count on Jen to assist when there's a dog in need, be it one that's escaped a yard, a pregnant female that has to be spayed once the puppies have been weaned and homed, a stray that's been hit by a car, or the removal of abused dogs from bad situations.

Hoedspruit Paws relies solely on money generated from adoption fees and donations from kindhearted individuals, companies and organisations to keep the dogs healthy and happy. A 20kg bag of dog food is no match for the Hoedspruit Paws pack. They work through that in a day! Veterinary care – vaccinations, treatments, parasite prevention, chronic medications, sterilisations and treatments – and cleaning products, as well as transport fuel and phone calls quickly amount to an astronomical figure.

When asked about what the most rewarding aspect is of running a dog shelter, Jen said, "The most rewarding part is getting in a sick, scared, mangy, abused, skinny dog that's terrified and watching it change day by day; fattening up, learning to trust. Seeing that tail come out from between their legs and start to wag, that glint in their eyes. They're so forgiving and have so much love to give."

Contact Hoedspruit Paws on hoedspruitpaws@gmail.com or Mobile, 078 431 3161.



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Picture Perfect



You know that your best friend is the cutest dog ever, but when you reach for the camera and try to capture that special look, the picture never seems to come out quite right.

Getting great pictures of your dog is more about understanding him or her than owning expensive camera equipment. You can achieve great results with most point-and-shoot cameras as well as high-quality phone cameras.

TURN OFF THE FLASH?

The bright light of a flash can startle, and frightened dogs are never going to look good in photos. The flash also tends to make eyes glow unnaturally and create shiny spots on the fur.

GO OUTSIDE!

Even professionals with expensive equipment have trouble getting great pictures indoors. Try to find an area with open shade or diffused bright light. A back patio that isn't facing the sun can be a great spot, and so can a wide expanse of open shade, like a garden with trees. Avoid any area with a mix of sun and shade. It's also best to photograph before 11am or after 3pm, when the sun isn't at its brightest.

Our tips to turn your dog into a supermodel

If for some reason it's impossible to go outside, try to shoot near a window or sliding glass door to let in a lot of natural light.

HOLD YOUR CAMERA BELOW YOUR FACE

The reason: Dogs like to make eye contact. They avoid it with other dogs, where it can be threatening, but they're used to looking at humans to read their thoughts. They'll think this black thing in front of your face is scary and become intimidated. Try practising, but if you compose the picture at eye level and then drop the camera to your neck or below, you'll get better results.

CAPTURE EXPRESSIONS

Don't worry about technical perfection; focus on getting a cute, funny, dramatic, or awe-inspiring shot. Use your voice as a tool. We all have ways that we talk to our dogs at home that we might not use in public. Use your happy voice to make your dog happy.

Put your dog in a situation he'll love – with a favourite toy or food, or on the beach. Have the dog take part in an activity he enjoys. Think about what puts him in the mood you're trying to capture.

Take a tip from the pros and motivate your dog. What makes him happiest? A treat, a tennis ball, or a cuddle after every shot can work wonders to keep them interested. 



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What to do in an EMERGENCY

It's the middle of the night and my dog is sick. What must I do?

There are many dog emergencies and many ways of dealing with them. Your first port of call MUST be your vet or his emergency service, and this advice in no way replaces this. These tips are to help you prior to getting there and for readers who don't have access to a veterinary emergency centre.

The common emergencies vets see are (in no order of importance or frequency) –

- Diarrhoea
- Vomiting
- Lameness
- Fighting dogs – trauma lacerations
- Motor car accidents – trauma-fractures, concussion, bruising

Let's start with vomiting and diarrhoea. The dangers are dehydration. You can do a rough check for dehydration by pinching the skin and lifting it up. If the skin stays tented or goes back to normal slowly, the dog may be dehydrated. If the skin snaps back with good elasticity, your dog is not dehydrated. Do this in your healthy dog so that you get a feeling as to what's normal.

A golden rule for vomiting dogs is to stop feeding them and limit their water for 12 hours or until you get to a vet. Limited water doesn't mean less water. It means that you give them water in small frequent amounts. After 12 hours you can offer them a small

amount of plain boiled chicken and rice or one of the prescription diets for gastroenteritis. You've bought a small amount of time – now take the dog to a vet.

DEALING WITH LAMENESS

Lameness means that the dog is limping on one or more of its legs. This may be due to pain from an injury or an abnormality such as Hip dysplasia or many other orthopaedic problems. Your dog needs help and pain medication. Don't self-medicate. Many things that are suitable for humans are NOT suitable for dogs. What does work is what the physiotherapists recommend. RICE stands for Rest, Ice, Compression, and Elevation. You can Rest your dog. Don't walk the dog. You can ICE the affected leg. Take ice from the freezer and place it in a dish cloth and use this as a cold pack. You can compress the affected leg by using a LIGHT bandage. Elevation is more difficult, but try to get your dog to lie down and remain quiet. You do need a vet to make a diagnosis and institute effective therapy. RICE buys you a bit of time.

EMERGENCY MEASURES

Fighting and car accidents will be dealt with together for brevity. If the injuries are severe, get to an emergency centre IMMEDIATELY. The

following advice will just buy you a bit of time.

If your dog has a large laceration, the following will help. Firstly, make sure that you don't get bitten. Use a towel to cover the dog's head or tape to carefully close the mouth for safety's sake, then compress the wound using a big wad of cotton wool. This will also form a good matrix to stop bleeding. Once the cotton wool compress is in place, you can take a sock and cut the toe off and roll this onto the affected leg to secure the compress. This makes a quick, handy home "bandage".

Broken limbs should also be secured with light compression to immobilise them. Once again, a roll of cotton wool held in place by a sock with the toe cut off to make a tube-like dressing.

There are many emergencies and many ways of dealing with them. The above tips don't replace veterinary help; they just buy you some time. 



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Chemical-free Yes ✓

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Fixing method Sticks to the collar

Operated by Rechargeable battery

Colors ● ○ ■ □ ■ ■



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Chemical-free Yes ✓

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Fixing method Plug Into a power socket

Operated by 110-230 V

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Pet food should be purchased from a reputable retailer or stockist who adheres to the same quality and food safety standards as The Pet Food Industry Association of Southern Africa (PFI) and Lionel's Choice Holistic Nutrition.

Storing and transporting your pet's food safely

You should always store dry pet food in a cool, dark place out of direct sunlight. To maintain freshness, reseal the bags once they've been opened. If the bags don't have a resealable feature, it's recommended that the food be placed in an airtight container.

The right storage maintains a consistent temperature and level of moisture in the food. Food should be kept in a cool, dry place at home that doesn't get too hot or damp and is away from direct sunlight.

Transporting food

Avoid transporting the food in an open vehicle or letting it stand in a hot vehicle.

When you place a bag of food from a hot car onto a cold floor, condensation may develop inside the bag, causing the food to potentially mould.



Unsealed food may spoil

You should never leave or store food unsealed. This is because oxygen causes fat in the food to turn rancid, ruining the flavour and, in the worst-case scenario, making the dog ill. Additionally, it attracts insects and vermin that can contaminate the food.

Keep the food storage container clean

One of the most common mistakes is to fill your dog food container back up before it's been completely emptied out. The problem with this is that leftover fat and crumbs from dog food can build up inside the container over time and, again, start to go bad.

Don't add new food until you've used up the existing food. When the bin is empty, wash it out, let it dry thoroughly, and add fresh food.

Food and water bowls

It may seem like a lot of work at first, but get in the habit of washing your dog's food and water bowls and measuring cups with soap and hot water after every meal, just like we do with our own utensils.

Leaving pet food bowls unwashed can cause bacteria, mould, mildew, and other contaminants to develop.

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NOT ALL WHO WANDER ARE LOST...

By Alicia Thomas – SPCA Louis Trichardt



This has been one of the most touching adoption stories I have experienced thus far and have the privilege of telling, as this story has such a happy ending!

Sometimes an awful lot of things have to go terribly wrong for one to end up in exactly the right place. Well, I believe this to be true for our dearest, darling Maud!

Maud's journey to her happiest-ever-after began the

day she joined our SPCA family as a stray early in June. She was shy and timid, yet after spending just a few minutes with her, I knew I'd have her heart and total trust in no time. And so, it was too...

Maud, like so many before her and, I guess, like so many still to come, crept into my heart with all four paws. It also wasn't long after that her photos and profile on our Facebook page grabbed the attention of prospective adoptees.

Within the next week home inspections were approved and our Maudie was Randburg-bound to her new home and human mom. Incredibly, we were able to arrange transport for her with the most amazing animal angels – a couple well-known to our SPCA and very dear to our hearts too. They'd adopted from our SPCA quite a few times before, and when they heard about Maud needing to get to Randburg, they most kindly offered to transport our precious cargo all the way

from Louis Trichardt. We were over the moon knowing Maud would be home by nightfall.

DISASTER STRIKES

But then, things changed within the blink of an eye. It was just past 5pm when I received a frantic call from the couple with the chilling news – Maud was missing!

The couple had decided to stop at the Caltex Petropark, about 30km south of Polokwane, for a

The miracle of Maud – lost, found and finding her forever home

quick break and to let Maud relieve herself as well. She was clearly not used to travelling and was almost paralysed with anxiety, and the couple tried their very best to console her with their soft touch and kind words. However, they were strangers to Maud, and she must've seen the opportunity and when her paws touched the grass, she bolted, harness and lead still intact.

The chase was on, and Maud had no intention of stopping; the couple ran after her into the bush alongside the busy N1, making sure she didn't change direction towards the traffic. They searched for an hour, calling for her, but to no avail. She was exactly the same colour as the long, dry grass and the sun was about to set too. It was a lost cause – she didn't know them and she wasn't going to make herself seen.

THE SEARCH BEGINS

As soon as I received the call I contacted our Inspector, Lawrence Khodobo, and told him that I just had to go and find her. She'd bonded with me; she knew me best and would only come if I called. She wouldn't allow a stranger close to her while she was in this frantic state. Lawrence didn't hesitate for a second, and we set off. By 6pm we were on our way to Polokwane armed with torches, blankets and treats.

During the 130km trip the networking started. What an amazing SPCA team we have – everyone was making calls, attempting to get more information about the property where Maud was hiding and trying to find anyone willing to come and help search for her. Limpopo K9 Academy in Polokwane was the first to answer our desperate plea for help, and Linda and Jenny were on their way with Teddy, their tracker dog, along with other members of their club. All this time the amazing animal angels who'd agreed to transport Maud were still on the scene, searching for her in the dark.

Once Teddy (The Limpopo K9 Tracker Dog) sniffed

Maud's blanket and got her scent, he was off into the dark bush and the rest of us spread out, searching high and low, calling her name. At about 11pm we called it a day, and I left my shirt in the bush with some treats, hoping she'd get my scent and stay in the vicinity. The search area that we covered that night was vast, and we knew she could have run even further, so we decided to return the following day in daylight to continue our search.

Early the next morning we returned to the scene and the search was resumed. I was joined by my amazing husband once again and my colleague Lesley Gaigher. Our whole SPCA team was still busy networking and had been able to get hold of the local Farm Watch Group, and everyone in the area was on the lookout for Maud.

CATCHING A GLIMPSE

We'd spent roughly two hours searching when I finally got the first glimpse of her – my heart wanted to leap out of my chest, but my excitement was short-lived. Maud was still so traumatised that it seemed she didn't recognise me, but there were moments of hesitation, and this first sighting only fuelled our determination and hope. She was still THERE, and she was OK!

The search and game of tag continued for hours on end – we covered many kilometres, and I was already planning to return the next day, leaving food and a blanket for her second night alone in the bush, but I decided to do one more circle of the area in which she was last spotted.

After about two hours of not seeing her again, I saw a dark speck in the shade of a tree. I inched closer very slowly and called out her name, hoping she'd recognise my voice and that it would calm her down. I was also armed with a bucket full of her favourite treats. I could see a slight wag of her tail and relief washed over me; she knew it was me and she now recognised me!



LITTLE BY LITTLE

The dark speck moved, and my worst fear was that she'd run and disappear into the bush once again, so when she got up to run, I immediately sat down and softly called her name. Then she'd lie down and stare directly at me AND I'd then get up and walk five metres closer in her direction. She'd then jump up once more and get ready to run again, so I'd then sit down again and so would she.

This carried on for about 50 metres, until I was finally only five metres away from her. I sat down just before she wanted to flee into the grass again; I tempted her with a treat and called her name over and over again.

Finally, it happened... Maud actually crawled the last five metres straight into my arms and onto my lap!

I'll never be able to describe the feeling of elation, relief, thankfulness and raw emotion I felt in that moment, that moment I felt her licking my face and having her back safe and sound in my arms.

FINDING A FOREVER HOME

Maud was back with us again, safe and sound, and just ecstatic to see her kennel mates again. Over the next few days, we received the news that Maud's adoption was being retracted, but we completely understood that her potential human mom had also experienced the same trauma and stress that we had and didn't question her decision at all. I'm a firm believer that everything happens for a reason, and somehow my heart was at peace for our dearest Maud – I think we were all just so happy to have her home safe and sound.

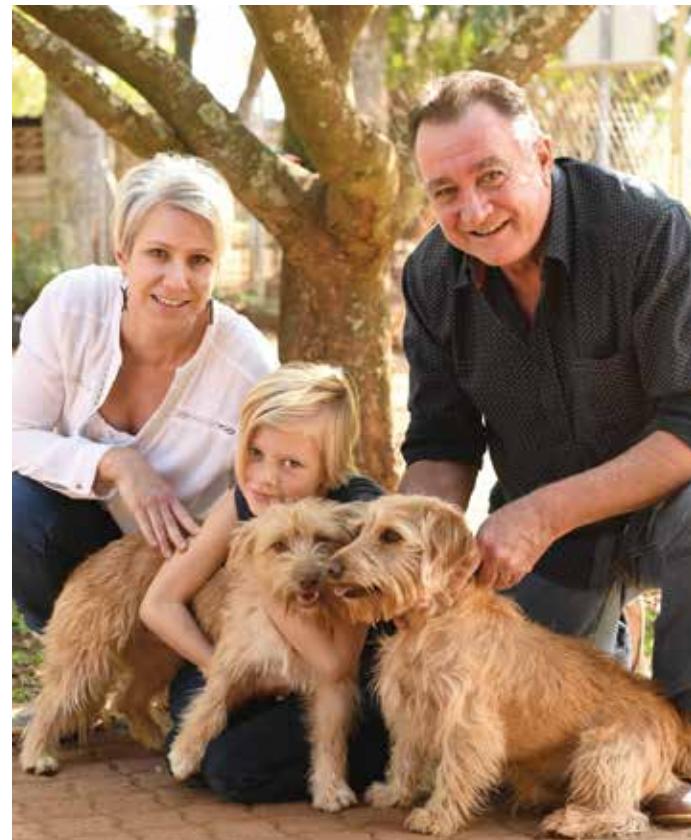
Then it happened once again – fate stepped in, and without us even re-posting her on Facebook, we were contacted by another family, also in Randburg, wanting to adopt our darling girl. Obviously, we had some concerns with her travelling again, but this family was determined and willing to make the

nearly 900km round trip to Louis Trichardt and back with their boy, Scout, whom they'd adopted just over a year ago from HAWS in Hartbeespoort Dam.

MAUD HAS HER FAMILY AT LAST

When the Poultney family arrived the following Saturday with their dear boy, all our concerns and apprehensions were put to rest. This was clearly an adoption story written in the stars. Scout and Maud hit it off immediately, and with the tender love and patience of the family, she slotted in just perfectly.

We couldn't have dreamt of a happier-ever-after for our marvellous girl. And yes, sometimes an awful lot of things have to go terribly wrong for one to end up in exactly the right place. Our Maudie is in exactly the right place right now – with the Poultneys, her forever family! 





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DOGGY DIABETES



The growing diabetes epidemic isn't limited to people – diabetes mellitus is increasing among dogs as well. Fortunately, treatment has made huge strides in recent years, and as a result, dogs with diabetes are living longer, healthier lives. Diabetes is one of the most common endocrine (hormonal) diseases in dogs. It is, in effect, a deficiency of insulin, as the pancreas is no longer producing it. Overweight, older animals are more often affected, and females seem to have a higher incidence.

Affected dogs may show signs of excessive thirst, frequent urination and insatiable appetites while losing large amounts of weight. As it progresses, dogs may lose their appetite and may develop cataracts in the eyes.

Diabetes is diagnosed by a veterinarian. Your veterinarian will usually do some specific and general blood tests and urine tests.

There'll be elevated levels of glucose in the blood (hyperglycaemia) as insulin is responsible for moving glucose out of general circulation into the

cells to be used as energy. Because cells are unable to utilise the glucose, the body will break down fat for energy, and this can lead to excess ketones in the circulation. These ketones are toxic and, if left untreated, can build up and cause a severe, life-threatening condition called diabetic ketoacidosis. Dogs with diabetes have elevated levels of glucose in the urine, which increases the chance of them developing urinary tract infections. The liver of a dog with diabetes may also be affected, leading to fatty liver disease.

Cataract formation and damage to the retinas caused by excess glucose in the blood may lead to blindness. The kidneys and blood vessels may also become damaged if diabetes is inadequately controlled.

TREATMENT

The aim of treatment is to get the blood glucose back into reference range by injecting the dog twice daily with insulin. There's usually a period of trial and error before the right dose can be determined, and over the lifetime of your dog the dose of insulin may have to be adjusted from time to time.

Bladder infection, if present, needs to be treated. Since some of these bladder infections don't cause symptoms, it's important to check the urine for these silent infections. If left untreated, they may affect the kidneys.

Apart from drug therapy, diet needs to be controlled with a strict feeding schedule using a prescription diet. Regular exercise also helps control blood glucose.

INSULIN SIDE EFFECTS

Insulin therapy, although necessary, comes with its own risks, and owners need to be well informed. Sometimes after inappropriate insulin therapy, or if the dog becomes better, the patient may become hypoglycaemic (low blood sugar). In hypoglycaemia, a range of symptoms may be

Canine Diabetes Mellitus is a common condition affecting dogs

present, including restlessness, lethargy, confusion, weakness, wobbliness, lack of coordination, shivering, sweaty paws, seizures or coma. These pets require immediate treatment of oral glucose (or IV glucose if they're not swallowing), followed by a meal if and when they're able and willing to eat.

Too little insulin causes hyperglycaemia and ketoacidosis, which qualifies as an emergency and which can be a life-threatening condition requiring hospitalisation, intravenous fluids and correction of blood abnormalities. Symptoms include drinking lots of water, urinating frequently or copiously, loss of appetite, weakness, vomiting, lethargy, ketones in the urine, or – in the most serious situation – coma.

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS...

The good news is that diabetes is manageable in the

majority of dogs with this disease. Although daily care can seem burdensome at first, once you get used to it, it becomes a routine part of the day. Owners don't need to worry that injections and blood tests will take over their lives. Almost all diabetic dogs can be treated at home and can enjoy a good life. A diagnosis of diabetes offers a challenge, but it's a challenge that can be successfully met.

Where the condition is well controlled with treatment, diet and lifestyle changes, affected dogs can live long and healthy lives. 



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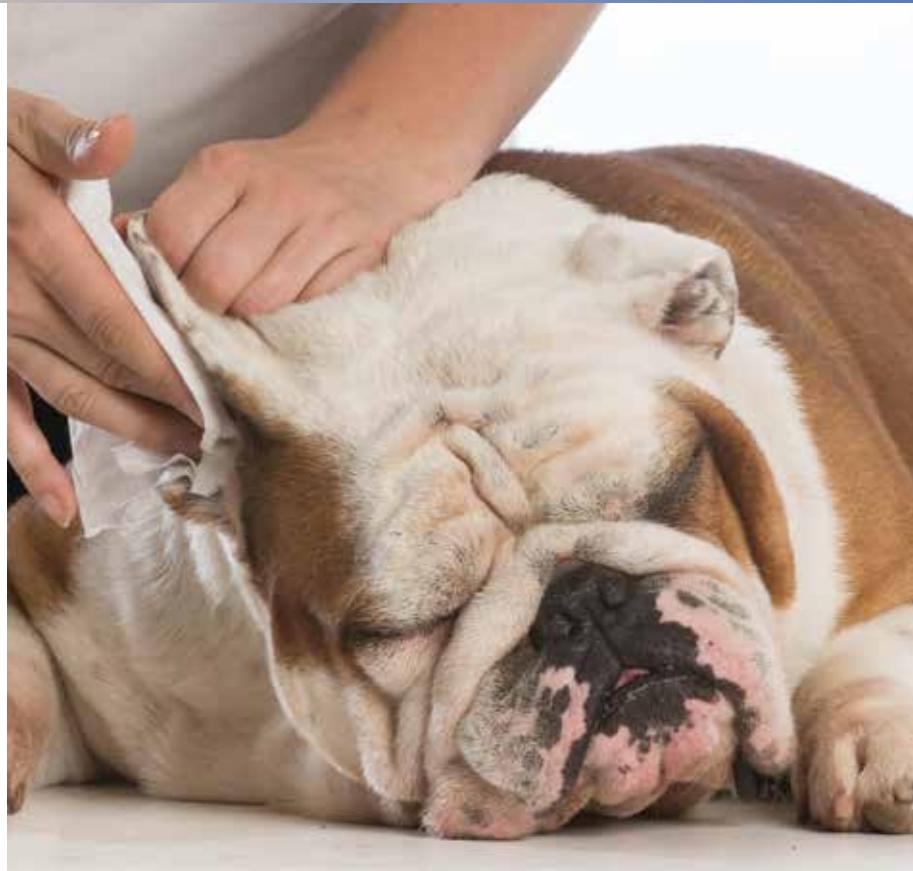
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EAR HYGIENE IN DOGS

By Dr Larry Kraitzick, Bruma Lake Veterinary Clinic



The anatomy of a dog's ear canal is very different from that of a human. A human's ear canal is a horizontal path leading directly to the eardrum, whereas a dog's ear canal is "L"-shaped. There's an outer, vertical canal which leads into a horizontal canal and then to the eardrum.

This L-shaped design of a dog's ear canal prevents fluid from draining effectively out of the ear openings and can cause a build-up of ear wax at the bottom of the canal. This excess debris can attract moisture, causing increased growth of the yeast and bacteria that normally live in the ear canal and lead to infection.

Certain breeds are more susceptible to maceration and infection in the ears, such as:

- Dog breeds with floppy ears that cover the opening of the ear, e.g. Basset Hounds, Cocker Spaniels, Labradors, etc.
- Dog breeds with ear canals that are lined with hair, e.g. Maltese Poodles, Labradoodles, Chinese Shih Tzu, etc.
- Dog breeds who have a narrow ear canal, e.g. Chinese Shar-Pei, Bulldogs and Chow Chows, etc.
- Dog breeds more prone to allergic disorders (atopy), e.g. West Highland White Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, etc.

EAR INFECTIONS

If your dog has an ear infection, it's most likely to be itchy to some degree, so scratching or pawing at the ears, head and neck is often one of the first visible signs that you may notice. Other symptoms to look out for include –

- Frequent shaking of the head.
- A bad odour coming from the ears.
- Discharge in the ears that can be white, black, brown, green, or yellow in colour.
- Swelling or redness in the ear canals.
- Yelping from pain when the ears are touched.
- In severe cases, bleeding from the ears.

HOME INSPECTION AND CLEANING

Regular inspection and care of your dog's ears can go a long way towards helping prevent ear infections. Cleaning the ears at home is relatively simple if you follow a few guidelines. Taking your dog for a walk before you clean their ears works off some excess energy and can make the ear cleaning quite a bit easier.

STEP ONE: Get the necessary items you need to clean your dog's ears ready in one spot before you start. Call your dog over and offer a treat. It's easiest to sit on the floor with your dog between your legs. Then apply an ear-cleaning solution that your veterinarian recommends. Gently lift the outer flap of the ear upwards and squeeze the



By Dr Larry Kraitzick
BVSc MRCVS
Facebook: @drlarrykrait

How to keep your dog's floofers healthy!

prescribed amount of the cleanser into the ear canal. To avoid contamination of bacteria or yeast, avoid touching your dog's ear with the nozzle of the bottle.

STEP TWO: Still holding the ear flap up, gently massage the base of the ear for about 30 seconds. This will allow the cleanser to enter into the ear canal.

STEP THREE: Now let your dog shake his head and then wipe away any of the remaining

solution in the outer canal with soft, dry gauze or tissue. Do not use cotton buds and don't clean too far into the ear so as to cause damage or push the debris further down into the ear.

EAR CARE

You shouldn't clean your dog's ears too often, because this can cause irritation. Don't use anything to clean your dog's ears except a cleaning solution recommended by your veterinarian. If you're

unsure about how often you should be cleaning your dog's ears, or how to clean them, consult your veterinarian.

Cleaning the ears at home will not treat an ear infection. Your dog needs to get medical attention as soon as possible. Untreated ear infections can be extremely serious, and you need to contact your veterinarian if you suspect your dog has an ear infection. 



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Preparing your dog for flying



You're a responsible dog parent and are taking your fur kid with you when you move or emigrate. There are several things you can do before you even leave the ground to make the trip less stressful for both you and your canine family member.

First and foremost, your dog should be comfortable in whatever crate or carrier you'll use for the trip, and you need to make sure your dog sees it as a safe space during travel. There'll be strangers around handling your dog's crate too, so it will be helpful to socialise your dog and ensure that it's comfortable with unknown situations and noises. Planes and airports can be noisy, and if your dog is used to loud sounds, then it'll be calmer and more relaxed on the flight.

The only way to ensure your dog is happy in a crate is through patience and repetition. Start slowly by making the crate a happy place. Feed your dog in the crate, scatter treats in it or place your dog's favourite toy in the crate, so that they can discover them when they explore the space on their own. Slowly increase time as your dog gets comfortable in its space. You want to train your dog to settle in its crate/carrier for the length of the flight, plus two

to four hours to allow for boarding, security checks, etc.

Monitor your dog's food intake before flying. You don't want them to be hungry during the flight, but you should restrict their food intake somewhat, as travelling with a full stomach may cause your pet to feel uncomfortable during its flight. A small meal may be offered about six hours prior to their flight. For flights, a crate is required to have a water dish attached, as it's refilled by airline staff prior to take-off and after arrival.

Don't leave food, treats or toys inside the crate, as this could pose a choking hazard. Make sure your dog gets plenty of exercise to release its excess energy before travelling. It's best for a dog to be as tired as possible before flying.

For more information on preparing your dog for its journey, reach out to one of our knowledgeable Animal Travel Services consultants on 021 934 9556/7 or email info@animal-travel.com

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SHIBA INU (-ology)

Cute, cat-like and spirited – meet the Shiba Inu



The beautiful Shiba Inu is a breed of dog that originated in Japan some 2,300 years ago for small game and ground bird hunting.

They're one of Japan's six native breeds, which includes the Akita, Kishu, Hokkaido, Kai, Shikoku and Shiba Inu, which is the smallest and possibly the most ancient of the six spitz dogs. They're not often seen in South Africa.

PERSONALITY

Shiba Inu dogs have strong, confident personalities, coupled with a laid-back friendliness around their families. With strangers and other dogs, they can be somewhat aloof, which is why it's often said that they resemble cats in terms of personality. They can be very independent and stubborn, so training and puppy socialisation is usually non-negotiable if you want to share your home and heart with a Shiba.

The Shiba Inu doesn't bark or

whine, but they rather have a unique vocalisation that's known as the "Shiba Inu scream". This breed has a bold, confident personality, and the Japanese have three words to describe the breed's mental traits: kaani-i (spirited boldness), ryosei (good nature), and soboku (alertness). Combined, these traits make up the interesting, intelligent, and strong-willed temperament of this breed.

LIVING WITH A SHIBA INU

A Shiba will happily adjust to life in a townhouse, residential property or plot – just as long as they can sleep inside and get lots of attention and exercise. They do need a secure, fenced-in garden to enjoy off-leash play since they can be escape artists.

If properly socialised, and if children are taught to be calm and respectful around all dogs, Shiba Inus are wonderful family dogs and are good with children. In terms of cats, keep in mind that the Shiba Inu was bred to

be a hunting dog. However, if your cat and Shiba were raised together and both are properly socialised, they might get along just fine.

Shiba Inus are well adapted to cold climates, but during hot summer months they'll need to be protected from overheating, keeping exercise and training to the cooler parts of the day.

HEALTH

Shiba Inus are generally healthy, but like all breeds, they're prone to certain health conditions, including hip and elbow dysplasia, glaucoma, and hypothyroidism. They can be inclined towards being overweight. They have wonderfully long lifespans that range from 13 to 16 years. 

Acknowledgements – dogtime.com and b.chewy.com





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LUXURY SHAMPOO CHOICES FROM VETS OWN

If you want to spoil your dog with a luxurious bath, Vets Own have an exclusive range of luxury shampoos, specifically formulated at appropriate pH levels for dogs. Natural, unique ingredients gently care for the needs of different coats, breeds and conditions. Options include the Hair Relaxant Shampoo with Jasmine Oil and Oatmeal, a coat-softening and moisturising shampoo which has a relaxing effect on the wiry and bristly hair of certain breeds; and their Zen Calming Shampoo with Chamomile Extract and Lavender Oil, a rich, calming and moisturising shampoo for dogs who are "highly strung", scared of water and find the bathing experience stressful. Other options include Rich Conditioning, Detangling, Sensitive, Tearless Puppy and Kit-tens, Repellent, Super Sensitive, and Skin Soothing shampoos. Available at pet, vet and online stores countrywide. Visit www.rucenta.co.za for more information.



KEEPING BREATH FRESH

Vet's Best Breath Freshener is a simple way to freshen breath and reduce plaque and tartar for your dog or puppy in between dental visits. The vet-formulated water additive is a powerful balance of natural and effective ingredients like Grape Seed Extract, Thyme Oil and Neem Oil. Simply add the recommended amount to your dog or puppy's water bowl daily, or as needed. Available at pet and online stores countrywide. Visit www.petbrands.co.za for more information.

ROSEWOOD ECO-FRIENDLY DOG TOYS

Many of us are looking to lead greener lifestyles, and every little bit helps. Eco-friendly dog toys are produced in ways that have reduced, minimised, or caused no harm to ecosystems or the environment. Rosewood's Eco-friendly toys are made from recycled bottles for both the outer fabric and inner stuffing, and therefore produced without exhausting natural resources. As far as your dog and the planet are concerned, it's all a big win.



Your dog can enjoy a super-soft and perfect cuddle-up toy that also has a squeaker for fun playtime while providing a perfect solution for you – the eco-conscious consumer! Available through leading vet, pet and online stores nationwide. Visit www.mcmac.co.za for more information.

GIVE YOUR DOG A MARLTONS FESTIVE SEASON

New SA Favourites semi-moist treat range from Marltons Pet Care, a proudly South African company since 1945. Celebrating South African flavours and heritage, treat your dog to some of the best braai flavours! This summer when you light the coals, remember your dog loves boerewors too! Available in stores countrywide in Boerewors, Lamb Chop, and Oxtail Potjie flavour.



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REWARD TIME WITH JOCK HAPPY HAPPIES

Introducing the new JOCK Happy Happies dog biscuits! These big and small happies are the perfect addition to their nutritious JOCK dog food range. Available in three truly South African flavours: Braavleis, Boerewors & Biltong. Coming soon to a store near you! Visit www.jockdogfood.co.za for more information.

WIN! One lucky reader will win a 500g bag of Happy Happies dog treats. Send your details to marketing@caninezonesa.co.za by the 10th of January 2023 with JOCK in the subject line.



ROSEWOOD TOUGH TOYS

The Rosewood Meaty Tough Toys combine rubber and nylon, which will satisfy your dog's natural instinct to gnaw, making these the perfect toy for powerful chewers. Long-lasting delicious flavours make them irresistible to dogs, while helping to keep teeth clean and prevent tartar build-up. Available through leading vet, pet and online stores nationwide. Visit www.mcmac.co.za for more information.



Looking for Love

A nation's worth of canine cuteness is yours to take in...right now!

DOGTOWN SA (GAUTENG)



ALBERT — My favourite things are handing out kisses and going for walks. I'm looking for a family who can love me and treat me like the little gem I am. Those who know me say that I'm a friendly little guy who loves everybody. An important thing to know about me is that I love other dogs and would love to have some fur-siblings in my new home.



IRIS — My favourite thing in the whole world is playing and playing some more. I'm a young girl who loves to play with other dogs, humans, even a cat if they're up for it. My foster parents say that I'm the happiest, friendliest and smartest dog they have fostered, and there have been many. The most important thing to know about me is that I'm still a youngster with lots of love and cuddles to share.



JENNA — My favourite things are tummy tickles and treats. I'm looking for non-stop cuddles in a human companion. Lots of people around here say I'm a couch potato, and it's true — I love watching TV with my human. The most important thing to know about me is that I get very attached to my humans. If you like living life at a slower pace, then we'd be a great team.



ROSE — My favourite thing in the world is being around people. I'm looking for a family who are as affectionate as I am. Those who know me love that I'm so happy all the time, and they don't mind that I sometimes forget I'm not a lap dog. I'm a golden oldie with lots of life experience and tons of wisdom to share. If you're looking for a cuddle-companion and loyal best friend, then we'd be a great match.

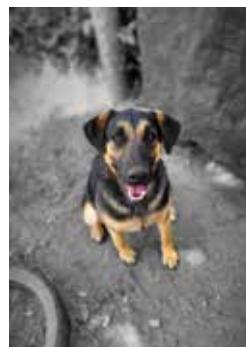
KNYSNA ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY (KYNSNA)



OUBAAS — This beautiful soul is two years old. He belonged to a local fisherman, and we watched him grow from a mangey puppy into a beautiful adult dog. His owner wasn't able to look after him properly, so he's been at KAWS for a few months now. He's calm, gentle and gets along well with everyone.



KOALA was adopted from KAWS when he was a small puppy. His owner had to down-scale, so he finds himself back at the kennels, waiting for a home. He's only 18 months old and is a large, lean boy who'd love a big open space to run and play.



BECKY has just celebrated her first birthday — except she's never known what it's like to be in a home. She's been at KAWS since a tiny puppy and is always overlooked because she's "just a black-and-tan dog". Becky is so much more than that — she has a huge heart and will be your companion, protector and sidekick.



LILLY — This beautiful, three-year-old, medium-sized girl is sassy and confident. She was surrendered with her sister, who's since been adopted. Her owners had to move and couldn't find pet-friendly accommodation. She gets along well with large and small dogs and would be great for an active family.

PRETORIA DOG RESCUE (PRETORIA)



LINKI was found in the streets just before midnight one Saturday night with a gaping wound on her leg, possibly due to jumping a palisade fence, and was taken to the vet for surgery on the injured leg. She's adorable, with a calm, loving personality, and she loves people and children. Linki and Dipstick became best friends at the shelter. She'd be an awesome family pet.

. **DIPSTICK** was found as a stray. He had no microchip and was never claimed. Dipstick is a kind, loving boy, with lots of energy. He lives to run and play with Linki, and he also adores humans and children. This gorgeous boy would love a family of his own.

NODDY was left behind on a plot when his family moved. New tenants moved in, but he was terrified of people, possibly due to being abused. Since he's been with us, he's turned out to be a very cute and adorable dog. Noddy loves playing and running around doing the zoomies. He loves women and children, but he's distrustful of men, probably due to the abuse he suffered. Please give Noddy a chance to have a happy family of his own.

CAESAR – A dog left behind at a vacated factory, he was emaciated and very ill but responded well to treatment after they removed stones in his stomach, which he ate because he was so hungry. Caesar has healed and is an amazing, super-friendly and huggable boy, with no aggression towards humans and other dogs. He's not a guard dog, but a friend and a soulmate for a very lucky family!

WHERE TO FIND US...

DOGTOWN SA (GAUTENG)

ALBERT, IRIS, JENNA & ROSE

Nestled in the Hennops mountains is the most remarkable sanctuary for dogs who've lost their families or have been rescued from dire situations. Every day the dedicated team at Dogtown provide individual care to each of these dogs in a peaceful, tranquil setting while they wait for their forever homes. There's often a misconception that all rescue dogs are going to be damaged in some way, but that's simply not true. There are plenty of wonderful dogs at Dogtown SA who, through no fault of their own, have found themselves homeless and are just hoping for a second chance at a new life in a loving home. For more information, visit www.dogtownsa.org. Please Contact adopt@dogtownsa.org for more information or to adopt one of our dogs.

KNYSNA ANIMAL WELFARE (KYNSNA)

KOA, BECKY, LILLY & OUBAAS

Knysna Animal Welfare has over 30 dogs and cats of all shapes, sizes and colours up for adoption. Please visit our Facebook page or our website to see all the available animals. Complete the online adoption application and we'll get in touch to do a property check. If needed, we will assist with an introduction between any existing pets and the new pet you'd like to adopt so that your new furry friend can be part of the family in no time. Even if you don't live on the Garden Route, you can adopt your four-legged soulmate at KAWS. Visit our website on www.knysnaanimalwelfare.co.za. Call (0)44-384 1603 / (0)44-384 0991 or 24-Hour Emergency Line: (0)73 461 9825. E-Mail kennelmanager@knysnaanimal-welfare.co.za.

PRETORIA DOG RESCUE (PRETORIA)

CAESAR, LINKI, DIPSTICK & NODDY

Pretoria Dog Rescue (PDR) is a registered non-profit organisation that was founded in 2013 to assist with the staggering number of stray, neglected, abused, homeless and suffering dogs in our country. During the past year we rehomed so many dogs that would have had a very uncertain future without our help. We also provide food for a number of dogs in the community and in foster care. Thus, the need for dog food remains a constant challenge. We're actively involved in feeding and sterilising animals belonging to less fortunate people who love them but cannot care for them. This also requires huge amounts of money, which we have to raise. To assist or adopt, contact Reinette on 061 365 4824 / 083 767 6345 or email reinette.leroux13@gmail.com. You can also visit our website on www.ptadogrescue.co.za



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Wishing all our sponsors, advertisers and valued readers a very happy and safe festive season and a happy, healthy and prosperous 2023!



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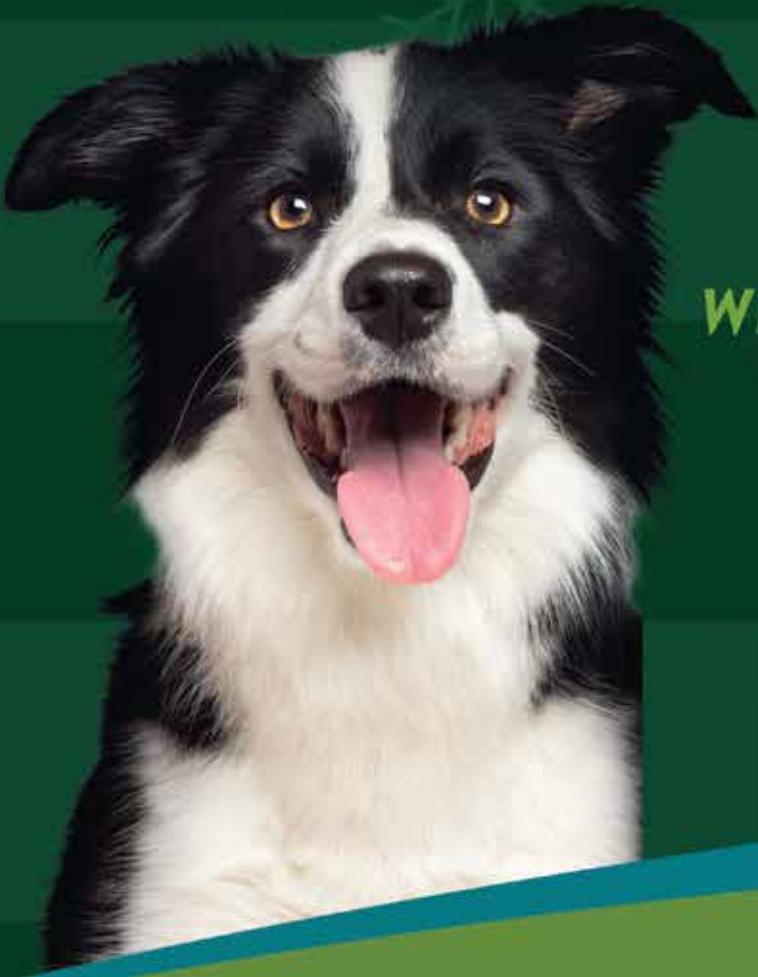
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