

Canine Zone

The magazine for all dog lovers



HELP!

Our dog hates bathing

Angel's Journey
Living her
BEST LIFE

The meaning of
BARKING

7 Ways to Cut Costs
but Keep Your Dog
Happy and Healthy

Golden Retriever
(-ology)

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Canine Zone

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Dog talk



I'm so grateful to work from home so I can be with Drake and Holly all day, and Drake especially loves nothing more than to lie on his Houndsleeper under my desk when I have Zoom meetings. This can be tricky sometimes, as for example this morning when I had a training session with a new client, and Drakey was licking, snorking and then snoring up a storm. I had to butt into the training to explain it wasn't me with a blocked nose but rather the Canine Zone Chief Woof Officer having his morning snooze. Everyone had a good laugh and all was well until he decided to let off loud noises from the back end! Luckily, this wasn't a video meeting, as it left me with tears running down my face – not only from giggles but also from the pungent smell. Fortunately, my creative director, Ian, who was also in the meeting, was more stoic than me.

As a working dog mom, it's natural to feel guilty about leaving your dog alone during the day. However, remember that providing for your dog's needs, including food, shelter, and healthcare, is an essential part of being a responsible pet owner. Focus on quality time spent together when you're home, and consider enlisting help from dog walkers, daycare, or trusted friends and family to ensure your dog receives companionship, socialisation and exercise. Remind yourself that your love and care for your dog extend

beyond the time you spend together and prioritise their well-being while also taking care of yourself.

As winter approaches, there are several ways to help animal shelters prepare for the challenges that colder weather brings. Donating essential supplies such as blankets, towels, and bedding can help keep dogs warm and comfortable during the colder months. Additionally, providing food, treats, and toys ensures that shelter doggos have the resources they need to stay healthy and happy. Monetary donations can also be invaluable in covering heating costs and other winter-related expenses. Lastly, spreading awareness about the importance of adopting and fostering dogs and puppies during the winter months can help alleviate overcrowding in shelters and ensure that every animal finds a loving home, even in the coldest of seasons.

Is fostering something you would ever consider? Dog fostering can be a deeply rewarding experience for those with the time, resources, and dedication to provide temporary care for dogs in need. Fostering offers a lifeline for animals awaiting adoption, giving them a safe and loving environment while they await their forever homes. It requires patience, empathy, and a willingness to open your heart and home to a furry friend in need – and then say goodbye when they find their forever family. I must admit that I haven't fostered because I just wouldn't be able to say goodbye and would end up with a house full of fur kids! I've preferred to do a virtual adoption where you donate to the care of a specific dog every month.

In this issue we're celebrating NINE YEARS of Canine Zone being published and I'm so blessed to have worked with some of the most amazing people. A huge shout-out to our sponsors (some of whom have been with us for all nine years!), advertisers, contributors and readers.

Sharon

Canine Zone
The magazine for all dog lovers 

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Sharon Dale

editorial@caninezonesa.co.za

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Patti Barron-Lowe

DESIGN/CREATIVE EDITOR

Ian James

COPY EDITOR

Glyn Price

EDITOR'S ASSISTANT

Aidan Wiggill

online@caninezonesa.co.za

EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTORS

Gordon Banks

(Accredited Animal Behaviourist)

Julie Bezuidenhout

(Accredited Animal Behaviourist)

Dr Larry Kraitzick (Veterinarian)

Tracy McQuarrie (Dogtown SA)

ACCOUNTS/ADMIN/SUBSCRIPTIONS

Telephone – 083 375 7669

Email – devad@polka.co.za

ADVERTISING QUERIES

Chelsea Blake

Tel: 011 475 1536

advertising@caninezonesa.co.za

CIRCULATION

Portia Nguyuza - On the Dot

Email -Portia.Nguyuza@onthedot.co.za



Published by Canine Zone (PTY) Ltd

Telephone – 083 375 7669

Email – editorial@caninezonesa.co.za

Website – www.caninezonesa.co.za

Facebook – www.facebook.com/CanineZoneSA

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UPFRONT

MONTEGO PET NUTRITION PROUD SPONSORS OF CANINE HEROES PROTECTING AFRICA'S WILDLIFE



Canine companions are our best friends in the quest to conserve Africa's wildlife. Training dogs to work alongside human handlers has proven an indispensable strategy, especially in the realm of counter-wildlife trafficking efforts, where our furry friends' superhuman sense of smell is deployed to assist across a wide range of tasks. These highly trained specialist dogs help wildlife and border protection authorities with tracking, and to detect the presence of wildlife contraband, including illegal bushmeat, even from a distance.

Leading pet food nutrition brand Montego recently pledged and delivered a hearty donation of their renowned Karoo Kibble All Breed premium adult dog food, to the value of almost R100,000, towards

the African Wildlife Foundation's (AWF) mission: to preserve wildlife and wild lands in modern Africa. The Karoo kibble donation was delivered to the ANAC (Mozambique Airports Company) canine unit that's supported by AWF and Peace Parks Foundation.

AWF is one of the largest and oldest African international conservation organisations based in and focused solely on Africa. AWF's underlying belief is that protecting wildlife and their habitats is an essential aspect of a modern and prosperous Africa.

"Montego's generous gift of their super-premium Karoo brand dog food is a great aid in support of our 'Resilient Africa – Resilient Planet' campaign: an initiative that aims to amplify African-led conservation efforts and promote nature-based

economies," says Didi Wamukoya, AWF's Director, Counter Wildlife Trafficking Programme. "The quality ingredients keep the detection dogs happy, healthy, and in peak physical condition," she adds.

Didi explains that the donation is being used to feed dogs participating in the Canines for Conservation Programme, in which AWF has successfully collaborated with state wildlife authorities and border protection agencies to curb poaching and illegal trafficking in Africa since 2015. Together with Wildlife Judicial and Prosecutorial Assistance Training and Emerging Crimes programmes, the canine's programme is an important component of AWF's counter-wildlife trafficking efforts.

Currently operating in Botswana, Cameroon, Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda, these canine units have been instrumental in detecting and ultimately bringing to justice poachers and traffickers of ivory, pangolin scales, lion claws, and bushmeat, among other contraband.

"We're grateful for the opportunity to contribute towards protecting our precious natural heritage. We believe that wildlife and the natural environment are the true wealth of Africa. We're amazed, and deeply touched, by the profound impact our donation has had thus far in assisting these heroic hounds in their wildlife conservation duties," says Deanna February, Communications Manager at Montego Pet Nutrition.

22% OF PETS IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE HOMELESS

New research shows the scale of pet homelessness in South Africa, estimating there are 4.5 million homeless cats and dogs in shelters and on the street

In January, a global coalition of animal welfare experts, including Humane Society International, in partnership with Mars, released the results from the largest ever international study into pet homelessness. “The State of Pet Homelessness Project” set out to understand the scale of pet homelessness and factors that contribute to pets being on the streets or in shelters, shining a light on the needs of a huge hidden population of pets today.

The ambition of the project is to drive more informed and targeted action to help reduce homelessness and ensure pets get the care they need. The findings from the survey conducted in South Africa revealed a stark picture that 22% of cats and dogs are either living on the streets or currently in a shelter waiting to find a home. This equates to 4.05 million homeless cats and dogs in our country, of which 650,000 live in shelters and 3.4 million are stray.

To help reduce pet homelessness and manage the population of community-owned cats and dogs in South Africa, Humane Society International/Africa launched its “Healthy Pets, Healthier Community” pilot programme. The programme offers free-of-charge sterilisation as well as primary veterinary care in lower income communities, and to date almost 1,500 animals have been sterilised.

Since the launch of the “Healthy Pets, Healthy Community” pilot programme in November 2022, almost 1,500 community cats and dogs have been sterilised, with hun-



dreds more receiving vaccinations to date. Sadly, 93% of South Africans do not have access to basic primary veterinary care. This, together with the significant number of homeless animals, demonstrates that the programme plays a crucial role in enhancing animal well-being.

Helen McDougall, General Manager for Mars Multisales Southern Africa, adds: “As pets continue to play an increasingly vital role in the tapestry of countless communities, enriching our social and emotional well-being, Mars, as the world’s leading producer of pet food, hopes that the Annual Pet Homelessness Index will play a role in highlighting the challenges faced by companion animals and their advocates in our country, as well as the opportunities to enhance the quality of life for all.”

The “State of Pet Homelessness Project” used data from over 900 global and local sources, along with almost 30,000 public surveys and 200 expert interviews, to build a

picture of pet homelessness across the following countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lithuania, Mexico, New Zealand, The Philippines, Poland, South Africa, Turkey, Thailand, the USA, and the UK. To mark the release of this data, Mars has made a \$500,000 donation to Humane Society International to fund projects in India, South Africa and Mexico to make interventions informed by the data.

Working alongside Mars on this global data initiative is an advisory panel of leading animal welfare experts from organisations including Humane Society International, Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs, International Partnership for Dogs and the International Companion Animal Management Coalition. To find out more about the State of Pet Homelessness Project and to go deeper into the data, visit: www.stateofpethomelessness.com.

CANINE ZONE MAGAZINE – ON SHELVES FOR NINE YEARS!



Canine Zone magazine was launched in February 2015 – aiming its content directly at dog parents countrywide. Currently sponsored by Animal Travel Services, Complete Pet Nutrition, Jock Dog Food, McMac Pet SA, Montego Pet Nutrition, Pet Brands

SA and Pro-Pet, it's an honour to say that Complete Pet and Montego have been sponsors for all nine years, and the rest of the sponsors for over four years.

Canine Zone is the only printed and digital magazine, website and social media channel in SA aiming exclusively at dog parents.

The magazine offers advertisers and sponsors a combination of digital, print and social media exposure. Printed copies are distributed via Media24 to various outlets, including Woolworths, Checkers, Checkers Hyper, Exclusive Books and selected branches of Spar and Pick 'n Pay countrywide. Digital copies are absolutely free as the publishers don't believe that people these days want to pay for digital content. Digital distribution is via our website as well as via direct send out by our

sponsors, advertisers and selected shelters. Visit our website on www.caninezonesa.co.za to download a digital copy.

Unsold issues, when available, are given to shelters for events or to sponsors and advertisers for their representatives to hand out or to be used at promotions or events, as well as to coffee shops and waiting rooms. The publishers of Canine Zone keep overheads low so that they can afford not to charge an arm and a leg for advertising and sponsorship. Canine Zone has also only put up its selling price slightly twice in nine years and the cover price is still under R40.

Canine Zone works closely with shelters to help spread awareness and promote adoption and also donates a calendar to a different shelter every year.

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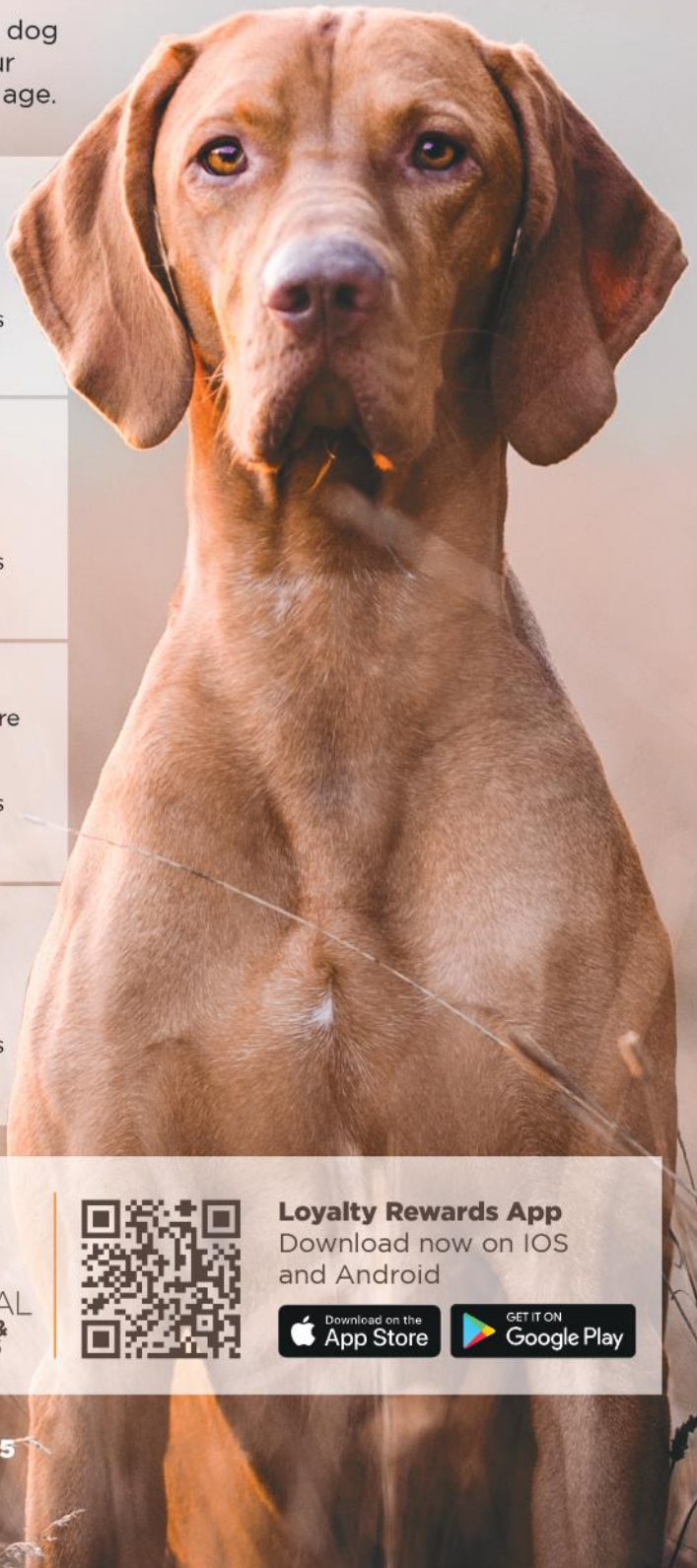
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Your Photos



BENJI is my Bull Terrier cross. He'll be eight years old this year. His human brother, Robert, loves him very much. Benji loves going for walks and his morning treats! He's the best friend anyone could ask for.
– **CHERONNE VIEIRA**



My gorgeous eight-month-old girl **EVA** and her two pets. She's strong and protects us like a lion. She's our rainbow after the storm we went through when simultaneously losing our four other fur babies. – **JANNIE-MELINIE JORDAAN**



ANNIE was adopted from Germiston SPCA last April. The only way to describe her is crazy, but I adore her. Her estimated age is now around two. – **ETHEL SLEITH**



PUGGLES & PRINCESS going for their daily ride. They both are active back-seat barkers. Doggy Uber!
– **DEE VAN ENTER**

The majestic **PIPER** – an absolute goof-ball for his ball. Just a lover boy – soft kisses and lots of cuddles.
– **SONYORITA MAHNE**



MACTAVISH with Dubhagen and Wendy, who sadly recently crossed the Rainbow Bridge. Tavish misses them terribly. – **CHRISTIENE HOFMANN DELPORT**



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SADIE and **CHARLIE**, both rescued and loved. Sadie celebrated her first Christmas out of the shelter with us in December 2023.
– **TANIA COLYN**



LUNA & MALI are my two foster fail rescues. Mali (brown Africanis) was officially adopted into my family at Christmas after fostering her for six months.
– **SANDRA LESLEY FERRONE BOOTH**



BISMARK & BJORN – Bismark, the CEO of Bismark's Bistro, has a heart condition that requires home oxygen treatments, and his brother is always giving moral support. – **ADELE MANS**

WINSTON, also known as Sir Bark-a-lot. A stylish Chinese Crested, he embraces fashion with zeal, donning outfits that match his vibrant personality. His hairless charm captivates hearts, making every outfit a statement. In a world of fur, Winston stands out as the trendsetting three-year-old icon of canine elegance and sass. Also, he's toothless but will gum you if needed.
– **WHIMSY DREAMS PHOTOGRAPHY**



EBONY, my sweet eight-year-old girl. She was an abused dog, and I adopted her six years ago from The 9th Day Rescue. She never leaves me alone and is such a great companion.
– **TESSA LIVESEY-GOLDBLATT**



PEPPER is our beautiful rescue from A New Hope Animal Rescue. Our little lady and lizard/delivery bike chaser is five years old and loves running and swimming. – **TAGEN TIMMS**

Help!



GOT A QUESTION?

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



FOSTERING FATHER-IN-LAW'S DOGS

My father-in-law is moving into a frail care centre and can't take his two little dogs with him so they'll be coming to stay with us. Our three small cross breed rescue dogs get along with his dogs (Carly and Bertie) as they've socialised together regularly, but do you have any tips on how to make the process easier, as they're very close to my dad-in-law and I know that they'll miss him terribly. We'll be allowed to take them to visit, but can you advise on how we can make sure they're well behaved when they do visit? Is this something a behaviourist could help us with?

– LAUREN BESTENLEY

GORDON SAYS – Moving to a retirement village or frail care centre can be very traumatic for both humans and their pets who inevitably cannot move into the facility with their owners. Fortunately for Carly and Bertie, they have a loving family to move in with.

Although Carly and Bertie and the resident dogs in their new home have been socialised, following a few basic rules initially will help to make the whole integration process easier.

Environmental changes can be incredibly stressful for our dogs, so allowing them time to settle in before imposing new “boundaries” on them is crucial. Don't try and enforce any integration between any of the dogs – allow them to accept each other at their own pace.

Avoid showing any favouritism to any of the dogs. Be sure to feed the resident and new dogs away from each other until they're all relaxed around each other; this would be relevant to sleeping arrangements too.

Allow Carly and Bertie to settle in and become familiar with their new situation before taking them to visit your father-in-law. Having a stable “new home” to



return to will help reduce any possible distress when having to leave after a visit. Keep them on lead at first to avoid any overexcited behaviour; once they're calm and relaxed, you can remove the lead. Leave your dogs at home during these visits, but watch for any jealous-related reactivity from them when returning with Carly and Bertie.

ADOPTED DOG FEARFUL OF MEN

We recently adopted a Pit Bull-type dog from a shelter in Cape Town. Our new family member is about three years old and we've named her Zebbie. Her background is unknown as she was a stray, but she's a very sweet dog with us all, but she's very scared of men. When my husband comes near, she'll lie on her back and urinate, or she'll hide under a table. He's been trying his best to win her trust and we feel very sorry for her. She acts the same way if any other man comes into the house. We'll get in touch with a behaviourist to assist us soon, but

do you have any advice for us?

– GERDA SCHOLTZ

GORDON SAYS – Often, when adopting a dog from a shelter, there's little or no background history on why the dog was in the shelter. In the case of Zebbie her behaviour around the husband is evidence that she's been severely traumatised by a man or men in general, resulting in her now having developed a negative conditioned emotional response (CER) towards men, i.e. she has a fear of all men.

This fearful and negative CER must now

be “converted” to a happy, enjoyable and rewarding one through a process of counter-conditioning and desensitising CC/DS. This is a gradual process that requires patience, and one needs to work at the dog's pace.

Start by allowing the dog to observe your husband from a distance. Avoid direct eye contact, sudden movements, or loud noises during this initial phase. Sitting next to your husband and calmly focusing on something other than the dog will help her to feel less anxious. Should the dog approach either of

you in any way, reinforce this positive behaviour with treats and gentle praise. Ensure that the dog has a designated area where she can retreat to if feeling overwhelmed.

Building a good relationship between the dog and your husband can be done by him assisting in all positive interactions. Feeding, going for walks, grooming or any other positive activity with the dog must include your husband, allowing her to associate positive emotions with his presence.

Fear-related behaviours that have resulted from abuse and trauma can be very complex, and seeking professional

assistance from a qualified behaviourist or trainer is often the better option to take. They can offer personalised strategies and exercises to address specific issues. They may also provide guidance on managing fear-based behaviours and help create a tailored desensitisation plan for the dog.



OUR DOG HATES BATHING

We have a real problem with our Yorkshire Terrier when it comes to bathtime. Molly is just over a year old and she's always been terrified of bathing. We've tried to use different techniques, but as she sleeps with us, we'd like to bath her at least every two weeks, but it's really traumatising for everyone as she hides away and literally screams the whole time we bath her in a little basin. She also doesn't like the hairdryer, which means we don't bath her much in winter. Do you have any advice to make bath-time more pleasant and relaxing? We've been clipping her ourselves as she just goes through so much stress when we did try to send her to a grooming parlour. — CATHY THOMSON

JULIE SAYS – There are many techniques that you can try, but it'll take trial and error. Perhaps use a bigger basin, where she doesn't feel so confined. Try sticking cling wrap on the area where her mouth will face and smear it with peanut butter, allowing her to lick away during bathing. You can also purchase gadgets from your pet store or vet that stick to ceramic, which can be rewashed and used over and over. Never use a shower hose above her head. This must be kept low (leg area) and on low pressure. When rinsing, keep your hand between the running water and her body.

A hairdryer can be dangerous when using it on our pets, as the heat cannot

be regulated, and the distance it's held from the dog must be monitored. It's probably better to towel dry thoroughly. Dry baths can be done in the colder season. A dry bath is a foam bath which cleans the coat and smells good.

Perhaps consider training lessons by an experienced trainer in small breed dogs. Here Molly will be exposed to many things, as well as a feeling of safety, which could contribute to her feeling less anxious during grooming.



WE HAVE A GARBAGE DOG!



Please help! Our Greyhound has an obsession with the garbage bin, which is a real concern as he could eat something dangerous. We currently keep our bin in a locked garage and put kitchen garbage in a bag on a high hook so Shilo can't get to it. We've also barricaded our municipal

garbage bin down a side passage of our home. He'll literally tip the bin over and eat anything she can find in it, so we have to be super conscious of this all the time. Any advice would be appreciated.
 – JORDAN KLEINHANS

JULIE SAYS – Firstly, I suggest you rule out that Shilo isn't hungry. Garbage bins and bags can be quite attractive to dogs because of the odour. If Shilo has been doing this for a fair length of time, he's probably learnt that this is a good activity and results in him getting to what he shouldn't. Unlearning this would require you to establish a negativity to the bins. There are several products on the market that you could spray or wipe onto the inside and outside of the bin, which are aversive. One such product is Avert. You'd need to apply the Avert frequently and allow Shiloh access to the bin, under supervision. This you'd need to do over a period of two to three months, until he learns that the bin isn't something he wants. You could also provide him with his own bin that you could enrich with cardboard and treats.

PET



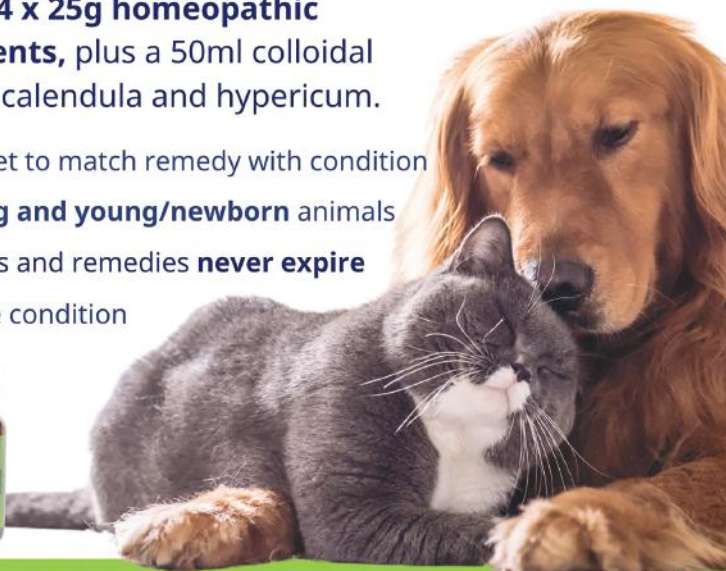
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7 ways to cut costs but still keep your dog happy and healthy



Owni^{ng} a dog can bring immense joy and companionship into your life, but it also comes with financial responsibilities. From food and grooming to veterinary care and toys, the costs can quickly add up. However, there are several ways to cut the cost of dog ownership without compromising your furry friend's happiness and health. We have seven tips to help you save money while providing the best care for your canine family member.

Adopt, Don't Shop

Consider adopting a dog from a shelter or rescue organisation instead of purchasing from a breeder or pet store. Adoption fees are typically much lower than the cost of buying a dog, and many shelters cover initial vaccinations and spaying/neutering, saving you money on veterinary expenses.

Shop Smart for Food

Look for high-quality, locally produced dog food that offers good nutrition at an affordable price. There are a few excellent brands available in pet, vet or online stores like Montego, Complete Pet and Jock Dog Food.

Practise Preventative Care and Get Pet Medical Cover

Investing in preventative measures such as regular

Enjoy the many benefits of dog ownership without breaking the bank

vaccinations, flea and tick prevention, and dental care can save you money in the long run by avoiding costly health issues down the road. Many veterinary clinics offer discounted wellness plans or package deals for preventative care services. Signing up for pet medical cover is also a very worthwhile investment.

Groom at Home

Save money on grooming expenses by learning to groom your dog at home. Invest in basic grooming tools such as brushes, nail clippers, and shampoo, and set aside time for regular grooming sessions. Not only will this save you money, but it can also strengthen the bond between you and your dog.

Exercise for Free

Take advantage of free or low-cost outdoor activities for exercise and enrichment. Explore local parks, nature trails, and dog-friendly beaches for fun outings with your furry friend. Regular exercise not only keeps your dog healthy but also strengthens your bond and provides mental stimulation.

Invest in Training

Investing in proper training for your dog can prevent behavioural issues that may lead to costly damage or veterinary bills down the road. Look for affordable training classes or online resources to teach basic obedience and address any behavioural concerns.

Take Advantage of Discounts and Rewards

Look for discounts, loyalty programmes, and rewards offered by pet stores and dog food companies like, for example, the Complete Pet loyalty programme that gives you your twelfth bag of food free. Look out for special promotions at pet stores and veterinary clinics too.

By implementing these seven tips, you can cut the cost of dog ownership while still providing your furry friend with the love, care, and attention they deserve. With a little creativity, resourcefulness, and smart planning, you can enjoy the many benefits of dog ownership without breaking the bank. 🐾

The Lowdown on Loose Leash Walking

By Gordon Banks - Dog Behaviourist



Walking calmly and politely alongside you on a loose leash isn't some magical genetic behaviour that our dogs are born with but rather something you have to teach them, and failure to do so is precisely the reason why so many dogs continually pull on their leashes while walking. This ends up with the dog being confined to the garden because the owners dislike having their arms jerked around constantly while trying to exercise their dogs.

So, how do we teach our dogs good leash manners? First thing is that walking your dog is a team effort! If you want your dog to be relaxed and attentive, then you too must be relaxed and attentive. Holding the leash nervously and tightly or watching what

the dog is doing will likely result in you not reinforcing good behaviours displayed by your dog. Remember, the leash isn't a steering wheel, and just as you don't want the dog to pull you around, don't use it to drag him around.

THE RIGHT GEAR

I recommend you walk your dog on a harness as it's more comfortable for him and prevents any inadvertent jerking of his neck which can lead to both medical and behaviour issues. A good quality leash (not a chain) is also essential and should be approximately 150cm long. Have a treat bag fastened around your waist to hold those all-important treats.

How do we teach our dogs good leash manners?

Begin teaching your dog to walk on-lead in a quiet area in your garden – getting your dog’s full attention without distractions. Have the dog sitting or standing calmly next to you. Hold the leash in the hand on the opposite side that your dog is positioned, i.e. if he’s on your left side, hold the lead in your right hand. In a calm, relaxed voice give your dog a cue like “let’s go” and start walking forward.

As your dog moves with you, give a verbal marker like “yes” and immediately give a treat with your free hand. If you’re familiar with clicker training then you can replace the verbal marker with a “click”. The marker (verbal or click) signals to your dog that their correct behaviour, i.e. walking with you, is rewarded with a treat, increasing the likelihood that he’ll repeat it when asked again.

TREATS ARE IMPORTANT

Initially mark and treat each step you take as long as there’s no tension in the leash. He’ll quickly learn that it’s worth his while staying close by you and receiving numerous treats. When he’s happily walking next to you and showing no desire to wander away, you can slowly reduce the rate of reinforcement, but beware not to reduce too quickly to avoid losing his attention. At this stage the reinforcing treat must be offered randomly. If the treat is offered in a predictable manner, for example, every twelve steps, your dog will learn to fool around for eleven steps and shoot back to you on the twelfth step for his treat.

VENTURING OUT

Once you and your dog are comfortably walking around the garden on a loose lead, you can take the plunge and venture into the street or park. Now your dog will experience distractions and all this training will seem in vain as he pulls and strains to get to these distractions.

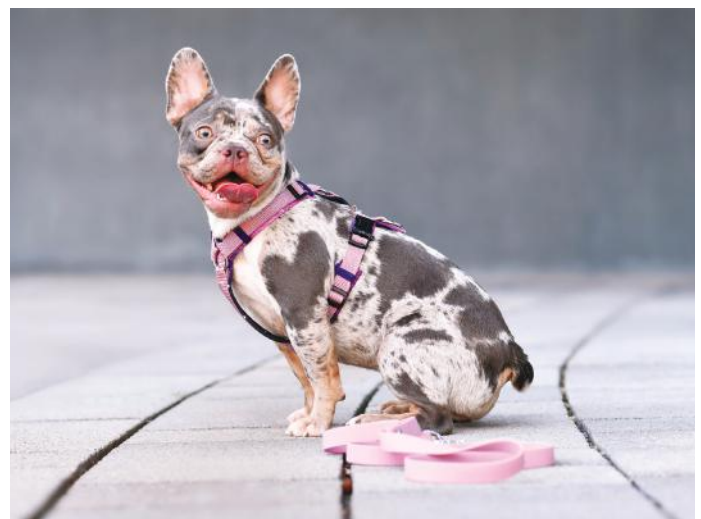
There are a number of techniques you can use to correct this. A change in direction can be very effective. If your dog starts to move ahead of you, before the leash pulls tight, do an about turn and

walk in the opposite direction. At the same time, call him to you in a calm, cheery voice to tell him you’ve changed direction. When he turns and comes to you, be ready to mark the behaviour (click or yes) and offer a treat, still with a slack leash.

BE A TREE

Another option is to “be a tree”. As your dog surges forward, immediately stop and stand still (like a tree). Keep this position and avoid any verbal cues or communication with him. Wait quietly and patiently until your dog looks back at you. As he turns to look at you the leash will slacken; immediately mark the behaviour (you’re marking the loose lead behaviour). Your dog has to return to you, get his treat, and will then be back in a loose leash position. Move forward again, marking and treating until he’s walking calmly next to you.

If the previous techniques fail, consider a positive punishment (+P) approach. Your dog’s pulling is driven by a desire to reach something. If the “act like a tree” method doesn’t work, gently apply pressure to the leash without jerking, gradually moving your dog away from the desired object. This demonstrates that pulling results in the object moving farther away. When the leash slackens, mark and treat and slowly walk towards the object. He learns he can access the object with polite leash behaviour. 🐾



Tuning in to the meaning of **BARKING**



Barking is one of the most common forms of communication for dogs, but it's often misunderstood or overlooked by humans. While excessive barking can be frustrating for dog owners, it's essential to recognise that barking serves as a vital means of expression and communication for dogs. By tuning into the meaning behind your dog's barks, you can better understand their needs, address underlying issues, and strengthen the bond between you and your furry friend.

WHAT IS BARKING?

The process of barking begins with the dog inhaling air into their lungs, followed by the contraction of muscles in the larynx, or voice box. This action forces air through the vocal cords, causing them to vibrate and produce sound.

The sound of a dog's bark can vary in pitch, tone, and duration, depending on the individual dog and

the context in which they're barking.

ALERT BARKING

One of the primary functions of barking is to alert their owners to potential threats or dangers. Alert barking is characterised by short, sharp barks and is often triggered by stimuli such as strangers approaching the house, unfamiliar noises, or other animals in the vicinity. While excessive alert barking can be disruptive, it's essential to acknowledge and appreciate your dog's instinct to protect their territory and loved ones.

ATTENTION-SEEKING BARKING

Dogs may bark to get their owner's attention or to request interaction and play. This type of barking is usually accompanied by other attention-seeking behaviours such as jumping, pawing, or bringing you toys. While it's essential to provide your dog with attention and companionship, it's also crucial

Barking conveys a wide range of emotions, needs, and intentions

to establish boundaries and discourage excessive attention-seeking behaviour through positive reinforcement training.

ANXIETY OR FEAR-BASED BARKING

Dogs may bark when they feel anxious, fearful, or stressed. This type of barking is often characterised by a high-pitched tone and may be accompanied by other signs of anxiety such as trembling, panting, or pacing. Common triggers for anxiety or fear-based barking include separation from their owner, loud noises, unfamiliar environments, or past traumatic experiences. It's essential to identify the underlying cause of your dog's anxiety and address it through desensitisation techniques, behaviour modification, and providing a safe and comforting environment.

PLAYFUL BARKING

Dogs may bark during play as a form of excitement or enthusiasm. Playful barking is typically accompanied by other playful behaviours such as wagging tails, bouncing, or bowing. While playful barking is normal and harmless, it's essential to monitor your dog's arousal level and intervene if play becomes overly rough or intense.

TERRITORIAL BARKING

Dogs may bark to assert their dominance or defend their territory from perceived intruders. Territorial barking is often triggered by stimuli such as other dogs, people, or animals encroaching on their space. While it's natural for dogs to exhibit territorial behaviour, it's essential to provide appropriate training and socialisation to prevent aggressive or excessive barking.

LONELINESS OR BOREDOM BARKING

Dogs may bark when they feel lonely, bored, or understimulated. This type of barking is often more persistent and may occur when the dog is left alone for extended periods or lacks mental and physical stimulation. To address loneliness or boredom barking, provide your dog with plenty of exercise, mental enrichment, and companionship. Consider

enrolling them in doggy daycare, hiring a pet sitter, or using puzzle toys to keep them entertained and engaged while you're away.

MEDICAL OR PHYSICAL DISCOMFORT

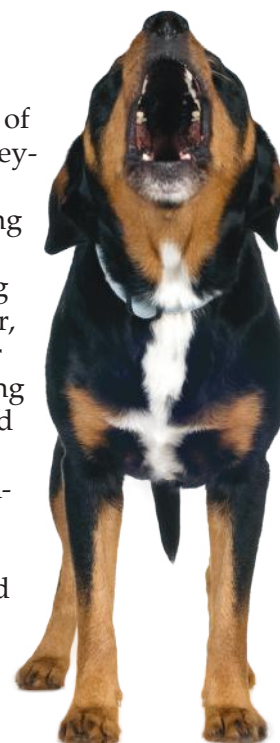
Barking can also be a sign of underlying medical or physical discomfort. If your dog suddenly begins barking excessively or exhibits other unusual behaviours, it's essential to rule out any potential health issues such as injury, illness, or pain. Consult with your veterinarian to determine the cause of your dog's barking and develop an appropriate treatment plan.

SOCIAL OR VOCALISING BARKING

Some dogs are naturally more vocal than others and may bark as a form of socialisation or vocalising. This type of barking is often characterised by a range of vocalisations such as barks, howls, whines, and growls. While social or vocalising barking is normal and may be inherent to certain breeds, it's essential to establish boundaries and train your dog to bark on command and be quiet when necessary.

BARKING IN A NUTSHELL

Barking is a multifaceted form of communication for dogs, conveying a wide range of emotions, needs, and intentions. By tuning into the meaning behind your dog's barks and understanding the context in which they occur, you can better respond to your dog's needs, address underlying issues, and strengthen the bond between you and your furry friend. With patience, consistency, and positive reinforcement training, you can effectively manage barking behaviour and create a harmonious living environment for both you and your dog. 🐾



SMALL DOG – BIG ATTITUDE



Small dogs often pack a big punch when it comes to personality, earning a reputation for their larger-than-life attitudes and fearless demeanour. While their diminutive size may lead some to underestimate them, small dogs are anything but meek. However, this boldness can sometimes manifest as what's commonly known as "small dog syndrome". Let's explore the truth behind this phenomenon and how to address it.

BEHAVIOURAL PATTERNS

Small dog syndrome is a term used to describe a behavioural pattern often observed in small breeds, characterised by excessive barking, territoriality, and aggression towards people or other animals. It's believed to stem from a combination of factors, including overindulgence by owners, lack of socialisation, and a tendency to be treated differently due to their size.

One contributing factor to small dog syndrome is the way owners interact with their petite companions. Some owners may inadvertently reinforce undesirable behaviours by coddling their small dogs, allowing them to get away with behaviours that wouldn't be tolerated in larger breeds. For example, picking up a small dog whenever they bark or growl reinforces the idea that such behaviour is acceptable and can exacerbate aggression or territorial tendencies.

Furthermore, small dogs may not receive the same level of socialisation and training as larger breeds, leading to behavioural issues. Owners may underestimate the importance of early socialisation and obedience training, assuming that their small dogs don't need as much guidance as their larger counterparts. However, proper training and socialisation are essential for all dogs, regardless of size, to



The truth about small dog syndrome

prevent behavioural problems and ensure they can interact positively with people and other animals.

ASSERTING THEMSELVES

Small dogs may feel the need to assert themselves more aggressively due to their size. In the presence of larger dogs, they may exhibit defensive behaviours such as barking, growling, or snapping as a means of compensating for their perceived vulnerability. This behaviour can be problematic if left unchecked and may lead to conflicts with other dogs or people.

HOW TO DEAL WITH IT...

So, what can owners do to address small dog syndrome and foster a more positive relationship with their pint-sized companions?

Consistent Training – Small dogs benefit from consistent and positive reinforcement-based training just like any other breed. Teach basic obedience commands such as sit, stay, and come, and practise them regularly in various environments to reinforce good behaviour.

Socialisation – Expose your small dog to different people, animals, and environments from an early age to help them become well-adjusted and confident. Arrange playdates with other dogs, visit dog-friendly parks, and enrol in obedience classes to provide opportunities for socialisation and positive interactions.

Set Boundaries – Establish clear boundaries and rules for your small dog and be consistent in enforcing them. Avoid indulging undesirable behaviours such as excessive barking or demanding attention, and instead, redirect their focus to more appropriate activities.

Provide Mental Stimulation – Keep your small dog mentally stimulated and engaged with interactive toys, puzzle feeders, and training sessions. Mental enrichment helps prevent boredom and can reduce the likelihood of behavioural problems stemming from frustration or excess energy.

Avoid Overprotection – Resist the urge to constantly

shelter or coddle your small dog, as this can reinforce feelings of fear or insecurity. Instead, encourage independence and confidence by allowing them to explore their surroundings and interact with other dogs and people under supervision.

Address Aggression – If your small dog displays aggression towards people or other animals, seek professional help from a certified dog trainer or behaviourist. They can assess the underlying causes of the aggression and develop a customised behaviour modification plan to address it effectively.

Be Patient and Understanding – Remember that behaviour change takes time and patience, so be consistent in your training efforts and remain calm and positive when working with your small dog. Celebrate small victories and acknowledge progress, no matter how gradual it may be.

DEALING WITH THE PHENOMENON

Small dog syndrome is a real phenomenon that can manifest as undesirable behaviours such as aggression, territoriality, and excessive barking in small breeds. However, with proper training, socialisation, and consistent guidance from their owners, small dogs can overcome these challenges and become well-behaved and confident companions.

By understanding the underlying causes of small dog syndrome and addressing them proactively, owners can foster a positive and mutually rewarding relationship with their pint-sized pups. 🐾



Keeping up with SABRE

By Jo-Ann Du Plessis



Sabre was Canine Zone's first-ever cover model, nine years ago

tolerant, and very intelligent.

Being a therapy dog involves regular obedience training and temperament assessments in various situations. Thorough grooming before every visit, including brushing teeth, is part of his routine.

RAISING AWARENESS AND HELPING PEOPLE

Sabre and Jade attend Pet education and Bite prevention programmes at schools, Pet Expos and awareness days where time is spent educating kids from all walks of life on the correct interaction with dogs. Their Friday afternoon visit, twice a month to a local retirement village, is the highlight of the residents' week where many have had no other interaction outside of the frail care.

Weather permitting, the visit includes walks outside on foot or in wheelchairs with the dogs. The healing powers of this interaction are invaluable. Sabre specifically bonded with a lady resident who couldn't wait to see him and kept a special biscuit supply in her room just for him. Occasionally they visit with autistic children and Alzheimer patients.

Our family's truly blessed with our golden boy. He's one of a kind. Unlike most retrievers, he doesn't really like to swim but loves retrieving soft toys! He makes our home complete and leaves a lasting impression on anyone he meets. 🐾



Sabre was the first-ever cover model when Canine Zone was launched nine years ago. Since his appearance on the cover, Sabre has become a registered therapy dog with Paws for People (NPO organisation) with his handler and owner, my daughter Jade. They've worked as a team since Sabre was six months old. Sabre truly loves and thrives on human interaction, making him the perfect candidate for therapy work.

SUPER THERAPY DOG

Jade (19) wanted her own therapy dog since a young girl, having been involved in training and therapy visits since the age of six. Sabre was chosen for our family by a recommended breeder for this specific purpose! His temperament from birth made him the perfect choice. He's calm, loving, gentle, playful,



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Sun, sea and potential dangers



The beach is a paradise for many, offering the perfect blend of sun, sea, and sand. However, amidst the beauty lies potential dangers, especially for our furry friends. While dogs love to frolic in the waves and dig in the sand, there are several hazards pet owners should be aware of to ensure a safe and enjoyable beach outing for their canine companions.

SUN CARE

First and foremost, the sun's powerful rays can pose a threat to dogs, just as they do to humans. Like us, dogs can suffer from sunburn, particularly those with lighter fur and exposed skin. To protect your pooch, consider applying a dog-friendly sunscreen to their vulnerable areas such as their nose, ears, and belly. Additionally, seek shade during the hottest part of the day and provide plenty of fresh water to prevent dehydration.

HIDDEN DANGERS

The allure of the sea is undeniable for dogs, but

it also harbours hidden dangers. Strong currents and unpredictable waves can catch even the most confident swimmers off guard, putting them at risk of drowning. Always keep a close eye on your dog when they're near the water and consider investing in a life jacket for added safety, especially for breeds not naturally inclined to swimming.

Furthermore, the beach is a playground for various creatures, including jellyfish and crabs, whose stings or bites can cause pain and discomfort to your fur kid. Keep a lookout for any marine life washed ashore and discourage your dog from investigating them too closely.

SAND

Sand itself can pose hazards to your dog's well-being. Hot sand can burn their paw pads, leading to discomfort and injury. Test the temperature of the sand with your hand before allowing your dog to walk on it, and consider bringing along a pair of protective booties for added insulation.

While the beach offers endless opportunities for fun and relaxation, it's essential to be mindful of potential dangers

SEA WATER

Sea water can pose risks to dogs if ingested in large quantities. While occasional exposure to sea water during play or swimming is generally safe, drinking excessive amounts can lead to dehydration, electrolyte imbalances, and gastrointestinal upset. The high salt content in sea water can cause dogs to become thirsty, prompting them to drink more water, which exacerbates dehydration.

In addition to the salt content, sea water may contain other potentially harmful substances such as bacteria, algae, and pollutants, which can cause illness if ingested. It's essential to monitor your dog's water intake and prevent them from drinking large amounts of sea water to reduce the risk of adverse effects. After swimming in the sea, rinse your dog with fresh water to remove salt and sand from their coat, paws, and fur, and provide access to clean drinking water to prevent dehydration.

MAKING VISITS TO THE BEACH FUN AND SAFE

While the beach offers endless opportunities for fun and relaxation, it's essential to be mindful of the potential dangers it presents to our canine companions. By taking precautions such as sun protection, water safety measures, and keeping an eye out for hazards, you can ensure a safe and enjoyable beach experience for both you and your beloved dog.




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His name is Russell

By Louise Brolly (Adora-Bull Terrier Rescue)



While families were getting ready to receive their guests and enjoy a peaceful Christmas period over December 2023, Adora-Bull Terrier Rescue and Rehabilitation was swamped with more dogs than ever being abandoned, found as strays – some surrendered and others rehomed irresponsibly by owners and left in even worse conditions.

On the 20th of December Adora-Bull received a call – nothing new – our phones ring off the hook most days, but this call was urgent, desperate. A lady had phoned us about a brindle and white Bull Terrier male whom she'd come to know about who'd been chained in a small section of a scrapyard in Pretoria.

A ROUGH LIFE

What we found was a beautiful brindle male Bull Terrier chained with a thick, awful leather-type collar, only a small cement space to call "home"

(for lack of a better word), filthy bowls with dirty, stale water, and the only scraps of food were bits of bones, also probably having been there much longer than would have been healthy for him to eat.

Plans were made to try and get to this dog as soon as we could, to get him to a vet, and to then find an open spot with us, as we just couldn't possibly leave him in the state he was in. Scrapyards aren't too keen to give up their "security", so tactfully we did our best and were able to cement his freedom from life on a chain. He had no name – he was just a dog in a scrapyard – but now he was a dog with Adora-Bull in his corner and we named him Russell.

HIS NAME IS RUSSELL

Russell was taken to a great vet practice in Pretoria where he received the full works. He was physically examined and had X-rays and blood work done. Though he was quite healthy, his teeth were terrible and he had shards of bone and gravel passing through his digestive tract due to the rubbish he'd been fed and probably prolonged times of hunger where anything would have been eaten to try and take the hunger sensation away.

Russell is a big male, and during his ordeal he was only ever sweet with the humans around him. He loved being fussed over and is a very affectionate dog, which isn't what one would expect from a dog who'd lived in a filthy corner of a scrapyard, pretty much unnoticed and barely cared for.

Adora-Bull set out to find Russell a home that would befit his new standing in life – a dog of character and one who'd not return to what his previous circumstances were.

Along came Nick. Just like we had, he fell for Russell. He applied to adopt, was home-checked and approved. And the rest, as they say, is history! Russell now lives a charmed life – one filled with toys, a comfy bed, lots of love and a collar and tag.



From scrapyard to forever home

A beautiful brand-new comfortable collar with his dad's details on... and his name! His name is Russell!

RUSSELL, MY OLDER SON

By Nick Smith

I heard about Adora-Bull from a good family friend and businessman Mike Seymour (who's sadly since passed away) and the work they do with Bull Terriers – looking for suitable homes while caring for over 50 Bull Terriers at their kennels.

Having spoken to Claire over the phone, we were invited to come out to Meyerton to the kennels and meet some representatives of the rescue. It felt like a homecoming in some way and I knew that I had to meet Russell. Something about his story and his photos just reached out to me and it felt like I'd known him before.

When meeting this sweet brindle dog, I made a promise to him that I'd take him home and care for him for the rest of his life. The next weekend Adora-Bull had made arrangements to bring Russell to our home, and that's something we're still very grateful for.

Dania and Claire have been a constant support and have always made time to chat to us regarding concerns and updates and we feel truly a part of the

Adora-Bull family through our adoption process.

THE BEST CARE

We knew that we'd have some medical requirements, as Russell hadn't received the best care in his past, and we'll not skimp on any of his needs. He's required some dental care, along with treatment for a small infection due to having a compromised health system.

Russell slept in the bedroom with us from the first night, and it's like he's always been part of our family. We're so very sorry for what he'd endured, but we'll ensure that he's loved and cared for until his last breath. He's like my older son, and while he's landed with his bum in the butter, it's absolutely what he deserves. He's in his forever family, in his forever home... beautiful Russell. 🐾



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BEAUTIFUL – NOT DANGEROUS

Creating a safe outdoor space for your dog



Creating a safe outdoor space for your dog isn't only essential for their well-being but also contributes to the beauty and harmony of your surroundings. By incorporating thoughtful design elements and considering your dog's needs, you can cultivate a space that's both functional and aesthetically pleasing.

One of the first steps in designing a safe outdoor space for your dog is to ensure proper fencing. A secure fence or wall not only provides containment but also prevents your dog from wandering into potentially dangerous areas. Choose a fence or walling that's sturdy and tall enough to prevent escape, and regularly inspect it for any signs of wear or damage. Additionally, in order to further enhance security, make sure that your dog can't get out of your gate.

INVITING ENVIRONMENT

Once you've established a secure perimeter, it's time to create an inviting environment for your furry friend. Incorporating natural elements such as grass, plants, and trees can enhance the beauty of the space while providing your dog with opportunities for exploration and stimulation. Be mindful of any plants that may be toxic to dogs and opt for pet-friendly varieties to ensure their safety.

To encourage physical activity and mental stimulation, consider adding features such as a designated

play area with agility equipment or a sandbox for digging. These elements not only provide entertainment for your dog but also promote exercise and discourage destructive behaviours such as digging in unwanted areas.

SHADE IS A MUST

Providing ample shade is crucial for keeping your dog cool and comfortable, especially during the hot summer months. Planting trees or installing shady patios can create shaded areas where your dog can retreat from the sun's rays. Additionally, providing access to fresh water at all times is essential for preventing dehydration and ensuring your dog stays hydrated while enjoying the outdoors.

BEWARE OF HAZARDS

Safety extends beyond the physical environment, so it's important to consider other factors that may pose risks to your dog. For example, be mindful of potential hazards such as toxic substances, sharp objects, or small items that your dog could ingest. Regularly inspect the outdoor space for any potential dangers and take steps to eliminate or mitigate them.

A SAFE, BEAUTIFUL HOME

Creating a safe outdoor space for your dog when he or she is outside isn't just about functionality – it's also about fostering a sense of belonging and happiness. By spending time outdoors with your dog, engaging in activities such as playing fetch or simply lounging together in the sunshine, you strengthen the bond between you and enhance the overall beauty of your outdoor space.

Creating a safe outdoor space for your dog requires careful consideration of both practical and aesthetic elements. By incorporating features such as secure fencing, pet-friendly landscaping, and stimulating play areas, you can cultivate a space that's not only beautiful but also enriching and safe for your furry friend to enjoy. 🐾



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TAIL-WAGGING ADVENTURES: DISCOVERING DOG-FRIENDLY DELIGHTS ACROSS SOUTH AFRICA

Venturing out with your furry companion can lead to unforgettable experiences, and South Africa offers a plethora of opportunities for you and your dog to explore together. Let's embark on a journey through some of the top dog-friendly activities in South Africa, where every outing becomes an adventure filled with wagging tails and cherished memories.

1. Farmers Markets

Farms and dogs were made for each other. But if you can't get the whole farm, South Africa's farmers markets are a must-do sensory delight. With fresh produce, hand-made crafts, and deluxe breakfast vetkoeke, these markets offer loads of smells to stimulate your dog's curious nose.

The Boeremark in Pretoria, Shongweni Farmer's Market in Durban, and the Wild Oats Community Farmers Market in Sedgefield are some top choices that welcome dogs and their owners, too.

2. Make a run for it.

Parkrun. Yes. Every Saturday morning, people willingly jump out of bed to go for a 5km run at one of 217 locations across the country. Parkrun is dog-friendly, absolutely free, and if you are a Discovery Health member, you get 300 points, too.

Some Parkrun spots offer stunning views in beautiful nature locations. Grab the leash and check out parkrun.co.za to find an event near you. You don't actually have to run, and it is a fantastic way to get some exercise while bonding with your pet.

3. Dog-Friendly Parks

For off-leash fun and frolics, dog parks are the place to be. These designated areas provide a safe environment for dogs to socialise, exercise, and let loose. South Africa has some top-rated dog parks that offer a welcome respite from the hustle and bustle of urban life.





Walkhaven Dog Park in Zwartkop, in Joburg, is a favourite among locals and pets alike. Radloff Park Dog Park in Somerset West is a lovely river-side nature space with towering trees, trails, and huge open spaces where dogs can run, jump, and play to their heart's content.

Is your dog anti-social or anxious around other dogs? Check out Ark Walk Park in Fourways, Johannesburg. You can book a safe private park for your dog to run free. Bark Park in Gqerberha, Eastern Cape offers a fully enclosed, membership-based dog park run by experienced dog trainers.

4. Eat Out

Treat yourself and your dog to a dining experience at one of South Africa's dog-friendly restaurants. Many eateries offer speciality doggy-menus, snacks, and amenities to make them feel right at home.

Places like Paul's Homemade Ice Cream offer delicious treats-on-a-stick for dogs alongside their human-friendly menu items. Naughty Monkey Café in Wilderness and Rachella's

in Pretoria are also known for their pet-friendly atmospheres and tasty offerings. Enjoy a meal or an ice cream for yourself while your furry friend indulges in a puppacchino or pupcake – it's a win-win situation for everyone involved.

South Africa is a paradise for dog lovers, with a wealth of pet-friendly activities to discover. Whether you're exploring a farmer's market, pounding the pavement at a Park Run, or dining at a dog-friendly restaurant, there's something for every canine companion to enjoy. So, grab your leash and embark on an adventure that you and your furry friend will find remarkable.



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Angel's Journey

By Tracy McQuarrie – Dogtown SA



The perfect name for her – Angel. Our team took one look at her and just knew there was something special about this girl.

Angel and her three puppies were surrendered, unwanted. Angel was still very much a puppy herself, having to raise three youngsters.

On arrival Angel was underweight and showed a lifetime of neglect. But her little tail never stopped wagging and she had a beautiful twinkle in her eyes, as if she just knew that from here on out things would be different for her and her babies. It took a few weeks to get some weight on Angel, but what a beautiful transformation it was.

FINDING A HOME...

The big task of finding homes for her and her puppies began. We knew all too well that finding a home for her wouldn't be easy – if only we could get people to look past their perceptions of certain breeds they'd see the wonderful girl she is. None the less, we were determined to find the perfect home for the perfect girl.

The enquiries for the puppies started trickling in, one of which was from a wonderful pre-approved family who'd previously adopted from us. They were ready to add a pup to their family and we set up an appointment for them to come meet the puppies and see which one they'd connect with.

Living her best life

Then the unexpected happened. They asked about possibly meeting Angel too as they felt some sort of connection with her photos. Without hesitation we said YES, please come meet her!

THE ONE!

When the family arrived to meet Angel and her puppies, we were hopeful for Angel, but we knew that it's very difficult for anybody to not be charmed by the cuteness overload that puppies bring.

But no matter how cute our puppies were, there was a pull towards Angel, and the family decided there and then ... Angel is the one!

All of us wanted to literally do a little jump for joy. Angel met the family's other dogs, and being the amazing dog that she is, it was a perfect fit.

INTO THE SUNSET

Fast forward a day or two to dot the i's and cross the t's, Angel sailed off into the sunset to join her very own forever family.

Vernita and Ivan (Angel's new family) couldn't believe their luck that they'd found the perfect fit for their family. They say it's as if she's always been there. She just walked in and was part of the family.

LIVING HER BEST LIFE

We receive regular updates of Angel (now named Gracie), living her very best life, sprawled out on the beds and couches. When we look at those photos, we can't believe it's the same skinny soul who was surrendered all those months ago.

We miss you, Angel, but we couldn't have found a more perfect home for you. Be happy, girl – you're one of the lucky ones. We promise to find amazing homes for your puppies too!



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Give Pees a Chance – Toilet Training 101

Toilet training takes time and patience



Toilet training, also known as housebreaking or potty training, is a crucial aspect of bringing a new dog into your home. Teaching your dog where and when to relieve themselves not only prevents accidents indoors but also fosters good hygiene and promotes a harmonious living environment.

Establish a Routine

Consistency is key when it comes to toilet training. Establish a regular schedule for feeding, potty breaks, and outdoor activities. Take your dog outside first thing in the morning, after meals, before bedtime, and at regular intervals throughout the day.

Choose a Potty Spot

Designate a specific area outside where you want your dog to eliminate. Take them to this spot consistently and use a cue word or phrase such as “go potty” to encourage them to do their business.

Supervise and Monitor

Keep a close eye on your dog, especially during the initial stages of toilet training. Watch for signs that they need to go potty, such as circling, sniffing, or whining. When you notice these signs, immediately take them outside to their designated potty spot.

Use Positive Reinforcement

Praise and reward your dog every time they successfully go potty outside. Use verbal praise, treats, or a favourite toy to reinforce good behaviour. Positive reinforcement helps your dog associate toileting outside with positive experiences and encourages them to repeat the behaviour.

Be Patient and Consistent

Toilet training takes time and patience, so be prepared for setbacks and accidents along the way. Stay calm and avoid punishing your dog for accidents indoors, as this can create fear and confusion. Instead, focus on reinforcing good behaviour and being consistent with your training routine.

Clean Accidents Thoroughly

Accidents are inevitable during the toilet training process, so it's essential to clean up messes promptly and thoroughly. Use a pet-safe enzymatic cleaner to remove odours and stains, as residual smells can attract your dog to the same spot again.

Limit Access Indoors

Until your dog is fully toilet trained, consider restricting their access to certain areas of the house or using a crate or playpen when you're unable to supervise them. This helps prevent accidents and reinforces the importance of toileting outside.

Be Mindful of Timing

Pay attention to your dog's natural toileting schedule and adjust your routine accordingly. Young puppies may need more frequent potty breaks, while older dogs may be able to hold it longer between trips outside.

Seek Professional Help if Needed

If you're struggling with toilet training despite your best efforts, don't hesitate to seek guidance from a professional dog trainer or behaviourist. They can provide personalised advice and support to help you overcome any challenges you may encounter. By following these tips and remaining patient and consistent, you can successfully toilet train your dog and enjoy a clean and stress-free living environment together. Remember, every dog is different, so be flexible and adjust your approach as needed to suit your dog's individual needs and preferences. 🐾



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The importance of genetically screening your dog for health issues

The benefits of identifying health risks

In every species, be it human, dog, cat or mouse, mutations inevitably arise in every population. During cell replication, mistakes can sometimes occur, altering the genetic code. Although most mutations that arise will have little effect, some produce physical changes.

Beneficial mutations will help animals adapt and outcompete others, whereas harmful mutations can lead to the development of disease. In diverse populations, the frequency of harmful mutations remains low, as selection draws from a vast gene pool. But isolating subgroups by appearance, such as in the case of dog breeding, can concentrate harmful mutations by limiting the gene pool.

GENETIC MUTATIONS

The introduction of breed clubs and standards in the mid-19th century led to a reproductive isolation and dramatically reduced genetic diversity in many purebred dog breeds. The breed barrier rule prevented interbreeding between different breeds, shrinking gene pools. Smaller gene pools led to an increase in the frequency of established mutations.

Many modern dog breeds now suffer from alarmingly high rates of deleterious genetic mutations due to this lack of diversity. The most effective way to reduce the prevalence of genetic mutations in purebred dogs is through careful breeding practices, based on knowing the genetic status of the breeding animals. Genetic testing allows breeders to

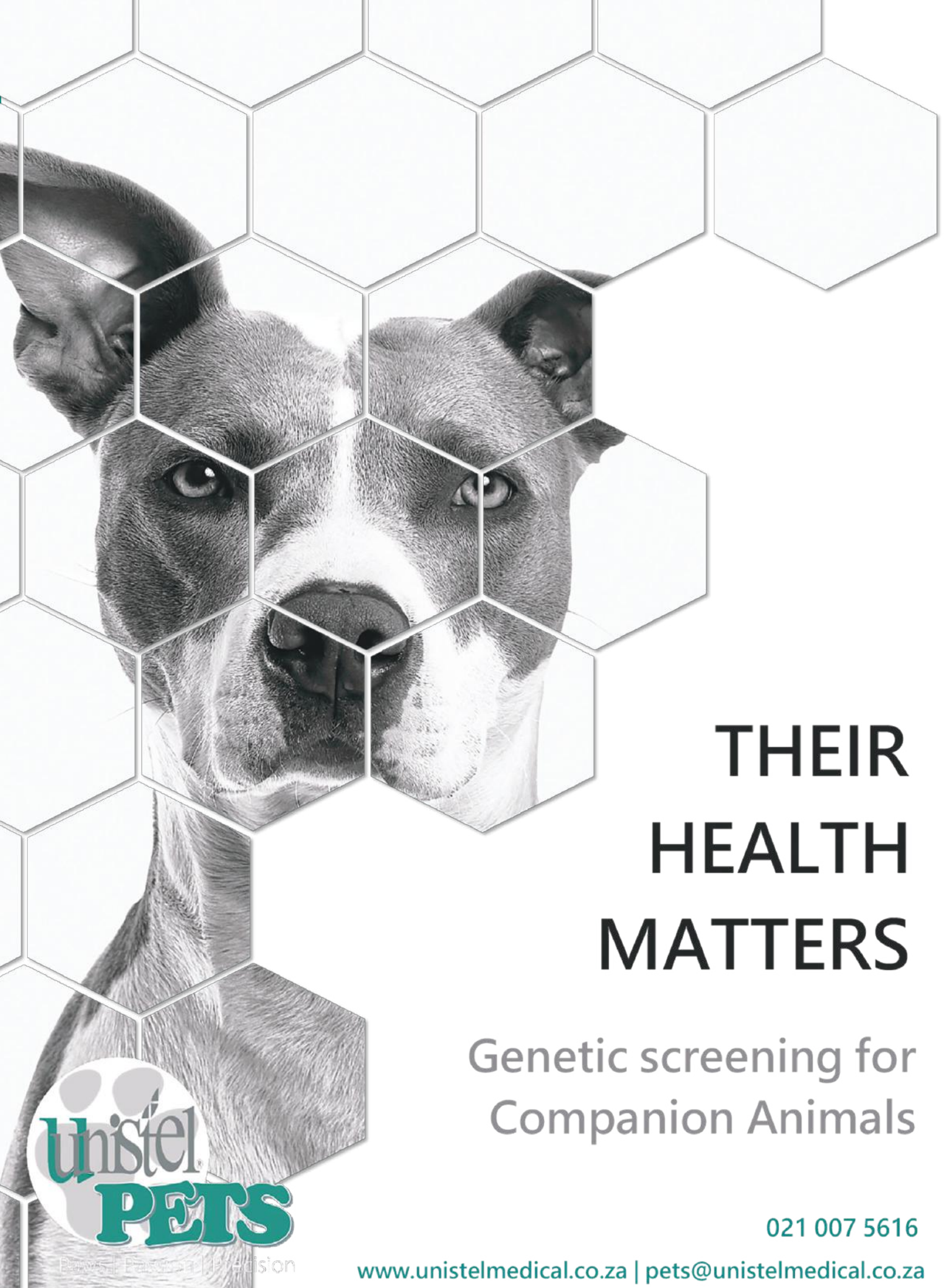
make informed mating choices that both limits the prevalence of affected dogs and preserves diversity within the breed. These tests also benefit pet owners by identifying health risks, which can guide medical decisions. If a pet parent, for example, knows their dog carries two copies of the *MDR1* mutation, they can avoid administering drugs that can be toxic to their affected dogs. Similarly, a dog prone to kidney disease could be placed on a protective diet early on. Genetic screening is a valuable tool for breeders making mating selections as well as owners proactively caring for their dogs' health.

PROPER CARE AND MANAGEMENT

Many of these diseases can be managed with the proper diet, medication, or changes to your dog's routine. For dogs allergic to certain medications, vets can prescribe alternative drugs. For dogs prone to collapse after exercise or overexcitement, vets may suggest a calmer playing regimen. Even when a mutation is present, it's difficult to predict how severely the disease will manifest in each dog. The symptoms may range from mild and manageable to severe. For breeders, a positive test means removing the dog from their breeding programme.

Pet owners should discuss test results with their vet, explore options for managing symptoms, and schedule regular check-ups to monitor disease progression. The goal should always be to maximise quality of life through proper care and management. 🐾





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A SECOND CHANCE FOR SKYLAR

Written by Julia Travis, PlumPets Social Media

Professional photography by Nat Gold ZA (www.natgoldza.co.za)



Skylar lost her human Dad, Ivan Greybe, in March 2022. He'd adopted her as a young puppy from the SPCA and she was his whole world, and he was hers. She was being looked after by Ivan's son, but she urgently needed a place to call home and he was unable to keep her.

Skylar is a senior dog with epilepsy, and this made her a "tough sell", but when the PlumPets team met her in May 2022, we knew we had to help. Skylar, a sweet and gentle German Shepherd girl, was in surprisingly good condition, and we were convinced she had another chapter still left in her life. So, we got to work on social media, spreading her story and looking for that "one-in-a-million" family who'd see the potential we saw and take her on.

MEETING SKYLAR

In June 2022, Noordhoek resident Anthea Rickard contacted us after seeing the post for Skylar and said

she'd like to meet her. She had a German Shepherd cross named Kyle who was around eight years old, and although he got on well with other dogs, he was quite vocal when other dogs paid his mom too much attention. He'd had a bad start, picked up by law enforcement in 2019 running on the R43, and from his condition it was clear he'd been on the road a long time. Anthea had done lots of work with him and they were very bonded, so we knew that getting the introduction right would be vital. We met up in a neutral place and did a slow intro between Skylar and Kyle. The intro went well, apart from some possessive barking, although there was no aggression from Kyle and Skylar wasn't reactive in any way.

We decided not to push things too quickly, so we didn't send her home with Anthea immediately. We rather made another plan to meet up a few days later and did another meet-and-greet, this time in

We're so happy to have been Skylar's "one"

their home. Jessica and Andrew (our volunteer couple who help with intros) took Skylar for a walk with their pack to get a sense of her temperament and then headed out to Noordhoek for a home introduction. Things went well, and with some small adjustments and suggestions for dealing with Kyle's behaviour and managing Skylar's anxiety in a new place, they felt confident about letting Skylar stay.

And stay she has, as Anthea and her partner, Suzie, embraced Skylar and decided to offer her a new life. Slow intros were also needed with their cat. Skylar's epilepsy was a bit unstable initially, but it settled. A lump on her underside was picked up during the rehoming process, which created some cause for concern. We held our breath hoping this wouldn't mean a different ending for Skylar, but Anthea was undeterred by this and said she'd still take her on, no matter the outcome. Skylar was seen by Anthea's vet and the fluid taken from the lump thankfully showed no sign of cancerous cells. Skylar later had a successful procedure to remove this fatty lump.

HOME AND ADORED

Skylar has now been with Anthea and Suzie for 18 months. Skylar and Kyle are getting on well and Anthea and Suzie adore her. There have been some health challenges, and the couple have made sure Skylar has the best possible care. Skylar is having the most amazing time in her new home, and she and Kyle have become a great duo. She also fit in beautifully with the extended pack (their dogs go on daily walks with friends and their dogs on the surrounding trails and on beach walks in the area).

We couldn't be more overjoyed that Skylar found her special forever home with Anthea, Suzie and brother Kyle. We're grateful for human angels like Anthea who are willing to take on senior dogs with medical issues and give them a second chance.

We're sure that Ivan's resting peacefully knowing his beloved Skylar has a place to call home.



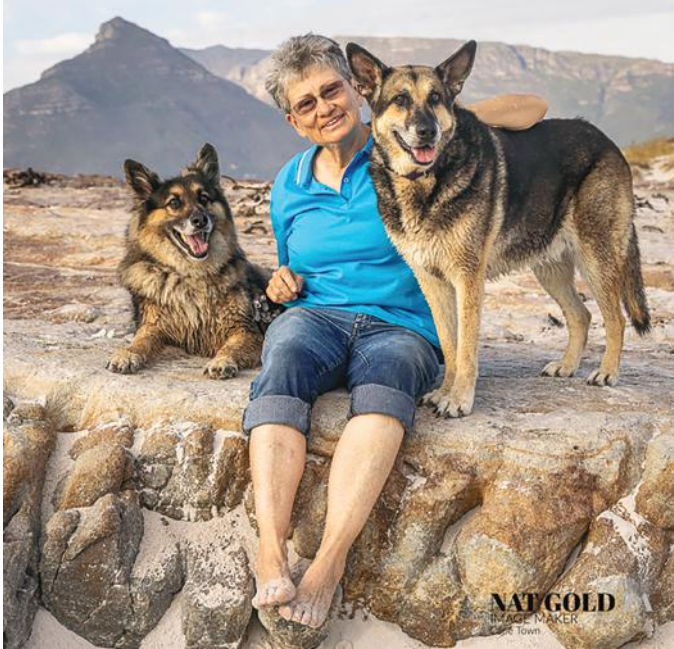
ANTHEA SHARES...

One evening, just over 18 months ago, I received a message from a friend with a link to PlumPets Animal Shelter's post about a 10-year-old GSD whose person had died and who now found herself all alone and looking for a new home.

I looked across the room at my ±8-year-old GSD-wanna-be rescue, Kyle, wondering what he'd feel about sharing his space... and promptly sent a message asking if Skylar was still looking for a home. I got an instant response saying that she was and explaining what I should do next. Between Paulette and Judy from PlumPets and me, we addressed the preliminaries until quite late that night. My partner, Suzie, is a retired nursing sister and wasn't at all daunted about Skylar's epilepsy. I think we were all very excited that there may be an answer to Skylar's search.

MEET AND GREET

Judy did our home check and handed us over to Julia to set up a "meet-and-greet". Julia fetched Skylar and brought her to the neutral venue, and Kyle and Skylar (or "Skyles", as they've become called collectively) did surprisingly well on their first meet, sniffing each other occasionally, but



largely just ignoring each other. We were very excited that this could actually work!

After the second meet-and-greet, Skylar came home, and we haven't looked back. She settled into her new home within a few days, and it soon felt as if she'd always been with us. Her epilepsy stabilised very quickly, and she seldom has a fit now. When she does, they're mild.

She's such a character! We initially had a baby gate in place to keep our elderly cat separate, but Madam Skylar quietly cleared the baby gate, went into the room the cat was in, ignored the cat (thankfully), and emerged, once again jumping over the baby gate, carrying a full bowl of wet cat food in her mouth! Antics like this keep us constantly amused. She quickly worked out the rhythm of the days and is ready for morning and afternoon walks and knows which meals are followed by biscuits when her humans have coffee!

LIVING WITH KYLE AND SKYLAR

Kyle has settled very well and lost a lot of his anxiety now that he has someone sharing his life. On group walks he now joins the other dogs

(sometimes 12 or 14 of them) instead of sticking by my side. Skylar is full of energy and quite a daredevil when we're only out with Kyle. She just launches off highish banks into the water below! When we're in a bigger group, though, she stays glued to my side. She loves her walks, all forms of water and exploring the beautiful spaces around the Peninsula. She's now 11.5 but still has such a zest for life that Suzie will have to wait a while yet for her "armchair" dog!

I've always had a soft spot for older dogs, especially older rescue dogs. It feels to me as if they've given their best years already and then been abandoned at their most vulnerable, for many different, usually sad, reasons. We're so pleased that Skylar found her way to us and is living her retirement life to the full and that we could honour the life Ivan had given her into her older years. She's really completed our family and continues to bring us so much laughter and happiness. (We hope for Ivan too!)



No-one else was able to open their homes to Skylar at that point in time, but as Paulette said, "It only takes one." We're so happy to have been Skylar's "one".

P.S. To Kim – we'll always be very grateful that you sent the link on to us. And to our fantastic vet, Dr Tracy Dicks, for all your care and help in getting Skylar back to her best self. 🐾

Story originally published on Happy Tails website - www.happytailsmagazine.co.za

MAXIMUS – SMALL IN STATURE, MIGHTY IN WILL

By Michelle Ferreira



A rescued dog loves like no other

that's what he enjoyed the most.

A TOUGH TIME

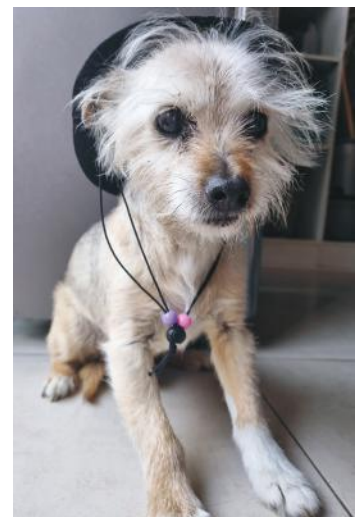
Unfortunately, all good stories do come with some sad parts too. We thought we'd lost him in September 2021. His entire body gave in and he vomited yellow bile. With all speed I got him to our vet, where I was told there wasn't much they could do. But I decided to try my luck and consulted a Johannesburg specialist vet to find out what could possibly be done. The problem was in his gallbladder wall, and the one thing that could help was to remove it.

Of course, we made the decision to do the operation. He made it – he showed us he wanted to make it. After another two-and-a-half years our next scare came. The one moment he was fine, the next his back legs didn't want to work. X-rays revealed that he had a possible spine problem, but surgery at his age and the recovery would be very difficult, so we decided to try the traditional approach of meds and cage rest. And guess what? Our little trooper decided he still wanted to be with us.

TURNING 18!

Maxi made his 18th year, and we couldn't be happier and more blessed. Once again he's fully recovered and we have our little man sleeping 20 hours a day, but he does know when it's mealtime. We can only hope to be blessed with another month, or two, or even a year. Even though he's very much a loner and very quiet, we couldn't imagine our home without him.

I'm a strong believer in adopting and rescuing, and I can truly say that a rescued dog loves like no other. 🐾



Let me tell you the story of a dog named Maximus. I first saw him on a Facebook post from Brakpan SPCA on the 4th of February 2013. I emailed my husband (we already had three adopted babies, but this one spoke to me) and we went to meet him that same afternoon.

He was kept in front, like a little receptionist baby. He had long messy hair, but to me he was absolutely spectacular. They guessed he was born around 2006. Well, the next moment he was ours.

EASY INTRODUCTIONS

Maxi was the easiest introduction to our home that I've ever had. It was as if our other babies just knew he was special. He was old and abused – no one would know how he might have been abused, but we could see it. From the first moment he entered our home, he just wanted his mommy.

Sassy (our first born – a Border Collie cross from Wet Nose who's now 15 years old), Daisy (our second, a Basenji cross from Sandton SPCA, now 15 years) and Ozzy (a 13-year-old wire-haired cross from Alberton SPCA) all loved him, but the little soul always preferred me.

We teased and called him Mr Stiffy, because from day one those four little legs wouldn't bend, but he coped just fine. He'd sleep for much of the day, but

Understanding Cruciate Cranial Tears in Dogs

By Dr Larry Kraitzick, Bruma Lake Veterinary Clinic



Cruciate cranial tears, or cranial cruciate ligament (CCL) injuries, are common orthopaedic issues that impact dogs of all breeds and sizes.

These injuries can be distressing for both pets and their owners. However, gaining a thorough understanding of their causes, diagnosis, and treatment options is vital for ensuring the optimal health and well-being of our beloved furry companions.

DEFINITION AND CAUSES

The cranial cruciate ligament

(CCL) is a crucial stabilising ligament in your dog's knee joint. When this ligament is torn, either partially or completely, it leads to instability and pain in the knee. While these tears often happen gradually over time due to wear and tear, sudden incidents like falls or twists can also contribute to them.

BREEDS AND AGES MORE SUSCEPTIBLE

Although CCL tears can occur in any breed, certain breeds are genetically predisposed to this condition due to their anatomy

and genetics. Although overweight and older dogs face an increased risk due to increased joint strain, any age, weight, and breed may be affected. In fact, small breeds such as Maltese and Yorkies often suffer knee conditions because of their conformation.

DIAGNOSIS

Diagnosing a cruciate cranial tear typically involves a comprehensive evaluation conducted by a veterinarian. This evaluation may comprise physical examination, X-rays, and occasionally advanced imaging techniques



By **Dr Larry Kraitzick**
 BVSc MRCVS
 Facebook: @drlarrykrait



Causes, Diagnosis, and Treatment

like MRI or CT scans. During the physical exam, veterinarians assess the affected knee's range of motion, look for signs of discomfort, and evaluate joint stability. X-rays offer insights into any associated bony changes, while MRI or CT scans provide detailed views of soft tissues within the knee joint.

TREATMENT

Treating cruciate cranial tears in dogs involves various options tailored to the individual circumstances of your pet. Here's what you can expect:

Conservative Management: For milder cases or dogs who aren't suitable candidates for surgery, conservative approaches may be recommended. This can include giving your furry friend plenty of rest to allow the knee to heal, along with anti-inflammatory medications to ease pain and inflammation. Additionally, physical therapy exercises may be prescribed to strengthen the

muscles around the joint and improve mobility. Weight management is also crucial, as excess weight can put extra strain on the injured knee.

Surgical Intervention: In more severe cases or if conservative methods aren't providing adequate relief, your veterinarian may recommend surgical treatment. There are several surgical techniques available, each with its own benefits and considerations:

Extracapsular Repair: This involves using sutures or synthetic materials to stabilise the knee joint from outside.

TPLO (Tibial Plateau Levelling Osteotomy): TPLO surgery alters the angle of the tibia to reduce stress on the damaged ligament and stabilise the joint.

TTA (Tibial Tuberosity Advancement): TTA surgery repositions the patellar tendon to achieve a similar effect as TPLO.


Tightrope Stabilisation: This technique utilises a synthetic ligament to support the knee joint. Whatever method is chosen, your dog will require extensive and targeted physiotherapy. This should be

provided by a qualified veterinary physiotherapist.

Your veterinarian will assess your dog's specific condition and recommend the most suitable surgical approach. The goal of surgery is to stabilise the knee joint, promote healing, and alleviate pain, ultimately restoring your pet's mobility and quality of life.

PROGNOSIS

The prognosis for dogs with cruciate cranial tears hinges on various factors, including injury severity, overall health, and treatment approach. With proper treatment and rehabilitation, many dogs can regain function and enjoy active lives. However, untreated or improperly managed CCL injuries can lead to chronic pain, joint instability, and secondary osteoarthritis. Therefore, early diagnosis and appropriate intervention are critical for achieving the best possible outcome.

In conclusion, cruciate cranial tears represent significant challenges for dogs and their owners. By understanding the causes, recognising symptoms, and seeking timely veterinary care, pet owners can effectively manage this condition and enhance their furry friends' quality of life. Whether through conservative management or surgical intervention, the ultimate goal remains providing optimal care and support for our beloved canine companions. 



Changing Romy's Life

By Luke Kruyt (TEARS Animal Rescue)



On a weekend marked by cruelty, eight-week-old Romy faced the harshness of the world after a harrowing incident with a group of children. Kicked and left bruised and frightened, Romy's fate took a positive turn when a compassionate rescuer swooped in, bringing her to TEARS Animal Rescue for safety. Under the watchful eye of the TEARS Veterinary Hospital, Romy received medical care, vaccinations, and deworming and defleaing treatments.

FOSTERING TAKES COMPASSION

Romy was then placed into the loving care of a seasoned TEARS foster volunteer, Kelly Farr. For six weeks, Kelly provided a warm, loving home for Romy, which, together with the comforting influence of Kelly's dogs, saw Romy's confidence increase and

her true personality emerge.

Fostering rescue dogs and cats takes more than compassion and patience – it takes courage. For Kelly, fostering for TEARS is more than a way to help vulnerable pets; it's evolved into a rewarding journey of witnessing trust and of joy being restored in a once-traumatised innocent animal that demonstrates an often-inconceivable capacity to love and forgive. The hardest part of any foster's role is saying the inevitable goodbye, but for Kelly, the joy of seeing Romy in her forever home made it all worthwhile.

ADOPTION BLISS

Tineka Kriel and her family became the next chapter in Romy's story. Adopting Romy from TEARS instead of opting for a breeder was an easy decision for Tineka and her partner, Pierre. Romy's story and charming personality won them over, and she quickly became the darling in the family, forming a special bond with their other TEARS-adopted dog, Shenzi.

Tineka shares amusing anecdotes about Romy's daily life, from her constant presence in the kitchen to her morning ritual of gifting toys and demanding playtime while everyone's still in bed. Her mock tantrums when she doesn't get enough attention, akin to a toddler's, adds a playful touch of humour to her endearing personality.

Tineka passionately advocates for adopting pets from shelters, emphasising the life-saving second chance it offers deserving dogs. She regales the comical proceedings of convincing her partner – who was determined that they weren't getting a second dog – to adopt Romy, who's now become Pierre's clear favourite. The family's decision to “adopt rather than shop” from a breeder reflects the belief that rescue dogs, like Romy, bring immeasurable joy and fun into homes, and they have the potential to surpass all expectations as they seem to

A Heartwarming Tale of Second Chances

perceive that they've been given another chance.

FOSTERING SAVES LIVES

The heartwarming tale of Romy wouldn't be complete without a call to action. TEARS is actively seeking dedicated foster families in Cape Town to help provide vulnerable and rescued cats and dogs like Romy a second chance. Fostering puppies usually lasts 2-6 weeks, which gives a rescued puppy or kitten the best start at a new life during their stay with you. Hill's Pet Nutrition is an integral part of TEARS' Rehabilitation Programme and provides for the nutritional needs of all TEARS rescue pets – including foster puppies and kittens – and TEARS covers all associated veterinary and treatment costs at their Veterinary Hospital.

In most circumstances, your foster will become available for adoption after spending two weeks in "quarantine" with you. Thereafter, your foster will

be ready for adoption and TEARS will manage the assessment, home checks and arrange appointments with potential adopters who are a good match.

COULD YOU FOSTER?

As rewarding as it is, fostering takes up a lot of time! Puppies and kittens need constant supervision, so we're looking for new fosters who have the time to dedicate to raising a puppy or kitten. Fosters need to be able to bring their furry foster kids to the TEARS Veterinary Hospital for scheduled vet appointments (up to 2-3 a month) or in cases of emergencies and be available to attend adoption events to help find them a forever home.

Fostering saves lives. To apply to join the life-saving TEARS Foster Network, please visit tears.org.za/dog-foster-application. To donate, visit tears.org.za/donate. Every act of kindness contributes to these animals' second chances, making the world a brighter place, one rescued pet at a time. 🐾





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PREPARATION IS KEY

First and foremost, preparation is key. Before embarking on the journey, it's crucial to choose the right animal travel service like our team at Animal-Travel Services. We will take over to ensure that all arrangements are made to comply with the airline's specific pet travel policies and requirements. This includes obtaining the necessary health certificates, vaccinations, and documentation mandated by the destination country or airline.

Once the logistical aspects are sorted, attention turns to the comfort and safety of the canine


traveller. Airlines typically provide guidelines regarding the type and size of the travel crate, ensuring that it's spacious enough for the dog to stand, turn around, and lie down comfortably. Adequate ventilation is paramount to prevent overheating, while absorbent bedding helps keep the crate clean and dry throughout the journey.

Proper acclimatisation to the travel crate is essential to mitigate stress and anxiety for the dog. Introducing the crate gradually in

the weeks leading up to the journey allows the dog to familiarise itself with its temporary enclosure, transforming it into a safe and familiar space rather than a source of apprehension.

YOUR PETS' WELL-BEING

During transit, airlines employ stringent protocols to guarantee the well-being of the pets in their care. Temperature-controlled cargo holds, constant monitoring by trained personnel, and adherence to strict safety regulations minimise risks and ensure a comfortable journey for the furry passengers.

While cargo travel for dogs may seem daunting, meticulous planning and adherence to established protocols can facilitate a safe and comfortable journey for canine companions. By choosing Animal-Travel Services you can be sure that you're prioritising your pets' welfare and taking proactive measures so your entire family can embark on long-distance travels with confidence, knowing that your beloved pets are in capable hands. 

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Golden Retriever (-ology)



Intelligence, friendliness and beauty in one package

The Golden Retriever, with its friendly disposition, gentle demeanour, and unmistakable golden coat, has long been one of the most beloved and popular dog breeds worldwide. Originally bred in Scotland during the mid-19th century, Golden Retrievers were developed as hunting companions to retrieve waterfowl from lakes and rivers. Today, they're cherished as family pets, therapy dogs, and service animals for their loyalty, intelligence, and versatility.

THE GOLDIE NATURE

One of the defining characteristics of the Golden Retriever is its friendly and affectionate nature. Known for their love of people, Golden Retrievers thrive on companionship and are renowned for their gentle temperament, making them excellent family pets and companions for children. They're typically outgoing, sociable, and eager to please, which makes them easy to train and well-suited for various activities such as obedience, agility, and therapy work.

COAT CARE

The Golden Retriever's distinctive golden coat is another hallmark of the breed. Their dense, water-repellent fur comes in various shades of gold, ranging from light cream to deep golden, and typically requires regular grooming to prevent matting and maintain its lustrous appearance.

Despite their luxurious coat, Golden Retrievers are relatively low-maintenance in terms of grooming, making them a popular choice for families and individuals alike.

HEALTH

Golden Retrievers are generally robust and healthy dogs, but like all breeds, they're prone to certain health issues. Common health concerns in Golden Retrievers include hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, and certain types of cancer. Responsible breeding practices, including health screenings for genetic conditions, can help reduce the incidence of hereditary health problems in the breed. The average lifespan of a Golden Retriever is typically between 10 to 12 years, although individual dogs may live longer with proper care and attention to their health. Providing a balanced diet, regular exercise, preventive healthcare, and a loving environment can contribute to your Golden Retriever's longevity and quality of life.

LIVING WITH A GOLDEN RETRIEVER

The Golden Retriever's combination of beauty, intelligence, and temperament has made it one of the most beloved and sought-after dog breeds in the world. Whether as a loyal family pet, a dedicated service animal, or a competitive athlete, Golden Retrievers truly exemplify the title of "man's best friend" 🐾



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Made from warm Polar Fleece and quality ribbing, these comfy jerseys are overlocker stitched, to ensure a stronger, classier jersey. The Kunduchi Sporty Dog range has a number on the back that coincides with the size of the jersey. Sporty Dog Jerseys are available in Green, Turquoise Blue, Sky Blue, Black, Orange, Red and Pink. They're 100% machine washable and come in 19 different sizes to ensure a comfortable fit. Order now from www.takealot.com or visit www.kunduchi.co.za for a size guide.



ALTIMATE MINT DENTAL CHEWS

These delicious dental chews from Altimate are infused with mint and chlorophyll. Chewing is an excellent way to keep your dog's oral health in great shape. Offer them a piece of Altimate Dental Chew to chew on and the act itself will help to exercise the jaw muscles and scrape plaque and tartar off teeth. Available now at pet, vet and online stores. Visit www.rucenta.co.za for more information.



FOR WHEN YOU NEED AN EXTRA-STRONG TOY

Reach for Kong Extreme Dog Toy if you're looking for an ultra-strong and durable toy to outlast your dog's powerful jaw. Especially if your dog likes to chew incessantly and you're looking for something that you can stuff with healthy treats. KONG Extreme is made of an extra-durable black rubber compound. Available in various sizes from pet stores, or visit www.pethero.co.za to order online.



STOP THE ITCH!

Vetlomar™ Allergy Itch Relief Cream, Shampoo, and Hot Spot Spray offer relief from itchy, irritated and inflamed skin in animals. Vetlomar™ Allergy Itch Relief products contain CEM-K, a patented 100% natural active ingredient (*Ecklonia maxima*) derived from sea kelp. It's clinically proven to be highly effective in relieving swelling and itchiness of the skin. Allergic skin diseases in dogs are the result of changes in the environment and the exposure to microbes and parasites. CEM-K is rich in phlorotannins, which have proven anti-inflammatory properties, especially when applied to the skin. Available now at pet, vet and online stores. Visit www.rucenta.co.za for more information.



PUPPY TIME WITH MONTEGO WUMA

Complete and balanced WUMA! PUPPY is formulated to give puppies of all breeds and sizes a strong start in life and all the energy they need for daily play. Every nutritious serving contains balanced proteins and fats, essential vitamins and minerals, as well as balanced omega fatty acids to ensure your puppy's health, vitality and conditioning in their early physical development. WUMA! PUPPY is available in 1.5kg, 8kg and 20kg bags. Visit www.montego.co.za for more information.



DRINKING ON THE GO...

The Pawise Collapsible Pet Bowl is just perfect for travelling with your dog and should be in every pet owner's car. Ideal for outdoor use too. PAWISE products are available now at pet, vet and online stores. Visit www.petbrands.co.za for more information.



SAY NO TO TICKS WITH TICKLESS PET

Are you tired of traditional chemical-based tick and flea repellents for your beloved pets? Say no to harmful chemicals and pesticides. Introducing Tickless Pet: the ultimate solution for safeguarding your furry companions. With advanced ultrasonic technology, it repels parasites without chemicals, ensuring pet safety. Non-toxic and suitable for all pets, it's convenient for home or travel. Ensure a happy, healthy pet!



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These fast acting, revolutionary, bio-enzymatic cleaners remove both new and old stains and odours caused by urine, faeces, vomit and other organic stains. Cleaning the way nature intended, these advanced formulas use non-pathogenic bacteria to speed up the natural biodegradation process, by producing enzymes

that break down the odour causing organic particles and convert them to carbon dioxide and water.

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Available through leading vet, pet and online stores nationwide. Visit www.mcmac.co.za for more information.

Looking for Love

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TEARS ANIMAL RESCUE (CAPE TOWN)



AURORA is a stunning Greyhound-Pointer-Africanis mix with snow-white fur and brindle patches that perfectly accentuate her soulful brown eyes. Surrendered from a nearby low-income community, she's still cautious around new people but has grown more confident. She's a great traveller, well behaved on and off the leash, and loves swimming and playing with other dogs.



PUZZLE is a Basenji-Whippet-Africanis mix with a striking dappled and brindle coat as unique as her personality. She's a true head-turner and her huge, radar ears add to her whimsy and charm. Puzzle's story began when she was found abandoned, wandering the streets of Muizenberg as a puppy. Since then, she's grown into a brave and confident soul, ready to take on the world! Puzzle is great with other dogs.



WALTER is a charming wire-haired Lurcher mix with a bristly beard and wild eyebrows, ready to add a touch of sweetness and serenity to your life. Placid, gentle and easy-going, Walter knows how to go with the flow and enjoys the simple pleasures of life. Endearing and sweet-tempered, he's friendly with everyone he meets and gets along well with other dogs.



CALANTHEA (or Cali for short) is an Africanis-Husky mix with soulful doe-like eyes. She faced a rough start to life and survived being knocked over by a car. Cali may have lost a hind leg, but she hasn't lost her spirit. She's adjusting well to life on three legs and is ready to embrace her future with a loving family. This gentle and endearing young pup loves the company of other dogs.

DOGTOWN SA (GAUTENG)



ZEUS is a loveable boy who tries his best to convince you that he's a lap dog! He loves going for walks and always takes a dip in the pool afterwards. Zeus is very playful and loves to play ball. He'd love to be adopted with his sister, Cleo.



CLEO is a real water baby who loves to swim and play water games. She's very dependent on her brother, Zeus. Cleo loves to be brushed and groomed and adores going for long walks. Even at her age she has her daily dose of zoomies.



ROCKY isn't just handsome, he's also an entertaining boy who loves playing with toys. He enjoys slow-paced walks, loving each and every moment outdoors. Rocky is patiently and eagerly waiting for the perfect family to come along and take him home.



CHASE is a happy boy whose tail never stops wagging. He grew up in a home environment and is fully house-trained. He's a playful boy and loves playing with his brother. Chase grew up with kids and he's cat-friendly too!

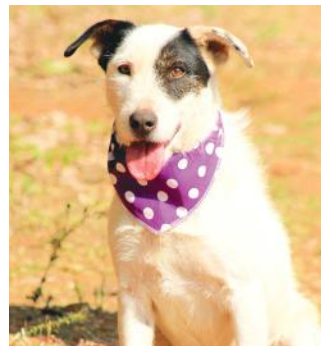
PAWS R US SA (MIDRAND)



MISTY – You really do a “double take” when you see our Misty girl – she’s a gorgeous dog with a heart of gold. Blessed with beautiful shades of brown and white, and a soulful face, she grabs your attention quickly. All she needs now is a wonderful family before winter.



OAKLEY is confident, sociable, friendly, loveable. He really has it all. Tall and lanky with a heart full of goofy love. Our fluffy kid needs to find that “special someone” that was made just for him.



ZARA – We’re puzzled – this is a pretty girl with so much to offer, and yet not a sliver of interest in our Zara. How can this be? Let’s find this precious girl a family she can love.



BOWIE – This loveable boy has the softest face with those “hang-dog eyes” and that ever-ready smile. It matches his gentle temperament and good heart. Our boy’s been waiting for a long time already and is still waiting for his wish of a forever home to come true.

WHERE TO FIND US...

TEARS ANIMAL RESCUE (CAPE TOWN)

CALANTHEA, WALTER, PUZZLE & AURORA

A registered non-profit organisation, TEARS Animal Rescue is one of the country’s leading animal welfare organisations. Our mission is to provide a sanctuary for companion animals in need, striving to end homelessness, neglect and abuse in the communities we serve through medical assistance, humane education, rescue, rehabilitation and rehoming. We believe we can do this by fostering a partnership approach through individual and corporate giving, and by working together with community and animal welfare groups to create a better world with compassion and understanding towards animals. Together we CAN make a difference. Visit our website on www.tears.org.za or call 021 785 4482 or email tears@tears.org.za. You can visit us at 4 Lekkerwater Road, Sunnyside, Cape Town.

DOGTOWN SA (GAUTENG)

ZEUS, CLEO, ROCKY & CHASE

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.

PAWS R US SA (MIDRAND)

MISTY, OAKLEY, ZARA & BOWIE

PAWS R US (SA) is an Animal Rescue and Rehoming Group and a registered Non-Profit Company (NPC). We operate in the companion animal welfare sector in South Africa and focus specifically on the rescue, shelter, networking and rehoming of rescue dogs. Our core operation is based at our Midrand facility (JHB). We also make use of a voluntary network of approved Gauteng-based foster homes. For more information or to adopt, email woof@pawrus.co.za or call 083 518 0447. Find us at Cadeau Kennels, 22 Summit Road, Midrand, South Africa.

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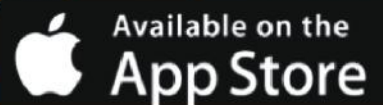
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