

GREAT STORIES, HEALTH & BEHAVIOUR ADVICE AND MUCH MORE!

Canine Zone

The magazine for all dog lovers



RUFF STUFF

Rewards for much-loved canines and their owners

8

Things you do that drive your dog **CRAZY!**

DEALING WITH DROP JAW

THE BRUSSELS GRIFFON

Cute & Lively

Living with a **TEENAGE DOG**

OH SWEETPEA!

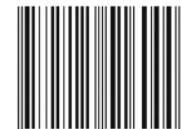
What dog breed are you?

Take our quiz and find out

"FORCE-FREE" TRAINING

Why it matters...

Feb/March 2023 R39.90 incl. VAT Namibia \$39.90



HAPPY Happies



NEW

Meet the **NEW** Addition to the JOCK Range

Canine Zone

The magazine for all dog lovers



Brought to you by...

Complete.

Pet nutrition by pet people



Montego
— Pet Nutrition —



LIONEL'S CHOICE

Holistic Nutrition



Canine Zone Magazine
is on sale bi-monthly at Woolworths,
Checkers, Checkers Hyper and Exclusive
Books countrywide as well as selected
branches of Spar and Pick 'n Pay.

Also available as a free digital copy from

www.caninezonesa.co.za

To advertise, e-mail -
editorial@caninezonesa.co.za



PET BRANDS



**ANIMAL
TRAVEL
SERVICES**

INSIDE

Canine Zone

The magazine for all dog lovers



Breedology - Page 44
The Brussels Griffon



IN EVERY ISSUE

4. UPFRONT

What's new in the wonderful world of dogs

8. YOUR PHOTOS

We asked for your cutest dog photos – and we got 'em!

10. ASK THE EXPERTS

Your behavioural problems answered

12. DOGS 101

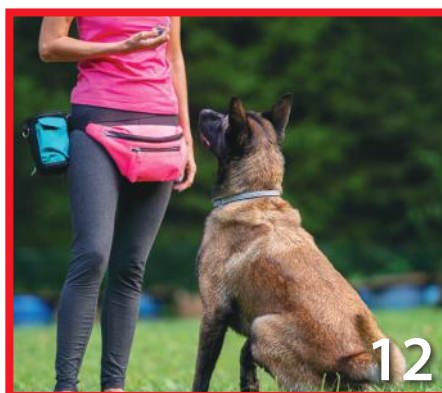
What is "force-free" training - and why it matters

FEATURES

- 14. Dog hoarding
- 20. Fostering resilience
- 23. What is Black Dog Syndrome?

FOREVER HOME

- 24. The happy tale of one very happy dog
- 40. Oh Sweetpea!



ADVICE AND MORE

- 16. Fun Quiz - what dog breed are you?
- 18. Better safe than sorry
- 26. 8 things you do that drive your dog crazy
- 28. Living with an adolescent dog
- 47. Surviving divorce

ASK THE VET

- 32. Dealing with a condition called Drop Jaw
- 36. Coping with the itches
- 38. What is Phemphigus?

THE BREED

- 44. Brussels Griffon (-ology)
Cute, small and lively

RESCUE STARS

- 42. Out of the fire - DAW

RUFF STUFF

- 48. Rewards for much-loved canines and their owners

50. ADORABLE ADOPTABLES

Meet a few winsome charmers now in shelters countrywide



Dog talk



By the time you read this issue, we'll be well into 2023, but I'd still like to wish all our wonderful readers, sponsors and advertisers a very happy, healthy and successful new year. With the issues that most people deal with on a daily basis, starting with the state of our country and loadshedding, sometimes we just have to focus on the positive and be grateful for what we do have. When I feel overwhelmed, I just stop for a minute and focus on my dogs. I listen to their breathing, which calms me down immediately. It's no surprise, as it's been scientifically proven that dogs can help with stress and anxiety and can even stabilise blood pressure.

I spent December wondering what else we could do to help dogs this year, and there really is so much that can be done if we have a real plan and work together. Shelters truly do so much but are always under pressure to cover all their costs, which include food and veterinary expenses. These days, the average person can't afford to donate a lot of money, but what if we all set up a monthly donation drive at work or at our child's school? It's actually very simple to do – speak to the school to ask for permission and to promote the drive in their newsletter and on the social media pages, or get your boss's approval to send out a company memo. Decide if you want to donate to the same shelter every month or a different one.

Set up a day (or during the month) when people bring in dog food, toys, treats, blankets or a cash donation and then arrange a day when the shelter will collect from you, or you can deliver and see how your campaign is actually helping! I guarantee that by doing this, it will bring purpose to your life and a smile to your face, and you'll be paying it forward – helping those without a voice.

We're delighted that we'll still be working with our regular sponsors this year – companies who do so much for dogs and really care about our fur kids. Please support them, because the more you do, the more they can give back!

We're also excited about launching our podcast this year. I used to have a weekly show on Cliff Central but left when life got too busy, and because I thoroughly enjoyed doing it, I want to start up a Canine Zone podcast. Keep an eye on our Facebook and Instagram pages for more details about the launch in February. In addition, now that we've moved past the pandemic, we're working on our Canine Zone pet expos in shopping malls again and are hoping shortly to have big news about them, so watch this space!

This issue is once again jam-packed with articles, including one I wrote about my personal experience with Drop Jaw in my baby boy Drake. Information about the condition is scarce, and the only person I could find who'd dealt with this was a lady in Canada, so I wanted to put my experiences out there in the hope it could help any other pet parents. Over the holidays I was surprised to see how expensive some magazines have become, and we've made the decision to keep our price the same in 2023. We're so grateful to our readers who continue to support us.

Until the next issue – stay safe, stay positive and give your doggos a big cuddle from me!

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

Caitlin Balt-Helmrich

(Accredited Animal Behaviourist)

Julie Bezuidenhout

(Accredited Animal Behaviourist)

Dr Larry Kraitzick (Veterinarian)

Tracy McQuarrie (Dogtown SA)

ACCOUNTS/ADMIN/SUBSCRIPTIONS

Telephone – 011 475-1536

Email – devad@polka.co.za

ADVERTISING QUERIES

Chelsea Blake

Tel: 011 475 1536

advertising@caninezonesa.co.za

CIRCULATION

Francis Olivier - On the Dot

Email - Francis.Olivier@onthedot.co.za



Published by Canine Zone (PTY) Ltd
Telephone – 011 475 1536

Email – editorial@caninezonesa.co.za
Website – www.caninezonesa.co.za

Facebook – www.facebook.com/CanineZoneSA

COPYRIGHT:

All rights reserved. No editorial matter published in this magazine may be reproduced in any form without prior written permission from the publishers. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the content of this publication, the Publishers and Editors do not accept responsibility for omissions or errors or their consequences. Any advice contained within cannot and is not intended to be a substitute for professional veterinary or behaviourist advice. Canine Zone assumes no responsibility for unsolicited photographs and manuscripts. Views expressed in editorial are not necessarily those of Canine Zone, the Publishers or Editors.



Our Formula for Success is a **Passion for Pets**



Over the past 22 years, we've overseen the formulation and successful production of over 180 unique products that proudly carry the Montego name. From economy to ultra-premium, from complete nutrition to treats and pet care, there is a Montego product for every pet and pet owner. **The recipe of our growth and progress has remained the same since the start, with our passion for pets being the key ingredient to our success.**



Montego
WUMA!

Montego
Classic

Montego
KAROO

Montego
FIELD+FOREST
guided by nature

Montego
BAGS O' WAGS
mighty treats

Montego
PACKS O' PURRS
kitty treats

Montego
SAUCE

Montego
XenPet



www.montego.co.za



UPFRONT

KNYSNA ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY GETS ARTY

By Richelle Kohn



Knysna Animal Welfare Society recently had a face-lift to the exterior walls and, along with the cats and pooches inside the shelter, the wall is grabbing positive attention from visitors and the community.

The idea to paint animal artworks on the walls of KAWS came from local artist Faith Du Plessis, who started the art house in Knysna. Faith set all her students to work and began the art wall project. The students worked for over two months on the panels, which boast a variety of animal artworks. Once all the panels were completed, they were erected at the Kennels, where they were celebrated with a grand unveiling. Over 70 people attended the unveiling event and were pleasantly surprised by a doggie show from the dogs patiently waiting to be adopted.

The Art wall was created to make the entrance of KAWS joyful, inviting and to be a wonderful attraction to visitors and the community.

KAWS is the local pound of the Knysna municipality and is a non-profit organisation working solely under the leadership of the kennel manager, Belinda Speed, to benefit animals in need and to eradicate cruelty to animals. KAWS will protect animals, heal their sicknesses, fight cruelty and educate others to do the same. Not only do we try and rehome unwanted animals, but we also provide various services to the community such as sterilisation, vaccinations, improving animal welfare conditions and the healing of animals that have been abused or neglected.

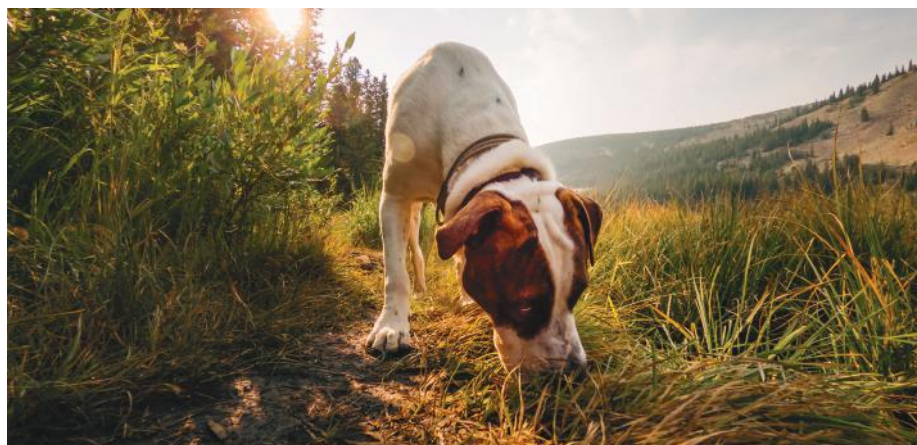
KAWS is constantly at risk financially and needs to raise funds through various fundraising events throughout the year, just to keep the doors open. One of the examples of consistent fundraising is Club 101. If KAWS can get 3,000 people to sign up for just R101 per month debit order, they'd be able to cover their operating costs at the shelter. If you'd like any further information about KAWS, please contact them on kawsfundraising1@gmail.com

CAN DOGS SEE WITH THEIR NOSES?

Dogs might be able to “see” with their noses, a new study suggests. The findings bear out stories from vets who’ve described blind dogs acting completely normally – playing fetch and not bumping into things.

A team of vets, including Dr Philippa Johnson from Cornell University in New York, discovered that vision and smell are actually connected in the brains of dogs – something not yet found in any other species.

The team conducted MRI scans on a number of different dogs and successfully mapped the olfactory bulb (the part of the brain dealing with smell) to the occipital lobe (the visual processing area of the brain), shedding new light on how dogs



experience and navigate the world. It revealed an “extensive pathway” connecting to the occipital lobe but also to the limbic system, which is the part of the brain involved in behavioural and emotional responses.

The findings, published in the *Journal of Neuroscience*, suggest smell and vision in dogs are therefore integrated in some way – implying they may use scent to work out where things are.

YOUR DOG'S BEHAVIOUR IS A PRODUCT OF THEIR GENES



From the excitable sheepdog to the aloof Shiba Inu, and all breeds in between, dogs have unique and

diverse behavioural traits. By analysing DNA samples from over 200 dog breeds, along with nearly

50,000 pet-owner surveys, researchers at the National Institutes of Health have pinpointed many of the genes associated with the behaviours of specific dog breeds. Their work appeared in the journal *Cell*.

“The largest, most successful genetic experiment that humans have ever done is the creation of 350 dog breeds,” says senior author Elaine Ostrander, founder of the Dog Genome Project at the National Human Genome Research Institute. “We needed dogs to herd, we needed them to guard, we needed them to help us hunt, and our survival was intimately dependent on that.”

Kennel clubs generally categorise dog breeds on the basis of the jobs they are best suited for. To find the genetic drivers of the behavioural tendencies that make dogs good at specific tasks, the researchers

gathered whole-genome data from over 4,000 purebred, mixed-breed, and semi-feral dogs, as well as wild canids. By applying computational tools originally developed for studying single cells rather than whole organisms, Dutrow and team identified 10 major genetic lineages among hundreds of dog breeds, solely on the basis of DNA data. The researchers found that each lineage corresponded to a specific category of breeds historically used for tasks such as hunting by scent versus sight or herding versus protecting livestock, indicating that common sets of genes were responsible for behaviours among dog breeds well suited for similar tasks.

To understand the nature of these behaviours, the researchers turned to individual dog experts: pet owners. Using 46,000 behavioural assessment surveys sent to owners of purebred dogs, the researchers identified

unique sets of behavioural tendencies among the 10 lineages of dogs. For example, behaviours associated with increased prey drive were associated with the terrier lineage, which contains breeds historically used for catching and killing prey.

"Having established significant behavioural tendencies correlated with the major canine lineages, we then identified genetic drivers of these behaviours by performing a genome-wide association study on the DNA samples," says Dutrow.

Source: Cell Press



Vitozol

Forever Young!

The benefits of CBD range from relief of anxiety, stress, inflammation, digestion problems, pain, seizures, epilepsy, eczema, and arthritis.

Available at most pet shops and Takealot.com

**Leaders in pet care,
putting your pets first...**

www.petbrands.co.za

PET BRANDS



Follow us on Facebook & Instagram



NEW

HAPPY
Happies



Meet the **NEW** Addition to the JOCK Range

3 TRADITIONAL SOUTH AFRICAN FLAVOURED DOG BISCUITS

**Braaivleis
flavour**

**Boerewors
flavour**

**Biltong
flavour**

JOCK Happy Happies treats are the perfect complement to our scientifically formulated dog food range. These delicious and nutritious treats are ideal for rewarding, teaching and reinforcing good behaviour. Our big and small happies are the perfect size for both small and large dogs, making them a suitable treat for all dog breeds. Happy Happies contain added vitamins to make it a nutritious, yet delicious snack.

*Each pack
contains Big &
Small dog biscuits*



010 271 4289
www.jockdogfood.co.za

**UNLEASH YOUR DOG'S
INNER LEGEND**

Your Photos



Meet **DAEGIN**, my pride and joy. He's helped me more than he'll ever know!
– MICHELLE O'REILLY



TIGGY – Our ball-mad Africanus.
– CAROL LONGHURST



BAILEY – Our precious girl!
– ANDREA HANCKE FERREIRA



MADDIKINS and her much-loved kitty sister.
– DEBI BLAKE



BELLA – Our baby Yorkie who loves digging up our garden looking for moles. Here she is after having been groomed. – RYNO OPPERMAN



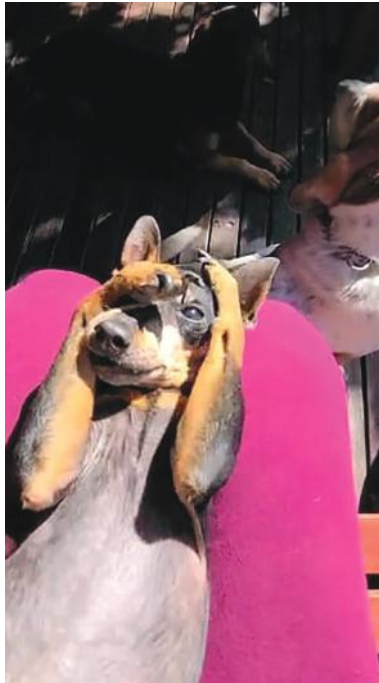
MUSHU – My beautiful, adopted fur child.
– SHARON MEYER



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

Brought to you by **Complete.**
Pet nutrition by pet people

STIG – Our old boy who was rescued off the streets many years ago. What a champ!
– **SIAN ZEEDERBERG**



PICO, being the usual goofball. He loves sleeping and staring at you from weird angles. We love him to bits! – **SANMARIE FOUNTAIN**



EGGSY & TYLER –
Double Trouble on rainy days... or just little angels?
– **NAMASHA RAO-DASS**



RAVEN - Our adopted, very friendly and loving Pitbull. She is five years old this year.
– **KIM LE GRANGE**



TINKY WINKY – My adorable seven-year-old.
– **LOUISA SMUTS**

CHANELLE is our 12-year-old Yorkie. She's going blind, poor old girl, so she sticks close to me all the time.
– **LORRAINE ANN FRYLINCK MORRIS**



Help!



GOT A QUESTION?

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



MY DOG IS AGGRESSIVE AT THE VET

We have a very serious problem with our Boxer cross that we adopted from the SPCA. He's been fine at home with no behavioural problems at all after a settling-in period, but taking him to the vet is a real problem. He won't let the vet touch him and will bite at the vet. We have to try to muzzle him, which causes a lot of stress for him, and he's very strong, so it's a fight. To have his nails clipped, ears checked, or vaccinations done, we have to drug Timmy and put him under anaesthesia at times. This really worries our family, as if he ever gets very sick, we'd have to make a drastic decision as we can't keep putting him under anaesthesia, which is dangerous. We did consult with a behaviourist who gave us some tips which didn't work. Do you have any suggestions?

– NATASHA MOODLEY

CAITLIN SAYS – You could start desensitising him to the veterinary offices by taking him for visits that end in treats, toys and a safe drive home to build his confidence. You could also start getting him used to the type of handling that might be used at the vet by introducing it at home in fun ways. Additionally, you could get him used to wearing a muzzle in small increments, i.e. placing a treat in the muzzle and letting him stick his nose in to get it. When at the vet, use a lot of high-value treats and rewards to help him relax during handling procedures. It may also be worth finding a vet who'll undertake home visits for the less serious conditions. This might be a challenging situation to address and there are no quick fixes. Always be upfront with your veterinarian about



your concerns and continue making an effort to build a positive association between him and the vet.

HOW SHOULD I PUPPY-PROOF OUR HOME?



I've been on puppy maternity leave (luckily, we own our own company, so I've been able to work from home while our puppy settles in!) but would like to go back to the office for two days a week soon. We became proud pet parents of a little Staffie girl named Bugs in November and she's been very busy.

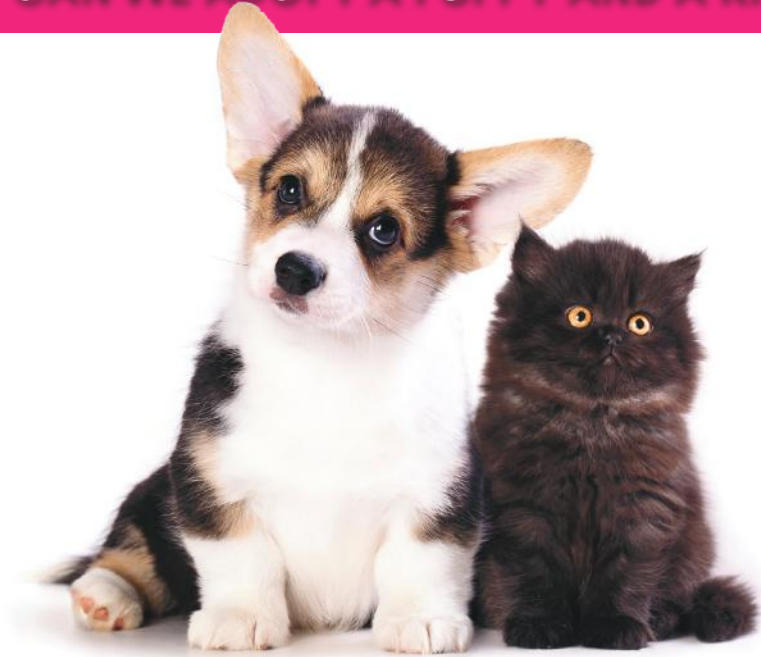
She'll be starting puppy school soon, but I'm worried that she'll get up to mischief while I'm at work. Yes – I'm a paranoid mom and haven't left her home alone since I got her – she either comes with me or I stay home with her (or my husband stays with her). How do you suggest I get her used to staying home alone, and what should I do to puppy-proof our home, because she's very adventurous.

– FRANCINE SELBOURNE

CAITLIN SAYS – Congrats on the new addition – having a puppy is a very exciting time but can lead to all sorts of chaos! It would help for you to start getting Bugs used to being alone for small periods of time, i.e. in a different

area of the house with a safe treat or chew. Practise leaving the room for a couple of seconds at a time and then returning with calm praise, gradually increasing the time you're away. When you do need to leave her alone, ensure that she has a safe bed that she's familiar with. Pack away any electronics or other items at puppy-level, including plants, and try to limit her access to just one or two rooms of the home until she's confident being alone. Leaving the TV on can be helpful. Prior to leaving, play a low-energy game or give her a treat or chew to help her settle (don't leave her unsupervised with chews). A baby monitor linked to your phone can also help put your mind at ease. Small steps in the right direction will be the key to success, but the sooner you start, the better.

CAN WE ADOPT A PUPPY AND A KITTEN AT THE SAME TIME?



I recently got married and we're in the process of building a new home in Port Shepstone. We'd like to adopt a puppy

and kitten but wondered if it's advisable to do so at the same time so they can grow up together? My husband and

I love animals and will be doting pet parents but want to do the right thing. We're looking for a puppy that pulls at our heart strings and don't mind what breed. – AYANDA SITHOLE

JULIE SAYS – Two young animals can be a handful, especially if they still have to learn the boundaries and structures at home in terms of what's acceptable and what isn't. Perhaps consider adopting the kitten first, giving her a couple of weeks to settle down and gain some confidence in a new environment. Thereafter, adopt your puppy. Teach kitty not to run from puppy and teach puppy not to chase kitty – that would be the first learning to take place. Thereafter, puppy should go to puppy socialisation and puppy school, which will set him up for good behaviours and learning.

WE WANT OUR DOG TO BE IN OUR WEDDING

My fiancé and I are getting married in September 2023 and we were inspired by an article in Canine Zone about dogs in weddings. We'd love our two dogs to be a big part of our ceremony, along with the celebrations. Our Mikey and Bella know how to sit and stay and walk well on a leash, but we'd like to start training them to walk down the aisle with me with the rings, be in photos, and stay with us during the after party. Do you have any suggestions and advice? We don't want them stressed out, so do you think it would be too much for them? – CORALINE MATTHEWS

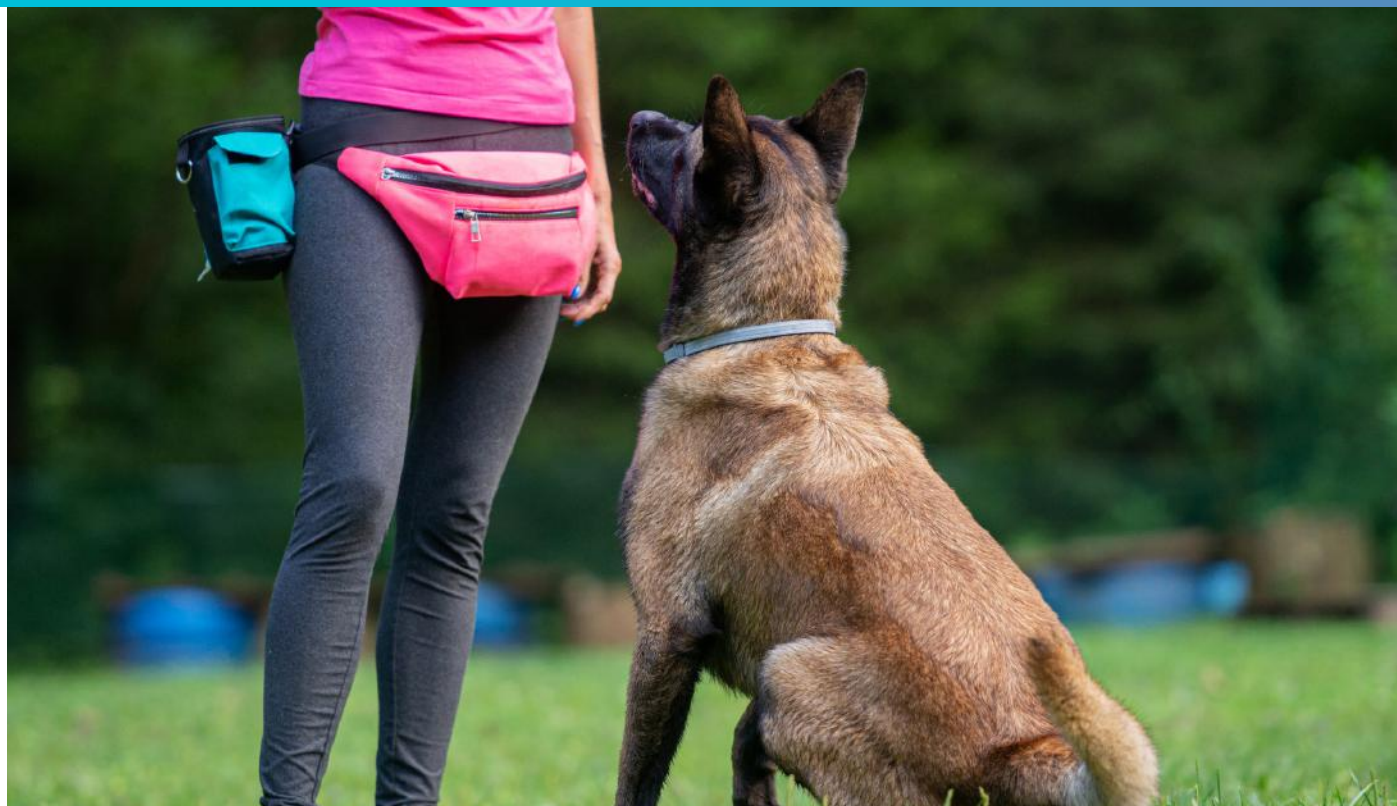
JULIE SAYS – It's a wonderful idea to have your pets as part of your celebrations. To prepare them for the ceremony, you'd need to work indoors for now. Perhaps start practising up and down your passage. Teach them to be aware of where you stand so that they don't trip up on your dress. Then move

to larger areas, like halls or other passageways. Work on their stays and work with them in between crowds. Start off with short five- or ten-minute sessions, then progress to longer time schedules. A good idea is to have someone who's not in the wedding party work with you on the training and to be their handler for the day. This same person can take them home if they get tired or bored. You could even enlist the help of a behaviourist. With training, I'm sure they'll thoroughly enjoy being in your wedding celebrations.



What is "Force-free" training – and why it matters

By Caitlin Balt-Helmrich



Many dog owners are familiar with “positive reinforcement” training for dogs – providing something rewarding to a dog in response to a desired behaviour. Force-free training describes a gentle, kind and scientifically sound approach to helping your dog understand what you expect from them. Dog training science is developing rapidly, and we’re continuously growing our understanding of dogs and how they learn.

Modern-day, scientifically educated trainers and behaviourists are considering themselves “force-free” – they steer clear of any kind of force, threats, intimidation and coercion and yet have incredible success in helping dogs navigate the human world.

WHAT IS FORCE IN DOG TRAINING?

Force is any kind of punishment that discourages behaviours or leaves no choice for a dog. It can be verbal or physical intimidation. Some obvious examples of force in training include shock collars and smacks or taps (no matter how “gentle”). Other examples of force include pushing a dog’s bottom

down to make them sit, deliberately startling noises, spray bottles and leash “pops” or jerks. Using these types of methods may give a feeling of success in the short term, as dogs shut down and respond accordingly and owners feel as though the dog has learnt something.

THE PROBLEMS WITH FORCE AND PUNISHMENT

Using force to train a dog has many risks and downfalls, for example:

- Unclear expectations mean that the dog never learns what they’re supposed to do, but they’re always in trouble when they do the wrong thing.
- Dogs respond differently to aversives and can redirect their frustration onto others in the form of aggression.
- Dogs learn to tolerate mild punishment to get what they want, and owners feel the need to escalate, constantly increasing the force and intimidation to achieve the same results.
- Dogs trained with force can develop mistrust and fear, leading to life in a state of stress and

Many misunderstandings still exist about dogs

worry, which in turn increases problem behaviours.

- Punishment inhibits learning – dogs will be afraid to try something new as they're unsure of the outcome.
- Force and punishment leave very little room for empathy and understanding.

POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT WORKS!

Time and time again, research has proved that dogs trained with force-free, reward-based methods learn quicker, are happier and more relaxed, and are less likely to exhibit problem behaviours. Positive reinforcement affords your dog choices and helps them to make better behaviour choices in a variety of situations, even those they haven't yet encountered. Force-free training opens up a world of opportunity for learning. While food is often used as a primary reinforcer as it's highly motivating, quick to deliver and easy to give over and over, many dogs are also reinforced by toys, playtime, praise and affection.

WHAT ABOUT "BALANCE"?

There's a term in dog circles called "balanced training" where a trainer may suggest a use of positive reinforcement and force, depending on the situation. This gives owners a false sense of ease as punishment is used only when deemed necessary. Balanced training is difficult for a dog to predict at best, and psychologically or physically damaging at worst. Because forceful methods may see quicker short-term results, it's inevitable that people may tend more towards force to see results, without understanding the long-term impacts.

HOW CAN YOU ADDRESS TRAINING AND LEARNING WITHOUT FORCE? FIND YOUR "YES!"

Instead of constantly correcting and punishing your dog for doing the "wrong" thing, find the moment that your dog does what you want and celebrate it with an optimistic "Yes!", followed by something rewarding. Soon you'll have a dog who's eager to learn with you. This shift in thinking in dog guardians attunes us to be far more observant and vigilant, looking for opportunities to shape our dogs'

behaviours into those that are suited to our lifestyles. Force-free training may require some forward planning and management in order to ensure that our dogs have the best possible chance of successfully navigating upcoming situations.

For example:

- When visitors arrive, give your dog a frozen treat to avoid an excitable greeting.
- If a dog is prone to chasing birds in the yard, force-free training would reinforce behaviours that prevent chasing, such as watching the birds or lying on a mat.
- To potty train a puppy, gentle praise for going in the right place will help them learn far quicker than rubbing their nose in their accident.
- For dogs who pull on a leash, regularly change direction and build value in being closer to the guardian, instead of hurting the dog to get them to walk at your side.

DOING WHAT IS BEST FOR YOU

There really is no choice between force-free and force-based or balanced training techniques when it comes to success and the happiness of your canine companion. The right method to use for each individual dog will always be the method that causes no pain, creates no fear and provides clear guidelines for them to work in. When choosing a professional to help you and your dog, ensure that they're placing the emotional and physical well-being of the dog, over quick, guaranteed results. 🐾



DOG HOARDING

By Nancy Pringle



How does dog hoarding start? You love your dog so much and don't want her to be alone, so you get her a doggie friend. A stray dog sits in front of your gate, so you take him in. You pick up another one that's in need of a place to stay for the night and find you cannot part with him. A friend who can no longer take care of her dog asks you to adopt her. You love dogs and give them a good home, so people keep on dumping these unwanted animals on you. As your pack grows, it gets a bit crowded, but how can you turn away a dog in need of a loving home? You know you have more dogs than most people, but you have a good heart and just cannot say no. People look at you strangely when you tell them how many dogs you have and somebody drops the "H" word – HOARDER.

Wait, what? How can they call you a HOARDER? You love your dogs and you don't have that many compared to those awful pictures you see on the

news. So, where does one draw the line between hoarding and just having a lot of dogs?

GOOD INTENTIONS

Dog hoarders are viewed as those people who meant well but the situation got out of hand. While their intentions may have been good, the reality of hoarding is horrific.

The following criteria are used to define dog hoarding –

- More than the typical number of dogs.
- The inability to provide minimal standards of nutrition, sanitation, shelter and veterinary care, with this neglect often resulting in starvation, illness and death.
- Denial of the inability to provide the minimum care, and the impact on the dogs, the household and human occupants of the dwelling.



Dog hoarders are viewed as those people who meant well but the situation got out of hand

RESPONSIBILITY

In the majority of hoarding cases, the hoarder firmly believes that the dogs cannot survive without their care. They love dogs but can be blind to the fact that they're not caring for them responsibly. Hoarders are usually unable to bear the thought of euthanasia and often cannot afford to pay for sterilisation (or any veterinary care) needed for the animals, so their collection grows until the filth, stench and noise attract attention.

Despite correlation to the psychological condition of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), there's no clinical diagnosis at this point. Perhaps the most prominent psychological feature of these individuals is that dogs become central to their core identity. Dog hoarding almost always comes from a deep love and concern for the dogs on the part of the hoarder.

SEEKING OUT ANIMALS TO HELP

Dog hoarders seek out animals in need at local shelters, on the streets and online. They have every intention of caring for and adopting out the dogs they take in, but the nature of their disease makes it difficult for them to let go or provide the necessary attention the dogs need. Problems with organisation and focus may cause these individuals to neglect household duties such as cleaning and routine feedings. Each dog they acquire leads to more mess, poorer conditions and further problems, which detaches them from the dogs emotionally. Dogs rescued from these conditions may have one or more of the following behavioural issues –

- Attachment and attention-seeking behaviour.
- Not wanting to be touched, picked up or held.
- Fear towards unfamiliar people, other dogs and general life events (noises, movements and strange objects).
- Undesired behaviour when left alone at home.
- Compulsive and repetitive behaviour.

A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS

We can all do our part against this heartbreaking issue by increasing public awareness and lobbying to strengthen the laws that protect the voiceless. People make a big mistake by advertising their animals online as “free to a good home”. Those poor animals are either used as bait dogs or taken in by a hoarder, where it's left in appalling living conditions. Rather contact a reputable shelter or breed-specific rescue organisation that will gladly take in your unwanted dog. They'll have it sterilised and properly taken care of and have adoption contracts with home checks in place before it's adopted by a suitable, loving family.

Should you hear about a case of dog hoarding, consider donating to the shelter or rescue organisation that's helping to care for the dogs, in order to help defer the cost of their treatment. You can open your heart and home by adopting one of these victims. Remember that dog hoarders rarely ever have cruel intentions towards the dogs; they suffer from a mental illness and need support, treatment and understanding to get well. Education is better than judging! 🐾



IF YOU WERE A DOG, WHAT BREED WOULD YOU BE?

Take our dog breed quiz below and find out!

1. You've had a long week at work and it's time to unwind. Which weekend activity are you most likely up to?

- a. Spending the majority of your Saturday lounging around in bed and watching movies
- b. Treating yourself to a massage or day of pampering at the spa
- c. Digging up weeds and working in your garden
- d. Spending the day at the beach, river or dam
- e. Taking a karate class or hitting the gym
- f. Going for a hike or bike ride
- g. A little of everything – packing your day full of a variety of activities

2. Your favourite TV shows are usually:

- a. Comedies – the sillier the better
- b. Reality shows that follow the lives of your favourite stars
- c. Prank shows like Candid Camera
- d. Anything on Nat Geo or Animal Planet
- e. Crime scene investigation and police shows
- f. Sports channels only
- g. You're a chronic channel surfer

3. Your friends would best describe you as:

- a. Stubborn
- b. High maintenance
- c. Energetic
- d. Friendly
- e. Protective
- f. Brave
- g. Versatile

4. What's your idea of the perfect date?

- a. A picnic in the park
- b. Dinner at a nice restaurant
- c. Game night with another couple
- d. Miniature golf or taking your date to the driving range
- e. Playing frisbee in the park
- f. Taking a stroll through a shopping mall
- g. A night out on the town

5. What's your dream job?

- a. Comedian
- b. Personal shopper
- c. Rock star
- d. Park ranger
- e. Secret agent
- f. Rugby player
- g. Event planner

6. Which of the following describes your style?

- a. Comfortable attire, lounging around clothes
- b. The season's latest trends
- c. Bright fun colours
- d. A T-shirt and shorts
- e. A leather jacket to make you look tough
- f. Athletic wear
- g. I don't really have a style. It changes from day to day.

7. Your idea of adventure is:

- a. Holidaying at an all-inclusive resort
- b. Travelling to an exotic location
- c. Bungee jumping
- d. White water rafting
- e. Horseback riding
- f. Trekking through the Himalayas
- g. Going on a cruise

8. When you run into a friend on the street, you are most likely to:

- a. Engage in friendly conversation while cracking a few jokes
- b. Tell them how fabulous it is to see them and invite them over for a glass of wine
- c. Say a quick "hello" but explain that you've got to run. You have to be somewhere.
- d. Stop and chat for a long time
- e. Wave "hello" but keep on walking by
- f. Stop and say "hello". Ask them how their family is doing.
- g. Chat about a variety of topics



9. A typical dinner for you consists of:

- a. Fish 'n' chips
- b. The vegetarian special
- c. A toasted cheese sandwich
- d. A hot dog
- e. Meat and potatoes
- f. A nice juicy steak
- g. Pizza

10. Which of the following are you most likely to drive?

- a. Volkswagen Beetle
- b. Pink Corvette
- c. Mini Cooper
- d. Jeep Wrangler
- e. BMW

- f. A bakkie
- g. Prius

HERE ARE THE RESULTS!

Mostly A's: Bulldog: Silly, relaxed and romantic

Mostly B's: Poodle/Toy Breed: Fashionable, health-conscious, and likes to be pampered

Mostly C's: Terrier: Fun, extroverted, competitive

Mostly D's: Labrador: Loves the outdoors, adventurous, friendly

Mostly E's: German Shepherd: Protective, intelligent, and loyal

Mostly F's: Pit Bull: Family-orientated, sporty, and kind-hearted

Mostly G's: Mixed Breed: Easy-going, diverse, and fun-loving 🐕



FORGOT TO BUY PET FOOD?

Get delivery in as little as 60 minutes!

1. Download Absolute Pets App



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

2. Select the Go Fetch! delivery option



BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY



Dogs may not be human children, but the same devices we use to keep kids safe also work well for keeping our dogs out of trouble. If you have small children, you're probably already familiar with the plethora of baby-proofing items that are easy to install and cost relatively little cash.

If you don't have children, take a trip to your local baby store and check out your options, for example –

- Baby gates that limit access to rooms you use frequently
- Covers for electrical outlets
- Power-strip covers
- Safety locks for your kitchen and bathroom cabinets
- A containment system for your electrical cords

IN THE KITCHEN

The kitchen contains all sorts of interesting drawers, cabinets, and cords, not to mention smells and tastes. If he can get into a cabinet or drawer, your puppy or dog will explore everything inside. Child-proof latches prevent curious pups from investigating, while keeping potentially dangerous foods and cleaning supplies out of reach.

Power cords look like fun chew toys to a teething puppy or even an adult dog. Tucking them out of reach, blocking them, or enclosing them in a chew-proof PVC tube will divert your dog's attention.

Most dogs love to root around in the trash for delicious treats, like pizza crust, fast-food wrappers and used tissues. Unfortunately, this behaviour has two unpleasant consequences – garbage strewn on the floor and/or a sick dog who vomits, leaves piles of diarrhoea in unexpected places or develops an expensive intestinal blockage your vet will charge to remove.

The most effective solution is a pull-out trashcan, but they can be horrifically expensive, and you'll need enough under-counter space to install one. But if you have a large, extremely food-motivated dog, one who's obsessed with digging through the trash, a pull-out can might be your best option. For smaller dogs or those who aren't as interested in ploughing through garbage, a sturdy metal trashcan with a step-on lid is the way to go.

IN THE BATHROOM

The bathroom can be a dangerous place for a puppy or dog, too. Razors, pills, cotton swabs, and soap left within your dog's reach can be easily ingested – which can mean an emergency visit to your veterinarian. Family members need to be conscientious about cleaning up after themselves in the bathroom. Put shampoos, soap, tissues and accessories out of reach or inside a cabinet or drawer.

Especially while your pup is young, keep the toilet lid down at all times, or keep the bathroom door closed. A curious dog could jump into the bowl and drown. In addition, use a trash can with a locking lid or stash it under the sink. Also install childproof latches on the drawers and cabinets, and be sure to tuck dangling cords away, out of your dog's reach. Dogs in particular may be tempted to chew on, and potentially swallow, towels and stray socks, which can lead to severe gastrointestinal problems.

Keeping your dog safe – and your possessions intact – is simple to do, provided you know a few tricks and follow these easy steps

IN THE BEDROOM

Dogs are scent-oriented, so they gravitate towards anything that smells like you. Shoes, slippers and clothing will quickly become toys if you don't safeguard such items behind a closed closet door. Keep clothing picked up, store shoes out of reach, and put laundry in a tall, closed hamper. Store jewellery, hair ties, coins, and other small ingestible items in containers or drawers, and secure any exposed cords or wires. Many dogs like to den under the bed or wedge themselves behind furniture, so put up temporary blockades to prevent your puppy from hiding where she shouldn't.

If your dog pees on your bed, shreds your linens or otherwise behaves badly in bedrooms or any other rooms, keep the doors to those rooms closed when you aren't in them.

IN THE LIVING AREAS

Whether a living room or family room, these cosy gathering places often have pillows, shoes, magazines, iPods – all kinds of things that could tempt a curious and teething puppy or curious dog. Stay vigilant about straightening up and putting away clutter, especially in those areas where you and your family spend the most time. Put loose items away, stow pillows and blankets in decorative bins, and keep cords and wires out of puppy's reach.

Dogs love to chew; if they destroy your possessions, it's your fault for giving them access to your stuff. Get smart, and put your things away when you aren't using them, especially any kind of medication or cleaning products. If you've been meaning to organise your home, now's the time. Check out one of the bazillion websites that teach you how to manage clutter, and make sure your family knows where household items belong. Plants attract dogs, too, so place them on a shelf or counter if possible. If not, consider putting them in a spare room and keeping the door closed until your furry friend has graduated from his curious puppy stage.

IN THE OFFICE

Your dog or puppy may be drawn by all sorts of temptations in your office – papers, magazines, cords, wires, paperclips, rubber bands and staples. These items may be fun to play with, but they can be fatal if chewed or swallowed. As with the rest of the house, pick up strewn office supplies, secure or enclose cords and wires, and keep decorative items well out of your pup's reach.


IN THE GARAGE AND GARDEN

When you look around your garage and garden, you'll see many obvious and not-so-obvious dangers to your puppy. Paint, cleaners, insecticides, rat and rodent poison, snail poison, fertilisers, antifreeze, and petrol represent a handful of poisons and chemicals that you may have in your garage or outdoor shed. Antifreeze, for example, has a sweet taste that attracts animals, but it can be deadly if ingested, even in small amounts. Secure all bottles, boxes and containers of these substances inside a locked cabinet, or store them on high shelves that your dog or puppy can't reach.

Some plants can be poisonous to your dog and cause varied reactions, ranging from a rash to vomiting and diarrhoea.

BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY!

By taking some time to puppy-proof your house you'll give your new pet a good start with his new family. As he gets older, passes through his developmental phases, and learns basic obedience and manners, you won't need to be so vigilant with your pick-up routine. Until then, however, it's better to be safe than sorry!

Although this list of tips might seem daunting, dog-proofing your home is definitely worth the time and expense. Take things one step at a time, and make sure you follow through with behaviours that will keep your dog safe. 

Fostering Resilience

By Lisa Burnell



When TEARS put out a call for an emergency evacuation of all shelter animals on their Facebook page, The Great Escape, I had no idea what to expect. COVID-19 had just hit South Africa, and as the virus rapidly swept across the planet, forcing most of the world's population into an unprecedented self-quarantine in the form of national lockdowns, it brought with it a considerable amount of fear, worry, and concern. For some, like me, debilitating panic.

In mental health terms, the main psychological impacts during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic were increased rates of stress and anxiety, as well as lockdown effects such as increased levels of loneliness and depression. People felt limited in their decision-making and daily life choices, and without a sense of control over health or the future, they sought different ways to manage their new lives.

Within 72 hours of putting out an evacuation call, TEARS received thousands of emails from people offering to foster cats and dogs during level 5 lockdown. While the world was crumbling around us, it was humbling to watch the people who could see far enough past their own panic open their homes

to shelter animals. How would this work when no one could leave their property to walk dogs? What happened if it didn't work out and people couldn't take their foster cat or dog back to the kennels?

DISASTER PLANNING

All the what ifs aside, I was curious to know if fostering a shelter animal during lockdown could be considered a coping mechanism, one that could cultivate human resilience in the face of extreme uncertainty during a global pandemic. I wanted to know if a form of disaster planning could include companion animals. It turns out it did.

My research focused on the impact that fostering shelter dogs during the pandemic had on caretakers, and by following the lives of nine foster dogs from the start of lockdown, I explored the reasons for choosing to foster, as well as if shelter dogs contributed towards the resilience caretakers needed in order to endure the pandemic.

Life is full of uncertainty, and as the economy, finances, relationships, employment and, above all, physical and mental health were all suddenly at risk simultaneously, the pandemic left many to dwell on worst-case scenarios. However, caretakers all agreed that making the decision to foster a shelter dog during lockdown felt like a choice they had control over during very uncontrollable times. "Our foster dog diverted our attention away from what was happening a lot," explained one caretaker. "Having him around was therapeutic; it protected our mental health that way. Focusing on integrating him into our home and learning to love him and having him love us – there was a good feeling that came out of that. During all the unpredictability happening in the world, opening our home to him felt like the one thing we could control."

GREAT COMPANY AND A GOOD DISTRACTION

Each caretaker described their shelter dog, first and foremost, as being a distraction from all the COVID-19 stress, anxiety, and news. "My foster

Shelter Dogs as Essential Citizens during COVID-19



circumstances, while encouraging a sense of living in the moment as opposed to only worrying about the future.

CARING FOR SOMETHING OTHER THAN YOURSELF

Caretakers also believed that the action of caring for something other than themselves was a positive distraction from the global pandemic, with those who were married claiming that the addition of a shelter dog during the lockdown period greatly benefitted their marriage by providing something positive to share and focus on. During an interview, one caretaker explained that “the physical comfort of a foster puppy was really calming; she brought my husband and I together through a shared sense of purpose by having to get up and look after her every day.”

Another caretaker also described the foster experience as one that provided a sense of purpose, importance, and control. “I live alone,” she explained, “and having to think about and care for someone other than myself was a distraction I needed from work stress and lockdown stress. My shelter dog encouraged me to get away from my computer and take delight in something.”

There’s an unconscious, complex, and chemical reaction that the human brain undergoes when interacting with animals as the oxytocin hormone is released. Oxytocin, sometimes referred to as the “cuddle hormone”, forms human beings’ inborn drive to form attachments and is linked to trust, morality, and love. In fact, oxytocin is considered to be so potent that it has the ability to affect human brains and behaviour as powerfully as many drugs can, and the effects are striking: Oxytocin “not only surges in mothers and new-borns during breast-feeding, but it also spikes when we hold hands or hug someone, or fall in love. It also increases when we pet animals, or look into their eyes.”

RELEASE THE OXYTOCIN!

The more human beings are trusted by another



dog was great company and a good distraction,” another caretaker explained. “It was all new for me; I’d never lived with a completely unknown animal before, but he was just so easy, so grateful, and such fun to have around. He was so quirky, with his big head and everything, curious, and dribbling everywhere.”

During level 5 lockdown regulations, when South Africans weren’t allowed to leave the perimeter of their property other than for food or medical supplies, caretakers felt positively challenged to find creative ways to exercise, entertain, and stimulate shelter dogs. Because dogs require regular routines and consistency, caretakers were able to schedule their now abnormal and irregular days around the shelter dogs’ needs. This provided caretakers with a much-needed routine, giving their days predictability in very unpredictable



person or animal, the more oxytocin is released in the brain. Higher levels of oxytocin cause people to work harder towards achieving goals and increase a human being's desire for self-sacrifice to help others flourish. And fostering did just that. Listening to these stories reminded me of Viktor Frankl's book, *Man's Search for Meaning*, in which he writes about how "those who have a why to live, can bear almost any how." Caretakers agreed that their shelter dogs positively benefitted their mental health and well-being during lockdown, encouraging healthier lifestyles, more exercise, increased social interaction through digital platforms, and even inspiration for the future.

Caretakers used the lockdown period of being at home with shelter dogs as an opportunity to reflect on life choices and career decisions. What this reflective period produced was an outcome where the positive benefits of working from home in the company of a shelter dog far outweighed the negative consequences of lockdown. Those who'd lost work due to the pandemic felt inspired to begin their own business endeavours as a way to continue working from home with animal companions in the future. "Fostering made me never want to end lockdown!" explained a caretaker. "I was so smitten with our foster puppy and I knew that when lockdown ended he'd have to go back, I couldn't bear the thought of returning him – so I didn't! I adopted him."



Added to this, caretakers also believed that their shelter dogs taught them valuable life lessons – lessons needed to endure the pandemic such as gratitude, positivity, and the overcoming of loss and grief. One caretaker described her experience by saying that, "sometimes, I think my shelter dog saved me more than I saved him."

MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE

Because shelter dogs can often come with a history of neglect, abuse, or aggression, caretakers had no idea what to expect or prepare for once deciding to foster. But by the end of the foster period, each caretaker was unable to describe a bad experience, a bad day, or a bad behaviour as a result of their shelter dog. Instead, they described being surprised by the amount of love their shelter dogs both wanted and offered.

So why, then, during a time of global, economic, and physical uncertainty would caretakers decide to welcome an unknown shelter dog with an uncertain background into their lives and into their homes?

Both humans and dogs share the pack mentality, which may be one of the reasons why the two species co-exist so well. In a global health pandemic, where citizens feel that improvement is incremental and setbacks are common, and where hope for change is minimal, "a determined outlook can mean the difference between giving up and forging ahead and finding meaning amidst the hardship. Adopting an animal can reignite this quality, setting beleaguered humans on the road to recovery." Unknowingly, shelter dogs' comfort, support, and affection became the coping mechanism needed for human caretakers to foster resilience and cultivate grit in the face of the fear and uncertainty of COVID-19.

By the end of this study, I didn't need any more convincing. I signed up as a foster for TEARS, and over the past year I've shared my home with 11 beautiful foster puppies awaiting their forever homes. Each one of them has changed my life in little, unexpected ways, adding to it in ways I didn't know I needed. If you haven't fostered before, I encourage you to try it. Your life will never be the same again. 🐾

WHAT IS BLACK DOG SYNDROME?



The phenomenon referred to as Black Dog Syndrome (BDS) or Big Black Dog Syndrome (BBDS), is a very real problem in shelters.

What do diamonds, pearls, dresses, and truffles have in common? All are more desirable when they're black. Yet, when it comes to dogs, black seems to be the least sought-after colour of all...

Of course, *all* dogs deserve good homes; plus, adopting one opens space in the shelter for another needy canine soul. The trick lies in choosing based on *suitability* (energy levels, lifestyle, etc.), not looks. Even if that dog is a no-frills black beauty of uncertain pedigree.

BLACKLISTED

Shelter workers say that this phenomenon, referred to as Black Dog Syndrome (BDS) or Big Black Dog Syndrome (BBDS), is a very real problem.

Photographing them is challenging, particularly in chaotic shelter environments. With most people searching for pets online or on posters, bad pictures can make or break their adoption chances. Furthermore, once inside overflowing shelters,

dark-coloured dogs fade into the background. Difficulty in filming them means they tend not to be the hero in commercials or films – further adding to the stigma.

They've long been portrayed as dangerous, aloof or unfriendly, and many people are still superstitious about black animals. Scientifically speaking, there's zero evidence that coat colour affects personality; all it affects is perception.

BACK IN BLACK

Dark fur, be it black, black-and-tan, or brindled, actually has several advantages. Lighter-coloured animals can be affected by sun-induced skin cancer; darker ones rarely are. They also appear to be less prone to eczema and skin allergies, and those with shorter coats are really low-maintenance grooming-wise. Furthermore, the presence of a large, black dog is a major deterrent to burglars (even if your pooch is really just a big marshmallow).

Next time you adopt, try closing your eyes... and open your heart to the best friend you've ever had. 🐾

The HAPPYtale of one very HAPPY dog

By Rose Franchi, Helen Walne and the TEARS Team



Happy and his friends.

MOVING ON...

Adopt-A-Pet was no longer able to keep their doors open after the passing of the shelter's benefactor and founder. Thankfully, Capetonians came in droves to adopt the dogs, but there were many homes that were needed. Happy's bestie, Bianca, found her forever home. Not understanding, Happy was depressed to have lost her. TEARS had a very close relationship with Adopt-A-Pet and pledged to take in the remaining dogs and cats that didn't find homes in time, and this included Happy.

But sometimes when one door closes, another will open, and Happy had found a friend in Sam, the volunteer who visited him every Sunday and took

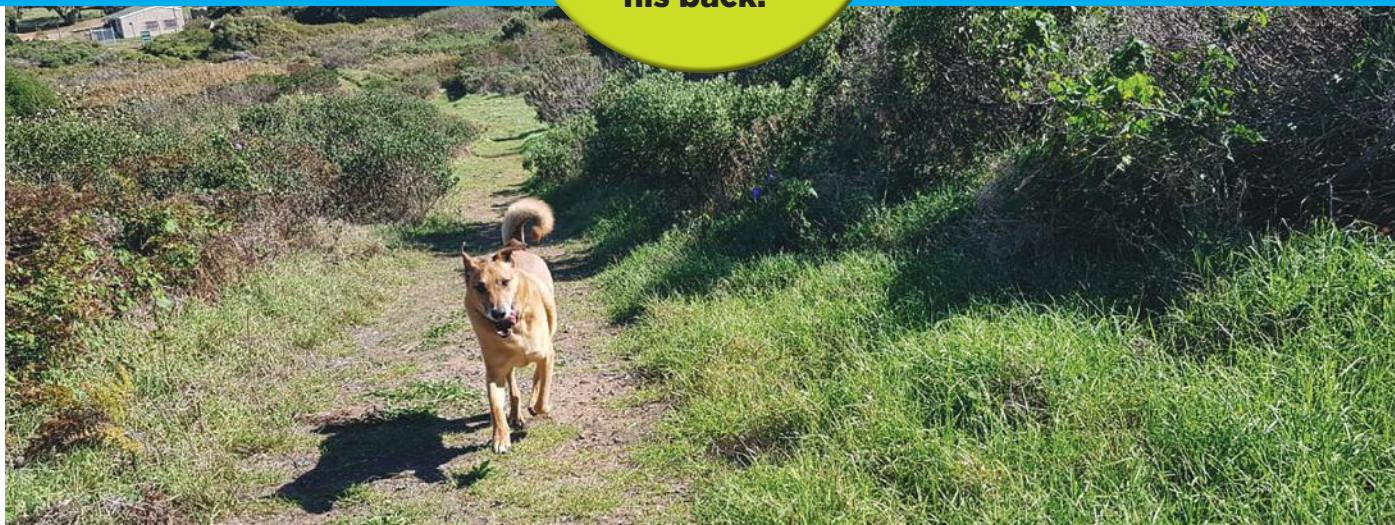
He was named Happy when he arrived at the former Adopt-A-Pet Animal Shelter after being surrendered by the owners of a local shebeen in Ottery, Cape Town. This beautiful blonde boy had been working as a nameless guard dog confined to a yard – unloved and mostly ignored. He didn't think it suited him as he was reserved by nature. Nevertheless, Happy began a new journey at the tender age of approximately two years of age.

Life at the Adopt-A-Pet shelter was different from shebeen life. There were many dogs and he attracted the attention of volunteers who loved him and gave him attention. But years passed by, and he saw many dogs leave for their new forever homes. Happy's opportunity passed him by through no fault of his own. You see, the shelter was simply too full, so he was overlooked time and time again.

Sadly, he wasn't alone, and so the unchosen ones called it their sanctuary, with him the designated gatekeeper, a title he liked as it gave him purpose. Life wasn't perfect, but Happy was content. He had a kennelmate by the name of Bianca, of whom he was very fond and she of him. They became besties. But life never just stays the same, and so it was for



“Nothing brings us more joy than looking across at this big brown bear and seeing him relaxing on his back.”



him for walks. Sam adored Happy so much that when he, at the ripe old age of nine, with a splashing of white around the nose and referred to as grouchy, prickly and set in his ways, was relocated to TEARS Animal Rescue, she followed him. Happy was unsettled and needed to adjust to new faces, new rules and a different daily routine from the home he'd known for so long, but Sam was a familiar face that he looked forward to every Sunday and knew would always be there.

A NEW LIFE

After an adjustment period, Happy was content again. Regarded as a senior, set in his ways and irritable – as seniors can be – the prospects of a loving home for a dog with his background and age would be difficult, but TEARS staff were confident that with the right support, Happy could find himself the forever home that he deserved after so many years in a shelter. And that's exactly what happened!

The day finally did arrive for this cantankerous, crusty heart of gold to leave shelter life. His human bestie, Sam, took him to his new home to live with Helen, Brandon and Lily, a new four-legged bestie. Brandon calls him “The Hapster” now (he likes that name) and they go down to the beach every morning, which he loves. “One should never say never!” was his parting message to his kennelmates at TEARS Animal Rescue.

“Nothing brings us more joy than looking across at this big brown bear and seeing him relaxing on his back, his paws in the air, looking so relaxed and blissed out. Happy makes us happy; and we make Happy happy. We feel so privileged to be able to give him the life he deserves, even if it's in his later years. And we're so grateful to Sam for trusting us and acting as Happy's champion for so many years. She never gave up on him, and I'm so glad I didn't either,” says Helen. 🐾



8 THINGS YOU'RE DOING THAT DRIVE YOUR DOG CRAZY



1. You're trying to communicate with your dogs through words – Guess what? Dogs don't care much whether you speak to them in Zulu, or English, or Chinese, because they don't hear words as words, just as sounds. It's like the way that people spell out "w-a-l-k" and "l-e-a-s-h"; they may be fooling themselves, but they certainly aren't fooling the dog, because they sense something much deeper than the words you use; they also read your body language. Which is why you can't lie to a dog. When you speak to a dog you must speak from the inside, from your mind, your heart, and your body.

2. Your dog doesn't have a job and he's bored – Many dog owners are worried because their dog has picked up an aggravating habit. Maybe he's chewing the carpet, or racing in circles around the house, or showing surprising aggression. And so often the answer is the same – your dog is getting bored – he wants something to do. Dogs have been bred over the centuries for different jobs – from rounding up cattle to hunting to hauling. When their natural instinct is denied, they become frustrated, and that's when they start to show signs of aggressive behaviour. So do what your dog asks and give him a job. Put a pack on his back when you go for walks or create obstacle courses so he can put

Do you ever wonder what your dog would say if he could talk?

his scent-tracking abilities to good use. You'll see right away how happy it makes him.


3. You're tense and nervous around your dog – If you're tense and nervous, your dog may become tense and nervous too. Our dogs are incredibly finely attuned to us – we've been living together almost from the beginning of time! That's why they need calm energy to relax. Unfortunately, extreme nervousness in dogs may come out as aggression. It's how they deal with a problem.

4. Trying your best not to jingle the car keys – Rides in the car elicit one of two reactions from dogs – love or loathing. For the dogs who love the car, trying to hold keys snug in your palm isn't working. They know the keys are there and a freak-out is imminent. And for dogs who loathe the car, well, you're busted for trying to oh-so-quietly get the keys out of your purse or off the table by the door. It won't work.

5. Holding them close as they struggle for dear life to get away – If dogs could talk on this point, they'd be saying, "Let go. I can't breathe. I'm not a teddy bear!"

6. You ignore him – Dogs are social creatures that need the contact and stimulation of humans. Long periods of time alone have a negative impact on their well-being. When dogs are left alone a lot, it can lead to behaviour problems like excessive barking, digging, or howling. So, if you want your dog to be happy – and better behaved – spend time with him, maybe grooming him, throwing a ball, cuddling on the couch or walking him every single day for at least 30 minutes.

7. Pretending dogs cannot count – Let your dog see you take a few treats out of the treat bag but only give them one. The treats are in your hand, and the dog knows it. So, the tactic of pretending nothing is there and the "see, all gone" game simply doesn't work. So, fess up and hand over the treats.

8. Saying "I'll be right back" – If most dogs could pen a letter, it would go something like this: "Right back doesn't mean eight hours later, human! Right back is seconds. I count the tick tick tick of the clock when you're gone. If you say 'right back', mean it!" 

- Est. 1945 -
marltons
PET • CARE • EXPERTS

Part of the **FAMILY**

DOGS

CATS

BIRDS

SMALL
ANIMALS

FISH



Your pet means everything to you, and to us!

Our wide range of quality products will ensure that they are always well cared for and happy. **Whatever you need, look for Marltons!**



Find us in Supermarkets, Pet Stores and Online Retailers.

Visit www.marltons.co.za for more info. Follow us on  & 

LIVING with an ADOLESCENT dog

Are teenage dogs difficult to manage?

Adolescence can be a difficult stage in your puppy's life. Know how best to handle them as they transition from puppy to adult dog.

Puppyhood is the shortest period in a dog's life. You've bonded with your puppy and taught him the rules, and then suddenly everything changes. All the usual behaviours seem to be exaggerated. He's barking more, mouthing more, jumping more, and seems to be testing the boundaries.

We go through the same phase when we're about 14 years old, when we become teenagers. And yes, your dog has become a teenager. This developmental stage starts at about six months of age when hormones start to have the biggest influence on your dog's behaviour, and this lasts up to about 24 months. Males are influenced by a surge of testosterone, and females will start their first season.

COPING WITH THE CHANGES

Our teenage dogs go through a huge change both physically and emotionally. They start engaging in adult behaviours. You'll see an increase in marking, territorial behaviour, roaming – if they get the opportunity, testing the use of aggression, etc. All these changes test your relationship with your dog and, sadly, most dogs are abandoned during this time. Luckily, this is only a phase, and it does pass. If you put in the

effort and mould your dog into a confident companion, your dog will become the fur kid you've always dreamed of.

TRAINING COUNTS

Continue training your dog, and if you haven't trained yet, now is the time to start! You may have taught your dog the basics, but now you have to improve on those skills. Continue going to your obedience school, as the added benefit is continued socialisation. Socialisation is the key to a well-balanced, confident dog. Teach new skills or tricks as this makes it fun for both of you and keeps training interesting. Dogs grow in confidence when they achieve new things.

PLAY WITH YOUR DOG

The definition of the word "play" is "a recreational and enjoyable activity". Dogs thrive from play, both physically and emotionally. Active play helps keep your dog's heart healthy; it lubricates joints and helps with balance and coordination. From an emotional point of view, it improves mental health and social skills and affirms the bond between the owner and the dog. A recent study by Bristol University found that dogs that don't play have

more behavioural problems and tend to suffer more from anxiety and have aggression issues. Play releases happy hormones and therefore feels good.

BE PATIENT

You'll need a lot of patience! Now more than ever your dog needs your guidance on how to behave. The word "No" is not training. Be proactive and teach your dog how to behave. For example, teach your dog to sit to greet instead of jumping, or provide a safe chew toy instead of allowing the dog to make the mistake of chewing on a table leg.

If nothing you're doing seems to help, it's important to get some help and advice. Sometimes bad behaviour can be caused by an underlying medical or health issue. It's important to get your dog checked by a vet first to rule this out. They can then refer you to a behaviour expert, if necessary. 🐾





TICKLESS®

ULTRASONIC TICK AND FLEA REPELLER


TICKLESS is a revolutionary product: environmentally friendly, non-toxic, completely harmless, still effective against ticks and fleas



The Safest Approach to Tick and Flea Prevention in Dogs and Cats

There is no need to use neurotoxins to control parasites. There are safer, more environmentally friendly ways to protect both you and your pets against these pesky pests.

TICKLESS is an all-natural repellent device that is non-toxic and works without releasing any chemicals or odours. These devices release ultrasonic pulses with a minimum frequency of 40kHz, disorientating ticks and fleas within a 1.5m radius and deterring them from coming near your pets. Prevention is better than cure. By ensuring that these parasites stay away from your pets, they can remain healthy and free of diseases.

 Protection against fleas, ticks & dust mites	TICKLESS TECHNOLOGY	REGULAR METHODS	
	TICKLESS	CHEMICAL TREATMENTS (including spot on, collars and tablets)	Natural Treatments
Season-long protection	✓ 6-12mth	✗ 1-3mth	✗ 1-3mth
Non-toxic	✓	✗	✓
Free of Chemicals	✓	✗	✓
Active ingredients/components	Ultrasound	Fipronil(s)-Methoprene/etc Toxic Chemicals	Essential Oil
Odourless	✓	✗	✗
Safe for pets and kids	✓	✗ Could be fatal if ingested. Allergic reactions might cause skin inflammation and hair loss	✗ Some essential oils are corrosive allergic upon skin contact



CHEMICAL FREE



NO REAPPLICATION NEEDED



LONG LASTING



SCIENTIFICALLY PROVEN

Good health and wellbeing through the gut.



Keep it hypo-allergenic

Good-quality dog food should be naturally palatable and hypo-allergenic formulated with no hidden additives to support the development and maintenance of optimal gut health and barrier integrity, as well as protection against harmful substances.

Make the right choice

Inexpensive ingredients like wheat gluten, fillers and certain byproducts can cause problems such as skin and coat irritations, irregular bowel movements and lack of nutritional value for proper development.

Lionel's Choice has been formulated to promote optimal absorption through the digestive system, meeting all the nutritional needs of a growing puppy and adult dog.

Our food is suitable for all breeds – small to giant.



Good health starts with the gut, that's why it is important to choose a food which has a holistic formula to support the development and maintenance of optimal gut health and barrier integrity.

Our approach to holistic nutrition

Effective immune system

Rooibos and chestnut enriched

Natural antioxidants to help maintain cellular integrity and support the immune system in a natural way



Shiny skin and coat

Ideal Omega 6:3 ratio

Balanced fatty acids and oil (including Canola), assisting in your dog's skin and coat health



Lean muscle

Quality chicken protein

Chicken is a natural source of Chondroitin, Glucosamine, Essential Amino Acids to support muscle maintenance and bone health



Healthy gut

Butyrate and Chicory (prebiotic)

Chicory provides prebiotics and along with added Butyrate to support health and digestive function



Dental and skeletal support

Calcium and phosphorus

The ideal mineral ratio, along with trace minerals helps support healthy teeth and bones



* Images used are only for visual representation

At Lionel's Choice we pride ourselves in providing your pet with a holistic balanced nutrition obtained by using the high-quality ingredients it deserves.

We treat your pet as our own.



Follow, mail or call us
info@lionelschoice.com
+27 21 911 5552
www.lionelschoice.com



LIONEL'S CHOICE

Holistic Nutrition

I AM DOG

I trust you

I know when you
are happy or sad

I love being with you
and love your touch

I don't like it when you
go away, but I know
you will never leave me

I will protect you

I will love you

I am your friend

Lionel's Choice has been formulated to support optimal absorption of nutrients throughout the digestive system to meet all the nutritional needs of a growing puppy and adult dog.



Free from
added sugar
fish and soya protein
artificial colourants
artificial palatants



Developed for all dog breeds



Follow, mail or call us
info@lionelschoice.com
+27 21 911 5552

**Feed me right, it makes
a lifetime's difference**

Protect. Love



LIONEL'S CHOICE

Holistic Nutrition

Dealing with a condition called DROP JAW

Written and compiled by Sharon Dale



What our regular readers or followers on social media already know is that I'm the doting mom of a very handsome and active six-year-old Rottweiler boy named Drake, and that Drake has a pretty crossbreed sister named Holly. I'd last dewormed both of them in August of 2022 using an over-the-counter dewormer from Lionel's Choice, which I'd used a number of times before, and there were no problems with either of them.

Now, I mention this as we aren't sure that a different brand of dewormer caused the medical crises for Drake, but it seemed like a strange coincidence. I also won't be naming the other brand here as we

still don't have absolute proof that it was the cause. In November last year, a family member's dog had passed away from *Spirocerca lupi*, and in a panic I dashed to my vet clinic to get a dewormer for both my fur kids. Unfortunately, they were awaiting delivery of this particular brand which was suggested to me, so I drove to my local pet store, where they did have the product in stock.

It was a Friday afternoon, around 3pm, and I gave both Drake and Holly their dewormer, which they happily consumed.

The next morning, around 17 hours later, we noted that Drake didn't eat his food. We didn't

Trigeminal neuropathy is the most common cause for paralysis of the jaw

think too much of it as there are (very) occasional days when he doesn't eat. But I then noticed that his face looked strange and completely different – almost as if this was a different dog!

WORRIES AND CONFUSION

Upon closer inspection, we noticed that our boy's entire face had "dropped" and that he couldn't close his mouth so couldn't eat or even drink, which was very concerning. We immediately called our trusted veterinarian as well as my niece, who's a qualified vet, and both immediately suspected a condition known as Drop Jaw.

Of course, we started surfing the internet to learn more, but there was very little information available in terms of treatment.

Our vet did a thorough inspection of our boy, who was his usual happy, healthy, active self. He wasn't in pain and was going about his business with no other symptoms – he just couldn't close his mouth and his eyes were drooping. I've heard someone refer to this condition by saying that it looks like the dog's face has melted.

He'd try to drink water, but the levels wouldn't go down and the bowl would be left with copious amounts of foam. When I tried to give him something to eat, his mouth would foam profusely and he'd just swallow without chewing, which caused a very scary choking incident. His mouth just hung open, which was so sad to see, and he couldn't bark at all – when he tried, it was this strange, tinny sound. He couldn't carry his favourite toy or play catch as he was unable to close his mouth on anything.

There's no known treatment in terms of medication, so our wonderful vet decided to give him anti-inflammatories and to help him with eating and drinking so there wouldn't be issues with dehydration and getting enough food and water. If we couldn't get this right, he'd have to be put on a drip and further tests would be required.

THE WORK BEGINS

As mentioned, there just isn't much information on the internet on the cause and treatment of the condition. The fact that he was acting his normal self did calm us down while we tried to work out how to get food and water into our boy.

We initially tried using a giant syringe. This was a no-go, as he hated it and wanted nothing to do with it. With water, we tried a water bottle, and the odd thing was that at the vet, he'd drink out of the bottle, which he'd also do on walks or at training – but not at home. He just refused point blank, and I'd end up pouring water all over his face. We tried ice, we tried "slushies", we even tried to get him to drink from the hosepipe – to no avail. Panic was starting to set in for me.

Then my always-calm husband suggested putting a lot of water into Drake's kibble, making a very liquid gravy. Drake is extremely food motivated, so my husband made a very watery gravy to mix into the kibble and put the bowl up on a stand so he didn't have to bend over and could literally "shovel" the food and water into his mouth using his bottom jaw – which he quickly got the hang of. For the most part, the kibble was small enough to swallow without chewing.

Our vet told us how much water he needed for his weight, so we divided his daily food quantities into four and served it mixed with the watery gravy. It worked!

RECOVERY TIME

From what we were told and going by the articles on the internet, it can take up to eight weeks for recovery, with 98 per cent of dogs recovering fully. Now, Rottweilers have an extremely strong jaw in general, so we were hopeful that Drake would bounce back sooner than other dogs. We kept up with the feeding, which was a very messy business as there'd be food and water everywhere when he ate.



It only took two weeks for Drake's jaw function to recover fully, for which we were very grateful. His eyes stopped drooping first, along with the foamy saliva. Slowly but surely, he started being able to close his mouth more and more, and as that happened, so he was able to eat better and we could reduce the amount of fluids in the food. After two weeks, he could eat and drink normally and play catch again.

We had so much support from my niece and our vets, as well as a lady on YouTube who's based in Canada who'd posted a video about her own dog's experience with Drop Jaw. I wanted to write about our experience and include an article on this condition in the hope that it might be helpful to others. At the end of the day, we aren't sure if the dewormer caused it or if it was just something that happened out of the blue, but we've reported it to the manufacturers in case it's a potential side effect. As you'll see below, there's currently no specific known cause for this condition.

WHAT IS DROP JAW?

Trigeminal neuropathy is the most common cause for paralysis of the jaw, as inflammation of the trigeminal nerve leads to an inability to move the mouth. Because of its idiopathic nature, there's no true treatment for the condition, though supportive care will be necessary during the recovery period. As mentioned, the condition is best characterised or recognised by an inability to move the mouth, but other symptoms may be present. There's no known cause for trigeminal neuropathy, and it typically resolves on its own after several weeks.

GENERAL SYMPTOMS & TREATMENT

The characteristic symptom of jaw paralysis is an inability to open or close the mouth, which may result in your dog's lower jaw dropping open. Depending on which specific branches of the trigeminal nerve are affected, additional clinical signs may include difficulty eating and drinking, anorexia, lethargy, inability to blink, drooling, foaming at the mouth,



and messy eating.

Idiopathic trigeminal neuropathy usually clears up on its own after a few weeks. The veterinarian may prescribe anti-inflammatory medication, though treatment typically focuses on supportive care rather than curing the condition. Because of the dog's inability to move his jaw, it's important to ensure that he's getting sufficient nutrition and hydration in other ways.

A liquid diet is the standard for dogs recovering from trigeminal neuropathy, as most are still capable of using their tongues. It's imperative that you provide your dog with plenty of water, and make all meals the consistency of gruel, enabling your dog to receive proper nutrition. Most dogs are still able to lap with their tongues, but a feeding tube may be necessary, depending on the severity of the paralysis.

The good news is that the prognosis for this condition is generally good, as trigeminal neuropathy often clears up on its own after several weeks. 🐾

Acknowledgements – PetMD.com, wagwalking.com and www.mspca.org



PRO-PET
PET PRODUCTS



*Our aim is to be the consumers #1 choice of
the finest mouth-watering chewable treats
for all dogs*

*... the **Xtreme** in natural feeding*

WWW.PRO-PET.CO.ZA | 011 673 9921

COPING WITH THE *ITCHES*



There's one condition in dogs that's really frustrating for both the pet parent and for the attending veterinarian – that's Allergic Dermatitis.

In a society where everything needs a quick fix, here's an opportunity for a pet owner and veterinarian to patiently and systematically work together to assist a suffering animal. There's nothing that tests a relationship more than trying to unravel a puzzle that doesn't always have a happy and satisfactory ending.

The skin is one of the largest organs of the body and often shows in only a few ways that there's something wrong internally but mainly in two ways, even though there might be several reasons that are layered over one another. The only two consistent signs are:

- Inflammation – redness, hair loss and blisters or pustules

- Itchiness

In cases that have been going on for a few months, the body tries to defend itself by thickening the skin and laying down pigment that causes brown blotches.

WHAT CAUSES THE ITCHES?

The most common chronic cause of allergic dermatitis in dogs is called Atopic Allergic Dermatitis. It's caused by inhaled or ingested environmental substances that the body reacts to and the skin manifests as itching and inflammation. The problem comes in ruling out all the other causes of allergies before you can make this diagnosis. Both owner and veterinarian will give up after not having followed a systematic approach. Owners will jump from vet to vet and vets will keep starting from the beginning, and in the end both blame each other, and the total cost becomes too much.

Getting to the bottom of Atopic Allergic Dermatitis can be very frustrating

There are many conditions to rule out; however, making sure the basics are covered helps to get to the bottom of the main cause:

- Urticarial reactions sometimes caused by even simple parasites like mosquito and insect bites
- Food
- Contact allergens
- Flea and tick bites
- Ear mites
- Even hormonal imbalances have been implicated
- Your veterinarian will more than likely go through three areas of diagnostic decision-making
- Parasitic
- Infections
- Allergenicities

TAKING THE MATTER FURTHER

Once all the basic conditions causing allergic dermatitis have been ruled out, your veterinarian might suggest a blood sample or intradermal skin testing which tries to identify the environmental or ingested allergen that the dog's reacting to. Leading veterinary dermatologists only suggest this if you're prepared to consider immunotherapy for at least one year and only then judge the results.

Your job is to make sure all the basics are covered – that is, your dog is kept clean, dewormed, is on a good diet and that you keep ticks, fleas, insects and mosquitoes away. Become involved in your dog's treatment and don't expect a quick fix here. In summary – be patient, committed and part of the team trying to resolve a complex issue. 🐾



Shop **PET REWARDS** Online
<https://petrewards.co.za/>

delivered to you

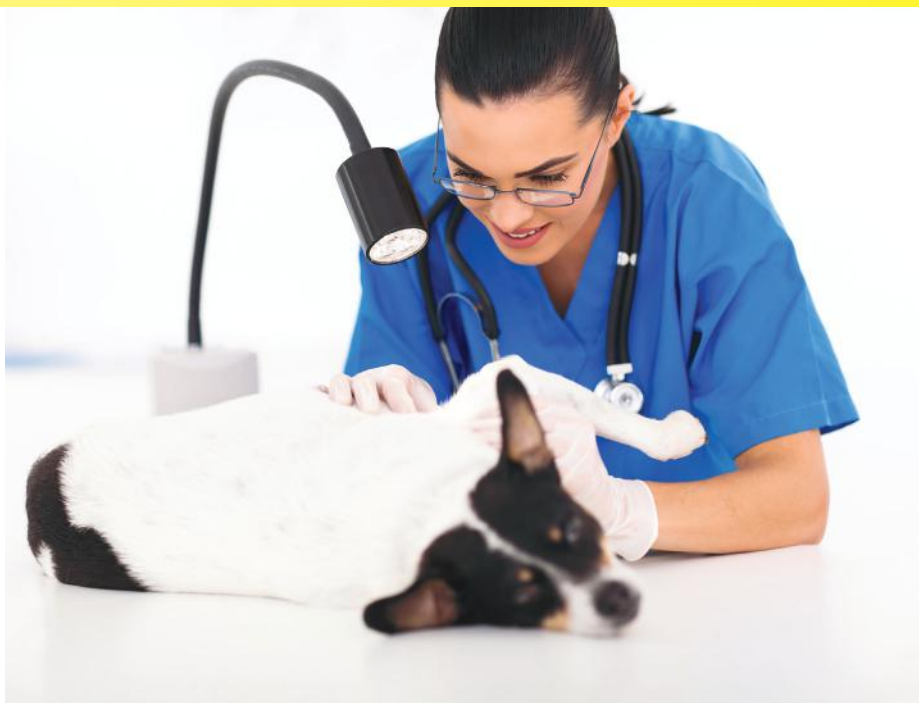
Spoil your **FUR BABIES**
 with sugar free
 treats



5% OF ALL SALES GO TO SUPPORTING **Animal Anti Cruelty JHB** because we believe in giving back to those babies that cannot speak for themselves and need our support

What is PHEMPHIGUS?

By Dr Larry Kraitzick, Bruma Lake Veterinary Clinic



Pemphigus is a relatively uncommon autoimmune skin disease in dogs in which the body's immune system functions abnormally, attacking different components of the skin. This leads to a separation of these components in the skin and sometimes mucous membranes. This manifests as different combinations of blisters, ulcers, erosions, pustules (pimples) and crusting.

Each of the five forms of the disease (Pemphigus foliaceus, Pemphigus erythematosus, Pemphigus vegetans and Pemphigus vulgaris, Bullous pemphigoid) is characterised by the different areas of the body and components of the skin that are affected.

WHAT CAUSES PEMPHIGUS?

There are three possible groups

of factors which can play a role in Pemphigus of dogs –

Endogenous (internal) – includes any factors within the dog that could trigger an autoimmune reaction, such as a pre-existing dormant defect of the immune system or a genetic predisposition in the dog. It may also be triggered by an underlying medical condition, such as chronic skin allergies or cancer.

Exogenous (external) – includes any factor coming from outside of the dog that may trigger an autoimmune reaction. This could be due to an infection by a virus, exposure to ultraviolet light (sun), or a particular drug.

Idiopathic (unexplained) – despite extensive testing, in most cases, no cause can be found for Pemphigus in dogs, and those cases are therefore classified as idiopathic.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF PEMPHIGUS?

Of the multiple types of Pemphigus in dogs, the three most common types are Pemphigus foliaceus, Pemphigus vulgaris, and Pemphigus erythematosus, and each type presents with different clinical features.

Pemphigus foliaceus – this is the most common Pemphigus in dogs and typically results in hair loss, ulcerated open sores or pustules, and crusty scabs located on the head, face, feet and ears. This type can become more widespread over time, covering other parts of the body as well. Chow Chows, Akitas, Cocker Spaniels, Dachshunds, and English Bulldogs most commonly present with this type of Pemphigus.

Pemphigus erythematosus – similar in appearance to Pemphigus foliaceus, although this type often presents with milder symptoms. Predisposed breeds include German Shepherds, Collies, and Shetland Sheepdogs.

Pemphigus vulgaris – this is the most severe type of Pemphigus, affecting the deepest layers of the skin. Vesicles, or fluid-filled blisters, that rupture, leaving painful ulcerative lesions, are commonly seen in this variation. These open sores or ulcers are initially most often seen at the edges of the lips and eyes and often spread to various other areas of the body.

HOW IS PEMPHIGUS DIAGNOSED?

Your veterinarian will do tests



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

epetstore
.co.za

PREMIUM PET FOOD AND PRODUCTS

FREE DELIVERY:
USE **BRU1** WHEN
REGISTERING

BRU1

BRUMA LAKE VETERINARY CLINIC - 011 622 8813

There are five forms of this disease, characterised by the area of the body and skin that are affected

and perform a physical exam to rule out other possible causes for the symptoms such as skin allergies or fungal and bacterial infections. The final diagnosis is achieved by performing a skin biopsy which is then sent to a pathologist for analysis.

HOW IS PEMPHIGUS TREATED?

There's no known cure for Pemphigus in dogs. Due to the fact that it's an autoimmune condition, treatment involves

suppression of the immune system. The objective is to keep the disease in remission, and treatment is dependent on the severity of the disease and modified according to how the dog responds to the medication.

The emphasis is on reducing symptoms, achieving remission, and improving the dog's quality of life using the lowest effective dose of medication in order to reduce any negative side effects.

Possible treatments for Pemphigus in dogs include corticosteroids (cortisone) or other immunosuppressive drugs, such as azathioprine or cyclosporine. Antibiotics may be prescribed if secondary bacterial infection is present.

The prognosis for Pemphigus depends on the type and its severity. It varies from easily controlled to life-threatening. 🐕



Keeping your hound off the ground...

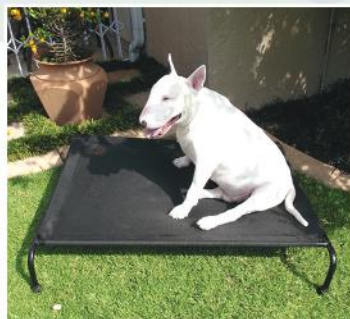
CONTACT

DAWN GLENDINING

082 929 1819

dawn@houndsleeper.co.za

www.houndsleeper.co.za



HEALTHY

HYGIENIC

COMFORTABLE

DURABLE

Oh Sweetpea!

By the Knysna Animal Welfare Team



and she slowly adjusted to shelter life.

THE WAITING GAME

It was a really long wait for anyone to show interest in adopting our little Sweetpea. However, her life changed the day that Rhoda, a volunteer at our KAWS Charity Shop, and her husband, Rob Bunyan, came into the shelter to adopt two of our kittens.

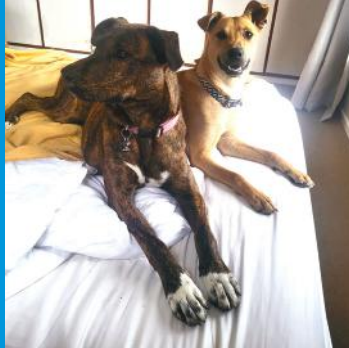
It was with much excitement that they decided on Pepper, a black cat, and Gin, a ginger-and-white boy. They were very concerned about their old cat, Kittykat, because she'd previously run away when they brought in a new cat. They listened to our advice and agreed that with two kittens they'd be more inclined to play with each other and leave the older girl alone. Fortunately, it worked out perfectly well and life was relaxed with the cats. The couple also had a white Labbie-type boy called Flea who'd lived as an only dog for a few years. Rob works in Cape Town and travels back and forth to Knysna, and he never hesitated when we asked if he'd transport cats for us to Cape Town that had been adopted.

Sweetpea was brought into the shelter late one Saturday afternoon. This small puppy was found running down the road with razor wire tied around her neck, in addition to which she had a huge bite wound on the top of her head. She was immediately treated by our KAWS Vet.

Sweetpea remained an extremely traumatised dog, very fearful of humans in general. The breakthrough came when a friend of one of our volunteers at the time came to visit her and she climbed onto her lap. That was the turning point in her life

TIME TO GO HOME

A few months later, we were pleasantly surprised when Rhoda and Rob turned up at the shelter to have a look at our dogs. Lo and behold they fell in love with Sweetpea! There were tears all around the day this beautiful girl left the shelter for the last time. It was an instant love affair with Flea, and better still that Sweetpea loved the cats too. But wait, there's more... Rob asked Rhoda what she'd like for Christmas, and without hesitation she said she wanted to adopt Tilly at the shelter. Tilly was found as a stray puppy that had been hit by



a taxi – she was only about seven weeks old at the time. She went to a wonderful Mom in foster care as a puppy and, unfortunately, hadn't found a home as a small pup.

The foster Moms bring the pups in every day to play with the other pups and hopefully get noticed by members of the public looking to adopt. Sadly, there comes a time when they simply have to stay there permanently when the foster Moms take in new pups. Well, Tilly caught Rhoda's eye and that was that – the pure joy of the three new besties and their three cat friends is plain to see in the photos. This incredible couple have now adopted four animals from KAWS, for which we're eternally grateful. 🐾



Flea is the white Labrador-type dog, Sweetpea is brindle, and Tilly is the tan girl.



FOSTER HOMES NEEDED



Reduce animal length of stay



Allow us to save more animals



Help us learn about the animal



Give the animals the love they need



Apply at tears.org.za or contact Andrea on 082 780 8684



WOOF & WHISKERS CLUB
WIN MONTHLY CASH PRIZES FOR A GOOD CAUSE

GET YOUR TICKETS AND STAND A CHANCE TO WIN UP TO 20 000 RAND IN MONTHLY CASH GIVEAWAYS!



PRIZE A - R10,000



PRIZE B - R3,000 (X2)



PRIZE C - R1,000 (X4)

x2,000 R50 TICKETS AVAILABLE

The more tickets you have, the greater your CHANCE of winning.

PLAY IT FORWARD AND HELP VULNERABLE PETS IN NEED

Funds raised by the Woof & Whiskers Club will provide veterinary care, shelter and free sterilisations.



JOIN THE WOOF & WHISKERS CLUB



VISIT [TEARS.ORG.ZA/WOOFANDWHISKERSCLUB](https://tears.org.za/woofandwhiskersclub) FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO ENTER
TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

OUT OF THE FIRE

By Richelle Van Dyk

Help us turn this horrific event into something good by rebuilding our facilities

On the 27th of November 2022, a fire ravaged part of the facilities at Dead Animals Walking. We lost some of our cats in the fire and our buildings – its contents and everything we worked so hard for are now only ashes – there's nothing left!

As I look at the ashes of what was once home to Tinkie (our lady who looks after all our rescued farm animals and cats), I feel sick to my stomach. This was home to our free-roaming, semi-feral, non-adoptable cats and Boere, our farm dog who came to the haven one day and never left. We managed to get Boere out but had to listen to the curdling screams of the cats. Despite all our efforts to rescue them, the flames were just too much, and it was impossible when everything started exploding around. Because it was load-shedding at 10pm, when it all started, we had no access to water.

Many people pitched in to help, and eventually the fire brigade arrived with three fire trucks, but it was too late.

We only managed to save two out of twenty cats – Grey, who came out behind the “veld” after the flames were extinguished, and then Sahara, whom we found stuck under the debris two days after, when we started cleaning. She was very badly burnt but still alive, and we rushed her to Tygerberg Animal Hospital, where we've since been fighting for her life.

We lost everything! Everything burnt down to the ground, leaving us with R80,000-R90,000 damages.

A CRUEL, INTENTIONAL ACT

The worst of all is that this wasn't an accident or act of God – it was intentional! The suspect was apprehended and arrested: a woman with immense hatred did this to us and our animals. Charges of Malicious Damage to Property, Arson, Attempted Murder and two counts of the Animals Protection Act have been laid against her.

I feel backed into a corner and don't see a way out; we've been facing financial struggles for a few months now and this was the dagger through my heart, and I fear not recovering from this or rebuilding what we lost unless we have some sort of miracle come along for us.

If you can find it in your heart, please help us to turn this horrific event into something good by rebuilding our facilities to be even better than they were before, at least in honour of the memory of the cats we lost.

We're a registered PBO, thus all donations are Tax Deductible, and we can provide a section 18A Tax Certificate. Our direct bank details are: Dead Animals Walking, FNB Cheque Acc: 62558850634, Branch: 250655, Ref: Fire Damages. Please email proof to deadanimalswalking@gmail.com and include your details in order for us to thank you as well as update you.

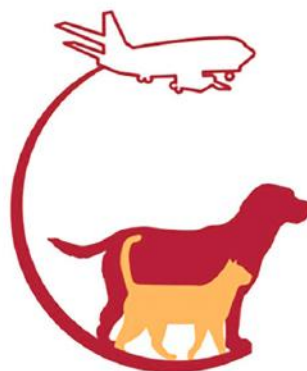
Our vet's direct bank details are: Tygerberg Animal Hospital, ABSA Transmission Acc: 9086157226, Branch: 632005, Ref: 112458/DAW. Please ensure you use this reference in order for the funds to be allocated to DAW; email proof to deadanimalswalking@gmail.com. Our registration number is NPO-148-719 & PBO 930072326.

Visit our website on www.deadanimalswalking.co.za or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.





**WE TRANSPORT
PETS ACROSS THE
GLOBE!**



**ANIMALTM
TRAVEL
SERVICES**

 **+27 (021) 934 9556/7**

 **INFO@ANIMAL-TRAVEL.COM**

 **+27 (021) 934 9570**

 **ANIMAL-TRAVEL.COM**

 **UNIT A5, CTX BUSINESS PARK, FREIGHT ROAD,
CPT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

BRUSSELS GRIFFON (-ology)



Cute, small and lively dogs who need to spend as much time as possible with their family



With their cute expression, Brussels Griffons are adorable, intelligent, and social dogs that quickly win over fans with their larger-than-life personalities. They're small dogs, known for their expressive, almost childlike faces and large, wide-set prominent eyes.

HISTORY

The Brussels Griffon's stocky bodies and characteristic, purposeful trot are reflections of their heritage as vermin hunters in Belgium. In the 19th century, breeding with the Pug and King Charles Spaniel brought about the current breed type. They grew in popularity in the late 19th century with both workers and noblemen in Belgium. The breed has never been numerous

or popular, but it had a brief vogue in the late 1950s and now is generally an uncommon breed. There was an uptick in popularity after the appearance of a Griffon in the Jack Nicholson movie *As Good as It Gets*, however.

LIVING WITH A GRIFFON

Brussels Griffons belong to a class of dogs called brachycephalic dogs, characterised by a short snout and flat-faced appearance. This makes them more prone to snore and more sensitive to hot, humid weather. They shouldn't be left outside for extended periods of time. Conversely, given their small size, they don't tolerate extreme cold either.

These are people dogs and need to spend as much time as possible with their family. They don't like being left alone and need to sleep inside. They're often called "Velcro dogs" because they like to stick close to your side. A Brussels Griffon who feels ignored will resort to misbehaviour to get your attention.

The Griffon comes in two coat variants, wiry/rough and smooth coat. Their fur can be red, black and tan, or black and reddish in colour. The short-hair Griffon requires little grooming, while the wiry/rough coat Griffon requires regular grooming.

TEMPERAMENT

Griffons love people and children and usually get along well with other dogs and cats.

These spunky little dogs are small, but they have a lively personality. They're very affectionate and bond closely with their families. Because they're small, they can make good townhouse or apartment dogs, as long as they get enough exercise and are not left alone for long periods of time. They can have a tendency to bark, though. These adorable little dogs require a time commitment, not only because they want a lot of time and attention from their people, but also because they can live to be 14 or 15 years old.

There are often Griffon-lookalike dogs looking for homes in shelters. To get a healthy pure breed dog, though, never buy a puppy from an irresponsible breeder, puppy mill or pet store, and look for a reputable breeder only. 🐾





Loved by your Pet... Loved by You!

Harry is available to you directly!

- Energy saving Technology
- Dust Allergy Sensitive
- Pet Specific (Hair & Odour)
- Ergonomically Designed
- Warranty Included
- Free Delivery

Order Online
www.numaticshop.co.za
0861 444 270



E-BIZ SOLUTIONS

**Social Media
Marketing,
Magazines,
Digital
Newsletters,
Content, Design,
& Websites**

- Specialising in the pet industry
- Extensive portfolio
- Affordable rates

www.ebizsolutions.co.za



Telephone - 083 375 7669 Email - Marketing@ebizsolutions.co.za



OFF-LEASH DOG PARK

**FOR HIRE
TO ONE FAMILY AT A TIME**

072 048 6576
079 523 6149
www.geniusdogs.co.za

geni[US]
Dog Park



"just you and your dogs"



SURVIVING DIVORCE!



Very tragically, dogs are becoming a huge sticking point in divorce cases. “It’s the last bone of contention and can be big enough to bring asset distribution to a standstill,” says John Wade, a trainer who was brought into a dog-custody case. And when owners battle, dogs – like children – get caught in the crossfire. But there are ways to make a split less stressful for your beloved dog, and the following tips would apply not only during a divorce but during a relationship breakup too.

- **Understand your dog’s feelings.** You may not realise it immediately, but your dog has lost a lifestyle he was accustomed to. Experts now agree that our dogs really do feel all the same emotions we do – and they express those feelings in different ways. They can express genuine anger, sadness, relief and even joy as they go through the turmoil and resolution of a divorce. Dogs often act out with misbehaviour, like chewing up the furniture, barking, digging and messing in the house. They can experience such severe separation anxiety that, to help them cope, veterinarians sometimes have to be consulted.
- **Keep changes at a minimum** so your dog can adjust gradually to this new life. It’s best to try and maintain a normal routine for them as much as you possibly can.

When a marriage or relationship goes bad – and your fur kid is caught in the middle...

- **Avoid fighting in front of your dog.** Whenever you shout and argue with each other, you cause anxiety in your dog, just as you would in your child. Dogs are sensitive to your feelings and they do suffer from turmoil and emotional upset in the home.
- **Contact a professional.** Sadly, thousands of dogs are given up because of lifestyle changes – such as when a relationship ends. If you foster or adopt a dog that came from a broken home and the dog displays behavioural issues, it’s a good idea to call in a dog behaviourist. With a little time and patience, the dog will soon settle down again.
- **Keep clear ownership records.** Courts treat dogs as property, and titles govern property. So maintain a file of adoption, registration and vaccination documents to prove he’s yours.
- **Hire a mediator.** Because judges can’t legally order visitation and custody for so-called property, few will tolerate a squabble over the family dog. Calmer and cheaper than litigation is sitting down with a mediator, or an attorney who helps couples reach agreements away from court.
- **Ask yourselves: Is this really about the dog?** Angry over other issues, fighting exes often forget about the dog’s best interests. Among the horror stories from the divorce courts: The bitter ex-wife who won custody of her husband’s beloved dog, then had it euthanised; or the sadistic ex-husband who, granted joint custody of the couple’s German Shepherd, capped the dog’s weekend visits by feeding him fatty sausages. The result: The dog developed digestive problems just as he was going back to the ex. “People seek custody for hidden reasons,” says Kessler. “The dog is leverage, a bargaining chip.” So, rather than hurting the dog, try discussing what you both really want and – first and foremost – what’s best for your faithful companion. 🐾

Ruff Stuff

To have your products featured here,
email us on editorial@caninezonesa.co.za

Rewards for much-loved canines and their owners!

ANNOUNCING THE LAUNCH OF THE NEW COMPLETE PET APP!

Complete Pet's Loyalty App has been updated to make your experience more user-friendly and convenient. To enjoy all the new functions of the app and to keep your points, you'll need to do the following –

- Visit Google Play or the App Store and download the new Complete Pet Loyalty App
- Log in to your account using your log in details
- Delete the old app from your phone

When you change over from the old Complete Pet app to the new one, or if you're a new member, we'll add one purchase to your total!

Download and Register for FREE on the Complete Pet Loyalty App and receive –

- 12th bag of food FREE
- Online Orders
- Store Locator
- Monthly Digital Mag
- 100 % money-back guarantee

Follow Complete Pet on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube for more information, or visit www.completepet-food.co.za



GIVE THEM A MONTEGO SQUEEZE!

Eating the same thing every day, no matter what it is, can get old pretty quickly. With Sauce for Dogs, your pet's daily dry food regime becomes a culinary delight! Use Sauce for Dogs as an easy way to break the routine or when you simply want to show 'em some love – and with Sauce for Dogs Plus, you can give 'em a squeeze of extra health as well! Sauce for Dogs is made to the same high standards as all Montego Pet Nutrition products. Visit www.montego.co.za for more information.



ROSEWOOD JOULES LEADS AND COLLARS

Joules are excited to launch their new pet range in partnership with Rosewood Pet Products, bringing together Rosewood's expertise on product and Joules' iconic design and use of colour and print. The result of the partnership is a stylish and durable collection that not only looks good but will withstand everything a dog life throws at it. Available through leading vet, pet and online stores nationwide. Visit www.mcmac.co.za for more information.



SAY NO TO STRESS

Stress-Eeze is a natural treatment for anxiety, hyper-excitability, restlessness, aggression, and compulsive behaviour in dogs. May be used as an aid in highly strung or anxious dogs to reduce the effects of stressful situations such as separation, travelling, kennelling, and loud noises such as fireworks. Ideal for dogs who experience storm fear. May be of benefit in the management of dogs prone to aggression, hyper-excitability, and obsessive behaviour such as tail chasing or incessant licking. Available now in pet, vet and online stores. Visit www.rucenta.co.za for more information.



LET'S KEEP IT CLEAN WITH PAWISE!

When you're out and about with your dog, it's important to always pick up any waste. With the PAWISE Poop Bag Dispenser with Refills you can pick up your dog's poop in style. Simply attach it to your leash handle and never be caught without a poop bag again. Available at pet or online stores countrywide and distributed in SA by Pet Brands. Follow them on Facebook and Instagram or visit their website on www.petbrands.co.za



OUTWARD HOUND DAYPAK

The DayPak is a saddlebag-style dog backpack that allows your pup to comfortably carry extra gear and essentials while on the go! A light-capacity pack constructed with breathable mesh and adjustable straps to keep your dog comfortable and cool on the trail. Bright colours and reflective piping make it easy to spot your dog if they roam too far. Enjoy the convenience and stor-



age space of four expandable pockets—and, when you're ready to roll, simply attach your pup's leash to the D-ring and go! Available in multiple sizes. Available through leading vet, pet and online stores nationwide. Visit www.mcmac.co.za for more information.

GIVE YOUR PUPPY THE BEST START

Lionel's Choice Puppy food provides the ideal balance of nutrients to aid the rapid growth in puppies. Our food is highly digestible, contains quality protein for muscle growth and energy and the correct ratio of Calcium and Phosphorus to assist in the proper formation of bones and teeth. Lionel's Choice is developed by an acclaimed nutritionist and consulting veterinarian, and they pride themselves on providing your puppy with holistic balanced nutrition obtained by using the quality ingredients they deserve. Follow Lionel's Choice on Facebook and Instagram and visit their website on www.lionelschoice.co



YOUR DOG'S QUALITY OF LIFE IS IMPORTANT

Vitozol is a brand that's passionate about dogs and their wellbeing. We believe that every pet should have the best quality of life, regardless of breed or age. Vitozol products have life-changing benefits that could enrich your dog's life. Their Pet Oil will aid your fur kid with arthritis, pain, inflammation, anxiety or stress, digestive problems, seizures, epilepsy, and eczema. Vitozol contains no THC and is 100% natural CBD (not Hemp). Our mission is to get CBD into more households so that more pets can live an easier, happier life, without the harmful side effects of medication. Vitozol

Pets – the natural choice for your best friend!



ROSEWOOD SOFT BASKET MUZZLE

Training your dog is a vital part of dog ownership and should be enjoyable for both you and your dog. Rosewood, in partnership with Coastal Pet Products, have developed a core training range. The Soft Basket Muzzle is a temporary muzzle restraint to prevent biting, chewing and barking. The open design allows for panting, drinking and feeding, and its flexible silicone basket with soft-padded neoprene-lined straps keeps your dog comfortable during use. Available in five different sizes to accommodate all breeds of dog. Available through leading vet, pet and online stores nationwide. Visit www.mcmac.co.za for more information.



Looking for Love

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

TEARS ANIMAL RESCUE (CAPE TOWN)



ADA — I'm looking for a new home as my house burned down, so I'm making the best of kennel life and hoping that my luck changes soon. I get along with my kennel mate and enjoy going for adventures. Sometimes I'm a bit nervous, so I need someone to give me a pat on the back and tell me that everything's going to be alright.



CHIVAS — I'm a happy-go-lucky, all-round fun guy with a knack for keeping my superiors on their toes! I'm a social guy who loves to play and gets on well with all people and most dogs, provided we're given a good introduction. I'm really a softie who's big on cuddles and affection.



SAVANNAH — I'm a gentle soul who takes a while to get to know new friends, but once you've won my trust, I'm all yours. I have lots of love to give, and I hope it doesn't take too long to meet my soulmate. I'm choosy when it comes to other dog friends. My favourite thing is taking a relaxed stroll on the beach and sniffing everything along the way.



CICI — If mountain hikes, road trips and snuggling up on the couch are your thing, then I think we'll get along swimmingly. I'm super affectionate and playful and have an alert, inquisitive nature. I get along well with other dogs and will do just about anything for a treat and to make you smile. I'm super clever and have learnt a few tricks and training commands.

DOGTOWN SA (GAUTENG)



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



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



DUFFY — My favourite things are my Kong toys and cuddling with people. I'm looking for a family who'll love me back as much as I love them; it's also important that they're good treat-dispensers. People here at Dogtown say that I'm a social butterfly when it comes to other dogs, and they're not wrong.



BRUNO — I'm basically a big puppy, but I bet you could have guessed that looking at my photos! I'm a busy boy and I'd love to bring some spice to your life. I'm also a social boy and get along with pretty much any dog I meet! I'm just so happy all the time!

KNYSNA ANIMAL WELFARE (KNYSNA)



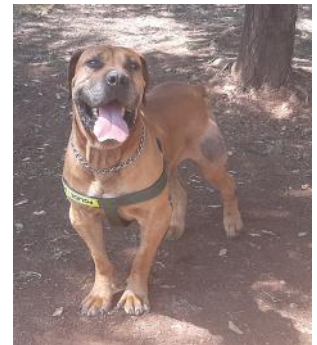
ROCKY is a boy with so much personality and a nature more beautiful than his eyes. Believe it or not, he was a stray that was never claimed. He's a three-year-old medium-sized, calm and loving guy. As an all-round lovely dog, there isn't a home he wouldn't thrive in.



ZORRO is a ten-month-old large-sized boy who was found abandoned in a holding kennel. He was very timid in the beginning but is now a happy, confident dog. Zorro gets along well with other dogs and children, and he'll make a great family companion.



HYDER was a surrender in the poorest condition. She was starved, mistreated and terrified. She's had a long journey of recovery with us and is now one of our happiest, liveliest girls. She is an extremely loyal and loving dog. She's approximately two years old and would do well in an active home making up for all her lost time.



SIENNA was a mother of five pups, all of which have found their forever homes, and she's since been waiting patiently for a home to call her own. She's a three-year-old girl who'd love an active family who can take her on hikes and adventures, where she can explore and run to her heart's content.

WHERE TO FIND US...

TEARS ANIMAL RESCUE (CAPE TOWN)

ADA, CHIVAS, CICI & SAVANNAH

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 in Cape Town.

DOGTOWN SA (GAUTENG)

ALBERT, GENNA, DUFFY & BRUNO

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

KNYSNA ANIMAL WELFARE (KNYSNA)

ROCKY, ZORRO, HYDER & SIENNA

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



**ONLINE SHOPPING FOR YOUR
ALL YOUR PET & VET SUPPLIES**

thevet@vetproductsonline.co.za

"Best prices & delivery service of your choice."



www.vetproductsonline.co.za

Tel: 033 263 1608

DOGTOWN SA

Adopt Your Best Friend

Contact our match makers: Call 076 044 1979 or
email adopt@dogtownsa.org



BEST FRIENDS PET LODGE

*The fun place to stay
while your humans
are away*

Set in the beautiful mountains between the
Hennops River and Hartbeespoort dam

*Daily activities: enrichment,
cuddles & photo updates*

Contact us to book your furkids next holiday
Call 083 656 2230 or email
bookings@bestfriendspetlodge.com



The IMDT is a worldwide education
provider for Dog Trainers and Behaviourists

- ✓ Webinars
- ✓ Distance Learning
- ✓ Courses

Perfect for

- ✓ Dog owners
- ✓ Aspiring Trainers
- ✓ Aspiring Behaviourists

**START YOUR
JOURNEY**

info@imdt.co.za
www.imdt.co.za



**Visit our website on www.caninezonesa.co.za and follow
us on Facebook and Instagram for daily updates, news,
product information and dogs up for adoption!**

PREMIUM ONLINE PET SUPPLIES

SHOP

Now

The Dog Club Pet Co

www.thedogclubpetco.co.za

1 Bellavista rd, West Turfontein | (082) 922 3725

@thedogclub

the_dog_club

HAPPY HEALTHY SMILES IN 3... 2... 1...

DO YOU KNOW THE 5 SIGNS OF DENTAL DISEASE?

There are **5 signs** of dental disease in dogs to watch for:

- 1 Bad doggy breath isn't normal or unavoidable! It's a sign of dental disease.
- 2 Red gums: Two thirds of a dog's tooth are under the gum line which means dental disease can live where you can't see it.
- 3 Discolored yellow or brown teeth: without cleaning, plaque buildup start in as little as 24 hours.
- 4 Excessive drool or signs of discomfort
- 5 Difficulty chewing or starting to drop some of their food around their bowl.

4 out of 5 dogs have some form of dental disease by the time they are 3 years old, however as little as 2% of pet owners actually brush their pet's teeth¹

LUCKILY, WHIMZEES® BY WELLNESS ALL-NATURAL DAILY DENTAL TREATS MAKES DENTAL CARE AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3! DOGS CAN'T COUNT, WE KNOW. BUT YOU CAN. AND IT REALLY IS THAT EASY TO KEEP YOUR DOG'S TEETH HEALTHY.

LASTS
3x
LONGER*

STEP 3: MAKE THE FUN AND SMILES LAST

Thanks to the increased dietary fibre, WHIMZEES® By Wellness treats have a firmer structure. This firmer texture promotes a longer chew time for increased cleaning time as well as naturally helping to polish your dog's teeth while chewing. WHIMZEES® By Wellness are proven to last 3x longer than the leading competitors: 3X longer chew time = 3 X more fun = 3 X bigger smiles!

CLEANS
2x
BETTER*

STEP 2: CHOOSE THE BEST PERFORMING DENTAL CHEW

Whilst the gold standard is always brushing your dog's teeth, WHIMZEES® By Wellness are scientifically proven to help reduce plaque, reduce tartar, freshen breath, and help gum health. On top of that, WHIMZEES® By Wellness are proven to be reducing 2x more plaque than the leading competitor.

CHEW
1x
DAILY

STEP 1: MAKE IT A DAILY ROUTINE

Implementing a daily dental preventative routine can result in veterinary bills being eliminated or greatly reduced. Plaque can accumulate in as little as 24 hours so just like us it is important to support your dog's teeth with a dental chew every day to keep their teeth healthy. Thanks to its 100% natural ingredients, WHIMZEES® By Wellness are perfect for daily use: they are vegetarian, hypo-allergenic & low in fat and cal.



& DON'T FORGET:
CHOOSE THE
RIGHT SIZE!



WHIMZEES
BY WELLNESS

¹: American Pet Products Association

*Based on studies of comparable products conducted by an independent kennel

Complete.

Join the Complete Pet family and
get rewarded!

Register
NOW!

When you change over
from the old Complete
Pet app to the new
one, or if you are a new
member, we will add
one purchase to your
total!

Download and Register for **FREE** on the
Complete Pet Loyalty App and receive -

- 12th bag of food **FREE**
- Online Orders
- Store Locator
- Monthly Digital Mag
- 100 % money-back
guarantee



www.completepetfood.co.za