

Rushwood

Luxury Boarding Kennels & Cattery

People Who Know How To Care



Autumn
2010

Issue 22

WELCOME to the Autumn 2010 issue of our Newsletter - designed to keep you up to date with Kennel news and any other topical issues

Kennel and Cattery Facilities

- Large, Modern, Heated Kennels & Chalets
- Stimulating Caring Environment
- One-to-One Attention
- Boarding for Pets with Special Needs
- Day-time Creche
- Boarding for Small Furrries
- Fully Qualified and Experienced Staff
- Collection & Delivery Service
- Open 7 Days a Week
- Rural Location

Office Hours

Monday to Friday
9 am to 5 pm
Sunday
3 pm to 5 pm
Bank Holidays
3 pm to 5 pm

Dogs And The Law

Dog ownership is a privilege that must be taken seriously. All owners must care for their dog in a specific manner that is not harmful or detrimental to their welfare. There is also specific legislation in place that must be adhered to.

Every dog must be trained in basic obedience. There are two programs that help owners with this; the kennel club safe and sound scheme and the good citizen dog scheme.

As of 1992 the Control Of Dogs order requires any dog that is out in a public place to have a collar and tag with the owners name and address on it. The fine for failure to do so is £5000. Service, sport or herding dogs are the only ones exempt from this rule. Dog owners who fail to scoop their dogs poop immediately in a public place can be fined £1000 under the clean neighbourhoods and environment act 2005.

Local authorities are able to hand out dog control orders to owners not adhering to local bylaws; offences include not putting or keeping a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer and permitting a dog to go onto unauthorised land.

When it comes to trespassing, the Animals Act 1997 empowers farmers to shoot, without warning, dogs that the farmer feels are a threat to his livestock; and the owners are liable to imprisonment.

As of 1991 and the Dangerous Dogs Act, all breeds or types of pitbull terriers and a few other choice breeds must have been registered before 1991 and it is now an offence to own, breed or sell these dogs and they cannot now be registered.

If you are found to illegally own one of these banned dogs, you can be fined up to £5000 and/or given six months imprisonment.

Dog breeders who breed more than five litters a year must be licensed under the Breeding and Sale of Dogs Welfare Act 1999. The act states that a bitch under 12 months cannot be mated, more than six litters cannot be whelped from a bitch, two litters cannot be whelped within a 12 month period from the same bitch, accurate records must be kept up to date and puppies must not be sold until they are eight weeks old.

NEWS AT RUSHWOOD

Ponderosa Pet Shop Open now. Specialists in bird and chicken feed and accessories. Suppliers of many brands of dog and cat food, treats, toys etc.

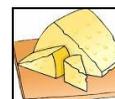
Also coming soon to Rushwood is the breeding and supply of many types of poultry including bantams and orpingtons.



Big kong ideas

Cheesy Dental Kong Delight

*3 slices dogs favourite cheese



*Dental Kong Toy



A very simple and creative way to get your pet drooling with delight. Just place the 3 slices of cheese directly onto the grooves of your pets dental kong. Melt in microwave for 20—30 seconds. Give to pet after it cools.

Philly Steak

* steak scraps



* 1 ounce cream cheese



*Appropriate kong toy



Place small scraps of steak inside kong toy. Spread cream cheese in large hole to hold in scraps. Serve immediately.

Hibernating Hedgehogs

Hibernation is a complicated and often perilous energy conservation strategy. It's not as simple as just going to sleep. In sleep all bodily functions remain nearly normal, but in hibernation the metabolism is almost at a standstill.

Like all animals, hedgehogs need energy to maintain normal body activities, to grow and to move about. This energy comes from their food. As the weather gets colder such food becomes more difficult to source so they decide to slow down their use of energy. They become immobile, their bodies cool and their normal physiological activities are slowed down.



Their heart rate drops from about 190 per minute to 20 beats per minute, their body temperature which is normally 35 degrees centigrade drops to 10 degrees or below with respiration almost stopping with one breath every few minutes

Hibernation normally begins in December time and ends in either March or when the weather conditions improve. They spend this time in a specially dug out nest site called a hibernacula. If you find a hibernating hedgehog in your garden during the winter months, if possible, try to leave them be, otherwise it can disrupt their carefully regulated metabolism.



Periodontal disease in dogs.

Any dog of any age breed or background can become subject to periodontal disease at any point in their life. Clinical signs of dental problems include calculus accumulation, gingivitis, gingival recession, mobile teeth, abscesses, fistula formation and facial swelling. Symptoms that you may notice in your dog prompting veterinary inspection can include bad breath, refusal to eat hard food, excessive tartar on teeth or red and swollen gum tissue.



Periodontal disease is the most common oral disease of dogs and can lead to infection and tooth loss if not controlled. The problem begins with the accumulation of plaque and tartar on the surface of the teeth that form at the gumline and can grow to cover an entire tooth. The gum tissue reacts by becoming inflamed; this condition is known as gingivitis, and can be reversed with a thorough cleaning and polishing by a veterinarian. If left untreated, deeper tissues will become inflamed and



result in damage to the gum tissues that support the tooth. Tooth loss, abscess formation, and even bone infections with draining tracts into the nasal cavity can occur. A vet will perform a thorough oral examination to determine the depth of the problem either awake or possibly under sedation. When tartar has accumulated the examining vet will perform a professional cleaning and polishing of the teeth and gums while the dog is under anesthesia. One of the most important parts is cleaning off the tartar that collects below the gumline. Severe dental disease may require aggressive procedures and dedicated at home dental care if teeth are to be salvaged. If extractions are necessary, the dog will have the benefit of removal of the teeth in question and post operative preventative treatment to minimise further problems.

As with most conditions, prevention is better than cure so owners should practice good oral hygiene with their dog from puppyhood proving vital to keep the oral cavity healthy.

Choosing a pet for young children

If you're a parent, you're probably well-used to your kids pestering you for a pet of their own, that is, if you haven't succumbed to their pleading already. The decision to allow children to have a pet can be a hard one, particularly if they are very young. Remember that even until well into the early teens, children are not really able to take on the full commitment of a pet and the main responsibility of caring for the pet will lie with you. So what are good pets for younger children?

Rats and mice are easy to keep, very easy to handle and don't tend to bite. They enjoy playtime and running around through tunnels and over hurdles etc and so can provide hours of entertainment. Hamsters are nocturnal and don't like being woken up as they can get grumpy so not best for children. Mice can be quick and smelly whereas rats are affectionate and can even learn tricks.



Guinea pigs can be good as they are sociable and easy to look after although again, can be messy, they don't like being alone so need to be kept with another to keep them company.



Rabbits can be difficult for young children as they tend to prefer to be stroked as opposed to being picked up when they might kick and scratch. They are, however, very clean animals and can be litter trained so can be kept indoors. They need respect and don't like loud noises so are better suited to slightly older children. They are also insatiable chewers so if allowed free run of the house they will need to be watched to prevent them from chewing cables etc. When considering what type of rabbit to purchase, extensive research should be done to obtain the correct breed for you.