



... the one stop pet care company

Hello and welcome to the latest issue of **Pawsnews**... there's plenty to read with news, views, updates and fun. So, without further ado let's get reading...



A word from our pack leader...

So, another pet care year is well under way and thank you to all my clients for your continued business.

Now, have you ever thought to yourself that you would love to do what I do? Well you could... Along with my mum, Daphne who also works for Paws and more, I am looking to expand and am considering taking on another person to board and walk dogs under the Paws and more name and licence. So, if you are looking for some part time work and are able to house dogs in your home, I would love to hear from you.

If you want to know more about getting involved, drop me an email to pawsandmore@virginmedia.com to express your interest and I will send you a short questionnaire to complete in the first instance. Then, if you are who I'm looking for I will arrange to come and have a chat and see where it leads us...

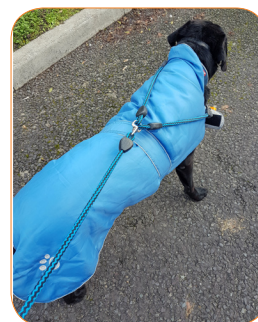
Karen



Warm pets are happy pets!

The mercury has certainly dropped during the past few weeks, with 'jack frost' making an appearance and daytime temperatures barely making it above freezing, it's been chilly for us all. So, here are a few reminders, hints and tips to help keep your furry friends cosy too.

Even though dogs have fur coats they can suffer in the cold. Short coated breeds are more at risk and remember that older dogs and those with medical conditions, such as arthritis, are likely to feel the cold more than their younger friends. If you need an extra layer or two the chances are your dog will too and there's some great coats and jumpers out there for dogs of all shapes and sizes. If you are walking on paths or roads that have been salted or girtted make sure you wash your pooch's paws when you get home as the salt and grit can irritate the pads.



Please be very careful around frozen ponds and lakes as you don't want your dog running onto the ice thinking it's water, slipping and possibly injuring themselves or worse falling through and not being able to get themselves out of trouble. Remember, if your pet is less active during the winter months to watch what you are feeding them as you may need to cut their food back a little to prevent weight gain.



Cats love to snuggle up in the cold and so if you have an outside cat make sure you keep them inside when it's very cold, even if they protest, extreme cold can cause hypothermia and frostbite. Also bear in mind cats may hide under your car and crawl into the warm engine, as well as those who take shelter in your shed or garage. If they become trapped they could get hurt or be unable to find food or water, so keep your ears and eyes open.

Don't forget about your rabbits and guinea pigs that are housed outside. Make sure hutches are positioned so that rain, wind, sleet or snow can't blow in and cover them with purpose made insulated covers and tarpaulin or old blankets. Check that water bottles don't freeze and it's well worth investing in bottle covers to keep this from happening (they also double up to keep the water cool and algae free in the Summer!). Ensure that you feed your rabbits and guinea pigs up during the winter months as this will help them against the cold - don't worry they will lose any excess weight in the spring.



Stay warm everyone!

A picture paints a thousand words...



Let Paws Prints Photography capture your pet a play during his/her days with us. We can produce flip books, memory books, single prints and collages as a

fantastic memento for you to keep and share in your pet's play dates. Portrait style shoots with you and your pet can also be arranged.

Prices start from just £20 and packages can be tailored just for you! So head on over to the **Paws Prints Photography page at www.pawsandmore.org.uk to find out more or call Donna on 07779 331413 today!**



Freddie



Sammi

Our family's growing...

We've added to the Paws family in the last few months with siblings Freddie & Sammi, a pair of Persian/Bluepoint kittens. They have settled in well, are very playful and mischievous too!

Paws fun fact

Most female cats are right-pawed and most male cats favour their left paws...

Kennel Cough - dispelling the myths

A lot of dog owners fall into the trap of thinking that as they aren't planning to put their dog into kennels that they won't contract 'Kennel Cough' and therefore do not need to be vaccinated against it.



Whilst it is true that the closer proximity of dogs when in a kennel environment can transmit kennel cough quickly (hence the name), it is actually possible for an unvaccinated dog to catch it anywhere! Infectious tracheobronchitis (kennel cough) can be transmitted when a sick animal coughs and is **very** contagious. Your dog could easily catch it on a walk if he/she is greeted by an infected dog or by drinking from a contaminated water bowl or playing with a contaminated toy.

All unvaccinated dogs are at risk and if they do contract it it can be very unpleasant for them. Signs to look out for are your dog making a persistent sound like an unproductive cough that sounds as though they have something caught in their throat. Symptoms will usually develop within 3 to 10 days from exposure to the infection and whilst your dog is likely to continue to eat and drink normally, symptoms will worsen over time and especially when excited or during exercise.

If you suspect your dog has kennel cough you will need to go to the vets and depending on the severity, your pet will likely be put on a course of antibiotics. Symptoms should clear within 14 days but during this time you will need to isolate your pet from other dogs to avoid spreading it. If left untreated kennel cough can lead to pneumonia.

The vaccine for kennel cough is usually given as a nasal



spray by your vet at the time of your dog's annual booster and is not painful for your dog, although some don't like having it much...

At Paws and more we would encourage all our clients to get the vaccine for their dogs as if yours did get kennel cough they would be unable to come to us for day care or holidays until the infection was well and truly gone.

see you next time, Karen

