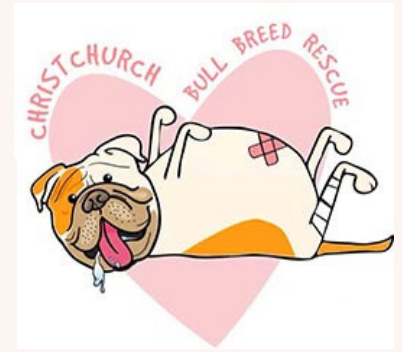


The Poop Scoop



Free Newsletter No. 14, June 2019

The Scoop

Want a dog? Of course you do! But should you get one?

Owning a dog is one of the most rewarding things you can do. Unfortunately far too many people get a dog when they are not in a position to do so. And as a consequence, many of these dogs are ending up in shelters and pounds. Many are losing their lives.

Before you get a dog you need to seriously look at your situation and decide if you are in a position to make a 15 year commitment. It's a financial commitment as well as a lifestyle one.

If you are renting - are you always going to be able to find a pet friendly rental?

Do you have a plan in place if you are given little notice to move?

Do you plan to travel overseas?

Are you going to start a family soon?

Are you working massive hours with no one home?

Can you cope with puppy issues?

Do you have time to invest in exercise, training, and socialisation?

Do you have the money not just for food, but for regular and/or unexpected vet visits? Can you afford pet insurance?

These are all things you need to ask yourself before jumping into it.

If you realise it's not the right time, maybe fostering or volunteering for

a rescue is the right thing to do. You will get your dose of love and cuddles without the other commitments.

Nothing makes you more aware of a dogs needs than spending time with the ones other people failed.

Abbey van der Plas



Dog of the Month

Penny

This edition's dog of the month is not actually up for adoption yet. Still, she needs all the help and exposure she can get.

Penny came to us needing immediate cruciate surgery. And because she's a larger dog, this is a procedure that needs a specialist. As you can guess those are particularly expensive. Penny's surgery is over, and she is recovering in one of our amazing foster homes.

To pay for all this we are trying to raise funds to afford her surgery AND keep the rest of our dogs fed and warm and taken care of.

We therefore ask you for help. Please donate money to us (see last page), or give us your sellable items (new or in good condition) to auction off. Or buy some of the things donated to us. Every bit helps to raise the \$4000 we need for this surgery alone.

Goods can be dropped off at the rescue at 1 Barton Street, Woolston MON-SAT 10am-2pm

or at Heavy Petting, 82 White Street, Rangiora

All the ways to reach us

1 Barton Street, Woolston, Christchurch

Email: admin@chchbullbreedrescue.org.nz www.chchbullbreedrescue.org.nz

Social media: www.facebook.com/ChristchurchBullBreedRescue/; www.instagram.com/chchbullbreedrescue/

Welcome

Winter has tryly arrived, but that does not slow us down at all. Mainly because the dogs need us just as much as ever. We have recently taken in two big litters and several individual puppies. Fortunately, finding homes for them is easier than for our older dogs, and we have some amazing foster carers until the time is right for them to move into their forever homes. .

In this edition of the Poop Scoop, we have the first part of a large series of the stages of a dog's life for you in our Doggie Tails, starting with the neonatal period. This fits well with the puppy theme, don't you think?



The Science Corner

What's that sound?

If you have ever visited the rescue, you might have noticed that we have the radio on all the time. We believe it decreases stress for the dogs to hear voices and/or music. And there is research to back this up. (Seriously, people get paid to do this kind of stuff!)

A recent study compared stress levels of dogs in kennels after exposure to 5 genres of music: Soft Rock, Motown, Pop, Reggae, and Classical music. Stress was determined by the time dogs were standing or lying down, barking, and cortisol levels in their pee. The researchers also wanted to know if any reduction would last, or if dogs would quickly get used to the music, so they tested each genre for 5 days. The results? Any music was better than no music. And when the music stopped, the barking increased. Reggae and Soft Rock seemed to have a bigger impact than the other genres.

But what about audiobooks, you may ask? Maybe listening to National Radio or The Complete Harry Potter series read by Stephen Fry will calm my dog? It puts me to sleep after all.... We're glad you asked, because there's a study about that, too. This time, the researchers exposed dogs in kennels to 2 hrs of audiobooks, classical music, Pop, or psychoacoustically designed dog music (apparently that's a thing), or no sounds as control. They observed the dogs' behaviour and came to the conclusion that dogs were more relaxed and showed less vigilant behaviour when exposed to audiobooks compared to all other treatments.

So here you go. Next time you have to leave your dog alone, leave the radio on or play an audiobook. Your dog might just be a little more relaxed until you get back.

The studies described here can be found under:

eprints.gla.ac.uk/135846

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0168159115003123>



Specials



Calendars \$5



Christmas Cards (10)
and
Greeting Cards (12)
\$5 per set



Baby it's cold outside!
Beanies (one size fits all) \$15

Doggie Tails

Stages of Life

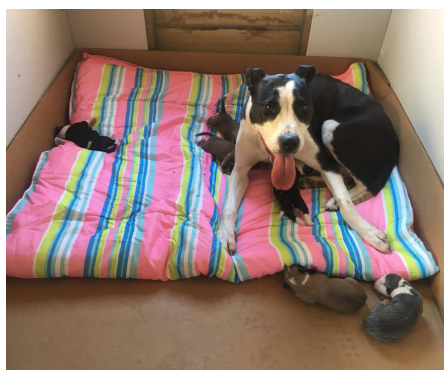
There are certain issues we expect to have that are due primarily to the age and life stage of a dog. We often get questions on why a puppy or dog is showing a certain behaviour and what training we recommend to harmoniously work through this phase with the dog. Over the next few issues of The Poop Scoop, we will explain the different life stages a dog goes through and how to make sure you and your dog get the best out of it.



Part 1: The Neonatal Period

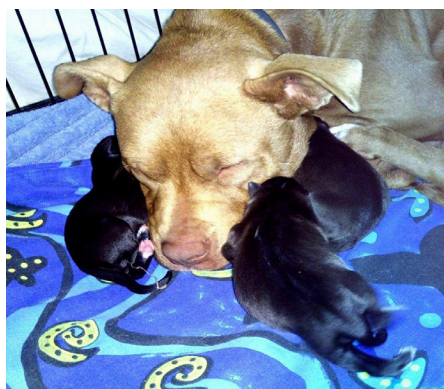
Neonatal period occurs from birth to 12 days. This should be a quiet time for both the mother and the puppies, as this is the time when the maternal bond is established. At this time, you should be gently handling the puppies to check on good progress and generally ensuring the mother and puppies are doing well. Mum dog still needs a large increase of her food at this stage and it needs to be good quality food to ensure she is healthy, but this also helps that her milk production is kept up for the puppies. Puppies are totally dependent on their mother at this stage, the puppies cannot see, can hardly hear and all they do is sleep and eat.

It can be common for mum dog to have maternal aggression once the puppies are born. It is not something to worry about as when the pups get older mum is less interested in needing to protect them. As long as she is being a really good mum, I would recommend she is left to it and not interfere.



Proud mama Dot

When bedding needs to be changed and the daily weighing needs to be done, it is best to do it when mum goes outside for the toilet or to eat. Try to get someone to go outside with her to keep her entertained, have some one-on-one cuddle time, do training focus work, that way there is time to sort the puppies out. She may not be interested in staying outside and want to go straight back in, so it is just about managing her and the puppies over this period.



Tiny and her pups



Ebony

If there are signs of maternal aggression, work on desensitisation and counter conditioning. Do not try to touch mum when she is with/near the puppies initially, throw treats close to her, so you being around the puppies means good things, over time she will be happy for the puppies to be touched/lifted/handled.

There should be no visitors to the house that she is not completely comfortable with over this period. If visitors do come, do not allow them anywhere near her or the pups during at this time.



Baby Gibbs (isn't he just the cutest?)

We found our forever homes



Weird Dog Fact

Several dogs made it into space in the 1950s and 60s, with Laika (top) being the most famous of the pack. She did not survive her adventure, but died from overheating and stress.

The first dogs to return to earth alive were Belka and Strelka, who spend a whole day in space before returning.

Upcoming events

We often do sausage sizzles on short notice. check out our Facebook page for details.

If you would like to make a donation, there are several ways to do so:

Directly into our Trust account - Christchurch Bull Breed Rescue Trust 38-9016-0659994-00

Directly into our vet account - Avonside Wainoni Vet Clinic - Ref - 11751 - 06 0829 0207978 00

Give A Little - <https://givealittle.co.nz/org/bullbreedrescue>

Fill in the form below & send in a payment to us at 1 Barton Street, Woolston, Christchurch

As we are a registered charity, we are able to offer receipts for tax purposes, so please let us know if you require a receipt for payments made in any of the above ways

Name: _____ Address: _____ Email: _____

Payment made into an account: _____

Payment attached: Y/ N Receipt Required Y/N Receipt: Emailed / Posted