



Command News

July-August 2009*

Command Dog Training School Web Site: www.dogtraining.com.au



New Product

Kangaroo, Rice & Vegetables.

Kangaroo is ideal for maintaining a balanced diet. The meat is low in cholesterol, fat and is high in protein and minerals.



Nature's Gift encourages all Aussie dogs to embrace Kangaroo meat and let their dogs taste buds enjoy their new product as part of a healthy balanced diet.

Featured on the label is Tracey's beautiful Aussie Shepherd "Vegas"

Tracey is a member of Command Dog Training School's Demo Team

www.naturesgift.com.au

Let's Party !

It is important to select a safe location for your pooch party.

Invitations can be made in the shape of bones or your dogs paw print on the front of the invitation. You can also make it fun for the children attending, painting a nose and whiskers on the children's faces.

DogZone can be booked for 3 hour sessions on Saturday or Sunday's for this type of activity. Invite all you friends and tell them it is B.Y.O dog also.

The fee also includes a staff member present to assist you . Your dog will have a whale of a time at The Beach Resort or The Enchanted Forest.

Whilst you can relax in the café style observation area. Catering can be arranged by

Dogzone if required

Bookings are essential
Phone Sally : (03) 9427 9888
Email : info@dogzone.com.au
www.dogzone.com.au



Pet Insurance

As a dog Instructor and lover of dogs I have had cause to enter into many discussions about the expenses involved in owning a pet, none of which, are vet bills. In days past one just had to accept the fact that if a pet developed an illness or incurred an injury the pet owner either had to pay the often large vet fees in order to save the pets life or sadly have the animal euthanized because the expense was just to great for the owner to justify or indeed afford to pay.

Today, this in not the case. A pet owner can now choose to insure their pet.

The point of this article is to make readers aware of their choices and steps I would encourage them to take before making a decision about whether or not to take out pet insurance for our beloved pet.

These are some questions you might ask yourself when considering whether or not to take out pet insurance.

- Am I aware of the costs involved in having my pet treated at the surgery
- If my pet were injured or developed a serious illness could I afford the thousands of dollars ? If the answer in "No" could I face the thought of euthanizing my pet because I couldn't afford the treatment to save it's life
- Can I afford pet insurance—approx. \$400-- \$500 per year
- Does my pet fit into any of the following categories

My pet is very active and boisterous and therefore more likely to suffer serious injury such as a ruptured cruciate ligament, Bree and Nessie my two 7 month old deerhounds were playing together. During the course of this play Bree twisted her knee awkwardly and injured her cruciate ligament. She now requires an operation which will cost \$3,500. How hard does a puppy play???

My pets breed type had a propensity to certain diseases such as hip or elbow dysplasia or skin allergies? I recently met a Bernese Mountain dog owner who had recently had over \$3,000 worth of surgery to his shoulders. This was an inherited disease quiet common in the breed (I cannot stress too much that you need to re-search your chosen breed to be aware of all of the diseases your pet may be prone to)

In your living situation is it possible for your pet to leave your property and roam the neighbourhood which would result in serious injury, death or the loss of your pet?(I have known numerous families / people who live in a multi person household where someone has left a gate or door open— this could have been a visitor, child or indeed a tradesperson doing some work on the property .

My pet will eat anything at any opportunity. A while ago one of my clients was missing with her young Labrador at dog training. When asked where she was her

Readers Page



Happy Birthday Sam

Macca

Macca a 5 year old Golden Retriever is owned and trained by Helen and this is her story. If you have read "Marley and Me" we can relate to some of his behaviour. When people ask what kind of a dog we have, the usual comment is "Oh ! a Golden Retriever they have such a lovely placid nature" We just smile and think to ourselves, you haven't met Macca. Every day Macca meets all his



friends at an off lead park where he meets and plays with his mates, German Shepherds, Jack Russell and Golden Retrievers play happily together and have been meeting for the last 2 years at this park. Macca's dislike are the hard rubbish collections. They harbour all kinds of scary items! On one occasion when walking near our house, Macca put the brakes on and refused to walk past a refrigerator, We had to do semi circles out onto the middle of the road for two weeks until the offending item was finally collected Wheelie bins are not much better, one of our sons tied him to a bin while unlocking a door. Something frightened Macca who took off dragging the bin behind him. He has never trusted a wheelie bin since. Also some silly fears he is frightened of enclosed spaces such as dog kennels, tunnels and boxes We tried fly ball but he is scared of the box and won't go near it But with all his faults and idiosyncrasies, he is mine and I love him dearly. He is currently in Advanced level one with C.D.T.S. instructor Michael Garcia.

*** Thanks Helen for your story***



Sam turned three on Wednesday the 17th June. The house has always been the party abode for birthdays and owner Toni would not let her Golden Labrador miss out on his special day. The group photo was all planned with Sam sitting in the front of the gathering, but just before the camera clicked Toni's faithful pet thought he should be sitting in Toni's lap as you can see he squashed everyone to get there. Much to the amusement of all around him as you can see by their faces. Sam is currently in Advanced classes with C.D.T.S. instructor Michael Garcia. We all hope Sam had a wonderful birthday

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They had spent \$4,000 in their endeavours to have him cured because he needed emergency surgery at the animal clinic. These 4 categories are by no means the only categories which could place your pet in a vulnerable group No one can guarantee for certain that a pet will never require more than the annual vaccination and check up. Even the most careful pet owner cannot prevent all accidents or illness from occurring.

Some of the questions to ask in your research are :

- What is the cost involved. Do I pay annually or can I pay by instalment ?
- What does each company offer me for my money and what are the hidden clauses?
- Is there an age clause? For example when dogs reach a certain age the amount of the cover may lessen.
- Is my pet insured for a specific illness or injury for the duration of that illness or injury or does the cover terminate after a designated period of time?
- Is there a discount for insuring more than one pet ?
- Can I claim yearly vaccinations and consults?
- If there is an excess do I have to pay that each policy year?
- How long does it take in general for the insurance company to process the claim and pay the refund ?

***This information may only be learned by word of mouth from existing clients

Some helpful sites:

- www.medibank.com.au/Pet-Insurance.aspx
- www.1300insurance.com.au/pet
- www.petinsuranceaustralia.com.au/



Macca's Treats

- 200 g fish (I used a tin of tuna in springwater) but you can use any fish, make sure all bones are removed.
- 1 tablespoon parsley
- 1 egg
- 200 g plain wholemeal flour
- 1 tablespoon olive oil



Mix fish and flour together, add egg , parsley and olive oil

Place on a floured board and knead well.

Roll out to about 6 mm and cut into small shapes

Place in a pre heated oven (180 deg) for app 25 mins or until golden brown.

Will keep in a air tight container for two weeks, but mine only lasted for a few days before they were all eaten.

Divine Dog Grooming Salon

Furry dog? Dirty dog?
Call Dani at Divine Dog Grooming Salon for a professional clip or bath by a fully qualified, award winning groomer, for a reasonable price! Book before October 31st and receive a FREE DOG TAG! Bring this add and receive a further \$5 off All breeds groomed to owners request! Appointments necessary. Located in Mulgrave Call 8502 7345 / 0405 516 326