

# Just Dogs Newsletter



Hello everybody!

Well as Spring is drawing nearer, the days are getting longer, it is the perfect time to get back into the swing of giving your dogs a daily walk! Check out our latest article about cabin fever in this months Canine Zone magazine, for helpful information about why walking your dog is so important, and what to keep in mind whilst walking.

If you still struggle to find time to get out and about with the pooch often enough, why not join the Dog Jog Family and allow us to give your pup a new lease on life! From decreasing cabin fever symptoms, to increasing sociability and confidence, there are so many reasons to join. Check out our facebook page and photo album to see what the doggy joggers are getting up to on their walks.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

24 September -  
Heritage Day

28 September -  
World Rabies Day

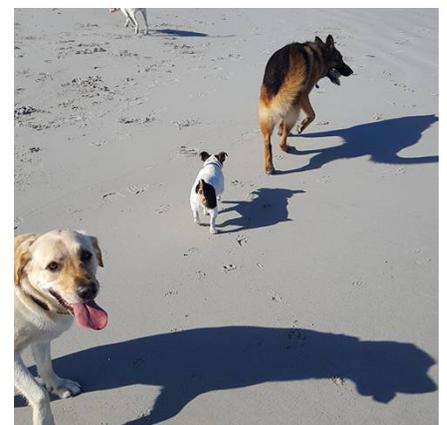
## Spring Care

With longer days, comes that inevitable loss of hair!!

Ensure you are brushing your dogs often enough to rid them of loose hair which can become itchy and uncomfortable. Check for matts behind the ears and under the legs and remove very carefully. This is also a good time to check for ticks and flea dirt that will become more apparent as the days get warmer.

It is also important to remember that some plants are posinous to dogs and other pets so be sure that you have not planted any of those in your garden.

Spring is also a good time to check that all your dogs vaccinations are up to date. Your dog will be out more and this means more contact with other dogs right through to the end of summer



# Training Tip

## DOG WALKING

This month's training tip is really about increasing the enjoyment of a walk by staying safe and following a few rules of what we call "Dog Walking Etiquette"

- 🐾 Ensure you have a good recall! Make a distinctive high pitched sound (whistle/squeaker) and combine with a reward, such as high value treats. Start this around the house where there are less distractions. Progress to outside on lead. Practise whistling and rewarding whilst your dog is sniffing but still close to you. Once your dog responds consistently, try letting your dog off lead in a quiet area, gradually increasing distraction levels. Do not expect your dog to respond to your call if he has not learnt the recall properly, and is a km away, chasing a bird!
- 🐾 A solid, strong recall is especially important when coming across other walkers with dogs on lead. It is never acceptable to let your dog run up to an on lead dog, no matter how friendly he may be. It is stressful for both the owner and the dog and can quickly become the cause of lead aggression issues.
- 🐾 If a dog does approach you and your onlead dog, the important thing is to keep calm. Keep a relaxed loose leash and talk sweetly to both dogs. Shortening the leash, pulling your dog away or shouting in panic will elicit a matching panic response in your dog, often when one was not necessary. Stay calm and let your dog know that this "intruder" is not a problem. Calmly wait for the other owner to collect their dog or change direction to show a lack of interest.
- 🐾 Pick up poop!!! It reduces the spread of disease and a dirty environment. Leaving poop around is gross, end of story.

## Doggy of the month



August's "Doggy of the Month" goes to ZIMBA

From a misunderstood barking ball of defense, confused about how to interact and play, to a playful, bouncy ponydog! His confidence around other dogs and social skills have improved dramatically! Well done Z Rex, the DinoDog, we are so proud of you!

We loving having you in the Dog Jog family!

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