

Just Dogs Newsletter



Hello everybody!

So as always, there is so much going on at Just Dogs!

Firstly, we are revamping the way we socialise the antisocial dogs and formulating a plan that will include theory lessons on dog body language, practical skills for getting, and keeping your dog's attention, and actual supervised interactions with other dogs. If you have an antisocial pooch, please let us know to add you to the list and let's do what we can to make everybody's life a little easier!

Next, we are beginning to train our first group of Medical Assistance Dogs! Honey's Garden farm (the facility that is making it possible to train these dogs more effectively) is almost finished but still in need of a few things before getting started. If you would like to get involved or able to donate please see our wishlist on Facebook and the website www.medicalalertdogs.co.za

We are also in need of reliable foster homes for our assistance dogs in training - namely "Grace", an AACL rescue border collie cross, who is an active sweetheart. She will be training with us at the farm during the day but needs a place to rest her head at night and chill out over the weekends. Please keep us in mind and ask around, we would love to get her training started as soon as possible.

Finally, Easter is approaching! Please keep an eye out on Facebook for details on the upcoming event at Leadville Dog Park. Reload will be doing a sponsored dog walk and will be donating funds raised to Honey's Garden! We will be there post walk with some fun activities to do with the pooches.

Animal Poison Prevention Week

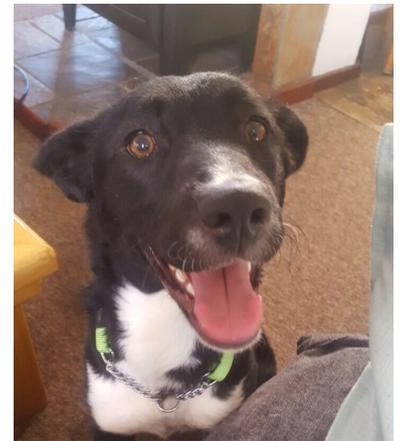
The 19th - 25th March is Animal Poison Prevention Week.

What could be okay for you may not be okay for your pooch. The most common things poisonous to animals include human medication, cleaning detergents, poisonous baits, chocolate and various household and garden plants.

Always look at your pets surroundings through the eyes of your pet, seeking out toys and entertaining objects that could be potentially be harmful to your pet. Always be prepared to ensure a happy and healthy pet!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 19-25 March
- Animal Poison Prevention Week
- 21 March
- Human Rights Day



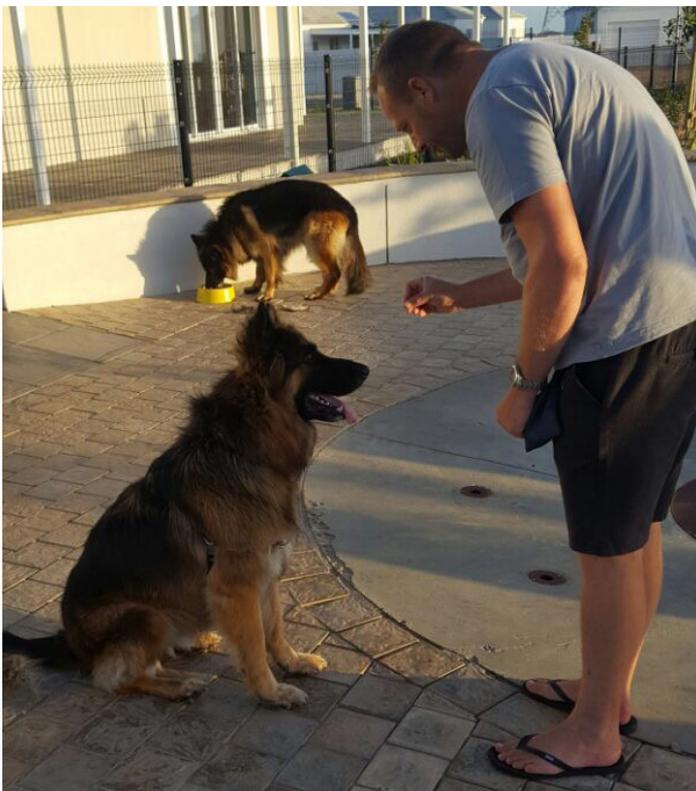
Training Tip

Teaching your dog to SETTLE:

-  Lure your dog into a lay down position by having them follow a treat down from their nose, between their paws and out along the ground away from them - SLOWLY!
-  Once your dog is laying down, preferably on a bed or blanket of theirs, encourage them to stay down and offer a few more small pieces of food.
-  Stroke slowly and firmly, talking in a relaxing calm voice and repeating the word "settle" or "relax"
-  Choose opportunities when your dog is already tired and willing to settle, and increase the difficulty to choosing more and more distracting times, places and circumstances.
-  Your dog will always mirror your attitude so remember to stay calm, relaxed and be patient!

For more information please contact us for private obedience lessons

Doggy of the month



February's "Doggy of the Month" goes to AUGUST!

With socialisation being the hot topic at the moment, it is with great pleasure that we announce doggy of the month to be August! With a very superficial, but scaredy cat bark, August came into Leadville initially with all guns blazing and had difficulty controlling his mood and reading the body of other dogs.

With a few after hours sessions at the park with balanced sociable dogs, August (and his owner) were able to learn the skills which allows him just to breathe, and suss out a situation first, or rather chase his ball!

He has come a long way and now is a valued member of the Just Dogs family and able to go into the park in safety and security.

Well done August! We are proud of you and love you because you are pawsome!

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