



Your Dog Would Choose Us!

A WARM WELCOME

Welcome to The Canine Club's newsletter for August.

In this month's issue we have a little bit about our featured employee, Oliver Kenyon, and our featured Canine Club members, Winnie & Ernie. We also have a new recipe from Penny Gilbertson and a little feature on how to Keep Dogs Cool in the summer - although with August being up to its usual tricks we should probably have written something about keeping dogs DRY!

Thank you for reading our newsletter , as usual any suggestions gratefully received. See you next month.

CANINE NEWS

The Canine Club News. August 2011. Issue 4

Featured Employee – Oliver Kenyon



I've been working at the club for nearly 18 months now and have welcomed many new members and their dogs in that time. Some of you will recognise me from The Canine Club BBQ last summer and I've also been on a few of the "drop off" rounds at the end of the day.

I was introduced to Julian by my Aunt when she heard that he was looking for help exercising the dogs. Now I spend most mornings each week trying to tire out dogs on various walks around the Goyt Valley all the while trying to balance fun exercise with an acceptable amount of muddy coats. My job is always entertaining and every walk is different.

My dog Megan is a 13 year old cross-breed (we think there's a bit of Lancashire Heeler in there) who we were lucky enough to acquire when my Great Aunt died 6 years ago. She needed a major repair of a cruciate ligament a couple of years ago and she is still doing very well on a leg put back together with "American fishing line". She may be an old lady but still has enough beans to play with anyone or anything that makes a sound.



Her phobia is ladders. This covers ladders driving by on a car roof, leaning on a wall or the worst horror of all Our Window Cleaner.

Outside of work, I am almost at the end of my degree in 'Professional Sound & Acoustics' at the University of Salford, writing a journal paper on the capabilities of surround sound speaker systems. I'm also studying for a Level 1 Award in British Sign Language, which I hope to extend to a level 3 in order to work with school children in Trafford. As a disk-jockey in Manchester I play electronic music at various venues around the city, and I am currently a promoter for a monthly club night called 'Continue' and Sankeys in the Northern Quarter. After volunteering for the Manchester International Festival, Manchester Jazz Festivals and building stages for this years Parklife festival, I'm looking forward to finishing the summer at Bestival on the Isle of Wight.



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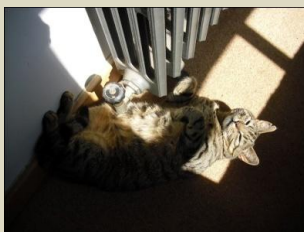
- Featured Employee
- This month's Featured Members
- New Recipe – Liver fudge
- Dates for the Diary
- Tips for keeping dogs cool in the heat



Ernie & Winnie having a cuddle



Featured Founding Members – Winnie & Ernie



Winnie & Ernie both relaxing at home...

We've had Winnie now for over 4 years and she is the reason The Canine Club was born. Hours spent walking with her in the breathtaking Goyt Valley gave me the idea of establishing a dog related business and here we are.

We've turned her world upside down and whilst she can get a bit grumpy sometimes with all the comings and goings at Canine Club HQ, she is an absolute joy and we wouldn't change a thing about her.

She's at her happiest looking after everyone rather than spending hours trekking over the hills. She does however like one nice gentle stroll each day.

Ernie is a cat we rescued from a golf club in Birmingham that was closing down.

He had been adopted by three different families who kept abandoning him so having cleared it with the golf club we brought him back to Canine club HQ.

He is at his best catching mice and avoiding dogs! He saunters around as though he owns the place and always stands his ground with all the dog that are here. He has a permanent look of "come and have a go if you think you're hard enough..."

Liver Fudge, recipe from Penny Gilbertson (approx 90 squares)

40g Chicken or Lambs liver
 300ml cold water
 400g wheat & gluten free flour
 ½ teaspoon of chopped garlic
 4 rashers of turkey bacon, grilled & chopped
 1 medium egg
 65ml olive oil

1. Liquidise the liver and water in food processor or blender.
2. Transfer into large bowl & add flour, garlic, egg and olive oil – mix until it forms a smooth paste.
3. Pour into 7 x 11" shallow baking tin lined with grease proof paper.
4. Cook in pre-heated oven 180°C (350°F) for 30 – 35 mins. Prick with a fork halfway through to release the air. Check it is cooked through by inserting a knife. If it comes out clean, it's ready.
5. Transfer to a wire rack to cool.
6. Cut into 1" cubes (freeze if desired).

Dates for the diary

August bank holiday – Please remember the day crèche will be **closed** on Monday 29th August, business resuming as normal on Tuesday 30th August.

Saturday 27th August - Poynton Show - <http://www.poyntonshow.co.uk>

September – ADVANCED WARNING

As you are aware, we are constantly striving to provide the best possible care for your dog/s at The Canine Club. To help us achieve this and so we are able to provide an even better service, it will be necessary to close the day crèche for 3 days from Friday 23rd – Tuesday 27th September for specialist training. There will also be a limited day service from Wednesday 28th – Friday 30th September. We will be in touch with individual members to discuss alternative arrangements shortly.



Keeping Dogs Cool during the Summer

There is an abundance of advice available regarding this topic but it's worth remembering that as well as overheating, there are also the dangers of dehydration and sunburn to think about. Be extra careful with any dogs prone to overheating. This includes dogs that are overweight, older or have lung or heart disease as their respiratory system is already suppressed. Those of a brachycephalic (squashed nose) head shape such as Boxers, Pugs and Shih Tzu's also need to be watched for the same reason as they find it difficult to cool down.

I'd like to thank all our Canine Club members who were willing to share their 'top tips' for keeping their dogs cool during the summer, a selection of which are below:

- Walk your dog in the early morning or in the evening when it's cooler – same with play time outside. Avoid high energy activities ie: agility, running, bike riding.
- Don't over exercise dogs with longer coats or those who are prone to heatstroke. Make sure shady spots and drinking water are available.
- Even if your dog doesn't like swimming, choose a walk where your dog can have a paddle in some water
- Clipping long haired dogs is a good idea, the dogs may look a bit odd afterwards but they will feel so much better for it!
- Avoid long walks on tarmac/pavements. These can really heat up in the sunshine and burn a dogs paws
- Avoid taking your dog on long car journeys during the hottest part of the day – unless you have air conditioning in the car.
- Get your dog to lie on a wet towel if in the garden (bit messy inside unless you have a tiled floor)
- If your dog likes water, invest in a paddling pool for the garden or a plastic storage box filled with water. Sink toys into them so the dog has to use its paws and nose to get them out
- Use a Cooling Vest - these are specially made dog vests which are soaked before a walk. The special evaporating system keeps the dog cool during the walk.
- If you don't want to invest in a special cooling vest, how about a 'doggy bandana'? Soak a bandana in water and tie it loosely round your dogs neck. Take some water with you to keep it wet.
- Frozen carrots, ice cubes or frozen Kongs provide a great cool treat and take a while to get through!
- Zinc cream – a pot or tube from chemist. Pop a bit on your dogs nose & it will stop burning. White dogs suffer with burnt noses especially

**** It's advised that very cold water should not be given to a dog straight after exercise no matter what the weather as it can cause bloat and be very painful . ****

As we have all seen from recent news reports, leaving dogs in cars can be fatal. Many people think that parking in the shade with the windows open is enough to keep dogs cool, but this is still dangerous because the temperature can increase very quickly. Do not leave your dog in conservatories, greenhouses or other small buildings with a large number of glass windows. The rise in temperature in these environments can quickly become life threatening.

Signs of heat-stroke:

- Panting excessively
- Anxious behaviour
- Very red gums turning blue in extreme circumstances
- Salivating
- Very rapid heart rate
- In cases of severe heat-stroke - collapse, convulsions, shock

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Cooling vest

