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Newsletter – Winter 2011

Welcome to our first Newsletter

We appear to be thrown suddenly into Winter after a very warm Autumn. With lots of rain our exercise yards are extremely muddy. Many of our guests relish the chance to get as dirty as possible whilst others just want to snuggle.

A Bit about Us

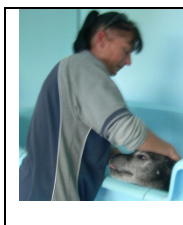
We have now been owners of Sharrow Boarding Kennels and Cattery for 18 months. We have enjoyed the change immensely. Previously we were both in the corporate environment and have many years experience in management. Our love and lifelong relationship with dogs and cats made this



an obvious choice for business ownership and we have not regretted it.

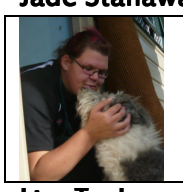
We have three wonderful full time staff:

Tina Jones



Tina, our supervisor, manages the kennels in our absence. With strong experience as a Vet Nurse she is invaluable in observing potential health issues. She is committed to ensuring all our guests get the best possible care and attention.

Jade Stanaway



Jade also has Vet Nursing experience and an obvious love of animals. At her home in Silverdale they take in animals for the SPCA. Her ambition is to own her own kennels in the future.

Lisa Taylor



Lisa joined us as a casual worker over Christmas and proved a great asset resulting in her joining our full time staff in March. Lisa's family background with German Shepherds founded a keen interest in animal care.

Some of our Guests

We have so many regular pets we have all grown to love over time. It is impossible to feature them all. Here are some personalities:

<p>Sasha is part of the USAR Taskforce and spent some time with us early March after the Christchurch February earthquake. She and her handler, Sara, have taken part in Search & Rescue for over three years and it is a privilege to have Sasha stay with us.</p>	
<p>Senge, a beautiful Birman. Together with sister Lily and two friends, Reilly and Simba, they are frequent guests in our cattery. Here Senge has adopted our new scratching post which he thought we purchased just for him.</p>	
<p>Lettie is an 8 year old German Shepherd. She is a regular guest at Sharrows. Sadly for us, she is moving to Queenstown. She is currently with us for 4 months prior to the move.</p>	

Sad Events

It is always sad when we hear of one of our regulars passing away. Here are two recent ones who lived full happy lives and hopefully playing together on fluffy clouds in Doggie Heaven.

<p>Rest in peace Jay</p>	<p>Jay – Jay, nearly 15 years old, passed away recently from renal failure, he was a regular guest in our toyhouse. He will be sadly missed by all staff.</p>
	<p>Tosh – nearly 14 years old, another of our regulars sadly departed to Doggie Heaven this month.</p> <p>Missed by all of us at Sharrows.</p>

Available for Adoption

<p>Albie is our longest term resident. He is a 10 year old Wire Haired Terrier, medium build, and has been with us for 3 years. His owner is in a retirement home and cannot keep him. He'd love to find a loving home. If you know of anyone who would like to adopt him, please let us know.</p>	 <p>Lovely nature Not good with cats Can be aggressive to some other dogs</p>
<p>Grace is a Collie-Shepherd X described as loyal, loving, smart & obedient. At 7 years old she is active & is a good running companion. Her owner has moved to Melbourne and reluctantly looking to rehome her.</p>	 <p>Does not get on with cats and choosy about other dog friends.</p>
<p>Pepper is a medium sized Lab X. Her owner has had a massive stroke so she needs to find a new home. She has a lovely nature and seems very well trained. About 5 years old she loves to run. Would be an asset to any family home.</p>	 <p>Very friendly Loves cuddles</p>

Vaccinations

We take this opportunity to remind everyone that vaccinations are extremely important and we make no exceptions. There is nothing worse for us than to turn you away, especially when you are going away on a much needed holiday. The question of how often to vaccinate is open to interpretation and individual vet opinion, so if in doubt give us a call. As we are responsible for looking after many pets in close proximity we have to be conservative. We get our advice from AsureQuality, Pfizer and our own Vet Clinic. Best to make sure they never lapse.

All vaccinations must be done annually, some brands do last longer, so again, check with us if you are not sure. We also require dogs to be vaccinated against Kennel Cough and Leptosporosis.

If vaccinations have lapsed we require the new vaccination to be done at least 14 days prior to boarding.

Kennel Cough is much like our human flu, dogs can still catch it even when vaccinated but they will not get it as bad and they will recover quicker. There is also an incubation period which means that a dog can have Kennel Cough

but we will be unaware of it until symptoms show.

Leptosporosis is caught from rats. Bush rats do live in the Waitakeres

Cold Weather

With the weather turning colder, some smooth haired and older dogs need a little extra comfort at night. We do have warm bedding and some coats, but if your dog has a coat, please bring it with you and we will gladly put it on at night for that extra warmth.

DayStay

This is a good opportunity to advise that we do offer DayStay. This is a good option for those day trips, work commitments. The only restriction is that it must be within our opening hours 8.30am – 5.00 pm weekdays. Or, if your dog needs a bath, book in for a daystay and we will bath whilst here.

Recommendations

If we get new business by way of your recommendation, tell them to mention it to us **and we will give you 10% off your next visit (excluding Christmas & Easter).**

Christmas is coming

Don't forget your Christmas booking, we are beginning to fill. Just give us a call and we will post or email a form. As in past years we require a deposit of \$60 and a minimum of 14 days stay if overlapping Dec 20 to Jan 4. We have so many regular customers who take 2-3 weeks over this time of year, we can't take everyone so inevitably there will be some disappointments. It is extremely hard to fill small slots (of a few days), hence the 14 day minimum over that crucial period. It ensures we can satisfy as many of our customers as possible.

Long Term Stays

Any pet staying with us for extended periods gets thoroughly spoiled, with complimentary baths, extra walks and cuddles. We appreciate they are away from home and try to make them feel as comfortable as possible. They become part of our "family" and our staff develop a genuine love for them.

If your pet stays with us over the next couple of months he/she will receive a free toy or treat whilst stocks last.

Email – Let us have your email address, you can email it to us info@sharrowkennels.co.nz

We hope you have enjoyed our first Newsletter