



TIGGER CLUB NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE ANIMAL COMMUNITY.. BY ANIMALS - FOR ANIMALS

www.tigger.club

NEWSPAPER DATE: NOVEMBER 2019

ANOTHER SUPERMARKET STOPS SELLING FIREWORKS

Sainsbury's are the second supermarket to go against the trend and have stopped selling fireworks in all of their 2,300 stores this year.

I contacted Sainsbury's for a comment and a spokesperson was kind enough to reply but remained very tight lipped as to the specific reasons why they have stopped selling fireworks.

Regardless of the reasons why Sainsbury's are not selling fireworks this year, let's hope it is a permanent business decision.

I know it is now only two supermarkets that are turning away from fireworks, but hopefully others will follow suit and make the industry rely on officially organised displays only which still allows everyone to enjoy fireworks, but in a more controlled environment.

More importantly, an event that every human and animal negatively affected by the sight

and sound of fireworks will have access to scheduled timings of local displays. Which would give them and their families time to get things in place to ensure the stress is reduced as much as possible.

Five years ago all Co-op stores stopped selling fireworks completely after two regions stopped selling them back in 2004.

They were concerned about public safety and increased antisocial behaviour. They wanted to show they are putting principles before profit by ordering a ban in all of their stores.

I would support only having fireworks in a safe and controlled environment.

As there would not be the constant anticipation of a sudden firework being set off daily at any time of the day (yes day) or night from mid October until Mid January.

Fireworks affect more than dogs, here are some examples of how everyone can be negatively affected by fireworks every year.

The vulnerable with medical and mental health issues that panic at the sound of every firework.

Every animal, wild and domesticated, that are not just frightened by the noise and flashes, but are exposed to injury or even poisoning from the used firework casings that are discarded and never disposed of properly. Which still have traces of the firework chemicals inside.

The general public being subjected to anti social activities involving fireworks.

The emergency services that have seen an increase of fireworks being set off towards them and their vehicles.

Stay Safe Pals!

Calming Spray 100ml £7.00 each + p&p

A beautiful scented natural dog spray made with lavender essential oil. Contains no artificial smells or fragrances. Lavender calming spray comes in a hand sized, travel friendly bottle and is ideal to help soothe and calm nervous or overly anxious dogs.

To order email me at tigger@tigger.club



A MESSAGE FROM TIGGER



Hi Pals,

It has been another busy month in the Tigger Club News HQ.

I have received a lot of lovely emails from readers and thank you for them.

There does still seem to be a

problem that a lot of my replies are ending up in your junk folders.

So please remember to add my email address to your safe senders list and check your junk folders regularly.

The very long running saga of my human's very poorly car has finally been resolved this month.

It finally gave up the ghost and my humans were left running around to get another one sorted out.

Which they have managed to do.

I like riding in the back seat, but after the first trip out and a very polished back seat, and siding accompanied by the LSOD (lurcher scream of death) Don't worry pals I was not injured at all, although my human did call me a wimp. I am back riding in the boot until the back seat is sorted out for me BOL!

Nose bump to you
Tigger

NEWS FROM DORIS - THE ROVING REPORTER



Hasn't the weather been wet pals?!

Well it certainly has on the south coast in Dorisland.

As such I haven't ventured much further than my local beach which is now fully open after the summer. We're lucky in Brighton as the council saves sections for us dogs to frequent throughout the year, you're never far from a paddling pooch!

So I thought I'd have a look back at my travels and see where I was 2 years ago when I was a mere 7 years old. St Andrews, Scotland was on my timeline and I remember

such a happy visit (bar the motorhome having to be dragged out of mud by a tractor!)

St Andrews is a small university on Scotland's east coast. It's famous for it's castle, golf course and royal links. It's a very nice place to visit. The beach is sandy and clean and the town cobbled and easy to get around. I remember having a jolly good zoom on the beach and snoozing in an old pub in town. I do recall it raining a lot though but it was October!

We stayed 4 nights in St Andrews before heading further up the coast and driving the NC500. The North Coast 500 is the road around the top of Scotland following the coast, it is quite a spectacular drive. It's also

splendid for a hound as there are many, many beaches.

The only problem we had with Scotland is that it's not particularly dog friendly. I am used to travelling on all public transport and being allowed in all pubs and cafes here. We really struggled to find places to drink the further north we went. And as you know pubs are important to us hounds! Doz, firmly down south for now x

<https://dozontour.blog/>



YODA AND CHEEZLT'S SCRATCHING POST



Hi furriends!

Like we mentioned last month, we moved to a new home. It was so hard supervising Momma with all the packing and all the moving of boxes, that we had to take extra naps.

We still don't understand how with all those boxes she had, she would keep shooin' us out of and off every box we would claim. Humans have some nerve!

We are loving our new home. It didn't take long for any of us

(us cats, that is) to adjust to the move and new surroundings. We all have claimed our special napping spots as we had to get the important things out of the way immediately.

We even have a basement, too! It was kinda weird trying to figure out those things called stairs. But, once we got the hang of them, they actually became fun.

Until BoyCat hurt himself and fell off the stairs.

It turns out that his arthritis has gotten worse. He is on some pain medicine now. We can't be mad at our brother BoyCat. We'll just be mad at

Momma. That's just so much easier. But, then we get treats, and forgive her (temporarily). You know that cycle of cat disdain for the rules humans impose upon them.

But, we do have a room full of boxes at our disposal. So that makes up for some things. So, our new home is working out much better than the last place we lived.

We will surely have lots of new adventure to tell you about. Have a great November everypawdy!

Til Next Month,
Yoda and Cheezlt

DUSTY'S DIARY



Hi Pals,
It's been another busy month here.

The squizzers are jumping everywhere in the woods on walkies, and there are so many I can't decide which ones to try and chase first, so I mostly woof at them to let them know that I'm boss.

It's been quite windy here too, and you know what that means pals...sticks falling from the trees, and lots of them.

Now you may have seen a previous diary entry from me, when I decided that I wanted to rescue The Biggest Stick In The World from the river and play fetch with it. Well folks, what I found a couple of weeks ago makes all my previous acquisitions look like tiny little twigs! I'm not a hound who is easily intimidated, so when I came across a stick* bigger than me, I had to have it, and woofed at the human to throw it in the river for me to fetch. She was a real spoil sport and just stood and laughed at me as I resorted to chewing it and attempting to drag it into the river myself, but even I couldn't move it, it was so big! Folks, I

didn't want to leave it, it was such an amazing stick, look at the picture she took!

*The human said it was so big it wasn't a stick, it was a 'ginormous tree stump' but I don't know those words, so I've called it a stick.

Until next time.
Have a pawsome month
Dusty



ON THE BOOKSHELF

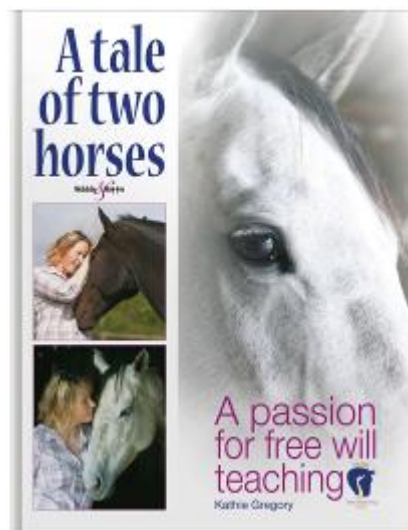
A tale of two horses

- By Kathie Gregory

Bringing horsemanship up-to-date with positive, reward-based methods, the truly kind and humane approach to working with horses that Kathie teaches will provide huge benefits for you and your horse.

Following two ex-racehorses over the course of a year, as they go from being reactive and unable to be handled, to calm, well balanced, contented equines, you'll get to know the personalities of Charlie and Star, as they make the transition from racing to home environment.

You can purchase your copy from www.hubbleandhattie.com here: [A tale of two horses](#)



Among the wolves

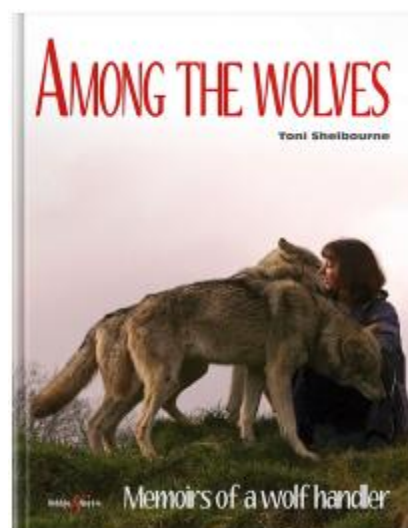
- By Toni Shelbourne

One girl, eleven wolves – and a whole host of heart-warming stories.

The fascinating story of Toni's life with eleven charismatic wolves at the UK Wolf Conservation Trust, Berkshire, England. Over ten years she handled, raised, cared for and nursed these amazing creatures, and within these pages you will come to know the characters; laugh at their sense of fun, mourn at their passing – and learn to love them as she does.

Describing some of the best and worst of times, discover what happens behind closed doors when the public goes home, leaving just Toni and the wolves ...

You can purchase your copy from www.hubbleandhattie.com here: [Among the wolves](#)



IN THE KITCHEN



Article By: Fred and Tess

Mum always has lots of pumpkins from her allotment and we wanted to try making something with them. Once we combined all the ingredients we couldn't agree on what to make! As Mum is a fan of Masterchef Australia where they are always making things two or three ways we thought we would try it. BOL!

Fred- I made pumpkin pancakes,
Tess - I made pumpkin rock cakes.

We can't decide which is better and neither could Mum and Dad as we made them taste them! BOL!

Pumpkin Two Ways

Ingredients:

450g pureed pumpkin
300g wholemeal flour
1 medium egg
1/2 tsp cinnamon

Method:

1. Preheat oven to 180 and line a baking tray with greaseproof paper or baking parchment
2. Mix, pumpkin, egg and cinnamon together and then add the flour and combine well. Divide the mixture in half.
3. Use one half to make the rock cakes. Place spoon size mounds on the paper and bake in the oven for 25 minutes until crispy on the outside but soft inside. Remove from oven and leave to cool.
4. For the pancakes place a pawful of the mix in a non-stick frying pan and gently heat until the mixture hardens slightly, leave to cool.

Storage:

We don't know how long they keep fresh as they don't last long enough to store!



If you try any of these delicious recipes send in your pictures
or if you have a recipe to share, email it to me at :

tigger@tigger.club

PD JAY - THE THIN BLUE PAW



Hello all,
I am now 14 months old. I am concentrating on my training as my General Purpose Police Dog initial course starts at the beginning of January 2020. Since my last blog I have been busy doing lots of environmental training, getting prepared for my initial course and have been on holiday.

I have had another 'mini' assessment, along with the other dogs that will be with me on the January course. The canine development officer is honing the basics of what we have already learned. I was pretty chuffed with myself as I performed well on all of the tasks we were set. An operational dog handler is on the course with TPD Dino. Between tasks he said to Stew he could put me in the back of his air conditioned dog unit car. Afterwards Stew said to him, 'You're not taking my dog back to Cornwall are you?'. He replied, 'In a breath mate'. The canine development officer said we were 'excellent' – which is good enough for me.



Here we are after our training session; left to right – My brother TPD Arnie, myself, TPD Rebel and TPD Dino. What a view!

I mentioned in my last blog that Alison and Stew were going away for a week's holiday. I went to stay with the canine development officer and his GSD Ella. Ella and I had great fun together; I might even go as far to say we had a holiday romance! I think she was upset when I had to go back to Alison and Stew – especially when I didn't text or phone her afterwards!!



Here I am holding paws with Ella. I also joined in some of the training days with the September initial course.

Alison and Stew had an invite to a big event at the National

Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. The event was the Ride To The Wall (RTTW). Thousands of motor bikers attend from all over the UK and Europe. RTTW is to remember the service men and women who have died since the Second World War. Stew had a special pass allowing him and I to park near the monument. I wore a special Police Dog harness for the first time, I really felt the part. Of course, my namesake Jamie was part of the service.

Stew thought it would be an ideal environmental training session for me. I climbed the stairs to the Memorial Wall with Alison, Stew and Jamie's older brother Rory to lay a wreath for Jamie. I was very proud to have been there.

I met Lee Rigby and Liam Tasker's mothers. Liam was an Army dog handler, unfortunately he was killed in Afghanistan, shortly afterwards his dog Theo died of a heart attack. Theo was awarded the Dicken Medal – a Victoria Cross for dogs. I had lots of attention. And, of course made lots of new friends, young and old.



PD JAY - THE THIN BLUE PAW (CONT.)

The RTTW was attended by over 7000 motorbikes and over 20000 spectators. I mingled with the spectators, and when walking back to the car park after the service hundreds of motorbikes went past me. This didn't unsettle me, the only thing that did was the



crowd clapping, when in the down stay position I jumped up and looked round – 'what's going on!'. Stew said I was absolutely outstanding throughout the event.

I have to go now. Unfortunately this will be my penultimate blog before I embark on my initial course.

Alison and Stew are dreading the day I have to go. I thought perhaps for my next blog I could do a catch up on what I

have been up to and questions and answers.



I have been doing some undercover work!

Until next time – bye for now,

Jay

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Our handmade training treats are available to purchase now, either online or in our pet shop! The perfect training treat that are not only healthy & natural they are made right here in the U.K.

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Quote TIGGER-TREAT when responding to this advert

AS THE COLD WEATHER STARTS

As the cold weather starts to make an appearance and your humans begin to bring out the thicker blankets tell them not to throw out old blankets, bedding or towels.

Instead of throwing them out tell them to donate them to local shelters and rescues for all the animals, all animals, not just dogs.

Rescues and shelters are always in need of bedding and towels.

Shelters may also take other things your humans may not be aware of such as unused animal food and used toys. Not shredded ones but ones that may no longer squeak or may be looking a bit faded but still safe to play with.

Some shelters and rescues rely on funding by running bric a brac stall and tombolas, so any unused household goods may be useful.

Before landing at the door of

the rescues and shelters with paws full of items, contact them to make sure they are in need of the items you have put to one side.

Your human may have nearly thrown these items out, but a lot of shelters will be grateful to receive them.

Also bear in mind it is not just in winter that shelters need these items. So remind your humans any time they are having a clear out.

TPD JAY - Q&A SESSION NEXT MONTH

As TPD Jay mentioned in his column this month. Next month will be his last column.

It will be really sad to see him go, and I am sure his humans will be sad to see him go too.

I hope you have all enjoyed watching him grow and learn a brief insight into the life of a pup being trained up to join

the police force.

Jay has enjoyed sharing his experience with you all and would like to give you the opportunity to ask his some questions about his training and role as a police dog.

So if you have any questions for Jay please email them to me at tigger@tigger.club in plenty of time before

December's issue.

I will make sure Jay gets to read them and answer them all for you.

Here are some pictures to show how much he has grown since he started writing his column for Tigger Club News in February.



PET BLOOD BANK - BLOOD SESSION LOCATOR



Pet Blood Bank UK have a pawsome Blood Session locator on their website that shows dog blood donation sessions throughout the UK.

If you visit their website (link at the end of the article)

enter your postcode to find your nearest session and you register with them.

When they receive your registration, a member of the PBB team will be in touch to confirm your details.

If you do not hear from them within two weeks, please call them on 01509 232 222 or email sessions@petbloodbankuk.org.

If you can't find a donation session near you, please still

register as they are hoping to hold sessions all over the UK.

They need a minimum of 30-40 dogs to be registered for them to hold a session.

So please tell your pals to consider registering as well so they can hold a session in your area.

The link to their Blood Session Locator is here:

<https://www.petbloodbankuk.org/sessionlocator>

INDOOR FETCH

Indoor fetch is a good game to play when it is too cold outside or it is raining.

Its is good to play as it wears me out and my human gets some exercise and training too BOL!

My human gets an armful of my toys and sits on the sitting

room floor. Be careful of which toys are used as they will be thrown about the house and you need to consider any breakable items around.

They then throw one toy into the kitchen and I run to get it. When I return I have to drop the toy and they throw another one.

This game can get very fast and apart from the odd time that toys end up in the sink it is great for practicing recall and give with your human.

This is repeated until I get worn out or the return part of the game gets a bit lapse and my human has nothing left to throw.



[Lilymoo Canine Couture](#)

Creating beautiful hand made to measure coats, pyjamas, blankets & accessories as unique as your hound

Bandanas - 2 leg pyjamas
4 leg pyjamas - Cooling Coats
Summer Rain Coats
Winter Coats
... And much more!

Quote **TIGGER** when ordering
(I get a small commission)



INTERVIEW WITH - FERGAL THE LURCHER

**Tell me a little bit about yourself:**

I'm Fergal the Lurcher n I'm originally from Ireland but I weren't treat rite nice so Woz rescued by a lady called Emma n wen I Woz a bit better I travelled to the UK n stayed in sum kennels wiv a big field.

Til one day this lady n man come n fussed me n I Woz put in their car, then me proper life begun wiv me mum n me dad n I learnt Yorkshire n all, well ya gotta fit in

I Woz 9 months wen I found me mum n me dad, me mum sez I Woz rite cute n she knew I Woz a rascal n had bags n bags of character , Dunt fink I've disappointed her, ave I? Hehe

How many humans/siblings do you have and long have you had them?

I just lives wiv me mum n dad. I has a Nanan n grandad who lives near n lotsa 'Aunties'

Do you work? If so where/ what do you do?

I owns a pet shop n I'm chief taster n tester of all the treats n toys. I gets lotsa treats wen ovver doggies come in cos I

barks a bit, well they are in my 'house'

Me Auntie Bex comes n teks me for me wee break n we have adventures n all

If you could choose your name what would it be?

Finks I'd stick wiv Fergal, cos all me mates sez it suits me n it means brave man, which me mum sez I am. Me mum n dad chose it for me n all, I finks it's a good choice.

I get called fergal barky or fergal lergal too

What is your favourite food?

Steak or horse poo!!!

Finks me mum likes me eating steak best cost she won't let me kiss her afta eating horse poo!

Where is your favourite place to be?

Anywhere wiv me mum or me dad, or even betta wiv both of em, I luvs it wen we are altogether

What is your favourite way to entertain yourself (annoy) with your humans?

I luvs zoomies n I also luvs me squeaky toys, the louder the betta but they keep disappearing !!

Hmmmm I finks me dad mite hide em

What is your greatest accomplishment?

Escapin me bad life before n

finding the best furever mum n dad evva, oh n being allowed on the big bed for mmmmy snuggles

What is your next goal in life?

Just to keep bein happy n maybe one day bring gud enuff to be off lead for big zoomies

If you could be/do anything for a day, what would it be?

Be Fergal, why wud I wanna be owt else

Finally and most importantly...What was your human's most embarrassing moment?

Wen I caught me mum Havin a taste of me Easter egg!!!

I dint like it but I caught her tryin it!!

N me dads is wen I barked at anuvver dog n he slipped n fell on his knees on the grass n mud n me mum kept laffin at him!!

Mine is wen I Woz doin zoomies wiv Lexa n I ran into a tree, I cud see stars but I kept runnin so she couldn't catch me!



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We can make bespoke vouchers for a set amount, or one to cover the cost of a stay. Order yours now to avoid **their** disappointment

"Hound Heaven"

"Perfect dog friendly getaway"
 "Lovely dog-friendly cottage in beautiful location"
 "Home away from home for human & hound!"
 "Fabulous cottage for humans and hounds"
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 "Fab location, well-equipped, dog friendly & all round great place to stay"

(just some of our 5* reviews on Trip Advisor)



- *Beside a park
- *Enclosed garden
- *Fabulous walks from the doorstep
- *Throws, dog towels, bowls, balls and houndy treats are provided and lots more!
- *local dog friendly pubs



- *Well behaved humans are welcome too!
- *Cosaig is very well equipped, has 2 bedrooms, a wet room and an en-suite shower room.
- *Fancy a trip to Edinburgh? We might be able to dog-sit...just ask!

We donate our charge for dogs to the Scottish Greyhound Sanctuary when rescued dogs come to stay. Mention this advert and we will donate an extra £10.

www.cosaigselfcatering.co.uk



Follow us on Facebook and @CosaigInners on Twitter
 Quote TIGGER-LUKE when responding to this advert

PRODUCT REVIEW - TREAT BALL

My human bought a treat ball from a local pet store.

Product:
Treat ball

Cost:
£6.99

Date Bought:
February 2015

Brief Description:

The treat ball Bright green heavy duty thick rubber ball with a hole on each side. Where the holes are, there are flappy bits of thinner rubber that stop all of the treats falling out.

Uses:

The ball can be used as a toy for throwing about and playing with.

It can also be used as an enrichment toy, otherwise known as a 'give my human some peace' toy. BOL!

Insert some dried treats that are small enough to fall out of the ball when it is rolled, but not too small that they all fall out in one pile.

Review

As a toy, who doesn't like a ball to chase and chew?

It has a great bounce although indoors it has too much of a great bounce at times, so care needs to be taken if your humans have any ornaments or objects likely to break.

As it is a pretty solid rubber ball it has stood up to some pretty serious chewing sessions. With the exception of the edges where the treats are inserted, it is almost nearly survived all attempts at shredding it.

This toy is also great for pushing around to get treats out of. It really does keep my occupied until the treats are all gone.

It even doubles up as a sound amplifier. Especially very late at night when welcoming my other human home from work with a very impressive and very amplified woo hoo! It's lucky my neighbours think I am super cute BOL!

Rating:
10/10 Paws

This is such a versatile and sturdy toy I am tempted to say

it is almost Tigger proof of the destruction scale.

The only problem is that after over four years of constant play it has suddenly and unexpectedly, well perhaps with a lot of determined chewing over the years, split to the point my human has removed it from me for safety reasons.

I am currently trying to source a new one, which is not that easy as the store I got it from no longer sells it.



What the ball should look like



What my ball looked like

Do you manufacture a product you would like me to review?

Email me to discuss your product at:

tigger@tigger.club

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bakewell
will be
Celebrating her 7th Birthday in
November



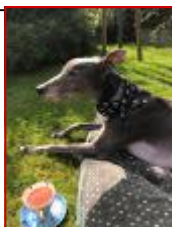
Major
Will be celebrating his 4th
Birthday on the
2nd of November



Misty
will be celebrating her
3rd Gotcha day on the
3rd November



Aero
Will be celebrating his Birthday
Across the Rainbow Bridge on the
6th of November
06/11/05 - 05/05/17



Duke will be
Celebrating his
1st Gotcha Day on the
9th of November



Group Walk: 10th of November
[Cannock Chase tweetup](#) - Staffordshire
Arrive 10:45am for 11:00am start

Bailey
Crossed the rainbow bridge 10th
November 2015
5/9/10 to 10/11/15



Diba & Banu Will be celebrating
their 8th Birthday on
the 10th of November

Miss Starhound
will be
Celebrating her 8th
Gotcha Day on the
24th November



Check my website for more
Events and Announcements at:
www.tigger.club/events

If you would like to place an
announcement here.

Email me at:

tigger@tigger.club

OUT AND ABOUT

BURE LODGE - NORFOLK


Bure Lodge

Wroxham, Norfolk

Sleeps:

Up to 6 humans

Dogs:

Allowed (Maximum 2 dogs)

About:

Bure Lodge is a newly refitted, 3 storey holiday cottage situated on the beautiful Norfolk Broads, just a few yards from the Norfolk Broads Direct marina.

Bure Lodge offers luxury accommodation for up to 6 people and is perfect for a family or group of friends to enjoy all the Norfolk Broads has to offer.

Just a short walk from Wroxham village centre with its plentiful shops, restaurants and pubs.

The property benefits from a small enclosed rear garden and a spacious living area with seating for all.

This three bedroom property is set out over three floors comprising of:

Ground floor:

entrance hall,
a single bedroom,
a twin bedroom,
a family bathroom with shower over bath,
and a sun room with a double sofa bed
patio doors leading out to the enclosed garden.

First floor:

the spacious open plan lounge/diner has a large flat screen TV, and DVD player. The kitchen has a breakfast dining area and is fully fitted with integrated appliances including fridge, freezer, oven and hob. There is also a microwave, washing machine and dishwasher.

Second floor:

large double bedroom with en-suite wc and bath with shower over bath, small closet.

Bure Lodge offers:

Double glazing Central heating system throughout, making it perfect for all year round hire
Linen (duvets) and towels
Enclosed garden with seating
Parking for two cars, one in garage and one in front of the lodge

Pets are allowed (max. 2)
Week breaks £40 per dog,
short breaks £25 per dog,
payable on arrival

Available for Friday or Monday start dates, weekly or short breaks available all year round.

Travel cot and high chair available on request
Please note: This property is non smoking.

Contact:

Norfolk Broads direct

Address:

The Bridge, Wroxham, Norfolk
NR12 8RX

Tel: 01603782207

Email: info@broads.co.uk

Website: www.broads.co.uk

Visit www.tigger.club/outandabout for more dog friendly locations

ANIMAL CHARITIES

CANINE COMMANDOS INC.



Canine Commandos Inc is an American charity in Melbourne, Florida. It was founded in 2003.

It started as an idea by the founder, Virginia Hamilton, who has two passions, teaching fifth and sixth-grade elementary students and helping the ever-growing population of local animal shelters.

The shelters were steadily increasing in numbers and killing dogs and cats due to space. Although there are plenty of humans looking for dogs, they are less 'attractive' to potential adopters because they are depressed or frustrated and many overlooked due to lack of training.

The founder is a teacher of gifted elementary students, where they were always looking out for opportunities to teach kindness, compassion and giving back to their community.

As the founder already volunteered with animals in shelters and spay/neuter organizations, the plan was drafted out with the students, and the Canine Commandos Inc charity was born.

The main goal of Canine Commandos Inc is to provide an opportunity for elementary students to interact with the shelter dogs.

They help the dogs become less depressed, stressed and trained in basic commands to increase

the rate of adoption.

The Commandos also reflect on their shelter experiences by creating projects about pet responsibility.

The students bus daily to three shelters and spend time with the dogs.

During this time it ranges from reading to the dogs while they are in their kennels, walking the dogs and spending time training basic commands (watch me, sit, down, stay and come).

During the training, the Commandos fill out a comment card displaying the mastered commands.

The school that trains the next day reviews the commands with the dogs then proceeds to the next.

The Commandos also write comments about the dog to help the adopter make the best decision for their family. The bright gold cards flag the public that the dogs trained are great with kids.

And not only do the Commandos work with shelter dogs, but they socialize cats too.

What do the students get out of it?

It has been well documented for some years students that read to dogs gain more confidence at reading and speaking in public.

They learn patience and selflessness when training the dogs, the feeling of success when the dogs learn from them.

When the Commandos learn of

the dogs' adoption, they celebrate with lots of cheers! They exude with pride knowing they are giving back to the community.

I contacted the founder Virginia Hamilton for a comment, and she replied with:

"...I'm an animal lover, all kinds, in fact, I don't eat, wear, or use them because they have emotions and feelings and deserve the right to respect, care, and love that only humans can provide.

I volunteer(ed) with animals including shelter animals, spay/neuter organizations, and greyhound racing.

I am fortunate to be allowed to combine two loves, kids and k9's, to make a change in our community.

The Canine Commandos formed because of this passion.

Saving shelter animals is shared with students in 27 classrooms which became contagious throughout our county schools, and we continue to grow.

I have learned by giving kids the tools to decide for themselves the importance of giving back.

Sharing my passion with excitement comes alive each time I discuss the topic and opens them to learning and expanding their world of compassion and empathy."

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