



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

September, October & November Newsletters have been sent to your email. However, just to be sure we are keeping in touch with every member, here is a printed Newsletter as back up. Welcome to all FOUNDER MEMBERS and seasons greeting to you and your dogs.

Club membership is continuing to grow steadily, so the community and shared knowledge is growing too. One of our new members Noel Sweeney is a practising barrister and author with a special interest in Animal Law. Noel has just launched a new existential animal rights book for children entitled Duggie is a bad bad Dog. Visit Noel's profile in the MEMBERS AREA of the website for more information.

Do They Need Much Grooming? Q & A has been published on the website along with *Do They Need Much Exercise?* Both these have been included in this Newsletter, just in case you can't get on-line easily.

The club Rules and Code of Ethics have now been loaded on the site for all to see. Our officers and committee can be viewed in the 'About Us' area of the website. If you are interested in joining the committee, please let us know as we will need more help running the club as things progress.

Our First Club Event!

We are planning our first Club Event in early April 2016. This will be a social and educational event to be held in a hall in the Newbury area. We have chosen Newbury because of its easy links to London, the South, the South West and the Midlands. The event will be open to everybody whether you are a member of The Bolognese Dog Club UK or not and whether you own a Bolognese or not. We are planning a family day with fun events and some education on the breed. Look out for more about this exciting event over the next few months.

NEW CAPTION COMPETITION

Great entries for the last Caption Competition and here is the second one. You can enter via the website, or email your caption to info@bolognesedogclub.co.uk. When we have 10 entries, we will pick a winner and a couple of runner ups. So put your creative thinking caps on and win a great prize for Christmas!



QUESTION: Do they need much grooming?



ANSWER: It's better to be prepared for a lot of grooming. Some coats are easier than others and puppies need more regular grooming. The puppy coat, especially at about 8-18 months does knot easily due to the coat changing its texture. The adult coat of the Bolognese is coarser and easier to groom than the softer puppy coat. If you are lucky your adult Bolognese could only take 20-30 minutes a week to groom. BUT your puppy could need grooming more or less everyday and this could take anything from 5-30 minutes.

The Bolognese coat is not easy, it needs commitment and dedication otherwise it will get out of control quickly and will need to be clipped off. One thing you cannot do with a Bolognese coat is neglect it and hope that the knots go away – they will not they will just get worse. If you have trouble with your Bolognese coat, seek professional help sooner rather than later, do not hope the problem will go away. If you think that you will not be able to groom a dog, do not get a Bolognese.

A reputable breeder will advise you on grooming and will of already started to get your puppy used to the procedure, this training must continue without interruption. There are a few grooming tasks which will need to be carried out regularly, such as feet trimming, ear plucking, nail clipping and trimming around the bottom.

TIPS

- groom your puppy daily to get them used to it, this is vital
- if your dog complains about being groomed, persist, they will get used to it and even enjoy it
- use a comb to get right through the coat, people make the mistake of grooming the top, but not right through the coat
- get the right grooming tools
- use an anti-tangle spray
- get all knots out before you bath your dog
- don't leave a collar on all the time, it mats the coat round the neck
- trim the coat between the pads and round the feet



'Best Christmas Picture' COMPETITION

From December 1st to January 1st 2017, we are inviting you to submit a picture of your dog 'in the Christmas spirit'.

There are no rules, so the picture could include one dog or several dogs and you or your family. If you have other pets or other breeds of dog, they are welcome to join in. Email your entry to info@bolognesedogclubuk.co.uk



QUESTION: How much exercise do they need?

ANSWER: The Bolognese is a toy breed so the exercise commitment is not as great as, for example, a working breed or a terrier. They will enjoy daily or twice a day walks, but the lengths of the walks don't need to be that long. Exercise of around 30-mins a time will suffice. However, some active owners report walking their Bolognese upwards of 5-miles, but as with anything some care should be taken. Here are some dog walking tips for Bolognese owners

Remember not to over exercise your dog or over concentrate on one activity as this could be detrimental particularly in young dogs. It's a good idea to allow your dog some lead walking first to warm up before a free run, then some more lead walking as a wind down. Also be careful not to exercise your dog on hot days, better to wait until the temperature has cooled in the evening. If you walk your dog at the same time each day they will learn to expect this and get disappointed if they don't go out. So varying the time of day you walk your dog can be sensible. They will enjoy a free run on open ground, maybe chasing a ball or playing with other dogs. Walking Bolognese in a wooded area can be problematic to them as debris gets caught in their coat. When this happens, they will stop walking and wait for it to be removed. Twigs or dried leaves in the coat seems to upset them.

Wet weather is often not popular with the Bolognese, who could well take one look at the rain and scoot back inside. If you take them out in the rain, a coat would be a good idea as rain can cause the fur to matt particularly on their back. Wet sand is also a bit troublesome for the coat of the Bolognese as it sticks. They love the beach, but be prepared for a shampoo afterwards if water and sand mix. Sandy beaches are good for running free, however pebbles or gravel surfaces will not go down as well. Also troublesome is snow, which clumps and freezes to the coat. If it snows try to find a cleared area to exercise your dog. Snow may look nice, but it won't feel nice for your dog when it is stuck to the coat in frozen lumps!

Lead training your puppy, must be done slowly and gently, keeping the lead slack and encouraging the puppy to walk by your side. Use treats to tempt a puppy to walk with you. Don't pull on the lead, this never works. You should lead train your puppy in a safe and quiet area. Do not let a puppy off the lead until he is confident and comes when called. Always be wary of other dogs around you as your dog could be scared by loud or boisterous dogs and some dogs could actually be dangerous.

You will find as your dog gets older he will slow down and enjoy shorter less active walks. If your dog doesn't seem to be enjoying its walk (but is well in every other way), rethink the place you are going or the time you are expecting him to walk. Joint supplements can help keep your older dog on the move. Make sure you choose a suitable place to exercise your dog, in some areas dogs must be kept on the lead or cannot be exercised. Your dog should wear identification, be micro-chipped and be kept under control at all times. Make sure you have your poo bags with you!

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Eurodogshow in Kortrijk, Belgium

POST FROM Chris Thatcher

We attended Eurodogshow in Kortrijk, Belgium in November and had a great time, lots of friendly people and wonderful trade stands. The Trophy and glass plaque a lasting memory of the show, far better than the rosette we receive in the UK.

Best of Breed homebred Devonia's Red Hot Summer (Rosa) CAC and CACIB graded Excellent and her Mother, Zita, Reserve CAC and Reserve CACIB also graded excellent. The venue was not that far from the channel tunnel and the dogs didn't seem phased by the journey.

The show was a rather different experience to the UK. Aside to the cup and trophy, we won two big bags of premium dog food too!



Kirsty Ellis lives in Scotland and is the proud owner of Bolognese Megan seen here with her feline friend Bailey



Bolognese is Top Puppy Rare Breed 2015

Otti or LITTLE WHITE WONDER
OTHELLO MATTEO Jun Ch
Gibraltar (owned by MS V & MRS
K DOWTY, BEGG & VANDRIEL)



Teddy lives in Basingstoke with his Mum and Dad Annie and Dave Redmond and 2 Labradors Molly and Lily. How spoilt are they!

Hope that you enjoyed receiving a newsletter from The Bolognese Dog Club UK. If you are able to venture on to the website at www.bolognesedogclubuk.co.uk you will find lots more information on the breed, TOP TIPS, competitions and posts from members.

If you would like to contact us call 01243 265378 or write to Bolognese Dog Club UK, 1 Southwark Walk, Aldwick, Bognor PO21 3RR