

EMDC (UK)

NEWSLETTER



JULY 2021 ISSUE

*H*ello everyone, I hope everyone has been keeping safe since the last newsletter in December and I hope you all enjoyed it.

Since this is the first newsletter of the year I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year 2021 even though we are already 7 months into it. We started the year with yet another lockdown which for many of us has again been an opportunity to carry on with new hobbies started last year or to start something completely new. It has also given us the opportunity to spend even more time with our four legged friends which I am sure they have been loving.

I would like to leave here on the newsletter that even though we are a dog club we are also a way of support for anyone who might be struggling or may have found the last few months a little difficult, please do reach out to any of us if you think you need any help.

We have been trying to host some virtual events in order to provide some social time for our members and we hope you have enjoyed this.

In Portugal just like here not much has happened in the dog world as they were also on a lockdown. We are still waiting to hear when the Monografica will be able to go ahead safely. In the meantime please do check the CPC website as I know they have continued to provide some virtual events online. There is some exiting news from Portugal that I have shared further along in the newsletter.

The 23rd May 2021 was a very special day for the club and I will not spoil it by talking about it here, I will let you all scroll down and enjoy the pages dedicated to it.

If there is any specific articles or topics anyone would like us to include or discuss in our newsletters please don't hesitate in sending any topics, articles or questions to me at anaritauk@hotmail.co.uk

Please continue to keep safe
Ana Vidal

EMDC (UK) highlights

Kelly Bailey our webmaster is continuing to update our new website with events, news and more so if you haven't seen it yet, please do.

Since the last newsletter we have hosted a few online events which have given our members a chance to see each other while we were under lockdown rules.

Our AGM which was held on the 23rd May 2021 was very successful and we hosted our very first limit show. Read all about it inside the issue.

Crufts have announced they will be cancelling the show which was scheduled to take part in July 2021 to now March 2022 due to the uncertainty of the pandemic.

Keep checking our members group Facebook page for more news, events and more.



The Secretary's Report

We all hoped that Covid would be done and dusted by now....how wrong could we be!

At least shows are starting to go ahead, with Breed Club shows leading the way – including our own first Limited show for the EMDC (UK) which, despite the rain and wind, went extremely well and everyone seemed to have a good time making the most of the gazebo's that were available.... While they were still standing anyway!

Our next planned event is going to be the Picnic! We hope that this will be held in September (probably near to the beginning of the month). Let us hope all restrictions are lifted by then, if Covid allows. It is a very social event, where we usually have some games and lots of chatting and dog socialisation! We hope to see many of you there.

The Kennel Club Returns have now been sent to the relevant department, and at the end of 2020, our membership stood at 63 voting members with 12 Junior Members. We are thrilled that within the first 6 months of 2021 we have, exceeding the 2020 membership, 66 voting members plus 16 Junior members!

We currently have two spaces on our committee due to Pedro Silva, after several years of dedicated service, deciding he did not want to re-stand for Committee. We thank Pedro for all his hard work and his input on many matters. He will be missed greatly.

If anyone is interested in joining our committee, and feels they have the time to dedicate to occasional meetings, turning up at events to help put them on, and generally supporting our breed in any way they can, please do contact me.

We hope you all have a lovely summer, and maybe we will get to see some of you out and about at some shows, or at our Picnic!

Best wishes

Camille Lambert

Secretary@emdc-uk.com

Tel: 07958 549778 (after 7 pm)



Club Virtual Events

Due to the pandemic we have not been able to host our usual face to face gatherings, so just like so many other clubs we had to adapt to the virtual world. So far we have hosted 3 virtual events which proved to be great fun.

Our Christmas Quiz gave everyone a chance to check their general knowledge and it had a little something for everyone. The visual questions proved to be quite funny and provided all of us with much needed laughter. The Valentines Day Bingo was also very funny with all the traditional bingo calls plus the new bingo calls and also the dog related ones that the committee were able to come up for me were great. Our Easter "Egg" Hunt at home was also great fun for everyone. Here are the results of all our virtual events so far, congratulations to all the winners.

The Virtual Christmas Quiz 2020 winners were:

1st place - Rosie and Kyle Hall - winning a lovely gift from paws4gifts provided by Gill Douglas.

2nd place - Julie Holt - winning a 1 year free membership for the club.

3rd place - Gill Douglas - winning a feature on our Facebook members group page and JULy Newsletter.



Rosie and Kyle Hall winners of our Virtual Christmas Quiz displaying their lovely gift.

The Valentines Day Virtual Bingo:

1st place - Jenny Haslet - winning a club polo shirt.

2nd place - Kelly Bailey - winning a 1 year free membership for the club.

3rd place - Marcia Dovey & Camile Lambert joint winners - winning a feature on our Facebook members group page and December Newsletter

The Easter "Egg" Hunt at Home:

1st place - Rosie, Kyle, Abigail & Isabelle Hall - winning an Easter Egg and Easter Bunny pack

2nd place - Camile Lamber & Marcia Dovey - winning an Easter Egg and Easter Bunny pack

3rd place - Gill Douglas - winning an Easter Egg and Easter Bunny pack



Newsletter Features

An interview with Gill Douglas



Why the Estrela Mountain Dog?

For me the Estrela ticks all my boxes in a big dog. They're large but still athletic enough to do long walks, but without the high drive that requires constant stimulation. They're protective and loyal, but without being needy. They're easy to groom and maintain, and eat very little for their size. I like the independent nature of livestock guardians, I like that they question things and have their own opinions, and that life with an Estrela is a partnership.

What do you enjoy doing most with your dogs?

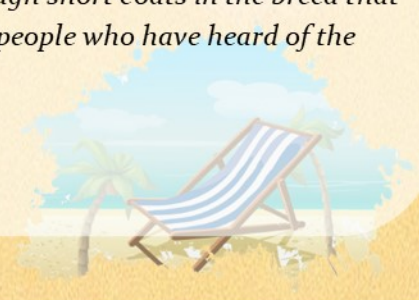
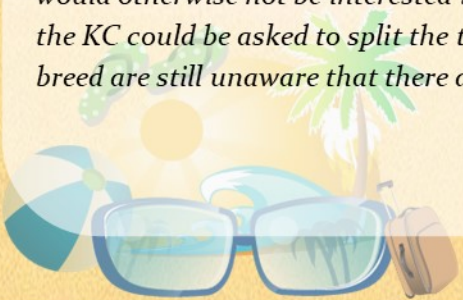
I like to tap into the sense of smell. It's amazing how dogs get a 3D picture of the world in scent, and it's very stimulating for them to play games that use this sense. Watching them search for a hidden object and work right back to the scent source is quite amazing, and Estrela's have incredible noses. Root and Bardo are trained to search for specific odours, but with Womble I just use food. This kind of training is always fun for the dog and calming too. After a nose work game they sleep for hours.

Do you enjoy showing? And if so what do you like about it?

I've not been actively showing much in recent years as my younger two Estrela's don't enjoy it, and Womble is 9 years old now, but I'm hoping to make a return to the show ring with a new team soon. I like showing for the social side. I try not to get too hung up on results as taking it too seriously will stop the enjoyment I think. Meeting up with friends from other parts of the country that I rarely see is the absolute best part.

Do you have any objectives you would particularly like to achieve with the breed?

I'd like to raise the profile of the short coats. I think they perhaps appeal to a whole new group of people who would otherwise not be interested in the breed. It would be nice to have enough short coats in the breed that the KC could be asked to split the two varieties, like they are in FCI. Lots of people who have heard of the breed are still unaware that there are two separate coat varieties.



The Estrela Mountain Dog is on TV in Portugal

By Ana Vidal



Actress Julia Palha with Estrela Mountain Dog Matilde da Quinta da Liria

Aka Fatima & Estrela



Actress Isabela Valadeiro with Estrela Mountain dogs Zuki & Cartuxa da Casa das Thuyas

Aka Vitoria & Zuki & Cartuxa

Last year one of the Portuguese tv channels SIC started to produce and film a new soap in Portugal called A Serra. This new soap focuses on the north part of Portugal and in particular the Serra da Estrela area, it shows the various traditions of the area and it also shows the Estrela Mountain dog at work.

Two of the characters in the soap own Estrela's. The main character called Fatima has an Estrela Mountain Dog which she uses to help her to guard her flock of sheep and another character called Vitoria owns an Estrela Mountain dog Kennel. It

was fantastic that the production team decided to use Estrela Mountain Dogs in the soap. Some of the kennels they approached were Canil Quinta da Liria owned by Esperança Dias who provided a bitch called Matilde who goes by the name Estrela in the soap and is partnered with the main character played by actress Julia Palha.

Also involved was Canil Vale do Juiz owned by Edgar Dolgner who provided week old puppies for Estrela do "give birth" to in the soap to complement the story line. Finally also approached was Canil Casa das Thuyas owned by Pedro Silva who provided the dogs for the character who owns a kennel played by the actress Isabela Valadeiro.

So far all the actresses and actors who have come in contact with the dogs have absolutely loved the breed. I can talk mainly about the actress Isabella Valadeiro who worked with my brothers dogs (Pedro Silva) who was petrified of dogs when she accepted this role. She had to go to Pedro's kennel everyday for a few weeks to go inside the kennels with various dogs so she would get over her fear. After she was able to conquer her fear she learned how to be a kennel owner and how to care for an Estrela Mountain dog. On a tv interview she talked of how she got over her fear and fell in love with the breed.

It is safe to say that the dogs have been one of the main attractions why people have been watching the soap everyday and it is right now the leading soap on Portuguese tv. It was a great opportunity for the breed to be represented in such a national scale to the public and we hope that it helps many people learn more about these fantastic breed.



Basic Guide to Hip Dysplasia (HD) in Dogs - part 1

By Nichola Marshall

What is hip dysplasia? Hip dysplasia occurs because dogs can be born with varying degrees of laxity in their hip joints. The hip joint is a ball and socket and its growth is controlled by chemical signals that occur when the ball and socket meet. If the ball and socket are not held in place properly then they don't grow properly and become malformed – this is called dysplasia. The laxity and malformation can cause osteoarthritis as well. The laxity is caused by the dog's genetics and is inherited from its parents.

Is HD a problem for Estrelas? Yes. A large study in 2001 showed that 80% of Estrelas had mild or worse hip dysplasia. Thankfully since then, a lot of breeders have worked hard to score their dogs and breed Estrelas with better hips. The average hip score (see **what is a hip score?**) has reduced to 10 in the UK which is fantastic and shows just how successful these scoring schemes are. However HD and arthritis was still the third biggest killer of Estrelas in the 2018 health survey after cancer and 'unknown'. Nearly 30% of Estrelas had HD and associated osteoarthritis. Until all breeders are breeding for healthy hips, HD will continue to be a problem.

Does it matter if my puppy has HD? Some Estrelas can live a long life, not outwardly showing signs that they have HD. This should be treated cautiously as 'proof' that HD isn't a concern, as it does not prove the dog is pain free, especially in a stoic breed like the Estrela. People with certain degrees of hip dysplasia can walk and exercise seemingly normally whilst actually being in pain. The structure of the hip, means that lameness isn't necessarily a symptom. However undiagnosed pain can have an impact on behaviour, making the dog intolerant of other dogs or being moved or handled by the owner for example.

HD also has a big impact on the average age of death with the most common age to be put to sleep due to HD being just 8 years old. Sadly some dogs are put to sleep at only 6 months or a year when HD is severe.

As well as possibly needing long term pain medication, in very severe cases, the dog or puppy may need one or both hips replacing. The surgery is expensive with a long period of crate rest to recover afterwards. This can be a very stressful time for both puppy and owner.

It is advisable to buy good quality pet insurance – especially if you are buying a puppy from a high risk litter.

How can I buy a puppy without HD? When you are looking to buy a puppy, always ask the breeder about how they breed to avoid HD. They will give you one of 3 answers:

- They hip score their dogs and research the pedigree. Although there is never a 100% guarantee, these breeders will be able to give you a relatively accurate estimate of risk and their level of confidence, for each litter bred in this way.



- They hip score the parents. They may be cagey about actual results or be keen to impress on you that HD is recessive and so there is no guarantee that the parent's hip scores mean a reduced risk of HD. Luckily Estrelas have 80% heritability estimate for HD so it is likely that the puppies will have the same score as their parents but less certain than from breeder type 1. If the breeder is reluctant to share the actual scores or answer questions/makes excuses about HD in the family. It may be better to walk away.
- They do not hip score. They might say things such as in their opinion hip scoring doesn't work / HD is caused by the environment (they will often misquote studies to try to 'prove' this)/HD is caused by owners/their dogs are 'fine' etc. In this situation as a puppy buyer, you have no way to really assess the individual risk other than simply taking the breeders word for it. What we do know is that, statistically, at breed level, there is an 80% chance that the puppy will have HD when there is no scoring and subsequent selective pressure. It would be advisable to walk away.

What is a hip score? Hip scores are a way for us to take the complex structure of the hip and give it a value so we can more easily understand and compare how 'good' or 'bad' a dogs hips are.

Different countries have different methods of scoring;

- * some countries actually say hips are 'excellent', 'good' or have 'mild', 'severe' etc HD which makes the dogs hip situation pretty obvious!
- * Portugal uses A,B,C,D,E,F with A being the best, completely perfect hips, C being mildly dysplastic and F the most severe dysplasia. A dog can have a different score for each hip. Make sure you are given the scores of both hips.
- * In the UK we use a numerical system where 0 is a perfect hip and 53 is the worst possible score in one hip. You might see a dog with a score of 0/12 in which case the dog has one perfect hip and one with borderline dysplasia. You might see a score of 6/6 in which case both hips are good. These scores will sometimes be added together so both of these dogs would have a total score of 12.
- * PennHIP is another method of scoring which is somewhat more complicated to understand but does include a measure of the laxity of the hip so some breeders prefer this. It also includes a scale showing the breed average and where the dog falls in this average so that part is easy to understand even for a novice. It would be likely that a breeder using this method would be both willing and able to explain the results to a puppy buyer.



In an ideal world, breeders would only breed from dogs with a score that is lower than the breed average however with a rare breed it is sometimes necessary for genetic diversity, to use a dog with a higher than average score. You should talk to the breeder about this, they should be able to explain their choice to you and give you an idea of the risk to your puppy.

The family history of the dog can make it a higher or lower breeding risk. A dog might have C grade hips but have the highest score in its family. Another dog might have C grade hips but be average or even the lowest score in its family. This second dog will be a much riskier breeding choice. Your breeder should be able to discuss with you how they have assessed this risk.

If you have any questions or are unsure, please contact your breed health co-ordinator.

What are the symptoms of HD? *In more some cases the dog may be unable to walk, lame or have changes in gait such as bunny hopping (only run with its two back legs together), have a shortened stride or be reluctant to trot etc. There may be more obvious signs of pain such as yelping or panting and a distressed look on the face.*

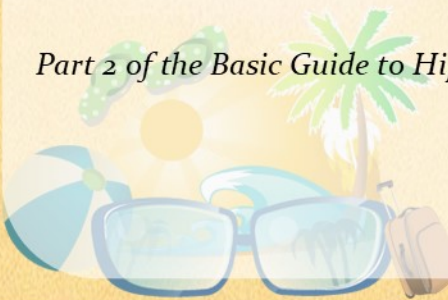
Less obvious symptoms would be the behavioural symptoms of undiagnosed pain such as; being intolerant of other dogs or people, not wanting to be touched or get up from their bed, slow or stiff when getting up or lying down, circling a lot before lying down, changes in posture, not wanting to go for walks or being slow on walks, seeming stiff after exercise. This list is not exhaustive, the point is to be aware of these types of behaviours and not just write them off as being due to the dog's temperament, personality or experience.

I have bought my puppy; what can I do to help keep their joints healthy? *You should receive advice from your breeder and you can also look at our advice guide; **Healthy Joints**.*

It needs to be made clear that you won't cause HD in your dog by not following the advice. Equally, the advice will not cure HD or prevent it in a dog with hip laxity. What we can do is slow the progress of the disease. This is useful even in asymptomatic dogs, to keep them that way for as long as possible. Any dog can develop arthritis so these tips are useful even if your dog has great hips.

What happens if my dog has HD? *You should inform your breeder so they can use the information to inform future breeding decisions and possibly the breed health coordinator if it is severe so they can keep track of the issue. See our advice guide; **Healthy Joints** and talk to your vet; there are lots of treatment options available.*

Part 2 of the Basic Guide to Hip Dysplasia in dogs will be available in the next newsletter.



The Breed Saved by a Revolution

By National Purebred Dog Day



Maya (Cassandra of Sturtmoor) born in 1974 was the first litter born in quarantine, from a bitch sent over by Roger Pye. It is also the photo we are using on our new club logo.

In 1974, a mutiny of military officers in the Portuguese army put an end to the country's forty year dictatorship dating back to the era of Mussolini and Hitler. The revolt came to be known as the Carnation Revolution when a citizen walking in the streets of Lisbon with a bouquet of carnations in her arms spotted a soldier and put one of the flowers in the pipe of his rifle. Soon, ecstatic citizens were all handing carnations out to the troops. The carnation came to be a symbol of what is now an important holiday for the Portuguese, a fitting emblem because with almost no casualties, it was a peaceful revolution.

With the dictatorship immediately swept away, democracy involving millions of people flowered. Working people became engaged with how their government was run, and also realized that they could participate in aspects of their society which had previously been closed off to them.

To wit: The revolution led to changes in dog shows in Portugal, and in how the Portuguese saw their own dog breeds. Before 1974, owning a show dog and participating at a dog show had been the purview of the wealthy, and having enough money to import a non-Portuguese breed became a status symbol. The revolution changed that. Working people started to exhibit indigenous breeds that their families had kept for generations. The Estrela Mountain Dog was one of them.

It came just in time. Interest in one of the oldest breeds from the Iberian Peninsula had been steeply declining, and with no record of the Estrela Mountain Dog outside of Portugal before 1972, extinction was a serious probability. In truth, it's hard to image that *no* Estrela ever left the country, but they were probably interbred which certainly didn't help maintain the purity of the breed. We came across a source indicating that in 1972 and 1973, "pairs" were imported to the U.S., but it wasn't until 1998 that the first Estrela with documented papers was imported into the United States. It was actually the United Kingdom that became the first country to establish the breed outside Portugal with Sturtmoor Kennels becoming the first known Estrela Mountain Dog breeding program in the world outside of Portugal.

Meanwhile in Portugal, a period of social unrest led to a major crime wave, and the breed's value as a guard dog increased its cache. The dog's size, plus its habit of barking at intruders (it is, after all, a Livestock Guardian Dog) deterred would-be bad actors. Eventually, the Estrela Mountain Dog became more popular than Portugal's other two native guard dogs, the Cao de Castro Laboreiro and the Rafeiro de Alentejo, largely because it was softer tempered, an asset to a family. It is now the most popular native Portuguese breed after the Portuguese Podengo.



Increased popularity has a win/win for the breed and the country, and it all started with a revolution.

EMDC UK AGM & Limit Show

23rd May 2021

The moment we have all been waiting for so long finally came. Our very first Kennel Club Registered Limit Show finally happened and under covid regulations no less. As we were still under government guidelines when we hosted our show it was very important for us as a club to make sure all our members, committee, officers, stewards and judge felt safe taking part on the day and that is why we went to such lengths in making sure the venue was well prepared with all Covid regulations being checked to the last detail. Our Show manager Jacky Cutler did an amazing job in double checking everything for us and made sure we were compliant with all Kennel club regulations. The Committee, officers and stewards made sure that the day and the show ran smoothly not only for our Judge Jane Paradise but also for all our members that braved the drive down and the weather. Speaking of the weather in true British style we had some sun, some very strong winds and some spells of rain, none of which stopped anyone from having a great day as we all came prepared with Gazebos.



they wish to carry on showing in the future.

A big thank you goes to our judge Jane Paradise for doing an amazing job on the day battling with the winds, rain and the judges gazebo deciding it had enough towards the end of the show. Thank you also for showing such consideration for our members who had never shown before and gave it a go for the first time at the show. As a club it is very important to us that our members are able to feel safe having a go knowing they will be supported in a positive way should

We would also like to mention what a great job Rebecca Roberts did on her lecture about the Estrela Mountain Dog to all her future puppy owners who she invited to attend the AGM so they could meet the breed in person. A big thank you also for judging the fun classes during the break time where members who did not wish to enter the main show were given a chance to have a go at showing in more fun and relaxed classes.



Limit Show 23rd May 2021 Results

Class 1 - Veteran Dog or Bitch (4)

1st: 7 Brunilde da Quinta Moinhos das Almas at Bellalua (ImpPrt)

2nd: 9 Milagre Ice Ice Baby

3rd: N/A

Res: N/A



Class 2 - Puppy Dog or Bitch

(No Entries)



Class 3 - Yearling Dog or Bitch (2)

1st: 2 Wulfgar da Casa das Thuyas (Imp Prt) (Naf Araf)

2nd: 5 D'Ines de Castro do Sobreiro Grande (Imp Prt)

3rd: N/A

Res: N/A



Limit Show 23rd May 2021 Results

Class 4 - Special Beginners Dog (2)

1st: 4 Estjak Riodouro

2nd: 16 Moon River da Ponta da Pinta (Imp Prt)
(Naf Araf)



Class 5 - Post Graduate Dog (2)

1st: Estjak Riodouro

2nd: 16 Moon River da Ponta da Pinta (Imp Prt)
(Naf Araf)



Class 6 - Limit Dog (1)

1st: 2 Wulfgar da Casa das Thuyas (Imp Prt) (Naf Araf)

2nd: N/A

3rd: N/A

Res: N/A



Limit Show 23rd May 2021 Results

Class 7 - Open Dog (1)

1st: 4 Estjak Riodouro

2nd: N/A

3rd: N/A

Res: N/A



Class 8 - Challenge for Best Dog

BEST DOG: 2 Wulfgar da Casa das Thuyas (Imp Prt) (Naf Araf)

Res. Best Dog: 4 Estjak Riodouro

Best Puppy: N/A

Best Veteran Dog: N/A



Class 8 - Special Beginners Bitch (1)

1st: 3 Osha da Casa das Thuyas (Imp Prt) (Naf Araf)

2nd: N/A

3rd: N/A

Res: N/A



Limit Show 23rd May 2021 Results

Class 9 - Post Graduate Bitch (1)

1st: 15 Asterel Kaa at Garregddu

2nd: N/A

3rd: N/A

Res: N/A



Class 10 - Limit Bitch (3)

1st: 14 Aterel Belle Starr at Garregddu

2nd: 10 Bellalua Delta Milagre

3rd: N/A

Res: N/A



Class 11 - Open Bitch (2)

1st: 13 Garregddu Agua

2nd: 9 Milagre Ice Ice Baby

3rd: N/A

Res: N/A



Limit Show 23rd May 2021 Results

Challenge for Best Bitch

BEST BITCH: 13 Garregddu Agua

Res. Best Bitch: 14 Asterel Belle Starr at Garregddu

Best Puppy Bitch: N/A

Best Veteran Bitch: 7 Brunilde da Quinta Moinhos das Almas at Bellalua (Imp Prt)



BEST IN SHOW: 13 Garregddu Agua

Best Opposite Sex: 2 Wulfgar da Casa das Thuyas (Imp Prt) (Naf Araf)

Best Puppy in Show: N/A

Best Veteran in Show: 7 Brunilde da Quinta Moinho das Almas at Bellalua (Imp Prt)

Best Short Coat in Show: 16 Moon River da Ponta da Pinta (Imp Prt) (Naf Araf)



A big thank you goes to the shows official photographer Kelly Louise Bailey for the fantastic photographs she took of all the participants and their dogs. If you would like any photos from the show please visit Kelly L Bailey Photography to order your copies .

Summer Dangers

Calling all dog owners

If you'd rather avoid a trip to one of our out-of-hours pet emergency clinics or 24/7 hospitals this summer then beware of these:

15 summer dangers that could make your dog ill

OUT AND ABOUT

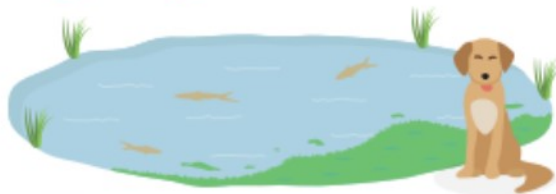
1.



Hot Weather

Danger: Exercising your dog too much or leaving them in the car, conservatory or an enclosed space after a sudden rise in temperature can lead to potentially fatal heat stroke.

How to avoid: Never walk your dog during the hottest parts of the day, and never leave them in a confined space for any length of time.



3.

Blue-Green Algae

Danger: This bacteria forms on top of lakes and ponds but often can't be seen with the naked eye. It's most common during warm, dry spells. Even swallowing a few mouthfuls can be fatal.

How to avoid: Don't let your dog near water that may contain blue-green algae as the wind often blows blooms to the edges.



2.



Pavements and Roads

Danger: Studies show asphalt can reach temperatures of 52°C (125°F) on warm days. This is enough to severely burn a dog's paws within a matter of minutes.

How to avoid: Place the back of your hand on the surface for seven seconds and if you struggle to hold it down, it's too hot to walk your dog.



4.

Toads



Danger: Dogs who come across toads will often try to lick, bite or pick them up. Toads respond by releasing poisonous venom from glands on their skin. This can be lethal if not treated immediately.

How to avoid: If you live in area where toads are common keep a close eye on potential water sources for your dog as there may be toads living in them.



Summer Dangers

AT THE SEASIDE



5.

Sand

Danger: Dogs often ingest sand by accident through digging or repeatedly picking up sandy balls and toys. It can cause a blockage in the intestine, which is called sand impaction.

How to avoid: Limit games of fetch on the beach and make sure you have plenty of fresh water on hand to keep your dog hydrated.

4/5
High rating

1/5
Lowest rating



6.

Palm Oil

Danger: Palm oil is often washed up on the shoreline in solid nuggets and can cause vomiting and diarrhea when swallowed. This may lead to dehydration and possibly even pancreatitis.

How to avoid: If you see your dog eating a hard, white, chalky substance that smells a little like diesel, stop them immediately.

4/5
High rating

1/5
Lowest rating



7.

Salt Water

Danger: Dog who swim in the sea may inadvertently drink a lot of salt water. This can cause vomiting and, in more serious cases, fits, kidney failure and even death.

How to avoid: If at the beach, limit how long you allow your dog to swim and make sure you have plenty of fresh water on hand to give them afterwards.

4/5
High rating

2/5
Lowest rating



8.

Fish Hooks

Danger: Dogs are often tempted to swallow the shiny lure and tasty bait that's attached to fish hooks. But these can cause nasty injuries if embedded in the mouth, stomach or paws.

How to avoid: Fish hooks are often discarded by inconsiderate fishermen so be on your guard in areas where fishing is popular.

2/5
High rating

3/5
Lowest rating



IN THE GARDEN



9.

Plants and Flowers

Danger: Several flowers and plants that are popular in the summer are potentially toxic to dogs, including poppies, dandelion, peony, foxglove, geranium, chrysanthemum, oleander and yew.

How to avoid: If you're not sure whether your plants are safe, keep a close eye on your dog in the garden and around house plants.

2/5
High rating

3/5
Lowest rating



10.

Slug and Snail Pellets

Danger: Tiny pellets used to control slugs and snails can cause severe poisoning in dogs within an hour of being swallowed.

How to avoid: Avoid any products containing a substance called metaldehyde and scatter any pellets you do use sparingly.

4/5
High rating

2/5
Lowest rating



11.

Barbecues

Danger: In the summer, barbecue-related incidents — such as swallowing kebab skewers, eating cooked bones, food poisoning, and burn injuries — account for a surprisingly large number of admissions to our clinics.

How to avoid: Always keep raw and cooked barbecue food out of reach and make sure your dog is under supervision once the barbecue has been lit.

4/5
High rating

3/5
Lowest rating



12.

Compost and Cocoa Mulch

Danger: Used to fertilise gardens, these are both potentially lethal for dogs. Compost is full of highly toxic mould while cocoa mulch contains poisonous theobromine.

How to avoid: Make sure compost bins are kept well out of reach and only ever use cocoa mulch sparingly, if at all.

5/5
High rating

3/5
Lowest rating



Summer Dangers

COMMON POISONS

13.

Ant Killer

Danger: Like slug and snail pellets, ant powders, baits and gels can contain chemicals that are highly toxic to dogs.

How to avoid: If the label states the product is toxic to animals, avoid, and opt for a pet-friendly insecticide instead.



5/5
Risk rating

4/5
Lethal dose rating

14.

Rat Poison

Danger: Rodenticide is designed to taste nice to rats but, unfortunately, dogs like it for the same reason. Some types can cause severe internal bleeding as well as vomiting, fits and changes in body temperature.

How to avoid: If you have a serious vermin problem, opt for a pet-friendly option to get rid of it.



3/5
Risk rating

1/5
Lethal dose rating



15.

Weed Killer

Danger: Many of the herbicides gardeners use to kill weeds and unwanted plants are dangerous if swallowed, licked or even brushed against.

How to avoid: Read the instructions carefully and don't use if there's a potential risk.

4/5
Risk rating

3/5
Lethal dose rating



RISK RATINGS EXPLAINED

- 5 Monitor your dog carefully and if you suspect a change in condition seek advice from your vet or, out of hours, contact your nearest [Vets Now pet emergency clinic](#) or [Vets Now 24/7 hospital](#)
- 4 If you suspect your dog has consumed any of the items listed seek urgent advice from your vet or, out of hours, contact your nearest [Vets Now pet emergency clinic](#) or [Vets Now 24/7 hospital](#)
- 3 Contact your vet immediately or, out of hours, call your nearest [Vets Now pet emergency clinic](#) or [Vets Now 24/7 hospital](#) as your dog may require urgent emergency treatment

WHY DO SOME DOGS EAT ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING?

- They are natural scavengers
- They explore with their mouths
- Like humans, they eat when they're bored
- They may have a medical condition such as diabetes
- Constant begging may be a learned behaviour
- They may not be getting enough nutritious dog food
- For dental reasons like teething

Your pet emergency service
[vets-now.com/summer](https://www.vets-now.com/summer)

Vets Now



Heat Stroke In Dogs

Heat Stroke Kills Dogs

Every year our emergency vets treat hundreds of heat stroke cases and, heartbreakingly, some end in tragedy. Many are a result of owners exercising their dogs between 8am and 8pm when temperatures can be at their peak.

Heat-related illnesses are almost always preventable, but it's critical to know when dogs are at risk. Our handy guide shows when it's safe for your dog outside.



OUTDOOR TEMPERATURE

32+°C

Heat stroke is a major risk regardless of condition, size or breed.



28-31°C

Dangerous for all, but life-threatening for larger breeds and puppies as well as dogs who are flat-faced or obese.



24-27°C

Extreme caution should be taken as most dogs, particularly those who are large, obese, flat-faced and very young, will find these temperatures very uncomfortable.



20-23°C

Even at this temperature dogs are at risk of getting heat stroke if exercised too rigorously, or suffering from an underlying condition such as obesity or breathing difficulties.



16-19°C

Generally safe to exercise dogs at all times of day, although keep a close eye on large, obese and flat-faced breeds.



12-15°C

No evidence of heat stroke risk so enjoy your walk.



Be prepared this summer.
Save your pet emergency
service number now.
vets-now.com/summer

Vetsnow

Your pet emergency

The Club and how to get involved

Present committee Members 2021

President: Carla Molinari (Portugal)

Club Patron: Jeronimo Augusto (Portugal)

Chairman: Peter Edwards

Secretary: Camille Lambert

Treasurer: Ana Rita Vidal

Committee:

Marcia Dovey

Gill Douglas

Nichola Marshall

Kelly Bailey

Rebecca Roberts

Other positions:

Rescue: Peter Edwards working alongside Estela Mountain Dog Welfare & Rescue

Puppy Co-ordinator: Rebecca Roberts

Short-Coat Co-ordinator: Gill Douglas

Health Co-ordinator: Nichola Marshall

Newsletter: Ana Rita Vidal (contact: anaritauk@hotmail.co.uk)

Club Shop: Marcia Dovey

Webmaster: Kelly Bailey

You are welcome to contact us at any time if you would like to be more involved with the club.

Any help is very much appreciated.

We also want you to feel you can contribute to the newsletters with stories, experiences, photos, articles etc.

We want to hear from you :)

