

AYLESTONE BULLDOGUE ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER- Volume 4 ISSUE 3

NEWSLETTER 27: EASTER 2013

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Happy Easter to all our members. Our good wishes to all members celebrating Pesach, Baisakhi, Holi

Editorial

The weather has taken a turn for the worse, although perhaps it's not as unseasonable as we think!

The March wind doth blow

And we shall have snow!

While it's cold special thought needs to be given to dogs who are living outside. They need warm, dry bedding. Straw is good – though messy – but a good dog bed with a dog blanket and perhaps some carpet underneath will do the job as well. Check every day to make sure everything is dry.

Committee News

Quite often the Association is asked to name puppies. This is always a pleasant job – as is seeing the super names people choose themselves. Up till now names have been given with no explanation. It was decided to try out explaining names to breeders to see if there was any interest.

Three litters were chosen and the response was positive, so it has been decided that, in the future, the Association will explain the way the puppies' names have been chosen give the meanings.

We have come across ovulation pads – information from A. Thoms – and are going to investigate these. They sound very useful.

Projected and Completed Matings

C-Jay Cassidy mated with White Zinnia, and with Lily. Vincent Van Gogh mated with Swanningon Blythe Lady. Pups are all due in May.

A. Thoms has mated Hightower Dogmatica with Rainbow Gi Gi' Romantic Romeo (finally Romeo got romantic with the help of ovulation pads. Congratulations!)

New Pup News

Dave Caton has pups with Glorious Robert's Marianne and Beltane Chase MacKenzie, born on 16th January. Mr and Mrs Charlton have pups with Bell's Blaze of Fire and Footwise Sir Bobby, born 17th January. Mr O'Toole has pups with Seal's Boadicea and O'Toole's Mighty Thor, born 6th January. Ms Green has Pups with Forever Roxy and Drumlord the Beggar's Boy, born 26th January. Just born this week, pups to Nick Widdow and Estelle Keeber. Most of these pups are to be found on the Aylestone Owners Facebook page.

Health and Behaviour

1, First, two warnings

It has come to our notice that onions should never be given to dogs – this includes the skin. Tea - and teabags - has just been found to be harmful as well and should also not be given.

2. False Pregnancy

Bitches have an oestrus cycle which includes false pregnancy. Sometimes this false pregnancy continues for weeks with all the symptoms of a true pregnancy and this can take place after a successful mating. The bitch can show all the signs of being pregnant, making a nest, producing milk, looking pregnant, perhaps even going into labour. Some also adopt toys as pups - and get very upset if they are taken away! After mating the bitch's hormones tell her body she is pregnant even if she is not. The pregnancy hormone progesterone is produced by the corpus luteum, structures at the top of each uterus horn, when the eggs are released. If those eggs are fertilized then the bitch will be pregnant. However, fertilization does not necessarily occur when a mating takes place. In that case the other pregnancy hormones are not released and the bitch goes back into her normal state. However, whether or not the bitch is pregnant, the corpus luteum is producing progesterone for 63 to 70 days and some bitches have a very sensitive reaction to hormonal changes during the oestrus cycle. These bitches will appear pregnant because of the continuing slow release of progesterone even if they are not. Diagnosis of a false pregnancy has to be by physical examination, a blood test will not show it. The possibility of false pregnancy is one of the indicators for a scan at six weeks.

Note, false pregnancy should not be confused with a pregnancy that has been absorbed when pups are known, because of a scan, to have been

present. There are no pups in a false pregnancy, it is purely hormonal. (A phantom pregnancy can be explained as a false pregnancy that has been a continuation of the bitch's cycle which did not include a mating – she is simply sensitive to her hormonal changes.)

More information can be found on this website:
http://www.marvistavet.com/html/body_canine_false_pregnancy.html

3. Cruciate Ligament problems

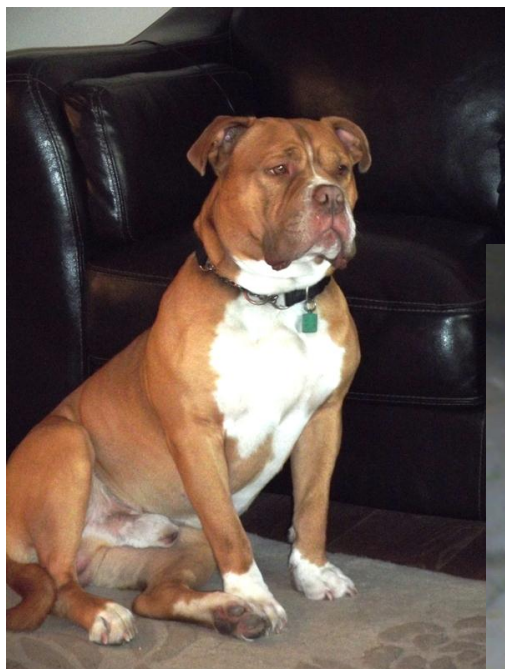
Just a reminder that large dogs such as Labradors, Boxers and Bulldogs can get this condition, which makes them limp. Keeping an eye on weight gain can help prevent it.



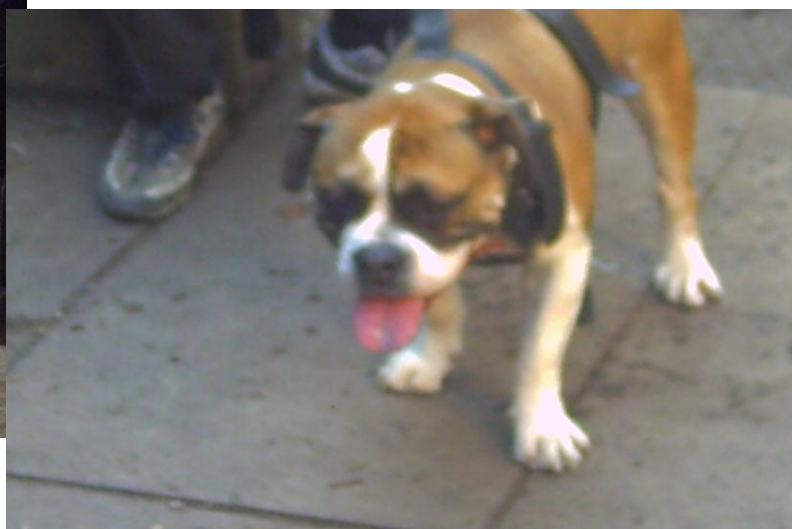
4. Easter Eggs

Chocolate is really bad for dogs. It can make them hyperactive and also sick. Pet shops sell **carob eggs** for dogs, which can be given as an Easter treat if you must!

Meet the Aylestones



This is **Bobby White Socks of Aylestone**, from the Granger line. His parents are A. Commodore Hornblower and A. Zeta Maria.



Vincent Van Gogh, who has just mated with **Swannington Blythe Lady**. Great hopes for some superb pups here.

Poems for Spring (when it comes!)

Spring is Sprung

Now Spring is springing
It's time for a run.
All bulldogs jump together!

Weed

The new grass is green,
The flowers are seen,
But not where my bullie's weed!

Email News

Happy Birthday to Kevin Miller's Champlagne Charlie, who is six.



Champagne Charlie is the pup of Legendary Warrior at Aylestone (the late Custer – Charlie is the same lovely colour) and A. Royal Duchess O'Kay.

Call for pictures

The Association always likes to get pictures, which can go up on the Internet or into the Newsletter. Pups, bitches, dogs, all are welcome!

Endpiece

Happy Easter. Newsletters come by email – cannot do egg-post! _A phone call or letter activates newsletters via the postbox.



