

**The AYLESTONE BULLDOGUE**  
**ASSOCIATION**  
**NEWSLETTER- Volume 4 – ISSUE 7**  
**NEWSLETTER 31**  
**EASTER 2014**

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**A very happy Easter to everyone. Best wishes also to members  
celebrating Pesach and Baisakhi**



**Editorial**

Glitch at Christmas! The Volume, Issue and Newsletter number were missed off! Gremlins! The Christmas Newsletter was No. 30, and the 6<sup>th</sup> issue of Volume 4.

Weather is getting warmer – not at Easter though, it seems – and so dogs will need to have cooler places to sit and water always on hand as the heat increases.

**Committee News**

**The website**

The website is now up and running but could do with lots of pictures of Aylestones. It is possible to become a member and upload photos. Sadly all the photos from the Members' Pages have disappeared into the ether! Meanwhile, this is what the webmaster said happened to the website:

**The Website Hamsters**

The hamsters running Aylestone Bulldog  
Had a swig of beer  
It was homebrewed by Jim the dogman  
And it filled them full with fear.

Later, struck by lightning in its shed,  
The website all fell down.  
Lucky 'twas those hamsters had sped  
All of them to town!

## **Alison Norman's accident in December**

Alison Norman has mostly recovered from the horrific accident just before Christmas. She is still having physiotherapy, however.

## **Stories and Poems for Christmas 2014**

Secretary Jenny Clarke is preparing a book of poems about dogs and other animals to be called Noah's Ark. It will contain the poems published here in the newsletter plus many others and will be illustrated with pictures of Aylestones as well as other creatures. She is also compiling stories from the newsletters, along with several others she has written, in a volume called Dogs and Other Animals. Both will be published on Amazon and Amazon Kindle in time for Christmas – this is just advance warning!



## **News**

Honesty Honeydew, who lived in Aylestone, sadly died in November 2013; she was eleven. She had had an eventful life healthwise, since at two she ate some sticks and had to have a third of her bowel removed. This led to Vitamin B12 deficiency which was very dangerous and she lost weight, dropping to 27 kg (that's about 50 pounds). At nine she had to be spayed for the second time as an ovary had grown back – this seems to have been a result of the treatment for vitamin deficiency. But she had a long and happy life notwithstanding, and is much missed. Bullseye was her father and her mother was A. Royal Wyoming.

## **The Rockhill Project**

This is going well, with a new litter of pups just born to Moonlight Becomes Her. There are also three juvenile dogs, and six juvenile bitches with a wide genetic spread, for the next stage in the project. Moonlight's puppies will be available in about five weeks.

## **New Pup News**

Mandy Connor had pups with Forever Ambergirl and Bam Bam's Peak in Dorian, Jamie Curzon had pups with The Smiling Duchess and Thaibull of Aylestone. Jim Clarke had pups with Bright White Zinnia and C-Jay Cassidy, and Madam Medusa and C-Jay Cassidy. He also has litter of

Rockhills, with Rockhill at Aylestone's Moonlight Becomes Her. There are five bitches and only one dog. Stephanie Schofield has three pups with Diamond of Aylestone and Bouncy Boy Bifter. Jamie Curzon still has pups looking for homes and can be found on Facebook.

## **Matings**

Oona Jonquil of the Sylphs has been mated with C-Jay Cassidy.



## **Health and Behaviour**

### **1. Stress**

Stress can be caused by many things. Perhaps a move to a new home is the cause, and event which is stressful enough for us and we know what is going on, so imagine how strange and upsetting for your dog. Other, more short term, causes can be anxiety about going in a car, going on holiday and loud noises (fireworks always spring to mind), or just visiting the vet. Chewing can be one symptom, but even more seriously your dog may stop playing, become nervous – which can lead to aggression towards other dogs or even people – and may hide. Shaking and restless pacing are also signs of stress.

A good owner tries always to minimise stress. For instance, if a visit must be made to the vet then be with your dog whatever is happening. Do not leave because you find something distressing, for your dog needs you to help him or her accept and cope with what is happening. With house moves a strict maintenance of routine will help as well as placing things like beds, food bowls and toys in familiar-ish places, for instance in the new kitchen in a similar place (if possible) to the old. For car journeys and holidays it is possible to get tranquilisers from your vet which will help your dog by producing a calming atmosphere either through medication of your dog or of the environment. Several preparations are on the market, such as Feliway and Adaptil, both of which use pheromones to calm an animal. Your vet will know which is best for your dog.

### **2. Chewing at nine months**

Chewing from stress should not be confused with chewing because of jaw ache from what everyone calls 'the head splitting' at nine months. This is when a bulldog's cheek bones become more prominent and his or her jaw comes more forward. For about three weeks they have an ache in their

jaw and like to make it feel better by chewing anything: the new sofa, the telephone wire, the table legs – you know! Give them lots of things to chew, toys made of rope, hide chews, pigs' ears, cereal chews. But don't give bones because of splinters and this advice goes for the big artificial bones too, which sometimes split unpredictably. Apart from that anything goes and it's better if it's a toy and not the furniture!

### **3. Easter Foods**

Dogs enjoy things like chocolate and dried fruit but they are really bad for them. Easter is full of both: Easter Eggs, Chocolate Bunnies, Simnel Cake, Hot Cross Buns, those chocolate bars with marzipan in them (!!), the list is almost endless. But chocolate can cause over excitement and dried fruit in particular can do serious injury to their systems and even kill.



So do not give them these or any of these and have a happy, healthy dog for Easter!

### **Poem**

#### **An Aylestone on Easter Monday**

The Easter Eggs roll down the hill,  
Chase them all, say I!  
They tumble, scumble, roll and rumble  
Like a ball. Oh my!  
But crunch them in your teeth – oh, boy!  
Then you get a high!  
And my owner gives a sigh.



#### **Meet the Aylestones**

One of Stephanie Schofield's pups.

#### **Endpiece**

Happy Easter! Remember newsletters come by email. Snail Mail require a phone call to 0116 2442313.