

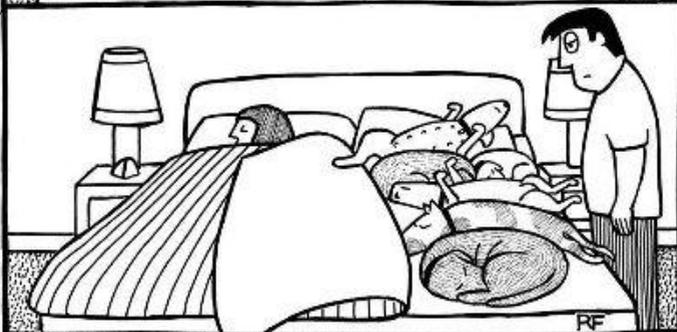
# SCRAPS

SPRING 2013

Official Newsletter of the Western Province Boxer Club

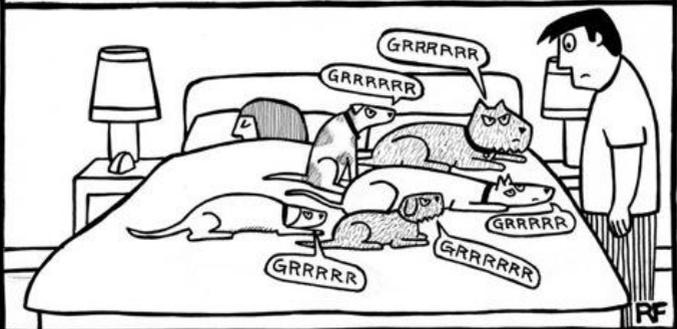


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Submitted by Jennifer Neish



## From the Editor

Hello Everyone,

Sadly the flood of Boxers for which Boxer Rescue had to help find new homes did not abate at all since the previous issue of SCRAPS and several more, many of them old dogs, had to be rehomed. It is not easy to find new owners for a dog of 8, 9 and even 11 years old, but amazingly Michelle, with the help of the "Boxer Rescue WP" website and her network of compassionate people, worked their magic and some of these old-timers did finally find kind-hearted, loving new families to spend their final years with. Still looking for others...

Most of these Boxers are not true "rescues" - they just need new homes because of a variety of reasons - illness, divorce, re-trenchments and so on - forcing their owners to move to old age homes, flats or other places where dogs are not welcome. However, we are sometimes made aware of Boxers who had been subjected to horrific abuse. Joe, whose owner had simply stopped feeding him, is one of these. He crept very deeply into the hearts of the WPBC members, who responded with overwhelming generosity to an appeal for assistance. You will find his story with its very happy ending on page 12.

In the previous issue we brought you news of Lucy Young, her beautiful Boxer *Ch Chiswick Grand Design* (Keston) and their achievements at the KUSA Nationals in June this year. Only about two weeks after this event the Youngs lost their lovely bitch *Ch Chiswick French Spice* (Kendal) after a caesarean gone wrong and soon after that they learnt that Keston had lymphoma. The chemotherapy he received could not halt this aggressive disease and Keston died on September 4th. Our thoughts are with Sally, Lucy, Mark and William as they battle to come to terms with these cruel blows.

Marlien Heystek, Editor

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# WHO'S WHO

## 2013 / 2014 WPBC COMMITTEE



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Noeleen Billingham	Auditor	e-mail: <a href="mailto:noeleen.billingham@gmail.com">noeleen.billingham@gmail.com</a>



# WHAT'S ON?

## calendar of events

DATE	CLUB	TYPE	EVENTS	CONTACT
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
15 <sup>th</sup>	Breede Rivier KC	Open	BR,HCL,DJ,AG,FLY	021 904 3454
22 <sup>nd</sup>	W P Boxer Club	Club	Breed Assessment	071 138 4385
29 <sup>th</sup>	W P Boxer Club	Club	Annual Walk & Brunch	071 138 4385
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
6 <sup>th</sup>	W P Boxer Club	CH	OB,DJ,AG,FLY,CGC	071 138 4385
19 <sup>th</sup>	Breede Rivier KC	CH	BR,HCL,DJ,AG,FLY	021 904 3454
19 <sup>th</sup>	W P Boxer Club	CH	BR	071 138 4385
20 <sup>th</sup>	Cape Town KC	CH	BR, HCL	021 447 7654
25 <sup>th</sup>	Working & Herding Cape	CH	BR,OB,DJ,AG,FLY	021 865 2691
26 <sup>th</sup>	Hottentots Holland KC	CH	BR, HCL	082 521 4374
27 <sup>th</sup>	Western Province KC	CH	BR, HCL	083 925 4350
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
9 <sup>th</sup>	Boxer Club Gold Reef	CH	BR	082 749 3275
<b>DECEMBER</b>				
1 <sup>st</sup>	Kennel Association	Open		021 715 9758



### INVITATION TO MEMBERS

Please join us at Canon Creek Independent School, cnr Nursery Way & Princess Path, Pinelands for Puppy Socialization and Ringcraft Get Togethers - normally first Sunday every month, but please contact Fay Roberts at 071 138 4385 for dates and times

CONSULT OUR WEBSITE <http://www.wpbc.co.za> or <http://www.showdogs.co.za> for schedules of events



# WESTERN PROVINCE BOXER CLUB

Affiliated to the Kennel Union of Southern Africa

## 1<sup>st</sup> CHAMPIONSHIP DISCIPLINES SHOW

<b>VENUE:</b>	CANON CREEK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL off PRINCESS PATH, NURSERY WAY, PINELANDS
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>SUNDAY 6<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2013</b> Commencing at 07h30
<b>ENQUIRIES:</b>	Mrs. Fay Roberts Cell 071 138-4385 Home 021 553-2544 Fax 086 568-4530 email <a href="mailto:info@wpbc.co.za">info@wpbc.co.za</a> 26 Edward Crescent Duynfontein 7441

### RUN UP TO THE WORLD AGILITY AND DOG JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN JHB

<b>POST FAX Email — ENTRIES CLOSE 20th September 2013</b>	<b>ENTRY FEES:</b>
Qualifying Classes: (Obedience C) (DJ 1,3,5) (Agility Grade 3)	R 90.00 per dog
Non-Qualifying classes: Dog jumping, Agility	R 45.00 per dog
Same dog entered in other disciplines	R 30.00
Canine Good Citizen - Bronze, Silver, Gold	R 75.00
Flyball – Teams	R125.00 per team
If a dog is entered in another discipline	FREE
Catalogue ordered with entry only	R25.00

Bank details: **NEDBANK** - Account Name: **W P BOXER CLUB** - Branch: **MILNERTON**  
Account Number: **1093047224** Branch Number: **109-309**

**DO NOT STAPLE CHEQUES TO ENTRY FORM — NO POSTAL ORDERS**

**Cash Deposits: add on R20.00 bank charges. Faxed Entries** only accepted if LEGIBLE, with proof of payment with exhibitors name PRINTED CLEARLY on the deposit slip.

Notes	Judges	Times and classes
Flyball: Names, Managers & Reserves to be stated on correct entry form.	Mrs. Z. Dixon	07h30 – Flyball Teams
	Mr. A. Bradley	08h30 - Dog Jumping-All Grades.
	Mr. M. Taylor	08h30 - Agility All Grades C & NC
Obedience- Order of judging: Class A to follow after Class B	Mr. T. Van der Vyver	09h00 – Beginners/ Novice Class
	Mr. R. Koning	09h00 – Class A & Class B
	Mrs. D. Powell	09h00 – Class C
Canine Good Citizen Tests	Mrs. J. Twell	10h00 – Bronze (after Flyball)
	Mrs. D. Hall	10h00 – Silver
	Mrs. M. Ott-Park	10h00 – Gold

**BITCHES IN SEASON PERMITTED IN AGILITY DISCIPLINE**

**RIGHT OF ADMISSION RESERVED**

All Exhibitors/Handlers are personally responsible for the control of their dogs at all times and shall be personally liable for any claims which may be made in respect of injuries which may arise or be caused by their dogs. All Exhibits must be on leads at all times unless otherwise instructed by a Judge

**SPONSORED BY**



# PET-FRIENDLY ACCOMMODATION



Cape Town – South Africa



## Viola & Owl Cottages

### **BLOUBERGRANT/TABLE VIEW, CAPE TOWN**

Two tastefully furnished and equipped Pet Friendly/Safe Cottages situated in a quiet residential area just 5 mins from the beach overlooking Table Mountain and Robben Island. Close to all amenities.

Each Cottage has its own private, high walled garden with braai, table, chairs, loungers – 100% secure for pets.

Interaction between visiting dogs impossible.

Gated access to Pool for owners' peace of mind.

Secure off road parking for vehicles and trailers.

Bedding and towels provided and changed during stay.

There is a Veterinary Clinic at the bottom of the road.

For further information and photographs, please take a look at our website:

**[www.violacottage.co.za](http://www.violacottage.co.za)**

and see for yourself the many complimentary comments from previous guests.

*If it's good enough for Buddy the Toyota Boxer,  
then it's good enough for you!*



Contact Helen on 021 557 2899 or 082 698 1244  
email: [helen@violacottage.co.za](mailto:helen@violacottage.co.za)



# LIST OF RECOMMENDED PUPPY SCHOOLS AND TRAINING CENTRES

Cape Handlers Dog Club, Theo Marais Park, Koeberg Road, Milnerton  
Sunday mornings (ring 021 811 6933 Sunday am only) [www.chdc.co.za](http://www.chdc.co.za)

Cape Province Dog Club, Saturday mornings  
Ring Julie 082 376 7367 [www.capeprovincedogclub.co.za](http://www.capeprovincedogclub.co.za)

Mrs M Spronson, St Francis Vet., Main Road, Diep River  
083 357 4080

Mr Jan Buchner, Wynberg Military Camp, Victoria Hill, Wynberg  
083 442 4940

Mr Jan Meyer, Sun Valley Shopping Centre, Sun Valley  
021 786 1165

Roses Puppy School, Gordonsbay/Somerset West, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday. 082 553 0747 [www.friendsofthedog.co.za](http://www.friendsofthedog.co.za)

There is also a list of 18 other recommended puppy schools in various centres in the Western Cape on this website.

Tygerberg Animal Hospital Puppy Socialisation, Karen Forsdick  
021 919 1191

Dog Dynamix Centre for puppy/training, Brommersvlei Road, Constantia,  
(on the Riding for the Disabled property)  
072 797 9533 [www.dogdynamics.co.za](http://www.dogdynamics.co.za)

SUPER PUPS is an independent certification programme for puppy trainers, with a comprehensive on-going education programme exclusively for certified members. Super Pup recognizes skills and knowledge and promotes this to the public. Read more on [www.superpup.co.za](http://www.superpup.co.za)

Nicole Alers, Newlands, 074 189 2824, [animalantics@olive.com](mailto:animalantics@olive.com)

Louise Botha, Hermanus, 083 264 2912, [info@caninecapers.co.za](mailto:info@caninecapers.co.za)

Gill Painter, Stellenbosch/Joostenbergvlakte,  
072 464 0404, [gillpainter@mweb.co.za](mailto:gillpainter@mweb.co.za)

# WESTERN PROVINCE BOXER CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

Affiliated to the Kennel Union of Southern Africa  
Held under the rules and regulations of the Kennel Union of Southern Africa

DATE: SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup>. OCTOBER 2013  
VENUE: Jagtershof (Kuilrivier Rugby Club) Kuilrivier, Cape Town  
ENTRIES CLOSE: 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2013  
ENTRY FEE: R 90.00 per dog for the first 3 dogs (SAME OWNER) Any further dogs are free.  
Baby Puppy, Neutered Dog R30.00  
CATALOGUE: R15.00 Advertising in Catalogue (FULL COLOUR): R50.00 per A5 page  
TIME : Judging starts after Breede Rivier Boxers. Not before 10h00  
BANKING DETAILS: Nedbank- Milnerton Branch No 109-309  
Account No 1093047224 - W P Boxer Club  
No postal orders or post dated cheques Add on R20 for cash deposits.  
ENTRIES: Postal / Faxed entries with proof of payment to  
Mrs F. Roberts 26 Edward Crescent, Duynfontein, 7441.  
Tel: 071 138 4385. Fax: 086 568 4530 Email: info@wpbc.co.za  
KUSA REPRESENTATIVE: Mr. G. Bidder SHOW MANAGER: Mr. K. Hull  
VET ON CALL: Tygerberg Animal Hospital

JUDGE: **Mrs. Doreen Powell (SA)**

RING STEWARD: Mrs. R. Bateman  
BREED Baby puppy (4-6 months) not eligible for CC, BOB, BEST PUPPY  
CLASSES: Minor Puppy (6 to 9 months) Puppy (9 to 12 months)  
Junior (12 to 18 months) Graduate (18 to 24 months)  
S A Bred, Veterans, Open, Champions, Owner Bred  
Neutered dog (any dog castrated) not eligible for CC or BOB  
Working class 15 mths & over. Qualified Class A/ CD / IPO1/ TT2/ ITT2  
(Attach qualification)

MEMBERSHIP FOR 2013 & 2014 R70.00 - Single R85.00 - Family

All Exhibitors/Handlers are personally responsible for the control of their dogs at all times and shall be personally liable for any claims which may be made in respect of injuries which may arise or be caused by their dogs. All Exhibits must be on leads at all times unless otherwise instructed by a Judge. Please do not put gazebo/umbrella stakes into grounds near any irrigation system. Do not drive on field.

**RIGHT OF ADMISSION RESERVED**

**SPONSORED BY**



## CATALOGUE

Advertising material for catalogue with proof of payment to:  
Marlien Heystek, P O Box 86, Moorreesburg, 7310  
Fax: 086 245 0624 Tel: 083 717 4120  
Email: jakkalsdans@telkomsa.net

CLOSING DATE: 1st October 2013

*Invitation:*

## **ANNUAL WALK AND BRUNCH MELKBOSSTRAND**



**SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013.**

Meet at 10.00 (for walk to start at 10.15) at the Sout River Bridge Car Park, Van Riebeeckstrand, Otto du Plessis Drive, Melkbosstrand (just before Ou Skip Caravan Park).

Access onto the beach from the car park is easy and the beach sand is firm and flat for easy walking. Dogs to be on leads please.

Walk to be followed at 11.00 at Fay and Mike's home, which is a 5 minutes' drive away. Directions will be sent to those who indicate that they will be attending.

**NON WALKERS WELCOME!**

Club will provide champagne, orange juice, coffee, tea and skottels. Please bring eggs, bacon, sausages or whatever else you want to cook, cool drinks, your own cooking utensils, cutlery, crockery, chairs, water bowls, crates and shade. If you have a skottel, please bring it along.

**WE HAD A FEW REQUESTS FOR THIS TYPE OF GET-TOGETHER FROM OUR MEMBERS, SO WE HOPE FOR A GOOD TURN OUT ON THE DAY.**

Please let Fay know by 23<sup>rd</sup> September if you are going to attend.  
Cell: 071 138 4385

# MIRACLES DO HAPPEN...

## The chronicles of **JOE**, a rescue Boxer

At the end of July this year, Ace, a kennel hand who works at Membury Kennels, told his employer Danielle Fricke about a severely emaciated Boxer he had seen in Wesbank. When he questioned the "owner" he was told that he could not feed the dog because he had no money and that he was going "to tell the children to kill it". The worker phoned Danielle, who contacted Watershed Rescue, who then got the Animal Anti-Cruelty League in Bellville involved.



On July 31, Michelle (Boxer Rescue), received the following e-mail from Alma of the Animal Anti Cruelty League:

*Hi there,*

*This is Joe. We were made aware of him by Watershed Rescue and our inspector went to rescue him today.*

*He tested negative for distemper but at this stage it is all touch and go as he is severely emaciated and ill. We are doing our best to save him. No telling what his personality is like at this stage as he is still too ill. Keep him in your thoughts.*

Initially after Joe's rescue his faeces consisted almost entirely of stones, which AACL assumed he had been eating to try and keep alive.

Michelle and Monique visited Joe on August 1, taking him some Raw Gold food which Monique had donated. On the positive side, he was eating well, but generally he was very lethargic and just slept between meals. It was agreed by the WPBC committee that money would be donated from WPBC's rescue fund to help with Joe's food and veterinary expenses, such as blood tests which AACL could not afford as they were struggling financially. Michelle received the following e-mail from AACL when she asked what WPBC could do to help Joe specifically, as we did not want to donate money that would just be absorbed into general welfare funds:

*Many thanks for coming to see Joe today and a special thanks to Monique for supplying the great food, he loves it. He had at least 6 good small meals today. Before I left at 2pm I took him a meal and he was waiting for me at the gate. All good signs he will make a full recovery.*

*Yes, your members are right, I will have no control over the money - it all goes into one account. If people can contribute to this special food that would be great. If we need blood tests done maybe we can ask you to pay or you can give me the money and I will pay and give you a copy of the bill to show your members it was for him. Nice jackets would be great as they get quite dirty in the kennels. A nice fluffy blanket would be*



*great, maybe a plastic bed for him to curl up in? Nice treats for when he can start having them again. If we find that we need something specific we will give you a call. Many thanks to you and your members.*

A "Joe Fund" was started and an appeal went out to our members and via Boxer Rescue WP's Facebook page to any other sympathetic people out there .

On August 2 Monique and Marlien paid Joe another visit, taking him a

bed and a fluffy blanket. They were really very impressed with the care the dogs receive at AAFL. Joe's sleeping area was covered in thick warm blankets. Since everything is kept spotlessly clean, they probably can't have too many blankets for the dogs. He also had a panel heater in his sleeping area. After only two days on Monique's magical food, Joe was already less lethargic and looking better than he had the day before. He polished his bowl clean while they were there and then kept checking at the gate whether someone wasn't PERHAPS going to appear with some more! The wretched desperation that showed in those eyes when he arrived had gone and the little tail was beginning to twitch just a little. He also gave them tiny tentative little licks in passing every now and then. But he still seemed to get very tired quite quickly and then curled up in his new bed for a little snooze.



The response to the appeal was overwhelming. Generous monetary contributions streamed in. Joe was visited almost daily by concerned people, all of them bearing gifts. He now had a choice of a few warm coats to wear, he had toys to play with and bones to chew, all of which had been very kindly donated. By now it was obvious that he was very friendly and had the sweetest temperament. He was soon welcoming all visitors with Boxer bends and bum waggles. He loved to cuddle up and distributed big sloppy kisses to everyone within reach. as Boxers do. No doubt by now he was associating visitors with treats!





By August 8 he was looking much better: a lot less ribby and his mange was also beginning to improve.

August 16 and it was just incredible how he had improved in just 2 weeks from an apathetic little skeleton into this bright-eyed, alert and playful boy.



Two of the many other little charmers at AACL hoping to be adopted.



On August 18 Michelle went to AACL to give Joe a bath. He did not appreciate it very much, putting on his "I am not impressed" face.

Michelle however brought back the heartwarming news that Joe had a wonderful new family: Suzanne and G (Gerhard) Holmes. They were visiting Joe, so they helped her to bath him and then took him for a walk.



They have recently lost their 11-year-old Boxer male to cancer and also have a Dobermann bitch called Gem. Their dogs sleep and live inside but during the day when they are outside they have access to a specially made kennel which has wall panel heaters to keep them warm when it's cold out.

Joe's vaccinations were brought up to date, he was microchipped and neutered on August 22.

On Saturday August 24 the great day had arrived and sweet, brave little Joe went home to his new forever family. 🐾



August 26: At home - with my Dad (above) and asleep with my new sister Gem (below).



September 1: One week at home.

E-mail received from Suzanne on September 6:

*Hi Michelle & Helen*

*Well – today is 1 day short of 2 weeks.....took these this morning of him in the sun! It's a really tough life.....*

*You can see his skin is looking amazing and you can see his white markings because instead of pink skin he has white hair ☺. Not a day goes by that his big personality in his little body doesn't give us something to smile about. We have discovered Joe is a couch potato and very unfit – so much for being my jogging partner ☺. At this stage one lap around our block is enough for him but it will all come in time (guess he is not used to exercise ☺). The mornings are his favourite – who needs an alarm when you have a Joe who knows at 7am he is allowed on the bed! He bounces up and snuggles, and snores – but doesn't move until it's breakfast time!*

*He has learnt to sit and wait for his food – until instructed to eat, so quite a clever little boy. He still shows signs of nervousness sometimes when he thinks he shouldn't do something, then he hangs his head – we've told him, in this house dogs only hold their heads up high!.....and it's his house too. His latest trick is to steal my slipper and put it in his bed (doesn't chew it or anything, just wants it with him) – how can I be angry with that?*

*Anyway – as you can see Joe is doing well and he and Gem have a great friendship forming.*

*Take care*

*Suzanne, G, Joe and Gem*



# OPEN SHOW RESULTS

## KENNEL ASSOCIATION OPEN SHOW - 14<sup>th</sup> JULY 2013 - JUDGE: ALISON BANKS

AWARD	BOXER	OWNER
BEST PUPPY PUPPY GROUP 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Stanwix Earth Wind 'n Fire (Baxter)	Stegman Family
BEST OF BREED JUNIOR GROUP 1 <sup>st</sup> WORKING GROUP 1 <sup>st</sup>	Manitoka Aphrodite (Zara)	Alice Rossouw
RESERVE BEST OF BREED	Gentry's Quantum Leap (Raffy)	Monique Hodgkinson & Marlien Heystek
BEST CHAMPION	Ch Tanyati Vaguely Familiar (Maya)	Monique Hodgkinson
BEST NEUTER NEUTER GROUP 1 <sup>st</sup>	Titanwolverine Romanhoff of Stanwix (Rogan)	Michelle Martin

## CAPE WORKING & HERDING PUPPY/JNR SHOW - 28<sup>th</sup> JULY 2013 - JUDGE: MARLIEN HEYSTEK

AWARD	BOXER	OWNER
BEST VETERAN RESERVE BEST IN SHOW	Ch Thasrite Charlize (Charlie)	Fay Roberts

## HOTTENTOTS HOLLAND OPEN SHOW - 10<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2013 - JUDGE: MRS M PIGDEN-COETZEE

AWARD	BOXER	OWNER
BEST PUPPY	Mardus Mara Gemma (Gemma)	Margot Holtrop
BEST OF BREED JUNIOR GROUP 1 <sup>st</sup> WORKING GROUP 1 <sup>st</sup>	Manitoka Aphrodite (Zara)	Alice Rossouw
BEST VETERAN RESERVE BEST IN GROUP	Ch Thasrite Charlize (Charlie)	Fay Roberts

## CAPE TOWN KENNEL CLUB OPEN SHOW - 11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2013 - NICO MEYER

AWARD	BOXER	OWNER
BEST PUPPY	Mardus Mara Gemma (Gemma)	Margot Holtrop
BEST OF BREED JUNIOR GROUP 1 <sup>st</sup> WORKING GROUP 1 <sup>st</sup>	Manitoka Aphrodite (Zara)	Alice Rossouw
BEST VETERAN RESERVE BEST IN GROUP	Ch Thasrite Charlize (Charlie)	Fay Roberts

# PET-FRIENDLY ACCOMMODATION

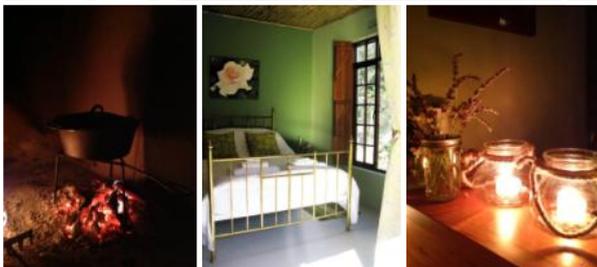
## *Wellington Western Cape*

Set on a 30ha wine and olive farm only 3km from Wellington (and about 80km from Cape Town), **La Folie green cottage** is set in a securely fenced area and provides a relaxing weekend away for you and your boxer buddies. The dramatic *Hawequa* mountain sets the scene for lovely scenic walks.

The cottage is in a secluded spot on the farm and has no electricity. It offers two bedrooms (one double bed and two single beds), a bathroom with flush toilet and hot shower, open plan kitchen and lounge with large open fireplace, covered patio and outside braai area.

Phone Anita at 072 507 7255 or email [anita@fruity.co.za](mailto:anita@fruity.co.za) for more information

Rates from R500 for two and R800 for four people per night.  
10% discount to all bookings quoting *Scraps*.



# FADING PUPPIES

Compiled by Marlien Heystek

There are not many things as gratifying to a breeder as looking down on a newly whelped litter of healthy, sleek, well-fed puppies - either suckling vigorously or sleeping peacefully - and their relaxed, contented dam.



On the other hand there can't be many things as heartbreaking and upsetting as trying to cope with newborn puppies that at first may appear healthy but then fail to thrive, won't suckle, might cry monotonously as though in pain, obviously lack vitality, lose condition and finally die in spite of all the efforts made to save them.

This is often referred to as "Fading Puppy Syndrome", although it actually describes a whole range of symptoms and not a specific disease.

There are three things healthy newborn puppies need to survive after whelping:

- Warmth
- Energy
- Water

*If a puppy gets chilled it will die. If a puppy becomes hypoglycaemic it will die. If a puppy becomes dehydrated it will die.* Those are the parameters of fading puppies.

## **COMMON CAUSES OF DEATH IN NEWBORN PUPPIES**

**Congenital developmental problems:** Puppies may die when born with defects such as a malformed heart or other abnormalities. These puppies cannot be saved. It may be possible to keep them going for a few days, but they will eventually die.

**Infections:** Herpes virus is one such infection which sometimes kills puppies. It can be prevented with proper management of the bitch and her environment. Umbilical cord infection leading to septicaemia is another cause of death in newborn puppies. Proper treatment of the cord at birth (disinfecting the severed cord with iodine immediately after birth and then twice a day until it has dried up completely), as well as keeping the bitch, the box and the puppies scrupulously clean -- will prevent this problem.

The greatest infectious risk to the puppies comes from an E. coli infection in the vagina of the bitch. We're assuming that an E. coli infection in the uterus will result in no puppies. However, if high levels of E. coli is found in a vaginal culture, the bitch must be treated before breeding and again just before whelping even if the infection is only in the vagina. In addition, puppies born to a bitch with a positive E. coli culture must be treated for 5 days after they are born with Keflex (cephalexin) pediatric suspension, beginning within a couple of hours of birth. Puppies of an infected bitch not treated in this way will often begin to die from about two to four days after birth. *If antibiotics are not begun until after puppies begin to die, typically half to all of the litter will die before the drug has a chance to become effective in the remaining puppies.*

**Lack of colostrum:** Puppies must get colostrum from the bitch within their first 12 hours of life. It is only produced by the dam for a short time after she whelps, and it can only be passed through the puppies' intestinal mucosa in the active form for the first few hours of life. A puppy therefore cannot get colostrum from another bitch with an older litter. *If a puppy doesn't get colostrum, it will be much more susceptible to infections.*

If necessary, colostrum should be expressed from the bitch's breasts and fed by dropper to each puppy eg when a litter is delivered by caesarean section. It is a good idea for breeders to freeze some of the colostrum from bitches with an ample supply of milk, to use when required, eg for orphan puppies, puppies of bitches with insufficient milk or pups born by c-section.

## **PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF "FADING PUPPIES"**

After puppies which die due to the causes discussed above (congenital defects or infections) have been excluded, puppies which are dehydrated, hypoglycaemic, or chilled are left. These are the "faders". It is often said that when a bitch rejects a puppy it is because she knows instinctively that it is

defective. A bitch is in fact unable to distinguish between a malformed puppy and one that is chilled, dehydrated or hypoglycaemic. She only knows that it isn't thriving. It is therefore unwise to decide not to try and save a puppy that had been rejected by the dam unless it has an obvious defect such as a cleft palate.

**What a fading puppy needs** is fairly simple - first determine if something else, such as an E. coli infection, needs addressing. This particular information is best obtained by your veterinarian culturing the bitch before she is bred. Then, provide the heat, calories and fluids to support the puppy for the first few days of its life.

**Remove the fading puppy** from the whelping box and put it into a small box with a heating pad or a hot water bottle covered in a thick towel. Provide different amounts of padding over the heat source at different parts of the box so the puppy may find the amount of heat most comfortable for it. Partially cover the box with a towel. The puppy must be removed because the bitch *will* allow it to get chilled when it is not as vigorous as the rest of the litter.

The best way to provide the water and energy needed, is to sub-cutaneously inject fluids under the skin on the top of the neck of the puppy. This must be done every 2 hours while the puppy is in the box. Ask your veterinarian to instruct you on how to do this safely. This is the single most essential and effective thing you can do for this puppy and **you will save nearly all of your fading puppies with this technique.** The fluid used is dextrose in saline. This means that in addition to preventing dehydration, it will provide energy - the dextrose part is sugar. With this method, you can satisfy any fluid requirements in a dehydrated puppy and you can leave a repository of fluid under its skin for the puppy to draw on for the next two hours. Do a few other things such as stimulating the pup to urinate and defecate, and you've got it managed. After about 48 hours in the box, nearly all the puppies you undertake this with will be strong enough to rejoin the litter full time.

Once the puppy is back with its dam, you should smear a drop of honey on the tongue of the puppy every few hours. About 5 minutes later, place the puppy on a nipple of the bitch to nurse. Find a good nipple, make sure there is milk there, and that other puppies aren't going to get in the way - it might be necessary to remove the rest of the puppies to a heated box while this puppy nurses. Keep the other puppies separate for as long as the weaker ones will nurse.

## HYPOTHERMIA AND HYPERTHERMIA

Hypothermia (a condition in which core body temperature drops below the required temperature for normal metabolism and body functions) is a major cause of death in newborn pups. For its first week a newborn puppy is unable to shiver or pant. It is therefore unable to regulate its own body temperature which fluctuates with the surrounding environmental temperature. During their first week of life, normal body temperature in newborn pups is 35° to 36.7° C. In the second and third week, it rises to between 36.1° and 37.8° C and by the fourth week the puppy is able to sustain the same temperature as that of an adult

(37.8° C). It becomes life threatening when the rectal temperature of a newborn puppy falls below 34° C. Hypothermia results in a decreased heart rate and circulatory collapse. In addition, hypothermic neonates do not nurse and are unable to digest food. This can rapidly cause death. Feeding should not be attempted until the rectal temperature has returned to normal. A chilled puppy should however also not be warmed too rapidly, as this could also be fatal. Using your own body heat to warm the puppy is an effective and safe way of doing it!

In order to prevent hypothermia the temperature in the whelping box should be regulated as follows:

<b>Puppy's Age</b>	<b>Room Temperature</b>
Birth to day 7	29° to 32° C
Day 8 to 14	26.5° to 29° C
Day 15 to 21	24° to 26.5° C

The room can be heated with under-floor heating, panel or oil heaters or a heat lamp (infra red lamp) can be hung over the whelping box. Whatever the source of heat, it is important to make sure that it is safe and that the puppies cannot suffer burns or overheat.

Hyperthermia (>38° C) can be as damaging as hypothermia. In South Africa with its high summer temperatures neonatal (and environmental) temperatures should therefore also be monitored and hyperthermia (overheating) prevented.



**SOURCES:**

<http://www.showdogsupersite.com/kenclub/breedvet/fading.html>  
<http://veterinarymedicine.dvm360.com/vetmed/Medicine/Causes-of-fading-puppy-and-kitten-syndrome/ArticleStandard/Article/detail/197161>  
<http://www.thepetdoctorinc.com/>  
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# BOXER RESCUE

Charlie is a 9-year-old Boxer male who needs a new home before the end of December. His owner, who currently lives in Brackenfell, is moving into an apartment in Johannesburg and can't take him with her. She is willing to pay for his food for three months.

According to his owner he is very loving, energetic and active. He is not used to interacting with other dogs, but is not aggressive - rather avoids contact when out walking. He is best friends with their cat and very good with children. He is used to being outside as well as indoors. Although he has a hernia near his anus, according to the vet consulted about it this is nothing to worry about.

If you are able to offer him a permanent home, please contact:

Samantha Savage-Reid, 084 487 9014, e-mail: [samantha.s@tfg.co.za](mailto:samantha.s@tfg.co.za)



Permanent or foster home(s) very urgently needed for Dopey (9 years old - left) and her mother Belle (11 years old - below). Their owner only had a month to find new homes for them and time is running out for these two girls as they



cannot stay at the property where they are at present after this weekend.

Please contact Lee-Anne at 082 873 4596 if you are able to help in any way.

## BOXER RESCUE

Michelle Martin 082 738 5926

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