

11/2012

DOP REHOMING PORTUGUESE DOGS

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EVENTS

November was a month as every other – dogs and cats got adopted, dogs and cats entered the shelter. We continued the usual work – the training group prepared the dogs for adoption mentally, the spa team prepared the dogs for adoption physically... Business as usual.

But November was also time for internal deworming. Deworming is very important. Most dogs get some type of worms in their intestinal track. Some worms are more harmful than others, but generally, it is when they are allowed to grow out of control that most worms present a problem. It is therefore recommended that puppies should be dewormed every 2 weeks until they are 3 months old, then every month after that until 6 months old. Adult dogs should be dewormed at least every 6 months if they have an indoor lifestyle and do not meet many other dogs or at least every 4 months if they have an outdoor lifestyle and meet many other dogs.

We deworm them every 4 months in the shelter.

One Saturday at the beginning of November a big team of volunteers got down to the task and served deworming pills to 500 dogs in the shelter. We would like to thank the volunteers that helped! This used to take one week to the staff of the Cantinho da Milu, now with our help is done in one day.

We would also like to thank sponsors that helped us and Cantinho da Milu to meet the cost of 600€ for the deworming medicine.



Christmas and New Year's Eve is coming. Do you think for your dog it means the same as for you? No, for your dog it means fireworks. And for us it means seeing lots of new ads for lost dogs on the 1st of January. And seeing more dogs killed on the

roads by cars. And receiving more dogs in the shelter all over January...

A fear of fireworks is a fairly common among dogs. They often find the loud, unpredictable noise and bright displays of light truly frightening. Dogs' hearing is much more receptive than ours - they have three times as many muscles devoted to it, and according to some sources, the range of frequencies a dog can hear is at least twice that of the range available to us. Even a seemingly confident dog can tremble and drool at the unfamiliar sounds. And if your dog comes from the shelter you don't even know how many lonely nights he spent in a dark shelter in a thunderstorm or a festive night without any moral support.

If you have made plans to go out...

* Consider putting him up at a dog hotel? A pet hotel that you know and that has safe facilities.

* Do not leave the dog alone in the garden. A scared dog can jump a fence that he had never jumped before and run blind until he completely loses himself and you may never find him. Not even talking that he can hurt himself gravely when jumping the fence.

* If worse could happen, that night make sure your dog has a collar with a telephone number on it.

* If you have been careless enough not to chip electronically your dog until now, December is the time to do it. In case you would lose him on a night full of fireworks.

* Make sure your dog is safe before leaving home: check if all doors and windows are locked. You will never forgive yourself if something happens to him.

If the comfort of your dog is more important than social commitments and if you decide to stay home with your dog, this is what you can do to make him more comfortable if he is afraid of fireworks:

* Acknowledge his fear. He is scared, comfort him.

* Some people recommend keeping your dog occupied: for example do some exercise with him but many dogs will be too scared to get involved.

* Drown out the sound of the fireworks. Try to turn up the radio or television and keep your windows closed during the fireworks.

* Allow him to hide if he feels more comfortable in his crate or under a bed. Don't pull him out or try to force him closer to the fireworks in an attempt to get him used to the sounds.

* If you go for a walk, your dog has to be on the leash. Even if normally you would him without the leash.

But if the fear is not manageable, talk to your vet about medication.

Happy holidays!



If you want to donate, there are things we always need:

- deworming tablets
- spot-on against fleas and ticks such as *Advantix* and *Frontline* and also *Advocate* for dogs with skin allergies
- collars and leashes
- dog food
- *Actidox* and *Becozyme* for treatment of tick fever and *Conofite* and *Oridermyl* for treatment of ear infections (all can be bought at the pharmacy)

GET TO KNOW... BETHOVEN!

Over 6 months ago a man appeared at the door of the shelter informing that he had dogs to give away as he was moving abroad. Otherwise he would shoot them. And he was proud of his solution, at least he would not be abandoning them, this is what he said.



So this is how a family of 6 dogs ended up in the shelter: mum, Tita (adopted!), dad (Bethoven) and their four children, one male and 3 females. The mum and the girls were fortunately rehomed but the two male dogs stayed.

We would like to bring your attention to Bethoven. He is a dog of 2 years old, very gentle but very shy with people. We don't know what he has been through in his former home but it was not a good life. He wants to trust people but he is scared of them. He needs a special home, a home where he would be loved, treated gently and was given space and patience he needs. It is very difficult to rehome a shy dog but we don't want him to spend his all life in the shelter, he is still young.

Bethoven is very gentle, he gets along with all other dogs and he is in good health.

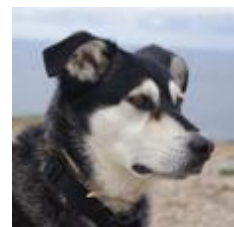
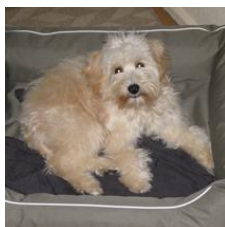
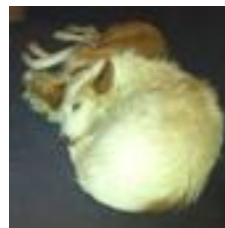
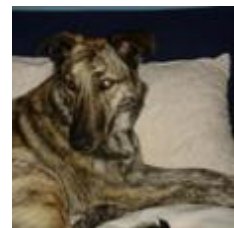
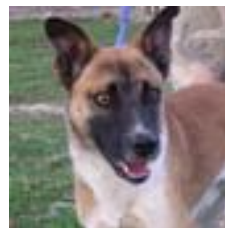


ADOPTIONS THIS MONTH

In November 2012 a total of 14 animals were adopted!

The lucky ones were: Betty, Callie, Chorão, Cuca, Igor, Keisha, Leila (now Leia), Liliane, Muffin, Peluche (now Momo), Salt and Pepper (Pêlos e Bigodes), Sheila, Sissi (now Ebby) and Suzy.

If you have adopted a dog or a cat from us, give us news!



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