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COMPANION ANIMAL NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2023

Buddy's Christmas Letter

Dear Father Christmas

I've been a very good boy this year, Dad says I've 'had my moments', but I think that's good. I love taking my family on walks and I have exercised the cat all year round. I clean up after every mealtime for everyone and clean all the dishes. I keep my family protected from all sorts of threats; balloons, postmen and squirrels.

For Christmas I would like not to have a sore tummy like I had last year when mum left that mince pie out by accident. After I had eaten it she had to take me to the vets, and they made me sick! They told me it could have made me very poorly, so it was the safest option for me but it was not the best Christmas present.

I would like mum and dad to wash my paws after my walks, the salt on the roads really stings and it would save me licking each paw after every walk. The salt makes me really thirsty and feel a bit sick but my skin can become red and sore if I don't clean it off!

Also please can you ask mum to get one of those probiotic paste things from the vet? Last year granny came and gave me a taster menu under the table, and I was up all night with trips to the garden! It takes a lot to get mum or dad up every hour but the paste really helped so it might be best to have one at home just in case, then we can all sleep.

Toys are also on my list, I do so love to play and chew! I saw a soft dinosaur toy when I was waiting for mum in the vets, I would like one of those - I've been dreaming about it. The vet said that Nylabone's are really good for me to chew on so I would like one of those too. I think I have been a good enough boy for two toys.

Please could we have some Pet Remedy plug in for the cat? He got every stressed last year with all the visitors. I love people but he hides and gets really upset so I think it will make him happier.

I promise to be good next year. I will watch the cat for you and clean all food away and greet everyone through the door and mums says I need to listen, so I will try that too.

I have left you some water in my bowl by the door if you're thirsty Father Christmas. I was going to leave you some chocolate, but mum eats it all so I can't munch it again - apparently its bad for dogs.

Thank you Father Christmas, Lots of Love Buddy XXX



May we take this opportunity to wish you a Happy and Healthy Christmas and

New Year from the whole team at Dalehead

XL Bully Ban Guidance

The government has recently added the XL Bully dog breed to the list of dogs banned under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991. This is following an increase in attacks and fatalities caused by the breed. The laws will come into force in 2 stages to help current owners adapt. From 31st December 2023 it will be against the law to:

- sell an XL Bully dog
- abandon an XL Bully dog or let it stray
- give away an XL Bully dog
- breed from an XL Bully dog
- have an XL Bully in public without a lead and muzzle

From 1st February 2024 it will be a criminal offence to own an XL Bully dog in England and Wales unless your dog has a Certificate of Exemption.

Check if your dog is an XL Bully dog

There is extensive advice and an official document defining the breed type, characteristics and objective measurements on the UK Government website. Shown in the box are images of XL Bully examples.

Want to keep your XL Bully?

If you wish to keep your XL Bully dog following the ban enforcement, you must apply for a Certificate of Exemption by 31st January 2024.

In order to get a Certificate of Exemption you must do the following:

- Get third party public liability insurance cover for your dog
- Neuter your dog permanently if it is not already neutered. A vet must confirm if your dog is already neutered and fill in the 'confirmation of neutering form' (contact the vets who neutered your dog).
- Pay the £92.40 fee for each Certificate of Exemption for each dog you want to keep
- Apply for a Certificate of Exemption at www.gov.uk online, by email, or post. You will need to provide the microchip number of your dog.

Further requirements to keep an XL Bully dog:

- Microchipped
- Kept on a lead and muzzled at all times when in public
- Kept in a secure place so it cannot escape
- Neutered
- The owner must be over 16 years old



Giving up an XL Bully dog to be euthanized

If you decide not to keep your XL Bully dog, it should be taken to a registered vet practice to be euthanized by 31st January 2024. Our friendly team at Dalehead Vets are trained to help you in these difficult circumstances and offer support and guidance if you require. The government are offering £200 compensation towards the costs of euthanasia if you apply before 15th March 2024.

Our role as Vets

As Veterinary professionals it is our responsibility to be aware of the XL Bully breed and educate owners on the ban. We are also responsible for animal welfare and providing euthanasia should an owner wish for this option. We are not expected to report XL Bully dogs and their owners to the police, it is the owner's responsibility to comply with the law.

Settle Festive Opening Times

Saturday 23rd December	9am-12pm
Sunday 24th (Christmas Eve)	CLOSED
Monday 25th (Christmas Day)	CLOSED
Tuesday 26th (Boxing Day)	CLOSED
Wednesday 27th December	8.30am-6.30pm
Thursday 28th December	8.30am-6.30pm
Friday 29th December	8.30am-5.30pm
Saturday 30th December	9am-12pm
Sunday (New Year's Eve)	CLOSED
Monday (New Year's Day)	CLOSED
2nd January	8.30am-6.30pm

Bentham Festive Opening Times

Saturday 23rd December	CLOSED
Sunday 24th (Christmas Eve)	CLOSED
Monday 25th (Christmas Day)	CLOSED
Tuesday 26th (Boxing Day)	CLOSED
Wednesday 27th December	4pm-6.00pm
Thursday 28th December	3pm-6.30pm
Friday 29th December	4pm-5.30pm
Saturday 30th December	CLOSED
Sunday (New Year's Eve)	CLOSED
Monday (New Year's Day)	CLOSED
2nd January	3pm-6.00pm

24 HOUR EMERGENCY CARE 01729 823538



Check out our website www.daleheadvetgroup.co.uk for more information about caring for your pet, special offers,

