



We put a twinkle in your eye, a smile on your face, a song in your heart, skills in your hands, so that the time with your family dog will be some of the best times of your life.

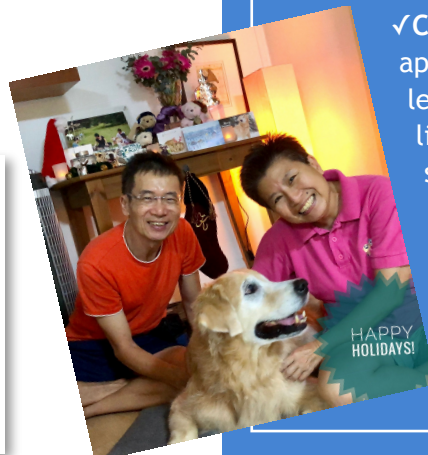
# cheerfuldogs chronicles

cheerful dogs, happy people

Issue 45

## Family Dog: Season's Greetings?

How does your dog greet the rainy season? With extra energy? Or does everything canine seem to slow down a bit? Many dogs go through subtle behaviour changes with the seasons. Cooler temperatures may bring on more energy or less, depending on the individual dog. Arthritis is often harder on the joints when temperatures drop, which can cause a slowdown in pace and/or more sensitivity to touch, perhaps accompanied by grumpiness. You also need to take seasonal allergies into consideration whenever the mercury goes up or down.



## Tips & Tools: Ways to Tell If Your Dog Is Sick

Masking pain or illness is an evolutionary survival mechanism in dogs, which makes it hard to tell at times whether Fido is unwell. Here are some signs of trouble to look out for (when in doubt, always consult your vet):

✓ **Physical symptoms.** Vomiting, diarrhoea, bloody stool, drooling, excessive thirst, rashes, swelling, discharge, wheezing, coughing, sneezing, flaky or crusted skin, dull coat, odour from mouth, skin, or ears.

✓ **Changes in behaviour.** Loss of appetite, disorientation, circling, lethargy, persistent scratching or licking, twitching, trembling, head shaking, unprovoked crying out (a sign of acute, severe pain) or crying out when a specific area is touched (a sign of mild to moderate pain), seizures, frequent urination or unusually long urination. Lapses in house-training in adult dogs.

cont.

# ...seasons

Paying attention to details like this allows you to help your family dog feel at her most comfortable. If you notice a slowdown in energy or any physical discomfort, first talk to your vet to rule out medical problems. Like humans, dogs may not welcome all seasons with an equally happy greeting. Observe your dog, note down any changes in a journal, and be proactive in meeting your dog's needs.



Certified. Force-free. Dog-centred.  
cheerfuldogswalking.com

## Dogs In Action: COVID-19 Detection Dogs

The amazing canine sniffer has done it again! Dogs' noses have led them to many a job, from hunting prey to sniffing out bombs, drugs and other illegal paraphernalia, detecting illnesses like cancer and malaria, or warning their people of an oncoming seizure. Now Helsinki Airport is employing sniffer dogs to detect COVID-19 among potential passengers.

Dogs are capable of smelling substances diluted to one part per trillion. To put that figure into perspective, imagine yourself being able to note one drop of scent in the water of 20 Olympic-sized pools put together. With such tremendous olfactory ability, the Helsinki dogs are reported to require as few as 10 molecules to detect the virus (current lab tests need 18,000,000). Plus they can do it fast. Hopeful airline passengers are asked to rub their skin with a wipe, which is then handed over to the dog for a sniff test – no nasal swabs or waiting for lab tests required!

The Helsinki Airport dog programme may eventually be one factor in reinstating safe travel. Maybe similar programmes will soon help increase our safety in other places, too, such as hospitals and nursing homes.



### cheerfuldogs.com

*Your go-to trainer for enlightened dog lovers*

Website: cheerfuldogs.com

### cheerfuldogswalking.com

*Professional dog walking you can trust*

Website: cheerfuldogswalking.com

Tel: 9630 3884

Email: cheerfuldogswalking@gmail.com

Save the environment, access our e-newsletters on our websites

Follow us



Supported by

