



Glenunga

491 Portrush Road

Blackwood

170 Main Road

For all bookings call **8379 6522**
or book online www.dogsabouttown.com.au

Wow what a year its been for everyone in 2020! A very rocky start with the bushfires left us all feeling heartbroken for our beautiful hills community, followed by the ongoing pandemic that has sadly resulted in business closures- but we have been so lucky and grateful to all our customers who have stuck with us through a very unusual year! We've met MANY new happy puppies along the way this year- of all sizes and ages- and hope to meet many more next year!

This year has been a year for the books; welcoming new puppies, saying sad goodbyes to old friends, introducing new staff, A LOT of puppy kisses and doggy cuddles, welcoming a new Shih-Tzu litter who all found loving homes, and celebrating our 20th year in business!

We hope the rest of 2020 is a bit calmer and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and that 2021 will bring many more happy memories. Cant wait to meet our future customers and their furry friends!

With the changing of seasons and the weather warming up, the dreaded grass seed season is in full swing!

If left untreated Grass seeds can be potentially lethal! The most common dart-shaped grass seed pierces the skin and can travel through the body and become embedded internally causing all types of problems.

—**Watch out for signs of your dog licking or chewing at one spot-** particularly around their feet/legs, or redness and swelling, a 'hole' type wound that's not healing, or sneezing, rubbing, shaking their head, or of course if you can visibly see a grass-seed embedded in their skin/fur.

—If embedded in their skin already it is possible to remove with tweezers, but be wary as parts of the grass-seed can potentially still be stuck inside the wound even after removing the visible grass-seed. Always seek veterinary advice if you are unsure.

—To minimise the dangers of grass-seeds; avoid **dry and long grassy areas as much as possible**, and check over your dogs coat after walks paying special attention to their ears, nose, armpits, belly and feet and pick out any 'hitch-hikers' immediately! But most importantly keep your dog well groomed regularly, or clip them short for the summer to minimise the risks, especially if your dog is more prone to grass-seeds!



Spotlight on Breeds: Poodle

 **History:** While most associate the poodle with France- the Standard variety actually originated in Germany and was originally bred as a water-retrieving bird dog. The name 'poodle' derives from the german 'pudel' which means 'to splash in water'. Its characteristic haircut, known as the lion clip, derived from the breeds working heritage and was trimmed in this way to remove excess hair that became waterlogged, whilst leaving sufficient coat in place to protect and keep key areas of the dog warm like the chest cavity and leg joints. The poodle has always been in different sizes, but it wasn't until showing began that the sizes were specified into Standard, Miniature & Toy.

 **Personality Traits:** Highly intelligent and easy to train. Can be wary of strangers, but affectionate to friends and family.

 **Best suited for:** families, but require training and professional grooming

 **Distinctive feature:** Curly coats and their show-ring haircut, short shaved snout and paws.

 **Fun Fact:** A troupe of performing circus poodles in 1700's performed for Queen Anne of England. The best known circus poodle was called Munito and was taught to walk a tightrope!



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