



THE CAIRN ECHO

Cairn Terrier Club of NSW Newsletter

August 2022

Words from the Secretary

Hello to all the members out there. This will be my last words as secretary as I am stepping away from the committee and the club. I have held a position in the club in one form or another since 2014 and it's now time for me to move on to other adventures.

I cannot always say it's always been fun, but I did try to do my best by the club. I feel it is important that we all play a part in whatever way we can to support the breed and the club and I believe there are enough members out there to ensure the club continues on. It would be very sad to see the club fold so please feel free to put your hand up, fill a position and keep the club going.

In this newsletter you will find a nominations form for the positions that need to be filled.

Completed and SIGNED nomination forms need to be back with me by 5pm, Wed 24 Aug 22. No unsigned forms will be accepted.

The AGM will be held on the 14 Sept 22 @ 1830. It will be via Zoom. I will be sending out invites so if you would like to attend the online AGM please email me @ duncairnterriers@gmail.com by 5pm, Wed 24 Aug 22. Once all applications have been received I will then send out the meeting invite to the AGM.

Regards Kathryn
Secretary

Memberships are now due

That time has come to renew your membership. Club fees are still unchanged and are as follows Single Membership \$15.00 Dual Membership \$20.00 Junior Membership \$5.00 (where one parent is a financial member)

Payment options are: Direct Deposit: Cairn Terrier Club of NSW BSB: 032 724 Account No: 209906 Or Cheque to: Cairn Terrier Club of NSW Kathryn Smith 13 Mulga St Captains Flat 2623 Thank you in advance for renewing your membership.

Grooming Your Cairn Terrier

Cairn Terriers have a special double coat. The coat is insulating, water shedding and dirt repellent. An ungroomed Cairn has long, shaggy coat that 'drops' if grabbed. This was a useful quality for working terriers that may face unhappy quarry, but most Cairns today don't need that shaggy look and are easiest to care for if kept groomed. Regular grooming helps prevent skin irritation and matting. Grooming can be by stripping or clipping. This is a personal choice unless your dog will be shown in conformation. If you plan to, or might plan to, show your dog, do not clip the coat. Clipping the coat will change the coat quality, softening it, lightening the colour and reducing the water/dirt shedding characteristics of the coat. Clipped coats may require more frequent bathing. Regular bathing is not necessary for Cairns with a stripped coat. A good brushing will remove much of the dirt even after a serious digging episode! Reserve bathing for times that your Cairn has perfumed themselves with something disgusting! If your dog comes in with muddy

feet and belly, a quick wash of the undercarriage will usually suffice. If you do bathe your dog, be sure to use a special Terrier shampoo.

Show Versus "Pet" Grooming

Show dog competitors will strip their Cairn's at least two to three times annually. Cairn terriers that are "pets" can be stripped or clipped. Many pet owners prefer clipping, as it's much easier and less time consuming than stripping. Stripping for a show Cairn is also more intensive, takes longer, and uses more tools such as stripping knives and a lot of finger plucking. Competitors are looking to create the best example of the breed they can for the judge's table. The average owner can do a much simpler stripping regularly.

When should you wash your Cairn Terrier?

For some Cairn Terrier who will not go too often to the countryside, swim in the lakes or walk in the mud, it will be enough to wait until they are dirty to wash them. There is no need to wash your Cairn Terrier if it does not smell bad and its coat is clean.

On the other hand, for the Cairn Terrier who will get dirty often, it is recommended to limit yourself to washing your Cairn Terrier every 4 to 6 weeks. Avoid washing it more often than once a month to avoid damaging its skin. A puppy can be washed from 3 months of age.

Grooming Tools

While a variety of grooming tools is available at most pet stores – the quality of these are often less than desirable and for some items, professional quality tools are going to make your grooming tasks much easier. They will be more expensive but will last much longer and are less damaging to the skin and coat of your dog than cheaper pet store tools. Professional grooming tools are often available at local dog shows as well as through online sales.

A good basic grooming set will include items such as:

Slicker brush, Scissors, Pin Brush and Comb



The Slicker Brush is handy for getting rid of mats on the belly, the arm pits etc. The small size makes it ideal for getting into small spaces. **The scissors** is for trimming around the ears and pads, you will need to replace them regularly as they blunt quickly.

Stripping knives – 3 different versions - be sure to get the correct version for your dominant hand as these are specific to left or right-handed use. There are many different versions of stripping knives. If you are not sure what to buy, talk to your breeder about their preferred choices and how to use them properly.

Tools to aid hand stripping - If you want to try hand stripping these tools will help. finger cots, Greyhound stripping Stone, Coat King. You will not need all of these and will likely find that you develop personal preferences. Again, there are many different options and everyone develops their own preference.



Nail Trimmers

Electric nail trimmers –Using an electric nail grinder is by far the best way to keep your dog's nails healthy and looking good, but you want to make sure you get a model that is low-vibration and has a rechargeable battery,



Basic Regular Coat Care

To keep your Cairn's coat tidy and free of mats, a regular brushing a couple of times a week will suffice. You can use a spritz of water in a spray bottle to lightly wet the coat before brushing if you wish. Brush through the coat with a good pin (wire) brush. Pay special attention to the areas where the legs meet the trunk – these areas are prone to matting. A slicker brush is useful if mats are already present. If there is severe matting, a detangling spray will help. After brushing, go over the coat again with the metal comb. When using these tools make sure you get through both layers of coat. This stimulates the skin and encourages good coat growth. Be gentle but firm, remembering the side and belly are more sensitive than the back. You will probably notice dead hair coming out when brushing and combing, especially if it has been some time since the last brushing and you are not doing regular stripping of the coat.

Using the small scissors, trim any long hair around the feet and between the pads. Check the nails and trim if necessary. Also check the ears for any wax build up, if necessary, they can be gently cleaned with mineral oil on a q-tip. Any dirt build up in front of the eyes can be combed out with a fine tooth comb or gently dabbed away with a moist cosmetic pad. Check the teeth to make sure they are clean and odour free. Brush the teeth Use moist, unscented wipes to clean around the butt, penis sheath or vulva as needed. Trimming the hair around the anus and sheath (in male dogs) will help keep that area clean. Some recommend leaving a bit of longer hair around the sheath or vulva to help wick urine away.

Advanced Coat Care: Stripping or Clipping

Your Cairn's coat will grow quite long if it is not stripped or clipped. A long shaggy coat will be more prone to matting and often looks quite unkempt. There are two ways to maintain a shorter, tidier coat – Stripping or Clipping.

Clipping

Clipping uses scissors or an electric hair trimmer to cut down the coat to a uniform short length. Clipping does damage the coat - a clipped coat will lose the natural water and dirt repellancy (requiring more frequent bathing) as well as the insulating properties of the coat. Clipped dogs are less tolerant of weather extremes. A clipped coat tends to lighten in colour over time. Clipping

leaves the dead hairs in place - eventually these will fall out, so clipping may actually result in more stray hairs than stripping.

Clipping is appropriate for:

- Dogs whose owners do not wish to strip the coat out regularly or pay the costs of stripping by a professional groomer. (Stripping can be more expensive as it takes much longer than clipping.)
- Older dogs that have finished their show career and dislike long grooming sessions.
- Younger dogs that are highly averse to stripping. Most youngsters can become comfortable with stripping if properly introduced to the grooming table, noose and stripping through positive reinforcement and habituation through short sessions.

Be aware that most commercial groomers are not skilled at stripping coats and will default to clipping. If you are taking your dog to a professional groomer be sure you find out how they will work the coat and if you do not want your dog clipped be very clear that they are not to use scissors or clippers on the coat at all, except to tidy up the feet and genital areas.

Stripping

Stripping is the process of pulling out the old, dead hairs from the coat to allow new hairs to grow in. As the old hair is 'dead', stripping does not hurt the dog. Stripping can be done periodically with a full strip several times a year, or can be done regularly, every couple of weeks to yield a nice layered coat. If your dog will be shown in conformation, regular stripping is essential. Whether you strip periodically or regularly, or even take your dog to someone else to be stripped, here are some tips.

Make the grooming table a FANTASTIC place to be. Feeding your young puppy his meals on the table can start the process of building good associations with the table (Never turn your back on a Cairn on a table! Jumping off the table can result in serious injury.) Practice gentle brushing on the table, rewarding your dog for standing still. Even if you never groom your own dog, this is a great thing to do. A dog that is happy on the grooming table will make the process of grooming easier on your dog, not to speak of the groomer.

If you have never done stripping before - get an experienced breeder to teach you how to do it. Your breeder may be able to mentor you – or recommend someone in your area.

There are several Cairn Grooming DVDs and YouTube videos available to help you learn the ropes. A note of caution – many You Tube videos on grooming Cairns do not demonstrate proper grooming techniques for a good rolled coat – they are designed more for pet grooming and use a combination of clipping, scissoring and stripping. The list below identifies several useful ones.

Grooming DVDs:

Meike Jensen: **Cairn Terrier Trimming Step by Step**

Dawn Inett: **Grooming Your Cairn Terrier,**

Good You Tube Videos:

Linda Tuttle: **Grooming the Cairn Terrier Head**

Have a good grooming table with a noose, good lighting and a mirror – these will make your job much easier. A smooth grooming jacket will help you avoid becoming covered in dog hair. Never groom while wearing fleece!

Happy Grooming

Annual General Meeting

As Kathryn pointed out in Words from the Secretary the AGM will be held via a zoom meeting on the 14th September 2022 at 18:30pm.

Please email Kathryn on dunclairterriers@gmail.com by **5pm, Mon 24 Aug 22**. Kathryn will then send you an invite to the AGM.

Nominations (via post or email) will **close at 5pm, Mon 24 Aug 22** with the CTC of NSW Secretary, Kathryn Smith, 13 Mulga St, Captains Flat, NSW 2623 or dunclairterriers@gmail.com



**NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF
THE CAIRN TERRIER CLUB OF NSW Inc. ORG Y0686114 for 2022-23**

POSITION	NOMINEE	NOMINATOR	SECONDER
President			
Vice President (2 required)			
Vice President			
Secretary			
Treasurer			
Committee (up to 5)			
Committee			
Committee			
Committee			
Committee			

I confirm that these nominations are accepted by the nominee's.

...../...../2022 (signature and date). Dogs NSW No.....

To be eligible to vote, nominate, to second or be nominated as an Office Bearer or Member of the Committee you must be a current financial member of the Club. All Office Bearers must also be current financial members of Dogs NSW.

Nominations (via post or email) will **close at 5pm, Mon 24 Aug 22** with the CTC of NSW Secretary, Kathryn Smith, 13 Mulga St, Captains Flat, NSW 2623 or dunclairterriers@gmail.com

APPLICATION FOR POSTAL VOTE

I/We hereby apply for a postal vote for the election of Office Bearers and Committee for the Cairn Terrier Club of NSW 2021-22.

Name	Signature	Date
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To be eligible to vote you must be a current financial member of the Club.

Applications for postal votes (via post or email) will **close at 5pm, Mon 24 Aug 22**, with the CTC of NSW Secretary, Kathryn Smith, 13 Mulga St, Captains Flat, NSW 2623 or duncairterriers@gmail.com

You must sign your form. Unsigned forms will not be accepted or returned to be signed.