



ANIMAL ANTICS

Note for Pet Owners:

Pet Patrol 365 provides this information for educational purposes only. You should seek the advice of your veterinarian if your pet is ill, as only they can correctly advise on the diagnosis and the recommended treatment for your pet.

IT'S OFFICIAL: PETS ARE GOOD FOR US!

The therapeutic potential and spiritual qualities of companion animals have long been recognised, from the Ancient Egyptians who worshipped cats, even mummifying them and burying them in sacred vaults along the River Nile, to the Ancient Greeks who kept healing dogs in their temples. And, did you know, that Florence Nightingale was one of the first people to advocate the benefits of companion animals for the chronically sick.

A report commissioned by the Pet Care Trust (www.petcare.org.uk) identified that pets ARE good for us - and with The Hartfield Village Fete and Fun Dog Show just around the corner, attention will be fixed firmly on our four-legged friends (see full details below).

The survey found that 35% believe pets help to lower blood pressure, 37% believe they help to fight depression and 30% stated they can speed up the recovery process - and 21% even go on to state they believe owning a pet can actually reduce visits to the doctor! As around half the population owns a pet, this report shows them to be a key consideration in the health of the nation. The report also confirmed that while the majority of us opt for dogs and cats - and cats are still in the lead by a whisker! - pets such as birds or fish (there are more pet fish in the UK than households) are just as beneficial at relieving stress and anxiety.

Perhaps not surprisingly, opinions did vary between the sexes, with 43% of women stating that pets were an important emotional crutch, compared to 28% of men. Almost three-quarters of women also highlighted unconditional love as a key benefit, with only 58% of men agreeing.

Family was an important consideration for men though. 51% said pets brought their family closer together. A quarter of men and women also thought owning a pet helps children to perform better at school and half thought owning a pet teaches children responsibility and kindness.

Age also varied the results. Issues such as recovery from illness, greater independence, reduced blood pressure and 'filling an emotional gap' all increased by approximately 15% in the 55+ age bracket.

**But wait! - Before you rush off and get yourself a pet . . .
. . . ask yourself if you are ready to take care of a pet.
A pet may be good for you but will you be good for a pet?**

*** Hartfield Village Fete & Fun Dog Show ***

Saturday 11th September 2010

12 noon - 4.30pm

Town Croft, Hartfield, East Sussex TN7 4AG



Dog Classes:

**Waggiest Tail, Best Veteran, Prettiest Girl,
Most Handsome Dog, Most Appealing Eyes,
Dog Judge Would Most Like to Take Home**



**A Fun Dog Show will take entries from 12 noon on the day and the Doggie Dash is back by popular demand!
There will also be the opportunity to have a fantastic, professional photograph taken of your dog by our on-site photographer. They say "A picture paints a thousand words", so come along and let your dog do the talking!**

Plus all the usual attractions of a country village fete ... A great day out for all the family!

ARTICLE BY PET PATROL 365

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