



# IPDGA Newsletter

January 2009

Hello groomers and can I wish you all a very Happy and Hairy New Year. Let's hope you all had a good rest and that you're ready to start the new-year invigorated. As in previous years we will have our first get together very soon . We are just waiting for confirmation on a venue so keep checking the website for further details.

Richard Barker. After turning 50 few things shock you anymore but when I heard about the tragic death of Richard I still find it very hard to believe. He was a man who seemed to have the golden touch, both in his personal and private life. He was one of the first English groomers that I met when I started going to competitions abroad along with his then fiancée Linda, and he was a very knowledgeable companion. He was such a friendly man with an easy manner who had a gentle sense of humour and none of the "bitchiness" that is so rampant in the dog world. The breed that he and Linda became synonymous with is the standard poodle and indeed his beautiful white dog Morris fulfilled most people's lifetime ambition by doing so well at Crufts a couple of years ago winning Best of Breed .

He was British Groomer of the year in 1998 and he then served as Grooming

Director of the Pet Care Trust for a while and along with Linda, developed the grooming section of the young kennel club which has proved very successful.

We were lucky enough to have Richard judging our Irish Championships here in 2005 along with Paula Hull and he was a very popular judge who demo'ed a lovely trim on a poodle in between his duties. I remember, we put him up in the City West Hotel and he loved it as he said normally when he attended doggy events the hotels left a bit to be desired. He was very complementary about the standard of grooming here and particularly the friendly atmosphere that permeated throughout the weekend. My thoughts and prayers are with Linda and their two little babies James and Fenella. A card expressing our condolences has been sent to the family.

December was a cruel month for grooming with the sudden death of Colin Angus. This was another man who packed a huge amount into his short life. Grooming was just one of the careers pursued by this multitalented business man and he will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. His salon was used by some of our members to sit their exams and he was a very welcoming host to all. Again a card has been sent from us all.

Mary Toland Chairperson IPDGA

TO: GOD

FROM: THE DOG

Dear God: Is it on purpose our names are the same, only reversed?

Dear God: Why do humans smell the flowers but seldom, if ever, smell one another?

Dear God: When we get to heaven, can we sit on your couch? Or is it still the same old story?

Dear God: Why are there cars named after the jaguar, the cougar, the mustang, the colt, the stingray, and the rabbit, but not ONE named for a Dog? How often do you see a cougar riding around? We do love a nice ride! Would it be so hard to rename the 'Chrysler Eagle' the 'Chrysler Beagle'?

Dear God: If a Dog barks his head off in the forest and no human hears him, is he still a bad Dog?

Dear God: We Dogs can understand human verbal instructions, hand signals, whistles, horns, clickers, beepers, scent ID's, electromagnetic energy fields, and Frisbee flight paths. What do humans understand?

Dear God: More meatballs, less spaghetti, please.

Dear God: Are there mailmen in Heaven? If there are, will I have to apologize?

Dear God: Let me give you a list of just some of the things I must remember to be a good Dog.

1. I will not eat the cats' food before they eat it or after they throw it up.

I will not roll on dead seagulls, fish, crabs, etc., just because I like the way they smell.

The Litter Box is not a cookie jar.

The sofa is not a 'face towel'.

The garbage collector is not stealing our stuff..

I will not play tug-of-war with Dad's underwear when he's on the toilet. 🤦🏻

Sticking my nose into someone's crotch is an unacceptable way of saying 'hello' I don't need to suddenly stand straight up when I'm under the coffee table .

I must shake the rainwater out of my fur before entering the house - not after.

I will not come in from outside and immediately drag my butt.

I will not sit in the middle of the living room and lick my crotch.

The cat is not a 'squeaky toy' so when I play with him and he makes that noise, it's usually not a good thing.

I will not sit in the middle of the room and growl at the closet, just to freak out my human.

P.S. Dear God: When I get to Heaven may I have my testicles back?

## Snippets

*A product I have found to be surprisingly effective is the Easy - Dry towel. It looks similar to the regular moisture magnet/ chamois type cloth that we would use prior to blasting. This towel has lived in my stock room from Crufts last year till last week, and I remember thinking £18 was a lot to pay for a posh towel (note; pre-recession ) but I have to say I am amazed by the amount of water it removes from coats of all types, and blasting time is reduced as a result. It has a more rubbery feel, but it's a decent size and something I'll be recommending to students in the future. The company I purchased from is called Trilanco [www.trilanco.com](http://www.trilanco.com) also [www.equos.co.uk](http://www.equos.co.uk). The number I have is 0044 1253 891697 or mobile Roger Hockey on 0044 7836 618663.*

*Suzanne*

The hardware store on Celbridge to Clane road sells wheels that are perfect replacements for popular stand dryers. Veet hair removal stuff can be used to dehair clogged up wheels in the salon.

## Tips For Groomers

1. Look into the new variety of scissors. Some have swivel thumbs, others have adjustable thumb inserts to fit your thumb properly. Some of the new scissors have an offset hinge that allows the scissors to close completely with little finger and thumb movement.
  2. Try to keep your wrists in neutral (straight) positions when using any tools.
  3. Make sure your client is the correct height so you do not have to reach above shoulder level to cut their hair. On the other hand, your head should not be bent too far forward. Positioning the client has to be a balance between your shoulders being too high or your head being too flexed (bent forward).
  4. Always wear appropriate shoes. Good arch support and shock absorbing soles or inserts. Stay away from high heels, sandals, etc....that don't give any support.
  5. Using a shock absorbing mat (or shoe inserts) will help decrease fatigue in your whole body
  6. When scheduling clients try to keep the high intensity work spaced out. Try to alternate these tasks with simple cuts. Also, taking your day off in the middle of the week is better for your body or alternate days (2 days on one day off, and so on).
  7. Working 10 hour days is hard on your body. If your schedule demands this, YOU MUST TAKE BREAKS!!! A short break in the morning and afternoon along with a 30min lunch break is the best example of this. You need to give your body a chance to rest.
  8. Incorporating stretching between clients in fingers and wrist can also alleviate fatigue and overuse symptoms
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# Really Useful Stuff

## Sharpening Service

Eugene, 087 784 7868

Precision Sharpening Service, Enniskillen ~  
Gordon Whyte 048 6634 1044

John Leonard ~ 087 6166020  
BALLINDANGAN,  
MITCHELSTOWN, CO. CORK

## Website ??

One of our members built her own website using package from these guys. she found it very straight forward & easy to use .Thanks Fiona [www.modelmutts.ie](http://www.modelmutts.ie)  
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Carlow  
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accounts@blacknight.com



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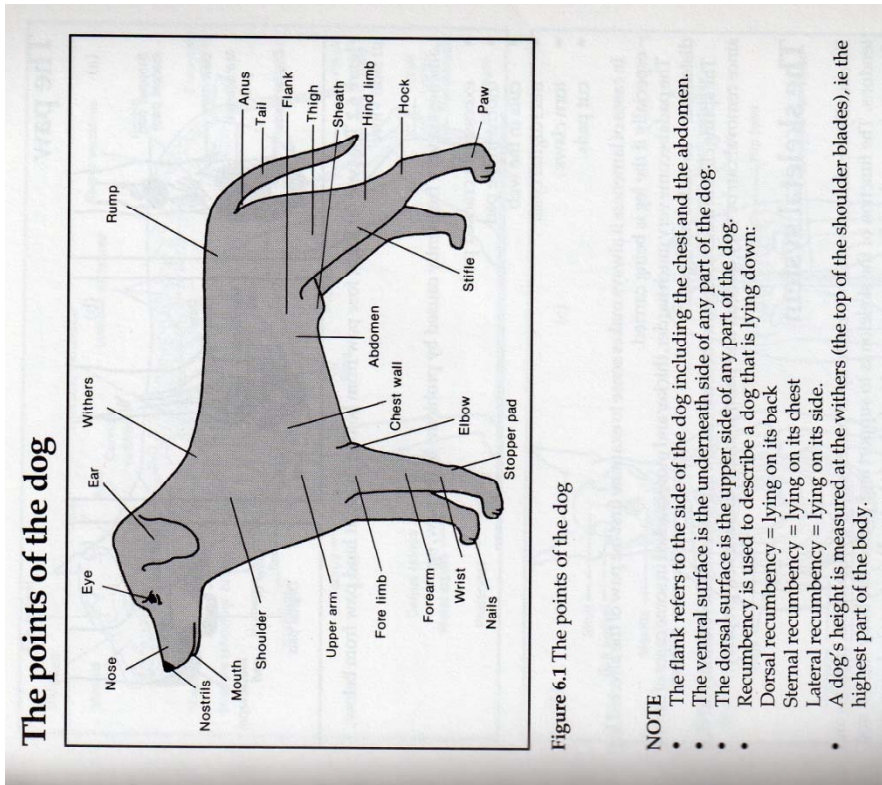
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F: 028 27667190 (UK and NI)

T: 048 27666879 (ROI)

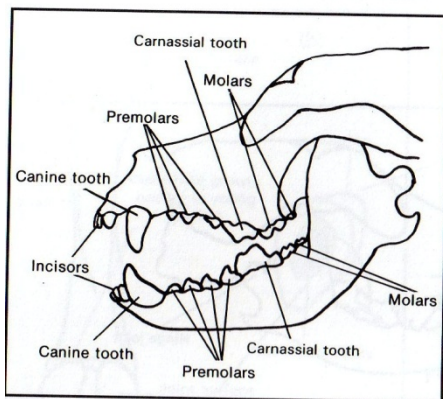
F: 04827667190 (ROI)

**By way of showing our appreciation for sponsorship of our events throughout the year. Please consider using our sponsors when restocking or purchasing new equipment.**

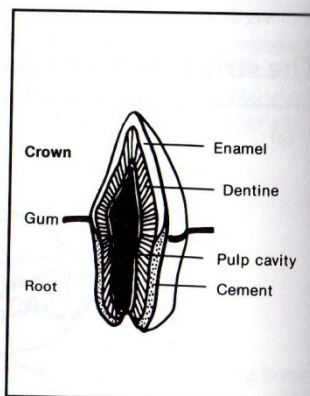


You will be given a blank dog with some pointers to identify.

**The teeth**



**Figure 6.7** The teeth



**Figure 6.8** Structure of the tooth

Adult dogs have a total of 42 teeth. These are made up as shown in Table 6.1

**Table 6.1** Adult dentition

Tooth type	Upper jaw	Lower jaw
Incisors	6	6
Canine	2	2
Premolars	8	8
Molars	4	6

Again you will be given a diagram of the tooth and asked to identify the parts.

Both pictures taken from "The Dog Lopaedia", by J.M. Evans & Kay White

## Ramblings from Andalucía by HHH

*As you are probably aware, Spain, and in particular, Andalucía, has no laws of trespass. This means that you can walk or ride your horse anywhere you like as long as you are not affecting anyone's crops or causing any other sort of damage. When it comes to Hunting, this is different. You can hunt with your dogs over my land without permission...providing you don't damage my crops. You can not hunt on my land using a gun unless you have seen me beforehand and got permission.....and so the story unfolds.*

*We had been in Andalucía for two weeks. The sun shone, the food was fantastic, the kids thought they were in heaven, the house was a shambles but everyone new that Dad would fix it soon! Then this very large fellow arrived at the bottom of our field. I mean large...like 18 stone type large. Over his shoulder was his gun...a big gun. In true*

*Spanish tradition, he had come to shoot everything that moved....on our land....without asking. Our two Arab horses walked across to him to say hallo. We watched with interest from the other end of the field. Almost in front of the horses the man suddenly dropped to on knee and fired at the two ducks flying overhead. Our Arabs thought they had arrived at the knacker yard and galloped up the field towards us at 90 mile an hour, towards a single strand of electric fence! We stood at the fence waving anything that came to hand, just to slow them down. Lucas swears that Mammy took her knickers off and waved them as she couldn't think of anything else. The horses calmed down, and just as we thought all was well...he fired again. this time the pellets from the gun came down and showered us. Whilst they were not likely to harm us he had now gone over the mark. I arose to my height of 5ft. 6 and nine stone (wet through) and became the defender of our horses and my Family. (sounds good). I was actually pissed off with him. He was ugly, too fat and had a big gun.....and he was on my land. I shouted a variety of things to the gentleman, which I new he couldn't hear, and then decided to take up arms. The only thing I could grab at such short notice was a leg off an old table we had just chucked out. And so armed, I strode off down the field to sort out the Spaniard who was causing my family grief. Lucas started crying. 'My Dad will get shot when that man sees his table leg.' Helen comforted him, 'don't worry darling, Daddy knows what he's doing!!!! The 400 yards seem to go very quickly and I was suddenly in front of the lunatic....with the gun. I was tempted to say something like, 'look here my man this is not very sporting, what?' when it suddenly dawned on me that he was Spanish, I was Irish and he had no idea what I was on about. So I gave him a right old telling. Even the Marines didn't know some of the language I used. All the time I waved my table leg to emphasise the seriousness of the situation and how castration was likely to be on the menu if he ever returned!*

*He looked in total amazement as I blasted him and I new I had the upper hand....until he said 'Sorry to have bothered you old bear, it wont happen again.....then he buggered off over our electric fence and has never been seen since...after 3 years.*

*The Triple H in Espana.*

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# Irish Groomer Of the year Championship

## 2008 ~ a view from abroad

*Since my sister moved to Ireland I have had a week's holiday every year in October in order to visit her. By coming in October I can do 2 things at the same time - see my sister and compete in the Irish grooming championships. Non dog people get a strange look in their face when they ask me what I did on my vacation on Ireland - Oh - I groomed dogs...*

*Jenny Hale had helped me find dogs for the competition and on Friday my sister Anki and I went to The Scruffy Pups to prepare the dogs. Jenny was kind to let us use her place. We started early in the morning and after only driving the wrong way once we managed to find the salon. I am so glad that I didn't have to drive - you all drive on the wrong side of the road \*lol\* I would probably collide in 5 minutes if I tried to drive myself...*

*I love to go to other groomers and see their salons! It's an inspiration to see how others have arranged their shops. You always get new ideas how to make you own shop better. Jenny's shop is located in an old mill and it was really nice to look out of the windows and see the water floating outside. We filled Jenny's shop with dogs and crates and then got a cup of coffee before we set of to do our day's mission. A hard day's work started and one by one the dogs were prepared. We went home and in to bed to sleep. The next day started even earlier (- Oh- why do I do this on my vacation?? When I could be sleeping....) On our way to the competition I got a glimpse of a famous Irish landmark - The red cow. This place and the signs at the toll stations - arrive alive- is so amazing for me as a Swede. We only have signs saying - it's forbidden.....Your signs are so much more direct !*

*I am taking this competition business very serious and have been trained that I must arrive to the competition at least 1 hour before the prejudging starts. In order to take my dog and all my stuff inside and then prepare the dogs. So you can image my surprise when we arrived to the arena and the parking lot was empty... I felt like -oh no - we have gone to the wrong place! A very typical Swedish reaction \*smile\*....you must be on time! My sister has adjusted to the Irish way of life calmed me down and assured me that we were in the right place. We had a nice chat and coffee with 2 other groomers that we found in the parking lot and after a while more and more people arrived. The place for the competition was nice and had lots of space. We put all our stuff in a corner- when looking at all our stuff it felt like we moving to this place and started to prepare our dogs.*

*Before our class started all the participants got a bag full of goodies! Thanks a lot! A small grooming bag and other nice things. A nice surprise. It turned out that I was the only international groomer this year - a bit sad - it's always fun to have other to compete against. It makes you shape up a bit. I think that in the future it would be better if you skip the international class - many of the Irish groomers are so good that they can compete against the international groomers. And by making the competition harder you will raise the standard of the work done by the ones competing. After doing my first dog - a poodle -we had a lunch break and I was once again struck by the friendliness of Irish people. When we went to the cafeteria for something to eat they weren't ready for lunch yet. But that was no problem - just wait and I help you to get something said the girl behind the counter. If this had been a Swedish cafeteria we would just have been told to come back later.....*

*After lunch and coffee I was ready for my second class... This time the hand stripped class. I had a sweet Lakeland terrier that I did last year also. This is the class that really shows the difference between working as a groomer on Ireland and Sweden. We hand strip all wirehaired dogs and spaniels. Even if they are pets. Over here you have to buy your dogs from a breeder - it's against the law to sell dogs and cats in the pet store, and we don't have shelters like you have, (we don't have stray dogs at all) So all owners are educated by the breeders about how the coat is supposed to look. Some breeders are in my opinion a bit to fixated by the care of the coat.... - you are a bad owner if you don't hand strip your dog. And you are certainly a bad groomer if you don't hand strip everything.....Even if the dog have a bad coat or skin problems.... Dogs are expensive here - you pay around 1000-1500 Euro for a purebred pup. And I think that if I pay that amount for a dog then it's up to me to decide how it should look. But a lot of breeders can't let go when the dogs are sold .- they still try do interfere in the care of the coat....So they give the owners a bad feeling if the decide to clip the dog instead of hand stripping. My sister Anki won the hand strip class with a miniature schnauzer to her surprise - she*

didn't even want to compete in the beginning. Jenny and I had to persuade her to enter the class. Now she must enter this year to defend her title Off home and go to bed.... It's hard to understand how tired you can be after grooming only two dogs...Sunday started with a cocker spaniel. Such a sweet heart! Wagging his tail and kissing me all the time. I got a meltdown in my brain and cut off to much of the furnishing on the first back leg.... So then I had to do a sport trim on the rest of him. Silly me! But my brain could take the fact that I was using the machine on his back \*smile\* Then it must be a sport trim....This time I was glad that I was alone in the international class...Anki did a better work with her miniature schnauzer and got a third place in the clipped class.We had a short lunch break and Anki and I had coffee and sandwiches. We made our fellow competitors smile when we arrange everything on our grooming table. Very typical Swedish - bring your own coffee and sandwiches...like a picnic. Most people do this when we go to dog shows because the coffee and sandwiches are so expensive at the dog shows. After lunch we watched the Oster career start - I was amazed to see some of the competitors. Doing such a good work after such a short time of training! And being so brave so they enter a competition. - You should all have a prize! Then it was time for the finals and Nicola Lacey was crowned as the winner of the whole competition. She did a great work and I can't argue the judges choice. I must also mention Susanne O Sullivan's toy poodle in Bichon style that made her Best individual winner. I loved it! Then it was all over for this year. Thanks to the organizers for a great job - well done! Thanks to all my fellow competitors- it's always nice to meet groomers around the world. And thanks to the owners of the dogs that I borrowed. See you at the next competition this autumn! And Jenny...I promise to be in time this year with my request for dogs.....

Kind regards Mia Overnas, Sweden



Hey folks ,I was a thrilled to receive this lovely picture drawn from a photo of my 2 dogs. I just took a quick photo for the newsletter which doesn't do it justice . She really captured their personalities. I sought out some details of the artist as you might like to contact her about putting up a sign in your salon

Jenny

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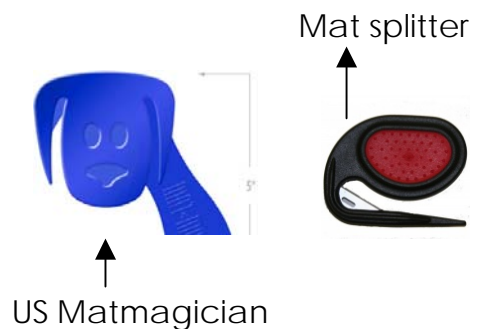
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One of members has brought to our attention a handy little tool recently launched onto the American market. <http://www.matmagician.com/> I was very intrigued by the video clips on the website. This neat little tool uses the same approach as a tool more readily available here from either Christie's or Castlelack Canine Products that only costs £1.50 !! Personally I am a sucker for anything new and a cool dog shape is nifty but I was converted many moons ago to my trusty old black & red mat splitter by my long suffering grooming colleague !







## *Weird phone calls, the beginning, middle and end of the saga*

All who are on the email newsletter list will be familiar with the piece of text below, to those whom are on the postal service please read on.....

The beginning, *Get the groomer network going.*

*Cutting a long story short.....There have been some very strange calls received in the Kildare area in the past week.*

*The guy ringing is very nice and affable and is looking to sell you advertising in a publication linked with a special award/honour being bestowed on local Gardai. He introduces himself as being from the Garda Records office, none of us that have had these calls has managed to catch his name as once the word GARDA comes into the conversation that is all you focus on. Don't get duped by this, we have the Gardai in Celbridge alerted to these calls and they are unaware of any local Gardai awards happening. They are investigating the matter & we will keep you updated of any findings. The guy does use different stations as he is ringing, Naas, Newbridge, Lucan, Celbridge etc. Let us know if this is nationwide!! If you have received such a call soliciting money contact Garda Brian O'Sullivan or Garda Jenna Fitzpatrick Celbridge Station 01-6244222. Tell all your IPDGA friends especially ones that don't avail e-mail alerts, get your network going and warn everyone off, we don't want anyone getting conned by this call! "*

The middle,

I sent this out on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008, the response was outstanding. The calls were countrywide and I ended up with the perpetrators numbers mobile and landline, of which, the landline was not a valid number. An email address and a website. There was even a meeting set up with the salesman, who never showed up. Well done you guys!!

The Gardai in Celbridge were given all this information and they tracked down that this fella actually worked for a publication. I was given the contact number for the editor of 'The Garda Record' .

The end,

This publication has nothing to do with the Gardai, it is completely a private enterprise, set up by the widow of Garda Gerry McCabe and others suffering the same losses, which in itself is fair enough and well done to them.

The Editor did apologise for any time wasting and distress his advertising staff caused. He also admitted that his staff should not imply that they are working for the Gardai or attached to any stations. There were no awards in any area and the sales staff should introduce themselves as being from a publication called.....not the garda records office. The phone conversation was supposed to be followed up with an email explaining the publication and an apology. Needless to say that never materialised. So I guess the editor is as insincere as his employee.

The moral of the story....

This wasn't a con this time but subsequently it has come to my attention that scams have operated similar to this and people have been conned out of their hard earned money.

Thanks to the Gardai for taking us seriously and thanks to you guys for stopping it in it's tracks!!

A network working at it's best. Karina Kerrigan

# Classified

Transgroom Cabinet Dryer, for sale; 5.5 years old, perfect working order. Price; €850  
Please contact Suzanne on 01 4924631



Storm 1 speed

Hot Blaster for Sale on Christies web site for €228.00 less than 6 months old. Will sell for €160 ono. Call Áine

**SOLD**

Oster Golden A5 2 Speed Clippers, purchased July 2008 from Christies Direct. The clippers has been used twice only. It is in perfect working order. I do not have the original box. I recently received a gift of another clippers, hence the sale of this clippers. The cost new is Stg£119 with Christies. I will sell for €80 or nearest offer. If anyone is interested, please contact me on email: [amohea@gmail.com](mailto:amohea@gmail.com) or 087-4129902.

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