

# *Little Coombe Kennels & Cattery*

*Dog Lane, Woodbury Salterton, Exeter EX5 1PZ tel 01395 232545  
Newsletter.....January 2007*

## **A happy New Year to all our clients!**

We have had another busy but happy year at Little Coombe. As well as boarding, we have greatly increased the amount of bathing, grooming and clipping we carry out. All of our staff have now completed a basic grooming and clipping course at Bicton College, in addition to their previous qualifications in Animal Care. We are making good use of all the new equipment purchased for the grooming room. The summer of 2006 was so hot that we had to get an air conditioning unit as well.

Looking forward, we hope that 2007 will be the year we finally master computer technology (not just to produce this newsletter) and have our bookings and records managed more efficiently. We are also in the process of making a website: more details to follow!

We would like to thank all of our clients for their custom during 2006 and wish you all a happy and healthy New Year.

We are often asked whether we ever manage to get a holiday ourselves. In October we enjoyed a week at Center Parcs at Longleat with our three children and two other families. We had a really good time, lovely dry weather and plenty of fresh air and bike riding. We are grateful to Jenny's parents and all the staff who worked extra hard to allow us to go away.



## **Who's who at Little Coombe?**

*Owners: Duncan and Jenny Sheriff*

*Full-time staff: Lorraine, Kayleigh and Michelle*

*Part-time staff: Angela and Kirsty*

## **Christmas Day Swim**

Congratulations to anyone who took part in the traditional Christmas Day swim from Exmouth beach. Our daughter Becky took part for the second time but we weren't brave enough to join her. All those dogs and cats to look after gave us a good excuse to stay at home.....

## **Due for a weight check?**

Traditionally, Christmas is a time when many of us over-indulge a little, and New Year is a time for resolutions, which may include weight loss. Unfortunately, our pets suffer from weight problems as well. According to surveys, roughly 50% of British dogs and cats are overweight, with about 15% being clinically obese. Both cause a reduction in life expectancy and an increased risk of medical problems like diabetes, arthritis and heart disease. This problem cannot be blamed on our pets as it is our responsibility as owners to offer them the correct food and give the right exercise. Fortunately there is lots of free help available, from your veterinary surgery for example, so if your pooch is overweight, why not resolve to tackle it in 2007? Even if you are unable to increase your pet's exercise there are many diets available which will help when fed in the right quantity.



Low-calorie dog & cat foods are available to order at Little Coombe. Prices and sizes on request.