



KENNEL CLUB ANNOUNCES WINNERS THAT HAVE FOUND A BARKING WAY TO BEAT THE CREDIT CRUNCH

A business in Dumfries and Galloway has won a Kennel Club award after providing innovative ways to beat the credit crunch and broaden its client base by offering specialist services that cater for our four legged friends.

CafO Cree, from Newton Stewart, won the Open for Dogs award after dog lovers up and down the country voted for the most dog-friendly businesses – from hotels and pubs to visitor attractions and restaurants – that are pulling out all the stops to accommodate our four-legged friends.

The company provides dog biscuits, water bowls and the promise of a friendly smile for all of their canine customers.

Caroline Kisko, spokesperson for the Kennel Club, said: “We are very pleased to announce the winners of our Open for Dogs competition and have been really impressed by the wide range of specialist and innovative services and facilities that places are now providing to make all dogs feel welcome.

“As everybody struggles to come to terms with the credit crunch, businesses are really coming to see the benefit of welcoming dog owners into their premises. A survey recently run by the Kennel Club shows that the 96 percent of people find the atmosphere more welcoming when dogs are present so this really is a win-win situation.”

Jan Cole, co-owner, of CafO Cree, added: ““We are flabbergasted that more cafes are not Open for Dogs and continue to think that it is against the law, when in fact the only places that dogs aren't allowed are the kitchens.

“As dog owners ourselves we know how awful it is when you have to eat outside in the rain because your dog is not allowed in with you, and as a business owner we are always packed to capacity because people simply love having the dogs around.

“We are delighted to have won the Kennel Club's Open for Dogs award.

“In the current climate it is important that businesses do all they can to appeal to the broadest possible client base.”

The winners of the competition will be presented with their awards at 11.30am on Sunday, at Discover Dogs - the Kennel Club's annual dog extravaganza at Earls Court where dog-lovers can see and discover more about over 200 breeds. They will be joined by celebrity dogs including Sir Lancelot, who played Genghis and Kyte who played Wellard in a popular TV soap.

ENDS

7th November 2008

[291.08]

For further press information, images or interview requests please contact:

The Kennel Club Press Office

020 7518 1008