

Pets get you hot under the collar

Blogfeedback

LAST week, I said we were going barking mad when it came to pets – with millions of people forsaking a holiday for fear it might upset their cat or dog.

Readers' opinion is divided.

Hotelier Pat Booth says: 'We get requests to have up to three dogs in a room with their owners. What about those guests who follow these people with dogs into rooms?

'Try finding a Travelodge-type room around Birmingham's NEC weeks after Crufts that can say no dogs have been in that room.'

However Sarah Valmont, who lives alone, says: 'My dog is my companion. People don't have pets to leave them at home or to not consider them. As they say, a dog is for life not just for Christmas.'

Margaret Hirst runs pet-minders Barking Mad which uses 'host' families to care for dogs while owners are away.

She says: 'We very much enjoy caring for other people's pets for however long is needed. It is expensive for owners but it is far less traumatic for the dogs than being put in kennels.'

Anita Braithwaite added: 'It's just a pity that dogs are not welcome in places here like they are abroad.'

'As it is, I believe it is less traumatic to leave pets with someone they know rather than putting them in kennels.'