



# A-listers

## The diary has been jam-packed for Anna Webb and her dogs this month.



### ABOUT ANNA

Dog and cat lover Anna Webb is the co-presenter of BBC London's 'The Barking Hour'. She also appeared regularly on 'The Alan Titchmarsh Show'. Find out more at [www.annawebb.co.uk](http://www.annawebb.co.uk)

Since moving back to London, there have been plenty of places to check out and events to attend — all helping Miniature Bull Terrier Prudence expand her life skills.

However, accepting an invite to the very chic launch of a new online dog resource called PlanPooch, at a trendy hotel, I had to accept it might be a step too far for Pru. Bearing in mind her obsession to be centre-stage any time, any place, anywhere, I opted to take Dexter instead.

He has 'manned up' so much lately that, despite his diminutive size, he commanded all the attention at the event. I remember it wasn't long ago that he couldn't have even contemplated a launch, let alone mingling with some of London's grooviest pack and their people.

Helped by his dashing looks and debonair attitude, Dexter made some new friends there, including Instagram sensation, Marcel Le Corgi.

### LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION?

Being a stage-school mother, imagine my excitement when Prudence's agent, Urban Paws, asked us to strike four days out of our diary — Pru had been shortlisted for a major TV commercial. As the interview process continued, my excitement mounted as the director gave Prudence a massive thumbs-up.

Devastatingly late in the process, however, the producer changed his mind, preferring a Greyhound to take the role. After a few days of sulking, Prudence took it

on the chin. After all, the advert would hopefully help rescue Greyhounds find their forever homes.

### CANALSIDE CUISINE

To take our minds off the blow, we took to exploring more of dog-centric Hackney.

At Hackney Wick, on our way to a meeting at Shane's Canalside restaurant, Prudence did a double-take to admire her alter ego striking a pose, in a stunning piece of canine street art by graffiti legend, Teddy Baden.

The restaurant itself was super dog-friendly. Situated in the former 2012 Olympic press centre complex, it faces Regent's Canal.

Shane's Bulldog, Edna, firmly sets the dog-friendly precedent. Pru downsized her enthusiasm to an entertaining level, rather than an annoying one, and restrained her ebullient aura, in line with Edna's wishes. After all, Shane's is Edna's restaurant!

Astonishingly, we were able to achieve the whole point of our visit — to help plan a dog-friendly menu — without too much ado. Reflecting Shane's already acclaimed cuisine, the canine menu will

be simple, with seasonal and sustainable ingredients, many foraged from the local dog-walking haven, the Hackney Marshes.

We'd also promised to visit our friends from the pet shop, Pack and Clowder, who'd set up a 'Dog Deli' stall at the new food market in Victoria Park. As the only dog-centric stall, it was the only place to track down a Himalayan yak's milk chew — the latest dog craze in London.

Focused in her search of the deli and its elusive chew, Prudence navigated the crowded aisles without any dramas — despite the olfactory overload of organic goodies — and, much out of character, she gave the treat a relatively cool and collected paws-up. Perhaps she is becoming calmer in public, after all!

Helping to choose a dog-friendly menu.



Dexter with his party invitation.



Pru enjoys Hackney's canine street art.