



**THE KENNEL CLUB**  
*Making a difference for dogs*

# NEWS RELEASE

## Crufts®

Crufts 2009 is set to take place from 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March 2009. More than 27,000 dogs will be making their way to the NEC, Birmingham to take part in the greatest dog show in the world.

Crufts, which is organised by the Kennel Club, attracted 160,000 dog loving visitors over the four days of the show in 2008. This easily kept Crufts listed as the largest dog show in the world in the Guinness Book of Records with almost 23,000 dogs entered in the show itself, including 1,165 dogs from overseas.

With around 100,000 paws on parade, Crufts 2009 is expected to provide unrivalled canine entertainment for people of all ages, through its mix of traditional crowd favourites alongside a wealth of exciting displays of the dog's many talents and roles within society.

Crufts has something for everyone. In addition to the Best in Show world class competition, several other important canine competitions are set to take place, including the International Obedience, Agility and Heelwork to Music competitions. The event will host the Kennel Gazette Junior Warrant Final, with a younger generation of dogs bidding to show their potential as future Crufts champions. There will also be many exciting displays from other dog organisations and charities.



But Crufts offers visitors much more than just seeing dogs in competition. Dog lovers and prospective owners will also have the chance to meet and greet 190 different breeds of potential pedigree partners in the Discover Dogs area, where they can gain expert guidance from handlers who will help them to find a happy healthy dog.

Visitors will be spoilt for choice with nearly 500 trade stands present, offering everything that you and your dog could possibly wish for, with many special Crufts discounts on offer.

Caroline Kisko, speaking for the Kennel Club, said “Crufts is the biggest celebration in the world for dogs and for their owners who really do love their four-legged best friends. Crufts is a platform from which the Kennel Club and its supporters can highlight the important work which is going on behind the scenes into dog health and wellbeing. It provides the opportunity to educate visitors to the importance of breeding and showing healthy dogs whether it be within the Breed Competition, Agility, Heelwork to Music or any of the other displays taking place.”

So why not come along and be a part of the largest and greatest dog show in the world?

For those who would like to visit Crufts, tickets for the four days are on sale now from the Crufts website, [www.crufts.org.uk](http://www.crufts.org.uk), or by phone on 0844 444 9944.

### **Notes to Editors**

While all breeds will be on display every day in the Discover Dogs section of the Show, the breed competitions are scheduled to take place on the following days:

<u>Day 1</u>	Thursday 5 March	<b>Terrier &amp; Hound Groups</b>
<u>Day 2</u>	Friday 6 March	<b>Toy &amp; Utility Groups</b>
<u>Day 3</u>	Saturday 7 March	<b>Gundog Group</b>
<u>Day 4</u>	Sunday 8 March	<b>Working &amp; Pastoral Groups &amp; Best in Show</b>

**ENDS**