

ANIMAL LIFELINE NEWS

Summer 2014

www.animallifeline.org.uk

Issue No 21

Animal Lifeline, PO Box 411, Longton ST3 4SS Reg Charity No: 1041362

RECORD NUMBERS

Animal Lifeline is dealing with a record number of abandoned dogs and enquiries flood in as more people seem to want to give up their dogs due to changing social circumstances.

We are doing our best to cope with the influx by providing additional kennel spaces at our Cellarhead rescue centre – our thanks to those who have sponsored them - and by using some external emergency kennelling.

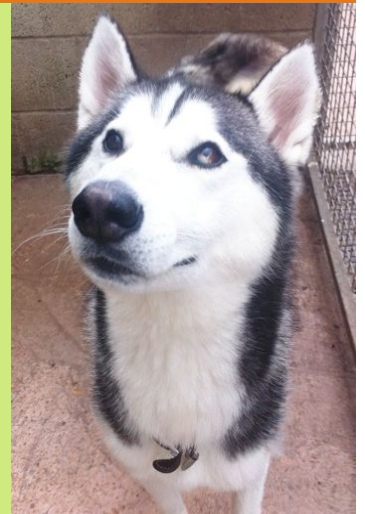
We are also still re-homing at a steady rate, including some of our older dogs, but secure long-term homes are increasingly harder to come by due to many younger people moving into rented properties where landlords do not allow pets. We have well over 100 dogs in our care and China, a Siberian Husky (pictured) is just one of many needing new homes. A few others are shown overleaf.

Lifeline's core objective - laid down in its legal constitution – is to rescue and re-home as many dogs as it can. As we fast approach our 40th anniversary, we have saved many thousands of dogs, but the need for our service is greater than at any time in those four decades.

To maintain our service, we do need more funds, and we are very grateful to those of you who support us all year round with donations of cash, food, and items we can sell in our charity shops. If you can spare a donation at this busiest-ever period, it would be of significant help in saving more little lives.

Details on how to donate (by cheque, Paypal, credit/debit cards or text message) are on the donations slip on the reverse side of this Newsletter.

Thank you all for your loyalty and support.



MEET THE A-TEAM!

These ladies are part of the Animal Lifeline A-Team – the A is for Auction! Pauline, Dawn, Jenny, Carolyn and Sue are the hub of our charity auction team and at the last auction in April helped raise £1,066.

At the auctions, donated goods including wine and spirits, unwanted gifts, bric-a-brac and collectables, toys, books, pottery and porcelain, painting and jewellery are sold without reserve, so there are always bargains to be had.

Lifeline has two charity auctions each year at the Thistleberry pub in Newcastle, each with around 130 items. The next sale will be in November, so look out for the date popping up on our website events page in due course.

VOLUNTEER APPEAL

While Lifeline gets lots of requests to walk dogs at our kennels, it is volunteers of other kinds which we urgently need.

We are trying to put together a maintenance team which can help keep the Serendipity Kennels site tidy, and need people who can come along and do jobs such as sweeping up, weeding, and minor DIY jobs such as perhaps painting a door or fixing a loose hinge.

If you can help for even a couple of hours now and then, please contact Steve Woodward at the kennels on 01782 551540. Steve is putting together a maintenance team and will be pleased to have a chat with you.

Also there are rare occasions when we need the services of a qualified electrician, plumber or joiner, so if you are one – or know of one – who might be able to volunteer their services just once in a while, please let Steve know.

Volunteers are also required at our two charity shops in Longton and Newcastle, for half or full days. Previous retail experience is useful but not essential. We make this specific appeal quite often, because everyone reading this seems to think someone else will volunteer – and very few do!

So this time, *why not step forward yourself* – your time will be of great benefit to Lifeline and indirectly help save needy dogs. Just call in at either shop for an informal chat with the manager who can give you more details about what is involved.

PETE CAMM

It is with shock and sadness that we record the sudden death from heart failure of Pete Camm, manager of Lifeline's Longton charity shop.

Pete, who was only 44, had been a Lifeline volunteer for 15 years, helping out at various fund-raising events, and 18 months ago became manager of our Longton shop. There he oversaw our moving premises in the Longton precinct earlier this year.

“Pete had an engaging personality and was very popular with customers,” said Lifeline Trustee Cassie Fletcher. “He worked hard, often came up with additional fund-raising ideas, and did a terrific job managing our charity shop. He was also a very nice, very genuine and caring person and we all miss him greatly.”

A memorial fund has been set up in Pete's name to raise money to install a new emergency rescue kennel bearing his name, at Lifeline's Cellarhead homing centre as a long-term tribute to him.

You can make a donation to the Pete Camm Memorial Fund, at our Longton charity shop, or on-line from our website by clicking the Peter Camm Memorial Fund icon.



NEW SHOP NOW OPEN



Earlier this year, Lifeline moved premises within the Bennett's Precinct shopping centre in Longton and the new shop - located near Greggs - is now well established.

The shop (pictured) offers lots of good clothing, interesting bric-a-brac and collectables, books, DVDs and CDs, shoes, handbags, jewellery and a great deal more, and of course always needs more of the same, so please have a sort-out at home, do a bit of de-cluttering, and donate the surplus to Lifeline!

This also applies to our Newcastle shop, at 1 Church Street, which always has a wide variety of goods on sale and is always keen to accept more as stocks can quickly diminish.

Without constant donations of goods by our kind supporters, our fund-raising would suffer, so please support us when you can. *We truly appreciate your generosity.*

NEW WEBSITE

Animal Lifeline has a new website which has lots of features and can keep you up to date with Lifeline activities and events. You can see news and photos, download various forms and information, make direct donations or just contact us, so if you have not done so already, please check it out at www.animallifeline.org.uk

OPEN DAY SUCCESS

The Lifeline open day and summer fete at Serendipity took place in mid-June and despite a rather damp day, was still a great success, raising £2,055.

As you can see from these photos, there were various stalls selling plants, accessories, bric-a-brac, clothes and other items, plus home made cakes, bottle tombola and Guess The Name Of The Giant Teddy Bear (kindly donated by Malcolm and Doreen Bagguley).

Setting up and staffing the event is hard work for a relatively small number of people (*hint: can you help at the next one in mid September!*) and we thank everyone involved – without your valiant efforts and commitment, we just couldn't stage the event. BIG thanks to all of you.

NEXT OPEN DAY at the kennels is on Sunday September 7th, open 2pm - 4pm.

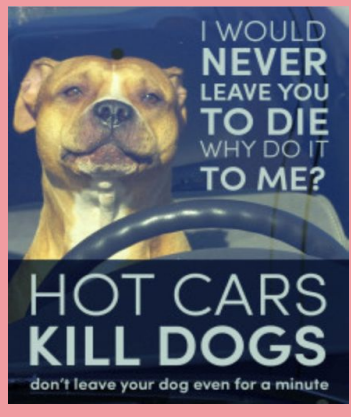


HOT DOGS

Most dog owners are very much aware of the dangers of leaving a dog in a car during summer temperatures - but not everyone. Recently, an Animal Lifeline member had to take prompt action when she saw a dog locked in a car on a sunny day with all the windows closed, and luckily managed to locate the car owner just in time.

Dogs can die from heatstroke in as little as 20 minutes. In warm, sunny weather cars become ovens and even if it's cloudy, the temperature inside a car can become dangerously hot for a dog. When it is just 22°C (72°F) outside, the temperature inside a car can soar to 47°C (117°F) or even higher.

In hot stuffy cars dogs can't cool down – leaving a window open or having a sunshield on windscreens still won't keep your car cool enough to avert a potential disaster.



GIVE A DOG A HOME

Lifeline has well over 100 dogs in its care and seeking new homes. There is usually a wide choice of breeds, sizes and ages and as we often know the background and temperaments of most of them, we can normally advise on whether particular dogs are good with cats, or children, or have any particular requirements.

It is quite hard to choose which ones to include in this Newsletter, but the four featured (*photographed by Adam Woodward*) show something of the variety of larger dogs available:

KITT (top right) is a clever Doberman, aged about 5 years.

TROY (top left) is a 5 year old Akita/English Bulldog cross.

CHINA (lower right) is a handsome Siberian Husky, aged about 12-18 months.

LENNOX (lower left) is a 2 year old American Bulldog. If you are interested in finding out more details of any of them, please call us on 01782 638341.



THANK YOU!

Many people help us raise funds in various ways and among recent supporters we wish to thank are:

MAUREEN STACEY who raised £150 by recycling cans.

VERA ROWLEY and friends at Stoke Boat Club who raised £120.

DANIELLE SPOONER who raised £100 for Lifeline by taking part in the Potteries Half Marathon.

RON HAMPTON almost certainly our furthest-away supporter, who sent a donation of £150 from his home in Florida, USA.

LIFELINE AGM

The Animal Lifeline Annual General Meeting was held at the Thistleberry, Newcastle on April 5. Members were told that the charity was experiencing its greatest-ever demand to take in abandoned dogs and was doing all it could to save as many dogs as possible. Members also discussed additional ideas for fund-raising. The existing Trustees, Pat Lawton, Cassie Fletcher and Jan Slater were unanimously re-appointed.

----- Cut off and return to Animal Lifeline, PO Box 411, Longton ST3 4SS -----

I WANT TO DONATE TO THE ANIMAL LIFELINE SUMMER APPEAL

Please accept this donation of £ _____ for the Summer Appeal. (Cheque payable to ANIMAL LIFELINE, please)

You can also donate instantly at our website: just click the DONATE button at www.animallifeline.org.uk

OPTIONAL: Your donation can be boosted by a further 25 per cent at no extra cost to you if you sign the Gift Aid declaration below. The extra amount is given by HMRC.

You can also make an instant £10 donation just by texting DOGS45 to 70070. We get the full donation with no deductions.

Gift Aid Declaration: I wish Animal Lifeline to treat this £ _____ donation and any future donation I make as Gift Aid.

SIGNED: Date:

Name:..... Address:.....