

## GATEWAY TO SUCCESS

Animal Lifeline's Serendipity Kennels have an eye-catching new entrance gate! This wonderful dog-themed gateway has been donated by Norma Lewis in memory of her husband John, who died recently.

The couple have been longtime Lifeline supporters, and John had actually worked on the kennels site when he left school, when it was a farm, so the gates have special significance.

Our previous gates had been in service for many years and were in a poor state, and the new ones are both functional and artistic, and also help people spot the kennels on the busy Leek Road near Cellarhead.



Jean Bowers

The kennels site is also being extensively improved and re-furnished with funding from a bequest from the late Kenneth Worthington. The improvements include replacement of wooden kennels with insulated plastic ones, quarantine/nursing cabin with infra-red heater, additional new heated kennels with external runs and new exercise areas with secure fencing and bad weather shelters.

"We are very grateful to John and Norman for the new gates, a brilliant design which really helps give the kennels a strong visual identity," said Lifeline Trustee Cassie Fletcher. "We are also delighted that a generous bequest from Mr Worthington has enabled us to carry out much-needed improvements which will greatly benefit the dogs in the years to come."

The raft of improvements also include new doors and windows provided by Councillor Jean Bowers and her niece Sabrina from funds raised during their recent term as Lord Mayor and Mayoress of Stoke on Trent. Animal Lifeline was chosen to be one of their official charities for the one-year period and Jean and Sabrina raised, with a series of special events, a total of £9,500 for



## WELL DONE JEANNE

Lifeline has supporters spanning a wide age group but Jeanne Wandzell must surely be one of our longest-serving supporters. She has just celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday!

Jeanne, who lives at Trentham, still raises funds for us and even has a stall at some of our fund-raising events such as kennel open days and Christmas fayres. Well done, Jeanne! We truly appreciate your help, and everyone at Lifeline sends very best wishes to you.



## UNWANTED ITEMS WANTED

Our two charity shops in Longton and Newcastle provide vital income for Lifeline, and of course depend on kind people donating items for us to re-sell.

We are always in need of good clothes, CDs, DVDs, toys and games, handbags, shoes, unwanted gifts, jewellery and bric-a-brac so please try to have a sort out now and then at home and maybe persuade friends and family to do the same. Items can be dropped at either of the shops, or at our kennels.

The shops are normally open 9.30am to 3pm Monday to Saturday, and the kennels from 9am-3.30 pm seven days a week. PLEASE donate unwanted items and de-clutter your house at the same time!

## DOG PORTRAITS



Vince Marsden is a photographer specialising in dog portraits and is a volunteer at the Lifeline kennels. He takes wonderful photos of our dogs, his skills bringing out their character, as you can see from the above photo of Charlie, a 2 year old Lurcher Cross currently in kennels and seeking a new home.

There are more of Vince's photos of Lifeline dogs overleaf, and you can see more of his work too on his website: [www.vincemarsdenphotography.com](http://www.vincemarsdenphotography.com) which also contains his contact details if you want to enquire about booking a photo-session with Vince for your own dog.

## OPEN DAY DATE

Another of the popular Lifeline open day and garden party events is taking place and the date for your diary is **Sunday September 11th**.

The event is open from 2pm-4pm, parking is free, and attractions include many stalls (undercover), tombola and refreshments including delicious home-made cakes.

Please come along, support the event, and meet our staff, volunteers and dogs!

## ODD JOBBERS REQUIRED

Animal Lifeline needs a few volunteer odd-jobbers to do light weeding, sweeping up, general tidying etc at our kennels near Cellarhead.

Would suit fit retired persons who like being outdoors - just a few hours each week, or anyone with time to spare who can help with general maintenance.

Contact kennel manager Steve Woodward on 07925 585 358 or just call in at the kennels on Leek Road, near Moorville Hall Hotel, and introduce yourself to Steve and have a look around and a chat.

We are open 7 days a week, 9am - 3.30pm.





Blade



Jack



Cleo

# HOMES NEEDED

Here are just a few of 100-plus dogs in our kennels at present, all looking for loving new homes.

Brief details are given below. These dogs were available at the time this Newsletter was going to press, so to check if still available, just call kennel manager Steve Woodward on 07925 585 358, who can also tell you more about the dogs and their backgrounds, or call Pat on 01782 638341.

- Blade** - 3 year Staffie Cross, good family dog
- Snoopy** - 4 yr old Labrador Cross, best one to one
- Brad** - 3 yr old Lurcher, good family dog
- Charlie** - 2 yr old Lurcher, can be excitable, best one to one
- Cleo** - 18 months old Lurcher Cross, ideal family dog
- Monty** - 6 year old Cairn Cross, best one to one
- Nancy** - 2 year old Boxer cross, suit family with older children
- Dolly** - 3 year old Staffie Cross, best with older children and no other dog
- Jack** - 2 year old Jack Russell, best with older children and no other dog



Brad



Dolly



Monty



Snoopy



Nancy

## SAD NEWS

It is with great sadness we report the death of MARY PEATY, who had supported Animal Lifeline for many years. Mary was a keen fundraiser who helped out with street and store collections and was also noted for creating wonderful hampers which she raffled off very successfully, raising hundreds of pounds. She was a colourful character and will be greatly missed.

## AGM REPORT

Animal Lifeline held its annual meeting on Thursday May 26. Members were given reports on various fund-raising activities and also an update on improvement work being carried out at the kennels. The existing Trustees, Pat Lawton, Cassie Fletcher and Jan Slater were re-appointed.

## Re-Homing Tales

We love to hear from people who have had dogs from us, and below are a few recent tails (sorry, tales!) of new dogs happily settling in to a wonderful life:

*\*We adopted Buddy the Bull Mastiff from you in January 2013. He is still going strong and very healthy. He has been an absolute pleasure to have around the place and is well known on his visits to my local pub!!! He is such a well natured and gentle boy. We feel very lucky to have him.  
Richard*

*\*We've had Jessie for twelve and a half years. She has been the most perfect dog. Very intelligent. We've covered many miles over the years, walking up to twenty miles a day. Unfortunately old age, and a previous chronic injury to her front left leg, means she can no longer walk far these days. She still has a good life though. She's spending a couple of months touring France and Spain with us.  
Barry*

*\*I first had Cookie the Anatolian Shepard from you. She was so disruptive at first and chewed through a leather sofa, garden furniture endless shoes and bedding, but no matter what mischief she got up to, she got away with it as I adore her! I then decided that she needed a friend so Pat suggested Ludo the Lurcher who is so well behaved. I love them both and can't thank Animal Lifeline enough.  
Jeanette*

*\*I came to adopt 2 dogs and with a view that I didn't want Staffies. I admit to sharing a widespread prejudice about Staffies. Anyway, when I said I wanted two dogs, pointed out to me were Boris and Matilda, two fat wiggly middle-aged Staffies and after 3 visits I decided to take them on. The first evening I have to admit to wondering what on earth I had taken on so excitable, never still and panting like trains! They had calmed down a lot on day two, and each day they have got calmer and more at home. They are still wiggly and adoring of everyone who calls. They are a joy to have around, such characters and so funny. So glad you pointed out the two Staffies who needed to go together. I am a convert.  
Diane*



Buddy



Ludo & Cookie



Jessie

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](http://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: .....