

ANIMAL LIFELINE NEWS

Winter 2012

www.animallifeline.org.uk

Issue No 18

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

THANKS TO YOU ALL

Well, there goes another year - and it's been a busy one! The good news is that we have rescued over 300 dogs and puppies in that period, but the sad news is that we are still inundated with requests to take many more.

We do our best to save as many as we can, working hard to prioritise urgent cases and also offering help and advice to owners on ways they may be able to keep their dog during changed circumstances.

What is certain is that the rescue and re-homing service Lifeline provides is in greater demand than ever, and the help given by our many supporters is vital in us being able to maintain and develop what we do.

Thank you all for your support during the past 12 months, it truly makes a significant difference.

Many of you like to make a special donation over Christmas and if you can, then please just complete the slip below, or donate on-line via our website (just click the DONATE icon). You can also make an instant £10 donation by just texting DOGS45 to 70070 - Lifeline gets the full amount without any deductions.

Lifeline currently has a good stock of tinned and dried dog food but is in need of dog treats - over 100 little mouths get through quite a lot!

One idea is to fill a shoebox with treats - as Jim the Jack Russell is demonstrating on the photo! You can drop a box off at the kennels or at either of our charity shops in Newcastle and Longton. They will all help us give our dogs a very happy Christmas.

And on behalf of the dogs and everyone at Animal Lifeline, a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year to all our supporters. You are all very special people.



TRIUMPH FOR LISA AND LETTIE!

Former Animal Lifeline dog Lettie and owner Lisa Del Rio have recently represented Britain in an international competition which involves dogs and owners running together.

Lisa, a solicitor who lives at Hanford, was selected for the British team to compete in the Canix European Championships after she and Lettie did well in the UK event.

The event - called canni-cross - is not just a race as various criteria are used to judge the winners including compassion for animal welfare, and team spirit. Dog and owner run together with the dog's lead attached to the owner's waist, over a course usually in forested areas.

"It is very much about bonding with your dog," said Lisa. "I do it to raise awareness of animal welfare and I also promote and raise funds for Animal Lifeline too. Lettie just loves taking part, she really enjoys it. She was very well behaved, she was a real star."

Lisa and Lettie train for competitions by running for fun in various places locally including Hanley Park and Barlaston Downs.

Lettie was handed over to Lifeline for re-homing four years ago - with her 11 puppies! Lisa and husband Paco went to see the pups but decided to have Lettie, who was then two years old. "We just fell in love with Lettie as soon as we saw her," said Lisa. "She is such an affectionate dog,"

Lettie and Lisa didn't win the Euro championship, staged in Cirencester and with teams from all over Europe taking part, but they did finish in the main group, a great achievement as they are relatively new to canni-cross.

WHERE THERE'S A WILL

You will see that we have enclosed a Wills leaflet with this Newsletter. Bequests are an important element to all charities and are especially important to Lifeline, which is self-supporting and operated mainly by volunteers. Without occasional bequests we just couldn't maintain the scale of dog-rescue and welfare we provide in our community.

We hope you may consider helping dogs long into the future by remembering Animal Lifeline in your Will. The leaflet details how simple it can be, usually not even requiring you make a new Will.

The leaflet also gives an undertaking that if requested, Lifeline will care for your dog in the event of your death. We will try to find a new and loving home for it, and if we cannot, we will care for it ourselves for the rest of its life. We guarantee not to have your pet put to sleep, unless on veterinary advice due to serious illness.

Thanks for taking the time to read our leaflet, and we hope you will consider a bequest to Animal Lifeline. We could not help so many abandoned dogs without the help of occasional legacies. Small or large, they help ensure we can continue to save little lives long into the future.



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

I WANT TO DONATE TO THE ANIMAL LIFELINE WINTER APPEAL

Please accept this donation of £ _____ for the Winter 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.

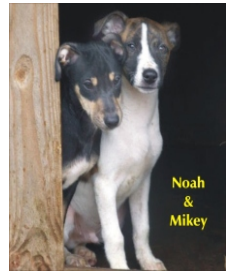
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HAPPY NEW HOMES



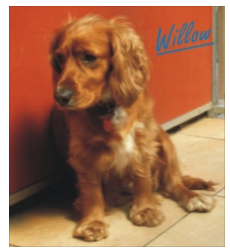
Many of you like to know whether we managed to re-home dogs featured in the Summer edition of our Newsletter, and on our new calendar - and the good news is that most of them are now in happy new homes! Sonny, a Staffie-cross, Bonnie, a German Shepherd, lurcher Layla and greyhound Lippy were all re-homed following their appearance in our Newsletter and/or calendar and so too was Mulder. And they were joined by Beau, Willow, Roxy, and Noah and Mikey, who all featured in our 2013 calendar.



These of course are just a few of the dogs Lifeline has re-homed in recent months. There are dozens more now enjoying life in new homes including bull mastiff Douglas, collie Penny, whippet-cross Lilly, Boxer-cross Henry, collie-crosses Bingo and Benji, and Staffies Zack and Bruce - quite a variety!



Finding loving new homes for the dogs is the most rewarding part of life at our Serendipity rescue kennels and it gives everyone a boost when we hear that new dogs have settled in well and have enriched the lives of those around them. One recent feedback report about Tilly and Mulder is highlighted below.



AND A NEW HOME TOO FOR MULDER

Mulder and Tilly are two former Lifeline dogs and the photo shows them sound asleep after enjoying a day out while on holiday in Wales with owners, mother and daughter Linda and Lisa Tomkinson, from Meir Hay. Linda and Lisa had Tilly from Lifeline a couple of years ago, and more recently took on Mulder.

"We thought you would like to see how they are getting on," said Lisa. "It is a challenge, pleasure and so rewarding to give both rescue dogs a home. We are so proud of Tilly welcoming Mulder into our little family."

"Thanks again to all of you - keep up the excellent work you all do."

The whole Lifeline team appreciates the comment, it is always good to know that our dogs are happy and enjoying their new lives - and bringing joy to those who give them a second chance.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE DATE

Don't miss the great Animal Lifeline Christmas Fayre!

It is being held on Saturday December 8th at the Orme Centre, Orme Road, Newcastle from 1pm-3pm.

There are many stalls including toys, gifts, bric-a-brac and other attractions including tombola, raffle and delicious home-made cakes. You can also buy Lifeline pens, handy linen shopping bags - and our 2013 calendar (just £3.99) featuring some of our dogs.

And the fair is also an opportunity to bring along some treats for the dogs over the Christmas period. We are encouraging people to fill a shoebox with dog-treats and bring it along on the day! Any kind of chewy snacks and treats are fine - they love them all!

BOOK CHOICE

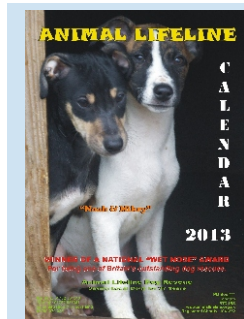
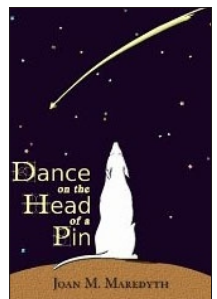
Animal Lifeline's name has travelled as far afield as California.

We have heard from American author Joan Maredyth who lives in Sacramento and who has just published a wonderful book about dog rescue.

Joan, who volunteers at a dog rescue herself, has written a fictional story based on her own experience of rescue work. It tells of a group of abandoned puppies who overcome immense odds and who change the lives of all those who find them. While sad in places, it is a truly inspirational story which underlines the bond between dogs and humans.

The book is available in print on Amazon, and also as an e-book, and on Kindle. There is also a copy in Stoke Library!

Do check it out and please note that part of the profits go to dog rescues.



CALENDAR DOGS

Animal Lifeline's 2013 full-colour calendar is still on sale, priced £3.99.

It features 12 of our dogs, most of which have already been re-homed.

The calendar is available at both our charity shops, at 1 Church Street, Newcastle and at 22 Bennetts Precinct, Longton, and also at our Serendipity Kennels on Leek Road, Cellerhead, ST9 0DG.

It makes a great present for any dog-lover!