

ANIMAL LIFELINE NEWS

Winter 2013

www.animallifeline.org.uk

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

YOU'RE THE BEST!

Another year has sped by, and Animal Lifeline has been more busy than ever, rescuing more dogs and finding them new homes. We could not do this without the help of our wonderful supporters who even in difficult times give their time and money to enable us to keep going. Thank you all so much.

2014 will be Lifeline's 39th year and never has our charity been more needed than now, with more and more dogs being abandoned and ill-treated. We do our absolute best to help as many as we possibly can, and additional emergency accommodation is currently being created at our kennels to help ease the situation, thanks to special donations from some of our supporters. When completed in the near future, these units will directly save more little lives. Each unit costs around £1,000, and we can add more if anyone wants to purchase another one for us. A benefactor plaque will be displayed on each one.

We know that you all help as much as you can during the year, so we never keep appealing for donations - we try to make just one appeal each year - and now is that time!

If you can make a donation, then there are several ways you can do it:

- Just complete the tear-off slip at the bottom of page 2 and send us a cheque - details are on the slip.
- Make a donation via Paypal and credit card direct from our new-look website www.animallifeline.org.uk
- Make an instant £10 donation via text message by just texting DOGS45 to 70070 - we get the full £10 without any deductions.
- You can also set up a monthly direct debit - you can download the appropriate form from our website.

Whatever way you choose, our deepest gratitude - without such kind, caring supporters, we just couldn't rescue and re-home so many needy dogs.

Please note: We currently have a good stock of dog food, but we are always short of dog treats and toys. You can drop them off at the kennels or at either of our charity shops in Newcastle and Longton.



WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCH

This stunning photograph of German and Belgian Shepherd dogs is a real heart-warmer, especially at this time of year. All five dogs belong to David and Jan Bytheway of Trentham, and all are former Lifeline dogs!

David and Jan had the first of these dogs (Zara, right) from us in 2006. Two years later, they had Nala (second right), a Belgian Shepherd, then in 2009, had Dodge (centre) who had been in kennels for some months. In March last year, David and Jan had Jess (left) and Simba (second left) who was one of Jess's puppies.

Says Jan: "People just can't believe we have five big dogs living in our house but they are all so affectionate and well behaved that we just couldn't imagine life without them. They have a daily routine and know when it is time for a walk, and their food, and never let us forget when it is time for their evening treat of a Jumbone, which they all really enjoy."

All five dogs have very different characters, says Jan. Jess loves running in Hanchurch wood, Simba has 'the most gorgeous temperament', Dodge is very laid-back, Nala, the oldest at 13, has gained a new lease of life from the younger ones, and Zara loves to find a stick and carry it about.

David and Jan are longtime Lifeline supporters, and David has another connection to Lifeline too - his company Trent Print Services of 63 King St, Fenton produce this Newsletter for us!



Happy Christmas

Best wishes for a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year to each one of you, from all at Animal Lifeline (with and without paws!)

OUR NEW WEBSITE

Animal Lifeline has a new-look website, created by one of our supporters, MICHAEL RUTHERFORD, from Congleton.

The site is much easier to navigate and contains more information and photographs about Lifeline and its many activities, so please check it out and explore its new features. All you need to do is go to www.animallifeline.org.uk

There are news and events pages, advice features, and detailed information about our kennels and charity shops.

We are very grateful to Michael for giving us his time and his creative talents.

The site will feature our twice-yearly Newsletter, which goes out to over 1,200 people via Royal Mail, and many others via email. However, postage costs have risen sharply so it would help save Lifeline a lot of money if more of you would opt to take the email version. Just let us have your email address and we can put you on the list.

We **ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEE** that your details will **never** be passed onto or sold to any other organisation!

And if you get this printed Newsletter and no longer want it, just let us know and we can remove you from the postal list. Either email us with your name and address, or telephone the details to our office on 07790 079 025.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE DATE

Lifeline's Christmas Fayre will be held on **Saturday December 7th** at the Orme Centre, Orme Road, Newcastle, and is open from 1pm-3pm.

There will be lots of stalls selling gifts, toys, books, bric-a-brac etc, tombola and raffle, refreshments including lovely home-made cakes. And we think Santa might also make an appearance. Please pop along too if you can!

You can also buy the Animal Lifeline Christmas cards (pictured) which have been selling well not just in the UK, but internationally! Internet orders have come in from Cyprus, Ireland, Italy and even America.

The cards are sold in packs of 10, priced at just £2, and have the Lifeline logo and details on the back. The illustration of two dogs singing 'BARK, The Herald Angels Sing' is by artist Kate Mawdsley.



SANDY'S STORY

Many of you will have seen the photograph (*below, left*) on our leaflets and on our website of our patron Wendy Turner Webster fussing a young dog at our kennels. That photo was taken in 2002 and the dog pictured, Sandy, was soon re-homed.

Now, more than a decade on, we are delighted to learn that Sandy (*right*) is still doing well and enjoying a very happy life with his owners Claire and Garry Pritchard, of Hanley.



They say: "When we first had him we had to jump-proof the garden as he liked to jump the fence, but he has calmed down now. He is a fantastic family pet, quiet, obedient, and he loves people.

"He also loves food, running through long grass, rubbing his head through snow, and lying on the sofa when he can get away with it! He is called 'My Little Prince' by our 17 year old daughter, who has taught him how to 'high-five' with both his front paws!"

Uplifting stories like this always give us a boost at Lifeline. We were glad Claire and Garry could give Sandy such a loving home, and their story of what he means to them underline how important and wonderful dogs can be to family life, and how much joy they can bring.



TWO'S COMPANY



Often Lifeline will take in two dogs from the same owner, dogs that have been together for sometime and are closely bonded. Re-homing two dogs together is always difficult but we do our best to keep such dogs together, and will only separate them as an absolute last resort.

Recently, we featured some of our duo-dogs in the Sentinel, and some were homed as a result (though we still have some, if you are interested!). The story was read by Sandra Boulton of Trentham who then wrote to the newspaper to highlight the benefits of giving two dogs a home.

"We had two adorable dogs, (*Ben and Scruffy; pictured*) from Lifeline that they did not want to separate. They had been in kennels for a few months with people wanting one or the other. We are so glad Animal Lifeline did not separate them as they would have been distraught. They are inseparable, always together - perfect pals!"

Many thanks, Sandra. You make the point very eloquently. Dogs often do bond very closely and can feel great distress if parted. We are so pleased that you took on your two-some, who look as content as can be in the photograph.

HEALING EVENT

CHERYL BALL and LESLEY BAILEY of Holistic Health Connection, raised £500 for Lifeline by staging a Celebration Of Complementary Healing at Sandon Hall, near Stafford. Several other local charities benefited too, a wonderful effort.

The event involved reflexology, aromatherapy, acupuncture, hand and foot massages, and other complementary healing activities. Cheryl is pictured handing over the cheque and a certificate to kennels staff member Adam Woodward.

Further details: holistichealthconnection@yahoo.co.uk



CLEARING OUT?

If you are thinking of de-cluttering before Christmas, or in the New Year, please remember the Animal Lifeline charity shops are always in need of unwanted items!

Good clean clothing, gifts, CDs and DVDs, bric-a-brac, books, jewellery, toys - we will be able to make use of them all to re-stock our shelves.

You can drop items off at our shops at 1 Church Street, Newcastle (9.30am-3pm)

and 22 Bennetts Precinct, Longton, opposite Iceland, (9am-4pm).

If you have a large quantity, we can arrange collection - just call us on 07790 079 025.

----- 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.

SIGNED: Date:

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

BIG THANKS

During the year, many people raise money for us by staging or taking part in events, and we greatly appreciate their efforts. Among recent fund-raisers deserving BIG thanks are:

HOWDENS, the kitchen and joinery specialists at Greyhound Way, Cobridge, which raised £300 from open days organised by Amanda Plant and held to mark the firm's 15th anniversary at the location. Branch manager Michael Brough said: "The suggestion to help Animal Lifeline came from our staff, and we were pleased to do it. It is important to give something back to the community."

BARBARA ANDREW and friends who staged a pre-Christmas event at the Minton Community Centre, Hartshill to benefit several charities, including Animal Lifeline.

MATT SHENTON (*below*), who has a Lifeline dog, and raised £200 by taking part in the tough Lake Coniston running event, completed the 14-mile hill and lake circuit in 1 hour 52 minutes, a terrific effort, and faster than his time at the same event last year - which also raised over £200 for Lifeline. Very well done, Matt.

