



Dear Animal Helpline Supporters

In usual fashion there are a number of projects on the go here at Animal Helpline! The isolation block funded by Mutts Nutts is coming along really well, by the time this newsletter reaches you it should be complete and ready to house new arrivals over the winter season until they are clear to enter normal kennels. In other news, we are now lucky enough to have a training session twice a month at the rescue on Saturday afternoons, which is helping rehabilitate some of our rescue dogs. Anyone can come along and bring their dog for £5 a session, for more information contact Liz on 07999 145311 or 01476 578391, or Lynn on 01733 849344.

Staffie Stories



In the summer newsletter, we talked about the Staffordshire Bull Terrier. This breed continues to find itself in rescue in large numbers, and is often passed over for other breeds which have a better public image. Those who work with 'Staffies' know they have a loving nature, are loyal and affectionate to their owners, and good with children. They are playful and pocket sized, and perfect for many families! Barney (left) is a prime example of a "Staffy Success Story"; rehomed by AH his new owner says – *"undoubtedly one of the best decisions I ever made was to give a forever home to this little darling"*. Looking at that face we can see why he's so adored!



Maximus

Just a couple of the SBT's looking for a home at Animal Helpline. Maximus is a great youngster who is learning all about being a dog from his foster mum, and foster doggy siblings! He is a lovely chap who does well at agility, gets on with other dogs and even cats – what more could you ask! Hector is a SBT cross with sad eyes who would love a home of his own, he is popular with volunteers and has walked nicely with other dogs.

Hector



Events



Our events over the summer were a great success for fundraising. The Wansford Dog Show raised a fantastic £556 for the rescue, luckily the rain held off for us and some of our dogs met their forever families among the spectators. The winner of the dog show and the prize of a personalised portrait was Lexi (left), who we are proud to say was rehomed through Animal Helpline!

The 'Walkies4life' event at Ferry Meadows was a great affair, with nearly £350 raised between the stall and sponsorship. It was also a great day out and change of scene for some of the kennel dogs, some of whom were very worn out at the end of 5k (right)! Many thanks to those that came along and supported us, we hope to run this event again next September.



We will be at the Yaxley festival in May 2014, with more details about this and any other upcoming events posted on our website at www.homes4dogs.co.uk under the 'Fundraising' tab. If you are an organisation running an event where we could bring some dogs looking for homes along, please contact Lynn at lynn@dogsinmind.co.uk



This winter's star dog is the gorgeous Magpie. He is a lovely large lurcher lad, who has been waiting since early this year for his forever home. He has a personality to match his size and is a pleasure to be around! He ambles out quite happily with his kennel mate on a walk and takes the day in his stride. Magpie would suit a lurcher-lover and would prefer to be an only dog – he likes his female kennel mate but is a little choosy about other dogs



Special Appeal



UPDATE! Our special appeal pups from the last newsletter are in new homes and doing well, our thanks to everybody who donated to their operation. Bluebell (now Bella - far left) and Dandelion (now Daisy – left) have grown into lovely little ladies and are safe in their forever homes thanks to your donations. Another little soul who shows why we need your help is Jude (right), this sweetpea came in with mange and



has needed lots of TLC and vet care to improve. We are pleased to report he is doing well in his foster home and has been knitted his very own woolly jumper by one of our volunteers, to keep him warm while he recovers!

How to Help



We can always welcome new volunteers at Animal Helpline, whatever your skills we are sure we can find something that suits you! For those who are dog-mad, there is walking and kennel cleaning, and for those with a flair for fundraising there are events to help organise and stalls to run. We are open to ideas for raising money for the rescue, for more information contact Lynn on lynn@dogsinmind.co.uk. We are also currently looking for technologically minded people to sell items on Ebay to raise funds. Other hands-on action could be printing off our 'Dogs needing homes' posters from the website and displaying them, in your car, window or local business. Finally, monetary donations are our life-blood, allowing us to provide veterinary care, food, heating and other essentials to the dogs which pass through our gates – if you are able to help please donate via the website, or it's always appreciated when people contribute to our vets bill at Nu Vet, Bretton.

Thank You's

A big thank-you to all the organisations which have lent their support this year. Thanks also to our loyal base of volunteers and those who donate for their on-going support in our endeavours to rescue pound dogs at their final hour. We are sad to say that one of our volunteers, Tony, passed away recently, he had a heart of gold and will be deeply missed.

To find out more about how to donate, contribute, or adopt a dog, please visit our website at www.homes4dogs.co.uk, email animalhelpline@hotmail.co.uk or call 01780 783331. A Merry Christmas to you all, we wish you a joyful festive season and a Happy New Year.

Best Wishes from Animal Helpline