

Northumberland
Dog Rescue



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Welcome to your
monthly newsletter

May 2023

Inside This Month's Edition:

- Spotlight on 1 of our supporters
- Success Story of the Month
- Rescue Dog of the Month
- What's on this month
- Win Cash Prizes with our 100 Club
- Spotlight on a team member
- Bamburgh Castle Volunteers Wanted
- 3rd in the series on Dog Adoptions
- Ways you can help
- Care Spot

Spotlight on our supporters



The Plough Inn, Mitford.

Located just outside Morpeth in the picturesque village of Mitford is the quintessential country pub, The Plough Inn

Cath and her team serve quality food, have an excellent range of draught local ales, and often have local bands live in the bar, and create such a welcoming atmosphere we never want to leave!

They're true supporters of Northumberland Dog Rescue through fund raising and hosting special events, and the 2nd of their adoptions, George is always on hand to welcome guests to the bar!

They're that dog friendly George even allows guests with 4 paws to play with his balls!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ploughmitford

Instagram: www.instagram.com/theploughinnmitford/

Website: www.theploughmitford.com/

Success Story of the Month



Missy pt 1.

Four years ago I was shown a thumbnail photo on Facebook of a couple of puppies. I wasn't really looking - but suddenly I was and my attention was completely gripped by a shepherd-like ball of fluff. So where was the harm in having a closer look? The following morning I rang to arrange a visit but Fluffy had already found a home. Well, it seemed heartless not to go and look at the other one so off we went. From the off little Missy was on the ball. Yes! I can follow a bit of sausage at your side. Yes! I can sit if you feed me. Yes! I can race across the garden to you. So Yes! You can come home with me and 2 days later she did just that.

Missy was a quick learner with lots of drive and energy. She was up for anything and everything from the word go. I love working trials, agility and rally and, it turns out, so does she - we couldn't have been better matched.

She was a joy to train, it was just unfortunate timing that Covid came upon us just as she was old enough to start competing fully.

Success Story of the Month

Missy pt 2

A couple of years down the line and her opportunities came. She is now competing in the third level (of four) in working trials and has collected 4 'best track' trophies along the way. In her first Kennel Club agility competition she had 2 wins and earned enough points to take her straight to grade 2. Dogs are allowed to compete in the early stakes of Rally from 6 months so she gained her first level one 'Excellent' and level 2 'Excellent' qualifications when she was only 10 months old and hasn't looked back. She has also competed successfully in our Dog Club and Canine Centre events and in UK Dog Sport and UK Tracking.

Not many dogs compete in multiple sports but Missy and I are determined to get as far as we can in whatever we can. We train for working trials every Monday, she has an agility class on Tuesday, Rally on Thursday and we throw in a bit of heel work to music on a Friday afternoon now and then. And every day, rain or shine, starts with a lovely, long walk on the beach.

Is there a 'but'? Well, yes, I suppose her exuberance and excitability does mean you may hear her before you see her. But I get that, if I was a dog I'd be exactly the same. I have to add, even if she could do none of the above, she would still be my constant companion and best friend. I'm sure her fluffier sister is equally as precious to her family but it was certainly my lucky day when I met Missy.

Rescue Dog of the Month



Ralph

Q. When is a border collie not a border collie???

A. When it's in a lurcher body.

This boy with the ears is Ralph he is 1 year old neutered and vaccinated.

Ralph is a very intelligent boy and displays a lot of collie traits . He loves a ball most in the world .

Ralph needs very firm boundaries and an experienced owner who will channel his energy in a calm way which will use his brain.

Ralph has bitten and so CANNOT GO TO A HOME WITH RESIDENT OR VISITING CHILDREN.

We have had Ralph for 2 months while we assess him, and we believe his biting is for the following reasons;

He doesn't have strong boundaries and routine so takes advantage and rules the roost.

He goes over his excitement threshold

He does have some nervousness and if pushed to feel uncomfortable will bite.

In the 2 months we have had him he hasn't bitten or attempted to bite any of us.

Our volunteers have walked him with their dogs without issue.

He is very loving and an adorable boy but definitely needs an experienced owner with whom he would make an amazing companion.

If you think you are a suitable match for Ralph (please read the above information carefully) then please email with as much information about yourself as possible to

northumberlandogrescue@gmail.com

This month's event calendar

May 2023

Why not pop these dates into your diaries and come along and meet some of our 2 and 4 legged friends for a chat and a get together, none of us bite and it's always good to talk :-)

Monday 8th

Bamburgh Castle Cricket Pavilion
Pop Up Cafe

Saturday 14th

Bamburgh Castle Cricket Pavilion
Pop Up Cafe

Saturday 20th

Pets at Home - Morpeth

Saturday 27th

Amble Puffin Festival
NDR Dog Show - open to all

Sunday 28th to Thursday 1st June

Bamburgh Castle Dog Sitting

Join The Club!

Win cash every month!
Full details and entry at:

www.northumberlanddogrescue.co.uk/100-club

★ Northumberland Dog Rescue ★

100 CLUB WIN 100 CLUB

100 CLUB

Rescue Rehabilitate Rehome

Northumberland Dog Rescue



WIN CASH EVERY MONTH

Ask us for details

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Rescue Rehabilitate Rehome

Spotlight On Our Team



Pandy

I've been volunteering for the rescue since I moved to Northumberland in 2015. I started walking dogs at the kennels in Swinhoe where I also looked after my first foster dogs.

The rescue then moved to the kennels at Patterson's Cottage and I continued to volunteer on a weekly basis, it was so nice to be able to now exercise the dogs on the paddock where they enjoy running around and playing ball.

During lockdown, I fostered a lovely staffy called Flossie, who was a great companion and kept me sane! She has now been rehomed and is living her very best life and spoilt rotten!

I work in our Amble charity shop on occasions as well as fund raising at Pets at Home and other venues.

Volunteering for Northumberland Dog Rescue is so rewarding and I love being part of a team of crazy dog people. The very best bit is seeing one of our rescues being rehomed and finding their forever sofa!

Events Volunteers Wanted



Northumberland Dog Rescue



Volunteers Wanted



*We're Bamburgh Castle's
Charity of the Year for 2023*

*Can you volunteer to help us at any of our
events this year in the
stunning settings of Bamburgh Castle*

*From pop up cafes to dog sitting
to busking we need your help,*

Can you help us help our rescue dogs?

Please contact us with your details on
volunteers.ndr@gmail.com

Rescue Rehabilitate Rehome

Rescue Rehabilitate Rehome



Northumberland Dog Rescue



At the Rescue Centre (1/3)



People often ask how a dog ends up at Northumberland Dog Rescue Centre and what happens after they're accepted by us before attempting to re-home

So, we asked our kennels manager exactly that!

There are numerous reasons for a dog ending up with us, amongst them are people buying puppies but not being prepared to provide the training thus ending up with a dog with behavioural issues, changes in the household and personal situations, buying a totally inappropriate breed for their personal circumstances, animal abuse, conflict with existing pets, and even simply losing interest in being a pet owner.

All these possible reasons for a dog ending up with us also means there are an equal number of different approaches as to how we handle their initial care, this means when a dog first arrives, we just let it settle first before doing an assessment so we can see the dog's true self.

Once we feel the dog has settled we start to assess it, this includes how it reacts around it's food/bed etc, how it reacts to people, is it hand shy, boisterous etc, how it reacts around other dogs.

We do this both in the kennel environment and when our volunteers take a dog out, their feedback is very important.

At the Rescue Centre (2/3)

We always use positive reinforcement training wherever possible, many dogs have had no socialisation at the crucial puppy stage which shows itself in nervous aggression, so we must gain the dogs trust before we can expect to do any training. Dependant on breed and severity this can take a long-time taking baby steps all the way.

Whilst at the rescue centre all dogs are thoroughly vet checked, vaccinated, neutered and any medical issues sorted out.

Sometimes we use foster carers, volunteers, who understand and can follow our ethics and training when caring for a dog who maybe isn't coping well in a kennel or are recovering from a medical operation for example. These carers provide us with invaluable information on how a particular dog will be within a home.

Once we're happy that a dog is fully rehabilitated and ready for their forever home we then advertise a dog for adoption on our website: www.northumberlanddogrescue.co.uk/ and invite potential future owners to contact us.

There are many factors to be considered when we place a dog with a new owner, every dog who arrives at the kennels has suffered a trauma, whether that's abandonment, abuse, neglect or just being taken away from everything it knew.

We strive to give each dog as much one to one attention as we can so our number 1 priority when rehoming is that a dog isn't going to find itself getting less attention in a home than it does here.

The most we would want a dog to be left total in a day is 4 hours (not 4 hours in a morning, quick let out for the toilet at lunch and then another 4 hours), dogs want company and don't do well left alone.

Most rescue dogs will also suffer some degree of separation anxiety so we want people who will be around.

At the Rescue Centre (3/3)

Other factors we take into consideration when re-homing are:

Activity Levels - we wouldn't give a Border Collie, Jack Russell or other energetic dog to someone who wants to plod around the block, neither would we give a pug to someone who wants to climb mountains at the weekend.

Age - we never want to put a dog in a situation where it may outlive its owners, this can often upset people who have set their minds on a certain dog and again activity levels come into this, just because people have had a certain breed and have for example just lost their 14-year-old GSD they're going to be used to the pace of their own dog, and don't realise that the 2-year-old GSD they've seen will be a very different kettle of fish.

Children - very often we have no idea of how a dog is with children, or we know it has nipped before so we cannot responsibly place that dog with children.

Cats - people often say, but my cat is dog savvy or was great with my old dog, yes but we might know this dog isn't good with cats or has shown a prey drive, and we don't want to be responsible for the injury or even death of your cat.

Sometimes it's the dog's choice and they just don't take to the person who has come to see them and above all we want the dogs to be happy.

We won't rehome the dog back to the area it has come from. We don't rehome to family, friends, acquaintances of the previous owners, it just causes confusion to the dog.

If a potential adopter has given up a dog before we don't give them another one unless there are extenuating circumstances.

As you can see decisions regarding the suitability of potential adopters aren't taken lightly, we do NOT want any of our dogs to become one of the statistics that show 1 in 5 dogs in rescue centres currently have been rehomed at least once before, it's not fair on the dogs and it's not what any of us wants for them.

Ways you can help

Amazon:

The next time you're shopping for your essentials on Amazon, please check out our wish list for our essentials :-)

[Amazon wish list](#)

Volunteering:

Are you able to spare a couple of hours either on a regular basis or even just occasionally on an ad-hoc basis?

Volunteering can take many forms:

- Helping care for our rescues at the centre
- Shaking a collecting bucket at events
 - Helping at our shop in Amble
- Hosting a coffee morning at home

The volunteering options are endless, if you want to help and/or have any other ideas in how you can help us to help the dogs in our care please contact

volunteers.ndr@gmail.com

Donations

Donations are the lifeblood of every charity and allow us to continue our work rehabilitating and re-homing our dogs. Every donation, great or small helps.

[Donate here:](#)

The care spot



Northumberland Dog Rescue

