

Northumberland
Dog Rescue



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Welcome to your
monthly newsletter

March 2023

Inside This Month's Edition:

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- Success Story of the month
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Spotlight on our supporters



Pets at Home

We're delighted that Pets at Home have confirmed the continuation of the Community Partner programme into 2023 meaning that we continue to benefit from their Pets at Home Foundation, and can continue raising funds in their Morpeth store, make sure you look out for when we're there, you may even meet some of our rescue dogs at the same time..

Does your dog get as excited as mine when they see us pulling up outside the store?

Mine goes ballistic knowing he's going to be made a fuss of and possibly get a treat (or 2) from the staff there.

Everyone knows how well stocked and how friendly each of their stores are, so why not add a regular visit to your shopping schedule and show your dogs how much you love them :-)

[Pets at Home](#)
[Pets at Home Foundation](#)

Spotlight On Our Team



Victoria

Role: Kennel assistant and charity shop volunteer.

I started volunteering with Northumberland Dog Rescue in January 2022 helping at the kennels, and then with re-opening our charity shop in Amble. I then became a member of staff in June 2022.

Working with dogs has always been my dream, I'm thoroughly enjoying everything I do with Northumberland Dog Rescue, and working with our brilliant team.

I've never been so busy and happy, and I would recommend volunteering to anyone, it's very rewarding.

At home we have Poppy, who is a deaf, podenco she came from Spain where she had been abandoned. She's quirky and amazing. I also have 3 children and a leopard gecko

Success story of the month



Dancer was handed in as a stray. She was extremely smelly and had obviously been bred from repeatedly as her teats were hanging very low. She was a little nervous but desperate to be loved.

When the snow arrived we were concerned about her tummy dragging in the snow so an appeal on a particular Facebook page had people rushing to help her by sending lovely warm fleeces to keep her warm and safe.

She's now got an amazing home with a dachshund x and so much space to explore. Her favourite place is to curl up in front of the fire and she's just discovered what toys are and that she can be a happy relaxed dog now she is no longer a breeding machine.

Rescue of the month

Harley

Harley is a 3y/o German Shepherd, she is fully vaccinated and spayed.

She has been walked on lead with other dogs with no issues. Although would be better off as an only dog in the home.

We are looking for someone who is around most of the time and can provide her with plenty of exercise.

German Shepherd experience preferable.

She can get a bit stressed and is quite vocal when she's stressed.

Our rehoming area is Newcastle to Berwick, if you think you can provide Harley a good home please email with as much information about you as possible to

northumberlandogrescue@gmail.com (working hours, children in the house & ages, previous dog experience, regular visitors etc)



Dog adoption

UK dog rescue centres are overflowing with unwanted/unloved dogs due to many different reasons, one of the most common being the Covid pandemic. These lockdown dogs were purchased as puppies as company for many during lockdown. Lockdown ended, owners went back to work, and these “companions” became superfluous and are ending up in the rescue centres (if they’re lucky!) A fifth of new dog owners who bought a puppy during the Covid-19 pandemic said they didn’t know whether their dog would still suit their lifestyle after the lockdown.

Another reason for this situation is the recent cost of living crisis, indeed the RSPCA has reported a 24% increase in pets being handed over to rescue centres last year, and it’s only going to get worse.

The Dogs Trust reported they received 4,370 inquiries to accept dogs for re-homing in July 2022 alone. Also according to the Dogs Trust, between August 2020 and January 2021, there was a 41% increase in web traffic to its Giving Up Your Dog page. Battersea Dogs & Cats Home predicts a likely increase of up to 27% more dogs abandoned or left to stray in the next five years.

As can be seen by the above stats rescue centres are currently under enormous pressure, and there’s no sign of the situation easing at any time soon.

Indeed In the UK, there are currently 6,600 search engine searches per month relating to relinquishing pets to a shelter/rescue centre, and these are just the ones where owners are trying to do the right thing after a change in their circumstances and find a new loving home for their dogs. I dread to think how many are just being abandoned at a roadside and left to die or fend for themselves!

According to a recent report by the UK Government there are more than 1,000 rescue centres in England alone, most of these rescue centres are run by a dedicated bunch of unpaid volunteers whose only reward comes with the happiness and satisfaction they feel with every single dog they successfully rescue, rehabilitate and re-home.

Dog adoption

In the following series of monthly articles, we'll look at what's involved in a success story when it comes to rehoming dogs:

- The role of the rescue centre, from the acceptance of a dog, to the medical care, both physical and mental, to the adoption process, reasons why not every dog is suitable for every situation, and all the way through to the after-care post adoption.
- The reality of adopting vs buying a puppy
- Adoption risks
- We'll also cover some of the benefits to the adopters
- And how you can help these rescue centres continue their never ending, demanding, but rewarding work.

Obviously, these articles are based on my personal experience only, but hopefully will provide an insight into bringing a dog into your life, and a perspective on whether to buy a puppy or adopt a rescue

My Story.:

I'm not a professional, but I am an experienced dog owner, both with buying a puppy, and most recently with adopting from a rescue centre. My latest forever companion is Koda, a 5 year old Border Collie that I adopted from Northumberland Dog Rescue Centre just outside Alnwick in Northumberland.

My friends had previously adopted a staffy each from there, and after moving home I was finally in a position to be able to adopt a dog again.

Not all rescue centres have the same approach to rescuing and rehoming dogs it must be said, so after my friends personal recommendations I contacted the centre with the intention of adopting a staffy. After discussions with the centre manager and the non-availability/suitability of any staffies at that time we arranged an appointment for me to meet Koda.

Well, the rest is history as they say and 1 year later we're both living our best lives again.

I was so impressed by the professionalism and helpfulness I encountered whilst going through the process of adopting Koda, I've now become a trustee of the Northumberland Dog Rescue Charity and am trying to do my part in ensuring that more dogs like Koda can continue to be re-homed and lead happy lives again.

Please check back next month for the next article all about the role, the responsibilities and the needs the rescue centre faces with every re-homing request, it's quite an eye opener.

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

northumberlandogrescue@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 fun spot



#donthatedogs