

Labrador Rescue Kent

June 2013 Newsletter



Registered Charity Number: 1067495 PATRONS: David C. Fletcher B. Vet. Med. MRCVS; Maureen S. Fletcher

Charity Day 2013

Sunday 21st July will be our next Charity Day at Stockbury village hall and playing fields and as always at this time of the year we are busy preparing. There will be the usual events including "Over the Bales" and "Hide and Seek" which the dogs love so much. There will be the tombola, the bottle stall and the raffle together with lots of things to buy. Janet is busy preparing for the kitchen and her lovely butcher is busy making all the sausages and the beef burgers for the BBQ. The Fun Dog Show will once again include the Fancy Dress and like last year it will be for both dog and owner (so get busy preparing your costumes!). Donations for the tombola or the bottle stall are always gratefully received. Also, don't forget to bring those "Loose Change for Labs" tins.



Maybe you know someone who would like to sponsor a prize or to book a stall. If so, then please tell them to contact us. All we need now is to organise some sun!

If you are unable to get to the event this year and would like to make a donation to our Charity Day please go to our fundraising page on My Donate.

Alternatively, if it's easier, you can send a cheque by post to Labrador Rescue Kent at Head Office.



Fundraising Events 2013

In addition to Charity Day we will be having a stall at several events during the coming months. Come and see us on:

23rd June – Tonbridge Dog Show

14th September - Weald of Kent Ploughing Match

15th September - Belmont Country Fair

25th September - East Kent Ploughing Match

26th October – Smarden Card Fair

We are also planning to have another Christmas event – date to follow.



One local vet has already seen a dog die this summer from being left in a hot car.

Remember dogs cannot cool down as effectively as humans. Never leave your dog in the car, even if it feels cool outside.

Parking in the shade or leaving a window open does not make it safe. If you need to travel by car

with your dog, avoid the heat of the day and consider using a car sunblind, such as those used for children, to provide shade.

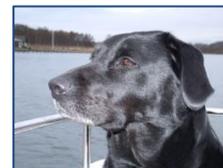
Make sure you keep a ready supply of water available and make regular stops.

If you do see a dog in distress please contact your local police station or the RSPCA 24 hour national cruelty and advice line on 0300 1234 999.



Zyta Waldock

This is our beautiful lab Zyta. We adopted her from Labrador Rescue Kent back in March 2009 when she was 4 years old after her last family broke up.



Zyta (meaning 'little rose') has become a permanent member of our family. She's the most obedient, well behaved and loyal dog we have ever met and is our children's best friend. Zyta loves her walks and is completely ball mad. She will chase her ball until she is completely worn out! We live by the sea so Zyta loves a dip in the channel even in January with snow on the ground! Brrrr!

We've taken Zyta on many holidays now to Dorset, The Forest of Dean and even on the Norfolk Broads.

At the beginning of this year we started fostering dogs for a local re-homing centre and Zyta has been a model dog who takes any dog we foster under her wing. We have also now



adopted a 6 month old Staffie, Lily. Zyta and Lily love playing tug of war and curling up for a snooze together after a long walk along the beach.

Zyta is completely adored in our family and is completely

pampered and spoilt.

We thank Labrador Rescue Kent for matching us with Zyta and letting us adopt her; she's a true success story!

Please support us!

Do you shop at Pets at Home? Have you registered for their VIP card service? If so, have you nominated LRK as the charity of your choice? We are one of the nominated charities at Pets at Home stores in Gillingham, Chatham, Maidstone and Sittingbourne. For each £1 that you spend a point is given to LRK. Once we get 350 points we get 50p. It does not sound much but it all adds up.



A Postcard Home



Jet Goldfinch

Jet came to us after our previous Lab, Boris, (who was also from Kent Labrador Rescue) was put to sleep.

Contact was made and within a day there was a reply to say they had a male black dog named Jet who was currently in kennels, due to an emergency placement.

When we met Jet he bounded at us from afar nearly knocking us of our feet! When he finally was on all four feet, loving the contact and fuss we were making of him, I could see Jet would thrive in my household and my daughter begged, "Please I need him to come home with me NOW," and I begged for us to be allowed to take him there and then.

Jet had had no training about how to act around humans and wouldn't think anything of trying to jump onto my lap whilst I was eating and so on the first day we taught him how to sit, lie down, and to give his paw for a treat. Although, he became so good at the paw trick he used it constantly when there was any food around! On walks he pulled so much we invested in a harness which he chewed until we found a thicker one and although he still sometimes tries to get it off we use it with success.

Additionally, Jet did not understand how to behave around other dogs, so intensive socialising was needed with reminders not to bark, or growl, or even urinate up other dogs. We spent hours in the local park waiting for unsuspecting dogs to come by so Jet could practise his new



skills. At times Jet forgot how he should behave and lots of treats were needed to bring him back on track.

On walks we did try to let him off a couple of times during the first 6 months but after doing the two minute mile a couple of times we invested in a heavy duty long lead which allowed him more freedom to explore. It is only now on our seventh month of having him I can now let him off, confident he will remain reasonably close and respond to my voice, whereas before he just ignored me.



Jet's passion is food, and he would like to eat and eat so this will be an on-going issue and we need to monitor his behaviour to ensure he doesn't take food which isn't his.

My teenagers love the fact he can run so fast and keep up with all their activities such as playing catch, swimming in the sea, ball games and dressing up. I have seen Jet in lots of different hats and costumes which bizarrely he doesn't take off but parades around; wagging his tail happily knowing that he is a part of the fun and games.

We again have found the dog of our dreams. Thank you Labrador Rescue.

Mandy Fisher

When Mandy came into my lonely life on Monday 29th April, I was expecting a three year old Labrador bitch and I was also expecting to have to do a bit of training with her, but what I got was a dog who was beyond my wildest dreams for a rescue dog. I have had Labradors before and I have had rescue dogs before, but I have never had one like Mandy. She is obedient, she is affectionate and she is my mate. We have such fun together!



From the moment she came into my house, she was immediately exploring and making herself at home. As soon as Maggie had gone, she had another explore then made herself quite at home in a chair in the conservatory; this is the only chair that she has attempted to get on, and whilst I have never encouraged dogs to use chairs before, I thought to myself 'Why not, it must be quite upsetting for her, to come to a new home', so Mandy's chair it is now. About an hour after she arrived I took her out for a walk in the lovely woodland five minutes from my door. She did pull a bit, but over the weeks, with a few tugs on the lead by me, she has stopped pulling altogether. For the first few days, I kept her on an extending lead, then at the weekend, when my son and daughter-in-law came to meet her we let her off. I was so proud of her: as soon as I called "Mandy, come!" she came straight back. She did find a muddy puddle to jump in, and it did take her by surprise as it was so deep but she's a Labrador, so hey ho!

Over the weeks Mandy has really melted my heart and all the depression I was feeling through not having a dog to share my life with, has melted away. My friends say that I am smiling more and I am much more relaxed, so thank you LRK for pairing me up with Mandy. All my friends and dog walking acquaintances think she is great; even the vet told me I had a good one!