



SPRINGER SPANIEL RESCUE

WINTER 2004 NEWSLETTER

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Hello and Seasons Greetings to Springers everywhere and your well behaved owners. Doesn't time fly! Here we are despatching our Christmas Newsletter when it only seems five minutes ago we were sending out our Summer edition!! Life goes far too quickly—we must cherish every moment.

Firstly, THANK YOU SO MUCH for your generous donations along with so many marvelous letters from your extremely talented Springers! They all deserve first class degree honours! Not only can they put pen to paper but are computer literate too!

Life here at "HQ" has been hectic, as usual, busy, busy, busy. We did have a quiet spell for a couple of weeks, when we thought "at last, everyone who has a Springer realises how wonderful they are and understands all their needs and life is perfect for all these special doggies" (in our dreams) and then the floodgates opened and back to "normal".

Most doggies have been rehomed without any major problems, but Springers being Springers some have their "little quirks"!!!! As many of you know, for the past few years we have had a doggie or doggies of the year (all details of past winners on our website). A doggie, who needs that "extra special" understanding—well our "winner" this year is RAFFLES, front page picture and read his story on pages 7-8.

Also, a special request to you all—have you got space in your lives for Ben—a wonderful boy who has been in kennels since February. Ben is 8 years of age and came into Rescue due to family problems. He is extremely fit and very loving. Very strong willed and needs someone to guide him, his recall is excellent and is very well mannered. Without naming names(!) - I can think of a few fellow Rescuers who could give Ben the home he desperately needs—give us a call!!

Please enjoy your Newsletter and if your letter doesn't appear in this edition, it will appear in a future edition, the same applies with photos. You are all very special and without your continued support, all of this would not be possible—we THANK YOU ALL and wish each and every one of you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

From all the team at Springer Rescue

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Please send photos and letters to the above address,
please no e-mails, our e-mail address is not reliable!



THANK YOU!

A special thank you to Zak Barbour (doggie of the year Christmas 2001) who made a long journey with his Mum and Dad, all the way from Scotland, to visit us at Rescue and spend the day with us.

We cannot tell you how wonderful it was to see you all. Zak, you looked so very happy, so much loved and so well behaved—all credit to Ross and Tracey, Zak's Mum and Dad and we send our very best wishes to them all.

Another special thank you to Oliver Bray who also lives in Scotland!

Oliver was adopted by a wonderful couple and now has an incredibly happy life with his Mum and Dad and their other doggies. Before his adoption, Oliver's details were put onto our website. An amazing "older" doggie, who we can honestly say had more interest and phone calls than any other doggie who appeared on the web.

Oliver is safe and happy with his new family, but we did keep his details on, as an interest to people who would like to adopt an older doggie, not Oliver, of course, but for any other "oldies" that need a special home too.

Oliver rang us some weeks ago! In a bit of a stew! WHY were his details still on the website?! He didn't need rehoming—he has a wonderful home, very happy and isn't going anywhere!! We did explain to his Daddy the situation and what wonderful work Oliver does for SSR. Daddy said he would have a chat with Oliver and we are awaiting Oliver's comments!! Oliver you are an amazing super doggie, and have a truly wonderful home. Oliver's picture appears in the Gallery on page 12.

*He is your friend
Your partner, your defender, your dog.*

You are his life, his love, his leader.

*He will be yours, faithful and there,
to the last beat of his heart.*

*You owe it to him to
Be worthy of such devotion.*

Our loved ones never really desert us
Never leave our side at all
For their love surrounds us always
Steadies us when we might fall
Reaches out a caressing touch
When we feel the most distress
Guiding us if we let it
To a new state of happiness
So when you feel your loss at worse
Remember that it's there
Nothing can ever take away
The love that belongs to you.

Dedicated to:

Arnie Bamber
Gemma Coulton
Tessa Garner
Charlie Griffiths
Jake Holloway
Max Mellor
Mitchell O'Hara
Geri Pell
Jessica Smith
Magnum

Springers we have loved and lost, but will remain in our hearts forever. God bless them all.

Also much loved and missed Gordon Morrison (a Gordon Setter) a very dear friend of SSR.



Summer Raffle (Prizes and Winners)

Well done to all winners listed below and a big THANK YOU to everyone for their support.

1st prize	China "Springer" wall clock	Linda Read, Hope Valley
2nd prize	China "Springer" fruit bowl	Mr and Mrs Dudman, Wiltshire
3rd prize	Porcelain "Barn Owl" wall plate	Mr and Mrs Waite, Derbyshire
4th prize	Porcelain "Barn Owl" wall plate	Mr and Mrs McMullan, Worcester
Other winners:	Box "Springer" magnets	Mrs Docker, Birmingham
	China "Springer" love spoon	Mr and Mrs Ross, Kent
	Box "Springer" magnets	Michelle Craig, Barnoldswicke
	Travel blanket	Mr and Mrs Ward, Fife
	Bottle of sherry	Mr and Mrs Whalley, Deandane Kennels
	Assortment "Springer" cards	Mr and Mrs Dangerfield, Monmouthshire
	Travel blanket	Mr and Mrs McKenna, Lincolnshire
	Pack of doggie coasters	Mr and Mrs Shaw, Leek
	China "Springer" trinket box	Mr and Mrs Ellery, Montrose
	China "Springer" milk jug	Mrs Woodcock, Cheshire
	Assortment of Springer cards	Mr and Mrs Barbour, Lanarkshire
	China "Springer" mustard pot	Mr and Mrs Bowdley, Middlesex
	China "Springer" salt and pepper set	Mr and Mrs Wood, Horwich
	"Springer" wall plaque	Mr and Mrs Brown, Lincolnshire



10 Rules for Springer Spaniels!

- ♥ Don't walk to heel—when you can be in front
- ♥ Refrain from "cocking" your leg up the Christmas tree
- ♥ Hide in the undergrowth where humans fear to tread
- ♥ Only swim in dirty water
- ♥ Never eat a meal, if you suspect it has a tablet in it
- ♥ Ask to be let out during a good TV programme
- ♥ Wear your muzzle with pride
- ♥ Don't easily be shifted from a comfy bed or chair without putting up a fight
- ♥ Pretend you can't hear a silent dog whistle
- ♥ Rescue someone



Heartbeats

Where did all the heartbeats go
Why is this place so cold
Why must I feel such loneliness
Is it a crime to grow old?

Where have all the smiles and laughter gone
Why does nobody come near
Why doesn't anyone talk to me
Why am I left here in fear

Why is my coat so dirty, and rough
Why are my paws so sore
How have I ended up in this place
I thought we were happy before

I need some sunshine, some rain on my face
I need to have fun in the park
I want to come home and protect you all
Make you safe in the night when it's dark

I want to have fun with the children
Chase a ball round the garden all day
Please come back and take me home
I promise I won't run away

Now there's someone outside looking in through the
bars

A young family with children there too
I hope that my cage isn't too dirty
I hope that they can't see the 'poo'

It's been a week since the day they looked in
I'm still here cold and alone
I'll make you happy just give me a chance
It's been ages since I chewed on a bone

They're taking me home I'm so happy again
Please let me give them such fun
A warm house full of heartbeats
And a garden where I can run, and run, and run.....

By Steve O'Connell



Doggie of the Year—a History

For those of you who are “newcomers” to Springer Rescue, you will not be aware of our annual Doggie of the Year – or two Doggies of the Year!! Christmas 1999, we decided instead of putting “any” picture on our front cover we would give a special award to a particular doggie who we felt deserved the title due to various reasons, ill health, behavioural problems, special needs, a doggie that came into Rescue that we knew would need that extra special home.



Stanley and Mitchell

Christmas 1999



Frankie

Summer 2000



Ben

Christmas 2000



Jakey

Summer 2001



Zak

Christmas 2001



Angus

Summer 2002



Travis

Christmas 2002



Baggins

Summer 2003



Rosie

Christmas 2003

For Our Charlie
6 February 1990—12 August 2004

Top Man, The Master, The General—Our Chip

Charlie, we miss you so, so much. You came into our lives one early evening in February 1997. Glyn had picked you up from yet another home, your fourth up to now!

The plan was to take you into kennels, but it was getting late, so Daddy decided it was best to bring you home, (just for a few days of course!) where we could "assess" you to enable us to find the right home for you. I remember the first moment I saw you, running into the garden and standing under the willow tree—it was love at first sight. Our Beckett and Gemma accepted you immediately—you were home.

From day one you were amazing such a marvellous character, so very special. Daddy knew there was no need to look for a home for you, you already had one—with us forever. We officially adopted you immediately, Charlie Griffiths, that was a very good day.

Time passed by and we lost our precious Beckett and Gemma, but by this time you already had two other brothers, George and Raglan. Oh! What fun we had, you were the second fastest Springer we had ever seen (Sam Shaw being just that little bit faster)!. You would run for England and you loved it. Then along came Cuffy and then Robbie, two more brothers—you were the five musketeers! The Boys—Happy Days.

As time went by, that "damn thing" Old Age began to creep in—you just slowed up, but still enjoyed life to the full. Eventually it was too much for you to go on long walks, but you always loved your food, even to the last, you were always first in the queue! And sleeping in your favourite spots, you were contented. Carried up to bed at night and then carried down in the morning. You would mooch around the garden and occasionally go for a little stroll on the fields.

Then came that dreadful, dreadful day. You became very, very ill and we had to say goodbye.

We miss you so much Chip, we send all our love always. God bless Top Man—until we meet again.

Our Charlie





Letters Page 1



Dear Glyn, Wendy and all at SSR

Update on Truffles, or as he is now known Raffles.

Well, we are writing this Sunday morning 7.30 am and its Raffles 4th birthday today, he is here on the bed asleep again while we are on the computer. He never does any work! Sleep, eat, play, sleep, eat, play, s l e e e e p.

When we spoke to you at the end of July and early August we were getting very desperate to re-home even though we were still hurting very much from the loss of "Dice" 1/7/04 our beloved Springer and we spoke about the little man above who you had had in approximately 6 weeks with a few problems. We were so intrigued by what you told us we had to arrange to visit, although we couldn't wait to get there to see him we tried very hard not to be disappointed if he was not going to be the doggy for us.

Raffles story so far:

14/8/04 When we arrived with Glyn down at the kennels he asked us to wait by the car, our minds were so busy we had many thoughts after the information that Glyn told us. Anyway he appeared from the kennels with this very lively bundle of bouncy enthusiasm and what a handsome little chappie, (I think it was love at first sight for us both). We took him a walk, he pulled a bit on the lead but didn't seem bothered we were total strangers and he came happily with us while we talked and talked, we both felt that we had to do something for him and give him a chance. It was decided that we would like to give him a try, and we would change his name to Raffles (yes it was a raffle as we really didn't know what we were letting ourselves in for). We knew he would never be like "Dice" and although this one had some behavioural problems we felt sure we could deal with them with lots of TLC and time. I remember talking to Glyn whilst Mick was getting to know Raffles and he was saying that he had a chance, this has stuck in my mind and I think of this often.

Once the paperwork was signed, he jumped into our car, didn't look back and all the way back we called him his new name etc, he slept like a baby on the seat just getting up now and then to look out of the window. After getting him home we introduced him to his new garden, boy did he take advantage that he could race up and down and jump from one lawn to the other, under the bushes and round the trees, it was a delight to see him having fun exploring. He slept in our room on his quilt that night never moved till morning, not a peep out of him, he sleeps here every night and snores.

We knew that we would have our work cut out for us but we were prepared to go to any length to make it work for us all. We also had to be cautious when he met other dogs, so on the first walk we were very careful but we encountered a black lab off the lead that pounced on him and although Raffles was on the lead they had a bit of a scuffle no one got hurt but we

thought this is not a good start. Over the coming weeks he has come on in leaps and bounds, he now plays happily off the lead with some of the doggies that he meets in the fields near us, some he doesn't like but some don't like him (that's dogs for you just like people some you like others you don't). When he is off the lead he is a joy to watch, he loves to run, you only have to whistle him or shout "Raffles this way" and he comes bounding back just like he is on springs.

The first week we had him he was very unsure when we went to work. We were leaving him in the kitchen, we realised very soon that he wasn't happy there and he would run to the back door or hall door and not let you out and growl at you, we had to move him with his lead and he would growl at you, but after a week we left the kitchen door open with access to the upstairs landing and the spare bedroom, he took to this like a duck takes to water, so he races up there when we go to work to the point that now he sometimes can't be bothered to come down when one of us comes in, he sleeps like a baby. We haven't had any mishaps in the house nor has he chewed anything he is absolutely wonderful, couldn't have asked for more, even at meal times Raffles will sit before you even ask him, and you can place his food down and he will not go to it until you tell him (bless his little soul).

We have had a few growls here and there with other situations like the yard gates where he loves to sit and watch everything going past, buses, cars, people and doggies, he's not keen on the paperboy/postman and will bark insistently, if you go up to him and try to move him away etc he will growl but wag his tail at you so we have learnt that we either ignore this or coax him to come in for a tidbit etc. At first we used to use the lead to fetch him in, but now he will come in on his own. We realise that he is quite nervous and frightened with some dogs and people but with patience and understanding we have seen very positive results, the growls are subsiding into a grumble and he will come to you with his paw, so his trust in us is growing which is helping when we encounter situations that he feels insecure.

The first couple of weeks in the evenings he would go upstairs for most of the time and sit by himself, just coming down to check on us or going for a walk when we called him, but on returning from his walk he would simply go back upstairs, we now know that he must have felt safe up there even though he slept in our room at bedtime. Now he will spend the evening sprawled out on the carpet snoozing, or playing ball and can he dribble a ball, he puts Beckham to shame!

We have taken to going to the local pub a couple of times a week for a drink to introduce him into the local scene with other people, children and doggies, he has not been any bother, he will go in and sit until someone wants to fuss him and he greets them with lots of enthusiasm, he enjoys a bag of pork scratchings with Mick and gets on very very well with the pub dog. He loves children goes mad with excitement when....

....our nephew comes a couple of times a week. Sometimes he sleeps over at the weekend for the night and Raffles will lie on his bed most of the night, just coming back into our room to check on us.

We have made very positive progress with Raffles in the short time that we have had him with the use of a book that was recommended to us "The Dog Listener" by Jan Fennel and the "Practical Dog Listener" also by her, these books are excellent reference guides, and we realised after reading the books we found that we were actually doing lots of things in the books so this helped us to realise we are on the right track.

Our daily routine has not changed since bringing Raffles into our lives, we think our old Springer has been visiting him during the night and giving him lessons. He has put the joy back into our household, it seems like he has always been here, and you can tell that he is very happy and adjusting well to his new life with us as his trust in us is growing each day and ours in him.

All we can say is a big big thank you to Springer Spaniel Rescue especially Glyn and Wendy for letting us have the opportunity to adopt R A F F L E S.

Have tried to keep it brief for your newsletter, but feel free to edit etc.

Kindest regards
Mick and Jenny
Not forgetting the little man himself Raffles (woof woof)

Dear Glyn and Wendy,

Just thought I would write again and let you know what a great time I've been having in my new home with my new Mum and Dad, Jess and Mike. It's been 4 months now since I arrived here and I'll bet you'll be glad to know that things here are still going so well.

In my last letter I told you that we were just about to go on our holidays to the Lake District with my Border Collie friends, Harry and Archie - well we've just got back, and it was amazing! We stayed in Ravenglass and Eskdale, near the railway, and as promised by Mum and Dad we rode on a train! It was great, although I tried to keep escaping as there were so many nice smells, but Dad had a tight grip so I wasn't going anywhere! We also went on some long walks in the day and I even learnt to swim (although admittedly I was chasing a bird and the water just got in the way!).

I slept in a tent with Mum and Dad, which was a bit strange at first but as the days went on I really enjoyed it. Oh and the weather it rained just as I had wanted... so loads of puddles, streams, mud and wet

hedges to explore! I was quite sad to come home actually as I didn't want it to end, but there's talk of doing it again really soon so looking forward to that.

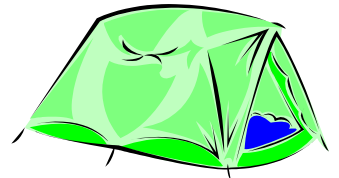
I have settled in my new home well now and actually don't mind being left on my own, as long as it's not for too long. I go on 2 walks every day and think Mum and Dad are used to it now and actually enjoying it, as I heard Dad tell Mum the other day he'd lost almost 1 stone from all the exercise!! They also have a run sometimes on my walks, it's quite funny to watch - they can't keep up with me but it's fun seeing them out of breath and very hot!!

Puppy classes have gone well; I got promoted into the next class, the advanced class the other day so I got a nice treat off Mum and Dad for that. I can now sit, stay, recall and walk to heel (...although Mum says 'almost') and have great fun doing all those commands. I think the advanced class will be harder but I'm really excited about it and always love meeting all the other doggies when we get there! My favourite dog is Tess, a Terrier, she's very good at her commands so I try to impress her as much as possible. Murdoch, my Pointer friend is naughty and I laugh at him as his Mum and Dad get very embarrassed when he barks and runs around! The lady who runs it, Pip, loves me and says I'm very good, for a Springer...not sure what she means by that.

Anyway best go, my dinner is ready and I would hate to miss a meal time as that's nearly my favourite time of the day (after walk time). It's my birthday soon so I will write after that and let you know what they got me. I wrote my birthday present list out the other day and put Tess, the Terrier at the top but not sure I'll get my way.

See you soon, take care.

Lots of love,
Joey xxx



Dear Glyn & Wendy.

Hi yall Jasper & Oliver here,

Well we've well & truly settled in now it's been over a year now since we took over the household & we love the walks, we go out every day, Jasper missed 1 walk & I've missed 2 walks due to illness, mine was a cold & I smacked my knee & cut the skin running up the back steps & needed one stitch & a silly satellite dish around my neck, but apart from that I must have put a pound or two on in the last year due to the great food. ...But Jasper eats the same & is fit as a butchers ### as they say, Over to Jasper now.

Well one morning I woke up to greet dad as he was going to work & as normal my bum & tail were going 15 to the dozen when I hit the end of my tail on the corner of the door, & "bang", the tip of my tail hurts like a Son of a Gun, & now two inches from the end there is a nice bend in it.

So how are you two doing? Not seen the summer newsletter yet, we hope you two are OK Cos you're doing a great job helping out our brothers & sisters, we had a look on the web site but there are no updates, dad say's you must be busy cos Christmas has gone & all the puppies have got bigger.

Dad's stopped taking me to training class cos he say's I'm great when I'm there but say's something else when I'm not????? He also say's my head is in the clouds when we are out, so now I am on a long long lead so I can have a run without doing a runner??????????

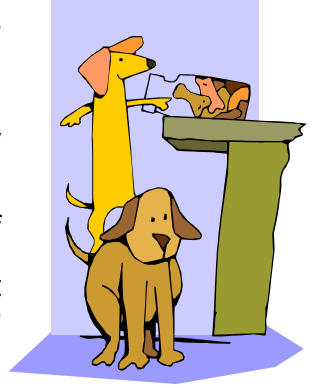
Ah well it's time too go now so we hope to hear from you two soon.

Thanks

Jasper, Oliver, Mum & Dad



did sometimes share my finds with my brothers and sister, but we weren't too keen on this brown powdery stuff. I think it is called cocoa!! My mum and dad have stopped me from doing it now though. They have put some kind of lock on it, but I can still open the oven door. Well might find something nice in there one day.



Well take care and thank you for finding us such a lovely home.

Love and licks,
Meg. XX

Now I think my brother wants to say a few words!

Hello Wendy & Glyn,

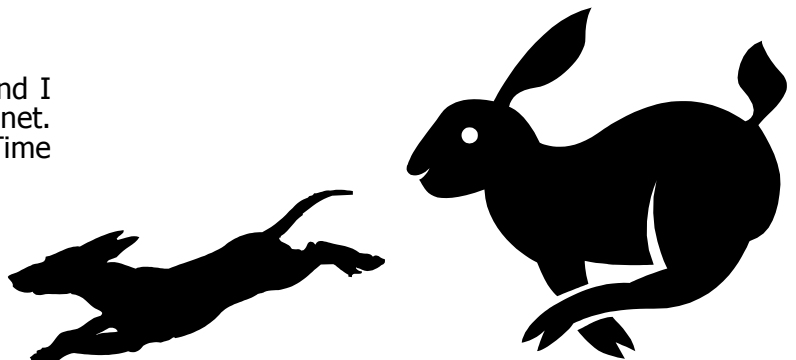
I thought I would tell you what a good boy I have been (unlike my sister). I have great fun in the garden, chasing after the ball, and sometimes after Millie the cat, with my adopted sister Maisey, and adopted brother Jack. Millie usually wins though. She can sure run fast and has very sharp claws!! Meg doesn't see the point of fetching the ball, only to have it thrown back down the garden again, so sometimes she just takes it away from me. She is such a bully and very very lazy!

I also love it when we go on long walks, but I think I shocked my mum and dad when I caught a rabbit. Funny thing was they wouldn't let me keep it, so I had to let it go. I only wanted to play with it! It disappeared into the bushes, but not before Jack had taken some fur from its tail as a souvenir. My other adopted brother George didn't have a clue what was going on. I don't think his eyesight is too good. Well had better go now as I need my beauty sleep, ready to play ball again!!! Love and licks, Sam. XX

Me and Meggie will write to you again, when our mum and dad let us use this machine thing again, to let you know how good we have been!!! (in their dreams).

Hi Wendy & Glyn,

Just a short note to say how happy my brother and I are living with my new mum and dad, Simon & Janet. I cannot believe we have been here a year now. Time flies when you're having fun! I have been in a little bit of trouble though, but then I wouldn't be a Springer if I didn't cause mayhem would I. I realised that if I pulled down the grill door on the cooker, I could jump up on it and then jump onto the cooker and explore the top of the worktops. I



Hi

Just thought I would write and let you know how I'm getting on in my new home. I LOVE it. I have a nice doggie friend to play with called Shadow and a nice new family who take me for long-long walks.

My new mum made Shadow and I two new cushions to sleep on But I like Shadow's so she lets me share it, it's nice cuddling up with Shadow of a night. I'm also eating different food as Shadow has fresh veg and mince so Mum said I could have the same it's really YUMMY!!! We go to lots of different places for our walks, I like the beach best, when we come home Shadow and I have to have a shower then we have our tea and curl up for the night. Thank you for finding me this home I really like it. I have lots of company now. Love and Licks

Maggie

Dear Wendy and Glyn

Hi my name is Cassie you might remember me the black and white spaniel you took to Ashton under Lyne that's where I met my new family I've lived there for almost a year now.

My new family are really nice, there's my new mum she's called Linda, me and my mum are best friends we go everywhere together we even sit on the same chair. Then there's my new dad he's called Dave he always gives me my medicine every morning which I really don't like having, he tries to trick me by putting it in milk but I can still taste it it's horrible. Then there's my new sister Jem, that's their collie. Me and Jem get on ok but sometimes she goes in a mood and ignores me. And I've got two cousins Jess and Cleo they always come round and torment me they are both staffs.

Me and my mum watch tele at night and eat polo's they're my favourite. Jem's really fussy she won't eat them unlike me I'll eat anything. When its time for bed me and Jem have a race to see who can get to

bed the quickest Jem always wins she's a lot younger than me she's 8 and I'm nearly 13.

Today my mum and dad let me go for a cut and I had a bath. This nice man picked me up and took me there I really enjoyed it getting pampered and going in a car, it cost my mum and dad a fortune I came back home smelling nice it tired me out though. Everyone one came round to see my new hair cut and they kept telling me how pretty I looked.

When my mum reads the newsletters you send she always gets upset and tells me I'm one of the lucky ones. I like my new home and my new family I'm so glad I came here I'm always getting stroked and cuddled and getting my own way.

All my love forever and always
Cassie the spaniel lots of
sloppy licks to everyone
from me.



Dear Wendy and Glyn

Thought it was time I dropped you a line about my new family, June and David (Mum and Dad), Andrew (big brother). The day they picked me up I was quite nervous as I had been travelling all morning, but I need not have been. After a few days getting used to their northern accents everything has been great! Every weekend we go to our caravan at Scorton, where some of our walks take us onto the top of the moors, through woods and fields for hours.

At home we walk 2-3 times a day around Rivington where I never need to walk on the lead, which I promise I am getting better at ("honest")! Mum and Dad don't allow me on to the chairs, but when they are not there Andrew does (don't tell Mum and Dad). They are gradually understanding that I will do as they request but sometimes it takes a little longer than others.

I've been to the Vets and everything is great, but I heard them say I will have the snip at about 8 months according to the Vet. "Don't know what snip means"?

Anyway have to go, will write again soon.
Love Brin (Brinsley)



Dear Springer Rescuers,

Well, another year has just about passed by and in just a few more days it will be three years since you introduced Molly into our lives and what happy years they have been.

The Observer Book of Dogs describes the Springer as being Merry and Bright but that is not the half of it. They are, as you well know, absolutely irrepressible, permanently full of the joys of spring and determined to ensure that their humans are up, about and doing the whole day long. It's impossible to be in their company and be depressed because they will not allow it!

We have been kept by Springers (every one a bitch I might add) for more than twenty five years now and one of the marvellous things about every one of them has been that each has had her own individual personality that has defied comparison with any of their predecessors. Oh yes I know that we frequently say that part of Sally is under Molly's skin because until the day Sally died she always sniffed at every tidbit she was offered and Molly does the same. Milly, on the other hand, like most dogs gulps everything down without hesitation. For the rest however Molly goes about her business in her own inimitable way.

Thank goodness though; there is an underlying thread that runs through each and every Springer we have shared our lives with. It is something that needs no training because it's in their genes. I mean, of course, their ability to recognise the call of a pheasant from the very first time they take you out for a walk in the woods and meadows. Even as a young pup they will pause in their play to cock their head, listen to the sound and check the location. How I wish I knew with the certainty that they know, why God put me on earth.

Milly and Molly know that one of their main responsibilities is to see that we do not forget important things like bath time. No not their bath time! Heaven forbid! They'll spend all day throwing themselves in the river or lake but bathrooms are to be avoided like the plague except to see that Margaret and I get into the bath or shower each evening before dinner. So at half past six on the dot (their internal clocks are more accurate than Big Ben) they will find a teddy bear (don't ask me why) and stand by the door to the hall and stairs staring at us as though to say, "Come on! It's bath time so rouse yourselves". They will then go up-

stairs and wait for a few minutes and if we do not follow they will come down again still carrying their teddy bears and stare hard and long until in effect we do as we are told.

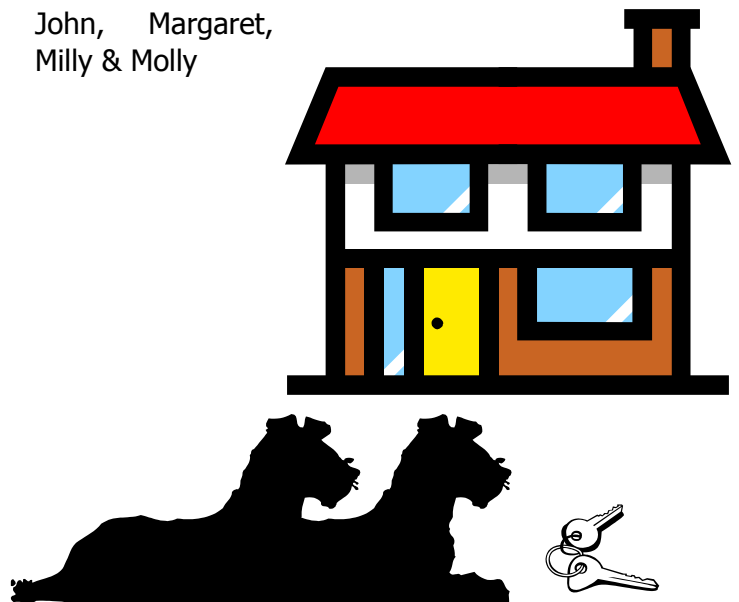
Milly and Molly can still behave like young puppies and play chase, tug-o-war and engage in wrestling matches. This last is particularly interesting because Milly as the older and bigger dog is very definitely "Top Dog" but just as a human parent will romp with their child and allow the child to apparently win a wrestling match so Milly will allow Molly to pin her to the ground whilst both of them emit the most blood curdling growls. You can almost persuade yourself that Molly is saying, "Give - In then?" We know that we have been very lucky because Milly and Molly have been the best of pals from the first moment they met.

We can never thank you all enough for bringing Molly to us. When she first came she helped mend two hearts that had been broken by the deaths of first Sally and then, six months later by Peggy and she continues, day after day, to impress upon us that life is good and infinitely well worth living.

We jokingly tell our son and daughter that they must keep on the right side of Milly and Molly since Milly owns 51% of the equity in the Ross Household and Molly the other 49% (There must always be a majority shareholder) and so the attached cheque, although signed by me, has the full authority of the owners and is sent with grateful thanks for all your splendid work.

With our very best regards,

John, Margaret,
Milly & Molly



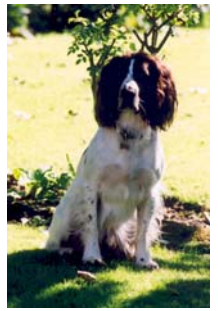


Raffles

Gallery



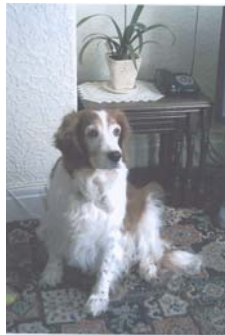
Charlie



Raffles



Dylan



Bronwyn



Oliver



Laurel and Hardy



Jamie



Drummer



Hattie



Mack



Pippa and Daisy



Ollie



Pippa



Woody and Digger