

SPRINGER SPANIEL RESCUE



Hello and welcome to our Summer' Newsletter 2009.

We do hope you are all well and looking forward to summer.

Well, since our last update, things here at Rescue have been quite hectic. I think this dreadful "credit crunch" has apparently affected many animals lives.

We certainly have had many more Springers in need of a new home, and I know from friends at other organisations, they too have had numbers of homeless animals dramatically increased due to our current economic climate. The number one reason we seem to hear, is people having to leave their homes and go into rented accommodation and are unable to take their "pets" with them. It is a dreadful state of affairs, but fortunately, thank goodness, we have been able to find wonderful new homes for our rescue Springers.

This year, as usual we will be having a summer raffle (tickets enclosed 5 for £1.00, there are lots of lovely prizes, please just put your name and phone number, and return to ourselves), but sadly we are not attending one fund raising day (Newburgh fair, Saturday 13th June). We will not be having our usual stand at Peover Game fair, which is a great shame as we have had wonderful times at Peover each year since 1997, but unfortunately, due to new management there, it just isn't the same anymore (I'm sure, the people who have visited last year will agree).

On a personal note, we lost our Raglan in January and our "Rigbert" has attended each show with us since we first started, and to be there without him – Things are just not the same. If anyone would like to continue with any "shows" and would help, please give us a call and we would be delighted for your input.

Now!!! I'm going to have a little "moan"!!! We are just not getting the letters from your precious Springers. We all want to hear what they have been up to!!

And I must say, this is directed at you "newbie's" – So come on, letters please for our future newsletters. Try and keep them reasonably short, so we can fit in more. Thank you!! – moan over - !!!

Please enjoy your newsletter and as always, our many many thanks for your continued support.

From all the team at Springer Spaniel Rescue, Glyn, Wendy, Joan, David, Keeley, Mark, Barbara, Paul, Fiona, Tom, Eva, Joe, Trevor, Craig, Derek and Judy .

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Visit our website and Sign our guestbook at www.springerrescue.org.uk

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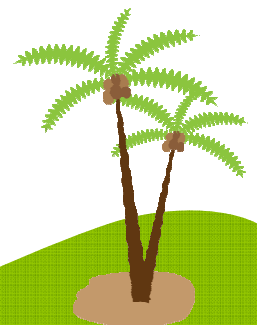
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Sad news on dear Max (retired police doggie)

For many of you will remember our article on Max (featured in the Summer Newsletter '08)



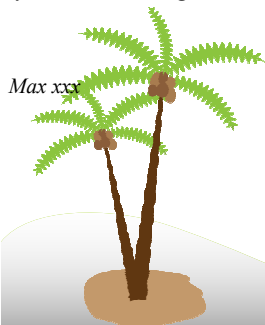
A JOYFUL MAX RUNNING WITH HIS BUDDY STANLEY

A wonderful boy who got “his legs back” (Please see our Summer Newsletter '08 for the full story)

So very sadly, I received the following email in January from dear Max himself.

Mighty Max here - I wheeled my way to the bridge today at 10:45. Yesterday after a brilliant week of gardening, swimming, going to work with the humans and getting to ride out in the van on three shooting days, I somehow got a rapid infection into the joints of my left leg which may have been connected to my tumour, but in any case left me unable to stand or walk and very uncomfortable. I did not want to get out of my van for work with lady dog last night, so she knew I must have been bad, as on Friday I leaped out as always and spent an evening annoying the cops!

I watched my Lady and Big dog agonising over letting me go but I stayed proud, handsome, dignified and mighty as ever, until I let them see their decision was the right one. As the big dog finished my new resting place this afternoon overlooking the fields at home, a rainbow came out so they know I am waiting for them at the bridge. I have had a brilliant life full of everything a dog could want, only trouble was that someone gave me a naff body to do it in. But hey, I think I made the most of it. Will be waiting at the bridge for the pack in the sun.



Max xxx

GOD BLESS DEAR MAX - 'till we all meet again X



I'LL REMEMBER

I'll remember you with laughter

I'll remember you with tears

I'll remember you with gratitude

For all those happy years

Dedicated to:-

Will Ratcliffe

Jasper Williams

Megan Hedges

Rosie O'Connor

Bramble Eccleston

Tess Parker

Ben Parr

Max Higgins

Raglan Griffiths

James Harold (Jamie) Griffiths

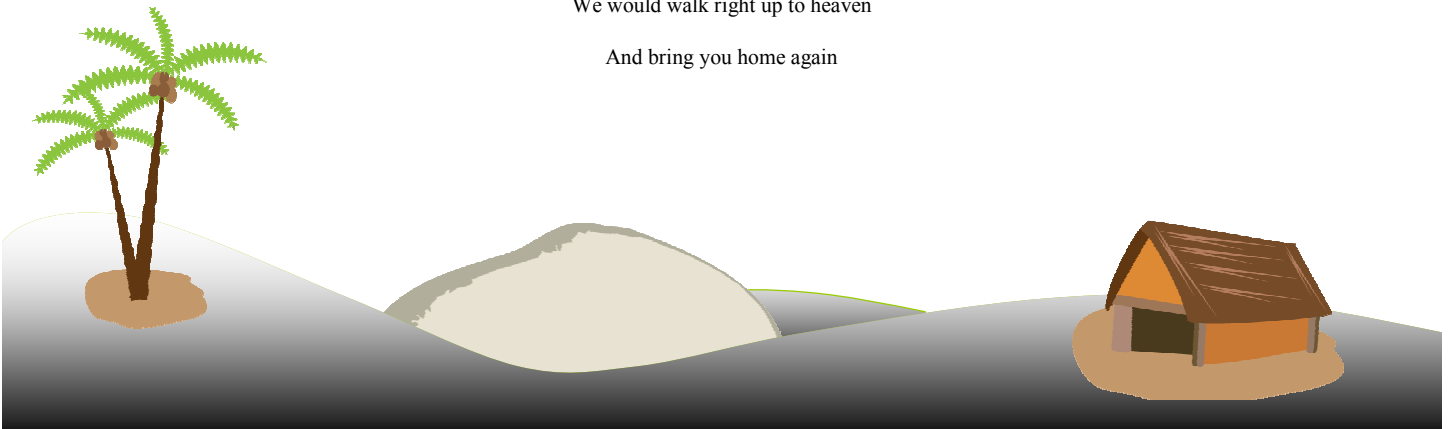
GOD BLESS YOU ALL

If tears could build a stairway

And memories build a lane

We would walk right up to heaven

And bring you home again



If it should be that I grow weak
And pain should keep me from my sleep
Then you must do what must be done
For this last battle cant be won

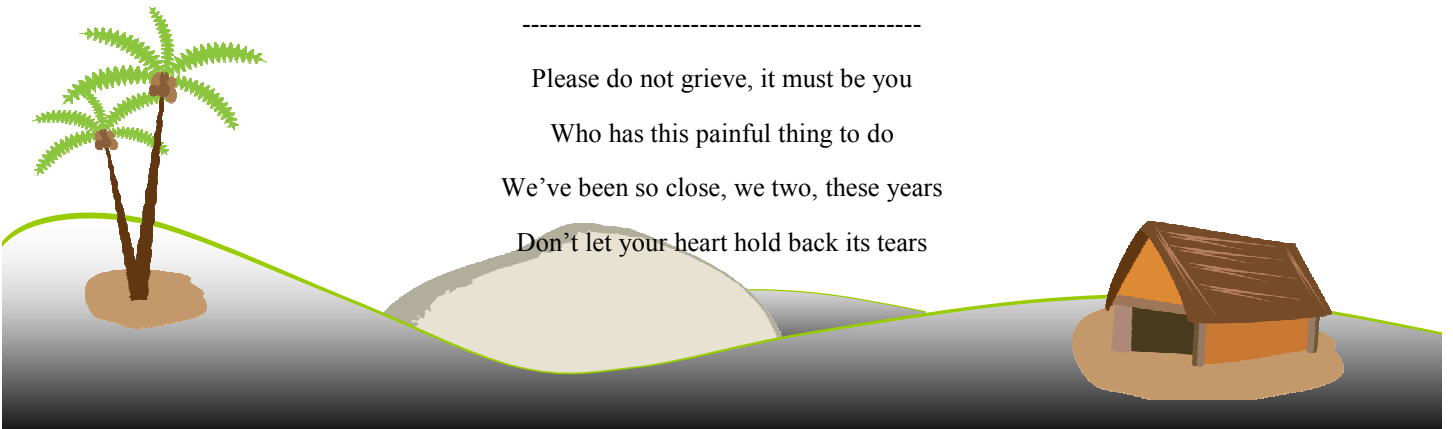
You will be sad – I understand
Don't let your grief, then stay your hand
For this day more than all the rest
Your love for me must stand the test

We've had so many happy years
What is to come can hold no fears
You'd not want me to suffer so
The time has come, please let me go

Take me to where my need's they'll tend
And please stay with me till the end
Hold me firm and speak to me
Until my eyes no longer see

I know in time that you will see
The kindness that you did for me
Although my tail, it's last, has waved
From pain and suffering I've been saved

Please do not grieve, it must be you
Who has this painful thing to do
We've been so close, we two, these years
Don't let your heart hold back its tears



If you.....

If you can start the day without caffeine?

If you can get going without pep pills?

If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains?

If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles?

If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it?

If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time?

If you can take criticism and blame without resentment?

If you can conquer tension without medical help?

If you can relax without liquor?

If you can sleep without the aid of drugs?

.....THEN YOU ARE PROBABLY THE FAMILY DOG!!!!



And you thought I was going to get all spiritual with this, huh!?



Moments with Maddie

Dear Glyn, Wendy & Co,

I think my mistress forgot to send you information of my progress, she obviously has not had the training I have!!

Every Sunday,

Off we go in the car,

I'm good when I travel,

But hope its not far.

Every Weekend

It's been pouring with rain,

It's not far from Matlock,

Where I'm learning to train.

Every Sunday

I get covered in mud,

I go left, I go right,

I'm really quite good

And then there's the retrieve,

Here's how it goes,

I sniff at the dummy,

With my wet nose

They throw it afar,

Then make me sit,

And at the command,

I go after it!

A pheasant's no good,

If it's cold and dead,

I'll not get that one –

(shaking my head)

I like them alive,

To flush them out,

Now that to me,

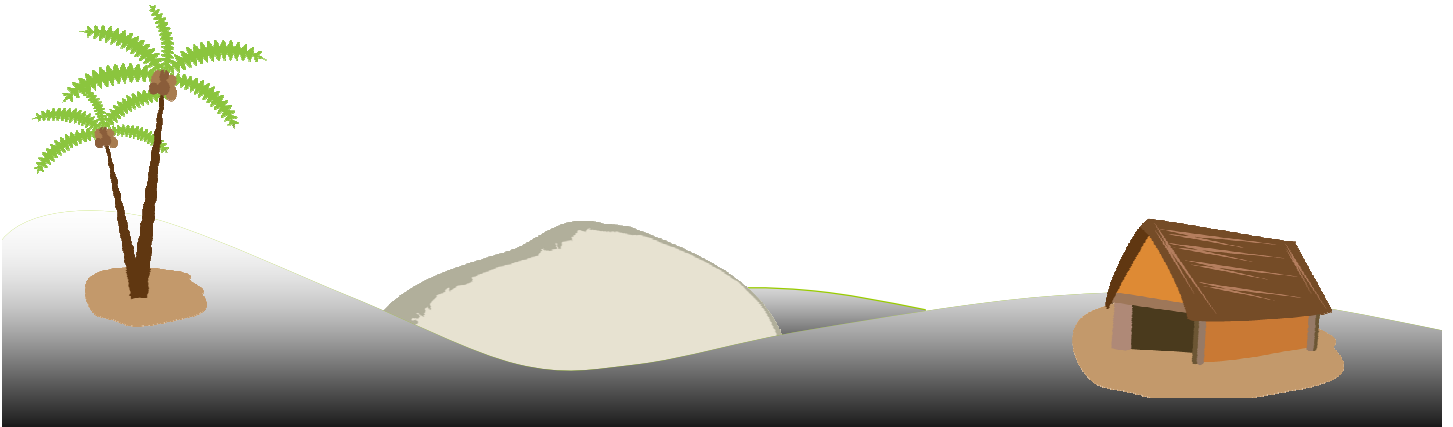
Is a jolly good rout!

I'm not one to brag,

Smart dogs never do,

But I passed with a merit,

**I'M A GUN DOG – “GRADE
TWO”**



Dear Glyn & Wendy and all the Waggy Springer's,

Thought I'd better write after reading your latest newsletter and you saying you aren't getting many letters, I felt a bit bad and thought I'd better put paw to keypad and let you know how I am getting on. I suppose it's a couple of years since I wrote to you.

I am 7 years old now and my mum says I should be calming down a bit now.....What does that mean? Do I have to stop playing football?? Can I still chase furry things?? Maybe I just have to stop catching them! My dad isn't happy when I catch things, I can't understand it myself, I'm sure it's my job! It just feels so right! My dad has done a few funerals I'm afraid to say, Mr Mole and several of his friends, and Mr Squirrel and Mr Mouse, almost Mr Chicken! Which I really didn't want to let go, cos I love chicken! I'd always wanted to catch one and when I did my dad made me drop it! Can you imagine! I was mortified, after all that hard work.

Well we're off on our holidays again on Saturday; we're going to Wales so I will have lots of walks on the beach. I don't think we'll be climbing any mountains this year cos Maxwell my big brother is nearly 13 and not as fit as he used to be. He's only got one eye and is a bit deaf, and his legs are a bit wobbly, if I push him he falls over!!

I've learnt a new trick, if I approach from his 'eyeless' side, I can nick half of his Bonio before he has a chance to know what's happening, I think it's a good game, but my mum and dad don't. It must be a 'dog' thing!

We went camping in June and it was loads of fun, me and Max have our own beds, but I prefer the big bouncy one with the air in that my mum and dad sleep on, so when they are asleep I snuggle up in the middle, just like being at home really. We went swimming in the sea, fetching balls and stuff and then surfed back in with the waves, it was great.

I've had my summer hair-cut so I'm looking cool and cute. As soon as my dad's worked out how to use his new digital camera I'll get them to send some pictures, he's got some great pics but doesn't know how to get them from the camera and printed yet!

Best go now, it's time for my afternoon snooze. I'll write again soon with pictures of me on my holidays!

Love and wags

Barney and family xx

Hello everyone this is Toby, I just wanted to let you know that I have settled in very well in my new home. I've only been here ten days but I have had lots of visitors and everyone says it's as if I've been here forever. The children play with me a lot and I am being taken on lots of lovely long walks. I especially like the woods near my house, there are so many interesting smells and noises. I always make a bee-line for the ditch at the end of the wall because it's full of green slimy water and it smells so GOOD!

My new owners soon discovered that I love balls of all shapes and sizes, no matter who they belong to! I disgraced myself last week at football training when they had to stop the match because I ran on to the pitch and grabbed the ball. I'm not allowed to watch next week but I know everyone thought it was funny so I'm sure if I behave myself they will let me go again. It's just so hard to resist a chance to play.

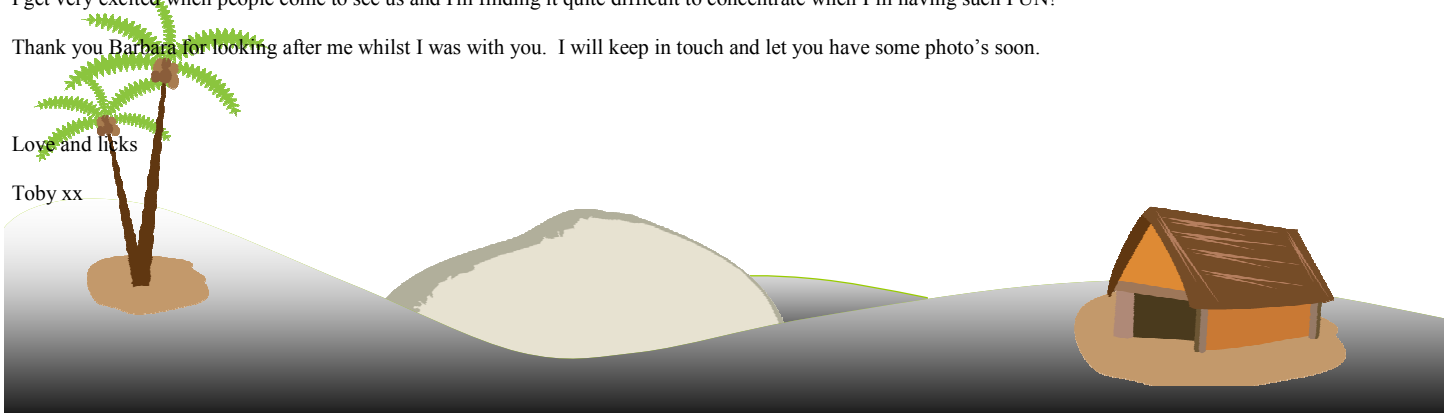
I have claimed the sofa by the window in the living room and spend most of my day there either sleeping or watching everyone walk past the house. I am getting to know lots of new friends that I meet in the park in the mornings and I am told that I am a good boy because I don't pull on the lead any more.

I get very excited when people come to see us and I'm finding it quite difficult to concentrate when I'm having such FUN!

Thank you Barbara for looking after me whilst I was with you. I will keep in touch and let you have some photo's soon.

Love and licks

Toby xx



Hi Glyn and Wendy,

Hope this finds you both in good health.

Sorry it has taken so long in getting my mum to send these pictures but they have got there now. We regularly look at the website and the gallery, there are some funny doggies on there.

Thank you for finding me a nice home where everyone loves me. I am getting on very well, do you know it is nearly a year since I came to live with mum, Richard, Sean and Liam in Blackpool. Mum has a picture of Sam in the kitchen and I thought it was me? I have nearly the same markings as he had and the same white mark down my face that he had. He must have been handsome if I look like him? (HA HA)

I am going to the hairdressers in a few days to have a wash as mum says I pong a bit and I look like I have mops on my feet and the ears could do with a chop as they get in my water. Mum and Richard usually bath me but it's a bit cold and windy here in Blackpool, I don't like the hairdryer very much so they have to chase me to catch me, I don't like it because it makes a noise, but its OK once they have started on me with it, its nice and warm and I like to rub my ears all over the carpet which doesn't please mum too much, but I don't care because I have my feet well and truly under the table now.

I have started to sleep next to mummy's bed or I lie in her doorway to keep all the nasties away from her. I like to protect her as she takes me out for walkies every day, we went out walking so much that she was able to do the ***race for life (5K)*** this year, which was a big achievement for her after her operation, but she did it and raised loads of money. I'm proud of her. She also takes me out in the car a lot when she goes out and I wear the seatbelt, but if we are going a long way, mum straps me in and I have to wear my harness for that.

I've got a new friend she's called Olivia, she's Richard's girlfriend (I like her), me and her share things, she pinches my blanket and cuddles up with it, and plays with me with my toys. She also gives me biscuits and treats and they are the same sort that mum gives me, "wonder where she finds them"?

Well going to go and have another nap now as it is hard work being a dog.

Woofs and licks

Love from Bobby Potter xxx

Hi there Glyn & Wendy,

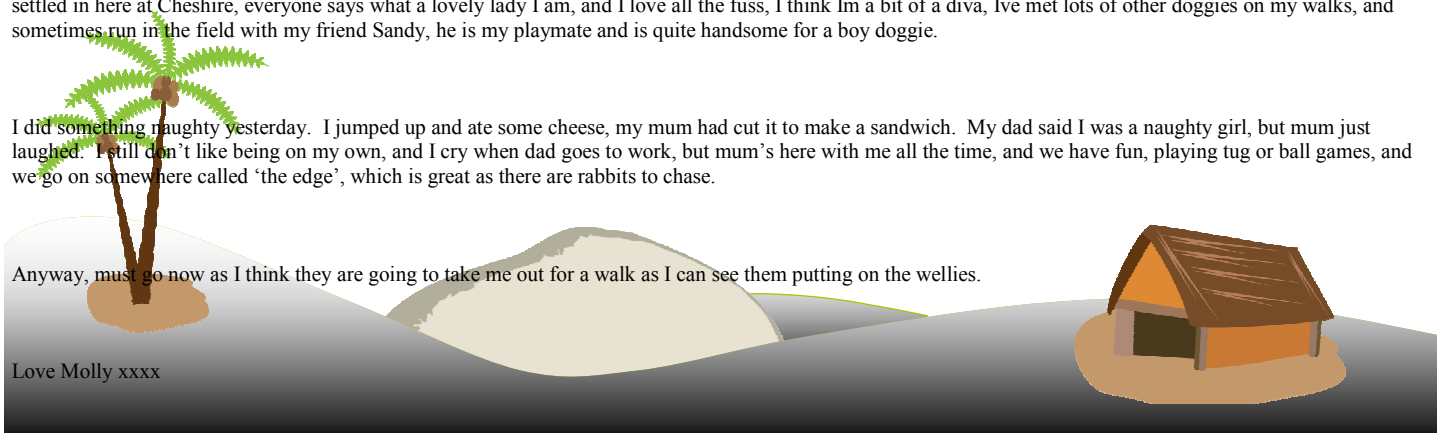
Its me again, Molly. Thank you for the newsletter, the stories made my mum cry, she tried to read them about six times, before she could without crying. Anyway Ive finished my season now, and I am being spayed in August. Mum and dad took me to see Janet my vet, and she has given me a clean bill of health. Ive had a sore nose, but Janet gave us some cream to put on, but oh what a palaver!! I just wouldn't sit still, but my dad said I would have to have it done, so I would be able to smell all the new scents in the fields where I run and play, so I perservered, and now my nose is getting better.

Mum has had my microchip changed, just in case I get lost. But theres no chance of that, I wont run away, I know which side my bread is buttered!!!! Ive really settled in here at Cheshire, everyone says what a lovely lady I am, and I love all the fuss, I think Im a bit of a diva, Ive met lots of other doggies on my walks, and sometimes run in the field with my friend Sandy, he is my playmate and is quite handsome for a boy doggie.

I did something naughty yesterday. I jumped up and ate some cheese, my mum had cut it to make a sandwich. My dad said I was a naughty girl, but mum just laughed. I still don't like being on my own, and I cry when dad goes to work, but mum's here with me all the time, and we have fun, playing tug or ball games, and we go on somewhere called 'the edge', which is great as there are rabbits to chase.

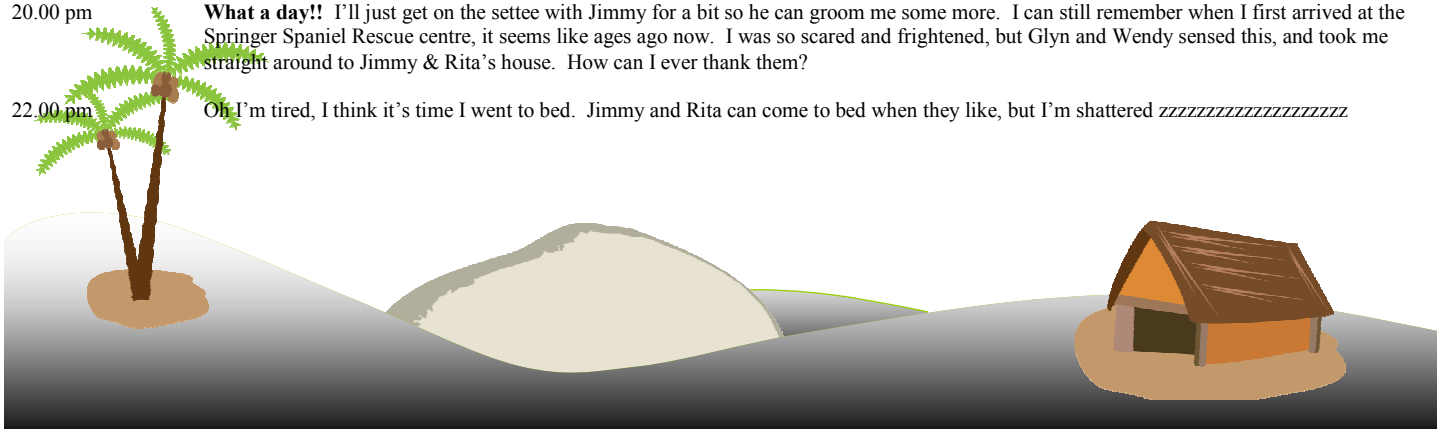
Anyway, must go now as I think they are going to take me out for a walk as I can see them putting on the wellies.

Love Molly xxxx



What a lovely surprise to receive a package in the post, and when you open it you have won a prize, many thanks. Anyway I have hung the lead hanger for Jack's leash and Rita has claimed the coat bridge (she loves it). Now I had better let you both know how Jack is getting on. WELL Jack is a character, he is a totally different dog from when he first came to us, he is a lovely guy who has had a bit of abuse when he was younger. Even now you can be stroking him, and all of a sudden he starts growling for nothing and gets louder and louder until he yelps and realises that everything is okay. But it seems that is something from his past. Apart from that, he is a diamond, he loves his food and he will eat anything (even grapes and tomatoes).

A Day in the Life of Jack

[illegible]

Dear Glyn & Wendy,

At last!! A wee update on my boys, Baggy and Buster. It will be 6 years on Sunday since we adopted Baggy from you. He's coming on leaps and bounds (literally) as you know since then. He stills steals things when he's bored and still can turn very nasty if you forget to treat him with a healthy respect! Pillows still have to be put up on top of the wardrobe immediately the moment you remove your head from the pillow, we still cant read the newspaper or leave the remote controls on any surface below about 5ft. He still chases aeroplanes down his garden and barks at anyone that dares to drive past his house. Still tries to kill the next door neighbour when he takes his wheelie-bin up the side of the house on a Monday morning, still tries to shove you out of the way to get to the dishwasher, and still hovers by the washing machine in the hope that there's a dosing ball thingy in there that he can grab and run off with. Wouldn't be without him!

We watch the Dog Whisperer every week but Baggy's not impressed. Buster likes him though! Baggy usually shuffles off to bed when he's on.

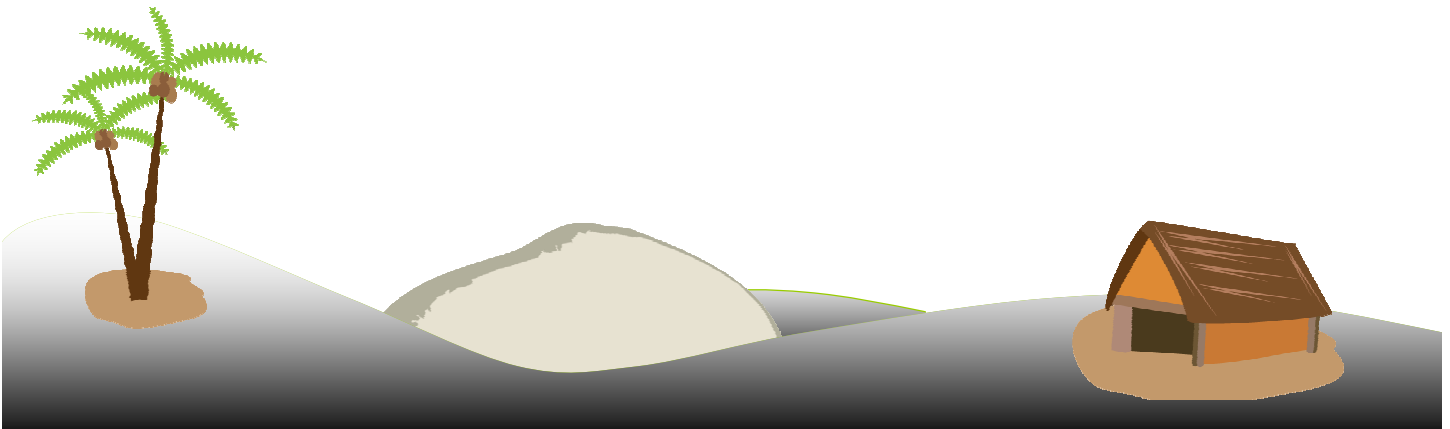
Buster is doing great. He's a fantastic little dog, best companion you could ever want, never touches anything, never destroys anything, doesn't fuss about, sits on your lap while watching telly, snuggles up in bed (don't need a hot water bottle in this house!), and is just gorgeous all the time. He doesn't get off the lead anymore though, as he still goes AWOL given have the chance, and I'd be utterly heartbroken if anything happened to him.

Baggins had his annual check-up at the vet last week, and I thought we might be in for a but of bother as Baggy had chewed up his fleecy blanket on the way there and had a bit of the edging tape stuck between his bottom teeth. He wouldn't let me remove it and started doing his aggressive possessive bit with the mad stares and whites of his eyes. He's definitely improved though, because he grows now before he bites (never used to, was always a bit of a shock to have him clamped to your fingers before you could blink). Anyway this was a bit of a problem as Frank would have been unable to examine him in this state. Frank, of course, doesn't believe me when I tell him what Baggy can be like, as Baggy has up till now been a model patient in the surgery. Luckily, Baggy swapped it for a biscuit in the waiting room and all went well (apart from him being molested by an ancient Cocker Spaniel). Frank declared him a fine figure of a dog and says he's very fit. Should be good for another 8-10 years.....

The two of them are still pretty much the best of friends although we had a wee incident in the back of the car a few months ago. Buster got beaten up by Baggy, not sure what sparked it off. So now Buster goes in a harness on the back seat and Baggy gets the estate bit of the car all to himself (behind bars). Other than that, they get on well and Buster usually has the upper hand. He teases Baggy with his ball and can move much faster when it comes to doing a runner.

Anyway, hope all is well with you, and that you're finding lots of great homes for these gorgeous dogs.

Best wishes from Colin, Baggy, Buster and Sylvia xxx



Just a sample of life with Bridget

She was a very good jumper not hesitating to jump over garden walls, even when on her lead.

She loved milk and given the chance would tip over the bottle, break the foil top and drink the milk.

She was a great collector of tennis balls in the summer. She even sniffed out a ball stuck in a hawthorn near the tennis courts. She would carry them home and sometimes sit with a ball in her mouth. In later years she would drop balls in her water dish.

One time while out in the garden, she put her paws on the window bottom and there was Bridget's face peeping through the window. I just had to laugh. She swam in the ??? at ??? and also in the Derwen at Pheasington. When the ??? of the Delph began to fill with water, she swam across to visit Stan and Helen. She enjoyed swimming there until the householders began to worry about the water ??? towards their gardens. When the drains were cleaned the pool disappeared and Bridget's swimming was over. Her last good swim was the pool at the Sunnyhurst wood's at Derwen. She also had a swim in the lily pond on Wilton Park.

Bridget was wonderful at 'sit and stay'. Emma will also do 'sit and stay' but when I called Emma, Bridget would sit and wait till I called her too. However if I called Bridget first Emma would come with her.

She always walked on my left side. Once I asked Bridget to sit and stay near the golf course and forgot to tell her to come. It was a very steep climb and when ??? and I got to the top NO BRIDGET, panic where is she? Then I saw her still sat where I had left her at the bottom of the hill. I can only imagine what poor Bridget thought.

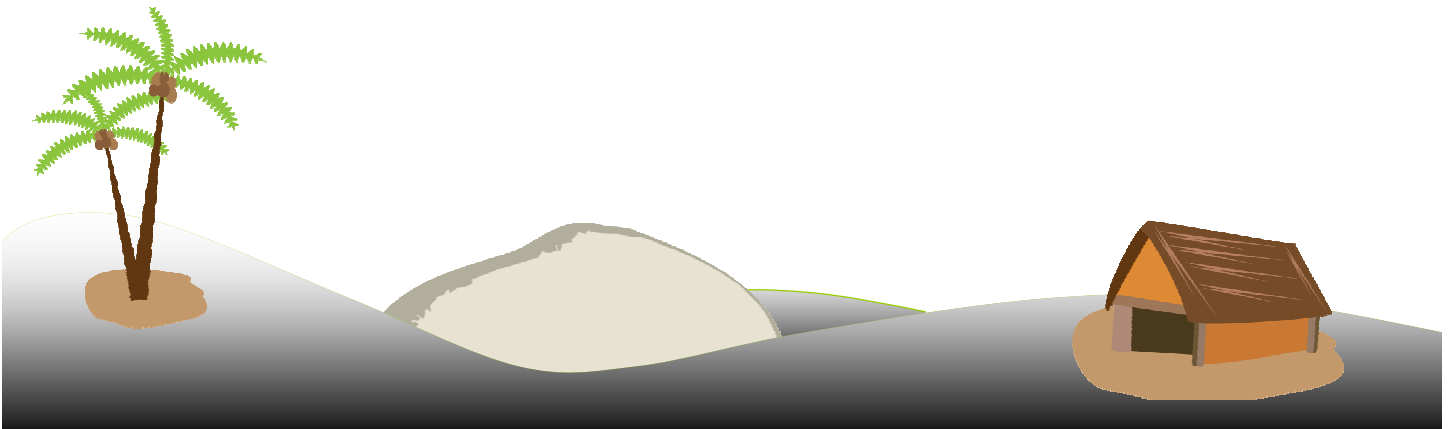
Bridget always loved men and would sit beside any man. She followed Stan devotedly. I have a photograph of her doing this – following him as if she were his dog. Jilly his own dog in the distance.

Bridget was (Springer like) full of enthusiasm, full of fun, tail constantly wagging. A joy to live with, I have felt my heart swell with love for her. I was so lucky to spend wonderful years with her. I thank you with all my heart for finding her for me.

She endured her illness without complaining and with great dignity.

Her passing has left a huge hole in my life, but I'm proud to have been part of her life. I just miss her so much.

Mojo sends her love and lots of tail wags.



Woof everybody,

My mum has just shown me my photo in the Springer Spaniel Rescue brochure, and I'm so excited, I had to write. Had I known about this, I'd have written before now, so I'll probably be boring with all my news!

It was four months ago that my mum, dad and Ellie (their other Springer), came to Wigan to see me. I was cowering in the corner of the kennel, growling at them as I didn't like humans that much, having had three previous homes in my short life (they thought I was 10 months old, but that was a guess), and when I think of how skinny I was, I shudder. Every rib stuck out and everyone felt sorry for me.

Anyway, they took me out of the kennel and Ellie and I ran around the field getting to know each other. She seemed to like me so mum and dad took me home. I sat in the back of the car with my new mum and stuck my head out of the window a little, loving every minute. We stopped at mum's favourite dog shop near home, and they bought me a new collar, lead and a super bed, which Ellie also likes. Then I went home and the spoiling began. Mum gives me lots of love, hugs and cuddles, and dad is good too when Ellie gets jealous – we both have a knee to sit on.

Saturday morning they took me to the vets, who said I was a bit skinny, but seemed pretty healthy – well she got that wrong!! Mum kept trying to fatten me up with breakfast followed by my porridge, milk and honey, then lunch, afternoon snack and dinner. But because I had a funny tummy, nothing stayed inside me. After some blood and poo tests, it was found that I had compileabatus (I don't know how to spell that) and I got some pills to take for almost a month!!! Soon things improved, but when I was out for a long walk, I cut my pad on a piece of glass left by some thoughtless person. I had to have 10 stitches, as it was in a very difficult place, and that meant I couldn't run for a week. Everyday out on a lead – very boring. Dad hated it, but he persevered!

We live in a lovely cottage, and I don't need a lead, as I turn right out of the house, over a small bridge with a lovely stream underneath, and straight into the county. There are ducks and rabbits everywhere, and for a while, there were young lambs which really wanted to play with me, but mum said no. I love swimming but chasing rabbits and ducks is my favourite hobby. Ellie is only 2 years old but sometimes she seems much older and I have to encourage her to chase the rabbits. We walk so much, it's tiring some days, and my dad has lost a lot of weight. Mum works part time and when she comes home its like we haven't seen her for a year – we jump all over her, and cover her in kisses.

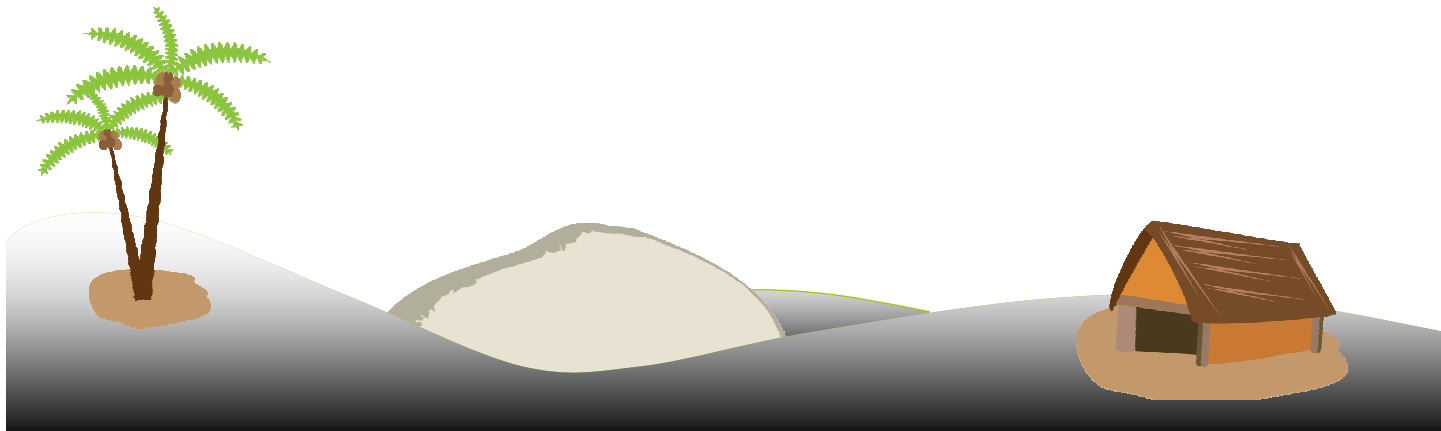
On Thursday I had to have an operation so that I don't have any puppies. When I was in season, William, a huge Dalmatian who lives around the corner, paid me a lot of attention, and was at the window every morning to say hello. His family weren't too happy with him and mum had to make sure I didn't escape to play with him. Thankfully all went well, and now we don't have to worry about puppies.

I am so happy to say that I've finally got the home I deserve with all the love I could possibly want. I don't like being on a lead, as I'm not used to it, but today, mum walked me almost 4 miles to the pub and dad met us there for a pint (I quite like a little taste of beer, and so does Ellie). At the pub, everyone loves us both and spoils us with dog biscuits and cuddles, it's great. I've got to stay on the lead for 10 days, which will be awful for everyone, but we'll manage.

We've got a trailer tent so we can all go camping together and I'm getting a passport soon so we can have even more adventures. Life is good. So, thank you to everyone at Springer Spaniel Rescue.

Bye bye from Jess (formerly Amy)

Ellie, Kath & Ken xxxx



Dear Glyn and Wendy,

I have been in my new home for just over a year now and I know my Mum and Dad have kept you updated with my progress but I thought it was about time I sent you a letter. I can't use the keyboard on the computer, as my paws are too big so I dictated it to my mum and she has used her excellent typing skills for me!

I was a very scared and extremely nervous little girl when I came into your care in March last year, having had two homes in my first 16 months! I had to spend 4 nights in your kennels before my new mum and dad came to rescue me and I remember Glyn would visit me each day and sit on the floor in my kennel to try and comfort me.

My new mum and dad fell in love with me straight away (who wouldn't!!) and had no doubts about taking me home with them even though they knew I was of a nervous disposition. I later found out that they had been very sad, as their last Springer Spaniel called Pippa had gone to sleep forever six weeks before.

I love my new home and garden. I have two favourite places – my lovely cosy bed, which is in the spare room (I like to call it “Millie’s room” – I might even ask if I can have my name on the door!) and the sofa in the conservatory, which has a special fleecy dog blanket over it just for me! I adjust to my new life quite quickly considering this was my third home and I got lots of TLC from mum and dad, which helped a lot. I love them sooooo much but am still very nervous of people I do not know.

I love going for my daily walks across the fields around our village. I am completely different when I am out off the lead and can run around. I am very confident and love to play with any dog I meet. Unfortunately, not every dog wants to play with me and just ignore my enthusiastic attempts to get them to join in! I have got two best friends who I see regularly on my walks - Max who is a Beagle and Sabre who is a big strapping black Labrador. We have such great games together, chasing each other round and round! My other favourite pastime is SWIMMING! I just love water (no surprise there as I am a Springer Spaniel after all!!!) and it doesn't even matter what colour it is either. I don't care whether it is clear, brown or black – I have been in all types!

I have been to the Lake District quite a few times and we are going to Cornwall for a week soon. All those lovely dog friendly beaches to explore – I can't wait! My mum and dad went abroad for a week late last year but I didn't mind at all as my grandma and granddad came to look after me and better still, they brought their Springer Spaniel Jess with them! She is 12 now and doesn't want to play with me but I still love having her around and secretly I think she loves me too!

Last summer I had my portrait done by your artist friend Fay, as mum and dad won first prize in your raffle and I must say she has caught my beauty perfectly and everyone who sees it, says how lovely it is.

I really have fallen on my paws this time – I suppose you could say it was third time lucky!

Lots of love to you both and everyone else at SSR

Millie Holdcroft

P.S. Mum and dad (Mark & Paula) say hello too.

Please visit Fays web site, an amazing artist, who can capture your Doggie to perfection through paint.

www.trigonsys.eclipse.co.uk



GALLERY



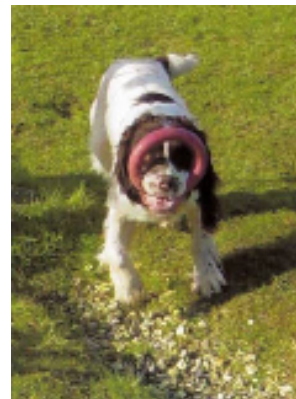
DOMINO



JACK



BOB



ALFIE



BUSTER & MEG



BOB & HENRY



BUSTER & BEN



HERBIE, LOTTIE & BELLA



HARRY



IGGY



MEGAN



MURPHY



SAM



OSCAR



MOJO

