

# Springer Spaniel Rescue

## *Jubilee Edition Summer 2012*



**SUMMERTIME (SOMETIME SOON WOULD BE GREAT!)**

Welcome everyone to your summer newsletter of 2012 (summer being the word). A special jubilee edition to celebrate the queen's 60 years on the throne, a remarkable achievement every must agree. If we at Springer Spaniel Rescue can serve our four legged Springer's for even half of those years we would be proud to do so! Drool Britannia.....Dog save the queen!!

Wendy has asked me (Karen) to do a intro page for the newsletter, so please bear with me as this is my 1st time; I'm sure Wendy will train me well.

As always.....a massive THANK YOU for all the letters, donations, e-mails and pictures. We all love them so much, the feeling we get from them is priceless, so PLEASE keep those paws to paper (or to keyboard) coming.

As many of you are aware we do a summer raffle at this time of year. Details of this can be found on page 3. It explains how we are going to do the raffle this year. Hopefully this will be just as great success as it has been in the past; just a different way of doing it.

Please could you all support us on this as "every little bit helps "

Finally we hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and have a great summer "when it arrives" (positive thinking on my behalf).

Hopefully each and everyone of you will have some yappy holiday's.

Give all your doggies cuddles from us.

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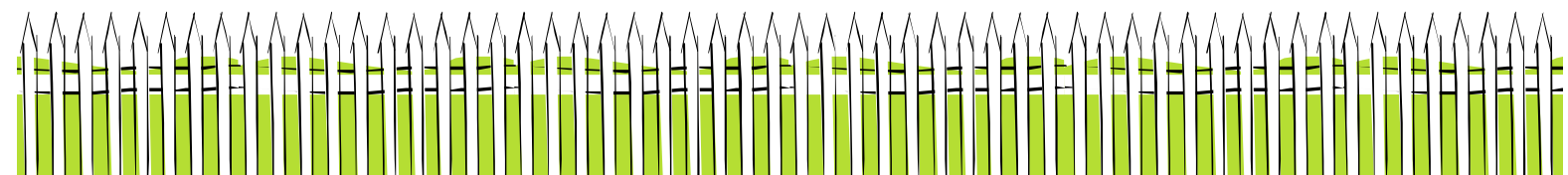
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## **Dedications & Poems**

### **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:-**

**Ben Cooper**

**Mischief Wilkinson**

**Meg & Sam Dudman**

**Toby James**

**Star Blannin**

**Max Newman**

**Oscar Clifton**

**Harvey Owen**

**Sally-Ann Morrison**

**Jake Osborne**

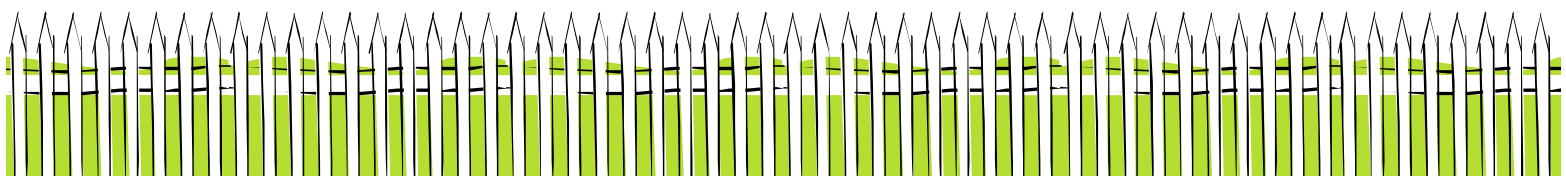
**Fizz Harbun**

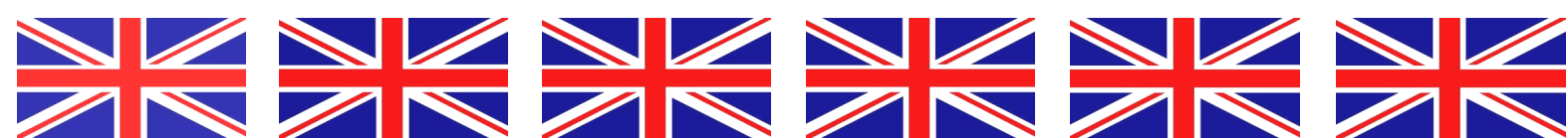
**Flossie Barton**

**Daniel Wastling**

### **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





## **Summer Raffle**

Here are the details on how we are going to do the summer raffle this year.

As you may be aware we would normally send the raffle tickets with the summer news letter, but as many of you know we have now gone technical on this newsletter, so we are going to try something new for the raffle as it is very time consuming for Wendy to write each envelope and costs of postage out to everyone that enters the draw.

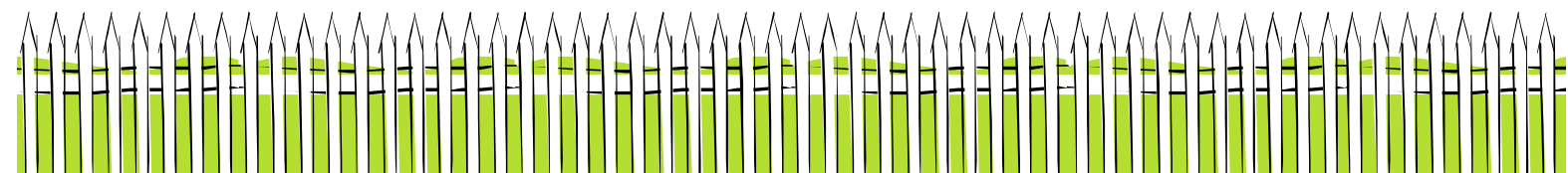
So Karen and Wendy have come up with what we hopefully feel is a brainwave.....as we have great success with the raffle from a rescue point of view and also there are some fantastic prizes to be won, we would love to continue with the raffle.

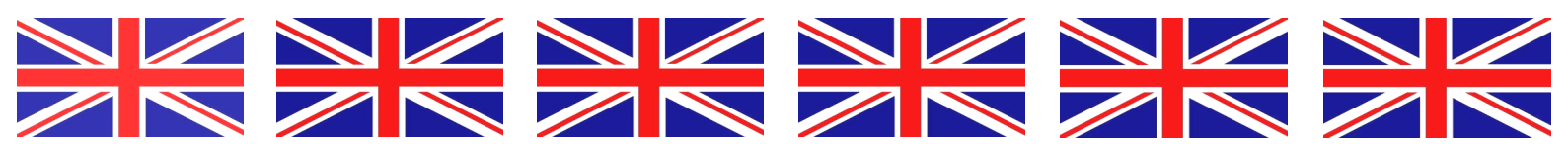
So on that note I will stop waffling and tell you how we can continue with the raffle.

Please could you send a cheque made out to Springer Spaniel Rescue, to the address on front page with a little note of your name, contact number and also how many tickets you would like (remember 5 for a £1), the more you have in the better chance you have.

We will then log the numbers we have put into the draw for you and contact you if your a winner (fingers crossed).

Please could we have all entries by mid August, as the draw will take place at the start of September. All winners will be in the next newsletter, but of course we will contact you before hand if you are a winner, so good luck and PLEASE continue to support us on this.





## **Summer Safety Tips and Advice**

### **13 Risk Factors for Premature Deaths in Dogs**

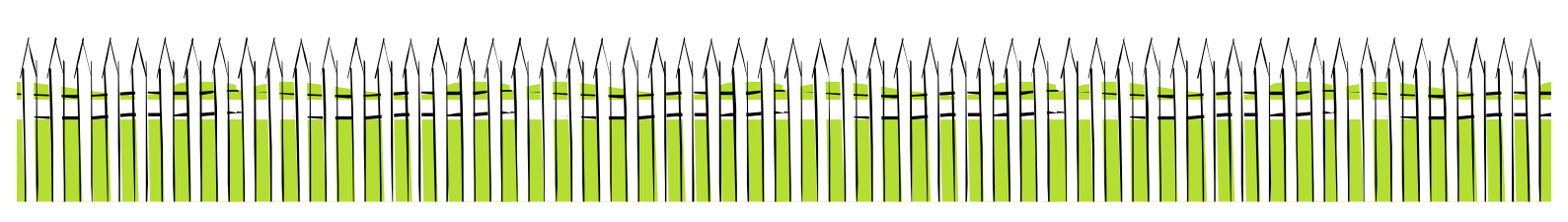
Everyone would love to have their dog live a long healthy life. However, many dogs are taken away from us far too soon. Sometimes it is due to preventable causes, but other times it's the result of a preventable problem.

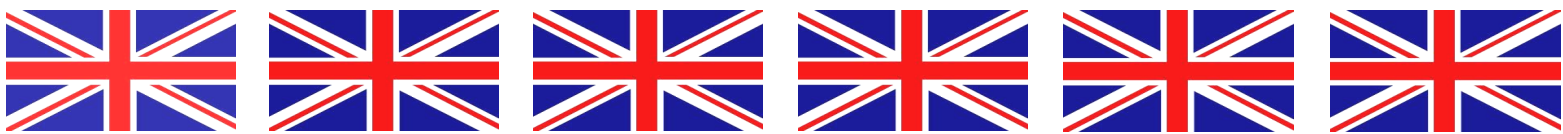
Taking care of your dog's life is a lot like taking care of your own. There are genetic factors, but there are things in the environment that change life expectancy as well. There are several things we can do to shorten our life. For example, if you were to ask our physicians about risk factors for early human death some would be drug abuse, overuse of alcohol, obesity, low/no exercise, and driving without a seatbelt just to name a few.

Have you ever thought about what the risk factors would be for dogs?

I'd like to share some thoughts about risk factors for a short life in dogs.

1. **No ID tag** : Dogs without ID tags may be lost and never reunited with their owners.
2. **No Microchip** : Lost dogs with microchips get a little extra care should they ever run away and get hurt. They will be stabilized and treated by veterinarians and given extra time for their owners to find them.
3. **Dogs Allowed to Roam** : I believe dogs with fenced in yards live longer. Dogs allowed to roam and not on a leash are much more likely to die from being hit by a car, poisoned, or shot and suffer other injuries.
4. **Second-hand Smoke**: Risk of lung problems and cancer is higher in dogs routinely exposed to second hand smoke.
5. **No Training** : Dogs without training are much more likely to get in to trouble. By not knowing when to "come", "leave it" and "stay" can be life changing. I've seen a dog come when called rather than chase another dog into the street...knowing that trick saved his life. I've also seen dogs that "leave it" when they picked up a toxin - again, it saved their life.
6. **Access to Trash**: Dogs that are allowed access to trash can get into things that can cause life-threatening conditions. Think of everything that you throw into the garbage. What would happen if your dog ate it?
7. **Feeding Elevated** : There are risk factors that suggest that elevated feeding can enhance the risk for a life-threatening disease called "Bloat".
8. **Feeding Table Scraps** : Dogs fed table scraps and human foods generally don't have balanced diets and have a higher incidence of nutritional problems and diseases such as pancreatitis.
9. **No Vaccines** : Dogs not given vaccines are at risk for multiple preventable diseases such as parvovirus, leptospirosis, kennel cough, distemper and more.





Continued.....

- 10. **No heartworm prevention** : Heartworm disease is a very common disease which can be prevented by giving routine monthly medication. It is often lethal if left untreated.
- 11. **Not Being Spayed or Neutered** : Dogs that are not spayed are at higher risk for breast cancer as well as a potentially fatal uterine infection called pyometra. Unaltered males are more likely to fight and escape the house to roam - allowing them the opportunity to get hit by a car or shot.
- 12. **No Check-ups** : Dogs without routine check-ups can have problems that can be preventable. Early diagnosis can cure many diseases.
- 13. **No Emergency Plan** : Owner that don't have any plan or resources to pay for health problems is a common cause of early death. I've seen very treatable problems lead to euthanasia because of lack of financial resources to treat those problems. Problems as simple as a broken leg or infection ended very sadly.

So what can you do? Vaccinate, spay and neuter your dog, microchip and keep him or her on monthly flea and heartworm prevention medications. Keep a collar and ID tag on your dog and keep him or her on a leash or in a fenced in yard. Keep your trash cans covered and feed a high quality food. Train your dog basic commands and see your vet for routine check-ups.

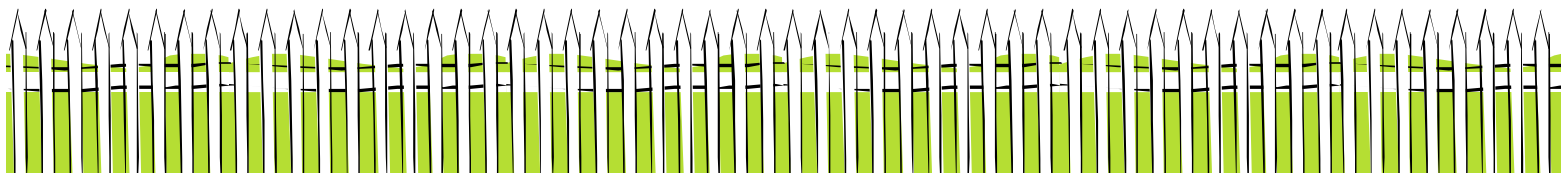
It's no secret that owning a dog can be expensive. Costs of everyday care and specifically healthcare can be alarming. With this in mind, pet insurance for your dog is vital as it provides the peace of mind to know you can stay on top of routine care and be prepared in case of sudden illnesses, accidents or emergencies. Prices can be very affordable too.

I hope these help your dog have a long healthy life.

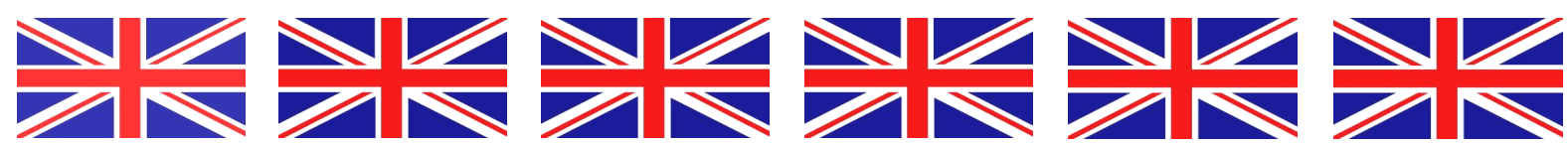
## Top of the Toxins

We came across some facts about toxins that are dangerous to canines, and thought we should share this with you to help you. These items can seriously harm your dog's health if they should your dog interact with them.

- 1. **Theobronine** (a powerful stimulant similar to coffee, found in chocolate).
- 2. **Ibuprofen.**
- 3. **Paracetamol.**
- 4. **Bromadiolone** (an anticoagulant used in rat poison).
- 5. **Grapes, sultanas and raisins.**
- 6. **Difenacoum** (rodent poison).
- 7. **Oral contraceptives.**
- 8. **Metaldehyde** (used around the garden to kill slugs).
- 9. **Rodenticide** (put down to help control rodent infestations).
- 10. **Diclofenac** (a none-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug).







## **Notice Me!! What your dog says without speaking**

Do you ever imagine what dogs could say if they could talk? (I know I do.) It would probably help explain some of their behaviours. Sometimes even the cutest dogs do things that are really perplexing for many owners. "Why is she barking", "How come my dog jumps so much?" and "What do they want from me?" might be easier to answer if they could just tell us!

Well, what all these behaviours sound like to me is good old **attention seeking**. Both humans and our dogs engage in these kinds of behaviours from time to time, and there's nothing necessarily wrong with that - as long as the behaviour stays within reasonable limits. Did you know these can be signs of [attention seeking behaviour?](#)

- Barking
- Whining
- Vomiting
- Feigning lameness
- Chasing lights or shadows
- Snapping at "imaginary" flies
- Strange bodily contortions and posturing

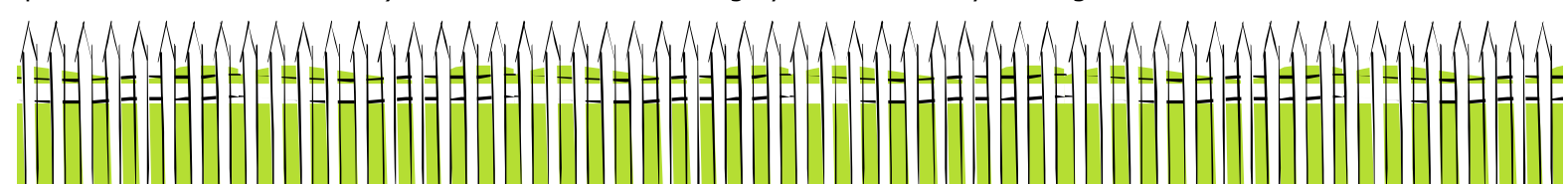
Gosh - they really can be just like children!

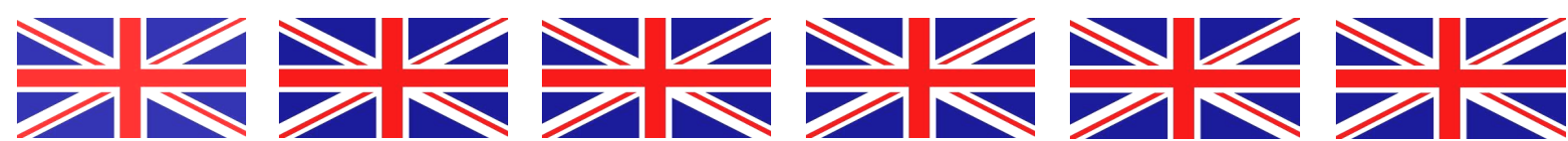
In the right context it's OK for your dog to let you know they need your attention. If a dog barks at his owner as if to say "Hey you! Over here!" - That's perfectly acceptable communication provided your dog has something to convey (like a stranger at the door) and is otherwise being ignored. Likewise, if you are engrossed in conversation and your dog paws at your leg to solicit your attention, or to be petted, it's no big deal to respond if you're up for it.

But what you have to remember is that your dog will quickly learn what works and what doesn't according to how you respond. The old saying "give them an inch and they'll take a mile" is especially true with some dogs; once they learn that behaviour gets them attention, they won't stop until they get it again.

If you always (or even worse, sometimes) cave in to unreasonable requests, you will get even more of the obnoxious behaviour in the future. Little dogs in particular are susceptible to this; they get lots of attention for being cute but then you have to live with the bad habits. The principle involved is "positive reinforcement," in which your dog gets a reaction out of you whenever they do something. Even telling your dog to stop, or reprimanding him, can be rewarding for some dogs - after all, you're paying attention to them. For these dogs some attention, even negative attention, is better than no attention at all. While you might be saying "No, bad dog!", they understand only that their behaviour got you to respond.

This information is a dog behaviourist called Nick Dodman. For further tips on how to handle these behaviours in dogs. Go to: [Attention Seeking Behaviour in Dogs](#) . Attention seeking behaviour can reach serious proportions. Make sure to nip it in the bud before it becomes a problem. Remember - dogs need exercise in order to stay healthy, happy, and well-behaved. The minimum is 20 to 30 minutes of aerobic exercise daily (unless a medical problem limits this amount). It's one of the best things you can do for your dog.





## **This disease affects millions of dogs — What is it?**

As you probably know, our pets can and do suffer from many of the same diseases that we get.

Do you know what is considered the #1 most common disease in dogs? You may be surprised.

If you guessed heart disease, cancer or diabetes - guess again. The #1 most common disease in dogs is actually periodontal disease. Periodontal disease includes anything that affects the tissues surrounding teeth, including gums. It's deadly in humans and it's deadly in canines, too.

According to the American Veterinary Dental Society (AVDS), 80 percent of dogs show oral disease by age 3 and it is the most common health problem treated in dogs.

How recently have you gotten a big whiff of "doggy breath"? That gross smell is caused by the build-up of bacteria in your dog's mouth. The bacteria causes more than just doggy breath. It is also the cause of tooth loss and dental disease, which leads to disease in other organs like the heart, liver, and kidneys.

Preventive dental care is one of the most neglected pet health needs. This is especially sad when you realize that good dental care is just as important for pets as it is for people.

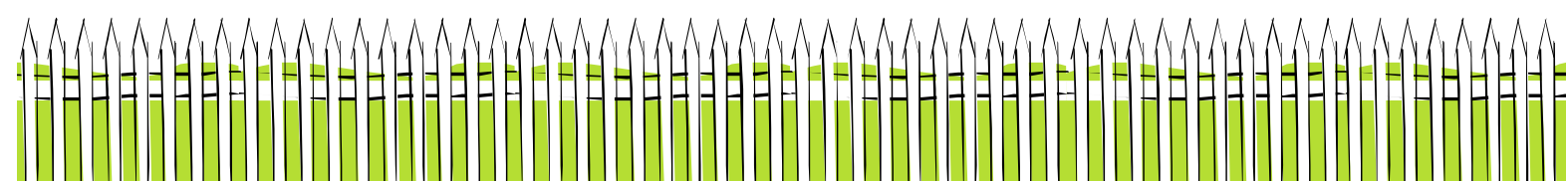
Brushing your dog's teeth is one of the most important things you can do to keep your dog healthy. In fact, [brushing your dog's teeth just 3 times a week could add as much as 5 years to your dog's life!](#) Ideally, this is something you should begin doing when your dog is just a puppy - at 8 to 12 weeks of age. But no matter how old your dog is, it is never too late to start.

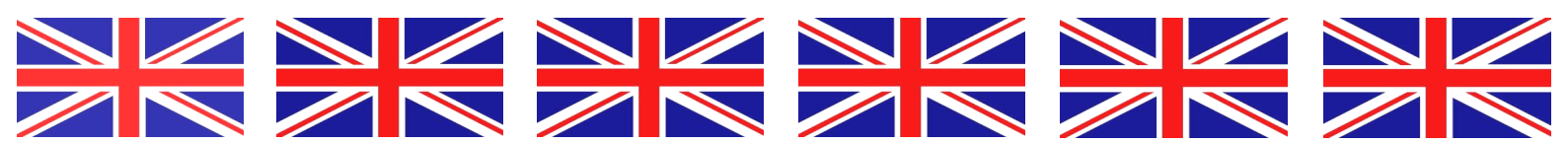
Start by investing in a good doggy toothbrush. Human toothbrushes just don't cut it! Your dog's mouth is shaped quite differently from a human's and they deserve a brush designed just for them. A Recommended product is the [Kissable Toothbrush](#) (Bonlays seems to be the cheapest in the UK at £7.99). It has a super effective design that lets you brush all sides of your dog's teeth at the same time, so it's quicker and easier. Just take a look at this 3-sided toothbrush.



The [Kissable Toothbrush](#) really cuts down on brushing time. That's very helpful, especially for dogs who are uncomfortable with having things in their mouth. In fact, you can brush your dog's whole mouth in less than a minute! And by brushing just 3 minutes a week, you can increase your dog's lifespan by up to 5 whole years. That's a pretty good investment of your time if you ask me!

So please, give your dog the good dental care he needs to live a longer, healthier life. You'll be so glad you did.





## **Addison's Disease**

Canine Hypoadrenocorticism (more commonly known as Addison's disease) is the medical dysfunction of the adrenal gland whereby it does not produce enough of a steroid hormone, namely 'aldosterone' or 'cortisol'. The lack of this hormone means that the levels of the potassium and sodium in the blood are not balanced correctly and as a result can cause serious health complications for a dog.

The most frequently occurring reason for the development of Addison's disease is when a dog's immune system damages the adrenal gland tissue; unfortunately there has been no medical evidence to date to suggest why this happens.

Dogs that cannot produce the adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH) will also suffer from Addison's disease. This is because ACTH stimulates the adrenal gland which in turn produces cortisol.

Another cause of this disease can be related to medication. If a dog is put on medication containing steroids then its adrenal gland will stop its natural production of aldosterone or cortisol. Once the course of steroids stops, it can take up to several weeks for the dog's adrenal gland to start naturally producing steroid hormones again. As a result, the dog may develop Addison's disease for a period of time. This is why it is imperative to gradually decrease the dosage rather than to just abruptly stop the course of steroids altogether.

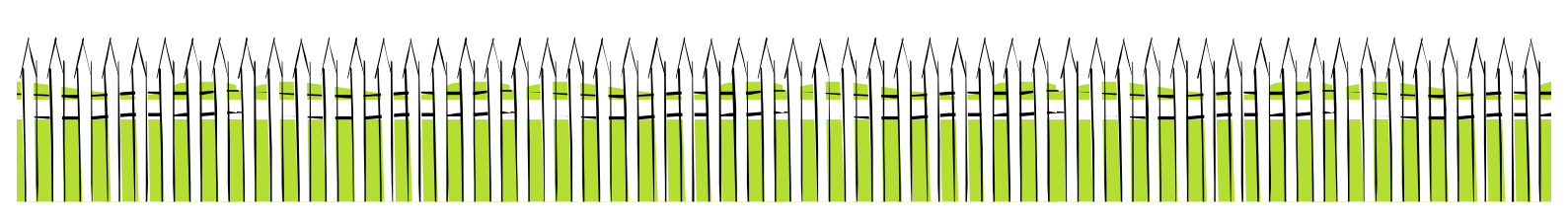
This disease generally occurs in young to middle-aged canines with 70% of cases being female. It can affect any kind of dog but there are certain breeds in which it is found in more than others. These include Poodles, Great Danes, Bearded Collies, Portuguese Water Dogs and Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers.

Most of the symptoms of this disease are considerably vague as they tend to indicate other diseases or illnesses may be present. Such symptoms include vomiting, sickness, lethargy, a loss of appetite, increased thirst, muscle weakness/tremors, trembling and shivering. These symptoms may not occur that frequently and so it can be hard to trace them to Addison's disease.

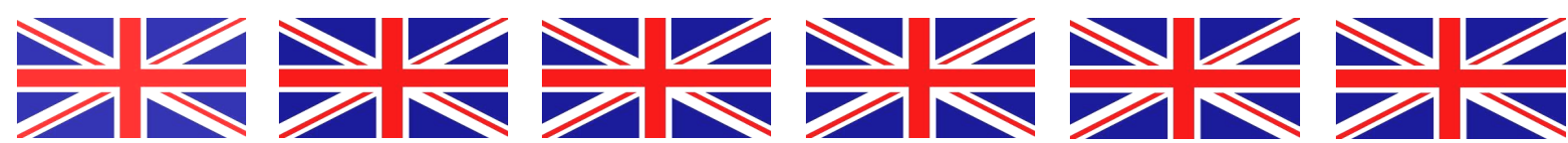
However, in some cases a dog suffering from Addison's disease may experience what is known as an Addisonian crisis. This occurs when there are extremely high levels of potassium in the blood which disrupts the normal functions of the heart. As a result, the dog will collapse and remain unable to respond or get up even though it is conscious. Bouts of diarrhoea and sickness may occur whilst the dog's pulse will be light and its heart rate slow. If this happens then it should be treated as a medical emergency and the dog should be taken to the nearest vet immediately.

As so many of the symptoms can indicate another illness other than Addison's disease, there are various tests that have to be completed to eliminate the possibility of any such illness. Initially, the complete medical history of the dog will be looked at. Then a urine test will be undertaken to check that there is no glucose present (if there was then it would indicate that the dog has diabetes).

A complete bloodworks profile will be implemented; particularly looking at the levels of sodium and potassium and kidney functions. If the sodium levels are low, the potassium levels are high and the ratio (this worked out by dividing the potassium levels into the sodium levels) between the two is low (lower than 27), then it usually indicates that Addison's disease is present in the subject.







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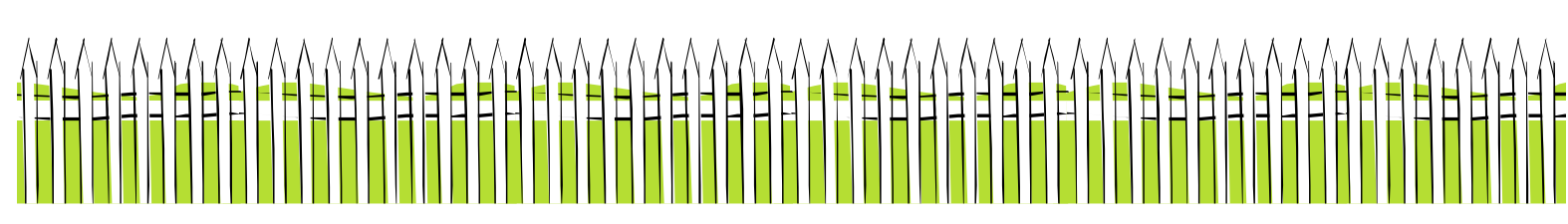
Once the urinalysis (urine test), blood count and biochemistry tests have been completed and all other possible causes of the dog's illness have been eliminated, an ACTH stimulation test will be performed. The dog's cortisol levels are measured. Then the dog is injected with a synthetically produced ACTH to make the adrenal gland produce cortisol. An hour later the cortisol levels are checked again. If there is no rise, or a minimal rise of the level of cortisol in the blood, then it concurs that Addison's disease is present.

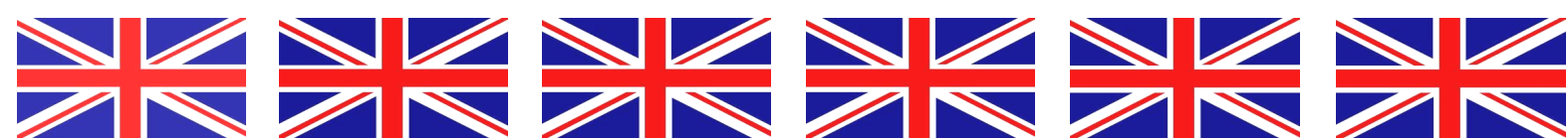
There are two types of treatment for the effect that Addison's disease can have on a dog, Firstly, if a dog is taken to the vet as a result of an Addisonian crisis then the dog will be put on an IV of saline (salty water) to improve circulation and rehydrate the canine. This a short-term treatment to get the dog back to health quickly.

Once the dog has been diagnosed with Addison's disease the long-term treatment comes in the form of medication that shares the same properties as aldosterone, such as 'fludrocortisone acetate'. The dog's sodium and potassium levels will be tested a week after the initial dosage has been taken. This is to check what affect the medication is having on the dog and the dosage may be altered. Tests will continue to be taken for the next few weeks until the right dosage is found.

A positive to be taken from this disease is that with most cases the dog can returned to normal with treatment and even those that have not gone back to normal have had a high quality standard of life.

Please be aware that this is for advice purposes only and should not be read as a medical document. If you are worried about your pet then please take your doggy to the vets.





## Understanding Dogs and Seizures

Seizures are one of the most misunderstood conditions in canine health. Some doctors estimate that between 0.5 and 5.7% of all dogs experience a seizure at some point. Today I'd like to help you understand what happens during a seizure and how to react in the best way to keep your dog safe.

Seeing your dog have a seizure for the first time is truly frightening. It comes on with no warning. One minute your dog is happily enjoying an afternoon nap. Then, in an instant, his entire body begins shaking with wild muscle spasms. He has an empty "faraway" look in his eyes ... and you can't help but wonder if he knows what's happening. Learn the [signs of seizures](#) before they start so you can be prepared.

Seizures have 3 different components and they require a calm head to keep your dog safe until the seizure finishes. Learn more about seizure disorder in dogs, as well as how to care for a seizing dog, [here](#)

Finding out why your dog had a seizure is like solving a puzzle. It's tough to put all the pieces together. A seizure is difficult to diagnose because it's not a disease. Rather, it's a symptom of one with any number of causes. One frequently reported cause is idiopathic epilepsy. This common diagnosis is made when no other causes for the seizures can be found. Epilepsy could even be genetic since it is more common in certain breeds, like German Shepherd Dogs, Irish Setters, Retrievers, Poodles and Dachshunds. [Learn more about idiopathic epilepsy](#)

There is no diagnostic test for epilepsy. The only way to find out if your dog has it is through the process of elimination. All other possible causes must be ruled out through a series of testing. With proper treatment and care, seizure-prone dogs can live long and happy lives.

## The Dumbest Things Dog Owner's Do

Most dog owners are great. But sometimes even the best dog owners will make mistakes. Most of the time, the people involved are well intentioned but misinformed.

Here are three mistakes dog owners often make - the mistakes might seem small but the results can be quite serious.

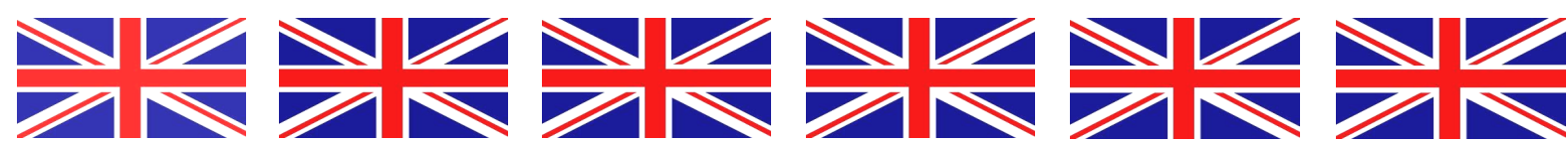
1. **Self-medicating your dog** - When your dog is sick, NEVER give your dog ANY medication without speaking to your veterinarian. This is really dangerous. Over-the-counter medications such as acetaminophen (Tylenol), ibuprofen and aspirin are toxic to dogs in relatively small doses. Don't medicate your dog without the advice of your veterinarian. For more information, go to: [Overdose and Toxicity in Dogs](#)

2. **Using flea medications improperly** - Flea medications are a great way to control fleas - but you must be careful to use the product only as directed. Follow the safety guidelines and NEVER EVER give dog flea medications to cats. For more information, go to: [Safety Tips for Pour-on Flea Products](#)

3. **No ID tag** - Dogs can run out the door, break free from their leash, or escape through an unlatched gate. My friends' dog ran out the front door a few months ago. They searched and searched for hours and eventually they found him - but they were lucky. Did you know less than 5% of all lost pets are reunited with their owners? It may even be as low as 2 or 3%. This is a terribly sad statistic - especially because many of those poor pets could have been returned to their owners if only they had been wearing an ID tag.

Remember - don't give any medications or flea products to your dog without your veterinarian's approval and keep an ID tag on your dog at all times. You just never know what can happen.





## Is Your Dog Paranoid?

Dogs have such different personalities. Some never met a stranger and others are scared of anyone and anything new. They can get completely freaked out by the littlest things! Sometimes it's as simple as an object dropping on the floor, or loud noises on the television, or cars going by outside, or someone at the door. Sometimes there are certain people our dogs are scared to death of for absolutely no reason.

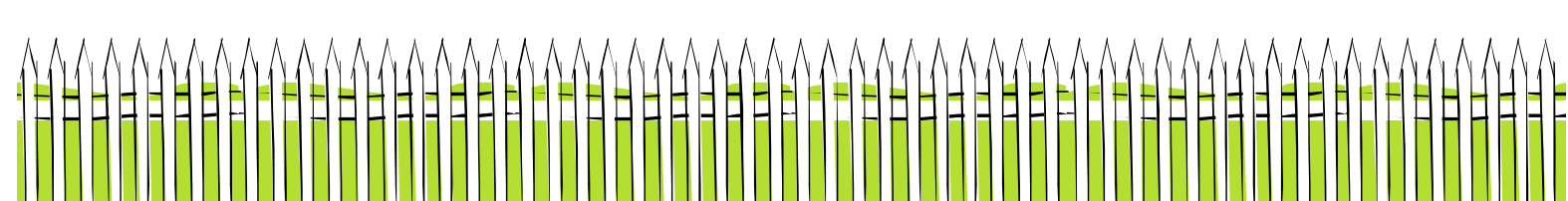
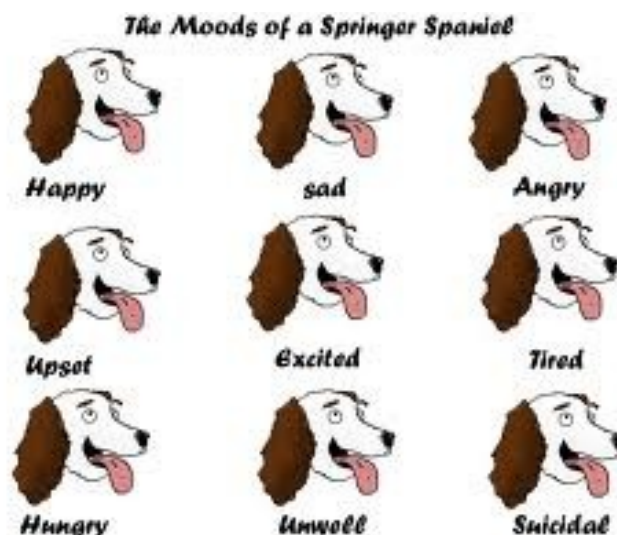
Why is it that some dogs seem so paranoid while others barely seemed phased by things around them? Like people, some dogs just tend to be more timid than others. But some dogs may have also had bad experiences prior to being in your care - perhaps they were not treated with love, tenderness and care, which can make them feel a bit paranoid about those bad experiences happening again.

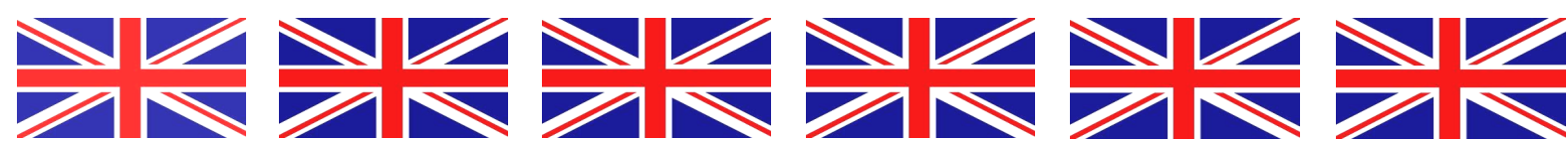
If you have a paranoid dog, you need to be patient with him. Take your time and be gentle with him over and over again until he can trust you and his surroundings (this takes time and may not happen overnight). You can also incorporate relaxing things in your home like soothing classical music and television programs that show nature.

Another simple but effective way to reduce your dog's stress is using [Comfort Zone with D.A.P.](#) Comfort Zone is a product that [releases pheromones](#) into the air, giving your dog a sense of comfort and familiarity. It comes in a spray or a diffuser, and has proven to be effective at reducing dog stress 95% of the time!

Ignoring your dog's paranoia is not a good solution. Instead, try to figure out what is causing the stress, and help your dog feel more at ease. Sometimes all this takes is a calm setting, some attention and playtime, or plugging in [Comfort Zone](#). Help your dog deal with stress and you will have a happier dog!

P.S. Wondering how and why Comfort Zone works? In short, Comfort Zone mimics the canine pheromone mother dogs release while nursing that helps a dog feel at home. It's like smelling your grandmother's cooking! It's soothing and comforting... and a great solution for a dog that is displaying signs of stress.





## **Dog's Get Sick Too!!**

You are driving down the road and see a dog's happy face staring out the window of the car next to you. Some dogs enjoy the wind blowing in their face and fur, but in reality, many dogs do not like travelling in the car.

Even if it hasn't happened before, some dogs can develop motion-sickness as they age. 1 out of 6 dogs get motion-sick. During your trip your dog may just pant or swallow excessively during the ride, or he may actually vomit.

I know many of readers are travelling this Holiday season, so today I want to share some travel tips including tips for dealing with car sickness. As always preparation is key, it pays off to be prepared for possible issues beforehand.

Here are some tips to make travelling with your dog easier:

There are some things you should do before you even get into the car. A few days before any extended trip, take your dog to the vet for a check-up. If you're travelling by plane, you may be required to show that your dog is healthy. If your dog is taking any medication, make sure to take enough with you. It also always pays off to know a local vet where you're going, just in case you need to make an emergency trip while you're there.

There are some supplies that you should take with you when you go on a trip. You're going to a place that you and your dog are probably not as familiar with, and anything can happen. A first aid kit for your dog can help you out in an emergency. Bring food with you to last the ride, as well as some extra just in case. Depending on where you go, you can generally buy some food at a local pet store for the duration of your stay. Definitely bring enough water for the ride as well.

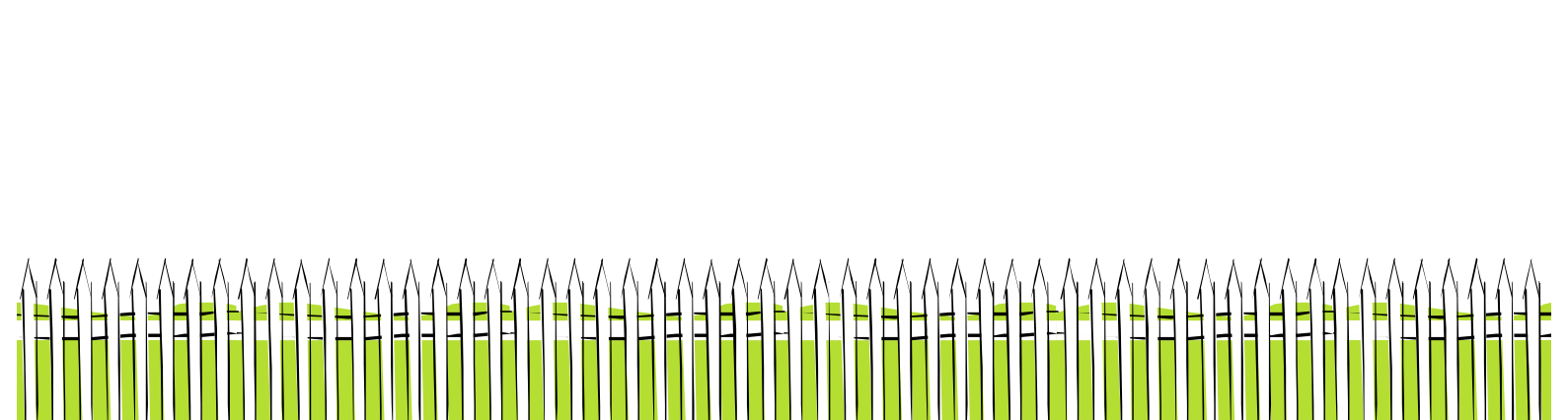
But these are all things you've probably thought of already. What you might overlook is packing something for potential cases of car-sickness.

Just in case your dog doesn't feel good on the ride, you can treat and relax your dog with travel anti-sickness drugs such as Cerenia Developed by Pfizer Animal Health. Cerenia is the first FDA approved medication that is developed to help alleviate motion sickness in dogs. Cerenia prevents dogs from vomiting, without making them feel drowsy. And because it's developed specifically for dogs, you are safe in the knowledge that you're not putting your dog at risk of giving your dog anything but an enjoyable ride.

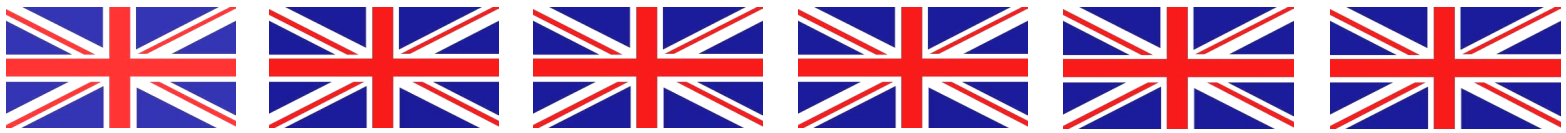
Travelling with your dog doesn't have to be stressful! With the right preparation it can be fun. So wherever you and your dog go this holiday season, stay safe, and travel smart.

For more information, visit <https://animalhealth.pfizer.com/sites/pahweb/us/en/Products/Pages/Cerenia.aspx>

Happy Holidays.







## **Springer Tails**

Hello Wendy, Glyn and all my Springer family,

Barney here. .. I have just celebrated my 14th birthday and it seems a lifetime away since Hilary and Les collected me from Wigan on that freezing January morning, over 10 years ago.

I am slowing down a bit now and my back legs are getting a bit doddery but I'm still plodding on and can still do my 'Rottweiler impression' if someone tries to groom me. Not bad for 98 years old huh?

I still manage a couple of daily walkies over to the local fields but I prefer to just amble around the field now, taking my time to have a really good sniff at everything, while the humans say, "Come on ploddy".

I no longer run up the stairs nor jump onto the settee but am content to lay on either my lounge bed or my dining room bed. All of this sleeping makes me really hungry though and I'm getting a bit 'broad in the beam'. I also keep hearing that nasty 'VET' word. I think they'll soon be taking me for an MOT. ... Shudder..

I have posted some recent photo's of myself to show you how handsome I still am... Hope you like them.

Best wishes to you all,

Yours woofingly,

Barney xxx



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Dear Glyn & Wendy, Tom & Fiona,

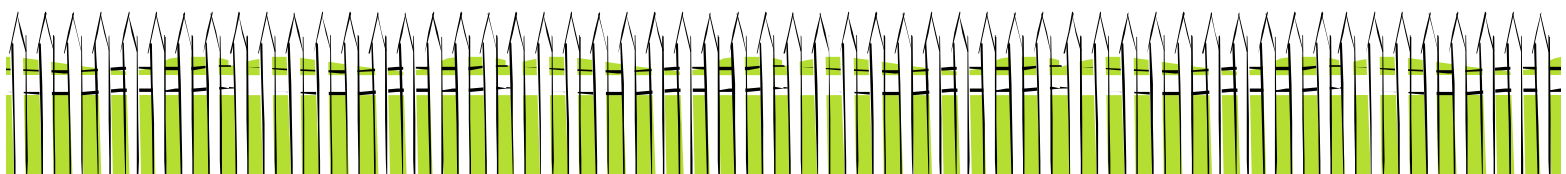
I hope you are all keeping well and are happy with the world! It's almost 12 months since I came and collected Boo and Daisy – how time flies. I'm just about to make an appointment for booster jabs with the vet.

I've attached a photograph taken yesterday on one of our local walks.

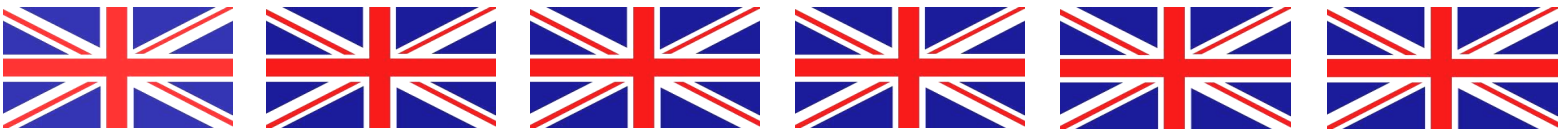
As you will be able to see they have settled really well and are happy and active. We could not have wished for more friendly and loving dogs they are a pleasure to have in the house. Wherever we go they attract attention and just make people smile.

All the best from South Wales

Phil & Lyn Shone







Hi,

I thought I'd give you both another update on Rusty!

He is still being fabulous! I really can't fault him. He is top of his class in obedience and all the other dog owners are very jealous of the way he behaves- he is very laid back and so chilled! We have started pre-agility training which he loves. He is currently learning how to do directional spins and running around in circles by my side. He thinks it is all a very fun game. When he gets a bit older the jumps and other equipment will be introduced.

We have also been having a lot of fun on day trips and long walks.

I'll keep you posted on how his training develops.



Nikki

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Hi Glynn, Hi Wendy,

Grovelling apologies for not updating you sooner. However a lot been happening in the family. But by far the best thing, was the wedding of our Daughter Lisa. I finally got to do my father of the bride speech that I had been thinking about for the past 10 years. And yippee, we got to pay the bill !!!!

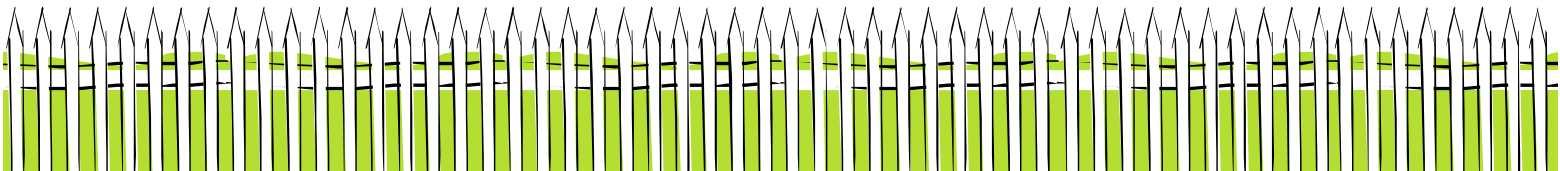
Anyway an update on Woody and Lucy. Our wonderful little girl, or should I say by now a lady. Its as if she has never been anywhere else. We forget she was a rescue with health and behaviour worries. She is the most wonderfully behaved dog you could wish for, and thanks to a regime of of Glucosamine and Chondroitin (Green lipped Mussel) tablets, she has now regained her SPRING. It works so well, Woody, who will be 9ys this May is on them as well. I have so many Photos, it's hard to choose, so I've attached a few favourites from this winters snowy time and a couple of others.

Regarding the above tablets, you may know about them already but for any dog/pet with joint problems, they are brilliant. We get them online from `Simply Supplements' and it comes under Simply Pets.

I hope this finds you both in good health, I know when Sue spoke to Glynn on the phone last, he had mentioned he had a health issue with which we are fully aware of. And have had to go through with Sues Dad.

Take care, and we wont leave to so long next time.

Paul, Sue, Woody and Lucy





Hi all at Springer Rescue,

Just thought I'd give you all an update on Poppy who we adopted on the 31/3/2012.

Poppy is settling in to her new home very well, her first week spent with us was on holiday in Filey. Although she was a bit of handful in the car, she had a brill time getting to know her new family. She loves the children and gets so excited when they come into the room. She's still getting to know Meg (our collie), they seem quite settled with one another but do have the odd fall out over food and attention (Poppy wants it all!!).

Poppy is very good at walking on her lead and we have been doing lots of training with her off her lead playing ball which she loves. Her recall is getting a lot better from the first day we met her, and she seems to be thriving from this training which we do when we can. One thing we have noticed is that when she gets excited she doesn't quite know what to do with her mouth and tends to nibble cuffs, sometimes a bit too hard. Our Barney had the same problem (must be a Springer thing) so he used to grab a toy to greet people. She also likes a good old bark at around 3am in the morning for no reason that we can work out yet!!

All in all the whole family is getting very attached to her and we hope she will have a very happy life with us.

I've attached a few pictures of her with us.

Kind Regards

Chris Singleton



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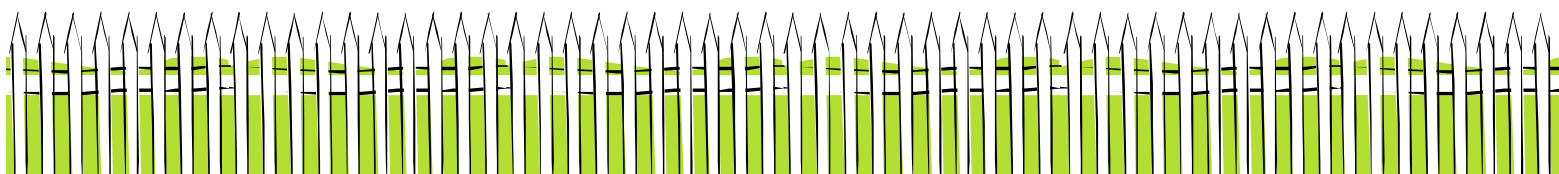
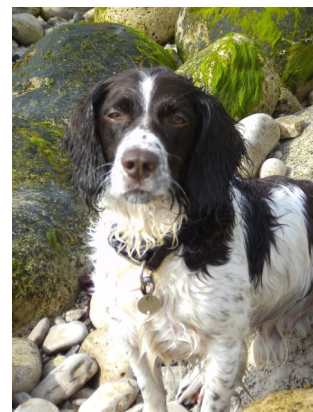
Hi Glyn & Wendy,

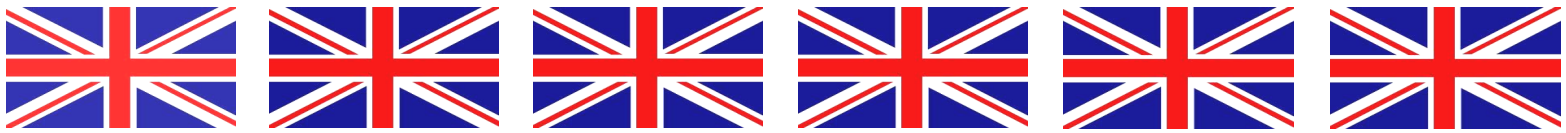
As it is nearly 2 yrs since I was adopted (April 2010 to be precise!) I thought I'd better send some photo's just to show you happy, loved (& spoilt) I am! Photo shows me in my favourite location on Chesil Beach, Dorset (am a regular there now as my mum & dad never put me in kennels thank goodness). Mum can only send one photo at a time & it may be oversized - as since changed camera they have never quite worked it out!

Anyway, wanted to thank you for finding me such a fantastic home - get my 2 hours walkies a day & am never lonely. Apparently, I'm very calm for a Springer which seems to go down well. Have lots of toys to play with & am so happy I can't stop smiling- they've never had dog like smile like me before - bare all my teeth you see!

Anyway bye for now & keep up good work & please send some licks to Tom & Fiona.

Love Ollie XX  
(Jo, Ricky & Anna) x x x





Dear Wendy & Glyn, Just a wee update on “oor dugs”.

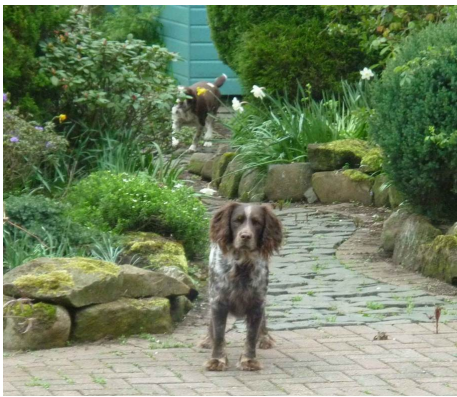
Ceilidh is recovering very well after her cruciate ligament (leader line insert) in early December. I *think* I told you she was having problems down in France in the summer. Seems like she tore it and then it eventually snapped completely. Vet here in Scotland says recovery can be up to 6 months. We still keep her on the lead but will let her off again when we are back in France end of the month. Having had her right rear leg and hip shaved, she looked a bit odd and so got her trimmed last week. From the photo I hope you think she looks much better – she can really show off her freckles again!

Alfie is simply “oor wee man”. What a great loving wee dog he is turning out to be and has a great personality. He is simply bursting with energy – and mischief! He still tries to rule the roost (from a position of 4<sup>th</sup> in the pack) but Ceilidh sure can keep him in order. We have given up trying to keep him off the kitchen table nearby the window. As I write, he is sitting there keeping an eye on all who pass.

Hope you are all well and have very few dogs with you.

Regards

John Fuller



Hi Glyn,

Just a quick note to let you know how things are going, Nick and Tag are getting on wonderfully.

Nick walks him twice a day and he doesn't even pull any more. Tag sleeps on Nick's bed at night and sits by his feet the rest of the time. They are like best buddies already.

Nick wanted me to thank you sincerely, you have made him very happy :)

I have attached a couple of pictures that were taken last night in the pub.

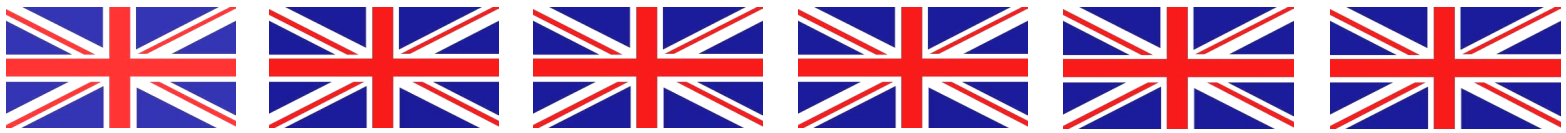
I will keep you up-to-date with Tag and Nick.

Kind regards

Dawn x







Dear Barbara and Paul

It's been nearly two and a half weeks since we adopted Jack from you so I wanted to write and let you know how well he's settled in. It's hard to believe he's been with us for such a short time as it feels like he's been part of our lives forever. He is an absolute joy and we just adore him. He is so perfectly behaved that it's just impossible for me to imagine how anyone could have let him go. He's settled in brilliantly and apart from having an upset tummy for a few days, he's been absolutely fine. We took him to our vet the day after we saw you and have arranged all his injections etc. He hasn't been neutered yet as she suggested doing it in a few weeks so it's going to be done in 10 days time when I can take a week's leave to be at home with him. Our vet thought he was wonderful and made such a fuss of him that he didn't want to leave!

My favourite part of the day is now going downstairs in the morning and being greeted by the waggiest tail I've ever seen followed by the lots of cuddles (we've nicknamed him Mr Cuddles!). I was a bit worried about leaving him at home when I'm at work but he seems to be fine and we give him so much exercise that he seems to spend quite a lot of time in the day sleeping! He's made lots of friends in the park, both human and canine and everyone who meets him falls totally in love with him. His visits to the park consist of some time playing fetch and then the rest of the time running and springing about like a young pup. He seems to have a liking for horses as he darted under a broken fence rail into the horses' paddock in Heaton Park and wanted to play with them! Luckily his recall is fantastic and as soon as I shouted him he came straight back (which he always does). His recall is incredible, especially as he's so newly named and he always comes, fetches and sits on command. 'Give me your paw' is a bit hit and miss but we're working on it and will continue to try and teach him new things.

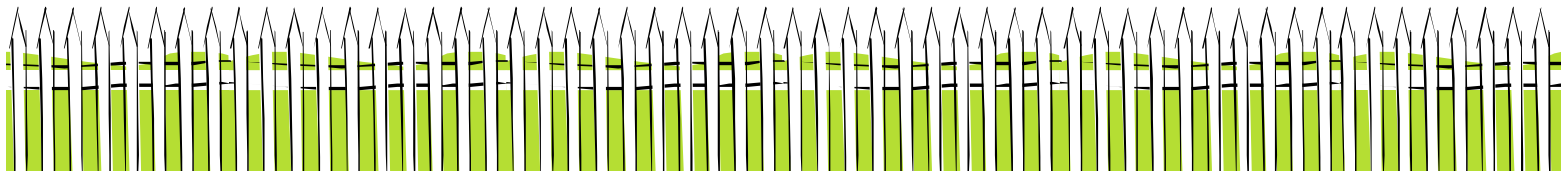
Thank you both so much for letting us have him. We couldn't love him any more than we already do and we feel so blessed to have him. I've attached some photos so you can see him in his new home. If you'd ever like to see him again, we'd happily bring him over as I'm sure he'd love to see you both again.

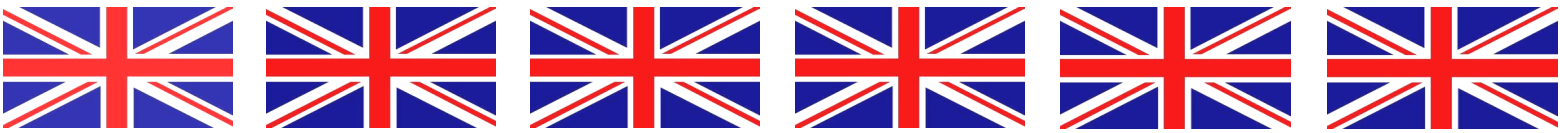
I'll keep you posted about his progress but rest assured, we'll take really good care of him.

Thank you for everything you did for him,

Best wishes

Sonia and Phil O'Shiel





Hi Glynn

Josh and Deebea are both doing great. We haven't been avoiding sending you this. Both our computers have been down and we have no camera since it got sand in it at the beach. I can assure you that you have nothing to worry about with the dogs and you are welcome to pop in any time unannounced if you have concerns.

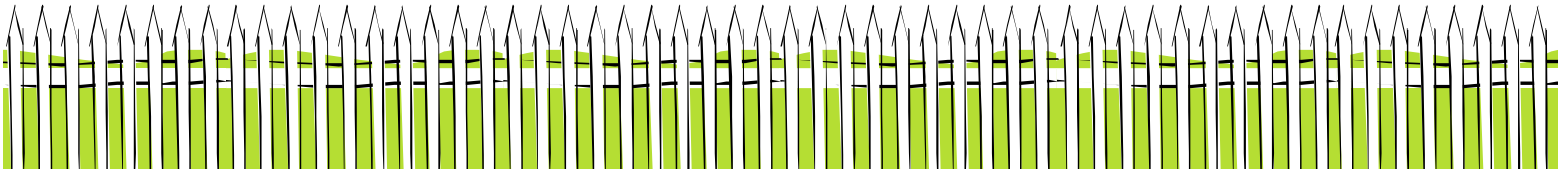
They are now called George and Dee Dee and have settled in fab. They are lovely dogs and get on with Beano famously. We had separate beds for them but they prefer to all sleep together as you can see. They love their walks and we walk most days by some lakes where Dee Dee in particular loves swimming so we have very wet dogs a lot of the time!!

Dee Dee is slowly losing weight as advised by the vet. She has lost 2 kilos so far and now has a waistline. George seems able to eat constantly without gaining an ounce.

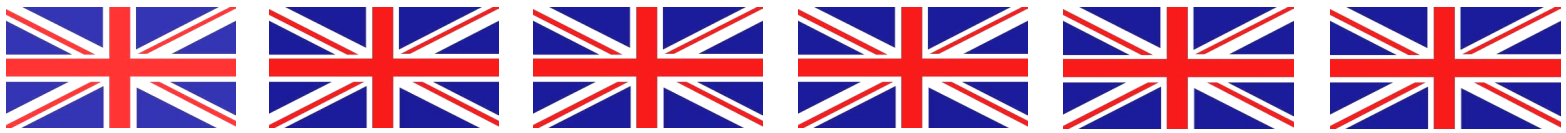
Overall they are doing brill and soon got over any initial trepidation. They fit in great and the kids adore them. George and our youngest child play and cuddle together endlessly. Dee Dee constantly steals my slippers.

Regards

Sam, Julie, Kris and Tyler







Glyn and Wendy,

I would like to say a big thank you from my wife and I for letting us adopt Toby back in September 2002. We have however moved a few times since then, but funnily find ourselves back in Kent again.

What a great character he turned out to be and a more loving and loyal companion would have been hard to find. We had some excellent experiences with him over the years and enjoyed many a long and exciting walk in all parts of the UK.

Sadly he lost his battle with the big C at the beginning of Dec 11 and we had to say a very hard farewell to our boy. He is missed greatly by us but surprisingly to us by all our friends and family as well, he truly did make a huge impact on all those around him.

We will in time be looking at getting another Springer but we are not quite over the loss of Toby yet.

I have attached a picture of the cheeky boy for you both.

Kind Regards

Scott and Kayrene James



**R.I.P Toby - December 2011**

Hi Glyn & Wendy,

I thought you might like an update on our lovely KIM.

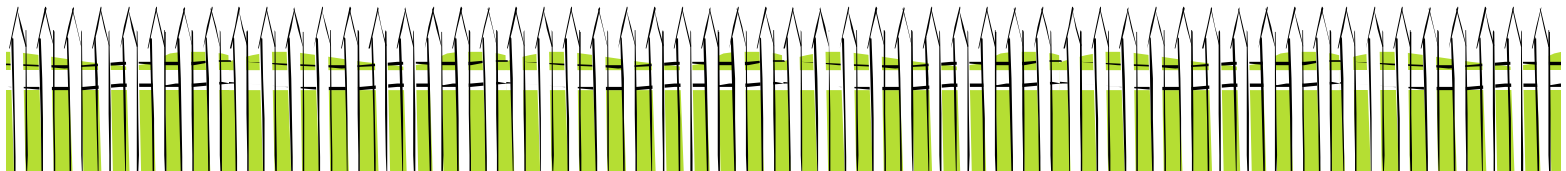
She settled in very well and very quickly. She was of course very nervous but became housetrained in a couple of weeks. She has put on weight and she had her booster vaccination on Tuesday. The Vet was pleasantly surprised at how well and fit she is and says we have done a wonderful job on her. I think what the farmer owner told you was a lot of baloney. Though she wasn't house trained and very frightened especially of men. When you get a towel to wipe her feet she lays down and offers her feet. Surely not a sign of a dog permanently left outdoors. She seemed to be pregnant when we got her but we had her scanned and it turned out to be a phantom pregnancy (thank goodness).

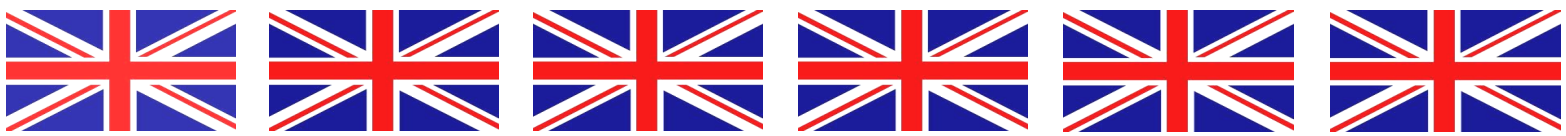
She still wont go outside via our back door without us, as she is terrified she will be shut out, presumably for hours - although she will go out from the french doors in our living room. She wasn't the least bit frightened on firework night, so guns don't scare her. We think she was rather harshly treated and the farmer thought she was in-pup and got rid of her.....Good job too.

We love her to bits and she is so happy, she has at least three runs a day with lots of other dogs. We use the sports field of the local army camp and they and their families have lots of all sorts of dogs. Kim just loves to run and run with them. Only a couple of them can keep up with her, one being a three legged boxer (back leg missing) who can go like the wind.

We are going to have her spayed in the new year, the vet didn't want to do it too soon after the trauma's she has been through.

Thank you so much for her letting us have her, she is so lovely and we have even taken her away to a hotel





Hi Tom, Fiona, Glynn and Barbara,

Please find attached photos of the girls.

They have settled in so fantastically, they are still a little bit nervous but get more confident and cheeky by the hour! We spent yesterday with my parents, brothers and sisters, it was a house full of people, children and dogs. I kept the girls very quiet but they coped with it very very well.

Dogs are so funny - I thought that it was Phoebe that was the confident one but Georgie has found her feet so very quickly and is definitely in charge :- ) she even dares to take my Spaniel Sam's ball (very important and protected item) and unbelievably he just allows her to. The girls are very well behaved on and off the lead and walk beautifully in the fields with excellent recall (aided with a dog treat!) then even allow me to hose them down afterwards.

I have already accepted that we have lost a sofa to Spaniels in the evening now - but it is a small price to pay. We all absolutely adore them and cannot imagine life without them now and they have only been here for a couple of days!

Thank you so very very much for everything - we had a little giggle yesterday talking about how we were going to just have one or the two dogs but just for a trial period ..... how ridiculous! You all obviously knew how gorgeous Phoebe and Georgie are and how we would never be able to resist keeping them and loving them forever.

With kind regards,

Mel, Daniel, Abbie, Connor, Sam, Phoebe and Georgie,  
and Chubbs - The very very patient, swift moving, long suffering cat :- )  
Xxxxxxxx



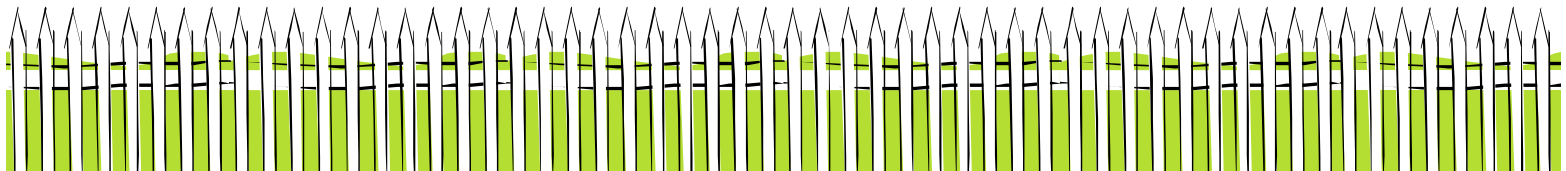
Dear Wendy and Glyn,

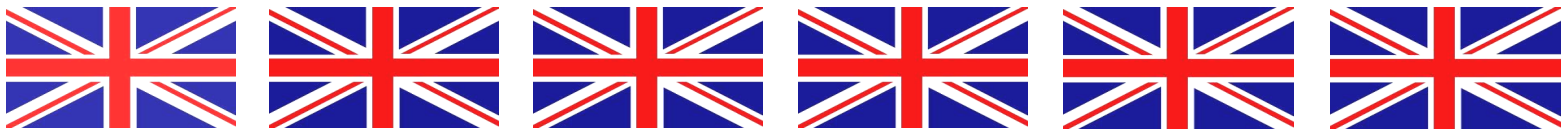
Thought you'd like to see some photo's of Rocky. As you'll recall we collected him some three years ago from you this month. He's settled in really well with Monty (our original Springer). Rocky has been going to agility and flyball, both of which he loves.

The picture is from a flyball competition this weekend where his team came second in the starters group. The Springer ears are definitely there to act as sails going over the jumps!

Regards

Tracy





Dear Glynn and all,

Thank you so much for letting us be bobby's new family.

We have decided to rename him cracker, 3 reasons and well thought out:

1. He is an absolute cracker.
2. He IS totally crackers.
3. Cracker is a type of biscuit (which as you know was our first beloved spaniel).

He is a playful pup and loving river bank walks and chasing our son. He nips a little but is learning fast who he can get away with it on! Granddad's seem to like getting hands nipped and putting in way!

He is also quite naughty! He hopped on to a table and stole some crisps, point being they were an unopened walkers 24 multi pack, he shredded the packet, took a few interesting flavours and proceeded to help himself, all at 3am, by the time I realised it wasn't burglars he had polished 3 packs!

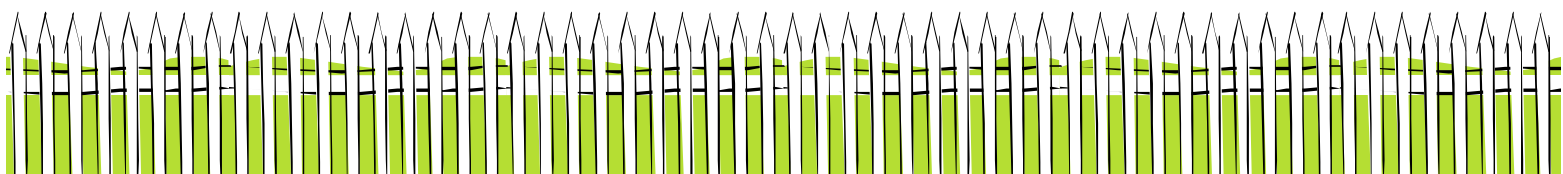
He is still having one or two mishaps during the night but in general is really well behaved.

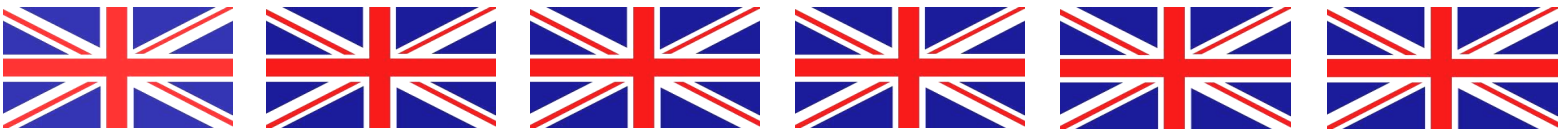
We are introducing him to the family dogs now, he met 'Flash' yesterday (who is a Cocker Spaniel) and today will meet my dads Collie and Jack Russell. Yesterday he almost got his first swim as he wanted to say hello to an Alsatian on other side of river bank, but didn't realise it was a river in between!

Once again thank you so much for letting us be the new family, we will keep you updated with his antics!

Regards

Ann (and Cracker) xxx





Hello Uncle Glyn,

I am writing to you to thank you all for finding me a new home with a nice Mummy and Daddy who look after me ever so well.

I have settled in and love living here, there is a nice big garden to play in and I have met lots and lots of new friends and one friend even sent me a present. We all go for nice long walks and today (Sunday) we went up the woods and I met loads of more new friends. Everyone likes me here and I like them.

When Mummy and Daddy's friends come into the house I now say hello to them and want a fuss so I am overcoming my nervousness with people and even when I am on my walkies people say hello and I have a fuss from them as well. I have been to see my Doctor and he has made me better and I had my operation on Thursday (hernia and castration) and they cut away all the nasty tangles behind my ears and now I am a very handsome boy and recovering extremely well.

I have a nice new bed and lots of toys and my Mummy and Daddy play with me and give me lots of kisses and cuddles. I am a very very happy boy as you can see from the photos my Daddy took today in my nice big garden and we are soon all going on holiday to a nice site in our caravan which I love going and sitting in.

Must sign off now as I have had a very busy day....I even had to have a crash course in computers to write this letter to you, so I am feeling tired now and need a rest.

Lots of love  
Charlie  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



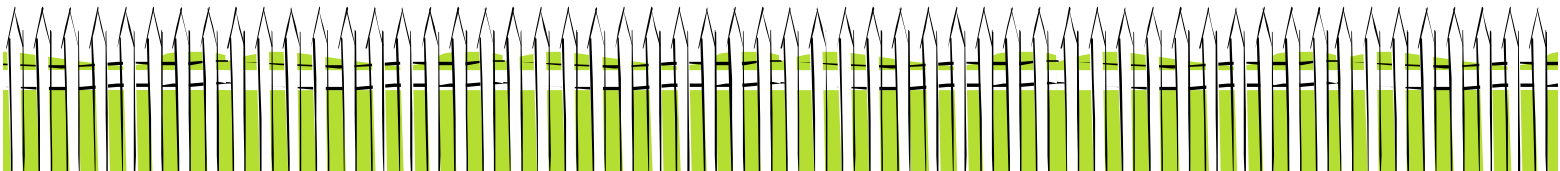
Hi Folks,

I enclose a photo of Suzie & Layla, taken five minutes ago. Suzie is now about 5 Yrs old & Layla is now 6 months old. They are....a right pair!! They get on like a house on fire, Suzie is really gentle with Layla although she is twice her size, we can't but laugh out loud when they play fight.

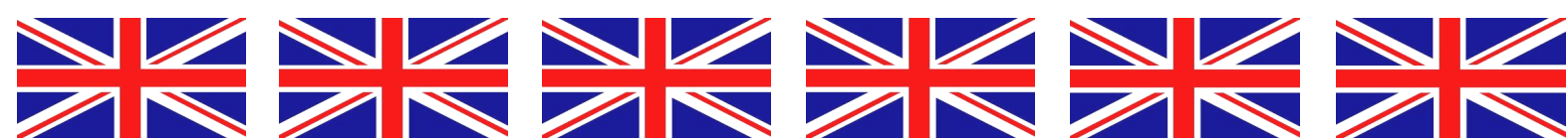
You have helped us no end to start again after the tragic loss of, first Launa & then Tilly so soon after, I think we are all having a great time.

We wish you all an Awesome Christmas & happy new year, keep up the good work, our very best wishes.

Nick, Sue & the mutts. xx







## *The Royal Gallery*



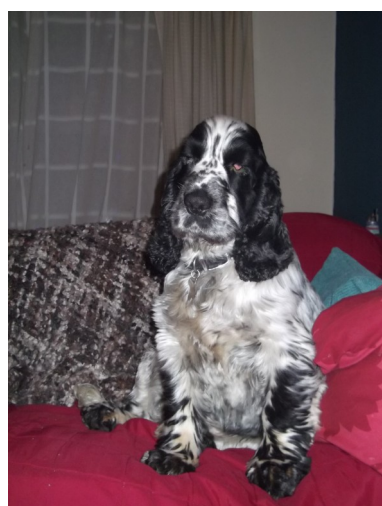
**Prince Domino**



**King Oscar & Queen  
Ruby**



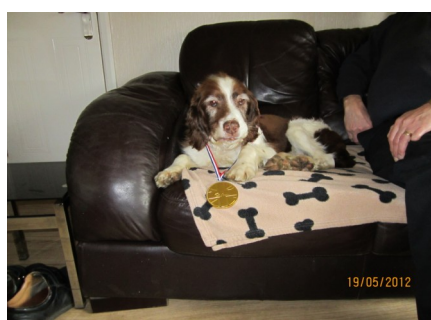
**Dutchess Ruby  
& Duke Alby**



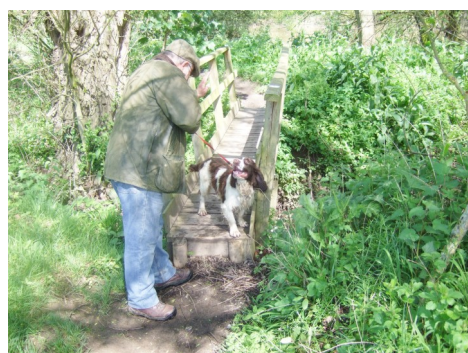
**HMS Montgomery**



**Princess Lilly**



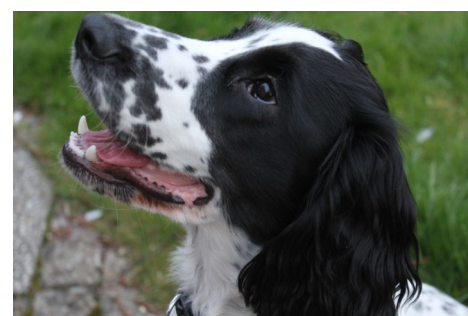
**Sir Bracken**



**Sir Borrún**



**Prince Budgie &  
Prince Henry**



**Prince Kasper**

