



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2011

SPRINGER SPANIEL RESCUE



Hello Everyone

And welcome to your Christmas Newsletter, albeit, not as usual, through the postal system!!!

We hope you are all well and looking forward to the festive season.

This is the first time in 13 years that we have not actually posted out our Christmas Newsletters.....or any of our Newsletters..... Still not sure whether it is a step forward or not?!!!!.....But our Summer Newsletter edition will be posted and of course also available on line.

I have kept this edition smaller than usual, as this is a trial period and I do realise that not everyone has internet access and I really do feel bad about this, and hopefully, I am aware of the ones that do not have access, and I will print and forward the complete Newsletter to them. Hopefully, all will see this edition one way or another.

Please see page 3 for our Doggie's of The Year.....Holly & Daisy. Our previous winners can be found on page 4, all their stories can be found in past newsletters which can be found on our website.

Once again, thank you so much for your updates and pictures of your little darlings!!!! And what they have been up to!!!! Please keep them coming, they are a constant joy for us all at rescue.

Please enjoy your Newsletter and as always, a HUGE Thank you for all your kindness and continued support.....Many, Many Thanks.....

From all the team at Springer Spaniel Rescue xxxxxxxx

Inside this issue:

Raffle Winners	2
Doggie of the year	3
I'll Remember Dedications	5
10 Dog Peeves About Humans	6
Christmas Poem	7
Pet Advice	8
Springer Tail's	11
Gallery Photo's	15

All enquiries please contact:

Glyn & Wendy Griffiths
18 Mill Lane
Parbold
Lancs
WN8 7NW

Tel: 01257 464130

07989759725

Website: www.springerrescue.org.uk

Email: springerrescue@btinternet.com



Raffle winners

1st Prize.....Portrait of Your Doggie..... Mr. & Mrs. Bell (Glasgow)

£25.00 Vouchers for Pets @ Home.....Mr. & Mrs. Lomax (Lancashire)

£25.00 Vouchers for Pets @ Home.....Mr. & Mrs Watson (West Sussex)

Springer Shoulder Bag.....Mr. & Mrs. Barton (Stoke-on-Trent)

Springer Apron.....Mr. & Mrs. Wickwar (Kent)

Springer Cushion Cover.....Mr & Mrs. Oakes (Kidderminster)

Springer Wall Clock.....Mr.& Mrs. Kerr-Delworth (Staffordshire)

Springer Key Holder & Note Pad.....Mr. & Mrs. Downes (Kent)

Springer Ornament.....Mr. & Mrs. Civil (Northampton)

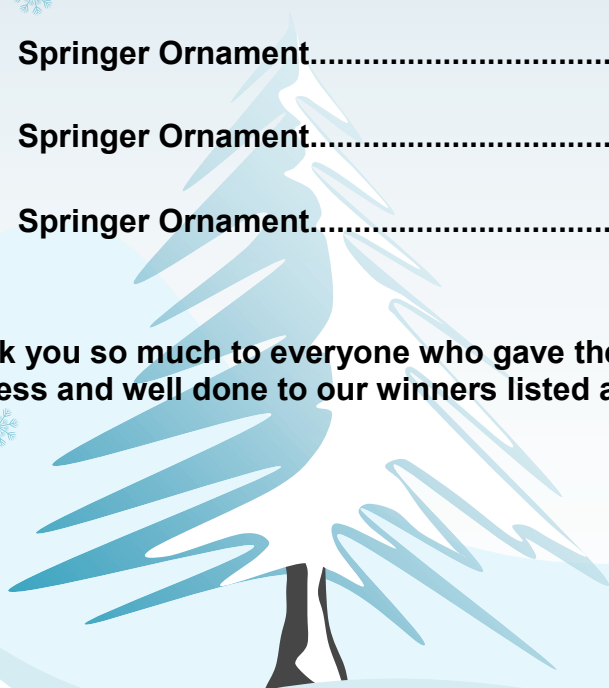
Springer Ornament.....Mr. & Mrs. Cooper (Bucks.)

Springer Ornament.....Mr. & Mrs. Hopkins (Surrey)

Springer Ornament.....Mr. & Mrs. Birt (Gloucester)

Springer Ornament.....Mr. & Mrs. Finnerty (North York's)

Thank you so much to everyone who gave their support to our summer raffle, which was a great success and well done to our winners listed above.





Doggie (s) of The Year 2011

Hello from Holly and Daisy,

Just to let you all know we now have a new home in Yorkshire. We live with two terriers Pru and Jess who are both nineteen years of age and of course there is Mr & Mrs. We soon found out Mr is a retired farmer so we have plenty of land and woodlands to run in and around on together, we also have our own natural swimming pool in the form of a limestone spring which has formed a large pond. Mr is teaching both of us about country life - he seems to think he is incapable of running and picking things up for himself, he expects Daisy and I to do this for him - we must agree we rather enjoy doing this for him. Mr has also introduced us to the wild life the pheasants and partridges but all they want to do is fly away from us. We also like the rabbits they are fun to chase. Mr gets a bit annoyed sometimes and lets us know with a soft sharp whistle followed by a 'Nooooooo'.

Well a little about Mrs - it has not taken us long to wind her around our little paws. A long gaze and sit patiently usually does the trick especially when she is cooking in the kitchen. Our favourite time is when she is cooking a large tray of sausages - we get one or two as they cool and when Mr comes in he will pinch one he will turn to us saying 'Don't tell Mrs' and he will bribe us with a couple more sausages. Mind you I have seen Mr get his knuckles rapped for doing this.

Mr & Mrs like to do a bit of gardening and that is when both myself and Daisy get ourselves into trouble.

Over to Daisy - finally I have chance to speak [bark] whatever. What baffles me the most is Mr & Mrs like to dig holes in the garden, but when Holly and I decide to do a little digging ourselves Mr voice will be heard 'Who has done this' whoops time to retreat to the sanctuary of the house, he always forgives us. We have the freedom to wander the gardens and lay in the sun as we wish.

Holly and I love our trips to the coast where we can run along the sands this we both love but Holly always drinks too much sea water eventually she is sick, but its great running through the water and waves but we have never seen Mr & Mrs in the water yet! We have also met some birds called seagulls they do not want to play either unless there is large portion of chips to go around they have no chance. Well time to go will write again.

Love
Daisy and Holly
X X





Doggie of the year – Past winners



STANLEY & MICHELL
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



RAFFLES
CHRISTMAS 2004



JACK
CHRISTMAS 2005



BEN
CHRISTMAS 2005



STANLEY CHRISTMAS 2006



WILLOW
CHRISTMAS 2006



JAMIE CHRISTMAS 2007



PRINNY
CHRISTMAS 2008



MUFFIN
CHRISTMAS 2009



LULU CHRISTMAS 2010



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:

Jenny Pepper

Henry Paul

Penny Needham

Archie Crook

Jasmin Botterhill

Sam Horner

Rex Evans

Tag Ledger

Jack Thomas

Oscar Clifton

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



Top 10 peeves dog's have about humans

'1'

**Blaming your farts on me.....
not funny.... not funny at all !!!**

'2'

**Yelling at me for barking.
I'M A FRIGGIN' DOG!!!**

'3'

**Taking me for a walk, then
not letting me check stuff out.
Exactly whose walk is this anyway?**

'4'

**Any trick that involves balancing ??
food on my nose. Stop it!**

'5'

Any haircut that involves bows or ribbons. Now you know why we chew your stuff up when you're not home!

'6'

**The sleight of hand, fake fetch throw.
You fooled a dog! Whooooo Hooooooooo, what a proud moment for the top of the food chain.**

'7'

**Taking me to the vet for 'the big snip',
then acting surprised when I freak
out every time we go back!**

'8'

Getting upset when I sniff the crotches of your guests. Sorry, but I haven't quite mastered that handshake thing yet.

'9'

**Dog sweaters. Hello???
Haven't you noticed the fur?**

'10'

**How you act disgusted when I lick myself.
Look, we both know the truth. You're just jealous.**

**Now lay off me on some of these things.
We both know who's boss here!
You don't see me picking up your poop do you?**



The Christmas Card List

There is a list of folk I know
All written in a book,
And every year at Christmas time
I go and have a look
And that is when I realise,
These names are all a part,
Not of the book there written in
But deep inside my heart.

For each name stands for someone
Who has touched my life some time.
And I that meeting they've become,
A special friend of mine.
I really feel that I'm composed
Of each remembered name,
And my life is so much better,
Than it was before they came.

Once you've known that someone,
All the years cannot erase,
The memory of a pleasant word
Or a friendly face.
So never think my Christmas cards,
Are just a mere routine,
Of names upon a list that are,
Forgotten in between.

For when I send a Christmas card,
That is addressed to you
It is because you're on that list
Of folks I'm indebted to.
And whether I have known you,
For many years or few,
That greatest gift that I've been given,
Is having a friend like you.



Pet advice

Puppies

Yes, we love are dogs...but boy can they find creative ways to get into trouble.

When I visit the vetenary clinic a large percentage of the calls we get are about things that the dog has gotten into, and the owner wants to know whether or not to worry.

Chewing on things is a normal part of “puppyhood” and many times the things our dogs eat are not dangerous. Still you can expect to see some vomiting and maybe even a little diarrhoea hen your dog eats something that is not “food”.

So before rushing your pooch to the vet check out this list of non-toxic items that dogs often eat. If your dog chews or eats small amounts of any of the items on this list you do NOT have to worry unless the object becomes lodged in the stomach or intestines causing an obstruction.

Acrylic paint	Ballpoint pens
Bath oil	Birth control pills
Bubble bath soaps	Candles
Chalk	Citronella candles
Cosmetics	Crayons
Deodorants	Elmer's glue
Fabric softeners	Glow jewellery
Hair conditioner	Hand lotion
Incense	Indelible markers
Ink	Lipstick
Magic markers	Mineral oil
Modelling clay	Newspaper – non-coloured.
Petroleum jelly	Pencils (no longer made of lead)
Play-Doh	Putty
Rubber Cement	Shampoo
Shaving cream	Silica gel packets
Soap	Spackle
Suntan lotion	Superglue
Teething rings	Thermometers
Toothpaste	Water colours

If you have any doubt always call your vet clinic.



Pet advice

Seizures

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 wonder if he knows what's happening.

It's a tough thing to talk about but it happens, and it happens more often than you might think.

Seizures are relatively common in dogs and if it happens to your dog you need to be prepared.

You should:

- **Keep your dog safe.** If he's not on the ground, make sure he doesn't fall. If his thrashing might knock something over that could hurt him, move it.
- **Keep yourself safe.** Your dog will not swallow his tongue. **NEVER** put your hands in his mouth – you could get seriously bitten.
- **Be aware.** The more you can tell your vet the better. What happened? How long did it last? How severe was it?
- **Get treatment.** Once the seizure has passed take your dog to the vet.

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. It's a symptom (with any number of causes).

It could be “epilepsy.” This common diagnosis is made when no other cause can be found. Epilepsy could even be genetic since it is more common in certain breeds like German Shepherds, Irish Setters, Retrievers, Poodles and Dachshunds.

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. Diagnosing your dog's seizures could require a lot of testing and money. So why bother? Does the cause really matter as long as he comes through the seizure ok?

If the cause is medical, environmental, metabolic or traumatic, it could be serious or life threatening, so you need to identify it and treat it.

If diagnosed, many of these conditions can be successfully treated – and that could save your dog's life. Yes, diagnostic tests are expensive but they could save your dog's life. When it comes to your dog's health money shouldn't be an obstacle.



Pet advice

Mobility

Dogs love to run, jump and play. But for a variety of health reasons, all dogs can experience mobility issues. Young, old, large or small, many dogs have stiff and painful joints.

It is hard to separate normal aging changes from those secondary to pain and mobility problems. From my experience, most pet owners think their dog is just getting older. They don't question whether the changes they see could be secondary to pain.

Some common signs owners notice in their dog include:

- Slower to get up or down.
- Lagging behind when walking with them.
- Less playful and less active in general.
- Taking longer to recover after exercise or play.

If you notice any of these signs, there are a few things you can do. First, see your veterinarian. Your dog may be showing signs of mobility problems. Many vets recommend the new Hill's Science Diet Healthy Mobility Dog Food. Research proves it can improve mobility in just 30 days.

The food has high levels of Omega 3 fatty acids as well as EPA, Glucosamine and Chondroitin Sulphate for essential bone and joint cartilage support.

Also, here's a supper tip. On hot days, don't force your dog to walk or exercise. Walk only early in the morning or in the evening and let your dog take it easy.





Pet advice

Diseases

I have to tell you about a life-threatening disease that I absolutely hate. It comes on very quickly – and to young and healthy dogs. Many dogs get it and more than 50% of dogs that get it die. It is awful. No one knows exactly why it happens. I wish there was a cure but there is not.

The disease is called Immune Mediated Haemolytic Anaemia and it is caused by some abnormality in the dog's immune system. The body's immune system normally helps keep us healthy by killing bad bacteria. But for some reason with this disease it suddenly identifies healthy red blood cells in the body as foreign "bad" cells – and it starts destroying them.

This disease is really awful. Over the course of sometimes hours, a dog can become weak and lethargic. Sometimes the dog will vomit. The gums become pale as the dog becomes anaemic from losing the red blood cells in its body.

Treatment of this disease is difficult and expensive. You can give the dog blood transfusions but the body will often destroy the transfused cells too. Sometimes transfusions are necessary but they are not a cure. The other treatment is drug therapy to suppress the immune system. Drugs will work for some dogs but not all. It is very frustrating.

I recently saw a buff-coloured cocker spaniel named Buffy that came in with this disease. (It can occur in any breed but is more common in cocker spaniels). I'm happy to say that she made it but Buffy was in the hospital for 6 ½ days – and her bill was almost \$3000. That is a lot of money. Many owners would not have been able to go ahead with the treatment. That is why pet insurance is so great. It can really help you do the best for your dog when something like this happens.

If your dog acts weak or lethargic check the colour of his gums and call your vet.

Buffy was lucky, many dogs aren't so lucky. Sometimes lives are lost simply because the dog's owner can't afford medical treatment. That's why I urge all pet owners to consider pet insurance. If you plan ahead and insure your pets now, while they are still young and healthy, you will always be able to give your pets the medical care they need without worrying so much about the cost.



Springer Tail's

Dear Mr & Mrs Griffiths,

Please find enclosed a small donation of £20.

I am retiring, having reached that special birthday, and my work colleagues at Wolverhampton Council have kindly raised a collection.

I would like to share part of the collection with you as I am sure you will put it to good use.

We have a Labrador (Bruno) and a younger cocker spaniel (Bracken) who was a rescue pup 4 years ago.

We previously had a black and white Springer called Jessie, then a liver and white English Springer (Muffin).

Of course we love them to bits and still miss them when sadly we've had to say sorrowful goodbyes.

Springer's have a special place in my heart. I've never yet met one I didn't fall in love with. My husband is very good with dogs and stops me spoiling them or over-feeding.

Enclosed please find SAE to confirm receipt. If you want me to complete a gift aid certificate please post me one.

I wish you all the luck in the world with what you are doing and hope you can continue for a long time.

Yours sincerely

Jean Binnall

Dear Wendy & Glyn,

Just a note to thank you for the lovely card it did help a lot, the kind words, although they upset me were lovely.

I've had Monty cremated and I pick up his ashes this week they will be in a casket with his name on it, so I have instructed my family that when I go Monty's ashes are to be put with mine and that way we will always be together.

Also I would like to thank you so much for giving me the honour of looking after such a wonderful pet. I will always miss my Monty.

Lots of love to you both.

Margaret Payne

X X X



Dear Glyn and Wendy,

We just wanted to say “thank you so much” for bringing Poppy, (formerly Princess) into our family. She has been the healing remedy that all three of us (Gizmo, our border terrier included) were longing for after the passing of our beloved Springer Ellie, it being the first anniversary of that dreadful day today.

Poppy is a beautiful dog in both looks and nature, and we have fallen completely in love with her. She is so tactile, eager and loyal with a gentle and unassuming manner. She loves playing fetch with her ball, Frisbee or boomerang so much so that her whole body quivers with anticipation and it looks like her tail will fly off at any minute she is wagging it so hard! When she’s not chasing a toy (which isn’t that often I must add) she teams up with her brother in chasing squirrels. Otherwise, if we are at our caravan in Wales it’s seagulls that she’s chasing on the beach in between swimming in the sea or just padding in the pools. Are you picking up on a general theme here?

When we first took poppy to the vets for a weight and health check, a couple of days after picking her up from Tom and Fiona she weighed a massive 20.5kg. within four months of regular exercise and good diet she was down to 15.8kg, which the vet was amazed at, and she has maintained a healthy weight ever since. She loves to chew on pigs ears, paddywack or bones and she quickly learnt to pinch her brothers treats whilst he’s otherwise occupied barking at passing cats! We find this quite amusing as he has always tired to eat her food and she has never retaliated before, until recently when she has sent him off a few times (good for her). Poppy has lots more confidence than she used to and has recently begun to ease off continually jumping up people for a fuss. It’s like she is so much more contented now as she was definitely “born to play” (what a great life to have), I could do with some of that myself!!

She is a joy and pleasure to have as part of our family and we feel blessed to have her in our lives, thank you once again.

Yours sincerely
Malcolm and Adele Leese. X

Hello everyone,

It is such a long time since I wrote to you that you have probably forgotten who I am. I am Lottie, I live with Bella, Herbie, Sara and Jeff in France. We used to live in the SW if you remember but we now live in Brittany, this is one reason I am writing to you, to tell you our new address so we can go on getting the magazine and hear all the doggie news from everyone else. We now live at 6 Rue du Carpon, 56920 St Gonnelly, Brittany, France. It is really lovely here, the great excitement is, not only do we have a wonderful, large enclosed garden, but we also have our own lake, Spaniel heaven or what! I go swimming a lot as I am very good, Sara calls me “goody, goody four paws” but I am seven now, so I know what’s what. Bella and Herbie have to wait until someone is around as they get easily distracted by ducks and moorhens, I prefer my ball.

The other brilliant news is that Bella is over her cancer. When I last wrote I think I told you that she had a Mast Cell Tumour and we were just not sure what was going to happen, but she has been clear for over a year now and is very gradually coming off the steroids. She still loves doing agility, jumping being her favourite, she is known as the little jumping bean.

Herbie is having more chances to socialise with other dogs here, since being rescued from the SPA he has always been frightened of other male dogs, but now he even has some male doggie friends.

We had a lovely holiday in a cottage in Thetford Forest earlier in the year, so many wonderful walks and smells. We had to share the car home with three runner ducks and four geese, we were all very, very good, but what a noise they made.

Well we are just off to the woods now so I better go. Sara says that she will be sending some pictures on soon, the ones she took yesterday to send to you apparently do not do us justice, whatever that means! Something to do with us always moving and coming up to sniff the camera I think.

Take care of all those very special doggies and yourselves, love Lottie, Bella, Herbie, Jeff and Sara xxxxxx



Dear Glyn & Wendy,

It is with the greatest sadness that I have to inform you our darling Sam (Henry) died on (05/09/11).

Both Steve, myself and little Bob feel totally bereft, Sam was the sweetest natured character who helped me get through my own illness around this time last year with the calming reassurance and understanding looks that he gave me.

Sam became ill three months ago, initially nothing more than a lack of appetite and occasional vomiting, when this did not improve blood tests suggested a problem with his para thyroid glands. He underwent surgery (during which it was also noted that his prostate was somewhat enlarged). When he did not improve a more detailed blood test was sent to Cambridge and this indicated kidney failure! He did not respond to medication and the vets observation of enlarged prostate was, I believe the underlying cause of his death as a week before he died we returned to the vets as his prostate felt increasingly hard. The vet confirmed that his lymph nodes in the groin were enlarged and that he almost certainly had a malignancy for which he could offer no further help.

During the weeks between initial diagnosis and his passing, he had good days and bad days. On the good days we drove both dogs to their favourite riverside walks (to conserve his strength) Sam loved these times, one day will stay with me forever. He stood on the riverbank with the wind blowing his long spaniel ears and looking wistfully across the river when he caught me watching him and I swear that he smiled at me!! (Tears are flowing now at this memory).

When his health deteriorated further and his quality of life reduced, we rang the vets to arrange for him to be put to sleep. We were persuaded to wait until the vet treating him was available and arranged a date when both of us could stay with him at the end. As it happened, Sam died at home the day before. We were both with him and able to reassure him he had been the best, most wonderful boy for us. He was only 9 years old.

Sadly Bob has taken this very badly, always a very nervous dog, Bob relied totally on Sam, followed him devotedly and is now reluctant to leave the house. In addition he howls every morning when he hears us getting up and is such a pitiful lonely lad.

He was recently diagnosed as having some spondulosis of his spine which may need a C.T. scan if he doesn't respond to treatment. It is difficult to know how much his reluctance to go out is attributed to his physical or emotional state, however both Steve and I have become paranoid in our fear of losing Bob too.

To end, I would like to thank you both for giving us the opportunity to enjoy eight happy years with an exceptional dog. No matter how old he had lived to be, it would never have been enough. Alas there appears to be a trade off for loving such "special" friends, and that is that losing them, whenever the time comes, is near on unbearable. In the case of Sam Henry Horner no truer words could be said.

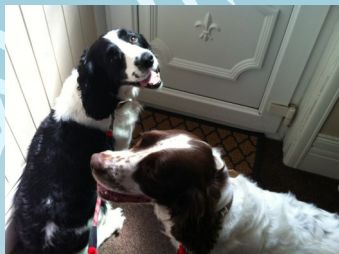
Andrea, Steve & Bob Horner xx



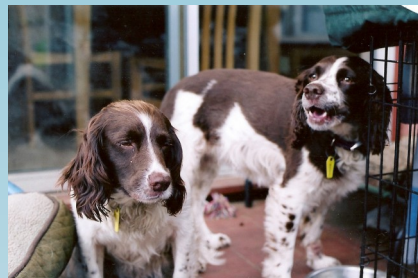
Gallery Photo's



BADGER & HENRY



FENDER & HARVEY



ROSIE & MUFFIN



ARCHIE & BONNIE



CASSIE



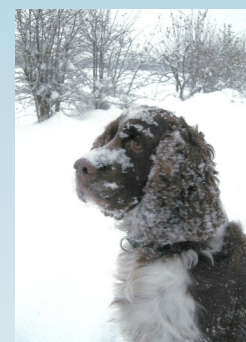
DARCY



TIA & MOLLY



THE FAMILY



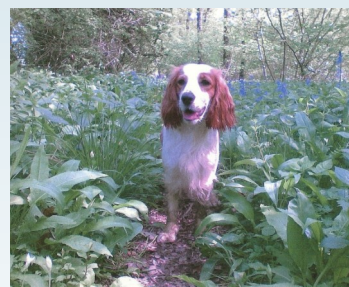
CHARLIE



CHARLIE



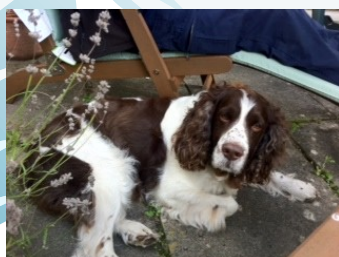
PENNY



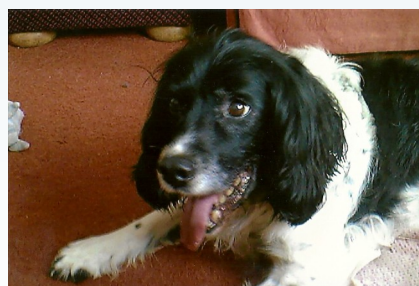
HOLLY



TAFF



JAXSON



SAM



DOMMY