



SPRINGER SPANIEL RESCUE

CHRISTMAS 2002 NEWSLETTER



Letter from the Editor

Hello and Merry Christmas to all you wonderful Springer's and your well behaved owners!!!!

We hope this newsletter finds you all well and you have enjoyed your summer and are now looking forward to Christmas and cosy nights in front of the fire. Personally I prefer the light nights and being out and about on long walks with the doggies, but not to worry, spring isn't that far away!!!!

Thank you so much for all the wonderful letters, e-mails, photos and phone calls. As I always emphasise, we just love to hear from you and a huge thank you for all the kind donations we have received, as you can appreciate these donations are vital to Rescue. "Thank you".

We have had a very busy period since our last newsletter, many doggies coming into Rescue and with our wonderful website we are able to help more and more and thanks to the hard work of our team, most of these doggies are going into their new homes reasonably quickly, but of course we all have our sleepless nights when we have doggies in kennels that have their "problems" and need that extra special care, but we're always there for them and let's face it—nobody ever said Rescue was easy!!!!

We just try and do our very best—help always needed, especially foster homes, people who can assess a doggie in a home environment, so if you feel you can provide a temporary home please, please just give us a call.

Our summer shows went very well and thank you to everyone who came along and gave their support. We attended all scheduled shows with the exception of Weston Park. The main aim of doing shows is to raise money for Rescue, providing information, meeting people and the big bonus is to see you and your doggies doing well. Whilst these shows are very tiring and hard work—organisation, getting goods together, transportation and long hours, they are extremely rewarding for Rescue and most of the shows let us have our stand free, or ask a nominal fee, so the reason we didn't attend Weston Park—we were asked for £180.00 for our stand!! So if they don't reduce the fee next year we will have to have a rethink. If anyone knows of a good country/game fair we could attend, please let us know (all dates and venues for next year will be listed in our summer newsletter).

We hope you enjoy your newsletter and if you have any thoughts for future editions please let us know, we are always looking for new ideas.

Once again thank you to everyone who has given their support to SSR, you are all very special. Have a wonderful Christmas and a Very Happy and Peaceful New Year.

From all the team at Springer Rescue.

All enquiries, letters, photos:

Glyn and Wendy Griffiths 18 Mill Lane, Parbold, Lancashire, WN8 7NW.
Telephone: 01257 464130 or E-mail: info@springerrescue.org.uk



Stanley and Mitchell
Christmas 1999



Frankie
Summer 2000



Ben
Christmas 2000



Jakey
Summer 2001



Zak
Christmas 2001



Angus
Summer 2002

SUMMER RAFFLE (Prizes and Winners)



We had a marvellous response from our Summer Raffle and raised much needed funds for Rescue. Thank you so very much to everyone who gave their support. Listed below are the lucky winners and prizes. We only wish we could give you all a prize as in our eyes you are all winners.

Craig and Linda Mercer (St Helens) 1st prize—sculpted hand painted Springer statue

Judy Baynton (South Wales) 2nd prize—framed Springer picture

Mr & Mrs Lewis (Sussex) 3rd prize—framed Springer picture

Mr & Mrs Barbour (Scotland) - man and dog walking pack

Mr & Mrs Bowdary (Middlesex) - Springer goodies pack

Dr & Mrs Brown (Lincolnshire) - Springer plate

Mrs Canavan (Lancashire) Springer goodies pack

Mr & Mrs Davies (Warrington) - Springer magnetic pack

Mr & Mrs Eccleston (Mawdesley) - Springer picture frame

Mr & Mrs Ellery (Scotland) Springer porcelain coaster

Mr & Mrs Hammond (Aughton) - gift voucher

Mr & Mrs Hannington (West Houghton) - Remote control toy

Mr & Mrs Kay (Blackburn) - car cleaning pack

Mrs Parkinson (Blackburn) - doggie ornament and Springer mouse mat

Mrs Payne (Newton-le-Willows) - "Springer" china matching cup and saucer

Mr & Mrs Spink (Spain) - Springer magnetic pad

Mrs Walter (Up Holland) - bottle of wine

Mrs Walsh (West Houghton) - remote control toy

Ms White (Lancashire) - gift voucher

"Well Done" and Thank you.

DOGGIE OF THE YEAR (Or two doggies of the year)!!!!

As you can see on our front page doggie photos and a date—well let me explain.

For those of you who have been part of SSR for some time, will recognise these faces from past newsletters, ie Front Page Boys. We decided that instead of putting any picture on our front cover we would put what we thought was Doggie of the Year and since we send out two newsletters of course there are two doggies of the year.

We started this project in Christmas 1999 newsletter. These doggies are chosen due to various reasons, so each newsletter will feature (front page) Doggie of the Year and each Christmas Newsletter will show present or past "winners". So for all that haven't before received our newsletter, a quick update!!!!

Christmas 1999—Stanley and Mitchel

Stanley has had severe health problems. Mitchel needed someone who could understand him (having lived outside for the first part of his life and didn't know love and affection). Both doggies are doing fine thanks to a wonderful Mum, who puts her doggies above all.



DOGGIE OF THE YEAR continued



Summer 2000—Frankie

Frankie came into Rescue addicted to Valium, due to his previous owners stupidly thinking it would calm him down. This poor boy, literally had to suffer withdrawal whilst in kennels. Eventually homed he proved more than a handful for his wonderful new owners. He didn't just attack other dogs, but didn't take too kindly to people. But through total love, dedication, time and patience from his Mum and Dad, Frankie became a normal happy super Springer loving life to the full.



Christmas 2000—Ben

This was a special tribute to Ben who had so very sadly died earlier that year at such a young age from an unknown infection. Before being homed Ben was a real favourite in kennels. Such a character full of energy and so well behaved. He was adopted by a wonderful family who adored him. It was a joy to see them all together so happy. Their pain at losing Ben was unbearable. Ben will always be remembered with much love. A privilege to have known him.



Summer 2001—Jakey

Jakey had been in our kennels for 10 months. A wonderful chap. Whilst in kennels we found that 2 lumps had developed. After having them removed and tested they were found to be cancerous but the vet assured us that if they didn't reoccur Jake could live a full and normal life. But with this problem and the fact Jakey was somewhat "strong willed" we knew we needed a very special person to adopt him. That person came along and Jakey has a wonderful life with his Mum and best pal Maxey. They have had their problems but love conquers all.



Christmas 2001—Zak

Zak came into Rescue (Eric as he was then called) from a "home"? that had kept him chained up outside. A big bouncy wonderful boy. Again strong willed and quite a handful. Zak was also in kennels for a long time, again we knew we needed a very special couple who would understand him and bring out the wonderful character we knew he had. Zak was homed to a terrific couple who fell in love with him immediately and sorted out his problems. He has a wonderful life and the pictures we receive of him, you wouldn't think he was the same doggie.



Summer 2002—Angus

Angus came into Rescue from a dreadful home, stuck in a flat all day, no training and certainly didn't know what love was. We rehomed him unsuccessfully on 2 occasions. We needed somebody "special". That special family came along and adopted Angus. They have had many ups and downs. Angus due to his bad start in life was very mixed up but as each problem occurs they overcome it. Time patience and love, a remarkable family with true dedication.



Christmas 2002—Travis

So here we are up-to-date. Read Travis's story on pages 11 and 12

Whilst these super doggies are named as "Doggie of the Year" it is you, the owners, that did all the hard work. You are true Rescuers. All the doggies we rehome are special to us and most settle without any problem while some need that special "guidance", so if you think your doggie deserves "Doggie of the Year" drop us a line and tell us your story and make your doggie "front page news". All Rescue dogs are special and Springer being breed apart. There are dogs and there are Springer's. *God bless them and we Thank You All.*

"A DOGS LITTLE INSTRUCTION BOOK"!!!! (Part 2)



- ♥ Don't mess with hedgehogs!!
- ♥ Attack the vacuum cleaner, but be wary of lawnmowers!!
- ♥ Don't let people blame you when they fart!!
- ♥ Sleep in a thoroughfare!
- ♥ Treat teddy bears with the contempt they deserve!
- ♥ Cause flooding of floor area around drinking bowl!!!
- ♥ Avoid marking your territory on a prickly bush!!
- ♥ Live up to being "man's best friend"
- ♥ Beware the vet with the thermometer!!
- ♥ Always have an alibi!!
- ♥ Know the sound of the fridge door!
- ♥ If you want to be a successful gundog don't eat the game!
- ♥ Know when it's unwise to "push your luck"!!
- ♥ Ensure Father Christmas doesn't miss you out!

QUOTES

"The best thing about a man—IS HIS DOG"!!!!

"One of the animals which a generous and sociable man would soonest become is a Dog. A Dog can have a friend; he has affections and character; he can enjoy equally, the field and the fireside; he dreams, he caresses; he propitiates; he offends and is pardoned, he stands by you in adversity; he is a good fellow".

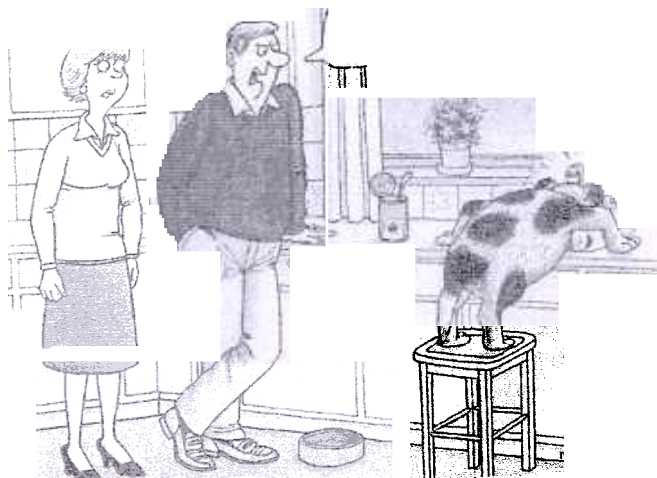
- Leigh Hunt

"A dog represents all that is good in man"

- Etienne Charlet

"A dog will be your friend for always and always and always".

Rudyard Kipling



LETTERS PAGE 1



Dear Glyn and Wendy

Well, after four weeks in my new home I thought perhaps I should tell you how I'm getting on and what tricks I have been up to.

My new folks were very impressed with how I was so quiet travelling home on my first day. What they didn't know was that I was busy modifying the new lead they had bought me. It looks so much better with a few custom teeth marks in it!

I started to explore as soon as we got home. I had a wonderful time with all the new smells in the garden, lots of room for me to charge around but I'm not sure about this thing they call "the pond". I did dip my toes in but it's a bit cold and wet and who knows what creatures it holds. I've only fallen in once so far....an experience I don't intend to repeat!

Next I met my new housemates....cats! Strange animals, try as I might to get them to play with me.

After a couple of days my folks took me to a fantastic new playground. A huge place up on top of the hills not far away. Loads of trees, bushes, fields and banks to charge around and over. Better still lots of other dogs to play with. (And I can tell you the new kid on the block has made his mark with the locals).

I have a good playground nearer home too. My new Mum gets up at 6 am every day and takes me to some fields for a good run around. Better still we have to walk past 'Granny's House'. She is my number one fan and can always be relied on to provide a snack. I might only have been here for 4 weeks but boy, have I got her wrapped round my paws!

I met a new pal the other day, Alfie, he's a big young fellow who lives with a friend of my man. Alfie came into my garden. We hit it off right away and were really tearing round. That's how I came to take my dip in "the pond". I was so busy looking over my shoulder that I completely forgot where I was heading. Splash! Everybody had a good laugh though.

I suppose we must do these silly things now and again to entertain the folks.

All in all I think I am settling in very nicely here. A cosy warm bed, tummy full of food, fresh air, cuddles on demand. What more could a handsome young spaniel want?

I think I'll stay.

With love, Bertie.

Hello all of you Springer lovers, my name is Barney

I left camp Wigan in January 2002 to go to my new home in Hounslow with Hilary and Les. I have it really cushy here, plenty of long walkies over Cranford park, Richmond park and Hounslow Heath (am I making you jealous yet)?

I really enjoy chasing birds, flies, shadows and anything else which moves past me quickly!

The food here is five star and I have a really comfortable bed. It was my birthday two weeks ago and I had lots more new toys. I really love the rope toys with tennis balls attached, although the tennis balls don't seem to last very long and Hilary always gets the Hoover out after I have chewed them up. I really do not like that Hoover, it makes such a racket and I have to hide in my bed until it's switched off! Life here is mostly fun so I suppose I must let them play with their toys like the Hoover now and again. Anyway all, it's time for my hourly dog-nap on the front room rug but I will write again soon. Lots of love, Yours woofingly, Barney





Dear Glyn and Wendy

Just a few lines to let you know how I am doing. I am really happy now and am so glad such nice people have adopted me. I am very spoilt and lead an excellent 'dogs' life. I regularly go out with my friends, Boss, Grandville, Alfie, Perdie, Cosmic and Bree. (Bree is a big dalmatian and is very scary but he is getting to know me and shares his mum's treats with me).

Uncle Mac has now put a small fence around his pond in his garden because I keep jumping in and he does not like it. I think he is a bit of a spoilsport really!!! I have settled in really well, but am still a bit timid around people and dogs I don't know, but it's ok because mum looks after me and makes sure nothing horrible happens to me.

Mum says I have put on some weight, not sure what that means but she is feeding me lots of nice food at breakfast and tea time. We are starting to do some 'training' (well that's what mum calls it)! But I don't seem to be very good at it. She is very patient with me though and she gives me big cuddles if I do something right.

On Sunday last week, mum took me to a local dog show. She was going to put me in a class but in the morning I went to the pits with Keith and Darrell and got covered in red mud. She said she could not put me in the prettiest dog section looking like that! I don't know, I thought I looked kind of handsome really. I met lots of new people as well and I have begun to realise that not everyone wants to hurt me and made some friends.

I had an operation as well and was a bit sore for a while. Mum and Maggie took my stitches out and it tickled my belly. I have to go to the vets on Monday for an injection booster, but mum said it should be ok and I need to be brave.

Anyway, must go, Mum has enclosed some photos of me, they are not very good because mum says she is no David Bailey! She will try and get some better ones for next time. (Actually she has 2 super photos of me but wants to keep them)!

Will write again soon, lots of love Jake

Dear Wendy and Glyn

Sorry it has taken me so long to write and enclose photos of Jasper but we have been on holiday. You will see from the photos that Jasper has been clipped and what a handsome lad he is.

What can I say about Jasper—he is loving, wonderful on the lead and recall and you would think he had lived with us all his life he has made himself so at home. The family think he is fabulous and all want him (no way) we have had many dogs and know Springer's. Jasper does not have a nasty bone in his body!!!! His appetite is normal for Springer's that is. H wants to tell you he now understands what we are saying. Black Country accents took a bit of getting used to. He likes to take a nap at lunchtime with Trevor who since he retired seven years ago has got used to forty winks after lunch. Jasper quietly crawls onto his lap and they both snooze together.

We have plenty of lovely walks where we are, the Black Country does have them! We will never understand how someone could let him go. With dogs there is always the phrase he is great but I wish he didn't do....we cannot say that with Jasper his manners are impeccable to say we have fallen in love with him is an understatement.

Thank Wendy and Glyn for taking the heartache of losing a dearly loved Springer Oscar and allowing us to have Jasper.

All best wishes Maureen and Trevor Williams + Jasper

