

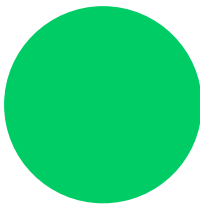
Springer Spaniel Rescue

Spring/Summer Newsletter 2001



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Don't miss our new website.

See a gallery of Springers from all over the UK (and the world!)

Tips on caring for your Springer

See some of the Springers currently available

Send in a photo of your Springer, and sign our guestbook

www.springerrescue.org.uk

Letter from the Editor

"Hello" to all you wonderful "Spring" and of course your owners - we trust you've got them well trained!! We hope this Newsletter finds you all fit and well and looking forward to the summer, with hopefully, great weather and those long light nights ahead - wonderful!

Firstly a "huge" thank you for your very kind and generous donations received over the Christmas period and throughout the year, and to everyone who has given gifts, blankets, towels, food etc and their time to Rescue visiting the Kennels, administration help, walking the doggies in Kennels, making sure they are well taken care of along with the Kennel staff, before they go onto their new homes. We thank you all so very, very much.

Before I go any further, I must tell you our wonderful news, regarding Jake (picture on our front page - extremely handsome chap, I'm sure you will agree). Many of you will know Jake had been in Kennels since May last year. In our Christmas Newsletter we made a "special" appeal and a very "special" person has now adopted Jakey. This is a joy to his new mum Judy and is best pals with her other doggie Max, (a very handsome Doberman), and as mum Judy says, "Jake has enriched all our lives". Jakey's letter features in this Newsletter "brilliant".

Eric, who also featured in our special appeal, is sadly still in Kennels, but we are confident there is someone out there just for Eric - please keep him in mind. His letter, too, features, written by our very dear friend and Rescue member Eva, who made Eric famous on Lancashire Radio and presenter Jim Bowen (Bullseye) signed his photo for luck so fingers crossed Eric will also find the home he so much deserves. Now, you out going fun loving folk, two legged and four legged variety, check out our diary page where we tell you of our forthcoming fund raising shows, which, as many of you who have visited in the past, will agree are super days out for everyone. Make a date in your diary and we look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, we hope you enjoy your Newsletter keep sending in your photo's, stories, poems etc, this can also be done via our website (email: info@springerrescue.org.uk). They are always an absolute joy to receive and remember this Newsletter is "your" Newsletter, therefore your comments and new ideas are most welcome.

Thank you to one and all and have a wonderful summer.

From All the Team at Springer Spaniel Rescue

Any Enquiries or information, please contact:

Glyn & Wendy Griffiths

18 Mill Lane

Parbold WN8 7NW

Tel: 01257 464130



Diary Dates



Newburgh village Show
Back Lane, Newburgh
nr Parbold, Lancashire

Saturday 9th June 1pm until 5pm

Hale Show
Hale Park, High Street
Hale Village, Liverpool 24

Saturday 16th June 10am until 5 pm

Thorton Hough Show
Thorton Hough Village
Village Green, Thornton Hough, Wirral

Saturday 7th July 11am until 4.30 pm

Cheshire Game and Angling Fair
Peover Park
Knutsford, Cheshire

Sunday 19th August 10.30 until 5pm

**Parkgate International Showjumping
& County Fair**
Boathouse Lane
Parkgate, Wirral

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th September
10am until 5pm



*Check our website
for any changes or
additions to the
diary dates*

If directions or information are needed, please telephone, 01257 464130

Also if you have any items, unwanted gifts etc, or anything which you think would be suitable for our "Tombola", please give us a ring and we can arrange to collect or any ideas of your own to raise funds, just let us know.

Birthday Club Update



In the last Newsletter, Rescue member Joan, along with her helpers Jasper and Purdy came up with a super idea for raising funds and giving you the fun of receiving a special Birthday card, together with a "disc" for your doggie with name, adoption date and Rescue number.

with your donation and we will get a disc printed, along with our very own specially designed "Springer Rescue Cards" and send them out to you. We hope you all like the idea or joining our birthday club, it's great fun for your doggie and also helps raise essential funds for rescue.



We have already had a great response, and for everyone who didn't receive our last Newsletter, this is how it works.

Once again thank you to Jasper and Purdy for "their" idea and many thanks to Hilda, David and Fiona Mylchreest for the "designer cards" which they have very kindly donated.

A week or so before the anniversary of your doggies adoption date, write in

Letters Page



From Rufus and Ollie

Dear Glyn & Wendy

Ollie and I would like to thank you very much for finding us a new home. here we are showered with love and affection all the time, even though at times I'm very mischievous. We both get on well together and feel happy relaxed and settled. It's great having a friend to go on long walks with and chase around the fields, it's lots of fun.

Once again thank you very much, we both feel as if we have landed on our paws!

From Jerry Springer

Just a short note, to let you know I am doing well. I have a cushy home life with Barbara and Gordon. Plenty of food, I only have to bring them my bowl in my mouth, and straight away it gets filled. they did think of calling me Oliver, but I was not having that. I have not put on much weight, but they reckon I am just naturally slim, no Weight Watchers for me. I do go out for walks, and still like going out in the car. with the exercise I have been getting I have made a bit of muscle, so I reckon I look fine and dandy.

From Bob Susan and Henry

Glyn and Wendy

Thank you so much for your Xmas Newsletter, Henry has settled in really well. Definitely a woman s dog (I trip over him). Its me and my shadow he lays next to me in the bedroom, sits next to me when I'm in the bath etc etc. Henry has been really spoilt since he came to live with us, I am sure he walks about with a smile on his face. Well thank you again for finding us Henry, I'm so sorry Eric is still there. I'm so tempted but Henry is a timid dog, in fact we call him lump of lard, and we have just got the right medication sorted out for him because of the fits. But I'm sure someone out there will have it in their heart to find Eric a home.

From Margaret, Rob and Frankie

Dear Glyn and Wendy

Frankie has had an excellent year - he's a very sociable lad. In September we took him to a cottage in North Wales, very safe for him lots of fun in the fields and on the beach. He is quite a star with the regular dog walkers in the park - they call him "one happy dog!".

Hope you are both well, also your doggie pals.

From Bran

Dear Glyn and Wendy

I am writing to thank you for introducing me to my new owner, Liz. She says that it seems longer than 9 months since I became part of the family, and that she couldn't imagine life without me now.

I take her out for long walks, to keep her fit, and we explore lots of woodlands together. But even though I run about very fast, and show her lots of ways to climb under the brambles, and through the muddy patches, she stays mainly on the paths. Although she has been better at tramping through the mud since she got some Wellington boots!

When the ground was covered with that funny white stuff, about the time humans call 'Christmas' all the family came into the woods with me, and they threw lots of white balls for me, but they all disappeared when they hit the ground, and all I managed to do was eat the fluffy white stuff.

I often see squirrels in the wood, but I just can't seem to get far enough up the trees to play with them, although I did once manage to run about half a mile over a huge field chasing a rabbit, before it went down a hole in the ground. My owner was quite worried for a short times, as I couldn't hear her calling for me, but I knew where I had left her, and soon found my way back to her side.

She has put a photograph of me in with this letter. I am sitting on a pile of logs in the woods where we go to play. I can see the squirrels better from there.

Anyway, I must go now, as it is time to take Liz out again for another walk, so I will say Woof Bye, and tell her to put her wellies on.

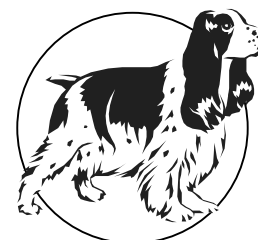
From Paula, Monica and Tess Parker

Dear Glyn and Wendy

I promise we'll send you a working photo in the New Year. She is a superb working gun dog and loving member of our family. She is so affectionate and has grown tremendously in stature and confidence. I feel most proud of her when we're out together shooting in company - she works so well and enjoys the days enormously.



Send your letters to Glyn and Wendy for inclusion in the Christmas Newsletter!



Letters Page (cont d)

From Paulo

Dear Auntie Wendy and Uncle Glyn

Thank you very much for the name disc that you sent for my birthday.

However I am not too sure about the age on the disc as I feel, look and act as much younger dog. Even my vet, although I rarely need to see him, said I was a young dog. When I am out walking/sniffing/investigating, people often remark what a fine specimen I am and children seem particularly taken with me and I often hear of chorus of, "coos and ahs!" When I speed by. I always have the desire to lead and usually leave my walkers behind although I keep them on an extending lead in case they lose their way - you know what humans are like!

Not everyone gets my name right and at the grooming salon I ended up as, "Polo" until they corrected their records. I enjoy a very full life in my semi-rural location and I have one long walk and two shorter walks every weekday. At weekends I generally get taken to Rivington or somewhere in the country where I can rush round to my hearts content although I never chase any livestock, live and let live is my motto! Last Sunday I went to Abbey Village and walked (my mum said I rushed) round and got nice and grubby in the snow and mud, I always feel that a little mud adds to the enjoyment of a walk, you feel that you have achieved something although I am not sure that my mum always agrees. Not to worry though if I do need to be wiped down/dried I have got my own hairdryer if it is too cold to dry naturally.

When I first arrived here I met several types of creatures that I could not remember, such as sheep, cows and geese. However I soon got used to them although I always keep well away from the geese. I have made friends with most of the other dogs in the area we are always happy to stop and pass the time of day. For some reason their owners always seem to like me.

I eat very well (what Springer doesn't!) but I always burn off the calories with walking and my duties in the house and garden. In the garden I help mum by carrying empty plants pots around, pushing over full plant pots, testing others by pushing them, moving sticks and rolling on bushes in order to stunt their growth in order that they will not get too big. In the house I carry socks and other items about, trim houseplants by removing leaves and then I test the stability of the plant pots by leaning on them. My mum always shouts encouragement and joins in the fun by chasing me - or at least I think that is encouragement. She keeps saying

that her circulation has improved since I arrived. One of my favorite pastimes after I have tired everyone out and completed my duties for the time being, is having a nap on a bed with my legs sticking up in the air - I understand that it helps the air to circulate over the stomach and other parts. After the nap I am ready for more fun, another walk and some more food. At night I retire to my own bedroom and drift off to sleep listening to my personal radio whilst thinking about new activities that will amuse my mum and keep her fit and entertained the next day.

I was very sorry to hear in the last newsletter that my friend Eric had not been homed and I hope that he has found a suitable home since then and that all the other Springers in the kennels can be re-homed quickly.

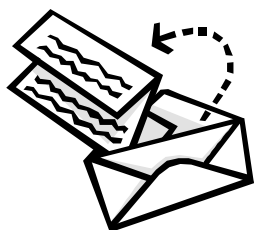
VERY SPECIAL LETTER FROM JAKE

Hello, I am Jake and I am an eight year old rescue Springer Spaniel. I have an interesting story to tell you as I was cared for by Springer Spaniel Rescue for many months. At the Kennels there I was looked after well had lots of toys of my own. Wendy and Glyn would visit me which I enjoyed and Tanya who helped look after me made sure that Father Christmas didn't forget me! Good as it was I felt something was missing as I really wanted a home of my own - somewhere I could belong. Is that too much to ask?

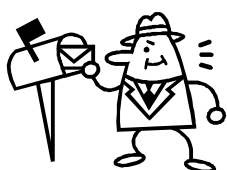
Anyway, one day in January some people turned up with Judy and her gentle Doberman dog called Max. They came to see me and to find out if me and Max would get along together. Apparently Judy had fostered a lonely Springer Spaniel called "Dusty" she was twelve when she came to live with her and Max. They loved her very much and all three had some really great times together. Dusty died two and a half years later in July last year at the age of 14 and half but right up to that time she thoroughly enjoyed life! Judy and Max were sad without her and Max especially became very lonely without his companion.

Well, we went for a walk together along with Wendy and Glyn, and me and Max hit it off straight away. We liked the same things (and smells). So Judy took me home with her to see if I would settle and be happy at her house. I immediately felt okay and we settled down for the night so far so good I say.

The next day I was groomed at the beauty salon for dogs "Posh Paws" (very exclusive!) I really enjoyed being pampered - who wouldn't! and when Judy collected me I looked more handsome than ever, if that's possible. During



*This newsletter can be
viewed online at
www.springerrescue.org.uk*



Letters Page (cont d)

this first week we went to the vet so that I could be registered as a patient - I didn't like this very much but needs must as they say. We also went out together for walks on the pavements and I learned very quickly the score about crossing roads, etc, but I wasn't used to this and I think Judy's arm became longer while I was learning. Max dog walks on the left and I walk on the right for roads - though as any good dogs will know, all the best smells are on the left so sometimes we get the better of her. Anyhow, being the intelligent dog that I am I learned from Max to pay attention to crossing roads and to cars.

This is the best; when we go to a safe open place where me and Max could be let off the lead. I really like that Max and me stay together and never stray too far from Judy - I love running around knowing she is there. It is quite a responsibility looking after a dog owner but me and Max are up to the task! We always come back together when we need our leads to be put on for the walk back home. I really like and get on with other dogs (especially Max of course) so it is great on these walks to make friends along the way.

We get lots of visitors here at our home and I really enjoy that. I was a bit mistrustful of some people, but I am learning that only good people come to our house so I now make them very welcome by friendly tail - wagging. I have learned this from Max, although as he hasn't really got a tail to speak of he has to make do with wagging his bottom!

I am sometimes a bit bossy with Max dog over our toys (my toys were very important personal possessions when I was in the kennels you understand). I generally like to have toy in my mouth, but when I've chose a toy. Max's always looks better and I want to take it off him! Max is usually very accommodating and drops the toy for me to have. But sometimes I know I push him a bit too far and he decides to take a stand about it. then we will have words (or woofs) but we never fall out for long. Max and me get along very well as he just seems to love Springer Spaniels. He is quite a lazy dog and he likes his sleep so goes off duty around 7.00pm at which time I take over guarding duties for the night shift and give Max a well earned break. So we share looking after Judy which suits us fine. During the day she has both of us on the alert and I am the rear guard.

Sometimes I feel a bit under the weather because I have a history of cancer and so can be a bit grumpy when I'm not feeling so good. quite recently I had to have a small operation for this and I am much better now. Otherwise I am content where I am living with Judy and

Max, they really love having me here. Max dog isn't lonely anymore and Judy loves having a dear Springer Spaniel again around the house and for us all to go on walks together.

Lastly, I should like to say two things, firstly as an individual Jake, and on behalf of all the other Springer Spaniels you rescue - thank you to Wendy and Glyn and everyone at Springer Rescue who tirelessly rescue us and find us the homes we deserve. Secondly, we are lovely dogs, and make a plea that people might consider an older dog like me. We can learn new tricks contrary to what humans say and give lots of love and loyalty during the time we have left. I know I have made Judy and Max dog very happy and in turn I am content to at last have somewhere I belong.

With Love and thanks Jake
xxxx



A Plea from Eric

Hello I'm Eric, I'm a bit of a lad,
And I'm looking out for a new Mum or Dad,
Someone to love me and please take me on,
But I know I'll feel better if it's done one to one,
I've had seven long years chained up all day,
With no one to walk me or take me to play,
I was rescued and brought to Kennels down here,
Don't think that I'm grumbling, I ve been here almost a year.

My Rescuers visit, they walk me and play,
They do try to make my days less grey,
But I need a house with a room for my bed,
Where I curl up at night and lay down my head,
So if anyone out there can give me a home,
Please don't be shy, just pick up the phone,

STOP PRESS!

**Eric has now been rehomed.
Now named Zac. Full Story
in our next newsletter.
Great News!**

Poets Corner

The day I gave Meggie away by Margaret Wall

I bought her as a seven week old, a naughty pup I thought,
She never gave me peace and quiet and the comradeship I sought,
I wanted another Henry, my beloved faithful friend
Put to sleep at seventeen, I'd a broken heart to mend,
And so Meg came into my life, she was trouble from the start,
I struggled on for eight long months, then decided we must part,

I gave her up for rescue, I took her to that place,
I remember well as I walked away, her lovely trusting face,
"You will be happy Meg" I said, "A big family is what you need",
But I was only saying this to justify my deed,
That night I wept an ocean, I cried through tears of pain,
"Oh darling Meg I'd give the world to hold you once again",

Next day I phoned the rescue, humility I did not lack
I told them how I loved her so and begged to have her back,
"She's been rehomed up north" they said "And brought back straight away",
"The people did not want her, but you will have to pay",
"I'll pay" I said "I do not care" to this woman of so few charms,
And so it was, that very day Meg leapt into my arms!

Now the moral of this story, a true one to the letter
Is that you can't replace a dog to make your grief feel better,
And Meggie isn't Henry, and heck, why should she be?
She's a wonderful dog on her own right, with love for all to see,
She's taught me a valuable lesson, I'll remember it 'till the end,
And nothing will ever part us now, not even death my dear friend!

Please Note

The Rescue mentioned above with "So few charms" is not SSR Rescue!!! Meggie is a very beautiful Golden Retriever and a friend of our Rescue.

Quiet Thoughts

Sitting quietly with Seve lying across my knee
Thinking about the fun we have and the love he shows for me
I think about each morning waking up in bed
How Seve snuggles up to me or snuffles round my head
I think of all the walks we'll have tramping through the grass
Rain or shine the weathers fine, whatever comes to pass
His love is unconditional, I know its not a whim
So I give thanks to God above when He gave me to him

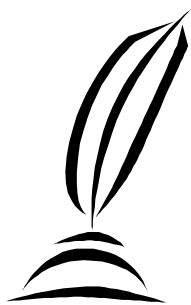
Seve's Mum

Buddy Sniffer Dog Incognito (he thinks)

Buddy's not a sniffer dog
Though he pretends to be
When he rushes about to sort things out
Local cats all climb the trees
He sniffs around the cars that park
Like sniffer dogs should do
And because his Dads a copper
He thinks he's on duty too
But though he thinks he looks the part
With his nose close to the ground
We know that in his doggy heart
He's just a sappy hound

Buckta

You gave me joy, you gave me love
And love it knows no end
You were my loyal and lovely boy
My faithful very best friend
They say dogs don't have souls, you know
But love is there to see
And one day we'll meet again
My faithful friend and me
Because love knows no bounds
It conquers every foe
And I loved you and you loved me
We'll meet again I know
And what a day that will be
You'll greet me as before
And never again will we be parted
As we meet at Heaven's door
God Bless



*If you'd like your poem in the Christmas Newsletter, send them to Glyn & Wendy Griffiths
18 Mill Lane
Parbold WN8 7NW
Tel: 01257 464130*



For my Son

I have a 5 year old son called Cameron, Cameron is Autistic, or be more specific High Functioning Autistic or Asperger s Syndrome.

For those of you reading this who have not heard or are unsure of what Autism is, it is a development disorder that causes a person to perceive the world differently, this leads to anxiety which may be shown through anger, frustration and unusual or challenging behaviour. People with Asperger s Syndrome may not have a learning disability as is the case with Austim lower down the spectrum and are often of average or above average intelligence.

Our lives with Cameron over the past few years have been to say the least challenging. He is a lovely boy but together we have struggled to understand each other, particularly before his language improved, he was only understanding two words out of a sentence, this I am ecstatic to report is improving daily, with speech and language therapy. There were and are nights when he does not sleep and we are on a round the clock shift with him, which as I am sure you can understand is exhausting - Cameron has little sense of fear or danger.

We have lost friends along the way due to Cameron's condition, no-one wanted a child visiting their house like Cameron, and no-one wanted to visit when Cameron ran around getting angry and biting his mum and dad, as someone has come into has safe house, into his organised space he understood. These were obviously not true friends, but it felt very lonely and isolating as they fell away from us.

The most stressful time for Cameron is when his routine has changed, this is greatly affected at school holidays, when he does not understand why he is no longer going to school each morning, and as each day passes through the holidays and weekends, he becomes more difficult to manage as he gets more frustrated. Autistic people need things to be very routine and in order, any change to that is difficult for them to comprehend in the way that we take for granted.

We dreaded the summer holiday of 2000 looming, knowing as before what a task we had in front of us and the domino effect it has on the entire family, we also have a 9 year old daughter. We had a friend who had a Springer Spaniel that Cameron had played with and they had got along famously. We were advised by our doctors for some time that a dog maybe good for Cameron, as they would have an empathy for each other. We thought long and hard about this, but when we saw the bond with our friend s dog, the hunt was on for a pet dog - a Springer Spaniel no less!

Oliver came into our lives in July last year (2000) at 12 weeks old. He was all paws, huge ears, wet nose and horrendous toilet habits! Instantly

Cameron and Oliver were the best of friends. Our summer holiday was spent walking Oliver at the Beacon Country Park close to our home. When things got difficult for Cameron at home, we made a mass exit for the Beacon, Oliver loved all the extra walks, Oliver was the best distraction and the vital ingredient needed for all of us. The best therapy Cameron was yet to receive. Long walks, picnics and chasing around the garden got us through those long, long weeks and is still continuing to do so today. The holidays don't fill us with as much dread anymore, there are positive things to look forward to.

During those many walks on the Beacon we met up with a wonderful couple who I know you will all be familiar with, Glyn and Wendy. We became friends when we asked for advice on our new addition to the family. Through this we asked could we help with Springer Spaniel Rescue in any way. My husband Andrew designed and manages the website and we both produce the newsletter after we have received it from the Editor (eerrm that s Wendy to you and I)! We enjoy this a lot as again its a very pleasant and helpful distraction to everyone.

Very recently a great thing has also occurred, once Cameron had risen in the morning (if he had slept), we were all up, no lying around in bed with a Cameron on the loose. Now at 5 am ish when Cameron climbs out of bed, he goes to Oliver in his bed. He sleeps with him for a while and now gives him his breakfast. This has made such a big difference to our mornings and Cameron. Cameron feels happier and safer with his little friend that understands him, as Cameron will say each day, Oliver is my friend. Cameron also has a toy rabbit, which goes everywhere with him. He likes to stroke the rabbits ears for comfort, now he strokes Oliver s ears, much to Oliver s enjoyment - oh yes we also got Oliver an identical rabbit!

I apologise if reading this its sentimental, but when Wendy asked me to write this piece, she asked me to write it from the heart, and I am afraid that's all I find myself writing.

I would like finish with a mention to my darling husband, thank you Andrew, I could not have got through the past three years without your support, you are a truly amazing husband and father, I love you.

Holly, hold on in their sweetheart, you will be rewarded in time for your patience you are a wonderful little girl. Last but not least Oliver - thank you for changing our lives and making everything more bearable, but please leave Holly s bed posts alone!

Finally if anyone reading this would like to find out more about Autisim you can contact the Autitic Society on www.nas.org.uk.



Why not write a story about your Springer, Rescue or not. Send it to Glyn and Wendy.

A Love Story for Valentines Day



It was dark and pouring with rain but as our eyes met it was love at first sight! :No its not a 'Mills and Boone' it was 14th February 2000 when we got the call from Glyn to come and meet our Lad. We rushed from home, got stuck in the tea-time traffic, each minute we waited seemed to take an hour to pass. We were filled with excitement and just a touch of apprehension, it had been eight years since we had lost our last dog. We hoped we would like Laddie and we hoped he would like us!

Finally we arrived - we loved him of course, and in no time at all we were on our way home with the new addition to our family. It seemed odd that our lives were about to change forever. That first evening was so strange we didn't go to bed until really late as no-one wanted to leave our new dog, and we didn't know where he would want to sleep! No

problem he curled up on the floor and the next morning a loving head appeared at the side of the bed for what was to become his ritual morning cuddle.

Over the months there have been quite a few firsts - that leap of faith when he was let off the lead for the first time - and came back! The first time he played in the snow ,the first time he went to the beach - all such special memories. As we don't know when he was born Valentines Day will be his official birthday. We can't imagine life without him now, the wagging tail, those faithful eyes, (the dog hairs, the walks in the pouring rain and that wet dog smell). The house would be empty without him.

With best wishes,

The Macpherson family

Thank you

Joy Ratcliffe - for her kindness and concern
Tanya - for her love and friendship to Jake when in the kennels
Judy Adams - for giving Jake a loving and happy home

*The best thing about a man
Is his Dog!!*

Happy Holidays to Everyone!



Springer Gallery



Henry



Ben & Sam



Bran



Flossie



Alfie



Laddie



Paulo



Rufus & Ollie



Hugo & Sally



Tess



Bonnie & Zac



Megan