



# SPRINGER SPANIEL RESCUE

## SUMMER 2004 NEWSLETTER

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Hello, and welcome to everyone to our Summer Newsletter 2004. We hope you are all well and looking forward to Summer - oh! what joy – no more dark mornings – daylight at 4 am - "Hey lets go for walkies" I hear them cheer, Long Sunny Days – Great fun - and Hey! – it doesn't get dark until very late - even after dinner there's no need to curl up, lets go to the beach or run in the fields - Summer we love it!!

Firstly Many, Many Thanks for the wonderful donations we have received since our last update. Your generosity and kindness are amazing and we cannot thank you enough. Your letters and photos – wonderful - and always fill us with great joy.

Now you may have noticed there is no picture of doggie of the year on front cover - well!! It appears that since our last newsletter all the many doggies we have rehomed have all been perfect!! – no problems whatsoever!!! (for those of you who are "new" to Rescue, "Doggie of the year" is awarded to a doggie who has had certain problems, behavioural or health and of course to the dedication of their wonderful new owners, details can be seen on our website from past Newsletters). So if any of you feel your doggie deserves this award please let us know, or just maybe in the last 6 months we have rehomed "Perfect Springers"!! - Mmm! – Now there's a thought!!!

Enclosed are tickets for our Summer Raffle (5 for £1.00). Please put your name & telephone number & return to ourselves. Many super prizes, but sadly we are only able to attend 2 fund raising shows this year due to the " big" problem of insurance "Public Liability" which many events are insisting you have and the cost is outrageous. Many Country Events are being ruined and spoilt by this policy, only the big trade stands can afford such fees and that's not what Country Fairs are about! Any advice or help to overcome this problem would be very much appreciated.

Finally we hope you enjoy your Newsletter, have a wonderful Summer everyone and thank you so much for your continued support - we couldn't do it without you.

*From all the team at Springer Rescue*

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Please send all letters and photos by post to the above  
our e-mails are not very reliable.





## Crufts

As always, our annual visit to Crufts was brilliant. In past years we have only visited on one day - "Gun Dog" day of course! But this year it was decided that to be fair to our dear friend Pat who happens to have a wonderful Collie, Fern, (well Collies are OK I suppose!! - Sorry Pat and oh! Fiona, only joking!!) we would go for 2 days.

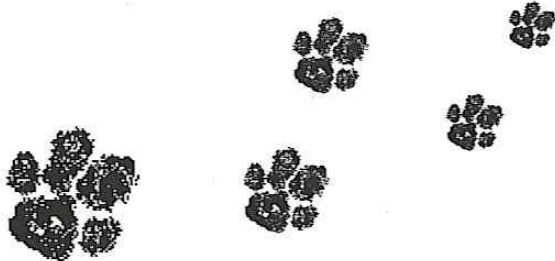
Joan & myself went down on Gun Dog day and as usual had the most wonderful time, Springers galore along with all the other super gundogs - I'm trying hard to convince Glyn that an Italian Spinone would fit in so well with our boys!! Once again the English Springer didn't make the final line up and do you know an English Springer has never had Best in Show, it's about time they had the working lads there - that would clinch it!!

So on to day 2 - we met Pat for Working & Pastoral Group. We all had a super day and seeing all the different breeds competing was wonderful and of course Pat was in her element, talking & fussing over every collie she could, always maintaining none was as beautiful as her Fern which we all agreed!

Yes, as always we had the perfect time but the highlight of our visit was to meet "Buster", the heroic Springer Spaniel who was awarded the "Victoria Cross" after his exploits in the Iraq War, along with his family, Dad Sergeant Danny Morgan, Mum & little girl proudly wearing his medal Buster stole the show. And also a very good friend of Busters "Sam", a young "whippersnapper" who did a wonderful brilliant display in finding firearms in a crowded arena - Sam only 18 months old & only 10 weeks into his training proved he would very much like to follow into Buster's career.

It was a privilege to meet them both and we realise that it is a great worry to many people to put these wonderful doggies in such great danger but they do love their job and as long as they are safe and loved in their retirement, they certainly have had a very full & exciting time.

We are counting the days to next years Crufts and to anyone who loves dogs - go and visit - you will have a magical time, and just for the record "Springers are The Best" - but don't tell Pat & Fiona!!!!



## Show Dates: Unfortunately only 2 dates!!

Newburgh Fair: Saturday 12 June (12 noon - 5 pm)  
Back Lane Newburgh  
Near Parbold

Peover Game & Angling Fair (Peover near Knutsford)  
Not one to miss, a super day for everyone  
Sunday 15 August

(9 am - 6 pm)

please telephone 01257 464130 for information or directions.

## Donations

We receive many wonderful donations & each one so very important & vital to Rescue, enabling us to continue to help any Springer that needs us. Many of you raise money through sponsored walks & also your own fund raising activities, some people even jump out of planes for SSR!! ( Zak- hope your Dad has recovered after his ordeal!!)

No matter how large or small, each donation we receive is appreciated more than words can express.

Thank you to everyone and we would like to say a special thank you to Eva & Joe & their doggie Seve. They have been so very kind & generous to Springer Rescue over many years in countless different ways, along with their dear friend Trevor.

Last December Eva & Joe celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, having a party to mark the occasion - but they didn't want presents - each guest was asked, instead of buying a gift, would they please make a donation to SSR such a very thoughtful & wonderful gesture & I'm sure many of you who know Eva & Joe will join us in saying "Congratulations" on 50 years of marriage & we all wish you many, many more happy years together.

## Car Travel

Where does your dog travel in the car?

Over the past 12 months there have been several reported cases where in the event of an accident insurance companies have refused to pay out if a dog has been loose in a car.

The best place for your dog to travel is in a cage or behind a dog guard in the back or hatch, but if you like your best friend to sit beside you and who wouldn't? make sure they are wearing a seat belt harness. They can be found in most pet shops at between £10 & £14, are easy to fit and very effective, they allow for quite a lot of movement but keep the dog on the seat & hopefully safe in the event of an accident.

## Puzzles Page 1

We've listed some items in the grid below which may be handy for your dogs, can you find them?

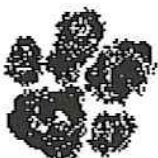


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Does your ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL have:

- BASKET
- COLLAR
- HARNESS
- TOYS
- BLANKET
- COMB
- BRUSH
- MEDALLION
- LEAD
- TREATS
- SHAMPOO
- BOWLS
- TEDDIES
- BONE
- KENNEL
- COAT
- FRIENDS
- WHISTLE
- BISCUITS





## Letters Page

Hello Wendy & Glyn

Remember me? I'm Lucy the black & white Springer you collected on Tesco car park in Carnarvon when you were returning from your holiday & I rode back to Gathurst with you both & your dogs. If you recall I spent just one night in the Rescue kennels and Pauline & Stan came up from Derbyshire on the Sunday morning & took me back home with them. (It was a very good move on my part).

I'm very happy & settled, I'm the boss of the household. We have had problems, first off they couldn't speak Welsh & I didn't understand anything they said. I knew meal times & walk times, Pauline has a Welsh friend who gave her a few tips, so we soon began to understand, now I'm bilingual. I'm still a bit naughty at times, don't like the neighbours black lab & she doesn't care for me. I'm now getting used to cats as we have 4 here 2 are ours & 2 are strays. I think it's good living here & so do the cats, they seem to bring their suitcases when they arrive, I'm sure they pass the message on!

Pauline says thanks for your news-letter we enjoy reading it, she tells me I was very lucky to have been rehomed so quickly I tell her she was the lucky one to find me so soon, in answer to their request for a rescue springer.

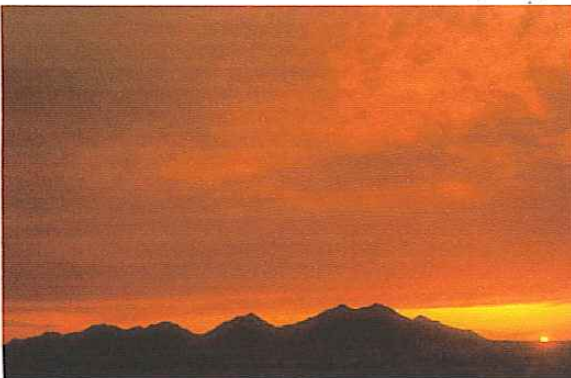
Please use the enclosed donation towards the good work you do at the Shelter for my doggie friends who are to spend Christmas without a family.

I'm looking forward to Christmas, I get lots of prezzies. (I'm really spoilt & enjoy it)!

We all wish you a Happy Christmas, we will keep in touch.

Many thanks!

Lucy-Locket & Pauline xx



Hello

Well I'm in my new home, I think it's going to be my new home - they tell me it is anyway. I have my own basket & quilt & I share a room with Louis. I tried to get him to play chase in the living room but he wasn't sure of the game. June & Bruce have given us both lots of cuddles but they seem to think dogs don't do sitting on the furniture. Every time I climb up (even if I do it quietly) they trick me into getting down!! Still I managed to have a good exploration upstairs before the "babygate" was fitted downstairs!! They are quite crafty like that but I'm still hoping to persuade them to let me on the bed - I'll let you know. I barked in the kitchen for half an hour but then decided to give in & go to sleep.

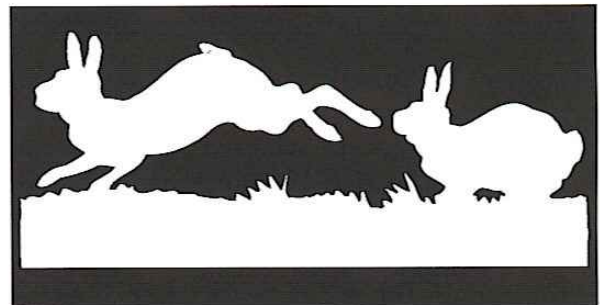
Today's been great. They have walked me nearly all day. June told me it was normal but I can't think I would be that lucky each day. The down side is J & B don't know any throw the stick or ball games. Louis carries rabbits!! Can you imagine! I hope they don't think I am going to put one of those near my mouth - huh!

I needed to have my ears trimmed & my tail as they were worried they (my ears etc) would get tangled up in the brambles & gorse.

So all is looking good, I've not been naughty at all & only once tried to take June's glasses case out of her bag - she moved the bag - told you they were crafty. I think they really like me & I heard them saying they couldn't imagine anyone not wanting me so it looks like I will be staying.

Thank you for finding J & B for me

Love Molly xxx





## Letters Page

Dear Glyn & Wendy

I thought I would just drop you a line to let you know how I'm going on with my new family. I've been here in Edgworth for 2 whole months & have made lots of new friends.

My Mum & Dad take great care of me, & we have lots of long walks together. I'm still very nervous with other dogs, & people I don't know but I'm slowly getting used to them.

I've got to know Floyd the dog who lives next door, he's a lot bigger than I am but he's learnt not to bounce quite as hard when he runs up to me now! He lives with 2 cats, George & Milly who have both taken a shine to me & we now rub noses when we see each other!!

Mum & Dad take me walking every day in a big field, with lots of trees & a fishing lodge where I have great fun chasing the birds in & out of the bushes. Mum feeds a big white duck down there & he seems to like me too as he never runs away when I'm around.

We're all going up to Scotland in a couple of weeks & I'm really looking forward to it, as I love going out in the car, especially when I know there's a good walk at the end of it!

I have my own bed & share it with my teddy, although most mornings I sneak on the end of Mum & Dad's bed for a cuddle!!

Well that's all for now, I'll write again soon.

Love Bailey xxx

---

Dear Glyn and Wendy

I want to say thank you very, very much for sending me to Scotland to my new home.

I am much loved, and my new German Shepherd brother, Chobe, thinks I am just brilliant. We play for hours every day. I have got some new friends who are both Springers called Bracken and Willow and we go for long walks with them and Auntie Babs. Bracken is a bit grumpy but I always pay my respects to him and I think he likes me. Willow is only 3 and he, Chobe and I are really good friends. Auntie Babs calls us "The Three Amigos". We chase deer and pheasants together. Chobe thinks he's a Springer and none of us like to tell him he is a GSD. He was really ill before I arrived, but he is very well now.

The food here is good and there is always plenty of it. We eat breakfast at eight, then go back to bed until 9. We get up then and Mum and Dad have their breakfast, then Mum takes us to meet Bracken and Willow and we all go for a two hour walk. We don't have to wear leads because we are on Forestry tracks and there is no traffic. Sometimes we meet other dogs and we all get on really well. We go to Lochs and swim and walk for miles. Then Mum takes us home for a warm towelling down, biscuits and a good snooze. Later in the afternoon we sometimes go for a lead walk, but me and Chobe don't like that very much as we are not allowed to be loose. We walk on quiet roads, but there are sheep and pheasants and Mum is scared I'll go off after them. Silly Mum, I know which side my bread is buttered!!! Then at 5 we have dinner followed by tripe chews. After that it's all peace and quiet and snoozing until its time for wees before bed. 10 sees us in bed with our Bonios. I am supposed to sleep on my bed next to Mum's but when she is asleep I creep up and get comfortable round her legs. She doesn't seem to mind and there I stay until morning - then the daily round starts again. Mum reckons she does about 35 to 40 miles a week which means me and Chobe and the others must do at least 80.

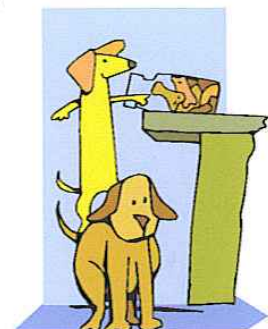
I love it here in Scotland and will stay here always. Mum says she can't imagine life without me now and Dad says I am a smasher. So I don't want to come back to England.

With daily grooming, running free for a couple of hours each morning, plenty of food and a warm bed and most of all my own family who love me, my life is GREAT.

Thank you Glyn and Wendy

From your friend Tim

Mum thinks I was probably named for Tim Henman and she is keeping that as my name.





## Letters Page

### Chloe's Continued Travelogue

Dear Readers

I Chloe am proud and not a little chuffed to have so many ardent readers. It is this fact alone that has induced me to put paw to paper again.

This months topic is about food or rather micro chips which big bro' says means smaller portions and is just the thin end of the wedge or should I say slice.

How did this worrying topic come about? Well it seems that at the end of August we are all going to move into a new den with 6 acres of toilet (ground) to play in. This new den is by the way a decent paddle by all accounts and is called Australia. Even Big Bro' is a little unsure where this is having unfortunately chewed up the last atlas in his shall we say less formative days.

What we do know is, that it is not a land of plenty because you have to have micro chips and that cannot be good news, hence the topic of food in this issue.

All we hear our elders talking about is kangaroos, koalas, wombats etc. What we ask ourselves is wrong with rabbits, pheasants, cats and the occasional chicken. We, that is Big Bro' and I are not sure about is all this nouveau riche cuisine. However they seem so excited about the move that we are going to go along with it.

On the plus side the place we are moving to is called Murwillumbah or the place of many possums I wonder what the Aboriginal name for a place of many spaniels would be? My humble suggestion would be... Multispan!! Hope this catches on because we plan a serious impact on the social order of possums.

At this point I should assure my readers that this diary will now definitely be kept up even if I am down to my last kangaroo. My readers are also welcome to contact me at the new address as soon as I can send it to you from down under to obtain a first hand account of this latest den move. Being a stiff upper lip sort of hound I will of course not dwell on the medical, change of diet, journey in a jumbo (I am sure the elders have got that wrong I mean who has heard of a jumbo flying?) Blood tests are another item I shall not mention. They take more than a whole paw full. How can a girl look her best when one's paw is empty?

Well I seem to have drifted off the subject of food though a good grouse never hurt anyone if you get my drift.

I shall end on a positive note that from a quick scan of the pictures that there is an item called a swimming pool that Big Bro' and I have already bagged I mean when has a spaniel not been the first into the water so why break a habit.

We I must say are beginning to like the excitement but some of the possible new owners of our present den are rather weird. They don't seem to appreciate that this is moulting season and that a nice dark pair of trousers is ideal as a scraper and an indicator of just how well the new coiffeur is progressing. My elders (what do they know) also inform me that it could take longer to find a new owner if my enthusiasm to show them round by tugging on their clothes is not resisted. Perhaps a well timed bark in their ears as they near the top of the stairs will have to do.

Watch this space as we near our move. Big Bro' and I are already packing bones for the trip just in case these micro chips are as small as we think they are... we are not fools!!!!

Lots of love

Chloe xxxx





## Letters Page

Dear Glyn & Wendy

I am hereby authorised and instructed, by the semi-comatose Springer at my side, to send you what I believe is the third newsletter for Dobby the House Spaniel (previously known as Dippy). I'm just the correspondence secretary. I know my place.

You might remember that Dobby joined us in September, and at first he was a pretty anxious individual, particularly upset about being left on his own. I am now delighted to report that he has continued to progress well and is now merely a typical neurotic working-type Springer!

By the New Year, he was generally a lot more settled so we decided to wean him off his tablets. By the beginning of February, he was still progressing, so we arranged to have him castrated. The old wives' tale about castration "calming them down" certainly doesn't apply to Dobby - except during the very brief period of the anaesthetic! Overall, he is healthy, extremely happy and a lot more confident nowadays.

On the separation anxiety front, he has come on in leaps and bounds (and how else would a Springer come on)? We have built it up very gradually, and I am now leaving him for over an hour without him becoming upset. Mind you, the 25 mile walk first, the monster chew and Richard & Judy on the telly probably help a bit too. He's only just two, so I can only see him learning to be even more relaxed on his own as he grows up. He is also successfully sleeping on his bed downstairs overnight instead of outside the bedroom door.

He's a delight to take for a walk. He runs and races and skips and frolics. He's mad for retrieving a ball or toy. He still likes to chase the birds. And he's still never caught one. The nearest he got was one day when his ball-on-a-rope went into the hedge and he was trying to sniff it out. When he seemed to be in the right spot, I started really encouraging him and he started enthusiastically digging in the leaves. He came up not with the ball but with a dead pigeon (fortunately frozen solid so all in one piece). Obviously, there was no way the proud man-about-town was going to miss the chance to show off, so no matter how many times I distracted him and put it out of the way, he would soon find it and show it off to yet another group of horrified dog-walkers. I could see them thinking, "For goodness sake, can't she get the poor devil a Frisbee like anyone else?"

At home, he never loses the opportunity to stretch luxuriously on his back and display his credentials (well, what credentials he has left) and he always

makes us laugh with the positively blissful expression he has on his face. He also makes us laugh with the way he insists on a good long game of throw-the-Kong after his tea. He races back with it and forces it on you with the persistence of a collie. My mum says we should pay entertainment tax on him.

Hopefully, he'll have even more space to stretch out in over the coming weeks. We hope to move house shortly. Our offer has been accepted on a bungalow in a quiet road in south Coventry. There's a bigger garden and there are several good dog-walking areas round there, so I don't think it'll take him long to decide he likes it. I'll keep you posted with our new address if it comes off.

We hope everything is well with you in Parbold and we look forward to hearing more in your next newsletter.

With very best wishes

As instructed by Dobby the House Spaniel





## Letters Page

Dear Glyn and Wendy

Hope you are both well, and I see from the latest newsletter that you've been as busy as ever. We were really pleased to hear that Rosie has got a great new home. Baggy was delighted to share Doggie of the Year status with his former kennel-mate.

Baggins is doing fine. He's been with us well over a year now, so I think he might be staying! He still has his moments, as Colin found out a couple of weeks ago when Baggy stole a 6-inch nail while Colin was doing some DIY. Colin obviously temporarily forgot that you don't try to relieve Bags of something he's stolen. Still, it's all healed up now! Bit of an unfortunate weekend for Colin, that was. Two days after Bags savaged him, he managed to slice off a good part of his thumb with a band saw. We spent Sunday morning in A & E. At least he couldn't blame Bags for that one.

Aside from his little occasional relapse, Baggy is a wonderful little dog. Very attentive, very affectionate, and just loves lots of fuss and attention. You just have to remember he's not like other dogs, and sometimes you forget because he is so affectionate when he's not having a brainstorm. He particularly dotes on Colin, the two of them seem to have this male bonding thing going on. I get completely ignored when Colin's around.

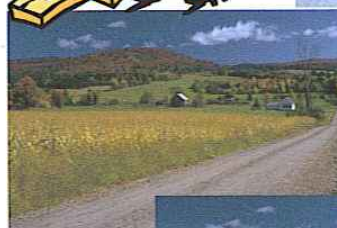
Baggy still has lots of canine friends that he regularly meets on his beach walks which is good because Gordon is not up to walks anymore. His legs pack in after 50 yards or so and he just lies down. But it does mean that although we have to leave Gordon at home much of the time we are able to take Baggy for his longer walks again and that means he is generally better behaved as a result.

We've also had a couple of good visits to the Vet since I last spoke to you. He had his boosters a few months ago. The Vet had a muzzle and a pair of gauntlets at the ready, based on Baggy's reputation (still not sure if he was joking). But Baggy didn't let me down, we didn't need any of that stuff, and he was as good as gold. The Vet commented that Baggy seemed more confident and trusting, and interested in his surroundings than he had been when he first met him. So we must be doing something right! Then a couple of weeks ago we had Baggy identi-chipped. Not that I think we really needed to, he doesn't wander far from us when we're out. He's actually quite dependent and keeps a close eye on us all the time. He's more interested in playing ball

than running off

I've enclosed some photos of the little angel enjoying his favourite hobbies! The photos with the sea in the background were taken during the late summer at the beach park in Irvine when Gordon could still amble along the path, and Baggy could get lots of exercise chasing the ball up & down the hills. And there's the one where he decided the conservatory furniture was more fun in bits.

Best wishes from Colin, Sylvia and Baggins and Gordon





## Letters Page

My life with the Pickerings for Belle

I've been cleaning today with Kim, my, I had loads of fun, she would get the leaves from around the pot and I would move the pile around to a better place all around the room. The weird thing was that Kim kept on looking at me as though I was doing something wrong. I then got to dust; this is my favourite thing to do. I got the duster swung it around my head and then when Kim turns around drop it, she then uses it and I swing it around my head again. I recommend it for all the springers out there, it is *really* fun.

A few days ago I went in the car and was taken to a really cool place, I think they call it Wendover Woods. So far to run, so many smells to smell. It was the best day out I've had in ages.

I heard Mum say that we're going to Wales soon to have a party with my Gran and cousins, and that there is going to be the sea near by, how great is that? Long walks along the beach in the morning and evening! It's like a dream. I'll write to you and tell you all about it.

I've made loads of friends, after about a week of being at my new home; Kim took me for a walk with her friends and their four legged friends. We had so much fun the crop in the fields was really high and me and my new mates had great fun jumping through the corn (even though we weren't supposed to) Chessie, a half collie, half lab is one of my new best mates along with, Eddie a black lab, and of course not forgetting Boo-boo, a white boxer puppy. Kim reckons I fancy him but, well I'm not going to tell you about my love life because it is secret.

I can't wait till Christmas, Mum says she is going to buy me a brand new collar, with a new name tag; I'm going to look even more beautiful than I do normally. Every one keeps saying that something will go wrong because it is my first Christmas in this house and how I will be with a tree, I don't see what they are worried about I'm fine with all the other trees in the forest. What could possibly go wrong?

Some one is calling me it must mean I'm going for a walk.

I wonder what mess I'll get myself into this time. Last time I went on a walk I came back with most of it on me. Got to trot.

Bye for now  
Belle xxx





## Puzzle Page 2

Take the first letter from the answer of each question to form a well known animal fact.

- 1 A necklace for a dog
- 2 It keeps the Doctor away of the vet in this case
- 3 A story that wags
- 4 Snag, Banger or Dacshund
  
- 5 Not smooth or something worn around the neck
- 6 A kind of fruit or a mug
- 7 In front or attaches to question 1
- 8 Two under par
  
- 9 A feathered friend or out for nought in cricket
- 10 A colour you can eat
- 11 Increase in size and add a L
- 12 It's hard to do without a nose
  
- 13 Canines but not teeth
- 14 Maltese national dish
- 15 Eight legged creature that purrs
- 16 From little acorns they grow
- 17 Four leaf clovers, and rabbits feet (but not for the rabbit)

If you would like to check your answers please see page 13.





## Letters Page

Dear Glyn & Wendy,

Phil and I thought we'd write to let you know how we're getting on with Charlie. We are approaching our fourth week with him and to say he has been an absolute pleasure is an understatement!

He has such a wonderful nature and is so loving that it is unbelievable. Charlie has settled in with us from day one and immediately became part of our family.

We have enjoyed several days out with him and are completely confident in letting him off the lead to enjoy the surroundings knowing that he will return to us when necessary. The enjoyment we receive to see him 'bounding' through the woods is difficult to describe.

We feel very lucky to have such a wonderful companion and we look forward to many happy years together. A cottage holiday in May of next year is already booked so the 3 of us can enjoy the Cornish countryside!

If given the choice of a hundred dogs we feel we couldn't have chosen better than Charlie! Our only concern is that we hope Mac has found himself a loving home.

We hope you like the photographs included, we're sure you'd agree that the one of Charlie proudly posing on the bench shows him off to be the handsome dog that he is and the one of him lying in his new bed shows how content he is in his new home!

Thank you for the allowing Charlie into our lives, we look forward to hearing from you in the future.

Joanne



It's Toby here.

I thought I would drop you a line and some photos of me from the past year. I can hardly believe that it is a year since my new mum and dad came to take me home, but it has been and boy what a year it's been.

It didn't take long for me to make myself at home and establish what mum and dad would let me get away with and what was definitely a no no, and digging up the lawn was a definite no no. Things have just got better and better over the year with my walking on the lead improving so that I was able to go for long walks without getting stressed out.

At Christmas last year we all went on holiday to the old dragons as dad called it but I think he meant it was his mother in law who I must say was very nice and not an old dragon at all, and to cap it off she has a wonderful dog called Ben who is a Labrador and just as mad as I am. We got on like a house on fire. We've been down to visit a few times since!

Dad went away for a few months earlier in the year which just left me and mum to hold the fort, I became the man of the house! I had to behave myself, and I walked much better on my lead to help mum out. Dad came home just in time for my birthday which was great - we had a lovely long walk and a family party, oh yeah and lots of presents.

When dad came home we all went up to Fort William on holiday! Boy that was a sneaky one - they never told me that I would have to walk up Ben Nevis! I was so tired when I got to the top I actually fell asleep! Mum and dad soon found out in Scotland that I not only love to swim - but I also love to DIVE! I met loads of really nice people in Scotland, but most of them thought that I was a Springer on steroids! Whatever that means.

I have attached some photos of me getting up to various things since I've been in my new home, I hope you enjoy them!

Toby xx

p.s. thanks for looking after me!





## Letters Page

ANGUS UPDATE 2002-2003

Dear Glyn & Wendy

Apologies for not having written for a long while. I hope you are both well. We have had some interesting times with Angus over the last two years. Yes, it is that long since he allowed us into his life! As I write this note he is laying beside me, probably checking my spelling, such a good boy! We had the usual problems with a rescue dog in terms of nervousness, being overprotective and defending his 'patch', but these were overcome with time although the door bell, telephone and post lady still signify mayhem in terms of barking and all action retrieves of shoes, toys and cushions not necessarily in that order - in fact I think we're currently out of cushions. But he does welcome people into the house now with a wagging tail and the above-mentioned gifts and has impressed all comers with his smile. Always a welcome in Lea now! He has acquired a family name - Fang - for another of his facial expressions indicating please leave me alone. His arrival inspired our other spaniel -Jenny and she is much livelier and happy since he joined us.

Our first summer with Angus was interesting and eventful. As you know he hadn't been walked at all and needed training from scratch. He adapted to the lead quite quickly and learnt the basic commands quite promptly too, but we encountered major problems when we started to try him off the lead in terms of recall -he obviously couldn't recall me saying 'come' in increasingly desperate tones as he disappeared over the horizon!

He always returned, sometimes in half an hour, sometimes an hour - his longest adventure lasting four hours, which he took Jenny on and with her being ten years his senior and arthritic she was a little slow moving for a day or two afterwards.

We also had some problems with the local livestock as there is a field next to our house which the farmer keeps cattle in during the summer and despite fencing (which is of course no barrier to a Springer) Angus would exercise the farmers beasts for him. This was an embarrassment! Fortunately the farmer was quite understanding, even when Angus penned all sixteen bullocks in a corral - it was quite entertaining trying to catch him amongst the stampeding cattle as they made their bid for freedom. For all the 2002 summer we couldn't let him out in the garden other than on a lead and had to be very careful regarding shutting the

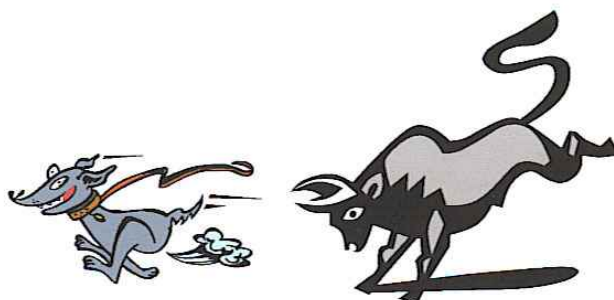
back door to avoid the great escape. Naturally we went back to basics regarding training and several times we thought we had cracked it but unfortunately the sight of Angus disappearing into the distance reoccurred, and was a worry for his safety as well for local livestock and road users.

We eventually became aware of a petsafe product a remote trainer that delivers a sound or a sound and small static shock via a radio controlled collar, which after much consideration we invested in. Having tried the device on myself to ensure that it was not painful (which it isn't) but mildly unpleasant and attention seeking we started training again with this device initially in the garden and then on walks, the transformation has been amazing!

Angus has had at most six static corrections in total and most of those were in the first few weeks, for about a month he needed just the noise to reinforce that he had to pay attention, and look for my instructions and now he responds well to the whistle and hand signals as well as verbal commands. He is so much happier and content he can ferret in brambles, and woods to his hearts content, and appears to have an excellent 'nose', as local pheasants and rabbits will testify, and we are confident that he will return when instructed to. He still wears the radio collar on walks I think because we feel more secure with it on rather than through any real need now, but this summer of 2003 he has been out in the garden with us unrestricted and we haven't had to worry that he will make good his escape. What a good boy!

He loves attention and fuss and is a real softy and the four walks a day that he feels I need are no doubt doing me good. He is a lovely character and good fun and just wants to be in your company. I enclose a recent picture and floppy disk with more pictures.

Best Wishes from Angus (what a good boy) and all the Browns.



## Puzzles Page 2—The Answers

How did you get on?

We asked you to take the first letter from the answer of each question to form a well known animal fact

Here are the answers:

Collar	C
Apple	A
Tail	T
Sausage	S

Ruff	R
Ugly	U
Lead	L
Eagle	E

Duck	D
Orange	O
Growl	G
Smell	S

Dogs	D
Rabbit	R
Octopus	O
Oaks	O
Lucky	L





# Gallery



Charlie



Cassie



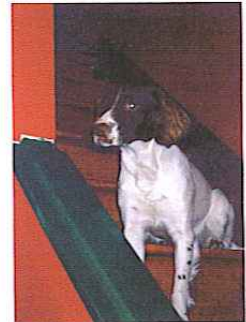
Bob



Bob and Sam



Jasper and Oliver



Jessie



Dobby



Josh



Geri and Alfie



Same and Meg



Jerry



Jasper