

Labrador Rescue Kent Spring Newsletter 2011



Registered Charity No. 1067495

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**"YOUNG, TRAINED, GOOD
WITH CHILDREN AND
PREFERABLY A BLACK BITCH"**

Between Nov 2009 - Nov 2010 we took in 104 dogs: 65 were male, 39 were bitches. Most were black or yellow with only 16 being chocolate. We have seen an increase in dogs under two years (Is it that people do not realise the commitments of taking on a dog, let alone a Labrador which we all know are fantastic dogs but do need training and exercise?)

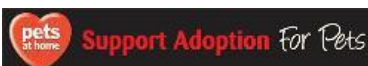
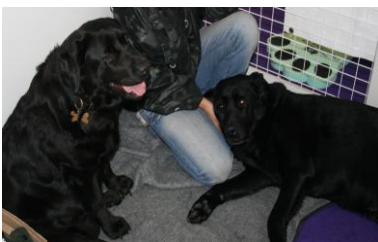
Also, we have seen more dogs over seven coming into rescue and some of these dogs have put a severe strain on our finances needing extensive kennelling, neutering and vaccination.

Homes are reluctant to take on a dog over six years and many just have very definite ideas of what they want. Maggie Hinks



Success Stories

We were exceptionally lucky to be invited to have a stand at the Rescue section of Discover Dogs at Earls Court last November. We took with us Bailey and Dezel two dogs that had been in kennels for several months and needed to find a home together. They found a home there!! Thank you to the new owners.



Honey's Story



Our beloved (rescue) Border Collie cross of unknown age had to be put to sleep in late June 2009 - our family were bereft! We felt he was irreplaceable. However, by mid August we soon noticed we were becoming "housebound" as a lovely long walk seemed out of the question and a "waste" without a dog to accompany us so what could we do?

Answer- start the rounds of re-homing centres: many a sad pair of eyes called to us through the bars - often heartbreaking - and the more placid dogs that looked like they might suit us were already reserved.

A change of tack was needed and we began to look online - step in the Labrador Rescue on-line application form. Our local volunteer soon checked us out on the home visit and established what sort of dog could be best matched to our needs.....

One month later an "Angel", now called Honey (she is both) was delivered to us. She was very timid, scared of men and not used to cars! A bit of a nightmare really but we persevered.

However, after only three weeks we felt we had been blessed with a loving, demonstrative and happy dog. She began training us immediately! Her wish list included the odd bowl of milky tea and a lie on our bed until the official "up-time". She was not fully confident of men at that time but we felt that we were getting there and she began to become a "daddy's girl".

Now she is much more responsive to men. She loves her dad and has become a good friend of Grandad

(who slipped her a bit of cheese at Christmas and that sealed the friendship!) and neighbours, Uncle Fred and Auntie Brenda.

She now has her own living room chair for her evening naps and our neighbours take her for a walk at lunchtime, rather than just "socialise" with her and she loves them in return. What a lovely dog she has become!

What a change in Honey since the first day when she was indeed a nervous wreck! - editor

Poppy's Story

Just thought you would like to know just how my new life has turned out. I arrived on a wet October day; I entered my new home and ran all over the house going berserk. The look on my new mummy and daddy's face was of sheer horror!! And then I literally dragged my new dad down a wooded lane.

That first night they thought I was sleeping in the kitchen; hmm I had other ideas!! So now I sleep with one of their sons depending which bed I fancy that night.

Also, I now have my very own armchair in the lounge. I did try to gain the sofa, but because I wouldn't allow anyone to sit on it with me Mummy had to give me a chair (Great!)

Every morning I walk down the lane, and run like mad over a very hilly golf course. When I reach the top I can see the sea!! Mummy and Daddy know I can be a bit mad and won't let me near the edge as I might fall over the cliff but I do love a walk on the beach, which is only round the corner.

Mummy & Daddy now take me out with them on bike rides; that's very exhausting and I have to have another lie down afterwards. So all in all, I love my life in my new home. Poppy

P.S. I was a pain at first but they love me to bits now!

"Working Dogs of the World"

Mick Bingham has offered to talk to any small group (e.g. WI groups) about this topic in return for a donation to LRK. Contact Mick on 01795 842480

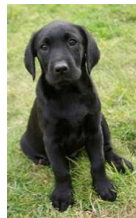
A Dog's Letter to God



Dear God, Is it on purpose that our names are the same only reversed?

Dear God, When we get to heaven can we sit on your couch?

Dear God, If a dog barks his head off in the forest where no-one hears him is he still a bad dog?



Dear God, Let me give you a list of some of the things I must remember if I'm to become a good dog.

1. I will not eat the cats' food either before they eat it or after they throw up.
2. I will not roll on dead seagulls, crabs or in fox and badger poo!
3. I will remember that the sofa is not a facecloth.
4. I will not bark at the bin men for stealing our stuff.
5. I will not swallow knickers and socks dropped on the way to the washing machine.
6. I will remember that sticking my nose up someone's skirt or in their crotch is not a polite way of saying hello.

7. I must remember not to stand straight up when lying under the coffee table.

8. I will remember to shake **before** coming into the house.

9. If food left is on the worktop I must not assume that it is there for me.

10. I will not chase the postman.



P.S. When I get to heaven can I have my testicles back?

Dates for the Diary

Come and see us at the following events where we will have our stall.

16th April - Penshurst Point-to-Point

22nd May - Lenham Country Fair
11th/12th June - Only Paws and Horses (The Hop Farm)

10th July - Annual Fun Day - Stockbury Village Hall

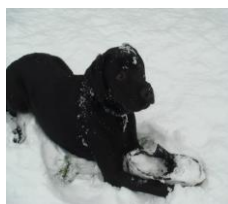
3rd Sept - Chipstead Village Fete

4th Sept - Honnington Country Fair

17th Sept - West Kent Ploughing Match (Staplehurst)

28th Sept - East Kent Ploughing Match (Faversham)

Bounce



Hi I'm Bounce - Bounce by name and bouncy by nature. I'm 15 months old and have been with my new family for nearly 9 months. I live in a small village in the countryside and go for two good walks every day. At weekends I get one really long walk and I like nothing better than to lie in front of the fire when I get in.

Recently I have been showing how clever I am by jumping over our garden fence whenever I see my

friend Pepper in the neighbouring field. My dad gets cross with me and he is putting a new fence up which he thinks will keep me in. We will see!

I live with two cats, Tig and Ginger, and we swop beds occasionally. When that happens I end up sleeping on the floor as I just can't squeeze in to their bed. I quite like their food as well. I don't know why they always leave me a bit - because I never leave mine for them!

There are lots of other dogs in our village and I get on well with most of them. Sometimes we meet up in the village pub after going for a walk. Harvey, the landlord's dog, isn't all that friendly at the moment because he cut himself on a fence and doesn't like me sniffing round him.

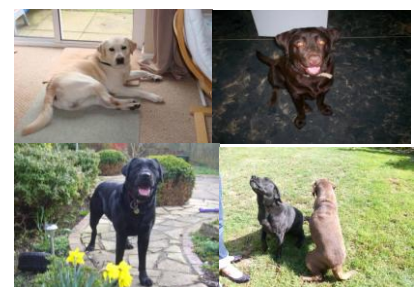
The snow was great! I loved it.

I also got told off the other day when Mum and Dad found me on top of the kitchen work-surface. I thought the leftovers were for me!!

Anyway, I am very happy and well looked after. Must dash as it's time for my beauty sleep. Bounce

Bounce needs to read the "Letter to God" I think! (editor). Please keep sending in your stories and pictures and we will print them as soon as we have space

Recently Re-homed Dogs



Follow us on Facebook

Labrador Rescue Kent (LRK)

Send your stories and pictures to the editor: Heather Howe
The Stable, Shepherds Close Road,
Patricbourne, Canterbury. CT4 5HQ
heather.howe1@btinternet.com



