



Winter 2019

Finding Forever Homes

Animal Rescue

Benji

He is now enjoying his Forever Home. Catch up with him on page 4.

Can you support our rescue dogs? Read the enclosed letter to see how you can help.

Welcome

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from our **Chief Executive**

I hope you enjoy reading our Winter 2019 newsletter, which features updates about this year's activities. You will also see some familiar faces along the way.

Thank you to everyone who donated towards the Oscar and Olivia story, you raised an amazing £5.876.00! Support like yours means that we can continue the important work we provide for rescue animals. We are pleased to let you know that both Oscar and Olivia are doing very well and have settled in at the Church Knowle Centre. They love saying hello to the visitors whilst they also enjoy eating browse (leafy branches).

We recently opened the new reception and rehoming facility at our Lincoln Farm centre, which is being thoroughly enjoyed by our visitors, staff and rescue dogs. We have many fantastic dog items for sale at the centre, ranging from a selection of toys to deluxe dog beds, pop in to check out the range for yourself (and your dog!).

More recently, our Tri-4-Rescue had a record number of people and dogs attending. We cannot thank everyone enough for supporting and raising over £2,500 which is amazing! It brings such joy to all the staff and volunteers to see the rehomed rescue dogs joining us to enjoy the event. I would also like to say thank you to Arden Grange for supporting this newsletter, we have had a long relationship with the brand and it is great that they are able to support our rescue animals.

Our outdoor kennels at our Wingletang centre desperately need replacing as they will not last another winter. Can you help us by ordering a dog kennel or making a donation this Christmas? Please read the appeal letter enclosed for full details on how you can help, thank you.

Would you like the chance to win £500? Make sure you send

back your Christmas

Grand Draw Tickets

before 10th January!

Geoff Wright Chief Executive

Neville the Kune Kune cross Vietnamese Pig Become an.

We've been working on ways to generate more income, one of which is asking you to sponsor an animal or a centre. You can show regular support towards our rescue animals for as little as £1.16 per week. To choose the animal or centre you would like to sponsor, please head to our website to download a form:

www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk/how_to_help_us.html

Stay in touch

We love to hear from you and your pets. Here's how: Write to:

Jazmin House Fundraising and Marketing Manager Margaret Green Animal Rescue, Church Knowle. Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5NQ

t: 01929 480474

e: comms@mgar.org.uk

Instagram (amganimalrescue U

Twitter @MGAnimalRescue

Facebook.com/ margaretgreenanimalrescue

Youtube ► Margaret Green Animal Rescue

For farm animals and cats in Dorset contact: Church Knowle Rehoming and Visitor Centre.

Church Knowle, Wareham. Dorset, BH20 5NQ t: 01929 480474

e: churchknowle@mgar.org.uk

For dogs in Dorset contact: Lincoln Farm Rescue and Rehoming Centre,

Bere Road, Winterborne Kingston, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 9BP t: 01929 471340 e: lincolnfarm@mgar.org.uk

For cats and dogs in Devon contact:

Wingletang Rescue and Rehoming Centre, Heathfield, Tavistock. Devon, PL19 0LF t: 01822 810215 e: wingletang@mgar.org.uk

Patron: Edward Fox OBE

Thanks to Kim Lillington for additional photography. Registered charity number: 1167990

Funding Our Future



Could you become a **Fantastic Fundraiser?**

We are appealing to all the fitness fanatics out there who would like to support rescue animals. We would love for you to choose our charity for your next 'challenge' event, be it a marathon, point-to-point cycle/ walk/run or a midnight walk, the options really are limitless!

Let us introduce Tony and Doug to you, who set themselves the Jurassic Coast Challenge which is a whopping 100km walk (just over 62 miles)! They both set off at 8am on the Saturday morning, trekking across the

beautiful Jurassic Coast and finishing at 7am on Sunday morning. It is safe to say that Tony and Doug were rather tired after the walk but both were glad that they'd put in months of training beforehand. It is such a massive achievement for them and we cannot thank them both enough for raising an amazing £1,797!

If Tony and Doug have inspired vou to set vourself a challenge in 2020 we would love to hear about it and support your idea: comms@mgar.org.uk

Marks and Spencer choose us!

We are so pleased to announce that M&S Broadstone have chosen us as their charity and we are looking forward to fundraising in store. Keep an eye out on our website as we will be adding dates early 2020 and if you are in the area please do pop in to support.

If you own or work for a business that would like to raise money for rescue animals we would love to hear from you: comms@mgar.org.uk

Become a... Friend

Choose a monthly payment of £3, £5 or £10 to become a friend. On receipt of your first payment you will receive a thank you letter and a car sticker, followed by a yearly thank you for your continued support.









margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk



Benji's Mythbusters

Hello I am Benji (formally known to you as Rafiki) I am a 13 year old Jack Russell. Whilst being cared for at the centre it became clear that dogs my age aren't as popular, I am here to bust some myths that are often associated with older dogs. You see, I am one of the lucky ones, I have found my Forever Home but some aren't as lucky as me and I really want to help my friends.

- I will become too attached to the dog and then will lose them through old age Many dogs especially the smaller breeds can live happy, active lives well into their teens.
- The dog won't be active enough Generally dogs do slow down with age, so while they may not be able to accompany you jogging or take part in high energy canine activities, they will still enjoy getting out and about and having regular exercise. This also helps to keep them mobile and keep their weight down.

The dog will have bad habits An older dog may have picked up a few bad habits along the way but they will also have picked up lots of good ones. Which can include being house trained, used to being left home alone, not chewing an owner's favourite shoes, being used to travelling and walking calmly on the lead. They can also be old hands with knowing basic commands such as sit and stay!

You can't train an old dog It has been scientifically proven that an older dog is just as capable of learning as a youngster. A dog can learn at any age, also older dogs can have better attention spans and be less distracted during training.

They are more likely to have health problems

By rehoming an older dog from us you will be fully briefed on any medical conditions and they will have had a full health check. Many breed specific medical problems would also have already come to light. When rehoming a puppy, especially if the breed/breeds aren't known, you don't know what breed related problems you may

You won't be able to get insurance for them

see in later life.

Margaret Green Animal Rescue offers a free period of insurance cover for every dog that leaves the centre, there will then be the option of continuing the insurance after the free period irrespective of the dog's age.



Final note from Benji

I must say that whilst I was in rescue I would often hear my carers chatting whilst cleaning out the kennels and I learnt that older dogs aren't necessarily problem dogs, they are often handed into rescue due to a change in their owners' circumstances and are much loved pets. So I ask all readers to understand that rehoming an older dog can be a fulfilling experience because they make loyal, rewarding pets. Please check out our website to see the dogs who are currently looking for their forever home.

Much love, Benji 🍑

> Thank you to Benji's owners (Mark and Oksana Ferns) who kindly offered to donate £1,000 to the charity. At the time they wanted to donate, we were in need of a special kennel for a litter of puppies. They offered to purchase the kennel, which hugely benefited the puppies development and created a calm area for them to settle in. We are so grateful to anyone that can make a donation towards our rescue animals as we receive no government funding and rely on donations.



How to enrich your dog's life

What is enrichment?

Enrichment for dogs can be described as 'an addition to their environment, which they can voluntarily interact with and as a result experience improved mental and physical health.' Now, we all know that regular exercise is important for our dog's well-being but there are also other ways of providing your dog with a body and mind work out in your own home!

There are many different ways to keep your pet busy and they don't have to be expensive, here is one of our favourites:

Make a snuffle mat

A dog's sense of smell is wonderful and much more sensitive than ours. As a natural behaviour, many dogs love nothing more than scenting and snuffling for treats. Help them explore this behaviour by making them a snuffle mat.





Canine Activity Day & GroundDog Day

Canine Activity Day was a new addition to our calendar of events in 2019 and we were so pleased to welcome new and familiar faces to the centre! The event raised just over £1,000 and featured the very popular Fly Ball, Hoopers and Agility course. It was so lovely to have lots of different activities for dogs to enjoy and thank you to all who supported.

Now in its third year, GroundDog Day saw an even bigger crowd than before and with over £2,000 raised for our rescue dogs it was a great success. Thank you so much to everyone who made the day so great, volunteers, local traders, judges, sponsors and to all the team for a big group effort!





To help us continue our work in caring for around 1,200 animals a year, why not become a centre sponsor of **Lincoln Farm**? Just **£5 a month** can really make a difference!

1. Cut a door mat to the size you require (the rubber kind with holes).

How to guide

3-4cm wide

help from you.

2. Take 3 fleece blankets and cut into strips of approximately 20cm long and

3. Finally, thread the pieces through the mat and knot on one side until the rubber mat is no longer visible.

Your mat will look like this when you finish. Let your dog watch you bury the treats amongst the fleece strips, then encourage them to hunt for the goodies. Your dog should quickly catch on to the idea and will soon be enjoying snuffling for treats without any

If your dog is fed a dried diet, some of his daily food can also be fed this way, making meal times more rewarding. Always supervise your dog when they are using the snuffle mat.







Inky

Inky the hand reared kitten came in at just two days old after sadly being rejected by her mum. Inky's mum was a three year old cat and Inky was part of her fourth litter, there were other kittens in the litter but they died soon after being born, only Inky survived.

The amount of times Inky had to be fed by a member of staff totalled a staggering 374! This was from just two days old to being ready to wean. Every time that kittens are being bottle fed they also need to be stimulated to toilet and all equipment needs to be sterilised after every feed, this mean that each feed takes approximately 20 - 30 minutes.

We wanted to highlight that although Inky's story doesn't appear to be a big cost to the charity, in order to care for them it is very resource heavy. To give you an idea the amount of time spent feeding Inky equates to nearly 5 full working weeks!

Your continued support whether it be fostering, volunteering or making a donation all helps animals like Inky.





Family Fun Day & **Novelty Dog Show**

We were blown away with the support our annual event received, this year's show featured 'Family Fun' which included educational talks about the rescue animals, a Hobby Horse Gymkhana, 'Hopscotch' style Rabbit Game, homemade Cat Toys and collecting the Chicken Eggs.

The atmosphere was ecstatic, the weather was on our side and most importantly we raised an amazing amount of money for the care and welfare of rescue animals.

We also had the sale of the Grand Draw Tickets, which gives an overall total of £20,367.99!





Keeping Cool

Over the summer months we spend a lot of our time trying to keep the rescue animals nice and cool.

We use wet towels for the pigs, create new areas for the rabbits and guinea pigs and we also put up plenty of shady areas for sheep and goats.

There was guite a drastic difference in the weather for the morning of the Country Fayre, however, it was so lovely to see the whole team, staff and volunteers rally together to make sure gazebos and marquees were back in position ready for the visitors to site.

Despite the challenging start, the sun did begin to appear and everyone was enjoying the live music from

Become a.. Centre Sponson

To help us continue our work in caring for around 1,200 animals a year, why not become a centre sponsor of Church Knowle? Just £5 a month can really make a difference!







Country Fayre

The Kingsmen Acoustic, Allsort'd Choir and Shroton Ukulele band. As well as the music, visitors also enjoyed local produce from traders, the hay bale hurdles, a dog Olympics and a wonderful display from Liberty's birds of prey. Thank you to everyone who joined us despite the weather and because of your support we raised a super £2,000!





Importance of neutering your female dog

We have often found that people are unaware of the risks associated when deciding not to neuter their dog.

Neutering greatly reduces the risk of dogs getting breast cancer, known as 'mammary cancer' in dogs. Mammary cancer is seen quite often in older, unneutered dogs and can be fatal.

Furthermore neutering your dog eliminates the risk of a very serious infection in the womb called Pyometra, which studies have shown affects up to 25 per cent of unneutered bitches. The infection is caused by a bacteria that builds up inside the womb, which is not only really uncomfortable for your dog but if left untreated can be fatal.

If your dog is suffering from Pyometra and needs to be spayed as part of treatment, this can be more expensive than neutering a healthy dog. Surgery to remove the womb would usually be classed as an emergency procedure. Pyometra is a condition generally seen in older unneutered females, however, it can happen in unneutered females of any age.

Symptoms to look out for include lack of appetite, lethargy and sometimes discharge. Approximately one in four older unneutered females will suffer from Pyometra but it can be prevented by neutering.

Image credit: Oliver Elliott

8



Can you help Oscar and Boris?

We are asking our readers to help spread the word of Oscar and Boris who have been at the centre for a very long time. We just can't seem to understand why, they are both so lovely, affectionate and just want their own sofa to curl up on.

Oscar is a very handsome boy who is seven years old and has been at the centre for over 210 days! He prefers a quieter home so that he can have all the fuss to himself. We feel Oscar would be suited to a rural / village location where he can grow in confidence, if you know of anyone that has a suitable home for Oscar please tell them his story.

Boris is just two years old and came to us as a stray. He has now been at the centre for over 150 days! Boris is really looking forward to finding his forever home and is just as confused as Oscar as to why he is still at the centre. People do come in to say hello to him but he hasn't been very lucky.

Tri-4-Rescue

We were blown away with the amount of support for the Tri-4-Rescue this year. Welcoming so many new and familiar faces to the centre with, of course their gorgeous dogs in tow!

We set off without haste on the walk to the Peter Tavy Inn, going past a beautiful stream, which gave the chance for everyone to cool off before a well-deserved pit stop at the pub. Next it was the runners turn to face the 3 mile run across the Moor and then straight onto the group bike ride!

Everyone did so well, all finishing in fantastic time with smiles on their faces. Thank you to everyone who took part, we raised over £2,500! Further thanks to the Peter Tavy Inn, Rent-a-Ford Tavistock and Dave and Louisa Chanter for organising the run.





Appeal



Sadly, one of the things both these beautiful cats have in common at the centre for far too

We would love to help find them a home before Christmas. we ask you to help get the word out about rehoming enquires please contact the Wingletang centre,

Can you order a dog kennel? Please read the appeal letter enclosed to see how your donation can help. We are so grateful for any donation to help support the work we do.



Retail Round up



Wrap up warm for Winter

When wrapping up warm for Winter keep in mind that our Charity Shops have a great selection of coats, jackets and knitwear that they have saved for the seasons ahead. We have branded items that are of great quality, which means we are on trend with mainstream retail!

We offer a range of items including affordable and sustainable clothing that is environmentally friendly. Fashion now can be very disposable and we help ease this environmental pressure by offering good quality donated items that are very reasonably priced. Pop into our shops to find out what's new.



Thank you so much to Lucy Tidbury

Local artist Lucy kindly offered to design our Christmas cards this year as she has a soft spot for us after rehoming rescue dog Ned from our Lincoln Farm Centre. Ned is a very important family member for Lucy and they enjoy long walks together in the Purbecks.

Lucy has a studio in Swanage and her animal prints and portraits are widely known throughout Dorset. The animal portraits perfectly capture the personality of the animal Lucy is painting and also reflects their background environment.

Lucy took the time to design three portraits of our rescue animals from our three centres - Jeff (Jon Snow) from Lincoln Farm, Misha from Wingletang and Jake from Church Knowle.



£4.70 for 10 Cards

Retail Volunteer of the Year

Well done to husband and wife John and Ruth.

Ruth has been volunteering for the Winton shop since it opened and brings her sense of fun into the shop.

John collects donations on a regular basis and we cannot thank them both enough for all their ongoing support.

These images were then transformed into our beautiful Christmas cards by our local printer LA Digital Print, who themselves have rescue animals from us. The retail shops and rescue centres are selling them at the very affordable price of £4.70 for ten cards.

We think you will agree that they are wonderful and we hope that you will be sending your Christmas greetings via our cards.



wouldn't have such wonderful content that we include within our Newsletters. many of the images featured throughout are from Kim. Furthermore we are able to refresh images on our website, event posters, leaflets and promotions. Thank you so much Kim, you are a super star.



Volunteering



The Year

Wingletang Volunteer of the year Well done to Dean Butler, who can be seen here with rescue dog Finley. Dean has been volunteering for 3 years and often helps at the centre with dog walking. Thank you so much!



Fundraising Volunteer of the year Kim Lillington has been fantastic helping us with photography. Without Kim we



Church Knowle and Corporate Volunteer of the year

Montacute School complete a variety of tasks including animal care, gardening, maintenance and shopping for animal provisions. They all work very hard, which takes the pressure off what is often a very over stretched team. We have all really enjoyed working alongside the students and want to say a huge thank you to them all.



Lincoln Farm Volunteer of the year ... To be announced soon!



Want to get involved?

If any of our volunteers inspire you to get involved, perhaps you think 'I could spare a few hours to help'.

We currently really need help for the following roles:

- Volunteer Driver to help one day a week collecting donations and distributing leaflets within the community.
- Champion Volunteer to help alongside the Community Fundraiser. Within this role you have the opportunity to plan fundraising events and represent the charity within the community.
- Retail Volunteer to help on a Friday or a Saturday. Why not offer a couple of hours a week to help support our animals in our centre by volunteering in a shop near you. We have four shops Winton, Wimborne, Kinson and Weymouth.



Forever home updates



Thank you to everyone who sent in their forever home stories, they are so wonderful to see!



We thought you would like an update on Jacko. He has settled in fine and Ella has accepted him after an initial "I'm boss here". He turned out to be house trained and he has been on some long walks.

Thank you for picking the right dog for us and Ella.

Jeff and Cheryl

Luna is so wonderful! She settled almost straight away and was eating within the first 10 mins of being home! She's so affectionate and comfortable here. A brief but positive meeting with Lupa, we're going to take it slow so hopefully they'll become friends! We'll keep you updated!

Holly





We've had him just over two years, he was around 1 year old when we adopted him from Lincoln Farm. He benefited from some great positive training at a small dog class to learn his basics and the last couple of summers he has loved showing off his agility

His adventures have included Fell Walking in the lake district and several campervan trips. Denzel loves nothing better than to curl up with us on the sofa and have a tummy rub.

Thank you for such a lovely

Love Mandy & Chris & Denzel

The photo is me sat beside my mum late evening. I am such a happy girl now and my best trick is laying on my mum's tummy when she goes to bed at night. Then I wag my tail across her face while she tries to read her book.

Please tell the lovely girls in the cat place who worried about me that I fell on my feet. I love my home and even when I have to go see the vet people my mum has made sure they are really nice and even though I am, shall we say feisty, they are very kind to me.

All that is left to say is I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and I just hope all your furry friends get as good and loving home as I have.

Twinkle x









Thought you might like to see how Marigold is getting along as you can see she is helping herself to some Marigold leaves!

Nicky x



Happy birthday Molly! x



They seem really relaxed with their move. Absolutely love them x



Legacy of Love

Listed here is everyone from whom we have received a Legacy or an In Memory Of.

Thank you so much.



Future Care

What will happen to your own pets if you are no longer able to care for them?

We offer a free sign-up service to ensure should anything happen to you, we will take your pets into our care and make sure they are rehomed to a suitable home.

If you would like more information on Future Care or would like to discuss including us in your Will please contact:

comms@mgar.org.uk

Legacies

Alan Christopher Swinfen Beatrice Alice Ruth Long Brian Pike Catherine Livestone Christine Grace Butt Elizabeth Pamela Barbara O'Neill Jennifer Eade Joan Cross Joan Lano Joy Iris Margaret Sherwood Joyce Jane Dulcie Hook Kathleen A Raynbird Carslaw

Donations In Memory Of

Alan Ging Amber Baker **Barbara Mullins Beryl Bartlett** Betty Tonge Carl Heath Cherry Fowler Christina Constable Christine Erica Gillet Christine Joyce Stubbs Constance Cornelia Critchell Daphne Downs David Grahams Delia Setterfield Diane Pearce Doris Spall Edna Muriel Godfrey Eileen Hibbs Frances Eileen Hughes Freda Burden Ivor William Henley Ivy Amy Twist Jack Alner Walbridge Jack Mantell Janette Neale Janice Mary Wilson Jennifer Maud Eade Jill Thompson Jim Mackie Joan Lano John Anthony Hill John Purse John Thorpe Joyce Bull Karen Cowser Karen Tracey Ward Keith Jones

Kenneth Michael Russ Leonard Sutherland Leslie Bartlett Mabel Hester Margaret Blake Margaret Florence Howford Margaret Halford Margaret Hunt Margaret Moir Marilyn White Mark Turner Mary Zillah Fiona Angel Mavis Mercer Mervyn Down Michael Haskins Michael Osborne Nancy Mary Wray-Cook Norman Chancer Patricia Jane Bates Peter Allan Jones Peter Brandon Philip George Miles **Richard Young** Shelia Gregory Stephen Nicolas Gardnier Sylvia Cross Terence Marshallsay **Terrence William Handscomb** Thomas Grav Thomas James Webb Trevor Baker Valerie Cornell Valerie June Fuller Vera Kemnitzer William Dolling Winifred Elizabeth Coles

Lady (Katie Boyle) Saunders

Lilian Audrev Fright

Mrs Christine Ford

Mrs Elsie Rogers

Pamela Joy White

Patricia Louise Hilliard

Phoebe Elizabeth Brown

Winifred Thompson-Mcleaod

Peggy Amelia Wood

Roma Estelle Wright

Mrs B Drake



nutrition without compromise

A proud partner of Margaret Green Animal Rescue for 20 years.

Adverse food reactions

Many dogs are easy to feed, but some, are susceptible to adverse food reactions. This broad term describes an abnormal response to a particular food or ingredient.

Susceptibility

Dogs of any age can be affected, but true food allergies tend to arise after a period of exposure to an ingredient most common between one and five years. Dogs suffering from other immune mediated conditions may be more susceptible to food allergies since the immune system is already more vulnerable.

What to look out for

Dogs with food allergies are frequently affected with skin problems but may also experience gastrointestinal symptoms. Dogs with dietary intolerance are usually presented with gastro-intestinal problems. It is important to seek veterinary advice in order to rule out other causes of the symptoms. Gastro-intestinal symptoms may include diarrhoea, increased frequency of passing motions and increased stool volume. Skin symptoms may include inflammation especially of the ears, face, paws, armpits and groin, dry flaky skin and ear infections.

Initial treatment

Your vet should be the first port of call since appropriate treatment will be necessary to ensure the dog is comfortable and that any concurrent infection if present is medicated. Your vet may suggest faecal analysis in the event of gastrointestinal symptoms. In the event of skin problems, skin scrapings and ear swabs may be recommended.

Food trials

Many vets concur that food trials are still the most effective way to obtain a diagnosis. Record exactly what your dog eats. Look not only at the main diet but treats too. Ingredients which commonly cause adverse food reactions are wheat, beef, soya and dairy products. Dairy products are common offenders mainly because as dogs age, their levels of lactase (the enzyme responsible for the digestion of milk sugar) decreases which can result in lactose intolerance.

Arden Grange diets can be bought at Lincoln Farm or Wingletang rescue centres. Visit www.ardengrange.com or call 01273 - 833390 for further information.

14 margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.ul



Changing your dog's diet

Changing to a gluten-free recipe which includes no beef, soya or dairy products is often a good starting point if your dog eats any of these common dietary allergens. All the Arden Grange diets exclude these ingredients. In addition, all dry recipes contain a number of immune boosting natural supplements. These include the prebiotics FOS and MOS, which act as a food source for the friendly gut bacteria. It's important to look after the digestive system in dogs with allergies because it is home to many immune cells. The diets also include nucleotides which enhance metabolic function and have particular benefits to the digestive and immune systems.

In addition, all Arden Grange dry dog food diets include omega 3 and 6 fatty acids. Omega-3 fatty acids may be beneficial in the treatment of allergies of all breeds in dogs. They work in the skin to help reduce the amount and effects of histamine and other chemicals that are produced in response to the allergen.

If your dog is already eating a diet that is free from the more common ingredients responsible for adverse food reactions, the next step is to look at other reasons for their symptoms. Could they be allergic or intolerant to something else? The Arden Grange new Sensitive range of diets is a good choice for dogs with allergies/intolerance to the more common meats and grains found in many commercial pet foods since they are made primarily from while fish and potato.



spoe Box Appeq1

Can you give a gift to our rescue animals this Christmas?

You can fill a shoe box or a Christmas stocking with goodies and drop them to one of your local centres or charity shop. We have received lots of presents in the past for cats and dogs but don't forget about the horses, pigs, chickens, goats, sheep and rabbits!

Check out our Amazon Wishlist for ideas on what to put into your shoe box or you can order from Amazon and the items will arrive direct to our centres! One last note, if you are purchasing items from Amazon, be it for our rescue animals or to gift to your loved ones, we advise you shop through the AmazonSmile website. You can select from a list of charities who will then receive a percentage donation of the net purchase price. We would love for you to choose our charity, get signed up today, start browsing and buying knowing that you will be helping our rescue animals too.

Type in this link: https://amzn.to/2VpAiXW Mank you