

Waggy Tails Rescue

Spring / Summer newsletter 2017



News from Helen's House

reg. charity no. 1114957

During the wet & cold winter months we sometimes have to look for alternative ways to exercise & occupy the dogs and this is when our training room comes into its own. It is an ideal area for staff and volunteers to spend one-to-one time with the dogs.

Once again we were overwhelmed by the generosity of our supporters at Christmas time, and every canine Waggy Tails resident received their own individual Christmas treats.

A Waggy Tails dog is guaranteed care for life, and in 2015 we had the sad news that someone who had adopted a puppy from us in 2007 had died, leaving Jack Russell Toby needing a new home at the age of 8. It wasn't so easy to find a place for Toby this time, and he spent almost two years in the sanctuary becoming a firm favourite with the staff and volunteers. In April Toby went off to his new home and we hope he will have a long and happy life there.

We are very grateful to Phillip Edkins & the staff of Steele Raymond LLP in Southbourne, Bournemouth, who offered to write a Will free of charge during the months of January and February 2017 on the understanding that any customer or client volunteered a donation or legacy to Waggy Tails Rescue. Waggy Tails is run by volunteers and bequests and donations are very important to us. A gift in your memory will enable us to help dogs like Paddy.



Mayor of Poole's Charities Year

As this newsletter is being printed the Mayor's Year is coming to a climax. We are most grateful to the Mayor of Poole, Cllr. Xena Dion, for her most public support of our work alongside that of Lewis-Manning Hospice and Chestnut Nursery. The year has been rounded off with the Maritime Ball at the start of the Annual European Maritime Event being hosted this year in the UK in Poole. This newsletter went to press just before the event, so our write-up will be initially posted on our website.

GALA CONCERT

Last October we held a Gala Concert featuring the Dorset Police Male Voice Choir. The venue, Queen Elizabeth's School, Blandford Road, Wimborne, proved to be an excellent choice, providing good acoustics and support from the staff. Thank you to everyone who supported this new venture for us and we hope that you enjoyed the varied programme from the choir and the bonus appearance of Forest Harmonics, four very talented young guitarists from Brockenhurst. Thanks also go to Tom Mowlem at Vets4Pets Bournemouth, who sponsored the concert, covering all of the expenses for the evening.

We will be holding another concert on Saturday 9th September 2017 at the same venue. This time it will be a variety show with lots of different acts and if anyone is interested in performing please telephone our office on 01202 875000 or email admin@waggytails.org.uk as soon as possible.

Waggy Tails Annual Dog Show 24th June from 12 pm



Judge Tom Mowlem of Vets4Pets
Prizes sponsored by Fish4Dogs



West Parley Memorial Hall, Christchurch Road BH22 8SQ

SUPPORTERS & FUND RAISERS – HOW YOU CAN HELP

Volunteering for Waggy Tails

Volunteering is very rewarding and there are many ways you can help the dogs in our care.

Can you spare half a day a week to work in one of our shops, or maybe you could help with the collection and delivery of items donated to us.

We always need cake makers and lots of other help at our fundraising events.

Perhaps you could help at one of our store or street collections once or twice a year.

We rely on our volunteers to help with the dog walking, grooming and general welfare.

To help in the shops you need to be over 16 and to help at Helen's House you need to be over 18.

For further information on volunteering please contact us by phone, email or download an application form from our website www.waggytails.org.uk.

Fundraising & Volunteering



We can't thank everybody who contributes in person but we do appreciate every donation and offer of help we get.

This time there is a special thank you to Tina Wootton who completed a Zip Wire Challenge at the Ageas Bowl & raised over £500 for us. Tina even managed the challenge whilst dressed as a Dalmatian!

Dolphin Shopping Centre

We have just ended a very profitable year as one of their two chosen charities for 2016. We held various events, collections and sales at the centre and had permanent food banks in place throughout the year. The end of the year culminated in the Dolphin Shopping Centre funding the design and printing of our very own calendar for 2017. We also held two Christmas Carol events in December which assisted in raising funds and promoted awareness of WTR and what we do. Special thanks to Lisa King and her team for all their help throughout the year.



Throughout 2017 the Green Man in Wimborne will be supporting Waggy Tails as one of their two charities of the year. A number of events are planned to raise much needed funds, starting with a Charity Car Wash on Bank Holiday Monday 29th May 2017. You will get a warm welcome from Scott and Kat at the Green Man. The pub is dog friendly so you can enjoy a walk followed by a drink or lunch in the pub. The Sunday Roast is highly recommended.



Thank you to John Lewis at Home in Poole who presented us with a cheque for £911 as part of the Community Matters programme run by the company. It was a

pleasure to meet with the team at John Lewis who are all dog lovers themselves. We will be working with them in 2017 with some other fundraising and awareness activities.

Aviva Community Fund by Paul Chapman, Fundraiser

As an employee of Finch Commercial Insurance Brokers I entered Waggy Tails Rescue into the Aviva Community Fund, a national competition open to all insurance brokers. Our project named "Help Us To Help Them" made it through the various judging and voting stages to reach the final and be awarded £1,000. We were the only charity in Dorset and Hampshire to be awarded funding. In addition to the funding, Finch Commercial Insurance Brokers also donated a further £1,000 having chosen us as their Charity of the Year.

A big thank you to Tom Mowlem of Vets4Pets Bournemouth for donating our second ambulance and to LV Insurance for raising the money for painting it.

We have some very sad news to share with all our WTR friends and supporters. Two of our much loved and dedicated volunteers have recently passed away.

John Way, husband of Sara, has supported WTR for many years. As a keen golfer, he arranged some very successful Charity Golf Tournaments for Waggy Tails. For many years he was in charge of all the Collection Tins, keeping **immaculate records**. He also made all our "A" boards. He supported Sara in all her volunteering and we miss him very much.

Cliff Grant, husband to his late beloved Jean, died 27th April. Cliff goes way back in Waggy Tails history and has been a dedicated volunteer and foster carer for all these past years. He grew copious amounts of plants and has raised thousands of pounds for the Charity. Until fairly recently he drove the Animal Ambulance.

We remember them both with love and grateful thanks for all their dedication.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE DOGS LEAVE WAGGY TAILS RESCUE?

A note from Taffy by Laurie

It has been 7 years since I was a resident at Waggy Tails. My Dad saw me coming through reception, he was told I had issues and luckily for me he understood a Collie's needs and how much work would be required.

Dad already had a Collie called Chips. We have spent these years together enjoying many happy times sharing our beds and sleeping together. Our football games are legendary. We both waited in anticipation at bed time for our final Bonio of the day. We caused mayhem running in, full of mud, from the garden. A great game for us was 'let's get in the car and now have the shake', or a really great one is 'roll over at a distance and scent yourself as the badger or fox', now that does make Dad happy, you should hear him shout encouragement!

I knew something was wrong when Chips did not want his Bonio one night, and for a week we visited the vet daily together.

One day we all went on a walk together but Chips was struggling and Dad carried him awhile. When we got home Dad put me in the conservatory for a couple of hours. He was very quiet.



Now at night it's only me sleeping and my friend is no longer here. I miss him and the great times we shared and how he helped me as my loyal companion. Please remember my friend Chips.
Taffy

Holly Written by Oliver, 11 years old and Holly (my best friend) 4 years old.

Holly has been home for two years now and has settled in very well. Holly absolutely loves it here. She really enjoys playing ball in the garden; it is her favourite pastime.

Holly was in Waggy tails for 2 years but, unbelievably, nobody showed any interest in her, maybe because she was excitable. We met Holly, and instantly fell in love with her and her funny little ways. On her first day, she made herself at home and sat on the settee for a fuss and a cuddle. That night she slept in her giant grey bed and we didn't hear a sound out of her.

Holly's first full day was jam packed. We introduced her to her new toys and had a game of ball in the garden. At Waggy Tails she had a friend called Rudi who was also in the rescue for a long time and they both loved to play together. Holly loves sitting in the conservatory when it is warm and has taken over the settee. She loves company and when people come she licks them all over!!! (her way of saying hello!!).

She gets on with some dogs but others she does not. She is normally good on her lead and walks very nicely unless she sees another dog that she does not get on with. She likes nothing more than her chin rubbed and her belly kissed and tickled all over.



Sam by Foster Mum Pat



Sam was a large Welsh Collie who was adopted at eighteen months by a lovely lady, Enid. They lived near Poole Park and Sam and Enid could be seen (if you were up!) every morning at around 5 a.m. walking on Baiter. Sam and Enid went out walking at least four

times a day and Sam's favourite thing was to chase a train. He would run the length of the park and only stopped because it came to an end. Then he would trot back and go and sit in the sea for a bit!

Many years passed and sadly Enid became very ill and died. Sam was kindly taken over by a friend and neighbour but Waggy Tails Rescue were not informed.

My daughter, walking on Baiter a couple of years ago, started talking to a lady, Joan, who told Cathy that she had taken on Sam because his owner had died.

Cathy came home and reported this conversation to me and I guessed immediately this must be Enid's Sam. We did look on the rescue's database and found Sam's adoption file where the "Link" person was given as Joan. We contacted her, and sure enough, it was the same Sam. Unfortunately Sam had not been well and needed veterinary treatment so Waggy Tails took over, and he had the treatment he needed and we made sure that Joan had all the help she needed.

Very sadly Joan died and once again Sam was back on his own. Pat and John, Foster Carers, were asked to foster him. Poor Sam, he was such a sad boy when he arrived and it took months before his grieving diminished and he started to enjoy his surroundings and all that happened on walks and in the house. He was the most amazing dog and a complete joy to care for. When he was almost seventeen, the years caught up with him, he wasn't at all well and in his garden, peacefully he died. I had the privilege of holding him whilst saying good-bye.

Photographing dogs - by Ken Thomas

Using a modern sophisticated camera it is relatively easy to take good photos of our dogs. It has the ability for you to focus on your subject and follow focus as it moves. You can set a fast shutter speed to freeze movement, you can increase the ISO in poor light conditions and use a large aperture to blur backgrounds. It requires considerable technical knowledge to get the best out of them however. Do not despair if what you possess is a simple camera or a camera in your phone. Modern phone cameras have some adjustment and they provide an excellent quality picture so the rest is up to you.

Here are a few hints to help you get the best pictures. The biggest problem is the delay in taking the picture **after pressing the button, this is called "shutter lag"**. It is difficult to get most dogs to pose so you can miss a shot. The best way to overcome this is to take lots of shots in **the hope that you get a good one. It doesn't cost you anything with a digital camera and you can delete the poor ones afterwards.**

You should endeavour to get down to the dogs level. It is tempting to use the camera at eye level because you want to compose the picture in the screen but this results in most cases in a large head and small body. A much better idea is to hold the camera downwards at **arm's length and press the shutter with your forefinger.**



excellent photo. These pictures were taken with a phone.

Try to get the focus on the eyes. The picture will be upside down but can usually be rotated in the camera afterwards, maybe in two stages as it is normal to rotate 90 degrees at a time.

Do not get too close, particularly with a long nosed breed as this can also provide a distorted result. If the picture is too small in the frame you can usually crop it in the camera. This provides a picture with less pixels but there are usually enough to still give an



Try to get a bland background.

An unfamiliar dog can be a problem as it is difficult to get it to obey you. I find that it is almost essential to have an assistant, particularly if you do not have the luxury of having plenty of time to carry out the task.

Try to get the light behind you as it will give a highlight in the eyes. It also helps if it is slightly to one side as this avoids your

shadow being in the shot and will help give some modelling to bring out the shape of the face and texture of the fur.

Do not use flash as it can startle the dog and can result in peculiar colours in the eyes. If the light is poor increase the ISO or the exposure value if your camera will allow it. On some cameras these adjustments can be made after the picture is taken.

Good shooting and enjoy your photos because if they please you what does it matter how others view them.

Ken takes the wonderful photographs we use to display on our posters and website to help us rehome the dogs.

A happy ending for Daisey- May by Mandy
One of the most recent additions to our small furry department came in following a phone call from a shocked gentleman who had found a poor guinea pig abandoned in a carrier bag in a car park. I went to collect her from his home where he had made her comfortable, and she appeared to be in good health and looked as though she had recently had a haircut. We have no idea how she came to be abandoned in that bag, she is a very sweet little girl who we named Daisey-May, and she soon found her forever home where she keeps an older piggy named Nickie, a neutered boar, company.



Daisey-May (on the right) with her new friend Nickie

If you would like us to email you with details of our upcoming events please contact us at admin@waggytails.org.uk and ask us to add you to our emailing list. We will never pass your details on to anyone else.

LEGACIES AND IN MEMORIAM

We would like to acknowledge the generosity of those who have remembered us in their Wills and to say how grateful we are for donations received in remembrance of loved ones:

Betty Dyson
Mrs Jean Margaret George
Lillian Hunt
Mrs Edith Barney
Mr Stanley Cohen
Mr George Davis
Mrs Mariannina Forte

Derek Francis Watts
Albert William Woollard
Mr Gerald Giltrow
Mrs Jane Hazell
Ms Joyce Hook
Mrs Margaret Millington
Mr Brian Regan

Mrs Jill Robinson
Mrs Constance Scarrott
Mrs Mary Seagrove
Mr Donald Stewart
Mr George Waller
Mr Peter Walsh
Mr John Way