



Love Underdogs Newsletter

June 2013

SAVE A LIFE - ADOPT

ISSUE 3



Big Bear

This adorable 12 year old boy is really ready for his forever home.

Every one of the team fell in love with him when we were in Romania in May, he's just that gorgeous.

He is the most affectionate dog and loves nothing more than heading out for a walk.

Big Bear has a big heart and is fun to be around – could you find a place in your heart to love him and give him the home he deserves?

This lovely boy has been fully vaccinated, micro chipped and vet checked. In fact he's ready and waiting!

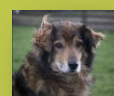
If you would like to visit Big Bear contact Sheena at Glebe Farm 01827 712812.

If you would like to adopt him please contact Deb – deb@loveunderdogs.org



Isn't Luke the happiest dog you've ever seen? Contact: deb@loveunderdogs.org for more information.

To date we have rescued 190 Underdogs and counting.....



June

Our Cover Picture this month it's the beautiful Aslan, he's a happy, 8 year old boy who loves life and would make a great addition to a family!

Life has been really hectic this month at Love UnderDogs HQ. We have selected 21 dogs for the next Transport in August. We actually were able to see the dogs for ourselves when we were at the Shelter in May - it is SUCH a difficult job as we would love to bring every single one.

Appeals - The final count for our Collar and Lead appeal. An amazing:

615 Collars, 47 Collar and Lead sets, 82 leads and 16 harnesses..

We appealed for stainless steel bowls and are thrilled to have received 152!

A huge thank you to everyone – as always our supporters rise to the challenge.

Dog Coats - We are including a perfect knitting pattern this month sent in by Jacquilyn Clark. We passed it on to one of our most prolific knitters, Patricia and she loves it.

So if you have the time and patience we would love these lovely little coats for our puppies – before we know it winter will descend on Romania again.

For our larger dogs, who will be outside we need strong waterproof coats please.

Bob



Bob arrived in the UK in October 2012 and very shortly afterwards was adopted by Kees and Jack and went to live in rural Dorset. Kees wrote to us recently to update us on Bob's progress. "He is doing well, enjoying his walks and the routine of meeting people and other dogs.

He needs a lot of combing and brushing (which he enjoys very much) these days as he is moulting.

Lately we get about for long walks on country tracks, together with Jackie and her dog Vlad, while we ride our mountain bikes.

We are grateful to Kees for the update on Bob and the wonderful photographs.

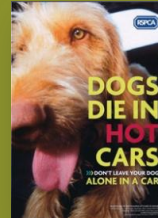


We just love receiving emails and photographs letting us know how our dogs are doing.....keep them coming.



I wonder how the chickens feel about Bob?

Dogs die in hot cars



Don't leave your dog alone in a car.

If you're going out in the car, think very carefully about what you are going to do with your dog. You should never leave a dog alone in a car.

It can get unbearably hot in a car on a sunny day, even when it's not that warm.

In fact, when it's 22°C/72°F outside, the temperature inside a car can soar to 47°C/117°F within 60 minutes.

Unlike humans, dogs pant to help keep themselves cool. In a hot stuffy car dogs can't cool down – leaving a window open or a sunshield on your windscreen won't keep your car cool enough.

DOGS DIE IN HOT CARS.

For more information go to:

<http://www.rspca.org.uk/allaboutanimals/pets/dogs/health/dogsinhotcars>



A huge THANK YOU to Fish4Dogs

Once again Fish4Dogs are supporting our wonderful UnderDogs. You may remember Sasha's story in the May Newsletter, he has blossomed on a Fish4Dogs diet and now we're thrilled that Fish4Dogs has sent us 50 Starter Packs for our dogs when they go to their forever homes. As well as the six generous samples, everything from Sea Jerky Tiddlers to Salmon and Potato Complete Dinner they have included a 20% off your next order voucher too.

Fish4Dogs is totally natural and there are no additives, no preservatives or colourings.

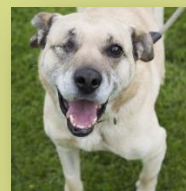
Fish4Dogs are a small independent company, based in Worcestershire. There are only about 30 people working for the company and they all have a genuine belief in their product.

Dogs are central to what they do and there are 7 'office dogs' with another 4 who visit occasionally!

Fish4Dogs are an ethical company believing in sustainability and minimising their environmental impact.



Scuby



Scuby is one of the survivors of the illegal 'kill shelter' and despite all that he has gone through he is a loving boy. He is good on the lead and needs now to be with his forever family.

Like all of our dogs this energetic 8 year old is neutered, micro chipped and is fully vaccinated. Why not visit Glebe farm and see for yourself just how adorable this brave dog is.



Summer Grooming Advice

By Sarah Reeve

It is important to groom your dog throughout the year so that they cope with hot summer and central heating throughout the winter.



If you have a non-moulting dog then have them clipped regularly but remember it must not be too short in the summer or the dog may be burnt by the sun.

If your dog has pink skin you will need to put sun cream on their ears and nose again to prevent sunburn.

Dogs that moult can need a great deal of grooming but to keep their coats and skin healthy groom regularly – the more you brush out the less you have to Hoover up!

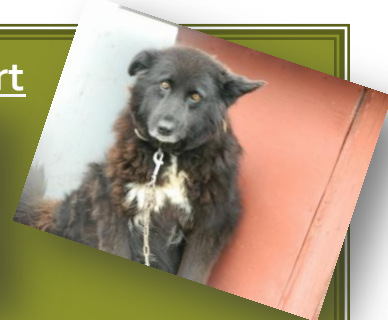
I've discovered these amazing jackets that keep dogs cool when they're out in hot weather'. You just soak them in cold water, wring them out and put on your dog. For more information go to:



<http://www.ruffwear.com/Swamp-Cooler-Dog-Cooling-Vest-Sun-Protection-Prevents-Canine-Heat-Exhaustion-from-Ruffwear>

For grooming advice contact Sarah:
sarahreeve@blueyonder.co.uk

August Transport



We are in the process of planning the Transport for August. We have selected our dogs and as always many of them have spent their entire lives in the Shelter. They deserve a better life in the UK and a forever home where they can settle and live the rest of their lives being love and cared for. These amazing dogs truly bring joy to the families that adopt them and this inspires us to rehome as many as we can.

We need to raise £1,850 to cover the costs and we are asking you to help us do that. We know our supporters always rise to the challenge and so please help to change their lives.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE TO SEE HOW MUCH WE'VE RAISED TO DATE

£1,850



Teaching a Behaviour

By Regan Skinner

Food is a great way to train a behaviour, but a lot of owners make the mistake of not phasing it out soon enough.



Acquisition – this is where the dog learns that a behaviour has a consequence i.e. sit = food treat. The dog also learns that the behaviour has a cue i.e. if I sit when my owner makes that strange noise I get a treat. At this stage we want to treat every time until the results are reliable, this could take 30 minutes or a couple of days!

Generalisation – if we learn something at home, then we know it anywhere we are. This is not necessarily the case with dogs, when they learn it is always within the context of the environment. So we teach at home then re-teach when outside, don't assume that they understand the cue. Scientists believe that the easier to train breeds are those that generalise better. So we want to road test our new behaviours in as many places and with as many distractions as possible. Whilst at this stage we **MUST** randomise our food rewards to once every three, four or five repetitions.

Fluency – here we are looking for improvements in the behaviour, so we would reward the best examples that the dog gives us.

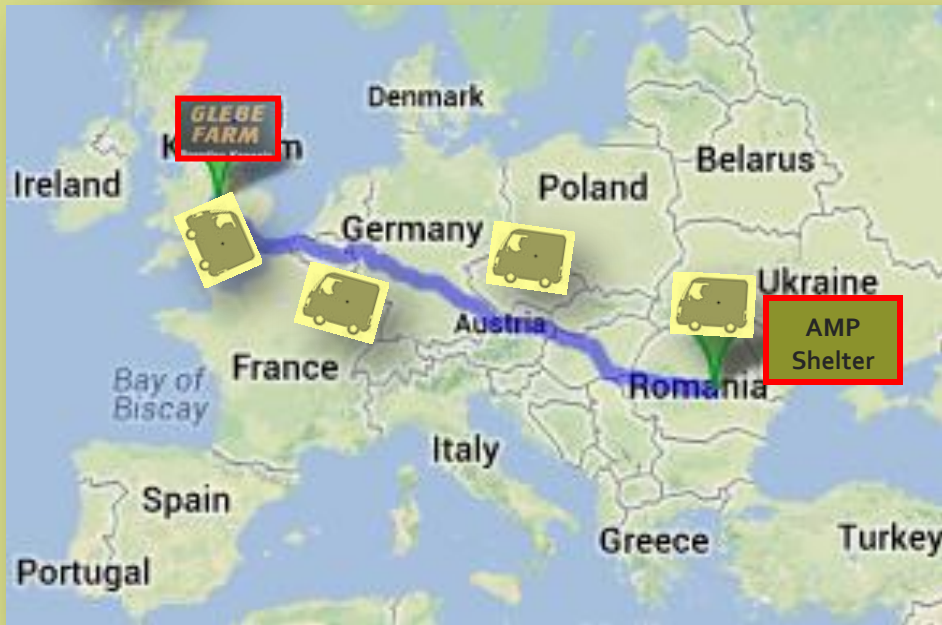
Maintenance – occasional food treats just to keep the dog on its toes. Remember each time you give a treat, pair it with a word e.g. good or yes. This word then becomes a reward marker (a.k.a. bridge, secondary reinforcer or conditioned reinforcer) and remember your dog will be happy with just your approval.

regan@regandogtraining.co.uk



Brasov, Romania to Nuneaton, UK

2,598 km



Every two months our partners in Brasov prepare our dogs for their epic journey of 2,598 km from Brasov in central Romania to Glebe Farm in Nuneaton, Warwickshire. The dogs are thoroughly checked by a vet, vaccinated and micro chipped and for older dogs they have blood tests and x-rays if necessary. These procedures are carried out to ensure we know as much about our dogs health as possible. For so many we have no clue what happened before they arrived at the shelter.

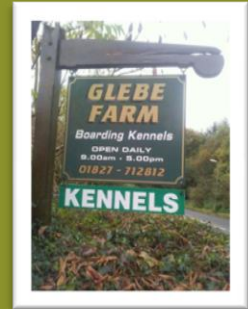
The staff at the shelter naturally become very attached to the dogs and often the joy that they are going to a better life is tinged with sadness.

The UK team set off from Birmingham at about 6.00am, the day after the Romanians, so they are able to catch the 11.00am Euro. The teams meet up in Calais at 1.00pm and the dogs are transferred to our van and we fill their van with all of the amazing donations we have been given, blankets, bowls, leads, medical supplies and food.

Our team returns to the UK and by 8.00 or 9.00pm the dogs arrive at Glebe Farm. They are settled into the kennels and are left in peace to rest and recuperate.

It is a testament to how resilient our dogs are that they are able to make this momentous trip and settle in so quickly.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who give up their time to travel with us on these trips.



If you haven't visited Glebe Farm – you really must. It is an amazing kennels run by Sheena and Zara. All our dogs start their new lives here.

The care they receive is wonderful, they are given time to settle are allowed to run in the fenced paddocks and go for long walks in the woods that surround the farm. They are socialised and groomed preparing them for their Forever Home.

For more information call Sheena: 01827 712812



Visit our Online Shop and check out the great Hoodies and T Shirts we have in stock, plus of course our wristbands, car stickers and bandanas

COMING SOON.....Love UnderDogs Mugs, Mouse Mats and Coasters.

<http://www.loveunderdogs.org/shop>

Fundraising

Our Collection Boxes are proving very popular with our supporters as a way of raising funds for us.....we can pop one in the post for you too!

Note: Please only use them on Private Property – you would need a Licence otherwise.

Contact: Pat Short

pat@loveunderdogs.org



Dog Sweater

Size: Small

Double knitting wool

Size 8 & 10 needles (4mm & 3¼mm)

Pattern starts at neck.

With size 10 (3¼mm) needles cast on 70sts, proceed in k1.p1 rib.

Shape neck as follows:

1st row rib 18 turn

2nd row rib to end

3rd row across all sts

Repeat these **3 rows** 3 more times.

Body of Sweater

Change to size 8 (4mm) needles and st.st pattern (1 row knit 1, 1 row purl)

1st Row (knit) pattern 16 inc in next 2 sts pattern to last 18 sts inc in next 2sts pattern to end.

Continue in pattern increase in this manner on every alternate row until 102 sts

Divide for Leg opening

Knit row, pattern 16, turn, proceed on these 16sts until work measures 3" in length, finishing with a knit row, break off wool and rejoin wool to remaining stst (knit side facing)(pattern to last 16sts, turn and proceed on these centre sts until work measures 3" ending with a knit row.

Break off wool and rejoin to remaining 16sts (knit side facing) work on these 16sts until work measures 16sts (knit side facing) work on 16sts until work measures 3" ending on a knit row.

Next row Purl across all stitches.

Next row (knit) Pattern 16 k2 tog pattern to last 18sts K2 tog. Pattern to end.

Continue to decrease in this way on every 4th row until 86 sts remain

Continue on these sts until the work measures 5" from leg opening.

Change to No.10 (3¼mm) needles and work in K1 p1 rib for 1½inches.

Cast off in rib

Crochet round the leg opening.

Stripes are optional.

