

### RDR FACES A CRISIS

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In the first six months of 2010.....

- 320 dogs came into the pound
- 124 were reunited with their owners
- 193 were moved to the safety of a rescue
- 2 dogs sadly lost their lives to illness
- 1 dog was too aggressive to rehome and was put to sleep by the pound.

#### Viv in her new home



Rochdale\_Dog Rescue is facing a financial crisis. Since 2007 it has been very hard to find rescue spaces for poundies, especially staffordshire terriers and their crosses. We have taken these dogs from the pound and boarded them until a rescue space became available. At times we have had as many as 16 dogs in emergency boarding. This has used up all of our resources and at the beginning of 2010 we had to borrow money to cover costs. We are slowly repaying that money, but simply

can't pay to board dogs at the moment.

So far, the wonderful rescues we work with have been amazing and come up with spaces for all of our dogs. But rescues across the country are struggling with large numbers of dogs needing help and we really need to build up reserves so that we can keep them safe when necessary.

There are some ideas for fundraising on the back page of this newsletter. Could you help us to help these lovely animals?

#### Royal in his new home



### Where the money goes

In 2009 Rochdale Dog Rescue needed over £18,000 to fund its work. Nearly £11,000 was spent on boarding costs even though the kennels give us a generous discount. When we can't secure a rescue space at the end of a dog's 7 days in the pound we take the dogs to emergency boarding. The dogs are very well cared for here and the staff work with them to help them overcome any behavioural issues which become apparent.

While dogs are in our care we provide any veterinary treatment they need. Again our vets are very generous with their time and help our poundies in any way they can. But medical expenses cost nearly £5,000 in 2009.

We will always cover the cost of fuel for transport if our volunteers ask us to. This cost nearly £1000 in 2009.

But when we hear that one of our dogs has a forever home – we know it's worth it!



In 2010 Rochdale Dog Rescue began working with Hillside Animal Sanctuary in Norfolk.

Hillside Animal Sanctuary was founded in 1995 to help and campaign for animals in need' and most importantly, to bring public awareness to the millions of animals suffering every day in the intensive factory farming industry. Although Hillside have given sanctuary to 300 horses, ponies and donkeys, most of the residents have been rescued from the farming industry. We also take in rescued dogs and find them loving homes in the Norfolk area.

Find out more about Hillside at their website: [www.hillside.org.uk](http://www.hillside.org.uk)

### *Aslan*

A young mastiff cross came into the pound in April. He was named Aslan because he is about the size of a lion! Transport was a bit of a problem because we didn't have crates big enough but he was a very good boy in the car and turned out to be a great big softie. Homes which can take such a big, strong dog are rare and Hillside Animal Rescue offered him a rescue space while he waits for his forever home. He's a very friendly boy and he loves his toys. If you visit the Hillside website, you can watch a video of him playing.

What a handsome dog!

Thank you to Hillside for giving Aslan the chance of a forever home.



### *Monty*

In May another giant came in to the pound and he caused us sleepless nights. Monty is a Japanese Akita – a very large, strong dog. He hated being in a kennel and looked fearsome when anyone went near. The staff were afraid of him and the vet was booked to put Monty to sleep at the end of his seven days.

We know that you can't always judge a dog's nature in a kennel and hunted for a rescue who would give this beauty a chance. Hillside came to the rescue again. After a period of settling in, Hillside found

Monty to be a lovely affectionate boy who is good with other animals. In fact, Wendy like Monty

so much, she couldn't let him go and Monty is now living at Hillside forever.

Check their website to see photos of him having cuddles!



## THE RDR FUN DOG SHOW

The sun was shining for our 3rd fun dog show. This year we went back to Little Staughton in Cambridgeshire – which might sound odd for ROCHDALE dog rescue. But our dogs go all over the country so our show could be held anywhere. One of our volunteers lives in this area and kindly offered to organise the day for us again.

We had classes for everyone, from Waggiest Tail to Best Child Handler and Best Rescue Dog. There was fierce competition in the Great Sausage Eating Race.



Some of the great rescues we work with came along too. Wiccaweys were there, along with Appledown and Staffordshire Bull Terrier Rescue.



### Best in Show

This lovely little collie was adopted from The Dogs Trust, having come over from Ireland.

And many of our poundies brought their new owners along to show us how happy they are now.

Everyone who went had a great day out. And we raised a much needed £740.

So where, I wonder, will the 2011 RDR Fun Dog Show be held? Keep your eyes open – it could be near you!

### How we help dogs

When a dog is picked up as a stray they are taken to the local pound. Their stay there is funded for just seven days. If they're still in the pound after that, they are usually put to sleep. Rochdale Dog Rescue work closely with a local pound to make sure this doesn't happen to dogs who end up there.

As soon as a dog comes in, the pound tell us about it and photograph it for us. Straight away we start trying to find the owners by checking lists of lost animals. In case the dog isn't claimed we put the dog on our web site and start looking for a rescue space. If we can't reunite the dog with it's owner, a volunteer picks him up on his last day and takes him to his rescue space. The rescues we work with guarantee to rehome animals with care, provide back up for life and never destroy a healthy dog. If we haven't found a space for him, we take him to our emergency boarding to wait until a space comes up. In the meantime, the dogs get all the vets treatment they need and our volunteers visit them in boarding as often as possible to help with walking and play. The kennels work with the dogs to assess their nature and keep them happy while they wait.

Sometimes, when a dog has been with us for some time, or has been handed by owners who can tell us something about him, we are able to look for a forever home. Any offer of a home is carefully checked before the adoption takes place. And sometimes a dog may need extra care and we place these dogs with foster carers rather than boarding. At RDR, we do all we can to find loving homes for healthy dogs who would otherwise be destroyed.

Rochdale Dog Rescue -  
How to contact us

If you are a rescue and you  
can offer a space;

Coryn: 07939 489363  
Deborah: 01491 833800

Offers of help with  
transport;

Ally: 07876 407418

Volunteering and dogs in  
rescue;

Bernie: 07899 821316

Please call before  
9.00pm.

Please note that we cannot  
return calls to mobiles.

## Fundraising

We have to raise every penny we need through fundraising or donation. Here are some ideas on how you might be able to help.

Could you hold a car boot sale or a cake sale in your office?

RDR has an Ebay account. Could you consider donating an item for sale?

Sign up to [easyfundraising.org](http://easyfundraising.org) and nominate RDR – we get a donation every time you shop.

Switch utilities through [utilitywarehouse.co.uk](http://utilitywarehouse.co.uk) and quote C56321.

Use a different search engine. [rochdaledogrescue.easysearch.org.uk](http://rochdaledogrescue.easysearch.org.uk) gets a donation.

Visit our buy and sell section on our forum – or join in our twice-a-year auction.

Events are announced through our friendly forum. You can get to it by using the link on our website –

[www.rochdale-dog-rescue.com](http://www.rochdale-dog-rescue.com)

### Thank you

*Many people help Rochdale Dog Rescue to save dogs' lives. From the day they come into the pound who look after them and take photos for us, to the day the receiving rescue finds their forever home, so many people work hard to save these dogs' lives. Thank you, everyone.*

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### Fostering

Most of our dogs have to go to rescues before being rehomed so that they can be properly assessed. But occasionally a dog comes in who needs a bit more individual attention and we try to get the dog into foster care.

Fostering a dog means bringing the dog into your own home. This will mean assessing the dog's existing training, ability to cope with different everyday situations and its temperament. You will provide a safe and secure home until a suitable forever home is found.

### Fundraising

Do you have an idea we could put into practice?

Do you know of somewhere you could distribute leaflets to make more people aware of our dogs?

You'll be guaranteed lots of support from our volunteers if you can help.



### Transporting

When we find a rescue space for one of our poundies we have to get the dog there. We take dogs to rescues all over the country.

Our transport coordinator arranges for a team of volunteers to move the dogs, on a long journey breaking the route into several sections.

Every transport volunteer gets a welcome pack full of advice. We can always cover the cost of fuel if this is a problem.

If you have a car and a little time to spare, could you help?

[www.rochdale-dog-rescue.com](http://www.rochdale-dog-rescue.com)