



## RESCUING DOGS FROM DEATH ROW TO FIND LOVING

### 452 DOGS TO SAFETY!

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#### In 2009.....

- 704 dogs came into the pound
- 244 were reunited with their owners
- 452 were moved to the safety of a rescue
- 8 dogs sadly lost their lives to illness

In the run up to Christmas things got very busy at the pound and we had to work very hard to save all the dogs who came in.

Few people realise that many healthy dogs, through no fault of their own, are being destroyed if not claimed within a week.

Lucy was a lovely gentle staffy whose time was up on Christmas Day. Then came Cole, a lively Patterdale cross who was due to be put to sleep on Boxing day. Our emergency boarding was full. We had worked really hard to find extra spaces but these too were full and costing us an extra £18 a day. Volunteers worked endlessly and we were very lucky when our friends at Roden Dogs Trust found space for these two. The pound agreed to keep them until we got transport arranged and they made their journey to safety on 27th December.

They even became TV stars. Midlands Today were doing a piece about rescues on that day and waited until our little RDR stars arrived so they could include them in the report. We hope their fame doesn't go to their heads!



Lucy



Cole

Saving Lucy and Cole was too close for comfort and they caused a few sleepless nights. To make sure we can carry on saving all the dogs who come into our pound, we need help.

And of course, there's the constant pressure on our funds.

With so many dogs in boarding, and their vets fees, we desperately looking for ways to cover our costs so that we can carry on saving the lives of the dogs who come into the pound. Sadly 8 of the dogs who came into the pound were too ill to travel to rescue, and despite the very best of care they died while in the pound or emergency boarding. We're so sorry we couldn't help.

We need the support of rescues who take the dogs in for assessment and rehoming, transport volunteers, experienced foster carers for dogs who aren't suited to boarding, and people to help raise funds.

We are very lucky to have a dedicated group of volunteers. We are constantly amazed at how hard everyone works when a dog's life is at risk.

If you would like to help us save dogs lives, please read on to find out how.

### Where the money goes

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. The kennels offer us a very generous discount but even so, in 2009 we paid a staggering £10,566.

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 we have paid £4,957 to cover the dogs medical expenses in 2009.

We will always cover the cost of fuel for transport if our volunteers need help. This has cost nearly £1000 in 2009.

We want to go on saving the lives of these lovely animals and we need to raise enough money to cover our costs. Can you help us to raise the money we need?

## MEET OLLIE



This handsome lad came into the care of RDR in July when his owner could no longer give him the time he needed. He'd been used to being around people and hated being in the boarding kennels. He quickly became stressed and started self-harming. Many people are surprised that dogs will do this, but their emotions and reactions are so often similar to human behaviour.

Because Ollie had been handed in we knew something of his history we felt that Ollie needed to go to a foster home as quickly as possible to give him the best chance of settling down and an experienced volunteer took him into her home. He got on very well with the family who worked hard to lessen his separation anxiety. Unfortunately circumstances changed again and Ollie needed to move, but we didn't want to upset him unnecessarily with lots of moves. We wanted to find a forever home for him.

We posted an appeal for Ollie on our web site and a family in Staffordshire decided to offer Ollie a home. RDR arranged a homecheck and in September, Michelle and her family travelled "up North" to meet Ollie.

It had to be a very special family for Ollie. Although RDR will help in any way we can throughout Ollie's life, we know that he can never go back to kennels. As he doesn't get on with all other animals he needs to be an only dog and he needs a home where there will be someone around most of the time. This was the perfect family. Michelle and her family adore Ollie and are working patiently on his separation anxiety and his occasional dislike of other animals. He was separated from the family cats for a while but now accepts that they live there too. Ollie is a very clever dog and Michelle has to be on her toes with him as he's so quick to work out ways to get what he wants. Michelle's son, Adam, is Ollie's best friend and they spend hours playing together.

We'd like to thank Michelle, Mick and Adam for giving Ollie this chance of happiness. And we'd like to wish Ollie the very best of luck in his lovely home.

## 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.



# Wiccaweys

Rescued Border Collies & Working Sheepdogs

Wiccaweys Border Collie and Working Sheepdog Rescue is based in Northamptonshire, nearly 200 miles away from RDR. We've been working with RDR for several years and we're proud to be part of the chain of people saving many lovely dogs.

We specialise in helping and rehoming border collies. Although they're fantastic dogs and can be wonderful companions, they can be hard work and are not right for every home. As well as plenty of exercise they need mental stimulation to keep them sane. In cases where a collie's behaviour is causing problems, we offer free advice that may mean a dog can stay in it's home. To us, this is just as rewarding and fulfilling as a successful homing – our aim is for dogs have a home where they are loved.

When someone approaches us asking about taking on one of our dogs, we ask loads of questions and arrange for a detailed homecheck. We're not being nosey – we just want to match the home with the right dog. We think about how active the family are and where the dog is going to be exercised. If someone wants a collie to compete in all the fun activities on offer now, like working trials, agility or obedience, we pick a dog who has shown that they enjoy working. And of course the most important thing is that the dog and his new family like each other – which is why we ask that all of the family and any dogs they already have come along and to meet up before rehoming.



Although we specialise in rehoming Border Collies, we have taken in all kinds of animals who have needed help. The dogs who have become part of our family have included St Bernards and Chihuahuas. Living happily alongside our dogs are cats, horses, goats and chickens. All of them have come to Wiccaweys from other rescues or from desperate situations.

Of course, everything we do costs money and, in common with so many other rescues, raising enough money to carry on our work is a constant struggle.

### To find out more .....

Wiccaweys have a web site where you can find out more us and our dogs. Visit us at [www.wiccaweys.co.uk](http://www.wiccaweys.co.uk). We also have a lively forum for our friends, supporters and volunteers, and many of the dogs who have been in our care update us on their progress regularly.

And every September we have a fun dog show in Northamptonshire. If you're in the area, why not come along and meet us, and visit the Rochdale Dog Rescue volunteers on their stall. Details will be on our website .

### A Success Story

Simon contacted Wiccaweys in January to find out about adopting a collie. He'd always had a collie but had recently lost his dog and his home was feeling a bit empty. So a homecheck was quickly arranged and Simon and his family travelled down to Wiccaweys to meet a dog we thought would fit the bill.

A couple of weeks earlier, Bernie from RDR had driven down to Wiccaweys with Ollie, a beautiful black and white collie lad. Obviously Ollie is the name of the moment at RDR! While he was at Wiccaweys, Ollie loved other dogs, and he was gentle and good-natured with everyone he met. Wiccaweys thought that Ollie would fit in to this family very nicely – and they were right. Ollie was taken back to his new home in the Midlands and he's a very lucky boy. When he's not playing with the family he's allowed to go to work in the countryside with his new Dad. Both the family and a dog are now very happy.

Everyone at Wiccaweys and RDR work hard to make this kind of thing happen, and stories like this make it all worthwhile.



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.

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

## Events

We have to raise every penny we need by fundraising or donation.

We have on-line auctions on our forum in January and July. Why not join in and grab or bargain – or perhaps have a clear out and offer some of those treasures you no longer need for sale.

There's a buy and sell section and an online shop where you can buy good dog toys and all sorts of other things our supporters have to offer.

And we're hoping to have a fun dog show again this year. Our dogs go all over the country so our dog show can be held anywhere. Could you organise the next one? We can guarantee that our supporters will offer you all the help you need.

Other 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

*There are so many people who 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 their receiving rescue finds their forever home, so many people help 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.

### 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 co-ordinator 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?

### Fundraising

We have to raise all the money needed to save the dogs lives through donation and fundraising.

Do you have an idea we could put into practice? Could hold a car boot sale, or a cake sale in your office?

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

