

Autumn/Winter NewsLetter



A message from the Editor

Welcome to the Autumn/Winter edition of the Irish Retriever Rescue (IRR) newsletter.

So much has happened in the world of IRR since the Summer edition. The DEFRA Regulations have kept us all very busy and now more than ever the Trustees and supporters of the Charity are frantically trying to find much needed funds to continue saving the lives of unwanted and abandoned Golden Retrievers and finding loving homes for them in the UK.



The Get Together and Paws Walks were a great success over the summer months and you will see just how much fun was had from this photo.

As we approach Christmas and the end of 2013, and look back on a year when more than 70 Golden's went to their forever homes, I think a big pat on the back and a "Thank You" needs to be said to each and every one of you for your help, encouragement and sheer determination throughout these challenging times. For more information please visit www.irishretrieverrescue.com or our Facebook page – Irish Retriever Rescue. Please feel free to e-mail the editor, Sinead at sineadellis@gmail.com with any queries, suggestions or topics you would like covered in the next edition.

Crisis for Irish Golden Retrievers

By now no doubt you have heard about the new rules introduced by DEFRA as a result of EU Legislation.

For nearly 10 years Irish Retriever Rescue has been saving the lives of unwanted and abandoned Golden Retrievers and finding loving homes for them in the UK. Over 1,000 dogs have been saved and successfully re-homed but the new legislation could mean the Rescue can no longer afford to continue.

There is now a requirement for all dogs to be vaccinated against Rabies and held for a 21 day period before they are legally allowed to travel. Whilst the rabies vaccination is an additional cost, the major costs are in keeping the dogs for an extra 21 days. To cover this, the rescue will need to raise a lot more funds, just to keep operating at the current level.

To help deal with the costs issue Sandie has kindly given permission for the installation of 3 Kennels and dog runs at her home. The kennels are made of 2 layers of upvc and are insulated and easy to



maintain. Each one will have a raised bed, tubular heater and a 4m run.

The Trustees and supporters of the Charity are frantically trying to find solutions so that the lives of these friendly and lovable dogs can continue to be saved but the future looks bleak. If you have any suggestions or feel that you can help in anyway – please email irr.enquiries@gmail.com

Sandie's Christmas message

Well, what a year 2013 has been - to say challenging would be an understatement. We started the year by looking for an alternative to all our rescue dogs coming into my home, to ending it by us installing kennels on my property. This happened mainly because of EU legislation which requires all dogs travelling between the UK and Ireland to be vaccinated against rabies and remain in the country for 21 days before travel. However, I think this will enable me to carry on rescuing for a few more years, as having all the dogs in my home was becoming far too stressful.

We have rescued and rehomed more dogs this year than any other since our inception and I would like to thank Aileen, Leonie and Leanna for their hard work and support - what a great team, nothing's ever too much trouble.

A very big thank you to Chrissie and hubby Chris who have worked extremely hard on fundraising. Chrissie now has a team to assist her, which should take some of the pressure off her.

To say thank you to Belinda and Terry just isn't enough, there are no words to thank them for all the hard work they do in the background, - especially keeping me on the straight and narrow and stopping me spending money that we don't have (only on the dogs of course).

To all our supporters, fosterers, adopters, knitters and every one of you who digs deeper when the chips are down, a HUGE thank you, you come through for IRR every time - without fail.

On 27 December 2004 I took 4 rescue dogs over to the UK - little did I know then what I was embarking upon. On 30 August 2014 we're holding our Reunion to celebrate the 10th anniversary - I hope to see you all there.

I wish you all and your families a Very Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Love Sandie



A picture paints a thousand words....



It appears it wasn't just the children out Trick or Treating this Hallowe'en. Take a look at Yvette Jones' Finlay and IRR Foster dog Sam getting in on the action. Two very handsome boys indeed...

Nutty Christmas

Our nutty knitters have been very busy as per usual and have an array of gorgeous Christmas items for sale in the Gift Shop. Check out the Christmas Stockings and Christmas Trees that could brighten up your home this Festive Season.

<http://irishretrieverrescue.com/merchandise/nkchristmas.html>

Simply make your choice from the items on the website and email your request to irr.nuttyknitters@yahoo.co.uk



Sponsor a rescue dog this Christmas....

Why not take the hassle out of trying to decide what gift to buy this Christmas? We have a few dogs who require on-going medical treatment and they all need extra special care and attention. These are our Forever Foster Dogs - visit Shamrock Lifeline to read their stories.

We also have dogs who have had severe problems, because of their previous treatment, who have been adopted by IRR team members but who are delighted to be sponsor dogs in order to raise money to enable us to help others like them in the future.

For a donation of £10 a year you can sponsor one of these dogs, and in return, you will receive a Certificate of Sponsorship with a photo of your chosen dog, as well as regular updates about their progress.

Your sponsor dog will also remember your birthday and greet you at Christmas and you will also get your name on our Sponsor Page! Check out the link below to see just how far your money can go.

http://irishretrieverrescue.com/spon_dog.html



"IRR's aim is to safeguard the futures of abused, abandoned, neglected or simply unwanted Golden Retrievers from Ireland."

SANDIE – Ireland Coordinator
irr.enquiries@gmail.com
BELINDA – Treasurer
irr.belinda@yahoo.co.uk
AILEEN – UK Coordinator
irr.enquiries@gmail.com
CHRISSIE – Fundraising Coordinator
heachrs@aol.com

RECENT NEWS

The Get Together weekend in Cheshire was a great success. We met at Delamere Café on the Saturday for a "Paws for a Walk" headed up by Nicky Herring. There was a great turn out for the walk with a lot of fun and some very mucky paws! To end the day we had a lovely BBQ at the Shrewsbury Arms. Plans are already in place for the big 2014 Reunion!



Watch this space... Fundraising is going well, one of our supporters Vanessa Stollery

kindly donated another of her lovely bronze dogs which was snapped up right away. Plenty of lovely Christmas Cards, hand crafted Christmas Trees and the annual Sponsor Dog Calendar are all available for purchase. Check out the Gift Shop on our website for more lovely items.



We also had some winners in October, Jane Haste's Daniel won first prize in the Golden Oldies category at a local show and IRR's Bella came second in a hotly contested "cutest puppy class. A big "well done" to Daniel and Bella.



Homeopathy my way by Dr Sam

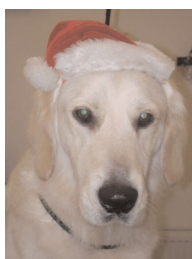
For those of you who do not know me, I am a clinical homeopath. This simply means, when treating a dog, I look at the whole picture; the medication the dog is already on for whatever reason, i.e. antibiotics/painkillers/anti-inflammatory and the general health of the dog. I treat the illness with a mixture of well chosen remedies to suit each animal while homoeopathically protecting the kidneys and liver by cleansing and detoxification which will allow me to start with a clean slate. All treatments are made specifically for each individual dog which is very rare with some homeopaths. In my 40+ years I have tried to

work alongside many Allopathic Vets and keep an open mind. I appreciate the chance to share my knowledge with these Professionals and hope that a little of what I do with holistic care shows them that Homeopathy does work, and works well if done correctly. I hope to educate individuals to a point that perhaps more people will consider using Alternative Therapies FIRST to prevent the many illnesses I see on a day to day basis; and, to realise that vaccines, over-vaccination and many synthetic medications can and do kill – or at the very least they can make your pet very ill. Natural prevention and holistic health care can benefit every living thing.

Rescue dogs come with a lot of

baggage and they require a lot of patience. I have had the opportunity to help many dogs rescued by IRR and over the coming editions I will keep you updated on current cases and hopefully provide more of an insight into what I do. Harry and Reuben started treatment with me during the year and improvements in both dogs were seen within the first week. Their quality of life has improved greatly. There is little I can't treat. I am patient and I listen to the owners. Every case gets the best attention I can give. I treat any breed, other animals and humans.

Please feel free to contact me on ahh-uk@leahs.freeserve.co.uk with any of your questions.



*"Twas the night before Christmas
And all through the house
The goldies were squeaking
An old rubber mouse*

*The wreath which had cheerfully
Been hung on the door
Was scattered in pieces
All over the floor*

*The stockings so lovingly
Hanging in rows
Now boast a hole
In each of the toes*

*I catch them and hold them
Be good, I insist
They lick me, then run off
To find what they missed*

*And now as I watch them
The thought comes to me
That theirs is the spirit
That Christmas should be*

*Should children and goldies
Yet show us the way
And teach us the joy that
Should come with this day*

*Could they bring the message
That's written above
And tell us that, most of all
CHRISTMAS is LOVE*

