



## April 2022 Newsletter

To our dear Kerry Blue Terrier friends and family,

Firstly, we would like to give a very big thank you to you all for your very kind donations, support and offers to help us with our rescue work. We really do appreciate it.

### The Rescue in General

The Kerry Blue Terrier Rescue is now five and a half years old and we have had a very busy 6 months. We have continued to work tirelessly to make a difference to the lives of many kerries and their owners. We have also worked hard to inform the greater public about this wonderful breed.

In the six months ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022:

- We have had 5 dogs surrendered to us, 3 of whom have been fully adopted, with a 4<sup>th</sup> whose adoption paperwork we are expecting any day now.
- We have another 2 dogs who are currently in foster care resident and a further dog resident with a behaviourist for assessment and rehabilitation; and
- We have given advice and guidance to a further 10 homes, who to date continue to work with their dogs in the knowledge that we will always be there for them, however their adventure unfolds.

### Our Team

As I mentioned in Octobers Newsletter we have geared up the Rescue for some very busy years ahead and all 5 of us are working well together. Peter and Gemma have both jumped in at the deep end with their respective positions and are also starting to get involved with greater projects involving our beloved breed. You may have seen on our Facebook page that we were all able to make it to Crufts this year too. It was a great experience being there and share some incredible rescue stories and fully bring Peter and Gemma into the fold.

We are also very thankful to many other wonderful supporters who really help us out in times of need, even though they are not directly involved with the day-to-day management of the Rescue.

### Other Ambassadors of the Breed

Whilst we were at Crufts, we were delighted to see so many people that we know on Whatsapp and Facebook and we got to meet friends, supporters, breeders and even some of the dogs that we have rehomed, of course we made a lot more contacts too. It was a truly magical experience. One of the most outstanding parts of our day there was meeting so many supporters on the breed specific Discover Dogs stand. The Kerries representing the breed were outstanding, the stand was very impressive and one couldn't help but stare at the quality of materials on display, offering a flavour of all things "Kerry". The knowledge and patience of everybody who manned the stand during the 4 days was unparalleled, both in the presentation and in the professionalism within which the information was delivered to people enquiring about the breed. This will all filter through to the Rescue and the eventual demand, or reduction in demand, for our services. We all also adored the opportunity to talk to breeders, groomers and make new friends as well as catch up with old ones too.

At this point I'd also like to thank Stephanie and Magnus for starting up their talks to various groups again. Magnus is another ambassador for the breed and along with his owner seem to wow every group they go and see, certainly judging by the amazing donations that follow their talks.

## **The Future of the Breed**

The Kennel Club still have the Kerry Blue Terrier categorised as a vulnerable breed. From statistics shown in 2019 we saw a drop of 50% of puppy registrations versus those registered in 2010 (2010 : 212 registered and in 2019 : 109 registered). 2020 saw a great bounce back of registrations and by the end of the year 2020 we saw 161 puppies registered. A further 125 puppies were registered in the period to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and we eagerly await updated results from the Kennel Club for the last quarter. We are still seeing many litters of puppies appearing on Gumtree and other sales platforms, along with social media sites along with other puppies who are being bred and sold by private individuals.

## **Our Services, Educational Material & Website**

As well as redrafting our paperwork we have compiled a knowledgeable Breed Advice and Guidance information sheet that is now being given to all who are considering a Kerry Blue Terrier, whether they are experienced or not. We feel that it is important to educate the greater public on the character traits of the Kerry Blue Terrier as well as those opening their homes to the typical characters that we see in the rescue.

As I've mentioned before we have also expanded our services to provide a help and guidance to those owners who feel that they are not able to control their dogs' behaviours. This has a dual purpose. We get to know the dog and the owner and, in some cases, we see that the owners just need that bit of guidance to ensure a stable relationship between them and their dog and ensure that the dog remains at home. Over the last 6 months we have helped 11 owners with their dogs and continue to be there for whenever they need us.

## **Our Thanks**

Our deepest gratitude goes out to all those who have donated funds to us so that we have been able to continue to provide the standard of care that the kerries under our care have needed.

As well as people who donate on a monthly basis our supporters also include all the wonderful people who have donated their skills and expertise to raise funds for us:-

Aileen at	<a href="http://www.k9cleancoats.co.uk">www.k9cleancoats.co.uk</a>
Peter at	<a href="http://www.peterbruce.co.uk">www.peterbruce.co.uk</a>
Cara at	<a href="http://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/MaisieandMurphy">www.etsy.com/uk/shop/MaisieandMurphy</a>
Siobhan at	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/QualifiedDogGroomer">www.facebook.com/QualifiedDogGroomer</a> (Dun Barking)

Please do have a look at the links and make your order through them mentioning that you've come through us. Part of their proceeds will be paid to us.

A special thank you from us all also goes to Amber Marie from [www.ambermariestudio.com](http://www.ambermariestudio.com) who donated 200 hand drawn cards to us in three different styles. These are for sale on our Rescue website. Please do take this opportunity to visit Amber's website if you are looking for anything Kerry Blue Terrier as she has some amazing gifts there including pillows, posters, stickers and blankets too.

Finally, thank you to Claire for her lovely homemade Christmas cards which flew off the shelves as soon as they were put up.

## **Our Finances for the 6-month period**

### **Income**

We continue to rely on 3<sup>rd</sup> party fundraising events, generous monthly receipts from supporters, one off donations, sales of merchandise and percentages of sales given by businesses. We do not charge people giving up their dogs nor those taking on dogs so our aforementioned income streams are vital to our continued work. Our total income for the first 6-month period totalled £8,924.63.

A special thanks goes to all the following people: -

- Stephanie I for handmaking all the lovely Kerry felt ornaments and gifts. .
- Judith B for her immense help to the team on a regular basis.
- Maria I for handmaking some wonderful dog themed masks. These masks are still being purchased for grooming, especially useful when filing nails down or combing through very dusty dogs and can be found in our online store. <https://www.kerrybluerescue.co.uk/kerry-blue-store.html>
- Shona M who along with her Kerry, Betty, has now completed all 282 Munros. Betty will become only the 14<sup>th</sup> dog ever registered as having completed a Munro round. To date and in total Shona and Betty have made the rescue £2,278.20 during this challenge and although there was no income received by the rescue during the 6 month period to 30<sup>th</sup> March we did receive £898.20 of the total in April 2022.
- Alison from Hounds in Pounds for her generous donations made from auctions and sales.
- Irene W for her wonderful Kerry gifts and memorabilia which came up for auction earlier this year.
- Our own team member Peter for his percentage of sales on his wonderful Kerry drawings [www.peterbruce.co.uk](http://www.peterbruce.co.uk). Please visit his website if you're looking for a special present, you won't be disappointed.
- Sindy, Stephanie, and Fran too for their kind donations for our silent auctions.

Lastly but certainly not least we'd like to say how appreciative we are to all those people who send in monthly donations to the Rescue. It is very comforting to know that because of these funds and your generosity we never have to turn a dog away because we are unable to meet our possible financial obligations. As I've said before we absolutely couldn't do what we do without you all.

## **Expenditure**

Our total expenditure for the 6-month period has been £3,622.71. We have spent £1,236.28 to date on vets fees, £510 on training and assessments, £518.40 on kennels and a further £120 on transport of dogs. Four dogs have needed medical treatment and three dogs have needed assessments or training. We are expecting some further kennel invoices in and also have some vets fees that will need to be covered. Our independent accountant charges us around £500 each year and kindly continues to keep his cost to a minimum as he knows we are a very small rescue. We continue to negotiate discounts with kennels, vets and groomers wherever possible to minimise the impact on the rescues pocket. The remainder of the expenditure balance is made up of purchase of materials for Christmas decorations, postage, hoody costs, stationery, and Pay Pal expenses. Rest assured, we are financially able to meet all our commitments to the dogs we have in our care and a balance to help those who come to us in the future.

## **The Future**

As with many rescues we are becoming busier and over the next few years do not see this decreasing, so we continue to review our financial and human resource capacities so that we are best

placed for continuing to accept dogs when we are called for help. Our belief is that whilst the Rescue is here, potential owners and current owners of Kerries will always have a place to come to for advice or help in the rehoming process.

On behalf of all the dogs who pass through us we want to say thank you to each and every person who has supported the Rescue and enabled us to help all of the dogs. You're all amazing.

With love from the whole team of the Kerry Blue Terrier Rescue

Emma Bendel  
Treasurer