

# April 2025 Newsletter



To our dear Kerry Blue Terrier friends and family,

We'd like to start by thanking all those who have contributed to our first 6-month income balance. With every donation comes a story and the first half of the year is no exception. Even during the saddest moments of people's lives, they still think of sending funds to us. We've received some incredible donations from people following the passing of some of their nearest and dearest, both human and four pawed. There have been so many different ideas for fundraising, such as funds collected to celebrate big birthdays, proceeds from car boot sales from a wonderful supporter's granddaughter and her friend, donations made in lieu of wedding flowers and Christmas cards, and we have been very grateful recipients of them all. The Bark Up group did a remarkable job at raising funds for one of our rehoming and Aileen at K9 Clean Coats (<http://facebook.com/K9CleanCoats>) is still sending us a proportion of her funds received for every dog coat she sells to Kerry Blue Terrier owners.

Our sincerest thanks also goes to the following folk for their fabulous craft skills, Becki for the Christmas card designs, Stephanie for her wonderful Christmas ornaments and Leanne for her very talented paintings.





Lastly, a big thank you to Shona and Betty who have raised the profile of the Kerry Blue Terrier and our Rescue beyond belief during their challenge to conquer the Full House. They have climbed more than 1,000 summits and Betty will become the very first dog to ever do this. Shona has been involved in a whirlwind of media, she has been on Reporting Scotland, News at 7, Radio 5 Live, BBC1 National News and Radio 2 mid-morning news and at the time of writing this we have received £2,380.

Thank you all for being part of this amazing adventure but more importantly for promoting our dearly loved breed and our Rescues presence in the wider world.

## The Rescue in General

The Kerry Blue Terrier Rescue has reached eight and a half years old, and we continue to work tirelessly to make a difference to the lives of many kerries and their owners. Like all the rescues we talk to, we have been very overworked and have been for the last few years although this last quarter we have seen a decrease in the number of dogs come to us for rehoming.

In the 6 months to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

-  We have had 8 dogs adopted.
-  We have another dog who is currently in foster care, but we hope to have him adopted in the next week or so.
-  We have given advice and guidance to a further 8 homes, who we hope will continue to work with their dogs in the knowledge that we will always be there for them; however their adventure unfolds.
-  Every year we also see kerries that we have worked with make their way over the rainbow bridge. No loss goes without the sadness of our team and our heartfelt condolences go out to all those involved.

## The Future of the Breed

The Kennel Club still have the Kerry Blue Terrier categorised as a vulnerable breed. In 2023 only 96 puppies were registered with the Kennel Club and in 2024 only 77 puppies were registered.

## **The Period to date**

We have seen a definite slowdown in dogs coming in to be rehomed. We hope that normality has finally been achieved, and that the rehoming industry has become stable. We have weathered the storm well, and our finances are looking better than they have ever done. Although we don't have any dogs in now, we are still busy. We are using this time to start on our Christmas 2025 campaign, we have completed our 6 monthly financials and are looking to find an Insurance Policy that is specific to what we do. No time goes unwasted at the Rescue.

## **Our Finances for the 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 income streams are vital to our continued work. Our total income for the 6-month period is £11,474.

A special thanks goes to Stephanie and Maureen for handmaking all the lovely Kerry felt ornaments and gifts we saw over Christmas 2024; we raised a tremendous £410.00 from them. This year also saw a sell out of our calendars, which raised £1,722 and donations and other fundraisers totalling an enormous £9,342.

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 haven't had 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 months to date amounts to £8,769. This is largely due to rehabilitation and kennel costs amounting to £5,665, training costs and vets' fees another £593. 3 dogs have needed kennelling, training and behavioural assessments, 1 dog needed training and 4 dogs have needed medical treatments.

Our independent accountant charges us around £550 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. 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.

### **Our 2024 Christmas Shop**

Our Christmas shop did well this year. We sold all 123 calendars, 82 ornaments and 32 packs of Christmas cards bringing in a total of £2,504. We only have 6 ornaments "Choirboys" left and they will be put into the 2025 Shop in November time.

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

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

Emma Bendel  
Treasurer