

**COLLIE
RESCUE
(ROUGH
AND
SMOOTH)
UK**

WEBSITE
http://
collierescue
roughand
smoothuk.
weebly.com

FACEBOOK
Rough and
Smooth
Rescue UK



**CHRIS-
SLATER**

PAWS FOR THOUGHT NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN / WINTER 2020

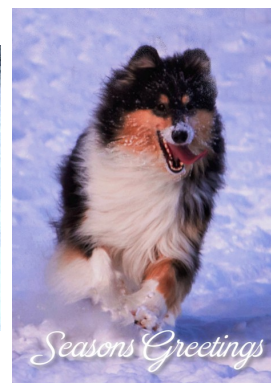


LUCKY DIP HALF PRICE CHRISTMAS CARD SALE DUE TO COVID AND THE CANCELLATION OF DOG SHOWS THIS YEAR.

Below is a selection of the type of cards we have, but you are not guaranteed to receive this pack, although all packs are of the same quality and quantity. We have a large stock of Christmas Cards from previous years. All come in packs of 8 cards, (2 of each design) with a Christmas and New Year greeting. They are £2 per pack plus postage.

To place your order for cards or calendar, please contact Chris Slater on 0114 2347440 or e-mail rodchris@talktalk.net not forgetting to add your address and post code.

We also have memorabilia for sale. Speak to Chris to find out what we have and prices.



**2021
CALENDAR
£6.50
PLUS POSTAGE.**



Collie Rescue
(Rough & Smooth)

2021



NEWS FROM THE CONTROL CENTRE

*By Chris Slater, Secretary and
Co-ordinator*

Hope you are all OK and staying safe at this difficult time.

Good news is that not many dogs were referred to us through lockdown and the few that were have all been rehomed successfully.

We had lots of calls from people wanting dogs and not always a collie. Hopefully we won't be inundated with dogs as Christmas approaches, or when the epidemic is over and people get back to their life before Covid.

Hope you enjoy the newsletter stories and it helps to lift the spirits.

Stay Safe, take care and have as enjoyable a Christmas as possible and a safe and healthy New Year



MEET SCOTTISH BOBBY



In August this year Bobby was re-homed from Cumnock, Scotland. The journey back was in torrential rain and he kept trying to attack the rear windscreen wiper when in motion, making a grum-

bling noise as he did so. He was enjoying himself, but I was wondering whether the rear screen would stand the punishment. It did, thankfully. Bobby is overweight, so a reduced diet is on the cards for him, along with four easy walks a day. He was a bit clingy at first and found our garden a bit of a puzzle, not wanting to go down the patio steps but imitating a horse in the Grand National by jumping the wall either side of them. He is fine with other dogs when out on his walks, enjoying the meet and greet of other dogs and going nose to nose with our neighbours dog. He has had a light groom with a hand mitt and seemed to enjoy that, but hovering up the hairs was a different story as he constantly attacked the vacuum, so we moved him into another room and he settled, but leave him alone for any length of time and he is straight up on the sofa (as you can see in the photo) enjoying the comfort of his personalised cushion. Overall he has settled well, he sleeps through the night downstairs. He now lets us groom him properly, rub him down with a towel when wet and clean his paws.



FOREIGN DOG RESCUE

LADY

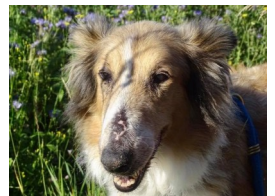


ON ARRIVAL

7/7/2020 - Another stressful Sunday this time with Lady a rescue collie from Greece. I first heard about her back in April. She was in appalling condition, quite elderly and with other health issues. We got her out of the public shelter and into the care of a great foster home who nursed her back to health. Now the travel restrictions were easing, she was able to travel to the UK and I was hoping to take her to meet her new family. Within a short time of arriving, she collapsed so we rushed her to the vet. Now waiting for blood test results, but hoping it's just going to be exhaustion from the journey. Her condition is poor but much better than when we first heard of her, pictures are a before and after. She's on her feet, wagging her tail and drinking but I still can't tempt her to eat.



15/7/2020 - Once again things haven't quite gone to plan. Lady was initially supposed to be here for about an hour, just long enough to stretch her legs after the journey from Greece before moving on to her new home, but after she fell ill we thought it best for her to stay the week until we could have her bloods rechecked. These were re-run after another emergency trip to the vet. Unfortunately they're not good, especially her kidney levels so we've decided it's best not to move her on and she'll remain here with us. Despite her underlying health issues she's happy, playful and incredibly vocal and all we can do is hope she remains that way for as long as possible.



GETTING THERE

21/7/2020 - This morning this pair of idiots decided to chase a young Labrador round the field. They have a combined age of around 105 and barely a full set of teeth between them. Lady has had two near death experiences in the last fortnight and Teddy barely manages a snails pace on his walks. Lucky for me the Labrador thought it was a great game and the owner thought their attempts to round her dog up were funny. Can't imagine what came over them but they'll be back on leads in the future.



THE IDIOTS



October, 2020 - Lady is doing very well and has made a permanent home for herself with us and all our dogs. Here she is, again with Teddy, on Southwold beach, and finally with the rest of her pack, three of whom are foreign rescues and Ollie, the tri-colour.

This is why Sam, Annette and myself do Foreign Rescue as well as rescuing in the UK. If she hadn't been found and rescued she would not be alive now

Lesley Bassett





Sadly we had to say goodbye to Angel a few months ago. She had started to look poorly and had gone off her food, (most unusual for her). After a few frequent visits to the vet, and trials of various medications, which made no apparent improvement, a scan was done on her abdomen which showed a very large mass. Due to the size and which organs were caught up in this mass and her general poorly demeanor, the sad decision to put Angel to sleep was made. Angels foster mum, Julie, is so sad that she was only with her for such a short time.

ALFIE It's been a difficult year for the humans but I'd like to think we've helped them muddle through and kept their spirits up. Affra turned 84 and I think Tassie has probably turned the equivalent in dog years - so they are well matched. Both love to potter gently in the garden and enjoy the good weather we had back in Summer - whereas Jimmy and I wander slightly further afield on our walks. The smells are always new and different and we meet up with my doggy pals (not always adhering to the social distance rules that were made to keep the humans in check - not us dogs lol). Anyway - long story to short -one particular walk had a smell like no other I'd smelt in our garden and I had to investigate further. I dropped my shoulder and rolled in it. I so luuuuved that smell but apparently this action was not allowed and suddenly I saw and heard Jimmy yell 'NO ALPHIE NO - don't do that'. It didn't end well - a quick call to our friendly groomer and that was me dumped in the bath. Apparently fox poo is not the aroma of choice in our house!!

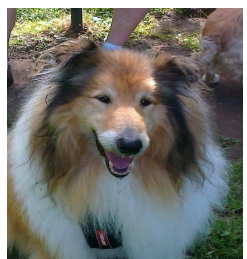
BONNIE-PRINCE is still enjoying his life, although not as actively as he once did. He is getting the old age arthritis of his back legs, but still gets around his garden and orchard, still chasing the pigeons and other birds that frequent it, but more as a token gesture because he thinks he has to, rather than wanting to. Life for BP and his mum and dad has slowed down over recent years, but he's still in overall good health.



Meet **JOCK AND BRUCIE**, litter brothers who are now waiting and hoping to get many sponsors, having just arrived on the Sponsorship Scheme. Since being rescued from an animal hoarding situation in Sept 2019, they have had to put up with a few moves within rescue, whilst getting all their rehabilitation and medical needs attended to. That done, thankfully they are now happily settled in a lovely permanent foster home. If you decide to sponsor them you get the added bonus of following their regular 'Blogs' on our Facebook page at Rough and Smooth Rescue



STORM
It's been quiet here in Notting-ham but at least the summer has been good and I have spent many hours woofing at my neighbours and his cats. Mum tells me off but I ignore her. I don't think I could catch Hope and Chloe as they are a lot younger than me and I have slowed down due to my arthritis in my legs, particularly my back ones. Mum says I bunny hop now. No exciting holidays to tell you about, but I was very brave having had an operation. Out of the blue mum found me with blood all over my chest. Thinking it may be my teeth we saw the vet and an operation to clean and extract a huge front fang was arranged. All went well and now I have a huge smile just like the donkey in the mouth wash advert.



Hope you all keep safe and well.
Bye for now, Storm x
Here I am playing with my monkey.

SHELBY is doing well. She has a great appetite and although at the tottering stage, she enjoys her little walks. We had a bit of a problem when we had to move house (through no fault of our own), in that she wouldn't or couldn't go up the stairs at bedtime, but was not happy downstairs either even when the other two dogs stayed down with her. We were in a bungalow previously so it wasn't an issue then. I managed a handful of times to lift her up the stairs a step at a time resting on each step, but she hated it and I hurt my back. She is a much bigger, heavier dog than her daughter. She only settles at night when she is by my bedside. I was exhausted so took her to live with my mother who is more than happy to have her in their bungalow. When my husband is home on leave he is able to lift her up and down the stairs so she spends a month with, us then a month with my parents. She is perfectly happy in each setting. She often needs help getting to her feet, but once she is up she still enjoys a wee gamble about with the other dogs in the garden. She still seems very happy and is generally well.



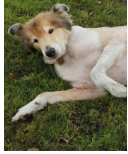
TICO Hello all Tico Lovers, Tico is now 14 years old, and doing very well for his age. He loves playing with his favourite toy, Elephant!
He enjoys going for short walks, where he can indulge in his favourite pastime, rolling in the grass.



A S A F E H E A L T H Y N E W Y E A R

**WARNING -
tear jerker**

We went to collect Jasper from Wales with no real idea what awaited us, although I did have some photos. Such a lovely, yet sad, boy. His coat was in a dreadful state and he was absolutely riddled with fleas, but that was all taken care of soon after he arrived.



He had a major dental soon after arriving, leaving him with just one canine, but quite enough molars, fortunately. In the New Year, he had to have another, as the remaining canine had moved and, as it turned out, was causing him great discomfort particularly at night. This had manifested itself in him becoming restless, needing to go out once, twice, three times a night, sometimes urinating downstairs despite going out. I had begun to think it must be behavioural, but a specialist vet spotted the problem and he has been absolutely fine ever since, bless him. In addition, he also had a problem in his foot, requiring another operation. But, once again, he recovered fully.

Poor little lad! He has been through so much, but he has adapted marvellously well. He had apparently never met stairs. But that wasn't going to stop him. Entirely unbidden, he taught himself how to get up to his new pack, and it wasn't long before he learnt about beds and made himself comfortable there as well! He has established his preferred routine, with the places he loves to visit, and he particularly enjoys simply sitting and surveying the scenery – as long as he is with his family. He has a refined, aristocratic air about him, like a country gentleman, which led my mother to christen him "Jasper Bagshotts, of Bagshott Hall", surveying his estate!

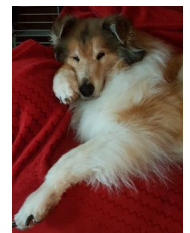


He is such an adorable lad, so patient, tolerant and kind. Very loving, but also independent: Jasper will make his way to his "kennel" (a particular section of my bedroom that he has customised!) when he wants, come down for a drink, or a duck fillet, then pop back upstairs. Out and about, he very much has his favourites and is a huge fan of drinking al fresco, in the unlikeliest places. He has mobility issues, but you'd never know if he spots a cat, or another dog he'd like to meet! Jasper is an absolute joy and very much adored. I wish I had been lucky enough to have shared all his life with him, but am so very grateful for the time we have now and ahead of us and for the complete privilege of enabling him to live his best life in his most senior years.

Over time, Jasper has had some issues including more teeth work and strange completely unexplained sores on his throat and chest. Typical Jasper, he never complained and was an absolute darling through everything.

In April he suffered a really nasty bout of Idiopathic Vestibular Syndrome. Strangely it took several days to come on fully. The vets didn't diagnose it right away, but my other dog, Moss, having had it previously, I realised exactly what it was when his eyes started to flicker. There were times then when I wondered if his little spirit had had enough, as he would simply lay and refuse to eat. However, I syringed water into his mouth regularly (he always loved his water) and eventually managed to get liquid food into him via the same method. This all took about three weeks or so, and my heart leapt on several occasions to see just little signs of progress, the best being when he took solid food himself for the first time. And eventually he was practically back to normal, the only change appearing to be that he had lost some power in his hindquarters, which had always been a little weak, so needed help to get upstairs, which he still very much wanted to do. He was happily going on short walks, including his favourite spots, all through lockdown. But then I started to notice other changes. Although never incontinent, he would pee in the house day and night frequently – something I controlled as much as possible with puppy training pads everywhere. He would also wake anytime between 0130 and 0500 and attempt to get up several times, apparently in his sleep, until I obviously awoke and would take him out for him to do whatever he needed. In addition, he would pace around and scratch at the floor, very much in the evening and overnight, usually whining. I did some internet research and spoke to the vet and the conclusion was that he now had canine cognitive dysfunction, the poor lad. Bizarrely, I actually felt better knowing this – it can sometimes be easier when you have a label for something! He was already on Vivitonin, plus painkillers and Active Advance for his arthritis and now the vet suggested Aktivait, another supplement to aid blood flow to the brain.

The urinating more or less righted itself, combined with my just finding coping strategies, I think. I realised our time was perhaps drawing short, but hoped for the rest of the summer. However, over the last couple of weeks, his desire to walk grew less and less, and over the last few days he was beginning to struggle, and then really just lay flat out. I had grown used to carrying him up and downstairs and steps and even back from a short walk when he clearly didn't feel like it. Then, on Tuesday, I had to go to the vet to have his skin condition checked again and pick up some more medication. We are not allowed in at the moment, and I was pleased to see him walking out of the vets, seeing as he had been carried in (he hasn't liked tarmac for quite some time). But she was very concerned about his mobility, asked what he was like at home (this was considered fine, as he could still get about himself inside) and advised me to be aware of his quality of life in weeks to come. I was shocked, but went away realising that I had to prepare myself.



That night, Jasper, Moss and I all slept downstairs. I don't know why, I just thought it might prove easier, and so it did, although he still had his 0230 outside trip. This had become a much shorter affair over the last couple of nights, and ironically I was quite pleased, thinking at least this was something that we had off pat now. The next morning he ate almost as normal, leaving some, but I wasn't overly concerned. Little bit of exercise, then a sleep for the rest of the day, until about 1500, when he was whining and barking and wouldn't be comforted. Nor was it water. I opened the door and put my coat on thinking the "bark of joy" was answered. But he was unable to stand. I carried him out and gave him a while, helping him to his paws, but he seemed unable to remain on them.

This is so hard to write, but you can imagine all that happened next and the very painful thought processes. I spoke to the vet and we went there. She had not expected such a quick decline, and, to make it worse, he seemed to be able to stand as I lifted him from the car, although then he simply lay down flat again. His heart was fine, which made me want to gather him up and run away, but the vet said she believed he was suffering, or at least struggling, which was clear to see. I knew in my heart that he had no real joy in life now and that this was the only fair thing to do. He went so quickly, gently and peacefully, but he tore my heart out with him.

He was such a beautiful, gentle, brave and kind little soul. I have loved absolutely every minute I was privileged to have him in my life and adore him like no other. Although I have had three male Roughs before, Jasper I think showed me the very best of what a Rough Collie can be. These almost two years have flown by so, so quickly. Thank you so very much for bringing us together. I am sure it was meant to be. I pray that now he is reunited with his Dad, who was good enough to tell his daughter to contact you when he died. But I desperately hope that he doesn't forget me and that I will see his beautiful, soft little face once more when it is my time.

As a postscript: it has hurt incredibly to have lost Jasper. But I would adopt/foster another dog of his age, or older, in a heartbeat. It is an absolute privilege to give a senior dog love and happiness when they need you most.

**JASPER or
"JASPER BAGSHOTT OF
BAGSHOTT HALL"**

