



Winston

## Welcome to our Spring Newsletter

Since January this year, we have been quite busy for our loyal team and our funds. With such cases as Harry, Ollie and Ronnie, some of whose stories appear below. I need to tell you that some of these dogs were turned down flat by other Rescues, as well as some big charities, but at the very least, some of them do suggest that people call us for help.

When Harry, Ollie and Ronnie were brought to us, they were in a terrible state and immediately seen by our Vets. These dogs had multiple conditions and were so grateful for everything we did. It was lovely to see the light returning to their eyes and such joy when they went in the paddock, not knowing what to do, then enjoying what may have been their first mad run around. It was wonderful to see. An appeal was put out for foster homes, which Saw Pete, Liz and Jane offer their help. Treatment began in earnest, and is ongoing as we go to print. There'll be a long road for these dogs to travel, but rest assured, our rescue will be covering the very best of treatment.

Thank you so much to all who support rescue it is really appreciated we hope you enjoy reading the stories.

*Glenys & Team*

### FOSTERING

This year, I would like to mention Fostering as an alternative to kennels for some dogs. They may have been severely neglected, or in need of Veterinary care, especially for the older dogs. Veterinary care can be a big issue, as the costs have spiralled and older dogs who need support often can't be insured. That's where we can provide support. This year to date, the first few months saw us with almost ten thousand pounds spent on veterinary care for supported dogs.

Sometimes fostering can be short term, but sadly for instance, in the case of Harry and Ollie, this precious time spent being loved and cared for, may only be palliative. We assure our supporters this is a crucial part for us to play, to ensure fosterers are fully supported to provide the very best care for these dogs.

At times we may need temporary help with a dog whose owner is poorly or bereaved, so

if you feel you could offer foster care for a needy dog, we would love to hear from you.

Foster carers are a vital part of our wonderful team.

If you would like to sponsor a supported dog please contact us:

**Glenys Fryer** (Coordinator)

T: 01257 452500

(Available 10am - 6pm)

E: labrador.rescue@btinternet.com

**Carole Fairhurst** (General Enquiries)

T: 07377 215996

(Available 10am - 5pm)

c.fairhurst@gmail.com

**Gina Boyd** (Coordinator)

T: 07572 438871

(Available 10am - 7pm)

ginaboyd2021@outlook.com

Or donations / sponsorship can be sent to:

**Labrador Rescue**

**Malt Kiln Farm, Tincklers Lane, Eccleston, Chorley PR75QY**

Visits to the farm are by appointment only

Thank you for your help from all our supported dogs

### Ollie's Story *Jane Clayton*

Not long after losing her beloved 4-year-old Labrador, Callie, to chronic kidney disease, Jane found herself facing a quiet house and a heavy heart. Then came the posts—three dogs in desperate need of fostering: Ollie, Harry, and Ronnie. Their story was impossible to ignore.

Within days, she reached out to Craig, offering to help in any way she could. Soon after, Ollie arrived.

Affectionately nicknamed Olliebobs, Olyphant, and Ollie Wally, he was in a heartbreaking state—severely underweight, frail, and clearly neglected. And yet, despite everything, his tail wagged. From the very beginning, his gentle, hopeful nature shone through.

For the first week, Ollie did little more than sleep and eat, his body beginning to recover from the neglect he had endured. Slowly, his personality began to emerge. He learned that all good things come from the kitchen, that comfort can be found in a memory foam bed, and—much to everyone's amusement—that cat poo was, in his opinion, a delicacy.

But alongside these small victories came the reality of his condition. Veterinary visits became routine, and Ollie faced every examination—needles, tests, treatments—with quiet bravery. His ears were painfully infected and calcified, his body ravaged by malnutrition, his skin sore and irritated, and his mouth full of painful infections.

Within weeks, he underwent a major procedure: an ear flush and the removal of 12 teeth. His daily care was intensive—medicated baths, multiple

ear treatments, skin therapies, and ongoing medication—but he accepted it all with remarkable patience.

Just as progress seemed possible, another devastating blow came. Lumps began appearing across his body. Tests confirmed the worst: lymphoma.

Every option was carefully considered, but in the end, kindness guided the decision. After everything Ollie had endured, further invasive treatment didn't feel fair. Instead, the focus remained on giving him comfort, dignity, and love in the time he had left.

And love is exactly what he knew.

Ollie's personality blossomed in those final weeks—goofy, clumsy, and endlessly curious. He crashed through baby gates, knocked over lamps, and filled the home with laughter as much as tears. He was larger than life in every sense, leaving a lasting impression on everyone who met him.

When the time came to say goodbye, it was with broken hearts—but also with the knowledge that Ollie's last chapter had been filled with warmth, care, and belonging. He left this world knowing the comfort of a full belly, a soft bed, and, most importantly, love.

Losing Callie had been devastating. But in a way that feels like fate, Ollie helped mend a broken heart. And if given the chance, sadly now Ollie has passed away, his fosterer says she would do it all again—in a heartbeat.



### Bank Scheme

Thank you to all who support us. It makes a massive difference to us. Please be sure to contact us if you're reading a friend's newsletter and have not yet received one yourself. We had a blip on the database and some details were not updated, but please be assured, your private details are protected.



### Supported dogs Scheme

The Rescue helps many older dogs and dogs with medical problems - they may need long term medication or surgery. This is where our supported dogs scheme comes into play in order to find them a lovely secure retirement home. This scheme allows us to help support some of these lovely old dogs who would not be affordable

to the average persons funds and give them a safe place in their twilight time. If you wish to support in any way, please let us know so we can acknowledge your kind gift. *The rescue will never send out unwanted letters or mail unless you wish to receive it.* Thank you for your kind support.



## Standing Order Mandate

To: ..... (Your Bank/Building Society)

Please pay from A/C No: ..... Sort Code: ..... - ..... - .....

£ ..... A Week / Month / Year. Commencing on: ..... / ..... / 20..... until further notice.

Quoting a/c holder's name as reference - Name: .....

Please send above to:  
Labrador Rescue Fund (North West)  
Sort Code: 09-06-66  
Account Number: 40136010

**PLEASE NOTE:** If paying through your bank, please can you inform us in writing or by email as the bank does not provide us with the names of payees.

Please send the completed standing order mandate to us at:  
**Malt Kiln Farm, Tincklers Lane, Eccleston, Chorley PR7 5QY**

Online form: [www.homealabrador.net/downloads/STANDING\\_ORDER\\_MANDATE\\_0309.pdf](http://www.homealabrador.net/downloads/STANDING_ORDER_MANDATE_0309.pdf)



find us on facebook on our funding page - **labrador rescue north west**

## From Unwanted to Unconditionally Loved

Recently, we received one of those calls that reminds us exactly why we do what we do.

A man rang about a young pup he'd taken in—she'd only been with him for a day. His



concern? He said she wanted to “play all night.” When I asked if she was crying or showing any signs of aggression, he said no—just full of energy and needing attention. I asked if he could manage until the next day so we could arrange transport, but he felt unable to cope and said he'd have to find someone else that same day.

This poor pup was already facing her third home at just 8 months old.

I asked if he could bring her to us—and to his credit, he made the journey from Derbyshire. When she arrived, she was full of life, bouncing around but travelling well. Craig took her straight into the paddock while I thanked the man for bringing her safely to us. He mentioned that someone else in rescue had suggested he contact us—and we're so glad they did.

She was a beautiful girl, likely bought on impulse, and through no fault of her own had already been passed around. But this time, things turned out differently.

A wonderful forever home was quickly found with Jane, who had recently lost her beloved dog, Ollie—whose story many of you will remember from this newsletter. Jane opened her heart once again, and it was a perfect match.

Now renamed Briar, this happy pup has found her forever home. Jane is absolutely in love with her, and Briar's future is filled with the stability, care, and affection every dog deserves.

### Why Stories Like Briar's Matter

That evening, I couldn't stop thinking about how many dogs like Briar fall through the cracks. Too often, they're turned away or misunderstood. Many are bought without thought and then discarded for reasons like “he grew too big” or “she chews things.”

When they arrive here, some have never even been on a lead—or felt grass beneath their paws.

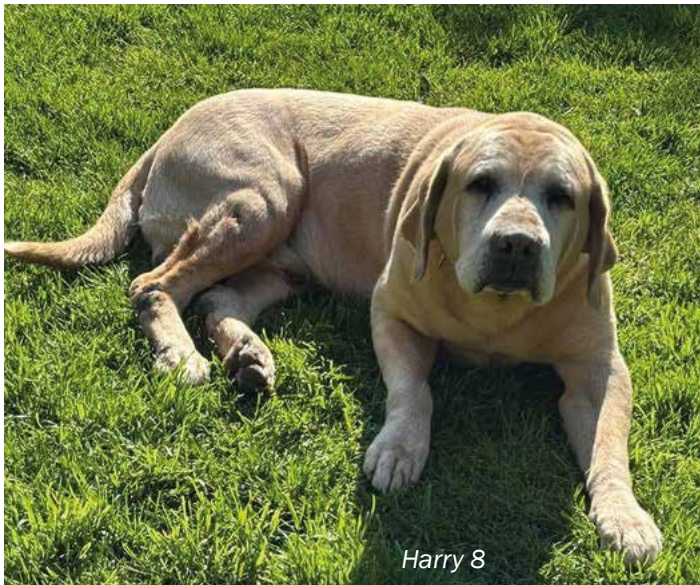
That's why Sam and I started this journey all those years ago: to create a place of safety for dogs like Briar. Here at the farm, in our secure paddock, they get the chance to just be dogs—to run, to play, and to begin again.

### Thank You

To everyone who supports what we do—whether by adopting, donating, or simply sharing these stories—thank you. Because of you, dogs like Briar get the second chance they deserve.

## HARRY

Harry, the Labrador is such a gentle soul with an incredible story of resilience and hope. When he was rescued, he had clearly been neglected, but despite everything he had endured, his spirit was never broken. Each day, he grows stronger, gaining weight, regaining his health, and showing more of his bright personality. What stands out most is his unwavering love for people, his tail wags happily, as if he's known kindness his whole life.



Harry 8





## BECOME A VOLUNTEER...

We are updating our volunteer list and would love to hear from existing volunteers and new people who could foster, transport or home check for us.

Please email us so we have your up to date contact details.

Glenys:

labrador.rescue@btinternet.com

Gina: ginaboyd@btconnect.com

Carole c.fairhurst@ymail.com

## DONATIONS

We wish to express our grateful thanks to all our supporters.

Without this kindness we would not be able to do the work we do. If you wish to update addresses, emails etc.,

please contact our team. You'll find contact details and our address at the end of the newsletter.

I may not have been able to acknowledge your kind gifts to rescue, so please forgive me if I haven't got back to you.



Find our facebook funding page at [labrador rescue north west](#)

## DARCY

I received a call from Carole about Darcy in January, shortly before I was due to be away for a friend's birthday. Luckily, thanks to some behind scenes arrangements, Liz kindly stepped in to foster Darcey until I could collect her on the 3rd February. Liz brought Darcey out and she jumped straight into a crate in the side of my van, totally unconcerned about Petal and Peppa in the back. There wasn't a sound from them all the way back to Cumbria.

She was instantly part of the family, whatever communication had gone on, my own dogs just accepted her.



At her first check up and weigh in, she was very nervous but gained over 2kg whilst in Liz's care. She is now a healthy 25kg.

She was here 4 days before she decided sleeping with Petal and myself was better than her crate, I barely get much space! She loves attention, swimming and retrieving, ideally when they happen together (only made possible due to a wonderful friend with a field and stream).

Sadly, Darcey does have two cancerous mammary tumours, my vet has recommended monitoring them. At her check-up, the vet couldn't find any changes.

Darcey has grown in confidence, some things still worry her, but she is the most loving kind girl. She has given Petal a playmate as they both love retrieving and water. Petal has CKD and Peppa is 13, I don't know how long we have together but we are all just older ladies having lots of fun.



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## RONNIE AND ME

2026 started off on a low, we lost Lexie our choccy lab from LRNW, who had chosen us some 6 years previous. She let us know it was time and we were with her when she slipped away. She didn't live with me all the time but there was still a big lab sized hole in the house. I'd decided to take a bit of down time from working and was doing lots around the house, when I spotted a post from Glenys, looking for someone to help transport a couple of labs to the rescue. Being at a loose end I put my hand up and said I was happy to help.

One morning I find myself pulling up behind Craig's car in Prenton. The situation was not ideal - there were five dogs in the house, including the 3 labs we all know and love as Harry, Ollie and Ronnie.

Harry and Ollie were brothers, Ronnie the whippersnapper of a nephew, Craig took the brothers and we hoisted Ronnie into the back of my car and off we set on a very roundabout route (sorry Craig) to MKF.

Ronnie settled down and slept most of the way and, unlike Lexi did not eat the back of my car. On arrival at MKF everyone set to, so the boys were settled in kennels and fed and watered. It was obvious from the outset that the boys had been starved of affection and attention, but they were so amenable and showed no sign of being anything other than big, soft, lovely boys.

Now I had sort of mentioned that I might foster one of the boys to Glenys, so the obvious boy for me was Ronnie, we decided to let the MKF vet to have a look at him and I would come back in a couple of days and whisk him off to Liverpool.

Fast forward 5 days and I am back to MKF, Ronnie already looks heaps better having been under the tender care of Craig and Glenys, including having had a bath, which made him much sweeter smelling. He quite happily let himself be hoisted into the back seat of the car (he still hasn't mastered jumping into the back and puts his front paws on the back seat and I have to pick up the rest, not easy as he is putting on weight. I must remember to get the ramp out of the loft).

I wasn't sure how he was going to react to the house, so I let him in, took off his lead and just let him be. Off goes Ronnie, walks into the middle of the room and has a wee on the carpet. Okay, good start, but he is a very nervous, unsure boy and it wasn't a surprise. Strangely one thing he didn't do was go upstairs, and at the time of writing has only been up the stairs once. Now I could be wrong but I can't help thinking he prefers downstairs.

That first night, he jumped up on the sofa next to me and cuddled right up to me, well that was it; foster fail after less than 6 hours. Everyone who met Ronnie knew I had failed as well, even though I was saying he was just a foster, I just didn't want anyone to think I was such a pushover. I'm sure Glenys knew as soon as he got into the back of the car.

It has been six weeks since the I picked Ronnie up and I am learning what he does and doesn't do. He doesn't sit, stay, walk in a straight line, take treats gently, show any signs of recall, act as an alarm unless it's me walking into the room.

He does, sleep, snore, break wind, pull like a train, destroy toys, deploys puppy dog eyes at the appearance of a piece of toast.

So, we're a work in progress. I'm working on the order of threes, so when we get to three months and he knows he is stuck with me for life we can start to look at getting him to be more of a gentleman when we are out and about.

Anyway, enough from me, Ronnie is currently snoring on the sofa and I am going to go and join him now, cos there is nothing like a Ronnie cuddle, just wish they weren't accompanied by uncontrolled guffs of wind!