



# PADS NEWS



SUMMER 2023



Meet Molly the mastiff. She's a real high flyer. If there was such an event as the Canine Olympics Molly would be all set for a gold medal and a celebrity career. See inside!



New dog owner? Haven't a clue? Our occasional canine columnist ScottyDog may be able to help. See inside for simple wee tips for first time dog owners. It's not as hard as you think!

## CHECK OUT THOSE CHIPS!

LAST NEW YEAR'S DAY a lost, lonely and confused young Doberman dog sat sadly on the doorstep of a stranger's house in Perth. Police were contacted and a few hours later he was under the care of PADS, and given the name Quinn. A scan revealed that he had two identity chips, one Romanian and the other Bulgarian. Both chip numbers proved dead ends, for they had never been re-registered with numbers and contact details with any of the UK chip agencies. Poor Quinn remains anonymous, a lost dog without an identity. He is still with us and needs long term socializing and training before he has the chance of a new start in life. Quinn is just one of many thousands of rescue dogs regularly coming into to the UK. One source quotes the staggering figure of more than 300,000 each year. In 2019 almost 20,000 dogs came in from Romania alone. Others come from countries such as Poland, Cyprus, Macedonia, Bulgaria and now Ukraine, where the suffering of abandoned animals is terrible.

Understandably, many UK dog lovers want to give homes to street dogs and save them from a wretched existence. Also, there is more choice. Rescue puppies are scarce in the UK nowadays so foreign born ones fill the gap. It is also harder now to adopt from the big UK charities. Many folk can be refused a dog if they work away from home or have small children. So it happens that adoptees will open their doors to foreign dogs instead. If you are one of them, the dog you received may well be chipped, but if that foreign chip is not re-registered with a UK chip agency with your contact details and your dog goes missing you may never be reunited with your beloved pet. If you need advice contact us at PADS, or ask your vet, who can scan the new dog's foreign chip and give you the number to pass on to the chip agency. Identibase, an agency with 5 million animals on its database, advises, "If you have a foreign dog, check the chip, get the number and register that number with a UK agency along with your details. Then, if your dog is lost you can be traced." Good advice. *Remember what has happened to Quinn.*

VISITS TO PERTSHIRE ABANDONED DOGS SOCIETY KENNELS ARE BY APPOINTMENT. SEE OUR WEBSITE AT [padsdogrescue.com](http://padsdogrescue.com) TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE CHARITY, HOW TO GO ON OUR ADOPTION LIST AND HOW TO DONATE. YOU CAN ALSO E-MAIL US AT [padskennels@btinternet.com](mailto:padskennels@btinternet.com), OR CALL US AT 01764 684491

DON'T FORGET PADS 'SCRUFTS' DOG SHOW ON SATURDAY 12 AUGUST 2023 AT ROLLO PARK, DUNNING. REGISTRATION AND STALLS OPEN FROM 11 AM. FOOD, FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY AND THE DOGS. DON'T MISS IT! THE BEST SHOW IN TOWN!

## THE POWER OF PEACE AND QUIET TO HEAL UNHAPPY DOGS



*Relaxing on a comfy deckchair, Josie, a 7 year old Shih Tzu, is testing the new PADS therapy garden, tongue ready to catch a treat! The PADS project, finished this spring, is a special quiet area for traumatized, scared and disorientated dogs who have lost their own homes and cannot bear the noise of the kennels when they first arrive at the shelter. It is also designed as a place where prospective adopters can meet and get to know the dog they may want to rehome. The therapy garden is quite near to the railway line between Perth and Inverness, but for some reason the dogs are not bothered one little bit by the noise of the trains. Better than all that barking, says Josie!*

**THE TRANSFORMATION OF** a piece of unused ground within the PADS kennel complex began early last year. Previously just an empty area with some straggly old trees, it has now been fenced in and planted with shrubs in tubs and big old tractor tyres. There are quiet corners, plenty of shade under a new gazebo and some agility equipment for the more energetic animals. Manager Louise Perrett says that roughly one third of the dogs who come to PADS either as strays or brought to the charity by owners, badly need this new peaceful environment. *“We are getting in more and more middle aged dogs, say 6 years and over, who have lived a quiet life and find it very difficult to adapt to a noisy one in a kennel next to other dogs. When they arrive here they are disorientated and disturbed by all the noise around them and they just freeze.”* Often, she adds, it can take days, even weeks in some cases, for a dog to be coaxed from its kennel. Pippin and Missy, two little middle-aged Lhasa Apsos who arrived recently were terrified. It took several days to give them the confidence to come out of their kennels into the world of the new therapy garden but when they got there, they loved it! Louise said, *“They relaxed immediately and potted around happily in this nice quiet place. They had been miserable in the strange kennel surroundings, but in the garden they were calm and seemed happy again.”* The project was the brainchild of PADS Vice Chair Heather Wallace, who said, *“The garden space will also be a great meeting place for new adopters and dogs, somewhere they can get to know each other away from the hustle and bustle of kennel life! The dogs can meet the adopters without being distracted by other dogs.”* Heather added, *“We gave a lot of thought to what we should do with this area of ground and decided this was the best option. The garden will calm and give confidence to many dogs who are taking their first steps towards a new home!”*

### SCOTTY DOG TIP



Meeting a strange dog on a walk if yours or the other dog isn't socialized can be a nightmare. Often, teeth are bared and snarls are heard! Putting your dog on a short lead on the side away from one approaching means you are in the guard position, and your dog will feel more relaxed because he feels protected. Then, a simple 'good morning' to the strange dog's owner, followed by a cheerful 'what a lovely day' kind of conversation, may give both dogs a clue that this is a friendly encounter. If you meet the other dog regularly, another trick is to do a wee walk together, owners in between, dogs on the outside on short leads. They may or may not become pals. Worth a try!



## RECORD BREAKER ONE

WE THINK that James Pieroni (on the right) is PADS' top adopter. We don't keep data on this but are pretty sure that James has adopted more PADS dogs than anyone else, EVER. Late last year James and Chris Menday opened their home in Blairgowrie to these two Dachshunds.

They are the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> PADS dogs adopted by James. On the right is Dash, aged 5 and on the left is 18 month old Bowie, named after the legendary rock star who also had one blue eye! James gave a home to his first PADS dog, Ben in 1998. He remembers, "Ben was a mix of everything, just 12 weeks old when I got him and he was 16 when he died." Then along came Hamish, a fluffy wee wheaten terrier. Next, in 2014, was puppy Max, now 10, a smooth coated, very large, gentle Labradoodle, who is, says James, "The perfect dog. Max never barks!"



Flint the Lab aged 10, who had given birth to 22 puppies in 3 litters, arrived in 2016, the year James and Chris got married. She died 3 years later. James says, "We gave her the best in the last years of her life. Every dog deserves a home. These two won't be the last we adopt!" PADS THANKS YOU FOR ALL THE CARE AND LOVE YOU HAVE GIVEN TO OUR DOGS!



## RECORD BREAKER TWO

PADS STAFF STOOD WATCHING IN AWE (and trepidation) as Molly the young mastiff thundered towards the 6 foot high fence within the kennel grounds. A split second later she had sailed over it, a clean jump without touching it. No-one at PADS had ever witnessed a dog do anything like that before, and Molly will go down in PADS history as the Cane Corso (Italian Mastiff) who broke all the canine high jump records.

*WHEN MOLLY ARRIVED AT PADS she was terrified of her own shadow. She refused to come close to anyone and clearly hated her kennel despite efforts to make it as homely as possible. Then along came Lee Stockdale all the way from Peterhead and it was 'love at first sight'. Says Lee, "After just 10 minutes coaxing that was it! Now she's my shadow and I go nowhere without her." Lee and his wife Andrea have a countryside home and a large garden. Other family members are 3 European Eagle Owls and a Bulldog named Rosie. In 2009 Lee had a very bad fall which left him with leg injuries demanding exercise and regular walks. Now he and Molly cover 10-15 K steps every day. "Andrea works long hours so Molly is my companion as well as my fellow walker. She is a lovely dog with a gentle nature." --And luckily has no desire to jump fences. She's very happy where she is!*

**ALSO RECENTLY REHOMED WERE :** MYLO, a jovial, friendly Jack Russell, aged 5, who went to a great new home in Montrose, MEG, a 10 year old ball-chasing Bearded Collie, who now lives happily in Burrelton and DAISY, a 2 year old Collie who would sell her soul for a football and who badly needed space to play is now in Fife. HOUDINI, an 8 year old Staffie/Ridgeback Cross who came to the UK from South Africa last year now has a new home in Abernethy, STELLA, born in Malta, a girl who hated being alone, is now with a couple in Dollar who have another dog for her to befriend and URWEN, a female German Shepherd found sitting alone at the roadside in the Carse of Gowrie in a sorry state now lives very happily with a lovely family near Perth.



People think up many ways to raise money for charity. Fiona Stewart (left) used nimble fingers, organization, patience and concentration, while young Zoe Currie (right) called upon fitness, self discipline and sheer determination. Here's how they did it!



**FIONA STEWART**, who was PADS Chair for seven years until 2019, has raised an incredible £11,000 for the charity in the last six years. Most of this hefty donation has come from the sale of knitted chocolate covers for Xmas, Easter and Halloween gift treats. Fiona says, *"We must have knitted thousands of them – no idea how many!"* She wants to thank her loyal team of tireless expert knitters, Jane Gorrie, Joanne Hull, Fiona MacLeod and Melinda Stone for their efforts in creating the wee woolies which flew off the shelves in Perthshire café shops. Thanks also goes to Hazel McNab, manager of the Earn Café in Bridge of Earn and to Audrey Maestri Stevenson, owner of the Rose House Café in Perth. Other supporters included Brew and Chew, Danscot, Willowgate, the South Inch Pavilion and the Scone Sweetie Shop. Fiona says, *"It was great negotiating with the cafes and building up a team of knitters to help me."* Previously, when Fiona was PADS Chair she raised £759 for PADS by climbing all the Munros on the Isle of Skye!  
**THANK YOU FIONA!**

**ZOE CURRIE**, who is just 12, has raised the amazing sum of £1,685 by sponsorship for PADS. The way this determined youngster did it puts the rest of us to shame! While most of us were snoozing or taking our time over breakfast in a warm kitchen last winter, Zoe was braving the freezing mists of February to get up early to complete a 45 minute cross country run. It took her over frozen fields and along farm tracks. She courageously covered 5 kilometres ( just over 3 miles) every morning for the 4 weeks of the icy winter month before setting off to start her days at school. Phew! Zoe was accompanied by mum Annabelle or dad David each morning, so they must be given some credit also! Zoe did the same early morning runs during the winter of 2021-2022 and raised £610. This year's runs raised £1,075. She said, *" I wanted so much to help the charity because I love dogs and all animals. My ambition is to be a vet or a marine biologist."* At the time of writing young Zoe was looking forward to presenting the Best In Show prize at our 'Scruffs' event on 12 August, at which she will be our special guest.  
**THANK YOU ZOE!**

**OUR THANKS ALSO TO THESE LOYAL SUPPORTERS!**

**JOLLYES PET FOOD STORE** in Perth who have a donation point and who recently gave us cans of dog food. Also thanks to **NISA** store in Dunning for can collections and **LET THE DOGS RUN** in Auchterarder for its support . Thanks to Blairgowrie can keepers, **THE KITCHEN SHOP, THE CARD SHOP, THE PET SHOP, the COPY SHOP** and **BLAIRGOWRIE VETS**. And thanks to **CRIEFF GOLF CLUB LADIES** for their £300 donation, and to the **Alyth Show** for theirs.

**THE FALLOUT FROM THE PANDEMIC, DURING WHICH AN ADDITIONAL 3 MILLION PETS – MOSTLY DOGS – WERE BROUGHT INTO UK HOMES, FOLLOWED CLOSELY BY THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS HAS PUT UNPRECEDENTED PRESSURE ON ANIMAL SHELTERS. DOG'S TRUST, THE UK'S BIGGEST, HAS WARNED THAT THEY ARE '...RUNNING OUT OF SPACE!' THE CHARITY URGENTLY NEEDS SUPPORT TO EXPAND ITS FOSTER NETWORK TO MAKE ROOM FOR OTHER DOGS WHO HAVE NOWHERE TO GO. - YOUR LOCAL CHARITY, PADS, WHILE NOT UNDER THE SAME HUGE PRESSURES, HAS GOT A GREAT DEAL BUSIER IN RECENT MONTHS THAN COULD EVER HAVE BEEN PREDICTED. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO HELP, SEE OUR WEBSITE AT [padsdogrescue.com](http://padsdogrescue.com) OUR POSTAL ADDRESS IS : PADS, STATION HOUSE ROAD, FORTEVIOT, PERTH PH2 9BS. THANK YOU!**