# Dobermann Rescue UK and Europe (DRUE) Presents





#### June 2023

**Issue 6** 

### Welcome from the editor

Welcome to our June issue of DRUE LIFE.

Life at DRUE is getting better and better. The dogs who have been with us a while are looking great in terms of their weight and condition. Coats are shiny and tails are wagging. With our increased volunteers the dogs are spending so much more time out of their kennels and receiving far more stimulation.

SAVE THE DATE: We are very excited to be running a DRUE open day on Saturday 26th August. The venue is in Cheshire, we are welcoming visitors from 11:00 to 16:00hrs and hope that you can make the time to come and visit us. More details can be found on page 8.

As you will see from our poster boy this month, we have taken in the most wonderful Neo. I was there when he arrived and it was a pitiful sight and definitely one that tugged on the heart strings. He is significantly under weight and was a bit bewildered. However over this last week he has proven to be a very affectionate dog and wants to be close to his human friends. He's in safe hands now and once we've built him up again we will be looking for his forever home.

Waiting for you on page 4 is the comical Dylan (AKA Dylan the villain) read all about this mischievous DRUE rescue, now living the life of luxury in his forever home.



DRUE adopted dog Dylan the Villain. Pg. 4

#### Inside this issue:

owner was arrested and

to us to be rehomed

adverse behaviours.

properly.

sent to prison. The owner's Father fortunately retrieved the dog and passed him on

So far everything about this

boy is just lovely. He loves

cuddles and being close and

so far we have not seen any

Dogs Adopted	2
Dogs looking for their new home	3
lt's a dog's life – life after rescue.	4
Canicross—DRUE dogs running	6
DRUE Open Day 26 August 23	8
Rescue dogs reap- ing huge benefits	9
Palliative effects	10
Puzzle time	11
DRUE Info	12





## Dogs who found their new forever home

A huge thank you goes out to all of our DRUE adopters and fosterers past and present for the amazing opportunity you have given our DRUE dogs, allowing them to experience a life outside the rescue kennel. We applaud you!

During the month of May the following dogs found their forever homes.



Milo







Ludo





Storm



Ghost

Fendi

We have dogs still looking for their forever home, these are featured on the following page. If you are able to give any of our dogs a loving home please check out our current dogs and complete an application on our website at:

www.dobermannrescueuk.co.uk





Can you give one of our dogs a home? Find out more about them and complete an application on www.dobermannrescueuk.co.uk



Dotty



Bobbi



Neo



Bobster



Aksel







## It's a dog's life—Life after rescue Meet Dylan the Villain



This month we talk to Maureen who has adopted numerous DRUE dogs and we are featuring her very special boy Dylan. She tells her story...

I first saw Dylan my very lovely friend's Facebook page. It was obviously fate because I had just started following her and his was the first post I saw. "No one wanted him because of his wee dodgy leg and badly burned shoulder"





It appeared that no one wanted him because of his wee dodgy leg and badly burned shoulder.

We collected him on 10th October 2020 when he was 8 months old and brought him home to our two other dobies - Lovely Lolalita and Mitzi Mischief - who immediately fell in love with him. He is now living his best life with Cheeky Kiki and Outrageous Odin, even though Kiki drags him about by the collar and has identified his kryptonite - having his feet touched!

Dylan quickly earned himself the nickname 'Dylan the Villain' because of his obsession with stealing socks and pants (not one of us has a matching pair of socks now!), tearing



But despite his very naughty streak we can never stay angry with him for long because of his adorable wee face, funny yoga poses, rolling on his back when he thinks he's in trouble, and his "cartoon character" face.



Cont. next page



## It's a dog's life — Life after rescue continued Dylan the Villain

He's now 3 and still as naughty as ever but the most beautiful and happiest boy we have ever encountered.

We always wondered how his foster mum, Anne, could have parted with such an adorable boy, however Anne recognised Dylan in a video I posted on the DRUE Facebook page and got in touch from Cyprus.

She explained that after the surgery to put a steel plate in his leg, she was worried that he would further injure himself because he incessantly threw himself in their swimming pool.

#### What a boy!!





#### Quick fire interview — Dylan the Villain — 3yrs old

Q. How long has he been in your life. A. Almost 2.5 years.

Q. Favourite food? A. Not really food oriented but is partial to cheese and hot dogs.

**Q. What makes you laugh about him? A.** He steals socks and hats - there's not one hat in the house with a pom pom left on it, Dylan has shredded them all - He runs full speed swinging his dodgy leg which he also uses for sympathy when in trouble, , and, as he can't scratch himself on that side, he comes up and shakes his leg towards you to let you know he is itchy and needs a good scratch. Also his "cartoon character" face which is utterly adorable !"

**Q. Does he have a naughty side? A.** He's chock full of naughtiness. He particularly enjoys visiting you in the toilet when you are indisposed and nudging the toilet rolls off of the freestanding holders then running off with them, which is fine when you have other toilet rolls handy, but when it's the last one and you're in a bit of a predicament, it's not so funny!!

**Q. If he was a famous person who would he be likened to.... Why? A.** Michael McIntyre because of his fabulous, exuberant persona...!

Q. Best memory/adventure with him so far. A. Bringing him back to his forever home !









## Canicross

## **Rescue dogs are running for DRUE...**

As you may have gathered from our previous newsletter and the photos shared on our Facebook posts, we have taken on the mission of enhancing the lives of the dogs under our care at the rescue. It's disheartening to see these dogs spending countless hours in kennels, especially when comparing their lives to those of our own pets who enjoy more freedom and interaction.

As a dedicated team, we recognised the need to do more to enrich their lives and provide the mental and physical stimulation they require.

We now have a larger group of volunteers, and we have implemented a structured schedule to ensure that each dog gets ample opportunities for outdoor activities. This is in addition to the daily walks provided by the Country Kennel staff.

One particularly exciting endeavour we have embarked upon is the sport of Canicross. For this, we required a runner, and we're thrilled to introduce Dave Ronan, who has enthusiastically stepped up to the task!



Dave competing Dave is a very experienced canicrosser who has competed in races from 5k to ultra-marathons with his dogs. "we recognised the need to do more to enrich their lives and provide the mental and physical stimulation they require"

We are very fortunate that he has all the correct gear to fit our different sized dogs and he has worked a programme out based upon the age and fitness of our rescues to either walk, jog or run our dogs in the countryside.



DRUE dog Bobbi out with Dave

I wanted to interview Dave to find out a little more about the sport and how he became involved in Canicross.

This is his story....

## How did you first get involved in Canicross?

Totally by accident really, I just went out running one night with my last dobie, not knowing canicross was a thing, I was asked what events I run in by someone running their dog. They showed me what they were talking about and I booked an event that night. My dog was getting on in life so I only did a slow run to see what it was like. I was hooked!



## What kind of dogs are typically used in Canicross?

At first I would worry as all the dogs that were racing, were dogs that were bred for running i.e. pointers vizlas, foxhounds, but I've also been in a race where 2 corgis have run a mountainous 10k, any dogs can run canicross events.

#### What kind of equipment is needed for Canicross, and how does it differ from other dog sports?

The main gear for Canicross are a harness for yourself that sits around your buttocks, try not to let it ride up your back as that's when you will get injuries.



DRUE dog Milo out with Dave

You need a bungee lead, preferably that when fully stretched isn't longer than 2m, that way you have better control. And finally a harness on your dog. There are so many so it's best to go to an event where a stall such as K9 trail time are set up and try on different harness as they really are so different. You must not run with a dog in a standard walking harness or a lead clipped to the collar. As this has a high probability of injuring the dog.







## Canicross

## Rescue dogs are running for DRUE...

### How do you train for Canicross, both for yourself and for your dog?

Training is easy, I love running and so does my dog, so there's no point going out twice a night for me, then for the dog, hence I combine the two. Even if you go slow it doesn't matter. Your dog may be strong and you think he or she will pull you over but get a bungee lead that has handles half way for better control. You will take a tumble at some point, just laugh it off and go again. I'm getting used to it now.

## What kind of races or competitions are available for Canicross?

I've entered 3-5K all the way up to 50k events with my dog and there are longer distance races. Some events have obstacles like mud pits like a tough mudder but for you and your dog. There are events that have 6 to 7 races and you get points and a series win at the end of the season. The summer months you will see a reduction in the races due to the heat, so running late night is your better option.



Do you think Canicross benefits the dogs?

Massively, my dobie Leyna was one of the most reactive dogs I had owned. I started to avoid going to places that would be busy with dogs. Then I started running and she would pass dogs rather than react. So I tried her at an event that had individual time starts, then the big test was a mass start with over 50 dogs and owners at once , she started great and ran past them all. She surprises us more at every event. And the smiles she gives when she's finished say it all.



The canicross community in itself is a great place to be. Lots of support and advice from trained people which has been handy with our 4.

#### What advice would you give to someone who is interested in trying Canicross for the first time?

I'd say go for it, even if you start at the back and finish last, the feeling you and your doggo will get when you are cheered over the line Will have you hooked.

## Has Canicross grown and evolved rt in recent years?

Yes, I wish I had known about it earlier. I'm a late starter to canicross, although I always ran with my dog's I never knew of this world of events. We've travelled all over the country and stayed in some beautiful places. It's becoming more and more recognised since I joined 3 years ago. I don't see why there won't be a canicross event at Crufts. Would liven it up, have you ever seen a sprint finish with 2 dogs going flat out!

## What makes Canicross unique and exciting?

The dogs and the people that put the events on. The dogs just want to run with their owners, they are not really bothered about personal bests, or trophy cabinets (although we are) they just see it as great exercise and have fun being out with their owners.

## How did you get involved in DRUE & tell me about your DRUE dog/s?

We adopted Leyna from DRUE aged 1, she's now 5. She was found in Cyprus in a sorry state, with the help of rescue and rehome in Cyprus and DRUE and foster parents Helen and Rob, they got her to good health and with house manners as she had been caged outside for the first year of her life.



She's done the 3 Welsh peaks in a day to raise money for DRUE and she's always taking part in the 50k Ultra in October. Getting a medal for her was the main reason I started events with her, just so she had achieved the incredible, from being near death, to a podium finishing dog, and prove that no dog is beyond entering with.

Dodd came from Spain aged roughly 10 and is now 14.5 .. He's had a bad time with one injury after another from an ongoing infection in his paw he came over with. But he's still battling on. Climbing mountains and making memories.





## DRUE Open day 26 August 2023

Come join us for a fun-filled day at the Dobermann Rescue Charity Open Day on the 26th August 2023, 11:00 to 16:00hrs.

There will be plenty to see and do at our event. Browse through our various stalls, offering a range of Dobermann merchandise, and grab a bite to eat. We'll have food and refreshments available throughout the day.

Whether you're an experienced Dobermann owner or just curious about the breed, our team members will be on hand all day to provide information and advice on the

Dobermann breed, our charity, and what is involved in rescue.

We'll have both indoor and outdoor stalls, with lots going on throughout the day to keep everyone entertained.



Come rain or shine, the event promises to be a great day out for all the family, while also helping us raise vital funds for our rescue charity. So come along and support us, and help make a difference to the lives of Dobermanns in need.



Well behaved dogs welcome

#### **Stall Space Available**

Would you like a stall to sell or promote your wares?

We are selling stall space for £10 per stall, bring your own table and gazebo. No profit charges, unless you make loadsamoney and want to give us a donation.

#### Location

The open day will take place in the beautiful Cheshire Countryside at the Global Air Training Facilities: Curdlands Barn, Harthill road, Burwardsley, Cheshire, CH3 9NU

We're excited to invite you to our event, and can't wait to see you there!

#### Contact us

For more details or to book a stall, contact us by email on druecharity@gmail.com







## **NEWS FLASH**

## Rescue dogs are reaping huge benefits. Read on...

Dobermanns are a highly intelligent and energetic breed of dog that require a lot of attention and exercise.

Unfortunately, many people do not realise the amount of work that goes into raising a Dobermann and end up surrendering them to shelters or abandoning them altogether. This is where Dobermann Rescue UK & Europe (DRUE) come in - we work tirelessly to save these beautiful dogs and find them loving forever homes. In this article, we will explore the many benefits of supporting DRUE.

#### Saving lives

The most obvious benefit of supporting DRUE is that you are helping to save the lives of these amazing dogs.



Many of the Dobermanns that end up in shelters or on the streets are not in good health, and they need special care to recover.

The DRUE team work actively to ensure that these dogs get the medical attention they need, as well as proper nutrition and socialisation. .

#### **Finding forever homes**

Another benefit of supporting DRUE is that you are helping to find these dogs their forever homes. We spend a lot of time and effort to match dogs with suitable owners, taking into account their personality, energy level, and any special needs they may have. This process ensures that the dogs are placed in homes where they will receive the love and attention they deserve.

#### Educating the public

Many people are not aware of the unique needs of Dobermanns and end up surrendering them to shelters or abandoning them.

DRUE endeavours to educate the public about the breed, including their energy levels, exercise needs, and training requirements. By doing so, we hope to prevent more Dobermanns from ending up in shelters or on the streets.

"People don't realise the amount of work that goes into raising a Dobermann and end up surrendering or abandoning them"

#### **Fostering opportunities**

Occasionally there is a requirement to find a foster home to provide temporary care for dogs while they wait to be adopted.

Fostering provides dogs with the opportunity to receive one-on-one attention and training, which can help them to become better adjusted and more adoptable. By supporting DRUE, you may have the opportunity to foster a dog and help them on their journey to finding their forever home.

#### Supporting a good cause

By donating your time, money, or resources, you are making a positive impact on the dog's lives and helping to ensure they get the care they need.

DRUE relies on the donations of our supporters to keep our operation running, so any contribution you can make is greatly appreciated.

#### A success story

In Jan 23, puppy 'Blitz' was found abandoned, cold and bewildered on the streets at just 8 weeks old. He had a terrible skin condition and was seriously under weight.



One of our team took him into their home as a temporary foster as he was too young to endure the stress of the kennels.

Treatment and nourishment began immediately. It wasn't long before an

adoption home was found and Blitz went off to his forever home to be loved and cared for. He put on weight and his skin condition cleared up. He now looks amazing.





Blitz, in his forever home- Mar 23

If you would consider supporting DRUE please either contact us at: druecharity@gmail.com or see "Ways to help us" on the last page of this news letter.





## The palliative effect of touch & blanket sucking Credit: Jay Kershaw

#### The palliative effect of touch

Touch is a vital aspect of human to human and human to animal social behaviour, helping us bond with and care for each other.

If we're feeling anxious our friends will often touch our arm, or give us a man to man pat on the back.

Touch can release calming hormones of dopamine and serotonin in the brain, and transfers nerve sensation to the area touched, rather than focusing on the cause of the arousal.



Dogs are very sensitive to even the slightest touch from the pressure of a collar, or a gentle touch from a kind hand.

Using touch to lower the defence or prey drive and take the dog into the more desirable state of pack drive, is a non confrontational way to introduce calmness.

However, never touch a dog when it is in full defence or aggressive mode, because that may result in it spinning round to snap at what it believes to be another dog coming in to bite.

If your dog is reactive, visit a trainer who specialises in handling reactive dogs, so they can teach you how to manage their behaviour, and show you how to take the dog into another drive.

#### The palliative effect of flank or blanket sucking

Flank or blanket sucking is a comfort habit and is normal in the Dobermann, and it is not detrimental to the dog in anyway.

Some veterinary articles allege that it is a medical condition that Dobermanns' suffer from, and incredibly they recommend that in severe cases drugs are prescribed to prevent the habit. kneading the blanket or cushion and the eyes usually either closed or glazed over in contentment.



"Using touch to lower the defence or prey drive and take the dog into the more desirable state of pack drive, is a non confrontational way to introduce calmness"

Any Dobermann owner whose dog indulges in this habit will tell you that this is complete nonsense, in the same way that no one would



consider medicating children who suck their thumb for relaxation.

Some Dobermanns suck a blanket, while some suck their flank, loin or leg in the same way that an infant puppy suckles with the paws



Credits:

Jay Kershaw—Breeder, Trainer, Owner. From her book Dobermanns. A practical guide for owners and breeders

#### Page 10





## Take your Dobies for a walk and then settle down with a cuppa to test your knowledge and have a go at this months multi choice quiz

- 1. What is the origin of the Dobermann breed?
- a) Germany
- b) United States
- c) Russia

2. What was the original purpose of the Dobermann breed?

- a) Hunting
- b) Herding
- c) Guarding
- 3. What is the average lifespan of a Dobermann?
- a) 8-10 years
- b) 10-12 years
- c) 12-14 years
- 4. What is the standard colour of the Dobermann's coat?
- a) Black
- b) White
- c) Red
- 5. Are Dobermanns generally good with children?
- a) Yes, they are great with children
- b) No, they are not good with children

c) It depends on the individual dog and their socialisation

6. How much exercise do Dobermanns typically require?

a) They are couch potatoes and require very little exercise

b) They need moderate exercise, such as daily walks or runs

c) They require intense exercise, such as long runs or high-intensity training

- 7. What is the Dobermann's temperament like?
- a) Aggressive and unpredictable
- b) Energetic and loyal
- c) Shy and timid

- 8. What is the average height of a male Dobermann?
- a) 24-26 inches
- b) 26-28 inches
- c) 28-30 inches

9. Which of the following is a common health issue for Dobermanns?

- a) Allergies
- b) Obesity
- c) DCM

10. Which of the following is not a part of a Dobermann's skeletal system?

- a) Scapula
- b) Mandible
- c) Spleen

Answers to last months word search



### Page 11









### THE 3 DAYS. 3 WEEKS. 3 MONTHS RULE OF ADOPTING A RESCUE DOG

THIS IS A GENERAL GUIDELINE, EVERY DOG IS UNIQUE AND WILL ADJUST TO THEIR NEW ENVIRONMENT DIFFERENTLY

#### IN THE FIRST 3 DAY

Overwhelmed with their new surroundings. Not comfortable enough to be themself. Reluctance to eat or drink. May shut down and curl up in their bed, crate or in a corner. May be stressed, scared and not know what is happening. May try to test you to see what they can get away with.

#### AFTER 3 WEEKS

Starting to settle in, feeling more comfortable, and realising this really may be their forever home. Figured out their environment and getting into the routine that you have set. May start showing their real personality. Behavioural issues may start showing, this is your time to put boundaries in place and show them what is right and wrong.

#### FTER 3 MONTHS

Now completely comfortable in their home. You have built trust and a bond with your dog, which gives them a complete sense of security with you. They are set in their routine and will come to expect the routine to continue



#### Page 12