



Dobermanmann Rescue UK and Europe (DRUE) Presents

DRUE LIFE



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April 2024

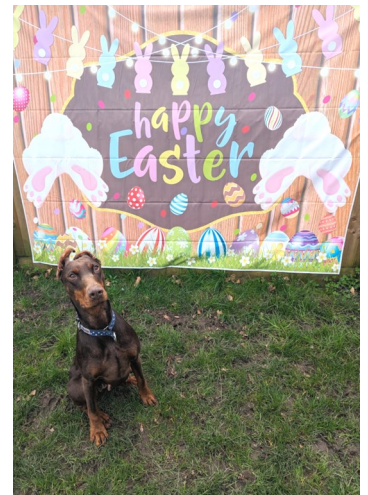
Issue 16

Welcome from the editor

Happy Easter everyone — I thought we'd adorn this month's front cover with some easter themed rescue bunnies. Er, I mean Dobies.

See more photos of the dobies who are looking for a home inside on page 3 or check out our website for further details on the dogs.

<https://dobermanmannrescueuk.co.uk/category/dobermanmann-rescue-available/>



Dogs who found their new forever home



Jet



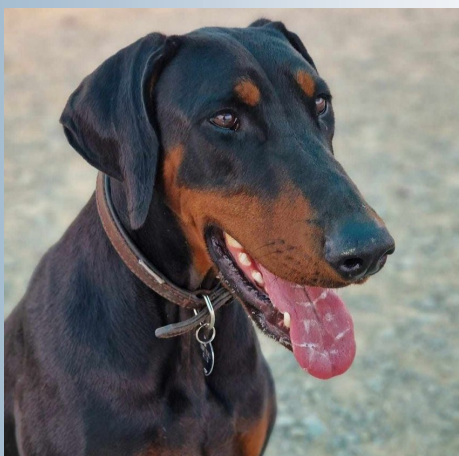
Kobe



Frankie



Bella



Lylah



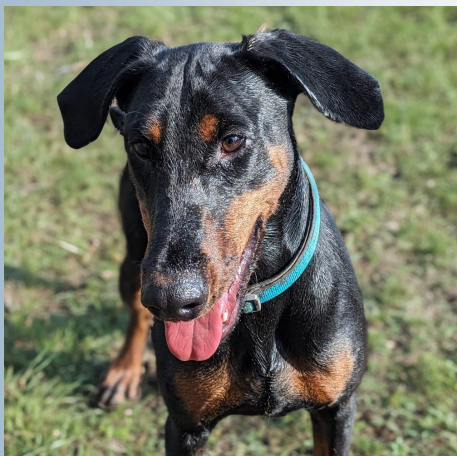
Ozlo



Caesar

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.dobermanmannrescueuk.co.uk

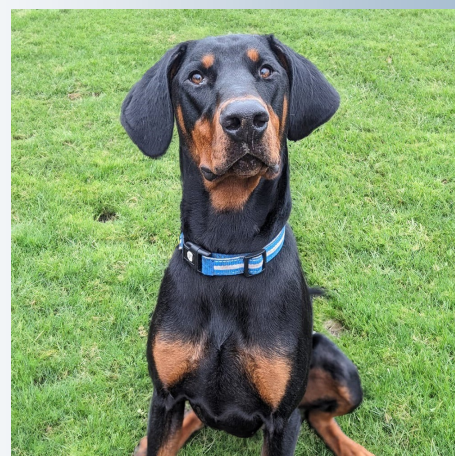
Please help me, I need a home !



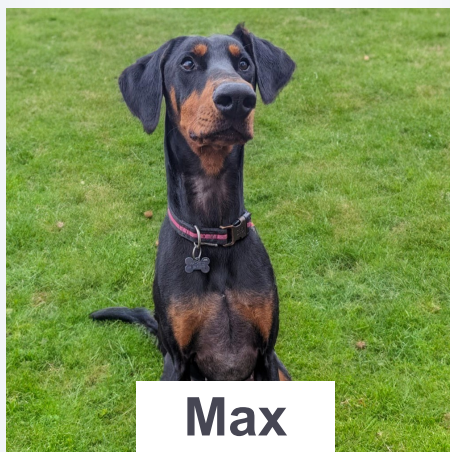
Raven



Pablo



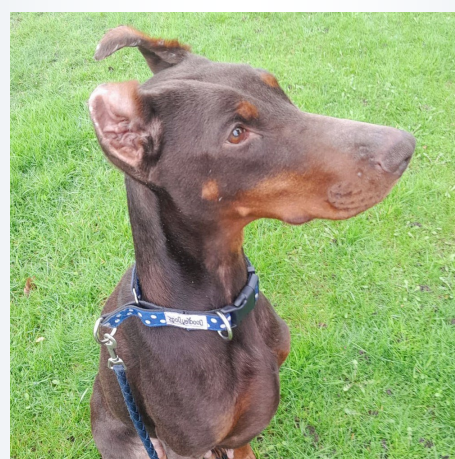
Scooby



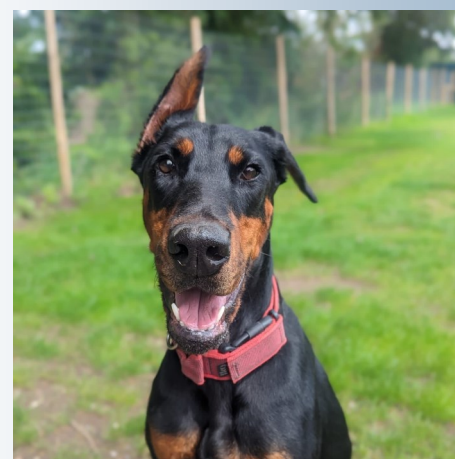
Max



Pepper in foster



Dizzy



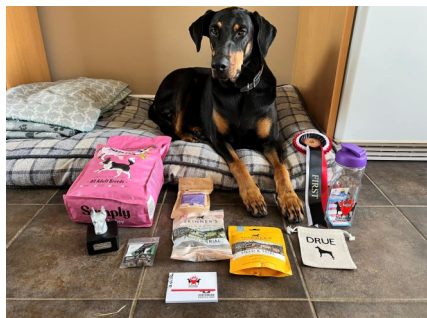
Dotty in foster

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

Life after rescue — “Bodie”

Editors note

I met Bodie at the South West Dobermann Club Family Fun Dog show, in Somerset, back in August last year. He had just scooped first prize in the ‘Best Rescue’ class.



I got chatting to his proud parents and found out he was a ‘Pets for Therapy’ dog. I really wanted to find out more about Bodie and his valuable contributions to society, so I asked his Mum and Dad if they’d share his story. And here we have it...

Bodie arrives

Bodie came into our lives in March 2018. We sadly lost our beloved Shadow just before her 10th birthday in the February and whilst I never expected to want another dog so quickly, I missed the companionship dreadfully.

We visited Liz at DRUE one sunny Saturday afternoon and met Bodie and Doyle, the Spanish strays. It was thought they were about 6 months old. Whilst Doyle played and amused himself, Bodie came and sat with us and it was mutual love at first sight. 15 minutes later Bodie joined the



family, and was in the back of our car ready for the journey back to Somerset.



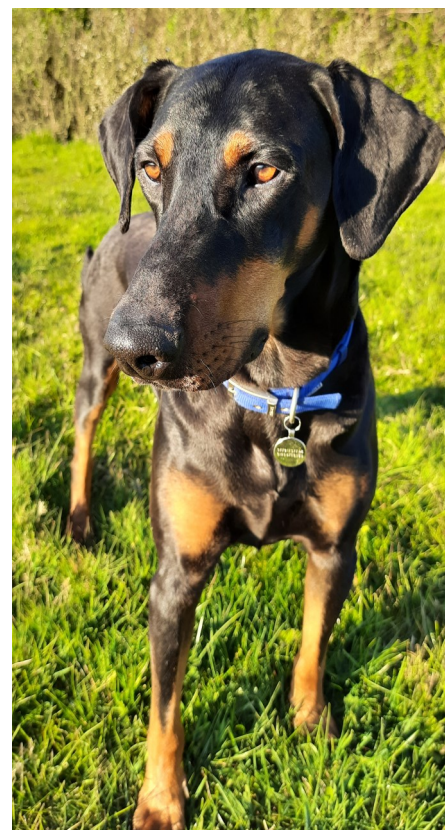
On the way home we went to feed our horses and Bodie was terrified. That didn’t last very long and it quickly became a game to pull the horses tails or just lay down with them. At home, he was wary of the stairs and we wondered whether he had ever seen them before. However, once he had sussed them out he spent the whole night running up and down them. For a street dog he was amazingly clean and did not require any house training.



We immediately realised what a lovely lad he was but a complete goofball, leading to his nickname Muppet. He has enhanced our lives and is loved to bits.

Solo adventure

Not long after he came home Bodie went exploring on his own early one morning. We dashed out looking for him. My husband found him about ½ mile away from home in somebody’s garden but had no phone, collar or lead with him so had to carry him home! He was not so popular that day.



Introduction to P.A.T.

I took him to puppy training. He loves learning new things and would always do zoomies when he got something right. It was there they suggested that we think about having him assessed for Pets As Therapy (PAT) and also whether we would consider allowing him to teach other dogs.

Pets As Therapy is a National Charity that enhances the health and wellbeing of people across the UK by ensuring that everyone, no matter their circumstances, has access to the companionship of an animal. I was keen to become involved for a

Life after rescue — “Bodie”

number of reasons not least people’s perception of Dobermanns.

Bodie passed his assessment with flying colours and has since attended an Assessors Teaching course himself.



Bodie’s hectic work schedule

We “work” four days a week: Mondays we attend a private school where Bodie is their Wellness Dog helping de-stress students and helping boarders who may be feeling homesick;

Tuesdays we visit an adult day centre for a chat and cuddles



Wednesdays we can be found at a dementia/ care home. He loves it particularly as they save him lunch. It is amazing to see faces light up when they stroke Bodie and

how they can always remember his name. One gentleman had not

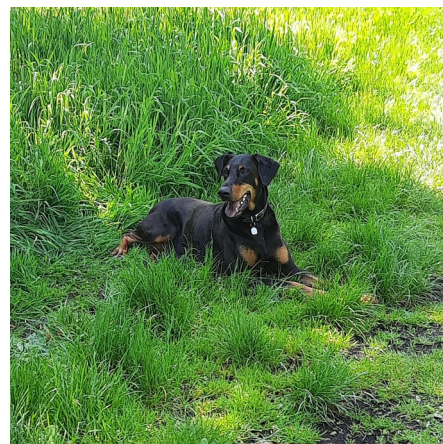
spoken since he had been in the home but talked to Bodie and another lady later told her family that she had made peace with her late husband by engaging with Bodie. Apparently, her husband had bred Dobermanns during their marriage but she had always been scared of them. Sadly, she died shortly afterwards.

Finally, Fridays is Reading2Dogs at our local primary school. Pupils read to Bodie in small groups whilst he generally nods off. Kids ask the funniest things – “Why does Bodie not wear pants” and “Does Bodie do big poos!?”

Bodie is the calmest most chilled dog you will ever come across (unless you are a squirrel!).



We found out that there are five fundamental teaching dog roles – Mentor, Monitor, Nanny, Constant and Clown. Surprise, surprise, Bodie is a Clown and helps teach dogs how to communicate in a calm and confident manner.



Bodie has helped a number of people overcome their fear of dogs whilst out an about as, despite his size, he really is just a little dog, in a big body. Everybody is always amazed that he is a rescue dog – the best kind!



I also volunteer with the Cinnamon Trust and Bodie accompanies me on dog walks making lots of new friends.

In his role as a PAT dog, Bodie has met the Lady Mayoress, attended charity events and was a special guest a Gala Dinner where he helped me present the awards (and was given dinner for his trouble).

I am well trained and certainly know my place – Bodie’s chauffeur and bodyguard. It is lovely that people always remember him when we are out and about and want to stop for a chat.

Life after rescue — “Bodie” cont.



Bodie loves visiting the pub and going shopping. It is amazing how many places are dog friendly.

He loves long walks and is happiest running like a loon on the beach or chasing squirrels in the woods.

He likes to sit on you if you are sat on the floor or lay across your lap if you are sat in a chair.

This causes much amusement in public places. He really enjoys travelling in the car and loves trying to catch air, ears flapping with his head out of the window.

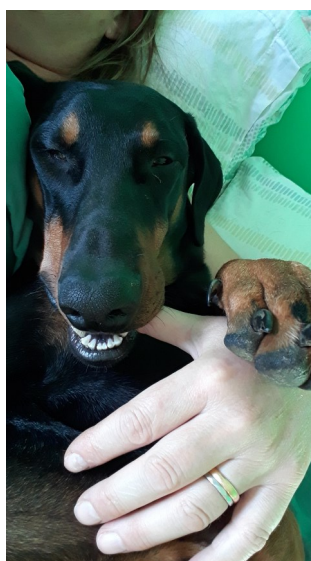


He enjoys going to dog shows, particularly if he wins a rosette and is happy anywhere as long as you are there.

For something different, we have tried man-trailing and scent work – both were fun. Whilst other dogs went wild sniffing around running this way and that with their owners desperately trying not to fall over keeping up with them, Bodie trotted along at his own pace leaving me to leisurely follow.



His hobbies are playing tug, chasing hedge monsters and sucking your thumb. He loves holidays, bum rubs, ear tickles, being towel dried and cuddles. Although on one holiday in Devon, unfortunately he fell in a bog and was definitely not impressed with his new look.



He is happiest lying on people or in the back of the car. He really doesn't like water or motorbikes but loves chasing the quad bike.

Embarrassing moments: Being chased along the beach by two yapping Chihuahuas to the amusement of people sat in their gardens and an unintentional swim in a green algae covered rhyne.

Quick fire interview — Bodie — Approx 6yrs old

Q. How long has he been in your life. A. He has been part of our family for 5.5 years.

Q. Favourite food? A. Bread/toast and cheese.

Q. What makes you laugh about him? A. He makes us smile all the time and is so loveable. He talks a lot in his sleep which is both funny and annoying in equal measures. His tail is completely random when he relaxes and does not appear to be linked to his body.

Q. Does he have a naughty side? A. Oh yes he has a naughty side: He steals anything we put out for the birds and spends the next couple of hours wandering around with it in his mouth trying to decide where to hide it. He also nicks the duvet and takes up too much of the bed.

Q. If he was a famous person who would he be like? A. Scooby-Doo. He is just a big loveable goof who does not take himself seriously.

Q. Best memory/adventure with him so far. A. Bodie is always smiling and very happy. Life is good in Bodie World.

Spotlight on our volunteer "Naz"

Editor's note

DRUE has achieved remarkable success in rescuing, rehabilitating, and finding loving homes for countless dogs in need. This is made possible through the incredible work of our dedicated team and the generous support from our community.

DRUE is powered by compassionate individuals who dedicate their time and skills to make a significant impact on the lives of our rescues. Whether they're directly involved in the care of our dogs (often seen in our Facebook updates), or working diligently behind the scenes, each volunteer plays a crucial role in our mission.

Introducing Naz

This month the spotlight falls Naz who comes over to Congleton every week to exercise the dogs. He loves nothing more than giving them some basic training and stimulation either on the lead or off lead in one of the secure paddocks.



I had a chat with him about his life with Dobies and what he gets up to with the DRUE dogs. He had the following to say...

The early years

I first came across Dobermanns at a young age when I started to research multiple dog breeds. At 13

I got a German Shepherd puppy. We joined BAGSD obedience classes and this fostered my early interest in dog training.

I didn't return to dog ownership until I retired. I felt I then had adequate time for proper pet ownership. Shaan is my three and a half year old Dobermann.



We spend many an hour in the local parks and are also active members of the local Schutzhund club.

Shaan has already passed his BH and we hope to successfully compete in IGP1 later this year.



Getting involved with DRUE

I'd already decided that I needed to give something back to the community. My personal passion for Dobermanns grew strongly and it seemed only natural to volunteer for a Dobermann Rescue organisation. I heard about DRUE online and reached out.

A typical day for me at DRUE

Mid-morning starts with finding out which dogs are kennelled and discussing their specific needs with my DRUE partner Pauline T. We work together as a team to try and ensure that each dog gets an equally enjoyable break from the monotony of kennel life.



Enjoying time with one of DRUE's rescues in the agility paddock

We focus on road walking with runs in the paddock, sometimes combining play with basic training. This helps us to further understand a dog's nature, potential and adoption fit.

We will feedback our observations to the wider DRUE team so that we can all help to optimise rehoming and dog welfare.

We try to ensure that the dogs are comfortable by arranging their kennels and ensuring that they are well fed, watered and toileted by the time we leave in the early afternoon.

Cont. next page

Spotlight on our volunteer "Naz" Cont.



Challenges and rewards

It's always disappointing when rehomed dogs are returned. Sometimes adopters expect perfection or haven't truly understood a dog's specific needs. It's important to soldier on as eventually we manage to pair these dogs with the appropriate owners.

Sometimes dogs present with unruly behaviours. It's pleasurable to see how they positively evolve over time with the collective efforts of the broader DRUE team.

Dog behaviour

We sometimes have to approach and handle Dobermanns that might be shy, scared, or reactive when we first meet them. Very often the dogs have not had the best starts in life or are simply stressed from their newfound environments.

It's really important to approach each Dobermann with love, compassion and affection, giving adequate time to build trust. Some dogs need their own space and time to decompress and adapt, so a very slow approach is sometimes best.

Memorable moments

I personally find it really fulfilling to discover a dog's true talent or potential. I remember a dog which initially appeared completely untrained but we managed to determine that it was a highly trained sports dog. I'm sure it joined an active family to lead a fulfilling life.



The impact of rescue

In the short term we give the dogs some of the enrichment that they need while they're with us. In the longer term our work helps to ensure that the dogs are paired with appropriate owners to help ensure that they lead more stable fulfilling lives.



Advice for prospective volunteers

I'd always suggest reaching out to a local rescue centre and shadowing some volunteers if at all possible. This will give you a more realistic understanding of the role and help you gain an understanding of the ethos of the centre.

Understanding Dobermanns

I really wish that people would take the time out to truly understand the commitment needed to keep a Dobermann mentally and physically happy. Rescue Dobermanns often offer oodles of unconditional love and happiness in return for this commitment.



Personal growth

Volunteering at DRUE has helped me to become more personally fulfilled by providing me with a focus for my compassion. It has opened my eyes to some of the wider issues in the dog welfare landscape such as neglect. By volunteering at DRUE I can at least help to address some of the issues faced by these individual animals.

Introducing DRUE's assessor "Sarah"



Editors note

As some of you will know (perhaps other folk don't?), all of our dogs are assessed by an external assessor prior to rehoming them.

We are very fortunate indeed to have the lovely and very credible Sarah Hursthouse working alongside DRUE as our external professional assessor.

Some of you may have come across Sarah before, she has appeared twice on 'The real housewives of Cheshire'. For others you may have seen glimpses of her on our Facebook pages or perhaps even made use of her services for your own dogs.



Introducing Sarah

Hi, I'm Sarah Hursthouse. I've been working as a Canine Behaviourist for over 20 years now.

I originally set up my business, Dogskool, doing just puppy classes alongside my dog grooming business. I had been studying Canine Psychology and Behaviour and eventually sold off the grooming business and concentrated on Dogskool full time.



After lots of study and subsequent qualifications, I was able to offer behavioural work as well as offering puppy classes, fun classes, agility, flyball, and hoops.

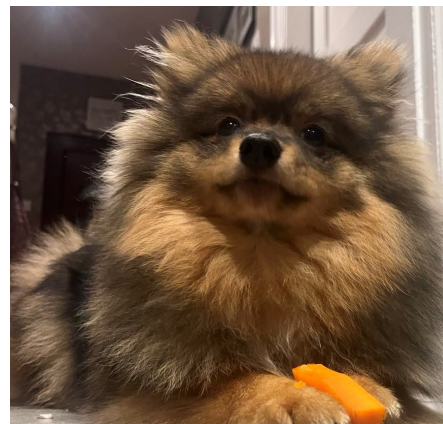
About 8 years ago, I studied further to obtain a qualification to work as an Expert Witness. This means that I am instructed by solicitors to assess dogs and write Court ready reports to be presented in criminal and civil dog related cases. I am often called to give evidence in Court about the behaviour of the dog in question and dogs in general.

The most rewarding moments of my working life as a Dog Behaviourist have been when my evidence has saved a dog from being destroyed, even after being grilled by a rather determined Prosecutor!

Dogs have been my life

I've always been a "doggy" person. My mum was a breeder of Poodles and we showed our dogs all over the country.

I've currently got 4 dogs – 2 Collies, aged 8 and 15, a Sheltie aged 12 and a very cute but very noisy Pomeranian aged 18 months.



I've previously always had Border Collies but had a bit of a mid-life crisis and wanted a little fluffy dog!!



Competition

For the last 15 years, I've competed in Flyball with all of my dogs, only retiring recently.



I set up the Puparazzi Flyball Team in 2018 which is still going strong. I've been lucky enough to get lots of wins at the British and European Championships and came third at Crufts in 2017! A fabulous experience.

Cont. next page

Introducing DRUE's assessor "Sarah"

Working with DRUE

I was approached by DRUE in 2023 and asked if I would be interested in assessing Dobermanns being prepared for rehoming. Even though I live close to DRUE's Congleton base, I was not aware of the Rescue.



I have worked with many Dobermanns over the years and so was happy to help. I try to be as flexible as I can, as I know that dogs can arrive at any time and need assessing quickly so that they can find their forever home without any delay. It's sometimes a bit of a juggle to fit all my behavioural appointments around them!



Luckily, Dogskool is so established now that I have Instructors who tend to run most of the classes for me so that I can concentrate on other work.

I find my work at DRUE extremely rewarding. It's great to play a part in finding lovely homes for these beautiful dogs. I'm looking to see that they are of good temperament, both with people and dogs and are not showing negative behaviours.

Many come in as a bit of blank page but are motivated and can be trained and developed into lovely, family pets.

Some dogs that come into DRUE are very scared and stressed. They may have been plucked from a home environment and arrive at a kennels with no familiar faces and will struggle at first. I always approach these dogs very carefully and let them choose how and when they want to interact. I use only reward-based methods and want all dogs to have a positive experience.

My assessments are mostly treats, toys and play. And the vast majority of the dogs are very happy with this! I have found Dobermanns to generally be a lovely, sociable breed who just want to engage with you.

DRUE work extremely hard with a fantastic team of volunteers to provide the care that these dogs need. They take great care in finding suitable forever homes for the dogs and it's wonderful to see all the photos and comments from adopters of their new family members settling in!

Dobermanns as a breed



can sometimes have a negative image. They can be perceived as just guard dogs, standoffish and prone to aggression and reactivity. Some people will crop their ears and tail in order to make them look tough! Completely illegal of course in this country. In reality, the Dobermann is an active and energetic breed who, with the right training and socialisation, is calm and loyal,



Introducing DRUE's assessor "Sarah"



Regular physical and mental stimulation is provided at DRUE and this helps enormously. Jumping up can be an issue. I have a coat specially saved for DRUE assessments that has lots of muddy footprints! But this unwanted behaviour is easily resolved by teaching your dog how to greet someone appropriately.

That is the way I approach all training. It's not about STOPPING behaviours but about TEACHING the behaviours you do want. And we do that by motivating our dogs

and rewarding them for good behaviour.

For adopters and fosterers of DRUE dogs, I am happy to give free behavioural advice on request. Just drop me a line and I'll advise where I can. I also have lots of resources such as eBooks, online courses, articles and video demonstrations that I can send to you free of charge.

To contact Sarah for advice or to find out more about her services to work with your dogs, please email her at sarah@dogskool.co.uk



making a lovely family pet. Of the many dogs that I've assessed at DRUE, I generally find them to be a fabulous dog with great focus and impulse control which makes them ideal to train.

Often, the dogs at DRUE haven't received much training and will be a little over boisterous. It may be that they haven't previously had much of an outlet for their energy and natural instincts. They like to run and have fun!

and rewarding them for good behaviour.

Good loose lead walking and recall are the other essential behaviours that can be lacking in the dogs coming into DRUE. Again, these can easily be worked on using reward-based techniques. If you do employ the services of a trainer, make sure that you use someone who uses modern, science-based methods and not old school, aversive ones that make problems much worse and

dogskool



It's the law & our responsibility

Animals have rights too

We must ensure the welfare and safety of our canine friends. This is not just a nice thing to do, it's the responsible thing to do, and it's also the law.



Animal Welfare Act 2006

In alignment with Section 9 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006, it is our legal and moral obligation to ensure that every domestic animal is afforded the following rights:

Suitable Living Environment: Our beloved pets deserve a space that is conducive to their health and well-being.

Proper Nutrition: A balanced and appropriate diet is essential for their physical health.

Natural Behaviour: The opportunity to express innate behaviours is crucial for their mental and emotional health.

Social Needs: Whether they thrive in the company of other animals or prefer solitude, their social needs must be met.

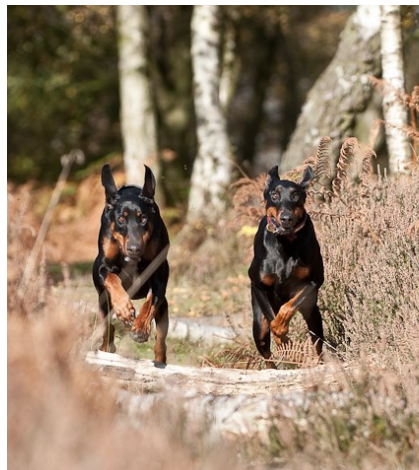
Health and Protection: It is imperative to safeguard them from any form of pain, suffering, injury, and disease.

Moreover, it's crucial to understand the responsibilities that come with dog ownership, as outlined on WWW.GOV.UK

Control and safety

It's illegal for a dog to be dangerously out of control anywhere, including public places, private properties (e.g. neighbours house or garden), or the owner's premises.

A dog is deemed dangerously out of control if it injures someone or makes someone fear they might be injured (take note of this point!). This also extends to situations where it attacks someone's animal or the owner of an animal thinks they could be injured if they tried to stop your dog attacking their animal (take note again!).



Legal consequences

Owners of dogs that are dangerously out of control face severe penalties, including unlimited fines, 6 months imprisonment. You may not be allowed to own a dog in the future and your dog may be destroyed.

If you let your dog injure someone you can be sent to prison for up to 5 years or fined (or both). If you deliberately use your dog to injure someone you could be charged with 'malicious wounding'.

If you allow your dog to kill someone you can be sent to prison for up to 14 years or get an unlimited fine (or both).



If you allow your dog to injure an assistance dog (for example a guide dog) you can be sent to prison for up to 3 years or fined (or both).

Mandatory microchipping

All dogs must be microchipped and registered on a database by 8 weeks of age. Failure to comply can lead to legal action and potential charges for non-compliance.

Identification

Even if microchipped, dogs must wear a collar and ID tag in public spaces, detailing the owner's name and address, as per the Control of Dogs Order 1992.

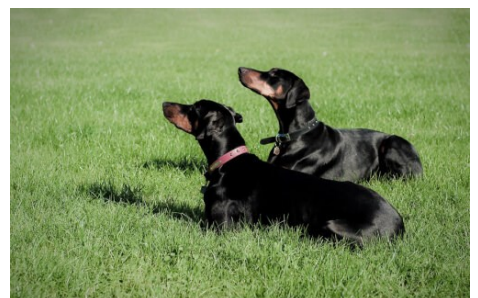
Dog fouling

Owners are legally obligated to clean up after their dogs in public areas. Local authorities can issue on-the-spot fines for non-compliance, with penalties varying by council.



Safety and harmony

As guardians of our canine companions, it's our duty to adhere to these guidelines, ensuring not only their safety and well-being but also the safety and harmony of our communities. Let's work together to create a better, safer world for all our furry friends.





DRUE LIFE



The real BIG “£2 pledge”

Will you join us in taking the "donate for the Dobies" pledge on the first day of each month?

Dobermann Rescue UK & Europe, a dedicated charity, seeks your invaluable support. We are grateful for our devoted following, including those who already contribute regularly. Now, we reach out to all our supporters, urging you to pledge just £2 each month through direct debit (or more, if you can spare it). It's less than the cost of one cup of takeaway coffee per month, but every penny holds immense significance, shaping a remarkable impact.

We have nearly 9,000 DRUE Facebook group members and 20,000 Followers on our main page. If you all gave £2 a month, this would raise a huge amount. Imagine all the dogs we could help with that!

Being a charity we rely solely on volunteers for help and supporters to keep us running. By standing by us, you empower us to rescue, provide care, rehabilitate, and secure loving homes for these extraordinary Dobermann dogs. Your generous donations directly enhance their well-being. Together, let's make a lasting difference in the lives of Dobermanns.



Please join our 1st of the month £2 pledge

Donate for the Dobies

Every penny holds immense significance, shaping a remarkable impact.

By standing by us, you empower us to rescue, provide care, rehabilitate, and secure loving homes for these extraordinary Dobermann dogs.

Your generous donations directly enhance their well-being. Together, let's make a lasting difference in the lives of Dobermanns.

Please support us by setting up a direct debit on the 1st of the month for a £2 contribution, hopefully you won't miss it but the Dobies will benefit greatly.

Account: Dobermann Rescue UK & Europe
Account No. 61927168
Sort code 30-84-26

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 DAYS

Overwhelmed with their new surroundings. Not comfortable enough to be themselves. 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.

AFTER 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





DRUE LIFE



4 REASONS TO SUPPORT DRUE



We are 100% invested in the dogs wellbeing.

We aim to ensure the dogs are stimulated everyday with time out of their kennels to walk, run, play.



We have a highly motivated team made up of professionals and experienced Dobermann owners/handlers.

We aim to save and rehome as many Dobermann dogs in need as we can, but we need your help!



WAYS TO HELP US



One off donations, monthly standing orders, take part in our fundraisers

Gifts, treats, coats, PJs
robust toys for the dogs

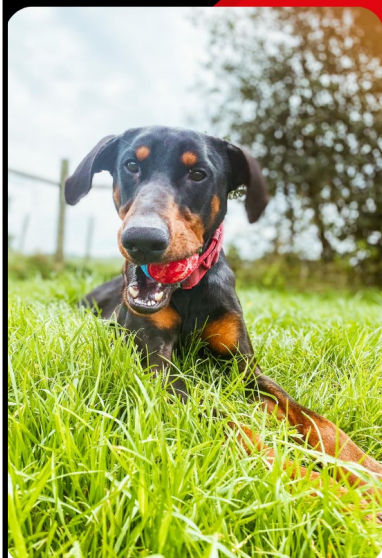


Bank details
Account name: Dobermann
Rescue UK & Europe
Sort code: 30-84-26
Account Number: 61927168

PayPal
druecharity@gmail.com
Please tick friends and family



Contact us & Follow us



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Tel: 01260 603017

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FACEBOOK ADOPTERS: facebook.com/groups/DRUEadopters

Instagram@druecharity
Twitter@UkRescue