

Meet Niya

This girl absolutely loves meeting new people. She hasn't received much formal training or structure yet. She's an exuberant pup who's strong on the lead but capable of walking calmly with guidance, and she requires a self-assured, seasoned handler. She can be chatty, at the beginning of outings, though she calms down soon after.

She has so much untapped promise from her early life, and never fully explored her abilities. Niya deserves a chance to shine.



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November 2025

Issue 35

Welcome from the editor

We are thrilled to celebrate an incredible milestone: 9 years since our foundation! Over this time, countless Dobermanns have found safety, love, and forever homes, thanks to the unwavering generosity of our supporters and the tireless dedication of our volunteer team. Dive deeper into our journey on page 4.

We had a fantastic time at Hayley Clowes' fun Halloween dog show and fundraiser for DRUE, hosted at her doggy day care club, where over £1,200 was raised to support our rescues.

As we approach 1st November and the cooler autumn days settle in, remember to adjust your dog walking routine for the changing seasons—opt for layered clothing, reflective gear for shorter daylight hours to keep your Dobies safe and comfortable.

Don't forget to order your 2026 calendars as the new year draws closer, they make wonderful Christmas gifts while directly helping our Dobies in need!



Dogs who found their forever home



Ace



Storm



Musket



Dacota



Odin

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

Dogs looking for their forever home



Enzo



Niya



Dizzy



Enya
(Foster)



Lucky



Greta
(Foster)

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

DRUE's 9th Birthday



Let's celebrate

Doberman Rescue UK & Europe is getting ready to party...

Did you know we've just clocked up nine years since our foundation?

A momentous year, not just because DRUE was established. It was the year we voted to leave the EU, Tim Peake became the first British astronaut to walk in space,



and the year David Bowie and Alan Rickman died...

As an organisation, we've seen huge change in such a short time, not just in people but location too.

We wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the amazing commitment and efforts of everyone who helps- the Trustees, the staff, the volunteer walkers, fosterers, home checkers and transporters.

So it'd be great to have a Dobie party at next year's Pawfest to celebrate our decade of bringing joy and new life to the hundreds of dogs we have re-homed.

As a breed it's not known for its longevity but it would be lovely to know if any of the first Dobies we rescued are still with us and could join us to be honoured at the event.

We'd love your ideas about how to make it extra special and celebrate some of the amazing facts about the breed we love.



Did you know, for example, that a Dobie can hear sounds 250 yards away? That's further than two football pitches! Maybe some of our owners fancy

putting on a football match (with or without dogs- not sure how long the ball would survive!).

We know they're fast: they can reach speeds up to 35mph: how about a 100m sprint (not sure how many of us humans could keep up though...).



Join the Celebration

Of course we're always fundraising. Can you persuade 10 friends who love your Dobie to donate £1 each?

Share your own Doberman stories or photos on our Facebook page, and tag a friend to encourage them to donate too. Donating is easy, visit our website at dobermanrescueuk.co.uk/support-us

Thank you from all of us at DRUE, your generosity has been the heartbeat of our rescue for nine years. Let's keep the momentum going and save even more Dobies in the years to come!

Life after rescue

Milan & Denzel

Ed's note

I caught up with Milan, his wife, and their beautiful Dobie, Denzel, at DRUE's Pawfest event. It was lovely to see Denzel again, looking so relaxed and content in his new adopted life with his wonderful new mum and dad.

Milan now shares the inspiring story of how this perfect match came to be, from Denzel being surrendered to the joyful family he's found.

Milan's Story

Growing up in the Nineties, we had several Dobies that brought so much fun and energy into our home. However, once I started my own family, the idea of having a dog was put on hold until our children had grown up and moved out on their own.

It wasn't long after that milestone when the COVID-19 pandemic struck, and suddenly everyone seemed to be rushing to buy puppies from unscrupulous breeders taking advantage of the situation. I held a firm stance: if we were ever going to bring a dog into our lives, it had to be a rescue, not one from a breeder profiting off impulse decisions.

As lock down was lifted we discussed getting a dog the wife wanted a puppy. I said no and was surfing Facebook and the DRUE page popped up. This rekindled my love of Dobie's. The relevant adoption request forms were filled in and emailed over to DRUE.

After our home check ,Dawn Wigglesworth called to say a handsome boy called TJ was looking for a forever home.

That call changed everything, and TJ soon became our very first DRUE Dobie.



TJ

Sadly he crossed the rainbow bridge last year. We were heart broken and the house felt empty. Day by day the emptiness did not get easier.

I took all of TJ's stuff down to the kennels to see if they could be of use to the dogs in DRUE's care.

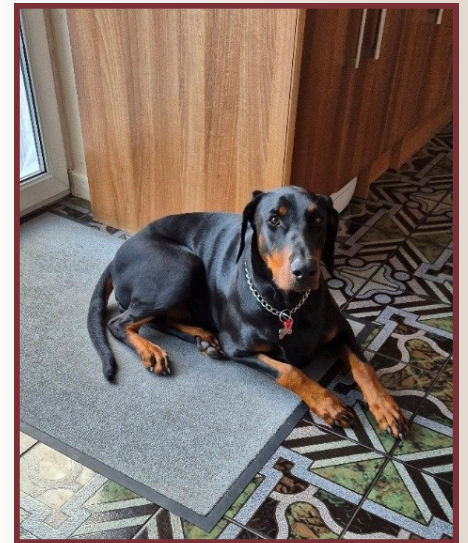
A couple of weeks later I reached out to Pauline about getting another rescue. She advised that there currently no dogs that would fit with what we were looking for. I thought then that perhaps there was no hope for another Dobie.

A few days later a email popped in the inbox. It was Pauline. She said that there was a 3.5 year old dog coming in that week called Denzel that may be a good fit for us.

We went down and took Denzel for a walk. He did not pull on the lead and my wife walked him with no issue. I said yes we will take him but would need a few days to get everything for him as we had donated all of the bedding feed bowls and food we had for TJ to DRUE. The kindness of the ladies that day went into overdrive. By the time we had filled in the

adoption forms, they had sorted everything out for us.

So, Denzel came home with us. When I opened the back of car he jumped out and ran straight to the front door. We were stunned how he knew.



He came in and straight on the sofa he claimed it as he had been there all of his life. We were surprised how he settled in straight away, even asking to go out to the garden to do his business.



Continued next page

Life after rescue

Milan & Denzel



This November it will be his 1st Gotcha day and 5th Birthday in Dec.

He is absolutely fantastic and is definitely the wife's Velcro dog. He will wake her up at 4am and be at

her side from that point till going to bed.

Denzel has no malice in him. He loves to play with other doggie friends. He will run over into another field and as soon as I shout him, he drops everything and runs straight back to me.

It is interesting how people have changed their opinion of him. The first time they saw him, they were scared of him because he was a Doberman. But the next time when we were out and they were there, he went over to their dogs, didn't bark, he just wagged his tail and sniffed, said hello to them and then he came away. Now those owners shout over Denzel when they see him playing with his tennis ball.

He is a typical Dobbie. His stomach is bottomless. You could have just fed



him and he wants what you are eating. If I go to the chippy, I have to get him a sausage or he has a sulk. He loves apples, carrots and bananas. I am sure he can peel a banana if you give him the chance.

He's the best thing in our life. This year has been hard due to family health issues. He has been such a comfort we could not be without him!



©EventsbySoulChild_PawFest25

Bonfire night A Dobie approach

The dreaded time of the year

It's that time of year for many dog owners- the dreaded time- Bonfire Night.

Whereas in my youth (last century!) it was pretty much a one or two night event, now it seems to go on for weeks on end. And just when you thought it was safe, we hit New Year- now increasingly a time when people decide to let off fireworks. The problem's compounded in that you don't know WHEN people are going to let them off!



So how best to keep your Dobie calm?

Training and conditioning

Noisy fireworks are actually illegal now in the UK. They are limited to 120 decibels, but that's still almost twice as loud as your average vacuum cleaner or washing machine.

It's not just fireworks, back-firing cars or bird scarers can be just as unpredictable and frightening to your dog.

It makes sense to train or condition your Dobie to noise, just as you train them in other behaviours.

You need the right equipment! In this case, a selection of relevant noises.

You need the right environment: at home, with your dog calm and settled.

The process

Begin by playing the noise(s) quietly, and increase the volume slowly and gently until you get a reaction- even something as slight as a nose or ear twitch.

Leave the sound playing/repeating at that level until your dog gets used to it. Repeat the process a few times a day for a few days, letting the sound play for 5-10 minutes at a time until your Dobie doesn't react to it.

Gradually increase the volume until you get that slight response, leave the sound at that level for a few minutes and then stop for that session.

Repeat the process over a few weeks.

It helps to make it a positive experience too. Have a favourite toy with you, and use as a distraction as you play the sound and increase the noise.

And remember, how YOU react will impact on them, so keep your movements and stress levels low too.

Other steps to take

Other noise... Playing white noise can be a big help. Allegedly classical music or heavy rock with a deep bass are proven to calm dogs and mask the bangs: handy tip- Battersea Dogs Home has a calming playlist for dogs on its website

Comfort counts...Put your dog in its safe space- its crate or bed and draw the curtains so he or she can't see the fireworks. Or, if you allow them to cuddle you normally, encourage them to curl up with you. If they feel safe, they will be less stressed.



Stay inside... Give a big walk before it gets dark to tire your Dobie. Your garden will of course be escape proof, but fear and adrenalin can reveal unforeseen escape talents.

Distraction... If they have something else to occupy them, they're less likely to be upset. So play with your dog, give them a favourite toy or chew.



Calming 'medicines': there are numerous, dog-safe options available on line but, as with any medication, always consult your vet first.

Be prepared

Fail to prepare, prepare to fail, to quote the adage. Take time and implement whichever steps you choose and which suit your dog.

Hayley's Halloween dog show in aid of DRUE



Thank you Hayley Clowes

Once again, Hayley Clowes organised a hugely successful Halloween fun dog show at her doggy daycare club: raising funds and awareness for DRUE and our beloved Dobies in need.

The event drew a fantastic crowd of attendees and dogs of all ages, from playful pups to wise golden oldies, representing a wide variety of breeds.

We were especially delighted to see



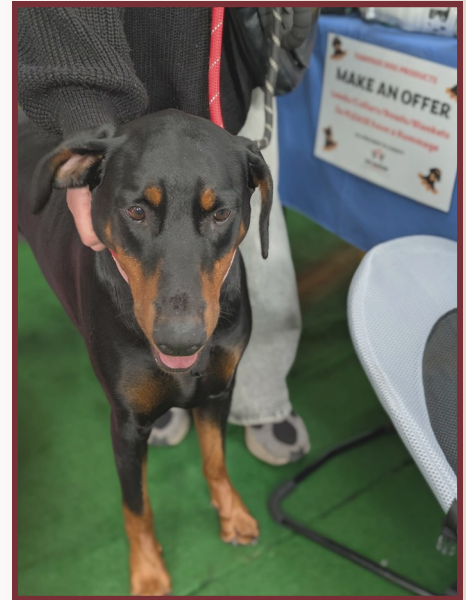
some of our former DRUE rescue Dobies, now thriving in their forever homes, joining in the festivities.

Thank you Hayley for generously donating the proceeds of your event to support DRUE's essential work in rescuing and rehoming more

Dobies. Also a big thank you to all of the DRUE team who turned up to run the DRUE stalls.

Hayley runs an outstanding Doggy Day Club at Maries Way, Silverdale, ST5 6PA. If you're looking for reliable, loving care for your furry friend, reach out to her for more details:
hayley@doggydaycare.me.uk

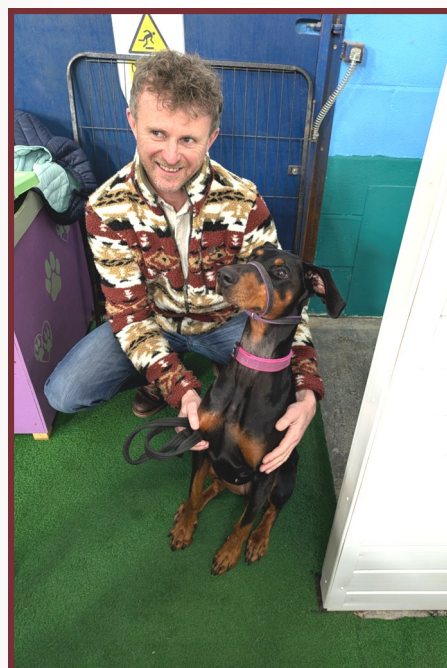
Here are some photos (this page and the next 2 pages) that capture the spooky fun of the day!



Hayley's Halloween dog show in aid of DRUE



Hayley's Halloween dog show in aid of DRUE



2026 calendars

They make great Xmas presents



Discover our 2026 Dobermann Rescue Calendar, an A4 masterpiece printed on premium silk art paper. Showcasing heartwarming images of some of the dogs we have rescued and rehomed this year. All proceeds go directly to Dobermann Rescue, making each calendar a gift of hope for more Dobermanns in need.



Tail wagging might not be all it seems

Understanding tail wagging: What research tells us

For Doberman owners and rescuers, a wagging tail is often seen as a sign of a happy, friendly dog. However, research reveals that tail wagging is a complex form of communication, conveying a range of emotions and intentions.



At DRUE, understanding these signals can help us better interpret the needs and feelings of the dogs in our care, fostering stronger bonds and safer interactions. This article explores the science behind tail wagging, drawing on recent research to uncover its meanings.

The basics of tail wagging

Tail wagging is a key component of canine body language. While it's tempting to assume a wagging tail always indicates happiness, studies show it can express a spectrum of emotions, from joy to aggression. The specific meaning often depends on the speed, direction, and context of the wag, as well as the dog's overall body posture.

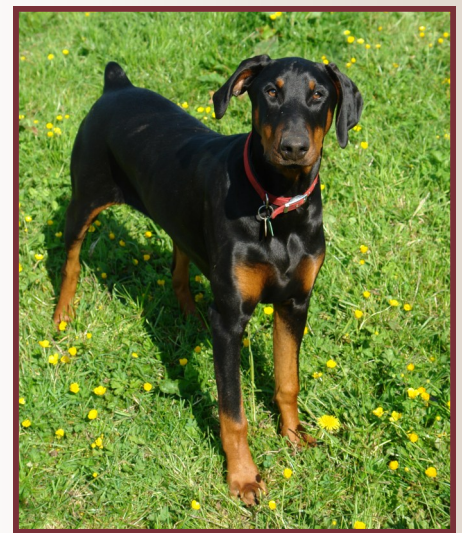
A 2007 study by Vallortigara et al. found that the direction of tail wagging is linked to a dog's emotional state. Dogs tend to wag their tails more to the right when experiencing positive emotions, such as seeing their owner or a familiar dog. Conversely, wagging to the left is associated with negative emotions, like encountering an unfamiliar or threatening dog. This asymmetry reflects the brain's hemispheric specialisation, where the right hemisphere (controlling the left side of the body) processes negative emotions, and the left hemisphere (controlling the right side) handles positive ones. This can be very subtle and take a little while for owners to pick up on and perceive.



Speed and intensity matter

The speed of the wag also provides clues. A 2013 study by Quaranta et al. observed that faster wagging typically indicates higher arousal, which could stem from excitement, happiness, or agitation. For example, a Doberman wagging its tail rapidly while approaching a

visitor might be thrilled to greet them—or, if accompanied by raised hackles or bared teeth, could be signalling aggression. Slow, deliberate wags often suggest a dog is feeling cautious or uncertain, a common behaviour in rescue Dobermanns adjusting to new environments.



For Dobermanns, whose tails are often docked, interpreting these signals can be trickier. Docking reduces the tail's visibility, but the stump still moves in ways that reflect emotional states. Rescuers should pay close attention to the stump's motion and pair it with other cues, like ear position, vocalisations, and body stiffness, to gauge a dog's mood.

Context and individual differences

Context is critical in decoding tail wagging. A Doberman wagging its tail while playing with a familiar dog is likely expressing joy, whereas the same motion during a tense encounter with a stranger might indicate a warning.

Tail wagging might not be all it seems

Research by Horowitz (2016) emphasises that canine communication, including tail wagging, is highly contextual and influenced by the dog's environment, past experiences, and breed-specific traits.

Dobermanns, known for their loyalty and protective instincts, may display unique wagging patterns. For instance, a rescue



Doberman with a history of neglect might wag cautiously, reflecting wariness rather than outright aggression. Or the tail might be between the legs.

Understanding these nuances helps tailor our approach, ensuring the dog feels safe and understood.

Implications for rescue work

At DRUE, recognising the meanings behind tail wagging enhances our ability to care for our Dobermanns as we can better assess each dog's emotional well-being and match them with suitable forever homes.

Additionally, adopters learning about tail wagging helps prevent misunderstandings. A family might misinterpret an

agitated wag as friendliness, leading to unsafe interactions. By understanding these evidence-based insights, adopters can build trust with their new Doberman companions.



Conclusion

Tail wagging is far more than a simple gesture—it's a window into a Doberman's emotional world. Research highlights how

direction, speed, and context shape its meaning, offering valuable insights for our rescue efforts. By applying this knowledge, we can better support the Dobermanns in our care, helping them transition from rescue to loving homes with confidence and understanding.

References

- ◆ Horowitz, A. (2016). *Being a Dog: Following the Dog Into a World of Smell*. Scribner.
- ◆ Quaranta, A., Siniscalchi, M., & Vallortigara, G. (2013). Asymmetric tail-wagging responses by dogs to different emotive stimuli. *Current Biology*, 23(20), R839–R841. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2013.08.008>
- ◆ Vallortigara, G., Siniscalchi, M., & Quaranta, A. (2007). Dogs' asymmetric tail-wagging: A new look at canine communication. *Animal Behaviour*, 74(4), 1041–1047. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2007.01.008>



A DRUE adventure as told by Ace & Niya

Another great DRUE day out

Once upon a time, in the lush green expanses of Marbury Country Park in Northwich, two adventurous Dobermanns named Ace and Niya embarked on an exciting play date.

They were accompanied by three kind-hearted volunteers from DRUE: Lyndsay, Janine and Sean. The sun was shining, the birds were chirping, and the air was filled with the promise of fun. This story is told through the eyes, and voices, of the dogs themselves.

Hey said Ace to Niya....



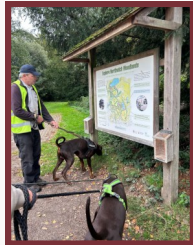
"I sniffs that you guys may have some Monday Blues and may need cheering up.... Ace let's go on a play date and take a few Hoomans with us...."

Ace barked cheerfully as they arrived at the park, his tail wagging furiously.



"First I have to be a gentleman and do some sniffy bum introductions,"

Ace said, circling Niya politely as they got acquainted.



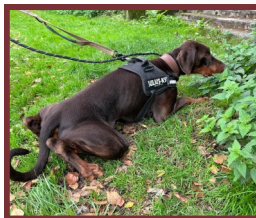
Then we checked out the map to plot our squirrel sniffing route.

But then Sean got involved and changed the route.

"Whatcha mean said Ace, we're going a different way now??" Not sure bringing these Hoomans was such a good idea after all!



Ace stopped protesting and buried his nose in the undergrowth. "Hey Niya," he whispered, "I think this might be Mint or perhaps Cannabis or is it just dog pee on nettles??"



Niya murmured back, "I'm not interested in the undergrowth, Gissa kiss whilst they aren't looking" while leaning in for a quick nuzzle while the Hoomans were distracted by the scenery."



Off down the canal....." Ace announced as the group veered toward the shimmering waterway



"Ducks nahhhh not fusse," Niya yawned, barely glancing at the quacking birds. "Swans Boring," Ace agreed, more interested in the ripples on the water.



But then Sean started sharing tales of the park's past. "History lesson with Sean..... now you're talking.... Let's go....."

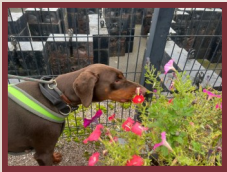
Ace perked up, trotting eagerly ahead. "Oooh that's a big boat contraption," Niya exclaimed, staring wide-eyed at the old lock mechanism.



A DRUE adventure as told by Ace & Niya



Before meeting some fellow park-goers, Niya took charge. "I best clean your ears out if we are meeting people... lay still you silly boy," she said, licking Ace's ears while he squirmed in mock protest.

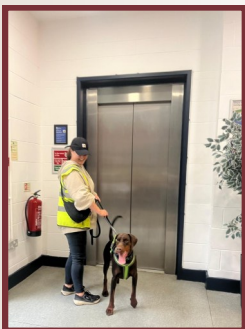


"These smell pretty," Niya noted, sniffing a cluster of wildflowers

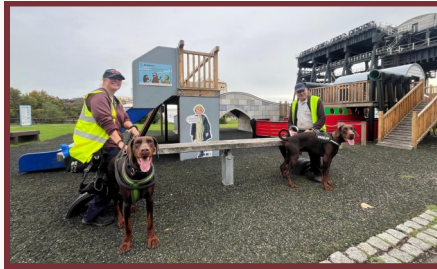


"What's that for Sean?" All part of the history lesson he replied.

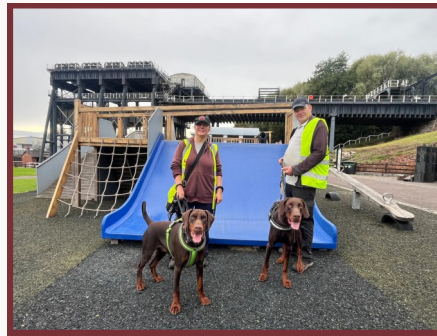
As they approached the stairs to the next level, Niya balked. "Girls don't do stairs darling, so we're taking the lift, see you up in the park area shortly."



Posing for pictures became a game. "This isn't a canal boat Janine - you're tricking me...making me pose..."

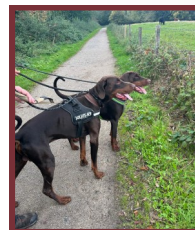


"Urgh now a pose by the sea saw!"



Now a complaint from both of us "Danielle, these miserable Hoomans wouldn't let us play on the slide!"

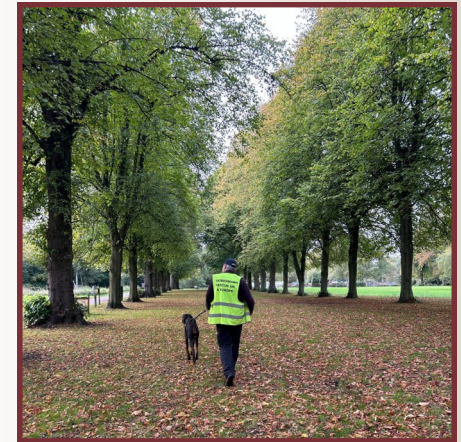
Enough of that playing now let's get back to walking, Cows, Ace doesn't care, Niya's happy until they come too close.



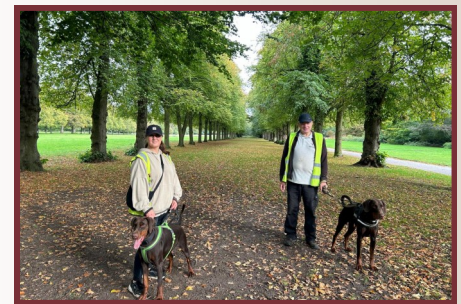
"Nur nur cows, you can't get me I've got Ace here next to me..."



"Don't we look cute," Ace said with a grin, posing together for yet another photo, their Doberman ears perked up proudly.



"Blinkin eck where's he taking us now!?! " Niya wondered as Sean guided them onto a winding trail through denser woods.



"Apparently we have to stroll down the old boulevard" Ace whispered to Niya.

A DRUE adventure as told by Ace & Niya



"These hoomans are getting tired now and they want to sit down, can't take the pace," Ace observed.



"Another quick water stop please....." Ace requested looking at the canal water but deciding it's too dirty to drink.



The Hoomans then took us to one of the doggy watering stations

dotted around. They're not bad folks really (despite making us pose for their photos).



Sean says boys climb trees - fine!!! I'll give it a try just to appease him...



"Here we go, urgh..."



Crikey it's harder than it looks!

Finally, as the sun began to dip lower, Ace sighed. "Ok, now I'm officially tired too - can we go home now



"The volunteers agreed, loading the happy but exhausted dogs into the car.

Back at DRUE kennels, they had their dinner, their beds were fluffed up (so many duvets!), heat lamps on and Ace and Nyla dreamed of their next adventure, their play date captured forever in photos and memories.

And so, the two furry friends proved that with good company and a bit of mischief, even a simple park outing could become an epic tale.

Thank you to the intrepid Hooman 'threesome', for accepting the invitation from Ace and Niya to spend the day with them as they headed off on their adventure.

Thank you also to all of our other amazing volunteers who turn up in all weathers to take our dogs out allowing them to experience the sniffs and sights of the local area, hills, pubs, shops and of course the secure fields where they can let off steam.

If you would like to volunteer with us, please contact Pauline by email at:

info@dobermannrescueuk.co.uk

Settling your adopted Dobie

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. They're figuring out their environment and getting into the routine that you have set. Now they may start showing their real personality. Behavioural issues may start showing, this is your time to ensure boundaries are in place and you 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

Support and follow us

Reasons to support us

1. We are 100% invested in the dogs wellbeing.
2. We ensure the dogs are stimulated everyday with time out of their kennels to walk, run, and play.
3. We have a highly motivated team including professionals and experienced Dobermann owners/handlers
4. 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: 6192 7168

PayPal druecharity@gmail.com - tick friends and family

Contact & follow us

Email: info@dobermannrescueuk.co.uk

Web: www.dobermannrescueuk.co.uk

Tel: 07511 869881

Facebook Main page: facebook.com/DobermannRescueUK

Facebook Group: facebook.com/groups/druecharity

Facebook Adopters: facebook.com/groups/DRUEAdopters

Facebook Auction & Fundraising: facebook.com/groups/1538420673092174

TikTok: @drue288

Instagram: @drue2510

X@UkRescue

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/dobermann-rescue-uk-and-europe>