

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: ROCCO, FOSTERING,
PROJECT SAFE RUN, CANINE BLOOD DONORS, NATIONAL
CELEBRATIONS, PLUS MORE!

ROCCO



DRUE LIFE

Paws For The Camera

Some snapshots of DRUE dogs out and about.

Thank you to the wonderful DRUE team for taking some great photos!



ROCCO'S NEXT CHAPTER



When Rocco first arrived in our care, he was very scared. Everything felt unfamiliar and overwhelming, and he wasn't ready to move into a home straight away. He needed time, patience and reassurance before he could begin to trust.

Over the following weeks, our dedicated volunteers worked gently with Rocco, allowing him to progress at his own pace. Every small step mattered, a wag of his tail, a moment of affection or the courage to move a little closer. Slowly, he began to feel safe.

Kennels play a vital role in rescue, providing care and security for dogs when they have nowhere else to go.

But nothing quite compares to the comfort of a home.

We're delighted to say that Rocco is now settling beautifully into his foster home. Surrounded by love, patience and understanding, he is continuing to blossom and discover the joys of home life.

A foster home gives a rescue dog the chance to relax, learn routines and show us who they really are. It also helps us understand their personality and needs, making it easier to find the right forever family. Seeing Rocco happy, relaxed and enjoying affection is exactly why we do what we do. His journey is proof that, with kindness and people who refuse to give up, incredible change is possible.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers for helping Rocco build his confidence, and to his amazing foster family for opening their hearts and home to this very special boy.

By fostering, you are not only changing one dog's life, you may also be creating space for another dog who urgently needs our help.

Rocco's next chapter has begun, and it is already filled with comfort, happiness and hope.

FOSTER HOMES NEEDED



We urgently need more foster carers to give rescue dogs the comfort and stability of a home while they wait for their forever family. Fostering can make a life-changing difference. It helps dogs relax, build confidence and show their true personalities, while also creating space for another dog who needs our help. You don't need to be an expert. We carefully match each dog with a foster home that suits their needs, personality and lifestyle, and our team will support you throughout the journey. Even a temporary home can be an important stepping stone towards a dog's happy future.

**The role you play may
be temporary,
*but the impact on a
Doberman is lifelong.***



International Homeless Animals Day

15th August 2026

Home Should Never Be a Dream

Every dog deserves more than somewhere to sleep. They deserve safety, kindness, stability and a family who will love them for the rest of their life.

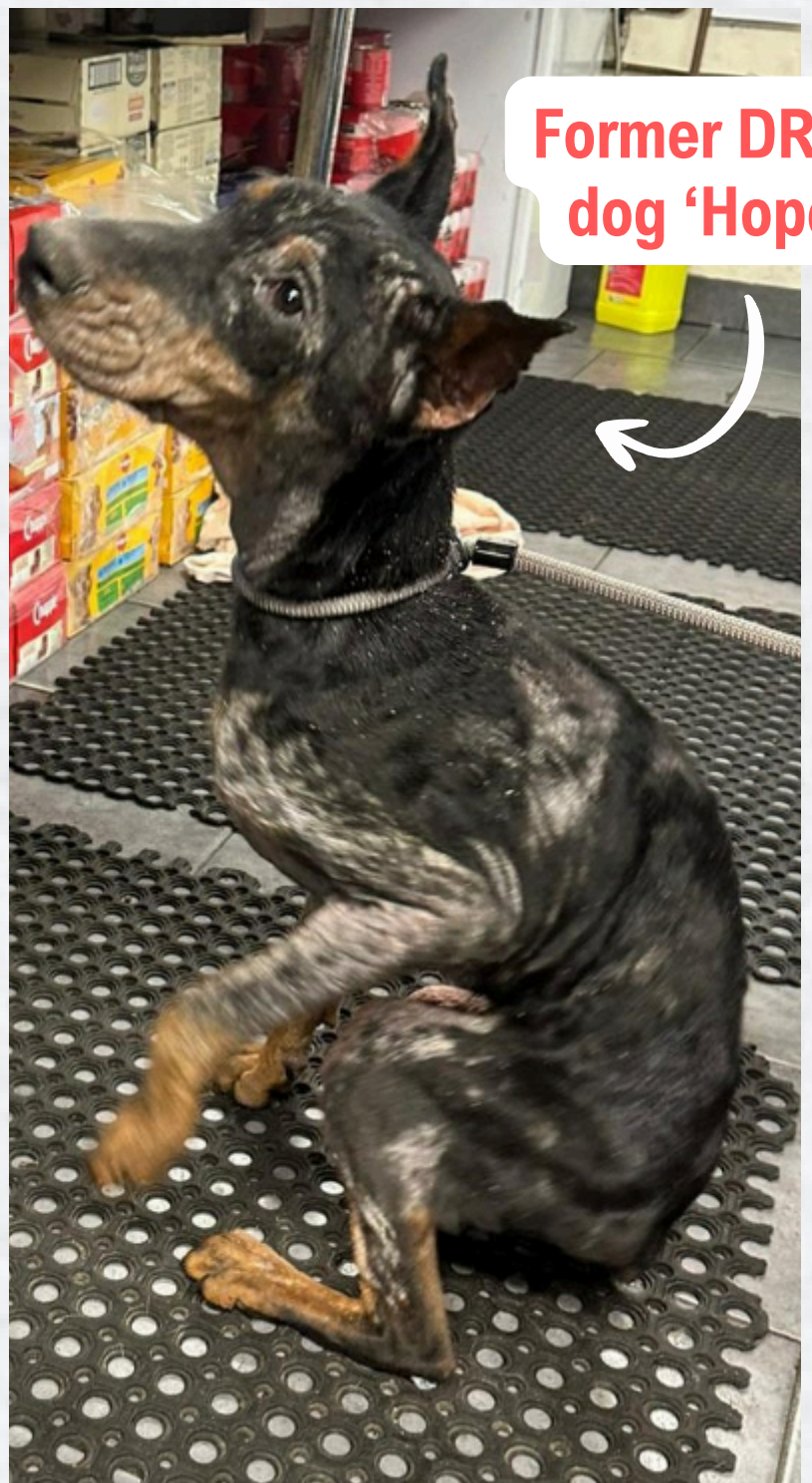
National Homeless Animals Day is an opportunity to remember the countless animals living without the security of a home and to recognise the people who work tirelessly to help them. For everyone involved in DRUE, its message is especially close to our hearts. Behind every dog who enters the rescue is a story. Some have lost their homes because of changes in family circumstances. Others have experienced neglect,

abandonment or repeated moves between owners who were unprepared for the commitment of caring for them.

Some of our Dobermanns have been brought to us after being found living or wandering on the streets. We may know very little about where they came from, how long they were alone or what they experienced before reaching safety. They can arrive hungry, exhausted, frightened and unsure whether they can trust the people around them.

For a breed known for forming such deep bonds with its family, suddenly finding themselves alone can be especially distressing. The sights, sounds and uncertainty of life on the streets can leave a lasting impression. These dogs often need veterinary care, nourishing food, a warm place to rest and plenty of patience while they begin to feel secure again.

Slowly, we see the change. A worried dog takes food from a volunteer's hand. A nervous Dobermann begins to enjoy a walk. A dog who once struggled to settle finally sleeps peacefully, knowing they are safe. Each small step is a reminder of the extraordinary resilience of rescue dogs.



Former DRUE
dog 'Hope'

More Than a Kennel Space

Rescue is about far more than simply giving a homeless dog somewhere to stay. Every Dobermann who comes into our care is treated as an individual. Depending on their needs, they may receive veterinary treatment, behavioural support, training, rehabilitation and time to decompress from everything they have experienced.

Most importantly, they are surrounded by people who are willing to look beyond their past and help them prepare for a happier future.

Our goal is not simply to find each dog a home. It is to find them the right home: one where they will be understood, supported and loved for the rest of their life.

Every Person Can Make a Difference

Not everyone is able to adopt, but everyone can play a part in helping homeless animals.

You can support rescue by fostering, volunteering, donating, fundraising or sharing the profiles of dogs searching for homes. You can also help by encouraging responsible ownership, thoughtful breed research, and microchipping. Even a simple conversation about adoption can introduce someone to a rescue dog they might otherwise never have met.

This National Homeless Animals Day, we remember the dogs still waiting to be found, the dogs currently rebuilding their lives and the dogs who have already discovered the comfort of a loving home.

To every volunteer, foster carer, adopter, donor and supporter: thank you. Your kindness gives homeless Dobermanns more than shelter. It gives them safety, hope and the chance to belong again.

Together, we can help ensure that fewer Dobermanns face life on the streets, and that every dog who reaches our rescue is given the opportunity for a new beginning.

We are pleased to share that hope was adopted shortly after her time at DRUE and is doing well in her new home. She is happy, healthy, and shining in her now glossy coat. Seeing transformations like this reminds us exactly why we do what we do.



Pet Blood Bank UK



Pet Blood Bank UK provides a vital blood service for dogs, helping veterinary practices access blood products whenever they are needed. The charity holds donation sessions across the country, then processes and stores the donated blood at its centre in Loughborough. Its service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A single donation can be separated into different blood products, including red blood cells and plasma, and may help save the lives of up to four other dogs. In 2024, the charity collected more than 3,700 units of blood and sent over 5,800 blood-product orders to veterinary practices across the UK. Potential donors should be fit and healthy, aged

between one and eight, weigh more than 25kg, and be comfortable meeting and being handled by new people. Additional health and travel criteria also apply. Although dogs remain a major focus, Pet Blood Bank UK has also launched a national blood-donation service for cats. Dog owners can visit the Pet Blood Bank UK website to check the full donor criteria, register their pet or find a nearby donation session. People without an eligible dog can still support the charity through fundraising, volunteering or donations.

Project Safe Run: A Dobermann's Legacy of Protection

Project Safe Run began with one woman's determination to regain her confidence and independence.

In 1975, at the age of 22, Reecher was attacked by four men while walking home in a suburb of Portland, Oregon. Although the traumatic experience did not stop her from running, it left her feeling unsafe exercising alone. She initially tried running with friends, but their availability was often unreliable.

Her search for a dependable companion led her to Jake, a Dobermann Pinscher whom she trained to run beside her and provide protection. Jake was not trained as an attack dog. Instead, he learned to respond in proportion to a potential threat. His training also ensured that he could never be used against the woman he was protecting.

Jake gave Reecher the reassurance she needed to run again, and it was not long before other women began asking to exercise with him. As interest grew, she realised that a single dog could not meet the demand.

When Project Safe Run officially launched in 1981, Reecher was sharing her home with 12 Dobermanns. She soon became affectionately known as "The Dog Lady" and "Doberwoman", nicknames she proudly embraced.

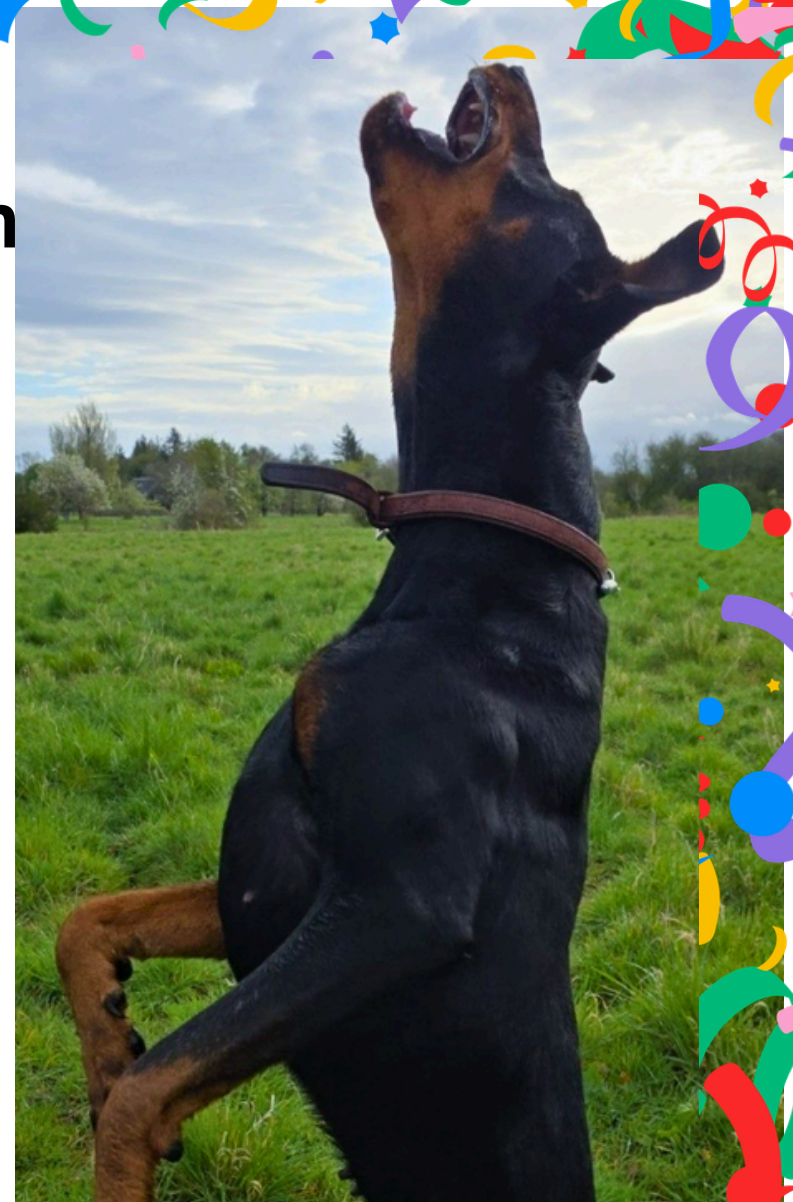
Women she had never met began contacting her after hearing that trained Dobermanns were available as running companions. What began as one woman's search for safety developed into a project that helped many others feel more secure, confident and free.

Jake became the inspiration and training model for every Project Safe Run dog that followed, demonstrating the intelligence, loyalty and protective nature for which the Dobermann is so deeply valued.

Celebrating Everything That Makes a Dobermann Special. National Dog Day 26/08/2026

National Dog Day is a chance to celebrate the dogs who bring companionship, laughter, comfort and purpose into our lives. For those of us involved in DRUE rescue, it is also an opportunity to recognise a remarkable breed whose loyalty, intelligence and sensitivity are sometimes hidden behind an imposing appearance.

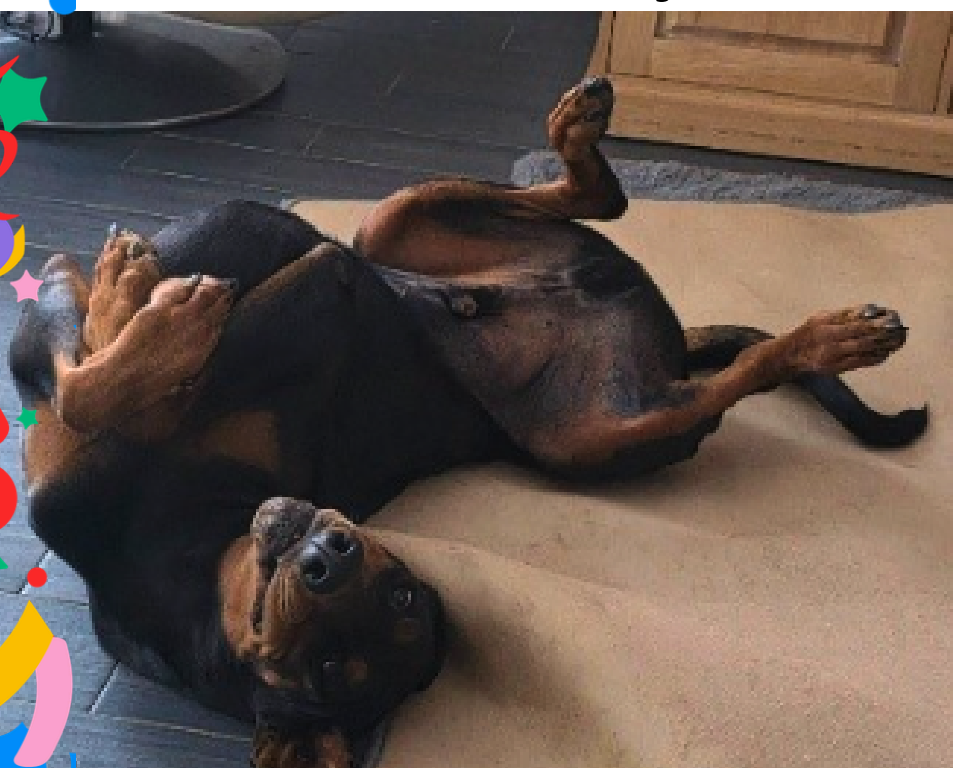
Dobermanns are often described as confident, athletic and



protective, and they certainly can be all of those things. However, anyone who has shared their home with one knows there is much more to them. They can be affectionate shadows who follow their favourite person from room to room. They are expert blanket thieves, enthusiastic supervisors of household activities and firm believers that personal space is optional. Many are happiest when they are included in family life, whether that means joining a

countryside walk, helping in the garden or simply curling up as close to their person as physically possible. Their devotion is one of the qualities that makes the Dobermann so special. When they form a bond, they often form it deeply.

Dobermanns are highly intelligent dogs who





enjoy learning and being given something meaningful to do. Training is not only about teaching commands; it gives them mental stimulation, strengthens communication and helps build trust between dog and owner.

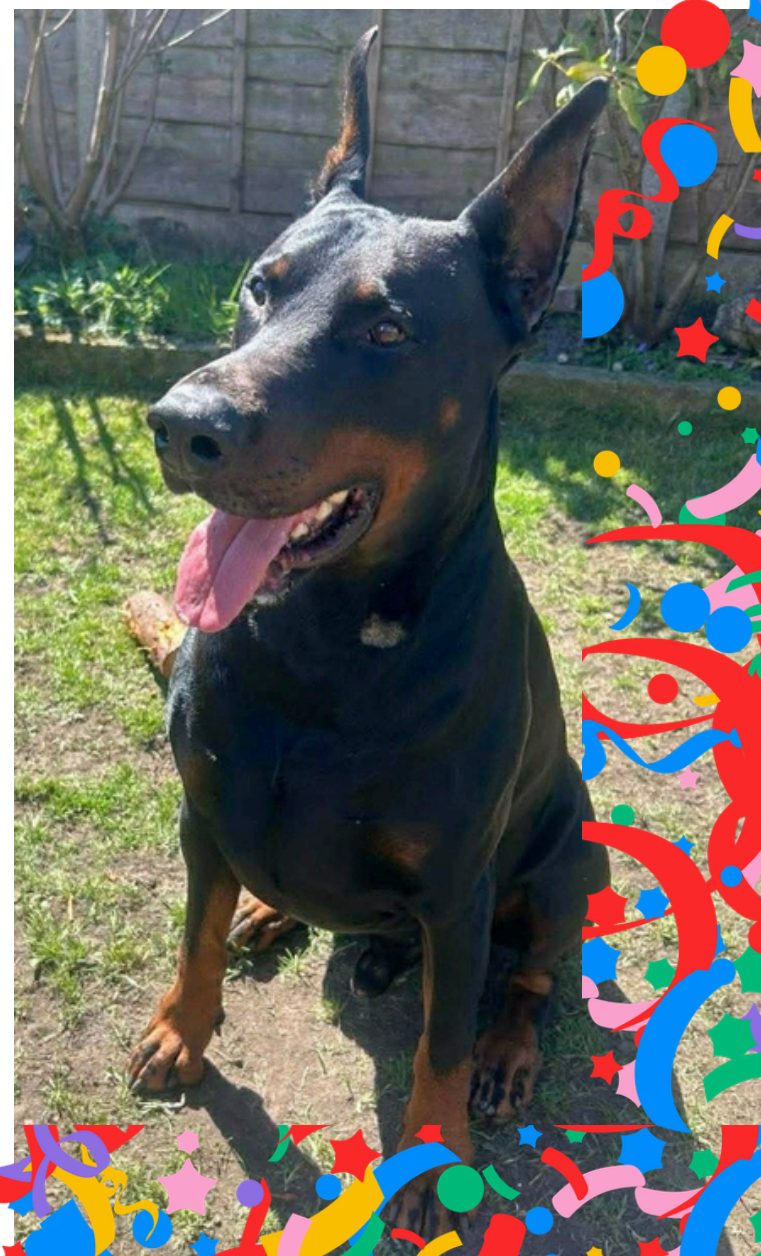
They often respond best to calm, consistent and positive guidance. Harsh handling can be particularly damaging for such a sensitive breed. Although they may appear strong and self-assured, many Dobermanns are deeply affected by the tone, emotions and behaviour of the people around them. Each dog also has an individual personality. Some

are bold and adventurous, while others are cautious and need time to feel comfortable in unfamiliar situations. One may love meeting new people, while another prefers a quiet life with a small circle of trusted friends. Some enjoy living with other dogs, while others are happiest as the only pet. Understanding and respecting these differences allows every Dobermann to thrive as the dog they truly are, rather than the dog someone expects them to be.

The Dobermann's appearance can attract attention wherever they go. Unfortunately, it can also lead to unfair assumptions. People who have never spent time with the breed may see only a large,



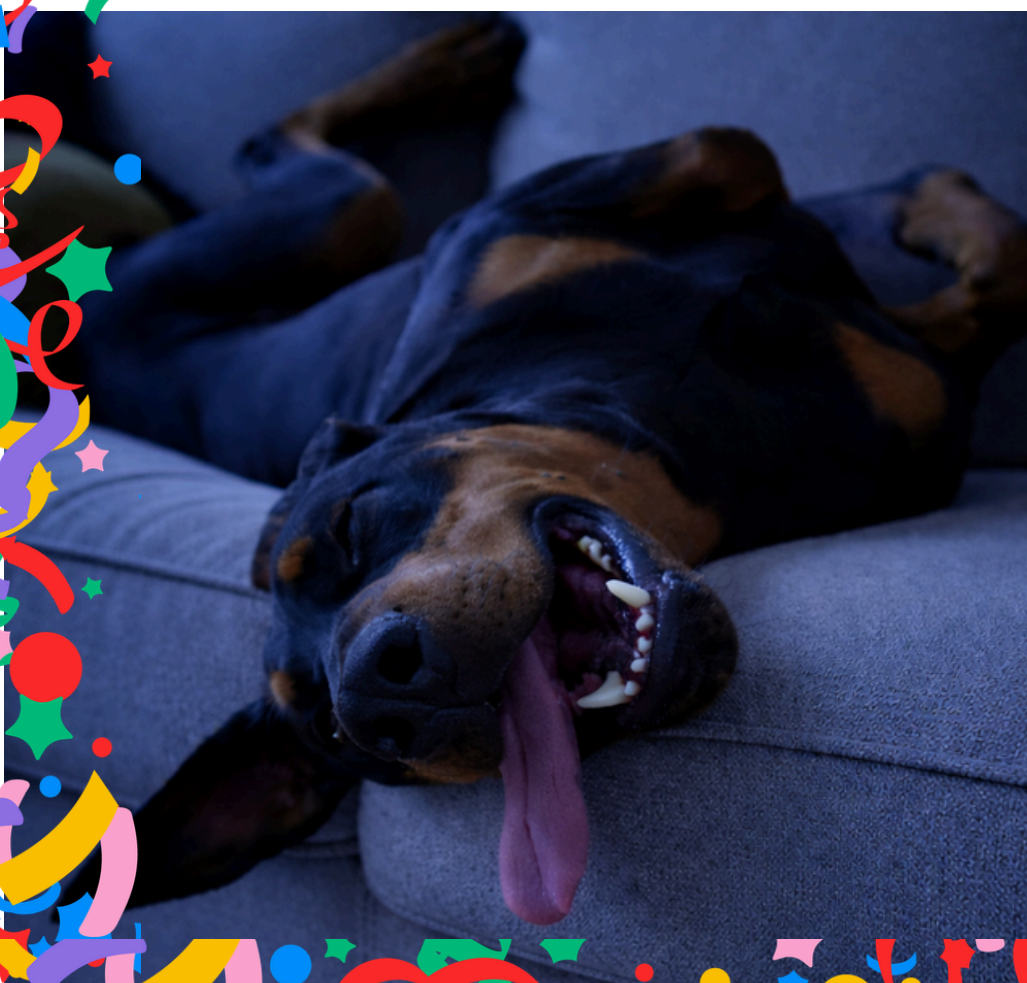
powerful guard dog. Those who know Dobermanns see the affection, humour, intelligence and vulnerability behind that image. Responsible ownership plays an important part in changing public perceptions. A well-supported Dobermann who is given appropriate training, exercise, boundaries and care can be a wonderful ambassador for the breed. This does not mean every Dobermann must enjoy busy places or greet everyone they meet. Being a good breed ambassador can simply mean feeling safe in their surroundings and having their individual boundaries respected. Dogs should never be pressured into uncomfortable situations merely to prove that they are friendly. Responsible ownership includes advocating for them, recognising when they need space and helping others understand that not every dog wants to be approached. Within rescue, we have the privilege of meeting Dobermanns at every stage of life. We meet energetic youngsters who are still learning how the world works, adults discovering new routines and older dogs who have perfected the art of finding the most comfortable place in the room. Each one has something different to teach us. Some remind us to be patient. Others show us the importance of consistency. Many demonstrate how much can be achieved when a dog is given time, understanding and the opportunity to build confidence at their own pace. National Dog Day gives us a reason to celebrate all of them not only for the progress they



make, but simply for who they are. We celebrate the playful dogs who make volunteers laugh, the nervous dogs who take brave little steps and the older dogs whose quiet companionship wins everyone over. We celebrate the dogs who have joined new families and those who are still receiving the care and guidance they need. Their value is not determined by how quickly they learn, how sociable they are or how easily they fit into someone's expectations. Every one of them is deserving of respect, compassion and the chance to be understood.

National Dog Day is also an opportunity to recognise the people who make a difference to dogs every day. We are grateful to the adopters who open their homes and commit to continuing a dog's training and care. We appreciate the foster carers who adjust their routines to help a Dobermann settle. We thank the volunteers who walk, transport, assess and spend time with the dogs, and the veterinary professionals and trainers who share their knowledge and expertise. We are equally grateful to responsible owners who research the breed, seek help when they need it and make decisions based on their dog's welfare. Good owner-

ship is not about being perfect. It is about being willing to learn, adapt and do what is right for the dog in front of you. Celebrating National Dog Day does not have to involve an elaborate event. For most dogs, the best celebration is simply spending quality time with someone they trust. It might mean an extra walk in a favourite place,



a gentle training session, a new enrichment activity or an uninterrupted afternoon snooze. It could be taking a photograph that captures their personality, sharing a favourite memory or teaching someone something positive about the breed.

Most importantly, it means appreciating our dogs not only for what they give us, but for who they are: individuals with their own feelings, preferences, quirks and needs.

This National Dog Day, we celebrate the unmistakable Doberman, the loyal companion, the intelligent student, the sensitive soul, the devoted friend and, very often, the oversized lap dog.

To every Doberman who has made us smile, challenged us to learn and trusted us with their heart: today is for you.



THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN!

REASEHEATH EQUESTRIAN CENTRE 12TH SEPTEMBER 2026 10AM-4:30PM



DRUE DAY: A fantastic day of fun, friendship and fundraising!

Bring the whole family including your four-legged friends, and join us for a packed day featuring fun dog shows, raffles, games, stalls, delicious food and refreshments, fantastic prizes and, of course, plenty of furry friends.

There will be something for visitors of all ages to enjoy. Whether you're entering one of the dog shows, browsing the stalls, trying your luck in the raffles or simply coming along to soak up the atmosphere, we would love to see you there.

Most importantly, every penny raised will support DRUE Dobermann Rescue, helping us provide rescued Dobermanns with the care, rehabilitation and support they need before finding their loving forever homes.



We still have a limited number of spaces available, but places are filling up quickly.

To enquire about one of the remaining stall spaces, please get in touch with us.

WANT TO FEATURE IN DRUE LIFE?



We know that every Doberman has a story to tell, and we'd love to hear yours!

Whether it's a heart-warming rescue journey, a funny Dobie habit, a special achievement, a memorable adventure, or simply why your Doberman means so much to you, we'd love to consider it for a future edition of our newsletter.

Get in touch with us via social media or info@dobermannrescueuk.co.uk

Feel free to include photos, we always enjoy seeing the dogs behind the stories!



Thank you,
Darcy

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