

## **KENNEL CLUB LAUNCHES 2020 BREED RESCUE CALENDAR FEATURING 12 ADOPTED SU-PAW-STARS**

The Kennel Club Breed Rescue calendar for 2020 is now available and features 12 amazing stories of dogs that have overcome the odds and are now settled into their new homes. The calendar will raise funds for the Kennel Club Charitable Trust, one of the largest charities dedicated to dog health and welfare in the UK, and is the perfect present for any dog lover at Christmas.

Showcasing many touching stories, the calendar features dogs that have come from troubled backgrounds or from families that could no longer care for them, like Kiwi, the mistreated Akita, who was terrified of everyone when she arrived for rehoming, or Rafiki the Slovakian Rough Haired Pointer, who was cherished by his former family but needed a new home because his owners couldn't give the amount of training and care he required.

The calendar will feature professional 'pawtraits', with each month's dog having their unique story told alongside their winning pose.

The calendar's cover star, Tyler the Rough Collie, was rehomed from Collie Rescue (Rough and Smooth) at just four months old by Pauline and Steve Bradbury, from Derbyshire. Pauline, 59, said: "Tyler was smuggled into the UK by a puppy farmer, and when she was born, it was clear she had many health issues, including ear problems, blindness and hip dysplasia. We nursed her back to health and she is such a wonderful, friendly and sociable dog.

"We are so happy that not only did she make it into the calendar but that she will also feature as the cover star, she really deserves it!"

As the cover star, Tyler wins £100 for her rehoming centre, Collie Rescue (Rough and Smooth), while the other dogs that feature in the calendar each win £50 for their respective welfare organisations. Donations are made by the Kennel Club Charitable Trust.

Collie Rescue (Rough and Smooth) has been operating since 1986, and currently rehomes up to 100 Collies each year. The funds they receive help pay towards vet's bills and their sponsorship scheme, where they ensure older dogs get the treatment they need.

It is hoped that the dogs included in the 2020 calendar will help raise awareness about the many issues rescue organisations face and the reasons why dogs can end up in rescue. Tallulah the Pug, who was born on a puppy farm and was desperately ill when taken on, had to have surgery to treat Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome (BOAS), a condition that threatened her life, while other dogs, like Crumpet the Boxer and Truffle the Old English Sheepdog, needed to be rehomed because their previous owners were not fully aware of all their needs before being brought into the family.

Professor Steve Dean, Chairman of the Kennel Club Charitable Trust said, "Through these beautiful photographs we can showcase all these special dogs and their wonderful personalities, while highlighting the importance of the work that rescue welfare organisations do for hundreds of dogs across the country.

"By matching these dogs with their new owners, the welfare organisations are placing them in forever homes and giving them a second chance at life.

"It is so important that, when buying a dog, owners do their research thoroughly in order to ensure they are buying the right dog for their family, to help prevent high numbers of dogs ending up in rescue."

The money raised through the sale of the calendars will enable the Kennel Club Charitable Trust to continue to make a difference for dogs in 2020, by funding a wide variety of work ranging from research into canine diseases, supporting dog welfare organisations and training support dogs – all of which give dogs and their owners a healthier, happier life.

The Kennel Club Breed Rescue calendar will be on sale for £5 at Discover Dogs, which takes place on the 12th and 13th October at ExCeL London, and through the Kennel Club online shop via [www.thekennelclub.org.uk](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk) from October.

## **ENDS**

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019

For journalists who would like further press information, images or interview requests please email [press.office@thekennelclub.org.uk](mailto:press.office@thekennelclub.org.uk)

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### **Notes to Editor**

The other dogs featured in the 2019 Kennel Club Breed Rescue calendar are:

#### **Ralphie – January**

- Ralphie's owners adopted him from Buddy's Rural Animal Rescue almost immediately after seeing him for the first time. His former owner had put a lot of time and energy into his wellbeing, but had much less time to keep up the training Ralphie needed once they had a baby. Ralphie is true to the Cocker Spaniel breed, is very intelligent and likes having the whole family together.

#### **Tallulah – February**

- Tallulah was adopted from Pug Dog Welfare Association. After having a bad start in life, being heavily neglected, underfed and kept in a cage, it was found that Tallulah had life-threatening BOAS. Now, Tallulah is a little diva and amazes everyone with how far she's come.

#### **Rafiki – March**

- Rafiki the Slovakian Rough-Haired Pointer was adopted from the Slovakian Rough Haired Pointer Club. His previous owners found that he was much more work than their other dogs and the expanding of their family left them with less time to work on his needs. As well as being a great companion, affectionate and trainable, Rafiki is also very vocal!

#### **Nutmeg – April**

- Nutmeg comes from Humberside Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club. Although Nutmeg is almost totally deaf, she doesn't let that get in the way and responds to hand signals. She has even previously competed in agility!

### **Kiwi – May**

- When Kiwi was adopted from Akita Rescue and Welfare UK, she was not in a good state. Her previous owners didn't look after her at all and as a result was terrified of everyone and everything. Fast forward to today, and Kiwi has found her voice, transforming into a bouncy, cheeky Akita with a loving and gentle nature.

### **Olly – June**

- Olly was adopted from National Sealyham Terrier Rescue after both his previous owners found they were unable to care for him. Described as quiet, extremely affectionate and family-orientated, Olly also has an adventurous side and loves to explore.

### **Tyler – July**

- Tyler was born blind with other health issues such as hip dysplasia and ear problems. Since she was adopted from Collie Rescue (Rough and Smooth) at four months old, Tyler has helped to raise £10,000 for Collie Rescue to date.

### **Truffle – August**

- After her previous owners were unable to care for her, Truffle lived at Old English Sheepdog Rescue and Welfare for almost a year. Described as a well-balanced dog who doesn't think anyone has a bad bone in their body, Truffle takes part in weekly agility classes and has passed her bronze and silver Good Citizen Dog Scheme awards.

### **Crumpet – September**

- Crumpet was adopted from Home Counties Boxer Welfare where she lives with another Boxer. She was originally brought into a family that already had many Boxers, but unfortunately the existing dogs just didn't take well to their new addition. Crumpet's owner describes her to be bouncy, excitable and a typical Boxer – she always has something in her mouth!

### **Finn – October**

- When Finn was just a puppy, his young owner found herself unexpectedly becoming a single mother with a young Irish Setter. She did the unselfish thing and gave him up to rescue so someone could give him the time he deserved. Finn's new owner adopted him from Irish Setter Rescue and Rehome and is still in touch with the former owner, who is so happy he has the life she always wanted from him.

### **Poppy – November**

- Poppy was born with a cleft pallet and harelip and had to be hand-reared via tube feeding as she was unable to suckle. If it wasn't for Phoenix French Bulldog Rescue, Poppy would have died within a matter of hours. She has since had an operation and can now feed on her own, and is known to her new family as loving, cuddly and quite mischievous.

## Freya – December

- Freya arrived at Saving Saints UK when she was three years old, previously suffering severe neglect from a breeder. When her new owner first got her she was virtually skin and bones. Thankfully, Freya is now a less nervous and far more happy and confident Saint Bernard.

## The Kennel Club

The Kennel Club is the largest organisation in the UK devoted to dog health, welfare and training. Its objective is to ensure that dogs live healthy, happy lives with responsible owners.

It runs the country's largest registration database for both pedigree and crossbreed dogs and the Petlog database, which is one of the UK's biggest reunification service for microchipped animals. The Kennel Club is accredited by UKAS to certify members of its Assured Breeder Scheme, which is the only scheme in the UK that monitors breeders in order to protect the welfare of puppies and breeding bitches. It also runs the UK's largest dog training programme, the Good Citizen Dog Training Scheme and licenses shows and clubs across a wide range of activities, which help dog owners to bond and enjoy life with their dogs. The Kennel Club runs the world's greatest dog show, Crufts, and the Discover Dogs event at ExCeL London, which is a fun family day out that educates people about how to buy responsibly and care for their dog.

The Kennel Club invests in welfare campaigns, dog training and education programmes and the Kennel Club Charitable Trust, which supports research into dog diseases and dog welfare charities, including Kennel Club Breed Rescue organisations that re-home dogs throughout the UK. The Kennel Club jointly runs health screening schemes with the British Veterinary Association and through the Charitable Trust, funds the Kennel Club Genetics Centre at the Animal Health Trust, which is at the forefront of pioneering research into dog health. The Kennel Club Cancer Centre at the Animal Health Trust (AHT) contributes to the AHT's well-established cancer research programme, helping to further improve dog health.