



# DOG AID SCOTLAND



Spring Newsletter 2023



## Sponsored Challenge: April Serum Run

It is that time of year again when DAS staff challenge themselves to raise money for our ever popular Neutering Scheme.

The Neutering Scheme supplies eligible dog owners with vouchers that contribute towards the cost of getting their dog neutered or spayed. We believe this encourages responsible dog ownership and reduces the number of unwanted puppies.

Throughout the month of April, the team will face a huge challenge of covering 674 miles by foot or bike.

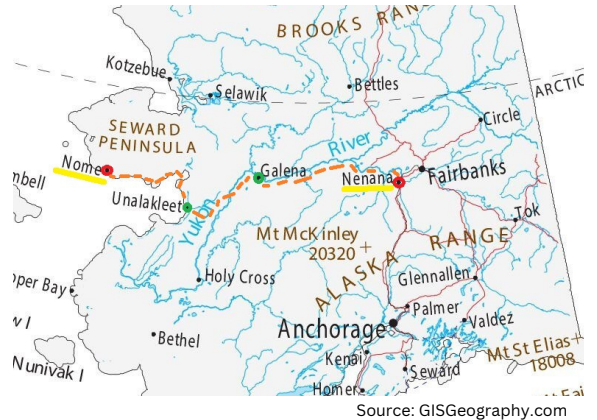
The goal of 674 miles is inspired by the legendary 'Serum Run' of 1925 by 150 sled dogs across Alaska to deliver vaccines for diphtheria, which saved local communities of Nome from an epidemic.

Star dogs of the 1925 run were Togo and Balto that were praised for their astounding performance. These hero dogs risked their lives by taking part in this treacherous journey and DAS wishes to honour them by replicating their achievement - in a rather

milder climate, but it is still Scotland in the spring!

Although it took the sled dogs (and their human 'mushers') only 5.5 days to deliver the vaccines, our small team will attempt to cover the 674 miles in the 30 days of April.

You can watch the team's progress on the DAS Facebook and Instagram pages where we will track the miles using a map of the Alaskan 'Serum Run' route from Nenana to Nome.



Please give to our cause if you can by clicking the Donate button on our website or completing the form and payment methods below. You can also call the office on 0300 365 2500 to donate by phone.

**447 dogs were neutered with help from DAS in 2022**

**Dog Aid Scotland 2023 April Serum Run: Please support our team by completing the form below and returning it to the DAS office. Any size of donation will go towards our Neutering Scheme.**

I have donated through the DAS April Serum Run donation page on the DAS website.

I enclose a cheque/cash for £.....  
(cheques payable to Dog Aid Society of Scotland)

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode.....



Please post form and payment to: Dog Aid Society of Scotland, 60 Blackford Avenue, Edinburgh, EH9 3ER.

Please consider Gift Aiding your sponsorship by completing the reverse.

SCIO Charity No. SC001918



# 2022 Winter Fundraising



Last year's winter brochure and raffle made an impressive £2,678! We hope everyone is happy with their purchases and raffle prizes if you were lucky enough to win. A very big thank you to all who took part!

Our Welfare Officer Helen has already been out to fulfil the raffle prize for a free dog training session. She met Jeremy the 11-year-old Saluki Cross who is not a DAS dog, but he is a rescue and years ago he was found near Edinburgh airport. Jeremy has food aggression with other dogs so often does not get to play freely when out on walks.



Jeremy

Helen showed Jeremy's owner some new mind and nose games to do with Jeremy in the garden. After Helen's visit, Jeremy slept for a very long time! He continues to enjoy the games and his owner loves to see Jeremy so happy. So remember - you *can* teach an old dog new tricks!

*If you need any tips on training your dog regardless of their age, get in touch with us and we will do what we can to help.*

## Future Fundraising & How to Get Involved in DAS

Membership is the easiest and quickest way to get involved and support Dog Aid Scotland at the same time. Please suggest to at least one other person you know that they sign up to be a member and help us help more dogs in Scotland this year. DAS receives no government funding, our schemes and services run purely on donations. It's more important than ever that we are able to help as many dogs as possible across Scotland. Anything anyone can do to contribute and/or fundraise would be welcomed. Please contact the office for fundraising support.

### **Gift Aid Declaration (cont. from first page)**

*Gift Aid it*  Make your gift worth 25% more at no extra cost to you!

Yes, I am a UK taxpayer and I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to the Dog Aid Society of Scotland. I understand that if I pay Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in a tax year less than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Name.....Signature.....Date.....

**Please contact the office if you no longer wish to receive communications from Dog Aid Scotland: by email ([secretary@dogaidscotland.com](mailto:secretary@dogaidscotland.com)), post or telephone (see information below).**



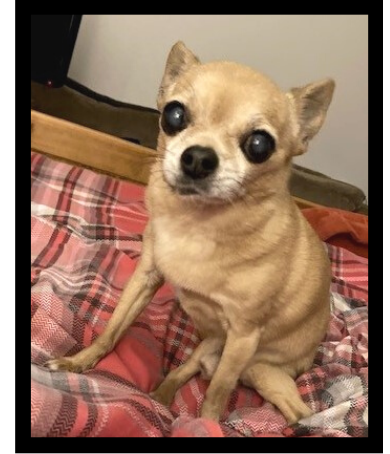
## Supporting DAS Dogs



Harvey the Chihuahua was rehomed by DAS in late 2014 when he was 6 years old. We found a fantastic home for Harvey where he is truly adored. After a few years in his new home, Harvey became a big (but still little!) brother to Penny, a Chihuahua Cross rescue, and they get on so well.

Harvey was rehomed with some medical issues which were supported through our Vet Fund. We fully funded the dental surgery Harvey needed when he was first rehomed and then a year later he was ready to have two surgeries to fix his luxating patellas in both his hind knees which cost £2,576 in 2015. Harvey will be 15 years old in April this year, yet because he received this treatment he is still enjoying a happy and healthy life.

DAS is proud to provide support for dogs we rehome with pre-existing medical conditions and we are forever grateful to the owners willing to open their homes and hearts to these dogs.



Harvey



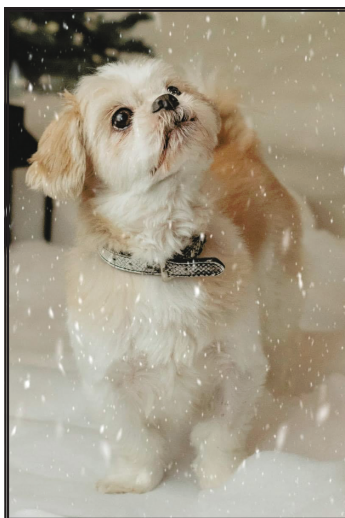
## Veterinary Aid for Dogs in Need

Through our Veterinary Aid Scheme, **we helped 120 dogs receive veterinary care last year.**

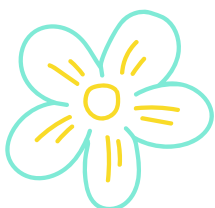
One such case was little Alfie, a 12 year old Shih Tzu, that required two rounds of surgery to remove bladder stones. The Trustees were very sympathetic to Alfie's case and agreed to contribute just under £500 towards his surgeries.

We are pleased to hear Alfie has made a full recovery and is back to his playful self.

As you can imagine, our Veterinary Aid Scheme is seeing a high volume of applications as more dog owners are struggling with rising prices and the cost of living. If you are able, please make a donation on our website to help us continue this important work.



Alfie



## *A Message from our CEO, Ross Macfadyen:*

Hello.

By the time you read this the charity will have moved from our “HQ” at Blackford Avenue in Edinburgh to our new home in the country! I’m delighted to share with you the news that we are now located at The Cottage in the grounds of Riccarton Mains Farm just outside the city. (Don't worry, all post will be redirected in the interim!)

Our new premises provides us with a much better fit-for-purpose opportunity to provide services in a dog-friendly environment whilst not being completely off the beaten track with the city bypass close by.

Dog Aid Scotland owns the property at Blackford Avenue and through renting this out we are able to reinvest the income back into continuing the services we provide. The team and I are looking forward to organising an official opening event which we aim to do in the summer (dare I say better) weather! All dogs and owners welcome...!

To coincide with our new home, Dog Aid Scotland will also have a new look. We have been working on a rebrand to reflect the change of our ‘known as’ name which was agreed at the AGM last year and we’re excited to share that work publicly in the coming months. We also hope to see as many people as possible at various different shows around the country over the course of the summer months.

As the charity continues to evolve and look to the future it is important that we maintain good governance. The Board of Trustees led by our chairperson Jane Spurgeon are therefore in the process of identifying new board members. Constitutionally we can have up to ten trustees and with the current board of six, the plan is to fill the remaining “seats” with people who can bring a variety of skills to augment those which exist today. Once decisions have been made we will be pleased to announce further details of our new Trustees.



*Ross with his BFF Hugo!*

Finally, I’d like to extend my sincere thanks to you for your ongoing support of Dog Aid Scotland. Everyone connected with the charity cares deeply about the work we do and understands the importance of being able to provide help and support for dogs and owners across Scotland. I am immensely proud of the small team we have and look forward to spreading the word of Dog Aid Scotland amongst as many people as possible in the coming months. If you wish to be MORE involved and would like to explore volunteering opportunities with us in the future, please get in touch via email – [enquiries@dogaidscotland.com](mailto:enquiries@dogaidscotland.com). We’re always happy to have a chat!!

*Remember you can sign up to our Mailchimp newsletters to get DAS updates by email! You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram.*



*And you can call the office on 0300 365 2500,  
open weekdays 9am - 4.30pm.*

