



# Friends of Wallace Kennels

Charity No: 1019306

Website: [www.friendsofwallacekennels.co.uk](http://www.friendsofwallacekennels.co.uk)  
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## **NEWSLETTER N° 117 March 2025**

### **AGM – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> MAY at 1pm**

*DODDINGHURST PARISH COUNCIL ROOMS, CHURCH LANE CM15 0NJ*

Dear Friends

I hope you are all keeping well. This newsletter comes a few weeks early to let you know about some important dates.

On 6<sup>th</sup> APRIL we have a lovely opportunity for you to join us for afternoon tea and help raise much needed funds for our cause. If you haven't already booked tickets, please see the details below or book through our website.

On 1<sup>st</sup> MAY at 1pm we will have our AGM, see details above. As a member you are welcome to attend to gain an insight into the year's activities and finances. Refreshments will be provided.

The weather recently has been quite wet, which I know makes it difficult for dog walkers, with muddy boots and paws alike, so as I write this, the appearance of the sun is very welcome. Since the November newsletter we have only had one event which was the Xmas jumble at Blackmore village hall. As per normal the hall was rammed, we seem to always get a good turn out at Blackmore, maybe the punters love a bargain, or they are just trying to escape the busy high street and shopping centres at Christmas, who knows?

We have booked all the jumbles for this year as listed below but please note a date change from 18th October to the 4th October. We can also confirm the Christmas jumble at Blackmore is now booked for 22nd November.

I hope you enjoyed reading about our 'real life rescue' in the last newsletter. We would still love to have your stories to add to newsletters and our website. Please email our secretary Julia, at [FOWKsecretary@btinternet.com](mailto:FOWKsecretary@btinternet.com) with your rescue tale and she will get it up on the webpage, it would be lovely to hear from you.

### **KENNEL YAP**

We are still getting lots of larger dogs in kennels, unfortunately they seem to be harder to move on and often spend longer looking for their forever homes. We are also finding that the bigger dogs do not always get a walk because we are short of strong walkers who can handle the larger breeds. If you, or anyone you know, has room and the time to home a larger rescue dog then have a look at the [Wallace Kennels](http://Wallace Kennels) webpage. If you are interested in walking please call Suzanne on 07788 528324, she will be happy to discuss days and times, thank you.

Thankfully Tina, the GSD dog mentioned in our last newsletter, finally got her forever home and Connie, as you can see from the photo below, continues to thrive. We wish them lots of luck and hope they continue to enjoy their new lives.



There is still work being carried out on the bottom block of kennels but the rain and cold has been against the job getting done. The welding for the frames has been completed thanks to funding from FOWK and the efforts of Charley Smith's 3 PEAK Challenge last year.

With regards to the rain we really could do with the smaller outside play area to be covered as sometimes it gets too boggy to use and if there is nobody to walk the bigger dogs, this area is vital for them to get some exercise. A covered play area when raining means all the dogs can go out and stretch their legs. If anyone is interested in donating to the roof area please let me know.

## EVENTS

### Next Jumbles -

#### Doddington village hall:

24th May, 2nd August, 4th October 2025

#### Blackmore village hall:

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2025

Times as usual 10am till 12noon.



### Jumble donations

Please contact me regarding Jumble donations (07860 288643) and don't forget we are always on the look out for jewellery - even odd earrings or broken bits - as it all helps to raise money; also watches, perfumes and toiletries. Thank you.

**Afternoon Tea**  
2-4pm, Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April  
Blackmore Village Hall, N19e Ashes Road CM4 0QR  
FRIENDS OF WALLACE KENNELS

We warmly invite you and your friends and family to join us for afternoon tea on 6<sup>th</sup> April in support of Wallace Kennels dog rescue. Our menu comprises a selection of classic sandwiches, freshly baked scones, savoury treats and cakes. Vegetarian and gluten free option available on request.

**Tickets: £15 per person (aged 12+ only please)**  
Please complete the online booking form at [www.friedsofwallacekennels.co.uk/afternoon-tea](http://www.friedsofwallacekennels.co.uk/afternoon-tea)  
Space is limited. Tickets sold on a first come, first served basis.

**Raffle draw at 3pm**  
Tickets: £1 per ticket on sale during the event (bring cash!)

**Free parking**  
Doors open 2pm. Nearly new, beauty and collectables stall.

Registered charity no. 107 0006

### Afternoon Tea

As a member you should have already had an invite to our afternoon tea event, at Blackmore Village Hall on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April as a special fundraiser. We hope you can join us to help make this event a success.

The tickets are selling fast so if you would like to attend please visit our website [www.friedsofwallacekennel.co.uk](http://www.friedsofwallacekennel.co.uk) and complete the [booking form online](#).

## Summer fetes and village shows

FOWK will have a stall pitched at the following shows, please come along and show your support. We will be selling bric-a-brac, dog equipment, and running games such as tombolas and guess the name of the bear. More details will be on our website and Facebook page nearer the time.

Blackmore Village Fayre **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May** 12noon – 5pm

Ingatestone and Fryerning show – **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July** 12:30 -5pm

Navestock village show - **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July** (time TBC)

Thank you all for your continued support.

All the best

*Teresa*

FOWK Chairperson

# Give a dog a ~~bone~~ home



## Spider – looking for his ‘fur’ever home

He is 14 months old and is a large crossbreed. He is a very friendly boy with humans and sometimes too friendly as he is only young and gets over-excited, causing him to still puppy mouth. As he is very strong he needs an experienced person used to large breeds and willing to continue his training. However he is a clever boy and knows and understands a variety of commands. Spider has been with Wallace Kennels for a long time now and he really needs a permanent home with

someone who has the patience to bring out the best in this boy and give him the love he desperately wants. You can find out more about Spider here:

<https://www.wallacekennels.com/post/spider>



## Grace & Kelly – the dynamic duo

These ridgeback/mastiff sisters are approx' 12-14 months old and were originally looking for a home together. However time in kennels has shown that Kelly was not as confident as her sister and is benefitting from going solo. They are very affectionate girls and both love a cuddle. They are learning quickly and although strong can walk well on lead.



<https://www.wallacekennels.com/post/kelly>

<https://www.wallacekennels.com/post/grace>

## Fun ways to help raise funds



Don't forget you can help us raise funds in lots of ways without personally donating a penny.

Simply register with Give as You Live at [www.giveasyoulive.com](http://www.giveasyoulive.com) and everytime you shop online a donation will be made to Friends of Wallace Kennels.



Play The Essex Lottery and support our cause whilst being in with a chance to win the £25,000 jackpot every week! At least 60% from each ticket sold goes to support Essex charities, including Friends of Wallace Kennels.

<https://www.essexlottery.co.uk/support/find-a-good-cause>



# Real Life Rescues

## Samson's story by Julia Bolton

If you have seen the 'real life rescues' on our website you will know that my involvement with *Wallace Kennels* and subsequently *Friends of Wallace Kennels* began with my volunteering as a walker at the kennels and soon after, adopting our gorgeous mastiff cross Delilah. You can read more about her on the website.

Sadly Delilah is no longer with us but during her time in our lives, we decided she needed a playmate to keep her company during the few hours we were out each day. Now you might think that with her being a mastiff, our second dog would have been a large breed too and this was initially our plan. However, fate intervened and one day I went into kennels to walk the dogs and this little ball of black fur jumped up into my arms, stole my heart and I knew I couldn't leave him behind in kennels. I sent my husband this picture, his reply was "He's cute." To which I responded, "That's good, because he's in the boot!"



When I brought him home, we not only had Delilah in the house, but two other Wallace dogs, both lurchers, that I was looking after while a friend was away on holiday, and the cat. Some may call it brave and others naive but I just popped Samson down at the front door and let him in. He started as he meant to go on and bowled into the house sniffing each of the other dogs in turn, who seemed to accept that he was most definitely now the 'new boss'.

This little man had been named Titch by the kennels and based on his size this was appropriate but I was in no doubt that being a companion for Delilah meant that he had to be called Samson! When walking them together this never failed to bring a smile, when I would explain that the huge mastiff was Delilah, with the little yorkie cross was Samson, it was quite ironic.



Although he's aged a few years since then and despite his size, Samson is a fiesty little chap. Although he's mostly friendly in nature, he does have a penchant for a bike tyre or a runner's ankle and we have to keep our wits about us when were out on walks. I imagine things down at his level must often seem threatening and so I forgive his little quirks, until he tries to bite my fingers when I am grooming him. Though even then he looks at me with his little eyes and manages to win me back over in a flash!

He made firm friends with the cat and Delilah and since she crossed rainbow bridge in 2022 he has got a new buddy in Nancy, our latest Wallace dog but I'll tell you more about her next time.....

