

**MerseysideDogsHome**<sup>tm</sup>

*Saving The Lives Of Lost Dogs*

# GIVE THEM A SECOND CHANCE

Terms and Conditions of Adoption

Thank you for helping and rescuing a lost dog  
in its final stages of rehabilitation.



*Saving The Lives Of Lost Dogs*

**Address:** Merseyside Dogs Home, Greensbridge Lane, Halewood, Liverpool, L35 1QH

**Telephone:** 0151 499 0019 | **Email:** [Info@merseysidedogshome.org](mailto:Info@merseysidedogshome.org) | **Website:** [www.merseysidedogshome.org](http://www.merseysidedogshome.org)

**Registration:** 8459543 | **Charity Registration number:** 1161947

**Find us on Facebook:** Merseyside Dogs Home

# Visitors

Unlike other dog rescue centres we are open to the public 363 days a year, from 9am to 5pm. Our busiest times are before 10am and after 3:30pm so please avoid these times if you can.

At any given time we will have sixty five dogs in our care with around twenty eight ready for adoption. Due to the layout of our centre we can only have eighteen dogs on display at a time. All dogs details are held in an album in our reception, on facebook and our website.

When visiting you can give the dogs treats, please show our receptionist what you are going to use or even better use those provided in reception. Only give treats if a dog is in a run on their own, giving a dog a treat when in with another dog may cause fighting so please do not do this.

You can touch the dogs but do not put your hands inside the bars, please do not take your own dog along the runs or allow children to get excited and alarm the dogs. Remember to wash your hands afterwards.

Members of staff will be on hand to assist you, some may be volunteers, please be patient, priority will always be given to the needs of the dogs over visitors. If you would like to be introduced to a dog please ask and we will bring the dog out to meet you.

When being introduced, give the dog space, time to assess you and comprehend what is going on. We appreciate that you and your family may be excited but the calmer you remain the better you will be able to assess and understand the dog.

Many visitors bring us food, treats, blankets and goodies for the dogs, if you have anything to spare, please bring it along.

## Are you ready to adopt?

**Taking on a dog is a large responsibility, please read this booklet, so that you fully understand the commitment needed.**

We have ten conditions of adoption that you need to read, these are presented in brown in the margins, with the more particular terms in the general text.

Above all, we want your adoption to be successful, it is important that the correct dog is placed with the correct family and that the family is committed to providing the necessary resources for the upkeep of the dog.

Dogs are initially reserved by the person wanting to adopt the dog, for a forty eight hour period with a twenty pound non refundable deposit. This allows time for all family members to visit, paperwork to be completed and necessary checks undertaken. On occasions we may take more than one initial reservation creating a back up reservation list, people on the list don't pay a deposit until it's their turn to be the initial reserve. Once a dog is adopted we will inform people on the back up reservation list.

Once a successful initial reservation has been completed the dog is reserved and can be collected within the next five days. – Please don't be impulsive and rush your decision instead prepare to integrate your new best friend into your home.



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Dear adopter,

**Thank you for choosing to adopt and saving the life of a lost dog, giving them a second chance of a good life.** However your task will not be completed until your chosen dog has completed its final stage of rehabilitation and settled into their new environment - **your home.**

More than likely, that will take around two to three weeks by the end of which you will have a new best friend that at least, will have learnt their new name! Please research how to introduce new dogs into the home environment on sites such as ours [www.merseysidedogshome.org](http://www.merseysidedogshome.org) [www.paw-rescue.org](http://www.paw-rescue.org) and [www.animalhumanesociety.org](http://www.animalhumanesociety.org) especially introducing her to family members and other animals. It is important to control your new dog on a lead when introducing them to anything or anyone.

The first thing is to ensure is that your dog is wearing a strong collar; this will help you to control them during the retraining process. Dogs, like us humans, have their behaviour moulded from past experiences and many stray dogs will need to be retrained to your own personal preferences. For me, my dogs are not allowed on furniture or upstairs, by being firm with clear boundaries, dogs I have taken home soon adjust and comply.

Allow your dog to gain your confidence in her character, do not give away trust that your dog has not earned. In the early days, no play fighting, be careful of your dog protecting her new possessions (don't allow it) and certainly for the first day or so, let them pull their lead around the house with it on.

**Finally good luck and thank you for taking in a rescue dog,** each year in September we hold a picnic in the park to see all of our friends again, please join us at our next event.

*Paul G. Dunne*

Paul G Dunne. MSc M Inst Dir IOSH Tec  
General Manager



THE KENNEL CLUB  
ACCREDITATION SCHEME

Working Towards  
Accreditation



# Condition 1

You agree to providing all necessary resources for the upkeep and good health of your new best friend from the moment you adopt the dog.

## Things to consider

There are currently over seven million dogs in the UK, overtaking cats as Britain's most popular pet. The fun, love, bond and devotion experienced by dog owners from their beloved pets is unbelievable, almost to the point that you cannot put a price on it. But if you did, how much do you think it would cost?

Whatever the reason for choosing to include a dog in your life, whether it be work, play or simple companionship, the cost can widely vary depending on the dog you chose.

- Do you have the income to care for a dog for its entire lifetime?
- Can you account for changes in your life style?
- Losing your job or house?
- Training classes should your dog need them?
- Vet fees not covered by insurance?

It goes without saying, larger breeds like St Bernard's and Newfoundland's will simply come with higher costs because of their size. Most pedigree dogs will cost more to upkeep than the hardier cross breed.

**Good quality dog food** is a good investment for both your dog's wellbeing and health, you need to allow a pound a day for an average size dog (£365 a year).

**Pet insurance** is a double edged sword – it is the safety net you need should something unthinkable happen but routine costs need to be paid for on top of your premium, this cost can easily be over £150 a year.

**Dog beds, collars leads, chews and treats** all add up over the course of a year, easily another £200.

If you're going on holiday and need to **board your dog** it could be another £200 a year.

Like a marriage, in sickness and in health, for richer or poorer and until death do you part, the unconditional relationship with your dog can be one of the most rewarding ones you can have. **Before you make the decision, make sure you can afford the commitment and ultimately you will find that the journey with your dog will be worth it.**



# Bad reasons for wanting a dog

People have many reasons for wanting a dog, here are a few of the worse reasons:

- a) Personal protection
- b) As a fashion accessory
- c) Because your children are demanding one
- d) If you work all day or are away from home a lot
- e) When you can't afford the long term commitment

## Keeping the cost of owning a dog down

1.



### Buy bulk food

You can cut the cost of pet food by as much as fifty percent by buying in bulk.

2.



### Choose a cross breed

Don't choose a dog that costs a fortune to care for. A pedigree dog will not only cost more up front than one of less certain heritage but will also be more expensive to care for.

3.



### Don't rush to go to the vets

Clearly if your dog has been run over you should not hang around, but minor ailments sometimes cure themselves. You would not visit your doctor at the first sign of a runny nose, so why seek expensive help as soon as your dog sneezes. Research undertaken by "More Than" suggest unnecessary emergency vet appointments cost UK pet owners £118million a year.

4.



### ...But keep jabs up to date

Paying to get your pet vaccinated annually, may seem an excessive cost, but not doing so is a false economy. Shop around, some vets now offer lifetime jabs at a fixed cost.

5.



### Go online for cheaper medication

Instead of buying from a vet or pet store, go online to stores like [www.bestpet.co.uk](http://www.bestpet.co.uk) who sell prescription and none prescription medicines for up to fifty percent off.

6.



### Buy pet insurance

One of the most expensive parts of having a dog is caring for it if it falls ill or has an accident. **According to the RSPCA, almost 50% of UK pets will require expensive treatment at some point.**

Many policies also include third party claims, so, if for instance, your dog bites the postman. Should you lose your dog the cost of advertising and the cost of reward for its return can be covered.

We cannot recommend strongly enough the importance of taking out a good insurance policy.

7.



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### ...And shop around for it

Premiums are based on the breed of dog you have, its age, where you live and other factors. There can be a massive difference in how much you are charged, get comparison quotes but make sure the terms are comparable.

8.



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### Buy toys and bedding from charity shops

You don't need to buy expensive toys for your dog – sad looking toys at car boot sales or in charity shops are cheap alternatives, similarly blankets and towels. Your dog won't object to being dried down with an old fraying grey bath towel no longer good enough for your own use.

9.



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### Have your dog neutered

Make sure you don't end up with more mouths to feed by taking steps to get your dog neutered – enquire with us for a neutering voucher when you and your pet are ready.

## Condition 2

If your dog has been adopted unneutered, to have your pet neutered once a veterinary surgeon agree that it is in the best interest of the dog.

# Adopting from a rescue centre

Adopting from a rescue has a host of unique benefits, the greatest of which is the knowledge that you have saved a life.

Each year in the UK over **100,000** of innocent dogs are tortured, neglected, abandoned and abused. These "cast offs" or strays struggle to survive under stressful and often horrific circumstances – alone at the mercy of the elements, without food or water, without the care and aid of people, without love and compassion, friendship, help or support.

Ultimately these dogs end up in Local Authority care and if they are too weak, ill or in any way displaying aggressive behaviour they may be put to sleep. On Merseyside it falls to our organisation to liaise with the Local Authority, saving over six hundred of these dogs each year.

Some of the dogs we take in have been born and raised on puppy farms and never experienced human interaction, others victims of greed and irreparable back street breeders, most have been someone's family member and have been abandoned.

There are many reasons to adopt a rescue dog rather than purchase one from a breeder or the web. Many people assume that if they buy a dog from one of these sources it will be healthier and sounder but this is a misconception.

## Here are some other false misconceptions:

### **X** The dogs have been abandoned for a reason

Contrary to popular belief; shelter pets are simply unlucky rather than unlovable. In fact the majority of rescue dogs have not been abandoned because of their own problems but because of their owner's issues. The number one reason is that their owners are moving houses, other common excuses are the onset of allergies, inability to care and quite commonly – financial troubles.

### **X** You never know what you are going to get

There are no secrets when it comes to rescue dogs: What you see is what you get! Rescue dogs tend to be adults so their personalities are more developed and behaviour traits easier to detect. Take it upon yourself to eliminate any guesswork and pay attention to the information you are given as well as the dogs interactions.

### **X** Rescue dogs are sickly

Rescue dogs aren't invincible when it comes to illness but to be fair, neither are dogs from dealers or breeders, that said we take actions to ensure our dogs are in good health.

### **X** Reassurance

All of our dogs are health checked, vaccinated, wormed, flead, temperament tested, microchipped, insured and returnable at any time during their lifetime.

**Why would anyone buy a dog when you can adopt one?**

# Our Dogs

We only take dogs into the centre that have been abandoned, lost and the owners have not been able to be traced. This means we take in poor dogs that have been neglected by their owners, often confused, stressed and anxious many of these dogs take lots of tender loving care to recover.

**Our success rate of saving ninety four percent of dogs that arrive with us, is one of the best in the country for the type of work we do.** This work could not be done if it wasn't for the good people of Merseyside taking these lost dogs into their homes and giving them a second chance of having a good life. In return, new owners experience fulfilment, joy, happiness but above all the unconditional love that only a dog can give.

Other rescues have selected intake policies with most of their dogs being taken directly from previous owners; these rescues can give you more details than we can about the dogs in their care. The previous history for our dogs is unknown; we don't even know their names, making the work we do at the centre the more difficult than other rescues, but what we do know: is that they need your help.

## Child safety

We operate the same policy as most dog rescue centres in relation to rehoming dogs with children. Obviously, we cannot test a dog's temperament by using children for testing purposes!

The policy is that only young dogs and puppies will be placed into homes that have children under six years old. Around the age of four children begin to understand the things that they say and do affect people's emotions – this is the learning of empathy. It is not until around the age of six that children learn to empathise with Animals. About a third of our adult dogs are suitable to be placed into homes if children are over six years old. At ten, children are more understanding and capable. About two thirds of our adult dogs are suitable for homes with children over ten. Once you have adopted a dog, please consider the reasons for this policy, when you have visitors to your home and the ability of those children to empathise with dogs.

## Adopting a dog

Adopting a rescue dog is a wonderful opportunity for you to welcome a new family member and to offer a dog a second chance for a happy life at the same time. When you plan to adopt a dog, you will be able to find dogs of all ages at our centre but puppies and pedigrees are quickly taken, meaning that there are many cross breed and older dogs looking for their new best friend – **Could that be you?**

By adopting a rescue dog you effectively help two dogs, the one you are adopting and another dog that we will now have the space and resources to help.

The charitable donation that you give does not go to pay for the dog you are adopting, as her care has already been financed. You are funding a new arrival and due to demand this new dog that has also been abandoned, lost, anxious, frightened will be in our care within an hour of you making your donation. This new arrival will absorb £160 of costs in the first two weeks, we therefore ask all adopters to make a one off gift of £160 to help this new dog.

**You will not be able to adopt a dog on your first visit, you must first have taken this booklet home, read it and fully understood the undertaking to a dog that you are giving.**



## Condition 3

All dogs adopted must be kept as pets or companion dogs.  
Must not be used for breeding or any other purpose whatsoever.  
The adopter will permit access to the dog for it to be assessed and comply with any notice issued or surrender the dog.

## Selecting the right family

We believe people do not choose our dogs but our dogs chose who they want as a new family – Please don't be offended if at introduction, the dog does not choose you!

## No surprises!

Our dogs have been through a traumatic time and don't need surprises, that's why it is important for everyone in the household to meet the dog in her own environment before she can be reserved. It is important that all of your family are committed to the care of your new best friend and she has met everyone including any existing dogs in the household. Only after a successful introduction and subject to background checks may a dog be reserved.

Our interest is for the dog to ensure he has a happy forever home. We understand that on occasions people's emotions and desires will be offended, it is not our intention to do this but we do need to ensure dogs do not lose out on a forever home because a reservation falls through and other potential adopters have gone.

**All dogs adopted must be kept entirely as pets or companions and must not be used for breeding or any other purpose what so ever.**

On occasions, especially with puppies, home visits beforehand will be required. It is a condition of adoption that dogs may be visited in their forever home and if it is discovered that the dog is not being cared for in a proper manner, advice will be given in the format of a welfare improvement notice. If this notice is not complied with the dog can be taken away from the adopter.



## Condition 4

You agree to undertake the final stage of rehabilitating your new best friend. Including completing the course of any specific remedial action instructed to do so. Fully understanding that all veterinary costs necessary, once you have adopted the dog is at your own expense.

## Placing a dog into a new home

**Without question, dogs are better in a home than a kennel environment. A home is a far better place to complete a dogs final stages of rehabilitation.**

Some dogs will be neutered before being placed into a new home, others will be neutered and better off recovering in a home environment. Most importantly dogs should not be neutered when stressed or anxious as this may stay with them for the rest of their lives.

If your rescue dog has not been neutered before you take him home, please contact us for a neutering voucher when your dog is ready.

Other dogs may be in the final stages of recovering from an illness, some dogs through their travels as an unwanted dog have inhaled a bacteria or virus into their respiratory tract. The home environment is a better place for them to recover than a kennel environment.

However, be careful as additional stress and anxiety caused by moving a dog into a new centre, can on occasions, if too much activity is undertaken, make the illness worse.

If you have been given treatment with your dog to take home and have any concerns please arrange to visit our vet.



# Homeward Bound

It is time to take home your new dog, there is a point in the process when many people make the biggest mistake, frequently out of excitement over having a new family member. They drive home, bring the dog out of the car, to the front door. Throw the door open, take the dog off the lead and let the dog loose to explore her new home... and the poor dog has no idea what's going on or where it is.

Your rescue dog has gone through a bad time, abandoned, lost and neglected; he is not yet fully recovered. You've just thrown them into a completely alien environment with no direction, and these early associations are going to stick. The place is unfamiliar, it smells different, and there doesn't seem to be any way out. If you have previously had pets in the house, it will smell like them, and your new dog will be uncertain about invading someone else's territory.

Firstly take them on an energetic walk. This will help use up the energy from being in the car. When you arrive home, it's not time to let your new dog go bounding inside yet. Lead them to whichever door you enter through, and then make him sit, waiting until he is calm. When you open the door, you and the family must enter first. Only then, invite your new dog in.

Slowly introduce your new dog to her new place, one room at a time, and you should begin with the room where she will find her food and water, making her wait until you have gone through the door and invited her in. Have them sit while you get their food and water ready.

When introducing to people do it safely, let them smell first, one at a time, don't show affection until the dog comes to them. Also show extra caution when introducing them to other animals, keep them on a lead and do it slowly. Let your dog earn trust, do not presume they will be well socialised and safe around humans and animals.

Always keep a collar on your dog, it makes them easier to handle. If uncertain you must have your new dog on a lead. Be firm and supervise your new dog, make sure your dog knows the house rules.

**Research and read about integrating a rescue dog into new environments.**

## Integrating your dog into a new home

- 1.** Take them on an energetic walk
- 2.** Lead the dog to your front door and invite her in
- 3.** Slowly introduce your dog to each room
- 4.** Introduce your dog to people safely
- 5.** Always keep the collar on your dog
- 6.** Be firm and supervise

## Condition 5

Agreeing that once your chosen rescue dog has settled into her new home you will visit your chosen vet for a health check and self finance any action required to be undertaken. To complete the course of any inoculations started and not completed. To upkeep annual health checks and inoculations.

## Rescue Dogs

It is unlikely that any lost dog can be in one hundred percent good health, your new pet will undoubtedly have minor ailments that may need addressing in her final stages of rehabilitation.

Before being placed for adoption all dogs are checked by a veterinary surgeon for any obvious health problems (eyes, ears, etc.) and vaccinated. Although we do our utmost to make sure that all the dogs in our care are fit and healthy they can occasionally be incubating an illness that does not show for many days, so be observant regarding your dogs temperature and motion during this period.

All dogs have been initially inoculated against distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, parainfluenza infections. This inoculation will last twelve months. After this the leptospirosis inoculation is given in two parts: two to four weeks apart, once complete this will also last twelve months. On occasions dogs are released into forever homes with not having received the second inoculation. This inoculation has to be by the same manufacturer as the first – dogs may be returned to see our vet for this inoculation to be administered.

**Dogs are provided with four weeks Pet insurance from Petplan.** If your pet is unwell and you need to contact your Veterinary Surgeon you would be able to use your Pet insurance after paying the relevant excess. Please remember that your adopted dog is now yours and all veterinary fees including the excess are at your own expense.



## Condition 6

Agreeing to undertake a review of insurance policies for pet care and to maintain an appropriate policy.

## Insurance

Insurance can help you cover the cost of any unexpected veterinary treatment that your animal requires.

There are a wide range of policies available but it's important to realise that not all pet insurance is the same and you need to choose your policy wisely.

The policy that you have been supplied with is Petplan is **the UK's No.1 pet insurance provider**, and is committed to keeping pets healthy and customers happy, which is why ninety percent of Petplan customers renew each year.

Your rescue dog has **four week's insurance**, you will be contacted by Petplan with details of how you can extend this temporary cover permanently. We recommend you chose the right policy for yourself but do take insurance cover out to protect yourself from any large unexpected costs.



## Condition 7

Understand that you need to take precautions in assessing the dogs temperament and to practice safety first. That no guarantees whatsoever can be given in regard to the dog's temperament.

## No Guarantees

We know nothing about the dogs before they arrive with us, except they were abandoned, lost and unloved. **We make it our mission to help these unfortunate dogs that people have let down.**

Their history, medical conditions, likes, dislikes, behaviour in a home environment are all unknown to us. We only know what we see and assess in a kennel environment – that dogs have unconditional love!

Before arriving with us, the dogs have spent seven days with the Local Authority, in boarding kennels, waiting out their time to be reclaimed. Those not reclaimed are passed from Local Authority ownership to us. As a result of unfortunate deaths by banned and aggressive dogs on Merseyside, the Local Authority does not allow us to rehome dogs that have shown aggression. Consequently every dog is given a temperament test but this is in a kennel environment, results may be different in a home environment without professional handlers.

**Although we have taken reasonable steps and care to test temperaments, no guarantee what so ever can be given.**

Therefore we would advise you to take the greatest care and precautions necessary when introducing your new pet to your family and friends, especially with children. We do not accept responsibility for any animal's behaviour once it leaves our reception.

Once a dog has been adopted (i.e. out of reception), having completed an adoption pack and signing the necessary paperwork, it is the responsibility of you (the new owner) to ensure the safety of your new pet, family members and any members of the public you might come into contact with.



# Time to settle

Please do not adopt a dog unless you are prepared to spend time and go to the expense with her to complete her final stages of rehabilitation and given time to settle. **On adopting a dog the following must be observed:**

1.



**Do not do too much in the early days** - placing a dog into a new environment is stressful for her and may cause sickening.

2.



**Reduce stress and anxiety** - give your rescue dog a place of her own, bed, blankets and toys.

3.



**Walk and socialise them** - to bring them back into normal life.

4.



**Careful play** - playing is part of a dog's normal life, bring back some fun! (no play fighting).

5.



**Good food** - hungry dogs will eat anything, only serve up good quality dog food.

6.



**Give appropriate guidance** - without it, a dog will develop perpetual misdemeanour behaviour.

7.



**Safety first** - stress and inappropriate guidance, may in some instances result in ill tempered reactions, if this occurs, practice safety first.

8.



**Seek assistance** - if you are experiencing difficulties.

## Condition 8

Allowing your new forever friend time to settle in her new home.  
Providing a stimulating environment, implementing good practice through training and behaviour techniques.

## Experiencing difficulties

Understanding your new best friend is important especially if you are experiencing difficulties.

- a) **Obedience problems** – pulling on a lead, running away and not coming when called.
- b) **Behaviour problems** – house soiling, chewing, digging, barking, jumping up.
- c) **Temperament problems** – aggression, fear of people, fighting with dogs and hyperactivity.

In reality all aspects of obedience training may be accomplished at any time in a dog's life. Commands we use at the centre are: Leave, Sit, Down, Off, Gentle, Good girl (boy), Wait and No.

Behavioural problems, similarly may be resolved in adult life but the older dog, the harder the prospect. It is necessary to break the old habits before teaching good new ones.

Temperament issues however are extremely time consuming, difficult, often dangerous and usually beyond the efforts and expense of the average dog owner. Dogs displaying these symptoms should be surrendered and returned into our care.

## Consultation Days

**Each month we operate consultation days**, where Kennel Club approved behaviourist and trainers are available to assist adopter's struggling with their dogs. These are one hour sessions, on a one to one basis.

After your dog has been given time to settle (three weeks) so as not to cause more excitement before it has truly relaxed in its true home, then you can arrange to attend, free of charge, by contacting us or sending an email to [info@merseysidedogshome.org](mailto:info@merseysidedogshome.org)



## Microchipping

**Your new forever friend is microchipped and registered in your name at your current address; you will receive full details from the database "Petlog" in a few weeks time.**

A microchip is a barcode, should your dog become lost, Dog Wardens scan your dog to get the bar code number. They then check against the data bases to find you and your dogs details. This is not an instantaneous process as the Government approve six data base operators and all do not open 24 hours a day, Petlog does, that is why we use them.

The number one reason for dogs not being reunited with their owners is incorrect details on the data base – people move homes and change mobile phone numbers and forget to update their details!

## Condition 9

Not to sell, gift or pass on the dog to a third party outside of your family, returning the dog into the care of Merseyside Dogs Home should you ever be in a position not to be able to care for her.

## Once a Merseydog... always a Merseydog

Although we do our best to avoid impulse adoptions, sometimes we are misled and get it wrong.

On rare occasions dogs are returned to us the same day. Other dogs won't show their true behaviour problems until they have settled in for a week or two and on occasions adopters struggle to cope – we thank these adopters for trying and having the wisdom to return the dog rather than engaging with a deteriorating situation.

Most of our dogs – ninety six percent spend the rest of their lives in your forever home. Please rest assured if your circumstances change and you cannot give your adopted dog the care she deserves, we will always take her back.

If you are concerned what will happen to your pet after you are gone, place it into your will for us to adopt her back and we will look after her.

**At any point in your dog's lifetime – we will take her back and look after her – once a Merseydog always a Merseydog.**

## Exchange Notes

An exchange note is issued to a family who has given their utmost to try and complete a rescue dogs final stage of rehabilitation but for some reason have not succeeded.

It allows the family to take time out, reflect on their experience and give another dog a chance should they desire to do so.

**Exchange notes are issued to a specific family house hold and cannot be sold, raffled or gifted to third parties for obvious reasons.**



## Condition 10

Once a donation has been given to our cause, it cannot be refunded unless the donation was a result of fraud. You agree to support the centre in its charitable aims whenever you can. Including promoting the work we do to friends, colleagues and employers. Considering how you can best help the lost dogs of Merseyside – no matter how small your contribution can be.

## Charitable status

Merseyside Dogs Home is a charity (number 1161947) and as such needs to raise funds from as many sources as possible.

A fair proportion of funds raised is by adopters donating to help other incoming dogs. Many others help by giving a regular standing order, averaging £10 a month. Commercial companies also give to help lost dogs, our staff and volunteers work hard especially during the summer months to raise much needed funds.

**Please consider how you can help the lost dogs of Merseyside either by yourself or encouraging others.** Our work is only possible thanks to the great kindness of those who give us donations or remember us in their wills.

To help us with resources that we need please visit our wish list on the Merseyside Dogs Home web site.

We are truly grateful to our supporters for their great generosity, you can give by our Just Giving fundraising page, please remember to gift aid all donations, as this helps even more.

### How to give:

By visiting the centre

Through your bank by Standing Order

(Sort code 20 50 82 / Account number 23 79 74 14)

By phoning us on **0151 487 3592**

Or by visiting [www.merseysidedogshome.org](http://www.merseysidedogshome.org)



# Volunteering

Clear about our purpose, more professional in our approach and above all striving to keep the assistance we give to dogs, and people at the highest standard. We're more ready than we have ever been to achieve our founder's goals.

We are looking for enthusiastic people to join us with our cause, if you can spare time to help the lost dogs of Merseyside, please let us know. Unfortunately, due to the demands of looking after stressed and anxious dogs we can only offer placements to people over sixteen years old.

**For current voluntary vacancies please visit [www.merseysidedogshome.org](http://www.merseysidedogshome.org) or email [v.coordinator@merseysidedogshome.org](mailto:v.coordinator@merseysidedogshome.org)**

# Fostering

On occasions we take into care dogs that take a long time to reach the point of their final stages of rehabilitation. This is due to the poor and neglected condition that they arrive in, many suffering both physical and psychological needs. We need temporary homes to care for these unfortunate dogs, nursing them to recovery. Until they are fit enough to go into forever homes.

**If you have the time and the space to help, please contact the centre and let us know.**

# Going on holiday

Merseyside Dogs Home has sister kennels in rural Lancashire farmland, half a mile along an unmade road in a park like setting to give your pet on holiday. Just a thirty eight minute journey from the centre to the holiday destination! Dogs can either be collected from your home (for a modest charge) or you can drop off at Merseyside Dogs Home in Halewood and your pet(s) will be transported (free of charge) to the Lancashire kennels.

We are the alternative to the standard boarding kennel with **luxury accommodation, secured fenced paddock, socialisation and comfort**. We build a relationship with every dog and treat them as individual, their needs are catered for so that they feel relaxed and happy. Very private and exclusive, with a limited number of dogs to ensure our guest receive the care, attention and love they receive at home. A home-from-home whilst you are away. We can guarantee your dog will love to stay, although we can't guarantee they will want to leave!

If you wish to come and have a sniff around, we would welcome you. However please contact us first to arrange an appointment as our priority is to the care of the dogs staying with us as we may be busy with our guests.

**Please email your holiday dates to [dog.boarding@merseysidedogshome.org](mailto:dog.boarding@merseysidedogshome.org)**

Dog room rates £13 plus £9 for additional guests  
Cat room rates £9 plus £5 for additional guests  
Small animals £5 plus £3 for additional guests  
Room rates include full board, bedding, heating,  
exercise, love and affection.



**MerseysideDogsHome**<sup>tm</sup>

*Saving The Lives Of Lost Dogs*

# MERSEYSIDE DOGS HOME



**Merseyside Dogs Home was founded in May 2013 by Paul Dunne in response to the RSPCA's withdrawal from dealing with stray dogs in the region.**

With no one to take in and care for the lost dogs of Merseyside, he opened the centre – the only stray dog rescue centre to open this century. Working to build a twenty first century rescue centre, he has the vision of saving dogs lives, whilst at the same time improving people's lives.

Companion dogs add to life's riches, provide company, exercise and a purpose in life for many. Others benefit from experiencing the love of dogs through engagement at the centre, the vulnerable, the needy, the homeless all travelling a journey with the dogs – lost, recuperating and recovering into normal life.

**Our founder wants the centre to be more than a place to rescue dogs but also a place to help improve peoples lives.**

*Saving The Lives Of Lost Dogs*

**Address:** Merseyside Dogs Home, Greensbridge Lane, Halewood, Liverpool, L35 1QH

**Telephone:** 0151 499 0019 | **Email:** [Info@merseysidedogshome.org](mailto:Info@merseysidedogshome.org) | **Website:** [www.merseysidedogshome.org](http://www.merseysidedogshome.org)

**Registration:** 8459543 | **Charity Registration number:** 1161947

**Find us on Facebook:** Merseyside Dogs Home