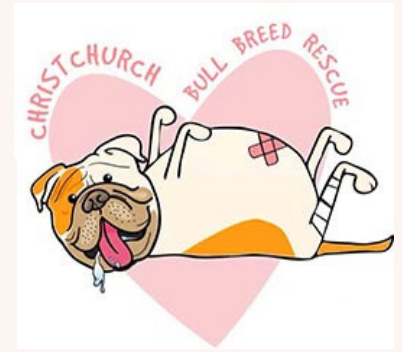


The Poop Scoop



Free Newsletter No. 16, December 2019

The Scoop

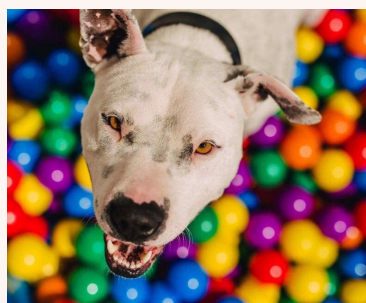
With our girl Sapphire heading off to her forever home recently it is a really timely reminder for us why we just can't give up on the long stayers. Before Sapphire, Kohla held the record for longest stayer at the shelter, having stayed for 2 years. Leo spent a good 2 years in a foster home waiting patiently for his forever family to come along. There was nothing wrong with these dogs, nothing at all. But not every dog fits into every home - and we get that! This is why we work so hard to cater to each dog's individual needs and to find

a home that perfectly fits those needs. We had applications for Sapphire over the years, Kohla too. But they weren't the right fit. Sure, we could have homed them and hoped for the best but reality is they probably would have ended up right back where they started - and maybe worse off. It is worth every day of shelter life, every minute of training, and every second of volunteer time and love that goes into these dogs when we finally get to see them land on their feet in their happily ever after.

Abbey van der Plas



Saffy



Kohla



Leo



Dog of the Month

Layla

Layla is around 7-8 months old and is a real bitza.

She came to us via the SPCA as a very timid and shut down girl. She didn't do well in the shelter environment so we sent her straight to a foster home with another dog. Having another dog around her has immediately boosted her confidence and she is beginning to feel safe exploring the world.

Layla needs a home with another dog. The confidence she gets from the presence of another dog just cannot be replicated with people. She needs a home with children over 10yrs old. The unpredictableness of young children is very scary for her. Layla is fine to live with cats.

Overall Layla needs a home that can show her that the world is not a scary place. She needs a family who will take a keen interest in her training and social development and who want to see her thrive.

Layla is desexed, vaccinated, chipped and registered. All our dogs are destined to be family dogs, who sleep inside with the rest of the family.

All the ways to reach us

1 Barton Street, Woolston, Christchurch

Email: admin@chchbullbreedrescue.org.nz www.chchbullbreedrescue.org.nz

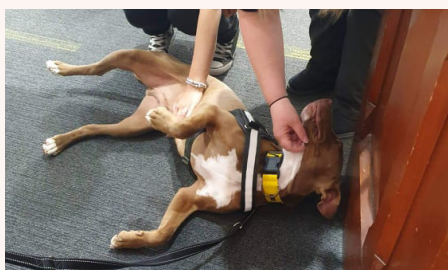
Social media: www.facebook.com/ChristchurchBullBreedRescue; www.instagram.com/chchbullbreedrescuenz

Welcome

Here are a few pictures from recent fundraisers. Everyone involved had loads of fun and got an extra dose of cuddles at the King of Ink, the 2nd Pup-up organised by The Barkery, and the flash tattoo day organised by Absolution. Thank you to everyone who made these events possible! We couldn't do it without you.



Photo credit: @Lightchasers



The Science Corner

Let's talk business! Did you ever wonder why your dog is doing a few circles before deciding on that perfect position to poo? It's certainly a weird behaviour. Over the years a lot of different theories have been developed. Maybe it's for hygiene reasons: they trample down tall grass to make sure no poo sticks to their backsides. Or maybe they want to check that there are no snakes in the area before dropping a No 2. A few years ago a group of researchers in the Czech Republic had a different idea: maybe it has to do with the Earth's magnetic field! We know migratory birds use it on their journeys to figure out where they are, and dogs might do the same with regards to their territory.

The scientists observed 70 dogs over 2 years and recorded a) the direction the dog was facing when doing No 1s and No 2s, and b) the geomagnetic conditions at the time (because the strength and exact direction of the magnetic field can change). They found that when the magnetic field was stable, dogs oriented their bodies in a North-South direction.

However, when the magnetic field was unstable, they pooped facing in any direction. This was the first time that magnetic sensitivity was shown in dogs. Cool, isn't it?

We would advise against counting on your dog to be a living compass if you



ever get lost in the bush. Just sayin'...

The complete study can be found here

<https://frontiersinzoology.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1742-9994-10-80#Abs1>

Specials

Lost for ideas for the dog lover or the pooch in your life? Come to our MERCH SALE DAY on 21. December and get everything you need this Christmas:

T-shirts, Hoodies, singlets, stickers, treats, drink bottles, notebooks, pillow covers, dog toys, shopping bags, beanies and caps, and so much more. And if you are really lucky, Gibbs will be around for pre-holiday cuddles!



Doggie Tails

Stages of Life

There are certain issues we expect to have that are due primarily to the age and life stage of a dog. We often get questions on why a puppy or dog is showing a certain behaviour and what training we recommend to harmoniously work through this phase with the dog. In this series, we will explain the different life stages a dog goes through and how to make sure you and your dog get the best out of it.

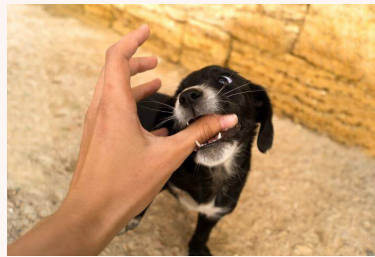
Part 3: The Adolescent Period (Puberty):



Always an interesting stage! It occurs between 6 to 18 months of age, but does vary depending on breed and size. If owners have not put the time and energy into training at the juvenile period, this is when it comes to bite them in the butt! These are generally the dogs we see in rescue environments. Owners who have spent the time doing consistent training before this phase do still have some issues, just not to the extreme that the others will have. Owners realise that puppies are hard work. Toilet training can seem like endless trips outside, standing in the cold, late at night supervising and encouraging. Some puppies take a while to learn to sleep through the night. Then there is all the teething - mouthing, biting, chewing of shoes and furniture and all sorts of other bitey toothed mischief. It is a good job that puppies are very cute and that they offer bundles of adorable moments. Most people have the patience and understand this is for a short period in the dog's life and worth the effort. However, they

are not prepared for the next stage! Owners think at puppy stage they have everything sussed, they have gone to a class to learn how to sit, stay, walk nicely, come, all the things an owner wants in their dog. Then their lovely, well behaved dog hits adolescence and things start getting harder.

The idea of achieving a well-mannered, calm adult dog seems like it is never going to happen and all the training that was going so well has been forgotten by their dog. Recall is replaced with selective hearing, the light loose lead is replaced with an increasingly strong dog determined to get their nose down. We think of the stage as very similar to human



teenagers. Some develop earlier than others, some stay gloriously childlike well into their teens - this is very rare and we are seriously jealous of these owners. Some teenagers become unpredictable and surly, others become more introverted as they find their environment increasingly overwhelming. Their interest in the opposite sex may lead them astray from their classes. Emotionally, they are still quite immature due to the lack of actual experience, but physically some teenagers are fully developed, six foot tall with the need to shave every morning and that accompanied with an attitude that suggests they already know it all.

We can give equivalent dog examples and people then have a better understanding of this stage, a teenager! Hormones so have a lot to answer for.

From the age of around 4 to 5 months old, male puppies start producing increasing levels of testosterone. This continues for several months. With this increase, you can expect to see bolder behaviours. A puppy that was once your shadow now ventures further away. They may pay much more attention to smells, getting carried away as these smells carry new degrees of interest. This means that puppies with previously wonderful recall now

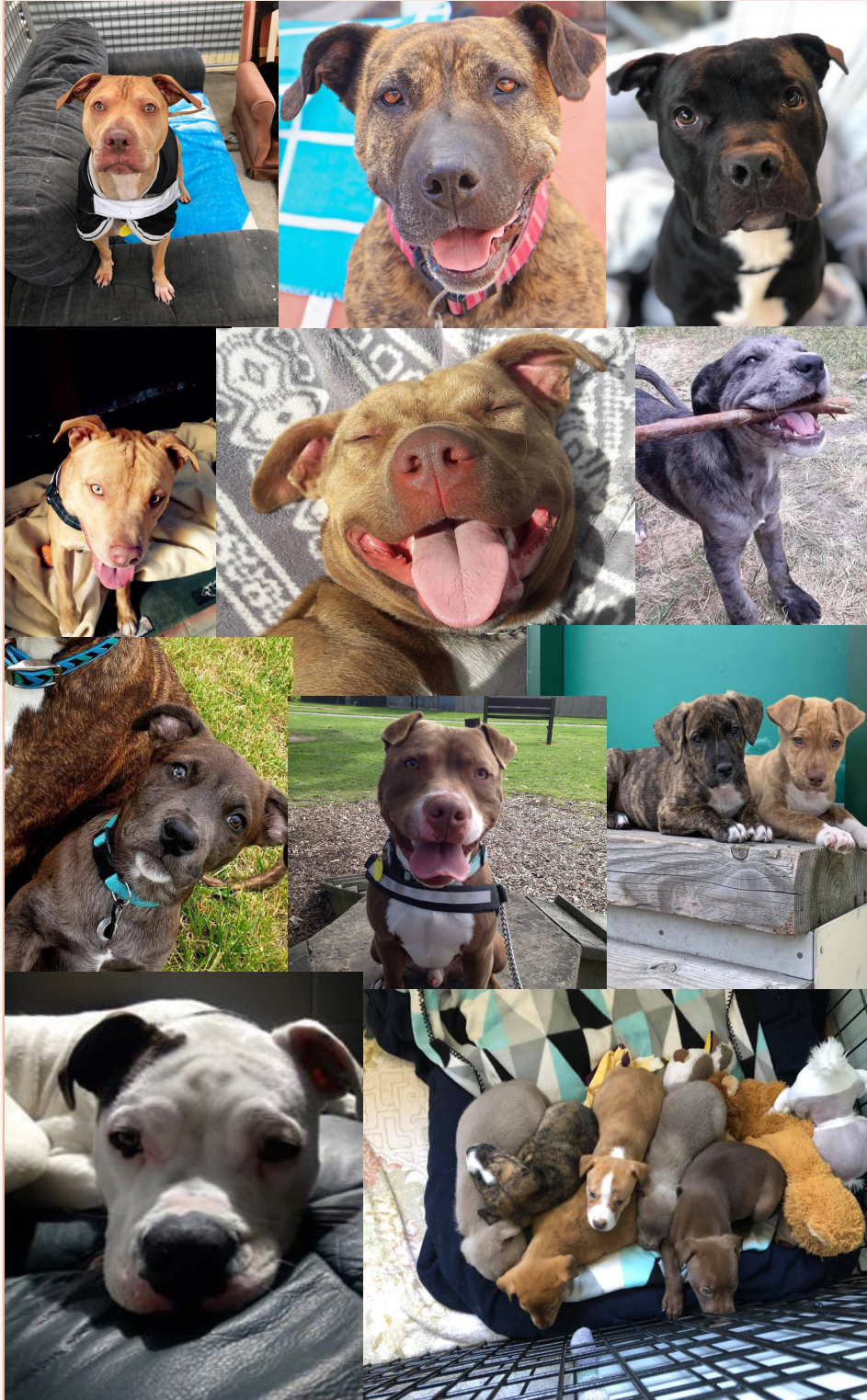
appear to have selective hearing as they go off on their own missions. Young dogs will learn to ignore you if they get a really positive experience whilst off on those little missions, they will be more likely to repeat the behaviour. You need to be prepared to control and manage your way through this period. Revert back to a long line if needs be, whilst putting in regular sessions to positively reinforce recall.

Females adolescents have raging hormones too, increased oestrogen can increase activity levels, can stimulate nervous arousal and increase vocalisations. Again, this can explain why they can appear to stop listening to us. Appropriate levels of physical and mental stimulation are important, whilst being aware of the interactions our young dog engages in. When our puppies are young, we know that it is important to get them used to anything and everything they will come into contact with as an adult. You will have put the hard work in, gradually and gently introducing them to everything you can think of in a calm and sensible way, so their first fear period is usually dealt with pretty smoothly. They will have encountered cars, lawn mowers, babies, buggies, carrier bags, ladders, people in motorcycle helmets and so much more. With appropriate guidance, they should have taken it all in their stride. It is important to note that just because it was covered at that stage, does not mean they will be bomb proof and able to confidently handle every situation. While we continue to live in the real world, owners need to be prepared for a point somewhere in adolescence where things can spook the dog that normally wouldn't. When our dog is in this phase we need to still just get on with life, but it is important to do regular training with your dog at your dog's level and pace.

Owners may need to revert back to their puppy plan to remind them of the exercises. We do not want to overwhelm our dog so, little and often! Adolescence can, in some dogs, take considerable time to pass. When owners are in the midst of it, the frustrations are real. Rest assured though, with regular training and the patience to see it through, that young dog will develop into a well rounded adult.

Next time: Maturity

We found our forever homes



Weird Dog Fact

Tripping over your dog is the second most likely way to get injured around dogs.



Upcoming events

For this year, we are all done in terms of events!

However, keep your diaries free on 29.2.2020 for our THIRD POKER RUN!

We can't wait to get back on the road with you guys!



If you would like to make a donation, there are several ways to do so:

Directly into our Trust account - Christchurch Bull Breed Rescue Trust 38-9016-0659994-00

Directly into our vet account - Avonside Wainoni Vet Clinic - Ref - 11751 - 06 0829 0207978 00

Give A Little - <https://givealittle.co.nz/org/bullbreedrescue>

Fill in the form below & send in a payment to us at 1 Barton Street, Woolston, Christchurch

As we are a registered charity, we are able to offer receipts for tax purposes, so please let us know if you require a receipt for payments made in any of the above ways

Name: _____ Address: _____ Email: _____

Payment made into an account: _____

Payment attached: Y/ N Receipt Required Y/N Receipt: Emailed / Posted

Sapphire Special

If you follow us in social media you already heard the good news already: SAFFY HAS A HOME!!!!

We are thrilled to bits that she is in her amazing furever-home and won't look back to the time spent at Barton Street. And that's how it should be - even though she is dearly missed by everyone.

To celebrate the occasion, we have tagged on an extra page to this newsletter to share pictures of her. Some were taken at the rescue over the years, but some come from her new home.

We hope you enjoy them as much as we do.

