



A sad farewell Sparky

19 February 2001 – 22 May 2016
by his adopters

We re-homed Sparky (a whippet x collie) in February 2003, he was just shy of 2 yrs old and hadn't had the best start in life, bless him. When we met him it was love at first sight! There were a few teething problems when we introduced him to our other dog Bonnie (lab x Springer) especially over bed space, he wanted to share, she didn't, but they became the best of friends until she passed away in February 2012, she even let him share her bed for the last few years of her life.

Sparky was the most gentle boy ever, a real gent, he loved everyone and everything and loved going out with us in the car; he always had to stand to see where we were going whether it was a few miles or hundreds. He became the best friend to our three daughters especially our youngest.

Sadly in June 2015 he was diagnosed with bone cancer and was given a few short months at the most. But, Sparky had other ideas and surprisingly made Christmas and then his 15th birthday! Sadly though in April this year the cancer had spread to his brain and several weeks later Sparky passed away.

We had an amazing 13 years with Sparky; he was the most loyal loving dog we could ever have wished for we were truly heartbroken when he had to leave us.

Barrk would also like to thank the following for their continued support.

Banff Pet Shop, 01261 815420

Brumley Brae Kennels, Elgin. 01343 544411

Burns Dog Food for their donations

It's A Dog's Life, 01343 831420

Longleys Country Store, Maud, 01771 619035

Veterinary Surgeons

Aberlour, 01340 871385

Bellevue, Banff 01261 812168

Bridge, Aberdeen 01224 823227

Buchan, Peterhead 01779 472460

Deveron Veterinary Surgeons

Turriff, 01888 563217
Macduff, 01261 832666

Fairview, New Deer, 01771 644205

Fochabers, 01343 820898

Glenythan, Methlick 01651 261502

Meadows, Oldmeldrum 01651 872481

Miller & Swann, Elgin. 01343 542255

Mintlaw Veterinary Group
Mintlaw, 01771 624001

Moray Coast,
Forres, 01309 672243
Lossiemouth, 01343 815335

Seafeld Veterinary Group
Buckie, 01542 835207
Keith, 01542 882209

Strathbogie, Huntly 01466 792627

Wards, Elgin, 01343 544811

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Happy 20th Birthday to BARRK 1996 - 2016



The BARRK shop volunteers

Little did we know that 20 years on and thousands of happy dogs later we would still be enjoying the tremendous support of our members and the general public. The continued success of BARRK is down to the hard work and dedication of all our volunteers, but particular recognition must go to our fantastic team who run the BARRK charity shop. Their hard work raises much needed funds for our charity and they are also the public face of our organisation; their superb efforts in making the BARRK charity shop a friendly and welcoming place to visit is invaluable.

Barrk Annual Raffle

Saturday 3 December 2016

1st Prize - £100 Curry's Voucher; 2nd Prize - £50 Tesco Voucher;
3rd Prize - £25 Argos Voucher
and many other prizes

It's that time of year again when Barrk is holding its annual raffle; it takes a vast amount of money to keep Barrk running so every ticket sold ensures that we are able to continue the work we do. We have enclosed a couple of books for you, should you require more please call the above number.

Rehoming Updates

Since the last issue of the Barrking Times we have re-homed 60 dogs.

April - 7; May - 3; June - 7; July - 20; August - 8; September - 9; October - 6.

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The Big Tick Project 2016

You may have heard about the Big Tick Project, its aim is to raise awareness about the dangers of ticks and tick-borne disease in the UK – and as a way to educate pet owners on how to protect against them.



a nasty looking tick

Ticks are a widespread and expanding threat to both humans and animals alike. This is thought to be due, in large part, to the warm, wet winters that the UK has been experiencing. As a result ticks are able to start their feeding earlier and for longer throughout the year. Prevention therefore is the key; check your dog regularly, if your dog has picked up a tick use the specific tick remover readily available from your vet. There are preparations available at your vets to apply on your dog.

Further information about the Big Tick Project is available on their website at: www.bigtickproject.co.uk.

Some Success Stories by Iain Mitchell

Timing is all. Just as I was leaving to go on a much needed holiday, we got a call on the answering machine to help a lady rehome her dogs. How many I asked? 28 came the reply! Fortunately they were nearly all very small dogs and my colleague managed to rehome most of them by the time I returned from sunnier climes!

I have had some very rewarding and sometimes amazing rehoming myself. An American bulldog I went to assess was one of the nicest and friendliest muppets I have seen in a long time and a 6 year old Rottweiler has become best of friends with her new adopter's 11 year old German Shepherd.

Awesome Dawson (pictured) an 18 year old Dachshund fostered by Anne McLean continues to bumble happily through life despite being totally blind and deaf.



I have had a couple of rehoming recently where I hope to have helped lonely people as much as we have helped the dogs.

Relatively Speaking – by Albert Einstein (a.k.a. Shaadi)



We haven't had much of a summer but I am looking forward to Autumn with its richness of colours and the chance for me to take my man out for long walks in the hope of gathering wild raspberries and edible mushrooms such as ceps, chanterelles and orange boletus. This would be a good time to consider your pet, owners should always be aware that there are poisonous plant and fungal species that exist in the wild and given the difficulty in identifying which species a dog may come across, all mushroom ingestions should be treated as an emergency and if you think your dog has ingested wild mushrooms please seek veterinary attention. Until next time.....

The Rewards of Fostering

Laddie



Laddie and his new bovine friend Emily



Making new friends is tiring!

Laddie who we were lead to believe was 9 yrs old came into our care with his friend Charley (who is now happily settled into his new home). We had some concerns about Laddie's welfare and immediately had him assessed by the vet where it was quickly discovered he had a very serious mouth infection and was underweight. He had to have an operation to have some teeth removed and treatment to address the infection in his mouth and then he was put on a feeding regime to improve his body weight. On top of this we discovered via his microchip details that he was, in fact, 12½ yrs old. Given his age and his ongoing veterinary requirements a long term foster home would be needed (and this we have found; Jane says "thank you for Laddie he is such a sweet boy it's as if he has always been here"). BARRK is committed to funding the health and welfare of dogs that come into its care in need of long term fostering. This financial commitment is only possible through your continued support.

A Special Thank You

BARRK would like to extend a special thank you to Iain Mitchell one of our re-homing volunteers for all his hard work over the last few years. He was supported in these efforts by his loyal companions Diesel (now sadly deceased) and Shaadi both of whom were the inspiration for the many articles about their intrepid travels across the North East of Scotland in their quest to find ideal homes for our dogs.

Barrk would like to wish Iain all the best in his future endeavours.

Co-op Local Community Award

BARRK has been selected to receive funding from the Co-op Local Community Fund. It means that we will get a contribution towards the running costs of the BARRK charity. Every time a member buys selected Co-op branded products and services 1% of their spend goes to their chosen local cause. Also, money from the sale of their reusable carrier bags and the 5 pence legal charge on carrier bags will also be used to kick start the funding for each cause.

If you live in the Banff area and you are a Co-op member log in to your Co-op membership account and choose us. If you're not a member, please join and support us, the more support we get, the more funding we could receive!