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A very Happy New Year to you all!

The last year has been a very difficult one, not just for LCH, but for animal rescue in general. Despite greater awareness of backstreet breeders, puppy farms and the like, and umpteen TV programs and media reports highlighting the plight of rescues, more animals than ever are needing refuge. Many of these are dogs which have been neglected and/or abused, or have behavioural problems due to lack of socialisation and basic training. Some have terminal medical issues, and need a safe and loving end of life home, where they can know peace in their final days. At the heart of this are our fabulous fosterers, without whom LCH could not function. As a new year begins, we hope that many more people will make the decision to offer a foster home to a needy pooch. Although it can be a hard and frustrating job at times, it is also the most rewarding, knowing that you have been instrumental in saving a life, and providing the chance of a happy future, not just for the dog, but also for their prospective adopters.

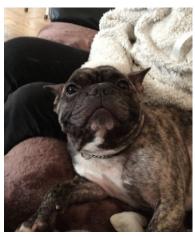
Our first newsletter of the year recalls the Christmas Fun Dog Show, Dan's amazing run for LCH, some happy Gotchas, and a sprinkling of regular news.

DONATE TO LAST CHANCE HOTEL

New Arrivals

All sorts, sizes and ages make their way to Cornwall courtesy of LCH. Amongst the December incomers were Rex, a Patterdale X pup, Reggie, a 3 year old French Bulldog, and Ruslan, renamed Trooper, a 13 month old Black Russian Terrier giant, now safe in foster at HQ having already had 3 homes in his short life. Little Butch's owner was admitted to hospital and he needed a foster home urgently; thankfully someone came forward for him, and this timid boy is now enjoying cuddles and attention.









Top pic: Rex

1st row: Reggie, Trooper and Butch

These are just a few of the recent incomers. If you would like to follow their progress, and find out more about all the others, please check out our <u>Facebook page</u> and website <u>lastchancehotel.org</u>. We now have a news section on the Home page; dogs are constantly being assessed in their foster homes and information changes regularly.

Waggy Tail Endings

With two 'failed' fosters and several other rehomings, 2019 promises to be a fab year for these lucky pooches. Maggie, a little Chi girl who came to LCH a few months ago and went into foster with Debbie and Lewis, latched on to her foster dad and had him 'well trained', according to Debbie! So this failure was a lovely Christmas present for them both.

Snowy had been described by his owners as 90% adorable and 10% Satan, and were about to end his life as he had bitten, but LCH stepped in and luckily another Debbi came forward to foster him. He settled in well with the family of 3 Westies, - so well that he now has his forever home with them. Happy days now Snowy!

George the SBT came into rescue in early December and joined Carla and her family of Staffies. It didn't take long for this lovely boy to garner several admirers and one lucky

family has now adopted him. Millie JRT had been in foster for a while with Gina, finding her feet and gaining confidence, and is now happily ensconced in her new forever home.







Top pic: Maggie with doting dad Lewis

1st row: Snowy, Millie, George

Fundraisers

Our Christmas Fun Dog Show in mid December was very well supported and it was a joy to see so many happy smiling faces, - and that was just the dogs! Congratulations to Marley for winning Best in Show, and to Evie for Reserve. A huge thank you to all who came along, and to our wonderful cake makers, who never fail to amaze us with their generosity.

The Christmas raffle went down very well too; many thanks to Anna, Heather and many others for donating such a fab array of prizes,



including a superb Christmas hamper and a collection of delicious goodies!

Pictured above with their respective mums, proudly showing off their rosettes and prizes are BIS Marley, on the right, and Evie, RBIS on the left.









If you would like to help LCH with a fundraising event, please contact the team with your idea on 01209 281159 or email Louisa on louisa@lastchancehotel.org.

Thank you!

Amazonians.....

A huge thank you to Natasha, Robert and Ollie the Collie, for the fab Christmas gifts of Kong Wobblers, balls and harness. Two huge sacks of dog food also arrived at the same time but without a name attached, so another big thank you to whoever donated them. All via our Amazon Wishlist. Absolutely fantastic!



Dan's Run for LCH

Whilst most people were preparing for Christmas and thinking about the lengthening days to come following the Winter Solstice, Dan Middleton and his friend Matt were pounding the streets and paths of Cheltenham in a gruelling challenge to raise funds for Last Chance Hotel. Their aim was to run 48 miles in 24 hours, in rounds of 4 miles every 2 hours.



Dan's mum Emma fostered and then adopted Last Chancer 'Eric the Viking', a bundle of fluff with severe fear issues. Eric has blossomed in his new home, and Dan wanted to give something back to LCH as a thank you. Dan is a Personal Trainer and is strong and fit, but this was going to be hard for him. His friend Matt is a triathlete, and his build is more suited to this sort of physical trial. They started at 8pm on 21st December, and by half way Dan was on painkillers. He sent regular updates via Facebook and to Emma, as his friends and family urged him on. A reporter from the local paper was there to record the event, as Dan limped to the finish, the last 12 miles having been particularly difficult. We are blown away by this amazing undertaking by these fab guys, who raised over £1600 for LCH. Thank you so much Dan and Matt, and to all those who donated to their fundraiser, from all the LCH team, on behalf of all the dogs who will now benefit from this 24 hour feat of endurance!



Happy Gotcha Day!

"Gotcha Day" is the name given to the day a lucky hound first came into his or her forever home. Here are some tributes of that celebration of love



JAKE

Happy 4 year Gotcha day Jake xxx *KH*

ALFIE

4 years later, Alfie is thriving and enjoying his birthday (gotcha day!) *RT*



HETTY

This is our black beauty Hetty and yesterday we celebrated her First Gotcha Day! We have seen such changes in this girly, all for the good. We first set eyes on her as a traumatised shaking 5 month old pup at C Vets where her leg was getting checked out. She took a while to start being a puppy and a bit longer to get the toilet thing sussed but...... Here she is our confident and socialised sweetheart who brings joy, laughter and enrichment to our lives. We are so grateful to LCH for bringing her into our lives, we so love her. This year she is loving the Christmas preparations and taking it all in with excitement. *JC*

Did you Know?

you updated with all the latest news on the dogs and much more. Please click on the link and 'like' our page.

We have other Facebook groups: <u>LAST CHANCE HOTEL AUCTION</u> runs auctions throughout the year, with loads of fab stuff up for grabs, raising vital funds for our vet bill.

Our <u>LCH ONLINE DOG SHOW</u> group allows you to show off your pooches from the comfort of your armchair, and also helps raise funds for our vet bill.

Our Amazon Wishlist, by which you can purchase specific goodies and have them delivered to us, is a lovely way to send a present for our animals! The link will take you straight there for a browse of all sorts of goodies from toys and chews to harnesses, coats and lovely food.

There are also ways to help raise funds for us whilst you're shopping online, which don't cost you a penny. <u>Easyfundraising</u> is a scheme whereby you can shop at many popular retailers such as Amazon, John Lewis, Marks & Spencer, and they will donate a small percentage (usually 1%) of your order to the charity of your choice, with no extra expense to you. <u>Giveasyoulive</u> is a similar scheme, with over 4000 retailers involved.

Like all charities, we depend almost entirely upon the generosity of our wonderful supporters. We have several ways in which monetary donations can be made: PayPal is easy and convenient for the many people who hold an account.

<u>JustGiving</u> provides another way of donating and also an opportunity for individuals to fundraise for us through sponsorship of a personal challenge. In addition, it allows us to claim back the Gift Aid part of the donation which can add vital pennies.

If neither of these methods are suitable, then we are more than happy to accept donations via **direct bank transfer** using the following information:

Barclays

Last Chance Hotel Sort code: 20-67-19 Account no: 73797503

(Do drop us a quick email with your details so we can say thanks!)

or **cheques**, if sent to our Treasurer, at the address given at the bottom of this newsletter.

Thank you from Team LCH and all the animals!

start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending

Carl Bard





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