

# Dog Tales

**News of how your compassion is saving dogs  
and setting tails wagging across Ireland**



January 2024

## **From Street Life to Sweet Life...** ...thanks to you!

**Emaciated. Exhausted. And heavily  
pregnant. Turn over to see how  
your love rescued Rainbow and  
saved more lives than one...**



### **Inside this issue:**

How you protect 'puppy  
machines' like Carrie,  
**Page 3**



Puppies, puppies and more  
puppies. Step inside our  
'Mutt-ernity' ward, **Page 4**



# A Miracle on St Patrick's Day

Had the light of your love not been shining on Rainbow that night, she could have died as she lived — alone and unloved — along with the tiny puppies inside her. This is how your compassion saved Rainbow and her puppies from the terrible fate that was so nearly theirs...

It was a cold March night when a caring couple — devoted dog lovers like yourself — spotted her in the garden... A rail-thin Rainbow, her pleading eyes blinking back at them — *please, will you help me?*

## "It's a miracle she survived"

Around midnight, Rainbow went into labour. The couple stayed with her all night and rushed her and ten newborn puppies to us first thing.

"We carried her in," says Karen, who works in our specialist maternity ward. **"I don't know how she survived giving birth... she was like a skeleton."**

## No milk today...

"She was trying so hard to look after her pups," says Karen, "but she just

**She actually took my breath away. You could see every bone in her body. She was like a skeleton..."**

didn't have the milk".

The team moved heaven and earth to care for Rainbow's babies when she couldn't. But sadly, only four survived. "It was awful," says Karen, "we really couldn't have tried any harder to save them."

*With your help, Rainbow took over feeding her babies. You'd have been so proud of her!*



*Most of Rainbow's 'before' pictures are too upsetting to show. But here's one so you can see the miracles you make possible... Thank you!*



But because of you, four strong boys survived — born on St Patrick's Day, we called them **Paddy, Guinness, Shamrock and Clover** (L-R below).

## Your love works miracles...

One by one, her pups were adopted. And then Rainbow's second miracle came... a miracle sent by you!

A family of her own. A family who cuddle her goodnight and tell her how beautiful she is every day of her life.

**Rainbow is living proof of the miracles your love for dogs makes possible. Thank you!**

*Thank you for saving my boys (and me!). We woof you forever, and even longer...*

*Luv,  
Rainbow*



# A Machine No More

How you're saving dogs from puppy farms, and giving 'breeding machines' like Carrie a second chance to feel the love every dog deserves...

Before your kindness led Carrie here, she was seen as nothing more than a machine. Her sole 'purpose' was to churn out labradoodle puppies — litter, after litter, after litter.

Skinny as a rake, her fur severely matted, Carrie would cower at the back

of her kennel trying to make herself as small as possible — *if nobody can see me, nobody can't hurt me.*

## 'Petrified of people'

"She was petrified of people," says Karen. But because of you, Carrie felt

more love in those first few weeks with us than she'd known in her entire life.

**That's why patient and steadfast support like yours for the victims of cruel puppy farming is so very needed.**

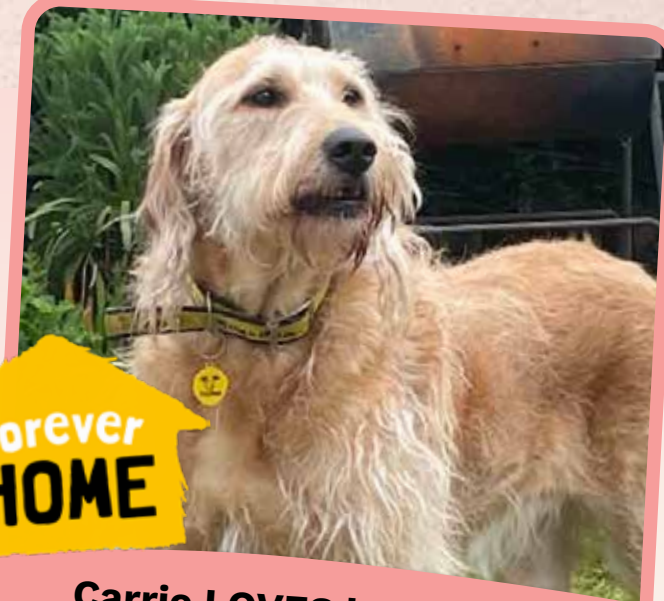
You should see the beautiful new life you've given Carrie with her gorgeous new loving family!

"We're letting Carrie go at her own pace," says her adoring adopter. "She loves her head rubs now, when I stop she nudges me to keep going."

**Thank you for every dog's second chance.**

**forever  
HOME**

**Carrie LOVES her new life (and her new garden!). Safe and loved at last, thanks to you!**







# Step Inside Our 'Mutt-ernity' Ward

When you give, your kindness places tiny puppies into the safe, caring hands of Canine Carers like Karen (pictured) on our specialist maternity ward — a dog lover through and through, just like you. This is how, together, you're saving fragile little lives...

## Breakfast time!

We come in at eight, and everyone gets their breakfast. Our pups with no mums, or puppies with mums too sick or skinny to produce milk, are bottle-fed on special puppy formula.

## "You could eat your dinner off our floors!"

After breakfast, the kennels get a really deep clean. You could eat your dinner off those floors when we're finished!

## Protecting little ones

The puppies we look after are so vulnerable — we have to be so careful. Each kennel has its own set of cleaning gear — we wear gloves, disinfect our wellies, and change our full-body suits every time we enter a new kennel. I could be changing my suit back and forth 30 times a day!

## Puppies having puppies

We have a mum at the moment, Layla. She's only

9 months old herself. She was terrified when she came to us, but I spent so much time with her. And it paid off — now she knows that people can be kind.



## It's not all cuddling pups... (but some of it is!)

I love my job, but it isn't all cuddling puppies. If there's a large litter to bottle feed, it can be life or death. When they're that small and fragile, puppies who aren't eating can fade fast. You're thinking — 'please, please, just drink...'

## The best feeling in the world...

Some dogs, especially mums and pups rescued from puppy farms, arrive to us petrified of people.

This is Faye. I spent weeks just sitting with her and talking to her. Then one day she just stood up, walked over to me and put her head on my chest. She stayed like this for about 10 beautiful minutes. That breakthrough... it was the best feeling in the world.



## Your love saves tiny lives!

Without your generosity, we couldn't do what we do on the maternity ward — not the special formula feeds, or the vaccinations, nor the weeks and months of veterinary care, none of it...

THANK YOU! -♡-



## PUPPY PROTECTOR'S Wish-List

Will you help protect puppies with sick mums, and pups with no mum at all?

- ✓ Protect a litter of pups from worms — €35
- ✓ A week's supply of protective staff suits to protect fragile pups' immune systems — €75
- ✓ Vaccinate a litter of pups — €100
- ✓ Puppy formula for a week for a litter — €150
- ✓ Life-saving care to help a pup fight deadly disease like parvo — €350

Your kindness today could help answer the cries of the next little puppy who needs you and help with all our vital work.

\*Your kind gift will help care for all the dogs and puppies at Dogs Trust and support all our vital work to protect Ireland's dogs.



Grant a wish using your enclosed reply form, or by scanning this code with the photo app on your phone.



Little Ones Who Owe Their Precious Lives to You!



Bambi

Her abandoned mum was so sick she couldn't feed her pups. Here, thanks to you, Bambi was bottle-fed every two hours.



Shamrock

Shamrock was one of four to survive in a litter of ten. Born outside, he didn't stand a chance without your love on his side.



Drogon

Drogon's mum needed an emergency c-section to save her life and her pups. Your love saves lives, little chunker, Drogon, is living proof!



# Impossible Choices

Even through these toughest of times, your kindness is still saving lives — four precious paws at a time...

You know about Ireland’s devastating dog crisis — the pounds are full, and calls from people forced to surrender their dogs are at record highs.

Eimear has one of the hardest jobs of all for a dog lover. **She and her team are at the very sharp end of this tragedy.**

With your help, she works with dog pounds and other rescues across Ireland to take in as many dogs as we possibly can. But says Eimear, “every day, I’m faced with impossible choices.”

## Could you choose who to save?

It wasn’t always this way. “I used to get a dog warden saying, ‘I have four dogs here’, and I’d say, ‘Great, we’ll be

“

I’ve got dog wardens crying down the phone to me... it’s heartbreaking.

Everyone’s desperate to save these dogs, but there’s nowhere for them to go...”

— Eimear —

there tomorrow,” says Eimear.

But recently, the number of dogs who need help has exploded. “Now I try and take two from one pound, two from



another, to try and relieve the pressure everywhere, you know.”

## One dog at a time

Eimear says it’s easy to feel despair. But she says, “you have to focus on one dog at a time. You have to keep going even when it’s hard, because lives depend on it.”

**For every precious life you save, for every second chance you make possible... Thank you!**



Hey... can I stay with you for a while?

## Fostering saves lives...

...it’s that simple. And we’re searching for caring dog lovers like you with room in your home (and your heart!) for a dog while they search for their forever family.

Apply to join our incredible network of life-saving foster parents at:

**DogsTrust.ie/Fostering** or **scan this code**



# It’s a Dog’s Life:

Ireland’s stark statistics



**7,352**

**stray and homeless dogs** found themselves in pounds across Ireland in 2022.

**95%** increase in dogs entering pounds in just one year.

## The Faces Behind Ireland’s Dog Crisis...

... and how your love lifted them out of harm’s way.



Ruby

Ruby was here for over a year. Then one day, we got a call out of the blue — “I’d like to adopt Ruby”. We were over the moon. Here she is now, **forever loved because of you.**

At 12 years old, **Minnie and her sister, Tiny, were thrown from a moving car...** Thanks to your kindness, they’re getting the love they deserve in their golden years.



Minnie



Belle

One of **seven sick puppies abandoned in a crate** at our door. All had deadly parvovirus and needed intensive (and expensive! — see **Wish-List on page 5!**) care. Thanks to you, they got it!

## In Good Company...

... dog lovers like you lending a paw to our ‘good girls and boys’ with our gratitude.

Thank you to **MINI Ireland** and **HUH Clothing** who are protecting dogs by highlighting safety when driving with your dog.

Woofs and wags to your dog’s favourite shop, **PetStop Ireland**, for helping find homes for ‘Underdogs’ like Chuck here.

And big love to the caring team at **Iconic Offices** who volunteered at our rehoming centre.



**For any and every way you help dogs, thank you!**

Despite their very best efforts to find homes for abandoned dogs,

**TWICE** as many dogs as the year before were put to sleep in Irish pounds.

**We can’t go on like this...**



# Is Your Name On Our 'VIP' List?

(Very Important Puppies)

When you see a puppy, you see a tiny life that must be protected and cared for at all costs. But the sad reality is that not everyone looks at puppies the way you do...



Will you sponsor little paws like mine?



In this issue of Dog Tales alone, you've met sick puppies discarded like rubbish and read about puppy farmers who see little ones like Charlie here as nothing but profit.

That's why, as a new year begins, we're searching for ten caring, nurturing souls like yourself to become Puppy Playgroup sponsors!

**Will you be a protector of the tiniest, most fragile little ones and become a Puppy Playgroup sponsor for 2024?**

At a time when we're seeing so many pregnant dogs and pups being abandoned, your steady support will protect the tiniest lives.

To become a Puppy Playgroup sponsor use your reply form, enclosed, to start your monthly gift of any size.

When you choose to sponsor our VIPs, you'll receive adorable 'pup-dates' from your new little pals!



## Your Strength In Numbers...

Even as Ireland's dog crisis continued, your love still found a way to thousands of dogs who, but for you, might have been lost forever. Thank you!



**931** dogs landed safely on their paws with **forever families of their own**, thanks to you. Including...

... **458** puppies saved, thanks to you, after your kindness protected them on our maternity ward.



With your help, Dogs Trust **answered 3,500** requests and gave advice to people who could no longer look after their dogs.

Victory for dogs as cruel ear cropping is **BANNED** in Ireland!



\*Numbers for Jan – Nov 2023, with projected December numbers for year-end at time of printing, November 2023.

I ♥ you!



**Dogs Trust**, Ashbourne Road,  
Finglas, Dublin 11, D11 K003  
Rehoming centre visiting hours,  
Fri, Sat, Sun & Mon, 1 – 3pm.

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 20057978

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