

RACE

December 2018 News



RESCUE is not just a verb ... It's a PROMISE

ANOTHER MERCY MISSION

RACE frontline rescuer and foster mum, Elena, drove a long and arduous journey through the mountains on Sunday, 16 December in order to rescue these eight puppies. The three boys and five girls are just six weeks old. Someone had put a cardboard box out for them to shelter in and an old blanket, which was of no help to the babies at all. Their mum, a street dog, who had probably produced so many litters over the years, was also not the most attentive of mothers. They were soon back at Elena's where they were fed and given warm beds to sleep in. There are some real mixed breeds in them ... some look like they have Romanian Mountain dog in them, some German Shepherd ... but time will tell. The most important thing is they are all safe now.

Gus

Dylan

Libby

Katy

Amber

Pearl

Merlin

Talia



We can't save the World, but we vow to do whatever we can, for as long as we can. BUT REMEMBER ... we need YOUR support to be able to carry on helping the dogs and puppies that come our way.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS OUR WORK, DONATIONS CAN BE SENT VIA PAYPAL TO popabrandusaelena@yahoo.com

This sweet girl is Heaven, a six month old Mioritic puppy. She belonged to a shepherd who was going to kill her because, he claimed, she didn't bark enough! It was not enough for him that he had so very badly neglected her. Heaven was in an appalling state when Elena collected her (see photos below). How cheap is life to some people. Heaven was soon safe, enjoying the warmth, food and special care that all the RACE rescues receive from Elena and her family. Heaven has settled in well and is a great favourite amongst all the RACE dogs. Heaven has already been offered a forever home by a suitable family for this breed, and she will join them in the New Year.

In the meantime, Heaven sends lots of love to everyone who supports her and her friends at RACE.



HEAVEN

Mioritic Bitch — DOB: June 2018



TO THE RESCUE ... AGAIN!



At RACE, we like to rehome our dogs ourselves and decide on suitable families for each of them. However, a UK rescue that Elena has had dealings with in the past told her they had a home in the UK for our Lottie. Lottie duly left Romania for her new home in late December. You can only imagine our astonishment to receive a message from the rescue concerned to say that the family they had in mind

had decided to get a dog elsewhere, which, of course, is their choice ... **all dogs matter and all dogs need a good, loving home.** Instead of telling us of the situation, they decided to bring Lottie to the UK and put her in a foster home. This is not something we do at RACE (other than for emergencies for dogs already in the UK) as our dogs are already on foster with Elena and are safe and settled. We much prefer them to travel straight to their new homes rather than be disrupted with fostering. We were duly informed (by a third party!) on 18 December that Lottie had been put into kennels as the foster home couldn't cope with her and their own dog. We really couldn't understand why; Lottie had been absolutely fine at Elena's, albeit energetic. It came out in conversation that the fosterer lived in a tiny flat ... little wonder it was a problem with two large, boisterous dogs! We put a post on our Facebook page appealing for an emergency foster home as we really didn't want our Lottie in kennels; she'd had enough upheaval already over the past few days. It was amazing at how many people offered help — heart warming to be totally honest. Everyone is so very busy at this time of the year, so our hearts were in our mouths here at RACE thinking how do we get this solved. Enter lovely Charlotte McCallion who quickly offered to take Lottie in and to Suki's adopted mum, Dyanne Lambert, for agreeing - without any hesitation whatsoever - to transport Lottie from one County to another at such short notice. Huge sigh of relief for our Lottie - who's now safely ensconced in a loving, warm home with her foster family. Who says that angels don't exist!?

LOTTIE RELAXING IN HER FOSTER HOME



DOLLY

We received these lovely photos back in November from Dolly's new mum in the UK showing how well Miss Little Legs is settling in with her family. It's a real joy to see how a dog that needed rescuing from a bad place ends up with a happy, safe life. It's all any rescue could ever wish for. Dolly was destined to spend her life on a heavy chain by the family that took her on as a young pup; a tiny one at that.



Dolly's mum is one of the street bitches that we managed to get neutered back in November, along with two other dogs. This dear soul now has a fabulous life in her new home and adores her big brother Alfie.



COOKIE

Dolly's puppy, Minnie, had been tethered on a thick heavy chain outside the property when we found her; a tiny pup, less than four months old. Dolly would have spent her life producing pup, after pup after pup had we left her there. We took Minnie and thought that was an end to it.

However, we discovered back in mid November that the same people had another puppy of Dolly's that we had known nothing about; poor little Cookie, had been substituted for Minnie on that end of that awful chain shortly after rescuers left the village. Cookie is just five and a half months old; a baby. The harsh winter has started to set in now in Romania and the temperature is in the minuses ... yet this poor, defenceless puppy was outside, in that appalling weather to face the elements, barely able to move due to the huge chain restricting her. Within a very short time of hearing about Cookie, Elena had the pup in her care. She is now inside, in the warm and getting the care she should have had from the start. Neighbours of the family also revealed that the dad of the puppies - who was even smaller than the girls, had also lived his life shackled to a chain ... he died of the freezing cold. Cookie is such an affectionate and kind little dog. Cookie joined her family in the UK on 20 December 2018. Have the best life ever Cookie. Minnie has also been adopted by a family in the UK where she is a much loved member of the family.



MINNIE



RUBY

This precious puppy came into our care on Sunday, 16 December 2018. She had been unceremoniously abandoned in the street in the snowy blizzards that were hitting Transylvania at the time. The temperature was in the minuses; how was this tiny, seven week old, defenceless baby supposed to survive the night? The hard fact of the matter is that whatever cruel person left her there simply didn't care. How do these people sleep at night?! Elena quickly got her home in the warm and fed her freshly cooked chicken and rice, which Ruby ate in no time. She was covered in



fleas and full of worms also; which have now been treated. In the meantime, Ruby is safe and being properly cared for. We shall be looking for a forever home for her once she is a little older.

NELL AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION

Life for year old Nell has certainly been full of highs and lows. Rescued from a kill shelter by us back in February of this year, Nell, a tiny puppy at the time was attacked by some of the larger dogs. Nell settled into life at Elena's and her wounds gradually healed. Time after time people asked for adoption applications, but none ever came back to us for her. Finally this lovely girl was offered a home with the promise of long walks, and going to work with her new owner. All was going well



when, out of the blue, we were contacted to say that everything had changed and the family could no longer have Nell. Yet again, the tables had turned on this young dog. Nell has been in a foster home since the end of October. Now how's this for coincidence? Someone applied to adopt Nell after seeing a post on our Facebook page over Christmas. How ironic that the family live around ten minutes away from Nell's foster mum! A meet was duly set up

and a home check put in motion. Let's hope Nell's luck is about to change for the better and stays that way. It's about time luck was on her side.

This photo shows Nell and the other puppies Elena took out of the kill shelter back in February 2018.



*Having a soft heart
in a cruel world*



*Is a sign of COURAGE
not weakness*

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT OUR RACE
AUCTIONS TO HELP SUPPORT THE
RESCUE DOGS AND CATS FOR OUR
MONTHLY AUCTIONS**



**Bid for a bargain and help us to raise money
towards the care of our dogs awaiting
rehoming. If you would like to donate any
unwanted items to our Auctions, please email
us at raceromanian@gmail.com.**

MARA AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION

On 23 September of this year, Mara gave birth to ten puppies outside a Monastery in Romania - and this would certainly not have been her first litter! While we in the UK were still enjoying relatively warm weather and sunshine at this time, the mountainous terrain in Transylvania had other ideas ... there were threats of snow and the temperature had dropped into the minuses. As soon as Elena heard of their situation, she went off to collect all eleven of them, despite having a full house at the time.. She was more concerned that the freezing weather

would kill them or, unbelievably, before the Monastery destroyed all of the puppies as they were threatening to do. Mum and babies were all soon settled down, warm and safe. Despite all best endeavours, one little girl puppy died. Mummy dog Mara and the surviving nine puppies have flourished and are now strong, healthy and getting into all sorts of mischief as puppies are wont to do! Mara is around three years old, a Carpathian Shepherd crossbreed who is a medium sized girlie. She's a sweetheart, kind and caring and, all in all, simply gorgeous. We are still seeking forever homes for some of her equally beautiful puppies (Frodo has been adopted):



If you would like to offer a forever home to our supermum Mara or one of her babies please email us at raceromanian@gmail.com for an Adoption Application and a copy of our Adoption Procedures. Adoption fee and home check apply.

EMERGENCY FOSTERERS REQUIRED



**DO YOU LOVE DOGS
AND HAVE WHAT IT
TAKES TO OFFER
SHORT TERM, BACK
UP FOSTERING AT
HOME?**

Due to the continued success of our rehoming scheme, we are now looking to create a nationwide Register of Fosterers for EMERGENCY back-up. As we have a thorough vetting/matching process for adoptions, it is only very occasionally that we have a need for the services of fosterers. This is a great opportunity for anyone who wishes to play an important part in dog rescue and would like to help RACE. Could that be you? If so, we would love to hear from you. Please email us at raceromanian@gmail.com. **Home checks apply.**

*Amongst the many dogs we rescue, you'll see at times that we describe a dog as a **Romanian Shepherd or Romanian Shepherd Crossbreed**. We aim to tell you a little about each Romanian Shepherd breed in our Newsletters - all remarkable dogs indeed.*



The Romanian Carpathian Shepherd Dog (Ciobanesc Romanesc Carpatin)

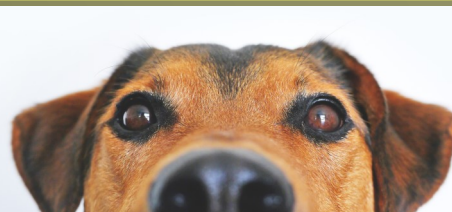
These serious, hard working dogs are extremely loyal and devoted towards their family members striving hard to protect them even at the cost of their lives. Their close attachment with their near and dear ones makes them feel lonely when left alone for a prolonged period. Having a gentle and loving disposition, the Carpathian Shepherd dog will mingle well with children of the family. The Carpathian Shepherd Dog has been bred as both a livestock guardian and a family companion and has temperament traits common to both groups of dogs. This breed is known to form incredibly close attachments to its family. This breed is famous for its devotion and loyalty, and one of these dogs would follow its master anywhere without question. Owners of Carpathian Sheepdogs should give their dogs space to roam and take very long daily walks with them.

The ancestry of the Carpathian Shepherd is not clearly understood, but we do know that these large canines have been guarding the homes and livestock for



farmers in some of the wildest and least developed mountains in Europe for hundreds of years. Even today, the forests of the Carpathian Mountains shelter large and effective predators, eagles, wolves and bears; the Carpathian Shepherd guards against these quite effectively. While even a single Carpathian Shepherd is a formidable animal, these flock guardians have typically been found in groups and will call in the pack if a threat is detected. Due to this trait, the Carpathian Shepherd is more amicable and cooperative with other dogs than many flock guardian breeds would be. Beasts, however, were not the only predators in the Carpathian Mountains, and these dogs were brought inside to guard the family and the home from thieves and criminals at night, therefore creating a breed that is gentler and more loving towards their human family than many other flock guardian breeds.

**f Like us on
Facebook**



SAMMY AND YET MORE PROGRESS

Sammy is going from strength to strength in his new forever home ... His mum says

"He still chases his tail and foot occasionally but stops as soon as we tell him no. He is getting better and better and is so loving.

This poor little boy has been through so much in his short life and it makes me so angry that people don't give the time and patience to sort it out. He is such a good boy and so clean in the house, he never makes a mess and always asks to go out - far better than the others!"



Progress indeed. Have a wonderful Christmas Sammy and a wonderful life.

DOG NEUTERING APPEAL

RACE is a relatively small set up, but we do try to help as much as we can with neutering street dogs to ensure the endless rounds of puppies are not born to suffer... and to die either of Parvo, the freezing winter temperatures, being hit by traffic or the feared dog catchers where they will end up in a kill shelter.

RACE undertook the neutering of three stray dogs back in November, with financial assistance from some of our supporters. We appreciate that three neuterings are a mere drop in the ocean, but if we can get some of the street dogs neutered, we can at least prevent any more puppies being born to simply become sick and die a pitiful death due to their bad start in life.

But with your help when we post our Neutering Appeals, we can prevent more puppies being born into a life of misery and suffering. The lucky ones who are rescued and end up in good homes are truly in the minority. Thank you to all who contributed towards these three beauties. **HOWEVER ...** see our **UPDATE** on the right of this page ...

UPDATE : DOG NEUTERING APPEAL

Thank you to those people who kindly donated towards our Neutering Appeal in November. We're pleased to say that the two street bitches and little Cookie, have now been neutered and are making good recoveries. A day or so after they came to us for the procedure, heavy snow fell in the Transylvanian mountains and temperatures have dropped to minus 10 ... and this is only the start of their winter. We simply didn't have the heart to put these girls back onto the streets in such awful conditions and, as they are both such good, sociable girls, we've decided that we shall be looking for adoptive families for them both as they have already made themselves at home at Elena's. They will both make marvellous pets for some lucky people. **SO**

WELCOME TO RACE – EBONY AND IVORY

Ivory settled down so well at Elena's and showed no signs whatsoever of being ill at ease in a home environment ... in fact she relished every moment of it! She is so laid back around the cats and puppies at Elena's that they are all smuggled up to her for warmth and she didn't bat an eyelid! Ivory is a Mioritic cross bitch, gentle, quiet and a wonderful companion to have. A real homebird who would be a great addition to any family. Like Ivory, Ebony has settled down so well in a home environment, that it would be nothing short of abject cruelty to put her back on the streets.

We just know she will make a wonderful addition to some lucky family out there. Ebony is a three year old crossbreed, affectionate, gentle and cat friendly. *If you would like to adopt Ivory or Ebony, please contact us at raceromanian@gmail.com for an Application form and our Adoption Procedures. Adoption fee and home check apply.*



EBONY



Thank You

A big thank you to all those kind people who donated towels, duvets, blankets, cages, toys, coats and a whole host of doggy items for RACE. There are fifteen sacks waiting to be picked up by transport later today as they make their way back to Romania. Elena is going to have a busy time opening this lot.



AN END TO A SUCCESSFUL FIRST YEAR

Since the formation of RACE in February 2018, we never dreamed that we would have found so many forever homes for our rescues ... this year we have found families for 85 dogs ... with just four that didn't quite work out, and those cases were through no fault of the particular dogs in question.

We will continue to strive to get as many rescue dogs good, forever homes during 2019. Our policy is to rehome responsibly by ensuring that each dog is the right match for the applicant's experience, lifestyle and ability.

In the meantime, if you would like to help us to help the dogs ... you could bid/share on our MONTHLY AUCTIONS, SPONSOR FOOD FOR A MONTH, become an EMERGENCY FOSTERER, KNIT DOG COATS/ BLANKETS and SHARE our posts on FACEBOOK.

Thank you all so very much for your kind support - it is so much appreciated. From us all at RACE we wish you all **A HAPPY, HEALTHY and PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.**



THE FOUR PUPPIES

Most certainly not for the seven poor souls that came into our care on Boxing Day. Apparently, the "norm" in Romania at Christmas for many people is to clear their yards out of dogs and puppies. These unfortunates are callously thrown out like garbage with absolutely no thought or consideration for their wellbeing. On Christmas morning Elena heard about a blind dog and a puppy that had been ruthlessly abandoned in the snow. She immediately offered to take both dogs in, but the man who had found them had great trouble catching them both. He put food out for them in the meantime, and eventually managed to get hold of the poor, old blind dog. Understandably, he was terrified. The poor boy was soon fed and safely tucked up in a warm bed so he could relax. The very same man also brought in four puppies that had been dumped next to a garbage bin. The four little girls are around six weeks old. Elena's husband, Nelu, went back out with the same man to catch the puppy that had been with the blind dog as she was proving very difficult to get close to.



THE LONE PUP



**NEW ARRIVAL
NUMBER 7**

Thankfully, their quiet determination to help this pup paid off. A very soon, another very hungry and terrified pup was soon safely at Elena's, was fed and nestled in Nelu's arms for a cuddle. Later on the same afternoon, another message came through about a young, extremely skinny dog who had been seen in the area. Needless to say ... number seven was soon at the family home being given the TLC that is so Elena. We will, of course, keep you updated on their progress via our Facebook page.

Elena, Sue and Nelu

