



# january

newsletter

why not  
**adopt  
today?**  
///







## loki and jed

Loki and Jed, Labrador crossbreeds, were the only survivors of a litter of nine puppies. They had been born to a street dog in the cemetery in Elena's village. As Elena had a complete houseful at the time, a local shelter cared for the, until we had some dogs travel to their new UK homes, thus relieving some space up. The boys were just ten weeks old when they finally moved to Elena's on 7 January 2020.



## odin

Odin, a Collie x Labrador, was one of eight tiny puppies that were unceremoniously dumped outside a shelter in a cardboard box. Tragically, seven of them succumbed to the deadly Parvovirus, leaving this dear little soul as the only survivor. Odin also came into our care on 7 January 2020. Since promoting Odin for adoption, we've been inundated with applications. All very worthy folk – so we had quite a job in sorting out who we thought would be the best match for our lad.

## prejmer: mum & pups

It's early January in Transylvania and the temperature is in the minuses – falling as low as minus 22! Elena's attention was brought to a mum and two pups living on the outskirts of her village but, despite every attempt to catch them and take them back to her home, it was a no go. She will NOT give up!

Like to help?

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Visit [raceromanian.org/donate-support](https://raceromanian.org/donate-support) or

PayPal directly to [popabrandusaelena@yahoo.com](mailto:popabrandusaelena@yahoo.com)

**£10** p/m  
sponsor



## anais

Anais, a year old Husky mix, was thrown out onto the streets after she had delivered six puppies. When a neighbour asked her owner why, she was told they had 'no use for her now!' Of the six puppies, three died from Parvo; we are desperately trying to get the owner to hand over the other three to us before they suffer the same fate or end up as breeding machines and then cast aside like their sweet mum. Anais was very underweight and is now being properly and regularly fed by Elena. She has now been wormed, defleaed and vaccinated. This dear soul has not had much of a life so far – but **we have found a wonderful family** for Anais where she will get the love and care she deserves. Things are looking up little girl!



## blackey

Blackey has been in a private shelter for just over 3 years. He never had the chance of being rehomed because he was never promoted. He is such a dear, gentle boy who would make a wonderful addition to a suitable family. We have taken Blackey into our care now and, are pleased to say, found him a loving home within less than 24 hours!

**Looking to adopt a rescue? Visit our facebook page for regular updates or visit [raceromanian.org](http://raceromanian.org) to apply.**

## Psst...

### Calling all RACE adoptants!

Did you know we now have a dedicated page **exclusively** for RACE adoptants, where you can write about the progress of your little (or big!) darling and post photos, share information, stuff to make us smile.

You can boast how clever your pooch is (member of doggy MENSEA, winner of The X Factor, Crufts Champion, Canine Mastermind...)

Just go to the page: [RACE Romanian Animal Care Europe Adopters Forum](https://www.facebook.com/RACERomanianAnimalCareEuropeAdoptersForum) ask to join the group - and hey presto, you're all set to go. We look forward to seeing your updates!

(click me!)



# COULD YOU FOSTER A RESCUE DOG?

It's very rare that we need back up fosterers;  
but it's best to be prepared in an emergency.

[www.raceromanian.org/foster](http://www.raceromanian.org/foster) for more info and to apply.

Questions? [raceromanian@gmail.com](mailto:raceromanian@gmail.com)

*nice sofa*





## tess

**breed:** crossbreed

**dob:** december 2015

**gender:** female

**cat friendly:** yes

**temperament:** cheerful,  
friendly, affectionate

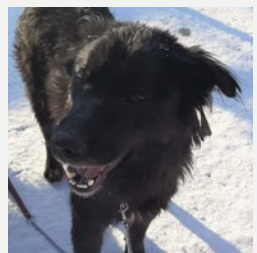
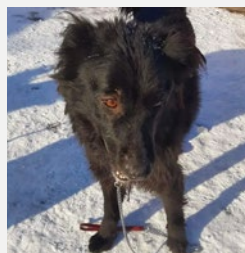
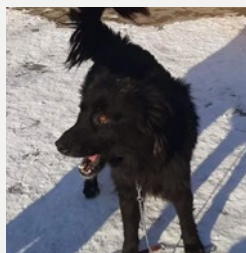
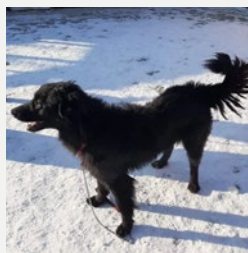
**size:** medium

**To adopt/sponsor visit:**

[raceromanian.org/tess](http://raceromanian.org/tess)

Some three years ago Tess was found wandering the streets of Brasov – obviously homeless.

A kind rescue lady took her in to her shelter, but no one has ever offered this gorgeous, friendly girlie a home. You couldn't ask for a nicer natured dog – truly. RACE has taken her on in the hope of finding a loving family who deserves this amazing girl in their lives.



**About RACE (Romanian Animal Care Europe).** As a dog adoption & rescue charity, our purpose is to find homes for the puppies and dogs that have come into our care from being abandoned on the streets or badly abused. All the rescues live with our frontline worker and fosterer, Elena Popa, where they are properly socialised and get plenty of human interaction with the other dogs and cats. When we do find forever homes for our rescues, we want them to be right, for both the dog and the family. We work hard to achieve that as we like a happy ending. Please enjoy meeting some of our dogs on this site, all of whom were rescued from the streets or from Romanian Public shelters. [raceromanian@gmail.com](mailto:raceromanian@gmail.com)



**£10** <sup>p/m</sup>  
**SPONSOR**



**cody,  
ravi,  
luther,  
oana,  
larissa**

breed: crossbreeds  
dob: december 2013  
gender: mixed  
cat friendly: yes  
temperament: check  
each profile online  
size: all are medium,  
except luther is m/l

To adopt/sponsor visit:  
[raceromanian.org/cody](http://raceromanian.org/cody)  
[raceromanian.org/ravi](http://raceromanian.org/ravi)  
[raceromanian.org/luther](http://raceromanian.org/luther)  
[raceromanian.org/oana](http://raceromanian.org/oana)  
[raceromanian.org/larissa](http://raceromanian.org/larissa)

From top left to bottom right: Ravi, Oana, Larissa, Luther, Cody, the gang.

Cody, Ravi, Luther, Oana and Larissa had been born on a field and managed to somehow survive. They were brought to Elena's attention, and she took the five in some months ago. They all have good temperaments, but were not too used to socialising, so Elena has spent the last three/four months getting them used to being handled, cuddled and trusting people. Success! Cody, Ravi, Luther, Oana and Larissa have come on in leaps and bounds and are now more than ready to look for their forever homes. Cody, Oana and Ravi were born without a tail.

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fur real?

**STEP 1.**  
**STEP 2.**  
**STEP 3.**  
**ADOPT.**

[www.facebook.com/romadogs](https://www.facebook.com/romadogs) to find the dog of your dreams.

[www.raceromanian.org/adoption-process](https://www.raceromanian.org/adoption-process) to read our adoption process.

[www.raceromanian.org/adoption-form](https://www.raceromanian.org/adoption-form) to submit an adoption form.

Questions? [raceromanian@gmail.com](mailto:raceromanian@gmail.com)





why not  
adopt  
today?

## daisy

**breed:** crossbreed

**dob:** december 2013

**gender:** female

**cat friendly:** yes

**temperament:** gentle

**and very affectionate**

**size:** large

**To adopt/sponsor visit:**

[raceromanian.org/daisy](http://raceromanian.org/daisy)

Dear Daisy was days away from being euthanised in one of the Romanian Public Shelters (aka kill shelter). It was evident that she had been hit by operatives at this particular place as they have an atrocious reputation for ill treating the poor dogs that are unfortunate enough to find their way there. Simply bullies and cowards to treat any defenceless creature in this manner. To top this cruelty, Daisy was made to share a cage with a very dominant female GSD who made poor Daisy's life more miserable than it already was. She was so scared of everyone and everything when she came out of there.

Elena has spent the past two months teaching Daisy to trust humans again; it's actually men that most of these dogs are terrified of. Daisy was initially very wary of Rares, Elena's youngest son, but she has learned that he would never do her any harm and she now reciprocates the love he gives her. Daisy is learning slowly to embrace life and we are now **looking for that special family** who can give six year old Daisy the love and care she deserves.

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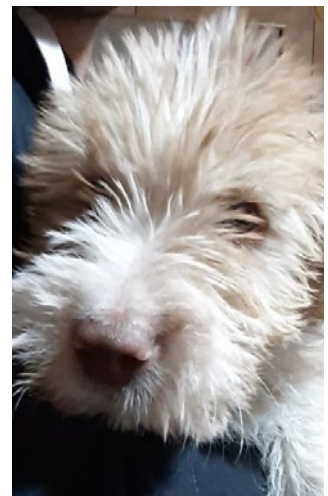
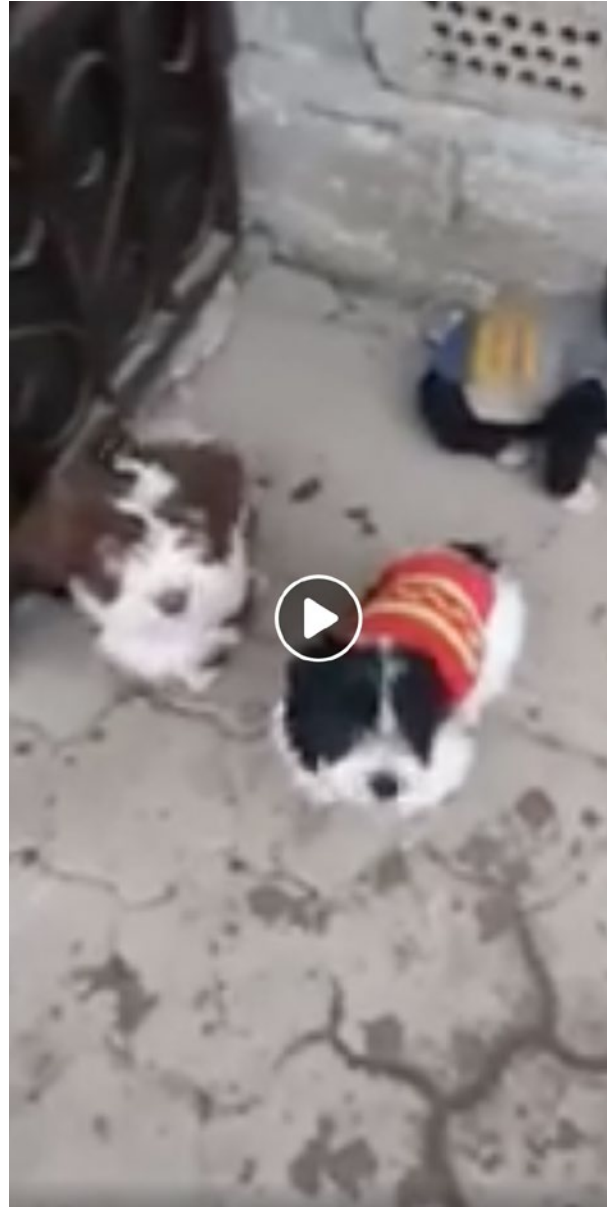
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## five new puppies...

Five puppies were brought to our attention in mid-January who were coming up to three months old. The young owner was barely able to care for herself let alone five puppies. Despite us offering to take on mum and puppies, she put up quite a barrier, asking us to rehome them directly from her. This wasn't going to happen as they needed proper socialising, good food, worming, vaccinations etc. as well as assessing before we could rehome them. After some discussion, she agreed to relinquish the pups to RACE but refused to give up the mum. She did agree, however, to us getting the mum neutered, which was sorted out that same day, and for which RACE covered the costs.




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## ...six more puppies...


Six teeny, weeny puppies arrived at Elena's on 14 January 2020. The two boys and four girls had been born to a dog belonging to an old lady in a neighboring village. The mum is much loved by her elderly owner, and neutering is being arranged so that no more puppies are needlessly born. Elena immediately set about worming them, as you can see from the photo, they were carrying very heavy worm burdens. This is not only detrimental to the puppies' health, but also has the potential to kill them. They are just 10 weeks old at the moment and we will be looking in the near future to start reserving suitable homes for them all. The pups are tiny and we think they'll stay pretty small once fully grown.

**Don't forget to keep up to date with us on Facebook!**



## ...and another puppy!

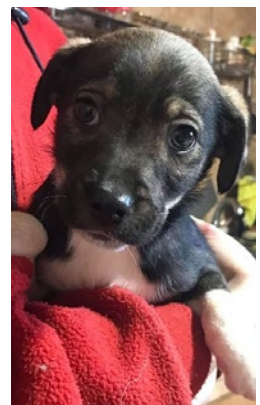
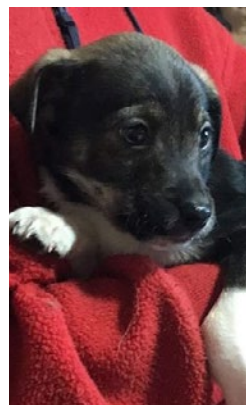
Just 2.5 months old, mountain breed mix Bear was found all alone on the streets on Saturday. He was soon at Elena's home where she spent most of yesterday getting rid of his lice infestation that was driving the poor baby crazy. Elena 10 - Lice O! Bear already has a home to go to as soon as he is old enough to travel. So... on a score of 1 to 10 - what do you think his cuteness factor is?!

**Like to help?**  **(click me!)**

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**sol**

**breed:** terrier mix

**dob:** july 2017

**gender:** female

**cat friendly:** yes

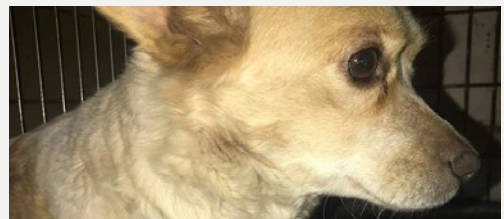
**temperament:** sweet  
and gentle

**size:** small

**To adopt/sponsor visit:**

[raceromanian.org/sol](http://raceromanian.org/sol)

This poor little darling was abandoned overnight outside a sheepfold on the outskirts of Elena's village. She was obviously in pup which is more than likely the reason she was abandoned... some people truly have no heart and black souls! Tragically, all the pups were stillborn. We've since had Sol neutered and have begun the process of finding this sweet lady a home where she will get the love and care she so deserves.



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# NOT A DOG'S JOB. YOURS.

**It's not a dog's job** to learn how to interact with your kids.

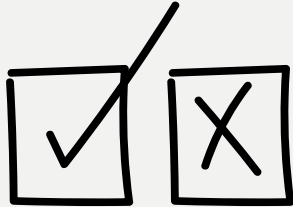
**It's your job** to teach your kids how to interact with a dog.

Tips: [raceromanian.org/settling-in](http://raceromanian.org/settling-in)

not my job



# Adopting a dog from a rescue (and why the rules seem offbeat)



Dog rescue rules sometimes leave potential adopters scratching their heads. Have you ever wondered why the rules are often so weird? Adopting a dog from a rescue is startlingly similar to adopting a human baby from an adoption agency. In both cases, the groups require a thorough screening process to ensure that the dog placed in a home where they will not only be cherished for the rest of their life but also receive the appropriate care and nurturing they need to thrive.

If you've never worked with a pet rescue, you might be annoyed by some of the hurdles you'll have to jump over en route to adopting a pet. But there's one simple reason for all those hurdles: Rescues want to make sure their babies — many of whom they've saved from illness, abuse and death — are placed in permanent, loving homes where they will be spoiled and pampered for the rest of their lives. Although there's no way to determine for certain whether a potential adopter can provide the perfect home, rescues try hard — which means they do a lot of work in screening their applicants.

The application shouldn't be too long. Be as honest as possible. Rescues and shelters have many resources to verify all the information you provide. They aren't looking for a reason to reject you. They're just looking out for the animals' well-being. A good rescue group will want to know how well you'll take care of your new pet.

Here's what you can expect from most rescues (policies and procedures will vary):

## behind the rules

An adoption application gathers the data the rescue uses as criteria for screening potential adopters. Expect 1–2 pages of basic questions, most of which focus on your home, lifestyle and beliefs on how to properly care for a pet. They'll also try to match you with a pet who will thrive in your environment.

For example:

- **If you live in an apartment and work long hours**  
a rescue will probably balk at giving you a young, active dog but might recommend an older dog or a pair of dogs who won't mind lazing around all day, provided they have a place to potty.
- **If you live in the city or the suburbs and allow your cats to roam outside**  
a rescue will probably reject you — it has grown increasingly dangerous to allow cats to live outdoors, and the rescue won't want to take any chances.
- **If you have infants or toddlers living with you**  
a rescue will not let you adopt a dog or cat who responds poorly to rough handling.
- **If you live in a house**  
the rescue will want to know about the security and height of your fence.
- **If you have a history of messing other rescues around, wasting their time etc.**  
the rescue will reject you outright.  
The dog world is actually quite a small one and information such as this is shared. Rescues are too busy to go through all the procedures only for someone to back out at the last minute.





### messenger/phone chats for adopting a dog from a rescue

The next step is a chat on the phone or via Messenger, which any potential adopter should have no problem doing. The rescue will want to get to know you a little better before the adoption proceeds further. Just be yourself – and be honest! If you make up stuff because you think it's what the rescue wants to hear, they won't be able to match you accurately with a pet. Don't lie on your adoption application – shelter staff are bound to find out and inform other shelters.

### home visits before you adopt

The next step – the one that naysayers usually find so intrusive – is the home check. However, it is the most important step in the screening process, so it's usually mandatory. Here's what to expect with a home visit before you adopt a pet from a rescue:

- **Reviewing if the pet suits your lifestyle**

A good rescue won't care if you live in a house or apartment, as long as the pet you want to adopt is suited to your lifestyle.

- **Home visits take 20-30 minutes**

and include a brief tour of your home and yard. The rescue representative won't open your drawers or run a white-gloved finger over your skirting boards!

- **Meeting other pets**

They'll want to meet your other pets and the other family members to make sure the pet's new home is safe and secure.

The rescue isn't there to judge your decorating style or housekeeping skills. It simply wants to make sure you are who you say you are and not a hoarder, reseller or someone who has lied on their application about their home, family and lifestyle.

### the adoption agreement

Every good pet rescue will require you to sign an adoption contract before you complete the adoption. If a rescue doesn't do this, then they aren't careful enough with their animals, and you shouldn't work with them. Although contracts vary widely among organizations, you'll probably see these required provisions:

For example:

- **You must provide basic care**

In addition to food, shelter and water, you must commit to providing the animal with veterinary care, exercise and, of course, love.

- **You are adopting the animal for their entire life**

If you cannot keep the animal at any point in the future, you must notify the rescue and allow them to help rehome the pet, whether it's just signing off on a friend or family member taking in the pet or finding a new home altogether. Rescues are responsible for the health and security of their animals, even after they are adopted.

- **You must spay or neuter the animal and complete scheduled rounds of vaccination**

If your pet is too young to spay, neuter or vaccinate before the adoption, you will be required to sign a contract to confirm that you will fulfil this obligation once the dog is old enough.

*\*Not actually  
'Twinkles'*



### adoption fees

So far as adoption fees go, there is the source of much argument with anti-rescue people, the adoption fee is the donation you give the rescue in exchange for adopting the animal - not a sale price. Rescues are non profit, and we've yet to encounter one that wasn't operating deeply in the red. They need every bit of funding they can get, and most of it comes from adoption fees. Very few rescues charge adopters the same amount of money that they have spent on vetting costs. If they did, a 10 year old dog would cost at least £500, sometimes much more, and people simply won't pay that much for an older animal.

### why was my pet adoption denied by the rescue group?

If the rescue rejected you, they probably had a reason. It might be a temporary situation you need to resolve (such as building a fence or waiting for a child to get a little older) but it's possibly one of these reasons:

- **You lied on your application**

Bad move.

- **Your home is unsafe**

No rescue will place an animal in a home where safety is in question. If you don't have a secure yard, if family members always leave the door or gate open, or if you have dangerous home improvement projects going on, then don't expect the rescue to approve you. Talk to the shelter to see if you can work to remedy the problem.

- **It wasn't a good match**

You might think Twinkles\* is the perfect kitty for you, but the rescue may think otherwise. They know the animal and what they need in term of their perfect home. If it isn't a good match, don't get mad. Talk with the rescue about another pet that may be better for you.

- **You wanted an "outdoor dog"**

Dogs are not lawn ornaments. They are social animals who deserve to be a part of your family. You don't have to let them up on your couch, but if you're planning on chaining up your adopted puppy in the yard, don't expect that adoption to go through.

- **You're under 21**

In addition to insurance liabilities, rescues don't like to adopt to young people because they don't usually

know where they'll be in 5 years.

If you go to college, you won't be able to take your pet with you. If you move to a no-pets building, you'll need to find a new home for the animal. There are exceptions, of course: If you're living a stable life, especially if you're married or in a permanent relationship, and live in your own home, the rescue might bend the age rule. Remember, rescues don't exist to supply people with pets. Their function is to find homes for needy animals. If it isn't yours, they'll find another.

### final thoughts

Sometimes adoptions don't work out. Beware of any rescue that doesn't state clearly on the forms that the pets are to be returned to them. This is one time when a take-back is not just a good thing — but a life-saver.



# CALLING ALL RACE ADOPTANTS. EXCLUSIVELY.

RACE Romanian Animal Care Europe Adopters Forum.

Time to show off your perfect (or not-so-perfect) pup.

[www.facebook.com/groups/2167959099953001](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2167959099953001) to join.



*wasn't me*





## Chopper

Driving home one evening from yet another trip to the Veterinary Hospital in St George, Elena saw a Golden Retriever slowly wandering along the road, obviously lost and in some distress. He was all too ready to get into the warmth of her car and he was soon back at her home, being fed and watered. It was obvious he was an older boy; he had no microchip so she was unable to stand any chance of locating a possible owner. We posted him on the RACE Facebook page and almost immediately Elena was contacted by someone who thought this was their dog who, she was told, had been stolen. The dog in question was not the one in our care, as he was much younger than this fellow. The following day Elena took him to the veterinary hospital for a complete checkover; tests revealed that Chopper had impaired liver function, heart issues, cataracts and arthritis in his back legs. He was also entire. The vet estimated that Chopper was at least twelve years old and probably wouldn't be too long for this World given his age and ailments. We had the offer of the most wonderful home for Chopper in the UK, but he was too old and unfit to travel. He is happy at Elena's and there he will live to the end of his days. Chopper is on supplements to assist his liver function and is quite happy living in the Popa household which is now his forever home. To sponsor visit: [raceromanian.org/sponsor](https://raceromanian.org/sponsor)

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# FEED A DOG TODAY.

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[popabrandusaelena@yahoo.com](mailto:popabrandusaelena@yahoo.com) Elena's direct email for PayPal donations.  
Questions? [raceromanian@gmail.com](mailto:raceromanian@gmail.com)



yum

