

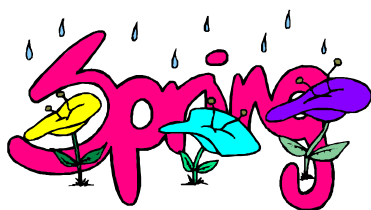
# Southern C K C S Welfare Organisation

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Winter 2003 / Spring 2004

<http://www.cavalier.info/clubs/southern>

# NEWSLETTER

## Dear Friends



I apologise for my silence in the last few months. Other commitments had meant that I was unable to issue a separate Winter newsletter for 2003. However, I hope to catch up and update you with news on our recent activities.

Our Christmas Party was another GREAT success last November, albeit the torrential rain which required party goers to don umbrellas and avoid the huge puddles immediately outside the hall. Despite a small initial panic when the electricity was interrupted, affecting the food stall, music, Christmas lights and anything electrical, everything went as planned. The turn out of guests was FANTASTIC as usual and raised much appreciated funds for welfare. Our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake, baked by our 'Cake Lady', Margaret Powley, went down a treat and I hope everyone

enjoyed the complimentary glass of bubbly to go with it.

Thank you to our gracious judge, Lesley Jupp. I think Lesley was spoilt for choice when it came to the fancy dress competition. As usual, everyone put such tremendous effort into making those wonderful festive costumes for our canine friends.

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to everyone for all your help and support.** Some photos are up on our website.

We had a couple of difficult cases towards the end of last year where we rehomed Ross, a 3 year old epileptic. I am glad that we were able to help fund his assessment for his new owners and they are coping well with him. We are always grateful to such homes that are brave enough to take on these difficult cases. It can be emotionally straining to deal with epilepsy and establishing the right treatment for each individual case.

Volunteers, who help with dog assessments, please note that if you are presented with information that a rescue has been castrated, please perform a physical check when

assessing, as it has been known that the person handing over the dog, if he/she is not the dog's original owner, may assume that the dog has been 'done' and provide incorrect information. Obviously it would not be possible for you to tell if a bitch has been spayed. I had a case last year where the owner's friend rang up with sketchy information about a dog and she did not know if it was a bitch or a dog and could not tell, let alone inform me if it was neutered!! Well, SAMMY turned out to be a bitch.

The first quarter of 2004 has been relatively quiet compared to last year. I have yet to establish a pattern when the next cavalier needs our help. Potential homes frequently ask if they have to wait long for a cavalier. My answer usually is 'how long is a piece of string?' What is paramount, is finding the right home for the dog.



I am however pleased to report we have established an advice line for cavaliers with behavioural problems and support lines for other health problems. I must

stress that the support given by these volunteers are NOT substitute for veterinary advice. It is there so that cavalier owners with problems do not feel that they are isolated or on their own and are able to speak to someone who may have had similar experiences, or had some form of training.

Our website is increasingly generating email enquiries as more and more people use the web. We currently receive about 2-3 emails a day regarding rescue. Email has now become an important and integral part of our service and we have had provided support for

problems via this medium. We correspond and make arrangements with volunteers and owners. On a number of occasions, we have also passed on information such as telephone numbers of other rescue coordinators (as far as Scotland) to potential cavalier owners or cavaliers in need who reside outside our areas. If you have any ideas for the welfare pages on our site, please let Katherine Li know on [katherine@avalcier.com](mailto:katherine@avalcier.com)



Margaret Barrett, our fund raiser, and her team of volunteers, are starting to organise the FUN Day on 30 May 2004. So, if you can help, please contact Margaret. Hillrows digital photography will again be available to take photographs of your beloved cavalier(s).

Sunday  
30 May 2004  
11:00 a.m. for  
12:00 noon judging  
Worpleston Village  
Hall, Surrey

In this issue, we include two of our rescue stories. Here is a photo of Charlie, who had to be rehomed as he was unpredictable with children.



*Dear Katherine*

*Finally got the photos developed, Charlie is a great digger (as can be seen from the photo) – fortunately he uses most of his energy in the woods on his morning walk and doesn't bother with the garden so much. He's settling down OK, still gets possessive & growls, though I don't think he knows why – I stroke him and he calms down. If you're ever passing, you'll be most welcome to call in and see them (Charlie and friend) in situ. Hope all is well.*

*Sincerely, John Wise*

Here's a message from Ollie himself, a 3 year old Ruby. See website for a photo of Ollie.

Dear Katherine

Well, after a bit of a shaky start, I think that I have really fallen on my paws with this new home you brought me to! After you left, I felt safest in my basket and pretty well stayed there until Monday evening, by which time I began to believe that I was safe here and that I wasn't going anywhere. Ruth has bought me some nice things to eat and I like the music Jeremy plays on his flutes and piano. So much so, that I now feel able to sit next to the piano and listen when he practices!

On Wednesday, they took me to see a nice man who felt me all over, weighed me, listened to my heart and told me I was fine. He then stuck a needle in me for my "inoculations", but I was very brave and didn't flinch. This nice man has asked whether you might be able to tell my new humans my kennel name, so they can find out my medical history, as the vet said he didn't want to go looking for a testicle that may not be there!

On Sunday, I had a bath, which wasn't as bad as I thought it might be, and went for a walk! I have even started barking occasionally, and my humans think I have a very pleasant, melodic woof! I enclose some pictures of me, and hope to hear from you soon, or even see you.

Yours, with licks, love and thanks for your help in finding me my new home.

Ollie