Media release For immediate release

Tuesday, September 23, 2008



## Miracles do Happen

Beppe was another dog we saved from death row – but there was a difference. No-one could handle or touch him. Beppe bit everyone. Two years later, after rehabilitation at DoggieRescue he was adopted by a lady who saw his progress and realised his potential.

"When Beppe came into our care, I never dreamed that he would find a forever home" says Monika, founder of DoggieRescue. "He was the hardest dog I had in our care. I thought he would have to live with me for the rest of his life as I could not even risk having him at the kennels."

When he arrived we could not get him out of the crate and we could not move him from place to place. He would bite.

Beppe had us all at DoggieRescue perplexed how we would deal with him. If you sat quietly with him he would come up to you as he desperately wanted affection but he did not know how to relate to people. He could not take the risk of trusting us. He would not let you touch him behind his head, on his back nor on his bottom.

Early in his career with us, Beppe spent a lot of time in a small enclosure with a kennel on an enclosed verandah. We could not walk him as we could not put a collar or lead on him. He soon piled on the weight. He was a hearty eater! He loved those chicken wings. Grooming was out of the question and being a Maltese, he became matted.

With lots of time and patience, Beppe realised that no-one was going to hurt him here. He started accepting people he knew, and letting them touch him. Grooming had to be done under sedation and bathing was done very carefully and with quick reflexes. Beppe hated having his bottom touched. It was later we found out from animal communicators that Beppe had been beaten mercilessly on his back side by a man.

With trust was established with certain people, Beppe respected and became obedient and so much more manageable. He was also toilet trained and socialised well with other dogs. Beppe greeted those he loved and made a super fuss of them when they came.

"Enquires on Beppe came and went" said Monika "but I did not meet anyone with the abilities that Sally had. She convinced me it was worth introducing them. At the end of the first visit I knew there was something magical between Sally and Beppe – even though he had given her a warning nip. I could see Beppe loved her and she could handle him."

We did a staged integration and Beppe always told us when we pushed the boundaries too far. It did not deter Sally. Rather it made her understand where he was at and what he could tolerate.

"The day Beppe left my home I was in a trance. I just did not believe the time had come that he was ready for a forever home."

DoggieRescue saves 1,000 dogs from death row from the council pounds each year. Rarely do we come across one as difficult as Beppe. Most have been neglected, under nourished and covered in parasites. The long coated fluffy dogs are usually in a disgraceful matted condition. These dogs usually just need some kindness and love and some fattening up and they transform from a pauper into a prince.

Visit www.DoggieRescue.com or call 9486 3133 and help save another life.

Call Doggie Rescue on (02) 9486 3133 or visit <a href="www.DoggieRescue.com">www.DoggieRescue.com</a>. Photos available upon request.

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For more information please contact Doggie Rescue founder - Monika Biernacki - 0429 044 484