



# WINTER NEWSLETTER 2025

SEPT - DEC

EDITION 4

This is a long-overdue newsletter. The last one was back in the Summer when we were still settling into our new addition, Koda. Can you believe she's now been with us for nearly 7 months? It hasn't always been easy and we have some eventful days but we're gradually finding our rhythm and making progress.

We're incredibly grateful for the field whilst settling her in, it's been a true godsend. It's wonderful to see both Koda and Chaos running around together and playing, especially since they can't do that at home. It was also a real treat to have some time off work during the festive period to spend with them and the rest of the family. The dogs are now well-stocked on veggies, thanks to some great supermarket deals just before Christmas!

By now, you'll have seen the 12 Christmas trees planted in the field. Planting is an ongoing project and we hope these trees will grow into plenty of sniffing spots, shade, and fun opportunities for your dogs to play amongst.

As 2025 comes to a close, we want to reflect on the progress with the field, our fabulous visitors who come rain or shine (and on some days, it's been both!) Your continued support and visits mean the world to us, and we hope you'll keep coming back throughout 2026.

Thank you all for being part of this journey. Wishing you a happy, healthy, and joyful New Year!

## LAMBING SEASON

We have been informed that the field adjacent to ours will be used for lambing. Since our field has been erected within our boundary line rather than directly on it, the field user will need to install their own fencing to ensure the sheep do not wander near our fence. To help support this development for our field users, we are awaiting the delivery of a thick privacy netting, which we plan to install to help keep the dogs focused and prevent them from getting too distracted. We believe it's best to have the netting in place before the sheep arrive, so the dogs can get used to the new setup gradually. Although we have planted all the way down the fence line it does take time for it to grow which, when it flourishes, will also be an additional support.

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT MEET UP

Thank you to everyone who attended our Hardy K9's Pawsitive Support Group in November. The feedback was wonderful, and for those of you who wanted to join but couldn't make it, we're pleased to let you know there will be another session in February. We just need to finalise a venue, and we will post all the details on our Facebook page.

It was also a pleasure to meet one attendee's new furry addition over the festive period. We're looking forward to welcoming her to the field soon, once her vaccination course is complete.

### DID YOU KNOW...?

According to the American Kennel Club there are over 340 dog breeds worldwide, though it has officially only recognised 202 and the UK's Kennel Club counts 224 breeds.

## HELP FOR STREET DOGS



A company called Pugedon has launched an innovative, solar-powered vending machine called "Mamamatic" that provides food and water for stray dogs in Turkey. These clever machines are making a real difference: some operate by trading in cans or plastic bottles, which then release food or water, while others require a small payment of a lira to dispense the essentials.

Currently, you can find these machines in Istanbul, Ankara, and Izmir, and they are proving to be incredibly popular with both dogs and people alike. The best part? They are funded by the money generated from recycling and donations, whether through recycling cans and bottles or paying the lira, these machines are helping to keep street dogs fed and cared for.

It's a wonderful example of how innovation and community effort can come together to make a positive impact on animal welfare.

## CHARITY POT UPDATE

At the end of March 2026, we're excited to kick off our first round of Charity Pot donations! We invite you to nominate a local charity that you believe deserves a small cash boost.

Please email us your nominations, we're looking for one animal charity and one mental health charity. Your suggestions are incredibly valuable and help us support causes that matter deeply to our community. The funds for the Charity Pot come from all the pay-as-you-go sessions and the money raised through our K9 Support Group, so it's only fair that you, our field users, have a say in who receives this support.

After collecting nominations, we'll run a poll on our Facebook page, and the charities with the most votes will be awarded the donations. We'll also feature their inspiring work on our Facebook, Instagram, and website to share their stories with everyone.

## CHARITY POT SO FAR...



## DOG FRIENDLY EVENTS 2026

Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup> 2026 - Friends of St James's Park Dog Show 10am-4pm

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026 - Dogstival Burley Park, New Forest