



A Day in the Life of a GSRE Founder

German Shepherd Rescue Elite



- Established 2012 as a breed specific rescue
- Originally an internet-based rescue
 - No centre
 - Dogs rehomed from home to home
 - Foster homes and commercial kennels
 - Geographical spread across England & Wales
 - Nationwide team of volunteers
 - Rescue back up for life
- German Shepherds, Belgian Shepherd Malinois & Dutch Herders
 - Working outlets – Police and Prisons





- Kept original format for geographical spread
- Keeping funds separate
- Capacity based on space rather than finances

- The stars aligned 2023
 - Vigil German Shepherd Rescue
 - Camelot kennels
 - Dave Wardell & Fabulous Finn



How do we operate?

- Adoption procedure
 - Online application
 - Screen and vet reference
 - Home check
 - Foster to adopt – new since 2020 re Covid
 - Adoption
 - Follow up visit
- Applications not for a specific dog
- No meets until home checked approved
- Give applicant chance to choose their dog
- Only founders approve homes
 - Reduces responsibility
 - Ensures consistency



- Rehoming procedure
 - Online application where microchip number must be given
 - Medical history obtained where possible
 - Dog assessed in home environment
 - Dog profile put on website
- Only take in extreme emergencies from homes
- 'Pound Dogs' will always be given priority



What we deal with daily

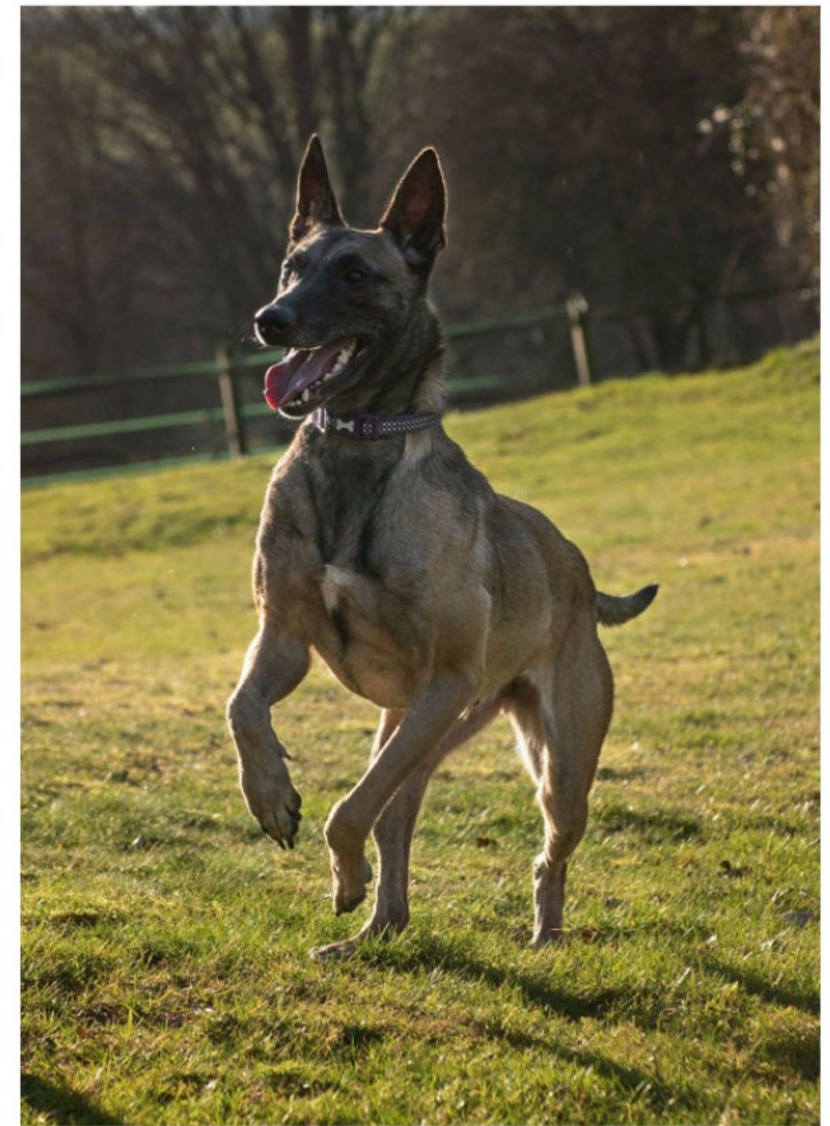
- General administration sending applications to relevant volunteers
- Dealing with messages of dogs at risk
 - 'Pound pullers'
 - Councils
 - Police
 - Other rescues

The daily juggle for space to save lives!

- Approving home checks
 - Matching homes to dogs
- Collating dog assessments
 - Putting new dogs on website
- Ensuring website is current
 - Availability
 - Profiles
- New dog arrivals
 - Microchip updated to charity
 - Initial health check and vaccinations
 - Assessment
 - Neutering where possible
- Keeping database current
 - Animal Shelter Manager
- Continual oversight of dogs in our care
 - Behaviour
 - Medical requirements
 - Special needs such as diet

The challenges we face

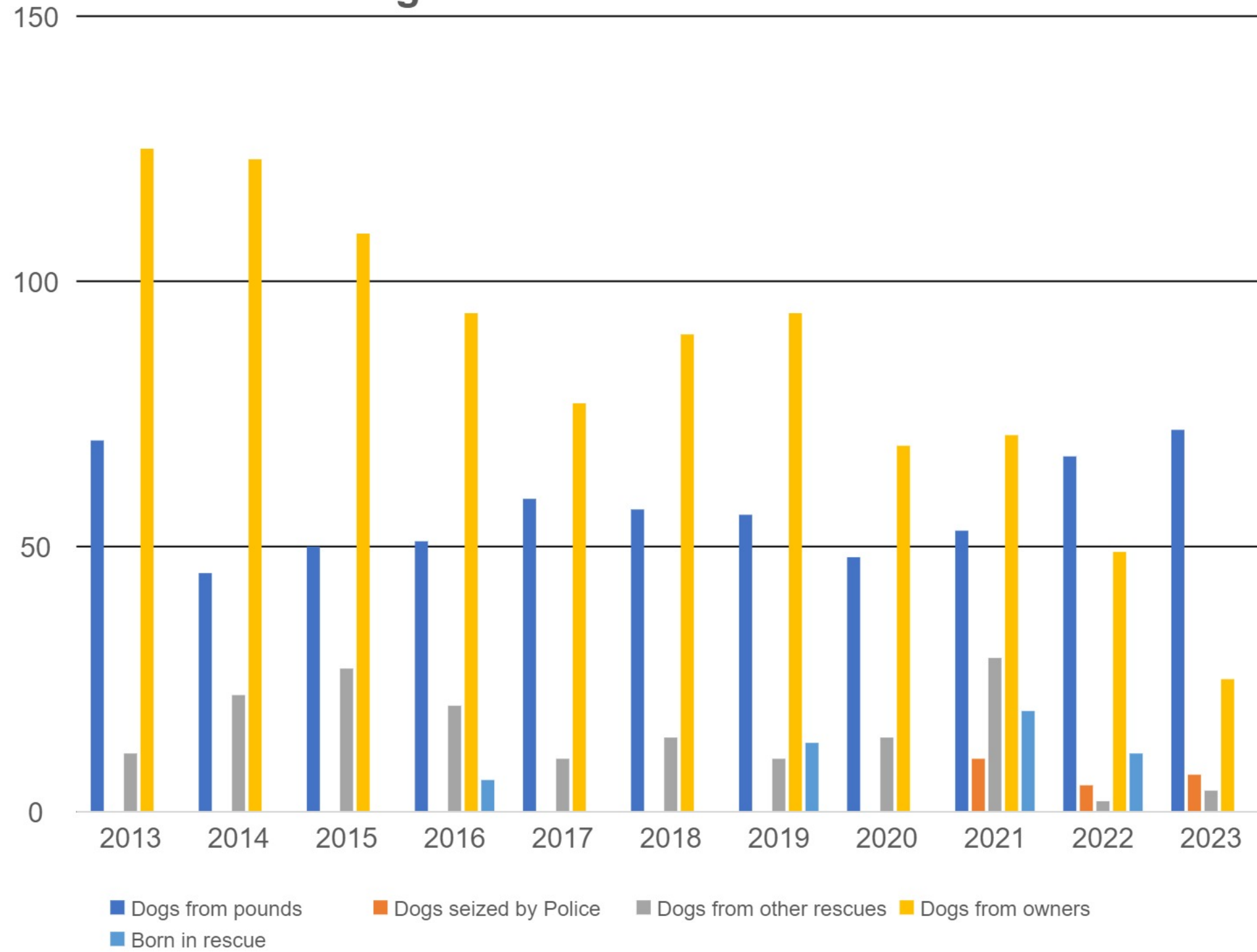
- Throwaway society
- Imported dogs with no RBU
- Covid pandemic
- The veterinary industry
 - Staff
 - Drug availability
 - Costs
- Lack of commercial kennels
- Government failure on regulating breeders and importers
- Archaic and out of date laws and failure to 'police'
- Cost of living crisis
- XL Bully ban



- Microchipping challenges
 - Too many databases
 - Databases that do not comply
 - Lack of dual registration
 - Onus on new owner only

How have these challenges affected us?

Dogs That Came Into Rescue



Is there a solution?

- Breeders should be registered if more than 1 litter
- Tighter border force controls on imported dogs
- Reclassification of dogs to enable stricter protocol on online advertising
- Accountability through better microchipping laws
- Licensing of rescues



- Rescues such as GSRE are under valued by the Government
- Government consultation should represent all rescues not just the 'Big 4'

If an XL Bully ban can be brought into effect in a matter of months, then the Government have no excuse for failing our dogs.