



Nice to scan you – to scan you nice!

Dog Theft Action will be joining forces with Vets Get Scanning at Discover Dogs on the 11th & 12th November at Earls Court 2 to reinforce the need for permanent identification together with a strong backup service of routine scanning, for all dogs.

Vets Get Scanning (VGS) was founded by Bruce Forsyth and his daughter Debbie Matthews after Debbie's dogs - Yorkshire terriers Widget and Gizmo - were stolen from her parked car earlier this year. A massive media campaign proved successful when both dogs were returned safely to their distraught owner after being sold on in a London market. Bruce and Debbie decided to set up their appeal to focus on this issue especially by encouraging vets to routinely scan dogs when presented for routine treatment.

Debbie said, "Vets Get Scanning's main objective is to ensure that all dogs are checked regularly for microchips by vets. If a dog is presented by someone other than their rightful owner – questions should be asked to establish whether or not the dog has in fact been stolen. It is ideal for VGS to join forces with Dog Theft Action and present a united front on this issue that is causing so much distress and misery to dogs and their owners throughout the UK. We will be extending an invitation to the public to participate in our campaign by discussing this matter with their veterinary surgeons and asking for this facility to be provided."

Margaret Nawrockyi, Secretary of DTA said, "DTA is very keen to co-operate and co-ordinate with all organisations that can help to close the loopholes that seem to work against the victims of dog theft. We were delighted to attend a meeting during the summer with Debbie and her colleague Sylvia Tabor, where it soon became clear that both DTA & VGS share a natural synergy. DTA encourages dog owners to regularly check their dogs' microchips to ensure that they are functioning correctly. This can be done annually at veterinary practices. However we believe vets could also fulfil a vital role by routinely scanning dogs that come to the surgery for non-emergency treatment.

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"We have been very fortunate in that the Kennel Club has supported DTA by donating a stand at this important event in the canine calendar where information is available to the public on every aspect of dog ownership. We believe it is the perfect venue to launch the

Dog theft Action is a registered charity – no. 1115706

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VGS campaign and to join together to ask for public support. We wish VGS every success in the future with this appeal.”

Bruce Forsyth said,.....

DTA will be doing their utmost to raise funds for their Scanner Appeal at Discover Dogs. After launching their new initiative at the KC in September they are planning to purchase hand held microchip scanners to present to dedicated rescue and welfare organisations, so that stolen dogs can be identified and not unknowingly rehomed. Two scanners will be presented during the two-day event. The first will be presented to Staffordshire Bull Terrier Welfare by KC External Affairs Manager, Phil Buckley on Saturday 11th November and the second to Westie ReHoming by Debbie Matthews of Vets Get Scanning on Sunday 12th November.

Ends
19.06

30.10.06

Notes

Information on Vets Get Scanning – www.vetsgetscanning.co.uk

Information on Discover Dogs http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/buying/discover_dogs.html

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