

LABRADOR RESCUE 2016

KOBE – July 2016

Below is Kobe's story,. I went and got him from Auckland last weekend. He is the most amazing dog considering his crap puppyhood.

He's approximately 2 - 2.5 years old. At 6 months his original owners gave him to friends when they moved back overseas. They are on some kind of commercial growers property. Unfortunately the friends weren't that interested in him and kept him on a chain 24/7. Then those owners went overseas and leased the business out. The owners were also tasked with looking after him and unfortunately nothing changed in that area. They fed and watered him during the week but he was left alone on the weekends.

Luckily for Kobe, some neighbours noticed him and took it upon themselves to make sure he had some shelter. They got him a kennel, made sure he was fed, had water and took him on walks after asking permission.

About 6 - 8 months ago he got hit by a workers car as his chain allowed him to lie on the driveway. I honestly don't think they got him looked at or if they did, they didn't do much as he has had a smashed tooth all that time which I'm sure a vet would have picked up and of course his eye, which who knows, may have been able to save? He is now blind in his right and while it looks bad and gross, it is not giving him any trouble or grief. It is not fixable and any surgery will be purely for cosmetics.

Pretty much he's had a crap life, until the last week, when the neighbors got permission to re-home him. They contacted Lab Club Rescue and I went down and picked him up.

He has that amazing labrador personality. He's happy, friendly and loving. He just loves to be around people and loves cuddles. He has gotten used to being an inside dog really quickly. He's good with our dogs, not bad with the cats.

Hes good at going outside to go toilet, though gets side tracked if you get up to open the door for him and will come over to you for cuddles. Then he'll remember oh yeah, gotta pee and then go outside. He loves tennis balls and has good recall. We took him to the beach on Sunday with the other dogs and he had a ball. When he runs fast his back legs flick out. He is so damned cute. He's a bit clutzy and a goof ball. He is becoming used to going up and down stairs, we have

had quite a few laughs watching him fall up and down the stairs at home while he gets the hang of them. He has big paws and a big bark.

The lab club have had him desexed, micro chipped and had his smashed tooth removed. He will be getting his inoculations in 10 days when we get his stitches removed. While his eye looks bad, it is not causing him any discomfort or pain and any surgery at this stage would be cosmetic only.

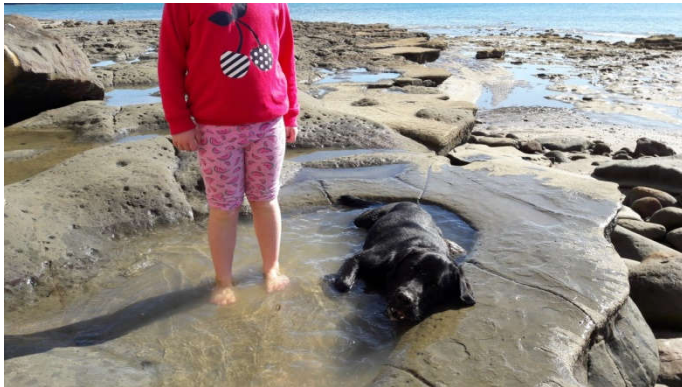
What else, I'm nuts about him already. I am going to be very careful as to who he goes to as he deserves an amazing home after all he's been through. I want him to go to a home where he will never be chained up again and is allowed inside and gets heaps of care and attention and love. I am sitting here crying while writing this thinking about having to give this amazing boy up so if you want him, you will need to be able to tell me how you are going to give him the life he deserves.

That was Friday at around 5pm. By 7pm I had 4 lots of people booked in to come and meet him over the weekend. Kobe pretty much chose his the family he wanted to be with (he tried to leave with them, ungrateful snot).

Anyway, I agreed that Natalie & Jon and the kids were the best family for him and they fell in love with him as well. He seems to have that impact on people. We did the house check and had written permission from their landlord that it was okay to have Kobe. I have been in contact with Natalie quite a bit, poor woman. Probably get a restraining order taken out on me lol.

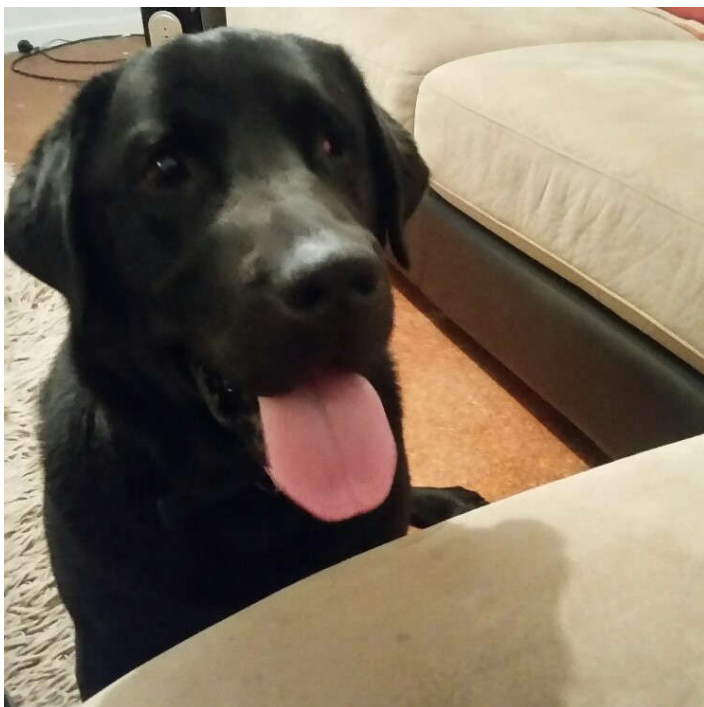
The below is from Natalie. Kobe's Future - Our children had been crazing us for a family dog so we started to look for a rescue dog and we were keen to find a Labrador. I made contact with Gail and out of the blue she contacted us about Kobe. We went to see him the next day and all fell in love with him. The following weekend we brought him back to our home and he has brought us happiness ever since. Considering his poor start to life, he settled pretty much straight away and we are in a good routine now and he knows what happens when. He must have had some training as he is great at retrieving a ball (his favourite thing in the whole world), he can sit and give his paw and has really good recall. He knows the word 'walkies' very well now. He sleeps outside our room and when we get up and let him through to the kids he runs upstairs and greets them. Every now and then he hops onto their beds and lays on top of them...all 30kgs of dog! The children get ready for school and we are usually down at the beach by 7.30am with the ball thrower. He absolutely loves it and just runs up and down chasing his ball. His back legs flick out which makes him look so funny. Most of the day he is with me on his own as I work at home so he is great company. He comes to school pick up with me and all the kids know 'one eyed Kobe'. He gets a lot of strokes. When the children get back from school we usually go to the beach again. I usually sneak a quick walk round the block

at lunchtime and then a final quick walk and a pee before bed. He is bringing us so much joy and laughter, particularly when he has a standoff with the cat! He adores cuddles and he gets heaps of those. We feel so lucky to have Kobe in our lives and the kids say that he actually smiles which I guess means he is a happy boy too. It was a great decision for our family and although we were active before, we are even more so now. Not to mention the responsibility it has given to the children. Kobe is our superstar. Below are a few photos of this gorgeous lucky boy



I have regularly been in contact with Natalie and Kobe is suffering the effects of his earlier life and has early arthritis. They are changing theirs and Kobe's life to work with this so he is now only have sedate walks and no running down the beach chasing that tennis ball.

He honestly couldn't have gone to a better family.



Louie – July 2016

Louie needed to be re-homed because basically his family couldn't/wouldn't persevere with training him.

Hi Gail - thanks so much for your time today. It's such a hard thing to go through but we are now at the point where we need a new avenue for Louie before it breaks us. Louie is an 8 month old chocolate lab. From the start he has been a boisterous dog. He did an 8 week course and passed although I think he probably could have done much better. We have a 2 year old daughter and he is amazing with her - never jumps at her and seems to respect her boundaries most of the time.

"My mum had our daughter for the weekend and we really tried with him and are getting no where so please let us know what we can do"

So the Labrador club stepped in and took him over and put him in kennels as I was getting very concerned that they were just going to dump him at the pound or something.

Louie was adopted by a family in Whangarei and is now living on a lifestyle block. He is improving all the time.

He is a little bit of a rat bag but in general not much different to other young dogs. Definitely likes to do his own thing when off the lead and knows he has the power when he's free. Knows when you haven't got food so won't listen either but he does know what he's supposed to do. 😊

I'm hoping when he's older and settles down he will be able to have more freedom off the lead.

He has been to play at a dog park and on a couple of walks. Pretty good on lead really... Everyday he is played with and he gets a run about in the paddocks.

Biggest hurdle will probably be getting him to listen and come when off the lead. Already getting better with chooks and sheep but can't trust him off lead yet. Think he's feeling more at home now too. My daughter has a great time with him and she wears him out a bit too which helps a lot. We are very happy.



Jake – August 2016

Good behaviour around the house uses his manners and obeys commands, great on the lead once he got over the excitement of going for a walk lol

We have had him for 5 years, our situation changed and I starting working more hour increasing it to a full time job. Jake loves to be around people all the time and missed when we were not home so he did cry a little bit. We decided that it was unfair and wanted to find him a family with young children that could spend the time with him and be home more.

We found an awesome for Jake in the South Island with Frank and his other Labrador mate Mac.

Jake continues to get on famously here in the South, I sometimes can't believe what an 'Auckland Boy' he was since he has become such an adventure-hound down here! He loves swimming in glacial rivers, he goes off possum-hunting with Mac, and the two of them also play silly Labrador chase-me games around the garden so it is all good! I stay in touch with his previous owners who tell me they really enjoy hearing how he is doing, and I think they deserve credit also for bringing-up such an easy-going and well-mannered dog. So all in all – yes a resounding success as far as a re-home operation goes!



- I absolutely love this picture

In 2016 we also re-homed Smudge, Buddy, Holly, Miley, Tessa, Monty, Piri, Toa, Scooter, Rosie & Sara