



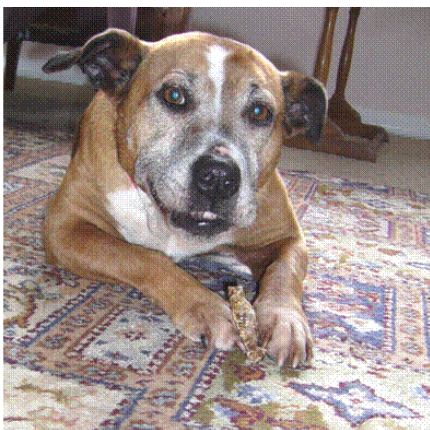
Gypsy's Story

One day a concerned person called Wellington SPCA because they were worried about a dog named Gypsy. Jan, an Animal Welfare Inspector, went to Gypsy to check on her. Jan found Gypsy tied up to a laundry line in the backyard. Gypsy was a bit nervous and scared at first, but Jan crept closer towards her, gently calling out and offering treats. Jan slowly gained Gypsy's trust.

Gypsy was a big dog with tan fur and a white and grey muzzle. Jan could see that a tight chain had begun to cut into Gypsy's neck. Jan tried to move Gypsy, but she yelped loudly as she moved because the chain hurt so much. Jan couldn't imagine how anyone could let this happen to an animal. Gypsy had to be put on a harness and was taken to the SPCA.

Anthony, a veterinarian, looked at Gypsy and could tell that the wound around her neck was deep! Anthony had to slowly cut the chain out of the skin on Gypsy's neck and shave the area. The wound needed 12 stitches. Gypsy sat there patiently while Anthony and Jan tried to help her. It took several weeks for Gypsy to recover from her injury.

Gypsy's owner should have taken her to the vet when they noticed her wound, because her owner didn't, Jan had to organise a court case against them. At court her owner was told that because they didn't help Gypsy by getting her vet care, they could not own another dog for at least two years and they had to pay the SPCA money towards helping Gypsy get better.



Gypsy in her new home

The SPCA looked after Gypsy for a while. The dog handler, Mike, became close friends with her. Many people came in to see the dogs, but most were drawn to younger, cuter or fluffier dogs. Months past and no one wanted to adopt Gypsy. Mike knew that Gypsy was a good dog that deserved a second chance at a happy life. Gypsy's picture was put in the newspaper advertising that she needed a new home month after month.

Finally one day Jane phoned asking about Gypsy. Jane had seen Gypsy in the newspaper all these months and thought she might be the right dog for her. Mike introduced Gypsy to Jane and after a successful meeting Gypsy found a new home. Gypsy will never be chained up again and will get all the love and friendship she needs. Now, Gypsy and Jane are inseparable!



After reading Gypsy's Story, answer the questions below using complete sentences.

1. How do you think Gypsy felt with a tight chain cutting into her neck?

2. Why is it important for people to provide vet care for their pets when they are sick or injured?

3. How do you feel about people being cruel towards animals like Gypsy?

4. What are some things that you could do to help animals like Gypsy?

5. How do you think Gypsy feels in her new home with Jane?

