



TOP DOG: Runner-up of last year's Dressed to the K9s, Riley, the mixed breed, as Minnie Mouse.

Dogs to have their day on the catwalk

■ Could your canine dress to impress?

DOG lovers across the country are being asked to dress their cute canines in fancy dress to raise vital funds for a North Lincolnshire charity.

Pet care association, Walk the Dog, is launching a fashionable competition for dogs and all pampered pooches the perfect opportunity to show off.

Dressed to the K9s is a fancy dress competition for dogs and all proceeds made will go to Every Chance Dog Rescue, based in Scotterthorpe.



DOG THE BUILDER: Rescue dog Rolo gets in the mood for the competition, dressed as a builder.

by Amy Pullan

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The charity, founded by international dog listener Jan Fennell, saves dogs from mistreatment and provides them with a safe and secure environment while they are waiting to be re-homed.

Director Karen Day said: "Like many other charities we are having a really slow period at the moment.

"Without donations it means we cannot help dogs look for new loving homes. The competition is a fun way for dog lovers to get involved and help us raise some vital funds."

Mrs Day explained how Every Chance Rescue differs from other animal shelters.

"When our dogs are re-homed they are neutered or spade, wormed, micro-chipped and vaccinated," she said.

"And we also have consultants which are Jan Fennell-trained dog listeners who give consultations and continue to work with the dogs in their new homes.

"Unlike other rescues we are able to take dogs with behavioural issues and those who will be with us for a longer time because we have a team which can deal with the problems."

Hanne Grice, owner of Walk

the Dog, hopes canine keepers will let their imagination run wild and submit their competition entries and donations online.

She said: "While our annual competition is lighthearted in its approach, the message behind it is serious.

"At Every Chance, we work diligently to save dogs from mistreatment and unnecessary death."

This year's competition judge is Christiane Kubrick, wife of film director Stanley Kubrick.

Mrs Kubrick is a renowned painter who has been exhibiting in the UK and America since the 1960s and has homed a number of rescue dogs over the years.

She said: "I'm really looking forward to judging this year's photo entries and encourage dog owners everywhere to join in."

The competition closes on Sunday, April, 25, with the winner announced on Tuesday, May 4.

He or she will scoop prizes including a professional photographic session and a framed portrait of their pet worth £250, plus a luxury hamper packed with owner and pet goodies.

For more details visit www.dressedtothek9s.com

SHAGGY DOG STORIES

IN RECENT years top fashion designers such as Vivienne Westwood and Ben de Lisi have created special dog designs.

London store Harrods also hosts an annual fashion show called

Pet-a-Porter where pooches take to a 'dog-walk'.

Socialite Paris Hilton is well-known for dressing her beloved Chihuahua Tinkerbell in coats and various accessories.

In Brief

£30-million deal to deliver new jobs

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Mr Turton added: "When we accomplish all of this we should be able to reduce prices, and we genuinely believe we will."

The development will effectively see the large cold store built within the company's 625,000 sq ft logistics centre.

It will allow the company to store more orders for longer for its growing list of 5,000 stores and 267 wholesale depots.

"We will look to start the build shortly after March next year, and it should be operational prior to Christmas," Mr Turton said.

And there are further benefits for the company and the individual stores, where more than 640 now carry the Nisa branding.

For some, the investment will mean a single delivery of any of the 12,000 lines of chilled and non-refrigerated goods.

Others will be able to improve ranges and ensure stock levels by receiving mixed deliveries on the same wagons.

"From an environmental and cost point of view this is an excellent way forward as it reduces the number of deliveries vehicles have to make," said Mr Turton.

"We also think we will be able to sell more, as the majority of retailers take one delivery a week from us, but we will be able to put ambient loads on chilled, so frequencies can increase.

"There could be a £20-million to £30-million sales prize through improving availability."

As previously reported, DHL, which ran Nisa-Today's distribution at the south east depot in Harlow and west operation in Stoke, was awarded the £500-million contract, and will replace Bibby in Scunthorpe in a year's time.

The seven-year deal will also see the entire fleet of 250 lorries replaced with the latest, more aerodynamic and lower emission vehicles.

Nisa-Today's, and independent grocery retailers in general, appear to have defied the recession - partly down to a long-term focus on cost.

Sign-language skills

SIGNS4LIFE is coming to North Lincolnshire to encourage more employees to take up sign language as an extra language and skill.

The organisation is setting up introductory courses in sign language and separate disability awareness courses for Scunthorpe employees over the next 12 months.

Signs4Life is working with organisations including supermarkets, Victim Support, the Prison Service, Red Cross, housing associations, hotels, care homes, opticians and schools.

For details call Fozia on 07964 019764 or visit www.signs4life.org.uk



INVESTMENT: Nisa-Today's chief executive, Neil Turton.

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