



7 June at 21:45

Just a warning to everyone in this group- TRAIN YOUR RECALL!

On Thursday night, about 11.30pm (after work) I had the fright of my life when I let Poppy out to the toilet. I leave her out there for a couple minutes while I get her fresh water etc ready for bed time and then call her back in my 'casual recall', a spoken rather than a shout voice eg 'bedtime Poppy!'. However on Thursday, she didn't come and there was silence outside. Panicking (I was reluctant to shout my full o...n recall, thus waking all the neighbours) I called her again with no response. By this time panicking, I went into the garden to look for her and I decided to do my full recall 'POPPY COME!' (Poppy comes before my neighbours sleep) and she came like a bullet, however on the other side of the fence (I back on to a wooded area). I got her to bed safe and sound.

The next morning we found a hole underneath the fence- it looked like a badger could of dug it and we think she had been chasing a fox/badger as they are quite common by us.

The moral of the story is train your recall, whether you want to let your dog off lead or not, because accidents do happen (dogs slip leads, doors are left open, wildlife appears). Poppy was gone less than 10 minutes and I was beside myself, if she didn't have a solid recall it could have been all night. Recalls save lifes!

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Oh Mary.....I haven't liked this because it must have been awful for you.....thank goodness you are such a good dog owner and trainer. I do check our fences every so often.....but not regularly....will do now x

7 June at 23:14 · Unlike · 1



Remove

Jenny Adams Me and Mary (sorry, Mary and I), chatted about this the other day. Or was it just yesterday?

Although checking fences is a VERY GOOD THING, I think this was just one of those things that can happen, the badger might have dug his holes just hours ago and unless you check fences every five minutes, well, bad things sometimes just happen.

When we're at the shows, I put a bell and a collar light on my dogs in the dark. This probably wouldn't have made any difference for Poppy the other night, but it is still something I've found helpful that I can see them more easily and hear them in the dark. Mary's right, the recall really is the thing. It is very, very scary when they go missing, even for a short length of time.

I was about to write how I'd feel if Mary hadn't got her back quickly, but I can't even bear to write it.

8 June at 01:16 · Like



Remove

Oh Mary, that must have been so scary for you. Thank goodness Poppy has a really solid recall. As you say, recalls really do save lives. They need to be trained and reinforced throughout the dog's life and should never be taken for granted.

8 June at 07:59 · Unlike · 2



Remove

Big Time Scary..... I'm learning fast from you and Jenny....glad it worked out well.

9 June at 14:05 · Unlike · 2



Remove

*lives

11 June at 22:45 · Unlike · 2



Remove

Oh Mary just seen this-gosh you must have been really scared. Thank goodness you have a 'professor' level recall with Poppy . So worth all that training and so glad we went to Jenny's classes-makes living with dogs so so much more fun and for the dogs-well they can eventually be let off lead safely instead of roaming around uncontrolled or always kept on lead.

17 June at 09:23 · Unlike · 1



Remove

Jenny Adams Sue, love "professor" level recall. I think when things go smoothly for a length of time, we tend to forget how scary it can be when we lose a dog. Not sure if I've written this anywhere already, but I lost Paris (for about 15 seconds!) behind a fence the other week, and the panic in my heart stopped the clocks. He squeezed through a hole in the fence and couldn't get straight back to me when I called. Also got me thinking about barking which is something most of the time annoys us and we tend to consider as problem behaviour. I wish the boy had barked as soon as he got separated!

17 June at 13:10 · Like · 1



Remove

With you 100% on that one-the horror and the quiet dog trying to get back to you-Ellie has followed a fox trail under fences into adjoining gardens before-been trying to get back but not remembering how she got through-as you say 'heart stopping'. Luckily noisy Magic would probably scream the place down. Rosie just lies down till help arrives!

17 June at 15:28 · Unlike · 1

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