

Romanian rescue hound missing for weeks spotted about 30 times

# Hoping for a happy end to this dog's tale

By Gaby Bissett

[gaby.bissett@hertsexnews.co.uk](mailto:gaby.bissett@hertsexnews.co.uk)

A NERVOUS rescue dog has been missing for almost four weeks – and despite around 30 sightings, she is yet to be located.

Cross-breed Audrey, who was found on the streets of Romania and brought to the UK, went missing from her Welwyn GC home on Sunday, December 27.

This was only four days after she settled in with her new family, and 16 days after she was brought to England.

The young dog, who is believed to be around two years old, was let outside for a run, but quickly scaled a six-foot fence.

There have been around 30 sightings since her disappearance – from the A414 near the Cole Green dump to Hertingfordbury and Hatfield.

There have also been sightings in Hall Grove, Welwyn GC, Letty Green and Woolmer Green.

A team of volunteers have been searching high and low since her disappearance.

Kaz Gilbert, UK adoption co-ordinator for the Botosani Public Shelter, said: "I have about eight ladies that have been brilliant and go out putting posters up when she's spotted in a new area."

"She's had a bit of a difficult time. It's hard, because she's not had time to bond with anyone."

The hound was rescued in February last year in Botosani, Romania.

## Pregnant

The dog – who is believed to have lived on the street all her life – was pregnant at the time, and just two days later gave birth to a litter of five.

Ms Gilbert, who lives on the south coast, found owners for the puppies – but Audrey was harder to rehome because of her nervous temperament.

After falling ill at her first foster home in Colchester, the hound was taken on by a family in Welwyn GC.

"The trouble is, she's crossing the A414 a lot," said Ms Gilbert.

"I don't think she's found a proper food source, because normally, if a dog finds somewhere where there's food all the time, they don't move areas."

Ms Gilbert has advised people not to approach Audrey if they spot her.

"That could make her run across a road," she said.

"If they could just ring up with the sightings, and we will get somebody there as soon as possible to carry on searching in that area."

A Facebook page called Desperately Seeking Audrey has been set up in a bid to track her and keep the public updated with sightings.

■ If you spot Audrey, call Ms Gilbert on 07769 901937



GONE: Audrey the rescue dog, who has been missing for weeks

## Off the scale! Fish restaurant wins award

A FISH restaurant has been hailed a success at a national competition.

Lussmanns Fish and Grill Restaurant was crowned Best Foodservice Operator at the National Fish and Chip Awards yesterday.

With outlets in Hertford, St Albans and Harpenden, the business was handed over the award by Nigel Barden, voice of food and drink on BBC Radio 2.

Taking place at the Lancaster London Hotel in London, chain director Andrei Lussmann said: "This is the first time we've entered the awards, so we're overwhelmed to be winners – it's an honour to be recognised and appreciated for our hard work."

### Fierce

"We were up against some fierce competition in this category, so we're giving ourselves a big pat on the back."

To be crowned winner, Lussmanns was judged across a range of criteria including responsible sourcing policies, maintenance of seafood supplier relationships, and preparation and cooking techniques.

Mel Groundsell, corporate relations director of Seafish, which organises the contest, said: "Lussmanns has great commitment and passion, demonstrated in abundance throughout the judging process."

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