

# Greyhound Rescue Fife

*"Adopting just one Greyhound won't change the world, but the world will surely change for that one Greyhound."*



Welcome to the September edition of the Greyhound Rescue Fife Newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading it.

Sheila and Eion.

An incredible 70 plus dogs and their humans turned out for the August GRF monthly walk in Dunfermline. Here they are gathered round the statue in Pittencrieff Park.



## Kennel News

Find out who has found their forever home and who is new at the kennels.....



## Meet Swanny

This is our Dog of the Month.



## 2019 Year of the Puppies

A series following the GRF puppies in their forever homes.

## Kennel News

Since the last newsletter

33 dogs have come in. They are:

MURRAY SWIFT MARIE LUCY GRIP GYPSY TIGER EROS TREACLE CINDY VANNY KIM GHOST BLAKE SUSIE DUKE LASSIE GUCCI DARLING CYCLONE SKETCHER BETSY SPOT JAGUAR CORVETTE ZENA EMMA ROVER CLAUDIA TOMMY TONY GEORGIA MONTANA.

and 20 dogs have been adopted. They are:

GLADIATOR VALENTINE FANTASY PADDY JOE SHADOW CINDY JOSH Y LUCY LASSIE MONAMI ROBIN KIP EROS MARIE TOPAZ AMBER BETSY JET SKETCHER ( 20 ).

Another small milestone was reached when Sketcher was rehomed. He is GRF's rehoming number 1600. Onward to 1700.

## Dog of the Month

Swanny is a medium sized black boy with some lovely white markings. He is an adorable character, always happy and with the waggiest tail in the kennel. He is lovely on the lead and will make a fun and loving pet. Please call Celia on 07826244765 if interested.



## Fantasy

*When Fantasy slipped and broke his shoulder bone he was lucky enough to have a student vet nurse in his corner. Erin Williams SVN tells us the incredible story of the skill and generosity shown by Inglis Vets 24 Hour Hospital, Dunfermline, in getting Fantasy on the road to recovery, and a very special new home.*

Fantasy came to Inglis Vets in the early hours of July. I was one of the student nurses who cared for him while he was in the wards. He was uncomfortable and scared, but he would always look up at me and eat from my hands when I went to check on him. This was the first moment I felt a connection with Fantasy. It wouldn't be till a few weeks later that I realised how much we needed each other. Every spare moment I had, I would go check up on him and sneakily feed him a biscuit or two. This was always the highlight of my day.

He then took a bad turn at the end of the first week of his stay, with many vets agreeing that euthanasia would be the best option for him. On hearing this, I had to take a little tea break to compose myself. I had only just put in his adoption application the day before. But he continued to fight. All the nurses and vets took special care of him 24 hours a day; feeding him bacon rolls, ice cream and lots of TLC. On the second week of his stay, a few vets set up a fund of their own money to help pay for Fantasy's treatment. Everyone at Inglis had taken a huge shine to him and refused to give up on him.

Soon it was time for him to be discharged. Celia from Greyhound Rescue Fife and I agreed that it would be best if he came straight home with me. Now, 3 weeks later, Fantasy is happily snoozing on his duvet, visiting the pet shop and going on beautiful walks in the glen. He is on a regime to build up his muscles and get healthy again. I can't go anywhere without hearing his little paws following along behind me. Not only does he bring comfort to me, he has brought love to my other dogs; Bailey the cocker spaniel and Cookie the dachshund.

He is a very lucky boy to have come out the other end and I am grateful for it everyday. When I bring him for a visit to Inglis, everyone is so happy to see him and to see how well he is doing. It was only my first placement block and I did not expect to be taking any animals home yet, but I am honoured to be able to give Fantasy his forever home.

Thank you to the Inglis Vets team and Greyhound Rescue Fife,



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## A Generous Donation

GeoPaw is a dog walking service in Fife, offering the very best in professional dog care. Their services include adventures, daycare, homeboarding and more, with George based in Cowdenbeath and Laura who covers the Glenrothes area. They were kind enough to choose Greyhound Rescue Fife as recipients of the proceeds of their charity prize draw. George and Laura visited the kennels at Baltree to present a cheque for the incredible £400 they had raised. They were also given a tour of the facilities and met staff and volunteers.

George said "We met all the beautiful dogs in the care of GRF. They were all so happy and healthy. We were totally blown away by all the hard work and dedication Jimmy, Celia and all the volunteers put into caring for the dogs, it was a truly humbling experience. They really do amazing work. A massive thank you for inviting us round for a visit. To you, our community, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for contributing to the total we raised for the rescue. We are so proud of raising such a fantastic amount for the Greyhounds and to go see first hand where the money will be spent was just incredible. We will definitely be supporting them again in the near future. Being a small, local rescue they crucially need the support of public donations, with every single penny going towards giving the Greyhounds in their care a better life."

Thank you Geopaw and we hope to see you at the kennels again soon.



### Former Newsletter Editors Wed

Dylan and Hannah, previous editors of the GRF Newsletter, got married on 23<sup>rd</sup> August in South Queensferry. Their greyhounds, Barrie and Sue, enjoyed the wedding celebrations and the honeymoon.

We wish them every happiness for the future.



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## August Dog Walk



The first GRF walk since Covid restrictions were lifted took place on Sunday 15th August at Pittencrieff Park, Dunfermline. There was an absolutely incredible turnout for this walk - there were just over 70 dogs, mostly Greyhounds with a couple of honorary Greyhounds joining us. It was so good to see lots of old friends along with lots of new faces and dogs. A big Thank You to Jemma and her daughters Emily and Ciarra for reviving the raffle. Between their efforts and the generosity of those attending the walk we raised £262 in ticket sales and £80 in additional donations.



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## The Operatives

*Many of you will have enjoyed on Facebook the posts about the Operatives and their patrols, contributed by Management aka Phil Piper. Phil has kindly agreed to write a regular column about these delightful dogs and their escapades. The operatives are Ashy the brindle mum, and daughter Misty a blue merle.*

### Episode 4 Ashy and the Kamikaze Squirrel

One of The Operatives favourite patrols includes the local flying club airstrip. We take the track from our house up a gentle tree lined slope which is both shady in Summer and a windbreak in Winter.

One day in Autumn 2019 we were strolling along when a grey blur flashed across the track just a few metres in front of Ashy, who was checking for bunnies in the undergrowth at the time. Both the girls did a double take, like “what was that?”. They were further amazed when the critter leaped into the adjacent tree and chittered at them. This was their first squirrel encounter and tree climbing furry creatures were not in their “mugshot” book of suspicious felons .

This “you can't get me” message from the squirrel triggered chase mode in Ashy, who was barking and bouncing on her back legs, and trying to figure out how to get at it.

I finally managed to calm the Operatives down enough to continue our walk but every tree we passed was checked, and the word “squirrel” added to their vocabulary.

A couple of days passed before we were on the same route once more and I had not thought of the incident again. When we neared the fateful spot they became excited and I said “ no squirrel”, when it flashed across our path again, this time even closer than before! It scampered up the same tree onto an overhanging branch directly above us, while the Operatives became whirling dervishes and managed to immobilise me in tangled leads.

The squirrel seemed to like tormenting the dogs, especially Ashy, as it triggered her chase instinct. Misty, having much less prey drive than her mum, soon realised that she couldn't climb trees, and ignored it.

Over the next few weeks sightings of the “Kamikaze” squirrel became less frequent until I was sure it had gotten bored with the game or maybe that Ashy’s jaws were getting closer, and it had gone away. So it came as a surprise when Ashy’s nemesis reappeared and was once again chittering from the same tree branch. I got the dogs calmed and was about to walk them away, when something hit the ground near Ashy. I looked up just as another missile arrived, and found the squirrel throwing hazelnuts at us. After several more nuts came our way, I shouted at it and the miscreant rodent scooted away.

After calming them down yet again, we continued our patrol and the Operatives found rabbit scent and were in bloodhound mode, noses glued to the ground. I looked over my shoulder to see the wee creature on the ground collecting his Winter rations, or ammunition, depending on your perspective.



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## 2019 – Year of the Puppies

*Until 2019 GRF had not had any greyhound puppies but this was all to change in the autumn when not one but two dogs were handed in which turned out to be pregnant. Over the next issues we will be featuring each of the puppies and how their lives in their forever homes have developed. The third puppy we feature is Jess.*

Mum Judy came to Baltree in early August. Unbeknown to her trainers, she had conceived just prior to arriving at the end of her season. Over the next few weeks it became obvious that she was pregnant and on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October she gave birth to five beautiful puppies – three girls and two boys.



Jess with big brother Buster

Samira takes up the story:

On 16th December 2019 we brought home Jess, named Lady whilst in kennels. Jimmy & Celia previously gave me my handsome boy, Buster (Norris when he was in the kennels) and my partner Craig got in touch with Jimmy saying he would love to reserve a puppy for me and when I found out I couldn't stop crying. We went to visit the puppies a couple times and Craig picked Jess as she was the crazy one running around and biting all her brothers and sisters. Once we picked her we brought Buster down to meet his new baby sister and they got on great. When she got home she was obsessed with the Christmas tree and pulling all the decorations off so we had to take the tree down super early! Jess settled into the house perfectly. Her older brother helped with her confidence when out on walks and with traffic. Unfortunately on 24th October 2020 we lost Buster aged 12. Now Jess doesn't have her brother she goes out with a dog walker to keep her socialising with other dogs. Just like any typical greyhound Jess loves her home comforts - lying on her back spread out on the couch and bed, loads of squeaky toys, sardines, getting in the car and going for long walks and plenty cuddles. Jess may be full of beans all the time and loves to lick the face off you. She has no concept of personal space at all but she is absolutely perfect for our family and the most gorgeous little girl in the world.



### Information for Volunteers

With so many dogs in kennels at the moment, GRF desperately needs more volunteers to help walk the dogs. If you wish to know more about volunteering, contact Celia – 07826244765.

### Great Global Greyhound Walk 2021

The second of the 2021 GRF walks will take place at West Sands Beach, St Andrews at 11:00 on Sunday 19th September. This walk has been registered as part of the Great Global Greyhound Walk. We will gather at the very far end of West Sands Road where there will be ample parking on the grass and plenty of space to maintain a sensible distance from each other. It would be great to see an even bigger turnout than the Dunfermline walk!



### Easyfundraising

When doing your online buying please don't forget to shop through Easyfundraising. There are new retailers eg Next joining the scheme all the time and special offers and competitions all the time. Please remember it costs you nothing extra to shop via Easyfundraising but will raise funds for the homeless hounds. We have now raised over £2300.

To find out more and join the other GRFers raising money this way please follow this link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/greyhoundfife/>

There is a pinned post on the forum with more information about this.

### Curtains

Many of you will know that Sheila and her friend Maria have, for several years, made dog beds from curtains and duvets. We bring the beds to the kennels where they are sold for £8 each – all profit for GRF as we have no overheads. Please hand in curtains to the kennels. (NB Please do not bring duvets as we have an endless supply of these from another charity.) There are now some lovely beds at the kennels which you can buy for your dogs.

### Contributions Welcome

If you would like to tell fellow greyhound owners anything about your dogs and what you do together, please email us. [greyhoundsmc@outlook.com](mailto:greyhoundsmc@outlook.com)

### With Thanks

We would like to thank all contributors for their help with this issue.