

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 March edition of the Greyhound Rescue Fife Newsletter.

We hope you enjoy reading it.

Sheila and Eion.



Kennel News

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



Meet Montana and Georgia

These are our Dogs of the Month.



Puppies again

Six ten week old puppies arrive at Baltree.

Kennel News

Since the last newsletter

25 dogs have come in. They are:

SUZIE CULZEAN DAKOTA SANDY RICKY MOLLY VENUS BLUE TOFFEE GIRLIE CALYPSO DICAPRIO BRAMBLE ASH ROWAN MYRTLE LUPIN BRIAR KAREN TONY JACK ZEUS SPARKY JET MURPHY.

and 31 dogs have been adopted. They are:

REX SHORTY QUEENIE LOU BLAKE JAGUAR CYCLONE BEAUTY LARRY BOSS LINDA SUZIE MYRTLE RIO ROWAN ELLA FORTUNE TRILBY BASIL MOLLY BRIAR VENUS LUPIN JET CULZEAN SUE COSMO ASH BRAMBLE STALLION JET.

Puppies again

A litter of six absolutely beautiful 10 week old puppies arrived at the kennels. The father was unknown but he had to be a greyhound. Not knowing the sire's name meant that they were not allowed to race so they all arrived at the kennels with no name. The staff gave them names linked to plants. We have Ash - black boy, Bramble - black girl, Rowan - fawn boy, Myrtle - black girl, Briar - fawn boy and Lupin - black boy.



Priority for adoption was given to those who have adopted from GRF before and all the puppies are now doing well in their forever homes.



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Dogs of the Month

Montana (red collar) and Georgia (purple collar) are sisters who must be rehomed together as they are very close. They are big, bright, friendly and confident girls who will make lovely pets. Please call Celia on 07826244765 if interested.



Fundraising Concert



Just a wee reminder from Phil about the concert on Sunday May 15.

Tickets have not been printed yet (in case of a change in Covid rules), but Phil will take advanced bookings (email phil2410@gmail.com) without any payment until nearer the time. The venue is larger than the one in 2019 and so we'll want as many as possible to come along and support GRF. Please remember that all of the returns from ticket sales goes to GRF.

Sad News

We are sorry to be reporting the death of Davie Rutherford who died on 29th January 2022 following a short battle with Pancreatic Cancer. Greyhound Rescue Fife were very close to Davie's heart. He loved spending time at the kennels and would do anything to help the dogs. Davie leaves behind greyhounds Yohann, Georgia, Deloris and Wee Scary Mary, who were all rehomed via Greyhound Rescue Fife. The photo below was taken at the last GRF walk Davie attended in October. Sadly this was one of his last days out before he fell ill. All the dogs are absolutely mourning his loss.



Davie's family set up a Go Fund me page in Davie's memory which has raised over £1400 for GRF.

Sadly since we wrote this the family has lost another member, the lovely Deloris, whom many DRF members will remember as the mother of "Scary Mary".



Our sympathies go to all of Davie's friends and family.

Emigration

Two GRF dogs have emigrated to the United States. They paid a last visit to GRF to see Jimmy and Celia today before their big move to America.



They left Edinburgh the next day to fly to Boston via London. They arrived in Boston safe and sound late at night and fortunately it seems like the whole experience was not particularly traumatising for them. Initially they were questioning who thought this move was a good idea as the temperature was minus 15 and felt even colder with the horrendous wind.



Mummy Emma reports that Scottie and Libby quickly adapted to their new surroundings especially with moving around a lot the first few weeks. They have now moved into their new house and can't wait for the weather to get warmer so that the dogs can enjoy their new garden. In the first month, they already experienced their first snowstorm (2+ feet of snow!), have met tons of new doggie and human friends and have even tried some new foods. They've also had the chance to teach a lot of people about greyhounds as they aren't very common in Boston.

Donation from Barking Mad

Elaine and John at Barking Mad Fife and Kinross visited Baltree before Christmas. Along with a car full of duvets and beautifully knitted blankets, they presented Celia and Jimmy with an amazing gift of £800 raised through Barking Mad Craft Club, K9 Capers Walks and Joyce Mills Hetherington Memorial. Such kindness and generosity is much appreciated by Luna (pictured here with Elaine and John) and all the hounds waiting patiently at GRF for their forever homes.



Donation from Amy Wilson

Many readers will know Amy Wilson, one of the tireless members of staff at the kennels. Not only is she great with the dogs but she is also a talented crafter. Before Christmas she made attractive Christmas wreaths and sold them in aid of GRF. They were so popular she sold out and plans to make more for Christmas 2022. Amy donated £140 to GRF from the sale of the wreaths.



Dangerous plants for dogs

John Ratcliffe, webmaster of our website, has contributed this useful information.

Spring is a wonderful time as flowers start to bloom in the garden but plants can be hidden dangers for dogs. Here's a rough guide to common garden plants which are harmful to dogs (please note this is not a comprehensive list).

Aconite	Elderberry	Lupins
Apple (seeds)	Foxgloves	Narcissus
Apricot (kernels)	Garlic	Onions
Azalea	Hellebores	Peaches (kernels)
Bluebells	Holly	Rhubarb Leaves
Buttercups	Hyacinths	Sweet Peas
Bleeding heart	Hydrangeas	Wild Cherry
Crocus	Iris (bulbs)	Wisteria
Cyclamen	Ivy	Yew berries
Daffodils (bulbs)	Kale	

Lucky Number Draws

In January there were 138 numbers in the draw which gives a prize fund of £276. This was split as £165.60 to GRF and £110.40 to the winner.

In February we had the most numbers in the draw to date - 145 - which gives a total prize fund of £290. GRF received £174 and the winner of the draw received £116. What a great amount and it's all thanks to everyone who takes part. When Fiona first started these draws she took in £116 in total so it is great to see the money increased as it massively helps out with the homeless hounds.

Thanks to Fiona for organising the draws and thanks to all who take part.

Linlithgow Protest

You may have seen press and social media coverage of the protests by residents of Linlithgow against pub company Greene King's plans to rename the pub in the centre of the town because they consider the name "The Black Bitch" to be racist.



This name comes from the 13th century legend that a black female greyhound would swim across Linlithgow loch every day to bring food to her master, who was sentenced to starve to death on an island. The faithful dog is on Linlithgow's coat of arms. The statue by the Sculptor David Annand of the Black Bitch in the centre of Linlithgow was modelled on a GRF dog.

Local people have organised protests against the name change and GRF members were invited to come along with their dogs, preferably black ones!



March 2022

Dog Walks

January

It was not the nicest day for a walk, but everyone stayed reasonably dry. Thanks to all who came along on the first walk of the year which was held at Silver Sands, Aberdour. We raised £117 between the raffle and pound a hound.



February

February's walk was at Lochore Meadows. Organiser, Steve Dowd, wants to say a big Thank You to everyone who was brave enough (or stupid enough?!) to join the walk. Between the raffle and Pound a Hound we raised £72



March

The next walk will be on Sunday March 13 at Pittencrieff Park, Dunfermline starting at 11am. Let's hope for better weather for this one!

Episode 6 A Compilation Part 2



Introduction

I have been asked to write more about my Operatives brindle mum (and trouble maker in chief) Ashy and her daughter blue merle Misty, and currently Sonic, the black greyhound. My first thoughts were that there is only so much you can write about walking dogs. Then I realized that it is Ashy we are talking about here and her antics as an Operative were legendary.

Patrol Observations

When walking in a field with a tall crop, I have noticed the operatives using their ears like a submarine periscope. From their perspective, it's like being under water. When they can see over the top, their ears are as normal, to the side. As soon as the crop closes over their heads, the ears fold back, tight to their heads. I always feel like shouting out "dive, dive, dive". 😊



When on patrol with The Operatives, one of them will often stick their nose into a hedge to check out a scent, the other will immediately go over to check as well, and having conferred on the matter they walk on. I imagine their conversation as being something like the TV show "Detectorists", where one guy says "what have you got?", the other replies " bottle cap 1985". The lurcher version of this is "what have you got?", and the reply is "Rabbit poo, sniffed it yesterday".

The operatives report that their patrol area is now secure, and all hostiles, including the Kamikaze squirrel, have been successfully made to evacuate the area. Having poked and probed every hole with their advanced, pointed, sensing devices, and used their superior audio detectors as well, they report that the patrol area is safe. Yet again the interests of both local and national security have been served by this brave pair.

Operative Disputes

The operatives are in dispute with the management concerning time allowance for exercise. Quoting paragraph 12, subsection 5A, of the sighthound rule book, "morning walks are to be a minimum of 1 hour, additional time may be added at the discretion of the management".

The dispute revolves around the definition of the term "walk". The operatives claim that vital surveillance of surrounding terrain, and diligent observance of rabbit holes, are not "walking". Allowing for this extra activity, the actual walking done today constituted only 45 minutes. The case has been referred to higher authority for adjudication.

Does your hound have Spring fever?

The operatives were in a bouncy mood this morning. They jumped at every scent and sound, with their noses twitching constantly. Their psychic senses were also working well, as they sat and stared for ages at nothing, and got quite upset when I wanted to move on. Ashy was disposed to practice her somersault and squirming routines. She did this 8 times; just to be sure she had got it perfected. Misty just looks on, as though she were the parent rather than Ashy, and looks at me as much as to say "she's NOT with me".

Ashy also destroyed her original coat from GRF yesterday. She uses it like a suit of armour as she plunges into the thickest brambles in search of rabbit holes. Getting in is one thing, trying to get out is quite another. This is how the coat got shredded. Never a dull moment living with Lurchers.....

Good News and not so good news.

The not so good news is that Ashy managed to slip out of her harness, when we confronted 3 deer in the next field, no more than 20 feet away. The good news is that after a frantic chase for about 10 minutes and covering about 5 acres, she came back. Wouldn't say this is a perfect recall, but it proves she knows how to come back.

Misty didn't escape, not for the want of trying, and we followed Ashy's general direction at a walk, until she appeared, dishevelled, but unhurt.

She was also not apologetic, only mumping that the deer got away, and proceeded to victimize an empty field mouse nest, in frustration.

Lurchers !!!!!

Information for Volunteers

With so many dogs in kennels at the moment, GRF desperately needs more volunteers to help walk the dogs.

Even if you can only help out for an hour, that can be a big help.

To find out more about volunteering, contact Celia – 07826244765.

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

With Thanks

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