

GRF



NEWS

Designed by Sally E Calder

November 2009

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

Welcome to this month's newsletter, we have brought back "Dog of the month" where we have Isla's point view on how re-homed life is much better than kennels. Then we have our usual "From the doghouse" article and Merchandise update. A little heads up on Gastric Torsion for all you hound owners. Also our greys around the world, where this month we are focusing on "Greyhounds as pets" .We have Jasmine's story as well who proves a greyhound's true nature. And to finish us off a little brain teaser for you to solve! Hope you enjoy, any suggestions or ideas would be appreciated.

Kennel update

INCOMERS

CANDY, MOLLY, SHAY, RAFA, BOB, VICKY, NEEVA, BIRCH, NOAH, LASSIE & OSCAR (11)

OUTGOING

BLAKEY, BARNEY, SANDIE, ARCHIE, VICKY, THOR, VAL & OSCAR (8)

The latest kennel development is that we have now constructed a safe walkway from the kennels to the long paddocks. This way the dogs cannot get loose from the kennel confines.

At the moment we have an astonishing **319** hounds that have found there forever homes through GRF!

Thank you

Thank you especially to Kenny and Kath and family for taking 12 year old VICKY into their family.

All the money from the sponsored walk is in and the total raised is £1257.50!

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the walk and everyone who sponsored the walkers!!

GFR would also like to thank everyone who came to Octobers walk to support us and helped us raise a wonderful total of £160.90

Dog of the month



This month's dog of the month is **ISLA**, a four year old little black girl who left the kennels in November last year to live with her new family. Here's Isla's view on how life outside kennels is going so far!

Likes: Going for long walks in Blair Atholl with my good friends Toby and Stella (was Lilly/Precious at GRF). Also spending time on my beloved "shezlong" which I sometimes let Stella share with me!

Dislikes: Being chased by Oliver (the cat)! We are all frightened of him. Sharing car space, with anyone!

Biggest achievement(s): I don't like to boast but I can shred a toilet roll in less than five seconds. Also I am the champion blue bottle catcher!

Favourite food: Sardines, goes down a treat with a nice big bowl of Chappie.

What's the oddest thing you have done?

Growling at myself in the mirror first night I came home, I was a little confused.



What do you like doing best? Squirrel watch in the garden. It never gets old! Oh and also chasing after the burger (toy) with Toby and Stella.

If you think your dog could be a contender in our dog of the month article e-mail me at Paula07@hotmail.co.uk with answers to the questions and a couple of pictures.

Merchandise

We have tax disk holders and windscreen decals with GRF logo on sale from Helen, priced only £1 each.

Also available, hand knitted snoods priced at £4 each plus p+p for single colour and multi colour price on request. Ideal for our cold winter walks!

A wee reminder that wee still have cosy sweatshirts for sale in both grey and black, various sizes available cost £15 plus p+p, there are also a few t-shirts left at £4 each. Also a black medium sized sweater with 100 dog's re-homed logo available at £5 plus p+p

There is a selection of Greyhound themed Christmas, Birthday and Thank You cards available which were kindly donated by Pat Senior at £4 per pack plus p+p

Lastly but not least our first ever GRF Calendar produced by Michelle. They are selling very quickly at a very reasonable price, only £5 plus p+p!! Get yours today! E-mail friendsofgrf@blueyonder.co.uk for details or they are also available from Union Farm and Baltree kennels.

If you are interested in any of these items above please contact Helen at helen.taylor019@btinternet.com

Christmas stockings

At Union Farm Boarding Kennels pet shop we have got a Christmas range, dog and cat stockings and toys.

If you want to pre order one and come and collect it. Contact me at sebastian.lowe@btinternet.com

prices: Dog stockings £4.00
 Cat stockings £3.00

From the Doghouse!

ROOM FOR RAB?☺

This month's dog is **RAB** a four year old gorgeous black male still looking for his forever home after over a year in kennels!



RAB is one of our longest serving members he loves people and gets on great with all dogs, big



or small. He walks easily on a lead and travels well in a car, nothing seems to bother him. He is a pretty laid back happy boy, although he can be full of energy at times and does love lots of attention!! He is also a Bronze level good citizen, complete with certificate thanks to Fiona! He cannot understand why nobody wants to take him home; he will make a great pet.

*Do you have it in you to give **RAB** a new home Then contact Jimmy/Celia on **01592 890583**.*

Greyhound house rules

If you consider giving one of our homeless hounds a home here are some of the things they promise to put into consideration.

I do not need to suddenly stand straight up when someone steps over me.

I will not roll my toys behind the fridge, behind the sofa or under the bed.

I will not eat the cat's food.

I will not roll on dead seagulls, fish, crabs, etc. just because I like the way they smell.

Rabbit Poo although tasty, is not food.

When in the car, I will not insist being artistic with my nose slime on the back window.

The sofa is not a face towel. Neither are Mum and dad's laps.



My head does not belong in the refrigerator.

Jasmine the greyhound

In 2003 police opened a garden shed to find a whimpering, cowering dog. She had been locked in the shed and abandoned. She was dirty and emaciated, and had clearly been abused.



The police took the dog, which was a Greyhound, to the nearby Nuneaton Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary.

The sanctuary staff went to work with two aims to restore her full health and to win her trust. It took several weeks, but eventually both goals were achieved.

They named her Jasmine, and focused on finding her a home. But Jasmine had other ideas. She started welcoming all new animal arrivals at the sanctuary. I wouldn't matter if it was a fox cub, a rabbit, a cat or, any other lost and hurting animal, Jasmine would peer into the box or cage and give a welcoming lick.

One of the staff relates to one of the earlier incidents. "We had two puppies that had been abandoned by a nearby railway line. They were tiny when they arrived and Jasmine approached them and took one by the scruff of the neck to the settee. Then she fetched the other one and sat down with them, cuddling them."

But she does that with all the animals, even the Rabbits. She even lets the birds perch on the bridge of her nose. She takes the stress out of them and helps them feel comfortable in their new surroundings.

Jasmine, the timid, abused, deserted stray, became the animal sanctuary's resident surrogate mother. The list of orphaned and abandoned youngsters she has cared for comprises five fox cubs, four badger cubs, fifteen chicks, eight guinea pigs, two stray puppies and fifteen rabbits.

And one roe deer fawn, Bramble. "They are inseparable." Bramble walks between her legs and they keep kissing each other. They walk together round the sanctuary."

Jasmine will continue to old enough to be returned to happens Jasmine will not be showering love and affection comes to the sanctuary.



care for Bramble until she is woodland life but when this lonely as she will be too busy on the next Orphan that

Next time you're looking for
mind,
Greyhound, who's lazy, cute
I know you won't regret it;

a pet and can't make up your
Be sure to choose a
and kind.
you'll have a friend for life.

Greys around the world



<http://www.greyhoundsaspets.org.nz/default.asp>

Following on from last months greys around the world in Australia, this month we nip across the Pacific Ocean to their near neighbours in New Zealand and look at a greyhound sanctuary that was founded in 2006 and has kennels in several New Zealand cities. Here is "Greyhounds as pets"

History

Greyhounds As Pets (GAP) is an independent charitable trust established by Greyhound Racing New Zealand to find pet homes for retired racing greyhounds. Greyhounds As Pets was officially launched by the Rt. Hon. Winston Peters on 29 March 2006 and has a board of trustees chaired by Kerry Marshall, a well known and distinguished New Zealand businessman who is currently Mayor of the Nelson District and is the current chair of the Wearable Arts Trust.

He is joined by Trustees Owen Marron, Malcolm Jansen and Liz Price. Owen is an experienced greyhound trainer as well as a previous Licensed Person's Representative on the Board of Greyhound Racing New Zealand (GRNZ). He is now GRNZ's representative on the GAP Board of Trustees.

Malcolm is a partner at Head's Road Veterinary Services in Wanganui. He has many year's experience attending to greyhounds at the Wanganui track and now advises GAP on greyhound health matters as well as co-writing the Fast Friends vet column Liz runs her own communications company in Wellington and offers her media expertise to the programme. She is also the proud owner of GAP greyhound Sonny

Our aim

Due to misconceptions about the breed, greyhounds are generally not considered when choosing a pet, and while many racing owners try to re-home their dogs, there is a definite lack of good homes. GAP aims to find loving homes for as many ex-racers as possible and is working to inform the public about the true and wonderful nature of greyhounds!

GAP re-homes greyhounds nationally through its kennel bases in Sanson, Manawatu in the North Island and Amberley in the South Island. Everyone is very welcome to visit our kennels but would appreciate if potential adoptees could make an appointment prior to their visit.

The success of the programme relies on our team of willing volunteers who help with both foster care and the promotion of greyhounds as pets. If you would like to support the work we do then please contact us. All help, whether large or small, is greatly appreciated and will help a greyhound somewhere find a loving family.

Since the launch of the GAP programme in March 2006 over 300 Greyhounds have hung up their racing vests and retired to the life of a couch potato.



Mickey (pictured) is the 316th dog to find a loving home after racing. Mickey went to his new home in Dunedin at the end of March, exactly 3 years after GAP's launch.

Mickey

Thank you to all those who are supporting the programme. We've had a great response so far from both trainers entering greyhounds in the programme and helping move our dogs to their new homes and from people wishing to adopt them. A

big thank you to those people who have offered to foster our greyhounds and also those who've helped us at promotions!



Rosie - Our very first Greyhound adopted

Rosie is the first greyhound to be adopted through the programme. She has gone to live with Christine and Steve in the Wairarapa where she is enjoying chasing bumble bees around their garden with her new buddy 'Tiny' - a large German Shepherd X Retriever!

One interesting fund raiser that GAP run is something called Steadfast friends which allows people who maybe cannot adopt for whatever reason to buy time (similar to our sponsor a kennel)

"If you can't give me a permanent home can you buy me some time?"

By becoming a *Steadfast* Friend you will be helping our least fortunate greyhounds - those having difficulty finding a home or needing additional veterinary treatment.

While most greyhounds are easy to place there will always be some that new owners tend to pass by. For some it will be their age, for others it may be their appearance and some may just need that extra special home. For example, an older girl which has been used for breeding may be harder to re-home due to her age and may need extra veterinary work before she is ready for adoption.

These dogs are still deserving of a new home and need people like you to help with their costs while waiting at the kennels.

Sleepy - We've chosen Sleepy as our current hound in need. He's a beautiful boy with a lovely nature so we just need to see some more adoption applications rolling his way. I'm sure our Southern adopters will not be able to resist those big brown eyes.



It only costs \$8 a day to look after Sleepy at the kennel's, can you donate one day a week?

Awaiting adoption

Below is a few of the current "inmates" waiting for their forever homes.



Smiler Age: 3 Location: Palmerston North

Racing Name: *Pango Will He*

Smiler is a lovely natured, friendly, outgoing chap and would enjoy a family with children and plenty of activity. A cool dog, Smiler is currently in foster care.

Reason for retirement: Too slow for racing



Billy Age: 6 Location: Otaki

Racing Name: *Dynamic Keroma*

Billy has been returned to GAP. He is a lovely affectionate, responsive, intelligent boy and we hope he finds a new home very soon. Billy is in foster care and Robyn says: "Billy is a great dog. He gets on well with other dogs, learns very quickly and is good on

a lead. He likes to be with you - I encourage him to stay outside more than he is used to. His manners are improving and he is very partial to asparagus rolls! It would not be hard to keep this dog - he will make a lovely pet for some lucky person".

Reason for retirement: Minor injury



Margie Age: 5 Location: Waitarere

Racing Name: *Miss Yeramba*

Margie is a playful girl with a great sense of humour. She is also independent, affectionate, confident and quiet. She has been returned to GAP recently and is keen to find a new home!

Reason for retirement: Not quite fast enough

Gastric Torsion

Gastric torsion, more commonly known as bloat, is found in many breeds of dogs but is most often seen in larger breeds with deep, heavy chests such as greyhounds. Typically bloat or gastric torsion is seen in older rather than younger dogs with most cases that are four to seven years of age, also most commonly found in males.

Gastric torsion or bloat occurs when large quantities of gas, food or liquid or any combination of these components cause the stomach to dilate beyond its normal size. It can also be caused by placing your Greyhounds' food bowl on the floor so it has to reach down to it when eating. In some cases the stomach will partially roll over, leading to the actual gastric torsion, or may even roll over completely blocking any material from leaving the stomach. Gastric torsion can be fatal the first time it occurs.

In some cases the gastric torsion is caused by sudden or rapid movement when the dog has a full stomach. This cause is not always the case, however many dogs that eat a very large meal then immediately run, jump, roll around or play do develop bloat in various degrees at some time in their life. Usually dogs that develop significant bloat or gastric torsion problems have some history of digestive disorders, often going back to when they were first switched to solid foods.

Dogs that are more likely to show signs of gastric torsion or bloat are the dogs that gulp their food or eat one or two large meals a day where they simply eat as fast as possible, trapping excessive amounts of air with the food in the stomach. This can be made worse if the dog drinks a lot of water after quickly eating a large amount of kibble. As the kibble becomes wet it will expand and will also produce some release of gasses.

Dogs with bloat are experiencing extreme discomfort and pain that goes along with the increasing inability to breath that the distending stomach causes. With severe pressure the heart can be affected resulting in the dog losing consciousness and even resulting in death within a very short period of time.

The first symptoms of Gastric torsion include excessive drooling after eating. The dog will walk around with saliva dripping from his or her mouth, trying to vomit with no results. The dog may also assume the position of trying to have a bowel movement and may seem to be very actively straining with no results.

Typically if the gut is not twisted upon itself the dog will give a very noticeable burp or will be able to vomit, relieving the pressure. If this does not happen within a few minutes get the dog to the vet immediately.

If your dog is breed that is prone to bloat, feed three or four small meals a day rather than one large meal, consider soaking the kibble and then restricting water for one hour after eating and provide lots of water throughout the day to prevent bloat from happening.

Donations

Don't have room in your home for one of our beautiful hounds? There are other ways you can help!

Wherever you go there seems to be someone asking for money these days. At the weekend in most towns you find someone collecting for their chosen charity. At GRF the Greyhounds in our care are completely dependant on us for their very life, and we are completely dependant on you to help us to keep helping the dogs. That's why we appreciate any support that you can possibly give to us.

Below is a breakdown of some of the things that we can do with any kind donation that you can make to us.

£10 will buy a 15kg bag of food which will feed 5 of our dogs for a week.

£10 will buy a cosy jacket for one of our dogs for the cold Scottish winter.

£15 will buy a special, non-slip Greyhound collar.

£20 will pay for one week emergency boarding for a dog rescued from the track if our kennels are full.

£24 will pay for a dog to have a full course of vaccinations.

£3 will pay for a dog to be treated for worms.

£7 will pay for a dog to be treated for fleas or mange.

£50 will pay for a dog to be neutered.

£80 will pay for a bitch to be neutered.

You can make a donation at either Baltree or Union Farm kennel. Also you can donate via our website greyhoundrescuefife.com

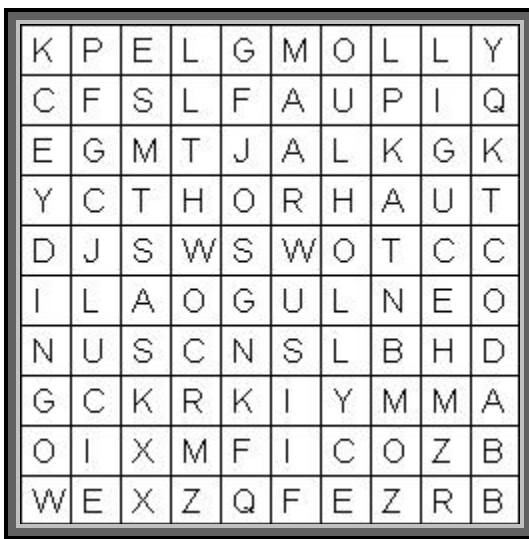
Any donation whatsoever would be greatly appreciated by us and most of all, by our dogs!



Generally, greyhounds are unable to sit. Some can manage to sit, but for most, it is physically impossible or at the very least extremely uncomfortable. In most cases the legs are too long and "muscled up" for a sit position to be achieved.

Fun zone

Can you find where our lovely hounds are hiding?



GREYHOUND FACT



JACKIE, TED, SONIC, DINGO, GALA, LUCIE, HOLLY, MOLLY & THOR

Here's a little brain teaser for you to solve!

I have a greyhound. Do you know what color it is?

Allan said, "I guess it is not black".

Brian said, "It is either brindle, or grey".

Charlie said "I know it is brindle".

I said, "At least one of you is right and at least one of you is wrong." What is the color of my greyhound if the colour is one of the above?

Look out in next month's issue for the answer.

Answers to last months issue

Well done if you got them correct!

Question

1. A man is on a game show. He is presented with two doors, one on the left, and one on the right. Behind one is 2 million dollars, and behind the other is a donkey. Choose the correct door to win the prize. There are also two men in front of the doors, and they know which door leads to the millions. One wears a black hat; the other wears a white hat.
The host explains that one of the men is a liar, and will always lie, and the other man will always tell the truth - but you don't know which is which.
You can ask only one of the men only one question. What is the question, and which man do you ask to ensure you win the money?

Answer: You ask either man the following question: "If I asked the other guy which door has the money, what would he say?", then choose the opposite door. Work it out: If you ask the question to the liar, he will lie about the 'correct' answer, so you must choose the opposite door. If you ask the truth teller, he will tell the truth about the lie, so you can choose the opposite door as well.

Question

2. You are on the bank of a river. You have to get a fox, a hen, and corn to the other side of the river. If left alone, the fox will eat the hen, the hen will also eat the corn if left alone. The boat is only big enough to take you and one other three to the other side.

How do you get all 3 across intact?

Answer: First take the hen across. Leave the hen. Go back and get the fox. Take the fox to the other side. Leave the fox there, but take the hen with you back to get the corn. Leave the hen and take the corn to the other side. Drop the corn off with the fox, then go back to get the hen. Bring the hen to the other side. All 3 make it fully intact!

Question

3. You are driving a bus. At the first stop, 2 women get on. The second stop, 3 men get on and 1 woman gets off. Third stop, 3 kids and their mom get on, and a man gets off. The bus is grey, and it is raining outside. What colour is the bus drivers hair?

Answer: Whatever colour your hair is! Remember, you are the bus driver!

Question

4. A man is the owner of a winery who recently passed away. In his will, he left 21 barrels (seven of which are filled with wine, seven of which are half full, and seven of which are empty) to his three sons. However, the wine and barrels must be split so that each son has the same number of full barrels, the same number of half-full barrels, and the same number of empty barrels. Note that there are no measuring devices handy. How can the barrels and wine be evenly divided?

Answer: Two half-full barrels are dumped into one of the empty barrels. Two more half-full barrels are dumped into another one of the empty barrels. This results in nine full barrels, three half-full barrels, and nine empty barrels. Each son gets three full barrels, one half-full barrel, and three empty barrels.

Question

5. What are the next 3 letters in the following sequence?

J, F, M, A, M, J, J, A, __, __, __

Answer: S, O, N the letters are the first letter in every month

Dates for the Diary

Get your diaries out, only two more walk until were into the New Year! Where we will have loads more walks and even **new venues!**

1st Nov Riverside Park, Glenrothes

6th Dec Beveridge Park, Kirkcaldy

And finally

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

