

GFR



NEWS

Designed by Sally E Calder

December 2009

Let their last race be into your life!

Welcome to this month's issue, we are now into December and Christmas is getting close. This month we have another one of our rescues, Lady telling us about her life in her new home. We also have daisy's story and lots more! As this is the last newsletter before Christmas GFR would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas! Hope you enjoy this month's newsletter. Any suggestions or ideas for future issues would be appreciated.

Caution - greyhounds can be highly addictive. Most commonly, once a greyhound owner, always a greyhound owner. Sometimes one greyhound pet expands to several at the same time.

Kennel update

INCOMERS

ARY, WULLIE, ABBIE, DANCER, FONZI, GEMMA, RASHI, GISMO, THELMA, LOUISE, TOOTS, OXO, FRODO, ZOE, PADDY, HAWK & LADY (17)

OUTGOING

NOAH, STARKY, MAUREEN, DANCER, KRUGER, KYLIE, ARY, MOLLY, SHAY, LADY, SONIC & RAFFY (12)

We now have improved the lounge in the kennels and tiled quite a bit of the floor. We are redoing the kitchen soon. The big shed for the Great Dane mower is almost complete.

Thank you

GFR would like to say a big thanks to Dan Greenall, the designer of the GRF calendar. Dan did a fantastic job on the calendar and he is a very useful guy to have as part of the GRF team.

Merchandise

The new road tax disc holders and window decals (interior). They are available at £1 each plus a small charge for P&P. Available from both Union Farm and Baltree.

Snoods (hand knitted) also available to order at £4 plus p+p for single colour and multi colour price on request.

Just a wee reminder, we still have a selection of our cosy sweatshirts for sale in black and grey, various sizes available from medium to XL at £15 plus p+p. There are also a few tee shirts left in sizes large and extra large at £4 plus p+p also one black sweatshirt size medium with 100 dogs re-homed logo available at £5 plus p+p.

We also have a selection of Greyhound themed Christmas, Birthday and Thank You cards available which were kindly donated by Pat Senior at £4 per pack (6) plus p+p.

There are also a few calendars left at Baltree and Union Farm. They will be for sale at the December walk so if you're stuck for a Christmas present for someone, problem solved! Get in quick before they are sold out.

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

Lucky number draw

66 numbers were sold this month making a prize fund of £132.00. This will be split as £52.80 to the winner and £79.20 to GRF.

Celia drew number 42 which belongs to Steve Dowd - congratulations Steve

Steve donated his share of the money to GFR, thank you so very much indeed for very kindly donating the homeless dogs your winnings. Over 40 great big greedy lumps say "thank you very much for helping us ". We appreciate it very much.

Thanks to everyone who participates in the draw.

Dog of the month

This month we have Lady Zara (was Lady) telling us about her new life! Lady found her forever home with Pattie and Paul and is now living happily in Markinch.



Likes: I like meeting other dogs when I am out for walks; I like the walks very much too! Oh and a good old run around the garden.

Dislikes: Bath time! And the Hoover, why does it have to make so much noise!

Biggest achievement(s): I came third in the prettiest bitch contest at the open day. Walking across the forth road bridge next to Mum's wheelchair.

Favourite food: I love my dinner, and my treats. Just food in general really, YUM!

What's the oddest thing you have done? Snuggling into to Mum, it's my secret weapon for when I want my own way, but Ssh!

What do you like doing best? Car rides is an all-time favourite. And obviously my walkies!



If you think your hound would be a suitable candidate for dog of the month email me at Paula07@hotmail.co.uk

From the Doghouse!

Dusk wants a home for Christmas, can you help?

This month's dog is DUSK, a very large but loveable girl dog. DUSK is still a young girl at only three years old. She and her brother EDDIE came into kennels in February.



DUSK, a big friendly bundle of fun! She has a fantastic friendly nature,



absolutely adores people and just wants to please you. She gets on well with other dogs, sometimes when she is going walkies she holds your hand gently in her mouth, she walks beautifully on the lead. She is still very trainable and would fit well into a home environment; although she is extremely energetic she soon calms down and does as she is told! Come and meet her and be sure to be greeted with huge licks!

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

The Daisy Appeal



A racer we have been dealing with for years got in touch at the start of October to say he had a 3.5mth old pup who he just could not get any weight on and that she was tiny compared to her litter mates and there was no way she would have made it as a racing dog, he wanted us to re-home her.

Just at that same time Eliza got in touch looking for a younger dog to adopt. We knew that there was obviously a reason why Daisy was not gaining weight, the racer assured us she had been wormed and checked out by the vet and there was nothing seriously wrong to explain this.

Both myself and Eliza were aware that there could have been a very simple reason for her lack of weight or it could have been something more serious, regardless of the risk Eliza was delighted to give this wee soul a chance, if we had not taken her she would have been put to sleep. I had to insist that GAGAH take on the responsibility of Daisy's initial vet bills at least until we got to the bottom of her 'lack of weight' problem, Eliza was very reluctant but I insisted.

Daisy toddled off with Eliza, her first few days she was eating great, a bit wobbly on her back legs but this could have been down to her lack of weight and muscle tone, but unfortunately it was not.

Daisy became extremely unwell, stopped eating and could not walk properly. Eliza rushed her to the vet who promptly did blood tests and it turns out Daisy has a condition called Liver Shunt. This is where the portal vein is defected and instead of passing ammonia and other toxins into the liver to be correctly dealt with and then passed out the body, the ammonia and toxins are passed straight into the bloodstream.

It is a very serious condition but the good news is there is corrective surgery for this which has an extremely excellent success rate and means majority of dogs (once it is corrected) go on to lead happy, normal lives.

The surgery Daisy needs would be done at The Royal Dick vet School in Edinburgh and we have been given an approx cost of **£4,000 > £5,000**. Needless to say we are gob smacked, but there is every chance that if Daisy has this surgery she should go on to lead a normal happy life.

Eliza's vet is very, very positive about the surgery, Daisy has already proved to be a wee fighter so far and we feel we need to give her every chance she deserves to have a happy life. She is only 4mths old.

So we are launching the Daisy appeal to try and raise the money for her Op, as at October 23rd we have raised just over £2,000 - so we are nearly HALF WAY THERE!!!

So, if you can help at all with fundraising or kind donations then it would be extremely appreciated. We are hoping to also get some newspaper publicity with the appeal as this is a lot of money we need to find in a short space of time. Any other ideas gladly welcome.

Contact: alex.gagah@btinternet.com to help Daisy!

Ten Commandments for Pet Owners

1. My life is likely to last 10 to 15 years. Any separation from you will be very painful.
2. Give me time to understand what you want from me. Do not break my spirit with your temper, though I will always forgive you. Your patience will teach me more effectively.
3. Please have me spayed or neutered.
4. Treat me kindly, my beloved friend, for no heart in the entire world is more grateful for your kindness than mine. Don't be angry with me for long, and don't lock me up as punishment. After all, you have your job, your friends, and your entertainment. I have only you.
5. Speak to me often. Even if I don't understand your words, I understand your voice when it's speaking to me. Your voice is the sweetest sound I ever hear, as you must know by my enthusiasm whenever I hear your footsteps.
6. Take me in when it's cold and wet. I'm a domestic animal and am no longer accustomed to the bitter 'elements.' I ask for little more than your gentle hands petting me. Keep my bowl filled with water. Feed me good food so I may stay well, to romp and play and do your bidding. By your side, I stand ready, willing and able to share my life with you, for that is what I live for. I'll never forget how well you've treated me.

7. Don't hit me. Remember, I have teeth that could easily crush the bones in your hand, but I chose not to bite you.

8. Before you scold me for being lazy or uncooperative, ask yourself if something might be bothering me. Perhaps I'm not getting the right food, I've been out in the sun too long, or my heart may be getting weak.

9. Take care of me when I grow old. For you will grow old too.

10. When I am old, or when I no longer enjoy good health, please do not make heroic efforts to keep me going. I am not having fun. Just see to it that my trusting life is taken gently. And be with me on that difficult journey when it's time to say goodbye. Never say, "I just can't bear to watch."

Everything is easier for me when you are there. I will leave this earth knowing with my last breath that my fate was always safest in your hands. I LOVE YOU. -Your Best Friend

Greys around the world

This month we take a look at Golden State Greyhound Adoption in California. An all-volunteer non-profit organization that places retired racing greyhounds in adoptive homes in Northern California.



<http://www.goldengreyhounds.com/>

Golden State Greyhound Adoption is 'open' 365 days a year. On most weekends you will find our Airport Team meeting new greyhounds as they arrive from Denver at

the San Francisco International Airport. The need for adopters never stops, so neither do we. We do whatever is needed to bring in and place available greyhounds.

Our Mission

We exist to educate the public on the plight of the retired racing greyhound in order to find great homes for former-racing greyhounds.

How do we do it?

We do not have kennels, or a complex. Everything we do is with and through our volunteers and our wonderful foster home program and their families. We could not accomplish this rewarding work without them. We have volunteers who transport our dogs to and from the airport, greyhound adoption partners who haul the dogs here from out of state, volunteers who foster, and many who spend their weekends with their greyhounds educating the public about these wonderful companions.

Our Approach

Our primary way of educating is through this informative web site and by speaking with people "face-to-face" at our "Meet and Greet," Events. We focus on the basics of consistently offering potential adopters "no-pressure" Meet and Greets where they can touch and get to know our own greyhounds



MEET TIGER

Meet fearless Tiger. He thinks he is part greyhound, maybe all greyhound. When new greyhounds come to our house Tiger knows his job. He runs in and greets the greyhound and makes sure the greyhound likes cats. Sometimes he even jumps up and looks them straight in the eye. Don't worry all new greyhounds are introduced wearing a racing muzzle so Tiger will never get hurt

Here are some of the hounds still looking for their forever homes.



DREAM

If you have been dreaming of having your own greyhound well Dream can be yours. A 3 year old female Brindle that would be fine sharing her new digs with cats.



SINCLAIR

Sinclair is a young cat workable brindle 1 1/2 year old male. During cat testing all he wanted to do was cuddle in your lap. Those young ones are fun and will make an active family a wonderful companion.



RUNNER

Runner is in foster with Chris but I heard loves to sleep cuddled in Jimmy's arms. A sweet 5 year old female, good with cats and small dogs. She also smiles.

Training with Fiona

Classes are held at Union Farm every Saturday at 10.30

I'm looking for volunteers to bring along some of the rescue dogs so socialise them and give them a bit of training. If anyone is interested in giving the rescue dogs a bit of training then give me a buzz on 07912 376024. It's free of charge for the rescues.

Anyone interested in bringing their own dogs are welcome too. It's a 6 week course for £30 and will give you a great opportunity to bond with and socialise your dogs.

I'll cover things like walking to heel, stays, recall, socialisation and anything else the class would like to cover. It's held in an enclosed run so it's all secure.

Come along and get those naughty hounds behaving!!

Re-home a Greyhound

Brindle, black, fawn or white,
all I ask is treat me right.
I'll run for you, I'll do my best
and just for you I'll beat the rest.
But when I'm injured, hurt or sore,
please don't ask for anymore.
Give me a home; I'll be your friend,
Ever faithful to the end.

BLACK WEDNESDAY

One sad piece of news is that, since GRF started, we had our first death on 30th October when Ted suffered, we believe, a fatal heart attack.

We took big TED to his favorite paddock to have his daily play. We left him wandering around. When we returned a few minutes later we found him lying dead in the field. The vet checked his body and found no injury whatsoever. Something catastrophic must have happened internally. He could not have suffered long.

Play with all your friends across Rainbow Bridge dear TED.

He is the only dog that has ever died while with GRF.

We are all shocked at this tragic loss but he will never be forgotten. For those of you who never knew TED he was a magnificent big lad with a fantastic nature.

R.I.P Ted! Run free big boy☺



Fun zone

Here are some more puzzles for you to solve!

There was a burglary in the Silver City jewelry store again on Tuesday. A famous jewel was stolen. Three suspects: Robert, Scott, and Tommy were caught and questioned.

Robert said: I am innocent.

Scott said: Tommy did not steal.

Tommy said: I stole it.

Later on, the police found out two of them lied. Who stole the jewel?

Look out in next months issue for the answers.

Answer to last month's issue.

Question

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?

Answer

If the greyhound is brindle, then every one is right. This is not the answer.

If the greyhound is black, then every one is wrong. This is not the answer either.

Therefore, the greyhound is grey. To verify the answer, Allan was right, Brian was right, but Charlie was wrong.

Well done if you got it correct!

Dates for the Diary

One more walk before our new venues are revealed!

6th Dec Beveridge Park, Kirkcaldy

Dog show!

Our 3rd annual Dog show will once again take place at Caldwell's farm near Collessie on Sunday 2nd May 2010! We aim to build on the success of this years show especially now that we have re-homed over 300 greys!! And so are giving everybody plenty of notice of the event. Look out early in the New Year for full details.

And finally

Merry Christmas

