

GRF



NEWS

Designed by Sally E Calder

March 2011

*Changing the world
One greyhound at a time!*

In this month's issue we give an update from our kennels including a visit from a number of managers from Pets at Home. In our dog of the month article you get 2 for the price of 1 !!, we also have further show update (not long to go now only 7 weeks !!) as well as put out a plea for tombola/raffle donations for our show. We expel some of the myths surrounding ex racing greyhounds in our Vets corner and end with a tricky puzzle in our fun zone. At the end of the newsletter we have also attached a copy of our show poster to be put up in as many areas as possible. I hope you enjoy this month's issue.

Kennel update

Incomers: SUSIE, SASHA, MAJ, COCO, CHILLO, PETRA, MOLLY, KITTY, MADAM, TOBY, HAWK.

Outgoing: PADDIE, HAWK, WILF, SCHULTZ, FERN, TOBY, SUSIE.

FERN the little white brindle girl, who went to a loving home on 20th October, has died. Run free over Rainbow Bridge, beautiful little girl.

Thank you



Recently we had a visit a visit from a number of Pets at Home managers who travelled from all over the country to visit our greyhound sanctuary. Many friendships were formed during this visit and we were able to show first hand of what there generous donation last year had allowed us to achieve

If you remember we have been singled out as one of their charities and we received a cheque for £5000 !!!! They are also heavily involved in advertising and supporting this

years dog show, so thank you very much guys for your generous donation and continuing support.

In recent weeks we have also delved into that "murky" world called health and safety :O) and have installed new fire extinguishers and obtained wet floor warning notices

Helping out at our kennels presently are 5 girls who are doing there Duke of Edinburgh award with us. Thank you girls for all your hard work and support

Dog Show

Tickets are now on sale and can be bought from our kennels at Baltree, from myself at the monthly walks or if you would like me to post tickets out please contact me at alexmorrison1965@btinternet.com and I will send you back the relevant payment details etc.

Once again this year kids under 16 will be free and adult tickets will cost this year **£3.50**. Full details of the show, program and how to get there will be on our web site shortly. In the meantime we are looking for any items that maybe used as raffle prizes, tombola prizes and even show prizes, these can be dropped off at the kennels or passed to myself at any of the upcoming dog walks (see dates for the diary). So if you have any unwanted Christmas gifts or work/know of some organizations that may wish to donate to our cause then please feel free to approach and my details are above if you need to get in touch with myself.

On the day we will also have a home baking stall (which usually goes down well !!!!), hopefully we can get many people to contribute some of there wares on the day. So look out those favorite recipes now and help raise monies for our cause (as well as increase our waistlines !!)

Once again this year Helen and Dave will be running our GRF stall and white elephant stand. So if you are looking for some GRF merchandise on the day this is the place to go. In the meantime they are collecting items for their white elephant stand. These can also be handed into the kennel or to Helen/Dave at any of our monthly walks.

Sponsorship opportunities:

To help us maximize exposure and revenue from our annual dog show we once again have some excellent sponsorship opportunities whether for individuals or for companies there is something for everyone.

All sponsorship will be acknowledged on our web site (with any company links) and show program along with any adverts and logos. A thank you certificate will also be sent to every sponsor.

Show class sponsorship (£40)

Demand for this has been excellent to the extent that as going to print we only have one class available to sponsor. Certificates will be sent out shortly with sponsor's details appearing on our web site

- *Best Junior handler*

Hall sponsorship (£100)

Included in this price is all of the above sponsored items plus any advertisement around the hall and 4 free tickets for guests.

Trophy sponsorship (£100)

Included in this price is all of the above sponsored items plus any advertisement around the hall and 4 free tickets for guests.

From the Dog house



CHILLO is a very happy, fun loving black boy. He loves being alongside people and wants to go out with them. He walks very well on a lead and travels well in a car. He will be a very good pet.

If you think you can give **CHILLO** a good forever home please give us a call. Positive replies only please.

By Phone: 01592 890583 Please leave a message and we will get back to you if we are unable to answer your call.

email: FERNIEJIMMYF@aol.com

Lucky Number - Feb/March draws

The Two draws took place at our Dunfermline. We drew March first and number **54** was the lucky number belonging to **Bo Barclay**, amazingly enough, this is the third time this number has been drawn - August 2010, October 2010 and now March 2011 - that is really one lucky number.

The February draw took place second (because there were two more numbers in that draw it was easier to add two balls as opposed to trying to find them and remove them) and number 68 was drawn belonging to me, Fiona Smith. First time I've ever won, so I'm really pleased. I decided the dogs deserved the money more than me so I donated my winnings to GRF.

I handed over a cheque to GRF for **£156** which was their share of the February and March draws along with my cheque for **£52.80**.

Thanks to everyone who continues to participate in this.

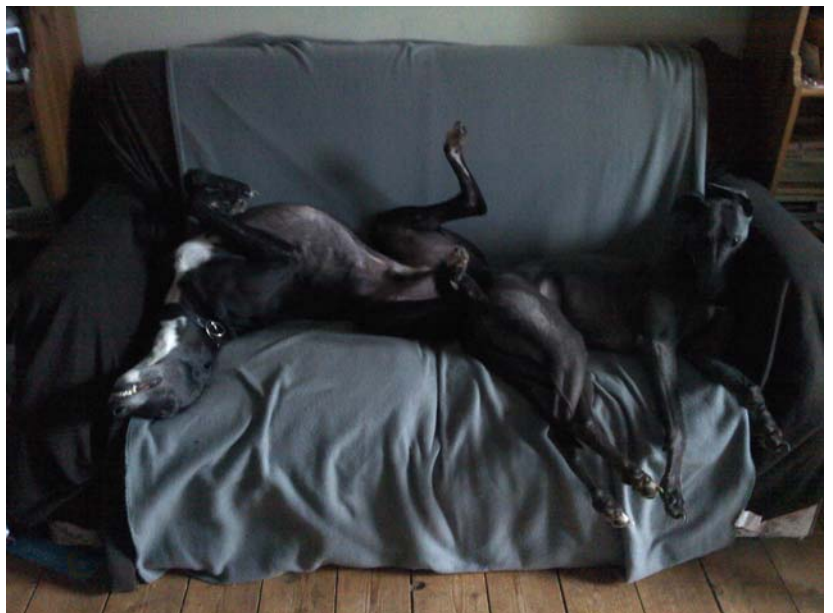
How to take part - it's simple - £2.00 buys one number per month. This number is entered into the draw and the split of winnings is 60% of the prize fund to GRF and the remaining 40% to the winner. The more people who participate the higher the prize. If you wish to take part you can email me at grfluckynumber@yahoo.co.uk and I can let you know the available numbers to choose from and payment can be whatever suits each person, eg, you can pay each month at the walks, you can pay in advance and pay for X number of months or you can pay monthly directly in the dedicated bank account.

Thanks again for everyone's support.

Dog of the month

In this month's dog of the month you get two for the price of one! !Morgan and Rab This is their story hope you enjoy

Likes - We both really enjoy our new home, its so nice to be in charge, and have our own servant - she makes all our meals, gives us a chance to walk all round the village, and even socialise with other dogs. Most days we get to be driven around Perthshire, so have a variety of walks, though she is really daft and even walks us in the rain! Rab says "I have settled in here really well,



the couch is really comfy, even if I do have to persuade Morgan to shift over so that I can get on!". Morgan also said " I'm glad I have Rab for company, but I have really enjoyed meeting all the dogs in the village, and I have discovered these wee grey things with fluffy tails, they seem to like climbing trees, think they're called squirrels, so my aim is to get to know them better!".



Dislikes - the one thing we both hate is the rain, Rab more than Morgan - he's a big woos - but it's always cosy when we get home so we put up with it! We're also not keen on being left on our own in the house, we can cope while 'she' goes for goodies from the shop, but if she gets sidetracked and chats to folk we do get a bit miffed! However, 'she' says we'll get used to it, and she promises always to come back so we'll see!

Biggest achievement - We'd no sooner arrived here than another dog appeared suddenly, a big yellow Labrador called Bonnie, but she turned out to be really nice, and she only stayed for a couple of days, and it was an emergency (whatever that is) so we were on our best behaviour and got lots of praise for that. We've been for walks with Bonnie since then, and we'll be friends!

Favourite food - basically Morgan isn't fussy, she's discovered pears and carrots, which go down a treat, but Rab is a bit choosier. Mind you that doesn't include stolen items like new baked bread and family sized packets of Kitkats, which were all the better for being stolen!

What we like doing best - what a stupid question to ask a greyhound! Of course it's sleeping! Even more so because we have our own couch in the living room, 'she' wont let us on the good one so we humour her for the moment! We think we have landed lucky living here, and this is us for good!

If you enjoyed reading about what Morgan and Rab like doing and would like to share your own dogs characteristics with us then please send in to alexmorrison1965@btinternet.com



Vets Corner

This month we look at expelling some of the myths surrounding ex racing greyhounds

OLDER GREYHOUNDS NEED LOW PROTEIN "SENIOR" DIETS.

- ◆ With greyhounds, we're usually trying to keep weight on the oldsters, not off them.
- ◆ Low protein diets may cause muscle wasting and weight loss.

GREYHOUNDS WITH HIGH CREATININES ARE GOING INTO KIDNEY FAILURE AND NEED LOW PROTEIN "KIDNEY" DIETS.

- ◆ Increased creatinine does not equal kidney disease if the BUN and urine concentration are normal.
- ◆ A 2000 Auburn study found that greyhound creatinines normally run up to 1.6X "other dog" creatinine.

GREYHOUNDS WITH DIARRHEA SHOULD BE SWITCHED TO HIGH FIBER FOOD (I.E. W/D).

- ◆ This approach often backfires with greyhounds, who do better on meat based diets.
- ◆ Grain based diets or the simple switch from racing diets to kibble are often the cause of diarrhoea.

BARF (BONES AND RAW FOOD) DIET IS DANGEROUS, NOT ADEQUATE, ETC.

- ◆ If you're willing to do the research and "cooking," BARF is superior nutrition.
- ◆ Other benefits - clean teeth, firm stools, may help with allergies.

FEED SEVERAL SMALL MEALS DAILY / FEED FROM RAISED FEEDERS / MAKE HIM EAT SLOW / TO PREVENT BLOAT.

- ◆ Bloat is mostly genetic and much more common in show (AKC) greyhound lines.
- ◆ Racers gobble one meal daily from a bowl on the floor and rarely bloat.

LEAVE HIM IN THE HOSPITAL UNTIL HE EATS.

- ◆ Greyhounds are sensitive dogs.
- ◆ Unless they're doing something for him there that you can't do at home, he'll likely eat better at home where he's happy and you can bribe him with tempting cookery.
- ◆ Take him in for daily rechecks if needed.

GREYHOUNDS GET SO MANY VACCINATIONS AT THE TRACK THAT ADOPTION GROUPS SHOULD NOT RE-VACCINATE.

- ◆ It's hard to count on vaccines that were supposedly given - requirements vary tremendously from area to area.
- ◆ It would be best to have knowledge of 2 consecutive years of "known shots,"

YEARLY DENTALS ARE THE BEST WAY TO KEEP YOUR GREYHOUND'S TEETH HEALTHY.

- ◆Brushing at least every other day is the best way to keep your greyhound's teeth healthy.

- ◆BARF, chewies, turkey necks - all is preferable to knocking off tartar once yearly while the dog spends the other 9-10 months with dental disease.

- ◆Dentals should be done when needed, but should not be the mainstay of dental care.

DO ALL YOU CAN TO SAVE BAD TEETH - YOU DON'T WANT TO LOSE THEM.

- ◆Bad teeth hurt - get them out of there!

- ◆Bad teeth form a nidus for infection, which can damage kidneys and heart valves.

- ◆Dogs with bad teeth often feel like new dogs once they're extracted.

HIS HEART IS ENLARGED.

- ◆The greyhound heart is normally much bigger than the heart of other dogs. - There is a huge left ventricular hypertrophy (thickening of wall) - same with marathon runners.

- ◆An ultrasound can differentiate normal from diseased if in doubt.

HIS HEART RATE IS ABNORMALLY SLOW.

- ◆The greyhound's heart rate is slower than other dogs - again, due to athleticism.

- ◆60-90 is normal at rest, it may be faster if excited (like at the vet's office).

HIS BLOOD PRESSURE IS HIGH.

- ◆Greyhounds often run blood pressures on the high end of normal (160,170,180).

- ◆They can be higher if excited - again, an important consideration at the vet's office.

HE NEEDS A COMPLETE CARDIAC WORKUP FOR THIS HEART MURMUR.

- ◆Low grade murmurs (I & II) are common in greyhounds - they are almost always benign.

- ◆Take a chest x-ray if concerned (where you will see a "big heart!").

YOUR GREYHOUND HAS POLYCYTHEMIA.

- ◆Greyhounds have a higher HCT or PCV than other dogs, normally in the 50's - 60's.

- ◆HCT or PCV can easily go into the 70's if they're dehydrated.

- ◆Actual polycythemia vera is a very rare disease.

HER PLATELETS ARE ABNORMALLY LOW.

- ◆Greyhounds can normally run low platelets - all the way down to 80,000 - 110,000.

- ◆Ehrlichia can lower platelets (also lowers WBC and HCT/PCV) - titre if in doubt.

WE NEED A BONE MARROW BIOPSY TO SEE IF THIS LOW WBC IS CANCER.

- ◆Greyhounds normally run lower WBCs (3,000 - 10,000) than other dogs (7,500 - 15,000).

- ◆An Auburn study of 50 retired racers (March 2000 Compendium) found a range of 1,800-14,600.

A LOW T4 MEANS SHE NEEDS TO BE ON THYROID SUPPLEMENT.

- ◆ Greyhounds normally run lower T4s than other breeds (about half is a good rule of thumb).

- ◆ They should not be on supplement unless there are clinical signs - too many greyhounds are needlessly on lifelong supplement.

- ◆ Use half of the normal dog dose.

- ◆ Sick dogs commonly have low T4s ("sick euthyroid") - the dog is not hypothyroid.

BALD BUTTS ARE BECAUSE THEY'RE HYPOTHYROID.

- ◆ The cause of bald thigh syndrome is unknown.

- ◆ Bald thighs are seen with both low and high thyroid levels.

BALD BUTTS ARE FROM LAYING IN CRATES AT THE TRACK.

- ◆ Greyhounds who have never been crated or to the track have bald butts.

HE HAS A TOENAIL FUNGUS.

- ◆ SLO (symmetrical lupoid onychodystrophy) aka "pemphigus" is the autoimmune condition that causes greyhounds to lose multiple nails.

- ◆ Treat as directed in Care of the Racing Greyhound.

THIS FEMALE IS THE FIRST HERMAPHRODITE I'VE EVER SEEN! / THIS FEMALE HAS CANCER.

- ◆ That red "button" at the vulva is clitoral hypertrophy from testosterone given at the track to keep females out of heat

SKIN HEMANGIOSARCOMAS IN GREYHOUNDS ARE HIGHLY MALIGNANT.

- ◆ Skin hemangiosarcomas in "glabrous" (ventrally "nude" breeds such as greyhounds and Italian greyhounds) are solar induced and have a lower potential for metastasis.

SHE'S NOT IN PAIN - SHE JUST LIMPS, HAS NEVER CRIED OUT.

- ◆ If she does not put the foot down, it hurts!

- ◆ Poor appetite, panting, shaking, can't get comfortable, stops participating, and mostly, "that look in her eye" - all are signs of pain.

- ◆ Pathologic fractures (the bone breaks at the weak spot) are excruciatingly painful - euthanize before this can happen.

THAT HIND END WEAKNESS IS PROBABLY HIP DYSPLASIA.

- ◆ Hip dysplasia is rare in greyhounds.

- ◆ Hind end problems are most likely lumbosacral stenosis in older greyhounds.

WE SENT THE X-RAYS TO A RADIOLOGIST AND HE CAN'T FIND A REASON WHY SHE'S LIMPING EITHER.

- ◆ Many things that cause limping aren't seen on x-rays (soft tissue, neuro, corns).

- ◆ A good orthopaedic exam is key - an orthopaedic surgeon is a good bet for finding obscure lameness

Fun zone

This month we have for you a "Mega" Soduko puzzle to test you all !! (answers will be in next month's issues)

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 4x4 box contains 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, A, B, C, D, E, F and G. Good luck !!

		3	1	2	5		7		C	6		9	G	B	A
			5		3	4	9	7							D
	D			C	F				8	9	A	2			4
				8				G	B				F	1	
E				A		5		B			2	C		4	
		D	4	3		2		E	G	8		B			9
C				G		B	E		3	7		D	5		
	B				D		C			4	F		A		2
D		9		F	B			2		5				A	
		A	8		2	9		F	1		4				G
5			B		1	C	G		A		8	4	2		
	1		2	5			4		7		B				3
	6	7				3	B				9				
B			D	4	C	F				G	7			3	
2							5	D	4	F		G			
1	3	5	G		7	D		C		B	E	F	4		

Dates for the Diary

- **Sunday 3 April. KIRKCALDY.** Leaving Beveridge Park car park at (provisionally)11am.
- **Sunday 1 May. KINROSS.** Leaving Loch Leven Kingsgate car park at 11am.
- **Sunday 8 May. COLLESSIE. 4th Annual Dog Show. See details on our web page**
- **Sunday 5 June. GLENROTHES.** Leaving Riverside Park car park at 11am.
- **Sunday 26 June. DUNDEE.** Great British Greyhound Walk. Location and starting time to be arranged.
- **Sunday 7 August. LOCHORE.** Leaving the Lochore Meadows Country Park car park at 11am.
- **Sunday 4 September. KIRKCALDY.** Leaving Ravenscraig Park car park at 11am.
- **Sunday 2 October. PERTH.** Leaving Perth Bells Sports Centre car park at 11am.
- **Sunday 6 November. St. ANDREWS.** Leaving the West Sands car park at 11am.

And finally

Remember we are still on the look out for prizes for our show raffle along with any items for our tombola, the more prizes we have the more money we can raise for the kennels and help make our current "incumbents" as comfortable as possible while they await their new forever homes.

On the day (or the day before!) we would hope as many of you as possible can provide some home baking for our cake stall. This is always a popular stall so why not bring along your goodies! And help raise a few pounds (there is a joke there somewhere!!!).

If you can help us advertise our event or can maybe sell some tickets for us then please get in touch with myself alexmorrison1965@btinternet.com alternatively you can download our poster from our web site or photocopy the one at the end of this newsletter. Lets help make this the best show ever.



**The Catering Equipment
Company**



Greyhound Rescue Fife 4th Annual Dog Show

**Moffat Catering Equipment are Delighted
To Be Sponsoring The Greyhound Rescue Fife
4th Annual Dog Show!**

**On Sunday 8th May 2011
At Caldwell's Farm, Collessie,
By Ladybank,
Fife, KY15 7UY.
Doors Open 11:00
First Class 11:30**

**Price
£3.50 Per Adult.
Children
Under 16 free.
Dog Entry
Each Dog Costs
£1 In every class.**

Stalls At The Show

**Tombola
Home Baking
Refreshments
Commercial Stalls
GRF Merchandise**

Advanced Tickets

**Can Be Purchased at Our
GRF Baltree Kennels, Gairneybank,
Nr. Kinross, KY13 9JY
Or by emailing
alexmorrison1965@btinternet.com
and they will be posted to you.
Buying in advance You Will Be Entered
Into The Advanced Ticket Raffle.**

www.greyhoundrescuefife.com

Email: ferniejimmyf@aol.com Tel: 01592 890583