

GRF



NEWS

Designed by Sally E Calder

August 2012

*Changing the world
one greyhound at a time!*

**No. 600
Goldie**



August saw yet another milestone for GRF - on the 17th, our 600th dog was re-homed.

*‘Adopting just one greyhound won’t change the world, but the world will surely
change for that one greyhound ...’*

Jimmy & Celia, you have changed the world for 600+ greyhounds now ... a big THANK-YOU from them all, and on behalf of all the people whose lives have been improved by having a greyhound in it, courtesy of Greyhound Rescue Fife.

Here’s to the next milestone

I logged onto the Forum recently and read, as many of you will have, Celia's 'cry for help'.

Whilst there are many of us who cannot commit to regular days / hours, for whatever personal reasons we have, perhaps some of you out there have thought about volunteering, and have just never got round to it. If you could spare a few hours, a morning, an afternoon, or even a day, regularly, then it would be an enormous help, and relief, to Celia & Jimmy.

There is kennel cleaning, walking and feeding to do be done 365 days a year. These dogs do not have the comfort of a home, of people who love them ... they are little orphans, being cared for by Celia, Jimmy and their amazing band of volunteers. As with any 'orphanage', there is never quite enough time, and never quite enough love to go round.

Celia & Jimmy do an **AMAZING** job and, let's face it - sorry guys, they are not getting any younger. They need our help. So let's get the ball rolling, and do what we can to make life a little easier for the Fernies.

In case any of you didn't see Celia's post, here it is ...

"It has been common knowledge, in the kennels, that I am clearing 46 years of collecting up from my house. To do this, I have taken a stall at the new Antiques Centre in Canal Street in Perth. I used to be an antique dealer for many years and all the better things seemed to find their way into my house. A bit like all my dogs that I seem to have collected as well! My code on my items say GRF, and the relevant number for my inventory. This venture has taken me back to my old trade. It is necessary for me to clear my house in the hope that we will one day be moving to Baltree.

Please continue to leave electrical items, books, or any other items for the dogs, at the kennel for Kaz to put on eBay, which she very kindly does. Myself, I am trying very hard to download and I am desperately trying to degunge my house, which is splitting at the seams. I look at my stall and smile because it is like going down memory lane - everything tells a story - it is all in the best possible taste. Someone else takes an interest in the market too, but she has absolutely nothing to do with GRF, although it has been suggested that she has. So this is **MY** venture, and my venture only, and I take to it like a duck to water. Not that I have a lot of time for it - the centre staff sell my items for me because I am always at the kennels. Two old folk have to run this kennel like a big business, always trying to cover the various shifts with plenty folk because we do not want to cut the number of dogs down. Perhaps you should read this and not always assume that "they" will run GRF for you. Could you guarantee giving us some of your time, or are you always going to assume that the old fogies, and the sterling guys who do come regularly, are always going to be there to do it? Think about GRF's future, and make sure she is run by hands-on people who work in the kennels.

I rarely post on this thing since I never have the time because I have a home to run as well.

This is a glimpse of the weight we walk around with.

Celia."

Planning Application ...

There is still no news on our planning application - this in spite of the fact that, three weeks ago, it supposedly only required a signature!

Celia & Jimmy will not have a house again this winter and, therefore, more winter driving and kennel living-in awaits.

On a positive note, the dog walker is now virtually complete, with roof, door & window - this means that the walker can be used in any weather conditions - perhaps Celia & Jimmy will have to camp out in there ...

We took these photos on Sunday past (26th) ...



Thank-you's ...

Celia and Jimmy welcomed Sam Cox and Louise to GRF on 5 August. The ladies dropped off some bedding, and other goodies, for the greyhounds on their travels southwards. They had a tour of the facilities, and a refreshment stop, before heading home. Sam & Louise are friends of Sue Boone of Jordan Bear of Worcestershire, an organisation that fundraises for animal charities. Thank you very much for supporting GRF



Whilst on 'thank-you's', we just wanted to take this opportunity to say a big thank-you to John, who does such amazing work on the GRF website. The website is often the first point of contact with GRF, and John works away quietly - your hard work is appreciated by us all.

August Walk at Lochore Meadows ...

Our August walk, at Lochore Meadows, started in warm sunshine, and we had a good turnout ☺

Three quarters of the way round, however, the heavens opened and we were drenched ☹ The sensible amongst us had come prepared with raincoats, umbrellas, etc. There were at least two of us - myself included (Jennifer Bruce, you know who you are ... !!) who turned up in sleeveless t-shirts ... enough said!

I think Jimmy may have had a premonition because he said, at the start, that if we felt that we had had enough half way round, the only way back was to swim ...

The beginning ...



and the end ...



From the Dog House ...

Dogs in since July Newsletter:

Foggy, Lyla, Bandit, Becky, Goldie & Bunny.

Dogs out since July Newsletter:

Spin, Arnie, Crystal, Tig, Missy, Pancho, Becky, Goldie, BlooBloo, Silvie, Pharaoh, Susie & Tiger (going to his forever home next Saturday, 1st September).

Can YOU help one of these dogs ...

PLEASE can you find it in your heart to give them the forever home they so richly deserve?

Maisie



Maisie is a super girl. Extremely friendly, she will insist that she washes your hands and face! A delightful bundle of fun, she walks well on a lead and travels well in a car. She is a laugh a minute, and has to be seen.

Billy



Billy is a black and white boy who is extremely shy and nervous. He runs away from people until he knows you. Once he knows you he walks easily on a lead, but is always on the lookout for danger. Underneath he has a nice nature but he needs a mummy and daddy who understand, and love, him to help him overcome his fears.

Please help this needy boy.

As ever, if you would like more information on the dogs featured above, or indeed any of our other dogs in 'Please Choose Me', please contact Jimmy or Celia on 01592 890583, or by e-mailing ferniejimmy@aol.com

Vet's Corner ...

I have taken some of this from the 'Helps and Tips' page, as it serves as a useful reminder. When we first got our greyhound, for example, I had no idea that grapes would be bad for him.

Chocolate:

There have been a lot of articles in the news about the lethal effects of chocolate on dogs. Here's why - chocolate contains theobromine. Theobromine is a similar compound to caffeine, and stimulates the heart and nervous system. In dogs it can poison them, with death occurring from heart failure. Plain and dark chocolate contains more theobromine and is, therefore, more dangerous than milk chocolate if your dog ingests it. Theobromine stays in the dogs system for a long time - this means that chocolate poisoning can even occur if small amounts of chocolate are fed repeatedly. Also remember that cocoa powder, baking chocolate and other foods contain theobromine. In the November 2003 Issue of Dogs Today they also pointed out that Cocoa mulch (sold in garden centres) smells delicious to dogs but is highly toxic. Dog chocolate has had the theobromine removed, however, if it contains milk (see below) and sugar then it is probably best to avoid this as well. Personally, I won't give doggy chocs, as I feel that if my dog thinks it's ok to eat them, then he might just go for the 'real thing'.

Particularly with young children in the house, it can be very difficult to ensure that your dog doesn't get hold of chocolate. If you discover that your pet has ingested chocolate, contact your vet immediately - **do not wait until tomorrow, or until the surgery opens**. If the chocolate has only recently been consumed, the vet can give your dog an injection to make it vomit - **quick action must be taken**.

Cows' Milk:

Dogs, along with most other mammals lose, to a variable extent, their ability to digest lactose (milk sugar) with age, because the activity of the enzyme lactase declines with age. Source Manual of Companion Animal Nutrition and Feeding by BSAVA (British Small Animal Veterinary Association). Lactose cannot be broken down without the enzyme lactase. Dogs who are lactose intolerant may suffer from diarrhoea and/or flatulence when fed milk.

Raisins & Grapes:

The ASCPA (Animal Poison Control Centre in the USA) published information stating the toxicity of raisins and grapes in dogs. Eating just a handful of raisins and grapes has been shown to cause kidney failure. They do not know why, as yet, but it might be due to a pesticide sprayed on the grapes, or perhaps a type of mould found on the skin of grapes and raisins.

Some other things, in the home, which can be toxic to your pet are onions, salt, alcohol, lilies and tulips.

ROVER REPORTER

(aka Boots from Rosyth!)



EACH MONTH, WE ARE HOPING TO HEAR HOW ONE OF OUR RE-HOMED GREYHOUNDS IS DOING, IN THEIR FOREVER HOME, BY MEANS OF A SHORT QUESTIONNAIRE. IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN TAKING PART IN THIS, PLEASE E-MAIL ME FOR A COPY OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE, AND RETURN TO ME ALONG WITH A PHOTO.

[\(bobbynetherland@dsl.pipex.com\)](mailto:bobbynetherland@dsl.pipex.com)

UNFORTUNATELY, THIS MONTH, WE HAD NO VOLUNTEERS FOR THIS SLOT ☹ PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO FILL IN OUR QUESTIONNAIRE.

**SO, THIS MONTH WE ARE TALKING TO OURSELVES !!!
I PUT THE QUESTIONS TO MOIRA ...**

WE (MOIRA & SUSAN) LIVE IN ROSYTH WITH OUR GREYHOUND, BOOTSIE ☺

1) **How long have you had Bootsie?**

Bootsie is our first greyhound, and we've had him since 26 January 2012 - precisely 31 weeks on Thursday (30th)!

2) **How has having Bootsie living with you changed your life?**

Life is so much better and so much more fun. There was always that nagging doubt that it wasn't the right time to commit to getting a dog, but there will never be a perfect time and we have absolutely no regrets – except that we should have done it sooner.

3) **What is the best thing about owning a greyhound?**

He gives us so much joy. Greyhounds are the most affectionate, loving and giving dogs. We are very lucky to have Bootsie in our life.

4) **..... and the worst !?!**

Maybe the lack of long lies at the weekend, but we are pretty good at going out early then all heading back to bed!

5) **What 3 words would you use to describe Bootsie?**

- 1) Handsome (and he knows it....)
- 2) Hilarious (he has the most amazingly expressive ears!)
- 3) Just the best thing since sliced bread (I know that's cheating!!)

6) **What advice would you give to someone, reading this article, who may be thinking of adopting a greyhound?**

As Jimmy would say, they don't come on wheels. They are beautiful individual creatures and I suspect that they all have their own little foibles but, as a breed, they make the most perfect pets and will give you back much more than you can ever give to them. We had no real experience of owning a dog, never mind a greyhound, but it is so good to know that there is a support network at GRF for advice and re-assurance, particularly in the early days.



Fun Quiz ...

Which of these 10 statements are fact, and which are fiction?

- 1) The first greyhound came to Australia with Captain Cook in 1770.
- 2) In 1014AD, the English Forest Laws stated that only noblemen could own, and hunt, with greyhounds. To kill a greyhound was punishable by death.
- 3) Due to a lack of donkeys in a small village in Wales last Christmas, a greyhound was used in the local Nativity Play.
- 4) Greyhounds appear on the Bayeux Tapestry, which is over 200 feet long, and tells the story of the Norman Conquest.
- 5) Greyhounds are the only dog to be mentioned in the Bible.
- 6) Cleopatra owned a greyhound.
- 7) Greyhounds can spot a moving object up to 1.25 miles away.
- 8) Greyhounds are mentioned, or featured, in 11 of Shakespeare's plays.
- 9) The constellation Canes Venatici contains 2 greyhounds .. Asterion & Chara. This minor constellation was created by Johannes Hevelius in the 17th century.
- 10) In 1804, Australia issued a proclamation ordering the destruction of all dogs except greyhounds and sheepdogs.

Answers in next month's newsletter ...

Recipe ...

Cheese Dreams:

Ingredients

3 cups wholemeal flour
2 teaspoons garlic powder
½ cup oil
1 cup grated cheese
1 cup rolled oats
1 beaten egg
1 cup milk

Method

Mix everything together, then knead for a few minutes until soft. Roll out to half an inch thickness and cut out with a shaped cutter (lots of doggy type ones, e.g. bones, on eBay!). Bake at 200 degrees celsius for 25 minutes, then remove from the oven and allow to cool on a wire rack.

Other News ...

2013 Calendar:

Time to start thinking about submitting photos for the 2013 calendar! Preference will be given to dogs who haven't starred in an earlier calendar, but so long as the photo is of a good quality we have managed to include all photos submitted.

Is anyone interested in desk calendars as well as wall calendars? Something simple, like A4 card folded in 3 to form a triangle with 4 months + 4 pictures of dogs on each face would be on sale for £2 each. There would be 12 sponsorship opportunities for this, at £10 each. Would people want something more e.g. month to view desk calendar?

The wall calendar will be the same price as last year, £7.50, and there will only be a print run of 100, so it will be a case of first come first served.

Any photos, suggestions or comments should be directed to Michele. Thank you.

Weimaraner Club of Scotland:

The Weimaraner Club of Scotland are holding a talk in The Green Hotel, in Kinross, on Wednesday 19th September at 7:30pm.

Topics are:

'First Aid for your Dog': Speaker - Leeann Burton, Veterinary Nurse

'Legal Issues and your Dog': Speaker - Robert Fife, Solicitor

Tickets are £5 for WCS members, and £7.50 for non-members. This includes tea/coffee & biscuits.

Please contact Tricia via the Forum, or at the Kennels, if you are interested in tickets for this. Two very important subjects being covered - Moira & I have already booked our tickets.

Wisp's Birthday Walk:

On 9th September, Jennifer Bruce has organised a Birthday Walk for Wisp - she did the same for Eddie earlier in the year, and raised around £150.00 for GRF. This walk will take place at The Formonthills in Glenrothes, meeting at 11:30am. For further information, please contact Jennifer via the Forum.

Lucky Numbers Draw:

Standing in the midst of a monsoon, at the Lochore Meadows Walk, Jimmy drew No. 66 belonging to Steve Dowd. Congratulations, and many thanks, to Steve who kindly donated his winnings to GRF. GRF, therefore, received a total of £116.00 from the lucky number draw this month.

Thanks to everyone who takes part, and to Fiona for organising it.

and finally ...

The next walk is scheduled for this coming Sunday, 2nd September. We will be leaving the West Sands car park, in St. Andrews, at 11:00am. Look forward to seeing you there, and remember ... doggies on leads & pickupdapoo 😊 As ever, keep your eye on the Forum for any last minute changes. Jimmy assures me that the long-term weather forecast is good ... I'm holding you to that Jimmy !!!

