

GRF



NEWS

Designed by Sally E Calder

October 2012 (Distributed 2 November)

*Changing the world
one greyhound at a time!*

Welcome to the October Newsletter. Everyone is getting busy now ... Hallowe'en over, Bonfire Night on Monday and, of course, Christmas now next month !! Can I ask that when you are preparing to pamper **your** pet this Christmas, you give a thought to the homeless hounds at Baltree ... perhaps you could spare a little extra time to help with some walking, give a little cash donation (every penny matters to us) to help buy some extras for the hounds' Christmas or, the next time you are at your local Pet Shop, buy an extra couple of cans of food. This would be a great Christmas present, not only for the greyhounds, but also for Jimmy & Celia who will be spending **their** Christmas Day at Baltree.

Now, talking of Christmas, here's a great idea for a Christmas gift ... the GRF 2013 wall, and desk, calendars are now available at the Kennels ☺ The wall calendar costs £7.50, and the desk calendar, £5.00. A big thank-you, as ever, to Michele for all her hard work in getting these organised and printed - you only ever see the 'end product', but months of planning, and getting sponsorship, are required. Having assisted Michele this year, I have seen how much hard work goes into producing these - getting sponsors in the current economic climate is not easy, however, the sponsorship covers the cost of printing the calendars, so that **ALL** proceeds, from the calendars, go directly to helping the hounds. A **HUGE** thank-you to all of this year's sponsors.



Thank-you's ...

Thanks to St Andrews University:

A very helpful group of students from St Andrews University came along on Sunday 15th October. They helped us immensely walking, feeding and grooming our dogs. All at Greyhound Rescue Fife thank them for kindly giving up their Sunday to come and help out.

The picture shows (from left to right): Celia, Jimmy, Moya, Hannah, Melodie, Archie and Serena.



The cats help the greyhounds ... !!

We have been given a wonderful donation of £500.00, and a load of dog food, from Kathleen Fernie (no relation!) who ran the Charity Shop for Special Needs Cats, for a short time, to collect food and donations for our homeless greyhounds. This is a wonderful gesture from a true animal lover. Her extremely kind volunteers, Robert and Jackie Wilson (pictured), brought the donations to our kennels. All at Greyhound Rescue Fife would like to thank Kathleen, Robert, Jackie and all who helped to make this possible for our dogs.



Our “meet and greet” team:

Celia, Jimmy and the dogs would like, very sincerely, to thank our “meet and greet” team of Bert, Irene, Sean, Shonagh and Fiona who collected a fantastic £273.24 for our neutering fund. Thank you guys for all your time and hard work. There may be a couple of re-homings as a result of your efforts.

Delicious Home-made Cakes:

Celia & Jimmy would like to thank two very young ladies, Minnie Brown and Daisy Galbraith, for making super cakes and selling them to their neighbours. They raised a magnificent £27.80 for the greyhounds. Thank you very much girls.

GRF Charity Night at Thornton:

George Allan, Shandy and the staff at GRF would like to thank everyone who supported this event. A grand total of £1,800.00 was raised, which will be doubled to £3,600.00 by BP Match giving. This money was raised by donations, sponsorship, raffles, tombola & scratch cards. A very delighted Rhona Pirrie won the hamper. Many thanks to Paul & Sandy for their £250.00 donation. Congratulations to all the dog owners on their wins in the finals.

October Walk in Dunfermline’s Pittencrieff Park ...

The October walk took place on a beautifully cold, crisp sunny Sunday morning ☺ We had the biggest turn-out of the year to date, and it was lovely to see so many new friends there, as well as the ‘old’ regulars.

Some of us seemed to complete an ‘alternative walk’, that did not take us past the Abbey, but we enjoyed it anyway !!!!

Here are a few photos from the day ...



From the Dog House ...

Dogs in since September Newsletter:

Blue, Billy, Steve, Mark & Stella

Dogs out since September Newsletter:

Bob, Bobby, Blue, Oxo, Holly, Mariah & Flint

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?

Spangle



Spangle is a big black dog. He is a happy-go-lucky boy, who loves going out with you. He is easy to walk on a lead until he decides to go and smell something - then you go with him! A nice natured dog who gets on well with his friends. He likes the company of people.

Babes



Babes is something else! She is a very enthusiastic, bouncy, 'in your face' playgirl. She absolutely adores everybody. She is quite good on her lead, and is happy to go walking with you. She is a real character.

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 ...

Remember, Remember:



It's that time of year again ... Fireworks can look magnificent as part of an organised display, however, loud sporadic noises, that don't have any obvious source, can be terrifying and confusing for your dog. They can also be extremely dangerous in the hands of people who don't know what they are doing.

Panicking animals can, and do, run away and get lost or injured.

The Scottish SPCA is urging animal lovers to join them in appealing to the UK and Scottish governments to tighten the laws on the sale and use of fireworks. They have launched a fresh campaign to seek a change in legislation on the sale of fireworks, and their unlicensed use in public. They are calling for a restriction, not a ban.

The current legal noise limit for a firework is 120 decibels and the SSPCA think that this is too high. To put it into perspective ... a pneumatic drill measures around 100 decibels, and people are advised to wear ear protectors when exposed to anything above 80 decibels. Animals have heightened senses, and their hearing is much stronger than ours. A dog's hearing is twice as sensitive as a human's, and a cat's three times.

So, here are a few tips for the coming days ...

- Possibly, the **most** important thing is not to let your pet sense your anxiety - if he/she senses that you are uptight, then he/she will follow suit. Stay calm, and do not make too much of a fuss!
- At nightfall, close windows and curtains. Put on a radio or TV to mask the sound of the fireworks.
- Pets should be kept indoors after dark - try and walk your dog during daylight hours. If this is not possible, make sure that your dog is unable to run away - keep them on their leads and, remember, greyhounds **CAN** jump fences.
- Some people use Pheromone Diffusers - these disperse calming chemicals into the room. If you are in any doubt, or have any concerns, then please speak to your vet.

For further information on the SSPCA's campaign, please see their website.

ROVER REPORTER

(aka Boots from Rosyth!)



EACH MONTH, WE ARE HOPING TO HEAR HOW ONE OF OUR RE-HOMED GREHOUNDS 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)

THIS MONTH WE ARE TALKING TO THE ALEXANDERS (KEVIN, JULIE-ANNE, DANIEL & AARON), ABOUT THEIR GREYHOUND BECKY ...

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

Just since 15th August 2012.

2) **How has having Becky living with you changed your lives?**

Kevin and Julie-Anne thoroughly enjoy their 10pm walk (and talk) with Becky, far healthier than sitting watching television ... and the boys both take her out during the day. She is so affectionate; it is great coming into the house and someone being so enthusiastic to see you.

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

Definitely her unconditional love and affection.

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

The anxiety peeing that has thankfully settled down now.

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

Beautiful, loving and quirky.

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

Do it! We had postponed having a dog until the boys were older (14yrs & 12yrs) and we spent a long time deciding which would be the best breed for our family. We couldn't have picked better, (with a little encouragement from Celia and Jimmy) she is a lot of fun, enjoys her walks but just as much she likes lying around on the couch and getting hugs.

7) **Any funny hound stories?**

Our oldest son Daniel was making himself some toast and ham before bed. He laid everything out on the kitchen worktop and stuck his head into the lounge to ask us a question. He went back into the kitchen to continue his supper preparation but noticed that the half packet of ham was empty! In a matter of seconds Becky had demolished the lot and was back on the couch looking as innocent as she could!



Last Month's Competition ...

In last month's newsletter, I launched a drawing competition ... the response was not great, however, the drawings we did receive were excellent and on Sunday 28th October, Celia & Jimmy (with some help from, young volunteer, Marrianna) picked the 1st and 2nd in each category.

In the under 10's category, the winner was Fraser Jack and runner-up, Callum Newman.

In the over 40's category (sorry girls!), it was a dead heat for first place ... Michele & Nic.

Thanks, and congratulations, to all who took part - your prizes are on their way to you, courtesy of our Rover Reporter ☺



Other News ...

Lucky Numbers Draw:

Jimmy drew the winning number at the October walk. This was number 10, belonging to Jean Gibb, Fiona's mum! Congratulations Fiona's Mum, and a big thank you for donating your cheque to GRF. This means that, for the third month in a row, GRF has received the full amount, this month that being £112.00.

Thanks again to everyone who takes part, and helps to raise money for the upkeep of the homeless hounds.

and finally ...

The last scheduled walk of 2012 is scheduled for Sunday 4th November at Beveridge Park, Kirkcaldy. We will be leaving the car park at 11:00am.

As ever, the 'Lucky Numbers' draw will take place, and there will be a raffle. There will also be an opportunity to purchase your 2013 GRF calendars.

Look forward to seeing you there, and remember ... doggies on leads, and pickupdapoo ☺

As ever, keep your eye on the Forum for any last minute changes.

Jimmy has promised us a walk at a 'secret location' in December, if the weather holds up ... he will not divulge the location to anyone, so fingers crossed for good weather!

