

# GRF



# NEWS

*Designed by Sally E Calder*

March 2013

*Changing the world  
one greyhound at a time!*

**Welcome to the March edition of the Greyhound Rescue Fife newsletter ~  
Happy Easter to you all!**



This is a busy edition, with a dog show update, our Rover Reporter has found some volunteers for his interview, and hopes you saw his Easter poem on the Forum - for those of you who didn't, he insists that I copy it here (with apologies to William Wordsworth):

"I wandered lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd ....  
A host .... of golden Greyhound Girls!"



**BIG** get well wishes to Jimmy, who has been unwell recently - we all send healing thoughts, and lots of love, to you.

Update from Alex Morrison ...



**6th Annual Greyhound Fife Dog Show – sponsored by Moffat, the Catering Equipment Company**

**Sponsorship:**

At the time of writing (always best to check forum in first instance) we still have several opportunities for sponsorship including **Best Junior Handler**, **Best Family** and **Best Non-greyhound** - price **£50** - sponsorship will be acknowledged on our web site (with any company links) and show programme, along with any adverts and logos. A thank you certificate will also be sent to every sponsor. In addition to these we still have for sale **Trophies and Rosette sponsorship** - price **£100** (Included in this price is all of the above sponsored items plus any advertisement around the hall and 4 free tickets for guests). If interested in any of the above then please contact myself by email [alexmorrison1965@btinternet.com](mailto:alexmorrison1965@btinternet.com)

**Sponsors to date:**

Best Male greyhound sponsored by: Chris Mathewson (aka Bootsie's Granny!)

Best Female greyhound sponsored by: Esther

Best Loveable face sponsored by: <http://www.walkies-perth.co.uk/>

Hall Hire sponsorship: On behalf of Sean's blog

**Getting there:**

On the day, car parking will be available and we ask that people follow the signs to the car park and park considerately. When you turn into Caldwell's farm which is not actually in Collessie village it's on the main A91 just before or after the Collessie turn off – depending on which direction you are coming from! Look out for the show signs at the entrance. Once you turn into the farm there is a long drive way which eventually takes you up to the show arena with the show taking place **indoors**. Across from the arena there is a large field which we have the use of during the day, allowing people to give their dogs a "wee" walk. Sometimes it is always a good idea to maybe walk your dogs in the field prior to entering the show to do their "business" especially if you have come a long way.

**Tickets:**

Cost of advanced tickets this year is once again held at last year's price of **£3.50** for adult's - kids under 16 free - these can be purchased at our kennels or dog walks in the run up to the show. While we will not have the advanced show ticket raffle this year a free goody bag will be given at the front door on entry (1 per ticket).

Please note that on the day door price will be **£4**. Everybody who enters the show will receive a wristband, which must be **worn at all times** during the show. This will let you go in and out of the show all day – just show your wristband on entry. Otherwise you will be asked again for payment!

Once inside the arena we have a variety of stalls and refreshments available as well as our popular tombola and home baking. Also look out for official programme sellers who will be selling our show programme (cost 50p). During the day we will also be selling raffle tickets, which we encourage people to purchase as we have some excellent prizes - this will be drawn just before our grand final. So if you are not going to stay until then, please put contact details on the back of your raffle tickets. We would certainly hope that as many people as possible would stay to the end to cheer on, and support, our finalists. We would also ask that you spend some time going round the various stalls, particularly the commercial companies who help sponsor our event. Speak to them find out what they offer and who knows they may be able to help you with something. If companies feel that they have had a good response then they will be more likely to support our future shows etc.

### **Classes:**

Before each class begins there will be an announcement that registration for the next class is now open. At the registration desk we will take your name, and dog's name, and give you a number which must be worn prominently as this is what will be used by the judge to identify you. The cost to enter each class is £1 per dog (e.g. best family 2 dogs = £2, 3 dogs = £3 etc). Once you and your dog are registered, you will join the queue waiting to be invited into the ring by the judge. All you then need to do is walk round the ring with your dog. Once the judge has made her decision she will summon everybody into the centre of the ring and announce, as in all good shows, the prize winners in reverse order. We are giving prizes to the first 6 in all classes (more than any other dog show!). If you are lucky enough to be one of our prize winners, we will ask you to stay in the ring to get some photographs taken with your prizes. The details of the class winner will then be noted, and they will have some extra individual photographs and will also go through to our grand final.

### **Organisations/stalls attending:**

- Fly collars
- GRF Merchandise
- Michele/Nic – kids stall
- DogCrafts
- Phoenix Trading
- Sweet trees
- Doreen's cards
- Jess/Diane – Bespoke craft boxes
- Sabrin Miller
- Esther
- Oscars pet food
- Harry's treats

### **Dog Show Poster Competition:**

The winner, picked by Jimmy & Celia, was **Lee Ogilvie** from Starley Hall School - congratulations Lee !!

Lee's prize was free tickets for the dog show.



On the back page of this newsletter is the winning entry, again, upon which George Petrie has worked his magic, and superimposed the sponsor's details and all other details you will require.

### **Bandanas for the Winners of Each Class:**

This year, as well as a Trophy and Rosette, the winner of each class will receive a bandana for their dog. The bandana will have the details of the class won embroidered on it, and will be a lovely keepsake that your dog can proudly wear!

The bandanas are being sponsored by our Rover Reporter, Bootsie.

## **Thank-you's ...**

### **Thank you SSE:**

At the beginning of March, we had a fantastic group of volunteers from SSE helping us out at the kennels. They got through a fantastic shift. We had no bother from any of the dogs after they had gone - all sleeping the exercise off!

Celia, Jimmy, and all at GRF would like to thank them for their tireless work, and to thank SSE for allowing them to come to help us.



### **Another visit from SSE:**

Mid-March, we had yet another great group of volunteers from our great friends SSE. They cheerily came, in miserable weather, and gave us a superb hand walking and feeding our dogs. Once again, and as always, they were an absolute pleasure to have at the kennels. All at GRF thank them very much, and thank SSE for allowing them to come.



The group members were: Sadie Togher, Ross Thomson, Gordon Santanna, Bob Potter, Margaret Johnston & Simon Pridden.

### **Thanks to Kaz & Pat:**

Celia and Jimmy would like to thank Kaz and Pat for the great job that they did recently. Putting items on ebay, etc., they raised an absolutely astonishing £2,704.02 for our homeless greyhounds.

We know the amount of time and work that you had to put in to do this for us so, from us and lots of very grateful greyhounds, thank you very much indeed. Bless you both.

## **March Walk at Pittencrieff Park, Dunfermline ...**

### **Following the first walk of the year, Jimmy posted on the Forum:**

“Hi Folks,

Sorry for the late update, but I've been a wee bit under the weather. I hope that you all enjoyed yourselves. We couldn't have asked for much better weather.

I can't thank everyone's total, personally, as my lovely helpers put all the money into the one box !!!! All I can say is that the dogs became richer by the magnificent total of £406.60. I thank everyone, most sincerely, for helping to raise that enormous sum.

Thank you Fiona - I do know that your lucky numbers raised a fantastic £201.60 for the dogs.

I thank Jilly Cooper for giving us the book, Tracy for the cakes (gee, how I love Tracy's cakes), Michele for the lovely wee daffs (they were delicious!), Fiona for the huge amount of dog tins, Kathleen for the beautiful dog bed, all the folks who donated for the dog show, the lady who kindly donated £20, and our raffle helpers.

I am sorry if I missed anybody, but I didn't get much chance to meet folks on the day.

Celia and I look forward to meeting you all again on the next dog walk.

Thanks to all,  
Jimmy.”

### **Some pics from the March walk:**



### **Our next walk, April:**

Our next walk is scheduled for Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April at Ravenscraig Park in Kirkcaldy. As ever, we will be leaving at 11:00am.

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

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



## **From the Dog House ...**

### **Dogs in since February Newsletter:**

Jackie, Lightning, Hannah, Sadie, Rebel, Tara, Rex, Mickey, Myrrh, Willie & Raven (11)

### **Dogs out since February Newsletter:**

Flash, Mark, Stella, Roxy, Laddie, Toffee, Hannah, Rebel, Trixie, Beau, Sadie & Sabre (12)

### **Can YOU help one of these dogs ...**

**PLEASE** can you find it in your heart to give one of our dogs the forever home they so richly deserve?

#### **Davie**



**Davie** is the friend of **Joe** (see below), and they get on well together. He is slightly strong on a lead, but not too bad. He is always desperate to get taken for his daily walk. Davie loves being with people, and always expects you to take him out!

#### **Joe**



**Joe** is a devil-may-care character. He loves fun, and delights in being taken out for a trip. He is a good natured little boy who walks easily on a lead when taken out. Joe will be a much loved pet when he finds his forever home.

## **URGENT APPEAL ...**

### **Jock**



On 29<sup>th</sup> March, Celia & Jimmy made a plea, on the Forum, to find a home for Jock.

For those of you who didn't see it, or for those of you who saw it and are, perhaps, thinking about it, here it is again ...

“If you look at our ‘Please Choose Me’ section, you will see a lovely little character called Jock. He is eight years old, and a very gentle character. He lived in a house, and is house trained. For genuine, personal, reasons his owner, who was very upset, had to give him up.

This week he went to have an abscess removed, and it turned out to be cancerous. Fibro sarcoma cancer, in fact - an extremely nasty one. His prognosis is not good. We are completely devastated. He is going in on Wednesday (3<sup>rd</sup> April) for another operation to remove as much malignancy as possible, so we shall see what happens then.

We will keep the wee soul in the kennels, and give him the best life for as long as possible. We are looking to see if any kind soul would foster the little man, so that he'd have a happy home life. GRF would, of course, pay all necessary medical bills, etc. If anyone is kindly interested, could you please contact us privately on this matter.”

*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 [ferniefjimmy@aol.com](mailto:ferniefjimmy@aol.com)*



## ROVER REPORTER .....

(aka Bootsie 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)

**THIS MONTH WE ARE TALKING TO KAREN WHO LIVES IN PERTH WITH HER GREYHOUND, FINN ...**

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

4 years almost to the day. He says it feels like longer!

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

I laugh lots more! Seriously, he's a hoot and I swear he has a sense of humour! Also he opened my eyes to the plight of racing greyhounds once their careers are over which in turn inspired me to volunteer at GRF. I love going to Baltree on a Sunday and have met loads of fab people and made many new friends.

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

I now have a regular bedtime. Finn heads to bed at 9.45pm sharp and if I'm not upstairs within half an hour he reappears and stares pointedly at me before stalking back out and back upstairs. He then repeats every 15 minutes til I give in.

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

He has a gas problem. It's not too bad when we're on our own but he must get a bit excited when we have guests as he's 100 times worse. When I notice them going green I have to put him out the room. It's that bad!

**5) What 3 words would you use to describe Finn**

Totally, utterly, spoiled!

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

Go for it! They really don't ask for much and they give you so much in return.

7) **Any funny hound stories?**

Loads! Never a dull moment with Finn around! My favourite is the time I took him out for a walk on a nice autumn day. Suddenly serenity was shattered as Finn let out his 'I am dead' greyhound scream of death. I nearly had heart failure and this wee man shot round the corner shouting 'what's wrong, what happened'? I was mortified as I held up a leaf and explained 'it was stuck to his foot'! I'm sure that man to this day believes I was savagely beating my dog before he appeared!



## **Other News ...**

### **Lucky Numbers Draws - January, February & March:**

An update from Fiona:

"I just want to start by apologising for there being no draws in January and February 2013. This was as a result of there being no organised walks and me not getting an opportunity to make the draw in a "witnessed" place, therefore, at the first walk of the year, in Dunfermline, three draws took place.

Each month we had the same numbers, therefore making it easy to draw the three months. We drew January first, recorded the winning number, returned the ball to the draw and then drew February and then March.

For each month 56 numbers were sold, giving a total prize fund of £112.00. The winner for each month received £44.80, and GRF received £67.20 x 3 giving a total of £201.60.

Jimmy drew the three winning numbers:

*January was won by Karen Hamilton with number 81*

*February was won by Diane Smith with number 25*

*March was won by Laura Whiteford with number 84*

Congratulations to all three ladies.

Thank you to everyone who continues to participate."

### **Asda Tokens:**

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of March, Jen posted the following on the Forum:

"I don't know if you all shop at Asda, or at least some of you, but if you are aware of the small green tokens you are given after a shop, which you then place in the charity box of your choice.

Last September I e-mailed Asda, on a whim, to see if they would select Greyhound Rescue Fife and today I received the good news that they had!

Can you all start shopping in Asda in Glenrothes (ha ha), and put your wee green token in there, or if not ask friends and family who do shop there to put them in.

If we receive the most tokens, I think GRF get a lump sum of money. This would be an amazing boost for the kennels if they got this."

I understand, from Jen, that the tokens need to be in by the end of April 2013.

Please contact Jen, via the Forum, if you want any more information about this.

### **A Famous visitor:**

We've had a very well known, and highly respected, person at our kennels this month - Craig Levein, the well known ex Scottish Football Manager and international player, visited our kennels with his wife Carol. They are great dog lovers, and gave up their valuable time deliberately to raise greyhound awareness.

Craig & Carol are an extremely nice couple, and they enjoyed seeing the dogs. Miraculously they escaped without Celia re-homing them a greyhound!

All of us at GRF would like to thank them for giving up their valuable time to help our cause.



### **Building Warrant:**

We are still awaiting this - sometimes Jimmy & Celia wonder if they will ever get started on their building - so much red tape ☹

### **Race Night at Thornton:**

We are having a race night put on for us at Thornton track on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April. We thank George Allen, James Shand, and all concerned for organising this for us.

### **Vet's Corner:**

Will be back next month.

Meantime, if there are any topics you would like to see covered, please let me know.

### **A Happy Ending:**

On the 6<sup>th</sup> March, Celia & Jimmy posted on the Forum about a missing greyhound, Dancer, who had been missing since the 24<sup>th</sup> February. Dancer seemed to be covering an area between Leven & Lower Largo. Her owners were frantic, particularly given how bad the weather was at that time.



Posters were put up, and searches made - there were various reported sightings of her .... and then, on the 13<sup>th</sup> March, when we had all but given up hope - she was found, safe and well ☺ Don't you love a happy ending !!?

### **and finally ...**

Your Greyhound Rescue Fife Dog Show 2013 poster is on the next page ... !!!

Print it out, and put it on your office notice board, in your local shop, or anywhere else it will get noticed - **remember**, we need as big a turn out as possible to make this event a success, and raise lots of money for our homeless hounds.





**The Catering Equipment  
Company**

**Are delighted to be sponsoring  
Greyhound Rescue Fife's  
Sixth Annual Dog Show**

**Greyhound Rescue Fife  
Dog Show On The 12<sup>th</sup>  
May 2013**

**PLEASE COME ALONG TO THE DOG  
SHOW TO HELP THE GREYHOUNDS**

[www.greyhoundrescuefife.com](http://www.greyhoundrescuefife.com)



**Designed by Lee Ogilvie  
Starley Hall School**



Please note this show is held Indoors  
and there is plenty of free parking available!!!

**Ticket Prices!**

**Advance tickets**

**£3.50 Per Adult, accompanied under 16's free**

Tickets available from GRF Baltree Kennels,

Gairneybank,

Nr. Kinross, KY13 9JY

Or at our organised dog walks.

**On the day!**

**£4.00 Per Adult, accompanied under 16's free**

**Entry For All Dog Classes!**

£1 per dog in every class

**Caldwell's Farm, Collessie,  
By Ladybank, Fife,  
KY15 7UY.**

**Doors Open 11:00**

**First Class 11:30**