

GRF



NEWS

Designed by Sally E Calder

May/June 2013

*Changing the world
one greyhound at a time!*

Welcome to this 'double' Newsletter, which will cover everything that has happened, at Greyhound Rescue Fife, since the end of April.

Apologies for not producing a Newsletter at the end of May, however, as many of you will know Mo was taken into hospital on Sunday 19th May, and had an operation on Tuesday 21st. Her recovery has been slow, but she is now getting back to her 'normal' self ... !!

We will start this edition by taking a look back at our 6th Annual Dog Show, which took place on Sunday 12th May. After months of planning (starting directly after the last Show), we had a fabulous day at our 6th Annual GRF Show, with just under **£2,400.00** raised !! Alex tells me that since its conception, the show has raised just over **£15,000** - a phenomenal amount!

Thanks to **everybody** who helped make this another successful Show for GRF. Special thanks must go to William & Linda Moffat of Moffat, The Catering Equipment Co., who once again agreed to sponsor our Show. Without their continued support, it would be difficult for us to put on a Show of this magnitude - we are very much indebted to them. Special thanks must also go to Alex & Lynne Morrison without whom, the show simply wouldn't happen. Thanks, also, to Michele & Nic for the enormous amount of hard work they put into the organisation. There really are so many people to thank, that I am not going to try to name them individually in case I miss someone out, or offend anyone! I should, however, thank George Petrie for his photography, Vicky Findlay for Judging the classes, all the Sponsors, the stall holders, and every one of you who turned up on the day to support us. This year, I helped with a bit of organisation by way of getting sponsors (both individual and companies) and, let me tell you, that in the current economic climate, this was not an easy exercise. Everyone is feeling the pinch, so a **HUGE** thank-you to everybody who dug deep and ensured the success of the day for the Homeless Hounds at Baltree.

Sisters, Pippa & Poppy, were re-homed after the show which was wonderful news, and the main aim of the event ☺

I have almost recovered from the embarrassment of Jimmy starting a chorus of 'Happy Birthday' ... well sung Jimmy! What we haven't got over was missing the tannoy announcement (which we were the only ones not to hear!) to alert us to the fact that Bootsie, who yowled through most of the announcements, was ripping apart one of our car head-rests!

We very much missed Celia's presence at this year's Show, but are glad to hear that she is recovering well.

The overall winner, of this year's Show, was the winner of the Junior Handler Class, Beth with Queenie - a well deserved win and one that, I believe, made it into the local paper!



The winners of each of the classes won a trophy (*Rosettes & Trophies were sponsored in memory of Nanette Petrie*), a specially embroidered bandana (*sponsored by our Rover Reporter aka Bootsie*) and a large bag of dog food, plus various other treats (*kindly donated by local companies and businesses*).

The first six in each class were as follows:

1) **Best Junior Handler** (*sponsored by the Show organisers*):

Winner:	Beth with Queenie
2 nd Place:	Mathew with Blue
3 rd Place:	Rachael with Tara
4 th Place:	Sebastian with Belle
5 th Place:	Flyn with Roxy
6 th Place:	Keir / Cara with Freya

2) **Best Male Greyhound** (*sponsored by Chris Mathewson, aka Bootsie's Granny*):

Winner: Elaine with Billy
2nd Place: Rebecca with Rocky
3rd Place: Fraser with Billy
4th Place: Lynn with Clyde
5th Place: Lynn with Bhan
6th Place: Steve with Kell

3) **Best Non-Greyhound** (*sponsored by the Show organisers*):

Winner: Vicky with Beau
2nd Place: Innes with Bonny
3rd Place: Esther with Jeff
4th Place: Linda with Molly
5th Place: Nic with Tara
6th Place: Sandra with Yogi

4) **Best Family of Dogs** (*sponsored by the McCurdy Family*)

Winner: Jennie & John with Tara, Jake, Noah & Lucy
2nd Place: Fiona with Pasco, Hudson & Zephyr
3rd Place: David with Missy & Bhan
4th Place: Moira & Keiran with Rory & Nellie
5th Place: Sebastian with Blanca, Belle & Zuco
6th Place: Carolyn with Roxy, Tyson & Bonnie

5) **Most Loveable Face** (*sponsored by Walkies, Perth*)

Winner: Aidan with Annie
2nd Place: Kate with Poppy
3rd Place: Kalia with Duchess
4th Place: Eve with Beauty
5th Place: Jackie with Blue
6th Place: Sandra with Yogi

6) **Best Female Greyhound** (*sponsored by Pharoah, Freya, Jet & Yoshi*)

Winner: Kate with Sophie
2nd Place: Sean with Trixie
3rd Place: Alan with Blue
4th Place: Cara with Freya
5th Place: Jake with Lola
6th Place: Elaine with Lucy

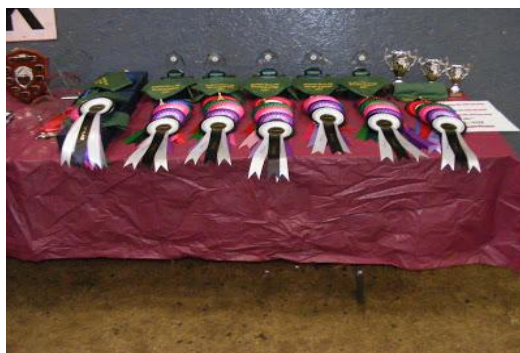
7) **Best in Show** (*sponsored by Moffat, The Catering Equipment Co.*)

Best in Show: Beth with Queenie
Runner Up: Elaine with Billy
3rd Place: Isobel with Annie
4th Place: Vicky with Beau
5th Place: Kate with Sophie
6th Place: Jenny with Tara

Work has already begun on the 7th GRF Show, so please think about any classes you would like to sponsor, or anyone you know (individual or local business) who would like to either sponsor, donate or have a stall on the day.

We look forward to seeing you all again in May 2014

Here are some photos from the day - enjoy!





To see more photos, from the day, please click on 'Fife Forum', and see George, Morag, Billy & Lassie's post dated 14th May 2013 (page 1).

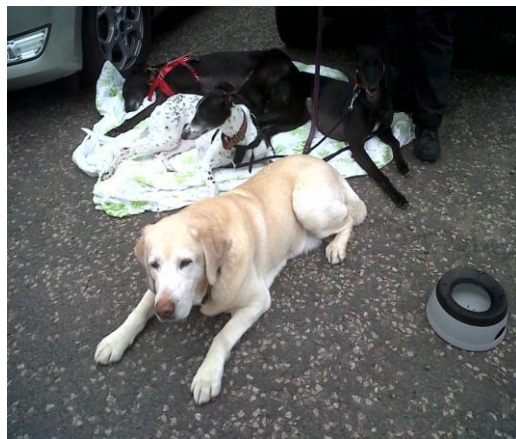
May Walk in Perth ...

The May walk was held on Sunday 5th May, just a week before our 6th Annual GRF dog show. It started at the Bell's car park, in Perth, and travelled around Perth North Inch. I was unable to walk, due to having tendonitis, however, I was reliably informed that Jess did a great job, leading this beautiful walk on a lovely sunny Sunday!

The **Lucky Numbers Draw**, for May, was made after the walk:

Fiona (pictured below) advised that 59 numbers had been sold, giving us a prize fund of £118.00. This was split as £70.80 to GRF, and £47.20 to the winner, Lorraine McMillan.

Fiona would like to thank everyone who takes part, and helps make a little money for the homeless hounds.



It was a great day, but too much for Bolt who lay down on this duvet, and refused to budge when it came to home time !!! Wishing you a speedy recovery from your recent op Bolt.

June walk at Lochore Meadows ...

The walk, on 2nd June, was held at the beautiful Lochore Meadows Country Park. This was a fantastic walk. Thanks go, as ever, to Fiona for her Lucky Numbers Draw and, also, to Tracy who makes such wonderful cakes to raise money for the homeless hounds.

The **Lucky Numbers Draw**, for June, was made at the walk:

Fiona advised that 62 numbers had been sold, giving us a prize fund of £124.00. This was split as £74.40 to GRF and £49.60 to the winner, Bootsie (aka our Rover Reporter!). Bootsie bought his Mummy Mo a big bunch of 'Get Well' flowers with his winnings, and he bought me a much needed, and very large, glass of wine !!!



From the Dog House ...

Dogs in since April Newsletter:

Fly, Buddy, Ben, Timmy, Foxy, Gav, Kitty, Dora, Dotty, Farah, Fire & Moon (12)

Dogs out since April Newsletter:

Jock, Sam, Patch, Davie, Poppy, Pippa, Bluey, Rex, Eva, Buddy, Brett, Nikkie, Ben, Raven, Abbie & Cracker (16)

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?

Steve



Steve is a smashing black boy! He is very friendly towards everybody, and is good with his fellow greyhounds. He is very easy to walk on a lead, and travels extremely well in a car. A very good looking boy, who will make an excellent pet greyhound.

Pam



Pam is a very nice dark brindle girl - her coat is beautiful. She is no problem to walk on a lead, and is very friendly with people - she keeps looking out of her kennel at everyone, waiting for one of you to take her home!

We have featured this next dog previously, however, it would be lovely to see her get the forever home she so deserves ... when we arrived at the Kennels to 'choose' a greyhound, the first person we met was Jess, who had been out walking Maisie - that was in January 2012 ...

Maisie



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

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 fernijimmyf@aol.com

Note: *It has been brought to my attention that I have been missing a letter from the e-mail address - the above is the correct address. Apologies to anyone who has been trying to e-mail the incorrect one.*

Vet's Corner ...

A question we hear regularly is *“how much exercise does my new pet greyhound require?”* ...

The common misconception, amongst owners and prospective owners, is that a retired racing greyhound needs lots of exercise. This is not the case, as many quickly take to the sofa and it can be hard to persuade them to move from their new-found comfort!

However, as a minimum, a healthy retired greyhound should manage two 20 minute walks each day, although many will cope with much more. If you want to give your dog more exercise you should build it up gradually as many may have had only limited exercise opportunity whilst in the care of a Rescue Centre.

Remember - greyhounds retire from racing for many reasons, but one of these is injury. Although those dogs may be able to cope with gentle exercise, such as short walks, anything more risks aggravating that old injury and causing pain or stiffness. The problem is, of course, that most of us do not know why our pet was retired - it could have been because of injury, or simply because he/she wasn't a 'good' racer.

Contrary to popular belief, a greyhound **can** be over-exercised. Think about it ... when your pet was racing the exercise was intense, but came in very short bursts.

Also remember that, on hot summer days, it is best to do the longer walks early morning and late evening where possible. Carry a bottle of water with you, as dogs can become dehydrated just like us!



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

THIS MONTH WE ARE TALKING TO THE WILLIAMSON FAMILY WHO LIVE IN CONDORRAT WITH THEIR GREYHOUND SALLI ...

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

We have had Salli for 4 years. We got her a few weeks after Jess passed away. Well I say we got her - we went on one of the walks, in fact it was in Dunfermline, and Celia came up to us and asked if we would take Salli for a walk, to help out, and you can guess the rest is history!

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

We also have another greyhound called Jack, so we already knew what changes it made to our family. It brings a close family even closer. With having 2 greys, you have to learn to be disciplined on who does what in looking after them. Holidays and day trips have to be planned plus they are just the best dogs to take on holiday.

Salli also makes you feel safe as she is the best guard dog we have had, because if people walk past, or come to the door boy can she bark, but if she knows them she will not bark as loud.

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

We have also Jack so we knew already what love, joy and companionship greys can bring to a person's life. Salli fills these and **more**.

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

Salli, at the start, was a very unsettled dog - she had just finished racing, and could not settle. We, at one stage, thought she would have to go back as she was giving Jack a hard time.

Hair - we were told greys don't cast much well they did not say it does not apply to brindles, hair everywhere. That's all as our two don't steal anything from work tops or bins.

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

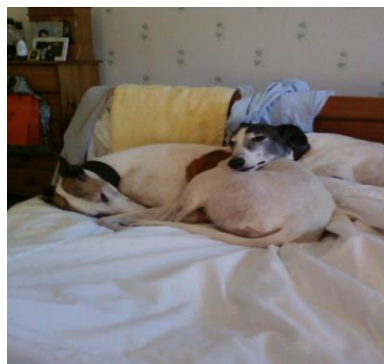
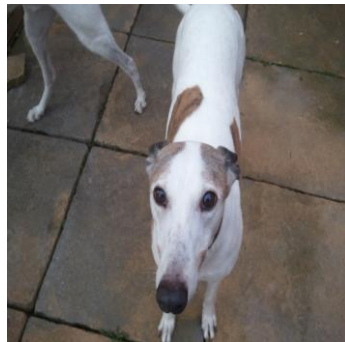
Intelligent, Loving, Joy.

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

Do your research on them, visit rescue centres and get to know them, be available and don't leave them too long. Be prepared to be forgiving at the start, as they have been in kennels for a long time with other greys. Big garden with high fence where possible.

7) **Any funny hound stories?**

Salli will sit a lot, which you don't see greys do very often. She will hold a conversation with you - it is so funny, she sits beside you and tells you some story. I would love to know what she is saying!



Over the Rainbow Bridge ...

Liz Millar sadly lost Brogan on May 14th - run free sweet Brogan. You will live on in your Mum's heart, and memories, forever.



We were also very sad to hear, from Isobel Taggart, that the lovely Annie had died on June 24th.

Our Rover Reporter talked to Isobel & Gary about Annie, Mikey & Dilly in the September 2012 Newsletter - when asked for three words to describe Annie, they were 'Gorgeous, Perfect & Irreplaceable'.

Annie, Mikey & Dilly also featured in this year's calendar, in May, and of course were at the dog show, Annie winning 'Most Loveable Face', which indeed she had - she had the most wonderful eyes. She then came 3rd in Best of Show.

RIP Annie, run free sweet girl.



Annie: Gorgeous, Perfect & Irreplaceable

Other News ...

Thanks to SSE:

We have had several more visits from SSE staff who, yet again, kindly give us their 'make a difference days' - and what a difference they make to us! We must thank SSE for continuing to allow their staff to come and provide invaluable help.

Jimmy & Celia's Baltree House:

Is now only about nine weeks from completion, so they are getting very excited about the impending move!

Yellow Dog Project:

Shevaun, who recently re-homed Eva and Rex, has made a plea for more people to be aware of a campaign that gives dogs 'space' when they are out for a walk. The 'Yellow Dog Project' involves a yellow ribbon being tied to a dog's lead, or the dog wearing a yellow bandana, which lets other pet owners know to keep their pooches at a safe distance. Shevaun found out about the project several months ago, when she saw a poster advertising it in the waiting room at her vet's. At that time, she had a sociable golden retriever so whilst she thought it to be a good idea, it did not strike home.

Since then, however, Shevaun's much loved retriever has died, and the family have now re-homed two retired greyhounds, neither of whom is keen on socialising with other dogs! Shevaun told the local paper *"Rex is the slightly better of the two, but Eva had spent two years in the Rescue Centre and is only now coming out of her shell. It's while taking them out on walks that we meet off-lead dogs who can come bounding up, causing fear and alarm. If more owners knew what a yellow ribbon on a lead signified, it could make a big difference."*

Yellow Dog UK was started in November 2012, as a part of the International Gulahund campaign, which was originally launched in Sweden and now covers about 20 countries. The campaign relies on the public to pass the message on and educate each other.



West Fife Show:

Ann, Karen, Jess & Averil attended the West Fife Show on June 1st to promote Greyhound awareness. They took Steve, Max and Raven all wearing their red '*I need a Home*' jackets. Averil also took her two dogs, Morgan & Jack. The ladies spent a bit of time chatting to interested people walking round the show.



Ladies, and greyhounds, who lunch ...

Great British Greyhound Walk on June 23rd:

This, national annual event, was held, at Riverside Nature Park in Dundee, on Sunday 23rd June and was organised by Kaz & Pat - thank you guys!

Kaz & Pat would like to thank those of you who turned up for the walk. There was a total of 10 hounds. Michelle & Nic also sent a photo from Gairloch beach, where they are on holiday, to prove that they had their own walk, so the total was 12 hounds, and 1 non-hound!

£21.00 was raised, by the raffle, which goes to GRF.

Fundraising on eBay:

I have started doing this, although need to get my tutorial from Kaz yet! Things have been slightly delayed due to my nursing skills being required when Mo came home from hospital!

I am pleased to say, however, that I have made my first sale! Monika kindly donated a fleece that she had bought for Jess, which turned out to be too small. All proceeds go to GRF.

If you have anything you would like to donate, to be sold on eBay, please contact me on bobbynetherland@dsl.pipex.com Thank you.

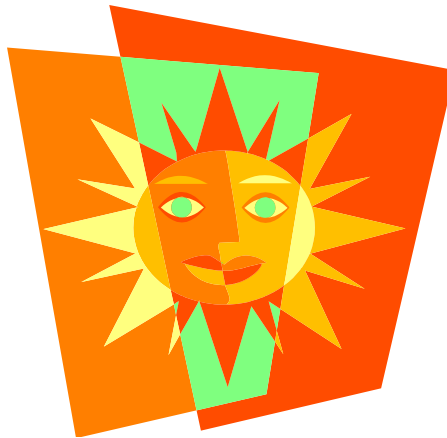
GRF Summer Fete:

Kerri loved the dog show so much, that she decided it would be a nice idea to organise another big event for the summer.

The Summer Fete, therefore, is planned for Saturday 24th August, and is being held at the Kirkcaldy Scout Hall at Dunnikier Estate. The Fete will run from 12 noon until 4:00pm.

Kerri has already received lots of offers of help and support, as well as offers to host stalls, however, I believe she is holding a planning meeting, at GRF, on Monday 1st July so, if you are able to help her out, she would be delighted to hear from you!

Please get in touch with Kerri via the GRF Forum (heading 'GRF Summer Fete').



and finally ...

Our next walk will be held on Sunday 7th July at Kinross, leaving from Loch Leven Kirkgate Park, car park, at 11:00am.

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

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