

GRF



NEWS

Designed by Sally E Calder

July 2015

*Changing the world
one greyhound at a time!*

Welcome to the Greyhound Rescue Fife Newsletter for July 2015 - this Newsletter covers everything that has happened at GRF since April.

By now, most of you will be enjoying your summer holidays and we very much enjoy seeing your photos, on the Forum, of your hounds enjoying themselves in various locations ~ please keep them coming!

Firstly we will take a look back at our, hugely successful, 8th Annual Dog Show which was held, in May, at Caldwell's Farm and sponsored by Moffat, The Catering Equipment Company.

We will also be catching up on the monthly walks, Lucky Numbers draws, dogs coming in to the Kennels and the 'Lucky Ones', who have been re-homed. As ever, we will be making an appeal on behalf of 2 Kennel dogs currently awaiting their forever home / couch / bed ... !!

Your Rover Reporter reports on the Scottish Greyhound Gathering, which was held at Manderston on 18th July.

Anyway there's LOADS to get through so, without further ado, let's get going ...

Our front page pictures, in this edition, have to be of our very own golden couple, Celia & Jimmy, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 3rd July. Many congratulations to you both, and here's to many more happy & healthy years together.



Susan Mathewson
Editor

Our 'Fifty Shades of Greyhound' 8th Annual Dog Show took place on Sunday 31st May at Caldwell's Farm kindly sponsored by Moffat, The Catering Equipment Company. Although numbers were down slightly this year, we still raised the AMAZING amount of £3,023.00 for our homeless hounds! So, a HUGE thank-you to all of you who came along on the day, and dug deep to help make the Show such a success.



Before the Show started, we were delighted to welcome Shorna, Dougie & Gabby to the ring. Gabby (previously known as Gaga), as you will know, is the brave wee soul who lost her front leg to cancer. We had an appeal running for Gabby throughout the show, which raised £127.63 on the day.



And so to the Show Classes ...

Junior Handler:

- 1st - Megan with Bonnie
- 2nd - Isla with Maggie
- 3rd - Cameron with Peggy



Best Male Greyhound:

- 1st - Ian with Kev
- 2nd - Annette with Dougie
- 3rd - Erine with Bobby



Best Non-Greyhound:

- 1st - Alison with Tia
- 2nd - Angela with Zeus
- 3rd - Lee with Sky



Best Family of Dogs:

- 1st - Corine & Steve with Drake, Bobby & Kerry
2nd - Mike & Rachel with Frosty & Danny
3rd - Elaine & Steve with Rab & Pepper



Best Golden Oldie:

- 1st - Moira with Nelly
2nd - Jake with Sam
3rd - Joanne with Len



Best Female Greyhound:

- 1st - Rosie with Zeva
2nd - Rob with Abbey
3rd - Sharon & Cameron with Peggy



And so, after much deliberation by our Judge, Bob Hesketh from GRF's own Vet, Vetrica, we came to the much coveted 'Best in Show':



1st - Ian with Kev (from the Male Greyhound Class)
2nd - Megan with Bonnie (from the Junior Handler Class)
3rd - Corine & Steve with Drake (from The Best Family of Dogs Class)



Many congratulations to all of our winners and especially to Kev, who was our Best in Show 2015!

Now, we move on to "thank-you's" ...

Firstly, we must thank Alex & Lynne Morrison for their tireless work on the Dog Show. Many of you have said how much you enjoyed the Rover Reporter's Interview with Alex in the last Newsletter.



Without Alex, the Show simply would not happen and, over the past 8 years, it has raised over £20,000.00 - an amazing achievement by a truly amazing person - thank you Alex, on behalf of all at Greyhound Rescue Fife.

Thank you, too, to our main Sponsors, Moffat The Catering Equipment Company for, once again, sponsoring our Show.



We must also thank:

George & Morag Petrie for the production of the programme, and for the many wonderful photographs which serve as a great record of a happy day;

Michele & Nic for their involvement and hard work before, and on, the day;

Alex also kindly thanked Mo & I for our work in the lead-up to the Show;

Katherine, and her Dad, for giving us the use of the Equestrian Centre - it makes such a difference to know that, come rain or shine, the Show can always go ahead;

Lynne & Fiona for 'manning' the Registration desk;

Fife Press for the great publicity;

EVERY single one of our sponsors - Class Sponsors, Sponsors of our Trophies, Rosettes, Bandanas and Hall;

EVERY single one of you who had a stall at the Show ~ will not try & name you individually, as I'm bound to miss out someone! Your support of the Show is greatly appreciated ~ thank you.

Thank you too to everybody who donated items to our Tombola and Raffle, and to those who helped out on stalls, making tea & coffee, and selling raffle tickets.

In short, a BIG thank-you to EVERYBODY involved in the success of our 8th Annual Dog Show ... until the 9th, here are a few more photos of the day!



From the Dog House ...

Since the last Newsletter, dogs in and out of Baltree are as follows:

DOGS IN:

Oscar, Maddie, Zeus, Fred, Noel, Bluey, Prince (black & white), Prince (brindle), Tam, Connolly, Danni, Sweep, Lassie, Lionel, Pat, Suzi, Honda, Tippy, Jake, Dreamer, Alice, Rita, Star, Charlie, Belle, Darth, Saxon, Sarah, Dino, Roger, Lily, Macie, Hope, Freddie, Rainbow, Dandy, Barney, Bella, Starley & Sophie (40)

DOGS OUT:

Rocky, Barney, Frosty, Danny, Sooty, Bluey, Prince (black & white), Suzi, Tippy, Zeus, Danni, Connolly, Bonnie, Honda, Candy, Prince (brindle), Sweep, Lionel & Star (19)

As you can see, there are many more dogs coming into our Kennels than are going out ~ 40 in, and only 19 out, so let's make a HUGE effort to spread the word about GRF, and the beautiful residents who are looking for their forever homes. In the last Newsletter, I appealed for homes for Gem & Sky (who are, sadly, still in Kennels) and Prince, who was recovering from a particularly nasty break to his leg - I am delighted to be able to report that Prince has now found his forever home, and is recuperating well.

Can YOU help one of these dogs find the forever home they so desperately want ...

Steve



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

Rainbow



Rainbow is a very quiet little brindle girl. She gets on very well with all the other greyhounds. Rainbow is a dream to walk on a lead, and loves you to take her walkies! She makes you feel very welcome when you meet her, and she settles down very well in a car. A smashing little girl who deserves a loving home.

As ever, if you would like more information on the dogs featured above, or indeed any of our other dogs in the 'Please Choose Me' section, then please contact Jimmy or Celia on mobile number 07826-244765, or by e-mail on fernjejimmyf@aol.com

Monthly Walks ...

Sadly, due to inclement weather, our May walk, due to take place in Perth, had to be cancelled.

June - West Wemyss:

This was a new walk. Unfortunately, we couldn't make it, and I'm guessing that Steve Dowd couldn't either, so there are no photos to capture the day! I understand that it was a beautiful day, and that the walk was very much enjoyed by all who attended.

July - Lochore Meadows:

Despite a smaller than usual turn-out, it was a beautiful day for this walk, but not too hot for the dogs. Steve captured the day for us and a few of his, excellent, photos are shown below.



Our next walk is this coming Sunday, 2nd August, and will be in Kinross at Loch Leven. We leave from the Kingsgate Park car park at 11am, and walk to Burleigh Sands car park and back.

There are road works in Kinross High Street, so you if you are approaching from the north you must follow the diversion signs to bring you round to the southern side of the High Street.

Remember ... doggies on leads, and pickupdapoo !!!! We look forward to seeing you there.

Lucky Numbers Draws:

The lucky numbers for the May & June draws were made by Celia ...

In May, 58 numbers were sold giving a total of £116.00. This was split as £69.60 to GRF, and £46.40 to the winner, who was me with No. 21 !!!! I donated my winnings to the Kennels.

In June, the prize fund was £118.00 - £70.80 to GRF, and £47.20 to the winner who was my Mum, Chris Mathewson, with No. 55 - well done Mum, think Bootsie came out of that pretty well!

59 numbers were again sold in July, giving us a prize fund of £118.00 ... Nikky & Willie Miller won, and generously donated their winnings, £47.20, to the Kennels.

Thanks to Fiona for her continued admin of the Lucky Numbers Draw, and to all who take part, good luck for August!

Thank-You's ...

There are a large numbers of "thank-you's" to be said:

Willie & Linda Moffat:

Firstly, a heartfelt thank you to Willie & Linda Moffat, not only for being the main Sponsors of our Dog Show, but for their very generous donation of a full four unit stainless steel kitchen, which was manufactured individually to fit into our space. It looks magnificent (see photo below).



Sainsburys:

Our wonderful year at Sainsburys is now over, and we would like to say an ENORMOUS 'thank-you' to the Staff, and all the kind customers, who supported us so well throughout the year. Your support, and the money raised, has been a huge boost to our work.

W. & M. Harbison:

On behalf of GRF, Bert McCurdy would like to thank W & M Harbison, and customers, for their continued help. There was the fantastic sum of £93.45 in the collecting pail. We really do appreciate any help or gifts that we receive ~ EVERY penny that we receive goes toward the upkeep of the Kennels, and the welfare of our dogs.

Wallace Medical Centre, Falkirk:

On behalf of GRF, Bert McCurdy would like to thank the Wallace Medical Centre in Falkirk for their very kind donation of £38.26.

P. Brannan Butchers, Fauldhouse:

Thanks also go to P. Brannan Butchers, Fauldhouse, and their customers for the sum of £15.06, and for their donations in the past.

Gairneybankies:

Jimmy & Celia would like to thanks Gary Crawford, Zeus and his family for collecting, via their 'Gairney Bar', a super total of £142.80 for our homeless greyhounds!

Jimmy's Birthday:

It was Jimmy's birthday back in May, and he was given a lovely party at the Kennels by fellow birthday-ite, Jackie (in photo with Jimmy), Alan & Sally. Jackie & Alan provided the wonderful cake. Jimmy would like to thank all involved.

**Other News ...****Moira:**

Moira continues to fundraise for GRF by selling her plants (see photo on the Dog Show Report pages). If you are interested in buying plants / planters from Moira, please contact her via the GRF Forum.

I bought my parents two of Moira's planters at the Dog Show, and they are ABSOLUTELY stunning ~ will be getting our orders in for next summer Moira! Thank you.

Bikes:

Alan Bruce has done up lots of bikes, and sold them to raise funds for our homeless hounds ~ he is a star!

Unfortunately, Alan has run out of old bikes so If anyone has a bike that is in the garage, unused and unwanted, Alan would gladly do it up and sell it for our dogs.

Please get in touch with Jimmy via the Forum, and he will pass your details on to Alan.

Canine Capers, Falkirk:

Greyhound Rescue Fife were invited along to this event, at Helix Park, on 13th June. Bert & Irene attended with the GRF Stall. Bert does an enormous amount of work for GRF, and we owe him a huge debt of gratitude.

Bert would like to thank Annette Ramage and her family for supporting GRF at this event - they were duly rewarded when their dog, Dougie, who came 2nd in the Best Male Greyhound Class at our Dog Show, took 3rd prize !!!!

Also, after leaving Helix Park, Annette and her family went to visit friends in North Berwick - there was a dog show on there, so they entered Dougie again and, this time, he won 1st prize for 'Best Sporting Dog' - congratulations Dougie, you are a true ambassador for your breed!

A Beautiful Visit:

Recently the well known Scottish beauty queen, Kirsty Leighton, visited our Kennels!

Kirsty, and her family, rehomed Fred from GRF, and Kirsty spent a day volunteering with us. She is currently Miss. Edinburgh International, and we wish her every success in the Miss. UK International which is coming up soon. The photo, below, shows Kirsty with some of our staff members, and Volunteers.



Great British Greyhound Walk:

This is an annual event which was, this year, held on Sunday 21st June. It is a dog-walking event that brings together greyhounds, lurchers, other sighthounds and their owners to raise awareness of the breeds, and show the public just what wonderful pets they make. This year the walk went international, with 41 worldwide walks and 109 UK walks - a new record! Michele organised the GRF walk, which took place in Dundee - attendance was, disappointingly, low but was enjoyed by those who attended.

Paws to the Rescue Auction:

Michele & Nic and Pat & Kaz were involved in the organisation of this event from the GRF side. The Facebook group 'Paws to the Rescue' chose GRF to be the cause that their next, online, Facebook auction would be in aid of. This Auction ran from the 4th - 11th July, and donations of items were accepted to be included. I bought a lovely necklace, and bidding was pretty frantic on many items! Jimmy & Celia's 'gast was flabbered' when Michele & Nic presented them with a cheque for the wonderful amount of £657.07, from the Auction, for the homeless hounds at Baltree - this money will go a long way to helping with medical, and other, bills.

Building Work:

Jimmy reports that the building work at the Kennels has slowed down terribly. He hopes it will be finished off very soon, as the new flooring cannot be laid until the building work is complete.

Jilly Cooper's Feather:

On 26th May, Jimmy posted on the Forum telling us that Jilly Cooper, the well known authoress, and friend of GRF, had just lost Feather, one of her two greyhounds.

Subsequently, on 5th July, there was a very poignant article in The Mail on Sunday, written by Jilly Cooper, about her beloved greyhound - there is a link to the piece on the Forum (on 5th July and headed 'Daily Mail'), and I will also take some hard copies of it and leave them, along with this Newsletter, at the Kennels for anyone who doesn't have computer access.

Feather is now buried at the bottom of Jilly's garden along with, quote, 'all the other animals who have padded and trotted and scampered their way through our household and into our hearts over the years. Labradors, mongrels, cats and hamsters, all tucked up together under the earth, each with their own gravestone and inscription.' Feather's gravestone will read 'In loving memory of Feather, whose noble heart only failed because he gave so much of it away.'

Beautiful sentiments and a heartfelt piece - I'm sure everyone at Greyhound Rescue Fife joins me in sending our deepest condolences to Jilly, and also our thanks for the awareness that she helps to raise of the plight of the greyhound. Run free, over the Bridge, sweet Feather.

John Davidson:

On 14th June, Jenny Davidson posted on the Forum telling us of the death of her beloved husband John - he was only 46.

We send our deepest sympathies to you Jenny, and hope that you know that you have many, many friends in the GRF family whose thoughts are with you, many of whom have happy memories of John's great sense of humour.

The Rover Reporter's Round-Up ...

Please forgive me for being self-indulgent for a moment ... I was thrilled to win 4th place in the Best Male Greyhound class at the GRF Show ... my Mummies, and Granny, were even more thrilled! I tried very hard to be better behaved this year. I did still bark a little bit (well ok quite a lot), but at least I didn't eat any car parts!



On the subject of wins, and continuing my self-indulgence (sorry), we had a fantastic day out at the Scottish Greyhound Gathering, which was held in the beautiful surroundings of Manderston in the Scottish Borders. Bert & Irene were in attendance with the Greyhound Rescue Fife stall, and it was great to meet so many other dogs (and owners!) from different parts of the country, as well as some other GRF friends, including Annette & Pepsi and Richard, Liz, Carrie, Squeek & Spot!

There were two show rings, a Fancy Dress Class (SO cute Pepsi!), a huge variety of stalls AND it was a beautiful, sunny day! I won two rosettes on the day, which was very exciting and unexpected ~ it was exhausting, as you will see from the photos below ...



A couple of other things I want to bring to your attention ...

Giant Hogweed:

Please, friends, be careful to avoid this - there have been lots of warnings in the Newspapers recently about the dangers of this poisonous plant, which grows in places such as riverbanks. This plant can harm both us, and our two-leggers.

Pony the Greyhound ~ Missing in Keswick / Cumbria:

We were staying in Cumbria last weekend and were very sad to learn about Pony, a 4 year old greyhound, who had gone missing whilst out walking with his family who are on holiday in the area.

This is Pony ~ he is a dark brindle, with a white bib, adult male greyhound who went missing from Fells near Keswick ~ Cat Bells / Maiden Moor Area (CA12) ~ on Wednesday 22nd July.



If you happen to be on holiday / business in that area, please keep an eye out for Pony and, should you see him, please contact 07967 948861 or 07989 444401. Thank you.

Your Rover Reporter, Bootsie x

