

# GRF



# NEWS

January 2017

*Welcome to the January edition of the Greyhound Rescue Fife Newsletter. Edited by Kaz and Pat Brundell*

*Apologies for no newsletter in December. With all the pre-Christmas madness and work commitments it was not possible to get a newsletter out in time. Pat and I hope you all had a great Christmas and would like to wish all GRF supporters and their hounds a very happy 2017. Kaz Brundell*

### In this month's issue:

News from the Kennels  
GRF Dog of the Month  
Monthly Walks  
2016 Calendar Hounds – Where are they now?  
Niel McGill – fundraising for GRF  
Attention Dog Walkers!  
Sofa News from TH  
P.A.W. – Paws Across the World  
What your Greyhound is thinking  
Trivia Quiz  
Young GRF members Section

### News from the kennels

### Dogs in and out since the last newsletter

**IN:** BOBBY, SAMMY, REBEL. BARRY, SUE, BRENDA, HOLLY, MISSY, NED, MIRANDA, GATSBY, TUX, HUDSON AND KENNY

**OUT:** ELSA, PAT, SAPPHIRE, RUBY, ANNETTE, VEGAS, SAMMY, BONNIE, CHARLES, CASSIDY, BARRY, SUE AND MAXI

**BOARDING** Armadale track has closed plus we are keeping all the dogs inside in the warm so, unless already booked, we are not boarding any more dogs until April

There are still a few 2017 Desk and Wall Calendars available. Those that are left are available on EBay – Item numbers 262766733941 for the Wall Calendar and Item Number 262805087120 for the desk calendar and are postage free (in the UK only)!! There are only 8 desk and about 20 Wall calendars left so if you still want one I would suggest you get in quick.



Alternatively, just send me an email at [kbrundell@btinternet.com](mailto:kbrundell@btinternet.com) and we can organise for them to be sent to you once payment is received.

New merchandise coming soon- blank greetings cards. It is hoped to introduce these cards featuring photos of GRF rehomed dogs in the next couple of months. We will have a competition to select the photos used so get snapping or hunt out your favourite pics.

Rather than use valuable kennel funds to pay for them we would like people to pre-purchase cards to pay for their production.

If you would like to start sending photos in please email them to [marfykiwi@sky.com](mailto:marfykiwi@sky.com) When we have more info regarding prices etc we will let you all know. Please support this fundraising project for the homeless hounds.

Thanks, Michele

**Monthly walks – keep an eye out on the GRF website for details of the walks for 2017**

## GRF DOG OF THE MONTH



SHAN is a gorgeous black girl with the most expressive face. A delight in kennels, Shan is a beautiful girl with a strong build and lovely coat who will give you a marvelous welcome full of affection and enthusiasm. With her love of adventure, Shan is thrilled to go out with you and is great walking on the lead and good with the other greyhounds. Spayed, micro-chipped and vaccinated this stunning girl with the heart of gold is waiting for your visit today.

SHAN's racing name was ALNWICK SHAN. She was born on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2013 and was one of 6 puppies. She had 104 races all at Brough Park in Newcastle and her last race was Sept 2016,

## 2016 Calendar Hounds - Where are they now?

**We thought it would be nice to see what became of the 2016 Calendar Hounds**

MAX (Calendar cover) is still at the kennels.

January - STEVE was adopted before 2016 started and lives in Kinross. He had been the longest resident. ROCKY was also rehomed along with SHEBA

February - GEM was adopted in January 2016 and now lives in Dundee.

March - SAXON had a hard start at GRF with a broken leg but he recovered well and was rehomed in May and now lives in Motherwell.

April - DANNY was rehomed but sadly came back and is still at the kennels.

May - PRICEY was rehomed in March and lives in Coaltown of Balgonie

June - CHARLIE was another boy rehomed before 2016 started and moved to Birstall in Yorkshire with his new family in December 2015.

July - MIDNIGHT was also rehomed in November 2015 and now happily lives in Dundee.

August - PAT was finally adopted in November 2016 and lives in Longforan, outside Dundee.  
September - NANCY was rehomed in February 2016 and is now in Kennoway.  
October - Hendry now lives in Auchterarder and was adopted in December 2015.  
November - FIRE had unfortunately been returned to kennels and had a Dog Control Order but happily he was rehomed in April 2016 and now lives in Lochgelly.  
December - Kieran found his forever home in April 2016 and is now happy in Carnoustie.

Let's hope MAX and DANNY find their forever homes soon and all the dogs from the 2017 calendar all have homes by the end of 2017

## **GRF FUNDRAISING**

Niel McGill will be running the Glen Scotia marathon (Mull of Kintyre) on March 25th for the doggies.

If you would like to support Niel you can make a donation in any of the usual ways or by clicking the PayPal on the GRF website. Please state where it says 'Enter description' that it's for Glen Scotia marathon (Mull of Kintyre) so that we can make sure your money gets to the right persons.

### **A note from Niel**

**I have signed up for the Glen Scotia Mull of Kintyre Marathon on Saturday 25th March to raise funds for the GRF. This will be my second marathon - as I participated in the Loch Ness Marathon in 2015, finishing in approx. 4 hours 9 minutes - and my first one run for charity.**

**The Mull of Kintyre marathon is the first of its kind in this location so it is a historical event. I hope there will be a good turn out as I plan on getting a running t-shirt printed up with GREYHOUND RESCUE FIFE in big letters to raise awareness of the organisation.**

**The running course begins and ends at Campbelltown. Details of start times, etc., still haven't been issued to runners so I will know more in time and the Glen Scotia distillery is the official sponsor of the event.**

**If anybody would be interested in sponsoring me for this 27 mile run, I will leave a sponsor sheet at the kennels in the kitchen area. I know we have just had Christmas recently and people are low on money but I won't be collecting money until just after the event so anyone who wishes to contribute can do so up until late March.**

**Any donations, no matter how little, are welcome. In the last sponsored event my partner and I, Karen, took part in (The West Highland Way hike) one of my sponsors was 50p. All contributions are welcome and much appreciated.**

**Well back to training.**

**Thanks for reading this and Happy New Year to you all!**

# ATTENTION DOG WALKERS!!

50 lovely greyhounds would like a short walkies with you. Please contact Greyhound Rescue Fife. The kennels are at Baltree, Gairneybank, Kinross, KY13 0LF

***\*\*It's just a ten minute drive north from the Forth Road Bridge!!\*\****



***Come and meet our beautiful greyhounds.***

**Contrary to popular belief, they do not need a lot of exercise.**

**Any time you could spare would make a massive difference to these dogs, whilst they await their 'Forever Homes'**

**You may even get to see the famous 'greyhound smile' as demonstrated here.**

***To discuss how you can help please call Jimmy or Celia Fernie on 01577 850393 or 07826 244765***

***email [ferniejimmyf@aol.com](mailto:ferniejimmyf@aol.com)***

***or leave a message on the forum via [www.greyhoundrescuefife.com](http://www.greyhoundrescuefife.com)***



## Sofa News from TH



Let me introduce myself. My name is Tippihal Hound or **TH** for Short.

Happy New Year to my fellow hounds. Oh am I glad Christmas is over!! All that turkey! The two leggers insisted on watching stupid stuff on the TV. Now we have that white stuff outside, cold under the feet for us hounds, I would rather stay warm and comfy on the sofa than have to go out in that cold white stuff they call snow. Perhaps I will hibernate but then I would miss out on all those biscuits I get at bedtime. I know we have a new sofa coming at the end of the month and I have heard it said that my mate and I will not be allowed on it. Pfiff!! We will see about that!

More observations next month.



Take care **TH**

In loving memory of our boy Ace. 2005 - 2016



**Each month we feature an article from across the globe. This month we have Shaylon and her rescued Greyhound Jack who was rehomed by GRF**

When I initially contacted GRF, Jack (advertised as 'a wee character') was already spoken for. However, he ended up getting returned the day before I came to GRF and Celia and Jimmy wanted him to be re-homed quickly, so they introduced us. Jack immediately chattered at me and tried to give me a kiss through his muzzle, and I knew I had to take him home.

He'd had a hard time before coming to GRF. When I picked him up he was underweight and missing a lot of fur, and had clearly been abused (he squeaked and hid the first time he saw me pick up a broom, for example). He was terrified of all kinds of things outside, especially seagulls, white vans, men in hats and hoodies, and humans who weren't me. But he was so sweet and attached to me that I knew I couldn't give up on him.

We did a lot of training to get him to tolerate the scary things, where he first got a treat for seeing a white van without fleeing, then for walking past it, and so on. After about six months, he was happy to walk anywhere in Glasgow and even began to enjoy soaking up attention at the local pub.

Not that long after, I started having weird medical issues that had my doctor stumped. The only reliable thing was that Jack seemed to know when an episode was coming, and would get anxious and clingy before it happened. I got genetic testing, and found out I have a rare liver/blood disease called Hereditary Coproporphyrria (which often 'turns on' during one's early 20's), which meant I'd have to constantly monitor my body chemistry and give up lots of my favourite activities.

But Jack and his snoot came to the rescue! I was able to train his anxiety response to an impending episode of my illness into an actual alert. Now if he smells my body chemistry shifting, he paws my leg until I take medication and glucose. This means I can go to work, travel, and generally enjoy my life. Jack came with me when I moved to Seattle for work (he did not enjoy his transatlantic trip, but perked up immediately upon discovering that even the dog treats are bigger in America!).

When we're not at work or out and about, he loves to watch nature programmes on TV (preferably with his head in my lap), supervise my baking experiments (by sitting like a sphinx in front of the oven), and be groomed with his rubber massaging brush.

I'm so grateful to GRF-- Celia, Jimmy, and all the lovely volunteers-- for introducing me to this wonderful 'wee character'.



**A SAD UPDATE FROM Bob Lawrence in Arizona, USA, who regularly checks the GRF forum.**

## **Sad News from the AAGI Family - Arizona Adopt A Greyhound Inc. or AAGI for short who you may remember from our Paws Across the Water article in the October 2016 newsletter**

It is with great sadness we announce that our director and friend, Kari Young, passed on from this life Christmas morning while surrounded by her husband, Bill and her daughters, Shauna and Chris.

Kari served as the director of Arizona Adopt a Greyhound, Inc. for sixteen years. She steered AAGI through the closing of the Phoenix Greyhound Park and the Tucson track closing. Through her long involvement in the greyhound community at large and her reputation as an individual with “sterling integrity,” she set up an arrangement with a California adoption group enabling us to continue our work helping greyhounds in need of homes.

About a year ago, Kari set up a team responsible for a variety of functions including events, fostering, adoptions, nails, administration, etc. None of that will change, we can assure you. With the help and support of wonderful people like you, AAGI will continue to do good work finding forever homes for retired greyhounds for many years to come. AAGI will continue in service to the hounds as Kari intended it should.

Kari received a double lung transplant 3 years ago. She lived the years following to the fullest – serving her church, running her Joy to the Pets business and caring for Greyhounds. May the memory of her life and her enthusiasm deepen your appreciation for life today.

Kari loved greyhounds like no other. Along with her husband and two daughters she is also survived by her six greyhounds.

Bob Lawrence

**Sending our deepest condolences to Bob, Kari's family and all at AAGI from us all at Greyhound Rescue Fife**



## **WHAT YOUR GREYHOUND IS THINKING**

Reprinted with the kind permission of the late Kathleen Gilley

“Of all breeds of dogs, the ex-racing greyhound has never had to be responsible for anything in his life. His whole existence has been a dog-centered one. This breed has never been asked to do anything for itself, make any decisions, or answer any questions. It has been waited on, paw and tail. The only prohibition in a racing greyhound’s life is not to get into a fight—or eat certain stuff in the turn out pen.

Let us review a little. From weaning until you go away for schooling, at probably a year and a half, you eat, grow, and run around with your siblings. When you do go away to begin your racing career, you get your own “apartment”, in a large housing development. No one is allowed in your bed but you, and when you are in there, no one can touch you without plenty of warning.

Someone hears a vehicle drive up, or the kennel door being unlocked. The light switches are flipped on. The loud mouths in residence, (and there always are some), begin to bark or howl. You are wide awake by the time the human opens your door to turn you out. A greyhound has never been touched while he was asleep.

You eat when you are fed, usually on a strict schedule. No one asks if you are hungry, or what you want to eat. You are never told not to eat any food within your reach. No one ever touches your bowl while you are eating. You are not to be disturbed because it is important you clean your plate.

You are not asked if you have to “go outside”. You are placed in a turn out pen and it isn’t long before you get the idea of what you are supposed to do while you are out there. Unless you really get out of hand, you may chase, rough house, and put your feet on everyone and everything else. The only humans you know are the “waiters” who feed you, and the “restroom attendants” who turn you out to go to the bathroom. Respect people? Surely you jest.

No one comes into or goes out of your kennel without your knowledge. You are all seeing; all knowing. There are no surprises, day in and day out. The only thing it is every hoped you will do is win, place, or show, and that you don’t have much control over. It is in your blood. It is in your heart. It is in your fate—or it is not.

And when it is not, then suddenly you are expected to be a civilized person in a fur coat. But people don’t realize you may not even speak English. Some of you don’t even know your names, because you didn’t need to. You were not asked or told to do anything as an individual; you were always part of the “condo association”; the sorority or fraternity, and everyone did everything together as a group of pack. The only time you did anything as an individual is when you schooled or raced, and even then, you were not alone.

Suddenly, the greyhound is expected to behave himself in places he has never been taught how to act. He is expected to take responsibility for saying when he needs to go outside, to come when he is

called, not to get on the furniture, and to not eat food off counters and tables. He is dropped in a world that is not his, and totally without warning, at that.

Almost everything he does is wrong. Suddenly he is a minority. Now he is just a pet. He is unemployed, in a place where people expect him to know the rules and the schedule, even when there aren't any. How many times have you heard someone say, "He won't tell me when he has to go out." What kind of schedule is that?) Have you heard the joke about the dog who says, "My name is No-No Bad Dog. What's yours?" To me that is not even funny. All the protective barriers are gone. There is no more warning before something happens. There is no more strength in numbers. He wakes up with a monster human face two inches from his. Why should he not believe that this someone who has crept up on him isn't going to eat him for lunch?

Now he is left alone, for the first time in his life, in a strange place, with no idea of what will happen or how long it will be before someone comes to him again. Often, the first contact with his new family is punishment, something he has never had before, something he does not understand now, especially in the middle of the rest of the chaos. Worst of all, what are the most common human reactions to misbehavior? We live in a violent society, where the answer to any irritation is a slap, punch, kick, whip, or rub your nose in it. Under these circumstances, sometimes I think any successful adoption is a miracle.

He is, in effect, expected to have all the manners of at least a six-year old child. But, how many of you would leave an unfamiliar six-year old human alone and loose in your home for hours at a time and not expect to find who knows what when you got back? Consider that if you did, you could be brought up on charges or child abuse, neglect, or endangerment. Yet, people do this to dogs all the time, and this is often the reason for the greyhound being returned.

How many dogs have been returned because they did not know how to tell the adopter when they had to go out? How many for jumping n people, getting on furniture, counter surfing, separation anxiety, or defensive actions due to being startled or hurt (a/k/a growling or biting)? So, let's understand: Sometimes it is not the dog's "fault" he cannot fit in. He is not equipped with the social skills of a six-year old human. But with your love and help, you can make it happen."

**Kathleen Gilley, who with her husband, Gil, were the humans that created the famous "Dancing and Singing Greyhounds", passed away unexpectedly at her home in Williston, Florida on February 8, 2011. She was 62 years old.**

**From 2006 – 2011, their programs entertained countless thousands of people across the country and introduced them to this special canine breed that Kathleen and Gil dearly loved. This article is reprinted in loving memory of Kathleen.**





## **Trivia Quiz**

***Each month we will have a quiz or puzzle just for a bit of fun. So have a go while you enjoy a cuppa and a biscuit (don't forget a treat for your four legged friends)***

### **Answers to November Quiz**

1. Sheep
2. Crow
3. Timothy
4. Bluebird
5. Penguins
6. Magpie
7. Dodo
8. The Albatross
9. The Elephant.
10. Crow

### **JANUARY QUIZ**

1. In which city are the headquarters of the European Central Bank?
2. In which European country does Edam cheese come from?
3. What is Lindisfarne also known as?
4. Who was burned at the stake in 1431 and made a Saint in 1922?
5. Who accidentally discovered penicillin?
6. Prior to the adoption of the Euro, what was the currency of Italy?
7. The Dogger Bank is located in which sea?
8. Prior to the introduction of the Euro what currency was used in Italy?
9. In which continent would you find the mountain range known as the Hindu Kush?
10. What currency is used in Canada?

**Answers will be in the next newsletter**



## For our younger readers

### General Quiz

1. How many years are there in a millennium? \_\_\_\_\_
2. True or false? The horse is the fastest land animal. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The Beatles music band featured how many members? \_\_\_\_\_
4. True or false? Scarlet is a bright red colour. \_\_\_\_\_
5. What galaxy is Earth located in? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is the first element on the periodic table of elements? \_\_\_\_\_
7. True or false? Mickey Mouse's middle name is Fauntleroy. \_\_\_\_\_
8. How many sides does a triangle have? \_\_\_\_\_
9. True or false? Harry Potter's middle name is James. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Bees create what sweet substance? \_\_\_\_\_





**With grateful thanks to all who helped with this newsletter**

The next GRF newsletter will be published mid-February

If anyone has an article they would like included in future newsletters, please feel free to email Kaz Brundell on [kbrundell@btinternet.com](mailto:kbrundell@btinternet.com).

**This is your newsletter so if you would like to see something else, or something taken out, please let me know.**

**Your feedback is important so let us know your thoughts.**

