

# GRF



# NEWS

## May 2017

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

### In this month's issue:

News from the Kennels  
Jimmy's tip  
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**10<sup>th</sup> GRF Dog Show Results and pictures**  
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Trivia Quiz  
Young GRF members Section

### News from the kennels

### Dogs in and out since the last newsletter

**IN:** DINKY, DEANO, ARNIE, BUZZ, QUEENIE, SNOW

**OUT:** MISSY, BILLY, ACE, BREEZY, ARNIE, RUSTY, NOAH, MARK

### JIMMY'S TIP OF THE MONTH.

If you ever have to go into a kennel with bars to take one dog out and there are two in the kennel you could be in for a struggle. Both want to go for a walk at the same time and you take a battering from two jumping dogs.

The solution is to put your arm through the bars and get a lead on the unwanted dog. Make sure the lead is through the bars nearest the kennel door. You can now reach over with the lead and hold the dogs head against the bars.

You can now open the kennel door and grab the required dog. Put his lead on, let him out the kennel, shut the kennel door and release the first dog. The dog is now safely leaved without you having to go in the kennel. It also saves you from being accidentally scratched by an over enthusiastic paw



## **BOARDING**



A reminder that we can once again take a small amount of boarders at £8 per dog per night from April onwards. This is only for greyhounds who have been rehomed from GRF. It is a wee perk for our own people and an extra amount of income for the kennels. However, rescue dogs come first so we can only take boarders when space allows.

## **GRF Fundraising**

With the introduction of stricter control on recycling metals GRF now has an account at Kelbies Scrap Merchants, Milnbank Road, Dundee. If you have any non-ferrous scrap metal e.g. aluminium cans, lead, copper.... you can drop it off with them and let them know it is for Greyhound Rescue Fife. At the end of the year GRF will receive payment. Please make sure your cans are all aluminium ones, Pepsi, for example, use steel cans which are magnetic.

## **GRF DOG OF THE MONTH**



BOB is a very friendly big black boy. He has grown up with SANDY his friend and the two live very happily together. He loves being petted by people. He is a funny walker, awkward on a lead simply because he cuddles you all the time that you are trying to walk. You can't get much friendlier than that. A very good traveller in a car and clean in his kennel.

His racing name was DRUMCROW CASEY and was born June 2011 with one brother and one sister.

He had 17 races – winning 4 and coming 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in 10

## GRF 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DOG SHOW

For those of you who did not attend the show, there is a table below giving all the results of the show classes and some pictures. Many have been posted on the forum and Facebook so there are just a few of them repeated here.

<b>Junior handler</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b>
<b>dog</b>	McCAW	POPPY	DODGER	MURDO	MAGGIE	JAKE
<b>owner</b>	ASTRID	MIA	ARCHIE	ALFIE	THOMAS	JEMMA
<b>Male greyhound</b>						
<b>dog</b>	WEBSTER	BILLY	BOB	McCAW	HOBBS	SAM
<b>owner</b>	KAREN	ELAINE	PAT	EWAN	WENDY	LORI
<b>Golden Oldie</b>						
<b>dog</b>	PEPPER	TARA	STAR	FLY	SAM	LASSIE
<b>owner</b>	ELAINE	NIC	JENNY	GILLIAN	JAKE	MORAG
<b>Non-greyhound</b>						
<b>dog</b>	FERGUS	AISHA	MAFI	ABBEY	SUMMER	SNATCH
<b>owner</b>	MAUREEN	LINDA	KAREN	GRAEME	ALISON	PAUL
<b>Best Family</b>						
<b>dog</b>	NERA/ZEVA	DRAKE/KERRY/DANNY	DILLY/CONNIE/BELLA	TARA/FRODO/BLUE/MAFI	KALUM/DEE/ABBEY/RUBY/SNATCH	BLADE/HOPE
<b>owner</b>	ROSIE/RACHEL	CORINNE/STEPHANIE	ISOBEL	NIC	AMANDA	JIM
<b>Loveable Face</b>						
<b>dog</b>	SAM	MARGO	KEV	DAISY	DOUGIE	BELLA
<b>owner</b>	RUTH	RHONA	CAMERON	SAMANTHA	ANNETTE	ISOBEL
<b>Female greyhound</b>						
<b>dog</b>	LEXY	RITA	MISTY	LADY	NINA	SHAN
<b>owner</b>	ASHLEIGH	RACHEL	LINDA	HEATHER	FIONA	ISLA
<b>BEST IN SHOW</b>						
<b>dog</b>	LEXY	SAM	McCAW			
<b>owner</b>	ASHLEIGH	RUTH	ASTRID			

Many congratulations to all of you and especially Lexy, Sam and McCaw for making the final



**JUNIOR HANDLER**





**MALE GREYHOUND**



**GOLDEN OLDIE**





**NON GREYHOUND**



**BEST FAMILY**





**LOVABLE FACE**



**FEMALE GREYHOUND**





**BEST IN SHOW**



With thanks to Alex and Lynne and all those that helped to put the show together and take it down at the end of the day.



**Total raised at the show so far is £2559.00 !!**

**Thank you all for your support**

Not only was it our 10<sup>th</sup> dog show, it was also Jimmy's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and of course we have celebrated our 1000<sup>th</sup> rehomed greyhound.

To celebrate, we presented Jimmy with a special artwork by Nellie Doodles.



Jimmy receiving the Nellie Doodles artwork especially commissioned for his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday





## Nellie Doodles

Thanks to Simone Carline Carter for supporting our show this year. Her commissions have helped to promote the Greyhound breed and anyone who owns a hound can relate to the antics of Nellie Doodles. Sadly, Nellie the legend behind the doodles has now crossed the rainbow bridge and lives on through Simone's wonderful doodles. To honour Nellie G.R.F. are sponsoring the shows bandanas in Nellie's memory. Simone always enjoyed drawing, cartoons mainly, doodling away as a means to escape into her childish mind. When Nellie her rescue greyhound was adopted by her family she started doodling her. She started putting some of her early doodles on Facebook and got to know G.R.F.'s Michele Hall who was the first person to really encourage and support her drawings. She started her Nellie Doodles Facebook page and helped charities globally as Nellie Doodles grew, her page now has over 19000 followers which is rather humbling." GRF has been fortunate to benefit from Simone's kindness with her donated doodles over the years and a special Commissioned doodle for this year's show.

Please have a look at her Facebook and Etsy pages. Thank you.

Nellie Doodles Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/Nellie-Doodles-235684046482026/](https://www.facebook.com/Nellie-Doodles-235684046482026/)

Nellie Doodles Etsy shop.

[www.etsy.com/shop/nelliedoodles](https://www.etsy.com/shop/nelliedoodles)

**There are a limited number of copies of this artwork available – for more details please contact Michelle Hall at [marfykiwi@sky.com](mailto:marfykiwi@sky.com).**

## **Raffle Prizes**

**There are also two raffle prizes not claimed. Please check the forum. If these have not been claimed by the next walk in June, they will be used as raffle prizes at the walk.**

## **Monthly walks**



**There was no walk in May due to our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Dog show so the next walk is Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June - Ravenscraig Park, Kirkcaldy.**

**Please come along and support Greyhound Rescue Fife – these are always a good way of meeting other owners and their dogs and having a chat and exchanging tips, and for anyone thinking of adopting a greyhound, and want to meet some owners and hounds, you would be warmly welcomed.**

**There is always a raffle at the end of each walk,**

**Dog Show tickets will also be for sale and often people bake cakes and biscuits to sell on the day to raise more funds**

**Please check on the forum before setting out for a walk in case there has been any change.**

**With greytful thanks to Steve and Julie Dowd for organising these walks and to Michelle and Nic for organising the walk raffles again this year.**

## Sofa News from TH



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

I had a very strange day a couple of weeks ago. I got no breakfast and was taken in the car to the doggie doctor. Sometime later I woke up and felt very odd. To my surprise I found I had a tooth missing and my teeth were clean. How did that happen???. When my two legged slave took me home I had a very odd night, I kept seeing pink elephants everywhere and tried to chase them off. Two leggers were confused by my behaviour and so was I. The following day all was back to normal but I still have a tooth missing. Then a few days later I went to the GRF dog show for the very first time. It was great seeing all my fellow hounds and Celia & Jimmy and I even came third in the Male Greyhound class. My best mates Mafi, Tara, Frodo and Blue were there too and they won prizes as well so we all had a brilliant day. All very tiring though, I needed all the following day asleep to get over it.

More observations next month.



Take care **TH**

In loving memory of our boy Ace. 2005 - 2016



## Gardening with greyhounds

When Chaotic Skeik aka Jake came to live with us 18 months ago, he was not very impressed with our small back garden. It was all right to wander to the far corner to have a pee but he was not interested in watching me weed, he thought that throwing a toy around was insulting to both him and the toy and would take it swiftly back to safety inside the house and he much preferred to sleep or go for a proper walk. So we did not have to think too much about how to adapt the garden and the weeds and plants continued to thrive.

Then last September Macy's Marguerita (Rita) arrived and soon after Offshore Louis joined the pack and things began to change. Very quickly. Very muddily. Very scratchily. Rita liked to dig and both Rita and Louis liked to race each other very fast round – and through – the garden. Louis would roar around and come in with a huge thorn in his side or an unexplained cut on his leg. Rita liked to explore and she is very slender – slender enough to walk along the tiny gap between the wall and the garden shed and then not be able to turn around, but luckily we were able to move things at the other end and get her out ...

And suddenly I was looking at the garden in a whole new light – a dog dangerous desert which was also gradually being moved from outside to inside with disastrous impact on floors and upholstery!

We already had high fencing, four raised beds, some paving slabs near the back door and some bark down at the far end of the garden and after considering taking out two of the raised beds to make a flatter central area for turf or something like that, we decided to adapt what we had and gradually change things bit by bit.

The first thing we did was dig out an unruly bed of rhubarb (leaves poisonous to dogs), put down a porous weed suppressant membrane and cover it with a good layer of bark. Since then, we have put more membrane and bark down all round and also on top of the raised beds and I am slowly potting up or chucking out the plants which are starting to come back to life. I will re-plant the herbs like chives and rosemary and sage into large containers which I can move about a bit and that I hope will lessen the chances of having pee-watered chives on the salad ...

The internet is a great place for information but I have noticed that some sites will say that a particular plant is safe for dogs and another will say it's toxic (for instance, sweet peas and hydrangeas). So here's what the Kennel Club say should be avoided and if a dog chews or eats them, veterinary advice should be sought immediately:

Aconiton, amaryllis, asparagus fern, azalea, cyclamen, daffodil bulbs, day lilies, delphiniums, foxgloves (what a shame, I've got quite a lot of them), hemlock, hyacinth, hydrangea, ivy, laburnum, lily of the valley, lupin, morning glory, nightshade, oleander, rhododendrons, rhubarb leaves, sweet pea, tulip bulbs, umbrella plant, wisteria and yew.

I also looked at a site called Dog Friendly Gardening ([dogfriendlygardening.jimdo.com](http://dogfriendlygardening.jimdo.com)) which is quite interesting and which lists some plants which it says are OK for dogs – for instance poached egg plant, acers, ceanothus, buddleia, houseleeks, Echinacea, forsythia, geraniums (NB old fashioned cranesbill **not** fancy pelargoniums), lambs ears and sunflowers. And some human/canine edibles too: alpine strawberries, blueberries and

nasturtiums. There is an associated book called Dog Friendly Gardening by Karen Bush – I'm going to see if I can order a copy through my local library and see what it's like.

Looking at more of the sites, there seem to be some clear do's and don'ts:

- Do check your fences and gates regularly – are they high enough? Could a dog get its head stuck between the slats? Are they still secure?
- Do make sure your hound has access to fresh water and shade.
- Don't use cocoa bean hulls. They contain theobromine which makes dogs sick.
- Do put favourite plants in containers.
- Don't use bone meal – an invitation to dig and to eat.
- Do think about using ornamental grasses which are tough and resilient.
- Don't use chemical sprays etc. in the garden
- Don't try to grow grass from seed - use turf, artificial turf or some other alternative.
- Do be careful if using any electric cables in the garden and use a circuit breaker. And do be careful if using garden tools especially sharp ones.

Here is some information from George Petrie who put artificial turf down in his garden to great effect. George writes:

*We have had two Greyhounds for 9 years, we had recently had an extension on the house built when we got our first greyhound. It left the garden in a mess which was a nightmare to try and keep tidy. Every winter the garden turned to mud and every time our dogs went out in the garden they brought lots of mud back in to the house. It was a nightmare even in the summer the grass had gone to seed and was growing out of control. The whole garden needed overhauled, so we got a company in to mono block and lay artificial grass for us.*

*As a guide artificial grass will cost from around £15 per square metre upwards to buy plus labour costs. It's not cheap but it is a great alternative to grass if you still want grass without cutting it.*

*The principal is similar for laying mono block and artificial grass the main difference is that less sub base is required for the artificial grass as it will not have the weight of vehicles on it.*

*This is the way our grass was laid. (Please see pictures)*

*1) Remove all the excess soil and level with a mini JCB.*

*2) Lay the sub base and compact with a mechanical whacker.*

*3) Once level the next stage is to lay a type 2 base (course sand) which is compacted with the mechanical whacker.*

*4) Then it was the job of laying the artificial grass.*

*We chose medium grade grass which came with a 25 year guarantee and came in 4m wide rolls. The joints are joined by a special tape and glue and the outside edges can be fixed to the base using fixing pegs.*

*The artificial grass has drain holes to let the rain drain through and to keep it clean a hose down when required and a brush. You can even use your upright vacuum cleaner on it to lift the pile of the grass.*

*It looks good right through the year and we get comments on how good it looks in winter.*



*There are many artificial grass suppliers and installers in Scotland which can be found by searching the internet.*

### ***How to maintain artificial grass***

*Artificial grass is the perfect, low maintenance alternative to natural grass. However, some regular maintenance is recommended to ensure maximum life expectancy of your artificial grass.*

*Regularly remove leaves and debris using a stiff brush or a leaf blower (for best results).*

*Brush against the pile direction of the grass regularly using a stiff brush to lift the grass pile and improve the aesthetic appearance of the lawn.*

*If any weeds do grow these are easily removed.*

*If the grass needs cleaned of dog mess it can be hosed down.*

*Perfect lawn all year round!*

*No mowing!*

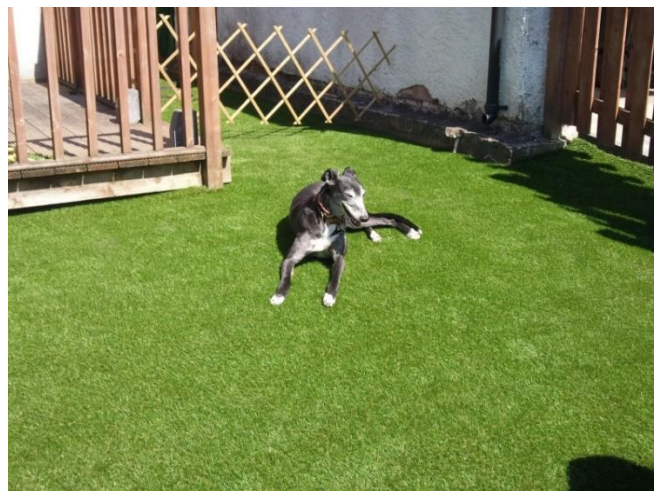
*Great for drainage!*



***Sub base***



***Grass laid on type 2***



***Lassie on the grass***

And as George adds, having artificial grass reduces the population of slugs and snails, which in turn reduces the risk of your greyhound getting lungworm – we might yet get round to moving those raised beds in the back garden and putting down artificial grass ....

I'm sure that other readers of the newsletter will have lots more information and it would be great if we could collect tips and stories to share so that humans and dogs and gardens can enjoy each other. Some of the stuff on the internet might be a bit untested, I'm just a beginner at this lark so do your own homework. One of the tips I read is to give your hound two dessert spoonfuls of tomato juice a day with their food to change the nitrate level of their pee and so avoid brown patches on a lawn .... anyone tried that? And what have the greyhounds themselves got to say on the whole subject? What do they like and dislike? What works for them?

With many thanks to George for his input re artificial surfaces, and with best wishes to wannabe rookie gardeners like me and to congratulations to all you successful green pawed gardeners everywhere.

Rachel



*If you don't  
have a smile,  
I'll give you one  
of mine.  
Signed,  
The Greyhound*

 CollarT



## THE SPORTS REPORT BY MAFI ARRIGAL



With great trepidation a bunch of hardy GRFers headed to Central Park in Cowdenbeath for Cowdenbeath FC's life or death final match of the season. Nothing was going to keep Jimmy from this match as The Blue Brazil having drawn 0-0 away to East Kilbride in the first leg of the League 2 Play-off final needed to win to remain in the Scottish Professional Football League.

Cowdenbeath scored first but East Kilbride equalised. With the score at 1-1 at full time and no one scoring in extra time it was down to penalties. Not a good thing with Cowden having missed their last 6 penalties. GULP!!!!

Nerves were fraying. Cowden scored their first three penalties. Goalie Jamie Sneddon got a hand to East Kilbride's second penalty but it went in. Was there hope? Yes! With East Kilbride's third penalty being saved and Cowden scoring Cowdenbeath FC lives on to play another year in the SPFL.





## **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 April Quiz**

1. Winfield.
2. The sale of British Gas shares.
3. Queenstown, Ireland (renamed Cobh in 1922).
4. On the moon.
5. Absolute Zero (0 degrees Kelvin)
6. October (31 days plus one hour)
7. Mount Everest.
8. Scafell Pike (NOT Scafell which is a nearby peak).
9. Vichy.
10. High Street.

### **MAY QUIZ**

1. Which country was the first to give women the right to vote?
2. What is a 1/3 of a ? ?
3. According to the bible on which day did God make the Sun the Moon and the Stars?
4. What are the five most often used sources of renewable energy?
5. What is the name of the planet with the most extensive rings?
6. What is the year 2009 when written in Roman Numerals?
7. What is the name for a beaver's home?
8. Which is the only vowel not found on a standard keyboard top line?
9. George Washington was the first US President; which number was George Bush Jr.?



10. What does the term Prima Donna literally mean?
11. What was the Beatles last Album called?
12. Name the 6 items used to murder the victim in the board game Cluedo?
13. What would you probably do if you got pepper in your proboscis?
14. What was Fred Flintstones child's name?
15. In which county is Stonehenge?
16. Name the date of St Georges Day?
17. How is Rubella better known?
18. The name of the French Port over 300 000 Allied soldiers were evacuated from in May/June 1940?
19. The name of the dog in Enid Blyton's Famous Five books?

**Answers will be in the next newsletter**





For our younger readers - a dot to dot picture to complete and colour in.







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

**The next GRF newsletter will be published around the middle of June.**

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, please let me know.**

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

