

GRF



NEWS

## OCTOBER 2017

*Welcome to the October edition of the Greyhound Rescue Fife Newsletter.  
Edited by Kaz Brundell*

### In this month's issue:

News from the Kennels

Jimmy's tip

GRF Dog of the Month

Monthly Walks

Sofa News from TH

Vets Corner courtesy of Catherine Davidson, Parkside Vets, Dundee

Lexi – our 2017 Champion

### **IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR EDITOR**

#### News from the kennels

#### Dogs in and out since the last newsletter

**IN:** DEXTER, ROLLO, VIOLET, ROSIE, ECHO, ALICE, PEPSI, CASSIE, ZANDER AND DENNIS

**OUT:** GLEN, PATCH, TOMMY, JUDY, DODGER, BRAMBLE, PADDY AND HUDSON

#### DOG WALKERS

We are always looking for dog walkers **but please don't just turn up.** Give Jimmy or Celia a phone first to arrange an induction day and get all the info. John – The GRF Webmaster has also set up a Calendar on the forum which hopefully in the future will make it easier for everyone to check when help is needed and book themselves in. However, anyone new to dog walking at the kennels must get an induction first.

**Celia and Jimmy's contact details are on the GRF website**

### JIMMY'S TIP OF THE MONTH.

A simple tip for some people who do not normally handle dogs. If the dog is pulling strongly, it is better to use a gentle leader or harness on the dog. This instructs the dog to walk correctly. However, I have seen lots of people hanging on to a long lead with both hands being dragged off their feet. In this case just shorten the lead right down and the dog cannot get into a super strong pulling position. He/she is far more easily held.

### BOARDING



A reminder that we can take a small number of boarders at £8 per dog per night. 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.

**We are going to continue with the boarding until at least the end of November, weather permitting.**

### GRF DOG OF THE MONTH

The dog of the month was Judy. However, we are glad to say that she has been rehomed along with Tommy to a lovely family in Tayport

Well done Judy and Tommy. Be good and have a great life.



## Monthly walks



A few pictures from the last walk at Beveridge Park Kirkcaldy on 8<sup>th</sup> October.



**The next walk is Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at Silver Sands. Aberdour  
Check the website and forum for more details**

**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 often a raffle at the end of each walk,**

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

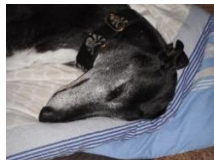
**With greyful thanks to Steve and Julie Dowd for organising these walks and to Michelle and Nic for organising the walk raffles again this year.**

**Sofa News from TH**



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

I feel sorry for animals that go into hibernation at this time of year. Imagine all those lovely dinners and treats they miss out on over the winter months. Now we have fireworks starting. I am glad to say they don't bother me or my sister but I know they do scare lots of you, but don't be frightened, they are only silly noisy things those humans seem to enjoy.



Take care **TH**

**In loving memory of our boy Ace. 2005 – 2016**







### **Preventative Health Care Keeping Hounds Happy during Fireworks Season**

While fireworks can be lots of fun for us, they are often very frightening for dogs. There are a few things that you can do to help ease their stress:

- Always keep your dog inside when fireworks are being let off
- Make sure your dog is walked earlier in the day before the fireworks start
- Close all doors and windows and draw the curtains. If your dog is used to the sounds from the TV or radio then switch them on, but not too loudly, to block out some of the noise
- Make a 'den' for your dog. If they already have a cage in the house, then add in some extra blankets and a throw over the top. If they don't have a cage, then create a hideaway where your pet will feel safe and comfortable e.g. Behind the sofa or under a bed
- If your dog wants to pace around, whine or hideaway then let them. Don't try to coax them out or disturb them – they are just trying to find some safety
- Try not to cuddle and comfort distressed dogs as they may think that you are worried too, and this may make the problem worse. Instead stay relaxed, act normally and reward calm behaviour.
- Never take your dog to a fireworks display. Even if they don't bark or whimper, it doesn't mean that they are enjoying it. Excessive panting and yawning can indicate that your dog is distressed.

If you think that your pet will struggle to cope with fireworks season, then speak to your vet well in advance. They may be able to prescribe calming medication that may help your dog. It is also worth considering sound therapy, which slowly desensitises your pet to the screams and bangs of fireworks. Ask your vet or behaviourist about this, but any training will need to start at least 3 months ahead of fireworks season.

### **Answers to questions raised from the previous article:**

*I'd like to ask the vet about any problem with greyhounds nibbling on rabbit poo?*

- It is very unlikely that any harm will come to a hound after eating some rabbit poo! It is indeed, just partly digested grass or hay. Saying that, any sudden change in diet for a dog, can cause dietary upset – i.e. vomiting and diarrhoea, but this is usually short lived and not serious.

*One of my greyhounds had an adverse reaction to the oral flea control and this is not entirely uncommon - it's mentioned in the leaflet but not stressed in any way.*

- Adverse reactions can occur following any type of medication – whether oral or topical. The most common adverse reactions to flea control tablets (seen in approximately 5-6% of dogs) are gastrointestinal effects such as inappetence, vomiting or diarrhoea. These are usually mild and transient in nature.

**This monthly article is kindly supplied to us by Catherine Davidson from Parkside Vets in Dundee.**

# Lexi's & Ashleigh's Corner

A lovely walk with Lexi in Craigtoun Country Park



Love and Licks

Ashleigh and Lexi

Many thanks to Ashleigh and Lexi for more lovely photos and news on our  
Champion of 2017



## **IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR EDITOR**

**This will be my last newsletter.**

Due to a lack of interest in the children's Halloween Greyhound competition and the general apathy that appears to surround GRF I have decided to "retire" as your newsletter editor.

I work full time and it is hard work to get this newsletter out every month. I am proud that I have been able to get the newsletter out every month except one.

To those of you who have appreciated my efforts, thank you for your kind comments.

**If anyone would like to offer to take on the role and become the next editor, please feel free to email me and I will send you any information that will help.**

I want to say a huge thank you to those that have contributed to this newsletter during the 18 months or so that I have been the editor.

In particular, I want to thank Michelle and Nic and my husband Pat whose support has been invaluable.

Ashleigh and Lexi for your articles and everyone else who has provided articles, photographs and stories.

And of course, Jimmy and Celia and all the volunteers.

