

# GRF



# NEWS

Designed by Sally E Calder

JULY 2009

This month's newsletter is slightly different from advertised this is due to some technical problems with some of our intended articles. We had hoped to bring you a run down of our other kennels at Union farm but unfortunately this will be carried over to next month. However we do bring you an excellent article on RAB along with one or two other fundraisers that we have on the go at the moment. Also look out for "Gies a hand" a flyer at the end which we hope people can put up in all the usual places. We also start a new article looking at greyhound sanctuaries from around the world. Our first one is from West Virginia in the States. We hope you enjoy.

## Kennel update

The month of June saw another busy time at the kennels with 13 dogs being re-homed (Sammy 2, Lass, Tiger, Bobby, Shauna, Sally, Molly Jo, Suzy, Molly, Moonie, Taxi, Niall, Dolly.)

with 15 unfortunately coming in (Carrie, Lady, Benson, Bluebell, Molly, Len, Dolly, Holly, Molly Jo, Niall, Taxi, Rocky, Magic, Heather and Domino.).

As intimated in last month's newsletter we are now looking for people who could commit some time to helping out at the Baltree kennels (see flyer at end of newsletter). If you feel you can help or would like further information on the roles/jobs to be done then Jimmy/Celia will more than welcome your queries.

As many have said the new kennels at Baltree have some excellent facilities but we would like to improve these further however, we can

only achieve this with your help and support. Although we currently have some excellent helpers and friends we would like to extend this further. As the saying goes "*many hands make light work*". So lets all pull together to do what we can to ensure that no healthy greyhound should ever be put to sleep or left to die as has been seen recently in the news.

From helping out at the kennels to fostering or just supporting our fundraising events all efforts are appreciated. Every little helps and remember every single penny raised at our events goes directly to helping our dogs

## Rab back in Training !

Having exhausted all my dogs in training I decided a good challenge would be to take one of the homeless hounds along to training. My first choice was Dusk as she sits of her own accord and is very obliging however she had other ideas and decided to go into season the Saturday before training started. That meant Rab was it! A big challenge as he's full of energy even after he had been "done". However we thought that this would help him get rid of some of his energy and train him a wee bit to become more "re-homable".



### *The first night of training.*

Went to collect Rab from Union Farm, as usual he bounced all over me for 5 minutes while I tried to aim to clip his lead on, he then dragged me to the car. Not a good start!! We were the first to arrive so I tried to accustom him to the room. More and more dogs came in and Rab stood wagging his tail at them all. Next the 2 smallest puppies arrived and of course they sat right next to me. Rab was an absolute gentleman had a sniff and a playful bark and quickly made friends with

them. Everyone was looking at his muzzle but Debbie (the instructor) explained that he was not aggressive it was just a precaution as he was an ex racer who was trained to chase small furies. He was one of the best behaved dogs there even when an over enthusiastic lab was lunging at him trying to play! I was very proud of what fantastic PR he was giving to the breed dispelling all of the myths about greyhounds without me having to say a word!



*Week 2:* Started with us reuniting Rab with the puppies and then the dreaded recall. The recall is done in an enclosed area so although I knew he couldn't run away had serious doubts he would return to me straight away. I don't have the same bond with him as the others do with their "pet dogs". Debbie held him while I ran to the other end of the enclosure. As shouted for him and he ran straight to me! I was so pleased I didn't notice he wasn't slowing down and he managed to lift me right off the ground with his enthusiasm! We then tried a sit. Rab made it obvious he wasn't a fan, he will sit of his own accord but not on command. I even asked Debbie to try as I thought I might be doing something wrong but no, even with 2 of us trying he wasn't having it, so this is a challenge I have yet to master!

Next was controlled walking amongst dogs. Debbie used Rab to demonstrate. He was a perfect angel, paying attention to Debbie's commands and ignoring all the other dogs, was beaming with pride as I watched him walk round. Finally, Stay. First stay is always a very quick stay but by this time he had noticed the chickens on the other side of the fence and so ignored everything I said but considering he'd had such a good session I decided we could work on that later.



The test is in 4 weeks, I've no doubt he'll pass with flying colours (luckily sit is not a requirement!!). I am amazed at how well he behaved and proved to everyone else what we all know. Greyhounds are fantastic dogs.

Fiona

*P.S. Since this article was written we can confirm that Rab did indeed pass his test and is now a Bronze level good citizen, complete with certificate !!! From all at GRF well done Rab (and of course Fiona !!)*

### **GRF Calendar**

We are currently in discussions with regards to producing a 2010 GRF calendar. As many of

you may have seen on the forum we are now collecting pictures of your dogs for inclusion into the calendar, with Jimmy and Celia having the difficult task of choosing the ones to go in. Entries are still open and if you have a great pic of your grey then why not send into Michele at [marfykiwi@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:marfykiwi@blueyonder.co.uk)

### **Friends of GRF**

We recently added a new link to our web page called "Friends of GRF" if you are short of a birthday or Christmas gift idea then why not sign up to this. Their names will go on our web page and they will also receive a small thank you pack containing certificate, homeless hound photo, Goldie Greyhound's fun page, fridge magnet and thank you / information letter, and after 6 months an email update with the latest news.

Cost of a 12 months subscription is only £10 for adults and £5 for children (under 16). Every penny of your donation will be spent on caring for our homeless hounds.

To become a Friend payments can be made by paypal on our web page or by sending an email to [friendsofgrf@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:friendsofgrf@blueyonder.co.uk) for further details on how to pay by cheque / postal order. It is also possible to join on any of our monthly walks or at Baltree Farm Kennels or Union Farm Kennels.

*Did you know: when running greyhounds spend*

*80% of their time in the air. This is as close to*

*"flight" as a land animal can get!!!!*

## From the doghouse

Lady has come to us because her owner is seriously ill and can no longer look after her. She is used to being in a home, has a lovely nature and likes other dogs. Do you have it in you to give Lady a new home Then contact Jimmy/Celia on **01592 890583**.



## Greys around the world

This month we have the start of a new article looking at other greyhound rescue sanctuaries from around the world. Our first one is Greyhound rescue inc based in Gerrardstown, West Virginia, USA.



It was founded in 1989 by John and Denise Davis. It is an all-volunteer, registered, non-profit, charitable organization.

John and Denise founded the rescue program after they adopted Stacey, a white, brindle-patched, ticked female who raced into their hearts. Their interest in the rescue effort developed into the formation of their own rescue organization. Since its inception, Greyhound Rescue, Inc. has placed over 2,000 Greyhounds in homes throughout Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington D.C.

The goal of Greyhound Rescue is to find high-quality, loving homes for ex-racing Greyhounds and to educate people about the excellent, loving pets these noble creatures make. We are a relatively small organization, but are very active and dedicated.

We do not believe in overly restrictive placement policies. If you are a responsible, caring person and are willing to dedicate the attention that a Greyhound needs, please consider adopting one of these noble dogs through us.



Potential adoptees will have an interview (lasting about an hour) to determine which of their greys would best suit. The cost of the adoption is \$250.00 and is tax-deductible. As they are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization all contributions are used to benefit

greyhounds in their kennel. The fee covers the following:

Spay/neutering, Teeth Cleaning, Rabies vaccination, DHLPP, De-worming, Heartworm negative check and Lyme test, Flea Treatment, Transportation costs from the kennel, Leash, collar, and Greyhound Rescue, Inc., ID tag and Owners' Manual.

One interesting event is the annual "Greyhounds reach the beach" This event is held in Dewey Beach, Delaware and is the largest gathering of retired racing greyhounds in the U.S. This isn't a Greyhound Rescue, Inc. event (its sponsored by [The Greyhound Project](#)), but because they are so close, they always have huge numbers of their dogs there. It is held every year over Columbus Day weekend, and attracts over 2000 greyhounds and over 1700 humans!!! (and people think that our dog show is busy !)

If you are interested in learning more on this sanctuary then please visit <http://www.greyrescue.com/index.shtml>

### Notice of events

*Advertisement on behalf of Greyhound Action*

### **Greyhound Remembrance Weekend - July 25th & 26th**

In memory of all the dogs that have suffered and died because of the racing industry. Please try to take part in this important event

Greyhound racing in the UK began on July 24th 1926 at Belle Vue Stadium in Manchester.

Every year, on the nearest Saturday and Sunday to this date, we stage Greyhound Remembrance Weekend, in memory of the

hundreds of thousands of dogs that have been abused and killed by the greyhound racing industry since that day.

The Weekend is marked by street stalls and demos/pickets on the Saturday and by remembrance ceremonies on the Sunday, when wreaths and flowers are laid outside greyhound stadiums, in memory of all the dogs that have suffered and been put to death.

Please let us know, as soon as possible, if you'd like to organise, or take part in, a Greyhound Remembrance Weekend event in your local area (call 01562 700 043 or e-mail [info@greyhoundaction.org.uk](mailto:info@greyhoundaction.org.uk)).

We can supply leaflets, petition forms, posters etc., including two A3 size posters that we are producing specially for the Weekend. Images of these can be seen at <http://tinyurl.com/GRW-Poster-01> and <http://tinyurl.com/GRW-Poster-02> we would suggest they be displayed side by side.



Please note this is not a GRF organised event, see details above for organisers information.

This month's puzzle is all "Black and White" can you find all of our current B&W greys looking for forever homes.

And finally.....

*Answer to last month's puzzle*

Name	Breed	Treat	Walked To:
Fizzy	Poodle	Steak	Farm
George	Fox Terrier	Bone	Duck Pond
Jack	Bull Terrier	Canned Food	Field
Paddy	Labrador	Dog Chocs	Town
Tara	Chihuahua	Biscuits	Beach

S	T	D	C	Y	E	N	R	A	B
E	T	A	I	J	I	S	D	O	L
I	G	A	J	U	D	I	E	R	U
C	A	R	R	I	E	D	D	I	E
U	E	W	I	S	P	A	O	B	B
L	D	D	T	C	K	M	M	U	E
E	B	A	C	I	S	Y	I	Y	L
R	R	A	X	G	L	W	N	E	L
W	K	Y	A	A	Y	N	O	S	T
S	S	I	W	M	M	E	R	S	A

JUDY, DOMINO, SONYA, MAGIC, EDDIE, STARKY, LEN, LUCIE, BARNEY, WISPA, CARRIE, STAR, BLUEBELL & MAX.

Next dog walk will take place on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at Beveridge park, Kirkcaldy 11:00** (Please note that the time at this venue is sometimes subject to change, so please check our forum the week before).

If you've solved this problem correctly:



Well Done!

**Did you know:** There is no evidence to suggest that greyhounds have better vision than other dogs. What sets them apart is their peripheral vision (how well they can see from the sides. Some sources say they can see movement in a range up to 270° that's almost a full circle !!!!



# Greyhound Rescue Fife

## “Gie’s a haun”

Translation : *give us a hand*

We are looking for willing volunteers to help maintain a happy safe environment for the hounds in our care at our kennels at Baltree Farm near Gairneybank, Kinross .

We have divided the tasks into three main groups



Housekeeping—This needs dedicated volunteers who can go to the kennels on a regular basis perhaps this would suit a more local person. This would involve cleaning out the kennels, walking, feeding and grooming the homeless greyhounds so they look their best for their forever home.



Maintenance—We need diy people who are able to give their time to help maintain the Kennel site to repair and paint fences, maintain the kennel building, plumbing, electrics etc.



Fundraising—The kennels can not run without the essentials for the hounds food, lead, collar etc.

If you think you can “Gie's a haun” just contact Morag by email at [grf.morag@ntlworld.com](mailto:grf.morag@ntlworld.com) with your group of choice, when you are available, weekdays/weekends or a specific day.

THANKS from the homeless hounds for any help you can give.