

# Greyhound Rescue Fife

*"Adopting just one Greyhound won't change the world, but the world will surely change for that one Greyhound."*

INVERKEITHING COMMUNITY BIG BAND

FUNDRAISING CONCERT FOR  
GREYHOUND RESCUE FIFE



STRATHEARN HOTEL

2 WISHART PLACE, KIRKCALDY, KY1 2AS

14:00 SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2019

TICKETS £10 WITH UNDER 16'S FREE.



## Kennel News

Find out who has found their forever homes and who is new at the kennels...



## Meet Reuben

He is the dog of the month, find out more about this handsome boy...



## Pet Insurance

Find out the importance of insuring your hound...

## It's Almost Time for the Concert!

Thank you for reading the official Greyhound Rescue Fife newsletter!

It may be the end of the summer but we all have Philip Piper's Inverkeithing Community Big Band concert to look forward to on the 15th of September at Strathearn Hotel in Kirkcaldy. Philip is organising this event to raise funds for GRF so let's try and sell out all the tickets! You can contact Philip on his email address; [phil2410@gmail.com](mailto:phil2410@gmail.com) to buy tickets. Tickets are £10 and under 16's get free admission. You will receive an e-ticket with a number which is linked to your ticket and your ticket will be held at the venue. Payment via Paypal friends and family is preferred but please contact Philip for any other payment methods. We hope you will join them and make it an unforgettable event. All money from ticket sales goes to Greyhound Rescue Fife. Remember to invite family and friends too!

## Dog Walkers Needed!

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.

## Kennel News

Since the last edition the kennel welcomed sixteen new dogs: Minnie, Brenda, Jack, Queenie, Doloris & Mary, Peaches, Judy, Shelby, Sari, Marty, Maisy, Omar, Tariq, Blue and Molly. In the same time ten dogs have found their forever homes! These were Flora, Desi, Lowry, Captain, Maguire, Zulu, Annie, Minnie, Reuben and Buster.

On a personal note, I would like to say how thrilled I am to see that Buster has found his forever home. Many of you will know that we have had a soft spot for Buster and we took him out on monthly walks and to the dog show, his new family is very lucky to have him!

If you would like to home a dog from Greyhound Rescue Fife call Jimmy and Celia on 01577 850393 or 07826 244765 or you can email [ferniejimmyf@aol.com](mailto:ferniejimmyf@aol.com) to arrange a suitable time to meet your new member of the family!

## Dog of the Month



**We are pleased to say Reuben found his forever home on the 24th of August!**

*“Reuben is a stunning black boy with a very shiny coat. He is a happy, confident boy who is very friendly and enjoys greeting you with a kiss and takes his treats very gently. He is no bother with the other kennel hounds and he walks nicely on lead. He will be a fun addition to a lucky household”*



## Monthly Walks

11th of August, Blairadam forest, Kelty.



Monthly walks take place on the second Sunday of every month and are great way to meet other owners and let dogs socialise with each other. The next walk is on 8th of September at West Sands in St Andrews.

### Typical Hound

My mummy and daddy just got a fancy new fire for the living room. They have put it on on some of the cold nights and I've been loving warming up my belly. I've been getting so nice and toasty that I've had to pant to cool myself down a bit and sometimes getting so hot that I need to get some water. No matter how hot it is I will always return to the same spot to get nice and toasty again. Mummy calls me a dafty for doing this and keeps moving me further away from the fire! Can you believe that?! How rude!

TH



## Barry 'n' Sue

### Two years together



On the 26th of August, we celebrated our second gotcha day in the Highlands. We feel so lucky to have Barry and Sue everyday, they have filled our lives love, happiness and laughter. Barry is a big dork who loves pink and unicorns and would cuddle you all day if he could! Sue is a crazy wee lady who loves her food, zoomies, the sun and, of course, cuddles. We take them up to the Highlands often as they love a good adventure, getting to have a good sniff and dig in the sand so we had to take them back up for their second gotcha day! Here's to many more years and Highland adventures to come!

## Curtains

As many of you know, Sheila and a friend make dog beds out of duvets and curtains which they sell for £8 each to raise money for GRF. If anyone has curtains which they no longer require, could you bring them along to the kennels for them to pick up. They need to be in reasonable condition and of fairly strong material.

NB please don't bring duvets - we have an endless supply of these from another charity.

## Doloris and her surprise



This month we welcomed Doloris into the kennels. She had been used for breeding in the past so the skin around her belly was a bit loose but other than that she seemed happy and had settled into her kennel that day alongside a male dog. Jimmy took her out for the toilet that night before turning the lights off and letting the dogs go to sleep. Nobody had any idea that she was pregnant but the following morning, there was a beautiful puppy cuddling into her. There was no signs of water, blood or afterbirth and the beautiful puppy, Mary, was totally groomed, yet both dogs were muzzled. Nobody has any idea how this happened. Doloris and Mary now have a kennel of their own. Doloris has been a fantastic mummy and Mary now has her eyes open, can stand up and wander about.



## Doggy Doos

### The Importance of Insuring your Dog

By Fiona E Reekie

Five years ago, my partner and I rescued a 2 year old Greyhound bitch, named Lizzie. Immediately, he put her onto the same insurance as our other two Greyhounds that we had at the time. The insurance was adequate for our needs. He had always intended to change the policy to give her 'advanced' cover but I guess he never got around to it. Hindsight is a very valuable thing and we have since learned our lesson.

Around a year ago, Lizzie was playing in the garden with one of our other dogs, our Lurcher, Colin. There was an ear splitting scream, a sound we never, ever want to hear again in our lives. Lizzie was standing shaking, holding one leg up and couldn't walk. After a few minutes, she seemed better but we took her to the vet's anyway. Lizzie was initially diagnosed with a soft tissue injury and it was thought to be due to an old racing injury in her shoulder. Painkillers and rest were diagnosed but she didn't get any better. Numerous trips to the vet later, she was still pretty much the same and we all thought we were getting nowhere. X-rays showed nothing so we were stumped. Meanwhile, our vet's bill was mounting at an alarming rate. Our vet decided to refer us to an orthopaedic specialist, one of the leading orthopaedic vets in the country, to see if he could find out what was wrong. We knew it was going to be expensive, but she was worth it. On examination, he found the problem to be coming from her neck. He thought it could be a tumour on her spine, or a slipped disc. She was admitted for tests that evening. She had extensive x-rays, a spinal tap and a myelogram. Results showed that it was 2 slipped discs in her neck and that she would require surgery to take them out. We were prepared to pay anything to help her so we went ahead with it. The vet expected her to have a 90% improvement following surgery and that she should improve very quickly. He also warned us that 5% of dogs don't respond well to the operation but he was positive that Lizzie would be great afterwards.

Within 2 days of her being discharged after the operation, Lizzie started to deteriorate. She was in agony and was screaming and yelping and she couldn't get comfortable at all. She was also exhausted. We got very strong painkillers from our own vet but they didn't seem to make much difference. One morning it seemed that Lizzie had given up completely. The poor soul was exhausted and in so much pain. She wouldn't eat and we were struggling to syringe feed her water. Our vet went out of her way to make a home visit, as poor Lizzie could barely move. She was given an injection of very strong painkillers and some more tablets for later on that evening. We are extremely lucky to have such a wonderful vet who knows us and our dogs very well indeed. We shared a look that meant the end was near for our poor wee dog. If she didn't improve over the next few hours she was to be admitted to the veterinary hospital to get her pain under control. She got worse and was admitted shortly afterwards. We were all sure she wouldn't come home again. Our vet, and a nurse, stayed up all night at the



hospital with Lizzie, as they were so concerned.

Unbelievably, against all odds, Lizzie slowly started to respond to the treatment and 2 days later, we were greeted by an extremely happy, 'waggy' dog! Thanks to our wonderful vet, Lizzie came home and slowly made progress. Within a week, Lizzie was leaping around the kitchen like an idiot and is now almost back to normal. It will be another month or two until she's completely better but at the moment she is making a wonderful recovery. Now the painful bit.

The investigations at the orthopaedic specialist came to almost £800. The operation was almost £1000. Consultations, investigations, treatments, drugs, home visits and hospitalisation at our own vet came to over £3000. Her treatment is ongoing so that will steadily increase. One year on and the total has almost reached £7000. Our insurance only contributed £500.

I am writing this to urge people to get the best insurance they can possibly afford. The first thing we did afterwards was to insure our Lurcher Colin, our Galgo Daniel, and our other Greyhound, Blue Bob, with a very reliable company. We chose the "premium" policy, offering £6000 per condition, with no time limit. Shopping around, we found this company offered a discount if bought online and a discount for more than one dog.

We learned our lesson the hard way. Fortunately we could afford her treatment and we would have paid 10 times that amount to help our beloved Greyhound, Lizzie. Please read and re-read your policy if you have one, and make sure your dog has the best insurance possible. Believe me, it's worth it in the long run.

For more advice like this visit our website and click "Help and Tips".

## Your Stories

Since this is a community newsletter we would like to include more of your stories. If you have recently homed a hound and would like to let us know how they are settling in, if you would like to share a story about a recent trip or any other story about your hound then please let us know and we can share it in the newsletter! Email your stories to [grfnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:grfnewsletter@gmail.com).



## With Thanks

I would like to thank Jimmy, Celia, Hannah and Steve for their contributions to this issue.