

Greyhound Rescue Fife

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



What a year!

Thank you for reading the official Greyhound Rescue Fife newsletter!

It has been another super busy year at Greyhound Rescue Fife, it looks like it might be a record breaker! From puppies to our long termers getting homes, the staff and volunteers were certainly kept on their toes. We hope that you all have had a fabulous festive period and relaxed as much as Barry did! Enjoy reading the last newsletter of 2019!

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

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



Meet Jimmy

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



Preparing for Winter

Find out about keeping your hound safe in winter...

Kennel News

Since the last edition the kennel welcomed nine new dogs; Tommy, Sam, Trevor, Sky, Roddy, Tony, Blakey, Vinnie and Jim. In the same time fourteen dogs have found their forever homes! These were: Blakey, Marge, Ollie, Peg, Lady, Hope, Stan, Jessica, Erika, Dorit, Incey, Blue, Trevor and Beauty.

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 to arrange a suitable time to meet your new member of the family!

Dog of the Month

Jimmy



Jimmy is a lovely black boy with a couple of white snowflakes sprinkled in. An absolute joy to walk, Jimmy is great on the lead and loves being out with you. Equally happy soaking up affection he is always eager for your attention. Jimmy is a well built boy and has bags of confidence making him such an absolute character and well worth a visit.

Easyfundraising

When doing your online buying please don't forget to shop through Easyfundraising. There are new retailers eg Next joining the scheme all the time and specials offers and competitions all the time. Please remember it costs you nothing extra to shop via easyfundraising but will raise funds for the homeless hounds. We have now raised over £2300.

To find out more and join the other GRFers raising money this way please follow this link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/greyhoundfife/>

There is a pinned post on the forum with more information about this.

Barry 'n' Sue

CHRISTMAS!

Over the Christmas break, Barry and Sue have been busy visiting their family. On Christmas Day, they had visitors over which they were very excited about. Barry opened both his and Sue's present as Sue was too distracted with the treats in her stocking! They had a go at their puzzle games and a nice Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. On Boxing Day, they had a relaxing morning and a busy evening playing board games. They enjoyed some lovely crisp winter walks in their cosy jackets and new personalised snoods (to be on sale later in January). They spent Hogmanay in Edinburgh in front of a cosy fire. Surprisingly, they weren't too scared of the fireworks that were going off earlier in the evening when they were out for a walk, they were more interested in finding out where the noise was coming from. When the New Year came we could clearly hear the fireworks at the castle from the back of the house, Barry wasn't fussed, but Sue was terrified. Luckily Sue is food obsessed so we went back to the front of the house, we gave her a Whimzee and all of a sudden it was as if there was no fireworks at all. We hope you and your hounds enjoyed the festive period and weren't too scared by the fireworks.



Typical Hound

I've just come back from visiting some family, the hoomans had the cheek to take up all the space on the sofas! I gave my sad eyes, cried so loudly the neighbours could hear, paced and panted and still nobody moved! My mummy thought I needed the toilet so she took me outside, I humoured her and had a pee anyways but as soon as she let me back inside I ran to steal to her spot! Stupid daddy stopped me from climbing up and let mummy sit down. I wasn't impressed but admitted defeat and sat on the floor, but not without kicking a fuss and grumbling at them!

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Monthly Walks

8th of December at Loch Leven, Kinross.



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 walking schedule for 2020 has not yet been planned but we will let you know when it has been.

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.

Jimmy and Celia's thoughts on 2019

Well, here we are folks. 2019 gone into history and 2020 just arrived. Celia and I hope that you all had a great Christmas and we wish you a very Happy New Year. I fell out with Santa this year since I hung up my stocking with a message inside, I woke up to find no new leg in my stocking, so I'll have to limp for a wee while yet!

2019 has been a roller coaster ride for GRF. Eileen Rickennbach fought bravely against cancer but sadly passed on. Susan Person a well established GRF volunteer also died in the summer. Who can forget Robbie Stewart dying early in the year followed shortly by his son Douglas. Poor Sadie, we all send our deepest sympathies to her.

Also GRF have been rehoming for 15 years doing about 100 dogs per annum after our first two years. This of course means 100 dogs per annum have been dying which makes us very sad. On the good side we've had lots of fun. Celia said to me that on her bucket list one day we could have a litter of greyhound puppies. Shortly after that, of course, she had two litters. Deloris had puppy Mary while Judy outshone her with five in her litter. We've had a tremendous amount of fun with them and all have been rehomed before Christmas, in each case, to well known and trusted volunteers. All five come back to the kennels regularly to see us.

We have been in a record breaking mood this year. Pets at Home ran their Christmas Santa Paws appeal. We took Blue along to collect for Christmas dinners for all dogs in the UK. The most ever collected in a day by a dog was £167. Blue phenomenally raised £268 in one day. In 4 days he raised £773! Remember our great Dog Show and the Kinross Christmas market in all the rain. One final piece of news is that another record is likely this year. We aim to rehome 100 dogs per annum. This year we have rehomed 65 dogs and there are still five or six months to go. (130 dogs this year ?).

We thank everybody, too many to name personally, who collected food, clothing money etc. These kind people actually allow us to keep GRF afloat. To name just one, remember Phil Piper's phenomenal big band show in the Strathearn Hotel in Kirkcaldy. We all had a great day at that. We cannot pass without thanking Dylan and Hannah, for producing this wonderful Newsletter month after month - thank you both very much indeed. 2020 will be a good year for those of us who wear glasses. You can throw them all away since we'll all have twenty twenty vision.. Oh dear !!! on that note I'll say thank you good friends for all the help you have given us this year and we wish you all the very best this coming year. Celia, Jimmy and your friends the homeless greyhounds.

Wonderful help from Barking Mad!

Our great friends John and Elaine Warburton from Barking Mad near Scotlandwell took a place at the Kinross Christmas Market and made a magnificent amount of £665 and donated it to Greyhound Rescue Fife.

That is one fabulous effort by them on our behalf and we thank them so much for their much appreciated time and effort.

Isla Gordon's fantastic dog biscuits

A young nine year old lady, Isla Gordon, decided to bake some dog biscuits (a special recipe) for our greyhounds' Christmas. They were so good that they were eaten very quickly indeed. This inspired Isla to bake a very large amount of the biscuits and sell them to make money for our greyhounds. She had a complete sell out and made an unbelievable £90 for the dogs. Thank you so much for your hard work and kindness Isla. Your money will feed the dogs for a long time.

Karen and Neil's Christmas Hamper

Karen and Neil's Christmas hamper was on display for a month as a Christmas raffle prize at Pets at Home store in Kirkcaldy. Generous Christmas shoppers bought £500 worth of tickets giving Greyhound Rescue Fife a great financial lift.

Thank you very much Karen and Neil for your generosity in supplying such a magnificent hamper.

Doggy Doos

Getting Ready for Winter

We are continuing the theme of keeping your dog safe this winter. This month we will look at tips for winter walks. Dogs Trust have put together the following tips;

- When letting your dog out in an enclosed area be careful as snow can be unusual and exciting for dogs.
- Make sure your dog is wearing a collar and an ID tag and is microchipped. It is important to ensure your microchipping database is up to date with your address and contact details.
- Make sure you wipe your dogs' legs, feet and stomach after a walk. The grit from the roads and dampness from rain or snow can irritate their skin.
- Never leave your dog in a car, whether the weather is hot or cold, don't leave your dog in a car.
- Don't let your dog walk on frozen ponds. The ice may not be thick enough to take their weight. If your dog does fall through the ice never be tempted to go in after them. If possible, encourage them to swim back to you and call the emergency services.
- Antifreeze is highly poisonous but tasty to dogs. Keep it well out of their reach and mop up any spills!

- Safety first. Think about your own footwear when you're going out with your dog in winter, and make sure you are as visible as your dog.
- Regularly check your dog's leads, collars and harnesses. Make sure they are all functioning safely and not at risk of wear and tear or damage during winter weather. If it's extra cold it can be very difficult to do up lead clips and attach them to collars and harnesses. Wet weather may also make metal clips rust.



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.



With Thanks

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