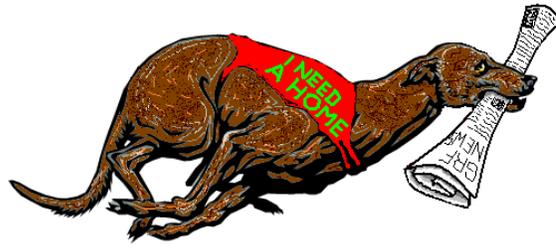




GRF



NEWS

Designed by Sally E Calder

December 2010

*Changing the world
one greyhound at a time!*

In this festive issue of the newsletter we have all our regular updates from the kennels, along with an article from our recent helpers from the water board, Lucky's story and news of our new database we are setting up to allow us to keep in touch with all our friends and followers. If you wish to be kept in the loop and receive your newsletter by email each month then see details below. Hope you enjoy

Kennel update

With the countdown to Christmas in full swing and the cold weather starting to kick in it is during these times when we need your support the most to ensure our greys enjoy the festive time as much as their kind who have been fortunate to find forever homes. Over the last few years I have advocated buying Christmas dinner for a grey rather than send round cards at my work place. For each person I would normally send to I donate a £1 per grey to GRF. I have a template letter which I send to my colleagues (have attached at end of newsletter - feel free to edit/update accordingly), wouldn't it be great if as many of our followers as possible could do this and make Christmas a special day for our "inmates"

Incomers MICHELLE, PUNCH, LADY (a), CHERIE, LASSIE, LADY (b), CINDY and GYPSY with SNOWIE returned

Outgoing EZZE, MAX, ROXY, MURPHY, LADY (a), PUNCH.

The incomers LASSIE, LADY (b), CINDY and GYPSY are four new arrival sisters aged only 5 months.

At this time of year we are generally a bit quieter not just because of the weather but we have to ensure to be careful of who we re-home them to after all a "grey is not just for Christmas".

During this current cold spell and arctic snow fall !! GRF would be grateful for any help at the kennels in particular from anybody who may stay close by or have a 4 x 4 !! Over the last few days Celia has had to stay overnight to ensure somebody is there for the dogs. While Jimmy has been trying to get supplies to the kennels travelling by car as close as he can and then walking the rest in some areas having to trek through 25 inches of snow !!! (ed: and with his wee legs that's not easy !!! I should know !). We reckon this is the worst it has ever been - and the bad stuff has still to come in Jan/Feb!!!! When you open the kennel hatches the dogs have been greeted with a wall of snow !!! So any help that anybody can give during this period would be much appreciated, but please be sensible about getting to the kennels.

Sponsor a Kennel

The sponsor a kennel scheme is being revamped. Signs are going to be put up outside each individual kennel at Baltree and will display all new sponsors names.

All sponsors will receive a welcome pack similar to that of Friends of GRF. Letter, certificate from the dogs in their particular kennel etc.

To sponsor a kennel for 12 months will cost only **£10** so if you're stuck for a present for someone how about this? The hounds will love you!

Any questions please don't hesitate to get in contact! marfykiwi@sky.com

Database

GRF is currently creating a database of supporters with plans to email everyone interested the newsletter, events..... and also details of lost found dogs in people's areas. All the info the database will contain is supporters name, email address and postcode. Postcode to target areas where someone has lost a dog and offer people who are "close" to the kennels a chance to volunteer and will be useful when it comes to spreading the word about the dog show and if help is needed.

As mentioned all the information we would like is your name, email address and postcode (for lost/found dogs). This information will only be disclosed to Celia and Jimmy Fernie, Nicola Jack & Morag Petrie (GRF Volunteers) and myself (Michele).

Are you happy to have your details (name, email address and postcode) included on the database?
Do you wish to receive by email Greyhound Rescue Fife updates and the monthly Newsletter?
Do you wish to be emailed with any details of lost/found dogs in your area? If so please let me know your postcode.

If at any stage you want to be removed from the emailing list please email me with your details and your information will be deleted.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Many thanks,
Michele
marfykiwi@sky.com

Thank You

Greyhound Rescue Fife would like to say a massive thank you to Scottish Water and their fantastic staff for all their kind help. Recently 21 members of their organisation volunteered their services at the kennels. They arrived from near and far, some even from Inverness 150 miles away !! (before all this snow !). They gave us super assistance digging trenches, walking and feeding our dogs, etc. allowing us the opportunity to catch up on many things that we do not normally have time for.



GRF would like to thank Bert McCurdy for raising **£230** for the homeless dogs by way of his hidden football teams tickets.

Thanks for being a great friend Bert.

Thanks to Pamela, Chris, Debbie, Stuart and Sev who not only managed to drive through the blizzards recently but also help walk all our dogs in these horrible conditions throughout the day. Celia, Jimmy and the dogs cannot thank you enough for your kindness. Bravery medals all round.

From the Dog house



SALLY is a beautiful girl with a very loving nature. She wants to be by your side all the time. Her greatest pleasure is to jump into anybody's car and get taken for a trip. She is a bit strong on the lead but this can be trained out of her. She is absolutely happy when with people

*Do you have it in you to give SALLY a new home Then contact Jimmy/Celia on **01592 890583***

Lucky Number - November draw

Last month both the newsletter and Lucky number draw celebrated their 2nd birthday ! The inception of this monthly draw has helped raise a lot of money to help GRF to ensure all our greys are well cared for while waiting to find their forever homes. Having this regular income allows us to plan better from month to month and for that we would like to thank everybody who has played each month, although there is still room for more !!! if you would like to take part. Over the last year GRF Lucky number has raised **£1,530.00** in the prize with **£1,122.80** having been raised for GRF and £407.20 to winners !!!!. Below is a list of the last years winners and prizes

November 2009 - **42** - Steve Dowd £52.80 - GRF £79.20 (Steve donated his winnings to GRF)

December 2009 - **22** - Laura Whiteford £52.80 - GRF £79.20

January 2010 - **22** - Laura Whiteford £52.00 - GRF £78.00

February 2010 - **9** - Gary Wilson £51.20 - GRF £76.80 (Gary donated his winnings to GRF)

March 2010 - **85** - Beth Marshall £52.00 - GRF £78.00

April 2010 - **15** - Shirley MacDonald £54.40 - GRF £81.60

May 2010 - **3** - Steve Dowd £51.20 - GRF £76.80 (Steve donated his winnings to GRF)

June 2010 - **83** - Evan Simpson £48.00 - GRF £72.00

July 2010 - **11** - Alison McDevitt £47.20 - GRF £70.80

August 2010 - **54** - Bo Barclay £48.80 - GRF £73.20

September 2010 - **62** - Gordon Smith £49.60 - GRF £74.40 (Gordon donated his winnings to GRF)

October 2010 - **54** - Bo Barclay £52.00 - GRF £78.00

At the recent greyhound walk 65 numbers had been sold giving a prize fund of **£130.00**. Which was split at **£78.00** to GRF and **£52.00** to the winner. At the end of the walk Jimmy drew out number **20**, which belonged to **Jeff Lawrence**. Congratulations Jeff and thanks for supporting this cause.

Congratulations to all our winners over the last year and thank you all once again for taking part. If anybody would like to take part in this draw or would like to get some more information then please feel free to speak to Gordon/Fiona at any of our walks, alternatively email grfluckynumber@yahoo.co.uk

Greyhound Rescue Fife Merchandise.

It is nearing that time again when people are looking to buy gifts for family, friends and loved ones. If you are lost for ideas why not have a look at some of our merchandise we have for offer. All items bought from GRF go directly to running our kennels and making a better life for our dogs while in our care. If you would like to order anything shown here just email helen.taylor019@btinternet.com or ring her on 01337 831326.

Please note that the prices shown do not include postage and packing costs; please enquire about this when you order.

GRF Calendar

The 2011 Calendar has been printed and is now available from our Baltree kennels. The cost is **£6.50** and will make an ideal Christmas gift for family and friends. The calendar is double sided printing and hangs A3 in size. For anyone further a field we'll happily post calendars. Postage cost will be **£1.72** for one calendar and **£2.50** for two calendars (items will be posted in padded envelopes to protect). Payment can be by cheque or using Paypal. (email Michele at: marfykiwi@blueyonder.co.uk for further information and details)

A special thanks must go to all the sponsors of the calendar and we hope that all our followers of GRF can help support these businesses as they have guaranteed the fundraising success of the calendar

Dog of the month

This month's dog of the month is **BRUCE** formerly known, as **Rab** at our kennels, here is his update from his forever home.



Likes - Bruce is a wonderful big boy and has settled in really well more so after the arrival of Morgan who keeps him company. He loves sleeping most of the time, that's definitely his favourite activity. He also likes going out for walkies if the weather is dry, especially along the beach. He loves going in the car too and visiting all of my relatives and their dogs too. His other favourite past times include pinching food from plates if we're not looking and occasionally bin raking if he can get access to it. Bruce enjoys cuddles with my

daughter Millie too.

Dislikes - Bruce hates going for walks in the rain or even going outside in the garden if the weather is bad. He's not keen on cats either and tends to bark like crazy if he sees one in the garden. He's not keen on bath time either !!

Biggest Achievement This would have to be settling into his new forever home after being in the kennels for so long and also getting on well with the other dogs in the family of all shapes and sizes. I am very proud of him. He has such a gentle nature and takes all the doggies in his stride.



Favourite Food - His favourite food would have to be leftovers from our dinner, lol, he



occasionally gets the leftover meat and gravy added to his dinner and he scoffs it down. He also likes honey too. (Although anything food wise seems to appeal) He's certainly not fussy when it comes to dinner, titbits or anything he's scavenged lol !!!!

What I like doing best- This has to be chilling out in his bed (or my bed) or the sofa when he thinks no ones looking he sneaks up then pretends to be invisible despite being a big black dog.

If you would like your dog to appear in this section of the newsletter why not send in an article similar to the one above with a couple of pics to alexmorrison1965@btinternet.com

Lucky

Anyone who has pets will really like this. You'll like it even if you don't and you may even decide you need one!

Mary and her husband Jim had a dog named 'Lucky.' Lucky was a real character. Whenever Mary and Jim had company come for a weekend visit they would warn their friends to not leave their luggage open because Lucky would help himself to whatever struck his fancy. Inevitably, someone would forget and something would come up missing.

Mary or Jim would go to Lucky's toy box in the basement and there the treasure would be, amid all of Lucky's other favorite toys. Lucky always stashed his finds in his toy box and he was very particular that his toys stay in the box.

It happened that Mary found out she had breast cancer. Something told her she was going to die of this disease....in fact, she was just sure it was fatal. She scheduled the double mastectomy, fear riding her shoulders.

The night before she was to go to the hospital she cuddled with Lucky. A thought struck her...what would happen to Lucky? Although the three-year-old dog liked Jim, he was Mary's dog through and through. If I die, Lucky will be abandoned, Mary thought. He won't understand that I didn't want to leave him. The thought made her sadder than thinking of her own death.

The double mastectomy was harder on Mary than her doctors had anticipated and Mary was hospitalized for over two weeks. Jim took Lucky for his evening walk faithfully, but the little dog just drooped, whining and miserable.

Finally the day came for Mary to leave the hospital. When he arrived home, Mary was so exhausted she couldn't even make it up the steps to her bedroom.

Jim made his wife comfortable on the couch and left her to nap. Lucky stood watching Mary but he didn't come to her when she called. It made Mary sad but sleep soon overcame her and she dozed. When Mary woke for a second she couldn't understand what was wrong. She couldn't move her head and her body felt heavy and hot?? But panic soon gave way to laughter when Mary realized the problem—she was covered, literally blanketed, with every treasure Lucky owned! While she had slept, the sorrowing dog had made trip after trip to the basement, bringing his beloved mistress all his favorite things in life?? He had covered her with his love.

Mary forgot about dying. Instead she and Lucky began living again, walking further and further together every day. It's been 12 years now and Mary is still cancer-free. Lucky still steals treasures and stashes them in his toy box but Mary remains his greatest treasure.

- Author Unknown

Inquiry into a Hotel

A man wrote a letter to a small hotel in a Midwest town he planned to visit on his vacation.

He wrote: *"I would very much like to bring my dog with me. He is well-groomed and very well behaved. Would you be willing to permit me to keep him in my room with me at night?"*

An immediate reply came from the hotel owner, who wrote:

SIR: *"I've been operating this hotel for many years. In all that time, I've never had a dog steal towels, bedclothes, silverware or pictures off the walls. I've never had to evict a dog in the middle of the night for being drunk and disorderly. And I've never had a dog run out on a hotel bill. Yes, indeed, your dog is welcome at my hotel. And, if your dog will vouch for you, you're welcome to stay here, too."*

Vets Corner

Side Effects of Root Exposure



As they age, many greyhounds will suffer from extensive root exposure, especially on their upper and lower canines.

This root exposed area has a texture like sandpaper in comparison to a tooth's normal smooth enamel covering and has consequences you probably don't even realize. I have yet to read anywhere where this common problem has been noted.

The exposed root will rub against the inner gum lining of your dog's mouth causing ulcerations. Just cleaning the teeth will not correct the problem. Ideally, the tooth should be planed, desensitized and then bonded with a thin coat of composite spread over the root exposed area. The result is the same smoothness that you would have on the enamel portion of the tooth. Many dog behavior

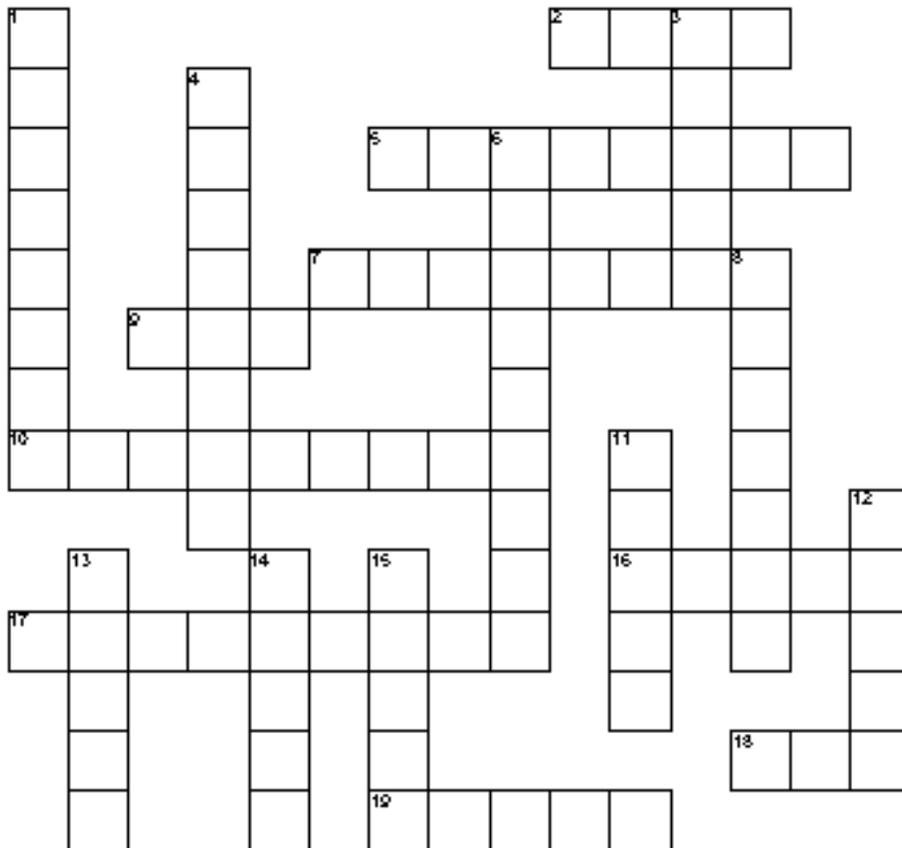
problems have been the direct result of rotting teeth/gums and in most cases once treated has seen a vast improvement in their life and behavior. After all we all know what it is like to have toothache and see a dentist however your dog can't tell you this. Some of the raw meats that Greyhounds may have been fed during their racing career will lead to bad breath and tooth decay please ensure you look after your dogs teeth and clean and check regularly for any decay.

Fun zone

Oct/Nov Answers



If you managed to get the above correct why not try this festive crossword



Created using Crossword Words

ACROSS

- 2 Present toppers
- 5 Favourite pre-Christmas activity
- 7 Dasher, Dancer, etc.
- 9 Christmas colour
- 10 Where Santa lives
- 16 Present wrapper
- 17 Happy ___!
- 18 Unwrapping presents is ___
- 19 Father Christmas

DOWN

- 1 They wake up early on Christmas morning
- 3 "I'm dreaming of a ___ Christmas"
- 4 You'll find them under the tree
- 6 Tree decorations
- 8 The red-nosed one
- 11 One of the reindeer
- 12 A Christmas colour
- 13 Another reindeer
- 14 You'll find them under the tree
- 15 A popular present

And finally

In next month's issue of the newsletter we hope to have some exciting sponsorship opportunities/details for our forthcoming dog show in May. If you would be interested in sponsoring or would like further details in advance then please email alexmorrison1965@btinternet.com

Coming soon - we hope to start a new monthly article in the newsletter addressing greyhound behaviour problems looking at why your grey may act in a specific way and suggest possible solutions, if you have any questions or topics that you would like asked then please feel free to email myself at the above address

Wishing everybody a very Merry Christmas and hopefully a prosperous New Year



THANK YOU



For providing me with my Christmas dinner this year, I look forward to it very much!!!

WOOF, WOOF, WOOF, WOOF (Translated – Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!)



BHAN