

GRF



NEWS

Designed by Sally E Calder

January 2012

*Changing the world
one greyhound at a time!*

This month sees us take a look back at 2011 as well as our regular recipes we also take a look at a greyhound complaint of bloat and look at some ways at making cheap feeding bowls. Before finally ending with a special date for the diary were we announce the date for our 5th annual dog show. I hope you enjoy.

DOGS IN :

SUZIE, KORA, MOLLY, MAISIE, SALLIE, FRANKIE.

DOGS OUT :

FAITH, ROB, JAMBO, DILLY, SHEBA, COADY, DILLY, SUZIE, REX, EDDIE, JACK
10 of those going out in a 15 day spell !! Our current running total (in going to print) of dogs that have found forever homes is **543 !!!**

Kennel update

Just when you thought Perth and Kinross council couldn't make any more bizarre decision the planners are willing to allow us a 6 foot extension on the kennels where we can live, but only at a specific area !!. It is surrounded on 3 sides by dog kennels, stables and a septic tank!!.. Three stinkers just like the planners. Needless to say we have politely turned it down. Let's keep the pressure on the planners and let them know how we feel about some of their decision making. If you wish to complain you could email:

constituency@gordonbanksmp.co.uk Balfour MP.

Roseanna.Cunningham.msp@Scottish.Parliament.uk our MSP

DevelopmentManagement@pkc.gov.uk the planners.

Over the month we have re-organized our kennels in order to get most of our dogs into the main complex area for the winter so we have had a big push on re-homing some of our current incumbents. As you can see from above we managed to find forever homes for 10 dogs in a 15 day spell !!

Over the month GRF got a visit from one of our regular forum posters Stan/Polish Celia and Jimmy gave him the grand tour of our premises to which he was most impressed and hoped at some point to be back,



From the Dog house

This month's dog of the month many of you will recognize from our forum. FRANKIE is 7 months old and a wonderful little guy. However the poor lad has a medical problem that wont allow us to



re-home to many of our followers. He has a liver shunt. This means that his liver is being bypassed. We are currently trying a medical solution by putting him on Hills special diet food. Anything else could be dangerous for him, in spite of him trying to eat everything in sight. It is almost impossible for him to put on weight. This medical attempt has a slight chance of correcting the problem. If it fails, he must have a very complicated operation to correct the problem. His chances of survival are poor. If he does survive the operation it is unlikely that he

will reach old age. We are devastated since he is a very happy, loving wee chap. He is pleased to see everybody. We all love him to bits. He has to have his medication throughout the day so our angel Susan has taken him home to look after him. He is living with his new girlfriend SOX. Our fingers are crossed for the lad. Keep an eye on our forum for regular updates

If you wish to know more about any of our dogs then please contact *Jimmy/Celia* on **01592 890583**.

The Year that was

January

The year began with us being literally snowed under!!! Unfortunately not with adoption enquiries. During this period our kennels were bursting at the seams to the extent we had to put in place a waiting list for Greys. Certainly over the month the weather meant that a lot of our regular helpers struggled to get to the kennels let alone potential adoptees. Celia herself had to stay over at the kennels so that our dogs could be looked after.

At this time we also submitted our planning permission for a janitors house to make sure there would always be someone on hand 24/7 to care for our dogs (see later on for outcomes).

Unfortunately because of all the bad weather we were forced to cancel our monthly walks for January and February. During the month we took in only 2 dogs (due to us having to bring our dogs into our main kennels during this bad weather, thus reducing our capacity) but did manage to re-home 11

February

Seen us start the advertising campaign and the selling of tickets for our annual dog show. Although no walk took place this month we did manage to re-home 15 dogs with 10 coming in

March

The month started with a visit from Pets at Home managers from across Scotland to our kennels allowing us to show first hand of what their generous donation last year had allowed us to achieve (received £5000 ! as their nominated charity of the year) Many friendships were formed during this visit and they were also heavily involved in supporting our dog show..

We also hosted our first Greyhound walk of the year at Pittencrieff park, Dunfermline which was exceptionally well attended and once again showed greyhounds to be excellent pets.

During the month we took in 11 dogs and found forever homes for 7. Unfortunately the month ended in a low with one of our popular white brindle girls FERN passing away

April

The month balanced itself out with 10 dogs going out and 10 coming in ! and we had another successful dog walk at Beveridge park in Kirkcaldy as we geared up for our annual dog show in May.

May

May was the busiest month of the calendar which started with our monthly walk in Loch Leven and followed the following week with our 4th Annual dog show which was to be the best to date and beat all previous records with just under **400** people coming through the door at various points of the day !!! Which helped us raise an unprecedented **£3,214.00** !!!!! This was obviously helped by finding our first ever show sponsor "Moffat the catering equipment company" and to William and Linda we thank you very much. This sponsorship allowed us to focus on other areas of the show which as can be seen from the above figures certainly helped. The large turn out certainly made for a great atmosphere in the hall and a great day being had by all.

During this month GRF also struck a deal with the Retired Greyhound Trust whereby we will look after 15 of their dogs in our kennels allowing us to save many more greyhounds.. In return for this we will get assistance from RGT thus ensuring the continuity of our kennels at Baltree for years to come.

During the month we re-homed 16 dogs and took in 14 . Below are a list of our dog show class winners along with Best in show:

Junior handler - FREYA - KEIR/CARA

Male greyhound - BOY - KAREN

Non Greyhound - BRINDLE - AMANDA

Family of dogs - KERRY/JAKE - ELAINE

Loveable face - NANCY - MURIEL

Female greyhound- HEIDI - SCOTT

Best in Show - HEIDI/SCOTT



Look out from our diary dates for next years dog show

June

We started the month with our very own monthly walk at Riverside Park in Glenrothes and ended it by participating in the Great British Greyhound Walk at Camperdown Park. Throughout the UK **2288** greyhounds took part!!

July

In July GRF re-homed it's 500th greyhound!! MADAM who went to an excellent home and joined the extensive family of Celia and Jimmy! Since 2006 we have re-homed over 500 greyhounds (501 and 502 going out shortly after MADAM), that's approx 100 a year or 1 every 3.65 days or 1 every 87.6 hours or 1 every 5256 minutes!!!!!! You get the picture :0)

August

The month started on a high but unfortunately ended in a low. We received a generous donation from Pets at Home of **£5200** to help us build a rotating dog walking machine inside a specially constructed building. This would mean that the dogs could be exercised every day, even though it is deep snow outside.

Many of our long standing followers will no doubt remember GYPSY the cross grey/saluki who eluded many attempts to lure her to safety in the hills near Cupar over 3 years ago before being

finally caught and given a happy forever home. So it was great sadness that we heard of her passing away recently. She was such a character and will be sorely missed not only by her family but by many at GRF

September

The month got off to a bad start when we learnt from the council that our planning permission to build a janitors house next to our kennels was turned down. Needless to say we appealed this decision. The month also seen us set up our application for the RBS community force projects to allow us to plumb in underground water pipes to our outlying kennels

Unfortunately the month ended on another sad note when one of Jimmy & Celia's greys passed away at the ripe old age of 14 ! POLLY was one of those rare greyhounds who never once barked and was 100% house clean from day 1. Run free over Rainbow Bridge Polly you will be sorely missed.

October

Voting got in earnest for the RBS community force project

November

During the month we took in 3 dogs and found homes for 8 (taking our running total to 530 greyhounds re-homed since 2006 !!).

Our coffee morning at Kinghorn during the month, was extremely well attended. Along with the coffee morning and Bert's GRF merchandise sales Lynne's event raised a magnificent **£1177.40**!!!!

Our annual Christmas calendar went on sale along with many of our newer merchandise items.

Towards the end of the month we got official confirmation that we had not only won our local area vote for our cause but also topped the Scottish vote and across the whole UK we finished second out of over 6000 projects !!! Thus allowing us to complete our pipe works for water to outer kennels



December

The year ended in a bit of a low when after a visit by the "three wise people" from Perth and Kinross Local planning committee decided there was no need for 24/7 care of greyhounds !! And turned down our appeal for a janitor's house next to our kennels. The vote was 2 - 1 with the old Tory boys sticking together.

During the month we took in 4 dogs and found homes for 4. We had to reduce dog numbers to bring all our dogs into our main complex over the winter period.

That was the year that was. Over the year we had some magnificent support and help from many of our followers particular with our Community force challenge. For every penny, pound and minute you have helped us during the year we along with the dogs very much appreciate it. Thank you to you all for making this another memorable year for GRF.

RECIPES

Canine Carrot Cookies

Ingredients:

- 2 cups carrots -- boiled and pureed
- 2 eggs
- 2 tablespoons garlic -- minced
- 2 cups unbleached flour -- *see Note
- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1/4 cup wheat germ *or rice flour or rye flour

Make Them Yourself:

Combine carrots, eggs and garlic. Mix until smooth. Add dry ingredients. Roll out on heavily floured surface and cut into bars or desired shapes. Bake at 300 degrees for 45 minutes or to desired crunchiness. The centres will continue to harden as they cool. Brush with egg white before baking for a glossy finish.

Snickerpoodles

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1 cup honey

2 eggs
3 $\frac{3}{4}$ cups white flour
2 teaspoons cream of tartar
1 teaspoon baking soda
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cornmeal
2 teaspoons cinnamon

Make them yourself:

Mix vegetable oil, shortening, honey with eggs. Beat well. Add flour, soda and cream of tartar. Knead dough until mixed well. Shape dough by rounded teaspoons into balls. Mix the cornmeal and cinnamon together in a bowl and roll balls in mixture. Place 2 inches apart on a greased cookie sheet. Press the balls down with a fork. Bake for 8-10 minutes at 400F. Cool on a rack. Store in airtight container.

Do you have any recipes that you would like to share with our readers then why not send in to alexmorrison1965@btinternet.com

Vets Corner

This month we take a look at the condition more commonly found in deep chested dogs such as greyhounds that of bloat and also take a look at cheaper options of raised feeding bowls.

A tip about feeding your Greyhound.

There is a condition known as Gastric Torsion, commonly called Bloat. It is a serious, life-threatening condition, and it is most commonly seen in deep-chested dogs like Greyhounds. The stomach first dilates with gas and fluid, then becomes twisted. Signs are:- panting, vain attempts at vomiting, restlessness and visible abdominal distension with drum-like tightness just below the ribs. The dog should be taken immediately to the vet for emergency surgery.

Taken from "Pet owners guide to the Greyhound". By Anne Finch.

This sounds like an alarming condition and indeed it is. No one wants to see their beloved Greyhound in such a life-threatening state. One of the things that can cause bloat is placing your Greyhounds' food bowl on the floor so he/she has to reach down to it when eating. Because of their long neck and deep chest, it is particularly bad for them to have to do this.

Fortunately the answer is easy. Most pet shops sell purpose made metal stands with a hole in the top to hold your dogs' food bowl. They are made of light steel or aluminum and come in different sizes for different height dogs. However, if cost is a consideration for you, and I have to admit that it can be for us with up to 11 Greys to feed, then why not do what I did, make your own out of cardboard. Of course, they don't look as good as the shop bought ones but they cost nothing. The one pictured at the bottom of this article has lasted for many years. It looks tatty and home

made but hey, it does the job and it's not what it look like that matters anyway is it? If you find that you dog knocks your light cardboard one over, just place a weight such as a small brick or stone in the bottom, or alternatively, place it against a wall or piece of furniture. Alternatively some people have also bought cheap plastic buckets and cut the bottom out. Now an ordinary stainless steel dog bowl fits very neatly into the upturned bucket. If you are really clever you can co-ordinate the colour of the bucket with the decor in you kitchen! Hope you find this tip both useful and money saving!

PS: cheaper buckets work best as it's easier to cut the base out.

To end this I will quote the rest of the article from Anne Finchs' book.

Nobody is absolutely certain what causes it. (bloat). A large intake of dry food or water, especially after exercise, has been suggested as one possible cause. Divide meals into two or three a day, and do not allow your dog to eat or drink too much when he is still stressed from exercise.



Please buy or make something like these to protect your Greyhound

Fun Zone

First of all as promised here are the answers to Decembers festive fun zone - how many did you get correct **!**

Christmas Top Hit Songs Quiz Answers

1. Who Sang White Christmas in the 1950's? **Answer - Bing Crosby**
2. In 2006 Beyonce had a Christmas hit with which song? **Answer - Irreplaceable**
3. What was the title of the Band Aid song? **Answer - Do They Know It's Christmas?**
4. In 1961 Danny Williams had a hit with Moon River - in what movie did this song feature? **Answer - Breakfast at Tiffany's**
5. Who sang Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer in the 1950's? **Answer - Gene Autry / Bing Crosby**
6. The Beach Boys had a winter hit in 1966 but what was the name of the song? (Clue - it didn't have a Christmas theme!) **Answer - Good Vibrations**
7. Harry Belafonte sang which Christmas hit in the 1950's? **Answer - Mary's Boy Child**
8. What was the name of the 1980's song sung by Paul McCartney & Michael Jackson? **Answer - Say Say Say**
9. In which Christmas was the Whitney Houston 'I Will Always Love You' reach number 1? **Answer - 1992**
10. In which year did Smokey Robinson & The Miracles have a Christmas hit with The Tears Of A Clown? **Answer - 1970**
11. What was "Roasting on an Open Fire" Sung by Nat "King" Cole? **Answer - Chestnuts**
12. What type of Christmas did Elvis Presley sing about? **Answer - Blue**
13. Who recorded "Run Rudolph Run" in 1958? **Answer - Chuck Berry**
14. Who originally sang "Wonderful Christmastime"? **Answer - Paul McCartney**
15. Who first recorded "Jingle Bell Rock" in 1957? **Answer - Bobby Helms**
16. Who had a 1991 hit called 'Black Or White'? **Answer - Michael Jackson**
17. Who recorded "Driving Home for Christmas"? **Answer - Chris Rea**
18. What Christmas song is featured on the film Die Hard? **Answer - Die Hard**
19. Who did Grandma Get Run Over By as sung by Elmo and Patsy? **Answer - A Reindeer**
20. Who was Mommy seen kissing in the famous Christmas song? **Answer - Santa Claus**

Christmas Film Quiz Answers

1. What was the name of the angel that helped James Stewart in "It's a Wonderful Life"? **Answer - Clarence!**
2. What was the name of the department store in the Miracle on 34th Street? **Answer - Macy's**

3. What was the name of the little girl, who later played a leading role in West Side Story, who starred in the Miracle on 34th Street? **Answer - Natalie Wood**
4. What was the name of the town which featured in It's a Wonderful Life? **Answer - Bedford Falls**
5. Who starred as a desperate dad in Jingle all the Way? **Answer - Arnold Schwarzenegger**
6. What was the name of the Grinch's dog in How the Grinch Stole Christmas? **Answer - Max**
7. What does the character of Frank Cross do for a living in "Scrooged"? **Answer - Runs a TV station**
8. What was the name of the character played by Macaulay Culkin in Home Alone? **Answer - Kevin McCallister**
9. Which actor was central character "Buddy," in the film Elf? **Answer - Will Ferrell**
10. In The Muppet Christmas Carol which character was played by Kermit the Frog? **Answer - Bob Cratchit**
11. Who plays the train's mysterious conductor in Polar Express? **Answer - Tom Hanks**
12. In the Nightmare Before Christmas where did Jack Skellington ("The Pumpkin King") live? **Answer - Halloween Town**
13. When did the terrorists seize control of the Los Angeles skyscraper in Die Hard? **Answer - Christmas Eve**
14. "There glows the neighborhood!" is the tagline for which Christmas Movie? **Answer - Deck the Halls**
15. What was the name of the family featured in National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation? **Answer - The Griswold family**
16. How did the real Santa have an accident in the Santa Clause movie? **Answer - He fell off his roof**
17. Who starred as the British Prime Minister in Love Actually? **Answer - Hugh Grant**
18. Little Women was about four girls called Jo, Amy, Meg and Beth. What was their surname? **Answer - The March family**
19. What is the name of the famous Christmas song in the film 'Meet Me in St. Louis'? **Answer - "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"**
20. In Toy Story, the final scene takes place on Christmas Day. What were the names of the rivals in the film (the cowboy and the sci-fi action figure)? **Answer - Sheriff Woody and Buzz Lightyear**

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Now try these general knowledge questions, answers will appear in next month's newsletter.

- Q: When did the Euro banknotes and coins officially become currency in Europe?
- Q: Which organisation has the motto: Fidelity, Bravery and Integrity?
- Q: "Old Fred" was the captain of which famous vessel?
- Q: What do Aspirin, Dry Ice, Kerosene and Linoleum have in common ?
- Q: Donald F. Duncan introduced in 1929 a toy based on a weapon used by 16th-century Filipino hunters. What is it called?
- What did Dr John S. Pemberton concoct in a three-legged pot in his backyard in 1886
- Q: What is a John Dory ?
- Q: What total do the two numbers on the opposite side of a dice always add up to ?
- Q: In which city was the Titanic built?

- Q: How many leaves does a shamrock have?

Date for the Diary

- Our **5th Annual Dog show will take place on Sunday 13th May at Caldwell's farm.** Keep an eye on our forum for further information and when tickets go on sale. There will also once again be sponsorship opportunities for anybody who may wish to sponsor a class, hall or even the whole show ! packages will be announced on our web site. Watch this space as they say. Last year was a huge success raising much needed money for our kennels as well as promoting and raising awareness of greyhounds. We couldn't do this without the support of many of our followers with just under 400 coming through the door last year. Lets hope as many of you as possible can once again support this magnificent day. Look forward to seeing you all there. Why not let your family and friends know about this day and get them to come along and see first hand what these wonderful dogs are all about.

And finally!

**Happy New Year to all our
followers and supporters let's
make 2012 another special one
for GRF**