

# GRF



# NEWS

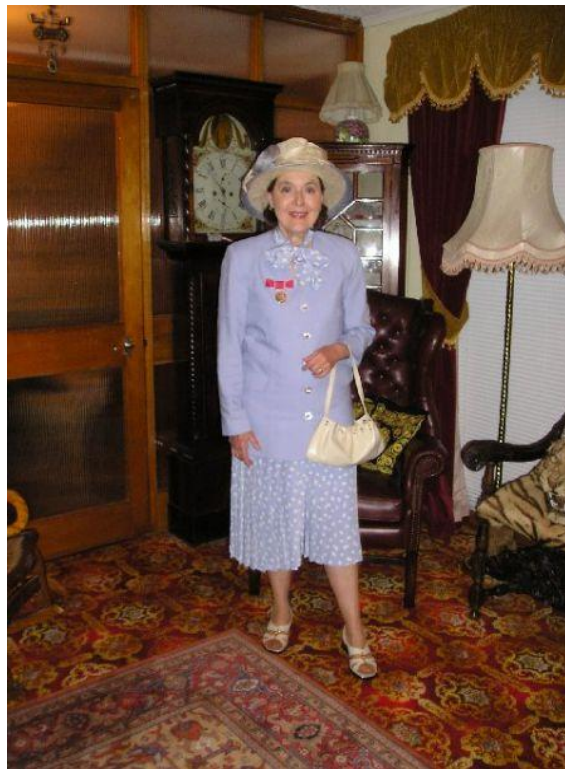
*Designed by Sally E Calder*

July 2013

*Changing the world  
one greyhound at a time!*

Welcome, as ever, to the Greyhound Rescue Fife Newsletter ☺ Despite it only being a month since I last wrote, one could be forgiven for thinking that it was, in fact, several months given that we have experienced every season, weather-wise, since !!

Who else could we put on the front page this month, other than our lovely Celia before going to the Garden Party ...



Celia looked amazing but, sadly, did not get the opportunity to ask The Queen if she would like to re-home a couple of greyhounds ... those corgis don't know what they're missing !!

Next this month a reminder, should one be needed, that Kerri is organising a Summer Fete to raise funds for our homeless hounds - see the poster below:



Kerri is looking for volunteers to help out with stalls on the day, as well as any donations of home-baked goodies, plants or tombola prizes. She would also like to hear from anyone interested in bringing one of the resident dogs, from the Kennels, for the homeless hound parade.

Please support Kerri, and GRF, in any way you can and particularly with your presence on the day itself to make it a roaring success.

## **Thank-you's ...**

### **Thanks to SSE:**

We have, once again this month, had the good fortune to be assisted by volunteers from SSE.

They are always very pleasant and helpful people, and are always most welcome at our Kennels. Thank you, as ever.

### **Thanks to Aaron Mears for helping the hounds:**

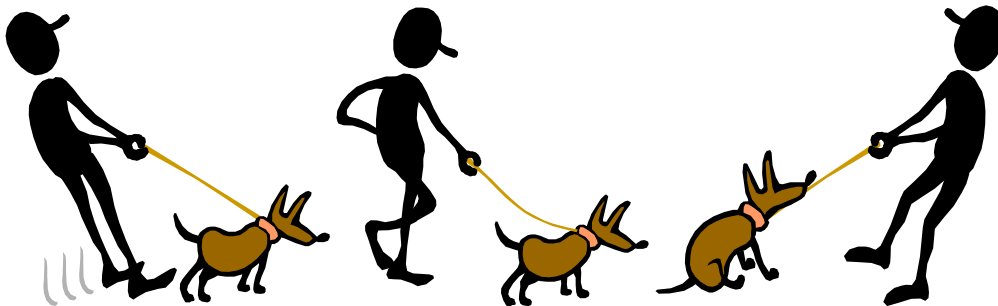
Everyone at GRF, especially Celia, Jimmy and the dogs, would like to thank young Aaron Mears and his family, from Gairneybank, for organising a sale in the village.

The sale raised a fantastic £53.00 for the homeless greyhounds ☺

Thanks very much to Aaron and his family - it was a great pleasure to meet you all.

## **July Walk at Loch Leven ...**

The July walk was held on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July at Loch Leven - a great turn out, for a beautiful walk, on a glorious day ☺



The **Lucky Numbers Draw**, for July, was made after the walk:

Fiona advised that 63 numbers had been sold, giving us a prize fund of £126.00. This was split as £75.60 to GRF, and £50.40 to the winner. This month's lucky number was drawn by Jimmy, and was No. 79 belonging to Nova Davies - many congratulations Nova!

Fiona would, as ever, like to thank everyone for their continued support.

## From the Dog House ...

### **Dogs in since May/June Newsletter:**

Tigger, Dandy, Drake, Sam, Jen, Blade, Star, Sox, Robin, Toby & Daisy (11)

### **Dogs out since May/June Newsletter:**

JoJo, Timmy, Sox, Tina, Billy, Teenie, Foxy, Max, Drake & Brucie (10)

### **Can YOU help one of these dogs ...**

**PLEASE** can you find it in your heart to give one of our dogs the forever home they so richly deserve?

### **Squeek**



**Squeek** is the most beautiful big brindle boy. He is a dog who desperately wants human company. He is slightly strong on a lead, but this could easily be put right with training. He gets on well with the other greyhounds in the kennels, and is an excellent traveller in a car.

### **Blanche**



**Blanche** is a beautiful, but very strong girl. She would have to be trained to walk more easily on a lead. She would, therefore, suit a young & strong person! She is very loving indeed, and would settle down to be a very good pet. She is a fun loving dog.



I would like to start a new feature - this was inspired by Max, who was to be our first interviewee, but who has now found the forever home he was so desperate for ...

Congratulations Max - wishing you a long, healthy & happy life with your new family!



Max appealed for a forever home with, I suspect, a little help from Jess (!!!) and this gave me an idea for a new feature ...

On the 15<sup>th</sup> July, I posted on the Forum:

*“Having read Max's plea for a forever home, I have decided that it would be a great idea to feature a homeless hound, who has been in the Kennels for some time, each month by way of a 'Forever Home Needed ....' advert by the dog concerned.*

*Our wonderful volunteers and, of course, Celia & Jimmy would be the best people to nominate dogs for this new feature, as they have the hands-on experience and knowledge of the dogs.*

*So, if you would like to nominate a dog for this new feature, please either post on the Forum, as Max did, or e-mail me at [bobbynetherland@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:bobbynetherland@dsl.pipex.com).*

*Max, unless he has found his forever home by the end of the month (and fingers crossed that he will have), will be our first dog featured.”*

Well, Max got his dream come true, and I look forward to hearing from one of you beautiful greys who is seeking his / her forever home ... your appeal could appear here next month!

*As ever, if you would like more information on the dogs featured above, or indeed any of our other dogs in 'Please Choose Me', please contact Jimmy or Celia on 01592 890583, or by e-mailing [ferniejimmyf@aol.com](mailto:ferniejimmyf@aol.com)*

## Vet's Corner ...

A constant concern, for all dog owners, over recent weeks has been ... **HEAT**.

There were press releases from the SSPCA, and various other animal charities, giving us advice as to what to do for the best - walk early morning and late evening, with just short 'comfort breaks' between times. If you couldn't walk 50 yards in your bare feet, you shouldn't walk your dog, do not, under any circumstances, leave your dog in the car - even for a short period. If our neighbours had been watching me, and had they not already known that I am completely mad, they would have thought I was losing my marbles as I went out barefoot and walked up & down the path before deciding whether, or not, to walk Bootsie!

Water is certainly a very important consideration in the hot weather - both for the dogs to drink, and to cool them down. Many people soak towels and apply them to their dogs in the heat. We ordered an 'Easidri Cooler Coat', from Pets at Home. These coats had been featured on ITV's This Morning earlier in the week. They can only be ordered online, and are not available from Pets at Home stores.

The coat itself is, undoubtedly, a great idea ... you just soak it in a basin of cold water and then wring it out. I did this before taking Bootsie out one lunchtime, and it was great - he didn't pant as much, the coat didn't make his fur wet and his back wasn't boiling, as it had been on previous walks.

There was one drawback ... the instructions, when you order, tell you to measure the dog's back for the correct fit ... we did this, already knowing that Bootsie was 28" in a normal coat - 28" is 'Large', and certainly fits down the back. **HOWEVER**, I think that this coat is designed for a more rotund breed of dog because it hangs loose over his hind legs (as you will see from the photo below) and when he lifts his leg to pee, it goes all over the inside of the coat and, because the coat is absorbent, the urine is absorbed and the coat stained. The coat can, thankfully, be washed in the washing machine!

Anyway, I think it would be great if you had to take your grey in the car in hot weather, and possibly for a female hound!!! We will continue to use it to keep Bootsie comfortable in the heat, however, at £50.99 plus P&P I would have liked it to have been a better fit.



## ROVER REPORTER .....

*(aka Bootsie from Rosyth!)*

**EACH MONTH, WE ARE HOPING TO HEAR HOW ONE OF OUR RE-HOMED GREYHOUNDS IS DOING, IN THEIR FOREVER HOME, BY MEANS OF A SHORT QUESTIONNAIRE. IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN TAKING PART IN THIS, PLEASE E-MAIL ME FOR A COPY OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE, AND RETURN TO ME ALONG WITH A PHOTO**

[bobbynetherland@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:bobbynetherland@dsl.pipex.com)

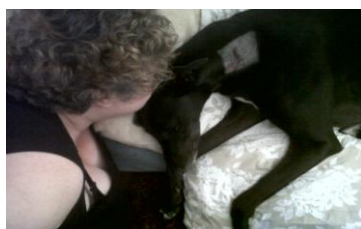
Unfortunately, we do not have an interview for this month ☹ However, the good news is that we **do** have a volunteer lined up for next month - thank you! Please, if you haven't already done so, think about completing our short questionnaire and sending a couple of photos of your hound. Bootsie can't wait to hear from you ...

On the subject of Bootsie, many of you will already know, from the Forum, that we discovered two lumps recently - one on his tummy, the other on his neck. We took him along to see Emma, at Vetrica, who said that she was not worried about the one on his tummy, but that she **was** concerned about the one on his neck - this was on the Thursday (4<sup>th</sup> July). Emma suggested that we take Bootsie in on the Monday (8<sup>th</sup> July, and the day before his 5<sup>th</sup> birthday) to have both lumps removed. Needless to say, we spent a very worried weekend - many of you will know that feeling. We popped along to the start of the Loch Leven walk on the Sunday, but decided not to walk him as it was very hot and we didn't want to tire him out.

Eventually (after what seemed like weeks) the Monday came along and off Bootsie went with Emma - not a backward glance to his two emotional wrecks of Mummies !! I was told to 'phone at 3.00pm ... again, many of you will know the anguish of waiting from 8:30am until 3:00pm before being able to 'phone .. you don't, after all, want to make a nuisance of yourself, or appear paranoid (even if you are!). At 3:01pm (!!!) I telephoned and was told all had gone well. The lump from his neck had been removed and sent off for analysis - we could collect him at 5:50pm ☺

Was he delighted to see us - not really ... were we delighted to see him - overjoyed! Emma talked us through his bloods and said that there was definitely no concern with the lump she had removed from his tummy. We had to go back on the Wednesday for a post-op check and would, hopefully, have the test results by the end of that week. On Friday morning came the wonderful news that the lump was a 'follicular cyst', and benign.

Bootsie has healed amazingly well, now that the stitches are out, and the hair on the shaved bit of his neck has grown back to the extent that you probably wouldn't notice it if you didn't know it was there!



*(Photo taken the night of Bootsie's op)*

We really cannot thank, or praise, Emma, Doreen and the team at Vetrica enough for their patience and care.

## Over the Rainbow Bridge ...



In the last Newsletter I omitted to pay tribute to Jake, for which I must apologise ...

### **JAKE 12 September 2002 - 30 May 2013**

Jimmy and Celia's darling Jake. You were never any bother. You were our perfect greyhound and most loving friend. We loved you so very much too, darling boy. Your pain is now gone, so run as of old, on new pastures over Rainbow Bridge.

Goodbye lovely big boy.

Your loving mummy and daddy, Celia and Jimmy.



*Jimmy with Jake*

### **Brogan:**

Sadly, and following a short period of health problems and tests, Karen lost Brogan towards the end of July. Run free across the Bridge sweet boy ... you will always live on in the heart and memories of your Mummy and all who knew, and loved, you.

Brogan was 'Larry', at the kennels, when he was adopted by Karen on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2008, and was then 5 years old.





## **Other News ...**

There are lots of bits of 'other news' this month, so here goes ...

### **Jimmy & Celia's Baltree House:**

The exterior of the Baltree House is now almost complete! Work is progressing inside, although the electricity, water and drainage have all still to be connected. It is getting there .... !!

### **Recycling mobile phones using GRF envelopes:**

On the 12<sup>th</sup> July, Michele posted the following on the Forum:

“An email from The Recycling Factory:

*"Good Afternoon,*

*As many of you may already have heard in the media, there has been a change in the guidelines covering the transportation of lithium batteries. This means that Royal Mail can no longer accept mobile phones via the freepost system.*

*We have been in numerous talks with the Royal Mail to try to prevent this guidance from coming into force, but unfortunately as of the 15th July we will be unable to receive mobile phones sent via the freepost envelopes.*

*At great length we have explained to Royal Mail that there are millions of freepost envelopes in the public domain, making it very difficult to communicate this change to charity supporters. However, please rest assured that we will be communicating this change on our website and through our communication with your supporters."*

This change affects **ALL** the charities and schemes which recycle phones. If you do have phones you wish to recycle for GRF, please contact Michele as she hopes to get a box from TRF to send phones in bulk.”

### **Please support our Calendar Sponsors:**

GRF supporters, Select Wallpapers, particularly of our calendar and recycling scheme, have opened a shop in Dundee near Sainsbury. If you're thinking about redecorating, please check them out and mention GRF. It will be beneficial to us if you do!

### **Visiting Hours:**

Celia & Jimmy kindly request that surprise visitors to the kennels come after 11:00am, and before 3:00pm. Pre-booked visitors are welcome, since we probably have lots of work for you! Before 11:00am we are all cleaning out, and preparing, the kennels, and won't have time to welcome visitors.

After 3:00pm the staff have gone, and Celia & Jimmy are often away on business at that time, so the kennels are probably closed.

Between these hours you are supremely welcome!

### **2014 desk and wall calendars:**

Keep clicking folks! In the next few weeks, we will be starting to request photos for the 2014 calendars. Preference goes to dogs that haven't been included before, but we always try to include all photos.

Michele has an idea for design, so would particularly like some photos in portrait.

For people who are new to GRF each month in the calendars, and the covers, are sponsored which pays for all costs involved, and the printing of the calendar. All the money raised from sales, therefore, goes to our homeless hounds.

If anyone is interested in sponsoring please do get in touch.

There is space on the wall calendar months for a company's name, contact details and logo. If you contact Michele, she can e-mail you pages from the 2013 calendar in order to let you see the layout.

Last year, sponsorship for the wall calendar was £30.00 per month, and £50.00 for the cover. The desk calendar was £15 per month (including cover).

### **Help needed at Kennels:**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> July, Bert posted the following on the Forum:

*“We are about to start a refurbishment project at the kennels, and are looking for volunteers with good DIY skills. The work would involve the use of power tools and saws so, in the interest of safety, only volunteers with good experience of power tools and saws would be considered.*

*The work itself is re-sheeting the main kennel area kitchen and toilet with 3mm formica panels, the idea being that it will be easier to keep clean and doesn't need painting. We have all the materials, and I will make a start on it next Saturday (27<sup>th</sup> July). If anyone would like to help, please email me at [robert\\_mccurdy@sky.com](mailto:robert_mccurdy@sky.com)”*

## **Open day at Apex Vets, Denny:**

Bert posted the following on the Forum on 27<sup>th</sup> July:

*“Greyhound Rescue Fife has been invited along to Apex Vets open day on 4th August at Winchester Avenue Denny from 11:00am - 4:00pm.*

*Come along and support us as we try to raise Greyhound Awareness at the open day and, of course, bring your greyhound and let the public see what elegant and graceful dogs these are.*

*We will have some greyhound literature badges, pencils, car stickers, key rings, and the book with photos of all our dogs that are up for adoption.*

*We can all play a part in trying to re-home our dogs by coming along and supporting GRF at these events.”*

## **and finally ...**

Our next walk will be held on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August at Tentsmuir.

Please remember that this walk starts, and ends, at Tayport East Common Car Park and **not** at the main forest car park!

Directions to East Common Car Park in Tayport:

To get to Tayport From North / Tay Bridge - follow signs for Tayport!

From South - follow signs for St. Michaels and then Tayport.

When in Tayport, from either direction, follow the main road until you see signs for Scotsraig Golf club (brown sign) on lamp post. This will take you down Elizabeth Street. Follow Elizabeth Street all the way down until you come to the bottom road (Shanwell Road). Turn right there and follow the road around until you get to the next left - this will take you to the car park. (There's a recycling point there, and it's free to park).

The walk will start from the East Common Car Park at 11:00am.

The walk itself will take around an hour through the East Common and over Lundin Bridge (less glamorous than the one in the Capital!) and into Tentsmuir. From then on, it's a decent path for a bit and then onto a beach path and then beach. The walk takes us along to near the end of Tentsmuir Point, and we then cut through into woodland and back along a good path back to pick up the path we came in on and back to the car park.

**It's important that all dogs are on a lead as there will be seals nearby, and some may have pups. Also there are no poo bins in the forest, so please bring along a carrier bag to put your poo bags in so that they can be removed, leaving no litter.**

We look forward to seeing you there.

As ever, please keep an eye on the Forum for any last minute changes.