



Hello everyone,

Firstly could I just ask that someone slow that clock down. Where is time going? We are already at the end of April and going into yet another bank holiday. April is an unusual month anyway, as, like Christmas; people are focussed on other things such as holidays.

Despite Easter getting in the way up to 25th April we have received over 160 adoption applications and 72 new rehoming applications.

Many of our dogs have found lovely new homes this month but we still have too many dogs sitting in kennels that have been there far too long and desperately need homes of their own now. So we plan to have a big drive now to help those kennel dogs and certainly in my area, we are considering an open day at the kennels to encourage people to visit and meet the dogs. Pictures and write ups are all very well on the website but only when you get to meet the dogs in person, do you realise just how deserving of a home that they are.

We would particularly encourage people to consider one of our older dogs. Please don't say that you don't want an oldie because it won't live long and you don't want to lose a dog too soon. The joy of taking on these older dogs, many of whom have never had a proper home, is immense. Give it a go, you won't be disappointed.

I would like to say a big thank you to all those that have supported our campaigns and contributed either by making donations or bidding for goodies in our online auctions. If you haven't yet discovered our auctions, please check them out as there are some fantastic items to bid for and some real bargains to be had. Details of our auctions appear on our main Facebook pages.

Once again I thank all GSDR volunteers for working so hard to make the rescue the success that it is. What a great team we now have at GSDR.

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." --Helen Keller

Best Wishes

Jayne

Agility Fun in the Sun this Easter

A huge thanks goes to Denise Lea for hosting yet another fun packed agility session, it looks like you all had a great time raising an amazing £290. Thank you to everyone who took part.



Gillian Marsden has collected a donation from Animal Ark Aid on behalf of GSDR taking the total raised at their doggie Easter treasure hunt to £126.

Huge thanks got to Animal Ark Aid for their continued support, they have donated £450 to us from their fundraising activities.



Team Fat Blokes have been out every weekend this month and Nelson has celebrated his first anniversary with Si since he was released from the dog pound into our care.

The team have raised a massive £816 this month, which saves dogs just like Nelson and gives them a second chance.

Another brilliant result guys.



MOJO has arrived

An incredibly successful auction has raised over £2,200 to enable us to save Mojo and his GSD friends and bring them to the UK and to safety.

Mojo touched down and was kindly transported by Debbie Clayden to Auntie Mandy's where he can be assessed for rehoming.

A huge thank you goes to everyone who has been working tirelessly behind the scenes to make this possible and save these dogs from certain death.

And another thank you to everyone who made the auction possible by donating items and for those who bid. The auction page will remain open on Facebook with new items being added all the time, so please check it out to grab yourself a bargain. You can find the **HELP GET MOJO AND HIS FRIENDS TO UK** page by clicking [here](#)



Chris & Ailsa Thomas are in training for the Edinburgh Marathon on 30th May and they'll be running in aid of GSDR.

You can sponsor them through Virgin Money Giving by clicking [here](#).

Idiocracy Reigns Supreme - Too Funny Not To Share

As many of you know, rescues and rescuers are often the target of the online trolls but most seasoned rescuers know to just ignore these sad idiots, the vast majority of whom have never contributed anything of significance to rescue - ever.

We did however recently have an experience that not only proves we have descended into idiocracy, but one that was an enormous source of amusement, which we felt we had to share.

As those who know me and those that have visited us know, my whole families lives revolve around the dogs and rescue and much of our time is spent walking and looking after the many dogs in our care.

Recently, one particularly malicious individual who I do not know, have never met or spoken to and doesn't even live in the same county as us, reported us to the local council planning department for a breach of planning. It's a pity that neither the online troll nor council first visited our property and bothered to check their facts. Anyway, we received correspondence from the council planning department suggesting a breach of planning for what they had been told was a 'rescue centre'. The alleged 'rescue centre' is in fact a 20 x 20 metre square fenced, mulched organic vegetable patch! For the record, GSDR have never had a rescue centre.



We had enormous fun putting together our reply, and whilst the newbie planner at the council didn't understand or find our response amusing in the least, we feel sure that the more seasoned planning employees above her must have had a snigger or two.

Enjoy.....

Dear Amy

How are you? I hope you are keeping well.

You appear to be very concerned about an area in my property marked X on your little map. After a quick visit to the site marked X in question this is what I am able to report back after a brief consultation with the only lifeforms residing here for this time of year.

1. The beetroots went purple with rage at your demands.
- 2, The garlics were crushed to hear the news.
3. The onions are a bit set in their ways so would probably resist.
4. The celeriacs said they are rooting for us.
5. The leeks then wet themselves with worry.
6. However the early potatoes said we may have grounds for a peel
7.and the cabbages? Well they haven't got a clue what's going on but even they know that there is no law stating that failing to fill out your form merits a fine of £1000 but said its best to respond to the letter anyhow just in case you decide to slap up an enforcement notice next to the compost heap and threaten to evict us together with absolving all liability for a compensation claim, that would be based on the grounds of a failure of duty to care amongst other wrong doings.

As the cabbages being of a vegetative state and therefore lacking the capacity to engage in civil matters we are prepared to endorse their opinions to be heard and not discriminated against in accordance to the Equality Act. Please convey the above to your legal department as this is all the information you will require. I therefore consider this matter closed and have returned your original paperwork together with the envelope as it does not belong to me. Apologies if its a bit tatty.

All the best

J & J



It all started with Stinky Jack....

The Eastern region has been on a bit of a roll with adoptions, we've had a busy few weekends in our sunny little corner of the country rehoming 10 dogs in April; and it all started with Stinky Jack. This gorgeous boy was my kennel buddy, I'd go three times a week to take him out and give him a break from the routine of kennel life. I'd been walking him for three months when I waved him off to his forever home with a lovely couple who came over to Norfolk for the weekend with their two dogs so they could all meet. At just 16 months old this is his fourth home. You see, my gorgeous boy was a bit of a wild child with a history of bad behaviour and biting. The first time I collected him for a walk he was so frightened that he was sick within seconds of getting into my car, he must've been terrified not knowing what was going to happen to him next. Imagine his surprise when nothing terrible happened; instead he went to a paddock for romp around and a game of ball. He was so worried, giving me very clear signals that he was anxious, so I ignored him and he ignored me, until nosiness got the better of him and he crept over for a treat and a little stroke. By our third walk he was delighted to see me, and we were firm friends. We had great adventures on our walks and had fun playing football, we even managed to squeeze in lots of training too. As it turns out his 'bad ass attitude' was just an act, without an owner whom he could rely on he felt it necessary to defend himself when worried. With very little education and socialisation behind him he'd finally started to learn what life was really all about. He's still a juvenile delinquent, but his new mum has enrolled him at a GSD training club and he couldn't have gone to a more experienced home. Their peaceful life has been turned upside down with his arrival; he's having to learn to live with other dogs and cats (his biggest challenge) and they've had to learn to live with a hooligan, but I'm pleased to say it's all going ok so far. So the success of the past few weeks over in the Eastern region all began with Jack, he may smell divine now but will forever be Stinky Jack in my heart.

Here's a few photo's of him in his new home with his new family.



It's Carnival time



The Eastern team are again hosting a Fun Dog Show at Martham Carnival near Great Yarmouth over the weekend of the 4th and 5th July. There will 11 classes each day including a Best Rescue and Best GSD. The schedule will be published in the next newsletter and we're on the lookout for companies willing to sponsor a class for just £10.

This is our biggest fundraising event of the year and to make this a successful show we need helpers on both days and to distribute the show schedules far and wide.

If you can help please contact Cherril by email - cherrildogs@mybtinternet.com

Even if you are unable to help please come and enter the show, the carnival is fun for the whole family and there are some lovely beaches nearby to enjoy with your dogs.

CENTRAL & NORTH WEST UPDATE by Irene Culverwell

Foster Care Matters

Everyone who fosters for GSDR is an absolute star and nothing helps the dogs more than being in a home and enjoying day to day life without the confines of a kennel. Every dog who gets the chance of foster is a lucky one and GSDR are very grateful for each and every foster carer giving their time and love to help a dog in need.

Long time GSDR foster carer Michelle Plumb has just had the joy of seeing blind girl Aurora re-homed after 8 months with her and now she is once again caring for another dog in need – sweet pup Lilly.

Lilly was only 4 months old when given up for re-homing, at the assessment it was clear Lilly needed some TLC as although the owners had done their best to get runt of the litter Lilly through her early weeks by hand feeding her they were struggling to keep Lilly in their home with their breeding bitch who was being aggressive towards the now 4 month old pup.



Lilly was taken in by Michelle and although we knew she was partially sighted and had problems with her jaw and a possible heart murmur we didn't envisage this little one being quite so burdened with potential health problems, which as yet haven't been confirmed but are likely to shorten this little ones life expectancy.

As it stands at the moment Lilly is enjoying her life, playing with Michelle's other dogs, loving the sunshine and learning to cope with her partial sight extremely well and over the next few weeks she will undergo tests to determine the prognosis long term regarding possible congenital conditions.

I am sure everyone will give positive thoughts for Lilly in the hope that she goes from strength to strength and thank you Michelle for keeping the little pup safe.

HAPPY HOUNDS

It is always great to see our newly adopted dogs looking so happy in their new homes and thank you for sending through these happy snaps...



Handsome Rocky enjoying an Easter Break with The Williams Family



Settling in brilliantly with her new family and even Pancake the cat seems happy to chill out with Maya!

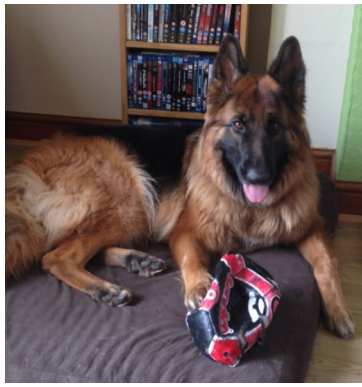


Newly adopted from South Wales, Gem is settling well with our North West Volunteers Leigh & Ian

Thanks to all our volunteers who make the effort to follow up and check all is well ... here we have a selection of Sheps safely settled in their new adoptive homes...



KIRA



TIPEX



RILEY



ALBERT



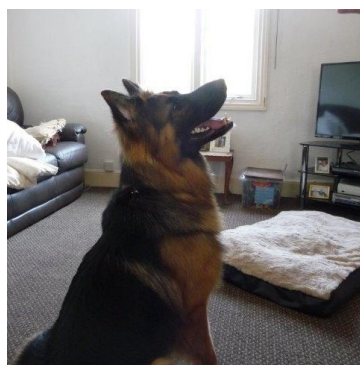
MISTY



GREY



SIMBA



SAM

An update from Tracy North, South East Area Co-ordinator

I would like to say a massive thank you to Debbie Fordham who was doing a great job managing the aftercare and follow up for all dogs rehomed. She worked very hard to make sure all dogs had the smoothest transition into their new homes and gave advice where needed. She has now stepped aside due to having to care for her son who had a horrific motorbike accident, he is still recovering. All the South East team wish them well and Debbie may well do some bits for us later in the year.

So we have a new aftercare & follow up co-ordinator. Thank you to our very own Christine Merritt AKA mad dog lady!

She has stepped into the role and is now managing all the after care and follow ups for dogs rehomed in the South East. Not only that Christine is also helping our dog co-ordinator with the dogs needing homes, she has taken on the task of writing up the dog profiles and putting them onto the website. A job I really wasn't keen on as you could be half way through the phone would ring, meaning I had to start all over again!

Along with Christine we have Susan Taylor who is our dog trainer and behaviourist; she has done a wonderful job in ironing out any behavioural problems with dogs that have been adopted. She has also tried to help with dogs being rehomed, to see if we can help to keep them with the owner.

Nancy Cannell the South East dog co-ordinator has had a lovely holiday away, (what's one of those?) but is now back thank goodness. You're not allowed to go on holiday ever again Nancy hehe!

The walk groups are going really well Essex and Chelmsford, Essex run by our Christine Merritt and Chelmsford run by Linda Wood. Walk groups are so important especially for newly adopted dogs. Where they are surrounded by people who have German shepherds and understand (many been through) GSD issues. It gives the adopter support and guidance along with making some good walking buddies. Christine has offered to help anyone in the South East area to start your own group walk if there isn't one in your area. So if you need a walk group near you contact Christine Merritt 01702 544974

We are having a lot of dogs coming in for rehoming sadly most of these are either older dogs or young dogs with issues; this is making rehoming very difficult. Please do consider taking an older dog on, they do make wonderful friends without the puppy problems.

I would like to say a very big thank you to all of our volunteers; you all do an amazing job in being part of the rescue. We have so many wonderful volunteers who will go out and help by doing home checks, dog assessments and transporting dogs to new homes.

We also have Brian & Julie Crone who go to see our kennel dogs twice a week, and actually take those that travel in the car to go to see new places. They do a lot of work in helping to rehabilitate these dogs and the change of scenery does them the world of good, Thank You Brian & Julie.

We always need volunteers so if you're not already helping and would like to join the South East team please do let me know.

And finally, the kennel dwellers: We have a few kennel dogs that really deserve a home to call their own, please consider Benji, Twig, Carina & Max, they're all looking for that loving home.



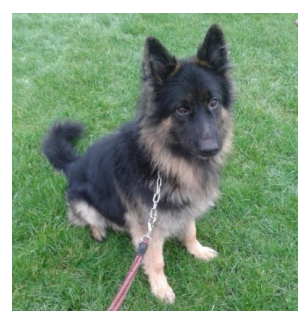
BENJI



TWIG



CARINA



MAX

TICKETS
AVAILABLE FROM
THE VICTORY INN
OR CALL

VICTORY INN QUIZ & CURRY NIGHT

IN AID OF



GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG RESCUE

REGISTERED CHARITY 1141122

SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 7PM. ADULTS £10 EACH & CHILDREN £5 EACH

**QUIZ, CURRY
& FIRST
DRINK FREE!**



Our very own Pink Ladies Christine Merritt and Nancy Thomas Cannell with the help of GSDR Essex Walking Group of Hockley Woods, organised a fundraising Curry & Quiz Night at the Victoria Inn, Rochford in Essex. Everyone rallied round with items for their famous Naff Raffle and what prizes they were - from the best to the naffest!

There was a great turnout with a total of 63 tickets sold for the night. The Victory Inn is dog friendly and there were 8 dogs in attendance who were on their very best behaviour (better than some of the owners!).

The winners of the quiz were called the 'Volley Team' as this team of seven included three GSDR volunteers. A fix was declared as the team contained organiser Christine Merritt and co-conspirators Jackie, Jim, Helen, Steve, Kim and Danny.

The Naff raffle was awaited with glee as numbers were drawn and prizes were soon snaffled up. A further fix was declared when the first Naff prize was won by Nancy Thomas Cannell who won a fluffy Meercat toy.

New volunteer Jackie Ayres had baked a special GSDR cake decorated with edible GSD's. Suffice it to say this soon vanished, crumbs and all....

As the evening drew to a close and our farewells were said, a buzz went round, when is the next one they asked? So it seems everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The pennies are still being counted but the event has raised in excess of £700 which is truly amazing. Beer, Curry and a Quiz, the perfect night out in the South East.



A walk with your dog on a bright spring day can be energising after the long, dark winter months. If you encounter livestock on your walk it's important to remember that after being kept indoors over the winter, they can be excitable and inquisitive when first let out to graze. For dog owners and farmers alike safety is a priority and you must keep your dog under control at all times.

Here's our top tips for walking safely where animals are grazing

- Always keep your dog under close control and on a lead where livestock is present.
- Don't allow your dog to bark at or chase livestock.
- When approaching grazing animals talk out loud so that they are aware of your presence - this way you are less likely to startle them. Once you reach them, walk quietly past and praise your dog for ignoring them.
- Avoid lingering between mothers and their offspring, even a cuddly looking sheep can become defensive of her lamb if she feels threatened.
- Always keep your eyes peeled for potential dangers, if necessary find an alternative route around the livestock especially if your dog is elderly or slow.

Remember, people have been killed by cattle, keep yourself safe and your dog under close control at all times.



27th & 28th June 2015

COPMANTHORPE SHEPFEST



HAVE A GO AGLITY & FASTEST RECALL
TOMBOLA, RAFFLE & SALE STALL
BBQ AND MUCH MORE

CAMPING ON SITE AND LIMITED KENNEL AVAILABILITY
A WEEKEND NOT TO BE MISSED, PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY NOW!



There's More in Heaven and Earth ...by Anne Leigh

Have you heard people say that dogs choose their owners? We all know this to an extent when the one puppy in a litter comes to greet you, or when the message from a dog's eyes 'speaks' to you from the page. How about when you do not even see the dog though? I have experienced two instances of this now. But today I am going to tell you how Barney came into my life.

Whenever people ask to 'friend' me on Facebook I always say yes, because my page is open to the public anyway. So when a guy, whom I did not know, asked me, as usual I agreed. That enabled me to see his postings, which were beautiful. He had two gorgeous dogs and his photos of them were breathtakingly lovely. I commented to say so and our conversation went on from there.

He told me that he was excited because he was going to look at another dog in kennels with a view to adopting him. He even sent me a photo but this was just a phone snap and hardly made any impression upon me. What did register though was his obvious excitement and the ensuing silence thereafter, on the subject of his adoption, seemed ominous. I did not like to ask, but I did wonder. I took the opportunity, once, to enquire about it when I was chatting to Mandi Wilks (our area coordinator). I explained how I knew about Barney and that I was concerned about the lack of feedback but that I was hesitant, for obvious reasons, to ask about him.

Mandi explained the situation to me without hesitation. It transpired that Barney was owned by an elderly gentleman and he was only in kennels because his owner could not bear to part with him and yet the elderly gentleman had been admitted to a psychiatric hospital. There seemed little likelihood that he would ever be able to care for Barney himself but he would not give permission for him to be adopted. He could not bear to lose him.

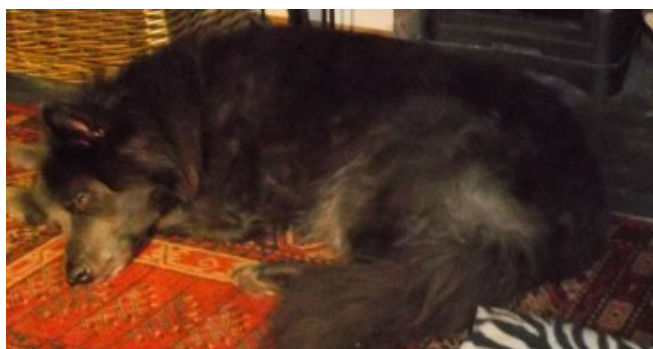
Being an interfering sort of person, I offered to help in any way that I was able. I suggested that as a retired social worker I would understand Social Services protocols and concepts such as 'power of attorney'. My offer was noted and Mandi said that, if the current ongoing negotiations failed, then they might come back to me. Later I heard that Barney was in permanent foster care through GSDR and that he was enjoying his new home. All was well. And so, I forgot about him...

It was many months later, when speaking to Mandi again, that Barney's name came up unexpectedly. Mandi had appealed for people to adopt some Romanian GSDs and I had, much to my own surprise, offered to have one of these. This boy turned out to be Tibi, now George. I will be honest and tell you that I was in a state of shock for two days after making this offer. I only tell you this to show how unexpected my next words were to me, and how what I said came as a complete shock. We were discussing the details of George's transport and I said something like, 'that's five now, and that is it!'

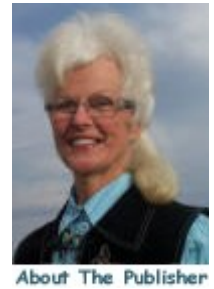
Then I heard the words in my head. 'Don't forget about Barney!' I was stunned. I had not given him another thought since hearing that he was being well cared for. I was content at that. I was so surprised that I blurted out what had happened to Mandi. I felt a bit foolish saying 'I've just had a voice in my head say 'what about Barney?'' Brisk and matter of fact as ever, Mandi replied that he was absolutely fine and I need not concern myself any further. So I forgot all about him again.

Much later, I started to do some voluntary work for GSDR and the person who trained me happened to be Barney's foster mum. I told her my funny story and how I knew about her boy. Imagine my mixed emotions when she told me hers. She intended to emigrate and would not be able, sadly, to take Barney with her. Immediately, the words came out of my mouth unbidden. I was dumbfounded to hear myself say, 'That's all right. I'll have Barney then'. And the rest is history. Now, Barney is here with me and it seems perfectly natural to me now to keep six dogs in a small bungalow. No, I am not guilty of being greedy or self-indulgent.

It is all down to the voice in my head!



TOP TEN CANINE HEALTH PROBLEMS by Barbara J. Andrews, Editor/Publisher



The top 10 canine health concerns compiled by the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) are shockingly indicative of the vaccine damage we have warned of since the 1980s!

1. Epilepsy
2. Hip Dysplasia
3. Bloat
4. Hemangiosarcoma
5. Lymphoma (tied for 4th place in the list)
6. Osteosarcoma (tied for 5th place)
7. Allergies (also tied for 5th place)
8. Hypothyroidism (also tied for 5th place)
9. Patella Luxation (tied for 6th place)
10. Cataracts (tied for 6th place)

6 or more of the top 10 concerns listed (epilepsy, dysplasia, cancerous tumours, lymphoma, osteosarcoma, and allergies) may be linked to a compromised immune system directly caused by over-vaccination. Vaccines such as rabies can have immediate adverse reactions whereas yearly booster shots have been directly linked to cancer and other diseases of the immune system.

Any lay person who has watched the list of dog diseases increase ten-fold over the last twenty years would say "definitely yes!" but we sought the professional opinion of the nation's leading authorities on vaccine-induced disease.

The editor asked Dr. Patricia Jordan for comment, prefacing the request with the observation that people unconsciously blank out vaccine information even with proof of the damages. It's as though automatic denial will prevent it from happening to their beloved dog; that they couldn't be contributing to making their animals sick, even to causing early death. Of COURSE they don't want to hear it. Parents are especially defensive when it comes to human vaccine risks. We just have to keep pecking away at their consciousness until one little thing hits home.

Here are 10 BIG things, any one of which could penetrate animal owner or parental blocking defenses. From this list, I would personally lay bloat at the feet of commercial dog foods but knowing that Lepto vaccine can cause blue eye in puppies, I wonder if the vaccine could be related to juvenile cataracts and other eye problems? If so, that leaves only two orthopedic problems that escape the potentially dangerous side effects of vaccines.

DR. JORDAN CITES CANCEROUS TUMOR 21 DAYS AFTER RABIES VACCINE

Dr. Jordan replied, "I am working on a case right now with a 3 year old Boxer presented to emergency 21 days after rabies vaccine with a huge hemangiosarcoma on the spleen which was surgically removed. The owners had to get the shot to move to Australia. The dog has had other (rabies shots) and so would not even have needed the vaccine if the titers were accepted. This dog is classic of how the antigens from vaccines bypass all normal routes and go directly into the blood and cause heat toxin defiling of the blood and stagnation leading to the cancer.

"You are correct that the vaccines may be responsible for (most of) the top ten reasons an animal presents to the vet. I have laryngitis from trying to tell everyone because I know the pathways and see the pathology on a daily basis. The fact that these truths are ignored does not make them go away... Patricia Jordan, DVM, VND, CVA, CTCVM & Herbology"

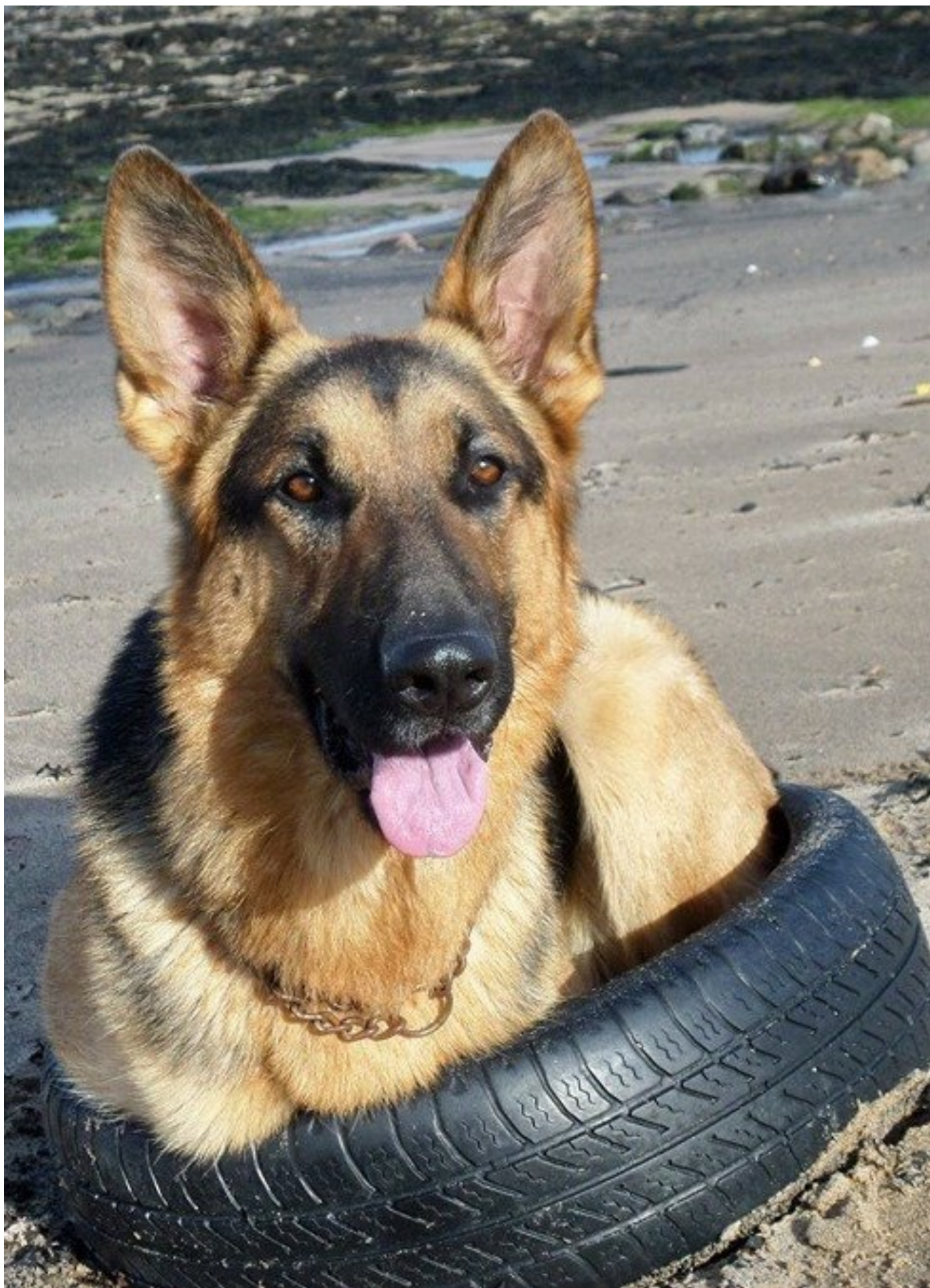
Another emerging disease associated with over-vaccination is Ischemic Skin Disease and if that doesn't sound like much, take a look at this photo and imagine how painful the pustules and infected skin must be. The blood vessel walls actually leak.

If your dog has any of the health problems listed above or you share these concerns, you are encouraged to explore the most comprehensive and candid vaccine information available. Do some research there are alternatives readily available.



My dogs have just finished a course of a homeopathic vaccine - two tiny drops of liquid twice a day for a week. Although you can obtain this kind of vaccine from various practitioners over in the Eastern region we frequently use Mark Pooley, you can see a list of remedies available from his website by clicking [here](#).

And finally, I thought we should end this months newsletter with a smile. Rescue is, at times, heartbreaking and no matter how bad things seem there's always Ben, whose life is devoted to cheering everyone up with his antics!



How to Contact your Area Co-ordinators

South West

Cornwall / Devon / Somerset / Dorset / Wiltshire & Gloucester

Area Co-ordinator: Jayne Shenstone 01568 797957 info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk

Dog Co-ordinator: Mandy Jones 07970592220 mandyj22@live.co.uk

South East

Kent / Hertfordshire / Essex / London / Surrey / East & West Sussex / IOW / Hampshire / Berkshire / Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire

Area Dog Co-ordinator: Tracy North 01189 745387 crystalsheps@gmail.com

Dog Co-ordinator: Nancy Cannell 01702 551213 /0794 9047139 nancy_c@hotmail.co.uk

Enquiries: Nancy Cannell 0794 9047139 gsdrsoutheast@gmail.com

Eastern

Norfolk / Suffolk / Cambridgeshire / Bedfordshire / Northants / Lincolnshire & Leicestershire

Area Co-ordinator: Mandi Wilks 01692 584772 / 07810 568862 mandigsdr@gmail.com

Dog Co-ordinator: Howard Keeling 07917 025461 howardgsdr@gmail.com

Enquiries: Sarah Carrs 01603 270044

Central

Nottinghamshire / Derbys / Staffordshire / Shropshire / Worcestershire / Herefordshire / West Midlands & Warwickshire

Area and Dog Co-ordinator: Irene Culverwell 0161 282 3594 / 07778 150561 iculverwell21@hotmail.com

General enquiries: Bill Kitchen 01524 784953 / Melanie Fairbrother 0161 494 7728

Fundraising Co-ordinator: Andy Peake Razanne99@aol.com

North West

Cheshire / Manchester / Merseyside / Cumbria & Lancashire

Area and Dog Co-ordinator: Irene Culverwell 0161 282 3594 / 07778 150561 iculverwell21@hotmail.com

General enquiries: Bill Kitchen 01524 784953 / Melanie Fairbrother 0161 494 7728

Fundraising Co-ordinator: Andy Peake Razanne99@aol.com

North East

Northumberland / Durham / Yorkshire / Tyneside / Teesside & North Humberside

Area Co-ordinator: Angela Hargreaves 0113 225 5848 muddycat13@sky.com

Dog Co-ordinator: Julie Wilkinson 07736 815430 julie_wilki@o2.co.uk

Fundraising Co-ordinator: Gillian Marsden Gillian.l.marsden@ntlworld.com

Wales

Area Co-ordinator: Jayne Shenstone 01568 797957 info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk

Dog Co-ordinator: Mandy Jones 07970592220 mandyj22@live.co.uk

