

Winner of the Wet Nose Best Breed Rescue November/December Newsletter Issue 9



As we fast approach the end of yet another year which seems to have flown by at record speed, having been in rescue over 20 years I have to say that this year has been the most challenging yet. To date this year, we have received 2369 adoption applications and 1081 dog rehoming applications compared to 2479 and 1132 respectively for 2012. Sadly less than one third of the adoption applications successfully adopt for a variety of reasons. This means that there is a very large surplus of dogs that we cannot find homes for, which is very worrying. Considering the number of rescues springing up, we would expect to be dealing with fewer dogs yet the reverse is actually happening. Even more worrying is the increase in exploitation and cruelty towards animals which also seems to have risen on an exponential scale.

Something is very wrong, we have a society engineered to be selfish, materialistic and most now regard dogs as disposable commodities. They also know that there will always be a rescue somewhere that they can offload their unwanted pet on to. The exploitation has spread to rescue and it is quite clear that there are those that will use the banner of rescue as a cover for other illegal / immoral purposes.

"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."

Considering the difficulties we have faced this year, we really have risen to the challenge and I would like to offer my sincere thanks and express my appreciation for all the hard work and dedication to all the volunteers that have worked so hard to help so many dogs throughout 2013. Special thanks go to those on the frontline, the area and dog coordinators who have an increasingly difficult job to do. The vast majority of people will not be aware of the hours they put in, the stress they are under or indeed the abuse and criticism that they are often subjected to, all as an unpaid volunteer.

The fundraising throughout 2013 has been truly amazing, the best ever and particular thanks go to our Two Fat blokes Ray and Si and to Wayne who despite the dire economic situation, still manage to collect large sums of money to help fund the work of the rescue. A big thank you also to Janine for producing the best GSDR calendar so far. There really is so much going on within the rescue that I don't have room to thank you all individually so please don't think I haven't noticed how much effort you all put in.

I personally believe that 2014 will bring us a tsunami of unwanted dogs; therefore it will be important for us all to focus on what we can achieve and not dwell on what we cannot do. In rescue it's a simple equation. X volunteers + Y funds = Z dogs rehomed. So the greater the value of X and Y, the bigger the number Z becomes.



I would also like to express my thanks to the Pets at Home Support for Adoption Team who generously donated the sum of £13,460 to GSDR for three specific needs. The three projects were for improving drainage to prevent flooding around my existing kennels and runs, to provide additional thermal lined kennelling and to provide a rodent proof storage area for feedstuffs. Pets at Home have specified that the sum donated can only be used for these projects. Further news on these projects in the New Year. As we head towards the December holidays, I hope you have plenty of opportunity to meet up with friends and family. I would ask that you spare a thought for those less fortunate and those that have suffered at the hands of humans, whatever the species. Please also spare a thought for all those poor dogs in kennels over the festive period, many of whom have been in kennels a year or more unwanted and unloved.

I leave you with a quote from a Native American
Very best wishes

Jayne

One thing to remember is to talk to the animals. If you do, they will talk back to you. But if you don't talk to the animals, they won't talk back to you, then you won't understand, and when you don't understand you will fear, and when you fear you will destroy the animals, and if you destroy the animals, you will destroy yourself.

- Chief Dan George, Tsleil-Waututh (1899 - 1981)



Get your GSDR 2014 Calendar NOW!

A MASSIVE WELL DONE – to all the volunteers in Central and North West Region – you have helped re home 177 dogs for GSDR from January through to November 2013.

Absolutely fantastic achievement and can't thank you all enough for all your efforts in getting these dogs (from the pups like Twix & Blaze to the oldies like Sheba & Cassie) into safe adoptive homes.

Not to mention all the home checks, dog assessments, transfer meets, follow ups and the urgent transport runs, organising the walks, fund raising –whatever you have helped to do for these regions you deserve a well earned pat on the back and huge lick from all the dogs you have happily helped.

Big hugs and thanks to all our foster carers too – some who have failed but **all** who have helped get an urgent dog safe and out of kennels.

Have a fabulous Christmas break and please come back all guns blazing for a wonderful 2014 and a target to beat of 177 re homes!

Thanks again, all your efforts are very much appreciated and we couldn't run the regions without you.

Cheers from Irene, Mel, Bill & Mary x

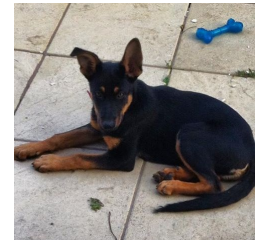
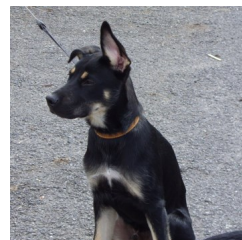
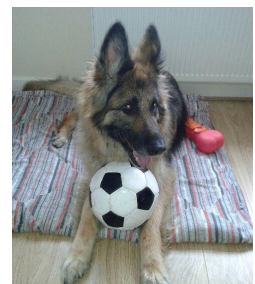
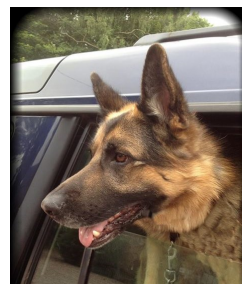
There's Still Time to Order for Xmas

I am pleased to announce the GSDR 2014 Calendar is now available to buy. Enjoy the whole year with pictures and stories of our stunning rescue dogs.

These top quality calendars are just £10 each with p&p of £2.60. Multiple orders of up to 3 calendars can be sent for the same postage charge.

To order please visit our website to make you payment by Virgin Money Giving by clicking [here](#). Then email janinekerr@sky.com with the subject heading "GSDR Calendar" providing your receipt number, name & address.

Over 200 copies sold so far, get yours ordered now for delivery before Xmas. Any orders received after 18th Dec will be delivered in January.



Thanks from all of us



Thank you James from Irene.

I received a phone call from a vet in Crewe, one Friday night, who proceeded to explain how he had refused to PTS a 6 year old male GSD and had asked the owner to sign the dog over to the practice.

After explaining how our rescue works and the fact we don't have premises and I would need to find a volunteer to help with assessing dog, finding next stage accommodation etc. He said he would help with Kai anyway he could.

I called the lovely Win who in turn arranged to meet James the following morning, and get the low down on Kai. Win said James was a lovely chap in fact the whole practice were very welcoming and even made her a coffee.

Unfortunately, no foster homes were available, the veterinary practice wasn't manned over the weekend, so Kai went into commercial kennels but not before James had given him his first vacs including kennel cough, not only that but he offered to drive the dog to the kennels. He later called back that evening to say he would ask the senior partner on Monday whether or not the practice would castrate Kai free of charge.

On Monday, James duly called and confirmed that he would castrate Kai on Wednesday morning, he also agreed to collect him from the kennels and keep him safe whilst we tried to find somewhere for him to re-cooperate.

In the meantime, Bill & Mary offered to have this boy in foster care after his operation, Win agreed to transport him and all in all everything came together for this lovely 6 year old boy.



A HUGE THANK YOU goes to everyone involved but mostly to one lovely vet who became a very valued volunteer for GSDR over that one weekend and truly did go above and beyond to help this lovely boy at no expense to the rescue.

Lastly, even better news on the 28th November the lovely Kai found his adoptive home and is happily settled with a lovely couple in Southport so the last THANK YOU goes to the Brewers!



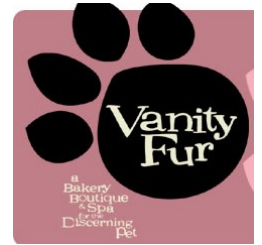
Thank you to everyone who bought a raffle ticket raising an amazing £1228.75 including Gift Aid. The target was £150 and yet again you've all dug deep and blown our target out of the water!

Pictured is Wayne Whitehouse receiving a cheque from Wendy Hayes at the Hair Studio, Rhyl for £135. Many thanks go to Wendy & team and the customers who supported their fundraising efforts to celebrate the salon's 10th anniversary.





Linda Wood & Christine Merritt aka The Terrible Twins are pictured with their GSDR stall at the Vanity Fur event in Leigh on Sea. Santa Paws was in attendance where dogs could visit his grotto, have their photo taken with him and get their names put on the naughty or nice list! The proceeds of the event were donated to all attending charities, added to the contents of the collection box and the sale of Christine's yummy homemade preserves the ladies raised a tremendous £200! Despite the cold weather a great day was had by all and special thanks go to the lovely Bumble and Zak who were perfectly behaved and great ambassadors for the breed. Can we say the same for the Terrible Twins? I'll let you make your own mind up on that one Thanks ladies for a successful event.



We all know that Team Fat Blokes raise a staggering amount of money. Every week they're out with their GSDR stall but one Saturday in November took an unexpected twist when they were at Colton Pets at Home in Leeds. Picture the scene; it's a busy retail park on a major road a stone's throw away from the M1. You don't expect to see a little terrier out on his own, totting along minding his own business amongst the lethal traffic! Si threw him a treat and before the little dog knew it he was scanned for a chip – his owner called and they were reunited. His name was Bobby; his dad was playing golf so he took himself off for a jaunt. Before Si & Ray had managed to catch their breath another loose dog this time a Lhasa Apso was found, scanned and owner called. Gizmo's jaunt was over when his relieved Dad collected him and put £10 in the collection bucket. So after an eventful day you'd think on the Sunday the team might put their feet up. Not likely, they're off with their stall to relieve the kind customers at Tesco's at Skipton of their hard earned cash!



Ray & Bobby



Si & Gizmo



Team Fat blokes with Alison Elphee



It's all happening in Corby, Northants at the moment. Here's Alan Thompson pictured out and about (and smiling!) fundraising for GSDR. Alan has also secured partnership with the local Pets at Home store where they have a donation bin placed prominently in store collecting food, treats and toys for our rescued dogs. Alan and Emma were fostering Gorgeous George who worked his magic and secured their membership of the Failed Fosterers Club. Well done George, I knew you could do it!



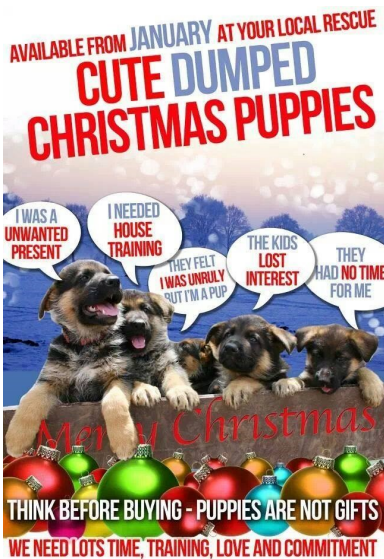


Maria Hamilton and Eileen Welsh raised a tail wagging £87.40 at the Mutz Hut Christmas Fair. A brilliant result considering the venue has no passing footfall so the donations came from customers attending the event. Well done ladies!

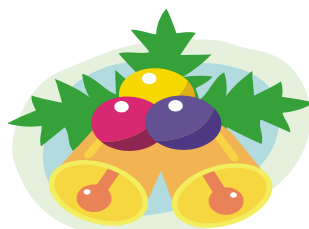


Thank you to everyone who donated items for our Xmas Auction and to those of you who placed bids. We raised an amazing £800 thanks to your generosity.

Keep any unwanted gifts aside, Maria has another auction planned for January!



This is Hank, brought home on Christmas Eve at twelve weeks old. He was enrolled into doggie school where I train, he missed the first lesson but turned up for the second one on the 28th Jan. I was told he was aggressive because he jumped up and mouthed. He was home alone in his crate all day whilst his owners were at work, when they arrived home he was so excited that he jumped up. His owners were offered advice and reassured he was displaying normal puppy behaviour. He missed the next two lessons and just by chance I saw a puppy advertised for sale. My heart sank, I just knew it was him. I called his owners and offered him a home, the choice was theirs, what was more important, getting their money back or a good home for life. The call came, can you come now they asked. Hank became Frankie. A puppy brought home at Christmas and unwanted seven weeks later. I tell Frankie that the stork took him to the wrong house and it took a little while for his real Mum & Dad to find him. Sadly not all Christmas puppies are as lucky as Hank.

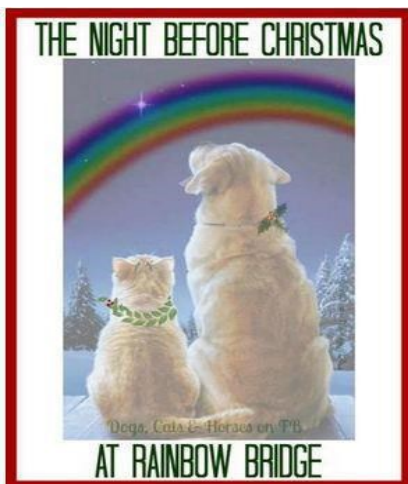




The time has come, our lovely Coco who survived against all odds is ready to move to her forever home. When I first heard that she is leaving Will & Wayne who cared for her like no one else could I admit to feeling sad, but I'm delighted that she has found her forever home with Andy & Anne Peake. She will remain in the GSDR family where she will want for nothing and be spoilt rotten! This little girl found a place in all our hearts and the next stage of her dream is about to begin.



Many Thanks go to Lynne Ballard who has continued to support Simba's rehabilitation with free hydrotherapy sessions. Lynne also has a collection tin at the centre which was emptied recently by Eileen Welsh, every penny helps. Thank you too, to all the vollies who provide Simba's taxi service, this lucky boy certainly fell on his feet when he moved to the North East! For more information on the centre & the service Lynne provides, you can visit their website by clicking [here](#).



Sadly too many of us have lost a much loved fur baby this year. Gone but not forgotten they are stars shining bright in the night sky and at Rainbow Bridge it's Christmas too.



Gillian Marsden was delighted to receive a cheque for £50 from Animal Ark Aid which on top of the £77 raised on the day gave us a grand total of £127. Thanks to all the ladies who attended the event to man the stall but special thanks go to Molly, King, Mya, Billy & Polar who were especially well behaved on the day.



Who needs Rudolf when there's Rex! With so many presents and so little time, Rex and friends are lending Santa a helping hand to deliver all the presents this year.

How to Contact your Area Co-ordinators

South West

Cornwall / Devon / Somerset / Dorset / Wiltshire & Gloucester
Area/Dog Co-ordinator: Tracy North 01189 745387 crystalsheps@gmail.com

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

Eastern

Norfolk / Suffolk / Cambridgeshire / Bedfordshire / Northants / Lincolnshire & Leicestershire
Area Co-ordinator: Mandi Wilks 01692 584772 / 07810 568862 mandigsdr@gmail.com
Dog Co-ordinator: Ann Opie 01400 262708 anngsdr@gmail.com
General enquiries: Ann Opie 01400 262708 anngsdr@gmail.com

Central

Nottinghamshire / Derbys / Staffordshire / Shropshire / Worcestershire / Herefordshire / West Midlands &
Warkwickshire
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
General Enquiries: Peter Hopkins – 01904 784030
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
Fundraising Co-ordinator: Sian Jones jones-sian3@sky.com

