



Hello everyone and welcome to our 2nd newsletter of 2016, I hope you enjoy all the features and stories that we have for you.

Well after a cracking start to the year for adoptions, things slowed down a little in February, although there was no let up in the number of rehoming forms coming through. Traditionally these first few months of the year are quieter and the cold, wet, windy weather hasn't helped much. March is usually the month when things start to perk up as the nights get lighter and the clocks go forward.

2015 was a good year for GSDR, we have grown and become even bigger and better which is all thanks to the hard work and dedication of volunteers. The signs are that 2016 is also going to be a very successful and busy year all round for GSDR, not only in terms of the number of dogs that will need our help, but I know that the regions have much planned to raise funds and create further awareness for the rescue.



On a personal front I have been very busy thanks to Sally's' puppies, 6 of which have now gone to lovely homes. Big Bad Busby Bear has shown some challenging behaviours so has taken up a great deal of my time this year so far.

We now attend training classes twice a week and I take Busby into town 2-3 times a week to get him socialised. He is a lovely boy and a lucky boy so I hope there is a home out there for him where they will be prepared to put in a bit of extra work and continue with his training to help Busby overcome his issues.

Sadly these days, too many people want perfect dogs.

Once again I thank all the lovely volunteers who put in so many hours and make GSDR the success that it is

"Our treatment of animals will someday be considered barbarous. There cannot be perfect civilisation until man realises that the rights of every living creature are as sacred as his own." - Dr. David Starr Jordan

Best Wishes,

Jayne



Many thanks go to [Zooplus](#) for their very kind donation of a pallet of food and another of goodies for our dogs seeking their forever homes.

I have to confess that I shop with them quite a lot, they sell a ball which is a firm favourite with my dogs— not only does it float, bounce, squeak and fit into a regular ball launcher, but it's pretty indestructible too!



Click [here](#) to visit Zooplus for our favourite toy!



Enzo has been out fundraising with TFB blokes for just five weeks and he's raised a staggering £1077. Great work for a blind dog who was abandoned in a field in October last year. Enzo loves everybody he meets and enjoys a good cuddle. The Pets at Home staff pictured fell for him and spent every spare moment giving him a fuss.



Our good friends Susan and Lyndsey from [CentralBark](#) will be hurtling across the River Tyne dangling from a zipwire on the 17th April, all to raise funds for GSDR. They'll be taking a leap for the dogs from Newcastle, 30 meters above the river, travelling diagonally across for 230 meters before landing in Gateshead on HMS Calliope! Both are TERRIFIED of heights, so please visit their VMG page to pledge your support. You can visit their page by clicking [here](#).

News from the Central and North West Regions

Get Out and About on the GSD social walks...

Many thanks to our volunteers (Tracy, Janine and Pam) who set up the walk groups to help owners socialise their sheps and other doggies, on their frequent walking events. Everyone who attends has a top time and thoroughly enjoys seeing their dogs happy and running free – to find out more about joining the walk groups please visit the face book links below which cover the North West, Staffordshire and West Midlands regions – they are out and about come rain or shine amongst stunning scenery and beaches.

Each walk group has a Facebook page.

South Staffs and Midlands click [here](#)

Stuck in the Middle (Staffs) click [here](#)

North West and Central click [here](#)



Libby was originally a GSDR shep who found her forever home back in 2012 with Sylvia Byron, together they enjoyed long walks in the local park and Libby became a much loved family pet.

Sadly, Sylvia became very poorly and passed away in 2014.

GSDR were called to help re home Libby as soon as Sylvia was taken into hospital and thankfully a lovely new mum and dad and their dog Boos came forward to give this gorgeous older girl a fabulous forever home.

At the funeral friends and family kindly donated £180 to thank the rescue for all their help and for giving Sylvia the much needed peace of mind that her little girl was safe and secure for the future.

Thank you to Sylvia's family for your kind donation and rest assured Libby is still very safe and happy with her new family.

Another kind donation of £100 was received from Michael Turner in Lancashire, who just wanted to give the rescue a little cash injection to say thank you for all the great work we volunteers do to help GSD's throughout the region. What a very kind thing to do, thank you Michael, your donation was very much appreciated.

Update on Buddy, by popular request ...by Ann Leigh

This update is not quite by 'popular request' – I exaggerated, but Buddy's story has touched people the length of the country. He is something of a minor celebrity these days. I have had calls from strangers who read his story. Well, just one actually. I do exaggerate. But others have spoken to me about him and he has something of a 'rock star' presence in the village by now. I have to smile to myself when I think of how he lived a lonely obscure life on the doorstep, inside his small holding and now he is 'a presence' and has well-wishers and a minor following.

Of course everything has changed since I first told you about him. You know how there is a 'honeymoon period' and then the pendulum swings. It has swung! A new Buddy has emerged. His old persona, when we went out in public, was that of a child awestruck with the excitement and wonder of a Christmas grotto. No more. He still relishes his walks; they are still a novelty. But nowadays a new persona has emerged: he is 'Bad Ass Buddy with da Bitch'. The wide eyed wonderment has been replaced by sheer brio and a 'have a go' bravado. He thinks that everyone wants to meet him and that it is his duty to distribute cuddles throughout the neighbourhood. He sees himself as a kind of swaggering 'pat dog' for his public, who are obviously waiting upon his presence. Happily, in the country here, most people are pleased to see him and oblige, especially as they all know his sad story. (And I do always ask, just to reassure you) He still has the remnants of his habit of rearing up gracefully to embrace. I have to inhibit this somewhat, of course. Although he did still catch me the other day and I walked home with two huge muddy paw prints strategically placed on my chest. Not everyone wants to be similarly adorned!

Do you 'back engineer' your dog's behavioural history from his current habits when you adopt? Some of Buddy's are quite clear. I was told that he was never on a lead and was loose in the three-acre smallholding. So, when I tried car training, it was quite obvious what had happened in the past. I tried the classic way of throwing a tidbit into the car to encourage him to jump in after it. He was too cunning to be had by that. He would get his front paws up, take the tidbit, and then run off. He was gleeful at this triumph and then would turn around, give me a play bow and grin all over face. He had clearly been able to run off, dance his way out of trouble and evade the consequences of his mischief in the past. Ha! He soon learned that being on a lead means that he has to face these.

However amusing his antics, he just HAD to get in the car for me. So I resorted to the 'magic solution': brute force. In my opinion, it is no bad thing for a dog to know that his owner is physically stronger than him. When Buddy had made a fool of me for a day or two, I just got hold of him and bundled him into the back seat. I couldn't lift him into the boot of my four-wheel drive, but the back passenger seat sufficed. Gotcha! And then, guess what? He decided that he loves car travel. Perhaps he only needed to know that he was coming back home each time.

Another not so amusing behaviour, is his high prey drive. I guess his only fun times before, were when he had a chance to go for visiting wildlife. I am well used to all of mine lunging after the local cats and with Buddy, cars as well. They are all on long leads due to the high deer population and so this is a minor nuisance, that is all. Buddy was more dedicated to his chasing though, as he still had to test out the efficacy of the lead. And I had to cure the car chasing as soon as possible. We don't get many come by, but I could not permit this behaviour. The fact that there were consequences and Buddy could not escape these (only a strong check and verbal reprimand, in case you worried) meant that he was consumed with frustration. Why could he not dance off and laugh at me? He promptly resorted to little temper tantrums and would rear and spin himself around. No more. We mutually decided that this was going to stop. It was because of the old consequences thing and Buddy learned that he did not like these. Basically, he just wants to be loved and be a happy boy, so I was onto a winner there.

And so this is where we are. Buddy is loved and is a happy boy – despite the worming's and the antibiotics and the neutering. Poor boy he has had to suffer other consequences. But he loves his cuddles and the regular food and, of course his wonderful donated bed. He gets on with the others in the pack in his own way. He makes no waves and they are kind to him (or else). He hasn't bonded with them as yet, but it is early days. It is all a just short of a miracle, when you consider that he has never seen a dog before.

And speaking of what he has never seen before...I have one more vignette to share. His unique background, living totally outside for nine years, meant that he had only ever seen humans outside fully clothed. His reaction to his first glimpse of me naked will remain with me. I admit that it is not a pretty sight. But even so, it was delightfully extreme! He was walking down the hall towards me when I emerged from a bedroom. He came to a screeching halt, rigid, with shock and sheer disbelief. He was beyond amazed and all that was missing from this cartoon-like behaviour was a speech bubble saying 'Yikes!'. I had to work to convince him that this naked white self was one and the same as his old mum!

For those who care for him, you can be reassured. All is well in Buddyland. And he is still the love of my life.



All that Spike needs is a 'happy ending'.

Spike's story did not begin well and then it just got worse...and then worse, still.

He first came to our notice as a 'poundie', rescued from a dreadful home as a 'cruelty case' with his 'sister' Callie. They were both in the most dreadful physical condition and needed to be built up before they could be considered for rehoming. At that dreadful time, it was possible to span Spike's waist with two hands, he was so emaciated.

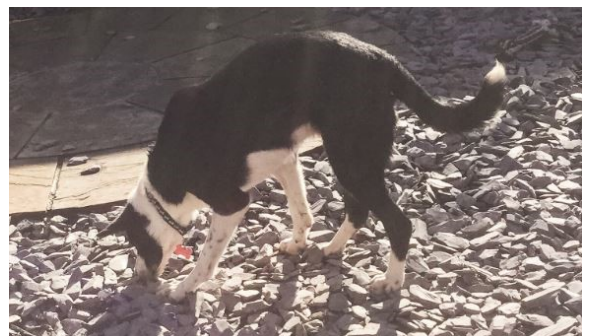
We only learned of this pair, as his 'sister' was a shepherd and we are routinely informed of any that come our way. The two were so closely bonded that it was hoped, at first, that they could be rehomed as a pair. And so, they went to another rescue, where it was hoped that they could move on gracefully to a joint forever home. Sadly, the pair were again badly treated there and were so badly neglected that they returned to our local pound. GSDR decided there and then that Spike had to become an 'honorary shepherd'. So, we did our best to nurse him back to physical health. His condition improved but gradually he became more and more depressed in kennels. The lively boy that he had once been disappeared, as he gradually lost the will to live. He only became more and more depressed.

We launched an urgent Facebook campaign to find him a home. We did. But Spike's luck was running true to form and he 'bounced', immediately to be then rescued by one of our own inner circle of volunteers. She has nursed him fully back to bouncing physical health and he is, by now, an extremely handsome boy who is a credit to his breed. He is astonishingly handsome and a loving playful boy in the home without any issues.

There are no physical signs of the abuse that Spike has suffered. He does however retain some psychological damage. He lacks confidence outside the home and is to some extent agoraphobic. Having lived within walls for so long, he is afraid of open spaces. He can manage to walk along a street, however, if near to a wall or hedge. This condition is not unknown and is quite common in traumatised dogs. It is resolvable, to a degree, but it is fair to say that, despite being a young healthy dog, Spike will never be an agility competitor.

Having said that, he will be a loving companion for anyone who loves the breed of border collie. He is a handsome young man and has no issues other than the agoraphobia, which will lessen in time, with further care and loving support.

Spike is a happy boy in his foster home at the moment. All that he lacks is the 'happy ending' to his story: a forever home.





Just like humans our cats and dogs have subtle energy systems such as chakras and meridians. Our pets get stressed and just like people these subtle energy systems become unbalanced and blocked.



When our human chakras and meridians become blocked and unbalanced we start to experience discomfort which effects our mood and over all wellbeing. Animals are no different and experience subtle energy blockages just as we do. Thanks to volunteer Carol Fieldhouse, anyone placing an order by clicking [here](#) will generate a donation of 10% to the rescue.

Saber has been wearing his Petifi for a while now and is certainly more chilled out than he used to be.

It's worth taking a look, they offer human products too!



The sun really did shine on Saxon, this lucky boy finally found his forever home after spending three whole years in kennels.

Be good Saxon and enjoy your new life.

*Date: Saturday
2nd April 2016*

Time: 19:00 hrs

*Venue: Claret Jug
Oulton Hall*



GSDR North East Spring Party Night

You are invited to come and spend a night with GSDR NE

Leave your walking boots at home, put on your dancing shoes

and come and join us for a Party

Tickets £30 per person and includes:

Complimentary drink on arrival

3 Course Meal

DJ & disco until 1am

Everyone welcome. Attire: Party Wear

Vennue address:

Claret Jug

Oulton Hall

Rothwell Lane

Oulton

Leeds LS26 8HN

Tickets available from:

Janine Kerr and Julie Wilkinson

For enquires and bookings please

contact: Janine Kerr

E-mail: janinekerr@sky.com

Tel: 07974 781938



All money raised will go to help Rescue and Rehome NE dogs

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: Christine Merritt 01702 544974 Christine.merrittgsd@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: Anne Leigh 01263 860864 ajpleighgsdr@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 angelagsdr@gmail.com

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

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

Enquiries: Sharon Coates 01751 417197

Wales

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

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

