



A very warm welcome to our first newsletter of 2013, we hope you will enjoy reading all about what we have been up to at GSDR and about what we have planned for this coming year.

I would first like to reflect on how we did in 2012, a year which we knew would be challenging but one that seemed to race by all too quickly. We received a record number of adoption forms totalling 2479, but we also received a record number of requests to rehome dogs, a staggering 1132. These were just the dogs that came through on assessment forms from the website, and does not include the many urgent dogs taken in from the pounds or via a phone call. It would be nice to think that the majority of those people that filled out adoption forms, would go on to adopt but the reality is that a large percentage do not for a variety of reasons. We rehomed nearly 400 dogs last year which I think was quite an achievement given the current economic climate.

At this point I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the co-ordinators and volunteers who have worked tirelessly throughout the year. I am a firm believer that everything happens for a reason and going forward into 2013, we have a truly dedicated team of volunteers, whose sole agenda is to offer assistance to the many German Shepherds that need the help of GSDR.

We have a number of new screeners, new co-ordinators and have already received 38 new volunteer applications in January alone. We are on track, the team are working very hard.

So what plans do we have in store for 2013, which we believe will be just as challenging as 2012 was?

We must continue to strive to ensure that we have the necessary resources to cope with the demands that the coming year brings. Our biggest expenditure year on year, is the cost of commercial kennelling to keep dogs safe until new homes are found, followed a close second by veterinary care costs. Therefore it is important that fundraising plays a key part of the rescue this year to ensure that we have sufficient funds to house and care for GSDR dogs.

When it comes to fundraising we have some very dedicated volunteers giving up their free time all with the sole aim of raising funds to save our dogs. We also have our very talented ladies making items for the GSDR Craft Market as well as regular online auctions to raise much needed funds. We will also be expanding our range of merchandise which also generates revenue for the rescue.

The upgrade for our website and database which was originally planned for last autumn, will now take place. We feel this is a necessary upgrade so that we will, going forward, have a secure way of storing important rescue information as a permanent record. It should also make things a lot easier for co-ordinators.

The rescue is run entirely by volunteers and could not be successful without those dedicated volunteers. Being a volunteer can have a big impact on home life so I would personally like to thank them all for giving up their precious time to help this wonderful breed. I would also like to thank the rest of their families for putting up with the rescue impacting on family life.

GSDR have a challenging year ahead but I believe we have the best people on board to meet those challenges.

Finally I would like to thank all of our supporters and we hope you will continue to follow our progress and support us throughout the coming year.

Best Wishes

Jayne

Team Fat Blokes on Target!



Pictured here at Guiseley Pets at Home store. It may have been zero degrees outside, but so as not to disappoint the girls Ray was sporting the shorts as usual!

Despite the freezing temperatures Ray 'Legs' Lambert & Si Rocky Robson started the year as they mean to go on – fundraising.

The dynamic duo raised a fabulous £4,500 over the eighteen events they organised last year but aren't stopping there; they have set themselves an ambitious target to raise **£12,000** this year!

Newsflash! Pets at Home Bradford was the location for the latest event, and what an eventful day it turned out to be. Noticing a security guard from Boots struggling to deal with a shoplifter, Ray & Si sprung into action and apprehended the man, took him back into the store where they detained him. Ok, to tell the truth they sat on him! The grateful store manager donated £10 to their collection, who was it who said that crime doesn't pay? An amazing £350 raised in total, just a usual weekend for Team Fat Blokes!



Bringing down the hammer on another successful auction, Penny O'Callaghan was delighted to raise in excess of £700 for Heidi's fund. The previous auction had ended just a month earlier, but taking advantage of those unwanted Xmas presents Penny knew we'd all have she was not to be deterred. The next auction is planned for March so please start to look out for items to donate, and for those extra organised people who wish to list their items now please contact Penny who will add you to the page that she's already set up.



Another Emergency Removal

Ten year old CJ lived with her five year old daughter Rolly. They were being kept chained up in a shed in terrible conditions because "they did not fit in with family life" as well as the owner had wished. The dogs were shivering and filthy, being left to live in their own mess. Our volunteer removed them and took them to the safety of kennels. Rolly has now been adopted but poor old CJ is still looking for urgent foster/forever home. This old lady needs a warm fire and some TLC, does anyone have room in their hearts for her?

Please send any photo's and stories for the next newsletter to gldr.newsletter@btinternet.com

Wayne puts Rhyl on the Fundraising Map



Even the staff from the local Iceland store were roped in to the fundraising campaign which saw them raise £155.50 for GSDR this Christmas. Not content to stop there, guests staying with Wayne & Will at their hotel joined in with the 'Guests Appeal' raising a further £145. Fundraising at The Pier Hotel continues getting off to a cracking start in January – watch this space for further updates! Wayne also manages our Twitter feed, you can follow us @GSDRofficial1



When you walk the dogs in kennels they have a habit of stealing your heart!

Eastern Region vllie Michelle Marett organised 'Paws for Pounds', a fun packed fundraising event for pupils attending her dance school. The children raised a toe tapping £245 and box full of treats for the kennel dogs. Much to the delight of the pupils, Michelle's own dogs Alfie & Bozo popped in to say hello and to thank them for their fundraising efforts. Michelle & Ants could often be found at kennels exercising the dogs in their spare time. They've now become a three dog family after Bruce decided that nine months was enough time to spend in kennels and has moved in with them!

Remembering Ron

Ron was a very gentle soul with a huge heart and a twinkle in his eye. Since he & Sheila began to foster last year they took in Bo, Zoe, Sascha, Edge, Dave and Malyk. All were urgent cases and were very much loved in their foster home. All were successfully rehomed apart from Malyk who is still with Sheila. Ron & Sheila organised a group walk at Walcott beach last October and this is where we will hold a group walk on the 31st March in his memory. His kindness showed through right until the very end, his wishes are for no flowers at his funeral but for donations to GSDR and Cancer Research. Our thoughts are with Sheila and family at this very sad time.



Ron fundraising at Pets at Home, Norwich



When the Arndale Centre, Crossgates, Leeds agreed to a free stall for the day Gillian Marsden jumped at the chance, there was just one condition – it's in ten days' time! Not much notice at all but never underestimate the GSDR Team, Gillian appealed for help from fellow vollies on Facebook and the offers came flooding in. The tombola was manned by Gillian, Alice Hutton & Sheila Pankhurst, and the good people of Leeds kept the ladies busy and their 150 prizes were gone by

Hope didn't like the slippy floor in the shopping centre, one shopper went home and told her husband who turned up with some carpet for her to sit on! Thankfully there are still some kind people out there afterall.



lunchtime. Also selling jewellery, cards and merchandise, a staggering £515 was raised in just one day! Front of house meeting, greeting and raising the profile of the breed and our rescue was Alison Elphee who is pictured with her adopted dog Polar (no prizes for guessing Polar is the white dog!) and Hope who is currently in foster with Alison. After five hours of constant strokes Polar & Hope were ready for a sleep so Julie Wilkinson & Max took over for the afternoon shift. Gillian said "we all enjoyed the day so much and are looking forward to the next".

If anyone has any tombola prizes they would like to donate and can get them to Gillian please get in touch.



Dog of the Month

Who could resist that face? It's a mystery why the gorgeous Simba is still with us. At just 2yrs old he's been in kennels for many months after living outside with very little interaction. Described as a big puppy by the vollies who walk him, always learning and wanting to please, Simba is looking for an experienced owner who can continue his education.

Hello from Heidi

Having a poorly leg didn't spoil Heidi's fun in the snow, foster Mum Angela Hargreaves improvised and used carrier bags to keep the fixator dry. Well, the shops do encourage you to reuse and recycle!

Here's an update from Angela:
"Heidi continues to make progress although we have had to slow the speed that her leg is straightening down while she is having physio, to encourage her to use her leg more. The little monkey has taken to lifting it as she has found that she can get around much more quickly on 3 legs! The fixator is going to be in place now for between 8 and 12 weeks so she still has some way to go yet. She is very tolerant and remains a happy and playful girl. I think that we are all looking forward to the day when we can see Heidi run!"

Thank you to everyone who has supported the appeal for her op and on-going veterinary care. She has the chance of a normal life thanks to your kindness. We'll be keeping you updated on her progress.



How to Contact your Area Co-ordinators

South West	Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset & Wiltshire	Area Co-ordinator: Jayne Shenstone 01568 797957 info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk Dog Co-ordinator: Mandy Jones 07970592220
South East	Kent , Hertfordshire, Essex, London, Surrey, East & West Sussex, IOW, Hampshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire Gloucester & Oxfordshire	Area Co-ordinator: Damon Harris 07788593366 djsaraus@aol.com Dog Co-ordinator: Mel Harris 07766825818 mellieharris1@aol.com Co-ordinator support: evenings only Mandi Wilks 01692 584772 mandi2583@btinternet.com Donna Jones 01449 770890 Urgent/Emergency daytime Mandi 07810 568862
Eastern	Norfolk , Suffolk, Cambridgeshire ,Bedfordshire, Northants, Lincolnshire & Leicestershire	Area Co-ordinator: Damon Harris 07788593366 djsaraus@aol.com Dog Co-ordinator: Mel Harris 07766825818 mellieharris1@aol.com Co-ordinator support: evenings only Mandi Wilks 01692 584772 mandi2583@btinternet.com Donna Jones 01449 770890 Urgent/Emergency daytime Mandi 07810 568862
Central	Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire Staffordshire, Shropshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, West Midlands & Warwickshire	Area/Dog Co-ordinator: Irene Culverwell 0161 282 3594 07778 150561 iculverwell21@hotmail.com Enquiries: Bill Kitchen 01524 784953 Melanie Fairbrother 0161 494 7728
North West	Cheshire, Manchester, Merseyside, Cumbria & Lancashire	Area Co-ordinator: Jayne Shenstone 01568 797957 info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk Dog Co-ordinator: Irene Culverwell 0161 282 3594 07778 150561 iculverwell21@hotmail.com Enquiries: Bill Kitchen 01524 784953 Melanie Fairbrother 0161 494 7728
North East	Northumberland, Durham ,Yorkshire, Tyneside, Tees-side, 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
Wales	Wales	Area/Dog Co-ordinator: Jayne Shenstone 01568 797957 info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk General enquiries: Mandy Jones 07970592220