



Hello everyone,

Easter has come and gone, spring is allegedly here but what a cold chilly one it's turning out to be. We had a quiet spell over Easter which is usual but things have picked up again and hopefully more dogs will soon be matched to their new forever homes.

Despite Easter, in April we received 268 adoption applications compared to 178 in 2016 which is way up on last year. We also received 68 rehoming forms compared to 72 last year, so that remains pretty steady but does not include dogs taken in from the pounds etc.

We do however still have far too many kennel dwellers with many of those having been in kennels six months or more. This is not the life for any dog, especially a large breed dog. We hope people will consider our overlooked dogs, all of whom have ended up in rescue through no fault of their own. They are not bad dogs, they don't have issues, they were just made homeless and we had to put them in kennels to keep them safe until new homes are found.

We have now also become known for rehoming Caucasian Shepherds too and we are getting requests to rehome unwanted dogs, many of who have been abandoned and picked up as strays with unregistered foreign microchips. This is yet another breed now being exploited so we are happy to help these dogs although this is not the breed that we would ever consider putting into your average pet home. The Caucasians that we have rehomed have all gone to lovely rural homes with plenty of space for these large dogs. The number we have helped is a very small percentage of the total number of dogs we rehome annually. I personally have had 5 of these dogs and two of our kennels also now have experience with the breed.

On the fundraising front, this will as always be a very busy year so that we can generate more funds to help more needy dogs. We are looking closely at the type of fundraising activities that we have done in the past and will not be doing some of the events we have previously attended as they are not proving to be worthwhile given the cost of attending and the amount of effort required to generate relatively small sums of money. GSDR volunteers are very resourceful and have much better ideas on how to fundraise more efficiently so watch this space.

Once again I thank all the hard working, dedicated volunteers who make GSDR the success that it is.

"We know we cannot be kind to animals until we stop exploiting them — exploiting animals in the name of science, exploiting animals in the name of sport, exploiting animals in the name of fashion, and yes, exploiting animals in the name of food."

— César Chávez

Best Wishes,

Jayne



Huge thanks to Lynne Strothers for her Easter raffle held at the Yorkshire walk group's monthly walk.

Wine and chocolate—the best prizes ever!

Lynne's raffle raised £125, thanks to all who bought a ticket.

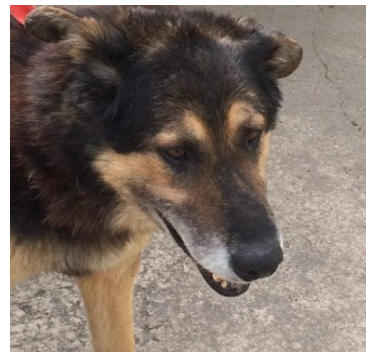


Members of the Northumberland walk group also held a raffle raising £165. Thanks to everyone who took part.



TFB with the gorgeous Prince raised £212 in donations from the generous shoppers at Pets at Home Guiseley.

A brilliant result for a cold day, well done chaps!



Shep came into our care in the spring of 2015. He had come here from Romania to escape the terrible life he'd had out there, we think he was at least 13, possibly older. He quickly went into foster here in Hereford in June 2015 but had to go back into kennels in February 2017 as he had become aggressive towards other dogs.

Sadly Shep was found dead in his kennel one morning in April, he was all curled up and he looked like he was just asleep.

Please consider fostering or adopting an oldie, no dog should die alone in a kennel.



Thanks to their ongoing support, we have received this huge pallet load of food in the North East region which will be used to feed dogs in our care.

Thank You to Support Adoption for Pets!



When Linda Wood appealed for donations of items suitable for her car boot stall, the members of her Chelmsford Walk group rallied round and donated goods which she flogged for over £150!

Assisted on the day by Karen Goodyear and the gorgeous Gadget, the ladies were delighted with the total they raised. Almost as delighted as how proud they were of Gadget – a once shy and scared boy, he allowed himself to be fussed by all and even won over a lady who was terrified of GSD's.

He came 2nd in the Best Rescue class at the dog show, doesn't he look please with himself.

Go Go Gadget!



Huge thanks goes to Denise Lea for hosting **K9 Camp**, the event raised a staggering £2020!

Dawn Heffernan's raffle raised £165 and Chrissie Garbutt came laden with doggie robes raising a further £84.

Everyone had a wonderful time - especially the dogs, there was so much to do and much fun to be had! The happy campers started to arrive on Friday and headed off worse for wear on Sunday.



That naughty Shep was out and about, some were pleased to see him and some not so!



GSDR East
Yorkshire walk



'GSDR East Yorkshire Walk Group' is holding its first official walk; it would be great if you and your four-legged furbaby/ furbabies could join us (All breeds are very welcome)



Date: Saturday 27th May 2017

Time: 11am meet, with the walk starting at 11:30am

Location: Hessle Foreshore and Country Park (HU13)

Free parking is available next to the Skate Park (HU13 OBN) along Livingstone Road.

After the walk there will be refreshments available for a small donation- Please can we ask that you bring a flask of hot water- we will provide everything else.



Additionally, there will be a raffle, with a range of prizes for both humans and the furbabies.

GSDR is an organisation dedicated to the rescue, short term fostering and long-term re-homing of German Shepherd Dogs. The rescue is run by a dedicated group of volunteers with a love of German Shepherds, giving their time and devotion to the welfare of this wonderful breed.

100% of all donations and proceeds from the day will go direct to the charity



This wonderful creation is the work of Jenna Watson, it was her entry for the school Easter egg competition.

Jenna's mum and dad play a key role in organising walks for the Northumberland Walk Group. Jenna and her brother Josh are given the very important job of holding Ben (I'm soooo jealous!) while Sarah Collie is busy getting the group's refreshments ready.

Although Jenna didn't win the school competition, she's a winner in our eyes and was rewarded with her very own GSDR t-shirt. She'll be wearing it with pride when she comes along to help at the Great North Dog walk.

Well done Jenna!



If you want to treat yourself to a hand crafted, unique, GSD related gift—then head over to the Facebook page **As Crafty As- Supporting GSDR**

You'll find lots of lovely things all made to order by one of our volunteers, with all profits going to GSDR.

PROUD MUMMY



WWW.PAGECOVERS.COM

Congratulations to May who came 2nd in the Caldicot Dog Show Prettiest Bitch Class.

Amanda Millward has been May's mummy for almost a year now and is rightly very proud of her beautiful girl, who's behaviour during the show was outstanding! With over 40 gorgeous girls in this class, our May did us proud. Well done May & Amanda.



What a Difference a Week Makes by Ann Leigh Eastern Region

I lived through all this and I am still reeling in disbelief at the sheer enormity of what can be achieved when people of goodwill work together and then the Universe takes a hand as well!

Only a week before this poor boy, who became known as 'the Waif', was in trouble – the being PTS kind.

He had been picked up by the police in South Norfolk, across the county on the Wednesday, lodged with a local vet overnight, and then was transferred by the dog warden to the kennels that they use, down the road from me. He was in the most severe pain. He had a skin problem, which was clearly agonizing and advanced ear canker. He was in the most pathetic physical and mental state imaginable.



Jayne found out about him from the dog warden's post on Facebook. She contacted us in Eastern and I phoned the warden, firstly on the Friday. By this time, the Waif had seen a vet who had prescribed minimal treatment, just basic pain relief. It is the policy of local authorities to make dogs, in their care, for the statutory seven days, comfortable – but that is all. I was told that it was difficult to say anything much about this boy. He was in such pain that he was just 'looking inward', completely absorbed by his pain, as we all do in such circumstances.

He showed no interest in anyone, or in life itself. It was even hard to handle him as there was nowhere on his body where he could be touched to move him at all. He was just being kept as comfortable as possible, until his time was up – in both senses. He was due to be PTS first thing on the Monday morning.

I assured the warden that we would take over ownership of the Waif, provided that he was capable of living a decent quality of life, with treatment. I was concerned in case the canker had destroyed the inner ear and this would involve extensive surgery and a long painful rehabilitation, as a frail elderly suddenly deaf dog. I asked the warden to negotiate with the vets and the local authority to allow the Waif to be thoroughly examined, under anaesthetic, and then treated appropriately, if viable. I managed to persuade them to trust GSDR that we would be responsible for all costs. Thank goodness for our 'respectable' public profile!

The next thing over the weekend was to find this poor boy some help. Fortunately a well wisher came forward to donate his vet fees and then on going veterinary care. I turned to then to our 'angels', Tom and Angela, here in eastern and approached them (such a big ask) about the possibility of fostering the Waif. Their only reply was, 'Where is this dog and when do you want us to pick him up'.

We call Tom and Angela 'our angels' because quite simply they are that. This arose from a chance reference to Angela's name and their devotion to many other waifs. Amongst these, was another dog in just the same condition as the Waif. They nursed him back to glowing health and he is now a credit to the breed. He is not only well but has proved to be stunningly handsome as well.

The only issue was whether the Waif could live with them happily. They already have a houseful of other pets. If he had proved to be insanely aggressive, once he recovered, this would have been too much for them without an external kennel. I then lined up another foster placement that might cope if ... but happily all of this proved to be unnecessary.

When the time came for the Waif to be taken to the vets everyone was impressed by how much he had improved already just on the basic course of painkillers. His examination confirmed that, with treatment, he would be able to live a full and happy life. So armed with medicinal shampoos and medications, he left the vets to wait for his new owners to come to pick him up

Yes really.

In the meantime, the GSDR system worked for this boy and a lovely couple emerged from the process. They had only been homechecked that weekend and it was thought that they might be interested in another dog of ours. Happily, that plan fell through, when the owners decided suddenly that they could not bear to part with him. So, then I phoned to tell them all the about the Waif. We did know by then that he was a sweet natured boy. I had had good reports from the vet and the warden and I had been down earlier that day to do a lightning dog assessment myself, still thinking that he would be going to a foster home. Instead, I had a wonderful potential pair of adopters who said that they wanted to help an older dog, who was in need of love and care.

It was a lot to ask of them. The Waif was certainly in need. By the time that I saw him, he had been shampooed and medicated was becoming his normal self, now that the pain had lessened. He was obviously sweet natured and gentle and I was confident that he was eminently rehomeable. But, he was still a heartbreaking sight. He seems to have a giant head on his skeletal body. You feel as though you could span his waist with your hands, and as he is a big boy, he seems all the more gaunt for this.

I tried to describe him honestly to his potential adopters but I was stopped in my tracks. 'Ann, he is in trouble and we can give him the love and care that he needs. Can we come to fetch him tomorrow?'

And the rest is history ... Basically, the next day, they all fell into each others' arms and Max (as he had become) left delightedly with them for his forever home, where he continues to delight everyone he meets.

A lot can happen in a week.



Volunteers come in all shapes and sizes and have all sorts of different skills - some are not human even. I mean that our beloved GSDs do create interest and help recruit well wishers and volunteers and assist in all sorts of ways besides.

But the human kind of volunteers are diverse to say the least. They range from housebound (because of looking after the dogs) old fogeys like me to young super enthusiastic workers.

A bunch of these in Ipswich, suddenly, had the brilliant idea of using their friendship network and energy and enthusiasm to make money for our cause. Wow!!! They could be couch potatoes or party animals or doing whatever else it is that people get up to. But no, they are organising a fundraiser, completely as self starters. I promise, no arm twisting from Jayne or myself and not even a whinge or pathetic plea - this all came from them.

Please support this, their first of many events. Obviously most people reading this can't be there physically but you can help by publicizing the event and by sponsoring a walker. Please get involved and make this a bumper event.

As I said, volunteers and well wishers can contribute in all sorts of ways.

Thanks and kudos to **Stars of the East** :-

- Sue Tyler
- Jasmine Hall
- Kelsi George
- Charlotte Campbell
- Brian Willis
-



Junior Helpers -

- Alicia Tyler
- Elle Georg

(Both girls are 8years old).

*"Volunteers are not paid
-- not because they are
worthless, but because
they are priceless."*



Registered Charity Number 1141122

Sponsored Dog Walk

Can you and your dog get your friends and family to sponsor you both and raise money to support the German Shepherd Dog Rescue Charity?

Come and join us on our sponsored dog walking event on -

Saturday 1st July

1pm

Orwell Country Park

Ipswich,

IP10 0JS

Meeting in the main car park, we have a navigated walking route through the woodlands and down to the shore line-

All dogs are required to be kept on leads for the duration of the walk-

After the walk you are welcome to join us at the Thrasher Pub garden area and have a drink whilst we take some photos and reveal our total money fundraised-

All sponsor forms and money will need to be given on arrival in an envelope-

To book your space and receive a sponsor form please contact Sue 07760300655 or Jasmine 07521318111



Mandy & team over in Wales are celebrating— after spending a year in kennels, Billie has finally found a forever home.

Be good little man, your new life starts here.



Little Elmo really is one of the lucky ones, he arrived a bit whiffy after his long journey from Romania. Our friends at St James Bark gave him a complimentary bubble bath to wash that journey right out of his hair. He went into foster with Claire Fisher but was only there for a week before being adopted. He's pictured here having a run around with big sister Polly. He now has a future and a great life ahead of him, be good little Elmo.

Lady Luck

Just 6 months old and in kennels—with a reputation for not liking other dogs and a habit of spinning like a Tazmanian devil to chase her own tail, this was Lady. Many of us have followed her amazing journey on Facebook where she had her own page, got spotted and took the first step towards an amazing life. Lady has bagged herself a home where she'll be loved and pampered but will also have a very important job. Our little Lady is in training to join the Kinder Mountain Rescue Team! Her new big sister Dolly is due to retire from saving lives with dad Nick so a trainee was needed, and so far she's loving it!

Here's a few photo's of her on her amazing journey



Lady when she first arrived in foster (left) and 5 weeks later



Lady learnt a lot—her foster Mum Sarah Collie took her on buses and trains and did a lot of something called training. Lady learnt not to chase her tail anymore, but most of all Lady learnt how to be a dog. And for that, full credit goes to Rocky, Ben and Little Paddy.



Learning how to play



Lady learnt how to swim





And then the day came and off she went on the train to meet her new family.....



They hit it off!



She's got lot to learn



And she's loving it!

From a bleak future to a fantastic career, it couldn't have happened without those gorgeous boys that are Rocky, Ben and Shorty Shep Paddy. With a little help from their Mam of course.

GSDR NEEDS YOU!



sunday 4th June 2017



Join the North East team at the Great North Dog Walk, take in the spectacular scenery and raise money for GSDR along the way!

Maria Hamilton will be manning the stall (or holding onto it if it's windy!)

So pop the date in your diary, it's a really great event.

**KIRKSTALL
FESTIVAL**



Saturday 8th July 2017 11.00 - 17.00

Childrens & Adults Tombola Stalls

**Come and see us." Team North "
Always a Great Family Day out**



**GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG RESCUE
WWW.GERMANSHEPHERDRESCUE.CO.UK**

KIRKSTALL ABBEY, Kirkstall Road Leeds LS5 3EH

How to Contact your Area Co-ordinators

South East & West

Cornwall / Devon / Somerset / Dorset / Wiltshire/Gloucester/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: Julie Plastow 07715 172372 Julie.plastow@hotmail.co.uk
Enquiries: Linda Wood 07771 778905 lingsd24@gmail.com

Eastern

Norfolk / Suffolk / Cambridgeshire / Bedfordshire / Northants / Lincolnshire & Leicestershire
Area Co-ordinator: Anne Leigh 01263 860864 ajpleighgsdr@gmail.com
Dog Co-ordinator: Suzanne Thurman 01472 459528 s.thurman@sky.com
Enquiries: Sarah Carrs 01603 270044

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 angelagsdr@gmail.com
Dog Co-ordinator: Julie Wilkinson 07736 815430 julie.gsdr@gmail.com
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

