



Hello everyone,,

Welcome to the Christmas and New Year edition of the GSDR newsletter.

Yet another year has flown by and what a strange year it has been. Overall we have been kept very busy with both adoptions and helping a seemingly ever increasing number of dogs, who sadly need to find new homes.

Spare a thought to the many dogs who have no homes yet and will be spending Christmas in kennels. For many of these dogs, sadly it will be their second Christmas in kennels which is not good for any dog, especially for a large breed like a GSD.

Most of these dogs in kennels will have little chance of being rehomed until well into the new year so we will have some pretty hefty kennel bills, keeping them safe and warm until they find new homes next year.

As an organisation that relies totally on donations to fund the work we do, we are very grateful to everyone that has made a contribution towards our rescue and I am especially grateful to all our wonderful volunteers who work so hard fundraising for the dogs.

Even you online shoppers have contributed by shopping through Easyfundraising. Indeed last week we received a cheque for £721.51 bringing the total amount raised since we joined, to a whopping £11,478.75.

So when the new year sales start or if you are booking a holiday, please don't forget to go shopping through [Easyfundraising](#)

We are also absolutely delighted to announce that Support Adoption For Pets have informed us that they are awarding us a grant of £10,000 which is specifically to help towards the cost of our kennel bills. Whoop whoop.

Once again I would like to thank all my fantastic volunteers who work so hard to make this rescue the success that it is.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and all the very best for the new year.

You have succeeded in life when all you really want is only what you really need.
~Vernon Howard

Best Wishes,

Jayne

Snoop has bagged himself a forever home!



I can still remember when Snoop first came into the care of GSDR North East, Julie had been at the pound to collect another dog and his little eyes met hers and pleaded for help.

That was 4 years ago.

And just a few weeks ago it finally happened, he found his forever family who were willing to offer him a forever sofa.

And here he is on the sofa on his very first day in his new home, he tried every seat out for size until he settled here, when this photo was taken he hadn't moved for two hours!

He's settled in well and will be enjoying his very own happy Christmas this year.



DICKENSIAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

Thanks to Margaret for once again setting up at Buxton Dickensian Market and for volunteer Sarah helping her man the stall to raise awareness of GSDR and collect a handsome £85.80.

Margaret is set to do more table top sales in 2017 – brilliant news!



TRAINING TIPS raise £200

Thanks to all the lovely people who train their dogs at June Reeds Sutton Hall New Farm and although June doesn't charge to rent out her field the dog owners always put a few quid into a pot and when its full they kindly count and donate to a charity of their choice – GSDR received a whopping £200 – which was very much appreciated.



Here at pollydog's pantry we are happy to announce that 10% of every Christmas box pre ordered through our website www.pollydogspantry.co.uk will be donated to German Shepherd Dog rescue, an organisation that we love!

Please give this a massive share and get your orders in to help raise some funds for their rescue dogs looking for homes! Thankyou



Sheila Pankhurst, Nigel Eddison & Gillian Marsden were out fundraising at Animal Ark Aid dogs Christmas party, with a donation from this fabulous organisation the team raised £120.

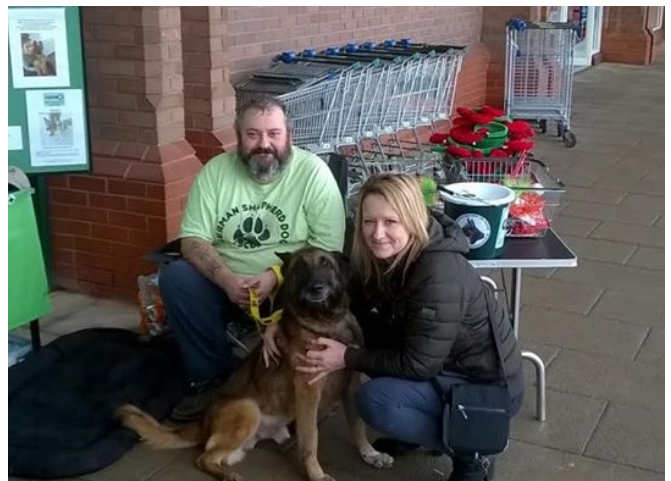


Team Bella are pictured here fundraising at Pets at Home, Idle, Bradford.

Mark Panther, Toni Pickering, Alistair Smith , Alvin Panther and Festive Bella raised a tailwagging £261.26p.

No wonder the team mascot looks so pleased with herself!

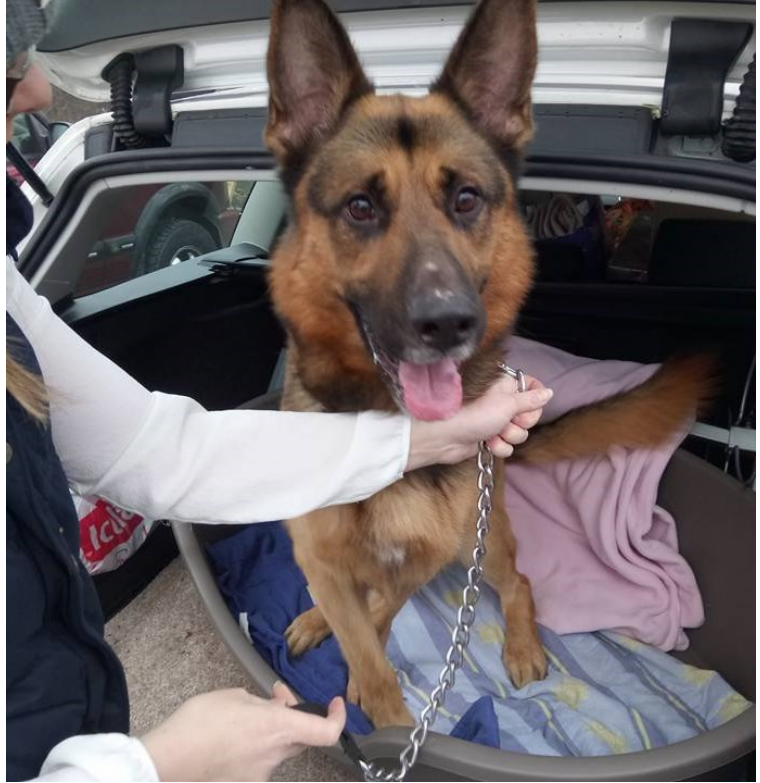
New member of Team Fat Blokes, the lovely Prince is pictured here being delivered to new foster Dad Si. This gorgeous dog had been recovering from surgery under the loving care of Alison Elphee and now recovered he's moved in with Si until he finds his forever home. Until then he'll be out fundraising with TFB, doing what they do best.



Christmas Shoe Box Appeals



Members of the Northumberland Walk Group collected a big bundle of boxes to deliver to the kennel dogs in the North East. Sarah Collie, Claire Fisher and Samantha Wilson played at being Santa for the day, delivering the boxes. Sadly the ladies had to collect a dog on the way, who'll be spending this Christmas in kennels. Pictured below, Marley took the adventure all in his stride and is set to make someone a wonderful companion.



Huge thanks go to BAGSD Huddersfield who donated £329 to GSDR.

Prince went along to accept the donation and enjoyed himself by taking part in the games, bagging himself a 1st & 2nd Prize!

The food was very kindly donated by our friend Susan at trophy Pet Foods.

Thank you to everyone involved, your support is really appreciated.

SOUTH EAST & WEST AREA by Christine Merritt

It was with great pleasure that we attended the kennels on Thursday 14th December to give the kennel dogs their Christmas shoe boxes, we have 40 boxes filled with all sorts of delights for the dogs, leads, collars, treats, toys, etc. This was kindly organised by Karen Goodyear from our Danbury Walk, she put this together in only a few weeks and the response was fantastic, Karen is going to do it again next year, we are so grateful to everybody that contributed to the boxes, gifts came from far and wide.

Hope you all like our pictures taken by our photographer Dave, who gave up his time to sort out the best of 200 pictures he took.

Linda Wood, Julie Plastow Karen Goodyear and Richard as well as myself handed them out.

#everypawdeservesaparcel





The Strothers family are all keen supporters of GSDR, they adopted their gorgeous girl Zara two years ago who had been nursed back to health by Alison Elphee. As a family they decided they'd like to support GSDR so we can continue to save dogs in need like Zara, and to say they've done well is an understatement!

Lynne's sister in law set up a tuck shop at work which has raised over £1000 since she started, which is just incredible.



Amy Elphee with the Raffle 3rd prize

And for the recent group walk Lynne had organised a raffle with doggy prizes raising another £66. The first prize was a fabulous hamper made up by Susan from Trophy Pet Foods in Wakefield.

Lynne's lovely work mates at Refreshment Systems Ltd dug deep into their pockets to support her raffle in the office, raising another £96!



Sadly Lynne's lovely dad passed away recently. He loved German Shepherds so the family will continue to fundraise in his memory. At his funeral the family requested that donations be sent to GSDR so that his legacy as a dog lover will live on by helping other dogs in need. Lynne's brother Adrian donated a vast amount of food in memory of his dad, such a very kind thing to do.

Thank you all so much for your generosity and support, even at such a sad time in your lives.



Zara in her favourite place, by her Grandad's side

NORTH WEST & CENTRAL REVIEW 2016

We've had mum's n pups, we've had golden oldies, we've had shepherds in all shapes, colours and coat and what they have all had in return is fantastic volunteers who have gone out of their way to help with transport, walk the kennel dogs, visit for home checks and dog assessments, give training advice, helped with socialising on walks, emergency foster, follow ups, raised cash, taken endless phone calls ... but most importantly given up their time to do the meets to get the dogs into loving new homes.

Whatever help you have given to German Shepherd Dog Rescue in 2016 – THANK YOU! As the saying goes “every little helps” and without doubt your help is invaluable, we just couldn't survive and so many of these gorgeous boys n girls wouldn't be in their new forever homes.

Merry Christmas and thanks again from all the sheps you've helped xx

Here's just a few photos to remember some of the sheps who are happy and safe



Lilly and her pups were taken urgently into GSDR care - All 8 of Lilly's pups got lovely new homes as did mum of the year Lilly.

The young guns ...



Bruno



Otto



Zack



Hugo



Molly

The over 2's



Cassie



Kaiser



Alfie not even 3 but with a grey muzzle



Diesel



Lilly

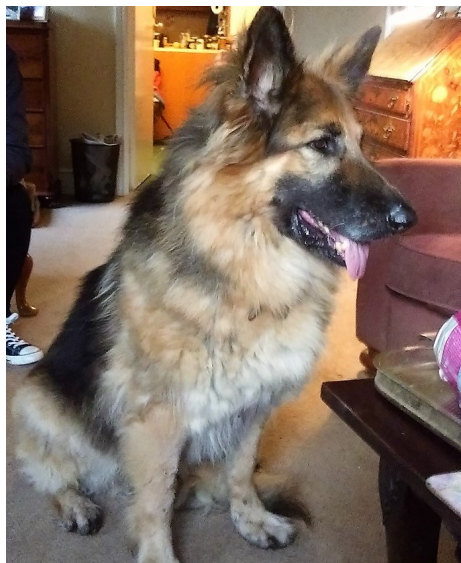


Sally

The Gorgeous Oldies



Kas



Harry



Max



Meeka



Millie



Zeus



Support Adoption For Pets have just notified the rescue that they are awarding us a grant of £10,000 which is specifically to be used to help us with our kennel bills. We will be receiving the cheque early in the new year.

We are immensely grateful to SAFP who have been very supportive of our rescue over the years. We have a very good relationship with Pets at Home/SAFP thanks to Team Fat Blokes, who are out most weekends fundraising at one of their NE stores. Well done Ray and Si.

It was the turn of a few lucky kennel dwellers to find their forever homes



Nova



Shadow



Gerry



Hugo



Gigsy



Jerry Lee

The Best in Show Winners



Heidi



Ellie

The Magic of Christmas.

It is the same every year, I understand from the 'old hands'. Dogs are 'dumped' with GSDR and then kennel spaces become full to overflowing. Eventually, we find new homes for the poor Christmas orphans ... and the year goes on.



Buddy who is our poster boy for this year's appeal for extra help was one such. Actually, being 'dumped' last year was the best thing that ever happened to him. He had lived outside all his life, spurning his kennel to sleep on the doorstep of the house. He found his new home through GSDR and nowadays has a soft bed and carpets and regular food. He even has to be 'manhandled' out of the house on cold rainy days to relieve himself. He has become a very contented 'loungelizard'. He showed all along where he wanted to be and now he has achieved his heartfelt wish.

That was the 'magic of Christmas' for him.

Recently, here in the East, two more dogs were dumped in kennels.

They were living with two other dogs and their owner was struggling – probably, unknown to her, with health problems already. She kennelled her dogs for a routine operation in hospital but it was discovered that she had terminal cancer and she died very quickly afterwards. The dogs never came back home and the kennel owner heard no more from her or the family.

Two of the four dogs were GSDR dogs and so we assumed responsibility for them and offering to rehome one other who was not with another rescue. Rather than allow us to do that, he was PTS because of vet costs. Thankfully ownership of the other two had reverted to GSDR and so they were safe. Initially we assumed responsibility for the kennel fees, and then we began to search for homes.

Magically, we found two outstanding homes for these girls.

One adopter had been waiting for a dog for quite some time. She had fallen in love with one of Mandy's dogs in Wales a couple of months earlier. I met Indie when I visited the kennels to assess the girls. It did not strike me, at the time, but when I downloaded her photo later, she bore such a resemblance to Mandy's dog that she brought this lady to mind immediately. I know looks aren't everything but Indie has the same quiet shy nature as well.



I made the suggestion and then in a whirlwind, all was agreed, and she was whisked off to her new home. I made the follow up call with real trepidation. There are small dogs and cats! It was a big ask of even such a sweet girl as Indie but she did not let herself down. She walked into her new home like a princess ignoring those who did not want to interact but being very gentle with any who did. Who says that there isn't magic around in the air?

Thank fully that proved to be true as Skye remained to be rehomed. She was a dirty unkempt obese older bitch who looked like a cross. In her favour she is a cheerful girl, but that was all that was going for her. It was a long shot but we had just had an application to foster come into the system. My heart always sinks when I get these. What do people mean by: 'I'd like to foster? Sometimes this is followed by precise requirements like 'under two years only' or 'puppy only'.

Enough said. It is difficult to explain what is needed in a foster home to a novice. No one can imagine the amazing sacrifices and self-denial that our wonderful foster carers give. How can one begin to explain what is entailed and then how could one trust a stranger? How could we remove a dog from a home to an unknown foster carer who might turn around and say after a week or two that they have had enough...remove the dog please. Aaaaaargh!



Somehow I hoped that this one would be different. And if the worst came to the worst, then Skye would only be back where she started. It would be awful to dash her hopes of a home ... but worth the risk?

The screening on this new couple was out of this world. It could not be true, could it? Our screener knew that it was urgent and did practically a hundred-mile round trip to homecheck. Yes, you know who you are, our eastern hero, Clive Endersby. Then everything fell into place and, within two days, Skye had begun to settle in her long term foster/forever home.

I will just tell you that this is a newly refurbished bungalow on a three-acre plot with underfloor heating throughout. There is a walk in wet room, where Skye was showered of the grot of ages, and she now lives like a rotund little queen with company around the clock. Not just company, even, but that of one retired and one serving paramedic. Need I say more?

I promise you, the Christmas fairy was working overtime with this one!

Merry Christmas poor little kennel waifs – who knows what lies around the corner?

That is the magic of a GSDR Christmas!



Rex's Hatvent Calendar

This gorgeous boy has put a smile on my face everyday with a photo to celebrate opening another door on his hatvent calendar.

Thank you Linda Venus for being the crazy lady that you are, January will be a miserable month without his antics!

The magic of Christmas: Buddy is a happy boy now

Last Christmas he was dumped in kennels. But GSDR changed his life. He now has a happy home– a garden to roll in, a big comfy bed in a cosy home, and a human who thinks he is ‘the love of her life’. Buddy loves his new life.



GSDR is able to transform the lives of poor abandoned dogs at Christmas. It happens every year. We can change lives. But we need your help.

In the run up to Christmas , when you are busy with preparations, working through your lists and thinking of your family and friends, can you please spare a thought for our abandoned dogs as well. Just another item on your list, a donation to GSDR, can transform the life of another Buddy. From an abandoned confused lost boy he has become a very important and much loved centre of his family.

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charities/germanshepherdrescue>

 This is the magic of Christmas for
GSDR

Christmas Morning

I saw you were shivering - you looked so forlorn,
The December frost had you chilled to the bone.
I could not ignore you – I could not walk by,
My heart skipped a beat – I started to cry.
How could they do this? To leave you behind,
On this Christmas morning, you were my sign.

My 'Bridge Angel' saw that I was alone,
And knew if I saw you, that I'd take you home.
You were just a small baby – an Angel in fur,
We were both lonely beings, now we're a pair
Your soft loving eyes stared into mine,
On this Christmas morning, you were my sign.

'Twas' so long ago, on a day just like this,
That my precious baby gave me one final kiss.
It tore at my mind; my heart broke in two,
I swore "never again" but my Angel sent you.
I've missed all the love – it's been such a long time,
On this Christmas morning, you were my sign.

You will never again feel hunger or cold,
My poor little darling, here's my heart – you can hold.
As I picked you up, my spirit did lift,
You are not just for Christmas – you are my special gift.
I will love you forever – from dusk until dawn,
For you are my sign on this Christmas morn'

by Steve Bateman GSDR Volunteer

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 07949 047139 nancy_c@hotmail.co.uk

Enquiries: Nancy Cannell 07949 047139 nancy_c@hotmail.co.uk

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 & 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.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

