



When I first started the rescue all those years ago way back up there in Auchterarder, Perthshire, little did I know that it would grow into such a huge organisation with so many kind hearted volunteers willing to help. I really did get involved in rescue as a bit of a hobby, just because of my passion for animals and in particular my love of this wonderful breed. It's very encouraging to know that there are so many other people out there equally passionate about German Shepherds and only too willing to help the rescue.

It is very difficult for me to get away from home for any length of time because of the number of dogs I have, but I want to demonstrate my total commitment and dedication to GSDR, the dogs that depend on the rescue and the volunteers that make this rescue what it is. To that end, I am planning a bit of a tour around the country to spend some time visiting each region and meeting up with as many of my dedicated volunteers as possible. I would love to come on some of the walks with you and meet some of your dogs, I might even bring one of my hooligans with me, depending on finding hooligan friendly accommodation. I am thinking of a bringing a special guest with me as long as I am sure he can cope with the journey and meeting people.

I particularly look forward to accompanying Two Fat Blokes on one of their amazing fund raising days.

My first port of call will be in the Eastern region at the end of March so Mandi, our co-ordinator of co-ordinators (AKA General Dogsboddy) get that spare made bed up!

Next stop is the North East on the 13th April and I will announce other dates when I have them arranged. If any of the regions have anything special planned, let me know and I will try and attend.

Please appreciate my intentions here as it means having to make arrangements for my own dogs, I currently have 7 but that will increase now that the flooding and mud has gone. Also bear in mind that my poor John had never had a dog in his life before he met me!

This year has got off to a very hectic start so here are a few figures I would like to share with you:

Figures for February - online forms received via the website:

Number of Adoption Application Forms - 196

Number of Dogs for Rehoming - 99

Number of New Volunteer applications - 38

Of course we know from many years' experience that approximately one third of those people that apply will pass through screening and go to home check but not all of those will be matched with suitable companions for various reasons. The number of dogs is still worryingly high but I know that we are all committed to helping as many dogs as our limited resources allow. It is very encouraging to see so many new volunteer applications.

Over the coming weeks, I really would like us to focus on those poor dogs that have been in kennels for many months and in some cases a year or more. Not only is this an enormous financial burden on the rescue, but more importantly it is not a good quality of life for a German Shepherd. These dogs need mental stimulation and lots of exercise. In some regions, volunteers are picking up kennel dogs and taking them on the organised walks. It would be wonderful if we could organise this with all our long stay kennel dogs so that they get a break from the monotony of kennel life. Please can we make these dogs a priority for rehoming?

From my region I would particularly like to highlight the plight of Sam who has been in kennels a year now and would like to nominate him as Dog Of The Month. This boy hates being in kennels, he just wants to be out playing with his ball. OK, so he doesn't like other dogs very much although would probably like a lady friend, plus he doesn't like chains, although he's fine with a rope lead. Sam has had a bit of a scare this week and has been to the vets for biopsies. Thankfully the results came back advising the lumps are benign, although he will need a course of antibiotics for an infection. This dog has spent a year in kennels, unwanted and unloved; I do not want him to spend any more time in an environment that he hates. Please keep fingers crossed that a new mummy and daddy come forward soon.



I know it's tough and getting tougher but you know what they say when the going gets tough...

My last holiday really was in 1996 so I look forward to getting out and about meeting you on my tour.

PS no pies please (I'm vegetarian) but I don't mind the odd glass or two of red wine!

Best wishes to you all and thank you for supporting GSDR.

*Jayne*



## Visit our Craft Market without leaving the sofa....

Giving homemade gifts have undergone a revival recently, they're made with love and care and can often be personalised. We're proud to have some really skilled crafters amongst our vollies, making a wide range of goodies from greetings cards, jewellery, bags, bookmarks, key rings, charms, the list goes on. So please take a look at our Craft Market Facebook page – GSDR Craft Market

If anyone has any old beads, broken bracelets etc. please get in touch; Maria Hamilton recycles them into fab new items all in aid of GSDR. And if you're a Crafter who would like to donate any items please add them to the page. For anyone needing more info please contact Penny O'Callaghan via the page.

## Have you bought your ticket yet?



The Spring Raffle is underway with a fabulous prize kindly donated by Holly Wells of Sweet Rafferty Illustrations. Holly will create a unique illustration of your pet, and the tickets are only £2. Be quick though, as the draw takes place on the 19th March. To enter send your payment via Paypal to [info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk](mailto:info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk) including your name & address in the description.

You can enter as many times as you like.  
Good Luck!



## Cheers Niahm!

You're never too young (or old!) to be a vollie. When your Mam & Dad are volunteers for GSDR the love of German Shepherds is running through your veins.



Check out the great gifts, clothes & rescue merchandise available on our website.

[germanshepherdrescue.co.uk](http://germanshepherdrescue.co.uk)

Please send any photo's and stories for the next newsletter to [gldr.newsletter@btinternet.com](mailto:gldr.newsletter@btinternet.com)



Pictured are some of the running team, members of the Northern Walk Group.

Emma Coldwell (far right) isn't running in the race, she's just going along to shake her Pom Poms!

## The GSDRunners

If like me, the only time you ever run is when you're about to miss the last bus home, you'll wonder why anyone would want to take part in a race described as 'challenging and undulating to hilly'. Oh, and I forgot to mention, it's 13 miles long!

Vollie Andy Peake has done a great job in recruiting unsuspecting victims to take part in the race, committed to running so far are:

**The Relay Team** - Five people running two miles each, with the sixth person pulling the short straw for the final three miles:

Angela Hargreaves, Angela Vaughan, Julie Wilkinson, Alison Elphee, Janine Kerr & Allison Johnson.

**Half Marathon Runners** - Running the full distance each are:

Andy Peake, Myles Burgoyne, Carl Coldwell, Helen Johnson & Marianne Bolton

The race takes place on the 12<sup>th</sup> May through the streets of Leeds. Please dig deep and sponsor the team, they have set a target to raise £5,000 for GSDR.



To sponsor please visit the team Virgin Money Giving page at  
[www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/GSDRunners](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/GSDRunners)



A warm loving person to care for,  
A soft cosy bed at night.  
Someone who really will love me,  
And save me from heartache and strife.

Is that really too much to ask for?  
Most times I think it must be.  
'Cause I'm here - but nobody sees me,  
And I'm left with no hope of reprieve.

It seems I'm too old to be wanted;  
They all want a dog who will play.  
But I have so much I can offer,  
Just give me a chance and you'll see.

My heart is as big as the ocean,  
There's still so much joy I can give.  
Just open your' eyes and you'll see me,  
Please - give me a chance to live.

By Margaret Anderson



Isla, Norfolk

11yrs old & has lived outdoors all of her life.  
Booked in to be PTS because she barks.



We've taken off on Twitter! With over 1,300 followers to date Wayne Whitehouse and Tracy North have red hot fingers from non-stop tweeting. They've built up a huge following which is growing daily and have even picked up a few celebrity followers along the way too. Twitter has proved a huge success in spreading the word of our rescue, the work we do and of course the dogs needing homes. You can follow us @GSDRofficial1.



This beautiful photo of Kira was taken by Maria Hamilton at Rising Sun Country Park, Benton, which was the venue for a recent NE group walk.

Kira was a Poundie, due to be put to sleep before she was collected and fostered by Vicki Haynes. She stayed with Vicki and her dogs for a few months but as a dominant bitch she really needed a place of her own. Luckily for Kira, Jean Robinson had just been accepted as a fosterer and she moved in. She settled in very quickly, proving to be a loving and intelligent dog. Not only did she win the hearts of Jean and her husband but of their grandchildren too. After five months as a foster with Jean and her family they adopted Kira. She's come on so much with her training and has been attending the group walks to work on her socialisation. These walks have proved invaluable, without them dogs like Kira wouldn't be able to socialise. I think you'll all agree that she's flourished with Jean, another GSDR success story.

## An Update on King



King as he was on the 8th February

Imagine you're a Dog Warden. You pick up a dog who's literally skin and bone, an old boy who shouldn't be roaming the streets on his wobbly legs. He can hardly stand. You reach for your scanner, just in case he's micro-chipped. Bingo! He is! You can reunite someone with their missing dog, you can make someone's day.

You make the call. You're told he's not wanted anymore. They have a new puppy.

He's eleven years old and despite the neglect suffered he's a friendly old boy.

King served his seven days in the pound and was saved after a huge effort from Angela Hargreaves & Julie Wilkinson who got him out literally hours before being put to sleep.

He went into emergency foster care with Angela Vaughan where he will be cared for and loved for the rest of his life. He now has a new sister, the lovely Molly to play with.

Hello everyone,

Mum said I was doing well, I settled in nicely and was loving having fuss and food. Then I got a very, very, poorly tummy. Everyone was ever so worried, even my doctor, Mum calls him a vet. Mum says I gave her a terrible fright. But then I thought, I like living here, there's my new Mum & Dad to love & feed me and my Sister Molly to play with. When I'm stronger I'm going to win the games we play. So I got myself better, with a lot of love to help me along the way. I've been here for three weeks now and I've got 6 kilo's heavier! I can get out and about, and go for short walks to build up my muscles and wobbly legs. Molly goes for longer walks and I want to go too, so Mum said she's going to find me a doggie pram fit for a King so that I don't miss out. Imagine, going places and not having to walk, I like the sound of that! Mum says everyone at GSDR sends me lots of love every day and that makes me feel so much better. I think they must all have big hearts, lots of love back, King xx



King lapped up the cuddles when he made a guest appearance at Colton Pets at Home with Team Fat Blokes.



Look at me now, 3 weeks later!

# How to Contact your Area Co-ordinators

South West	Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset & Wiltshire	Area Co-ordinator: Jayne Shenstone 01568 797957 <a href="mailto:info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk">info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk</a> 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 <a href="mailto:djsaraus@aol.com">djsaraus@aol.com</a> Dog Co-ordinator: Mel Harris 07766825818 <a href="mailto:mellieharris1@aol.com">mellieharris1@aol.com</a> Co-ordinator support: evenings only Mandi Wilks 01692 584772 <a href="mailto:mandi2583@btinternet.com">mandi2583@btinternet.com</a> Donna Jones 01449 770890 Urgent/Emergency daytime Mandi 07810 568862
Eastern	Norfolk , Suffolk, Cambridgeshire ,Bedfordshire, Northants, Lincolnshire & Leicestershire	Area Co-ordinator: Damon Harris 07788593366 <a href="mailto:djsaraus@aol.com">djsaraus@aol.com</a> Dog Co-ordinator: Mel Harris 07766825818 <a href="mailto:mellieharris1@aol.com">mellieharris1@aol.com</a> Co-ordinator support: evenings only Mandi Wilks 01692 584772 <a href="mailto:mandi2583@btinternet.com">mandi2583@btinternet.com</a> 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 <a href="mailto:iculverwell21@hotmail.com">iculverwell21@hotmail.com</a> Enquiries: Bill Kitchen 01524 784953 Melanie Fairbrother 0161 494 7728
North West	Cheshire, Manchester, Merseyside, Cumbria & Lancashire	Area Co-ordinator: Jayne Shenstone 01568 797957 <a href="mailto:info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk">info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk</a> Dog Co-ordinator: Irene Culverwell 0161 282 3594 07778 150561 <a href="mailto:iculverwell21@hotmail.com">iculverwell21@hotmail.com</a> Enquiries: Bill Kitchen 01524 784953 Melanie Fairbrother 0161 494 7728
North East	Northumberland, Durham ,Yorkshire, Tyneside, Teesside, North Humberside	Area Co-ordinator: Angela Hargreaves 0113 225 5848 <a href="mailto:muddycat13@sky.com">muddycat13@sky.com</a> Dog Co-ordinator: Julie Wilkinson 07736 815430 <a href="mailto:julie_wilki@o2.co.uk">julie_wilki@o2.co.uk</a> General Enquiries: Peter Hopkins 01904 784030
Wales	Wales	Area/Dog Co-ordinator: Jayne Shenstone 01568 797957 <a href="mailto:info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk">info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk</a> General enquiries: Mandy Jones 07970592220