



Well the clocks have gone back and we now face the long dark winter months which hopefully won't be as wet as the last two years. So time for the fleeces, woolly hats, wellies and the muddy wet paws. The weather plays a significant role in rescue as often during a run of bad weather, we see a rise in the number of dogs that need to find new homes.

We are still a few weeks away from the festive season yet the Christmas dog dump has already started. Halfway through October we'd already had over 90 rehoming forms come through, which is rather worrying. Despite the fact that barely a month goes by without a new rescue springing up, the numbers of dogs needing to be rehomed is not decreasing as one would expect. It would be nice if other rescues didn't cherry pick all the nice easy dogs and expect GSDR to take the difficult ones, which increases the financial burden for us by way of kennel bills. We don't ever want to turn our backs on any urgent dog but there is a limit to how many we can help. We do always try to persuade owners to keep their dogs until new homes are found, which is better for the dog anyway. We will continue to work this way and if any genuine urgent cases come our way, we will do all we can to help. If we really cannot find a space, we will help owners find other alternative reputable organisations to assist them. There are many other GSD rescues.

Like many other caring organisations, we are very concerned about Romanian strays who end up in terrible shelters where they have no hope. Last year, hundreds of dogs died because of the severe cold out there - they literally gave up and froze to death. The very young and the very old were the worst affected. GSDR have committed to help just a few of these poor souls and we will ensure that this Christmas, they will be warm, fed and cared for.

We know we cannot help every dog, no matter where it comes from and it shouldn't matter where they come from. If you are a German shepherd owner, you have that dog because of dogs that were imported to the UK, since the GSD is not a native breed here. So for the small minority of shepherd owners who have criticised us on social media sites for helping a small percentage of European GSD's, you are at best hypocritical. Since its inception, GSDR have helped thousands of German shepherds find homes - more than any other GSD rescue in the UK.

I leave you with this lovely story.....

Once upon a time, there was an old man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach every morning before he began his work. Early one morning, he was walking along the shore after a big storm had passed and found the vast beach littered with starfish as far as the eye could see, stretching in both directions.

Off in the distance, the old man noticed a small boy approaching. As the boy walked, he paused every so often and as he grew closer, the man could see that he was occasionally bending down to pick up an object and throw it into the sea. The boy came closer still and the man called out, "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"

The young boy paused, looked up, and replied "Throwing starfish into the ocean. The tide has washed them up onto the beach and they can't return to the sea by themselves," the youth replied. "When the sun gets high, they will die, unless I throw them back into the water."

The old man replied, "But there must be tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. I'm afraid you won't really be able to make much of a difference."

The boy bent down, picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. Then he turned, smiled and said, "It made a difference to that one!"

Best Wishes

Jayne

News from the Central & North West Regions by Irene Culverwell

THANK YOU to all our volunteers in the Central & North West Regions who have been out to home check, assess dogs, do follow ups and help with temporary foster & transport. Whatever you do for GSDR it is very important work for the rescue and our thanks are sincere for responding to any request made by either myself, Mel, Bill or Mary.

This month in particular we have urgently helped four dogs in need to get to their new adoptive homes within hours of the urgent applications and indeed saved two 9 year old brothers from being PTS - they are safely in kennels whilst we try and re-home them.



These gorgeous pups needed to find new homes as their owner had left them in the care of his sister whilst trying to find suitable accommodation, after a family confab it was decided the time had come to re-home Gypsy and Heidi via the rescue. The dogs were up in Carlisle and the ring round started to help get these girls safe, the dogs weren't sisters and quite happy to be either re homed together or individually. Our volunteers Judith and Peter were actually up in Scotland and upon hearing their plight readily agreed to help collect both dogs and start the transportation back down to Evesham. The date and time was agreed and within hours the dogs were starting their journey. Two lovely new Adopters were found and Gypsy and Heidi are happy and settled in their respective family homes.

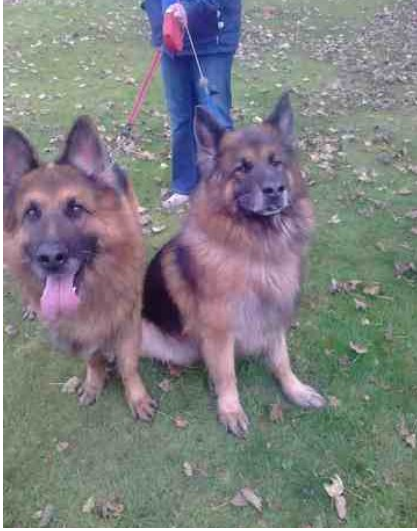


An urgent call was received to re-home a white Shepherd Ted, a much loved 5-6 year old boy whose owner sadly was now blind and had moved to much smaller premises. GSDR were asked to find him a new home as quickly as possible as losing their precious boy was going to be heart wrenching for all concerned. Within hours of the call, Julie went to meet Ted and his family, sent through the photographs and write up for his Dog Assessment. I was just about to start the ring round to help Ted when Peter called me to say that he and Judith were now ready to adopt again (after losing their much loved girl Dixie, aged 15). How spooky was that call, immediately Judith and Peter were told about Ted they were in their car and driving up North to collect and adopt Ted. The family thanked everyone involved for being so helpful and understanding and likened the re-homing of Ted to pulling off a plaster i.e. the quicker it is done the quicker the pain will go away.



Another application urgently received was from a lady who had temporarily taken in Shadow, again whilst original owner tried to find new dog friendly premises. After a few weeks it was clear nowhere was available and Shadow was put up for re-homing. Thanks go to Helen for processing the assessment urgently and again going back a few days later to organise the meet and handover for this boy.

Shadow is now with his adoptive family and thoroughly enjoying his new life.



Tyson & Bruno

Thanks also go to Liz & George who via another rescue had heard the plight of these two 9 year old brothers whose owner had not succeeded in re-homing and had made the appointment with his vet to sadly PTS. Arrangements were made for the brothers to go to the vets as planned, the veterinary nurse kindly agreed to transport the dogs to kennels in Shropshire. Liz & George have been going to the kennels and walking the brothers and building up a picture of how they are around each other and it would appear they prefer to be out and about individually, fingers crossed these boys find suitable retirement homes soon. To view their profile click [here](#), if anyone can squeeze in an oldie – urgent foster or forever homes are always needed.

These stories are common month in month out and without the help of our volunteers little would be done to help save these dogs so thank you again for giving your support and please if you can spread the word among your family, friends, work colleagues or just around your local area to help find more adopters, foster carers or volunteers to help GSDR that would be fantastic as the more people we have on hand, the more dogs we can help.



New for this Christmas

The GSDR Christmas cards have arrived and they're fabulous!

Each pack contains 10 cards, they're postcard style so no paper is wasted on envelopes. There's five of each design per pack and are just £4.95 including p&p!

They're selling fast so don't miss out, click [here](#) to visit our website and place your order now.

Our Fundraisers have been squeezing the last few events out of the good weather



TFB and Lord Nelson teamed up with Janis Archer for her event at The Ridings Shopping Centre, Wakefield. Alison Elphee with our very own white bear Polar pulled in the crowds of happy shoppers who dug deep and donated £324. Thanks also go to Nicki and Lynda for their help, making the day such a huge success.



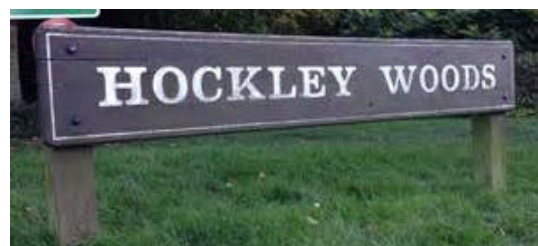
The South East team had glorious sunny weather for the W.H.A.M Dog Show at Hylands Park, Chelmsford. Members of two walk groups, Chelmsford and Hockley joined forces and pitched in to help Linda Wood make this event a success. The team raised a whopping £295, huge thanks go to everyone who helped on the day and behind the scenes, we couldn't have done it without you.



Anda & Pipa are still seeking their forever home, click [here](#) to view their profile

Meanwhile over in Kent Tracy North and the rest of the South East team were enjoying the sunshine at the Snodland Dog Show. Thanks to everyone who turned up to lend a hand, Cher brought along her foster dogs Anda & Pipa who are still looking for their forever home. The team were roped into judging the novelty show classes and still managed to raise over £400 on their stand.

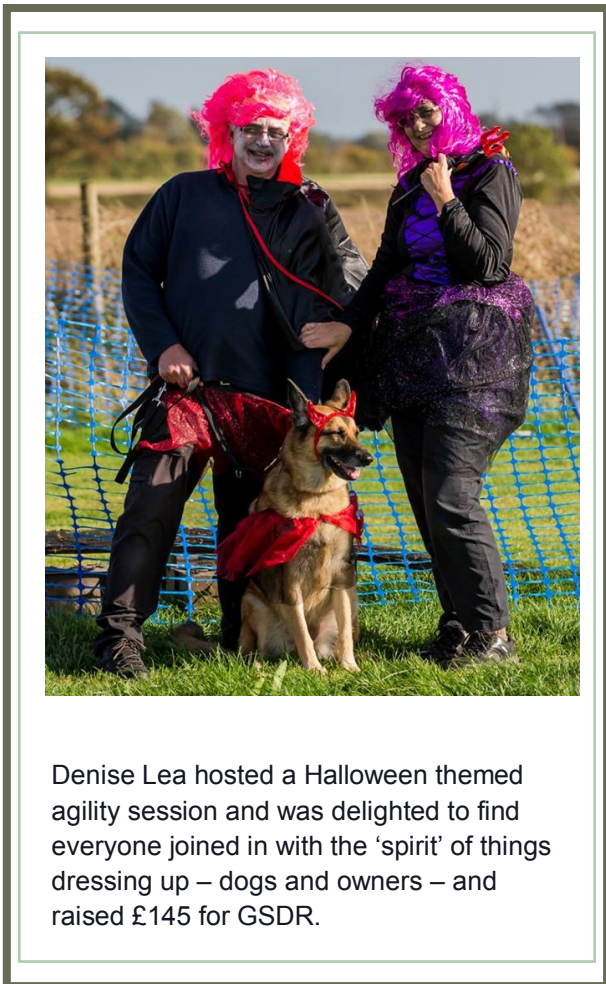
An amazing weekend for the region, ending the summer on a high. A fabulous result, huge thanks to everyone involved in both events.



The Hockley Woods Walk Group held their picnic and 'Naff' raffle raising £86.25. Thanks to everyone who attended and took part.



Gillian Marsden & Sheila Pankhurst were in attendance at the Animal Ark Aid show and family fun day, where the sun was shining and the crowds flocked in. The ladies raised £57.50 on their stall and were also awarded £100 by the show organisers as we were one of the charities to benefit from the overall show profits.



Denise Lea hosted a Halloween themed agility session and was delighted to find everyone joined in with the 'spirit' of things dressing up – dogs and owners – and raised £145 for GSDR.

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**BIG
 FASHION
 SHOW**
Fundraising Fashion Show for
 German Shepherd Dog Rescue

Our gorgeous girls Emma Coldwell & Alison Elphee took to the catwalk again at the ChainReaxtion Fashion Show. Assisted by models Rebecca, Anna & Nicky, the ladies strutted their stuff in high street brands raising £112 for GSDR.



Central Bark Halloween/Guy Fawkes Dog Party

Sunday November 2nd 1pm

01670789106

www.dogtrainingnortheast.com



TFB at Pets at Home Idle Bradford were presented with a cheque from Support Adoption For Pets for a staggering £798.25 and we received a further £178 in donations on the day. What a fantastic total!



On behalf of Team Fat Blokes Ray Lambert visited Pets at Home Meanwood to be presented with a Support Adoption For Pets cheque for £303.83. We thank our friends at Meanwood for their continued support.



He did it! Chris Thomas raised £356 when he walked 96 miles along The West Highland Way. He's pictured here setting off on the train to Edinburgh with his very heavy looking back pack which contained everything he needed to survive the trek—including his tent which was home for the duration of the walk. The route took in rugged terrain and beautiful scenery, below is Loch Lomand pictured in the distance. Well done Chris, what an achievement despite the blisters!





Enjoy the whole year with pictures and stories of our stunning rescue dogs.

These top quality calendars are just £10 each. P&P is £2.80 and allows multiple orders of up to 3 calendars to be sent for the same postage charge.

To order please visit our website www.germanshepherdrescue.co.uk and make your payment by using the “Virgin Money Giving” link (not forgetting to “Gift Aid”).

Then email janinekerr@sky.com with the subject heading "GSDR Calendar" providing your receipt number, name & address.

Beat the Christmas rush and pre-order now!

Last years calendar raised over £1700, helping to rescue and rehome more of this beautiful breed, so get ordering and help make the 2015 Calendar a bigger success.

News from the South East by Tracy North

It's been a very busy year down in the South East and we have gone from strength to strength with all our volunteers working very hard.

We've had 40 dogs to date for rehoming in the last two months and things are very busy, I have been working from 9am sometimes until after 10pm on paperwork and phone calls most days at the moment.

I would like to say a massive thank you to all the volunteers and supporters who have been working very hard to get dog assessments and home checks completed. We seem to have a lot of older dogs needing rehoming and some dogs with behavioural problems or health issues needing homes too.

Thank you to all our foster homes for taking in dogs at short notice and more than they originally wanted at any given time.

We are always looking for more foster homes and people who have spare time to help with many jobs we have like admin and lots more. So if you can make calls and send emails please do give me a shout!

Our two walk groups are going really well in Essex and Chelmsford and I would like to thank Christine Merrit who organises the Essex walk. She has recently had a rather nasty operation to have a disc removed, she has been in a lot of pain and we all wish her a speedy recovery. Nancy Cannell and Raymond Whiting have been organising the walks and eating all the bread puddings while Christine is recovering, thank you guys.

Linda Wood has started the Chelmsford walk group and that is going really well, she has grown the group and both walks have some lovely members and even lovelier dogs attending thank you Linda.

The group walks are all about getting you and your dogs out meeting new friends and having lots of fun. Any dogs are welcome and owners tolerated (only joking they are welcome too!). If you would like to start a walk group in your area please do get in touch and we can help you get one started.

It's been a tough year so far and I had an operation myself in September which has not made things very easy, but I have found out how wonderful my team truly are. I want to thank Debbie Fordham our After Care Co-ordinator and general dog's body. Nancy Cannell our Dog Co-ordinator and again general dog's body. Our wonderful Kaz Freeman who I pinched from Mandi Wilks, she does an amazing job at Screening. Linda Wood, who has been organising the group walks and volunteer applications and also completing some screening.

You are all amazing ladies who put up with my demands and even still find it in your hearts to like me a little at the end of the day! Thank you lovely ladies.

I have no doubt that we are going to have a very busy Christmas time as the rate of dogs needing new homes has increased already. All I can say is this; we will continue to wade through and help as many dogs as we can to find the loving forever homes for.

Please remember we are all unpaid volunteers and we are so very busy at the moment so please be patient with us. A little thought before calling anyone on a Sunday at 9pm would not go a miss, as we all work from our homes.

Keep up the good work everyone because no matter how much time you give a little or a lot, no matter how you help even by just sharing posts of dogs needing homes. Every single one of you whether a volunteer or a supporter of the rescue, you are all awesome and if they could, all the dogs would say thank you.



Want to grab yourself a bargain? Take a look at our latest Facebook Auction Page, you can still donate items to the auction and place bids—the bidding wars have started already!

To visit the Auction page please click [here](#).

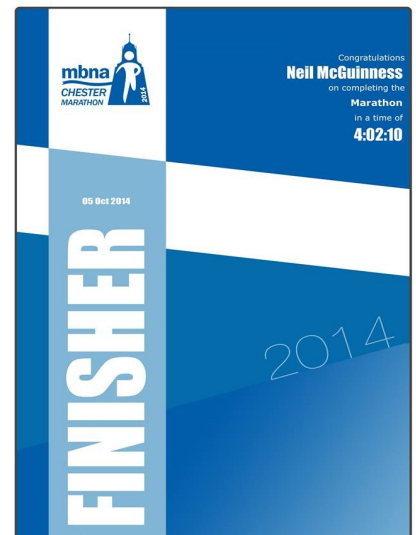


Claire and Katie completed the Chester Metric Marathon—running 16.3 miles. The ladies raised £295 for two charities close to their heart: GSDR and Capricorn Animal Rescue.

Claire has already signed up for the Conwy Half marathon on the 23rd November. The route runs alongside the Conwy river, towards Llandudno Pier, around the Great Orme before heading back to Conwy and the finish line. Claire is running in aid of GSDR, to sponsor her please visit her Just Giving page by clicking [here](#).



Sergeant Neil (Mac) McGuinness is a member of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers and Took part in the Chester marathon in aid of GSDR. He ran the 26.2 miles whilst home on leave and after a quick bath to soothe his muscles he was off back to Sandhurst to report for duty. Mac raised a magnificent £609.51 for GSDR. Thank you so much for your support.



Beware of Autumn Dangers, Conkers and Acorns are toxic to dogs!



New in for this Winter, keep your head warm with a new hat. Available in Green or Black, priced at just £10 including p&p. To order please pay by Virgin Money Giving by clicking [here](#), then email your name, address, payment ref and colour choice to

info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk



Do you remember The Munchkins? Six mischievous puppies that came into our care from Romania in January 2014, they all found their forever homes to start a new life. Pictured here with Alice is Butler, now known as Duggy, this cute little fluff ball has grown into a happy, handsome young man and is living life to the full. Here he is on his first ever trip to the beach, he's having so much fun!



Over in the Eastern Region.....

We're delighted that long standing volunteer Howard Keeling has stepped into the role of Dog Co-ordinator and Sarah Carrs has taken on the role of Assistant Area Co-ordinator.

We're in urgent need of two volunteer screeners. The screening calls are the first vital step in the re-homing chain where you discuss the application submitted by the potential adopter to identify if they are suitable to pass forward for a homecheck. The role is ideally suited to someone who doesn't work or works part time, has a good phone manner and is able to use a computer. Full training will be given and ongoing support is also offered whilst the right people settle into the role.

We are also desperate for foster homes with experienced handlers who have lots of patience. We are snowed under with dogs, mostly young and unsocialised who need an experienced home to show them the way. The majority of homechecks that pass recently all seem to need a 'good' dog and the only way to mould these young hooligans into a 'good' dog is in foster with an experienced handler. If this is you please get in touch at mandigsdr@gmail.com



Here's our top tips for dealing with Firework Fear in your dog:

- Give your dog a long walk during the late afternoon making sure that they go to the toilet and keep them indoors after dark.
- A meal containing carbohydrates such as well cooked rice, pasta or mashed potato may make your dog feel more sleepy and calm.
- Close curtains to hide the flashes of light and turn up the TV or radio to mask the sound.
- Ignore the firework noises yourself. If your dog shows any signs of fear or anxiety do not react – it's important never to punish or fuss over your dog when it is scared as this will only make things worse.
- Some dogs may want to hide when frightened, so providing a 'doggy den' may help them to cope. If you know your dog is going to be frightened on the night then set this up in advance so they are comfortable and happy inside.
- Don't leave your dog alone in the house - he may panic and injure himself.
- Seek advice from your Vet as there are a number of products which may help your pet to cope.



Adaptil is a product that has been developed to help support dogs through a range of challenging situations that they may face during their life. Available as a plug in diffuser, collar and spray.

Dogs that are particularly fearful may benefit from a noise desensitisation programme, this needs to be undertaken many months in advance following guidance from your Vet or behaviourist.

Don't forget other small animals too: Cats should be kept indoors with somewhere warm, cosy and dark to hide. If your pets live outside, partly cover cages, pens and aviaries with blankets so that one area is well covered from the sights and sounds of the fireworks.



Creature Comforters make a range of remedies for pets, the Relax blend may be beneficial for anxious animals during firework season. I have used these myself in the past with good results. Click [here](#) for more information, they offer natural remedies to deal with a variety of situations & behaviours.

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: Tracy North 01189 745387 crystalsheps@gmail.com

Dog Co-ordinator: Nancy Cannell 0794 9047139 nancy_c@hotmail.co.uk

General enquiries: Lyn Smart 02920 616869

Eastern

Norfolk / Suffolk / Cambridgeshire / Bedfordshire / Northants / Lincolnshire & Leicestershire

Area Co-ordinator: Mandi Wilks 01692 584772 / 07810 568862 mandigsdr@gmail.com

Assistant Area Co-ordinator: Sarah Carrs 01603 270044 / 07879818008 scarrs15@btopenworld.com

Dog Co-ordinator: Howard Keeling 01508 521040 / 07917 025461 howardgsdr@gmail.com

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 muddycat13@sky.com

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

General Enquiries: Peter Hopkins 01904 784030

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

Wales

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

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

