



Greyhound HOMER

Suffolk branch of the Retired Greyhound Trust
RCN 269866

Committee members

chair:
Kevin Baalham
secretary:
Sally Baalham
treasurer:
Chrissy Balchin
pr:
Rowena Hall
and everything else:
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Contributions

Contributions, comments
and suggestions are
always welcome!

Autumn 2014 newsletter 16

finding forever homes for greyhounds

Chair's Chat

It's that time of the year when the nights get longer, Christmas is just round the corner and it will soon be 2015. How quickly this year has gone, and what a good year it has been for Greyhound Homer and all the greys we have had at kennels. By the end of October 64 greyhounds had found their forever homes, obviously we would have liked more to go home, but I think at the start of the year we would have been pleased with this total.

It has been a good few months for fundraising. Since our last newsletter, Sue Reavell and Teresa Cahill take part in the 'Fall for Hounds', skydiving for over 2 miles! A massive thank you to them both, I do know that Sue is already looking forward to next year's challenge.

We have now finished with shows for this year and we will soon be sitting down to plan which shows to attend next year. In past years we have taken the odd kennel dogs to shows but this year Avril has attended each show with a kennel dog, also bringing them to our walks - this has been a revelation for us. It is so good for us to see how the dogs behave in an unfamiliar environment and it's nice for the dogs to have a day out. We learn so much about the dogs that it helps us to find the right owners when they visit kennel. Also we have re-homed dogs as a direct result of them being at a show, where they were reserved (subject to the normal home checks). Avril is also taking greyhounds regularly to her local dog training classes where the greyhounds are becoming stars in their own right.

I am pleased to welcome Avril Park, Dawn and Mark Stiff onto the committee; we feel that they are all going to be and have already been a great asset to Greyhound Homer with the work we do and look forward to working with them all in the future.



Ranger - now homed

2015 is not to far away and we look forward to all the new challenges coming our way. Peter Laurie, RGT Chief Executive is moving to pastures new, so with a new Chief Exec on the horizon we can look forward to new ideas and practices. Also 2015 is the 40th anniversary of the RGT so we look forward to the celebrations coming up.



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Dates for your 2014 Diary

Shows

Events

Quiz Night

22 November
Nacton Village Hall
Nacton
Suffolk

Walks

Check website for next
one.

Boxing Day
26 December 11am
Felixstowe

Anyone with a space in their heart for Heart?



Heart was born in July 2012 so she's still a youngster. She arrived from Ireland a healthy, beautiful girl but she sadly has not had much experience with people. This means people and particularly strangers scare her, she will let you pet her and will in time lean into you but she needs a very special home. A home where she can be given the care and time she needs to flourish into the poppet she can be. She is better with kennel staff now so we know time is what she needs. She is fine with other dogs and kennels well with them, a confident Miss in fact.

She wouldn't be suitable to home with cats as she would chase but other than this someone who has lots of patience. The rewards will be amazing for the lucky person who homes her.

Fox's Corned Beef and Cheese Cake

1 Tin of Corned Beef (340gm size)

3oz Strong Cheddar (grated)

3 Eggs

3 to 4 Tablespoons of plain flour (it will depend on the size of your eggs) you want the mixture to be fairly firm.

Method

Preheat the oven to 160°C for an electric fan oven or about Gas mk 5 (haven't discovered gas in my neck of the woods yet). Line and grease a cake tin (I use a 7" square but your dog won't care what shape his cake is).

Mash up the corned beef in a mixing bowl.

Add the grated cheese and combine with the corned beef.

Beat your eggs in a separate bowl then add to the corned beef and cheese mixture. Fold in the flour and combine well.

Place the mixture into the cake tin and bake in the oven for about 20 minutes.

Cool on a wire rack, cut into slices and keep in the fridge.





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How you can help and support us

We are always very grateful for any support that we receive, whether it is in the form of donations of money or items, or by giving your time or effort. These are some of the ways you can help:

- We always love to see you at shows and events - nothing promotes greyhounds more than seeing a gaggle of them behaving perfectly! Or volunteer and give us a hand yourself.
- For the kennels
old duvets & towels
shredded paper
dog treats
unwanted leads,
collars, coats and
muzzles
- We now have an ebay account. We can either auction your donated items, or you can donate money via Paypal or you can donate a percentage of your ebay sales to us.
- Donation of raffle prizes for the events we put on during the year.
- We have business cards for when you are out and about with your hounds and people show interest - or posters to put up.

Fox Goes to School

Oh no, please Fox I would say despairingly don't pull me across the yard and bowl over yet another prospective owner. Please Fox, don't zig zag your way down to the paddock almost making me trip. Please Fox, don't dig so hard in the burrows that they collapse and I fall in the stinging nettles again. AND FOR GOODNESS SAKE FOX NO HUMPING. That lovable rogue, star of the summer shows and walks just couldn't seem to behave himself when he was being shown to possible owners. One look at him yanking the volunteers across the yard and viewers were put off. "A handsome dog but a little too strong for us" they would say. What could be done? He isn't a stupid dog because I had managed to stop him jumping up in his kennel whilst putting his lead on. He soon learnt that if he didn't stand still, no lead, and he wouldn't go out for a nice walk with the other retired dogs.

I thought why not take him to dog training classes. I contacted Keyna Mullany, a dog trainer, from Brantham and booked him in. The day arrived but didn't go quite to plan. We were late! Fox had been busy giving an interview for Sky Sports! Our first task was to focus. Everytime Fox looked at me he got liver cake, everytime he walked by my side he got liver cake. Everytime he was distracted by a rather attractive Cocker Spaniel is, or he wandered away from my side he was made to stand still with no liver cake. He soon to cottoned on, he is rather partial to liver cake. The next task was to make him stand on a duvet. The one from my car smelt of him so this was used to give him a place that is familiar to him and makes him feel secure and he could rest on it inbetween tasks. Again, getting on the duvet = liver cake so it didn't take him long to suss that out either. As attractive as Bramble, the flirty Cocker Spaniel, is Fox has managed to resist her charms. Finally, his hormones seem to have settled down post neutering.

Keyna said how pleased she was with him and that he had done really well and maybe brighter than the average greyhound. So proud of him, Fox went back to the kennels smothered in coral coloured kisses and with Martha's duvet to lay on so it really stinks of him by the next week. Fox has homework to do at kennels in between sessions.

Fast forward 4 weeks and Fox has become a bit of a star attraction. His teacher, Keyna, says his progress is amazing. Really focusing well, walking well, doing some recall work and now working towards his Kennel Club Bronze Good Citizen award. Just one tiny mishap. So excited when it was his turn to go on the play mat that he threw his toy in the air several times and then had a wee on the mat. Everybody laughed and he was forgiven straight away. Fox went to the Robin Hood Show behaved impeccably and nabbed himself a forever home! His classmates were so happy for him but they were also sorry to have to say goodbye. I am so proud of Longrange Fox, love him to bits and wish him lots of luck and happiness in his new home.

Well done Sweetheart, I shall miss you
xx Avril



If anybody is interested in joining one of Keyna Mullany's training classes she can be contacted on 01206 391113 or by email kmmdogtrainer@gmail.com



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Homeless Hounds



Elvis



Bocko



Smasher



Roy



Ozzy



Linda



Jack



Kat

Please do get in touch with Sally or Kevin if you are interested in homing any of these hounds. See more about them on the website <http://www.greyhoundhomer.org.uk>,

call 01473 659866 or email sally@greyhoundhomer.org.uk

Quiz Night 2014!

It's that time of year once again for our annual Quiz Night, always a fun night. This is our major fundraiser of the year so please support us if you can. Once again in Nacton Village Hall, Nacton, IP10 0BY located just outside Ipswich. Ticket price has been held to £7.50 again and this includes a cheese and pate supper. Bring your own drinks. There will be a raffle too.

The winners take home a fabulous trophy for the year, maybe your team could be the next to win...

Last year was a sell out so don't wait too long to get your tickets.

Teams of up to 8 but you can join with others on the night. Contact Sally or Kevin on 01473 659866 or email sally@greyhoundhomer.org.uk for

Coming soon ...

email: sally@greyhoundhomer.org.uk or telephone Kevin on 01473 659866

teams of 6-8
RAFFLE

Saturday, 22nd November 2014

7pm - late



Quiz Night!
@
Nacton Village Hall

tickets available from Sally on 01473 659866
ticket price includes cheese platter supper
- but please bring your own drink

£7.50

www.greyhoundhomer.org.uk



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RGT Christmas Cards 2014

Now available are this years very popular Retired Greyhound Trust Christmas cards. Available in mixed packs of 3 designs per pack and 12 cards in the pack.

Two styles Comic and Traditional, the price has been kept to £4 per pack for yet another year. There are available from our Ebay shop , postage is an extra £1.50 per pack or directly from us at walks or events or by contacting us via **email** or call 01473 659866 .

Stocks are limited so don't miss out.

Ebay link to our charity page is [Http://ebay.co.uk/greyhound_homer](http://ebay.co.uk/greyhound_homer)

Comic Pack



Traditional Pack



www.greyhoundhomer.org.uk