

Newsletter

Kennels situated at 51 Cromer Road, Hainford, NR10 3AU (on A140)
and are open from 10am until 2pm every day.

Note from the Editor

Welcome to the December issue of the newsletter. Where has this year gone? I know we all ask this every year! Hopefully you and your dogs are starting to look forward to Christmas, and getting ready for the festivities.

Later in the newsletter you'll see the "naughty and nice" list of food your dogs can and can't eat. Most of us know about chocolate being dangerous to dogs, but don't forget grapes and raisins are present in many Christmas treats, and can also be very toxic. Also please be very wary of any gifts your dog may receive which are rawhide - it can cause intestinal blockages and can also be a choking hazard.

I've included a simple recipe to make some treats your hounds may like, just in case you'd like to make them some of their own special biscuits.

It's mentioned a few times in the newsletter, the Christmas Fayre is coming up, and is a great event to attend for a festive feel, catch up with your doggie friends and maybe buy a cake or gift or two!



We wish you all very Merry Christmas, and a Happy and Healthy New Year. We'll let you know the 2024 events list as soon as possible next year.

Michele

If you no longer wish to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, please do let us know, we can remove you from the mailing list and save valuable funds. Email michele_storer@hotmail.com to opt out or to receive the email version instead.



Co-ordinator's bit

Can Christmas only be just round the corner, where has the year gone? I don't know about you, but I don't like these long dark evenings and can't wait for them to start getting shorter again seems no sooner have I taken JJ and Summer for their morning walk it's time to go out again in the afternoon. When I get to this time of the year, I reflect on how the year has been. Rehoming has been very slow throughout but has picked up in the last couple of months. We normally rehome around 100 greyhounds every year, but this year have barely rehomed 60 dogs. We have a full kennel and 32 dogs waiting to come into the kennels.

Our supporters have been very generous with their donations and with a couple of very generous legacies and with money given by the GBGB (Greyhound Board of Great Britain) every time we rehome a dog we receive £400 towards their kennelling costs and £1000 to help with the cost of fracture repairs and this helps to keep our funds in a healthy state.

This year saw us saying "goodbye" to Steph and "welcome" to Dana, Alex, Emma and Ash. The extra Staff help to ensure there are always two people working on any one day. Many of you will know them already, from their time as volunteers.

The Fund-Raising Committee has been busy during the year attending Fetes, Carnivals and Dog Shows to raise awareness of greyhounds as pets. They always welcome new members to join them. The final event of the year is the Christmas Fayre at Taverham Village Sandy Lane on Saturday 9th December at 12md we look forward to seeing you there.

Wishing everyone and all their hounds a very happy Christmas and a healthy 2024.

Corinne

Remember to take lots of festive photos of your greyhounds in their "Christmas Finery" for us for the spring newsletter. Keep an eye out for "spotted" greyhounds too, you never know where they will spring up! Please email your stories and photos to michele_storer@hotmail.com

Thanks to David Jones

In December 2013 David felt it was time to step down as Co-ordinator. Having done the job for the previous 7 years he felt the time had come to spend more time relaxing with his greyhounds and family. Recently bereaved I decided I could manage the time to take on the role and in February 2014 David handed the reins to me.

At first David kept a low profile and resigned from the Management Committee but it was very short lived! After a few months and great persuasion by our Chairman, Stephen Franklin, he rejoined the Committee. His knowledge of Homefinders for many years was invaluable to me and the Committee and he played a great part in us leaving the then Retired Greyhound Trust, now Greyhound Trust, in 2017.

Leaving the Trust meant we now had to make up the deficit of their funding by extra fund raising. David was instrumental in starting the very successful Helping Hetty programme getting sponsorship for individual kennels and the monthly giving. Easyfund Raising was also a scheme in which he registered us and to date we have raised several thousands of pounds.

David gradually became involved more and more and became my right-hand man with his vast knowledge of the history of Homefinders and he will be greatly missed but I'm sure he will not be able to risk popping into the kennels for a coffee from time to time!

Thank you David for all the years

you have given to Homefinders we will all miss you and hope you will enjoy many years of caravanning with Maureen and Patsy.



Corinne

Fundraising update

As the summer outdoor events come to an end our merry band of volunteers continue to brave the autumn and winter elements at the charity collections based at Jollyes Pet Store Norwich and the Taverham Garden Centre. Volunteers have also continued collecting at the Yarmouth Stadium during race nights. All three of these collections bring in much needed regular money for the hounds. While collecting we are also able to promote greyhound adoption, basically we talk about greyhounds for the whole time!! Over the past few months, we have seen a drop in volunteer availability for these collections. So, if you feel you could spend 2-3 hours every few weeks to help cover a collection slot you would receive a very warm welcome.



Recently, many dogs and their owners met at this year's annual Track Walk lead by Corinne (see photos – credit Lisa Shannon). We learnt about the care the racing dogs receive and we were able to view the facilities. The event also helped raise £268 from sales at YGH shop. Such a fantastic amount thanks to all who made this event so successful.

There is one more store collections this year on 16 December at Taverham Garden Centre.

This year our Christmas Fayre will take place on the 9th December 2023 at the usual venue of Taverham Village Hall. Corinne has been busy booking in new stall owners, so why not come and browse to see if you can find that bespoke Christmas gift that you are seeking. We will also have the YGH shop if you are looking for those all-important coats, snoods and fleeces to keep your hound snug and warm this winter. The newly designed Christmas Calendars and Christmas Cards will be on sale, so come along and see which hounds have made it to 'pin up' status this year! We will also have the ever-famous Tombola and Raffle stalls along with many festive treats, cakes and refreshment stalls.

We are currently in need of raffle and tombola donations (including bottles for the Bottle Tombola) in time for the Christmas Fayre. So, if you would like to donate items these can be dropped off at the kennels or bought to the fayre on the day.

The fundraising committee will be working throughout the winter months planning and booking in the events for next year. In addition to this we are currently working on raising the profile of the charity with the help of Richard Edwards who also works behind the scenes keeping our great new website up to date. Going forward we are planning to find new ways of promoting adoption. I would like to say a big thank you to Sarah and Nigel Harvey, who are in the process of making us two large bespoke notice boards that we can take to events. The boards will display up to date information regarding available dogs. The committee would also like to thank Michele Perry for bringing hounds and hound slaves together by compiling and producing this great newsletter.

If you are interested in volunteering to help raise funds for the beautiful greyhounds while they await their forever home please contact:

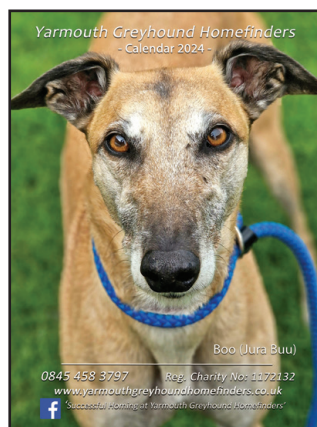
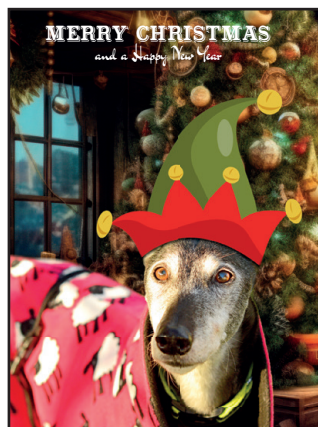
Corinne Douglas – For Yarmouth Stadium collection on 0845 458 3797

Linda Johnson - Collections at Jollyes and the Taverham Garden Centre on 07702 601799

Michelle Rogers and Debbie Bush – To volunteer for fundraising events 07519 195719

Michelle Rogers and Linda Johnson

Christmas Cards and calendars



Our 2023 Christmas cards are ready for sale, This year the hounds have become Santa's Little Helpers in his workshop. The cards are A6 in size, there are 5 designs, 2 of each in a pack of 10 cards. They are £4.50 per pack,

Our calendars are selling fast too, featuring fabulous photos taken by Molly. The calendars are £7.50 and can be posted at cost too (at £2.50). All are on sale at the kennels, or order by calling 0845 458 3797.

All profits from both will be coming to Yarmouth Greyhound Homefinders.

Letters to the editor

Hi Michele,

Just thought I'd let you know that today Tinkerbelle had her stitches out following a flexor tenotomy operation for a stubborn corn. She has recovered well and limp free for the the first time in 6 months!! This was her happy face following her final vet check at Toll Barn Vets North Walsham who have been brilliant and are excellent with greyhounds.

Thanks - Nicola



Dear Michele,

As Christmas is coming Stormzy thought he may apply for a job at a Turkey factory as chief taster.

Lisa Hewitt

Dogs homed since last newsletter

Magic (Thymelea Magic), Jackie now Dora (Vertigo), Dave (Hot News), Ray (Swift Raisin), Indie (Easten Icon), Jack (Jaxx Blue Ocean) Tuc Tuc (Saleen Tuc Tuc), Daisy (Somersham Daisy), Bella (Gotoon Bella).

Hi Michele,

We rehomed Pat the Greyhound from yourselves in January 2020 after finding him online and travelling down from Glasgow to adopt him after losing his sister Sandra from a brain tumour.

Devastatingly he has been diagnosed with Osteosarcoma and will be put to sleep on Monday (at the time of writing) we are enjoying the remaining time we have with him until then.



What an amazing dog Pat is and what an amazing job you all do. The dog he was when we got him was in stark contrast to the state of his poor sister when we rehomed her.

I have included 2 pics of Pat, one enjoying his time travelling in the motorhome with us and the other looking for a treat. Our hearts are breaking.

Thanks so much again

Lisa, Tony and Pat

Roger (Mays Rogue) 2010 - July 2023



In Summer of 2013 Billy and I came to Hainford. In the yard a greyhound walked up to Billy and put his head in Billy's hand!

Aged 3, tall, black and shy. Roger came into our lives. On his first night with us he caught a hedgehog. The first week he chewed a boot, ate a dish of pineapple and pulled down curtains. Sniffed all the flowers.

Roger loved visitors, soft toys and digging. He gave us joy, friendship, laughs and tears when he was ill.

Billy sadly died last September, so now I pray Roger is walking with him in Heaven's garden.

Brenda Carberry

Hi Michele

I had to say goodbye to my gorgeous boy Asher in early October, just 7 months after losing his brother Gad. Asher was such a character, the noisiest greyhound in the world, you certainly knew when he was about!

Both my boys brought me so much joy, love and comfort. They got me through the hardest of times after my husband died, and now they have gone there is a hole in my heart.

My sofa may now be empty but I have so many happy memories Asher and Gad that I will cherish forever.

Sarah Hewitt



Focus on: Jayne

With all the new dogs coming and going so quickly, we'd like to give our Jayne another push to try and get her the home she deserves

Jayne is 7 years young and originally came to us back in March '22. She is very active for her age and would love to join you for long countryside or woodland walks.

She is mostly good on the lead but can be stronger/reactive to some new dogs and wildlife.

Jayne is very affectionate and loyal to those she knows. She enjoys a neck scratch and cuddle on the sofa. Jayne is good with dogs and hounds she knows, but she needs time to get familiar with them.

A real favourite with the volunteers, Jayne is sure to make someone very happy if they'll give her the chance. She'd love to get out of kennels and has the advantage of being housetrained and used to the home environment.

For more information on this lovely girl, please get in touch



Greyhound Lottery Results

Date	Nos.	Winner	Prize	Date	Nos.	Winner	Prize
October				November			
7th	625	Vicky Nicholson	£60	4th	546	Sophie Titlow	£60
14th	136	Colin & Tina Cole	£60	11th	143	Irela Paddy-Amis	£60
21st	561	No Winner rollover		(Donated to Homefinders Greyhounds)			
28th	132	Caroline Berriman	£120				

The lottery is fully subscribed at the moment but if you are interested email Phil - pusspearce58@yahoo.co.uk in the new year.

Regards Phil - Promoter & Trustee

Happy Homings

Recently the lovely Bella happily left for her new home! Pictured right.

She will have a fun and loved life with her new family - Be good Bella



Jack also left for his new home! Pictured above.

Such a sweet little boy, he will make a super pet - Happy days, Jack.

Happy adoption day to Ray! Pictured right.

A very lucky boy indeed, he is going to have the best life full of love with his new family



Beautiful Abbie went to her new home today! We didn't think it would take long, such a lovely little girl.

Enjoy your beach walks Abbie.

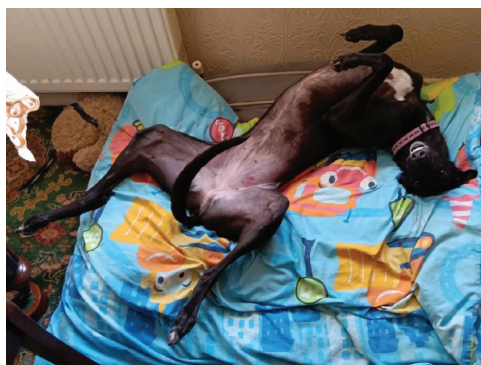


In October we had 2 “failed” fosters, which lead to permanent homes. First up was sweet little Jackie. Her foster mum has looked after lots of dogs for us over the past couple years but Jackie fitted in so well at home with the resident dogs, it was decided she wasn't going anywhere!



In mid November we saw our lovely Daisy off to her new home

Daisy has been with us a long time and was very patient in waiting to find the right home for her needs. She's settling well and we hope she'll be happy and content from now on.



Secondly was Dave, pictured left with his new pal Benji. Dave is the family's 3rd failed foster! He's well settled, looking much better and will enjoy his golden years being pampered.

Can you help?

Rose asks if anyone would be able to help with some blanket washing please?

Even a small amount would be appreciated as it's starting to stack up. Please contact Molly to make arrangements to collect a load if you can help. Many Thanks



Spotted

Here's a photo I took at Huntingfield Church in Suffolk recently. There are 4 carved on the ends of pews. Although I lost Myah (Galtee Victoria) over a year ago, I still have such an attachment to any greyhound.

Lynn Hogben



Spotted by editor, Michele in Dunelm recently. Framed print of greyhound sketch.



Naughty and Nice for Dogs

Naughty

CHOCOLATE

EGGNOG

PEPPERMINT

GINGERBREAD

MACADAMIA NUTS

ONIONS

GARLIC

MASHED POTATOES

GRAPES AND RAISINS

ALCOHOL

XYLITOL

Nice

TURKEY (UNSEASONED)

HAM (UNSEASONED)

CARROTS

CRANBERRIES

BROCCOLI

SWEET POTATOES (COOKED, PLAIN)

PISTACHIOS (SHELL-FREE)

PEARS

SQUASH (COOKED OR CANNED)

PUMPKIN (COOKED OR CANNED)

GREEN BEANS

CHEESE (SMALL NIBBLE)

Easy to make Christmas dog treats

Ingredients

1 egg

170g of boiled chicken breast or turkey

100g of cooked plain rice

¼ pint of chicken stock with no added salt

680g plain flour (you may need less flour than this recipe states for the right consistency)

Utensils

- Blender or food processor
- Cookie cutters or a skilled, steady hand and a toothpick
- Rolling pin
- Baking paper
- Baking tray



Instructions

Preheat oven to 180 degrees and line your baking tray with baking paper.

Add the boiled chicken breast, cooked rice and chicken stock to your blender. Blitz until it's nice and smooth.

Transfer the mixture to a bowl and add in the egg and flour. Mix well until the ingredients are all combined and resemble a dough-like consistency.

Place your dough on a clean surface dusted in flour and knead it until it's no longer sticky. Once ready, roll your dough out and cut out your festive shapes using a cookie cutter.

Place your cookies on a baking tray and bake for 25 - 30 minutes. Finally, let them cool before feeding them to your dog.

Recipe courtesy of Blue Cross for Dogs



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