

Hello Everyone

As the nights are starting to draw out and we are starting to see bits of sunshine I hope you and your hounds are enjoying the slightly longer days.

Here at Hector's we are all still busy behind the scenes planning the events where we get to see you all again, plus the everyday running of the rescue.

We have had a busy year regarding rescue with plenty of sad stories that come along the way, but on the happier note in March we re-homed 8 dogs and in April another 8. It's fantastic to see them all in forever loving homes.

April also brought a pup into our care all the way from Tipperary. Most of you might have caught a glimpse of her on Facebook. What a sweetheart she is, as are all of our dogs but the pups just seem to steal everyone's heart.

We also had an old brood bitch come from Ireland at the age of 8 having her last litter. I can never understand why the racing boards don't stop this happening after a certain age. She is now safe and in foster doing well and receiving lots of TLC.

I hope we get to see you at some of our events this year and don't forget we are always looking for new ideas and help so if you have an hour or two spare please get in touch.

WHATS BEEN HAPPENING

The troops attended a Good Friday Easter Market, Oswestry and raised £207.00.

Then it was the Whitchurch street collection which raised £181.00.

Then Geraldine and Fred spun into action following a call from Sainsbury's in Whitchurch on Friday 6th April asking if the rescue could organise a team of volunteers to undertake a store collection at their store on Friday 13th April. This meant Hector's had a grand total of six days to muster up enough volunteers (and of course hounds) to make the day worthwhile.

The beauty of "Messenger" came into play and no sooner had a message been sent our great volunteers were offering their time. Fred put together a rota and we were all set for the day. Sainsbury's were fantastic hosts. The shoppers were friendly, offering our hounds lots of cuddles and strokes.

Lots of people asked questions about Hector's and hopefully we raised awareness of our role and how wonderful the hounds are as pets. Apache, our most recent rescue hound made an appearance. What a wonderful dog he is. A real charmer!

The hounds were impeccably behaved. How proud we were of them all! By the end of the day we all went home very tired but very eager to find out how well we had done. A grand total of £473.00 was raised. What a fantastic amount.

Thank you to Whitchurch Sainsburys for allowing us to use their premises to collect for our charity.

Next on the agenda was The Pet Rescue Day at The Quarry Shrewsbury which raised £75.00.

Then on 20th April Helen Wilkes and her team attended university! Here's what Helen had to say about the day.

We were invited to take part in an event called The Big Paw Print at the University of Chester. The aim was to highlight the health and wellbeing benefits of owning a pet, how to reduce pets' carbon paw Print and how to find the right pet. Duffy, Clyde, Angel and George were in great demand promoting their wonderful Sighthound breed.

They were constantly surrounded by admirers, but were particularly popular with the many students who are in the middle of their exams, giving many comforting cuddles!

Next on the agenda was a visit the Rotary Club in Oswestry where Hayley was presented with a cheque for £300. This was received from the Bonfire and Firework Charity Grand Funding drive which enabled Hector's to buy a new gazebo for future fundraising events. A big thank you to everyone for supporting us.

The cheque was presented to Hayley by the mayor of Oswestry at the Guild Hall where Hayley gave a short speech about the work Hector's Greyhound Rescue do in the local area.

FUTURE EVENTS AND INFO

Friday May 4th 11 am – 3 pm, Store Collection Tesco, Abergele, North Wales, LL22 7AA

Come along and meet Sheila, Sharon and some of the greyhounds who will be on duty and raising much needed funds for Hector's Greyhound Rescue.

Saturday 5th May 10 am - 12.30 pm, Spring and Plant Fair, United Reformed Church, Colwyn Avenue, Rhos on Sea, LL28 4RA

In addition, to our comprehensive Plant Stall there will be a Raffle, Tombola, Crafts, Dog Accessories, Cakes, Toys & Books, Bric a Brac, plus much more. Entry will be £1.00 to include Tea/Coffee and Biscuit. We are always on the lookout for volunteers so if you can spare a few hours to come along and help out please get in touch with us via our website or our Facebook page we would love to hear from you.

Saturday 12th May 11.00 am – 3.00 pm, Llandudno Street Collection,(outside the library) Mostyn Street, Llandudno, North Wales, LL30 2RP

Come along and meet the team from Hector's Greyhound Rescue. Find out a bit about what we do and say hello to the hounds that will be on duty.

Sunday 13th May, Freddie's Walk, 11 am start Loggerheads Country Park, Ruthin Road, Mold CH7 5LH

Take the A494 between Mold and Ruthin. At Loggerheads village turn off almost opposite the "We Three Loggerheads" Inn, sign posted Loggerheads Country Park and turn sharp right into the drive leading to the car park. Follow the signs to the overflow car park up the slope to the meeting point. There will be more room for us to gather there. Please note car park charges apply.

Good walking footwear advised. The walk is an out and back walk therefore if the distance is too much just wait and enjoy the location till everyone returns.

The Walk is about 2.5 miles along tracks as far as the Devils Gorge. To get down to the Gorge there is a steep section but this can be avoided by returning back along the track and watching the adventurous ones below who will return to join you.

Caffi Florence is open every day and serves Fair Trade drinks, homemade soups, lunches and traditional afternoon teas.

Let's have a great day after the disappointment of having to cancel our St Patrick's outing due to the terrible weather.

Saturday 19th May, 11 am – 3 pm, Store Collection, Morrisons, Marsh Road, Rhyl, North Wales, LL18 2DH

Come along and meet Ruby and her friends from Hector's Greyhound Rescue who will be working hard spreading the word that greyhounds make great pets.

Sunday 20th May, 11 am - 4 pm, RSPCA Dog Show, Colwyn Bay LL28 5EJ

A fun family day out. In addition to the main Dog Show there will also be dog agility, games, lots of stalls, BBQ and refreshments. Hector's will be having a stall where we will have on sale a variety of dog accessories, dog coats, crafts, jewellery, cards, plus our very popular tombola and games. Entry to the Show is £2.00 per car.

Saturday 26th May, 11 am – 3 pm, Rhyl Street Collection, High Street Rhyl, North Wales

Come along and meet Teddy, Jojo, Ruby and Percy who will be helping the humans at the Hector's Greyhound Rescue street collection.

Saturday 2nd June, 11 am - 4 pm, Deganwy Prom Day

This is a very popular family fun day on the North Wales Coast. There are lots of activities, entertainment, music, games, stalls, fun dog show, food and refreshments. Hector's will have a stall on the grassed area, where we will have crafts, jewellery, cards, games and tombola, plus lots of lovely Hounds waiting to greet you.

Sunday 10th June, Great Global Greyhound Walk, Promenade, Llanfairfechan, LL33 0BY. Starts from the prom at 11.00 am.

Come along and be part of this great annual dog walk event that brings together greyhounds, lurchers, other sighthounds and their owners to raise awareness of the breeds and show the public just what wonderful pets they make. The walk will last approximately 1 hour, is flat and suitable for all capabilities.

Saturday 16th June, Hector's Garden Party, 1pm – 4 pm. 5 Heol Heddwch, off Sea Road, Abergele, North Wales, LL22 7UF

This fabulous event is always extremely popular and great all round fun. We will have stalls, good company and excellent raffle prizes, all set in the beautiful surroundings of an amazing garden to relax with your hounds. Entry £2 is and includes a delicious hot baked potato with a choice of fillings plus refreshment. Our Grand Summer raffle will be drawn at the event too.

Raffle tickets are available to purchase at all of our events prior to the draw date. Remember to purchase some tickets to be in with a chance of winning one of these amazing prizes.



HECTOR'S GREYHOUND RESCUE

SUMMER RAFFLE



Tickets £1.00

Prizes

2 Night Break At Craig Y Nos Castle, Swansea (Dogs Welcome) + 2 Entry Tickets To Cardiff Castle
2 Night Break At The Feathers Hotel, Ludlow
2 Night Break At Victoria Town House, Caernarfon
2 Night Break At Ty Dderw Country Inn, Moelfre, Anglesey
2 Night Break At Blackthorn Farm, Trearddur Bay, Anglesey (Dogs Welcome)
2 Night Break Up To 6 People Cledan Valley Glamping Pods, Carno, Powys
2 Night Break At Bluebells Guest House, Barmouth
1 Night Break At The Old Vicarage Dolfor, Newtown, Powys
1 Night Break At Llwyn Onn Guest House, Betws-y-Coed
1 Night Break At Hillcrest Guest House, Llangollen (Dogs welcome)
1 Night Accommodation At Maes-Y-Mor Guest House, Aberystwyth
Family Ticket To Greenwood Forest Park, Y Felinheli
Family Ticket For The Ffestiniog Railway
Family Ticket For The National Showcaves, Brecon
Voucher For Go Below Underground Adventure, Snowdonia
Family Entrance Ticket To Portmeirion
Family Entrance Ticket To Bodnant Gardens
Family Entrance Ticket To Cotebrook Shire Horse Centre, Tarporley
2 Entrance Tickets To Shrewsbury Prison Tours
Family Entrance Tickets To Tatton Gardens, Knutsford
Voucher For Chester Roman Tours
Garden Entrance Ticket For Gwydir Castle, Llanrwst
Meal For 2 At The Druid Inn, Llanferres
Meal For 2 At The Boathouse, Chirk
Meal For 2 At Pen Y Bont Farm, Mold
Lunch For 2 At 49 Watergate, Chester

**DRAW TO BE MADE AT OUR GARDEN PARTY
5 HEOL HEDDWCH, ABERGELE, LL22 7UF
ON SATURDAY 16TH JUNE 2018**

DOGS LOOKING FOR A HOME

TIPPY

To my new family. My name is Tippy I'm 4 years old and a very handsome boy I know this because my Mummy tells me all the time. I love people, big, small, male or female. I am house trained and behave "most" of the time.

Anyone that comes to my house is my friend. I love to go for walks and am pretty good on a lead unless I see a squirrel or another small fluffy animal, I'm not very good with them. I am very clever and will wait behind you when you go up and down the stairs. I will also wait until you tell me to eat. I am so clever you can put food on my feet tell me to wait and I won't touch it. My Mummy and Daddy have to move and it isn't suitable for me. They are very sad but will feel happier when I have found my forever home.

NEVILLE

Neville is a 16 month old Lurcher (Mum a Greyhound/Whippet Lurcher and Dad a Labrador). He was one of 10 puppies born to a dog Hector's rescued and he was homed in December 2016. Sadly due to a change in circumstances, he has been returned to us.

Neville is a very affectionate boy who loves human company. He is a lively and energetic boy and would thrive in an active household. He responds well to instruction but needs a knowledgeable and thoughtful owner who will continue his training. He walks well on the harness and gets on with other dogs, although can be a little too enthusiastic at times.

He would be fine as an only dog or with a calm older dog. Neville needs an owner who will work with him but they will be rewarded with a loving and wonderful companion.

To see more dogs that are looking for a home visit our rehoming page on the website by following the list below.

<http://www.hectorsgreyhoundrescue.org/greyhounds-for-rehoming.html>

OVER TO YOU – As told by Angyla Kaleta

If I had a pound for every person that asked me how good the pay is to foster dogs and be involved in rescue, I'd not only be rich, I'd be able to help so many more dogs! The surprise on people's face when I say it's entirely voluntary is always apparent!

I hadn't long lost one of my dogs and I was considering taking in a rescue dog when I noticed an advertisement for foster parents.

Fostering was something I had never considered before but I didn't have to give too much thought to the idea! Apart from the initial worries about being able to part with them when the time came and wondering how my resident dogs would adapt, I was instantly happy at the idea that I could help a dog find its new forever home, along with giving it the best possible care whilst their family was found. I have fostered dogs for some time now and over this time I have had all shapes and sizes come to stay with me from Spaniels and Greyhounds to Galgo's and Mastiffs.

I became involved with Hector's in 2017 through a love of Greyhounds, a breed I had only really got to know through fostering, I instantly loved the breed and had been gravitating towards Greyhound & Lurcher fostering for a while. I had been following Hector's on Facebook and I was always amazed by their dedication and commitment to their hounds, I felt that I would be proud to be involved with such an organisation and dropped them a message offering a foster home. At around the same time, Hector's rescued an old Lurcher bitch from Ireland. Hope was in an awful state and they quite literally saved her life. When I saw her I instantly offered her a place in foster with my pack and so my journey with Hector's began. I should say that until this point I had never ever been a 'failed foster' but the old girl got me and I adopted Hope who is now a much loved resident re-named Agnes.

Since then I have been regularly working alongside the other Hector's volunteers, in all aspects of the organisation, wherever I can be of assistance. We all have our strengths, some are great with IT, some are great organisers (not me!) some are brilliant with the public, others are exceptional at working with the behavioural side of foster, we all have our niche and together we never say never!

For me, I spend time at the kennels getting to know the hounds, taking time out with them, watching their little quirks and behaviours, washing and grooming them and taking daft pictures so I can let everyone see their goofball side! This naturally puts me close to the hounds when there is a problem, that's when I can step in and take one home for a while. Whether it's

a minor injury or they're just not coping well, recovering from an operation or not showing themselves to the best of their ability in kennels, It allows me to help out on a practical level by taking them into foster.

At present I have two foster Greyhounds, cheeky adorable Sam who has just landed himself a new home and will be moving on very soon, along with Devlin the beautiful brindle girl who has come into foster to gain a little weight and look for a forever home. I also have a permanent foster Greyhound George who after showing signs of struggling in kennels came to stay however, on discovering some health issues, including his failing sight; he is staying with me for the rest of his days, supported by the Hector's family.

Fostering for me is an absolute joy, it's such a rewarding and important part of my life, I couldn't imagine a house without fosters! I have never been sad to see a hound happily homed, sure I miss them and their own little habits and funny ways but I am happy that I have been part of their journey through rescue into their forever home. It is simply wonderful to see a dog come in and settle into a home environment, sometimes never having been in a home before, watching their confidence and character grow, seeing them change and begin to understand that they don't have to be alone or afraid any longer. I cannot explain how much of a privilege to part of their lives be.

I have always said, and will always believe, the dogs do the hard work and we are just there to guide them on their way.

WHO RULES THE ROOST PART 2 - by Sheila Bridge

In the last newsletter we looked at establishing leadership through body language. Firstly, when the pack re unites and secondly, when out on a walk. This time we will look at reinforcement of leadership through food and greeting visitors.

In every pack there is a pecking order, the leader, their subordinates and the rest of the pack, ie you, the family, then the dog. Feeding is the most important time in the day for a dog, it means survival, so this is a time when you get his undivided attention.

Ideally, the whole family should participate in this exercise. Prepare a snack for yourselves, biscuit, toast, cracker etc and place on plates. Then prepare the dog's food, putting his dish alongside your plates. Make sure he is watching all of you, then proceed to eat your snacks, do not give him eye contact. As soon as you finish eating, put his food down and walk away, letting him eat in peace. If he leaves some of his food, pick it up and do not offer it again until his next meal is due. He won't starve, he will quickly learn that the leader determines feeding rules as to how it gets shared in the pack and will be eager not to miss his turn. This exercise only needs to be done for a couple of weeks or so for the message to get through to the dog.

One last point on feeding. Some people believe that putting their hand in the dog's dish while he is eating, will demonstrate trust between them and the dog. Not so. YOU have to earn the dog's trust and respect by being a leader, and a leader does not take food from the dog because they have eaten their fill before him. How much respect would you have for someone who kept trying to steal your dinner? Think about it!

When the doorbell rings at my house, the dogs never bark and often never move off their beds. This is because they understand it is not their job to answer the door, or admit anyone into the house.

In the last newsletter we looked at re uniting of the pack, where we enter the house in silence, ignoring the dog and putting the 5 minute rule in place. This rule also applies when visitors come.

I usually shut the dogs in a room when opening the front door, demonstrating that I am in control and can protect them from potential danger on the doorstep.

Ask your visitors to ignore the dogs, no fussing until all has been calm for 5 minutes.

Problems occur when your visitors come bearing treats (you know who you are!) In this situation it is best to ask them to stop bringing treats, or give them to you for a later time. Bad behaviour, such as mobbing a visitor for treats, can quickly undo all the work you have put in.

The four elements we have looked at in these two newsletters form a chain of command or leadership. They are interlinked and must be carried out together, do not pick and choose which parts are easier for you, it will result in a confused dog, which is what we are trying to avoid.

If you want to find out more about this method of training, I recommend Jan Fennell's DVD "The Dog Whisperer" usually available on Ebay, or her book of the same title.

HECTORS NEED YOUR HELP

We desperately need more volunteers at Hectors. Please do consider giving up a small bit of your time to help us.

Volunteering is a great way to meet people and also find new friends.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering please contact us via our website enquiry form by following the link below.

<http://www.hectorsgreyhoundrescue.org/contact-us.html>

Best Wishes

Hayley and the team at Hector's Greyhound Rescue