

Welcome to January/February 2017 edition of the Hector's Greyhound Rescue News Letter.

WHATS BEEN HAPPENING

What a busy 2016 we have had at Hector's. Hayley has been rushed off her feet making numerous early morning trips on the motor way to collect greyhounds from trainers and breeders all over the country and co-ordinating the team of foster carers who also do a brilliant job of caring for the hounds that are rescued. Here are some of the highlights of 2016.

Remember to visit our Face Book page where you can see more memorable moments that took place during 2016.

April - Hector's makes the local news headlines with the help of Fred Brown and his team who raised enough money to purchase Shropshire's first pet oxygen masks. The masks will be kept at Ellesmere fire station. This now means that the emergency service in Shropshire now have the necessary equipment to deal with situations where domestic pets have suffering the effects of smoke inhalation following a fire. Thank you Fred for all your hard work getting this project off the ground.

June - The North Wales main event of the year was held at Sheila Bridges garden in Abergele. What a lovely day it was and extremely well attended. Sheila has kindly allowed us to take over her beautiful garden 2 years on the run to hold the Garden Party and without her kindness it would not be possible. Thank you Sheila.

July - We received news that our recently application for charity status was successful, this now gives us more scope to approach businesses and apply for corporate funding. Thank you Laurel for processing the application and ensuring everything was present and correct with the application.

August - Everyone came together to celebrate our annual Fun Dog Show in Ellesmere.

October – Angel a whippet cross breed who came into our care, she was also heavily pregnant and later gave birth to 10 healthy puppies under the supervision of Helen Wilkes. Thank you Helen for being brave enough to take this mammoth task on. Whilst 6 puppies have now gone to their forever homes we still need to find homes for Stanley and his 3 remaining siblings. To enquire about any of the remaining puppies please visit our website contact page <http://www.hectorsgreyhoundrescue.org/contact-us.html>

FUTURE EVENTS AND INFO

We already have 2 fundraising events planned for 2017 but need to add lots more to the calendar if we are to continue to raise the funds needed each year to care for the dogs within our care. Saturday June 17th – Garden Party at Sheila Bridges garden in Abergele

Sunday August 13th – Fun Dog Show in Ellesmere

If you have any fundraising ideas or you would like to become more involved within the group please get in touch with us we would love to hear from you.

IN THE SPOT LIGHT – Ruby

Ruby is a fun loving 3 year old, who thinks she's still a pup! Her racing career came to an end early due to an ankle injury (which is fine now). Ruby is not cat or small furry friendly and doesn't like small dogs running around her as she has a high prey drive. She is currently in foster with two greyhounds and enjoys a romp with them so we feel that she would enjoy a home with another dog for company.

As Ruby is young for her age, she will need a home that is prepared to give her two good walks a day. This energy won't last forever though, she's already learning to sleep after a walk in true greyhound style and will soon become as lazy as most greyhounds. Ruby would be better suited to a home with either no children or children aged 10+ and with someone who is around most of the day although she can be left for a couple of hours with the other dogs.

Ruby is house trained, walks well on the lead, is very affectionate, and willing to learn for a nice treat.

GREYHOUND HEALTH CARE – Corns

We probably all know of someone who has had a greyhound with corns at some time or other. Whilst no one actually knows for sure what actually causes them some interesting findings have been reported. The first is that they are related to greyhound racing and the uneven distribution of weight on the pads whilst running around the track, but there have been cases where non racing dogs have developed corns. The other theory is that the corns are a result of a virus. Whatever the reason is for your dog developing corns the problem and the cures are the same. There are various methods to remove corns and surgery should be a last result. Hulling corns is often recommended but corns can and do grow back. Sheila Bridge one of our foster carers has owned greyhounds for many years and unfortunately had greyhounds that have suffered corns. Her greyhound Percy is the latest casualty. Sheila uses complementary therapy products by Lori Rose to keep his corns under control and says that Percy is definitely improving and seems a lot happier. Another idea is to invest in booties for your greyhound to wear whilst out walking. They provide the dog with a cushioned layer to protect the foot from any additional discomfort and pain. Can you imagine having to walk around all day with a small stone in your shoe - ouch!!

Sheila has found that the best booties for Percy are the Canine Concept boots and Percy now enjoys his walks as much as his friends do. There is also a great Face Book page where you can get lots of helpful advice and share your experience of managing these problems.

It's also really important to seek out a vet that is greyhound savvy as not all vets are

familiar with these problems.

Some useful links to have a peep at are listed below:

www.facebook.com/groups/Greyhoundswithcorns/

www.lorirosehomeopathy.com

<http://canineconcepts.co.uk/en/23-dog-boots>

OVER TO YOU – As told by Hayley Bradley

Early December I received a call from a gentleman in Ireland that transports racing greyhounds. He knew that the dogs all six needed moving from the owner to safe care ASAP. On the 3rd of December Hectors received four of them, two boys and two girls all under three years old, it was clear that they had been through a hard time. Juke the little black boy was full of tape worm and fleas and in a really poor state.

Ronnie although in a poor condition and needed TLC was actually bouncing around not too phased and he just craved love and attention.

Heidi and Debbie looked like sisters, they stank like a sewer very scared and very unsure of what was going on, eyes on stalks and tails tight between their legs, it was heart breaking to see.

I am currently waiting for a call to save the other two from Ireland, it's going to be a long day but rewarding to see the progression of these hounds.

Best wishes and a Happy New Year to you all from

Hayley and the team at

Hector's Greyhound Rescue