

Hi Everyone

Welcome to the September/October edition of our News Letter.

I hope you have enjoyed the summer holidays with your hound, even if the weather was far too hot at times. In fact the weather was so hot that we took the decision to postpone our Fun Day at Acorn kennels due to the extreme heat. The good news is it has now been re-arranged and will take place on Sunday 16th September when the weather will be a lot cooler and more comfortable for everyone, so remember to come along and enjoy the great day out.

We are full at Hectors and no room at all in the inn. We have some sad stories to tell you and only wish hounds could talk.

Last month we took a brood bitch out of Ireland with a broken back. She is now on the mend and looking amazing. Then came in young Dolly. What a big pup she is blue, 18 months old and fun of mischief. She came to Hector's with a broken foot.

If that wasn't enough Hectors had 3 domestic violence cases come in via local authorities. All the dogs were at risk, one a greyhound and two lurchers that were in danger of being "decapitated". These dogs are all now safe and happy in kennels and doing well.

Then came in Danny who had suffered a broken leg while racing and left with the injury for 2 months. Hectors stepped in and has taken this beautiful boy. The instant we got him he was transferred to a referral centre orthopaedic surgeon and emergency surgery performed to correct his leg. Danny is on a slow mend in kennels with an external fixator on his leg.

Not only have we been rushed off our feet saving dogs lives we have also been kept busy holding collections, dog shows and other events that help promote the plight of the greyhound and fundraising to support these beautiful dogs. However we really do need more volunteers to help us in Shropshire and North Wales so if you could spare an hour or two every now and then with your hound we really need you. Please contact me on 0787 7384417.

I have come across the following web sites and wanted to share them with you all really interesting and well worth a look at

<https://lessonsfromaparalyzeddog.com/protect-dog-paralyzing-neosporosis>

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/572942383821858951>

WHATS BEEN HAPPENING

It's been a busy couple of months with regards to fundraising. On a wet and cold day in July the team were on the streets of Conwy working hard and raised £79.79.

The Mad Hatters Tea Party was next on the agenda and what a great day it was with a fantastic £378.50 raised. Everyone involved worked really hard to make the day a success especially our ice cream ladies Mandy and Chris who created loads of beautiful delights for everyone to try.

Our annual Fun Dog Show was also another amazing event and the weather was kind to us. Lots of people attended with their very cute four legged companions and the grand total of just under £2,000 was raised.

Then it was a trip to Mochdre vets for George to receive a cheque for £200 which is Hector's share of the wonderful amount raised from a raffle and donations at their Open Day on 12th August. We would like to send a huge thank you to Sarah and all her staff and all their very generous clients.

The Ironbridge Coracle Regetta was a great success. Freddie and the team raised £321.07 A big thank you to Katie, Dirk, friends and the super dogs Tommy, Emily, Belle, Manny and Jenny they were brilliant and worked really hard on the day.

FUTURE EVENTS AND INFO

Saturday 8th September Oswestry Market Fun Dog Show, Bailey Head Market, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 1PZ, 10am – 1pm

Last year was the first time a dog show had been held in the market, it was great fun, very friendly and an enormous success with lots of dogs attending.

Oswestry market is very dog friendly with a great variety of stalls to browse, refreshments and even a dog friendly pub. All breeds of dogs are welcome to enter the fun classes with rosettes for 1st - 3rd place.

Sunday 9th September Teddy Bear Picnic on the grass next to the pond Llanfairfegan, LL33 0BY, 1pm – 3pm

Come along and meet the famous Teddy who is one of the Hectors rescued greyhounds who has now retired and living life to the full in North Wales. Teddy will be enjoying a picnic with his friends, Jojo, Percy and Ruby along with their Momma's. It will be a chance for everyone to come together and celebrate owning a greyhound whilst having a good old natter, bring a blanket and a picnic and gather on the grass near the pond.

There will be homemade liver cake for the doggies to enjoy plus we will also have a selection of cupcakes and scones for the humans to enjoy for a small donation.

Who know you may even get a cuddle from the Teddy Bear too.

Sunday 16th September, Fun Day, Acorn Kennels, Heath Road, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2AA, 12 noon – 4pm

There will be fun and novelty classes for you and your dog to enter and fun games and races like a sausage race, musical hoops and a fancy dress competition. Rosettes and prizes will be given to the winners 1st - 3rd place and to the most entertaining losers !

There will also be a variety of stalls and fun games such as sausage bobbing, a Bono Shy where you can win a prize for your dog and also our very own "kissing booth".

Back again by popular demand will be a display from The Midland Area Search Team dogs who will be showcasing their noses with a human and an area search dog that will take place at 2pm.

There will also be parade of homeless dogs hoping to catch someone's eye and find a forever home.

Refreshments will be available throughout the day.

Sunday 23 September, Freddie's Walk, Nesscliffe Country Park & Kynaston's Cave starts 11am

The walk is a bit tougher than Alwyn Waters it has a few steep sections and a series of steps down to Kynaston's Cave therefore I would call it a Grade 'B'.

The nearest post code to the car park is SY4 1DG (Location is at 338950,319805) it is a little difficult to find and I will make a sketch map and post in 'Let's Talk Hectors' Facebook page nearer the day. Alternatively contact me and I will get a copy to you. My email address is: freddebrun@hotmail.co.uk

It will be great to see lots of you with your hounds.

OVER TO YOU – As told by Geraldine Dunkerley

So you have thought about volunteering with Hector's Greyhound Rescue but you're not sure. Well, read on for a lovely little story about one of our hounds.

A request came from Hayley Bradley asking if anyone could go to the kennels at Whitchurch as one of our dogs had found himself his forever home and his new owner was ready to take him home.

The handover time was arranged for 9.30am and after walking our own four hounds Tony and I set off to Acorn kennels.

We pulled up onto the car park and there stood a gentleman who politely said good morning as we got out of our car. We entered the kennel reception area and saw a gentleman who told us he was there to collect a Greyhound.

Tony went to fetch the dog whilst I undertook the formalities with the adoption form. Once completed the dog and owner were united. What a wonderful site. The dog was so excited to be on a lead and the new owner was very happy to be holding his dog. At this point we were all making a fuss of the dog and began chatting very informally.

The dog was going to a home by the seasidehow envious am I !

But what is special about this hand over? Well, I'm going to ask you what it was that made you choose the hound you have adopted ? Colour, size, bitch / dog, age, eyes, pointy nose or any other quaint characteristic you spotted in your dog.

As we continued to chat with the new proud owner of the dog he told us about his past working life. It turned out the gentleman had been in the Navy and he had been trawling through web sites looking for a new companion and there he was ...our very own Admiral... awaiting a forever home. The gentleman just couldn't resist. A life in the navy meant he just had to have the dog named Admiral.

They looked very happy together as we saw them off. A walk on the sandy beach awaited Admiral!

Good luck to both Admiral and his new owner the retired Navy worker.

Now that's one way to find your new best pal!

ITS A DOGS LIFE

Back in February a lovely boy called Dexter came into Hector's care. He was a white and tan Irish ex-racer who quickly became a firm favourite with everyone at Hector's.

Soon after he arrived we were contacted by a Care Home on the North Wales Coast who were looking for a resident hound to join their staff. They had consulted an expert in dementia care about the most suitable pet for their establishment and were advised that a rescue Greyhound would be ideal. So they got in touch with us and we didn't hesitate in recommending Dexter!

After one or two small teething problems, he quickly settled in and became very popular with both residents and staff alike. So much so that some staff go in on their days off to take him for walks and he has even been out to pub lunches with the owner of the Home! He has found his favourite spots to lie and is enjoying all the fuss and attention that they all give him. Some of our Hector's volunteers go to collect him once a week and take him to a dog run with their own dogs so he gets a good run and he enjoys meeting his friends!

Best Wishes

Hayley and the team at Hector's Greyhound Rescue