



Hello and welcome to our summer edition of the GSDR newsletter, I hope that the sun is now shining for you.

I have been in rescue over 20 years now and I keep hoping that it will get easier, but there always seems to be new challenges that lie ahead and make what we do more difficult. This year our problem has been in finding accommodation for our dogs to keep them safe until new homes are found. In January we had no alternative but to remove all GSDR dogs from a commercial boarding establishment in Newport when we were sent evidence that showed that our dogs were not being properly treated or cared for. It was an expensive and logistical nightmare to find places to accommodate these dogs and we had to send them on to other regions already under pressure with dogs from their own areas. Since then we have struggled to find boarding kennels that will give us discounted spaces especially from April onwards when the holiday season started.

Then in May, all rescues that were boarding at Oakenshawe kennels in the NE were given notice to remove all dogs because the owner wants the spaces for private boarders who will pay the full price. Some of the dogs in that kennels are difficult and work in progress and most kennels simply will not take these types of dogs. We were fortunate that a very kind lady allowed us to erect a block of 3 kennels on her land which meant we could keep the 3 most difficult dogs safe.

If anyone knows of any kennels that can help us, please let us know.

It may well be that we will have to pay top prices for boarding which means we can help fewer dogs. Increasing veterinary charges are another challenge and this year we have had several bills that have been 4 figure sums. I am shocked at how vets have become lucrative money making businesses especially when they are pushing often unnecessary toxic medications and annual vaccinations. It's no wonder that our pets are no longer dying of old age but are dying of disease. Did you know that over 50% of dogs now get cancer which is simply outrageous?

Fundraising has also been challenging this year which we believe is down to reduced footfall at events and because people simply have less disposable income. Just when things got really tough this year, something incredible happened.

I was contacted earlier this year by a lovely lady called Barbara whose friend Margery had sadly passed away, but she had asked her friend to ensure that her some of her money was used to help her favourite breed of dog, go to small individual charities and not fund a highly paid chief exec. Margery grew up in Aston, Birmingham where she lived behind her mums' record shop where there were always dogs in the house. When she married her husband Sam, they moved to the shop next door and ran it as a hardware shop. They had German Shepherds, usually 2 at a time and they were always in the shop with them meeting and greeting the customers. Margery herself loved people and she loved a good chat. Margery and her husband never went off on holidays because they just wanted to be with their dogs. On days off they would take their dogs to Derbyshire for lovely long walks. I spoke to Barbara and explained how our rescue was run and she very kindly agreed to donate enough money to pay 1 years kennelling fees. We are sorry that Margery passed away but know that she would approve that this would be helping her favourite breed and knowing that GSDR believes all dogs deserve a chance and not just the easy ones. We are so grateful that this came at a time when we were under so much pressure and we will make sure that all that money is used to help needy dogs.

Thank you also to all the volunteers who are working very hard to rehome all the dogs that come our way and raise funds for the rescue.

Keep putting out good. It will come back to you tenfold in unexpected ways.....

Best Wishes,

*Jayne*

# SHEPFEST 2018

**SHEPFEST 2018 - Saturday 30th June-Sunday 1st July.**

**Copmanthorpe Kennels, Copmanthorpe, YORK, YO23 3TL**

Our 'All New' Shepfest this year will include - £5 ENTRY  
Something for everyone !

Fun Agility with NEW beginners rustic Cross Country Jumps. , Fun Dog Show with 8 classes and something for everyone including Best Rescue. (more details later)  
Police Dog Display with Dave Davies. + Refreshments all day + Raffle, Tombola, and Stalls.

PLUS - at around 2pm on the Saturday, we will be having a Group Photo and starting off a NEW GSDR RECORD of biggest number of GSDs in same place at same time, so please come and join us and join in the photo - the more the merrier and let's see how many we can get.

There is also an OFF LEAD Area .

Evening get-together with bonfire, music (requests taken !!), drinks and takeaway.

Camping is available for anyone wanting to stay over . £10 CARAVAN / TENT

and limited kenneling space for anyone who wants to use.

PLENTY OF PARKING AVAILABLE.....



- ALL money raised goes to GSDR NE so please support -



# GSDR EAST YORKSHIRE WALK GROUP



The East Yorks walk group have just celebrated their first anniversary in style with an organised walk, grand raffle and bbq.

The new group has met for 10 walks over the past year and has raised in excess of £4,000 for GSDR!

Sharon Cook group organiser puts the success down to 'having a great group of people.'

But without the people behind the scenes giving their time to organise these walks and events there wouldn't a group, so huge thanks to you all for what you do.

And the next event is planned for July, don't miss out.....

**f GSDR EAST YORKSHIRE WALK GROUP**

**SUMMER BBQ OFFICIAL WALK Prize Draw**

**1st Prize**  
  
**Tickets £3 each**  
 32" JVC SMART TV with built in DVD player

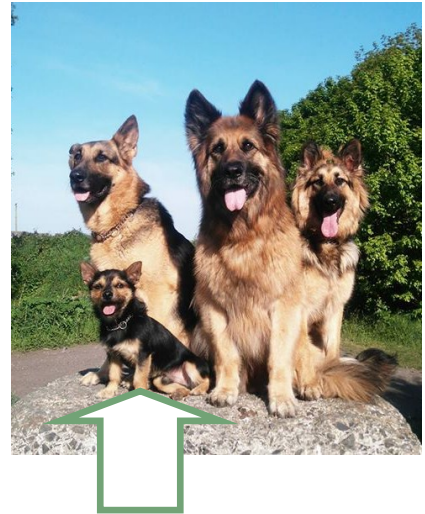
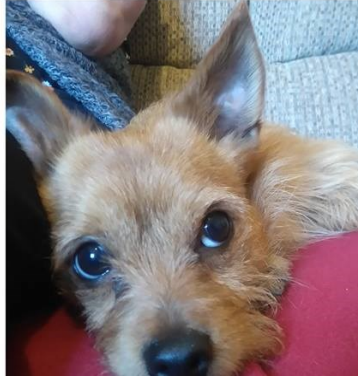
**GSDR**  
 GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG RESCUE

**Tickets available to buy online**

**14th July 12.00 Start**  
 High Road , Elloughton Dale ,  
 Brough HU15 1 (9C5XPCRQ+PV)

**Have you got room for a little one?**

# Monty Looking for a forever home



Monty is the brother of Shorty Shep Paddy, he's almost 3 years old and is a Chihuahua x Yorkie.

He gets on well with other dogs, he hasn't lived with children so will only be rehomed with older children. He's currently in foster with Nana Collie, who also owns another brother Aden, but it would be nice for Monty to have a lap to call his own.

Monty was booked in to be PTS, luckily for him Sarah was made aware and he's now safe. He's not a GSD (don't tell Paddy that, he doesn't know!) but is available for adoption through GSDR.

If you'd like to know more about Monty please contact Sarah at [scollie78@gmail.com](mailto:scollie78@gmail.com)

**The lungworm  
(*Angiostrongylus vasorum*) is a  
parasite that can cause  
serious health problems in  
dogs and can even be fatal if  
not diagnosed and treated.**

Slugs and snails carry the lungworm larvae, and dogs can become infected when they eat these common garden pests accidentally or deliberately, whilst rummaging through undergrowth, eating grass, drinking from puddles or outdoor water bowls, or pick them up from their toys.

# Fundraising Concert

CHARITY FUNDRAISING CONCERT FOR GSDR  
(German Shepherd Dog Rescue)

**Alexandra WMC, Royston, S71 4RF**

**An evening of fabulous entertainment**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018**  
**7.15 pm (Doors open 6.30 pm)**

**THE MARIA PENROSE DANCE STUDIOS**  
**DISPLAY TEAM**

Supporting Artists, **PHILLIP WATSON &**

**PEARL FAWCETT**  
(International Virtuoso Accordionist)



**Tickets Adults £5 / Concessions £3 under 5s free**  
**Available from Phillip Watson 07976646184**  
**Vicki Flynn (GSDR Yorkshire Walk Group) 07732531226**



Event in aid of German Shepherd Dog Rescue  
reg charity 1141122

## News from the North West & Central Region

Huge thanks to all the volunteers who always go above and beyond to help out GSDR, last month there were a few dogs well in need of assistance - please read their stories below.



Molly & Meg –a bonded pair in Blackpool whose dad had sadly passed away and their mum was finding it hard to cope. It is always very difficult to find a suitable home for a pair as a lot of our potential adopters already have a dog or two in their household. However, this duo managed to find a lovely home in Shropshire but alas there were no volunteers available in Blackpool to help with the meet and adoption (as poor Ian our brilliant Lancashire vol was very unwell and suffering with a detached retina and had surgery to his throat too). Thankfully Laura, our NW Screener said she would step in and help with the meet and Molly and Meg got their new forever home.



Suki a 2 year old in need on the Wirral. At 10am a phone call was received to say lady very unwell and could we help with re homing her shepherd. At 10.15 am Daniel our volunteer was contacted and would you believe, literally driving right near Suki's home so he just popped in. Said it would be good if Suki could get out of this environment and within hours she was collected and went into foster care with the lovely Marlene, who has helped look after many a dog for GSDR over the last few years.



Ozzy (could have been the twin of Suki) was another youngster who when the assessment was done was surely a dog in need and he too went into emergency foster care with Margaret who gave him lots of TLC and a lovely bath but sadly Ozzy was a little beggar around other dogs. Another NW volunteer Ray came to help and collected Ozzy and took him up to June's to let him meet two GSD's on safe private land. Ozzy was hilarious he just rammed the other two dogs like a nanny goat – they weren't impressed and gave him sharp shrift – Ozzy was left to wobble carefully around the two big guys he'd just met. Still it showed that with some obedience and socialisation Ozzy should be okay around other dogs. As Suki had been re homed, Marlene once again stepped in and took Ozzy under her wing and after a few weeks he too found his forever home down in the Midlands.



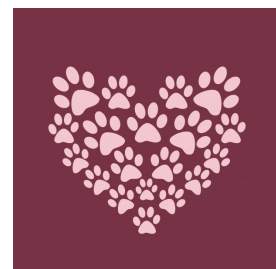
This is my Heidi, who is 10 years old. I lost my beloved husband last year and unfortunately, I am now being treated for Myeloma, which has taken its toll on my health. After contacting the GSR service by email, I was quickly put in touch with your volunteer Barry, who within two days found a new home for Heidi.



I was overjoyed by Barry's kindness and thoughtfulness and I would like to show my appreciation by enclosing a small donation to your very worthy and charitable organisation. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

This was another old dog whose owner was very poorly but we managed to find a lovely new home for 10 year old Heidi within days of hearing her plight.

Barry our volunteer in Central Region sorted everything out with regards the adoption and he received the lovely note below and Jayne received a £100 donation from a very grateful owner.



# 25TH Barnsley (Barugh) Cubs & Scouts

In association with GSDR

Would like to invite you to their

Family Fun Day at

Alexandra WMC, Royston, S71 4RF

On Saturday 21st July 11.30 to 3.30pm



VARIOUS  
STALLS

CHILDRENS  
ENTERTAINMENT  
AND FACE  
PAINTING

TOMBOLA

BOUNCY  
CASTLE

SPORTS  
ACTIVITIES

SPLAT THE  
RAT!

**Tickets £2.50 per person**  
**Available from Barnsley Cubs**

**Or Vicki Flynn 07732531226**



Finally, in the urgent case list and one of the saddest, was Blade and Sasha.

Another bonded pair who at 14 and 9 years old respectively were in desperate need of help. A phone call was received from a lady called Joanne who was concerned about the health and well being of these dogs. Apparently the son was left alone after his father had died and wasn't coping with life himself, let alone the dogs.



Ray was on call to bomb round to the house to check out the dogs and was quite saddened by a) the state of the dogs and b) the house they lived in. It was very clear the son was in desperate need of help.

Not sure what to do with this pair (as kennels wouldn't be ideal), a phone call was made to June (the lady who let Ozzy meet her sheps for socialisation), as she has a farm and potentially space to take in emergency boarders she was asked to help in this urgent case. June was more than happy to help and Ray was then able to take the pair over to the Wirral and get them the care they so needed.



A good brush, lots of food and the space to roam around acres of grassland with the sun on their backs. I can't thank everyone involved enough for getting these two sheps safe. They are still looking for a forever home but are coming on leaps and bounds, they've put on weight, muscle tone and truly are very happy dogs who just love everyone they come into contact with.

PS: I believe Joanne the lady who originally contacted us kept in touch with the son and gave him a helping hand to sort the house out and give him moral support – what a nice lady



Lady is still loving life as a trainee search and rescue partner to dad Nick.

They're pictured here displaying their skills for the children at a local primary school.







# KIRKSTALL FESTIVAL

**Saturday 14th July 2018  
11 am to 5 pm**

Last years fundraising event at Kirkstall Festival was a great success and raised a huge £1502 for the charity. With big thanks going to Ray and Si for the pitches and helping to organise it in addition to the many volunteers who helped, without the team effort it wouldn't have happened.

This year, the event is taking place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July, once again at Kirkstall Abbey, Leeds, LS5 3EH. Parking is available opposite and is free to enter.

This year, there will hopefully be a Dog Stall (accessories, treats etc), a Snack Stall (cakes, drinks etc), a Wine or Water Stall and of course the famous Tombola (both an adult and child tombola). We are still looking for good quality tombola prizes and helpers for the day so if you feel you could assist please get in touch.

Big Prizes available on the tombola so far include; a Signed & Framed Leeds United Shirt, a TV, a Kettle, a Dog Groom, Tickets to Thorner Gin Festival, a Meal for 2 at MOD Pizza, 2 Mains at Pizza Express and a Meal for 2 with Cocktails at Rev de Cuba.

Hope to see you there!

If you'd like to join the team and lend a hand or have some tombola prizes to donate please contact:

Toni Pickering ([toni\\_pickering@hotmail.com](mailto:toni_pickering@hotmail.com) / 07708070660) or Sarah Betts ([scottie2103@gmail.com](mailto:scottie2103@gmail.com))



*The Kirkstall Festival is the biggest volunteer ran festival in Leeds, it's a fab family day out, come and join in the fun!*



# GREAT NORTH DOG WALK 2018

Team GSDR were out in force at the Great North Dog walk, raising over £500.



33,149 dogs took part in the sponsored walk and 1 Shep!



Thank you to everyone who took part in the walk representing and fundraising for GSDR and to Maria Hamilton and team for their huge efforts on the stall.



A special shout out for Bella who still looked beautiful despite setting off at 3am so her dad Mark Panther could transport and set up the GSDR tent.



## Have you got it? By Ann Leigh

I spend a lot of my time finding a roundabout way of asking people this question. No, I am not trawling silver surfer dating sites. If you know what I mean then you are probably an experienced GSD owner! You could also be interested in horses. Then you would definitely have 'it'. Whenever I begin a conversation about adopting a GSD, my heart leaps with relief, when I hear that a prospective adopter has been, or is still, a horse owner. You can't control a half ton animal without an implicit utter faith that you will prevail and an absolute determination that you are the only one in charge. I well remember an old farrier we knew once, who always used to say, 'Hoss, I'll do the thinking!' He had 'it' and so does every experienced GSD owner.

How would one define 'it'? Some people use phrases like 'being the alpha' or the 'pack leader'. These terms don't satisfy me anymore. Recent studies are revealing that a lot of early work on wolf packs and 'dominance' issues were misleading. They were based upon research into contrived 'assembled' packs, living in relative captivity. There was no family bond. Hence, there was a high level of tension and a struggle to establish a pack hierarchy amongst strangers. This differs fundamentally from wolf packs in the wild, as these are almost entirely comprised of a single family. The pack leaders are the 'mommy' and 'daddy' of the extended family. They exert 'it' in the way that any good parent would. They are loving and wise and act for the benefit of the whole, purely out of love. That does not, by any means, preclude discipline. Have you ever seen a bitch discipline a wayward pup? It reminds me of the unfashionable concept: spare the rod and spoil the child. Discipline is not a dirty word in wolf pack hierarchy. It is a means to an end. It is by using this that group behavioural norms are established and the whole thing works.

I know this to be true, absolutely, but I had a personal example of how this works recently. Even knowing this, I was amazed!

I adopted a new dog a few months ago, who clearly had only ever lived outside and was completely ignorant of dog behaviour. I suspect that he even might never have met another dog before. (He is my second to fit this description – what we do to dogs!) He had to adjust to EVERYTHING and his learning curve was huge. He is a friendly timid boy, without any innate aggression, and he was very willing to be at the bottom of the household hierarchy. There were no dominance issues at all. He was just a timid boy who spent his early weeks with me on a training lead gaining confidence.

By the time this incident occurred, he was off lead but I was still very much aware of what was going on all the time. He was still separated to eat, and whenever I was not around, but only then. Otherwise, he had gained enough confidence to be loose with the pack and was becoming more and more relaxed about everything. I was still being watchful though. One day I had a phone call and I needed to go to the computer briefly. I had to leave to room to do so (Yes I have a PC in an office – I really am that antiquated!) I was with a companion, at the time. All the dogs were with us, just lying around watchfully snoozing: all was calm. I left the room asking my friend to just watch out for Teddy. I was gone for less than a couple of minutes: but by the time I returned, there was absolute pandemonium. All the dogs were on their feet, the spectators were all grinning, and my top dog was bonking my new boy. The former calm had been shattered in less than a couple of minutes. I was still speaking on the phone, as I returned, and all that it took to restore sanity was a flap of my hand and peace was restored.

Even though I know about 'it' I had not imagined that it was quite such a continual process – that 'it' was a constant benevolent force at work. I had thought that 'it' was summoned in moments of crisis or conflict. I see it differently now: 'it' is the cement that holds the bricks together to make the house.



So, you cannot be a successful GSD owner without 'it'. That is why I try to elicit, in my conversations, whether prospective adopters have any concept of this. Nowadays, I tend to speak of 'leadership' and establishing and maintaining boundaries – no bonking the new boy, for example. Once these are established, if you have 'it', all is easy.

So, I shall continue happily to call my pack my 'babies'. I was mocked, in the past, by my husband. He joined us believing that dogs should live in kennels! Ha! That was never going to happen.

He thought me wildly anthropomorphic and hopelessly sentimental. Now I am just smugly happy to be proved right. Shame that I can't enjoy the further satisfaction of telling him! My gut instinct about 'it' was right and I am now vindicated by evidence-based science.

Apart from any minor domestic triumphs, knowing this should help us all care for our beloved GSDs more naturally and successfully.

## How to Contact your Area Co-ordinators

### South East

Kent / Hertfordshire / Essex / London / Surrey / East & West Sussex / IOW / Hampshire / Berkshire / Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire

Area Co-ordinator: Christine Merritt 01702 544974 [Christine.merrittgsd@gmail.com](mailto:Christine.merrittgsd@gmail.com)

Dog Co-ordinator: Julie Plastow 07715 172372 [Julie.plastow@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Julie.plastow@hotmail.co.uk)

Enquiries Linda Wood 01245 363868 [lingsd24@gmail.com](mailto:lingsd24@gmail.com)

### South West

Cornwall / Devon / Somerset / Dorset / Wiltshire & Gloucester

Area Co-ordinator: Jo Martin 07921607001

Dog Co-ordinator: Jayne Shenstone 01568 797957 [info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk](mailto:info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk)

### Eastern

Norfolk / Suffolk / Cambridgeshire / Bedfordshire / Northants / Lincolnshire & Leicestershire

Area Co-ordinator: Ann Leigh 01263 860864 [ajpleighgsdr@gmail.com](mailto:ajpleighgsdr@gmail.com)

Dog Co-ordinator: Suzanne Thurman 01472 459528 [s.thurman@sky.com](mailto:s.thurman@sky.com)

Enquiries: Sarah Carrs 01603 270044

Fundraising Co-ordinator Sue Tyler 07760 300655

### Central

Nottinghamshire / Derbys / Staffordshire / Shropshire / Worcestershire / Herefordshire / West Midlands & Warwickshire

Area and Dog Co-ordinator: Irene Culverwell 0161 282 3594 / 07778 150561 [iculverwell21@hotmail.com](mailto:iculverwell21@hotmail.com)

General enquiries: Bill Kitchen 01524 784953 / Melanie Fairbrother 0161 494 7728

### North West

Cheshire / Manchester / Merseyside / Cumbria & Lancashire

Area and Dog Co-ordinator: Irene Culverwell 0161 282 3594 / 07778 150561 [iculverwell21@hotmail.com](mailto:iculverwell21@hotmail.com)

General enquiries: Bill Kitchen 01524 784953 / Melanie Fairbrother 0161 494 7728

### North East

Northumberland / Durham / Yorkshire / Tyneside / Teesside & North Humberside

Area Co-ordinator: Angela Hargreaves 0113 225 5848 [angelagsdr@gmail.com](mailto:angelagsdr@gmail.com)

Dog Co-ordinator: Julie Wilkinson 07736 815430 [julie.gsdr@gmail.com](mailto:julie.gsdr@gmail.com)

Fundraising Co-ordinator: Gillian Marsden [Gillian.l.marsden@ntlworld.com](mailto:Gillian.l.marsden@ntlworld.com)

Enquiries: Sharon Coates 01751 417197

### Wales

Area Co-ordinator: Jayne Shenstone 01568 797957 [info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk](mailto:info@germanshepherdrescue.co.uk)

Dog Co-ordinator: Jo Martin 07921607001

