



# Castledon Chronicle



## WELCOME TO THE 2020 EDITION OF THE CASTLEDON CHRONICLE!



It's fair to say this year has been no ordinary year. I hope that all our lovely supporter's are managing to stay safe & well during these very strange and difficult times. I'm sure we are all grateful for the company & distraction our lovely dogs have been during these times.....and a nice country walk in the fresh air with the dogs always makes you feel better, doesn't it?!

Towards the end of last year I personally had a bit of a worrying time health-wise, when I suffered a mini Stroke. It was mainly my speech that was affected during the Stroke, but it has also left me with Fatigue and some memory loss issues.

In the months leading up to my Stroke, I was having to look after my Niece's & Nephews a lot. So I've come to the conclusion that kids are bad for my health!! It's a well known fact that dogs reduce stress. Need i say more?!! Dogs for me, thanks...

I hope you enjoy reading through this years edition of our newsletter. This is actually Castledon Chronicle's 10 year anniversary! And it's 23 years since my Mum & I started up Castledon Greyhound Rescue.... How time flies when your rescuing Greyhounds!!

Stay safe everyone and as always, thank you so much for your continued support.

*Jodie x*

## CASTLEDON'S PERMANENT FOSTER DOGS

So why a permanent foster dog you might ask? Every so often we get dogs come to us that are elderly, have on-going health issues or a disability/injury that makes them not eligible for pet insurance. This therefore causes people to be put off from adopting them because of the worry of not being able to afford future veterinary costs – and the rate at which vet fee's have escalated over the last few years, it's totally understandable.

We don't want any of our Greyhounds to have to stay in kennels for years, and we believe every dog deserves their own loving home. So in order to allow these dogs to live out their lives in a warm, comfortable, loving home environment, we will seek a permanent foster home for them – which means Castledon will commit to paying vet fees for the dog for the rest of the dog's life... another reason why your donations are so important to Castledon!

The foster home loves them, gives them a great life & Castledon covers the vet fees! Obviously, we can only offer this to dogs that really need to be permanent foster's and are genuinely not likely to be adopted in the usual way.

### Here are our current permanent foster dogs;



Spud was rescued from kennels where he was being kept in disgusting conditions. When I went to the kennels, I couldn't even see a dog in the kennel - the kennel was that dark. The strong stench of urine coming from the kennel made my eyes water. I could hear Spud excitedly bouncing about in there though as I approached his kennel! Spud had suffered a broken leg when racing, and instead of being taken to the vet for treatment, his leg was left untreated.....well, a DIY job by the trainer. This resulted in his bone not setting straight & healing in quite a mess.

Spud is now living a great life with Julie & her two other hounds in Suffolk.....and as you can see, he sure knows how to roach!!



Elmo was found in the same kennels as Spud. This poor lad was 12 years old when I got him out of there. Elmo is our Sponsor dog & you can read his full story in this newsletter. Elmo is now loving life and enjoying his home comforts with Sue and Greyhound, Cloudy, in Suffolk.

Billy was rehomed by Castledon 8 years ago, but at almost 11 years of age, he sadly found himself needing to find a new home along with his Greyhound companion, Sandi at the end of last year. Billy & Sandi had been living together for 4 years. You may remember our appeal in last years newsletter, desperately trying to find a new home for them together.



Thankfully, a lovely family came forward to adopt Sandi and they agreed to take Billy on as a permanent foster, which meant the dogs could stay together. We were so pleased that we didn't have to separate these two hounds. They are both so happy in their new home, they have a new lease of life! You can read more about them in their article in this newsletter. They really are living their best life with the Rafferty family in Bedford.



Monty was rehomed over 5 years ago, but very tragically, his owner Valerie passed away very suddenly this year. Valerie had rehomed several Greyhounds from Castledon over the years. Monty was now at the grand old age of 12. I put out an urgent appeal for a permanent foster home for Monty, and once again,

the wonderful Rafferty family offered to take in Monty to live out his days with Billy, Sandi & their 19 year old terrier. So we moved Monty from Surrey to Bedford where he is getting lots of much needed TLC.



Our thoughts go out to those of you that have lost your beloved pets. We know that they will all be sorely missed and we at Castledon thank you for taking them into your hearts and homes.

## A TRIBUTE TO OUR LOVELY JACK



We previously had a greyhound back in 1998 but due to our work commitment we hadn't adopted another one, but we both kept on talking about getting another Greyhound but was waiting for the right time.

We had been to a couple of Greyhound rehoming kennels but nothing had come up. We had looked online and found out that there was going to be a Greyhound Walk at Frinton-on-Sea to Walton-on-the-Naze in December 2013. We both felt a bit funny about going on a greyhound walk without a dog but when we arrived we was made very welcome.

We was standing around talking to all the Greyhound owners and was offered a few dog's to walk. We then spoke to Jodie, and that was when we was given the lovely Jack to walk. He was such a gentle boy and walked really well with all of the other dogs. We both think it was fate that brought us all together. After the walk we took down Jodie's contact details and said that we would be in touch in regards to meeting Jack again.

We arranged to visit Castledon and take Jack out for a walk a week or so later.

So we walked Jack & when we took Jack back to the kennels we was talking to Jodie about the situation. We decided that it would be a good idea to have Jack stay over at our home for a weekend, so that we could see how he gets on.

On the 28th December 2013 Jodie brought Jack over to us to see how he would be - we both knew then that he was the one for us!

We met up with Jodie on the 1st January 2014 at Hylands Park New Year's Day Greyhound walk where we walked Jack again. We said to Jodie that we would like to foster Jack to see if he would be happy in the home environment and with us so we arranged that for 5th January 2014.

Jack settled in to home life really well the only issue we had to start off with was he didn't want to go for a walk down our driveway, only to find out he was used to being taken for a walk in the van first and then to his walk, but after a while some treats and a bit of encouragement solved that and he enjoyed his walks...from the driveway!!

It wasn't long before we were contacting Jodie to change the foster paperwork for adoption paperwork!

Jack quickly became a much loved member of our family. We were very lucky as we was able to take Jack to work which was very good for him and for us. He settled into this very well and he was loved and fussed by all at work!

A funny thing happened one day when we was at work, Jack seemed be acting strange and wanted to get out which was very unusual for him.... It then transpired that the reason for this was because he had heard a voice he recognised - a customer had come into my work and it happened to be someone that knew Jack very well from Castledon Greyhound Rescue!! Jack made such a fuss, he never forgot his human friends from Castledon! AS soon as he heard the voice he knew who it was!!

In the whole time of having Jack we never had to worry about him jumping up on the side and taking food, that was until this one day we had made a drink and both had cakes. We had put the drink and the cake on the table Jack had walked past us and then we noticed that the plate was empty. When we looked at Jack he still had the cake whole in his mouth as it was too big for him to eat!! He did sometimes like the froth from a pint of Guinness too!

As Jack got older, he had some health issues but that didn't stop him, he had his own character and could be stubborn at times, would only do what he wanted when he wanted to. He loved opening gifts at Birthday and Christmas it was as if he became young again. He loved playing with his toys and going on Greyhound walks/picnics and socialising with his own kind.

We were lucky to have had Jack in our lives for nearly 6 years. He was 7 years old when we took him home with us.

Jack is deeply missed by us and everyone who knew him.  
Sleep well Jack xx



### KENNEL CORNER



Delighted to say that Billy & Sandi who featured in our last 'Kennel Corner' found a wonderful new home together!

Our featured Hound this time is the very handsome 5 year old Buddy! Buddy would really love to find a home, as he really hates living in kennels. He is very stressed in the kennel environment, but we know he will be much happier in a nice home.

He would quite like a doggy companion, preferably a female hound to show him the ropes! Buddy can be a little anxious in new situations, and with some people that are not known to him, but to his friends he is quite full of himself! A happy, tail wagging, excitable boy! If you think you & your home might be a good match for Buddy, please get in touch.

**Alternatively, if you would like to offer a home to another of our Greyhounds currently awaiting rehoming - get in touch & we'll do our best to match you up with a new houndy friend!**



## UPDATE ON ELMO – CASTLEDON'S SPONSOR DOG



Elmo was born in Ireland and brought to England to race. His record on greyhound data tells us that he finished his last race lame in February 2008. If he'd had an early retirement and enjoyed a life of leisure his story would be different, but instead he was kept on in racing kennels where Jodie found him in late 2017. He was in a cold, dark dirty kennel with no bedding and was just let out for about ten minutes twice a day to toilet. His 'keepers' agreed to let Jodie take him & find a home for him, though they couldn't see why anyone would want a 12 year old dog so tried to get Jodie to take one of the younger dogs instead....

...I saw Castledon's post on Facebook looking for a permanent foster home for Elmo a few weeks after I'd lost my first boy, Dixie, very suddenly. I was undecided if I was ready to take on another greyhound yet, but at the same time felt that it would be good to get one out of kennels before winter set in, now that I had space. As soon as I read about Elmo I knew I had a bed for him! I contacted Jodie and the decision was made – Elmo was coming home with me as soon as she had got his dental and neutering done. Then he would be joining me and my other two hounds, Cloudy and Tazz.

On 20th December 2017 Elmo came to his forever home, one month after I had lost Dixie. Once introductions were made and he'd found a bed (he really loved the softness of a bed, with a duvet and a fleecy blanket to snuggle into!) I looked up his record on greyhound data... and found he was Dixie's half brother! He really had come home!



At 12, insurance was not an option so knowing Castledon were there to help with costs was very reassuring. To be honest, I'm not sure Jodie or I expected him to be around for very long. His back legs were very weak, likely due to muscle wastage where he had not had any exercise for years nor any soft bedding for his old joints... He had bald patches and sores on his elbows from sleeping on a hard floor. He did look very unloved. But over the weeks and months he blossomed. He lost his kennel coat, and while he still had his bald patches, soon he had a shiny black coat. Regular walks helped strengthen his legs and my youngest dog, Cloudy (4 at that time) taught him how to play and what squeaky toys were for (annoying me I think!). I'd had a small fear that the transition from kennel to home life at his age might have been too much, but he took it all in his (slightly wobbly) stride!

So he enjoyed his first Christmas, the warmth of home life through the winter and we were ready for spring, but he started having bad diarrhoea. Visits to the vet established that it was colitis which was

treated with antibiotics and probiotics. It improved but started again once we stopped the antibiotics. So he was put on them long term which helped for a while. Then the problems started again. I tried changing food and removing all grain from his diet, which helped a bit, but he still wasn't right. We did blood and faeces tests which showed he had chronic inflammation of the bowel, for which the treatment was steroids (alongside his existing medication). Again, this helped but he still wasn't quite right. I spoke to the people at a local pet shop who are great on nutrition and they recommended Tribal, a cold pressed food which doesn't swell in the gut and is very gentle on the digestive system. That really helped and he finally put a bit of weight on and has maintained it. It is however £70 for a 12kg bag, alongside the ongoing antibiotics, probiotics and steroids. We'd found a regime that worked but it was not cheap. And at this time, my other 12 year old dog, Tazz, was having joint problems and needed painkillers and physiotherapy to try and keep him comfortable. I know all of us would do everything we can to keep our dogs well and happy, but I honestly don't think I could have sustained the treatment Elmo needs indefinitely if I hadn't had the support of Castledon and of course Elmo's sponsors. It's probably no exaggeration to say that it's saved his life.

Elmo is an amazing, resilient dog, and a real character. I have a set of drawers tucked in the corner under the stairs where their treats are. He's discovered that if I accidentally leave a tiny bit of a bag poking out of the drawer, he can get hold of it, pull the drawer open and grab a full bag of treats! He can move pretty fast when he thinks I've rumbled him too! Who says you can't teach an old dog new tricks!! (in fact he taught himself that one). Sometimes I think it's so sad that he could have had an extra ten years of retirement, but then, he's happy with his lot now, and like most dogs he just lives one day at a time. Walks tend to be on the short side, but he's always keen to get out and takes an interest in what's around him. In fact, I had to stop taking him to busy places, like seaside walks and Sunday afternoons in the park – he would just stand still and stare around at everything going on around him, oblivious to the fact he might be blocking the path for everyone else! So we stick to quieter walks, and we often go to a secure field with friends, where he can trot around at his own pace and rest when he wants to, while the younger dogs do their zoomies. His legs are a little unsteady now, and he sometimes needs help to get up but shows no sign of getting upset by it. I work at home and I'm rarely out of the house for more than an hour, so he knows I'm not far away if he needs help.

It's nearly three years since Elmo came here, and I can't emphasise enough that Castledon's support is what's made it possible for this old boy to finally enjoy a home life. His regular medication keeps his gut problem under control, and at his last review the vet was really impressed at how good his general health and vital signs are, especially for his age.

So from me, foster mum Sue, and from Elmo – who has just celebrated his 15th Birthday, a huge THANK YOU to all his sponsors! We couldn't do this without you!

**COULD YOU  
FIND IT IN YOUR  
HEART TO BE A  
FOSTERER?**



Being a fosterer takes a very special person or family – it involves welcoming a dog into your home and helping them to learn about what being in a loving environment is all about. This helps them immensely when we find them their 'Forever' home. Castledon pays for all necessary veterinary care for the foster dogs and we're always on hand to provide help and advice, if needed. We often have dogs who would benefit greatly from being fostered. If you could help or would like to find out more about this very rewarding vocation, please do contact us!

## HOME SWEET HOME TOGETHER FOR BILLY & SANDI

We have had rescued greyhounds for several years but had been without any in our home after losing our 12-year-old girl, a few years ago. As we have a very elderly rescue terrier, we were not sure if he would manage having big dogs around him again, so we had been hesitant about another greyhound.

When we saw Jodie's appeal about Billy & Sandi needing a new home, we talked about offering them a home but then decided it might be too much for our little old man. We also have a real soft spot for older hounds so when Jodie's second plea mentioned that Billy & Sandi might have to be rehomed separately, we emailed her that day!

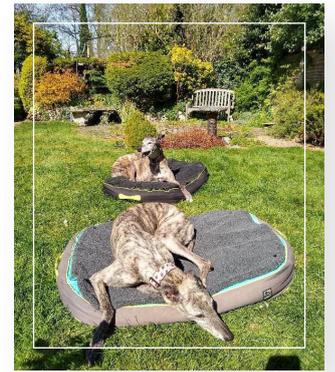
Billy & Sandi had been living in a home together for several years, but due to a change in circumstances they were in need of a new home.

After talking things over with Jodie, we agreed that as long as Billy, Sandi & our elderly Terrier, Kipper, got along ok we would Adopt Sandi & permanent foster Billy. Sandi we could get insurance for, but Billy who was approaching 12, would be too old to get insured. So Castledon would cover any future vet bills for Billy, which meant we could keep them both together & they didn't have to be rehomed separately.

At the end of January 2020 Jodie brought both dogs, to meet us and our terrier. They were completely calm and relaxed around him and he enjoyed a few sniffs with them before having a short walk together. After our little walk together, we all went into the house & they strolled around downstairs, enjoyed lots of cuddles and then explored the garden. Sandi was the more unsure of the two but even she soon started to enjoy all the attention. The only adjustment I think they had to make was getting up a bit earlier in the morning for their first walk of the day!

From that initial meeting they settled perfectly. They were roaching on their beds within the first 48 hours and Billy settled himself on the sofa not too long after that. They are quite different characters, but both are so loving. They love their squeaky toys and playing in the garden. In the daytime Billy takes over the sofa in the sitting room and only gets up for his evening walk. It has taken Sandi 8 months to realise she can climb onto the sofa, but she now prefers one of our armchairs.

They both had to have "extreme" dentals (the descriptive term the vet used!). Billy had his just before lockdown. Sandi had hers when the vets restarted surgery and horrifyingly had 38 teeth removed. It was a real shock that she lost so many teeth, but she must have been so uncomfortable. With some TLC she recovered quickly and was clearly so much more content without all that discomfort. She has thrived since and her confidence grows every day.



They came with us for our annual summer holiday in Norfolk and quickly adjusted to beach walking and paddling in the sea!

It is hard to tell that Billy is 12, he is playful and very good at sneaking into the kitchen for treats or leftover food that the terrier may have left. Nine-year-old Sandi has perfect view of the garden and loves to race out of the back door if she sees a squirrel in the distance. They both very happily allow our teenage girls to cuddle them all evening!

Billy & Sandi settled into life with our family immediately, and are just such happy, contented Hounds.

We would always consider offering a home to an older hound, they have such a lot of love to give and seem to know just how to get the most out of their adoptive family! We are so grateful that they have joined our family.



## INTRODUCING CASTLEDON'S YOUNG APPRENTICE!



My Niece Ava, may only be a year old but she's already got Nellie doing a 'down' for a biscuit! I've got high hopes for Ava already... This time next year she'll be doing the Home-checks!!

# Castledon's **50**fifty Club

## What is the **50** fifty club?

The **50** fifty club is a fun way of raising funds for Castledon which at the same time gives members the chance to win cash prizes each month.

Each entry into the club costs £1, which gives you one number, unique to you. 50p from each entry is donated to Castledon with the remaining 50p going into the monthly prize pot.

On the last Friday of each month, we will select 2 numbers from the entered numbers, using a random number generator. The first number selected will win 75% of the prize pot and the second number selected will win 25% of the prize pot.

The more entries there are, the bigger the prize pot will be!

You can have as many or as few entries in the draw as you wish - the more you have, the more chances you have of winning!

You will be eligible for inclusion in the draw so long as your subscription for that month has been paid.

As soon as the numbers are drawn, we will post notification on our forum and also email or write to the lucky winners.

Their prizes will be sent out to them in the post.

**In summary, the 50:Fifty club is a lottery with a conscience!**

## Sounds good! - how do I join in?

Once you've decided how many entries into the club you would like each month, just fill in the enclosed Standing Order form and return it to us.

Then sit back safe in the knowledge that as well as having a chance to win, you'll be helping the Castledon hounds, too!



**GOOD LUCK!**





# APPLICATION FORM FOR Castledon's 50:Fifty CLUB



Please complete this form and the standing order instruction below and return to: **50:Fifty Club, Castledon Greyhound Rescue, c/o 18 Colworth Close, Benfleet, Essex SS7 2SP**

Full Name: .....  
Full Postal Address: .....  
.....  
.....Post Code: .....  
Telephone number: .....  
Email address: .....

Please allocate me  50:Fifty Club number(s) @ £1 per number, per month. I have completed and signed the bank standing order instruction below. Once we have received your instruction we will notify you of your numbers.

If you are a UK tax payer, please tick the box so that we can claim Gift Aid  This means that for every £1 you give, we can reclaim an extra 25p from the taxman!  
You must pay an amount of UK Income Tax and/or UK Capital Gains Tax in each tax year at least equal to the tax that Castledon Greyhound Rescue in addition to any other charities, reclaim on your donations

Signature.....Date.....

## BANK STANDING ORDER INSTRUCTION

*Please PRINT your details clearly*

To: (Your bank's name and full address)

.....  
.....  
.....

Your bank account number: .....

Your bank sort code: .....

Name of account holder: .....

Please pay £..... until further notice, on the fifth day of each month, commencing on the fifth day of ..... (MM/YY) - *If today's date is the 10th of the month or after, please put next month as your commencement date. This is to enable your bank enough time to process your request*

Your signature:

.....Date.....

**Your address:**  
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**For Office use only:**  
Please use reference.....  
  
For the credit of: Castledon Greyhound Rescue  
Bank: Nat West, Ealing Branch  
1 The Mall, Ealing, London W5 2PL  
Account no: 41804082  
Sort code: 60 07 10

# SYLVIA'S LASTING LOVE OF GREYHOUNDS

It's fair to say for my mother, Sylvia Ubdegrove, that it was love at first sight when she first owned a greyhound. In fact she owned two, Bob and Joe, this was back in 1979 when with my dad, and their friends, they invested in a couple of Greyhound puppies. The intention was to race them, I was only 5 at the time but I remember going to my dad's friend's house to see the puppies before they were taken away for schooling (which I found hilarious as a kid having just started school myself!) and our relationship with the hounds for the next 3 years was from the side of a racetrack (we did get to pet them after races). High Speed Jazz (Bob) and Syndicate Jazz (Joe) had very little success on the race track but did provide my parents with a social life, as they headed out every Saturday night, something that stuck with them right up until my dad sadly passed suddenly in 2002.

Since 1979 our house became a shrine to Greyhounds – statues, ornaments, pictures, tea towels, T-shirts, mugs, pens, pendants, you name it – if it had a greyhound on it, my mum would buy it!

The one thing however that my mum was adamant on, was that those first two dogs would come home after their racing careers had finished – one to us, and one to my dad's friend, or she would never agree to the ownership. I'm not sure if we always had Bob in mind to become our pet, but around 1983/84 Bob was retired, along with Joe, and Bob became a part of our family. I'll never forget how upset my mother was when a few weeks later my dad's friend revealed he had sold Joe, with no consultation, only that he'd gone to a good home – my mum was devastated, and I think she would have taken Joe in as well if she'd of known my dad's friend didn't want him.

So that's how it started, although my mum did own a whippet as a child which probably helped her fondness, but from that day on we always had greyhounds. Bob was a great calm dog, would drink tea, eat mars bars (the days before we realised that was bad) and



being a golden fawn colour would sometimes get mistaken for a tall Labrador once he put on weight! We learnt a lot of lessons with Bob about diet, and looking after a Greyhound, but even with his excessive weight (it's not that often you see an overweight greyhound so was an experience in hindsight!) he lived to the ripe old age of 13!

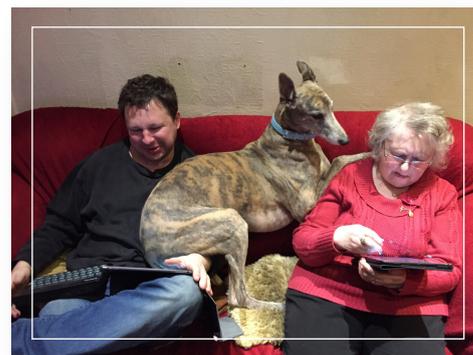
Woo Woo was our next dog, a dark brindle and another one my dad raced, but came home once he was done. He was a lunatic compared to Bob, into everything and needed a lot of love having been raised in a field in Ireland before we got him, but glad to say in his final years he certainly learned how nice cuddles were and became a very cuddly hound who sadly left us only 3 months after losing dad, he never got over it.

Not wanting to race greyhounds anymore, as a family we decided we needed a Greyhound in our lives and decided to drop into Battersea and walked away with Rossi, a beautiful light brindle – he truly was a dream dog, and was born on my dad's birthday which made him extra special to us. His temperament was perfect, he liked watching TV, he could do no wrong but tragically on father's day a year later he suffered a seizure that he never recovered from, in the space of 12 hours we lost him and it hit us hard.

Whilst it was hard, after six months we were feeling the pull of needing a greyhound back in our lives and that was when we discovered Castledon Greyhound Rescue, and met Jodie for the first time. We felt with our experience of owning greyhounds we were ready for anything, and we made a point of asking for a dog with character or oddness, as a family we really don't mind if they have quirks, the more the better!

And that's how we ended up with Billy Dog, who really was unlike any greyhound we had ever owned. Our first black dog, our first nervous dog, our first idiot dog! Billy was scared of his own shadow, but with Mum spoiling him rotten he soon came out of his shell, just not around fireworks night. Sadly, after 2 years Billy developed an issue with his hind legs which turned out to be a complaint more common with cats than dogs, but we did nickname Billy Catdog, so it figured! We did everything we could to help cure him of his condition, he even went to the Royal Veterinary College in a bid to have the best people help him, but we sadly lost him in March 2010, the same month as my mum was diagnosed with Breast Cancer.

Thankfully mum quickly battled and defeated Cancer and once back to full health she wanted nothing more than another Greyhound in her life and that's when the wonderful Tio Dog turned up.... our first female, another dark brindle and for a girl she was pretty well built, often mistaken for a boy! Tio certainly had the quirks, but was adorable with them and had mum wrapped around her paws – never had a dog previously that managed to train my mum so well in giving out treats and extras! She



would sit at the kitchen door and monitor my mum, follow her around, and with just a look she would have my mum trained to spoil her!

Sadly in 2015, Tio was diagnosed with bone cancer and after a short fight we knew it was kinder to let her go.

We didn't wait too long to get ourselves another nutter hound, and that brings us to our current dog, Angel. Mum saw a Castledon Facebook Plea and wasted no time in ordering me to contact Jodie! Mum wanted Angel dog from the minute she saw that post. A couple of weeks later, Angel came into our lives and like Tio before her, had my mum well trained in record time.

Sadly in August of this year, five years after getting Angel, my mother was diagnosed with cancer and this time it didn't give her the chance to fight it, and she lost her fight in early September. It was her desire to see Angel Dog that gave her the willpower to want to come home, and right up until her final days, Angel would bring a smile to her face as she battled the illness.

I'm not sure how much Angel understood, but the night my mum died Angel certainly had a moment when suddenly she wanted cuddles, reassurance, and she's really not that kind of dog.

Recently she turned 11, and since my mum passed she's had moments of running around the house, in search of something, going up to my mum's old room and just standing in there, sniffing the air. We are showering her with all the love we can, making sure she knows things are ok, that rain can't hurt her, or plastic bags, or people talking loudly in the street (another nervous hound!). My Brother and I know one thing will remain, we certainly caught mum's love for these crazy hounds and we will always have a home for Greyhounds, and in Castledon we have found they really know the sort of Greyhounds we love. Although for the record, any hounds will now have to work harder for treats as we are not as much of a soft touch as our mum was!!

On the evening of September 2nd 2020, we sadly lost our mum after a short battle with pancreatic cancer and we didn't hesitate in agreeing that in Mum's memory we would raise funds for Castledon Greyhound Rescue.

We were very pleased that the fund raised £770 which exceeded all expectations.



## DONATION IN MEMORY OF LEE

Castledon was contacted by a lady called Sandra Smith who very sadly lost her stepson, Lee, earlier in the year.

As Lee was a lover of greyhounds, Sandra decided to request that rather than send flowers, friends and family made donations to a greyhound rescue.

We are honoured that she chose Castledon as the nominated charity to receive the donations.

Lee had his own greyhound, Alfie (the white and brindle one) and Sandra owned Prince (the white

and black one). They 2 dogs were brothers and brought much joy to Lee.

Thanks to the generosity of those who knew Lee, Castledon received a cheque in excess of £1000 which shows just how well thought of he was.

Thank you Sandra for thinking of Castledon - your kindness will make such a difference to us and we're very touched that you thought of us during a very difficult time for you.

Rest in Peace, dear Lee.

## DONATIONS

Thank you to everyone who continues to support us. We really do appreciate each and every donation that you very kindly give to our rescue. Every penny is spent on making sure that Castledon is run as efficiently as possible with the health and well-being of the dogs our continuing priority.

Obviously, this year has been a very difficult one for us all. But for charities like ours, not being able to do the usual fundraising activities throughout the year has been a blow to the finances.

Here's some of the ways you can help:

- ~ Join our 50:Fifty Club
- ~ Become one of Elmo's sponsor's
- ~ Donate
- ~ Foster & Adopt
- ~ Spread the word about Castledon & Greyhounds as Pets

**However you choose to support Castledon Greyhound Rescue - THANK YOU!**

## DON'T BURY YOUR HEAD IN THE SAND!



We all want to avoid having to take our dogs to the vets to have a dental but most of us find it a challenge to keep our dogs' teeth clean. There are lotions and potions that claim to do the job with varying results. Just lately, we've come across ostrich bones, which claim to help with plaque removal and we are very impressed with the results.

Unlike 'normal' bones, these have a honeycomb interior that doesn't splinter. The dogs really seem to love them and gnaw at them, which is very effective at removing the build up of plaque. Just 15 minutes a day is enough to start seeing results.

Although the bones initially seem expensive at roughly £10 each, when you compare that with the average cost of a doggy dental, they really are cost effective. Why not treat your dog to one for Christmas?!



Thank you to everyone who very kindly sent the dogs Christmas treats etc last year via our Amazon Wishlist. If anyone would like to do so this year, they would be very grateful.

[www.amazon.co.uk/gp/registry/wishlist/496U3T69N5MH](http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/registry/wishlist/496U3T69N5MH)

Thank you so much!



Why not consider joining our forum - it's free!  
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