

Walkies!



Report by
Dawn Morrison

THE hunt is on to find dog lovers who can take a four-legged friend on a stroll.

Lasswade-based 'Gracehounds' - which rehomes and fosters greyhounds, whippets and lurchers - has been running for 18 months and has gone from strength to strength, finding new families for 20 animals.

But while the dogs are waiting to be rehomed, assistant walkers are needed to keep them in tip-top condition - and it is also believed the hounds benefit from meeting new people and having

Canines are seeking companions

new experiences.

Founder Lois Sinclair, who runs the agency along with husband Colin and Pauline Shirlaw, explained: "They need a good walk every day like any other dog - some people think they need to be walked and walked, but that's not correct. They're very happy to lie on the sofa!"

Every year, many greyhounds, which are bred in large numbers for racing, are abandoned or destroyed when they become surplus to requirements.

However, because of their quiet demeanour, greyhounds are not the quickest to be chosen from general pet rescue centres, which has led to the creation of specialist agencies.

Gracehounds currently has three lovely pooches looking for new owners - ex-racers Torres (4), Lucy, 18 months and Lake (2), who has never competed but was kennelled as a racing dog.

For more information on fostering, adopting or walking greyhounds, visit the website - www.gracehounds.plus.com or phone Lois on 07989 963 556.

● Gracehounds' recent 'Hot Dog Show', held in Vogrie Country Park, raised £2400 for the animals. The family fun day featured quizzes, games and stalls, with mutts of all shapes and sizes welcomed. Lois thanked all those who supported, volunteered and attended the event.