

Greyhound Retirement Scheme Newsletter



HELPING GREYHOUNDS ENJOY LONG, HEALTHY AND HAPPY LIVES IN RETIREMENT

SIX MONTHS OF THE GRS

Welcome to the second issue of our quarterly GRS newsletter.

As ever, I would like to express my sincerest thanks for your continued support of the scheme. It is through your ongoing commitment and dedication that the GRS has gone from strength to strength over the past six months and I am incredibly proud to report on the progress we have made.

Since the GRS launched in September 2020, over **4,000** greyhounds have now signed up to the scheme. Of these, over **1,000** retired greyhounds have accessed their full bond so far. This means that, between you, over 1,000 greyhounds have been welcomed into your centres and many have already found their perfect forever home - an incredible achievement.

We now have over **110** approved homing centres signed up to the GRS and, each week, this list continues to grow. I am particularly delighted to welcome **Barnsley and District Animal Welfare** onto the scheme - a centre that previously did not home greyhounds but heard about our collective efforts and have extended their support.

If you know of any animal homing charities who may be interested in joining the GRS - whether they currently home greyhounds or not - please do encourage them to get in contact with me.

Once again, I would like to thank you all for your ongoing help and hard work. I hope you enjoy reading this latest newsletter which celebrates some of the homing successes we've seen at centres up and down the country in recent months.

Paula Beniston
GRS Co-ordinator
GBGB



A SPOTLIGHT ON HOMING: WILLOW AND US



"At Acehounds, we run a very special 'Friendship Dogs' scheme. Through this, we give people in our local community, particularly those with learning difficulties, physical conditions or who may be older and in

need of some company, the opportunity to spend some time interacting with our greyhounds.

Back in December, a couple got in touch about our dog-walking service. They told me about their lovely seven-year-old daughter, Matilda, who happens to have autism. Matilda was incredibly fearful of dogs so they wanted her to spend some time with a calm, gentle greyhound in the hope that her fears would be eased.

What began as a single 'friendship walk' with one of our greyhounds, led to another and then another. Before she knew it, Matilda had developed a real bond with the breed we all know and love.



And so when newly retired racer, Willow (Chilli Akimbo), came to us via the GRS we knew exactly who would give her the perfect home - Matilda and her family.



Willow and Matilda have since become inseparable and have made a friendship that is here to stay.

Matilda and her mum have even designed an incredible set of watercolour cards, titled 'Willow and Us' (available [here](#)) to help raise money for our centre and ensure as many greyhounds as possible can find their loving forever homes."

Elaine Sheppard, Founder of
Acehounds Friendship Dogs

PHOTO GALLERY

A few greyhounds who have already benefited from the GRS...



Clockwise L to R: Easy Curly from **Greyhound Trust Sheffield**; Jake (Rage Jackson), Eccles (Problem Solver) and Stella (Santro Sweet) from **Durham District Retired Greyhounds**.

GBGB GREYHOUND AMBASSADORS' CERTIFICATES

We have received some wonderful feedback from those of you who are sharing our Ambassadors' re-designed greyhound history certificates with new owners. Click [here](#) for a copy of the certificate for former racing greyhounds and [here](#) for non-racing greyhounds.

Thank you again to **Seaside Greyhounds** for allowing us to use their fantastic photo of Kenny (Heaven's Boy) as the background image.

SHARE YOUR STORIES

We love hearing your standout and heart-warming GRS homing stories so please feel free to share them with us via grs@gbgb.org.uk.

Likewise do continue to promote your involvement in the scheme on your social media channels and website.