

Greyhound Retirement Scheme Newsletter



Pictured L to R: Retired greyhounds Tina (Underground Tina) and Shadow (Drafted) from Acehounds Friendship Dogs

HELPING GREYHOUNDS ENJOY LONG, HEALTHY AND HAPPY LIVES IN RETIREMENT

ONE YEAR OF THE GRS

Welcome to the fourth issue of our GRS newsletter.

It has now been one year since we launched the GRS and I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our 126 approved homing centres, as well as owners, trainers and stadia who have supported the scheme.

It has been an absolute pleasure working with you all over the past twelve months and I am so proud of the progress we have made in that time.

Over 9,000 greyhounds have now been enrolled in the GRS and over 3,000 retired greyhounds are enjoying their retirement in either an approved homing centre or their forever home. I am also pleased to report that GBGB has now contributed well over £1 million in GRS payments.

Every week I am delighted to receive heart-warming stories from homing centres whose greyhounds are benefiting from the scheme. It was excellent to hear recently from Joanne Johnson, Lead Volunteer at **Greyhound Trust Mersey and Cheshire**, who said that, with the support of the GRS, the centre has been able to home over 100 greyhounds this year which is double the number of greyhounds they usually home.

Likewise Tracey Parbery, Chair of **Greyhound Trust Hall Green**, which has homed nearly 400 greyhounds through the scheme, said that "the GRS has been a lifeline to many Greyhound Trust branches. The knowledge that you have a guaranteed payment coming into the Branch against every greyhound you are finding a home for helps budget for costs and supports the welfare of each hound."

As always, I hope you enjoy reading the latest issue of our GRS newsletter and I am looking forward to reporting back to you in December when I will undoubtedly have more positive stories to share.

Paula Beniston
GRS Co-ordinator
GBGB



FAMILY WELCOMES SECOND RETIRED RACER

GRS greyhound Henry (Annie's King) has recently found his forever home via **Dunrinnin Rehoming Kennels**. His new owner speaks of the delight of welcoming Henry, their second former racer, into the family:

"Henry has brought so much joy (and chaos) into our lives. At a time of turmoil, his loving, goofy nature provided an anchor for everyone - a cheerful distraction for the kids and united us as a family."



Pictured: Henry



Pictured: Gwinnie (L) and Henry (R)

Our aloof black beauty Gwinnie (Rackethall Carla) found herself a tad shell-shocked to not be the only greyhound in the house. But with time, her and Henry developed their own little pack, united in chasing squirrels and pigeons out of the gardens and sticking together through the many adventures we have.

We've never been betting people, but we are incredibly thankful that the Greyhound Board of Great Britain supports the new lives of these gorgeous hounds."

SHARE YOUR STORIES

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

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

A GOOD LIFE FOR EVERY GREYHOUND

This month, GBGB launched the first stage of its new, national welfare strategy 'A Good Life for Every Greyhound'.

Development of the Strategy will be led by GBGB's new Independent Director Professor Madeleine Campbell, who will be working closely with key stakeholders across the sport, including some of our GRS approved homing centres.

The Strategy will take a holistic view of greyhound welfare focused on animals' physiological and psychological needs across their lifetimes. It will look at how we can optimise animal experience in all five welfare domains from racing through to retirement.

Click [here](#) to read more.

AN UPDATE FROM DAYBREAKS TRUST

~ ONE OF OUR FIRST APPROVED HOMING PARTNERS ~

On 1st September 2020, **Daybreaks Trust** joined the GRS as one of our first approved homing centres. Ruth Price, Manager at the centre, explains how the scheme has benefited their homing efforts:

"We were so happy to be approved as a GBGB homing centre. This support has helped massively by taking away the financial burden - especially of veterinary bills. This scheme is something the racing industry has needed for a long time as it secures the retirement future of all registered racing greyhounds for which we are very grateful. We feel this is a giant step in greyhound welfare."

PHOTO GALLERY



Some of the many GRS greyhounds who have found loving homes (L to R): Zebo via **S.A.R.A.**; Mia (Fieldview Mac) via **Greyhound Trust Henlow and Waltham Abbey**; Star (Sporting Oyster), Alan (Sporting Connell) and Nancy (Sporting Nancy) via **Ashbourne Animal Welfare**.