

# Greyhound Retirement Scheme Newsletter

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HELPING GREYHOUNDS ENJOY LONG, HEALTHY AND HAPPY LIVES IN RETIREMENT

## CELEBRATING TWO YEARS OF THE GRS

Back in September 2020, GBGB launched the Greyhound Retirement Scheme which marked a real step change in GBGB's support for canine athletes, beyond their racing career.

Over the past two years, I am both delighted and very proud to say that the scheme has gone from strength to strength, thanks to the wholehearted support of dedicated and hardworking individuals across the greyhound community.

Together, we have built a community of nearly 130 approved homing centres, whose volunteers work day in day out to find loving homes for our retired racers. I have been thrilled with the reception the GRS has received from owners and homing centres up and down the country and I am looking forward to continue growing our list of partners so that more of our retired racers can access the scheme's support.

Ultimately, the aim of the GRS is to ensure that, from the point of registration, each and every racing greyhound has a bond that follows them throughout their career and supports them in finding their forever home upon their retirement. In total, GBGB and racing greyhound owners have contributed in excess of £2.5 million to the GRS so far, with more than 6,000 greyhounds benefiting from the scheme's funding.

It has been fantastic to see the growing impact of the GRS since its launch and, on a personal note, to have had the opportunity to work with so many inspiring and committed individuals and teams involved in the homing process. A sincere thank you to all for your endless support and the care you provide to the greyhounds in your charge.

I hope you can take the time to read some of the standout homing stories from the past few months in this newsletter. For more, you can head over to our **Twitter** and **Facebook** pages where we have been marking this special two year anniversary of the GRS with a week of celebrations.

**Paula Beniston**  
GRS Co-ordinator  
GBGB



## TWO RETIRED RACERS AND A FRENCHIE

A few months ago, retired racer Willow (DARVER ELAYNE) began life with her new family, joining former racer Sidney (EDENCURRA SYDNEY) - who was homed by the family in 2021 - and their frenchie puppy, Luna.

After only a few days, Willow's owners, Lauren and Hugh, said:

"Willow is settling in great. She's been playing with Sidney and the toys. She stuck her nose in his food bowl once she was finished with her dinner too! Sidney is loving her - he keeps licking her face!"



L-R: Willow (DARVER ELAYNE), Luna the frenchie and Sidney (EDENCURRA SYDNEY)

**Janice Kennedy, lead volunteer at West Scotland Greyhound Trust**

## SHARE YOUR STORIES

Please feel free to share your GRS homing stories with us, and any photos, via [grs@gbgb.org.uk](mailto:grs@gbgb.org.uk). Likewise, do continue to promote your involvement in the scheme on your social media channels and website.

### "I HOMED SCAR BUT HE RESCUED ME"

Scar (RAFIKI SCAR) came into my life when it was pretty lonely and I was looking for a pal. I can honestly say Scar is the best dog I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. He's loving, silly, and like nothing I've ever had in my life before! He is such a personality and makes me laugh every day. My children also adore him.

This lanky, ridiculous, couch potato has become family in such a short period of time and I'll be forever grateful. I homed Scar but he rescued me.



**Dave Warren, owner to retired racer Scar (RAFIKI SCAR), homed via Dunrunnin**

## HENRY BECOMES PART OF THE FURNITURE

In July, we found a forever home for Henry (BROADLAND BLAKE) who is now thoroughly enjoying retired life with his new owner, Phil. Whilst the first few days in his new environment were a bit of an adjustment for Henry, he is settling in more and more by the hour.

In a recent message to us, Phil's daughter, Vicky, said:

"Henry is the most laid back and good-natured dog imaginable but he still makes it clear he is happy. Dad has a very quiet, chilled life at home living by himself but, as you can tell, Dad and now Henry's life is entwined closely with my family life; myself, my husband, my stepchildren and our cockapoo puppy, Pippin. We wanted you to know that Henry has taken such a huge space in all of our hearts so strongly and so quickly!"

"Huge thanks for making my Dad a happy dog owner again, bringing Henry into our households and the advice you gave us when we brought Henry home. I think you are an amazing group and the work you do will always stay with me."

**Joanne Johnson, volunteer at Greyhound Trust Mersey and Cheshire**



L-R: Pippin the cockapoo and Henry (BROADLAND BLAKE)