

**Greyhound Board**  
 **of Great Britain**



**2021**

*Annual Report & Accounts*

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## ***Mission Statement***

“ The role of the GBGB is to regulate and promote British Greyhound Racing, with greyhound welfare as our highest priority. ”



## Vision

*That British Greyhound Racing is a successful and sustainable sport, commercially-viable and adequately funded to ensure its future prosperity. We are world-leading in welfare and integrity standards and support everyone involved in the sport to increase its popularity with our British and global audiences.*

## Values

### WELFARE

*We will always put the welfare of greyhounds at the heart of all we do.*

### INTEGRITY

*We always act with honesty, impartiality and consistency to earn the trust of our stakeholders.*

### PROFESSIONALISM

*We pride ourselves on our commitment to quality and effective service delivery and the successful development of those working within the sport.*

### GOOD GOVERNANCE

*We will always act in the best interests of the sport as a whole and be accountable for our actions.*

### RESPECT

*We value all those involved in the sport highly – no matter their role – and will always give consideration and due regard to every stakeholder.*



# Chairman's Report

*By Jeremy Cooper*

***The beginning of 2021 again saw us in the grip of another national lockdown due to the Covid crisis, but at least, like other sports, we were operating and, in our case, racing.***

Similar to 2020, the majority of tracks persevered and adapted to a lack of spectators and some even managed to buck-the-trend and saw an increase in foot fall, especially after late June, when unrestricted crowds were again permitted at stadia.

A review of the Greyhound Commitment and our third year in our reporting back to Defra and publication of our annual track injuries and retirement, (please see the CEO update for further details), led our Board to consider how we might take our sport's commitment to welfare even further than we had to-date. We always knew that we wanted to look at the welfare and care of our greyhounds beyond simply their racing years and to ethically look at what responsible greyhound ownership means, together with what GBGB, as the regulator, could do on a 'shared responsibility' basis.

As a result of these deliberations, in 2021 we welcomed Professor Madeleine Campbell and Angela Smith to the main GBGB Board as Independent Non-Executive Directors. Madeleine, who is an EBVS® European Veterinary Specialist and RCVS Specialist in Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law, was specifically recruited to chair the GBGB Welfare and Veterinary Standing Committee and to develop a new, over-arching welfare strategy on behalf of GBGB. The Strategy is due for publication in 2022.

Angela is a former Labour politician, who served as MP for Penistone and Stocksbridge from 2010 to 2019 and MP for Sheffield Hillsborough from 2005 to 2010. Angela was also a member of the EFRA Committee and helped oversee the EFRA Committee review into Greyhound Welfare in 2015-16.

The continued hard work and development of our welfare standards and commitment were somewhat overshadowed in November 2021, when we were invited to meet with the Chief Executives of the Dogs Trust and RSPCA, who outlined that they were about to embark on their own review of greyhound racing. They would specifically be looking at whether they would continue to support the sport as they previously had done or whether they would change their position. Both animal welfare charities explained that any review would be based on evidence to support their position, whatever that might eventually become.

At the point of the writing of this update, the charities have not yet reported back on their conclusions.

GBGB are, however, resolute in our mission to improve the welfare standards of the greyhounds in our care and will continue to work with any and all animal welfare charities that share that same commitment to our racing greyhounds.

**Jeremy Cooper,**  
GBGB Chairman





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# Chief Executive's Report

*By Mark Bird*



■ ■ Whilst 2021 began with another national Lockdown as a result of the pandemic, over the course of the year we were gradually able to put the Covid restrictions behind us and look towards getting the sport back on track. We saw green-shoots of recovery across the sport with some tracks seeing much higher than expected foot falls and a definite 'staycation' bounce. ■ ■



## Racing

Towcester Stadium successfully bid on hosting the English Greyhound Derby in 2021, with the final being run on 10th July. The Derby had previously been run at Towcester in 2017 and 2018 under Lord Hesketh's reign but for 2021 it was under the leadership of Kevin Boothby that we saw the Derby return to Towcester.

It was also the first time since Covid that we saw crowds return to watch the Derby – albeit on a restricted basis. With increased prize money of £175,000 for the winner, the draw for owners and trainers to apply to the competition was obvious.

The thrilling final saw a fantastic one and two win for Towcester Professional Trainer Patrick Janssens, with *Thorn Falcon* coming in as the winner, and kennelmate, *Kilara Lion* running in second, pipping Pat Buckley's former 2020 Derby winner, *Deerjet Sydney* into third place.

*Signet Ace*, trained by Kevin Hutton, was another major star of the track in 2021 with his GBGB Category One successes numbering the Arena Racing Company Eclipse at Nottingham along with the Arc Select Stakes and Ladbrokes Winter Derby at Monmore.

## Welfare and Integrity

Our yearly published track injury and retirement data continued to demonstrate a commitment to pushing down unnecessary euthanasia's. In 2019, GBGB set itself two challenging targets to be achieved within the following three years. The targets used the 2018 data as their baseline.

**The data for 2021, which represents Year 3, shows that GBGB has met both targets:**

- To halve, by the end of 2021, the number of greyhounds put to sleep because of the high cost of treatment or because no home could be found. In 2018, this figure was 180 and in 2021, just nine greyhounds were put to sleep for this reason with none put to sleep because

no home could be found. This is a decrease of 95% - significantly higher than the 50% target. GBGB's ultimate aim is to bring this figure down to zero.

- To halve, by the end of 2021, the number of greyhounds being put to sleep on humane grounds at the track due to injuries. In 2018, this figure was 242 and in 2021 it was 120 – a decrease of 50%. This is a fatality rate of 0.03% down from 0.06% in 2020.

Whilst not a target per se, the GBGB also committed to drive down the unnecessary numbers of deaths due to greyhounds being classified as unsuitable for homing. In 2018, this figure was 190 and in 2021, this figure was down to 13 – a reduction of 93%.

In September, we marked the first year anniversary of the Greyhound Retirement Scheme. In its first year, nearly 9,000 greyhounds were registered under the scheme and 3,000 greyhounds received the £400 GRS bond as they moved into one of 126 approved homing centres upon retirement. Overall, over £1 million was paid out to approved homing centres to help cover the costs of the greyhounds' stay with them with an additional £25,000 paid out in grants to help make improvements at the centres.

Finally, GBGB successfully maintained its UKAS accredited status for the inspection and licensing of racecourses. Since first gaining accreditation in 2010, GBGB continued to demonstrate to UKAS that the mechanism it has in place for inspections and licensing of racecourses is operated in a consistent and impartial manner and hence is compliant with all clauses of the international standard ISO17065.

**Mark Bird,**  
Chief Executive

# The Greyhound Commitment

*On behalf of our sport and industry, the Greyhound Board of Great Britain, working with our trusted stakeholders and relying on voluntary funding from bookmakers, is proud to make and uphold the following commitments:*



- 1** *Greyhound welfare and safety is at the heart of everything we do.*
- 2** *Every racing greyhound is treated with care and respect throughout its career.*
- 3** *Our independently verified injury rates remain the lowest in the world and will improve further still.*
- 4** *Wherever possible, every dog leaving racing enjoys a long and happy retirement.*
- 5** *Every race is run fairly and safely and that attending a race meeting is an enjoyable and fun experience for all involved.*
- 6** *Those working within the sport have access to training at the beginning of their careers, and ongoing, accredited professional development.*
- 7** *Funding received from the betting industry significantly contributes to greyhound welfare.*
- 8** *Together, we continue to promote our sport and nurture the public's love of greyhounds.*

**To find out how we are meeting these Commitments, please visit:**  
**[www.gbgb.org.uk](http://www.gbgb.org.uk)**

**Greyhound Board**  
of Great Britain  
**AWARDS**  
**2021**

The awards gala evening was held on Sunday 15th May 2022 at the Royal Lancaster London. The prestigious event was attended by 230 people. The evening celebrated not just the achievements of our canine athletes, but also those people who look after them; trainers, kennel-hands, owners and homers.

*The evening was generously supported by a number of sponsors.*



# The Winners

Greyhound Board  
of Great Britain

## AWARDS 2021

**GBGB Greyhound of the Year and  
ARC Standard Distance Performer of the Year 2021**

### **SIGNET ACE**

**Laughil Blake – Forest Natalee**

**Trainer:** Kevin Hutton

**Owner(s):** Mark Gilbert, Kevin Hutton

**2021 Achievements:**

Winner: Ladbrokes Winter Derby, Monmore Green

Winner: Arena Racing Company Select Stakes, Nottingham

Winner: Arena Racing Company Eclipse Stakes, Nottingham

Finalist: Ladbrokes Gold Cup, Monmore Green

Finalist: Bresbet Steel City Cup, Sheffield

1/4 Finalist: Star Sports/TRC Events & Leisure English Greyhound Derby 2021, Towcester

**15 Open Race Wins**



**GBGB Newcomer of the Year 2021**

### **THORN FALCON**

**Dorotas Wildcat – Hey Delilah**

**Trainer:** Patrick Janssens

**Owner(s):** Two Dragons And A Lion Syndicate

**2021 Achievements:**

Winner: Star Sports/TRC Events & Leisure English Greyhound Derby 2021, Towcester

Winner: KAB Maiden Derby, Towcester

**8 Open Race Wins**



**Star Sports Bitch of the Year 2021**

### **JAGUAR MACIE**

**Droopys Jet – Droopys Breeze**

**Trainer:** Graham Rankin

**Owner(s):** Anthony Armstrong

**2021 Achievements:**

Winner: Ladbrokes Puppy Derby, Monmore Green

Winner: Arena Racing Company Northern Puppy Derby, Newcastle

Winner: Arena Racing Company Angel Of The North Trophy, Newcastle

Finalist: RPGTV Juvenile, Towcester

Finalist: Arena Racing Company Select Stakes, Nottingham

Semi Finalist: Arena Racing Company Oaks, Perry Barr

**11 Open Race Wins**



**GBGB Hurdler of the Year 2021**

### **MEENAGH MAVERICK**

**Droopys Roddick – Slippery Cinders**

**Trainer:** Ricky Holloway

**Owner(s):** Ricky Holloway, Simon Trubshaw

**2021 Achievements:**

Winner: RPGTV Grand National, Central Park

Runner Up: Cearnsport 2021 Springbok, Central Park

**8 Open Race Wins**



**Charles Russell Speechlys Sprinter of the Year 2021****CROSSFIELD DUSTY****Droopys Jet – Crossfield Kate****Trainer:** Patrick Janssens**Owner(s):** Marc White**2021 Achievements:**

Winner: Arena Racing Company Scurry Gold Cup, Perry Barr

Winner: Arena Racing Company National Sprint, Nottingham

Finalist: GAIN Greyhound Nutrition Sovereign Stakes, Towcester

**11 Open Race Wins****Racing Post Greyhound TV Stayer of the Year 2021****SALACRES PIPPY****Definite Opinion – Pippy****Trainer:** Peter Harnden**Owner(s):** Peter Harnden**2021 Achievements:**

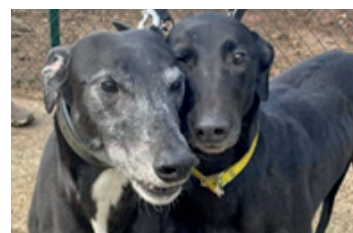
Winner: The Stadium Bookmakers Hunt Cup, Towcester

Winner: The 2021 Ladbrokes Cesarewitch, Crayford

Track Record: 712 distance, Towcester

**11 Open Race Wins****ARC Graded Greyhound of the Year 2021****BLACK EDITION**

Trained at Hove by Richard Rees, and owned by Jeremy Hayes and Marc White, the August 2019 son of Black Zack and Ace Queen, impressed the GBGB judging panel for his record throughout the year during which he scored nine wins in 32 starts and completed a fantastic rise up the graded ranks at the Sussex track in 2021 from A10 to A1.

**GBGB Best Dam of British Bred 2021****FOREST NATALEE****Trainer:** Kevin Hutton**Owner(s):** Kevin Hutton

A brilliant and Classic-winning bitch on the track, now turned super-dam in the paddocks, Forest Natalee win in this category brings an end to incredible four-year reign of the K.S.S. Syndicate's Skate On. A May 2015 daughter of Ballymac Vic and Droopys Danneel, she is therefore a litter sister of Dorotas Wildcat (English Derby), Dorotas Woo Hoo (Scottish Derby), Forest Con (Midland Puppy Derby) and Dorotas Vic (English/Scottish Derby finalist). Her most successful British-bred litter in 2021 was the January 2020 batch by Magical Bale which included the likes of Signet Denver, Moments of Magic, Sleek By Design and Signet Otis, while another major contributor was Bernard (May 2019 by Droopys Jet).

**SIS British Bred Greyhound of the Year 2021****POCKET LOLA****Droopys Sydney – Banabane****Trainer:** Seamus Cahill**Owner(s):** Magnificent Five (UK)**2021 Achievements:**

Winner: The 75th Produce Stakes, Swindon

Winner: BGBF Truframe British Bred Champion Stakes, Towcester

Runner Up: Coral Brighton Belle, Brighton &amp; Hove

Finalist: GAIN Greyhound Nutrition Sovereign Stakes, Towcester

Semi Finalist: Arena Racing Company Oaks, Perry Barr

**12 Open Race Wins**

# The Winners

Greyhound Board  
of Great Britain

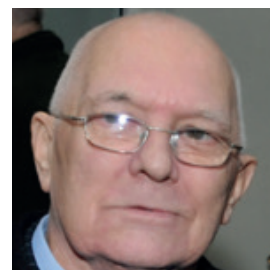
## AWARDS 2021

### *Greyhound Writers' Association Special Recognition Award 2021*

#### **Maurice Newman**

Maurice Newman, one of the industry's greatest ambassadors, received the Greyhound Writers' Association Special Recognition Award from the GWA. He sadly passed away in December 2022 and will be sorely missed.

Maurice, 87, will always be remembered as a "proper greyhound man" and for his years of fundraising for the Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity (GOSH).



### *Greyhound Writers' Association Services to Greyhound Racing 2021*

#### **Kevin Boothby**

Kevin Boothby is the 2020 recipient of the Greyhound Writers' Association Services to Greyhound Racing Award.

The Towcester and Henlow promoter returned the English Greyhound Derby to Towcester in 2021, staging a successful Star Sports/TRC-backed Classic at the Northamptonshire venue, despite the pressures brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic.

He also announced during 2021 plans to reopen the track at Mildenhall, renamed Suffolk Downs, which staged its first meeting earlier this year, and to return greyhound racing to Oxford for the first time since 2012 - the Cowley track has already staged speedway meetings in 2022.



### *Coral Owner of the Year 2021*

#### **K.S.S. Syndicate**

No newcomers to success, the Brendan Keogh-led K.S.S Syndicate won the award for a magnificent seventh time after their team of greyhounds, trained by Liz and Rab McNair from their base in Ashford, Kent, amassed 501 points, finishing ahead of Amanda Jeal (333) and the Ayamzaboy Syndicate (297).



### *BAGS Kennelhand of the Year 2021*

#### **Kelly Gutteridge**

The BAGS-sponsored Kennelhand of the Year is Kelly Gutteridge. Kelly joined David Mullins' team over 12 years ago and travels all over the country with the kennel's open racers, as well as making weekly visits to Romford. She goes above and beyond to keep owners updated on their greyhound's progress and is a real "credit to the sport".



### *Ladbrokes Trainer of the Year 2021*

#### **Mark Wallis**

Mark Wallis is the Ladbrokes Trainer of the Year 2021 - for a record twelfth time - with the boss of Imperial Kennels regaining the title from his friend and former assistant Patrick Janssens, the 2020 champion.

Wallis finished 2021 with 1,346 points, 359 points clear of Janssens (987) and ahead of Kevin Hutton (897), David Mullins (713), Angela Harrison (608) and Liz McNair (498). The top six qualified for the Arc/Entain Trainers' Judgement Night.



## 2021 Roll of Honour

Race	Track	Distance	Greyhound	Trainer
Essex Vase	Romford	575m	Antigua Romeo	M Wallis
Blue Riband	Towcester	500m	Kilara Lion	P Janssens
Golden Jacket	Crayford	714m	Punk Rock Mutley	S Maplesden
Puppy Derby	Monmore Green	480m	Jaguar Macie	G Rankin
Winter Derby	Monmore Green	480m	Signet Ace	K Hutton
Golden Sprint	Romford	400m	Bockos Jon Jo	P Janssens
British Breeders Stakes	Nottingham	500m	King Louis	E McNair
Northern Puppy Derby	Newcastle	480m	Jaguar Macie	G Rankin
Springbok	Central Park	480mH	Droopys Rex	D Mullins
Northamptonshire Sprint	Towcester	270m	Bockos Jon Jo	P Janssens
Juvenile	Towcester	500m	Ballymac Trend	K Boon
Grand Prix	Sunderland	640m	Coolavanny Bani	A Harrison
Laurels	Perry Barr	480m	Havana Class	E McNair
Grand National	Central Park	480mH	Meenagh Maverick	R Holloway
Maiden Derby	Towcester	500m	Thorn Falcon	P Janssens
Northern Flat	Newcastle	480m	Pacemaker Ted	T Heilbron
TV Trophy	Monmore Green	900m	Aayamza Royale	M Wallis
Yarmouth St Leger	Yarmouth	659m	Blue Tick George	J Daly
Kent St Leger	Crayford	714m	Bo Shine Bullet	M Wallis
Guy and Dolls	Crayford	380m	Punk Rock Doll	S Maplesden
The Derby	Towcester	500m	Thorn Falcon	P Janssens
Regency	Brighton & Hove	695m	Aayamza Royale	M Wallis
Sussex Cup	Brighton & Hove	515m	Drumcrow Brent	M Wallis
Summer Stayers	Monmore Green	630m	Coolavanny Bani	A Harrison
Gold Cup	Monmore Green	480m	Minglers Popeye	S Tighe
Puppy Classic	Nottingham	500m	Bubbly Apache	P Young
Select Stakes	Nottingham	500m	Signet Ace	K Hutton
Three Steps to Victory	Sheffield	Tri-Distance	Savana Eruption	D Henry
75th East Anglian Derby	Yarmouth	462m	Antigua Storm	M Wallis
75th Produce Stakes	Swindon	476m	Pocket Lola	S Cahill
Puppy Cup	Romford	400m	Brookside Richie	D Mullins
St Leger	Perry Barr	710m	Space Jet	M Dartnall
Birmingham Cup	Perry Barr	480m	Candy Man	C Weatherall
Kent Derby	Central Park	480m	Galaxy Freedom	S Maplesden
Champion Stakes	Romford	575m	Night Time Danny	S Rayner
The English Oaks	Perry Barr	480m	Billys Diva	M Kennedy
Scurry	Perry Barr	275m	Crossfield Dusty	P Janssens
Steel City Cup	Sheffield	500m	Forest Gold	K Hutton
The Classic	Sunderland	450m	Narcos The Great	G Cunningham
Gold Collar	Crayford	540m	Warzone Tom	E McNair
Cesarewitch	Crayford	874m	Salacres Pippy	P Harnden
Eclipse Stakes	Nottingham	500m	Signet Ace	K Hutton
Greyhound Olympic	Brighton & Hove	515m	Prince Of Troy	D Mullins
Brighton Belle	Brighton & Hove	515m	Lights Out	K Hutton
English Puppy Derby	Towcester	500m	Make Noise	S Cahill
Champion Hurdle	Central Park	480mH	Toolmaker Daddy	R Holloway
National Sprint	Nottingham	305m	Crossfield Dusty	P Janssens
British Bred Derby	Sheffield	500m	Fabulous Azurra	P Janssens
All England Cup	Newcastle	480m	Moanteen Mikey	A Harrison

# Regulatory Review

## Introduction

2021 saw a greater lifting of COVID restrictions within the UK and a return to a more established and familiar race and competition schedule in front of a returning public. However, as the racing returned, the generation old presence of on-course layers did not with The Starting Price Regulatory Commission supporting the use of industry prices to determine SPs for greyhound racing. Mark Bird became GBGB Chief Executive, with Philip Law assuming the vacated role of Director of Regulation.

## Complaints

A total of 36 complaints were received in 2021. Each complaint was investigated by GBGB staff resulting in 1 training licence being suspended, 3 independent disciplinary committee hearings, 5 local inquiries, 3 advisory and 2 improvement notices being issued.

The complaints data for 2020/21 is as follows:

	Tracks	Trainers	Welfare	Drugs	Licensing	Other
2021	12	11	2	0	0	11
2020	11	9	2	0	0	7

85% of complaints were investigated within 30 days.

## Sampling

A total of 7182 samples were taken for analysis during the contract year 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021, with the breakdown as follows:

### Race / Trial Samples

Type	Analysed	Not Analysed
Blood	45	1
Other	2	0
Hair	0	0
Urine	7,135	27
	<b>7,182</b>	<b>28</b>

Of these samples, 0.67% were confirmed by LGC as positive for prohibited substances. The breakdown of the 48 positive samples is assessed as:

	Number	% of total samples	% of total positive samples
Doping	11	0.15%	23%
Medication	14	0.19%	29%
Feed Contaminant	19	0.26%	40%
Contaminants (other)	4	0.06%	8%

### Point of Registration (POR) Sampling

The breakdown of the POR samples for the contract year 1st January to 31st December 2021 is as follows:

Type	Analysed	Not Analysed
Blood	130	2
Urine	6,343	7
	<b>6,473</b>	<b>9</b>

96 screening positives were reported from POR samples, with the main screen findings being for beta/dexamethasone, nandrolone (and metabolites) and methylprednisolone.





# Welfare Report

## Welfare

Despite COVID restrictions remaining in place for the majority of 2021, greyhound racing continued throughout this period, albeit through a mixture of behind closed doors or with limited public attendance. Despite this, welfare initiatives within the industry kept moving forward. The introduction of an Air Conditioning Policy was one such initiative whereby the industry committed to the mandatory use of air-conditioned vehicles only from April 2023. To support trainers in meeting this new requirement, additional funding was made available through the Trainers Assistance Fund for the purchase of replacement vehicles or to upgrade existing transport arrangements.



Dr Peter Webbon, GBGB Independent Welfare Director, stood down in July 2021 and was succeeded by Professor Madeleine Campbell, European Veterinary Specialist and RCVS Specialist in Animal Welfare Science, Ethics. Professor Campbell set out immediately to establish a Welfare Strategy for greyhounds. The Strategy when released will be a public facing document on how the greyhound industry conceptualises and delivers good welfare and a good life for all greyhounds, while underwriting and safeguarding a greyhound's welfare. The Strategy is to cover all phases of a greyhound's life.

Track safety was bolstered with the appointment of Mark Peacock as GBGB Track Safety Officer. With a wealth of knowledge gained through his previous positions within the horse racing industry, Mark's appointment has added an additional level of expertise to racecourse preparation and will work alongside racecourse management and the Sports Turf Research Institute to ensure that all tracks are prepared in accordance with best practice.

GBGB's routine inspections of trainer's residential kennels was strengthened through the appointment of an independent company to conduct the annual licence certification inspection at each trainer's kennel. Based upon the standards set by the British Standards Institute's PAS 251 standard: "Specification for Greyhound Trainer's Residential Kennel". This is an additional inspection to the routine visits conducted by Stipendiary Stewards and veterinarians.

## Kennel Improvement Programme

The Trainers Assistance Fund continued to support development and improvements to residential kennels and expanded its funding to include all category of trainers. £418,000 in development and improvement grants was awarded to 102 trainers.

## Injury and Retirement Data

Injury data remained consistent with previous years, however, the positive effect of the Injury Recovery Scheme and additional racecourse initiatives to provide support to injured greyhounds, resulted in trackside euthanasia being reduced by 50%. Retirement data remained stable in 2021 in comparison with the record high of 2020, and the total percentage of greyhounds homed following the end of their racing career was a pleasing 94.4%.

## Injury Data 2021

Total Greyhound Runs 359,083

Type of injury	Total injuries	% of injuries against total runs
Hock Injuries	811	0.23
Wrist Injuries	752	0.21
Foot Injuries	876	0.24
Hind Long Bone	26	0.01
Fore Long Bone	106	0.03
Fore Limb Muscle	414	0.12
Hind Limb Muscle	1012	0.28
Other	425	0.12
<b>Total Injuries</b>	<b>4,422</b>	<b>1.23</b>
<b>Track Fatalities</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>0.03</b>

## Retirement Data 2021

### Summary Retirement

Retained by Owner / Trainer	780	12.2%
Greyhound Trust / Charity	4,297	67.5%
Rehomed by Owner / Trainer	695	10.9%
Breeding / Independent Racing	221	0.3%
Other (including private homing non-charity)	21	-
<b>Homed/retained</b>	<b>6,014</b>	<b>94.4%</b>

### Put to Sleep (PTS) / Sudden / Natural Death

Treatment costs	9	0.1%
No Home found	0	0.0%
No Viable Option Away from Racecourse	74	1.0%
Designated Unsuitable for Homing	13	0.1%
Sudden Death	91	1.3%
Humane Grounds at Racecourse	120	1.7%
Terminal Illness / Natural Causes / Other	52	0.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>5.6%</b>



GBGB's routine inspections of trainer's residential kennels was strengthened through the appointment of an independent company to conduct the annual licence certification inspection at each trainer's kennel.

# Racing Review

*By Jonathan Hobbs*

***GREYHOUND RACING rose to the challenge a backdrop of Covid-19 brought to the sport in 2021 by staging almost a complete programme of major events as stakeholders pulled together to produce another year full of top-class racing, significant achievements and, in the shape of Thorn Falcon and Kilara Lion, a magnificent home-trained 1-2 in the Star Sports/TRC Events & Leisure English Greyhound Derby Final at Towcester.***

The Northamptonshire venue had picked up the mantle from Nottingham, and a behind-closed-doors October 2020 staging of the famous race due to the restrictions, and vowed to stage the best Classic possible in the circumstances - and did not disappoint.

Despite initial scheduling issues, a £175,000-to-the-winner showpiece was mapped out by promoter Kevin Boothby and, despite another powerful Irish challenge following a 1-2-3 for the Emerald Isle in successive English Derbys at Nottingham, history was made in the 2021 decider as Patrick Janssens enjoyed the most spectacular of successes as England wrestled the famous trophy back from Ireland on a heady night at Towcester.

Janssens had taken the champion trainer's title from his great friend and former boss Mark Wallis and now scored a remarkable one-two in the English Greyhound Derby Final as Thorn Falcon led home kennelmate Kilara Lion, the winner adding to his KAB Maiden Derby victory over C&D for the trainer and his proud owners Keith Allsop, Mark Harrison and Chris Osborn - known as Two Dragons And A Lion.

Thorn Falcon's success also made it three English-trained winners in Derbys staged at Towcester following success for Seamus Cahill's Astute Missile (2017) and Kevin Hutton's Dorotas Wildcat (2018), the new champion's sire, before the competition switched to Nottingham in the years after Towcester was shut before its much-lauded reopening.

That, plus increasing the Derby first prize to £175,000, and the intention to reopen the tracks at Mildenhall (renamed Suffolk Downs) and Oxford, shut since 2012, saw promoter Kevin Boothby handed the GWA Services to Greyhound Racing Award at the subsequent GBGB Greyhound of the Year Awards, at which Maurice Newman received a Special Recognition Award from the GWA for his years of fundraising for the Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity (GOSH). Maurice sadly died in December 2022.

As for trainer Janssens, his Derby one-two matched the feat of Jim Hookway, with Tric Trac and Spectre II at White City in 1967, and Arthur Hitch, with Tico and Master Hardy at Wimbledon in 1986. A magnificent achievement for Belgium-born Janssens, the feat was applauded by Derby sponsor Ben Keith of Star Sports.



**As for trainer Janssens, his Derby one-two matched the feat of Jim Hookway, with Tric Trac and Spectre II at White City in 1967, and Arthur Hitch, with Tico and Master Hardy at Wimbledon in 1986.**

He said: "I'm delighted Patrick is breaking these records. When I was a bookmaker at Walthamstow, Patrick was a kennelhand with Mark Wallis and you knew then he'd become a top-class trainer in his own right one day. He's a man with a massive heart, a real gentlemen, and I congratulate him and his team."

Signet Ace was another major star of the track in 2021 with a trio of GBGB Category One successes in the Arena Racing Company Eclipse and Arc Select Stakes, both at Nottingham, plus the Ladbrokes Winter Derby at Monmore. Trained by Kevin Hutton and part-owned by the handler along with Mark Gilbert, Signet Ace - subsequently named Greyhound of the Year - was also a major reason why Hutton won the first Arc/Entain Trainers' Judgement Night at Colwick Park, scoring maximum points for the kennel.

However, with normal service resumed, Mark Wallis was crowned Ladbrokes Trainer of the Year in 2021 for a record 12th time - with the boss of Imperial Kennels regaining the title from Patrick Janssens, the 2020 champion. Wallis finished 2021 with 1,346 points, 359 points clear of Janssens (987) and ahead of Kevin Hutton (897), David Mullins (713), Angela Harrison (608) and Liz McNair (498). The top six qualified for Trainers' Judgement Night at Nottingham.

A twelfth success extended Wallis's lead over nearest rivals for Trainer of the Year titles in Linda Mullins (seven titles), John McGee (five) and Charlie Lister (four) and Wallis praised the staff at Imperial Kennels for making it possible after another successful year for his team, having sent out the winners of six GBGB Category One events.

Aayamza Royale was the kennel's major star after successfully defending her Ladbrokes TV Trophy at Monmore having also won the Coral Regency win at Hove, while there were GBGB Category One wins in 2021 for the Wallis-trained Antigua Romeo in the Coral Essex Vase, Antigua Storm in the BresBet East Anglian Derby at Yarmouth, Bo Shine Bullet in the Ladbrokes Kent St Leger at Crayford and Drumcrow Brent in the Coral Sussex Cup.

Coral Owners of the Year for a seventh time were the KSS Syndicate, led by Brendan Keogh and Simon Senyk, with their team of greyhounds, trained by Liz and Rab McNair from their base in Ashford, Kent, amassing 501 points, finishing ahead of Amanda Jeal (333) and the Ayamzaboys Syndicate (297). Havana Class, an 11-time winner in 2021, top-scored for them after victory in the Arc Laurels at Perry Barr as well as finishing second in the M Lambe Birmingham Cup to Carol Weatherall's Candy Man over the same C&D.

Warzone Tom was another GBGB Category One winner for the kennel with victory in the Ladbrokes Gold Collar at Crayford, while the McNairs' team of British-bred Kings and Queens out of the likes of Skate On and Queen Asia scored major wins with the likes of King Louis in the GBGF British Breeders Stakes Final at Nottingham and King Sam in the GBGF British Bred Midland Sprint Trophy.

Seamus Cahill's Pocket Lola won the British-bred showpiece in the 75th Produce Stakes at Swindon, while Kevin Hutton's Forest Natalee was named GBGB Best Dam of British Bred 2021 given this brilliant and Classic-winning bitch on the track turned super-dam in the paddocks, throwing the likes of Signet Denver, Moments of Magic, Sleek By Design and Signet Otis in her January 2020 batch by Magical Bale, while another major contributor was Bernard (May 2019 by Droopys Jet).

There was an Irish winner of the Arena Racing Company Oaks at Perry Barr as the Kennedy-family owned Billys Diva came again to deny the game Ritzy Lady (Jim Reynolds) in the bitches' Classic final; Crossfield Dusty proved himself the UK's best sprinter with wins in the Arena Racing Company Scurry at Perry Barr and Arena Racing Company National Sprint at Nottingham, while a new staying sensation emerged in the shape of Space Jet, a brilliant track record-breaking winner of the Arena Racing Company St Leger at Perry Barr for Matt Dartnall.

Other big-race winners deserving of special mention included TRC Health + Hygiene Blue Riband champion Kilara Lion (Patrick Janssens), the subsequent Derby second; Jaguar Macie (Graham Rankin), who struck in both the Ladbrokes Puppy Derby at Monmore and Arena Racing Company Puppy Derby at Newcastle and Brookside Richie (David Mullins), another two-time GBGB Category One champion in the Stadium Bookmakers Juvenile Classic at Towcester and Coral Puppy Cup at Romford.

Ricky Holloway-trained runners dominated the hurdles scene with Meenagh Maverick winning the RPGTV Grand National at Central Park and kennelmates Nomansland Flyer (Chief Ramsbottom Hurdle, Kent National Hurdle) and Toolmaker Daddy (Arena Racing Company Champion Hurdle) also major winners, while Droopys Rex completed a six-timer in winning the novice hurdlers' championship, the Cearnsport 2021 Springbok for David Mullins.

**Jonathan Hobbs**

# Statement of Income

## and Retained Earnings

For the year ending  
31st December 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Turnover</b>	<b>6,466,235</b>	5,184,206
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>6,466,235</b>	5,184,206
Administrative expenses	(6,627,985)	(5,549,378)
Other operating income	-	66,964
<b>Operating loss</b>	<b>(161,750)</b>	(298,208)
Interest receivable and similar income	239	2,409
<b>Loss before tax</b>	<b>(161,511)</b>	(295,799)
Tax on (loss)/profit	32,303	10,225
<b>Loss after tax</b>	<b>(129,208)</b>	(285,574)
Retained earnings at the beginning of the year	304,796	590,370
Loss for the year	(129,208)	(285,574)
<b>Retained earnings at the end of the year</b>	<b>175,588</b>	304,796

## Company Information

*The Greyhound Board of Great Britain limited (By Guarantee)*

### Directors

The Directors who served during the year were:

A Smith (appointed 5 July 2021)  
I Smyth (appointed 21 January 2021, resigned 1 April 2022)  
J Coleman (resigned 23 July 2021)  
J Cooper  
J McKenna  
M Bird  
Dr M Campbell (appointed 1 September 2021)  
P Cadman  
P Carpenter (appointed 10 August 2021, resigned 30 November 2021)  
P Harnden  
Dr P Webbon (resigned 30 September 2021)  
R Corden  
Dr S Gower  
S Franklin (resigned 21 January 2021)  
W Glass

### Company Secretary

A Yilmaz

### Registered Number

06740544

### Registered Office

Greyhound Board of Great Britain  
Genesis House,  
17 Godliman Street,  
London, EC4V 5BD

### Independent Auditor

Barnes Roffe LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Leytonstone House,  
3 Hanbury Drive, Leytonstone,  
London, E11 1GA

### Solicitors

Olswang  
90 High Holborn London, WC1V 6XX

Charles Russell Speechlys  
5 Fleet Place, London,  
EC4M 7RD

### Banking

Royal Bank of Scotland  
62-63 Threadneedle Street,  
London, EC2R 8LA

### Photography

Steve Nash  
[www.steve-nash.co.uk](http://www.steve-nash.co.uk)

### Design & Print

J E Burns Graphics Ltd  
Derby, DE22 1GF

# Balance Sheet

**For the year ending  
31st December 2021**

	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>				
Intangible assets		17,191		52,441
Tangible assets		81,394		102,261
		95,585		154,702
<b>Current assets</b>				
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	758,853		690,108	
Cash at bank and in hand	4,906,129		3,436,348	
	5,664,982		4,126,456	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(5,587,979)		(3,976,362)	
<b>Net current assets</b>		77,003		150,094
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		175,588		304,796
<b>Net assets</b>		175,588		304,796
<b>Capital and reserves</b>				
Profit and loss account		175,588		304,796
		175,588		304,796

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A – small entities.

*The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on 21st July 2022.*






**GREYHOUND BOARD OF GREAT BRITAIN**

Genesis House, 17 Godliman Street, London , EC4V 5BD

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**[www.gbgb.org.uk](http://www.gbgb.org.uk)**