

# Greyhound Retirement Scheme Newsletter

MARCH 2023 | ISSUE 10

HELPING GREYHOUNDS ENJOY LONG, HEALTHY AND HAPPY LIVES IN RETIREMENT

## GRS PASSES £3 MILLION MARK WITH SUPPORT OF GREYHOUND COMMUNITY

In February, the GRS surpassed another fantastic milestone with over £3 million now having been paid out to our approved homing centres. It was only two and a half years ago that we launched the GRS so it is truly incredible to have already reached this point and reflects the immense support the scheme has received from across the greyhound community.

Over 23,400 greyhounds have been signed up to the GRS and, to date, over 7,700 greyhounds have been welcomed into homing centres supported by the scheme's match funding.

As a sign of GBGB's ongoing commitment to the scheme, as well as to British breeding, we recently announced a further extension of the dispensation for owners of British bred greyhounds when paying into the GRS.

At the launch of the scheme, owners of British bred greyhounds were only required to contribute £100 towards their greyhound's retirement with GBGB contributing £300 - as opposed to dividing the £400 bond evenly. This dispensation has now been extended until 2025 as part of our new long-term welfare strategy 'A Good Life for Every Greyhound'. You can click [here](#) to read more on the GBGB website.

The work you all do in finding loving homes for retired racers has never been easy, and the rising cost of living has only added to the challenge. It remains so inspiring to hear of - and see firsthand - your ongoing commitment to the greyhounds in your care.

As always I hope you enjoy this latest edition of our GRS Newsletter.

**Paula Beniston**  
GRS Co-ordinator  
GBGB



## STAR RACER SETTLES INTO RETIREMENT

Former star racer Decisive Giovanni has recently retired from his career on the track and found a loving home via **Barley Greyhound Sanctuary** in Essex.

As a sign of his racing prowess, Giovanni was recently named Graded Greyhound of the Year Runner-up in the 2022 GBGB Awards.

Giovanni is settling into his new home extremely well and is particularly enjoying lazing on the sofa! He is pictured below with his owners.



## LINCOLNSHIRE GREYHOUND TRUST USE ANIMATION TO PROMOTE OWNERSHIP

The team at **Lincolnshire Greyhound Trust** have launched a fantastic animated video about their homing work and responsible ownership which you can view [here](#).

Kev, who runs the centre, said:

"We are delighted with how our video has been received. We will continue to do all we can to promote greyhound ownership - whether it's using our online platforms or taking our greyhounds out to meet and greet the public.

"Since the charity was established we have always done well in finding homes for retired racers - of course with some ups and downs! - and it is something our volunteers are incredibly committed to. In more recent years, we have had the support of the GRS which has been vitally important in ensuring the financial stability of the charity."



LUNA (NINETEEN BABY), HOMED VIA HOME RUN HOUNDS, WITH HER NEW OWNER EDITH

## INTRODUCING HOME RUN HOUNDS: OUR LATEST GRS APPROVED HOMING CENTRE

**Home Run Hounds CIC**, based at Aero Racing Kennels in Wombourne, West Midlands, is the most recent centre to become a GRS approved homing centre. It is led by Claire Butler who has over 30 years' experience in the racing industry as both an owner and a kennelhand. Claire tells us:

"Being part of the GRS has meant the world to us as an independent homing centre. The financial support from the bond and the expert help and advice available to us via the GRS team is enabling us to be more efficient and effective at finding forever homes for the beautiful greyhounds that come into our care.

I am extremely lucky to be supported by an amazing team of volunteers, who give up so many hours to help with fund and awareness raising events, as well as the day-to-day care of our greyhounds.

A really important aspect of our homing is having the support of foster families. Recently, we homed Luna (Nineteen Baby) who before meeting her new family was fostered by Aero Racing assistant trainer Jo Slater. Potential owner Christina was looking to home a retired racer but was a little concerned about how daughter Edith would get on.

We knew that Luna, having interacted beautifully with Jo's young children, would be an excellent fit. Luna (pictured above with Edith) has now been in her new home for a few months and the family are absolutely overjoyed with her.

The most important objective of any homing centre has to be raising awareness of greyhounds as pets and so I would also like to thank our local track, Monmore Green, for all their help and support on this front.

We have big plans for Home Run Hounds for this coming year and beyond. The launch of our website, online shop and large local community events are all pencilled in the diary. It's been a busy few months, but our greyhounds mean the world to us and we would not have it any other way."