

Greyhound Retirement Scheme Newsletter

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HELPING GREYHOUNDS ENJOY LONG, HEALTHY AND HAPPY LIVES IN RETIREMENT

GRS MARKS THREE YEARS OF SUCCESS

Over the past three years, in each of our GRS newsletters, it has always been my aim to celebrate the work that goes into homing across the greyhound community and highlight the way owners, trainers, tracks and homing centres have truly embraced the GRS.

That is why each time I write this column I like to provide you with an update on the latest GRS figures and the number of greyhounds benefiting from the scheme.

As at the end of August 2023, just over 27,000 greyhounds have been signed up to the GRS and, of these, nearly 1/3 (9,100) have accessed their GRS bond.

In total, over £4.3 million has been paid to the GRS in bond payments and, bolstered by GBGB matched funding, over £3.6 million distributed to approved homing centres.

In reality, these figures do not come close to reflecting the days, weeks and months of care, love and attention you give to the greyhounds in your charge, however I hope that they do shine somewhat of a light on the commitment of this community to retired racers. And it is a community that is only continuing to grow.

Since I last reported to you, we are delighted to have welcomed two new homing centres on board as GRS partners - **Binfield Dog Rescue** in Berkshire and **Romford Retired Greyhounds** in Essex. We are looking forward to continuing to engage with more homing centres over the coming months and hopefully welcome them into the GRS fold.

Thank you for your support of the GRS to date. I hope you will join me in celebrating all those greyhounds who have been homed over these past three years and who are undoubtedly enjoying their lives in retirement on the sofa!

Paula Beniston
Welfare Manager and GRS
Co-ordinator, GBGB



FROM RACING TO RETIREMENT: A SPOTLIGHT ON PERRY BARR STAR BLUE ACT

"In October 2022, after completing 150 races and winning her finale in super style - on no less that a GBGB Owners' Bonus Series night - Blue Act drew her career on the track to a close and was welcomed into **Daybreaks Kennels**. Now named Darcey and a year into retirement, she is a valued member of the family and is looking forward to more sofa sleeping, time sprawled out on the carpet and the occasional canal walk."

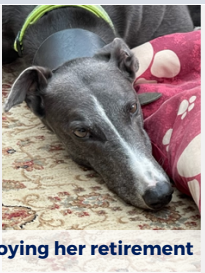
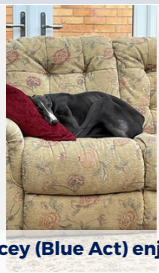
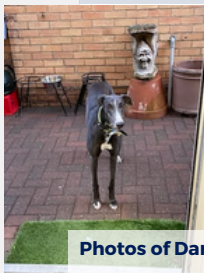
Jo McWilliams, Racing Office Assistant at **Perry Barr Greyhound Stadium**



"Blue Act - or Bluey as we liked to call her - came to Daybreaks in October 2022 and initially stayed with me at home as she wasn't settling in too well.

In the home she thrived and was soon transferred to a foster home where she lived with another greyhound and a small dog. Within a short time she was offered a permanent home where she continues to enjoy her well-deserved retirement."

Ruth Price, Kennel Manager at **Daybreaks Kennels**



Photos of Darcey (Blue Act) enjoying her retirement



CHILDREN MEETING RETIRED RACERS AT ROMFORD STADIUM DURING THE VERY FIRST NATIONAL GREYHOUND WEEK

SHARE YOUR STORIES

Please feel free to share your GRS homing stories 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.

YOUNG SISTERS TAKE ON MOUNT SNOWDON IN SPONSORED CLIMB



Photo credit: Adachie Kennels

Sisters and young kennelhands Ciara and Shauna Browne recently took on the incredible challenge of climbing Mount Snowden to raise money for **Portsmouth Greyhound Trust** in Hampshire and **Homes4Hounds** in North Lanarkshire.

On 18th September, eleven-year-old Ciara and eight-year-old Shauna successfully completed the impressive climb, accompanied by their father and professional greyhound trainer Pat. Together, the Browne family has raised nearly £2,500 in support of the two charities. Many congratulations to them all!

To donate to their fundraising page please click [here](#).