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Dear Friends

December 2011

Over the last year, following our visits to Spain, we have been able to increase the help we give to the refuges we work with. We have continued to assist, mostly by funding veterinary and transport costs many galgos from shelters in Albacete, Almendralejo, Cadiz, Madrid, Malaga, Murcia and Seville. In addition we have been able to fund some projects to help improve the care for the dogs whilst at the shelters. At present we are funding, along with a group in Germany, the building of an exercise paddock at the RECAL shelter in Almendralejo which will greatly improve these facilities and give the dogs more freedom to exercise daily rather than remaining in kennels.



Galgos at the Villamartin shelter in Cadiz

We receive many requests for our help from individuals and shelters throughout Spain who work tirelessly to help the galgos.

We aim to assist as many as we can in varying ways and we hope to visit Spain again soon to see more shelters.

There is sadly no shortage of galgos needing help but finding homes for them becomes harder especially in the current economic climate. Having said that, we have been fortunate to assist more galgos this year than before. Without the help of the wonderful adoption groups that we work with in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia and Switzerland this would not be possible. Here in the UK from 1st January, 2012 we will no longer need to put dogs from Spain into quarantine, so we are hoping to increase the number we can bring over for homing next year.

We all appreciate that the above is first aid and that we need to tackle the galgo problem at source, which is why we have developed, with help from education consultants, an education resource to support Spanish primary schools and teachers of English as a foreign language, to children aged 9 to 12 years old. The activities support the teaching and learning of English vocabulary and phrases relating to the expression of feelings and emotions, using images, data and a story based on how GIN helps many galgos. By inviting Spanish children to develop their understanding and use of expressive English through a greater understanding of the galgo, the aim is to develop empathy for dogs and help make a difference to the many that are in need of loving homes.

Copies of the resource have already been distributed in Spain and the response we have had has been very positive and a CD-ROM version of the resource has now been developed due to the success of the activity to date. If you would like more information please email us on info@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk or visit our website www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk

We would like to thank you all for the help and support you give to us and those we work with and we take this opportunity to wish you, your families and your dogs a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Carolyn and all at GIN

Founded by Anne and Arthur Finch

Trustees: Carl Boyde MRCVS, Terrance Dickens, Christine Goodwin, Martin Humphery

General Manager: Carolyn Davenport

Trustee/Treasurer: Geoffrey Levy FCA

G.I.N. Shop (Bournemouth): Sue North

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