

Greyhounds in Need



Spring / Summer Newsletter 2007

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Registered Charity in England and Wales no. 1069438

Dear Friends of GIN,

As always, we hope you will enjoy reading a summary of some of our ever-increasing activities during 2006. We include our annual raffle, retaining the very simple format and arrangements used in the past.

We have now settled into our new office here in Wraysbury and been lucky to have some local residents knock on the door to offer help. We are also fortunate to be so near to the Post Office which makes life a lot easier for us to send off fund-raising packs, general post and of course the merchandise orders.

A measure of progress - one example: more dogs homed in 2006 than in 2005- is increasing pressure in office activities, so we are very pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Tracey Sanderson as part-time assistant to Carolyn. She will supplement the invaluable help of our resident volunteers, specially, Audrey, Catherine, Jenny, Julia, Pat, Nena & Nicky.

Fundraising continues (see pages 6 and 7) and our busiest time is through the coming summer months when most weekends have GIN supporters manning tables around the country. Last year North Herts Dog Training Club raised funds throughout the year towards our work for the greyhounds and galgos. We attended both their shows and last February were presented with a cheque for £1,700 being money raised in 2006. This income is much needed for our work but events also raise awareness and often find more homes for the dogs.

Our merchandise was very successful in 2006 helped very much by the introduction of some new items, specially the embroidered items, some with a unique logo to GIN, thanks to Diana and Colin. We again enclose our catalogue in colour containing more new items for 2007.

As mentioned on page 8 of this newsletter we receive many donations of coats etc which we forward to Spain on a regular basis. We also receive kind donations from supporters of items for our shop in Bournemouth and are always grateful for any help to get these items to Bournemouth. If you feel you could offer to take some donated goods down to Sue any time please call us at HQ—01784 483206, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Some months ago we received the very welcome news that Meridiana, the sole remaining Spanish racing track, was closing. This brought back memories, since it was from Meridiana, many years ago, that Anne rescued our first 2 greyhounds, and inspired the formation of GIN. Hence we were specially pleased to collaborate with other groups to rescue the 800 resident dogs, all Irish bitches. Do see Geoffrey's mention on page 3.

Our correspondence, often personal, with the primary refuges in Spain where our work begins, reinforces the extent and sheer scale of their needs. We can only continue with the support so generously given to us by you, to whom our heartfelt thanks go.

Arthur

2007 SUMMER RAFFLE

We are enclosing a book of raffle tickets with this newsletter for our raffle, which will be drawn on the 31st July, 2007.

We hope you will again be able to help us raise funds for our work for the needy greyhounds and galgos.

Please send cheques, payable to Greyhounds in Need, and completed stubs to us at

33 High Street, Wraysbury, Middlesex, TW19 5DA

If you would like some more tickets please call us on 01784 483206 or email us on info@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk

INDEX TO PAGES

2-4	Notes from HQ
5	News from Anne
6	Forthcoming events
7	Past events
8	Help for the refuges
9-10	Our work abroad
11	Homing UK and Abroad
12-13	Homing Update from Pat
14	Tributes
15	Membership
16	News from the Shop
17	News from Sian
18	How to Donate
19-20	Sponsorship/The Spanish Galgos

I'm sitting in GIN's offices preparing the 2006 Accounts. The desk is covered in cheque books, papers, account books, the computer is working well and even better Lurchy is sitting watching me quietly, having given up his vigorous search for a non-existent piece of bacon, which an hour ago he was certain was somewhere under my papers, having escaped from my lunch-time sandwich. Carolyn is working hard on the other side of the office and Arthur is writing a stern letter of complaint to someone who hasn't treated GIN with proper respect.

The Accounts are progressing smoothly, all the debits and credits balancing happily and it is soon possible to see that GIN has had a good year in 2006, both in financial terms and very importantly in greyhounds homed and in assistance to the rescue groups in Spain.

Income has stood up well, with improved contributions from the Shop, merchandise and the sponsorship scheme. GIN has also received some generous legacies from supporters who remembered us in their wills, which is a splendid gesture of faith in GIN's work. Big, long-established UK charities receive 40% of their income from legacies—we have some way to go, but it is always touching when we are remembered in this way. I print out the detailed income schedule for Arthur and Carolyn to see—it takes a while as the printer isn't co-operating and when I go into the next office (where the printer lives) Lurchy knocks over most of my papers—just in case the bacon has suddenly re-appeared. Arthur and Carolyn are pleased to see how good the income numbers are, so I move on to what GIN has spent.

First up is the cost of moving to Wraysbury—reasonable, considering the offices hadn't been used for nearly 3 years and as well as a major clean and paint job, they needed completely re-wiring. Then to the important info—what have we spent and achieved to help greyhounds? In 2005 we spent £110,000 and it's just a little more in 2006. The great news is that GIN spent £47,000 at the vet/kennels in Vic—£10,000 LESS than 2005 yet 29 MORE healthy dogs were passed to homing groups. I tell the others, and wonder if I can claim the credit—after all I did spend a morning at Vic last June. But no—we work increasingly closely with the adoption groups abroad and have been able to match supply and demand very carefully, so the average stay in kennels at Vic is down by nearly three weeks, saving GIN around £13,000 in 2006 in kennelling costs, and of course getting galgos into homes that much quicker. Even Lurchy looks pleased as he listens to this—after all he is an old boy from the Vic academy.

The Cadiz kennels spend has doubled from £5,000 to £10,000; we've spent £4,000 more on Spanish vet bills and £3,000 more on European transport of dogs. Quarantine costs in the UK have risen sharply as well. I extract more data—dogs GIN has supplied to homing groups in Europe and itself homed in UK are up 75 so clearly a great year for GIN and for galgos. Same spend roughly as 2005, but a big increase in homings!

Supporters will remember the closure of the Meridiana track in Barcelona in February 2006. There were reputedly 800 Irish bitches there, and the Catalan authorities stepped in and controlled the release of the greyhounds, using local expert advice. GIN offered to help and we were allocated 25 greyhounds, then months later a further 12 from the last kennels. All 37 went to Vic for sterilisation, then when ready to France and Belgium. GIN paid transport bills as well as the treatment at Vic, and spent £9,900 on these greyhounds—included in the direct aid data quoted earlier. A lot of our supporters were, like us, very worried about the possible outcome so it was good it went so smoothly and that GIN was able to play a big part.

What's the overall position? We had set aside funds for the Wraysbury move and I've still got £15,000 squirreled away for the costs of renovating our second shop—when we find it. So the finances are in good shape, and if Lurchy will let me I've got to get a complete set of figures for the Trustees' meeting then the audit. The huge increase in dogs homed has cheered me up so much that next visit to Wraysbury, I'll bring a smelly piece of bacon, specially for Lurchy.

Geoffrey



Drawing by
Monica Monti

THE GREYHOUND FORUM

As our supporters will know, GIN is a founder member of The Greyhound Forum, which is the only meeting ground between the racing industry and welfare groups. As I explained in the last Newsletter, we and very many of our supporters, would like to see an end to greyhound racing, with all the serious welfare problems it brings in its wake. However, since there is no reasonable prospect of abolition, we feel that it is important for GIN to remain represented on this body, so as to keep in touch with developments and problems and, hopefully, to contribute to improvements in the lives of racing dogs.

It has been a great disappointment to the welfare groups that the Government has conceded the case for self-regulation by the racing industry of its responsibilities under the new Animal Welfare Act 2007. We fought hard for independent government controlled regulation but lost. Now we must be resolved to monitor the industry's performance and to make sure that any shortcomings are pressed home with the government.

In this connection, the government has set up a committee under Lord Donaghue to look at all aspects of welfare and self-regulation and to come up with recommendations. The welfare side is represented by Clarissa Baldwin, CEO of Dogs Trust, who also chairs the Forum. As I write, we are in discussion with other welfare groups as to how best to present our case for effective regulation and enforcement. We see this as particularly important in view of the industry's lamentable failure, in the past, to control the activities of trainers and owners, culminating in the disclosures a few months ago of the cruel and irregular disposal of thousands of retired or unwanted track dogs. We have not heard the end of this story.

Although we have found the Forum to be something of a "talking shop", I consider that our continued membership is vital since it is the only medium through which we can keep in touch with these important issues. I will continue to try, with the other welfare groups, to push for improvements.

Martin Humphery

Giving Evidence at Westminster re Greyhounds

Every greyhound lover will have been shaken and furious at the revelations last July of mass killings for over a decade of thousands of retired greyhounds by David Smith at Seaham in the North East. This brought under the spotlight once again, the whole business of the greyhound industry in this country and what the real truth is regarding the protection and welfare of its dogs, and the vast numbers being bred and discarded each year for the greyhound racing industry to operate. The problem gets graver every year due to the huge increases in the amount of racing taking place at the tracks, e.g. races per meeting; meetings per week, pandering to the demands of greedy bookmakers, breeding, consuming and discarding thousands more dogs per year than we as homefinders can ever cope with..

Arising from this, APGAW, the All-Party Group for Animal Welfare, chaired by Eric Martlew, MP for Carlisle, set up an enquiry on greyhound welfare and sent out to us all a Call for Evidence, to which I responded. On 23/11/06 I was invited to Westminster to give oral evidence with 3 others, David McDowell of the RSPCA, Mike Hobday of the League against Cruel Sports, and Maureen Purvis of Greyhounds UK. There is no room here to print my contributions to APGAW, but if you are interested, please ask at the GIN office 01784 483206 and we can get them sent out to you.

Anne

News from Anne.... As you know, I have moved away from Egham and withdrawn from involvement in the day-to-day work of the Charity. However I did, over the last few months, undertake some special tasks, benefiting either from the length of my involvement in greyhound rescue, or because it was a new venture. Also, Miedica here was one dog left of those I was responsible for taking into GIN's care early last year, whose future I had not yet solved by the time of 'hand-over' to central office on 1/4/06.



Here is Miedica (means 'the scared one') now with eyes full of love for his new dotting owners in Devon.

Miedica comes to UK
4/2/07

This poor boy, paralysed with fear, hid under a table in a refuge in Sevilla for 18 months. We took him into the care of April and Paul at Alpha kennels in Cadiz over a year ago. He had already been treated by his initial rescuer in Sevilla, Nuria Sanz,, for

Leishmania (CanL) antibodies though he has never shown any symptoms. Being a cross-breed, maybe galgo/labrador/podenco, it would not be easy to find him a home in mainland Europe, so we widened the field for him by starting him on the 7 month UK Pet Travel scheme, giving him time to learn to relate to and to trust humans. Darren and Helen in Devon read about him, and, not put off by his various 'labels', made a firm offer of a home for him. The re-test for CanL, just before leaving, showed negative. Josephine of Greyhounds Rescue Belgium flew him to Brussels, and a few days later drove him to Calais where my sister Barbara and I picked him up and drove him to Portsmouth, where Darren and Helen picked him up for the last leg of his journey to Devon. We thank all the names mentioned above, plus especially Helen & Mindy of South Devon Greyhound Action for their support of Darren and Helen, and not least of course, GIN's donors who helped make all this possible.



Galgos in Not find homes all over Germany for approx 100 dogs per year.

'Adventstreffen'
10/12/07

'Galgos in Not' (means galgos in need) founded by Diana Jork, held their winter reunion in this lovely Biergarten restaurant near Frankfurt and I was delighted to be able to attend. About 100 dogs and 100 people came from all over Germany. Galgos in Not have found homes in Germany for many galgos prepared and financed in Spain by GIN. Finding funds for the necessary vet

care prior to export of these dogs is an impossible burden for the adoption groups abroad to bear, in addition to their transport and the long term responsibility of importing increasing numbers of dogs in their name. This should never be underestimated. This preparatory care in Spain is something that we in GIN can do to facilitate this whole and sometimes lengthy adoption process, as we are unable ourselves to import many dogs into the UK.

Seminar on Canine Leishmania, Chesterfield, 28/10/07 Lesley Braund of the Northern Maremma Association bravely proposed the first ever seminar in this country on the disease Canine Leishmania (CanL). She and her Association had come across it in the breeding of their slightly rare Maremmas (a type of large sheepdog), with dogs from, or returning from, abroad. The Kennel Club supported the Seminar with a Press Release and by sending two representatives, and 'Our Dogs' magazine attended and covered it also. CanL is a disease arising from the bite from an infected sandfly, prevalent in hot countries, but importantly for us, all round the Mediterranean area. Lesley stumbled on us in GIN, because of our long involvement with rescuing and relocating within the EU, thousands of dogs from southern Europe, and she asked if I would speak on how we dealt with it. Having worried and taken steps to screen for this disease since our very first encounter in 1991 with dogs from the old Mallorca track, we have accumulated a lot of experience, not all of it happy, in attempting to do the right thing with very large numbers of dogs and I hoped I could share something of this with others just embarking on importing and exporting. Thanks to the UK Pet Travel scheme, thousands of dogs can now enter or re-enter the UK from abroad. Alone, 950 dogs came from abroad this year to Crufts!

For some years now, we have had the honour of being in touch with the world's expert on the disease Dr R Killick-Kendrick, the brother of our much-loved Robert Killick of 'Our Dogs' magazine! Prof agreed to fly here from France to address us and to answer our questions. I am relieved that, in showing him how we in GIN currently cope with this very complex disease much of which is still unpredictable and unknown, he thinks we are dealing with it as best as anyone can..... Of course emotions run high when for example a dog, delivered from terrible circumstances, possibly one for whom so much has already been done and perhaps widely reported over the internet, then shows a positive result for CanL, but has no symptoms.....There was more than one tear shed, for sure, during the seminar, at the distress to rescuers and owners, that this awful illness can cause.

Owners who take their pets to the south of France and Mediterranean areas for holidays are putting their dogs at risk, not only for contracting CanL from sandflies but also other parasitical diseases such as Filariosis, Microfilariosis, Borellia and Ehrlichiosis from the ticks and mosquitoes prevalent in those areas. All such dogs should be brought inside at sundown when the insects appear and they should wear a Scalibor collar to protect them. We have just a few here @ £7 each 65cm size (for med/large dog, but they can be trimmed to size). Expiry date is 12/08. If interested, please ring HQ.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Helpers would be warmly welcomed at any of the following events for attending to the public, showing off their dogs, selling merchandise or bringing along any other fundraising idea appropriate to the event. We are always in need of supporters to share the load of '(wo)-manning' the following events! Thank you for considering to give help.

Contact HQ 01784 483206. For Dorset events, 01202 513000 (the shop). For Welsh events 01443 224386

MONTHLY WALKS

DORSET—Keith and Mollie organise regular social dog walks which are approx. 4 miles long and take around 2 hours. For more details please contact them on 01202 723540 or 07957295120. **WALES**—Sian organises a walk on the last Sunday of every month around Cosmeton Lake, Penarth. Please contact her on 01443 224386 for more details. **ESSEX**—Janet organises Sunday walks in her area. For more details please call her on 07718730879.

APRIL

15th—GIN collection at Pets at Home, Warrington, Cheshire. If you can help please contact Graham & Angela on 01925 638858.

MAY

12th—GIN has a table at the Plumpton College Open Day, Sussex, more details from HQ

20th—Annual Sponsored Walk/Picnic at Hengistbury Head, Dorset. 11am prompt start. More information and sponsor forms available from Sue at the shop in Bournemouth, 01202 513000

26th—Street collection, Bexhill, Sussex, helpers and their dogs welcome. If you can help please contact HQ

26-27th—GIN has a stall at the Arley Hall Country Fair, Cheshire. Volunteers needed please. If you can help please contact Graham & Angela on 01925 638858.

28th—Fun Dog Show in aid of GIN at the Warrington Horse Show, Cheshire. More details from Graham and Angela on 01925 638858. Helpers needed please

JUNE

6th—Dorchester Street Collection, 9.30am-2.30pm. Offers of help to Esme on 01305 262320

9th—Bag packing/Store collection at Asda, Westbrook Shopping Centre, Warrington, Cheshire

9th—GIN will be at the Englefield Green Show, Surrey. 10am-4pm

10th—GIN will have a stall at the Royal Holloway Garden Party, Egham, Surrey. 10am-4pm

16th—GIN stall at the Magna Carta Day, Egham, Surrey. 10am—4pm

16th—GIN has a stall at the Astbury Animal Assembly, Astbury Village, Congleton, Cheshire. A great day out for all the family.

24th—2pm. Stall at Oakdale Country Fete, Poole.

JULY

8th—GIN picnic at Virginia Water, Surrey, contact HQ for details

8th—GIN will have a stall at the Dogs Trust Open Day & Fun Dog Show, Huyton, Merseyside. Please contact Graham and Angela on 01925 638858

14th—GIN has a stand at the Beneden Hospital Fete, Sussex. More details from HQ

14th-15th—GIN has a stand at the Michelin Priory Sussex, if you can help please contact HQ

22nd—stall at Caring Canines, Garden Fete, Dorset,

AUGUST

5th—Tatton Country Park, Cheshire. Fun Dog Show for GIN. Please contact Graham & Angela on 01925 638858 for more details

19th—GIN has a stand at the Game and Angling Fair, more details from Graham & Angela on 01925 638858

25-26th—GIN has a stall at the Egham Show, Surrey. 10am—4pm both days.

25th -27th—GIN has a stand at the Living Heritage Country Show, Tatton Park, Cheshire. If you can help please let Graham & Angela know on 01925 638858.

FUTURE EVENTS

September 29-30th—GIN has a stand at the Living Heritage Country Show, Cholmondeley Castle, Malpass, Cheshire. More details from Graham and Angela on 01925 638858. Helpers welcome please

OCTOBER 26th—Street collection, Bexhill, Sussex, helpers and their dogs welcome. More details from HQ

NOVEMBER 21st—Dorchester Street Collection, 9.30am-2.30pm. Offers of help to Esme on 01305 262320

FUNDRAISING AND DONATIONS

All funds raised at events and sales etc are remitted to GIN's central account. The Trustees have the best overview of GIN's entire work and commitments and have the final decision on how money is used. However, we welcome and will gladly consider any special requests for your donations or raised funds. We are happy to issue written guidelines and our fundraising pack to assist those who wish to help us. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like to receive one of our packs.

Strange as it may seem, banks give us scant details of any donations sent straight to the account, so please contact us if you have donated in this way so we can look out for it and thank you properly as we like to do.

Past events... Many events are organised throughout the year to help raise funds towards our work and we feature some of these below. We apologise for not being able to publicise in this bulletin, due to lack of space, the results of every event. We appreciate all you do, in front of, and behind the scenes for our greyhounds in need. If you would like a copy of our "How can you help?" leaflet or you would like one of our fund-raising packs to get you started! please phone us on 01784 483206 or send us an email info@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk



The Annual Riddlesdown Christmas get together took place on the 16th December in Purley.

Kath and Liz organised

coffee, mulled wine, mince pies plus of course some doggy treats. They raised £210 from donations received. Thanks to everyone for making this event such a success.

Arthur, Carolyn, Geoffrey and Nicky once again attended the Animal Welfare Bazaar in Ealing. We were fortunate this year to be given an extra table to show off our merchandise and raised just over £175. Many thanks to Marion for inviting us.

We had a stand at the Chelsea Fair in London on the 11th November and raised over £400 This was the second year we had attended this event. Jilly Cooper opened the Fair and all the stalls seemed very busy from the start. Nice to see so many charities attending and receiving lots of interest from the public.

Sue and Les in Worcestershire have been doing a great job fund-raising for GIN. Sue has had a great response to her requests for donations of bric-a-brac and has attended many dog shows and car boots raising money for GIN. She is always looking for helpers to man tables at car boots, events etc. and grateful for any donations of bric-a-brac, so please if you can help please call Sue on 01527 869395.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking Romneya Robertson for her kind donation of £200. This money was raised by dog lovers who bought the Greyhound and Lurcher Rescue calendar 2007. All profits from calendar sales are donated each year to greyhound and lurcher rescue charities.

Graham and Angela in Cheshire started fund-raising for GIN towards the end of last year. They have been working very hard booking events for this year; please see page 6 for details. If you can offer help at any of the events listed please contact Graham and Angela on 01925 638858, they will be pleased to hear from you.

They have been very lucky to have other greyhound lovers in their area coming forward offering help and we now have a GIN fundraising/homing group in Cheshire!



Carol, who has adopted two galgos from GIN kindly helps Graham and Angela and their group. She is now making tassels for us to sell; please see the enclosed catalogue.

They are also getting involved in the rehoming of abandoned greyhounds—please see page 12, and Mandy, another contact, has kennels in Cheshire and is helping if any greyhounds need to be boarded before rehoming.

Many thanks to everyone for all you are doing for GIN and the greyhounds!





Help for the refuges

Since the mailing of our last newsletter we have been overwhelmed by the wonderful response from so many of our supporters to our pleas to help the refuges in Spain. Not many days pass without a parcel or two being delivered to us here in Wraysbury. We have received hundreds of coats, blankets, medicines, bandages, collars, leads, dog bowls etc. etc. It is wonderful to know how much you, like us, want to help the galgos and we do not underestimate all the hard work that you all put into knitting and sewing these coats and collecting up other donations and posting them off to us. We have been very busy sending these items to Spain to the individual refuges in 30kg boxes. These have been much appreciated by the refuge volunteers and the dogs, some of whom you can see here modelling their winter wardrobe !



Thanks to everyone



If you would like a copy of our dog coat patterns please call us on 01784 483206 or email us at info@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk



Our work abroad...

We continue to board many galgos (Spanish bred greyhounds) at Pep Plans kennels in Vic, Barcelona . These dogs come from various refuges in Spain but mostly from Albacete and Almendralejo. They are fully dependant on funding by GIN for their maintenance / veterinary care. Once Pep has carried out testing for Mediterranean diseases, treating if necessary, and sterilizations, arrangements can be made to home the galgos. Most of our galgos are homed in mainland Europe (see page 11) but as you can see from the back page of this newsletter we bring a few (8, twice a year) into quarantine in the UK.



Some galgos at Pep's kennels waiting to go to their new homes



Pep at Barcelona airport with 5 lucky galgos preparing for their flight to Brussels.

from HQ. We are sure they raise a few laughs when Pep reads our attempts at Spanish , at least now we have Jenny, in Egham, helping with communication.

We appreciate very much the help we get from Balbino in Albacete and Mada in Almendralejo with our rescue work. They try very hard to give us as much information as they can about the dogs in their refuges and take photographs for us. All of this helps with the homing process.

Transportations are being arranged all the time for dogs to come to Pep's and then to be taken by our contacts abroad to homes in Belgium , France , Germany etc. To date this year nearly 60 dogs will have left Pep's for their new homes making room for more to come in.

We are very grateful to Pep (and Pilar at the kennels) for looking after the dogs and helping with their transportations plus putting up with the faxes



Paul at Malaga airport with galgos for Greyhounds Rescue Belgium

We also continue boarding a few galgos throughout the year in Cadiz at Alpha Boarding Kennels, run by April and Paul. These dogs usually come from Seville and are also fully dependant on funding by GIN for their maintenance / veterinary care. Josephine and Greyhounds Rescue Belgium take most of these dogs for homing but one galga (Alanis) will soon be going to start her new life in Norway, joining Fenix from Spain.



Alanis, soon to be joining Fenix in Norway

We are very grateful to April and Paul for caring for our galgos and being very involved in transporting them to Malaga airport ready for their flights to Brussels. It is not easy trying to fit 5 dog crates into a car so they are often grateful for some volunteers to help with this or have to hire a van to fit them all in.

Arca de Noe refuge in Albacete

Our work with Balbino, Maria and Evagrio at the Arca de Noe refuge in Albacete is increasing all the time. As mentioned on page 9 we take many dogs from them up to Pep's kennels in Barcelona.

We also continue to fund the veterinary treatment in Albacete (testing for Mediterranean diseases,

sterilisations etc.) of the dogs going to Italy and Slovenia and help

where possible by funding some transportation costs. Eighteen lucky galgos went to Italy and Slovenia on 10th February already another transport is being organised for April.

Amigos de los galgos, Madrid

We have supported the work of Nuria Blanco of Amigos de los galgos in Madrid for some years now. Nuria works very hard for the galgos and has homed many galgos in France over the last year.

Nuria helps the galgos in Madrid where she lives and those in neighbouring areas. She prepares photographs and details of each dog which go on her website and this helps her and her contacts to find homes. We are currently funding the veterinary treatment (testing for Mediterranean diseases, sterilisations etc.) of 9 galgos she has just rescued from a desperate situation. Once these dogs are ready Nuria will arrange their transportation to homes.

The beginning of the year is always the worst time for the abandonment of the galgos in Spain. The refuges are full of unwanted galgos and are grateful for any support we and other groups can give them. You will have seen on page 8 some of the many coats we have been able to send to Spain over the last year, thanks to the generosity of so many of you spending hours knitting and sewing! The refuges are grateful and we receive many messages like this from Mada in Almendralejo *I thank you for the new parcel you have sent to us. We received it yesterday. Once again, everything contained in it is very useful for our work with the greyhounds of this zone of Spain. THANK YOU VERY MUCH! Please, transmit our thanks to the people who has contributed with the material that are in the package.....Mada*

We would like to specially thank here Josephine (Greyhounds Rescue Belgium), Catherine and Wilfrid (Levriers en Detresse, France), Kathi (SOS Levriers, France) and Diana (Galgos in Not, Germany) who take the majority of the dogs we are able to help to their own countries for rehoming.

Without their help our work would be very hard, if not impossible !



Arca de Noe refuge, Albacete. Photo from Balbino



Caramelo, from Albacete now happily homed in Italy thanks to Elisa and her group



Pepito, one of the dogs Nuria is helping at the moment.



Mada from Almendralejo with Tito. He was found with a badly broken leg and thanks to Mada and her group for looking after him following his operation he is making a good recovery. As soon as he is ready he will be homed in Belgium by Josephine, Greyhounds Rescue Belgium

Homing UK and Abroad.....



Kim, from Albacete, now enjoying life in Germany thanks to Diana Jork and Galgos in Not



Marcos, from Albacete, now homed in France thanks to Wilfrid and Levriers en Detresse

Peach from Almendralejo now homed in Belgium thanks to Josephine and Greyhounds Rescue Belgium



Sona, from Albacete now homed in Italy thanks to Elisa and the Adopt Centre Italy.



Flynn (Harlem), one of the "Roman soldiers" . Happily homed with Tracey and Mark in Nottinghamshire. He celebrated his 13th birthday in January



Elvis, from Almendralejo, now homed in Holland thanks to Esther



Chai, and friend, now living in the USA with Alexis



Hada, from Albacete, with her new friends. She is the 100th dog homed in France by Kathi and SOS Levriers



Six lucky galgos from Albacete starting their new life in Slovenia thanks to Eric and his group.

Please keep sending in your news and photos of dogs you have kindly adopted through GIN. We love to know how you all are and try to include as many of your stories and photos as we can in our newsletters and/or on our website www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk

Homing Update from Pat

HOMING IN CHESHIRE

A small group of enthusiastic greyhound lovers, including Carol, Graham, Angela and others who were already doing much needed fundraising for GIN in Cheshire managed to get a couple of kennel spaces allocated for boarding homeless greyhounds for a very modest fee. GIN is delighted to set aside a modest sum of money to pay for the boarding and/or veterinary costs for these dogs until homes are found. In a short space of time the Cheshire group have been able to help Louis, Honda and Alice who all came to us with a donation towards their kennelling/veterinary costs, which is a huge help and means that the funds that GIN set aside will allow more dogs to be helped.



Honda and Louis



Jordan

HOMING IN SURREY

If we are unable to satisfy people with a Galgo (usually because they want a dog "now" rather than waiting for quarantine to complete) we process the application as far as possible and then pass the applicants to Debbie Buxcey so that she can help them with an ex-racing dog. In these circumstances GIN always pays the cost of sterilisation



Spike

just as we would for the galgos from quarantine. We have now been able to set aside a modest sum of money to pay for sterilisation and/or dental work on some of the dogs kennelled at Farnham in Surrey being homed directly by Debbie and not through the GIN process to help make them homeable more quickly. So far we have helped two such dogs. One has already found a home and the other now has a much better chance of being homed sooner rather than later

UK Greyhounds find homes in France and Belgium



This is Val, one of the retired greyhounds from UK, with his new companions Lynn and Sven.

Thanks to Bob Gilling who prepared them, Whitehouse Kennels who transported them and Josephine who found them homes in Belgium.

Arising out of the publicity of greyhound abuse in this country, our greyhound-homing colleagues abroad anxiously asked what they could do to help us. Catherine Madry of Levriers en Détresse valiantly



Catherine from France marches for Greyhounds in London

came over from France to join Martin and Angela in the 'Stop the Slaughter' march on 18/11/06 in London. Already hundreds of Irish greyhound retirees from Ireland have been welcomed by our 'sister' groups in France, Belgium Italy, Germany and Switzerland. But now, Catherine in France and Josephine in Belgium offered to take also some retirees from UK for homing. Eight dogs have gone so far.....

Anne

Homing Update from Pat continued January 13th saw yet another 8 lucky Galgos on their way to wonderful lives with their new owners. It is difficult to know whether it is the dogs or the owners who consider themselves the luckier. Mainly the dogs look happy as they come out of the kennels onto real grass and wide open spaces but it would be fair to say that some of them are a bit apprehensive at first. Reassurance from delighted owners undoubtedly helps to ease the situation.

Every release day is different - different dogs, different owners, different staff but every time the excitement and emotions are the same. For some people who reserved their dogs early on in the quarantine period the wait has been long and the day has finally come when they can actually take the dog home with them. For others who reserved later on the wait has been shorter but the excitement and emotion is just the same.

Everyone wants to go home with their precious new pets but on the other hand they also want to wait and talk to everyone else, compare notes and exchange email addresses and phone numbers so that they can keep in touch and updated on the progress of the dogs.

I frequently get asked about Galgos with cats and I recently got this message typed by Louise as dictated by Izzy: "Hi Pat, Izzy here, you know how frightened I was of the small hairy thing that humans call a cat—well you will be so proud of me when I tell you that we get on really well now. Thursday, that's her name, is around me all the time now. I let her walk by me and we even stand at the front door together sometimes, she is cheeky because she sometimes walks underneath my tummy and it tickles....."

I often get lots of photos of dogs that I have homed and it is hard to choose which ones should be included in the newsletter so please forgive me if your dog is not included as I can only fit in a few. Here are a few from the last group of Galgos released from quarantine in January.



Archie (was Zarza) well settled in with a new friend



Pado doing his bit to raise funds in Cheshire



Bella (was Bea) living in Luxury with Adele and Bob

Please continue to send your photos and we will use as many as possible either in future newsletters or on the website for the homing gallery.

We really love to receive periodic feedback from you letting us know how your dogs are settling in at home and what they get up to. Imagine how rewarding it is for me to get these comments:

"We can't thank you enough, Max is wonderful". - from Sarah

"Tito has settled in like a dream! What a special boy!" - from Louise

"Hi Pat , things are great with Bona (now called Eva)" - from Jan

Three of the eight Galgos currently in quarantine already have homes to go to when they are released in August - see back page for photos.

Pat

Tributes

We heard recently from Annie in Northamptonshire that Jakarta had died. Annie kindly offered a home to Jakarta when we brought her over to the UK from Rome where she had raced. Annie says she was a special girl, never a moments trouble from the day she had her.



Jose from Rome, he was put to sleep to save him further suffering. He was loved, and will be missed by many people. We were privileged to share his life for 4+ years. Sasha, Michael and Margaret, Cornwall.

Just to let you know I lost my beautiful boy to serious illness (kidney and liver failure also a bladder tumour). He filled my life with so much love and happiness that I can't imagine what will fill the gap. Thank you for giving me the privilege of sharing his life with him. God bless, Laura Rigby

We were all sorry to hear that Flash had died very suddenly last month. He was 9 years old and lived with Monica, Yinka and Lulu. Flash was a great ambassador for the greyhounds, attending many GIN events over recent years. We will all miss him.



Sophie (Nobody's Perfect) 1997–2006

It is with great sadness that I write about the passing of our two beloved hounds Sophie and Mr Mac. Sophie passed away in early November 2006 after contracting bone cancer. Within a month, Mr



Mr Mac (Mr Mac's Emerald) 1997–2007

Mac had been diagnosed with Lymphoma and he too, had slipped through our lives by early January 2007. Their spark and incredible zest for living will be greatly missed. Sophie, from the moment we first met when she tried to get inside Kate's rucksack whilst still wearing it, we knew she would bring light and life to our home. Mr Mac, our gentle giant, continued to surprise and delight as we got to know him and the pair brought us great joy.

Sophie introduced us to the world of Greyhounds in Need when we first met on that sunny June afternoon in 2001. Since then, and especially after Mr Mac joined our home in March 2004 the pair have help raise thousands of pounds for the charity. Sophie enjoyed being the centre of attention and thrived in situations where her beauty and grace could win her knew admirers. Mr Mac was always happy with a pat or tummy rub wherever he went; street collections for GIN, the Earls Court 'Discovering Dogs' show, agility classes, social dog walks or just walking their usual route where their legion of fans would stop in the street for a pat, sometimes holding up the traffic.

Sophie introduced us to Mr Mac and she helped teach him the best and naughtiest tricks. Mr Mac, known as 'The Kennel Bad Boy' at Debbie Buxcey's rescue kennels, had been kicking his heels for around two years after his racing career finished. Sophie showed him what joy it is to be loved and cared for in a happy, warm, comfy home with enough beds to suit even the fussiest of hounds. Mr Mac endeared himself to us immediately and provided constant entertainment for us (Sophie included) in a variety of misadventures; A broken toe, stolen sandwiches, craters dug in the garden and numerous wild high-speed chases across parts of the New Forest to name a few.

Sophie and Mac went everywhere with us on many holidays and remained definite 'Beach Babe' and 'Surfer Dude' 'till the end, living each moment to the full. Their legacy will be the continued rescue of many more ex-racing greyhounds and their beautiful smiles will always be with us in our hearts. Many thanks to the staff at Dunbar Road Veterinary Hospital who treated Sophie and Mac with warmth and kindness

Gareth and Kate Thomas



Kildara Damien aka Tazz

15.04.98- 22.11.06 R.I.P



Sadly last December we heard from Seb Fenn that Gabby, a greyhound rescued from Mallorca in 1999 had passed away.

Gabby lived with Seb and family for 7 wonderful years and went everywhere with them. She even featured in a book written by Seb's father.

Membership News

We would like to remind you that membership runs for the calendar year. Renewals/new applications for 2007 are welcome—please see form below.

Please don't forget gift aid, just fill in the form on page 19 of this newsletter and forward to us if you pay UK tax. We do the rest and get a very welcome payback from the Tax man.

If you are not already a member and would like to join, please complete the form below and return it to us with your payment, We will then send you a Membership Card and a little gift from us to thank you.

Thanks to everybody for your continued generosity and support.

Audrey

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Greyhounds in NEED

Registered Charity in England and Wales No.1069438

TO: Membership Secretary, *Greyhounds in Need, 33, High Street, Wraysbury, Middlesex TW19 5DA*

I should like to become a member of *Greyhounds in Need* and I enclose my cheque/postal order/other for the annual fee of £10 (£5 minimum for non-wage earners) to cover the period 1st January 2007 to 31st December 2007. Please tick one of the boxes below.

= New Member

= Renewal

FROM: Name:.....(BLOCK CAPITALS)

Address:.....

.....

.....

Tel No:.....

Fax No:Others: (mobile, e-mail, etc.)

VISIT The GIN Shop at

952, Wimborne Road (opp Somerfields supermarket)
Moordown, Bournemouth BH9 2DG Tel 01202 513000

Come and visit this very attractive shop, bring your dogs
and be prepared to buy a bargain!

Opening hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,
9.30am. - 4.00pm. Saturdays 9.30-1.00 pm
Closed all day Wednesday.

Greyhound related merchandise: collars, cards, mugs,
greyhound coats, stationery, key rings and car stickers all
at reasonable prices. We also sell bric-a-brac, household
items, furniture, good quality clothing, toys, books, etc.



Stephen had never been the same since his mother opened an account at the local charity shop

News from the Shop.....

We had another successful year in 2006 and the shop is starting to flourish again now after a quiet February, as in most years.

My thanks to everyone who has sent in donations of stamps; it is now becoming increasingly impossible to thank you all individually so please could you accept this as our "thank you" for the future.

I thought you would enjoy this lovely picture of David and Emma, two of our youngest customers, modelling their delightful knitted hats made and donated by one of our supporters.



David and Emma



Mark and his three helpers—Blue, Danny and Freddie—are good friends of GIN and raise a lot of money for us during the car boot sale season. Mark collects lots of different items including books and videos to sell as well as having a collecting tin on his stall. Mark has been doing very well and enjoys meeting people and spreading the good word about greyhounds and what super pets they make. His own three dogs are great examples of how laid back greyhounds can be and they go with him to all his car boot sales, wandering around meeting and greeting his customers. Our thanks go to Mark—and, of course, Blue, Danny & Freddie! - for all the effort they put into raising funds for GIN

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who donates their time, etc., to make the shop, and ultimately Greyhounds in Need, so successful - Gareth and Kate who give their help designing and printing cards for the sponsorship scheme, transporting bedding, etc., to our local rescue kennels and organising some of the social dog walks. Keith and Mollie who have also been helping with the social dog walks. Aileen who supplies us with all the postage for our sponsorship scheme. John, who checks our electrical goods for sale and maintains the shop premises in good repair. Esme, who organises the very rewarding Street Collections for us in Dorchester, (offers of help needed please for this year). Mark, with his handsome hounds, who regularly attend Car Boot Sales and make lots of £££'s for the greyhounds. Geoff

who helps with transport and Michelle with her ice-cream van promoting greyhounds as pets and giving out information.

Dear Manuel

who prints our newsletters and amuses our customers with his romantic Spanish accent. Angela who travels from Chichester to bring us excellent quality donations collected from her friendsand to all my other volunteers who help in the shop and on the sidelines, many of whom have been with me since we opened nearly 7 years ago.

The dates of our social dog walks in the New Forest for the rest of the year are April 22, May 20 (annual sponsored walk), June 24, July 22, August 19, September 23, October 21, November 18, December 16. For further information on these walks please contact Keith and Mollie on 01202 723540 or mob. 07957295120. Please also see our other events on page 6 and keep checking our website www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk as events continue to be added to this throughout the year.

Thanks to you all !

Sue



Good friends of GIN Barbara and Robert Saywell sell used books to raise funds for Greyhounds in Need at their electrical shop (Keyworth Electrical). Here they are pictured with Tom, who is about to go in to choose his next book—he prefers something with a little adventure in it as he is quite a mischievous little chap! A lot of the books are re-sold many times over as customers bring them back for re-cycling. They did have two greyhounds themselves but now only have one after losing Dolly to bone cancer. So far they have raised over £1,000—well done, keep up the good work, it's really appreciated by everyone at GIN. What a very good idea it was to incorporate this within their shop—is there anyone else out there with a shop/other type of business where they could do the same? All you need is a small bookcase or similar and you too could be helping to raise more funds for GIN.

News from Wales....

We've had a bit of a quiet time of it lately in Wales regarding home offers but plenty of greyhounds keep popping up looking for homes as usual! There have been a couple of foster homes offered lately though (which might take some of the pressure off).

Recently I was asked if GIN could help with six greyhounds needing homes in Aberdare. Their owner had always kept his greyhounds until the end of their lives but, due to a change in circumstances, he found himself unable to keep these six. Four of these greyhounds were aged between 10 and 12 years old! GIN took on two of them, Greyhound Gap took another two and the owner managed to place two younger males with another charity.

The two with GIN are still looking for their forever homes:

Megan is a black female aged 11years. She is micro-chipped, vaccinated and neutered and has had her teeth



Megan

cleaned (and quite a few removed - only ten left!). She gets on well with children and other dogs and may possibly be cat friendly. As she is being fostered by Audrey at the moment she is also housetrained. Megan is a shy girl but also very loving.



Alan

Alan is a fawn male aged 11years. He has also had his teeth cleaned (and now only has his front ones left!) He will be vaccinated. He seems fine with other dogs and has been in a home with rabbits (which are caged

most of the time) without a problem. With a little work I feel he could also detrain to live with cats. He is a lot more outgoing than Megan but also extremely affectionate (he loves cuddles).

If you feel you could offer a home to Megan or Alan please contact me on 01443 224386 or Audrey on 01685 385960.

Well, that's all for now - don't forget the monthly walks at Cosmeston Lake, Penarth at 2pm on the last Sunday of the month (except December). Hope to see you there.

Bye for now,

Siân



Many thanks to Jon Baber for running the 4.5 mile Santa Run at Newtown, Powys, raising £400 towards our work for the greyhounds and galgos. Over 1,000 Santas took part!



GIN is grateful for all donations from it's many supporters—we are very pleased to receive cheques, postal orders, even bank notes. As well as these we offer the bank mandate and Just Giving methods set out below.

**The main GIN account is at:
Barclays Bank, 71 High Street, Staines, Middlesex, TW20 4PS, UK,
Sort code 20-81-11, Account no. 00176508, Account Name 'Greyhounds in Need.'
For overseas donors please consider using a transfer of funds to GIN via
IBAN GB70 BARC 2081 1100 1765 08. SWIFTBIC BARCGB22**

Regular donors can use the monthly standing order mandate below. If you pay UK tax, we can claim a further 28% (that is 28 pence more on every £1.00) of your donation, membership and sponsorship fees, from the Inland Revenue if you complete the "Gift Aid" form on page 19. Once a Gift Aid Form is signed by you, we can claim tax back on any previous donation you have made from April 6th 2000 and of course all future donations.

BANK STANDING ORDER MANDATE (photocopy if you wish)

Full name.....
Address.....
..... Postcode.....

I would like to help Greyhounds in Need with an annual / quarterly / monthly gift of £.....

Name of your bank.....Address of your bank.....Postcode.....

Bank sort code-.....-.....Account Number.....

Bank Instruction:- Please pay the stated amount on the same day each year / quarter / month, starting on / / /

(1 month from today) to:- Barclays Bank PLC, 71 High Street, Staines, Middlesex TW20 4PS

Account number 00176508 Sort code 20-81-11 Account name: Greyhounds in Need

SignatureToday's date.....

Please send this completed form to your own bank.

You do not need to inform GIN that you have set up this mandate but it would be nice for us to be able to thank you.

USA donors can use the following account "Greyhounds in Need" PO Box 460, Hagaman, New York 12086

* **Send a book of stamps !** *
* **This still continues to be a very helpful way of donating to the** *
* **Charity, especially for the smaller pocket. This cuts our un-** *
* **avoidable costs. Second class stamps are the most useful please.** *



Web users with credit cards or debit cards can also donate online on the Greyhounds in Need site through Just Giving, www:greyhoundsinneed.co.uk, which also can prepare appropriate Gift Aid claims.



Click on the button !

Just Giving is a very effective way for credit/debit card holders to donate to GIN

Legacies To help GIN carry on its work in Spain, particularly to get involved when and where the greyhounds and galgos need help most, GIN's supporters might consider leaving GIN a legacy—a gift to GIN included in your will.

Legacies make a vital contribution to the charitable sector, encouraged by the UK Government as legacies to registered charities escape inheritance tax. Long-established charities in the UK receive nearly half their income from legacies.

Many of our supporters have donated generously and regularly to GIN over many years, and of course it is these donations which have enabled GIN to achieve so much in helping the greyhounds and galgos of Spain, in grass-roots aid to the refuges as well as dogs homed. Legacies could become a new and important source of income for GIN, as supporters remember GIN when drawing up their wills.

Legacies cost nothing during a lifetime, but such thoughtful acts of generosity would enable GIN to expand its work in Spain and help even more of the abandoned and ill-treated dogs in that country.

Please contact us if you would like a copy of our explanatory leaflet.



Registered charity in England and Wales no. 1069438

33, High Street, Wraysbury, Middlesex, TW19 5DA, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1784 483206 Fax: +44 (0) 1784 482501
Email: info@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk
Website: www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk

Can you sponsor one of our galgos currently in quarantine ?

Galgos (Spanish bred greyhounds) are used for coursing the hare with betting, but the season is only 4 months after which time they are often abandoned or brutally killed. Many have not been handled kindly, some have suffered victimisation in overcrowded shelters in Spain, making them wary of other dogs and some need gentle socialisation and a lot of reassurance. They come from towns all over Spain. We try to help as many galgos as we can. We fund their stay in boarding kennels in Vic, Barcelona where they receive care and veterinary treatment. The majority of the galgos we help are homed in Belgium, France, Germany and Holland with help from our contacts abroad. However, we do bring 8 galgos, twice a year, into quarantine kennels in the UK for 6 months. During that time they can be visited. All are sterilised, micro-chipped and have been tested and found clear of Mediterranean diseases. Ages are approximate.

The galgos shown overleaf are currently in quarantine kennels in Nottinghamshire. They are all on our Sponsorship Scheme which helps with the cost of processing through quarantine. If you would like to sponsor a Galgo please contact Sue on 01202 513000 or complete the sponsorship form below. If you would like to offer a home to one of these galgos please contact Pat on 01784 434735. Thank you

Sponsor a Greyhound I would like to sponsor a greyhound and wish to give "Greyhounds in Need" (*Circle as appropriate) *£5 per month *£10 per month *£25 per month *Other amount £.....per month (not less than £5 per month by Standing Order or £900 one-off payment for one dog for whole 6 months of quarantine, cheque only).

The dog I wish to sponsor is(optional)

NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR BANK

Bank.....

Address.....Post Code.....

BANK INSTRUCTIONS

Please pay the above amount on the same day every month starting on the.....until further notice

Sort Code..... Account Number.....Account Holder's Name.....

Account Holder's Address..... Post Code.....

Signature.....Date.....

Please return this form to "Greyhounds in Need Shop", 952 Wimborne Road, Moordown, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH9 2DG

(*Greyhounds in Need" use only)

To: HSBC, Moordown, (40-13-06) for the credit of "Greyhounds in Need", Account No. 61305646

giftaid it

GREYHOUNDS IN NEED GIFT AID DECLARATION
REG.CHARITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES NO. 1069438

Title..... Forenames..... Surname.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

I want the charity to treat all donations I have made since 6th April 2000, including my annual subscription, and all donations I make from the date of this declaration, as Gift Aid donations.

I enclose a donation of £.....

I declare that I have paid an amount of income tax and / or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the charity will reclaim on my donation (currently 28p for each £1 which I donate).

Signature..... Date.....

GALGOS IN QUARANTINE - FEBRUARY—AUGUST 2007



YARA (ALBACETE)

Yara is a 6 year old very friendly cream female galga. She was picked up in Albacete.



Fasene is a small 3 year old male galgo cross. He is very friendly



Lupo RESERVED is a 3 year old male galgo with lovely markings.



KENZA (ALBACETE)

Kenza is a 2 year old female galga. She was picked up wandering on the road in Madrid

CONTINENTAL CRACKERS

Yara the pushy girl light fawn and proud,
Aspires to be first with actions so loud.

Fenix the fawn gentleman, not keen on the rain,
Happy and contended with food on his brain.

Mogly the big black boy, retiring and shy,
Needs constant reassuring, not one to catch the eye.

Fasene the cross galgo, a busy body at best,
If he gives his approval you are truly blest.

Niko the dwindle brindle, a real bashful boy,
Big enough to know better, patience will bring joy.

Dulce the delicate, a lady so petite,
Eager to offer affection, she's really very sweet.

Lupo the bonny coloured boy, so eager to play the game,
A pick me please greyhound, who wants to change his name.

Kenza the mystery lady, white flecks on her nose,
A reserved sort of lady, with a tendency to pose

Archie Wheeler

If you are interested in offering a home to one of these galgos please contact Pat on 01784 434735.

For sponsorship please see page 19



MOGLY (ALBACETE)

Mogly RESERVED is a 3 year old male galgo. Very timid.



Fenix RESERVED a lovely looking 2 year old beige male galgo. He has lost some of his tail.



NIKO (ALBACETE)

Niko is a 3 year old male galgo. He was found caught in a trap for foxes. He is very shy.



Dulce is a 4 year old female galga. She was found near a garage in Chinchilla, nr Albacete. She is very friendly.