



Spring / Summer Newsletter 2008

Founded by Anne and Arthur Finch

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Registered Charity in England and Wales no. 1069438

Dear Friends of GIN,

We hope you will enjoy reading this newsletter which will bring you up to date with our work and also let you know some of our plans for the future.

GIN will celebrate 10 years as a registered charity in May this year and to mark this occasion we are planning to produce an Educational Booklet, in Spanish. This we hope will aid the individuals and refuges we work with in Spain with their work teaching children to respect and care for animals (particularly galgos) – more details on page 15.

Homing opportunities continue to present themselves for the galgos and in 2007, thanks to the adoption groups we work with in France, Belgium, Germany and Italy, we were again able to help more galgos than in 2006. More news and photos on pages 12-14.

Homing in the UK went very well last year too. We are very grateful to Pat for the great job she does with the homing of our galgos.....see Pat's write up on page 6. Our new group of galgos have arrived and their details and photos are on page 20. If you would like to offer a home to one of these galgos please contact Pat on 01784 434735. If you are able to sponsor one of them, which helps with their quarantine costs, details are on page 19.

The GIN Cheshire group have homed 30 greyhounds in the last 12 months and as well as the rehoming, many events have been attended by supporters in the Cheshire area and we are very grateful for all their hard work promoting greyhounds and galgos as pets as well as promoting the charity.....more news on pages 7 and 11.

Here at HQ we have been busy organising the movement of the galgos from refuges to kennels, to adoption groups, and homes and over the last 6 months we have been helped by Geraldine, who lives in Wraysbury, and comes in once or twice a week, usually armed with some treats for Lurchy!

We have all been looking at new merchandise for our Spring/Summer catalogue. We were very pleased with the response to the Autumn/Winter catalogue and would like to thank all those sending in orders and for your nice comments about the merchandise. We are lucky to have Diana and Colin coming up with new embroidered designs for some of the items and also Monica, Esther and Sandra for donating their drawings for us to use on notelets, cards, paper etc. We have had to increase some prices this time and also postage but we hope you still find our merchandise good value.

We are pleased to welcome Terry Dickens as a new Trustee for GIN. Terry visits the office regularly to help with the work and is another visitor welcomed by Lurchy.....might be something to do with the biscuits Terry provides! More on page 4.

We would like to take the opportunity here to thank all of you for the help you give to GIN without which we would not be able to carry out our work in Spain. Carolyn and Tracey

2008 SUMMER RAFFLE

We are enclosing a book of raffle tickets with this newsletter and we hope you will again be able to buy some tickets and help us raise funds for our work for the greyhounds and galgos.

We have some nice prizes and the draw will be on the 31st July 2008.

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

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VIEW FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK..... The Treasurer's Desk hasn't seen much of me over the last few months as I had eight weeks in hospital, including Christmas and New Year, and didn't get home until early February. After all that time away (although Martin, Carolyn and Tracey came to the hospital to keep me in touch with GIN) I went to Wraysbury and got on with the book-keeping, bringing a large amount of paperwork home. Something intelligent to do at last, instead of watching TV in my hospital room-you soon find that the multitude of channels are all equally poor-or trying to estimate what my blood-pressure would be when it was taken next, every hour on the hour, from 6am to 11pm.

Carolyn and Tracey had kept all the files in apple-pie order and after a week or so of beavering away at my PC and a couple of visits to Wraysbury I have got some draft results ready for 2007.

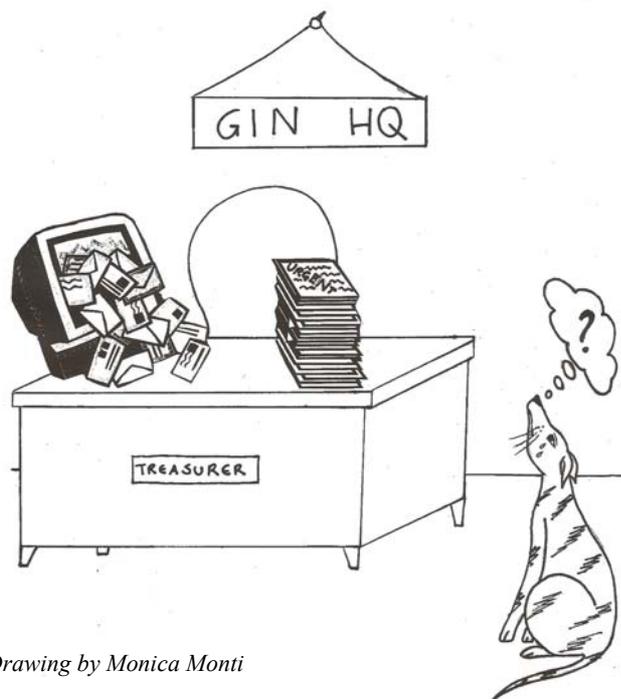
Income looks very good-supporters have contributed splendidly, the Bournemouth shop has beaten all records and merchandise is recovering well from a transitional year in 2006, when Barbara Davis retired from the job early in the year and we couldn't get it going properly until the move to Wraysbury in August 2006. Carolyn and Tracey have now got this important outlet generating both cash and interest in GIN and our work. Early in 2006, we made a specific appeal to key supporters for extra help, which raised just over £13000, and helped our total income (excluding legacies) for 2006 reach £204000. We did not make a specific appeal in 2007, but even so our total income (again excluding legacies) reached £206000.

Legacies, where supporters make provision for GIN in their wills added £62000 in 2006, including a generous £51000 from Mrs J Evans, and further amounts of £12000 were gratefully received in 2007. A legacy is a fine way of helping a charity and is inheritance tax free as I have mentioned in previous articles. If any supporter is interested in remembering GIN in a will, please contact us as we have a simple guide to legacies available.

So including legacies, GIN had £218000 to spend in 2007, compared with the record £266000 in 2006. Supporters will be pleased to learn that spending on galgos and greyhounds is up by over £20000 in 2007, deliberately reducing our reserves built up by the unexpectedly large legacies late in 2006. We spent a little less at our main Spanish kennels in Vic due to a holiday shut down but spent £4000 more on the Cadiz kennels. Even better the amount of direct aid to Spanish refuges went up from £10000 in 2006 to over £20000 in 2007. This aid was mainly vet fees paid to help the refuges directly but also included a record number of parcels of coats and dog equipment sent from Wraysbury. The number of dogs GIN has helped to supply to homing groups outside Spain is also up on 2006, and Carolyn has managed to get more galgos into Germany in 2007 and for the first time get a number into Slovenia.

In the UK we have found some enthusiastic supporters in Cheshire who have homed 30 greyhounds in the last year, and have raised some worthwhile sums by working hard at fairs and shows. Homing these Cheshire dogs has necessarily increased GIN's spend on kennels and vets in the UK. Quarantine costs have increased sharply, even though we brought in the same number of galgos in 2007 as in 2006. In summary we have spent around £13000 more on galgos in Spain and £9000 more on greyhounds and galgos in UK in 2007.

Admin costs have risen somewhat, as we had a full year of Wraysbury office rent and electricity etc costs to pay while in 2006, we only occupied Wraysbury from August. Carolyn needed help to enable her to concentrate much more of her time to the Spanish refuges and kennels, sorting out all the complicated movements of galgos between refuges, kennels and homing groups. So we enlisted Tracey early in 2007 and she has got a good grip on the office work, especially the important merchandise. Martin and new Trustee Terry are working hard to fill the gap left by the sad death of Arthur, and I am looking forward to getting back to full health to sit at the Treasurer's desk and keep Lurchy awake, alert and amused, especially when my doctors allow me to add bacon sandwiches to my diet.



Drawing by Monica Monti

Geoffrey

New Trustee for GIN

We are very pleased to announce that Terry Dickens has been appointed as a trustee of Greyhounds in Need.

Since the sad loss of Arthur Finch, we have felt the need for more help, particularly locally to headquarters and we are very grateful to Terry for accepting this position.

We could not have found a more ideal candidate to help us push forward our vital work for the galgos and greyhounds. Terry lives in Egham and retired in 2005 from the important position of Head of Community Services of Runnymede Borough Council. In this role, he had charge of all the local authority's care services, completing a lifetime career in social services and ambulance work, only interrupted by service in the Welsh Guards.



Terry (left) and Martin with Baltolo—now Tolo, on Release Day at quarantine. Tolo is now enjoying life in Cheshire with Debra

Currently, Terry is a Director and Trustee of the Working Community Transport Company Ltd, which provides transport for people unable to use public transport because they are disabled, including children with special needs.

As well as this wealth of experience in the field of helping others, Terry brings to his trusteeship a deep love of animals, being a supporter of the PDSA, RSPCA and WSPA.

We welcome Terry and thank him for offering to devote some of his time and experience to our work.

Martin

The Greyhound Forum

We continue our work on the Greyhound Forum which is at present involved in the outcome of the Donoughue Committee. As a Welfare charity, our main worry is that the report maintains the principle of self-regulation of the Greyhound Racing industry, albeit subject to some extra oversight. We will continue, along with other welfare groups represented on the Forum to keep this under review. However, it does seem probable that the recommendations of the Donoughue Enquiry will be accepted by the industry and the government. It will be necessary to keep a close watch on how regulation works out in practice.

It is interesting to note that The Greyhound Forum for Wales has made a strong submission to the Welsh Assembly calling for independent regulation by local authorities. The Animal Welfare Act delegates the formulation of detailed regulations to the Welsh Assembly and we will watch their decision with interest.

It is worth reminding readers that the Animal Welfare Act which came into force in 2007 faces, for the first time, a duty of care on the owner/keeper. This duty is enshrined in what have been called "the five freedoms"

- a need for a suitable environment
- a need for a suitable diet
- a need to be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns
- any need to be housed with, or apart from other animals
- a need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease

We welcome this as a general step forward in animal welfare. All will depend on enforcement.

Martin

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.

For general information on events please contact Carolyn & Tracey at HQ on 01784 483206.

For Dorset events, contact Sue on 01202-513000 (The GIN Shop, daytime). For Welsh events contact Sian on 01443 224386, for Cheshire events contact Carol on 01925 211530 or Sue and Phil on 0161 6206094, for Worcestershire events contact Sue Boone on 01527 869395.

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 (see page 11)

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.

MAY

3rd - 10am-4pm - Come and enjoy a day at the Seaside whilst supporting GIN at Cleveleys Town Centre, near Blackpool. Please ring Sue or Phil White on 0161 620 6094 for more details.

10th - 10am to 4pm meeting of "Hair and Hounds" at Wolstanton, Staffs. The salon's owner has invited us to bring our hounds along to the Salon where she has most generously offered that the customer payments on that day will all be donated to GIN! For further details please contact Carol on 01925 211530 or Sue & Phil on 0161 620 6094.

10th GIN stall at Plumpton College, Sussex, please contact Rita on 01323 833652 for more details

18th – Annual sponsored walk at Hengistbury Head. 11am start. Sponsorship forms available from the shop – telephone 01202 513000. Doggy bags will be given to our four-legged friends at the end of the walk !

28th – Dorchester Street Collection. Please let Esme know if you and your dog can offer an hour or two to help with collecting. This really is an enjoyable event. Tel 01305 262320

31st – Street collection at Bexhill, Sussex. Helpers welcome. Please contact Rita on 01323 833652

JUNE

1st—GIN stall at 1st Twyford Scouts Donkey Derby & Summer Fair in Twyford. Please contact Sue on 01344 861908 for more details.

8th GIN will have a stall at the Dogs Trust Open Day and Fun Dog Show, 11am-4pm, Harefield, Highway Farm, Harvil Road, Harefield, Uxbridge UB9 6JW.

14th -12noon – 4.30pm - GIN will have a stand at the Englefield Green Fete in Surrey. There will be fairground rides, tea and cake tent, music, a food village, lots of fun for everyone. For more info. please contact Carolyn & Tracey at HQ on 01784 483206.

29th—GIN stall at South Wales Police Open Day, Bridgend, contact Sian on 01443 224386 for more details

JULY

5th—GIN stall at Machen Show, Wales, contact Sian on 01443 224386 for more details. Helpers welcome !

6th - GIN will have a stand at the very popular Wilmslow Show on the Sunday from 11am to 4pm. There will be all kinds of stands and displays taking place at the Show, including a Fun Dog Show. Come along and enjoy a good day out for the whole family. Contact Sue & Phil on 0161 620 6094 for more info.

12th – Gin stall at the Beneden Hospital Open Day, Cranbrook, Kent. Please contact Rita on 01323 833652 for more details. Helpers welcome.

12th/13th – GIN stall at Michelan Priory, Sussex, more details from Rita on 01323 833652

13th – Annual GIN picnic at Virginia Water, Surrey, contact Carolyn and Tracey for more details—01784 483206

AUGUST

3rd - 12 noon. Home Farm, Tatton Park, Cheshire, Fun Dog Show. GIN have been welcomed back to have a stall fundraising & promoting awareness of greyhounds and galgos in need at this very popular fun dog show. Come along & enter your dog in the dog show or bring a picnic and enjoy the opportunity of chatting to other proud greyhound and galgo owners in beautiful surroundings. More details from Sue & Phil on 0161 620 6094

20th – GIN stall at the Vale Show, Fonmon, near Rhoose, helpers welcome, please contact Sian on 01443 224386

23rd & 24th –GIN has a stand at the Egham County Show, 10am-4pm. Contact Carolyn & Tracey on 01784 483206 for info

SEPTEMBER

6th - 10am-4pm - GIN fundraising day at Cleveleys Town Centre, near Blackpool. Please ring Sue or Phil White on 0161 620 6094 for more details.

6th – Street collection at Bexhill, Sussex. Helpers welcome. Please contact Rita on 01323 833652

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.

News from CheshireGIN has been supporting a group of volunteers in the North Cheshire/ Greater Manchester area for the last twelve months. During this time, thirty dogs have found their forever homes and the group has grown from strength to strength.

Our continuing success has once again only been possible thanks to the tremendous support we have gained from the fantastic group of reliable, committed volunteers who help with fundraising, transporting, walking the dogs and raising awareness of greyhounds and galgos as pets. Turning out in all weathers to help at our events we have enjoyed endless chatter and plenty of laughter and we never seem to be short of home baked cakes and refreshments. The dogs too have enjoyed their own home baked biscuits!



Yara and Pado at a recent GIN fundraising event in Cheshire



Baltolo from Albacete who has now joined the "Cheshire galgos"

We are lucky enough to have spaces for our dogs in a Boarding Kennels where we know that they will receive lots of TLC, as well as wonderful foster carers who have helped to prepare the dogs for life in a home after a lifetime in kennels.

Many of our dogs have come from trainers and owners who have not been able to rehome the dogs themselves but have asked us to help. The donations we have received have helped to support the dogs we have accommodated from less caring situations.

We are pleased to report that the North West is now receiving its fair share of galgos. Bartolo, the latest arrival, who has settled perfectly with Debra and her 2 other dogs, Heidi and Jake. Yara, who was released last August needed to be rehomed and has now settled seamlessly with Carol and her 2 other galgos, Diana and Pado. Rasta who was one of the June 2005 galgos also needed a new home due to a change of circumstances and we are delighted that he transferred straight into his new home as a



Rasta enjoying a bone !

companion for Misty. Finally, we now have Terry who left quarantine in February but who we understand did not fit into his new home. He is proving to be an absolute angel in all respects and has happily settled in a wonderful foster home with two companion greyhounds whilst we find him his forever home.



Terry taking it easy while he waits for his forever home. If you are interested in offering Terry a home please contact Pat on 01784 434735 or Sue and Carol on 0161 6206094/01925 21130

Thanks again to all the adopters who have provided our GIN dogs with such wonderful homes and we look forward to seeing you all at our future events.

"Without the hard work of the volunteers and the support and encouragement of everyone at GIN, none of these dogs would today be enjoying the home comforts they deserve: **Louis, Honda, Alice, Frankie, Electra, Dottie, Snoopy, Sophie, Summer, Clive, Bendy, Lulu, Tommy, Misty, Harry, Mary, Sam, Foxy, Tim, Cassie, Poppy, Tilly, Bessie, Susie, Janey, Arthur, Badger, Corry, Taya, and Rasta.** Thank you everyone on behalf of these lucky dogs"

Finally, we would like to thank Carolyn, Tracey, Pat and all the Trustees for all their very hard work and for making our fundraising and homing efforts so worthwhile. Carol, Sue and Phil

News from Sian

I start this page with some news of Rosie - I mentioned in the last newsletter that Rosie had come over from Ireland to her new home with Peter and Pauline in Wyllie. Peter had been busy before her arrival building her a special bed of her own. I saw the bed when Audrey and I delivered Rosie - it was wonderful - a bed any dog would be really happy with - any dog except Rosie that is! As you can see from the photo she has decided that the settee is a much better place to have a nap - so Pauline has now bought her a fleecy sheet to lie on. Sorry Peter but I think the bed idea has had it.



In October I collected Paddy, a handsome male greyhound, as his owner was having to move into a flat and couldn't take Paddy with him. Sheila in Llantwit Major had already contacted me looking for a female greyhound after sadly losing Jazzy to cancer. I mentioned Paddy to her and she decided she would like to foster him. Now renamed Solo he obviously made an impression on Sheila as she decided to keep him.

In November Gypsy and Madison were also taken under Greyhounds In Need's wing when their owner contacted me. He was unable to devote enough time to their welfare and decided that they deserved to find new homes. Madison was adopted by Tanya and her family in Blackwood. There were a few initial teething problems as Madison decided she was higher in rank than Tanya's youngest daughter Tia, but, after some advice and then some hard work from Tanya, Madison has now learned her place within the family.

Gypsy didn't have a home lined up immediately so she was fostered by Ian and Vicky (and Lola and Dizzy!) until, in February, she was adopted by Alison and her son Owen in Pontypool.



This brings me to Pipa who is currently being fostered by Ian and Vicky and would like to find a forever home. Pipa arrived from Ireland less than a week after Gypsy moved out! She was apparently too slow for racing. At 18 months old Pipa is still young and playful. Due to her age and inexperience she would benefit from an owner who is firm but patient. Pipa gets on well with other dogs but is probably not cat friendly - although she hasn't been properly cat tested. She is confident and outgoing and loves to be cuddled.

Molly the lurcher is also in need of a new home as her last owner has cancer and could no longer care for her. She is a pretty, brindle girl - approximately 7 years old. She is very confident and loves having a fuss. Although she is friendly we feel she would probably be best suited to a home with no young children as she can be food possessive. She is presently in a foster home with Colin and Kirsty in Fleur de Lis, South Wales.



We have also been asked to look for a home for Pancho. He is a large 4 yr old black male greyhound. He has been retired from racing but is still in racing kennels near Swindon. Pancho has only really met other greyhounds so we don't know how he reacts with other dogs or animals, but he is apparently very friendly with people. Having only known kennel life he is now looking for someone who could help him adjust to home life and offer him a comfortable retirement.

We have a few events booked already for the Summer - the South Wales Police Open Day at Bridgend on 29th June, Machen Show on 5th July and the Vale Show at Fonmon, near Rhoose on 20th August. Any newcomers wanting to come along to lend a hand, and brave the lovely Welsh weather, would be most welcome. Please contact me if you want to know more - 01443 224386 or e-mail me at greyfriendly@hotmail.co.uk.

As normal, we also have our monthly walks on the last Sunday of every month (except December) at 2pm at Cosmeston Lakes, Penarth.

Until next time, Siân

If you feel you can offer a home to Pipa, Molly or Pancho please give me a ring on 01443 224386

Tributes



It is with sadness that we hear from Polly that her lovely Sara-toga had to be put to sleep in December, she was suffering from lymphatic sarcoma. She had lived a happy life with Polly and Jed since 2000. She is missed very much.



We were sad to hear that Elisa of GACI lost her beloved greyhound Maya earlier this year. Maya was a greyhound from the Rome track and Elisa's adoption of her started her work for the greyhounds and she formed GACI.

We heard recently from Diane Meacock that she had to have Wilma put to sleep recently. She had been with Diane and her family for 5 years and is much missed.

Carly (ex Carmen from Rome) 1993-2008



Our gentle greyhound was put to sleep on Monday 18th February, 2008. Farewell and thanks to all her friends. Yvonne and Alan



Curly, my beloved galgo, left Badger and I on 6th November last year, aged 14 years. Curly was elegant, loving, with a brilliant sense of humour and a very aloof look. He was much travelled and admired. He posed for Anne (Finch) for the Discover Dogs poster, went to London with Arthur (Finch), attended local events and talks, visited Anne on the Isle of Wight and went on holiday to Cornwall. He also nearly took Carolyn over a 6 foot fence at the



GIN picnic, whilst younger, (wearing 2 leads !!) He was also blessed 3 times!! I would like to thank everybody who helped me through Curly's passing, especially Julia, a

After nearly five wonderful years with Pippa I'm totally heartbroken to inform you that my best friend has died. Pippa's mobility this year has been giving increasing concern to Sue and myself, thinking with her age (approx 12 years) arthritis seemed to be the cause, but recently her walking became very painful although Pippa's indomitable spirit still demanded her morning and evening walks. This week x-rays revealed that bone cancer was eating into her right leg & shoulder the only thing to do was not to bring out of anaesthetic, we had to make that terrible choice. Pippa was a remarkable dog, very intelligent she always made her thoughts known, loved company with people and other dogs the tail was always wagging I know her remaining years with us were quality and we shall never forget her.

Warren J Witt.

nurse from the Shrubbery Vets here in Northfleet, all at GIN and to Anne for phoning me at my time of need. Badger, my other galgo, has a new friend Rory, a Wimbledon dog, with thanks to Cheryl Miller at RGT Harvel. Curly's little casket is here in the house but Curly as he was is buried in my heart. God Bless you Curly. You enriched so many lives with your charm and beauty and spread the word about the plight of galgos and greyhounds everywhere together with Badger. Rory and Badger are now doing the same for your memory. Jenny



Sadly we had to say "Goodbye" to Sasha on 28th February, aged 14. Sasha was an Irish bred, Spanish raced, small black greyhound bitch. She came into our lives and our home in January 2001, aged 7. She was the sweetest, kindest and most loving dog I have ever known. She was totally uncomplaining and most perfectly behaved. Sasha had obviously had a hard racing life, judging by the scars on her back legs. She gave us great pleasure when we first adopted her, by becoming a "puppy". She obviously had not known that

period of life. She loved to run on the beach and chase the sea birds into the sea! Since Christmas she had slowed down and became increasingly unwilling to eat. The vet could find no reason for this. I think she was trying to tell us she was tired of life. Finally, one morning she could not get out of her bed! The time had come to say "Goodbye" to our gentle loving Sasha. Sleep well, my darling - we will never forget you, and huge amount of love you gave us. Margaret & Michael Crisp

"For Pansy - Simply the Best" - Thank you Pansy for 6 1/2 wonderful years together. It was an honour and a pleasure to be part of your life. The decision to let you go tore me apart but I couldn't let you suffer you had suffered enough in the past in Spain. Now you are gone the sun no longer shines. No more happy smiley face to greet me each day. Just an empty space where you once lay. All I can say is goodbye my darling life will never be the same without you. I miss you every minute of every day and I always will. So rest peacefully my special girl until we meet again. Love and miss you forever. Mum x (Liz Ruminska)



Pansy - 11.10.93. - 11.2.08. It's with deep sadness I have to tell you all that "Pansy" passed away peacefully on 11.2.08. "Pansy" was one of the Pet Passport Gang that came to this country in November 2001. She was the most perfect dog you could wish to meet. A beautiful fawn girl with big brown smiley eyes. I showered her with as much love and affection as I could and she just thrived on it. She would lay on her bed and just stare at me, her eyes were filled with so much love for me and she was a real smiler and a real happy dog. She learned to play with toys like a puppy and enjoyed her life to the full. She was my shadow, my companion and my best friend and she seemed to understand every word I said to her and almost talked back with her eyes. I'm sure Carolyn will remember the photo shoot we attended in Slough with Dogs Today magazine when she was lucky enough to be chosen to be part of the "Bridget Bones Diary". She seemed to enjoy every minute of it and behaved like an angel, the beautiful photos taken that day I will treasure forever. She also attended "Crufts" 2 years running and enjoyed all the fuss and attention she was shown, everyone loved her because she was such a beautiful friendly girl

News from Bournemouth

Walking in the park with Zoe, my greyhound, the other day I came upon a most comical sight. A large, brindle greyhound (Barry) was chasing a very fast remote controlled car. When the car stopped so did Barry. When the car went off again Barry was in hot pursuit. Barry's owner, Jane, tried several times to put Barry back on his lead but the owner of the car continued to tease Barry and this proved impossible. Eventually, Jane and the car's owner thought it might be quite fun to find out if Barry could run faster than the car. Once in line they set off and Barry went like a rocket after the car. They headed towards the fence and suddenly the car smashed into it, wheels and fuselage flying everywhere. Luckily Barry managed to brake and he came to no harm.



At our shop, we occasionally receive donations of clothes suitable for fancy dress parties. We recently had the fun of "dressing" the Captain of the Titanic. A fairly tall, rather handsome gentleman came into the shop one day looking for something suitable and found a ladies jacket on our 50p rail and tried it on. It rather hugged his chest but looked fine. However, he preferred a man's jacket sporting nautical brass buttons. Just what he was looking for, he thought, but it was too small. Then I had the idea of transferring the brass buttons onto the ladies jacket but he had no-one to sew them on. I volunteered but, in the end, Penny spent a laborious couple of hours changing them over. A captain's hat completed his outfit and we were even able to find a book entitled 'The Titanic' for him to hold. Success! A few days after the party his wife popped into the shop; she works next door! Perhaps she couldn't sew or did he want to surprise her?

New customers continue to visit our shop. Recently a whippet owner popped over from Switzerland to say "hello" and to purchase some doggy items. The other day one of our regulars appeared in the shop on crutches. She hadn't been out of the house for two weeks and begged her husband to bring her to her favourite shop in Bournemouth! Isn't it wonderful that we are still so popular after almost 8 years in business?

A big 'thank you' to Barbara and Robert Saywell who over the last few years have kindly been selling used books in their electrical shop in Keyworth to raise £££'s for our greyhounds and galgos. Barbara and Robert have now retired and closed their business. We wish them all the best for a happy retirement.

Thanks to everyone who so kindly donated money for Christmas treats for the dogs in our care - the galgos in quarantine, those in Spanish refuges as well as the rescued greyhounds in Wales and Cheshire. (See page 15)

Sue



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.

The Annual Riddlesdown coffee morning took place on December 23rd thanks to Kath Powell and Liz Goumas.

The weather was cold and crisp but the mulled wine kept everybody warm and the event raised £278 for GIN !

Many thanks to Graham and Angela in Cheshire for their help to GIN, including organising events in their area, helped by John and Marilyn Ratcliffe and Janice Devine.

SUSSEX FUNDRAISING



Christine, fundraising for GIN at the Michelin Priory, Sussex



Christine and Paul at the ESK Dog Show

Thanks also to Rita Hawkins who helps Christine organise the events and also has placed many GIN collecting boxes in local shops etc in Sussex which she is kept busy emptying !

Here you can see Keith, Mollie, GIN supporters and their dogs at the recent Burbush Hill walk in Dorset



Keith and Mollie organise regular monthly walks in the Dorset area. Dates planned for this year are April 20th, May 18th, June 22nd, July 20th, August 17th, September 21st, October 19th, November 16th and December 14th. Please contact Keith & Mollie White on 01202 723540 or mobile 07957 295 120 or m.k.white@talktalk.net for more information.

CHESHIRE FUNDRAISING...



GIN had a stall at Jolleys Pet Store in Congleton in March and as well as raising funds and lots of interest in Reggie, in the photo with his "home wanted" coat, they also received a bag of food donated by Jolleys



"Speed dating for fast friends" at Wilmslow Garden Centre, Cheshire



Sue and supporters doing a collection for GIN at Pets at Home, Stockport

Sue Boone in Worcestershire continues to organise events for GIN in her area and raised £1,700 for GIN in 2007. Sue would be pleased to hear from anyone who could help her with events and is also looking out for donations of bric-a-brac. If you feel you can help Sue please give her a call on 01527 869395

Our Work Abroad

We have again kept Pep busy at his veterinary clinic and kennels in Vic, Barcelona over the last 6 months. We have been pleased to continue taking galgos from Albacete, Almendralejo, Badajoz, Cuenca and Murcia. The galgos arrive at Pep's clinic on a regular basis and he re-tests them for the Mediterranean diseases, carries out any necessary treatments and sterilisations preparing the dogs for homing. More dogs were able to be helped in 2007 than 2006 and more opportunities are presenting themselves for the galgos in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland.

We continue to board dogs in Cadiz at April and Paul's kennels in Rota. Again the number of galgos helped has increased over the last 6 months as the homing opportunities for them have increased, thanks to the hard work of Josephine and her group - Greyhounds Rescue Belgium.

Most of the galgos we help in Cadiz come from the local area and increasingly from the Villamartin refuge in Cadiz where many galgos are taken and cared for by Saskia and Juan.



Pep at his kennels in Vic with Gineta before she leaves for France with Wilfrid. Photo by Wilfrid

A Visit to Cadiz...



Janice and the galgos

Janice Devine has been a GIN supporter for some time now, and along with John and Marilyn Ratcliffe attends events in the Lancashire area to help raise funds for GIN. Recently she decided to go to Spain and pay a visit to the kennels run by April and Paul.

Here is Janice's account of her trip along with some of the photos she took during her visit.

.....Just want to introduce myself. I am a member of GIN and would like to tell everyone about my great visit to April and Paul's Boarding Kennels in Rota, Spain on the 14th September last year, they also take in the Spanish galgos for GIN who are badly abused and in a bit of a state.

The galgos stay here for about 8 weeks to be rehabilitated then sent to Greyhounds Rescue Belgium to be rehomed.

Paul came for me every day in the morning and also in the evening. Paul and April made me very welcome.

Paul just wanted me to sit in the kennels and talk to the galgos to give them confidence. By the end of my week there I think some of them were coming round. I felt as though I did not do much, but Paul said I had helped.

There were eight galgos in while I was there, all lovely, and I wanted to give them all a kiss and cuddle, but they were very nervous of people.

Here are some of the photos showing the galgos I spent the week with and got to know quite well. I hope to go again in the near future.....





Josephine with one of the new arrivals! Photo GRB

Josephine (Greyhounds Rescue Belgium) continues to be our most prolific homefinder and her group fly galgos from Barcelona, Alicante and Malaga as well as travelling up to Calais to collect some galgos brought up from Spain for GIN by Catherine Madry of Levriers en Detresse.



Dulce and Farruquito from Villamartin, Cadiz in Josephine's garden in Belgium Photo GRB



Judith at the RECAL refuge in Almendralejo

We are very grateful to Josephine for her help with the galgos and also for taking on some very sad cases that need and deserve special homes like Judith. Mada of the RECAL refuge in Almendralejo recently asked if we could help Judith. Her leg had been caught in a trap and been amputated but she copes very well on her other legs and has a lovely nature. She will be travelling up to Vic in the next couple of weeks and then to a lovely home in Belgium.



Romantica with new new family in France, thanks to Wilfrid, LED Photo LED



Wilfrid of Levriers en Difficulte introducing Ana, from Albacete, to her new family in France Photo LED

Rambo, from Almendralejo, in a rehearsal for a medieval show in France.

Photo from Wilfrid, LED



Kathi from SOS Levriers France travels regularly to Vic to collect galgos. She recently visited and above is one of the galgos she collected—Sacarina from Albacete still a little bit nervous in her new home Photo SOS Levriers



Diana Jork (Galgos in Not, Germany) drove once again to Vic, in the snow, to collect eight more galgos. These galgos came originally from Albacete, Almendralejo & Andujar. Diana and her group now have a "galgo hotel" where the galgos are taken until their new families arrive to adopt them. Photo Galgos in Not



Peter meeting his new family in France, thanks to Nuria Blanco of Amigos de los Galgos Photo Amigos de los Galgos

In 2007 over 60 galgos left Albacete for new homes in Italy thanks to Elisa, Chiara and members of GACI. Already this year another nineteen made the journey to Monaco with Balbino and his helpers to meet with Elisa and Chiara for the onward journey to Modena to meet their new families.

Following the October 2007 transportation Elisa wrote the following message which Monica, here in the UK, has kindly translated for us.....

15 galgos have been welcomed by big hearted people. It was a success that came about through love, co-operation and trust in GACI. It took a lot of hard work and determination to ensure that another 15 galgos got their chance of a better life here in Italy. Luca and Stefano met the volunteers from Albacete in Monaco and took over the last leg of the journey to Modena. Thanks to Pepa, Mari Feli and Emma, three brave girls who travelled from Albacete to Monaco... In the meantime, in Modena, hundreds of adopters gathered round to wait for the van to be unloaded! The galgos were eventually out of the van, disoriented and inquisitive, ready to start a new life in Italy.



Just arrived in Italy !



Elisa welcoming Albahaca to Italy

Lots of tears, questions, advice... and a lot of excitement after such a long wait! Each and everyone of them found a new home and it was a pleasant surprise to find that Daniela, a female galga, was not as shy as previously thought...

Each galgo had visible scars to prove that their past must have been less than rosy, but their future couldn't be more different! In the warmth of a family home, they will all receive a lot of love and kindness, and, in no time at all, they will feel re-born and their scars will be healed (mentally that is)! We've only be able to achieve this through the help and support of all those who have believed in us.

Heartfelt thanks to GIN, a forever friend of ours; the English organisation which supports us financially and morally, and, which, we would be lost without! Many thanks to Carolyn and Monica whose kind words have given us (mainly Chiara and me) the strength to continue.

Many thanks to El Arca de Noe. Thanks to Balbino and Mateo, and all the other volunteers from Spain. They save the galgos, help them regain their full health with a lot of love and patience. Balbino is a great friend of ours and he will hopefully come and see us soon here in Italy!

And last, but not least, many thanks to all GACI staff and all the "family vetters" who ensure that the galgos go to suitable homes and continue to live a happy life with their new families.

There are no words to describe the way we feel towards our friends and supporters, who have seen us through thick and thin, and continue to stand by our side no matter what! **THANK YOU!!!**

A special thanks goes to Sabrina, our "bridge" between Italy and Spain, a trusted friend whose help has been invaluable (the success of this trip proves it!)

Thanks Sabri!

Translation by Monica Monti. Photos from Elisa.



Help for the refuges

As mentioned earlier in this newsletter we would like to mark the fact that GIN has been a registered charity for 10 years by putting together an Educational Booklet, in Spanish, on how to care for the galgos.

We appreciate that our rescue work is first aid and that dealing with the problem at source needs to be addressed. We hope therefore that educating the children in how to care for the galgos and other animals will reap rewards in the future.

Many of the refuges we work with encourage children to visit and help look after the dogs and others visit schools giving talks. This booklet will take some time to produce but work has already commenced and we are in contact with other charities for advice/help with this project. The refuges are very pleased about this and are willing to help us.

We continue to help the refuges by sharing the many coats, blankets etc that are kindly donated by our supporters.

Here you can see the galgos at the Villamartin refuge in Cadiz wearing coats sent by GIN supporters recently.



Photo from Saskia

Other items that are always needed are :-

- * **Collars, leads and muzzles** - new or second-hand, very useful and necessary when transporting the galgos
- * **Feeding and water bowls**—plastic or metal
- * **Antiparasitics** like Frontline, Drontal
- * **Wound sprays**
- * **Bandages**

If you are able to donate any of these items please send them to us at Wraysbury and we will forward them to Spain.

Thanks to everyone who so kindly donated money for Christmas treats for the dogs—they were much appreciated !



News from RECAL, Almen-dralejo Mada has worked hard putting together an exhibition showing galgos she has helped over the years and wanting people to see what good pets they make and how they settle so well in homes.

Mada writes Celebrating their 10th anniversary, RECAL has organized the exposition "EL GALGO COMO NUNCA LO HABÍAS VISTO" – "THE GREYHOUND AS YOU NEVER SAW BEFORE", consisting on 67 pictures showing some of the greyhounds included on the RECAL 'S program "SALVAMENTO DE GALGOS" - "GREYHOUND RESCUE", finding adoptive families for them. The selection of pictures wants to face the nice side of the long process of adoption till the animals arrive to their new homes, showing the dogs with their families. Up to now, RECAL has managed the adoption of 463 abandoned greyhounds.



Mada at the Exhibition in October 2007

The exposition will be installed on five different places, three in Almedralejo and two on the city of Merida . Once finished this tour, the association will go to different schools with the purpose of continuing this project.



In the opening of the exposition, it were showed a video in which RECAL describes the process of recovery of one of the greyhounds, TITO, from the moment it was found seriously injured, until the recovery and fur-

ther adoption, together with a presentation in PowerPoint explaining the whole way to the adoption from the beginning (first contact with the animal), the physical recovery, the veterinary cares, the search for a home, the preparative of the travel...

Also in the opening of the exposition, it was specially mentioned GREYHOUNDS IN NEED, friend organization without which this project would not have been possible to achieve. RECAL, in this act, talked about the great efforts that GIN makes supporting RECAL punctually sending useful material for the wellness and care of these animals: clothes, blankets, straps, collars, medicines... and the valuable economical support made, paying the expenses arisen with the adoptions and even, in some cases, the veterinary operations made to those animals that required them.

From RECAL, we take the chance to thank very effusively the unconditional support from GIN and their confidence along all these years.

THANKS TO ALL



Homing UK and Abroad.....



Arthur, a UK greyhound, now enjoying a treat in his new home in Cheshire thanks to Carol, Sue and Phil



Billy from Albacete homed in Germany thanks to Diana Jork and Galgos in Not



Patricia from Cuenca now homed in France thanks to Nuria Blanca and Amigos de los Galgos



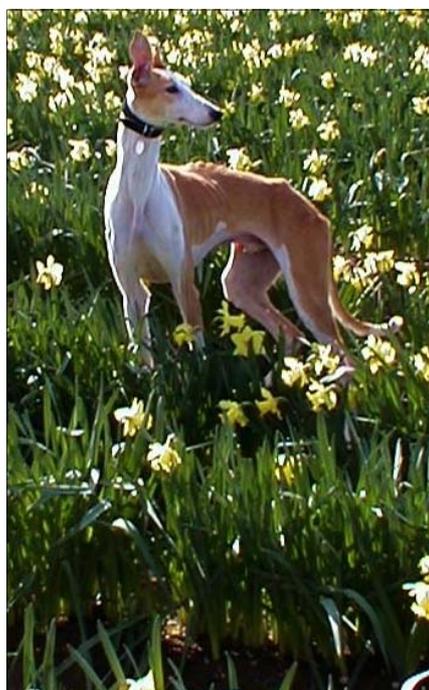
Gineta getting to know the cats in her new home in France thanks to Kathi and SOS Levriers



Blanca from Albacete looking very comfortable in her new bed in France, thanks to Kathi and SOS Levriers



George (Lupo from Albacete) now homed with Bob here in the UK thanks to Pat



Figo from Albacete now enjoying life in Cornwall with Martin



Altai from Albacete now enjoying life on the beach in France thanks to

Some of the lovely photographs here are on our new GIN notelets—please see the enclosed catalogue for details or visit the GIN website www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk



Maya and Alta from Albacete enjoying life in Italy thanks to Elisa and Chiara of GACI



Penny, from Cadiz, now homed in Belgium thanks to Josephine and Greyhounds Rescue Belgium

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

How to Help us.

There are many ways in which you can help our work for the greyhounds and galgos. GIN is grateful for all donations received from it's many supporters. Cheques and postal orders can be sent straight to us here in Wraysbury but if you prefer to send donations to our bank 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 at the bottom of this page. 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.

USA donors can use the following account

"Greyhounds in Need"
PO Box 460, Haganan,
New York 12086



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

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 unavoidable costs. Second class stamps are the most useful please.



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.

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 codeAccount 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.

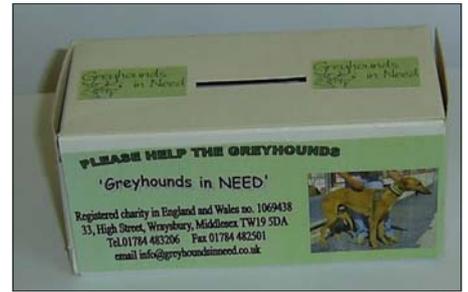
You do not need to inform GIN that you have set up this mandate but it would be nice for us to be able to thank you.

Become a member of GIN...Membership runs for the calendar year. Renewals/new applications for 2008 are welcome. If you are not already a member and would like to join, or if you wish to renew your membership please complete the form at the bottom of the page 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.

If you would like a copy of our "How can you help?" leaflet or would like one of our fund-raising packs to get you started! please phone us on 01784 483206 and we will get them in the post to you!

COLLECTING BOXES

Please don't forget we have some cardboard collecting boxes that you can have at home to save your small change for GIN. We would be happy to send you one, please just call us on 01784 483206.



**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.

Recycling – Thanks to all for recycling their ink cartridges, mobile phones etc. If you need more envelopes please contact us at HQ on 01784 483206 and we will send some to you. We also have display boxes for these if you should need them for your local shop/place of work.

We send many donated coats throughout the year to the refuges in Spain where they are always needed. We have several patterns for dogs coats, knitted and blanket. If you would like a copy please call us on 01784 483206



Animal Portraits in Pastel
by Max Williams

Framed A4 from £50.00

Tel: 01305 823085
E-mail: max@galgos.co.uk

Max Williams, an artist, has kindly offered to make a donation to GIN of 10% for each completed commission he receives from GIN supporters.

Max adopted two galgos from GIN - Calvin and Star nearly five years ago and has helped Sue and Esme in Dorset with the GIN street collections. Telephone Max on 01305 823085

TO: Membership Secretary, *Greyhounds in Need, 33, High Street, Wraybury, 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 2008 to 31st December 2008. Please tick one of the boxes below.

= New Member

= Renewal

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

Address:.....

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



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 by funding their veterinary treatment and boarding in kennels in Barcelona and Cadiz. We also fund veterinary treatment in other areas of Spain, namely - Madrid, Albacete, Almendralejo and Seville. The galgos we help are homed mainly in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland 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 Gloucestershire. 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 - MARCH—SEPTEMBER 2008



LEON—a white male galgo, approx. 2 yrs old, playful, found with SIMBA near the refuge.



SIMBA—a fawn female galga, approx. 2 years old. She was found with LEON near the refuge in Albacete.



MENTA—a fawn/white female galga, approx. 1 1/2 yrs old. Found near the road in Albacete.



CARDA -A long haired brindle female galga, approx. 7 years old

We are pleased to report that these eight galgos have now arrived in the UK and are settling into their kennels at Precious Pets Quarantine Kennels in Gloucestershire.

They have all come from the Arca de Noe refuge and we extend our thanks to Balbino, Maria and all at Arca de Noe for their primary rescue.

Thanks also to Pep and Pilar for carrying out their final veterinary preparations ready for homing

We also thank Catherine of LED, France, and all at Precious Pets for organising the safe transportation of these dogs to the UK.

These galgos will be on our sponsorship scheme for the next 6 months and if you would like to sponsor one of them please contact Sue on 01202 513000.

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

Greyhounds in Need
Reg.charity no 1069438
33 High Street, Wraybury,
Middlesex TW19 5DA
info@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk
www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk



HARLEM-a white male galgo, approx. 4 years old. Very nice character.



DIVA—a black female galga, approx. 7 years old, found wandering near the refuge in Albacete



DORTMUND-a brindle male galgo approx. 5 years old found near the refuge.



COLONIA—a 3yr old white female galga. She was found tied to the door at the Arca de Noe refuge