

Greyhounds in Need



SPRING / SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2011



*We are dedicated to the welfare
and rescue of greyhounds
especially those in Spain*

Information about us:

Greyhounds in Need

Registered charity in England and Wales No. 1069438

Registered UK Office:

33, High Street, Wraysbury, Middlesex, TW19 5DA, UK

Tel: 00 44 (0) 1784 483206, **Fax:** 00 44 (0) 1784 482501

Email: info@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk

Website: www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk

Founders: Anne and Arthur Finch

Patrons: Jilly Cooper, OBE

Alexandra Bastedo

Trustees: Carl Boyde MRCVS, Terry Dickens,

Martin Humphery, Liz Mason

General Manager: Carolyn Davenport 01784 483206

Treasurer: Geoffrey Levy FCA

Bournemouth Shop: Sue North 01202 513000

Brighton Shop: Christine Page 01273 674100

Homing Officer UK: Patricia Whipps 01784 434735

Supporter/Homing Group Cheshire and the North West:

Carol Cushnie 01925 470992, Sue & Phil White 0161 620 6094

Membership Secretary: Audrey Darbyshire

Merchandise: 01784 483206

Sponsorship: 01784 483206

Webmaster: Leigh Dworkin



Drawing by Monica Monti

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Dear Friends

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter which is packed with information about our work over the last six months, our plans for the future and details of how you can help us continue our work for the greyhounds and galgos.

A big thank you from all of us to those supporters who kindly donated towards Christmas treats for the rescued greyhounds - £499 was received.



We were very pleased that the 2011 GIN calendar was so popular - it was the first time we have produced our own calendar and already people are asking us if we will do another one for 2012! We are looking for

photographs to include in this now so if you have any photographs of GIN homed dogs that you would like to send us for possible inclusion in the calendar they should be sent to us in Wraysbury, by post or email before the end of August.

Our Spring/Summer Merchandise catalogue is enclosed and we hope you like the new items included. Orders and cheques should be sent to us at Wraysbury. We are looking into having soon another method of payment for these by installing a package on our website www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk where orders can be made and paid for by credit card. Once payment has been accepted we will receive an email with details of the order and the items can be parcelled up and posted.

We are again organising a Summer Raffle. The draw will be on 29th July and this year the top three prizes are cash prizes - **1st prize - £250, 2nd prize— £100, 3rd prize— £50**. We enclose herewith a book of tickets and hope you will again take part. Cheques, payable to Greyhounds in Need, and raffle stubs should be returned to us at 33, High Street, Wraysbury, Middlesex, TW19 5DA, by 20th July. If you would like more tickets please call us on 01784 483206 and we will put them in the post.

We have just returned from another visit to Spain, this time we visited Albacete, Mazarron and Murcia - a report on this visit can be found on pages 31-36 together with an update following our visit to the south of Spain last year.

Our 2011 events are listed on pages 20 -21 and we are always looking for helpers so if you feel you can come along and lend a hand please contact us— we will be pleased to hear from you. I would like to thank here the many supporters who regularly give up their weekends to fundraise for GIN.

We are now getting ready for the main fundraising events during the summer months and are always grateful for any donations for tombola prizes - if you have any unwanted presents and would like to donate them to GIN to raise funds please send them to us in Wraysbury.

We have received many coats over the last six months and these have been parcelled up, almost as soon as they arrive, as the refugees need them.

You can see from the photo here that

we have stocked up the cupboard at the Villamartin refuge in Cadiz. Thank you to everyone for making and sending these coats, they are much appreciated.

Our regular coat makers have asked if any of our supporters have some Singer sewing machine needles they don't want as they use quite a few throughout the year making many hundreds of coats for the galgos. If you do have any please send them to us in Wraysbury and we will pass them on.

I would just like to say a big "thank you" to Lynne and Geraldine for all their hard work in the office, we have recently upgraded our computers, with Salva's help, and as well as the normal workload we have had to get used to new computer programmes which will in time, we hope, make the office work easier and allow us to produce more literature about the charity in house.



Carolyn

News from Our Patron

I have always loved greyhounds and it was a great pleasure to be asked to be a patron of Greyhounds in Need. So far I have not had the pleasure of having a greyhound as a family member as that position has always been occupied by dobermanns averse to other canine inhabitants. However friends have had adorable affectionate greyhounds and I am sure there is a lot of the greyhound in the dobermann breed as they too are very loving and can be very fast. When young I had a boyfriend in Brighton whose father was the resident vet at the Greyhound Stadium and I spent many an evening watching in rapt excitement as they sped around the track.

Unfortunately I now know - like racehorses - that when their racing life is over they face an uncertain future and I so wish that the people who profit from them in their youth would be responsible for them in their middle to old age. Fortunately that is where charities like Greyhounds in Need play their part, recognizing the true worth of these lovely affectionate dogs and coming to their rescue.

At the ABC Animal Sanctuary the charity which I founded and run we have similar problems with our rescued horses, ponies, donkeys, pigs, goats, birds and multiple cats. Sometimes it is not the fault of the owner whose circumstances have changed but all too often they are brought in by people who simply don't want them any more-even 16 year old cats - which is quite unforgiveable. Those of course we can't home so they have a home for life with us. So I know how hard it all is. The people who rescue the animals care passionately about their welfare and it is unfortunate that fund-raising and donations have to be part of the package. We would all much rather just spend the time with the animals but the vet and feed bills have to be met so behind the scenes people are working away trying to raise the money to help the animals.

I want to help which is why I am a patron - charity is such a lovely word and for these lovely dogs abandoned through no fault of their own they need your charity, your support and your donations so please help them .

Alexandra Bastedo



Photo: Alexandra Bastedo

Trustees' pages

A feature of the last six months has been two visits by trustees and Carolyn to the refuges in Spain which do such wonderful work in rescuing some of the large number of abandoned and abused galgos. We spend most of the money our supporters so generously provide in supporting these dedicated Spanish people and in paying the many related costs such as transport and veterinary care. You will find a full report on our latest journey in this issue (page 31-36).



*Carl, Martin, Christine, Carolyn
and Balbino*

For me and my colleagues these trips have been an eye-opener. On the one hand, it has been distressing to see, at first hand, that, although lessened, the appalling cruelty is still widespread.

On page 10 you will read a shocking and heartfelt message we recently received from our friends in Albacete. We realise that these facts, which are sadly not uncommon, cause great distress to many of our supporters and for this reason we have, in the past, largely refrained from publicising them.

However, it is precisely this kind of barbaric behaviour which your contributions help us to combat and our feeling is that it should be more widely understood.

I know that this is a difficult area and I would very much like to have your feedback as to whether we should continue to tell you about such cases here and on our website. We also have some very distressing pictures, which we have not shown here.

On the other hand, we were hugely encouraged by the total dedication to the cause of galgos, which we met at all the refuges. We must remember that these people have to face the appalling evidence of barbaric cruelty every day and yet

remain caring and hardworking, as well as feeling shame at the way their fellow countrymen treat these beautiful animals.

Here I should remark that our own record is far from blameless and requires us to be understanding of the problems faced in Spain.

While speaking of Spain, I am delighted to tell you that we have, at long last, recruited to the GIN team a Spanish speaking helper Salvador Gimeno-Gimeno ("Salva"). Salva and his partner Christine are already giving us great assistance.

In addition, Salva is an IT specialist and has helped us to revolutionise our rather elderly and creaking computer systems.

We are getting very excited by our education project in Spain. Everywhere we have been our teaching materials have been received with delight and there is no lack of energetic people in Spain ready and happy to spread this project into primary schools. We know that this is a very long-term project, but realise that cruelty to galgos and other animals can, in the end, only be cured by today's young people and their children's children.

The trustees realise that there is a limit to the number of galgos which can successfully be rehomed and that the future relies on tackling the problems at their root. Therefore, while in no way slackening our efforts to rehome galgos, we feel that we should be devoting more of our resources to education and to improving the infrastructure of refuges in Spain together with continuing to help with the considerable veterinary and transport costs involved.

You will also read in this issue of our increased support for the export, to good homes in Europe, of some English and Irish retired racing greyhounds. Although our focus will always be on Spain, we must not forget to help, where we can, with the serious problems in our own backyard.

The trustees, as ever, thank you all for your wonderful support, without which we could do nothing.

My thanks must also go to all our staff and volunteers in head office and in our shops who continue to shoulder an increasing workload so cheerfully.

Martin

Sad News from Arca de Noe

".....A.P.A.P. Arca de Noé, in Albacete, wants to make public yet one more new case -or should we say 'old case' - of animal cruelty that took place in Chinchilla de Montearagón (Albacete, Spain). This time the victims are once more the noble galgos, innocent victims of the cruelty and callousness of their sometimes cold-hearted owners.

Some members of the Association attended the call of some youngsters who had made a macabre discovery: they'd found the lifeless bodies of some galgos inside a cave in the outskirts of town. Fearing the worst, some other caves in the area were inspected and the same appalling sight was found in some of them: galgos' bodies in different states of decomposition, tied up to big rocks inside the caves where they'd been abandoned and starved to death... there were even whole litters that had been thrown into small pits they couldn't get out of. We will never be able to understand this violence against defenseless beings but it's even more overwhelming to think there are people capable of killing their own pets, animals which were loyal to them, with such cold-hearted cruelty.

The SEPRONA has been informed of these facts, they will proceed to their investigation and will ask the Chinchilla town hall to intervene in this affair. City councils have authority in animal protection and the government are responsible for designing a law which in actual fact protects animals, but this should also be something each and everyone of us citizens should worry about. A person who condemns an animal to die under these circumstances is not only committing a highly cruel act but is also incurring in a crime provided in the code of criminal procedure.

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated case, and we can not continue to look away from reality, as it only contributes to thousands of galgos living and dying every year victims of animal cruelty and leniency.

It is a shame our cities, our towns are known to the world for events like this. Europe looks at Spain in horror while European associations give out their help to the numerous and overcrowded Spanish animal protection societies wondering how much longer we will depend on them before we will be able to provide a decent life to our society's 'remains'.

Although some people are determined to make us believe that these are isolated cases, even imagination of the protective associations, the reality of everyday is enough to make them hush. Finished the hunting season, our cities and roads show the plight of these poor souls. Who does not see reality? Who dares deny it? Only those who are not interested in seeking a solution.

It is our duty and our right to demand from responsible authorities, city councils, that they control these activities to prevent such unfortunate occurrences, and that they set up the mechanisms to implement the Animal Protection Law.....

To express your disagreement about these events, please email the City Council of Chinchilla: chinchilla@dipualba.es

*A.P.A.P. Arca de Noé de Albacete
2011 - February"*

We have written to the City Council -

Greyhounds in Need is a UK charity dedicated to the rescue, care and rehoming of abandoned and mistreated galgos in Spain. We cooperate closely with A.P.A.P. Arca de Noe de Albacete.

We wish to protest in the strongest terms against the appalling cruelty brought to light by the recent discovery of the decomposed bodies of a number of galgos in caves in Chinchilla. These animals had apparently, been tied up and abandoned to starve to death.

This barbaric act disgraces your community and we urge you to seek out and prosecute the offenders without delay.

We know many Spanish people who regard such cruelty (which is not uncommon) with horror and who believe that it brings dishonour on an ancient and civilised nation, which is a member state of the European Union.

Martin Humphery
Chairman of Trustees

Export of Irish Greyhounds to China

We have seen, with horror, the press reports that the Irish Greyhound Board has started negotiations with the Chinese authorities with the aim of exporting surplus greyhounds to China. We resolutely oppose any such scheme. The Chinese record on animal, and particularly dog, welfare is appalling. Added to this, the transport of greyhounds over such vast distances does, in itself, constitute cruelty.



Photo: Sunday Times 27.2.11.

Many UK animal welfare groups have expressed their outrage at this proposal and a copy of our letter to the Irish Greyhound Board is on page 13.

All our members and friends are urged to write to the following to express their views.

Adrian Neilan, Public Relations Department, IGB pr@igb.ie

Barry Coleman, Welfare, IGB barry.coleman@igb.ie

Department of Agriculture in Ireland: info@agriculture.gov.ie

Irish Greyhound Board,

Green Park,

Dock Road,

Limerick,

Republic of Ireland

Adrian Neilan
CEO, Irish Greyhound Board
Green Park Dock Road
LIMERICK
Ireland

Dear Mr Neilan

Greyhounds in Need is a UK charity dedicated to the rescue care and rehoming of galgos, the Spanish strain of greyhounds used in Spain for hunting and coursing. These dogs are routinely abused, destroyed or abandoned at the end of their first hunting season.

You will therefore understand that we have a close acquaintance with cruelty to galgos and greyhounds and that we are resolutely opposed to the reported intention of your Board to come to an agreement for the export of surplus greyhounds to China for possible greyhound racing.

The Chinese record on cruelty to dogs is even worse than that of Spain and you should certainly not rely on any assurances as to welfare given by Chinese authorities.

In any event, the transport of dogs from Ireland over such vast distances must, in itself, constitute maltreatment.

We sincerely hope that this proposed arrangement will be reconsidered and not be put into action. We await your assurance that the matter will go no further.

Yours sincerely

Martin Humphery
Chairman of Trustees
Greyhounds in Need

Happy Homings Abroad



*Guija, originally
from Albacete,
now living in
Slovenia*



*Mouse, from
Murcia, now
living in Belgium*



*Snickerbar
homed in the
USA with Kathy*



*Obelix,
originally from
Rome, enjoying the
sunshine in the
USA with
Karen and Ben*



*Celia, from Spain, now
living in France*



*Willy (centre), originally from Chiripaina,
now with his friends in Switzerland*

How You Can Help GIN

GIN's supporters can help in a number of ways -

- * fundraising at shows and local events
- * organising local dog walks and street collections
- * sponsoring galgos in quarantine
- * joining GIN's membership scheme
- * buying our merchandise or visiting our shops
- * leaving a legacy to GIN in your Will
- * sending a book of stamps
- * recycling old ink cartridges
- * making dog coats for Spain
- * making donations
- * making donations towards veterinary costs
 - Initial testing for the Mediterranean diseases (€40-60)
 - Vaccinations, treatment for fleas and worms (€40 +)
 - Sterilisations (€80-130)

Donations can also be made ON-LINE by visiting our website and clicking on one of these buttons



Donating other items needed for Spain -

- * collars, leads and muzzles
- * feeding and water bowls
- * antiparasitics like Frontline and Drontal
- * wound sprays
- * bandages

Full details of all the above are on the GIN website

www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk or can be obtained by phoning, or writing to our Wraybury office—01784 483206,

Email: info@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk

BANK STANDING ORDER MANDATE

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 / / /

SignatureDate.....

giftaid it

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

Name in full.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Date of completion

Telephone (home)

Email

I would like Greyhounds in Need to treat all donations that I have made for the past six years prior to this year (but no earlier than 6th April 2000) and all future donations that I may make until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations.

Membership

Our membership scheme runs for the calendar year and we write to members in December each year to let them know that membership renewals fall due the following January should they wish to renew.....
.....we hope they will! If you haven't heard from us by the end of the year **please let us know**, just in case some letters go astray in the Christmas post which can happen.

We could always do with more members so if you would like to join the scheme please complete the form below and return with your payment to the GIN office in Wraysbury. The membership fee is £12 per year (£6 minimum for non-wage earners), and all members will receive a membership card with a number and a little gift from us and will be entitled to a 5% discount on their merchandise orders. You will need to quote your membership number on the merchandise order form.

Thank you

**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 £12 (£6 minimum for non-wage earners)to cover the period **1st January 2011 to 31st December 2011**
If you are a UK tax payer please complete the form on page 16
so that we can claim gift aid on your membership.

New Member

Renewal

FROM:Title:.....Name:.....(*BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE*)

Address:.....

.....

.....Postcode.....

Tel No:..... Email address

Homing Update

As everyone left the last release day back in November all was happy and well—or was it? For four owners yes, it was but certainly not for two new owners. One dog escaped from the car at a motorway service station and one dog slipped it's collar and ran off the very next day. I cannot even begin to imagine how dreadful this must have been for the owners. Both incidents were driven by fear I think. Neither owner did anything wrong and they should be praised for their fortitude during the days that followed which must have been so awful for them.

The next few days were very traumatic but the help and support that was freely given by so many helping with the long hours of searching in what were particularly nasty weather conditions was amazing. Setting up searches, owners and helpers having barbeques in snow around mid-night hoping to attract a dog with the smell of food was no easy task. The searches were hugely helped by the voluntary organisation called "doglost" and all the efforts paid off when both dogs were re-captured and re-united with their owners.

A huge thank you goes to everyone who helped out. If any of you should have the misfortune to have a dog go missing then please go on the internet and type in www.doglost.co.uk

We are so thankful that there was a happy ending but we have given a lot of thought to what could be done to at least try to avoid a repeat. For this reason we will be obtaining some harnesses that can be used to secure dogs into cars and will allow a lead to be attached for walking the dogs. We will give more details to new owners nearer to the next release day.

Of course I have received the usual amount of wonderful feedback on the progress of your dogs which I love to share with you all.



Hercules (now Anubis) proves the theory that galgos can live in harmony with small dogs.



Anita (now Luna) - on the right - looks really comfortable in her home with Enny.



Canuto (now Reuben) clearly loves playing in the snow.



Rosie Casilda's 1st Real Christmas

Whilst I cannot promise to include all or any specific photos please do feel free to send photos to me at patriciawhipps@ntlworld.com with a few words of how your dog is progressing and I will most certainly try to include at least some of them in the newsletter as and when appropriate and space permitting.

Finally, grateful thanks to all who have offered to undertake home checks to help out—please keep them coming.

Pat

Forthcoming Events in aid of GIN Full details of these events are given below and these and future events will be shown on our website:

www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk

If you feel you would like to become involved in fundraising for GIN please phone us on 01784 483206 or email info@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk for a fundraising pack which includes a "[How can you help](#)" leaflet with lots of ideas for fundraising.



Drawing by GACI

Monthly walks in Wales

Please come and join the Sunday monthly walks (last Sunday, every month) with dogs and supporters around Cosmeton Lake, Penarth. Contact Sarah on 02920 212592

MAY

7th/8th - Come and meet rehomed greyhounds and help others find the happiness they deserve. Visit the **Thundersprint motorbike show** in Northwich, Cheshire, on May 7th and the unique **Thundersprint motorbike race**, Northwich town centre, Cheshire on May 8th. For further details phone Sue and Phil on 0161 620 6094 or visit <http://www.thundersprint.com/>



14th—Fundraising at the seaside. Come and enjoy a day at the seaside. 10am-4pm at Cleveleys Town Centre, near Blackpool. For more details please ring Sue and Phil on 0161 620 6094.

22nd - Annual sponsored dog walk in aid of Greyhounds in Need at Hengistbury Head. Meet at Hiker café 11.00am. Sponsor forms from Sue 01202

513000 or mail greyhoundlady@waitrose.com

JUNE

8th - Dorchester Street Collection - 9.30am to 2pm. Helpers always needed, please contact Sue at the Bournemouth shop on 01202 513000 or greyhoundlady@waitrose.com

18th—Wraysbury Fair, Middlesex —GIN will have a stall at this annual Fair held on the village green. Gates open at 2pm, there are many stalls and attractions—please contact Carolyn or Lynne at HQ for more details.



JUNE—continued

25th - Greyhounds in Need fundraising stall at **Winton Carnival, Bournemouth**. Offers of help please to Sue on 01202 513000 or mail greyhoundlady@waitrose.com

25th/26th —GIN will have a stall at the **Morrisons Store**, Denton, near Manchester, more details from Sue and Phil on 0161 620 6094

26th—Great British Greyhound Walk— The Dorset walk is being organised by Amanda Lawrence and will hopefully be at <http://www.uptoncountrypark.org/> Meeting at 10am behind the car park at the entrance near to the toilets! Please contact Sue on 01202 513000 for more details or visit <http://www.greatbritishgreyhoundwalk.org.uk/>



JULY

2nd—Fordingbridge Street Collection, helpers needed please—contact Sue at the GIN shop in Bournemouth—01202 513000

9th—Dogs Day Out, GIN will have a stall at this event being held at Windsor Racecourse. For more info please visit <http://www.rspcahillingtonclinic.org.uk/DDO.htm>

9th/10th—Michelham Priory Garden Show—GIN will again have a stall at this popular show in Sussex. Please contact Christine on 01273 674100 if you can help on the day.

10th—Annual GIN Picnic at Virginia Water, Surrey. Meet at 11am in the car park and then we will make our way to the picnic area. Please contact Carolyn or Lynne for more details.

10th—Wilmslow Show held in the grounds of Wilmslow High School, just off the A34 in Cheshire. Lots of stalls and attractions, including a Fun Dog Show. More details from Sue or Phil on 0161 620 6094

16th— Saltdean Gala—GIN will have a stand at this popular event in Sussex. Many stalls, fairground rides, BBQ's—please contact Christine on 01273 674100 for more details.

AUGUST

14th—Fun Dog Show at Home Farm Tatton Park in Cheshire. For more details on this popular event please contact Sue and Phil on 0161 620 6094

27th—Egham Royal Show—Please come along and visit the GIN stall, dogs welcome. More details from Carolyn and Lynne on 01784 483206.



Bournemouth Shop News

We were lucky to be chosen by our local Waitrose as one of their charities for the month of February and Greyhounds in Need will be receiving a cheque for £319 in the next few weeks.

Please keep sending us British and foreign stamps; we have made several hundred pounds for GIN over the last few months from sorting and selling these in special packs on the internet.

Many thanks to our supporters who have sent in their unwanted jewellery; some items have been really exquisite and most interesting.

Please check the events pages—20-21 - and if you can come along and help we would be pleased to hear from you. Don't forget the Great British Greyhound Walk on 26th June.

Sue



Great British Greyhound Walk 2010



Greyhounds in Need Charity Shop
952 Wimborne Road
Moordown
Bournemouth
BH9 2DG

Telephone Sue North on 01202 513000

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

News from Cheshire and the North West

Greyhounds in Need volunteers from Cheshire and the North West are looking forward to a busy spring and summer of fundraising and awareness raising events after a quiet time over the winter period.

Our last three events of 2010 were at Ashton under Lyne Pets at Home in October, Weavervale Garden Centre in November and the Appleton Thorn social dog walk and meal in December. Needless to say, the weather got colder and colder so we were very glad to be able to put our thermals away so far as fundraising was concerned and look forward to meeting up with everyone again in the spring.



Carol's galgos—Diana, Pado and Leah

Following the success of the pre-Christmas event at Weavervale Garden Centre near Northwich in Cheshire, we have been invited back to organise a Spring Fancy Dress and Fun Dog Show by Mike and his staff on April 10th. They always make us very welcome and as this will be our first event of the year, we are really looking forward to building on the success of last year when we were blessed with glorious warm sunshine and a great turn out of GIN supporters.

On Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th May we have once again been invited back to the Thundersprint, a very busy event which takes over Northwich Town centre for the weekend. Over the past few years we have found the bikers and all the other visitors very generous and understanding towards the dogs and the work that we do.



Galgo Pado helping Carol with the baking !

On Saturday 14th May we will be back beside the seaside in Cleveleys, which is situated between Blackpool and Fleetwood and is always a very popular event amongst our volunteers.

We have established a good relationship with the local shops and cafes as well as with residents and visitors, who tell us that they look forward to seeing us but more especially our dogs. We are booked in to fundraise and awareness raise again in Cleveleys on Saturday 3rd September. We have hopefully been invited back to fundraise at the Morrisons Store at Denton, near Manchester on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June, dates to be confirmed. This is another venue where we are always made very welcome by both customers and staff.

On Sunday 10th July GIN will have a gazebo and stall at the Wilmslow Show, which is held in the grounds of Wilmslow High School, Wilmslow in Cheshire. This is a very well supported and family friendly day out as is the Tatton Park Fun Dog Show, Home Farm, Tatton Park in Cheshire, which is being organised this year on 14th August. Once again GIN volunteers have been invited back to have a stand at this event.

These are some of the busy programme of events taking place here in Cheshire and the North West during the coming months. With good luck the sun will shine and encourage as many people as possible to come to support us in these difficult economic times. If you are in the area of one of our events then please do come along to see us, you will be made very welcome.

I am delighted to be able to report that Tommy, who has been featured on the GIN website as needing a home for many months has now found his forever home. He is being adopted by his wonderful foster carers Jen and Roy and is now officially a member of "Team Gear" which also includes Marlene and Arthur. Thank you so much Jen and Roy for being so understanding during the difficult times when his behaviour was far from easy and for your commitment to him becoming a permanent member of your family. Everyone at GIN is so pleased and we look forward to seeing you all again very soon at one of our events.



Carol, Sue and Phil would like to thank the GIN Trustees as well as Carolyn and Lynne at Head Office for their support and encouragement of yourselves, ourselves and all our supporters and volunteers. We are members of a team, each of us working together to help as many greyhounds and galgos as we can. We could not do what we do without your support as well as the support from each other.

Carol, Sue and Phil

TRIBUTES

There was nothing I wanted more for Christmas in 2001 than a retired greyhound and I spent weeks and months researching the breed and exploring all the greyhound charity sites. On 1st February 2002, "**Magic**" came into my life. A quivering wreck who had been badly mistreated, I knew that a challenge to rehabilitate her lay ahead. I had no idea how she would impact on my life and she taught me so much about myself and brought me so many new friends, due to my involvement with fund-raising. I was smitten from then on and just had to have 3 galgos to keep her company! Sadly Magic had to be pms in November 2010 (she was 12 years old) and it was the most difficult decision I had to make. I knew that the pain of that decision would be unbearable and it certainly was but despite my deep sorrow she left us with dignity. She had a wonderful life with me and her gentleness and companionship cannot be replaced. I will always miss her but feel privileged to have owned her.



Carol



✦ **Rafiq (gentle, friend)** A lifetime with Rafi wouldn't have been long enough, sadly we got to share just three years with him before losing him suddenly to cancer. The traumatised creature we first met, whose eyes looked only inwards, blossomed into the most joyful being, whose courage and heart allowed us to be trusted by him and be rewarded with his friendship. Although he was never able to overcome his fear of strangers, his beauty and spirit shone, charming everyone that met him. I grieve that he didn't get to enjoy more of the life he deserved but I'm gladdened that for more than half his life he knew kindness, peace and happiness. His legacy is that there will always be a place in our home for galgos. Anyone that has

the chance to share the briefest moment of their life with them should jump at it, it will be a richer life for it. Run free gentle friend, it was an honour and a privilege. Dawn.

✦ Our eldest 'daughter' **Amber Jean aka Bambi**, passed away. She was nearly 15 years old and we rescued her back in 2001. She was a very special girl who loved life, she especially loved collie's and

would yodel at them whenever she met one. Her tail was like a helicopter rotar and would spin uncontrollably when she was excited. She leaves a huge gap in our hearts but we know she is at peace and doing 'four off the floor' wherever she is now. Miss you Bambi - Mummy ,Daddy, Red, Genie & Honey xx



✦ It is with a lot of sadness I must tell you that **Angel** the blue brindle ex-Irish greyhound you homed with us, died on the 23rd of February. The vets did all they could but suspected in the end that she had an inoperable tumour. Everyone fought for as long as they could but in the end Angel let us know that it was the right time to go to Rainbow Bridge. She would've been 12 on the 25th so we honoured her memory by celebrating what a lovely dog she was..... Thank you so much for bringing Angel to us. She was one in a million. Melanie

✦ We lost our beloved greyhound "**Precious Jasper**" to bone cancer, we miss him very much as he was a



✦ Our dear **Mary** has joined the Angels, she was 17 years and 3 months old and was loved by so many, I will miss her forever and cant thank David and Helen Tucker enough for all the love and attention they have given her these past few years. I was fortunate enough to be with her on her 17th Birthday. I thank God that she was in my life, I loved her so much - she really was special. Karen

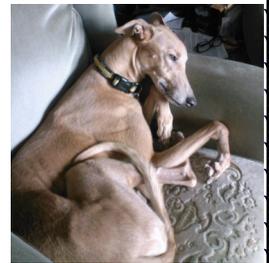
member of our family for 7 years, and was deeply loved by both my husband and I, He will never be replaced, because there was only one Jasper, My grief is still too raw to even look at photos of him, and I cannot go to places where I used to walk him. N.K. Garcia

✧ **Jessa** (photo on front cover) There is great joy in owning multiple greys/galgos and I've been fortunate in recent years to experience that. Eight greys and galgos have lived with me in the last 7 years that I've been on the island, three in transit, and five- Loretta, Jessa, Taz, Calvin and Kayla- permanently. My flock of four, L, J, T and C, were mature already when they came to me and one by one, over the last 20 months, they have all sadly reached the end of their lives. I hasten to say that Kayla, with her three legs, thankfully still with me, is an absolute joy and has many more years of fun and sport left in her..

Since May 2005 when I adopted Jessa, I dreaded the day we would need to part.... Such a deep impression did she make on me that I always wished she were immortal. I seem to have got softer and more stupid in my old age. I hardly know yet how to think about her loss. There was something divine about hera touch of the 'goddess'....Humans and other creatures who came in contact with her seemed to know that too and were humbled by her presence. She was quiet, almost aloof, but her personality was so strong that it was hard to resist not being constantly drawn to her.

We first met in December 1999 while I was working in Scooby's previous primitive, freezing, overcrowded warehouse in northern Spain and I'd selected her, with eleven others, for transportation to UK quarantine for adoption here. We'd already moved nearly a thousand dogs from Spain that year to homes in Europe but all the funding came from the UK and though Q is costly, we do feel we should treat ourselves to a token number of galgos each year. Jessa was released in the summer 2000 and found a loving home with a faithful supporter of ours, Janet Smith, in Reading. Both appeared regularly at our local fund-raising events and even went on display in a booth at Crufts, so it was quite shocking to learn of Janet's early death in 2005. Jessa thoughtfully had been entrusted to The Cinnamon Trust who allowed me the privilege of welcoming Jessa into my home, as companion to Loretta. She was extremely beautiful, probably with a bit of podenco (Ibizan hound) in her with her sandy-coloured rough coat, upright ears, and precious whiskers which should *never* get wet.... Rain and the cold were an insult to her. She worshipped the sun, and indoors required pyjamas at night and a blanket over her even with the heating still on! Latterly she didn't relish going out and were I to let her off the lead, she would trot home in the opposite direction, often at a gallop, forgetting that she was supposed to be playing the part of a frail old girl. In her last months, she became deaf, her back legs failed and her bowel too...and I realised I needed advice from my vet and those closest to me as to the right time to let her go. She slept her final sleep in my arms on the sofa on 16th Feb. She must have been at least 13yrs. Anne

✧ **Sky** was born on 8th March 2002, and we adopted her on the 4th April 2004. she was a very loving dog, and was loved by all the family. Apart from when she broke her leg in about 2006 she has always been reasonably healthy. On 18th January, she was running around and playing with Clover and Chas with no apparent problems, the following morning she was quiet, and during the day she hardly moved at all. In the evening Rowena and Natasha got her to stand up, and after taking a few steps she collapsed. We got her to the vets and she had various tests, examinations, xrays and scans over the next 2 days. then late on Friday afternoon we were informed that she had a lump/growth in her abdomen and a very weak heart. As she was suffering and may not survive an operation to remove the offending item, we took the decision to do what was best for her and so she was put to sleep. We all miss her terribly, and she will be in our hearts forever, she was such a lovely dog, we all feel honoured to have had her in our lives and in our family. We will always be grateful to GIN for helping us to adopt Sky.



Marie, Graham & Family



✧ On 16th November 2010 we had to make the heart breaking decision to let our beautiful Chick pass peacefully away. She had been suffering with what the X Rays showed to be cancer in her hip. Chick, racing name Vics Chick, was a stunning fawn greyhound with beautiful almond shaped eyes. She would have been 13 years old on February 8th 2011. Throughout her life Chick won numerous trophies and rosettes at Fun Dog Shows for Prettiest Bitch and at her last event, the Saddleworth Show in the summer of 2010, won the award

for Best Veteran, presented by Paul Crohn from Granada TV. For over 10 years Chick was a wonderful ambassadress for retired greyhounds, helping hundreds of her friends to find their forever homes. Chick loved everyone and they loved her. She was a "people dog" who enjoyed all the fuss she received at the shows and fundraising events, including Crufts, that she attended all over the country. Chick was a real character and we all miss her terribly, especially her greyhound family members Lucy, Paddy, Red and Maddy and not forgetting Alfie the cat, whose head she used to lick in exchange for sharing her cat food! Sue & Phil

Sponsorship The galgos (breed name galgo español) are Spanish bred greyhounds used widely by hunters in the rural areas of Spain, for coursing hares with betting. The galgos we help are homed mainly in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia and Switzerland thanks to our contacts abroad.

However, twice a year we bring some galgos into quarantine. All are sterilised, micro-chipped and have been tested and found clear of Mediterranean diseases before they come to the UK. Our current group of galgos leave quarantine on 27th May (please see page 29 for details). Our new group will be arriving early June - details will be on our website soon.

If you would like to **sponsor one of the galgos** during their time in quarantine please complete the sponsor form below and return to Greyhounds in Need, 33, High Street, Wraysbury, Middx. TW19 5DA. If you are interested in **offering a home** to one of our galgos please contact Pat, our Homing Officer, by email patriciawhipps@ntlworld.com or by phone -01784 434735. Pat can then send you our homing pack .

Sponsor a Galgo I would like to sponsor a galgo and wish to give Greyhounds in Need (*Circle as appropriate) *£5 per month *£10 per month *£25 per month *Other amount £.....per month OR £1,000 one-off payment for one galgo for whole 6 months of quarantine, cheque only. The galgo I wish to sponsor is(optional)

giftaid it

If you are a UK tax payer please tick the box so that we can claim gift aid on your sponsorship. Full details on page 16.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR BANK

Bank.....

Address.....

.....Post Code.....

INSTRUCTIONS TO YOUR BANK

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.....

Current quarantine Galgos— Five of the six Galgos currently in quarantine are reserved. The 6th will be reserved soon and all six will be released on 27th May 2011.



Agus will be starting his new life in Surrey.



Chinche is hoping to stay in Gloucestershire.



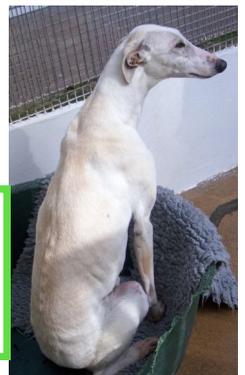
Mojito can hardly wait to live in Berkshire.

Merlin worked his magic to get a home in Sussex.



Pizza will be reserved soon.

Rosarillo will be travelling right up to NE Scotland.



English greyhounds to Italy

Regular readers of our newsletter will know that we work closely with the Greyhound Adopt Centre Italy and are grateful for their help rehoming the galgos. They are also able to rehome many greyhounds from Ireland and they asked if they could help some greyhounds from England. We were once again pleased to be able to offer to take nine ex-racing greyhounds from Cheryl Miller's kennels in Kent.



Chang getting ready to leave the UK



The greyhounds arrive in Modena !

Cheryl arranged the veterinary care and paperwork necessary for the dogs to travel and GIN funded these costs as well as contributing towards the transport costs for these nine greyhounds and twenty from Ireland.

Claire and Ruby from Cheryl's kennels in Kent—now enjoying life in Italy thanks to Elisa and Lily of GACI



More photos of the transport can be viewed at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1mZhQ8Fm_m8

Our Work in Spain Last year when we visited the RECAL shelter in Almendralejo, run by Mada, we were able to see for ourselves how hard Mada and her few helpers have to work looking after so many dogs. Already this year we have taken many galgos from her. Some of these galgos have been handed into the shelter by local galgueros and others have been found roaming in the neighbourhood.

When we visited RECAL the local government had recently funded the building of some new kennels and Mada wanted to replace the roof on the old kennel block to provide the dogs kept there with more protection against the weather. We have been able to fund this project which was completed before the winter.



Another project we are providing funding for, along with a group in Germany, is an exercise paddock for RECAL. Mada is in the process of signing an agreement with the local government which will allow her to use the land and kennels for many years to help local animals. An exercise paddock will certainly improve the conditions for the dogs as space in the current kennels and runs is very limited.

When we visited Refugio Kimba in Chiclana, Concha, who runs the refuge, told us that they wanted to build a secure area / kennel for the galgos. They had suffered break ins and had galgos stolen. We could see for ourselves the need for this and at the end of last year we were able to provide the funding for this project. Concha says the galgos enjoy their new kennel ...and the treats that were sent with the last box of coats. The kennels will be painted once the weather improves but at the moment the galgos have settled in well. Some rescued from the Jerez pound in Cadiz, will be travelling to Belgium soon to be homed by Josephine and GRB.



We have also been able to help Saskia at the Villamartin refuge in Cadiz by funding the veterinary treatment of 30 galgos who were then able to be homed in Austria, France, Germany and Switzerland.

Fatima who runs Asociacion Protectora de Animales Chiripaina was a new contact we made last year, we were able to send her a supply of coats and dog treats last winter.

In March this year Martin, Carl, Christine (who runs the GIN shop in Brighton) and I visited Spain. We flew to Alicante and were met by Lily the President of the Arca de Noe refuge in Albacete. She and Mar, a volunteer at the refuge, kindly offered to be "our drivers" for this trip, which was much appreciated.

Our first visit was to the Arca de Noe refuge, which is in the Albacete countryside - about a twenty-minute drive from the town. The refuge is one of the largest in Spain and much work has been done there over the last couple of years to improve conditions.



Lily with one of the nervous galgos at Arca de Noe



Christine getting to know the galgos at Albacete

Arca de Noe, like most refuges in Spain, cares for all breeds of dogs, and some cats. We were made very welcome by all the volunteers there and were shown around the refuge, which is much bigger than I had thought. We were able to see some of the galgos whose veterinary care we are funding and who will be transported soon to homes in Italy and Slovenia, thanks to GACI and SASIN.

There were about 300 dogs at the shelter - more than it is really able to cope with - but all the dogs looked well and happy and in each pen there was a sleeping area and a good size area for running around. The new clinic, which has been added recently, has made it possible for much of the routine veterinary work to be carried out on site. They have a quarantine area where new arrivals are placed and whilst we were there two puppies were brought in, found under a bridge near the motorway - they were very friendly and



Martin with one of the pups

fortunately looked in good condition. No sooner had they been booked in when a galga arrived, a lovely looking dog, black, long haired female, quite thin but very friendly.

We were all very impressed with the great work of the Arca de Noe team and for me it was nice to meet the people who I have got to know over the years through the emails when we have been making arrangements for the galgos.

Our next stop was to the Arca de Noe veterinary clinic in Albacete. This was a small clinic but very well equipped and profits made here go towards the huge costs involved in running the refuge.



In the evening we were able to have a meeting with the Arca de Noe committee and discussed possible ways we could further help their work as well as preparing the timetable for introducing the Educational Booklet into local schools. This project is something that all at Arca de Noe are very keen to get going and are grateful to GIN for starting this initiative. More copies will now be printed by us and we are also going to look at the possibility of getting some material onto DVD as nowadays so much work in schools is computer based.

Following our meeting we met up with Sigur, Vice-President of www.tierheim-tierhilfe.de in Kleve who had travelled to collect 57 dogs (mixed breeds) to be homed in Germany. Sigur has been working to help the dogs in Spain for many years now and told us that he usually moves just over 1,000 dogs each year which is amazing. This help is vital to the refuge as the opportunities for rehoming dogs in Spain are very limited. He told us that people ask for Albacete dogs as they know they have been cared for well at Arca de Noe



The next morning, after breakfast and a brief meeting with Balbino from the Arca de Noe shelter, we set off for Mazarron. On route Lily stopped for petrol and we all got out to stretch our legs, only to see a dog lying outside the garage looking very poorly, he wagged his tail and was very friendly but seemed unable to get up. Carl checked him over and found no broken bones, he eventually got up, he was full of ticks and very weak. The man at the garage told us

he had been there for 7 years! - we could not believe this but as there was a restaurant next to the garage he probably got scraps of food from there if he was lucky. None of us could leave him so he was bundled into the car next to the suitcases - he would be safe and cared for now. Later in the day Lily and Mar took him back to Albacete, we have called him Olympio as that was the name of the garage where we found him.

We arrived at Gail and Andy's house in Mazarron and met their two lovely galgos - Amber and Harvey. Gail and Andy have helped rescue and care for many galgos that we have been able to fund and Josephine from Greyhounds Rescue Belgium has collected them from Alicante and rehomed them. They took us to meet John who has some land and a small shelter just outside Mazarron where he has been helping local dogs and rehoming them when possible.



Next stop was to meet volunteers at Noah's Arc. Paul and his team help all breeds and recently moved to a lovely place in the hills outside Mazarron where the dogs have plenty of room to run around. Unfortunately one of the galgos had nipped another one called Alfie just before we arrived so Carl had to put his vet's hat on again and treat the wound. Alfie was so good while this was being done that he was given a treat, which he took and ate very quickly.

The majority of the galgos that Noah's Arc rescue are rehomed in Belgium and Alfie, mentioned above, will soon be travelling with Lex, Rafa, Nieve, Valiente, Sam, Jet, Misty and Austin. We set off back on the road again this time to Murcia where we were to meet Tina and Gaynor of Galgos del Sol. They are a relatively new group but are doing great work helping galgos and podencos in the Murcia area. They have recently built some kennels and the dogs seemed very happy in these with their lovely big beds and thick duvets.



Paul with Jet



Charl and Dioni (photo left) of 112Carlota Galgos in Malaga had kindly driven five hours to come and meet us which was great.

Charl works hard in the Malaga area helping the galgos and she and Tina help each other out. Sometimes Tina rescues very nervous galgos needing a lot of one-to-one care and Charl will come and collect these dogs

and take them back to Malaga to spend time socialising them. We have all been in touch through the emails for a long time so again it was nice to put names to faces. We were able to have a meeting to discuss possible ways we can help their work in the future.

They are both very interested in our Educational Booklet and will help us get this into local schools in their areas. Four galgos we met were due to fly to Belgium the following day. Two dogs only had 3 legs but were coping so well. Romero who had lost part of his back leg was very nervous, whereas Jenny who had lost a front leg was quite confident.

Richard, who helps Tina, drove us to Alicante airport where we met Josephine, she had arrived earlier that day. She asked if Christine and I would help at the airport the next day which meant getting up at 5am ! - anyone who knows me knows that "I don't do mornings" - but thankfully Christine was there to make sure we were all up and loading the 4 large dog crates into the back of the taxi at 6am. Josephine and her volunteers have flown many times to Spain to collect the galgos and having queued myself at booking desks and departure gates I could only imagine how hard this must be when you are on your own with 4 dogs. Now I know !



Carrying and assembling the dog crates was a long and heavy job and getting through the special luggage area at the new Alicante airport terminal took forever- thank goodness the galgos coped so well and I am pleased to say that all arrived safely in Belgium. Photo on the left shows Jenny relaxing after her journey.

Christine and I waited at the airport for Carl and Martin to join us for the flight home. All agreed that this visit had been very worthwhile and we had learnt a lot. We look forward to discussing our visit with the rest of the GIN committee. We all want to continue our work which includes encouraging and assisting those wonderful people in Spain who care so much, on a daily basis, for these lovely dogs.

We could not do this work without the help and encouragement given to us by our supporters and I pass on here the thanks from the refuges we are able to help to all of you, along with my own.

Carolyn



Galgos at the Arca de Noe refuge —soon to be travelling to Italy and Slovenia for homing by GACI and SASIN

