

Greyhounds in Need



SPRING / SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2015



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

Information about us:

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



<http://greyhoundsinneed.co.uk/eshop>



www.facebook.com/greyhoundsinneed



https://twitter.com/galgos_GIN



<http://www.youtube.com/user/GIN1069438>

Founders: Anne and Arthur Finch

Patrons: Jilly Cooper OBE, Dame Judi Dench CH DBE FRSA,
Peter Egan

Trustees: Carl Boyde MRCVS, Terry Dickens, Christine Goodwin,
Martin Humphery, Geraldine Jones, Leigh Sobyte BVSc MRCVS

Treasurer: Eric Goodley FFA

General Manager: Carolyn Davenport 01784 483206

Deputy General Manager: Tracey Sanderson 01784 483206

Bournemouth Shop: Alena Galton 01202 513000

Brighton Shop: Christine Page 01273 674100

Homing UK: 01784 483206

Supporter / Homing Group Cheshire and the North West:

Carol Cushnie 07872621524, Sue & Phil White 01616 206094

Membership / Merchandise / Sponsorship: 01784 483206

Webmaster: Leigh Dworkin

Cover photo: Purdy (Perla) now happily homed in Rugby



Drawing by Monica Monti

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Dear Friends,

It is time to write to you again with our news over the last six months as well as letting you know our plans for the future.

We were able to help around 600 greyhounds and galgos last year by funding necessary veterinary and/or transport costs. We would not be able to achieve this without the wonderful support we receive from you, our supporters, and the amazing collaborations we have with many shelters in Spain and adoption groups in mainland Europe.

Finding homes for the rescued dogs is the final part of the journey for the galgos and greyhounds, they have been through so much during their years as racers or hunters and want nothing more than regular meals, a comfortable bed (a nice sofa will do !) and some nice walks, not too long, especially if it is raining.

As mentioned before in our newsletters, as well as continuing to aid and support the rescue and rehoming of the galgos we have also given funding for projects at several shelters in Spain to assist their work. The majority of shelters helping the galgos are run by volunteers with no major funding and important, often much needed improvements, are not high on the list due to lack of funds.

On our visits we have been able to see for ourselves how projects we have funded have helped. For example at the Arca de Noe shelter in Albacete it gets very cold during the winter months. The new kennel blocks and heating system we have funded over the last couple of years have been a big hit with the galgos as were the dog beds we were able to buy following our Dog Bed Appeal. Sole and her team at this shelter work tirelessly rescuing, caring and preparing the galgos for rehoming in France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia and Switzerland.



Getting ready for the trip to Italy

More news on our latest project for this shelter on page 12.



Our Christmas treat appeal raised nearly £2,000, which was amazing, thank you to everyone who donated. We were able to buy some lovely treats for the galgos and we were all kept very busy boxing these up with donated coats, blankets and medicines to send to several shelters in Spain. We have also been able to buy more dog beds for APAPA in Ayamonte, RECAL in Almendralejo and Galgos en Familia in Malaga. We would also like to say a very big thank you to Burns Pet Nutrition Limited for donating, and delivering, 40 x 15kg bags of dog food to the Arca de Noe shelter.

We are again organising a Summer Raffle. The draw will be on **Friday 24th July** and this year the top three prizes are — **1st prize - 40" HD Television**, **2nd prize—Micro Hi-Fi System**, **3rd prize—£50 Gift Voucher**. 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. If you would like more tickets please call us on 01784 483206, or email us info@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk and we will put them in the post.

We also enclose with this newsletter our Spring/Summer Merchandise catalogue. We hope you like the new items we have included. Our on-line merchandise eshop <http://greyhoundsinneed.co.uk/eshop> has become very popular with many of you as well as attracting new supporters to GIN. We are able to offer a wider range of items on-line as well as some limited stock items. Please take a look, don't forget, buying goods from these pages generates additional and much needed funds for our work in rescuing greyhounds.

It just remains for me to say a big thank you to Tracey and Geraldine for all their help in the office.

Carolyn

Trustees' pages

Once again I am happy to report to all our supporters on a very busy and successful start to 2015. You can read of all our successes in Carolyn's report in this issue.

We must never forget that all this work is only made possible by the dedicated work of the wonderful Spanish people who staff the rescue centres we support in Spain. They work tirelessly for little reward and in an atmosphere of disregard for, and even antipathy to animal welfare.

When I last reported to you we were just about to mount our big event at The Royal Society of Medicine in London, the UK premiere of the moving documentary "February" made by Spanish film maker Irene Blaquez. A fuller report on this important event is on page 8.

After nearly 15 years of devoted and successful service at our Bournemouth shop, our Manager, Sue North, has decided to take a well-earned retirement. Her daughter Penny will leave us at the same time. They both go with our thanks and best wishes. I am delighted to announce that we have appointed Alena Galton as Manager. She comes with a wealth of experience in the retail field and a devotion to our cause. We wish her well and look forward to a long and successful relationship.

While dealing with staff matters I am also delighted to report that the trustees have decided to recognise Tracey's huge contribution to the work at Head Office by appointing her Deputy General Manager. Tracey has given devoted service to GIN and she very much deserves this recognition.

In Spain we are about to embark on an exciting new development at Arca de Noe in Albacete. This very successful shelter, has long needed extra exercise space for the dogs in their care, which include large numbers of Galgos. We have agreed to fund the construction of a large secure area adjoining the kennels, which will involve an expenditure of about £12,500. This will also serve as an education centre to support the significant effort in local schools already being carried out using GIN's widely acclaimed education package for primary students. Later in the year we hope to be able to visit Albacete to see the new facilities in action.

I am very sad to have to report the sudden death of Gavin Gamby-Boulger the co-founder of Wetnose Animal Aid, a wonderful organisation devoted to the support of small charities working for animal welfare. Indeed GIN received a Wetnose award in 2013.



Gavin has always worked tirelessly for the animals. He has been taken from us far too young and will be missed by so many friends in the animal welfare world.

This year's Wetnose Day will fall on 25th September. I do hope that many of you will give this your support as a tribute to Gavin.

On behalf of the trustees, I close by thanking all our wonderful supporters for enabling GIN to carry on our vital work and to join with you all in thanking our hard-working staff and volunteers, without whom nothing would happen.

Martin

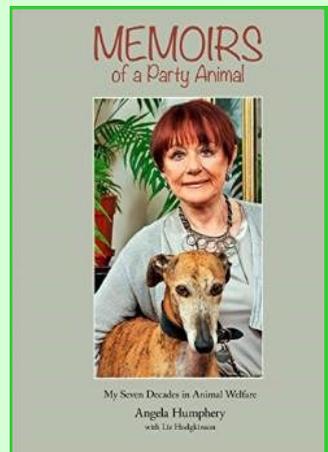


ChairmanofTrustees@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk

MEMOIRS of a Party Animal

My Seven Decades in Animal Welfare
by Angela Humphery
(wife of our Chairman, Martin)

Profits will go back into my animal welfare fund to help the 50 charities (including GIN) mentioned in the book and listed in the appendix with contact details and mission statements.



<http://tinyurl.com/l4ccn6o>

Or

<http://tinyurl.com/q8xzpeb>

Special Event

On the 5th December 2014 GIN put on its largest and perhaps its most important event to date.

Earlier in the year we had been granted a licence to stage the UK premiere of a remarkable and moving documentary

film entitled "February" which depicts the dreadful working lives of the hunting and coursing galgos of Spain. This brilliant film was made by a young Spanish film maker Irene Blanquez.



Martin, Irene and Peter

Having seen this film we determined that it gave us a fantastic opportunity to spread the word about what is still a largely unknown welfare problem and, at the same time, to raise awareness of the work done by GIN as the leading UK charity devoted to the rescue and rehoming of the much abused galgos of Spain.

The event was held at the stunning venue afforded by The Royal Society of Medicine in Wimpole Street in the West End of London.

Almost 150 guests attended, including our own people and a host of leading figures in the animal welfare world including our founder Anne Finch.

The evening was hosted by our wonderful Patron Peter Egan accompanied by actress Jenny Seagrove, both of whom gave moving readings of poems relating to the wonder of dogs.

Following the showing of the film, Irene Blanquez joined Peter Egan and Martin in replying to a Question and Answer session which brought out how moved and interested our audience had been.

The event closed by a further opportunity for our guests to get together over a drink to discuss what we had seen, to ask many questions of our staff and volunteers and to "network".

We were joined by Andrew Rosendell MP the Chair of the Parliamentary Cross-Party Group on Greyhounds, who was most supportive of our work and promised his cooperation for the future, suggesting that he might host an event for GIN at the House of Commons.



I must emphasise that this ambitious event was only made possible by a huge effort on the part of our hard-pressed headquarters staff, to whom our gratitude must go.



We have had a large amount of very favourable feedback from those present and we all consider that the expense and effort was very much worthwhile in achieving the objective of projecting onto a higher level an awareness of the plight of the galgos and of the part played by GIN.



For my part, I see this as the start of an ongoing effort to boost GIN's standing in the animal welfare world and of spreading awareness of the terrible problems we face.

Martin

Following this event the Daily Mail, on-line edition, published a very good article about our work. Here is the link—

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2899509/Horrific-truth-greyhound-breeding-Man-s-best-friend-TORTURED-cigarette-burns-acid-dumped-die-tunnels-hung-trees-left-broken-bones-starve-death-Spain.html>

The documentary—“February—the fear of Spanish greyhounds” by Irene Blaquez (Waggingtale Films), can now be viewed on line www.februarythedocumentary.com

Education update from Arca de Noe, Albacete

Hello Carolyn

..... The education classes are going great, most of the schools are very aware of the problem so they are so pleased to invite us to go and visit them. But I am afraid that we didn't get for now as many classes as I expected, sometimes it is a matter of time. Schools are usually lack of time to achieve their syllabus but anyway we still continue arranging new visits. I am so impressed with the reaction of the children. They not only pay total attention during all the class but also participate and make lots of questions and at the end of each session they are very touched with Niko's story. Most of them want to adopt a Galgo! They are really amazing boys and girls, a new generation to be proud of.

I would highlight the importance of the education classes in two "special" schools we visited..... They are located exactly in the neighbourhood where most gipsy population is living. In our town this is a hot spot for galgos. It is mainly there where many people breed and use galgos for business so this is where we have to be more persistent. The classes in these two schools were very bittersweet for me. On the one hand I knew that some of the children, at least, would think about it with a different perspective, on the other hand I was very sad for some comments they made that revealed that the perception of the problem is totally different for them so we still have a lot of work to do.

It is also important to say that I will visit some schools in rural areas too which wasn't planned in the initial project but if in the city we see hundreds of galgos abandoned, in rural areas it becomes even worse. It is impossible to travel to all the villages for now but they offered me the opportunity so I will also go there.

I attach some pictures and the list of schools we already visited and the ones that are already settled. For now I don't have more pictures mainly for two reasons, first, it is like I always forget, I am very focused in the class, sorry about it. The second reason is because of the privacy of children but I will ask for permission to make and publish more pictures in the future.....



I must say that I was happily impressed with the level of English of students in this school. Nearly all the time I could speak to them in English and the sessions were longer (one hour and a half) but usually children are not so good at English so we just work on some vocabulary and the rest of the session is in Spanish. The important thing is that they catch the main message. I also apologise because my English is not so perfect as I would like.

I cannot express in just a message and with words how I feel meanwhile I am talking to my students. I feel that there can be a change, that the cruel reality for animals here can turn into a better future. I will continue sending you information. Thank you very much to make this possible.

Kisses, Carmen



Photos from Arca de Noe, Albacete

Future projects

We plan to continue funding necessary veterinary costs for the shelters we work with in Spain, together with funding towards transport costs to help the shelters and the adoption groups we work closely with.

Galgos en Familia are currently in the process of moving to new premises, still in Malaga. We have offered to fund some fencing for the new "play area" and hope to visit Vera and her team, as well as some other shelters, later this year.

In 2012 we funded, together with the German group— Korbchen Gesucht, the building of an exercise paddock at RECAL in Almendralejo. This area has helped Mada and her team enormously. The dogs can be exercised daily and socialised and assessed more easily which helps with rehoming. The homing of galgos in Almendralejo is slow but Mada has been pleased to report some local adoptions.

The paddock area has also been very much used for the many school visits Mada organises to the shelter. The children love to meet the dogs, the bright colours and pictures on the walls make the visits more appealing and the area is also used for the promotion of our education programme. The feedback we receive is good and we are now ordering more copies of the programme for RECAL and the other shelters.

On pages 10 and 11 we include the report from Carmen of the Arca de Noe shelter in Albacete. This is a shelter we have supported for many years now.

The education programme is working well and many schools are keen to visit the shelter.

When we visited last year we discussed with Sole and her team the plans they had for an exercise area/education centre on the land behind their shelter (photo above). This is a project that they have wanted to do for some time and one which we feel will have the same positive results as the one at RECAL. Work is planned to start soon, weather permitting, and will be carried out in stages, the first being the preparation/clearing of the land. We have offered funding towards this and look forward to seeing this project develop.



Our international work is very expensive and all financial assistance is very welcome and vital to help us continue our work.

We have been fortunate to receive some legacies in recent years which have helped us increase the funding we can give in Spain and allowed us to assist with several additional projects. Of course we cannot rely on future legacies and it is important for us to continue our fundraising efforts and keep our regular monthly income coming in to meet our on-going commitments.



There are many ways supporters can help us and details are given on the following pages, and on our website. If you are able to offer a donation to GIN please don't forget Gift Aid, the method used by the Government to help charities. In 2014 we were able to claim £6,219.

The Trustees, who are at the helm of the Charity and have the best overview of its entire work and commitments, have the final decision on how money is used. However, we welcome and will gladly consider any special requests for your donations.

If you would like your donation to be used towards our new project in Albacete, or for other specific areas of our work please tick one of the boxes below.

Thank you

I would like my donation to go towards (please tick one of the boxes below):

Veterinary costs

- Initial testing for the Mediterranean diseases (approx. £37-60 per dog)
- Vaccinations, treatment for fleas and worms (approx. £37 per dog)
- Sterilisations (approx. £60-100 per dog)

Albacete exercise area / education centre (approx. cost £12,500)

Education Books (approx. £7.00 each)

How You Can Help GIN

We are very grateful to many supporters who work hard throughout the year fundraising for GIN but we are always in need of more helpers. If you feel you can organize an event, have a table at a car boot sale, organize a street / store collection, sponsored walk please contact us. We can provide literature to display and if you live near our shops we can provide items to sell.

We can promote these events on our main charity website, Facebook and Twitter pages and do mailshots to supporters in the area to encourage support.

These events are very important for the charity as they not only raise much needed funds but they raise awareness of our work and the plight of the galgos. It is also good for the charity to have new members join us, often after they have picked up literature at an event they want to help, and some people have gone on to adopt one of our galgos.



Sponsored events can be added to our Justgiving site making it easier for people to sponsor on-line

<http://www.justgiving.co.uk/charity/search>



Our Facebook page is receiving many "likes" this has also led to home offers for our dogs. Events can be placed on there to attract more visitors/sponsors. If you have time please visit and "like us" You can add photos and news of your own dogs on here and message other greyhound and galgo owners, exchanging ideas and offering help/advice to new and potential adopters.

<http://www.facebook.com/greyhoundsinneed>



Our Twitter account is also growing in followers. Please visit to read our news and retweet our messages to help spread the word.

https://twitter.com/galgos_GIN

Please continue to send us your used British and foreign stamps as these are sorted and sold in special packs on the internet. Also if you have any unwanted silver or gold jewellery—even if broken, or foreign coins please send these along to us as funds can be raised from these items.

Donations can be made to GIN in a number of ways:

Cheques and postal orders can be sent to our office in Wraysbury.

Regular monthly donations can be set up by standing order, form on page 16.

Donations can be made on line at



OR



JustTextGiving
by  **vodafone**

You can also now donate to GIN by text. If you would like to give a donation to help a homeless galgo, please text **GINN33 £(amount)** to **70070**.



We now have an account on ebay where items can be sold and 100 % of the proceeds go to GIN. It is possible for our supporters to sell their items on ebay (if they have an account) and ask for a percentage or all of the money raised to go to GIN.

Why not become a member of GIN—our membership fee is £12 for the calendar year (£6 for non-wage earners). Membership form can be found on page 18.

We are fortunate to receive many coats for the galgos and send these to Spain throughout the year.

We have the coat pattern on our website -

<http://www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk/howyoucanhelp/coat.htm> but can email or put a copy in the post to you if you feel you can help us.

Other items always needed in Spain -

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

**Please don't
forget to recycle**



**your old ink
cartridges to
help GIN— we
can provide
postage paid
envelopes**

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 / / /

Signature Date.....

Please send this form to your bank

PLEASE PAY: Coutts & Co., 440 The Strand, LONDON WR2R 0QS.

Account - Greyhounds in Need

Account Number 04781600 Sort Code 18-00-02

IBAN GB78COUT18000204781600 BIC COUTGB22

Greyhounds in Need – Gift Aid declaration for past, present & future donations

giftaid it

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made—

today in the past 4 years in the future

Please tick all boxes you wish to apply.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand GIN will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Donor's details

TitleFirst name or initial(s)Surname

Full home address

.....

.....

.....PostcodeDate

Signature

Please notify GIN if you:

- . Want to cancel this declaration
- . Change your name or home address
- . No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

**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 2015 to 31st December 2015.

If you are a UK tax payer please complete the form on page 17 so that we can claim gift aid on your membership.

Membership can also be paid by standing order, please complete the form on page 16 and return with this completed form to the address above.

Full name.....

Address.....

.....

..... **Postcode**.....

Tel No:.....

Email address

Date:.....

Please tick one of the boxes below:

Newsletter by email

Newsletter by post

Message from Sue North

After nearly 15 years Penny and I (and dear Snoopy) have decided to 'retire' from the Greyhounds in Need shop at the end of April. My family, friends, volunteers and supporters have all helped to make the Bournemouth shop such a success enabling us to raise much needed funds for the galgos and greyhounds.



We have met some wonderful people over the years, gained a deep insight into the world of greyhound racing and campaigned for better conditions for the dogs during their lifetime. We have also been fortunate in finding lovely homes for many greyhounds, galgos and lurchers....and a couple of cats!

Thankfully more and more people are becoming aware of what wonderful pets greyhounds and galgos make and have become smitten by their gentle and laid-back temperament. They are truly very special dogs and once they are in your hearts you will always have one by your side.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the volunteers who have helped us in the shop and with fundraising, Peter and Val who organise monthly dog walks (and Christmas lunches), kind supporters who sometimes travel many miles with their donations, sponsors of our galgos, dog coat makers and many others whose help and generosity has been invaluable.

I wish our new Manager, Alena, good luck, happiness and success with running the shop. Volunteers are always needed so please offer a little of your time; give Alena a ring soon on 01202 513000.

Onto pastures new.....

Sue

November galgos



We are pleased to let you know that all eight galgos from our November group have now been happily homed. They arrived late November and settled in to the kennels near our office. Homing opportunities came in for some of them before they arrived and in January the first galga, Karen, left for her new home in Watford.

Karen was closely followed by Perla, now Purdy, who joined five more greyhounds in a lovely home in Rugby. Next to leave was Tati who soon found a comfortable sofa in Cheshire.

Merlin now lives in Feltham and he has already been to the office to see us and meet Berby. Morla, now Ruby, has settled in very well in her new home in Cheshire.

Duque went to live with galga Annie in Kent and Tuna also went to live in Kent, joining galga Wenda. The last galga to leave was Morgana, and she has joined galga Luna in Hampshire.

The interest in the galgos we bring to the UK continues and we are now organising the transport for our next group. Their photos and details are shown on pages 35 and 36 and they will be arriving at the end of April. They were all rescued by the RECAL shelter in Almendralejo, where they received initial veterinary treatment before being moved to the kennels in Vic, Barcelona where they have been for some weeks undergoing final necessary veterinary checks.



Please read news on Purdy
(Perla) on page 32

Events



MAY

9th May - GIN volunteers will be fundraising and awareness raising on the main street of Cleveleys, near to the promenade from 10am to 4pm. Cleveleys is a popular seaside town on the Lancashire coast between Blackpool and Fleetwood. Come along and enjoy a day at the seaside whilst supporting your favourite Charity.



JUNE

6th June - GIN will have a stand at Barking Berry's Fun Dog Show at Westhoughton Central Park, Westhoughton near Bolton BL5 3DG from 11am to 4pm. There are 15 classes in the Dog Show which is in aid of a number of charities.



13th June - GIN will again have a stall at this popular fair which is held on Wraysbury village green quite near to our office (TW19 5DA) The Fair opens at 2pm and there will be many stalls and attractions for all the family.



27th June - GIN will have a stall at the Royal Windsor Midsummer Fayre at Alexandra Gardens, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 3HY. This local event is organised by the Rotary Club of Windsor and Eton.

27th June - GIN will have a stall at the Hurst Show and Country Fair in Berkshire RG10 OSD . Many attractions for all the family including Companion Dog Show. Ample free parking near to the show site. Show starts at 10am.

JULY



12th July - 12noon - 4pm, GIN Volunteers are organising an all breeds Fun Dog Show at Marbury Country Park, Comberbach, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 6AT. There will be a special class for greyhounds and galgos and rosettes will be presented down to sixth place. Trophy for Best in Show.

GIN

JULY - continued

12th July - Annual GIN Picnic at Virginia Water, Surrey, GU25 4QF, Please come along with your greyhounds and galgos to our popular annual picnic. **This year we are hoping the weather will be nice as we are planning to take photographs for our 2016 calendar.** We will meet at 11am in the car park and then make our way to the picnic area.



19th July - 10am—4pm—GIN will have a stand at the Fleetwood Festival of Transport, known locally as the Tram Festival, which is one of the biggest free events in the North West of England with dozens of stalls and attractions, including of course, the trams. Please come along to support us at this very popular event.

AUGUST

1st and 2nd August - 11am to 4pm, we will be fundraising at the Morrisons Store, Saxon Street, Denton, Greater Manchester, M34 3DS.

2nd August - 11-5pm, GIN will have a stall at Poole Carnival, Branksome Recreation Ground, BH12 2AL. Offers of help please to Carol - peakecar@yahoo.co.uk

9th August - 10am - GIN will have a stand at the Fun Dog Show at the Home Farm, Tatton Park in Cheshire, WA16 6QN Please come along and support this event.

SEPTEMBER

5th September - GIN volunteers will be fundraising and awareness raising on the main street of Cleveleys, near to the promenade from 10am to 4pm. Cleveleys is a popular seaside town on the Lancashire coast between Blackpool and Fleetwood. Come along and enjoy a day at the seaside whilst supporting your favourite Charity.



For more information on any of the above events please contact us on 01784 483206. More events will be added throughout the year so please regularly visit our website www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk for updates

Happy Homings UK and Abroad



Amber, from RECAL, with a new friend in France



Lola and Marcella, from Albacete, homed together in Slovenia



Gandalf (Noel) looking very comfortable in Nottinghamshire



Zarina with her new friend in Switzerland



Sally, originally from Galgos en Familia, now homed in Belgium thanks to GRB

Happy Homings UK and Abroad



Joe, ex-racer from the UK now happily homed in France



Lolo, from Albacete, now happily homed in Italy

Angy, originally from the Arca de Noe shelter in Albacete, now homed with Nina, of SASIN, in Slovenia



Mouse (Maruska) enjoying the beach in Wales



Anubis, enjoying life in Germany

Please don't forget to send in your photos for the 2016 GIN Calendar ! We need them by 31st July please

News from Cheshire and the North West

Greyhounds in Need volunteers and supporters have been delighted to welcome three new galgos into our group since the start of the year. Tati, a beautiful fawn and white galga, is settling happily into her new home in Warrington. We are delighted that we first met her new family at our last fundraising event of 2014, the very successful Dickensian Day held at Lymm in Cheshire in December, when they made an enquiry about offering a home to a galgo. Tati was one of the group who arrived in the UK in November 2014 so she had just arrived when her new mum and dad came to see us at Lymm. They went down to collect her in January and the rest is history.

Morla, now Ruby, had to wait a little longer before she too found her perfect forever home with two of our long standing and committed friends and volunteers, Janice and Barry in Manchester. Ruby is a stunning dark brindle girl who has settled in brilliantly with her greyhound brother Eddie. Janice and Barry are delighted with Ruby and are so pleased that they have finally fulfilled their commitment to one day adopting a galgo.

The third of the newly arrived trio is Dreamer who is being "fostered" by a family of GIN supporters in Leigh, Greater Manchester, Gina, Bryn and Liam. Dreamer has joined three other galgos, Zoraida, Ron and Summer Dot as well as a house full of assorted animals including cats, small and large dogs and chickens. We don't think that Dreamer will be going anywhere.

Gina and Bryn have made two visits to 112 Carlota Galgos which is a small rescue near Malaga helped by Greyhounds in Need. On each occasion they have returned home to be closely followed by a galgo, firstly Summer Dot and more recently by Dreamer, a handsome black galgo. Their house will very soon need expanding walls as they are already planning further visits to Spain.

On their most recent visit Gina and Bryn were able to help the rescue move to larger accommodation which will allow more room for the galgos. Part of this move involved Bryn helping to re-erect the large perimeter fence, known as "The GIN fence" which GIN had helped to finance.

We are looking forward to welcoming Tati, Ruby and Dreamer to our fundraising events later in the year. We have already been involved in three events this year and have more planned for what we hope will be the better weather.

At the end of February we were invited to a social dog walk at Yarrow Country Park near Chorley in Lancashire. The weather was horrendous with sleet and snow falling onto the 20 or so volunteers with their dogs who braved the elements. Fortunately there was a warm and dry dog friendly cafe where we were welcomed after the walk.

I am sure that we will be returning to Yarrow in the future, when hopefully we will enjoy good weather, because in spite of the conditions we enjoyed a great afternoon with fellow greyhound and galgo enthusiasts.

On March 22nd we organised a fundraiser at the Pets at Home Store in Bispham, near Blackpool. Once again we had a good turnout of volunteers when at least the weather was dry and sunny if not very warm.

On Sunday March 29th and a hardy group of GIN supporters braved the torrential rain to enjoy a social dog walk at Marbury Park in Cheshire, one of our favourite venues. The rain stopped and the sun came out just as we arrived back at the refreshment van so we could enjoy a welcome cup of coffee or hot chocolate and a good chat.



Carol, David and their dogs

We are back at the seaside on Saturday May 9th and Saturday September 5th for our much looked forward to fundraisers in Cleveleys near Blackpool.

On Saturday 6th June we have been invited to a new event: Barking Berry's Fun Dog Show at Westhoughton, near Bolton and then on Sunday 12th July we are organising our own GIN Fun Dog Show at Marbury Country Park in Cheshire where we have a special class and trophy for greyhounds and galgos; 10 classes altogether with rosettes down to sixth place and a trophy and rosette for Best in Show

On Saturday 1st August and Sunday 2nd August we will be fundraising at the Morrisons Store at Denton in Greater Manchester and on Sunday 9th August GIN will have a stand, weather permitting, at the Tatton Park Fun Dog Show in Cheshire. In previous years we have been blessed with good weather but last year the event had to be cancelled because of the effects of Hurricane Bertha.

More details of all these events together with contact details are to be found on the Events page of the GIN website. Contact details for the Cheshire and North West group can also be found at the front of this newsletter. We are always pleased to see you and you will be made very welcome if you come along to see us at one of our events.

Thank you to everyone at GIN for your support and encouragement

Sue, Phil and Carol GIN volunteers



Cheshire-Northwestrehomeing@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk

TRIBUTES

In 2002 we got a Galgo from Anne and Ellen. He had the name "Mauri" in Spain and his name became "**Pinot**". In February our old Pinot died in our arms. He was a lovely member of our family and at the age of 15 years he was very ill and we only could make sure that he has no pain anymore. We are all really really sad... He had a good life in Germany and we were still thankful that GIN saved his live in Spain - so many years ago...With many tears from Germany,
Simone



We were sorry to hear from Sue, Phil and Carol who run the Cheshire and North West GIN group that some supporters have had to say goodbye to their four legged friends. Liz, Clint and Sprocket are mourning the loss of **Poppy** the small white greyhound they originally fostered and later adopted, she was a real character throughout her life. Deb is greatly missing **Trevor** who enjoyed a very happy last few years after finally finding his forever family. Caron has lost her beautiful black girl, **Dolly** whilst Ellie and Derrick and their family are missing their lovely **Lilly**. Nicola, Damian and Kobey are mourning the sad loss of their wonderful old lady **Shelly** and Ange, Rich and Daisy are missing their handsome boy **Tommy** dreadfully.

It was with great sadness our **Fern** was put to sleep last October after her back legs gave out (possibly a stroke) and old age. She was round about 16 years old. She will be running over rainbow bridge with her saluki brother Joe and Lucy White and all the other GIN dogs who have passed away.

Barry and Janice



On 6th January we sadly had to say goodbye to our precious **Reuben**. We were originally intending to foster him but after about 3 days there was no way we were going to let him go so we adopted him. He was 7 years old when we adopted him and we didn't think that we would be lucky enough to have him until age 15½. He was a good boy and an absolutely amazing dog, loved by all who met him including our other precious greyhound, Unica who we lost two years later. We would like to thank GIN for rescuing Reuben (formerly Trem) and allowing us to adopt such a wonderful dog. We will always miss our very special boy. Pat and David



Harvey passed to Rainbow Bridge in February. So sudden, so young, but we had three wonderful years together & for that I will be eternally grateful, my most loyal and loving of friends.
RIP Harvey (Espinette) xxx

Debi

At Head Office we were sad to hear that Audrey and Bill had to say goodbye to galga **Missy** after a short illness.

Also Pat had to let **Kite** go, he developed cancer and sadly nothing more could be done for him and just recently Linda and Mel had to say goodbye to **Enrietta** who they adopted from GIN back in 2009.

In Memory of **Juno (15)** and **Justin (14)**. We first met Juno (then known as Mr. Smith) and Justine on 14 January 2006. We were so lucky to have first choice of the galgos that had been brought over a week before. We set out early for the long drive to the kennels in Nottinghamshire/ Yorkshire border. When walking through the quarantine kennels one could feel eyes looking at us. It was quite overwhelming. Nearly all the galgos came to the front of the kennels and jumped up saying "pick me". When we got to the end there were two white galgos just chilling out! My heart sank and it was love at first sight! However I did the walk again looking at the galgos before making the final decision but it was the two quietest! I went up every month to see J&J to bond with them as six months was a long time to wait. It was Friday 7 July 2006 that we brought



them back home..... Justine was the bolder of the two although the smallest of the two and looked after Juno for all the time she was with us.....They had 3 holidays a year visiting my parents in Norfolk..... In 2011 Justine was diagnosed with Canine Dysfunctional Syndrome (dementia) and was put on tablets but she stabilised and by the end of 2013 she did not have to take them anymore. It was her back legs that gave way in the end and on 27th November 2014 I had to take that awful decision to release her from not being able to stand, walk properly. In 2012 it was found that Juno had a breathing problem and he was put on medication, he slowly declined, he could not run anymore and went for little walks but after Justine left us he stopped going out and just kept to the garden and house. It was on the evening 14 February that he had a very bad attack and could not get his breath and had to be taken to the vets when I had the agonising decision to let him go. They were the loves of my life and have left a gapping hole. I have such wonderful memories of them. In the future two more galgos will come into my life but not yet it is too raw!

Laura



On 22nd February 2015, just months after the sudden loss of our Galga Leia, her best friend and companion, **Pado**, died at the age of 14. We first met Pado when we visited him in quarantine in Nottingham where he was insistent on leaning on us and being stroked and with his refusal to move, we knew we had established an instant bond.

So it proved, from the day we took him home on 13th January 2007 he just wanted to be with us. Even when he was asleep beside us on the sofa he had to be constantly stroked and if one of us dared stop, up came his head and a good poke from his front paw came our way to remind us of our priorities. At fundraising events, Pado was our Galgo star and he would approach any visitors and immediately lean on them and we joked that he wouldn't move until they put some money in the collecting tin. His gentle nature made him the perfect Galgo ambassador which was why he always came with us on home-checks. Everyone ended up wanting a "Pado" with his gorgeous long nose!

Pado displayed a dignity to the very end; we came home from our usual walk, he climbed onto the sofa, lay down and never got up. He had just decided that it was time to go. He was with me for 8 years, he knew he was loved and returned the favour many times over. A lovely boy who has left a huge void. Run free Pado, we miss you so much.

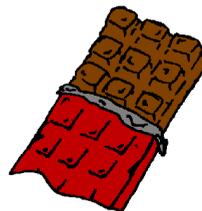
Carol and David

Vet's Corner — Human foods that can be toxic to your dog

Dogs are generally intrigued by what we are eating and while it is ok to give them the occasional tit bit it is important to be aware that some foods can be extremely dangerous to our favourite furry friends! Here are a few of the common culprits that can lead to an emergency trip to the vets.

Chocolate:

Chocolate intoxication is a common problem in dogs especially around Easter and Christmas. Chocolate contains caffeine and a stimulant known as theobromine which are both poisonous to dogs. The level of theobromine varies in different types of chocolate but the general rule is the darker the chocolate the more dangerous it is, with cocoa powder containing the highest levels of theobromine.



Clinical signs are normally noticed within the first 24 hours after ingestion. Depending on the quantity and type of chocolate eaten, the signs shown can range from vomiting, diarrhoea, restlessness, seizures or coma in severe cases.

If you are concerned your dog has eaten chocolate please contact your local veterinarian at once. Depending on the amount ingested your vet may make your dog vomit or feed him charcoal to help absorb any chocolate left in his stomach.

Raisins and grapes:

The toxic substance within raisins and grapes is currently unknown. It has been reported that ingestion of even a small number of raisins can lead to kidney failure in dogs and as such is always considered an emergency. This is definitely a food to avoid! Dogs suffering from raisin toxicity can show vomiting, diarrhoea and lethargy which can proceed to anorexia, a transient increase in urination followed by either a decrease or not urinating at all. Dogs that manage to survive acute intoxication may have persistent kidney disease.



Xylitol:

This is a relatively unheard of toxicity in dogs. Xylitol is an artificial sweetener that is commonly found in sugar free chewing gum and diet foods. In humans, eating xylitol does not affect our blood sugar levels but in dogs eating just a small amount can cause a marked drop in blood sugar levels leading to clinical signs such as lethargy, disorientation and vomiting with signs progressing to collapse and seizures.

Onions:

Onions and all members of the onion family (garlic, cloves and shallots) can lead to gastrointestinal (stomach and intestine) upset and can also damage a dogs red blood cells if ingested in large enough quantities. Signs of poisoning usually start to show a few days after ingestion and may include weakness and lethargy and will sometimes produce orange to red tinged urine. These dogs should be seen by a veterinarian immediately and in severe cases may require a blood transfusion.



Macadamia nuts:

Although not usually fatal, ingestion of macadamia nuts can cause dogs to experience weakness, especially in back legs, depression, low grade fever and they appear to be in pain. Signs normally begin 12 hours after ingestion and may persist up to 48 hours. Although only transient more severe signs may benefit from veterinary care.

Avocado:

Avocado can commonly cause vomiting and diarrhoea if ingested by dogs. This is due to a substance called Persin that is contained in the leaves, fruit, seeds and bark of avocados. Ingestion of the stone can also lead to obstruction requiring urgent veterinary care.



Avocado is especially toxic to birds, rabbits and some larger animals including horses where it can cause breathing difficulties and a build up of fluid around the heart.

If you are concerned that your dog may have ingested any of the above please contact your local veterinarian for advice and guidance. The vet will normally ask the age, breed and weight of your dog and then the amount of the toxic food thought to have been ingested and at what time. If they have eaten chocolate the vet will also ask you about the type of chocolate ingested and the quantity of cocoa written on the packet.



Leigh Soby BVSc MRCVS

Life with a Galgo

The weather on Saturday 10 January 2015 as we made our way to the Boarding Kennels was atrocious. Torrential rain made driving difficult but we eventually arrived around 10.30am to meet and hopefully collect a white Galga named Perla. The introductions went well and although timid, Perla seemed quite happy to leap into our car for the trip back to Rugby. She was so quiet in the car it was easy to forget we had a canine passenger in the back.



On arrival home, we duly introduced her to Isla, Darcy and Silky – three greyhound girls, Ozzie a brindle greyhound lad and Warrick a black galgo. Fortunately the dogs' acceptance of each other seemed to be mutual. We were a little concerned when this skinny girl would not eat her first meal but it appeared that she didn't like being watched whilst she was eating and when left alone in another room she quickly tucked into her bowl of food and has done so ever since.

This endearing girl is now called Perdita from Shakespeare's *A Winter's Tale* but will be known as Purdy to her friends. We are finding housetraining a little tricky at the moment – not that she is anyway backward – but the lure of the squirrel in the garden overtakes any other tasks that she needs to perform. Still she has only been here two weeks as I am writing this so it's early days and with the use of a 'clicker' and treats as rewards – we are making gradual progress. From being frightened of my husband Mark on arrival, she now leaps on the bed and lays on top of him enjoying some fuss!! She is still scared of strangers but this is not a problem for us. We now have a redundant 'shredder' which we use for waste paper as Purdy has proved to be a dab hand (or should that be paw??) at reducing paper to minute pieces in no time at all! She already loves toys especially those with a squeak!

So in an amazing fortnight this dear girl has come on in leaps and bounds and although the name Perdita may mean 'lost' – Purdy appears to have 'found' happiness and security with her five canine and two human pals.

AND NOW: After 2 months with us ...Purdy is 90% house-trained although she does get distracted when she is in the garden and seems to forget the reason she has been let out!! However, she is such an endearing soul – you just can't be cross with her. She is still very wary of meeting unfamiliar people but I am sure she will gradually gain confidence and come round in time. She has discovered toys – I don't have enough hands to collect them all in one go (as just like her pals - she gets them out but never puts them away) – plus carrier bags left unattended but it's lovely to see her so happy and enjoying the puppyhood she may have never had!! We are in danger of losing a few fingers at treat time and are persevering with asking her to take things 'gently'!

This once timid soul is now a bouncy, funny, happy and loving girl who seems to be enjoying life to the full these days. Thanks to Carolyn at GIN for organising the adoption and good luck to the other galgos awaiting their forever homes.

Judy Zatonski

Sponsorship



Our sponsorship scheme was started some years ago when we brought galgos into quarantine, for later homing in the UK. We have continued the scheme for the galgos we are still able to bring into the UK and this continues to help with the costs involved in carrying out the necessary veterinary care needed to comply with our import regulations as well as helping with the boarding costs we incur in Spain, whilst the dogs are undergoing checks/treatment, and in the UK until they are homed.

As the dogs are homed quite quickly it has become harder to allocate particular dogs to our sponsors and for this reason we have to change the sponsorship scheme to cover all the sponsor dogs and we will write to sponsors with news on them when they arrive and as they are homed. We are very grateful to our sponsors for the support they have given us over the years and hope that they will continue their support in the future.

Our last galgo group arrived in November and received lots of interest. They have all been homed and you can read about them on pages 20-21.

Our new group arrive at the end of April, their photos and details can be found on pages 35-36. 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. They are all sterilised, micro-chipped and have been tested and found clear of Mediterranean diseases before they come to the UK.

If you would like to **sponsor these galgos** while they are being prepared for homing please complete the sponsor form on page 34 and return it to us.

If you feel you **could offer a home** to a galgo please give us a call on 01784 483206 or email us info@greyhoundsinneed.co.uk

Our full homing pack, which includes the homing questionnaire, is available to download from our website -

www.greyhoundsinneed.co.uk



Sponsorship

I would like to sponsor the galgos and wish to give Greyhounds in Need (*Circle as appropriate) *£5 per month

*£10 per month

*£25 per month

*Other amount £.....per month

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.....

REFERENCE: SPONSORSHIP

Account Holder's Name.....

Account Holder's Address.....

.....

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

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

Email address.....

Please return to: Greyhounds in Need, 33 High Street, Wryasbury, Middlesex, TW19 5DA.

Our April Galgos



Celix is a small white female galga. She is friendly with people and other dogs. She was handed in to the shelter by her hunter owner, she was quite thin and is now slowly gaining weight.



Cleopatra, a dark brindle female galga, approx. 7 years old. She was handed in to the shelter. She gets on well with other dogs and is friendly with people.



Chica, a brindle female galga, approx. 7 years old. She was handed in to the shelter. She gets on well with people and other dogs.

Ferdinand, a large friendly brindle galgo, approx. 6 years old. He was found on the streets and was limping. X-rays at the vets showed a clean fracture. He has received treatment and recovered well.





Gitana, a female brindle galga, approx. 3½ years old, was handed in to the shelter by her hunter owner. She gets on well with other dogs. She is friendly with people.

Josephine, a black galga, approx. 4 years old. She was abandoned and it took some time before she was caught and taken to the safety of the shelter.



Nash, a large black male galgo with some white on his chest. He is friendly and gets on well with the other dogs. He is approx. 3 years old.

Poeta, a lovely fawn male galgo. He has suffered an injury to his leg, a clean fracture, but has made a full recovery.

