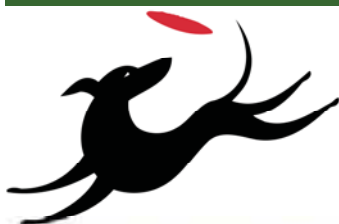


January 2007



GREYHOUNDS AS PETS

GREYHOUNDS AS PETS

Happening Hounds

Seeking all film stars

Greyhounds WA wish to film a special segment on Greyhounds As Pets to play at this year's Greyhound of the Year Black Tie Ball and Presentation Evening.

They want to film a segment that shows what truly special people adopt our truly special GAP greyhounds.

So we're officially inviting you to a special GAP picnic - we'll provide the snaggers if you come along join in the fun and be a filmstar for a day!!

PICNIC

When -

Sunday 4th February 2007

Where -

Burswood Park,
Great Eastern Highway Burswood.

Time -

10.30am - 1.30pm

RSVP -

By Wednesday 31 January to
Kerry 0408 883 669 (Leave a message) or
email kvernon@greyhoundswa.com.au



**DRESS UP
to WIN a
Big Night Out**

FANCY DRESS

As part of the festivities there will be a fancy dress competition for the dogs. Pamper and preen your hound and have it looking it's very best for a chance to win a dinner for 4 at Checkers Restaurant at Greyhounds WA Cannington.

FILMCLIPS

Once the editing has been finalised we will also be making copies of the filmclip available so you can have a souvenir of your filmstar hound.

Over the last few years the Greyhounds As Pets program has been expanding and growing. This has only been possible due to the support of people like you.

Racing and Wagering WA and Greyhounds WA have both funded the program and facilitated it's operation. They recognise the loyal support and assistance offered by foster carers and adoptive families and this is what they would like to showcase in the filmclip that will be screened at the greyhound racing industry's Greyhound of the Year.



Inside this issue:

Royal Show	2
Senior Hounds - Little Hoppy Heather	2
Muzzles...	3
Collars, Coats, Calendars...	3
Dear Ling	3
Hounds in Happy Homes - Zac	4

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

To man stands selling GAP merchandise at the Picnic.

Call Kerry on 0408 883 669 to register your interest.

Royal Show a great success

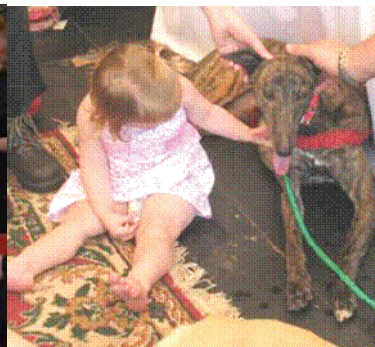
Yet another sensational year was had at the Perth Royal Show in September / October 2006.

The crowds were up on the previous year and the feedback for our tent and our hounds was as positive as ever.

Greyhounds As Pets was the busiest it has ever been after the show facilitating adoptions, placing new dogs into foster care, organising the vetting and generally managing operations.

A huge thanks to all those people who volunteered their time to attend and help sell the word about the hounds. The enthusiasm was contagious and everyone handled themselves very professionally and this makes for a great stand delivering a polished approach to the public.

We've booked the site again for next year so pop it into your diaries and we'll look forward to seeing you all again.



Seniors - Little Hoppy Heather

I've written a number of articles about Senior greyhounds over the years. Extolling their virtues and saying that they're the best kept secret in Greyhound Adoption circles.

Well nothing has changed!

However this article is to let you know about a gorgeous senior girl that is looking for a happy home.

Heather is a sweet gorgeous 9 year old girl who had a fantastic racing career cut short after breaking her leg. She went on to become a mum and after a few litters of puppies (some of whom are racing now) her owners really wanted to treat her to life in the lap of luxury as a pampered pet.

They patiently waited out their time on the waiting list and now we have Heather - all vetted and ready to go.

However Heather is a special hound be-

cause, despite a few operations, including some recently, not to mention lots of love and attention while she has been recuperating, her broken leg has left her with damage to her tendons that cause her to limp quite considerably and she tiptoes on her leg.

HEATHER
Single Black Female
seeking forever family.



Due to some of the operations being quite recently she has been regularly visiting the vets and they say she is doing fine. The wounds are healing well,

she is putting on the weight she lost during the operations and she is putting more weight on her leg now.

Her foster family have certainly done wonders but are concerned that Heather is getting too attached to them and we all really want to see Heather happily living in a forever home.

They say she uses her leg sometimes, if she wants to go somewhere fast she will hop, she walks on her toes slowly and sometimes she even runs on it.

Heather will make someone extremely happy as a companion, she is quiet and affectionate and is already living happily with other dogs, cats, horses and donkeys!

If you think Heather might be that special girl you're looking for call Kerry on 0408 883 669 or email kvernon@greyhoundswa.com.au.

Muzzles...

The ever ongoing issue of muzzles is still going...

With the recent change in Government we have yet another change in Minister for Local Government and Regional Development (LGRD) and also a change in the Minister for Racing and Gaming. Both portfolios are now being covered by the one Minister - John Bowler.

While this is good in some ways, the Minister will have a more rounded understanding of the scope of the welfare issue surrounding racing greyhounds. The bad thing is that John Bowler was the Minister who had already turned down our re-

quest when it was last presented to him when he previously held the DLGRD portfolio.

However we're still working on the issues at hand and will now be trying to obtain his support.

We've done particularly well on gaining signatures for our petition and have yet to present these to the Parliament but they're ready and waiting.

While we are working out how to approach the new Minister and present the best picture to him, we still need to keep doing the right thing, wear the muzzles in public and keep your fingers crossed.

We'll keep you posted.

Dear Ling

Dear Ling,

I have noticed something very odd in my humans: when we go for a walk in the park, they save my poos in plastic bags. At first I just thought it was stupid and I looked at them funny.

Why would anyone want to keep poo? Much better to leave it on the ground so the other dogs know I've been around. But then I wondered, what do they do with it?

I've noticed sometimes they put the plastic bags in green letter-boxes. Who do they send the poos to? What happens to them when they get there?

Confused,
Ruby

Dear Ruby,

I have pondered on this myself and have been unable to come up with any real conclusion. I do however have two theories.

1. They are storing our poo in a secret location and the plan is to have a poo sample from every dog alive. That way THEY can form a database of all our details - our name, date of birth, our occupation... this will make it easier for THEM to trace particular dogs when we make our bid to take over the world.

2. Humans are greedy and want all the poo for themselves. That's why THEY get so angry when we eat it as it means less for THEM.

*What do you think?
Food for thought
perhaps...*

Ling



Collars, coats, calendars...

For those amongst us who enjoy a little retail therapy there is a whole bunch of new gorgeous stuff ready and available for purchase with profits going to GAP.

All will be available at the coming Picnic (See front page story)

COLLARS

We have had a new delivery of fancy martingale collars and the designs are just as gorgeous as ever. They are available in 2" and 1.5" widths and are selling for \$35 and \$30 respectively.

COATS

For those of you who know Chris Higgins (owned by Zac) you may be aware of what a whiz she is with anything crafty. Chris has been busy making some gorgeous polar fleece coats for the hounds and she will also make special coats on request. Selling for \$30 each.

CALENDARS

There are still a few of the 2007 GAP Calendars available and at the bargain price of \$20 each they're a must for the wall this year.

The photos represent GAP Hounds from all over Australia with the only the best chosen for publication. WA had a fantastic showing this year - the largest number of WA hounds ever.

T-SHIRTS

The T-Shirts are available in black and white in a range of adult sizes (\$20), and some children's sizes (\$15).

About my Greyhound

Yes, he used to race

No, he doesn't bite

Yes, he is big

No, he isn't underweight

Yes, he loves to sleep

No, one is never enough

Yes, he is the perfect pet

Run Fred Run promotion

A very special thanks to all who helped out so willingly at the 92.9 Run Fred Run promotion at Greyhounds WA Cannington in November. It was a busy night with a record crowd in attendance. Profits from sales of the "Run Fred Run" shirts sold on the night went to GAP and will be used to help fund the purchase of a dog trailer for GAP.



GREYHOUNDS AS PETS

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NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

Distributing the newsletter via email is a good thing for Greyhounds As Pets and the environment!

It keeps our postage costs down, uses less paper and is a quicker method of distribution.

If you would like to receive the newsletter via email let us know.

Email
kvernon@greyhoundswa.com.au

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Add life to the life of your pet™



Hounds in Happy Homes - Diagnosing Mia

This information was sent to me in October and proves that you should persevere with your gut instincts.

Just thought I would drop you a line to let you know that Mia was diagnosed with Leukaemia a couple of weeks ago. She has been having elusive symptoms for at least a year now which I have been mentioning to vets forever and no one put two and two together. I finally insisted on an ultra sound as I could feel internal organs that were larger than normal... I felt like a fussy, over protective pet owner all the way up to the results coming through for leukaemia!

Her symptoms included; elusive and persistent back pain, infections in her anal glands that returned despite the use of antibiotics, increased drinking and urination - her urine looked paler for ages - kidney tests did not reveal anything abnormal. Every now and again she had very pale gums, which would improve spontaneously. She also became very choosy about her food - sometimes not eating at all, and lost weight. The strangest thing was eating lots of potting mix! This is called pica and was written off as a symptom of her back pain and need for more nutrients in her diet. She was also having softer, sometimes runny stools.

When she was relaxing on the couch (on her back with legs in the air!) I could feel firm, large organs which were not obvious at the vets because she was upright and tensing her abdominal muscles! While the vets were



treating all of her symptoms they were looking at them all separately. This resulted in acupuncture, painkillers, antibiotics, fish oil, Vit C, Vit E, pro biotics, multi vits etc etc - these all helped keep her healthy but obviously diagnosing the problem as leukaemia would have been best! I reckon this started up to a year ago... and in seeking different opinions I have seen at least 4 different vets.

Unfortunately the leukaemia has spread (hence the enlarged organs) and Mia's kidneys have been affected. She has just had a couple of treatments of chemo to try and arrest the cancer enough to hopefully let her kidneys recover some of their function. Good news is she is in remission at the moment so she has the best chance we can give her. Murdoch oncology are brilliant!

I just wonder if it is worth letting people know that if they have a funny feeling about their pets just being not quite right that it is ok to insist on tests, even if the vet thinks they are a loon! I think this was really a case of trusting my instinct as I was the only one with the 'whole' picture. Worth thinking about!

As a result of Sarah's determination, although Mia is still undergoing treatment she is still with us and much loved.

Hounds in Happy Homes - Seeking Stories

If you would like to have your story included in the "Hounds in Happy Homes" we'd love to hear it.

Keep to about 500 words as that helps with the layout and including a picture is also great.

Any stories about your first few weeks, funny things the dogs have done or anything you think makes a good tale - warts and all!!

Please don't hesitate to post to PO Box 6 Cannington WA 6987 or email it to Kerry at kvernon@greyhoundswa.com.au.