



# The Greys Matter



## Behavioural Focus

Hounds and Chickens

Separation Anxiety

Introducing a New Hound

Possum's Story



About 6 years ago Jan and I became involved with greyhounds and once you have met this wonderful breed there is no turning back, so it was 3 years ago this April that we were very grateful to Lisa Herrod who set up our website and Greyhound Rescue was up and running. It took a lot of work and form filling to achieve our Charity and DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) status but we could not survive without these. Since then we have homed more than 140 greyhounds, including 23 already this calendar year, and we would like to thank everyone who has adopted a greyhound and given a new life to a very fortunate ex member of the Racing Industry.

Since our beginnings more and more people have come along to help and we are very grateful to all of you who have helped by adopting, donating, fostering, kennel work, fundraising, computer work, walking, making coats, taking photos etc and we know that Greyhound Rescue could not exist without the help of so many people.

Xmas time saw the production of our first calendar and now we are very grateful to those who have organised and contributed to this our first newsletter and made it possible. We hope that you enjoy it and if you have any stories or photos you would like to share please send them to us for further issues. Even if you don't, please keep in touch, we do like to hear from you and how your greyhounds are going.

Thank you to all who have made Greyhound Rescue the success it is today and we look forward to your help in maintaining that success.

Best wishes,  
Peter and Janet



Contact us:

Peter or Janet on 9453 0602 or  
**0412 562 104**

[peter@greyhoundrescue.com.au](mailto:peter@greyhoundrescue.com.au)

[www.greyhoundrescue.com.au](http://www.greyhoundrescue.com.au)

Follow us on Facebook:



**Greyhound Rescue**

Greyhound Rescue Inc  
PO Box 477  
Forestville, NSW 2087

This is our first issue of 'The Greys Matter' and we are very excited to bring it to you. Please feel free to let us know what you think. We want to make this a regular publication but we do need your feedback and contributions to stories and features. Please drop me a line [joeturton@live.com](mailto:joeturton@live.com).

In this issue we have a number of topics on behaviour. Find out how Nick got his chickens and greyhounds to get along. Alexis has written a piece on introducing a new greyhound into your home.

You can also follow the remarkable story of Possum. This drama touched the hearts of everyone who followed her progress on Facebook. Find out how her carers' dedication has changed her life.

## **3 News**

## **4 Meet the Volunteers**

## **5 How Can You Help?**

## **6 Hounds and Chickens**

## **7 Grey Boys Make Greyt Pets Too!**

## **8 Featured Hounds**

## **10 Separation Anxiety**

## **11 Behavioural Advice**

## **11 Go Green and Muzzle Free**

## **12 Introducing a New Hound**

## **14 Possum's Story**

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## Recent Adoptions

- Shelley has found her forever home with Asher and greyhound Jim in Canberra.
- Sarah has been adopted by Jenny and family.
- Benzy has been adopted by Dave and Deb and their greyhound Gracie.
- Jet and kennel mate Bambi have found their home at last with Shaun and Tara in Canberra
- Shadow has been adopted by his long term foster carer Toby, up in the Hunter Valley.
- Tommy and Summer have now been adopted by Tarika and Devin in Canberra.
- Coco has been adopted by a Nursing Home on the Central Coast.
- William has found his forever home with Tony and Helen.
- Bondy 007 has been adopted by Vickie and Tallulah.
- Lucky Star has found her forever home with her foster carer Donna.
- Soxy has found her forever home with Karen, Bryan and their family.
- Lovely has found her forever home with Steve, Daryl-Anne and furry friend in Chita (Smiley).
- Rocky has found his special home down in Melbourne with Leanne, Tim and family.
- Audrey has now found her forever home with Leah and family.
- Anna has been officially adopted by Rod.

## Recent Fundraising Efforts

There have been some fantastic efforts in raising funds for Greyhound Rescue. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed.

### Etham Market, Victoria

Sue Tofful and family, helped by Kylie Southgate, did a stall in Melbourne to help Greyhound Rescue. There were a lot of people interested in the greyhounds and greyhound Marcus did a great job collecting \$130 and amusing the children.



## North Sydney Market

Nora and Ed are becoming a regular at the North Sydney Market and raise around \$400 each month.

## Morning and Afternoon Tea

Kerrie Murphy has been fundraising at her work selling her homemade treats. Her fundraising efforts were initially thwarted after her office was burgled but undeterred Kerrie continued and has raised \$150.



## In memory of Roger

About two years ago Vickie Sublette adopted Roger and Tallulah and with her they became two magnificent greyhounds. Sadly Roger travelled 'Over The Rainbow Bridge' earlier this year. In memory of Roger, Vickie set up a tribute and collected \$547.



## Forthcoming Fundraising

### Bunnings Sausage Sizzle, Belrose

There are two sausage sizzles scheduled:

- Sunday 26th August, 9am to 4pm
- Sunday 30th December, 9am to 4pm

We need your help! If you can spare a couple of hours on these dates to assist and raise some money then please contact Peter.

## Meet the Greys

This is an opportunity to meet fostered greyhounds and show your support for Greyhound Rescue. Volunteers and guest appearances for these events are encouraged.

## North Sydney Market

The second Saturday of every month Nora, Ed and Greyhound Rescue will be at North Sydney markets. Come down and show your support and don't forget to bring a greyhound or two.

- Miller Street, North Sydney (between Ridge and McLaren Streets). From 9am to 3pm.
- Next 12th May, 9th June, 14th July, etc.
- Information - [North Sydney Centre website](#)

## “Walk in the Park” - Centennial Park

On Sunday 6th May from 10am until 3pm Greyhound Rescue is hosting a sponsored walk at Centennial Park to raise some much needed funds and to increase awareness of the charity and greyhounds as pets. It will be a great social event for everyone interested in greyhounds.

- The Grand Drive, Centennial Park, Centennial Parklands, Sydney. From 10am to 3pm.
- Ash Paddock (D6 on the map)
- Maps - [Centennial Parklands website](#)
- Details - [Greyhound Rescue website](#)
- Facebook - [Greyhound Rescue's "A Walk in the Park"](#)



## Trivia Night

On Saturday 12th May at the Castle Hill RSL, there will be a Greyhound Rescue trivia night. These evenings are always great fun with great prizes.

- The Castle Hill RSL, 77 Castle St., Castle Hill,

Sydney

- Tickets \$30 or \$270 for a table of 10 booked in advance

Contact Peter on 0412 562 104 or [peter@greyhoundrescue.com.au](mailto:peter@greyhoundrescue.com.au) for bookings.



## Dogs' Big Day Out 2012

On Sunday 26th August from 10am to 2pm Greyhound Rescue will be at the Frenchs Forest Showground for Warringah Council's annual Dogs' Big Day Out.

- Frenchs Forest Showground, Blackbutt Rd, Frenchs Forest, NSW 2086. 10am to 2pm.
- Details - [Warringah website](#)

# Meet the Volunteers

This is a little segment created to see something of the people behind some of the volunteer work that goes on.

## Nora and Ed

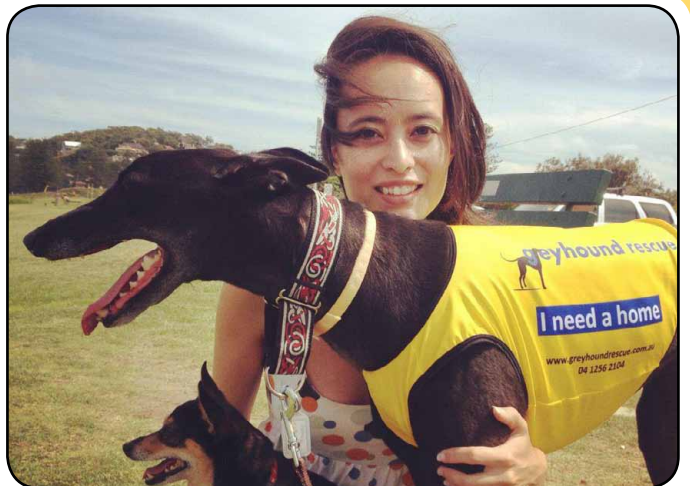
Nora and Ed have done some tremendous work recently. They give their time to help the cause. Most notably organising and manning the Greyhound Rescue stall at the North Sydney market each month.

Easter Sunday was spent at the kennels, cleaning, grooming and spending time with each of the hounds there. Letting them run and play.

They often take a foster hound from Janet and Peter, for a day trip or weekend to help socialize them. Nora is also the enthusiasm and organisation behind the “Walk in the Park” event next month.

“Ed and I met Peter and some greyhounds at a pet festival a couple of years ago. Ever since then, I have become obsessed with greyhounds!

We now visit Peter and Janet weekly to take some foster greyhounds for walks with donation coats,



volunteer at the kennels, transport greyhounds and pick up items for the now, monthly market stall (purely dedicated to Greyhound Rescue) at North Sydney.

Volunteering for Greyhound Rescue has been one of the most rewarding things Ed and I have done to date and it won't stop now.

I highly recommend volunteering, whether it be an hour or a weekend. Trust me, it's worth it! Nora.”



Greyhound Rescue is a non-profit making charitable organisation. Asking for help and financial assistance is always difficult.

However, we have vet bills, food bills, kennel bills, etc and we receive no official financial funding, so we are very grateful for any help and donations that will ensure that we can keep going on to save these beautiful greyhounds.

## Wish List

We are often asked what items we are most in need of; well here is our wish list:

- Transport Vehicle
- Flea and worm treatments
- Hydrobath to wash and groom
- Help with Insurance payments
- Winter coats for the dogs in kennels
- Merchandise to sell on stalls and advertise
  - T-shirts
  - Caps
  - Car stickers
  - Banners

## Foster Carers Required

We are always in need of foster carers so we can move existing dogs out of the kennels to make room for more saves. We cannot save dogs we have no kennel or foster for- it's as simple as that.

We are so appreciative of our existing foster carers, some of whom have more than one foster. To foster a grey all you need is a love of dogs, some experience with dogs, maybe you already have

dogs, this is good for the greys. Greys just need a comfy inside bed, lots of patience and love, food and a nice walk each day.

Please consider fostering, it is a great feeling to know you have saved a life.

## Donations

If you would like to donate to our cause you can through either PayPal, Direct Bank Transfer or cheque.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

### PayPal

Greyhound Rescue's PayPal account is:  
Greyhound Rescue (DABS)  
[peter@greyhoundrescue.com.au](mailto:peter@greyhoundrescue.com.au)

This can also be performed directly from the Greyhound Rescue website:

[www.greyhoundrescue.com.au/how-you-can-help/](http://www.greyhoundrescue.com.au/how-you-can-help/)

### Direct Bank Transfer

AccountName: Greyhound Rescue Inc  
BSB: 012289  
Account No: 524792379

### Cheque

Please send cheques in favour of:  
Greyhound Rescue Inc

And mail to:  
Greyhound Rescue Inc  
PO Box 477  
Forestville, NSW 2087

## Sponsors



Pet Paraphernalia have been a great supporter of Greyhound rescue. For the past 6 months, Leanne from Pet Paraphernalia has been donating a polar fleece muscle top for every greyhound that is adopted. Thank you Pet Paraphernalia!



Kay Groves, who made coats for the greyhounds last winter and has just delivered another bag full. Thank you Kay!



Acacia from Proctor and Gamble has generously donated pet food and treats this year. Thank you Proctor and Gamble!



Petbiz have been consistently supplying food and selling chocolates at various stores to fundraise. Petbiz Belrose in particular have been very supportive. Thank you Petbiz!

# Hounds and Chickens

6

By Nick Webb

Many people seem to worry that greyhounds and chickens may not be compatible pets. However, as can be seen from the photographs my hounds and chickens now coexist happily in the garden.

I built the chicken pen not long after the hounds arrived from Greyhound Rescue and four chooks were duly installed. For the first few weeks I left the chooks in the pen so that hounds and chickens got used to one another separated by a fence. Occasionally Isi (the 2 year old female hound) used to dash at the fence if chooks flapped or squawked. I always responded by scolding that behaviour and by rewarding calm behaviour near the pen. Joseph (the 3 yo male hound) never showed any keen interest other than in whatever might be in the scrap food bucket I carried to the pen.

Once Isi showed no more excitement near the pen I cautiously let the chickens into the garden, at first with the hounds on the lead. Again I rewarded hound apathy and scolded the slightest sign of any excitable interest. Things went so well on that first session I let the hounds off their leads but stayed near to supervise. After a few supervised sessions I decided the chickens and hounds could be left out together while I was in the house. There was just one incident where for some reason a chicken proved too much of a temptation for Isi. On hearing alarmed squawking I bolted outside to find a tailless chook and Isi with the feathery evidence in her mouth! Grabbing the guilty party by the scruff I gave her a gentle shake and a severe verbal reprimanding as I removed the feathers. That was the harshest rebuke I'd ever used on either of the hounds for any misdemeanor and it obviously got the message across since there has never been another chicken molested.

The chickens are now quite safe if left in the yard all day with the hounds, even when I'm at work. I don't think a fox would dare enter the yard though. There is now a chook sized entry to the pen that



prevents hound access as they seem to like eating chicken food. Chicken law is now so firmly understood that should a chicken squawk as the result of an inter-chicken dispute Isi runs in the opposite direction and looks straight at me with an expression that clearly says "wasn't me, didn't

touch them!" Even when the dogs have accidentally run right over the top of a careless chicken during a zoomie session round the yard, the resulting aggrieved flapping and alarm squawks has not excited any response so I now consider the hounds truly chook friendly. In fact, the tables have turned as one of the chickens sometimes hangs around Joseph in a rather threatening



manner at meal times. Joseph consequently eats faster and spills more food which the chicken then dashes in and grabs. However, if the chicken really pushes its luck that strange moaning that passes as a greyhound growl seems to be understood and it backs off a few steps but doesn't retreat entirely until Joe has finished his meal.



# Grey Boys Make Greyt Pets Too!

7

By Sue Tofful

Having just done a paw count we currently have 20 male dogs needing their furever home. Some are in foster homes and some are still in kennels. We find that the girls tend to find homes more easily which seems so unfair. So today we'd like to dispel some of the myths around male greyhounds (and in fact all breeds) in the hope that more of you and your friends will choose one of the boys.

**Males are bigger:** well greyhounds are a large dog anyway. What's a few more cm in height? The grey boys are amazingly lithe, delicate and coordinated and curl up just as easily on their bed (or yours!) as a female dog. Their size has no bearing on how easily they walk on lead- all greys walk very well once taught the basics.

**Males are more boisterous:** any young dog of either sex that has not had obedience training will be boisterous and unruly. So we train our dogs to behave the way we as pack leader would like. A wonderful part of the male dog personality is they are outgoing, fun loving and active and enjoy play more than the girls making them ideal for younger people and those with children. Some might say they are a little goofy, and we think that's a great thing! At the end of the day your boy will be curled up as close as possible to you fast asleep.

**Females are more affectionate:** not true! In fact females tend to be more independent than males,

and will often seek affection for a short time then move away. The boys on the other hand are very focussed on their human companions and tend to stay close by their side and are eager to please. So the boys are big friendly softies, and super loyal to their humans.

**Males are territorial/dominant:** In many packs the alpha dog is often a female. They mark territory exactly as males do even after being de sexed, whereas with males this does subside as their hormones adjust. De sexed males are no more aggressive than females, in fact many females crave control of situations and can react to challenges with more fierceness. Training will control any dominance issue in either sex. Males will in general be submissive with a female, especially an older one.

So, now we have that sorted, here are some of the beautiful boys (age in brackets) that need you:

Jazzy (2), Jimmy (4), Jake (5), Blueboy (6), Bobby (4), Blackie (3), Billy (4), Troy (3), Joey (4), Oscar (4), Dally (3), Rusty (5), Beau (7), Willow (2), Harry (3), Zac (7), Charlie (5), Charley (5), Dodge (5), Choco(4).

To view them, just enter their names in the search field.

[www.greyhoundrescue.com.au/dogs-available/male](http://www.greyhoundrescue.com.au/dogs-available/male)



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and help save a  
greyhound!**



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## Curriculum Vitae

**Name:** Billy

**Age:** 4 years old (March 2008)

**About:** He is a big white, happy boy who just loves people and has been waiting for his forever home for a while now.

**Likes:** Running

**Dislikes:** Cats and rabbits

**Cat Friendly:** No

**Location:** Fostered in Sydney, NSW.



Billy



Princess

## Curriculum Vitae

**Name:** Princess

**Age:** 3 years old (October 2008)

**About:** She is very quiet, easy going girl and has been living with other greyhounds and small dogs. Princess has been living up to her name recently with an audition to go on stage at the Lyric Theatre for the Doris Day Show and actually appearing on TV in Celebrity Apprentice with Shane Crawford. She has been able to do this because she is so relaxed and laid back and is becoming quite a star.

**Cat Friendly:** No

**Location:** Fostered in Sydney, NSW.



Dally

## Curriculum Vitae

**Name:** Dally

**Age:** 3 years old

**About:** He is a gorgeous, happy, friendly boy. He is playful, loves his daily walks but is also just happy to laze around and relax with you. He is an affectionate boy, good with children of all ages, but more suited to a family with older children. Dally would make someone a lovely companion.

**Cat Friendly:** No

**Location:** Fostered in Blackheath, Blue Mountains, NSW.

## Curriculum Vitae

**Name:** Troy

**Age:** 3 years old (May 2008)

**About:** He is a magnificent, black greyhound who has fitted in well with the other greyhounds and has learnt to live with the little dogs.

**Likes:** Playing with toys, enjoys a cuddle.

**Dislikes:** Cats

**Cat Friendly:** No

**Location:** Fostered in Gosford, NSW.



Troy



## Curriculum Vitae

**Name:** Lilly

**Age:** 3 years old

**About:** Lilly is a happy girl who gets on well with the other greyhounds and little dogs she is living with. She is a gentle and affectionate greyhound with a very waggy tail who gets very excited at the thought of a walk or food. She loves to play but at the same time likes her own space and would be better placed with older children.

**Cat Friendly:** No

**Location:** Fostered in Sydney, NSW.



Lilly



Jazzy

## Curriculum Vitae

**Name:** Jazzy

**Age:** 2 years old

**About:** Jazzy is a beautiful boy that walks well on the lead. He gets on with the dogs and cats he lives with. During the work day he is outside with other greyhounds and is happy with another doggy friend to keep him company. Jazzy is an absolute pleasure to have around and is very deserving of his own forever home.

**Cat Friendly:** Yes

**Location:** Fostered in Liverpool, NSW.

## Curriculum Vitae

**Name:** Oscar

**Age:** 4 years old (June 2007)

**About:** He is a beautiful boy who has immense personality. He is quiet and laid back at times but can also be energetic and playful. He is very affectionate.

**Cat Friendly:** Unknown

**Location:** Kennels in Sydney, NSW.



Oscar

**FOSTER REQUIRED**



Zac

## Curriculum Vitae

**Name:** Zac

**Age:** 7 years old (July 2004)

**About:** A visitor wrote "Having met Zac on the weekend I can say he is a super greyhound package! He loved getting out for a romp on the grass, as you can see was smiling his head off. Quite spritely for a more mature boy, he seems to just love life and people and was quite obedient too. It would be grand if someone was able to foster him so he doesn't have to be in kennels through the cold Winter."

**Cat Friendly:** Unknown

**Location:** Kennels in Sydney, NSW.

**FOSTER REQUIRED**

# Separation Anxiety

10

By Joe Turton

I was astonished to find out recently that our greyhound, Bear, suffers from separation anxiety. It wasn't until someone explained it to me that all the pieces fitted together. I'm not an expert but after a little research I found there is a lot you can do.

Dogs are "pack" animals which are social creatures. They will form strong bonds with the people who are around them every day. Greyhounds in particular will have grown up in the company of other greyhounds for many years. It is not surprising that some hounds become stressed if left alone. Most dogs can handle being alone for eight hours a day, provided they have water and a toilet. Some dogs don't handle separation and it will take some patience and careful strategy to get them to adapt.



## Here are some of the signs:

- Watching the door you left from
- Naughty behaviour such as Destructive chewing and destroying things
- Urination or defecation in the house
- Tries to prevent family members leaving
- Tries to leave with you
- Barking or whining while you are away
- Destruction and scratching of barriers, in an attempt to reunite with their owner
- Self-mutilation
- Escaping or attempting to escape
- Pacing

If you are having problems and you suspect your hound maybe suffering from separation anxiety. The first thing to understand is that punishment is likely to increase their anxiety and will often lead to worsening behaviour.

There are some strategies that can help to reduce your dog's stress.

## Strategies:

- Exercise your hound before leaving. A brisk twenty minute walk before leaving.
- Don't make a fuss when you leave. Don't even say goodbye.
- Don't make a fuss when you return. Avoid making your return exciting. Say "hello" and ignore your hound for five minutes then once settled give your hound some attention.
- Feed your hound before leaving.
- Leave background noise, such as the radio, playback a recording of your voice talking.
- Start small and gradually extend your time away.
- More than one dog can help, but this may mask the problem. It is also a good idea to separate them from time to time and take one for a walk alone so they can also get used to being separated from each other.
- Leave some stimulating toys and activities

Here are some ideas of stimulating toys and activities for your hound.

**Dog Puzzles and Kongs:** Just stuff it with kibble or if you want to get creative visit Kong Company's website for recipe ideas. [www.kongcompany.com](http://www.kongcompany.com)

**Treasure hunt:** This is one for the garden. Simply scatter kibble around the garden creating a treasure hunt that your hound will spend time searching for.

**Frozen ice blocks:** On a hot day you can leave your hound with a yummy ice block. You can dilute chicken or beef stock and freeze it in a container.

**Background noise:** The radio can be good to provide some background noise.

I found that being able to spot the signs, and having an understanding of what techniques are available to help, made dealing with the issues much easier. Bear would get very stressed when he was left behind and would wait by the front door and whine. Over the period of a few weeks we would ignore him on leaving the house and leave many times for short periods. On returning, we completely ignored him. Around the same time we started to use a simple phrase that we would use to indicate he was not coming with us. The phrase really helped and now when used he walks himself back to his bed.

There are different extremes and symptoms seen with separation anxiety. Bear's might be considered quite mild. The good news is there is plenty of information and advice available to help.



By Sue Tofful

Are you having “challenges” with your foster or adopted hound such as separation anxiety, marking, growling or food aggression?

## Don't despair...

Allow us to introduce Alexis Mulhearn - Alexis is a greyhound owner and lover and has kindly agreed to help out with grey training and behaviour advice. Although she is not a trainer she is happy to provide information to people as “an experienced dog owner”.

She has done PAT work through Delta for the past 5-6 years, and has owned dogs for over 35 years. She has owned Greys for 9 years, prior to that

several other breeds. She currently has a pack of 3 Greys and will add a foster to that shortly, and an Irish Wolfhound is on the way. Busy house!

Alexis has experience with Grey specific issues related to limited life experience, sleep startle, prey drives, abuse etc, and lots of experience with “naughty” behaviour such as walking poorly on lead, snatching food, mouthing etc.

She can be contacted via Facebook private messaging (you don't need to be her “friend”), or via email on [Cambridge\\_Nyima1@bigpond.com](mailto:Cambridge_Nyima1@bigpond.com)

We'd like to thank Alexis for being a totally voluntary ear. Please contact her if you'd like some advice. Together we do better!

## Go Green and Muzzle Free

By Joe Turton

The New Year brings the opportunity for adopted greyhounds in NSW to go out in public muzzle free.

### There are some simple steps:

1. Once adopted, get your greyhound registered with the local council.
2. Enrol your greyhound in the Greenhound program.
3. Complete a six week re-training program; this is in the form of a self-assessment workbook provided by Greenhounds.
4. Complete a Greenhound assessment.
5. On passing the assessment, send the workbook and a \$49.50 fee to Greenhounds.
6. Greenhounds complete the administration and send a Greenhounds green collar to each greyhound that successfully qualifies.

The Greenhounds green collar, when worn, allows



the greyhound that completed the program to go muzzle free in public.

All the details are available on the Greenhounds website. [www.greenhounds.com.au](http://www.greenhounds.com.au).

### Tips:

- If you have only just adopted I would suggest you wait a few months. Get used to your hound and let your hound get used to you. The greyhounds that seem to fail the assessment are the recently adopted.
- Take the six weeks to make sure your greyhound is well socialised and happy around other dogs. Practice the exercises in the re-training guide particularly relating to food and other dogs.
- The assessment is based on the GAPNTT, read it and see how your greyhound fares for each test. Use it to help you identify any areas you may need to work on.
- Select your assessor carefully. The quality of the assessment shouldn't change but the prices do vary considerably. \$50 to \$250.

Greenhound has a list of qualified assessors: [www.greenhounds.com.au/current-assessors.html](http://www.greenhounds.com.au/current-assessors.html)

Greyhound Adoption Program, were providing the service for a \$50 donation. Contact them on (02) 9452 3446 or [adoption@gapnsw.org.au](mailto:adoption@gapnsw.org.au).

For details on green collar assessments in Victoria check the GAP VIC fact sheet at [gap.grv.org.au](http://gap.grv.org.au).

# Introducing a New Hound

12

By Alexis Mulhearn†

"Greyhounds are like potato chips...you can't stop at one!" It's a phrase that certainly rings true for many people who have adopted a Greyhound.

I have owned Greyhounds for around 8-9 years, and large breed dogs for over 35 years. This article is a brief overview of what I do when I introduce a dog to my pack. There are many other things I do to integrate a new dog into my pack, and they'll be covered in other articles.

It's not uncommon for people who are adopting a second dog to feel that the first meeting between their current hound and the newbie should be like a romantic movie...their eyes meet across a room, the music swells, and voila, they all live happily ever after. Certainly this can happen, and it's great! Sometimes it can take a little longer, but there are things you can do to make the first meeting as smooth as possible, and to pave the way for your hounds to get to know each other without any snarly noises or fang bearing.

1. Introduce the hounds on neutral ground, not in your yard or house.
  - In your current hound's mind, he "owns" the yard and house, and may feel the newbie is trying to muscle her way in.
  - A park is great, or out the front of your house on the street.
2. Introduce the dogs on leads, and with their muzzles on.
  - The muzzles may not be necessary, but better safe than a big vet bill and a lot of anguish.
  - Leads are great, because you can control the situation.



"Notice how none of these dogs is 'face to face' with any other dog....Great doggie manners!" This is a great way for dogs to meet for the first time

3. Introduce the dogs side by side, not face to face.
  - A great way to do this is for you to walk your current hound on lead then have a friend, or the adoption group person, walk the newbie up beside you. Then the four of you walk together. The hounds will learn each other's smells and personality, and will feel like they are in a pack, because they are walking together.



"This puppy has great manners, smelling Angel's bottom gently, after she had checked his out."

- When you're walking your current hound make sure he is not pulling you all over the place, he needs to be walking calmly beside you before the newbie gets out of the car and starts walking with you. Similarly, the newbie should not be allowed to pull your friend around. The dogs need to see that you are in control, and there is nothing for them to worry about.
  - In the dog world, meeting face to face is very rude and aggressive and can trigger fangs and snarls and vet bills. Once the dogs have walked together, allow them to sniff each other's bottoms, making sure they are not meeting face-to-face while you get them into position.
4. Take the current hound and the newbie into your yard on lead after their walk, and only when they are both calm. Walk around the yard so the newbie learns the place a bit.
  5. Only take the hounds into the house when they are calm, and leave them on lead and with their muzzles on. Walk the dogs around the rooms in the house where they are allowed to go.
  6. When they are both calm, drop the leads (but



leave them on), and leave the muzzles on. If either hound gets silly you can easily pick up the lead, correct the hound, and then release her when she calms.

7. At bed time, keep them separated so they both get a good night's sleep without worrying about what the other one is doing.
8. Next morning - walkies!

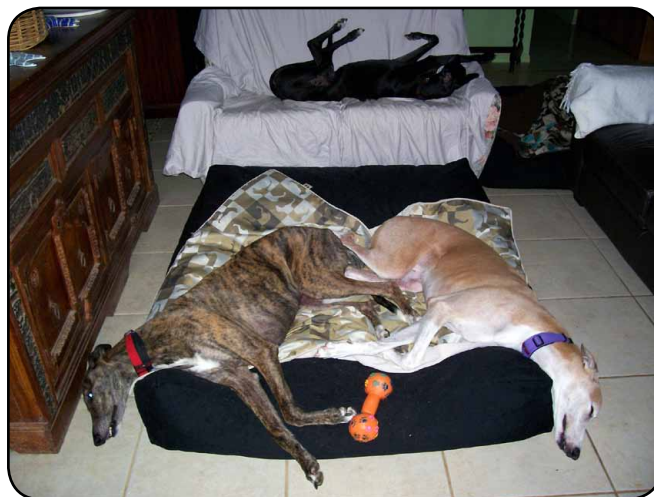
#### Other things you can do to help make newbie part of the pack

1. Feed them separately, feeding your current hound first
2. Walk them together as much as you can – this will help them feel like a pack
3. If you have to go out for a while or go to work, consider separating them until they become more familiar with each other.
4. Make sure every person in the house pays as much attention to the current hound as they do to the newbie.

The important thing to remember is that it takes time. Just as it can take time for two people to become friends, so too it can take two dogs some time to become friends. It can be days, weeks or months – these things can't be rushed.

If you have any concerns or questions, contact your adoption group, or a reputable dog trainer or canine professional for advice. There are also some great books available on understanding dog

behaviour. I have had good results from using Cesar Millan's methods, and I also use methods I have learned from several dog trainers, and a lot of research. There are many many great books around – it's about finding someone who's approach you like and that works for you. Most importantly, it's about having fun and enjoying time with your hounds!



"It takes time for dogs to be this comfortable sleeping together... separating them to start with keeps everyone happy!"

† Each situation is unique. Please take this into consideration when deciding whether to use the information in this article, and consult a professional dog expert. The author disclaims responsibility for any adverse effects that may result from the use of this information.

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# Possum's Story

14

By Deb Sto Domingo and Donna Barsby

Possum was rescued by Greyhound Rescue in November 2011, from a Victorian racing owner who advertised her on Gumtree - "free to good home, if no home found will be put down on 9 November" (which was in less than a week's time). The ad was posted just before Possum's 9th birthday.

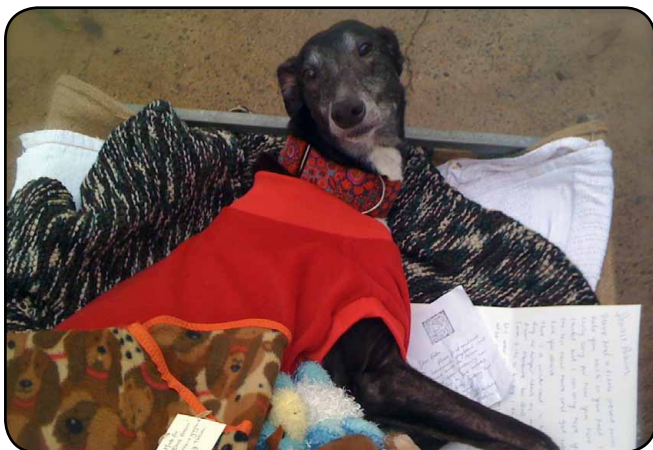
As there were no foster carers to be found at that time in Melbourne, Greyhound Rescue paid for Possum to be transported to Sydney. She arrived in an appalling state. Possum was underweight and malnourished, covered in fleas, her skin rough



16/11/2011: The day she was saved by Greyhound Rescue

and leathery, and suffering from a yeast infection. Her nails had not been cut for years- they were long and curly making walking painful. Greyhound Rescue rushed her to the vet where they treated her fleas, yeast infection, and cleaned her ears and cut her nails amongst other things.

After two days in care, Possum was on the path to recovery. When Possum's story became public on Facebook, Greyhound Rescue received generous worldwide money donations to help pay for her transport and vet bills. Locally, we also received donations for Possum including a collar, blanket, bed, coats and toys.



One week after being saved with her donated gifts

Possum was starting to feel better and was putting on weight but we noticed symptoms indicating that she may have kennel cough, so she was taken to the vet again. Kennel cough was confirmed and was treated immediately.

Once Possum was quarantined and cleared of her kennel cough, she was put into foster care with Donna and Debbie with a house full of different sized dogs. She adapted very quickly. We waited until she had gained more weight and was of good health before taking her to the vet again for de-



December 2011: Just before having her vet work done

sexing and dental work in readiness for a forever home (all dogs are de-sexed before adoption).

Unfortunately, when Possum returned to her foster home she fell incredibly ill. She had developed an infection from the several teeth that had been pulled out. She was taken to a nearby vet and was treated for dehydration and given high dosage antibiotics. Possum returned home after 3 days at the vet.

She was still not drinking and only eating small amounts of food. When she was not responding to her medication, we took her back to the vet, where she stayed for 10 days. Possum was diagnosed with pneumonia. Possum's back legs had also become lame and x-rays indicated significant arthritis in her vertebrae and possible hip dysplasia. The vet had also run tests on her heart, which indicated a heart murmur. Possum had lost a lot of weight. She was very frail.

When Possum finally came home she stayed in her bed for weeks and weeks. She could not mobilise independently, having to be carried by her foster carers to go outside to toilet. There were many





April 2012: Possum fully recovered

times where she had accidents in her bed, with her bedding sheets changed at least twice a day. When Possum bore weight on her back legs she would scream in pain. This lasted for at least three weeks and it was coming to the point where her quality of life was deteriorating and the Rainbow Bridge was beckoning.

As the last resort a lady by the name of Rae Hennessey was called in to offer urgent in-house acupuncture treatment to ease her pain. After the first acupuncture session we noticed that Possum became extremely relaxed- falling asleep during treatment. That night she was restless, getting in and out of her bed. It was the first

sign that she was improving. Possum only required four sessions of acupuncture over a period of 1 ½ months.



January 2012: Possum being a brave girl despite being hospitalised for just over a week

Today Possum is a different dog. She is trotting around the house and yard, digging in the garden, chewing on dog bones and looks forward to have her morning walk up and down the street. She no longer screams in pain. She has gained all the weight that she had lost when she fell critically ill. Possum now spends her days mixing it up with her foster sisters and brother- she still lives in foster care with 2 small dogs and 6 hounds. She has tested as cat friendly. Possum is now ready for her forever home.

She would thrive in a home with other dogs or even alone if someone was home all the time with her. She would be ideal for older adopters as she likes to be near you all day, sleeping and getting loved, and only needs short walks. She is a true fighter and deserves to live out her days in quiet comfort.



# PET CLIX

Animal Photography



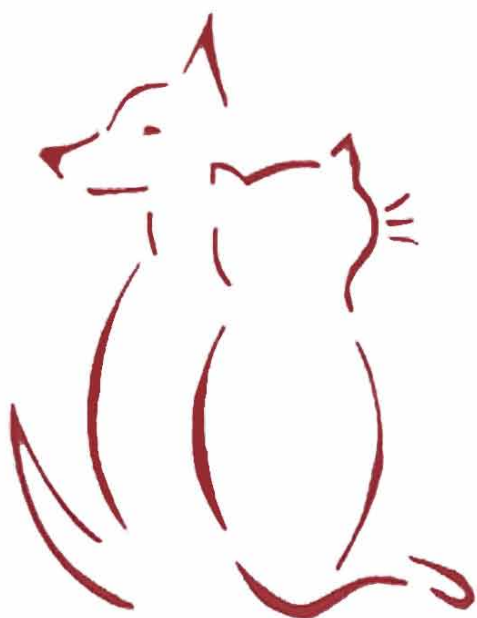
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