



The Greys Matter



True Grit Enduro



Soul Mate



Alternative Therapies



Lucky-Star's Story



Biscuit's Story

So much has happened since our last newsletter! Our big news is that we now rent a 5-acre property accommodating 34 greyhounds, and a house where our dedicated kennel manager lives, and co-ordinates everything. Lots of volunteers turn up every day of the week and weekends to make sure the greyhounds get the best of attention.

More and more people are realising what great pets greyhounds make and last year we found homes for about 150 lucky ones. A year or so ago this number would have been unthinkable, but it is still the tip of the iceberg, with thousands of greyhounds being rejected by the racing industry every year.

As we write, the racing industry is in turmoil having received body blows from the live baiting scandal and now revelations at the Special Commission of Inquiry. Greyhound racing in Australia as a sport is on its knees and if it does finish that will be good for the welfare of thousands of greyhounds.

But in the meantime our rescue continues to grow thanks to the efforts of so many people. Whether it's volunteers on the front line or on the internet, checking applications and homes, producing the calendar, or members of the public donating to make it all possible, everyone is doing a massive job for the greyhounds. A big thank you to you all.

Even now we are unable to cope with the number of greyhounds we are asked to take, almost daily. With the racing industry in crisis this will only get worse and we anticipate a big influx of greyhounds very soon. So what can you do to help?

If you are unable to adopt a greyhound, we need lots of foster carers or maybe you can help by sponsoring a greyhound or donating towards our spiraling costs, or even volunteer.

There is so much to look forward to and we wish you the best for the rest of 2015.

Peter and Janet.



Contact us:

Peter or Janet on **0412 562 104**
or **0432 539 800**

info@greyhoundrescue.com.au

www.greyhoundrescue.com.au



Find us on:
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Greyhound Rescue Inc
PO Box 477
Forestville, NSW 2087

Welcome to the seventh issue with all the latest news from Greyhound Rescue - a big thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition. There have been some amazing efforts in fundraising and our volunteers have helped Greyhound Rescue attend many events this year.

Please keep your articles and stories coming in. Write to me at joe@greyhoundrescue.com.au. We hope you enjoy this issue.

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Fundraising

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

Dick Smith Charity Drive

We asked everyone to send in photos of their Dick Smith products. We won, and received a \$10,000 cheque from Dick himself. Thank you to everyone who entered a photos, nominating us and to Ausilia who organised this campaign.



Northside Gymkhana

A big thank you to Northside Riding Club for organising a gymkhana as a fundraising event for Greyhound Rescue. Liane, Sian and their team raised \$1840. [Jazz'd Up Cupcakes](#) made special greyhounds cupcakes and donated \$150 dollars from their cupcake sales, thank you Jasmine.

Market Day

Year 10 students at St Scholastica's College put on a lunchtime market day stall, selling all sorts of goodies and shining shoes. Thank you Kiara.



Ruby's Anzac Slices

A big thank you to one of our youngest fundraisers, 9-year-old Ruby made and sold Anzac slices at school, raising \$45. Her family adopted Bella, (now Pip).



Monica's Handmade Bookmarks

Monica, 12, sold her handmade bookmarks and gift tags, raising \$11. Her kindness was so infectious; people matched her donation and bought her creations. Thank you Monica!

True Grit Enduro

Jodi Finn raised over \$5,600 completing an epic 24-hour endurance obstacle course in April. Read more about her story on page 10.

Canberra Times Fun Run

Jodi Finn, Victoria Zhong and other ACT supporters entered this year's Canberra Times Fun Run, raising over \$2,000.

Sausage Sizzles

We have had various fundraisers around Sydney at Bunnings, Masters and other locations. These give us an opportunity to spread our message to a great cross section of people, and their positive responses always surprise us. It also helps to have a houndie or two visit the stall and put on their best woe faces in hopes of a fallen sausage...!

Collection Tins

A big thank you to all the businesses that continue to support us through a simple collection tin. Over the course of a year it makes a big difference. Thank you to The Good Guys (Chatswood), Winehaven (Killarney Hts), Vineyard Vets, Manly Taxi (Brookvale), Abbco Wreckers and Allambie News Agents. Please get in touch if you'd like to help.

Events

Our Greyhound Rescue volunteers have been working very hard in the last 12 months getting out into the community with our stalls. Not just at pet events but anywhere we can, to raise awareness and fundraise. We have gained some great adoptions and volunteers from these events.

Here are just some of the places we have been.

Riverstone Festival

This community event is within our kennel area and it was a fantastic opportunity to let locals know who we are and what we are about.

Hawkesbury Show

Our volunteers braved rain and mud over this mammoth 3-day event, and the hounds endeared themselves to everyone (including the police on duty who visited



several times a day!)

The doggy show bags and home-made treats were very popular, and we raised a lot of awareness.

Sydney Cruelty Free Festival

We had a hugely successful day as first time participants in October last year, not just fundraising but sharing the plight of greyhounds in Australia, and gaining some adoptions and new volunteers. We also participated this year!

Springwood Foundation Day

Our mountain volunteers spent the day educating the mountains community about what wonderful pets greyhounds make, and a couple of houndies even got a celeb snap with the then local State MP Roza Sage.

Camden Pet Fair

The vet students out at Camden organised a great day for us to participate in showing off our houndies. With pup cakes, doggy treats, and free houndie hugs we were quite popular!

Ku-ring-gui Dogs Day Out

A glorious last day of Autumn and a huge turnout of people and supporting hounds. Home made doggie treats were very popular.



Katoomba Winter Magic Festival

Onesies, beanies, and jackets were worn by the mountain houndies to let over 30,000 locals and tourists know how cool, calm, and collected they can be in a parade. One of our volunteers even did a local radio interview for Greyhound Rescue off the cuff while walking! Over \$1,300 was raised from the stall thanks to a great raffle organised by AJ, and home-made doggy treats baked by Kelly and Sophia.

Hawkesbury Pound Reunion Day

Many of the greyhounds Greyhound Rescue finds homes for come from pounds and Hawkesbury

Pound is always quick to call us if it has one surrendered or found. We attended the day with a couple of ex-poundie houndies to meet the staff and show support for a local pound that helps greyhounds.

Blacktown Pet Festival

We spent the day showing off our houndies and telling everyone that greyhounds aren't just racers, they make wonderful loving pets. We have attended this year too!



Sydney Retirement Expo

Our volunteers and hounds spent three days showing what wonderful low maintenance pets greyhounds can be for seniors – not to mention how ergonomic they are to pat!

Meet the Hounds

Leura First Sunday Markets

If you live in the Blue Mountains or have a weekend getaway, the Mountain Hounds volunteers have established a regular market stall; this year at Leura First Sunday Markets held at Leura Public School.

The organisers allow Greyhound Rescue to have the stall for free so everything raised goes to the hounds. We are there from 9am -2pm and have home-made dog treats, jewellery, magnets, collars, and more, and of course a hound or two to pat. There's always something different - after visiting us check out the fresh produce, locally produced arts and craft, fresh coffee, baked goods, fashion, vintage and collectables, homewares and more! Check the events section of the GR website to see the dates of upcoming stalls.

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

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

Wish List

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

- Flea and worm treatments
- Clam shells for the kennel hounds to splash around in on those hot days.
- 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's a great feeling to know you have saved a life. Please contact us: foster@greyhoundrescue.com.au

Donations

If you would like to donate to our cause you can through 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

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

www.greyhoundrescue.com.au/how-you-can-help/

Direct Bank Transfer

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

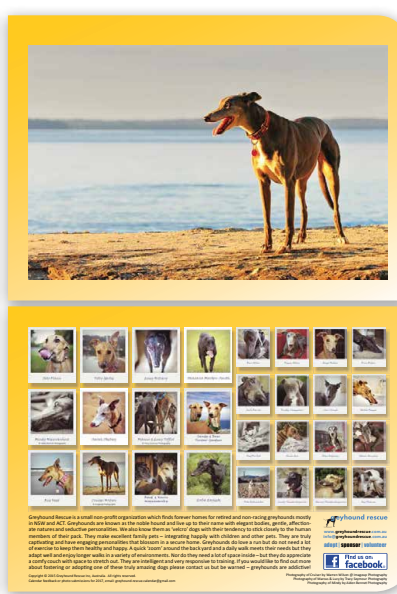
Cheque

Please send cheques in favour of:
Greyhound Rescue Inc

And mail to:

Greyhound Rescue Inc
PO Box 477
Forestville, NSW 2087

Calendar 2016



The official Greyhound Rescue 2016 calendar is now available. All the proceeds go directly to Greyhound Rescue.

Calendar Cost - \$25 per calendar

Orders can be placed through **email** to:
greyhound.rescue.calendar@gmail.com

Payment - Cash, Direct Transfer or Cheque

The **web site** has full order details:
<http://greyhoundrescue.com.au/how-you-can-help/calendar/>

*Payment details above; reference: Calendar {Surname}

Alternative Therapies

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By Kate Allen

For the last 12 months at GR we have had some wonderful professionals besides our vets assisting us in improving the health and comfort of some of the hounds waiting for homes. Grace Kelly, Kerrie-Lee, Eugene Noodles, Pablo, and Murray just to name a few, have benefited from their help.

Neil Barnsley at Animal Holistic Therapies in Greendale has generously donated his time and highly qualified expertise at no cost for some of the hounds in GR's care. Treatment modalities include acupuncture, infrared laser therapy, chiropractic, Chinese herbal medicine, myotherapy, trigger point therapy and biochemics. These are fantastic drug and surgery free alternatives for dogs to heal naturally.



Dog chiropractic care can help repair a dog's muscles to allow the joints to move freely, and align the skeletal system so that his or her body can function properly during exercise or play. Acupuncture or infrared therapy assists in improving blood flow and circulation allowing oxygen rich blood to wash through painful areas and move acidic waste. It has been shown to make connective tissue more flexible, give greater joint movement, and increase endorphin levels which eases pain!

We have also had Sharon Osmond (a highly qualified vet nurse) who is the owner/operator of K9 Swim at Londonderry assist in rehabilitating a few hounds with her hydrotherapy team. Sharon has donated photonic treatments as well as supplements to speed recovery for Grace Kelly and more recently Murray. Hydrotherapy in warm water not only assists a dog to regain mobility and flexibility, but speeds recovery after

surgery or injury; conditions and improves cardiovascular fitness; improves circulation, flexibility, and balance, reduces inflammation, increases confidence, and burns off excess energy. A 15-minute swim is equivalent to a one-hour work out for us!

My own dogs have been blessed by both of these people and I can't recommend highly enough the benefits to their overall happiness and comfort. Poppy avoided a toe amputation due to repeated dislocation after Neil's advice and treatment, and one of my boys (a foster fail) is a completely different dog.



He arrived extremely underweight with trauma received to his hips, shoulder, neck and toes, as well as having kyphosis (a hunched back). He was in a great deal of pain and could barely walk, dragging his paws. Sleeping was uncomfortable and he couldn't settle. He had no stamina (he would actually nod off mid swim at first!) could not be walked, and would hardly eat. Apart from painkillers there was not a lot the vets could do, and although a little skeptical at first I was determined to find something or someone to help. Between visits to Neil and Sharon he now has marked improvement in his spine, has full flexion in his neck, less pain in his joints, his gait is better, he sleeps and eats well, is alert, and runs with joy. He gets very excited when we go to the clinic for his monthly 'back tickle.' The minute he's on the table he nods off as if to say "wake me up when you're done thanks!" He can also attest to the benefits of Sharon's special herbal mixes... he doesn't eat meals without his "garnish!"

Your Letters

Travelling Hound - Brian Blake

Four and a half years ago we adopted Sophie, when she was about eight years old and in very poor condition. She and a few more greyhounds were rescued from Cooma by Janet Flann.

We were very lucky to have Sophie in our lives, she was a great traveller. We took her across the Nullarbor to Perth, and every place we stopped at people would say, "we recognise the dog". She travelled through the Queensland outback, Western Australia, South Australia and Victoria. Sophie had her own bed in the caravan and also a nice bed in the car.

It was a sad day and will never be forgotten when she got her wings.

We now have Maisiey. We have had her for three months now and she has started to travel, just some

short trips down the South Coast. In a few weeks we will be on the road again and be recognised not by the car, or caravan, or us, but by the dog!



Brian and Sophie, Cocklebidy on the Nullarbor

Pebbles in Singapore

We are so thankful that Peter and Jan homed 'Pebbles' (now known as Melfi) to us in 2010. We live in Singapore and had been looking for a rescue greyhound to join our family. Melfi has been with us for four years in September and together with our whippet, were our "babies" before we had our children.

Melfi adjusted very well when the children arrived and spends most days asleep on the living room floor while our 3 year old son and 9 month old daughter play beside her. Most of our mornings are spent walking to the Singapore Botanic Gardens with me, our other dog and our baby in the stroller. She has adjusted to the heat and humidity in the tropics very well but does love to seek out a spot right under the air conditioning on very hot afternoons.

Melfi attracts a lot of attention when we are out and about with her. Sometimes this is because of her unusual brindle coat but mainly because greyhounds are not very common in Singapore. This often presents us with an opportunity to correct a lot of misconceptions people have about grey-hounds. She is a living testament to what a wonderful addition a rescue greyhound can make to a family.

Thank you for giving us the privilege of loving one of your beautiful greyhounds. She is a much loved and adored member of our family.



Pippa the Greyhound

Hi my name is Pippa, after spending some time chasing a 'thing' at a racetrack I was given away to someone, I don't really know why. I then went to a foster home for a while, not sure how long, and from there I was handed to Greyhound Rescue in the wonderful care of Peter and Janet, to be looked after for a while until someone could apply to adopt me. I was there for a little while and then a lady and man came to have a look at me. We went for a walk and after the walk they must have agreed to adopt me because a week later they came back. Off I went in their car after saying goodbye to Peter and Janet and the other greyhounds.

We arrived at this strange house with a nice yard and covered area. Inside there was a lovely bed waiting for me and some toys, I was ever so nervous. The lady seemed very comfortable and loving towards me but the man was a bit apprehensive. However that did not last long as I am so cute and wonderful! It was very wet the first week or so, so it was a bit hard settling in with toileting, not quite sure where to go. The man and the lady helped me sort that out and before long all was well with maybe just a little accident again once or twice.

The food was good, treats very good and before long the nerves settled and I am very much at home with Ma & Pa or one could say "I have taken over the house!" It became necessary for Pa to install some "toddler" gates as I was a bit too inquisitive one day and in Ma's sewing room destroyed one or two of her special sewing patterns, oh dear I was not very popular at all (but only briefly because of my absolute charm).

Some very good walks happen but not for too long as I just get far too tired and then all I do is sleep and sleep.

I am sure I have found my forever home, much loved by Ma and Pa and their extended family, friends and neighbours. One of my neighbours a little girl called Georgia gave me one of her favourite soft toys to take to bed. The other children quite often visit for a 'Pippa' pat.

There is just one problem I am not allowed on the 'couch' as I am told I have two other comfy beds to lie on, 'oh well' can't have everything I guess!

So it is for sure I have found my forever home with Ma and Pa and I just hope that all my greyhound friends shall spend their life as I do.

Pippa Coleman...

HOMED

ON TRIAL

AVAILABLE

Curriculum Vitae

FOSTER REQUIRED

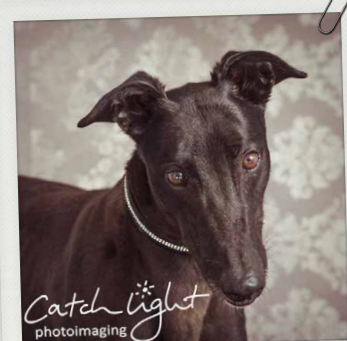
Name: Josh

Age: 7 years (December 2007)

About: Josh has been on our books for quite some time and through no fault of his own hasn't found his niche in the world. He is a special boy who would be best suited to a home as an only dog and someone who would be able to spend a lot of time with him. He is personable and attaches to 'his' human readily. He just wants to be loved.

Cat Tolerant: No

Location: Kennels in Sydney, NSW.



Josh



Ned

Curriculum Vitae

FOSTER REQUIRED

Name: Ned

Age: 3 years old (January 2012)

About: Ned is a handsome red fawn with a million dollar smile. He gets a bit too excited around small children so would suite a home with teenagers or just adults.

Cat Tolerant: No

Small Dog Tolerant: No

Children: Over 12 years old

Location: Kennels in Sydney, NSW.



Cricket

Curriculum Vitae

FOSTER REQUIRED

Name: Cricket

Age: 5 years old (November 2010)

About: Cricket loves playing games in the runs, and having a splash in the pool to cool off afterwards. He is very good natured and affectionate.

Cat Tolerant: No

Small Dog Tolerant: Suited to a home without other dogs

Children: Over 5 years old

Location: Kennels in Sydney, NSW.

Curriculum Vitae

Name: Katharine

Age: 5 years old (Jan 2010)

About: Katharine is a low maintenance, very sweet natured girl who adores cuddles and is lovely to walk. She is playful and loves squeaky toys and playing fetch. She is dog friendly and great with kids.

Cat Tolerant: No

Small Dog Tolerant: Yes

Children: Yes

Location: Foster care in Sydney, NSW.



Katharine

Curriculum Vitae

Name: Malcolm and Angus

Age: 9 years old (November 2006)

About: The boys are the very best of friends and have never been apart. They are cuddly and gentle. Malcolm is the most outgoing of the brothers and Angus is a little more shy but both love human company

Cat Tolerant: Potential

Location: Foster care in Canberra.



Malcolm



Malcolm & Angus



Angus



Milton

Curriculum Vitae

Name: Milton

FOSTER REQUIRED

Age: 2 years old (March 2012)

About: Milton is very playful, excellent with children, but not so good with cats and some smaller dogs.

Cat Tolerant: No

Small Dog Tolerant: Some, not foxie sizes

Children: Yes

Location: Kennels in Sydney, NSW.

Curriculum Vitae

Name: Lucy

Age: 2 years old

About: Lucy loves to be loved and enjoys daily snuggles. She always greets you with her helicopter tail. She adores playing and has discovered the joys of splashing in water holes.

Cat Tolerant: Not tested

Small Dog Tolerant: Needs supervision

Children: Not tested

Location: Foster care in Canberra, ACT.



Lucy



Sasha

Curriculum Vitae

Name: Sasha

Age: 3 years old (May 2010)

About: Sasha walks well on the lead, and is very gentle. She is quiet for most of the day, lazing around like a couch potato. She does still like to play with her toys and would suit most family situations without too much trouble.

Cat Tolerant: No

Small Dog Tolerant: Yes

Children: Yes

Location: Foster care in Sydney, NSW.

True Grit Enduro

By Jodi Finn

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When I was asked to write an article for the newsletter about my fundraising, my first thought was "Really? Is that worth a write-up? I haven't been around the greyhound community for long!". But thinking back, I'm actually a) really proud and b) can't wait to do more.

I only heard of GR, and really thought specifically about greyhounds and greyhound welfare, in December 2014. I met the gorgeous Pari (previously Marge), who had recently been adopted from GR by my friends. I've always had dogs, from terriers to whippets to gun and working dogs but I'd never had, or really met, a greyhound.

I started doing some research into GR, other greyhound foster groups, the welfare issues, racing... oh man. I've always advocated for adopting over buying from the breeder, been distressed by the amount of dogs in pounds or put down for stupidest of reasons and then...bam. Enter all the atrocities of the greyhound racing industry!!! Over breeding, euthanasia and injury rates, student vet practice-fodder, basic welfare and care, barbaric treatment and deaths...it made my blood boil then and it still does now. On Facebook, I found and joined the ACT Greyhound Support Network (ACTGSN) and loved its positive community vibe.

As much as I wanted to scoop up every hound immediately, I had to be realistic and put off adopting until I could commit the time to settle a new friend in with my two lady whippets. Hectic shift work, several holidays coming up (yeah, woe is me right?!) - the timing wasn't right. I still wanted to DO something and I'm not ashamed to say I had my light bulb moment on a cruise ship somewhere in the Pacific.

In February, my brother had thrown me a challenge a week or so earlier that I wasn't sure I was up to - competing in the True Grit Enduro, a 24 hour obstacle race on the Hawkesbury River over the June long weekend. I'd never done a serious obstacle course or an endurance event. I wasn't a runner. I was coming back from injury, unfit (for me). The real crux was that I was severely lacking in motivation and a reason to throw myself back into the hard slog of training.

I was going to the gym every day on the ship (probably my only break from the bar!), and while trudging away on a cross trainer, I thought..."greyhounds." Literal light bulb moment. I had my motivation! In that gym, I started formulating fundraising schemes, thinking about my networks... my head was positively spinning. I set a mental target of raising \$2,000 for GR and as soon as I got



off that ship I rang my brother and told him I was in.

I set up a page on everyday hero and pestered my friends and family and the donations started coming in. I ran a BBQ at our local Masters Home Improvements store in April with the overwhelming support of my friends, family and the amazing crowd from the ACTGSN, most of whom I had never even met. We raised \$1,302. Original \$2,000 target smashed - so I upped it to what I thought was a totally unattainable \$5,000.

In the months that followed, I campaigned and plugged my cause at every possible opportunity. I sold cupcakes at the ACT Greyhound Awareness Walk and the ACTGSN gems ran a BBQ at PetStock, Fyshwick that I couldn't attend myself (it was on race weekend!).

In May, my team crumbled overnight - my partner Dan been injured in a motorbike accident, one of my brothers tore his biceps from the bone during rugby, and my other brother pulled out. It was just me. I was having seriously cold feet and considering pulling the plug myself. I was insanely disappointed but wasn't convinced it was something I could achieve solo.

About a week later, I received a \$1,000 donation on the page from an indescribably generous person named J. Allen. I hope you're reading this. I cried, laughed, whooped and rang everybody I knew. Stuff it - that massive show of faith and support from a total stranger just totally cemented my resolve to run it solo if I had to.

Only 2 weeks out from the Enduro, I threw out a last minute call for a running buddy and unbelievably, one stepped up. Enter Renee Grima, my personal saviour! We'll be going back to do it again next year. My brother, partner and sister in law also came to provide invaluable pit crew support, along with Renee's husband Mark.

From 2pm Saturday June 6th to 2pm Sunday 7th, we each covered nearly 55km and negotiated 150 obstacles. We ran in day and dark and cold and

True Grit Enduro (cont)

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By Jodi Finn

fog and elation and fun and pain and doubt. As my hip flexors totally gave out after the third lap, again trudging through 800m of swamp from ankle up to waist height around 11pm on a cold June night, I was barely shuffling. I'd lost what felt like all body heat from the numerous water obstacles and the dropping temperatures.

I'd set a minimum target of 5 laps (each lap being approximately 10.5km long with 30 obstacles), I was gutted at the thought that I might not make the distance (it's ok though - happy endings happen). I finished that lap slowly, warmed up and rested for



a few hours and set out again to finish another two laps in whatever fashion I

could (it was ugly and slow).

So many times on that course, when it was dark or cold or I was alone and hurting, I thought of the sheer incredible generosity of everyone that donated their time and money and put their support behind me, and any negative thoughts got left in the mud.

The fundraiser wrapped up at the end of June with a total fundraising effort of \$5,671.70. I remained immensely proud (and stunned) when I see that figure and I was so, so happy when it rolled over to GR to be put to good use to provide rescue and care for a truly magnificent breed of dog. It's not over yet either - I have some more fundraising ideas bubbling away already!

PS: I also got my greyhound in April - currently snuggling with me on the couch as I write this, Henry is a total delight and I'm looking forward to building and moving to our new farm so I can become a crazy dog lady and fill my house with these silly couch potatoes!

Lucky-Star's Story

By Gabriëlle Heidi Openshaw

After suspecting this 6-month old puppy had broken her back left leg, her breeder contacted the owner to ask if he wanted her to see a vet. The owner said to have the puppy killed rather than pay the vet bills. But the breeder surrendered her to Greyhound Rescue instead, and that's why I named her 'Lucky'.

I took Lucky straight to the wonderful vets at Weston Woden Animal Hospital in Canberra, who immediately ruled out broken bones. They established the massive swelling was due to some crushing injury (likely a dog bite) left to seal in a bacterial infection that had festered and spread, causing severe cellulitis.

Lucky's temperature dropped that night as she went into septic shock. Remarkably, she survived, but chunks of skin were now peeling off her leg, and within 48 hours, abscesses formed that literally dripped with infection ooze. Lucky's leg was necrotic, but the vets could not amputate it while the abscesses were so active. Her chances of survival were slim. After a tough phone call to Greyhound Rescue, the decision was made to continue treatment... And Lucky took the fighting chance she was given! A week later, her leg was amputated in a complicated surgery lasting 3.5 hours, and she was in foster care with me the next night.

At time of writing, Lucky's 27 stitches have just come out and she has been a 'tripaw' for 3 weeks!!! It has been an absolute pleasure helping Lucky heal, and watching her navigate

domestic life on 3 legs. Lucky is very sweet, affectionate, fairly confident, very curious, and already playing with toys. She follows my big ex-Greyhound Rescue boy Bobby around like he is a big brother, and copies EVERYTHING he does. If he roaches, she roaches. If he looks out the window, so does she. If Bobby eats something, Lucky will give it a go. And surprisingly, she has even figured out how to jump on my bed. The support this star of a puppy has received is overwhelming. A massive 'thank-you' goes to Dr. Shauna, Dr. Ivan & Dr. Camilla at Weston Woden Animal Hospital for saving Lucky's life (and a special mention to vet nurse Alli)! Thank you also to everyone who sent her strength as she fought for life, and all the people who so generously donated towards her veterinary treatment. My personal thanks go to Ada, Nora, Jess & Kathryn for helping me foster a 3-legged puppy. And biggest thank-you of all goes to Greyhound Rescue for rescuing Lucky and the 80 other hounds they currently have awaiting forever homes!



Khan's Story.

He is my soul dog; exceptional, extraordinary and extraordinarily brave.

We live in New Zealand and when we were hit with the first earthquakes; the ground shook, doors slammed in front of us and windows blew out.

The side of the house fell away and hot water from the cylinder spilled over the floor as it broke through the door and jumped the gap as the door came away from the house's foundations.

We were trying to find a safe place, escape from the boulders rolling down the hillside, and smashing into the houses either side. We stood still, in front of a stone fence, hoping we were in the right place, boulders the size of a car, were still rolling down the mountain side, picking up speed, in that moment as I was trying to cover Khan, he was trying to cover me.

Over the next 18 months of earthquakes and aftershocks, he never left my side. Even before the earth moved, he would let me know – it's time to get outside. In the moment of danger, be it an event of Mother Nature or human, I trust his instincts, without question.

I remember a time in the bush track, a man was standing behind a tree, not walking, it was just odd. In a split second, my first reaction was "this is not right", and I was correct. Khan took the lead, made himself as big as he could, with his chest out, ears up, and never took his eyes off the man. As we went past, Khan dropped back, protecting my back, not growling; this guy was not going to get a warning.

We continued our walk, and Khan relaxed, doing his normal doggy thing, which is my favourite part of the day, Khan and I walking in sync, the energy of two different species, becoming one. It is the time where in this noisy, busy life of ours, we have our moment of peace, remembering what is important. I can hear his breathing, feel his energy, words are not needed, I can feel, hear him, the energy of the bush is alive, once again with who we are.

When the time came to go back, again, the same guy was in the same spot, 40 minutes later. If I'd second guessed myself about Khan's reaction,



he was right on cue, chest out, ears up; my greyhound looked like a Doberman. We passed to see a woman about to jog that way; I stopped her and suggested she use another path. He saved both us women that day.

Unfortunately the next bush walk would change both of us. A dog attacked Khan and tore his chest open. The offending dog was on a lead, but the lead was too long, as it could still reach Khan three metres away. The dog's mate was on heat, and with one warning growl, it just launched.

Both of us were in shock, and headed to the vet. I asked "You do know about greyhounds and anesthetic?". "Yes" I was told. However the vet rang back 3 hours later "Come in quick" they said, "Khan has had a stroke, he's not going to make it."

It was like one of those movies you see in slow motion, that's what it felt like, behind the slowest car in history, with granny far too close to the wheel, looking over it. I arrived in what felt like days, but were minutes to find my Khan not breathing on the floor, cooking from the inside out. The nurse said "Oh God, your dog hasn't breathed for 20 minutes." At first I thought he'd had a fit, but he'd had a stroke and collapsed.

Khan's eye's looked blank. Oh God, I put my hand on his head to pat, his favourite place, I said "I'm here Khan, I'm not leaving you." Within moments, he started to blink, and fight for breath. 30 minutes later he was breathing better, but as the lactic acid flooded his body he was cooking from the inside out. The vet let me take him home with antibiotics, and gave me his home phone number.

Soul Mate (continued)

By Carrie Whyte

13

Khan was paralysed from the neck down, I guess the vet didn't think he was going to make it. But what he didn't realise was the strength of the heart of a Greyhound.

I gave Khan water through a pump bottle, and mushed his food to a paste, and carried him outside to pee, as he still had so much dignity. However his chest wound was becoming infected. On the third day, as he couldn't swallow the pill, I crushed it and it made him sick. The vet said this was to be expected. Poor Khan, as if he hadn't suffered enough already.

Another vet took the stitches out, and after a while the skin began to heal. It took three months for Khan to be able to walk again, to start with just a hobble, but yes, on his feet again and able to go to the toilet outside.

Six months later we went for our walk again and two years on he is running. It was the most beautiful thing I've seen, and I cried with happiness.

The heart of this greyhound; so brave, he had so much fight in him, through all the pain, the sleepless nights of lying beside him, "I'm here Khan", the thought of giving up on him never occurred to me. Khan is fighting, I won't let him down, I fight too. Strength is another lesson Khan taught me.

Throughout my 45 years on this planet, I have the special gift of my brave, loyal, patient Khan. He has taught me so much about myself, the good and parts that need working on, and loves me anyway, he is now 14 and old age has crept in. He and I know that our time in this life is coming to an end, but the thought of losing my soul dog is

heart wrenching, to say the least, so I thought I'd write a bit now, as grief will make me speechless, and the pain too great for words.

Khan is my guardian, my protector, my best friend, my teacher, my guru.

"He is my friend, my partner, my defender, my dog. I am his life, his love and his leader. And he is mine. He is faithful and true to the last beat of his heart. Khan is worthy of such devotion."

Soul dog - Khan is a part of Mother Nature; we go for a walk and share it. He remembers experiences in his life, it didn't take his love of life, nor did his fear get in the way of life.

He is intelligent and feels and experiences the entire gamut of emotions, among them love, dedication, faithfulness, joy, regret, fear, sorrow, desperation, anger, jealousy, shame, pride, imagination, curiosity and on and on.

Not only does Khan have a soul but a very rich soul, the true meaning of love, loyalty, it is Khan that truly loves me, sometimes beyond expectation, beyond measure, because the soul of the dog is love.

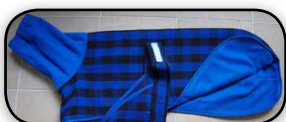
The dog can love other animals, itself and us with completeness, a purity and an intensity, that we can admire and perhaps even learn to emulate. Which is another lesson he taught me.

Khan is my soul dog, in this life and I hope in the next.

Khan's heartbeat will live for eternity. He is valued, and very loved by his guardian. Me

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Biscuit's Story

By Mechalle Anderson

14

We first heard about Jed (Biscuit) as a 10-week-old puppy who was being given away as he was from an unregistered litter. A wonderful lady in Sydney had witnessed a man kick him and throw him out of the house as he had pooped in there. This lovely lady gave the man an ultimatum: I report you or you give me the dog; so he handed her the dog. She took this poor scared little dog home, got him vaccinated and rang Friends of the Hound.

They arranged to have him sent up the following Thursday. This little puppy arrived at the Gold Coast and entered the foster program. Lisa took him home and we made arrangements for Jed (Biscuit) to come to me and be my foster dog. I went down on the very next Saturday and met him at Movie World and my life changed forever.

So at this point Biscuit, just 11 weeks old, had already been in three different homes and two States and boy did he have some issues about that!

He was the loudest thing I had ever heard and I had at that stage, fostered about 60 greyhounds through a few programs. He would scream if you did anything with him he didn't like! So, with that in mind and although at this point, he was still only a foster puppy, I booked him into puppy preschool. That was so much fun for both of us and even though all the new things freaked him out, and he would let the world know about it, we began a bond; he started trusting me, although still very vocal.

After having him for six weeks and now fully vaccinated he was ready for adoption, pending desexing. I now had to make some hard decisions (well wasn't that hard) - he was here to stay! There was no way, after all the work we were doing, that I was prepared to let him leave. If I did let him go, how many people would put up with a puppy and all the little biting, the barking and the screaming when he was unsure and, most of all, his digging

and ripping things apart? I was so afraid that he would boomerang back to me and I just couldn't do that to him. Yes he tested my patience every day but I am so glad I kept going and learning because if it wasn't for Biscuit, I would never have found agility.

During all of these activities, we were still doing demonstrations to help rehome greyhounds. We were also part of the medieval team who showcased how regal these dogs are, at a time when only the wealthy were allowed them. We did promotions at the Gold

and Sunshine Coasts and he loved it all and mixing with all the people. A far cry from the screaming, scared puppy we started with.

So we finished our six weeks puppy school and had to find an obedience club. I joined the Jimboomba Dog Obedience Club and no one cared that I had this 15 week old screaming greyhound. We pushed the instructors outside their box as they had never taught a greyhound before.

Boy is he smart! I am so proud of him in obedience; we learnt sit, drop, stand and heel nicely and he loved all the treats so up to class one we went, full of confidence and Biscuit was thriving.

One part to elevations was to have successful recall for four weeks straight where the dog stays and you walk away and call it to the front of you for a sit. Well, that took us 8 months! He would get to three weeks then play 'zoomies' around the paddock. His instinct took over and he had no idea why he needed to do that, so I am pretty sure that they felt sorry for us after that long, that we were elevated to class two. This is where we found out about agility. He was about 11 months old at this stage. We had a fun night and it introduced us to agility and I loved it, and thought it would use Biscuit's brain more and settle him. So we joined up for the next foundation class.

We learnt heaps and then we found an outside



Biscuit's Story (continued)

By Mechalle Anderson

15



instructor, Lisa, who went out of her way to help both Biscuit and I learn and achieve a lot. It took months and months to teach him some of the stuff we needed to keep him safe in agility, so jump grids and tunnels and planks were part of our daily life.

My hubby built me stuff to help me help Biscuit learn it all. Armed with lots of treats, we practiced what we were taught in our lesson each week. During this time we had a few incidents: he just about chopped his front leg off chasing a foster dog and had to be crated for weeks to heal, then we started again. He loved it and it sure showed me he missed playing. We were progressing nicely and our first trial was looming closer (they can't trial 'till they are 18 months in agility).

Biscuit was now two years old and we entered our first trial. Wow, he was great, but I felt that he might run away to say 'hi' to the other ring so I kept calling him back to me every three jumps. He did a great job and we knew we were ready to keep doing this agility. This was never easy and came with lots of tears and joy, and a few negatives from people who told me I shouldn't do agility with a greyhound.

During this time we had another issue; Biscuit tried to chop off two toes so more stitches were needed followed by crate rest. Once we recovered, we started agility again together with getting him ready for his endurance test. An endurance test is where they have to run at 10

km per hour for 20 kms in 2 hours 20 minutes.

This is broken up into 3 parts, 8 km – 6 km – 6 km. At each stage, the dogs are vet checked to make sure they are OK to continue. I tried to get help to get him ready but no one had ever done an endurance test with a greyhound before so we were flying blind and with help from his vet we started out slowly and increased 1 km each week.

Again, we had issues! This time he ripped all the webbing out of his front foot so again more stitches and crate rest. We had to stop.

During this time I bought him a treadmill so we could build up his fitness without him running on the road where he could hurt his paws and I also bought him shoes to run in so that he wouldn't get ouchies; they were pretty pink!

So we began again, getting fit, trialing in agility and we had our first go at an obedience trial - that was scary. We got our Community Companion Dog (CCD) title in obedience and were almost ready for our endurance test. So off we went on Saturday to sleep over in Laidley (Qld) for our six am start.

My hubby did the first section with him, eight kms on the grass. He pulled up great at the first vet check. We did the next six km section out on the road and park. Second vet check and still ok.

Hubby took over the last six km leg which was close to the show ring and at 17 kms Biscuit couldn't get his gait right as he was getting tired, so with lots of encouragement from us all, he finished his 20 kms and vet checked



Biscuit's Story

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By Mechalle Anderson

OK. Achieving all the requirements, he had passed. I was told he is the first greyhound in mainland Australia to get his ET.

There is one other greyhound in Tasmania that has his title as well (go the boy dogs!).

We then gave him a good few weeks off to recover. We restarted training, getting him ready to attend the Sydney National agility competition. I was really excited because this was our first away from home event on a grand scale but that was short lived when Biscuit was attacked and had his neck ripped apart, involving 40 stitches to get him put back together.

This was three weeks out from the nationals. We did everything to help him repair himself, from traditional medicine to 'voodoo' and laser light and acupuncture and, with all of that, he was given the all clear from his vet to compete three days before we were due to leave.

The only thing was would he be able to compete with staples and stitches in his neck? The vet wanted the stitches to stay in longer as you all know how thin greyhound skin is. So, after contacting the person running the Nationals, it turns out she is also a vet; we were allowed to compete.

Scared, we started our long drive to Sydney with a dog who had not had any exercise for 3 weeks, and I was asking him to compete. He was insane, but boy I loved playing with him. We had a blast, but only got the one qualification, that is where you're in time and no faults, but the one he did get was the only one he needed to get his agility title, so that made it extra special. He had fun playing pairs with his great mate Mia the Great Dane and most of all we were incident and accident free.

We came home from Sydney to learn all about Rally O, which is a bit like obedience but with cones and you can talk to the dogs. This was great fun and we joined up and started learning and then competed and got our three passes to get our Rally Novice title. We have to now do it all off lead and Biscuit is way too distracted to stay with me so we have not gone any further.

For the fun of it we tried out for a part in a play with Melinda Schnider and lo and behold we got two parts in her play! Biscuit was called on stage to have Melinda sing to him which was



a great highlight and everyone loved him and gave him lots of pats at the end of the show. Each year we attend the Ekka to showcase greyhounds doing agility and he sure is a show pony and loves the crowd cheering him on. He has always been a vocal greyhound and lets everyone know how happy he is to do agility with his barking, which makes you smile. He's a cheeky bugger in the agility ring and barks when his handler can't keep up!

Two years ago we were asked to be a part of Farmer Dave's Pride fair where we had to do an agility demo, obedience and tricks in front of the whole crowd. That was pretty special as we were hunted down as they wanted a special rescue dog and he loved that Biscuit was a greyhound. Biscuit is now six and a half and we have had to retire him from agility and competing because he has a spine disease that we are trying to keep on top of and keep him out of pain. My personal opinion is that the less impact on him, the longer I will have him around.

This was a personal choice as two vets have said he can keep playing until he doesn't want to, but I am not sure he will know when that is as he loves agility so much. I felt I needed to make the choice for him.

Biscuit is now known as Biscuit CCD, RN, AD, SD, GD, SPD, JDX, ET. Not so shabby for an unwanted greyhound!

Love this boy with all my heart.