



2010



## Chairman's foreword

I am very pleased to introduce this Annual Review of the Retired Greyhound Trust. This is the first such report since the Trust was founded in 1976 and demonstrates the Trustees' wish to increase the transparency of the charity and to encourage wider interest and recognition of the excellent work we undertake. In what was predicted to be a difficult year, our objective for 2010 was to maintain the level of activity, continue to raise funds, and to be heard by the general public. I am pleased to report this objective was met.

### The Trust mission statement is simple:

*"The Retired Greyhound Trust strives for the day when no ex-racing greyhound is without a good home".* The task in achieving this objective is however far from simple. Each year, approximately 9,000 greyhounds retire from racing. In 2002, the Trust found 2,030 homes for greyhounds; this figure has increased progressively and we now rehome over 4,000 greyhounds every year. Indeed, in 2010 we were very proud to rehome our 50,000th greyhound.

The Trust is hugely fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers. Within our 73 branches, there are over 1,000 volunteers who exercise dogs, groom them, clean the kennels, carry out home checks, raise much needed funds and attend events. On behalf of the Trustees, I send my warmest thanks and gratitude to you all. I have been fortunate to visit many branches during the year and hope to meet many more of our helpers in the coming year. We held our first Conference in 2010 which enabled representatives of our Branches to meet and discuss many issues both formally and informally. The Trustees hope this can become a regular event.

The Trust is fortunate to receive an annual grant from the British Greyhound Racing Fund. This grant is very welcome, but the Trustees recognise the challenges faced by the Fund. It is the objective of the Trustees to aim to become increasingly independent of this grant over the next five years.

Our future plans are very dependent on the ability of the Trust to increase the level of fund-raising. An important part of this exercise will be to increase the awareness of all who really care as we do about the future of these dogs.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Dr Andrew Higgins

Chairman



## Executive's report

### Principal Goals and Activities of the Retired Greyhound Trust

The Retired Greyhound Trust exists to help find homes for former racing greyhounds.

#### Our main goals and activities are to:

- Ensure that all racecourses have a retired greyhound scheme;
- Promote the homing of retired greyhounds, by using publicity that is appropriate to its objectives;
- Work with those involved in greyhound racing to raise the profile of greyhounds retiring from racing;
- Work with other canine welfare and charitable bodies seeking to find good homes for greyhounds;

### Strategic Aims and Plans for the Future

The Trust's Plan for 2011 sets out the objectives for this period to ensure that, whilst remaining faithful to its original objectives, the charity is in a position to develop new opportunities.

#### Our main objectives are to:

- Raise public awareness of the organisation's work as we educate about the needs and issues;
- Develop a concise and positive message that both educates and motivates support;
- Increase the funds raised;
- Improve administrative and procedural efficiency as well as our efficacy with donors, and so ensure we secure best value for money.

### Achievements and Performance

#### Review of Activities

In the 12 months ending 31st December 2010, the Trust found 4,247 homes for greyhounds. The Board of Trustees recognises the tremendous help given to the Trust by a nationwide band of volunteers, especially in such challenging times.

The public relations programme's carried out with Chadbury Communications Ltd continues to raise public awareness of the





Trust's activities. The majority of press coverage is in regional press and specialist magazines but there is increasing coverage in the national press.

The Trust attended several national dog shows including Crufts (NEC Birmingham in March) and Discover Dogs (Earls Court London in November).

The branches visited over 500 shows during the year ranging from county shows and game fairs to steam rallies etc., in addition to organising meet and greet sessions in town squares, shopping malls and supermarket car parks.

The Great Greyhound Gathering held at Nottingham Racecourse in September attracted over 2,000 visitors and more than 700 greyhounds. This event was considered to be a great success.

The Greyhound Extravaganza held its inaugural event in June 2010 at the Animal Health Trust near Newmarket, Suffolk. Over 1,200 people and 500+ dogs attended and the day helped raise the awareness of the Trust in the East of England.

The shows, meet and greet sessions and the web sites are the main source for finding new homes. The national website continues to evolve.



### Summary

The year 2010 was very successful in achieving the Trust's objective of finding homes for ex-racing greyhounds, despite the economic recession. The number of homes found was over 500 less than in 2009, but the total of 4,247 was still remarkable.

The show trailers continue to give added value to the events visited.

The success of the Trust in finding over 4,000+ homes in each of the last four years has significantly increased the workload of both the volunteers and the Head Office staff. The Trustees recognise this and would like to thank the branches and all our volunteers, and Head Office staff for their hard work, dedication and commitment.

### Board of Trustees

#### The Trustees for the year were as follows:

Dr A J Higgins (Chairman)

Mrs F Allen

Mr R Cearns

Mr R Gee (resigned November 2010)

Mr A Hammond

Mr J Haynes

Lord Lipsey (resigned June 2010)

Mr A Rosindell, MP (appointed November 2010)

Mr J Simpson

Mr M Watkins





**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended  
31 December 2010**

2010

£

**Incoming Resources from  
Generated Funds**

**Voluntary Income:**

Donations and gifts	1,267,110
Grant from BGRF	1,555,000
Donation from Retired Greyhound Events Limited	16,258
Branch Income	1,058,246

**Total Incoming Resources** **3,896,614**

**Resources Expended**

**Charitable activities:**

Branch Expenditure	1,190,932
Kennel Charges	1,478,463
Veterinary fees	604,958
Hardship Expenditure	10,385
Homefinding Expenses	116,585
Education and awareness	438,687

**Cost of Generating Funds** **91,162**

**Governance Costs** **2,300**

**Total Resources Expended** **3,933,472**

**Net (outgoing)/ incoming resources for  
the Year and Net Movement in Fund** **(36,858)**

Fund balances brought forward  
at 1 January 2010 982,468

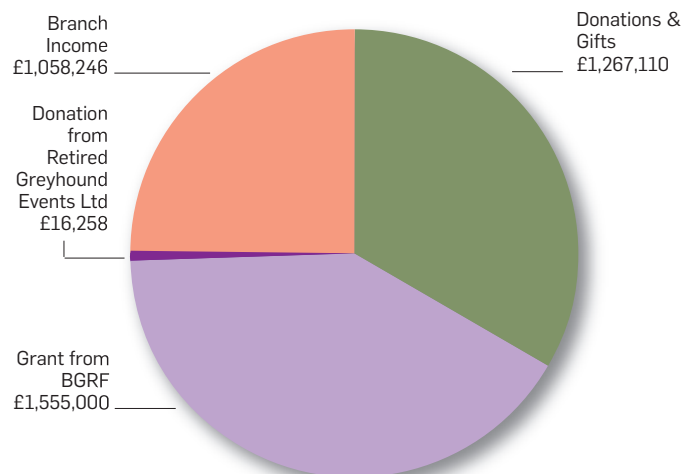
**Fund balances carried forward at  
31 December 2010** **945,610**

All funds are unrestricted.

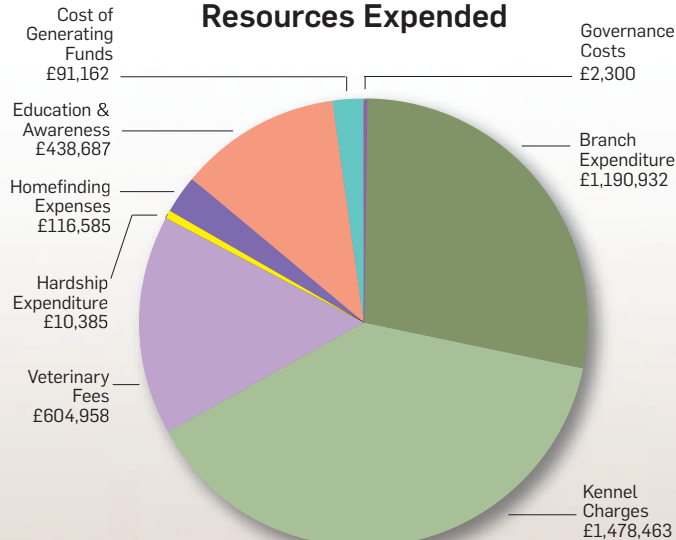
All of the above results were derived from continuing activities.  
The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than those  
dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities.



**Incoming Resources**



**Resources Expended**



retired greyhound trust

Charity no. 269668

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