

2011



annual review 2011



retired **greyhound** trust

Charity no. 269668



CHAIRMAN'S FORWARD

I am delighted to introduce this Annual Review of the Retired Greyhound Trust, covering the period 1st January – 31st December 2011.

The aim of the Review is to provide a summary of our activities, achievements and financial performance, and to share some of our plans for the future. I am pleased to report that in 2011 the Trust performed well, finding more than 4,000 homes for greyhounds, and continuing to promote successfully the appeal of these wonderful dogs as pets.

The Trust receives no government funding and relies entirely on voluntary contributions and donations. In 2011, over £3.6 million had to be found to cover our costs. The British Greyhound Racing Fund provided a grant of £1.4m, thanks to the generous support through a voluntary levy from many bookmaking firms. In addition, I must thank Bookmakers Afternoon Greyhound Services Ltd and Satellite Information Services Ltd as two supportive and much appreciated donors in 2011. Of course we also received many donations from other companies and individual friends of the Trust and it is a real pleasure to be able to record here the very sincere thanks of the Trustees to all of you who have been able to help us.

Most of our rehoming is run through our national Branch network and I have

thoroughly enjoyed visiting our Branches and shows over the last 12 months. I am always hugely impressed by the standard of care and attention that all of our greyhounds receive. The dedication of our superb team of volunteers is second to none and key to our successes as a charity. Often working all hours and in all weathers, every one of our volunteers deserves our applause and heartfelt thanks.

After nearly fourteen years at the Retired Greyhound Trust, Ivor Stocker stood down as Executive Director in 2011. Ivor's contribution was marked at the Greyhound Board of Great Britain Awards in January 2012 when he was the inaugural recipient of the George Ford Award for Services to Retired Greyhounds. He was presented with a silver fruit bowl donated to the Trust by the family of the late George Ford, a greyhound enthusiast. Thanks to Ivor's commitment, the Trust is now a national force. Ivor's successor is Peter Laurie, who joined the Trust in July 2011. He has many exciting plans for the future and I look forward to the charity going from strength to strength.

Thank you all for your interest and support.

Dr Andrew Higgins
Chairman

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

72 Branches operational
4,120 homes found for greyhounds
1,000 + volunteers working for RGT
500 + shows and events attended
£3.67m total income
£998k income raised by Branches
12% growth in unrestricted funds



Daren Johnson raised a significant sum for the Trust in 2011



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

It's a great pleasure to write to you as the Retired Greyhound Trust's Chief Executive. I have long held a passion for greyhounds and their welfare; in fact I adopted my first pet greyhound before I left school. I was therefore absolutely thrilled to accept the position last July and I cannot think of a job that I would rather be doing.

I am afraid that forecasts that 2011 would be a tough year for charities proved to be accurate. However, there were a great many positives for the Trust to report, not least the fact that despite the economic climate, our Branches found an amazing 4,121 homes. With fewer greyhounds now entering and retiring from racing in Britain, the percentage of greyhounds going on to live out their retirements in loving, family homes is now at an all-time high.

Our total income in 2011, including Branch income, was £3.67m and we set out resolutely to develop new income streams.

Happily some of these were well rewarded: our first national raffle was extremely successful and our applications to charitable trusts produced income that was very encouraging. Retired Greyhound Events Ltd, the Trust's wholly-owned trading subsidiary, provided £23,100 (an increase of 42% on 2010) and, on a continuing basis, costs were reduced by 6%. Our central reserves grew by 12%, although an exceptional one-off allocation reduced the Branch funds.

Our promotional and public relations programme was co-ordinated by RGT staff, with the support of various agencies. The aim has to be to increase awareness of both the suitability of greyhounds as pets and the work of the Trust.



Jilly Cooper is one of several high profile supporters of the Trust



Imogen Bulinski with her winning design



Ian Lavery MP speaking at the Trust's first reception

Successful initiatives included the "Ultimate Dog Coat" competition won by eleven year-old Imogen Bulinski, who created a truly British and timely design, very appropriate ahead of the Jubilee Year. The RGT website attracted over 200,000 unique users and we are working hard to develop, improve and refine it. Two editions of the popular Homer magazine were mailed to 60,000 supporters in April and September. The Trust had a strong presence at a number of major shows, including Crufts and Discover Dogs, and we were represented at over 500 other shows during the year in addition to 'meet and greet' sessions in town squares, supermarkets and shopping malls to introduce the public to retired greyhounds.

The second Greyhound Extravaganza took place in Newmarket in June and the Great Greyhound Gathering was again held at Nottingham Racecourse in September, with a healthy crowd defying the wet weather to enjoy a fun day with their dogs.

In November, we held a Reception at the House of Commons, hosted by one of our Trustees, Andrew Rosindell MP, this providing a very successful opportunity to acknowledge and thank 80 of the Trust's major supporters.

The Trust is a full member of the Association of Dogs and Cats Homes, the Greyhound Forum and the International Greyhound Forum. We also have a seat on the Greyhound Board of Great Britain Welfare Standing Committee, providing us with an opportunity to engage with the sport's stakeholders and help shape the development of welfare policy in greyhound racing.

In 2012 we will continue to implement our national fundraising and promotional strategies to bolster and diversify our income streams, encourage wider interest and recognition of our work, and reinforce the message that greyhounds make great pets. We look forward to new promotional opportunities and remain committed to operating with transparency and communicating

the details of our work to all who are interested in the RGT.

I would like to thank all of the Branches, volunteers and Head Office staff for their hard work, dedication and commitment throughout the year. Together they have helped the Trust grow to become the largest single-breed charity in Europe, and possibly the world.

Peter Laurie
Chief Executive

GOVERNANCE

Honorary Vice President
Mr A Hammond

Chairman
Dr A J Higgins

Trustees
Mr J Akerman CPFA (Chair of Finance Committee)
Mrs F Allen MRCVS (Chair of Veterinary Committee)
Mr R Cearn
Mr J Haynes
Mr A Rosindell MP
Mr J Simpson
Mr M Watkins CBE

Chief Executive
Mr P Laurie (From 4th July 2011)

Executive
Mrs A Ainsworth
Mrs J Greenshields
Ms S Peatfield
Mrs H Perrin
Mr I Stocker (Executive Director until 4th July 2011)
Mrs P Stonebridge

Auditors
The Gallagher Partnership LLP

Bankers
Co-operative Bank plc.

Solicitors
Bristows



THANK YOU

The Trust was fortunate to receive financial support in the form of grants from a number of charitable trusts and foundations during 2011. We extend our thanks to:

The Harris and Trotter Clients Charitable Trust;
The Hobson Charity; The Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust; The Kenneth Hargreaves Charitable Trust;
The Kennel Club Charitable Trust; The Padova No 1 Charitable Trust; The Pedigree Adoption Drive; Support Adoption for Pets; The William Haddon Charitable Trust.

The Trust is also pleased to acknowledge the tremendous generosity of those who left bequests in their Wills during 2011, including: Mr S Glossop; Ms M E Rayson; Ms M A White; Ms D V Wickens; Ms E V Holt; Ms C Rivers-Quist; Ms D Mummery; Ms A Extall; Mr T Bray; Ms J Dziana; Ms J Ford Adams; Mr B W L Knowles; Ms M Stanyon; Mr R Potter; Ms C Pearson; Mr FJ Twemlow; Mr R E Wright; Ms J B Miller.

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2011

2011
£

Incoming Resources from Generated Funds

Voluntary Income:

Donations and gifts	1,251,536
Grant from BGRF	1,400,310
Donation from Retired Greyhound Events Limited	23,100
Branch Income	998,348

Total Incoming Resources **3,673,294**

Resources Expended

Charitable Activities:

Branch expenditure	1,168,755
Kennel charges	1,369,941
Veterinary fees	561,438
Hardship expenditure	7,457
Homefinding expenses	93,780
Education and awareness	390,884
Wimbledon Greyhound Welfare	113,004

Cost of Generating Funds **85,886**

Governance Costs **2,400**

Total Resources Expended **3,793,545**

Net (outgoing)/ incoming resources for the Year and Net Movement in Funds **(120,251)**

Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2011 **945,610**

Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2011 **825,359**

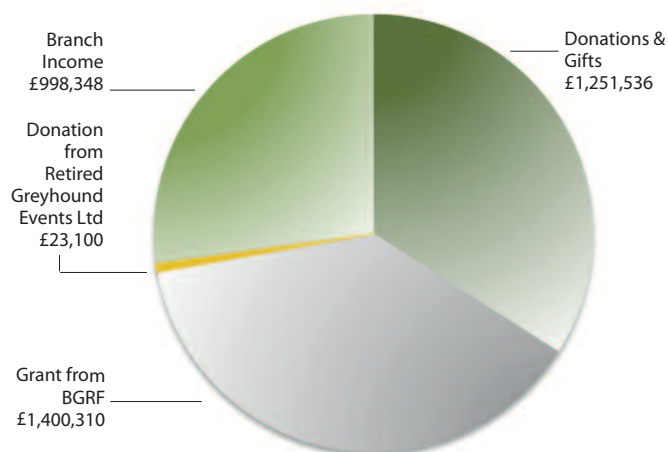
All funds are unrestricted.

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.

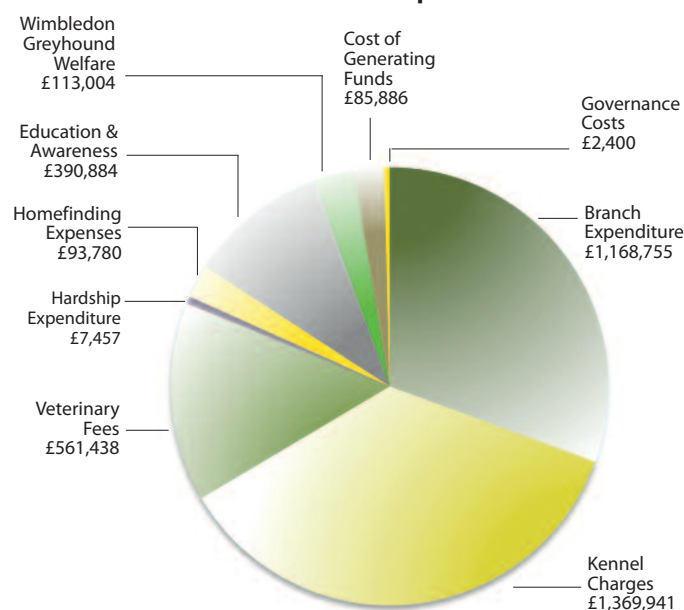


Volunteers at the Croftview RGT Christmas Party

Incoming Resources



Resources Expended



retired greyhound trust

Charity no. 269668

Retired Greyhound Trust

2nd Floor, Park House, 1-4 Park Terrace, Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 7JZ

T: 020 8335 3016

E: greyhounds@retiredgreyhounds.co.uk

www.retiredgreyhounds.co.uk

If you would like more information or to view a copy of the 2011 Trustees' Report and Audited Accounts please visit: www.retiredgreyhounds.co.uk