

## **Greyhounds as Pets 2016-2017 Review**

Between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017, 291 adoptions were processed. 247 newly retired dogs plus 36 rehomed dogs that had been adopted but returned under a variety of circumstances gave a net of 283 successful adoptions, an increase of 10 percent from the previous year.

During this period GAP went through further changes with turnover of staff and funding issues leading to several reviews of the Trust's operations. One review noted that our operations had grown from a sole-trader type of operation to a national programme delivery with a mixture of part time, casual, contractor and volunteer resources and the operation of a fully managed and two contracted kennel bases across the country. This has had the effect of a 'step-change' in our operations, and it became clear that we had not anticipated, or reacted well, to this. The reviews identified a series of actions in addition to those that we carry out to maintain the programme as it currently is, and the Board and management were beginning to work through those at the end of this reporting period.

We would like to acknowledge the support of GRNZ in assisting us during this time, and we have been working with the GRNZ Board and senior management to position GAP to increase its performance and respond to the initiatives that GRNZ has been signalling. As the main greyhound rehoming organisation in New Zealand, with a national network of committed pet owners, volunteers, coordinators and kennel operators, we are well positioned to support greyhound welfare initiatives going forward.

### **Financial Position**

Another challenging year for GAP saw a loss \$44,457, an improvement on the previous year but an unsustainable trend. Stringent controls on expenditure and budgets coupled with the ongoing support of GRNZ will see GAP do better than break even in the year to 31 March 2018.

The audited Financial Performance Report is also available on the GAP website.

### **Statistics**

Events are attended are to present the greyhound as a pet in a favourable light and to drive more adoption applications. Many of the events attended are multi day requiring a roster of hounds, coordinators and volunteers to man the stands. Typical events are A&P shows, Pet and Lifestyle Expos, Vet conferences, community fairs and markets, school fairs, dog parades and ongoing promotions at Animates stores.

Once applications are received, the prospect is visited in their home by a GAP Home checker volunteer to ensure a safe environment and awareness of the ownership responsibilities before matching by the kennel managers. Almost 400 home checks are done each year.

The Great Global Greyhound Walk in June saw almost 500 hounds take part throughout New Zealand with Auckland having the second largest attendance in the world outside the UK.

During this year 657 adoption applications were received. 297 applicants withdrew and of the 400 home-checks completed almost 25% were found to be unsuitable for a greyhound.

- 120 + events attended
- 400 + home-checks
- 12972 Facebook followers
- Hounding Around Email newsletter has over 2300 subscribers
- \$58,000 Donations received, including 66 Steadfast Friends who donated \$22,000
- Annual Street appeal raised over \$8,000.

### Rehoming Performance

	April to March 2015-			
	2016-17	16	2014-15	2013-14
<b>Incoming</b>				
Entered by owner/Trainer	291	287	288	240
Welfare cases	9	3	1	6
<b>Total Greyhounds entered</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>246</b>
Returns from Adoptive Home				
Unsuccessful adoptions	20	26	28	21
Change in circumstances	24	22	21	19
<b>Total Greyhounds returned</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>286</b>
<b>Outgoing</b>				
Adoptions processed	291	271	274	241
Failed temperament test	31	46	54	31
Deceased In GAP due to illness/injury	4	3	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>274</b>
<b>Newly retired greyhounds in homes</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>201</b>
Returned adoptions rehomed	36			
<b>Total successful adoptions</b>	<b>283</b>			

### Adoptions by Region

Northland	7
Auckland	91
	<b>98</b>
Waikato	19
BOP	8
Taupo	1
	<b>28</b>

### **Northern** **126**

Hawkes Bay	11
Taranaki	6
Wanganui	5
Horowhenua/Kapiti	12
Manawatu	7
Hutt Valley	18
Wellington	36
Wairarapa	10

### **Central** **105**

Nelson/Marlborough	12
Canterbury	41
Otago	6
Southland	1
West Coast	0
<b>South Island</b>	<b>60</b>

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**291**

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