



Greyhound Adoption Program QLD Newsletter

June 2026

The Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP) QLD is run by the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) and is dedicated to finding homes for greyhounds that have retired from racing.

It's National Foster a Pet Month 🐶

June is **Foster a Pet Month**, and we'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our wonderful foster carers.

Your time, care, and commitment play a vital role in helping our retired greyhounds transition to life as pets and prepare for their forever homes. From daily walks and enrichment activities to introducing dogs to new experiences, sights, sounds, and people, foster carers provide invaluable support during this important stage of their journey.

Our GAP team supplies everything needed, including food, bedding, ongoing support, and advice, so foster carers can focus on helping their greyhound thrive.

Thank you for being such an important part of the GAP family and for making a lasting difference in the lives of our greyhounds.

We are also holding a special **GAP Greyhound Walk for National Foster a Pet Month**; further details can be found below in the 'What's on' events section.

If you're interested in becoming a foster carer, you can find more information [here](#).



Above: One of our foster hounds, [Mario](#), who is patiently waiting to be adopted.

From the Canine Health Officers 🐕

Keeping your greyhound healthy this winter



Greyhounds have thin skin and very little body fat making them more susceptible to cold weather. Therefore, the body often has to ‘work harder’ to keep warm and ensure their vital organs remain at a constant temperature. This means, more energy is often required during the winter months, and their diet may need to be adjusted. Additionally, your greyhound is more at risk of injury when cold.

What can you do to help?

- Ensure your greyhound is kept warm when the weather is cold.
- If sleeping outside: providing a raised bed that is not on the cold ground, appropriate shelter that is free from leaks and draughts
- Providing your greyhound with a warm coat/jacket, especially in the evenings/overnight. If your greyhound isn’t used to wearing a jumper, we would

recommend starting with a simple coat that just slips over their head and ties around their waist. This is also helpful for greyhounds that don't enjoy having their feet/legs touched. Give lots of treats and make it a positive experience for them.

- Monitor your greyhound's weight, body condition and skin/coat health.

If you notice a decline in any of the above, you may need to increase your greyhound's daily food intake.

Adoption update ❤️

What an incredible couple of months it has been for GAP! Throughout April and May, we were thrilled to help 62 amazing greyhounds find their new homes. Every adoption represents a fresh start, and we couldn't be more grateful to our wonderful adopters, foster carers, and supporters who help make these happy endings possible. Here's to even more success stories ahead!

If you are interested in adopting, more information including the adoption process can be found [here](#).



Above: Fernando, enjoying his new retirement home

News from the GAP team 🧑 🧑

It's been a busy few months in the kennels, with plenty of greyhounds coming through our program on their journey to finding new homes. Our kennel team has been working hard to ensure every dog receives the care, enrichment, training, and attention they need while they wait for their perfect family. From daily walks and playtime to assessments and cuddles, it's been wonderful to see so many dogs making great progress and preparing for life as cherished pets.



Greyhound behaviour 🏆

Walking in darker winter mornings



As the mornings start getting colder and darker, walks can feel a little different for both you and your greyhound. Some dogs may become more alert or cautious in low light, especially when shadows, headlights, people, or unexpected noises appear suddenly.

Here are a few ways to help keep winter walks safe and stress-free:

- Use reflective gear or lights on leads, collars, or jackets so you and your greyhound stay visible
- Stick to familiar walking routes if your dog is less confident in the dark
- Allow your greyhound time to stop and observe unfamiliar sounds or movements
- Keep walks positive and relaxed - there's no rush!

Watch for seasonal changes

Cooler mornings can also mean:

- More wildlife activity
- Fog reducing visibility
- Wet footpaths becoming slippery
- Busier roads during school and work commutes.

If your greyhound seems unsure:

- Slow the pace down
- Offer reassurance through calm praise
- Reward confident behaviour
- Create distance from anything they find overwhelming.

Green collar assessment ❤️



If you didn't adopt your greyhound through GAP, did you know you can still have your retired racer assessed for a green collar?

Green collar accreditation provides an exemption from muzzling in a local council area where muzzling would otherwise be required under the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*.

[Further information can be found here.](#)

What's on 👁️

Homeward Hounds

Thinking of adopting a GAP greyhound? Our next Homeward Hounds event is coming up. Head along and chat to the GAP team about adopting, fostering, behaviour and greyhound health.

📅 Saturday 20 June

🕒 9am – 11am

📍 [Capalaba Greyhound Racing Club, 16 Old Cleveland Road, Capalaba 4157](#)

👉 [Register your attendance here](#)

GAP Greyhound Walk – for Foster a Pet Month

Join us as we celebrate National Foster a Pet Month, to both highlight and thank the incredible foster carers who help our GAP greyhounds transition into their retirement homes.

To say thank you to our amazing foster carers, we're hosting a special community greyhound meet up and walk - and everyone is welcome to attend!

Whether you currently foster a GAP greyhound, have fostered in the past, adopted a greyhound of your own, or are simply interested in learning more about the breed, we'd love for you to come along and join the fun.

📅 Saturday 27 June

🕒 10am

📍 [Leslie Patrick Park, Arana Hills 4054](#)

👉 [Register you and your greyhound/s attendance here](#)

Adoption reminders 🐾

Our adoption fee is \$100. All GAP greyhounds have a uniquely numbered green collar, are desexed, heartworm tested, receive a full dental assessment including a scale and polish, are vaccinated, microchipped, and they come to you with up-to-date flea, tick and worming treatments and a greyhound starter kit to assist you on your adoption journey.

All GAP greyhounds receive lifetime registration with Central Animal Records microchip registry.

More information on our adoption process can be found [here](#).

Adoption Spotlight

Do you need another greyhound in your life? Or know someone who does? Then meet:



[Rustus](#) | 14 Nov 2018 | SEQ



[Mia](#) | 23 Feb 2022 | NQ



Witch | 4 Apr 2021 | SEQ



Baz | 31 Aug 2022 | NQ

If Rustus, Mia, Witch or Baz are not your perfect match, check out all GAP greyhounds looking for their retirement home on our [website](#).

GAP update 🐶

We are very excited to watch our GAP family grow. We would like to welcome all our new GAP family members. Don't forget to send us your updates: gap@qric.qld.gov.au.



All your greyhound questions answered 🧑🏻

Do you have questions on our adoption process, behaviour, or health? Check out our website that is jammed-packed with fact sheets.

A topic not covered? Want more information? Reach out to our GAP team at gap@qric.qld.gov.au.

More greyhound care and behaviour tips can be found [here](#).

Our team are here to help you.

Bark about us! 🐶

We have greyhounds available now who are looking for their 'retirement homes'. Can you help?

Follow and share the GAP's updates on social media, forward this newsletter to your friends and tell the dog lovers in your life about the GAP! Help us to match our greyhounds with a happy home.

GAP Facebook

GAP Instagram