GREYHOUND
ADOPTION PROGRAM QLD

Greyhound Adoption Program QLD Newsletter

October 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.

From the Canine Health Officers 🐕

Summer is a great time to get outside and enjoy the sunshine with your greyhound. From beach walks and backyard games to early morning adventures in the park, there are plenty of ways to make the most of the warmer months together.

Hot weather can be tough on greyhounds, so it's important to plan ahead:

- Always provide **plenty of fresh, cool water**
- Make sure there is **shade and a cool place to rest**
- Avoid hot pavement, sand or artificial turf that can burn paws
- Never leave your dog in a parked car, even for a short time
- Watch for signs of overheating, such as heavy panting, drooling, or lethargy.

More information on summer safety can be found here.

News from the kennels 🧍 🧍

Summer preparations

The GAP kennel team are busy preparing for the summer months that are fast approaching. To get ready, the kennel attendants are bringing out the shell pools and soaker hoses, ready to provide the dogs somewhere to cool off in the water during the day, as some of our greyhounds do love a good lounging session in their pools. With the soaker hoses, this provides some fun running through the water or simply trying to have a drink from the little jets of water, whatever our greyhounds feel like doing to keep cool and have some fun during the day.

For those warm afternoons, frozen treats/ice blocks will be on the menu, so the team are hard at work planning and prepping these treats to be ready for our greyhounds and coaching dogs.

Host a Hound for the Holidays 🎄

It's back! Our very successful Host a Hound for the Holidays is back for 2026.

We are on the lookout for more caring families to welcome a GAP greyhound guest into their home for at least 6 weeks from mid-December.

More information can be found here.

News from North Queensland

Buddy and Tommy were out and about with Lisa, our NQ adoptions office, and Maddi, our GAP Practice Manager, who was visiting Townsville from Brisbane.

Buddy and Tommy passed their health check and are ready to find their retirement homes.

If you are interested in adopting, more information can be found on their profiles.

Buddy's profile
Tommy's profile

Adoption update

Are you or someone you know looking for a loyal, gentle, and surprising low-maintenance companion? A retired greyhound could be your perfect match.

Our GAP adoptions team are busy matching our retired athletes to adoption applications and finding their adoption homes.

If you are interested in adopting more information including the adoption process can be found here.

Foster families

Fostering plays an important role in our retired greyhounds transitioning to pet life.

Foster carers provide essential care including enrichment activities such as walking and everyday interactions with new sights and smells and meeting new friends.

Our GAP team provide ongoing support and advice to our foster families.

If you are interested in becoming a foster carer, more information can be found here.

Above: Pesto with his foster carers at the recent Great Global Greyhound Walk.

Behaviour news

3-3-3 – the most important milestones in adopting a GAP greyhound. The first 3 days, 3 weeks, and 3 months.

Retired greyhounds were athletes with a specific job, and their transition to pet life can be similar to bringing home a new puppy.

These important milestones are a general guide to setting your greyhound up for a successful transition to pet life.

More information on how to settle your greyhound into your household can be found here.

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 👀

GAP Open Day at Churchable Kennels

Don't forget to register for the GAP Open Day on Saturday 17 October 2026. The GAP team are hosting a morning dedicated to our greyhounds.

The day will feature a general health talk, guided kennel tours, as well as pre-matched and on the day adoptions.

All greyhounds adopted on the day will go home with a free bag of dog food.

Saturday 17 October
9:00am – 12:00pm
GAP kennels, 985 Atkinsons Dam Road, Churchable 4311

More information can be found here.

Petstock Townsville North Shore Pup-up event

Join us for a special spooky Halloween event and meet some gorgeous GAP greyhounds who are dreaming of finding their forever families.

Come along for plenty of pats, cuddles, and wagging tails, and have a chat with the GAP team to discover why greyhounds make such wonderful pets. Who knows, you might just fall under their spell!

Sunday 25 October
9:30am – 12:30pm
Petstock, 6/10 Market Street, Burdell 4818

Adoption spotlight 🐾

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.

Meet Muffin – This beautiful blue boy has been waiting patiently for his retirement home. He is currently in foster care learning the ropes of being a pet. He is very happy to be left at home while his new owners head out to work.

Check out his profile here.

If Muffin is 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