



A Guide to Legacies

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*Leave a
lasting gift
that changes
the lives of
greyhounds
and lurchers
forever...*





Our Story

When Jan Stanton and Alain Thomas took a stray lurcher into their care back in 1993, they had no idea of the journey they were about to embark on. However, that moment soon became the catalyst for the beginning of Greyhound Rescue Wales. In the months that followed, they put out a call for volunteers, expecting a handful of replies. Yet, at the first meeting at a local pub, dozens stepped forward to do their bit for these amazing animals.

Over the years that followed, the organisation grew steadily and was soon rehoming up to 100 dogs per year. What had started from an open invite for volunteers had become a registered charity that was working hard to make a difference for dogs that had for so long been overlooked in Wales.

In 2011, Greyhound Rescue Wales received a transformative donation in the form of a legacy from long-time supporter Lee Frank. The charity was able to use this money to purchase its own rehoming centre (Hillcrest) and open six charity shops across Wales. This secured the future of the charity and kick-started the professionalisation that would guarantee its future.

Since then, we have been working hard to further the cause of these dogs who are sorely in need of a voice. Not only do we rescue them and find them forever homes, we are also serious about tackling a range of issues that impact on their welfare.



What We Do

Our Charity

- We are the rescue and rehoming charity for greyhounds and lurchers in Wales, rehoming around 140 dogs per year
- We operate a rehoming centre near Ammanford and six charity shops across Wales
- We receive no funding from government or the greyhound racing industry
- We have an ever-growing base of dedicated supporters who make it possible for us to help greyhounds and lurchers in need
- We have a strong brand and public presence, and we use our voice to promote sighthound welfare across Wales and beyond

Our Vision

We work for a Wales without greyhound racing, where every greyhound and lurcher has a home and receives the best possible care.

Our Mission

Our mission is to improve the lives of greyhounds and lurchers by:

- Rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming greyhounds and lurchers
- Supporting the movement to end greyhound racing in Wales
- Raising awareness of the issues facing greyhounds and lurchers
- Promoting greyhounds and lurchers as pets



Our Impact

First and foremost, we rescue, rehabilitate and rehome greyhounds and lurchers. Greyhounds are sadly treated as a commodity by the greyhound racing industry, and promises of a home for every greyhound all too often ring hollow. This leaves charities like us as the last line of defence for these amazing animals. Between 2018 and 2021, over 2,000 greyhounds died and 18,000 were injured on British tracks alone. Lurchers face different but equally tragic circumstances. Often bred for hunting, not all owners are willing to keep their dogs once their usefulness has run out, with many abandoned or killed.

We have a number of initiatives that address wider issues around sighthound welfare and give a voice to dogs that sorely need one. Our support to the campaign to end greyhound racing in Wales has resulted in Welsh government committing to ending the practice in Wales. Our 'Keeping Hounds in Homes' scheme aims to address the impacts of the cost of living crisis on sighthound owners by providing temporary support to help people struggling to care for their dogs. Our 'Therapy Hounds' scheme delivers therapeutic benefits to humans while promoting greyhounds and lurchers as pets. Our work takes many forms, but always centres on these amazing dogs.

We believe that to truly make a difference, we have to address the root causes rather than just treating the symptoms.



Lee Frank: A Lasting Legacy

Prior to 2011, Greyhound Rescue Wales was a largely foster-based rescue, unable to afford our own premises. It was in these early years of our history that our founder's sister happened to meet a lady on a walk in the park. The lady in question was Lee Frank, and she told about how she was a big supporter of dog rescues but had sadly been left unable

to make contact with her chosen rescue, receiving no receipt or thanks when she did her weekly fundraising car boot sales.

Our founder's sister offered the services of her husband to help Lee, who was now unable to drive. From then on, every week, she was given a lift and generously donated her raised funds. Our then Treasurer, Roger, always made sure he sent a letter to confirm receipt and gratitude for Lee's ongoing efforts to support Greyhound Rescue Wales.



In the years that followed, we became aware that Lee had added Greyhound Rescue Wales to her will, wanting to leave a lasting legacy to a cause that was close to her heart. When Lee sadly passed away in 2011, we were astonished to find she had left approximately £500,000 to our charity. Lee's gift meant we could purchase our own kennels, and open six charity shops across Wales to help fund our running costs. Her incredible generosity transformed our charity for decades to come.



A Legacy that Matters

When you leave money to a charity in your will, it's so important to us that we honour your intentions. That is why Greyhound Rescue Wales offers the option of discussing with us our current needs of the rescue with your hopes for what you want your legacy to look like.



Last year, we received legacies that helped us build more kennels at our rehoming centre, going from caring for 12 dogs at a time to over 20. We also built an intensive care isolation kennel for our dogs undergoing medical treatment, and installed new flooring and heating in some of our older kennels.

Using a legacy in this way ensures that we can honour the wishes of the donor to make a direct impact to the dogs in our care, as our supporters are extremely important to us.

However, it costs us over £800,000 a year to simply keep our doors open to rehoming, so it's important to note that helping with

running costs is one of the most important things you can do to make a difference to rescue greyhounds and lurchers.



Living Legacies

One of the most wonderful things you can do is bestow a sum of money to our charity during your lifetime, so that you can share the joy of its use with us.

Supporters can and do donate large sums of money towards specific projects, such as training huts, play houses and recovery kennels for dogs post-surgery, so that they can be around to witness the impact they have made.

Living legacies come with the benefits of getting regular email updates with photos and stories of how your contribution is changing the lives of greyhounds in need, as well as the option to regularly visit and



experience the difference your support has made for yourself.

To learn more about living legacies and how you can start your journey, reach out to our fundraising team using the details at the back of this booklet. We'd love to tell you about ways you can support our work and make a lasting difference to the dogs that need our help.







Benefits

Choosing to leave a gift to Greyhound Rescue Wales has many benefits. There are lots of reasons why we are unique amongst rescue charities:

- Greyhound Rescue Wales is a proud Welsh charity, rescuing and rehoming across the whole of Wales and the borders. We are passionate about the role we play in supporting animal welfare in Wales.
- We receive no funding from government, the racing industry or larger greyhound rehoming organisations. By supporting our charity, you are helping an entirely independent organisation.
- Supporting an independent charity means we can provide a more personal, individual approach that ensures that your legacy is honoured in the way you envision it to be used.
- Greyhound Rescue Wales has a proven track-record. Established in 1993, we have over 30 years' experience in what we do and are committed to making sure we can continue our work well into the future. We may only have a small team, but we always punch well above our weight when it comes to sighthound welfare.
- We are always planning ahead for the future of sighthounds in Wales and beyond. As the ban on greyhound racing in Wales comes into force, we are already looking to the next 5-10 years to prepare for the other issues facing greyhounds and lurchers across the UK and Ireland, and how we can help protect the dogs that need us.



Pledging a Gift

This straightforward guide will take you through everything you need to know about leaving a gift to Greyhound Rescue Wales in your Will.

Here's what it covers:

- Information on the different types of gifts you can leave, to help you make the best decision for you and your loved ones.
- A guide to writing or updating your Will, taking you through the process from start to finish.
- Options for suggested wording that you can take to your legal adviser to make sure your wishes are carried out.



If you have any questions as you're reading through, you can contact us via email: legacies@greyhoundrescuewales.co.uk



Make/Update your Will

A Will can ensure that your loved ones will be taken care of and that your wishes are carried out.

These are the five steps you need to take to make or update your Will:

1. With a solicitor or the use of a Will planner, add up the estimated value of your estate and make a list of people and/or organisations you'd like to leave money, property or possessions to.
2. Appoint one or more (up to four) Executors to carry out the terms of your Will. This can be a relative, friend or legal adviser.
3. Visit a legal adviser to draw up or update your Will. If you're including a gift to Greyhound Rescue Wales, please use our suggested wording enclosed in this booklet.
4. Make a copy of your Will, and make sure someone you trust knows where your original Will is kept (your legal adviser will often store it for you free of charge, or you can use the Probate Registry).
5. If you're remembering our charity in your Will, thank you. Your gift will make a real difference. If you'd like to let us know this is your intention, please consider contacting us via email with the contact info in this leaflet. This will allow us to keep you updated with our work.



Types of Gifts in Wills

Residuary Gift

This is where you set aside a portion of all your remaining estate after funeral expenses, debts and other gifts in the Will have been paid.

Many people choose to leave this kind of gift because it helps make sure their loved ones are taken care of first.

Pecuniary Gift

This is a gift of a specified sum of money. All gifts make a real difference to the animals we care for, but it's worth remembering that the eventual value of this type of gift is likely to be impacted by inflation.

Specific Gift

This is a gift of a specific, named item. For example, it could be property, a piece of jewellery, a work of art or a car.





Suggested Wording

Restricted gifts

You can specify how or where you'd like your gift to be used by leaving a restricted gift. If you'd like to leave a restricted gift, please contact us to discuss the area of our work you'd specifically like to support, using the contact details on the back page. To leave a restricted gift, use the wording below:

"I give the sum of £ (or specify percentage of estate) to to Greyhound Rescue Wales, Hillcrest, Bryncethin rd, Garnant, Ammanford, SA18 1YS (Registered charity number 1152650) for its general purpose and I express the wish but without creating any binding trust that this legacy be used in the (specify) areas and I declare that the receipt of the honorary treasurer or other proper officer of the said Greyhound Rescue Wales for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said legacy."

Unrestricted gifts

Many people choose to leave an unrestricted or general gift. It's the most helpful because it allows us to use your gift wherever the need is greatest for animals. You can leave an unrestricted gift, which can be either residuary or pecuniary, using the words below:

"I give the sum of £ (or specify percentage of estate) to Greyhound Rescue Wales, of Hillcrest, Bryncethin rd, Garnant, Ammanford, SA18 1YS (Registered charity number 1152650) for its general purposes and I declare that the receipt of the honorary treasurer or other proper officer of the said Greyhound Rescue Wales for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said legacy."



Get in Touch

Whether you've already decided or just want to know more, please get in touch with us using the address below.

We want to hear from you and discuss what we can do together to make a lasting legacy that changes the lives of greyhounds and lurchers in need.



0300 0123 999



legacies@greyhoundrescuewales.co.uk



www.greyhoundrescuewales.co.uk



**FAO: Legacies, Greyhound Rescue Wales,
Hillcrest, Bryncethin Rd, Garnant,
Ammanford, SA18 1YS**



Thank you

Your gift can help us achieve our vision:

*A Wales without greyhound racing,
where every greyhound and lurcher
has a home and receives the best
possible care.*

