

The Great Global Greyhound Walk

An annual walk celebrating and raising awareness of Sighthounds as great pets

One day,

across the world,

united for Sighthounds!

The Great Global Greyhound Walk (GGGW) aims to build on its increasing success and spread the love of sighthounds across the world in 2022!

The theme for the event on Sunday 25th September is the colour red and people and hounds are encouraged to dress up whilst participating in the 100's of walks organised across the world, with the aim to promote greyhounds, and their sighthound cousins, as fantastic pets. In 2019, the highest total so far for a GGGW, of nearly 8,800 sighthounds walked 'together' across the globe; the aim is now for 10,000 hounds.

Despite the covid implications last year, an amazing 7,509 hounds participated across the world, in a record breaking 27 countries, with Switzerland, Lithuania, South Africa and Norway hosting their first GGGW's. The option to register 'little local walks' where with smaller groups, social distancing would be more likely to be maintained has been a popular choice. For those with more severe government measures in place, there is also the option of a 'private' walk, where you register to walk alone but will still be united 'together' and count towards the final figures.

Originally named the Great British Greyhound Walk this annual event was begun by the charity Greyhound Walks. Founded by one lady, Janet Peacock, who wanted some company to walk with her greyhound, the charity organises walks primarily across East Anglia to unite sighthounds and their owners – giving both the chance to relax and socialise together. The idea of a national (and now very much international!) annual walk was sown and has grown to be a very popular date in greyhound lovers diaries.

Greyhounds are misunderstood by many – believed to be high maintenance and needing lots of exercise; nothing could be further from the truth – they are known as 40mph couch potatoes for good reason! Instantly recognisable with their sleek noble look, greyhounds have calm temperaments and gentle natures. Most are happy with just 2 twenty minute walks per day – but many are happy to do more too. They are more adaptable than people realise

and can suit many different lifestyles and family circumstances – several even living with small furry animals.

Over the 10 years its been running, the GGGW has expanded immensely in both numbers and spread of walks, with registrations across the UK from Scotland to Jersey, and globally involving participants in North America, mainland Europe and Australasia, to name a few. The largest walks can attract over 200 hounds – quite a sight! - however it is important to note that small walks involving just 2 or 3 hounds are equally important to the overall figures and helps increase the coverage across the globe that the event can reach. The ultimate goal is for the general public to see the hounds out on their walk, meet them, and learn about their lovely characteristics - and maybe even go on to give one a home in the future. In the past, the GGGW has been proven to find forever homes for hounds that needed them – it is the hope that this side of the event will also increase.

Registrations for walks can be made via the website, where you can also find more information - www.greatglobalgreyhoundwalk.co.uk