

**Submission
No 263**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

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INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Attention: The Select Committee on Greyhound Racing in New South Wales

Greyhound racing is not good for Greyhounds, nor is it good for our community. It teaches adults and children that animals are disposable. It not only mistreats and harms animals it promotes an industry of killing.

You bet, they die. Guaranteed. Every day of the year.

Did you know that approximately 20,000 Greyhounds in Australia are killed each year as a by-product of the blood sport of greyhound racing? Many suffer horrific injuries before they die and thousands of puppies are killed because they don't have a strong prey drive. It is an industry which is propped up by millions of Australian taxpayer's dollars and sponsorships such as the Bendigo Bank and promoted by charities for fundraising such as Cystic Fibrosis and the McGrath Foundation.

It is now coming to the attention of the public, the reality behind Greyhound Racing and the committee will find that it is not in-line with community values. The only supporters are those directly profiting from the industry with a vested interest and they will always defend their cruel practices.

Please watch the following media reports from the 7:30 Report, 60 Minutes NZ and ABC Lateline:

7:30 Report:

Greyhound racing industry hit with doping, cruelty, collusion allegations

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-10-15/730-uncovers-claims-greyhounds-being-doped-with-cocaine/5024714>

60 Minutes:

October 21st - Let Me Entertain You

<http://www.tv3.co.nz/October-21st---Let-Me-Entertain-You/tabid/2059/articleID/79923/Default.aspx>

ABC Lateline:

<http://www.abc.net.au/lateline/content/2012/s3629916.htm>

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-11-09/greyhound-racing-euthanasia-rates-slammed/4362442>

At the Canidrome Racetrack in Macau, an average of 30 greyhounds are killed every month. These dogs are then replaced by greyhounds that are imported from Australia. The track has no adoption program. Right now, there are hundreds of greyhounds living at the Canidrome dog track in Macau. These dogs are kept in small cages, and every single one will eventually be killed.

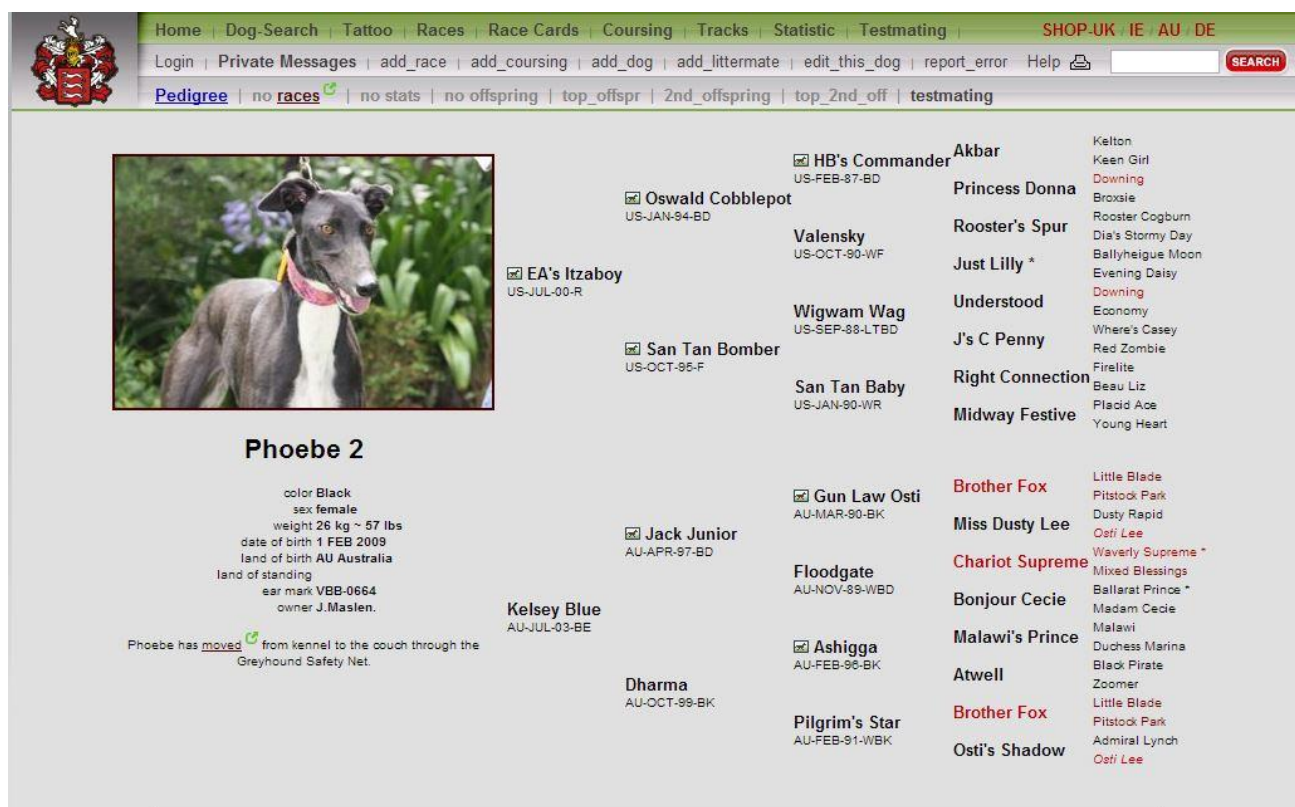
The way that greyhounds are used and exploited once discarded from the racing industry is numerous and extensive.

Many vet clinics accept greyhounds discarded by the industry and take their blood before they are euthanised. Quoted to a vet nurse at another vet clinic of another beautiful greyhound dumped at the vet by his "loving owner" She was told (word for word) by him: *"Kill him, bleed him out - I don't care"*.

In a recently published study conducted by researchers at the University of Newcastle, greyhounds underwent invasive and distressing surgery without general anaesthetic or any form of sedative.

<http://www.humaneresearch.org.au/case-studies/invasive-surgery-conducted-on-conscious-greyhounds>

I was personally unaware of the exploitation and cruelty of the Greyhound Racing Industry until I adopted a greyhound in February 2011. It quickly became clear to me that the industry had much to hide. Phoebe (Phoebe2) never raced but was discarded (for unknown reasons) by her industry owner.



The screenshot shows a pedigree website for Phoebe 2. The dog is a black and white female, born in February 2009 in Australia. Her sire is EA's Itzaboy and her dam is Kelsey Blue. The website lists a large number of other dogs in the pedigree, including HB's Commander, Oswald Cobblepot, Valensky, Wigwam Wag, San Tan Bomber, San Tan Baby, Gun Law Osti, Floodgate, Ashigga, Pilgrim's Star, Akbar, Princess Donna, Rooster's Spur, Just Lilly, Understood, J's C Penny, Right Connection, Midway Festive, Brother Fox, Miss Dusty Lee, Chariot Supreme, Bonjour Cecie, Malawi's Prince, Atwell, and Osti's Shadow. A note indicates Phoebe has moved from kennel to couch through the Greyhound Safety Net.

Despite Phoebe coming from a registered litter, two industry websites have different figures relating to her litter numbers. This is a clear example of how the industry does not accurately record or report the numbers of dogs bred and discarded. I refer to the litter in February 2009. One record shows there were five puppies in the litter, yet the other shows nine puppies. One has to assume these inaccuracies exist across Australia.

9 offspring of the dam **Kelsey Blue**

Name	Sex	Dob	Land	Color	Sire ^	Dam	Offspring	Races	Wins	2nd	BGrade	BForm
Jake (GSN)	m	NOV 2007	AU	BEBD	DK's Prime Time	Kelsey Blue	0	0	0	0		
Jed Myster	m	NOV 2007	AU	BE	DK's Prime Time	Kelsey Blue	0	24	0	0	G5	
Newark Boy	m	NOV 2007	AU	BEBD	DK's Prime Time	Kelsey Blue	0	0	0	0		
Valley Power	f	NOV 2007	AU	BK	DK's Prime Time	Kelsey Blue	0	8	1	2	TM	
Itz a Blueboy	m	FEB 2009	AU	RF	EA's Itzaboy	Kelsey Blue	0	34	4	3	G4	
Janevas Courage	m	FEB 2009	AU	BE	EA's Itzaboy	Kelsey Blue	0	11	0	0	G5	
Mambo Magic	m	FEB 2009	AU	BK	EA's Itzaboy	Kelsey Blue	0	26	3	5	G4	
Mr. Lamboss	m	FEB 2009	AU	BK	EA's Itzaboy	Kelsey Blue	0	7	1	0	G4	
Phoebe 2	f	FEB 2009	AU	BK	EA's Itzaboy	Kelsey Blue	0	0	0	0		



LITTER DETAILS

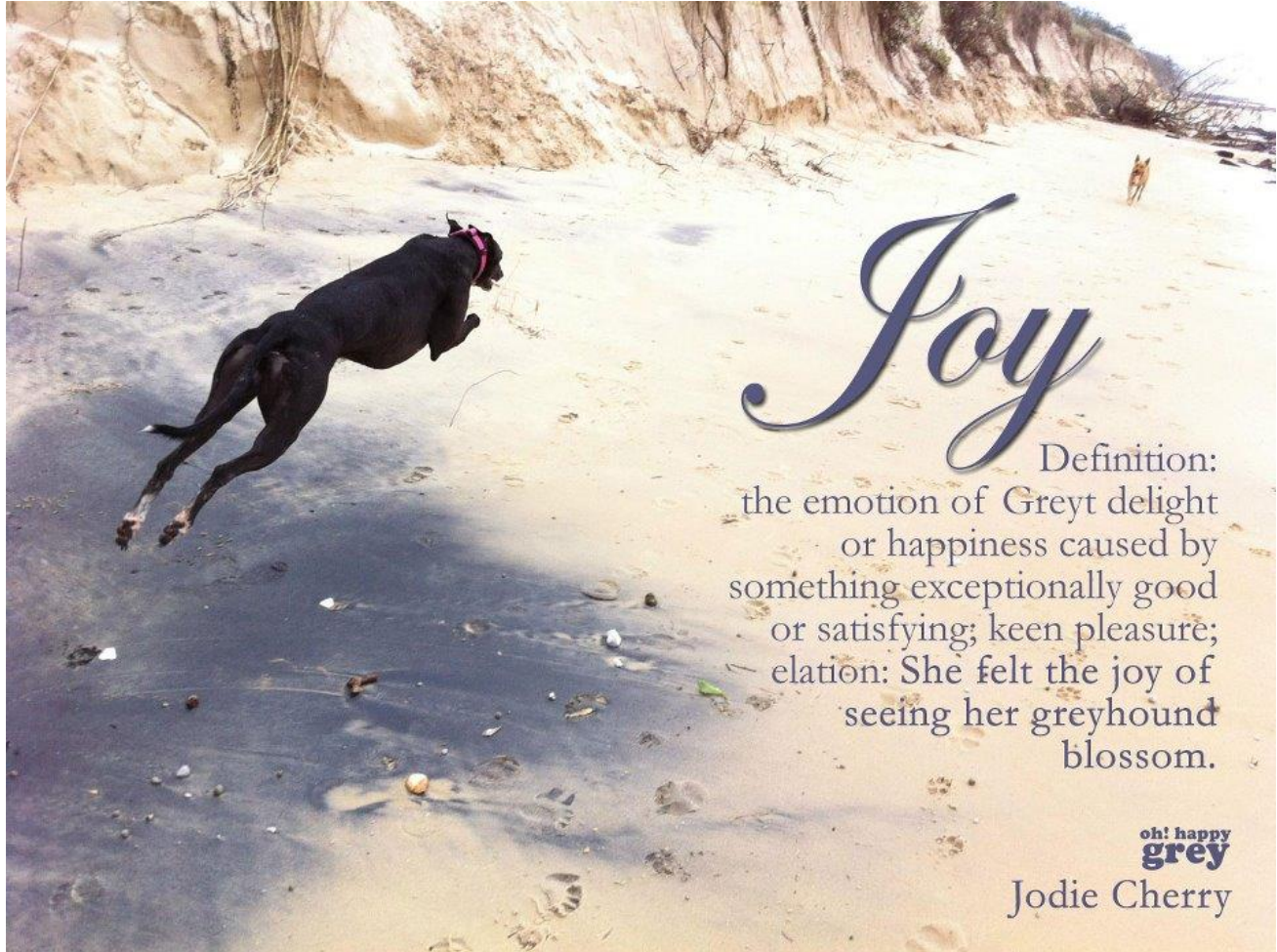


Sire [EA'S ITZABOY](#) Owing Authority VIC
 Dam [KELSEY BLUE](#) Service Status Completed
 Number of Pups 9 (7 dogs, 2 bitches, 0 deceased) Service Date 04/12/2008
 Breeder KELKIRRA (SYN) Whelp Date 01/02/2009

Pup Details

Dog Name	Sex	Colour
ITZ A BLUEBOY	Dog	Red Fawn
JANEVAS COURAGE	Dog	Blue
MAMBO MAGIC	Dog	Black
MR. LAMBOSS	Dog	Black
UNNAMED	Bitch	Black
UNNAMED	Dog	Black
UNNAMED	Dog	Blue Fawn
UNNAMED	Dog	Red Fawn
UNNAMED	Bitch	Blue

Phoebe is one of the lucky ones surrendered to a rescue group for adoption. I can't say the same for her siblings.



In December 2012 I was contacted by a friend who has rescued and fostered greyhounds in NSW for many years. Vet nurses had saved a new born pup which was the only survivor of a stillborn litter. The industry owner had instructed the vet "Kill the puppy, I don't want it".



It seems this is common as it's not worth the effort to raise one puppy when an estimated 9 in 10 greyhounds won't make it to the track. I was asked if I was able to adopt this orphaned pup named Maple, which I did.



Maple Cherry 9 months

Maple Cherry 2 months February

**RESCUE GREYHOUND PUPPY
SAY NO TO GREYHOUND RACING**

Maple isn't included in the statistics of discarded greyhounds as she is not registered on the database. How many more are not recorded? Maple is one of the lucky ones.

I then learned of 'mating accidents' puppies that are routinely drowned because they can't be raced. They never appear in any of the statistics. The puppies are killed because somebody did not care enough what happens to them.

Further to my personal knowledge and experience, I strongly opposed the continuation of greyhound racing in NSW for the reasons listed below:

- High rates of over-breeding and large-scale killing of greyhounds
- Industry's acceptance of high level of greyhound 'wastage'
- High rates of injuries sustained during racing, often fatal
- Reports of the use of performance enhancing drugs on the animals
- Reports of inhumane methods of killing, often to healthy animals
- Reports of links to organised crime
- Insufficient commitment by Greyhound Racing NSW (GRNSW) for the welfare of the animals
- Lack of funds means no animal welfare improvements planned
- Insufficient regulation and monitoring of animal welfare by GRNSW
- Lack of close regulation of GRNSW's Code of Practice
- Insufficient penalties awarded for breaching animal welfare standards
- Ineffective re-homing program adopted by GRNSW
- Greyhounds exported to countries with inadequate welfare regulations
- Distinct lack of importance awarded to the welfare of the animals

Greyhounds deserve the same rights as any other companion animal.

Yours sincerely,

Jodie Cherry

October 2013



I am overbred by people wanting a quick buck. I am shot, drowned, clubbed, starved to death every day if I am too small, not perfectly formed, too clumsy, too slow, too old, too kind or lazy to chase and kill a "lure". I am just a dog, like a lab or a goldie, but no one wants me as a pet because they think I am dangerous as I sometimes have to wear a muzzle. I don't know why. I am kind, affectionate, dignified and easy to train. All I want is a comfy bed, food and someone to love me, I am a great pet. But I am a greyhound. 54 of me died today.