Submission No 477

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Mr Shaun Morrison

Date received: 11/11/2013

A submission from Shaun Morrison to the Greyhound Inquiry.

My father was a coal miner at the Black Jack Coal Mine near Gunnedah and I grew up on a housing allotment with a lot of pet animals. I first noticed the Greyhounds when I was brought into town to play in the under 12 soccer and the greyhounds were adjacent to the playing fields. Later I became involved with greyhounds with friends and commenced my working life in abattoirs and later in the tannery. My health broke down and I received a settlement which I still live off.

I did several TAFE courses including farming of which I obtained first aid certificates for humans and animals. My certificate was handy at the time for racecourse volunteering and I have renewed the first aid certificate for three years recently.

I took up voluntary work with the greyhounds as I found it not possible to enter into the competitive workforce. I now do volunteer work at Gunnedah and also receive a small wage on race days on the greyhound racecourse.

The greyhounds have been good to me and I hope that I have been good to the dogs. Without some sort of activity hopelessness could creep in . I especially like the melding with friends. I formally worked with large groups of people in the various working rooms for twenty years and the companionship was a large part of my involvement in life.

I am currently studying tourism aspects and guiding which will come in when the Gunnedah project on museum and memorial gardens gets into full swing. I think that the greyhounds should get assistance from the tourist people who give assistance to events in other areas in the country.

Yours Truly,

Shaun Morrison. 28.10.2013.

