



04 February 2010

Ockenden Volunteer Honoured

Greyhoundhomer volunteer Pat Philpot has been handed one of the greyhound racing industry's most prestigious awards.

Pat, from Greyhoundhomer Essex, a branch of the Retired Greyhound Trust, has been given the Greyhound Board of Great Britain's award for Services to Retired Greyhounds.

Retired Pat who has been volunteering for the Retired Greyhound Trust for more than six years was handed her award by the new Face of the Retired Greyhound Trust, model and actress Jo-Emma Larvin, at a glittering ceremony at the London Hilton Metropole hotel.

Pat, who has helped to home hundreds of dogs, was recognised for her tireless work for the charity in raising funds and helping to find homes for greyhounds at the end of their racing careers.

Ivor Stocker, from the Retired Greyhound Trust, said: "We would not be able to run the charity without volunteers like Pat. She volunteers full-time. You will often find her outside her local supermarket with a tin collecting money and she devotes most of her weekends throughout the spring and summer to carnivals, festivals and shows where she sets up stands to raise awareness of the Retired Greyhound Trust and the many dogs who need loving homes.

"Pat is truly devoted and we are extremely lucky to have her as a volunteer in our charity," he added.

Pat said: "I was absolutely stunned. I had no idea that I would receive the award. I am truly honoured that I have been recognised for the work I do, but we work as a team at Greyhoundhomer and without the other volunteers we would not be able to raise the funds

and home all the dogs we do every year. This award is in recognition of the work of all of the volunteers at Greyhoundhomer.”

The Retired Greyhound Trust is always on the lookout for volunteers to help raise funds and ensure the charity can continue its great work in caring for retired greyhounds until homes are found for them.

If you would like more information on fundraising opportunities or adopting a retired greyhound, please contact Greyhoundhomer, tel: 01708 551689.

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For further media information, photographs or interviews please contact:
Helen Barklam in the Retired Greyhound Trust communications team, tel: 01772 316924 or 07917 148900.

Notes to editors

The charity has housed more than 50,000 dogs since it was set up in 1975. Around 9,000 greyhounds retire from racing each year.

The Retired Greyhound Trust has more than 70 branches across the country made up of volunteers who are dedicated to finding homes for the dogs in their areas. Many have websites, showing pictures of the dogs that need homes.