



Running for their Lives!

Newsletter of Greyhound Action No. 19 June/July 2008

Steve's heroes sink the Stow!

Campaigners torpedo greyhound racing's Bismarck

GA's greatest ever victory as top track goes under

Now help us get rid of the rest!



A 12 month leafletting campaign by Greyhound Action's North London co-ordinator, Steve Norman, and his small, but intrepid, crew of volunteers, has brought about the closure of Walthamstow Stadium, the flagship of the British greyhound racing industry. The group's persistent leafletting of Walthamstow race-goers, almost every Saturday evening, drove down attendances to such an extent that the stadium's owners have announced that it is to be sold for house-building and greyhound racing will cease there in August.

Left - Campaigners outside the stadium

The closure of the stadium is a massive victory for the cause of greyhound protection, as the existence of the Walthamstow track is responsible for the slaughter of over 500 of these dogs every year. It is also a spectacular triumph for Greyhound Action's *Winning Words!* campaign, which is based on our belief that most ordinary people in this country are fond of dogs and would not support greyhound racing, once they are made aware of the killing and cruelty involved.

For Anna - Our victory at Walthamstow is dedicated to local animal protection campaigner Anna Smith, whose sudden death in April saddened us deeply. Anna devoted her life to fighting against animal abuse and had been a Greyhound Action supporter for many years. She is pictured above and right, taking part in a candlelit vigil outside the stadium.

Winning Words! is aimed at educating members of the public who are going for "a night at the dogs" about the suffering and slaughter caused by the greyhound racing industry in order to persuade them never to go to greyhound racing again.

The main idea of the campaign is for our leaflets to be distributed as often as possible to people going into major greyhound tracks on race-nights, especially on Saturdays, when they have their biggest attendances.

To hold large demonstrations outside such tracks requires a considerable number of participants, but leafletting sessions can be successfully carried out by just a few people at a time.

Walthamstow is going under, but 29 major tracks still remain in British greyhound racing's flotilla of death. Help us sink them all by getting involved with *Winning Words!*. Regular leafletting is currently taking place at several, but our aim is to eventually cover every single one.

Since Greyhound Action's campaign began in 1997, more than 20 UK greyhound tracks have been forced to close and we have been instrumental in preventing over a dozen proposed ones from opening. **Now help us get rid of the rest!** Contact Greyhound Action if you would like to get involved in leafletting outside your local track, or send us a donation to help pay for leaflets, posters etc.



Northern greyhound killers cornered

Angry demo outside Leeds hotel

On Sunday, April 27th, northern representatives of the greyhound racing industry held their annual awards ceremony (booze-up and banquet) at the Queens Hotel, in Leeds.

But Greyhound Action wasn't going to let them get away with their wining, dining and mutual backslapping without vociferously bringing home to them exactly what we think about their disgusting so-called "sport" that makes them all a nice living from the ruthless persecution of innocent creatures.

About 50, mainly local, GA supporters took part in a very noisy and visual demonstration outside the hotel as the industry reps were shepherded in by police, and many protesters were still there, several hours later, to "greet" them when they came out.



Greyhound Awareness Week

Public education nationwide

This year's Greyhound Awareness Week (May 24th - 31st) was, once again, a great success, with demos, street stalls and other events being held throughout the country to educate the public about the plight of greyhounds and encourage them not to attend or bet on greyhound racing.



Street stall, Sheffield, May 24th



Demo, Peterborough Stadium, May 24th



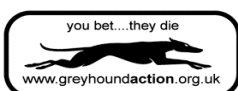
Launch of campaign to close dog track at Hall Green Stadium, Birmingham, May 24th



Stall, Bristol Vegan Fayre, May 31st



Demo, Greyhound Derby Final, Wimbledon Stadium, London, May 31st



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