



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Thursday, 15 March 2018

### **GRV Media Release - Fans of greyhounds will celebrate Greyhound Community Day and GAP's 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday on Saturday 17 March**

More than 1200 people and their greyhounds will gather at the Sandown Greyhound Racing Club on Saturday, 17 March to celebrate Greyhound Community Day and mark 22 years of the Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP).

The event will include an Adoption Day, with 22 greyhounds making the trip to the Sandown race track looking for their forever homes. More than 100 people have already registered their interest in adopting one of the greyhounds on the day.

This is the fourth community day hosted by Greyhound Racing Victoria, however Saturday's event will also be combined with celebrations marking the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of GAP which was founded in 1996.

The founders of the adoption program Mel Tochner and Anita Smith, will attend the event. The pair started the adoption program in 1996 when they worked as veterinary nurses at the Sandown Veterinary Clinic.

Ms Tochner's father trained greyhounds and she believed that many people had a negative perception of them, so she and Ms Smith set out to improve the dogs' image and to find new homes for retired racing greyhounds.

The program has expanded significantly since then. GAP re-homed 1314 greyhounds last financial year, a 69 per cent increase on the previous year's 798 dogs.

### **EVENT: GREYHOUND COMMUNITY DAY & GAP'S 22<sup>ND</sup> BIRTHDAY**

**When: Saturday, 17 March, 11.30 AM – 3.30 PM**

**Where: Sandown Greyhound Racing Club  
6 View Road, Springvale**



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Thursday, 15 March 2018

### **MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

**Media interested in attending are asked to contact GRV's Public Affairs unit before the event.**

**Please contact:**

Suzanne McKenzie | Public Affairs Officer | 0437 570 739 | [smckenzie@grv.org.au](mailto:smckenzie@grv.org.au)

Luke Holmesby | Public Affairs Manager | 0478 473 570 | [lhomesby@grv.org.au](mailto:lhomesby@grv.org.au)