



International closing event for the Save the Macau Greyhounds Campaign

PROGRAMME

Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th September, Milan

Centro Green Events Natura Boscaccio, Gaggiano (Milano)

Two days of celebration for the dogs and their families

In the idyllic natural setting of Lake Boscaccio, on the doorstep of Milan

These international guests representing ANIMA Macau, GREY2K USA Worldwide, Limerick Animal Welfare, Lévrier En Détress Led, Foal Farm Animal Rescue Centre, Forever Hounds Trust, Greyhounds, Many Nations One Voice, Greyhound Gap, Celia Cross Greyhound Trust will be taking part:

Albano Martins, President, CEO and founder, in 2003, of Anima-Society for the Protection of Animals (Macau)

Christine A. Dorchak, President and General Counsel, GREY2K USA Worldwide

Marion Fitzgibbon, Director and founder of Limerick Animal Welfare

Catherine Madry, President and founder of Lévrier En Détress Led

Sarah Mitchell and Chérie Winter- Representatives of Foal Farm Animal Rescue Centre

Emma Butler - Representative of Forever Hounds Trust

Mohneeta Dhadli, Founder and spokeswoman of Greyhounds, Many Nations One Voice

Saturday 7th September, Milan

9.30 - 10.00 Arrivals and welcome

10.00 -11.30 Pre-Adoption Course for new Owners on how to help rescued greyhounds settle into family life - Parte One

11.30: Presentation of an Award to to Marion Fitzgibbon.

11.30 -12.15 Handing over ceremony of 21 rescued Irish greyhounds and lurchers to their adoptive and foster families.

All the international guests will be involved, inviting each of them to hand over one of the dogs to his or her adoptive family, alongside the Pet levrieri member who will act as 'godmother' or 'godfather' to that particular dog, and who will be following the family during the post adoption period.

12.15 - 13.00 Settling-in Course for new greyhound adopters - Part two Feedback and further advice for the new adopters from PL's team of professional behaviourists and canine instructors.

13.00 - 14.30 Lunch

During lunch there will be music by the band Alea. The two band members have previously adopted greyhounds from us, and will be playing pieces especially composed for the Macau campaign, to which they donated the proceeds.

14.30 -15-30 Socialising time for guests, associate members of Pet Levrieri and adopters (and their hounds)

15.00 - 18.00 Guided Tour of Milan

Sunday 8th September, Milan

9.00-9.30 Arrivals and welcome

PART ONE - In the ex forestry building (a covered area with open sides which can hold 120 people)

10.00 - 10.05 Welcome by Stefani Traini, president of Pet levrieri

10.05 - 10.15 - Film about the campaign '*Save The Macau Greyhounds*'

10.15 - 10.25 - Introduction and thanks to the key players in the campaign by Stefania Traini

10.25 - **Presentation of an Award to Albano Martins.**

10.25 - 10.35 - Address by Albano

10.35 - **Presentation of an Award to Christine Dorchak, Carey Theil and the Board of GREY2K USA Worldwide**

10.35 - 10.45 - Address by Christine Dorchak

10.45-10.55 - **Presentation of Awards to Catherine Madry, Lisa Cartwright, Jane Thompson, Chérie Winter and Sarah Kingdon and Emma Butler.**

PART TWO - (On the huge lawn close to the forestry building, with a view of the lake)

11.00 - 13.00 - **Presentation of a small Thank You gift to the adoptive and foster families of Macau greyhounds present.**

All the adoptive and foster families will be arranged in a semicircle in front of the presentation area, where Albano, Christine and myself will be.

One of our associate team members will call each one of the families in turn, and we will hand them a small gift (a Happy at Last pendant + Thank You card), and we will take a group photo.

There are 61 adoptive families, of which 55 have confirmed their attendance. Some of the families will be on holiday or at weddings on that day. There are 25 foster families.

PART THREE - In a quiet evergreen area about 20 meters away.

13.00-13.30 - There will be a **Memorial area**, where we will be remembering the over 18,000 greyhounds who died at the Canidrome in the 55 years of its existence, the 17 greyhounds who died after its closure and who never got to experience life in a loving home, and finally four of the greyhounds in Europe who sadly died after adoption.

The area will be prepared with **a laurel crown dedicated to the Martyrs of the Canidrome**, the **Canidrome Martyrs Memorial Day banner**, **the names and photographs of the 17 greyhounds who died at the Canidrome**, and **a memorial space dedicated** to Banciao of King, Sonia, Grace, and Arturo, whose adoptive parents will bring photos and messages or items in their memory to place there.

This third part of the event will open to the sound of Amazing Grace, played on the trombone by our associate member and professional musician Ivo Salvi, against a backdrop of complete silence.

The poem *A morte é a curva da estrada* by Portuguese poet Fernando Pessoa will be read by Albano Martins in Portuguese, by Christine Dorchak in English and by Stefania Traini in Italian.

We will announce that in order to remember the Canidrome Martyrs we have decided to establish a **World Memorial Day for the Martyrs of the Canidrome** which will be held on the 26th March, the date on which the Canidrome was finally and officially empty. The banner will be raised, once again to the sound of Amazing Grace.

Presentation of a memorial parchment and drawing to the adoptive parents of Banciao of King, Sonia, Grace and Arturo.

All those who wish to do so will be bringing a flower to place in the Memorial Area.

13.30 - 14.30 - Lunch

The Dessert 'Delicious Victory' will be made by pastry chefs: Nicoletta Peroli and Eva Quinziano, who are our associate members and professional pastry chefs, who have also received awards.

14.30 - Fundraiser raffle to support the expenses sustained for the Macau greyhounds in Italy, and for the Macau greyhounds still in the care of Anima Macau.

14.00 - 17.30

The non profit photographic group **Faccia da Cane**, who supported the Save the Macau Greyhounds campaign, will have an area set up where adoptive families will be able to have a professional photo taken of themselves with their dogs.

15.00 - 16.00: 'Empathy, Dogs and the Brain', lecture by renowned canine behaviourist **Angelo Vaira**, founder of the ThinkDog school of canine behaviourism.

16.00 - 17.30

Guided walk in the beautiful woodland setting of Lake Boscaccio. Organised activities for the dogs in the parkland area. Relaxation time in the park.

17.30 Closure of the event.