

LOPEZ OR ...

Lopez is known to everyone as Dopey (not that he remotely resembles one of Snow White’s dwarfs at his current 39kg weight).

DOPEY has been at *Tailends* longer than any of the other greyhounds. He arrived on 31st October 2003 – just two years ago. He was brought down to us by Mandy Hooker of **Northants Greyhound Rescue**. Tragically for us it was also fated to be the same day when our beloved Bonnie lost her battle to live. I was in such a state that day that poor Mandy ended up with a sandwich containing about half a pound of Branston in it. (Well she did ask for pickle!)

Dopey is a huge, 10 year old, dark brindle, Irish-bred boy who had been rescued along with all the other dogs from the Greyhound Track in Rome when the owners went bankrupt. The greyhounds had been left to starve and would have done if it had not been for a few kind Italians who brought them food and for Anne Finch who arranged for them all to be moved to various countries for rehoming.

They were all in a dreadful state and had lived in depressing, if not cruel, conditions. All the dogs had been muzzled continually except for

meal times. They were therefore unable to clean themselves and were continually salivating. This probably explains why Dopey has needed three dentals since he came here and is always suffering with ulcers and mouth problems despite the regular teeth cleaning which he receives here. He has also had a tumour removed, which thankfully proved to be non-malignant.

Dopey is a real character. He has adopted a furry toy that he found in a bag next to him in the car. He cuddles up to it when he feels a bit sleepy.

Despite his size he is a big, sappy dope. He is also a tremendous actor and loves to get a bit of sympathy whether he needs it or not. He has been known to fake lameness to get attention and

then when it is kissed better he runs off and forgets all about it. He is as soft as butter and everyone loves him including Sugarlump – his biggest fan. Actually she is definitely the boss and if she is cuddled up to him he will not move for fear of disturbing her. He will not even come for his breakfast until

