

Chinwag

Winter 2018

Dogs' Refuge Home ☎ 9381 8166 🌐 www.dogshome.org.au



Record numbers in regional rescue

The crisis of unwanted dogs in regional communities has been well reported over the past few years. Working together with local rescue groups and Shire pounds, we have taken in over 650 regional dogs since 2014, saving them from a certain death.

As the financial year comes to an end, we are set to record our biggest year ever, with over 270 dogs and puppies coming to Perth from 26 rural and regional locations around the State. We've taken in dogs from Esperance to Kununurra, the Mid-West to the South-West!

Our two largest partnerships are in Broome with SAFE and in Geraldton with City of Greater Geraldton pound. Dog intake from Geraldton has more than doubled from 32 dogs in 2017 to 85 dogs so far this year, while Broome has remained high at 74.

The Home covers all costs associated with transport from these two locations and assumes the medical costs for all dogs that come into our care.

Sadly, dogs from regional communities often arrive in poor condition. Underweight, with severe mange or other skin conditions and requiring additional behavioural support to prepare them for adoption. On arrival, all dogs are vaccinated, have flea and worm treatments and adult dogs are sterilised. The Home also pays for the sterilisation of puppies for their new owners once they come of age.

Giving these dogs a second chance would be impossible without the tireless work of SAFE, WISH Animal Rescue, smaller rescue teams and the dedicated rangers and volunteers in local Shires. Many of these dogs would inevitably be destroyed because there are simply not enough local adoptions to match the high numbers of unwanted dogs.

Your donation by 30 June 2018 will provide us with much needed funds to continue our regional rescue work through WA in 2018-19, giving a second chance to hundreds of dogs and puppies just waiting to become loyal and loving companions.



Please help support our regional rescue

As a self-funded organisation, your donation makes a difference and will help us continue our work rescuing and re-homing unwanted dogs from around WA. Please donate online at

www.givenow.com.au/regional-dogs or return the slip enclosed with your newsletter.



**A BIG
thank you!**

Thank you to
CITY FARMERS and
ADVANCE for their
ongoing support!

**City
FarMeRs**
For pets and their people

ADVANCE
ADVANCED PET NUTRITION™

Dogs' Lives!

Renown WA artist and long time supporter, Helen Norton is teaming up with Applecross Art & Framers for an exclusive show called Dogs' Lives exploring and celebrating our life with dogs. The opening night, Thursday 14th June from 7-9pm includes an auction of works with proceeds to the Dogs' Refuge Home.

Dogs' Lives will be exhibited at Heathcote Cultural Precinct from 14-17th June, 58/60 Duncraig Road, Applecross. Friday: 9:30 - 5:00, Saturday - Sunday: 9:30 - 3:30.

RSVP for the opening night: applecross-art-framing.com/upcoming-art-show/ or visit our Events page on Facebook for more info.





President's Message

As I write this I'm aware of at least four litters currently out on foster and due to come up for adoption over the next few weeks. It's always exciting to have little bundles of joy around the Home, but it's sobering to see just how many unwanted pups are still being born each year and frustrating to know the mums who don't accompany the pups to our Home are rarely sterilised. And it's not just us with litters and litters of puppies, our friends at WISH and SAFE are in the same position as are lots of other rescue groups.

We're fortunate to have our kennels, but they are definitely not the best environment for mums and pups. I'd like to thank all our committed foster parents for giving them the best possible start and I encourage anyone looking for a pup to please **Adopt Don't Shop!** I'd also like to put another call out to any dog lover who isn't currently in a position to adopt but wants to help a homeless dog, to please consider fostering.

I'm also very conscious there are lots of other dogs in regional pounds patiently waiting and hoping for a second chance. This year we've done more trips to Geraldton than ever before and I'm sure if we went up every week there'd be dogs to be rescued. We simply can't afford to employ staff to drive up and collect dogs so we rely on our ever-faithful volunteers to take our van on road trips. I'm so grateful to these volunteers and to the amazing teams we work with in Geraldton who do whatever they can to ensure as many abandoned dogs as possible get a second chance.

Working with other rescue groups, the fabulous Sue at PoundWatch and both



metro and regional rangers is so rewarding. It's sad that the need is bigger than ever, but we know that working together we can make an even bigger difference.

Besides the multiple litters of pups we also have lots of older dogs who have been abandoned and many mid-age pooches who weren't given the best start, then disregarded and are now patiently waiting for someone to give them a second chance. They all deserve that chance!

Financially, it's getting more and more difficult as the economic environment isn't as strong as it used to be. We are adapting to having more kennels to look after, but seeing our dogs adopted and living happy lives makes it all worthwhile.

There is no doubt without the support of the community we could not continue and I thank each and every person who has

adopted from us, donated to us, fostered or volunteered.

With that in mind a special thank you to our volunteers who go above and beyond. Regular dog walkers Lynda, Lisa and Jill together with fellow Board Member Lee-Anne found time to organise our third 'Pup-Up' op shop event in March - in their spare time - raising a whopping \$10,000!

I'd also like to acknowledge and remember our generous supporter and personal friend Mr Terry Crommelin - sadly Terry passed away late last year and he is sorely missed. His love for dogs knew no bounds and he kept us all on our toes during hot and cold weather making sure our dogs were all as comfortable as they possibly could be.

As we approach the end of the financial year, I hope you will support our fundraising. My heartfelt thank you to everyone who makes up our amazing team.

Karen Rhodes

President:

Karen Rhodes

Vice President:

Vacant

Secretary:

Chris Osborn

Treasurer:

Tracy Chang

Board:

Lee-Anne Ashley
Ian Coombes
Sarah Murphy
Marsha Sullivan
Suzanne Turner

CEO:

Catherine Purvis

Veterinarian:

Greg Wilkinson

Trustees:

Jen Sainken
Ros Clarke
Ruth Gourley
Judy Flanagan

Graphic Design:

Annie Bramley -
ScruffyDog Designs

Patrons:

Melanie Greensmith
Peter Collier MLC

Thank you



From an abandoned pair of siblings to full family

In mid-March, Wanneroo rangers were notified of two dogs who had been abandoned in a Quarry. The rangers managed to catch one of the dogs, Gaz, and took him to the safety of the pound where we collected him on 28th March.

Gaz had the sweetest nature but was very timid. We wondered if he was missing his sibling who was still lost in the Quarry. Fortunately, it didn't take long for a lovely couple to fall in love and adopt him, but none of us could stop worrying about his poor sister and how she was surviving all alone.

Kate and Mark who adopted Gaz (now Jax) said they would happily take him to the Quarry to see if they could help to catch his sister but the rangers were confident they could eventually catch her. It took a few weeks, but they never gave up and finally managed to capture her safely and take her to the pound where we collected her.



Priya arrived even more timid than Jax – the time she spent surviving on her own meant she was incredibly shut down. She literally wouldn't walk and was often carried from our offices to the yard. It was painful to watch how scared she was.

We knew she needed help so contacted Kate and Mark and asked if they would bring Jax in to see if she remembered him. We had to take Jax into the office (because Priya wouldn't walk to the yard) and at first sight she looked very nervous and scared, backed off and did a low growl then slowly sniffed and sniffed and looked and couldn't believe her eyes when she realised it was her brother.

The two of them happily went to the yard wriggling away with excitement and once off the lead played and played. There were many tears and after a couple of tough months, it was agreed moments like that make it all worthwhile.

Kate and Mark were also very moved by the reunion and being the amazing couple they are they

offered to take Priya on foster – we had smiles on our faces for days! Their lovely daughter and other dog Sol also love the temporary new addition. It might not remain temporary (fingers crossed), but even if Priya does end up for adoption, she has now been set up for an amazing future thanks to some incredibly dedicated rangers, an amazing family and us playing match maker. And that's why we do what we do.



Poor Priya on arrival

Vale - Terence Crommelin (OAM)



1927 – 2017

It was with much sadness that we heard the news that long time Home supporter and dog lover Terry Crommelin passed away on 12th November 2017. Terry was instrumental in supporting the Home's Master Rebuild Program, donating over \$400,000 towards various projects. Terry funded the building of our quarantine annexure 'The Bonnie Block', opened in 2015 and dedicated to his beloved dog Bonnie who had recently passed. This kennel block bolstered our intake capacity by 11 dogs. We miss Terry calling on hot days to make sure the dogs have plenty of water and shade and the stormy days, when Terry would call to make sure they were all warm and safe. RIP to a very generous man and dog lover.



Santa Paws 2017

Special thanks again to Award winning photographer Alex Cearns of Houndstooth Studio and her partner Deb who generously donate their time and talent for Santa Paws. Saturday 2nd December was a record day with 113 families coming along and more than 150 doggos climbing onto Santa's knee!

It was their 7th year and over \$4000 was raised for our dogs! Special thanks to Santa Dave - what a trooper! We couldn't have done it without the man in red! Remember to mark the first Saturday in December in your calendar to come on down with your pooch. All the money raised on the day is donated to the Home.



Street Appeal 2018

Another lovely Autumn day saw more than 60 volunteers and our new mascot Richie take to the streets of Perth on Friday 6th April for our annual appeal.

Thanks to everyone who came to visit our stall in Murray Street or dropped a few coins into our tins! This year we raised \$15,000 and had a great time with our 'pat-a-pup' pop up during the lunch hour!

Special thanks to Bankwest whose volunteers (right) helped shake a tin and the Raine Square branch for supporting the count!



That's Entertainment!

Shazza is highly recommending you buy your edition of the 2018/19 Entertainment Book for the dogs, with a 20% donation received for every book we sell!

Pick up a hard copy at the Home, go online and order a hard copy or download a digital copy for your smartphone and take your vouchers everywhere! You can even buy books for locations outside Perth and still help the dogs no matter where you live or plan to travel in Oz!

www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/844p42



Thanks City Farmers



City Farmers and their customers once again got right behind the 'Tree of Hope' appeal in December which saw \$50,000 donated to the Dogs' Refuge Home!

City Farmers stores also helped with our 2018 Calendars, selling over 2000 copies! We can't thank them enough for all they do for us at Christmas and through the year.



Winter 2018

Being In The Doghouse Pays off!

Who said being 'in the doghouse' was such a bad thing! On Saturday 2nd December 2017, 11 supporters including ABC Radio Perth presenter Gillian O'Shaughnessy and West Coast Eagles Coach Adam Simpson braved the heat locked in a kennel to help our dogs, raising over \$40,000!



Our fundraising success was led by Home Trustee Jennifer Skiff and her 13 year old dog-loving pal Indi Tinsley-Ellison. Indi single-handedly raised over \$8000 as part of the 'Western Woofers' amazing team total of \$24,000! Once again **Tate Family Foundation** matched every dollar up to \$25,000, making it the best result for our annual event. Thanks to all who went 'in the doghouse' and donated to make it such a great day.



Finding Slade the Pawfect Home!

Slade was 14 months old when he arrived from Geraldton in February 2017. He was a beautiful cuddly boy – but he had his issues! He was not dog social and we soon discovered Slade could jump fences or dig under them. He did not like being left alone and would go into panic mode. He could be difficult to handle when over aroused and finding his perfect home was a long, tense wait. Then along came Les in October and Slade (now Rocket) was on his way to a better life.

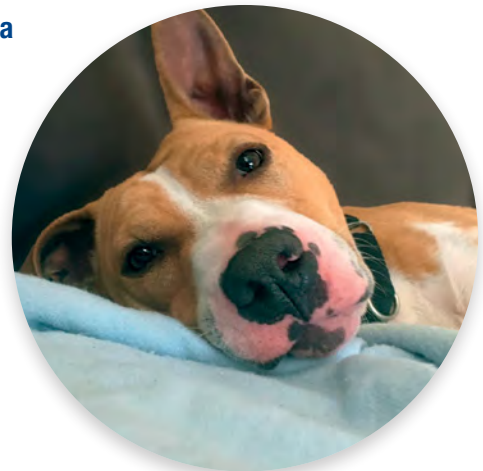
New owner Les writes

We collected Rocket in October 2017. We thought his new name suited him better as he is like

a rocket off his leash! My previous dog (a staffy/bulterrier cross) passed away six months before we adopted Rocket and I missed having a dog for companionship and walks.

Rocket has a gentle loving nature and has adjusted to his new home. He loves the grandkids and loves going for walks in the bush and down the beach. He loves the water and is very intelligent and inquisitive, although still wary of other dogs.

He has had numerous training sessions with a professional trainer and I have learnt a lot from her. Everyone comments that he has settled down a great deal from when we first adopted him, as he was very excitable to begin with. Living in Albany and



exercising him daily has contributed to this. He has his own toy box and loves chasing balls and chewing his toys. He has been so good and has never damaged anything of ours.

Rocket still has anxiety problems if left alone in the house but I have made an open canopy (cage) on the back of my ute with a bed and toys. He is happy to stay there for a few hours if I have to go out without him.

I am very pleased we have made Rocket part of the family.

As we always say, there's a pawfect home for every dog!





Charlie Bull Arab

Male / Mastiff x / 3yrs
Waiting: 20 months

Can You Give a Long-Term a Home?

Sometimes it takes a while to find the right home for a special dog who so desperately awaits a second chance. But we never give up hope! If you're looking for a new family member, come and meet one of these pooches who have been with us far too long. Visit www.dogshome.org.au or call 9381 8166 (Please note dogs in foster are available for adoption)



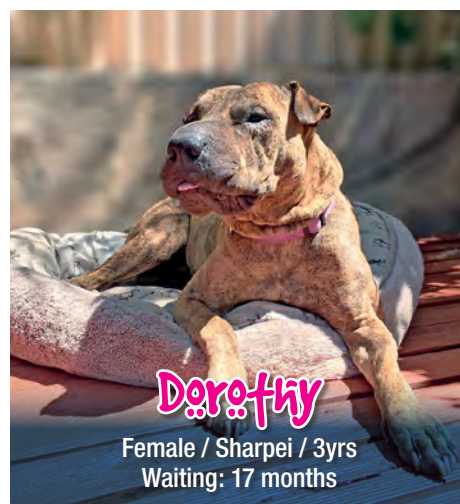
Indie

Female / Mastiff x / 6yrs
Waiting: 12 months



Diesel

Male / Mastiff / 7yrs
Waiting: 9 months



Dorothy

Female / Sharpei / 3yrs
Waiting: 17 months



Boonidie

Female / Border Collie x / 3.5 yrs
Waiting: 10 months



Skye

Female / German Shorthaired Pointer x / 2yrs
Waiting: 17 months



Buddy

Male / Mastiff x / 4.5yrs
Waiting: 3 years

Join Our Pack

Stay in touch with all things happening inside and outside the Dogs' Refuge Home by joining us on social media!

Search: [dogsrefugehome](https://www.dogsrefugehome.org.au)



Sponsor a Kennel

Can your business or family sponsor a kennel for 2018/2019?

For an annual tax deductible sponsorship of \$2500 you will help us to help more than 10 dogs over the year. Call 9381 8166 or email events@dogshome.org.au for details.



1004
Adoptions

1 July 2017 - 20 May 2018