

# Chinwag



Summer 2021

Dogs' Refuge Home ☎ 9381 8166 🌐 [www.dogshome.org.au](http://www.dogshome.org.au)

## Back 'In the Doghouse' for a family of legends.

Our father and son duo Jarrad and Chase Tate have once again agreed to sit in the kennels with our dogs to help raise much needed funds for our Home. On Sunday 5th December from 10.30am Jarrad and Chase, and a number of other dog heroes, will cuddle up with our pooches for a four hour stint until they are released at 2.30pm.

### Valuable Support

For the ninth year in a row our important fundraiser will be supported by the incredibly generous **Tate Family Foundation** who will match donations dollar for dollar up to \$25K! As our veterinary bills exceed limits we have never seen before, the donations we receive will go directly to sterilising and helping to repair ruptured cruciates, luxating patellas, extensive dentals, lump removals and a range of other surgeries that are unfortunately becoming far more common.



Tate Family Foundation

*Supporting Your Vision*

### Our Christmas Wish

This Christmas we are hoping our dog loving community will once again think of the dogs in our care, and the ones we still need to save, and dig deep for the love of dogs. We have been adopting a record number of dogs but the need never seems to end. Each week when we celebrate over 30 adoptions, we feel grateful we have been able to save and rehome some very special pooches but as soon as they are on their way out the gate we get a call from regional pounds asking us to travel to save more. It's only thanks to community support that we can say yes and for that we are so incredibly grateful.



### A Fabulous 85th Year

We celebrated the end of our 85th year with our most successful Home Open ever. Big thanks to our Event Coordinator Jaz for running the event and to our army of volunteers headed by Marlene Coles and Jill Munyard who sorted more jumble than ever. To our volunteer 'Mr Fix It' Jono and everyone who baked, sorted, planted and welcomed our amazing community who visited in droves. Big thanks also to the **City of Subiaco** for sponsoring our event and helping to ensure our expenses were an absolute minimum. **Teamwork is an understatement and everyone who visited agreed it was a wonderful way to celebrate 85 wonderful years.**

### More to come!

As Christmas approaches our next event **In the Dog House** and **Santa Paws** are only a few weeks away. The team going into the kennels with our dogs are getting excited about who they will be spending their day with and Santa can't wait to have his photo taken with lots of excited pooches. In addition to this we have great Christmas Gifts thanks to our talented Robyn who is always producing new ideas and products.

Every dollar makes a difference:  
[doghouse-2021.raisely.com](http://doghouse-2021.raisely.com)



1147  
Adoptions  
1 Jan '21 - 31 Oct '21

Follow us on: Facebook Instagram Twitter



© Photo: Houndstooth Studio

# President's Message

We've had a slight change of roles here at the DRH so we thought we'd do a combined message from our current General Manager (GM) and President. Working together as a team has been the only way we have been able to achieve what we do here. Volunteers working alongside staff and our community. Karen stepped down as President mid-way through the year and Lynne stepped up as President and Karen is now our GM.

## President:

Lynne Milligan

## Secretary:

Chris Osborn

## Treasurer:

Philip Golding

## Board:

Lynda Hancy  
Sarah Murphy  
Marsha Sullivan

## General Manager

Karen Rhodes

## Veterinarian:

Greg Wilkinson

## Trustees:

Ros Clarke  
Ruth Gourley  
Judy Flanagan  
Jen Sainken

## Graphic Design:

Melanie Moore Design  
Sophie Elliss - Chilli Art

## Patrons:

Melanie Greensmith  
Peter Collier MLC  
Nelson Woss

Supported by:



I've been involved with the Dogs' Home for six years and love everything we stand for and am proud of everything we achieve.

As a regular dog walker, I enjoy time alongside a great team of volunteers and helping the staff with adoptions is very rewarding.

My background is Oil and Gas and I also chair the Risk and Safety committee and am grateful to the passionate team and wealth of experience they bring. Minimising risk is a key priority for me and working together I am confident this will be achieved.

I also work closely with our IT provider and am committed to improved systems to ensure we are all working smarter not harder.

Thank you to everyone who donates, volunteers, or works for our Home and thank you to previous Board Members who have helped to set us up for the next exciting phase.

Lynne



"Working together as a team has been the only way we have been able to achieve what we do here."



This last six months has been as busy as ever and I'm constantly in awe of the fabulous team I work and volunteer alongside.

Our staff are committed to caring for each of our dogs as their own and our volunteers never cease to amaze me with their dedication. We might be entering our 86th year but the energy and enthusiasm for what we do have not wavered.

After an incredibly successful Home Open, we are looking forward to our In the Dog House and I urge anyone who is able to please donate to the fabulous team going in led by Jarrad and Chase Tate and I want to sincerely thank Tate Family Foundation for their continued support.

This will be the last year in our old Kennel 2 as we will be commencing demolition and re-build late January so next year it will be a much more comfortable stay in the Dog House and maybe even a party. Thanks to Katrina Stratton MLA and the Labour Government who are funding our new kennel which we are very grateful for.

Karen



Amazing volunteers Emily, Edwina, Jill and Daryl

Image courtesy of Fleetwood



# Home Open Gets Tails Wagging!

**HUGE** thanks to all of you who came out in force to make our 2021 Home Open our **BEST EVER!** With more than 1700 total attendees and over **\$34,000** raised for our dogs, it was a truly remarkable success, and we are so grateful for all the support from our dog loving community! Every cent raised over the weekend will go directly to helping our dogs.

We also want to say a MASSIVE thank you to all of our amazing volunteers, without who this event simply would not be possible. From sorting the jumble, to testing and tagging, greeting, helping with set up and manning the stalls- there is no end to what these heroes will do to raise money for the dogs. Big thanks to all the team behind the scenes who kept the dogs in our care well looked after while all of the event chaos was going on! Congratulations our amazing Events Coordinator Jaz, Volunteer Coordinator Jacinta, Finance Officer Chloe and the whole DRH staff team who worked their socks off to knock the event out of the park, and continue to find dogs their forever homes over the busy weekend.

Another thanks to our sponsor, the **City of Subiaco** whose generous grant kept our costs low meaning more dollars to the dogs. Thanks to the generous local businesses who donated their time and products to make the weekend the success it was; **City Farmers, Antz Coffee Co, Vegan Perfection, Health Food Distributors WA, North Beach Gourmet Butcher, Bakers Delight, Premier Elite Pageants, Australia, FPA Envirochoice, the ladies of Canine Crafty Capers, We Are Feel Good Inc., Global Industrial, CDCLaser, Petal's Cupcakery** and **Sweet Aloha Cakes.**



## The Kennel isn't so bad with Canine Calming!

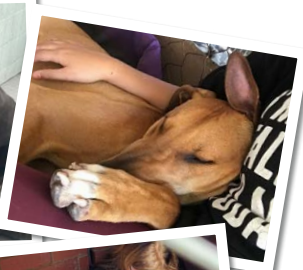
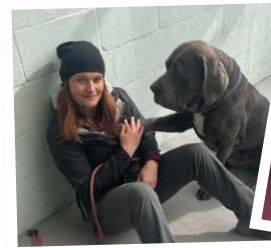
**Here at the Refuge, we are always trying to think of new ways to improve the quality of life for our dogs during their stay with us.**

Our latest initiative, introduced by our Volunteer Coordinator Jacinta Morgan, focusses on canine companionship and improving the kennel experience.

The Canine Calming upskill workshop was introduced to allow existing boarder walking volunteers to spend time with our Refuge dogs in kennel. Jacinta says, "the goal is for the dogs to build a positive association with their kennel during their stay here, building up their trust in our team and learning that the kennel isn't such a lonely place."

Previously volunteers would only spend a short amount of time with a dog in kennel when returning from a walk. With the Canine Calming Program, volunteers spend 20+ minutes in kennel with each dog playing mental enrichment games, reading and talking to them, and giving much needed love and attention.

Over 50 volunteers have already taken part in the training, with many more putting their hand up every week. We hope to introduce more upskill workshops focussed on dog welfare soon!



**For more information on how to become a volunteer, please visit our website**  
**[www.dogshome.org.au/volunteering/](http://www.dogshome.org.au/volunteering/)**



# Our Pawesome Year 2020-21

## ADOPTIONS

1313



## Where Our Dogs Come From

	2020/21
 Pound Rescue	637
 Owner Surrender	445
 Other Rescues	81
 Dogs Returned	225
 Shelter Offspring	57

**Dogs Returned:** The Home accepts 'returns' of adopted dogs unconditionally regardless of when they were adopted. Sometimes the fit is just not right, but often circumstances within the household change and dogs are surrendered back into our care.



## 664 saved from Pounds

We visit pounds across the metro area. Our key partners are Wanneroo (56 dogs), Gosnells (88 dogs) and Armadale (25 dogs) with another 62 dogs coming from Bayswater, Canning, Kalamunda and South Perth. Counted in these numbers are all dogs transferred into our care from Shire pounds around the State.

## 517 Regional Dogs

Another great year with more and more dogs arriving from regional communities. Special thanks to the seven SAFE rescues who transferred 39 dogs into our care. Despite travel restrictions as we navigated COVID lockdowns, 84 dogs arrived from Broome while we collected over 235 dogs from Geraldton.

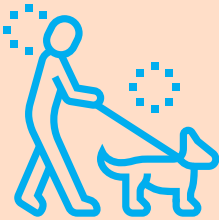
## 444 Foster Dogs

Another huge year for our foster team with 444 dogs (including 238 puppies) spend time with one of **230 foster carers** during the past year. We can't thank all our foster carers enough for their compassion and dedication in providing a home-away-from-home for our dogs. Another thanks to our amazing Foster Coordinator, Kylie Markoff for her dedicated work.



## DOGS ENTERING SHELTER

1445



 290 Puppies  
 1155 Dogs





# Adventures with Stevie!

Stevie found himself with the Rangers in Broome and was not sure of what lay ahead of him. Thanks to a kind Ranger who wanted to give him a chance and the amazing Wendy (independent volunteer in Broome) who called us up we decided to fly him down to the Big Smoke.

We weren't sure of Stevie's eyesight, and he had to have tests and be sterilised etc so after a number of weeks of vet work making him ready for adoption he came up on our floor. It didn't take long for his new owner to fall in love and the rest is history. Stevie is now one of the most well-travelled dogs in WA and we couldn't be happier he was given his second chance.

It takes an army of kind-hearted dog lovers to save dogs like Stevie – the Ranger in Broome, volunteer Wendy, we paid for the flight thanks to donations, one of our volunteers collected him from the airport, our staff and volunteers looked after him, the vets at Subiaco ensured all his vet work was done and then the fabulous Lynton decided to adopt him and ensure he now lives like a king.

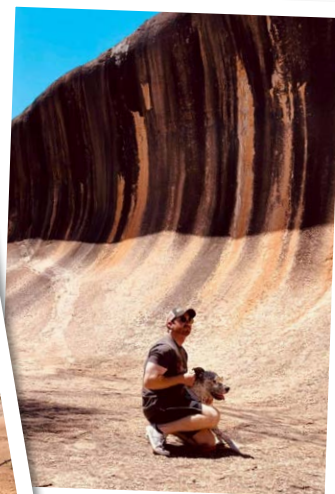


## Direct From Lynton:

**"Stevie is getting on well. At first he was a bit shy at first but didn't take him long to fall I love with his new forever home, and like me he looks forward to our spontaneous adventures around WA full of memorable times and fun. And there will much more to come as we plan to travel around Australia together and live like no tomorrow"**

Kieran Fenner, one of the Refuge's most experienced adoption team members was thrilled to make the match. "Lynton had been coming in regularly to visit the Refuge and was very patient waiting for a dog that would best suit his lifestyle. I knew he would be a fantastic, dedicated home for one of our dogs, and it was just a case of waiting for the right match, which turned out to be Stevie." Lynton and Stevie are a great example of how a dog may not be 'perfect', but they can be perfect for you.

*Kieran says; "If you visit the Refuge once, and don't find the right dog for you on that day- please don't give up. It's always a good idea to pop in after your initial interview to see who is new on the floor, and so our team are familiar with you and can keep you in mind for future dogs that come through our gates."*



## Geraldton trips abound, thanks to volunteer Mike.

**Whilst there are still dogs in our metro pounds to be saved and plenty of surrenders coming through our doors the number of dogs in regional pounds seems to be increasing and we are so thankful we can help.**

The fabulous team of Rangers in Geraldton do an amazing job saving dogs and assessing them for us. We then rely on volunteers to pack up our van and drive the 5 hours up North. After an overnight stay to ensure they are rested and ready to transport back our precious cargo back they head to the pound then back to the safety of our Home where a meal, warm bed and tasty dinner awaits them.

One of our amazing volunteers Mike Underwood has done the Geraldton trip more than most – in fact he's been backwards and forwards more times than anyone else and always does it with a smile on his face – he returns telling us which musician was most popular with the dogs, sometimes it's Glen Campbell sometimes it's Boz Scaggs.

**Mike also collects dogs from the airport after we've flown them down from Broome and we really don't know what we'd do without him – thanks Mike you're a gem.**





# Fostering Saves Lives and Spreads Joy!

**Jenny Gerspacher and her family have been fostering with us for 2 years, and in that time, they have changed the lives of an enormous 17 dogs. They are currently caring for our special senior gentleman, Stanley.**

Foster carers form an integral part of our team and play a large part in helping us re-home the many dogs that come into our care each year. In the past 12 months, 517 dogs and puppies have spent time in foster care. Experienced carers like Jenny and her family do an amazing job at providing a safe, temporary home for dogs who are not suited to the kennel environment.

Jenny says, "My family and I have been fostering with the DRH for about 2 years now. Since we move around the world a lot fostering works well with our lifestyle and we love helping and providing, whatever dog we have at the time, a warm, loving and safe place for them."

Jenny's advice if you are thinking about joining our foster team? "I highly recommend fostering with the DRH. They make the transition from one dog to the next so easy and all the workers and volunteers at DRH are easy going, will work with you and wants what's best for you and your foster."

Jenny and her family are currently fostering our beautiful senior sweetheart, Stanley. Jenny says, "he is the most gentle boy. He loves my two kids, ages 9 and 12, to pieces and just wants to be to near them. He's not needy but just loves his humans. He's sweet to everyone he meets when on leash and just is an all-around wonderful dog."



Stanley is ready for his forever home. He is an 8 year old staffy boy who has a beautiful temperament and will make an amazing companion. Stanley loves making new doggie friends and has fantastic manners with other dogs, he unfortunately cannot go home with a cat. Stanley has been around children in the past and could go home to a family with dog savvy children. Part time, casual or stay at home workers preferred.

**Please visit our website to find out more information on how to become a foster carer for dogs and puppies in need.**  
[www.dogshome.org.au/foster-a-dog/](http://www.dogshome.org.au/foster-a-dog/)

**We are so very proud and grateful to have Jenny and her family as part of our team at the Refuge. Thank you for all that you do.**

## 2022 Calendars and Christmas Cards

**Looking for the perfect Christmas gift? Our Christmas cards and 2022 calendars are available NOW!**

Keep an eye out in your local City Farmers and Petbarn stores across Perth and the rest of WA as our 2022 calendars have arrived. At just \$10 and with **100% of proceeds going to our dogs**, they are a major fundraiser for our Home.

Our cards are also available now, each pack contains 12 cards featuring 6 of our beautiful doggies photographed by the amazing **Houndstooth Studio by Alex Cearns**. You are able to purchase at the Refuge or via our website.

HUGE thanks to our sponsors this year; **City Farmers, Petbarn, Duck Duck Bruce, His Majesty's Theatre, Perth, Taz's Pet Door Services, The Wine Queen Emporium and Diversifi Pty Ltd.** Another special thanks to Dennis and the team at **Quality Press Australia** and **Officeworks** for the kind donation of envelopes!



## Christmas Gifts Sorted at the Refuge

Don't forget we have plenty of Christmas gifts ready for you here at the Refuge! If you love dogs as much as we do, you'll love shopping for your Chrissy presents knowing that **100% of the profits go back to helping our dogs.**

This year we have a festive and fun line of Christmas toys, as well as pet accessories and even doormats! We also stock the very popular line of LickiMat's. These act as fantastic mental enrichment and banish boredom for your dog. Licking releases calming hormones and helps minimise anxious behaviours!

**Shop at the Refuge or online!**  
[www.dogshome.org.au](http://www.dogshome.org.au)





# Kennel Sponsors

Thanks to the following people and businesses who have sponsored or renewed their kennel sponsorship since June 2021

Ros Stynes: Dedicated to Lulu

Hilsz & Pitman

IJM Foundation Pty Ltd

May Day Dog Rescue Club Inc (2)

Autotribe

Griffin: Dedicated to Benji,

Anzac & Simba

Lion and Tigers

Ray White Keever Group:

Russell Dohmen

In Memory of Colin B Clarke:

Elizabeth Clarke and Family

CS Automation: Dedicated to Pippen

Ada Rose

Peter Kennelly

Mark Hanlon: Dedicated to Atty

Pat & Ellie's Wedding

Gail Archer



If you would like to help dogs in our care you can sponsor a kennel too for \$2500 for a year! Please call 9381 8166 or email [events@dogshome.org.au](mailto:events@dogshome.org.au)

## Pippen is Back with a Plaque!

**In early September 2020, 2-year-old Pippen was surrendered to our Home due to an incontinence problem.**

She was dripping urine constantly and finding a new home for her in this condition was going to be all but impossible. After many vet appointments and consulting with specialists, we launched a fundraising appeal and our lovely community helped raise over \$6000. Pippen underwent major surgery at Murdoch in early November and had a bi-lateral ureter correction.

It's been a long slow process of recovery, but Pippen's bladder is now in working mode. Mary and John took care of her during this time and nursed her back to health. And in the best start to a new year, the couple adopted her 1 Jan 2021.

**Thank you so much to Mary and John for giving Pippen the best life, and for your continuous support of the Refuge. The new CS Automation plaque is located on our newest kennel, Honey's Haven.**



## Become a Caring Friend Today!

'Caring Friends' is our regular giving program. It has been going for more than 15 years and was started by just a handful of our most faithful and loyal givers.

Caring Friends are donors who pledge a weekly, monthly or quarterly amount, which they set and manage online themselves. These donations provide us with dependable revenue and is the most cost-effective way for us to fundraise for our dogs.

As a Caring Friend we will post you our 'Chinwag' newsletter twice a year plus our Annual Report to highlight all our rescue and re-homing work and show you where your donations are spent. You will also receive regular email updates and notices of our events and activities.

Your regular gift helps our dogs to always get the best care until they find new forever homes and helps fund our regional rescue work.

Becoming a regular donor is easy and you have complete control over your giving – you can change your amount, change the timing, set the date and pause anytime if you need to. And the Give Now platform will send you a tax receipt for 30 June with 100% of your donation tax deductible.

**Set up your regular gift now by visiting our website!**  
[www.dogshome.org.au/caring-friends](http://www.dogshome.org.au/caring-friends)

## Santa Paws is Coming to Town!

The amazing Alex and Deb from Houndstooth Studio will once again be gracing the Refuge this year for fun, photos and all the festive feelings!

In last ten years, Santa and the Houndstooth Studio's team have helped raise over \$40,000 for WA's dogs in need. We know this year will be the biggest and best ever, so if you've never attended before – it's \$35 for 1 or 2 dogs and \$50 for up to 3 dogs, and you will receive a digital image we know you will treasure. Santa will be waiting in his Grotto and Alex will be ready to capture that unique photo on Sunday 5th December starting at 9.30am and ending around 2.30pm.

No bookings just come down. Plus, we have a big Christmas market with Wag Bags, mini-jumble and much more. Alex will once again be donating 100% of the proceeds raised on the day.

**Massive thanks to Houndstooth Studio for your time and talent in making this event possible.**



**Houndstooth Studio** by Alex Cearnis

## How to support our Home

There are many ways you can support the Dogs' Refuge Home so we can continue to rescue and re-home WA's unwanted dogs.



### Adopt! Don't Shop!

Always search for a rescue dog first



### Leave a gift in your Will

Make a lasting difference



### Volunteer

Become a dog walker or help out in the office, maintenance, gardening, events or fundraising



### Ask for donations in lieu of gifts

Weddings, birthdays, memorials or other occasions



### Foster

We always need reliable foster carers who are experienced with dogs or raising pups



### Become a kennel sponsor or corporate partner

Sponsor a kennel or event, workplace giving, pro bono services or other partnerships

**donate**

### Make a tax-deductable donation

Donate online anytime or join our regular givers – weekly, monthly or quarterly  
[www.dogshome.org.au](http://www.dogshome.org.au)



## Leave a Legacy to Help the Future of Homeless Hounds

As a self-funded organisation, the Home relies solely on the generosity of the community to sustain our operations. Bequests given by animal lovers in their Will have long been a vital source of funding for us and have been the only way to maintain and upgrade our ageing facilities and build new accommodation to support the dogs who come into our care.

As we continue to push further and go to more extreme lengths to save dogs in need, our veterinary and operational costs continue to rise.

We spend every single dollar that we are lucky enough to receive thoughtfully and frugally, the simple truth of our organisation is that we are here for the long haul to save dogs, just as we have been for over 85 years, and just as we intend to continue to do for many more decades.

Gifts in Wills help to secure our future, maintain, and upgrade our ageing facilities and ensure hundreds of dogs, both now and in the future, will benefit from your love and kindness.

**To find out more about leaving a bequest to Dogs' Refuge Home in your Will, please visit:**

[www.dogshome.org.au/leave-a-legacy/](http://www.dogshome.org.au/leave-a-legacy/)