

Chinwag



Summer 2023

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

All our dogs need for Christmas - is you!

Tate Family Foundation – generations of generous dog lovers! Once again, we welcome Jarrad Tate and his incredible family to lead the way in our Christmas fundraiser. We won't be seeing young Chase this year, but we will be seeing his younger brother Bodhi giving extra cuddles to some homeless pups.

Back in the Doghouse

On Sunday 3rd December at 10.30am Jarrad, Bohdi, and our team of dog lovers, will enter our kennels and raise funds while they keep our dog's company. It's four hours of bliss for our dogs who are used to being on their own all day. The Tate Family Foundation have generously agreed to once again match donations up to \$25K so please consider what an even bigger impact your donation will have. The funds they raise will go towards our ever-increasing vet bills and will enable us to continue to say 'yes' when we are asked to rescue dogs abandoned in local and regional pounds who are facing an uncertain future.

The Most Pawesome Gift

This Christmas we hope you will give the best gift we could possibly ask for and support our Doghouse team. We know what our dogs want for Christmas and that's a home of their own, so if you're in a position to adopt or foster that would be even more incredible but if not, even a small donation would be amazing and very much appreciated by our loving and grateful residents.



Christmas at the Refuge

Our In the Doghouse and Santa Paws events are just a few weeks away, and we can't wait to see all of our gorgeous pooches cuddle up for a photo with Santa! We think you'll agree that all of our doggies have been very good boys and girls too, and are definitely on Santa's 'good' list. By supporting our Christmas appeal you can make their lives better, and help us save the lives of even more of WA's homeless hounds.

Every dollar makes a difference:
<https://inthedoghouse2023.raisely.com/>

Follow us on: Facebook Instagram Twitter

Summer 2023

President's Message

We've just celebrated our 88th year with a wonderful, successful Home Open. Seeing our dog loving community come through our gates and join us to help us raise much needed funds really is heart-warming.



Skittles

President:

Karen Rhodes

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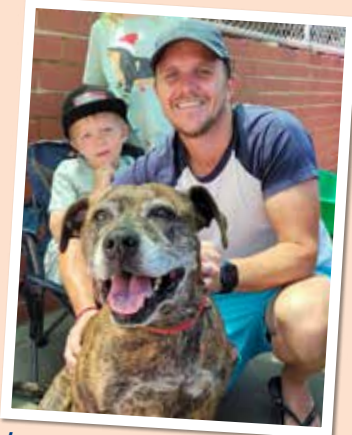
Cali



Fluffy Brian at the Home Open



GM Robyn Slater



Jarrad & Bodhi in the Doghouse

Before



There were lots of new faces this year but also some lovely familiar ones, dogs like fluffy Brian who was adopted 10 years ago after being dumped at a building site with a broken leg. He and his fabulous family have attended every Home Open since his adoption. Our stalls were full of donations from far and wide all sorted and displayed with love and care by the best volunteers in Perth.

And while all of this event planning was happening our dog intake and adoptions have never stopped. We are overwhelmed by the constant calls for help from local and regional pounds and the countless surrender requests we receive every single day. We have every available kennel full, every office and every foster home with dogs who their previous owners no longer wanted but who we all love like our own.

Our total team is outstanding but I'd like to thank and acknowledge our GM Robyn Slater who leads by example in every way possible. Robyn recently took home her latest 110th foster dog, a puppy who was recovering from Parvo and who needed some extra TLC at home. She now has three rescue dogs who are the best foster brothers possible and a very understanding husband who we all admire.

And while our rescue work never stops, we are building two new kennel blocks in the background. One of these kennels is only possible thanks to the incredible generosity of one of our long-term volunteers who we all owe a huge debt of gratitude. We will be celebrating the opening of Freddy's Lodge in December and can't wait to share the photos on our Facebook page and in our next Chinwag Newsletter.

And as we write this newsletter, we are now looking forward to our In the Doghouse event on Sunday 3rd December and I urge anyone who is able, to please donate to the amazing team going in led by Jarrad and Bodhi Tate.

Tate Family Foundation has been generously supporting our Home Open for an incredible 11 years by matching donations up to \$25K. Seeing Jarrad sitting in the kennel with our dogs is fabulous but seeing his adorable dog loving kids join him is even better. This year Chase has tagged out and Bodhi has tagged in and our father and son duo will be cuddling pups and helping to raise funds for 4 hours.

Saying thanks is never enough and our dedicated supporters don't expect or want anything other than to help us save more dogs which we promise we will continue to do for as long as you support us.

I wish you all a wonderful Christmas filled with lots of doggie hugs and kisses – and if you don't think you'll get enough, please pay us a visit and consider adopting, fostering or volunteering.

Karen

After - Almost Ready for the New Residents



2023 Home Open RECORD BREAKER!

**Thank you to everyone who attended our 2023 Home Open.
With your support, we raised over \$35,000 – our best result ever!**

It takes a village of dog lovers to help us put our Home Open together each year. We call on generous members of the community to bake for our cake stall, propagate seedlings for the plant stall, donate items for us to sell at the Jumble Sale and of course come along on the day and take part in all of the fun!

Perhaps the largest part of that dog-loving community is our incredible group of Volunteers who without, the home Open simply would not be possible. Our

volunteers assist with all of the above tasks, as well as manning stalls on the day, greeting customers, sorting and pricing Jumble Sale items as well as event set up and pack down. There is also a dedicated team of dog walkers who ensure all our dogs are walked nice and early over the weekend so they are safely back in their kennels before the gates open. Thank you to each and every one of you, we are so grateful.

The Home Open is one of our largest fundraisers for

the year and provides us with vital funds that allow us continue saving and rehoming dogs from across WA. We would also like to thank the **City of Subiaco** for generously supporting our event with a Community Development Grant, as well as the following local businesses for their support of goods and services: **Big W, Bakers Delight Wembley/ Subiaco, Freedom Fairies, Brace URSelf, Pat Murphy's Collectibles and Ziwi Peak.**



PUPTASTIC ENRICHMENT!

Our team of passionate dog lovers are always coming up with new ways to keep the dogs feeling enriched while they wait for their forever homes.

This year, thanks to our dog trainer Lisa, we have implemented a range of enrichment activities which allow the dogs of DRH to feel more fulfilled, satisfied and happy. Every dog receives a 45 minute walk each day, however with dogs staying at the Refuge for a longer period on average, we knew we had to provide more enrichment to help with the dogs overall welfare.

Our goal is to reduce stress in dogs, we know that licking releases calming hormones and helps minimise anxious behaviours and exposure to new scents reduces stress related behaviours, and increases time spent resting.

Most daily meals are fed in enrichment items like kongs, lickimats or puzzle toys, as an extra treat and a hound favourite is peanut butter frisbee's

attached to the front of their kennel! The animal care attendants have been very creative with enrichment, using things like ice trays, frisbees, and freezing the treats to add an extra element. As well as putting in the time to find out what style of puzzle and food the dogs prefer, ensuring they are enjoying their specific enrichment.

In addition to the daily enrichment, the newer style kennel blocks provide under floor cooling and heating and a mist spray for the warmer days, this allows for a much nicer experience for the time spent in the kennel.

Our goal is to provide the highest level of care for each and every dog, kennel life can be very stressful so we alleviate that every chance we can!



You can help us too!

We'd love donations of enrichment toys like Kongs, Lickimats and puzzle toys.

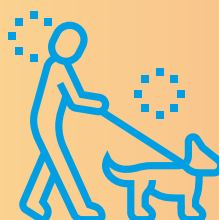
<https://www.dogshome.org.au/shop/donate/donate-lickimat/>



Our Pawesome Year 2022-23



DOGS ENTERING SHELTER



1552

461 Puppies







1091 Dogs

ADOPTIONS

1394



Where Our Dogs Come From

	2022/23
 Pound Rescue	980
 Owner Surrender	307
 Other Rescues	4
 Council	33
 Dogs Returned	159
 Shelter Offspring	69

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.

620

Saved from Metro Pounds

We visit pounds across the metro area. Our key partners are Wanneroo (93 dogs), Gosnells (93 dogs) and Armadale (103 dogs) with another 178 dogs coming from Bayswater, Canning, Kalamunda and South Perth.



360

Saved from Regional Pounds

Another great year with more and more dogs arriving from regional communities. The 360 dogs saved includes dogs entering our care from regional pounds and other rescue groups. With intake requests at an all time, we make great efforts to travel to regional areas and save at risk dogs. This financial year 184 dogs arrived from Geraldton, 26 dogs arrived from Broome, 30 dogs from Kalgoorlie and 27 dogs from Bunbury.



611

Foster Dogs



Another huge year for our foster team with 611 dogs (including 334 puppies) spend time with one of 330 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. A huge thanks to our Foster Coordinators too for their amazing work placing dogs and puppies into temporarily homes.



PUPDATE!

Honey's Home in the Hills!



Honey arrived in our care in 2022, thanks to a kind man who dropped her to a local pound after finding her as a stray. Honey was just a pup herself, not even a year old but she was heavily pregnant and we needed to find her a foster home, fast. Thankfully there was an amazing couple who took her in and ultimately fell in love!

"It has been some 8 months since we took Honey on a 'foster'. We took her into our home after a traumatic birth so she could recover, and quickly became besotted with her. She went back to the Refuge once - for her adoption!

She loves lazing in the sun and being wherever we are. She is a cuddle bug and will climb in your lap if given half a chance.

She will chase a ball, she just isn't so good at the concept of bringing it back yet! Water is a work in progress, but it has been amazing to watch her go from a dog who wouldn't put a paw in a puddle to one who will walk across logs over creeks, sample all the puddles, and even get up to her ankles in water.

It is hard to imagine what life would be like without Honey. She keeps us entertained with her quirky playing style (she gives her toys CPR and I have retrieved a toy she had thrown between the curtain rail and the wall) and is a wonderful companion. Thank you for all the work that you do in giving dogs like Honey a second chance."



HERO HOUND!

From the street life to the sweet life! In just 3 months of being adopted, Jimbo is doing amazing things with the help of his mum Nat!

Nat is a wonderful foster carer and has helped many of our long term pooches find their forever homes, over the past 3 years. When Nat met Jimbo she instantly fell in love and knew he'd be the perfect dog for her.

Jimbo the American Staffy arrived in our care after being found roaming the streets by the rangers, he was underweight and it was obvious he had a less than ideal start to life. He really landed on all four paws as soon as he met Nat, and it's safe to say his life looks very different now.

Thanks to Jimbo's gentle energy and beautiful nature, he scored himself a job at Banksia Hill Detention Centre, accompanying Nat as a youth mentor.

Natalie say's: "Jimbo is a super adored pooch at Banksia Hill. Young people and staff alike are genuinely taken with him, and there is a very real emotional shift on the floor in his presence. He brings a calm energy that helps the young people open up and talk about their issues. Jimbo not only is a great asset in this community work but also is a great ambassador for the Staffy breed."

This hero hound has been recognised by RSPCA WA as an "animal champion" for his exceptional contribution to the WA community and incredible impact he makes on young people, winning a gold award at the RSPCA Welfare Awards!

We couldn't be more proud of Jimbo, thankful for Nat and this story solidifies our motto, **rescue is the best breed!**



Can you help us?

We are in desperate need of foster carers, with our kennels consistently full we aren't able to rescue more dogs without safe and loving homes.

We especially require foster homes for pregnant dogs, puppies, senior dogs and dogs that don't cope in the kennel.

Find more information on fostering here:
<https://www.dogshome.org.au/foster-a-dog/>

Foster Favourites

It was an enormous year for our foster dogs, with 611 dogs, including 334 puppies, spending time away from kennels and in loving temporary homes. This is an increase of 145 from our previous financial year.

With adoptions slow and dogs facing a longer stay in kennels before they find their forever families, it is more important than ever that we have an army of foster carers ready to give our dogs a much-needed break. Kennels are also no place for young puppies during their crucial development period, and with puppy numbers sadly skyrocketing, we've relied heavily on our foster carers to take in our very cute but very cheeky pups until they are ready for their forever homes. We have suffered under a record number of parvovirus cases, and our carers have been amazing taking in these special cases that need an extra strict quarantine stay, even post recovery.

It's not just puppies that benefit from foster care. With long termer Harley B about to start an adoption trial, we want to say a huge thank you to his dedicated foster carer, DRH volunteer Sally. There were times where we questioned the future for a dog like Harley. Harley, the most beautiful, sensitive, cuddly boy who would also chew anything he could get his mouth around and found it very difficult to relax. Sally has spent

months and months working with trainers on positive techniques that have allowed Harley to now be able to settle in the home environment. The progress has been slow, and Sally has been so patient, but it's all worth it to give Harley a chance at a loving home of his own.

Our dogs also love Ruth's retreat. Long term volunteer Ruth and her partner Matt have taken in countless dogs over the years, and always seem to have at least one foster friend in their home. Their current foster, DRH boy Mansa, finds it difficult to trust men, but with the right, gentle approach from Matt he is learning that not all men are mean!

Our General Manager, Robyn, and her family are also foster addicts, celebrating their 110th recently, and foster failing for the third time.

Fostering truly saves lives, so if you are not in a position to adopt but would like to help give a deserving dog a taste of what a loving home should feel like, please apply here:

www.dogshome.org.au/foster-carer-application/



2024 Calendars & Christmas Cards

It's the most wonderful time of the year! We're old fashioned here at the Dogs' Refuge Home and still love sending Chrissy cards and writing on a paper calendar!



At just \$10 and with 100% proceeds going to our dogs, our Christmas cards and 2024 Calendars are not only adorable, but they are a major fundraiser for our Home. You can feel good about giving knowing you are also giving back to our dogs!

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**. Purchase at the Refuge or via our website.

HUGE thanks to our sponsors this year; **Big W**, **BG&E Resources**, **Evoke Media**, **Creative Canary** and **Diversifi Pty Ltd**. Another special thanks to **Dennis and the team at Quality Press Australia**.

Shop at the Refuge or online!
www.dogshome.org.au

Thank You To Our Friends and Sponsors



Kennel Sponsors

Thanks to the following people and businesses who have sponsored or renewed their kennel sponsorship since June 2023

Floreat Forum

Taz's Pet Doors (4 Kennels)

Denise Hilsz & Alan Pittman

IJM Foundation Pty Ltd

Boutique Realty

Swan Urology

Resolve Finance

Crown Resorts Foundation

Joanna Ward • In Memory of Claire Ward

May Day Dog Rescue Club Inc (2 Kennels)

Gail Archer

Renuka R • In Memory of Forever Foster Buddy

Ros Stynes

Roof Force

Cassandra Lajeunie • For Juniper

Justine Winston Smith

Ewa Ostrowska-Jelonek • In Memory of Peanut

John Long for Pippen

Duck Duck Bruce

Lions and Tigers

Ray White - Russell Dohmen

Jackie Chin • In Memory of Pippin

Lewis & Williams Wedding 03/02/2023 • From Tilly

Right Track WA Financial Planning



Taz Kennel Buddy

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

Become a

'Caring Friend'

'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

Evoke Media

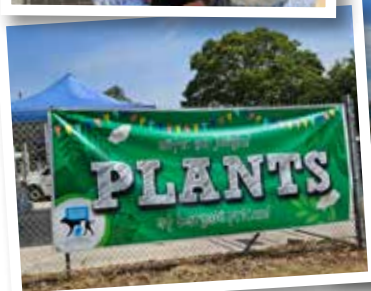
– amazing business, fabulous family.

Big thanks to Elaine & Zane and the amazing team at Evoke Media for their ongoing support of our Home and our dogs.

Besides helping us with signage around our Home and sponsoring kennels they produced the fabulous donation bins at Karrinyup and Whitfords shopping centres which are regularly filled with much needed goodies.

They often produce signs in record time like the large Plants banner which attracted lots of attention at our Home Open and helped us to raise nearly \$4K in plants alone. And their lovely daughter Airlie often helps us with puppy adoptions on the weekend.

We simply could not do what we do without support from our community and businesses who support us.



Say cheese!

Santa Paws is back

The amazing Houndstooth Studio will once again be back with Santa, ready to take that perfect Christmas card photo of your boys and girls who are all on Santa's 'good' list.

In the last 11 years, Santa and the Houndstooth Studio's team have helped raise over \$50,000 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 still just \$35 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 3rd 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.

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



How to Help



Donate via: <https://inthedoghouse2023.raisely.com/>

Or by filling in and returning the slip enclosed with this leaflet.

Foster Being a foster carer is an extremely rewarding and fulfilling experience. We are always on the hunt for experienced, temporary homes that can assist with training and rehabilitation ahead of adoption. We also rely on our **amazing foster team** to take in litters of puppies, care for dogs who are unwell or provide a safe home or temporary respite for dogs who do not cope in the kennel environment.

Advocate Help us spread the word by asking all of your friends and family to Adopt! Don't Shop! Join us on social media and **LIKE, SHARE & COMMENT on our posts** to help us find homes for our dogs. Find us on Facebook, Twitter, TikTok, Instagram and LinkedIn. Remember to use **our favourite hashtag #rescueisthebestbreed**, because every adoption is a healthy life saved.

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

Adopt We think '**rescue is the best breed**' and if you come along to the Home with an open mind, you might be amazed at the perfect match our team finds for you. You can see all of our available dogs and read their profiles online, or visit the Refuge 7 days a week from 11am-4pm.

Volunteer If you have time on your hands and can commit to regular volunteering, we have a **HUGE range of jobs available** for dog loving supporters. From dog walking and ground maintenance, to office support or help at events, the possibilities are endless! Visit our website to learn more. Refuge 7 days a week from 11am-4pm.

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/

