



FOSTER CARER CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT – 2014/2015

The 2014/2015 year has been a good one for ARF. We have lost some foster carers and gained some new ones, and have a strong team who work well together and support one another.

We have approximately 35 active foster carers as at the end of June, which includes quite a lot of new carers. The Volunteers' facebook has been very successful in aiding communication between carers including sharing stories, posts on training.

We changed websites during this year, and after some teething problems, it is working well though there are improvements we hope to make in the following year.

Training for foster carers has continued and in March we had two information sessions for carers which were very well attended. Other training included well attended workshops with the K9 Company, Raelene Koerber and Trish Harris.

ARF Christmas party was again held at Raelene and Malcolm Stewart's farm. Many thanks to them for opening their home to ARF both for training and for ARF's Christmas party.

Our temp testers have again done an amazing job. DAS, Queanbeyan and Yass Pounds continue to hold a high rehoming rate in partly because of our involvement and we are now testing at Goulburn as well which is also seeing an improvement in rehoming. Big thanks must go to our pound liaison officers Beverley Margosis, Lyn Boyer and Lucy Butterfield who work so hard to save these pound dogs.

A huge thanks must also go to the Rescue Sub-Committee (RSC) made up of Dallas, Tess, Lyn, Bev, Lucy, Sarah, Nerida, Narida, Mel, Lisa and Helen. The RSC meet regularly and is responsible for everything to do with foster carers and dogs, including organising training and coming up with new policies and procedures. A special thanks to Nerida, ARF's Vet Liaison for giving advice and support at all hours whenever it is needed and to Tess for filling the ever growing administration role.

Stats this year are

- We rehomed 133 dogs this financial year,
- We welcomed dogs from 6 new pounds,
- We saved 53 small dogs, 18 large dogs and by far the most – 93 medium dogs
- We had 4 foster fails this year, Crystal, Brody, Brownie and Lucy

Although we haven't officially had a Foster Carer Co-ordinator this year, our group of hard working mentors have filled this gap and supported foster carers with advice and assistance wherever needed. Many thanks to all of you for this.

Finally many thanks to all our foster carers who have taken dogs in need into their homes and our temp testers, all of who have made it possible to save the lives of 133 dogs this year.

Helen Shannon
Rescue SubCommittee