

ACT RESCUE AND FOSTER

# CHINWAG

AUTUMN 2015



Hi, I'm Gemma, and I'm modelling my new coat from Café Press.



You can get heaps of ARF stuff on line and donate at the same time. You can get water bottles, bags, clothing, mouse mats and geeky stuff—and a fabulous coat like mine!



Visit [www.cafepress.com.au/actrescueandfoster](http://www.cafepress.com.au/actrescueandfoster) and get your cool ARF stuff today!

## ABOUT ARF

ARF is an incorporated association of people in the ACT and surrounding NSW region who rescue dogs from euthanasia and foster them in their own homes for as long as it takes to find them loving permanent homes. All dogs are de-sexed, vaccinated, wormed and micro-chipped before going to their new homes.

## IN THIS ISSUE

Puppies Galore!	2
Book Reviews	4
Hitchhiker's Guide to Moving Overseas	10
Where are they Now?	6
Events and Happenings	7
Canberra Vets	14
Latest Adoptions	12
We know what you did last summer...	15

## COVER: DEVON THE DACHY!

Devon was one of nine Dachsund X pups who came into care earlier this year. Read about Devon and their rescue in our cover story—Puppies Galore!

If you are looking for your new best friend check our available dogs at [fosterdogs.org/available-dogs-gallery](http://fosterdogs.org/available-dogs-gallery)

## CHINWAG TEAM:

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WE WELCOME COMMENT AND FEEDBACK ON CHINWAG INCLUDING SUBMISSION OF ORIGINAL ARTICLES, AND BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS.

CONTACT OUR EDITOR AT:  
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## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Our peak period for stalls in Canberra and the region continues with great success. Our wonderful stalls team, headed by Carol Anderson, has been hard at work and just completed another three-day marathon at the

Canberra Show. Check out future stalls at [fosterdogs.org/category/events](http://fosterdogs.org/category/events)

And speaking of stalls manager Carol—this dedicated volunteer has been nominated for a Master Dog Breeders Association Award for fundraiser of the year. Equally deserving of nomination in these same awards is long serving foster carer Lyn Boyer, nominated Foster Carer of the Year, and Nerida Winters nominated for Outstanding Contribution for Canine Affairs. The winners will be announced in May. Best of luck Carol, Lyn and Nerida!

The work of our temperament testers and foster carers never stops; not even for Christmas, New Year, Australia Day, or Easter. This quiet and determined army of volunteers is achieving wonderful results for our doggy friends, assessing them, caring for them, and finding the right homes for them. Likewise the committed vets who look *ARF*ter our precious foster dogs, day in, day out ...

Don't forget to buy your tickets for our 2015 Mother's Day raffle. Fantastic prizes include wine fridge, exclusive jewellery, dinner and show, Nutrimerics package, two days at the coast with your dogs, kitchen gear, plus lots more. Total prize value \$2,400 and tickets \$2 each. Contact [info@fosterdogs.org](mailto:info@fosterdogs.org)

Thank you again for being members of this great organisation and for supporting our work.

### Wendy Parsons

President ACT Rescue and Foster

# COVER—PUPPIES GALORE!

Who doesn't love puppies?

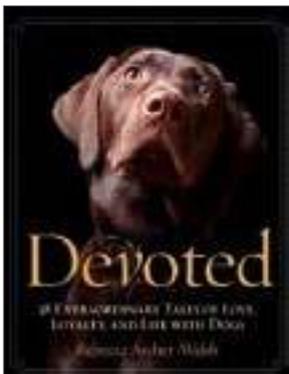
Well, ARF do obviously as at end January we took nine (yes, that's right, NINE) Dachsund X puppies—aged between four and 13 months—into care. The puppies (listed below) were split across six of our most experienced carers; Mel (1), Helen (1), Karen (1), Dallas (2), Nerida (2), and Lisa (2), with the retrieval, transport, and relocation into ARF care coordinated by Best Friends Pet Rescue with assistance from our very own Lyn Boyer.





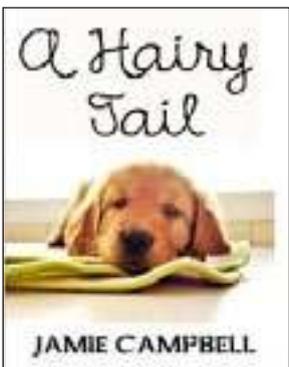
# BOOK REVIEWS

BY AINE DOWLING



**Devoted** is a collection of 38 uplifting and heart-warming stories of doggy devotion and includes dogs who comfort veterans; learn to surf; detect cancer, and save the day! A great little book about amazing dog rescues that will touch your heart.

*Devoted* by Rebecca Ascher-Walsh, Amazon Digital Services 2013, and available in hardback, Kindle, and audio.



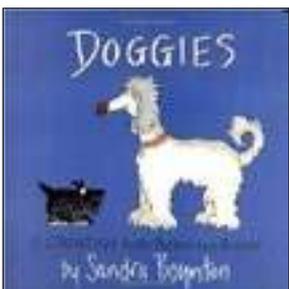
**A Hairy Tale** is the first book in *A Hairy Tale* series of books for teenagers and young adults. Hannah signs up to work at the local shelter during the summer break and sets her sights on finding an owner for sad and lonely dog Basil. Love, paws, fun and fur in this short story of second chances.

*A Hairy Tale* by Jamie Campbell, Amazon Digital Services 2013. Available in Kindle.



**Bailey's Great Escape** is a cute story, told by the puppy, about his determination to free his family and friends from the puppy mill where they live. Bailey takes the readers from days of neglect, to a shelter, and finally to his forever home filled with love. A great book for younger readers.

*Bailey's Great Escape* by Bapps Media, Amazon Digital Services 2013. Available in Kindle.



**Doggies** is a read aloud board book. Don't buy this book unless you're happy to bark along while counting the dogs and all the different barks on each page. Perhaps not the best bedtime story as your child will bark most likely bark themselves to sleep! Later on the child can learn to count the barks themselves. A whole heap of fun for parents and toddlers together!

Voted Number 1 in Children's Dog Books.

*Doggies* by Sandra Boynton (author and illustrator), Little Simon Available as board book.

# IN MEMORY OF SYLVIE STERN

BY BEVERLEY MARGOSIS



Photo courtesy *The Canberra Times*

When I heard that Sylvie Stern had passed away I could not believe it. I knew she was unwell but her passing came as a shock to me, however, even worse than that was when I found out all of her amazing achievements in life and I did not know even half of them. Sylvie was never seen to boast about her many accolades, she just focused on the task at hand, and in my experience Sylvie's task was always to ensure she spent time with every dog in the pound and to give the rangers lovely treats to ensure they felt loved as well!

My memories of Sylvie will be of a generous person that would take her time to get to know every pound dog; she would walk them, sit with them, train with them and just simply love them. Sylvie attended a couple of ARF's foster carer training sessions because she wanted to know that she was doing the right things for the dogs. By attending these training sessions, Sylvie had put what she had learnt into action, and by doing the training she was not only helping ARF know more information about the dogs, she was also calming the dogs down so that they would be much better behaved in the cage and would have more controlled presentation when the public came through for potential adoptions.

Sylvie clearly had a big heart and a lot of drive; the like of which we could all benefit from having just a fraction of. She will be sorely missed in so many different areas around Canberra. She will be missed by all at 2XX radio station where she presented the arts program. She will be missed by some of the music community reaching as far as New York. She will be missed by all the people that she gave a safe place to dance, love and belong in the 90's. She will be missed by the young artists that she encouraged to put their artwork out there into the arts community that would have otherwise stayed underground. She will be missed by Zoe, her best friend and soulmate.

As for me, and speaking on behalf of all the dogs she had a hand in saving, I would like to say a huge thank you to you Sylvie Stern, and I have no doubt that when Sylvie passed over she was greeted by a gigantic menagerie of animals who now have the luxury of her loving company.

Sylvie Stern passed away on 21 January 2015 after a brief illness.

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

We love to receive updates and pics of our adopted dogs. If you have adopted an ARF dog, be it recently or a number of years ago, we would love to hear from you. Contact your foster carer if you have their details, or email [chinwag@fosterdogs.org](mailto:chinwag@fosterdogs.org)

## MAGGIE

After our first little ARF dog Sandy passed away we started to look again at the ARF website. When we were ready to adopt again I kept an eye on all the medium sized dogs and in June 2012 there was something about Maggie, a black and white Beagle cross with a lovely grin. Raelene and Malcolm brought her for a visit and she responded well to our cat Percy so we decided she was the one for us. Raelene mentioned that she loved to sit on chairs and that she had sat on a chair to observe Malcolm fixing a car.



She is affectionate, sweet, still insists on sitting on chairs and couches to the point where she now has her own couch in the lounge room—it was easier! And she LOVES her food. We are so happy ARF gave her a second chance and that we were lucky enough to offer her a forever home. Thank you ARF.

Anne and Saul

## DUDLEY

Remember Dudley the 'koala' terrier? Well here he is in his new home and looking like a totally different dog!

Who would have thought an old fella like Dud would love squeaky toys so much! He discovered them when visiting friends and now has one of his own. I never thought to get him one before. What a negligent mother I am! He is such a happy little dog.

From Liz (through Lyn Boyer)



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# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MDBA NOMINEES!

ARF is delighted to announce three 2015 Master Dog Breeder Association Award Nominees

**Nerida Winters**—nominated for Outstanding Contribution to Canine Affairs

**Carol Anderson**—nominated for Fundraiser of the Year

**Lyn Boyer**—two nominations for Foster Carer of the Year

**Winners will be announced at a Gala Event in Melbourne on 30 May. Good Luck!**

# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## ROYAL CANBERRA SHOW 2015

Thank you everyone for all your wonderful help in making the ARF stall another successful one.

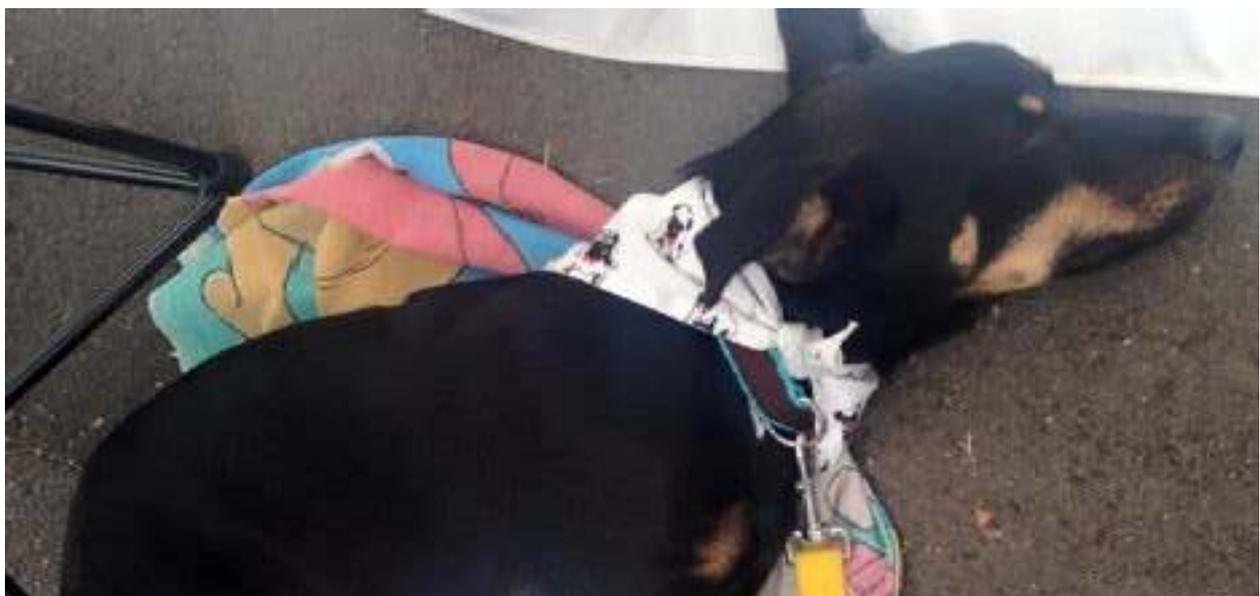
We had an overwhelming number of queries about becoming foster carers, good interest in the dogs on the board, raised **\$1465** in sales and received donations of **\$274.20** and a number of offers of help. A big thank you to our dog ambassadors, especially Topsy, and their carers, and to Tess who came two days in a row. Thanks again Carol.



Foster Carer Raelene Stewart with Topsy



One very happy customer enjoying their ARF Showbag!



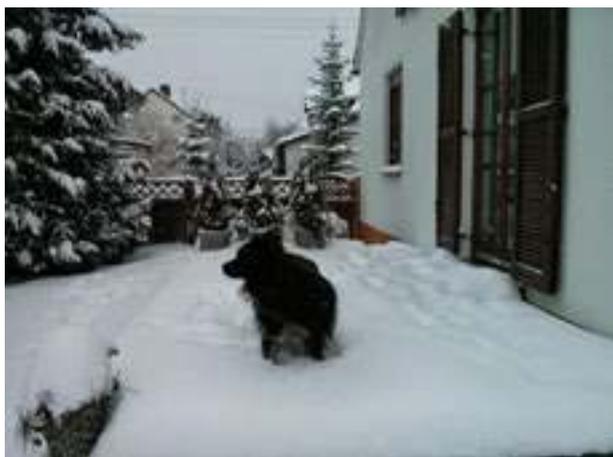
Fly is dog tired after all his hard work at the Show ...

# A HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO MOVING OVERSEAS—WITH YOUR PET

BY ANDREAS BAUER

We have seen or heard it many times before: when people move overseas, whether from Australia to Europe or the other way round, they often leave behind their companion animals, because they find the process of travelling with them too daunting, expensive, or have heard horror stories of months of quarantine, depending on the information they were given online, from pet travel agencies or by word of mouth. It's true that the process of pet travel is not as straightforward as one would wish, not even straightforwardly documented anywhere, but there are few good reasons why one couldn't or shouldn't travel with their furry or feathered friends.

Last year, my wife and I, two cockatiels, travelled from Australia to Germany with two dogs (Emma—a 13 year old Kelpie adopted from ARF in 2007, and Robbie, a Border Collie who came straight out of the pound) and decided to go ahead with the preparations of the move by ourselves. This article outlines the steps and preparation we took in the process.



## THE EUROPEAN SIDE

We kicked off the process by writing to the veterinary officer (airport vet) of the airport, we intended to land in. Somewhat reluctantly, she got back to us with a rough outline of EU regulations that need to be fulfilled in order to import companion animals, that is, the animals need to pass both customs and vet checks at arrival. The checks are more or less the same throughout the EU, except for countries which are considered islands, such as the UK.

As Australia is a listed country according to EU regulation 998/2003 EG, the import of dogs depends on them being:

1. Microchipped with an ISO 15 digit chip.
2. Vaccinated against rabies after the dog is at least three months old and has been microchipped. The chip number must be stated on the vaccination certificate.
3. Issued with a health certificate signed by AQIS/DAFF no more than 10 days prior to departure. [http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/pets/nocomm\\_third\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/pets/nocomm_third_en.htm)

Steps 1 and 2 can be done up to six months prior to departure by a vet who is AQIS accredited and knows the processes and corresponding forms. You can obtain a list of accredited vets from [www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/export/live-animals/companion/vets](http://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/export/live-animals/companion/vets)

The good news is that as far as the European side is concerned, we're almost ready to go and haven't even spent a lot of money yet. However, for such a long distance with stop-overs and potentially rough baggage handlers abound, your animals, especially the bigger ones, cannot simply be dropped into plastic containers on their big day. What is needed, and usually even demanded by the airlines, are IATA approved travel crates



tailored to the needs of your animal. Pet travel organisations will usually provide them for you, but since we were on our own, we measured our animals (height, width, weight etc) and arranged [www.animalcratesaustralia.com](http://www.animalcratesaustralia.com) to ship us three wooden and rock solid crates according to specification. In theory, one can build them without external help, but the IATA specifications are not available online and cost several hundred dollars to order. All three crates—two for the dogs and one for both birds—cost around \$1,000, plus shipping.

It is really important to get your animals used to the crates months ahead of the trip so that they're not freaking out when the door is locked and they're being taken away in them. Customs, airlines and vets all recommend to put a lot of newspaper on the floor of the crates to soak up urine and water during the trip, and we added some old carpet, cut to fit the crates, to make it more comfortable.

## THE AUSTRALIAN SIDE

Although we were in Australia at the time, the Australian requirements for exporting pets were a lot harder to come by, since they are not communicated as clearly. Instead, AQIS/DAFF request you contact them in order to lodge a Notice of Intention to Export Live Animals ([www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/export/live-animals/companion](http://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/export/live-animals/companion)) and then guide you through the process. While this may be easier for some, we found it more confusing at first. A minor hiccup arose in that said notice required an import permit from Germany for all four animals, while the German vet told us that such permits are no longer issued. It took some convincing and showing of email communication to demonstrate to AQIS/DAFF that we knew what we were doing and wouldn't be stranded at the airport after arrival; not being able to bring the animals in or out of the country. In the end the AQIS/DAFF staff guided us through the process very well. Keep in mind that almost each communication and form with or by them requires some fees. So the expenses do accumulate the closer you get to the departure date.

The main responsibility of AQIS/DAFF was:

1. To help quarantine our birds at home for one month prior to departure and to make sure we understood and followed the given quarantine procedures.
2. To visit us on the day prior to departure and give the animals a final health check and fill out the health certificate (see 3 above).

As far as preparations go, this was mostly it. The birds required a few more forms from the European side, including proof that they were not a protected species, and an owner's declaration to state that import was for non-commercial purposes.

# A HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO MOVING OVERSEAS—WITH YOUR PET (CONT...)

BY ANDREAS BAUER

## THE AIRLINE SIDE

When we were ready to book and fly it turned out that airlines mostly don't deal with private people, when it comes to animal travel, so in the end we had to use a pet travel company. In our case we found a small one-man company in Queensland whom we chose because of their experience of dealing with birds.

Most people let their dogs fly days or sometimes weeks ahead of their own itinerary, and have someone at the other end to take care of them. With birds, however, it is a requirement by the EU that the owner and the animals are on the exact same flights, and because of that we booked our trip so that all six of us were always on the same plane. At each stop over, we witnessed the baggage handlers load and unload our animal crates near the terminal. So we always knew that no animal got left behind or put on the wrong plane as it occasionally happens with luggage. Remember, your animals are with the luggage and are handled as such!

## THE AIRPORT SIDE

In hindsight, it would have been better for us to also use the pet travel company to get our animals through customs in Germany. It took us nearly a full day until we saw the animals again, as they were basically cargo after arrival and we had to rent a van, enter the cargo terminal of the airport and then hunt down our load by using the shipping/freight number. This is the most important number, without which it is extremely difficult and time consuming to trace the animals and the number is given to you by the pet travel company. The cost for all the forms on the ground, munchies and relevant checks is easily over \$400.

## HAPPY ENDINGS

After all this, the dogs looked as if they merely had another boring day at home in front of the sofa. The same can be said for the birds, who didn't appear stressed at all from the long trip. Only one bird had almost bitten off his leg ring, which he was required to wear for identification purposes (basically serving the same purpose as the dogs' ISO chips). We were lucky in that it fell off completely two days later and not during the trip. In the end, we can't think of too many reasons to move overseas without your pet. Now, more than a year later, both birds, Emma and Robbie couldn't be happier in their new environment.



## LESSONS LEARNT

In summary, the whole process isn't rocket science. Anyone can do it, although when we enquired at pet travel companies they told us otherwise. It is, after all, part of their business model to tell you that moving with animals is so difficult that only they can do it. However, had we involved them earlier, we could have saved ourselves the ordering of the crates, for example. What is very important is that the health certificates issued by AQIS/DAFF prior to departure are signed and stamped on each page and filled out correctly. This is the most important document to get going at all. And when arriving, the most important thing is to know the shipping/freight number. There was no quarantine for the animals after arrival, but had we flown to England instead of Germany the dogs would also have needed a special de-worming treatment and potentially an anti-body test prior to departure in

order to see if the rabies vaccine had a sufficient effect on the dogs' bodies. In general, the procedures for most EU countries are very similar, and there is little reason to not travel with your best friends, when moving overseas.

You can get lots of information on travelling overseas with your pet from the IATA website at <http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live-animals/pets/Pages/pets-countries-regs.aspx>. The site includes EU, non-EU, and listed countries and their regulations and requirements. It also has advice and tips on dealing with airlines, and preparing your pet for air travel including familiarising your pet with its crate, kennel or cage, health and food recommendations prior to travel, and the use of sedation or tranquilisers.



# LATEST ADOPTIONS

**If you are interested in adopting an ARF dog please go to [fosterdogs.org/available-dogs-gallery](http://fosterdogs.org/available-dogs-gallery) and contact the carer directly.**

If you would like to become a foster carer for ARF please contact [info@fosterdogs.org](mailto:info@fosterdogs.org). We also work closely with other rescue groups and pounds in the region and NSW, so if you're after a particular breed/size of dog please complete a Dog Wanted form from our website and we may be able to assist you in your search.

It's certainly been a puppy start to the year for ARF! As well our nine Dachys featured in our cover story we assisted the owner of nine puppies, born to a rescue dog, to find their forever homes. They were; Goldie, Cassy (now Pepper), Miss Piggy, Ginger, Mabel, Stella, Ronaldo (now Ben), and Pepper (now Ellie). Here are pics of the little tykes aged 8 weeks!



**DALLY**  
Adopted 30 January



**RONALDO (NOW BEN)**  
Adopted 16 January



**CASSY (NOW PEPPER)**  
Adopted 15 January



**MISS PIGGY**  
Adopted 15 January



**GOLDIE (NOW ARCHER)**  
Adopted 14 February



**GINGER**  
Adopted 16 January



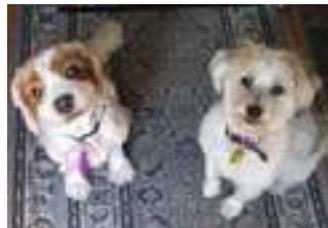
**MABEL**  
Adopted 12 January



**STELLA**  
Adopted 15 January



**PEPPER (NOW ELLIE)**  
Adopted 15 January



**And finally; a lovely golden-oldie finds her forever home**

**CRYSTAL (LEFT) AND HER BRO' SAM**

Crystal is a 10 year old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel who came into care on 17 December 2014. Crystal is a 'golden oldie' and is sight impaired, but loved her foster carer and family (including foster bro' Sam) so much that she decided to stay with them. Crystal was formally adopted by her foster carer, the lovely Carlene, on 17 January.

Welcome home, Crystal!

# CANBERRA VETS—ANGELS IN DISGUISE

A number of Canberra vets, and their teams, work closely with ARF on many issues including desexing, vaccinating, micro-chipping, accidents and emergencies.

We thought we should highlight the great work that many of our vets do to assist the dog rescue community, so we've included some lovely comments from our foster carers who have had to make use of emergency and ongoing veterinary care in recent months. A list of ARF vets is included below.

## CANBERRA AND REGIONAL VETS CURRENTLY WORKING WITH ARF:

**Bungendore Veterinary Surgery**

**Gables Veterinary Clinics (Monash and Karabar)**

**Inner North Veterinary Hospital**

**Inner South Veterinary Centre**

**Queanbeyan Veterinary Hospital**

**Wanniassa Hills Veterinary Clinic (Wanniassa foster carers only)**

**West Queanbeyan Veterinary Hospital**

**Woden Weston Animal Hospital**

**Yass Veterinary Hospital**



“ **The Gables and The Woden Weston Animal Hospital** were outstanding with my Parvo cases; always keeping me informed of developments daily. Making sure I had all the medication the pups needed and always available, calm and rational when I called to talk things through. The pups survived because of our fantastic vets and nurses and I'm sure the continuous gory cleanup was not pleasant for them. A wonderful support though a very difficult time. We are lucky to have such consummate professionals supporting our organisation. ”

Ann Natalie Paterson, Foster Carer

“ **The Gables** were wonderful with my Bobby's kidney failure when I was fostering him (prior to adopting him!). ”

Deborah Johns, Foster Carer

“ I have always had pleasant experiences with all of the vets/staff at **Bungendore Vets**. Over the last 6 - 9 months I have had two dogs that became really sick with a virus and each had to stay at the vets on a drip for a week. Every day the vet or one of the staff would ring me and let me know how things were progressing. Without the love and care that they gave them I doubt either would have gone on to be happy re-homed dogs. When I take a dog for desexing they usually give me a call the next day to see how they are, and ask if there are any problems. The vets and staff are never too busy to answer any questions I may have. Their continuing service and concern of the welfare of animals in their care, is fantastic! ”

Judy Spratt, Foster Carer

# WE KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER ...

It's been hot and it's been wet, and our ARF rescues have had a ball over summer. Some found new homes; some met new people, and some learnt new skills. Here are just a few showing off their new tricks.



Above—recently adopted Marley and his new bro' Fly were on high alert at the beach



Above—Bidgee teaches foster Tess to dance 'you put your right leg in, you put your right leg out'



Left—swimming! And learning the fine art of stick retrieval

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## DONATIONS TO ARF

In January we received two wonderful donations in memory of Sylvie Stern.

An amount of \$693 was donated at Sylvie's funeral and wake, as requested by Sylvie's partner Zoe. One other charity also received a donation.

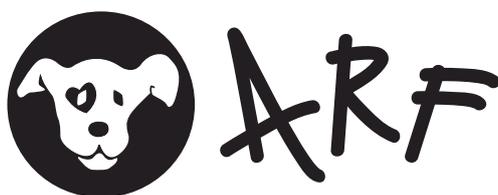
A donation of \$500 was received from ARF Life Member, Di Johnstone, also in Sylvie's memory. Di was made an AO in the Australia Day awards for her community work including dog rescue and animal welfare.

We would like to sincerely thank Di, and Sylvie's family and friends for their most generous gesture.

# THANK YOU!

ARF would like to take this opportunity to thank all our vets, sponsors, members, volunteers and friends for all their support and assistance during the year.

A special thank-you goes to our wonderful team of temp testers who visit DAS and Queanbeyan Pounds every week, and the wonderful work of our carers and associates. Thanks also to those who organise and work behind the scenes on stalls, BBQs and events, and in the production of advertising and marketing materials, including Facebook and ChinWag.



**ACT RESCUE & FOSTER**