

ACT RESCUE AND FOSTER

CHINWAG

SUMMER 2021



COVID-19: WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE VET

HELPING HOMELESS PEOPLE AND THEIR PETS

GETTING TO THE BOTTOM OF GRASS SEEDS

RECENTLY ADOPTED

DOGS WITH JOBS: COVID-19 DETECTOR DOGS

DOG SPORTS: TAIL RUNNER RIVERWOOD DOWNS TRAIL RUN



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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 desexed, vaccinated, wormed and microchipped before going to their new homes.

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COVER: SCRUFFY

Our cover model this issue is **Scruffy!**

Scruffy was an 8 year old terrier cross who came into ARF care in January 2020 after losing his old mate and an interstate move. Scruffy was fostered by Fiona and found his forever home in the leafy 'burbs of the Nation's Capital. Sadly Scruffy crossed the Rainbow Bridge in August 2020.

CHINWAG TEAM

Editor—Angharad Lodwick www.tintededges.com

Assistant Editor—Aine Dowling www.lostfourwords.com

Graphic design—Katie Radojkovic

Contributors—Rose Ciccarelli

Guest Contributors—Dr Anne-Lise Chaber, Dr Anita Bourke and Karen Barrett

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the Summer edition of *ChinWag*!

Although 2020 was a very difficult year, in a lot of ways it was a good year for all the dogs who got to enjoy their families working from home.

In the wake of a global pandemic, this edition has a strong health focus for both dogs and their humans. We meet the dogs being trained to sniff out COVID-19 and learn about the social distancing requirements you might need to adhere to at the vet. We share the latest in treating and preventing grass seeds and bring you the results from Australia's happiest running event.

Although it has been a challenging time, our ARF Volunteers have still been temperament testing dogs in the pounds we collaborate with, fostering dogs, and helping them find their new homes.

A big thank you to all our supporters, and make sure you keep up to date on available dogs and ARF news by following us on social media.

Kathleen Rampant

President, ACT Rescue and Foster



WE WELCOME COMMENT AND FEEDBACK ON *CHINWAG* INCLUDING SUBMISSION OF ORIGINAL ARTICLES, ADOPTION UPDATES AND REVIEWS. IF YOU HAVE ANY FOSTERING OR DOG-BEHAVIOUR QUESTIONS YOU WOULD LIKE ANSWERED OR IDEAS FOR ARTICLES, CONTACT OUR EDITOR AT CHINWAG@FOSTERDOGS.ORG



DOGS WITH JOBS

COVID-19 DETECTOR DOGS

2020 brought with it something nobody expected: a global pandemic. As nations around the world race to develop vaccines and contain outbreaks, some universities are studying how we can better detect COVID-19. ChinWag spoke with Dr Anne-Lise Chaber from the University of Adelaide about their detector dog trial and the dogs involved.

WHAT IS THE COVID-19 DETECTOR DOG TRIAL?

The trial is testing how accurately dogs can detect if people are infected with COVID 19 using sweat samples. Dr Chaber explained that they take sweat samples from people who tested positive on Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR, the test currently done to screen people) and from people who tested negative on PCR. After teaching the dogs to recognise the scent, they then compare how accurately they can detect the scent of infected people. Dr Chaber said that the dogs are able to discriminate between the samples with high accuracy.

HOW ARE DOGS ABLE TO SMELL COVID-19?

Dr Chaber said that the positive sweat samples contain a cocktail of volatile organic compounds (chemicals that evaporate easily at room temperature and are responsible for causing scents), but they are not exactly sure what they are yet.

HOW MANY DOGS ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE TRIAL?

Dr Chaber said that there are currently 15 dogs in the trial. Some

dogs have been provided by Australian Border Force (ABF) and some dogs are search and rescue dogs from MetroFire Services.

WHAT KIND OF SPECIAL TRAITS AND TRAINING DO THE DOGS NEED?

Dr Chaber said that 14 of the dogs are Labradors and one dog is a spaniel. She said that ABF only use Labradors, and the trial requires dogs with a very high work ethic and are selected based on drive and the ability to search. Dr Chaber said that the trial includes a mix of trained dogs and rookie dogs, with rookie dogs preselected and trained but not yet imprinted on any scents. She said that both groups of dogs

are doing well, but the trained dogs are much quicker at being trained to detect this scent. Dr Chaber said that the dogs are rewarded for detecting positive samples with either food, play or a mixture of both. She said that some dogs are given food after each correct detection and then a big play at the end of the session.

WILL DETECTOR DOGS REPLACE COVID-19 TESTS?

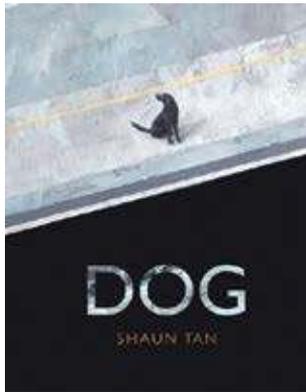
Dr Chaber said that based on the results so far, the dogs are extremely accurate and as accurate, if not more so, than existing COVID-19 tests. However, she said that they will not be replacing standard tests but will rather be an additional tool used.

STAN

- Breed:** Black Labrador
- Age:** 16 months (July 2019)
- Employer:** ABF
- Position:** Rookie (trained but not imprinted)
- Performance:** Very well
- Favourite food:** Chicken



BOOK REVIEWS



DOG

By Shaun Tan

Acclaimed graphic novelist Shaun Tan has released this story, originally published in his collection Tales from the Inner City, as a beautiful standalone hardcover book. With Tan's iconic illustrations, he asks the reader to consider the bond between human and dog and how it has changed (and remained the same) over the ages. This is an incredibly touching book that highlights the loyalty of dogs and the infinite unfairness that our lives are not the same length. An excellent book that would be a treasure on any dog-lover's bookshelf.

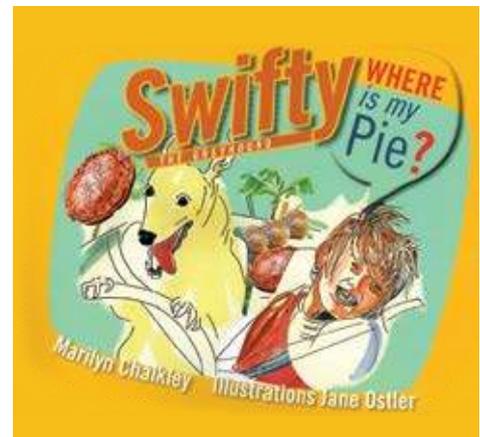
Published by Allen & Unwin in 2020

SWIFTY THE GREYHOUND: WHERE IS MY PIE?

By Marilyn Chalkley and illustrated by Jane Ostler

Local Canberra author Marilyn Chalkley takes us on a light-hearted journey through her rescue racing greyhound Swifty's naughty escapades as she navigates her new life as a pampered pet. Using child-friendly rhyming and humour, Chalkley gently tackles the anxiety of making a new rescue dog feel safe while it tests boundaries in its new home. Illustrated by Jane Ostler, the artwork uses a very wide range of digital, traditional and photography collage styles that may have benefitted from some consistency throughout the book. 10% of proceeds from this book go to Greyhound Connections.

Published by Brogo Books in 2020



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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

GOLDEN OLDIES

We hear from some of our more mature ex-ARFers about how they are enjoying their retirement.



FRED (FORMERLY GUS) BY DEBORAH

My partner and I adopted Gus from ARF back in 2010. We changed his name to Fred, and he is still well and walks on the beach with me every morning. He does have cataracts in both eyes so we either go early or walk in the shade. He is known as "Mr Fred" since he began running the household shortly after he joined our family. We believe he will turn 18 on 4 March 2021. Thank you ARF for helping us find our son and helping us adopt him. He is the most wonderful companion.



BARNEY BY MARY KELLY

Barney, a 10+ year old Staffy, was my introduction to ARF. He was found wandering the streets of Kambah, dehydrated and with a bad case of entropion in both eyes: a condition where the eyelid turns inward rubbing the eyelashes against the eyeball. He required surgery and

with the help of ARF and some of my own fundraising selling chocolates at work, we were able to cover the cost of two separate surgeries on both eyes. His eyes have scars, but aren't irritated anymore. The love that Barney has for people is incredible. He loves getting cuddles and gazing into your eyes and adores children



from toddlers to teenagers. He can't manage long walks anymore, but absolutely loves being in his kiddie pool. He never barks but will give an "awoo" if we take too long getting up to feed him in the mornings. It is the cutest noise and we love him so much. Thanks ARF for rescuing him and introducing him to our family!

BEFORE AND AFTER

Some ex-ARFers have grown up a little since they were adopted!



ANYA (FORMERLY ARYA) BY NAOMI

We adopted Anya at the beginning of 2020 and she has been the biggest joy in our lives. Anya follows us around like a shadow and always knows when we need cheering up. She has been the best therapy and you always know you can get cuddles, especially when my partner who works in Defence is away. The



Great Dane surprise we adopted has been a blessing. She's a huge gentle giant who thinks she can sit on your lap. She makes friends wherever she goes and loves the water and eating bones.



MIKA

Baby Mika went to live in Wollongong in 2018 with her new dad who takes her out to beaches and dog parks and lets her sleep on the sofa. There's a pool in the backyard as well as great weather and a friendly neighbourhood. She certainly landed on her very big paws!

HAPPY SQUISHIES

ARF fosters a lot of squishy dogs and here are some living it up in their new homes.

BILLY BY LOUISE HARRY

Billy was the most placid, polite and well-mannered foster dog who could hear a packet of cheese opened from the other side of the house. His new owners have said "a big thanks to you and ARF for bringing Billy into our lives".



RUBY BY DANNI AND WAYNE

Ruby is just a bundle of pure love and joy. Our family is complete with this beautiful girl. She is an integral part of our life, what a gift your organisation gives. Thank you so very much.

HAVE YOU ADOPTED AN ARFER?

If you would like to share an update about your new best friend, no matter how long ago they were adopted, contact chinwag@fosterdogs.org



HELPING PEOPLE AND PETS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

CANBERRA CLINICS DURING COVID-19

By Rose Ciccarelli

Pets in the Park (PITP) provides free veterinary care for pets belonging to people who are experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness. The all-volunteer organisation holds monthly veterinary clinics on Sunday afternoons in the open-air plaza at the Canberra City Uniting Church. Those clinics closed in March because of COVID-19 restrictions. The mission of Pets in the Park was to figure out how to resume services while keeping everyone safe.

The Canberra chapter of Pets in the Park started in 2017, an offshoot of the national organisation that began in Sydney in 2009 and spread across Australia. Volunteers—vets, nurses, and administrative help—staff the clinics. The health services include free vaccinations, deworming,

physical examinations, and referrals for surgery as needed. For people experiencing homelessness, pets are a much-needed source of unconditional love and support, crucial for mental health. The clinics help people care for their beloved companions.

PITP's clients face added challenges in a pandemic. They can't isolate at home if they don't have one. It's hard to practice good hand hygiene without ready access to soap and water. People on the move may wind up in hotspots, and contact tracing is tough without access to mobile phones or the internet. This population struggles with trust and managing change in the best of times, let alone now. Glen Braithwaite, a Pets in the Park committee member, explained, "We want them to feel listened to and wanted here, and they trust us. But social distancing creates a massive barrier." So how to overcome that?

To reopen, PITP needed a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place. The national organisation gave chapters a template to adapt to their state restrictions. In ACT, those requirements continued to evolve.

The PITP COVID-19 Safety Officer for the Canberra chapter worked with other committee members on a plan. They watched carefully what other chapters were doing, because as the officer noted, "We didn't want to shut down twice." Once the national organisation approved their plan PITP arranged to reopen in August with new procedures, the COVID-19 Safety Officer on site, and a safety briefing for all volunteers.

Separated taped-off areas for welcoming clients, signing in, and waiting for treatment helped to maintain distancing. Each consulting area had chairs to encourage clients to stay an appropriate distance

“

FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, PETS ARE A MUCH-NEEDED SOURCE OF UNCONDITIONAL LOVE AND SUPPORT, CRUCIAL FOR MENTAL HEALTH. THE CLINICS HELP PEOPLE CARE FOR THEIR BELOVED COMPANIONS. ”

away. Volunteers refrained from unnecessary handling of animals (no cuddles) or hugging clients who have become friends.

Everyone, including clients, had to wear masks and use hand sanitiser. Vet teams wore gloves as well. Staff cleaned all stores and supplies between clients and before packing them away. Clients answered health questions at the entry.

To control numbers, new referral notes informed clients when to return for their next appointment. The city worked with PITP to find a spill-over location if needed.

Thankfully, the August clinic went smoothly, and everyone complied with the new requirements. Reorganising the flow of clients to comply with COVID-19 restrictions actually worked better than the original traffic flow. At the August clinic, vets saw 16 dogs, 2 cats, and 2 birds. As clinics continue and COVID-19 restrictions ease, staff are learning what works and revising procedures. The October clinic saw the return of a grooming station, and pets could receive pats again, as long as people social-distanced and used hand hygiene. Glen notes that they are still “innovating new ways to do business.”



How You Can Help

The consumable safety items like masks, hand sanitiser, and cleaning supplies are driving up costs for this charity at a time when conventional fundraising is difficult. If you can help, whether by volunteering or donating, please contact the Canberra Chapter of Pets in the Park via email (canberra@petsinthepark.org.au) or Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/PetsInTheParkCanberra>), or find your local chapter at <https://www.petsinthepark.org.au>.

COVID-19: WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT FROM YOUR VET

By Rose Ciccarelli

When COVID-19 restrictions began, vets developed guidelines on how to safely see their patients. Many turned to “carpark consulting,” where owners stayed in their cars, and staff escorted animals into treatment. With COVID-19 numbers remaining low in Canberra and the ACT, many clinics are taking steps back towards normal operations. What can you expect at your next vet visit?

Social distancing still applies. The one-person-per-four-square-meter rule in interior venues will likely affect how you access the clinic’s services.

Restrictions continue to evolve, so do make sure to call your vet or check the website about current COVID-19 procedures before arriving for your appointment.



- Call before you arrive to check the protocol.
- Good hand hygiene (sanitiser) will be required.
- For clients picking up food or medications, staff members may control entry or bring items out to the car.
- In larger waiting rooms, client numbers will be limited for social distancing.
- In smaller waiting rooms, clinic staff may ask clients to remain in cars until a consultation room opens. An added benefit is that pets aren’t stressed by having strange animals around them in a waiting room.
- Consultation rooms may allow only one owner per pet.
- Social distancing also applies in the consultation room. Clients may be invited to sit a safe distance away during treatment.
- In small consultation rooms, clients may not be allowed to enter with their pets.
- At the beginning of the COVID-19 restrictions, many vets dropped nonessential services such as nail clipping. Some of those services are returning.

Hare Stylez Rabbit Grooming and Care take pride in looking after and grooming your bunny, offering a wide range of services from a nail clipping to full bunny clips. We service Canberra and surrounds.

To book your bunny a groom today head to our Facebook page Hare Stylez Rabbit Grooming and Care, and make sure to follow us on Instagram @harestylezgrooming



GETTING TO THE BOTTOM OF GRASS SEEDS



**By Dr Anita Burke and
Angharad Lodwick**

Summer can bring a lot of challenges for dogs in Australia: hot weather, ticks, snake bites and the wrong kind of holiday leftovers. However there is one insidious health risk that really keeps our dogs on their toes, and that is grass seeds.

Grass seeds may seem small and harmless, but they can be very dangerous for your dog. Grass seeds in the skin can cause pain, swelling, persistent licking, cellulitis and infection. Seeds enter a dog's body like an arrow with the sharp tip digging further in and the serrated tail ("awn") making it very difficult for the seed to move backwards. They can also be inhaled into the nasal cavity and can enter through a dog's ear canal, eyes and even genitals causing grass seed foreign body-related disease (GSFBD) and significant harm.

Dog breeds with medium length, high-density coats are at particular risk of grass seed foreign body-related disease, especially if they have access to farmland.

Some of the most common culprit species of grass are spear grass, barley grass, wild oats and brome grass.

PREVENTION

The most obvious way to stop your dog getting grass seeds is to try to keep your dog away from grass, however for a dog that loves rolling around in the backyard, frolicking in a paddock or tearing through

an off-leash park, that is an almost impossible task. While keeping your lawn mowed and a close eye on your dog's adventures can help, but it is not a guaranteed solution.

Another strategy is to regularly check your dog's coat, eyes, ears and toes and immediately remove any grass seeds you find. To help your dog feel comfortable with being handled, you can use positive reinforcement approaches like The Bucket Game.¹

However, a 2016 study in New South Wales found that checking your dog's coat or even clipping it was not an effective prevention strategy. The study found that the most effective preventative strategy was regular grooming. The study found that dogs brushed weekly or monthly were 4.5 times less likely to get a GSFBD than dogs that were never groomed at all.²

TREATMENT

If you suspect a grass seed is too deeply embedded in your dog's skin for removal, or that your dog has a grass seed in its ear, nose or any other cavity, book in to have it removed by your vet.

TIP

If you think your dog has a grass seed in its paw that you can't remove, try dissolving Epsom salts in a small container of warm water and soaking your dog's paw for 10 minutes. Check to see if the seed has emerged. If not, contact your vet.



Photo by Angharad Lodwick

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF GSFBD

Ear:

- head tilt
- head shaking
- discharge from ear

Nasal Cavity:

- sneezing
- discharge from nose
- change in breathing sounds
- change in breathing rate

Eye:

- eyelid swelling
- change in eye colour
- discharge from eye

Paw:

- swelling
- inflammation
- lameness

¹ https://fb.watch/2QLF_3J8VC/

² Hicks, A., Golland, D., Heller, J., Malik, R., & Combs, M. (2016). Epidemiological investigation of grass seed foreign body-related disease in dogs of the Riverina district of rural Australia. *Australian Veterinary Journal*, 94(3), 67-75. <https://doi.org/10.1111/avj.12414>

RECENTLY ADOPTED

Compiled by Kathleen Rampant

ARF has a range of dogs in care from young puppies to mature dogs. If you are interested in adopting an ARF dog, please go to fosterdogs.org/adopt/available-dogs and contact the carer directly. If you are interested in becoming a foster carer for ARF, please contact carer.recruitment@fosterdogs.org. We also work closely with other rescue groups and pounds in the Canberra region including New South Wales. If you are looking for a dog of a particular breed, size or age, please contact us via info@fosterdogs.org and we may be able to assist you in your search.



HUGO

Rescued: 28 February 2020
Adopted: 13 June 2020



MOET

Rescued: 1 May 2020
Adopted: 20 June 2020



TIGGER

Rescued: 12 November 2019
Adopted: 20 June 2020



RUBY

Rescued: 15 April 2020
Adopted: 26 June 2020



TICHE

Rescued: 24 June 2020
Adopted: 4 July 2020



CLYDE

Rescued: 25 April 2020
Adopted: 5 July 2020



MOLLY

Rescued: 1 May 2020
Adopted: 7 July 2020



XYLA

Rescued: 24 June 2020
Adopted: 11 July 2020



DENNIS

Rescued: 15 April 2020
Adopted: 14 July 2020



BELLA

Rescued: 15 April 2020
Adopted: 14 July 2020



LUCY

Rescued: 11 November 2019
Adopted: 19 July 2020



HANK

Rescued: 30 June 2020
Adopted: 22 July 2020



ZOE

Rescued: 18 June 2020
Adopted: 26 July 2020



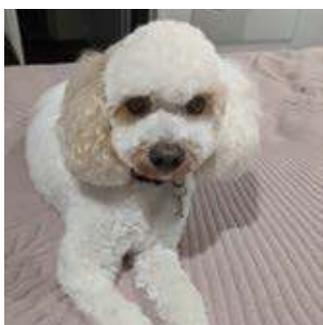
PATCH

Rescued: 24 June 2020
Adopted: 27 July 2020



HAPPY

Rescued: 3 July 2020
Adopted: 3 August 2020



AIMEE

Rescued: 3 July 2020
Adopted: 3 August 2020



MATILDA

Rescued: 26 July 2020
Adopted: 16 August 2020



ROXY

Rescued: 4 July 2020
Adopted: 16 August 2020



ROCKY

Rescued: 8 June 2020
Adopted: 16 August 2020



SPIDER

Rescued: 17 June 2020
Adopted: 21 August 2020



ANGIE

Rescued: 17 June 2020
Adopted: 21 August 2020



MACCA

Rescued: 24 July 2020
Adopted: 24 August 2020



BEAR

Rescued: 25 June 2020
Adopted: 2 September 2020



ZEUS

Rescued: 25 June 2020
Adopted: 2 September 2020



DUSTY

Rescued: 22 June 2020
Adopted: 5 September 2020



GUINNESS

Rescued: 19 March 2020
Adopted: 5 September 2020



BILLY

Rescued: 30 August 2020
Adopted: 10 September 2020



KRYSTA

Rescued: 9 August 2020
Adopted: 13 September 2020



MR CHUBBS

Rescued: 27 August 2020
Adopted: 18 September 2020



CLYDE

Rescued: 29 July 2020
Adopted: 24 September 2020



BRONSON

Rescued: 3 September 2020
Adopted: 25 September 2020



FLEA

Rescued: 24 July 2020
Adopted: 27 September 2020



CLOVER

Rescued: 23 November 2019
Adopted: 27 September 2020



JOEL

Rescued: 28 September 2020
Adopted: 11 October 2020



CHIP

Rescued: 26 August 2020
Adopted: 11 October 2020



JACK

Rescued: 7 August 2020
Adopted: 24 October 2020



DAISY

Rescued: 2 September 2020
Adopted: 26 October 2020



PARKER

Rescued: 30 May 2020
Adopted: 26 October 2020



KUMO

Rescued: 21 September 2020
Adopted: 30 October 2020



SANGA

Rescued: 17 October 2020
Adopted: 1 November 2020



STELLA

Rescued: 16 October 2020
Adopted: 2 November 2020



LOLA

Rescued: 12 October 2020
Adopted: 11 November 2020



CLEO

Rescued: 6 October 2020
Adopted: 15 November 2020



SHEBA

Rescued: 5 October 2020
Adopted: 21 November 2020



BONNIE

Rescued: 29 July 2020
Adopted: 28 November 2020

DOG SPORTS

2020 TAIL RUNNER RIVERWOOD TRAIL RUN

W.C. Fields once said “Never work with animals or children”, and it’s hard enough organising a running event without a global pandemic looming. However, if ever there was an event that ran smoothly and brought smiles to every participant, especially the dogs and kids competing, it was the 2020 Riverwood Trail Run.

Ultramarathon runner Karen Barrett, whose business Tail Runner stocks dog adventure gear including hands-free leashes, started the event in 2017 as a special trail running race where your four-legged running partners are welcome.

About her inspiration for the event, Karen said “My dogs are my training partners. They do the same amount of training I do (well, except the strength work!) and it broke my heart to have to leave them behind



Photo provided by Tail Runner



Photo provided by Tail Runner

every time I went off to compete in an event. I thought that if I felt that way, surely other people felt the same”. Although Karen isn’t able to compete with her dogs, she loves watching and is incredibly grateful to everyone who joins in what she has created and enjoys it for what it is: the happiest trail run in Australia!

The annual race is held at Riverwood Downs, dog-friendly accommodation about a 90 minute drive north of Newcastle, New South Wales.

Each participating dog receives a medal, and dogs that placed first, second or third also received

a trophy. In the 2020 Riverwood Trail Run, there were 74 dogs who competed in the distances of 55km, 30km, 15km and 4km across 25 – 26 July 2020.

There was also plenty of things for dogs to do in their downtime including ordering a puppaccino at the dog-friendly café, ordering from the dog a la carte menu and even getting a doggy massage!

The winning dog of the 55km race was Duke the Kelpie, who completed the course in a blistering 5 hours and 46 minutes. Over 45 minutes later was Sock the Kelpie who came



ABOVE: Award ceremony for the 15km run. Photo provided by Tail Runner.

in second. Then in third place just under 9 hours was Elsie the Kelpie. There were only three dogs in this race so they all got a place.

The 30km race also had strong working dog representation, with first place going to Siro the Short-Haired Border Collie with a cracking time of 2 hours 48 minutes. Second place went to Pepper the Australian Koolie who came in just over 15 minutes later, and she was followed very closely by the amazing Blue the Kelpie who got third place, 3 minutes later and only on 3 legs!

Two more Kelpies placed in the 15km race with Laika winning in 1 hour 11 minutes and Lily close behind for second at 1 hour and



ABOVE: Running the race was the easy part! Getting three dogs to stand on podiums at once, however...Photo provided by Angharad Lodwick.



ABOVE: Dog massage provided by Your Massage Therapist with donations going to Dog Rescue Newcastle. Photo by Angharad Lodwick.

16 minutes. Black Labrador cross Maggie showed that it's not just working dogs who can run and was only a minute behind for third place.

The 4km fun run was very close and Scout the Kelpie secured first place in 19 minutes 36 seconds. Labrador siblings Ollie and Maya took second place together as a team at 20 minutes 3 seconds and 20 minutes 12 seconds respectively. Mia the Border Collie took third place on the podium with a time of 20 minutes 27 seconds.



ABOVE: Three-legged Kelpie Blue who came 3rd place in the 30km race. Photo provided by Tail Runner.

2021 TAIL RUNNER RIVERWOOD TRAIL RUN

Registration for the 2021 event is now open with the 4km, 15km, 30km and 55km events held over 24 and 25 July 2021 in Monkerai, NSW. Check out the Tail Runner events website for more information: <https://tailrunner.events/riverwood-trail-run/>.



RAINBOW BRIDGE

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN.

AUTUMN

The lovely Autumn (Miss April in the 2019 ARF calendar) joined our little family in February 2018 at the ripe old age of around 12 or 13 years. It didn't take long for her to become the centre of our household; the sun we revolved around. We needed healing at that time, and Autumn delivered in abundance. We led a quiet, ritualistic life full of love and affection with no surprises, and this was exactly how she liked things to be. I would often tell her on our twice daily walks that we couldn't have gotten through the past few years without her. I am happy to think how loved she knew she was and how much she loved our life together. Go forth, Autumn girl, over the rainbow bridge. Nothing is holding you back now! We love you chicken noodle and always will.

Amber, Ella and Arky x



who fell instantly in love with her. She was Miss August in the 2021 ARF calendar.

Sadly, her time with her fur-ever home was cut short as she crossed the Rainbow Bridge 10 days later, most likely from a stroke. She now resides under an apricot tree on a large property where she will be able to eat as much grass and as many apricots and foreign objects as her heart desires. A beautiful soul and wonderful companion, this girl will be forever loved in the hearts of her foster carers and fur-ever family.

RUBY

Ruby the 10-year-old Dalmatian was a well-loved senior puppy-at-heart with bouts of playful zoomies, her smaller size and her curious demeanour. Like a cross between a vacuum cleaner and a cow, her nose was always to the ground gorging on 'yummy' leaves, foreign inedible objects and her favourite: unkempt long grass.

Ruby enjoyed playing with her humans and snuggling up under blankets. She didn't grasp the concept of fetch but made up for it destroying fluffy toys. Ruby spent the majority of COVID-19 lockdown in foster care being adored, loved and featured on numerous Zoom calls before making her way to her fur-ever home with a loving family



DANNY DEVITO

Rainbow tribute to the marvellous Danny Devito. He has been loved by Cass and Stee since he was adopted in 2014. He was also a wonderful foster to our dedicated carer Chloe. Doggy heaven is lucky to have him but we'll all miss him.



**TOBY
(FORMERLY SPINNER)**

We adopted Toby and his partner in crime Poppy from you 15 years ago. He passed recently at the ripe old age of 17. We wanted you to know what a happy life they had and how thankful our family is to have had them in our lives. Thank you for all you do.

TINKA (FORMERLY SPOTTY)

Tinka was adopted almost 17 years ago. She was the most amazing gift I could ask for. I absolutely loved her and still love her. Her favourite food was salmon and her favourite sleeping spot was with whatever pile of clothes she could find. The

work you do is absolutely incredible and these animals who are put into such loving homes are a testament to the hard work ARF does. Thank you so much because without you, I would have never found my best friend.



LANDO

Lando came to us as a foster in April 2011, but it soon became clear that he fitted right into our family and became a well-loved foster fail. Lando helped induct four 'Padawan' into our Star Wars Foster Academy who all found great homes. He was also a great big brother to another ARF rescue pup Jett Vader, who he chose personally during a meet and greet (probably because he knew Jett would still let him be top dog!).

Despite his need to tell us people were either walking by or at the

front door with loud barking, he was a beautiful dog who liked nothing more than chilling out with his humans getting tummy tickles, lots of pats and stealing cat food at all opportunities. He was a great dog for the kids growing up and was always to be found curled up in a ball near their beds, depositing huge swathes of dog hair in his wake. Our Star Wars bar in the house is to be renamed 'Lando's' in his honour and it's already far too quiet without him. He is very much missed.



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