

ACT RESCUE AND FOSTER

CHINWAG

ISSUE 1, 2023



ARF VINTAGE RECIPES

**DOGS WITH JOBS: RAVEN
THE TASTE TESTER**

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

ARF'S 3,500TH ADOPTED DOG

**UNRELIABLE RECALLS:
DOG FOOD REGULATION
IN AUSTRALIA**

**WELCOME TO UCPS:
CANBERRA'S ONLY
PET CLUB**

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that makes a
difference!



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 ACTRESCUEANDFOSTER

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ABOUT ARF

ARF is an incorporated association of people in the ACT and surrounding NSW region who rescue dogs 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

Cover girl **Dinah** is a very large crossbreed dog who, despite being in ARF care for over a year, still hasn't found her forever home. She's worked really hard on her training and is great with people. Dinah's photoshoot was generously sponsored by **SavourLife**.

Cover Photo: O Photography

CHINWAG TEAM

Editor—Angharad Lodwick www.tintededges.com
Assistant Editor—Aine Dowling www.lostfourwords.com
Graphic design—Katie Radojkovic
Feature Writers—Rose Ciccarelli, Niña Guno
Guest Contributors—Kalina Jane Reid
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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the first issue of *ChinWag* for 2023!

As we adjust to the new normal, with an uncertain economic situation, dogs continue to be surrendered at an astonishing rate. Dog rescue remains very busy and in March we rehomed our 3,500th dog Rosie.

We know how tough some people are doing it, but if you would like to help us help more dogs, visit www.fosterdogs.org to find out more about making a donation or becoming a foster carer.

This issue we tackle the topic of dog food. Find out all there is to know about food recalls and regulation in Australia. Meet Raven the taste tester. Try out a vintage ARF recipe!

Thank you to all our supporters and volunteers and stay warm.

Angharad Lodwick

President, ACT Rescue and Foster

WE WELCOME FEEDBACK AND CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDING ORIGINAL ARTICLES, ADOPTION UPDATES AND REVIEWS. IF YOU HAVE ANY FOSTERING OR DOG BEHAVIOUR QUESTIONS YOU WOULD LIKE ANSWERED CONTACT OUR EDITOR AT CHINWAG@FOSTERDOGS.ORG

DOGS WITH JOBS

≡ RAVEN THE TASTE TESTER ≡

While all of us have known dogs that will eat everything and anything, when it comes to making dog food and treats, there is a lot that goes into optimising flavour. That's where dogs like Raven come in! When Raven's mum started up the eponymous business Raven & Co Doggy Cakes, Raven stepped into arguably the best dog job there is. *ChinWag* spoke with Kalina Jane Reid about how best to harness a Labrador's talent for eating.

WHAT DOES A DOG FOOD TASTER DO?

A dog food taster gets to taste the foods and decide if it's worth a second sniff, bite or gulp. Having a Labrador can make it tricky at times as they eat anything, but it also means she will give anything a go. She loves new goodies to try!

HOW DID RAVEN BECOME A DOG FOOD TASTER?

Raven has naturally developed her sense of taste since she was born. Being a Labrador Retriever, she wants to try *all* the foods. She started by eating everything and anything that was given to her when she was young. As a puppy and through her adult life, I always give her titbits of things I'm cooking, eating, or have around. Now as an adult she has refined her palette and eats 95% of what she's offered. It's very rare that she turns things down. She even loves spicy foods and toothpaste! She loves teeth-brushing time.



BLACK LABRADORS ARE NOTORIOUS FOR LOVING ALL FOOD, HOW DOES RAVEN SHOW HER DISCERNING SIDE?

Raven only has a few foods she doesn't like. The only things I really ever see her spit out or turn down are uncooked green veggies, herbs and mushrooms. But if they're cooked? She's in.

WHAT IS RAVEN'S FAVOURITE FOOD?

Raven's top 5 types of favourite foods are:

1. apples, carrots, tomatoes and cucumbers,
2. fruit (fresh or dried),
3. toothpaste,
4. liquorice and jelly beans, and
5. anything else available ever.

WHEN RAVEN ISN'T USING HER SOPHISTICATED PALATE, HOW DOES SHE LIKE TO SPEND HER TIME?

When Raven isn't tasting new foods, she is looking for more food, crumbs, or anything edible that might have been left at her height. If she is not successful, she eats grass in the yard. Actually, she spends a great deal of her downtime either sleeping or eating grass like a little moo-cow. That is, until she hears a packet rattle. Recently my mother was annoyed that her new crop of tomatoes was being stolen. She assumed it must have been possums and was trying to catch them for days, until we realised that *Raven* had stolen and eaten the entire haul of tomatoes.



@ravencodogcakes



Meet Courtney Willcox and Daniel Tomas, the co-founders of Chefs & Dogs. With over 10 years of experience as a behavioral dog trainer, Courtney brings a wealth of knowledge to the table, while Daniel's culinary background ensures that their furry friends are served the best possible meals. As proud dog parents to two Australian Kelpies named Joey and Alkai, and a Border Collie named Caelan (whose face is featured on the Chefs & Dogs logo & a foster fail through ARF), the couple is dedicated to providing their pets with a balanced and nutritious diet, along with other forms of holistic care.

Their journey began eight years ago when Joey was diagnosed with lupus. Despite trying various treatments, nothing seemed to work until they consulted a holistic vet,



Dr. Kate Millhouse. Her advice to change Joey's diet and take a holistic approach to his care proved to be a game-changer. With a tailored raw diet and other holistic treatments like massage, titre testing, acupuncture, and Chinese medicine, Joey made a remarkable recovery. This experience made Courtney and Daniel realise the importance of feeding their pets a balanced and nutritious fresh food diet and providing holistic care to enhance their overall health.

Their social media channels are brimming with fun and exciting recipes that will inspire you to cook up a storm for your pets. Whether you're looking to make a hearty ramen for your dog, a birthday cake, or even some homemade treats, we've got you covered.

Chefs & Dogs is currently making the move to the Gold Coast but you can still follow the awesome recipes on their social media accounts. Keep your eyes peeled for the reopening launch on their website.

www.chefsanddogs.com.au



UNRELIABLE RECALLS: DOG FOOD REGULATION IN AUSTRALIA

By Rose Ciccarelli

Pet store employees are often enthusiastic about the dog food they sell, and I have recurring conversations that go something like this: “Have you ever tried XYZ brand? It’s fantastic. Everything is organic and locally sourced.” My first question: “Is it made here in Australia?” If their answer is yes, then the conversation ends with my “No, thank you.” Why is that my knee-jerk response? To understand, let’s take a closer look at the pet food market, the legislation that governs that market, what causes a recall, and how recalls work in Australia.

HOW BIG IS THE PET FOOD MARKET IN AUSTRALIA?

The Australian pet food market accounted for around AU\$3.9 billion in 2021.¹ With an expected growth rate of 2.7 percent a year until 2026, the market will likely be worth about AU\$4.1 billion in 2023. Dogs are the most popular pets in Australia, so dog food sales make up 57 percent of the overall pet food market. While smaller businesses selling fresh and frozen pet meat are grabbing more market share, these five corporations dominate the market: Mars Petcare, Nestle Purina Australia, The Ridley Corporation, The Real Pet food Company, and Riverina.

HOW IS THAT MARKET REGULATED?

Federal and state and territory legislation covers two types of pet food: fresh or frozen pet meat and manufactured or processed pet food.²

Imports

If the pet food comes from another country, then it must comply with the

Quarantine Act 1908. This Act only deals with quarantine issues and does not give the federal government (the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources) the authority to mandate tests, treatments, or recalls of imported pet food.

Domestic products

For domestic products, there are some requirements for labelling. Pet meat must be labelled as not fit for human consumption in all states and territories. Queensland requires manufacturers to state actual ingredients and methods of processing, along with details that allow product tracing. At the Federal level, the Australia Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) steps in under Australian consumer law if a manufacturer’s claims about pet food are misleading.

For fresh or frozen pet meat products, there are minimum federal hygiene requirements for processing animals used to produce pet meat. Also, except for the ACT (which does not have any specific legislation

dealing with pet safety), states and territories prohibit using unhealthy animals as sources of pet meat.

For manufactured or processed pet food, there are no mandatory safety regulations. No government agency in Australia tracks or investigates problems with pet food, and there is no mandated recall system.

WHAT CAN CAUSE DOG FOOD RECALLS?

The reasons dog food can be unsafe and subject to recall fall under four general categories:

- the food contains unsafe ingredients or toxins,
- the ingredients are safe but in too high an amount can lead to toxicity (e.g. Vitamin D),
- the food contains foreign materials such as plastics or metal, and
- the packaging fails to keep the food fresh or safe (e.g. from mould).

¹ <https://petkeen.com/largest-pet-food-manufacturers-australia/>.

² See <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/sites/default/files/sitecollectiondocuments/animal-plant/animal-health/pet-food-safety/enclosure-7.doc>.



HOW DO DOG FOOD RECALLS WORK IN AUSTRALIA?

With no mandatory legislated standard in place for pet food safety, the Pet Food Industry Association of Australia (PFIAA) – which represents “pet food manufacturers, marketers and affiliated industry members” – developed a voluntary standard with the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) “for the manufacture of safe pet foods and treats.” Pet food manufacturers can decide whether they want to follow this standard or not. There is no way to enforce compliance if the manufacturer chooses not to follow it. Known as AS 5812:2017, this standard was published in 2017. Unfortunately, the only way for the public to read it is to go through a paywall.³

To report problems with pet foods or treats, PFIAA and AVA developed a tracking system in 2012. Only vets can use the Pet food Adverse Event System of Tracking (PetFAST) to report issues, not the public. If PetFAST indicates a pattern of cases involving a specific food or treat, then a committee of representatives from PFIAA and AVA meets. This committee decides whether to investigate and whether any recall action should be taken.

If a recall is launched, then the public depends upon the individual manufacturer to inform the news

media for any information. Neither PFIAA nor any government website has a list of recent recalls or an archive of past recalls.

Over the years, many pet owners and organisations focused on pet welfare have been frustrated with the lack of mandatory safety standards and have advocated for change.

Has anything changed?

In 2018, after eating Advance Dermacare, more than 100 dogs sickened or died from a disorder called megaesophagus. As the name implies, the dog’s esophagus enlarges, losing the ability to move food into the stomach. More than three months passed before the manufacturer announced a recall. Around this same time came reports of plastic, metal, and mould in different dog food brands.

These incidents led to a Senate inquiry on the *Regulatory approaches to ensure the safety of pet food*, which recommended (among other things) a mandatory legislative standard for pet food in its findings in 2018.⁴ In May 2018, the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources also sought the support of state and territory ministers for a review of the regulation of pet food in Australia which led to the establishment of a pet food working group.

The Australian Government tabled its response to the Senate committee’s report in June 2021 and responded as follows to the recommendations:

- agreed for the Australian Standard for the Manufacturing and Marketing of Pet Food (AS5812:2017) be made publicly available (for a trial period),
- agreed in part that the Australian Standard for the Manufacturing and Marketing of Pet Food be mandatory,
- agreed that the Australian Standard for the Manufacturing and Marketing of Pet Food be reviewed by the pet food working group,
- did not agree with the ACCC reviewing the process by which the Australian Standard for the Manufacturing and Marketing of Pet Food, following advice from the ACCC that Australian Consumer Law relates to the safety of people not pets,
- agreed in part with the Australian Veterinary Association (in cooperation with the ACCC) exploring measures to improve data capture in the PetFAST system,
- did not agree with the ACCC establishing a system for consumer reporting to enable members of the public to lodge complaints about pet food online, and

³ <https://www.standards.org.au/standards-catalogue/sa-snz/other/ft-033/as--5812-colon-2017>.

⁴ <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/agriculture-land/animal/health/pet-food-safety#report-of-the-previous-working-group>.

- agreed in part that the Australian Government work with states and territories to establish a mechanism to investigate adverse pet food events.⁵

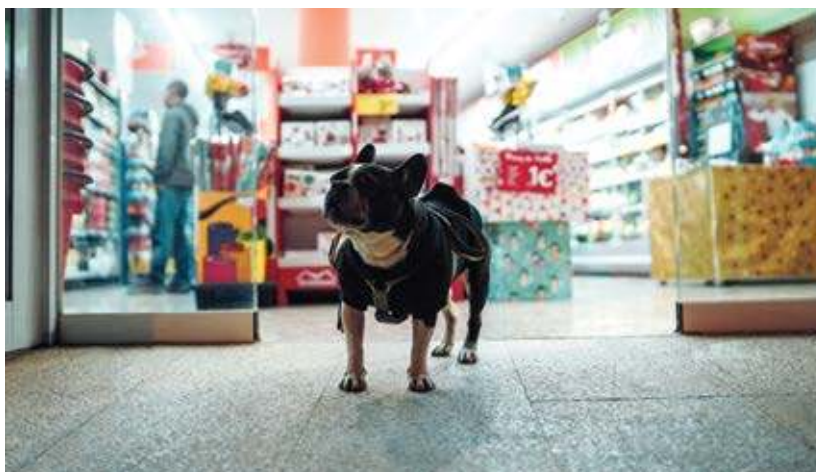
The working group has commissioned two reports: one on pet safety and one on pet food regulation. The Department of Agriculture did not respond to ChinWag's request for copies of the reports.

In the meantime, other incidents continue to occur. Hill's Pet Nutrition issued a global recall in 2019 on 33 varieties of its canned dog food due to toxic levels of Vitamin D. In 2021, more than 20 dogs died in Victoria from eating fresh meat. The culprit was indospicine, a plant toxin found in the horse and camel meat processed by a knackery. Again, there were calls from the RSPCA and others for government regulation and mandatory pet food safety standards.⁶

Manufacturers have pointed to the low number of recalls in recent years as evidence that pet food is safe. However, with voluntary safety standards and no requirement for mandatory recalls, it's impossible to know for sure.

Other countries handle pet food safety differently. In the United States, pet food is regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) along with food for humans, and recalls are mandatory. The European Union also has pet food safety regulations for its member countries. Japan, Singapore, and New Zealand all have enforceable pet food safety regulations. In contrast, Canada has a voluntary system like Australia.

After living here for nearly six years, I still buy dog food that is made somewhere else. Is it better food? Doubtful. But if something goes wrong, can I easily find actionable information? Definitely.



HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR DOG?

Here are some tips for navigating the voluntary pet food safety system in Australia.

Check periodically for recalls

If your dog's food is made in Australia or another country, the manufacturer will have an Australian website.

Resources beyond the news media include the website for Australian Pet Owners Group (APOG) (<https://www.apog.com.au/>), which contains the latest reports about recalls and a log you can use to record any issues you have with pet food or treats.

If your dog's food is made in the United States, then the FDA (<https://www.fda.gov/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts>) (filter your search by product type "Animal and Veterinary") and Canine Bible (<https://www.caninebible.com/dog-food-recalls/>) websites are great resources. If your dog's brand has been recalled in the United States, you can then check the manufacturer's Australian website for more information.

Take these steps if the food or treats make your dog sick

- Stop giving your dog the product.
- Take your dog to the vet.
- Urge your vet to report the issue via PetFAST.
- Report the issue to the pet food manufacturer or PFIAA (<https://pfiaa.com.au/contact/>) as well.
- Ask the store or manufacturer for a refund.

Take these steps if your dog's food or treats are recalled

- Stop giving your dog the product.
- Know the symptoms others are reporting and watch for them.
- Call your vet if your dog has been eating the recalled food for some time to seek guidance.
- Ask the store or manufacturer for a refund.

Advocate for change

- Contact your legislator to express your support for mandatory safety standards for pet food.
- Work with a consumer advocacy group such as Choice (<https://action.choice.com.au/page/120420/survey/1>).

⁵ <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/regulatory-approaches-ensure-safety-pet-food.pdf>.

⁶ <https://www.rspca.org.au/media-centre/news/2021/%E2%80%98act-now-prevent-future-tragedy%E2%80%99-rspca-says-lack-pet-food-safety-regulation-0>.

ARF

VINTAGE RECIPES

Over 20 years ago ARF started its very first newsletter with all sorts of great segments including recipes for dogs. Here are some recipes from way back then for you to try at home. Wheat germ is available to buy in some supermarkets and health food stores. Share your homemade dog treats on social media and tag us in the photos - @actrescueandfoster!

CHEESIE BACON DOG BISCUITS

ARF Newsletter, Issue 1, February 2002

Ingredients

3/4 cup wholemeal flour
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
200g margarine, softened
2/3 cup brown sugar
1 egg, slightly beaten
1 1/2 tsp. vanilla
1 1/2 cups regular oats
1 cup shredded cheese
2/3 cup wheat germ
250g bacon, cooked crisp, drained, and crumbled

Method

Combine flour, baking soda and salt; mix well and set aside.

Cream butter and sugar; beat in egg and vanilla.

Add flour mixture, mixing well. Stir in remaining ingredients.

Drop rounded teaspoons onto ungreased baking sheets.

Bake at 180 degrees for 16 minutes.

Cool on baking sheet for a minute or so before removing to cooling rack. Yum!



Photo by Natasha Janssens

BANANA RAMA KONG

ARF Newsletter, Issue 2, April 2002

Ingredients

1 Kong toy or similar
1 fresh banana
2 tbs wheat germ
1 tbs plain yoghurt

Method

Your dog is sure to enjoy this cool treat!

In a bowl, mash up banana. Then, add wheat germ and yoghurt.

Mash all ingredients together and use spoon to add to Kong. Freeze for 4 hours and serve. Makes 1 serving for Medium Kong. Double for every Kong size that is bigger.

HOMEMADE LIVER TREATS

ARF Newsletter, Issue 3, June 2002

Ingredients

1 cup whole wheat flour
1 cup polenta
1/2 cup wheat germ
1 teaspoon garlic powder
500 grams beef liver

Method

Makes a big batch, but you can store baked or unbaked dough in freezer.

Pre-heat oven to 180 degrees celsius.

Liquefy liver in blender.

Add the dry ingredients.

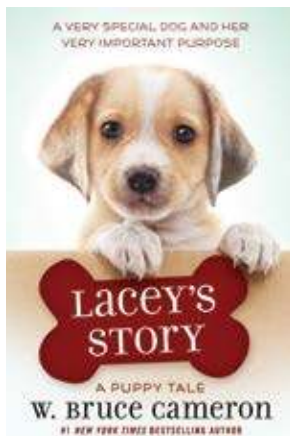
Grease baking tray.

Drop teaspoonfuls of mixture onto tray and flatten with bottom of glass dipped in water and polenta.

Bake for 15-20 minutes.

Warning—while cooking, the treats will smell absolutely wonderful to dogs, but the aroma may not be so appealing to some humans!

REVIEWS



LACEY'S STORY

W. Bruce Cameron

Lacey is an excitable young Boxer who lives with her girl Wenling and their family on a small property. Lacey is a friendly and sociable dog who doesn't always listen to Wenling, but her good nature gets her out of most scrapes. She spends her days chasing rabbits and playing with her best dog friend Cooper. That is, until, one day there is an accident. At first, the family doesn't know what to do and it looks like Lacey's life has ground to a standstill. However, when she is fitted with a wheelchair, Lacey is finally able to reach her potential. This is a heartwarming story about living with disability and how using mobility aids can help dogs as much as humans. Cameron writes convincingly from Lacey's point of view. Lacey undergoes great character development as she matures into a reliable adult dog and overcomes her challenges using her new equipment. Occasionally a bit saccharine, but an enjoyable story nonetheless.



FLUSH

By Virginia Woolf

Flush is a purebred Cocker Spaniel who is born and raised in the countryside before he is given by his mistress as a gift to Elizabeth Barrett Browning. Moving to the city to become the companion of a largely bedridden woman is a big change for Flush, however his life is destined to be one of adventure and derring-do with grudges, kidnappings and travel to Italy. This is a unique, fascinating biography that follows the life of a Victorian poet's dog. Woolf is an exceptional writer and what a joy it is to see her talents turned towards canine sensibilities. This book is meticulously researched and Woolf draws from Barrett Browning's letters to bring Flush's story, rich with instinct and emotion, to life. It is also a fascinating insight into what life must have been like for dogs in England in the Victorian era.



NEW OWNER

Nearly two years after this show was cancelled in 2021 due to COVID-19, it finally came back to Canberra. New Owner is about a rescue West Highland White Terrier called Bart who is adopted by an older lady called Mabel. They get along like a house on fire and as Bart learns some manners, Mabel learns to relax some rules. However, Mabel is increasingly frail and after a stormy night, Bart suddenly finds himself alone. Lost on the city streets, Bart has to fend for himself and work out who is a friend, and who is a foe. This was an incredibly creative production that combines puppetry and projected film in a dynamic way. Although it is aimed for a younger audience, it was very enjoyable for adults as well. You will laugh, cry and wonder at the joy rescue dogs bring to our lives.

WELCOME TO UCPS:

CANBERRA'S ONLY PET CLUB

Could you get students to come to campus on a weekend? One university club can answer you with a roaring yes. All it takes is a date with a bunch of furry friends!

By Niña Guno

On a cloudy Sunday afternoon, a handful of students have convened on the lush green grounds of the University of Canberra. It is unclear what they have in common at first. They each have different study backgrounds, ranging from education to communication. As they chat among themselves, a friendly speckled dog named Chip comes running.

The meeting is in fact a pet meet-up hosted by the University of Canberra Pet Society (UCPS), which was founded just last January. Chip (short for Chipotle), a chocolate merle Labrador-Cavalier-Koolie, happens to be the inspiration behind these fortnightly get-togethers. Her owner, Jesse Wells, is the club pawsident.

When he first moved to Canberra from Bathurst, New South Wales three years ago, Wells had to be away from his dogs. "Eventually I managed to get Chip here but I remembered that feeling of not being able to have a pet or hang out with other dog owners," Wells said.

He looked around Canberra for a pet club, but couldn't find any in universities or across the city. So, he started one himself. "I saw an



opportunity and just thought I can socialise Chip and get to know other dog owners."

Since it started, the club has been regularly meeting up every other Sunday afternoon. Non-pet owners are welcome too; in fact, a third of UCPS members do not have a pet. Sessions are typically attended by 10 students and four to six cats and dogs, but members will agree that, really, all it takes is one dog to start the party.

A safe space to meet pets

It's not hard to see why students would choose this as a weekend activity even if it means going on campus. Studies have shown that interacting with animals can boost your mood, reduce loneliness and relieve stress and anxiety (<https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/2018/02/power-pets>).

Even for a first-timer, the meet-ups are a safe, no-pressure space to talk or simply hang out with a pet. Conversations flow from animal care tips—like how to keep a furless cat or dog sun-safe—to stories about work or school stress. Chalk it up to the therapeutic effects of the outdoors and bonding with animals.

The benefits, of course, are reaped by pets too. Dogs like Chip get as many rubs as they can and receive a variety of treats. "We generally have activities or treats like peanut butter, Kong toys... There's tug of war or a peanut butter tray that [the dogs] use together," Wells says.

It is a pet society, so the club is inclusive of all types of pets as long as safety measures are followed. Pets need to be vaccinated and have restraints. One member, for example, introduced her snake during a meet-up; she handled it herself and would let members know when it was safe to pat it.

Then there are some pets that may never make it to campus, like the majestic buffalo that belongs to a member who's from Queensland. (We'd take a field trip for that!)

UCPS also aims to raise awareness about responsible pet ownership alongside the RSPCA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Australia). "We are looking to promoting animal welfare tips, tricks or promoting dogs and cats that need a home, foster caring," Wells says. Sounds like our kind of club!

You can find out more information about UCPS by following them on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/ucpetsoc/>



ARF'S 3500TH ADOPTED DOG



By Angharad Lodwick

This March we were thrilled to reach the fantastic milestone of rehoming our 3,500th dog. Rosie, an energetic little black pug who found herself at the pound as a stray, quickly came into care with ARF where she quickly settled into her foster home.

Rosie had been in foster care for three months when the perfect application came in: Jan, Alan and



their pug Frank. They weren't even looking for a new dog when they saw Rosie's profile on social media.

They love Rosie's cheerful, playful disposition and she has slotted right in with her new family.

To celebrate this adoption milestone, Rosie was invited to meet founding ARF member and ACT Senator Katy Gallagher out the front of Parliament House. Rosie attracted a lot of media attention with coverage by Canberra Weekly, WIN News, The Canberra Times, HerCanberra and the RiotACT.

Louie Loves 'Em

Handmade dog treats, Nutritious and delicious

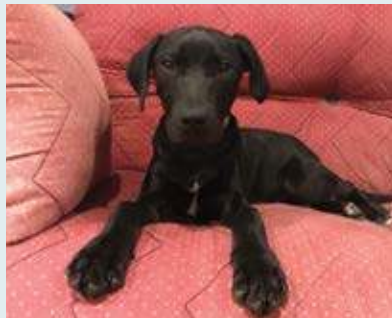


WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



BRUCE BY BEV MARGOSIS

Bruce is the most wonderful big boofhead around. He is living his best life now with two walks a day, road trips, camping and even a music festival! He is the best mate of his owner Brindon and he helped heal the loss of his previous ARF dog who had passed away. As you can see in the pictures, he is as happy as a pig in mud.



CLAY BY BEV MARGOSIS

Clay is living with a beautiful family who fell for him as soon as they met him. He is a very loved family member who sleeps with the kids and goes to their sports on the weekend. He is a great jogging partner and will always take the opportunity to get dirty and generally just be a happy pooch.



MR CHUBBS

Mr Chubbs has settled in well and loves playing with his buddy Muttley. He enjoys his walks and mealtimes.

RUSTY (FORMERLY RUBY) AND CHARLIE BY KRISTEN PROUDFOOT

Rusty is a Kelpie Cross we adopted about three years ago. She is a delight, loves the space here on our 200+ acre small farm near Gunning, NSW and has a terrific time running around the edges of the dams on warm days. I walk her on a very long lead in other parts of the property to keep her coming along with me. She gets totally absorbed investigating rock piles and old logs around the place and just has to have about ten more sniffs before she decides to move on.

Charlie is a 12 year old Jack Russell Cross who came to live with us about three months ago. He has begun to enjoy the big garden, gets on well with Rusty because he isn't a wimp, and he seems to know this is his home for the duration now.



He is not defined by his Cushing's disease and is quite a character. His energy levels suit those of my elderly partner, and they like each other's company.

Thanks ARF for both these dogs.

RECENTLY ADOPTED

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.



CHERRY

Rescued: 16 April 2022
Adopted: 27 July 2022



MISSY

Rescued: 1 June 2022
Adopted: 29 July 2022



BRANDY

Rescued: 4 June 2022
Adopted: 30 July 2022



CONNOR

Rescued: 12 July 2022
Adopted: 5 August 2022



NALA

Rescued: 17 July 2022
Adopted: 7 August 2022



TANK

Rescued: 10 January 2022
Adopted: 12 August 2022



PIPER

Rescued: 18 June 2022
Adopted: 15 August 2022



HARVEY

Rescued: 20 May 2022
Adopted: 17 August 2022



BLAKE

Rescued: 28 February 2022
Adopted: 19 August 2022



MOCHA

Rescued: 15 January 2022
Adopted: 20 August 2022



OLIVER

Rescued: 9 July 2022
Adopted: 27 August 2022



SPUD

Rescued: 7 August 2022
Adopted: 28 August 2022



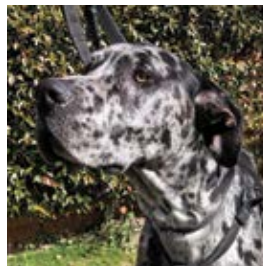
MITZI

Rescued: 8 July 2022
Adopted: 2 September 2022



MURPHY

Rescued: 23 July 2022
Adopted: 9 September 2022



FINLAY

Rescued: 22 July 2022
Adopted: 9 September 2022



BILLY

Rescued: 29 July 2022
Adopted: 10 September 2022



YOGHURT

Rescued: 29 July 2022
Adopted: 10 September 2022



PHILLY

Rescued: 14 August 2022
Adopted: 11 September 2022



DOTTI

Rescued: 29 July 2022
Adopted: 14 September 2022



NOVA

Rescued: 29 July 2022
Adopted: 15 September 2022



FLETCHER

Rescued: 20 May 2022
Adopted: 19 September 2022



MILO

Rescued: 12 May 2022
Adopted: 21 September 2022



LAYLA

Rescued: 2 September 2022
Adopted: 29 September 2022



NALA

Rescued: 12 August 2022
Adopted: 30 September 2022



FUDGE

Rescued: 7 May 2022
Adopted: 1 October 2022



BILLY

Rescued: 11 August 2022
Adopted: 2 October 2022



EDDIE

Rescued: 12 September 2022
Adopted: 2 October 2022



MORRIS

Rescued: 17 August 2022
Adopted: 3 October 2022



CHARLIE

Rescued: 15 August 2022
Adopted: 6 October 2022



FLORA

Rescued: 5 April 2022
Adopted: 7 October 2022



DAISY

Rescued: 22 September 2022
Adopted: 26 October 2022



ZEUS

Rescued: 21 May 2022
Adopted: 27 October 2022



PHOEBE

Rescued: 15 August 2022
Adopted: 1 November 2022



SPIKE

Rescued: 1 October 2022
Adopted: 1 November 2022



TIFFANY

Rescued: 10 October 2022
Adopted: 6 November 2022



FRANKIE

Rescued: 22 October 2022
Adopted: 6 November 2022



BARNEY

Rescued: 21 May 2022
Adopted: 13 November 2022



BASIL

Rescued: 10 October 2022
Adopted: 13 November 2022



SYBIL

Rescued: 10 October 2022
Adopted: 13 November 2022



MAX

Rescued: 9 October 2022
Adopted: 24 November 2022



BELLA

Rescued: 30 October 2022
Adopted: 24 November 2022



SAMMY

Rescued: 20 November 2022
Adopted: 28 November 2022



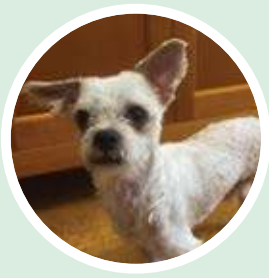
FREDDIE

Rescued: 9 January 2022
Adopted: 8 December 2022



BELLA

Rescued: 9 January 2022
Adopted: 8 December 2022



SCAMP

Rescued: 28 January 2022
Adopted: 12 December 2022



JINGLES

Rescued: 14 October 2022
Adopted: 21 December 2022



LUNA

Rescued: 14 October 2022
Adopted: 22 December 2022



INDIE

Rescued: 19 September 2022
Adopted: 24 December 2022



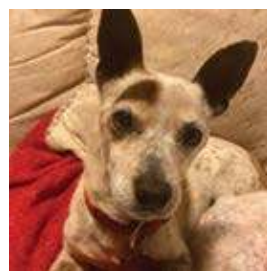
FRANK

Rescued: 10 July 2022
Adopted: 29 December 2022



HAMISH

Adopted: 9 January 2023



CHARLIE

Rescued: 30 July 2022
Adopted: 21 January 2023



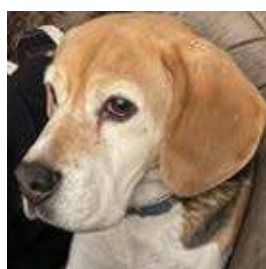
FLOKI

Rescued: 26 June 2022
Adopted: 24 January 2023



ODIN

Rescued: 24 April 2022
Adopted: 28 January 2023



Q

Rescued: 5 December 2022
Adopted: 28 January 2023



HAWKEYE

Rescued: 5 December 2022
Adopted: 28 January 2023



PIPPI

Rescued: 21 November 2022
Adopted: 30 January 2023



PEACH

Rescued: 16 January 2023
Adopted: 2 February 2023



COMET

Rescued: 27 November 2022
Adopted: 4 February 2023



OLLIE

Rescued: 19 September 2022
Adopted: 19 February 2023



WINKLES

Rescued: 19 September 2022
Adopted: 19 February 2023



JACOB

Rescued: 19 October 2022
Adopted: 19 February 2023



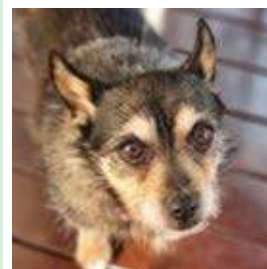
SEVERUS

Adopted: 4 March 2023



ROSIE

Adopted: 4 March 2023



TILLY

Rescued: 27 February 2023
Adopted: 16 March 2023



PETER PAN

Rescued: 24 December 2022
Adopted: 28 March 2023



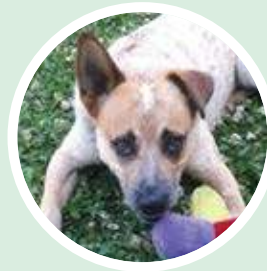
MISHKA

Rescued: 28 July 2022
Adopted: 1 April 2023



BLUE

Rescued: 18 February 2023
Adopted: 18 April 2023



HARRY

Rescued: 7 October 2022
Adopted: 22 April 2023



JAKE

Rescued: 10 March 2023
Adopted: 23 April 2023



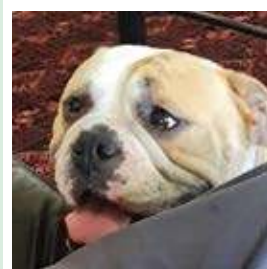
MILLIE

Rescued: 17 March 2023
Adopted: 27 April 2023



HARPER

Adopted: 28 April 2023



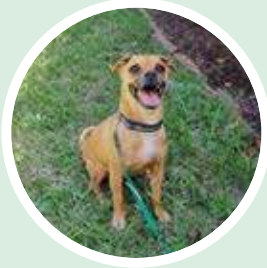
LADY

Rescued: 10 February 2023
Adopted: 30 April 2023



BOSS

Rescued: 10 February 2023
Adopted: 30 April 2023



ENTEI

Rescued: 21 February 2023
Adopted: 3 May 2023



PYRO

Rescued: 21 February 2023
Adopted: 3 May 2023



NOODLE

Rescued: 19 April 2023
Adopted: 13 May 2023



DOG SPORTS

≡ TRICK DOG AND DANCES WITH DOGS ≡

The ChinWag Dog Sports section has evolved to highlight some of the fun activities you can do with your dog, and some of the dogs and their handlers who excel at those sports. In this issue, we want to highlight a very special dog who not only excelled at dog sports, but who was an ARF foster friend, a therapy dog, a TV star and a very best friend.

Frogwyck Bella Paris, known to her family, friends and fans as Paris, did not have the easiest start to life. A purebred French Bulldog, by the age of one she had already had heart surgery and with an ongoing condition, she was given a life expectancy of only seven years. Despite experiencing some fatigue and limits in what she could do, Paris did very well at behaviour training. However, when she made it clear that training on cold, wet grass was truly beneath her, in 2014 her handler (and ARF volunteer) Raelene decided to try a more comfortable indoor sport: Dances With Dogs.

Dances With Dogs (also known as Musical Canine Freestyle overseas) was recognised as a sport in Australia in 2009. There are two divisions in the sport: heelwork to music and freestyle. In heelwork to music, the dog has to spend 70% of the routine close to the handler's leg, whereas freestyle incorporates any safe, appropriate moves and engages with the theme of the song.

Paris excelled at Dances With Dogs and won 10 out of 10 of her competitions and won multiple perpetual trophies at ACT Companion Dog Club. Paris was

doing demonstrations of Dances With Dogs, such as at the Canberra Hospital, and even ended up in a book called "The World of Frenchies in 2013 and 2014" where her achievement as the first French Bulldog to achieve a Dances With Dogs Freestyle Starters Title was acknowledged! One of Paris' signature tricks was driving a tiny car and she once arrived for her demonstration at the French Bulldog Club picnic in her Mercedes.

Paris soon began getting requests for TV advertisements. Paris had an incredible work ethic and was invited to perform in advertisements for NRMA, Foxtel and even for a Toyota Hilux. Filming for the NRMA ad involved around 16 different scenes and a work day from 7:30am to 5:30pm with only a lunch break for 45 minutes, and you can watch the final result on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kV7lgCt401s>). Paris also had exceptional patience and tolerance for new environments, and could perform at a distance in a stranger's lap and even held a toothbrush for up to 10 minutes at a time!

Paris' skills and talent also led her to the sport Trick Dog, where dogs

complete a selection of tricks from a list that gets progressively harder after each level. Paris' gentle nature did not just serve her well during performances and competitions, but it made her a perfect candidate as a therapy dog. She brought comfort to people in aged care and in hospitals, and even helped young children build confidence around dogs. Paris was also a very important ARF volunteer and was a safety blanket for many foster dogs. Her calm and passive nature also meant that she helped reactive dogs with their training around other dogs.

Paris' family said goodbye to her in January 2023 at the age of 10, three years older than her heart specialist predicted. Vale Paris, and from all of us at ARF, thank you for everything you did.





RAINBOW BRIDGE

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN.



TIGGER

Tigger was adopted from ARF who rescued him from the Queanbeyan Pound. Tigger crossed the Rainbow Bridge in March 2022 and is missed terribly.



MISTY

I was very lucky that Misty picked me to be her mum in September 2008. She was a bit of a shy girl and was very wary around men, but she soon settled in and overcame her fear. She was an absolute treasure to have around and my best buddy. I have 7 grandchildren and she was gentle with all of them and used to get very excited to see them. She was diagnosed with megaesophagus in February 2022 and I had no idea where I would source a bailey chair, but the universe was smiling on us and I found one of all places at the Green Shed in Mitchell. In May 2022 she developed aspiration pneumonia and I thought I was going to lose her, but being the tough cookie that she was she pulled through. I fed her 3 small meals a day in her chair and she stayed upright for 30 minutes after eating. After losing 3kg she managed to regain 2kg. Being fifteen she couldn't walk as far as she used to so I bought her a chariot. We would walk down to the local wetlands where she could have a walk around and a sniff and then head back home where she would settle down for a nap. Thank you ARF for rescuing this beautiful girl. Sadly Misty passed away on the 6th January 2023. Forever in my heart.

ROSIE

Rosie crossed over the Rainbow Bridge in October 2022 at the age of 15 yrs and 7 months. She had a wonderful first 9 years with her best pal Rory and then a wonderful life camping and exploring life walking, camping and kayaking.



CHIBS

Chibs was such a beautiful boy. He loved his family, his walks and cheese. He is loved and missed by us so very much. But probably not by his nemesis, the neighbourhood possum.



REGGIE

Reggie was an older gentleman who came to ARF in a bad way. Although in a short time he began to open up and trust his carer, it soon became clear that he had some underlying issues and received a diagnosis of prostate cancer. Vale Reggie



NAPOLEON

Napoleon, the best little doggy in the whole wide world Crossed over the Rainbow Bridge in January 2023.

PIGSY (PUGSLY)

Pigsy crossed over the Rainbow Bridge in May 2022.





ARF STATS FOR 2022






 **106** TOTAL DOGS
IN CARE

 **108** DOGS
REHOMED

REHOMED DOGS

 **60** MALE
 **48** FEMALE
WITH 36 PER CENT ENTIRE
ON COMING INTO CARE

SIZE OF DOGS

 **4** GIANT
 **16** LARGE
 **56** MEDIUM
 **30** SMALL
 **2** TINY


WHERE DOGS CAME FROM


DOGS WERE RESCUED FROM
CAMPBELLTOWN, COONAMBLE, DAS,
GILGANDRA, QUEANBEYAN, TAREE AND YASS
3 DOGS BORN IN CARE,
50 SURRENDERS

BREEDS OF DOG

 **13** STAFFIES
AND CROSSES
 **10** AUSTRALIAN CATTLE
DOGS AND CROSSES
 **8** JACK RUSSELL TERRIERS
AND CROSSES
 **7** MALTESE
AND CROSSES

TIME IN CARE

 **96**
AVERAGE TIME IN CARE: 96 DAYS
LONG TERMERS INCLUDED RUBY (547 DAYS),
DJANGO (484 DAYS), TINK (387 DAYS), FREDDY
AND BELLA (333 DAYS), RAGNAR (322 DAYS),
SCAMP (318 DAYS) AND BLINK (310 DAYS)

NAMES OF DOGS

 **NALA**
MOST POPULAR NAMES WERE
NALA (3), BELLA (3), BILLY (2),
LUCY (2), MILO (2), OLIVER (2)
AND PHILLY (2)



ACT RESCUE & FOSTER

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