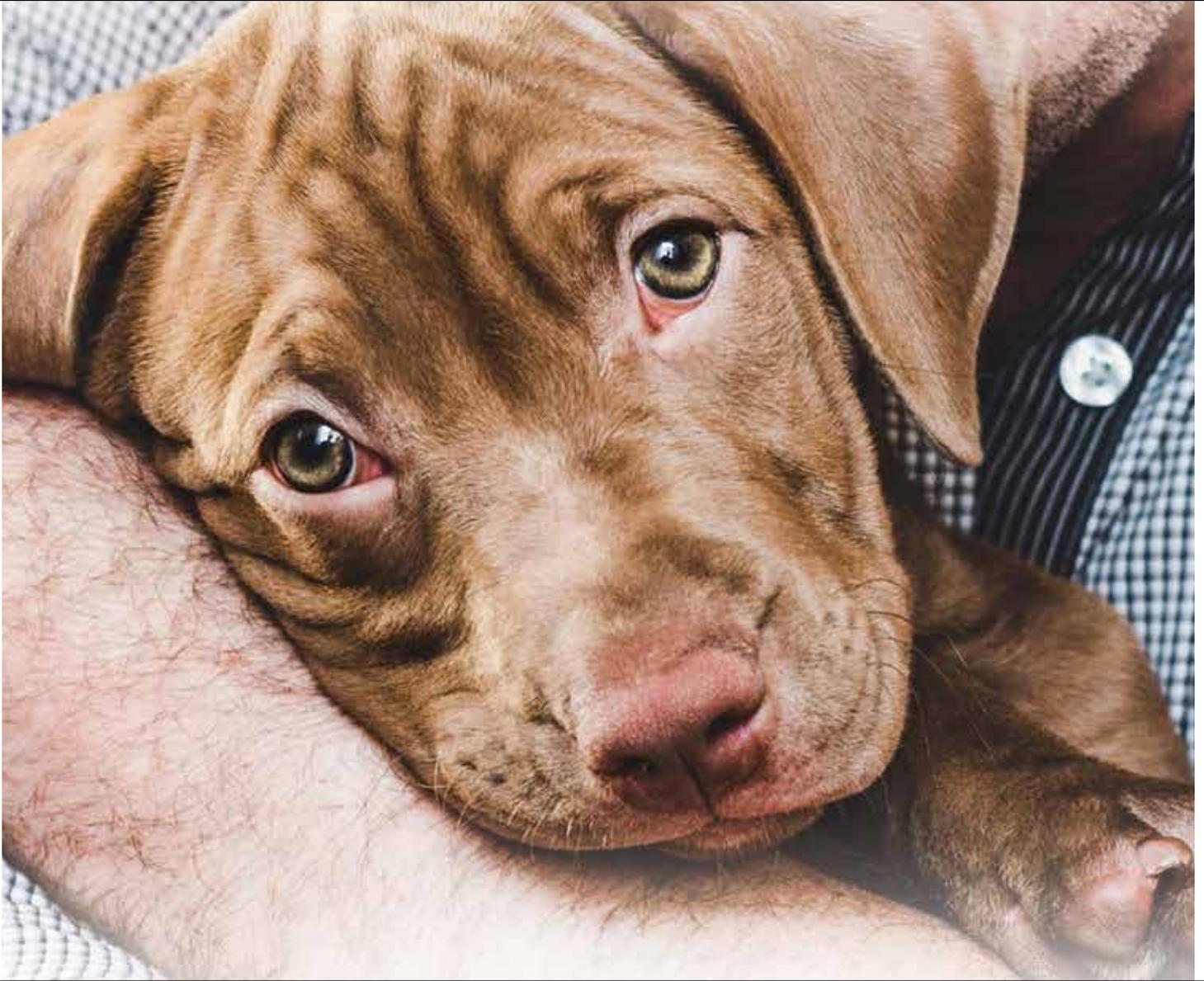


# TAWL TAILS

Official Magazine of Animal Welfare League Queensland Est. 1959



Summer - Autumn 2021-22

**WE WILL ALWAYS BE THERE  
FOR ANIMALS IN NEED AND CONTINUE TO BE  
THE ORGANISATION PEOPLE CAN TRUST.**

# Q Super Centre

## THE DOG-FRIENDLY SHOPPING CENTRE!



There are dog watering stations across the shopping centre, plus handy dog waste bags throughout the complex, and doggies are allowed in all the outdoor areas. Some stores also allow dogs inside!

On the corner of Bermuda and Markeri Streets in Mermaid Waters, Q Super Centre is a shopping mecca right in the centre of the Gold Coast's style map.

There's over 80 retailers including three supermarkets at Q Super Centre. There's also Bunnings, Pet Barn, and nine dining choices, specialty stores offering gourmet fresh food, dining, hair and beauty, home wares, medical and health, banking as well as unique and boutique fashion. For more updates, keep an eye on Q Super Centre social media ([facebook.com/QSuperCentre](https://www.facebook.com/QSuperCentre) or [@qsupercentre](https://www.instagram.com/qsupercentre) or log onto [qsupercentre.com.au](https://www.qsupercentre.com.au)).



**SUPER CENTRE**



## EDITOR'S WELCOME

During the past year Animal Welfare League Queensland provided a safe haven for 8,443 stray and homeless animals across our four animal rehoming centres, we cared for 58,112 animals at our four community vet clinics and supported tens of thousands more animals through our community support programs.

At the same time, we continue to work tirelessly every day to maintain our promise – to never euthanise a healthy, sociable or treatable animal in our care. We make this promise to the animals in our care and to our supporters – it is this promise that sets us apart from any other animal welfare organisation in Australia. Once again we have saved more than 90% of all animals who came into our care during the past year.

This year we have seen a significant increase in the number of animals being admitted into our Emergency Boarding Program – 150 animals have been cared for during this time. This is a direct result of the pandemic and the associated housing crisis that continues to impact pets and their families. The impact this has on people is heartbreaking, but it is truly heartwarming to know that we are able to keep pets and their families together through an AWLQ initiative.

Everything we have achieved during the past year is a result of our commitment to creating a brighter future for animals in need. More than ever, our focus is on using our profile, voice, and expertise to support animals beyond our animal rehoming centres, with the goal of keeping pets and their families together.

We continue to use our influence to champion changes in the law to improve the lives of animals. A significant proportion of animals surrendered to AWLQ is due to people not being able to find pet-friendly accommodation. During the past year, we had an instrumental role in advocating for changes to the Housing Legislation Amendment Bill and Body Corporate and Community Management (BCCM) Act in Queensland.

For more than 60 years Animal Welfare League Queensland has rehomed over 168,000 animals and saved countless more through our community support programs. There is still much to do and as a charity we are always looking ahead, ready to explore new opportunities to ensure that we can continue to improve the lives of animals everywhere.

I would like to personally thank every person who has offered help and support, donated much-needed funds, or provided a home for one of our animals. Animal Welfare League Queensland simply could not exist without you.

I'm so proud to share these results with you. We will always be here for animals in need and continue to be the organisation people can trust. It is my commitment to you that every dollar you generously donate will enable us to achieve long-term improvements for animal welfare.

With continued gratitude,  
**Denise Bradley**  
 Chief Executive Officer

Animal Welfare  
 League Queensland  
 Initiatives



Member of  
 Australian Charities  
 Foundation



Member of  
 Fundraising Institute  
 of Australia



Founding Member  
 of Companion Animal  
 Network Australia



Animal Welfare  
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Animal Welfare League Queensland

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## ANIMAL REHOMING CENTRES

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16 Rossmans Road, Stapylton  
 07 3807 3782  
 beenleighrehoming@awlqld.com.au

### Gold Coast

21 Shelter Road, Coombabah  
 07 5509 9000  
 callcentre@awlqld.com.au

### Ipswich

6 Hooper Street, West Ipswich  
 07 3059 7131  
 ipsrehomingcentre@awlqld.com.au

### Warra

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 07 3631 6800  
 warrashelter@awlqld.com.au

### Willawong

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 07 3714 2800  
 willwongshelter@awlqld.com.au

## AWLQ COMMUNITY VET CLINICS

### Brisbane Community Vet Clinic

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 07 3808 2892  
 brisbanevetclinic@awlqld.com.au

### Gold Coast Community Vet Clinic

21 Shelter Road, Coombabah  
 07 5594 0111  
 goldcoastvetclinic@awlqld.com.au

### Ipswich Community Vet Clinic

42 Tiger Street, West Ipswich  
 07 3812 7533  
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## SOCIAL HANDLES

@AWLQLD  
 #awlq #awlqld

## AWLQ OP SHOPS

Please see the listing  
 of all op shops on page 29.

## FEEDBACK

Please send any feedback, photos or story ideas  
 to communications@awlqld.com.au

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# Can Music Help your Dog and Cat Get Over Anxiety?

**JANET MARLOW** is an animal sound behaviourist, CEO and founder of Pet Acoustics Inc. She is also an accomplished musician, international performer, a long-time cat owner, and dog-parent to her Springer Spaniel named Rigby.

When Janet was practising in her music room for concert performances, her dogs and cats would wander in from other rooms to curl up on the floor in front of her. Intrigued by their behaviour, Janet launched a study into the hearing sensitivity of each of the pet species. Her goal was to provide pets with a sound environment based on their hearing ability that would consistently help them curl up and relax to music. The other challenge was how to deliver this same experience to other people's dogs and cats.

It took three years of research to develop her technique for composing music specifically for each pet species' hearing level. By 1997, she had mastered a digital music formula that proved to soothe animal anxiety. It's a special process in which frequencies and decibel levels are modified for each pet species' hearing sensitivity. Animals can instinctively self-regulate their behaviour through what they hear. And, Janet's music proved to be a natural trigger for pets to modify their anxious behaviour to a calmer state.

A key discovery from the early research, showed dogs and cats process sound differently than their humans. Their ear structure is more complex,

they can register sound frequencies over three times higher than the human's hearing ability. And what pets hear proved to be an important part of their daily decision-making process to respond to change in their environment.

First versions of Pet Tunes species-specific music came on cassette tapes, to be field-tested by veterinarians, animal rescue shelters and pet parents. The results were positive; also highlighted what dog and cat ears hear is often overlooked as a cause affecting their emotional and physical health.

Ron Pia, founder of ThePetCalmer met Janet Marlow in 2016. It was a perfect fit! ThePetCalmer teamed up with Pet Acoustics to introduce the Pet Tunes music concept to pet carers as a natural method of managing pet-specific stress behaviours. Today, Pet Tunes music for dogs, cats, horses and pet birds comes on a special 5cm colour-coded music speaker cube. Being small in size makes it portable for playing anywhere. It has its own rechargeable battery or can be connected to a power source for 24/7 continuous play.

Imagine your pets could naturally relax without being anxious. Especially dogs and cats with separation anxiety when they're home alone. Pet owners have described their results using Pet Tunes as simply "amazing."

Go to [thePetCalmer.com](http://thePetCalmer.com) for more information and to play a sample of the music to your pet. 



# Dog-Friendly Shopping Centre is a Hit

Q Super Centre Dog Ambassador Bob Black (Side Car Bob). He drives around the Gold Coast with his owner Mark Brereton promoting Q Super Centre as dog friendly.



Q Super Centre is becoming very well known as a doggie-friendly shopping centre. There are dog watering stations across the shopping centre, plus handy dog waste bags throughout the complex, and doggies are allowed in all the outdoor areas. Some stores also allow dogs inside.

**ON THE CORNER** of Bermuda and Markeri Streets in Mermaid Waters, Q Super Centre is a shopping mecca right in the centre of the Gold Coast's style map. With the absolutely beautiful Summer weather now upon us at the Gold Coast, an outdoor shopping centre is the way to indulge in some retail therapy. And now, pooch can come with us, and give us shopping advice!

Q Super Centre is beautifully landscaped, giving the feeling of being in an oasis, protected from the hustle and bustle of the outside world which lets you and your furry best mate have a great day out.

Not only is the centre dog-friendly, but now they have a beauty pageant for our fur bobbies. The fun event takes place every year at Q Super Centre is called the the Doggie Face of Q. This is a competition where owners send in pics of their fur babies. One winner is selected, plus 11 other pups are chosen to be in the Doggie Face of Q calendar.

The 2022 calendar has just gone on sale! The doggo finalist won \$500 credit with Vet Call and a \$500 Petbarn gift card. Plus, a pet photo shoot with Sandy Noses Pet Photography. And, a Doggie Face of Q 2022 dog tag and a gift from Petbarn. Eleven lucky runners up also received prizes. Keep an eye on Q Super Centre's social media pages to learn how to enter your fur baby in the calendar competition for 2023.

You can buy a calendar for a gold coin donation and the proceeds go to Story Dogs. In fact, every entry received in the Doggie Face of Q meant that the centre gave \$1 to Story Dogs. The Story Dogs literacy program is built around the idea of kids reading to dogs. Kids with reading difficulties can fall behind very fast. So the charity tries to ensure that the gap between these kids and fluent readers doesn't widen.

Story Dogs has been very successful, with great improvements noticed in the participating students. Q Super Centre are also supporters of the AWLQ. They have often asked for their customers to bring any old or unwanted blankets or towels to collection points at the Shopping Centre. So grab pup and shop until you and doggie drop! 🐾



There's over 80 retailers including three supermarkets at Q Super Centre. There's also Bunnings, Pet Barn, and nine dining choices, specialty stores offering gourmet fresh food, dining, hair and beauty, home wares, medical and health, banking as well as unique and boutique fashion. For more updates, keep an eye on Q Super Centre social media ([facebook.com/QSuperCentre](https://www.facebook.com/QSuperCentre) or [@qsupercentre](https://www.instagram.com/qsupercentre) or [log onto qsupercentre.com.au](https://www.log.onto.qsupercentre.com.au)).

# NEW MUMS FOR BUFFY AND NALA

**Amber, cat mum to Buffy and Nala, found herself caught up in the rental crisis earlier this year, and was forced to give up her beloved cats. Happily, the AWLQ found new loving homes for them.**

**A**mber adopted Buffy in 2011. “I’ve had her for years. One of the most beautiful things about her and one of the saddest was, that she was hit by a car in 2013. After that, she was a bit special. She lost most of her sight and became slow. I loved her even more. Then I got Nala after that. They’re both beautiful girls, they loved attention, loved to explore. I was living with my mum and my sister when I got Nala and Buffy. We rented but they were allowed to be there. But when we had to move, it got a bit trickier because we didn’t add them on the lease. So I had to hide them.

“With Nala, it’s a little harder to hide her because she’s blind, but luckily we had one real estate lady who just loved Nala. She’d smile at her every time she came in to do inspections. But we were always prepared to say they were strays – that they just hung around. We were really scared of being forced to give them up.

“Then sadly, our lease ended. I had to put Buffy and Nala into emergency boarding until I found a place. But because my sister also had dogs, we found it so very hard to find a rental. And then, unfortunately, I lost my job. So I had to make the heartbreaking decision to surrender Buffy and Nala. My sister had to do the same with one of her dogs as well. Luckily her friend adopted her dog, so she still sees it. It was easier to get a rental with just one pet.

“I am still in between homes, so I can’t have Buffy and Nala back. A friend offered me her spare room, luckily. She has dogs, so I couldn’t get the cats back. I have heard that Buffy and Nala have gone to a loving home, which makes me feel better. I understand that some landlords don’t want pets in their properties. But for some people that don’t have children, their pets ARE their children.

“I’m trying to move still. My sister, my mother and I are trying to move in together again, and we have a good rental history. But I’m definitely scared of getting future pets, with the uncertainty of being able to provide a forever home.”

## **NALA’S NEW HOME**

Julie is Nala’s new owner. She adores Nala. “She was a foster fail. She originally came with her friend, Buffy. I knew that Buffy would get adopted straight away. She was only young, very pretty, very playful. But Nala had health issues, and being an old cat, she wouldn’t have been snapped up as quickly. Because she had such a beautiful nature, I couldn’t let her go. I signed the paperwork and adopted her officially, after she was given the all-clear from the vet. She had some teeth removed and had both her eyes removed. She had complications from being hit by a car, and over time her eyes had started bothering her. She couldn’t see out of one eye, and only had 10% vision in the other. Because she was in pain, it was better to remove them. Even with sore eyes, she wasn’t vicious, nasty, or angry. She was still loving. She still wanted to sit with you, be with you. Very trusting.

“I was told Nala and Buffy would only be with me for two weeks. Then it became a month. The owner had to make a decision to surrender them. Buffy went on to a new home and Nala stayed with me. I live in a two bedroom unit, on the first floor. I obviously don’t let her out, because she’s blind. But she’s got access to the balcony. She’s got great mobility without her eyes. Half the time, I think she’s still got eyes, the way she behaves and sort of sits there, and I feel like she’s staring at me. Her senses are more heightened. She’s not a timid cat. Storms don’t bother her at all.





Blind Nala

Nala, before her eye surgery



Nala, after her eye surgery



“She does have a heart murmur. And she is very susceptible to the cat flu. Beyond that, she’s in great health. She dominates my lap, watching TV and she sleeps with me as well, at night. I will still foster cats too, in the future, so we will see how she gets on with her new friends. Interestingly, I’m more of a dog person, than a cat person. But Nala converted me!”

#### **BUFFY’S NEW HOME**

The AWLQ recently heard from Buffy’s new owner. “She is such a lovely, cuddly cat and has settled in here well. As previous renters, it is always hard to have pets and find a home so I really sympathise with Buffy’s previous owner.

“We now have one child, two dogs and four cats! All the new additions are rescues as I believe that now we have a stable home I want to be able to offer those animals without homes a permanent one. Buffy is very much loved, still gets her tummy rubs and will never need to be rehomed again. All our animals get on well together and are inside with us. One of the things that attracted us to her was that she had been waiting for a home for a long time, also that she had lived with cats and dogs before. Thank you to the AWLQ for all the hard work that you do too, I know that there is a lot that must go unrecognised and I really appreciate it.” 🐾

# FOSTER HOMES NEEDED



**WE PROMISE** to never euthanise a healthy, sociable or treatable animal in our care. Our foster carers have one of the most important roles at the shelter – they allow us to keep our promise to thousands of animal every year.

Sometimes the fostering experience is so special that foster carers choose to adopt the animal they have been caring for. Many of our staff and volunteers are proud of their “foster failures,” the foster animals they have adopted themselves.

Interested? Log on to: [awlqld.com.au/foster](http://awlqld.com.au/foster)



# More Compassionate Laws Needed!

*AWLQ has been fighting to protect those faced with discrimination in the rental market, simply because they have pets. Nearly 36% of Queenslanders rent their homes. 84% of families either have, or would like to have, a pet. But only 10% of Queensland's rental properties allow pets. This means that there is a big shortage of pet-friendly rentals – forcing people to choose between their pets and accommodation. Many people who can't bear to be separated from their pets are choosing homelessness or to live in their cars, rather than give up their best friends.*

**T**he AWLQ statistics prove that this is now a looming crisis. In 2019 and 2020, 19% of cats and 25% of dogs were surrendered due to accommodation reasons.

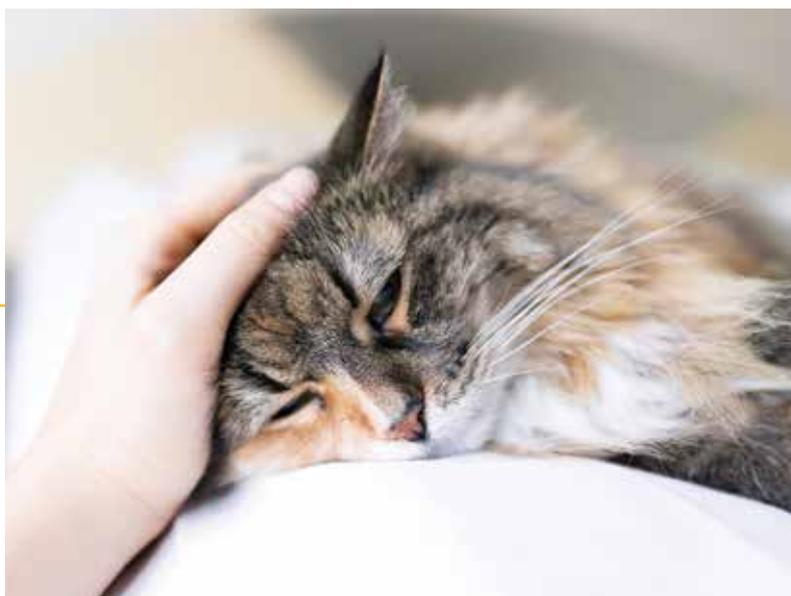
In the past year, 51 animals were admitted to the AWLQ Emergency Boarding program. This is due to pet owners becoming homeless because they are unable to find pet-friendly accommodation, or their rental house has been sold and they are unable to get back into the rental market.

It is inhumane to expect renters to give up their pets. Pets are considered their family. They are essential to well-being, and it is detrimental to mental health to have to be separated from them. Often people's pets are their lifeline when they are

struggling to cope with job and accommodation losses. To lose their pet in difficult times due to a lack of supportive legislation, is unacceptable.

Growing numbers of younger people and retirees need to rent. Many of these are single and depend on a pet for company. It is imperative to introduce legislation to protect vulnerable pet owners from discrimination.

The Government's Housing Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 has made it illegal for landlords or property managers to state "no pets allowed." But, Qld Government's Housing Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 has not provided certainty. Tenants need to be allowed to have a pet, provided they keep the pet responsibly and without nuisance.



From AWLQ’s experience supporting many tenants with pets, as well as pet owners who own their own homes in body corporate situations, many are not aware of the legislation. They feel powerless when body corporates refuse the keeping of their pet or impose conditions that are unfair. Many feel if they question the grounds for refusal, they may lose their accommodation.

Tenants feel discriminated against and often must live in less desirable neighbourhoods and accept poor conditions in order to keep their pets. Some even feel they must hide their pets. This will continue if the Government’s Housing Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 is passed in its current form.

Because of this power imbalance, AWLQ strongly believes that the legislation must allow tenants to keep pets. The onus should be on the landlord (or body corporate) to provide reasonable justification to an independent authority for refusing owners to keep particular pets.

The property owner should only be able to refuse with approval from the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) based on prescribed and fair grounds. Similar legislation has already been introduced in Victoria and the ACT.

Tenants have to show responsibility if they have children and cannot be asked to relinquish their children due to increased potential for damage.

Likewise, tenants can be responsible with their pets, and can demonstrate they have shown responsibility through their past tenancies, and current animal professional references and regular property inspections.

Landlords can protect their assets through requiring pet resumes, they can draft pet agreements, acquire pet insurance and can withhold bonds; renters have little protection.

#### **ADVOCATING FOR PET OWNERS**

Dr Joy Verrinder, AWLQ’s Strategic Director, has been advocating for renters with pets for a long time. “This is a historical problem. We have been lobbying heavily and the Queensland government has been revising rental property laws for the last three years. And we’ve been making submissions regarding pets. There were two bills that went to parliament in the last few months, a Greens Bill, which was what we wanted, and the Government Bill, which is better than what we’ve had but is not exactly what we wanted.

“In Victoria and the ACT, they have now introduced legislation in the last couple of years. They claim that they have found an appropriate balance between tenants’ and landlords’ needs. If a tenant applies to have a pet, then the landlord must reply within 14 days with reasonable grounds for refusing the

pet. Our argument is the tenant is the least powerful of the two parties. And a lot of tenants don't have the skills or the confidence to argue the case with the landlord. They are fearful that they'll be thrown out if they do. Therefore, it puts the tenant on the back foot, whereas the Victorian and ACT legislation requires the landlord to do the arguing with a third impartial party."

"It is for this reason the AWLQ runs an emergency boarding program. The AWLQ has been running the program for over a year. In the seven months pre-COVID to seven months post-COVID, there was a 61% increase in surrenders due to body corporates' refusal to allow pets and a 32% increase in surrenders due to homelessness. And anecdotally, Billie-Rose, AWLQ's Community Programs Manager, reports that there's a huge increase in the number of people who are just living in their cars or living in temporary accommodation because they can't find anywhere to live with their pets.

"Pet owners can increase their chances of securing pet friendly accommodation by making sure that they are willing to demonstrate responsibility. The first thing they can do is create a pet résumé. We're actually working with Companion Animal Network Australia. They have a website called Rent With Pets. Here you can find examples of a pet resume.

"If landlords are worried, they have a lot of things at their disposal. We've worked with one of the insurance companies and they offer specific pet insurance now for landlords, which covers extra damage. They also have the local laws on their side because local laws are there to make people follow the rules around how many animals they're allowed to have. They can do regular inspections. So there's a lot of things in the landlord's favour to actually help prevent problems.

"Separating people from their pets has huge mental consequences for both the owner and the pet. Pets are just like people in that they get attached to their owners as much as the owners get attached to their pets. Mental issues sometimes translate into physical issues as well. And of course, there's all the research out there to show that pets are very good for socialisation in that they encourage people to talk to each other. Some high-rise apartments now are even recognising that pets are so good for people's wellbeing that they're therefore creating positions for valets who will help do day-care for pets during the day or walk dogs that might be left alone! So it's about changing our mindset and saying, 'How can we accommodate all parties?' and just be a little bit lateral in our thinking. It's just a matter of putting in place the right processes and procedures to make sure that a pet owner is responsible and that the landlord can be comfortable that that person is going to be responsible.

"AWLQ has been lobbying very hard to try to keep pets with their family. We want to create an environment where both landlords and tenants can feel comfortable and responsible so that nobody has to be lonely, nobody has to get rid of their pet, and landlords are comfortable as well."

#### **PRESSURE ON THE AWLQ**

Billie-Rose Harvey is the Community Programs Manager at AWLQ. She says the housing crisis in Southeast Queensland has really become apparent. "House prices are soaring, rental prices are soaring as well. People are moving to the Gold Coast from Sydney and Melbourne, which is driving the cost up of everything. So a lot of low-income households are being pushed out of affordable rentals. Most rentals are not pet-friendly. There has been a lot of pressure





on the emergency boarding program in the last 12 months. Emergency boarding is all about having the animal in our program short-term. This is so the animal can be returned to the owner once they find appropriate housing. But, we have a couple of animals in our program right now who have been with us for over three months. We usually agree to a two-to-four week stay based on the owner's situation. But when the owner is homeless, it can take months and months to find appropriate housing. And while the animals are in foster care with us, the owners are generally in their cars. But at least they know their animals are safe.

"A lot of people don't always like to ask for help. We recently assisted a woman and her 10-year-old daughter with their cat. They were living out of their car for three months before they sought help. They reached out to Saint Vincent de Paul and they were able to get some crisis accommodation. And that's when their cat came into our care. The family were able to secure a social housing unit through Saint Vincent de Paul and they moved in two weeks ago. So we returned the cat and it was a really lovely reunion.

"A lot of the clients who reach out to us are pretty socially isolated to begin with. And they don't really have any family or friends they can rely on. This is an ongoing crisis. We've quadrupled the intake in the last 12 months and have had to cap the program at 30 animals at any given time. But generally, we don't have to say no to anyone, we usually work something out."

So how can we, the readers, help? Says Billie-Rose, "Become a foster carer for the program. We're always looking for more foster carers. Open your home and heart to an animal for a few months, while the owner gets back on their feet. The AWLQ will

provide all the food, bedding, everything needed for the foster carer. You can also donate to the emergency boarding program. This allows us to purchase much-needed equipment. A lot of the animals coming into our care are not up to date with any of their vet work such as vaccinations, teeth cleaning and worming. A dog came in last week with the most horrific teeth we've ever seen. He had 13 teeth removed. We work with the owners if they can't pay right away. But also, a lot of the vets will donate their time, which is absolutely amazing."

#### IN CONCLUSION

The law in many parts of the world is really different to how humans live, and Queensland is no exception. The law in Queensland doesn't take into consideration that a lot of people have animals as companions and they're lonely without them. Can you imagine denying someone shelter because they have a companion animal? It's almost like saying, "You can't have this kind of family if you want to live here."

We need to just be kinder as a society and understand that people need companion animals for their wellbeing. The owners walk their dogs every day and they meet other people with dogs. Kids come over and talk to them because they want to pat the dog. Animals are so good for mental health. Why aren't we giving these people a little bit more leeway in terms of just having a kinder outlook on the rental situation? There has to be fairness, compassion, and respect for people. And this needs to apply to the rental and body corporate situation in Queensland. 🐾

*Want to read more about this subject or donate? Log on to [awlqld.com.au/rentingwithpets](http://awlqld.com.au/rentingwithpets)*

# THE THURSDAY ISLAND RESCUE MISSION

**Recently, AWLQ and Vets Beyond Borders got together with the Thursday Island Animal Support Group. As a team, they completed a successful desexing pilot program on the Island. Here is their story.**

**A**s the champions for animals in need, AWLQ is committed to creating lasting changes for animals in society. In addition to the shelter work, AWLQ provides community-based support programs with a focus on prevention. The Thursday Island Pet Support Program falls into this remit. Here, the teams give us an update.

**Sonja Einersen is from the Thursday Island Animal Support Group:** On Thursday Island, we don't get vet visits very often, and there isn't a resident vet on the island. We used to have a vet that flew in, but

recently, she retired. Sometimes a vet from Cairns comes up, but by the time they get up to the island, the cost is prohibitive. So, we have quite a large problem with dogs and cats on the island.

The Thursday Island Animal Support Group started talking to AWLQ about the possibility of a vet service on the island. Could pet owners get some low-cost or free surgery procedures done? All of us in the support group are volunteers. We were excited when the collaboration went ahead.

At the moment, a vet only visits the island 3 times a year due to Covid restrictions. And, it costs \$600 to have a dog desexed. This is out of the reach of a lot of people. In fact, we haven't had any surgical services on the island for quite some time. If animals got sick they would be euthanised or would just die due to a lack of services.

Since our organisation got up and running, we've helped quite a number of dogs. From bee or wasp stings right through to being hit by cars or stray dog attacks. We try our best to fix them. We have stapled up a few dogs, and we hold antibiotics that we can give out under the supervision of the vet. But there are a lot of stray dogs on the island. The council does collect these, however if they weren't able to re-home them, then they are euthanised.

In just our organisation alone, since January, we have rescued 150 animals. That's everything including injured, diseased, tick- and flea-ridden dogs. Every single dog that we have



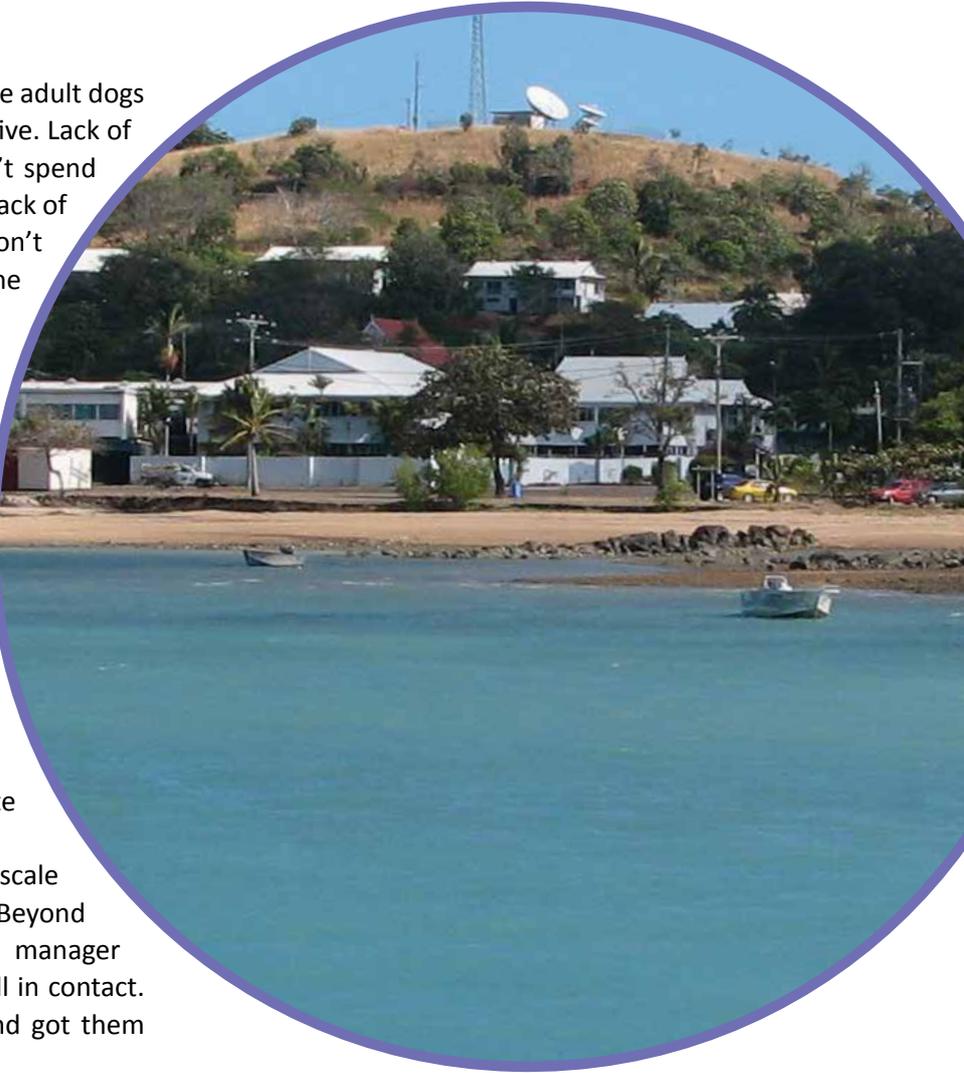
seen has had very bad worms. 80% of the adult dogs on Thursday Island are heartworm positive. Lack of education is part of it. People just don't spend money on their pets. But also, there's a lack of access to vets and medicines. People don't know about intestinal worms, and no one provides worming tablets.

Sometimes people end up with a dog that they don't really want. And then it ends up having litter after litter. They try to get rid of puppies. So, we end up with lots of stray dogs. The council work with us and give us a lot of dogs that they find or that have been surrendered.

A lot of people who come to Thursday Island just for a couple of years, end up rescuing a stray off the street, and end up bringing dogs back to the mainland with them. That's quite a common story.

To stop the cycle, we need large-scale desexing to happen. That's where Vets Beyond Borders come in. Sylvana, a project manager with AWLQ, is the person that put us all in contact. She talked with Vet Beyond Borders and got them on board.

We also have been fundraising, and because of this we have started getting some equipment together. A fully functioning vet surgery is quite difficult to set up. But we've bought an autoclave, that cost \$2,500 – it is a machine for sterilising the surgical instruments. We have bought an anaesthetic



machine as well, which cost \$4,000. We do bake sales and breakfast burgers at the local coffee van, you name it, we do it! Pretty much anything we can think of, really.

There's still a lot to do. We're hoping if we can continue, we'll start to get numbers of strays and unwanted animals under control. There are still certain areas on the island with pretty big problems. We also need to educate the local population. There's a lot of misinformation about having your dogs desexed. People don't believe in desexing male dogs, and they think that the females should have one litter before they get desexed. But we urgently need to desex the animals here on Thursday Island in significant numbers.

We get Parvovirus quite bad on the island. Last wet season there was a very bad outbreak. Over 200 puppies and dogs died from it last year. So another major effort to undertake is convincing people to vaccinate their dogs.

The cat problem is probably worse than the dog problem. We also need to desex the



cats. The feral cat population is a huge problem on the island, but we have been rehoming cats and kittens successfully in the last few months as well. They're a little bit different to dogs, because they're not as visible. They go off into the bush and look after themselves. This is terrible for the local wildlife.

I think the more we can get out there, the more we will lessen the issue. We just need to put a dent in getting existing animals desexed so it's not a continued cycle.

**Helen Byrnes is a vet from the charity Vets Beyond Borders:** I am a board member of Vets Beyond Borders and long-term volunteer. So I went up as the lead veterinarian to Thursday Island with the AWLQ project. We were there for four days. Day-to-day I was doing surgery, treating animals, vaccinating, desexing, worming, assessing sick animals, and just generally being involved.

There's a big problem on Thursday Island with the animals. There is the issue of those with low incomes, and they don't have access to veterinary care. Problems like ticks are very treatable, they have good products nowadays for preventing it spreading. The tick treatments do cost a bit of money, which can be a limiting factor for some people, but it's certainly manageable.

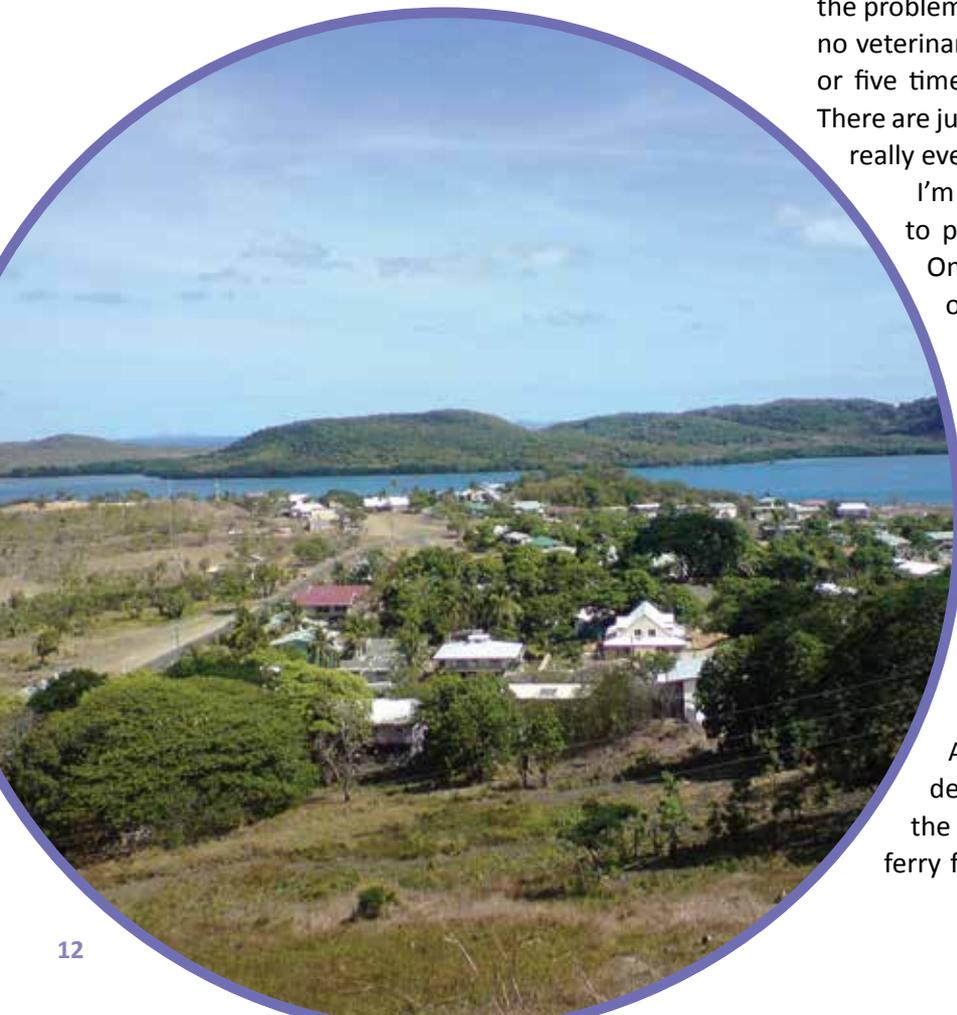
We're going back again soon to work with the animals on the island. Last time it was a four-day program, this time it will be a seven-day program. We'll be providing vaccination and desexing services. We will ask for a donation for this – there are some suggested guidelines, but actually it is whatever they can afford. Last time we were really, really busy and we expect to be really, really busy again. This time, we are taking more staff. Mainly, more nursing staff, and organising more local volunteers to help with the administrative processes. It will be a much bigger operation and we hope to achieve bigger goals!

**Sylvana Wenderhold is a Project Manager for AWLQ:** The first time we did the desexing program was in September, and I was the coordinator. AWLQ did all the organising and then Vets Beyond Borders supplied the team of vets and the vet nurse. I coordinated with the Thursday Island Animal Support Group to get the location and they put out the word. We flew to Thursday Island and set up a clinic in a "shed" and we desexed for four days.

I am a big believer in the desexing programs – I started the National Desexing Network. My current role is rural and regional programs manager. What I'm trying to do is to help areas that don't currently have any desexing programs. With Thursday Island, the problem is just the sheer number of animals and no veterinary service. Next year we hope to go four or five times to get the population under control. There are just so many puppies born, and we haven't really even started tapping into the cats.

I'm actually on my way now to the airport to pick up two dogs from Thursday Island! One is a four-month-old puppy, and the other one is a bit older. It was one of the only ones that didn't have heartworm – all the other ones had it. It's very hard for us to rehome them when they have heartworm.

The Thursday Island Animal Support Group is only a very young group. They're doing an amazing job, but if we don't all work together to stem the problem, it's basically like mopping the floor with the tap on, you're never going to get anywhere. A high-volume desexing program is definitely needed on Thursday Island and the surrounding islands. Animals come by ferry from other islands as well. And we have



been told that the outer islands are even worse and the animals are in very bad shape. A lot of these animals are owned, but they don't live a very healthy life. One thing that we do want to do is educate the owners about how to keep their animals healthy.

The first time we went to work on Thursday Island, we put our posters up. It's a small island, and word of mouth really goes a long way. A local radio station also put the word out. I think we could have stayed a month and still be desexing!

Access to vet services is a big problem. When we were there, a kitten was hit by a car. They immediately put it on a plane and sent it to Cairns, which is about an hour-and-a-half flight. But that family could afford it, it is not available to all animals, and they will die obviously. And it will be a very slow death if nothing gets done.

Donating to AWLQ helps because obviously it costs us money to go there and set this all up. We pay for all the pharmaceuticals and the flights. We do ask the owners on the island for a donation, which almost all of them give us. They're all very thankful that we are there helping.

I'm currently in the midst of organising the next trip. I just put in a pharmaceutical order and am organising flights. Last time, we only had one vet nurse. But this time we'll definitely bring two or three vet nurses. So we'll be able to do a lot more desexing and we're also staying longer.

**Michelle Resek – Pet Owner on Thursday Island:**

When I first heard about the clinic coming to the island, I took my dog Jada, and they desexed her. I started off with one dog. But then, I rescued one off the road! Soon enough, I had puppies! She had nine, but she killed two, so I ended up with seven pups.

I took them all to the vet. They checked them over and chipped them and you know what? That is bloody awesome, because you never get that from anywhere. And for me, I love animals, so I was happy.

I got both the rescue dog and Jada fixed. And most of the puppies got a good home, I still have two, they are waiting for homes. They're all chipped, and they've all had their tablets. So they're very healthy and good-looking pups. They're not old enough yet to be desexed, but as soon as they are adopted, they will be.

If dogs are taken care of properly on Thursday Island, they have a good life. We jump in the car, drive around to the back of the island, and go to Sadie's beach, and I just let them go. In fact, now it is

time for their walk. They're all looking at me saying, "Are we going? Are we going? Are we going?"

I wish there was a way that we could get more money so that we can make things better for these animals. I praise the vets and the volunteers who come here. I really do appreciate everything they've done for me. The service is excellent. The conversations with the vets are always fascinating. Having that connection with the vet and all the nurses and all the trainees, that was the best part! I loved seeing all these different people coming in to lend a hand!

During the school holidays, one of the girls helping out was a local girl from Thursday Island. She's doing her veterinarian studies down south, she just came home to spend time with her grandmother up here. And she ended up helping! I was so impressed! There is a stepping stone for local kids via this program if they use it wisely.

And I'm so proud of Sonja from the Thursday Island Animal Support Group. She's created a place where the team can actually go and do something good for their animals. The animals can now be looked after and protected from disease. I love the way the service was made accessible. For example, I was emailed to tell me that the vet was coming. That sort of connection is awesome. 🐾



## KEY STATISTICS

### Results of the Last Program on Thursday Island

- Number of animals attended to – 130
- Desexing – 67
- Vaccinations – 116
- Microchips – 87
- Heartworm Testing – 16

# The Cat Dad to the Rescue

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**AWLQ foster carers look after pets who need temporary care. The animals are then sent on to new forever homes. Foster hero George Pully tells his story.**

**M**y girlfriend Tabitha and I never planned to foster cats. At first, we were only looking to adopt. We had our heart set on an older cat, thinking they would need extra love. We presumed that most families would be looking for a kitten.

There were no older cats at the cat centre. I asked the volunteers if they ever get any in, and they said that the older cats usually get fostered out. I thought fostering sounded interesting and they asked me if I wanted to try it. I said that sounded great!

That's how my girlfriend Tabitha and I received our first visitor, a ginger kitten with a broken leg. His name was Yandi, but he purred so loudly we decided to call him Diesel.

He was with us for about four months, healing from his injury, until he was ready to have his stitches out. But he managed to rip his leg open, poor silly boy. So, he went off for more surgery and came back to us for a few more months. When it was time to take him back to the centre, we told them we loved looking after him and couldn't wait for more!

We went to check up on Diesel soon after. We were worried that he might get upset seeing us, but he was really enjoying his time with the other cats!

As we were leaving, we overheard a young couple asking about Yandi. We let them know that we were his foster carers. We told them about his loud purr

and his nickname, Diesel. They said they loved his nickname! Ten minutes later, Diesel had a new home. Diesel's new dad was a lot more into it after he heard the name Diesel!

Saying goodbye is, of course, a challenge sometimes. But I am cool with it because if we held on to Diesel, we wouldn't have been able to foster any more cats in dire need of care.

Soon after we returned Diesel, the foster coordinator, Charmaine gave us a call. She asked us if we could take a mother and her newborn kittens because our house was free of cat flu.

Oh my gosh. Yes. We'd love a mother and babies!

At this point, this was our first mother and baby situation. (These days, mums and babies have become a bit of a specialty for us.) We took the AWLQ's free bottle-feeding course soon after. The course teaches you how to feed neonates. We learned how to how much milk they need per weight, how often you need to feed it to them, and feeding techniques. It was very interesting and informative.

Once we did the course, we felt ready for more responsibility. We were given a few more neonates and we had pregnant mothers, as well. Our foster numbers are high but that's because we have looked after so many multiples!

Kittens need extra care because they are so touch and go. They are so vulnerable to everything.



George and his cat bestie



George and Tabitha and their kittens!



Too much cuteness!

Especially if they are orphaned as neonates, and they don't have a mother cat to look after them. And even then, if they do have a mother cat to look after them, they aren't out of the woods. The mother cat might get little bit of cat flu, then the kittens are going to catch flu, then they can't smell the milk. So they need humans to intervene to save them. It is all worth it though. It is so rewarding when you see the little kittens grow up.

After we did the feeding course, we also did AWLQ's socialisation workshop. Socialisation is training feral kittens and cats to become accepting of humans. We get them to understand that we aren't always a threat. Also, we teach them how to be in the human world. Sometimes, these cats have never seen carpets. They don't know about how to eat food from a bowl. They don't know that a hand can be used for patting, rather than for punching them.

I love fostering animals. It has mainly been cats, but we've fostered some puppies too. (They are so much poopier than cats!) It is a great feeling of responsibility. A lot of them just need a bit of help back to wellness.

If there's not enough room at the shelter, they have to stay in a little quarantine room. But if we can take a cat in, that's one more cat with some room. It has more people and things to interact with and maybe some carpeting or tiles, or something that

they can jump up on. It's just a much better situation for them. If a specific cat needs specific care, then we're always happy to do our best to provide it.

Whatever the animals need, I'm happy to make a plan. I'm happy for them to go to the vet, or to the emergency animal hospital. Whatever needs to be done. Giving cats back after fostering can be a little sad. Tabitha finds it more of a challenge than I do. But the way that I think about it is that some families only have enough love for one particular pet. Whereas myself and my partner, we want to make sure that they are all loved!

Fostering is a rewarding, fulfilling experience. There is nothing to lose. Everything is provided for you for free, by the AWLQ. All litter, bedding, food, and even training! Not as if that matters in my case. As soon as I started fostering, I wanted to buy everything anyway. I bought cat beds, I buy cat food, kitty litter, I've bought many litter boxes. I do it because it gives me joy. Fostering gives me a good feeling, and a sense of responsibility. We will definitely be doing this for the foreseeable future! 🐾

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*Interested in fostering? Log onto [awlqld.com.au/foster-a-pet](http://awlqld.com.au/foster-a-pet) for more information.*



# Protect Your Pet During Tick Season

*Once paralysis occurs the animal is likely to die unless it is treated quickly with tick antiserum transfused by a vet.*

**E**very year the paralysis tick will cause illness in over 100,000 companion animals on the east coast of Australia. Paralysis ticks are external parasites that suck the blood from their host animal. Their salivary glands produce a toxin that affects the nervous system of the host.

Not only is the paralysis tick one of the most common, it's also one of the most dangerous. Once paralysis occurs the animal is likely to die unless it is treated quickly with tick antiserum transfused by a vet. It still takes 48 hours for the toxin to be removed so your pet can continue to deteriorate during this time. Full recovery can take weeks.

Ticks need humidity and mild weather to develop and aren't able to survive in cold climates. They are most commonly found along the east coast of Australia during the warmer months but can be found inland in suitable habitats and in northern parts of the country all year round.

Ticks vary in size between 1mm and 10mm long, depending on their age. They look like tiny spiders with a white, egg-shaped bodies. This body becomes larger and darker as it fills with blood.

The best way to protect your pet is to check them daily in conjunction with a tick prevention treatment. Begin with their head and remember that you're more likely to feel the tick than see it, so make sure you use your hands. Check inside your pet's ears, nose, and mouth, under their chin and around their throat. Move down the front legs and check in between their toes. Feel along their body making sure to check their belly, and then check down their back legs and in between their toes. Inspect your pet's genital region as ticks can sometimes be found there and finish with their tail.

It's a good idea to use a tick treatment that will either repel ticks or kill them if they attach. Spot on treatments, tablets and collars are available and it's best to consult your vet about which is most suitable for your pet. Read the instructions very carefully as some treatments are for

dogs only and can be very dangerous to cats and can even kill them. Some can also react with other medications your pet may be on.

If your pet has come into contact with a paralysis tick they will experience paralysis in a variety of forms. A typical case will start with vomiting, a change in "voice" and progress to weakness in the hind limbs that will then progress to total paralysis of the whole body (gastrointestinal, ability to swallow and finally paralysis of respiration).

Other early symptoms may include the following:

- Loss of appetite
- Vomiting or dry retching
- Excessive salivation
- Coughing
- Noisy panting

Paralysis ticks can lead to an animal needing to be ventilated and sadly many victims of these ticks do not recover. If your pet is showing any signs of tick paralysis, you should take him/her to a veterinarian for treatment promptly.

If you suspect that your dog or cat has tick paralysis you can reduce the risk of complications by withholding food and water before you can see a veterinarian. This is especially important if the dog or cat is regurgitating.

There is a deadly new strain of tick disease, which first appeared in Western Australia last year. The brown dog tick is infected with the bacteria *Ehrlichia canis* (*E. canis*) and when it bites, the tick infects a dog with the disease ehrlichiosis which causes serious health issues, even death, among dogs. If you are transporting a dog between states it is vital you have your dog's health checked. If you suspect a dog in Queensland is infected with *E. canis* you must report it to the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888. 🐾



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# LEAVING SOME LOVE IN YOUR WILL

Cynthia explains why she (and her dog Cosmo) will be leaving a gift in her Will to AWLQ.

**T**here is a lot to appreciate about how AWLQ operates and what they achieve. But for me, the standout factor is their Mission statement and the fact that they follow through on it with a high degree of success.

I am very happy to donate to AWLQ because of the great work that they do. They can overcome obstacles with extra financial help. They run fantastic programs like Legacy Pets and Golden Hearts. They collaborate with local councils regarding pound management and the outcomes they achieve are so good. My dog Cosmo is registered with both Legacy Pets and the Golden Hearts programs. I am very grateful to have that support available if ever we need it in the future.

I have no family at all, so my friends are enormously important to me. But my dogs are ultra-special and have always meant the world to me. Cosmo is my closest friend. Every day is a new day. He passes no judgments on me and holds no grudges. He shares my day-to-day-life in every way. He brings play, laughter, joy, and exercise into my world and keeps me on my toes.

My last dog, a Golden Retriever called Gypsy, was a rescue dog. She died in 2017. From the start

of 2019 I spent eighteen months trying to adopt a rescue dog. Jacquie Kennedy at AWLQ was very supportive in my search. But sadly, it was not to be that I should have another rescue dog. It was a stressful time and emotionally very difficult to find the right dog to share my life with. I did not want to support unethical, unregistered breeders and those breeding in puppy farms who advertise on the internet. I had nowhere else to turn to after contacting multiple rescue groups and shelters. Cosmo came to me from a registered Labradoodle breeder in south-west Queensland.

As long as people continue to breed domestic pets indiscriminately, we will need organisations such as the AWLQ. As a major force in helping animals in need in south-east Queensland, the AWLQ is a stand-out organisation.

You can support the hard-working, committed people who keep the AWLQ forging ahead in their important work. You can also make a significant impact by helping to provide the necessary funds that are needed to achieve their goals. I see it as a privilege to support these endeavours. I know that my donations are put to their best use, and it brings me considerable satisfaction.



# LEAVING A GIFT AND PLANNING FOR YOUR PETS

**WHEN YOU LEAVE A BEQUEST** to Animal Welfare League Queensland in your Will, your gift will directly help create a brighter future for animals in need. Bequests allow us to continue lifesaving work and provide a safe haven for close to 10,000 stray and homeless animals every year.

AWLQ's Legacy Pets Program will provide you with the peace of mind that, if something should happen to you, there is a secure plan in place for your pet's future. As part of this care, we will hand-select a new owner and environment that we feel best suits your pet's needs.

As an animal charity with DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) status, we are professionally audited and pride ourselves on our impeccable rating. Operationally, we run at about 6%, ensuring that of every dollar you give to AWLQ, 94% of each dollar will go directly to the welfare of the animals. 🐾

*If you would like some assistance, please contact AWLQ's Bequests Manager in confidence at:*

**Jacquie Kennedy**

**07 5509 9099**

**[bequests@awlqld.com.au](mailto:bequests@awlqld.com.au)**

## DIFFERENT TYPES OF GIFTS

**Fixed sum of money gift:** is also known as a pecuniary bequest, this gift is in the form of a specified cash amount.

**Residual gift:** by leaving a residual gift to the Animal Welfare League of Queensland Inc. you are instructing your Executor that, once your debts are paid and specific gifts are distributed to loved ones named in your Will, the remainder, or a percentage % of the remainder, of your Estate will be paid to the Animal Welfare League of Queensland Inc. A residual bequest is a simple way to leave a gift that needn't interfere with any other specific bequests left to loved ones.

**Whole or part of your estate:** you can leave your entire Estate or any part of your Estate to the Animal Welfare League of Queensland Inc.

**A specific gift or item:** a gift in the form of other property such as shares, investments, vehicles, boats, or items of jewellery, or household contents (goods and chattels).

**Superannuation donation:** you may choose to leave your Superannuation to AWLQ but please note, you will also need to call your superfund provider ahead of time, as you will need to sign some of their own documentation and have their approval, prior to preparing your Will.





# Let your love of animals live on through a gift in your Will.

When you leave a bequest to Animal Welfare League Queensland in your Will, your gift will directly help create a brighter future for animals in need. Bequests allow us to continue our lifesaving work and provide a safe haven for close to 10,000 stray and homeless animals every year.

To every one of these animals who we welcome through our doors, a promise is made – to never euthanise a healthy, sociable, or treatable animal in our care. It is this promise that separates us from any other animal welfare organisation in Australia.

None of this could be possible without the financial support of animal lovers like you. A gift in your Will now, ensures your passion for animal welfare and love of animals continues to live on into the future.

For more information please visit [awlqld.com.au/bequests](http://awlqld.com.au/bequests) or call us on 07 5509 9099.



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# Old Man George – an AWLQ Success Story

*Paul and Regan Kennedy adopted George from the Coombabah shelter over 16 years ago. He still brings them love and joy every day. Here Paul tells us about their wonderful adoption story.*

**W**e were very fortunate to adopt George on 19th March, 2005. We were told that George was found by the AWLQ as a stray and when we adopted him, he was very timid and scared of noises and people.

George had his 17th birthday in March of this year – he had 6 of his closest canine friends and 34 of his adult friends – he remains a gentle dog, but has well and truly gotten over his fears.

We are amazed at the wonderful work that AWLQ does – if it wasn't for the AWLQ, George most likely would not have survived and we wouldn't have been his lucky parents for the last 16 years.

We are aware that George's time is getting closer, however, he has such a love of life – he continues to want to walk twice a day and loves his food. He loves to see other dogs and on a good day, will have a swim in the Broadwater. He is such a happy dog!

We bought our house at the Gold Coast 18 years ago and always wanted a dog. We decided we would get a rescue dog. I work in Brisbane, so I drove past the shelter every day on my way, so we were well

aware of the AWLQ. In those days, the AWLQ used to put the animals needing homes in the newspaper on a Sunday. It was dogs and cats and horses, plus other pets.

When we adopted George, he was somewhere between six months and a year old. When we were looking to adopt, Regan went looking at all the different dogs. George was just so quiet and just stepped aside the whole time. I don't know whether he was badly mistreated or something like that, but he was very, very quiet. But she loved him right away!

Regan got him in the car. At first, he didn't want to leave the AWLQ, but once Regan got him home, within 48 hours, he was settled in and happy as ever. We both worked, so during the day George would go to the in-law's house, which was just around the corner. They would take him down to the Broadwater every day. He'd stay with them all day and then we'd pick him up at night. So, he's been a very lucky dog. Now, my mother-in-law lives with us because my father-in-law passed away a few years ago. So he has company all day.



*George at the Broadwater.*



George with his non-slip socks on at home.



George at his 17th birthday, with his birthday bandana on.

George is just the most beautifully natured dog. The love a dog gives you, once they have been rescued, is amazing. They just give you unconditional love without question. It's a second chance for lots of them and they just pay you back tenfold without question.

We adopted another dog as well, called Lee. Lee and George acted like siblings right away. They just hit it off. Lee was treated very badly. His litter had been tied up and starved. The owners made them fight for a little bit of food, until one of the neighbours stopped them. He could hardly walk when he got here. But again within 24 hours he was happier. We just told him to share his food with George and you could literally put the food down after a couple of weeks side by side, and there was not one fight over it.

Any of our friends who have met George and Lee have loved them. Rather than pay thousands of dollars or hundreds of dollars, they just go to the AWLQ and adopt. The hardest thing for any of us who go there – is only adopting one.

Lee has since passed away. We won't discount getting a second dog, but our neighbours have a German Shepard and a Blue Heeler that we look after when they are away. We've probably got enough dogs to look after! My mate from across the road calls me the dog whisperer!

George's legs are going on him now and his spine gives him trouble. We recently went to the vet to make sure we aren't just keeping him alive for our benefit. But so far, the vet is happy, and George gets his little injection for his arthritis regularly.

George still loves his walks, he loves his breakfast and dinner. When George goes, we'll give ourselves a couple of weeks and then we'll certainly adopt one or two more. Dogs are just marvellous to come home to. They make you get up and walk every morning. George has never missed a walk.

George has been a wonderful part of our family for over 16 years – we feel so lucky and are happy to share our joy with others. Adopting George has made such wonderful changes to our life. He is an amazing dog – he brings us unconditional love. 🐾

*When you adopt an animal through AWLQ, you are supporting an organisation that rehomes and cares for more than 8,000 abandoned and homeless animals each year. All cats and dogs are desexed, microchipped, vaccinated, treated for the prevention of fleas and worms and may be eligible for 3-months free pet insurance with RACQ insurance (conditions apply). Our promise is to never euthanise a healthy, sociable or treatable animal in our care.*

# Making a Difference, Saving Lives



Tawl Tails meets volunteering hero Evelyn Fisher. She is over 80-years-old and has been volunteering at AWLQ for the past 6 years. Evelyn has made a remarkable difference to the many lives that pass through AWLQ. She volunteers on a Wednesday with the cats, but also is happy to do a bit of everything. So far, she has given 878 hours of her time to AWLQ. Evelyn even returned to volunteering after breaking her hip in late 2020. Nothing is slowing this hero down! She tells us what volunteering means to her.

I really love animals. I always have. I only wish there was something else that I could do! When I was younger, I had a friend called Jenny who owned a pet shop at Mitchelton. Jenny was looking for volunteer cuddlers for the puppies who didn't have homes yet. Jenny also helped to rehome dogs from AWLQ so that is how I was introduced to the charity.

Then I moved to Deagon. This put me close to the Warra Animal Rehoming Centre. I put my name down to volunteer and after some time passed, they gave me a call. I went for my induction, and I volunteered for three days a week.



I have worked with the dogs and the cats, but now I just do the cats. After I had some time off due to Covid restrictions and after breaking my hip, I returned to help in the donation room, sorting out the donation bin and the other things. At the moment I'm cutting up sheets for the bedding. It's great because I can sit down on a chair and I cut up the sheets and chat. I start at 9:00am and finish at 1:00pm. Jasmine, who I'm working with, drops me home.

I get wonderful interaction when I am there, with people and animals. I get my fix! If I didn't do that, I don't honestly know what I would do. It lets me give back, and it gives me something to do.

Mostly, somebody will give me a lift to and from the AWLQ. But other than that, I've got my walker. If I go down on a Saturday, I just use my walker. Somebody said to me the other day, well, how long do you think you can keep going down there and doing what you're doing? I said, I don't care because I've just turned 86, and I love to keep myself active. I'll keep going down there as long as they want me to go down.

I have been volunteering for most of my life in one way or another. I love going into AWLQ and doing the cleaning and and interacting with the cats. I like to clean too, but Jasmine – another vullie – she's

a fantastic worker. I know she's been in before me because everything is so tidy!

I do sometimes get attached to the cats. A few years ago, there was a cat in there who had cat-HIV. Nobody wanted to adopt him. We had him in there for so long. I was getting really frustrated that nobody adopted him. Somebody said to me, "Oh no, I don't want to get AIDS!" And I said, "You can't catch AIDS from a cat!"

He'd roll over and I'd rub his tummy, we had a good bond. I went in there one day and the pod that he was usually in was empty. He was gone! And I actually thought that he must have died! I said, "Where's Buster?" Then I was told Buster got adopted. Well, I just let out a happy scream. I was delighted!

Sometimes people adopt cats, but they have to bring them back because they don't get on with their dog, or with another cat. It's really hard sometimes. It is the same with dogs. If you already have a dog, and you want another dog, you should bring your first dog into the shelter to see if they will get along with the second dog.

Some of the names they give the cats who stayed a long time are funny. We had a ginger cat there a few weeks back. And because he was ginger, they called him Prince Harry! 

## HOW DO I VOLUNTEER?

Volunteering at AWLQ is a four-step process. Read the position descriptions carefully and decide which position you would like to volunteer in, then:

- Complete the volunteer application form for the chosen shelter location.
- Book and pay for a scheduled volunteer induction at the chosen shelter location. In order to cover the training, equipment, resources and volunteer T-shirt that is issued, we ask you to make a \$33 payment to cover these costs.
- Attend and participate in our volunteer induction at the chosen shelter location.
- Be assigned on the roster for your first shift, commence volunteering and training.

*Log onto <https://www.awlqld.com.au/support-us/volunteer-with-awlq> to start the process. Happy volunteering!*

# Pets are at higher risk of becoming lost during a storm.



*The severe weather season is here, and floods and cyclones are on the forecast. Animal Welfare League Queensland is encouraging pet owners to ensure their animals are kept safe this storm season.*

**M**any pounds report an increase in runaway cats and dogs after a storm and Animal Welfare League Queensland also often sees a significant influx of lost animals coming into care when severe weather events occur.

Pets are at higher risk of becoming lost during a storm. The sudden atmospheric changes and loud noises associated with storms is one of the most prevalent phobias in animals and results in many of them digging under or jumping over fences to escape from their properties and get away from the storm. This then puts them at risk of injuring themselves.

While there is no magic solution to prevent animals from becoming distressed during storms, there are several things you can do to calm and protect your pets.

#### **TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR PET SAFE DURING A STORM:**

- Bring pets indoors at the first sign of a storm – animals can become disoriented or try to escape the property to get away from the storm.
- If you are not able to be home – ask a neighbour or family member to take care of your pet in the event you are unable to do so.
- Storm phobic animals – confine them to a small space or room if you know this makes them feel safe, close the blinds so your pet can't see outside and have music playing. You can also try a thunder coat.
- Make sure all pets have identification – ensure your pet's microchip details are up-to-date and they are wearing a collar and identification tag. If you aren't sure which company your pet's microchip is registered

with, visit [www.petaddress.com.au](http://www.petaddress.com.au) to search your pet's microchip.

- Take your pet if you evacuate – if it isn't safe for you, it isn't safe for your pets. You have no way of knowing how long you'll be kept out of the area, and you may not be able or allowed to go back for your pets.

#### **TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR PET SAFE AFTER A STORM**

- Don't allow your pets to roam outside straight away – there could be damage to the property, a lot of debris in your property or your fencing may be damaged.
- Be patient with your pets after a storm disaster – if your pet is distressed during a storm it may take them sometime calm down and get back into their normal routine.
- If your property has been flooded – check for wildlife that may have sought refuge there as they can pose a threat to your pet.

Losing a pet is a very distressing time for owners. In the event your pet does go missing during a storm, check your neighbourhood as someone may have found your pet and are keeping them safe. Ensure you contact your local Council, animal shelters and vet clinics. It is also a good idea to list your pet missing on social media lost and found pages.

Lost cats and dogs behave differently depending on whether they are shy or confident, whether kept indoors or are used to being outside and many other factors.

Most importantly, don't give up – cats are often found weeks or months after they go missing. 🐾

*AWLQ has developed a variety of resources to assist you during this time. Visit <https://www.awlqld.com.au/awlq-animals/lost-and-found/> – These provide the essential steps to help you find your lost cat or dog and to help you find the owners of lost pets.*

*This is also a very timely reminder for pet owners to make sure you have an emergency plan in place for your pets during a natural disaster. Visit <https://www.qld.gov.au/emergency/dealing-disasters/prepare-for-disasters/prepare-pets> for more information.*

*Download AWLQ's Guide to Preparing your Pet for Storm Season at [awlqld.com.au/media-articles](http://awlqld.com.au/media-articles)*



# Is Your Pet in Pain?

## SIGNS TO LOOK OUT FOR:

### Decreased activity

- your pet is not playing as much as usual

### Not going up or down stairs

- an early sign of osteoarthritis

### Reluctance to jump up onto surfaces

- this especially applies to cats

### Difficulty standing after lying down

- a sign of osteoarthritis

### Decreased appetite

- this can be a sign of mouth pain

### Over-grooming or licking a particular area

- can be a sign of referred pain



Enter **KATIE HUNT**

- Canine dry needling therapist.

Her business *Canine Myofascial Therapy*, may be able to help your pet.

Dry needling helps release muscle knots and relieve pain and increase range of motion within the joint.

Ph: 0433 653 383 • [k9hydrotherapist@gmail.com](mailto:k9hydrotherapist@gmail.com)

Instagram: [@canine\\_myofascial\\_therapy](https://www.instagram.com/canine_myofascial_therapy) • [facebook.com/Caninemyofascialtherapy](https://www.facebook.com/Caninemyofascialtherapy)

# Amazing Décor Finds

*Finding unique curios at a practical price can a great hobby! At the AWLQ Op Shops you can find gorgeous items to spice up your collection. You'd also be helping to save lives with your purchases. Here are some great bric-à-brac finds that you might see. Be quick on your feet though, as these donated items just might be sold by the time you get there!*



### DICE DECANTER

Is there a more classic and relaxing way to end your day as you sip on your favorite tippie? By serving your drinks in this unique decanter, of course! Kept in its own vintage dice-shaped box, it comes with three complementary shot glasses. This unique find might just be the perfect addition to your cozy study where you relax after a day's work.

### SHINE ON DISPLAY FRAME

We all love inspirational things to power us through the day! So here's something to add to your collection. We can be reminded to Shine On with this cute calligraphy display frame. Go get 'em, Tiger!



### LARGE VINTAGE CHEST

Need a place to store all the trinkets that you've found in the Op Shop? Then you might want to take home this unique vintage chest with you, too! This storage box can hold your precious finds while being the centerpiece you'd want to display in your home, too!

### MYSTERY TELESCOPE

Do you like looking at stars but cannot see them from the comfort of your own home? Then this find might just be for you! This mystery telescope will let you see the stars like as if they're just beside you (without the combustible heat of course!).





### INDIAN SITAR

How often would you find a heritage item in shops you visit? What about a unique musical instrument that is not often seen in this part of the world? This Indian Sitar is in perfect working condition so you could learn to play a chord or two and entertain your guests with something new. What a perfect way to display your talents on this vintage plucking string instrument, eh?

### VASES AND ORNAMENTS

Ornaments aplenty! At the Nerang store, there is a display of unique vases and ornaments like this one. You'll surely be able to find something worth your fancy and style!



Every purchase you make in the Op shops helps to save lives, so you will assist AWLQ to do this while you pick your favorite fancy items. You may browse through many of the AWLQ stores via their Facebook page ([facebook.com/awlqopshops](https://facebook.com/awlqopshops)) or their Instagram (@opshopsawlq).

## The AWLQ Op Shops

#### Beaudesert

Shop 1, 15 William Street  
Beaudesert QLD 4285  
Mon to Fri: 9am – 3pm

#### Burleigh

Cnr Lower GC Highway & Elder Street  
Burleigh Heads QLD 4220  
Mon to Fri: 9am – 4pm  
Sat: 9am – 12pm

#### Coombah

Coombah Plaza, Hansford Street  
Coombah QLD 4216  
Mon to Fri: 9am – 3pm  
Sat: 9am – 1pm

#### Coomera

31 Dreamworld Parkway  
Coomera QLD 4209  
Mon to Fri: 9am – 3pm  
Sat: 9am – 12pm

#### Currumbin

2/56 Currumbin Creek Road  
Currumbin Valley QLD 4223  
Mon to Fri: 8.30am – 2.30pm  
Sat: 8.30am – 12pm

#### Ipswich

189 Brisbane Street  
Ipswich QLD 4305  
Mon & Tue: 9.30am – 4.15pm  
Sat: 9am – 12.15pm

#### Labrador Warehouse/Op Shop

Unit C6-239 Brisbane Road  
Labrador QLD 4216  
Mon to Fri: 9am – 3pm  
Sat: 8.30am – 12pm

#### Miami

5/10-14 Pacific Avenue  
Miami QLD 4220  
Mon to Fri: 9am – 4pm  
Sat: 9am – 12pm

#### Nerang

61 Lawrence Drive Nerang QLD 4211  
Mon to Fri: 9am – 3pm  
Sat: 9am – 12pm

#### Shelter Road

Coombah QLD 4216  
Mon to Fri: 9am – 3pm

#### Southport

4 Railway Street  
Southport QLD 4215  
Mon to Fri: 9am – 3pm

#### The Thrifty Kitten

Unit 6/18 Bailey Crescent  
Southport QLD 4215  
For days & times –  
Facebook @awlqopshops or  
Instagram @the.thrifty.kitten

*Do you have good quality items to donate? Drop your goods off to any of our conveniently located op shops or if you have a large amount or bulky items to donate we can often collect them from you – just call 07 5509 9056.*

# Animal Welfare League of Queensland to Run Ipswich Pound

*AWLQ has taken over the care of animals at Ipswich City Council's Animal Management Centre. They already do this for Brisbane City Council and for the Gold Coast City Council. And of course, AWLQ do this offering the same unique lifesaving promise.*



Ipswich Council's Animal Management Centre houses lost animals and those available for adoption. The management of the centre has just been contracted to AWLQ.

Ipswich Mayor Teresa Harding said AWLQ is highly regarded in the community for their work in animal welfare. "We welcome the AWLQ back to Ipswich after they operated the Animal Management Centre from 2011 to 2016. We look forward to working closely with them to provide stray and homeless animals with a safe haven, while providing a valuable service to the Ipswich community."

AWLQ is a trusted leader in animal welfare and is well regarded for its national initiatives. Says Denise Bradley, CEO for AWLQ, "We look forward to working closely with Ipswich City Council to provide stray and homeless animals with a safe haven while supporting the Ipswich community with their pets. We will continue to maintain our promise to never euthanise a healthy, sociable or treatable animal in our care. We make this promise to both the animals in our care and the community."

All cats and dogs up for adoption are desexed, microchipped, vaccinated, treated for the prevention of fleas and worms. "There is no greater gift to an animal in our care than a loving home. When you adopt a pet through the Ipswich Animal Rehoming Centre, you are providing that animal with a second chance at happiness. We encourage anyone who is ready for a furry new family member to visit the Ipswich Animal Rehoming Centre," said Ms Bradley.

AWLQ needs dedicated foster carers in the local community to open their hearts and homes to animals who need care outside of the shelter. You can get involved at [awlqld.com.au/foster](http://awlqld.com.au/foster).

"Fostering is one of the most important ways you can help animals in need. Providing our residents somewhere to stay for just a short amount of time helps save lives," said Ms Bradley. "Once the foster animal has recovered from illness or injury, they are returned to AWLQ and join our animal rehoming program."

AWLQ also offers a community vet clinic to pet owners in the Ipswich area, providing quality vet care at affordable prices.

The Ipswich Animal Rehoming Centre is open Monday to Sunday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at 6 Hooper Street, West Ipswich. 🐾

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

AWLQ is searching for dedicated volunteers to come forward and play a vital role in the organisation's work caring for close to 10,000 animals each year. Volunteers contribute in a variety of ways:

- enriching the lives of animals
- running AWLQ op shops
- collecting donations
- fundraising at events
- managing laundry
- providing admin support.

Register your interest in volunteering at [awlqld.com.au/volunteer](http://awlqld.com.au/volunteer) and play an instrumental role in AWLQ's lifesaving work.

# Who will look after them after you?

*Most of us assume that we will outlive our pets. But what if you're the one who becomes incapacitated, or dies, first?*

*Animal Welfare League Queensland's Legacy Pets Program ensures that, upon your death, your pet comes into the lifelong care of the AWLQ family. As part of that care, we will hand-select a new owner and environment that we feel best suits your pet's needs. Most importantly, they will receive the love and support like they had with you. When your pet is part of the Legacy Pets Program they will also receive free veterinary check-ups and routine care (conditions apply) for the rest of their life.*

*Joining AWLQ's Legacy Pets Program is free of charge and will provide you with the peace of mind that, if something should happen to you, there is a secure plan in place for your pet's future.*

*For more information please visit [awlqld.com.au/legacypets](http://awlqld.com.au/legacypets) or call us on 07 5509 9099.*



Animal Welfare  
League Qld  
Est. 1959

# Animal Pain Be Gone!

Katie Hunt is the name behind the new pet service called Canine Myofascial Therapy. She tells us all about what she does for pets in pain.



Is your pet in pain? Have they slowed down or can no longer jump onto the couch or into the car? It could be myofascial pain. This is pain in muscles or fascia (a type of connective tissue that surrounds muscles). Myofascial pain can appear in any body part on animals. The pain is steady, aching, and deep, ranging from mild discomfort to excruciating and “lightning-like.” Knots may be visible or felt beneath the skin, and the pain does not resolve on its own.

Massage therapy using trigger-point release techniques can be very effective in pain relief of this condition. Once the trigger points are gone, the animal is then able to move that muscle more freely again. They will regain a range of motion to the limb the muscle was affecting, whilst supporting the long-term health of the local muscle system.

Dry needling for the treatment of myofascial pain is also a useful tool. It is a modern treatment designed to ease muscular pain and its popularity is growing. Dry needling is called this because no liquid is injected into the body. Therapists place a stainless-steel filiform needle into the “trigger points” in muscle or tissue. The needle helps release the knot and relieve any muscle pain or spasms, increasing blood flow to the area and stimulating the body’s natural healing abilities.

Dry needling must not get confused with acupuncture although the same type of needles are used. Acupuncture works on the body’s energy flow and meridian pathways.

Katie is currently in the process of starting up her own hydrotherapy clinic here on the Gold Coast.



I did a 12-month placement at Currumbin Wildlife Hospital. I have been a general practice vet nurse for the past 7 years and was previously a vet nurse for AWLQ at Coombabah and Daisy Hill.”

Since discovering the benefits of dry needling to relieve pain on pets, Katie has been offering dry needling treatments since the beginning of this year. “I currently dry needle at the Aussie Pet Collective in Slacks Creek and a few other locations along the Gold Coast and Tweed area.”

Katie is passionate about making animals better. “It all started in 2005, I got a kelpie Dalmatian cross puppy and named her Indiana, at only four month of age she was hit by a car and needed her back leg amputated. Because of her 3 legs we did lots of swimming to keep her muscles nice and strong, and this helped to take the weight off her remaining legs. I was very aware of how this could affect her later in life. In 2017 she was diagnosed with malignant melanoma and given 6 months to live, so we got a little brother for her and me – Paddy the Frenchie. Indiana went on to live another 3 years! Unfortunately, I had to make the devastating decision to put her to sleep, a month before her 15th birthday. She is my reason for studying hydrotherapy and dry needling. She was my soul dog. I want to help all the 3-legged and 4-legged puppies! I just want all animals to be able to live and experience a pain-free life.”

Katie has experience with all sorts of animals from geckos, crocodiles and snakes, cats and dogs, to goats, chickens, horses and cows. If your pet suffers from any of the above conditions, you can contact Katie. PAW

Hydrotherapy is an underwater treadmill. It helps your pet to regain muscle strength after surgery (and other medical issues including weight loss). The buoyancy of the water helps to take the weight of the joints so the animal can exercise with minimal pain whilst building strength, muscle mass and increase their mobility and agility.

Enter **Canine Myofascial Therapy**, started up by Katie Hunt. She has quite the qualifications in her arsenal, including a certificate in Animal Dry Needling, through the Australian College of Eastern Medicine. She has Cert 4 in Vet nursing, a Certificate in Canine Hydrotherapy, Cert 111 Animal Care and Husbandry, Cert 111 Captive Animals (zookeeping certificate).

Says Katie, “I have been in the animal industry for 20 years. I started out working in pet shops and volunteering at Zoos and wildlife sanctuaries, trying to gain as much experience as possible with every and any animal. I don’t have a favourite I love them all. I started vet nursing in 2005 and then became a zookeeper not long after, specialising in reptile and avian care. In 2013 I wanted more out of my job and to be able to care for my animals in a more in-depth way. I decided to go back and study vet nursing but specialise more in the care of wildlife.

### CONTACT

- ☎ 0433 653 383
- ✉ k9hydrotherapist@gmail.com
- 📷 @canine\_myofascial\_therapy
- 📘 facebook.com/Caninemyofascialtherapy

### THE MOST COMMON SIGNS OF PAIN IN YOUR PET

- PAW Decreased activity – take notice if your pet is not playing as much as usual
- PAW Not going up or down stairs – could be an early sign of osteoarthritis
- PAW Reluctance to jump up onto surfaces – this especially applies to cats
- PAW Difficulty standing after lying down, is a sign of osteoarthritis
- PAW Decreased appetite – this can be a sign of mouth pain
- PAW Over-grooming or licking a particular area – can be a sign of referred pain



# A MYSTERY FLIGHT FOR POPPY!

**Poppy had a brutal start in life, but now she is an adoption success story.**

**W**hen Poppy was just 9 weeks old, her jaw was dislocated and fractured in three places following an accident. With specialist surgery not being an option, Poppy's prognosis of surviving this and going on to lead a happy life was not promising.

Despite this, the AWLQ team were determined not to give up on her. Poppy underwent multiple surgeries to repair her fractures. While this surgery was successful her jaw was permanently dislocated. Her most recent surgery with AWLQ was the removal of the jaw joint.

AWLQ's veterinary team weren't sure if this would be a success, but it was Poppy's only chance at survival. Following a few anxious weeks and the dedicated care from Poppy's foster carer (one of AWLQ's vet nurses) she has now recovered and is loving life.

In fact, Poppy's miraculous recovery was documented in an appeal that AWLQ made at tax time! She featured in the flyer, and many have wondered what happened to her. Well, it is good news there!

Poppy has since been adopted by Jan Cameron who is a long-time supporter of AWLQ. Jan lives in Tasmania, so Poppy flew down to Tassie from the Gold Coast. It was the best kind of mystery flight – to a new, loving home.

Says Jan, "Poppy's jaw is quite misaligned, but it's functional. She does need some extensive dental work. When she first arrived, I think she was in shock a bit! But she's a gorgeous, friendly little dog, very affectionate and cuddly. So we bonded pretty quickly and her confidence has just grown. She understands that this is her forever home now. She's settled in and I am her forever slave!

"Poppy is now eight months old. She's doing really good. She's very happy, very active. I decided to see if I could do more for her jaw. Because we couldn't go to Melbourne or Sydney, we went to Adelaide – on a private plane! A friend took us over there, he was going there anyway. And we spent a week over there. Poppy had an MRI and an examination, and we've got a recommended course of action. A lot of teeth are going to be removed. They're impacted in the jaw and the risk is they could become abscessed.

## PET ADOPTION PROCESS

**WHEN YOU ADOPT** an animal through AWLQ, you are supporting an organisation that rehomes and cares for close to 10,000 stray and homeless animals each year. Welcoming a new furry companion into your home is an exciting time and the aim to make this process as seamless as possible for you. To ensure you are happy with your new companion animal, and they will be happy in their new home, the AWLQ team will discuss with you what you are looking for in your new furry friend.

All cats and dogs are desexed, microchipped, vaccinated, treated for the prevention of fleas and worms and may be eligible for 3-months free pet

*Poppy's jaw before it was fixed*



*A lot of stitches*



*Poppy getting love from AWLQ*



Poppy will still be able to eat afterwards, it's not the way a normal dog eats! But she will still be okay.

"I have another dog, and they had to adjust to each other. Poppy and Lola eventually reached an understanding! Lola's just turned three. There has been a bit of a tussle for who's top dog. It's still going on, but, they're good mates now. I think two dogs is the limit though! We live in the bush, and I've got about 30 acres. The beach is very close by. It doesn't get too hot here in the summer, so Poppy is living the good life." 🐾

*Poppy and her lovely new life in Tasmania*



*Poppy has new siblings*



insurance with RACQ insurance (conditions apply). At the Gold Coast Animal Rehoming Centre we invest approximately \$660.00 into each animal to prepare them for adoption, this money is never fully recouped.

When you adopt a higher-priced animal, not only are you giving this animal a second chance, but you are giving many other animals a second chance. The abandoned dog who needs to have his leg amputated to alleviate pain and suffering, the homeless cat who needs lifesaving treatment and the orphaned litters that need around-the-clock care. You will be saving lives!

AWLQ has a retail shop at each Animal Rehoming Centre where you can purchase everything your new pet requires. From food bowls, food and bedding to kitty litter and scratching posts. There's also a wide range of collars, leashes, grooming products, worming tablets, shampoo and toys available. All money raised from the retail shops goes back in to caring for the animals still waiting for a new home.

*For more information about pet adoption, log on to [awlqlld.com.au/adopt](http://awlqlld.com.au/adopt)*

# WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I FIND A CAT?

The word “stray” refers to friendly cats who are social with humans and don’t have a home. They are either lost or have been left outdoors. Sadly, cats do get lost and some cats are left behind when someone moves away or can’t care for the cat anymore.

**D**ETERMINE IF THE CAT IS LOST. Wandering cats are 13 times more likely to be returned to owners if you use the following strategies rather than just take them to the pound. (The reclaim rate for cats from council shelters in Australia is around only 2% - 10%).

## STEP ONE – IS THE CAT FRIENDLY?

This cat is likely to be a local indoor/outdoor cat that has escaped. Approximately 50% of cat owners do not keep their cats indoors or have appropriate fencing/enclosures to keep their cat safe.

These cats are likely to explore, but the majority do not go far. 75% of these cats are found within 500m of their point of escape. Outdoor cats may be up to a kilometre from their homes.

If it doesn’t have a collar and ID, it could have a microchip. Take the cat to a local vet clinic to be scanned for a microchip. If there’s no traceable chip or the cat is too shy or fearful to be picked up, go to Step 2.

If the cat is sick, injured or too young to be on its own, take it to the vet clinic as soon as possible. If the cat is coming and going it may be living between multiple homes. Try to fit it with a paper or breakaway collar with your phone number for an owner to call you.

## STEP TWO – GET A PHOTO AND DOOR-KNOCK IN A 5-HOUSE RADIUS

92% of indoor cats and 84% of outdoor access cats are found within a 5-home radius. Take a photo and ask all the neighbours if they know where the cat lives.

## STEP THREE – MAKE SIMPLE FLYERS

Distribute flyers to your neighbours in a 5-house radius. Put up giant neon posters on street poles

or in local shops. On posters, include FOUND CAT, a PHOTO of the cat, YOUR PHONE NUMBER and any unique features (people driving past will have 5 seconds to read it so 5 words max).

Find an A4 flyer/poster template at [www.g2z.org.au/lost-pets](http://www.g2z.org.au/lost-pets) – be sure to check with your council on laws related to displaying community posters.

Write a simple message on your car back window.

## STEP FOUR – CONTACT YOUR LOCAL VET CLINICS, SHELTERS AND POUNDS

Report the cat as found and ask them to check if it is reported as lost. If the owner has given permission, they should provide you with owner details for direct return. Send a copy of the photo to add to their report.

## STEP FIVE

Utilise local lost and found and community web and social media sites to list the found pet with photo, and to check if an owner has posted a lost report. For example:

- [www.petsearch.com.au](http://www.petsearch.com.au)
- [www.lostpetfinders.com.au](http://www.lostpetfinders.com.au)

## STEP SIX – REPEAT THE ABOVE STEPS!

Cats are often lost for weeks or months before they are found.

## STEP SEVEN

If you have tried all of the above strategies and cannot find the owner:

- Consider adopting the cat
- Ask friends or family if they can adopt the cat.
- Desex and microchip the cat ASAP to prevent breeding of unowned unsocialised community cats.

- Visit the National Desexing Network website [www.ndn.org.au](http://www.ndn.org.au) or phone 1300 368 992 to find any reduced priced desexing programs near you.

### STEP EIGHT

Only after you have tried all of the above strategies and you cannot manage to desex the cat and keep or find her a good home, consider surrendering the cat to a shelter or rescue group with a good rehoming record.

These groups will often be overloaded with cats and kittens, and may have a waiting list. So if you can desex the cat while waiting, to prevent an unwanted litter and reduce the cat's time in the shelter, please do. Call the National Desexing Network to find reduced priced desexing programs available near you.

If the law requires taking a cat to the local council pound/shelter for the mandatory stray holding period:

- Leave your number as a person to be contacted as a potential adopter.
- Keep looking for the owner.
- Check how long the animal will be held at the pound, and stay in touch to see if the cat has been reclaimed or is still being held.
- Before the due out date, remind the pound that you are interested in helping by adopting and/or desexing the animal.

Cats are not claimed or adopted as readily as dogs, so need our help.

### STEP NINE – WHEN YOU FIND THE CAT'S HOME

- Thank everyone and share your happy news with neighbours, vets and businesses
- Take down posters
- Share the strategies you've learned with others to help them find their cats
- Help the owners to prevent losing their cat again. Encourage them to:
  - Update their microchip details
  - Fit an elasticised collar with phone number
  - Desex their cat (desexed cats are more likely to be found than undesexed cats)
  - Carefully contain their cat indoors or with cat-safe fencing. For more information visit [www.awlqld.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/cat-safe-booklet.pdf](http://www.awlqld.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/cat-safe-booklet.pdf)



**MANY PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW** what to do if they find a stray animal. Lost cats and dogs behave differently depending on whether they are shy or confident, whether kept indoors or are used to being outside and many other factors.

Approximately 25% of impounded microchipped cats have out-of-date contact details so owners cannot be contacted. While approximately 60 – 70% of dogs are reclaimed by their owners, only 2 – 10% of impounded cats across Australia are reclaimed.

AWLQ has developed resources to help finders of lost pets be better pet detectives. They provide the essential steps to help you find your lost cat or dog and to help you find the owners of lost pets.

Visit [awlqld.com.au/awlq-animals/lost-and-found/](http://awlqld.com.au/awlq-animals/lost-and-found/) for more information.



# FOXY GETS A NEW MUM THROUGH GOLDEN HEARTS™

**AWLQ's Golden Hearts™ Seniors Pet Support Program is a unique program to support people 65 and older with pet ownership. Jack, a 11-year-old Pomeranian-Chihuahua cross, came into AWLQ care in July after his elderly owner John was rushed to hospital. Jack was fostered by foster carer Angela. Sadly while in hospital, John was advised that he was too unwell to go home and that he would be moved into a high-care village. John made the heartbreaking decision to surrender Jack. Here Angela tells us about her life with her new best friend.**

I changed Jack's name to Foxy, because he looks like a miniature fox. He is the cutest, the most adorable little thing. And I can change his name because he's completely deaf! He can't hear me calling him anyway!

I am originally from London. The reason my husband and I first came to Australia was that I have a sister here. She's in the Outback. She owns the majority of the town called Gregory Downs. They call her the Duchess of Gregory! My husband had absolutely fallen in love with the place. He just loved Australia and he wanted to move here and I thought, "Well look, at our age, there's no way they're going to take us! I mean, you're 60, I'm 50. There's no way!"

I was a university lecturer and a school inspector in England. My husband said, "Why don't you call into that university? You know, that Griffith one? And see if you can see somebody."

They were so welcoming. The Dean invited us in and gave us coffee and chatted away to me. And at the end of our conversation, he said, "Well could you start on Tuesday?"

I said "No, I'm on holiday!"

So he said, "We've got this course we want to run. And we don't have anyone to do it, and we're going to start it next year." So, we ended up coming out to Australia and I worked for the Uni!

Two and a half years later, my husband and I decided we'd buy a house for our retirement, because we were going to stay here permanently. And we bought a house – we were going to renovate. That day, we'd had lunch together. My husband went off to buy some paints to start on the house as soon as we moved in. But very sadly, he died that afternoon.

I had to go back to England to do probate. Not only was I beset with the problem of losing him so suddenly, but also financial issues and all kinds of legal nightmares. And so I came back here. I had to come back here because I still had students, and I had responsibilities. And then I thought, well, I better get on with this house!

I got a dog after that. He was my constant companion after my husband died. His name was Louis Vuitton! He was a beautiful dog – a Maltese-Poodle cross. And as soon as that dog and I met... As soon as I looked into his eyes, I could see this was my dog. That dog chose me. I had him since he was 12 weeks old. He was 17 years old when he



had a stroke. And I said to my friends, “never, never, never will I have another dog, this is too traumatic.”

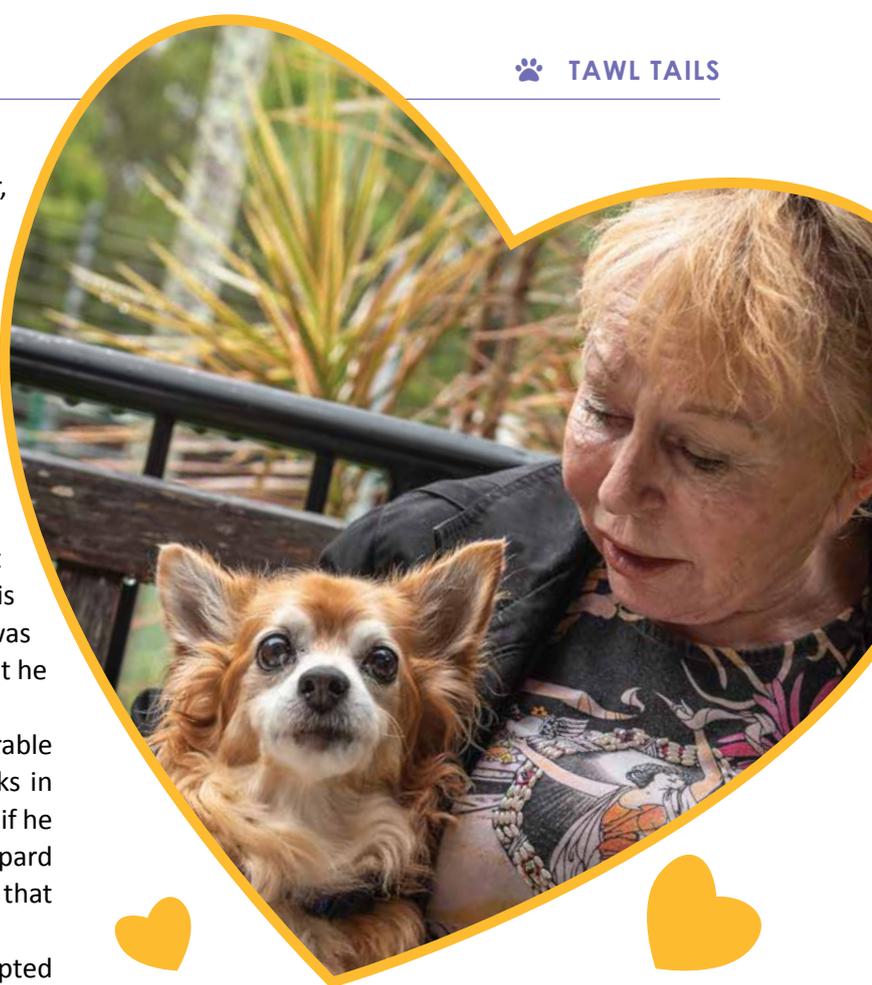
So my friend said, “Well, why don’t you just foster one? And then, of course you can give it back and it’s no problem whatsoever.” So, I fostered Foxy. I was only meant to foster Foxy for a couple of weeks. But then it turned into more weeks, because his owner wasn’t getting any better.

Then, the AWLQ said, “He’s going to be put up for adoption, are you interested?” So, by this time I had fallen completely in love with him. I was dreading the day that they were going to say that he had to go back! And so he never went back!

Foxy is the most charming, affectionate, adorable dog. He’s got such a personality; he never barks in the house. He never barks at all, at anybody. But if he sees next door’s dog, which is a giant Collie-Shepard dog, he barks because he wants to let him know that he’s in charge.

He had a full medical before I actually adopted him. And they have said to me that he has got very mild cataracts. My previous dog went blind with cataracts, I will most certainly make sure that if he needs an operation, he will have an operation.

I live in Helensvale, and my house backs on to a nature reserve. So in the mornings (and in the afternoons, because we walk twice a day), we walk around the nature reserve. And then sometimes, we walk up to the swimming pool. While he loves to walk, and he never leaves my side, he’s also very lazy. Sometimes he pushes me out of bed, and I walk around the bed and get in the other side! He’s also very choosy about what he eats! I can never feed him the same things two days running. Also, he won’t eat chicken if I cook it, but he will if I get one from the supermarket!



I’ve never left Foxy with anybody yet. I will have to go back to the UK soon, to see my children and grandchildren. So, that’s going to be a bit of a wrench when I eventually do. But, I have people queuing up to look after him! I couldn’t take him out to my sister, the Duchess of Gregory. My sister has dogs that would eat him!

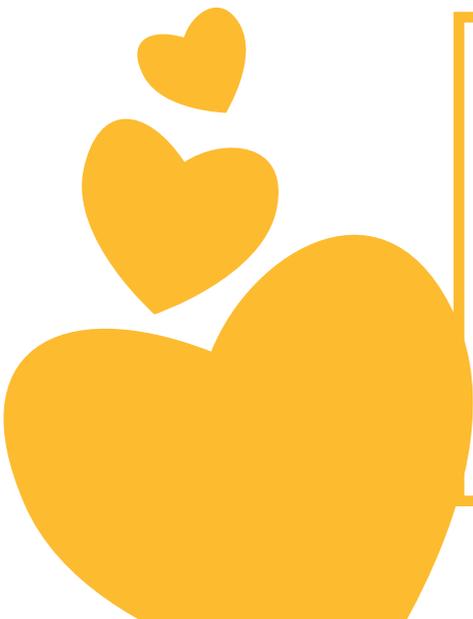
I’m now a very, very young 79. We do look after ourselves, we English girls! But because of my age, I have Foxy registered with Golden Hearts™ through the AWLQ.

I love to have Foxy to come home to, when I’ve been to the shops, or I’ve been out to a meeting or to choir. When I come home, to have someone so overjoyed to see me has made such a difference. 

## THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT GOLDEN HEARTS™

- It’s FREE to join.
- The program is open to ALL pet owners 65 and older, whether you adopted your pet from us or not.
- There are discounted vaccinations and vet services open to ALL pet owners 65 and older.
- S.T.E.P.S. (Short Term Emergency Petcare Service) is open to ALL pet owners. (subject to eligibility for genuine medical emergencies.)

**To join, call (07) 5509 9033 or email [goldenhearts@awlqld.com.au](mailto:goldenhearts@awlqld.com.au)**



# A New Forever Home for Wally



*Wally and his former owner, Peter*



*Graeme and Wally*

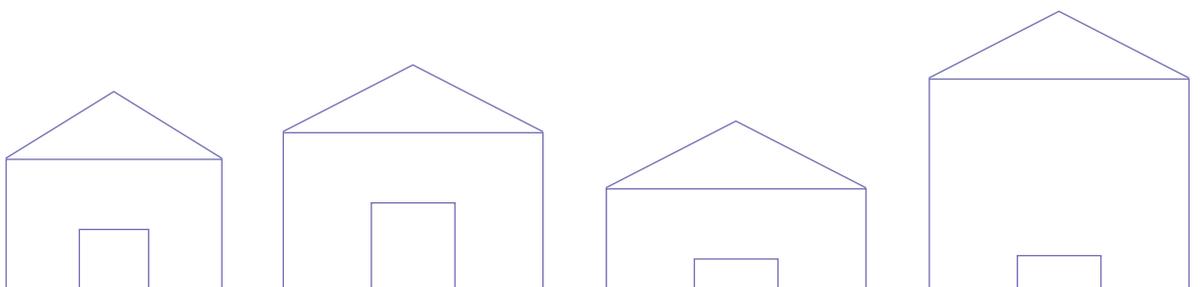
*When Wally’s human dad passed away, AWLQ set out to find him a new home that was as similar to his old home as they could. It turned out to be an amazing success story that has brought love and joy to both Wally and his new dad Graeme.*

*AWLQ provides amazing support for older pet owners with their Legacy Pets Program. It is free of charge and will provide you with peace of mind that if something ever happens to you, there is a secure plan in place for your pet’s future.*

*This is exactly what happened with Walter (now called Wally). His owner was in his eighties and passed away. AWLQ was tasked with the job of finding Walter a new home. Walter did not get on well with anyone in the shelter. But the moment Graeme walked into the foster office, Walter ran right up to him and they both bonded immediately. So much so, that new owner Graeme says he believes it’s like his old dog Sparky has come back to him. His old dog, who looks similar to Walter, passed away exactly 6.5 years ago to the DAY that he adopted Walter.*

*Owner Graeme had seen some personal obstacles recently. He suffered a broken jaw last year and was struggling to emotionally recover from what had happened to him. Graeme’s daughter suggested he needed to replace his dog Sparky.*

*Graeme tells us about meeting Wally.*



**W**ally and I are friends. No, we're more than friends now. To me, he's like a kid that's about six or seven years of age. He understands everything that I say. He's actually sitting right between my feet now. He's now part of the family.

I had my name down for a foster animal. One morning the AWLQ gave me call, saying they have a dog that needed to be fostered for two days while it recovered after some medical treatment.

I was excited to look after him for a couple of days. I arrived at Shelter Road and had a look at the dog. And I took him home. I was required to return him after that to get more medical treatment done. I said to the lady there, listen, I'm missing that little guy already. He's just stepped into my other dog's shoes. The only thing is it's a different colour. If I look into his eyes, I see my other dog there, it's just incredible.

So I said, I'd like to adopt him. This dog has come up and it's like a gift from heaven – and I'm not even religious! My daughter saw me with the dog and said, "Gee, I have not seen you happy like this in at least five years!"

There were a lot of coincidences when I met Wally. Strangely, Walter was my dad's name. But everyone called my dad Wally. Walter sounds a bit stuck up, so I called my new best friend Wally. My daughter said, "Sparky died six years and six months ago. And, your new dog is six years and five months old. Wally was born about a month after Sparky died. Dad, these things are incredible. This dog was meant for you."

This little guy came along and he was somebody I could talk to, strangely enough. And it was like I could tell him all my problems and he would just blink with his eyes. And obviously he didn't understand, but he also did.

So the AWLQ arranged the adoption and I brought him home and set him up in his bed. He's got a bed inside and outside. And because it was a little cooler just a few weeks ago, I actually had him inside. And then I woke up and I went to the bathroom and he was in his bed. But when I came out, he wasn't in his bed. I looked for him... and he's in my bedroom and he's up on my bed with his head on my pillow! And I took a photo and I called it, "Where's Wally?"

Now, he won't let me go anywhere without him. He'll bark and bark if he loses sight of me! He's so affectionate, he rubs himself over my legs and my feet. And, and he gets under my hands and arms he lifts up my hand just to push it over his head so I would stroke him. When I stop, it's like, well,

what did you stop for? It's like being reborn again and I've got this little kid to look after.

I'm a great walker, I go to the gym every day. I'm on the beach if it's low tide, or I am in the park along Burleigh Esplanade. The walk takes me an hour. But since I've had this guy, my walk can take me anywhere up to two and a half hours because people stop with their dogs for a chat. And I as I'm going by, I see kids' little eyes light up and they're smiling. So I go out of my way to go over to them.

Now, he's family. My daughter announced it to our extended network on Facebook, saying, "We have a new family member!"

As I was adopting Wally, the AWLQ said, "There's some good news for you, Graham. The previous owner left a legacy for the dog. We will look after him until day that he dies. His medical bills will always be covered." And I thought, holy smokes!

I had Sparky, my other dog, with me for 16 years. My daughter would say to me, "Dad, really, you're by yourself, why don't you get another dog?" And I said, "Maybe I'm too old." But finally, she convinced me, and now she's happy. I take Wally over to her kids, and they say, "Can we have him? Can he sit on our laps?"

Wally is a great companion. When I pull up in the driveway, he comes running up to me. And the first thing he does is he sniffs my feet, my ankles, my legs. Like, where have you been? I can tell by the smell that you've been so-and-so! It makes me laugh! He's just totally, totally 1000% changed my life.

I think the most important thing is the mutual respect we have for each other. He trusts me with his life. He can't say it, but I know he does. And he's just like having a grandchild around. Dogs really are man's best friend. If a dog could do for you, what this little guy has done for me, absolutely, adopt a dog. 🐾

***For more information, contact:***

***AWLQ's Legacy Pets Manager:  
Jacquie Kennedy 07 5509 9099***

***or email***

***bequests@awlqlld.com.au***



# Temporary Care for Bolt the Staffy

**Joe became homeless earlier this year, after the place he was renting was sold. Joe needed help with his best friend, Bolt, an American Staffy purebred, until he could find new accommodation. Joe was put in touch with AWLQ, who came to the rescue.**

**J**oe and his best friend were caught up in the rental crisis, like so many others in Southeast Queensland. Joe adores Bolt, and while in the thick of his housing crisis, he always made sure Bolt was fed and taken care of. When Bolt came into AWLQ care, they could tell that he was very cared for and loved. Bolt is a lovely dog and very well behaved.

Joe is now living in a social housing unit which is pet-friendly, and both Joe and Bolt are very happy there. Joe has a knack for mechanics, as he used to run a garage and do vintage car shows. Joe has

just purchased a car and is slowly getting his life back on track. He said the first thing that he wanted to do when getting a car, was to come and volunteer at AWLQ. The charity are currently working out a volunteer schedule where Joe will assist AWLQ to maintain the car fleet. Here is Joe's story.

**M**y dog, Sam, a German Shepherd, had to be put down. He had cancer in his jaw. I said I wouldn't get another dog again, because I was getting too old. But my mate gave me Bolt as a pup. And ever since, Bolt and I have always been together. Bolt is now five years old.

Bolt and I have been through some rough times. I ended up losing my business, I had a series of medical challenges, and split up with my girlfriend of 14 years. So, I moved in with my mate. He held a lease for a three-bedroom house in Labrador. But while I was living there, my mate went fishing and he drowned. I couldn't believe it – he was a good fisherman and a good swimmer. He must have bumped his head on the side of the boat when he fell over.

Because my mate held the lease, I couldn't stay on in the house. It was very hard to find accommodation with a pet. Eventually, I was given assistance to get into a one-bedroom unit in Nerang, where I can have a dog.

Rentals are very hard to get if you have a pet. A friend of mine, who owns Bolt's father, also found it hard to get a rental. He's currently paying a fortune for a granny flat, \$320 a week. When you're on the pension, that's a lot of money. It doesn't leave him much.

# EMERGENCY BOARDING

When I was having trouble finding housing, I needed someone to take care of Bolt. I was put in touch with the AWLQ. They were very helpful. I couldn't believe how nice they were. I was scared at first, I thought, 'This is a trick, they might keep my dog from me because I'm in a bad situation.' But it was just so hard to find somewhere to live, I had no choice. When I reached out to AWLQ, they were so helpful. My friend drove me there, and I dropped Bolt off.

People can be a bit uncertain about American Staffies. But he's one of the most passive dogs you can get. If they are treated right, they are very passive dogs. Even a Chihuahua can be aggressive if it's treated wrong. Bolt is so relaxed. He's never been yelled at. If he does something wrong, I just look at him and I just say, 'What did you do that for, Bolt? You stuffed up again. Bad boy.' He understands. All he wants to do is please me. Any command I give him, he'll try his hardest to do it.

Bolt doesn't carry on or bark. He just lays down in the sun. I put a little bit of sunscreen on his chin and nose, and he'll just lay there all day. I have to bring him inside sometimes, because I don't want to give him sunburn on his belly and head. He's got everything. He's even got aircon!

I am currently in hospital recovering from surgery on my eye. But I plan to volunteer at AWLQ after I get better. I can help with the cars, and I'll walk dogs that need walking, and wash the kennels. I don't mind doing that work. I want to help give back.

I have a friend staying at my place at the moment who is looking after Bolt. She takes him for his walks. She calls me with him and I even spoke to him this morning over the phone! It kills me to be away from him, we're always together. But hopefully in a week's time, I'm out of here!

Now things for me are good. Bolt has got nothing to worry about. I will come home and he will be sitting there with his teddy bear in his mouth at the door, waiting for a pat. 🐾

Some people sadly have no family or friends in their life. Often their animals are their sole reason for being, they are their saviour and critical to their well-being. As much as these vulnerable people rely on their pets, their beloved pets also rely on their human owners for care and companionship.

AWLQ is committed to being there for these animals when their owner is rushed to hospital or can no longer be there for them, and they have nowhere to go.

For some time now, AWLQ has been working closely with hospitals and support service providers to assist community members and their pets in times of need. The need is ever-growing and unfortunately not being met.

Due to the increasing number of requests from caseworkers asking for emergency assistance for their client's pets, AWLQ is expanding its emergency boarding program so that they can assist more vulnerable people and pets in need. They are currently recruiting new foster carers willing to assist the AWLQ Emergency Boarding Program. If you are able to open your home and heart to an animal in need, they would love to hear from you.

The foster period is typically short-term while a pet's owner is recovering or getting back on their feet. All food, bedding and necessary items will be provided. If you are interested in fostering for this vital and lifesaving program, please contact the Emergency Boarding Coordinator at [emergencyboarding@awlqlld.com.au](mailto:emergencyboarding@awlqlld.com.au) or call 07 5509 9014.

# Help for Incontinent Pets



*Some pets may have incontinence. They may have been banished outside or worse, be put to sleep far earlier than necessary. But now, there is a product that can help!*

**D**undies are a range of premium reusable nappies and pet care products to protect your pet and your home. Pet incontinence and other issues can be a real mess! Pet owners can be forced to choose between their beloved pet or protecting their valuable home.

Dundies dog nappies (or dog undies – hence the name ‘Dundies’) have been designed to keep pets with their families, by providing an easy solution to manage these difficult conditions.

Emily, the owner of Dundies, adopted a dog called Sophie. Sophie is a bulldog pup who was scheduled for euthanasia. “Luckily, at just 6 weeks I found her, fell in love and simply had to take her on. Unfortunately, Sophie has Spina Bifida and despite the fact that she’s fully mobile, she was both urinary and bowel incontinent. As you can imagine, that made an awful mess inside. Unable to bear the thought of banishing her to be an outside dog, and because she required a little more care than most pets, I created a nappy for her to wear. This nappy helped to protect my home and keep Sophie comfortable – for more cuddles and less mess.”

Emily tried all of the other types of nappies on the market. “Disposable, reusable and even baby nappies. They leaked, they caused rashes and ammonia burns and were made of poor-quality materials that made poor Sophie’s life truly miserable. Finally, after several months of hard work plus a lot of trial and error, I hit the mark. At long last, I could help Sophie to be more comfortable. Friends and family started noticing my dog nappy designs and asked if I could make them some too. And because I didn’t want any more animals to suffer, I decided it was time to take my designs to market, and Dundies was born.”

The Dundies dog nappies are four times more absorbent than others and feature beautifully soft bamboo fibres. Bamboo is well known for its superior breathability, absorbency, gentleness and anti-bacterial properties. Zero leaks are guaranteed with medical-grade waterproofing and a close, comfortable fit. They’re also UV, stain and scratch resistant.

Says Emily, “My determination to save and help my loveable pup, so she could lead the happiest and healthiest life possible, has led me down a path to creating, what I believe, to be the best pet nappies on the market. And particularly, the Australian market. I spent an entire year working alongside leading veterinarians and pet health professionals, designing and refining the style, the fit and the unique combination of materials – ensuring my product would fit any dog, of any breed and any size – with zero leaks and zero rashes. I also spent many months with many different pets – testing my designs for durability, toughness and the ability to withstand sharp teeth and claws.”

Dundies dog nappies are incredibly easy to use and wash, economical to purchase and every stitch is quality checked right here in Australia, to ensure a reliable, long-lasting product.

## WHY USE A DOG NAPPY?

1. Senior Pets – Urinary incontinence can spell disaster for your home. With Dundies, you won’t have to banish them outside!
2. Pets with Medical Conditions or Injuries – medical conditions can cause incontinence.
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# *The Perfect Present for Pet Lovers*

*Stop your “perfect present” search. All you have to do is send a photo of a beloved pet to Claire Robinson. You’ll get a pet portrait that will be a treasured keepsake forever.*

Claire Robinson has always been an animal person. “For as long as I can remember, I have been a lover of all animals. From a young age, I was fascinated by all creatures big and small. I spent much of my adolescence riding horses with my border collie, Chloe, by my side. I also had a love for art and would often sit in the paddock drawing my horses.

“I have two wonderful sons, and being a mother, like many mothers, their needs came before mine and sadly, I lost my relationship with art. That all changed when I lost my mother in 2019. It was a challenging time for my family, and painting became my therapy. Rediscovering my love for art helped me navigate my grief and calmed my anxious mind.

“Soon I was gifting portraits to everyone at my workplace, and I found that I couldn’t wait to go home and start my next painting. It was then I realised that this is what I wanted to do with my future. I left my job, a very daunting decision in the height of COVID. But I took a leap of faith and Lucy & Coco was born. I am so humbled that what started as gifting pet portraits to friends and family for fun has now become Lucy & Coco pet portraits. But more importantly, I feel so lucky to be able to do what I love full-time.”

Claire has now branched out into all sorts of entirely cute pet products. She has created a pet-friendly scents line that focuses on safe scents to use around pets.

Have a spin around her website at [www.lucyandcoco.com.au](http://www.lucyandcoco.com.au) 🐾





# Showstopper Treats for the Goodest Dogs!

*Is your best friend having a birthday? Or did they graduate from puppy school? Or are they just the best boy or girl? Then we all know they deserve a treat. But this isn't just any treat...this is next level treating!*

**H**ercules & Co Barkery are a boutique dog treat manufacturer located on the Gold Coast. Named after the late Hercules, the bakery makes all kinds of treats. From donuts to spectacular birthday cakes, you'll find the perfect treat for your best friend. But all is not what it seems... these aren't sugary snacks that will harm your pet. These are made from delicious ingredients like peanut butter, carob, eggs, yoghurt and coconut oil!

Says owner Greg, "All our products are made from locally sourced ingredients. They are fully Australian-made and are safe for your dog in every way. Our Dog treats are lovingly made by hand the way you would like them. We believe dogs are a part of the family. We need to look after their health and wellbeing. Our treats are made from the freshest natural nutritious treats so our Doggies can lead a long, happy, and healthy life. Our treats are free from preservatives,

salt and sugar. We use the best quality unsweetened yoghurt and carob which is totally safe for dogs to consume."

The business is going from strength to strength, servicing all areas of the Gold Coast, Brisbane and Logan areas of Queensland. Plus they have started doing pop-up stores, where customers can order treats to pick up. And of course, you can order online through the online shop for home delivery. Products can also be delivered Australia-wide through a courier service (free shipping on orders over \$80). Standard shipping flat rate is \$14.95. 🐾



To order, log onto:

[www.herculesandcobarkery.com.au](http://www.herculesandcobarkery.com.au)

or email:

[herculesandcobarkery@gmail.com](mailto:herculesandcobarkery@gmail.com)

## SOME OF THE PRODUCT RANGE!



### PEANUT BUTTER PUPS \$3.50

Fresh smooth peanut butter encased in carob chocolate or strawberry yoghurt.



### CHRISTMAS TREE \$4.50

The seasonal goodie is made from peanut butter, banana, unsweetened yoghurt and carob! They are a hard crunchy treat that can be broken into pieces for smaller dogs.



### SAMPLE BOX \$30

This box is perfect for working out your best friend's favourite treat!



### GIANT CHRISTMAS PRETZELS \$4.50

These oat, apple and peanut butter-flavoured pretzels are dipped in carob or coloured yoghurt and sprinkled with doggy-safe sprinkles. Yummo!



### LARGE DONUTS \$4.50

These peanut-butter-banana-flavoured donuts are sure to delight any doggy.



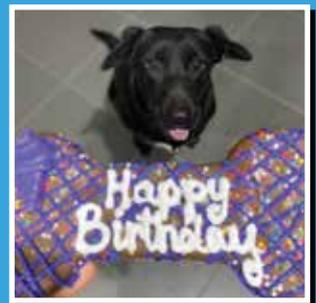
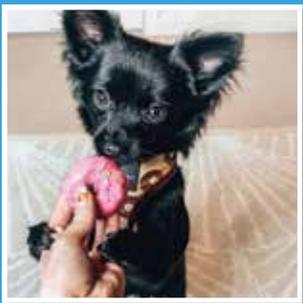
### PERSONALISED CRACKLE CAKES \$25

Why not spoil your pooch with their very own personalised mini cake! Happy birthday!

# Hercules & Co Barkery



## Next Level Treats for the Goodest Dogs!



Hercules & Co Barkery are a boutique dog treat manufacturer who know how to spoil your best friend.

The treats are made from ingredients like peanut butter, beef, carob, eggs, yoghurt and coconut oil!

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or email [herculesandcobarkery@gmail.com](mailto:herculesandcobarkery@gmail.com)

# Our heartfelt gratitude goes to our **corporate supporters** who have enabled us to achieve so much in accomplishing real and long-term improvements in the welfare of companion animals.

**A** WLQ are honored to work with our corporate partners and sponsors. They lend their support, engage their communities and help raise funds so that, together, we can continue to provide a safe haven for close to 10,000 stray and homeless animals every year. Together, we ensure sick or suffering animals will have access to veterinary care regardless of their owner's capacity to pay, we work with the community to end pet overpopulation, and provide emergency boarding for vulnerable animals. We love our partners, and they love animals as much as we do. Thank you to all those working with AWLQ to create a brighter future for animals in need. 🐾





# OUR YEAR IN REVIEW



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WE REUNITED  
**2616**  
LOST ANIMALS



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IN CHARITABLE SUPPORT THROUGH  
OUR COMMUNITY VET CLINICS



SHELTER VETS GAVE **25660** MEDICAL TREATMENTS



WE ASSISTED WITH  
**23000**  
DESEXING OPERATIONS



**150**  
ANIMALS WERE  
GIVEN EMERGENCY  
BOARDING



**3251**  
ANIMALS WERE CARED  
FOR IN FOSTER HOMES

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What our pets hear can be one of the most overlooked causes for an animal's anxiety, fear or behavioural stress.

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- Easy for pet owners to use - create natural harmony.
- Reduce Separation, Storm, Travel Anxiety & more.
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“ I bought one, Pet Tunes Canine for my parents dog and it made a huge difference. So I got a Feline one for my adopted 13 year old cat who wasn't coping with my other 3 cats... my cats now sleep all together. ~ Katie B. SA.



Music for CATS



Music for HORSES



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