

THE LOST DOGS' HOME

newsletter

AUTUMN 2016



This edition

We're on the move

Our revamped mobile pet care service, MADI, is hitting the road and offering low-cost pet care services to those who need it most.

Plus... How you helped beloved dog, Sugar, through hardship and into a happy home | A behind-the-scenes look at our Shelter Medicine Department | Creating lifelong bonds through a revitalised adoption process

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**A note from CEO
Kerry Thompson**

It is my pleasure to introduce our 2016 Autumn newsletter, because it is full of wonderful stories made possible through the generous support of people like you.

Every day at the Home reminds me of what you achieve. From watching a happy dog leave with their new owner to begin their new life, to viewing our vet team working to save the leg of a young kitten, and meeting some of our most in-need dogs undergoing life-changing training in our Behavioural Program. I am so grateful for people like you, who make all this possible.

As a new adopter I understand more than ever the positive impact our donors have on the lives of animals — and people too. You may remember in November last year I adopted a gorgeous terrier cross spaniel pup called Jessie.

Jessie is a real character and it is amazing how quickly she has become a much-loved part of our family's lives. I often come home to find her sitting between my two teenage sons watching TV, and we all love taking her and Marli to the dog park. Jessie is cheeky, affectionate and on a daily basis she brings us joy. Adopting her has enriched all our lives.


Thank you for improving the lives of unclaimed and unwanted dogs and cats, and no doubt lots of grateful people too.

Kerry Thompson
Chief Executive Officer



Need to update your details?

If you would like to inform us of any changes to your details, please email fundraising@dogshome.com. Alternatively, you may write to:

 **Fundraising Coordinator**
The Lost Dogs' Home
2 Gracie Street, North Melbourne VIC 3051

Please include your full name, address and postcode in your correspondence.

Connect with us online!

Keep up-to-date with our latest news, happy tails, pet advice and tips, events and much more!



Front cover image:

Allie and Ingrid are part of the Home's mobile vet team, which is getting out and about to provide low-cost desexing.

Home for Christmas, thanks to you.

Last December, hundreds of dogs and cats enjoyed Christmas celebrations with their families, because of the kindness of people like you.

As you may know, Christmas and the summer holiday period are one of the busiest times of the year for the Home. As the weather warms, our staff prepare for the annual influx of cats and kittens, unwanted pets and waves of animals spooked by backyard fireworks.

Christmas at the Home is a time when we can see the very best and worst in pet ownership. It is a time when the dedication of our staff can be pushed to the limit, but it is also a time when we are aware of the many kind and generous people standing beside us, helping to care for so many animals in need – people like you. And this Christmas was no different. We were again touched by the kindness of our donors, who together gave

a very generous \$374,914 toward our Christmas Appeal.

Funds raised were vital in helping us care for and truly touch the lives of stray and unwanted dogs and cats.

Staff would also like to express their appreciation for the many thoughtful Christmas messages received for the animals, and themselves. It really is a wonderful Christmas tradition at the Home to read these special messages of friendship, encouragement and most of all, love for animals.

On behalf of all staff and volunteers working at the Home, thank you again for your support and for helping us create a brighter future for thousands of lost and abandoned dogs and cats.



Through your support you helped;

- ★ Provide a broad range of essential veterinary care, from simple vaccinations and flea treatments through to complex life-saving surgeries.
- ★ Cover the cost of reducing adoption fees for cats, to assist more people to adopt one of our deserving adult felines, and benefit from the love and companionship of an adopted cat.
- ★ Fund all we need to do to prepare a dog or cat for adoption, including desexing, microchipping, vaccinations and post-adoption follow-ups.
- ★ Fund our life-changing Behavioural program, which turns the lives around for some of our more challenging and mistreated dogs.



Woolworths Christmas Pet Food Appeal

Thanks to the generous support of Woolworths and their wonderful customers, once again thousands of dogs and cats will enjoy the gift of full tummies in 2016.

For nearly 30 years, Woolworths has partnered with the Home to run the annual Woolworths Christmas Pet Food Appeal. This appeal is vital to helping us feed dogs and cats in our care, but also to freeing up funds vital for programs such as behaviour rehabilitation, that may otherwise have been spent on food.

"Each year people look out for the colourful bins in their local Woolworths supermarket. Some supporters even phone ahead to find out when the bin will be delivered. It's a very tangible way to give to a homeless pets at this time of year!", said the Home's General Manager of Fundraising, Kate Hoelter.

We would also like to thank our very good friends at Best Friends and their customers, for the wonderful array of food, gifts and gift cards donated through their Share the Care Christmas appeal.

Gifts to both appeals will feed around 500 dogs and cats every day for up to 10 months of the year. We would struggle to fund the purchase of such a huge amount of food without the generous support of Woolworths, Best Friends and the community, so we thank them wholeheartedly.

On the road to better cat welfare

The Lost Dogs' Home has long advocated the value of cats as companions through various adoption and educational campaigns. Sadly though, cat welfare and the number of homeless cats in our community are constant challenges for shelters across the country. We are thrilled to announce an exciting new chapter in the history of the Home — one that is set to improve the lives of thousands of cats in our community.

MADI (Microchipping, Adoption, Desexing, Information) is a fully equipped mobile vet surgery. Its primary job is to offer low-cost cat desexing and microchipping. MADI's versatility means it is also well suited to other uses, such as mobile pet adoption events or disaster relief efforts where pets have been affected.

There are many reasons why pet cats remain undesexed, but it is not because their owners do not care about them. We understand the cost of veterinary surgery can mean months of saving for some families, during which time a cat can produce a litter of kittens who may end up in an animal shelter or face life on the streets.



The Home's mobile vet team desexed 78 cats in Cranbourne during MADI's first desexing initiatives.

MADI (Microchipping, Adoption, Desexing, Information) is a fully equipped mobile vet surgery. Its primary job is to offer low-cost cat desexing and microchipping.

MADI is a fantastic outreach tool that will provide an affordable and accessible option to these cat owners.

Desexing can have a number of benefits on a cat's health and behaviour. As well as improving the wellbeing of individual cats, MADI will also help us tackle cat overpopulation by preventing these animals from producing unwanted litters.

This March, MADI had its first desexing event. Demand was very high and places quickly filled, prompting us to hold another event the following week. A total of 78 cats were desexed, and we were pleased with the positive feedback we received from cat owners and the wider community.

MADI's transformation was only made possible thanks to the generous support of our loyal donors and the community, and a grant from the Department of Environment and Primary Industries.

We look forward to keeping you updated on how MADI is improving the lives of our feline friends. We have a long journey ahead, but with your support, we can continue to make a real impact where it is needed most.

Please donate today to help keep MADI on the road. Visit dogshome.com



Top: The Home's mobile vet team performing surgery and caring for the cats who took part in our first mobile desexing initiative.

Bottom: MADI ready for its first desexing initiative, which took place in Cranbourne. Its eye-catching design has been turning heads on the streets of Melbourne.

HAPPY TAILS

our four-legged friends might not be able to talk; however, the enthusiastic wagging of a tail and the loud thrum of a contented purr speaks volumes. Here we share with you some of our favourite happily ever afters from recent months.



Share your story!

We love hearing about our former residents. So if you get a spare minute, please send us an email and some photos of your happy pooch or feline at home. Our communications team will then contact you for a brief interview and before you know it, you could be seeing your beloved companion's story here in Happy Tails or up on our website.

Please email: communications@dogshome.com

By allowing us to tell your story, you could possibly inspire others to think about adoption and give a home to one of the thousands of lost, abandoned and neglected cats and dogs we care for every year.



PICKLES

12-year-old Pickles (above left) came into our care with a few ailments, but they certainly didn't take the spring out this golden oldie's step. Pickles had a grade one heart murmur. Due to his advanced age, our vet team ran full blood tests to see if there were any other health issues hiding beneath the surface.

Pickles underwent surgery to remove two lumps. Hip and heart X-rays were also performed, along with a dental. Pickles spent a week recovering under the close eye of our vet team. Pleasingly, he made a smooth recovery and was soon ready for the exciting next chapter of his life; finding his forever home.

For some, the thought of adopting an older dog with a health condition can be quite daunting. That was not the case for Pickles' new owner, Ashleigh. She knew age was only a number and that shelter animals could offer unconditional love.

"I'd been working in dog adoptions at the Home for a little while and I had fallen in love with Pickles. So many people were passing him up because of his age and heart condition," Ashleigh said.

"When I brought Pickles home, it was like he had lived here his whole life. He has settled in very well. I have other dogs and cats. Pickles is getting on really well with the dogs, and we are slowly introducing him to the cats.

"The thing I love most about Pickles is he doesn't act his age. The best part of my day is when I come home and he races towards me and acts like he hasn't seen me in years. His favourite things are his Mickey and Minnie Mouse toys.

"Adopting is the best way to go! Pickles was already toilet trained and knows basic commands."

ROYAL RUBY

Samantha and her family knew they wanted to adopt an adult cat. "We wanted to give a forever home to a cat who needed us as much as we needed them. Everyone chooses kittens, my daughter said, because they are cute... she felt it was unfair, so we chose to adopt an adult cat," Samantha said.

When they visited our North Melbourne shelter, it was Royal Ruby who stole their hearts. "Royal Ruby caught our eye with her super chubby face and friendly personality. Most of all, when both children (ages six and eight) went to her, she was all over them. Royal Ruby now has a new home and nickname, Chubbs.

"Royal Ruby is very affectionate, more so now than she was before and we love that. We love the way she helps herself to a pat if you leave your hand down. She also loves to head-butt everything in a loving way and adores snuggles with my daughter.

"Adopting through an animal shelter has been very rewarding for us and has also taught my children a lesson in life – to always give back. I'd like people to consider adoption before anything else when choosing a pet. There are so many deserving and loving animals that still need homes that are just perfect for families. Royal Ruby is a beautiful example – we couldn't imagine life without her in it now. She has become part of our family."



ROMEO

Every Friday, Channel 10 personality Mike Larkan presents the weather alongside one of our adoptable pets as part of his Give a Dog a Home initiative. So many dogs (and cats) have found new families thanks to this initiative.

Romeo had his moment of fame on Give a Dog a Home back in February 2015. "We saw Romeo on Give a Dog a Home, so we went to The Lost Dogs' Home the following day and loved him instantly," said his new owner, Sunara.

"We adopted him on Valentine's Day, hence the name Romeo. He has a wonderful temperament and is a star at obedience school. He is such a good-looking boy that he stops traffic wherever we go!

"The whole family is very grateful to The Lost Dogs' Home for this very successful adoption and Romeo thanks you too! He is doing really well and has well and truly made himself a part of the family."

In good hands

The health and well-being of our dogs and cats is our utmost priority. Every day, the specialised team of vets and vet nurses in our Shelter Medicine Department provide optimum treatment and care to alleviate pain and stress, and help give these animals the best chance at a happy, healthy future.

Today, we have 210 dogs and puppies and 435 cats and kittens in our care at our North Melbourne shelter, not counting those in the care of our Cranbourne and Echuca shelters. Every day, around 70 of these animals will require treatment by a vet or medication by a vet nurse to ensure we can successfully prepare them for adoption. It is the responsibility of our dedicated team of shelter vets and nurses to ensure these animals remain in good physical health throughout their stay with us.

Dogs and cats arrive at our shelters with a range of conditions. They may have sustained an acute injury that needs first aid or intensive care in our hospital, or they may be suffering from a chronic condition or neglect, which may need ongoing treatment.

Unlike vets in private practice, our vets are not able to rely on an owner to give them an accurate history. They have no way of knowing when a condition started or how it has progressed, other than using their skills of deduction and professional experience. In each case, we put together a treatment plan for the individual animal, monitor their progress, and pass this information onto the owner if the animal is reclaimed, or onto the new family at the time of adoption.

As well treating these individual animals, our vets are responsible for the health of the whole population of animals in our care. This involves ensuring that all animals are vaccinated on arrival, and that flea and worms are controlled.

Vets also have an important role in advising on housing and cleaning protocols to ensure the many viruses and bacteria that can cause serious disease outbreaks are controlled. We regularly review these protocols to ensure we are keeping the animals in our care safe and healthy.



The power of working together

Finding loving new homes for the dogs and cats in our care is at the heart of our work at The Lost Dogs' Home. For many of these animals, this journey will require the helping hands of a number of people, and not only those here at the Home.



Since early 2015, 749 animals have been placed through our Rescue Partnerships Program, overseen by Rescue Coordinator, Kevin.

The Home has worked with animal rescue groups for many years to achieve the shared goal of giving animals a second chance. Today, we work with more than 70 rescue partners. Through a collaborative approach, we work to provide specialised care to animals who need rehabilitation outside of the shelter environment to help prepare them for adoption.

In early 2015, we developed and expanded our Rescue Partnerships Program. A rescue coordinator was appointed to oversee the program and we formalised the application process for rescue groups who were interested in partnering with us. Since then, 333 dogs and puppies, 302 cats and kittens, and 114 other animals, have been placed through the program.

"Animals may need to be placed with our rescue partners to come out of their shell, work on behaviour concerns,

recover from medical procedures, or develop treatment plans for ongoing medical issues," said Kevin Newman, Rescue Coordinator at The Home.

"Transferring these animals to our rescue partners helps them find perfect new homes and allows us to utilise our space in the shelter more effectively."

Before being placed with a rescue partner, all dogs and cats will be desexed, microchipped, vaccinated, wormed, flea treated, and health and behaviour assessed. Other preparations are sometimes needed, including X-rays, dental work or grooming. Animals that are placed in rescue for behaviour concerns will be accompanied by a full behavioural history, assessment and training plan for their ongoing care, and we provide follow-up advice to rescue partners if needed.

"We understand that funding can be quite tight for our rescue partners, so we take these extra steps to help make the process as smooth as possible," said Kevin.

"Our rescue partnerships are incredibly valuable and we value the fantastic work these groups do. The majority of them do not have a shelter and operate on limited funds from their own homes. We are always blown away by their dedication and passion to the animals that come into their care."

RESCUE PARTNER: German Shepherd Rescue Victoria

German Shepherd Rescue Victoria is one of our many dedicated rescue partners. Its President, Ange McLaren, said: "We are very appreciative of the relationship we have with The Lost Dogs' Home. It's about saving lives and working together to do just that."

"Our relationship with the Home has been wonderful, with their constant contact with us regarding German Shepherds needing rehoming that were not appropriate for their adoption program, but where we could assist.

"A collaborative approach will always be in the best interest of the dog or animal. Difficult cases will always need to go to specific rescues as they have the rehabilitation ability to secure the best outcome for the dog, with appropriate understanding, rehabilitation and training.

"Then post rehabilitation, a loving family will be waiting, which always means a wonderful outcome for the dog. Rescues are able to facilitate that, which is such a great outcome and what we all are so passionate about."



Ange and her beloved German Shepherd, Georgie.

A fresh approach to adoptions

This January, we opened a new adoption centre at our North Melbourne shelter. With the new centre came a new approach to pet adoptions — one that we are very proud of.



Adoptions are now carried out by a dedicated team of people who only work with our adoption dogs and cats. They have a special bond with these animals and are committed to finding the perfect new homes for them.

We think adopters will be pleasantly surprised that there are no long questionnaires to fill out and no hoops to jump through. It's important for us to get to know our adopters so we can help find a pet who's a great match for them, but we do that through conversation, not paperwork. The shelter environment can sometimes be a confronting place for these animal lovers, which is why we've made sure our new adoption centre is welcoming and comfortable.

It's really important for us to create good connections between people who want to adopt and the pets who need them. The animals that come to us in need of new homes have often had difficult paths. Not everybody can offer every animal in our care the home they need, but we know that everybody who visits us has the animals' needs at heart. By spending time with each person, we can learn enough about them to facilitate a great match with a dog or cat who needs them.

Knowing senior pets were often overlooked in favour of their younger shelter mates, we recently waived the adoption fee for senior dogs and cats, aged seven and over. We hope this will encourage adopters to give a second

thought to our older pets in need of new homes. Preparing these pets for adoption requires desexing, micro-chipping, vaccinations, and worming. In some cases, other surgeries are also needed, which can be expensive. As always, we're incredibly grateful for the generosity of our loyal donors and supporters. Without them, our work rehoming these animals wouldn't be possible.

Early feedback shows that adopters are pleased with our new adoption process and its personalised approach. Our doors will always be open to those who want to give an animal the greatest gift of all — a second chance.

— Dr David Cunliffe
General Manager,
Animal Welfare & Customer Service

The touching tale of a bounding hound

Misty melted the hearts of everyone she met at The Lost Dogs' Home. The young bloodhound cross arrived as a stray, but nobody came forward for her. Like many dogs that come into our care, Misty needed some extra help on her journey toward finding the perfect new home.



Misty enjoyed lots of pats and belly rubs at our 2015 Human Walking Program.

"Misty was a lovely, friendly dog who was often anxious and found it hard to settle and relax. She found handling stressful and was scared of being touched. When she was left alone with some food treats and toys, she became distressed and started howling. Misty was nervous of dogs but showed appropriate social skills," said Dr Trepheena Hunter, Animal Behaviour Manager at the Home.

Misty showed signs of generalised anxiety and a high risk of separation anxiety, so our behaviour team developed a specialised plan to help her. This involved teaching foundation skills, building confidence with handling using counter-conditioning techniques, and building confidence with the outside world.

"During her two months in the Behavioural Program, along with the two months she spent up for adoption, we worked with Misty in the shelter, on

the street and in parks to build confidence in new situations. She was gently and positively introduced to a range of people and dogs to build confidence and social skills," said Trepheena.

"Misty's confidence consistently improved with training and she became very affectionate with handling. She also became confident with a range of dogs and enjoyed off-lead play in the shelter with some canine friends."

The use of medication for dogs with behavioural conditions such as anxiety is common practice in veterinary medicine and is supported by the Australian Veterinary Association. It is also a recognised treatment strategy in animal shelters along with behavioural modification training. For dogs like Misty who have this condition, medication is used to reduce anxiety so the dog can focus, increasing their learning capacity so they can be more effectively trained to change their emotional and behavioural response to 'scary' situations. Misty responded very well to anti-anxiety medication, showing a significant reduction in overall anxiety, as well as a reduction in panic when left alone.

Misty was adopted by a lovely person who lived near an airport. Unfortunately, it was only then that we learned she had a significant noise phobia and panicked whenever she heard an aeroplane. Misty returned to the Home and was placed into foster care so we could learn more about how she coped with everyday sounds. She flourished in her foster home and was soon back up for adoption.

Unfortunately Misty's next adopted home did not work out as she was not the right sort of dog for the adopters. However, in January 2016, it was third time lucky when Misty found her perfect new home. Her new owner, Kim, said: "Misty is a beautiful ball of energy with irresistible silky ears and soulful eyes."

"She is improving every day. The behaviour team had given me a thorough briefing on her emotional needs. She suffers from separation anxiety, so I knew the transition for Misty would not be straight forward. The Lost Dogs' Home has provided support for me throughout this and given me many strategies to deal with leaving her by herself as well as further her training.

"After about four weeks, it was evident that she trusted the new people in her life and it is such a pleasure to watch her play and relax. Misty adores other dogs and loves to play at the dog park. She makes all of us laugh when she runs around the yard, throwing her toys into the air and doing excited little leaps."

“She is improving every day. The behaviour team had given me a thorough briefing on her emotional needs.”



Misty loves car rides and trips to the dog park with her new family.

Hardship can't break Sugar's stride

Some dogs and cats come into our care after enduring a rough start to life. With the dedication of our staff and volunteers, and the generous support of people like you, we can give these vulnerable animals the love and care they need and deserve.

When we first met Sugar, we knew she was a gentle soul who wanted nothing other than to be loved. At six years of age, the sweet German Shepherd cross had already been through so much.

Sugar was surrendered to us, along with six other dogs, from a backyard breeder. She was not desexed and had given birth to puppies in the past. Sugar had an old injury to her right hind leg, which was the result of femoral surgery that had not healed properly. She was also suffering from an aural hematoma — a collection of blood within the ear flap.

Our veterinary team performed hip and leg X-rays on Sugar for a closer look at what was going on beneath the surface. Unfortunately, the injury to her leg could not be corrected, so she underwent surgery to have the leg amputated. Sugar spent two weeks recovering under the watchful eye of the team in our shelter hospital, where she also had surgery on her aural hematoma.

Sugar was then placed into foster care so she could rest and recover in a loving home environment. She spent almost a month in her foster home, where she made a good recovery and a smooth transition to having only three legs.

Sugar was soon ready for an exciting new chapter in her life – finding her forever home. With her gentle and adoring nature, this did not take long. Sugar stole the heart of Gabrielle, who had seen her profile online and visited The Lost Dogs' Home to meet her.

"When I saw Sugar – now named Layla — I just knew she was the one," Gabrielle said.

"Layla has fitted in perfectly and much of her nervous demeanour has vanished. When she first arrived, she was afraid of everyone and everything except me. Now she is a favourite with all my friends and has become something of an icon in our neighbourhood. She has made lots of friends, both human and

canine, and even gets along well with my two cats.

"Layla loves pats, cuddles, company and just hanging out together. She loves her walks to the park, where we go several times each day, and loves playing with her doggie mates there.

"I love how intelligent, responsive and loving Layla is. Shelter pets are often creatures that have known hard times and it is wonderful to see them progress and blossom when they are given a loving, stable home."

Sugar's surgeries and recovery were only made possible thanks to the generosity of our loyal donors.



A happy reunion for Saffron

Avi and Jo took a holiday over the New Year period, leaving their pets in the care of a friend. When they returned home, they were devastated to learn that their beloved cat, Saffron, had gone missing. Months of anguish followed, before their story took an unexpected turn.

Saffron, affectionately known as Saffy, fled after being spooked by New Year fireworks. "We did everything we could to find Saffy; we searched our neighbourhood, distributed flyers and checked our local shelters to see if anyone had handed her in, but no matter where we looked, we couldn't find her," said Avi.

Nine months later, Avi was shocked to receive a call from The Lost Dogs' Home informing her that Saffy had been found. She was picked up in Tullamarine, 18 kilometres from home. Avi rushed to our North Melbourne shelter for the heart-warming reunion she had always hoped for.

"We adopted Saffy from The Lost Dogs' Home three months before she went missing, so we were really worried that she wouldn't remember us when we finally saw her again," Avi said. However, when they were reunited, Saffy wasted no time giving

Avi the cuddles and smooches she had obviously been missing.

Fortunately, Saffy had been micro-chipped and registered on National Pet Register, allowing for a speedy reunion once she had been found. "Microchipping Saffy and ensuring our contact details were kept up to date gave us the best chance of finding her – even after all this time. However, if Saffy was wearing an ID tag or a council tag, the likelihood of her being returned to us sooner would have been much higher. You can be sure I'm going out tomorrow to buy her a tag and a collar.

"We are so thankful to shelters such as The Lost Dogs' Home for the good work that they do, from ensuring that unwanted animals are given the opportunity of a new home to providing a service for lost and found pets," Avi said.

A few months after the reunion, Avi and Jo sent us an update on Saffy. "We were a little worried that she would be confused with her new surroundings and have trouble settling in as the place we are in now is different to the home she left. However, she didn't seem put off by that at all! She quickly made herself at home," Jo said.

Each year, thousands of lost cats and dogs arrive at shelters like The Lost Dogs' Home. Sadly, many of them have no way of being reunited with their families, either because they were not identified or their owner's details were out-of-date. For information on how to give yourself the best chance of being reunited with a lost pet, visit:

petidmonth.com.au



Avi and Saffy had a heart-warming reunion at our North Melbourne shelter after nine months apart.



Autumn Picture Gallery



WILL

Adopted dog Will has settled into his new home so well. He is a lovable dog with a happy nature, and is surrounded by people who adore him. He is a country boy now. His family takes him out to a bush retreat, and he loves it. This is a picture of him asleep on the deck after exploring the countryside. He has added laughter and companionship to the lives of his new family members.



LEO & MIDNIGHT

Adopted cats Leo and Midnight have brought immense love and joy to their new family. Leo is a scaredy cat but very cheeky, and Midnight is a wanderer who loves his cuddles and kisses.



ELKE

It has been another big year for Elke. She has met lots of new people and been on lots of adventures. From daily walks to visits to the local bowls club, Elke makes friends wherever she goes. As much as she loves to get out and about and have fun, she's also quite fond of a sleep-in and is known to laze around "like a sloth".



MOLLY

Molly's big eyes and droopy ears instantly melted the hearts of her new family members. She has the most demure nature and has become the best friend of a very enthusiastic three-year-old. She loves family outings to the dog park and is getting used to car travel with lots of encouragement. Everyone shares in the daily caring of Molly, who is one very pampered pup and loves her new family as much as they love her.



VADER

Vader was adopted on 29 December. He has settled in and has his family wrapped around his little paws. He is a complete maniac, tearing around the house and bouncing off the walls and could chase his fish on a stick for hours on end. When he gets tired, he cuddles up with his family and goes to sleep. Vader's owner says he is the sweetest little thing and they are very happy to have him as part of their family.



Molli is 18 years of age and doing really well. A few years back, her owner was very sick, spending an extended period of time in hospital and care. When he was recovering, he was able to come home on weekends and Molli would always be waiting for him and would not leave his side, cuddling up when he went to bed each night. Molli's love was so important in her owner's recovery and they share a very special bond.



Roxy's family is forever grateful for adopting their precious cat from The Lost Dogs' Home. After five months of illness, Roxy peacefully passed away in her home. Her family is completely heartbroken, but so glad to have given her the best possible love and care for the last decade. Roxy's loving owner said, "She was very special and had a beautiful personality. She picked me after a colleague was killed in 2006, so I always say she rescued me. She really did."



Storm is a sweet and intelligent girl. She is a very fragile soul, but is gaining confidence and learning to enjoy the outside world. Storm's family celebrated her first birthday by going on a holiday together to the South Australian Coast, and her one-year adoption anniversary with a weekend away at Warrnambool. Storm likes running around her backyard and playing in the ponds, and enjoys all of her home-cooked meals. Her family is so thankful for having the privilege and honour of adopting their adorable Storm.



When I first met Rigby, or Riggles, as we call him, I thought he was the cutest thing I have ever seen. He is a little ball of fun, and a bit cheeky! He always makes us laugh, especially on walks. He always is full of energy, which I love so much about him. I love to read books with him sitting on my lap, or holding Rigby while he is licking my face. He is the final piece of our family jigsaw puzzle, and I can't imagine life without him.

Send us your photos! We love receiving photos of your pet! Photographs for possible inclusion in our Pet Photo Gallery can be sent to: The Lost Dogs' Home, Newsletter Pet Photo Gallery, Fundraising Department, 2 Gracie Street, North Melbourne VIC 3051 or emailed to info@dogshome.com with the subject 'Newsletter Pet Photo Gallery'.

Become a Friend of PAWS



One of the best ways to help dogs and cats in need is by becoming a Friend of PAWS and making a monthly donation.

Every day, lost, abandoned and neglected animals depend on the Home for care, shelter and a new start in life. Our Friend of PAWS supporters provide the peace-of-mind we need to continue our life-changing services to these vulnerable dogs and cats.

Animals like Sugar, whose surgeries and recovery were only made possible thanks to the generosity of our loyal donors.

Surrendered from a backyard breeder, Sugar had nowhere else to go. But after being taken in by the Home and treated for her medical conditions, Sugar was able to find her new forever home with Gabrielle.

The kindness and dedication of our donors help our team continue vital programs such as adoption, veterinary care, foster care and behaviour rehabilitation. Without them, we couldn't be there for pets in need.

Your donation of just 27 cents a day — deducted as a monthly amount of \$8 from your bank account or credit card — will help animals in great distress.

Sign up today and receive a free engraved pet ID tag for your loving best friend.



FRIEND OF PAWS

Friend of PAWS Registration

Yes, I would like to become a Friend of PAWS donor.

Please accept my monthly gift of \$8 \$13 \$20

or my choice of \$ (please specify)

Full name:

Address:

State:

Postcode: Phone:

Email:

Friend of PAWS Engraved Pet ID Tag Details Cat: Dog:

Pet name: Phone:

Direct Debit Credit Card Authorisation

Please debit my credit card every month beginning

(please specify month)

and at monthly intervals thereafter until further notice.

Credit card: Visa Mastercard AMEX

Name on card:

Expiry: / Signature:

Your credit card will be debited on our around the 20th of each month. Receipts will be issued at the end of each financial year. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Please complete this form and return it in the enclosed envelope to:
Kerry Thompson, Chief Executive Officer
The Lost Dogs' Home, 2 Gracie Street, North Melbourne VIC 3051



The Lost Dogs' Home
2 Gracie Street
North Melbourne VIC 3051
T: 03 9329 2755 | F: 03 9326 5293
E: info@dogshome.com

VICTORIA

Frank Samways Veterinary Clinic
1 Boundary Road
North Melbourne VIC 3051
T: 03 9329 2755 | F: 03 9326 5293

South Eastern Pound Services
920 Thompsons Road
Cranbourne West VIC 3977
T: 03 9702 8055 | F: 03 9702 8655

Campaspe Regional Animal Pound

520 McKenzie Road
Echuca VIC 3564
T: 03 5480 3005 | F: 03 5480 1116

NATIONAL

National Pet Register
T: 1300 734 738 | F: 1300 2 734 738
E: info@petregister.com.au
www.petregister.com.au

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