





“An animal’s eyes have the power  
to speak a great language.”

– Martin Buber



Herbie



Fluffy



The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Western Australia (RSPCA WA) is the state's oldest, largest and leading animal welfare charity, dedicated to improving the lives of all animals throughout the state.

## OUR VISION

Creating communities free of animal cruelty.

## OUR MISSION

To improve the welfare of animals and ensure they are treated with dignity, compassion and respect by providing leadership and quality services in collaboration with our stakeholders.

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### RSPCA WA DIRECTORS

Lynne Bradshaw AM  
 (Chairperson / Director)  
 Ian Cowie PSM  
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 Michelle MacKenzie  
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 Pamela Hass  
 Renata Paliskis  
 Michelle De Ronchi  
 Darren Smith  
 Alice Manners  
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 Jamie Hamilton



## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

This year was certainly a busy one for RSPCA WA as we contributed extensively to State Government reviews of regulations covering cats and dogs, prepared our contribution to an update of the *Animal Welfare Act 2002* and advocated strongly against cruelty in the live sheep trade.

These were just some of the many activities we undertook to make WA a better place for animals. For some time, RSPCA WA has advocated for change in these areas and it is pleasing to see they are now coming to the forefront. Lead times for change are long and can coincide with political cycles and other events that shape public opinion. We must be ready when an opportunity presents itself and work extra hard for animal welfare improvements. As the leading animal welfare agency we provide input and expertise to government and other agencies which comes with a cost, so we need to support RSPCA WA with the resources needed.

During the year we helped to reduce the number of live sheep shipped from WA to the Middle East. The catalyst for change began during the previous year with the media expose of shocking animal suffering on the *Awassi Express*. As outrage swept the nation, RSPCA WA worked closely with RSPCA Australia to keep the issue on the public agenda.

Early in the new year, Emanuel Exports, the exporter involved in the *Awassi* horror trip, had its export licence cancelled by the Federal regulator. In December, the industry, under intense public and political pressure, volunteered to stop exporting live sheep in June, July and August. A week later, the Federal Government's Heat Stress Risk Assessment technical panel published a draft report which said sheep exports should not happen from May to October. In March 2019, the Federal Government prohibited

live sheep exports from June to August and later extended the stoppage to 22 September. This is at least a step in the right direction.

The final Heat Stress Risk Assessment report was submitted to Government in early 2019 but as the reporting year drew to a close, it has not been released publicly. We hope the period in which exports will not be allowed will be extended to cover the whole of the northern summer. In the meantime, we know we have already saved several hundred thousand sheep from a cruel fate. Everyone who supports RSPCA WA can take some credit for that.

Better dog welfare continues to be high on our agenda. When the State Government called for public feedback on their Puppy Farming Reforms, many respondents said they also wanted minimum standards for the welfare of dogs introduced. The State Government then called for public comment on draft *Standards and Guidelines for the Health and Welfare of Dogs in WA*. The consultation period ran from April to 7 June 2019 and more than 1300 online survey responses and 100 written submissions were received. RSPCA WA made a submission and we're looking forward to seeing the final report.

Towards the end of the year, the State Government began reviewing both the *Dog Amendment Act 2013* and the *Cat Act 2011* through the Department of Local Government and we contributed to those reviews as well.





In May 2019, the State Government announced an independent panel would oversee a public review of the *Animal Welfare Act 2002*. RSPCA WA has long called for a review of the Act and we are looking forward to contributing to it with the aim of achieving animal welfare improvements in WA.

From an organisational governance perspective, the year marked the completion of the transition of RSPCA WA to a Company Limited by Guarantee. We have been an incorporated association for more than 100 years, a structure normally used for small community groups. As we had long outgrown this type of operating structure, I was delighted when, at an extraordinary general meeting in the previous reporting year, 93% of RSPCA WA members voted in favour of becoming a CLG. Among the many improvements enabled under this new structure is the recruitment of a skills-based Board of Directors which is very important for the leadership of a substantial and growing organisation such as ours.

Last year, we planned to finish this year with a deficit due to the pressure of costs associated with advocacy on animal welfare, improving animal outcomes across the shelter and inspectorate operations. I'm proud that our investment in services and advocacy has produced good outcomes for a greater number of animals.

The Board also decided to invest in developing other areas of the organisation including in new ways of raising public donations and we chose to underwrite the additional costs from cash reserves. This investment in fundraising has doubled the number of West Australians donating to us each year and over the past three years 28,000 have donated

to RSPCA WA. We believe this is the highest for any three-year period in the history of our organisation. It is great to see so many people supporting RSPCA WA and thank you to everyone who did so.

Overall, we did not reach our forecast annual income and, although we implemented efficiencies to deliver almost \$880,000 in cost savings, we ended the year with an operating deficit of \$1.9m. In the coming year, we will be consolidating on what we have achieved and seeking to create more efficiencies before aiming to move forward to reach even more animals in need the following year.

Despite the ongoing challenges, it is thanks to my colleagues on the Board, the dedicated RSPCA WA staff, volunteers and supporters and everyone who shares our mission and values that we continue to achieve great things for animal welfare.

**Lynne Bradshaw AM**  
Chairperson / Director



## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

### Demand for Services

We received over 21,000 reports to the RSPCA Cruelty Hotline, an 11% increase. This added more pressure on the Inspectorate, which investigated over 6400 cases. Inspectors remained focussed on community education, making an additional 1500 follow-up visits to help people better care for their animals.

Shelter services were supported by 318 foster carers, who aided the rehabilitation of more than 500 animals. While this helped to expand the capacity in the shelter, costs such as medicines, food and vet treatments were covered by RSPCA WA.

RSPCA WA rehomed over 1100 animals, who stayed in our care for an average of 48 days. Five years ago, in 2014-15, we rehomed just 423 animals. It is clear our investment in improving animal outcomes has made a real difference.

### Compliance and enforcement

RSPCA Inspectors continued to work with people to educate them on better ways to care for their animals, impacting positively on more than 60,000 animals last year. RSPCA WA Inspectors conducted ten prosecutions for offences of animal cruelty under the *Animal Welfare Act 2002*, and conducted two civil forfeitures to rescue animals whose owners could not be found.

In December, we received reports about cattle suffering from severe dehydration on remote north-west cattle stations. Under the terms of our arrangement with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, these reports were referred to the

Department's Livestock Compliance Unit, which responded immediately to intervene, provide assistance and investigate. We publicly urged the WA Government and industry groups to take meaningful action together to ensure this level of suffering is prevented in future.

Despite widespread educational messages in traditional and social media, RSPCA Inspectors were called to many cases of dogs left in hot cars, baiting of dogs and cats, and disturbing acts of intentional violence towards animals, including wildlife. We continue to rely on the community to report these serious offences.

### Community Outreach

The Pets in Crisis Program provided temporary foster care for 64 pets caught up in domestic violence. Once safe housing was arranged, 49 animals were reunited with their families, while surrendered pets were rehomed. The WA Government has recognised the value of this program, and allocated \$415,000 in the May budget to continue support for the next four years. Congratulations to all those involved in this program from its development stage to now making it such a success for animals and their owners.

RSPCA WA held nine Community Action Days in areas where people are struggling to look after their pets. Free health checks were administered to 660 dogs, 215 dogs and puppies received free microchips, and over 1280kg of dog and cat food was given to over 1800 people. These events help to remind the community that they can turn to the RSPCA for help – preventing suffering from occurring. We thank South Metro TAFE, Advocate, Rogz and the many city and shire councils who have supported this important initiative.



In October, the RSPCA WA State Awards recognised four animal welfare heroes who have had a significant impact on animals in WA. Dean Morris received the Youth Award, Kylie Soames received the Humane Award, and June Bartlett and Marissa Marriott each received the Volunteer of the Year Award.

### Fundraising Activities

*The NAB Charitable Giving Index for 2018* showed that charitable giving in WA dropped 6% in 2018, following a drop of 2.1% in 2017. West Australians now have the lowest donation per donor rate in the country. RSPCA WA was not immune to this pattern, and fundraising revenue was lower than anticipated.

RSPCA WA continued a program of targeted appeals throughout the year, asking for support for our animal protection work. We revised our fundraising strategy and included digital communications to attract online donations. This has helped offset some costs associated with traditional fund raising, and targets a new, emerging supporter base of younger people who care about animal welfare and are willing to donate online.

Cupcake Day in August, Quiz Nights in February and June, and Million Paws Walk in May demonstrated that the community supports and respects the work we do to fight animal cruelty, and these events provided important opportunities to engage with the WA community.

### On-site Developments

A Lotterywest grant received in July enabled the purchase of two new vehicles for regional Inspectors, two new trailers to transport stock and larger animals and we began an efficiency and productivity review of the business. RSPCA WA also funded from financial reserves the refurbishment of one kennel block as well as the upgrade of IT for the Inspectorate to enable them to work more efficiently. Projects to be completed in the coming year include further kennel refurbishments, a whelping kennel, additional storage and installation of a site wide alarm and fire protection. While the Lotterywest grant assists with many of these projects, their completion will require further investment from RSPCA WA reserve funds.

### Looking Forward

The year ahead will be challenging as we seek to create greater efficiencies. The organisation has a robust plan to return to a break-even operating model which will mean changes to some of the services we provide. We will be exploring more efficient ways to respond to cruelty reports, and there will be less shelter capacity as infrastructure upgrades are completed. Now, more than ever, we will be relying on the community's support for our animal protection work, care for rescued animals, and to spread good animal welfare messages to prevent cruelty happening in our community.

# HOW WE RESPONDED TO CRUELTY REPORTS

**In 2018-19, RSPCA WA Inspectors investigated 6417 cruelty cases – 360 more than last year.**

We received 21,131 calls for assistance (around 55-60 each day) through the Cruelty Hotline – an increase of 11%.

This rising demand put a strain on RSPCA WA's resources, with Inspectors travelling over 245,000km to rescue animals in need.

Over the past seven years, the number of investigations conducted by the Inspectorate has almost doubled. But Inspectors do so much more than this daily.

In addition to investigations, Inspectors conducted 1567 follow-up visits to ensure welfare concerns had been properly addressed.

In 2018-19, the nature of cruelty complaints changed in different areas, but common complaints included ill-treatment of animals (such as kicking an animal), abandonment, and insufficient food and water. Failure to alleviate harm was also one of the top complaints received.

During the warmer months, there was a spike in calls relating to dogs left in hot cars, and dogs being transported on the back of utes with little or no protection from the elements.

The vast majority of cruelty reports to RSPCA WA over the past year were about dogs, and most related to ear, eye and skin issues, which are often relatively easy to treat. In most of these cases, Inspectors were able to work with owners, providing support and information to help them provide better care for their pets.

When owners weren't willing or able to step up, animals were surrendered to Inspectors so they could get proper care. In 2018-19, 1061 animals were surrendered to RSPCA WA Inspectors. RSPCA WA Inspectors conducted ten prosecutions for offences under the *Animal Welfare Act 2002*, and conducted two civil forfeitures.



## RESCUED BOB BACK IN FULL FLIGHT

Over the past year, Inspectors were called upon to rescue 839 injured animals. And while many of these were dogs and cats, a few more quirky characters found themselves in need of some assistance.

In April 2019, RSPCA WA Goldfields Inspector Fiona rescued a pink and grey galah who was covered in black oil and unable to fly. She managed to secure him, with help from City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder rangers, and named him Bob.

Inspector Fiona sought advice from Native Animal Rescue in Perth to make sure she was providing Bob with the best care possible. Fiona gently washed, rinsed and towel-dried Bob daily, and he gradually started to turn pink and grey again. She also contacted industrial sites in the area to make sure they had no uncovered oil, or other hazards to wildlife. Bob was very lucky to receive help when he did – if ingested while preening, oil can cause severe organ damage in birds. We're happy to report that, a few weeks later, Bob was feeling and looking like himself again and was released to re-join his flock.

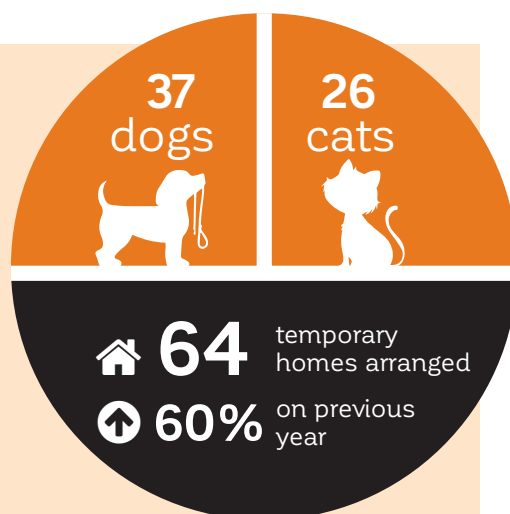
## FUNDING RENEWED FOR VITAL SERVICE

In the State Budget handed down in May 2019, the State Government allocated \$415,000 over four years to continue funding for the Pets in Crisis program, which works with women's shelters and refuges to provide safe, temporary foster care for pets caught up in domestic violence.

The program, now in its third year, helps alleviate some of the logistical stress of escaping a dangerous home environment, getting victims to safety sooner and keeping pets out of harm's way.

Over the past year, the program arranged temporary homes for 64 animals – up 60% on the previous year. Animals helped included 37 dogs, 26 cats and one rabbit, and the average length of stay was just over 12 weeks.

Additionally, emergency enclosures were established at four metropolitan women's shelters, so pets could be cared for temporarily on site while foster arrangements were made.



## HOW WE SUPPORTED PET OWNERS

In 2018-19, RSPCA WA Inspectors continued to focus on education as a priority for improving animal welfare – impacting positively on the lives of more than 60,000 animals.

Gaps in knowledge and financial constraints are behind many of the welfare concerns reported to Inspectors. A compassionate approach, offering support where possible, guidance and information, often leads to the best outcome for much-loved animals and their owners.



Jet “before”



Jet “after”

**This was the case with Rob and Jet, as told by RSPCA WA Inspector Sam:**

In August 2018, I responded to a call about a dog losing its hair and chewing on itself. When I attended, I met Rob, and his Rottweiler Jet. Most of Jet’s hair was missing from his back and legs and his eyelids were inflamed. He also had red scabs and sores on his body.

It quickly became clear to me that Rob cared for Jet immensely. However, employment issues had prevented him from taking Jet to a vet. I arranged an appointment for Jet with Vetwest, who offered a reduced rate for RSPCA WA. Then I called Rob to tell him. He was very grateful.

The next week I attended the appointment with Rob and Jet, and RSPCA WA covered the cost of the visit and some medication. Rob was extremely grateful and even offered to work at RSPCA WA to repay what we had done for him.

In October, I attended a follow-up vet appointment with Rob and Jet. I was so pleased to see Jet’s skin was improving and new hair was already growing back. In the following weeks, I checked in with Rob to make sure he was continuing with Jet’s treatment. By this point, Rob had found a job and was able to pay for Jet’s vet care.

In December, I visited Rob again, and found Jet looked like a totally different dog, with a healthy, shiny, black coat! His eyes had also healed and he looked so much happier. It’s cases like these that give me the greatest sense of satisfaction – I know I’ve been able to make a big difference for Rob, and for Jet.

## HOW WE SOUGHT JUSTICE

Over the past year, RSPCA WA Inspectors issued over 800 direction notices to pet owners, instructing them on specific actions to take immediately to address welfare concerns. In most cases, this warning is effective, but sometimes there is no option for an Inspector but to seize animals and prosecute owners to prevent further suffering.

| Date of outcome   | Cases                                              | Animals’ details | Sentence/Orders                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4 July 2018       | Application for forfeiture                         | 2 dogs           | Dogs forfeited to the Crown; Costs order of \$1341.56.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 5 September 2018  | Failure to take reasonable steps to alleviate harm | 2 dogs           | Fined \$4000; Legal costs order of \$7725.69; Care costs order of \$3047.91; Ten-year prohibition from being in charge of any dog.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 7 September 2018  | Application for forfeiture                         | 1 dog            | Dog forfeited to the Crown; Legal and care costs order (not quantified).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 11 September 2018 | Confined in a manner likely to cause harm          | 1 dog            | Ten-month community based order including 100 hours of community service; Legal costs order of \$1388.42.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 3 October 2018    | Failure to take reasonable steps to alleviate harm | 1 horse          | Fined \$4000 each; Legal and care costs order of \$7000 each; One-year prohibition from being in charge of any horse.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 16 October 2018   | Failure to take reasonable steps to alleviate harm | 1 dog            | Fined \$5000; Legal costs order of \$184.20; Care costs order of \$579.82; Dog forfeited to the Crown; Three-year prohibition from being in charge of any animal.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 3 December 2018   | Failure to take reasonable steps to alleviate harm | 2 horses         | Fined \$8000; Care costs order of \$4812.75; Legal costs order of \$277; Horses forfeited to the Crown; Two-year prohibition from being in charge of horses; 42 days to make arrangements for other horses.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 18 December 2018  | Failure to take reasonable steps to alleviate harm | 1 horse          | Fined \$4000; Legal costs order of \$10,000; RSPCA WA Inspectors granted permission to check on animals under her care and control for five years.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 25 January 2019   | Maliciously beat                                   | 1 dog            | Six-month community based order (including 30 hours of community service); required to attend an approved dog or animal training course and any other programs considered necessary to address his offending behaviour; Legal costs order of \$7956.23; Care costs order of \$8064.66; Dog forfeited to the Crown; Six-month prohibition order during community based order; Spent conviction. |
| 27 February 2019  | Failure to take reasonable steps to alleviate harm | 1 horse          | Fined \$2000 each; Care and legal costs order of \$873.12 each; Five-year prohibition from being in charge of a horse or pony; Spent convictions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 4 April 2019      | Failure to take reasonable steps to alleviate harm | 1 cat            | Fined \$2500; Legal costs order of \$205.30; RSPCA WA Inspectors granted permission to check on welfare of another cat in his care for five years; not to assume responsibility for any other animals for five years.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1 May 2019        | Failure to take reasonable steps to alleviate harm | 3 horses         | Intensive supervision order including 100 hours of community service; Legal costs order of \$8008; Disbursements order of \$667.75; Care costs order of \$8650.29; Three-year prohibition from being in charge of horses; Horse forfeited to the Crown.                                                                                                                                        |

## ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLANCE

### 1,104 ANIMALS ADOPTED



378 puppies & dogs



570 kittens & cats



14 horses



4 livestock



138 other\*

*\*Other animals refers to guinea pigs, rabbits, birds and rats*

### SHELTER NUMBERS

1,851 animals cared for

684 dogs • 847 cats • 11 horses  
20 livestock • 289 other

503 animals fostered



10,508 new Facebook  
followers (70,363 total)



5,149 new Instagram  
followers (12.5k total)



661,356 website  
page views



6,217 vet consultations

1,047 animals in vet surgery



### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

32 Bequests received

18 gifts from Trusts and Foundations

22 Corporate sponsors

12 Corporate Support Days,  
hosting 134 people

50 Pro bono lawyers and barristers

116 Workplace giving partners

### OUR PEOPLE



1,827 volunteers providing  
an average of 3,000 hours  
per month

318 foster carers

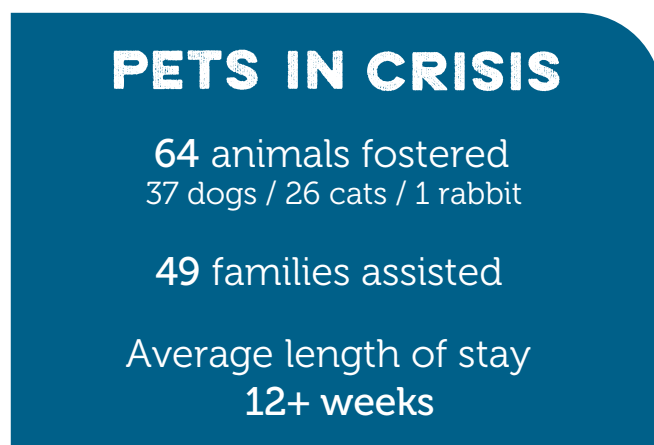
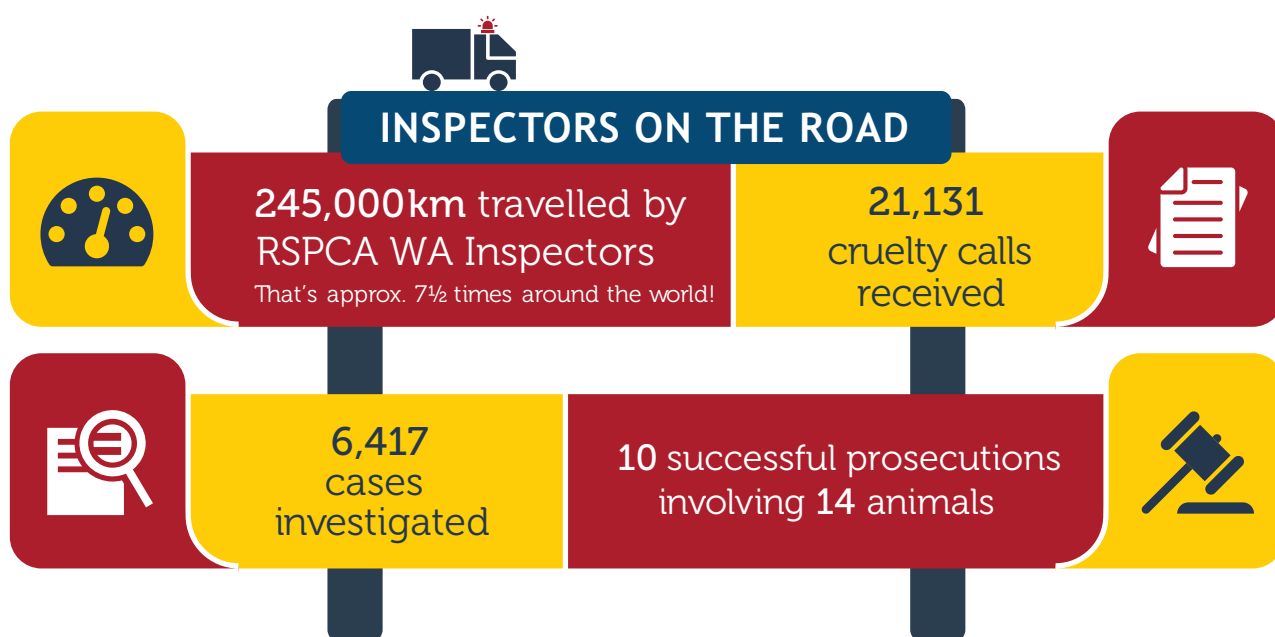


### GOVERNMENT GRANTS

\$617,567

Just 5.76% of total costs

## ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLANCE



## HOW WE CARED FOR ANIMALS

**On average, RSPCA WA's Animal Care Centre provides care for over 230 animals per day. Most of these animals come through the Inspectorate, and many have suffered neglect and abuse, adding to their medical and behavioural needs.**

We aim to provide the best care possible to all incoming and in-care animals – treating them with compassion and professionalism.

The vets and vet nurses, animal attendants, adoption officers, behaviour team, and volunteers work as a unit to provide daily care, treatment and rehabilitation – doing everything they can to get as many animals rehomed as possible.

We also had some exciting changes, which helped us provide better care for the animals who rely on us for help. RSPCA WA received a grant from Lotterywest, which helped with some much-needed upgrades across the site, including an upgraded kennel block.

In 2018-19, 1104 animals were rehomed. This represents a 160% increase in rehomed animals in just five years, which demonstrates the success of investing reserves in better animal outcomes.

This included 378 dogs and puppies, 570 cats and kittens, and 88 pocket pets and was helped by the “Clear the Shelters” adoption campaign held in February 2019. The campaign ran nationwide, with member societies offering \$29 adoptions over three days. In WA, an amazing 85 animals found loving new homes during the campaign, including some animals who had been in care for a long time. Cat Haven was invited to participate, and a temporary adoption centre was set up on-site, helping some of their cats and kittens find new homes, too.

RSPCA WA launched an exciting new partnership with Applied Vocational Training in 2018-19, to support them in delivering their Certificate III course in Animal Studies. As part of the course, the AVT students have gained practical hands-on experience with animals in need, and have been a great help to the Animal Services Team in the vet clinic, kennel and cattery.

We are so proud of the work staff and volunteers do every day for the animals, going above and beyond what's expected of them. We are pleased to have achieved an overall live release rate of 90.2%.

### MINA'S REMARKABLE TRANSFORMATION

**Many of the animals coming into the Animal Care Centre have been neglected, abused or abandoned. Some require weeks, or even months, of rehabilitation to recover from their past experiences.**

Mina had been abandoned at a property south of Perth. She was absolutely terrified when Inspector Anita arrived to rescue her. Anita spent time gaining her trust, with treats and calm words, until she could get close enough to secure Mina on a pole. At the Animal Care Centre, Mina was so scared, she had to be sedated so she could be safely examined by vets.

The behaviour team knew they needed to begin work straight away to give Mina the best chance at a happy new life.



In the first few days after arriving, whenever anyone approached Mina's kennel, she'd curl into a ball in the corner.

By the following week, she would allow the team to enter her kennel, and, after a few quiet minutes, would start taking treats from the ground. She was still very skittish, and would cower every time there was a small movement or noise.

The behaviour team worked with Mina regularly, sitting on the ground and coaxing her closer. This built up to Mina allowing people to enter the kennel without flinching, then

taking food by hand, and eventually accepting gentle pats. It was an exciting day when Mina climbed onto someone's knee for a cuddle!

Thanks to the patient work of the behaviour team, Mina started to

reveal her quirky personality. Turns out she just adores cuddly toys – what a softie! Mina needed a very special home, with very patient owners. And she found a perfect fit with Nicole and family.

Nicole said:

Mina fits into our family so well. She is so cuddly and loves to snuggle on the couch. She has become very comfortable with the whole family.

Mina especially enjoys joining me in our rehearsal room when I have band rehearsals and has even decided that she should take over the position of drummer, often just forcing her way onto the drummer's lap and looking mighty pleased with herself... This beautiful little doggo has stolen our hearts and she is so loved by all of us.



# HOW WE REHABILITATED ANIMALS IN NEED

RSPCA WA Inspectors see some of the worst cases of neglect and cruelty imaginable, and many of the animals they bring into the shelter have gone most, or sometimes all, of their lives without vet care.

The road to recovery for these animals can be long and complicated. But RSPCA WA is lucky to have a passionate team of vets and vet nurses, who work incredibly hard to give every animal the very best care and treatment.

In 2018-19, the team undertook more than 6200 medical consultations. These ranged from simple sterilisations, vaccinations and microchipping, to complicated surgeries, lumpectomies and tackling severe skin disease.

The specialised orthopaedic surgery equipment generously funded by donors in early 2018 has been put to good use over the past financial year. It cut wait times, helping get more animals into permanent loving homes sooner, and saved money on external vet bills.

## WILLOW WELCOMES ADORABLE KITS

Willow the rabbit was heavily pregnant when she came into care in January 2019 after being abandoned. Stress can often cause rabbits to lose their kits, so the vet team put Willow in a nice quiet hutch and minimised her handling while she prepared to give birth.

A week later, Willow gave birth to Winter, Whimsy and Walnut.



The adorable trio thrived and grew up to be friendly and social rabbits. Willow was a doting mum and cared for her babies very well. All three babies went on to find permanent loving new homes, followed shortly by Mum.

## INJURED ALICE FINDS RELIEF



Alice the duck was rescued by the RSPCA WA Ambulance after being found by a member of the public with an injured wing.

She couldn't move the wing at all, and vets found she'd suffered nerve damage.

Her wing was dropped and had developed a wound from dragging on the ground. The team determined an amputation was the best way forward, given Alice was otherwise healthy and, as a pet duck, would not need to fly to escape predators.

Alice bounced back well after surgery – and was adopted by a lovely couple on a semi-rural property with plenty of duck friends for company.



## BRAX BEATS THE ODDS

Brax was surrendered to an RSPCA WA Inspector in Geraldton in November 2018. He'd been hit by a car and needed medical treatment, but his owners couldn't afford it.

At the Animal Care Centre, Brax was found to be suffering from a list of medical issues. He had allergic dermatitis, entropion to both eyes – a painful condition where the eyelids roll inwards, causing the eyelashes to scratch the eyes – a dislocated left hip, anaemia and an enlarged prostate.

On top of this, Brax appeared to have never worn a collar or leash before – he was very stressed by these, and would snap and bite in response to attempts to restrain him.

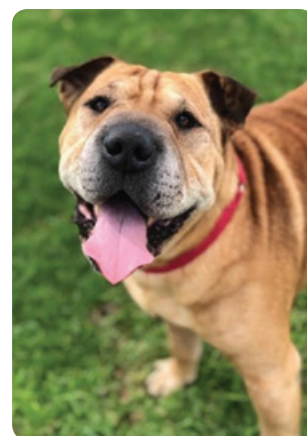
While Brax was under anaesthetic for a procedure, the team put a collar on him, so he could get used to this. Then, after a few days, they clipped on a small lead, which he'd wear around his kennel. For several weeks, the behaviour team undertook daily sessions with Brax, slowly desensitising him to pressure on the lead. The vet team supported Brax through this work with behavioural medication, as the stressful shelter environment was setting him back. Brax had ups and downs, working through his first yard walk, and meets with other dogs, but after several months, he turned a corner.

Brax's dermatitis was treated with regular medicated baths and a special diet, kindly donated by Hill's Pet Nutrition. The vet team also conducted careful surgery to correct his eyelids and dislocated hip.

It was a long road to recovery, and while in care Brax needed over 30 vet consultations and 12 prescriptions of medication.

After six months, he was finally ready for his second chance.

Brax's new owner fell in love with his big personality and cheeky smile. We're so happy he's now living the love-filled life he deserves.



Thank you to Rivergum Referral Services, Perth Vet Emergency, Vetwest, The Animal Hospital at Murdoch University and all other clinics who provide support to RSPCA WA animals.



## HOW THE COMMUNITY HELPED ANIMALS IN NEED

### Volunteers are absolutely crucial to RSPCA WA's animal protection work.

Whether it's providing care and enrichment to the animals in the shelter, opening their homes and hearts as foster carers, lending a hand at community events, or support in the retail stores, their value simply can't be overstated.

Over the past year, more than 370 volunteers gave their time at the Animal Care Centre. Their efforts had a huge impact on the animals, providing them with daily enrichment like walks and play time, and cleaning their enclosures. Not to mention the extra little touches – like hand-made toys and doggy coats – which were so special.

In 2018-19, 318 foster carers opened their homes to animals who weren't quite ready for adoption, whether due to medical or behavioural issues or ongoing prosecutions.

Outside the Animal Care Centre, volunteer support was equally important. More than 650 volunteers generously donated their time to support RSPCA WA events, which raise important funds to support our animal protection work. At Million Paws Walk in Perth, 237 volunteers delivered 2378 hours across the weekend. Many more volunteers helped to organise and run regional events around the state.

Keeping our network of retail stores ticking over also relied on some amazing support from volunteers, with over 100 animal-loving fashionistas doing an average of 600 hours every month at RSPCA Op Shops and Reloved stores.

Across the organisation, over 1800 volunteers gave an average of 3000 hours per month – a mammoth effort by kind-hearted people all over WA.

Many of our volunteers willingly donate their professional skills too. Behind the scenes we have an amazing group of passionate pro bono legal advisers, who help us seek justice for abused and neglected animals through prosecutions.

The RSPCA WA Board also has a wealth of experience, and each director volunteers their time to help grow the organisation and guide us towards our mission to end animal cruelty.

There have been some meaningful changes in the volunteer space at RSPCA WA over the past year, with the creation of several new opportunities at the Animal Care Centre.



Kate Black with Cookie the cat

Volunteers who had given over 100 hours, or who had relevant qualifications or prior experience, were invited to expand their volunteering.

New roles included providing support in the vet clinic, in-depth behaviour work with dogs or cats, and participating in the buddy program to support new volunteers.

The new roles were created in response to feedback from volunteers that they wanted more responsibility and to get involved in different aspects of animal care.

The program has been a hit with volunteers and has supported paid staff in providing a higher level of care to animals in need.

## MAUREEN STEPS UP FOR THE ANIMALS

Maureen has always had a great love for animals and was inspired to start volunteering with RSPCA WA three years ago after she retired.

She has served over 240 hours on site at the Animal Care Centre, plus many more at events like Million Paws Walk. Maureen, along with her husband Peter, has helped out at every metropolitan area Community Action Day too, supporting pet owners who are doing it tough.

Maureen loves getting hands-on helping the animals – and she was eager to take on more responsibility by joining the specialised Dog and Cat Corp when these new roles became available.

She enjoyed learning more about animal behaviour and body language, and working with more stressed and unsure animals – seeing firsthand how time, consistency and patience helped prepare these animals for their permanent loving homes.

Over the past few months, Maureen has eagerly taken on every new challenge with the animals. She's also a natural when it comes to mentoring new volunteers.

Maureen says seeing the dogs and cats blossom was incredibly rewarding:

"Seeing the animals who come into the shelter very stressed be rehabilitated and transform into more confident, trusting and affectionate animals, and go on to be adopted, is by far the greatest joy and reward for me."



Maureen providing puppy enrichment

## LITTLE HELPERS HAVE A BIG IMPACT

In May 2019, RSPCA WA launched its Junior Rescue Officer Program, which aims to engage young children in animal welfare.

The program invites children to sign up and commit to complete different tasks in order to gain "paw points". These are fun and practical activities that children complete throughout the year to help animals.

Once all "paw points" are complete, children can bring the booklet into RSPCA WA in Malaga to get it all signed off by an RSPCA WA Inspector.

Since the program launched in May, 13 Junior Rescue Officers have signed up, with many opting to pick their pack up from RSPCA WA in Malaga, where they took the 'pledge' in front of an Inspector.

Meanwhile, the Junior Ambassador Scheme welcomed three new recruits in 2018-19 – Dean Morris, Mia Beatty and Paige Revell.

All three youngsters excelled in caring for animals in their world, while setting a fine example among their peers about animal welfare. Dean Morris was acknowledged for his extensive work in helping

animals when he was awarded the RSPCA WA Youth Award in October.

Congratulations to all our Junior Rescue Officers and Junior Ambassadors – and thank you for everything you do to help animals in WA!



Junior Rescue Officer Ena Kojic with Inspector Mikayla



Junior Rescue Officer Cailyn Filevski with Inspector Kylie



Glenis with her creations



Angelina enjoying her blanket

## HANDMADE BLANKETS A HEART-WARMING GESTURE

Glenis, a volunteer in Kalgoorlie, crochets beautiful colourful blankets to keep rescued animals comfortable and cosy as they travel to Perth for further treatment or rehoming.



## HOW WE REACHED OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

One of the original objectives set out by RSPCA WA's first committee in the 1892 was to "educate public in responsible animal care".

RSPCA WA still works every day towards this objective, as we believe education is at the core of preventing cruelty and neglect.

RSPCA WA provides this support through a number of events and initiatives, which continue to reach and impact more people and animals each year.

Over the past year, RSPCA WA's Community Outreach team assisted over 1800 people and almost 660 pets at Community Action Days across WA.

These free events are held in areas where there are real animal welfare concerns, and offer free health checks for dogs; flea, tick and worm treatments (generously donated by Bayer); dog and cat food; micro-chipping for dogs; and specialist advice.

This year the Community Outreach Team held nine events – compared to five in 2017-18 – in Swan View, Clarkson, Rockingham, Kwinana, Bunbury, Balga, Armadale, Mandurah and Coolgardie.

At these events, a staggering 1280kg of pet food was distributed; 215 dogs and puppies were microchipped and 75 dog owners swapped their choke chains for more humane flat collars.

Our thanks to South Metro TAFE, Bayer, Rogz and the many city and shire councils who have supported this important initiative.

With some amazing volunteer support, we were able to reach almost 3500 people through Community Outreach Presentations – about 1000 more than the previous year. Key messages included responsible pet ownership, safety around dogs, The Five Freedoms for Animals, plus Inspectorate work and animal issues where appropriate.

RSPCA WA dog training classes provided a positive learning experience for almost 4000 pets in 2018-19. During the year, we ran 519 classes – 49 more than the previous year.

Over the past year, we have continued to support RSPCA Australia in campaigning for change on important issues such as live export, layer hen welfare and the use of whips in horse racing.



A vet check is performed at Balga Community Action Day



Rockingham Community Action Day



On Sunday, 19 May 2019, the pitter-patter of paws returned to the South Perth foreshore for RSPCA WA's 23rd Million Paws Walk. Thousands of people and dogs attended the main event and walked to fight animal cruelty.

Animal lovers outside Perth didn't miss out on the fun, with walks organised by volunteers in Busselton, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Mundaring, Pingelly, Port Denison, Rockingham, Shark Bay, and Esperance.

Human brains also got a workout over the past year, with almost 800 people attending two supersized quiz nights in February and June.

And for the sweetest RSPCA WA event of the year – Cupcake Day in August – hundreds of amazing hosts baked and shared treats with their friends, family and workmates.

An exciting first for the events team in 2018-19 was the launch of RSPCA WA's Christmas Online Auction, which invited animal lovers to bid on 21 kindly donated gifts and one-of-a-kind experiences.

In October 2018, we recognised four of WA's most committed animal welfare heroes at a State Awards presentation, hosted by RSPCA WA Chair Lynne Bradshaw.

The four winners – Dean Morris, Kylie Soanes, June Bartlett and Marissa Marriott – have each made a unique and amazing contribution in WA.

Kylie and Dean both started their own non-profit groups which help animals, while June and Marissa are superstar volunteers and foster carers for RSPCA WA.

By sharing these stories, the awards aim to create a ripple effect, where others are inspired to treat animals with kindness.



Fabulous pooches at the Million Paws Walk



Youth Award recipient Dean Morris  
with Lynne Bradshaw AM, RSPCA Chair



Volunteer of the Year Award recipient Marissa Mattiott  
and Humane Award recipient Kylie Soanes

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Western Australia (RSPCA WA) for the year ended 30 June 2019.

The financial statements cover RSPCA WA as an individual entity. The Financial Statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is RSPCA WA's functional and presentation currency.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 25 September 2019.

## THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

|                                                                                           | NOTE* | 2019<br>\$         | 2018<br>\$         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Revenue                                                                                   | 2     | 8,872,218          | 10,125,561         |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                                                           |       |                    |                    |
| Employee expense                                                                          |       | (6,171,811)        | (6,433,432)        |
| Depreciation and amortisation expense                                                     | 8     | (354,708)          | (306,723)          |
| Operating lease expense                                                                   |       | (382,418)          | (388,583)          |
| Other operating costs                                                                     | 3     | (3,750,764)        | (4,333,060)        |
| Finance and investment costs                                                              | 12    | (45,057)           | (56,359)           |
| Loss on sale of assets                                                                    |       | (11,138)           | -                  |
| <b>Deficit before income tax expense</b>                                                  |       | <b>(1,843,678)</b> | <b>(1,392,596)</b> |
| <b>INCOME TAX EXPENSE</b>                                                                 |       |                    |                    |
|                                                                                           |       | -                  | -                  |
| <b>Deficit after income tax expense</b>                                                   |       | <b>(1,843,678)</b> | <b>(1,392,596)</b> |
| <i>Other Comprehensive Income that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss</i> |       |                    |                    |
| Gain/(loss) on available for sale financial assets                                        | 13    | -                  | (74,837)           |
| <i>Items that cannot be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:</i>                  |       |                    |                    |
| Changes in fair value of equity instruments through other comprehensive income            | 13    | (101,408)          | -                  |
| <b>Total comprehensive loss for the year</b>                                              |       | <b>(1,945,086)</b> | <b>(1,467,433)</b> |



\* Refers to notes contained in the full copy of the financial statements including the statement by the Board of Directors, the Independent Auditor's Report and Statement of Significant Accounting Procedures, can be found on the RSPCA WA website at: [www.rspcawa.asn.au/about/publications.php](http://www.rspcawa.asn.au/about/publications.php)

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION** AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

|                                  | NOTE | 2019<br>\$       | 2018<br>\$        |
|----------------------------------|------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>            |      |                  |                   |
| Cash and cash equivalents        | 4    | 1,205,027        | 1,515,036         |
| Trade and other receivables      | 5    | 372,146          | 394,801           |
| Inventory                        | 6    | 54,923           | 65,286            |
| Financial assets                 | 7    | 212,617          | 185,244           |
| <b>Total current assets</b>      |      | <b>1,844,713</b> | <b>2,160,367</b>  |
| <b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>        |      |                  |                   |
| Financial assets                 | 7    | 3,207,168        | 4,761,716         |
| Property plant and equipment     | 8    | 3,243,686        | 3,153,561         |
| Leased Assets                    | 8    | 50,157           | -                 |
| Intangible assets                | 9    | 9,128            | 11,425            |
| <b>Total non current assets</b>  |      | <b>6,510,139</b> | <b>7,926,702</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>              |      | <b>8,354,852</b> | <b>10,087,069</b> |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>       |      |                  |                   |
| Trade and other payables         | 10   | 813,187          | 591,526           |
| Employee provisions              | 11   | 334,421          | 357,207           |
| <b>Total current liabilities</b> |      | <b>1,147,608</b> | <b>948,733</b>    |
| <b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>   |      |                  |                   |
| Employee provisions              | 11   | 62,678           | 48,681            |
| <b>Non current liabilities</b>   |      | <b>62,678</b>    | <b>48,681</b>     |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>         |      | <b>1,210,286</b> | <b>997,414</b>    |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                |      | <b>7,144,566</b> | <b>9,089,655</b>  |
| <b>EQUITY</b>                    |      |                  |                   |
| Retained surplus                 | 13   | 6,741,187        | 8,584,868         |
| Financial assets reserve         | 13   | 403,379          | 504,787           |
| <b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>              |      | <b>7,144,566</b> | <b>9,089,655</b>  |



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# Thank You



RSPCA WA would like to gratefully acknowledge the generosity of these animal lovers whose legacies live on through gifts they left in their Wills to support animals in need.

- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Doris Annie Allen           | • Marion Wilson Mackenzie   |
| • Glory Moira Angwin          | • Mary Maude MacKenzie      |
| • Ian James Baird             | • Cheryl Joy Marshall       |
| • Pamela Bates                | • Dorothy Maughan           |
| • Hans Ishmar Bell            | • Pamela Louise Miragliotta |
| • S O L Brady                 | • Edith June Nekel          |
| • J Cambridge                 | • Christa Paula Nimmo       |
| • Pauline Ann Cowan           | • Georgina Joy Patterson    |
| • Margaret Patricia Dickinson | • Doreen Powell             |
| • Adele Deirdre Everden       | • Anne Ferguson Riedinger   |
| • Joyce Elizabeth Henderson   | • Roy Leslie Sanders        |
| • William Eastcott Higgs      | • Suzanne Maree Stansfield  |
| • Aileen Mary James           | • Thomas Caldwell Smith     |
| • Helga Keating               | • Doris May Sherwin         |
| • Iris Jean Lennox            | • Yvonne Gladys Trenery     |
| • Eleonora Ladders            | • Marjorie Joan Wilson      |

We would also like to thank the following Trusts and Foundations for their ongoing support:

- The Girls Trust
- Estate of the Late Jean Marion Isobel Balston
- Doris Janet Frith Charitable Trust
- Estate of the Late Agnes Margaret Jones
- The Margaret Harper Charitable Trust
- The Elizabeth Stamos Charitable Trust
- Jean Bladen Foundation
- Margaret Chalmers Charitable Fund

RSPCA WA would like to acknowledge the following firms for providing pro bono support of RSPCA WA throughout the year:

#### LAW FIRMS:

- Doris Annie Allen
- Jackson McDonald
- Herbert Smith Freehills
- Minter Ellison
- DLA Piper
- K&L Gates
- Bradley Bayly Legal
- Kroon Legal
- King & Wood Mallesons
- S Billing and Associates
- Robertson Hayles

#### BARRISTERS:

- Linda Black
- Sarah Oliver
- James Healy
- Robert Nash
- Laura De Maio
- James Scovell
- Wendy Hughes
- Gerald Yin
- Zoe Gilders

**RSPCA WA relies on donations and community support to generate more than 90% of the funds required to sustain its animal protection work.**

**To donate, please visit [www.rspcawa.asn.au](http://www.rspcawa.asn.au)**



Transforming Lives™

Hill's has supported the RSPCA for over 10 years. As well as sponsoring the annual Million Paws Walk event, the company provides Hill's Science Diet to feed animals in every RSPCA shelter throughout the year.