

Accidental Hero



Photo: Nick de Villiers, courtesy of The Courier-Mail

A frightened kangaroo joey jumped into floodwaters and was soon up to its eyes in water as it was swept downstream. Ray Cole knew he was watching the joey's imminent demise. With no thought for his own safety, Ray jumped in and fought his way through the strong current, spiders, leeches and debris.

"It had no chance of survival. Whether it was a person or an animal made no difference to me. I had to help," Ray said.

Despite a few kicks and scratches from the joey, Ray got it to dry land, where bystanders were waiting with towels to comfort the shocked animal.

While few were as dramatic as Ray's rescue of the joey, thousands more selfless acts of kindness were seen across Queensland in the wake of the floods of December 2010 to January 2011 and in the aftermath of Cyclone Yasi.

RSPCA staff in flood and cyclone-affected areas were overwhelmed by the kindness of our supporters. They were

the volunteers who helped set up two animal evacuation centres at Rockhampton, who evacuated the Fairfield Shelter or helped in the clean-up, and the foster carers who provided emergency accommodation for evacuated shelter animals.

Many more individuals and businesses across the state, and across the country, showed their support by donating to our flood appeal. As Ray Cole said during media interviews when he asked the public to donate to the RSPCA, "The animals are often forgotten in disaster funding."

Others simply called to offer encouragement, to say thank you for the job we were doing, or to tell us we were "heroes".

To everyone who offered words of encouragement, who helped us when we needed it, or who, like Ray, helped the animals when they needed it, we say thank you. You are our heroes.

From the President's desk

Like many Queenslanders, I am happy to say goodbye to this summer. The devastating floods and cyclone of the past summer tested the strength and spirit of everyone; however, they also brought about an unprecedented display of exceptional community spirit.

This spirit was felt by our staff and volunteers at shelters throughout the state (see pages 8 and 9 for a disaster wrap-up), especially at the Fairfield Shelter, our state headquarters in Brisbane. When the shelter started to flood, the public rallied to help us evacuate equipment, supplies and, most importantly, the animals. More than 300 animals were given temporary accommodation by emergency foster carers.

The "mud army" volunteers then returned to help us clean up; however, many of our animals did not return, happily having been adopted by their emergency foster carers.

On 26 February, I had the great privilege of meeting many of the flood volunteers at the Fairfield Shelter when we hosted an event to thank them for their support.

It is always heart-warming to hear of heroic acts that help animals, such as our cover story about Ray Cole's rescue of a kangaroo in this summer's floods. In this edition, we also pay tribute to Jeffrey Moss, who recently received the RSPCA Humane Award for risking his life to save a horse from floodwaters a year ago.

After such a sombre start to the year, I'm looking forward to some light relief at this year's RSPCA Million Paws Walk on Sunday 15 May. There are 20 walk locations across Queensland, and I do hope you'll step out and enjoy the day with your canine companion.

Eileen Thumpkin

EILEEN THUMPKIN
RSPCA Qld President



Photo: Zoo Studio

DIARY DATES

15 May
MILLION PAWS WALK
20 walk locations throughout Queensland. Visit qld.millionpawswalk.com.au to register for the walk closest to you.

15 August
CUPCAKE DAY FOR THE RSPCA
Register at rspcacupcakeday.com.au after 15 May and sign up as a cook and/or fundraiser.

24 September - 8 October
RSPCA DON'T KNOCK APPEAL

1 - 8 October
RSPCA AWARENESS WEEK

30 September
World Farm Animal Day Symposium

2 October
Blessing of the Animals

14 October
RSPCA Qld Gala Ball

EVENTS
P 07 3426 9943
E events@rspcaqld.org.au
W rspcaqld.org.au/events

SUNDAY 15 May

RSPCA MILLION PAWS WALK 2011

Register online before the day to save!

There are 20 great walk locations throughout QLD - including the new home for the main Brisbane walk - the Murarrie Recreation Reserve at Cannon Hill.

Don't forget to create your very own online fundraising page and start raising funds for RSPCA Qld today!

RSPCA millionpawswalk.com.au



Photo: Roze Gallo

Inspector Jane Barr examines a tyre print at the scene of an animal cruelty crime.

CSI: RSPCA QLD

The RSPCA Qld Inspectorate has a message for animal cruelty offenders: if you think you can get away with your crime because your victim cannot speak, think again. Using CSI-style techniques, inspectors are now better equipped to understand how an animal was injured or killed, and to identify who did it.

Chief Inspector Michael Pecic said that the implementation of the new forensic techniques was born out of a need to strengthen prosecution cases so that more convictions may be recorded and heavier penalties imposed by the courts.

"In the past, inspectors have relied primarily on statements from witnesses or the offender, which can be unreliable and insufficient as evidence in court. The animal can't tell us what happened, so we need alternate ways of gathering evidence," Inspector Pecic said.

Following Inspector Pecic's Churchill Fellowship studies of animal forensic investigations in the US and Senior Inspector Jane Barr's training with the Queensland Police Service, the Inspectorate is now able to use techniques such as blood splatter and insect analyses to determine how and when an animal died.

RSPCA veterinarians also perform autopsies that can shed light on the nature of trauma inflicted or a change in body composition as a result of neglect.

Just as important is to identify who committed the offence, and in this regard inspectors can now collect evidence such as clothing fibres, footprints and fingerprints that may place a suspect at the scene.

"For example, whereas once we could only look for the obvious, such as a bloody fingerprint, now we are trained

and have the equipment to collect evidence that we can't see. An invisible fingerprint on a drink bottle left at the scene of the crime could be the vital link between the offender and the crime."

Inspectors have also been trained to follow strict protocols to preserve the continuity of evidence, from securing the crime scene to collecting evidence in a manner that avoids cross-contamination, to ensure that the worst of crimes will not be thrown out of court on a technicality.

"Suspects can lie, but the evidence doesn't. With our new forensic capabilities, we are confident of building stronger cases that will attract greater penalties," Inspector Pecic concluded.

The purchase of the new forensic equipment was made possible by a grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund. The Inspectorate is now seeking funding to purchase a vehicle for use as a mobile crime scene investigation unit, enabling them to solve more animal cruelty cases across the state - and bring more animal cruelty offenders to justice.

ANIMAL CRUELTY COMPLAINTS

P 1300 852 188

E cruelty_complaints@rspcaqld.org.au

Xstrata gives new hope to wildlife

In a move that will see more help at hand for sick and injured Queensland wildlife, with long-term conservation benefits, RSPCA Qld has partnered with Xstrata to deliver a new wildlife initiative throughout Queensland.

In 2009-2010, RSPCA Qld facilitated more than 30,000 wildlife rescues via its 1300 ANIMAL telephone emergency hot line.

Upon receiving an emergency call from the public, the RSPCA deploys a Wildlife Hero volunteer community member to collect and transport the animal to a wildlife carer or Wildlife Hero veterinary clinic for treatment.

As the human population continues to encroach on wildlife habitats, the number of wildlife emergencies, and the need for the 1300 ANIMAL Program, is expected to increase.

Recognising the likely impact on wildlife, Xstrata is partnering RSPCA Qld through the Xstrata Community Program Queensland because of "the vital role the RSPCA plays in protecting the welfare of all animals, particularly Queensland's

displaced native wildlife population, through rescue, treatment, rehabilitation and release."

The funding from Xstrata will enable RSPCA Qld to increase its call centre and database capabilities, helping to reduce 1300 ANIMAL call waiting times; recruit more community volunteer and veterinary Wildlife Heroes across the state to respond to emergencies; and raise awareness amongst the public about 1300 ANIMAL and how they can use it to help local wildlife.

RSPCA Qld Director of Veterinary Services Kevin Bradley said, "Thanks to Xstrata's support, Queenslanders across the state will have the chance to contribute to wildlife conservation, whether they are reporting a wildlife emergency or directly assisting sick or injured wildlife."

WILDLIFE EMERGENCIES

P 1300 ANIMAL (1300 264 625)



Photos: Roze Gallo

We're moving to higher ground

When the flood of January 2011 inundated the Fairfield Shelter and severely limited our operations, it increased the urgency of the need to relocate RSPCA Qld's state headquarters to the much-anticipated Animal Care Campus at Wacol in the western suburbs of Brisbane. Thankfully, like Noah loading his Ark, we will be moving all creatures great and small from the Fairfield Shelter to the Campus by the end of 2011.

Assistant Project Manager Brett O'Brien said that the transformation of the former John Oxley Youth Detention Centre into the Animal Care Campus was well under way.

"Some areas are not dissimilar in function to the detention centre. For example, the main entrance where families and friends used to visit inmates has been gutted and replaced with adoption pens, where families will get their first chance to meet the new addition to their family. Just across from the adoption pens, they will be able to have a cuppa in the café while they make their decision," Brett said.

"Soon we will be converting the old school building into the Humane Education Department."

New buildings on the site will include a veterinary clinic and wildlife hospital, helping to provide the most significant animal care facility in the southern hemisphere, with a holistic approach to animal welfare management.

Over the next six months, RSPCA Qld will be encouraging corporate partnerships and major donations in order to raise the remaining \$6 million needed to fund the construction of the Campus. Individuals or businesses wishing to learn more about the Animal Care Campus, or to make a financial contribution, may contact Executive Manager Michael Hornby.

SUPPORT THE ANIMAL CARE CAMPUS

P 07 3426 9926

E mhornby@rspcaqld.org.au



Visitors to the Animal Care Campus will be welcomed in the spacious reception area.



Assistant Project Manager Brett O'Brien inspects construction of the dog adoption pens inside the main building.



The mechanical workshop of the detention centre is being transformed into an area for small animals, such as guinea pigs.

Janet's Wildlife

Following on from my column in the last edition of *Imprint* in which I discussed the Land for Wildlife program, I have now progressed to a higher-level conservation agreement with my local council, namely a Conservation Covenant.

As the covenant is a promise contained in the deed to the land, it will remain in place regardless of whether I sell my property. This gives me peace of mind that the native wildlife and flora on my property will be permanently protected even if I decide to sell my property. Covenants do not prohibit the use of the land. They simply ensure that any use is compatible with the natural values to be preserved.

In applying for the covenant, I had to develop a five-year plan in which I set out strategies for protecting the natural values of my land. Initially, I am removing and managing weeds and planting new vegetation. In my first year I will also be setting up nest boxes and electronically monitoring wildlife presence.

It's a very exciting time, as I've been rehabilitating and releasing wildlife, including squirrel gliders, a boobook owl, several tawny frogmouths, kookaburras and most recently "Phillip", an orphaned red-necked wallaby.



I encourage anyone with an interest in the wildlife on their property to consider a Conservation Covenant. The benefits are huge to wildlife and the covenant holder.

JANET GAMBLE

RSPCA Qld State Wildlife Coordinator

Playing Kitty Matchmaker

in the RSPCA Qld Year of the Cat

Looking for your perfect match? One that ticks all the boxes? Tired of the traditional dating scene? Then why not try online dating – at the RSPCA! Andrea Lago did and she couldn't be happier.

Andrea had been looking for the kitten of her dreams for over a month, but without success, until she heard about Kitty Matchmaker.

Kitty Matchmaker is a new online adoption program initiated by RSPCA Qld to find homes for more kittens during cat breeding season by making them available for adoption directly from foster care, before they have even set foot in a shelter.

Andrea found the service very easy, efficient and personal.

"I simply filled in the online form with my wish list for sex, breed and colouring. And they found a match the same day," Andrea said.

After approving Andrea to adopt via a telephone interview, the adoption officer contacted the foster carer who was looking after a kitten that matched Andrea's criteria.

"The foster carer sent me photos the same day. The kitten was absolutely gorgeous. And it was reassuring to know that she was ours from that moment on. We didn't have to worry that she was at the shelter and might have been adopted by someone else by the time we got there."

The foster carer kept Andrea informed of her kitten's progress until she was ready to be desexed and adopted. Once home, the kitten was named "Tegan".

Andrea, her husband and three boys are besotted with the new addition to their family. "And with four males in the house, it's nice to have a girl in the house," Andrea joked.

Run for a trial period from 1 December to 1 January during the summer cat breeding season, Kitty Matchmaker also kicked off the RSPCA Qld Year of the Cat, initiated to address the problem of cat overpopulation.

Found under a house as a stray 12-week-old, Tegan is one of over 3,000 kittens that RSPCA Qld can expect to receive every summer. While we strive to find homes for as many as possible, sadly, many have to be euthanased. It is a tragedy that would be avoidable if cat owners simply desexed their cats and avoided unwanted litters.

The RSPCA Qld Year of the Cat will feature a multi-faceted campaign and education program designed to raise awareness about responsible cat ownership and to promote the benefits of cats as pets, in order to improve rehoming rates and decrease surrender rates. Kitty Matchmaker will return in October, and also in the second half of the year RSPCA Qld's mobile desexing unit, PAWS, will be on the road, providing low-cost desexing to those in need.

With continued education, we hope to reduce the problem of cat overpopulation so that all kittens are wanted and none has to wonder if they'll be one of the lucky ones to find a home.

ADOPTIONS

W adoptapet.com.au



Ebano rides to success

Ebano, a much-loved horse, was formerly owned by a passionate RSPCA bequestor. He spent his days on a large property in the country, enjoying life with his 10 stablemates. Sadly, when Ebano's owner fell terminally ill, she could no longer care for Ebano and her other beloved horses.

Having enrolled in the RSPCA Qld Bequest and Pet Legacy Program, Ebano's owner had ensured that her horses would be rehomed. But, like most pet owners, she was heartbroken and worried if they would be happy in their new homes. All of the horses found new homes, and Ebano an extra-special home where he in turn helped heal a broken heart.

That broken heart belonged to 16-year-old Courtney O'Grady, a dressage enthusiast whose favourite mare had recently passed away. Needing to help her daughter recover from her loss, Courtney's mother, Margaret, took her to meet Ebano at the Fairfield Shelter.

Margaret reports that Courtney was immediately struck by Ebano's "striking looks and majestic presence, equalled by his incredibly calm temperament. We couldn't sign the adoption papers fast enough."

Since leaving his original owner, Ebano had been looked after by the RSPCA, but he still had never been ridden. However, he amazed everyone, including his trainer, who said he was the easiest horse he had ever broken in to saddle.

Within a few short weeks, Ebano and Courtney entered their first competition together, the Caloundra Pony Dressage Club, and won! As Margaret says, "He's a bit of a show-off". He has also won every "Champion Andalusian" competition he has entered.

"Ebano is having the time of his life. He is always keen to learn new things and, because he and Courtney have such a strong bond, he loves doing it," says Margaret.

"Ebano is a gift and we are so privileged to have him."

Staff Profile

Adriana Boron and Diane Baartz Bequest Team

Among RSPCA Qld's legion of supporters are our bequestors, whose pledge of a contribution to the organisation in their will plays a vital role in enabling us to continue our life-saving work in the years to come.

Always ready to answer any questions that bequestors may have when deciding whether to support the RSPCA are the friendly faces and voices of our Bequest and Pet Legacy Program, Adriana Boron (pictured right) and Diane Baartz.

Adriana and Diane enjoy getting to know our long-term supporters and keeping in touch with them over the years, helping them in whatever way they can and answering whatever questions they may have about the RSPCA.

Adriana has built wonderful relationships with many bequestors who have enrolled their pets in the Pet Legacy Program. "The part of my job that means the most to me is being able to help our Pet Legacy supporters in their time of need. It is wonderful to know that we can provide a safe and happy environment for their animals."

With a genuine interest in people, Adriana and Diane enjoy the opportunity to meet many people in their roles.

Diane enjoys developing long-term relationships with the RSPCA's supporters. "It's always interesting to talk about our shared love of animals, and the importance of animal welfare improvements."

Their love for animals has seen both Adriana and Diane's families grow since joining the RSPCA. Adriana started with one cat and now has three, plus some fish, while Diane's clan has grown from one dog to two dogs, one cat, one bird and eight fish.

Diane has only recently joined Adriana on the Bequest team and is looking forward to travelling with Adriana throughout Queensland this year to put names to the faces of many of our devoted bequestors.

BEQUEST AND PET LEGACY PROGRAM

P 07 3426 9937

E bequest@rspcaqld.org.au



Photo: Zoo Studio

RSPCA to the rescue

The impact of the floods of December 2010 to January 2011, followed by Cyclone Yasi, was felt by Queenslanders across the state. Anxious families chose to fight or flee the disaster. Homes and lives were put into disarray. Businesses were forced to close their doors. Lives and livelihoods were lost.

Throughout the crisis, emergency service crews were there to assist the people. And the RSPCA was there as the state's other emergency service to assist the other victims of the disasters – the animals.

Chief Inspector Michael Pecic said RSPCA Qld implemented its disaster management plans as the events unfolded.

“We deployed our inspectors and animal ambulance officers to the worst-hit regions, where they helped people move their pets to safety or checked on them if they had been left behind. In Rockhampton, we set up two animal evacuation centres. Having their pets nearby gave people a bit of normality during an otherwise stressful time,” said Inspector Pecic.

As the floodwaters receded across the state and Cyclone Yasi passed, Inspectorate staff toured the affected areas, delivering emergency feed drops to stranded livestock, rescuing wildlife, and checking on people and their pets in their homes, often providing food or veterinary first aid.

“Our inspectors were humbled by the support and generosity they encountered wherever they went. Residents who had almost nothing left of their homes welcomed the inspectors into them with a smile on their face,” Inspector Pecic continued.

While the impact on domestic and farm animals was immediately obvious, it is impossible to know the true impact of the floods and cyclone on wildlife.

RSPCA Qld State Wildlife Coordinator Janet Gamble said, “Many wildlife would have been swept away and drowned. Those that survived most likely would have found their natural habitats washed away. Even flowers have had their nectar and pollens washed away, removing a vital food source for many animals.”

Large areas of habitats may take months to recover and we expect to see demand for wildlife care increase as the full impact of the floods reveals itself.

The RSPCA will continue to provide assistance for wildlife, the community and their pets as the state continues to recover from the flood and cyclone events.



Photo: Australian Associated Press



A helicopter delivers supplies to the Gympie Shelter, isolated by floodwaters.



The Townsville Shelter closed for the clean-up after Cyclone Yasi.



Floodwaters inundated three-quarters of the Fairfield Shelter.

Shelters in crisis mode

All nine RSPCA Qld shelters throughout the state were affected in some way by the floods and Cyclone Yasi, whether directly by the floodwaters or cyclone damage, or indirectly by managing an increase in animal welfare cases. The three worst-affected shelters were Gympie, Fairfield, Cairns and Townsville.

As regional Queensland was engulfed by floodwaters, Gympie Shelter Manager Rebecca Brazier found herself stranded when the shelter was isolated. In desperate need of clean bedding and food for the animals, Rebecca was relieved when a private helicopter owner offered to fly in supplies.

When the floods moved south to Brisbane, the Fairfield Shelter was evacuated. Scores of good Samaritans opened their homes to provide emergency foster care to over 300 animals, while others helped move

equipment and supplies to higher ground, and returned to help in the clean-up.

Three-quarters of the shelter went under water, causing an estimated \$1 million worth of damage. With limited power and our phone lines down, the shelter went into crisis mode, setting up a temporary call centre off site, thanks to Logan City Council.

The worst-hit area of the shelter was the Desex Clinic in which \$511,000 worth of veterinary equipment was destroyed. Fortunately, we were able

to continue to desex animals in a limited capacity on board our mobile desexing unit, the PAWS truck.

Just when we thought we'd seen the last of the bad weather, Cyclone Yasi forced the closure and evacuation of our Cairns and Townsville Shelters, with many animals being air-lifted from Townsville to Brisbane, thanks to Dogtainers, Toll Express and Virgin Blue.

While most shelters recovered quickly, the Fairfield Shelter took several weeks to return to full operational capacity.



“Mud army” volunteers helped clean up the Fairfield Shelter.



When the Desex Clinic was flooded, putting it out of action, RSPCA Qld's mobile desexing unit, PAWS (inset), was brought in to enable desexing of animals to continue.



Regional Round-up

Branches and Friends of the RSPCA News

Many hands make light work and two RSPCA Qld Branches welcomed the group effort during the recent floods.

Rockhampton Branch members helped look after the animals at the two evacuation centres set up by RSPCA Qld. Branch members and volunteers helped to walk the dogs every day and cleaned pens.

Rockhampton Branch President Elizabeth Shanahan said the greatest reward came from "lending a caring ear to those people who had been evacuated with their animals."

Like the Sherwood Thrift Shop in Brisbane, the Gympie Branch took

a direct hit from the disaster when their Thrift Shop was inundated with floodwaters.

"We had a shock when we opened the front doors. Everything had been turned upside down," said Gympie Branch President Georgina McKay.

Thanks to a bobcat, two trucks, a small army of volunteers and great support from local businesses, the Gympie Thrift Shop has since been cleaned up and reopened.

BRANCHES AND FRIENDS OF THE RSPCA
P 07 5586 2500
E BFOGLiaison@rspcaqld.org.au

THANK YOU

RSPCA Qld sincerely thanks all the businesses that gave their support during the flood and cyclone events. We asked four to tell us why they wanted to help.

Beck and Ken Drake

Zoo Studio

We photograph animals because we love them. It's also why we support the RSPCA. They are the frontline in animal welfare. When they need our help, we will be there.

Diane Stephenson

Peerless Dry Cleaners

I always intended leaving a bequest to the RSPCA, but when I saw the terrible predicament they were in, I knew the animals needed help now.

Tracy Wilson

Greencross Vets

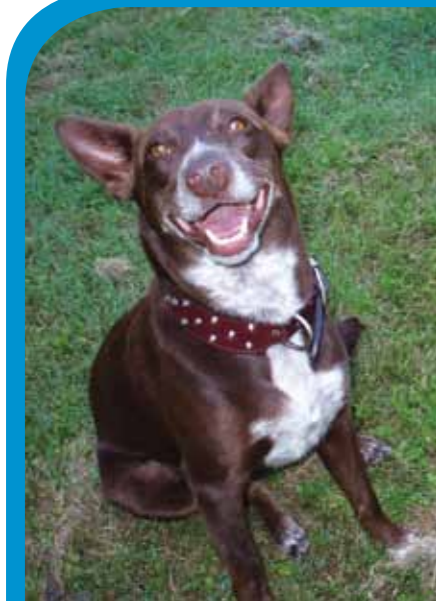
We are passionate about animal welfare and have a great love and respect for the RSPCA. So we were happy to provide temporary homes within our veterinary hospitals and have our vets on standby.



Sonia Stichbury (pictured left) presenting a cheque to RSPCA Qld President Eileen Thumpkin

Shafston Foundation

We are pleased to be able to give back to the community, and happy to provide much-needed funds for emergency rescue, animal shelters, supplies and medical care for animals in distress.



HAPPY 'TAIL'

Bella was evacuated from the Fairfield Shelter when the flood waters rose on 12 January. She went to the home of first-time foster carer Kelly, who responded to our emergency plea for help. It was to be Bella's lucky day.

The three-year-old kelpie quickly settled in to her temporary home and Kelly's own dog, Jessie, took an instant liking to Bella. In no time, they were "playing together in the yard, giving each other kisses and following each other around."

ADOPTIONS • W adoptapet.com.au

Kelly couldn't bear to give Bella back, especially given her history. Bella had originally been admitted to the shelter after her owners had left her behind when they moved house. She was adopted but was returned when she chased her new owner's cat.

"I could just imagine how confused she would have been if she'd gone back to the shelter again. I'd been planning to get a second dog anyway, so it worked out perfectly," said Kelly.

Education Bites

Wally leads students to Wildlife Utopia

A fictional wombat named "Wally" is helping the community learn more about living with wildlife. Over the past few months, the RSPCA Humane Education Team has been delivering a Wildlife Crusaders education session as part of the Brisbane City Council's Summer Library Program.

The fun and interactive holiday workshop explores the beauty of the local wildlife and how people can live in harmony with the animals that share our world.

Through a story about a lone wombat, "Wally", students discover how their actions impact on the environment and the animals that rely on us to help them survive. Crusaders are then able to identify the threats faced by our precious wildlife. In order to consolidate these ideas the children created a mural to depict a Wildlife Utopia.

The program helps to raise awareness of the wildlife that exist in the local area and empowers students to actively respond to local environmental issues.

The Brisbane workshops have been well received and attended by students and parents alike. The Education Team is keen to roll out the program in regional centres and will offer a version of the program in Bundaberg during the Easter school holidays.

To find out more about our Wildlife Crusaders sessions or other RSPCA education programs, please contact the Humane Education Team on the number below.

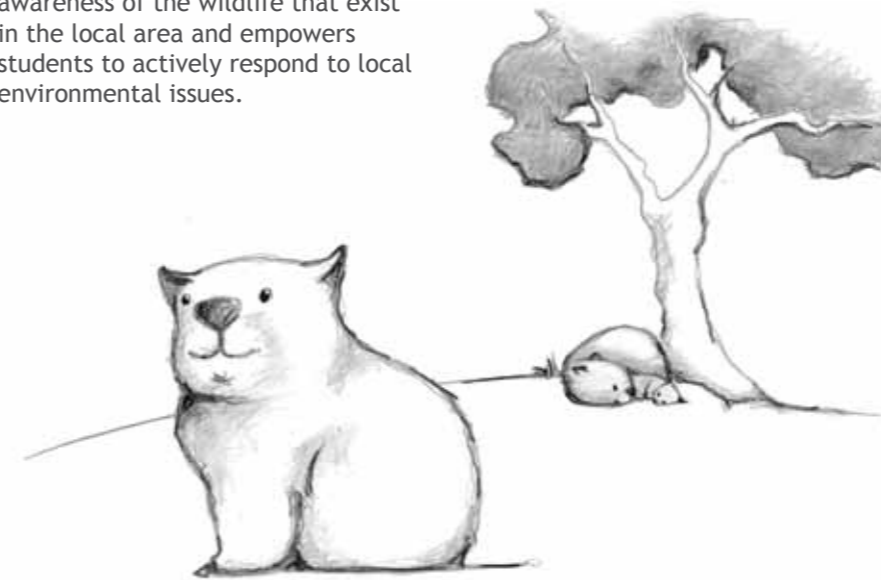


Illustration: Jenine Davidson, copyright RSPCA Qld 2009

EMU EVENT CALENDAR

Hop on board RSPCA Qld's classroom on wheels

30 April - 1 May	South Burnett Show, Kingaroy
1 June	Emerald Show, Emerald
12 June	Green Day Out, Gold Coast
9 - 10 July	Dayboro Show
11 - 20 August	Royal Brisbane Show

HUMANE EDUCATION

P 07 3710 9806
E education@rspcaqld.org.au
W woaw.org.au

VETERINARY FRIENDS

Helping RSPCA Qld to treat and rehome our sick animals

Animal Allergy and Dermatology Service
 07 3387 9797

Australian Wildlife Hospital - Australia Zoo Wildlife Warriors
 1300 369 652

Community Wildlife Hospital - Currumbin Wildlife Hospital
 07 5534 0813

GREENCROSS VETS Head Office
 07 3391 1477

Visit www.greencrossvet.com.au for a clinic near you in Brisbane or on the Gold Coast.

Jimboomba Veterinary Surgery
 07 5546 9540

JUDHAR CLINICS Bulimba Vet Surgery
 07 3899 1495

Carindale Vet Surgery
 07 3849 4912

Morningside Vet Clinic
 07 3399 7055

Northside Vet Care
 07 3881 0077

Rochedale Vet Surgery
 07 3341 3399

Veterinary RSPCA Wildlife Heroes
 1300 ANIMAL (1300 264 625)

Special thanks go to the veterinarians Australia-wide who offered their services during the recent natural disasters.

GRANTS

Received with thanks

The Mary Kibble Trust
 Preventative medicines for shelter dogs (Fairfield Shelter)
 \$54,409.00

Gambling Community Benefit Fund
 Mobile Crime Scene Investigation Unit (Fairfield Shelter)
 \$24,367.80

Extraordinary bravery rewarded

Jeffrey Moss, who risked his life to save animals in raging floodwaters on the Coomera River in February 2010, has been awarded the RSPCA's highest award for humans, the RSPCA Humane Award.

On 27 January 2011, Jeffrey was presented with the award by Her Excellency, Ms Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland, at a special ceremony at Queensland's Government House.

In praising Jeffrey for his bravery, Her Excellency said, "You have proved through your actions the importance that animals play in our lives and we must never forget the animal victims in natural disasters."

During the floods of February 2010, the Coomera River was raging when Jeffrey spotted a horse that had been washed downstream and was trapped under the walkway of a pontoon. Tying a rope around his waist, he swam to the horse and managed to free the gasping horse as the water rushed past them.

The horse was pulled to the bank but tragically lost its footing on the stairs as the water receded, causing the horse to go into shock and later requiring it to be euthanased.

Although the horse's owner and onlookers were distraught at the outcome, they were amazed by Jeffrey's extraordinary act of bravery and nominated him for the award.

The RSPCA Humane Award is presented to a person who has displayed incredible bravery to save the life of an animal. Only seven awards have been issued since its inception in 1990.



Ms Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland, presented the RSPCA Humane Award to Jeffrey Moss on 27 January 2011.

Photo: Emma Perry

Close Puppy Factories campaign update

In May 2010, RSPCA Qld launched the Close Puppy Factories campaign calling on the State and Local Governments to tighten laws and legislation regulating puppy factories, where breeder dogs are confined to cages for the term of their reproductive lives.

Concerned citizens rallied to sign a petition calling for the regulation of the breeding, supply and sale of companion animals.

Upon the close of the online petition on 7 January 2011, 22,900 signatures had been collected, making it the most successful petition in RSPCA Qld's history.

In response to community reaction to puppy factories, the Queensland Government has announced

that it will introduce a Breeder Identification Number (BIN) system. Breeders would be required to show their identification number when selling their puppies in pet shops or elsewhere, and when advertising their puppies.

RSPCA Qld CEO Mark Townend said, "The proposed new dog breeder identification system is a progressive decision in Australian companion animal welfare and will play a major role in stamping out the mass-production of puppies."

The campaign is ongoing and the RSPCA will continue to educate about the importance of making the right choice when buying a puppy.

CLOSE PUPPY FACTORIES

W closepuppyfactories.rspcaqld.org.au



Prosecution Highlights



Silver Fun's life used to be anything but fun. He was kept in a residential backyard amongst rubbish, where he had inadequate food and water. When he came to the attention of the RSPCA, he had suffered severe weight loss, rain scald and dermatitis. His owner had acquired him free of charge six months previously, with no forethought as to how she could provide for his needs. The woman was found guilty of the charge against her and received 200 hours of community service. She was also prohibited from owning a horse for five years.

ANIMAL CRUELTY COMPLAINTS

P 1300 852 188

E cruelty_complaints@rspcaqld.org.au



The RSPCA received a tip-off about a small dog, Diesel, whose owner had failed to treat an injury caused to the dog as a result of an attempted castration using a rubber band. The investigating inspector found that the affected area was bruised and swollen, and Diesel displayed signs of neglect, including poor body condition and flea infestation. The defendant pleaded guilty to breach of duty of care and the magistrate ordered him to pay a \$3,000 fine, with 50 per cent to be paid to RSPCA Qld, and costs of \$1,211.30.

RSPCA Qld thanks Brisbane Lawyers Educating and Advocating for Tougher Sentences (BLEATS) who continue to provide *pro bono* representation of RSPCA Qld.

Haven for 'Pets in Crisis' goes interstate

Four years ago, RSPCA Qld joined forces with domestic violence service DVConnect and CUA to provide a haven for pets whose owners had sought refuge from domestic violence. Due to the success of the "Pets in Crisis" program in Queensland, CUA recently announced that it would continue its funding for a further two years and would also extend the partnership to include RSCPA NSW and RSPCA Vic.

Sadly, pets are often abused as part of the spectrum of domestic violence. Domestic violence counsellors regularly speak to women whose pets are beaten or tortured by abusive partners in order to frighten and control them into staying in violent relationships.

CUA Chief Executive Officer Chris Whitehead said that, as an organisation that supports projects that make a real difference to communities, CUA is committed to Pets in Crisis as the program has filled a gap in domestic violence services.

"Unfortunately, domestic violence refuges are not able to accept animals. As a result, women often delay or do not seek shelter for themselves or their children due to a lack of options for the care of their pets. No one should feel that they can't leave a violent home," Mr Whitehead said.

"CUA is proud to have played a role in a program that has helped change the lives of many Queensland women, and is even more proud that we are now able to help women and their families interstate."

In Queensland, women who need to find care for their pets while they seek refuge themselves can call the DVConnect hotline (1800 811 811), and DVConnect will arrange for the temporary care of their animals at an RSPCA shelter or with trained RSPCA foster carers.

DONATE TO THE PETS IN CRISIS PROGRAM

P 07 3426 9916

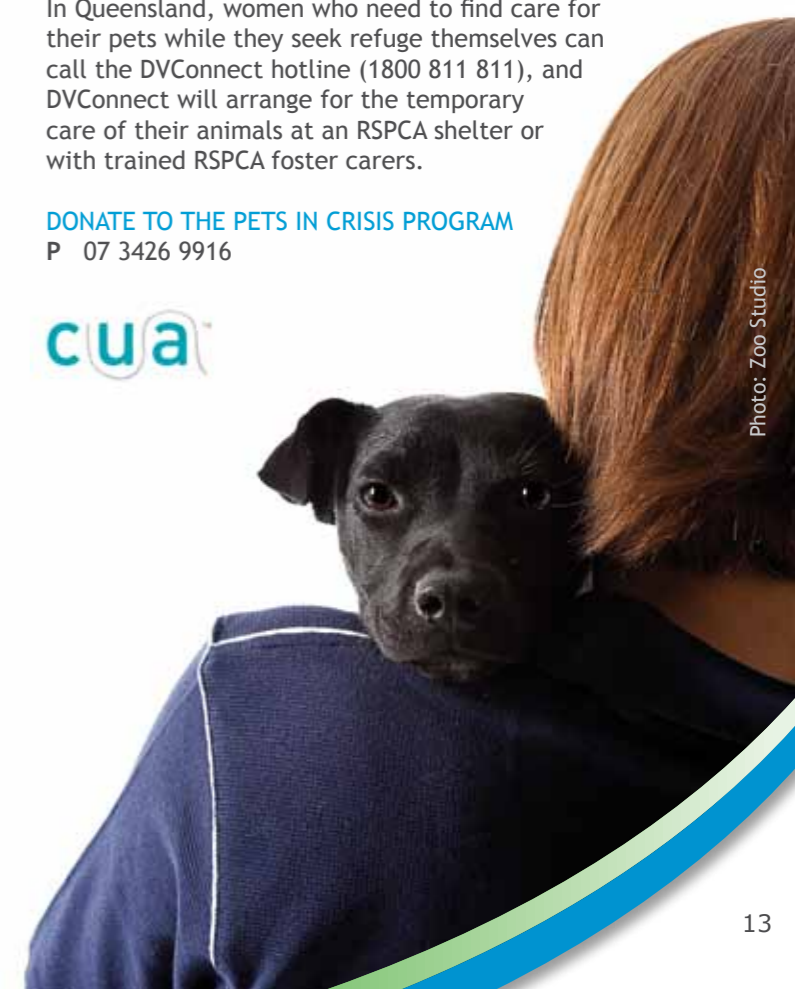


Photo: Zoo Studio

Volunteer Spotlight

Kay Robins
Veterinary Services Volunteer

What is involved in your role?
I work two mornings a week in the Desex Clinic where my tasks include ensuring that the cats and dogs have clean cages and soft, comfortable bedding following surgery, and cleaning and setting up the surgical instruments. I also assist the veterinary nurses with holding and positioning animals for anaesthesia and surgical procedures.

My priority is to provide a high level of comfort for the animals. I spend time with them and comfort them if they're anxious.

I also work a third morning as a courier, driving animals from the Fairfield Shelter back to the Dakabin Shelter after they have been desexed.

Did you receive training?
After working for 30 years as an operating theatre nurse, I immediately felt at home when I started volunteering. But I was given training and resources to learn procedures specific to veterinary care.

Have you learned new skills or new facts about the RSPCA or animal welfare?
I didn't realise that the RSPCA takes in so many types of animals, such as wildlife and farm animals. There was a beautiful peacock in the farmyard for a while and I loved to visit him.



I've also learned a lot about animal behaviour, which I've been able to take home and apply to my own pets, and sometimes have been able to help friends whose pets have problem behaviours.


What 'take home message' would you give to readers?
Make sure your animals are desexed. It's the only way to avoid pet overpopulation and unwanted animals being abandoned.

VOLUNTEERING
P 07 3426 9915
E volunteering@rspcaql.org.au
W rspcaql.org.au/volunteers

WHAT'S HOT AT WORLD FOR PETS

 **Buster Food Cube**
\$34.95 - \$39.95

This treat dispenser for dogs reduces boredom and behaviour problems. Sizes 8cm and 12cm.

 **Cat Tunnel**
\$19.95

This rustling tunnel made of durable nylon will give hours of crackling fun. Size 90cm x 25cm.

 **Slide 'N Spin**
\$9.90 - \$23.95

Keep your bird stimulated and aid their beak maintenance with this activity toy. Sizes 20cm and 26cm.

WORLD FOR PETS
Shop online or in store

A Shop 11, Springwood Centre
Cnr Lexington & Logan Roads
Springwood (Brisbane)
P 07 3340 6500
W worldforpets.com.au

All proceeds to the RSPCA

Thank you to our community fundraisers



Who: Jayne and Emily Russell, 12-year-old twins

What: Guess How Many Jelly Beans competition; raised \$474

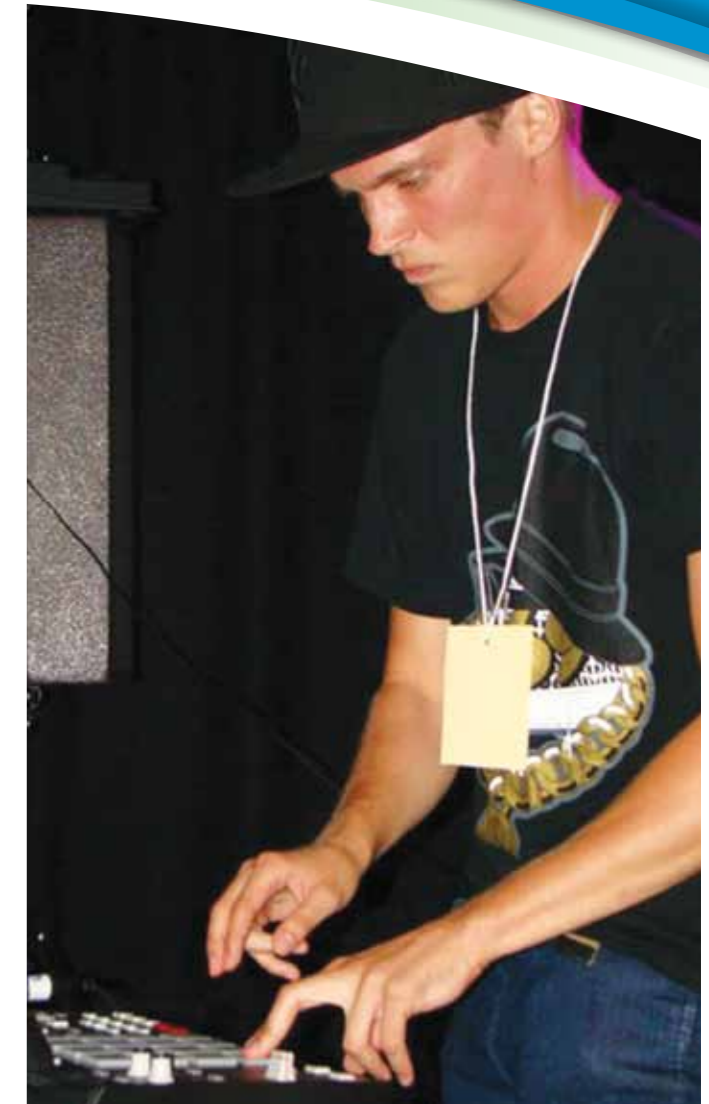
Why: "We are sick and tired of animal cruelty around the world and the pain and distress that animals go through. We don't think it's right how humans can be so cruel to innocent animals."



Who: Lynne Burgess

What: Cycled from Yeppoon to Bundaberg; raised \$390

Why: "I have always been surrounded by pets and have developed an affinity for animals. The work that the RSPCA does is nothing short of amazing and anything that I could do to contribute to their honourable organisation is well worth any effort."



Who: Tom Horn and Alex Steffan
Born Fresh Records

What: River City Revue Concert; raised \$5,147.50 towards the RSPCA Qld Flood Appeal

Why: "We at Born Fresh Records recognised the need for local support and really wanted to contribute directly to an organisation that was not only affected by the flood, but an organisation that will go out of its way to help others in need, despite their own predicament. In such desperate times, many people overlook the need to help out the wildlife and domestic animals. We knew the money raised would definitely come in handy for the RSPCA!"

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING • P 07 3426 9932 • E events@rspcaql.org.au • W rspcaql.org.au/events



HAPPY 'TAIL'

Beachley is a silver tortoiseshell cat that was adopted from an RSPCA Qld shelter at 10 months of age. Her adoptive mum reports that Beachley made herself at home immediately and, being an older animal, she was already house- and litter-trained.

Beachley now has a new big brother, Max, initially a "timid, grumpy old man". But Beachley has helped Max to find his inner kitten and they "play chasey and wrestle their way around the house daily".

ADOPTIONS
W adoptapet.com.au

SHELTER FRIENDS

You can help give animals like Beachley a second chance by becoming a Shelter Friend and making an annual contribution towards the financial cost of their rescue, care, treatment or rehabilitation.

Your support can help to fund medications, toys for enrichment, wildlife and rescue equipment, among other supplies. Contact us today to receive details.

SHELTER FRIENDS
P 07 3426 9916
E dbaartz@rspcaql.org.au

RSPCA QLD HEAD OFFICE

301 Fairfield Road
Fairfield Qld 4103
PO Box 6177
Fairfield Gardens QLD 4103
P 07 3426 9999
F 07 3848 1178
E admin@rspcaqld.org.au
W rspcaqld.org.au

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance	1300 852 188
Animal Training Centre	07 3426 9954
Adoptions	1300 364 443
Cruelty Complaints	1300 852 188
Lost & Found	1300 363 736
Volunteering	07 3426 9915
Wildlife Emergencies	1300 ANIMAL (1300 264 625)

RETAIL OUTLETS

RSPCA WORLD FOR PETS
Springwood (Brisbane)
P 07 3340 6500
W worldforpets.com.au

World for Pets Outlets

RSPCA Adoption Centre Gold Coast	07 5575 6146
RSPCA Pet Shop Rockhampton	07 4921 3339

THRIFT SHOPS

Bundaberg	07 4151 6955
Chermside	07 3350 5588
Coopers Plains	07 3272 9793
Gympie	07 5482 3766
Miami	07 5575 6146
Nerang	07 5596 3799
New Farm	07 3254 2309
North Tamborine	07 5545 3988
Robina	07 5562 1756
Salisbury	07 3274 5981
Sherwood	07 3278 2459
Strathpine	07 3889 9850
West Burleigh	07 5586 2550

ANIMAL CARE CENTRES

Visit our Animal Care Centres to adopt or surrender animals or to report lost and found animals.

Bundaberg	07 4155 1736
Cairns	07 4055 1487
Dakabin	07 3886 0357
Fairfield	07 3426 9999
Gympie	07 5482 9407
Kingaroy	07 4162 5501
Noosa	07 5449 1371
Toowoomba	07 4634 1304
Townsville	07 4774 5130

ADOPTION CENTRES

Visit an Adoption Centre to adopt an RSPCA animal without the need to go to an RSPCA Animal Care Centre.

RSPCA Adoption Centre Gold Coast	07 5575 6146
RSPCA Adoption Centre Gladstone	0439 709 369
Petbarn Kenmore	07 3378 0766
RSPCA Pet Shop Rockhampton	07 4921 3339
World for Pets Springwood	07 3340 6500

BRANCHES & FRIENDS OF THE RSPCA

Help raise funds and awareness for your local RSPCA or inspector.

Branches

Brisbane	07 3899 4316
Bundaberg	07 4151 6955
Gold Coast & Hinterland	07 5586 2500
Gympie	07 5482 3766
Noosa - Sunshine Coast	07 5485 2448
Rockhampton	07 4921 3339

Friends of the RSPCA

Airlie Beach	0409 530 541
Cairns	07 4055 1487
Emerald	07 5586 2500
Gladstone	0439 709 369
Mackay	07 4954 8171
Toowoomba	07 4632 4400
Townsville	07 4774 5130

WISH LIST

Bundaberg Shelter

Paint (any colour)
Dog wading pools

Cairns Shelter

New office chairs (2)
Small dog/cat transport cages

Dakabin Shelter

Shipping container
Mulch

Fairfield Shelter

Artificial grass matting
Pedestal fans

Gympie Shelter

Concreter to donate slab for shed
Shed builder to erect large shed

Kingaroy Shelter

Bird aviaries/greenhouses
Hill's Hoist clothes line

Noosa Shelter

Laptop (can be secondhand)
Collapsible cages

Toowoomba Shelter

Industrial vacuum cleaner
Cat scratching posts

Townsville Shelter

Kitty litter
Dog toys


VIEW THE COMPLETE WISH LIST

W rspcaqld.org.au

HOW TO DONATE

 Online
www.rspcaqld.org.au

 Phone 1300 RSPCA1
(1300 777 221)

 Mail return in
supplied envelope

BE FRIENDS WITH RSPCA QLD ONLINE



NO. 1 CHOICE OF
VETERINARIANS
AND THE RSPCA



RSPCA uses
Greenhouse Friendly™
Envi 50/50
Envi 50/50 is an Australian Government certified
Greenhouse Friendly™ Product.

RSPCA Qld is helping to care
for animals and their habitats
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