





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

RSPCA Qld requires \$49 million annually to support our animal centres, programs and services. As a non-government, community based charity, RSPCA Qld receives less than 3% in operational funding from the government and relies on donations, bequests and sponsorships from ordinary Queenslanders, just like you.

*Thank you to our volunteer photographers who helped supply images for this report. A special mention to volunteer Chris Ward, for providing us with our illustrations on page 20 & 21.*

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# The Board



Dr Andrew Tribe | *President*



Justine Hickey | *Treasurer*



Eileen Thumpkin



Amena Reza



Jo McKennarley



Graham Newton



Alison Sherry



Michael Bowers



Tracey Vieira

## Minister's Foreword

I recently had the privilege to visit the RSPCA Qld facility at Wacol. Visiting the centre allowed me to see firsthand the important work RSPCA Qld staff and volunteers do each day to care for and rehome animals. Working with injured, neglected or abandoned animals, including wildlife, can be confronting. It's an important role and I thank RSPCA Qld for their ongoing commitment to protecting all animals.



RSPCA Qld and the Queensland Government have continued to work closely over the past year to protect the welfare of animals in this state.

In 2017, the Queensland Government introduced new dog breeder registration laws to support the responsible supply of dogs and puppies in Queensland. We've seen overwhelming support for this scheme, demonstrating the importance of animal welfare to the community. Almost 28,000 dog breeders have registered since then and 17,000 are currently registered.

The Queensland Government is committed to protecting the welfare of animals and ensuring our animal welfare standards meet community expectations.

On this note, I was pleased to see new mandatory standards for breeding dogs and their progeny commence on 1 October 2018. This is the first time mandatory standards for breeding dogs have been put in place in Queensland and are the result of close collaboration between government and animal welfare organisations including RSPCA Qld. The standards provide clear information to dog breeders about what they need to do to ensure

the health and wellbeing of breeding dogs and puppies.

A new three-year agreement was recently formalised to continue the longstanding arrangements for the Queensland Government and RSPCA Qld to jointly enforce animal welfare throughout the state. This arrangement first started in 2002 with the commencement of the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001. The agreement supports both organisations to continue to administer the Act to protect the welfare of all animals in Queensland, including the investigation of animal welfare issues and complaints.

Queensland has a strong track record in animal welfare and it remains a high priority for the Queensland Government. I look forward to continuing to collaborate with RSPCA Qld to ensure the health and wellbeing of all animals great and small.

Hon Mark Furner MP,  
*Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries*

# Our Reports



## President

Once again it's been a challenging year for everyone at RSPCA Qld, but there is no doubt that we have seen significant achievements in animal care. Our live release rate for domestic animals has consistently been above 85%, which is a credit to all our staff and volunteers. The level of care we're able to provide improves every year. Many specialist surgeries are now performed in-house including physiotherapy, dental procedures and orthopaedic surgery. We've also received generous support from outside specialist clinics that have, quite literally, made the difference between survival and death.

We've also had some wins in getting government legislation amended. The Animal Care and Protection Act now provides improved entry powers to properties where animals have been abandoned and to hot vehicles containing animals in distress. The Queensland Government has also pledged to review other aspects of the Act that we feel need to be improved.

There has also been considerable research done here on ways we can improve the welfare of animals living in shelters, and this research has

been recognised on the international stage. RSPCA Qld researchers have published seven papers in international and peer recognised journals and a further five have already been submitted.

As we all recognise, without our volunteers we simply couldn't operate. We now have over 5,500 volunteers state wide and they contribute over 500,000 volunteer hours. Our volunteers not only enrich the lives of the animals, but they enrich their own lives as well. Increasing numbers of volunteers have also become permanent staff members when vacancies have occurred.

Many programs developed at RSPCA Qld have resulted in significant welfare wins for Queensland animals. The Operation Wanted program is now in its fifth year and is continuing to grow with over 20,000 animals being desexed as a direct result of this promotion. It has also resulted in increasing collaboration between councils and veterinary clinics, who are starting to see the benefits within their communities. Operation Wanted has become a recognised brand within itself and other states, and even countries are seeking to emulate it.

This has been my final year as Chairman and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have had made my tenure, not only rewarding on a professional basis, but also on a personal level as well. It truly has been a pleasure and a period in my life that I will look back on with pride. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Justine Hickey to the role and wish her every success into the future.

Dr Andrew Tribe,  
RSPCA Qld President



## CEO

Once again, it's been an incredibly busy year for RSPCA Qld. Sadly, as is often the case, this has been because animal welfare issues continue to be a problem throughout the state. However, we have also had some major wins. A special Task Force set up by the Inspectorate to look into dog and cockfighting, has seen more offenders facing the courts than in any other state by far. Puppy farm operators who were breeding dogs in inhumane conditions, have also been closed down and brought to justice. We've seen magistrates handing down sentences more in-line with community expectations, and prohibition orders are much more common than they have been in the past.

One disturbing trend has been the increasing pressure put on our Wildlife Hospital, which is the busiest in the Southern Hemisphere. Over 25,000 native animals and birds came through the doors, and with ever increasing habitat destruction, it's unlikely this figure will diminish in years to come.

With domestic animals, the outlook is much more optimistic. Our live release rate for dogs is now 88% and 87% for cats, which is a credit to our

veterinary hospital, behavioural team and shelter staff.

This year also saw the reopening of our Cairns Animal Care Centre, and the construction of the Toowoomba Centre is well under way and should open before the end of the year. Both of these will mean significant improvements to animal welfare in their respective regions.

Recently, RSPCA Qld has been experiencing a tough time financially with bequests down by \$3m. Luckily our expenses are under control, but there is no way to make up this deficit of \$2.4m, especially when the bequest income fell away in the last three months of the 2018/2019 financial year. The Treasurer will provide more details in her report.

As many of you may be aware, I made the difficult decision to stand down as CEO after almost 20 years in the job. To say that it has been challenging would be an understatement. But it has also been incredibly rewarding and I'd like to think I've played a part in the positive impact RSPCA Qld has had - and continues to have - on animal welfare in the state. There will be many more challenges ahead and I can only hope that my successor enjoys the same support I've been given throughout my tenure. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely for your friendship and dedication to RSPCA Qld.

Mark Townend AM,  
RSPCA Qld CEO



## Treasurer

The year has been a challenging one, with lower bequests than expected impacting our fourth quarter cash flow. We finished the year with a loss of \$2.4m, the first loss we have had since 2005.

However, the Board and Senior Management team have been taking steps to ensure RSPCA Qld achieves a more sustainable financial footing. These steps include:

- A full review of costs, which remain tightly monitored and came in below last year at \$49m.
- Improved management reporting to enable clearer distinction between business as usual operations and one-offs such as grants and investments.
- Improved forecasting of cash flow.
- A full review of our fundraising activities and resourcing to ensure maximum effectiveness.
- Renegotiation of our shelter contracts with most local councils.
- And we are currently working with PWC on a review of all of the organisation's enterprises to ensure we are maximising our return on investment.

So the platform is in place for a better performance next year (2019-2020). We will maintain a strong control on costs and we conservatively expect to achieve at least a break-even operating profit result, or a surplus of \$4m when we take into account the BBRF grant from the Federal Government for our Toowoomba shelter.

### Review of Income and Expense, 2018-2019

Total income was \$46.6m, significantly lower than the prior year, predominantly due to lower bequest income. Bequest income typically provides over 20% of our total income, so any shortfall has a material impact.

Donation income from our generous supporters was \$7.9m, an increase of \$200,000 on last year. Merchandise sales at our retail outlets also improved on the prior year to \$9.5m, up \$136,000.

Our adoption income was in line with expectations at \$3.2m, but down on the previous two years as we had less animals available to adopt during the year. In many ways, this adoption outcome is good news as there were fewer animals being surrendered and in need of a new home.

Grant income was substantial at \$2m including \$479,000 from the Federal Government to assist in the construction of our new facility at Toowoomba.

Total expense for the year was controlled at \$49m and was below the prior year total expense.

We have been able to reduce total shelter costs with scaled down RSPCA presence in Townsville, where we now focus on

Inspectorate services and foster care, resulting in significant savings.

The total cost of operating our wildlife hospitals continues to increase due to more injured animals requiring specialised care, and an increasing number of koalas.

### Balance Sheet

Our total assets increased due to some important investments:

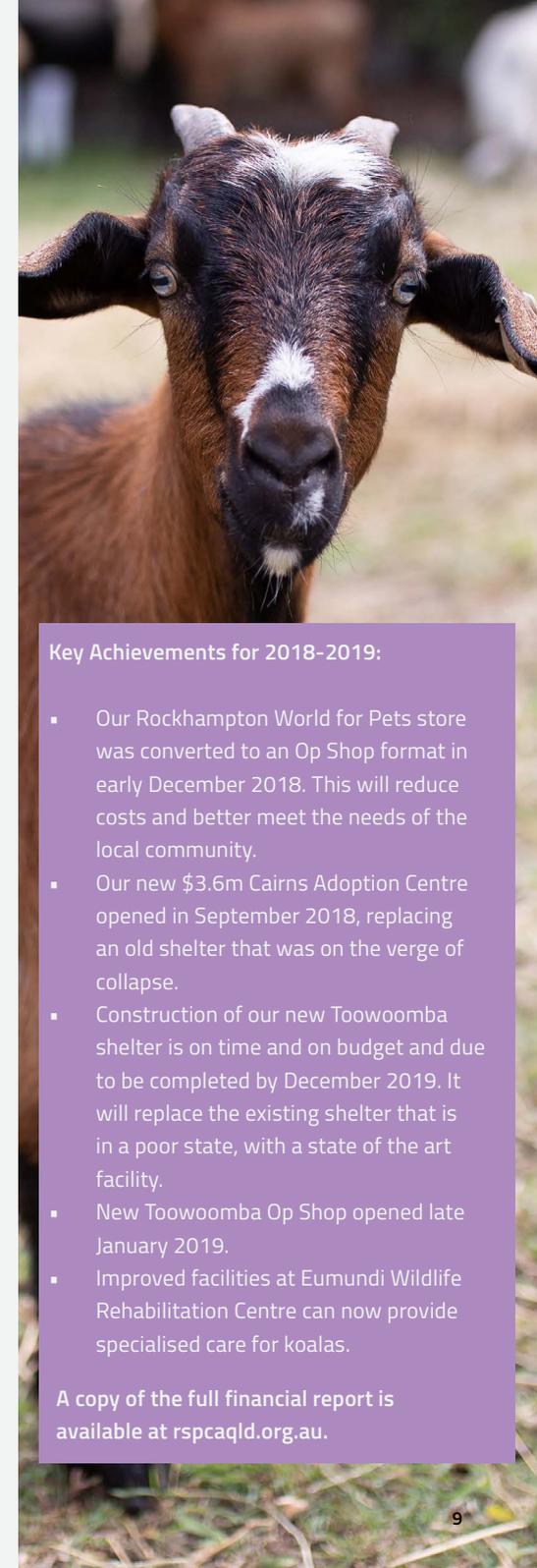
- The new Toowoomba shelter in the Wellcamp airport precinct progressing on time and on budget, and will be completed by the end of the calendar 2019.
- The wildlife rehabilitation centre at Eumundi was completed with a \$570,000 investment.
- Our Cairns shelter which was in a dreadful state of disrepair, had a major renovation and was re-opened in September 2018.

We continue to pay down our debt, reducing it by \$0.5m to \$6.5m, giving total liabilities of \$18.1m.

As always, we would not be able to provide our services without the support of our volunteers. Their generosity and dedication saved \$9m last year for the RSPCA and enabled us to provide services that would otherwise not be cost effective.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous pro-bono work of PWC and the ongoing advice and insight offered by our auditors, Deloitte.

Justine Hickey  
RSPCA Qld Treasurer



### Key Achievements for 2018-2019:

- Our Rockhampton World for Pets store was converted to an Op Shop format in early December 2018. This will reduce costs and better meet the needs of the local community.
- Our new \$3.6m Cairns Adoption Centre opened in September 2018, replacing an old shelter that was on the verge of collapse.
- Construction of our new Toowoomba shelter is on time and on budget and due to be completed by December 2019. It will replace the existing shelter that is in a poor state, with a state of the art facility.
- New Toowoomba Op Shop opened late January 2019.
- Improved facilities at Eumundi Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre can now provide specialised care for koalas.

A copy of the full financial report is available at [rspcaqld.org.au](http://rspcaqld.org.au).



## Financial Highlights

<b>Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>%</b>
Adoptions & Animal Services	8,317,000	18
Fundraising, Donations & Legacy	23,883,000	51
Inspectorate & Rescue	425,000	1
Merchandise	9,519,000	20
Investments, Grants & Sundry	4,471,000	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,615,000</b>	<b>100</b>

<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>%</b>
Shelter, Animal Welfare, Training & Education	20,659,000	42
Fundraising	9,136,000	19
Inspectorate & Rescue	4,254,000	9
Retail Operations	7,300,000	14
Administration, Finance Costs & Other	7,662,000	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>49,011,000</b>	<b>100</b>

<b>Deficit</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,396,000</b>

# Strategic Plan

## Our Strategic Goals | 2019-2020

### To promote kindness and to prevent cruelty to all animals we must:

- Provide vision and leadership that builds a society free of cruelty and abuse of animals.
- Investigate and prosecute cases of animal cruelty.
- Influence strategic thinking, policy and legislation.
- Provide information, services and facilities to support an animal's Five Freedoms: From hunger and thirst; Discomfort; Pain, injury or disease; Fear and distress; To express normal behaviour.
- Promote changes in people's attitudes and behaviours towards animals.
- Pursue sound business management and governance practices that ensure RSPCA Qld's sustainability and economic longevity.

### Influence

Influence people to value, understand, respect and care for animals more.

#### Our Promise

#### Our Scorecard

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Be respected and recognised as the leading authority for animal welfare in Queensland.</li> <li>▪ Be the key advisory body for animal laws and policies in Queensland.</li> <li>▪ Improve companion animal welfare through promoting and advocating responsible pet ownership.</li> <li>▪ Grow awareness in the community of living responsibly with wildlife.</li> <li>▪ Improve welfare standards through advocating for the rights of animals that are used in sport, entertainment and recreation.</li> <li>▪ Inform and promote to consumers the benefits of humane farming practices.</li> <li>▪ Grow our influence and expand our demographic reach in Queensland by creating advocates in young people and diverse cultures.</li> <li>▪ Advocate greater acceptance of animals in the community e.g. public transport and high-density housing.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Achieve legislative changes to further benefit wildlife in Queensland.</li> <li>▪ Achieve legislative changes in line with RSPCA policies and positions.</li> <li>▪ Grow RSPCA Qld's supporter base.</li> <li>▪ Establish a strategy to engage young and culturally diverse advocates and transition them to lifelong supporters.</li> <li>▪ Reduce the number of unwanted animals in the community.</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

### Services

Engage the community in the delivery of services and continuous improvement of animal welfare standards and practices across Queensland to improve animal welfare outcomes.

#### Our Promise

#### Our Scorecard

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demonstrate greater efficiencies for the care of animals through improved service delivery.</li> <li>▪ Consistently improve our services to respond effectively and efficiently to animal welfare needs in the community.</li> <li>▪ Continuously improve customer experience to build positive relationships and ensure customer advocacy.</li> <li>▪ Develop and enhance partnerships to increase our capacity to deliver animal welfare outcomes.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain rehoming target of 100% of healthy companion animals.</li> <li>▪ Upgrade shelter facilities to improved standards by 2020.</li> <li>▪ Return 100% rehabilitate-able wildlife patients to the wild.</li> <li>▪ Achieve customer satisfaction ratings across all service delivery areas above industry standards.</li> <li>▪ Decrease animal length of stay in our care.</li> <li>▪ Maintain animal return rates under 5%.</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

### Sustainability

Secure financial certainty so we can continue to inspire Queenslanders and deliver our mission.

#### Our Promise

#### Our Scorecard

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Deliver services that are sustained by the regions within which we operate.</li> <li>▪ Ensure sustainable and diverse revenue streams to guarantee consistent and long-term service delivery.</li> <li>▪ Focus on continuous improvement to enhance delivery and manage costs.</li> <li>▪ Commit to business governance structure aligned to our strategy and direction.</li> <li>▪ Understand the value of our people and empower them to realise their potential.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Deliver a surplus on costs each year.</li> <li>▪ Build legacy fund of 20% of operating budget by 2020.</li> <li>▪ Use innovative technology to improve efficiencies.</li> <li>▪ Ensure any cost increase delivers increased revenues or improved animal outcomes.</li> <li>▪ Identify aligned enterprises for closer relations/investment.</li> <li>▪ Set and exceed benchmarks for staff and volunteer experience with RSPCA.</li> <li>▪ Increase leadership capability of managers of our people.</li> </ul> |
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# Engaging Queenslanders

## Community Activations & Adoptions



### Adoptabull

For the past few years, RSPCA Qld has been running an educational adoption promotion to help 'bull-type' dog breeds find homes. In April 2019, we invited RSPCA counterparts across the country to also participate in our adoption initiative, Adoptabull. RSPCA NSW, ACT, VIC, WA and NT jumped on board to offer discounted adoption fees on bull-type breeds, and showcase how great 'bullies' can be as pets.

Traditionally, the majority of dog crossbreeds that come into RSPCA care in Queensland are English and American Staffies followed by Bull Arabs. They generally also stay longer in care. Adoptabull aims to not only reduce their length of stay, but also break any negative breed stigmas surrounding 'bull breeds' in the community.



## RSPCA Cairns Re-Opens

After 599 days, the new RSPCA Qld Animal Care Centre in Cairns opened! Closing on March 5th 2017, much needed renovations took place on the tired facility. Opening on 25th October 2018, the new centre has been a major 'win' for animals.

The new centre has 28 adoption areas for dogs, 24 boarding kennels, 6 quarantine pens and three kennels specifically for Inspectorate cases. Cats too have the same number of adoption and boarding areas. There are also three designated dog exercise yards and an outdoor area for cats.

The new facility is much more streamlined for both animals and their carers, making it efficient and cost effective.

The construction of the new centre wouldn't have been possible without the generous bequest from the Gorry family.

"We're enormously grateful to the Gorry family, the State Government and the local community. It's great to be back in business and once again doing our best for the animals and people of Cairns," said CEO Mark Townend.



Left: The Don Gorry Adoption Centre.



Left: One of the boarding kennels for dogs.

## Sit, Drop, Shop

This year we saw the transition of our Jindalee Sit, Drop, Shop store to a new location - Springfield. Opening on the 2nd of March 2019, the new location has been a successful outlet for our kittens and adult cats. 95 pets have been adopted since the opening. We also saw the launch of another store in Indooroopilly.



## Petbarn Stores

We currently have 42 Petbarn stores across Queensland rehoming RSPCA pets. This past year we've seen 10,246 pets adopted through the stores - 5,234 cats, 5 guinea pigs, 4,994 kittens and 13 rodents.

Adoptions through our Sit, Drop, Shop stores and Petbarn locations allow the RSPCA to reach members of the community looking for pets that might not have considered adoption as an option, or even visiting an animal shelter.



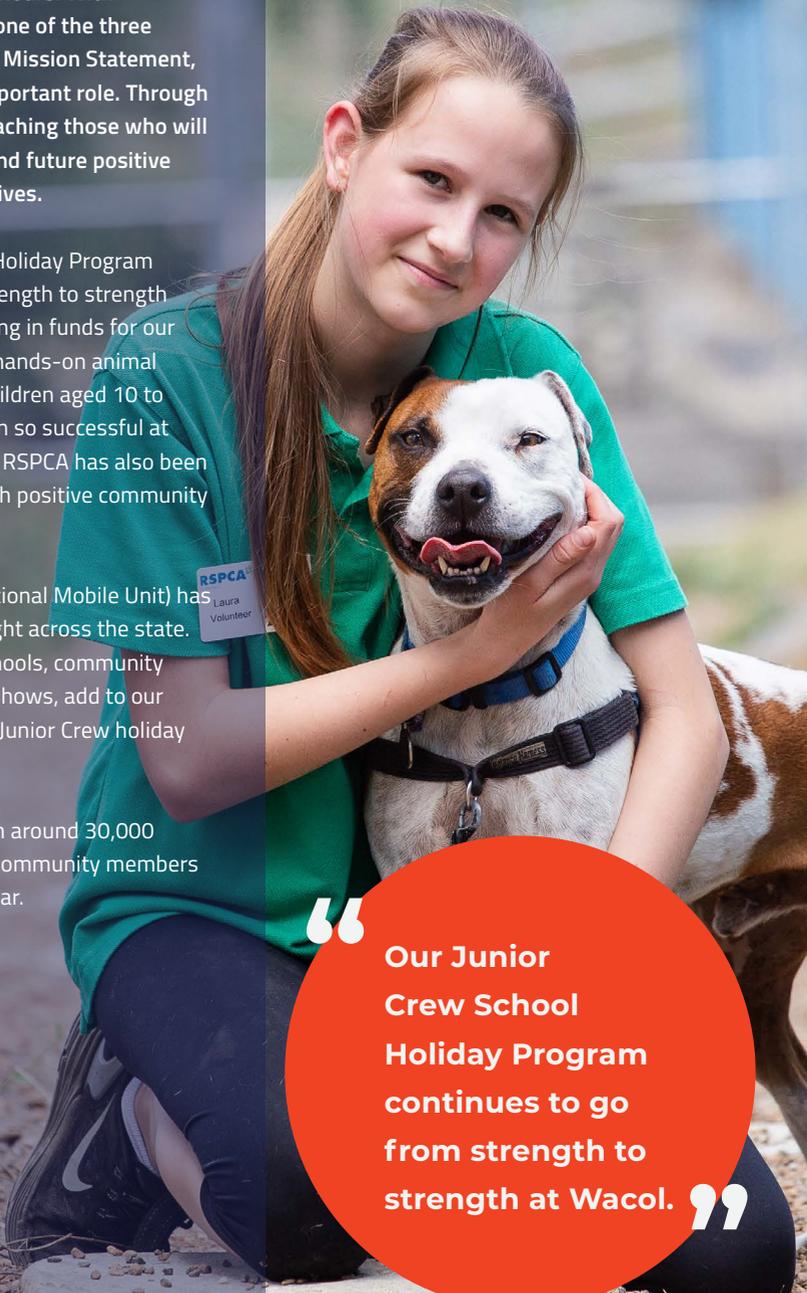
# Education

Education is at the forefront in changing hearts, minds and behaviours. With Enlightening People as one of the three pillars of the RSPCA Qld Mission Statement, education fills a very important role. Through our programs we are reaching those who will make both immediate and future positive differences in animals' lives.

Our Junior Crew School Holiday Program continues to go from strength to strength at Wacol, not only bringing in funds for our cause, but also giving a hands-on animal welfare experience to children aged 10 to 15. Junior Crew has been so successful at Wacol, that Toowoomba RSPCA has also been running the program with positive community interest.

The RSPCA EMU (Educational Mobile Unit) has also been on the road right across the state. Our presentations to schools, community events and agricultural shows, add to our onsite RSPCA tours and Junior Crew holiday programs.

We've been able to reach around 30,000 students, teachers and community members at over 300 visits this year.



“ Our Junior Crew School Holiday Program continues to go from strength to strength at Wacol. ”

# RSPCA Op Shops

Our RSPCA Op Shop stores are changing. Since 2018 we've opened two new Op Shops in Queensland and remodelled an existing RSPCA location.

In 2018 our Labrador store opened on the Gold Coast, making it our 15th RSPCA Qld Op Shop. Collectively, these business units bring in between \$90,000 to \$100,000 in revenue per week and are returning a surplus of approximately 32% annually.

Our goal is to open five more stores within the next 18 months. These new stores will incorporate our cause and embrace our vision; to include cat condos to showcase pets available for adoption. Currently the five stores that offer cat adoptions should see over 900 felines adopted this year.

In December 2019 we refurbished our Rockhampton location as an RSPCA Op Shop and Cat Adoption Centre. This business unit is gaining support within the community and our goal in the short term is to minimise the historical losses from this facility.

On 24 January 2019, we opened our first Op Shop in Toowoomba to complement our long-standing RSPCA Adoption Centre in the region. Our Toowoomba Op Shop also has cats available to adopt to help pets at our current Adoption Centre, and offers a unique shopping experience for locals. This store is being strongly supported by the local community and financial surpluses are already being delivered.



# Events & Community Fundraising

“ We couldn't do it without our wonderful volunteers! ”



**Cupcake Day 2018**

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**\$352,281**  
DONATIONS RAISED

**1,910**  
HOSTS

**Big Adopt Out 2018**

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**296**  
ADOPTIONS

**6,000**  
ATTENDEES

**19**  
RESCUE GROUPS

**Pop Up Adoption 2018**

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**278**  
ADOPTIONS

**5,578**  
ATTENDEES

**Clear the Shelters 2019**

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**943**  
ADOPTIONS

**Million Paws Walk 2019**

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**\$374,874**  
DONATIONS RAISED

**8,928**  
ATTENDEES

**Gold Coast Expo 2019**

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**6,867**  
ATTENDEES

**72**  
EXHIBITORS

# Order of Australia Medal



RSPCA Qld is thrilled to announce that one of our own is among those awarded an OAM in the Queen's Birthday honours, 2019.

Michael Beatty has worked for RSPCA Qld as the charity's Senior Media Advisor, Community Relations Manager and Spokesperson for the past 15 years, following an illustrious career as a journalist, reporter and presenter with regular appearances on Willesee, Today Tonight and Good Morning Australia.

Michael's work has seen him cover two Royal Weddings, interview Jimi Hendrix and brave -40 degree temperatures as a reporter for CBC radio in the Eastern Arctic.

On hearing of his honour, Michael admitted to being slightly embarrassed but took the

opportunity to say thank you to the entire RSPCA team.

**“While I am truly honoured and humbled by this award, I should point out that it belongs to all the staff and volunteers at RSPCA Qld.**

**It is the vets, vet nurses, inspectors, ambos, animal attendants and volunteers who strive everyday to help all animals that deserve the accolade, not me. I am just ‘the messenger’.**”

# Volunteer Spotlight

At our Brisbane Animal Care Campus, 242,188 volunteer hours were completed. Across other shelters, 185,094 volunteer hours were achieved. Volunteers in our Op Shops have contributed 99,327 hours in helping to operate our stores. Corporate volunteers, students and project volunteers also offered 9,472 hours of their time to RSPCA Qld.



**Noel Roberts**

Noel has been volunteering since 2014 at RSPCA Dakabin. Noel started as an animal care volunteer with our dogs and fostered pets. Noel has also assisted with driving, creative writing and photography and committed over 5,697 hours to the RSPCA!

**“I like the fact that every day is different. From the moment we open the doors, you never know what you're in for.”**



**Jan & Colin Grasswick**

Jan and Colin have been volunteering at RSPCA Noosa since 2016. They said that, **“Retiring to Queensland from Sydney was the second best thing we ever did. The first was finding an opportunity to help animals through the Noosa RSPCA shelter and working with the fabulous team of staff and volunteers.”**

They say that the most rewarding time is when the cats and kittens in their care are adopted to happy homes.



**Steve Milovale**

Steve has helped since 2017 at RSPCA Wacol and volunteered over 2,265 hours! Starting in our Positive Pathways Team, Steve has also volunteered in our Community Activation Team, Animal Care, Animal Rehabilitation and Training and at events.

**“I enjoy volunteering with community engagement because I like seeing the animals away from the shelter and seeing how their true personalities shine and connect with the public in a more relaxed environment.”**

# Snapshot

## Incoming Animals



**52,961**

ANIMALS CARED FOR

**25,352**

WILDLIFE ADMITTED

**16,472**

ANIMALS ADOPTED

## Foster Care



**7,008**

PETS FOSTERED

## Customer Touch Points



**403,674**

CUSTOMER CONTACTS

*(calls, emails, SMS)*

ADOPTION

**15,993**

DES

*(Department of Environment and Science)*

**1,817**

DONATIONS

**6,934**

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

**145,201**

1300 ANIMAL

**114,391**

LOST & FOUND

**26,524**

EXTERNAL STATES

**92,814**

## Inspectorate



**30,576**

AMBULANCE JOBS

**17,810**

CRUELTY COMPLAINTS

## Volunteers



OVER

**5,500**

VOLUNTEERS

**536,000**

HOURS COMPLETED

## Social Media



**199,533**

FACEBOOK LIKES

**46,300**

INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

# Saving Lives

## Inspectorate, Rescue & Wildlife

It has been another busy year for our Inspectorate. The most notable change in the past year has been the significant increase in offenders being charged and successful prosecutions. This has been due to the dedication and hard work of our staff.

Our Inspectors are gathering more evidence in the field to assist in prosecutions and our Prosecutions Department goes above and beyond to strive for successful court outcomes resulting in appropriate sentences.

Community expectations surrounding animal cruelty remain the same. Public sentiment continues to highlight the need for tougher sentences to be handed down to offenders.

Despite similar numbers regarding Animal Ambulance requests and Cruelty Complaints this year, we still see the same horrific acts of cruelty that defy logic, lack of basic pet care, neglect cases and hoarding issues. Native wildlife are also not exempt from cruelty with investigations relating to deliberate acts of harm towards animals in the wild.

Our Inspectorate continues to work with the community to ensure that pet owners are aware of their obligations under the Animal Care and Protection Act, with the mission of saving lives and enlightening people.

Our RSPCA Qld Task Force had another busy year investigating dogfighting and cockfighting, resulting in multiple prosecutions that are ongoing.



## Dogfighting Prosecutions

In April 2018, RSPCA Inspectors accompanied by Queensland Police Service, executed a warrant at a property in Jimboomba. Upon entry RSPCA Inspectors located a large number of dogs, many were tethered with heavy chains, and living in inappropriate conditions. They also located a number of training devices and other paraphernalia often used in organised dogfighting.

All the animals were transported back to RSPCA Wacol, where a number of dogs were found to have injuries consistent with organised dogfighting.

Two of the seized dogs could not be rehabilitated and were sadly euthanised due to the overt aggression they displayed to other dogs. All other dogs were successfully rehabilitated and rehomed.

In March 2019, a 38-year-old man pled guilty to 16 charges, including six charges relating to organised dogfighting.

He was charged with numerous offences under the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001, including: failing to treat for disease or injury, inappropriate handling, possession of prohibited cockfighting spurs and supply of an animal for use in a prohibited event, namely a dogfight.

**He was sentenced to three years' probation and given a lifetime prohibition order, prohibiting him from owning any animal.** The defendant was also ordered to pay almost \$3,500 in costs.

Magistrate Kilmartin noted that had it not been for the defendant's very specific personal

circumstances, all of which had been out of his control, a period of imprisonment with actual time served would have been imposed. He made the point that no future courts should rely on this sentence as a precedent and continued, saying "This outcome is a result of exceptional circumstances and is not reflective of the seriousness of the penalty that would usually be imposed."

RSPCA Qld Chief Inspector Daniel Young said, "We are pleased to have this particular matter finalised after a prolonged investigation focusing on organised dogfighting.

Dogfighting is an abhorrent act where dogs are pitted against each other resulting in serious injury, even death, so to be in a position where we can remove animals which are destined to become fighting dogs, is a major result."

**“ From the intelligence we have gathered, it is alarming the level of activity relating to dogfighting that still exists. The manner in which these dogs are raised from such a young age is appalling; it introduces them to a life void of the normal comforts that the community has come to expect a dog should receive. Tragically, dogs that are the subject of organised dogfighting are unable to escape a life of perpetual conflict and misery. ”**

## Happy Outcomes

Adoni and Portia are just two of the dogs that were saved from a lifetime of dogfighting.

### Adoni



Adoni's scars are all but forgotten, now adopted into a loving family.

### Portia



Portia got a second chance, away from a chained existence.

## Cruelty Statistics

30,576

17,810

340

238

154

154

AMBULANCE REQUESTS

CRUELTY COMPLAINTS

PEOPLE CHARGED

PENDING CASES

FINALISED PROSECUTIONS

SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS

## Wildlife & Rescue

Our Wildlife Hospitals continue to care for more animals than any other location in the Southern Hemisphere. A record 25,352 animals have come into our Wacol and Eumundi hospitals in the past year, highlighting the need for more to be done within the community to preserve our environment, along with increased hospital infrastructure and resources to deal with the continual influx of wild animals requiring RSPCA care.

In April 2019, a juvenile emu was discovered running the suburban streets of Eight Mile Plains in Brisbane. Not a native bird to the area, a concerned member of the public called the RSPCA for assistance and our Animal Ambulance team were able to help rescue the bird.

The emu was transported and given a full veterinary check at our Wildlife Hospital at Wacol. X-rays uncovered sinister metal objects in its stomach. A two and a half hour emergency surgery was performed to remove the foreign objects, which had caused significant damage to the emu.

The harsh reality is, if the emu wasn't found and treated, it most likely would have died a slow and painful death.

Luckily, after lengthy rest and recuperation, the emu made a full recovery and was transported to a property in St George to enjoy a normal life.

Unfortunately, our RSPCA Inspectors are seeing more native animals kept as pets which is incredibly disappointing. The person who was keeping this emu illegally was reported to the authorities for investigation.



# Incoming & Outgoing

## Incoming animals | 2018/2019

Type	Ambulance	Council	Humane Officer	Owner Surrender
Dog	494	4,916	1,143	1,563
Cat	1,260	3,088	843	1,705
Small	454	65	692	264
Livestock	158	351	837	151
Reptile	19	2	70	77
Wildlife	17,040	3	78	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,425</b>	<b>8,425</b>	<b>3,663</b>	<b>3,760</b>

Returns	Offspring	Stray	Transferred In	Wildlife	Total
493	86	1,569	675	0	10,939
485	220	3,679	1,357	0	12,637
46	176	347	15	0	2,059
4	2	124	27	0	1,654
0	63	21	68	0	320
0	0	0	3	8,228	25,352
<b>1,028</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>5,740</b>	<b>2,145</b>	<b>8,228</b>	<b>52,961</b>

## Outgoing animals | 2018/2019

Type	Adopted	Escaped	Euthanased	Reclaimed	Stolen
Dog	4,907	9	1,228	4,452	5
Cat	9,833	31	1,666	901	1
Small	1,195	7	298	131	0
Livestock	334	3	430	133	0
Reptile	203	2	83	2	0
Wildlife	0	9	15,690	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,472</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>19,395</b>	<b>5,619</b>	<b>6</b>

Transferred Out	Unassisted Death	Wildlife Release	Released to Wildlife Rehab	Total
289	37	0	0	10,927
233	173	0	0	12,838
294	93	0	0	2,018
630	19	0	0	1,549
3	3	0	0	296
1,145	1,061	3,048	4,235	25,188
<b>2,594</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>3,048</b>	<b>4,235</b>	<b>52,816</b>

\* Incoming statistics included all live animals that RSPCA Qld took in and cared for on behalf of local councils.

\*\* In some cases, the total number of outgoing animals exceeded the number of incoming animals. This was due to the number of animals already in care at the start of the year.

\*\*\*Our Live Release Rates are calculated using the Asilomar Accords Matrix.

## Bronson & Lilibet

The RSPCA Animal Ambulance responded to a call in Logan from a 24-hour vet clinic after a stray dog had been hit by a car. Bronson was transported to the RSPCA Domestic Animal Hospital in Wacol. When first assessed by vets, Bronson was found to have an injured back leg, scrapes and cuts to his limbs and head, as well as some brain damage from the accident. He underwent two successful operations, however going through such a traumatic ordeal left Bronson feeling timid and cautious of new people.

Bronson would become unsettled in new environments... then he met Lilibet, a little grey and white kitten. She curled up beside Bronson in the vet hospital and he was ever so gentle. Since then, Bronson opened up to people, showing his sweet, cuddly side.

We're pleased to say that both Bronson and Lilibet went on to find loving homes.



“ Bronson is going great, he's settled in brilliantly and has learned all the morning, dinner and bedtime routines. ”

“ Lilibet is doing very well and is the best of friends with our male cat who play together all the time. ”

# RSPCA Supporters

## RSPCA AUSTRALIA MAJOR NATIONAL PARTNERS

Hill's Science Diet  
Petbarn Foundation  
Peter Alexander  
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank  
The Good Guys  
Event Hospitality and Entertainment  
KONG  
Catmate

## MAJOR PARTNERS

Queensland Rail  
Southern Cross Austereo  
Seven Network  
Bayer  
Telstra (Vita Group)  
Stella Products

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Retail First  
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ThinkEDU  
QRI Lifestyle

Good Beer Co  
Patch Pets  
EKKA  
Paws & Relax Doggy Daycare



# RSPCA Locations

General Enquiries  
07 3426 9999 | [rspcaql.org.au](http://rspcaql.org.au)

## Adoption Locations

**BRISBANE**  
139 Wacol Station Rd, Wacol

**BUNDABERG**  
31 Doblo St, Bundaberg

**CAIRNS**  
Cnr Arnold & Greenbank St, Cairns

**DAKABIN**  
Lot 3, Goodwin Rd, Dakabin

**GOLD COAST - BUNDALL**  
116-118 Bundall Rd, Bundall

**GOLD COAST - LABRADOR**  
118 Brisbane Rd, Labrador

**GOLD COAST - MIAMI**  
2172 Gold Coast Hwy, Miami

**GYMPIE**  
Lot 6 Laureceson Rd, Gympie

**IPSWICH**  
6 Hooper St, West Ipswich

**KINGAROY**  
43 Warren Truss Dr, Kingaroy

**MACKAY**  
Cnr of Strickland Rd & Mount  
Bassett Cemetery Rd, Mackay  
Harbour

**NOOSA**  
Cnr Hollett & Eumundi Rd,  
Noosaville

**ROCKHAMPTON**  
391 Yaamba Rd, North  
Rockhampton

**TOOWOOMBA**  
43 Vanity St, Toowoomba

## RSPCA World for Pets

**SPRINGWOOD**  
Cnr Lexington & Logan Rd,  
Springwood

**WACOL**  
139 Wacol Station Rd, Wacol

## Sit, Drop, Shop Stores

**INDOOROOPILLY**  
Shop 3088, 322 Moggill Rd,  
Indooroopilly

**LOGAN HYPERDOME**  
Pacific Hwy & Bryants Rd,  
Loganholme

**SPRINGFIELD**  
Springfield Orion Springfield Central,  
1 Main St, Springfield

## Pets at Rest Qld

**BRISBANE**  
139 Wacol Station Rd, Wacol

## RSPCA Black Cat Cafe

**BRISBANE**  
139 Wacol Station Rd, Wacol

## RSPCA Op Shops

**BUNDABERG**  
12 Maryborough St, Bundaberg

**BUNDALL**  
116-118 Bundall Rd, Bundall

**GYMPIE**  
18 Monkland St, Gympie

**LABRADOR**  
118 Brisbane Rd, Labrador

**MIAMI**  
2172 Gold Coast Hwy, Miami

**MOOROOKA**  
485 Beaudesert Rd, Moorooka

**NEW FARM**  
Cnr Merthyr & Lamington St,  
New Farm

**NORTH TAMBORINE**  
40 Main St, North Tamborine

**ROBINA**  
195 Ron Penhaligon Way,  
Robina Shopping Village, Robina

**ROCKHAMPTON**  
391 Yaamba Rd,  
North Rockhampton

**SHERWOOD**  
637 Sherwood Rd, Sherwood

**STONES CORNER**  
313 Logan Rd, Stones Corner

**STRATHPINE**  
8 Dixon St, Strathpine

**TOOWOOMBA**  
1/900 Ruthven St, Toowoomba

**WACOL**  
139 Wacol Station Rd, Wacol

**WEST BURLEIGH**  
3/18 Township Dr, West Burleigh

Take me!

## Snapshot of the Year



**52,961**

ANIMALS CARED FOR

**25,352**

WILDLIFE ADMITTED

**16,472**

ANIMALS ADOPTED

OVER  
**5,500**  
VOLUNTEERS

**536,000**  
HOURS COMPLETED



**30,576**  
AMBULANCE JOBS

**17,810**  
CRUELTY  
COMPLAINTS



**7,008**  
PETS  
FOSTERED

**403,674**  
CUSTOMER  
CONTACTS



Our mission statement is simple, but powerful:

*Helping Animals,  
Enlightening People,  
Changing Lives*



