



ACT Rescue & Foster Inc.
PO Box 827
Belconnen Mall ACT 2616
www.fosterdogs.org
02 6253 0308 (Paula)
0402 962 502 (Ada)
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President's message

Firstly, I would like to thank ARF's immediate past President, Karen Hindley, for her hard work and commitment to ARF and its goals for local dogs in need. ARF is continuing to grow, as are the number of dogs that now have loving new families thanks to the hard work of our members. Thank you Karen. Secondly, I would like to wish everyone the best for the upcoming holidays. When going on holiday or visiting family and friends, please remember pets and make sure they are kept safe and well. Unfortunately, pounds and shelters are inundated with dogs at this time of year - some get lost in the rush, others are surrendered because suitable arrangements haven't been made or because a cute new puppy is on the way for Christmas. The adoption of a pet should always be a serious commitment that considers the needs of the whole family (including the pet!) for the next 10-20 years. Remember, a pet is for life...
Paula Zylstra
Acting President

ARF's featured dog...



Friendly and energetic: Boots

Sex: Male

Age (approx): 10 months

Breed: Mastiff x staffy

Size: medium-large

Contact: Paula

Email: paula.z@telstra.com

Phone: 02 6253 0308

Boots is a remarkable and handsome dog. He is still a pup so needs the normal lessons in manners, a variety of ways to expend his energy and to learn his place in your pack. However, under the right direction, this young man has the potential to go much further - he is an unusually smart dog! Boots will play fetch, loves his bones, toys and getting pats. He gets on well with other dogs who can provide him with the stimulation he needs. At the end of a the day he is happy to settle down on the rug in front of the TV, with something to chew and someone to be with. Easy going Boots never stops wagging his tail and is therefore the enemy of The Coffee Table. He has a healthy sense of humour and you would be hard pressed to find a happier dog. Boots comes with some free dog food and training from Kim'z K9'z to accelerate his potential.

More dogs inside...

About ARF...

ARF is an incorporated association of people in the ACT who rescue dogs from euthanasia and foster them in their own homes for as long as it takes to find them loving, permanent homes. The dogs are desexed, C5 vaccinated, heartworm-tested, wormed, microchipped, and registered (ACT) before going to their new homes. The dogs cost \$195 to the new owners to go toward their vet costs and the rest of the money is made up through donations and fundraising. For information, please contact Paula Zylstra or Ada Prosperi at the address at the top of this page.

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Frequently asked questions about ARF...



What is the difference between ARF and the RSPCA?

ARF and the RSPCA are totally separate organisations, although we share many of the same beliefs. The dogs ARF takes are ones that are about to be put down at pounds such as ACT Domestic Animal Services in Red Hill and the Queanbeyan Council Pound. The dogs at these pounds are given limited time to be reclaimed or sold, so we aim to give them more time by fostering them for as long as it takes for a loving permanent home to be found.

What is ARF's success rate?

ARF foster carers make a commitment to keep the dogs for as long as it takes for the right home to be found. Some dogs only take a couple of weeks to rehome, others take many months.

Very occasionally, a dog might need to be euthanased by one of our vets due to ill health or high risk, but that situation is rare and avoided wherever possible.

Why did the dogs end up in the pound, and doesn't that mean there is something wrong with them?

Many people worry about adopting a dog from a shelter or rescue organisation because they think the animal will have behavioural or other problems. But, the truth is that most dogs in pounds and shelters are perfectly normal, well-behaved dogs who are there through no fault of their own!

- Dogs get accidentally lost from gates being left open.
- Dogs get frightened by thunderstorms and firecrackers, escape, and then become lost.
- Inappropriate dogs are chosen on impulse, and later dumped or handed into the shelter.
- Or their companions just lose interest in them.

What happens to the dogs that aren't saved?

In 2002-2003, Domestic Animal Services euthanased 313 dogs (15% of impounded) and Queanbeyan Pound euthanased 88 (12% of impounded) dogs. These figures are very good compared with the rest of Australia, and ARF hopes to help further improve the figures as far as we can.

What can I do to help?

The most important thing you can do is desex your pets and treat them as valued members of your family. If you would also like to help ARF, please consider becoming a member using the form on the back of this newsletter. You do not have to be foster carer to be a member of ARF. Being a foster carer is a very particular role within the organisation. Most of our members help save the dogs in other important ways, such as word of mouth advertising and fundraising help. Members receive full voting rights at meetings and the bi-monthly newsletter for an annual membership fee of \$15.

A poem for foster dogs

To those who love dogs as much as me...

Rosie has those beautiful, innocent eyes.
Boots is energetic and playful.
Snuggles is tiny which makes her sweet.
Dizzy is adventures and my favourite breed of dog.
Jordy looks goofy and great with kids.
Rusty is a lap dog and very shy.
Checky is devoting and has a great sense of humour.
Mastisse looks strong and unharmed.
Snuffy has a beautiful smile and is good looking.
Gus looks gentle and well behaved.
Tia is playful and needs attention.
George is looking for a playmate and a furry kisser like himself!
Charlie looks intelligent and easy to train.
Patty looks like a decent young lady and tries to stay out of trouble.
Bennie looks like a nice young bloke from the outback and I must say he is very handsome!
Angus looks affectionate and confident, but I think Harley is the cutest of all and would love to own him as my own!!!!!!
From Harley's sponsor - Jessica, aged 10

ARF aims to:

- rescue and rehome as many unwanted dogs as we can
- educate the community about responsible dog companionship
- work with local pounds to help achieve, develop and implement 'minimum destruction' policies and procedures
- establish and develop networks of communication for people involved in rescue and rehoming

Dogs looking for new homes...



Oscar is a 2-yr old
male terrier x
Please call Raelene
02 6236 3033



Jordy is a 1.5-yr old
male staffy x
Please call Raelene
02 6236 3033



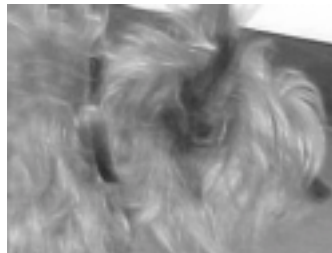
Rusty is a 4-yr old
male chi foxy x
Please call Maree
02 6297 4308



Checky is a 2-yr old male
dachshund x
Please call Michele
02 6278 4460



Matisse is a 4-yr old male
greyhound
Please call Ada
0402 962 502



Patty is a 8-year old
blind female silky
Please call Virginia
02 6231 7508



Charlie is a 10-mth old
male cattle dog x
Please call Nerida
02 6297 3437



Rosie is a 12-yr old female
chi foxy x
Please call Maree
02 6297 4308



Daniel is a 2-yr old
male crossbreed
Please call Kate
02 6284 2345



Snuffy is a 6-yr old
male silky terrier
Please call Michele
02 6278 4460



Dizzy is a 4-yr old M
corgi x jack russell
Please call Virginia
02 6231 7508



Bennie is a 2-yr old male
dachshund x
Please call Rita
02 6231 6011



Harley is a 5-yr old male
chihuahua x
Please call Julie
02 6205 8215



Scoobie is a 1-yr old male
grey whippet
Please call Katie
02 6287 1151



Gypsy is a 4-yr old
female crossbreed
Please call Rita
02 6231 6011



Mason is a 10-yr old male
Cairn/Maltese x
Please call Paula
02 6253 0308



My New Home...

This issue: Dylan

We already had two dogs, Jacky and Bernie, and were looking for an older dog to 'keep them company'. When I first saw Dylan's photo in the ARF newsletter I knew he was the one. He arrived in February 2003 and was immediately given the nickname 'Wombat' by the family, for obvious reasons. Dylan settled in well but then hurt his rear leg and also had bad arthritis in both

hips. He was put on painkillers and in addition we started giving him Sasha's Blend and a small serve of mackerel in his dinner. We also got him a magnetic sheepskin pillow insert. which we slipped inside his Petz Bed. After a couple of weeks we were able to take him off the painkillers and he is now a very active and healthy dog. He goes for walks every day but cannot keep up



with the other two. Dylan is a great guy with tons of character – he loves his food, his walks, his bones and sleeping on the lounge room couch. Thanks to Katie, Phil and Ginnette from ARF for their help.

Kimz K-9z Kolumn

With the Christmas season upon us, you may be facing an increase in visitors to your house.

For some dogs this is the best thing ever, but for others it is their worst nightmare!

If you have the type of dog who generally doesn't like visitors, please let your visitors know this, and help them not to encourage the behaviour.

- Ask them to ignore the dog until she comes to them
- Suggest that visitors provide the dog with gentle pats, not excited cuddles
- Supervise your dog with visitors at all times, especially with children
- Ensure your dog has his own space to retreat.

Hope you and you pets have a safe and happy holiday period.

If you have any doggy related questions please send message to: kim@funnelwebinternet.com.au



Upcoming Events

- Kingston markets: fundraiser stall, Feb 2004
- Hall markets: fundraiser stall, March 2004
- Garage sale: Hackett, May 2004

Please e-mail the Events & Fundraising Officer for information: sophie89@netspeed.com.au

Become a member...

Please complete this form and send it with the **\$15** annual membership fee to ACT Rescue & Foster Inc. PO Box 827 Belconnen Mall ACT 2616.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (H) _____

(W) _____ (M) _____

E-mail: _____

I would like to (check all that apply):

receive the ARF newsletter and notifications of meetings and events etc

apply to be a foster carer (request a *Foster Carer Application* form and *Information Kit*)

join the events & fundraising sub-committee

volunteer to help dogs in other ways, e.g. administration services, marketing services, specialist grooming or training services

other: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Notes: Annual membership to ARF is renewed on 1 July each year. Membership to ARF is approved by the ARF committee. In accordance with ARF's rules, if a member is found to have persistently refused or neglected to comply with a provision of ARF's rules, or to have persistently and wilfully acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of ARF, he or she may be expelled from ARF.