



ACT Rescue & Foster Inc.  
PO Box 1308  
Woden ACT 2606  
[www.fosterdogs.org](http://www.fosterdogs.org)  
02 6253 0308 (Paula)  
0402 962 502 (Ada)  
email: [info@fosterdogs.org](mailto:info@fosterdogs.org)

### President's message

Many lucky people know the special love and companionship of a dog. When their pet dies, people grieve (each in their own way) and feel that loss dearly, missing their friend and their times together. As grief slowly fades, the memories remain of a very special relationship. Sadly, there are many dogs who do not have that special person to love them, care for them, and to grieve for them when they are gone. Too many dogs die abandoned or unwanted, without a special person or family to feel their loss.

We hope that many more people will be lucky enough to build a special relationship with a four-legged friend in 2004. ARF will continue to do all we can to minimise the number of dogs that die without having found someone special to share their life with.

And we remember those dogs who have gone to the *Rainbow Bridge* in 2003.

*"Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge. When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food and water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable."*

Continued on back page...

### ARF's featured dog...



**Clever & handsome:** Jordy

**Sex:** Male

**Age (approx):** 1.5 years

**Breed:** Staffy x

**Size:** large

**Contact:** Raelene

**Email:** [raelene.stewart@fapm.com.au](mailto:raelene.stewart@fapm.com.au)

**Phone:** 02 6236 3033

What a clever, handsome boy! Gorgeous and goofy - Jordy is a very loving fellow with a huge personality and a great sense of humour. He is definitely a REAL dog! Jordy is very loyal and enjoys close companionship with people, playing with his doggy pals and his toys. He is intelligent and responsive to training, has just completed advanced class (came 1st) at obedience school and shows great potential for obedience at competitive levels. He heels beautifully, sits, drops, comes, stays and fetches, is crate trained, housetrained and will toilet on command. Jordy's ideal home would have a doggy friend and an active family that would allow him inside to be part of every day family life. He is a strong, healthy dog who is calm when inside and his glossy short coat doesn't shed much. Jordy is an energetic dog and requires a regular walk, run or swim.

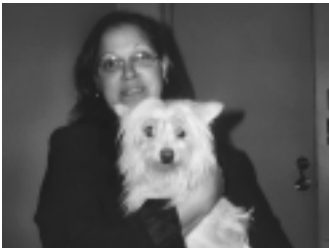
### More dogs inside...

### 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 more information, please contact Paula Zylstra or Ada Prosperi at the address at the top of this page.

This newsletter may be sponsored by an individual or business for \$50 per one issue or \$240 for six (annual). Please help us cover our costs and save more dogs. For more information, please contact ARF by e-mail at: [info@fosterdogs.org](mailto:info@fosterdogs.org)

## Microchipping your dog... by Raelene Stewart



Feona Pearce happily reunited with Sandy

In late 2003, the Pearce family were amazed and delighted when they received a phone call from a Queanbeyan Vet to say that their beloved terrier had been found straying. The incredible thing was this dog went missing 18 months previous as a pup. At that time she had been microchipped and identified with a collar and tag but she was not returned. Sandy had been a special gift for one of the children from a grandparent and the family was devastated.

*"The dog went missing 18 months previously. They were so pleased they had microchipped Sandy and that she found her way back to them. The Pearce family were also grateful to the ARF Foster Carer who took Sandy to the Vet when she was found straying only a couple of streets away from their house.*

There are many stories of amazing locations of dogs that have gone missing.

A staffy missing for months from Goulburn somehow made his way as far as Tamworth before his microchip was checked and he was returned to his delighted owner who thought he was never going to see him again.

And recently, a Beagle in the Queanbeyan area had been missing for around a year when it was checked for a chip. The original owners were 'over the moon' for their loved family member to be returned.

This is just a small sample of dogs that have been returned to their families but it is nothing like the number of stray dogs that are returned home from the Pounds and Vets each day after being identified by their microchip.

A microchip is a small electronic chip the size of a grain of rice that contains a unique number which is matched to details on a database.

The microchip is inserted under the skin over the shoulders of your dog in a similar way that an injection may be given. By getting your vet or other authorised microchipper to 'chip' your pet, he/she is permanently identified.

Canberra Domestic Animal Services, Queanbeyan Pound and Veterinary Clinics all have the special scanners to 'read' microchips and find owner details.

It is important if you find a dog to

take it to be scanned to check for a microchip.

When your own dog is microchipped, remember to ensure that your contact and address details are kept up-to-date. To do this you can check with the company that holds your dog's information which is most likely to be one of the following:

**Australian Animal Registry** –  
Phone: 02 9704 1450 - 24 Hours  
E-mail: [help@aar.org.au](mailto:help@aar.org.au)

**Central Animal Records** -  
Phone: 03 9706 3187

Web: <http://www.car.com.au/>

**NSW Companion Animal Register (Queanbeyan Pound)** –  
Phone: 02 6298 0269

Web: [www.dlg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dlg.nsw.gov.au)

If you are unsure who to contact, take your dog to the Pound or Vet and ask them to scan the microchip and identify which company holds your dog's records.

*"When your dog is microchipped, remember to ensure your contact details are kept up-to-date."*

If a dog is purchased or given away in NSW (this includes those going to live in the ACT), the person relinquishing the dog is responsible (by law) to have it microchipped before it leaves their ownership. You should also make sure that any existing microchip details are transferred into your name if you buy or adopt a dog.

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"The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue."

-Anonymous

## Dogs looking for new homes...



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



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



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



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



Bindi is a small female terrier x  
Please call Raelene  
02 6236 3033



Tara is a 6-mth old female mastiff x  
Please call Peter or Sally  
02 6255 2965



Braidy is a 7-year old male poodle x  
Please call Nerida  
02 6297 3437



More dogs looking for homes are listed at:  
[www.fosterdogs.org](http://www.fosterdogs.org)

## Dedication...



This issue of the ARF newsletter is dedicated to the dogs, including those pictured below, who left us for the rainbow bridge in 2003. We remember our own beloved pets, foster dogs, the unfortunate abandoned ones we couldn't save, and the animals who tragically perished in the Canberra bushfires. Rest in peace dear friends.



Rusty 'his loyalty was second to none'



Nef 'our Alfa dog, leader of the troop'



Mosh 'the bestest dog ever'



Boots 'we remember you always'



## My New Home...

This issue: Sam & Simba

Sam came to live with us in January 2003. He arrived on the Saturday afternoon and by Sunday we were completely under his spell. It didn't take long for us to realise we were really a two dog household, so Simba joined us in March. They are both intelligent and charming little fellows. They seem to enjoy

each other's company—chasing each other around the garden or cuddling up together on the couch. Some people have told us it was good of us to take rescue dogs as if somehow we were prepared to take on a lesser dog. They have both enriched our lives enormously and any favour we did them by taking them has



repaid threefold. I recommend getting a dog through ARF to anyone - they have been enormously supportive of us and it has enabled us to meet some amazing and wonderful people.

## The Rainbow Bridge (cont.)

From front page...

*All the animals who have been ill and old are restored to health and vigour; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing - they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind. They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent, his eager body begins to quiver. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carry him faster and faster.*

*You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face, your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart. Then together you and your special pet cross the Rainbow Bridge."*

Author Unknown

**Paula Zylstra, President**



## Upcoming Events

- Kingston markets: fundraiser stall, 1 Feb 2004
- Hall markets: information stall, 7 March 2004
- Hall markets: fundraiser stall, 4 April 2004
- Garage sale: Hackett, 1 May 2004

Please e-mail the Events & Fundraising Officer for information: [sophie89@netspeed.com.au](mailto: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 1308 Woden ACT 2606.

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.