



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

**President's message**

It's August and ARF is celebrating its 3rd birthday! We are getting bigger and better, with more members than ever, and becoming better known in the community as a great place to find a new best friend.

Recent figures show that, in 2003-04, 91% of dogs impounded at Domestic Animal Services in Canberra were reclaimed by their owners, rehomed or rescued, up from 82% in 2001-02, which is a great achievement! ARF maintains a co-operative relationship with local pounds, and has contributed significantly to these figures. In the past year, 78 dogs have found loving new homes through ARF.

I would like to thank all ARF members. Without their financial and emotional support, help with fundraising, advertising, fostering dogs, marketing and administration, ARF could not exist.

I would like to thank the vets, groomers, sponsors and everyone in the community who supports ARF.

I would like to thank the staff of the local pounds who work hard to save as many dogs as possible.

And of course, I would like to thank our extended 'ARF family'. All those people who have adopted an ARF dog and given them a loving home, which makes the hard work so worthwhile and enables us to save another dog, and another. We hope in the year ahead ARF continues to grow and continues to make such a difference to dogs in need.

*Paula Zylstra*  
 President

ARF's featured dogs...



**Friendly and Playful:** Andy

**Sex:** Male

**Age (approx):** 2 years

**Breed:** Maltese x

**Size:** Small (5 kg)

**Contact:** Lyn

**Email:** sophie89@netspeed.com.au

**Phone:** 02 6248 0906

**Description:** Andy is an enthusiastic little man who is always sure to be right there if you ever need a dog! He loves human company and likes nothing more than to cuddle up and watch a movie. He's good with other dogs and loves to play so would like a doggy playmate. Good with cats.

**What a hero!** Remember Griffey from the last newsletter? Well, he is still seeking his forever home, but now he is even more wonderful than before. He recently saved the day when his foster carer left the griller on in the kitchen while she went on the computer. She was typing away and suddenly Griffey ran from his bed and raced in to the kitchen barking. She knew something was not right because Griffey doesn't bark without cause. She got up and followed him - the griller and oven had flames reaching up out of



it. She turned off the griller, put the dogs outside, and stood with a fire blanket until the flames died down and the house was safe. 'Thank goodness Griffey was here and is such a terrific dog. He is certainly our Hero!'

About ARF...

ARF is an incorporated association of people in the ACT and surrounding NSW region 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 info, please contact Paula Zylstra or Ada Prosperi at the address at the top of this page.

more dogs inside...

This newsletter is proudly sponsored by the West Queanbeyan Vet Hospital - 158 Uriarra Road, 6297 5542.

## Five reasons to get your pet dogs desexed...

### 1. It is the law

The *Domestic Animals Act 2000* ('the Act'), makes it compulsory in the ACT for all dogs born on or after 21 June 2001 to be desexed by six months of age unless their owner purchases a permit from Domestic Animals Services (DAS) to allow their dog to be kept sexually entire. Owners of undesexed dogs without a permit are subject to receive a penalty fine.

### 2. It makes sense for social reasons

Desexing can make pets better and more enjoyable companions.



*Social and health benefits*

Desexing a female will eliminate her heat cycle. Undesexed females on heat will bleed, can cry and show nervous behaviour, and will attract unwanted attention from males. Undesexed animals often exhibit more behaviour and temperament problems than those who have been desexed. Desexing makes pets less likely to roam the neighbourhood, run away, or get into fights. Desexed male dogs do less urine/territory marking.

### 3. It makes sense for health reasons

Desexing can help dogs live longer, healthier lives. Desexing eliminates or reduces the incidence of a number of health problems. In females, desexing eliminates the possibility of uterine and ovarian cancer, and greatly reduces the incidence of breast cancer, particularly if she is desexed around the age of six months, before her first heat cycle.



*Too many dogs and not enough homes*

In males, neutering eliminates testicular cancer and decreases the incidence of prostate disease.

### 4. There are too many dogs and not enough homes for them

Animal pounds and shelters are overburdened with surplus and unwanted animals. Rescue groups like ARF try to save as many as we can, but we cannot save them all.

### 5. Desexing is value for money

Desexing carries a one-time cost that is a small price to pay for the health of your pet and the prevention of more unwanted animals.

### ARF member profile

Hi, my name is Maree and I have six dogs aged from 8 to 15. As you can see in the photo, they are all the 'little' people of the doggy world, Chihuahuas and Foxies, and they are all rescues. Due to my love of dogs I have been searching for 30 years for an organisation like ARF to surface so I could fulfil a life-long passion to save and improve the lives of dogs who through no fault of their own are abandoned and discarded. I first became aware of ARF from a work colleague when ARF was in its infancy. I was impressed that the organisation was started by a few people who had the vision, passion and devotion to know that it would work and grow from strength to strength as the word was spread around. My life has changed dramatically since joining and becoming a foster carer with ARF. It has given my life meaning and purpose. I have met and made the most valuable friends that will be with me for the rest of my life, especially the wonderful world of dogs.

Maree Sheahan, ARF Foster Carer



## Dogs looking for new homes...



**Clever girl:** Lucy  
**Sex:** Female  
**Age:** 18 months  
**Breed:** Staffy x Kelpie  
**Size:** Medium  
**Contact:** Raelene  
**Phone:** 02 6299 5272



**Personal trainer:** Gypsy  
**Sex:** Female  
**Age (approx):** 2 years  
**Breed:** Terrier x  
**Size:** Small (7 kg)  
**Contact:** Amanda  
**Phone:** 0417 994 844



**Cheerful:** Koola  
**Sex:** Male  
**Age (approx):** 10 years  
**Breed:** Foxie x  
**Size:** Small  
**Contact:** Raelene  
**Phone:** 02 6299 5272



**Local hero:** Griffey  
**Sex:** Male  
**Age (approx):** 10 years  
**Breed:** Terrier x  
**Size:** Small  
**Contact:** Pauline  
**Phone:** 02 6226 5174



**Family dog:** Possum  
**Sex:** Female  
**Age (approx):** 5 years  
**Breed:** Labrador x  
**Size:** Medium  
**Contact:** Kate  
**Phone:** 02 6284 2345



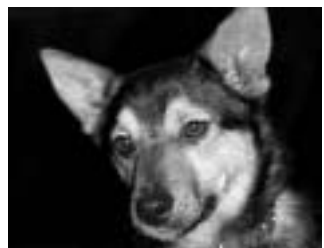
**Gentle & loving:** Dali  
**Sex:** Male  
**Age (approx):** 2 years  
**Breed:** Greyhound  
**Size:** Large  
**Contact:** Paula  
**Phone:** 02 6253 0308



**Sociable & kind:** Dante  
**Sex:** Male  
**Age (approx):** 2 years  
**Breed:** Greyhound  
**Size:** Large  
**Contact:** Ada  
**Phone:** 0402 962 502



**Laid-back:** Monty  
**Sex:** Male  
**Age (approx):** 2 years  
**Breed:** Labrador x  
**Size:** Medium/large  
**Contact:** Kate  
**Phone:** 02 6284 2345



**Fun & active:** Oscar  
**Sex:** Male  
**Age (approx):** 8 mths  
**Breed:** Crossbreed  
**Size:** Small (8 kg)  
**Contact:** Amanda  
**Phone:** 0417 994 844



**Loyal & loving:** Midge  
**Sex:** Female  
**Age (approx):** 5 years  
**Breed:** Staffy  
**Size:** Medium  
**Contact:** Raelene  
**Phone:** 02 6299 5272



**Warm & cuddly:** Inki  
**Sex:** Male  
**Age (approx):** 8 years  
**Breed:** Chihuahua x  
**Size:** Small (4 kg)  
**Contact:** Maree  
**Phone:** 02 6297 4308



**Fun & joyful:** Skipper  
**Sex:** Male  
**Age (approx):** 4 years  
**Breed:** Terrier  
**Size:** Small  
**Contact:** Pauline  
**Phone:** 02 6226 5174



All the dogs available for adoption are listed on our website at [www.fosterdogs.org](http://www.fosterdogs.org)



## My New Home...

Buffy (left) and Tia (right)

Buffy came to live with me in April 2003. She was a bit worse for wear at the time, with a stress-induced skin condition that left her very itchy. Since then she has grown back a lovely, healthy coat and looks like a different dog. Buffy adores people. The enthusiasm she greets everyone with has made her a neighbourhood celebrity, and she is admired wherever she goes.

Buffy was such a wonderful addition to the family that I adopted a second dog, Tia, in November 2003. Tia is a lovely little girl, who is still settling in and developing more personality. She loves nothing more than to sit on my lap or at my feet. The girls have become great friends and keep each other entertained. They love wrestling and doing high-speed laps of the house. Buffy and Tia seem very



happy with their new lives, and they have brought new life and happiness to the house.

## Kimz K-9z Kolumn

For centuries we have been together with our four-legged friends, and it has been medically proven that pets are good for us.



Please spare a thought this month for those people who love their animals but for some reason or another they cannot be with, or have contact with animals.

If you have a friendly-four legged companion, who likes the company of people, contact your local hospital or nursing home to see if they would like you to visit.

The response you get from some of the people in these situations is life changing for you and them.

So if you have a few hours to spare, reach out and give to someone who will really appreciate it.

If you have any doggy-related questions please send message to: [kim@funnelwebinternet.com.au](mailto:kim@funnelwebinternet.com.au)



## Upcoming Events

- **15 August** – Kingston Markets Stall
- **25 September** – Garage Sale
- **22-24 October** - Canberra Times Spring Home & Leisure Show

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.