

From the CEO



“We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals.”

– Immanuel Kant

The German philosopher was definitely on the right track in the mid to late 1700s; and today this observation is an accepted truth that resonates widely in society.

Animal welfare in this state has come a long way since the Tasmanian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was formed almost 140 years ago.

The first Inspector started in 1879 and we’ve been investigating and prosecuting animal cruelty cases ever since.

Last financial year RSPCA Tasmania assisted around 10,000 animals. 4,200 animals came through our three Animal Care Centres and more than 5,800 individual cases of animal cruelty were investigated.

I am immensely proud of the work we do and the way we do it. It’s not



Million Paws Walk upon us again

The annual Million Paws Walk (MPW) is almost upon us again. On Sunday 21 May, paws will be pattering on pavements all over Australia including at six locations in Tasmania.

Million Paws Walks will again be held in Hobart, Launceston, Ulverstone, Huonville, St Helens, and Stanley; raising important funds to help us help Tasmanian animals. All walks feature interesting walk routes with games, prizes, food and refreshments on offer.

To register for a walk or to fundraise, go to the [MPW website](#) and follow the Tasmanian links. To keep up to date with all the current Million Paws Walk Tasmania information, follow us on Facebook at [RSPCA Tasmania](#).



always been easy and there have been periods in our history where times have been challenging; but we have always pulled through these difficult times.

We have recently adopted a very simple vision – “A Tasmania where all animals are treated with respect and kindness” – wouldn’t that be a wonderful place!!

We plan to publish this newsletter quarterly to keep you up to date with the activities of Tasmania’s leading animal welfare charity. Our annual reports for the last 4 years can be found on our website and we welcome any feedback about what we do at this link: www.rspcatas.org.au/contact/send-an-enquiry.

Thank you so much for your continued interest and support. We look forward to the next 140 years of helping Tasmanian animals.

Cheers – *PETER WEST*

THE STATS



Fun times at AGFEST



Thanks to the generosity of ANZ Tasmania, RSPCA Tasmania had a presence at last week's annual three-day AGFEST event near Carrick.

Based in the ANZ tent, RSPCA staff, volunteers and a couple of friendly pooches, available for adoption from our Launceston Animal Care Centre, had a great time meeting hundreds of patrons. We are very grateful to have had the opportunity to promote RSPCA Tasmania, engage with the community and have some terrific conversations about animal welfare. Our Chief Veterinarian Dr Andrew Byrne also enjoyed his first AGFEST, answering all kinds of questions pet and vet related and dispensing his expertise and knowledge.

RSPCA Tasmania is delighted to be collaborating with ANZ Tasmania. Already, several of their enthusiastic staff have volunteered to assist us with the running of some of our fundraising events. They will be out and about in force next week across the state helping run our Million Paws Walk events.

ANZ Tasmania has some great home and commercial loan products; if you're in the market for a new Home loan, consider talking with ANZ Tasmania. RSPCA Tasmania receives much needed funds from ANZ for any successful ANZ Home loans that are made through the ANZ / RSPCA Tasmania loan referral program.

You can find out more about this program at the following link: www.rspcatas.org.au/you-can-help/anz-offer

New Chief Veterinarian is a very busy man

RSPCA Tasmania Chief Veterinarian Dr Andrew Byrne has been in the role for 8 months now, and the former Chief Veterinarian with RSPCA Victoria is loving life here in Tassie and enjoying the opportunity to help rebuild RSPCA's vet services.

If you think you've seen Dr Byrne's face before, you probably have! Dr Andrew Byrne is the face and voice of print and television advertising for [RSPCA Pet Insurance](#).

Dr Byrne is based in Launceston and regularly travels around the state performing vet services at our three Animal Care Centres. As a former country vet for many years, he's used to being on the road!

In between surgeries, Dr Byrne has been hard at work preparing for the opening of our community vet services at our Hobart and Launceston Animal Care Centres.

We offer:

- Cat and Dog De-sexing
- Routine Vaccinations
- Microchipping
- Dental procedures



To discuss your pet's veterinary needs with our one of our staff members please call:

Hobart: (03) 6135 5150

Launceston: (03) 6332 8210

Every time you visit our Veterinary Clinics you are not only getting great advice and service – you are helping us help Tasmanian animals.

Polly's wonderful new life

Life is good these days for two-year old Polly. She now weighs a healthy 25kg, sleeps next to her new owner's bed, loves her daily walks and playing with her owner's visiting grandchildren.

It's a very different story from July last year when a bedraggled, dehydrated and "chronically underweight" Polly arrived at our Launceston Animal Care Centre weighing just over 14kg, after being removed from her previous home by RSPCA Tasmania Inspectors, who laid animal cruelty charges against her owner.

POLLY BEFORE



POLLY AFTER





New Town High School students held a Free Dress Day recently and raised over \$600 for RSPCA Tasmania, which was recently presented to CEO Peter West by some of the Student Leadership Team, who also met adoption puppies Ziggy and Zac.

Tassie first to get new Behavioural Assessment training

RSPCA Australia is rolling out a National Dog Behavioural Assessment program and Tasmania was the first to benefit from this comprehensive training program. Animal Care Attendants at all of our Animal Care Centres received extensive training with several key staff also receiving "train the trainer training".

All dogs that are adopted by our Animal Care Centres are behaviourally assessed so that our staff are able to find the homes most suitable for them and are also able to provide prospective adopters with valuable information about the animal.

National Animal Welfare Campaigns

At a national level, RSPCA continues to call for an end to live export of livestock overseas. We have shown that it is draining jobs and money from local economies, failing to protect Australian animals from cruelty and damaging Australia's clean green reputation.

We continue to lobby governments (local, state and federal) to influence positive change in the egg production industry, helping people to make humane food choices and the national "Love is Blind" campaign that highlights the health issues that can be associated with certain dog breeds.

You can find out more information about these and other national RSPCA campaigns on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

ANZ supports our volunteers

Thanks to the new local partnership with the ANZ Tasmania, RSPCA Tasmania is recognising the special and much-valued efforts of our dedicated volunteers around the state.

Each month this year, we have recognised the valuable contributions made to our organisation by a volunteer nominated by staff or fellow volunteers. Each month, a volunteer receives a framed certificate and \$100 gift card courtesy of ANZ Tasmania.

In January, we celebrated the contribution made by Janet Brown, who's been a volunteer at our Launceston Animal Care Centre since 2011. The February recipient was Rex Scott, a dog walker at the Hobart Animal Care Centre for eight years and in March, we recognised the great work of Barry Argent (pictured) who's been a fixture at our Devonport Animal Care Centre for 8 years helping with our gardening and repairs and maintenance work.

We love all our volunteers! If you'd like to join the RSPCA Tasmania team as a volunteer, you can apply [online](#).



Barry Argent from the Devonport Animal Care Centre was the March ANZ Volunteer Award winner.

Tasmanian Animal Welfare Issues

In December 2016, the Tasmanian Parliamentary Inquiry into the Tasmanian Greyhound Industry delivered its report making 31 recommendations for changes to be made in the industry.

While our preference is that greyhound racing didn't take place at all, we are keen to ensure all of recommendations from this review are implemented.

RSPCA Australia recently released online a new Greyhound Adoption Booklet which aims to encourage positive perceptions of greyhounds as pets, while also providing realistic information about this beautiful breed. Animal welfare in racing industries continues to be a priority for RSPCA and we have been working with the Office of Racing Integrity and the Department of Primary Industry, Parks,

Water and Environment (DPIPWE) to ensure that better animal welfare outcomes continue to be a focus for the whole industry.

We continue to work with the Tasmanian Government on a number of animal welfare improvements including cat management legislation, Dog Control Act amendments and the Animal Welfare Act Amendment bill.

Adopt: www.rspcatas.org.au

Register: for [Million Paws Walk 2017](#)

Connect: on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#)

Purchase: an [Entertainment Book](#)

Purchase: [RSPCA Pet Insurance](#)

Purchase: an [RSPCA raffle ticket](#)

Donate: www.rspcatas.org.au

Donate: PO Box 66, Mowbray TAS 7248

