YEAR IN REVIEW

JULY
Our Traralgon Op Shop opened its doors to enthusiastic community support, raising over $700 on the opening day alone, and since bringing in $68,000.

AUGUST
RSPCA Victoria welcomed the Victorian Parliament’s Economy & Infrastructure Committee report and committed to implementing all recommendations to continue being transparent and accountable for the taxpayer funding received.

SEPTEMBER
A professional dog groomer who beat a dog to death was successfully prosecuted and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment (overturned on appeal).

OCTOBER
The $13 million state-of-the-art Epping Animal Welfare Facility opened after being developed and funded by the cities of Whittlesea, Darebin and Moreland, with RSPCA Victoria tasked to operate the centre.

NOVEMBER
Ten of our experienced Inspectors completed their Diploma of Government Investigations, developing their knowledge and increasing their capabilities.

DECEMBER
Following a strong advocacy campaign by RSPCA Victoria, the Victorian Government passed amendments to the Domestic Animals Act 1994, putting traceability front and centre, imposing limits on breeding dogs and restricting sales of animals in pet shops.

JANUARY
We facilitated the reunion of a stolen therapy dog with his family after he had been missing for a month, with the importance of microchipping and up-to-date details being shared across the state.

FEBRUARY
We joined our interstate colleagues in a national ‘Clear the Shelter’ campaign, finding homes for 634 animals across Victoria in just three days.

MARCH
Our Protective Custody Foster (PCF) Program was launched at Burwood East to assist in the rehabilitation of animals that have spent extended time in our care due to court proceedings.

APRIL
A long-time supporter, Roy Poyser, pledged to fund much-needed upgrades to the Peninsula Animal Care Centre in Pearcedale, enabling the construction of a modern building for adoptions and reclaims, as well as new staff and volunteer facilities.

MAY
ONEbyONE, a new fundraising initiative, was launched, aiming to shock the community out of complacency with confronting images of animal abuse to demonstrate the ongoing welfare issues that exist across the state.

JUNE
We hosted our first regional high quality, high volume desexing clinic in Chewton. Discount rates were offered to the community, with a small team of vets and nurses desexing 145 cats and kittens over the week-long trial.
**CRUELTY STATISTICS**

- **10,642** reports received/investigated
- **4,905** reports of insufficient food, water, and shelter
  - Averaging over 29 a day for the year
  - The 10,000+ reports involved
- **1,198** reports of beaten/wounded animals
  - Just over 3 a day
- **2,704** reports of underweight animals
  - Just over 7 a day
- **1,245** reports of abandoned animals
  - Just over 3 a day

**FUNDRAISING**

- **$23,631,959** total money raised
- **225** community fundraisers including schools, organisations, and community groups
- **11,312** in kind donations
- **12,737** total number of participants at our three major events
- **16** RSPCA Victoria Op Shops
  - Raised $1,375,131
  - Supported by 448 volunteers

**INSPECTORATE**

- **26** inspectors across Victoria
- RSPCA Victoria inspectorate costs
- **25%** government funding received for inspectorate
- **113** prosecutions – 2018 vs 2017
  - **98%** found guilty
  - **33.73%** increase from 2017
- **712** charges laid in 2018
- **382** charges laid in 2017
- **500** no. reports of beaten/wounded animals
- **388** no. reports of underweight animals
- **388** no. reports of abandoned animals

**EDUCATION**

- **96** no. of cert II participants
- **98%** pass rate
- **2,101** school students reached
- **1,048** school holiday program participants
- **23** average participants per program (across multiple touch points i.e. care, cert II students)
- **5,309** total number of student engagements
- **60** excursions hosted
- **30** incursions attended
- **2,500** hours of education programs delivered across the year
- **101** students reached through the care program
- **145** desex surgeries across Chewton
- **5,309** total days our RSPCA Victoria sites

**GOAL**

1. Reduce the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria
2. Focus effort to reduce animal cruelty and neglect
3. Apply leading practice to achieve the best welfare outcome for every animal
4. Manage costs efficiently, and grow reliable revenue streams
5. Improve traceability of cats and dogs through the establishment of microchipping legislation

**STRATEGIC INITIATIVES**

- **NEW SUPPORTERS**
- **INCURSIONS**
- **PET SHOP SALE**
- **75%** sponsorship income
ANIMAL CARE STATISTICS

20,681 ANIMALS IN OUR CARE
- 52% CATS
- 35% DOGS
- 13% OTHER

10,764 CATS ADMITTED INTO OUR CARE
- 600 ADOPTED
- 500 RECLAIMED
- 200 EUTHANISED
- 8.2% OTHER
- 9.2% DECREASE FROM 2017

10,642 ANIMALS ADOPTED

4,517 INTERNAL TRANSFERS BETWEEN RSPCA VICTORIA SITES
- INCREASING ADOPTION RATES & REDUCING LENGTH OF STAY

7,317 DOGS ADMITTED INTO OUR CARE
- 600 ADOPTED
- 500 RECLAIMED
- 300 EUTHANISED
- 200 OTHER
- 20% TRANSFERRED TO RESCUE PARTNER OR STILL IN OUR CARE

2,637 ANIMALS FOSTERED
- 22.4% INCREASE FROM 2017

892 ANIMALS REHOMED THROUGH OUR RESCUE PARTNERS
- 22.5% INCREASE FROM 2017

111,604 TOTAL DAYS OUR ANIMALS HAVE SPENT IN FOSTER CARE

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES
- Apply leading practice to achieve the best welfare outcome for every animal out of surrender.
- Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
- Reduce the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.

GOAL
1. Reduce the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
2. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
3. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
4. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
5. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.

GOAL
1. Reduce the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
2. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
3. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
4. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
5. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.

GOAL
1. Reduce the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
2. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
3. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
4. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
5. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.

GOAL
1. Reduce the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
2. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
3. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
4. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
5. Increase the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Additionally, we launched the Protective Custody Foster (PCF) program, improving long-term welfare

We invested in the expansion of our foster care network program while building and implementing a best practice

Apply leading practice to achieve the best welfare outcome for every animal

After much behind-the-scenes work by RSPCA Victoria advocating for better legal and regulatory protection

Anyone selling or giving away a cat

Anyone selling or giving away a dog will be required to obtain a

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a

Animals sourced from shelters, pounds or enrolled foster carers are not allowed to be sold at pet shops.

Limit on the number of fertile female dogs that breeders keep.

Up to 10 dogs with council approval, maximum of 50 with special approval from the Minister for Agriculture.

Restrict sales of animals in pet shops.

Pet shops can only sell dogs and cats sourced from shelters, pounds or enrolled foster carers.

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a source number, which will be linked to the microchip of that animal.

We invested in the expansion of our foster care network program while building and implementing a best practice model.

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a source number, which will be linked to the microchip of that animal.

We invested in the expansion of our foster care network program while building and implementing a best practice model.

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a source number, which will be linked to the microchip of that animal.

We invested in the expansion of our foster care network program while building and implementing a best practice model.

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a source number, which will be linked to the microchip of that animal.

Apply leading practice to achieve the best welfare outcome for every animal

We invested in the expansion of our foster care network program while building and implementing a best practice model.

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a source number, which will be linked to the microchip of that animal.

We invested in the expansion of our foster care network program while building and implementing a best practice model.

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a source number, which will be linked to the microchip of that animal.

We invested in the expansion of our foster care network program while building and implementing a best practice model.

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a source number, which will be linked to the microchip of that animal.

We invested in the expansion of our foster care network program while building and implementing a best practice model.

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a source number, which will be linked to the microchip of that animal.

We invested in the expansion of our foster care network program while building and implementing a best practice model.

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a source number, which will be linked to the microchip of that animal.

We invested in the expansion of our foster care network program while building and implementing a best practice model.

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a source number, which will be linked to the microchip of that animal.

We invested in the expansion of our foster care network program while building and implementing a best practice model.

Anyone selling or giving away a cat or dog will be required to obtain a source number, which will be linked to the microchip of that animal.
CEO MESSAGE

This year we mourned the passing of our Patron and former President, Dr Hugh Wirth AM. He was a towering figure in the world of animal welfare and a very dear friend. We will ensure that his legacy – including almost 50 years of unwavering service to RSPCA Victoria – lives on.

As ever, it is the wonderful work of our staff and volunteers of which I am most proud. Their dedication and steadfast commitment to the animals in our care is second to none, and I am continually inspired by their incredible compassion.

It’s been a year of momentous legislation change and great strides for animal welfare in Victoria. After much behind-the-scenes advocacy, we were thrilled to see the Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017 pass through parliament, paving the way for huge improvements in the traceability of each and every dog and cat across the state.

Still, we have a long way to go, and there remains much hard work to be done. This financial year our 26 inspectors responded to 10,642 cruelty reports involving more than 26,000 dogs, cats, and horses. And that’s just the start. The numbers speak for themselves; this simply cannot continue.

It’s why we are committed to working with the community to achieve outstanding animal welfare through education, advocacy, animal care and protection. It’s a responsibility that we all share, and I look forward to implementing the second year of our strategic plan so that, together, we can continue working toward our vision of ending cruelty to all animals. Thank you to all our donors and supporters who are striving with us to achieve this.

Dr Liz Walker
Chief Executive Officer
RSPCA Victoria

CHAIR MESSAGE

RSPCA Victoria is an iconic animal welfare institution but we can never rest on our laurels!

This year we transformed our Inspectorate to set a new benchmark of effectiveness and efficiency in animal protection, including bringing perpetrators of animal cruelty to account. We continue to streamline all our activities so that we can maximise our impact on improving animal welfare outcomes.

We’ve also had good successes in our advocacy and prevention programs during the year. Importantly, we achieved improvements in the legislative and regulatory frameworks that govern animal welfare.

After a successful year, we embrace the one ahead with renewed vigour and a strengthened resolve to end cruelty to all animals. We will continue to be the voice for the voiceless, and we will continue to protect the defenceless. We will not waver in our commitment.

As always, our animal friends need the continued generosity and dedication of our donors, partners, supporters, volunteers and staff to have better lives. Thank you to everyone who made a financial contribution, advocated on our behalf, attended an event, took part in fundraising, adopted an animal, or gave their time to help our cause. It all makes a difference, and you all share in our success. We look forward to the next year of our journey together.

Beenie Delaney
Chair and Non-Executive Director
RSPCA Victoria Board

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

NATIONAL & CORPORATE PARTNERS

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of our national and corporate partners, their staff, customers and the wider business community. Their continued support helps us provide our vital animal welfare services across Victoria.

Hill’s Pet Nutrition has supported RSPCA Victoria for over 20 years by supplying and delivering food for animals in our Animal Care Centres, as well as sponsoring the annual RSPCA Million Paws Walk and Cupcake Day.

RSPCA Victoria would also like to thank the following companies and organisations for their generous support:


OUR GOALS

The 2017-18 financial year was the first year in RSPCA Victoria’s five-year strategic plan.

As well as identifying a bold vision for the organisation (ending cruelty to all animals) our five-year strategic plan articulates a clear purpose (with the community, achieve outstanding animal welfare through education, advocacy, animal care and protection) and five goals for the organisation.

1. Focus effort to reduce animal cruelty and neglect.
   • Stronger legislation better protects animal welfare.
   • Community understanding of animal cruelty and good animal welfare improves.
   • Cruelty reports are investigated and resolved quickly.

2. Reduce the number of surrendered and homeless animals in Victoria.
   • Fewer animals come into shelters and pounds.
   • More animals are adopted.
   • Rates of desexing, microchipping and registration increase.

3. Apply leading practice to achieve the best welfare outcome for every animal in our care.
   • Animals stay for shorter periods in our shelters.
   • Shelter-related health and behavioural issues reduce.
   • The live release rate from our shelters improves.

4. Support our people to do their great work.
   • Employee and volunteer engagement increases.

5. Manage costs efficiently, and grow reliable revenue streams.
   • Our strategy reduces our exposure to economic fluctuations.
   • Growth in revenue supports us to invest in animal welfare and ending cruelty.

6. Costs are managed efficiently and effectively.
FINDINGS

FINDING 2 IMPLEMENTED

IRRVI

Dr Hugh Wirth AM

Dr Hugh Wirth AM was instrumental in the horse export to Japan for slaughter and was instrumental in the development of many of the improvements that led to a significant increase in the numbers of horses exported. Dr Hugh was at the forefront of many of the improvements in animal welfare in Victoria. Serving in the role for a remarkable 43 years, Dr Hugh dedicated his life to animals, beginning his lifelong association with RSPCA Victoria in 1949 when he joined as the first non-European President, Dr Hugh Wirth AM. He was a towering figure in the animal welfare movement in Victoria. After much behind-the-scenes work by continuing to advocate for the advancement of animal welfare in our society, he was the first to be awarded the title of Honorary Life Member by RSPCA Victoria.

We were saddened by the passing of these esteemed figures, and we wish to express our deep appreciation for their outstanding contributions to animal welfare and RSPCA Victoria. Their contribution to animal welfare and RSPCA Victoria will be remembered.

We will not waver in our commitment to protect animals and work towards a future where no animal suffers. We will continue to advocate for the advancement of animal welfare in our society.

For the year ended 30 June 2018

We are grateful to receive generous gifts from the following wonderful supporters who thoughtfully included a gift in their Will to support animal welfare in our community.

TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

We thank and acknowledge all those who have left a lasting imprint on animal welfare by supporting RSPCA Victoria through a Trust. This generous support enables us to continue providing vital animal welfare services throughout Victoria.

GIFTS IN WILLS

We are particularly grateful to the below for their extraordinary gifts.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Honorary Life Membership is the highest recognition given by RSPCA Victoria. Awarded by the Board, it acknowledges those individuals who have made a significant contribution, both to animal welfare, and to our organisation.

MAJOR GIFTS

RSPCA Victoria would like to thank all those whose generous support continues to make a significant impact on animal welfare across Victoria.
This year we mourned the passing of our Patron, great friend, and staunch advocate for animal welfare, Dr Hugh Wirth AM.

Dr Hugh dedicated his life to animals, beginning his lifelong association with RSPCA Victoria in 1949 when he joined as a junior member. As a young vet he was elected to our state council in 1967, before becoming President in 1972 and serving in the role for a remarkable 43 years. He was a forthright, strong leader who was not afraid to stand up for what he believed was right. He was passionate, incredibly knowledgeable and tenacious – truly "one of a kind".

Dr Hugh was at the forefront of many of the improvements we have seen in animal welfare over the last few decades. He led the establishment of RSPCA Victoria’s vet clinics. He famously drove a campaign that resulted in the banning of horse export to Japan for slaughter and was instrumental in putting an end to puppy tail docking. He also led the humane foods movement with the launch of RSPCA barn laid eggs in 1997.

He also served on the board of RSPCA Australia and was president for 22 years. He was the first non-European President of World Animal Protection and spent 30 years as resident vet on ABC 774 Melbourne radio. He achieved all of this while simultaneously practising as a local vet in Balwyn for 47 years.

In 1985 he was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) and in 1997 was named Victorian of the Year. Dr Hugh was also a proud Australia Day Ambassador, and he was the first Australian awarded the George T Angell Humanitarian Award from the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. In 2015 Dr Hugh retired as President of RSPCA Victoria and became its official Patron. He continued in that role – and as a member of the Animal Welfare Policy Committee – until his death in February 2018 after a battle with Parkinson’s disease.

RSPCA Victoria will treasure his memory and honour his work by continuing to advocate for the advancement of animal welfare in our society.

In 2016, RSPCA Victoria made a commitment to report on the progress of the implementation of recommendations identified in the Independent Review of the RSPCA Victoria Inspectorate (IRRVI).

In 2017 pass through parliament, paving the way for huge improvements to animal welfare outcomes.

One of the main focuses of this work was to ask the feline community to continue to support our educational services and programs to ensure positive animal welfare outcomes. It’s why we are committed to working with the community, achieve outstanding animal welfare through education, advocacy and programs to ensure positive animal welfare outcomes.

Thank you to everyone who made a financial contribution, as always, our animal friends need the continued support of all our volunteer and paid staff.

RECOMMENDATION 1

The Animal Welfare Policy Committee, RSPCA Victoria

Dr Hugh was at the forefront of many of the improvements we have seen in animal welfare over the last few decades.

RECOMMENDATION 16

The Animal Welfare Policy Committee, RSPCA Victoria

RECOMMENDATION 18

The Animal Welfare Policy Committee, RSPCA Victoria

RECOMMENDATION 19

The Animal Welfare Policy Committee, RSPCA Victoria

RECOMMENDATION 20

The Animal Welfare Policy Committee, RSPCA Victoria

RECOMMENDATION 22

The Animal Welfare Policy Committee, RSPCA Victoria

RECOMMENDATION TO BE COMPLETED

22 RECOMMENDATIONS

16 RECOMMENDATIONS FULLY IMPLEMENTED

6 RECOMMENDATIONS PARTLY IMPLEMENTED

2 FINDINGS

FINDING 1 IN PROGRESS

FINDING 2 IMPLEMENTED

Our people

Volunteer hours contributed

Volunteers

Employees

Volunteers vs employees

GOAL

2,754

342

89%

248,731

193

149

59.95%

39.89%

Development

Operations

People & Culture

Prevention

corporate services

full time

part time

Volunteers per department

OUR PEOPLE

2017
Independent Review of the RSPCA

Chair Message
He led the establishment of RSPCA Victoria's vet clinics. He – truly “one of a kind”.

This year we mourned the passing of our Patron, great voiceless, and we will continue to protect the defenceless.

2017 pass through parliament, paving the way for huge
and I am continually inspired by their incredible compassion.

Chair and Non-Executive Director
Bernie Delaney

2017-18 financial year was the
second year of our strategic plan so that, together, we

OUR PEOPLE

BOARD MEMBERS

Chair, Animal Welfare Policy Committee, RSPCA Victoria
Mary Anne Hartley QC BBus (Acc), CA
BVSc, MANZCVS (small animal surgery),
Margot Smith

The 2017-18 financial year was the

OPERATIONS

PREVENTION

TO BE COMPLETED

RECOMMENDATIONS

PARTLY IMPLEMENTED

2018 2017
$’000  $’000

Income
Fees for service – animals 10,284 9,951
Gifts in Wills income 12,192 15,969
Fundraising 9,260 8,347
Retail sales 1,505 1,719
Interest 12 10
Government grants 2,000 2,000
Education and rental income 740 777
Dividends and franking credits 15 –
Gain on disposal of non-current assets 1,130 –
Gain on disposal of previously gifted asset 1,438 –
Other revenue 200 14
Total income 38,776 38,787

Expenditure
Animal welfare-related expenses (23,850) (23,760)
Education, advocacy and communication (1,973) (1,753)
Fundraising and Gifts in Wills expenses (4,492) (3,451)
Retail expenses including cost of sales (967) (1,172)
Support services (6,325) (5,982)
RSPCA Australia levy (581) (511)
Taxes and insurance (44) (169)
Net loss on trading portfolio (10) (1)
Finance costs (171) (98)
Asset write off, accelerated depreciation, lease acceleration and restructuring costs – (1,596)
Total expenditure (38,413) (38,493)

Net surplus 363 294

Other comprehensive income – –
Total comprehensive income for the year 363 294