



Reborn now
ready to
grow!

Goodbye
2022



They are climbing the walls *literally* and despite our refurbishment efforts, WLPA *SERIOUSLY* needs more space...

Dear Members and Supporters,

Key outcomes 2022:

- In five months of lockdowns when WLPA was closed to the public, we made the most of this disruption by renovating. Adoption Centre floors were refurbished to vinyl thanks to Halina Thompson, former President, managing this undertaking. Life Member, Richard Elms helped with this project over many weeks, the animals looking on.
- Rain, floods and weekends of bad weather made the year memorable. NBN was down for 6 months, windows flew off the premises, fundraising and adoption events became frustrated. As lockdowns lifted, we faced a new dynamic of needing to remobilise and reorganise.
- The new Management Committee, elected March 2022, first set to on safety improvements! All Adoption Centre suites were completely rewired, windows began getting attention for insect screening for rabbits (to protect from mosquitoes) and to thwart cat escapes.
- After the electricals were completed the whole centre was refurbished. We used Gumtree freebies, staff and volunteer painters to build quarantine and boarding facilities. We also provided better stimulation amenity for the animals (they can now actually climb the walls!!).
- These improvements maintain our **facility at Gladesville for now**. However the **2022-3 Christmas New Year Appeal** commences the vision of our new leadership team, under incoming President, Laura Caloia, to raise funds in earnest FOR NEW PURPOSE-DESIGNED PREMISES. We need to raise millions to ensure a gold standard facility is available for WLPA animals, most especially because we are no kill.
- Few dogs were rescued by WLPA in 2022. A national dog shortage was found during COVID lockdowns. Currently however, pounds, social media platforms and Gumtree freebies are overflowing with unwanted dogs. WLPA's program for dogs must be reborn.



- The Adoption Centre housed around 60 cats at a time, throughout the year, being a quarter of all animals cared for by WLPA. The Centre was staffed 7days/week by 56 rostered volunteers and 2 part time paid staff. During lockdowns the two part-time staff were full-time to manage unprecedented demand for pet adoptions. From April 2022 staffing has approached two full timers in recognition that volunteers needed breaks post-COVID.

- WLPA was awarded a Pride of Workmanship Award by the Hunters Hill Rotary Club and a Community Service Award from Local Member, The Hon Anthony Roberts MP.

- We provided around 365,000 meals for over 500 homeless cats year-through by providing food to volunteer feeders. We enjoy local donations of food through our

Winter Food Appeal and through Hunters Hill IGA. But in 2022 we also had to ask for foods donated by Mars Pet Foods and others, via PetStock, Petbarn and PetO Foundations. These are distributed via Pet Rescue and ARC. Costs to care for cats and dogs has increased over 30% in the past 6 months. We acknowledge the important work of Pet Rescue and ARC in this regard.

- We welcomed students doing placements at WLPA from highschools, Sydney University vet program and Certificate II and III Animal Studies some of whom attended Blessing of the Animals with Hunters Hill Church for World Animal Day in October, to open World Animal Month.
- WLPA awarded a Compassion Award to journalist Greg Turner for his championing of homeless animals into homes through The Weekly Times. Compassion Awards were also given to Leah Michael for her work feeding and desexing at Lakemba and Campsie and she was later invited to fill a casual vacancy on the Management Committee as Vice President. Prof Steve Garlick and Dr Rosemary Austin were awarded Compassion Awards for their amazing work in wildlife.
- WLPA has provided thousands of veterinary procedures for injured, ill, infant and homeless animals cats, rabbits and dogs. We thank Dr Donna Schofield and team for their care.

We thank the core Centre roster volunteers for their dedicated service incl. Edna Wong, Chantell Back, Annabel Peeling, Helen Olde, Mica Rose, Anita Shepherd, Roger Dixon, Sophie Bonner, Treeni Carr Boyde, Denise Lee, Marissa Pongan, Robyn Hurrell, Verona Joder, Ron Boros, Vera Aleksouska, Tamsin Peters, Teneal Sauer, Tagi, Amelia, Alice & Neal Sala, Murray Sweeney, Aaron Standley, Barbara Schmitt, Leone Manwaring, Margaret Bowman, Peta Pellegrini, Louisa Novak, Monique Krilitch, Karen French, Vicki and Harry, Deb Howson and many more.

Merry Christmas from the Management Committee, staff and volunteers of WLPA

*Jonine Penrose-Wall (Coordinator)
Anna Hall (Special Projects and Appeals)*

*Marissa Pongan (Weekend Animal Care)
Chloe Wright (Adoptions & Special Projects)*



Westpac
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Thank you

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PO Box 211 Gladesville NSW 2111. 02 98174892
or go to www.wlpa.org and press the 'donate' button.
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