

# ANNUAL **2021** REPORT / **2022**





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## ON THE COVER



Magnum is just one of more than 6000 animals who were adopted from RSPCA South Australia in FY22, a record high figure for the organisation.

Little Magnum had a rough start in life, being surrendered with his mum and siblings. When it came to building relationships, he didn't always leap in paws first, but as he grew, his big personality began to shine through.

With a little time and trust, Magnum was soon showering our staff and volunteers with head-butts and cuddles. This undersized man has now found a family that loves him and his oversized personality.



Transforming Lives™



The RSPCA's partnership with Hill's Pet Nutrition ended in December 2021. We express our warm thanks for the support of Hill's throughout our 24 year association.

During this time they provided premium food for the cats and dogs under our shelter and foster care, as well as sponsoring RSPCA events and activities such as the Million Paws Walk. We are grateful to Hill's for their consistent and valuable assistance over the years.

# PROTECTING ANIMALS IN SA FOR 147 YEARS

Our mission is to prevent cruelty to animals by actively promoting their care and protection.



**Animal Rescue**  
Our rescue officers responded to 1895 ambulance call outs.



**Prosecution**  
Our legal team finalised 26 prosecution cases.



**Advocacy**  
We continued to advocate for improved animal welfare laws and policies.



**Inspectorate**  
Our inspectors received 4265 cruelty reports.



**Animal Care**  
We opened our doors to 9419 animals.



**Education**  
364 South Australian schools signed up to our AWARE program.



**Volunteers**  
2581 volunteers supported our operations.

# PRESIDENT & CEO REPORT

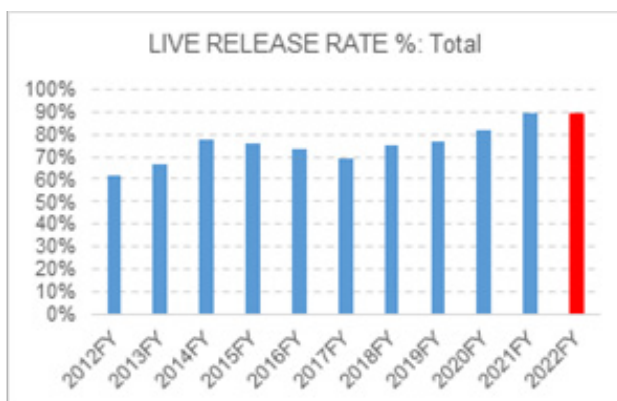
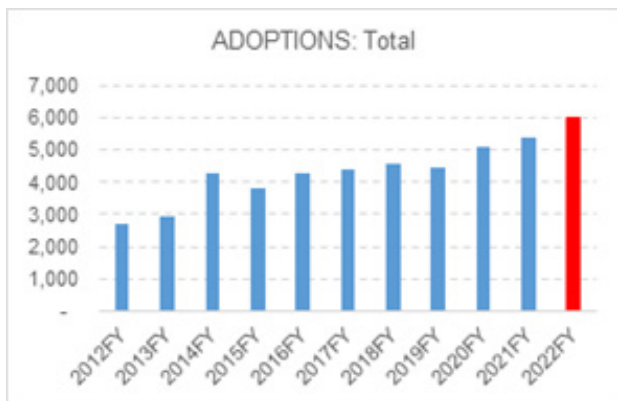
In 2022 RSPCA SA entered the fifth year of the “Amplifying Our Impact” strategic plan, with its aspiration of engaging as many South Australian residents and organisations as possible in improving animal welfare in our state. In most areas we have been making good progress, with our monthly E-News distribution now at around 100,000 subscribers, growing social media following on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube, over 500 teachers registered on our AWARE education programme, 2,581 volunteers giving us their time to help animals, 272 pieces of media coverage secured across print and electronic media, and strengthened connections with local government. All of this, of course, assists in building influence with state government in advocating for improved animal welfare laws.

Prior to the 2022 state election we published our Animal Welfare Priorities list, which secured at least some commitments from all parties. Looking forward, we appear to be on the cusp of significant improvement to South Australia’s legislative protections for animals with the new government committing to full reviews of the Animal Welfare Act, cat management within the Dog and Cat Management Act and the introduction of much improved standards and regulations of dog and cat breeders. The review of the Animal Welfare Act is of particular importance. In 2021 RSPCA Australia, our national body, undertook a benchmarking of protections for animals afforded by each state’s animal welfare legislation and assessed the South Australian legislation as the third weakest. But concerningly, the two states below us have already completed their reviews and when their recommended changes are implemented, our state will have the weakest protections for animals in Australia. Our Act has not been comprehensively reviewed in sixteen years and is well overdue for some significant enhancements to bring it up to broad community expectations on the way we treat and protect our animals in South Australia. We are optimistic that the new government understands the need, with an early indicator of this being the recently legislated end to jumps racing, a campaign in which RSPCA SA played a leading role.

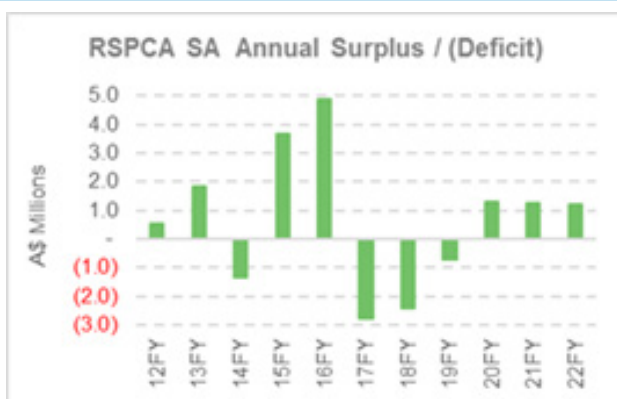
Our role in enforcing the Animal Welfare Act on behalf of the State Government, of course, continued in 2022FY with another 4,246 cruelty reports across the state investigated by our seven inspectors. Through our recruitment and training programme, we continue to develop the skills and professionalism of this function, and the fact we have not lost a case in over a decade points to the quality of our work with collecting evidence and prosecuting offenders. In 2022 the new government increased our funding for this service by \$250,000 per-annum, meaning we now receive \$1.5M per year. While we certainly appreciate this additional assistance, our position remains that we are seeking full recovery of the \$2.5M cost RSPCA SA incurs in providing this service to the government. We do not think that enforcement of government legislation should rely on the good will of donors. This is a principle that, following long-term negotiations, has now been accepted by the councils to which we provide animal management and rehoming services, and we will continue to seek such cost recovery from the state government for the extremely cost-efficient and effective law enforcement service we provide.

During FY22 we commenced a plan to expand our animal ambulance and rescue service with the recruitment and training of a growing number of rescue volunteers. This larger rescue capacity is a particularly important preparation in support of our planned wildlife hospital and, in close cooperation with existing wildlife rescue groups, will see a chronic need in this state addressed, with thousands of sick and injured native animals receiving care and assistance from 2024. In other areas of animal care it was a record year. Our shelters took in and cared for 9,419 animals, and rehomed a record 6,017 animals. More South Australians than ever are choosing to give a home to a rescued animal. Our live release rate was almost 90%, meaning that nine out of every ten animals being received by RSPCA SA find homes. Only those that are just too sick, too injured, or too dangerous to be rehomed, are euthanised. Sadly, through our inspectorate RSPCA SA does receive the most physically and mentally damaged animals, and despite all of the veterinary and behavioural resources and care provided to these animals, some have poor prognoses for quality of life, or just will never be safe enough to release into the community.





From a financial perspective, RSPCA has worked diligently over recent years to ensure we are disciplined in cost management and focused on using our donors' contributions prudently and efficiently in delivering positive outcomes for animals. As we enter a period of increasing economic cost pressures that may also squeeze the capacity of our donors to support our work, we do have a strong base of three consecutive years of surpluses providing some reserves for any difficult times.



Of course, the most exciting news during FY22 was the final approval to develop our new Animal Care Campus within Glenithorne National Park. This decision was the culmination of negotiations that commenced back in 2017, when O'Halloran Hill was identified as the best location for our new campus. Importantly, the new Animal Care Campus is not simply a group of new buildings. Rather, it represents a physical manifestation



of our long-term strategic direction for RSPCA in South Australia. Not simply the construction of state-of-the-art, animal science based, low stress enclosures for animals in our care, but the inclusion of an education centre to provide free animal care and welfare education and training to schools and the community. Additionally, a more attractive and accessible work environment to encourage even more volunteers to assist RSPCA with animals in our care and a much larger veterinary centre, designed to facilitate training of new vets and vet nurses with Adelaide University and TAFE, and with potential to expand our community veterinary support for owned animals in need. And of course, the new wildlife hospital, the first large scale and so desperately needed specialist wildlife veterinary facility in South Australia helping sick and injured native animals.

There will be ongoing challenges in the coming years, but we are confident that RSPCA SA is well positioned to lead improvements in animal care and welfare in this state.

*Rob DiMonte*

**Rob DiMonte**  
President

*Paul Stevenson*

**Paul Stevenson**  
Chief Executive Officer



# THE BOARD



Rob DiMonte  
President



Paul Hutchinson  
Finance



Leanna Read  
Science



Kate Gray  
Commercial



Andrew Carter  
Veterinary



Susan Hazel  
Veterinary



Sheenagh Edwards  
Accounting



Marcus Gehrig  
Fundraising



Chris Daniels  
Wildlife



Stephen Voss  
Legal



## REMEMBERING JILL BOTTRALL

This year RSPCA lost a much loved and valued supporter with the passing of Jill Bottrall. She died on April 16, aged 62, after a short battle with cancer. A former political adviser and communication specialist, Jill joined the board of RSPCA South Australia and the board of the national body, RSPCA Australia, in 2014.

Jill's passion for animal welfare was obvious to anyone who met her. It was not only this commitment to improving the lives of animals, but also her expertise and command of working with government and the media, that made Jill such an asset to the RSPCA.

Jill continued to serve on both the RSPCA Australia and RSPCA South Australia boards up until a few weeks before she died. Intelligent, kind-hearted and generous, Jill gave so much to make the world a better place for animals, and we honour her life and legacy.



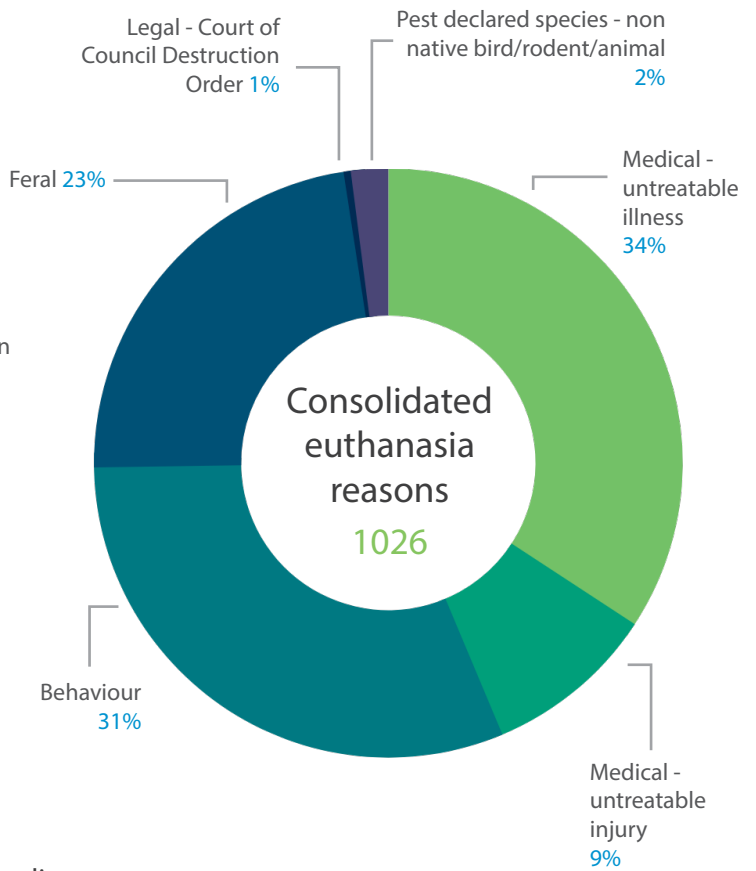
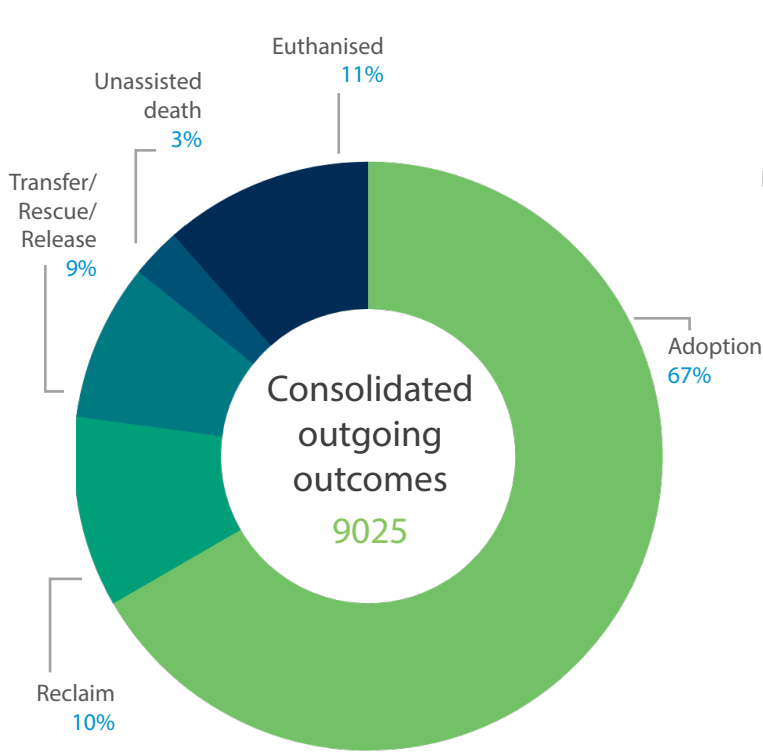
**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

			30/06/2022	30/06/2021
\$,000's			\$'000	\$'000
<b>COSTS</b>	<b>Mission</b>	Inspectorate & Legal	2,804	2,405
		Rescue	296	258
		Animal Operations	4,339	3,758
		Advocacy and Education	194	259
		<b>Sub-Total Mission Costs</b>	<b>7,633</b>	<b>6,682</b>
	<b>Overheads</b>	Admin & Depreciation	1,912	2,162
<b>TOTAL MISSION COSTS TO BE FUNDED</b>			<b>9,545</b>	<b>8,844</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>Bequests</b>		3,346	2,345
	<b>Animal Operations</b>	Adoptions, Boarding, Council	2,887	2,413
	<b>Government</b>	Inspectorate Funding	1,217	1,188
	<b>Investments</b>	Incl Gains & Losses	366	1,086
	<b>Commercial</b>	Op Shops, Petville, Dog training	368	236
	<b>Fundraising</b>		1,602	1,485
	<b>Job Keeper</b>		-	1,349
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME</b>			<b>9,785</b>	<b>10,101</b>
<b>SURPLUS / (SHORTFALL)</b>			<b>241</b>	<b>1,257</b>
		Capital Campaign	979	-
		Revaluation Adjustments	2,568	3,080
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>			<b>3,788</b>	<b>4,337</b>

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

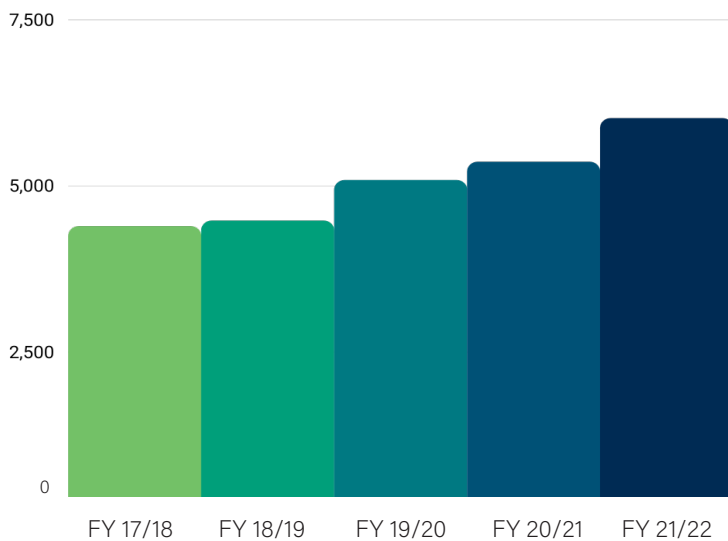
		As at 30/06/2022	As at 30/06/2021
<b>ASSETS</b>		<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Current Assets		13,829	3,067
Non-current assets		19,904	26,626
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>33,732</b>	<b>29,693</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current Liabilities		2,397	2,284
Non-current liabilities		3,816	3,677
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>6,213</b>	<b>5,961</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>27,520</b>	<b>23,732</b>

# ANIMAL OUTCOMES

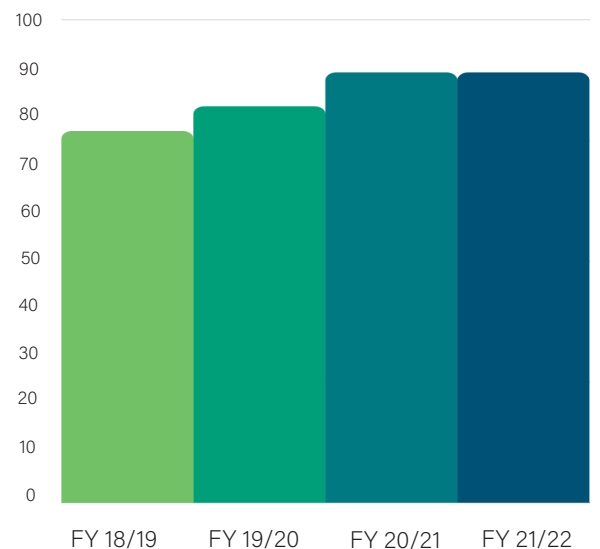


Please note, numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

## Adoptions



## Live release rate (%)





	Dogs and Puppies	Cats and Kittens	Rabbits	Birds	Other	Totals
Outcomes for Council, strays, surrenders						
Adoption	826	3355	374	72	114	4741
Reclaim	530	149	8	2	2	691
Euthanised	111	494	14	48	5	672
Unassisted death	9	104	44	10	2	169
Transfer/Rescue/Release	84	105	5	86	88	368
Other		7		7		14
Total	1560	4214	445	225	211	6655

Ambulance						
Adoption	67	449	53	36	23	628
Reclaim	63	98	2	11	5	179
Euthanised	14	186	6	30	17	253
Unassisted death		27	11	3	3	44
Transfer/Rescue/Release	29	38	6	185	32	290
Other						0
Total	173	798	78	265	80	1394

Inspectorate						
Adoption	185	366	21	52	24	648
Reclaim	44	16	3	2	11	76
Euthanised	44	29		24	4	101
Unassisted death	8	15	5		5	33
Transfer/Rescue/Release	28	15		53	25	121
Other						0
Total	309	441	29	131	69	979

	Dogs and Puppies	Cats and Kittens	Rabbits	Birds	Other	Totals
In care as at 30 June 2021	155	478	44	12	34	723
Total Live Intake	2087	5759	595	620	358	9419
Adoption	1078	4170	448	160	161	6017
Reclaim	637	263	13	15	18	946
Euthanised	169	709	20	102	26	1026
Unassisted death	17	146	60	13	10	246
Transfer/Rescue/Release	141	158	11	324	145	779
Owner Requested Euthanasia	8			2		10
Other		7		7		14
Total Outgoing	2042	5453	552	621	360	9028
Dead on arrival	9	41	2	11	7	70
In care as at 30 June 2022	200	784	87	11	32	1114

# A FAREWELL TO DR BRAD WARD

In July we bid a very fond farewell to Dr Brad Ward after 15 years of dedicated and outstanding service. Brad was RSPCA SA's first-ever vet, stepping into the role in 2007 when the passing of the Veterinary Practice Act effectively gave the organisation permission to employ its own vet.

Faced with an overwhelming workload, Brad soon made it a priority to build a team. This year, under his guidance, the now 16-strong vet team oversaw the veterinary care of more than 9,400 animals. Concurrent with the need to build a team was a need to improve veterinary facilities.

Looking back on those early years, Brad concedes he took on a lot.

"In those days we didn't have all the equipment we have today.

"There was no x-ray machine, for example.

"We had a large number of animals but what I was able to provide in veterinary care was much less than our team does these days."

Under Brad's leadership, euthanasia rates dropped to record levels, to the point where nine out of every ten animals are now being rehomed.

"We never thought we'd be able to rehome animals with pre-existing medical problems, but here we are finding homes for those who need it most.

"Lowering the euthanasia statistics to where they are today is a source of great pride for me and the rest of the team."

Asked just before he retired about what he would miss, Brad replied -

"I'll miss the daily interaction with the team and the unique personalities of the staff. It has been great working alongside people who share the same goals and have the same attitudes towards the work we do.

"I'm so proud of everything the team has done and how they have benefited animal welfare positively in South Australia."

In announcing that the new veterinary clinic in the RSPCA Animal Care Campus at Glenthorne National Park will be officially named the "Brad Ward Veterinary Clinic", CEO Paul Stevenson said -

"For 15 years Brad was utterly reliable in being available to assist animals in need 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

"His professionalism, dedication and compassion for animals warranted this special recognition."

On behalf of the whole organisation and the countless animals he helped, we thank Brad and wish him every happiness in this next chapter of his remarkable life.





# 30 YEARS AND COUNTING

Working at the RSPCA for 30 years, Rescue Officer Nalika van Loenen has seen it all – from untangling pelicans to catching cats falling out of trees, her tireless efforts have led to the rescue of thousands of animals.

In fact, over the course of her career, Nalika has rescued a gobsmacking 11,500 animals and has responded to over 14,000 call outs. Despite her three decades on the job, Nalika still treats each day with as much enthusiasm as her first.



RSPCA SA would like to thank Nalika for 30 years of incredible service to the organisation and to animals in need. Her passion and enthusiasm is an inspiration to all who work with her. Here's to another 30, Nalika.



RSPCA South Australia's work would not be possible without the assistance and backing of our incredibly generous corporate partners. Their support has a significant and long-lasting impact on the lives of the animals in our care, and we offer our heartfelt thanks for all their help.

**PETBARN**

peteralexander

**Elanco**

**Bendigo Bank**

## HELPING TO CREATE A KINDER WORLD FOR ANIMALS

We would like to thank all those individuals who demonstrated their passion for animals by remembering them in their Wills. Their gifts to RSPCA South Australia continue to make a real difference, in very practical ways, for animals now and into the future.

The truth is, we simply couldn't do what we do today without the kindness and forethought of animal lovers who leave gifts to us in their Wills. Your generosity empowers RSPCA South Australia to continue our vital work, and we thank you.

If you would like to learn more about leaving a lasting legacy to animals, or for a confidential discussion, please call (08) 8205 8011 or email [wills@rspcasa.org.au](mailto:wills@rspcasa.org.au)







## Stay in touch

Call us on **1300 4 777 22**

Visit us and join our monthly eNews at  
[rspcasa.org.au](https://rspcasa.org.au)

Follow us on social media



In 2022, for the first time in history, Adelaide Botanic Gardens opened their gates to dogs for RSPCA South Australia's annual Million Paws Walk, and it's on again next year on Sunday, May 28 - save the date!