



NOTICE OF THE 51ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Australian Animal Protection Society

To be held at
Australian Animal Protection Society
26 Aegean Ave, Keysborough VIC 3173

Saturday June 1st at 11 AM (Registration from 10:30 AM)
Volunteer Week Afternoon Tea & Presentation: 12:30 PM

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Apologies.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 03/06/2023.
3. To receive and consider the Balance Sheet of the Society as at 31/12/2023 and adopt the Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31/12/2023.
4. To receive and consider the Directors Report.
5. To consider election of Directors.
Under Article 42.1 - Election and appointment of Directors:
42.1 of the Articles of Association, Anita Romleigh, Andrew Fielder, Graham Ambrose, retire and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.
Caren Hendrie and Barabara Law being a co-opted eligible Board Members, offers themselves for election.
Alan Williams and Rhona Van Der Kaay have voluntarily retired.
6. To consider the appointment of an Auditor of the Society for the financial year 2024.
7. Other Business.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Members wishing to raise a question at the meeting, other than ones arising directly from either the Treasurer's or Directors Report, should send a copy of the question addressed to the Secretary, 26 Aegean Court, Keysborough 3173 or email secretary@aaps.org.au It must reach the Secretary no later than 2.00 p.m. Friday 24th May 2024.

Please note that questions are limited to two per member at the 2023 AGM arising directly either from the Treasurer's or Directors Reports.

If you would like a copy of the Detailed Financial Report for the year ended 31st December 2023 prior to the Annual General Meeting (where copies will be available) please apply in writing, or via phone 9798 8415, email finance@aaps.org.au or in person to the Shelter in Keysborough, between Monday 20th May and Monday 27th May 2024. Please provide a return email address (preferred) or arrange pick up at 26 Aegean Court, Keysborough 3173.

Minutes of the 50th Annual General meeting held on 3rd June 2023 were distributed in August 2023 copies will be available at the AGM.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Welcome to the 51st Annual General Meeting of AAPS.

The 2023 year was certainly a challenging one, but a year that everyone involved with AAPS should be proud of.

The various events held throughout the year achieved results in a variety of areas, including increasing AAPS awareness, adoptions and of course fundraising. Innovative ideas such as the Pity Parties have seen a new audience become aware of AAPS through expanded media and social media coverage, as well as celebrating long term residents and giving them the spotlight for adoption.

Of course, all the events, as well as so many aspects of the organisation, simply could not go ahead without the incredible dedication of the amazing AAPS volunteers. This wonderful group of people donate not just their time, but their warmth and energy to the organisation. A genuine heartfelt thank you to you all.

The difficult operating environment from 2023 continues into 2024 and Animal Welfare organisations and shelters across Australia, in fact in many parts of the world, are facing unprecedented demand for their services.

We have seen that the cost-of-living challenges are having a major impact on adoption numbers, as reported by mainstream media in recent times.

To try and combat the situation AAPS has introduced a number of measures including, assessing the cost of adoption, cost of veterinary care through programs like AAPS medical assist as well as outreach options like discounted desexing for the community.

Increasing awareness of AAPS to become top of mind for anyone when they think of animal adoption is an important strategy to in turn lead to greater adoption numbers. By highlighting our unique position within the animal welfare sector and celebrating our point of difference we have an opportunity to showcase why AAPS is such an incredible organisation.

Liaising with government and regulatory bodies is also an important and ongoing requirement to ensure that our officials and decision makers are aware of the challenges we are facing.

These measures, combined with a focus on diversifying and increasing income streams allow AAPS to continue to operate successfully and rescue and rehome as many animals as possible.

Finally, on behalf of the Board, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank CEO Megan Benton for the outstanding work she and the shelter staff and volunteers have undertaken over the past year. The results achieved during such challenging circumstances are to be applauded.

Trudi Sheppard

On behalf of the AAPS Board of Directors

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Dear Valued Members,

The AAPS staff and our team of dedicated volunteers continue to remain optimistic in providing unwavering support to the animals that needed us as we encountered new challenges in 2023. The animal welfare sector is facing post pandemic challenges brought on by the rise in cost of living. This has meant an increase in the number of animals being surrendered and with less people looking to adopt due to

financial constraints it has affected the time it takes us to find an animal a new home, impacting on us both financially and operationally.

We have put an emphasis on providing excellent customer service across all areas of the shelter.

Calls to our Animal Advice line increased and therefore extra resources were allocated to allow us to assist more members of the community with a variety of issues ranging from dog training, cat behaviour concerns, strays and sick animals, with the intent of keeping the animal in the home wherever possible.

As your CEO, I am committed to continue to build relationships with Government representatives and authorities to benefit our Society both financially and from a brand awareness perspective. The regular on-going networking with other like-minded organisations assists us with addressing common challenges we all face as a sector. This collaboration and resource sharing allows us to work towards best practices and research findings with the common goal of helping as many animals as possible.

The income streams that financially feed the shelter are continuing to grow and we are very proud of the work that is done in our Vet clinic, Op shops and Grooming salon. Their contribution to the Society not only financially helps us but is an amazing addition to our overall operation. Work has commenced on the business plan for the Boarding Kennel that will potentially house up to 70 dogs and will raise even more awareness for our Society, provide revenue for our charity and help the community because there is a shortage of dog boarding facilities.

I am extremely grateful for the support and commitment of AAPS staff, the amazing volunteers we have including the Board of Directors, the foster carers, adopters and donors, together we make the Australian Animal Protection Society an incredible entity focused on making a difference.

Best wishes,
Megan Benton
Chief Executive Officer

BEQUESTS

AAPS acknowledge the following Donors whose bequest was received during the year.

- Dorothy Roberta Lee
- Estate of Mary Josephine Wilden
- Estate of Joan Oliver
- Estate of Doreen Mary Schwab
- Estate of Muriel Harrison
- Estate of June Lorraine Smith
- Estate of Mary Lyall Crawford-Gemmell
- S L Barnett
- Carmel Myers

Total: \$2,203,554

2023 BOARD REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of the AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY LTD for the financial year ended 31 December 2022.

Committee Members

The name of each member of the committee during the year and if different, at the date of the report:

- Trudi Sheppard (President)
- Helen Hone (Vice President)
- Andrew Stopp (Treasurer)
- Anita Romleigh (Secretary)
- Graham Ambrose
- Tracey Evans
- Andrew Fielder
- Shoshana Silverman (resigned 14/10/2023)
- Rhona Van Der Kaay (retired 14/10/2023)
- Alan Williams (retired 14/10/2023)

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were:

Protection of animals and care and welfare of animals.

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The profit of the association after providing for income tax amounted to \$1,383,031.00

Significant Changes in State of Affairs

There have been no significant changes in the state of affairs of the association during the year.

Events After the Reporting Date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the association in the future years.

2023 BOARD REPORT (CONT)

Environmental issues

The association's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulations under a law of the commonwealth or of a state or territory of Australia.

Indemnification and Insurance of Officers and Auditors

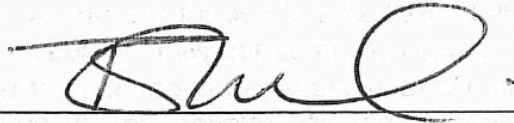
No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY LTD.

Auditors Independant Declaration

The auditor's independence declaration in accordance with section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001, for the year ended 31 December 2023 has been received and can be found on page 3 of the financial report.

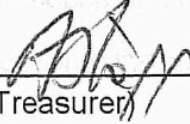
Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the committee.

Committee Member: _____



Trudi Sheppard (President)

Committee Member: _____



Andrew Stopp (Treasurer)

Dated this 21st day of March 2024

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS



Andrew Fielder

I have been a member of the Society for over 15 years. I was asked to join the committee having the role of President for over 15 years. I have a great interest in animal welfare and the needs of the animals, along with this I help out by working as a handyman & gardener around the shelter. By doing this I know that I am making a contribution to help the animals and the staff at the shelter. I offer myself for re-election so I can continue to help support AAPS.



Anita Romleigh

I've been a supporter of AAPS and animal welfare for a few years now and love continuing to help support this wonderful cause. I work with Project Hope Horse Welfare Vic doing database management and developing procedures and forms, as well as manning stalls at public events to sell merchandise and raise awareness. My corporate background includes Project Management and Governance roles, so I have strong experience in teamwork, efficiency and forward planning.

I look forward to using these skills to support the AAPS Board, members and animals, and therefore I offer myself for re-election.



Barbara Law

I have been a volunteer at AAPS for the past 6 years - mainly fostering cats and dogs. I have had over 200 kittens and cats and about a dozen dogs. I feel very privileged to have the opportunity to help all these animals and give them a loving grounding to move on to their forever homes. I have the utmost respect for all the Staff at AAPS and the hard work and care they put in for all the animals. I hope to continue fostering for many years to come.



Caren Hendrie

I'm a business growth adviser, international speaker, and best-selling author. But most importantly I'm a 'crazy cat lady' and AAPS volunteer. Despite running two businesses, travelling, and spending lots of time with family, the time I spend at AAPS is one of my most fulfilling priorities. I love to help out however I can, whether it's brainstorming fundraising ideas or cleaning kitty litter trays. I feel privileged to be part of this caring community, as well as proud to be aligned with a shelter that holds such strong animal-first values.

I'm delighted to be able to serve my fellow AAPS members and animal lovers as a board member.



Graham Ambrose

Graham Ambrose has been associated with AAPS for over 15 years, during this time he started as a volunteer dog walker and then later became a member of the AAPS Committee.

Graham has worked for Telstra for over 34 years and he currently manages cases associated to financial hardship being experienced by customers. Graham has a high regard for AAPS and what they do for the animals, and this is why he is offering himself for re-election.

HOW WE MADE A DIFFERENCE IN 2023

935

ANIMALS ADMITTED



914

ANIMALS ADOPTED



381



ANIMALS FOSTERED



5.45%



EUTHANASIA RATE

TikTok -57.3k

Instagram - 18.1k

Facebook - 39k

Email 6,800

SUPPAWTERS

17,885

CALLS TO OUR ANIMAL ADVICE LINE



204

VOLUNTEERS



\$87,000

RAISED THROUGH EVENTS



\$288,970

OP SHOP INCOME



75

TRANSFERRED TO RESCUE



HOW WE MADE A DIFFERENCE IN 2023

\$2,203,300

GIFTED FROM WILLS



\$384,384

TOTAL DONATIONS



\$154,300

GRANTS

\$28,870

DIGITAL RAFFLES



\$1,837,900

INCOME - VET CLINIC



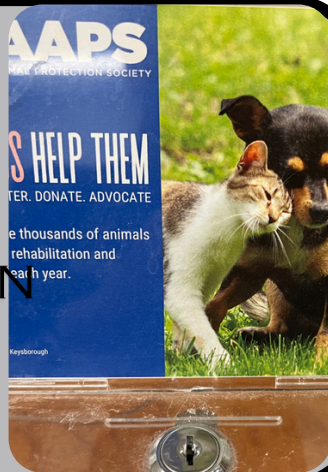
\$105,830

INCOME - GROOMING



\$3,027

DONATION TINS



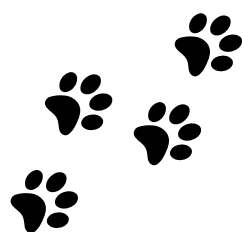
\$42,000



ONLINE FUNDRAISING

23

EVENTS



MILESTONE STORIES

DYSON, ADOPTED AFTER 11 MONTHS AT OUR SHELTER



Long-termer, the gorgeous Dyson found his furever home after spending 355 at our shelter.

EOFY APPEAL



In 2022, the AAPS EOFY appeal raised just over \$42,022 and in 2023 we raised a total of \$42,175

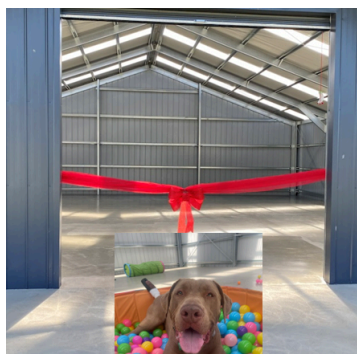
SNORES FOR PAWS



Snores for Paws participants (staff and volunteers) raised \$42,000 in total to help cover the cost of a therapeutic laser machine for our vet clinic. Participants or 'Snorers' promoted their own fundraising profile through their social media platforms, asking for friends and family to 'Sponsor a Snorer'.

Our Xmas gift wrapping at Waverly Gardens was a success, with staff and volunteers helping wrap presents we made \$3,500

BIG KENNEL PROJECT COMPLETED



Our awesome big kennel has been completed, had its official opening and is loved by our kennel staff as they can utilise it when the weather is bad.

BEST FRIENDS ROWVILLE



Big thank you to Best Friends in Rowville who donate lots of food and toys. They have donated over \$15,000 worth of goodies to the shelter.

RAINBOW BRIDGE



AAPS started the rainbow bridge and garden. This was to help those who have lost animals and wanted somewhere they could remember them. The garden and the bridge were put together by Community Service Workers

CHRISTMAS WRAPPING



CHRISTMAS MARKET



Held early December last year, our annual Christmas Market was a success, all revenue stores were AAPS run, so all the proceeds came back to the shelter. Great food, Christmas tunes, and our long-termers available for adoption, meeting the crowds it was a great day.

BOAT ROCKER TRIVIA NIGHT



Boat Rocker Trivia was a great success on the Sunday. It was a beautiful sunny day and everyone had a great afternoon. we raised \$3782

ACE - 6 MONTHS IN CARE



Ace was with us for 6 months he needed OCD Bilateral shoulder surgery. He was adopted at the Chrismutt in July event and the owners are now going to adopt Scarlett another one of our gorgeous rescues.

MILESTONE STORIES

APPEAL FOR KIP



A fundraiser was held for Kip's operation so he could walk pain free. Kip was 6 months in our care and fostered by our wonderful volunteer Petra. We raised \$15,000 he is now in his furever home.

OP SHOP VIP NIGHTS



Champagne was flowing as volunteers modelled outfits from the op shop, and funds raised were around \$7,000

DOG DE BORDEAUX HAPPING ENDING



These dogs were rescued from a backyard breeder in NSW, they were living in horrible conditions. These dogs were so traumatised they wouldn't walk and had to be carried by AAPS Staff. They are now all in loving homes and living the best life.

DOG LOVERS SHOW



Discover Dog Adoption DOG LOVERS FESTIVAL

The Dog Lovers show, held in October last year, gave volunteers and staff the opportunity to engage with the community and promote the importance of dog adoption. Along with lots of goodies at the stall to help raise money for the shelter.

A SECOND CHANCE FOR TINY



Tiny came into our shelter to be euthanised she was unable to move her back legs. Our amazing vet team worked hard, and Tiny got the use of her back legs again.

VISIT FROM LISA MCCUNE



A visit from the lovely Lisa McCune from Blue Heelers. Lisa has shopped at our Op Shops for a long while but decided to pay our resident Angus a visit.

MUTT STRUTT - WINTER DOG WALK



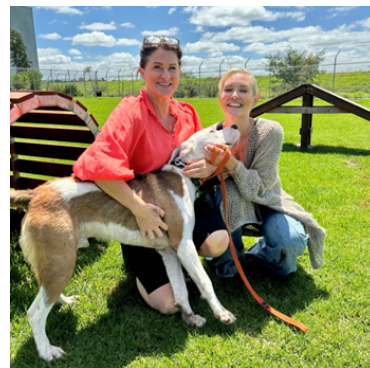
Our Mutt Strutt - Winter Dog Walk was a great success, even though the venue was changed we had a great turn out and raised \$6,850

NEW DOG AGILITY PARK



Our new dog agility equipment was put in by the Community Service Workers and the dogs are loving it.

INFLUENCER NICKI WHELAN



Nicki Whelan is an international influencer on Instagram and is shining a light on our shelter and what we do for the animals.

CAT RUN



New cat run was finally completed and able to be used by our furry residents

TREASURER’S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 2023

The financial accounts of the Society for the year ending 31st December 2023 have been audited by Mr. Rowan Harman of R. Harman & Associates who was also the auditor the preceding year. The Auditor has issued an unqualified audit report which is included in the accounts available to members.

Results

For the year ended 31 December 2023 the Society recorded a profit of \$1,383,031 compared to a profit of \$2,048,778 the prior year. The 2023 profit included \$100,000 from property revaluation and \$2,203,554 from bequests.

Income

Some sources of income are beyond the control of the Society. Classifying the income into classes shows; The operating income of the society, which is income from its day-to-day activities (excluding internal allocations), increased to \$1,715,070 up from \$1,691,626. This from Vet clinic external customers 51% and other shelter operations 49%. Vet clinic external revenue fell 14% while all other sections had increased revenue.

- The Society operates three OP Shops. Cheltenham, Moorabbin and Aegean Court. Net income from the shops was \$205,630 up from \$197,547 the previous year.
- Shelter and other operating income increased by \$120,735 (50%). This included income from adoption fees, business activities, eg. Grooming, and organized fund-raising events.
- The net cost of Shelter operations was \$734,913 an increase of \$185,632, this includes the cost of internal vet services for shelter animals but excludes payroll costs.
- Vet Clinic net income was \$680,909. This is an increase of 72% over last year. 55% of vet services are provided for shelter animals. Payroll represents 65% of Vet clinic costs.
- Overall direct operating profit was \$151,627. Comparable prior year was \$43,360.

Non-Operating Income was \$3,028,778 (prior year \$3,607,705). The largest component was bequests \$2,203,554, (last year 2,817,263). Other items are general donations, interest, grants and property revaluation

Animal Admissions and Adoptions	2023		2022	
	Admission	Release	Admission	Release
Dogs	329	304	284	303
Cats & Kittens	536	612	690	757
Other	87	118	87	72
Total Animals	952	1034	1061	1132

Animal Admissions and Adoptions
The number of animal admissions and Live Releases during the year.

Direct costs of Operating (or Cost of Sales)	2023	%	2022	%
Shelter & Vet clinic	\$669,452	49%	607,703	44%
OP Shops	\$83,339	29%	\$35,374	15%

Direct costs of Operating (or Cost of Sales)
These include animal supplies, purchases, external Vet fees etc. (excluding Vet allocated payroll)

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 2022

Expenses	2023	2022
Staff related Costs - all staff (wages, superannuation, workcover etc)	\$2,284,674	\$2,169,055
Occupancy Costs (rent, rates etc)	\$27,514	\$44,202
Other	\$306,923	\$293,221
Total Expenses	\$2,619,111	\$2,506,478

Expenses

Other expenses (including Vet payroll) have increased by 9%, because of higher payroll costs incurred as normal operations have returned after COVID.

- The major expense item is staff related costs representing 87% of all expenses (86% prior year).
 - Employee numbers 31/12/2023 Full Time 10, Part time 15, Casual 16
 - (Employee numbers 31/12/2022 Full Time 11, Part time 18, Casual 10)
- Occupancy costs include Rents and rates etc. less the net rental income from Tasmanian property (The direct costs of building and new equipment are capital expenses and are included in Assets.)

How much do we need donations and bequests	2023	2022
Without donations or bequests or abnormal items - loss	\$1,645,739	\$1,561,934

How much do we need donations and bequests

As you can see the society depends upon donations and bequests to pay for its operations. Although there has been a history of generous supporters and fundraisers which we all hope will be continued.

Summary of Assets and Liabilities	2023	2022
Cash and deposits and accrued interest earned	\$6,382,218	\$5,285,252
Other Assets	\$103,854	\$22,283
Land, buildings and equipment	\$15,344,572	\$15,041,348
Less Liabilities	(\$374,951)	(\$276,222)
Net assets of the Society	\$21,455,693	\$20,072,661

Assets and Liabilities

The net assets of AAPS are largely made up of buildings. The building of Aegean Court is complete to its current stage. Cash deposits and operating accounts total \$6.38m. As noted below the value of the land and buildings shown is based on historic costs or valuation does not represent the likely proceeds should a sale occur.

- Property at Aegean Court at cost \$13.5m (includes land, building and initial equipment and additions)
- Property Revaluation. - The Cheltenham Op shop freehold is owned by the Society and has been included at current estimated market value of \$820,000. (unchanged from 2019)
- Tasmanian Property – Two properties in Tasmania received by bequest are included at estimated market valuation 2023.

Future operations

The expansion of Aegean Court (stage 2 of the original plans) and other options for extended use of the existing property is under consideration but no plans or commitments have been made. The Big Kennel project is nearing completion financed from grants and fund raising.

Because the societies adoption and animal welfare operations run at a deficit of approx 1.8m p.a. it is desirable to hold a funding surplus. Space is available at Aegean Court to accommodate other potential activities, hopefully with income potential.

Vet Clinic operations have stabilized. However the increasing costs of staff and difficulty attracting qualified staff plus the demand for shelter vet services is a notable constraint on further income contribution.

Op shop profits continue to improve but are not expected to become a significant income source in future years. The reliance on Donations and Bequests to offset the costs of shelter operations will continue. Such income by its nature is unpredictable. The search for alternative sources of income is desirable.

For its continued operation the Society depends on the support of many. Not just the specific amounts for bequests and donations highlighted here, which are gratefully received and absolutely necessary, but also on the support and goodwill and efforts of its members, staff volunteers which are not easily recorded in a financial report but are necessary just the same.

Andrew Stopp - Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 2022

Profit and Loss by Activity

Account	2023	2022
OP Shops		
OP Shop Sales	288,969	232,921
OP Shop Costs	83,339	35,374
OP Shop Profit	205,630	197,547
Shelter		
Shelter Income	437,213	303,009
Other Operating Income	93,631	107,100
Shelter Costs	1,265,757	959,390
Shelter Profit (Loss)	(734,916)	(549,281)
Vet Clinic		
Vet Clinic Income	1,837,902	1,734,234
Vet Clinic Costs	1,156,992	1,339,140
Vet Clinic Profit	680,909	395,094
Gross Operating Profit	151,627	43,360
Other Income		
Other Income and Bequests	3,028,778	3,607,705
Expenses		
Payroll Costs	1,462,929	1,267,870
General Expenses	306,931	293,215
Property Rent and Rates	27,514	44,202
Total Expenses	1,797,374	1,605,287
Net Profit (loss)	1,383,031	(2,045,778)

FAREWELL & THANK YOU



Rhona Van Der Kaay

Rhona Van Der Kaay leaves our board after more than 15 years of dedicated and passionate service to AAPS. Rhona started with AAPS initially walking the wonderful dogs, then went onto helping as Secretary since 2017.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude for the tremendous contribution she has made during her tenure here at AAPS. Rhona's commitment, insightful contributions and leadership have been invaluable to our success and for that we are truly thankful.



Alan Williams

Alan Williams leaves our board after more than 17 years as a valuable resource to our cause.

We are grateful for all the guidance and support he has provided in areas here at the shelter and on the Board over this period, a period in which he has been instrumental in shaping our organisations direction. We want to thank Alan for his wonderful work with AAPS and look forward to still seeing him around the Shelter. He can now take a well-earned rest and just enjoy his retirement.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

LUXURY TRAVEL



**Petbarn
Foundation**



SHARP

*Protecting Animals,
Changing Lives*

