



Animals give you a  
**better life**  
You can leave them  
with a **better world**

# The love you feel for animals can live on forever



## Let's keep our promise to the animals

In my 30 years with the Society, I've seen firsthand the impact that animals have on humans. Their love for us is unconditional, their loyalty unwavering. And while most people give back that love in kind, the heartbreaking reality is that some are not so caring.

It's always been my goal – and the goal of RSPCA NSW – to make sure humans keep our promise of love, devotion and care to the animals. Animals, after all, show us astounding trust, no matter the circumstances.

I often think back to a few years ago, when I was still an inspector, and got a call about an underweight dog. I remember arriving at the property and looking over the fence to see what I thought was a black dog lying on the ground, unable to stand. I wasn't even sure she was alive. She had lost most of her hair and was so thin that her eyes appeared sunken into her head. With no one at the house, I picked her up and drove her the 40 minutes back to the shelter, stopping three times on the way just to check she was still breathing. Fortunately, she made it, and I passed her into the care of our

veterinary team. Some months later, I saw a young couple in the shelter adopting a beautiful black dog. When the dog saw me, she ran straight to me, almost bowling me over. I held her head in my hands and looked into her eyes, and in that moment I realised it was the dog that I had rescued all those months earlier. She was completely transformed.

Although months had passed, that beautiful young dog had remembered me and the kindness I'd shown her when I took her away from that life of pain and despair.

But it wasn't just me who picked her up that day. It was you too. You help give animals a reason to believe in something better. Even when they are knocked around and treated poorly, animals still, amazingly, have faith in humans. They give us so much love and trust that we owe them our protection.

Thank you for considering such an incredible gift to the animals. Thank you for making, and keeping, that promise of protection.

**Steve Coleman**  
RSPCA NSW CEO

Together we can  
build a world  
for the animals  
we love so much



## We share the same ideals

You are as much a part of RSPCA NSW as the inspectors, veterinarians and animal care staff who work in our shelters and hospitals. Your love, your passion and your respect for animals is the fuel that keeps us running. Your involvement in our day-to-day work is the air that we breathe. The generosity of your giving is our lifeblood.

You are RSPCA NSW. You are in everything we do. Our purpose, is yours.

## We want the same thing

Nothing complicated. Nothing unimaginable. All we want is for cruelty to animals to end. That's all. It's not much to ask for really, is it? Should animal lovers like us pay attention to those who dismiss this dream as impossible? Of course not. It's not impossible for a person to be kind to a dog. It's not impossible to feed a hungry cat. It's not impossible to refrain from hurting a horse.

These are simple truths everyone should know and live by. You know it. We all know it. The only thing that's impossible for animal lovers like you and us to imagine, is a world where kindness to animals doesn't happen.

## Together, we can realise the dream

For nearly 150 years, RSPCA NSW and animal lovers like you have been putting animals first. Today, through your passionate involvement, we can dream of achieving this more than ever.

In choosing to include a gift to RSPCA NSW in your Will, you will be contributing to vital work that must be done to protect animals from cruelty. More than that, you'll be harnessing your deep love for animals to create a future we all want -- one in which no animal experiences cruelty, abuse or neglect at the hands of human beings. It's the ultimate tribute to the animals you've loved and lost.

# How we say thank you when words are not enough

If you were asked about an animal who left a paw print on your heart, we're sure there's a certain furry face that would spring to mind.

You often hear animal owners say 'they rescued me' – and it's no exaggeration. Pets teach us so much about resilience and responsibility. They help liberate us from loneliness, uncertainty and despair.

As an animal lover, you know how precious the bonds with our pets are, and how difficult it can be to put into words how much they mean to us. When asked why they choose to include RSPCA in their Will, people frequently tell us it's because their pets meant so much to them, so they leave this monetary tribute to say thank you for the love they received from animals in their lifetime.

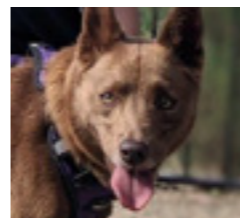
"I miss you not being behind the door when I get home. I miss you sharing my dinner, I miss the jingle of your collar. I miss the tap dance you used to do by the side of my bed to wake me up. I miss curling up on the sofa with you when we'd watch a movie together. I simply miss calling your name and telling you I love you. I miss all of this but more than anything, I miss your incredible presence in my life and the strength that gave me. Dogs aren't our whole lives, but they make our lives whole and you did that in abundance."

– **Helen's message to her dog Xas**



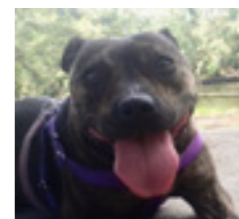
"I struggled with depression for years and I honestly don't think I would be here without my cat, Naito. I rescued him but really, he saved me. Animals force you to pay attention to something outside of yourself. They offer

you warmth, love and affection. You can't neglect your own life because they depend on you. Caring for an animal makes you a more empathetic person. It changes how you feel about all living things. The way animals love is so pure and we are blessed to experience it." – **Lisa C on her cat Naito**



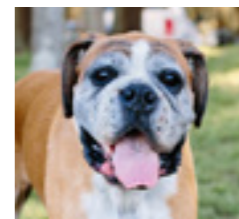
"There is something so special and unique about the silent relationship I have with my dog, Scout. We speak completely different languages, but somehow understand each other more than I understand most

people. The joy she brings me is unlike any other. She has taught me to accept her for who she is, and in turn, this helps me to accept people for who they are." – **Jessica on her dog Scout**



"It's amazing just how much your pet can teach you about life and the person you really want to be. Before I met the ever-so-sweet Delilah, resilience was just a word. She brought that word to life with her ability to bounce back from

whatever the world had thrown at her. She chose to love." – **Kylie on her dog Delilah**

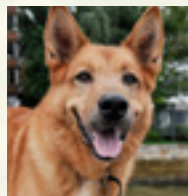


"I adopted Katie when she was four and she had a host of health problems. She had anxiety issues, constant skin and ear infections, crippling arthritis and two bouts of cancer. But every day she woke up bouncing, with a big

goofy smile on her face. Katie constantly reminded me that what matters most is the way we choose to look at life. We have a choice each day to be grateful and thankful and love a little more. She gave me that gift." – **Lisa G on her dog Katie**

# Fulfilling my greatest wish for animals

Before my family moved to Australia, I wasn't interested in animals and was afraid of dogs. I thought animals were led by instinct, without the ability to feel emotions like love or suffering. My world changed when I saw Max. One look into his expressive eyes and I knew I had been wrong.



Right after starting our new life in Sydney, I reluctantly agreed to pay a visit to the local RSPCA

shelter to satisfy my daughter's greatest wish – having a dog. Taking Max home and considering him part of our family completely transformed my understanding of the bond between humans and animals, and now I have experienced a profound love that I had never thought possible. I learnt to be compassionate and love unconditionally and felt the


joy only an animal could bring into my life. I was so overwhelmed by what Max gave to me that I wrote a book about our story, 'Starting With Max – How a Wise Stray Dog Gave Me Strength and Inspiration.'

Now I adore all dogs and have become passionate about animals, supporting RSPCA NSW because I trust that they give the best care possible to animals like Max. I have left a gift in my Will to RSPCA NSW, not only to show our sincere gratitude for Max and our life with him, but also to give other vulnerable animals like him a chance for a new life.

For me, including RSPCA NSW in my Will has fulfilled my wish to continue supporting this meaningful cause after my lifetime. Knowing that I am giving back the love and thanks I have for Max is a wonderful thing. I hope other animal lovers think about how they too could return the love they've experienced from their pets by supporting RSPCA NSW through their Will.

Many thanks and my best wishes,

Hilda Wong-Ehrhardt  
(Pen name: Ying Ying)



"I believe that by caring for animals, we become better humans."

# How to leave a gift in your Will to the animals



## Step 1: Consider your loved ones and the causes that matter most

This is probably the most powerful gift you can ever make. Think about your family, friends and the charitable causes that have meant so much to you in your lifetime.



## Step 2: Decide what your gift to RSPCA NSW will be

There are a number of ways you can remember RSPCA NSW in your Will.

Common types of gifts include:

- **Residual:** the most effectual way to support the animals. After you have provided for your loved ones, the whole or a percentage of the remainder of your estate can be left to RSPCA NSW.
- **Percentage:** a percentage of your total estate, allowing your gift to maximise as your estate matures.
- **Specific:** a fixed sum of money or assets, including property, investments or shares.



## Step 3: Make or update your Will

Your Will is an important document that must be properly prepared and executed. We recommend that you seek independent professional advice to make sure your Will is legal, valid and represents your intentions. If you are kind enough to be including a gift to RSPCA NSW in your Will, make sure you use the correct wording, as suggested on the following page.



## Step 4: Notify your loved ones and RSPCA NSW

Clear communication is critical to ensuring your final wishes are carried out and means there are 'no surprises' when the time comes. Let your family, any executors, and guardians know that a gift to RSPCA NSW is important to you. If you are comfortable, please inform us as well. It is increasingly common in NSW for Wills to be contested, so any intentions shared during your lifetime help support your choices, should they ever be questioned after your passing.

## Suggested wording for your solicitor

We suggest the following wording be used in the drafting of your Will:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, give and bequeath to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals New South Wales, of 201 Rookwood Road, Yagoona, NSW, 2199 (ABN 87 000 001 641) for the use and purposes of the said Society:

- a) the residue (or \_\_\_\_\_ % of the residue) of my estate
- b) \_\_\_\_\_% of my estate
- c) a sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ free of all death and estate duties.

I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or a Proper Officer of the Society authorised to act on his/her behalf shall be sufficient discharge to my executors.





## Who will care for your pets if you no longer can?

**This is a question all responsible pet owners must surely think about during their pets' lives.**

As much-loved members of our families, pets deserve the security of a future care plan in case something should happen to us. In the majority of Australian states, animals are legally deemed property. Therefore, in the event of your passing, your pets would be transferred to the beneficiaries of your estate. If you're not sure those beneficiaries would be suitable or able to look after your pets, RSPCA NSW is able to offer an alternative.

We always recommend that family or friends who know your animals, and who are able to take on your pets, are the best option. However,

if this is not an option, the RSPCA NSW Home Ever After program is a safe and trusted plan B.

As any pet owner knows, a loving home is the best possible outcome for an animal. When you enrol your pets onto the program, we work with you to create a unique pet profile that can be used to find them a home that perfectly suits them. This is just one of a range of benefits the Home Ever After program offers, with the most important being reassurance that you've done the right thing by your pet. It's the ultimate peace of mind.



### Program benefits

- Immediate care for your pet should they ever lose you
- Unique pet profile held on record
- Secures your pet's future
- Your final wishes for your pet are known
- Provides you with peace of mind

If you would like further information about the Home Ever After program and to discuss your pets' future care, please contact the program coordinators on (02) 9782 4419.

# How your love lives on

## 1 Provide a safe haven for animals until they find forever homes

Each year, more than 29,000 abandoned, injured and neglected animals are brought to RSPCA NSW when they have nowhere else to turn. Thanks to your foresight and generosity, RSPCA NSW's shelters are safe, warm and clean. They are staffed with experienced carers to help animals overcome past suffering and get matched with loving forever families.

## 2 Protect animals and seek justice

With over 15,000 reports of animal cruelty and endangerment received by RSPCA NSW each year, the Inspectorate protects animals across the state from cruelty and neglect, and prosecutes those who have harmed them. Without the generous investment of people like you, our team of experienced officers couldn't stay on the road investigating crimes against animals and rescuing those desperate for help.

## 3 Care for sick and injured animals

If your pet was sick, you'd move mountains to get them the help they need, but sadly, thousands of homeless and unwanted animals find themselves in need of help every year. Your gift relieves their pain and suffering by providing the critical veterinary attention and ongoing care they so often need.

## 4 Prevent cruelty through education and community programs

RSPCA NSW works to prevent suffering before it occurs. Your gift invests in programs that provide guidance and support to people so they can keep their animals safe. Expert case workers assist pet owners undergoing crisis, and the Outreach Team delivers services in communities that struggle to access veterinary care. We also provide a range of educational programs to children to build empathy and teach them how to care for all living creatures.

# Thank you for considering the animals

## Your love for them can live on forever



[rspcansw.org.au](http://rspcansw.org.au)

**RSPCA**  
New South Wales