



AW1515363

Local branch achieving great outcomes

Numerous dogs and cats given second chance at life

By Joshua Paterson

THE Glen Innes branch of the RSPCA has a particular focus on desexing at the moment, with the aim to reduce the amount of stray animals in the district.

While RSPCA's Paul Raper said the organisation's work had slowed of late in terms of strays, they are offering a special discount on the desexing of pets for people on low incomes.

"At the moment it's a bit quiet, but we are doing quite a bit on the desexing side of things," he said.

"We are doing desexing for dogs and cats for low income earners and pensioners, we are giving them a discount voucher to help them out with the costs," he said.

"Last year we desexed 24 dogs and 40 cats

through the use of the vouchers."

At the moment Glen Innes only has two dog carers, one of whom can only handle one canine at a time but Mr Raper said the local branch has a good working relationship with other organisations.

"We do have a good relationship with the pound who will hold them for a period of time until we can find somewhere to move them on, but if they are young dogs we can sell them to Petbarn in Tamworth."

Previously the RSPCA has had a local focus on microchipping and there are plans to hold a microchipping day in 2015, Mr Raper told The Examiner microchipping is still an area of concern with the strays the organisation does take in and try to re-home.

"A lot of the strays we get are not microchipped and we don't let a dog go that's

not microchipped, vaccinated and desexed, we then sell them for \$200 and the cost of doing all that is generally more than that."

Local RSPCA member Margaret Pennington said the organisation also has received a lot of support from the Gwydir Park Animal Refuge at Delungra.

"They are fantastic people who have helped us out a million times," she said.

"They've taken dogs we haven't been able to rehome and we have also helped them out with microchipping and desexing and vaccinating, so we have both helped each other."

Last year the Glen Innes branch rehomed 20 dogs and five cats, while one dog and seven cats were sold to Petbarn in Tamworth, two dogs and four cats were sent to shelters at Coff's

Harbour and three cats were given to the Armidale branch to rehome.

Nationally the RSPCA received 49,189 thousand dogs through 2012-2013 and 49,236 stray cats.

All you need is a love of animals to help out

THEIR are lots of ways you can help your local branch of the RSPCA and all you need is a love of animals to get involved in some fashion.

You can become a member, or you can help with fundraising, or help out at an event such as the annual million paws walk or the RSPCA cupcake day.

Or if you are even more dedicated to making a difference to animal welfare you could become a volunteer, or a foster carer.

Businesses can even get on board and

become corporate supporters of the organisation and help out with the preparation of and staging of events.

Becoming a member is easy and relatively cheap with an annual fee of \$30 each year for adults and \$20 for junior members and pensioners, this fee entitles members to a 10 per cent discount at any RSPCA retail outlets in NSW and at any of the four RSPCA veterinary hospitals in the state.

Volunteers are a vital part of the work undertaken by the RSPCA and people can

volunteer in a variety of capacities including roles involving contact with animals, while other roles provide support without direct contact with animals.

Opportunities exist to assist with animal care, administration, events, customer service and local community fundraising though roles available may differ between shelters and branches.

If you would like to volunteer or help the Glen Innes branch of the RSPCA please contact Paul Raper on 6732 3608.



Happy home: Tammy the terrier cross was recently rehomed by Glen Innes RSPCA to her new owner Elizabeth Cochrane

Tammy the terrier loves her new home

By Joshua Paterson

FOR Glen Innes woman Elizabeth Cochrane adopting her dog Tammy was a simple choice once she had met the kind natured Terrier.

Elizabeth had previously owned a King Charles Cavalier aptly named Charles who sadly passed in August, and was approached by Glen Innes RSPCA's Paul Raper about adopting another dog, and she

said once she met the diminutive canine she just knew she couldn't leave her alone.

"I did wonder about getting another dog because I am out a lot, but there was just no way I was going to leave her in case she was put to sleep because she just has the kindest nature," she said.

"I was thinking about getting another King Charles but once I met her I just knew I couldn't leave her, she is the

nicest little dog."

When Tammy, as she was named by Elizabeth first came to the local branch of RSPCA she had been through some trauma, and there were fears she would struggle to be rehomed but thanks to the wonderful work of carer Nola Wilson she was able to be rehomed and find her perfect match with Elizabeth.

"She was so traumatised when they first got her they didn't think they could rehome her. Nola

Wilson said give me a few days with her because she is so timid, and I did and now her ears are up and she is such a happy little dog."

For Elizabeth, the work done by the local branch in preparing Tammy to be rehomed was much valued and appreciated.

"RSPCA were wonderful because she hadn't been vaccinated, desexed or micro-chipped and they did that all before I picked her up."

Elizabeth said she

loves the fact that Tammy is a great companion for her but also admires her independent streak.

"She follows me around a bit but she is also quite independent she will happily trot off into the yard but she comes back to check on you," she said.

"She likes her toys and she loves chewing things. She has brought a lot of joy into my life, the chap who does my gardening just loves her."

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