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Geelong Animal Welfare Society (GAWS) has been providing animal welfare services in the Geelong region for more than 64 years.

GAWS cares for thousands of animals each year reuniting them with their owners or finding new forever homes. The GAWS animal shelter does not receive any government funding and relies one hundred percent on the community to support this important work. We value this opportunity to reflect on our performance and share some highlights with the many stakeholders who support our work and share our vision to give animals a second chance 'because every life is precious.'

### MISSION & PURPOSE

We promote the welfare and value of companion animals to improve the health and wellbeing of the wider community.

We do this by:

- Caring for and rehoming lost and relinquished companion animals
- Engaging in research, advocacy and promotion of health and wellbeing through companion animals
- Providing education, services and products that enable responsible animal ownership and improves the wellbeing of both people and their companion animals.

### VISION

'because every life is precious.'

#### **VALUES**

#### **Respect & Integrity:**

We treat our colleagues and customers with integrity, respect and care.

#### Teamwork:

We are open, honest and transparent in our relationships and communications with our employees, volunteers, partnerships and community.

#### **Accountability:**

We are accountable for our work and we measure and report regularly on our progress and achievements.

#### Leadership:

We exercise leadership in our roles to do our best and set a positive example for others.

#### Learning:

We embrace the need to grow and learn, focus on continuous improvement and evaluate the impact of our work.





We value this opportunity to reflect on our performance and share some highlights with the many stakeholders who support our work and share our vision to give animals a second chance 'because every life is precious.'



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2019/20 has certainly not been a typical year!

Despite trying circumstances our vision and mission remained at the forefront of everything we do at Geelong Animal Welfare Society (GAWS), and our results speak for themselves.

Our mission of 'because every life is precious' is demonstrated daily by our staff and volunteers who have continued to do a remarkable job of ensuring that every animal is cared for, reunited with their owner as quickly as possible, and animals being rehomed are well matched with a new home. Our incredibly strong foster care program and likeminded rescue group network also contributed to ensuring we continue to maintain an extremely low euthanasia rate.

Since our last Annual General Meeting, we have experienced some of the worst bushfires our country has ever seen. Loss of both human life and land was accompanied by the tragic loss of animals, in particular our wildlife. Such events effect all of us and we all feel the terrible impact on our communities. While GAWS was not thankfully directly threatened, we were certainly impacted. While the community in general showed the generosity of spirit which we see time and again in Australia, donating millions of dollars to bushfire victims, GAWS and many other charities experienced a resultant downturn in donations.

As we began to recover from the fires in early 2020, the global pandemic, COVID-19, exploded around the world and life has not been the same for anyone since. It has been necessary to re-think how our staff interacts with each other and with the public; how people move around the site; how we conduct clinic consultations and adoption interviews.

It has been critical to ensure that all our staff and volunteers are kept safe and have the right level of protective equipment. Our fundraising activity has again been significantly impacted and government support has been essential to maintaining our organisation throughout the pandemic.

The Board's role was to support our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and our staff. Our responsibility was to offer advice where possible and required while ensuring that appropriate actions were taken to keep GAWS afloat and compliant with all the new requirements. COVID-19 overtook other risks as the top priority for the organisation and the Board. Board meetings have been held via Zoom since April with several additional meetings to ensure we were across the situation on-site and the implications for animals, staff and the community. Our staff, led by our CEO, have done an outstanding job in very trying circumstances. As we enter 2020/21, much of the uncertainty remains.

Amid these circumstances, GAWS has been able to move forward, including opening a new Recycled Fashion & Homewares store in Pakington Street, Geelong West in February 2020 and launching a new GAWS website in August last year, greatly improving our online presence.

The Board worked on the development of a Risk Register to fulfil one of our key responsibilities and established a Risk Committee to regularly review the register. A new Whistleblower Policy was also developed and scheduled for implementation so that staff and volunteers feel supported with the appropriate mechanisms to formally lodge any complaints they may have.

Our Board composition has changed dramatically this past year as we farewelled David Willder, Tony Alsop, and Martin Reid. They all made outstanding contributions, David and Tony over a number of years. We sincerely thank them for their time and dedication and wish them all well. Two new Directors have been recruited, Sue Robinson as our new Treasurer and Lauren Solomonson. Both have already had significant input into Board deliberations. Having filled casual vacancies on the Board during the year, both will offer themselves for election by members at the Annual General Meeting.

Our CEO, Helen Cocks, has led her team through exceedingly difficult times which are likely to continue for some time yet. She has done an extraordinary job and deserves special commendation. I extend a special thank you to Helen, to all our staff and volunteers, to my fellow Directors past and present and most importantly to all our members and supporters. Your ongoing support is what keeps us going.

Finally, thank you to our Auditors and Accountants at Davidsons, all our sponsors and donors, and our partners at the City of Greater Geelong for supporting the work of animal welfare.

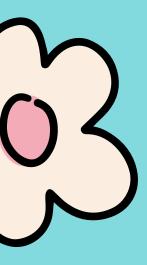
Maria Mercurio

President



Our incredibly strong foster care program and likeminded rescue group network also contributed to ensuring we continue to maintain an extremely low euthanasia rate.





## OUR CEO

Many words describe how we might reflect on 2019/20: joyous, challenging, successful, devastating and definitely 'unprecedented'.

The year started with a clear focus to continue to deliver our high quality services and also to expand in line with our strategic plan. We could never have predicted how quickly our world would change, starting with the devastating bushfires and then a global pandemic. Yet before I focus on the impact of the above mentioned challenges, I'd like to reflect on some of our staff and volunteer achievements before everything as we knew it changed.

In February 2020 we opened our second retail store, located in Pakington St, Geelong West. This new store was immediately well received and supported by members of the Geelong community, but it has, along with many other local charities and businesses experienced the tumultuous impact of COVID-19 forcing it to close just a few weeks after opening.

Initially selling recycled clothing and homewares, this store continues to evolve and grow as we move to make it a destination point for GAWS. We have introduced the sale of alternative items including dog beds and coats, made by our wonderful volunteer sewing group and we will continue to introduce new offerings at the store.

Once again, we held our popular Twilight adoption in March 2020. This is our third Twilight adoption event and we and our community love it! Members of the public can meet with our adoption staff and hopefully make a perfect match with one of our animals available for adoption. Staff and volunteers

offer activities such as face painting, pet-tag engraving and stalls where treats or purchases can be made.

This year we ran our 'Tricks & Treats for GAWS' campaign, an online opportunity for members of the community to fundraise and be engaged. Our community could opt to donate a 'treat' towards a specific item such as an enrichment toy, or desexing surgery, or alternatively partake in a 'trick' such as giving up buying coffee for a week and donating their savings.

While our work that interfaces with the public can easily be highlighted, there is a great amount of work that occurs behind the scenes also. This year included an overhaul and upgrade of our website making it more streamlined and easier for users to navigate; the expansion of our social media through Instagram and we even dipped our toes into Tik-Tok with the aim to engage with a younger audience.

At the beginning of 2020 our world started to hear more and more about a 'coronavirus' and shortly after this our world as we knew it changed before our very eyes. Victoria announced a State of Emergency and we found ourselves immersed in unfamiliar territory, not only trying to make sense of it all, but also finding ourselves asking so many questions: What did it mean? What did we need to do? How would the animals cope? Could we continue to open to our community? What did we need to put in place? The questions seemed endless: and while we were asking the questions we were busy putting in place many strategies across the organisation to ensure staff, volunteers and visitors to the site would be safe. We continued to refine our procedures in response to the challenging situation as Victorian restrictions were applied.



The extraordinary events of 2019/20 have impacted on us all; some positive, some negative, some devastating, but all of which will be forever imprinted in our minds.



Our Foster team responded quickly and recruited an additional 128 foster carers specifically in response to the pandemic to ensure we could always accept animals into our service.

People continue to ask me: how are the animals? How have they coped? All of the animals in our care continued to receive the highest quality one-on-one care that our staff and volunteers are known for.

We encountered some surprising outcomes as well. Our more timid cats became more confident as we moved to an appointment based adoption system. With fewer visitors on-site, these cats ventured out from their 'nooks' and hidden beds to the front of their enclosures and our teams could each spend more one-on-one time with the animals offering additional enrichment, training and socialisation opportunities. The site has been able to accommodate much needed site-works improving the overall amenity.

A special mention must go to our staff and volunteers. While we temporarily lost some of our valued volunteers as a result of the pandemic, we know they will be back and we thank those who stepped in to take on different or even additional roles.

I also remain indebted to our donors, sponsors and partners including the Rescue Groups with whom we work, Deakin University and City of Greater Geelong who have all remained committed to animal welfare throughout what has been an extraordinary year.

The extraordinary events of 2019/20 have impacted on us all; some positive, some negative, some devastating, but all of which will be forever imprinted in our minds. These experiences will inform our way forward. And while we take time to reflect specifically on animal welfare in 2019/20, we know that there is always more that can be done and that there are future opportunities to be explored.



## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Volunteers are an integral part of GAWS and volunteer across every single area of our organisation.

We are incredibly fortunate to have a dedicated band of over 300 active volunteers who support our mission of 'because every life is precious'.

Our volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds and ages, but all have the same passion for animals as their common thread.

From students studying various animal related courses to retirees who love animals and want to give back and share their knowledge with us, they all contribute a great deal to GAWS and we are very grateful.

The impact of COVID-19 has seen a drop in the overall number of volunteers able to be on-site to assist with care of the animals, to help raise awareness of GAWS at key events and through public fundraising events. In late March, we made the difficult decision to temporarily close our two stores in-line with state government enforced restrictions. We have had to implement new COVID plans to ensure that everyone on-site including volunteers are kept safe. These measures include, imposing people limits on-site and in buildings, ensuring physical distancing is maintained at all times, good hand hygiene is practised and that if anyone is unwell to stay home and get tested. We thank our volunteers for their acceptance of the changes we have had to implement.

We have a number of off-site volunteers who assist in our retail stores week-in and week-out and help drive sales to support the shelter. This dedicated group of volunteers work across our Op Shop in Hamlyn Heights and our new Recycled Fashion & Homewares store in Geelong West. In addition, our amazing volunteer sewing group produce much loved dog coats, pet beds and blankets, raising much needed funds to support our work at GAWS.

Volunteers also assist with events including the Cat Lovers Show, Petstock Adoption Day, Twilight Adoption events and Highway Collections. When we need an extra hand for specific projects volunteers are always the first to pitch in to help and are not afraid to get their hands dirty!

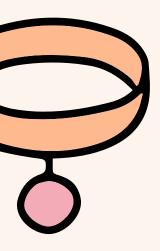
We've continued our partnership with Gordon TAFE Animal Studies, enabling some of their students to undertake the practical components of their course in our Cat Adoption area, with 85 students participating last year.

During 2019/20 we had a number of corporate organisations visit the Moolap site to volunteer for the day including WorkSafe and TAC. We continue to host school groups throughout the year, as they seek to learn more about positive animal welfare, responsible pet ownership and gain a greater understanding of the important work that GAWS does.





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## VOLUNTEERS

As we say at GAWS 'couples who volunteer together, stay together'. This has never been more true for Paul & Ruth and Lorraine & Adrian.

### **PAUL & RUTH**

Paul and Ruth began volunteering at GAWS in 2018 after Paul retired from 40 years of service in the military in 2016 and they relocated to Geelong. As a retired couple, they found they had the time and flexibility to devote to a cause close to their hearts and decided to apply at GAWS.

Paul and Ruth assist in our cat adoption area and have been weekly volunteers since commencing with GAWS. They also frequently assist in many other one off projects around the shelter. When the couple began volunteering, they were surprised by the amount of cats that came into care at GAWS and how not all of them are adopted quickly. They both find it particularly rewarding getting to know the cats individually and seeing their personalities develop. They help to make the cats in the adoption area very comfortable while waiting for their forever home.





## LORRAINE & ADRIAN

Adrian and Lorraine began their volunteering journey at GAWS in 2018. They had owned and cared for thoroughbred horses over the years, and when their last horse passed away in 2017 decided that they would like to dedicate some time to volunteering and helping animals.

After serving in the Navy during Vietnam, and working for Ford and General Electric (GE) following the Navy, Adrian retired in 2007. Lorraine worked for many years as a dressmaker in the Rag Trade district in Flinders Lane and then at Yakka. The couple moved to Geelong in 1977.

Both Adrian and Lorraine have a love of dogs and have cared for many breeds from Pekinese to Dalmatians and currently have a much loved and very spoilt Bichon named Angel.

They love interacting with the dogs in care and after undertaking a grooming course, Lorraine loves to give some of the dogs a bit of a makeover if needed. Adrian really enjoys sitting with the dogs, giving them treats to make them feel loved and more at ease with people.

Like all of our volunteers, both couples contribute so much to GAWS and we are so grateful to have them as part of our GAWS community.



# FOSTER PROGRAM

Our Foster Care Program has continued to grow year on year and with COVID-19, the program could not be more important. An unprecedented additional 128 foster carers signed up to the program during the beginning of the first Victorian lockdown in March 2020.

With all of the constraints that COVID-19 has brought we have had to re-think the way we onboard and train these new foster carers. We conducted our screening interviews via phone and utilised Zoom to carry out home inspections and training. This change in procedure was facilitated by our dedicated Foster Care Coordinator and a group of trained volunteers.

With 347 active foster carers (218 cat & kitten carers and 129 puppy & dog carers) as at 30 June 2020, we are very well equipped to get every single animal in need of extra TLC into a home setting as soon as possible. With a long upcoming kitten season expected, we are in a great position. However, we will continue to recruit more foster carers to the program to ensure that we can always help an animal in need at a moment's notice.

An incredible 1523 animals passed through the program last year including 505 cats, 858 kittens, 77 dogs, 73 puppies, 5 rodents, 4 fowl and 1 Guinea Pig.

This is an increase of 109 animals on the previous year. Of the 1523 animals that entered foster care there were a total of 2141 instances, meaning many of the animals in the program were admitted on more than one occasion. During the peak of kitten season (Jan/Feb 2020) we recorded 243 animals in care at any one time.

An animal can enter foster care for many different reasons. They may need post-operative recuperation, respite from the shelter environment, mother and offspring, behavioral training, weight gain or weight loss or for another medical reason. Each animal receives all of the time that they need to prepare them for their forever home.

We are so proud of our foster program and how much it has grown and strengthened over the years. Over the past five years the percentage of animals at GAWS entering our foster program has almost doubled. This has significantly contributed to the wonderful positive animal welfare outcomes GAWS continues to achieve, of which none of this would be possible without our dedicated voluntary carers.



An incredible 1523 animals passed through the foster program last year.





In January 2020, a very sad cat arrived at GAWS. The only words to describe this boy would be disheveled and depressed.

When a cat is nicknamed 'Sad Face' by staff, you know he is a heart breaker for all the wrong reasons. It was evident that Howard would need a lot of work in foster care as human contact was not something he was familiar with.

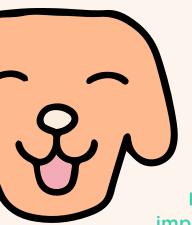
Howard entered foster care with a very experienced carer to establish just how severe his hostility towards humans was. The regular report back to the Foster Care Coordinator was that he needed time, and progress was very slow. Often it was one step forward then three steps back. The hostility was consistent, but so was his carers approach. She saw something in him that she wasn't willing to give up on.

Howard slowly started to progress with the consistent 'timid cat' procedures that were implemented by his carer.

Regular, consistent contact building positive experiences and outcomes to help him learn how to react to human contact.

Taking a cat from the depths of depression to starting to display affection can result in an unbreakable bond, and this is exactly what happened in this case. The carer could not deny the bond that had formed and decided that he had already found his perfect forever home.

Fast forward a number of months and Howard is a loving, affectionate and playful member of the family that has an undeniable bond with his fur-mum.



# D045

Following a big year last year of change and implementation for the Dogs Department, this year our focus was on discovery and refinement.

After implementing new programs (including our expanded TLC Club and Walking Program) and refining our behaviour assessments this has led to the identification of an array of additional areas to work on, expand and grow. The dog's team has faced many challenges again this year, but with challenge comes great opportunity for positive growth and one which the team has embraced.

We noticed an increase in challenging behavioural concerns over the year with some of the dogs that came into care. With the expanded TLC Club and walking programs established and implemented during the previous year, our ability to identify and work with these behavioural concerns became a focus. Throughout the year these two programs have been further refined and strengthened and again we are seeing incredible results.

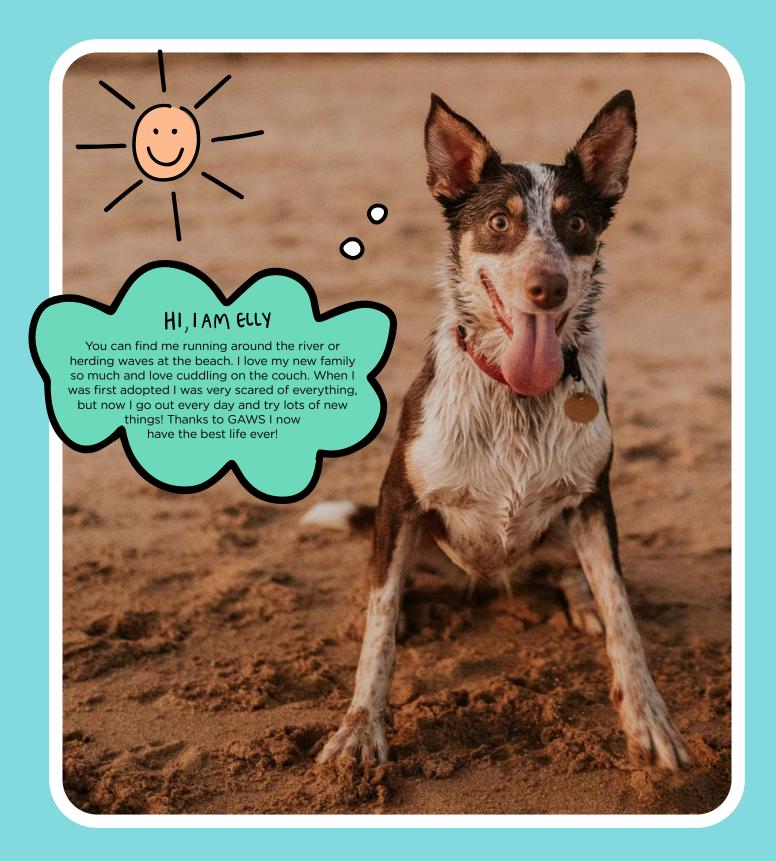
We have slowly increased the use of the GAWS Foster Care Program and have seen some incredibly successful outcomes.

We've been able to strengthen our understanding of a dog's behaviour outside the shelter environment and work on behaviours in a community setting. This increased utilisation of the foster program has increased our ability to achieve rehabilitation levels which we were previously unable to achieve. Our foster carers are always supported by our dedicated Foster Care Coordinator as well as our dogs team and vet team. We plan on further developing this program for dogs and the entire team is very excited to continue to see such positive outcomes.

Our affiliated rescue groups offered a tremendous amount of support to the dogs department again last year. Without them, for some animals their pathway would've been far more challenging to navigate and for this our team and of course the dogs are forever thankful.

Although COVID-19 has been a trying time, we have adapted well to the need for quick change and worked hard to consider alternative ways of continuing our work. The team has remained positive and adapted quickly to a new online adoption application process that we had been working towards prior to COVID-19. This new online application system has increased our efficacy as more information is collected and assessed prior to scheduling a 'meet and greet'. We have found that this has greatly enhanced our 'meet and greets' and strengthened our very successful adoption rates.

In addition to our new online adoption application process, we have implemented additional follow up calls to check on our GAWS Graduates and their new owners in their new homes. We are always here if they need additional assistance. It has also given staff the opportunity to hear how the work they began in the shelter has achieved such wonderful outcomes.





The dogs team has faced many challenges this year, but with challenge comes great opportunity for positive growth and one which the team has embraced.





Animals are such agreeable friends

— they ask no questions;
they pass no criticisms

- George Eliot



Mannix, the young American Bulldog came to us needing a little additional care. Mannix was below ideal body condition and was not bearing weight on his hind leg.

After some investigation Mannix had his right hind leg amputated and was off to a caring foster home for recovery, rehabilitation and weight gain.

After spending a month with his foster carers, we were delighted to be watching this human doting bulldog walk his way into his forever home in April 2020. Fast forward a few months and we hear Mannix has transitioned wonderfully to his new home. His humans reported that he is the neighbourhood star and has quite the fan base, which of course Mannix loves!



At times, Mannix is still working on his balance, but he's found a very committed forever home where his humans have helped him every step of the way. And if you didn't think he was a cutie already, he also knows the command 'grab your blanky', which he puts down himself and goes off to sleep.



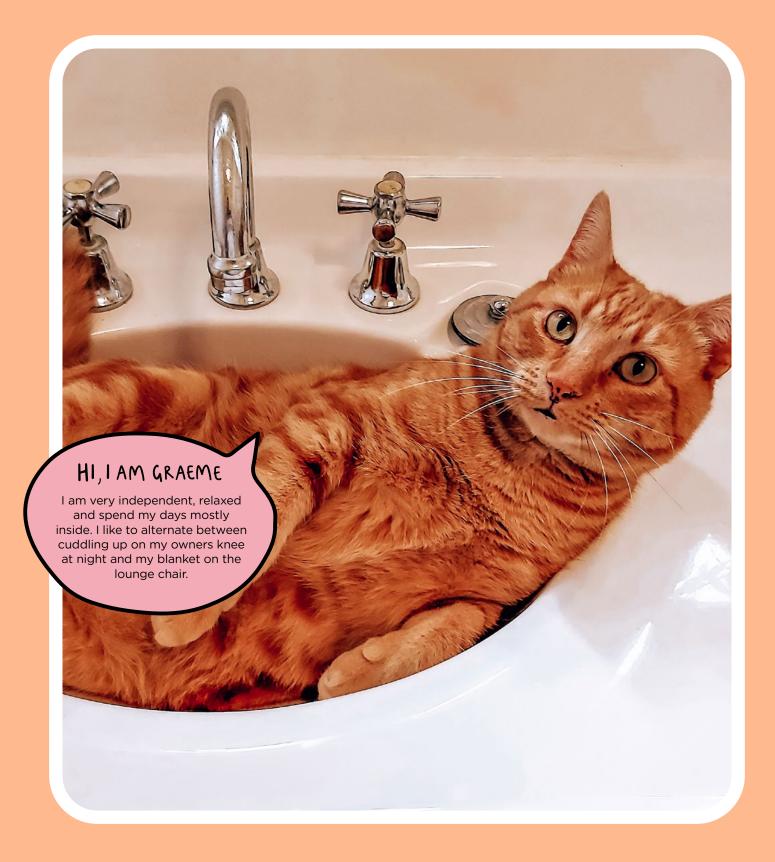
Bronx is one of our star foster dogs!

He came into care with some uncomfortable medical conditions including a bacterial infection (deep pyoderma) and being underweight.



After spending three months with one of our very devoted foster carers (a total of four months in our care at GAWS), Bronx found his forever family, that have taken on all of his additional needs.

Bronx has settled in nicely, he even gets a 'special treat' of a potato cake on their weekly walk to the Fish n Chip shop. His humans have also reported that his favorite new activity is helping to mow the lawns, where he walks beside his human the entire time – a match made in heaven!





### 1,800 cats found their forever homes

in the past 12 months through our adoption program.

# CATS



Our adoption department team members worked tirelessly to ensure that each animal finds their best possible match and perfect forever home.

Last year saw many challenges and changes, with our most significant challenge being COVID-19. This global pandemic has brought about many changes to GAWS, most notably a move to an appointment based model for all of our services including rehoming animals. The public have been very receptive to this change and we are very grateful for their patience while we have transitioned to this model.

This appointment based system has had a number of benefits to the welfare of the animals in our care including creating a calm and more relaxed environment for the animals to reside while they await their new home, with limited people onsite at any one time. Appointments have enabled staff to better match families with animals as they have more information at their disposal prior to potential owners arriving at the shelter. From an online form being submitted, to an initial discovery call, staff can really gain a better understanding of potential new owners needs and help match them with the perfect cat.

Moving forward we hope to retain this application process to allow us to continue to better match our animals with their perfect family. Our adoptions team will also be working more closely with the Foster Care Coordinator to best utilise our extensive foster program to the benefit of all the animals in our care.

We had over 2,400 cats and kittens arrive in care at GAWS last year and of that total only 172 stray cats/kittens were reclaimed. This figure really highlights the need for further community awareness about the importance of microchipping and registering their pets.

Our incredibly committed team of volunteers have been utilised within the department to assist with daily cleaning, enrichment, grooming and so much more. They have also been heavily involved with other larger projects including, re-sealing animal pens and large scale deep cleans of the facility. We are very grateful for the continued support in what sometimes can be challenging circumstances. They do an outstanding job and we thank them for all this.



### HOME SCHOOL HELPER

Vivacious GAWS Graduate Cecil, now lives a life of luxury with constant cuddles often interrupting the work from home and remote learning productivity with constant keyboard walkovers before nestling in.





Pip arrived at GAWS and spent a whopping 415 days in care. We still can't quite understand why it took so long for Pip to find his new forever home however, he was very well loved by all the staff and volunteers in the cats area and even was the star of the GAWS stand at the 2019 Cat Lovers Show.

Pip finally found his perfect match after his new mum discovered him on the GAWS website and travelled from Hoppers Crossing to meet him. Pips forever home was definitely worth the wait, he now lives a life of luxury complete with his custom outdoor enclosure, where he can safely sun himself all day long. Pips new fur siblings are two dogs and they all get on really well. Pip's mum said...



"he's a pleasure to have around and has been the best addition to the household. I'm very thankful I had the opportunity to meet and adopt him."



"There's never a dull moment with these two cuties."



Basil and Jenny began their journey with us, unknown to each other they soon became friends. They enjoy indoor fight/play club, grooming each other and snuggling on laps. Basil enjoys stealing chilli chips and sleeping under the covers in between Mum and Dad.

Jenny enjoys running around the house after doing her business and finding the most awkward and uncomfortable position on top of us. There's never a dull moment with these two cuties.





Over 2,400 cats and kittens arrived at GAWS last year and of that total only 172 stray cats/kittens were reclaimed.





94 rabbits and 57 guinea pigs, 88 fowl made their way to GAWS including roosters, chickens and at least one turkey!

## POCKET PETS

An array of small animals and birds often come into care at GAWS, either as stray animals or surrendered pets.

Last year 94 rabbits, 57 guinea pigs and 88 fowl (including roosters, chickens and at least one turkey) made their way to GAWS.

During the same period, we have also had 100 other birds in care, including lorikeets, cockatiels and cockatoos. On one occasion our clinic team also acted as babysitters for two tortoises' until they were collected by the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP).

The small animals team are always learning more and more about the care of the many different species the department receives into care and we look forward to caring for them in the future.



Stitch, the tiny ferret found herself at GAWS in early 2020. Unfortunately, Stitch was never reclaimed and spent a number of weeks at GAWS.

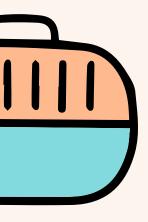
From time to time the small animals area at GAWS can get very busy with animals arriving so it was decided that Stitch would need to enter foster care.

One of our dedicated staff members who already had a ferret at home had grown very fond of Stitch while in the shelter offered to care for her

After a month in care, the plan was to return Stitch to the shelter so she could find her forever home. The problem was Stitch and Bones (the carers other ferret) had bonded and were inseparable. They slept together, played together and she would follow Bones everywhere.



Little Stitch now lives such a happy life with with her partner in crime, Bones and their fur mum and dad.



# OUR SHELTER 2019-20

Throughout the year over 4,300 animals came into our care at GAWS.



92%

of all dogs were reunited with their owners, adopted into new homes or transferred to a rescue organisation. 1% <

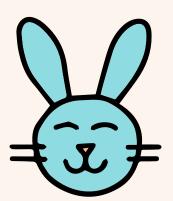
Decrease from the previous year.



87%

of cats were reunited with owners, adopted into new homes or transferred to a rescue organisation. 1% <

Decrease from the previous year.



97%

of rabbits and guinea pigs were reunited with owners, adopted into new homes or transferred to a rescue organisation. 0%

Nil change from previous year.

### **ANIMAL STATISTICS 2019-2020**



### **DOGS & PUPPIES**

92% of all dogs were reunited with their owners, adopted into new homes or transferred to a rescue organisation (1,366), a 1% decrease from the previous year. The 'one day stay' animals returned to owners on the same day are not included in this data.

	2018-19	%	2019-20	%
Dogs Admitted	1,627		1455	
Reclaimed	748	46%	739	50%
Adopted	701	43%	585	40%
Euthanised	101	6%	114	7%
Other (inc transfer)	57	4%	47	3%



### **CATS & KITTENS**

87% of all cats were reunited with their owners, adopted into new homes or transferred to a rescue organisation (2,240), a 1% decrease from the previous year.

	2018-19	%	2019-20	%
Cats Admitted	2,981		2514	
Reclaimed	203	7%	174	6%
Adopted	2,127	71%	1868	74%
Euthanised	342	11%	306	12%
Other (inc transfer)	366	12%	227	9%



### **RABBITS & GUINEA PIGS**

97% of all rabbits and guinea pigs were reunited with their owners, adopted into new homes or transferred to a rescue organisation (146), the same as the previous year.

	2018-19	%	2019-20	%
Rabbits/Guinea Pigs Admitted	214		151	
Reclaimed	13	6%	5	3%
Adopted	120	56%	124	82%
Euthanised	3	1%	3	2%
Other (inc transfer)	89	42%	19	13%

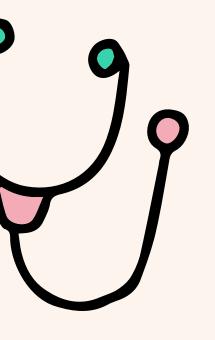
Statistical Note: Incoming animal totals may appear less or greater than outgoing totals due to animals already in care at the beginning or end of the financial year.



### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Ollie's story was featured in our 2019 Annual Report and we are thrilled to again provide a further update on how Ollie has progressed in his forever home over the past year. Ollie, the sun soaking Labrador was successfully rehomed in June 2019 after spending time resetting his behaviour in care. One year on we'd thought we would share an update on Ollie and how he is loving life in his forever home! After a slow settling in period, Ollie has progressed in leaps and bounds, continuing to display all behaviours in the appropriate way. In our catch up with Ollie's loving family, they expressed their utmost gratitude for the work we had done with him and simply can't imagine life without him.





# VET CLINIC

COVID-19 has brought with it some significant challenges for the GAWS Community Vet Clinic.

During the year we welcomed our new Head Veterinarian, Dr Julia Aspinall to the GAWS Community Vet Clinic team. Dr Julia brings a wealth and breadth of experience with large and small animals and has worked across multiple fields in the animal industry. She has embraced her new role and looks forward to helping to further promote positive animal welfare and help grow our community vet clinic.

With the Head Vet role vacant for much of last year, our procedure and consult statistics dropped slightly compared to the previous year. The clinic team however, were still able to further refine their surgical techniques and performed extra training enabling them to continue to upload our high standards and care.

### **STATISTICS**

	Spey	Neuter	Total
Dog	332	339	671
Cat	827	786	1,613
Rabbit	29	41	70
Rodent	3	2	5
Total	1,191	1,168	2,359

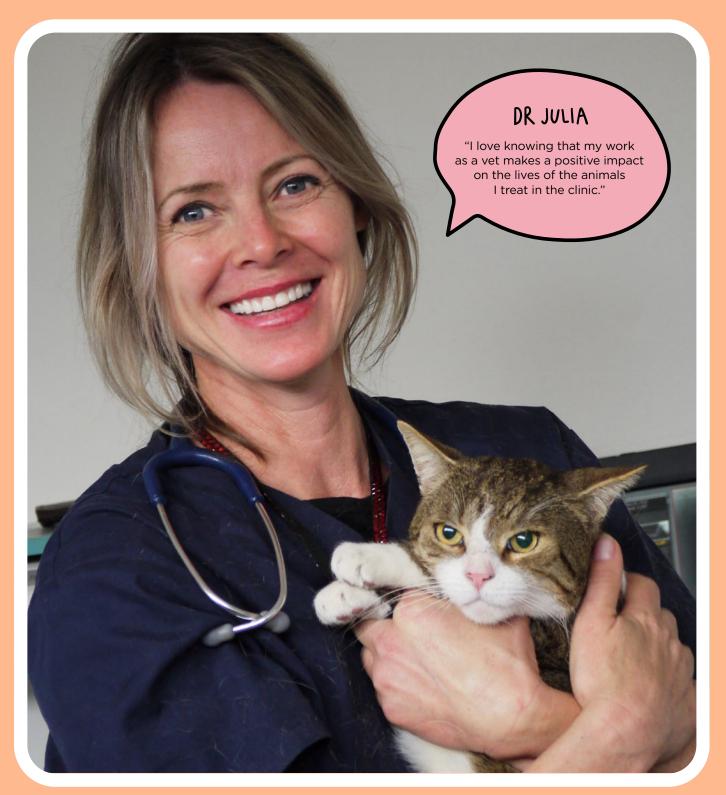
Consultations	Last year	This year
Total	2,414	2,085
Dentals	Last year	This year
Total	534	523
Desex July	Last year	This year
Desex July	Last year	i ilis year
Total	193	119
Procedure - other	Last year	This year
Total	634	616

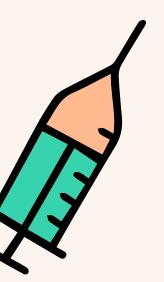


This year the GAWS Veterinary team desexed a total of 2,359 animals.



Dr Julia brings a wealth and breadth of experience with large and small animals and has worked across multiple fields in the animal industry.





## VET CLINIC

### GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS

During the year the clinic team undertook further dental training with a specialist. With a significant proportion of animals arriving at GAWS in need of some form of dental procedure, this specialist training has been very beneficial for the team and helps us continue to grow and expand our dental capabilities for both shelter animals and private clients.

Our old rusting clinic recovery cages were in desperate need of replacement. We were incredibly lucky to have a very generous supporter donate the funds needed to enable us to purchase new stainless steel recovery cages. These new cages are safe and secure and allow the team to thoroughly clean the cages and assist in keeping our high standards of infection control.

### COVID-19

COVID-19 has brought with it some significant challenges for the GAWS Community Vet Clinic. Through modification of how we consult with our clients to splitting our team into cohorts, the global pandemic has changed the way we work. The clinic has been kept very busy during this time with lots of animals still arriving in care and our private clients still needing our services.

With space limited in the clinic consult room, we needed to change the way we consulted with our clients. We implemented a limited contact consultation method by asking our clients to 'hand over' their animals (if suitable to do so) and return to the reception area, or their car where the vet would call them and consult with the owner over the phone while examining their pet.

In addition to the above changes, we implemented additional cleaning and hygiene techniques and made sanitiser available to all staff and the public. We also split the clinic into three work function sections or cohorts to ensure that if one section or cohort became unwell, the remaining two would not affected and could continue to deliver services.



We were incredibly lucky to have a very generous supporter donate the funds needed to enable us to purchase new stainless steel recovery cages.





Evie arrived at GAWS in November 2019. As a fully grown German shepherd, when Evie arrived she weighed in at a tiny 16 kg's. She was so emaciated that her rib and hip bones were visible and she was suffering from anemia. Upon arrival, Evie needed to be carried in to the Community Vet Clinic as she was too weak to walk.

After a full assessment was carried out by the vet team, initial blood tests were run and Evie commenced treatment for dehydration. Her blood results showed she was a healthy, young dog but suffering from malnutrition.

Evie spent two weeks in the care of the GAWS Community Vet Clinic and received small regular puppy meals to help her gain weight in a safe and healthy manner. After her initial two week stay in the clinic, Evie was placed into foster care with one of our vet nurses. Evie and her carer developed such a special bond, it was clear that Evie was to become what we call at GAWS a 'foster fail'. Meaning her carer fell in love and Evie's perfect forever home had been found.

Now, weighing in at an amazing 32 kilograms, Evie loves walks along the beach, hanging out with her family and is absolutely thriving!

## FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

It has certainly been an unprecedented year at GAWS. One we would have never expected, nor been able to predict. Despite these challenges, we have continued on, embraced the change and we are optimistic for the future.

Support of our organisation from our local community is vital to our success and we are so grateful to have such support and dedication. We would not be able to care for as many animals as we do each year without this continued support.

### Last year, we received \$332,680 in financial donations and fundraising.

This incredible amount is derived from a number of public appeal campaigns, bequests, corporate and individual sponsorship, general donations, events and community fundraising. In addition to financial donations, we receive a huge amount of in kind donations of blankets, towels, enrichment items, food and cosy pet beds. These in kind donations allow us to ensure that the animals that arrive at GAWS have everything they need during their stay.

We are well supported by our local business community who assist us through financial donations, in kind or heavily reduced service rates and support of our appeal campaigns and events. Many of these businesses have a deep love for GAWS and we look forward to further growing and strengthening these partnerships in the future.

As always, there are a number of volunteer or community lead fundraising events and initiatives that assist GAWS greatly and raise vital funds to support the shelter. We can't mentioned them all but will explain just a few. Our very own GAWS volunteer sewing group – Shelter & Warmth hosts a number of market stalls and makes a tremendous amount of products for events throughout the year. With COVID-19, the group have still managed to sell much of their handmade items through only one stall in June, raising over \$6,000 in one day!

We again had volunteer, Jodie, spearhead our 2020 GAWS Calendar showcasing our very cute shelter animals and managed to sell out in record time! Mrs Pauline Cline is another community member that continues to support GAWS by making and selling beautiful preserves and donating the proceeds to GAWS. Many cafés, schools, community groups and workplaces held fundraising events throughout the year and raised a significant amount of funds in addition to donations of goods.

We are truly grateful for this incredible support and would like to sincerely thank all of our wonderful community for their generosity and support of our mission of 'because every life is precious'





GAWS volunteer sewing group hosts a number of market stalls and makes
a tremendous amount of products for
events throughout the year.



### DID YOU KNOW?

We are incredibly thankful for the ongoing support of our Ambassador Roxie Bennett. Roxie has had a long association with GAWS adopting her first dog from GAWS over 30 years ago.

### **MEDIA**

Last year, our relationships with our local media continued to grow with a new partnership forming with local Forte magazine and continued support from other print, radio and online media outlets. This continued support and willingness to assist our organisation, helps GAWS continue to remain top of mind for our community when it comes to adopting a pet and supporting our fundraising initiatives.

We again continued our relationship with Bay FM through our GAWS Ambassador, Roxie Bennett. The regular Pet of the Week segment during the afternoon drive show with Roxie and Daryl continues to help us highlight pets in need of adoption as well as our appeals and campaigns. With COVID-19 this segment looks a little different as our vets are not able to visit the studio however, Roxie and Daryl continue to fly the flag for GAWS carrying on the weekly highlights.





### **NEW WEBSITE**

In October 2019 we introduced the new GAWS website. The preparation to migrate across to the new website involved many months of work. The move across to the new platform enabled us greater functionality and a better end-user experience, an online store, an ability to create fundraising appeals and campaigns (similar to a go-fund-me page), online form submission and so much more!

We are really pleased with our new website and look forward to continuing to use more of its features in the future.

Our social media channels continue to be one of our most important forms of communication, in particular during the COVID-19 pandemic.

These platforms allows us to regularly engage with our community and continue to build our brand awareness. In April 2020 we decided to introduce TikTok as a new channel to engage a new audience. TikTok has proven to be incredibly popular and allows us to really showcase the animals that we have in care. Our most popular TikTok has received over 180k views, 13k likes and 138 comments.

### COMMUNICATIONS

Our continued quest for brand consistency, presentation and authenticity has gone from strength to strength over the past year. We also introduced a new position within the Fundraising & Community Engagement department, Fundraising & Marketing Administration Officer. This part time position has enabled us to utilise and strengthen our digital channels, which have become an incredibly important communication channel.



Our most popular TikTok has received over 180k views, 13k likes and 138 comments.



### **EVENTS & APPEALS**

Events and appeals are such an important part of our awareness and fundraising strategy and one that has been most impacted by the current global pandemic.

Fortunately last year we were able to again attend the 2019 Cat Lovers Show, carry out one Highway Collection, a Twilight adoption night, attend PetStock Adoption day, carry out our Christmas Appeal and introduce a new 'Tricks & Treats for GAWS' appeal. We also participated in new events like Humans in Geelong Expo and the Melbourne Street Eatz – Geelong Edition 'Bark in the Park'. The 'Bark in the Park' event was held at Eastern Gardens in October and helped raise awareness and funds for GAWS. Unfortunately, planned events and appeals scheduled during the early part of 2020 such as the Dog Lovers Show, Highway Collections and other awareness events were unable to go ahead significantly reducing our fundraising ability.

In lieu of our usual live events we adjusted our planned fundraising program for the first half of 2020 and managed to raise over \$13,000 through our Emergency Appeal in April/May 2020. Further virtual fundraising initiatives will be crucial to achieving our strategic goals in 2020/2021.

Our Highway Collection event in August 2019 was very successful and managed to raise \$3,326 across two intersections in central Geelong.

This type of event is always a popular one and lots of fun. It is wonderful to get out into the community and chat to the public while raising much needed funds for the shelter.





# OP SHOP AND NEW RECYCLED FASHION & HOMEWARES STORES

Our Hamlyn Heights Op Shop has continued to thrive. The incredible daily effort of our wonderful group of dedicated volunteers at the store, make it such a success and an amazing income stream for the organisation. We thank them for their continued commitment to GAWS. With the success of the Hamlyn Heights store, in late 2019 we found the perfect new site for a second GAWS store in Pakington St, Geelong West.

In February 2020, our new GAWS Recycled Fashion & Homewares store opened at 201 Pakington street Geelong West. A slightly different model from our existing store, this new store aims to offer a great range of recycled fashion and homewares in a very popular shopping strip of Geelong.

After an incredibly encouraging opening weekend and first few weeks of trade, unfortunately the store had to close due to COVID-19 restrictions imposed by the Victorian Government. In June 2020, we were able to reopen the store and again experienced encouraging sales and we are hopeful that this store will flourish just as our other store has over the past seven years.





We received an incredible amount of support from a range of corporate partners, local businesses, individual fundraisers, community groups and schools. We thank them for their generosity and continued support.

# MAJOR SUPPORTERS











# MAJOR DONORS AND GRANTS

Alison Bird

Best Friends Geelong

C Baldo

Catherine Gray

City of Greater Geelong - Healthy & Connected Communities Grant

Davidsons

Easy Waste

Harley Owner Group

Karyn Tirrell

Leopold Primary School

Margaret Kilby

Michael & Janet Wellard

Mr P Kelsey

Pauline Cline

PetStock

Ryan Clover

Savour Life

SC Technology Group

Stella Marshall

The Lin Huddleston Charitable

Foundation

The Mex Ocean Grove

The Salty Dog Café

Tim Simpson

Torquay Stockfeeds

Wallington's WRG

Wright - Goodwin Family

Foundation

In addition to the above supporters, we received a very large amount of anonymous donations and continued support from local organisations hosting a GAWS donation collection box. The Community Fundraising program continues to grow each year, thanks to the help of our dedicated volunteers. The community embraces this initiative and we thank them for their continued support.



## **PEN PALS**

Ace Gibson

Alibastet

Barbara & Holly

Barwon Timber & Hardware Pty Ltd

Barwon Timber Bar-Truss

Beck's Boarding Retreat

**Charley Lanning** 

Geelong Pistol Club Inc.

genU - Geelong West

Harley Owners Group

Helen & Filbert

Hill's Pet Nutrition

In Memory - Shirley Joan Murphy

In memory of - Ken Booth

Jean McGowan

Julie & Terrance Sleeth

Maria & Cody

Nelson Park School VCAL 11/12

Shelly Thompson & Susan Johnson

Sue & Gus

W.L. Chivers Plumbing Pty Ltd

# **DONATIONS IN MEMORY**

Anne Webb

**Betty Vinters** 

Meredith Lindsay

Elizabeth Joan Hateley

Otto Bufkosan

EM Lednar

#### **BEQUESTS**

We would like to thank and acknowledge all those who have left a lasting imprint on animal welfare by leaving a gift in their Will. This generous support enables us to continue to deliver our vital work.

John Wilson Anderson

Paul Gottlieb Stettbacher

Georgie Kimmel

Lena Russell

Jeanette Lillian Smithson

Del Singh

ABN 67 005 093 756

Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

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Directors Report 30 June 2020

The Directors of Geelong Animal Welfare Society present their report for the year ended 30 June 2020.

#### **Directors**

The following persons were Directors of the Company during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report:

- Maria Mercurio, President
- Anne Marie Ryan, Vice President
- Tony Alsop, Vice President (resigned March 2020)
- David Willder, Treasurer (Resigned November 2019)
- Sue Robinson Treasurer (Treasurer from May 2020)
- Jane Meier, Secretary
- Emma Einsiedel
- Heather Disher (commenced July 2019)
- Lauren Solomonson (commenced April 2020)
- Martin Reid (resigned November 2019)

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

#### **Operating Result**

The net loss of the Company for the financial year after providing for income tax amounted to:

Year ended 30 June 2020	Year ended 30 June 2019
\$	\$
459,451	101,761

#### **Principal Activities and Objectives**

The principal activities of the Company during the course of the year were the provision of animal welfare.

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

#### **Review of operations**

A review of operations of the Company during the financial year and the result of those operations identified no significant changes in the society's state of affairs.

No significant changes in the Company's state of affairs occurred during the financial year.

#### **After Balance Date Events**

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

#### **Future Developments**

The Company expects to maintain the present status and level of operations and hence there are no likely developments in the operations in future financial years.

### Geelong Animal Welfare Society Directors Report 30 June 2020

#### **Environmental Issues**

The Company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

#### **Objectives and Strategies**

The Company's short-term objectives are to:

- Serve Geelong and the Surrounding areas by upholding and promoting the welfare and rights of companion animals by caring for and rehoming lost and relinquished animals, providing support services to the community and education in responsible pet ownership.
- Be recognised by its peers and the community in general as a leader in compassionate animal care and animal rehoming.
- Retain and attract outstanding staff and volunteers, building an enthusiastic and motivated workforce where everyone is encouraged to become leaders.
- Educate the Community on responsible animal ownership and the welfare and rights of animals.
- Effectively manage the pound and shelter operations.

The Company's long-term objectives are to:

- Educate the community on responsible animal ownership and the welfare and rights of companion animals.
- Become a leader in exploring new ways to educate the community in responsible pet ownership and continue to promote the welfare and the rights of companion animals in our community.
- Focus on quality improvement of the current offerings along with an aspirational innovation strategy in order to best position the organisation for a healthy, long-term future.

To achieve its stated objectives, the Company has adopted the following strategies:

Significant inclusion of professional advice from external parties.

#### **Key Performance Measures**

The Company measures its own performance through the use of both quantitative and qualitative benchmarks. The benchmarks are used by the directors to assess the financial sustainability of the Company and whether the Company's short-term and long-term objectives are being achieved.

Collaborative information sharing between and comparison with other similar Animal shelters and pound operators.

The continual measurement of statistics and information gathering/storage software that enables comparison from previous years. While there are benchmarks available from the entity's historical data, benchmarks of the industry are not available in a manner that reflects the size and demographics of the entity.

Performance measures in both the qualitative and quantitative areas are obtained via internal reports and the use of external professional advice.

Directors Report 30 June 2020

#### Information on the Directors

#### Maria Mercurio

Experience – Maria was CEO of the RSPCA for 12 years (retired) and prior to that CEO of Moreland City Council.

Special Responsibilities – President/Chair, Maria is responsible for leading the Board, chairing scheduled Board meetings and ensuring that the organisation and the Board are operating within the context of the Mission, Vision, Values and governance of the organisation.

#### David Willder (resigned 12 November 2019)

Experience - David is a Chartered Accountant and was a Partner at a local accounting firm (retired).

Special Responsibilities - David was the Treasurer. As such, responsible for overseeing the financial movements of the society.

#### Sue Robinson (commenced 25 May 2020)

Experience – Sue was chief examiner and head of subject in Taxation Law at LaTrobe University, has taught financial analysis at MBA level at Deakin University and is currently studying for her Juris Doctor. Sue has also held the position of Treasurer including oversight of risk and compliance for other not for profit organisations.

Special Responsibilities - Special Responsibilities - Sue is currently the Treasurer. As such, she is responsible for overseeing the financial movements of the society.

#### Jane Meier

*Experience* - Jane has 30 years of experience in management. Her skills include administration, liaison, word processing and minute taking. Jane has previous committee experience as a Secretary to the board of the Warringal Obedience Dog Club.

Special Responsibilities - As Secretary of the Board, Jane is responsible for preparing and distributing Board minutes, maintaining the charitable status of the organisation as well as the external communication of the Board.

#### **Anne Marie Ryan**

Experience – Anne Marie is a company CEO, has experience in Education, Leadership and Organisation Development.

Special Responsibilities - Vice President.

#### Tony Alsop (resigned 24 March 2020)

Experience - Tony is a Company CEO, an engineer and experienced in OH&S.

Special Responsibilities - Vice President.

#### **Emma Einsiedel**

Experience – Emma is a lawyer practicing in commercial and property law.

Special Responsibilities - Director, and lead the development GAWS' new constitution in 2019.

Directors Report 30 June 2020

#### Heather Disher (commenced 18 July 2019)

Experience – Heather has a combination of Business and Operational senior management expertise coupled with governance, risk management, competitive and business intelligence and strategic thinking and planning. She is Chair of the Board of Pony Clubs Australia.

Special Responsibilities - Director and Chair of Risk Committee.

#### Lauren Solomonson (commenced 23 April 2020)

Experience – Lauren holds a Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts (Media Communications) as well as a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice and is currently employed at a local legal firm as a Wills, Estates & Succession Planning solicitor. She also has experience in marketing and social media strategy.

Special Responsibilities - Director.

#### Martin Reid (resigned 20 November 2019)

Experience – Martin is an experienced labour law solicitor and Managing Principal at a local legal firm.

Special Responsibilities - Director.

#### **Meetings of Directors**

The number of Directors meetings held during the year ended 30 June 2020 and the number of meetings attended by each Director were:

	Meetings Held	Meetings Attended
Maria Mercurio, President	11	11
Anne Marie Ryan, Vice President (leave)	11	4
Tony Alsop, Vice President (resigned March 2020)	11	5
David Willder, Treasurer (resigned November 2019)	11	2
Jane Meier, Secretary	11	10
Emma Einsiedel, Director	11	10
Martin Reid, Director (resigned November 2019)	11	1
Heather Disher, Director (commenced July 2019)	11	11
Lauren Solomonson, Director (commenced April 2020)	11	2
Sue Robinson, Treasurer (commenced May 2020)	11	2

#### **Directors Benefits**

No director has received or has become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the company or related body corporate with a director, a firm which a director is a member or an entity in which a director has a substantial financial interest.

### Geelong Animal Welfare Society Directors Report 30 June 2020

#### **Indemnifying Officer or Auditor**

No indemnities have been given or agreed to be given or insurance premiums paid or agreed to be paid, during or since the end of the financial year, to any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the company.

#### **Auditors Independence**

The auditors' declaration of independence is enclosed and forms part of the Directors report for the year ended 30 June 2020.

This report is signed and in accordance with a resolution of Directors made pursuant to s. 298(2) of the Corporations Act 2001.

Signed:-

Director- President:



# AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO THE DIRECTORS OF GEELONG ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY

As lead auditor of Geelong Animal Welfare Society for the year ended 30 June 2020, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a) No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
- b) No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Stephen Kirtley Director

5. flul

Dated this 24th day of June, 2021

Davidsons Assurance Services Pty Ltd 101 West Fyans Street Geelong, Victoria 3220

**PHONE** 03 5221 6399

# Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020	2019
		\$	\$
Revenue	2	3,474,167	2,876,570
Total Income from Operations	-	3,474,167	2,876,570
Administration expenses	3	2,966,143	2,685,994
Computer expenses	3	21,298	25,219
Marketing	3	18,296	20,494
Finance expenses	3	8,979	43,102
Operating profit (deficit) before income tax	-	459,451	101,761
Income tax expenses		-	-
Operating profit (deficit) after income tax	-	459,451	101,761
Other comprehensive Income			
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss		-	-
Items that will be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss		-	-
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	-	459,451	101,761

# Statement of Financial Position As at 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Assets		•	•
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	562,477	559,789
Trade and other receivables	5	174,635	197,124
Inventories	6	38,675	46,177
Total Current Assets		775,787	803,090
Non Current Assets			
Financial assets	7	478,367	7,380
Property, plant and equipment	8	984,702	1,033,299
Intangibles	9	30	129
Right of Use asset	10	57,409	
Total Non-Current Assets		1,520,508	1,040,808
Total Assets	_	2,296,295	1,843,898
Liabilities Current Liabilities Trade and other payables	11	211,186	295,461
Short-term provisions	12	73,395	53,205
Lease Liabilities	13	51,537	-
Total Current Liabilities	_	336,118	348,666
Non Current Liabilities			
Long-term provisions	12	35,119	27,102
Lease Liabilities	13	9,071	-
Total Non Current Liabilities		44,190	27,102
Total Liabilities	=	380,308	375,768
Net Assets	_ =	1,915,987	1,468,130
Equity			
Reserves	14 _	1,915,987	1,468,130
Total Equity	_	1,915,987	1,468,130

Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Note	Retained Earnings \$	Capital Fund Reserve \$	Total \$
Balance as at 30 June 2018		-	1,366,369	1,366,369
Total comprehensive income for the year Transfer from capital reserve		101,761 (101,761)	- 101,761	101,761 -
Balance as at 30 June 2019	14	-	1,468,130	1,468,130
Adjustment to retained earnings as at 1 July 2019 (AASB16) Total comprehensive income for the year Transfer to capital reserve		(11,594) 459,451 23,130	- - (23,130)	(11,594) 459,451 -
Balance as at 30 June 2020	14	470,987	1,445,000	1,915,987

#### Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Receipts from customers		3,130,558	3,304,320
Payments to suppliers and employees		(3,064,706)	(3,058,373)
Interest received		3,382	4,790
Interest and other costs of finance		(3,665)	(43,102)
Dividends received		734	380
Net Cash Provided by (used in) Operating Activities	16	66,303	208,015
Cash Flow from Investing Activities Payment for purchase of property, plant & equipment Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment	_	(22,806)	(3,262)
Net Cash Provided by (used in) Investing Activities	_	(22,806)	(3,262)
Cash Flow from Financing Activities			
Principal element of lease liabilities		(40,809)	-
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	=	(40,809)	-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		2,688	204,753
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial Year		559,789	355,036
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial Year	15	562,477	559,789

### Geelong Animal Welfare Society Notes to the Financial Statements

30 June 2020

#### **Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

Geelong Animal Welfare Society applies Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements as set out in AASB 1053: Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards and AASB 2010–2: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards—Reduced Disclosure Requirements and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') as well as in accordance with the requirements of section 60.40 of the Australian Charities and Not for- profits Commission Regulation 2013 (ACNC Regulation).

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

#### **Accounting Policies**

#### (a) Revenue and Other Income

The Company has adopted AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit-Entities for the first time in the current year with a date of initial application of 1 July 2019. The Company has applied AASB 15 and AASB 1058 using the cumulative effect method which means the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be reported under AASB 111, AASB 118, AASB 1004 and related interpretations. No adjustment to retained earnings has been necessary as a result of the adoption of these standards. Generally, the timing of the payment for sale of goods and rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligations, but where this is not the case, an asset or liability is recognised.

Non-reciprocal grant is recognized in profit or loss when the entity obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the entity and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

When grant revenue is received whereby the entity incurs an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor this is considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue is recognized in the state of financial position as a liability until the service has been delivered to the contributor, otherwise the grant is recognized as income on receipt.

Non-reciprocal contributions of assets from the government and other parties for zero or a nominal value. These assets are recognized at fair value on the date of acquisition in the statement of financial position, with a corresponding amount of income recognized in profit or loss.

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.

**Notes to the Financial Statements** 

30 June 2020

#### (a) Revenue and Other Income (cont')

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established.

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers. All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

#### (b) Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated, less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to its estimate recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognised either in profit or loss or as a revaluation decrease if the impairment losses relate to revalued asset.

A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present for details of impairment.

Plant and equipment that have been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost, are valued and recognised at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

#### Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including buildings and capitalized lease assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

A summary of the depreciation method and depreciation rates for each class of assets is as follows:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate	Method
Plant & Equipment	7.5% - 40%	Diminishing Value
Motor Vehicles	22.50%	Diminishing Value
Leasehold Improvements	4%	Straight-Line

#### (c) Intangible assets

Intangible assets acquired separately are initially recognised at cost. Intangible assets are subsequently measured at cost less amortisation and any impairment. The gains or losses recognised in profit or loss arising from derecognition of an intangible asset is measured as the difference between net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the intangible asset. The method and useful lives of finite life intangibles are reviewed annually. Changes in expected pattern of consumption or useful life are accounted for prospectively by changing the amortisation method or period.

#### **Software**

Significant costs associated with software are deferred and amortised on a straight-line basis over the period of their expected benefit, being their finite life of 5 years.

**Notes to the Financial Statements** 

30 June 2020

#### (d) Leases

The Company has adopted AASB 16 Leases for the first time as at 1 July 2019.

At the lease commencement, the Company recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the Company believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight-line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the Company's incremental borrowing rate is used.

#### (e) Inventories

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and current replacement cost. Inventories acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are valued at the current replacement cost as at the date acquisition.

#### (f) Financial Instruments

#### Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the company commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset (ie trade date accounting is adopted). Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transactions costs except where the instrument is classified "at fair value through profit or loss" in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

#### Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial assets and liabilities at amortised cost

Financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost if both of the following criteria are met:

- the assets are held to collect the contractual cash flows, and
- the assets' contractual terms give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interests. These assets and liabilities are initially recognised at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less any impairment.

#### Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income

Debt investments are measured at fair value through other comprehensive income if both of the following criteria are met and the assets are not designated as fair value through net result:

- the assets are held to achieve its objective both by collecting the contractual cash flows and by selling the financial assets, and;
- the assets' contractual terms give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interests.

#### Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

By default, all other financial assets that do not meet the measurement conditions of amortised cost and fair value through other comprehensive income are subsequently measured at fair value through profit or loss.

The initial designation of financial instruments to measure at fair value through profit or loss is a one-time option on initial classification and is irrevocable until the financial asset is derecognised.

**Notes to the Financial Statements** 

30 June 2020

#### (f) Financial Instruments (cont')

#### **Impairment**

At the end of each reporting period, the entity assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. In the case of available-for-sale financial instruments, a prolonged decline in the value of the instrument is considered to determine whether an impairment has arisen. Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expire or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the entity no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are discharged, cancelled or expired. The difference between the carrying value of the financial liability, which is extinguished or transferred to another party, and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

#### (g) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may not satisfy vesting requirements. Those cash flows are discounted using market yields on national government bond terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows.

#### (h) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the company has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefit will result and that the outflow can be measured reliably. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

#### (i) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

#### (j) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

#### (k) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the company during the reporting period, which remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

#### (I) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The director evaluates estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the company.

#### (m) Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the entity assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount in accordance with another Standard (e.g. in accordance with the revaluation model in AASB 116). Any impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation decrease in accordance with that other Standard.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Impairment testing is performed annually for goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives.

#### (n) New and Amended Accounting Policies

Geelong Animal Welfare Society has adopted all the new, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new, revised or amending Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

The adoption of these Accounting Standards and Interpretations did not have any significant impact on the financial performance or position of Geelong Animal Welfare Society.

The following Australian Accounting Standards have become effective during the current reporting period:

Topic	Key requirements	Effective date	Effective date for the entity	Impact
AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers	Generally, the timing of the payment for sale of goods and rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of the satisfaction of performance obligations.	1-Jan-19	1-Jul-19	Nil
AASB 1058 Income of Not for profit Entities	Revenue is recognised as and when obligations within the grant agreement are satisfied.	1-Jan-19	1-Jul-19	Nil
AASB 16 Leases	A right of use asset and lease liability is recognised in relation to operating leases.  Operating lease expense is no longer recognised but the asset is depreciated over the period of the lease and an interest expense is also recognised in relation to the liability.	1-Jan-19	1-Jul-19	Moderate

roi tile rea	ar Enged 30 June 2020	2020 \$	2019 \$
Note 2.	Revenue and Other Income		
	Interest revenue	3,382	4,790
	Dividend revenue	734	380
	Shelter	409,537	452,434
	Council	1,241,870	1,311,748
	Donation / Fundraising	947,319	228,862
	Rebates	18,918	17,073
	Other Income Vet clinic and op shop revenue	244,067 608,340	203,870 657,413
	vet cliffic and op shop revenue	3,474,167	2,876,570
	_		
Note 3.	Expenses		
	Administration Expenses	404.000	04.005
	Accountancy	101,092	94,985
	Bank fees and charges	817	663
	Cleaning/rubbish removal	57,234	52,306
	Depreciation expense	102,286	71,851
	Fair Value Adjustment	143,677	-
	General expenses	11,535	5,870
	HR & OHS Consultant	18,010	22,329
	Insurance	16,098	14,875
	Interest expense	3,665	(4,813)
	Leave – Annual	15,445	(971)
	Leave – Long Service	8,017	11,054
	Legal fees	1,000	-
	Light & power	29,622	22,438
	Merchant Fees	5,083	4,777
	M/V car - other	920	2,383
	Postage, printing & stationery Rates & land taxes	7,414	9,135
		22,148	13,608
	Repairs & maintenance	8,634	3,838
	Security Staff amenities	3,205	2,709
	Subscriptions	23,119	13,538
	·	26,371	22,234
	Superannuation Telephone	156,143	157,325
		14,968	15,414
	Wages Workcover	1,713,224	1,706,972
		18,990	24,678
	Vet fees / supplies Shelter Expenses	414,551 42,875	381,605 37,191
	Total Administration Expenses	2,966,143	2,685,994

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Note 3. Expenses (Cont.)	Ψ	Ψ
Computer Expenses:		
Computer expenses	21,298	25,219
Total Computer Expenses	21,298	25,219
Marketing Expenses:		
Advertising and promotion	18,296	20,494
Total Marketing Expenses	18,296	20,494
Finance Expenses:		
Lease Payments	8,979	43,102
Total Finance Expenses	8,979	43,102
Total Expenses	3,014,716	2,774,809
Note 4. Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash at bank	562,477	559,789
	562,477	559,789
Reconciliation of Cash  Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	562,477	559,789
Balance as per Statement of Cash Flows	562,477	559,789
Note 5. Trade and Other Receivables		
Trade receivables	89,233	195,075
Other Receivables	85,402	2,049
	174,635	197,124
Note 6. Inventories		
Current		
Inventory at Cost	38,675	46,177
- -	38,675	46,177
Note 7. Financial Assets		
Non Current		
JW Anderson Testamentary Trust	470,987	-
Listed equity - Telstra shares at cost	7,380	7,380
	478,367	7,380

In January 2020 GAWS was notified of a bequest of a share of the assets of the John Wilson Anderson Testamentary Trust, this was vested on the 11th of December 2019. The quantum of a 5% share was not finalised until August 2020, at that stage the bequest was disclosed in note 21 of the financials which have now been re-stated to include the value of the bequest.

Note 8.

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Property, Plant and Equipment		
Freehold land:		
At Cost	459,256	459,256
	459,256	459,256
Leasehold Improvements		
At Cost	1,275,948	1,273,310
Less accumulated Depreciation	(853,020)	(814,375)
·	422,928	458,935
Plant & Equipment		
At Cost	298,161	314,699
Less accumulated depreciation	(197,256)	(201,672)
	100,905	113,027
Motor Vehicles		
At Cost	72,568	72,568
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(70,955)	(70,487)
•	1,613	2,081
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	984,702	1,033,299

#### Movements in carrying amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

ŕ	Land \$	Plant & Equipment \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Leasehold Improvements \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2018	459,256	141,466	2,685	497,541	1,100,948
Additions	-	3,264	-	-	3,264
Disposals at WDV	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	-	(31,703)	(604)	(38,606)	(70,913)
Balance at 30 June 2019	459,256	113,027	2,081	458,935	1,033,299
Additions	-	22,087	-	720	22,807
Disposals at WDV	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	-	(34,209)	(468)	(36,727)	(71,404)
Balance at 30 June 2020	459.256	100.905	1.613	422.928	984.702

**Employee entitlements** Long Service Leave

of the rea	r Ended 30 June 2020	2020 \$	2019 \$
Note 9.	Intangibles		
	Computer Software		
	At Cost	8,680	8,680
	Less: Accumulated Amortisation	(8,650) <b>30</b>	(8,551) <b>129</b>
N. 4 40	-		123
Note 10.	Right of Use Asset		
	At Cost	215,624	-
	Less: accumulated depreciation	(158,215)	-
	Total Right of Use Asset	57,409	-
Note 11.	Trade and Other Payables Current Trade payables	72,139	44,973
	Other Payables	139,047	250,488
	-	211,186	295,461
Note 12.	Provisions		
	Current		
	Employee entitlements	00.040	50.005
	Annual Leave Long Service Leave	68,649	53,205
	Make Good Provisions	-	-
	Vines Road	4,746	-
		73,395	53,205
	Non Current		

Provision for employee benefits represents amounts accrued for annual leave and long service leave.

The current portion for employee entitlements provision includes the total amount accrued for annual and sick leave entitlements and the amounts accrued for long service leave entitlements that have vested due to employees having completed the required period of service. Based on past experience, the Company does not expect the full amount of annual leave or long service leave balances classified as current liabilities to be settled within the next 12 months. However, these amounts must be classified as current liabilities since the Company does not have an unconditional right to defer the settlement of these amounts in the event employees wish to use their leave entitlement.

35,119

35,119

27,102

The non-current portion for this provision includes amounts accrued for long service leave entitlements that have not yet vested in relation to those employees who have not yet completed the required period of service. In calculating the present value of future cash flows in respect of long service leave, the probability of long service leave being taken is based upon historical data. The measurement and recognition criteria for employee benefits have been discussed in Note 1.

or the Yea	r Ended 30 June 2020	2020 \$	2019 \$
Note 13.	Lease Liability		
	Current	51,537	-
	Non-Current Service Se	9,071 60,608	-
Note 14.	Equity & Reserves		
	(a) Capital Fund Reserve		
	Balance at Beginning of Reporting Period	1,468,130	1,366,369
	Transfer from Retained Earnings	(23,130) 1,445,000	101,761 1,468,130
	The Capital Fund Reserve is used to accumulate all profits and gains, less any losses, to be held in perpetuity by the Company in the pursuit of its objectives.		
	(b) Retained Earnings		
	Balance at Beginning of Reporting Period	(44.504)	-
	Adjustment to retained earnings as at 1 July 2019 (AASB16)  Net Result for year	(11,594) 459,451	- 101,761
	Transfer to Capital Fund Reserve	23,130	(101,761)
	Retained Earnings at the end of the reporting period	470,987	-
Note 15.	Reconciliation Of Cash cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as		
	Cash at bank	562,477	559,789
		562,477	559,789
Note 16.	Reconciliation of result to cash flows from operating activities		
	Result for the Year	459,451	101,761
	Non cash flows items		
	Depreciation & amortisation	102,286	71,851
	Changes in assets and liabilities (Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	22.490	150 105
	(Increase)/decrease in financial assets	22,489 (470,987)	158,125
	(Increase) decrease in finished goods	7,502	(7,871)
	Increase (decrease) in trade creditors and accruals	(82,645)	(125,934)
	Increase (decrease) in employee entitlements	23,461	10,083
	Increase (decrease) in make good provisions	4,746	-
	Net Cash Used in Operating Activities	66,303	208,015

2020	2019
\$	\$

#### Note 17. Capital and Lease Commitments

#### (a) Capital Commitments

There are no known capital commitments for the company.

#### (b) Finance Lease Commitments

There are no known financial lease commitments for the company

#### (c) Operating Lease Commitments

Not later than 12 months	-	17,154
Between 12 months and five years	-	34,394
Later than five years		-
	-	51,548

#### Note 18. Contingent Assets and Contingent Liabilities

There are no known contingent assets or contingent liabilities for the Company.

#### Note 19. Key management personnel disclosures

Any person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of that entity is considered key management personnel.

The totals of remuneration paid to key management personnel (KMP) of the Company during the year are as follows:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Key management personnel compensation	286,048	375,303

#### Note 20. Related party transactions

Key management personnel

Disclosures relating to key management personnel are set out in Note 19.

Transactions with related parties

The Directors confirm that there have been no related party transactions during the year.

Receivable from and payable to related parties

There were no trade receivables from related parties at the current and previous reporting date. There were no trade payables to related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

Loans to/from related parties

There were no loans to or from related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

#### Note 21. Events after the reporting period

The directors are not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

#### Note 22. Organisation Details

The registered office and principal place of business of The Organisaton is: Geelong Animal Welfare Society 325 Portarlington Road Moolap VIC 3221

#### Geelong Animal Welfare Society Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### Note 23. COVID-19 Pandemic

COVID-19 caused a global pandemic, which impacted Australia from March 2020. Significant Government restrictions were imposed to assist in slowing the spread of the disease. Whilst restrictions are now starting to be eased, it is expected that the impact of the pandemic will continue into the foreseeable future.

The Government restrictions had a significant financial and operational impact on Geelong Animal Welfare Society (GAWS).

From a financial perspective, the ability for the organisation to generate income was significantly impacted. As an animal welfare charity, a considerable portion of income is derived from the generosity of the local community for donations, fundraising campaigns, corporate sponsorships, retail sales, adoption fees, op shop sales, participation in local/regional and state-wide animal welfare events and hosting of events.

GAWS was entitled to the maximum amount of cash flow boost support and qualified for JobKeeper payments from May 2020 to supplement wages & salaries expenses for eligible staff. GAWS also received limited financial support from Council to purchase COVID-related items such as signage, hand sanitiser dispenser, face masks & shields and additional cleaning costs.

The impact of the pandemic has been significant and the effects are anticipated to be long lasting. Important strategic decisions will be made to address the evolving situation and investment into long term sustainability strategies prioritised.

Directors Declaration
For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### **Directors Declaration**

In the opinion of the Directors of Geelong Animal Welfare Society:

- a) The financial statements and notes comply with accounting standards
- b) The financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the company.
- c) The financial statements and notes are in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Act 2012.
- d) At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Geelong Animal Welfare Society will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Management made pursuant with subsection 60.15 (2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2013.

Director Munishum

Dated this day of June, 2021

On behalf of the directors:



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GEELONG ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of Geelong Animal Welfare Society (the company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the declaration by those charged with governance.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the company is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act), including:

- (i) Giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) That the financial records kept by the company are such as to enable financial statements to be prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Requirements.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial report in accordance with the ACNC Act 2012, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the company's financial reporting process.



#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <a href="http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx">http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx</a>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Stephen Kirtley Director

Dated this 24th day of June, 2021

Davidsons Assurance Services Pty Ltd 101 West Fyans Street Geelong, Victoria 3220

/ GEELONG / TORQUAY davidsons.com.au

# ANIMALS ARE SUCH AGREEABLE FRIENDS -THEY ASK NO QUESTIONS, THEY PASS NO CRITICISMS



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