



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

# All animals have a safe and loving home...

— Animal Welfare League NSW's Vision

## OUR VISION

That all companion animals in NSW have a safe and loving home.

## OUR PURPOSE

To improve the lives of all companion animals.

|                                 |    |   |    |
|---------------------------------|----|---|----|
| KEY IMPACT STATISTICS 2022-2023 | 02 | 2023 HIGHLIGHTS                         | 08 |
| PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE             | 03 | BRANCH UPDATES                          | 11 |
| CEO'S MESSAGE                   | 04 | TREASURER'S REPORT 2022-2023            | 22 |
| OUR NEW 3-YEAR STRATEGY         | 05 | ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2022-2023 | 24 |
| OUR PEOPLE, OUR CULTURE         | 06 | CORPORATE SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS         | 25 |

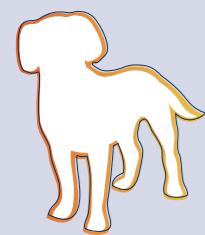


**ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE NSW**  
PO Box 308, Kemp's Creek NSW 2178

awlnsw.com.au | 02 8899 3333 |  /awlnsw |  @awlnsw

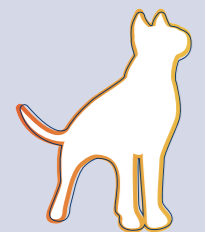
**ACN** 000 533 086 | **ABN** 88 000 533 086 | **RON** R251000222  
Registered No. CFN 10416 under the NSW Charitable Fundraising Act





## Inspectorate

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| 1,678 | Attendance for Cruelty Reports, Compliance Visits & Other Activities |
| 279   | Ambulance Jobs   |
| 136   | Animals Seized   |



## Medical

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>14,831</b> | <b>Animal Health Checks:</b>             |
| 7,698         | Kemps Creek                              |
| 5,165         | Branches                                 |
| 1,968         | Animal Care Truck                        |
| <b>6,783</b>  | <b>Financially Supported De-Sexings:</b> |
| 1,578         | Kemps Creek                              |
| 5,120         | Branches                                 |
| 85            | Animal Care Truck (Dubbo only)           |
| <b>4,890</b>  | <b>Vaccinations:</b>                     |
| 3,204         | Kemps Creek                              |
| 1,686         | Animal Care Truck                        |



## Animal Care Truck

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Since February 2023:</b> |   |
| >8,000                      | Kilometres Travelled                    |
| 15                          | Rural Cities & Towns Visited Across NSW |

3,556

ANIMALS ADOPTED TO NEW HOMES

2,717

ANIMALS FOSTERED BY FOSTER NETWORK

4%

ANIMALS EUTHANISED  
92% FOR MEDICAL REASONS AND THE REMAINDER FOR BEHAVIOURAL

1,506

AWL NSW MEMBERS

145

AWL NSW VOLUNTEERS

21

AWL NSW BRANCHES ACROSS NSW

MARG STEEL  
PRESIDENT AWL NSW

Reflecting on a Remarkable Year at AWL NSW

What a remarkable journey we have embarked on over the past 12 months!



Emerging from the challenging turbulence of the previous three years, Animal Welfare League NSW (AWL NSW) has not only weathered the storms but has emerged stronger, more resilient, better funded, and firmly directed towards the next three years of impactful service.

In 2022/2023, we achieved remarkable milestones.

In June 2023, we were pleased to welcome Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to our Kemps Creek facility for a significant occasion – the opening of our Animal Adoption Centre. During his visit, he took the time to tour our well-maintained facility and engage in meaningful conversations (and quite a few selfies) with our Board members, dedicated staff, and enthusiastic volunteers. In his address, he highlighted the commendable work of the AWL NSW team, expressing appreciation for our ongoing commitment to securing loving homes for animals in need.

One shining example of this commitment is our Animal Care Truck team, our mobile veterinary clinic. Our Animal Care Truck team stands out as a testament to our dedication to delivering veterinary services right where they are most needed. This initiative, generously backed by the NSW Department of Primary Industries, allowed our highly proficient team of animal medical specialists to cover vast stretches of NSW in 2023. Together, they provided a remarkable 1,968 animal consultations, administered 1,686 vaccinations, implanted 714 microchips, and carried out 85 de-sexing procedures, the latter thanks to a special license in Dubbo.

We're proud to announce that this impactful government-supported program is set to continue its transformative work for an additional two years, extending our reach, impact and positive influence across the state.

In addition to these achievements, we also secured a new pet food supply agreement with Nestlé Purina. We are excited that this partnership will yield substantial benefits for our Branches and the animals in our care and thank Purina for their support.

Moreover, the Animal Welfare League NSW Board recently approved a three-year strategic plan that serves as a roadmap for our mission. This plan focuses on helping more animals on their journey to loving homes and tackling challenges like rising pet ownership costs and a growing cat population. Importantly, it ensures the resources needed to support our extensive service network.

I express my sincere gratitude to CEO Stephen Albin and the Board for their dedication and contributions to this promising blueprint, benefitting all stakeholders.

My inaugural year as President of AWL NSW has been a privilege, and I wish to express my gratitude to everyone who has supported and believed in me as we work diligently to fulfil our promises.

On behalf of the Board, I extend our heartfelt appreciation to all our AWL NSW staff, volunteers, and all those who generously contribute their time to champion our cause. The future looks promising, and I look forward to further improving the lives of countless animals in the years to come.

**STEPHEN ALBIN**  
CEO AWL NSW

## Charting New Horizons at AWL NSW

This year, we celebrate a defining chapter for Animal Welfare League NSW (AWL NSW), one that shines with resilience, achievement, and transformative action.



Thanks to the committed leadership of our President, Marg Steel, AWL NSW has successfully navigated through the past tumultuous three years, emerging more robust and unified. A proud testament to our efforts is the record placement of over 3,500 pets into loving homes during 2022/2023.

AWL NSW experienced a remarkable financial turnaround this year. Initially facing a projected loss of \$2.5 million, the collective dedication of the organisation, along with generous donations from donors and partners, reduced this to a manageable \$363,772.

Additionally, AWL NSW received significant support from the NSW State Government in the form of two multi-million-dollar grants. The Office of Local Government recognised the importance of our work and funded the creation of four new regional enforcement centres, expanding our reach and impact to help more animals and communities in need across regional NSW.

The Animal Care Truck, our mobile veterinary initiative, received substantial support from the Department of Primary Industries. This veterinarian clinic-on-wheels touched human and animal lives in 15 NSW locations during 2023, far surpassing its original expectations by delivering twice the number of consultations thanks to the Department's continued support.

Following our recent successes, we've forged a valuable partnership with Nestlé Purina to feed our animals, thereby strengthening our resources.

I want to express my deep appreciation to our President, Marg Steel, for her exceptional leadership and to the entire AWL NSW Board for their dedication.

One of our organisation's key strengths lies in our extensive network of Branches, powered by the unwavering dedication of selfless volunteers committed to rescuing and rehoming companion animals. With a strong presence in 21 locations across the state, we proudly stand as the animal welfare organisation with the most extensive reach within NSW. We extend our sincere appreciation to everyone engaged in our Branches, with a special thank you to the Presidents for their unwavering leadership and dedication to enhancing animal welfare in their local area.

As I draft this message, I'm heartened by the sight before me: the Channel 10 team busily setting up to shoot the fourth season of the acclaimed 'The Dog House, Australia,' at our Kemps Creek Shelter. Witnessing such moments reinforces my optimism and belief in the boundless possibilities awaiting us.

While 2022/2023 was an incredible chapter, it's merely the beginning of our collective journey. Thank you for supporting this transformative path with us.

## "A Better Journey"

Initiated to strengthen the organisation's foundation for long-term growth and planned and developed from listening to staff, this Strategic Plan aims to put AWL NSW in the best possible position for the challenges ahead - whilst significantly improving the journey for most of our animals into loving homes.

Aptly called "A Better Journey," - mirroring our 'From Hope to Love' ethos. The plan focuses on unity and transformative projects to address current and future challenges, all with the goal of providing the best for animals and their caregivers.

The plan anchors on four pivotal pillars:

**1. Streamlining Operations** — By harmonising demand and capacity, we're committed to elevating our animal care standards and public interactions.

**2. Addressing Animal Surrenders** — With increasing cat populations and households relinquishing pets, our approach will include:

- Advocating for more support from the NSW Government and local councils.
- Devising an all-encompassing cat management strategy, spotlighting desexing.
- Fostering partnerships with fellow animal welfare entities.

**3. Strengthening Our Branch Network** — Our metro and regional Branches play a significant role in AWL NSW operations. Enhancing this network is a priority, ensuring the delivery of our welfare services and managing the influx of animal surrenders.

**4. Diversifying Fundraising** — To support our operations, we will explore new revenue streams, especially in the areas of social media and marketing. This includes refining our branding strategies and launching effective campaigns.

Our primary commitment is to deliver workable and effective projects and programs that will leave a legacy for our animals and humans.

We have identified five AWL NSW Transformational Projects across the next 3 years:

1. Community Cat Management
2. Extending the Reach of our Animal Care Truck
3. Developing New Major Regional Branch Facilities
4. Increasing our Pool of Volunteers State-wide
5. Providing Improved Educational Materials and Support to our Foster Network

With "A Better Journey" as our guide, we'll tackle any challenge that comes our way.

Each member of our AWL NSW family, from our passionate Board, volunteers, and staff to our valued members, is essential to fulfilling our mission.

**Together, we can overcome anything.**

Our goal is to create a brighter world for animals and humans alike, and our teamwork, creativity, and dedication will lead us to success.

**STEPHEN ALBIN**  
CEO AWL NSW

## Living our hope-to-love story of animal welfare...

AWL NSW is renowned for its unique and vibrant culture, driven by a diverse group of compassionate individuals who are all dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of animals in need, steering them towards a brighter, love-filled future.

Taking animals from conditions of neglect, mistreatment, and malnutrition and ushering them into a world brimming with care and affection is no small task. It requires a dedicated team of resilient individuals who prioritise the well-being of animals above all else.

Our innovative 'Inspector-friendly' approach to law enforcement sets our Inspectorate apart, while our caring veterinarians and nurses consistently place the needs of animals at the forefront of their work.

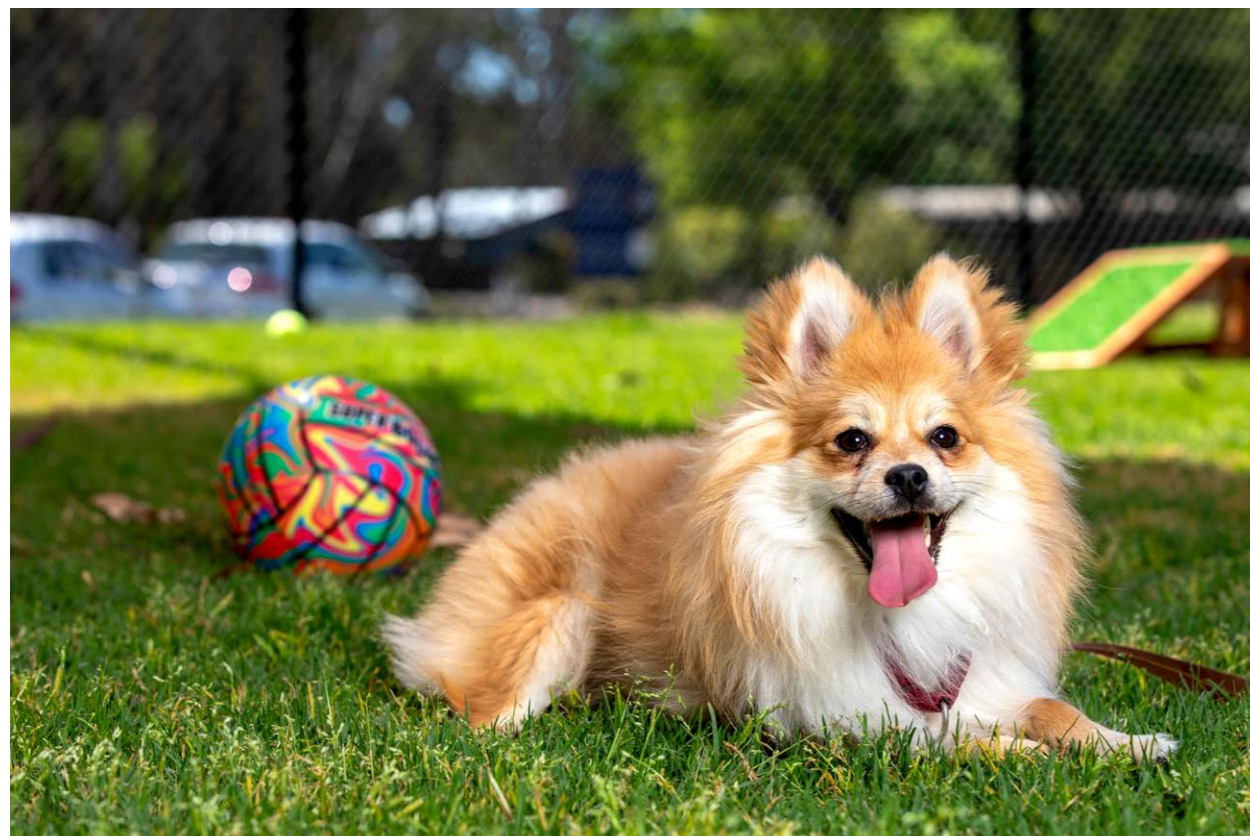
Our animal shelter, a haven for animals in need, is a testament to the deep love and commitment that our adoption, foster and behavioural teams hold for each and every animal in our care.



### THE HOME OF THE DOG HOUSE AUSTRALIA

The captivating stories of transformation and companionship are beautifully showcased in the hit TV show 'The Dog House Australia' on Network Ten, highlighting AWL NSW's journey from hope to love.

This series illuminates the depth of knowledge, care and love that our team pours into their work, and their exceptional skill in connecting people with pets, ensuring a lifetime of shared happiness.



**INSPECTORATE**

The AWL NSW Inspectorate provided a critical law enforcement capability attending to 1,678 cruelty reports, compliance visits or other activities.

Throughout the year, Inspectors investigated a number of animal cruelty complaints, conducted animal rescues, educated the community and responded to requests for assistance from the NSW Government.

In early 2023, the Inspectorate was mobilised by the NSW Department of Primary Industries in response to a major bushfire in the Central Tablelands of NSW. A team of Inspectors assisted the Department, National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Local Land Services with livestock assessment, fodder drops and property damage assessment.

Both metropolitan and regional areas continue to provide a diverse range of challenges for Inspectors ranging from complaints regarding companion animals to livestock.

Inspectors have developed effective working relationships with Regional Councils, NSW Police, Local Land Services, NSW Government and RSPCA.

*Leading to improved welfare outcomes for all animals and greater inter-agency cooperation.*

Proactive animal trade inspections enforcing the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulations, along with industry education, continue to form an integral part of the Inspectorate's function. Boarding Establishments, Breeding and Pet Shops continue to be a focus in this area.

Over the next year, the Inspectorate will continue to enforce animal welfare legislation, regulations, and codes of practice to assist in improving the welfare of animals across NSW.

**VETERINARY HOSPITAL, KEMPS CREEK, SYDNEY**

Our veterinary hospital is renowned for its outstanding medical care provided to animals in our shelter, foster homes, and those under the watchful eye of our Inspectorate. Additionally, we take pride in serving our private clients with the same level of excellence. In the past financial year, we've expanded our reach, offering our first-rate veterinary services to the wider community and creating numerous positive outcomes.

Despite encountering challenges such as a post-COVID influx in animal surrenders and navigating through an economic downturn, our resilient team has successfully managed the heightened demand for animal care. This has undeniably stretched our resources, but it has also underscored the unrelenting commitment of all our dedicated staff.

We are proactively expanding our resources, including both staff and equipment, to meet these demands. While we recognise capacity limitations within our hospital as a major challenge, we are working on innovative solutions to address this in the coming years.



On a typical day, our veterinary team provides first-rate care to an average of 60 hospitalised patients, handles around 30 appointments, and conducts roughly 10 surgical procedures.

We remain committed to offering affordable vet care to our local community, all while ensuring that our shelter, foster, and inspectorate teams receive the priority they deserve.

In the last financial year, our focus was on maintaining stability and enhancing our systems and procedures. We used this time as an opportunity to further train and empower our staff.

By consistently investing in our team and equipment and expanding access to our veterinary services within the community, we are setting the stage for an exciting future. **We remain wholeheartedly committed to delivering exceptional care and service to all animals in need.**



**ANIMAL CARE TRUCK**

Under the guidance of our Veterinarian Hospital Team, the Animal Care Truck, our mobile veterinary clinic, has achieved remarkable success this year, surpassing our initial projections by delivering twice as many consultations.

In 2022, we responded to the flood emergency in Moree, dedicating just over a week to providing vital assistance to distressed animals. Additionally, we travelled to The Entrance, Orange, and Tamworth, administering vaccinations to over 170 animals and implanting nearly 60 microchips.



In 2023, we were honoured to receive a substantial grant from the NSW Department of Primary Industries, specifically directed towards supporting our Animal Care Truck's work across NSW for the next three years.

As a result, during the first half of 2023, we remained exceptionally busy and productive, conducting successful trips and making a positive impact. **We covered over 8,000 kilometres, delivering essential services to animals and their owners in 15 regional cities and towns throughout NSW.**

**We provided 1,968 Animal Health Checks, administered 1,686 Vaccinations, and supported 85 De-Sexings in Dubbo.**

**We deeply appreciate the support from the NSW Government and eagerly look forward to continuing our impactful efforts over the next two years.**

**ANIMAL ADOPTION SHELTER - KEMPS CREEK, SYDNEY**

Over the last financial year, our Kemps Creek animal shelter in Sydney's west has achieved remarkable success.

*Rehoming a total of 1,713 animals & furthering our commitment to offering a safe & loving haven for animals in need.*

We were honoured and delighted to welcome Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to our shelter, where he officially opened our Adoption Centre in June 2023. This visit not only underscored the importance of our work within the community but also demonstrated the robust support we receive from the highest levels of government.

Despite encountering some hurdles, including the prevailing cost of living crisis that has affected potential pet owners' ability to adopt, we remained steadfast in our mission. This financial pressure resulted in an increased number of owner-surrendered animals, challenging us to find new and innovative ways to manage the higher intake and continue providing exemplary care, rehabilitation, and rehoming services.

Our team worked tirelessly to adapt to these challenges, ensuring that even in the face of adversity, our shelter stood as a beacon of hope and support for animals in need. We are proud of what we have achieved and remain committed to our mission, inspired to face the future with resilience and dedication.

**ANIMAL FOSTER PROGRAM AT KEMPS CREEK**

Our foster care program is a vital lifeline for many animals that require extra care, socialisation, and rehabilitation outside of our shelter. Thanks to 556 foster carers, a total of 1,333 animals enjoyed time in loving foster homes.

We can't thank our foster carers enough and we are so appreciative of the life-saving work that they help us do. As we move forward, we remain committed to improving and expanding our Foster Care Program.

Our future initiatives include:

- 1. Education and Training:** Providing additional resources and training for foster families to enhance the care they provide to animals.
- 2. Outreach and Awareness:** Expanding our outreach efforts to encourage more individuals to consider fostering with AWL NSW.
- 3. Partnerships with Pet Shops:** Collaborating with more pet stores to increase our adoptions, resulting in more kittens coming through our foster program.

We look forward to another year of making a difference in the lives of animals in need through fostering, and we invite you to join us on this journey.

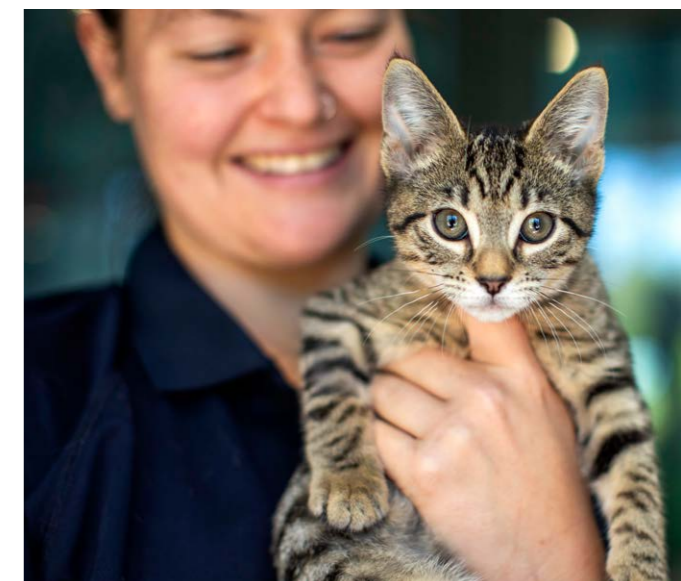


**21 AWL BRANCH LOCATIONS:**

- ARMIDALE
- BATEMANS BAY DOG TRAINING CLUB
- DUBBO
- EASTERN SUBURBS
- EUROBODALLA
- FAR SOUTH COAST
- GLEN INNES
- GREAT LAKES & MANNING
- GUNNEDAH
- HAWKESBURY VALLEY
- ILLAWARRA
- MOREE
- NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB
- NORTH COAST
- NORTHERN BEACHES
- JERVIS BAY / NOWRA
- ORANGE
- SHOALHAVEN
- TAMWORTH
- WAGGA WAGGA
- WESTERN SUBURBS & HILLS DISTRICT

Throughout the 2022/23 period, AWL NSW Branches have steadfastly remained a sanctuary for animals in need. Despite facing numerous challenges and stretched resources, our Branches have consistently delivered exceptional veterinary care and kindness to all animals in their communities.

*Our commitment to animal welfare has been unyielding & resilient, constantly growing & evolving our initiatives & outreach efforts to positively impact local communities across regional New South Wales.*



With a robust membership base of 1,506 individuals, AWL NSW operates across 21 Branches, actively contributing to animal welfare and support. A significant part of our network includes 1,384 dedicated foster carers, who play a crucial role in providing temporary homes and care to animals in need. In our continuous efforts to save and protect as many animals as possible.

**ARMIDALE**

This past year, our Branch has experienced significant growth and impact, driven by the relentless efforts of our members, foster carers, and op shop volunteers. We have actively engaged in community events ranging from Council Shelter open days to Bunnings Pet Expos.

*In April, we were proud to host the AWL NSW Animal Care Truck Clinic, a significant & memorable event for our community.*

This event stood out as a highlight of the year, demonstrating strong community engagement and support. **A total of 135 dogs and cats were provided with essential veterinary services free of charge, including microchipping, vaccinations, and comprehensive health checks.** This not only helped in ensuring the well-being of these animals but also showcased our community's commitment to animal welfare.

Despite facing challenges such as an increase in pet surrenders due to economic and housing pressures, we successfully **found forever homes for 52 dogs/puppies and 78 cats/kittens during the 2022/23 financial year.**

Our Armidale Branch Op Shop generated a remarkable \$67,000 in sales, a \$10,000 increase from the previous year, while adoption fees also saw a significant rise.

We bid a heartfelt farewell to Janis McCarthy, our Op Shop Coordinator, whose exceptional leadership has left us with a thriving operation, recognised with a Highly Commended Award at the Armidale Regional Council Volunteer Awards.

**We extend our deepest gratitude to our community for their steadfast support and commitment, and we are energised to continue making a meaningful impact in animal welfare and adoption in the years ahead.**

**BATEMANS BAY**

The AWL NSW Batemans Bay Dog Training Club committee is pleased to report a marked improvement in community engagement and services for 2023, thanks to consistently good weather allowing for almost weekly training sessions. We recognise the financial and housing challenges facing our community, which have increased the demand on animal welfare services.

Given that most of our members have adopted AWL NSW dogs, maintaining an accessible dog training program remains a top priority for our committee. We've supported this commitment through donations of \$500 to AWL NSW Kemps Creek Shelter and \$250 to the AWL NSW Eurobodalla branch.

**Our foundation classes provide a welcoming and inclusive environment, equipping new pet owners with practical advice and reward-based training to ensure successful adoptions.**

Meanwhile, our regular members delve deeper into pet care and obedience. Our instructor, backed by the committee, engages in various learning opportunities to bring the latest training advice and expertise to our members.

**We cater to all, including dogs needing extra help, by offering physical accommodations, individual time after sessions, and recommendations for local trainers affiliated with AWL NSW.** Additionally, local foster carers receive training discounts for fostered dogs, helping prepare them for adoption with improved obedience and manners.

**DUBBO**

The Dubbo Branch has had a fulfilling and prosperous year with a small yet devoted committee, **successfully rescuing and caring for 93 dogs and puppies and 70 cats and kittens.** Many of these animals found temporary shelter and care with our exceptional Welfare Officer Janet Rose and several community foster carers until they were fit for adoption.

We received substantial support from the local community, with donations including fresh meat, bedding, blankets, toys, pet carriers, and cat litter, all of which were crucial in aiding the numerous pets in our care awaiting permanent homes.

**We held three adoption events this year, setting a new record with 17 animals adopted in just a week.**

*These events have grown in popularity providing families a chance to meet & adopt pets.*

We plan to continue hosting them quarterly in the upcoming year. Post-Christmas 2022, adoption rates dipped due to escalating living costs and inflation, yet we still successfully **rehomed 163 animals**, albeit falling short of our 200+ target. The scarcity of foster carers limited our capacity to take in more animals, but the positive outcomes and happy stories from our rescued animals in their new homes bring us great pride.

Looking forward, the Dubbo Branch stays dedicated to its mission, with optimism for more successful rescues and adoptions in the times ahead.



**EASTERN SUBURBS**

The Eastern Suburbs Branch, run by a team of four devoted members, persists in making a meaningful difference, especially in **aiding low-income earners and pensioners with cat and kitten desexing**. Despite challenges, such as the absence of local dog treatment services, we find strength in community resilience.

Our region, characterised by a substantial Department of Housing presence, frequently requires our assistance with abandoned kittens. A poignant example includes rescuing four kittens found in a cramped birdcage atop a garbage bin, which we subsequently placed in a compassionate family's care before transferring them to the Shoalhaven Branch. This Branch has been instrumental in consistently accepting kittens from us and mitigating our current foster care shortage.

**With unwavering community support and a strong partnership with the Shoalhaven Branch, we are optimistic about sustaining our impactful efforts.**

**EUROBODALLA**

The Eurobodalla Branch has had a bustling year, successfully **rehoming 59 dogs, 65 cats, and elevating our presence within the Shire**. Spread across a 100km coastal stretch, our members required an additional storage unit in the South, complementing our existing Moruya location.

This expansion has proven invaluable for housing equipment used at various market stalls, an initiative we aim to amplify in the coming year. **Our Branch has welcomed several new members and carers, bringing our network to around 18 individuals dedicated to dog and puppy care.**

Our annual Tailwaggers event, featuring a walk and fun ring events every September, saw remarkable success with participation from our State Member of Parliament, who led the walk and selected the Happiest Dog of the Day.

Our Christmas Party, held in a member's garden in Narooma, was a great occasion with several members, their partners and our valued carers attending. **In fact, all in all, we are a pretty happy bunch of volunteers!**

**FAR SOUTH COAST**

The Far South Coast Branch has had a busy year in animal rehoming, placing **86 dogs/puppies and 118 cats/kittens in forever homes, facilitating the transfer of 2 other dogs/puppies to fellow groups, and assisting in rehoming a Shetland pony, 6 rabbits, and some birds.**

Our successful Cat Desexing Drive allowed pensioners to desex two cats for free, while others paid a nominal fee of \$50, resulting in **86 cats desexed by June**, 52 of which were done for free.

We expanded our special needs assistance, providing financial support, emergency accommodation, and veterinary services to pets of homeless individuals, mental health patients, and those unexpectedly hospitalised.

The housing crisis has increased animal surrenders, prompting us to offer varied levels of care and support. Significant investments include acquiring a van for animal transportation and launching a 12-month advertising campaign to promote desexing, fostering, and adoptions in the Far South Coast and Eurobodalla Branches.

Our community engagement included presentations, information stalls, and collaborations with local authorities, the RSPCA, and veterinarians to tackle the regional cat issue. **We secured a three-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Bega Valley Shire and obtained a \$98,000+ grant from the Office of Local Government for community initiatives.**

Our fundraising activities featured a Trivia Night, Dog's Day Out, Santa Paws events in Cobargo and Merimbula, generous monetary donations, and a \$5,000 Bendigo Bank grant for cat enclosures, aiding our carers.

*We extend our heartfelt thanks to our volunteers, whose dedication and hard work ensure the success of our branch and the welfare of our animals.*

**GLEN INNES**

The Glen Innes Branch has thrived in its second year since beginning operations in December 2021, with a steady influx of dedicated volunteers propelling our growth.

This year, we engaged in numerous fundraising activities, including weekly raffles at the RSL club, **raising an impressive \$800-\$1000 monthly**; we express our gratitude to the club for hosting this fundraiser.

Our Christmas raffle and trivia night, generously supported by local businesses, were particularly successful, with the latter standing out as a major fundraising event. We also hosted sensory meat tastings, street stalls, a wood raffle, and a 'hundreds club', among others.

*The April visit of the AWL NSW Animal Care Truck significantly raised our profile...*

and was warmly received by both our team and the community. Our progress and success this year are a testament to the dedication and enthusiasm of our loyal members, always ready to lend a hand for the animals' benefit.

**GREAT LAKES & MANNING**

The Great Lakes & Manning Branch has celebrated a fruitful year, thanks to our committed committee and devoted volunteers, essential to our existence.

**We've noticed a decline in cat and dog surrenders, particularly for dogs, due to the exceptional and affordable care provided by Forster Tuncurry Boarding Kennels.** Mid Coast Animal Hospital and Windan Sea Veterinary Clinic have played crucial roles in tending to our cats and kittens, aiding in their adoption process. Scotty's Pet Barn recently joined our cause, quickly finding homes for the cats and kittens in their care, a support we deeply appreciate as we approach kitten season.

**Special recognition goes to Sharon and Sandra for their exceptional fostering work,** and our local veterinarians for their invaluable assistance to our animals, CAAS, and CADS, especially noted during the current vet shortage.

Our relationship with the Mid Coast Council pound has flourished under Carla, the new Companions Animals Officer, thanks to Adam Matlawski's facilitation, marking a positive change.

**The AWL NSW Animal Care Truck's visit to Taree was a hit, with over 104 animals receiving comprehensive care;** we aim to make this a yearly event and extend our thanks to Gert Lampen from Manning Animal Hospital for his support.

Our heartfelt thanks to Helen and the Head Office team for their continuous assistance, and a special acknowledgment to Anita Cooke for her 35 years of dedication, significantly impacting our branch. **We remain a small but fervent group, committed to animal welfare in our community.**

**GUNNEDAH**

Launched on March 18, 2023, Gunnedah Animal Welfare League has quickly become an active and community-supported branch.

Thanks to the generous donations from locals, our various fundraising activities such as raffles in the CBD and various clubs, not only help in raising crucial funds but also aid in spreading awareness about our cause.

We are excited for our upcoming Christmas and Pamper Your Pet raffles, and local clubs have welcomed us to share about our mission, sparking interest and enthusiasm.

Jennie and Robyn have been instrumental in managing our Facebook page, ensuring effective communication and engagement with our community. Our main fundraising activities include garage sales, Buy Swap & Sell events, Pie Drives, and raffles, crucial for covering expenses, particularly veterinary costs associated with desexing, vaccinations, and health checks.

Since our inception, we have been fortunate to receive ample food donations and significant monetary support. Adoptions have seen a noticeable increase in recent months, with new pet owners eagerly welcoming their new furry family members.

At Gunnedah Animal Welfare League, our commitment is unwavering. We are a well-structured Branch, fully dedicated to...

*Rescuing, rehabilitating, & rehoming animals, ensuring that their care & well-being are always our top priority, all while providing them with love & compassion.*

**HAWKESBURY**

The 2022/23 year has swiftly passed, marked by challenges from the aftermath of the Hawkesbury floods and the rising cost of living, resulting in increased animal surrenders and assistance requests, but fewer enquiries and adoptions.

After three years of meticulous planning and effort, we opened a Retail Hub in South Windsor in May, receiving positive community feedback and forming connections with local pets and their owners.

While our food donation bins experienced a temporary dip, we are optimistic about regaining our previous support levels as these bins play a crucial role in aiding struggling pet owners.

We fostered around 150 cats and kittens, on par with last year, and successfully found forever homes for 24 dogs, 13 rabbits, and 1 goat.



The high demand for subsidised desexing continued, assisting approximately 700 pet owners through AWL's Companion Animal Desexing Scheme, a trend we expect to persist with escalating veterinary costs.

Fundraising remains a lifeline for our Branch, and our committed team has been relentless in organising trivia nights, online auctions, raffles, and BBQs throughout the year. We eagerly anticipate a bigger and brighter 2024.



**ILLAWARRA**

This year has been another exciting year of change and development for the Illawarra Branch of the Animal Welfare League NSW. We have continued to prioritise the fostering and adoption of cats and kittens in our area and helping our local community to desex and care for their animals.

The financial year 2022-2023 has also been a time of change for our Executive Committee, with the addition of experienced volunteers with diverse skills that have enhanced our branch. We have continued to streamline our administrative processes with the continuing expansion of our management systems. Ongoing development and automation of our day-to-day procedures have meant less time spent doing administration and more time improving our Branch and interacting with our community.

We have introduced a monthly newsletter, highlighting our work, as well as celebrating our volunteers. We have started a major push on our social media for adult cat foster carers over the winter and hope that this will help support us in managing this escalating problem in our community. Our thanks for this extraordinary work this year goes to our amazing foster carers.

*A total of 347 cats & kittens were adopted from our branch this financial year.*

Just prior to the end of this financial year, we were lucky enough to be approved for a \$20,000 grant from the Office of Local Government, NSW. This money was awarded to us to design and implement a cat desexing drive, and to help educate local communities regarding the importance of desexing their cats.

**JERVIS BAY**

Our small branch had an active and fruitful year, rehoming 2 dogs, 7 puppies, 20 cats, and 102 kittens. Additionally, we successfully desexed 544 animals, predominantly cats and kittens, preventing countless future litters.

Through our donation boxes alone, we raised a notable \$858.95. A highlight was a generous \$75 donation from 16-year-old Isabel, who took the initiative to organise a school fundraiser for our branch and dedicated four consecutive Mondays to assisting with our rescue routines. We are immensely grateful for her support.

Bunnings generously contributed a dog enclosure, aiding a homeless woman and her companion dog. Our participation in the opening of their Pet Section was a hit, and we eagerly anticipate nurturing our budding relationship with Bunnings.

Our heartfelt thanks go to Alexis and Helen for their unwavering guidance, and we look forward to another prosperous year ahead.

**MOREE**

Despite facing a year filled with challenges, including decreased interest in our animals and fewer adoption inquiries for both dogs/pups and cats/kittens, we've remained resilient and positive. As our furry friends have been staying with us a bit longer, we've adapted by reducing adoption fees, ensuring they find their forever homes.

Our capacity to accept public surrenders and animals from local pounds has been impacted, and transfers to other rescue groups have lessened due to full shelters. The absence of a JetPets representative in Moree has halted our ability to fly animals to their new homes. Nevertheless, we've seen very kind individuals willing to travel to Moree to welcome a new pet into their lives.

We are profoundly thankful for the unwavering support from Purina, whose monthly donations of dog and cat food have significantly eased our financial burdens. Our dedicated volunteers remain optimistic and continue to work relentlessly to assist the animals in our community, showcasing our Branch's strong spirit and commitment to animal welfare.

**NAROOMA DOG TRAINING CLUB**

Narooma Dog Training Club (NDTC) is pleased to report that we have finally bounced back from the downturn of Covid years, with our dog obedience, agility, and rally obedience programs now thriving. Our participant numbers have surged back to pre-Covid levels.

*Engaging over 100 dog owners with the extensive expertise of our volunteer instructor team.*



We are prioritising rescue and rehomed dogs in our obedience program, offering essential advice and support. Currently, we are hosting in-house competitions across all disciplines, eagerly anticipating a festive Dogs' Christmas Party and trophy presentation in early December.

Additionally, we've rejuvenated our fundraising efforts, including an upcoming Trivia Night in November.

This year, we've welcomed new members to our Branch and are particularly excited about the addition of two new instructors to our Saturday sessions. The NDTC Committee is diligently working behind the scenes, ensuring seamless operations and fostering positive relations with our local Council and Kemps Creek staff.

Looking forward, we are optimistic about sustaining this success in the coming 12 months.

**NORTH COAST BRANCH**

Over the past year, our dedicated team managed 88 surrenders, assisted in private re-homing, and facilitated 82 adoptions, finding shelter or foster care for cats in need. Despite our facility being full and navigating through challenges like ringworm and giardia outbreaks, we held successful adoption shifts three times a week.

We are still awaiting post-flood insurance repairs 17 months later but have gained approval to add an elevated storage shed. A flood mitigation grant has allowed us to raise kitten cages for safety.

The Seventh Day Adventist Church group supported our vet bills in April, and the Animal Care Truck's visit in May provided crucial veterinary care to 60 flood-affected animals.

Our Companion Animal Desexing Scheme (CADS) saw 185 dogs and 101 cats desexed through 22 participating vet practices, complemented by a \$10,000 OLG Companion Animal grant. We plan to double this amount for additional desexing programs in areas such as Mullumbimby, Casino, Lismore, and Grafton.

Head Office's Purina sponsorship has resulted in significant savings on kitten food, and their support has extended to assisting individuals with vet treatment through CAAS.

Our newsletter has kept our community of volunteers, members, foster carers, and adopters in the loop, fostering a strong sense of communication and community.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Executive Committee, foster carers, volunteers, and Mullumbimby Vets for their steadfast support, and we look forward to another year of making a positive impact.

**NORTHERN BEACHES**

With a small team consisting of one president and a handful of volunteers, **we have successfully rehomed 53 animals this past financial year.** Our dedication to rescuing cats and kittens has remained unwavering, and we've expanded our efforts to include dog rescues.

We've actively participated in two fundraising events, an adoption weekend, and forged a valuable partnership with Petbarn in Northern Beaches, the Narrabeen store, and in Northern NSW.

Our first official meeting recently took place, resulting in an influx of new volunteers. Recognising the challenges many Branches face in volunteer recruitment, we are committed to providing strong support and guidance to make our cause even more compelling.

*We stand passionately in support of the Animal Welfare League NSW's mission & we are devoted to sustaining the vitality of the Northern Beaches Branch.*

**ORANGE**

Well done to our Orange Branch team of six active members for their outstanding accomplishments over the past year. Despite personal hurdles, including family illnesses, our team has demonstrated extraordinary resilience and unity, creating an unwavering support network for animal rescue in our region.

We've made great strides in community engagement and fundraising, enriched by the collaboration with three veterinarians, two vet nurses, two pet store associates, and a council ranger.

**Our foster team has flourished, receiving regular food donations from pet stores across three towns, a testament to our President and Head Welfare Officer's networking skills.** This support has substantially reduced our food orders and provided opportunities for pet adoption days, aiding in the rehoming of numerous cats and kittens.

Our Vice President and Secretary have been instrumental in our fundraising success, securing grants from Newcrest, Greater Union, and Andrew Gee, which have allowed us to focus our efforts away from the challenges of cold BBQ days!

**We celebrate 90 adoptions in the last financial year,** covering a range of animals, and acknowledge our involvement in 51 surrenders through various channels in the Central West. A special mention goes to Theo the cat, who after 394 days in our care, found his forever home.

Heartfelt thanks to Summer Street Vet Clinic, Canobolas Vet Clinic, Mulberry Lane Vet, Orange Veterinary Hospital, PetStock Bathurst, Petbarn Orange, PetsDomain Parkes, Orange City Pound, and Parkes Animal Shelter for their relentless support and collaboration.

**We recognise that it truly takes a village, and with our community's continued support, we eagerly anticipate another successful year ahead.**

**TAMWORTH**

Our Branch has navigated a busy year with many activities surrounding our de-sexing program, adoptions, surrendered pets, fundraising, and positive changes at the pound.

*The establishment of 'Paws for Life', a new Council-run shelter,*

**marks a progressive step, in providing a sanctuary for pound animals after desexing and vetting, preparing them for adoption.** While it currently has limited hours, it's a promising step forward.

We extend a warm welcome to new volunteers, acknowledging their critical role in our ongoing success. Despite the consistent influx of pet surrenders our team, alongside our exceptional carers and volunteers, continues to deliver impressive adoption outcomes.

**Our adopt-a-pet days at PetBarn, coordinated by Courtney and our devoted volunteers, have proven very successful.** We look forward to deepening this partnership with PetBarn. Our primary fundraising efforts continue to centre around Bunning BBQs, now bolstered by a new trailer to boost our market visibility. Our talented artisans also contribute by creating attractive giftware for sale.

Participating in the Council's Gala Day in October lets us engage with the community, educate on animal welfare, and fundraise through our stall and BBQ.

**The AWL NSW Animal Care Truck's visit this year was exceptionally productive, providing free procedures without requiring appointments or pension qualifications.**

**These promising developments energise us, and we are optimistic about sustaining our momentum in the upcoming year.**

**WESTERN SUBURBS**

It's been a challenging yet impactful year at Western Suburbs, with our unwavering commitment to subsidised desexing leading to **1,962 animals treated**, despite increasing vet fees.

Our resilient team, including members like Jean and Geena who battled cancer, has shown incredible strength and dedication to our cause. **We are grateful for the compassion and devotion of every individual in our group.**

Thanks to Brandon, we secured a \$10,000 grant for a Community Cat desexing program, a significant aid to our efforts. Our secretary, Glyn Boobyer, has been invaluable in managing multiple responsibilities, as has Vice President Brandon Cowen in guiding us through paperwork and processes. Our Treasurer Marg played a key role in managing finances and leading successful fundraising events, such as a Trivia night that raised over \$6,000. Jeanette, our Cat Welfare officer, and Geena in our Desexing program, have been essential in rehoming efforts and managing vouchers, resulting in the **adoption of 27 cats and 112 kittens.**

Leslie has courageously stepped into the role of Cat Welfare Officer, navigating the challenges of the current economy and still finding homes for our animals.

**We express our deepest thanks to all our dedicated members; your ongoing support is invaluable in these tough times as we continue our mission to help animals in need.**



# TREASURER'S REPORT 2022-2023

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's Report for the financial year ending 30 June 2023. Animal Welfare League NSW (AWL NSW) recorded a loss of \$363,772. This represents a positive turnaround on the prior year of just over \$1.7M. Total income received during the financial year was \$9,978,646 and total expenses were \$10,342,418.

## FINANCIAL GOALS

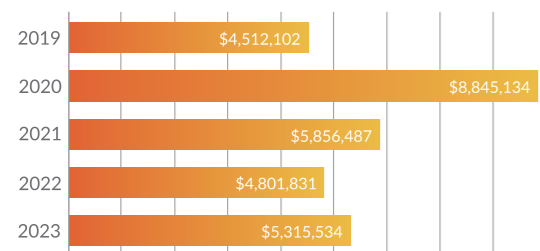
The Board has during the year set a new three-year strategic plan to create a financially sustainable operating model. The goal is to realign revenue streams to at least cover the operating expenses associated with a high level of animal care.

## INCOME

Bequests and legacy income continue to be a significant component representing 53.3% of total income. The five-year average tracking of bequest income is \$5.8M per annum, as indicated in the table below:

### BEQUESTS & LEGACY RECEIVED

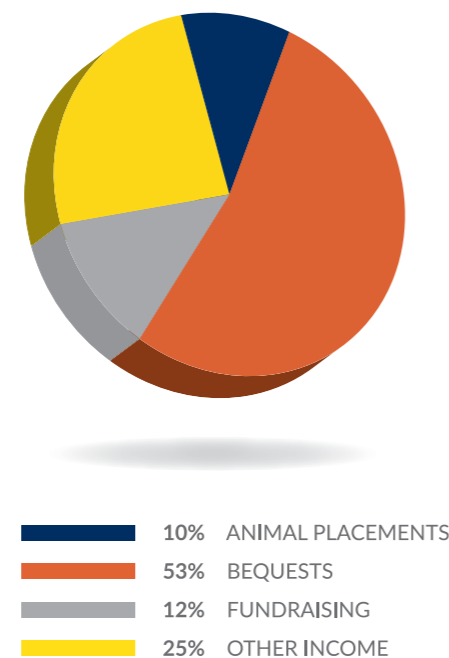
5 YEAR AVERAGE: \$5,866,218



The year ended 30 June 2023 was another challenging year for fundraising with the impact of inflation on disposable income. Despite the adverse economic climate, fundraising revenue is higher than it has ever been.

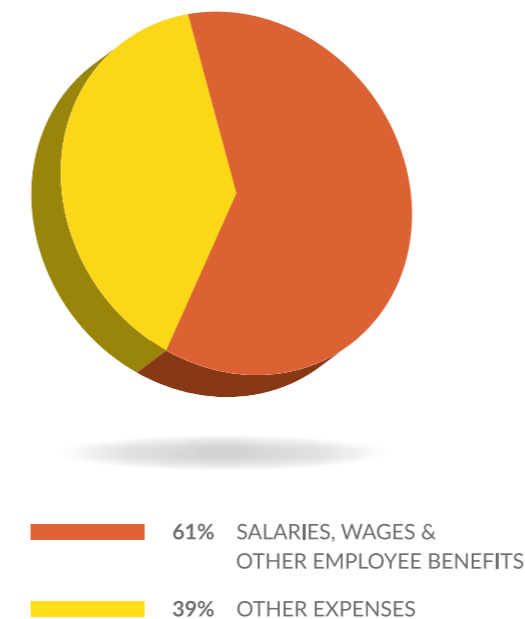
If we deduct the overhead cost of fundraising and corporate office, 72% (2022: 75%) of all income was directed to the caring of animals. The 3% adverse variance on the previous year is due to restructuring operations to grow new revenue streams into the future. The Board and Management remain committed to maximising the percentage of funds raised which are directed in this way.

## INCOME (CONT.)

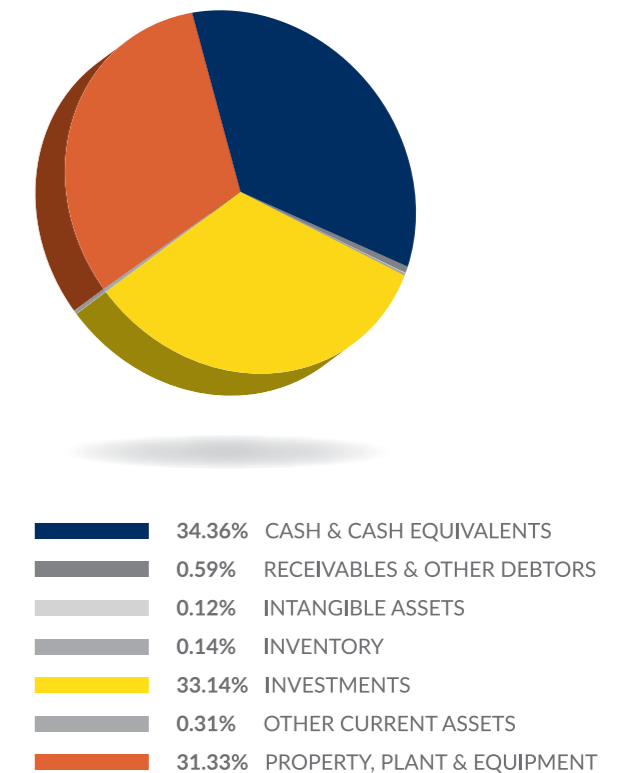


## EXPENDITURE

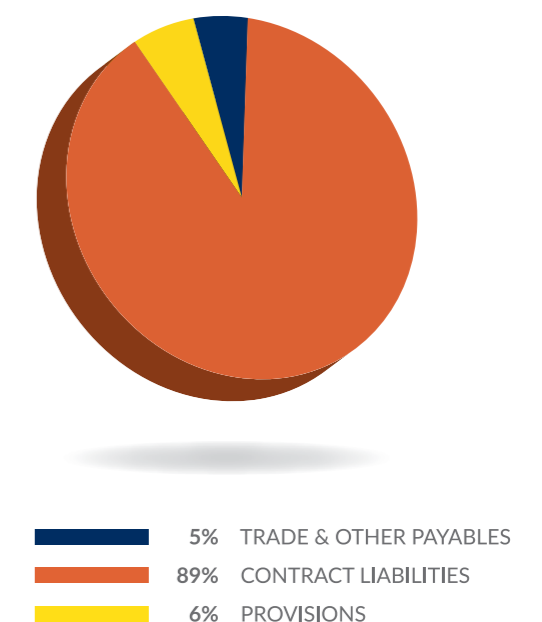
Total Expenditure was \$10,342,417 (2022: \$10,358,964) a slight reduction over the previous year of \$16,546. The largest line item increase over the prior year was Salaries, Wages and other employee benefits at \$498K. Several new positions were created during the year as well as salary review increases both for award and salaried staff.



## ASSETS



## LIABILITIES



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Members' equity balance for the year ended 30 June 2023 was \$26,564,893 (2022: \$26,928,665) representing a decrease of \$364K from the previous year. Total Assets were \$35.1M and Total Liabilities were \$8.5M.

I want to thank the staff, volunteers, branch members & supporters for their ongoing commitment & passion for AWL NSW.

**TINA PACEY**  
Director/Treasurer

## ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2022-2023

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

|   | 2023              | 2022               |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|
|   | \$                | \$                 |
| <b>INCOME</b>                                       |                   |                    |
| Animal Placements                                   | 958,096           | 947,596            |
| Bequests  | 5,315,534         | 4,801,831          |
| Fundraising   | 1,229,821         | 905,570            |
| Other Income  | 2,475,195         | 1,597,904          |
| <b>Total Income</b>                                 | <b>9,978,646</b>  | <b>8,252,901</b>   |
| Cost of Goods Sold                                  | (340,977)         | (453,952)          |
| Gross Profit  | 9,637,669         | 7,798,949          |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                     |                   |                    |
| Salaries, Wages and Other Employee Benefits         | 6,115,249         | 5,617,043          |
| Other Expenses                                      | 3,886,192         | 4,287,969          |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                               | <b>10,001,441</b> | <b>9,905,012</b>   |
| <b>(LOSS)/PROFIT BEFORE INCOME TAX</b>              | <b>(363,772)</b>  | <b>(2,106,063)</b> |
| Income Tax Expense                                  | -                 | -                  |
| (Loss)/Profit After Income Tax                      | (363,772)         | (2,106,063)        |
| Other Comprehensive Income for the Year, Net of Tax | -                 | -                  |
| <b>Net (Loss)/Profit</b>                            | <b>(363,772)</b>  | <b>(2,106,063)</b> |

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

|                              | 2023              | 2022              |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                              | \$                | \$                |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                |                   |                   |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents      | 12,071,835        | 2,092,459         |
| Receivables & Other Debtors  | 50,357            | 90,060            |
| Inventory                    | 208,337           | 242,616           |
| Other Current Assets         | 109,621           | 126,446           |
| Investments - Equity Method  | 11,645,391        | 14,070,518        |
| Intangible Assets            | 41,806            | 84,171            |
| Property, Plant & Equipment  | 11,007,578        | 11,248,316        |
| Right-Of-Use Asset           | -                 | 186,673           |
| <b>Total Assets</b>          | <b>35,134,926</b> | <b>28,141,259</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>           |                   |                   |
| Trade & Other Payables       | 442,547           | 547,588           |
| Contract Liabilities         | 7,640,728         | -                 |
| Provisions                   | 486,757           | 464,948           |
| Lease Liabilities            | -                 | 200,058           |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>     | <b>8,570,033</b>  | <b>1,212,594</b>  |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>            | <b>26,564,893</b> | <b>26,928,665</b> |
| <b>MEMBERS' EQUITY</b>       |                   |                   |
| Reserves                     | 6,690,544         | 6,690,544         |
| Retained Surplus             | 19,874,349        | 20,238,121        |
| <b>Total Member's Equity</b> | <b>26,564,893</b> | <b>26,928,665</b> |

## CORPORATE SPONSORS



## CORPORATE SUPPORTERS



"I genuinely appreciate each one of you who has played a part in creating meaningful change for our companion animals & the people who cherish them. Your dedication & support truly make a difference."

**MARG STEEL**  
PRESIDENT AWL NSW





**ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE NSW**

PO Box 308, Kempas Creek NSW 2178

[awlnsw.com.au](http://awlnsw.com.au) | 02 8899 3333 |  /awlnsw |  @awlnsw

**ACN** 000 533 086 | **ABN** 88 000 533 086 | **RON** R251000222  
Registered No. CFN 10416 under the NSW Charitable Fundraising Act