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# Welcome to the first edition of the Love Tales Newsletter for 2024

#### Celebrating the Progress of 'A Better Journey'

I'm thrilled to share some fantastic news regarding the significant strides we've taken as an organisation over the last nine months.

Through unity and teamwork, we've successfully achieved the majority of our Strategic Plan called 'A *Better Journey*'.

We've completed 24 out of the 48 planned actions for FY 24, with another 18 in progress. This marks an 87.5% advancement toward our overarching objectives, underscoring our commitment to excellence beyond our regular duties.

Key milestones include:

- The expansion of our mobile animal care services across regional areas, made possible by a grant from the NSW Department of Primary Industries, through our dedicated Animal Care Truck team.
- The establishment of new regional Inspectorate hubs in Orange, Glen Innes, and Bega, supported by the NSW Office of Local Government grant.
- The introduction of a comprehensive Branch Operating Manual, updating our policies and procedures to enhance efficiency.
- Strengthening our partnership with Channel Ten's Dog House Australia, significantly boosting AWL NSW's brand visibility.

Our team has demonstrated resilience and competence in the face of challenges, effectively bringing our strategic vision into reality.

We're evaluating our priorities for next year, ensuring we continue to deliver an outstanding service. With only nine actions rolling over into the next fiscal year, we are in a strong position to build on this year's successes. Our journey is about maximising our impact for the long term, and our progress is a testament to the collective spirit, commitment, and hard work of the AWL NSW family.

As we move into FY25, we remain focused on our mission to ensure the welfare of all animals, striving to amplify our impact even further.

**Stephen Albin** Chief Executive Officer





#### The First Line of Hope

Meet AWL NSW Chief Inspector, Amanda Gray. Amanda talks about her role, the aim of the AWL NSW Inspectorate and her vision for the future.

Hear about the exciting expansion of her team with the assistance of the NSW Office of Local Government and the impact this will have on their ability to help more animals



#### The Hope to Love Walk Challenge

Show your support by fundraising or donating for the Hope to Love Walk taking place from April 1 – April 30!

Join us for a daily walk-a-thon challenge where every step improves your physical health while raising awareness and crucial funds for the animals in our care, awaiting their forever homes.







## The Dog House Australia Returned for Season 4

We're proud to be back on Australia's TV screens for season 4 of *The Dog House Australia*! The season launched on February 1st and across 10 episodes we've witnessed heartfelt connections between some of our dogs and their adopters. Visit 10 Play online to rewatch or catch up on all of the episodes.



## Animal Care Truck Delivers Vital Services Across Central West NSW

The AWL NSW Animal Care Truck has completed it's first tour of the year. Supported by the NSW Government, the team provided essential veterinary services to Dubbo, Orange and Wellington, successfully carrying out 302 health checks, 123 microchips, 274 vaccinations and 40 desexings.

**READ MORE** 

WATCH EPISODES HERE



## Animal Ambulance Officer Encourages Cat Owners to Use Safety Collars

Animal Ambulance Officer at AWL NSW, Kim Watkins, is recommending the use of breakaway collars for outdoor cats. Her suggestion stems from her first-hand experiences responding to situations where cats have been seriously injured or trapped due to non-stretch collars.



FindMyOwner Has Launched! A New Initiative by the AWL NSW

AWL NSW is proud to soft launch **FindMyOwner** in the Blacktown City Council area. It's an exciting initiative that introduces a streamlined process to connect lost pets with their worried owners. By offering a microchip search and pet reconnection service, we hope to reduce the number of lost dogs that end up in pounds.



We love hearing from pet owners who have opened their hearts and homes through adoption with AWL NSW. The following pets have recently found their perfect match with their wonderful people.



"Honey and Floss are sisters, I adopted them as a bonded pair. It's been so cute watching them together, they are a tight knit duo and I'm just the third wheel in the house! I'll often find them snuggled up in a corner together. I had a great experience adopting from AWL, they do a great job in caring for these animals until they find a new home. It's a joy to give be able to adopt an animal that needs a home."

Alison

"Thunder has made a big difference. I feel I have a companion in life. She is a special animal friend who is here with me and I no longer feel I am living alone - so having and a companion cat makes all the difference. She is very affectionate with me - sits on my lap, likes to cuddle up as close as possible and has a nice loud purr. She will follow me about the house. She knows what time she has her food and communicates this well. She is such a dear little cat with such a sweet nature." **Toni** 



#### FIND YOUR PERFECT MATCH TODAY

Around the Branches

Our 21 AWL NSW Branches across the state continue to provide a safe and secure haven for animals. Driven by passionate volunteers, they generously contribute their time and talent to not only care for animals, but create a real positive impact within their local communities.

This month we had some great updates from our Hawkesbury Valley and Glen Innes Branches.



Tania from AWL NSW Hawkesbury Branch saves Giddy the goat

Last year we received a frantic call from a member of the public. He had found a baby goat (less than 24 hrs old) lying in wet grass. One of our foster carers, Tania, an experienced "farm girl" quickly sprang into action to see what could be done. Tania collected the little goat, took him home, placed him in front of the fire and started to drip feed him a glucose mix. It took about six hours for him to start to respond but when he did he certainly made up for lost time. He was named "Giddy" and once he had a bit of strength he took to the bottle like an old hand.

Giddy continued to thrive and be completely spoilt. Giddy became a regular visitor to our shop and always drew a lot of attention when he visited. While searching for his forever home, Giddy was desexed, vaccinated and microchipped - just like our kittens.

# AWL NSW Glen Innes Branch gives Jeffie the sheep a new lease on life



AWL Glen Innes was alerted by a concerned citizen, that a very large woolly sheep had been abandoned nearby his small country farm. Sadly, despite multiple attempts, we were unable to locate an owner.

"Jeffie" as he has fondly been named, was in quite a state, carrying an estimated 3 years of wool clip (30cms growth). The recent hot humid weather, and heavy storms meant we had to act fast, as there were serious concerns that "Jeffie" would likely succumb to his condition.

An experienced shearer was organised, and after a "marathon" effort in the shearing shed, many kilos lighter, Jeffie looked like a "New Man".

A wonderful local farmer has given Jeffie his forever home. He will see out the rest of his life with his new found family - a mob of pet sheep, enjoying the spoils of the odd bread and A lovely family from Camden replied to our adoption post and it was love at first sight. Although Tania found it difficult to part with Giddy, he now has a paddock to romp in and a family to care for him. popcorn, and the assurance of a regular annual shear. Jeffie the sheep has many a tale ahead of him.





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