This fact sheet provides useful tips when searching for a lost furry friend. Contacting local animal shelters and pounds is the first step.

PLEASE NOTE:
Many people who find lost pets may not hand them into local council or animal shelters immediately. It may take them a few weeks or even a few months. Therefore, you should continue to contact pounds and animal shelters weekly for at least three months.

TIP:
A letter box drop is particularly useful for finding lost cats.

CONTACT LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTERS AND POUNDS
Due to the large number of dogs and cats at pounds and animal shelters like The Lost Dogs’ Home, we strongly recommend that you contact the Home and other shelters and pounds if you have lost your pet.

It is also possible that your pet will be taken to an animal shelter by a member of the public. This is another reason you should keep in touch with shelters and pounds.

CHECK LOCAL AND SURROUNDING COUNCILS
Check the area where your pet was lost. Phone your local council and ask where animals are taken when collected by local council rangers. Councils either have their own holding pens or they use a major animal shelter as their pound. Ask for the address and their visiting hours so you can contact them to check to see if your pet is there.

CONDUCT A NEIGHBOURHOOD SEARCH
Conduct a thorough and wide search of the area around where your pet was last seen.

Your search should include:
- Door knocking
- A letter box drop
- Posting flyers in prominent places (for example; shop windows, trees, power poles etc.)

Information to include on a flyer:
- A photograph of your pet
- Detailed description of your pet including name, age, breed, colour, sex and any distinguishing characteristics
- The date it went missing
- The area it went missing in
- Your name and contact number/s.

OTHER SUGGESTED METHODS OF ENQUIRY
Vet Clinics
Check the locality guide in the yellow pages and phone all local vets to check if your pet has been taken there.

Newspapers
Advertise and check in all local and major newspapers.
Online
Many shelters have websites that detail pets that have been lost/ found. Also there are groups on Facebook which post lost/ found animals.

**Remember:** Collars and tags can come off or may be removed deliberately. You should contact shelters and pounds as many animals are impounded with their ID missing.

**MICROCHIPPING**
Microchipping is normally a reliable and permanent form of identification for your pet. Staff at pounds and shelters make every effort to check all strays admitted for microchip identification.

By law, all cats and dogs must be microchipped before being sold. This includes sales from registered breeders, animal shelters, pet shops and private homes. This is not for animals that are advertised as ‘free to a good home’. The Lost Dogs’ Home offers a microchipping service.

All council pounds and animal shelters have microchip scanning equipment. You should ensure your contact details are always kept up to date with your microchip agency.

Occasionally, microchips can move around the animal’s body and might not always be picked up by a scanner. If your pet is microchipped, you should have your pet regularly checked to see if the chip can be properly scanned.

**Remember:** The ‘Φ’ symbol in the ear indicates that the animal has been desexed, and should not be mistaken for a unique form of identification. It is important to note, that tattoos do fade over time and are sometimes difficult to read.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Point of Contact</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
<th>Melways Ref</th>
<th>Lost pet enquiry hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **The Lost Dogs’ Home**  
2 Gracie Street, North Melbourne, VIC                 | T: 03 9329 2755  
F: 03 9326 5293  
E: info@dogshome.com                                | 2A C7  
43 B4                                             | Mon - Thurs: 10:00am - 6:15pm  
Fri: 10:00am - 4:45pm  
Sat: 9:00am - 3:30pm  
Sun: 9:00am - 12:30pm                               |
| **The Lost Dogs’ Home Cranbourne**  
920 Thompsons Road, Cranbourne West                    | T: 03 9702 8055  
F: 03 9702 8655  
E: info@dogshome.com                                | 128 K8                                              | Mon – Fri: 10:00am - 6:00pm  
Sat – Sun: 9:00am - 1:00pm                           |
| **Lort Smith Animal Hospital**  
24 Villiers Street, North Melbourne, VIC                | T: 03 9321 7260 (lost dogs)  
T: 03 9321 7240 (lost cats)  
F: 03 9329                                         | 43 E4                                              | Mon-Sun: 9:30am - 3:30pm                            |
| **RSPCA (Victoria - Burwood)**  
3 Burwood Highway, Burwood East, VIC                   | T: 03 9224 2222  
F: 03 9221 0071                                     | 61 G6                                              | Mon – Sun: 9:00am – 5:00pm                         |
| **RSPCA Epping Animal Welfare Facility**  
20 Companion Place, Epping, VIC                        | T: 03 8401 6600                                     | 180 K9                                             | Mon, Wed: Fri: 11.00am – 7.00pm  
Tues, Thurs: 7.00am – 3.00pm  
Sat - Sun & public holidays: 9:00am - 3:00pm         |
| **Australia Animal Protections Society**  
132 Bangholme Road, Dandenong Sth, VIC                 | T: 03 9798 8415 /0397988044  
F: 03 9769 0317                                     | 94 B1                                              | Mon - Sat: 10:00am - 3:30pm  
Sun & public holidays: 11:00am - 3:00pm               |
| **Blue Cross Animal Society**  
26 Homestead Road, Wonga Park, VIC                     | T: 03 9722 1265  
F: 03 9722 1265                                     | 24 J12                                             | Mon: Closed  
Tues - Sun: 11:00am - 3:30pm (visit)  
Tues - Sun: 9:00am - 4:00pm (phone)                    |
| **Animal Aid**  
35 Killara Road, Coldstream, VIC                      | T: 03 9739 0300  
F: 03 9739 0400  
E: enquiries@animalaid.org.au                       | 281 F7                                             | Mon-Sun: 9:00am - 5:00pm                           |
| **RSPCA (Peninsula)**  
1030 Robinsons Road, Pearcedale, VIC                  | T: 03 5978 9000  
F: 03 5978 7255                                     | 141 C3                                             | Mon - Sun: 9:00am - 4:00pm (visit)  
Mon - Sun: 9:00am - 5:00pm (phone)                     |
| **Geelong Animal Welfare Society**  
325 Portarlington Road, Moolap, VIC                    | T: 03 5248 2091  
F: 03 5248 1338  
E: admin@gaws.org.au                                | 20 G4                                              | Mon – Sun: 10:00am - 4:00pm  
Daylight Saving extended hours:  
Tues & Thurs: 10:00am - 6:00pm                       |
| **Cat Protection Society**  
200 Elder Street, Greensborough, VIC                   | T: 03 9434 7155  
F: 03 9432 0472                                     | 20 J6                                              | Mon - Fri: 10:00am - 4:00pm  
Sat - Sun: 11.00am - 2:00pm                         |
## FACT SHEET: FINDING A LOST PET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council</th>
<th>Pound</th>
<th>Bordering Councils</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banyule</td>
<td>Nillumbik Pound</td>
<td>T: 03 9433 3111</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bayside</td>
<td>LDH Cranbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9702 8055</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boroondara</td>
<td>RSPCA</td>
<td>T: 03 9224 2222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brimbank</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9329 2755, Melton, Maribynong, Moonee Valley, Hume, Hobsons Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardinia</td>
<td>LDH Cranbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9702 8055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casey</td>
<td>LDH Cranbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9702 8055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dandenong</td>
<td>LDH Cranbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9702 8055</td>
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<tr>
<td>Darebin</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9329 2755, Moreland, Whittlesea, Banyule, Yarra, Boroondara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frankston</td>
<td>LDH Cranbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9702 8055</td>
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<tr>
<td>GlenEira</td>
<td>RSPCA</td>
<td>T: 03 9224 2222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hobsons Bay</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9329 2755, Maribynong, Wyndham, Brimbank, Melbourne</td>
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<td>Hume</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9329 2755, Melton, Moreland, Brimbank, Whittlesea, Mitchell Shire, Macedon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kingston</td>
<td>LDH Cranbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9702 8055</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knox</td>
<td>RSPCA</td>
<td>T: 03 9224 2222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Macedon Ranges</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9329 2755, Mitchell Shire, Hume, Mt Alexander, Hepburn, Moorabool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manningham</td>
<td>Manningham Pound</td>
<td>T: 03 9840 9333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maribyrnong</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9329 2755, Wyndham, Melton, Moonee Valley, Hobsons Bay, Brimbank, Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maroondah</td>
<td>Victorian Animal Aid</td>
<td>T: 03 9739 0300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melbourne City</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9329 2755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melton</td>
<td>Melton Pound</td>
<td>T: 03 9747 7200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monash</td>
<td>RSPCA</td>
<td>T: 03 9224 2222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moonee Valley</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9329 2755, Brimbank, Maribynong, Moreland, Melbourne</td>
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<td>Moreland</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nillumbik</td>
<td>Nillumbik Pound</td>
<td>T: 03 9433 3111</td>
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<tr>
<td>Port Phillip</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9329 2755, Melbourne, Bayside, Stonnington, Glen Eira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stonnington</td>
<td>Stornington Pound</td>
<td>T: 03 9824 7928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitehorse</td>
<td>RSPCA</td>
<td>T: 03 9224 2222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whittlesea</td>
<td>RSPCA Epping</td>
<td>T: 03 9408 7356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyndham</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9329 2755, Hobsons Bay, Greater Geelong, Melton, Brimbank, Moorabool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yarra</td>
<td>LDH North Melbourne</td>
<td>T: 03 9329 2755, Darebin, Melbourne, Moreland, Boroondara, Stonnington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yarra Ranges</td>
<td>Victorian Animal Aid</td>
<td>T: 03 9739 0300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Since our official opening in 1913, we have been a voice for animals without owners caring for thousands of cats and dogs each year. Pioneers for fair animal laws, we continue to work on the front line to reduce the number of lost, abandoned and stray cats and dogs.

We rely on public support to run services and programs, including: proactive adoption, foster care, behaviour rehabilitation, low cost desexing and microchipping, and the promotion of better pet ownership through education.

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2 Gracie Street
North Melbourne VIC 3051
Phone 03 9329-2755

920 Thompsons Rd
Cranbourne VIC 3977
Phone 03 9702-8055

Web www.dogshome.com
Email info@dogshome.com
Facebook lostdogshome
Twitter lostdogshome
Insta @lostdogshome