



Give lost animals the gift of being loved and loving in return.

Your guide to including a gift in your Will to The Lost Dogs' Home.



Let your love of animals live on.

Like you, everyone here at The Lost Dogs' Home understands there's nothing quite so special as the wonder of loving an animal – and being loved unconditionally by them in return.

As someone who loves animals, you can help to give countless lost, abandoned and neglected cats and dogs the chance to experience the joy of living in a safe, loving, caring home.

Thank you for kindly thinking about remembering The Lost Dogs' Home in your Will. It is one of the most powerful things you can do to ensure your love for animals lives on.

By supporting us in this special way, you can share your gift of love and companionship with thousands of vulnerable cats and dogs for many years to come.

After providing for your loved ones, leaving even a modest share of your estate can have a lasting impact on the Home's animal welfare work,

providing compassionate care for lost, neglected and abandoned dogs and cats.

I hope you are inspired by reading about the different ways you can bring love into the lives of vulnerable lost pets through a kind gift in your Will.

Ever since opening our doors back in 1913, The Lost Dogs' Home has worked tirelessly to give hundreds of thousands of lost and unloved cats and dogs the best chance of having a happy and healthy life. This is only made possible by kind and thoughtful, animal-loving people like you.





Compassionately caring for lost animals since 1913...

Together with kind support from the community, we have been caring for lost, neglected and abandoned animals for more than a century.



1910s

The Temporary Home for Lost and Starving Dogs is officially opened on 28 February 1913 thanks to the generosity of the animal-loving Victorian community.



1920s

The Home becomes the place of safe keeping for all lost dogs in Melbourne and is one of the first places in Australia to offer lost animals for adoption.



1930s

The Home's first **animal hospital** caring for sick and injured lost pets, is opened on 27 May 1935 by the Governor-General at the time, Sir Isaac Isaacs.



1960s

By the time we enter this decade more than 19,000 lost pets are being cared for by the Home each year – including more than 3,000 cats.

... thanks to our wonderful animal-loving supporters.

With kind-hearted friends and animal-lovers like you, The Lost Dogs' Home can continue to share the gift of love with animals and humans alike – for many years to come.



1970s

A group of influential young businesswomen calling themselves **'The Strays'** banded together to boost the Home's profile and raise much-needed funds to keep the Home open.



1980s

A media campaign launched by the Home highlights the problems of irresponsible pet ownership. A Parliamentary Inquiry then recommends **compulsory microchipping for pets.**



1990s

The Home launches the **National Pet Register**, a free pet tag service, helping to make sure that as many cats and dogs as possible can be reunited with their lost families.



2010s

Frank Samways Veterinary Clinic and **Thelma Houlth Education & Training Centre** are built. Both facilities are named in honour of the kind people who helped to fund them through gifts left in their Wills.

Help to reunite lost pets with their families who love them.

Caring for lost, neglected and vulnerable animals is the reason why The Lost Dogs' Home exists. With the support of wonderful people like you, we reunite thousands of lost cats and dogs with their loving families each year.

Our shelters provide a safe, caring environment for lost animals to stay while we do everything in our power to track down their missing families and try to get them back home, where they belong.

All the lost cats and dogs who come through our doors are cared for by our dedicated team of vets, animal attendants and vet nurses. Animals that then come into our care have their behaviour and health needs carefully assessed.

Your lasting gift will help return lost pets to the loving homes where they belong – for many years to come.



A heart-warming reunion.

Baymax was missing for two long years. Peter's heart sank when he realised his family's beloved dog Baymax was missing. After discovering the back gate had been left open, he spent hours driving around in the dark, calling out his dog's name.

The hardest part for Peter was telling his children that Baymax wasn't going to be coming home. But the family never gave up hope of seeing their cherished pet again. They even kept his bed and all of his toys, just in case he returned to them.

Peter's family were over the moon when The Lost Dogs' Home was able to track them down and reunite Baymax with them, over two long years later.

"The joy was unbelievable," Peter says. "We are so grateful to have a second chance of having Baymax back home as part of our family."

A gift in your Will can help make many more of these beautiful reunions possible in the future.



After being missing for two years, Baymax is now back with his loving family.

You will find safe, loving 'forever homes' for animals that need them.

The Lost Dogs' Home's Adoption Service provides a second chance at love and happiness for vulnerable cats and dogs that can't be reunited with their original guardians or those surrendered into our care. With the support of kind people like you, we match thousands of animals each year with people who are looking for a pet to love and cherish.

A thorough matching and screening process ensures that cats and dogs are placed in homes that are best suited to their temperament and needs. Their new families in return get the loyal and affectionate companion they need to complete their homes.

You can help create more of these beautiful, enduring relationships between animals and humans by including a gift to the Home in your Will.



Always a loving part of the family.

Barry's house is not a home without an animal in it to love.

Dogs and cats have played a huge role in Barry's life for as long as he can remember.

"Animals were always part of my family growing up. I can't imagine not having one around. They bring so much unconditional love and joy."

When Barry bought his first home with his partner Stan back in 1974, it wasn't long before they adopted a furry new family member, Charlie, from The Lost Dogs' Home. Since then, they have adopted three other dogs from the Home, including Barry's current doggy companion, Buddy.

Barry says Buddy has been a source of love and companionship, particularly after Stan sadly passed away back in 2010. *"Cats and dogs are the best medicine. When you're down, they're always there, ready to love you. They're great company."*

Barry decided to include a gift in his Will to The Lost Dogs' Home, in loving memory of Stan and all the cats and dogs that brought so much love and happiness into their lives.

"I hope that, when the time comes, the gift in my Will allows the Home to continue its marvellous animal welfare work."

Thank you, Barry, for acting on your life-long love of animals and compassion for others in such a kind and thoughtful way.



Barry can't imagine life without Buddy.

Your gift will provide life-saving care to sick and injured animals.

Gifts in Wills from wonderful people like you are critical to funding our Shelter Hospital and veterinary care services. Our team of highly experienced vets and nurses provide life-saving treatment and care to sick and injured cats and dogs – helping to prepare them for a better life with their new loving families.

Treating between 50 and 70 animals each day, the Shelter Medicine Team handle a wide range of cases, covering everything from routine desexing to complex life-saving surgery. They play a vital role in keeping all of the animals in the care of The Lost Dogs' Home happy and healthy, maximising their chances of finding their forever homes.

Your kind gift can help provide vital equipment and support our Shelter Medicine Team to continue caring for lost, sick, injured and neglected animals in the years to come.



Frank's love for animals lives on.

A generous gift in Frank Samways' Will funded a new, state-of-the-art veterinary clinic.

Frank was a kind-hearted man who understood the joy that four-legged companions bring to their guardians. During his life he was the devoted companion of many Corgis and Jack Russell terriers.

He cared deeply about giving stray and neglected pets a second chance at love and happiness. Frank hated to think about the suffering and fear they experienced whilst they were lost and alone.

When it came time to write his Will, Frank decided to include an incredibly generous gift of \$3 million to the Home to 'alleviate the pain and suffering of animals.'

Frank's wonderful gift funded the construction of a new, state-of-the-art vet clinic in North Melbourne. Fully equipped with modern diagnostic, imaging and surgical facilities, the **Frank Samways Veterinary Clinic** offers a full range of veterinary services, including dentistry and desexing.

And best of all, profits from the clinic go directly towards caring for and improving the lives of the lost cats and dogs at our shelters.

Thank you, Frank, for choosing to allow your extraordinary love for animals to live on in such a powerful, meaningful way.



Frank's love for animals lives on as his lasting legacy.

You will help traumatised animals learn to love and be loved again.

Many of the cats and dogs that arrive at The Lost Dogs' Home shelters have experienced tragic neglect and severe mistreatment. Some have developed behaviours such as fear of people or separation anxiety, needing some extra care from us to help them live their life to the full.



Our dedicated Behaviour Team provides specialised training and support programs, tailored to the unique needs of each cat or dog. The Team plans the best possible journey for them to prepare them for adoption. The love and support these animals receive at the home sets them up for success in the future, once they have found their forever families.

"Sometimes the cats and dogs in our care need a little extra love and behaviour training to help get them back on their paws and prepare them for life with their new families."

– Rachel, Behaviour Trainer



A gift in your Will can help fund so much more of this life-changing care and training for lost and vulnerable animals in the years ahead.

Patience, love and kindness go a long way.

Sunny worked hard to overcome anxiety and a lack of confidence.

When Sunny arrived at The Lost Dogs' Home shelter as a two-year-old, she was having a hard time managing her stress levels. The Behaviour Team could see that she found everyday situations overwhelming. This would make it very difficult to find her a new home.

After two months in our Behaviour Program, working with her trainer Erin, Sunny's life completely turned around. Responding to our positive rewards-based training, her stress melted away and she became a happier, more confident dog.

At the end of her behaviour training, Sunny was adopted by Stephen, a confirmed animal lover, who likes nothing better than to play with her all the time and has lots of space for her to run around. Sunny is now living the good life in her new home.

"She is a very happy dog and I'm very happy too," Stephen says. "I absolutely love her company and the unconditional love she gives to me in return."

A gift in your Will can help more lost and neglected pets like Sunny heal from trauma and allow them to live their best lives.



Sunny is now a beloved member of Stephen's family.

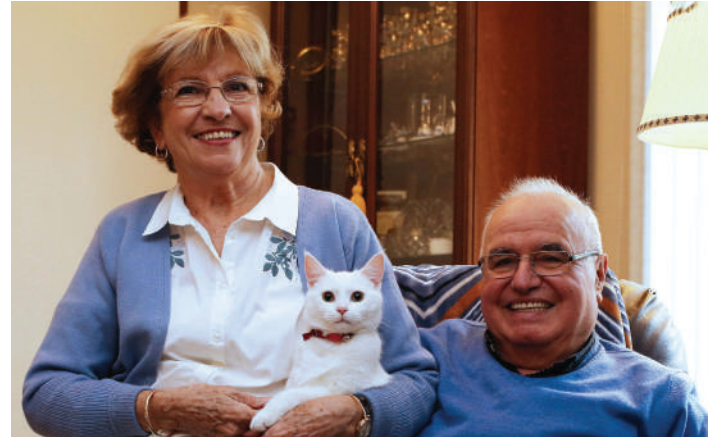
You will give animals safe, loving foster homes allowing them to rehabilitate and recover.

Compassionate gifts in Wills are vital to the running of our Foster Care Program. The Program gives vulnerable cats and dogs in need of extra support the chance to rehabilitate and recover in a safe, comfortable and loving environment.

Foster Carers provide a loving home for animals while they undergo vet treatment or behavioural training – and help nurture them until they're ready to find their forever home. They are rewarded with the joy of watching their furry foster friends grow from shy, timid, scared animals into outgoing, happy and confident cats and dogs.

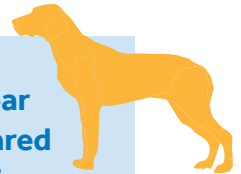
The Lost Dogs' Home supports our Foster Carer volunteers with pet food, cat litter, toys, blankets, animal behaviour support and foster carer counselling.

A gift in your Will can help to provide more safe, loving foster homes for tomorrow's lost and abandoned animals.



Foster carers provide love and hope to lost animals.

Did you know that each year about 4,000 animals are cared for by our network of loving volunteer foster families?



You will help create a more loving future for cats and dogs in our community.

The Lost Dogs' Home is committed to creating a kinder, more loving world for all animals. With the support of compassionate people like you, we can continue to educate and support people to care for their cats and dogs responsibly.

Our behaviour, training and community outreach work has helped The Lost Dogs' Home to become one of the leaders in animal welfare education in our community.

We also work closely with like-minded organisations to help raise awareness of broader animal welfare issues, advocate for stronger government regulations and try to change people's attitudes and behaviours towards animals.

Your lasting gift will help to create a kinder, more loving future for all animals in the years to come.



Make sure the animals in your life are loved and cared for after you're gone.

Something that concerns many animal lovers is what will happen to their beloved cats and dogs after they pass away. No one knows your pets quite like you do, which is why it is a good idea to let your family and friends know what you would like to happen to the animals in your life should something ever happen to you.

Including clear instructions in your Will for who will care for your pets provides you with the peace of mind that they will be well looked after when you are gone and no longer able to care for them.

Expressing your wishes and documenting a clear, helpful plan for how your pets should be cared for can also be helpful for your family, friends and the executor of your estate.

We strongly recommend talking to your solicitor to ensure you include clear instructions and arrangements for the future care of your beloved animals in your Will.



Robbie has a special place in Marion's heart.

Marion was always surrounded by animals. So, it's no surprise that she's shared her home and her heart with some beloved pets.

When Marion first met Robbie as a tiny kitten, his big heart and even bigger personality filled her life with laughter, cuddles, and unconditional love.

Now, at 93 years old, Marion knows she needs to think about the future, when she'll no longer be around to care for him:

"It's a hard thought to face, but you can't keep putting it off. Our pets give us everything – they deserve to be looked after, still to be surrounded by love, even after you're gone."

That's why Marion has left clear instructions in her Will about re-homing Robbie. She wants to make sure he'll find a home with someone who knows how to love him the way she does – someone who will cherish his quirks and his boundless affection. And Marion hasn't stopped there.

She's also included a kind gift in her Will to support

the Home that's been helping lost, surrendered and abandoned pets like Robbie for generations.

"I've always supported The Lost Dogs' Home. I love the work they do."

Through her thoughtful gift, Marion's love for animals will live on – providing care, shelter, and second chances to countless cats and dogs in need, long after she is gone. Her legacy will be one of kindness, compassion, and hope for every paw that crosses their doorstep.



Marion's love for Robbie will live on.

A modest share of your estate can help to create a kinder future for lost pets.

Gifts in Wills from thoughtful supporters like you are hugely important to The Lost Dogs' Home. They fund more than a third of the compassionate care we provide to thousands of lost, abandoned and neglected cats and dogs each year.

In fact, the money we receive from gifts in Wills helps to provide love, protection and care for more than 18,000 animals that come through our doors each year.

Leaving even just a modest share of your estate can make a profound and lasting difference to the lives and happiness of vulnerable animals in need of our help in the years to come.

It's so easy to include a gift in your Will to the Home. Please discuss your wishes with your loved ones, then ask your solicitor for advice to help you remember The Lost Dogs' Home (ABN 84 004 789 726) in your Will.



It's easy to leave a gift of love in your Will.

Your Will gives you peace of mind, knowing those you love and the causes you care about will be looked after when you are gone. It is also a powerful opportunity to make sure your kind and loving values can live on and have a positive impact on the next generation of animals.

Three simple steps:



Contact our Gifts in Wills Team for a friendly discussion on the many ways you can support The Lost Dogs' Home through your Will.



Discuss your final wishes and intentions to support The Lost Dogs' Home with your loved ones and your chosen executor.



Seek advice from your solicitor or Trustee company to help you write or update your Will to include a gift to The Lost Dogs' Home, making sure that you include a reference to the charity's Australian Business Number (ABN 84 004 789 726).

Here is some suggested wording you may wish to consider using in your Will:



"I give to The Lost Dogs' Home, (ABN 84 004 789 726) of 2 Gracie Street, North Melbourne, Victoria 3051 a **XX (insert your choice of a figure) percent share of my residuary estate for its general purposes."**









Thank you for thinking about including a gift to The Lost Dogs' Home in your Will.

Our promise to you

By choosing to include a gift in your Will, you are making a lasting commitment to animal welfare. The Lost Dogs' Home has a duty to honour your commitment, and to make sure your final wishes to help lost and abandoned pets through your Will are upheld.

We promise and recognise that:

-  Your privacy will always be respected.
-  Your loved ones always come first.
-  You won't be put under any pressure; this is a big decision to be made in your own time.
-  You and your loved ones will have the opportunity to choose how and when The Lost Dogs' Home communicates with you.
-  You have the right to change your mind at any time.
-  Your gift will be used wisely and effectively to provide the best possible care for lost, abandoned and neglected pets.

For more information about including a gift in your Will to The Lost Dogs' Home, please contact our friendly Gifts in Wills Team.

Email: wills@dogshome.com

Phone: (03) 8379 4496

Website: www.dogshome.com/wills

