



Melanie Isaacs

Director
Team Dog

Melanie co-founded and is Director of registered charity 'Team Dog', focusing on pet owner support, progressive shelter strategies and advocacy work.

She has spent over six years working in Animal Management in NSW and holds a Cert III in Dog Behaviour and Training.

She attended internships with various well respected organisations in the USA in 2013 & 2014 to gain an insight into pet retention programs, focusing on keeping pets with their families and preventing surrenders.

Her passion lies with open minded and caring approaches to pet owner interactions, and positive legislative reform.

Abstract

Barriers to Owner Reclaims

According to last available statistics, only 43% of dogs and 3% of cats are reclaimed from pounds and shelters in NSW. The situation appears to be very similar around the country, with tens of thousands of animals being found new homes or euthanised each year.

Traditionally animal welfare and management has largely believed these animals were not wanted or valued, but a closer look shows that many pet owners struggle with significant barriers when attempting to reclaim their loved pets.

Identifying and removing these barriers can lead to more reclaims, higher live releases, and a more positive relationship with your community.