

Animal Welfare League of Qld Inc



Shelter Road, Coombabah
PO Box 3253, Helensvale Town Centre Qld 4212
Phone: 07 5509 9030 Fax: 07 5594 0131
Email: pr@awlqld.com.au
Website: www.awlqld.com.au

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Silkstone mum's sweet side raises funds for charity

IT MAY have taken Silkstone mum Bernadette Patterson about nine hours to finish this amazing gingerbread creation, but according to her, it was time well spent.

Mrs Patterson has previously made cakes to raffle for Queensland charities, last time raising about \$500 selling raffle tickets for a tasty ginger bread train.

So, when she was approached to help raise funds for the Animal Welfare League of Queensland, which accepts about 1000 animals from Ipswich each year, she was happy to oblige.

It's the AWL's 50th anniversary this year, and is celebrating by holding a variety of fundraising events throughout the year.

The Ipswich volunteer branch had a great weekend at the first Active Pets = Active Owners event held at Raceview last Saturday, and hopes to see AWL supporters start to drop into the AWL Op Shop on Brisbane Street to buy tickets.

Alternatively, you can visit the AWL community vet clinic on Tiger Street and buy tickets there.

Cost is \$2 for one ticket or \$5 for three and the raffle will be drawn the Thursday prior to the Easter long weekend (April 9).

Funds raised for this special Easter-themed raffle will go directly towards the care, rehabilitation and rehoming of the more than 500 animals the AWL currently has

in its care. (173 dogs and cats ready for rehoming as of 13.3.09 and 344 dogs and cats currently out on foster, to be returned to the AWL for rehoming once space is available – call me if you want updated stats on Monday, eg animals from Ipswich in the past week.)

AWL public relations manager Gabrielle Wheaton said she was extremely grateful to both Mrs Patterson, and her friend, Katharine, who helped create the colourful critters scattered around the gingerbread estate.

“I know Bernadette’s favourite is the little dog in the gingerbread doghouse, but I really love them all, especially the little pigs wiggling their way in through the back,” Miss Wheaton said.

“Hopefully lots of other people will love them too, because we’re really struggling to find homes for our real four-legged friends at the moment.

“With the financial climate the way it is people just aren’t adopting as many animals as usual.

“This means the shelters at Coombabah and Stapylton are absolutely full; so much so we are urging anyone who has been considering to adopt an animal to come to us and adopt so we can save the lives of more animals in need.”

The AWL estimates it costs about \$400 to rehome every animal; and with dog prices starting from \$200 for dogs older than five months it is easy to see why fundraising is so important.

With no government funding for its welfare work, the AWL relies heavily on the support of the community to continue to find loving homes for all animals in need.

For more information call PR manager Gabrielle Wheaton on 5509 9030 or email pr@awlqld.com.au