

# *Pound Puppy and Puddy Adoption Scheme*

For years the Gunnedah Veterinary Hospital has been burdened with the task of euthanasing the neglected and unclaimed pets that find themselves in the council pound. It is a job that neither the pound officers nor we ever enjoyed doing, but sadly a job that could not be avoided. Then four years ago when we got together with the local council and newspaper and developed a scheme to save some of the lives of these lovable pets. Since then we have saved over a hundred lives, of both dogs and cats of many ages, and varieties in breed, but all with loving, friendly temperaments that warrant them a second go in life!

We are very proud of our success with the program, which was developed with the goal of reducing the number of unwanted pets in our community and drawing focus to the issue through the support of the local newspaper, The Namoi Independent who regularly feature photos and articles of our latest "Rescue Pet." Through the scheme all successful dogs are vaccinated, wormed micro chipped, desexed and registered before leaving the clinic, and all adopters of the animals pay an adoption fee that helps cover some of these costs.

We believe that the success of this program largely derives from the value people place on their new pets when they have purchased them, rather than when pets are acquired "free."

To celebrate the new lives our dogs find, and to thank the people who come forward to save them, we hold an annual Christmas party that both pets and families attend here at the clinic, it's always a joyous occasion and we love to catch up and see how everyone is going and how some of our puppy rescues have turned out!

If you have a place in your home for a new dog or cat in need, feel free to drop into the clinic and add your name to our "wanted" list so we can get in touch if we think we have something that just might suit you! And always keep an eye out in the paper for a latest "rescue." With the ongoing support of everyone involved, especially you, we hope to save many more!

