

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Sunday, 10 January 2021

## MAN'S BEST FRIEND NAMED

An analysis of nearly one and half million dogs on the NSW Pet Registry has found Bella to be the most popular dog name in NSW for 2020.

Classic titles dominated the list with Max a close second and Molly in third.

Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock released the top 10 most popular dog names as part of a campaign to encourage pet owners to register their dog on the NSW Pet Registry.

"Microchipping and registering your dog is an important part of being a responsible pet owner," Mrs Hancock said.

"Each year over 5,000 cats and dogs are reported lost across NSW and it's often our council pounds that are left to care for missing pets.

"Registering your dog for a one-off lifetime fee and creating an online pet profile on the NSW Pet Registry gives you the best possible chance of having your beloved animal returned if it goes missing."

Pet registration fees go straight back into the community, by funding council animal shelters, ranger services, dog recreation areas, and education and awareness activities.

Mrs Hancock also encouraged families thinking about welcoming a pet dog into their lives this year to 'adopt not shop' for their new furry friend.

"Anyone thinking about welcoming a dog into their lives should visit an RSPCA shelter, a council pound, or one of the many approved rehoming organisations across the State to rescue an animal in desperate need of a home," Mrs Hancock said.

"As an incentive for people to adopt rescue pets, the NSW Government offers halfprice registration fees for dogs adopted from any rescue shelter."

MEDIA: Nicholas Story | 0438 255 020

Top 10 most popular dog names on the NSW Pet Registry

NAME	NUMBER OF REGISTERED DOGS
BELLA	31023
MAX	26047
MOLLY	23610
CHARLIE	20344
BUDDY	17935
JACK	17880
LUCY	16897
RUBY	16845
COCO	13955
ROXY	13745