MEDIA RELEASE

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CIAO BELLAS – BEAUTIFUL MONIKER TOPS MOST POPULAR DOG NAME LIST

Dogs named Bella, Charlie, Coco and Daisy are more than likely to be among the droves of dogs joining their owners on the RSPCA Million Paws Walk this weekend.

In conjunction with the event, Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock has released the top 10 most popular dog names in the State based on an analysis of pooches on the NSW Pet Registry.

According to the registry, 1,004 pooches in NSW are beautiful by name, with Bella topping the list as the most popular dog name for the fifth year in a row. The top 10 most popular list has remained largely unchanged over the past five years except for the addition of the Harry Potter-esque Luna in the past two years.

Other interesting names from the Registry include Shadow (58th), Bruce (73rd), Lucky (79th), Blue (36th) and Red (66th). Additionally, 441 dogs now share their name with the newest addition to the royal family – Archie.

"It's clear we have an imaginative bunch of pet owners in NSW when it comes to picking names for our dogs," Mrs Hancock said.

"It's interesting to see the influence of popular culture on our name choices and the decline of more traditional names, with not one Fido or Spot in the top 100."

There are 75 RSPCA Million Paws events across Australia as part of the organisation's biggest annual fundraiser. All participant-raised funds go directly to help care for the more than 32,000 animals which enter NSW RSPCA shelters every year.

"As well as joining the fun of Sunday's walk, pet owners can help this wonderful organisation, while at the same time looking after their best mate, by ensuring their pet is registered, microchipped and de-sexed," Mrs Hancock said.

NSW's online Pet Registry makes it easy for pet owners to register their cats and dogs and pay a one-off lifetime registration fee, with discounts for de-sexed animals bought from pounds, shelters and rescue/rehoming organisations. Pets can also be registered online via their Service NSW MyService Account or at the 99 Service NSW digital kiosks across the State.

For more information visit www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au.

Top 10 most popular dog names on the NSW Pet Registry

- 1. Bella (1,004 dogs)
- 2. Luna (904)
- 3. Charlie (707)
- 4. Coco (703)
- 5. Max (696)
- 6. Ruby (683)
- 7. Buddy (652)
- 8. Molly (637)
- 9. Daisy (548)
- 10. Rosie (538)

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