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living situations have changed and they can no longer keep a dog. Some get a particular breed of dog and don't understand its need for exercise or mental stimulation. There are people who have a romantic memory of a dog as they grew up—but with busy lifestyles, don't realise the work involved."

"We temperament test all the dogs that come through AWL so we make sure all dogs are re-homed to suitable households and families. There's often a belief that dogs from shelters have 'issues' or temperament problems and that's simply not true."

There's a range of breed specific rescue or welfare operations throughout Sydney that work over-time to place dogs in foster care before finding their permanent homes. Take for example Oscar, a 4-year old Liver spot Dalmatian. Oscar came to Dalmatian Welfare in October 2009, via a rescue group in the Hunter Valley. Oscar had landed up at a local vet after being hit by a car and his owners decided they did not want to keep him or pay the vet bills. Oscar arrived in Sydney with a cast on his leg having being diagnosed with a probable fracture of the wrist and went to his carer, Bryan Matthew, where he settled in without any fuss with Bryan's other doggies. A visit to the vet confirmed that

Oscar's injury was worse than first thought. Major surgery was required and lucky for Oscar he had stolen Bryan's heart and so the procedure went ahead. Oscar has recovered and is now a fit, happy, healthy and very lucky Dalmatian. Bryan also considers that he's very lucky to have Oscar as part of his family.

A little different to dogs rescued from shelters is GAP or Greyhound Adoption Program. GAP NSW is an organization run by volunteers dedicated to the rehoming retired racing Greyhounds. There are many reasons why these beautiful dogs are perfect companions. Personable and affectionate, they adapt well to family life. Despite most people's perception of the Greyhound, they require little exercise, preferring to laze around your house. GAP work tirelessly to find great homes for just a small percentage of the vast volume of Greyhounds that are retired each year.

If you're looking to adopt a breed specific rescue dog then it is advisable to contact a breed club in your area. For a small adoption fee, all dogs will be vet checked, vaccinated, wormed and de-sexed. In return for opening your heart and home, you'll get a great dog who'll give you unconditional love, affection and attention.



Bella & Charlotte, Beagles

Re-homed by Beagle Rescue. Charlotte is busy being a Beagle. Bella is a retired breeding dog. Both are living as part of a happy Beagle pack in Kurrajong with Monique.



MUTTSPACE

A PLACE FOR MUTTS & THEIR WELL-BRED FRIENDS



THIS IS DUCKY

DUCKY HAS BEEN YOMMED, CHOMPED AND CHEWED
HE'S BEEN LOVED AND MOST OF HIS STUFFING IS GONE
DUCKY IS ONE OF THE MANY TOYS THAT YOUR DOG IS
GOING TO LOVE TO DEATH
MANY OF OUR TOYS ARE MORE ROBUST THAN DUCKY YET
WE KNOW THAT ALL OUR TOYS ARE GOING TO MAKE YOUR
DOG HAPPY



WWW.MUTTSPACE.COM.AU

Breed Specific Rescue/Welfare Organisations represented in this article:

Golden Retriever Rescue

www.grr.org.au

Mobile: 0412 375 024

Mobile: 02 9596 2599

Dalmatian Welfare

www.dalmatiansofnsw.org.au/rescue1.html

Mobile: 02 9634 6458

GAP Greyhound

www.gapnsw.org.au

Mobile: 02 9452 3446

Beagle Rescue NSW

www.beaglerescuensw.org.au/

Mobile: 02 4384 4025

Dachshund Rescue

Email: dachshundrescue@dodo.com.au

Mobile: 0418 390 808

Great Dane Club of NSW Rescue Co-ordinator

www.greatdanerescue.com.au

Email: info@dmantugs.com.au

Mobile: 0424 506 244

