

## FAREWELL RSPCA



The RSPCA is leaving Fairfield for Wacol after operating in the suburb since 1920.

**FULL STORY BELOW**

## SEND YOUR PICTURES

Funny looking reindeer. Beloved pets Charlton and Riley are into the Christmas spirit, but are your animals? If so, send us your photos of your pet entering into the festive season fun at [questnews.com.au](http://questnews.com.au)



## RSPCA TO BENEFIT

The RSPCA will benefit from the sale of the movie, Red Dog, the eighth highest grossing Australian film. The movie will be sold through Coles Supermarkets, with \$1 from the sale of each DVD going to the RSPCA.

# Animal house to move Cricket club eyes new land

**SAD DAYS:** IT'S THE END OF AN ERA AS THE RSPCA SHUTS ITS FAIRFIELD SHELTER AND SHIFTS TO WACOL

RESHNI RATNAM  
[ratnamr@qst.newsitd.com.au](mailto:ratnamr@qst.newsitd.com.au)

HUNDREDS of cuddly creatures will be transported on a steamtrain to the RSPCA'S new Wacol shelter this Sunday as part of their relocation from Fairfield.

RSPCA spokesman Michael Beatty said the Fairfield shelter closed yesterday and would reopen at the Wacol premises on Tuesday.

"About 300 animals will be involved in the move and that includes wildlife," Mr Beatty said.

"We are hoping to find a home for a few more animals before the move though."

Mr Beatty said the relocation would mark the end of an era for the Fairfield shelter, which has been open since 1920.

"I think it's quite sad in a way," he said.

"It's a fairly nostalgic time for the staff and volunteers."

Goats, rodents and guinea pigs would be part of the animal contingency travelling on the train to Wacol, Mr Beatty said.

"Everyone here is looking forward to a new beginning at Wacol, including the animals," he said.

"There will be an animal care campus, an education barn, a cafe and dedicated wildlife hospital too.

"We are actually moving closer to one of Queensland's fastest-growing areas," he said.

➔ **Mr Beatty said the RSPCA was looking for more local volunteers to come forward. Visit [www.rspcaqlld.org.au](http://www.rspcaqlld.org.au) for further information**



**EXCITED:** Volunteer Brenda George nurses a black-faced cuckoo shrike.

Picture: RIC FREARSON

## Volunteers delighted about relocation

RSPCA wildlife volunteer driver Brenda George and her staff are excited about this week's relocation to Wacol.

"We knew we would be moving before the floods but we cleaned Fairfield as best we could to tide us over and now we're ready for the

move," Mrs George said. "There will be more room at Wacol and we'll be able to increase our numbers and care for more animals at the

new site. "A lot of the animals are brought in from out west so it will be closer and easier to get them in for assessment."

## Cricket club eyes new land

SOUTHS Junior Cricket Club president Gary Asmussen remains confident the club will succeed in its quest to acquire a flood-prone section of RSPCA Queensland's soon-to-be abandoned Fairfield headquarters.

The club earlier this year petitioned Brisbane City Council to use a section of the adjoining RSPCA site - to be vacated this month when the organisation shifts to Wacol - to extend its junior playing field.

Mr Asmussen said he had since met with State Member for Yeerongpilly Simon Finn, with State Government representatives to hold a meeting this month to decide the land's future.

"Pending the outcome of that meeting, if the State Government decides to grant us some of the land they will hand that over to Council and Council will be the administrators. Simon was very confident we would get there," Mr Asmussen said.

The remainder of the land was likely to attract commercial interest.

### NEWS PACK

#### SAYING FAREWELL

Former animal residents of the RSPCA shelter will turn up to the Fairfield facility this weekend, with their owners in toe, as part of a farewell to the district.

#### FUNDS NEEDED

The RSPCA still need to find another \$6 million to have its new Wacol shelter operating to its capacity, spokesman Michael Beatty said. Mr Beatty said while the RSPCA appreciated the financial contributions of the State Government and Brisbane City Council, more was still required.

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