



Fri 4 – Sun 6 May

Royal Exhibition Building

dogloversshow.com.au

THE WORLD'S GREATEST FESTIVAL FOR DOG LOVERS

THE SIXTH ANNUAL DOG LOVERS SHOW A SPECTACU-FUR SUCCESS!

An **ast-hounding 37,295 dog lovers** packed the Royal Exhibition Building May 4 – 6, to meet a record number of pooches, hear from Australia's best K9 experts, cheer on talented dogs in the Common Woof Games and explore the latest toys, treats and tech for happy hounds.

Celebrating its sixth year, the Melbourne Dog Lovers Show remains one of the largest festivals in the world dedicated to educating, entertaining and informing dog lovers. **Show Founder and CEO, Jason Humphris** has attributed the Show's ever-growing success to Melbourne's dedicated dog scene and an increased thirst for canine education.



The inaugural **Common Woof Games** headlined the 2018 Show, cementing itself as the new favourite attraction. Pups from Australia, New Zealand, Canada and England competed for gold, silver and bronze medals in the **Royal Canin Arena**. The extravagant opening and closing ceremonies, jaw-dropping heats and nail-biting finals were hosted by Australia's favourite animal experts **Farmer Dave Graham, Dr Harry Cooper, Dr Katrina Warren** and special guest **Peter Hitchener**.

German Spitz Klein **Pablo** – a rescue from Western Sydney – reigned supreme in the Mini-Dog Hurdles, beating out his arch nemesis **Jimmy Chew** (the miniature Cattle Dog from New Zealand), and former World Champion **Pepper**, the Schnoodle.

In the Weight-Pull semi-finals, Canadian Labrador **River** beat English Labrador **Emmy** by a whisker. But when it came to the gold medal run off, River was beaten by a half-length by the American Staffordshire Bull Terrier **Karma** from Deer Park.

One of the few gold medals to go to the Canadians was won by **Nikki**, a returned service dog, in Dog Soccer. The English claimed silver with rescue dog **Scarlett**, who was saved from the Battersea Dogs and Cats Home. A new Australian High Jump record was set by the New Zealander **Nikki**, a heavy-set Border-Collie from a sheep station inland from Invercargill, at a height of 54 inches.

The **BlackHawk DockDogs** made a huge splash with spectators surrounding the giant 100,000 litre pool to cheer on dogs of all shapes and sizes, competing for length, height and relay titles. Just like their two legged counterparts, Australia took out the clean sweep of accolades, with a new Southern Hemisphere record set for Speed Retrieve by Jed, the Cattle Dog x Border Collie.

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The **Australian Working Dog Rescue International (AWDRI)** transformed the Royal Exhibition Building outdoor forecourt into paddock conditions for the inaugural **Sheepdog Speed Trials**. Incredible rescue dogs competed in sheep speed herding heats with their handlers, and even special guest MP Melina Bath put her handling skills to the test. Girl power shone on Saturday as Di and her dog Nimble took out the Grand Final, while an unlikely Cattle Dog took out the finals on Sunday.

The Pet Circle Stage was the ultimate educational hang-out for dog lovers to gain insights from Australia's leading veterinary personalities. Talks included **Dr. Harry Cooper's** 'Solving the most common dog health problems,' **Dr Katrina Warren and Kelly Gill's** 'Easy tricks you can teach your dog at home,' **Neighbours star Andrew Morley's** 'Guide to dog adoption' and **Dr Kate Mornement's** advice on troublesome pets.

DJ Havana Brown and her Hollywood pup **Ba*Bing** headlined the **Furbo Insta-Pooch Zone** alongside **Nigella the Pug, Bentley Bear, Sumo & Cocopops** and dozens more. The famous pooches took to velvet thrones where MC **Brodie Young** hosted interviews alongside the pup-arazzi and adoring fans.



The Show fulfilled its commitment to raise awareness for dog adoption with the **Dog Adoption Zone** helping dogs in need find fur-ever homes. This year, the **Dog Adoption Stage** was added, treating visitors to informative talks, meet-and-greets and heart-warming stories from local shelters and adoptive owners.

The **Breed Showcase** showcased the biggest variety of breeds ever with more than **50 DOGS Victoria Breed Clubs** taking part. From Frenchies to Chow Chows, Dalmatians to Poodles, visitors were treated to the entire spectrum of canine pals.

More than **250 exhibitors** showcased the latest and greatest in the pet market. From doggie portraits to custom woven rugs, bikie denim jackets and customised paw print jewellery, all organic treats and luxury bedding, it was a retail haven for pooch enthusiasts.

The Melbourne Dog Lovers Show kick started the national tour, with the Show heading to **Sydney on August 4 and 5** and **Brisbane on November 3 and 4**. Feline-fanatics are not to be forgotten either, with the first ever **Cat Lovers Show** making its debut in **Melbourne, September 8 and 9 at the Royal Exhibition Building**.

For additional information visit: www.dogloversshow.com.au or www.facebook.com/dogloversshow

2018 imagery can be found [here](#).

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