

MEDIA RELEASE 17TH APRIL 2018

# SPEED DATING, K9 NINJAS, DOGA AND POOL DIVING POOCHES FEATURE IN ALL NEW LINE-UP



**Fri 3 – Sun 5 May**  
Royal Exhibition Building  
[dogloversshow.com.au](http://dogloversshow.com.au)

Celebrating its seventh year, Australia's fabulous, furriest and most beloved dog-dedicated festival, the Melbourne Dog Lovers Show, is bounding back to the iconic Royal Exhibition Building from 3–5 May, with more than 500 dogs represented by over 120 breeds.

The Show is **30% bigger** to include a host of never-before seen entertainment, experts, exhibitors and K9-inspired experiences that will transform the world heritage listed building and outdoor forecourts.

The all-new **VitaPet Arena** will house the inaugural **K9 Ninja Challenge** presented by **Farmer Dave Graham**, where talented canines will compete paw-to-paw as they manoeuvre their way through a custom-built obstacle course testing the limits of strength, fitness and agility.

TV dog-training extraordinaire, **Rodney Gooch**, will host the exhilarating **Flyball Racing Championship** with teams of fearless canines jumping, fetching, tugging and sprinting against the clock. Rodney's tricksters will also take part in the inaugural **UpDog Challenge** direct from the USA – an entertaining series of demonstrations that will test the abilities of dogs and handlers alike.

The incredible team of **Skipping Dogs** are an unmissable attraction as they double-dutch their way across the VitaPet Arena on command! Rounding out the all-new Arena line-up, **Dr Katrina Warren, Kelly Gill and The Wonderdogs** return for their big birthday bash with canine party games the kids will love.

A range of ridiculously-talented dogs of all shapes and sizes will compete in the **Black Hawk DockDogs SPLASHZONE** (BYO raincoat) by launching themselves off a dock into a 100,000-litre pool! Look out for **Big Air**® (longest jump), **Speed Retrieve**® (fastest swimmer) and **Extreme Vertical**® (highest jump), guaranteed to have spectators struck with awe, amazement and fits of laughter.



DR KATRINA WARREN,  
KELLY GILL & THE WONDERDOGS



FARMER DAVE GRAHAM



RODNEY GOOCH



BLACKHAWK  
DOCKDOGS



RANCAN SISTERS  
ADELE & LISA



DR DANNI DUSEK



DR LISA CHIMES



BRITTANY BLOOMER

Forget swiping left or right, this year's Show is the pawfect opportunity for single dog-parents to meet and mingle at the **Dog Lovers' Speed Dating Zone**, hosted by Singles Events Melbourne. Whether it's romance or companionship, the Show is the ideal place to find a human happily ev-fur after with speed dating sessions on the hour.

The first ever **DOGA** demonstration (that's yoga with your pooch) will give 30 lucky owners the chance to Downward Dog with the **Rancan Sisters' Adele & Lisa** each day on the **RACV Pet Insurance Stage**. Applications are now open via the Dog Lovers Show Facebook page with lucky winners receiving an eco-friendly, chemical-free yoga mat from **State of Shanti**.

Visitors will be entertained and educated at the new **RACV Pet Insurance Stage** with a wide array of talks from some of the country's most respected vets providing expert tips for a healthier, happier pooch. Australia's newest **Bondi Vet, Dr Danni Dusek** delves into the most common health problems seen in dogs and the best ways to prevent them.

**Dr Lisa Chimes** will host a mock ICU vet workshop for kids, fully equipped with toy-animals and mini scrubs, as well as discussing tips on how to prevent common household dangers for dogs. Family holidays no longer have to mean leaving your pooch at home as **Dr Katrina Warren**, together with **Kelly Gill** and **The Wonderdogs**, share top tips and tricks for hitting the road with four-legged companions.

Event organisers will once again provide stands at no cost for **over 40 rescue groups and shelters** to take part in the expanded **PETstock Assist Adoption Zone**. Experts will be on hand to provide trusted, reliable information to aspiring and committed paw-parents with the chance to meet dozens of rescue dogs and learn how to start the adoption process. Talks from rescue and shelter representatives will also run daily on the **PETstock Assist Adoption Stage** hosted by passionate animal welfare advocate, **Lara Shannon**.

From Chow Chows to Chihuahuas, Golden Retrievers to Great Danes, the **Breed Showcase** will feature a wide range of wonderful dogs (puppies to adults) from over **40 Dogs Victoria Breed Clubs**. Dog enthusiasts can get up close and paw-sonal with rare breeds in the **Meet the Breeds Collective**, cuddle canines of all shapes and sizes in the **Pat-A-Pooch Zone** and find their one-true-pup in the **Bow Wow Meow Pawfect Match Zone**.

Canine stars of social media, with a combined following of almost 1 million, will strut their stuff on the red carpet and snap selfies with adoring fans in the **Insta-Pooch Zone**, hosted by animal lover and Pound Paws founder, **Brittany Bloomer**.



SHEEPDOG  
SPEED TRIALS



CAREY EDWARDS



MELANIE NEWMAN



CRUSADER CARAVAN

The Show's first **Outdoor Arena** will feature the inaugural **High Jump Competition** and the spectacular return of the **Sheepdog Speed Trials** by Carey Edward's **Australian Working Dog Rescue Inc (AWDRI)**. The outdoor zone will also feature the creation of a large dog mural by some of the **best graffiti artists in Melbourne, dog painting workshops and free face-painting for kids** plus more than **double the number of 2018 food trucks** from popular Melbourne restaurants and caterers.

Got a dirty dog? Fetch free grooming advice in the **Ask-A-Groomer Zone** from award-winning groomer **Melanie Newman** with daily demonstrations on the correct way to brush, bath and dry dogs at home.

Visitors can also see, compare and buy **thousands of the latest products and services to spoil their pooch** with dozens of new product launches from Australia and overseas. Stock up for the entire year with **over 250 exhibitors** and stacks of exclusive Show specials.

It's all under one 'wroof!' including dog friendly accommodation, beds, clothing, pet doors, food, funeral services, grooming, insurance, kennels, leads, collars, photographers, retailers, technology, toys, trainers, travel services, treats, vets, walkers, flea, tick & worming products plus more.

Event organisers are even offering the chance to **win one of Australia's first dog-friendly Crusader Chameleon Caravans valued at \$30,000!** Just buy a ticket to the Melbourne Dog Lovers Show or stay at a Family Park to be eligible, then head to the website to access the official competition entry page.

## EVENT INFORMATION

LOCATION: Royal Exhibition Building, Carlton, Melbourne

DATES: Friday 3 to Sunday 5 May 2019

TIMES: 9:30am - 5:00pm daily

TICKETS & WHAT'S ON: [dogloversshow.com.au/melbourne](http://dogloversshow.com.au/melbourne)

Big discounts available for tickets purchased online via the website and for the first time, student and senior discounts are being offered. Once ticket is purchased everything to see and do in the show is free of charge.

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