A well maintained animal population helps lead to a healthy human population. Sanitation, proper care of animals, vaccinations, preventative care, proper disposal of waste and basic hygiene are all important in the prevention of the spread of zoonotic diseases.

- We maintain proper sanitary conditions of our facilities and we teach volunteers proper hygiene.
- Part of our basic education programs teach the general public how to maintain safe, happy, healthy pets, and in turn, keep their family safe.
- Reducing the stray population and managing feral cat colonies go a long way towards everyone's healthy.

Rikki's outreach programme educates people about the importance of hygiene in handling companion animals, for instance the need for regular worming. It also encourages neutering of companion animals, which is important in keeping down strays on the streets, and thus in turn improving hygiene in public spaces.

Kate Viscardi



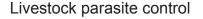
Restraining large animals



Sheep Shearing



Hoof care and trimming



## Safety with horned animals

As a public health major, I find Rikki's Refuge to be instrumental in not only rescuing homeless and unwanted pets, but also by vaccinating and stopping the birth of millions of unwanted animals. The outreach program not only educates current owners, but future owners about the importance of cleanliness, responsibility and accessibility to care and regular health screenings.