**Biography:** Nicholas Rutter, BPsySc (Hons), PhD Candidate, Anthrozoology Research Group, School of Psychology and Public Health, La Trobe University, Bendigo, Australia.

Nick is currently a third-year PhD candidate at La Trobe University, Bendigo. Nick attained a Bachelor’s degree in psychology from La Trobe University, Bundoora, before joining La Trobe’s Anthrozoology Research Group – Dog Lab in Bendigo where he conducted his Honours research on canine perception of visual illusions. After the Honours year, he commenced a PhD to merge his research career with his passion for conservation. During his PhD, he has developed a volunteer based group of conservation detection dog trainers and handlers which have been trained and deployed to detect evidence of several threatened and endangered Victorian species including Greater Gliders, freshwater turtle nests and Alpine Stoneflies.