

Roland the abandoned shar pei undergoes a facelift to stop going blind from entropion

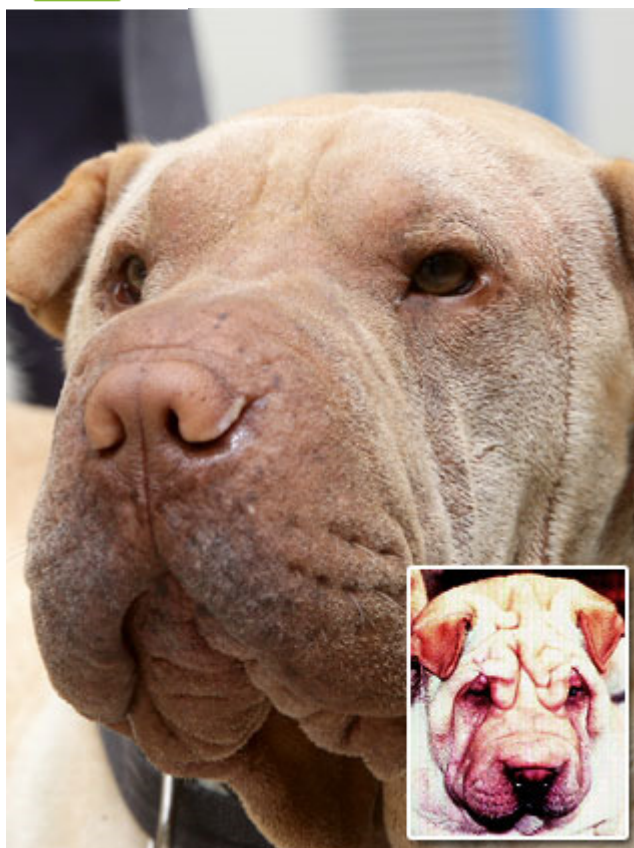
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Roland the Sharpei dog that had corrective surgery too help him see properly.He is pictures at the RSPCA and is looking for a home soon. Picture: Ross Schultz

Source: The Daily Telegraph

IT'S the facelift that could save Roland's life.

Rather than the vanity that motivates hounded Hollywood stars into seeking plastic surgery, Roland the

abandoned shar pei has had a face lift so he won't go blind.

As a shar pei, Roland is highly prized for his wrinkly skin, but the breed suffers from **entropion** (<https://www.vetconnect.com.au/5min/data/05560556.htm>) , a painful condition in which his wrinkles cause his eyelashes to turn inward and rub against his eyeballs.

If left untreated the condition could have caused Roland to go blind and was preventing him from being rehomed. The solution: A double eye lift and full face lift.

RSPCA (<http://www.rspcansw.org.au/>) chief vet Magdoline Awad said the 90-minute surgery was not about vanity. "What we have done is made him adoptable," she said. "It is not uncommon in this breed, it is a congenital problem."

Roland's eye lift surgery and excess face wrinkle removal cost almost \$1000.

Roland now had a better chance at finding a good home as a family could adopt him without having to pay for the surgery, Dr Awad said.

Roland is one of growing number of shar peis turning up at animal shelters. The breed, once the world's rarest, is often dumped after owners realise the costs of correcting the breed's congenital health problems.



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