



The **122nd** Annual Review

2018 / 2019

DURBAN & COAST SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Advisory Notice

Notice is hereby given that the 122nd Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place at the Durban & Coast SPCA, 2 Willowfield Crescent, Springfield Park, on Saturday, 13 July 2019 at 14h00.

1. Notice convening the Meeting.
2. Confirmation of Minutes of the 121st Annual General Meeting held on 14 July 2018.
3. Chairman to move the adoption of the Report and Balance Sheet.
4. Appointment of the Auditors for the year ending 2020.
5. Election of President.
6. Election of Officers.
7. Long Service Awards.
8. Changes to the Constitution.
9. Address by General Manager.
10. General.

By order of the Management Committee
Dr J H Morton, Chairman.

Minutes of the 121st Annual General Meeting,
Balance Sheet and Accounts will be
available at the meeting.

Cover: Animal Welfare Assistant Philani Chili caring for a stray
dog being sheltered at the SPCA



122nd Annual Report

For the year ending 31 March 2019

President Mr P E Chrystal

Management Committee

Dr J H Morton Chairman

Mr N Aubert..... Vice Chairman

Mrs S Jukes..... Honorary Treasurer

Mr O Chetty..... Honorary Secretary

Mr Y Saib

Mr M Jackson

Mrs Y Boden

Ms V McDonald

Mr A L Ardé

Auditors

PKF Durban

Headquarters

2 Willowfield Crescent, Springfield Park

PO Box 74495, Rochdale Park, 4034

Tel: 031 579 6500 Fax: 031 579 4351

After Hours Emergencies: 083 212 6103

Email: admin@spcadbn.org.za

Website: www.spcadbn.org.za

Photography: Pure Photographic Studio www.purestudio.co.za

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Chairman's Report

I once again have the pleasure and privilege of thanking all our staff, members, supporters, donors, volunteers, Management Committee, Trustees and the general public who continue contributing to our Society. Without each of you we would not be able to keep the Durban & Coast SPCA and our satellites in Phoenix and Ballito functioning effectively. You are the reason we can help the number of animals we do.

I would like to thank Caroline and her dedicated staff and management team for enabling our Society to keep functioning optimally in these trying times.

A special vote of thanks must go to our inspectorate team, who have carried out their essential and core responsibility of preventing cruelty with compassion, dedication and enthusiasm despite the challenges they face. Congratulations must go to them for successful prosecutions in cruelty cases.

I must also thank our hospital team and veterinarians who attend to an enormous number of injured and abandoned animals with skill and compassion.

Our adoption team must be thanked for finding good homes for an impressive number of animals that have been abandoned or brought in as strays and are unclaimed.

Financially we are heavily dependent on fundraising in the form of direct appeals, sponsors, events, and of course Bequests. Our Bequest Society members play a massive role in keeping us financially viable in the long term because they have generously recognised us in their Will.

Thanks to our marketing department for the essential work done in fundraising and public awareness. Liaison with the media has given the plight of abused and neglected animals good exposure and given the public a better understanding of the massive function performed by the SPCA. Social media continues to be an effective platform to emphasise this on our website, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

I would like to thank the Management Committee for giving their time and legal, financial and other expertise to our Society. Trish our Secretary has ably assisted us in getting all the admin done efficiently and provides essential support to Caroline.

The Trustees of the Durban and Coast SPCA Trust, whom unobtrusively manage investments, must also be thanked for their support and for securing our long-term sustainability.

Finally, keep up the good work as it will enable us to continue to help and protect the number of animals we do!

**Dr J H Morton,
Chairman**



The socio-economic environment in our country has created a greater need in communities at higher cost to our organisation, whilst diminishing donors' ability to give financially. I am proud to say that despite challenging times, there are two main factors which have translated into the positive impact outlined in this annual report: the unwavering support of donors who've a driving passion for our cause; and the same passion which runs through the veins of everyone within our organisation. Thank you members, donors and volunteers, and not least staff, for enabling our organisation to remain steadfast in our efforts to combat animal cruelty.

Our marketing team had their work cut out for them in the prevailing economy. Through hard work, new initiatives and focusing on proven fundraising programmes, we've had a successful year. Late members of our Bequest Society contributed to our sustainability by leaving legacies in their Wills. May these generous friends Rest in Peace knowing that their vision for animal welfare continues to burn bright, with the Durban & Coast SPCA carrying out their wishes well beyond their lifetime.

We act as the stray pound on the City's behalf and have secured crucial funding from eThekweni Municipality for services rendered, for a three year period. We will strive to ensure that municipality entrusts this vital role to the SPCA well into the future so that stray animals are dealt with humanely and by skilled, experienced staff.

The critical work carried out by our inspectorate department speaks through their investigation statistics of 15 323 cases. What is not made evident by these stats is the emotional reality of every one of those cases involving abused animals, and the impact on our Inspectors. The team has recently undergone trauma debriefing sessions as a result of

experiencing unbelievably horrific scenes of animal cruelty this year. Two successful convictions were secured, ensuring criminal records for despicable humans guilty of perpetrating cruelty against harmless pets. One of these convictions necessitated our Inspector appearing in court 18 times.

We happily rehomed 802 animals, and in a struggling economy this is to be celebrated! More animals are being surrendered because owners can no longer afford them and sadly less are being adopted when comparing statistics to previous years.

Our veterinary, clinic and hospital staff and Animal Welfare Assistants dealt with an enormous number of sterilisations, treatments and consultations. Together with the Kennels Department they manage the excruciating daily decision-making process about sick and injured animals; those which can potentially be rehabilitated and rehomed, and those beyond help who need an end to suffering.

Our satellites in Phoenix and Ballito serve their respective communities well and impact positively on the lives of animals through vaccinations, sterilisations and rehoming.

I express my sincere gratitude to our Management Committee and Trustees for altruistically volunteering their time and expertise, and to PA Trish van Gogh, for her priceless support. These contributions bolster

the entire organisation and underpin our every success.

To everyone who has contributed in myriad ways to our cause... we are honoured that you have chosen to support our SPCA. We will continue to do you proud.



Caroline Smith,
General Manager

10 232 Investigations

5 091 Follow Up Investigations

8 Prosecutions

2 Successful Convictions

1 402 Warnings Issued

1 143 Proactive Inspections

5 288 Collections

274 Rescues

845 Pre-Home checks

309 Post-Home checks

164 Abandoned Animal Investigations



It is **hurtful** for staff when an abused, injured, sick or neglected animal is surrendered to our SPCA. The levels of cruelty are beyond comprehension. After feelings of sadness, anger takes over.

While seeing this cruelty and neglect is painful, this emotional response is the driving force that keeps us going.

Walk through our kennels and see everyone tending to the animals – faithful volunteers walking dogs; cleaning staff keeping the kennels sanitary and comfortable for the animals as well as ensuring that all animals are watered and fed; vets together with kennel staff doing rounds and making sure that all animals in our care are as healthy and happy as possible. We attend both to their physical and emotional needs; and we create an environment that is clean and well-maintained for our pets.

For the last six months or so animals have been impacted by the country’s economic downturn. The heart-wrenching facts show that pets are the silent victims. We’ve received pets in need because of job losses, relocation and financial constraints. We have seen pets being abandoned or surrendered to us. We have seen a decrease in adoptions and animals being owner-claimed; we struggle to find homes for animals, yet this does not deter our efforts to keep trying.

We offer hope. We give animals the chance to acclimate in their new environment. A sense of routine-seeing familiar faces of staff walking

through the kennels at regular scheduled times - sends a powerful message to the animals. They start to show change in their health and behaviour. This is unlike any other feeling in the world. We watch their wounds heal. We see a dog progress from cowering at the back of his kennel to happily running up to the gate with a wagging tail, eager to go out to play. Our passion to be the voice for these animals is endless.

To all our donors, kindly accept our heartfelt thanks for your generous donations towards the animals in our care. We can do nothing without your support.

To all staff and volunteers that work tirelessly, your heart is measured by the depth of your commitment to make a difference in the lives of our SPCA animals. We acknowledge your dedication.

I am proud to belong to Durban & Coast SPCA and do whatever I can for these marvellous animals.

Juliet Nadarajan,
Kennel Manager



Juliet Nadarajan, Kennel Manager

Kennel Statistics

	DOGS	CATS	TOTAL
Strays	3 722	5 163	8 885
Surrendered	3 170	946	4 116
Safe-Keeping	9	0	9
TOTAL ADMITS	6 901	6 109	13 010
Owner Claimed	224	21	245
Adoptions	644	158	802
Boarding	540	0	540

People often comment on how difficult it must be seeing acts of cruelty on a daily basis. The truth is it is probably one of the most soul-searing callings that exist in this world. And a calling is exactly what this job is for every member of our inspectorate team. Our statistics speak to the magnitude of animal neglect and abuse which is so prevalent in our country at the moment and shows little sign of abating. What has stood out for us, this year in particular, is the general lack of empathy for the suffering of all animals. With several decades of experience between our inspectors, even our most seasoned members, those who have “seen it all”, have been horrified at the actions of people who have beaten, neglected, discarded and maimed their

Putting animals first

animals, or simply left them chained and starving, even to death, passing by their pets day after day unaffected by the sight of their pain.

It is cases like these that have us spending countless hours gathering every possible shred of evidence, meticulously compiling dockets, constantly liaising with police and prosecutors and appearing in court dozens of times, sometimes dedicating over 2-3 years to a single case, fighting for the stories of abused animals to be heard. Sadly, we receive little support from our justice system who seem to have a general lack of interest in animal cruelty cases. Despite numerous obstacles 2 convictions were secured this year and 8 new dockets were registered.



Our inspectors' work in the field has spanned thousands of kilometers and brought in almost 5 300 animals. As a result of their cruelty investigations over 700 animals were handed over to the SPCA. Of these, over 100 dogs had spent most of their lives on a chain and more than 500 were found sick, injured, in poor condition or abandoned. For those that have not had their second start at the SPCA, our inspectors have strived to ensure that their living conditions have improved as much as possible within their own homes and there are few sights as rewarding for us as happy animals roaming freely in their yards or sleeping contentedly in their new baskets and kennels.

We know that for many horrendously abused and neglected animals uplifted from lives of despair, the few moments spent with our Inspectors could be the only love they have ever felt in their lifetime and we are immensely proud of our team who continue to lead by example showing compassion to all animals as we work towards creating a kinder world for those unable to speak for themselves.

**Jay Ally, Operations Manager
and Candice Sadayan, Inspectorate Manager**



New projects were brainstormed with the intention of raising as much as we possibly can to help the animals in our care; assist the inspectorate department with funding for animal rescues; prosecuting those guilty of cruelty and ensuring the general welfare of the animals we serve. We could not have achieved these without the continued support of our donors, committee, management team, staff, the media and volunteers - for all of these cogs in the SPCA wheel, we are so grateful. Thank you! I thank my team, Mary Koen and Chantall Rode for their passion and energy. We made the change from Bargain Hunt to Market Day and the introduction of the R10 entrance fee has been well-received. We were faced with a challenging House & Garden Show as our stall was moved to the outside gardening area but still raised R22 000 for our efforts.

We also celebrated Mandela's 100th Birthday on 18 July, with a life-like statue of him, attendance of two radio stations and many people dropping off much needed donations of pet food and blankets as well as making donations to 'bail' Dougal (our SPCA mascot) out of one of the dog kennels. We hosted our first annual Ladies Breakfast at the Rain Farm Lodge in Umhlali which was met with lovely feedback and a nett of R18 000, as well as hosting our first Curry & Comedy Night which made a net of R15 000. Our 7th annual Trail Run raised R60 000 and we were honoured to once again be a part of the FNB CitySurfRun in October which raised R31 000. We ended off 2018 with our first Christmas Night Market, which raised a nett of R27 000.

Food stocks ran at an all-time low, but with much campaigning our plea for help reached generous donors who assisted us with enough food to restock our food room. Pet food collection bins have been distributed to new shopping centres.

Our online efforts raised a net of R531 000, which we are incredibly excited about! Our Facebook page now enjoys over 25 000 likes and our Instagram followers have increased by 579.

Our charity shop and external book sales raised R1.36 million and the 'Dog Box' charity shop in Ballito raised R1.37 million. We are extremely lucky to have dedicated volunteers who run our Ballito shop entirely out of the goodness of their hearts; we truly appreciate your dedication to help animals.

Thank you again to each and every one of our supporters, big or small, any contribution helps us all!

Tanya Fleischer,
Marketing Manager



Prior to joining the Dolphin Coast Satellite, I was amongst the great team at Head Office in Springfield, serving as inspectorate controller and working closely with our amazing inspectors. Thank you to our General Manager, Caroline Smith, Operations Manager, Jay Ally and Senior Inspector, C. Sadayan for wise counsel and support during this transition. I deem it a privilege to now serve as operations officer at our small but dynamic Dolphin Coast satellite, working together with an incredible team.

We provide a clinic service (vaccinations and sterilisations), collections and admissions of strays and unwanted animals and adoptions; most of which is efficiently undertaken by our enthusiastic Field Officer and Animal Welfare Assistant, Nathi Ngisu. Nathi's positive attitude, energy and passion for the cause is infectious. Nathi has touched the lives of more than a thousand animals this past year together with our kennel assistant Thuleka Banjwa who works tirelessly to ensure the kennels and cattery are clean and to the highest of standards. Thank you Nathi and Thuleka for your hard work and commitment to animal welfare.

We appreciate the support we receive from the North Coast community which includes supermarkets and schools, especially in the form of donations. We have been fortunate to never run out of dog and cat food. A special thank you to Darnall Primary School for participating in our "adopt a week" pet food campaign where learners joined in the food drive, donating more than a ton of food. The 'Dog Box' charity shop, which is run completely by volunteers, continues to flourish. Our heartfelt appreciation to each and every volunteer who has given their time so willingly to assist at the shop.

Sincere thanks to everyone who has supported us during the year. We continue to make a significant difference on the North Coast and in the lives of the animals in and out of our care.

**Krystal Pretorius,
Operations Officer**





Our clinic has enjoyed another productive year, working at the very heart of the Durban & Coast SPCA caring for both owned and stray animals. Owners continue to turn to our clinics for help with veterinary care for their pets. In total, we carried out 6 385 consultations, 2 091 sterilisations, 2 805 procedures and 11 206 vaccinations in 2018-19. Our clinic saw more unwanted animals, with some pets not being collected by their owner after a stay in hospital. Staff also found animals tied up outside or left in cat boxes on the doorstep.

Increasingly, there is an emphasis on preventative health care in veterinary and human medicine and we embrace that more each year. Our frontline staff and everyone directly involved with the public have been very active in spreading this message through direct communication in the consulting rooms and educational pamphlets.

The rabies outbreak ravaged areas that we serve. 21 positive cases were detected by our staff out of the 98 animals we sent for testing. Consequently, more than 10 000 animals were vaccinated for rabies during this past financial year. Although dealing with rabies is the mandate of the Department of

Agriculture, we had to go beyond our own mandate in order to help the community and save lives.

Living to our commitment to training and encouraging professionalism and upliftment, two of our staff members qualified as Animal Welfare Assistants. They have joined the pool of Animal Welfare Assistants helping to increase efficiency and ease the load in our clinic.

Thank you to all the hospital and clinic staff. Your continued loyalty to the SPCA is appreciated.

**Dr Gilson Muchopa,
Controlling Veterinarian**

Animals attended to:

	DOGS	CATS
SPCA Hospital and Clinics	31 324	14 755

Vaccinations:

	DOGS	CATS
SPCA Hospital and Clinics	10 229	977

Dr Gilson Muchopa, Controlling Veterinarian



Philani Chili, Animal Welfare Assistant

The South African economy remained relatively stagnant during the 2018 annual year, with minimal growth reported. The impact of this economic climate on the average consumer has become more than evident at the Durban & Coast SPCA. Families have been forced to surrender their beloved pets as financial stresses have rendered pet ownership unaffordable. The rise in the unemployment rate has allowed for more families to qualify to utilise our clinics for

our movement to prevent cruelty. This gratitude is extended posthumously to those who chose to make the Durban & Coast SPCA a part of their legacy after their passing.

The greatest financial victory of the year was securing a R13.2 million grant on behalf of the three SPCA branches from the eThekweni Municipality; namely the Durban & Coast SPCA, Kloof & Highway SPCA and Amanzimtoti SPCA. This grant extends over a three-year period and is for services rendered in respect of the pound function for housing strays on the municipality's behalf.

The economic outlook for 2019 has been cautiously positive with the general elections scheduled in May 2019. We have proven to be resilient in spite of economic hardships. The unwavering support from our Trustees and Management Committee inspire us to strengthen the support offered by Finance and Administration to the organisation as a whole, in order to fulfill our mission defined borders. This is possible by those community members that continue to incorporate donations to the SPCA in their budget, and make provisions for us in their Wills. On behalf of the animals that came through our doors during the 2018/2019 financial year, as well as those countless souls that were protected in the field, thank you.

I would like to personally thank my team members, Kuvanya Naidoo and Veno Thekalal, for their dedication to the organisation, as well as Janet Sinclair, who was contracted to the finance & administration department during my maternity leave.



the treatment of their animals. Furthermore, there is the constant presence of animals in our area of operation that require our protection and help.

These activities, coupled with inflationary pressures have placed upward pressure on our cost of operations. But despite the challenging environment, the society received in excess of R1.5 million in cash donations from members of the public during the 2018/2019 financial year, as well as more than R4 million in bequests. We cannot express our heartfelt gratitude enough to these individuals who have made financial sacrifices to support

Sarah Chapman,
Finance & Administration Manager

Bequests Received

We acknowledge the following bequests received during the year under review:

FG FERNS	AM STEWART	KW HOBSON	FC HARRISON
WK JAMES	AHH VON HOMEYER	DE JACKLIN	DE MULLAN
JR RUTISHAUSER	EM USHER	AV CROUCAMP	GP KAYE
RK KRETSCHMER	I HENDERSON	MGF MOORE	AD LEE
MSC REDGARD	PM GREENHORN	HE COPPIN	EMF JONES
BJ DAVIES	A DEFTY	R PAIKIN	PJ DAVIDTZ
JR McCARTHY	MR WELSH	NE WARE	D WATERS
GF STOTT	EJ BELL	MGF MOORE	

Trust Allocations

We thank each of the following Trusts for their generous contributions:

THE VP HAYWARD TRUST	THE VICTOR DAITZ FOUNDATION
DJ DAVIES TRUST	THE ANDREW & PAMELA SOMERVILLE TRUST
THE CLEM & NANCY RAMSDEN EDUCATIONAL AND CHARITABLE TRUST	EA MINCHIN TRUST
HARRY BRUNSKILL EDUCATIONAL AND CHARITABLE TRUST	TIMOTHY HANCOCK CHARITABLE TRUST
THE PC LILBURN TRUST	THE EDNA BURFORD TRUST
	LANTRUST CHARITABLE TRUST
	THE CECIL RENAUD CHARITY TRUST



2 Willowfield Crescent, Springfield Park
PO Box 74495, Rochdale Park, 4034
Tel: 031 579 6500 **Fax:** 031 579 4351



Email: admin@spcadbn.org.za
Website: www.spcadbn.org.za
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