



HUMANE SOCIETY
OF NEW ZEALAND INC

Newsletter

March 2013

It may be time for another newsletter but I must admit that I am feeling challenged. 2012 has gone. 2013 is nearly 1/4 over and as I am selling, and moving (and still fighting with Novopay) I feel as though the year is vanishing before my eyes.

On the other front, Humane Society has been busy keeping on with its primary objectives. The desexing of pet animals remains a top priority which shows in our accounts. We have spent approximately \$40,000.00 just on desexing since April of last year. We continue taking in the abandoned or unwanted dogs that are suitable for rehoming and finding new homes for them. A very good number of dogs were placed in January.

Cats, however have been slower for us this season. Just as well as my available time has been severely limited lately. However in the last week two mums with 14 kittens (three of them are adolescents) have been taken into our care with two other adolescents waiting in the wings. I foresee lots of food followed by even more dirty litter trays to be dealt with in the coming weeks/months.

We are also close to our fun event of the year. Coming up on Sunday 14th April is the next 'Picnic in the Park' for our friends both canine and human. Invariably it is an enjoyable day with plenty of competitions, entertainment, excellent company, competitions, barbeque, Trash and Treasure etc.

There are people that we catch up with every year at the domain, and there are others that we see for perhaps the first time since adopting their doggy friend. It is always great for the past foster parents to see how well their former waifs/strays are happily blending into their new family situation. It is also great for those within Humane Society who are not hands on with the animals to see some of the dogs who have benefited from the time they, as volunteers have spent, on the phones, doing section checks and what ever other jobs they have done.

It is always a fun day so I really hope to catch up with our regulars and see lots of new people and dogs there. See you 12.00 midday at the park just across from the Observatory to join in the fun.

Your committee:

Don Sharp, Jill O'Keeffe, Heather Wade,
Johanna Brens, Trish Burke,
Don McKenzie and Fiona Seiffert

As usual we are looking forward to having another picnic in the park. Typically we enjoy a fun filled day where we are able to promote the image of the Humane Society in the community. It is great to promote the positives of sharing our lives with our canine friends.

To help meet the costs, If you have good quality goods that could be added to the trading table they would be appreciated. Also if you have old wool that is not going to be used (not mohair) we have a volunteer who knits it into blankets for our foster dogs so donations would be very welcome.

Final details are being confirmed and I am confident that once again it will be a great day. Do remember the weather—Bring sun block, rain jackets, or whatever else seems appropriate on the day. We know Auckland weather is very changeable.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you and hopefully taking lots of photos.

Pets Picnic in the Park

Sunday 14th April 2013

From 12.00 Mid day - Judging from 1.15pm

One Tree Hill Domain

(by the Observatory—Manukau Rd Entrance)

The competitions this year include:

BEST GROOMED

BEST RESCUED

BEST VETERAN

BEST QUICK TRICK

BEST CHILD HANDLER

BEST 6 LEGS

DOG THE JUDGES WOULD MOST LIKE TO TAKE HOME

BEST IN SHOW

We are looking forward to a great day out for all the family with An agility display, the dancing dogs and cart rides for the under twos expected.

The ice-cream van and the coffee van have also advised that they will be available for part of the time. And, of course, bringing your own supplied picnic basket can make for an even cheaper day out.

Do note that all dogs present must be registered and that for their own safety there should be NO puppies under 4 months of age.



JILL PROVIDES THE DETAILS

SPAY/NEUTER NEWS ...

It's been another busy start to the year with us continuing on the good work and large numbers we put through our Spay/Neuter Fund in 2012.

From the beginning of 2013 we have financially assisted with the spaying and neutering of a total of 120 dogs, cats and one rabbit.

We are justifiably proud of our achievements with our numbering system now over 10,100 - we commenced at number one and each year the numbers have grown from very small beginnings, primarily due to a lack of funds, to the hundreds of owners we now assist annually. Whereas our fund was originally available in the greater Auckland region only, the advent of our website was huge in the word being spread much further afield – we now financially assist needy pet owners from the far north to the deep south.

Our Spay/Neuter Application forms can either be downloaded off our website or posted out to those without access to a computer, so if you know of anyone needing help, please direct them either to the website or our telephone volunteer.

We also work closely with a number of veterinary clinics countrywide who effectively promote our scheme – a perfect working relationship as they are very aware of those clients whom without financial assistance would keep entire animals adding further to the problems faced by all animal welfare groups.

We also continue to assist small rescue groups unable to afford the total cost of desexing dogs and cats in their care who previously have rehomed them in an entire state purely due to the lack of funds.

HAPPY TAILS ...

The Happy Tails page on our website has become increasingly popular with those adopting their new family members from us. Our foster homes have always received lovely telephone feedback from those who have adopted our animals, and still do, but we also encourage them to send in photos and a story about their new family member to be added to our Happy Tails.

Please take a look www.humanesociety.org.nz

FOSTER CARE

We had an extremely busy start to the year with large numbers of dogs coming into foster care. We were relatively quiet with cats, but this has now changed and we have plenty to choose from. Recently rehomed are Bandit, a chihuahua; Abby, a border collie x corgi; Blaze and Banjo, border collie x; Abi, a miniature pinscher x foxie; Binky, a papillon x jack russell; Kirra, a bearded collie x lab; Cotton, a bichon frise; Lulu, a bichon x jack russell; Lexi, a dachshund x; Benny, a jack russell x chihuahua; Dnky, a maltese x bichon; Mikey, a pomeranian; Dudley, a cocker spaniel; Monty, the Labrador; Jay, a border collie; Cleo, a collie x foxie and Misty, a foxie x. These dogs are all ex pound (shelter) dogs, from puppies to the older age group.

Cats and kittens recently taken in from the public include a mum and three kittens left abandoned in a rabbit cage by owners vacating a rental property, fortunately found by the rental agent and a mum with her seven 2-3 day old kittens, plus three 4-5 mth old, relinquished by the same family to one of the city shelters. At least they didn't just abandon them.

IN THE ANIMAL NEWS RECENTLY:

Police Dog's Career Change

It's normal for people to change their careers – perhaps not so much for dogs. But one former police dog has quit his role as canine crime fighter for a less dangerous, but equally important, new endeavour.

When it comes to tricks, Uni can do a whole lot more than just shake your hand. The two-year-old is training to be New Zealand's first diabetic response dog and will be able to smell when type 1 diabetics have low blood sugar.

“The scent is gathered from samples from people who have very kindly given us their clothing when they’ve been suffering a type 1 hyperglycemic event because what tends to happen is that the person will sweat and there's a specific odour that comes off,” says Uni’s trainer Melanie Donne. Type 1 diabetes can be fatal. Sometimes the body won't give any warning that blood sugar is low, and sufferers can slip into a coma and die.

Uni can detect an oncoming episode and help save the lives of diabetics like Jason Bingham. “I would view life a bit differently. He'd be the one I'd look to, to let me know if something's not quite right with me,” he says. It's hoped Uni will graduate in six months' time, so that he can be man's best friend in more ways than one.

13.2.2013

3 News

ANZAD launched

His Excellency The Governor-General, Lt Gen Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae officially launched ANZAD (Australia and New Zealand Assistance Dogs) with ANZAD Chairman and the recently elected Assistance Dogs International President, Richard Lord, at a morning tea reception at Government House, Auckland at 10am on Wednesday 13th February.

ANZAD is the regional chapter of ADI (Assistance Dogs International) and is an umbrella body of non-profit organisations that train and place Service, Guide and Hearing Dogs in Australia and New Zealand.

ANZAD aims to heighten the standards of training of Assistance Dogs, improve the education of staff and volunteers by increasing the sharing of information across Assistance Dog organisations, educate the general public about the many ways in Australia and New Zealand which dogs are helping people with disabilities and to assist in developing government policies regarding assistance dogs in New Zealand and Australia.

ACC Claims for Dog Attacks in 2011

In 2011, 11,708 people made \$2.4m in claims to ACC after needing medical attention following a dog attack.

What are we aiming to do?

It seems that quite regularly we, at Humane Society, are faced with questions that force us to go back to our purpose and aims. We may be asked for assistance in an unusual pet welfare case. We may be asked for support for Baited bears or wild horses. We may be asked for our support in political lobbying. There seems to be no end to the varying requests that we receive.

In many cases, as individuals, we may wish to support the desires of those requesting assistance but always we must keep in mind the purpose for which Humane Society of New Zealand was set up. We must also stay within the limits of what is feasible for the volunteers available as the volunteers are one of our most valuable resources. Without our volunteers we would effectively cease to function so it is most important that we value, support and not overload them to the point of losing them.

The Society has defined purposes and aims for which many people have contributed financially over a long period of time. Ethically it is very important that we remain true to the ideals of the society so that funding is applied in accordance with those purposes.

The Humane Society of New Zealand Inc. endeavours to improve the situation of needy animals as it is made aware of them. We rescue, rehabilitate and rehome.

We rescue dogs from Animal shelters when their 7-day period for claiming has ended and they are due for euthanasia. We rehabilitate these dogs according to their needs. They are fully Vet checked, treated for worms and fleas, vaccinated, desexed, registered and microchipped. They are then carefully rehomed following a detailed procedure and property check.

The Society provides support to the new owners over the rehoming time and is always available for ongoing advice and assistance.

Although our volunteers are not professionals, between us we have amassed a great wealth of experience. We are happy to provide a listening ear and suggestions for those struggling with an animal related difficulty. We DO NOT give advice pertaining to health matters as this is the domain of a qualified Veterinarian.

Our volunteers take phone calls 7 days a week, between 9am and 5pm, assisting the callers in any way possible. Please respect their privacy and call during these hours only. Please note our volunteers cannot ring cell phones or make toll calls as they operate from their own homes.

At present we...

- Foster needy dogs and cats and place them in good homes.
- Financially assist in the spaying/neutering of pets
- Run a telephone advisory service
- Promote the Humane treatment of animals in any way our resources permit

We aim to...

- Achieve widespread improvement in people's attitudes and sense of responsibility to animals.
- Develop and expand our spay/neuter programme
- Promote better legislation for the humane treatment of animals

We are not perfect but we do the best we can with the resources that we have available.

Confronted by Hedgehogs and want to know more about them?

Hedgehogs were first brought to New Zealand by acclimatisation societies to remind settlers of their homeland, but were later introduced in greater numbers to control garden pests such as slugs, snails and grass grubs.

Today, hedgehogs are abundant throughout New Zealand, and pose a significant threat to many of our native species.



HEDGEHOGS – PRICKLY AS PINCUSHIONS

In many areas of New Zealand, there are now estimated to be between two and four hedgehogs per hectare (and in some areas as many as eight)

Hedgehogs rely on their spines for protection and roll into a tight ball when threatened.

In winter, hedgehogs hibernate. Winter dens are under tree roots or deep dry litter, in rabbit burrows or other dry refuges. Male hedgehogs begin hibernation much earlier than females.

Then in spring, as early as September, the long breeding season starts, yet young may be born as late as May. Two litters can be produced per year, each of 4-7 young, however juvenile mortality is high. The young are independent after about seven weeks.

Hedgehogs preferred habitat is lowland pastoral areas, and they become less common with increasing altitude. Home ranges are not defended and can overlap with many others. Hedgehogs will usually have several daytime nests, which are sometimes used by other hedgehogs when not occupied.

Hedgehogs are mainly insectivorous, with key prey items being slugs, snails and larger insects but will eat almost any animal substance and some plant material. They find much of their prey by smell.

My sudden interest in learning more about these creatures comes from the arrival of two hedgehogs who appear to have taken up residence just below my lounge on the driveway. Not a safe haven for them really, with cars in close proximity. There is also the issue of the very loud call that one of them regularly makes. Loud enough to be heard clearly over 100 meters away. It is moving freely and does not appear to be injured in any way so I am open to further information about that.

Research among friends about hedgehogs brought conflicting information. Put out milk and bread says one. No that is wrong, make sure they have water and cat food says another. Fortunately I don't drink milk or eat bread very often, and I do have cats so by good luck rather than good management they were offered the food that I have now confirmed is better for them. Apparently, like many kittens, milk can give them the runs and bread can give them a sore tummy. My vet tells me that with a few good feeds, in his experience, they often move on. Apparently they can travel as much as 3 kilometres in one night.

I guess that if they stay around I will learn more, my garden will have less pests and my cats will learn to keep clear of them.

You could help: If you have wool that is not going to be used please consider donating it to Humane Society to be knitted into blankets for use with our foster dogs.

Come and join us for

Entertainment

Novelty Events



Pets Picnic in the Park

Sunday 14th April 2013

at

One Tree Hill Domain

(by the Observatory— Manukau Road Entrance)



**Raffles
Trash 'n Treasure
Sausage Sizzle
Drinks
Merchandise**

From 12.00 pm—judging starting at 1.15pm

If you can display this poster to encourage more participants to attend we would appreciate it.

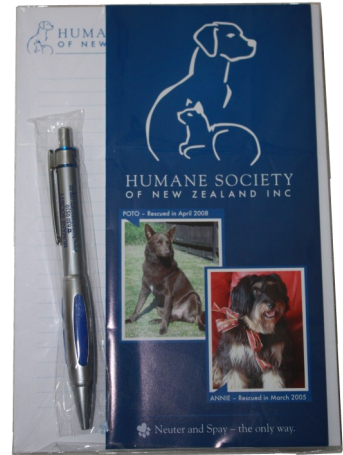
Humane Society Merchandise Available

Orders should be sent to: Humane Society, PO Box 29060, Auckland 1347

A Water Bowl to take with you



A Handy little Gift Pack - Just \$4



Humane Society Key Ring \$2



Humane Society Pen \$2

Blue Polo Shirt

\$30

Keep your Drinks Cool for just \$10

Order Form

| Item | Quantity | Amount |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Please send to: | Post and Packaging | 4.00 |
| Name: _____ | TOTAL | \$ _____ |
| Address: _____ | | ENCLOSED |
| _____ | | |

Donation Form

**The Honorary Treasurer
Humane Society of NZ Inc.
P O Box 29 060
Greenwoods Corner
Auckland. 1347**

☐ **Donation**

I enclose a gift of _____ to help the service to animals rendered by the Humane Society of New Zealand, and for the progression of educational public awareness programmes to highlight the necessity for responsible ownership.

Name: _____

Address: _____

☐ **Form of Bequest for Humane Society of New Zealand Incorporated**

To those benevolent individuals who may wish to become benefactors by Will to this Society, the following form is respectfully suggested:

I, _____ bequeath to the Humane Society of N.Z. Inc. the sum of _____ free of all duties payable at my death and the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said Society shall be sufficient to discharge for such legacy. (If it should be desired that the legacy should be expended on some particular phase of the Society's work, a direction to this effect may be added to the form of bequest)

CAUTION: All Wills or Codicils must be in writing signed by the Testator and attested by two witnesses in the presence of the Testator and each other.

**HUMANE SOCIETY OF N.Z. INC.
P O Box 29 060,
Greenwoods Corner,
Auckland 1347
Ph. (09) 630 0510**

☐ **Membership or Volunteer**

Please register me as a member for the year commencing 1 July 2013

ENCLOSED: \$12.00 (Supporting Member)

\$15.00 (Family Member)

\$ 8.00 (Senior Citizen)

I am interested in helping the Society with:

WEEKEND PHONE VOLUNTEER

WEEKDAY PHONE VOLUNTEER

DOG FOSTER HOME

DOG PLACEMENT CHECK

NAME: Mr/Mrs/Ms _____

ADDRESS: _____

POST CODE _____ PHONE _____