



HUMANE SOCIETY
OF NEW ZEALAND INC



Newsletter

July 2017

Welcome and greetings from your committee.

Another winter is upon us, I hope you and your animals are all managing to keep warm and dry. Also nearly upon us is the AGM, if any of you are interested in attending the details are on the next page, we'd love to see you there. With subs now due it would be great if you could ensure you include an email address if we don't currently have one for you. The postal system seems to be becoming more and more expensive and less and less reliable so we would prefer to contact people where possible by email and use the money saved for the animals.

On 29th September and 1st October is this years pet expo. We will have a stall again, and if anyone is interested in helping out with their dog they would be most welcome, it's great fun. The dogs must be calm, love people and be able to cope with being the centre of a lot of attention for 2 and a half hours. If you are interested please email Fiona at dogmad@orcon.net.nz, or phone me on 5767411.

I am finding, with all the liquid sunshine we've been having lately, that my garden, and brand new kitchen, are just wall-to-wall mud. So I thought I'd help this problem by putting some really absorbent rugs down at the door to the outside world in the kitchen. Which helped for at least a couple of days until the dogs decided to start a game of 'leap the rug' when coming into the house.  The interesting thing is I've realised how often my cat jumps on the bench, I come home in the  afternoon to kitchen benches neatly decorated in little brown paw prints, which go really well with the large splashes of mud on the cupboards courtesy of the dogs, I've decided to just try to look upon it as animal art and go with the flow. Roll on spring!

I am a member of the web site 'neighbourly' and have seen that there are often notices for people who have lost their animals, sometimes they are returned really quickly, sometimes they never re-appear. The vast majority of these notices are for cats, so it is a really good idea to get your cat microchipped and put on the companion animal register. That way if they are picked up and taken to a vet the vet can contact you immediately. There are fantastic resources for advertising lost animals these days with Pets on the Net, facebook, trademe and neighbourly all doing lost and found sections. For lost dogs it's a good idea to get in touch with the SPCA and animal control and I see there is now a company (lostpetfinders.co.nz) that will contact potential resources for you. There are also trackers you can put on your pet's collars that contact your smartphone if they go out of a certain radius of your house which could be very useful for true escape artists. It's a good idea to familiarise yourself with these options just in case you need them at some stage, though I hope you never do. I hope you and your animals have a safe and happy winter.

Your committee:

Don Sharp, Jill O'Keeffe, Heather Wade,
Trish Burke, Lisa Finucane,
Jenny Mitchell and Fiona Seiffert

Society News

Annual General Meeting —2017

This year's AGM is being held on Saturday 29th July at 2pm in the Eden-Epsom room of the Epsom com-munity center, 202 Gillies Avenue. For anyone interested in the running of the society, or wishing to put forward some thoughts or suggestions, it will be a reasonably informal meeting, and afternoon tea and conversation will be provided afterwards. We'd love to see you there.

Membership Fees

These are due on the first of July.

Homemade Dog Treats

Apple crunch pupcakes

A fruity treat your dog will adore

Ingredients

- 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ cups water
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup applesauce (unsweetened)
- 2 tbsp honey
- $\frac{1}{8}$ tbsp vanilla extract
- 1 medium egg
- 4 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup dried apple chips (unsweetened)
- 1 tbsp baking powder

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees
2. Mix water, applesauce, honey, egg, and vanilla together in a bowl
3. Add remaining ingredients and mix until well blended
4. Pour into lightly greased muffin pans

Bake 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours



SPAY/NEUTER FUND

We continue to desex increasing numbers of primarily cats and dogs, but some guinea pigs too, through our Spay/Neuter Fund which operates as a 50/50 split between the owner and the Society. Many of these are referred through veterinary clinics throughout the country, some are emailed or posted by owners and others are small rescue groups who otherwise would be rehoming entire animals. From 1 April to 1 July we desexed 168 animals through this Fund, fifteen of whom were guinea pigs rescued by Auckland Cavy Care, a rescue group for guinea pigs. There were nine females and six males, the females were all pregnant (that's no surprise!) and covered in lice. When Raylene was contacted by the owner last year she had two, but by early this year there were fifteen. They have now been desexed and will hopefully have all been rehomed. We also assist small groups in Wanganui (cats), two in the Bay of Islands (cats and dogs), one in Ruakaka (dogs), two in Christchurch (dogs) and other members of the public who regularly rescue needy animals, mostly cats. A big thank you to all the staff in veterinary clinics we use nationwide as we couldn't do any of this without you.



Please don't litter...



Spay and neuter your critter!

REHOMING OF CATS AND DOGS IN CARE

Our feline adoption rate has improved considerably since Tamara volunteered to foster cats/kittens last year. So far this year she has rehomed 29 kittens with 14 still in her care, and 6 cats, all waifs and strays from members of the public or veterinary clinics, a huge amount of work - we are very grateful for her support.

Up until the end of May this year we rehomed 38 dogs, from Chihuahuas to Greyhound x in size. Other than a few who came to us from their owners, the rest came from Auckland City Shelters being unclaimed strays or those relinquished to them.

We receive a number of enquiries through our internet sites from potential new owners nationwide, and recent out of Auckland adoptions have been two to Mangawhai – Juliette a 7.5 year shih tzu and Betty a 12 month border collie; Tauranga – Boscoe, a 10 year Chihuahua x jack russell; two to Whangarei – Milly a 9 year shih tzu and Sandy, a 3.5 year shih tzu; Northland – Will, a 7 mth german shepherd x and Taupo - Ruby a cute little poodle type x.

These owners have all been very happy to travel to meet these dogs in our foster homes, as we need to meet all prospective new owners and won't send dogs anywhere.

Of course none of this could happen without the love and support of our foster homes – hats off to them as always, you all do a fantastic job and none of this could be achieved without each and every one of you.



"Sometimes it's not easy being everybody's primary caregiver."

The expense of owning a dog.

Dogs are adorable, affectionate and protective companions but they're also a bit dumb and can cost their owner a lot of money.

Southern Cross Pet Insurance today released their top unusual claims from the past year, highlighting the downside to dog ownership and the vet bills they can rack up.

In first place was a Dalmatian that had a kebab stick passing from its stomach, across the diaphragm and into the right-hand side of its lung, costing the owner \$6800.

A golden retriever was the runner up for eating a fish hook and line which had to be surgically removed, costing \$2029.

A dog fight over hot cross buns saw the winner treated for raisin toxicity costing \$1113, while a repeat offender spoodle ate Sudafed tablets then ended up back at the vet four days later after inhaling Ibuprofen tablets, costing \$585.



Research from Southern Cross Pet Insurance surveyed pet owners and found that 32 per cent of respondents found it hard to pay for their vet bills. Tragically, one in 10 had to put their pet down due to cost.

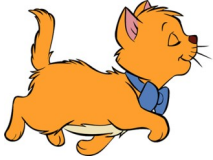
"It's not uncommon for vet bills to exceed \$1000 and some of the most expensive claims we get are for animals that are ill or have inherited conditions," said Southern Cross Pet Insurance head Anthony McPhail.

"There's no animal equivalent of a public healthcare system, so if you don't have pet insurance it's wise to put money aside. Pets are a financial commitment at the best of times and even more so when they're ill or injured," McPhail said.

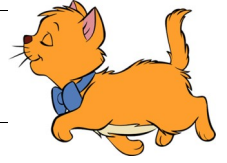
The Association of Superannuation Funds of Australia said the average cost of dog per year was A\$1725 (\$1794), and estimates that dog lovers will need an additional A\$34,500 of super savings at the time of retirement to cover the cost of their companion.

"Many people would find it difficult to contemplate ditching the dog at retirement due to cost factors but it does happen and it's a tragedy for the pet and owner," said ASFA chief executive Dr Martin Fahy.

"With the cost of a dog or cat being tens of thousands of dollars over its lifetime and in some cases much more, depending on diet, health issues and age, it's worth checking your super calculations to make sure you have fully factored in your furry, feline, feathered or fishy friend."



How Cats won the World



CATS domesticated humans 9000 years ago, according to new research, and went on to use unsuspecting Vikings and explorers to conquer the planet.

A DNA study reached back thousands of years to track that conquest and found evidence of two major dispersals from the Middle East, in which people evidently took cats with them. Genetic signatures the felines had on those journeys are still seen in most modern-day breeds.

Researchers analysed DNA from 209 ancient cats as old as 9000 years from Europe, Africa and Asia, including some ancient Egyptian cat mummies.

“They are direct witnesses of the situation in the past,” said Eva-Maria Geigl of the Jacques Monod Institute in Paris. She and colleagues also looked at 28 modern feral cats from Bulgaria and East Africa.

It’s the latest glimpse into the complicated story of domesticated cats.

They are descendants of wild ancestors that learned to live with people and became relatively tame — though some cat owners would say that nowadays, they don’t always seem enthusiastic about our company.

The domestication process may have begun around 10,000 years ago when people settled in the Fertile Crescent, the arch-shaped region that includes the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea and land around the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.

They stored grain, which drew rodents, which in turn attracted wild cats.

Animal remains in trash heaps might have attracted them too.

Over time, these wild felines adapted to this man-made environment and got used to freeloading off people.



© joy-of-cartoon-pictures.com

A previous study had found a cat buried alongside a human some 9500 years ago in Cyprus, an island without any native population of felines. That indicates the cat was brought by boat and it had some special relationship to that person, researchers say.

It was also an early indication of its strategy for world domination.

Cats were clearly tame by about 3500 years ago in Egypt, where paintings often placed them beneath chairs. That shows by that time, “the cat makes its way to the household,” said Geigl.

But the overall domestication process has been hard for scientists to track, in part because fossil skeletons don’t reveal whether a cat was wild or domesticated.

It seems that for thousands of years, people didn’t really care much about what their cats looked like. They were there to deter vermin, and for the odd chin rub.

There is also evidence domestic cats continued to interbreed with their wild cousins much longer than domesticated dogs.

It was the cats’ ability to convince humans they were useful that saw them so rapidly advance across the world. Favourite ‘mousers’ and ‘ratters’ were likely adopted by many ancient civilisations — even the Vikings — as vermin control aboard their trading ships.

And being aboard ships meant cats would end up anywhere humans did.

In the DNA samples analysed, one genetic signature found first in the Asian portion of Turkey — and perhaps once carried by some Fertile Crescent cats — showed up more than 6000 years ago in Bulgaria.

Humane Society Merchandise Available

Orders should be sent to: Humane Society, PO Box 29060, Auckland 1344

A Water Bowl to take with you \$10



A Handy little Gift Pack - Just \$4



Humane Society Key Ring \$2



Keep your Drinks Cool \$10



**A Bandana for your dog
Small or Large \$10**



Humane Society Pen \$2

A T-shirt \$30

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
Epsom
Auckland. 1344

☐ **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,
Epsom
Auckland 1344
Ph. (09) 630 0510

☐ **Membership or Volunteer**

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

ENCLOSED: \$12.00 (Supporting Member)

 \$15.00 (Family Member)

 \$ 8.00 (Senior Citizen)

I am interested in helping the Society with:

- ☐ ANIMAL TRANSPORT
- ☐ WEEKEND PHONE VOLUNTEER
- ☐ WEEKDAY PHONE VOLUNTEER
- ☐ DOG FOSTER HOME
- ☐ DOG PLACEMENT CHECK

NAME: Mr/Mrs/Ms _____

ADDRESS: _____

POST CODE _____ PHONE _____

Due to the ever-increasing cost of postage a clear email address would be most helpful

EMAIL _____