

SPCA ASSISI



Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals / Dierebeskermingsvereniging

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT PRESENTED AT 2020 AGM ONLINE - 15 JULY 2020

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of SPCA ASSISI - Promoting the welfare of animals and preventing cruelty in KOUGA since 1982.

My sincere appreciation goes to all our staff, supporters, volunteers, the Management Committee and the general public who have contributed to our Society over the past year.

A special word of thanks to Rickie and her staff, particularly those who often have to put up with rudeness and verbal abuse from members of the public. Our staff often have to work under very stressful and trying conditions, putting up with criticism from the public who do not understand the magnitude of the work that they have to carry out, and the huge influx of animals that come to us each weekly.

Financially we depended very much on the goodwill of our community, including our charity shop being the top source of income, the fundraising efforts of Mogi Fugard, Zelda Brown and Jenny Morris as well as our book sales from Jane Tucker from Cape St Francis. Our Christmas wrapping in December hit a record high under guidance and support of Suzanne Kruger & Joy van Hemert, whose ongoing support and passion towards our society is applauded.

Our committee also had to pick up some slack with 2 professional members leaving us midway through the year and our secretary departing during May 2020, due to work related pressures. We thank Alex Bekker from FNB Humansdorp for coming onboard specially at this time with AGM and year end reports due. For any committee member this year has been a serious eye opener as far as what a committee member's responsibility really is.

We had a rather somber year in many ways, still not being out of Lockdown completely with figures still climbing steeply, with COVID19 having a serious influence not only on people's lives but also affecting our economy seriously. It appears that the world will not be the same as we knew it. During this lockdown period we also underwent an inspection by NSPCA.

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This past year saw the passing of many animal warriors who have left deep footprints in our region:

Frank Richter - our founder member (3/19);

Ross Singleton, an animal lover and volunteer of Assisi (6/19);

Albe Posthumus, son of previous com member and volunteer, Brenda Posthumus (10/19);

Debbie Lewis, a passionate warrior who always put her hand up first (4/20).

POSITIVES DURING THE PAST YEAR WERE:

1. Our Veterinary Clinic is now a Qualified SAVVA Clinic with Dr Kriel onboard
2. Development of our Fundraising Portfolio:
 - Charity Shop
 - New Tin Management team being more productive
 - Expanding our fund-raising team to 3 volunteers
 - Building an extensive volunteer network
3. Strengthening our relationship with other Animal Welfare Organizations
4. Kouga Municipality IDP-18/28 commitment to re-locate the Society & First KAMC meeting held at Kouga Mun, followed by a work session to finalize legislation aspects.
5. Stabilized committee gaining experience
6. Great applications for trainee inspectors, one appointed: Jean Pierre Viljoen.

NEGATIVES WERE:

- No qualified inspector for long periods
- Ongoing security issues due to break-ins
- General status quo of mismanagement of animals in Kouga Region
- Continued lack of education of many animal owners
- OUT OF CONTROL BREEDING IN THE OULYING AREAS SPECIFICALLY
- COVID19 economy
- Reduced Committee for long periods

COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The committee is responsible for the management of the Society ito Gov Gazette Acts:

- **SPCA ACT 169 of 1993**
- **Animals protection Act 71 of 1962**
- **NSPCA Policy & Rules + Ops Manual**

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The SPCA Act stipulates the Functions, Powers and Duties of a Society, also describing its contributions as well as Failure to perform its duties

IN CLOSING:

1) TO THE COMMITTEE AND THE STAFF OF ASSISI, thank you for your dedication and hard work.

2) TO THE Friends of Assisi, We can't thank YOU, **The members, the sponsors, the advertisers**, enough for YOUR Support and Care.

3) The Veterinary Staff in Humansdorp for standing by in a time of need and then Kouga Municipality your infrastructure and support, thank you so much.

MAY I QUOTE OUR NSPCA CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THEA SMIT:

"LET US NEVER BE AFRAID TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE WELLBEING OF AN ANIMAL IS AT STAKE. THE WOUNDS INFLICTED ON OUR SOULS WHEN WE LOOK THE OTHER WAY, ARE FAR GREATER THAN THE CRITICISM AND PUNISHMENT OF SOCIETY"

I THANK YOU.
