

GRAHAMSTOWN SPCA NEWSLETTER - JULY 2026

This year is zooming – it's a long newsletter but we have lots of news to share!

FAREWELL & WELCOME

We all dreaded the day when the McDougalls decided to retire. Phillip and June moved to their new home in a nearby town to enjoy their retirement. It was not a farewell though, as Phillip continues to assist and support our SPCA, while June continues to multi-task for the SPCA. Their departure has still left a big hole. It is coming to light just how much this power-couple did for the SPCA during office hours as well as after hours. Phil and June, we miss having you 24/7, but wish you buckets of blessings in your new home and thank you for still supporting our SPCA and helping our Committee keep things going.



In March we welcomed Michelle Battenhausen to the SPCA team as Operations Co-ordinator. We named her 'new' Michelle 😊. Sadly Michelle left us during May to continue her career in the hospitality industry and be closer to friends.

In May, Inspector Lee Matthews left us for Port Alfred SPCA, after a year of serving as an Inspector at our SPCA. She had been mentored by Maloli and trained by our SPCA. Both she and Maloli were assisting the SPCA Port Alfred in the absence of an inspector there. It is good that there is a qualified inspector at the coast now, and perhaps our Society will be the launching pad of many more new inspectors to come!

In May, we welcomed Caroline Hanekom as Operations Co-ordinator to our SPCA. We threw Caroline in at the deep-end and she has proved to be a survivor! Caroline is deeply passionate about animal welfare, she is a warrior for animals – all our dogs wear jerseys now, have multiple blankets at night, our cats are snug and loved, she watches carefully over the boarders, and she always gives visitors a warm welcome to the kennels. Thank you, Caroline!



EXCITING NEWS!

Inspector Dingana leaves for his Senior Inspector Training at NSPCA on 19th July and returns on 31st July. We are enormously proud of him and know that he will shine for our Society! Inspector Dingana has been an inspector for 15 years and we are indeed very privileged to have him on our team. Inspector Dingana will be sorely missed during the two weeks, but between Phillip, Caroline, June and the SPCA staff, local vets and a security company, we will ensure that emergencies are attended to, adoptions continue and that the kennel animals are cared for.



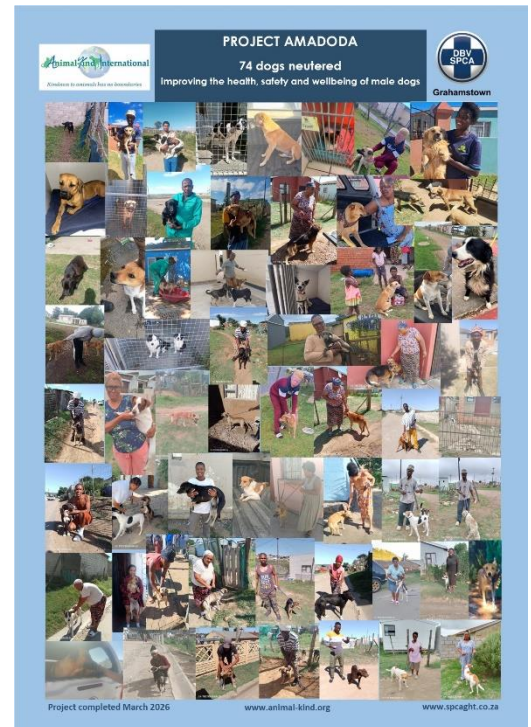
PROJECT AMADODA FUNDED BY ANIMAL-KIND INTERNATIONAL

In March 2026, we completed an ambitious sterilization project – neuters only. This was in response to our team coming across male dogs with dreadful injuries sustained by fighting with other male dogs, as well as health issues and dogs straying far from home. The project highlighted the plight of male dogs in terms of health and welfare, and how important it is to neuter males in addition to spaying females. 74 male dogs were neutered on this grant.

THE GOOD D.O.G. FUND 3 IS UNDERWAY!

In April we were nearing the end of our **Good D.O.G. Fund 2 – a top-up grant** from Animal-Kind International to continue sterilizations, assist with emergencies and provide veterinary treatment for households that could not afford treatments for their animals. The Good D.O.G. Fund is our **miracle fund** and offers our staff the opportunity to provide solutions rather than make difficult decisions. As the fund was coming to an end, we received the wonderful news that the **Good D.O.G. 3 top-up grant** was on its ways to us! Visit <https://www.animal-kind.org/special-projects>

Thank you, **Animal-Kind International** for your ongoing support! Without this support, we would have very little positive effect in the war against breeding, animal emergencies and caring for those that cannot speak for themselves. Read about how Animal-Kind International is helping animals, not only in our town, but all over the world - www.animal-kind.org



SPCA GRAHAMSTOWN:
GOOD D.O.G. FUND 2
(TOP-UP GRANT)
54 X STERILIZATIONS
1 X DONKEY REPAIR (TWICE)
4 X EYE ENUCLEATIONS
3 X AMPUTATIONS
8 X WOUND SURGERIES
1 X ABSCESS DRAIN
1 X SCROTUM ABLATION
1 X CHERRY EYE
1 X UNDESCENDED TESTICLE
1 X PYOMETRA
1 X MAMMARY GLAND REMOVED
1 X BLOOD TRANSFUSION
1 X RECTAL PROLAPSE
17 X VET CONSULTATIONS
2 X TVT CASES
9 X X-RAYS
2 X BLOOD TESTS
6 X BILIARY TREATMENTS
1 X IBUPROFEN POISONING
1 X POISONING
1 X SNAKEBITE TREATMENT
1 X ULTRASOUND
1 X MASTITIS
1 X DARTING
5 X ELIZABETHAN COLLARS
33 X ANTIBIOTIC TREATMENTS
NUMEROUS MEDS PRESCRIBED
24 X HOSPITAL STAYS
28 X POST-OP KENNEL STAYS
42 X NEXGARDS
39 X DEWORMERS



OUR AREA OF OPERATION

Includes Makana Municipal area – Makhanda/Grahamstown, Seven Fountains, Alicedale, Riebeek-East, Fort Brown and everywhere in-between. Our Inspectorate also respond to cruelty complaints in Bedford, Adelaide, Somerset-East, Cookhouse, Paterson and pretty much wherever there is a need. Our rescue vehicle is almost at 180000km and we breathe deeply every month when the fuel bill arrives....



Two weeks ago, Inspector Dingana received a report of a chained, emaciated dog on a game farm near Somerset-East. It was estimated that she had been without food and clean water for over 7 days. 959km of travelling over 3 days – warrant denied, witness affidavit, warrant issued, SAPS escorts, flooded road and a new route - on the 3rd day he found



her and seized her, returning to Grahamstown. **We have called her Pickle.** She is the sweetest dog and we are looking for a special owner who will understand her past trauma and help her adjust to a routine and new life where she will be loved. **Can you see Pickle in your family?** WhatsApp June 083 3764175.

MANDELA DAY – 17 & 18 JULY 2026 (the pets in the poster are all available for adoption!)

The public are invited to honour the legacy of the late Nelson Mandela by supporting the SPCA Grahamstown on 17th or 18th July!

Kennel Visits: Friday 9am to 4pm, Saturday 9am to 12pm

For large bookings of 8 or more people to the kennels, please contact the office 046 6223233.

Charity Shop donations: Friday 9am to 5pm, Saturday 9am to 1pm

Drop off at 31 High Street (next to Suzi Q). We are grateful for anything and everything!

Pet food collection and donations outside Pick 'n Pay: Saturday 8am to 1pm

Graeme College Community Engagement will be holding a cash and food collection for SPCA Grahamstown outside Pick 'n Pay Peppergrove on **Saturday, 18th July from 8am to 1pm**. Card facilities available. The trolley for food collections will be at the Pick 'n Pay entrance until the end of July.



DBV SPCA GRAHAMSTOWN

COMMUNITY OUTREACH GRAEME COLLEGE

Small acts, BIG impact

MANDELA DAY

18TH JULY

Let's make a difference together.

CASH* & PET FOOD COLLECTION

OUTSIDE PICK 'N PAY PEPPERGROVE

8AM TO 1PM

BY GRAEME COLLEGE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

CARD FACILITIES AVAILABLE

EVERY CONTRIBUTION COUNTS. Thank you! ♥

All donations go directly to SPCA Grahamstown.

AGM – 18 JULY 2026

You are invited to attend our AGM on Saturday, 18th July @ 13h00 at the SPCA Charity Shop, 31 High Street. In addition to coffee/tea, and some good bakes, we will be sharing the road travelled, how we s-t-r-e-t-c-h finances like elastic, and our vision for the SPCA Grahamstown. Our Committee comprises of 6 volunteers. Unlike other Societies who have paid staff to fill key positions, our Society cannot afford more staff and the Committee, staff and volunteers fill these gaps. We really need extra hands on so many levels. If you are willing to join our great team and can work **within the rules of the SPCA movement**, we would love to hear from you! E-mail: chairperson@spcaght.co.za. It is vitally important that our SPCA continues to grow and reach more areas and animals in need, and we can accomplish that with your help!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Happy Tails Colour Run – 25 July 2026 – the RU Accounting Honours students, who are fundraising for the SPCA Grahamstown, will be holding a 5km colour run at 9am, starting at La Café (above Bots Gardens)! This dynamic group of students under the mentorship of Soné Pretorius of Rhodes University Accounting Dept, have arranged a number of innovative initiatives to fundraise for the SPCA Grahamstown. We are extremely grateful to them for their energy, enthusiasm and creative ideas!



Grahamstown Makhanda Open Gardens offer a wide variety of real gardens, all unique, never perfect, but all dearly loved, with plenty of Grahamstown's warm hospitality to welcome you!



19th September – Open Gardens PREAMBLE viewing – a smaller event with 2 town gardens, tours of the Botanical Gardens and Wyndham's orchids at Brackenhill Farm at their very best, and spring in Audrey's mountain garden!

31st October – Open Gardens MAIN event - we are excited to add 3 new gardens this year including Claudia's lovely garden at Stones Hill; Liz's homestead at Stones Hill (previously a convalescent home for soldiers in the 1940's) - a garden left to be, but a place to breathe in the view, interact with 5 curious donkeys, mingle with the chickens and visit the loo with the best view; then Lynne & Marc's enchanting garden at Frederick Street – full of nooks and crannies and so respectful to nature. Browse Lynne's wonderful collection of seed packs on sale.

Plus some of our favourites Paul & Karen's sustainable living garden in Hill 60, Robyn's park-like garden where tea and scones will be served and a chance to visit the neighbour's garden through the interleaving gate; Audrey's wild and wonderful mountain garden at Brackenhill Farm at its best and Wyndham's orchids; as well as more tours of Bots Gardens (in case you missed the September tour). [Updates on Facebook OpenGardensGrahamstownMakhanda](#)

McCallum Brokers Golf Day for the SPCA **POSTPONED** – new date to be announced soon!

If you would like to sponsor a hole, a pair of prizes or an item to auction or book a 4-ball, please e-mail: chairperson@spcaght.co.za, or contact Warren Henry e-mail: wh@mccallum.co.za



SPCA Charity Shop Stall at National Arts Festival



Margie curated the most magnificent, double, show-stopper stall at the National Arts Festival last month. Thank you to all the kind folk who donated their treasures to the SPCA Charity Shop, as well as the lady who gifted us with a fabulous collection of nearly-new books, and Lara for her unique “blind date” books. Visitors to our town were ‘wowed’! Thank you to everyone who helped with the stall, and in particular Rachel Wilhelmi for volunteering every day to assist Margie. Special thanks to Brian for managing the Charity Shop

on his own during this time.

We have a website!

A dream has come true, thank you, William! Visit www.spcaght.co.za.

And finally...

We are SO grateful to everyone who continues to support the SPCA Grahamstown during these tough times – whether it be financially, volunteering, adopting from our SPCA, boarding your animals, sharing our posts, helping to fundraise, cycling to Cape Town and back, supporting our Charity Shop or contributing to a project, offering a helping hand ... **THANK YOU!**



And a very big thank you to our staff who work SO hard – what would the animals do without you?

Tax certificates are available for financial donations and donations-in-kind to the kennels.

Contact: chairperson@spcaght.co.za for further information.

Banking details:
Bank: FNB
Acc Name: SPCA Grahamstown
Acc No: 5232 4242 793
Type: Cheque,
Branch code: 210717
Ref: your name