

-OCTOBER NEWSLETTER-

Botswana Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

B.S.P.C.A.

QUICK INFO

BSPCA Office : 3500621
BSPCA Emergencies : 71820111
BSPCA E-mail : bspca@info.bw

VACCINATIONS

PARVO virus is still prevalent in Gaborone. Please vaccinate your dogs and cats if you love and care for them and help us combat the spread - see your local vet.

Rabies inoculations are free of charge at the State Vet make use of this facility

DIPPING AGAINST TICKS & FLEAS

Contact the SPCA kennels -
Call 71820111

Small dogs : P10.00
Large dogs : P15.00

BOARDING FOR DOGS

Large dogs: P 35.00 per day
Small dogs: P 30.00 per day

MEMBERSHIP

Please make an effort to renew your membership and get your friends to join too!

Junior : P 15.00
Student : P 50.00
Individual : P 100.00
Family : P 200.00
Corporate : P1, 000.00

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsor a kennel for P1,000.00 - Your name will appear on the kennel and on the board at the office

CATTLE DONKEYS AND GOATS

Dead animals - Report to Council Sanitation Department on - 3923099
3927786

Injured or nuisance animals report to
The Pound Master – 72198207

HORSES AND DONKEYS

(Also Snakes and Wildlife)

Mokolodi Game Reserve – 71321021

- * Chairpersons News
- * BSPCA animals-looking for homes
- * Anniversary
- * Anniversary Snaps
- * Vets Page
- * Kiddies Page
- * Forthcoming Events
- * Hot News



The holiday season is nearly upon us again. Please do not leave your animals at home unattended. We have so many calls during this season from people about dogs left in houses with no food and water. Often the 'maid' has been charged with looking after them and goes off for days on end. If you are staying in Gaborone for the holidays don't forget the Shelter animals. We have minimum staff and the animals could all do with some 'TLC', walks or treats. The Shelter boarding facility is already booked for the holidays. However we can give you phone nos. for other facilities in town.



“Jenny gets upset.”

I was planning my normal ‘everything is great’ at the Shelter article, with news of the things taking place there. However this morning I answered a call from a member of the public to go and help a young dog that had been beaten and was cowering in a half built house in Tlokweng. The person who had made the report had chased off the assailants.

The young female dog was understandably terrified but we managed to get a lead on her. However she was already so traumatized that we couldn’t hold her. We eventually managed to subdue her and there was no choice but to euthanase her there and then. She was beyond any help from us. Her leg had been broken in numerous places and it was obvious that she had internal injuries. After we had succeeded in putting her out of her misery it became apparent why she was so terrified as we were able to see the scars where she had been unsuccessfully hung.

We spoke to quite a few people in Tlokweng and we were soon made aware that most of the people carrying out this cruelty are children! People and the police are aware of what is happening, but nothing is done. Nobody wants to get involved and, unfortunately, the SPCA neither has the power or the support of the police to do much more than ‘clean up’ when something like this happens. We need the public to raise their voices against this horrific treatment of animals unable to defend themselves and to report incidents when they are seen. Just as distressing was finding a wire noose lying on the ground and seeing a tree with wire and chain entwined around it, which looked ready to be used jointly with the noose.

What we also need of course is EDUCATION, EDUCATION, EDUCATION. On that score I am pleased to report that part of our Education Centre will be in operation in time for the next school year and we are beginning work on our programme now. We are hopeful that the Ministry of Education will participate with us in this scheme.

The Touch Farm is filling up so that children coming to the Shelter can get to spend hands on time with animals and learn how to look after them. We will need volunteers to give an afternoon a week to help with the groups coming to the Shelter and would be pleased to hear from anyone who can help or has ideas we can incorporate into the programme.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN AND REPORT ANY ILL-TREATMENT YOU SEE TO THE BSPCA.

Thank you.

The Chairperson,



The end result of wanton brutality.



JUST A FEW OF OUR MANY ANIMALS NEEDING HOMES

BISCUITS



Trained but needs more attention.
Sociable animal. 1 yr. old.



BETTY AND DALLAS

SAXON



Beautiful natured 12 year old that needs a quiet
restful home for a while.

BABY



Good dog in need of playful home. 2 yr. old.

CHRIS



Friendly female, 2 yr. old, requires
space to exercise, and for the tail.



CHOMIE



MOCKS



NTSHUNA

TOBY



“OUR”

B.S.P.C.A. 20th Anniversary

“Fun Day”

Preparations for this particularly special day began several months ago and as the name suggested it was to be a celebration and “fun”!

As there was no records of such a large enterprise previously being undertaken, the Committee, together with coerced helpers and press ganged volunteers, undertook the task of pasting together various ideas which could conceivably be interpreted as a celebration of twenty years existence but also reflect the enthusiasm and efforts that had been applied by all past committees and members.

The basics were obvious, various stalls, food and entertainment. How simple does that sound ? But no, let’s set ourselves a challenge and do something really radical. Let’s do things differently.

The end result was a totally exhausting ride into the unknown, and for those who were able to get to the Shelter to observe the events, it was most certainly different.

From the donkey cart rides to the professional services of Apache Spur; The traditional dancers to the Kennel Dogs agility display; The extended shade areas to the stable, inclusive of Saturday (sheep), Sunday (largest goat), Monday (smallest goat) two donkeys, horses, foals, the rabbits and guinea pigs, and not forgetting our homeless dogs and cats. The stalls with so much variation that it was difficult to decide where to go to next. Although the wine tasting did seem to be very popular !!

As with all events the weather played its part in throwing the organisers into total disarray. The previous weekend it had

rained heavily, to say the least, leaving vast areas under many centimeters of water. Doom and gloom suggested this could be a problem on the “Day” so immediate steps were taken to rectify the problem even though it was a public holiday. JCB obtained (many thanks to Derek and Manie of AG Pump and Tank) and trenches dug and drainage put in place. Of course *** law stepped in and the day must have been the hottest so far this season leaving everyone scrambling for shade instead of shelter.

The valiant MC managed to make light of the absence of a band and borrowed a sound system from Daniel. Future events will hopefully include additional communication to the “Voice To The People” and provide him with up to date relevant information. Sorry! He did a great job with the little he was given

In general the impressions gained would indicate that the efforts of “ALL” those involved, both organisers and participants, was well worth the effort. Different it certainly was. Improvable – Yes – so give us feedback. Email works, letters still work, and if you have time so does word of mouth.

Maybe next time, and I am sure there will be a next time, we will get entry forms back for the events that required that input, as it was impossible to arrange these events effectively without numbers.

Special thanks to all those who assisted, participated, sponsored, provided or just enjoyed themselves.

You all contributed to a very special day!

PIC'S FROM OUR BSPCA 20th ANNIVERSARY
"FUN DAY"



DOG GROOMING



DONKEY RIDES



JUMPING FOR JOY

**MANY DIFFERENT STALLS
SELLING CLOTHES – BOOKS –
SECOND HAND GOODS - BEER
GARDEN –
FACE PAINTING ETC.**



DOG AGILITY WINNER



CLOWNING AROUND



GOLFING SKILLS ABOUND



FORTUNE HUNTING

**AND MUCH fun Was
had by All !!**

Art in Gill's Garden

23rd September, 2007.

Gill and her art students put on a magnificent display and sale of their art works in her wonderful garden and they all donated 10% of their sales to the BSPCA.

Once again our thanks go out to Gill for allowing the BSPCA to participate in this event. Our volunteers, Geraldine and Pauline provided tea and coffee and lovely fattening goodies made by friends of the BSPCA. Wonderful.

The BSPCA supplied all the drinks for the bar, ably dispensed by Annie and Hazel, and suitably chilled when required by the iceberg afforded us by Johnny Lothrop.

Our band of helpers cooked up a storm and everyone enjoyed the Chicken and Steak Rolls. The meat was donated by Dave Gilbert whilst the accompaniments were provided by our avid sideline supporters, Payless at Game City.

Gill Gilbert came up trumps by donating one of her original paintings as a raffle prize and this allowed Adele to easily encourage the crowds to part with their hard earned money!

A hit with the children was the BSPCA Playpen and puppies with Sue Karen, our resident dog trainer and behaviorist, overseeing this operation which resulted in a home or two being found!

Thanks once again to All-In-Hiring for allowing us to use their utensils and crockery free of charge.

Submitted by Anne Dayton



Gill Gilbert and the Leopard



The young ones



The comfort Zone



And the older ones.

NOISE PHOBIAS IN DOGS - What To Do During A Thunderstorm or Fireworks

Have a secure, comfortable area for the dog to go to when afraid. Put a blanket and toy there to distract the dog and allow positive connotations with that area. To do this, provide the dog with the blanket and toy in the "safe area" during a time when there is no noise. Spend 15 minutes to half an hour sitting there with the dog in a quiet manner to teach it to be calm. Do this on a daily basis for about 1 month, until the animal really associates the safe area with calmness. When there is noise, take the dog with its blanket and toy to the safe area and maintain the same calm routine as when you take it there with no noise. In this way the animal will associate the "calm routine" with being calm, whatever the circumstances, and will eventually learn to handle its noise fears in an appropriate way, whether you are present or not.

NEVER punish the dog for its fear – this just enforces the dog's idea that there is something to be scared of. Do not shout at the dog or push it out of the house.

If the dog hides or is trapped in a corner, do not approach it directly as fear aggression may result in severe bites to humans as the dog loses its self-control. If the dog growls at your approach, take a step backwards and sit on the floor so you are at the same level as the dog and therefore less threatening to it. Do not sit directly in front of the dog, but to its side so your position is less confrontational but you are still able to watch the dog. Once the dog has calmed down, further approach may be attempted, repeating the process until the dog is comfortable enough to allow you to touch it.

Avoid paying the dog attention, even to reassure it, whilst it is afraid, as this will be interpreted as rewarding the behaviour and anxiety, and so encourage and reinforce it. Remain calm yourself to show the dog there is nothing to be scared of.

Teach the dog calm behaviours such as lying quietly on a blanket, and only reward these, thus reinforcing this type of behaviour.

Perhaps distract the dog with a chew toy once it is lying down calmly.

Desensitisation can be attempted. "Scary Sounds" is a CD with recordings of thunder, fireworks and other noises. This can be played for 5–10 minutes each day, starting very softly and gradually increasing the volume until the dog no longer reacts to the sounds, even at the highest volume. Available at Vets and Pet Shops in South Africa.

Counter conditioning may be used. This involves teaching the dog to associate the noises that scare with good things. For example, feed the dog at the time of playing the desensitisation CD. Noise phobia may take months to be overcome and requires dedication by all members of the household to ensure the dog does not receive variable signals from different family members. However, in almost all cases, a significant improvement can be achieved and maintained throughout the dog's life, leading to a pet that can cope with its fears in a more focused and acceptable manner.

Choosing a Homeless Cat

- Is the cat healthy? Has it been vaccinated and neutered?
- Approximately how old is it? Are you looking for a kitten or young cat, or are you ready to take on an older cat?
- Is it a stray or feral? If not, why was it given up?
- Does it have any behavior problems? These can take a long time to overcome.
- Is it house trained?
- Is it friendly and outgoing or does it show signs of timidity?
- Did it live indoors or was it allowed out?
- Is it used to children or other pets?
- If longhaired will it tolerate grooming?

KIDS + PAGE

JOIN OUR FAMILY

Don't forget

!! JOIN an ANIMAL KINDNESS CLUB

!! SEND US YOUR ANIMAL STORIES

!! WE HAVE an ANIMAL TOUCH FARM AT THE B S P C A. Come Visit.

COMPETITION – BEST NAME WINS A PRIZE

Leave YOUR NAME and TELEPHONE

NUMBER when you drop off your entry

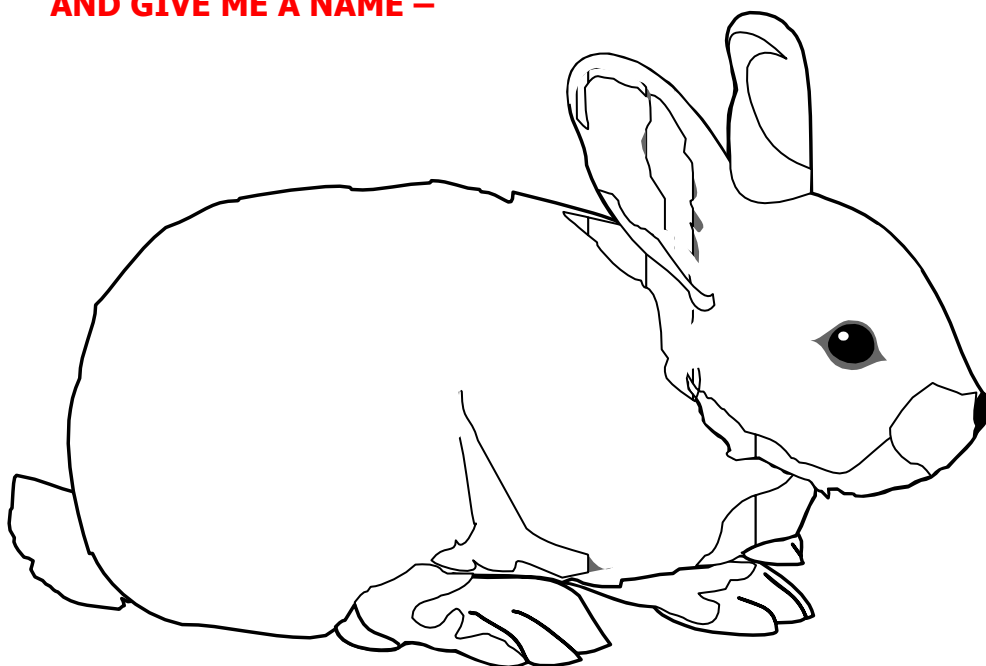
and if **YOU** win, we will phone and let you

know. **!!! GOOD LUCK !!!!!**

DID YOU KNOW –

- Greyhounds are used as blood donors for other dogs because their blood is the richest.
- Some parrots can live to be 60 years old.
- Cats, if falling can put all four paws facing the ground in less than 1/2 a second.
- Studies have shown that people with pets tend to live longer than those without pets.
- Also, children that grow up with pets tend to have less allergies.
- The Sea Otter floats on its back and uses its chest as a dining table with its front feet as hands. It also uses rocks to smash open clamshells.

I AM A RABBIT - COLOUR ME IN AND GIVE ME A NAME –



Small pets can give a kid a big feeling of responsibility & affection

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Bowls Tournament

The Bowls Section of Gaborone Sports Club have very kindly offered to host a bowls competition on the 25th November starting at 09.30 hrs. for a 10.00 hrs start. Lunch will be on sale also.

Format is of Corporate and Private Teams of Four in a 'Round Robin' points competition.

Competition is open to all age groups, (Member players to be handicapped with one arm strapped behind their back) amateurs and any group of four people who want to enjoy trying to play.

Dress code to be relaxed but soft flat shoes are a must.

Make a Team ! Enter ! BOWLS WILL BE PROVIDED. Pay P150.00. Enjoy.

Limited teams: Phone 71223642 to register.

Mega assistance given to the uninitiated.

Apache Spur

Riverwalk

Animal Saturday

Saturday 3rd November

10.00 am 'til 2.00 pm

Includes jumping castle, donkey cart rides, free 'T' shirts and balloons, and a miniature touch farm of puppies, dogs, rabbits and guinea pigs from the shelter.

Buy food and you pay but everything else is for fun and pleasure although there will be a lot of tin rattling going on!



Art in the Park

1st December. Kgale Sidings
9.00 to 5.00

Annual 'Bash' put together by the Notwane Potters. Come and view the work of the talented potters and other stall holders. An ideal opportunity to get your Xmas gifts 'with a difference' and be fed and watered by the very experienced BSPCA team and volunteers!

We will also have our own stand selling our 'T' shirts, calendars, Xmas Cards and other items and of course the 'Puppy Play Pen' will come with us for the kids!

HOT NEWS

B.S.P.C.A. 2008 Calendars and new Christmas and greetings cards are now available.

Calendars are totally relevant to our Shelter and feature 'The Staff', some of our present and past animals, 2007 event pictures and plenty of additional information.

Also space to diarise your year ahead. Cost will be P 25.00 each they are printed by our great supporters [Kingsley and Associates](#) with their inherent quality and efficiency.

The cards are being sold in assorted packs as either Greeting Cards, general event Cards or 'Make What You Like' Cards. P20.00 for four cards per pack. These have been designed by local artists Gill Gilbert and Karen Malan and are very special.

These will be available at the Shelter Office or at selected shopping centres during our Awareness events.

WHAT WE NEED AT THE SHELTER

A **refrigerator** – does anyone have a second hard fridge in good working order? Please let us know!

Roof sheeting – in good condition for our new education centre. Please speak to Alan Porter on 71223642

Garden Tools !

And of course most importantly

Food for our cats, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs, goats and donkeys!

And

Volunteers to involve themselves in our various programmes, help walk the dogs, or just spend time with the animals, run errands for us, attend call outs in your area.

Please contact the Shelter if you can lend a hand.

Last but not least!!!

This is our last Newsletter before the Christmas and New Year festivities so the Chairperson, Executive Committee and staff of the shelter would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members, sponsors, friends, volunteers, and adoptive pet owners, a safe and joyous period wherever you are or however you celebrate.

Jenny