

# KAPS NEWSLETTER February 2025

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## KAPS animal welfare with a difference

**KAROO ANIMAL PROTECTION** Society is where most diverse activities that are not offered by the average such welfare organizations. We are specifically designed to deliver solutions to problems that, on the face of it, seem insurmountable considering the small size of the organization and the 5 000 square kilometer radius covered.

Our main requirement is that KAPS must be a 100% mobile service. No offices where we sit 40 hours a week. Instead, KAPS's vehicles are on the road daily covering a multitude of impoverished areas encompassing innumerable remote and widely spread farms in between.

We help poor people who have no transport to reach a vet hundreds of kilometers away and no funds to pay veterinary fees. Therefore KAPS services are ENTIRELY FREE and we help with any animal, large or small.

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Colette with a rescued bull.



Food delivery for the donkeys.



An Eyore Donkey social in the shade of the trees.

## Needing Homes

**ALL OUR PETS ARE STERILIZED,  
DE-WORMED AND FULLY VACCINATED**

**ALL OUR ADOPTEES** are members of the large household called KAPS and are family members. We would be delighted to hear from our adopters as to how the adoptee is settling in and sharing their milestones. *Please keep in touch.* These are only four of our dogs for adoption, please feel free to contact us for information on other available dogs.



**Lucky** – This sleek young man is approximately six months old and sports a lovely, amiable nature.



**Charlie** – 2 year old Border Collie cross is energetic and waiting to add zest to your life.



**Pretzel** – This cheeky girl, about 18 months old, is looking for a special human to love.



**Lucy** – This lively Border Collie cross is just waiting for you to play with her. She is just over 1 year old.



# Festive season blessings and initiatives

**KAPS RUNS SOLELY** on a volunteer basis and relies mainly on the general public, special sponsors and fund-raising for keeping all our engines running. Over the years we have been honoured by many innovative fund raising methods – which include swimming to Robben Island and back, to jewelry making, pop-up stalls and regular markets that are looked forward to and raffles galore. And we've just witnessed yet another one. Rosemary Berry donated doll type teddy bears for the needy children in the areas where we carry out our work – not just any old doll, though, no...these have been filled with money. It was heartwarming for

our inspector, Francois Plaajtjes, to award one such doll to Samuel (now 15) for the constant care of love he has for his dog, Cindy. Samuel first appeared in the Feb '22 newsletter as we noted the great dedication he has for Cindy. Another is an outlet, Towerkop, in Ladismith where a 2nd hand / book exchange is operational and all funds raised in this manner are awarded to KAPS.

The festive spirit of giving did not by pass KAPS, with welcome donations of food, kennels and bedding – our thanks also extend to our regular Anonymous Donor, Pierre Cillie, Hydro Landscaping and SA for Hope.



*Inspector Francois Plaajtjes awards a money filled doll donated by Rosemary Berry to Samuel for the care of his dog Cindy.*



*A substantial donation from SA for Hope.*



*John and Gloria drive a load of donations in from Cape Town.*



*Members of the MCC Motorcycle Club with their fantastic donation for KAPS.*



*Our resident Rocky accepting donations.*



*continued from front page*

KAPS runs a sanctuary for working equines and currently house 10 donkeys and a bull.

Inspecting door to door, we patrol up and down the streets where they live, looking in gardens and yards, and houses checking for cruelty and neglect, making sure the animals have enough food, water, shelter from the elements and are not chained up. When required, both verbal and written warnings are issued prior to confiscation (should they be ignored).

Given the problem with uncontrolled breeding, especially of dogs, KAPS's situation is to tackle it at the source: not only by providing free sterilization (an enormous expense for an animal organization without a resident vet), but also importantly, pressuring local municipalities to adopt a by-law requiring all non-pedigree female dogs to be spayed. KAPS covers two municipalities, both of which have adopted such by-laws.

Another distinctive aspect of KAPS is it's no-kennel policy. Most welfare organizations recognize that kennels have a tremendously negative effect on dogs and are counter-productive when it comes re-homing a traumatized "institutionalized" animal. Instead, KAPS fosters dogs in our members' family households where they are rehabilitated, socialized and house trained, thereby equipping them to fit into adoptive homes and become loved family members.

In no-kill organizations unhappy dogs live out their remaining years in kennels and when these shelters are full, animals brought to them are simply turned away. By contrast, KAPS will never turn a dog away to return to a life of pain and misery: if we cannot make a plan to rescue

or re-home it, it will be kindly put to sleep.

Serving remote, rural areas where there is no investment from government, our handicap is that we are invisible and greatly underfunded. Our municipalities are struggling or bankrupt, small businesses and farms have no funds to support animal welfare and the plight of animals is out of sight of visitors.



*Local communities maintain their dog kennels.*



*A cat undergoing eye treatment.*



*Misty, rehomed in Cape Town.*

## KAPS inspections and logging

**GOING AROUND AREAS** and locations on a regular basis is the key function of KAPS. It is where appointments are made for sterilization clinics, where abuse is noted and subsequent warnings issued. In some instances, confiscation is not unheard of. Queenie was found tethered on such a short rope that she couldn't move further than a sitting position, she couldn't lie down, drink water or eat food offered. She was cut loose, confiscated and taken into the KAPS world of love. She responded well to medical treatment and food. Sadly, after a couple of weeks she turned rogue and started attacking fellow adoptees and had to be euthanized. Although it has been the festive season, we are pleased to share that no less than 65 animals have been sterilized at Amalienstein with the



*The sterilizing team hard at work in Amalienstein, where 65 animals were sterilized.*

team comprising of Dr Adrian from Swelvet, Dr Hildidge Beer, nurse Hilda Mills who with Jacqui, carry out the pre-op procedure and then through to Laurel who oversees the post-op and recovery before the patients are taken back to their homes.



*A pet reunited with its owner after spaying.*

# A question of the dangerous bones

**FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD,** we know that dogs love bones. That is true. However, despite, popular belief, bones are not necessarily always good for dogs... Bones have been the cause of much pain and discomfort for our pets. No, not even a marrow bone. Pictured here is a dog who has a bone wedged tightly between its teeth on the top jaw – preventing the dog from doing anything else except panic. Bones can also have extremely sharp edges which can get lodged between teeth and gums (and/or pierce the tender pallet), sharp splinters can get stuck into the throat and / or swallowed which could not only tear the intestines, but also cause extremely painful and bloody emissions. Luckily, our volunteer, Frans, was close at hand and offered much needed assistance in relieving the dog from a bone stuck in its teeth.



# Lawfully unlawful

**OUR LOYAL SUPPORTERS** and regular readers will know that KAPS and the law are not necessarily always on the same page.... Well, we still aren't: This little dog which is literally just skin and bones was confiscated and a charge was laid against the owner. The matter didn't get to court as the docket "went missing" and the dog had to be returned to the owner. This was a horrendous case where, after many warnings, both written and verbal were given, a charge of theft was laid against Colette for theft of the dog once it was confiscated.



*The docket concerning this dog was lost at the Magistrate's Court.*



## ANTI POISON KIT FOR DOGS

**YOU WILL NEED THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Activated charcoal powder
2. Milk of magnesia
3. Raw egg
4. Milk

**INSTRUCTIONS:**  
Crack open a raw egg and add a teaspoon of activated charcoal. Add 2 teaspoonfuls of milk of magnesia and a small amount of milk. Mix well. Get the mixture down the dogs throat. If you're struggling use a syringe or a funnel. This mixture will also help to protect the dogs liver.



**I AM NOT A PRESENT OF ANY KIND**

**I AM NOT A TOY**

**I AM A 15 TO 20 YEAR COMMITMENT**

**I AM NOT DISPOSABLE ONCE THE NOVELTY WEARS OFF**

**I AM FAMILY**

**All Donations are welcome**  
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