

Animal Welfare Stellenbosch

Annual Report
2020/21



Changing lives



LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY

Remembering animals in your Will ensures that AWSS can continue providing life and happiness to the many animals we meet.

If you would like to offer your support for animals after you have passed, prepare a Will now that will ensure your wishes are honoured.

For further information or to answer any questions relating to this please contact **Jessica Perrins 021 8839129 / fundraiser@awss.co.za**

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WOW 2020

- what a shocker of a year!

**“Alone, we can do so little;
together, we can do so much.”**

- Helen Keller



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Credits

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ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY STELLENBOSCH
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Branch Code: 149 821
Account No: 149 804 2856



AnimalwelfareStellenbosch



@AWSS Stellenbosch



@animal_welfare_stellenbosch

Mission Statement

We recognise animals as living beings with the right to a good quality life.

Aims & Objectives

- Serve our community and their pets
- Prevent cruelty and the ill treatment of animals
- Encourage kindness and consideration towards animals
- Teach the community the humane treatment of animals and compassion for them
- Improve the health of animals and in turn their respective communities

Sponsors

The AWSS acknowledges the support of corporate partners, trusts, and foundations, enabling us to continue serving the animals of Stellenbosch. **Pets change lives and it is only with your support that together we can change theirs. Without your support we simply would not exist.**

COMPANIES

- Bathrooms 4 U Stellenbosch
- First Technology Western Cape
- Dick Crane Architects
- Timber City Stellenbosch
- Hills Pet Nutrition
- Comprint Group
- Montego Pet Nutrition
- Pack Leader Pet Products
- Devon Valley Hotel
- Clos Malverne Spa
- My School My Village My Planet
- Boland Weddings
- Covertech
- Eikestad Nuus
- Coopman (Pty) Ltd
- Die Boord Superspar
- Pick n Pay Stellenbosch Square
- Stellenbosch Superspar

DREAM BUILDERS BEQUEST SOCIETY

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the past and present animal lovers who have remembered AWSS in their will. Your generosity and kindness transforms the lives of our animals and gives them a bright new future to look forward to.

TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

- The Rolf Stephan Nussbaum Foundation
- The Marchig Animal Welfare Trust
- Stellenbosch Animals In Need Trust (SAINT)
- Rotary Club of Claremont
- Maties PAW
- La Grange Dierebeskermings Trust
- SPCA International
- Harmony Fund

“ Adopt do not shop ”

Welcome Chairman & General Manager

2020 has been a year like no other.

The whole world has adjusted to restrictions, lockdowns, and the anguish of living through a pandemic. Through everything, AWSS continued serving the animals of Stellenbosch and provided lifesaving essentials to communities and pet owners in need.

The team at AWSS continued to see the light through all the darkness: Kennels were emptied, and every dog was placed in foster; incredible foster fails, and adoption tails achieved and of course YOU – the enduring generosity and loyalty of our supporters remains our constant beacon of light.

Although comparatively small, we are undaunted by the seemingly insurmountable challenges posed by a burgeoning pet (especially cat and dog) over-population explosion in the areas covered by us and remain steadfast in our commitment to help make a positive difference to the lives of everyone that we serve.

Thank you for standing with us as we advance our mission to **recognise animals as living beings with the right to a good quality life.**

Koos van Bergen & Lorna Hughes



Staff

HEAD OFFICE

Lorna Hughes
General Manager

Jessica Perrins
*Head of Fundraising and
Communications*

Shaula O'Neill
Bookkeeper & Admin Manager

John Julie
Receptionist

Beatrice Mkandawire
Office Cleaner

CLINIC

Dr Nicolaas Kriek
Veterinarian

Sister Leandi Best
Veterinary Nurse

Michelle Matthews, Alice Zas
Lesly September, Alick Makowa
Clinic Assistants

INSPECTORATE

Leon Muller, Rudy Bergstandt
Inspectors

KENNELS

Christone Coetzee
Kennels Manager

Samantha Jansen
Kennels Assistant Manager

Shaggy Kumwenda

Robert Kamwera

Hope Gordon

Sibu Mbewe

Kennels Assistants

Watson Sichali

Puppy Block Assistant

CATTERY

Elizma van Deventer-Kleynhans
Cattery Manager

Edward Lewis
Assistant Cattery Manager

Nizaar Standaar

Theodore Enrico Davids

Cattery Assistant

Our CATS

During the past year, 778 cats and kittens were admitted to our Cattery. We invested a large portion of funding towards upgrading the Cattery facilities and improving the welfare of the cats and kittens in our care. Thank you to our supporters, adopters, rescuers, foster parents and volunteers for giving and making the upgrades possible.

After a distinguished career with AWSS spanning over twenty years, the members of the Executive Committee, the Management and staff bid farewell to our Cattery Manager, Elmarie Immelman. On behalf of the Society we wish Elmarie every success with her future endeavours.

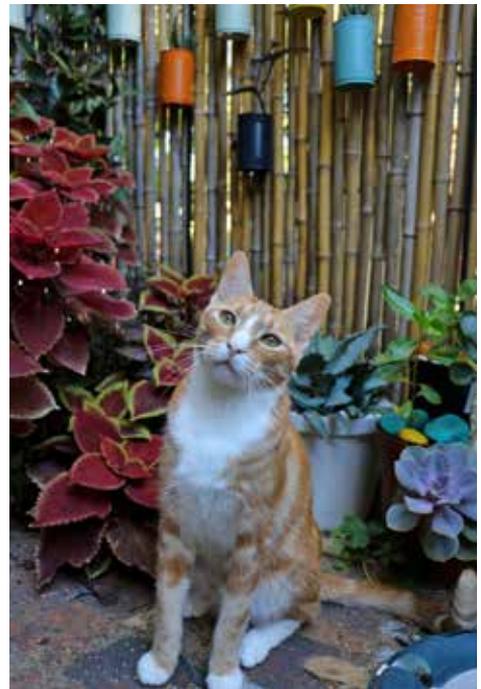
We would also like to congratulate Elizma van Deventer-Kleynhans on her appointment as Cattery Manager. As a qualified animal behaviourist, she brings with her a wealth of knowledge and we know she will continue to take our Cattery to further success.



ROY'S *rescue tail*

Roy arrived at the AWSS with his two brothers Ray and Stevie. Sadly, at just a few weeks old they had been abandoned. Roy's brothers blossomed in our care and loved being in the spotlight and performing for all who visited. Within weeks of arriving both Ray and Stevie found their forever homes. Unlike his brothers, Roy was extremely shy and spent a lot of his time tucked away and out of sight. As the months passed,

Roy grew up and lost his 'cute kitten look' and with his shy nature was always overlooked. Marisca, a loyal volunteer and cat lover had seen Roy grow up and had developed a soft spot for the 'shy guy'.



"My husband and I decided we had space for just one more and decided to adopt Roy. Since joining our family, Roy has become so vocal, and we perform sing-a-long songs with him. His fellow feline siblings immediately accepted him. We absolutely adore Roy and adopting him has completed our family. Thank you to the amazing AWSS Cattery team for never giving up on him".

"Rescue is my favourite Breed"





FORGET ME NOT

The special bond we have with our pets can never be replaced.

You may find it comforting to know that, after your death, AWSS can give your pet all the love and care they need while we find them their new forever loving home. We take in any dog or cat regardless of age, breed, medical condition or temperament, so you can be reassured that your pet will be very welcome.

We put no time limit on finding the perfect home for your pet in our care. However, in exceptional circumstances, where an animal has a severe and untreatable medical or behavioral condition, it is not always possible or kind to rehome.

If you would like AWSS to care for your beloved pets, please complete both of the forms overleaf. Once we have received it, we will send you an ID tag for each pet you have registered. We will also send you a card to identify you as a member of the scheme.



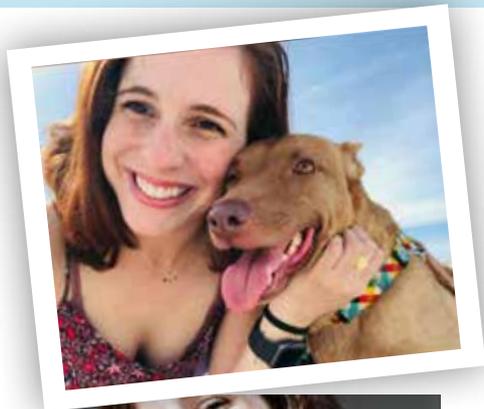
**For more information contact
fundraiser@awss.co.za**

Our DOGS

Our team of dedicated and passionate Kennels staff cared for 1 206 lost, injured, sick and abandoned dogs during 2020.

There have been a number of positive developments over the past year. We've extended and improved the kennel facilities, worked with renowned animal behaviorists to manage kennel stresses and provide daily interaction and basic obedience training.

We have run successful adoption campaigns, promoting the Rescue breed and the wonderful pets they are. Despite the pandemic, we rehomed 781 dogs. This equates to an average of 3 dogs per day. It is encouraging to know that these campaigns are working and look forward to the day when RESCUE is the only breed.



“Love is a fourlegged word”

Puppy love

IN THE TIME OF A PANDEMIC

Getting Evie at the beginning of lockdown last year felt like a natural thing to do. I grew up with dogs and I envision myself with many of them around in my life. Evie was shy and uncertain to begin with, she couldn't walk up stairs or look in the mirror without barking. But she quickly grew to be confident and happy. The lockdown was tough for many, I live alone and for me, I really believe she saved me. I suffer from my own mental health issues and Evie got me through really difficult days last year. She has brought so much joy and love to my life, and spending full time with her has really shown me just how deep the love a dog has for it's owner runs. As much as people may think that me adopting her saved her, but she saved me. It was serendipity that day that brought me to her and I could never look back and want anything different. People talk about finding soulmates in their counterparts, but Evie is my soulmate. And I couldn't be more happy to have this gentle, happy and confident soul in my life.

Those who found
love
IN LOCKDOWN

The 26th March 2020 was one of the most memorable at AWSS. The compassionate response from families and individuals willing to open their homes to foster vulnerable shelter animals during what was a daunting period of uncertainty was incredible. We applaud each and every one of you for showing up and taking action for animals in need.



“You can't buy love but you can rescue it.”

Inspectorate

Every day, our incredible inspectors work together to rescue and protect abandoned, injured, sick, stray, and surrendered animals.



At an unimaginably and challenging time when everyone was retreating to their homes our inspectors remained steadfast in their commitment to animals and the surrounding communities.

Together with fellow animal warriors, our inspectors provided a lifeline to struggling pet owners: food hampers were handed out in surrounding communities, emergency veterinary care administered and temporary safe keeping of pets whose owners had taken ill or been placed in shelters.

THANK YOU to our champion inspectors Rudy and Leon for your heroic efforts during the pandemic and every day.



Never fear when *Lorna* is near!

An enormous wildfire in the Jonkershoek Valley threatened hundreds of homes, forcing residents to evacuate. Among those fleeing was an AWSS staff member. As always our GM, Lorna Hughes, came to the aid of our staff member and the neighboring families – offering to transport their belongings and provide a place of safety for their pets. As the fire raged on, Lorna remained on the frontlines.

This is just another example of the dedication, commitment and superhuman hours Lorna gives and her willingness to always go above and beyond to protect both animals and humans! A MILLION THANK YOU'S!



Community Outreach Clinics

Healthy pets = Healthy communities



The Community Outreach Clinics connects pet owners with services to keep their pets happy and healthy. We provide vaccinations, sterilisation, parasite control, pet food parcels and humane education.

At AWSS we believe one's financial status alone is not a reliable indicator of a person's ability to love and care for a pet, and strong bonds between people and their pets make for happier communities.

Sadly, the pandemic has resulted in more pet owners relying on our service – illness, poverty, loss of income and housing can result in even the most devoted pet owners having to surrender their beloved pet to the AWSS. For this reason, we have increased the number of Community Outreach Clinics to keep pets and owners together which is most often the best outcome for everyone involved.



Humane Education

Humane Education is a crucial part of the AWSS Mission and Aims. Everyone can make a difference in the lives of animals and that begins by learning about their welfare and understanding that they are sentient beings with a right to a good quality life.

AWSS offers bilingual humane education classes in local schools and to local farmers and farm labourers. A well-defined humane education presentation has been developed, which teaches compassion and empathy for animals, responsible and safe pet ownership and how to recognise animal neglect and abuse.



The Maxwell Clinic

The Maxwell Clinic team are committed to delivering a warm welcome to all our visitors, be they two-legged or four-legged. The focus remains on the sterilisation of cats and dogs; preventative vaccination against common diseases and the treatment of external and internal parasitic conditions.

Despite the year's extenuating circumstances, our clinic doors stayed open for urgent cases and emergency inspectorate admissions.

Our passionate veterinary team are committed to being there for animals who need us most, empowering our community and always going the extra mile. The story of Lucky shows how much can be achieved by working together towards a common goal.



LUCKY *lives up to his name!*



and worst of all let down by humans, but Lucky's will to survive was evident.

Neither Riaan or the veterinary team had any idea as to the type of dog he would be, especially after all the abuse and neglect he had suffered, but he deserved the benefit of the doubt. Lucky was a model patient and with Riaan and the veterinary team's efforts his journey to recovery started and his future brightened.

After several weeks and living the good life with Riaan, Lucky was a new dog. Our inspector and veterinary team have kept in touch with Riaan and receive monthly updates and when Lucky sees our team he comes bounding up to them as if to say thank you.

Riaan persuaded a man, living in Macassar, to part with Lucky. He could see Lucky needed help and immediately picked him up and called our Inspector Leon to rush him to the Clinic. On admission, Lucky stood warily on the consultation table, bones poked out everywhere. He looked skeletal and had numerous wounds and scars. Both Riaan and the team recoiled in horror at the thought of what this poor emaciated dog had, had to endure.

Riaan could see that glimmer of hope in Lucky and committed to opening his heart and home to this poor dog. We admitted him into our clinic and our vet gave him a full examination, sadly Lucky was diagnosed with Erlichia (tick borne bacterial infection) as well as rat poisoning. It was evident he had been left to starve, forced to fight for his life,

"Before Lucky came into my life, I was never interested in having animals, but Lucky stole my heart and changed my outlook on life. I spent years in jail and never experienced love or kindness in my life. My animals have shown me so much love, especially Lucky. He is my very best friend. I am so impressed with the service of AWSS and how willing they were to give Lucky a chance. The team really cares about both Lucky and me. I look forward and appreciate the monthly check-ups from Leon. I rate the AWSS team 1000/10".

Funding our work

Every Penny Counts

I am eternally grateful for the gifts that have come our way – to the many generous people who gave donations to us regularly, by debit order, direct deposit or on our website – you are our backbone, you make it possible to give a second chance to all the animals that need our help. And to the extraordinary people who left a gift in their Will – we are forever grateful for your kindness.

Over the past year the team demonstrated their commitment to animals and have shown that, despite the challenges we face, we will always be there for the animals who need us. But the pandemic has hit us hard; and we are relying on our donor family to continue supporting the AWSS as we dig our way out of COVID caused losses.

“With the rollercoaster and heart stopping chaos of 2020 coming to an end, and with YOU by our side, I am confident that the year ahead will be filled with abundance, success and plenty of wins for our animals” Jessica Perrins, Head of Fundraising and Communications.



Make a difference



Regular Giving



Corporate Sponsorship

Donating goods or services



Volunteering



Leaving a gift in your Will

Attending Events



Help spread the word, follow us on social media



Adopting a Pet



Volunteering & Fostering

The AWSS could not exist without the help of our dedicated volunteers. From kennel and cattery to administration and fundraising, we strive to ensure that our volunteers are involved in all aspects of our work.

Never has the importance of foster parents been made clearer than during 2020. For the first time ever, our kennels were empty and every dog in a safe and loving foster home. Our foster program grew exponentially because of the Covid 19 Lockdown as well as the added option of “foster to adopt”. With this new program, young ones grow more rapidly, stay healthier, and bond closely with their future adoptive families. Adult dogs and cats, especially those who have not experienced being in a home or have been victim to neglect and cruelty, are given the chance to slowly adjust and trust humans again.

Fosters and volunteers have come and gone over the 65 years but every one of them has contributed to the success of AWSS. This year has shown us just how resilient, generous, and unwavering their support is – THANK YOU!

Pre-loved, RE-LOVED

For many decades of its existence AWSS was 100% reliant on funding from generous corporates, trusts, and individual donors. With the ever-increasing demands for our services and the unstable economy, securing funds became increasingly difficult. In 2015 the AWSS embarked on a journey to look at innovative ways in which it could generate and grow revenue streams – a charity shop was decided as it would raise much needed funds for the society but also benefit the surrounding communities.

The Dog Box Charity Shop has been trading locally from two shipping containers at our premises in Devon Valley, Stellenbosch. The shop has expanded to such an extent that the containers are much too small, and this has limited the range of stock on display and does not provide adequate storage and sorting space.

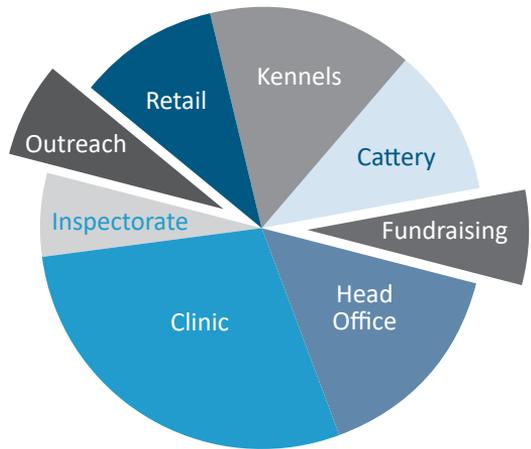
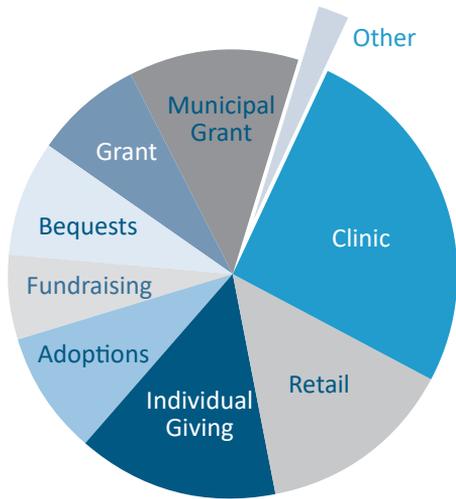
The vision now is to build a Retail Centre, which will include a Vet Shop, Dog Box Charity Shop and Secondhand Book Store.

It's an ambitious vision that we are determined to realise. One that will provide a steady income stream; provide community members the opportunity to purchase quality secondhand goods at an affordable price and create job opportunities for local residents.

Together, we can turn this very worthwhile dream into a reality for the benefit of both our animals and surrounding communities.



Financials



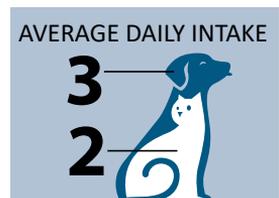
Income

Clinic:	R 2 155 739.12
Retail:	R 1 169 235.65
Individual Giving:	R 1 206 978.45
Adoptions:	R 734 970.00
Fundraising & Events:	R 516 453.34
Bequests:	R 682 499.18
Grants:	R 647 542.00
Municipal Grant:	R 1 012 516.00
Other:	R 169 180.32

Expenditure

Retail:	R 872 788.25
Kennels:	R 1 241 108.72
Cattery:	R 902 019.79
Fundraising:	R 571 621.78
Head Office:	R 1 292 483.96
Clinic:	R 2 368 508.22
Inspectorate:	R 506 226.29
Outreach Programs:	R 574 120.73

Impact Stats



Email us for full financial report



A STEP AHEAD FOR THEIR BEST LIFE



**Science that creates
differences you can
see, feel and trust.**

At Hill's, our decades of science and research guide us in making food with the precise blend of taste and nutrition your pet needs – so they can live their best life.