



Happy holidays from all SPCA staff and animals!

With 2019 coming to an end, we wanted to take the time to reflect on some of the pawesome things young SPCA supporters throughout New Zealand have done to help SPCA, as well as highlight some stories of the animals whose lives changed with the help of these generous acts of kindness!

Whether volunteers devoted their time to collecting goods, raising money, participating in SPCA events, and/or making enrichment toys for the animals – it all helped SPCA give animals a second chance at the life they deserve.

Thank you everyone for your passion, enthusiasm, and dedication, we can't do what we do without you!

Spreading the Cheer: Pawesome Supporters of the Year

Before you jump to the next page to read our Pawesome Supporters of the Year stories, would you like to know how you can help animals in need? While you're on school holidays, why not volunteer your time making enrichment toys for the animals at your local SPCA.

Take a look at the details below:



What's Inside?



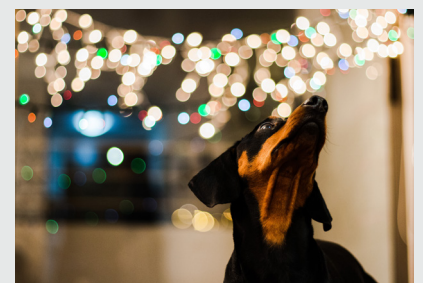
Pawesome Supporters

Read volunteer stories from 2019!



Animal Stories

Take a look at some incredible animal journeys!



Summer / holiday tips!

How to keep your companion safe!





Baking for a cause!

Teatule, Kingston, Creedence, and Halima stopped by our SPCA office this year to tell us about their awesome fundraiser for the animals! The students took on a caring for animals inquiry (lead by group members Teatule, Halima, John, Liam, Ike, and Noria), and as such, decided to research charities they can help in their community. The Prospect Primary School students then decided to raise money for SPCA by holding a bake sale. These generous students did an amazing job!



Paying it forward!

Room 6, 9, and 15, at Western Heights School chose SPCA as the charity to help this year for their annual "Pay it Forward Project." To ensure the success of their plan, not only did student Zoe take the time to write an engaging appeal in the school newsletter asking other students to collect blankets and sheets for SPCA, but older students organized a workshop and taught younger students how to make enrichment toys for the animals as well! Way to go Zoe and Western Heights School!



A social action for the animals!

After being assigned his inquiry learning topic – "how will my generation change the world?", Glen Eden Intermediate School student Braden chose to focus on animal welfare. Braden took the initiative to contact SPCA to see what items we needed most and then organised an animal donation week at school where students could drop off products to support SPCA and animals in need. Braden was supported and helped by classmate Jacob, as well as the other students in Room 28. Thanks for making a change in the lives of animals!



Going above and beyond!

Students from Room 7, 11, and 12 at St Dominic's Catholic School organized a huge collection of much needed goods for SPCA animals. The donations they collected went a long way when helping animals from backgrounds of abuse, neglect, abandonment, illness, and injury. The students even wrote SPCA staff beautiful thank you letters and cards! Thank you St Dom's for going above and beyond!

Going the extra mile!

When 8-year-old Brooke, a student at Torbay School, heard that SPCA was in need of towels and blankets for the animals, she was determined to help. With the wonderful idea of organizing a collection at her school, Brooke designed and distributed posters advertising the items needed, communicated with her schoolmates, and carefully decorated and delivered collection boxes to her school's classrooms. Brooke checked the boxes each day and after a month, she delivered the items to her local SPCA Centre. Way to go Brooke – thank you on behalf of SPCA staff and animals!





The Importance of Microchipping

A microchip is a tiny computer chip – about the size of a grain of rice. Each microchip is linked with a unique ID number and is inserted under your companion animal's skin by a vet. The chip can be scanned at vet clinics, SPCA Centres, and other animal shelters to identify your pet. Once scanned, all of the information that would also be on a collar and identification tags: name, address, and phone numbers, can be accessed. Microchips are essential because they can never fall off or be removed like a collar.

Microchipping is important all year round, however, with all of the festivities happening around the holidays, it is essential to make sure your companion animal is microchipped and that your details are updated. Guests, parties, loud noises, and travel – these situations can cause your companion animal to become uneasy or scared. If your companion animal gets lost in the chaos, it's much easier to be reunited with them if they are microchipped.



Impressive enrichment initiative!

Some passionate students from Westlake Boys' High School reached out to SPCA to see how they could volunteer their time to help animals in need. The students decided they wanted to make enrichment toys for the cats and kittens to enjoy while they waited to find their forever homes. They mailed in some creative toys that helped SPCA ensure the wellbeing of the cats and kittens! Thank you for your kindness Westlake Boys' High school!



Toys for the animals!

Blake took part in the William Pike Challenge this year and chose to do something to help animals in need for his community service hours. Following the enrichment toy instructions from the Kids' Portal, Blake set to work making toys for the cats and dogs. Blake's brother, Riley, also helped make these super cool toys! Thank you for your support, Blake and Riley – you've made a real difference!

Have you done something special to help SPCA's animals?

Email your photos to education@spca.nz and we can share them on the Pawesome Supporters' page of the Kids' Portal! Be sure to ask a parent/guardian first!

Happy Ever Afters of 2019

There have been some pretty amazing success stories here at SPCA. Animals big and small have been rescued from situations of abuse, neglect, and abandonment, they've made a full recovery, and were able to find their happy ever after! Have a look at some of the wonderful animal stories from 2019:

Nick and Waititi

Nick and Waititi are two 13-year-old dogs who were rescued by an SPCA Inspector. Nick and Waititi spent months in the care of SPCA to recover and find a new, loving, forever home - one that could provide them with everything they needed to be happy and healthy.

This senior duo was very lucky to find the perfect home with a new guardian who gives them everything they need. Their new guardian reports:

"Nick and Waititi are just the loveliest dogs and I can't believe my luck! They've settled in really well - they're great company and put big smiles on everyone's faces. Waititi is his energetic and curious self, and sneaks into my room to look at himself in the mirror. Nick is improving in leaps and bounds (literally) from when he first arrived, when he was noticeably stiff with arthritis. He's now jumping on the couch like a gazelle and doing zoomies (well, old-man zoomies) on the lawn.



Parker

When a small ginger kitten arrived at SPCA, it was clear that she had suffered a serious injury. X-rays revealed that she had been in an accident that caused all of the toes on both of her front paws to break.

Our amazing SPCA staff leapt into action to help the injured kitten – they applied splints to both of her front legs and wrapped her paws in bandages to help them heal. Because her bandages made her look like she was wearing boxing gloves, SPCA decided to call her Parker after the boxer, Joe Parker – the perfect name for a resilient kitten!

After spending a few weeks in the care of SPCA, Parker was ready to recover in a temporary foster home. Over time, she began to use her front legs again and was soon ready to come back to SPCA to be adopted!

Parker had a rough start over her first year of life, but luckily she was able to make a full recovery and was adopted by a loving family.



Chocolate and River

Chocolate was brought to SPCA because she wasn't the right fit for her guardians. River was lucky to be found and taken to SPCA after he was living on the streets, lost and alone. Although Chocolate and River came from very different pasts, it didn't stop them from becoming the very best of friends when their paths crossed at SPCA.

Though they now no longer had to spend their lives alone, they were still looking for their forever family. Luckily, the perfect person met and fell in love with the pair and adopted them.

"They are such cute little bunnies and everyone in our family loves them!" their new mum says.

"They seem to be settling in well at our home and even the dog and cat don't seem to mind having some new friends around the house! They spend most of their days outside in the backyard (except the freezing ones!) and they have learnt how to use the cat flap! They have a very nice hutch outside that I don't think they've even used once – they prefer the nice warm house."



Barney

Barney the cockatoo arrived at SPCA after his guardian had sadly passed away. Barney now needed to find a new, forever home. Thankfully, he was brought to SPCA.

With all of the changes in Barney's life, he was having a hard time adjusting. Instead of his usual playful self, he was quiet and sad.

SPCA did everything they could to help Barney – they gave him love, attention, head scratches and feather tickles, as well as his favourite toys and food.

After weeks in SPCA's care, Barney was feeling like himself and was lucky to find the perfect new home where he now hangs out with his other bird friends and enjoys singing to his new family.

Remember those holiday and summer safety tips!



- › Mind the food! What is safe and yummy for you, might not be for your companion animal. Be sure to keep human food out of your animal's reach.
- › Summer days are hot! Make sure all exercise is done in the cooler part of the day, that there's plenty of water and shade available for your companion animal, and that you provide them with enrichment that will help keep them cool!
- › Some holiday decorations can be dangerous! Why not decorate your house with paper origami decorations and other animal friendly materials?!
- › Going somewhere for the holidays? Have you thought about your companion animal? Whether they're going to a kennel/cattery, being watched by friends/family, or coming with, always have a safe plan in place.

Take a look at [SPCA's Kids' Portal](#) for more holiday, summer, and fireworks advice.