Celebrating
125 years of service

Anniversary Dinner
Thanksgiving & Blessing of the Animals
Tea in the Tent
In 2008 the Auckland SPCA reaches yet another milestone - the celebration of 125 years of service to the animals of Auckland.

I cannot for one minute imagine the extent of the absolute dedication of those generations of Aucklanders who have contributed to the history of our SPCA. I have been privy to only one fifth of that time and yet I feel an empathy with all those who have served over a century before me.

I liken that past time to a vast and beautiful tapestry whose threads have been individually sewn by people from all walks of life, but who have shared the passion and the commitment that is still evident today. Perhaps the wisdom of an ancient civilisation, the Native American Indian, describes it best in these words: ‘We did not weave the web of life - we are merely a strand in it’.

And so we pay tribute to those past generations, and give thanks to those who are now creating their own history with us in this 125th year, with three wonderful events:

- the Anniversary Dinner (Saturday, October 4);
- the Thanksgiving and traditional Blessing of the Animals (Sunday, October 5); and
- the Tea in the Tent (Sunday, October 12)

all of which are detailed in this brochure.

Do join us.

Sincerely,

Bob Kerridge

CHIEF EXECUTIVE, SPCA AUCKLAND
Snippets from our past

It would be impossible to recount every highlight of SPCA Auckland’s 125 action-packed years, but on the next few pages we recall a selection of interesting milestones in the Society’s long history.

Early Days

SPCA Auckland was formed on Wednesday, October 10, 1883, in the Auckland Chamber of Commerce rooms. In the absence of Mayor J.M. Clark, Mr E. Larkins took the chair and moved that a society be formed for the prevention of cruelty to animals by “encouraging a considerate feeling for them and, when necessary, prosecuting anyone who may be guilty of cruelty”. A committee was selected two days later.

Committee member and Superintendent of Police J.B. Thompson said that as the clergy had shown little interest in the SPCA, they should be treated the same as everyone else and not be on the committee as of right.

Superintendent Thompson, a passionate animal lover, said his blood often boiled at the cruelties perpetrated on defenceless animals and that in every case where it was practicable he had directed that prosecution take place.

Anyone found guilty faced huge fines for those times. Under the 1880 Cruelty to Animals Act, fines ranged from £20 (more than $1000 in today’s terms) to £100 for keeping animals for fighting or baiting.

At a meeting in 1884, a stern letter was sent to Mr I. Keir, a bus proprietor of Mt Eden, requesting him not to drive his 12-horse buses again. Overloading of horse-drawn tramcars in Wellesley St would also be watched.

Horses were to the fore in SPCA records of those early days. The main form of transport, they were often treated callously or thoughtlessly.
This would be an ongoing concern for the Society and, in 1889, it approached Auckland City Council to deal with the problem as well as that of the long waits being experienced by horses on steep streets such as Victoria St.

**WORLD WAR 1**

World War 1 (1914-1918) brought many poignant reminders of animal suffering alongside that of humans.

The Society received a letter in 1915 from L’Etoile Rouge, an international alliance of societies formed to help suffering animals on battlefields, and donated 100 francs which entitled it to life membership of the league. The following year, in a patriotic gesture, the Society invested its outstanding capital of £700 in the New Zealand War Loan.

The SPCA Ladies’ Committee raised £500 for the Blue Cross, a fund to look after horses in wartime. A year after the war ended, in 1919, a letter was received from the Cairo SPCA in Egypt regarding the cost of a supervision scheme for former Australian and New Zealand Army animals.

**BLUE CROSS HOSPITAL IS BUILT**

In 1926, the Animal Welfare League was formed and, as a consequence, the Society for the Protection of Women and Children agreed to split its activities and divide all funds equally. The Animal Welfare League then registered as the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and was formally re-incorporated.

Major happenings in the 1920s were the brave decisions taken in 1929, on the brink of the Great Depression, to build an SPCA hospital called the Blue Cross Hospital (the first in the Dominion) and the creation of a fund to build a home for stray dogs.

**SLOGAN WITH REAL MEANING**

“We speak for those who cannot speak for themselves” ... this wonderful slogan, which has since become embodied in the SPCA credo, was first coined in 1945 on an SPCA publicity card.

**PREPARING TO MOVE**

In the 1950s, the Society’s Nelson St property was sold for £6250; Auckland’s College Rifles Rugby Football Club was stopped.
from staging its annual greasy-pig competition; and there were reports that Opo, the famous dolphin of Opononi in the Far North, was being ill-treated. An honorary inspector was appointed to protect the dolphin.

In 1956, preparations for the new SPCA property in New North Rd, Eden Terrace, were well under way; and a total of 11,919 animals were handled by SPCA staff during that year.

THE MOVE TO MANGERE
By 1980, the feasibility of selling the New North Rd property was under scrutiny. These were momentous times. By the end of that year architects were asked to draw up plans for an animal village in Mangere. It was decided that the boarding kennels at Papakura were to be phased out and replaced by kennels at the new Mangere site.

A mortgage was raised in 1982 against the sale of the Papakura property to finance the next stage of the Mangere project, a move spearheaded by then SPCA Auckland President Mary Walker.

In 1983, the SPCA Animal Village was opened. The first council meeting in the new building was held in May and that year’s annual door-to-door appeal raised $153,000.

Bob Kerridge was appointed to head the Auckland Society on November 14, 1984.

COMPANION ANIMAL WORKSHOP
In 1987, the Society became debt-free, a turn-around from previous years. In 1990, in Auckland, the first Companion Animal Workshop was staged, involving local-body councils, the veterinary profession and animal welfare groups.

SPCA CATTERY
In 1990, plans for the SPCA’s cattery were presented to council and Stage 1 was approved at a budget of $120,000.

Catherine van de Putte’s legacy was made available to the SPCA veterinary hospital in 1994 and the hospital was opened in 1998 by MP John Banks (now Mayor of Auckland).

A NEW CENTURY
In February 2007 the state of the art Education and Conference Centre was opened by the Governor General, acknowledged by everyone as a positive step in preventing animal cruelty through education. The Council was reconstituted as a Board to reflect the need to apply business acumen to be a competitive charity in the new Century.

History is still in the making.
Join us for Dinner

Saturday, October 4, 2008 at 7.00pm

This is your invitation to join us for our 125th anniversary dinner, set in the spectacularly beautiful surroundings of the 100 year old St Matthew-in-the-City.

On arrival enjoy Champagne Comte Audoine de Dampierre (compliments champagnelady.co.nz). Be entranced and captivated by NZ Idol judge JACKIE CLARKE, a total variety act on her own, who is acting as ‘hostess’ ... anything can happen (and it probably will). Be thrilled by New Zealand’s most beautiful singing talent, ELIZABETH MARVELLY, in concert – she will move you with her impassioned performance. Enjoy fine food prepared by the country’s premiere caterers, SKY CITY, accompanied by fine wines from some our leading vintners. Celebrate with us the excitement of 125 years of service to the animals.

Tickets are reasonably priced at:
$240 per head (all inclusive) or $2250 for a table of ten.

Please note: there will be no attempts to extract further money from you, however donations will be gladly accepted to assist in the building of the puppy hospital.

BOOK NOW, BUT BE QUICK AS TICKETS ARE STRICTLY LIMITED!

Contact Christine Burbush directly for your reservation:
Phone 09 256 7301 or Email christine.burbush@spca.org.nz

This is a ticket only event so book it now to avoid disappointment.

Kindly sponsored by St Matthew-in-the-City.
Join us for a Special Thanksgiving Service combined with our Traditional Blessing of the Animals.

Sunday, October 5th, 2008, at 12.30pm.

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI (1182-1226 AD)

Beginning with a walk up Queen Street starting at Elizabeth Square, downtown, assembling at 11.30am, walking at 11.45am. March to the stirring swirl of the bagpipes, surrounded by vintage cars, mingling with a wide variety of animals up the main street of Auckland City ... a unique experience! The service starts at St Matthew-in-the-City at 12.30pm (see the following pages for the order of service).
Order of Service

Service commences at 12.30pm

Piper
A lone piper will signal the start of the service

Celebration Declaration
To acknowledge and celebrate 125 years of service to the animals. Bob Kerridge, CEO, SPCA Auckland.

‘For the beauty of the earth, sing, oh sing today. Of the sky and at our birth, sing always. Nature, human and divine, all around us lies. Lord of all To thee we raise grateful hymns of praise.’

Hallelujah
A celebration of song presented by the Heaven Bent Gospel Choir

Welcome
A message from Wilf Holt, Patron, SPCA Auckland

A Special Presentation
Featuring the sensational voice of Elizabeth Marvelly

Call to Worship
The Venerable Glynn Cardy, St Matthew-in-the-City

Hymn:
Make me a Channel of your Peace
The prayer of St Francis - Johan Sebastian Templeholf

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred let me bring your love; where there is injury, your pardon, Lord; and where there’s doubt, true faith in you.

O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there’s despair in life, let me bring hope; where there is darkness, let me bring your light; and where there’s sadness, ever joy.

O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we’re born to eternal life.
The Candle of Remembrance
A time of reflection for all the animals at home and around the world. Bob Kerridge, CEO, SPCA Auckland

The Reading
David Frost, Chairman, SPCA Auckland

A Musical Offering
The Heaven Bent Gospel Choir

The Address
The Reverend Clay Nelson, Associate Priest, St Matthew-in-the-City

Hymn:
All Creatures of our God and King
St Francis of Assisi - words adapted by Dr Douglas Mews

All creatures of our God and light,

O praise God, O praise God,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

You flowing water, pure and clear,

You burning sun with golden beam,
you silver moon with softer gleam,

O praise God, O praise God,

you fire so powerful and bright,

And all forgiven tender hearts,

you rushing wind with voice so strong,

you who long pain and sorrow bear,

And all forgiven tender hearts,

you clouds that sail in heav’n along,

O Praise God, O praise God,

you rising morn, in praise rejoice,

O Praise God, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Antiphon: Alleluia!

you lights of evening find a voice,

Prayers
Led by Wilf Holt, Deacon, St Matthew-in-the-City, and other clergy

Special Presentation
By Conartists

Closing
The Venerable Glynn Cardy, St Matthew-in-the-City

Hymn and Offering
The offering will be collected by the Inspectors of the Society during the singing of the following hymn.
Hymn: All Things Bright and Beautiful
Mrs C F Alexander

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

The purple headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky.

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

Blessing of the Animals
Attending animals will be blessed by
the laying on of hands
Join us for Tea in the Tent

Sunday, October 12, 2008 at 1.30pm

This is an opportunity for long term supporters, life members, HOPE supporters, volunteers, foster homes, past and present staff and Council/Board members, to imbibe in a celebratory ‘high tea’ under a grand tent out at our SPCA Animal Village at Mangere ... our chance to thank you all for your contributions to our glorious history.

Enjoy traditional cucumber sandwiches, dainty cup cakes and delicious little savouries, whilst sipping champagne and strawberries, or china tea. The delicate classical sounds of JANE WRIGHT and her String Quartet will add to the ambience of the day, and crooner GRANT CHILCOTT will entertain with the swinging sounds of ‘yesteryear’. Traditional costumes will be welcome.

Although we would like to involve as many people as possible at this event, available space dictates the limitation of numbers to only one person.

Accordingly this is an invitation only event, which must be booked.

On receipt of your invitation please reply as quickly as possible to our call centre on 09-256 7300 to confirm your attendance. Responses will close on Thursday, October 9.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The SPCA Auckland gratefully acknowledges the support and assistance from:

Auckland City Council
Auckland Pipe Band Inc
Auckland Regional Council
Carl Doy
Champagne Comte Audoine de Dampierre
(compliments of Champagne Lady)
Covers Linen Hire
Conartists
Elizabeth Marvelly and Family
For Heaven’s Cake
Gerry Harrison
Grant Chilcott
Imagination TV
Inspire Group NZ Ltd
Jackie Clarke
Lewis Turrell, Piper
Mahhohemo Orchids
Michael Bell, Organist
Mike Mizrahi
Multi-Media Ltd
North Shore City Council
Port-a-Loo
Robert Bruce
Schepepe Ltd
SPCA Auckland Staff
SPCA Dog Squad
St Matthew-in-the City
The Centrepiece
The Champagne Lady
The Heaven Bent Gospel Choir
SKY CITY Catering
String Silhouette-Quartet
The NZ Police
The Venerable Glynn Cardy and Clergy
at St Matthew-in-the City
Urban Gourmet
Vintage Car Club
Waste Management Ltd
Zelda Roberts Charitable Trust