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Account No : 921 041 5123
Branch Code : 632 005

Registered NPO:

Non Profit Organisation
Number : 063 – 126 – NPO

PetPals

Newsletter – September 2009 – Distributed by Chameleon Innovation

Friendly greetings from the PetPals team.

Following is our latest newsletter to give you an update on the voluntary work we do.

**HAPPY HAPPY
BIRTHDAY !**



**PetPals is
1 year old !**

We are very happy to celebrate PetPals' very first birthday, it has been a wonderful and blessed year. PetPals was registered and approved as a Non Profit Organisation (NPO) by the Department of Social Development in August 2008, and we officially started to operate on 1 September 2008.

During the past year, our e-mail distribution list has expanded to nearly 1000 recipients, including animal lovers, veterinarians, animal welfare organisations, sponsors, etc. Since some of you were only added to the distribution list sometime during the year, you have obviously not received our introduction letter a year ago. Therefore, as we turned 1 year old, we thought it would be appropriate to run through all the activities undertaken by PetPals. We hope the summary below will give you a better understanding of PetPals' voluntary welfare work.

SUMMARY OF PETPALS' ACTIVITIES

PetPals is a small organization, consisting of only 5 official members and a handful of volunteers, who strives to make a difference in our local district by improving the living conditions of animals who live in less privileged communities. Our main geographic area of operation encompasses townships and poor communities in the Rusthof area in the Strand (Helderberg, Western Cape).

Dawie and Yolanda Hamman (the main founders of PetPals) are retired and have decided to spend their retirement days helping disadvantage animals. Dawie and Yolanda have been involved with this voluntary work since 2006 and have been responsible for the improvement of literally hundreds of animals over the last few years. It is important to note that neither Dawie and Yolanda, nor any PetPals member or volunteer, receive any form of remuneration for the work done by PetPals.

Driving through any township or poor community, it is a common face to see dogs and cats wondering the streets and lying around in backyards. It is a fact that people staying in these areas will always have animals. Because these residents can hardly make ends meet with regards to their families' needs, pet care is often not high on their priority list. Therefore, Dawie and Yolanda provide support by not only helping the animals in many ways, but also helping the owners by giving them the means to improve the living conditions of their pets.

Activities undertaken by PetPals to improve the living conditions of animals living in townships and poor communities include the following:



- Dawie and Yolanda **feed** approximately 500 animals once a week. The owners are held responsible to feed their animals for the rest of the week. If Dawie and Yolanda notice deterioration in the condition and / or weight of the pets, the owners are 'reprimanded' accordingly.
- Dawie and Yolanda provide general **pet care** and medication on a daily basis (such as tick and flea treatment, mange treatment, deworming, etc.). Since the people living in these poor areas have limited access to transport, Dawie and Yolanda bring them this service to their doorstep.

- PetPals endeavours to **sterilise** as many animals as possible and PetPals also pays for these sterilisations (thanks to donations from you and from sponsors). Most of the animals sterilised by PetPals still live in these poor communities, but their numbers are now better controlled. On sterilisation days, Dawie and Yolanda collect the animals from these less privileged communities in the mornings, take them to the vet for sterilisation, and return them to the owners in the afternoon. PetPals also has the habit of 'issuing' each sterilised pet with food and a blanket to comfort the pet and reward their owners for having them sterilised.



- Dawie and Yolanda ensure that sick / injured animals receive **veterinary care** when needed. It is a common daily occurrence for Dawie and Yolanda to receive telephone calls from people staying in these poor communities informing them their pet is ill. Dawie and Yolanda then take the pet to the vet, have the pet examined and treated by the vet, and return the pet to its owner (accompanied with the necessary medication if needed). Dawie and Yolanda also take animals to the vet for inoculations, emergency care, operations, and euthanasia. All of the above are paid for by PetPals (thanks to donations from you and from sponsors).



- Dawie and Yolanda provide **shelter** for animals in need, including kennels, bedding and blankets. Pets living in these poor communities are often exposed to extreme heats in summer and bitterly cold and wet conditions in winter, therefore the provision of shelter is a major improvement of their living conditions.
- Dawie and Yolanda provide **additional support to families** by frequently collecting left-over food from local supermarkets (e.g. bread, meat, fruit and veg) and distributing such goods among the residents.

- Dawie and Yolanda **educate** as far as they go the residents living in these townships and poor communities about pet care. They teach them about the basic needs of these animals (such as fresh water and sufficient meals each day). They teach them about common animal diseases and how these can be treated (such as that animals should be dipped to treat them for ticks and fleas and not be washed with Jeyes Fluid, that mange is not a deadly disease and can be treated, and that a cat scratch / bite will not give humans cat flu... Yes, these are all common misconceptions!). Dawie and Yolanda also teach the people about the reasons for having their animals sterilised and the implications if such sterilisations are not done.



- PetPals and some wonderful helpers **foster and rehome** animals that are neglected, lost or unwanted (such as the dog pictured here). Screening is done to ensure these animals are rehomed to loving families who have the means and the affection to care for these 'orphans'. Screening is also undertaken to 'match' the pets with their new owners, thereby ensuring the needs and expectations of both the pets and the new owners are met.



PetPals came across this dog some time ago where he was tied to a tree with only a few meters to move around. He has since been rehomed to a wonderful home in the Paarl where he not only has a yard where he can run around freely, but also a Maltese playmate to keep him busy. ☺

STATS: 1 SEP 2008 - 31 AUG 2009

Please look at the stats below to see what PetPals has achieved during the past year, thanks to the help of volunteers and sponsors. Considering how small the organization actually is, we are very proud of the huge difference we were able to make to so many animals in need.

KIND OF PET	STERILISATIONS	RESCUED & REHOMED	ACTS OF KINDNESS
CATS / KITTENS	135	114	4
DOGS / PUPPIES	161	82	20
TOTAL	296	196	24

Our sterilisation stats mostly consist of animals that still live in townships and poor communities, but their numbers are now better controlled. The above stats exclude hundreds of animals who are touched by Dawie and Yolanda on a weekly basis by means of feeding and general pet care.

QUOTES FROM HAPPY 'CUSTOMERS'

At the beginning of June 2009, Dawie and Yolanda went to a spayday in Sir Lowry's Pass to have some puppies vaccinated. While they were there, a mother dog with 9 healthy puppies was brought in to be spayed. The owners did not want the puppies anymore, so it was very fortunate that Dawie and Yolanda were there to rescue these puppies. They immediately took all the puppies away and placed them into foster care. PetPals, with the wonderful support and help of the foster families, have successfully rehomed each of the 9 puppies to loving families. Some of these puppies are pictured below. The new owners are all very happy with their adopted doggies, and responses from some of the owners are quoted below:

- *“Oh my, they love him and my mom says he is a true gift from God. She says she is amazed at how obedient and loving he is. She said to him yesterday that she loves him and he hopped onto her lap and just laid down. My dad and brother are just as mad about the boy. Thanks again.”*
- *“This is Rocco, one of the 9 puppies that was saved in Sir Lowry's Pass. So much fun, joy and laughter is being enjoyed with Rocco. I can't imagine my daily life without waking up with this bundle of love next to me. Thanks again to adopt a pet.”*



RESCUED PUPPIES FROM SIR LOWRY'S PASS, NOW HAPPILY REHOMED

On a PetPals spayday in October 2008, we found 3 tiny kittens in a backyard shack without a mother. The one was only 10 days old, and the other two were about 4 weeks old. They were covered in so many fleas, the vet said it could have caused them to die. The family who adopted the two older kittens (now called Hamish and Chloe) recently gave us some feedback:

“Hamish and Chloe are the loves of our lives. But as my hubby says, Hamish is a real ‘turk’. Chloe is still the little lady. She waits for me while I bath and then we cuddle on the bed. This is strictly her time, it is as though she just can't get enough of the cuddle thing. Both of them sleep on our bed at night.”



The 3rd kitten, rescued together with Hamish and Chloe, is now 10 months old. Castello (pictured in the section below next to the book written by Pat O'Neil) is the joyful baby boy of one of the PetPals membership couples.

HAPPY ENDINGS - WE LOVE THEM!

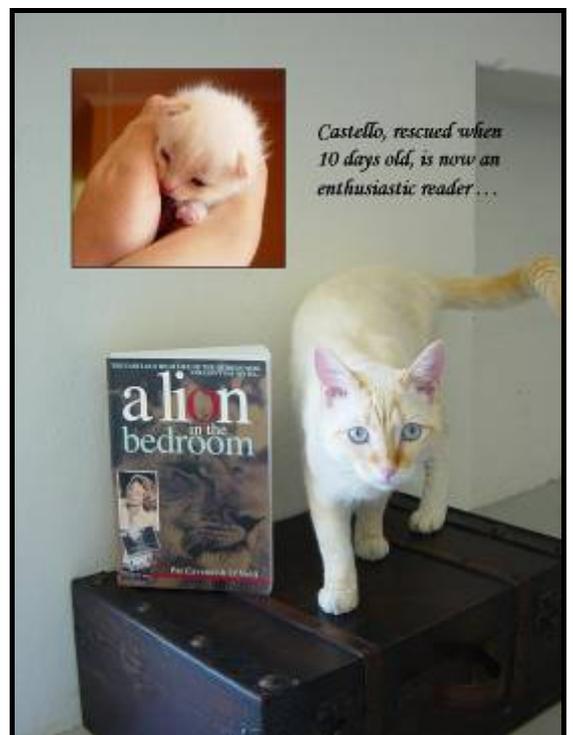
You might remember Pippa who was looking for a home in our May 2009 Newsletter, as well as the Harbour Island cats who were looking for a home in our June 2009 Newsletter (if you want to revisit the rescue stories of Pippa and the Harbour Island cats, please check out the previous newsletters on our website at www.petpals.org.za).



We are delighted to let you know that all three of them are now living with a wonderful lady named Pat O'Neil and her farm manager named Morgan who opened their hearts to these rescued pets. Pat is well-known for her book 'A lion in the bedroom' (picture here next to another PetPals rescue-kitty named Castello). →

Pat O'Neil lives on a farm outside Somerset West, and the premises is like an animal welfare site in its own right. Pat has opened her heart to literally hundreds of rescued animals throughout her entire life (as reflected in her book), and Pippa and the Harbour Island cats are very lucky for ending up with Pat, Morgan and their large animal family.

The Harbour Island cats now have treetops, an extensive garden, and a warm bed in Pat's house to their disposal.



Pippa runs around on the farm every day with 20 odd canine-playmates and sleeps with Morgan at night. The loved shared between Morgan and Pippa is easy to spot...]

Although the farm unfortunately does not belong to Pat O'Neil anymore, she has a trust in place to care for all the animals currently living with her. If you buy her book, you will not only get a very enjoyable read, but also indirectly help towards supporting the rescued animals currently living with her.

We want to use this opportunity to thank not only Pat O'Neil and Morgan, but also everybody who have adopted a pet from PetPals. You have made a huge contribution towards our cause, but even more important is that you have changed the world for these rescued animal(s)!

ANOTHER 'BEFORE' AND 'AFTER'

At the beginning of June 2009, when Dawie and Yolanda went to a spayday in Sir Lowry's Pass to have some puppies vaccinated, they were approached by a gentleman (residing in Sir Lowry's Pass) who asked for advice and help for his dog, a male X Boerboel. The dog was still young, but it was apparent that he had mange and was severely under-nourished. Dawie and Yolanda decided to help and support the man and his dog.

Dawie and Yolanda treated the dog for mange several times and they assisted the owner by educating him regarding the correct diet and medication to improve his dog's condition. Evidently from the pictures below, the dog's condition has improved tremendously since Dawie and Yolanda's intervention. On 22 July 2009 the dog was also sterilised through PetPals. Since Sir Lowry's Pass is not Dawie and Yolanda's regular area of operation, they were not able to visit the owner too often. However, a few follow-up visits showed that the dog's healthy condition was being maintained. This just goes to show that, if an owner has a keen interest to learn and improve the condition of his/her pet, Dawie and Yolanda's intervention ensures improvement of a permanent nature.

BEFORE



AFTER



PLEASE HELP US (if you can...☺)



Apart from an ongoing need for finances (which is mainly used to pay for vet bills, animal medication, and sterilisations), we are currently experiencing a specific need for **kennels**. We also need blankets, and collars and leads. If you can donate any of these goods to us (which we can distribute to pets living in townships and poor communities), please phone Yolanda or Dawie on:

Tel. 021 854 6317 or 083 411 0738

If the kennels are damaged, we will repair it ourselves. If you are a handyman and can build affordable kennels similar to the one in the adjacent photo, please also let us know. We do not need fancy models, just shelter that will keep the doggies warm and dry. We appreciate your support!

NB !!! FOSTER HOMES IN HELDERBERG NEEDED

We urgently need foster homes for cats and dogs in the Helderberg Area. The kitten-season has just commenced, but we currently only have one cat / kitten foster home. We also need foster homes for puppies / dogs. If you and your family can look after some of our rescued pets until we find them forever homes, please phone us. Thanks so much!

FOREVER HOMES NEEDED FOR ...



This adorable female pup is looking for a forever home. She is about 5 months old and will probably grow into a medium-to-large sized dog. She has been treated for ticks, fleas and worms, and has been inoculated as well. She will be sterilised soon. The adoption fee is R200 to contribute towards her vet expenses.

This gorgeous male pup is also looking for a forever home. He is nearly 5 months old and will probably grow into a medium sized dog. He has been treated for ticks, fleas and worms, and has been inoculated as well. The adoption fee is R200 to contribute towards his vet expenses.



If you find it in your heart to give any of the above pet(s) the loving and secure forever home they deserve, please phone:

Yolanda (Tel. 021 854 6317 / 083 411 0738)

Once you have completed our pet adoption form (and we have considered your circumstances favourably in terms of this specific adoption), we will make the necessary arrangements for the pet(s) to be fetched and taken to their new forever home.

THANK YOU!

We would like to use this opportunity to thank every single person who has helped PetPals in which ever way to achieve our goals. Thanks to your donations, time, hand-outs and general support we were able to improve the living conditions of many animals in townships and poor communities during the past year. PLEASE take your time and read through Annexure A for a list of everyone we would like to thank for their contribution towards PetPals' cause since our May 2009 Newsletter (the last time we listed our thank you's).



THANKS
VERY
MUCH !!



WE REALLY
APPRECIATE
YOUR HELP !!

Thank you for your valuable time to read PetPals' latest Newsletter. Please feel free to visit our website (www.petpals.org.za) or contact us should you have any further enquiries on what we do or who we are.

Friendly PetPals-regards

Dawie & Yolanda Hamman and Johan & Azanne van Wyk

PS We are not anticipating the distribution of e-mails on a regular daily or even weekly basis. However, if you want to unsubscribe to this newsletter / ad(s), please send an email to info@petpals.org.za with **UNSUBSCRIBE** in the subject or body of the email.

ANNEXURE A

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the following support towards PetPals' cause of improving the living conditions of pets in townships and poor communities:

- ❖ Thank you to **Dawie and Yolanda** (the main founders of PetPals) for their daily hard work, effort, time and energy to improve the living conditions of so many animals out there, without receiving any form of compensation. Thank you so much for offering all your recreational time of being a retired couple to the service of so many disadvantaged animals.
- ❖ Thank you to everyone who foster rescued puppies and kittens for PetPals, including: **Roy and Arlene, Sylvia, Kim, Diane, June, Renie & Heidi, and Carmen & Raine**. We are very grateful for all the love and full tummies you and your family members give to those 4-legged orphans until they find their forever homes.
- ❖ Thank you to **Ineke** for regular donations of funding, dog and cat food, cat litter, and for the arrangement with **Sylco** to use their vehicle every day. Thank you so much for donating us your daughter-in-law's laptop, and for sponsoring the sterilisations of so many animals. We are extremely grateful for your ongoing support and generous donations.
- ❖ Thank you to the veterinary clinics and all their staff who support our charity work and provide their friendly and helpful service to us, especially the **Strand Animal Hospital** and **EberVet Community Veterinary Care**. Thank you for the vet care, medicines and regular discounted sterilisations, without your professional care we would not be able to support those disadvantaged animals. Thank you to the above mentioned clinics, as well as **PetSavers** and **Dr. Denkhaus**, for hand-outs such as pet medicine, pet food, pet food containers, etc. and for referring people to us for pet adoptions.
- ❖ Thank you to **TFD Network Africa** for frequently making damaged dog and cat food available for collection and use by PetPals.
- ❖ Thank you to **Dale and Bridget from Rowland Pearse Western Cape** for making damaged dog and cat food available for collection and use by PetPals.
- ❖ Thank you to **MCP, especially Durie and Simbo**, for donations of dog and cat food.
- ❖ Thank you to the **City of Cape Town, especially Adri Smal and Sakkie du Toit**, for considering PetPals as a beneficiary of a Grant-in-Aid.
- ❖ Thank you to **Chris Mauerberger and the Podlashuk Bellinchamp National Heritage Foundation Trust (created by the Founders of Bellingham Homestead)** for including us in their programme supporting charity organisations.
- ❖ Thank you to **Craig and Lynn MacKenzie and Alf and Lynn Downing** for the initiative to arrange a breakfast in aid of PetPals, and for making a huge success thereof.
- ❖ Thank you to **Shaun from Chameleon Innovation** for hosting our PetPals website, for general PetPals admin, and for circulating our newsletters to everyone on our e-mail distribution list. Thank you also for your time and effort to set up our laptop, and for donating a brand new flash drive to us. We also appreciate the storage space made available to PetPals in order to store dog food.

- ❖ Thank you to **Andrea** for collecting funds to buy ±2500 tins of dog food and for donating the said dog food to PetPals.
- ❖ Thank you to **Theresa Olivier and her team from District Mail** for regularly including articles about PetPals and pet adoptions in the Helderberg's local newspaper.
- ❖ Thank you to **Shelvyn from Capey Magazine** for giving PetPals exposure in their magazine.
- ❖ Thank you to **Elma Pollard from The Green Times** for giving PetPals exposure in their newspaper.
- ❖ Thank you to **Retha from the website KittyCat** for regularly advertising our kitty-adoptions.
- ❖ Thank you to **Zelda and her team from Multi Postman Services in the Strand** for their continuous support, time and effort to assist us with the drafting and printing of adoption ads, for making colour copies, for pinning up ads of PetPals in the shop's windows - everything at their own cost. Thank you for collecting money and pet food donations for PetPals at Multi Postman Services in the Strand and thank you also for the public who leave those goods with Zelda, it is greatly appreciated.
- ❖ Thank you to **Susan Vosper** for all the donations of funding, food and containers, and for collecting such goods from attendees of her dog training classes.
- ❖ Thank you to **SPAR Strand** for providing food for the animals and community.
- ❖ Thank you to **David Scholtz** for the regular donations sent to us all the way from Johannesburg.
- ❖ Thank you to **Kim** for assisting PetPals with admin, for driving around to take pics of rescued animals and for advertising them. Thank you also for the initiative to have business cards designed and printed for PetPals and for paying for such cards.
- ❖ Thank you to **Mariette Meyer from Clay Designs** for designing our beautiful PetPals business cards and for **Lizette from Spectrum** for printing these cards and for giving us 1000 cards for the price of 500 cards.
- ❖ Thank you to the **Kingdom Light Church, especially Karien and Shawn Basson**, for sponsoring dog and cat food, as well as for the soup and clothes day held.
- ❖ Thank you to **Kelley, Kim and Sonja** for their time and effort to collect and deliver dog and cat food for PetPals.
- ❖ Thank you to **Howard and Lauren** for fitting signage to our trailer.
- ❖ Thank you to **Marlene Strydom** for distributing PetPals e-mails on a regular basis.
- ❖ Thank you to **Charnell Niewoudt** for distributing PetPals e-mails and for drafting and placing PetPals advertisements on a regular basis.
- ❖ Thank you to **Hester and Ockie** for their assistance on one of our spaydays and for ongoing admin support.
- ❖ Thank you to **Colleen Pienaar and Sylvia Hoft** for incorporating PetPals in their sterilisation programmes.

- ❖ Thank you to **Helderberg Fencing, especially Marguerite**, for fencing.
 - ❖ Thank you to **The Hottentots Holland AWS** for making their premises available on one of our spaydays.
 - ❖ A special thanks to everyone who donates funding to us on a regular basis, your ongoing support make it possible for us to continue helping the animals. Our thanks go out to **D H Ferreira, Elaine Jordaan, André van Wyk, J Carter, and A Buchan**.
 - ❖ Thank you to every single person who donated funding towards our cause. If you donated anonymously or we have slipped up to include your name, please know that we are very grateful for your donation. Thank you also to everyone who sponsored pet food, pet medicines, kennels, bedding, blankets, containers, toys, etc. towards our cause, everything was put to good use among the animals in those poor communities. We are grateful for those who have offered to help us in the future too. Our thanks go out to **Jordaan, D H Ferreira, G Giff, J de Wet, A van Wyk, J Carter, A Buchan, R Brink, C Isaacson, Margie Frey, A de Brauwere, Ilanie, Tertia, Cherise, Derek and Janice, Elaine Jordaan, Elenora, Heidi, Chalandre Overers, Carol Gunther, Trevor Mariani, Hester and Ockie, Sheba, PETS, Carla Roux, Gerhard Botha, Tina-Louise, and everyone else who helped PetPals**.
 - ❖ Thank you to **every single person / family who adopted a rescued kitty or doggie** from us, you have given those animal(s) a second chance in life. Thank you for opening up your hearts and for giving those pets a loving forever home.
 - ❖ **Thanks to everyone for your networking**, circulating e-mails, and for spreading the word – indirectly you have made a big difference in helping many disadvantaged animals.
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