



LIST OF SHAME

(October 2010 – September 2011)

- In Canterbury, a young puppy fell from a vehicle and sustained fractures to her legs. The owner assaulted this young puppy a month later after it defecated inside. The puppy sustained multiple injuries associated with trauma to the head. Owner failed to seek veterinary attention on both occasions leaving the puppy to suffer from these injuries until taken by an SPCA Inspector. Owner was successfully **convicted**.
- In Tauranga, two cats were discovered caught in possum traps. Both cats had to have limbs removed as a result of painful injuries sustained. Now adopted, both cats are doing well in their loving new homes. Investigations were not able to establish the offenders responsible for these two incidents.
- At Gate Pa in Tauranga, a young Pit Bull cross puppy had its ears severed and was found wandering and distressed. This act of cruelty would have been extremely painful and traumatic for the puppy that is now permanently disfigured. Those known to have information to help solve this case were reluctant to come forward. However, as a result of investigations, a person known to be in charge of the animal at the time of the offence is **currently facing prosecution**. The puppy, now named Trooper, has made a full recovery and has been successfully placed in a loving home.
- A teenager in Kaikoura bludgeoned to death 25 seals, including newborn pups, with a metal pipe as he believed they were pests. Others were found to be still alive having suffered horrific injuries. He was **convicted** of willfully ill-treating animals and received a two-year jail sentence and an alleged co-offender is currently before the Court. **This is the harshest penalty ever handed down in NZ for an animal cruelty offence.**
- At Welcome Bay in Tauranga, an American Pit Bull cross bitch was observed attempting to retrieve her deliberately drowned puppies from an estuary. Investigation by Inspectors identified the owner of the dog but could not gather sufficient evidence to establish the offender(s). The dog, now named Faith, was taken into SPCA custody and has since been rehomed into a loving family.

- A flock of ducks at a Napier stream were victims of a dart blow gun attack. SPCA staff spent six hours retrieving the injured ducks and five ducklings would not have survived without intervention. Two ducks were found to have darts protruding from their heads. The ducks would have eventually died slowly and painfully without veterinary treatment. The offenders have not been identified.
- In Onerahi, Whangarei, a 28 year old woman was convicted for failing to provide appropriate food and veterinary treatment to a male Sharpei dog known as Moko. SPCA Inspectors had received a complaint after witnesses saw the weak and emaciated dog being dragged down a street. Moko has since made a full recovery and has been successfully adopted. The woman was fined \$500 payable to the SPCA.
- South Waikato SPCA received calls regarding a cat wandering the area in an extremely distressed state. Callers described the cat as being nearly bald with open sores and had the appearance of looking skinned. A local resident was able to confine the cat enabling the SPCA to seek veterinary treatment. An examination showed the cat to be extremely unwell, suffering from untreated abscesses that had become severely infected and fly blown, with live maggots crawling within its wounds. Due to the extent of infection, it was deemed that the cat was unlikely to respond to treatment. Therefore, humane euthanasia was performed. To date, the owner has not been identified.
- In Clyde, a cat was discovered dragging her hind limbs and having a broken front leg. Investigations by SPCA Inspectors revealed that the cat was suffering from a prior injury resulting in partial paralysis to her rear end. The cat was euthanized on humane grounds and the owner is currently before the Court facing a charge of failing to provide veterinary treatment to alleviate pain and suffering.
- In Tokoroa, Police discovered a tiny 6 week old kitten in extremely poor condition and left to fend for itself. An investigation proved the kitten had been without access to food and water for at least 3 to 4 days. The kitten was severely dehydrated, distressed and riddled with fleas and worms. It was delivered into the care of the South Waikato SPCA who nursed it back to health and then placed it into a loving home. **The owner was located and successfully prosecuted.**
- South Waikato SPCA was advised of a cat that had a collar embedded in its flesh. Examination revealed it had managed to get its front leg through the collar, tightening the collar considerably. The collar became embedded in the flesh around the neck and under the armpit. This would have caused the cat prolonged suffering and distress. A severe wound was revealed when the collar was removed. To date, an owner has not been identified. The cat is now awaiting adoption following recovery from its injuries.

- A horse found in an emaciated state was seized by the Tauranga SPCA. The attending vet described the horse as the skinniest she had seen. The horse died shortly after. This case is currently before the Court and SPCA is confident of a successful prosecution.
- In South Taranaki, thirteen Lop Eared Rabbits were found living in filthy conditions. Cage floors were covered in several inches of faeces and the animals were forced to live with their maggot-covered dead and dying young. Due to mitigating circumstances, the decision was made not to prosecute provided that the owner adheres to strict instructions issued by SPCA Inspectors. Rabbit numbers were reduced to a manageable level, breeding was discontinued and the owner was educated on the appropriate care of rabbits.
- A couple in South Taranaki are currently before the Court for neglecting to feed their dog. The Rottweiler weighed just 28kg at the time of seizure. The dog has been rehabilitated by SPCA staff and has made a full recovery, now weighing 46kg.
- In the Wairarapa, a man was seen kicking and beating his dog in a very public place. He was arrested and the dog was taken to a vet where euthanasia was deemed to be necessary. **The man was sent to jail for 4 months.**
- A young man from Rangiora stabbed a Schnauzer multiple times in the back with a kitchen knife after an argument with his girlfriend. The dog died as a result of its extensive injuries despite receiving veterinary treatment. **The owner was successfully convicted of willful ill-treatment.**
- An emaciated Pit Bull/Lab cross named Nero was seized from a property in the Tauranga area with a large open neck wound, cropped ears and docked tail. The court case is pending.
- July saw the prosecution of a man who had beaten a 6-month old puppy to death with a golf club. This was a prolonged and particularly brutal act of cruelty which resulted in a Te Kuiti man being **sentenced to 18 months jail for willful ill-treatment of an animal and was banned for life from owning another dog.**
- In the Waikato, a 12 week old kitten was beaten and burned to death in Te Awamutu in front of the owner's daughter and 5 year-old granddaughter. **The offender was been sentenced to 18 months jail and banned from owning an animal for ten years.**
- On the banks of a river in Christchurch, a dog was found alive and tied to a fence. It was extremely distressed, having sustained three bullet wounds to the head. The dog had to be euthanized as a result of its injuries. The offender has been charged by the SPCA with reckless ill-treatment of a dog and the case is before the Court.

- A Border Collie was found in pain with an unusable and severely dislocated hip that was left untreated. The leg had to be amputated and the dog has since made a full recovery and has been successfully adopted. A 58 year old Waipu man was **convicted of failing to provide veterinary treatment for his dog leading to permanent disability.**
- A 37 year woman from Ruakaka pleaded guilty and was subsequently convicted of 33 charges relating to 110 head of mixed aged calves & cows that were left without food and water for a prolonged period. 14 calves were dead and several others had to be humanely euthanized. **She was disqualified from owning or being in charge of any animals for 5 years and sentenced to 5 months community detention.**
- In Wairarapa a man was witnessed beating and kicking his dog. Police intervened conveying the dog to the SPCA for re-homing. The offender was **successfully prosecuted and was required to perform 80 hours of community service.**

Thanks to the SPCA, many of the animals mentioned on this list have now been successfully rehabilitated and many of the perpetrators identified and brought to justice.