

JUNE 2025



National Council
of SPCAs



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

we pause to acknowledge the shifts that **YOU** have brought about – the inklings of **hope** and undeniable sparks of **justice** that light the way toward a more humane and just society.

This **Youth Day**, we celebrate **your** enduring spirit of youth - a spirit not marked by age, but a passion that seems to go unscathed and uncorroded by the sands of time and its harsh realities. ***Bold. Hopeful. Relentless.***

It is not easy to remain steadfast in one's belief of change, but you are one of the few who still believe in a world where change ***is*** possible.

As we reflect on the courage of the youth of the past - we seek to emulate the fervor with which they pursued justice and soothed themselves with hope. This is no easy task. The road to justice is rarely straight. It bends, it stalls, it tests our patience. However, it always moves forward, thanks to **you**.

This issue is dedicated to you - the **changemaker**, the **advocate**, the **ally**. The one who proves that the spirit of youth is not an age, but a force. And you're using it to change South Africa for the better.

HOPE:

These stories are more than feel-good moments. They are proof that **your** generosity is reaching places that need it most, and bringing life where there was once loss.



A Second Chance for Middelburg Shelter Dogs

From heartbreak to hope: Meet the courageous survivors of the Middelburg shelter tragedy - now ready for loving homes at Bloemfontein SPCA.

[Read more...](#)



Karlos & Ivana: Bravery, Healing, & Hope

Once crippled by neglect and malnutrition, lion cubs Karlos and Ivana were rescued from a notorious breeding farm - now, six years later, they're thriving in freedom at a sanctuary built for their healing.

[Read more...](#)



Transnet's on Track to Protect Tortoises

In a quiet but powerful act of compassion, Transnet has transformed 60km of railway into a lifeline for Western Cape tortoises, proving that even the smallest creatures deserve safe passage.

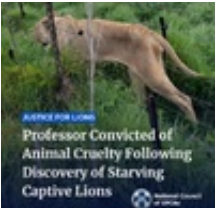
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DONATE TOWARDS HOPE

JUSTICE:

Thanks to **you**, those responsible for cruelty are being held accountable. Convictions are being secured. Court cases are moving forward. Step by step, wrongs are being addressed.

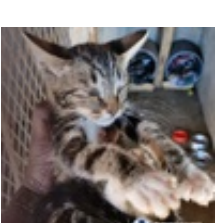
These stories are a reflection of **your** belief that cruelty should never go unchecked, and that the voiceless deserve defenders. **You've shown up, and justice is catching up.**



Professor Convicted of Animal Cruelty Following Discovery of Starving Captive Lions

The NSPCA's Wildlife Protection Unit has secured a conviction in a chilling case of starvation and neglect - marking another critical step in exposing South Africa's cruel captive lion industry.

[Read more...](#)



Cruel Animal Shelter Owner Convicted After Horrific Cruelty Uncovered

A harsh reminder that not all who claim to protect animals truly do. After a shocking discovery of abuse and neglect, this Middelburg shelter has finally been shut down, and its owner held accountable.

[Read more...](#)



NSPCA Delivers Significant Blow to Vrede Dairy Farm Legal Defence

Years of cruelty and legal delays won't stop us. The fight to hold Vrede Dairy Farm accountable for animal abuse is gaining momentum.

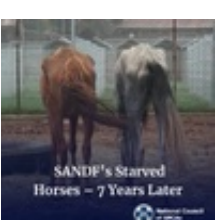
[Read more...](#)



NSPCA Court win Ruffles Daybreak's Feathers: R74 Million Can't Buy Mercy

After weeks of relentless effort, the NSPCA has won a landmark victory in court, forcing Daybreak Foods to stop cruel practices and take urgent action to feed and care for hundreds of thousands of suffering chickens.

[Read more...](#)



SANDF's Starved Horses - 7 Years Later

After years of delays and systemic obstruction, the SANDF will finally face prosecution for the widespread neglect of military horses uncovered in one of South Africa's most troubling animal welfare cases.

[Read more...](#)

DONATE TOWARDS JUSTICE



You don't have to wear a uniform to join the fight.

By becoming a **Project Partner**, you back the boots on the ground, and decide which mission matters most to you.

Whether it's standing up for animals on factory farms, protecting wildlife, or stopping cruelty at its root, your monthly gift becomes an act of **resistance, compassion, and change**.

Adopt-a-Project

Chicken Disaster at Daybreak Farms: "worst case of cruelty and neglect we've seen"



In February 2025, our Inspectors and support teams were called to respond to a **devastating animal welfare crisis at Daybreak Foods**, a state-funded poultry producer. Across multiple farms, hundreds of thousands of broiler and breeder chickens were found starving, many resorting to cannibalism after feed deliveries were halted due to the company's financial collapse. Despite earlier warnings, Daybreak failed to intervene, **forcing the NSPCA and local SPCAs to step in** and humanely cull the suffering birds. What our teams witnessed was nothing short of catastrophic. Several of our Inspectors have called it **the worst instance of cruelty and neglect they've seen** in their careers. The past few weeks have been emotionally and physically harrowing for all involved. With great relief, on **23 May 2025**, the High Court made the NSPCA's interim order against Daybreak final, affirming our authority to act in this case of mass animal suffering. The ruling order **compels** Daybreak to resume **humane feeding**, halt **inhumane culling and breeding**, submit a **clear plan of action to the NSPCA** on how it will resolve the crisis humanely, and empowers the NSPCA to **maintain full access to all facilities**.

We are for all animals, and **we will never stop fighting for them** - in court, on farms, and wherever cruelty dares to take hold.

Timeline:

Feb 2025

We get a tip-off: starving chickens at a Daybreak farm are cannibalising each other. We find thousands too far gone. 4,000 birds are humanely euthanised. Criminal charges laid.

Apr 2025

It's happening again. Another 5,500 birds put down. Daybreak's animals are being left to starve. A full-blown welfare crisis is unfolding.

Late Apr

We launch one of the largest cruelty interventions in history. Inspectors from 18 SPCAs deployed. Over 350,000 birds euthanised in a week due to starvation and injury.

8–10 May 2025

A whistle-blower alerts us to breeder farms in Limpopo. We find empty feeders, injured birds, and appalling conditions. We head to court. A judge orders Daybreak to stop inhumane culling and start feeding their birds.

11–13 May

Still no proper feed. Another 2,000 birds euthanised. Staff abandon the site. Court proceedings continue.

23 May

Urgent interim order obtained against Daybreak Foods on 10 May has been made final by the Gauteng Division of the High Court, Johannesburg.

This is systemic cruelty. And we're not backing down.

Support our Work



A traumatic day.
A narrow escape.

Now Inspector Madelyn needs YOUR help.



After an excruciating day at **Daybreak Farms**, Inspector Madelyn was driving home late at night when her **vehicle was hit** and flipped off the road. Miraculously, she walked away unharmed, but her **bakkie was written off**. Now we urgently need to replace this essential vehicle so Madelyn can keep reaching remote animals in crisis. **Every bit helps.**

DONATE R1

Thank you for believing in this cause. Thank you for standing with us. And most importantly, thank you for standing up for them.

Yours in animal welfare,
Team NSPCA

