




AUGUST 2025



 **nspca**

**NEWS**

 National Council  
of SPCAs

As we approach **National Women's Day** on the 9<sup>th</sup> of **August**, we turn our attention to the women whose actions have left a lasting imprint on our work. These stories speak not only to the present – but to the enduring role women continue to play in shaping the NSPCA and the future of animal welfare in South Africa.

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

## The Ground Beneath, The Path Ahead:



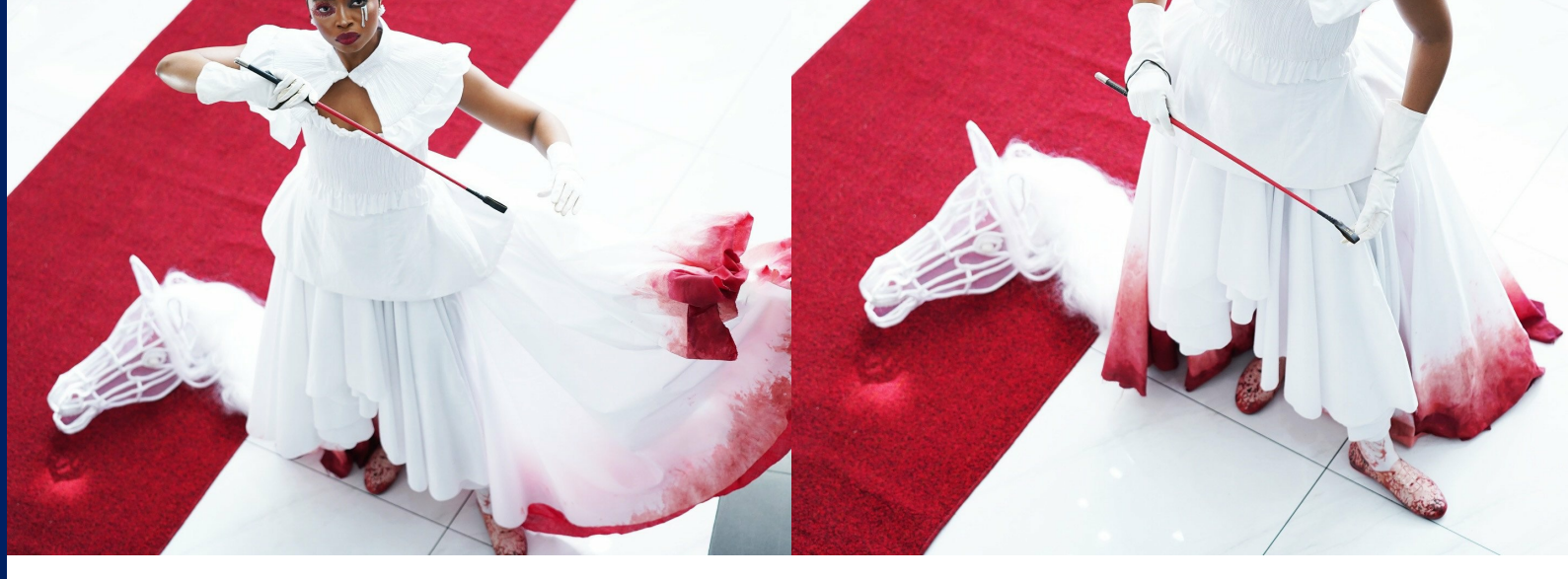
As we honour and celebrate the extraordinary leadership of **Marcelle Meredith** - who has stepped down and retired as CEO - and welcome **Esté Kotzé** as our new CEO, we reflect on the leadership ethos established by these remarkable women - one grounded in **collaboration, empathy**, and the quiet lessons we learn from the very animals we serve about **strength, balance and resilience**.

Over the past **33 years** as Executive Director, **Marcelle** has indelibly shaped the NSPCA through a vision rooted in **unity and interdependence**. Much like the rhythms of migrating flocks or the cohesion of herding animals, survival and success in nature are built **not on isolation**, but on **connection**. It is this **spirit of community**, embodied by both Marcelle and Esté, that has made it possible to achieve more for the animals we serve - because we do it **together**, not alone.

**We extend our deepest gratitude to Marcelle for laying the firm ground beneath us, and we stand alongside Esté as she charts the path forward.**



## Rein in the Pain: The Suffering Behind the Glamour



As we mark Women's Day, we honour the courage of women who lend their voices to the voiceless. Among them is actress and activist **Nirvana Nokwe**, who, with powerful presence, stood against cruelty at one of South Africa's most celebrated events.

At the 2025 **Durban July**, the NSPCA launched **Rein in the Pain** - a campaign calling for urgent reform in the horse racing industry. Through a bespoke art piece that echoed both mourning and resistance, the NSPCA used the red carpet as its mode for protest, making visible what is so often hidden: **the suffering behind the glamour**. This act shed light on a system that too often discards the very animals it relies upon, calling not only for awareness, but for **change, dignity, accountability**, and a **future in which no animal is forced to suffer for human entertainment**.

[SIGN THE PETITION](#)

 **Read More:**  
**NSPCA Launches 'Rein in the Pain' Campaign to Tackle Cruelty in South African Horse Racing**

**The Reality of Rescue:**  
*Grit, Grief, and Unrelenting Duty*

**Daily Maverick - Wrolien Rabie**  
**Compassion collides with cruelty – the suffering of animals and the toll on the woman who defends them**

**Daily Maverick - Sparky Moseki**  
**'It's a calling... someone has to do it' – NSPCA inspector on why she endures the danger and the heartbreak**

In honour of women whose strength drives our mission, we shine a light on **Senior Inspector Sparky Moseki** and **Inspector Wrolien Rabie**, our champions of courage and compassion. Their stories, recently featured in the **Daily Maverick**, pull back the curtain on what it truly means to serve on the front lines for the welfare of **all** animals. Whether confronting violence or standing firm in the face of cruelty, Sparky and Wrolien remind us that **compassion is a force to be reckoned with**.

[Donate to Our Investigation Officers Training Project](#)

## Bobby: One Remarkable Little Lady



In recognising the countless ways women have touched this organisation, we would be absolutely amiss not to celebrate one remarkable little lady and her **extraordinary** journey - **Bobby**.

In **June 2025**, a video surfaced online...At its centre a social media influencer dancing for engagement, but it was what unfolded in the background that gripped the nation - a skeletal dog affectionately named Bobby.

She was safe in the care of the **Boksburg SPCA**. Restored, adored, and ready to find a home. Bobby **was adopted** this weekend, by a family as gentle and full of heart as she is.

Farewell and wishing you many happy days, Bobby.

[Help more dogs like Bobby](#)

## On The Calender: Spotlight Dates



**10**

On **World Lion Day** we honour one of Africa's most iconic animals, but behind the roar lies a grim reality.

Read about our latest work exposing the truth behind South Africa's lion industry.

**NSPCA Parliamentary Briefing:**  
**A Wake-Up Call About Captive Wildlife**


**Daily Maverick:**  
**Parliament backs NSPCA demand to end captive lion breeding in SA**

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On **World Elephant Day** we call to protect one of Earth's most glorious beasts. But in South Africa, their suffering is all too real.

Despite repeated warnings from the **NSPCA**, authorities have failed to act on the ongoing welfare crisis at **Madikwe Game Reserve**, and **Daily Maverick** exposes the sheer lack of accountability from officials.

**Daily Maverick:**  
**North West officials evade responsibility for Madikwe elephant crisis, say MPs**

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**Join the 0.28%**

Only **0.28%** of our website visitors support our work by making a **donation**.

This small, remarkable group is helping to fund cruelty investigations, emergency & disaster responses, costly litigation, and so much more.

They are the **quiet champions** behind the scenes. The 0.28% who make our work possible.

We don't charge for our services. We don't have membership fees. Our work is free to the public, and most importantly to the animals, but it relies entirely on the kindness of people like you.

Join the 0.28%. Make a once-off **donation**. Or become a **Project Partner**. However you choose to give, you'll be part of something powerful.

A small number of people are changing the world for animals.  
**Be one of them.**

[SUPPORT OUR WORK](#)

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

With gratitude,  
Team NSPCA

