



August 2025

August Shelter statistics:

- Taken In: 12
- Adopted: 12
- Rehomed: 4
- Dogs at shelter: 28
- Cats at shelter: 9
- In foster care: 1
- Sterilizations: 6

Harrismith Animal Shelter and Maluti Animal Care – two registered Non-Profit Companies (NPCs) – are united in one mission: improving the lives of pets and domestic animals in Harrismith and Intabazwe.

At the **Shelter**, abandoned and neglected cats and dogs are given a safe place, love, and the chance to find their *forever homes*.

Maluti Animal Care focuses on providing sterilizations and essential veterinary care for feral cats and pets whose owners cannot afford these services. By doing so, we help prevent overpopulation and promote healthier, happier animals in our community.

We strongly believe that **education is key** to encouraging responsible pet ownership. From schools to community outreach, we share knowledge that can make a lasting difference for generations to come.

✦ *Any and every contribution helps us continue this important work. Whether it's food, blankets, funds, or your time – together, we can change lives.*

Volunteer spotlight: Meet Rochelle



It is not often that you meet a 14-year-old who has already found her calling in life. But Rochelle is no ordinary teenager. For the past three years, this remarkable young woman has been dedicating her free time to helping at the Animal Shelter and joining outreach programs in Intabazwe. While many her age spend weekends at the mall or in front of a screen, Rochelle can be found walking dogs, comforting rescues, and lending a hand wherever help is needed.

At home, she is a proud “dog mom” to Strooitjie, Kaptein and Koos Kombuis – three much-loved companions who have no doubt shaped her deep

connection with animals.

Rochelle’s compassion doesn’t stop at caring for pets. She dreams of one day opening her own shelter, a safe haven not only for cats and dogs, but for *all* animals in need. Even more inspiring is her vision of using the healing bond between humans and animals to make a difference in the lives of people living with disabilities and children in need of hope. She envisions a future filled with dog training, therapy animals, and even riding lessons – all built around the belief that animals can change lives.

Rochelle is proof that age is no barrier to passion. She reminds us that the future of animal welfare is bright, as long as there are young people willing to dedicate their hearts to the voiceless.





Harrismith MALUTI ANIMAL CARE & SHELTER

EST. 2022

Animals in great need 

Community Support Keeps Us Going



Without the support of local businesses and organisations, the Harrismith Animal Shelter simply could not keep its doors open. Each gesture of kindness, each act of generosity, and every fundraising effort makes it possible for us to continue giving our cats and dogs the care, love, and second chances they deserve.

That is why we are especially grateful to the **Harrismith Bowls Club** for once again opening their hearts to our cause. On **24 September – Braai Day**, they will be hosting a fundraising event in support of the Shelter. What a perfect way to spend this special public holiday: enjoying good company, good food, and a great cause!

We warmly invite you to come along, participate, set up your stall and share in the spirit of community. Every bit of support makes a difference, and together we can give our animals the brighter future they deserve.

 Join us at the Bowls Club this Braai Day – have fun, celebrate, and help us make tails wag!

Oscar – from pavement to perfect.

Oscar's story touched many hearts in our community. It all began when concerned residents of Wilgepark noticed a dog seemingly living on the pavement, surviving on scraps and water kindly left out by compassionate people. When word reached the Shelter volunteers, an investigation confirmed the heartbreaking truth—Oscar had been abandoned. The Shelter kennels were already full, but turning him away was never an option, so a plan had to be made. After discussions and negotiations, a kind-hearted homeowner opened his front garden to Oscar, giving him a safe space where volunteers could feed him and care for him.

Then came the moment we had all been waiting for: Oscar found his forever family. Gert and Roule van der Walt, together with their two daughters, opened their hearts and their home to him. The next important step in Oscar's journey was a visit to the veterinarian, where he was castrated before his adoption. Through all of this, Oscar showed an incredible resilience—his gentle nature and wagging tail a reminder that animals never lose their capacity to trust and love.

Every success story like his reminds us why the work of the Shelter is so important—and why every adoption, every donation, and every act of kindness truly matters.

Thank you, Gert & Roule!



Adopted and getting a second chance!

Animals in great need



Aspen & Wi-fi



Skye



Bailey



Bella & Nala



Buddy



Lady & Moekie



Frikkie



Callie



Katman

Rehomed into lovely homes:



Tiger & Sparks



Stompie



Jake



Rip Wheeler



Leaving Your Pet Behind – Holiday Safety Tips

With the holiday season just around the corner, many families are preparing for a well-deserved break. But what happens if your furry friend can't come along? Pets miss their people when they're away and may even wander the streets in search of them. It happens often that pets follow house and/or garden workers when they go home. To keep your beloved companion safe and cared for, here are some helpful suggestions:

Pet Sitter

There are reliable house- and pet-sitters available in Harrismith who can take care of your pet while you're away. Daily rates may vary and can be negotiated depending on the length of your trip. Often, the longer the stay, the more affordable the daily rate becomes.

Boarding Facilities

If you prefer, there are excellent local boarding options where your pet will be well looked after:

- **Harrismith Animal Shelter** – 063 795 9007
- **MuisMuddyMutts** – 066 099 7176
- **Harrismith Dierehospitaal** – 058 623 1129
- **Natsnoet** – 074 892 3359



Identification is Key

Always make sure your pet is identifiable. A sturdy collar with a name tag and contact number is essential. Even better, consider a microchip – this simple step could ensure your pet's safe return if they get lost or stolen.

♥ Whether you choose a sitter or a boarding facility, planning ahead will give you peace of mind and ensure your pet is safe, happy, and cared for while you enjoy your holiday.

Information to bark out loud:

Shelter times: 7:30 am – 16:00 pm on weekdays

Address: 7 Laksman street, Harrismith (Next to the prison)

Contact details: Cel: 063 795 9007

E-mail: harrismithanimalshelter@gmail.com

Adoption fees: Dogs: R950 and cats: R650. This includes vaccinations and sterilisation/neutering.

Banking details

Maluti Animal Care (Intabazwe), Standard Bank, Acc 10191135125, Code 051001, Swift code SBZAZAJJXXX

Harrismith Animal Shelter, FNB, Acc 62498602583, Code 250655, Swift code FIRNZAJJ