

### A WORD FROM OUR FOUNDER

Following SPAW clinics to Samoa and Tongatapu in the first half of 2024, the latter half of the year was exceptionally busy, with four SPAW clinics in the Kingdom of Tonga on Tongatapu and Vava'u. The joint efforts of SPAW, MAFF, The Tonga Animal Welfare Society and Host a Vet Vava'u resulted in an outstanding number of animals receiving veterinary medicine.

This effort resulted in 494 desexing surgeries, 618 vaccines being administered and the distribution of 3,440 parasite treatments during 165 clinic hours. Eleven veterinarians, 12 vet nurses and 12 vet nurse students from our global volunteer pool gifted a collective of 1,446 hours in field. The value of these clinics to the Kingdom is NZ\$685,000. The calculation is based on SPAW costs, donated products, administrative expenses and professional services. While SPAW does not charge for services, donations are welcomed.

In addition, and perhaps less well known is our telemedicine service, an extension of our work which is a result of the ongoing need for support, with over 500 cases handled annually by our lead vet, Dr. Geoff Neal.

Geoff's dedication to veterinary medicine both in New Zealand and the South Pacific is honourable and we are fortunate to have him lead our veterinary effort as a dedicated advocate for the welfare of animals in the South Pacific.

The impact we all make as volunteers in the animal welfare world is important and for SPAW our work continues thanks to the support from widespread industry stakeholders, our incredible volunteers from around the world, our wonderful donors, sponsors and on-island partners.

As we say goodbye to 2024 our Board is grateful that our efforts have made such a remarkable impact on the welfare of so many animals and in the hearts of those people who have had access to veterinary care for their pets. We look forward to continuing our efforts to bring improved levels of health and wellness to animals living in the South Pacific in the years ahead.

Karen Schade Founder & Trustee





SPAW TONGATAPU 21 – 25 OCTOBER

In partnership with the Angela Glover Fund



VETS

Team Lead: Dr Geoff Neal, Dr Jim Garven

**VET NURSES** 

Eleanor McGlip, Kimberly Linthwaite, Mhirron French (VSA), Holly Campbell (Nursing assistant)

"The October SPAW clinic was made possible thanks to the Angela Glover Fund and the ongoing support of Angela's family. The clinic aimed to reach villages that are geographically distanced from our usual clinic base in Tokomololo. The team set up at a new location each day, which was logistically challenging and time-consuming, but rewarding. The clinic was well received around Tongatapu with 460 animals receiving veterinary care. These clinics are successful due to the assistance of local villagers, the police team, MAFF and the Tonga Animal Welfare Society.

This annual initiative is a true collaboration between multiple individuals and local groups. I would like to extend a huge thanks to Franz and Gudrun Strauss and Nick and Lena Cooper,

who hosted dinners for our team and of course to our volunteers and sponsors."

Dr Geoff Neal – Lead Vet



### **CLINIC OUTCOMES**

Clinic hours total	41.5	Parasite treatments	1,323
Desexing - dogs	149	Vet nurse volunteer hours	83
Desexing - cats	18	Vet volunteer hours	87
General medical cases/	273	House visit hours	2
consultations		Admin volunteer hours	125
Livestock cases	20	Volunteer flights	4
Parvovirus vaccines (cat and dog)	200		

#### **CLINIC VALUE NZ\$223,915**

The calculation is based on SPAW costs, donated products, administrative expenses and professional services. While SPAW does not charge for services, donations are welcomed.





### SPAW VAVA'U 28 OCTOBER - 1 NOVEMBER

In partnership with Host a Vet Vava'u



VETS Tex VET NURSES Ele

Team Lead: Dr Geoff Neal, Dr Jim Garven, Dr Kady Smith

Eleanor McGlip, Holly Campbell (Nursing assistant)

"In 2024, Host a Vet Vava'u hosted a five-day clinic with a full volunteer vet team from New Zealand, and an additional two days were spent travelling to more remote villages with Dr. Geoff Neal. During that time, SPAW volunteers performed 141 desexing operations and treated an additional 110 animals. Given our relatively small size, these numbers will have a massive effect on the animal population of Vava'u. We are so very thankful for South Pacific Animal Welfare, their volunteers and donors. The organisation's commitment to our

region and their generosity means that on-going, quality healthcare is available for all kinds of animals here in Vava'u."

Malo 'aupito from the Host a Vet volunteer team





### **CLINIC OUTCOMES**

Clinic hours total	58.5	Parasite treatments	705
Desexing - dogs	115	Export assists	4
Desexing - cats	26	Vet nurse volunteer hours	85
General medical cases/	90	Vet volunteer hours	143.5
consultations		House visit hours	4.5
Livestock cases	20	Admin volunteer hours	125
Parvovirus vaccines (cat and dog)	180	Volunteer flights	5

#### **CLINIC VALUE NZ\$180,865**

The calculation is based on SPAW costs, donated products, administrative expenses, and professional services. While SPAW does not charge for services, donations are welcomed.



SPAW TONAGATAPU 6 - 9 NOVEMBER



## **OUR TEAM**





Vet Nurse Mhirron French (VSA)

"Following the SPAW clinic to Vava'u, I was able to stay on in Tongatapu to provide veterinary follow up to previous cases we had seen and to undertake a very important stocktake. It was a good opportunity for me to treat some additional animals and work alongside the VSA Vet Nurse stationed on Tongatapu currently, Mhirron French. As always, the collaboration with MAFF was ever present.

Together, we spent around 20 hours in clinic and were able to help 23 animals with veterinary care directly, and assist four animals

in preparation for export."

Dr Geoff Neal, Lead Vet





### **CLINIC OUTCOMES**

Clinic hours total Desexing - dogs	20 3	Parvovirus vaccines (cat and dog)	3
Desexing - cats	0	Parasite treatments	6
General medical cases/ consultations	14	Export assists Vet volunteer hours	20
Livestock cases	2	Volunteer admin hours	15

#### **CLINIC VALUE NZ\$11,525**

The calculation is based on SPAW costs, donated products, administrative expenses, and professional services. While SPAW does not charge for services, donations are welcomed.



### SPAW TONAGATAPU 2 - 6 DECEMBER

In partnership with Unitec





**VETS** 

**Team Lead:** Dr Geoff Neal, Dr Kim Telford, Dr Gemma Morgan, Dr Jess Kelly, Dr Robyn Gear, Vet Nurse Mhirron French (VSA)

**VET NURSES** 

Kate Harder, Lauren Prior, Margie Rutherford, Lynette Heke, Madeline Clunie, Jess Wooding, Christina Polidori

It is now ten years since Unitec started visiting Tonga. The week-long clinic is logistically challenging and costly however it is also one of the largest clinics for SPAW in terms of volunteer recruitment, treatment numbers, collaborative effort and community engagement. Unitec begins fundraising at the start of every year to fund the team's flights, transit travel costs,

accommodation and insurances. The 2024 team of volunteers was five veterinarians, seven vet nurses and twelve vet nursing students from New Zealand. During 45.5 clinic hours, the team contributed over 670 volunteer hours in clinic and treated 514 animals. SPAW provisioned all supplies including 1,410 parasite treatments dispersed during the week.



### **CLINIC OUTCOMES**

Clinic hours total	45.5	Parasite treatments	1,410
Desexing - dogs	165	Export assists	7
Desexing - cats	18	Vet nurse volunteer hours	318
General medical cases/ consultations	288 7 235	Vet volunteer hours House visit hours	227.5 14
Elvestock edses		Vet nurse student volunteer hours	125
		Volunteer flights	24

#### **CLINIC VALUE NZ\$295,140**

The calculation is based on SPAW costs, donated products, administrative expenses, and professional services. While SPAW does not charge for services, donations are welcomed.