

# Career Focus



Rural Animal Technician

Here's Fiona McDonald, Rural Animal Technician. She is in charge of the Farm animals at the SPCA as well as animals housed in Georges Barn, part of our education programme.

The SPCA in Auckland employs about 60 full-time staff and is supported by volunteers who kindly donate their time to help our animals.

## Rural Animal Technician

### Fiona's tip for the job...

Enjoy looking after the animals that you work with, make their stay at the SPCA as nice as possible before they find a good home. Care for them as if they were your own animal.

### Qualifications

Fiona has a certificate in Animal Care and a certificate in Rural Animal Technology from Otago Polytechnic. The best experience for working in her role was gained from becoming a volunteer at the SPCA.

### The Job and Where to Work

Caring for horses, goats and other farm animals, which are either strays, or brought in by their owner, or an inspector. This involves cleaning pens, feeding, looking for any signs of illness and preparing animals for adoption. Fiona also cares for the Education animals which consist of farm animals as well as rats, rabbits and guinea pigs. She takes groups through Georges Barn to view these animals and to learn about caring for animals in general.

Places to work are SPCAs nationwide and overseas, rural vet clinics, farms and zoos.

## The Best Part

Learning that farm animals have just as much great personality as any other pet.



## The Worst Part

Have an animal come in which is too badly injured and/or uncared for that there is nothing we can do to help it, other than humanely put it to sleep.

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For more information, contact the SPCA Auckland on 09 256 7300.  
*We speak for those who cannot speak for themselves*