

# ANIMAL WELFARE OF LUXOR

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I have been very struck this last couple of months by the difference between the lives of dogs in Luxor and the UK. Until recently my husband and I were the happy owners of 7 dogs; 6 Springers and 1 retriever. We started originally with 2—Bella and Bonnie—and then with the addition of others and inheriting my mother's 2 dogs when she had to go into a care home 6 months ago we ended up with an entire pack of 7 dogs! Unfortunately many of them got old all at the same time and we have lost 4 dogs to old age or incurable illness in the past 4 months; including the centre of my universe, Bella. Bella passed away 3 weeks ago aged 16 years and 2 months, Bonnie was 15 when she went, the other 2 we are not sure of the exact ages as they were rescue dogs but we buried Bob at the weekend and there's no doubt he was a very old dog indeed.

Despite the very difficult and upsetting few months we can take solace in the knowledge that our dogs were given great lives with everything they could need. Illnesses were swiftly treated, accidents and injuries expertly fixed and they enjoyed a diet consisting mainly of fresh meats. They had access to safe land to run on and even visited some of the best hotels with us on holiday. The contrast with the lives of many dogs in Luxor could not be more striking. In Luxor they are often tethered on very short chains or rope, usually without a collar so the rope, chain or wire cuts into their necks. They have little exercise unless they are street dogs and have to make do with a diet of any scraps available, often just dry bread. Street dogs are sometimes better off as they have freedom to run and scavenge for food but they run the risk of injury or death by vehicles or poisoning and have no-one to give them treatment for illnesses or injury.

Our dogs all lived to a good old age; even the very large retriever belonging to my mother is still with us aged 13; but in Luxor the average life expectancy for a dog is around 6 years. It is hard to criticize the locals for the dogs bad diet when they very little money to feed themselves but unsuitable tethering, tack and care can be addressed by education. At AWOL we try to educate anyone we come into contact with in Luxor in the hope that this will improve the lives of all animals in Luxor in the long run. In addition the free replacement tack we provide for the horses and donkeys and the dog collars, all made at the AWOL centre, play a big part in reducing the chance of injury and suffering to many animals we see.

On the following pages you will see the stories of some lucky animals who, despite being in an unfortunate position to begin with, will be much better off for having been treated by AWOL. There are also 2 very lucky little dogs who are going to new homes where they will hopefully have a better quality of life.

This month's newsletter is dedicated to Bella and Bonnie and all the world's dogs. Bless them all.





You might remember these 2 donkeys who had severe wounds from last month's newsletter. Both the donkey with the wolf bite on his rump and the donkey which was attacked by street dogs are still being treated at the AWOL centre and are making good progress. They will both be kept at the centre until they are fully recovered.



Centre manager and AWOL Luxor trustee Nasser with the donkey which was attacked by street dogs.



This beautiful little foal and mother came in as the mother had been bitten by another donkey whilst defending her foal. She has deep wounds behind both ears but now she has been treated she should make a full recovery. The foal is such a little beauty!





The little dog with the red collar was rescued by a German lady, named Rose, who lives in Luxor. She has been named Sally by Rose and she was taken the AWOL centre after Rose contacted our Luxor-based trustee Lesley as she was concerned for Sally's safety. Rose found her in the field in front of her house being tormented by local children so took her in fed her and cleaned her up. As you can see from the photos of Rose with Sally, Rose is very fond of Sally but she already has other animals and doesn't have room for her. Despite this lovely little dog being given temporary refuge in Rose's stairwell the local children have still tried several times to get in to take her so she was brought to the AWOL centre where she will stay until we can rehome her which we expect to do very shortly.



Now here's a very lucky little dog! This little black and white girl had been tied up outside her home on a very short leash for a long time. She caught the attention of Sari, a German lady who lives nearby, who had been giving her food whenever she could. Sari became so worried about the dog she tried several avenues of help before AWOL became involved. As we cannot take a dog from its owner without permission we offered to talk to the owner about care of the dog. However the owners eventually gave up possession of the little dog and she was so sweet that our Luxor trustee Lesley couldn't part with her so she is now living with Lesley's dog Evie who absolutely loves her!



As usual we have seen more animals brought in with injuries caused by unsuitable tack or tethering. This donkey had been tethered with a rope which was far too tight and it had cut into his leg leaving a very nasty wound. As you can see the flesh of the leg had started to grow around the rope as it embedded itself into the donkey's leg. The rope needed to be cut free so the wound could be treated. Gergis is pictured dressing the wound after treatment at the AWOL centre so now the donkey should be much more comfortable.



This donkey had a fall resulting in an injured eye which was swollen and sore. After being treated with anti-inflammatories he was fitted with a fly veil to protect the wound and should make a full recovery.





Now the heat of summer is in full swing we are seeing the usual problems with summer sores, caused by flies, and flea and tick infestations.

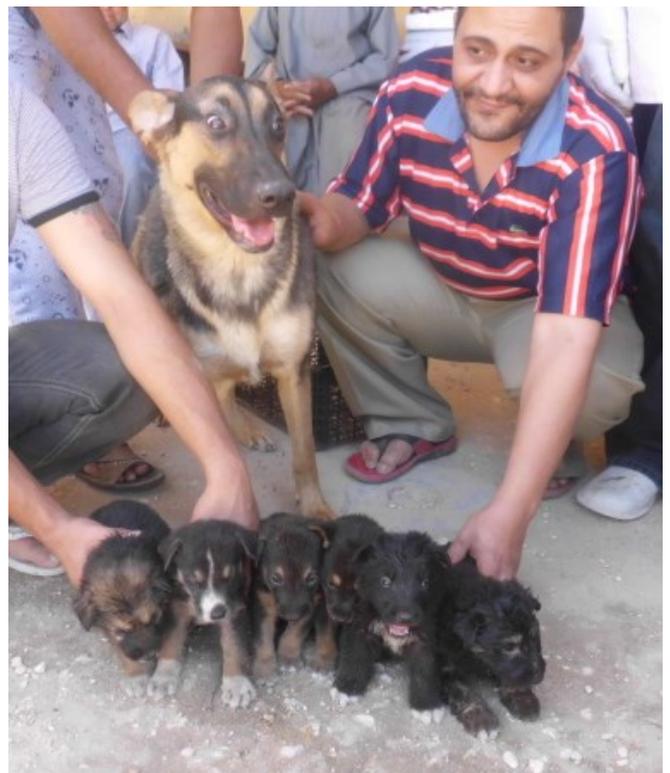
The ticks and fleas make the animals very uncomfortable and if the infestation is severe the animals becomes very weak and poorly leaving it susceptible to other infections and illness.

The puppy pictured had a number of ticks in his ear which were removed and he was treated with an anti-flea/tick injection.



The 6 lovely little puppies came in with their mother for treatment; unfortunately there were originally 8 puppies but 2 of them didn't survive due to a heavy flea infestation. The mother was treated with multivitamins and an anti-flea/tick injection. The puppies are too young for an injectable flea/tick treatment so they have been washed and the fleas and ticks manually removed. They should now start to put on weight and their condition improve.

The black horse had an eye infection caused by flies which had become sore and needed treatment. Fly veils and flea/tick treatment are a staple of our care at this time of year.



## UK News

AWOL's Luxor-based trustee Lesley will be taking on the 24 peaks challenge later this year. Money raised will be split between AWOL and Young Minds charity. You can find out more about the challenge on the website <http://www.outofshapeonahike.com/>

Lesley is paying the cost of the £360 registration fee for the 24 peaks challenge herself so ALL the money she raises will be split between her 2 chosen charities. She has been training in intense 40 degree heat with her training partner Mette which is no mean feat as you can see from the beads of sweat on Lesley's brow! At least a few lengths of the swimming pool at a nearby hotel is a cooler way of exercising.

By September 11th Lesley has to be fit enough to hike up 24 peaks in the Lake District, all of which are over 2,400ft, with a target time of less than 24 hours so she needs all the encouragement she can get! You can help by donating on the Out of Shape on a Hike website <http://www.outofshapeonahike.com/> You can also send donations directly to AWOL at the address on page 1 of this newsletter; please make it clear that your donation is sponsorship for Lesley. Don't let her suffer for nothing! Donate now!

Tuesday July 14th 12.30pm. There will be a supporters lunch at The Mint, Banstead, Surrey with a small raffle. Places at the lunches are limited and we need to confirm numbers so please email Ros on Ros.barrow@hotmail.com, call her on 07788 563701 or alternatively email Angela at AngelaAwol@gmail.com.

Wednesday 29th July 12.30pm. Supporters gathering and lunch in New Maldon, Surrey. A menu for all budgets, vegetarian dishes and small tombola. Please contact Ros or Angela using the above contact details for more information.



[Easyfundraising](#) is an easy way for you to raise funds; just register online and remember to login to your easyfundraising account when you shop online. By shopping online with over 2,700 top retailers you can raise funds for AWOL at no extra



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