

ANIMAL WELFARE OF LUXOR

UK reg charity 1124154

Barnhaven, 12 Twyford Lane, Foulsham, Dereham, Norfolk NR205SE

Email; AngelaAwol@gmail.com Tel; 07880314764 www.AWOL-Egypt.org



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Whilst most of us in the UK are hoping for a bit of sun and warm weather this summer spare a thought for the animals, and people, suffering in temperatures of over 45 degrees in Luxor at the moment. Out in the AWOL centre, surrounded by its high walls, the temperature can reach in excess of 50 degrees making it very uncomfortable for both staff and animals alike. Nevertheless, the work at the centre continues and we are grateful to the staff who continue to work under such difficult conditions.

We would also like to thank Dr Mahmoud who spent some time at the centre last month. Dr Mahmoud has recently retired as head of the Luxor Governate Veterinary Department and he offered to give AWOL the benefit of his experience, free of charge, for a few weeks. Luxor trustees Nasser and Heba were responsible for organising this opportunity for which we thank them. We hope shortly to take on a permanent second vet and we are currently looking for suitable candidates.

Our Luxor trustee Lesley is now only weeks away from taking on the very difficult 24 peaks challenge; she will be attempting to scale 24 peaks in the Lake District in only 24 hours. Yes, 24 PEAKS IN 24 HOURS! She is undertaking this to raise as much money for AWOL as possible. The money she raises will be used to kick-start a fundraising campaign to raise funds to buy a vehicle for AWOL so we can go into the poorest villages to treat animals in need; animals like Dobby or Lucky who would probably not have been brought to a vet for treatment and animals who are too sick or injured to be transported to the centre. This is a massive task as vehicles in Luxor are no cheaper than in the UK. We need a four wheel drive flat bed capable of carrying a donkey so we expect the cost to be in the region of £25,000. Used vehicles in Luxor tend to be in a poor state of repair so this option could only be considered if we managed to find one in good condition. We cannot take any funds from our medical and centre budget for a vehicle so we welcome any additional fundraising attempts and contributions towards this campaign.

Further details will be published at a later date; you can find details of how to donate on the last page of this newsletter. Help AWOL reach the animals who have no-one to take them to the centre and who suffer without treatment. They are relying on you and AWOL to relieve their pain and stop their suffering so please help all you can.



Both of these donkeys came in together suffering from extensive burns due to a house fire, The horse was also suffering from burns on his back legs. The burns were all cleaned and treated then copious amounts of Sudacrem was used to help the healing process. It is important in Luxor to keep flies away from wounds so the Sudacrem helps in this respect and promotes healing. We are now running low on our supplies of Sudacrem and it is not always available in Luxor and when it is available it can be very expensive. We are expecting a few people to be flying to Luxor fairly soon so if anyone can donate pots of Sudacrem or funds to buy it please contact AWOL using the contact details on this newsletter. We can then arrange for it to be taken to the AWOL centre.

As you can see the horse was also very thin so he was given a multi-vitamin injection and antibiotics to help boost his immune system.





Patients come to the AWOL centre from miles around. This beautiful horse came from near Qena for treatment; a distance of around 40 miles (65km). He has patches of mange on his underside so he was treated with an antihistamine to stop the itching and Dectomax to kill parasites and the owner was issued with an ointment to apply to the skin after cleaning.

Mange is a skin condition caused by microscope mites. The mites, called arthropods, are eight legged parasites that irritate into the horse's skin and cause

intense itching. Mange mites feed by piercing the skin or burrowing in it, (depending on the type of mite) and consuming the fluid. Areas affected by mange will weep fluid, become dry, crusty and red. The horse will be very itchy and to relieve the itch may kick, stamp, roll, bit itself, or rub itself on fences or trees causing more skin damage. If left untreated, the skin will become quite thick and inflamed and the horse will lose condition. Horses with mange will be very uncomfortable, and can lose weight and energy.

Different types of mites seem to inhabit certain places on the body. Some mange mites prefer the ear area, fetlocks and pasterns, between the legs, or elsewhere on the body. Mange on the legs can cause severe swelling and lameness. Treatment is required to kill the mites and stop the damage to the skin. Mange can spread easily from horse to horse by physical contact, or mange mites can live for short periods of time in warm, damp conditions such as saddle pads, blankets or tack and other items the horse may come in contact with. Because mange is a zoonotic disease, it can be transferred to those animals or humans that come in contact with the horse so it needs prompt treatment to stop it



Mange also affects many dogs; along with ticks they are a constant problem for dogs in Luxor.

The little puppy was first seen 10 days ago and he has made good progress after treatment for mange. Unfortunately not all our patients are keen on injections so one of them took to hiding under the treatment table!



The effect of long-term untreated mange on a dog. Photo from the AWOL archives.

This lovely dog came to the centre with a heavy tick infestation in his ears. Ticks are a constant problem and can have serious affects on a dogs health. They make the animal weak, uncomfortable and unable to fight off infection. The usual treatment for ticks and fleas is an injection of Dectomax solution and a wash with flea shampoo. Antihistamines are also administered to stop itching and multi-vitamins if the dog is underweight and in bad condition.

This patient left the centre with a brand new AWOL collar made at the centre so we hopefully won't see him in the future with a bad neck wound.



Another patient brought in for mange and tick treatment; this little dog was born with a leg deformity which cannot be corrected. He is very lucky to have as his owner a man who really cares about him. Disabled dogs are not always treated well in Luxor, especially by the village children, so he is a lucky little dog indeed despite his condition.

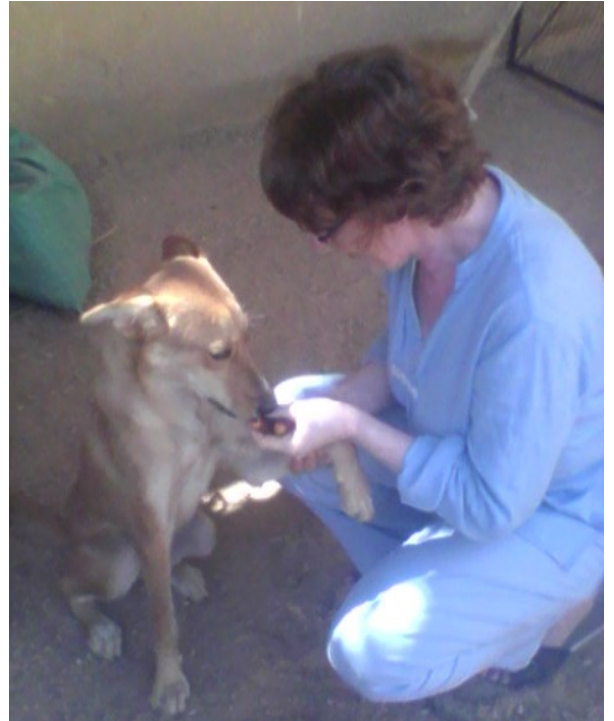




The AWOL dogs, Dobby, Tufty and Lucky, had a special treat at the weekend when supporter Rose visited the centre and gave all the dogs some beauty treatment! They are looking beautiful with their newly groomed coats.



Sally is staying at the centre until we find her a suitable home. Many thanks to Rose for bringing in bags of dog food for her whilst she stays with us.



A reminder of how Dobby and Lucky looked when they were first treated at AWOL. They must be two of the luckiest dogs in Luxor!

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 in Luxor so the Lake District should come as a bit of change after that!



Funds raised by Lesley's challenge will start our campaign for an AWOL vehicle. There are many animals on the west bank of Luxor who are simply abandoned if they are ill or injured. We were alerted to the plight of this donkey by a German lady earlier this year. He had been abandoned and left to die on the banks of a canal where he would have suffered a horrendous death; starving and at risk of attack by wolves or packs of street dogs. We were unable to save his life but we could at least save him from any more suffering.

Unfortunately many more animals like this donkey are not so lucky and they live a life of pain and misery until they are spared their suffering by death. These are the animals we want to reach at AWOL. For this we need a vehicle so that we can go out into the villages and surrounding areas and find these poor animals and for that we need your help.



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How much do you spend online?

[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 cost to you! John Lewis are currently offering a 1.5% donation to AWOL on their sale products and many other retailers have special offers as well. You just need to click on the easyfundraising logo to see all the offers which can help raise money for AWOL.

Payment and donation methods; AWOL accepts payments and donations by cheque, standing order, direct bank payments and via [Paypal](#) and [Virgin Money Giving](#). Click on the links or go to our website www.Awol-Egypt.org.