



ANIMAL WELFARE OF LUXOR



UK Registered charity 1124154. www.AWOLEgypt.org

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December 2019/January 2020

Dear Supporter,

As 2019 draws to a close we are thankful to everyone who has made another year of care by AWOL possible. So many animals in the rural areas of Luxor have benefitted from the care and treatment we have been able to provide which is, of course, thanks to our wonderful supporters who provide the means for our work.

Unfortunately, despite another successful year, this newsletter starts with some sad news from last month. In mid-November we had to say goodbye to our lovely long-term resident Tufty. Tufty had been with AWOL since its inception and had reached the grand old age of 15 years old. She had been a little poorly for a few days and as she had not been eating too well she was given intravenous fluids after which she subsequently improved. She started eating again and is photographed here with our guard Gaballah having perked back up. Unfortunately she passed away peacefully late in the evening just 2 days after this photo was taken, she was in no discernible distress or pain and passed quietly.

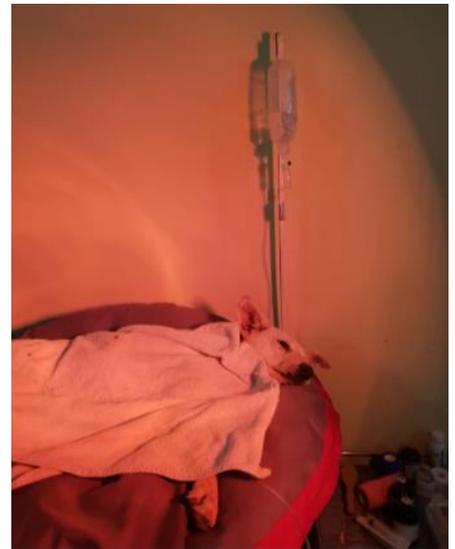


In the Luxor area dogs generally live to only around 6 or 7 years old so we are proud and pleased to have been able to give Tufty a long, happy and safe life at the AWOL centre where she has been much loved. She will be sadly missed by all the staff, visitors and her constant companion Dobby.

Despite this sad news we are pleased to be able to say we have successfully treated thousands of animals this year and we continue to provide an essential service to the animals on Luxor's west bank. Thank you to everyone who has made this possible - we hope you will continue to support AWOL and our work as we cannot do it without you!



One little dog we are very pleased to have saved is this little one brought in by her owner. This lovely young dog was completely paralysed and totally rigid when she arrived at the AWOL centre. When her owner carried her in she was as stiff as a board, silent and looked like she was already dead and rigor mortis had set in. Her legs were stretched out and stiff and her body didn't even bend in the middle when her owner held her with one hand under her rump and the other under her shoulders- it was truly horrible and did not look promising.



The dog's owner had rung Dr Mohamed earlier and was told to bring her straight in as Dr Mohamed suspected poisoning. When she arrived she was worse than expected and Dr Mohamed confirmed his initial suspicions but due to the severity of the poisoning and the time lapse he was not confident of the outcome. The owner didn't know how she was poisoned or with what so she was given an intravenous general antidote. In addition she was given intravenous muscle relaxant and further fluids to flush the toxins through her system.



After the first 24 hours had passed and she started to whine, howl and twitch we knew the toxins were being flushed out and she was regaining muscle control but it was a slow process and there was the possibility of permanent organ damage. Over the next 2 weeks she made slow but steady progress; starting with being able to stand (albeit rather wobbly) and eventually she progressed to playing with Peggy and making a full recovery. She is a lovely sweet little dog and well cared-for by her owner who is very happy to have her back and we are happy she survived her terrible ordeal.

It cost nearly £30 for medical treatment for this little one; that may not sound much but it is the equivalent of one week's wages for many people in Luxor - and for some people it is two week's wages. The animals' owners cannot afford to pay this for treatment so it is vital to keep AWOL functioning and offering this treatment for free. ALL the help for these animals comes from the funds provided by you - our supporters.





This poor donkey came in with a very nasty leg wound caused by an accident at work. The cut was very deep and went all the way to the bone. The wound was cleaned and stitched under sedation by Dr Mohamed and the donkey was also treated with antibiotics and anti-inflammatories. The patient was able to walk out of the centre after he had recovered from the surgery and the sedative and he should make a full recovery.



It's not always easy to get the owners to bring the animals back for a check-up as they tend to think that it's not necessary when the animal improves. We try to persuade the owners to bring them back by promising some new soft tack made by Gergis at the centre and supplied and fitted free of charge. Usually, but not always, this has the required effect.

Out in the villages we treated the usual selection of dogs, donkeys and horses for wounds, mange, worms and fleas and ticks. Replacement tack, soft noseband covers and new soft dog collars will make the animals more comfortable and reduce the risk of sores and wounds developing. Back cushions stop nasty back sores developing which can be very painful and become infected. We also take bags of food for the dogs and donkeys we treat. With your continued support we hope to be able to increase the frequency of our mobile clinics during 2020.



Soft back cushions will prevent painful sores developing like these we treated at the AWOL centre recently. These sores can turn into abscesses and would be very painful for the donkey. A soft cushion will at least make them more comfortable.





When we were out in the villages we came across this thin dog. Dr Mohamed tried to get the dog to come to him for a check-up but she would not come. We then heard puppies calling her so realised that she would not leave them to come to us. We managed to find the owner and he agreed to bring the dog and the puppies over for check-ups.

The mother dog was in reasonable condition but a little thin with some ticks so she was given some dry dog food, a multi-vitamin injection and treated for fleas, worms and ticks. She was also fitted with a new soft collar and lead.

The puppies were all well and just needed worming treatment as they were too young for flea/tick treatment.



After treatment the mum and her pups went home with their young owners and we continued to treat more dogs in the area.

More flea/tick treatment and soft collars were needed for these two dogs- just these simple measures can make so much difference to the comfort and well-being of these lovely animals.



This poor little dog had got lost in the desert and by the time his owner had found him he had terrible painful sore feet. His pads were ripped and torn and must have been extremely painful. Dr Mohamed cleaned and disinfected his feet then treated him with anti-inflammatories. His paws were carefully dressed and wrapped with vet wrap to keep them clean and comfortable whilst they heal. We hope the owner will bring him back for a follow-up visit soon.

Another beautiful dog who came in for treatment for a dog bite to one of his rear legs. It was obviously painful as he would not put any weight on the leg and he was very nervous. There was no sign of any damage to the bone so he was treated with antibiotics and anti-inflammatories and had lots of cuddles before going back home with his owner. Unusually for dogs in Luxor he actually had a name - Rex - and it was great to see he was also in very good condition. Such a gorgeous lovable little dog!



We owe some people lots of thanks at the end of 2019. Our sincere thanks go to local resident Melinda who has been helping at the AWOL centre for the last 3 months and also helping to keep our Facebook followers up to date with on the spot news from the centre. She is a great favourite with the dogs and keeps them neat and tidy as well as generally helping out where necessary. We hope to see a lot more of Melinda in the future.



We would also like to thank our trustee Georgie for arranging a wonderful donation of items including an otoscope from veterinary products



supplier Krusse. These items were delivered to the AWOL centre by UK Managing Trustee Angela.



Many thanks to some local Luxor businesses who have supported AWOL this year. We are very grateful



to Yasser at Arkwrights store for allowing us to have a collecting box in his store and for the extra donations he has given. Thanks also to Tarek at Nada Bazar and Michael at the amazing olive wood shop - both in the souq - for donating items to our Facebook auctions and to Sehnaz at the Fair trade shop (next to MacDonalds) for letting us have some discounted items to raise funds for our work.



It all helps and we are very grateful for their support and generosity.

UK News.

Our Surrey supporters enjoyed a lovely pre-Christmas lunch and raised a wonderful £140 for our work in Luxor. Many thanks to Sue, Jan, Celia, John, Ros and Dee for all their efforts in the Surrey area and to Celia and John for running stalls at bazaars and sales and raising an amazing £240 for the animals! Our latest Facebook auction run by Olly also raised an incredible £440 so many thanks to all who participated. Please keep any unwanted Christmas presents to donate to our next auction in the new year! If you are not on Facebook contact AngelaAWOL@gmail.com and we will tell you where to send them.



Thanks to everyone who has helped with fundraising this year or who has donated. It has been wonderful to see so many dedicated supporters giving their time and effort to raise funds to help the animals in Luxor and we appreciate all your care and hard work.

Please give some thought to how you can help so we can continue to treat the animals and expand and improve our care to reach even more.



We are ALWAYS grateful for ALL donations, no matter how big or small and whilst we cannot thank everyone by name on the newsletter you have our sincere and lasting gratitude for your generosity.

There are further supporters lunches at the beginning of 2020. The first one is on Monday 13th January at The Haywain, 2-4 off St Margaret Drive, Dorking Road, Epsom, KT18 7LB . February's lunch will be on Monday February 10th at the Woolpack, 186 High Street, Banstead SM7 2NZ . Do come along if you can at these informal lunches where there is usually a small raffle or tombola and an abundance of friendly chat! If you would like to attend please contact Sue Camber at suecamber@virginmedia.com or by phone on 07932 948273.

Remember, all our help and care for the animals in Luxor is possible only with your help; every bit helps. Donations to AWOL can be made in the following ways:

By cheque (made out to Animal Welfare of Luxor), standing order, money paid directly into the AWOL bank account at any branch of HSBC or online, via Paypal (using email AngelaAWOL@gmail.com), by credit or debit card via Virgin Money Giving (click on the Virgin icon to take you to the site).



AWOL's bank detail are as follows: A/c name - Animal Welfare of Luxor, A/c number 51621076, Sort code 40 20 24. Cheques should be sent to the office address on page one.

AWOL's IBAN number for receiving international payments into the AWOL bank account is GB73HBUK40202451621076



Thank you for reading this month's newsletter. We wish all our supporters a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year, *Angela* and the AWOL team.

