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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Happy 2016 to all our supporters! I hope this turns out to be a good year for both you and AWOL. 2015 finished on a good note for AWOL as our supporters raised extra funds at the end of the year. Many thanks to Ros for organising lunches and tombolas in Surrey which raised £120 in December and also to the Egypt Centre Museum, Swansea who raised £150 with a bake sale. Our Facebook auctions, run by

Mary (Olly Jone on Facebook) have done very well throughout the year and the Equines of the World December auction also raised £65 for AWOL. Thank you to all our supporters who gave their time and effort to help raise funds for the work we do in Luxor. I would also like to send get well wishes to Mary who is currently unwell; here's hoping she soon recovers.

During the first months of 2016 we expect to be carrying out some improvements and further development at the AWOL centre. As those of you who have visited know, the centre is basically equipped and not yet fully furnished and complete but we are getting there with the help of our supporters and fund-raisers. We are hoping to fit out the treatment area at the centre with some shelving, cupboards and worktop which would greatly facilitate the examination and treatment of our patients. Currently we have only a sink, an old wooden table and a small examination table.

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In addition to this work we also hope to carry out other further improvements at the centre.

We have some exciting news for the new year! We now have a new German website courtesy of supporter Renee. We are very happy with this new development as it will help us connect with our

German-speaking supporters. AWOL has in the past had a promising supporter base in Germany so this is excellent news for the future of AWOL. The German site is a translation of the English version and is accessed via the usual AWOL website.

I wish you all a happy 2016 and I hope you will continue to help us help the animals in Luxor throughout the coming year.













The social, political and economic crisis in Egypt shows no signs of abating. Media reports of attempted terrorist attacks in Cairo and other areas of Egypt have had a devastating effect on the tourist industry in Luxor for the past 4 years. Unfortunately this has only worsened recently following the terrible tragedy of the Airplane which was brought down in the Sinai. The already struggling tourist industry has been almost totally destroyed leaving the locals more impoverished than ever.

The result of this is, of course, that the locals are finding it increasingly difficult to feed themselves and their families and the animals are often the first to suffer. The donkeys we treat are working animals and although they are not pampered they are usually fed and looked after rather better than the local dogs so

that they are still capable of working. The dogs we are seeing at the centre are so horribly thin and malnourished. Although these dogs are always given a multi-vitamin injection to try to give them some essential vitamins they are simply not getting enough nutrition. Thanks to some extra donations in December from some of our Facebook supporters we were able to hand out some free food to the thinnest of the dogs we treated at the centre. We hope to be able to continue to do this and we are very grateful to all our supporters who contributed towards this and allowed us to stretch our meagre budget to cover the cost. The poverty problem in Luxor is unlikely to abate any time soon so please continue to help AWOL help these poor dogs.



The harvest season is well under way which means the workload at the AWOL centre has increased. We have treated hundreds of working donkeys over the last couple of months. We have seen many work injuries such as cuts and abrasions and an increase in the number of abscess's we are treating. An abscess is often caused by dirt and grit entering the skin and this results in inflammation.













These are just a few of the working donkeys we have treated at the AWOL centre over the past month. In addition to medical treatment they also receive free replacement tack wherever necessary and free fly veils to keep the numerous flies in Luxor from infecting their wounds.







Although the working donkeys are slightly better fed than the dogs we see they are still rarely in good condition. With the desperate economic situation in Luxor it is very difficult for some of the local people to find enough food for their family or animals. Without a working donkey, though, they will have no means of making a living at all. The free treatment provided at AWOL enables these poor people to keep their donkey's working to provide for their families.







Both of these donkeys came into the AWOL centre with face abscesses. At harvest time we see more of these problems due to the increased dust and debris around the donkeys. Any small cut or abrasion can easily become infected with dirt and dust and inflammation and a pusfilled swelling can result.

The abscesses require draining and cleaning, and in some cases cutting out, and then the wound is dressed to avoid any further contamination.

One of the most common injuries we see at the AWOL centre; this horrific neck wound is caused by tethering this poor dog using completely unsuitable materials. Usually chain or rope is put directly around the dogs neck and this is frequently the result. After treatment the wound was dressed and the dog was provided with a new collar made at the centre. Hopefully the owner will take heed and use this collar in future.

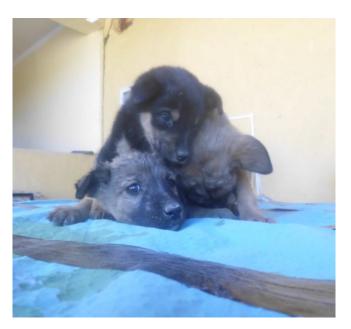






What better note to finish on than photos of adorable puppies! These came in for a check up, worming and flea/tick treatment. The young owners are advised on how to care for their puppies so we hope they will not have to endure injuries such as the one shown above.





We are currently planning next month's events so look out for details in the next newsletter!



<u>Easyfundraising</u> is an easy way for you to raise funds; just register online and remember to log in to your easyfundraising account when you shop online. By shopping online at over 2,700 top retailers you can raise funds for AWOL at no extra cost to you! It's very easy; you just need to open an account with Easyfundraising and log into their website before you shop online.

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