ANIMAL WELFARE OF LUXOR

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Dear Supporter,

I am happy to report that I have just returned from a very successful trip to Luxor. The weather was almost unbearably hot at times; on a couple of occasions reaching 44 degrees, which is a little hotter than usual for the time of year! Unfortunately the days will only continue to get hotter as the spring turns into summer and temperatures in the forties become the norm.

Despite the heat there is a huge amount of work being carried out at the centre at the moment. The repair work on the external walls has been carried out and reinforced with metal rods; the shower area is almost complete with the remaining walls now tiled and a new store for the animal feed has been constructed. Currently feed is stored in one of the stables which leaves us with only two functioning stables so this is a vast improvement. There is still the wall in the treatment area to be repaired and then we will be able to fit this area out. Obviously work on this area needs to be fitted in around the animal patients so as not to disrupt the care and treatment of the animals.

Luxor trustee Nasser was at the centre before 6am on some occasions as the workers started early to avoid the intense heat. It does get extremely hot within the confines of the centre walls.











Dr Mohamed is a happy man as AWOL is now the proud owner of a new set of rasps for the horses and donkeys teeth! I also delivered a suitcase full of other items, some bought by myself and my husband, others by supporters. Thanks to Celia and David for their contributions. The AWOL dogs have a few more treats to add to their diet and the pharmacy is replenished.

Earlier in April we had the pleasure of a visit from Maggie and Sallianne who also arrived fully laden with goodies for the centre. A big thanks to both of them for bringing out the items and to Mary (Olly Jone on Facebook—our wonderful Facebook auction organiser) for her generosity in donating them.



Maggie and Sallianne spent some time at the centre and whilst they were there they de-tangled and groomed this lovely little white dog who was a mass of knots and tangles! Many thanks to them for their help; I'm sure this little dog appreciated it!







Luxor resident and AWOL supporter Rose introduced Sallianne and Maggie to the AWOL dogs. I am very pleased to let our supporters know that Rose has agreed to be one of our contacts in Luxor and AWOL UK's representative. She did such a great job welcoming the two ladies to the centre and every week undergoes a journey of more than an hour, via 2 micro buses and Ahmed's motorbike, to get to the centre whatever the heat. She loves grooming and tending to the AWOL dogs and she has become a firm favourite with the staff as well as the dogs!









Despite the heat and the building work the patients were treated as usual. The centre was very busy at times with animals queueing up to see Dr Mohamed or to have tack fitted. The donkey below came in with unsuitable tack consisting mainly of old rope and will hopefully be much more comfortable now he has been fitted with new tack and a comfortable saddle cushion. He is just one of the many donkeys kitted out with new tack at the centre every month.





I passed this poor donkey (below) on the road to the AWOL centre; I'm afraid his owner was being rather rough in his handling of him. He is suffering from laminitis, a painful inflammation of the foot, and wasn't walking quickly enough for his owner's liking so unfortunately a whip was being used. By the time he arrived at the centre he had fallen and came in on the back on the cart covered in cuts and abrasions. He was given an anti-inflammatory and multivitamin injection and his owner was advised to rest him on soft cool ground - not the easiest thing to find in Luxor. The owner was also given advice on how to treat his

donkey; we can only hope he listened.













This little goat was such a little beauty with lovely black curls! He came into the centre with an enormous abscess on his throat and another in his groin. The poor little thing is only 4 months old but the abscesses must have been growing as quickly as he was! The abscess is caused by the bacteria Corynobacterium pseudo tuberculosis which leads to a condition known as Caseous Lymphadenitis and results in abscesses near the lymph nodes. An incision was made in the abscess and it was gently drained under local anaesthetic. As you can see the amount of pus which came out of the abscess was shocking! After draining and flushing out he was given an antibiotic injection and painkiller and returned home.







The owner brought the little goat back into the centre 3 days later and he was a very happy man! His goat had been jumping around with so much more energy than before and he was very relieved. This goat is a valuable animal to a poor family and this man did not expect the animal to survive. I have never seen a man and his goat so happy!





You might remember this donkey from April's newsletter; We are happy to be able to say that his face wound has now fully healed after treatment at the AWOL centre. It is wonderful to see the donkey fully recovered from this awful injury.







Another deep wound caused by a working accident; this donkey required extensive surgery on this terrible wound sustained when he fell on sharp metal at work. The wound was very deep and superficial stitching would not have been sufficient to ensure this wound fully healed.



Two layers of stitching were required to repair the damage to this poor donkey. The first layer of stiches (on the left photo) was much deeper than usual to ensure the underlying tissue and muscle would knit together. A second layer of stitching was then carried out as usual on the epidermis level.



The donkey spent two weeks at the AWOL centre as the very old poor owner lived some distance from the centre.

During this time he made a full recovery and the wound is now barely visible thanks to Dr Mohamed's stitching skills!











These little dogs were just so cute! They all needed to have ticks removed and were given flea and tick treatment. The little white dog was so weak and barely moved and Dr Mohamed thinks he was probably suffering from a virus. Unfortunately we were unable to keep the little dog at the centre because we do not have an isolation unit and we could not risk spreading the infection to the AWOL dogs or other visiting patients. We hope the dog survived but as the owner has no phone we are unable to be sure. The little black and white puppy however, seemed in fairly rude health and was a happy, active little sweetie!



Hopefully some time in the future we will be able to find a way of having somewhere at the centre we can keep dogs who might have contagious illnesses. Something else for us to aim for as we continue to improve our facilities and care at the centre.



Good news for little So-so who was literally dragged into the centre in February by an uncaring owner; she has gone to live with Dr Mohamed and his family! She is a lovely little dog and barely recognisable as the emaciated, mange-ridden little scrap with cuts to her neck we saw a couple of months ago. Lucky little So-so!







Many thanks to our wonderful supporters who enable us to keep working in Luxor. Your support allows us to help hundreds of animals every month and we could not do it without you!

Special thanks to supporter Mary (Olly Jone on Facebook) who now she is back to full health has raised a fantastic £202 through her latest Facebook auction.



I will leave you with a couple of my favourite photos from Luxor:

Rose being fitted out with an apron, kindly made by Gergis, so she doesn't get quite so plastered in mud and dirt when she washes the AWOL dogs!

And after a hot and dusty day at the centre Luxor trustee (and master of the selfie!) Nasser gives me Rose and guard Nouby a lift home. It was great to catch up with everyone again in person and to see the progress being made at the centre and the number of animals benefitting from all the team's hard work.



Kisses!! From Sally and Tufty to all our supporters and everyone who helps us achieve our goals!

We are always in need of supporters and fundraisers; every little helps in Luxor. We need to get our regular monthly income up to meet our regular monthly expenditure so if you can help in anyway, no matter how small, please get in touch.

Events

Tuesday 10th May 11am. Coffee morning at Denbies Wine Estate, London Road, Dorking.

Tuesday 24th May 12.30pm. Supporters' lunch at the Woolpack, Banstead with raffle.

Thursday June 23rd. Garden party, Epsom, 10.30am. Plants for sale, bric-a-brac and raffle. Please contact Ros for an invitation and address. You can contact Ros by email at Ros.barrow@hotmail.com or call her on 07788 563701.

Please advise Ros or Angela if you would like to attend any of these events.



Easyfundraising 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>.