

ANIMAL WELFARE OF LUXOR

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Dear Supporter,

I hope this newsletter finds all our supporters well and healthy following the cold and snowy weather here in the UK. For those of you who have been in contact and have had to wait a little longer than usual for a response please accept my apologies. I have been suffering from a nasty dose of flu for a couple of weeks so there may have been some delay in responding to your very-welcome emails and letters. Unfortunately this also means my planned trip to Luxor had to be cancelled. Many thanks for your patience and for the wonderful donations and support for our work in Luxor; the team out there have been working as usual at the AWOL centre and in the villages treating as many animals as we can.



The weather is starting to warm up in Luxor now as spring arrives. It will be 2 or 3 months before it gets really hot and the nights become uncomfortable so it is a lovely time in Luxor. The days are hot and sunny but the nights are still cool.

We have invested in some new hosing for the shower area. The working donkeys will soon be starting to feel the heat and many donkeys often pop in with their owners to enjoy a cooling shower. Many of our patients need to be showered before or after surgery and treatment as well.

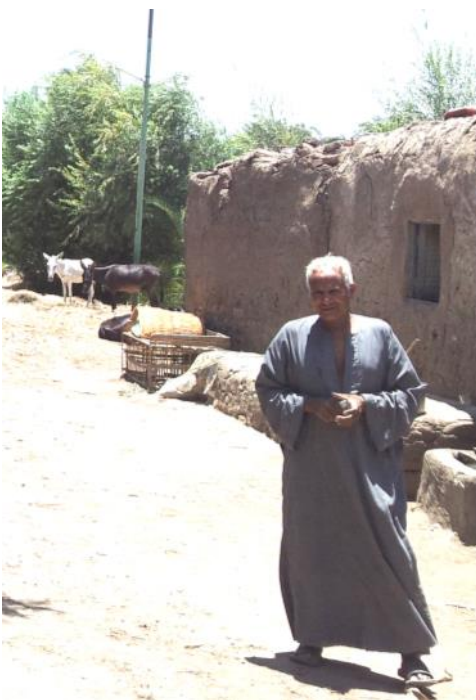
We have also taken delivery of a new table so the punch/rivet tool can be table mounted. This will make it more stable and more efficient and effective to use when Gergis is making new dog collars.



Some of our readers have asked about the large buildings seen in some of the photographs taken in the villages. These were built by the government as housing for the poor to replace homes lost in flash floods. Although it doesn't rain very often in Luxor there have been instances of flash flooding on the west bank and in the Valley of the Kings and Queens in written records since the 18th century and history shows that these flash floods can be devastating. Runoff of tens of thousands of cubic meters of rainwater transports tons of mud and rock debris from the slopes into unprotected tombs impacting ancient features and site infrastructure. In this desert environment there is no vegetative cover to retain water runoff. In November 1994 About 500 houses of mud-brick on the west side of the Nile at Luxor collapsed under the rush of storm waters. An estimated 70 other villages were also hit with flooding Friday in areas between Luxor and Asyut. There were no reports of damage on the east bank of the Nile.



In response to this devastating flood the government built new houses for the displaced residents on the desert edge. These are very different to the original mud-brick and palm-roofed houses they replaced.



Some of the more traditional buildings in the villages and the rural areas we visit on our mobile clinics. Many of the bricks used for the houses belonging to the poorest people are made of mud and offer little resistance to occasional bouts of extreme weather. When it does rain it may only rain for a few minutes but it is enough to cause damage to these fragile homes.

Our mobile clinics are very popular with the local animal owners. We often see animals who might not be considered ill enough to go to the centre by their owners but we can pre-empt and prevent many more serious problems by catching small issues early.

As usual we have treated many dogs and puppies for mange, worms, fleas and ticks and handed out bags of dry dog food to supplement the meagre diet of these animals. We hand out and fit dozens of soft dog collars during our village visits avoiding the need for dogs to be treated for nasty neck cuts and wounds at a later date.



In one day at one of our mobile clinics we treated 28 dogs who will now be more comfortable and healthy after treatment by Dr Mohamed and the AWOL team.





This donkey was treated at the centre for a very nasty nose injury caused by the chain across his nose. This sort of wound is very common and very painful for the poor donkey. Imagine pulling a heavy, fully loaded cart and this wound being constantly worsened by a hard chain or wire chafing and rubbing across the already painful wound. When the wound gets to be an open sore like this one antibiotics and anti-inflammatories are needed to help reduce the pain and avoid infection. This donkey was fitted with a new soft head collar which has been padded out to make it comfortable.



On some of these donkeys we treated out in the villages you can see the beginnings of wounds forming on their faces. By supplying comfortable tack we can help avoid these small wounds becoming bigger, painful and potentially infected so we are always happy to fit as much new tack as we can.



This gorgeous little donkey was only 2 weeks old when he came to the centre for a check-up. He was given some multi-vitamins to give him a boost and advised to rest as the long walk to the AWOL centre was really too far for such little legs.



We treated 60 donkeys in one mobile clinic in addition to the 480 we treated at the centre in February. These lovely little foals below were amongst those waiting for attention out in the villages.



We have seen this lovely little puppy 3 times over the past few weeks. He was brought to the AWOL centre after being sprayed by a snake which had resulted in sore swollen eyes and loss of sight. After treatment with steroids, an anti-histamine, atropine and eye drops he has been recovering well. He is able to see again, the inflammation is much better and should be completely gone very soon.



Once again we are pleased to have welcomed some visitors to the AWOL centre. We were very happy to see Stephanie back at the centre again with more items to replenish our stock. We also had a visit from Brenda and her husband Chris who took out some items and a donation.

Many thanks to everyone who has donated in February and especially to those who are regular donators, unfortunately it is just not possible to thank everyone individually but rest assured all donations are very gratefully received.

UK News



Many thanks to Ros, Celia and John for organising the latest supporters lunch and raffle in Surrey and raising funds for our work. Many thanks to all who attended and contributed and to Ron for his generous donation.

Our next supporters lunch will be at 12.30 on Tuesday 27th March at the Toby Carvery, 45 Cheam Road, Epsom, Surrey. This will be a casual lunch where you choose and pay for your own meal and take part in a small raffle to help raise funds for our work in Luxor. Please contact Ros on 07788563701 or email Ros.barrow@hotmail.com if you are interested in attending.

This month's wish list

If you are travelling to Luxor the following items would be appreciated; Sudocrem, hoof conditioner for donkeys/horses, Vaseline, anti-inflammatory gels, dressings, gauze, pressure bandages, adhesive bandages, extra large surgical gloves, surgical face masks, old towels, dog worming tablets and flea treatments.

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) or you can donate £10 by texting AWOL01 £10 to mobile number 70070 (please note we are not notified of the donors identity using the text method).



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.

Many thanks for reading this month's newsletter, *Angela* and the AWOL team 🐾