

ACE newsletter

News of how your support is helping animals in Luxor



A message from our Founders . . .

Dear supporters,

We would like to give our heartfelt thanks to every one of you for your continued support in helping us achieve so much over 2018.

This year we are feeling very positive about the future. The release of the animal awareness book 'Abdallah, Bondog and other Animals', the purchase of some neighbouring land and the addition of a new vet to our team has already started to improve the welfare of the animals, not only here in Luxor but across Egypt, and will continue to do so.

We are excited for the New Year and the projects we have planned that will further improve education and welfare. So once again we would like to thank you because all of this is only possible with your generosity in supporting us. We would like to wish each and everyone of you season's greetings, health and happiness for the New Year.

Julie and Kim x

ENRICHING Animals' Lives


In October we were honoured to show Hilda Tresz around our hospital.

Hilda is the Behavioural Enrichment and International Animal Welfare Coordinator at the Phoenix Zoo, Arizona, USA. Hilda is also a mentor for the Jane Goodall Institute and has worked with zoos all over the world to provide help and advice to improve the wellbeing of primates and other species.

Hilda had been sharing her skills and knowledge at the zoo in Giza, Cairo and travelled to Luxor to see the work that we are doing. Hilda told us, *'I was very impressed with ACE who have built good relationships with the local animal owners, teaching them proper animal husbandry. The animals' owners often observe procedures whilst the vets explain what caused the sickness and how to prevent unnecessary suffering.'*

Hilda is an amazing lady and we wish her continued success in her ongoing projects.





Ever wondered what it would be like to be a general volunteer at ACE?

BY KAREN TUKE

A general volunteer can help in so many ways and is always valued by all. The knowledge you can gain is phenomenal and varied.

The first thing I noticed before the doors opened was the sense of calm and stillness (with the odd donkey calling). The resident cats were lounging on the cool tiles in the reception area and staff were already preparing for the unknown day ahead.

My recent two-week trip was my third! It was grooming dogs, playing with kittens to get them socialised in order to find them new homes. Daily visits to the inpatients watching their progress was always rewarding – injuries healing, wounds shrinking, behaviour changes from showing distress on arrival to signs of relief and trust. Many animals are nameless as Egyptians often class them as objects, so I was very lucky to be allowed to name them and write it on their chalk board with a brief description of their injury or condition. When the clinics are busy, general volunteers can assist vets by guiding owners to bathe their animal before being examined and cleaning wounds thoroughly. This saves time, allowing vets to administer treatment more efficiently. I don't speak Arabic (only the odd words), but hand signals and facial expressions go a long way in communicating!

Local ACE supporters living in Luxor make 'donkey doughnuts'. This is a harness pad that takes pressure off wounds and sores. They are then filled using locally bought stuffing and stitched up at the hospital. This is another task that volunteers can get involved with - you don't need to be a seamstress! You would never be judged, ACE understand that not every task is for everyone. One of my skills was to de-tic dogs!

Being present during clinic time was when the famous nosebands were distributed - made and donated by kind supporters in the UK. If I noticed exposed chains across donkeys' or horses' noses when an animal arrived, I would go to the owner, smile and show him that I wanted to cover the chain, they would gesture for me to carry on and fit the noseband cover.

The vets speak very good English and so asking about a particular animal is no problem. I was constantly asking what had happened, how it got the injury and how it was going to be treated. The vets were only too happy to explain, and value your interest and time as a volunteer. What you can learn is entirely up to you. If you wish to watch an operation – you can, if you just want to groom – you can, if you want to help more in the hospital and less contact with locals – you can.

I am often asked: How do you manage to cope? Do you get upset by what you see? People think they couldn't do it. This was my biggest fear on my first visit to ACE, but you will surprise yourself. I'm an animal lover, owned horses, cats and dogs. When you realise that an animal is too injured to mend or is in such a poor condition, the kindest thing is to put it to sleep. This isn't the hardest part... it's convincing the owner it's the right decision. In most cases it is their only animal, without which they cannot work and earn money to feed their families

On any visit there may be a case that upsets you BUT the positive moments that move you outweigh the sad ones. You can make a difference as soon as you board the plane with your luggage full of bandages, nosebands, flea treatments, Sudocrem, collars, leads, etc. and items for the charity shop to sell. The excitement on everyone's face as you open your suitcase has to be experienced! I would recommend to anyone to join ACE for one day, three days, a week or two. The experience is very humbling, you look at your own life and more importantly a deep feeling of having made a difference stays with you forever and the yearning to return deepens.

KAREN TUKE

*We value your support and would like to keep you informed about our
If you do NOT wish to receive further information from ACE, please*



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Over The Stable Door

Just a few of the working horses and donkeys that have received care at our hospital thanks to **YOU**, our wonderful supporters...



PIPPA

Pippa the donkey arrived with a nasty cut near to her eye and was also suffering from mastitis. She received daily treatment for both from volunteer vet Izzy Hocking from the UK.



HOPE

Road traffic accidents are all too frequent in Egypt. We often admit horses and donkeys that have been in collisions. Hope was hit by a tuk tuk and received multiple wounds and a fracture to the bridge of her nose. We are pleased to tell you that she made a good recovery.



EMMA

As male donkeys are not gelded they quite often fight each other and can be quite over-amorous with the females too. Poor Emma was on the receiving end of a few nasty bites from a not-so-gentle male!



MUNDY

Mundy is one of the hardworking carriage horses that you see on the streets of Luxor. He was treated as an outpatient for the sores on his nose and also given a noseband cover for the harsh chain that forms part of his headcollar.

UPDATE ON CAMELLA

Remember little Caramella from our Autumn newsletter? She arrived unaccompanied at our hospital and ended up staying with us for a couple of months until we rehomed her. We visit her regularly and are pleased to report that she is thriving in her new surroundings. Thank you Emma Jane Levin of 'Ride Egypt' for adopting Caramella.

Farm Animals

Every year we treat thousands of hard-working donkeys at our hospital. If you travel in the fertile lands that stretch alongside the river Nile, you will be sure to see them and their owners going about their daily toil.

Farm workers are amongst the poorest people in Egypt and are often out in the heat of the day to earn enough food to feed their families and animals. It is not unusual to see children working alongside their parents as they are needed to work instead of receiving an education. As so many families are dependant upon their working donkeys we are proud to be in a position to be able to provide them with free veterinary care and thus help make a big difference to so many.



animal welfare work and fundraising activities either by post or via email.
email us at supporter@ace-egypt.org.uk or write to us at the address below.

Animal Care in Egypt, 10 Stretham Road, Wicken, Cambridgeshire CB7 5XH

Registered Charity no. 1082679 Registered in Egypt Society #2 Luxor

Do Something amazing in the New Year

From jumping out of a plane to baking sales, there are lots of fun events for you to get involved in throughout the year. Whatever event you choose, your efforts will help to improve the lives of working animals in Luxor.

We love to share your fundraising ideas so please contact helen@ace-egypt.org.uk if you have an event to tell us about

Other ways you can help the animals...

Recycle 4 Charity

Recycle your empty inkjet cartridges to help protect the environment and raise money for ACE. It's so easy... just register and nominate Animal Care in Egypt as the recipient. You will receive freepost recycling bags and can send back up to five cartridges at a time or desktop recycling boxes for larger volumes.



Ebay

You can sell your unwanted goods on eBay and donate part or all of the proceeds to ACE. We have an ebay shop that you can utilise to do so. <https://charity.ebay.co.uk/charity/Animal-Care-in-Egypt/35683>



EveryClick

If you are buying rather than selling online, you can register with Everyclick.com. Each time you buy online from a huge list of retailers, a percentage of the price will go to ACE at no added cost to you.



Giveacar.co.uk

Say goodbye to your old car when it has reached the end of the road by donating it through Give a Car. Not only will you help ACE, but you will also disposing of your car in an environmentally friendly way.



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Collect free donations when you shop online the easyfundraising way. It doesn't cost you a penny extra. When you shop online with one of their 3,169 shops and sites they give us a commission for your purchase, which is turned into a donation for ACE. Simply join and nominate ACE. Easy! <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>



FOR MORE INFORMATION or for a fundraising pack (most information can be found on our website) please contact Helen on: +44(0)79 7986 5352 or: helen@ace-egypt.org.uk

DONATE though our website, using PayPal or Credit/debit card. Or you can post any donations to: Animal Care in Egypt, 10 Stretham Road, Wicken, Cambridge, CB7 5XH.



Visit our website www.ace-egypt.org.uk