

# ACE newsletter

News of how your support is helping animals in Luxor



## Kim Taylor

Manager & Co-Founder answers some key questions for us...

If you have any questions for Kim please email her at:  
kim@ace-egypt.org.uk

### What challenges did ACE face in 2016?

As many thousands of animals visit ACE each year it is a constant battle to keep up with maintenance of the building and stables, along with upgrading our equipment so that we can provide the best possible care for each animal. But our priority for this year was to find suitable vets to join our team as the workload has increased especially with small animals - mainly cats and dogs. This is a real problem as most vets qualifying in Egypt do not want to work 'in the field' preferring office jobs. Finally we are happy to announce that we have two new vets that have joined our team of hard working warriors.

### So what can we expect from ACE in the next year (2017)?

There is a cat and dog overpopulation problem in Luxor which we have never realistically been able to tackle. But now that we have more vets we intend to address this by neutering as many street animals as possible. To facilitate this we are going to offer a small financial incentive to the local children to bring cats and dogs that live in or near their homes to us for spaying and castrating. This idea came from our vet team and we are certainly willing to give it a try as long as funds are available. The RSPCA Brighton has kindly offered to help towards the cost of the anaesthetics and consumables but we still need the £2 per child incentive. We are hoping that our supporters will like this idea and help out financially for this novel project. **To help us incite a merry band of street kids into action, mark your donation with 'Kidscatch.'**

### Is there anything special that you would like to tell ACE supporters?

There is something really special that I would like to share. I am thrilled to announce that our lady vets have been busy working on a treatment for

Sarcoids\* over the last four years. They have been looking for a natural herbal solution for this terrible problem which causes so much pain and discomfort for our equines, some being so bad that they can no longer work and need to be put to sleep. In 2015 they formulated a herbal cream solution that we have put on trial at ACE with overwhelming success. They have called the cream 'ESC16' meaning Egyptian Sarcoid Cream 16 as it took them 15 dead ends to find the 16th working solution... I am just wondering what they will come up with next!

\* Sarcoids are a common type of skin tumour that many horses and donkeys suffer from. They look similar to warts and can grow to large proportions.

## 2018 CALENDAR COMPETITION

We are holding a competition for our supporters to have their photos taken at ACE included in our 2018 Calendar. If you have a photo (or two) which captures a magic moment at ACE or is a great example of the hard work that we do, email it to:

**helen@ace-egypt.org.uk**

Closing date for photo entries is 31st January 2017. If your photo is chosen we will notify you in March and you will receive a free copy of the Calendar.

Free to enter. Photo must be taken at our hospital and with a camera rather than a mobile phone.

Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year to all of our supporters X



## Veterinary Volunteering

by Hester Brinkman

“ About ten months ago, a friend of mine told me about a non-profit organisation in Egypt. She had visited this small charity about five years ago and she was deeply impressed and suggested that I might like to go along and volunteer as a vet. After doing some research, I decided to volunteer at ACE. I think this decision has changed my life... an experience I will never forget!

From the moment my plane landed and I arrived at ACE I realised that my trip of only two weeks will be far too short as it was love at first sight! During my stay at ACE I learned a lot about equines, and also about the challenges the vets face as you have to treat the animals with the medication which is available. This is very limited, compared to the products that we have access to in the Netherlands, teaching me to think more practically. Treatments are not always the most optimal ones which a vet would prefer, but you're always trying to do the best for each patient. Despite this, the vets work very well with what's available with fantastic results!

As a vet in the Netherlands we focus on preventing diseases instead of treating them. In Egypt the treatment is a large part of our job as vaccines are far too expensive for the local people. But I was very surprised to see that all the animals seem to be much tougher than back home - much more resilient than our pampered horses and pets!

At ACE I observed a huge difference in mentality between the Netherlands and Egypt. Back home people are more aware of the responsibilities in keeping an animal. The ACE Education programme for children is a great step forward, but it will take time. I hope that the people will grow more aware of their responsibilities and listen to the valuable advice that they receive from the ACE vets.

I promise that I will come back next year. It was a great experience to help the animals and to meet the ACE team. I've made friends (I can almost call 'family') for life and I would recommend everyone to volunteer or to support ACE. ”

## HIT by a car!



This poor horse was the victim of a road traffic accident whilst left grazing along the side of a road. Road accidents are far too common here - we treat injured horses and donkeys almost every day. Thankfully, this horse will make a good recovery as no internal damage was done but many others are not so lucky. Most accidents occur at busy road junctions where people pull in or away without considering other road users including working carts and carriages.

### Felix Corner A CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE

*Felix the naughty donkey  
Had a pair of very long ears  
And if you heard him braying  
You would know that he was near!  
One night when he was sleeping  
He heard a jingle in the sky  
He yawned and looked up closely  
As a sleigh went flying by  
He rubbed his eyes in wonder  
As Santa came to ACE  
He brayed in sheer excitement  
A smile across his face  
I need your help dear Felix  
Please will you pull my sleigh?  
We need to drop the presents off  
In time for Christmas Day  
I'm proud to help you Santa  
Said Felix full of glee  
A special donkey flying high  
That's what I'm going to be  
That night a happy donkey  
Crossed far across the sky  
The twinkling stars the shining moon  
As Felix flew on by  
White tipped trees and buildings  
As snow fell gently down  
It's a miracle whispered Felix  
Merry Christmas all around.*



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[www.linkedin.com/company/ace?trk=company\\_name](http://www.linkedin.com/company/ace?trk=company_name)



# An ACE Education

Our education programme for the children of Luxor is continuing to be a huge success with groups of children arriving four days a week with their teachers. We are passionate about educating the local people and children as we strongly believe that this is the best way to improve animal welfare for the better. Our classroom sessions are very interactive and we encourage the kids to share their ideas about good animal husbandry and they learn about the importance of spaying or neutering their pet dogs and cats. We also discuss the Five Freedoms.

Before the children leave our classroom for a tour of our hospital we encourage them to make a commitment to help an animal in need when they see one.

*education... education... education...*

## THE 5 FREEDOMS

- 1 Freedom from hunger or thirst by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour
- 2 Freedom from discomfort by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area
- 3 Freedom from pain, injury or disease by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment
- 4 Freedom to express (most) normal behaviour by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind
- 5 Freedom from fear and distress by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering



## Working Equines

In Luxor equines are considered working animals by their owners and are rarely kept as companions. Many have very hard lives. Our vets treat them daily for a variety of illnesses and conditions.

These horses and donkeys are vital to so many families, as they provide an income. There are around 350 licensed horse carriages plus many more that are unlicensed. With tourism in Luxor being at an all-time low, families depending on this source of income are barely scraping a living, reflected in the condition of their animals. Unfortunately, there are also some owners who just don't care. Walking around the streets of Luxor you can see why the donkey is known as the 'beast of burden'. Carts they pull are often overloaded. We are constantly stopping them to try to educate their owners. Donkeys work in

a variety of industries here including hauling construction materials, agriculture and transportation. They also pull carts for street vendors selling goods and services including gas bottles, fruit and vegetables and even knife sharpening services.

Working animals are often used in the heat of the day with little or no water available for them. Many have ill-fitting homemade harnesses which rub their bodies and cause horrible sores. Road traffic accidents are a daily occurrence and far too often a horse or donkey is injured or killed, as well as human casualties.

Many of the conditions that our vets treat are preventable but with a huge population that are unable to read or write it's understandable that much of the neglect is not through malice, but due to a lack of understanding or finances.

*We will continue in our mission to relieve the suffering of the working horses and donkeys of Luxor.*

# Ways that you can help us make a **big** difference to the lives of the working Equines of Luxor . . .



## Giveacar.co.uk

Did you know that you can give your old car to Giveacar, who will then turn your car into a cash donation for ACE? <http://giveacar.co.uk/charities/animal-care-egypt?cat=animal>



## SPC Wildlife

Shop here and 5% of your total spend can be donated to us! SPC Wildlife supply quality wildlife and bird food, gardening products, gifts and more. Visit: [spcwildlife.co.uk/charities](http://spcwildlife.co.uk/charities)



## Our ACE Ebay shop

You can help raise funds for ACE via our eBay shop. Perhaps you have some unwanted items that you could sell for us?  
[www.ebay.co.uk/egw/ebay-for-charity/charity-profile/ACE---Animal-Care-in-Egypt/44079?so=2](http://www.ebay.co.uk/egw/ebay-for-charity/charity-profile/ACE---Animal-Care-in-Egypt/44079?so=2)



## Give as you live

Shop online via Give as you Live at over 4,000 retailers and you'll turn a percentage of your total spend into a FREE donation for us: [www.giveasyoulive.com/join/aceegypt](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/aceegypt)



## FELIX SAYS RELAX!

Limited edition Felix T-Shirts in sizes S, M and L. £9.99 each plus UK postage & packing £2.50. Designed, ordered and to be sent out by supporter Frankie Jack. To order, please complete the form and enclose your payment. Or you can order and pay via PayPal - [supporter@ace-egypt.org.uk](mailto:supporter@ace-egypt.org.uk)

£9.99  
+ p&p

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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SIZE & QUANTITY

S

M

L

Remember to add £2.50 post & packing to your order. Cheques payable to 'Animal Care In Egypt'. Post order and payment to: Animal Care in Egypt, 10 Stretham Road, Wicken, Cambridge, CB7 5XH.

*Thank you so much Frankie Jack.*

## JUST WALK - 13TH MAY 2017

A unique event where you can raise money for ACE and take on a personal challenge. Choose a walking distance to suit you - 10km, 20km, 30km, 40km or the BIG 60km! Register at: [www.just-walk.co.uk](http://www.just-walk.co.uk)

## Isle of Wight Challenge - 29-30 APRIL 2017

106km of spectacular coastlines, dramatic white cliffs and sandy beaches. Most challengers will walk it, some will jog parts, and quite a few run the full course. Test your determination and stamina. Register at: [www.ultrachallenge.com](http://www.ultrachallenge.com)

## London to Brighton Challenge - 27-28 MAY 2017

100km from Capital to Coast in the 6th annual Challenge. Most walk, some jog parts, and others run the whole course. Sign up and fundraise for ACE to help generate much needed funds. Register at: [www.ultrachallenge.com](http://www.ultrachallenge.com)

## South Coast Challenge - 27-28 MAY 2017

Walk, jog, or run the 100km South Coast challenge from Eastbourne to Arundel. Register NOW at: [www.ultrachallenge.com](http://www.ultrachallenge.com)

## Cotswold Way Challenge - 1-2 JULY 2017

100km or 50km. The magical Cotswold Way crosses areas of outstanding natural beauty from Bath to Cheltenham. [www.ultrachallenge.com](http://www.ultrachallenge.com)



We recommend that participants set up an ACE Justgiving page to collect donations. Thank you!

**INFORMATION** or for a fundraising pack contact Helen on: +44(0)79 7986 5352 or: [helen@ace-egypt.org.uk](mailto:helen@ace-egypt.org.uk) (or see our website)

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



Visit our website [www.ace-egypt.org.uk](http://www.ace-egypt.org.uk)