



CAPE TOWN • SOUTH AFRICA • NEWSLETTER OF THE ANIMAL RESCUE ORGANISATION • ISSUE 2 2018

#### **ARO HOSPITAL**

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f/Animal-Rescue-Organisation



#### WHO TO CONTACT

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### **BANK DETAILS**

Animal Rescue Organisation
ABSA Blue Route Mall
Acc No 4086080569
Branch Code 632 005
International Deposits: ABSA ZA JJ
PayFast: Donors go to www.payfast.co.za
click on "Buyers" then "giving back" and follow
instructions for list of charities to appear and find the
Animal Rescue Organisation logo; click on our logo
and follow instructions on how to donate.

# TO ADVERTISE IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Contact Karen aro@animalrescue.org.za

## DOWNLOAD ZAPPER



**SCAN TO DONATE** 











**NELSON MANDELA** 



ARO has been working hard all year to reach youth living within the Cape's indigent communities in order to teach basic principles of compassion and care while, at the same time, encouraging youngsters to explore career opportunities involving animals.

A number of schools have been reached including Pelican Park High, Disa Primary School in Hout Bay, as well as 7 after care and educational facilities on wine farms including Neethlingshof and Groot Constantia. This work was done in conjunction with The Anna Foundation, a fabulous NGO targeting education of the most marginalised children. When children are shown values related to care and compassion, when they experience the love an animal can give, the more chance we have of influencing their minds away from social ills including gangsterism and drug addiction; diverting youngsters from a life of crime into a life of structure and possibilities for their future. This takes time and resources. Not all children show an interest in animal based careers, but ARO's visits have stirred up thinking and from this we hope children will go further than the next street corner. Sadly, humane education activities are not cheap. Educators must be resourced to return to schools in order to continue the influence. Donations to, and support of this work is critical, even if you are able to donate basic educational goods, so please feel free to contact us; email karen@animalrescue.org.za or 021-3965511

## Thank you

All the wonderful acts of kindness, support, sponsored prizes, products, pet food and essentials for ARO this year, have been so kind and is exactly what makes ARO tick (pardon the pun!) - you know who you are and we send you grateful thanks from everyone at ARO. Going into 2019 we would love to encourage donations and gifts of pet care items including dry feed, bedding, collars, stock of household goods for our shops to sell including linen, furniture and anything in fair condition which could be sold at ARO's shops or markets. Our thanks to Burgess, ACANA, Hill's Pet Nutrition and everyone who gave pet food for our animals in hospital. Each meal keeps a little one's tummy full and for that we are very grateful. Email Chantal Damons on reception@animalrescue.org.za for collection times or call 021-3965511













VINEYARD



ARO sends best wishes and grateful thanks to Dr Anouska Rixon for her wonderful contribution to the animals we serve. We wish you well with your career and hope you will come back soon! ARO would like to thank DAFF (Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries) and the Western Cape Government for their placements of community service vets. Dr Rixon has been a huge asset to ARO this year and we are very grateful for this opportunity.

## **PUPP** PROJECT FOR THE UPLIFTMENT OF PETS AND PEOPLE

Some members will remember PUPP as an NGO operating in the South Peninsula. PUPP was instrumental in facilitating the sterilisation of animals for over a decade. We are saddened that another animal NGO has had to close, but take heart in the knowledge that their work prevented the birth of tens of thousands of unwanted litters at a time when this was most needed. Thank you PUPP and everyone connected to their work. Well done!



#### FROM THE DESK OF KAREN DE KLERK

## "Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened."

#### ANATOLE FRANCE

Cape Town has battled a pet overpopulation crisis for decades and remains swamped with animals desperate for homes or in need of sterilisation.

There are simply not enough cages in South Africa for all the unwanted pets currently in need, and more importantly, there are not enough suitable homes for the existing shelter animals currently up for adoption, which means that euthanasia is a daily reality. Someone has to do it. South Africa could, if there was sustainable funding available, build more pet shelters, but the same number of suitable homes looking to adopt a pet will remain fairly constant, which means that opening more shelters will be a rather expensive exercise in warehousing more unwanted animals. Many people buy their pets off Gumtree or from a breeder. Animals living in "No kill" shelters, who are not fortunate enough to be picked for adoption, will not be put to sleep, but will face a lengthy cage stay which can, depending on the nature of the shelter, have welfare related consequences, particularly on the animals mental state. Some shelter animals cope very well, while others decline into stress & behavioural chaos from the moment the cage door is closed behind them.

I would like to thank everyone who has been so supportive of ARO this year including those who give financially or in other ways. Just stepping up and offering your resources or expertise is

always helpful to keeping organisations like ARO open and functioning effectively, thank you to everyone who been that person.

We wish all our donors, members and supporters a fantastic Christmas and holiday season and we will see you all again in 2019. In the meantime, my door is open, so please feel free to contact me at any time with any queries you may have.

Karen



#### FROM THE DESK OF TAMSYN RIPSOLD ADOPTIONS CO-ORDINATOR



There is no doubt that every animal deserves a loving home regardless of circumstances. However due to high numbers of adoption animals out there, and the fact that people insist on buying from breeders, especially online, there are just not enough suitable homes out there. ARO is not a shelter but has a few animals up for adoption, the lucky ones who are healthy and ready to join the big world! I always tell people that they should be advocates for adoption and try to encourage family, friends and colleagues to adopt from a reputable shelter. That is how you save a life! Did you know that there is a rescue group for just about every pedigree breed - the sad result of backyard breeding unfortunately. We advertise on our website and Facebook. If you need any help finding your perfect pet, please email me for assistance.

tamsyn@ripsold.co.za or call me on 021-3965511

## **BEQUESTS & LEGACIES** FOR ANIMALS

Including a legacy to an NGO you trust is a deeply personal choice. At ARO, we pride ourselves on making sure that your legacy gift to our animals is used exactly how you intended it to be. Therefore, gifts to benefit elements of our work for animals will be directed to do just that, including the support of mobile clinics, development of new hospital equipment or the sponsorship of sterilisation cases. If you would like to have a confidential discussion about leaving a legacy to the

Animal Rescue Organisation, please call Karen de Klerk on 021-3965511 or email karen@animalrescue.org.za



Margie **Humphris** helps ARO with all sorts of essential tasks from reception to collections in the Helderberg area, and has been a part of the ARO family for **32** years.

Margie is ARO's front line lady on reception Tuesdays and Fridays as well as a much needed helping hand with fundraising activities. If you have any donations for ARO and live in the Helderberg area, please call Margie at ARO to arrange a collection.

## DEBIT ORDERS & MONTHLY EFT DONATION

Supporting animals monthly by debit order may be your preference. We can send you the form for this payment. Alternatively, you can arrange a set date for a monthly EFT (stop order) and let us know what you prefer your donation to be used for. Either way, if you need help or advice, please call ARO's Financial Supervisor Shamiela Naidoo on 021-3965511 or email shamiela@animalrescue.org.za

# FIRE SEASON BRINGS CHAOS FOR SIYAKHULA ANIMALS...

With fire season upon us, we always need help with donations of food and water. Once a community has burnt down, it is essential that we help them get back on their feet as quickly as possible. Animals either perish or run. After a day or two stray animals come back only to find devastation. Many others end up stray and starving. Your support of ARO to be on hand to support dogs and cats suffering after fire destruction is greatly appreciated. For more information call Karen de Klerk 021-3965511

## **MOBILE CLINICS...**

directly aiding animal welfare, every day.



ARO mobile clinics remain our number one link to animals in need of help. Sadly, we are forced to travel and work in areas which are less than desirable and have been the victim of crime more than once. Donations to our mobile clinics is the most direct way that you can use your giving power to aid an animal, especially now when ARO offers free sterilisations to the very poor who come to our mobile clinics.



## **MOBILE CLINICS UP DATE**

ARO has purchased 2 brand new Nissan vehicles and are appealing for funding to support having them converted into mobile clinics. These new vehicles will be replacing old mobile clinics which were too old to carry on working, and are a life line to the animals which need us most. If you want to support animal welfare directly in the Cape, this is a fabulous way to do just that because ARO staff cannot operate without these essential resources.

## HOSPITAL & FIELDWORK



#### By Dr Reuben Kotze, ARO Senior Veterinarian

The ARO clinical team has made progress this year with some exciting developments in the hospital and out on the mobile clinics. Our most noteworthy development has been the implementation of an internationally recognised cloud-based software system called Provet Cloud. This system has allowed me as the responsible veterinarian, to program predefined therapeutic protocols into the system. Animal Welfare Assistants (AWA's) delivering a clinical service are restricted to using these protocols only, and any clinical syndromes not included in the list of protocols have to be presented to me or our resident community service veterinarian for further investigation. The ultimate effect is more appropriate treatment of patients by Animal Welfare Assistants operating independently in the communities. Another knock-on effect that this system has had is a sense of empowerment to the Animal Welfare Assistant. Empowerment yields motivation which easily falls to the waist side in a welfare environment. Mobile clinics have been kitted out with 10inch tablets in fixed security enclosures mounted within the vehicles. The tablets access our cloud based software system via LTE broadband signal and thus all information captured can be seen in real time anywhere in the world. This allows me as the veterinarian, to assist with difficult cases when the AWA is out in the community and I am back in the hospital. All services and medicines are accounted for with this system and charges assigned to such medicines and services are in line with market related prices charged at private veterinarians. ARO offers discount on the "private vet fee" depending on the animal owner's individual financial position. In most cases the owner is either unemployed or earning less than R5000/month in which the owner will be allowed a 90% discount on the "private vet fee". This system is absolutely critical in this environment as it allows the owner of the animal to see and understand the true value of the work we do. It also allows a fair way to calculate what

It also allows a fair way to calculate what portion of the expenses should be covered by the owner, even if only 10%. The 10% paid by the owner is a token of commitment to the animal and by no means covers the cost of the work done. Another very important development this year has been the implementation of our FREE sterilisation policy to individual owners earning less than R5000/month. This means that all sterilisation bills are calculated based on private veterinary rates

and then discounted 100% to the owner. A typical sterilisation bill usually amounts to R2600, all of which is discounted. We have been doing in excess of 200 free sterilisations per month amounting to an average of R520 000 worth of discount offered, just for sterilisations and not taking to account all other work done. These 200 plus sterilisations are done over and above all other medical and surgical work including advanced medical cases, severe soft tissue trauma and orthopaedic cases. In closing, I would like to give special recognition to Dr Anouska Rixon, our CCS veterinarian, who has been instrumental in so much of what we have achieved this year. Her positive can-do attitude has been inspirational to us all and we are truly grateful for all that she has done, most notably heading up our educational programmes. I can only hope that the following community service vets joining us next year will follow her admirable lead.

# The worst thing about lying, is knowing that you were not worth the truth....



Dr Reuben Kotze, ARO Senior Vet is in the trenches every day dealing with cases of cruelty and abuse.

This dog was "found", but suffered extreme injuries from being used as a bait dog. He was put to sleep to save him any further physical and mental trauma.



ARO has, over the years, taken delivery of many cases of extreme cruelty, and this trend will no doubt continue well into the future. The common theme of these cases is people who say they "found" the animal in the state it is in, and claim no responsibility. This may be true, or not. We have no way of knowing if their words are lies or truth, which is why it is common that ARO cannot take further action. This dog was "found" in a field. There is no evidence which enables ARO to report the case to an authority who can take the matter further. It is often a case closed set up, especially when it involves putting down the animal that is beyond help, as they so often are. Our staff will continue to serve the animals well into the future.



## **COLLECTIONS TINS**

ARO raises funds via collections tins and are able to offer you a tin at home or work. We also need volunteers able to help manage our collection tins across the Cape area. Perhaps you can manage ARO tins in your area? Call Karen, Tamsyn or Geraldine to discuss this option 021-3965511

## FUNDRAISING AT ARC

CHRISTMAS CARDS 2018 Cost R25 per pack of 5; for orders please contact Tamsyn Ripsold email tamsyn@ripsold.co.za or call 021-396 5511

RONDEBOSCH CRAFT MARKET The much loved
Rondebosch Craft Market on the corner of Sandown
and Campground roads, carries on despite challenges and
we can only encourage everyone to go there and support
the stalls over the Festive Season. The market will be open
on Saturday 8th and 15th December with a lovely night
market on the Wednesday 19th. These are great community

events which bring people together. ARO hosts a huge stall at the market and we love to meet everyone and chat! Dogs on leashes are most welcome. For enquiries about Rondebosch Craft Market please call Karen de Klerk on 021-3965511 or email karen@animalrescue.org.za

CHARITY SHOPS & MARKET DONATIONS ARO is always in need of stock to sell and offers a full house clearing service. Our fabulous volunteers can sell almost anything, so if you are having a clear out, call Chantal at ARO's reception desk on 021-3965511 to arrange a collection time that suits you. Bergyliet Charity Shop: Situated 51 Main Road (next to Babygoaround) Cape Town 021 715 7525. Open weekly 9h30 to 16h30 and Saturdays 9h00-13h00. Kalk Bay Charity Shop: On the Main Road in Kalk Bay, opposite the Trading Post, turn into Belmont Road. ARO's charity shop is situated opposite PAPAGAYA in Belmont Road. Open daily including weekends and public holidays. For more information contact Geraldine 082 805 5005 or the shop on 021-7881195; open 9.30am – 4pm

## **ADVOCACY AT ARO**

Pet shops, circuses and the barbaric trade in illegal Donkey hides are 3 ongoing blots on the South African animal welfare landscape. It was, however, uplifting to see that an anti-pet shop poster on ARO's Facebook page received 196 shares and was viewed by over 10 500 people. The circus situation will eventually break down as the cost of running a travelling menagerie becomes financially unsustainable. In the meantime, we continue to condemn the use of any animal in a circus, although the big worry is the welfare of the wild animals who are forced to do stupid tricks for human entertainment. Concerning the export of donkey hides, the concern is the lack of real action, except by a dedicated few, on the banning of the donkey hide export trade. We will continue to support all actions taken to ban this horrific trade in South Africa and hope you will join our efforts. Request a petition from aro@animalrescue.org.za We use paper based petitions as the SA Gvt will not accept digital petitions.



## ARO IS HOLDING ITS AGM

at 10am on Saturday 1 December 2018 at

1 Benguela Close, Constantia. Call 021-3965511 for more information.

## asponsor Me!!

This is Eeyore. Many years ago, he became stray and homeless resulting in him being hit by a car and left for dead. However, the CoGH SPCA rescued him and asked ARO to shelter him for life as he has special needs following his injuries. Eeyore is a much loved resident at ARO but needs help paying his way! Can you help? All donations are most welcome. Email karen@animalrescue.org.za or call 021-3965511



DONATE YOUR NEWSPAPERS call 021-3965511 or email TO ANIMALS reception@animalrescue.org.za to arrange a suitable collection HOSPITAL or email or drop off time.