



**Animal Rescue[®]
Organisation**

RELIEVING CARING EDUCATING



CAPE TOWN • SOUTH AFRICA • NEWSLETTER OF THE ANIMAL RESCUE ORGANISATION • ISSUE 2 2020



MEET MITCH

ARO's NEW SPOKES-CANINE

SUPPORT IN STYLE



You can still show your support by donating R200 and receiving your trendy ARO buff, matching dog bandana and free 340g bag of Acana dogfood. A donation of R1000 or more gets you a beautiful portrait of your pet by Ashley Chapman

ACANA



Have you ever seen a more precious little face?

Many of our donors and supporters know that COVID-19 has had devastating effects on all of us. Our team has been faced with the harsh reality of how severely the marginalised communities have been hit. Animals are sick, starved and mistreated but ARO is doing everything we can to give these animals a **SECOND CHANCE**. We are treating the sick, feeding the hungry and showing compassion to these animals.

During this time, ARO joined the City of Cape Town for the annual Mass Sterilisation Drive, Mitch was brought in from our Mobile Clinic to be sterilised. When he was returned home, his owners decided they were no longer able to care for him financially, and he was surrendered to ARO.

Our team had been discussing the possibility of adopting a dog to be a part of the ARO team as our ambassador and 'spokes-canine'. This seemed like the perfect chance for ARO to give Mitch his **SECOND CHANCE!** ARO's trendy buffs and matching dog bandanas are quite a hit and supporters can continue to help by donating R200 or more to receive the combo. Donors that contributed R1000 or more were blown away with their incredible pet portraits done by Ashley Chapman.



Have you seen our **SECOND CHANCES** video yet?

ARO HOSPITAL

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Email: aro@animalrescue.org.za

Website: www.animalrescue.org.za

Facebook (icon) /animalrescuecape

Instagram (icon) /AnimalRescueorganisation_aro

Twitter (icon) /AnimalRescue01

WHO TO CONTACT

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BANK DETAILS

Animal Rescue Organisation

ABSA Blue Route Mail

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.

“Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world”

Nelson Mandela

There is one thing that most people agree with and that is that the pandemic has made us think differently. Work smarter instead of harder and that there is a lot that we scale down on or even remove from our lives completely. While the lockdown has been tough, it has certainly brought us closer as a community. At ARO, there is no doubt that it has been exceptionally challenging in fundraising. With a significant drop in income for many of our usual donors, as well as majority of most 2020 projects and events being cancelled, we have not reached our goal for 2020 which whilst justifiably, was a great disappointment.

However, I am hopeful for 2021. We have had the time to plan and really strategise as to where we, as a team, want to position ourselves. We are feeling motivated and have a clear vision with objectives and anticipate tangible results. The ultimate focus and mission of Animal Rescue Organisation remains the same as it has for the last 34 years, and that is to relieve the suffering of sick and abused animals in townships and impoverished communities.

A key element to our impact driven strategy for next year, is to reach more people in poor communities and instill basic pet care education. By providing the critical information on how and where they can seek veterinary assistance instead of leaving their sick pets or community animals to suffer for months on end. There have been more incidents than I can recall of walking through our kennels and seeing dogs and cats with injuries that are over three months old. Legs being amputated, which could have been avoided, if they were brought in for treatment sooner. Massive growths left to grow for years on end, sadly the list goes on.

With that being said, there are a huge number of pet owners who love and adore their pets. It is so heartwarming to see hard gangsters, senior men, and small children arriving with their pups and cats in baby strollers, hand-made pushcarts, trolley's and even material shopping bags with little heads popping out.

One project that stood out for me was when we went to Delft to fulfil our planned Mandela Day Project which was postponed due to the pandemic. We handed out gorgeous beanies and scarves, knitted by a remarkable group of ladies called K4C (Knitting 4 Charity), along with some sweet treats and fruit to the children queuing at the Mobile Clinic site with their dogs.

Our supporters and Absolute Pets donated heaps of dog food which we decanted and packed 'doggy-bags' that were handed out to pet owners in the queue. The smiles of appreciation that we received has made us realise how desperate the need of caring for the community is and that our work can be stretched a little bit further. Our hope is that by showing more compassion to the owners and educating them on responsible pet care and other animal matters, that they in turn will assist us with our mission to reach as many animals as our resources will allow.



This is just one project that had an immeasurable impact and I know you would have heard this a thousand times, but ARO truly could not do this without YOU! Thank you for every donation whether it be monetary, household goods, newspaper, pet food or just a share on social media – YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE. Wishing you and your family a safe and peaceful Festive Season.

Take care.

Teagan



2020 - The Year Of Changes

What a year it has been; never a dull moment! We were sad to see longstanding member, Margie Humphris, retire as a staff member but will remain as a board member. Also, our heard of five equines leave us for greener pastures where they have retired.

COVID-19 brought about many changes to our day to day operations at ARO and as General Manager, I was thrown into uncharted territories of drawing up risk assessments and safety protocols over and above our existing policies. As "essential workers" we were fortunate enough that our hospital and clinic could continue serving and assisting the animals in need in our area. Staff were split into two teams and worked alternate weeks to run our clinic effectively. Our finance and fundraising staff worked remotely and our mobile clinics were unable to go out to service the much-needed communities until we moved to Level 1.

Sadly, all our major Fundraising events: The Annual Golf day in May, Mandela Day, The Vineyard Lunch in August and the Quiz Night in November had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 which had a huge impact on our finances. Our Fundraising Team had to put their thinking and creative caps on to raise funds in very tough economic times.

Highlights of 2020:

1. The successful Raffle and draw which was videoed and broadcast on social media
2. CAWF/City of Cape Town and Lionel's choice outreach feeding scheme in Jimmy Se Bos
3. Animal Day/Mandela Day combined pet and kiddies gift bag project

ARO is dependent upon the generosity of our donors to run efficiently. We have been very fortunate this year that our loyal donors didn't let us down in our time of need.

We were also very blessed to receive the support from our loyal donors such as Old Mutual Staff Volunteer Fund Trust, City of Cape Town, Schmidhauser Electrical & Plumbing and Pack Leader.

The success of the organisation is due to the tremendous amount of hard work done by our two dedicated veterinarians Dr Kotze and Dr Fielding, the hospital staff, our fundraising and administrative staff and our team of very enthusiastic volunteers as well as our Chairperson, Geraldine Scaife.

ARO has three resident cats: Jojo, Heksie and Ms Penny who bring their vibrant and colourful personalities to our admin block. This year we made the decision that a hound would add character to our organization. On 2 October we adopted one of The "Spay Campaign" surrendered dogs into our fold.

Please let us know if you might be interested in supporting us by volunteering in anyway at our charity shops or monthly markets, we are sure you would find it rewarding and fulfilling.

The 2020 AGM will take place mid to end January 2021 due to delayed audit, the Financials will be available at the AGM and on request anne@animalrescue.org.za

Anne



As it has for so many individuals and organizations alike, COVID-19 has been frustrating at best, and debilitating at worst for the ARO hospital team. At the start of the hard lock down in March this year, we had no option but to immediately suspend all mobile clinics. This was to protect our staff both from infection, and dangers associated with community unrest and increased crime levels. Fortunately, we were considered essential services and the home clinic and hospital has been functional all the way through the lock down, albeit at reduced capacity with our staff divided in two teams. This was in order to protect us from a total shutdown should any of us test positive.

This has been an emotional time for us all, as we have had to cope with an increased case load coming from a growing number of animal owners becoming dependent on the welfare system as unemployment figures have climbed along with the infection rate. Fewer people can contribute even a small donation towards their animal's medical expenses. We continue to provide the best possible veterinary care for our patients regardless of remuneration.

With little regard for our own health, the ARO hospital team was at the forefront of the COVID-19 battle, ensuring that our animals from the poorer communities we serve do not suffer at the expense of this 'human' disaster. However, the full effect of all this is still to come, and it would be naive to assume that animals have not been affected by the outbreak.

Fortunately, in August, we were able to get our Mobile clinics back in action. The demand for veterinary attention in the communities we serve was made very clear to us from the many phone calls we received during our time of absence.

These communities have absolutely no means to transport their animals to the ARO hospital, so the mobile clinics have been very well received upon their return. Sadly we saw the resignation of one of our senior Animal Welfare Assistant, Templeton Ntoza at end of August, for health related reasons, he was considered to be in the high risk group for COVID-19. We wish him all the very best as he heads back to his hometown in the Eastern Cape and thank him for his years of service to ARO. It has unfortunately meant that we have had to once again temporarily suspend one of our mobiles until we find a suitably qualified Animal Welfare Assistant to take over. In the meantime, this mobile clinic is being used to collect and deliver animals for sterilisation from Mitchell's Plain as part of the COCT funded sterilisation campaign. We are aiming to sterilise 250 animals from this area before the end of November. Hopefully by this time, we will have a suitable AWA to continue our efforts in our usual communities.

On a more positive note, I am very happy to have Oscar's Arc - Woof Project take over our adoption efforts. We have had a 100% adoption rate with them over the past few months. As more and more animals are being surrendered to us in the wake of this year's outbreak, it is comforting to know that we can at last give these animals a fighting chance of being rehomed.

I would like to personally thank all that have remembered us throughout this year and contributed financially towards our efforts. Without you, I would never be able to do what I do.



Dr. Reuben Kotze



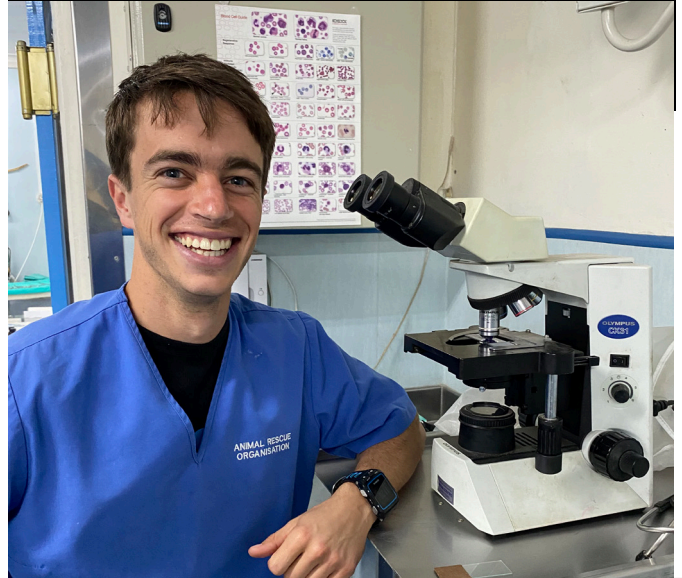
MOBILE CLINICS

We are very grateful to the National Lotteries Commission for contributing funds to keep our Mobile Clinics directly aiding animal welfare, every day in communities. 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 sterilisation's to the very poor who come for assistance.



DR CHRISTOPHER FIELDING

ARO bids farewell to Dr Christopher Fielding as he follows his dream in farm fishing. Thank you for your immeasurable contribution you made during your time at ARO. All the best with your next adventure. You will be missed by the ARO team.



START YOUR FESTIVE SHOPPING

★ All these items can be viewed on our online shop page. You can order online or email aro@animalrescue.org.za and orders can be collected from our Charity Shops.



Dog & Cat Mugs
R100



Socks
R45



Purses
R25



Creams
R30



Loopy Masks
R100

CHRISTMAS CARDS 2020

Christmas Cards will be on sale at Constantia Village from 16 November – 15 December 2020 and at selected vets / vet shops. Cost R25 per pack of 5; to order, please email aro@animalrescue.org.za or call 021 396 5511.



RONDEBOSCH CRAFT MARKET

The much-loved Rondebosch Craft Market on the corner of Sandown and Campground roads, has resumed for trade and we can only encourage everyone to go there and support the stalls over the Festive Season. Dogs on leashes are most welcome.

For enquiries about Rondebosch Craft Market please email aro@animalrescue.org.za or on 021 396 5511



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 Charne at ARO's reception desk on 021 396 5511 to arrange a collection time that suits you.



Bergvliet Charity Shop:

Situated 51 Main Road, Bergvliet
021 715 7525. Open weekly 9h30 to 16h30
and Saturdays 9h00-13h00.

Kalk Bay Charity Shop:

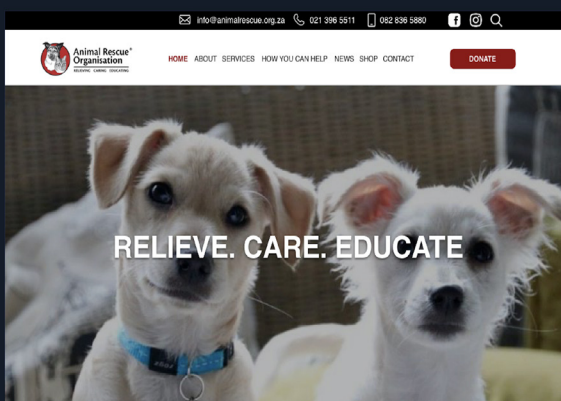
On the Main Road in Kalk Bay, opposite the Trading Post, turn into Belmont Road. ARO's charity shop is situated opposite PAPAGAYA in Belmont Road. Open from Wednesday – Sunday (weather dependent) for more information contact Geraldine 082 805 5005.

AGM NOTICE:

Due to COVID-19, there has been a delay with our annual audit. As a result, ARO will host the AGM in early 2021.

WE'RE GETTING A GROOM

Next time you see us, we'll have a beautiful new website for you to browse!



COLLECTION TINS

ARO raises funds via collections tins and can 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?

Contact
aro@animalrescue.org.za
or 021 396 5511



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 Teagan Schwerin 021-3965511 or email on teagan@animalrescue.org.za



TO ADVERTISE IN THIS NEWSLETTER

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SCAN TO DONATE

