



QAWS
QATAR ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY
جمعية قطر لرعاية الحيوان

QAWS News

July/August 2011

Qatar Animal Welfare Society
www.qaws.org Tel. 5539 6074
[facebook.com/qaws.org](https://www.facebook.com/qaws.org)

****Summer opening hours****








Please remember our new opening hours for the summer months:

7.30-9.30am and 4.00-6.00pm open everyday

Regular volunteers are welcome everyday. First time visitors and those interested in adoptions can visit between 4.00-6.00pm Thursday-Saturday (inclusive) to speak with a member of staff.

Keeping your pet cool this summer

We don't need to tell you that summer in Qatar has well in truly arrived but we'd like to remind everyone about the importance of helping your furry friends get through the summer months and some helpful hints to get keep cool.

-  Keep them hydrated—your pet should have easy and constant access to water. As well as keeping water bowls topped up you can give your pet ice cubes to lick or place in their water to keep their water cool. For a special treat why not try freezing yoghurt or chicken or beef broth in ice cube trays? Please note that is important to keep an eye on your pet when they are eating the ice cubes.
-  Avoid exercising during peak hours—take your dog for a walk or limit outside play with your pet to the early morning or later in the evening/at night when temperatures are lower.
-  Watch for the warning signs—cats and dogs can't sweat like humans to cool off and will pant to try and bring their body temperatures down. Heavy panting, glazed eyes, rapid pulse, unsteadiness, staggering gait, vomiting or a deep red or purple tongue are all signs of heat stress and action should be taken immediately. Move your pet into the shade and apply cool water over their body to lower their temperature. Apply cool towels or ice packs to your pet's head, neck and chest. Let your pet drink small amounts of water or lick ice cubes. Most importantly, get your pet to a veterinarian immediately.
-  Never leave your pet alone in a car. Your car can heat up to extremely high temperatures in just minutes and pets who are left in hot cars, even briefly, can suffer from heat exhaustion, heat stroke, brain damage, and even death.
-  Don't forget about the strays animals out there! A dish of water doesn't take much effort and will help keep a stray animal to stay cool when the temperatures are soaring.



Canine Characters:

Toni

This adorable little scruff is Toni. Born at the shelter after her mother, Lizzy, arrived pregnant to QAWS, Toni was a New Year delivery at the beginning of 2010 along with her sisters Flo (who is also still at QAWS) and Maisie (who has found her forever home). Now at 18 months old, Toni is a medium sized dog who is very well socialised with other dogs and people and loves to play with her sister Flo. Toni is described by some of our regular volunteers as "a real sweetheart and so good with people" and "lovely to be around, a gorgeous girl". Toni has been fully vaccinated and would love to find her forever home.

If you would like to meet Toni or any one of our other dogs, please come to the QAWS shelter for an introduction.





**Feline Friends:
Marmalade**

Mischievous Marmalade is one of our longest resident cats having arrived at QAWS when she was a kitten. She is approximately 14 months old and is a very inquisitive little lady. Marmalade loves her cuddles and is a real talker, letting all our volunteers know that she would like some attention please! Marmalade has been fully vaccinated and is ready to find her new home where she can get loads of love and affection.



If you would like to meet Marmalade or any one of our other cats, please come to the QAWS shelter for an introduction.

A very special thank you goes to all our volunteers who are still in Doha and braving the summer heat to come and help at QAWS! Every volunteer counts!



Looking for a new way to help QAWS? If you've walked a dog or cuddled a cat recently and can let our prospective adopters know about that animal's great personality or unique quirk then leave a comment on their individual profile page at the QAWS Facebook group www.facebook.com/qaws.org and help our animals find their forever home!

Souq Waqif animal souq in the press

A recent article by the Gulf Times highlighted what has become a very obvious public concern over the conditions of the animals being sold at Souq Waqif. QAWS regularly receives enquiries from concerned individuals who are distressed at what they see and want to know what they can do. If you are interested in voicing your opinions at the conditions of the animals at Souq Waqif you can email the Ministry of Environment's Animal Resources Department at Hassan.groupvet@gmail.com and address your email to Dr. Mahmoud Hassan. Every email can make a difference!

QAWS makes regular visits to the Souq to monitor the situation and will continue to do so to speak up for those who cannot do so themselves.

If you or someone you know is a visitor to the souq, please remember that as heartbreaking as the situation may be down there, purchasing an animal will continue to enable the trade of animals at the souq. Speak up for the animals by voicing your opinion of the condition to the Animal Resources Department.

**Remember me?
Monty and Larry**

I started out as a volunteer at QAWS helping out in the three cabins of cats and kittens by brushing and socialising them. When Manky arrived at QAWS he was a two year old neutered male who had been dumped by his owner. His coat appeared to be black and white but he was so dirty, smelly and unkept that it was difficult to tell. I kept thinking about him and after discussion with the staff I agreed to foster him with the hope that his health may improve. I took him home, gave him a wash, a good diet and after lots of TLC, he has never looked back! I renamed him Monty



and after serious consideration adopted him. He settled down but was lonely when I went to work so I thought a companion would be a good idea. During my visits to QAWS I had become

acquainted with the cats and now came the difficult decision about which one to take. A one year old male called Larry came to mind. I first noticed him due to his unusual colouring - chocolate brown and white Siamese mix. He had been in QAWS since a kitten and appeared to be overlooked for adoption because he was unsociable with people. Despite this I really felt he deserved a chance and brought him home. Monty to my surprise was not happy with this new addition and Larry spent the first couple of days hiding under the bed coming to terms with his new home! Larry finally appeared, went straight up to Monty and after they rubbed heads together – they have been inseparable ever since! Larry is still nervous of people and always looks to Monty for reassurance but he grows in confidence everyday. They run around, play fight and generally cause havoc but it is great to see them so happy. QAWS deserves the credit for taking them in and keeping them safe until they found their forever home. *From Marie Quinn (aka Monty and Larry's Mum)*

Interested in sponsoring a dog kennel or cat condo?

For QR250 per month your sponsorship will assist the shelter by covering the cost of maintaining one dog kennel or cat condo on an annual basis. If you are interested in further information on becoming a sponsor, please email volunteer@qaws.org or speak to a member of staff for further details.



Splendid Salukis!

Many of the dogs that come to QAWS have an element of the Saluki breed in them whether it is their lean body, feathered ears or love of a cozy corner to snooze! So just who are these beautiful creatures?

Salukis are very special and unique to the Middle Eastern region and are considered to be the most ancient breed of domestic dog, images of Salukis have been found in Egyptian tombs that date back thousands and thousands of years.

Salukis were used as hunting dogs by Arab nomads as were known as ‘El Hor’, the Noble One (we think some of our Saluki mixes are pretty noble pooches!).

If you are considering adopting a Saluki mix, as with any dog, it is important to not only get to know the dog and find out as much about them as you can but to also take into consideration your own home environment, lifestyle and expectations for adopting.

So what does owning a Saluki or Saluki mix mean? Salukis and Saluki mixes are often misunderstood as being dogs that would require *hours* of exercise given their history as dogs that were bred to run. The Saluki does require either space to run or a good walk on the leash to meet their daily exercise requirements and as sight hounds with incredible vision, they may be tempted to chase something that captures their attention. They are also incredibly fast so it is important to keep them on a leash for their own safety. They are the Olympic sprinters of the dog world! They may be hunters by nature but Salukis are also known for their ‘mellow’ attitude to life and are sometimes found to be quite shy. Given the choice, most of our Saluki mixes would prefer a nap on their pillows rather than a rough-and-tumble play session. Salukis might be ‘chasers’ but they are also renowned couch potatoes!



Our very own Saluki, the very handsome Grey



Gorgeous Sebastian is a real sweetie!

As a family pet, Salukis are known for their devotedness to their owners and their gentleness. They love to be pampered (what dog wouldn’t?!) and soft bedding to cushion their lean bodies is important. Or else your couch would do just nicely...

As with any dog, having the time to devote to them and providing them with a comfortable and secure environment really can bring the best out in these dogs – making them a loyal and loving

companion for many years to come.

Please help!

With over 100 dogs and puppies and cats and kittens in our care and many more waiting desperately for a space at the shelter, QAWS is in need of donations of pet food to help keep our many animals fed.

Our specific ‘wish list’ is for:

- Cat and kitten food — Purina Cat Chow biscuits, Whiskers cat and kitten food or Meow Mix kitten biscuit)
- Dog and puppy food — Purina Dog Chow biscuits, Purina Puppy Chow biscuits, Pedigree tinned meat (dog or puppy)

Why does QAWS specify brands of pet food to donate? QAWS tries to keep to a set brand of food for our animals as it is important to try and maintain a consistent diet to avoid upset tummies that using a variety of different brands can result in. We have also found that these are the brands of food that our animals will eat which of course is very important!

Donations of pet food can be dropped off at the QAWS shelter or in the QAWS donation bin found at Qatar Veterinary Centre (opposite Villaggio). If you or someone you know would like to make a donation but cannot get to either of these locations, please contact QAWS on 5539 6074 or email contact@gaws.org to arrange collection.





New quarantine laws for UK

From 1st January 2012 the immigration laws for sending your cat or dog to the UK will change which will mean taking your pet to the UK will (hopefully!) be much easier. So what does this mean if you are moving to the UK from Qatar? As a 'non listed/approved country' any dog or cat entering the UK directly from Qatar or via an non-EU country will be allowed to enter the UK without quarantine as long as they meet the following EU entry requirements:

- be identified by a microchip
- be vaccinated against rabies
- have a blood sample taken by an authorised veterinarian at least 30 days after vaccination and three months before travelling to an EU country
- have a blood test result from an EU-approved laboratory showing that the rabies antibody titre was equal to or more than 0.5 IU/ml
- be accompanied by a certificate issued by an official veterinarian certifying compliance with the above requirements



QAWS volunteer and Committee Member Lucielle hopes that the changes will have an impact on pet owners moving to the UK who might have previously considered surrendering their pet for reasons such as the costly mandatory 6 month quarantine regulation that their pet needed to go through. Lucielle also hopes that prospective pet owners who might have previously decided not to adopt an animal in Qatar due to the 6 month quarantine period will consider adopting now that it is easier to go to the UK with a pet.

QAWS Chairwoman Janet also highlighted the impact she saw the new law change in having, "the amendment to the rules on importing pets...is one of the best pieces of news for pet owners in a long time. The current requirement for pets to serve six months quarantine on arrival is both emotionally and financially difficult for those affected".

"QAWS is looking forward to a rise in adoptions as people become aware of the new regulations. The quarantine requirement has often been the deciding factor between adopting a rescue pet or not".

Janet highlighted the need for pet owners to recognise that the rules for importing their pet to the UK are still strict but with sufficient preparation, pet owners can ensure that the move be a smooth one for them and their pet.

As the link between QAWS and Qatar Pet Relocators has always been strong it is hoped that people will now seek the expert advice that is readily available, follow the guidelines and be prepared in advance for a move to the UK when the need arises. A 10% discount on export relocation fees is offered to all QAWS rescue animals. For details visit www.qatarpetrelocators.com or email: contact@qatarpetrelocators.com

So, if you have been thinking about adopting a new pet from QAWS but might have previously been put off by the quarantine laws, come and visit the shelter. We guarantee one of our residents will make the trip worthwhile!!

Foster homes needed!



Q.A.W.S. is looking for foster homes to provide a temporary home for animals who are waiting desperately for a place at the shelter. Full support and advice is offered to all our foster homes so ***if you are interested in fostering an animal, please contact Q.A.W.S. on 5539 6074 or email contact@gaws.org with your availability.***