



Q.A.W.S News

May/June 2010



Qatar Animal Welfare Society
www.qaws.org
Tel. 539 6074

New summer opening hours

As the summer months are upon us and the temperature rises, Q.A.W.S. has adjusted our opening hours to accommodate our furry (and not so furry!) friends. Volunteers are welcome everyday from 7.30-9.30am and 4.00-6.00pm. First time visitors and those interested in adopting a Q.A.W.S. animals can visit between 4.00-6.00pm Thursday-Tuesday (inclusive) to speak with a member of staff.



FurBall Frolics!

Thursday 4th March saw the 3rd Q.A.W.S. FurBall at the **Ramada Plaza Doha Hotel**. With more than 400 people in attendance, over QAR 100,000 was raised to go towards the re-building of the shelter and to help with the daily operating costs of the shelter and its residents. A fantastic array of prizes were available in the raffle and up for bid in the silent and 'not-so-silent' auctions with the signed Manchester United shirt being the highlight of the night for one lucky bidder! As well as being a great opportunity to let everyone know that Q.A.W.S. is still up and running post-fire, it was also a chance for Q.A.W.S. to thank it's team of hard-working volunteers and numerous supporters without which we just couldn't operate. Q.A.W.S. sincerely thanks the lengthy list of companies, businesses and individuals who generously donated to the FurBall and looks forward to another brilliant night for the animals in 2011!



Q.A.W.S. Chairwoman Janet Berry and furry friends at the FurBall

Pet of the month:

Thor

This handsome fellow is one of our long term and very lovable residents, Thor. A very sweet and gentle 4 year old Saluki, Thor was rescued as a stray from the Sealine beach area with Chloe and Zoe (who have both since been adopted). Thor has been at Q.A.W.S. for almost 3 years now and is one of our 'office dogs' along with Linus and Albie, who give a friendly 'woof!' to welcome to all our visitors and volunteers. Thor has been neutered, vaccinated and is ready for a forever home. Thor would need some help with house training and is best suited to a home without cats. He is great with children and other dogs and is a pleasure to walk.



Q.A.W.S. takes to the road

One of our most generous donations to date has been that of a vehicle!! **Cora and Anton Warnas**, two lifelong animal lovers who recently left Qatar decided, as a parting gift, to donate their much loved Ford Explorer to Q.A.W.S to be used as an animal collection vehicle. To Cora and Anton we say a very big thank you! Watch out for the Q.A.W.S. car around town when we have our new paint job and logos completed!!



Q.A.W.S. Committee Member Kelly Allen receiving the keys from Anton & Cora Warnas

Are you on Facebook?

Why not become a friend of Q.A.W.S. and find out about the latest news, events and animals available for adoption! Visit :
<http://facebook.com/group.php?gid=88447569613>



Volunteer News

To our terrific team of tireless volunteers, keep up the good work! The mercury is rising so please remember to drink lots of water while dog walking or cat cuddling!
*If you would like to contribute any news, photos or stories to the Q.A.W.S. newsletter, please send them to volunteer@qaws.org We'd love to hear from you!





Hot tips for cool pets in summer:



- * Never leave your pet in the 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.
- * Make sure your pet has constant access to water. Having cool water available on demand will reduce the risk of heat stress.
- * Exercise wisely. Pets need exercise even when its hot but extra care needs to be taken with older dogs, short-nosed dogs and those with thick coats. On very hot days, limit exercise to early morning or late evening. Keep in mind that asphalt gets hot and can burn your pet’s paws. Pets with light-coloured noses or light-coloured fur on their ears are vulnerable to sunburn and skin care, you can help prevent this by applying sunblock .
- * Be familiar with signs of from heat stress. These are heavy panting, glazed eyes, rapid pulse, unsteadiness, staggering gait, vomiting or a deep red or purple tongue.
- * If you think your pet is suffering from heat exhaustion and heat stroke, take action immediately! Move your pet into the shade and apply cool (not cold) water over their body to lower their temperature. Apply cool towels or ice packs to your pet’s head, neck and chest only. Let your pet drink small amounts of water or lick ice cubes. Most importantly, get your pet to a veterinarian immediately.

Fabulous Foster Families!!

We would like to extend a BIG thank you to everyone who has supported Q.A.W.S. through fostering an animal.

Following the fire at Q.A.W.S. last September, we were over whelmed at the number of people who came forward to foster our animals, some who still are!

Fostering is an incredible way of helping us out, whether it is a dog who has just arrived to us and needs some extra TLC, a pregnant cat who needs a quiet space to have her kittens or dog that needs to learn how to live in a house, our foster parents and families are one of our biggest assets.

If you are interested in fostering an animal, please contact us via phone or email.



Q.A.W.S. t-shirts and polo shirts for sale!

Support the re-building of Q.A.W.S. by purchasing one of our ‘Project Phoenix’ t-shirts or polo shirts. Polo shirts are QAR 60 each and come in sizes M, L and XL. T-shirts are QAR 40 each and comes in sizes XS, S and M.

Available for purchase at Q.A.W.S.



Thinking caps on!

Thanks to our fantastic supporters who turned up to help raise money for Q.A.W.S. and specifically for Maisie’s surgery on 4th May at **Garvey’s**. We made over QR2000 which went straight to the Vets to help Maisie and her broken leg (who is healing wonderfully and will be back up and running very soon!). Congratulations to the aptly named “The Geeks” who won first prize, and to the winners of the Wooden Spoons “Riyal Doha”. A great night was had by all with good food and lots of laughs.



“The Geeks” show off their first place prizes

DIY pet toys

Got a good idea you’d like to share with us about how to keep your moggy amused or pooch on the go? We’d love to hear from you!

This toy is made out of used toilet rolls glued together to make a pyramid. Place cat treats or biscuits inside to encourage natural foraging instincts.



Operation: Happy Sock!



Maybe the easiest cat toy around. Take a sock, stuff it with a fistful of polyfill, add a pinch of catnip and tie a knot in the ankle. And there you have it, your Happy Sock! <http://ohappysock.blogspot.com/>



Free Veterinary Services!

Just a reminder that the Animal Resource Department on Airport Road offers free vaccinations for dogs and cats (DHPPi, Fel-O-Vax & rabies) and can also be used for free neutering of cats too! Why not round up your local strays and take them in to be fixed and help prevent thousands more kittens being born wild?

A location map can be found on the official Q.A.W.S. Facebook page: <http://facebook.com/group.php?gid=88447569613>





ROTA inspires empowerment at Q.A.W.S.

The morning of Saturday 3rd April was a hive of activity down at the shelter as Q.A.W.S. welcomed a crowd of some 60 young volunteers as part of the 2010 Reach Out To Asia Empower Youth Conference.

The focus of the conference was on leadership, service learning and global citizenship and this year, Q.A.W.S. was proud to be a part of the service projects which made up the third day of the conference.

The volunteers got to meet the furry residents at Q.A.W.S. and learn more about what Q.A.W.S. does and while some volunteers indulged their artistic streak and painted a welcome mural, the K9 residents were delighted to give the volunteers a guided tour of their home as another group participated in a group dog walk around the farm.

Volunteers also helped out with cat cuddling, animal socialisation and feeding the farm animals as Bella the donkey, Ferdie the bull, Gravey the sheep and, one of our newest additions to the farm, Miskeena the horse, were the focus of lots of love and attention! As an organisation that greatly values its volunteers and community involvement, Q.A.W.S. was delighted to be part of such a fantastic event and looks forward to many more like it in the future.

Thank you ROTA!



Happy Tails for Cracker!

We are delighted to see one of our long term residents, Cracker, find a forever home at last! Cracker was a stray that was brought to Q.A.W.S. in December 2008 who was in a critical care for 5 days before he was taken into foster care by one of our dedicated volunteers, Roger. A true Saluki, Cracker was a reminder of how this breed of dogs are known as ‘desert dogs’. Says Roger, “the sight of Cracker on the dunes was amazing, clearly loving it and charging around just for fun”.

Cracker is now enjoying life as a member of the Salmon family where he loves his outings in the car, tearing around the lawn at and snoozing on his own mattress with custom bedding! Cracker’s new ‘Mum’ Tracey says “it’s the small things that keep him happy and touches our hearts. He is the right dog for us”.



"Happy is the home with at least one cat" - Italian Proverb



Qatar Academy goes Quackers for Q.A.W.S!

A long time supporter of Q.A.W.S, **Qatar Academy** continued their tremendous fundraising efforts with a donation to Q.A.W.S. from their annual charity fundraising event, ‘Quackfest’ (Qatar’s Ultimate Art, Community, and Kreativity Festival).

This years Quackfest saw over 2000 people in attendance with door sales, games, arts, crafts and food stalls raising around QAR 53,000 which was donated to Q.A.W.S. and Reach Out to Asia’s Bayan Klaten Indonesian School.

Q.A.W.S. Chairwoman Janet Berry and Committee Member Lucille Burger attended a ceremony at Qatar Academy to receive the cheque which was used to pay off the Q.A.W.S. veterinary bill at the Qatar Veterinary Centre.



Dr. Nicola Wilson at QVC receiving the Qatar Academy cheque from Q.A.W.S. Committee Member Lucielle Burger

Coming events...

19th June – Doha Mums Summer Market. Handicrafts, toys, jewellery, clothing and more. 1-4pm at the Ballroom, Sharq Village & Spa. QAR20 per adult. Come along and check out the Q.A.W.S. stall!

19-25th July – Q.A.W.S. volunteer Carl Roberts will be raising money for Q.A.W.S. by climbing Africa’s highest mountain, Kilimanjaro. You pledge support to Carl in his 100km trek up 4600m by donating to Q.A.W.S. directly via contact@qaws.org or tel. 539 6074. Good luck Carl!!





Kilimanjaro Climb for Q.A.W.S

Dedicated Q.A.W.S. volunteer Carl Roberts is set to climb Mount Kilimanjaro between the 19th and 25th July this year. A lifelong dream of his, Carl has generously offered to turn this expedition into a fundraising opportunity for Q.A.W.S. Says Carl, “I enjoying working with Q.A.W.S. and we have a relationship now. This is the right thing to do – if my climb can benefit someone then why not?” As part of his training regime, Carl runs with some of the dogs at QAWS every Saturday morning. You can follow Carl’s training and adventures through the Facebook group “Kilimanjaro Climb for Q.A.W.S.” <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=110381052341001&ref=ts> Anyone willing to sponsor Carl on his adventures can do so through the group or by contacting Q.A.W.S. directly. Together with Carl’s incredible journey we are hoping to raise enough money to see us through the difficult summer months. Q.A.W.S Chairwoman Janet Berry is delighted about this great example of support that the Doha community offer, and says “we will be with him every step of the way”.



A big thank you from Q.A.W.S. to...

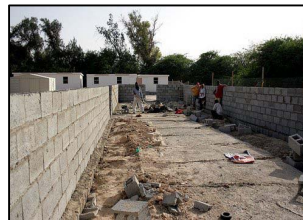
Our loyal supporters from TLC’s Roots & Shoots group who, together with their continued support volunteering at the shelter, donated QAR1,500. To **Svetlana Savic and her ballet students** who donated over QAR3,600 in door sales from their dance recital. Gracias goes to **iDance Salsa Qatar** who took donations for Q.A.W.S. at their Salsa at the Sharq salsa lesson! These wonderful dancers will have a beginners lesson every Thursday from 9pm – 10pm at the Al Dana Lounge (Sharq Village) with donations going to Q.A.W.S To the **Grade 5 girls at Qatar Academy** who supported Q.A.W.S. in their ‘Saving the Planet’ PYP project raising not only over QAR2800 but awareness of Q.A.W.S. within the community. To **The American School of Doha** who over the last few months have raised over QAR 30,000 towards the rebuilding of the shelter and the day to day running costs. To **Doha College Primary School** who raised over QAR2,500 from their business project which went straight to the building fund. The ever generous **Tuesday Ladies Group** also donated QAR 5,000 towards the building fund – thank you ladies! *And to anyone else we’ve missed, thank for your support, we couldn’t do it without you!!*

What’s going on at Q.A.W.S.?

Our eternal gratitude goes out to **SpaceMaker** and **Gulf Housing** who generously donated 3 portacabins which are currently housing all of the QAWS cats, kittens and puppies. The new kitten rooms have been a hit with all our visitors and kittens alike, and is all thanks to the Animal Medical Care Foundation (www.amcf.nl) whose supporters raised the money to equip them.



Inside one of the portacabins in the kitten room
As all of our visitors will have noticed, the temporary shelter has been removed and work has begun on our new air-conditioned concrete shelter. Phase One is 40 indoor kennels which should be up and running by the end of June. Phase Two will see the addition of external runs to the building once the next target needed for building funds has been raised.



Phase One of the new kennels at Q.A.W.S.

Another fundraising success

What a great turn-out! On 22nd May 27 teams made up of Qatar’s best scavengers set off on a tour of Doha collecting the required items and photos. With the return of the teams, the Table Top Sale began and a great time was had by everyone. With rubber ducks and giant inflatable animals in the pool, a raffle, bake sale and more, there was plenty for everyone. Over QR12,000 was made on the day – all of which went towards the building of the new shelter. A huge thank you to **Garvey’s** for offering us their facilities and to **Byrne Equipment Rental** for the generator!

Thank you from Ferdie and all the Q.A.W.S. residents!

