



Friends of GAWT Newsletter November 2010

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Bite: Thanks to all the staff at Himalaya Yoga Valley, Goa, for responding to our needy cry for blankets at the Canacona centre.

They very kindly donated £200 from a workshop they held.

We love your generosity and so do the sick animals.

Bite: Welcome back also to Diana Chandler, who is volunteering with us for six months.

Just before leaving the UK she held two successful fundraisers and raised more than £400 for which we are very thankful.

You can find her on the Goa Animal Welfare Trust Facebook site or befriend her on her own site.

Good to have you back, Di.



Hello friends of GAWT

Welcome to our new style Goa Animal Welfare Trust (GAWT) Newsletter. We decided we had the technology to reinvent ourselves and hopefully make our Newsletters more interesting to read.

We are in test design stage; any feedback you can provide on what you like / don't like will be great. We cannot say we will make all the changes you asked for but we will certainly take them into consideration. Now on to this month's news . . . and we have lots to tell you.

We need your support.

Clodagh

Editor

Email: friendsofgawt@gawt.org



It's Here! The Great Road Trip is on - Rebecca needs your support

Rebecca Dyball, who has been a Friend of GAWT and supporter for several years, is leaving the UK on 13th November to start her fundraising bicycle marathon around Rajasthan, covering an average of 75k every day for five days, to raise much-needed funds for us.

Donations, however small, will be hugely appreciated.

We have been experiencing a significant increase in our workload since the beginning of this year, but unfortunately the donations we rely on so greatly, have not kept pace, so Beccy's trip is very important to our work for the coming year.

The distances she is aiming to cover are ambitious but she has been in intense training for the last few months for this, and is very confident she can do it.

Please give her your support and sponsorship by going to www.gawt.org and click on 'donations' where you can pay by PayPal, and under 'special instructions' write Rebecca Dyball.

If you prefer to sponsor her by cheque, send it, made out to Friends of Goa Animal Welfare Trust, 68B Hadyn Park Road, Shepherds Bush, London W12 9AG.

You can follow Beccy on Facebook at Beccy's Indian Cycle Adventure.

Remember, what seems like a small amount of sterling to you, actually goes a long way in India, so all donations, however small, will be welcome and will help keep Beccy motivated on this big adventure.

Itinerary:

DAY 1: Fly London - Delhi

DAY 2: Transfer to Agra to rest and acclimatise.

DAY 3: Visit Taj Mahal. Bike fitting

DAY 4: Start the challenge through colourful Rajasthan Ride to camp near Bashawar. 71km

DAY 5: Scenic cycling, rural Rajasthan at its best. Stay at Bhadrawadi Palace. 99km

DAY 6: Ride to Pink City of Jaipur. Free time in the afternoon to explore. 70km

DAY 7: Desert scenery, hill top forts. Camp near Sambhar Lake. 80km

DAY 8: Finish ride with celebratory meal in sand dunes outside Pushkar. 67km

DAY 9: Explore India's greatest camel fair in Pushkar. Overnight train to Delhi.

DAY 10: Fly Delhi - London



Seminar on Horse Welfare

Our recently opened Wildlife Section carried out a survey to try to find out the number of horses and horse-owners in South Goa, and to our surprise we discovered there are almost forty.

However we also found that many of these wonderful animals were lacking proper care and management. On 24th October last we held a one-day seminar on Horse Welfare and Veterinary Care.

Leading the day was Dr G S Khandekar, Associate Professor of Surgery at Bombay Veterinary College, Mumbar. We had a full house and a very lively day. Dr Khandekar not only spoke on surgery and horses, but also spent some time answering everyone's questions about their own horses.

All those present were given a booklet on Horse Care, and at the end everyone went away feeling much better informed, and knowing that Dr Jayram would be happy to help and advise them in the future.

Another first for GAWT.

Wildlife Section

When Sunil Korajkar approached us to set our a Wildlife Section, he had already been working with wildlife for fifteen years, at Green Cross-Goa. We welcomed him on board and he has now set up our **Wildlife Section** at Curchorem, working alongside Dr Jayram and Dr Vishnu, who is a large animal expert, and the team is assisted by Prakash.

They now deal with the increasing amount of enquiries from farmers, schools and householders on how to deal with unwelcome wildlife visitors

The Team have been catching snakes, including a large python, in and around our shelter at Curchorem. Once caught he takes them with him when he goes into schools, as part of our education programme, to talk to the children about animal welfare and how to look after pets.

As well as this work, he is trained to deal with cruelty case reports, which can be legally quite complex here, with charges or convictions being extremely rare. In these he works together with our Trustees Carmina Fernandes and Sheryl Furtado.

So, a very busy man, and we are just delighted to have him on board.

The Grey Lady



When John Horton came into Canacona shelter looking for help to treat a local stray dog who had an eye infection, we gave him some drops.

They worked and he gave us his poem about her to thank us.

John named her The Grey Lady and we took her pictures for you to see her.

The Grey Lady

*The little street dog that I found
in two thou eight wandering around
the taxi stand where she would wait
for scraps of food no others ate.*

*she's just so sweet, so near perfection
but being old she needs protection
too old to wander beach and street
with ever daily need to eat
she's getting older, all can see
she's slow and grey, a bit like me.*

*In summer's heat she shoreline seeks
in rain to disused shops retreats.*

*The food I serve her I can see
that unlike her it's Pedigree.
Ferocious fleas demand a vetting,
But what she craves is loving, petting
some may think her rough and shady
she's gentle, refined and she's my Grey Lady.*

[Click here](#) to see a short video

Check out our website: www.gawt.org

Designer: Linda Cree (Volunteer)