

## A pit stop!

The awesome growth spurt over the last three months caught us with our pants around our ankles both from those that support us and those we assist. We wished for a washing machine and now believe in Father Christmas again . . . but quickly had to build a place with running water and a septic tank for it. We also took this opportunity to add a toilet, fencing, hot water and small lock up room at the clinic as well. Six weeks of being knee deep in cement and nails will be worth it as we are now far better organised for the onslaught of the Oncoming summer diseases madness. How good it is to have a well stocked medicine cabinet, a flushing toilet, hot running water and R1280 in the bank ! We TRY to show Our extreme appreciation to you all by just doing the 'job' the best we can.

### GIVERS



and

### RECEIVERS



Just after being picked up . .

## Dying for a piece of that pie...

TAWI is still very new on the block and stirring the pot may not be politically correct. . . but what is nowadays . . . but there seems to be a lot of unwise thinking and a lot of **wasted resources** out there in Animal Welfare circles when 'our passionate compassion' gets misguided. The little pie there is, coming from a small pool of philanthropists (like yourself) who want to 'make a difference' Often gets wasted and that at the expense of so many of the unfortunate, unseen and forgotten dogs in our country.

Here in the Transkei we unfortunately see a lot of those who don't get a share of no pie. . . Yet there are shelters with ±1000 dogs which have no option but to keep the animals in cages, sometimes for 23 hrs in a day! Can you imagine what this costs in Rands, human resources and 'dog stresses'?

As, animal lovers, we want to save them all and often fall into the **band aid trap**, the trap which takes our focus away from the bigger picture. One lady 'saved' a Transkei dog last year and was very proud of the R20, 000 or so she spent on treatment and toys... Eish!

One day, when I am brave enough, I would like to 'challenge' all AWO's to take their *total monthly budget and divide it by the number of dogs they treat Or see* . . . and then to publish these figures showing the average cost per animal. Yes, it's a minefield, but we need to all become more realistic so we can find ways in which the pie can be spread a bit more evenly to reach where it is necessary.

A wise veteran Animal Welfare Activist said to me: "Sterilisations are a luxury for the few and is not a realistic solution in a third world country". We need to 'get real' in this country if we are going to make that difference. . . 'WE LIVE IN AFRICA!'

Or am I the One being unreal. . . Is 'blind emotion' what keeps AWO's afloat ?

Someone remarked "you must add the gruesome photos of what you do . . . that puts cash in the kitty". I would prefer to believe those of you who put money in Our bank do it with enlightened and informed compassion . . . Or am I barking up the wrong tree?

Help steer us in the right direction and send your responses PLEASE!

A few of our very lucky 'shelter dogs' out on their daily walk . .



**A Muti adoption!**

(it is a myth Black people cannot take proper care of a Dog)



Last week Dr. Vukani, a traditional healer, adopted two of our k...  
*thinking what I think you may be thinking?* Before you throw y...  
'Doc' first, no appointment necessary. You could learn a thing...  
from the forest. . 'pure virgin olive oil' from a root growing in...  
he doesn't use animal parts!  
(We do check all our adoptions regularly)

### **Pavement Rave**

Six months ago this dog was picked up lying in the roadside gutter. Today she was brought in by her adopted minder and was spayed. Spider is now a cheerful, happy girl.

*We are able to find good homes for +- 5 animals pm after they are all 'fixed up'.*

### **Outreach**

Treating ±300 dogs per month and other stuff.

We dealt with a range of different diseases this month and are sadly seeing a lot more pups. Some rabid dogs caused havoc in 3 communities and spreading the disease. (The areas we work in are the worst in the country). We called in the Department of Veterinary Services who will now start off 'Rabies Day' by inoculating in these communities, thereby hopefully preventing further outbreaks. (Unfortunately they are not very efficient as these areas were not covered for 3 consecutive years.)

There was also an outbreak of 'kennel cough', affecting  $\pm 100$  dogs (Pfizer very kindly donated 50 inoculations so we were able to at least treat 25 pups). Cancer (TVT's) is another disease there is little we can do and why informing & educating is so important as these diseases spread like crazy especially as these are all free-roaming DOgs.



***A Dilemma Of note.***

*Our objective is to humanely decrease the dog population in the Transkei. But by treating hundreds of dogs against basic diseases we are causing an increase in the population in the areas we work. It is therefore important that we not only succeed in decreasing suffering but also succeed in encouraging homesteads to keep 'fewer, healthier dogs'.*



These 2 pensioners were very grateful after Victor set were also able to give them collars and leads donated

### Finances

#### JULY 2011

J.M. Fraser	R250.00
Carol Buchan	R500.00
Andrew Roy	R150.00
Heather Groenewald	R1 000.00
Jacqui Morgan	R 200.00
Johan Labuschagne	R 150.00
Gary Schach	R 250.00
Anonymous	R 600.00
Anonymous	R 50.00
Kerry Philp	R 500.00
Eugène du Pré	R 200.00
Dieter Dog Food Sales	R 200.00
Gervais Electrical	R 160.00
Sale of dog harness	R 60.00
	<b><u>R3 770.00</u></b>

For the washing machine we received:

Keightley Incorporated	R1 000.00
Desiree Marques Morera	R 120.00
Sabdla Sigadla	R 60.00
Elizabeth Ndinisa	R 20.00
Sharon Smith	R 100.00
Mike's B.M.W	R 100.00
Tanya le Roux	R 100.00

**R1 500.00** (This was used to purchase the washing machine.)

We received doggie leads from Tanya Le Roux, Elise Botes & Bob Martin

#### AUGUST 2011

Sharon Smith	R 100.00
Tarryn Day	R 200.00
Brett Harris	R 200.00
Vera Taylor	R 100.00
Andrew Roy	R 150.00

Carol Buchan	R 500.00
Gary Schach	R 250.00
Jennifer D. Loughlin	R 400.00
Tony & Ursula Gaitskill	R1 000.00
Anonymous	R 50.00
Dieter Dog Food Sales	R 200.00
Anne Haws	R 250.00
Heather Groenewald	R 500.00
J. Heldson	R 500.00
TONY & URSULA GAITSKILL	R 500.00
CARIEN TERRBLANCHE	R 100.00
CREMORNE	R 832.00
Leana Potgieter & Colleagues	R2 000.00
	<b><u>R8 332.00</u></b>

We received doggie beds from Tony and Ursula Gaitskill and doggie towels from Sharon Gailbraith.

### **Other *Glad & Sad* news**

- Sadly, as from October, the person who covered our shortfall will no longer be able to do so.
- Gladly we seem to be reaching more people like you and (almost) covering our costs.
- Sadly we have lost the services of the veterinarian who did most of our sterilisations.
- Gladly it looks like we will be able to compensate by working with the Department of Veterinary Services and their Mobile Clinic by doing these on location.
- Sadly we are being approached by more villages and unable to assist at this time.
- Gladly the above is also good news as it illustrates the desire to improve animal welfare.
- Sadly I refuse to keep too many shelter dogs as I will not keep them in cages.
- Gladly we will go where there is no road to be able to visit each homestead in a village.
- Sadly I refuse to bombard you with lots of sad photos as I respect your intellect.

If you have a copy of our DVD 'Dogs of the Transkei', please share it with others! We need all the exposure we can get so thanks in advance. If you would like to get your hands on a copy, please e-mail Michèle – we do however ask for a donation in return.

Please remember, anyone who may wish to visit the Wildcoast, TAWI would love to host you. We love involving 'our friends' and showing them what we do and how!

**A fundraising dance will be held at the Bowling Club in Mthatha on 15 October 2011. Snacks will be provided and there will be a cash bar. Tickets are R120.00 per person and Gordon Rudman will be your DJ for the evening. Please come along and bring a doggy bag for the sake of the doggies.**

### **Wish list**

Not wishing for too much this time as we might get it 😊. We would however appreciate the following :

- Used shade cloth
- Dogs beds & bedding
- Small external hard drive.
- A used bicycle for town work.

