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*Imagine a world where all animals are
treated with care and respect*

Animal Welfare Network Achievements 2018

AWN Management

The current AWN Committee consists of Sita Kuruvilla (Chair), Sara Maynard (V. Chair), Patricia Green (Treasurer), Natalie Boodram, Emily Cappon, Tisha Motilal and Kathleen Calliste. The Committee met monthly to oversee the implementation of our key programs. We got our new Website up and running thanks to Natalie and Patricia who coordinated the development of the new site and provided content.

We said goodbye to Mitra De Souza, our Education Coordinator who emigrated in September.

Earlier in the year, she and June Tompack received awards from the Volunteer Connection in recognition for their contribution to animal welfare.



Networking and collaboration with veterinary professionals and agencies with an interest in animal welfare is key to the operations of AWN. Our most important link is to veterinary professionals and in 2018 we maintained our working relationship with over 30 veterinary clinics, through which we provided spay and neuter services and veterinary care for rescued and abandoned animals.

AWN also continued to support the work of a group in south Trinidad who regularly visit the San Fernando Wharf and assist sick and injured dogs and cats that have been abandoned at the site.

Flood Relief Effort

The Animal Welfare Network (AWN) mounted an immediate response to distress calls from areas affected by the severe flooding in November 2018.

Temporary housing was arranged for animals in situations where owners had to leave their homes, a two week supply of food for dogs, cats and livestock was distributed to about 2500 animals in affected communities, and three free Veterinary Clinics were set up to examine, treat and vaccinate animals in St Helena, and Warrenville.



AWN Programs

Low Cost Spay and Neuter Program

The AWN spay and neuter program continues our efforts to provide a low cost service to members of the public who cannot afford the full cost of the surgery. Under the program, the client pays a greatly reduced fixed amount for a dog or cat spay or neuter and AWN

subsidises this further to an amount agreed to by participating veterinary clinics. **In 2018, a total of 380 spays and neuters were performed at 29 veterinary clinics throughout the country at a cost to AWN of approximately \$100,000.**

180 spay/neuters were subsidized by AWN and include animals taken in under AWN for rehabilitation and placement in new homes. In honour of International Homeless Animals Day on 18th August 2018, 200 spays and neuters were performed at no cost to the clients. We are very grateful to the veterinary clinics who support this program by reducing their rate for spay and neuter surgeries.

schools throughout the country. In order to ensure the ongoing success of the program, we produced with Ms De Souza's assistance, a training video for educators.



El Socorro Hindu Primary School taking part in a session

We focused on schools in the east this year and sessions were held for 26 classes in 13 primary schools. In order to improve delivery of the program, we hired three part time teachers for Trinidad and one teacher to assist with the expansion of the program to Tobago. Coordination of the program has been handed

over to a member of the AWN committee.



If you are interested in supporting or participating in the program, please contact us.

Rosie meeting children at the El Socorro Central Government Primary

Rescue and re-homing

We continue to be called upon to assist with animal rescues. This is not a focus of AWN's

the ANIMAL WELFARE network

AUGUST 18TH IS INTERNATIONAL HOMELESS ANIMALS' DAY

Spaying and neutering your pets can help to reduce the numbers of unwanted and homeless animals
 The Animal Welfare Network (AWN) is offering a **FREE** spay for dogs and cats for the month of August.

Find out about this offer, and also about our ongoing **LOW COST** nationwide spay program.
 Contact AWN at: 627-3449 / 763-5065
 Email: awnspay@gmail.com
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/AnimalWelfareNetwork

This program is geared for low income households and pensioners with mixed breed dogs (under 45 lbs) and cats.
 The program is available at participating veterinary clinics throughout the country.

Primary School Education Program

In 2018, we made some adjustments to the Primary School Education Program following the departure of our Education Coordinator Mitra De Souza. We are very grateful to Ms De Souza for developing the program in 2012 and delivering it successfully to primary



work, however the sheer numbers of abandoned, and ill-treated animals and the lack of services to available to deal with this



has resulted in almost daily requests for assistance. Of the many calls to which we responded there was notably the 'Maracas dog' with a fish hook stuck in her mouth, who we picked up for vet treatment and a spay and then returned to the beach where she



is cared for by vendors, and the porcupine victims from Chaguaramas who needed urgent vet care. We also took in Fernando, left tied to a tree on the priority bus route. **We are happy to report that Fernando got a great home!**



2018 was the year of the cats; we were inundated with calls for help with unwanted or found cats and kittens. We had so many kittens under our care

including Extra Small, affectionately known as XS who was found and brought to us. She was stunted and had severe gut problems and only survived as a result of the patience and dedication of the AWN member who fostered her. Rudy was also found with a badly injured foot but was saved from amputation by the efforts of Vinmer Clinic.

We are grateful to the veterinary clinics that give us favourable rates for vet care and boarding. The cost of veterinary services for rescue and rehabilitation for 2018 amounted to \$108,000.



Xtra Small (cat in bag)

Fundraising

Fundraising is essential to our survival and our main fundraisers continue to be the annual Car Boot Sale at the Queens Hall, usually held in April and the AWN Calendar and other locally produced items which are sold at Christmas sales at the end of the year.

We must thank Susan Shim, Patricia Green and Natalie Boodram for their hard work in organising the Car boot Sale and the original



organisers, the Bidly Bell Group who continue to work very hard to make this event a success.



Sara Maynard coordinated the development of the Calendar and we were very fortunate to have the celebrated photographer Abigail Hadeed, who worked long hours patiently photographing, bored or restless animals.

Marie-France Aqi (U&I Design Studio Ltd.) worked along with Abigail on the graphics, and



Abigail's photographs were also used on a selection of 3 notepads one of which was packaged for sale with the Calendar.

The theme of the 2019 Calendar is 'Speaking of Animals' which ties in commonly used animal related expressions with the monthly portraits of rescued animals.

We also sold T shirts, reusable bags and Christmas wrapping paper designed by Leizelle Gunness (The Art of Leizelle). The items were very well received by the public.



2019 calendar

All profits from the sale of this calendar go towards improving the welfare of animals in Trinidad & Tobago

In 2018 we incorporated the **MyPay Payment Solutions** system as a simple method of donating to AWN through Lotto Centres across Trinidad & Tobago. You simply go to your nearest Lotto booth and give them the **account # 26** for the Animal Welfare Network. Many thanks to Tahera Dolsingh for offering us this option.

If you would like to make a donation to help our work, you can also do this by direct deposit to our bank account in the name of **The Animal Welfare Network, A/c No. 110003138601 at Republic Bank Limited.**

Fireworks JSC report published in April 2018

In 2017 Patricia Green and Sita Kuruvilla participated in a session of the Joint Select Committee of Parliament on Fireworks. We submitted a position paper to the Committee that outlined our concerns about the impact of fireworks on animals and recommendations for changes to the existing legislation. Briefly, our recommendations were to restrict the use of fireworks by the public and limit their use to events that are licensed, supervised and adequately publicised, with established time frames and appropriate oversight. The JSC report with recommendations was published on 18th May, 2018 and can be viewed on the Parliament site at

www.ttparliament.org/reports/p11-s3-J-20180518-R5-SSPA.pdf

We urge our members and supporters to review the recommendations and press your MP's to support and implement.

The AWN Management Committee would like to send a big thank you to all our members and supporters who helped us to help animals in 2018, we are so grateful for your kind concern for animals and your confidence in the Animal Welfare Network.

If you would like to find out more about AWN, please contact us via:

Address:

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Telephone:

627-3449 (Voice mail only). Please leave a message.

E-Mail:

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