



Mayhew International Newsletter

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Welcome to Mayhew International's third newsletter!

"Animal suffering knows no borders"

Inside this issue we bring you updates of Mayhew International's work abroad and the global animals we have helped. Veterinary provisions around the world differ a great deal depending on their location, funding and support of local authorities. By travelling abroad, on behalf of Mayhew International, and welcoming vets to visit our own clinic facilities, we are able to share and impart knowledge which helps all animals benefit from a global attitude towards their welfare.

In this newsletter you can read how one of The Mayhew's resident vets travelled to Romania for a neutering drive and how the two young dogs who came for the return journey now have happy homes in the UK. Our Animal Care Manager, Gillian Scott, also describes her trip to a welfare organisation in Peru that Mayhew International has had a strong relationship with for several years.



Mohammad with The Mayhew Animal Ambulance in Romania

A Vet Abroad

Mohammad's Romanian diary

On the 2nd October this year Mayhew vet, Abdul Jalil Mohammad Zai, set off from Luton airport to Budapest in order to take part in a neutering initiative assisting some of the clinics set up to deal with stray animal management in Romania.

The Mayhew Animal Home as **Mayhew International** has had a strong relationship with Romania for several years, particularly with the organisation The Foundation for the Protection of Community Dogs, FPCC, started by British businessman, Robert Smith, who was moved by the plight of street dogs in Romania where he worked.

In 2003 FPCC began working in the city of Oradea with the SOS Oradea project, northwest Romania. However, although the sterilisation project has been a success there, dog lovers from nearby towns began dumping their street dogs in Oradea because they knew the dogs would be cared for. As a result, in 2007 FPCC decided to expand its sterilisation project to all of Bihor county.

Last year Mayhew International donated dog catching poles, recovery cages and suture materials to the project. We also offered them the use of our large Mayhew animal ambulance as a post-operative recovery unit from April to August. Through our training programmes, we have trained three vets in sterilisation techniques and a project manager for their education and campaign programme.



A Vet Abroad continued

This year we sent our animal ambulance out to the clinic teams in Bihor at the end of May and Mohammad and NVQ student, Aneil, went to retrieve the ambulance as part of their neutering trip, bringing back two street dogs with them who had been rescued by the teams in Marghita. Micro-chipped, neutered, wormed, flea-ed and wagging their tails, they settled in to Mayhew life quickly and at time of writing this newsletter one of the dogs has already settled in with her new adoptive family.

Here are a few of Mohammad's diary extracts which explains how staff on the ground are doing everything they can, but are in desperate need of better equipment:

October 3rd 2008

We arrived at approximately 9.30am on my second day in Romania at the centre; I found we had 20 dogs to neuter for that day. We started operations around 10.30am and had neutered all 20 dogs by 2.30 pm, which demonstrates just what can be achieved if there are enough staff on hand to carry out these necessary procedures. It is so essential for these kinds of facilities to exist, as the number of stray animals in jeopardy in Romania could be prevented if dogs and cats were castrated and spayed at an early age.

The facilities in the clinic were far from what we are used to in the UK and highlighted clearly how funds must be channelled to provide centres like this one with medical equipment to treat animals trying to survive on the streets. Hygiene is an issue that is all too prominent in many countries who are struggling to provide adequate veterinary facilities. I found it to be no different here at the Marghita clinic. Staff may be trying their level best to establish the best veterinary care, but they can only do so much with what is available. We were able to sterilise equipment and use some anaesthetic medicines but it was, at best, basic and I would desperately love to see money streamlined in to standard clinic equipment, like operating tables, as we were carrying out all our procedures on improvised wooden benches.



Romanian puppies at the clinic

4th October 2008

As part of our daily routine we headed back to the Marghita centre around 9.00am and on my third day in, I found 10 more dogs



Mohammad at work

had been brought in, ready for neutering. The veterinary and animal staff are 100% committed to improving the conditions for the animals in Romania and last year neutered over 2,000 dogs. This number could increase dramatically, however, with the right kind of support and building relationships with the local government. Although 2,000 may sound like a lot, it is a very small number in comparison to the amount of animals living as strays all over the country.

At the end of our trip we will be returning with two dogs to be re-homed in the UK, but this isn't a lasting solution. More needs to be done inside the Romania. Training programmes and further visits from Mayhew vets would be of great benefit.

6th October 2008

On the fifth day the team brought in 14 dogs and 2 female cats for neutering. They had caught these animals as strays the day before and they would now need basic health-checks and preparation for neutering. There are hardly any facilities to house dogs for re-homing, so it is essential any animals that may be released back to their original habitat are not able to produce any more litters. There is enough of a stray problem in Romania as it is and un-neutered animals just exacerbate the issue.

I am keen to return to the UK in a couple of days to discuss what I have seen with the Mayhew Team and present ideas for how progress can be made with the help of Mayhew International.

To receive further update about our work in Romania visit www.mayhewinternational.org

A Voyage to Peru

In June this year, while most people were jetting off on their summer holidays, Mayhew Animal Care Manager, **Gillian Scott**, went on a two week visit to Peru to assist on a neutering programme. For this newsletter Gillian has produced an account of her amazing trip:

"On June 28th 2008 I set off from London journey to Peru and what a fantastic 2 weeks I had.

Asociacion Humanitaria San Francisco de Asis (AHSFA) is based in Colan, Northern Peru. The charity was established by the wonderful Rosemary Gordon, who works tirelessly for the animals and the people of the local area. The Mayhew first made contact with Rosemary 4 years ago and little by little we have been able to support her with worm and flea treatments, some basic equipment and of course advice and encouragement. And via Rosemary we have welcomed 2 vets from Peru on our International Vet Training Programme, so visiting on behalf of Mayhew International was an amazing experience.

It was a world apart to see how basic the facilities were where we would be working. However, the charity has an excellent set up, there may have been no running water in the clinic but a huge barrel and a jug proved to be more than adequate. It is easy to take a lot of things for granted when travelling from the UK, but in a developing country it is important to improvise and use what you can and I was impressed with just how successful Rosemary has made the facility. There was electricity and the clinic was more than big enough for 2 operating tables, supplies, an anaesthetic induction table and a recovery area. Sterilisation was in a pressure cooker which worked very well so it was entirely possible to set up for treatment and I was very impressed by my surroundings.

We were ably assisted by the lovely Marina, a local lady who helped bring the dogs in and held them excellently for premedication. She also proved to be a godsend when the electric clippers gave up the ghost due to the fact the dogs were all caked in sand – a geographical hazard.

Surgeries went well and there were few concerns. The majority of the dogs were, at least, outwardly in good condition. There were the expected parasite burdens and all dogs were routinely given topical and injectable flea and worming treatments post surgery. The dogs were a combination of latch key "owned" dogs and street dogs. You cannot turn a corner in Peru without seeing a dog lying in the road or chasing the cars.

Needless to say there was more work than play as there always should be on trips like this. We neutered almost 100 animals (mostly bitch spays) during our stay and one gorgeous girl I couldn't get out of my head was Rosie. Rosie was brought in for routine neutering having been picked up on the beach. She had a head and body tremor-probably left a result of a disease during puppyhood- and a huge vaginal tumour. She was spayed and started on weekly chemotherapy injections and Rosemary agreed to keep her. She was simply too vulnerable to live on the beach. She won everyone's heart's-particularly mine-and it is so nice to hear regular updates from Rosemary on her great progress as a family dog."



Above: Gillian Scott and Rosemary Gordon



Above: Gillian carrying out a neutering procedure



Rosie at the clinic

International Veterinary Training Programme



In June this year Dr Jierson Mendoza came to visit The Mayhew clinic and train with resident vets Mohammad and Radek. **Dr Jierson Edgar Mendoza Estela** is a veterinary surgeon and a teacher on the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the National University of Piura, Peru. In his free time, he volunteers at the local animal welfare organisation, La Asociación Humanitaria "San Francisco de Asis", where he works to help the homeless animals. At the very same time as Dr Mendoza was visiting The Home in June, Gillian Scott, our Animal Care Manager, was abroad in Peru helping out at La Asociacion Humanitaria.



One of the particular reasons that Dr Mendoza was keen to come and train at the Mayhew clinic, was so he could gain experience and instruction from Mohammad on the gas anaesthesia machines used in surgery. Gas anaesthesia is an essential feature of our veterinary clinic, but a procedure that is not yet common place in Peru. Dr Mendoza was therefore able to return to his own university, after the visit, and instruct others as to how to use the equipment.

Our Mayhew vets also trained Dr Mendoza on different spaying techniques and general, fast routine neutering procedures. They were also able to discuss the protocol on clinic hygiene and sterilisation techniques, issues that need to be urgently addressed in countries like Peru.

Mayhew International will continue to support veterinarians abroad and details of future training programmes will be reported on our website www.mayhewinternational.org

Donations to Mayhew International are held as restricted funds for our work abroad. We would greatly appreciate any donations for us to be clearly marked as such. Standing order forms for Mayhew International are also available upon request.

Mayhew International

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Mayhew International is part of
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You can order by emailing sueb@mayhewanimalhome.org, or by telephoning 0208 969 7110 ext 4

Become a Friend of Mayhew International and help alleviate the suffering of homeless dogs and cats worldwide. Membership costs just £10 a year to join, or £5 for senior citizens and the under 16's.

To send your gift by post, please make your cheque payable to The Mayhew Animal Home and send it to: **Mayhew International, c/o The Mayhew Animal Home, Trenmar Gardens, London NW10 6BJ.**

Our work would not be possible without your support. Thank you!
Thank you!

