

THE ARK

Animal Welfare Society, Barbados
Registered Charity No. 428



MAY 2020



NEWSLETTER

Front C.
Page 1
Page 2
Page 3
Page 4
Page 5
Page 6

Latte and Mars (still looking for their forever home)
The President's Letter - AGM Report
AGM Report continued; The Ark and Covid-19
Looking for New Homes
Can you Open your Heart to these Sweeties?; Sponsorship
Grateful Thanks
New Members; Figures; GoFundMe; Book Sale; Useful Numbers

PRESIDENT'S LETTER – AGM REPORT

Dear Ark Members,

We are pleased to present the President's Report from the A.G.M. held on 23rd January, 2019.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR YEAR OF 2019

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen; welcome and thank you for taking the time to join us at the 21st Annual General Meeting of the Ark.

During 2019, The Ark lost two Life Members: Mr. Brian Barnes who joined the organization in 1999 and Mrs. Margaret Mayhew who joined in 2001. We ask you to stand and observe a minute of silence in their honour.

At the 20th Annual General Meeting, the following were elected to the Committee - President - Adrian Wiggins, Vice President - Billy Clarke, Treasurer - Patrick Bellot, Secretary - Johanna Gamblin.... with other committee members - Dominique Maraj, Elizabeth Cole, Lalu Hanuman, Isolde Pottkamper and Donna Murray.

During August 2019, we became the owners of the land for our new home at Woodbourne St. Philip and plans are moving forward steadily. We have received permission, subject to some conditions and stipulations which are being sorted, for the construction of the kennels and other buildings there and will soon be seeking quotations for same. As you are aware this is a major step for the Ark and we must now embark on some major fund raising to see this dream become a reality.

In 2019, fund raising for our kennel operations and other expenses took the usual format: membership renewals and new members, monthly book sales, two yard sales at the Clock Tower, sales of calendars, sales of books at Artsplash and receipts from our collection boxes placed at various businesses throughout the island.

Within the past two months, we have been able to start a GoFundMe appeal on the web and are extremely pleased to let you know that, so far, Pounds Sterling 2055 have been donated. Please let all of your family and friends, particularly overseas, know about this as it is an easy way of donating from anywhere in the world.

On 28th December, at the K9 Friends Barbados fund-raiser held at Royal Westmoreland, the Ark was kindly allowed to auction two sets of items: donations to the building of our new kennels and a prize donated by Mount Gay Distillery – which Simon Cowell, patron of the event, bid upon.

Also, after years of asking, we have been allowed to place a large change collection box at the Grantley Adams International Airport. This is in the departure lounge next to the Information Desk and we ask that you encourage everyone departing from the island to place their unused Barbados Dollars and change coins in it.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support and hard work in these endeavours which provide our 'bread and butter' funds.

Following communication with The Right Honourable Prime Minister Mottley and others, on 13th December 2019, The Ark, represented by myself and Jo Gamblin, and joined by representatives from the BRSPCA, K9 Friends Barbados, Action for Animals, the Barbados Veterinary Association and the Animal Control Centre, met with The Hon. Indar Weir, Minister of Agriculture, regarding animal cruelty laws and the implementation of same. Regular meetings of all concerned parties will be taking place in a joint effort to improve the lives of animals in Barbados.

In 2019, The Ark re-homed 105 dogs. Also in 2019, 61 dogs and 28 cats were spayed/neutered. Most of the dogs were done by K9 Friends Barbados and we thank them for providing this service. We also extend grateful thanks to Dominique Maraj for her unceasing effort in these two areas.



Continued/...

President's Letter cont'd.

A mention here of two members of the Ark who had unfortunate accidents from falls in December: Donna Murray who fractured her femur and Jan Downie who fractured her left arm and wrist. We wish them complete healing in the coming months.

This year will be a challenging one for this organization: at this time, the island is facing an unprecedented animal crisis, particularly where dogs are concerned.

Our permanent new home will help alleviate the situation and I am very hopeful that by this time next year I can report on the move to Woodbourne having been achieved.

Thank you for listening to my report.

Sincerely,

Adrian Wiggins

President

The Ark and Covid-19

We hope you and your family have remained well as we go through this difficult time. The Coronavirus has turned all our lives upside down but in true Bajan style, we are finding ways to deal with these new challenges.

To comply with Government directives, the Ark has had to limit to 2 the number of staff able to go to the Shelter each day and, of course, no volunteers are permitted. We are very grateful to Arthur Birkett, Nicolai Ifill, Shelley Rausch and Timisha Byer who have gone above and beyond in their commitment to ensure the dogs have continued to receive a high level of care and attention. We are blessed to have such a great team.

We are also blessed with volunteers many of whom got in touch at short notice with offers of help. We are particularly grateful to those who have fostered our pups as this means they will receive the important socialisation skills that will be so valuable to them in adult life.

As you can imagine, the curfew has had a significant impact on our income as fundraising events have had to be cancelled and shops/restaurants that support us are closed. Our April and May book sales were cancelled but we have fingers crossed that June 2nd will go ahead.

The Summer Yard Sale is scheduled for June 13th although we are keeping this date under review and will confirm nearer the time. However, for those of you who are taking the opportunity of the curfew to have a good Spring Clean, we are collecting any quality items you wish to donate. Please get in touch with Liz Cole for collection arrangements.

The Ministry of Agriculture has been very good at keeping us informed with current information about Covid-19. Reassuringly they say: *"There is no evidence that dogs or any other companion or farm animals play a role in the spread of this human disease or that they become sick, therefore there is no justification in taking measures against companion animals which may compromise their welfare."*

Briefly, we also recommend that you:

- Wash your hands with soap and water after touching your pets
- Avoid touching animals that don't live in your household
- Avoid touching your pets if you have Covid-19
- Keep unvaccinated kittens indoors until you can take them to a vet
- Ensure you have enough food for yourself and your pets in case you need to self-isolate

Rest assured, we will continue to ensure the dogs at the Shelter are well cared for and we are doing all we can for the growing list of those waiting to come in. Please bear in mind that a significant number of adoptions will be necessary as soon as life is back to normal so if you have room for one more, please get in touch.

LOOKING FOR NEW HOMES



Felix

Male | Size: Medium | DOB: July 2019 (approx.)

Felix joined us with his brother when he was just 8 weeks old. He has grown into an elegant young chap with a very out-going personality, loving his time outside running and playing with his Ark pals. He also has a very affectionate side to his personality, enjoying human companionship and cuddles. He gets on well with children and gives the sweetest kisses! Felix has a wonderful disposition, and is at a perfect age to join a family he can grow up with.



Hans

Male | Size: Small - Medium | DOB: July 2019 (approx.)

Who can possibly resist this cutie? This is Hans who joined us on the 23rd September 2019 at just 8 weeks old. He is a very playful, social and friendly boy, gentle with children of all ages and really enjoys the company of other dogs. He has had some very basic training and already learnt to sit on command, to give his paw, and walks well on a leash. He is definitely one very smart boy who is eager to please! After seven months, we are not sure why Hans is still with us.. However, with his amazing personality, youth and good looks, we are hopeful he will be adopted very, very soon.



Bella Rose

Female | Size: Small | DOB: April 2018 (approx.)

Bella Rose is very aptly named as she is such a beauty! She is a darling - small in size whilst big in personality! Miss Bella is very much a social butterfly, adoring human companionship as well as the company of other dogs and is even used to being around cats, which of course is a huge bonus.

Bella Rose joined us in February 2020 as her owner had to tearfully give her up due to allergies. She is used to being around children and living in a home environment and would love to once more be part of a family.



Andre

Male | Size: Small - Medium | DOB: December 2017 (approx.)

André is indeed a charmer and a poser! He just loves a camera and to be honest, so would we if only half as good-looking. Besides his undeniable good looks, André also has an amazing personality. He is an extremely loving and affectionate dog, adores belly rubs, human attention – the more, the better - playing fetch, the company of other dogs, he's very gentle around children plus he's super smart! André has so much love to share, he will also very happily adapt to being a single pet, once of course he is part of the family.

Can you Open your Heart and Home to these Sweeties?

When we wave goodbye to dogs that have spent time with us we hope, in the nicest possible way, never to see them return! Unfortunately though life doesn't always work out this way and for a myriad of reasons our dogs do sometimes come back to us.

Right now we have two pairs who have coincidentally returned to us at the same time needing new homes. Both pairs are now older dogs who have spent almost their entire lives together and for this reason we would like each pair to remain together in their new homes.

Phil and Noel (pictured below) were adopted from us in 2009 and 2010 respectively. They are both roughly 10 ½ years old and have led happy lives as beloved pets. Unfortunately, their owner has been diagnosed with a serious illness and has had to return to the UK without them.



Phil and Noel

Oliver and Rosie, (right) were adopted from us in 2009. Again, they were much loved pets but unfortunately their owner has passed away. Oliver is the larger of the two and came in very nervous but now he greets you with some barks and lots of tail wagging. Rosie adapted much faster though of course is still unsure as to why, after all these years, she is back with us.



Rosie and Oliver

Being older dogs we realise the challenge we have in finding them homes; however we must try. We are willing to assist with vet bills should they be adopted, and we will also consider long-term foster care.

Sponsorship

Some of the dogs with us prove hard to re-home for many reasons and sometimes for no reason. It could be that they are older dogs like those above, or they could be very timid and simply not catch the eye of an adopter. It is nice for these dogs to have a sponsor who takes a special interest in them. And looking at it from the opposite perspective, you might wish to have a dog in your life but now might not the right time to adopt. For just Bds\$30 a month you could sponsor a dog and build a relationship with them at the Shelter. If you are interested in Sponsorship, please contact **Dominique on 435-6844**.

Thank you to the following people who are currently sponsoring these dogs:

- Fiona Watson:
- Anita Caito and Emerson Reid:
- Josette Cummins:
- Nick Corbin
- Rhea Brathwaite
- Lisa White
- The Gosselin Family
- Marilyn and Peter Weekes
- Angela Best & Gillian Best-Tasker
- Sonia Bryant:
- Kimberley Bourne:
- Helen James
- Ueli Zahler and Judith Binter:
- Dr. Mohini Harris

- Janie
- Angie
- Bolt
- Luigi
- Asher
- Selina
- Tommy
- Mae Mae
- Ben & Josh
- Eddie & Luis
- Misty & Dinah
- Oliver & Rosie
- Shiloh & Shadow
- Mars (pictured - has been with us since 2016)



Grateful Thanks

K9 Friends for their continued generosity with weekly donations of chow and low cost spay/neuter surgeries. We are always appreciative of your support and particularly at this difficult time.

Sue and Graham Brown who participated in The Cave Shepherd Marathon Weekend and, with the help of their many sponsors, raised the magnificent sum of Bds\$2,000. Thanks to all who sponsored them and to **Animal Flower Cave** for their generous sponsorship of Bds\$250.00!

Kelly and Shelley Smeltz from USA for an amazing array of goodies for our dogs as well as an extremely generous cash donation!

Ken and Tracey, on vacation from Canada, for taking the time to help out with the walking of our dogs as well as for their wonderful donation of a bagful of beautiful collars!

Diana Storf, Susan Corner & Alexa Greaves from Canada, for their most generous donation of so many goodies.



Misty (above – who is still looking for a home) wishes to extend her personal thanks to **Lydia Dulson** for her recent donation of YuMOVE Plus + tablets. We started Misty on YuMOVE late last October and have noticed the difference in her and her mobility. Also, thanks to **Sue & Graham Brown** for their help and for hand delivering these tablets.

Cara and Zoe, two lovely young ladies, for their very kind and very much appreciated donation of puppy chow.

The Barbados Kennel Club for their most generous and much appreciated donation deposited into our account with Roberts Manufacturing.

Annis and Jim Halliwell for their kind donation via **Valerie Jackman**

Barbara, Warren and Ryan Snaith from The UK for their very kind donation of time and goodies for the dogs.

Grateful Thanks Continued



Stacey Gilkes adopted the lovely Hero (above) from us in 2018 and since then she has been supplying us with her natural home-made dog shampoo. Stacey has branched out and launched her new business, **Sunkissed Soaps**, making and selling natural home-made soaps and soap shampoos for humans! She will donate Bds\$2.00 to the Ark for every soap bought so please visit her website <https://soaps.sunkissedstudio.co> and place an order. You'll love the products and help the Ark at the same time! We must also thank Hero for the donation of dog leads that Stacey has bought for him to give us!

The Students from **The Codrington School** and **The International School of Barbados**, for their kind donation from participation in the recent BEF \$20 Challenge.

Linda Pearson from **Pawsability Dog Training** for taking time out of her busy schedule and coming to the Shelter on 5 consecutive Saturdays to help with some basic dog training. Our volunteers, both young and older as well as our dogs, really enjoyed these sessions which sadly had to come to an abrupt end with the curfew imposed. We are hoping to resume these sessions as soon as possible.

Linda also kindly donated 2 baby gates which were a great help to one foster family who took in 3 pups at a moment's notice. These will certainly be very useful in the future.

Danielle Hill for her donation of cleaning equipment, something we use daily but is often forgotten about.

Equivet Ltd – The Pet Supplies Store for their recent donation of numerous bags of dog chow. Equivet Ltd has also offered to hold monetary donations from the public on account for us which we would be able to use for whatever we are in need of at a particular time. Alternatively, if a supporter wishes to purchase items to donate to The Ark, Equivet Ltd will give them a 10% discount. We are very appreciative of this support. **Equivet Ltd are located at Lot 1A, Lower Estate Complex, St. George, BB19188. Tel: 435-3612.**

Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Nicholas Evelyn,
Larry Tatem, and
Junior Member Joshua Burke

We also thank Ingrid Dixon
and Raymond Glen Smith
for becoming Life Members.



Spay & Neuter Programme

The Ark has spayed/neutered **13 dogs** and **16 cats** between 1st January and 31st March 2020.

K9 Friends (Barbados) Spay and Neuter Clinic **FOR DOGS**, in Sunset Crest is now open. For those who cannot afford the normal vet fees for these ops., a nominal fee is requested and, if required, transportation can be provided. For those in this situation, please call 248-1552 for an appointment. For all other spay/neuter enquiries, please call The Ark 435-4108 or the RSPCA 426-3077.

If you need help with transporting your animal, contact **Sean at Pet Transportation Inc on Tel: 243-0420.**

Adoption Programme

We are delighted that **48 dogs** and **2 cats** have found new loving homes between 1st January and 30th April, 2020.

If you are interested in having a cat or dog join your family please contact us at **435-4108** or you can email us at **ark@caribsurf.com**. Some of the dogs in our care looking for homes can be seen on our website: **www.arkanimalwelfarebarbados.com** or search for us on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram.



All animals re-homed as part of this program cannot be kept in kennels or chained for long periods of time, as this is against the law. We require that all properties are fully enclosed to provide a safe environment for the animal; while also ensuring they do not become a nuisance in the area.

Shelter Donations

Always Welcome: Cleaning supplies eg. bleach, Dish washing liquid etc; Safe toys for our pups and adult dogs; Nexgard tablets; Bags of Dog and Cat Chow for donation to needy families who are finding it difficult to feed their pets.



GoFundMe.com

Our GoFundMe.com site went live just before Christmas. We're raising funds to start building our new home on land gifted to us at Woodbourne, St. Philip. A visit to the GoFundMe.com site will show you the 'virtual plans' which, we think you'll agree, will make a super facility in which to continue our work looking after the dogs and cats of Barbados.

The GoFundMe.com site is an easy way for supporters who live around the world to donate via credit card. So far the site has achieved 491 shares with 18 donations. Thank you very much to everyone – we really do appreciate your help. We have to extend an extra big thank you to Kimberley McDonald who has been extremely generous. Kimberley has visited Barbados a few times and met us when we helped out with a cat she rescued.

Please publicise the site amongst your friends and family abroad. Perhaps they can hold a fundraising event!
GoFundMe.com/Ark Animal Welfare Society Barbados.

Monthly Book Sale

Our monthly book sale is held on the first Tuesday of each month at the **Massy Supermarket Rendezvous**. It takes place from 9am – 5pm. If you are looking for good books at great prices, do come and see us. **Unfortunately, due to Covid19, our May 5th sale has had to be cancelled.**

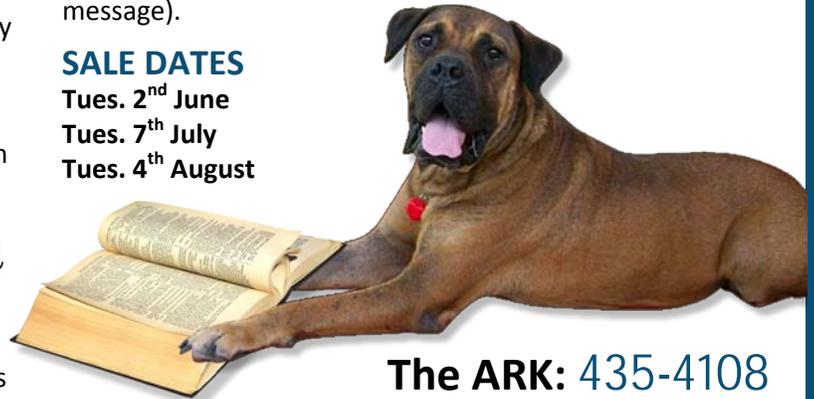
If you have books in good condition that you would like to donate, please contact: **Sandie Martin 428-4266, Liz Cole 438-6898** or **Jo Gamblin 428-1803** (after 7pm or leave a message).

SALE DATES

Tues. 2nd June

Tues. 7th July

Tues. 4th August



The ARK: 435-4108

Our phones are not manned 24 hours a day. In animal emergencies please contact your local vet.

Lost and Found Pets Barbados, a group on Facebook where you can post info on lost/found animals.

Pet Patrol: The Sanitation Service Authority will remove dead animals. Call: **535-5053.**

Turtle Hotline: If turtle tracks or activity are seen, please call the TURTLE HOTLINE at **230-0142** to make a report.

From:



The Ark Animal Welfare Society, Barbados
Registered Charity No. 428 | Member Society WSPA

P.O. Box 199W, Christ Church, Barbados
Tel: (246) 435-4108, Email: ark@caribsurf.com
www.arkanimalwelfarebarbados.com

To: Our Valued Member

Executive Committee

President: Mr. Adrian Wiggins	438-3717/243-8553
Vice President: Mr. Billy Clarke	266-8495
Honorary Secretary: Mrs. Jo Gamblin	428-1803
Treasurer: Mrs. Jennifer Pequenezza	420-8384

Committee Members

Mrs. Elizabeth Cole	438-6898/232-9706
Miss Dominique Maraj	435-6844
Ms. Isolde Pottkamper	420-2310
Mrs Donna Murray-Wiltshire	228-2233
Mr. Lalu Hanuman	420-2022

Ex-Officio Members

Mrs. Sandie Martin (Books)	428-4266
Ms. Michele Morland (Newsletter)	-

Trustees: Mr. Bob Parravicino, Mr. Stephen Walcott



BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ARK: *The ethical treatment of animals is an idea whose time has come.*

I support the efforts of The ARK, and I want to become a member. I enclose a cheque for \$_____.
I will receive newsletters each year and a notice to attend the Annual General Meeting.

Name _____ Tel: _____ Email _____

Address _____ Signature _____

Please indicate whether you wish to receive newsletters by post (____) or email (____)

Minimum Annual Donation: \$30, Life Membership: \$500, Under 18 years: \$20 or Overseas Membership: U.S.\$30
Please make cheques payable to: **THE ARK ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY**. Mail To: The Ark, P.O. Box 199W, Christ Church

MISSION STATEMENT

To raise awareness of the needs of animals. To protect them and promote their well-being by encouraging, through education, positive relationships between animals and people.