

75
Years



healthy working animals
for the world's poorest communities

BROOKE NEWS

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1934-2009



**75TH
ANNIVERSARY
ISSUE**

**BROOKE CARE
REACHES NEPAL
PAGE 13**

**BROOKE IN THE
PUBLIC EYE
PAGE 20**

MESSAGE FROM THE BROOKE'S PRESIDENT

As President of the Brooke, I am delighted to introduce you to this very special edition of the Brooke's newsletter, to celebrate this unique charity's 75th anniversary.

I was lucky enough to visit their headquarters in Cairo four years ago, where I saw the transforming effect their dedicated and remarkable staff had on the city's working horses and donkeys. A year later on a visit to the mountainous region of Pakistan, which had been devastated by the last earthquake, I found vets and representatives from the Brooke doing a magnificent job helping local people to improve their animal husbandry and welfare.

As we all know, these animals toil for long hours often in the stifling heat to support their owners and families, many of them suffering from terrible injuries and infections. Last year the Brooke reached 700,000 horses, donkeys and mules needing attention, and provided treatment and training to the animals' owners and users. During its 75th anniversary, the Brooke hopes to reach even more animals, by developing its work in Ethiopia and by expanding its operations in existing countries.

As its proud President, I shall look forward to working with you all at this exciting time, to help ensure that the legacy of Dorothy Brooke goes from strength to strength in the future.

HRH The Duchess of Cornwall
President of the Brooke



Brooke President, HRH The Duchess of Cornwall visiting Brooke Pakistan

2009 marks the Brooke's 75th anniversary year; it's wonderful to have your support at this significant date in our development.

When our founder Dorothy Brooke was moved to ease the plight of former British cavalry horses back in the 1930s, she could scarcely have predicted just how widely her singular act of kindness would resonate. Today, thanks to the generosity of Brooke supporters, the charity is hard at work in 10 countries across Asia, Africa, Central America and the Middle East, making a life changing difference to over 700,000 working animals each year, as well as their owners and communities.

As we celebrate three quarters of a century of preventing unnecessary suffering and promoting animal welfare, we would like to say thank you for helping us to grow – in size and in ambition. We really couldn't do it without you.

Inspiring a tradition of kindness

It was on a visit to Egypt in 1930 that Dorothy Brooke, the wife of a British army major general, first encountered British ex-cavalry horses sold into hard labour after the First World War.

The sight of these poor emaciated creatures so haunted her that she wrote to *The Morning Post* (forerunner of the *Daily Telegraph*) urging readers to help end their suffering. Members of the public were so moved by her words that they sent the equivalent of £20,000 enabling Dorothy to buy 5,000 of these horses.

Run through this timeline and track Brooke's development from the first important steps through 10 countries to the present day.

You can also see a gallery of photographs from our archive:
www.thebrooke.org/archivephotos



75 YEARS OF CARE AND COMPASSION

75 Years

This was just the start. In 1934, she founded the Old War Horse Memorial Hospital in Cairo offering free veterinary care for all the city's hardworking horses and donkeys.

This was followed in 1938 by the opening of Cairo's first public water trough, providing working animals with a much-needed oasis of refreshment.

Proving an unbreakable spirit

Despite these early successes, the fledgling charity needed all the determination it could muster.

In the war years, local staff members were enlisted in the army, and there were shortages of medical supplies and fodder - but the hospital survived.

In 1947, fire destroyed the only motorised animal ambulance, but Dorothy launched an appeal - and the public responded.

And during the Suez crisis, when British property in Egypt was seized, the hospital was returned to the charity's care – such was the value of its work.

That was – and still is – the spirit of Brooke's determination.

Growing in scale, scope and influence

The eighties saw further expansion, across the border into Jordan. It also heralded the creation of our first mobile vet team, enabling us to take veterinary care to thousands more animals, especially those tucked away in remote areas, where conditions are particularly harsh.

Through the nineties and beyond, Brooke expanded into India, Pakistan, Kenya, Afghanistan, Guatemala, Ethiopia, Palestinian villages in Israel and the West Bank, and more recently Nepal. As a result, new initiatives have flourished.

Facing up to a challenging future

Today, Brooke is a recognised authority in ground-breaking community based research, veterinary treatment and training, helping hundreds of thousands of horses, donkeys and mules to lead lives free of pain and suffering.

Whilst much has changed, the compassion demonstrated by Dorothy Brooke remains at the heart of everything we do. And just as she did, we continue to rely on the generosity of the public to keep us going.

Dorothy realised that the welfare of horses and donkeys is vitally important, but she also recognised that their owners were often living in extreme poverty and relied on their animals to make a living.

Millions of owners in desperately poor communities face the loss of their livelihood if their animals cannot work. That's why we must remain committed - and ambitious.

Long-term we aim to help 2 million animals per year who are desperately in need. This is almost three times the number we reach today; something we simply can't achieve without your continued kindness.

We hope we can count on your support when this next important landmark is achieved. **BROOKE**

1930 Dorothy Brooke arrives in Egypt with her husband – a major general in the British army



1934 The Brooke Hospital for Animals is established in Egypt



1955 Dorothy Brooke dies and is buried in Cairo

1931 Dorothy Brooke writes a letter to *The Morning Post* urging the British public to help relieve the suffering of the thousands of ex-cavalry horses she encountered in Cairo

1938 The first shade shelter and water trough are established in Cairo

CONTENTS

- 1 INTRODUCTION: 75 YEARS OF CARE AND COMPASSION
2009 marks the Brooke's 75th anniversary. Plus a message from the Brooke's President.
- 3 NEWS FROM THE FIELD
Latest updates from the Brooke's work overseas.
- 5 FIT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
The Brooke of today weaves a tradition of care with up-to-date knowledge and expertise.
- 9 FROM PROBLEM TO PROGRESS
For three quarters of a century, Brooke has worked ceaselessly to end the suffering of working animals.
- 11 REACHING 700,000 SUFFERING ANIMALS
Thanks to you we are now reaching more animals than ever – pull out poster of all our operations included!
- 13 BRINGING BROOKE TO 'THE ROOF OF THE WORLD'
In 2008, Brooke embarked on a pilot project to extend our 75 year tradition of care to Nepal.
- 15 75TH ANNIVERSARY AWARDS
Awarding excellence in our 75th year – have your say.
- 17 FUNDRAISING NEWS
Join the Mount Kenya Challenge, find out about Brooke's fundraising polo day and much more...
- 22 MY DEAR READER
Remembering the Brooke in your Will.
- 23 DIARY
Forthcoming events across the UK.

Only 18p an issue! The Brooke is very careful with the funds it receives. This issue of Brooke News has been produced at a cost of 18p.

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NEWS FROM THE FIELD

A sustainable veterinary care system for Ethiopia

Millions of families in Ethiopia depend on horses and donkeys for their livelihoods, yet until recently, government vets were not trained in specialist equine care. This meant that when an animal suffered illness or injury, families who were scraping by one day could be devastated the next – a situation Brooke could not ignore...

Last year we built on a dedicated training programme designed to create a specialist veterinary care system for Ethiopia – featured in the spring 2008 issue of *Brooke News*.

In addition to training government vets, our aim was to build on the network of community animal health workers to provide first aid to horses and donkeys close to home.

Already we've made fantastic progress, thanks to support such as yours.

In August and September 2008, 19 vets and 12 community animal health workers were trained in equine handling, clinical examination techniques, and the best ways to advise owners. Plus, 490 animals benefited from treatment during the sessions.

In October, a further 12 animal health workers participated – directly benefiting 1,511 animals which were volunteered for treatment. And each worker was given a start-up kit to help them put their new skills into practice.

BROOKE



Training for government vets and CAHWs will make a lasting difference to working animals

Developing and improving animal welfare – a personal perspective

It was at veterinary college that Dr Salah Wahib first heard about Brooke - and came to admire our work. Spurred on by a passion for animal welfare, he took down our number from the side of a Brooke ambulance and came to join us.

Since then, Dr Salah has treated thousands of horses and donkeys and witnessed many changes – and met many supporters. Recently retired, he describes the changes he witnessed over 32 years of dedication to working animals and the Brooke.



Dr Salah has treated thousands of horses and donkeys in the last 32 years

Why is it so important to save animals' lives?

'Every time I saved an animal's life, I feel like I saved a whole family. One day a widow came to me with a sick horse. She said 'if he dies, there will be no food on the table'. Brooke vets are facing such situations every day, and this is the source of our pride.'

Can you tell us about your pioneering work in the brick kilns area?

'While I was helping animals in Ma'adi area near Cairo, I noticed heavy loaded carts pulled by animals in a terrible condition. The drivers guided me to the brick kilns in Helwan, where donkeys were carrying bricks for more than 12 hours a day. I was the leader of the first mobile clinic ten years ago. Now there is farrier care for the animals and owners have the phone number for veterinary back-up any time. Moreover, we have managed to control the spread of disease as well as introducing educational and training programs.'

How do you feel about Brooke's approach of treating animals AND advising the owners?

'I consider advising the owners as preventing bad things from happening for the animals, it's like treating the animals for the present and the future.'

What were your last words on leaving the hospital in Cairo?

'I said to my colleagues and managers, 'thank you' for the support and for giving me the chance to help all these animals during 32 years.'

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr Salah for his dedication and compassion during his time at the Brooke and wish him a very happy retirement. Read more of Dr Salah's interview at www.thebrooke.org/drsalah

BROOKE



1966 Brooke expands into the Luxor region of Egypt

1988 Brooke expands into Jordan, after an invitation from Princess Alia – the late King Hussein's daughter

1990 Brooke begins working in India

1991 Expansion continues into Pakistan

1991 The first mobile clinic is established in Peshawar, Pakistan

1993 The first best kept equine competition of tonga horses is held in Pakistan

1993 Expansion in Pakistan continues into Lahore

1994 The first water trough is erected in Peshawar, Pakistan

FIT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

The Brooke of today weaves a tradition of care with up to date knowledge and expertise, bringing innovative initiatives to hundreds of thousands of working animals and the communities they serve.

Our work has four main focus areas:

- **Direct veterinary intervention** – to ease the plight of horses, donkeys and mules that are suffering now
- **Prevention of welfare problems through community education and community animal health workers, and supporting essential local services** – to ensure good husbandry and deter harmful practices
- **Information and awareness raising with other organisations and governments** – to ensure the best use of existing infrastructure and local knowledge
- **Research** – practical field work to identify effective and sustainable solutions to animal welfare problems

This approach enables us to be impactful, sustainable, efficient and respectful of local traditions, so that our work is valued, welcomed and replicated as widely as possible.

With your continued support, we will continue to flourish – and make a sustainable difference for hardworking animals.

DIRECT VETERINARY TREATMENT

Each year, Brooke mobile and animal health teams provide direct treatment to thousands of animals suffering from illness or injury.

Here, we take you through a typical day for Brooke mobile vet Dr Ahmed Abdu, veterinary assistant Nedal Galal, and driver Ahmed Hassan, who together cover the Aswan region of Egypt.



The team treat many horses and donkeys every day

7.30pm

Veterinary assistant Nedal Galal checks equipment, tools and medicines whilst the driver, Ahmed Hassan, cleans the vehicle.

8.30pm

Dr Ahmed checks the medicines himself, then it's time to set off for the village of El Manshia...

10.00pm

On arrival, the team find a number of animals requiring treatment.

The vast majority have body wounds which need to be dressed. There is also some evidence of musculoskeletal conditions, which cause painful inflammation and can be distressing for load-bearing animals. Plus there are some emergency cases of urine retention requiring diuretics and antibiotics, and of skin diseases – suggesting that hygiene levels in the area are poor.

Dr Ahmed swiftly gets to work, with the help of Nedal Galal and local health provider, Mohamed, qualified to undertake minor treatments such as cleaning and dressing wounds.

Throughout treatment, Dr Ahmed offers advice to owners on the benefits of hygiene and sound husbandry.

12.00pm

The team visits a local school in El Manshia village to help spread animal welfare messages amongst students.

2.30pm

The team arrives back after a hot and dusty journey, and report on the day's activities.



The team travel long distances to reach communities in need of veterinary expertise

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

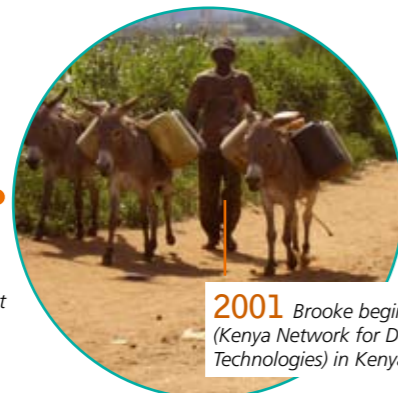
Education and training are core components of our work across all 10 countries.

Take India for example. In this densely populated country, Brooke runs a variety of successful initiatives designed to promote preventive practice and first aid care. These include:

Community self-help groups – whereby animal owners learn together about good animal welfare and share knowledge about how to treat illnesses and injuries. Community groups also enable owners to save together, paying a small monthly fee into a shared account. Then if an animal cannot work due to illness or injury, the owner can borrow funds from a reliable source.

Healthy animal competitions – which reward owners who look after their animals with prizes and status, encouraging others to follow suit.

1995 Brooke begins working in the Multan district of Pakistan



1997 More expansion in Pakistan into the Marden district

2001 Brooke begins working with KENDAT (Kenya Network for Dissemination of Agricultural Technologies) in Kenya

2003 Brooke forges partnerships with organisations working in Afghanistan



2004 Brooke expands into Guatemala in partnership with Equinos Sanos Para El Pueblo (ESAP)



2005 The 'Heshimu Punda' (Respect the Donkey) programme is established in Kenya

2005 A devastating earthquake strikes Pakistan. Brooke carries out relief work in partnership with Mercy Corps



2006 Brooke expands into Ethiopia



Dedicated training sessions for children – such as those run in the brick kiln school at Garh, near Ghaziabad, which we reported on in our autumn edition of *Brooke News*. Here, animal welfare is built into the curriculum and as a result, the practice of beating kiln animals has greatly decreased.

Of course, animal owners are the main beneficiaries of Brooke education and training. In the Meerut region for example, community facilitator Ziyaul Haque builds relationships with people who rely on their animals for an income, encouraging them to recognise the importance of health

and welfare so that animals can be healthy and happy. He builds trust, empowering individuals and whole communities to bring about positive change themselves for the long-term.

During a recent influenza outbreak, he provided training, distributed information leaflets and gave advice on keeping animals safe.

COMMUNITY ANIMAL HEALTH WORKERS

In areas Brooke works, we ask local animal owners to help us select a member of their community to receive training in first aid and animal welfare.

Once trained, these people become community animal health workers (CAHWs), helping us to champion best practice and provide treatment.

Meet Alaa...

Alaa is an animal health worker in Tersa, a small town in Giza, Egypt. He makes his living carting goods; a tough life, especially as he is attempting to save enough to support the wife and children he longs to have. Yet he still makes time to help.

Alaa was trained by a Brooke mobile vet team and is always on hand for those who need advice. Plus he is qualified to perform first aid on sick and wounded animals.

Every Thursday, Alaa gathers owners in his community for the weekly visit by Brooke's mobile vet team. He also helps the vet – giving practical assistance such as deworming and providing a treatment history for those animals he has already assisted.

Alaa is now a popular role model in his community and has won the respect and trust of owners, improving their animals' welfare.

Awareness raising and partnerships

The Brooke persuades key institutions and organisations to include the welfare of working horses and donkeys in their work, in order to extend the range and impact of our work.

We also work with local partners – using local knowledge and existing infrastructures enables us to treat more animals, and to reach their owners with relevant support. For example:

In Pakistan...We are currently working in partnership with the Aga Khan Rural Support Foundation to improve the welfare of working animals in the Northern regions, and with Rural Support Programme Network on a number of grassroots initiatives.

In Kenya...We are working with Practical Action and the Kenya Network for Dissemination of Agricultural Technologies to provide immediate and long-term improvements to animal welfare.

In Afghanistan...We are working with the Dutch Committee for Afghanistan and AfghanAid to establish sustainable healthcare for horses and donkeys.

We also have smaller scale partnerships in many countries, including Guatemala, India and Israel and the West Bank.

FROM CAUSE TO CURE

The role of research in equine welfare

Since 2002, Brooke has worked in close partnership with researchers at the University of Bristol's School of Veterinary Science looking at issues such as pain recognition, lameness, heat stress and dehydration.

This collaboration enables us to:

- Enhance our understanding of equine welfare problems
- Develop more effective treatments and approaches
- Monitor those interventions in the field

Maximising benefits

Research also gives Brooke the ability to create baselines for animal welfare so that we can identify animals that need our help – and assess the positive impact of our work.

Take our recent work on pain recognition for example. Researchers set out to identify pain indicators in donkeys, with the help of 40 animals working in brick kilns in India.

By observing behaviours such as walking and head posture amongst a carefully monitored group of animals, the team was able to identify pain indicators which can be applied in the field. This means Brooke staff and the wider community can now more accurately identify when an animal is suffering and act accordingly. **BROOKE**



A Brooke community meeting in India



Alaa administers an injection under the guidance of a Brooke vet

2006 Expansion in Kenya continues into Limuru



2006 National Donkey Welfare Day is established in Kenya and is first celebrated in the Limuru region

2006 The first welfare assessment is conducted in Butajira town, Ethiopia



2006 Brooke expands into Israel



© Amit Pasricha

2007 The first Happy Donkey Competition is held in Delhi, India

2007 Posters showing the 'Heshimu Punda' message are erected onto bus stands in Meru and Mwea, Kenya



2007 Partnership with Action for Women and Rural Development is established in Kanpor, India

FROM PROBLEM TO PROGRESS

For the past three quarters of a century, Brooke has worked ceaselessly to end the suffering of working animals. Whilst some problems remain, there have also been some remarkable turnarounds, both in the lives of individual animals, and the practices of entire communities...

Harmful traditional practices are now declining. These include 'firing', whereby an animal's skin is burned with a red-hot iron or wire as a supposed cure-all, and the practice of slitting an animal's nostrils to help them 'take in more air' to increase work capacity.

The following stories show how, case by case, we are creating lasting change in animal welfare – just as our founder Dorothy Brooke was inspired to do, all those years ago.

Overturning a painful legacy

Mohamed came to Cairo looking to buy a working animal, but when he got to the market his budget only stretched to a young horse. 'He is perfect and ready to work' he was told. So despite signs of lameness, Mohamed bought two-year-old Saber and put him to work pulling carts of scrap metal.

Within a week, Saber was in so much pain he could hardly walk, and a worried Mohamed brought him to the Brooke.

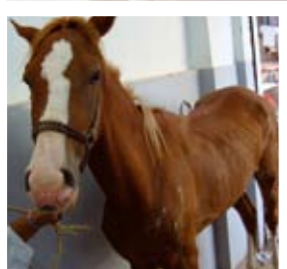
Vet Dr Amr explained that Saber's previous owner had treated his lameness with a traditional 'remedy' known as seaton, which involves inserting a foreign body (in this case, rope) into the affected area in the hope of encouraging the animal's natural defences. Of course, this doesn't provide a cure and we always advise owners to seek professional veterinary care instead of traditional remedies.

Saber was immediately admitted and spent 10 days in the Brooke clinic enjoying rest, treatment and the company of a horsy friend with whom he'd graze and walk with each day.

Brooke always advise owners not to work animals until they are old enough and have the necessary strength and this advice was also given to Mohamed. He was told that Saber's lameness was caused by working at too young an age, and that the foal should carry out lighter work until he was older – and that he should always seek professional veterinary treatment for his animal.

BROOKE

*Inset: Saber arrives at the clinic
Left: Saber recovers in the Brooke clinic with a horsy friend*



Challenging harmful practices

Brooke funded* vet Dr Peter Gothayo Gachie was performing his daily duties in the Lari region of Kenya when he received an urgent call.

'Come quickly doctor, Mzunga is in great pain' said a frantic George Mwaura, referring to the donkey he keeps alongside sheep and cattle.

After hurrying to George's small family farm, Dr Gothayo Gachie heard that Mzunga had strayed onto neighbouring land. Fearing for his precious crop, the neighbour had exercised a traditional, terrible form of 'deterrent' – cutting poor Mzunga all over his hind quarters.

* Working in partnership with KENDAT (the Kenya Network for Dissemination of Agricultural Technologies)

George was shocked to find Mzunga limping by the roadside; 'I felt my heart sink when I saw the pool of blood and my donkey looking so much in pain'.

Dr Gothayo Gachie quickly gave Mzunga a sedative before cleaning and stitching his wounds. He also applied antiseptic, and administered antibiotics and anti-inflammatory drugs as well as giving advice on wound cleaning and avoiding infection. He also recommended that Mzunga should always be safely tethered in the future so that he would not stray.

To the relief of George, Mzunga is now fully recovered.

'I am happy for Mzunga is now healthy and working hard.' **BROOKE**



Mzunga has recovered well and is now happy and healthy

Leading the way through education

It is often in the most forgotten corners of the world where our work has the most profound impact.

So it was for 45-year-old Mohammad Rafique a poor cart driver, who after hearing Brooke's advice at a truck stand in Sialkot, Pakistan, decided to overturn generations of practice and remove the nose string from his donkey.

Like an estimated one third of donkeys in the region, 12-year-old Rashma had endured the pain and irritation of a nose string because Mohammad believed it would make her easier to control. Mohammed isn't a vindictive man. He is just struggling to support six people on a meagre 200 rupees a day (less than £3) and his desire to squeeze every last ounce of potential from the working day is

understandable. What's harder to imagine is the trauma of being pushed and pulled by a rough piece of string inserted through the nostrils, day after day.

In an effort to end this harmful practice, Brooke animal health teams are educating many communities, helping owners to remove nose strings humanely, and administering pain killers and ointment to relieve suffering. As a result, the tradition is declining.

'I can see a good change in my donkey' says Mohammad. 'I hope that my fellow cart drivers soon understand the ills of this harsh custom.' **BROOKE**

The dedication and compassion of Brooke teams has touched the lives of the animals you have just read about, but there are still so many suffering horses and donkeys we must reach...

2007 Expansion continues in Pakistan into the Karachi district

2007 Expansion continues in Pakistan into the Faisalabad district

2008 Brooke expands into Nepal in partnership with AHTCS

2008 Community animal health workers and government vet training is conducted for the first time in Ethiopia

2008 A vaccination campaign is started in Ethiopia

2009 Brooke is continuing to expand and develop, coming closer to our long-term aim of helping 2 million suffering animals a year

2008 Brooke begins working in the Jacobabad district of Pakistan

Turn over for your special anniversary pull out map!



THE BROOKE – REACHING 700,000 SUFFERING ANIMALS

In our 75th year we are now reaching over 700,000 suffering horses and donkeys a year across 10 countries – a record number!



Treatment

Direct veterinary intervention – to ease the plight of horses, donkeys and mules that are suffering now



Education

Prevention of welfare problems through community education and community animal health workers, and supporting essential local services – to ensure good husbandry and deter harmful practices



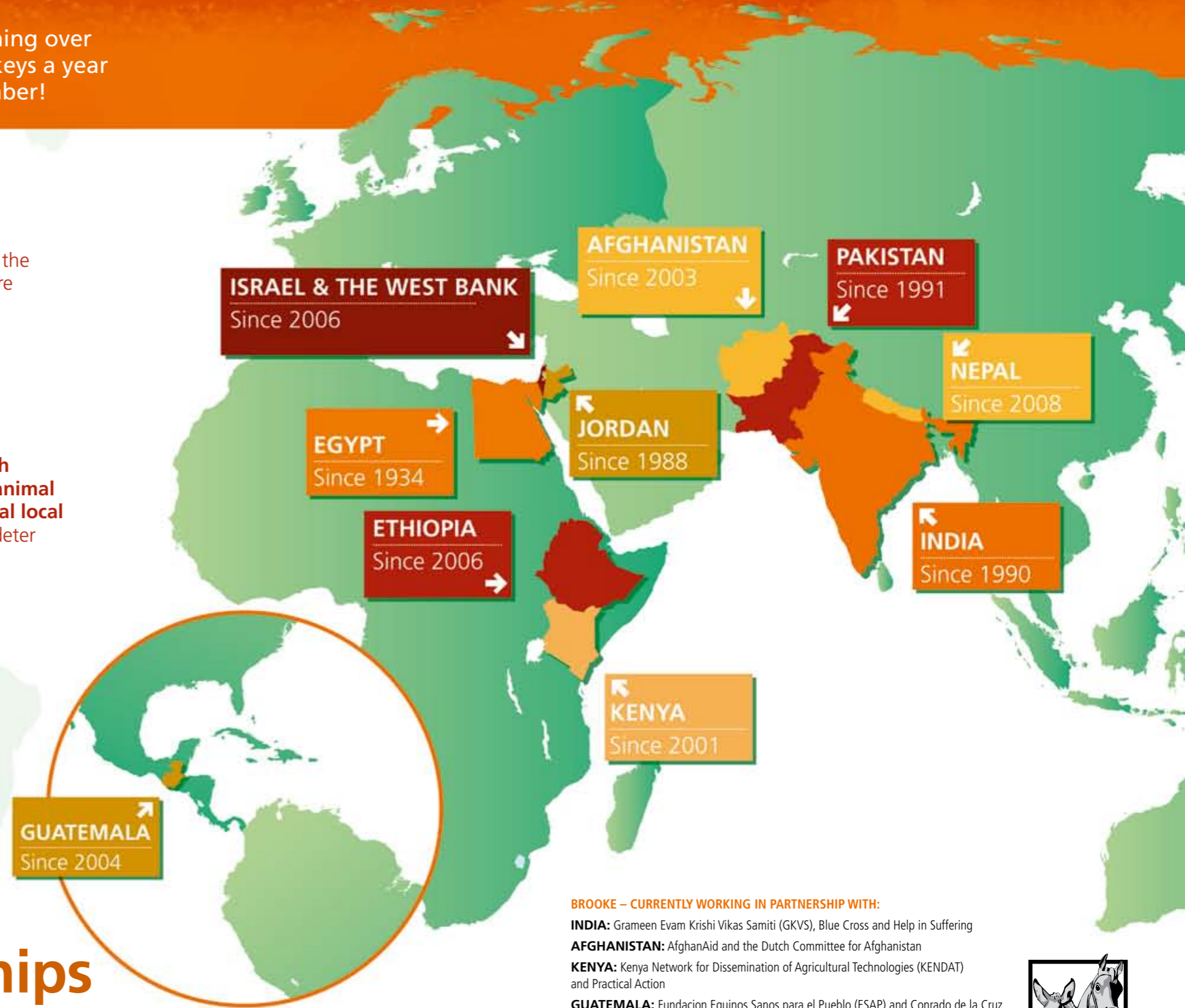
Research

Practical field work – to identify effective and sustainable solutions to animal welfare problems



Awareness and partnerships

Information and awareness raising with other organisations and governments – to ensure the best use of existing infrastructure and local knowledge



BROOKE – CURRENTLY WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

- INDIA:** Grameen Evam Krishi Vikas Samiti (GKVS), Blue Cross and Help in Suffering
- AFGHANISTAN:** AfghanAid and the Dutch Committee for Afghanistan
- KENYA:** Kenya Network for Dissemination of Agricultural Technologies (KENDAT) and Practical Action
- GUATEMALA:** Fundacion Equinos Sanos para el Pueblo (ESAP) and Conrado de la Cruz
- PALESTINIAN VILLAGES IN ISRAEL AND THE WEST BANK:** Safe Haven for Donkeys in the Holy Land and Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (PARC)
- PAKISTAN:** Aga Khan Foundation, Bunyad Foundation and Richmond Crawford Hospital/Theosophical Order of Services
- NEPAL:** Animal Health Training and Consultancy Service



BRINGING BROOKE TO 'THE ROOF OF THE WORLD'



In 2008, Brooke embarked on a pilot project to extend our 75 year tradition of care to Nepal. Today, Brooke and our partner Animal Health Training and Consultancy Service (AHTCS) are covering seven districts across the hills and plains of this diverse country.

Nepal is home to an estimated 100,000 working horses and donkeys. Over half a million people depend on these animals yet, until now, many owners have been struggling with seemingly overwhelming problems and their animals have been suffering.

We are delighted that we can now reach these horses and donkeys, and help their owners to protect them and their livelihoods.

Strength in numbers

So far, 21 equine welfare groups have been formed, with sometimes surprising results...

For example, in coming together, a number of owners have been inspired to take collective action and push for better rates when transporting goods.

Income levels have now been adjusted

to take account of the distances travelled, with salary increases of up to a quarter for some owners. This means that not only can the owners earn more, but the animals can travel shorter distances.

Spreading the word

To further extend our reach, we have been training AHTCS staff and sharing equine welfare messages by talking to owners and handing out leaflets.

Demand is now growing as owners in Nepal hear about our important work – helping to fuel a circle of care – in which your support plays a vital role.

BROOKE

We are now reaching horses and donkeys in Nepal with our legacy of care and compassion



How you can help

£20 could pay for painkillers for 10 suffering horses or donkeys in Nepal

£50 could pay for 14 community sessions in the Terai region of Nepal which could educate almost 300 owners on equine welfare issues such as spotting and treating wounds and cleaning hooves

£80 could pay for a week of a vet's time in Nepal, ensuring countless suffering horses and donkeys can receive treatment



Giving help not giving up

Expanding our operations to Nepal has further extended Dorothy Brooke's legacy of care and compassion.

Brooke funded vet Dr Grisham was in good spirits following community celebrations for the Nepalese festivals of Deewali and Chad when the urgent ring of his mobile phone disturbed the happy atmosphere:

'Are you a doctor?' came the urgent enquiry; 'My horse is ill...it's like a child to me. I can't console my heart if anything happens to it.'

Dr Grisham rushed to the aid of 40-year-old Hira Lal Yadav, owner of a grey horse called Barati.

'For the last six days my horse has taken only a little bit of tender grass'

explained Hira. A local vet had already treated the stallion, but after a short-lived improvement, his condition had rapidly deteriorated. Now he was in pain and unable to perform his working tasks at marriages and other ceremonies. As a result, Hira was literally sick with worry – without his horse how would he support his family?

Dr Grisham examined the horse and suspecting a blood-borne parasitic infection he treated Barati and was reassured to see him feeding satisfactorily again after just four days.

Then, on day five, Dr Grisham received a second worrying phone call:

'Dear doctor my horse is again in trouble, please save it.'

By now, Barati was showing some peculiar symptoms, so Dr Grisham took a blood sample and sent it for laboratory tests. These confirmed a case of trypanosomiasis, a parasitic disease spread by flies.

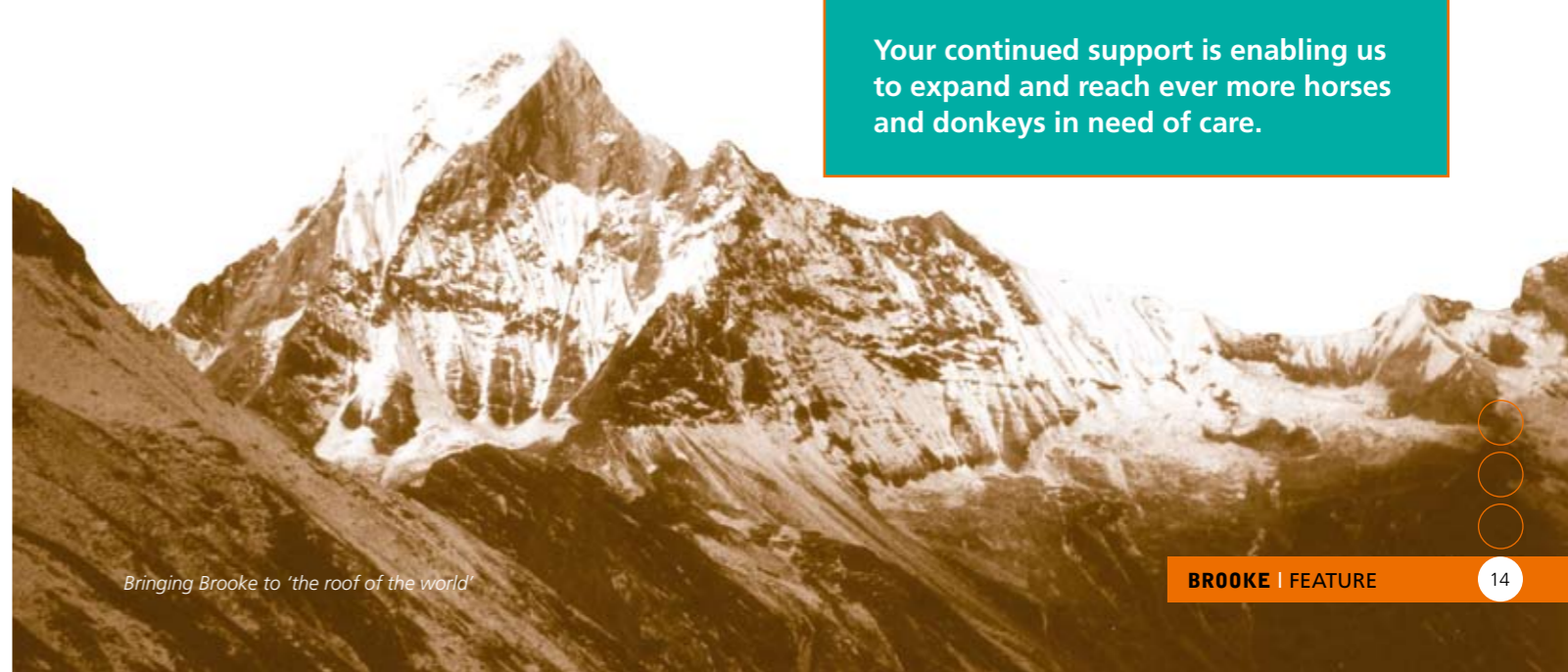
Dr Grisham immediately administered treatment, advising Hira to keep the stable dry and clean, and to spray lime to deter the flies.

After a few days, Barati was recovering well and Hira and Dr Grisham met again;

'All is fine because of your help' exclaimed Hira gratefully: 'I thought that I would lose my horse forever; your help has changed my outlook.'

BROOKE

Your continued support is enabling us to expand and reach ever more horses and donkeys in need of care.



Bringing Brooke to 'the roof of the world'

AWARDING EXCELLENCE IN OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Have your say...

Help us choose the ultimate winners from the best of the best.

To help celebrate our 75th anniversary we are recognising the excellent work carried out by dedicated colleagues in the field and awarding key Brooke staff – and communities that have been influenced by the Brooke.

Winners from Egypt, Ethiopia, Pakistan, Jordan and India have been

nominated in three categories – most inspirational vet, most inspirational community development team and most improved community.

We're delighted to now introduce you to the winners from each country – and we're inviting you to pick the overall winner in each category for special commendation.

The categories are...



Most inspirational community development team

Entrants in this category had to show that they could encourage community members to participate in improving the welfare of their animals in innovative and effective ways.



Egypt: Brooke Luxor team

Driven by a philosophy that 'little things make all the difference', this pioneering team has found creative ways of informing and inspiring others - helping to relieve the pain and suffering of countless working animals.



Ethiopia: Brooke Shashago team

This young team has only been together a few months, yet their spirit shines through. In particular, they have played a pivotal role in training community animal health workers in areas with no other access to veterinary care.



India: Brooke District Equine Welfare Unit, Saharanpur

Innovation has long been a hallmark of this team. They have worked exceptionally hard to create a welfare-friendly attitude among owners; efforts which are now paying off in the form of improved health and self-reliance of the whole community.



Pakistan: Brooke Mardan team

This team has been dedicated to working with communities in one of the poorest areas of Mardan. Recently, they successfully focused on reducing the prevalence of lip wounds, which is serving as an inspiration for others to follow.



Most inspirational vet or vet technician

Entrants in this category had to demonstrate an outstanding long-term commitment towards the improvement of equine health and welfare and to prove their ability in building the skills and confidence of colleagues.



Egypt: Dr Salah, Brooke Cairo

After 32 years of service, Dr Salah has been recognised for his consistent compassion, dedication, and patience – and his steady commitment to breaking down misconceptions about animal welfare.



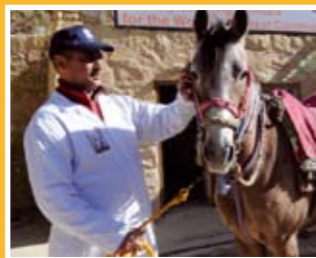
Ethiopia: Dr Alemayehu Hailemariam, SNNPR

Dr Hailemariam is responsible for providing leadership, guidance and technical expertise for all aspects of Brooke's work in Ethiopia. He is recognised for his consistent and passionate commitment to animal welfare improvement.



India: Dr Mohite Dinesh Shriram, Brooke Saharanpur

Dr Shriram has made an impressive all-round contribution to improving animal welfare. His work in helping to develop a self-sustainable vaccination and deworming programme has benefited hundreds of horses and donkeys.



Jordan: Mr Deiffullah Hilalat, Brooke Jordan

Mr Hilalat has been working for the Brooke for 20 years as a veterinary assistant and has grown to know almost all of the animal owners working in Petra during this time – becoming respected and trusted by the community.



Pakistan: Dr Muhammad Iqbal, Brooke Peshawar

Dr Iqbal has excelled in his commitment to animal welfare during a number of disaster management projects, for example as a member of the earthquake relief team in 2005 and in managing the health of horses and donkeys after severe flooding in 2008.



Most improved community

Entrants in this category had to show that their community's equine welfare group was robust, and successful in improving the health and welfare of their horses and donkeys.



Egypt: Siwa community, Matrouh region

Brooke staff were impressed with the way this desert community has embraced regular hoof trimming, acted on advice on the importance of watering and welcomed training for local health providers – significantly improving the welfare of their horses and donkeys.



Ethiopia: Butajira Ghari Horse Owners Association

This 670-strong association has already had some notable successes; controlling overloading, selling feed, providing water, advising owners...It is a living role model, showing how much can be achieved when people collaborate.



Pakistan: Ghareebabad community

The Ghareebabad community is the first community in Mardan to have taken solid steps to improve animal welfare, for example by constructing a stable, installing a hand pump, and running education programmes for children.



To vote for the nominee you feel is most deserving in each category, please fill in and return the enclosed form. To find out more about the featured nominees, please visit www.thebrooke.org/awards



Please vote!

The overall winners will be awarded a special prize at our supporter's conference in the autumn, so you may even have a chance to congratulate them in person!

BROOKE

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Royal dinner

To mark the start of the Brooke's 75th anniversary, we had the privilege of organising a special dinner at Clarence House, which was graciously hosted by our President, Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall. Attended by celebrity guests such as Lisa Bilton and Jemma Kidd, senior representatives from the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) and Mr and Mrs Fritz Kundrun from the USA who are generously funding projects in four countries, the event brought together key supporters to celebrate the achievements of the Brooke over the last 75 years. During the dinner Her Royal Highness gave an inspiring speech, reiterating her own passion and commitment to the Brooke's work, while encouraging everyone present to continue Dorothy Brooke's remarkable legacy and support the next phase of ambitious growth that is needed to help the two million working animals in greatest need. We are incredibly grateful to HRH for making such an exciting event possible. **BROOKE**



The Duchess of Cornwall with guests Jemma Kidd, Lord Arthur Mornington, Brooke ambassador Lisa Bilton with her husband Anton and Brooke's chief executive Mike Baker

Join the Brooke's fundraising polo day!

Celebrate the Brooke's 75th anniversary in style and join us for our fundraising polo day on Saturday 4th July at Beaufort Polo Club. Take in the thrill and excitement of one of the fastest team sports in the world while enjoying a unique day out in the heart of the beautiful Cotswold countryside. With an exciting auction, fabulous prizes, live music and the chance to tread the divots in at half time, what better way to support the Brooke's work to give horses, donkeys and mules a brighter future.

So pack a picnic, bring some friends and take the £30 day pass. Or splash out and treat yourself to the special luncheon package which includes a champagne reception, three course lunch, grandstand seat, traditional English afternoon tea and car pass for only £90!

For more information and corporate sponsorship opportunities please call 020 3012 3456 or visit www.thebrooke.org/anniversarypoloday **BROOKE**



Experience the thrill of watching polo – and help raise money for the Brooke!

Skydive in aid of the Brooke!

We're looking for adventurous volunteers to skydive for the Brooke and, if you raise enough sponsorship, you can jump for free! Whether you fancy taking the plunge securely harnessed to an instructor, or going solo, the sky's the limit!

You can choose to jump from any one of over twenty British Parachute Association approved centres across

the UK. No experience is necessary and all training is provided.

So sign up today for the ultimate adrenaline rush and raise funds for the Brooke's vital work overseas.

For more details visit www.thebrooke.org/skydive email community@thebrooke.org or call 020 7653 5812. **BROOKE**



Walk 75km and celebrate 75 years!

8-11 MAY 2009

Following the success of the Brooke's first walking weekend last year, we are off to Yorkshire again, but this time for a very different challenge!

Join us as we walk 75km through the scenic North York Moors, with the White Horse of Kilburn as our focal point.

Over three days we will experience the beauty of the Cleveland Way National Trail taking in monuments and 12th century Rievaulx Abbey.

This will be a fantastic challenge and all you need is enthusiasm, a good level of fitness, and a commitment to raise a minimum sponsorship target, and the highest fundraiser will win a free glider flight over the moors!

To find out more visit www.thebrooke.org/walk75 email community@thebrooke.org or call 020 7653 5812. **BROOKE**



© Dae Sasitorn and Adrian Warren

75 running places for 75 years!

Join the Brooke's running team and help celebrate our anniversary by being one of our 75 runners!

We are looking for active people to take up places in the **Edinburgh Marathon on 31st May** and the **10 mile BUPA Great South Run on 25th October!**

There are plenty of other runs across the country, and overseas too, so get in touch and let us know which you'd like to take part in and we'll help and support you all the way!

To find out more or to see a full list of runs you can take part in please call 020 7653 5812, email community@thebrooke.org or visit www.thebrooke.org/running

BROOKE

MOUNT KENYA CHALLENGE

11-20 SEPTEMBER 2009

It will take your breath away!

Join the Brooke on the challenge of a lifetime. Trekking on foot across an entire mountain range – from lush vegetation to barren rock, you will see it all in your quest to reach point Lenana where you will view Kenya from an incredible 4,985m. The adventure will be challenging, exhilarating and a great way to raise essential funds for the Brooke.

The journey will end with a visit to see Brooke funded* work in the Mwea region of Kenya, so you can experience first-hand how your sponsorship money is used. This is truly a trek that will take your breath away and give you memories to last a lifetime!

For more information on this amazing adventure, visit www.thebrooke.org/kenya email community@thebrooke.org or call 020 7653 5812 **BROOKE**

* Working in partnership with KENDAT (the Kenya Network for Dissemination of Agricultural Technologies)



CYCLE

London to Paris

JULY 2009

Set yourself a challenge to get fit this summer and be part of the famous London to Paris bike ride, whilst raising vital funds for the Brooke. Over three days you'll cycle nearly 200 miles experiencing fantastic team spirit and beautiful French countryside, passing through small country villages, First World War battlefields and historic towns before ending at the foot of the Eiffel Tower.

To find out more about this and other open challenges call 020 7653 5812 or visit www.thebrooke.org/openchallenge

BROOKE

Your local Supporter Group needs **you!**

Over the past year five new Brooke Supporter Groups have been set up in the UK in South Yorkshire, Aberystwyth, Hertfordshire, Lincolnshire and Farnham, Surrey taking us to a total of 35 UK groups! Plus we have two new groups flying the flag for the Brooke overseas in Queensland, Australia and Wellington, New Zealand. The new Group Leaders have made a fantastic start and would love to hear from any supporters in their area who would like to get involved.

All of the contact details of both our new and long-standing groups can be found on the back page of this newsletter, so why not take a look and call your local group contact now to find out how you can help.

Alternatively, if there is no group close to you, why not consider starting a group of your own? Its great fun and fundraising seems so much easier when a few helpers chip in!

If you are interested in starting your own group please call Gemma on 020 7653 5831.

We look forward to hearing from you! **BROOKE**

To register your interest for future events please email community@thebrooke.org or call 020 7653 5812

Brooke in the media

In recent months, Brooke's work in Ethiopia has featured in a number of high profile publications and TV stations:

In the **Daily Mail Weekend** magazine journalist and animal lover Liz Jones wrote a heartrending account of her visit to Ethiopia, highlighting the suffering of working donkeys and the patient care provided by Brooke vets.

In daily newspaper **The Metro** reporter Sally Howard drew attention to the positive contribution made by healthy donkeys.

She introduced readers to 31-year-old Birke, a mother of three who earns her living with a basic brew, fermented in her thatched traditional home and transported to market by donkey.

Sally praised the 'preventive aid' provided by Brooke, explaining how keeping animals healthy stops disaster

for people like Birke, who could neither take her brew to market or make the twice-daily 4km trip to the water pump without her donkey.

And over Christmas you may have seen us on TV. **Sky News, the BBC, ITV and CNN** all covered the plight of donkeys in Ethiopia and our lifesaving work to reach them and their owners. Visit www.thebrooke.org/news for the full footage.

A very big thank you

All the media coverage created a wealth of interest and donations from readers. We would like to thank every one of you for helping us to bring Brooke's work into the public eye, and for keeping this important cause close to your heart. **BROOKE**

© Dan Kennedy



Brooke urges UN to embrace animal welfare

At a forum held in September Brooke joined several other international animal welfare organisations to urge the UN's Food & Agriculture Organization to place the welfare of farm animals and working horses and donkeys firmly on its agenda.

Dorcas Pratt, director of our international department explained

how Brooke's work to promote the well-being of working equines can help improve livelihoods and reduce poverty. The Brooke's recently published report '*Bearing a heavy burden*', which outlines the importance of working horses, donkeys and mules in developing countries, and highlights the link

between animal and human welfare, was also distributed to delegates.

A report produced as a result of the conference was very encouraging and made a number of recommendations as to how the UN's Food & Agriculture Organization can give more attention to animal welfare. **BROOKE**



75th ANNIVERSARY SUPPORTER CONFERENCE

Join us for a special anniversary supporter conference this autumn when we will be celebrating the past and present successes of the Brooke, and recognising the fantastic contributions from individuals both in the field and at home.

International staff will be attending the day to update supporters on the latest plans overseas and to outline the challenges that lie ahead as we enter the next important phase in the Brooke's history.

The event will open with a short introduction by our chief executive, followed by speeches from key international team members and an awards ceremony for both staff in the field and fundraisers at home. You can find details of the award categories and nominees – and how to vote – on pages 15 and 16.

If you would like to register your interest for this exciting event please email your contact details to community@thebrooke.org for more information. BROOKE

Sad announcement: Lady Weir OBE, passes away



We are sad to announce that Lady Weir OBE, Chairman of the Brooke's UK Board of Trustees, passed away on Sunday 2nd November 2008.

Hilary had a distinguished career. She was a member of the Diplomatic Service from 1969 – 1986, and after postings to New York and Tokyo, she accompanied her husband Michael to Egypt, where he was British Ambassador from 1979 – 1985. It was during this time Hilary discovered the Brooke in Cairo.

After returning to London in 1985, Hilary became a Trustee of the Brooke

and was elected Chairman in 2002. With her clear leadership Hilary led the charity from strength to strength, both in terms of the expansion of its services to help animals in need in some of the poorest parts of the world and ensuring the Brooke's financial position was secured.

Hilary was a wonderful, compassionate character and full of a determination to do all she could for the causes she believed in. The Brooke was prime among those and we are glad that her final days were in Egypt, the country that she loved so much and that formed such an important part of her life. We will all miss her terribly.

We are also very grateful to Hilary for the very generous gift she left us in her Will, which will continue to impact the lives of countless suffering horses and donkeys and the poor communities who depend on them. BROOKE

NEWS IN BRIEF

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF DROUGHT AND DISEASE

To read the full story visit
www.thebrooke.org/vaccinationscampaign

BROOKE JOINS WORLD FOOD DAY CELEBRATIONS

To read the full story visit
www.thebrooke.org/worldfoodday2008

PAKISTAN CELEBRATES WORLD ANIMAL DAY

To read the full story visit
www.thebrooke.org/worldanimalday2008

MY DEAR READER

This year marks the 75th anniversary of Mrs Brooke's legacy of kindness to those old forgotten war horses, abandoned in Egypt to lives of misery and toil. This special year is a chance to look back on the achievements of those past 75 years and to look to the future and the possibilities it will bring.

Thanks to your support the Brooke is now reaching a record number of needy animals, working with communities and encouraging them to take responsibility for their own animals' care and welfare. Together, we are creating a culture of compassion in which working animals can lead happier, healthier lives.

Each country and even district in which we work can require a different approach depending on the local culture, climate, economy and the types of work carried out. In our 75 year history, the Brooke has faced many day-to-day challenges, such as the effects of over-work, dehydration and lack of proper nutrition of working horses and donkeys. We have made great strides in overcoming these challenges. Our local staff have worked long and hard to develop the trust and confidence of the communities with which they work. They have led community meetings and provided training for farriers, harness-makers and saddlers, providing solutions to what were once recurring problems. The Brooke has made changes to animals' lives that will last long into the future.

Legacies have helped to pave the way for those changes. They have provided much needed funds to pay for treatment and training, and they have allowed us to reach out far and wide to those animals most in need.

Looking to the past it strikes me that much of my work at the Brooke is about the future. And that's because legacies are the Brooke's future.

Knowing they are there helps us plan wisely and ensures that we can be there for working animals as long as the need exists. And of course, all our supporters who so generously decide to leave a gift in their Will to the Brooke are thinking about the future too. They're thinking about looking after the people and pets they care for and remembering others they want to provide for – like the thousands of working animals they've never met but know will need their help. They're also ensuring that the Brooke will be around for the next 25 years, 50 years and even 75 years - because although we've achieved a great deal in the past 75 years our work is far from over.

I think that Mrs Brooke would have been so proud that her legacy of kindness has lasted so long and has been adopted by so many of our supporters who share her love of animals. How could she have known that what started as the humble 'Old War Horse Memorial Hospital' in Cairo in 1934, would grow to become an organisation working in 10 countries

across the globe, reaching 700,000 horses, donkeys and mules. What a wonderful legacy!

If you would like to know more about leaving a legacy to the Brooke please contact me for an information pack and a copy of our history booklet.

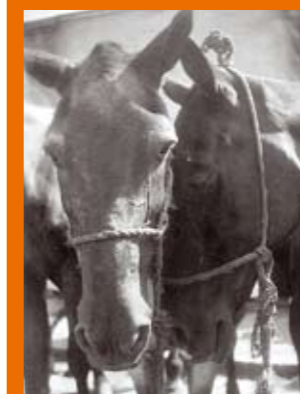
With very best wishes,

Angela Bruce

Angela Bruce
020 7968 0836
angela@thebrooke.org



Let us remember how we started...



These tired old friends were rescued in Mrs. Brooke's Old War Horse Campaign. At the end of the First World War, the British Government sold army horses to local Egyptians. By 1931, there were over 5,000 ex-army horses in Egypt, many of which were in a terrible way. These animals were bought by Dorothy Brooke to end their days in her hospital. The two old friends pictured had become so deeply attached to each other that they had to be stabled side by side for their last few days. BROOKE

DIARY



Remember these dates for your diary!

Come and support the Brooke at one of the events listed below. Contact details can be found under each listing (for Group contacts see box to the right). Visit www.thebrooke.org/ukevents for more listings.

APRIL

11 APRIL

Piano Recital by Patricia Jacobs
(West Kent)

12 APRIL

Whittington Point to Point
Near Kirkby Lonsdale
(Cumbria)

13 APRIL

Bank Holiday Easter Race Meeting
Les Landes (Jersey)

13 APRIL

London Harness Horse Parade
(Sussex)

14 APRIL

Flagg Point to Point Races
(Cheshire)

17 APRIL

Pamper night
(Medway)

25 APRIL

South East Arabian Horse Show
South of England Showground,
Ardingly (Sussex)

MAY

MAY

Fun Quiz
(Lichfield)

1 MAY

Quiz Night
Sutton at Home (Medway)

2-4 MAY

Kent County Fair
Hop Farm, Paddock Wood
(West Kent)

3 MAY

South East Donkey Show
Horton Park (Sussex)

4 MAY

Lions May Day Fair
East Grinstead (Sussex)

4 MAY

Collection at Newcastle Races
(North East)

9 MAY

Plumpton College Open Day
(Sussex & West Kent)

12-13 MAY

Golden Horseshoe Ride
Exford (Exmoor)

16 MAY

Talk by Terry Deary (Author of Horrible Histories)
Durham (North East)

23 MAY

Buffet and Quiz
St Mary's School, Marnhull
(Dorset)

24 MAY

Brick Valley Rotary Club Dog Show
Melpush Show Ground,
Bridport (Dorset)

25 MAY

Warrington Horse Show
Daresbury (Cheshire)

25 MAY

Brooke Stall at Lions Fun Day
Shrewsbury (Shropshire)

29-31 MAY

Brigstock Horse Trials
(Kettering)

29-31 MAY

Holker Hall Garden Festival
Cark-in-Cartmel (Cumbria)

JUNE

JUNE

Blaston Show
(Kettering)

1 JUNE

Bucket Collection
Windsor Racecourse
(West Kent)

20-21 JUNE

South Counties Historical Vehicle Show
Edenbridge (Sussex)

21 JUNE

Summer Solstice Pleasure Ride and BBQ
Finzean Estate, Kincardineshire
(Aberdeen)

25 JUNE

Bucket Collection
Folkestone Racecourse (West Kent)

25 JUNE

Street Collection
(Medway)

25-28 JUNE

British Jumping Derby Meeting
Hickstead (Sussex)

27 JUNE

National Pony Society Show
South of England Showground,
Ardingly (Sussex)

JULY

3 JULY

Glitz & Glamour Evening
(Lichfield)

4 JULY

Brooke Stall at the Abbey Fair
Shrewsbury Abbey (Shropshire)

4-5 JULY

Smallholders Show
South of England Showground,
Ardingly (Sussex)

5 JULY

Zebon Copse Fete
(North East Hampshire)

5 JULY

Corbridge Classic Car Show
Tyne Valley (North East)

11 JULY

Durham Miners Gala
(North East)

11 JULY

Barnes Fair
(Marilyn of Mar, 020 8876 7103)

11-12 JULY

Ardingly Vintage Vehicle Show
South of England Showground
(Sussex)

11-12 JULY

Midland Pets & People Show
Shugborough Hall (Lichfield)

12 JULY

Winwick Carnival
(Cheshire)

18 JULY

Bucket Collection
Lingfield Racecourse (Sussex)

18 JULY

Dogmersfield Flower Show & Fete
(North East Hampshire)

19 JULY

Worthing Dog show
South of England Showground,
Ardingly (Sussex)

24 JULY

Samares Summer Soiree
Samares Manor (Jersey)

25 - 26 JULY

Ringmer Country Steam Show
(Sussex)

26 JULY

Porlock Show
(Exmoor)

26 JULY

Eridge Heavy Horse Show
(Sussex)

29 JULY

Dunster Country Fair
(Exmoor)

31 JULY

Ladies Day at Bangor-on-Dee Races
(Cheshire)

AUGUST

8 AUGUST

Bric a Brac Sale
Avenue Methodist Hall
Minehead (Exmoor)

12 AUGUST

Exford Show
(Exmoor)

16 AUGUST

Aspull, Haigh and Blackrod Country Show
(Cheshire)

LOCAL GROUP CONTACTS

Aberdeen

Mrs Lynda Keeler
01569 764436

Aberystwyth

Mrs Jan Stewart
01974 261511

Bedfordshire

Ms Sarah Flynn
01223 271937

Bristol

Mrs Mavis Richings
01454 413499

Canterbury

Miss Rachel Coveney
07921 931232

Cheshire

Mr Peter Swain
01925 820463

Cumbria

Miss Geraldine Braithwaite
01539 536042 (after 1pm)

Dorset

Mrs Sylvia Tabor
01258 820468

East Anglia

Mrs Liz Bennett
01692 536608

Essex

Mr Andy Smerdon
01245 490897

Exmoor

Mrs Rita Tremain
01643 703154

Gloucestershire

Mrs Mary Sheppard
01285 770483

Herefordshire

Mrs Maggie Davies
01432 264913

Hertfordshire

Miss Jean Jack
07854 246412

Isle of Wight

Mrs Patsy Firth
01983 615237

Jersey

Mrs Margaret Mallet
01534 852257

Kettering

Mr Tim Stephenson
01536 512625

Lichfield

Mrs Sandra Newcombe
07947 708081

Lincolnshire

Mrs Margaret Trigg
01400 250758

Lothian

Mrs Alison Bowers
0131 667 8317

Marches

Mrs Jenny Gamble
07891 679042

Medway

Dr Lorraine Bryant
07985 310759

North Devon

Ms Penny Woollams
01884 254665

North East

Dr Philip Tattersall
0191 384 3699

North East Hampshire

Mrs Kathie Simpson
01252 622683

Shropshire

Mrs Jenny Lack
01743 790343

Surrey

Miss Annette Schiesser
01372 277060

Farnham, Surrey

Mrs Elizabeth Jordan
01392 792318

Sussex

Mrs Diane Price
01342 325288

Topsham

Mrs Wendy Brookes
01392 875036

Vale of Glamorgan

Dr Alex Rees
01446 781286

West Kent

Mrs Louise Brown
01892 531306 (after 6pm)

Wiltshire

Mrs Pauline Brigden
01225 742894

Worcester

Miss Julie Reynolds
01905 426908

Yorkshire

020 3012 3456
community@thebrooke.org

South Yorkshire

Mrs Louise Mallinson
01924 465380 (after 7pm)

INTERNATIONAL GROUP CONTACTS

Queensland (Australia)

Mrs Lucille Watson
(61) 754421955

Wellington (New Zealand)

Ms Margaret Hall
(64) 43885496



Can you spare a day or an afternoon a week? If so, we could really do with your help! We are looking for computer literate and general volunteers to help in our London office. To find out more please get in touch with community@thebrooke.org.

We would also like to say a big thank you to our volunteers who have generously given their time and skills over the last year.

19 AUGUST

Gillingham and Shaftesbury Show
Motcombe Show Ground
(Dorset)

21 - 22 AUGUST

South East Arabian Horse Show
Hickstead Polo Ground
(Sussex)

30 AUGUST

Horley District Dog Show
South of England Showground
(Sussex)

31 AUGUST

Threshing Festival
Samares Manor
(Jersey)