

SAFE HAVEN FOR DONKEYS  
IN THE HOLY LAND



SPRING 2004

# Keeping it in the family!

## *Lucy's letter from Israel*

Once again a warm and grateful greeting to everyone from myself, my donks and my new baby boy, Robert.

Spring is now in the air and the past few months have been both happy and sad at the same time and I can't believe how quickly the time has gone. Having worked almost up to the last minute of my pregnancy, much of my time was spent outside with the donks.

One horrible cold and rainy afternoon, Solomon the donkey managed to open the gate, I found my 38 week pregnant self, running around desperately trying to catch a 'sea' of 40 odd donkeys, galloping in every direction!!!

By 10.00pm that fateful night most had returned home, but I was frantic about the missing 4! I spent the night telling myself that they were by then deep in hostile territory. Until at 5.00am the following morning the 4 naughty stop-outs finally trotted home. I nicknamed them *The Gan Yoshiyya 4*.

Back in November, during a short visit to the sanctuary by Rebecca and Carolyn, two of the charity's Trustees, our two latest donkeys were bought in by a cat rescue friend of mine. The two little



**HE'S NOT GETTING ANY OF MY CARROTS! Lucy and husband Adi proudly show off new arrival Robert, whilst little Blossom looks on with curiosity!**

donkeys, Muriel and Stanley (Mother and foal) had been abandoned and left to die on wasteland just inside the Palestinian side of the border. Muriel has lost part of her front hoof, most probably due to having been 'hobbled'.

They were both in a very poor way, but with a lot of tender loving care, they are now doing very well. In fact Stanley has become best friends with little Josephine (Sheba's foal) and they can both be seen, tearing around together, frequently being

reprimanded by mothers Sheba and Muriel!

You may have read in the Christmas Newsletter about the wonderful volunteer, Sarah Trayler who came out to Israel to help at the sanctuary for 2 weeks. Sarah was fantastic and I hope that she and others will come again this year. In early December another wonderful volunteer, Patricia Heydon-Burke from Manchester, came for a week to help out. She was

also marvellous and has promised to come back in April this year with her husband John. I would like to thank Sarah and Pat for their love, dedication and much needed supplies!! I so look forward to seeing them again soon.

Volunteers are always needed in Israel, especially now that I have a little one. If anyone is interested in a visit to Israel to help me with the donks, please *do* let us know - more details at the bottom of this page.

Soon after Pat's visit, very tragically I lost dear old 'Tao'. One morning I went out to discover that the dear boy had died during the night. It really upset me because he had been just fine the day before. However, he was very old and it seemed that he had passed away peacefully in his sleep - dear Tao is now buried at the sanctuary not far from his old friend Mabel and may they rest peacefully together.

**O**riginally, my baby had been due on Christmas Day but that came and went quietly. Then on the 31st December

when I went for a check up at the hospital, as I was overdue, the doctors decided to induce the birth. What followed was a rather traumatic and difficult time, but finally at 5pm on Friday 2nd January I gave birth to a dear little boy, Robert John Fensom Zahor and he weighed 3 kilos 640 grams (8lb 3oz)!

Due to the difficulties that I encountered giving birth as



**FAMILY RESEMBLANCE: Mother and daughter Sheba and Josephine**

you can imagine it is taking time to recover. As I write this, I am now on a maternity break (1 month back in England) but we ensured

that the donks and the sanctuary are well taken care of by taking on a New Zealand couple, Melaine and Mostyn, to look after them. My husband, Adi is on hand in case of emergencies, whilst our helpers are responsible for the day to day running of the sanctuary, administering the medical treatments, bringing the weekly truckload of carrots, giving lots of TLC and most importantly, being there for the donks!

**B**aby Robert is adorable and I can't wait for the day when he'll be big enough and old enough to help me with the donks, but in the meantime of course, he's only tiny and needs lots and lots of love and attention!

As always, my deepest, sincerest thanks to you all for your kind wishes, cards and baby gifts for me personally and for your love and support for the dear donkeys and SHADH!

God bless,

## *Volunteers Wanted!*

**W**e are looking for people with bags of enthusiasm who can work on their own initiative, love animals (obviously!) and have lots of energy to spend quality time with the donkeys.

Twin, self-contained accommodation is provided free of charge in the sanctuary grounds. The sanctuary itself is set amongst olive and lemon groves, a truly peaceful place to visit. If you are planning a trip to Israel this year, why not get in touch with us. You would be very welcome to spend time at the sanctuary and the donks would *love* to see you!

# Happy to help by Pat Heydon-Burke



“**O**ff I went with a suitcase full of donkey goods (overweight by 7 kgs!) but once I pleaded with the check in staff that it was for the donks off I went, and with just a bag for my clothes and documents that was me set... no problem with customs either getting in or out.

When I arrived, the weather was lovely, sunny and warm, though I did take some of the Manchester weather with me (so we did have some rain!!!) and I fell in love with the place.

Lucy and I had so much to chat about, poor Adi hardly got any peace that week! I

was allowed to come and go as I pleased, so I attached myself to one of the workers and helped out with the cleaning, feeding, helped when the vet came to do dressings (some heavyweight was required to hold the donkey whilst they administered the treatments) the rest of the time was quality grooming and bonding.

I spent most of this time with the new mums/babes, the elderly and infirm. I think it also helped because this little group was situated across from the back door of the most perfect little studio flat where I was staying.

I also watched the main group of donks at play while taking loads of photos. I was really amazed at how friendly, trusting and playful the donks can be, especially when you consider the experiences they have had from humans has been so appalling.

**L**uckily, I was at the sanctuary to see the group's newest addition,

two week old baby Josephine born to mum Sheba and dad Solomon; she was a miniature version of dad!

**T**he week flew by, I was treated to a lovely meal cooked by Adi (whose mum's pecan pie was the best ever) and I also visited a lovely seaside place called Ceasar Rea.

Israel is without a doubt very different to anywhere I have ever been before and the sanctuary without doubt is an absolute necessity.

I intend to visit Lucy and friends again very soon, and at the moment I'm saving up like mad, so I can take at least one suitcase full of donkey goodies!

**I**would definitely recommend a visit to the sanctuary, if you have a real passion for donkeys, cats, chickens, guinea pigs, a variety of birds and if you don't mind mucking in, you simply cannot beat it, the experience - it was fantastic.”

## *On the Tourist Trail*

**L**ucy and the Safe Haven sanctuary look forward to a visit later this year from Rabbi Michael Resnick and his Adat Shalom congregation who will be travelling from L.A. and have chosen to visit the sanctuary as part of their tour of Israel. We would love to welcome any tour groups, school parties or holiday makers to the sanctuary, so if you are planning a trip to Israel, please do get in touch with us.



Picture credit: Rabbi Michael Resnick

**PHOTOGRAPH:** A Moshav outside Jerusalem where tourists can dress up in biblical clothing and ride a donkey to experience the history of the place. Although these donkeys looked happy and well cared for, they should never be expected to carry a load of more than 8 stones.

# Spring Appeal - Medicines

**S**o many of the rescued donkeys come into the sanctuary with terrible damage to their lower legs and hooves due to hobbling.

Muriel lost her hoof and since she was no longer of any use to her owner, she was abandoned along with her baby Stanley to fend for themselves.

A big part of the charity's work is to offer an alternative to hobbling, and that is to ensure the donkey is fit to work and is therefore unlikely to be abandoned, by giving free veterinary treatment and to hand out head collars for tethering.

It's an uphill struggle because hobbling has always been used as a method of tethering but slowly, slowly the message is getting through.

Lucy is receiving more

and more telephone calls from the Arab villages asking for help and treatment rather than simply getting rid of their old or injured donkey.

In order to continue this vital fieldwork, we must rely on donated items.

We desperately need vetwrap/self adhesive bandages, animalintex, fly repellent and worming medicine for the donkeys out in the villages and in our care.

**P**lease ask your local vet for any short date dosages (these are medicines that are due to



**BEST HOOF FORWARD:** A victim of the cruel practice of 'hobbling', Muriel now faces a brighter future thanks to your help

expire and are unlikely to be used). Also any small rugs for the elderly and sick donkeys would be greatly appreciated.

## *A Lasting Gift...*

**S**afe Haven for Donkeys in the Holy Land is not just a sanctuary for abandoned, sick and dying donkeys of the Holy Land, it is also passionate in its belief of working with all communities to elevate the donkey's status as a mere beast of burden by using education and outreach programmes in some of the most hostile areas of the world.

We want you to feel that each one of us can make a very real difference to the lives of working donkeys in these

areas and for donkeys who have come into our care and who rely on us to keep them safe for the rest of their lives.

**T**ogether we can ensure that our pledges and commitment will enable the sanctuary and its vital educational work to continue for many, many years to come as we nurture the responsible management of the vital relationship between the working animal and his owner.

Safe Haven is dependent on our supporters who share our

vision and can give us financial security.

**P**lease, after taking care of your family and those you love, think about remembering Safe Haven for Donkeys in your Will and help ensure that the work we have undertaken can continue. A leaflet explaining legacy giving is available; please tick the box either on the outside of the enclosed envelope or on the donation form provided.

Thank you.

# “...Ema, yesh, chamorim!”



through this brief encounter, these children would grow up to understand and respect the animals which are an invaluable part of so many people's working lives.

difficult place to live.

Safe Haven lives up to its name. A magical place, set in the fertile and green valley of Emek Hefer, surrounded by avocado, citrus and olive groves. The donkeys here live a wonderfully free and peaceful life and it is a joy to watch them tearing around the paddocks or playing together.

**F**unds from the UK ensure the future of the Sanctuary and its work with sick and dying donkeys but what I hadn't realised was how important and valuable its presence is in a country, which at present, is a dangerous and

So different from the donkeys you see out working, broken in spirit, heads hanging down, while

“**M**um! Donkeys!” a little boy shouted as he came to the Sanctuary for a visit with his mother and friends.

It was my second day at Safe Haven (I visited last November) and Lucy had taught me the Hebrew word for donkey - *chamor* (pronounced *hamor*). It was wonderful to see this tiny child run up to the fence and stroke the soft muzzles of the gentle creatures towering over him.

Seeing children's faces as they stroke and talk to the donkeys is an uplifting sight and it is moving to see the interest, patience and kindness the donks show to these little people, in spite of lifelong abuse from human beings.

All I could do was stand and watch - and hope that maybe



**AN INCREDIBLE MISSION: Carolyn with Lucy, Rosa the donkey and children from the Moshav**

standing for hours in the heat or pulling impossible loads while being beaten relentlessly with a stick.

I returned from my visit to Safe Haven with so many memories, which will last all my life - but above all a steely-determination to do all I can for Lucy and her incredible mission.

PLEASE help us to help the donkeys, the *chamorim* of the bible, and visit if you can - you will never regret it.

*Carolyn Treivian*

**Carolyn Treivian** is a long-term supporter of Safe Haven and has been a much-valued trustee and fundraiser for the charity since 2003

# Lucy's donkeys: CLYDE

*This issue's donkey profile features Safe Haven's handsome bad-boy, "Clyde"!*

**G**orgeous Clyde came into my care back in September 2001 together with Bonnie, his timid little friend.

Bonnie and Clyde had been destined for the safari to be served as food for the lions but, luckily for those two dear donkeys, I managed to persuade their driver to divert to Safe Haven.

Although initially deeply bonded with one another, probably due to mixing with so many other donkeys, Bonnie soon came to be less dependent upon Clyde and



**A QUIET MOMENT:** Lucy, with her 'top donk' Clyde!

Clyde in turn became a member of the Bad Boys gang!

Today he is their leader and spends his days play fighting with the other Bad Boy donks!

He gets on so well with all the donks but proves he's "topdonk" when he challenges fellow Bad Boy Gerry at the fence next to the lady donk's field!

There, he proceeds to prance up and down, pushing Gerry out of the way, *ee-oring* as he goes but sadly the ladies never seem to take a blind bit of notice!

**W**hen it comes to people, Clyde is one of the most loving and gentle donkeys to be around. One can



**SHEEP IN WOLF'S CLOTHING:** Gentle 'bad-boy' Clyde

always depend upon him to come and greet you at the fence and he always seems to be in a most jovial mood.

I have to confess that Clyde is probably my favourite donkey!

To help Clyde with a donation, or to adopt any of Safe Haven's other donkeys, please visit our website at:  
[www.safehaven4donkeys.org](http://www.safehaven4donkeys.org)

## A Weekend Break in Historic Bath

**W**ould you like to meet other SHADH supporters and enjoy a weekend break in historic Bath? SHADH are hoping to team up with Hilton Hotels for a fundraising weekend break next Jan/Feb 2005. The approximate cost for 2 people for 2 nights b&b

with dinner provided on the 1st night and a buffet with entertainment on the second night will be £160 in total, (£80pp based on 2 sharing).

The 4-star Hilton Hotel is well placed for visiting beautiful Bath, the redeveloped Bristol Docks area and popping over the bridge to the Wye Valley and Wales.

If you fancy a weekend away and would like to support us, please let us know by Friday 30th April. We will then contact you with more details and request a small deposit be paid to secure your place

This event is subject to interest and therefore final details may vary.

# SHADH Report: Israel, January 2004

## *Lucy Fensom reports on her latest two rescues*

**M**uriel was found with her devoted little companion, Stanley, by a friend of mine who lives very close to the Palestinian town of Rantis - he is the same friend who rescued Holly, Hannah, Celia and Simon, all in the same area.

He found Muriel and Stanley huddled together desperately seeking comfort and safety - they were helped into a trailer and driven to the sanctuary.

We received a phone call while the donks were en route to the sanctuary. Expecting only one little donkey, we were so surprised to see a tiny face peaking out from behind Muriel when we opened the

trailer doors! Tragically Muriel is terribly undernourished and has lost her right front hoof most probably due to having been hobbled with wire.

advised on the best way to treat it.

**L**ittle Stan is thankfully in a much better condition and I have guessed Muriel's age to be approximately one and half years and Stan at about six months or so. The

may well be that Stanley lost his mother and Muriel adopted him, or she may seem young because of how thin and ill she is.

**O**ne thing we can all rest assured about is that they are



W e think she was abandoned after completing the olive harvest. Upon their arrival I washed and dressed the injury and the vet has

strange thing is that we saw Stanley suckling Muriel but it doesn't seem possible that she could be his real mother because she seems so young - it

now safe at the Safe Haven sanctuary and although they can always huddle together when they wish, it will never be out of desperation again.

## Salaam's Progress



SOLDIERING ON: Salaam

**I**n the last newsletter we featured Salaam, rescued after a vehicle hit him and consequently he lost his front leg. We appealed to anyone who might know about prosthetic limbs for animals.

Thanks to everyone who took the time to search the web, question their local vets and contact universities in search of help. We now have many contacts to talk to and investigate the possibility of having

an artificial limb fitted.

In the meantime, Salaam is managing very well on his remaining three legs and we are very pleased with his progress. If he could thank you himself, I'm sure he would!

## Patron visits Holy Land

**W**e are delighted to announce that that our Patron, The Rt Hon Ann Widdecombe will be visiting Lucy and the Safe Haven sanctuary in Israel next month.

Trustee Carolyn Trevivian, will accompany Miss Widdecombe, who is looking

forward to meeting all the rescued donkeys at the sanctuary and visit some of the villages where Lucy and the vets carry out their field work.

Full news and pictures of Miss Widdecombe's trip to Israel will feature in the Summer 2004 edition of our newsletter.



**SEEING FOR HERSELF:**  
SHADH Patron The Rt Hon  
Miss Ann Widdecombe MP

## Working Donkey & Mule Awareness Weekend

*Acton Scott Working Farm Museum, Church Stretton,  
Shropshire - 24th / 25th July 2004*

**C**ome along and support SHADH at this equine weekend plus learn about veterinary, harness, farriery, dentistry for your equine, watch craft demonstrations and catch up

on your shopping with a variety of trade stands! We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information, please contact:  
[harnessaid@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:harnessaid@yahoo.co.uk)



## Raising money 'Flora' good cause!



**NO MEAN FEAT:** Kate and Emily pictured during The 2003 Flora Light Challenge

**K**ate Desmond and her fellow runner Emily successfully completed the 2003 Flora Light Challenge and raised £150 for SHADH. They're pictured here sporting their 'Safe Haven for Donkeys' T-shirts, which they had specially made for the run!

An annual event, The Flora Light Challenge is a 5km run, jog or walk for women of all ages. Fit or not so fit, it's all about having fun and raising money for good

causes! Each year there are two simultaneous runs, in both London and Birmingham's city centre and the event has already become an established annual fixture in London's Hyde Park.

**I**n the 2003 run, over 22,000 women took part in the event, which saw Paula Radcliffe set a new world record of 14 minutes 51 seconds.

Well done to Kate and Emily for a fantastic result!

# Fundraising Ideas

With the fundraising season approaching we want to try and inspire more budding fundraisers with this handy

list of hints and tips!

If you are thinking of holding an event, please get in touch and we'll send you a fundraising pack which

includes posters for you to write in the event you are holding, sponsorship forms, posters, leaflets, car stickers and collection boxes.

## *Some Fundraising Ideas*

- **Sponsored event:** *(anything from a walk or swim to a parachute jump!)*
- **Auction of promises or traditional goods/services:** *These can be very successful, especially if local businesses can donate products or services such as a manicure at the beautician, a fruit hamper from the greengrocer and a year's supply of flapjacks from the bakery!*
- **Bring & Buy:** *are always a favourite and can be held in your back garden or in the local church hall. Ask friends and family to clear out their lofts and garages for any items that might fetch a few pounds!*
- **Car Boot Sales:** *are popular and with a good stock of plants, cuddly toys, old videos and books, can be a really fun way to raise funds, especially on a lovely summer morning!*
- **Dress up / dress down days:** *at work or at school - nice and easy, simply ask permission, display a poster, make up the dress theme and use a huge bucket to collect the donations!*
- **Quiz Night:** *at your local pub, school, church hall or your front room. Maybe charge a little extra for a drink and a slice of cake!*
- **Charity Fairs / Country Shows:** *are a great way to raise funds and the charity profile by setting up a trestle table, displaying posters and perhaps selling bric-a-brac, SHADH merchandise or hold a tombola.*
- **"Adopt a Charity":** *is becoming more and more popular with businesses. Ask your boss if they would consider supporting SHADH for a year and help with fundraising that way.*

**B**e bold when asking for anything. Enthusiasm is infectious! Have a target amount you would like to raise - this will help to ensure you will not organise anything that might lose you money. Also, tell

people your target, it really helps to focus the mind!

Remember to organise petty cash or a float. Maximise publicity by using free slots on local radio, newspapers, church or school newsletters etc.

Plan, plan, plan! Never underestimate how useful a list of 'things to do' will be!

**F**inally, don't be too ambitious - remember, you can always plan bigger for next time!

# Special Thanks

**W**e must say a huge thank you to Lexi Jones of Bradley Stoke, Bristol for her tireless fundraising and for coming up with so many fundraising ideas!

Lexi organised a fun day at work and raised a whopping £1000!

She has also volunteered to talk to local groups about the work of SHADH and raise more funds that way, so a heartfelt thanks to you Lexi!

**A**nother huge thanks to Becky Cross of Kingswood, Bristol for her help with the upkeep of the website while our webmaster, Philip Meehan was away at the end of last year.

Becky very kindly offered her services as a web developer. Thanks Becky!



**'EARS' A GOOD ONE:** Little Blossom caught laughing at one of her own jokes...

We have had so many anonymous donations, gifts, parcels of animallintex and syrings that we wanted to say a special thanks to these people.

Of course, without their name and address details we can't say send a personal acknowledgment so hopefully, some of them will be reading this and will now know how incredibly grateful we are.

Sometimes it takes us a while to send an acknowledgement for donations, particularly straight after a newsletter so even though our thank you letters crossed with some supporters asking if their donations had arrived, thanks once again to Mrs Taylor of Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire for her donations and her patience with us!

**F**inally, a big thank you to all those who send in 1st and 2nd class stamps! We do use them and any correspondence we send out from SHADH with a 1st class stamp, please be assured it has been donated!



**MARKET HARBOROUGH:** Mary Punter (left) and Janet Gee (with teddy bear!) of Harborough Animal Concern with their fundraising stall for SHADH

## Mystery Donkey?

**O**ur mystery donkey from the Winter newsletter is dear little Chico! He's almost fully-grown now and is way too big to come into the house and help Lucy with her e-mails anymore!

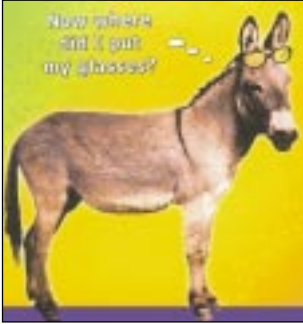


## Gift Aid Reminder

**P**lease, *please* sign the enclosed Gift Aid declaration (at the bottom of the donation form) that declares any donations you have ever given to SHADH as eligible for an extra 28% from the Government. The extra funds we receive from Gift Aid, at the moment cover almost one month's running costs per year so it's vital we claim as much as we can. NB: You must be a UK tax payer.

Thank you very much indeed.

# Your Letters



Cartoon courtesy of James Bliss, Whittier, California, USA

Dear Lucy and team,

Enclosed please find a cheque to help with your wonderful work. My mother's best friend, Margaret Jones of Northants told me about your work and what you have done for these lovely little donkeys.

She sent me your Spring 2003 newsletter and although it had me in tears, it made me feel better knowing that there are people like you who are doing something to help.

She didn't want any Christmas presents but instead asked that anyone who usually buys her a present should give the money to SHADH instead.

Anyway, keep up the brilliant work.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs CAROLINE CHAPMAN  
Luton

Dear Felicity and SHADH

I enclose a small donation. I think it is wonderful what Lucy, her colleagues and yourselves are doing. I am not a brave person and am so thankful that there are "Lucys" in this cruel world.

I am very concerned about what might happen to the donkeys if something ever happened to Lucy and if the political situation becomes worse. The thought of these donkeys being once more at the mercy of people outside the sanctuary fills me with horror.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E G LLOYD  
Devon

SHADH's Co-ordinator, Felicity Moore replies:

*Dear Mrs Lloyd,*

*Unfortunately, we cannot predict how events will affect the sanctuary in the future but we do have contingency plans in place should we ever have to face such situations. Our primary concern is for the welfare of the donkeys in our care and the commitment we have made to give them a safe home for the rest of their lives.*

*We understand your concerns and hope you will be assured to know that our team of trustees have taken every eventuality into consideration.*

*Thank you for your donation and for your continued support of our work.*

Thank you so much for the photo of Holly, which arrived yesterday on my birthday. What a lovely present. I am hoping to create some interest in SHADH at work and will see if I can lay my hands on any old headcollars etc. for you.

BRENDA BREE  
via e-mail

Dear SHADH,

Please accept this donation to help the donkeys in memory of Christina and Ken who loved all animals.

ANONYMOUS

Much love and congratulations to Lucy and Adi on the birth of Robert!

Lots of love,

JEAN BIRD

Market Harborough



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**Charity No. 1083468**