

Friday, 10th April 2015

ANIMAL PARTY CYPRUS

«GreetingLine» all of the weeks news from the APC



CYPRUS AND CAPTIVE DOLPHINS

In 2000 a major victory achieved by the small NGO, Animal Responsibility Cyprus (ARC/ Kivotos). Four Black Sea dolphins and two sealions had been brought to Ayia Napa where they died after short lives of abuse and stress. The surviving sealion was left starving in the abandoned dolphinarium, kept alive only by tourists throwing it scraps.

Space does not allow the full story, but after a massive campaign with support from international cetacean scientists and activists, a scandal was uncovered at high levels. When dolphins die, they can be quickly replaced. ARC managed to get a ban on cetacean imports, making Cyprus one of the first countries to achieve this. The Director of Fisheries and his successor were environmentalists, and ensured that the ban was not breached.

Now suddenly, there is pressure from high places to once again establish a dolphin 'entertainment' facility in Cyprus. Wild dolphins will swim over 100 km in a day, communicating with their long-range sonar. They live in complex social groups. They are forced to perform, even when sick, because performances mean money. When they cannot perform, they are put in isolation in a small concrete tank and starved.

Animal Party Cyprus, aware of the hard work and unceasing commitment of the ARC founders, will do its utmost to stop the re-establishment of this horror.

The dolphins are not smiling – they have no facial muscles. As the slogan says they are DYING TO AMUSE YOU.

Please be ready to join us in demonstrations, and please circulate this information to your friends.

FINLAND IS THE LATEST COUNTRY TO HAVE A PARTY FOR THE ANIMALS

There are now political Parties for Animals in Portugal, Spain, Italy, Germany, France, Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey, Serbia, Cyprus, Australia, USA, The Netherlands, UK, Canada and now Finland! 16 countries—the fastest-growing political trend – at last!



European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) decision confirms animal supporters' rights.

APC was involved in a dog pound issue where once again an impounded dog had died. (See last week's newsletter). But now animal supporters can approach mayors/mukhtars on a sound footing, following a recent ECHR decision. It is not a matter of begging them; it is a matter of human rights. Animal supporters may be aware of the Bulgarian authorities paying thugs to beat homeless dogs to death, to address the stray dog problem, and that the EU Commission was powerless to act.

A Bulgarian NGO decided to tackle the matter legally. They requested information from the municipality: names of companies/entities being paid to catch and kill; statistics of numbers of killed dogs; the qualifications of those employed; infrastructure and facilities. The municipality refused to provide the information.

The NGO took the case to the ECHR which found in their favour (February 2015). Bulgaria violated Articles 10 (Right to Freedom of Speech) and 13 (Right to an Effective Remedy) of the European Convention on Human Rights. The State of Bulgaria was fined €5000 and must pay the legal expenses. We should be aware of this ruling in our future dealings and strategies.

KEEP YOUR DOGS AWAY FROM SNAILS

Cyprus is experiencing a massive snail invasion. APC will shortly issue a more detailed warning on LUNGWORM (potentially fatal) in dogs (but not cats). Dogs become infected through eating slugs and snails which carry the larvae of the parasite.

The APC Monitoring Group in the Polis Chrysochou area have reported an alarming increase in dog poisoning cases around the village of Lysos. This is currently being investigated by the APC. If you walk your dog in this area please be extra vigilant and watch out for pieces of meat which may contain poison. The contact numbers for the group are :

96539245/26940839 and 99928160



EASTER: Over half of UK vets treated pets for chocolate poison

Dog owners are being warned to keep Easter treats away from pets after the British Veterinary Association (BVA) revealed that over half of UK vets (54%) had treated at least one case of chocolate poisoning over Easter 2014.

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