

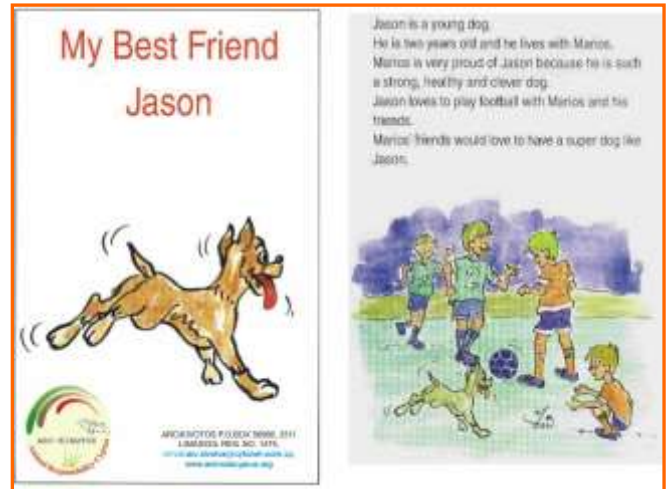


Animal Responsibility Cyprus (ARC) is now 20 years old. Founded in 1993 and registered in 1994, to introduce Humane Education to Cyprus and to lobby and campaign on behalf of animals. Below are just some of the positive changes for animals ARC has achieved in Cyprus.

HUMANE EDUCATION: ARC produced a story for children *My Best Friend Jason* in both Greek and English.

The story makes clear the compassionate way to live with a dog, contrasting this with the sad, tied-up-fed on stale bread life that too many dogs lead. The children themselves find the solution.

Through ARC presentations in schools, thousands of children have received the story at no charge, and their teachers have used it as a basis for artwork and writing. Many other leaflets have been distributed.



WILDLIFE: Concerned about the slaughter of protected fruit bats and realising that Cyprus is the only EU country to host these beautiful creatures, ARC produced an educational booklet in Greek, English and Turkish to educate the public. These have been distributed via ARC presentations in Schools. ARC successfully campaigned for Cyprus to sign and ratify the EUROBATS Agreement. The Act went through the Cyprus House of Representatives and Cyprus is now a member state.



CONFERENCES:

- **Two-day Conference for Teachers:** ARC brought experts from the RSPCA to teach humane education and animal welfare.
- **WSPA Pet Respect** International Campaign launched in Limassol, organised by ARC under the auspices of then First Lady Lila (Irene) Clerides.
- **Putting Bats on the Map:** A conference organised with the support of the Department of Forestry brought a bat expert to Cyprus to lecture for the first time.



- **Bi-communal one-week Bat Event**, including a bi-communal seminar.
- **Major UNEP Conference** co-organised with EUROBATs brought chiropterologists from over 38 countries to Governor's Beach.
- **WSPA World Animal 2000 London Conference**, ARC gave a presentation on our successful dolphin campaign.
- **RSPCA Budapest Conference**, ARC gave a presentation on our successful dolphin campaign.
- **RSPCA Conference Brno, Czech Republic**, ARC gave a presentation on the state of animal welfare law enforcement in Cyprus.
- **EUROGROUP Brussels Conference**, ARC gave a presentation that resulted in the eventual rescue of two captive brown bears from Limassol Zoo; they were flown to a Hungarian sanctuary.

CAPTIVE ANIMALS

- Limassol Zoo closed after a lengthy campaign by ARC with contributions from Born Free Foundation and WSPA.
- Three leopards, captive for 14 years, flown to a South African sanctuary. Funded by BFF
- Two brown bear brothers captive for their 14-year lives flown to a sanctuary in Hungary. Funded by WSPA.
- Primates and raccoons rescued from cages and sent to AAP sanctuary in the Netherlands.
- Dolphinarium closed and a permanent ban on cetacean imports by the government. ARC is particularly proud of this campaign as Cyprus was one of the few countries to take this major step.



FARM ANIMALS

First tour of slaughterhouse at Kofinou by an animal protection NGO.

All vehicles transporting animals to slaughter must now have a shade protecting animals from the hot sun. This followed ARC's campaign contacting the

slaughterhouse with registration numbers of unshaded vehicles, which were then turned away.

First free farrier session for donkeys at Paramytha Village before there was any donkey sanctuary in Cyprus. Hooves trimmed, donkeys wormed, equipment donated. Treated overgrown hooves and feet deformities of donkeys at Limassol zoo.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Where possible ARC works in a spirit of cooperation. Over the years ARC has succeeded in bringing resources and expertise to Cyprus from:

Born Free Foundation (BFF); International League for Protection of Horses (ILPH); The Royal Society for the Protection of Animals (RSPCA); The Humane Slaughter Association; EUROGROUP for Animals, Brussels; EUROBATS Bonn; Compassion in World Farming (UK); Echoes Ecology (Scotland); Whale & Dolphin Conservation Society (EDCS); Turkish-Cypriot Biologists Association; Friends of Nature; Green Action Group; Cyprus Environmental Stakeholder Forum (Bicommunal)



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Rehoming raccoons and helping others

By Her Green Journalists

An animal lover, a wealth of skills, a passion for helping others, all of which made the man behind the scenes at Larissa Airport in Limassol a key player in the rehoming of raccoons. The man behind the scenes at Larissa Airport in Limassol was the man who had every thing that was needed for the job.

Back in 2008 Larissa manager Stella Pavlaki contacted The Cyprus Weekly to enquire about the possibility of the animals at the town's Municipal Gardens, particularly the raccoons.

The raccoons' living conditions were indeed terrible. Larissa's Municipality was receptive to the idea of rehoming and suggested that the raccoons had been found abandoned and given to them by the Larissa municipality office approximately three years previously as they had nowhere to take them.

The 2008 raccoon was Larissa's Municipal Animal Hospital (LIMASSOL ANIMAL HOSPITAL) who were already involved in trying to rehoming a raccoon at Limassol Zoo.

They worked with Larissa's Municipality and finally, after two months of paperwork and negotiation, the raccoons were added over to AAP - the Sanctuary for Exotic Animals in the Netherlands.

Both raccoons had been kept at their parents, so when their cages were placed next to each other at the airport it was the first time either of them had ever seen another raccoon.

In his role here at the AAP Sanctuary the Larissa manager was named 'Toby' and got on a first name basis with them.

They had the privilege to meet people from all walks of life, sacrificing their own time and money to help others in need. I am regularly reminded of the compassion people can show.

There are difficult times. We all know it. People are being sick. Governments are making cutbacks.

But time and time again I've had the privilege to meet people from all walks of life, sacrificing their own time and money to help others in need.

To those people, and I'm an animal lover too, on there are no words. I say thank you. Thank you for starting your lives. And thank you for your efforts to help these poor creatures.

You are an inspiration and a reminder to every other animal lover to help those in need.



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