



Be Kind Belize Humane Education Programme designed for 8 - 11 Year Olds

Be Kind Belize is a humane education programme designed specifically for primary schools in Belize. Humane education is based on the concept that all life is precious and is practiced by teaching young people the value and importance of treating other living creatures with kindness.

Some mistakenly believe that humane education is only about teaching kindness to animals and while it does include an element of that, there is so much more to it.

A more complex definition provided by the Humane Education Institute is that "humane education provides accurate information about the issues of our time so that people have the information they need to understand the consequences of their decisions. It fosters curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking, so that people can evaluate information and solve problems. It instills reverence, respect, and responsibility, so that people have the motivation to face challenges and to act with integrity, and it offers positive choices that benefit oneself, other people, the animals, and the Earth, so that people are empowered to create a more humane world."

It has been well established that children who learn to be kind to animals are also kinder to people, are better at communicating and are more likely to become helpful and caring members of the community as adults.

By engendering reverence, respect and responsibility in children before they start developing concerning patterns of behaviour, humane education acts like a moral vaccination. It gives children the tools they need to make decisions about their own behaviour and helps them to understand the consequences of those decisions.

The Be Kind Belize Humane Education programme is designed to meet the needs of the Belize National Curriculum at Standard 2, 3 & 4, and is aimed at children between the ages of 8-11 years old. Lessons complement and enhance studies in math, science, social studies, art and health. As all lessons are interactive, the

children learn effectively because they are personally involved in the learning process.

All Be Kind Belize lessons are taught by volunteers, who work closely with teachers, teaching assistants and other school faculty to ensure that everyone benefits. All Be Kind Belize lessons are given for free. By introducing this programme to a school, students are enabled to broaden their understanding of the importance of kindness and comprehending the consequences of their actions as part of fun through engaging and interactive activities.

Teaching children through and about animals is a sound educational tool and provides an exciting context through which children are enthused to learn and apply developing skills and new understandings. The design of the programme helps children to improve their ability to resolve conflicts and consider the consequences of their actions. The Dog Safety workshop is particularly important as it enables children to make informed decisions about their own safety and welfare.

The basic course is four weeks, with a one hour class given by a volunteer twice a week. Students attend 8 lessons and also receive some homework assignments between lessons. At the end of every course, all children will receive a Be Kind Belize graduation certificate.

Be Kind Belize is always looking for volunteer educators. It only takes a few hours a week and is not a year round commitment. It is great fun, extremely rewarding and volunteers are provided with a full educator's resource pack and curriculum, with everything they need to set up the programme in their own local schools. It is a great way to get involved in the community in a really positive way and the children just love it.

For more information please contact Be Kind Belize either by phoning 501-226-4366/501-624-8251 or by email at BeKindBelize@gmail.com.

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A Message from the Chairman

Greetings Animal Lovers,

Here in Belize the temperature is soaring with days into the upper 30's and no rain to speak of. The Belize weather office has suggested that this may be a very active hurricane year and we are still a long way from a hurricane shelter to protect the animals. In my property report, you will read some of the accomplishments we have made toward this goal, but there is still so much more to do. For those of you who support us from abroad or outside of Belmopan, I am sorry you can not participate in our monthly Socials at the Bull Frog Inn. These socials bring together members and people of the community who love animals and want to learn about our society. Lots of new faces and interesting speakers make this event one not to be missed. After our last social, Lilly remarked to me that when she was looking around the room at all of the people conversing about one and only one subject and that was of course animals. At our upcoming AGM, we hope to see some new people assisting us at the executive level. If you, or someone you know wishes to enjoy with us to chart the future course of BHS, please attend and sign on. You are the Belmopan Humane Society. ~ Dewey Morison

May is BHS membership renewal month. Please renew your membership today. Our animal friends are counting on you.
822-0176

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Published by

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Board Meetings TBA. Call 822-0176

Welcome New Members

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Andrea Corredor | Enid Catanach |
| Marta Pullin | Kyara Bellini (jr) |
| Tom Tullsen | Maya Ken |
| Wayne Hall | Sally Goni |

HE Vinai Thummalapally
 Barbara Thummalapally

Please share your newsletter with non-members in the hope that some may care to join or help.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RATES

Junior - \$10.00 Adult - \$20.00
 Family - 40.00 Patron - 150.00

Corporate - \$150.00 +

Call 822-0176

Rescues & Adoptions



Honey & pups

HONEY, formerly someone's pet, abandoned to the streets, had her puppies in a most inappropriate place. They were rescued and placed as a temporary emergency situation at the BHS property. Thanks to volunteers Graciela Diaz, Judith Ferrier, Lilly Morison, Marla Dwyer, Katherine and Bridget Woodye, Goya and Efrain Aldana, who formed a feeding, cleaning, and exercise brigade, the puppies and mum are healthy, happy, well socialized. All 6 puppies have found wonderful families, but we are still looking for a home for Honey.



Bruno

BRUNO, rescued just days before Christmas from the 168 Store on Libertad St. by a kind passerby. Some children had been throwing "pop shots" at the dog in his enclosure. This terrified the dog and in trying to escape he ended up with his head stuck through the chainlink fencing approx. 3 feet in the air. He weighs well over 100 lbs and the pressure of his weight on his throat would have killed him had someone not intervened immediately. I pleaded with the owners of the store to help get the dog down but they refused to help. We finally got him out of the predicament and the store owners told me to take him as he is nothing but trouble. He is a little over one year old! After 19 days as the guest of the BHS he was adopted by the Ferrier Family and is living in "doggie paradise."



Georgia & Jordan

GEORGIA AND JORDAN, rescued by Marla Dwyer on Christmas Eve. They were fostered by Graciela Diaz and family and have found

good homes here in Belmopan and in Teakettle. There is one more, Luther, no photo. While he was being fostered by the Dwyer family, he crept into their hearts and has been adopted by them.

Two wonderful dogs, "Gypsy" and "Honey" (photo to left) are up for adoption.

Gypsy was rescued from a life of being chained to a dog



Gypsy

house and intentionally starved for food and affection. Gypsy may be a greyhound mix and has a great disposition.

Both Honey and Gypsy are very loyal, well socialized, and attentive. They get along with other dogs. Both are 2 years old, have had puppies, and are now spayed.

Please share this information with anyone who may be looking for that perfect companion. Call Lilly at 822 0176.

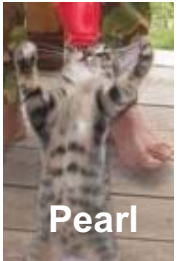
Two Lucky Kitties



Forrest

FORREST was rescued from the middle of traffic on Forest Drive.

Abigael Blumentritt lovingly fostered him for a week. Then after being neutered by Dr. Baptist, he went to live with Lilly Morison. A wonderful couple living in Calla Creek adopted him and a kitten PEARL that had been fostered by Audrey Newsham since December.



Pearl



Sid

For those of you who remember SID, the Tar baby that was our incentive to start and complete the fencing at the BHS property, I am

sad to say he passed away. He was the model of a devoted, gentle, intelligent dog. He is resting peacefully at the BHS property and a beautiful bush will bloom next spring in his memory.

Doggie Data

1. Dogs don't understand pointing. They focus on the tip of your finger, not the item you are pointing at.
2. Dogs have sweat glands in between their paws.
4. A dog's shoulder blades are unattached to the rest of the skeleton to allow greater flexibility for running.
7. Earliest European images of dogs are found in cave paintings dating back 12,000 years in Spain.

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BHS Property Report

by Dewey Morison

Great News!!!! We now have a functioning bathroom on the BHS property!!

To some of you this might not seem such a big deal, but I can assure you that this is a welcome addition for those of us who use this property.

Let me give you a little bit of insight as to how this was accomplished. First and foremost, we required money. This was made possible by our recent cocktail fundraiser, hosted by the British High Commission which gave us sufficient funds to proceed and have money left over for animal needs as well.

To start with, we needed a water pressure supply, so our resource center was raised an additional 3 feet to feed rain-water runoff into a 600 gallon water vat that was placed on an 8 foot concrete elevated platform. The toilet module, supplied by the Ministry of Public Works, was in terrible condition. It needed to be gutted and the floor torn out and replaced. The module was elevated to rest on short concrete piles and cement steps were built for access. The waste line from the module had to be run to the waste system 150 feet away and water lines were run from the water vat to the module. Then everything had to be reinstalled into the module which now has 2 sinks, 1 shower, 1 toilet, and further room for additional facilities.

Our contractor, Telford Guzman, did a terrific job, and Tobar Construction assisted us in the elevation of the resource center. A big thanks goes out to the Belmopan City Council for making a donation to reconstruct our rear fence that had been eroded by past flooding. And a thank you also goes out to the Belmopan Men's Club and Mr. Alan Graham for assistance in work on our parking area and rear drain.

All of this work has been done with the future of our society's needs taken into account. What we require now is your help in the future development of this property. Please feel free to contact me by email or in person to find out what is needed and how you can assist. Now that some of these major items have been completed, we invite all of you to utilize this valuable resource.



by Nikki Buxton

Firstly: cutting your birds wing does not make it tamer. That can only be achieved by hard work and dedication to your bird.

Why does he need wings?

As with all birds, parrots use their wings to regulate body temperature: they provide insulation from heat and cold and they waterproof and protect soft body feathers, preventing them from becoming waterlogged.

When he flaps, he exercises his chest muscles, which makes him a fitter, healthier bird.

Most importantly, his wings make his landings comfortable: a severely clipped bird could injure or kill itself with a hard landing.

SO if you must do it, do it right!

You do not need to cut across all of the feathers. Four or five feathers is usually enough: See the diagram for the best way to clip a parrots' wings.

Never clip baby parrots' wings: they need at least 3 months with full feathers for muscles to develop properly and to allow them to learn important balancing skills, whether they are to be flighted or not.

Never cut growing feathers: they have nerves and a blood supply. They have a white sheath and/or the shaft appears darker than others. If you cut through one, your bird could bleed to death - the only way to prevent that, should it happen, is to pull the feather, which causes permanent damage to your bird.

When you cut, use sharp nail clippers to avoid scissor injury and to create a good, clean cut.

Cut underneath the primary coverts -- the shorter feathers that overlay the flight feathers. This way your bird will not pick constantly at the irritating stubby ends of his feathers.

Clip both wings in the same way. Mismatched wings can cause uncontrolled, painful falls.

Do NOT cut his tail feathers: that's just ugly.

If you're still not sure, call us. We can help.

Now your bird is clipped in the correct way, you can take him out of his cage: he's not going anywhere and he'll be much happier with a bit of freedom now and again.

Think carefully about whether or not your bird needs to be clipped. If he is per-

manently caged, he would be better off with his wings intact. Please make sure the cage is big enough for him to fly.

A healthy happy parrot can live up to 50-80 years depending on the species.

Belize Bird Rescue gives advice to parrot-owners in order to improve the quality and extend the length of a bird's life. However, keeping captive parrots (or any wildlife) is illegal without a licence from Forestry Department. To get a Pet Permit, call 822 1524 or visit their offices on Forest Drive.

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7392 George Price Blvd., Belmopan

Fund Raising

by Lilly Morison

A huge thanks go out to the British High Commission for hosting our very successful Valentines Cocktail Party.

Our Sincere Thanks To

Our sponsors & donors:

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Nigel & Jackie Brown

Belize Bird Rescue

Sharon Escalante

Isabelle Duval

Lindy Jeffery

Our chefs:

Chrissy Tupper, Jennie Patter,
Nita Sinh, Jerry Larder, Nazli D'Silva,
Margaret Hsai, Lilly Morison, Edith
Ferrier, Graciela Diaz, Sharon Trapp,
Judith Ferrier, Linda Shumate,
Edith Mena, Edna Dunster,
Abigael Blumentritt

Our musicians:

Francisco Diaz & Simone Hunt

Our relentless auctioneer:

Jerry Larder

And of course, all the wonderful people that came out, had a great time and bid on everything.



Announcements / Briefs



The BHS attempted to take a survey from the greater Belmopan area regarding the many

issues associated with Animal control. Approximately 2,500 surveys were sent out with the BWS water bill and as an added incentive, \$100 cash was offered to be drawn just before Christmas. The photo shows Mr. Tot, \$100 winner along with BHS board members Sandra Hall and Lilly Morison. Though disappointed that only 110 responses out of 2,500 were sent in, we hope that the survey added awareness about BHS and the plight of so many animals in the Belmopan area.

BelmopanCityonline offered a contest to the general public to vote daily over a period of a month for their favorite charity. BHS was amongst a number of charities and thanks to our loyal membership we are the **WINNER OF \$150.00**

Junior member, **Richie Beane** and his younger sister **Nia Beane** generously donated \$21.25 from their allowances and Richie drew a great rendition of "just a buck can change their luck" which we will be putting to good use very shortly. Thank you Richie!

MANY THANKS TO PETER WOLF for patiently being our web master for the last few years AND thanks to Nikki Buxton for taking on the challenge of continuing. Please visit the new web site under the new name of www.belmopan-humaneociety.com if you can contribute anything please do so. The web site is a reflection of all of us.

Homemade Vegetarian Dog Cookies

Ingredients

- 1/4 C + 2 TBSPs dry milk powder
- 1 vegetable cube -- or packet
- 1/4 C boiling water
- 1/4 C safflower oil
- 1 tsp loose brown sugar
- 1/4 C shredded carrot
- 1 small egg
- 1 1/4 C flour
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder



Instructions

- Preheat oven 300 F.
- Dissolve 1 veggie cube or packet in boiling water.
- Mix in bowl: dry milk powder, flour, 4.



To date two informal get togethers have been held at the Bull Frog Inn in Belmopan. Thank you John D'Silva for providing the venue free of cost. Residents from the area were invited to come out and mingle in an informal social setting with like minded people sharing ideas and information. Dr. Orlando Baptist was there to answer the many questions everyone always seems to have. 4 new members joined and we raffled a Wine Easter Basket, won by new member, Wayne Hall. Approximately 35 people and 1 dog, "Teddy", showed up throughout the evening. 26 people dropped in at the second social and the Raffle Basket was won by Bart Harmsden. Quite a few members showed up to renew their annual dues. We will continue these socials every 2nd Thursday of the month. The guest speaker for the next social will be from Belize Bird Rescue. Hope to see you there.

Please note annual dues are due May 1st. If you would like to renew and pick up your new membership card at our monthly social, please email the office of your intention. These difficult economic times challenge us to give the sick and abandoned animals their voice and with your continuous support we can; one by one.'

and brown sugar.

- Mix in separate bowl: The dissolved veggie broth, oil, and shredded carrot.
- Combine the 2 bowls, mixing lightly. Form a well in center and add the small egg. Mix.
- Place resulting dough on lightly floured surface, Roll out to 1/8" thick, sprinkling a tiny bit of flour on top of dough to prevent sticking.
- Cut out shapes with cookie cutter or glass rim.
- Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 15 minutes. Flip and bake another 10 minutes.
- Cool and store in an airtight container.



If you love your pets, don't lose them.

If you haven't yet done so, it is most important to get an identification tag for your dog.

The Belmopan Humane Society has available, ID tags that provide the phone number of our office.

Your name and the description of the animal is kept in our database.

Anyone finding your pet will contact the office and we immediately contact you.

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