



Monthly report Malawi, March 2019

Dagmar Mayer

Mission Rabies

On the first weekend of March we ran a rabies vaccination outreach campaign in CapeMaclear. 373 dogs and 15 cats were vaccinated on two days at two different static point locations. For the past four years Mission Rabies has vaccinated dogs in this village, which is also one of the most popular tourist destinations in Malawi.

Sadly, one man died in February of suspected rabies, after he got bitten by a stray dog just outside CapeMaclear two weeks previously. During our visit we didn't only vaccinate dogs but also talked to the international team of doctors from the local private clinic, educating about rabies and dog bite first aid. Twice a day clinic staff will talk to patients waiting to be seen about these messages to ensure that people bitten by dogs are aware of the high risk of rabies in this country and to ensure that they know how to be safe after a dog bite. Village headmen were also educated in detail about rabies and dog bite first aid to spread the message amongst adults as much as possible.



This map is showing vaccinated dogs at the primary school and secondary school just outside the village of CapeMaclear

As part of our efforts to reach out to new groups of people and teach them about rabies and animal welfare we gave lectures about rabies, dog bite first aid and the work of WVS and BSPCA to 16 rangers from the Michiru Nature Sanctuary just outside Blantyre. The rangers reach people from many villages around the Sanctuary and will now be able to incorporate these messages at their meetings.



William, education officers for Mission Rabies and Colin, clinic manager at the BSPCA, talking to game rangers

WVS/BSPCA

Apart from our 'normal' stream of cases at the clinic we have two great examples of dogs who came in as very sick dogs and who are now doing so much better!!

In January this dog with very bad mange was confiscated and brought to the BSPCA. Two months later it's hard to imagine how sick this dog was and 'Nala' is now ready to be adopted!



'Nala' on the day of her arrival



...and fully recovered two months later

'Frank' is another confiscated dog, which was severely neglected by a security company. He was emaciated when he first came to us and has several other health problems. Frank has now put on some weight, his infected eye is much better and he is a happy dog again.



Frank on the day of his arrival...



... and two months later

In February the building work for our new accommodation block for volunteers has started and the progress of the work is impressive! We are expecting that the building will be finished by June this year. We will then be able to offer more comfortable accommodation to volunteers visiting the clinic.



Front aspect of the accommodation building



Kitchen and living space