



# TOLFA

Tree Of Life For Animals

## TOLFA UK ANNUAL REPORT 2016

TREE OF LIFE FOR ANIMALS

[TOLFA.ORG.UK](http://TOLFA.ORG.UK)

REGISTERED CHARITY: 1120789



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## OUR VISION

TOLFA's vision is that by 2030, the Rajasthan region will be rabies free and that every sick or injured ownerless animal or animal belonging to a low-income owner will have access to the veterinary treatment and compassionate care they deserve.

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## OUR MISSION

TOLFA's mission is to provide vital and preventative healthcare to India's ownerless animals and animal's belonging to low income owners and educate communities in their welfare and value.

## OUR OBJECTIVES

To provide rescue and care services for Rajasthan's street animals  
To eradicate rabies through sterilisation and vaccination of street dogs  
To provide vital veterinary services to the animals of the rural poor  
To educate children in the community about animal welfare and rabies prevention  
To improve the health and welfare of the increasing number of companion animals in Rajasthan  
To empower low-status communities by providing stable employment opportunities and training

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The Tree of Life for Animals (TOLFA) UK was established in 2005 as a not for profit organisation. In September 2006, TOLFA UK became a UK Registered Charity no: 1120789. TOLFA UK's main purpose is to support the work of the TOLFA Animal Hospital in Rajasthan, India, who are an Indian Registered Charitable Trust no: 3397/23.10.06.

TOLFA UK acts as the main administrative office for TOLFA outside of India. They promote awareness amongst the general public and professional bodies in the UK and other countries around the world about the charity and raise funds to support the work done at our TOLFA Animal Hospital based in Rajasthan.

The funds raised cover running costs such as staff salaries, medicines, animal feeds, keeping our rescue vehicle on the road and utilities, running projects, and the costs of the building work for the ongoing development of the hospital and sanctuary. TOLFA UK also helps to promote increased general animal welfare.

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## OUR PROJECTS IN INDIA

TOLFA UK is responsible for two projects in India that are at the very core of our work and philosophy – Rescue & Care and Rural Animal Health. India is home to about 30 million stray dogs and there are an estimated 40,000 free-roaming cows in Delhi alone. Not only is there a significant need to reduce the dog population from a public health view, many of the dogs are victims of disease and injury. Cows are also at risk from road traffic accidents, illness, and the potentially fatal effects of eating plastic waste. With little interest from the country's government veterinary centres in un-owned animals it falls to dedicated NGO's to provide aid and care to street animals in need. TOLFA has helped over 100,000 animals in India since we opened our gates in 2005.



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## RESCUE AND CARE

With our animal ambulance service, we respond to calls from the public about street animals that are sick or injured. Our team then either provides 'on the spot' treatment or takes the animal to our hospital for care and further attention. When in our care, the animal is treated with love and kindness, and provided with surgical / medical care from our vets and trained compounders.

Once an animal is recovered we assess them to determine if they are fit to return to the street. If they are then they will be returned to the exact spot they were collected, as they will often have a territory, animal family or human care-giver to return to. If there is a reason that they can't be returned (there is human conflict, they are disabled, or too young) then we will either find them a home with caring local people or they will stay at TOLFA and receive lifelong shelter with us.

As part of the Rescue & Care project we have 2 animal ambulances; 1 attends cow / large animal complaints and the other dogs and small animals. We also have the 'mange mobile' scooter which goes out giving preventative on-the-spot treatment to mange dogs on the street.

In 2016 TOLFA rescued more animals than ever before, admitting 5,862 animals through our Rescue & Care project, compared to 4,273 the previous year. We also received an average of 226 rescue calls a month **more** than last year.

The Rescue and Care project is our major project and is funded by TOLFA UK.



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## RURAL ANIMAL HEALTH (RAH)

TOLFA offers free or heavily subsidised veterinary services to the livestock animals of the rural poor. Many local village people rely heavily on their animals and if one becomes sick or dies it can lead a family into poverty. Our focus is on the veterinary health and welfare of the animal and not in the increase of production through artificial means which is not in the animal's best interests. Rural Animal Health is split into 2 parts—in house (dispensary) and mobile.

### In House

Our in-house dispensary runs a free clinic every day for these animals and villagers attend from the 10 villages surrounding the hospital. Most these animals are goats and are of vital importance to their owners, who are usually subsistence farmers.

### Mobile Services

Our specially equipped vehicle and trained staff visit 24 outlying villages on a two-week rotating schedule. Our Mobile Clinic also provides education and advice to villagers on how to care for, treat and prevent ailments in their animals. We also offer rabies vaccinations to village dogs and speak to villagers about rabies prevention.

In 2016 our RAH project performed 6,016 goat treatments at our dispensary and 14,487 through our mobile clinics. The total number of treatments given during 2016 for Rural Animal Health is 27,299. Our RAH mobile vehicle covered 14,938 KM and held 598 clinics to reach owned animals in the 24 remote villages that the project currently serves.

The Rural Animal Health Mobile Clinic is funded by TOLFA UK, while the dispensary is funded by TOLFA India.



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## RABIES ERADICATION AND STERILISATION

TOLFA sterilises and rabies vaccinates every dog that it treats as well as catching dogs specifically for sterilization and vaccination. TOLFA has a renewed contract with the local Ajmer Municipality to sterilise 3,000 dogs a year. Over the last 3 years, an average of 885 dogs per year have been sterilized and 2,090 rabies vaccinated.

Thanks to a grant from The Dog's Trust Worldwide we have been able to convert some existing old buildings into 21 new ABC kennels as most of our previous ABC kennels had been taken over by the increased volume of rescues. Since 2005, 19,736 dogs have been sterilized, and 23,694 rabies-vaccinated.

The running of TOLFA's Rabies Eradication & Sterilisation Project is funded by TOLFA India.

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## OWNER PET CLINIC

Although not one of our original projects, because of our reputation for successful veterinary treatment in the street animals, there became a big demand among pet owners. We provide quality veterinary services (preventative and medical / surgical treatment) to local pet-owners (mostly dogs). We also have the option of hospitalization / boarding facilities in our separate owner dog kennels. We have many owners that will bring their pets from 50 – 80kms away for treatment or admission. Donations are expected for these services from the pet owner and are used to subsidise the Rural Animal Health Clinic.

The Owner Pet Clinic is a TOLFA India funded project.

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## EDUCATION

TOLFA understands the importance of education as the only way to effect long term change. We hope to encourage the next generation to care for animals and dispel some of the ignorance that still exists around them. Our Education Project has been teaching in city schools, in the TOLFA Education Centre and most recently been accompanying the RAH Mobile team, visiting small government village schools and teaching our four topics: (1) The 5 Freedoms, (2) Dog Bite Prevention, (3) Rabies Prevention and (4) The role of TOLFA in the community. Since November 2014, over 5,000 children have attended our animal welfare classes.

TOLFA's Education Project is mostly funded by TOLFA India and benefits from a special UK-sourced grant from SPANA.

TOLFA UK's main fundraising commitments are to the running of the Rescue & Care Project, the RAH Mobile Project and any capital or special projects that come up.

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## TOLFA UK TRUSTEE BOARD

In 2016 we welcomed two new trustees to our UK Board. Both have been well known to TOLFA for some time and have shown a real dedication in raising both funds and awareness for the charity.

Paulette Hamilton is a RVN who has volunteered several times at TOLFA since 2013. She has been our lead ambassador for 2 years and has made significant contributions to the organisation of TOLFA events and fundraising activities. Paulette is also very active on social media and runs the TOLFA Twitter account. It is great to have Paulette's enthusiasm and energy on the board.

Naomi Steward first heard about TOLFA in 2014 and was eager to come out and visit for herself. She raised a staggering £4,000 for her first visit and ever since has been very active in fundraising and supporting TOLFA's work. Naomi is a PA in London and brings a lot of great ideas and experience to the board.

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## SIGNIFICANT DONATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS

Just over one third of our income comes from individual donations and we are immensely grateful for all the support that comes from so many different members of the public. Even the smallest contributions help us in our work. We would like to thank the following individuals who have made significant donations to TOLFA in 2016.

Donor:	Contribution:
James Lowman	£1,000 for Rescue Project
Peter Maloney	£2,500 for Rescue Project
Lulu & Garret O'Leary	£1,200 for Rescue Project
Robyn Irons	£1,400 for Rescue Project and New Rescue Kennels
Serena Schellenberg	£1,330 for Bunty salary and General Costs
Alison Jaques	£10,000 for Rescue Project and £5,000 for New Rescue Kennels
Katy Horton	£1,220 for Rescue Project
Martin Herbert	£960 for Rescue Project and New Rescue Kennels
Tavia Swain	£840 for Rescue Project & Kennel Sponsorship
Naomi Steward	£2,582 for Rescue Project and General Costs

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## GRANTS FROM TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

Approximately half of our total income in 2016 came from grants provided by trusts and foundations. We are truly thankful for the support we receive from these generous grant-makers. We now have several trusts and foundations that have supported us for several years. We are also very positive about building new relationships with organisations that have contributed to TOLFA for the first time in 2016.

Grant Maker:	Contribution:
Marchig Animal Welfare Trust	£9,330 Rescue Project
The Dog's Trust Worldwide	£11,452 for New ABC Kennels and General Costs
Persula Foundation	£5,004 Rescue Project
Shining Hope Foundation	£8,000 Rural Animal Health
Animals Worldwide	£300 Rescue Project
Robert Cave Memorial Fund	£5,000 Rescue Project
SPANNA	£5,750 Education
Michael Chamberlayne Charitable Trust	£250 Rescue Project
Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust	£10,000 Rescue Project
Valerie White Memorial Trust	£500 Rescue Project
Matthew Eyton Animal Welfare Trust	£50 Rescue Project
Animal Defence Trust	£2,000 Rescue Project
Anonymous Trust	£3,000 Rural Animal Health
Mrs DM France-Hayhurst Charitable Trust	£3,000 Rescue Project
Betty & Bernard Davidson Charitable Trust	£1,656 for RAH Dispensary
Alice Noakes Memorial Trust	£600 Rescue Project

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## 2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**In 2016 TOLFA delivered 146,510 individual treatments to animals in need.** This is an increase of 49,010 on the previous year. We are exceptionally proud of the work of our team in India who are facing immense challenges every day to improve the lives of the animals and people of rural Rajasthan. Their successes drive us on to provide the funds and support they need to continue this vital work.

TOLFA UK's former Managing Trustee, Dr Susan Bretherton, is the Director of our Education Project. This project is dedicated to widening the understanding and compassion towards animals in the local community through creating and teaching animal welfare materials in schools, at TOLFA's own Education Centre and at villages with our Mobile Clinics. Since 2014, over 5,000 children have worked with the animal welfare book TOLFA produced, both during and following talks in schools and villages. In November, Dr Bretherton returned to India to launch new learning resources for children based on the Five Freedoms of animal welfare. She has also worked on an animated film on the subject, available in Hindi and English language versions. In 2016 over 700 children watched the specially produced animated film.

Below: a still from TOLFA's Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare film





Above: Dr Bretherton with Rachel Wright along with the Collector of Ajmer and TOLFA India's Trustees at the launch of the new educational workbook

We would like to thank Dr Bretherton for her fantastic commitment to the Education Project, as she does this all as a volunteer, and SPANA for their generous grant contributions.

We have also been fortunate to work with Nicola Gothard of Generation 2050, a not-for-profit publishing company that produces inspiring books for children with a strong educational and environmental message. Nicola created the story of 'Rafi's Indian Dream' with charming illustrations by Sarah Waterfield, which tells the story of a poor girl who befriends a street dog called Rafi and travels across India with him, eventually finding shelter at the Tree of Life for Animals. Nicola crowdfunded to publish the book and sent 100 copies each to TOLFA and two other Indian charities to use in teaching and distribute to children. We now have copies in the UK available for sale through eBay and at the events we attend.

In November TOLFA Joined Global Giving's Winter Crowdfunding Challenge. Global Giving is the first and largest global crowdfunding community that connects nonprofits, donors, and companies in nearly every country around the world. They make it possible for local organizations to access the funding, tools, training, and support they need to become more effective and make the world a better place. The aim of the Challenge is for each participating charity to raise at least £2,500 from at least 50 individual donors in 5 weeks. Due to the sheer number of animals arriving at TOLFA every day we have long been hoping to build extra rescue kennels to deal with them. After an individual donor pledged £5,000 towards the new buildings

we decided to crowdfund for the remainder. Global Giving offer lots of training and support to make crowdfunding a success and we certainly benefitted from this.

The complete plan for new rescue kennels included a block of 15 kennels (the costs covered by the individual donation) and a block of 27 kennels (which needed a further £7,608 to fund), so we set our target for the crowdfunder at £7,608. We were truly overwhelmed with the success of the campaign and ended up raising **£10,827.14** which includes £1,000 in bonuses from Global Giving for having the most number of individual donors (250) and coming third in the total amount raised. This wonderful result means that not only do we have all the funds to build the extra rescue kennels but we also raised over £3,200 to help run the Rescue Project. TOLFA social media and videos for the campaign have been praised and TOLFA UK's Clara Nowak was invited to attend a Global Giving online seminar as a guest speaker about our success. We would like to thank everyone who donated to this amazing crowdfunder.

Toward the end of 2016 we received more good news about TOLFA's videos. Three of our self-made videos had been nominated for the Charity Film Awards and we were thrilled to be contacted in December to be told that our video 'Lilly, the abused street puppy who learnt to trust again' had been shortlisted out of over 480 videos nominated for the awards. Shortlisted videos will be reviewed by a panel of judges who will select the finalists. The winners will be announced at a ceremony on March 15<sup>th</sup> 2017. Our shortlisted video was created by our Assistant India Project Coordinator Jemma Sarser and tells the story of Lilly, a puppy attacked with acid whose emotional wounds were as deep as her physical ones. With time, love and patience, Lilly started to trust people again at the TOLFA shelter.



**Why is Lilly smiling?**

because she just heard her video  
has been shortlisted for the  
Charity Film Awards!

THANK YOU to everyone  
who voted for her video

**TOLFA**  
Tree Of Life For Animals

**CHARITY  
FILM  
AWARDS**

Above: Lilly, the puppy featured in our shortlisted video, is now healthy and happy, and has lifelong sanctuary at TOLFA

These achievements help to spread awareness about TOLFA's work and in turn lead us to greater fund-raising opportunities. We are grateful to our trustees, ambassadors, supporters, and staff for helping TOLFA to grow throughout the last year.

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## TOLFA UK EVENTS

TOLFA UK has committed to attend a series of animal-friendly events to raise awareness of our life-saving work for animals in India. After our repeat attendance at the Animal Aid Christmas Fayre in 2015 and our first Vegfest vegan festival in Brighton in February 2016 we found that these events are a great way of meeting new supporters and putting a 'face' to our charity in the UK. At these events, we hand out leaflets and chat to the public about TOLFA's work. We accept donations from the public and sell the jewelry and gifts that are also available through our eBay store. We also ask visitors to sign up to our newsletter. In 2016 we attended the following events:

**BRIGHTON VEGFEST – 27<sup>TH</sup>/28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**BRISTOL VEGFEST – 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY**

**LONDON VEGFEST – 23<sup>RD</sup>/24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**ANIMAL AID CHRISTMAS FAYRE – 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

We have a roster of enthusiastic volunteers to help, and we plan to attend even more events in 2017.



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## DONATIONS IN KIND AND CORPORATE SUPPORT

### CEVA SANTÉ ANIMALE

Ceva Santé Animale is a global veterinary health company focused on the research, development, production and marketing of pharmaceutical products and vaccines for pets, livestock, swine and poultry. Once more, in 2016, Ceva have sponsored printing costs for various TOLFA materials and have been very supportive of our projects.

### DOGGY VIBE SUBSCRIPTION BOXES AND MAGAZINE

Doggyvibe provide subscription boxes containing the latest canine treats for dog-lovers in the UK. They approached TOLFA to offer a 10% donation when customers purchase their subscription boxes through their charity webpage. Doggyvibe have also launched an online magazine for the dog-loving community and have featured an article by TOLFA ambassador Jo Carnegie on her life-changing experience at TOLFA.

### LILY'S KITCHEN

Lily's Kitchen make 'proper food for pets' and we are grateful to Rachel and the team for kindly donating a big box of their delicious doggy treats to our rescued dogs in Rajasthan – they were very well received as the photo, right, shows!



### GARDNER LLEWELYN

We were delighted to be contacted in September by Gardner Llewelyn Veterinary Recruitment asking us to be their Charity of the Year. Jonathan Lewis remembered our founder Rachel from the many years she spent locuming in the UK between her working trips overseas, and wanted to show support for TOLFA. Thanks to Gardner Llewelyn for their fundraising and support.

## GROUP M

GroupM is the world's largest media investment group and we are very proud that they have been so supportive of TOLFA. Not only do they sponsor a kennel at our hospital but their staff have been amazing fundraisers holding quiz nights and cakes sales to support TOLFA. In September, they held a Doggy Day, at which employees brought their dogs to work and had dog-themed fun and activities.

TOLFA would also like to thank the following businesses for their kind contributions and support during 2016:

**EMMA'S ANIMAL CARE AND TRAINING, HAPPY DOGS & CATS, PRO TRAININGS EUROPE LTD, CYCLE COUNSELLING, AND SUE BAILEY AT GATEWAY WORKSHOPS**

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## FUNDRAISERS FOR TOLFA

Derek Wilkins bravely took on the London Marathon for TOLFA in April this year. Derek is the husband of TOLFA UK's secretary Kerry. He completed the marathon in 5 hours 35 minutes and raised a brilliant £500 for TOLFA – Thank you Derek!

TOLFA trustee Paulette Hamilton, along with vet nurse friends Judith Pares and Katie Matthews got dirty for the Filthy Girl Mud Run at Chepstow Racecourse in September. The 'Three Musketeers' as their team was called raised an amazing £475 for TOLFA.

Naomi Steward organized a fun-packed TOLFA Doggy Day for staff at GroupM in London. The day included bring-your-dog-to-work, a bake-off competition, pet photography sessions and a special pet advice clinic with Barnes vet Katy Horton (right), herself a long-term supporter and fundraiser for TOLFA. The event raised over £700 for TOLFA.





We were approached by Valeria Marinaci of Higgins & Co Tattoo Studio in Eastbourne, who wanted to hold a fundraising day for TOLFA. Valeria had been following our Instagram account and was keen to do something for the animals in India. She and her partner Chris organized a day offering unique tattoo flash for sale (left) as well as arts and crafts. They raised an amazing £1,285 on the day in September and through an online auction of tattoo design artworks.

In November, as part of our 27 Kennels Crowdfunding campaign, Bollywood came to Nether Broughton in Leicestershire for one night of delicious Indian food, stories of TOLFA and a Bollywood film screening. Thank you to Kym Barrett for organizing this event and raising £308 towards the building of our new rescue kennels!

We would also like to recognize and thank the following supporters and fundraisers who have made contributions to TOLFA throughout the year: Gilly Wilson, Grove Lodge Vets in Brighton, Daisy Moo's Bakehouse in Worthing, Bell Bartlett, Lara Newman & the Bobcat Charitable Fund.

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## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### BECOME A BRANCH OF THE TREE OF LIFE FOR ANIMALS

Look at our website <http://tolfa.org.uk> for many ideas about how you can help us and sign up to our newsletter so that you can get regular updates on our projects. Then ask your family and friends to do the same and help our tree become a giant forest.

### DONATE

You can help us continue the work we do. Sponsor a kennel, member of staff or simply donate money or goods. If you have something to offer, please let us know by emailing: [enquiries@tolfa.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@tolfa.org.uk)

If you feel you can donate any money, visit our website <http://www.tolfa.org.uk/donate> or post cheques to Tree of Life for Animals, Treasurer, c/o 95 Bath Road, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL5 3LA. Don't forget to Gift Aid it!

## **SPONSOR**

Become a corporate sponsor! We're very keen to build up working relationships with companies and individuals no matter how small or large. If you feel you would like to help us in this way and fulfil your corporate and social responsibility, please contact us on: [enquiries@tolfa.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@tolfa.org.uk)

## **FUNDRAISE**

If you would like to hold a fundraising event on our behalf, let us know, we will support you all the way – Visit our website [tolfa.org.uk/involved/](http://tolfa.org.uk/involved/) for a whole host of ideas or email [enquiries@tolfa.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@tolfa.org.uk).

## **PURCHASE**

We have a selection of original and handmade Indian jewelry, gifts, and handicrafts available in our eBay shop. All proceeds go straight into running our hospital and saving lives. Visit our eBay shop here: <http://tolfa.org.uk/ebay>

## **CONTACT US**

Email us at [enquiries@tolfa.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@tolfa.org.uk)

Write to us at TOLFA UK, 95 Bath Road, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL5 3LA

Or call us on 07835 208529

Website: <http://tolfa.org.uk>

Also ...

### **TOLFA on Facebook**

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Tolfa-India-UK/260185183993355?fref=ts>

### **TOLFA on YouTube**

<http://www.youtube.com/user/tolfacharity>

### **TOLFA on Twitter**

[# @ TOLFA](https://twitter.com/TOLFA)

### **TOLFA on Instagram**

<http://instagram.com/@tolfaindia>

Contact: [socialmedia@tolfa.org.uk](mailto:socialmedia@tolfa.org.uk) or Media Enquiries at [press@tolfa.org.uk](mailto:press@tolfa.org.uk)



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TOLFA ANIMAL HOSPITAL AND SHELTER

RAJASTHAN, INDIA

REGISTERED UK CHARITY 1120789



With thanks to Ceva Santé Animale

**[www.tolfa.org.uk](http://www.tolfa.org.uk)**