



Dogs felt ruff but not barking mad

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The recent K9 5K was a hit with runners of all shapes, sizes and species -- and no one went barking mad!

It was organised by Cayman Animal Rescue Enthusiasts and the St. Matthew's Medical University School for Veterinary Medicine and drew a field of some 180 people. However, what made the event special was that 40 dogs also participated.

"I would honestly say everybody had a blast. The weather was cool and overcast," said Lesley Agostinelli of CARE.

"The course was just the right length and everybody just seemed so happy and proud to be a part of the run. It was great to see the start line with runners and dogs all mixed together and it was a delight for people to be out and about with their four legged family members as well."

All finishers were entered into a draw for prizes donated by local businesses, and each entrant received a t-shirt sponsored by BritCay.

The event raised funds and awareness for the CARE community spay and neuter campaign.

According to Agostinelli, CARE is devoted to offering an intensive, easily accessible and, where necessary, free spay and neuter service. The organisation also has an active trap, neuter and release programme for feral cats.

"We aim to achieve a change in community attitudes toward spaying and neutering pets through education and example," said Agostinelli.

The organisation aims to do this through a grass roots campaign, one district at a time through door to door campaigning.

St Matthew's students were also promoting the awareness of obesity in animals and offering home baked dog treats and recipes.

After the success of the first event, CARE intends to make the K9 5K an annual feature of the Cayman Islands running calendar.

For more information on CARE, visit caymancare.ky

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