



ASAP News

Winter 2007

Alonnisos Society for Animal Protection

Bumper fundraising year

Alonnisos Society for Animal Protection

A registered charity promoting respect, increasing awareness and encouraging positive and responsible behaviour towards animals.

ASAP is funded entirely by donations, membership fees and fundraising events.

You can help the animals of Alonnisos by becoming a member of ASAP for €12 a year. Contact Mike Holmes on 6976874657 for more information.

IT COSTS:

- €2 to feed one cat for a week
- €5 per worming tablet
- €10 for a course of antibiotics
- €10 per flea treatment
- €10 each for vaccines (Tricat, Hexadog, Rabisin)

It's been a busy and successful fundraising time on Alonnisos, with nearly €4,500 raised from events, memberships and donations .

The 'Bring and Buy' sale in August attracted lots of visitors who were keen to do their bit to support the island's animals. As well as stalls selling everything from books to household items, the human fruit machine proved very popular!

The weekly quiz nights at the Paradise Hotel went down well with guests and also helped bring in new memberships. Many thanks to owners Kostas & Bessie Efstathiou. And of course the annual ASAP bumper quiz night organised by Alex and Andrea at the Pleiades was as well attended as ever, with fierce competition for first place.

Jeff and Jan Moon, who live in the Old Town, raised a lot of money by selling books from outside their house. Many thanks to them.

The ASAP End of Season Party was held in October and despite appalling weather, thanks to everyone who helped stop the tarpaulin flying away, it was a fantastic evening with

superb food and live music.

Thanks are due to the supermarkets owners who very kindly agreed to have collecting bins outside their shops where people could leave donated animal food. This worked extremely well and it is an ideal way for visitors, who want to do their bit to help, to be involved.

And some fundraising news from the UK, Ann Scott and all the regulars at Chris' Café in Studley Green have raised £500 – thank you!

The last event of the year was a pub lunch complete with beer and pub games. And thanks to a couple of ingenious cooks we also enjoyed sausage baps and cheese and chutney sandwiches.

Next year's events are already being planned and so far include a sponsored walk and quiz night. We are also hopeful to have the stall running again in Patitiri next summer where we will be selling a new range of ASAP merchandise.

We couldn't do it without you

A huge thank you to EVERYONE who has supported ASAP this year. From the hotel owners to local shopkeepers, visitors and residents; your help makes all the difference to what ASAP can do for the animals. So whether you have given your time, your money or your support, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU.

100 Club

It's not too late to buy tickets for the 100 Club. The first draw takes place in January. Tickets cost 15 euros each and with ten monthly draws of 25 euros and two of 100 euros, what better way to support ASAP and stand a chance of winning your money back? Call Dave on 0030 24240 65322 for tickets.

Check out the 2008 events calendar on the website

LUCKY ANIMALS

For a few lucky animals 2007 has been a very good year. Nik and Lynn arrived here in the summer to start their new life on Alonnisos and have become the owners of 5 kittens as well as finding time for a bit of dog fostering.

Dave and Gerry, who already share their home with a fair number of cats, have adopted Zoe, a lovely friendly dog who was known as 'the cemetery dog'. She had been dumped there earlier in the year and was being fed by several people but badly needed a home of her own. She settled in immediately and is very loved.

Another lucky dog is Scruffy, who looks as her name suggests! She is now being fostered by Dawn, Yiannis and Michaela Kiriannakis before leaving for a new life in England where she is going to live with Joy and Roger Green in Cornwall. She has been chipped and had her rabies jab and now has to wait until next year to travel.

Beau and Bert Dendy had noticed a tiny kitten at the rubbish bins where they feed the cats. She was very nervous and difficult to get near. When she disappeared they feared the worst and were

overjoyed when a few months later she turned up in their garden. Despite being in very bad condition Molly, as she is now called, has responded to a loving home and is gaining more confidence all the time.

Unfortunately not all the animals are as lucky as these ones and all too often we see animals that don't make it after being dumped or poisoned. ASAP is working hard with the local community to ensure that all the animals are treated with the dignity and kindness they deserve.



Little Molly - a home at last



Charity vet Tim hard at work



The end of a busy day

Animal hospital – Alonnisos style!

With the help of visiting vets, ASAP helps provide good emergency and routine care for the animals of the island. Many pet owners take advantage of the visits by George Michail from Volos to get their dogs and cats treated. He also spays and neuters any strays that have been rounded up. This year we have had several visits from charity vets. These vets are usually only here for one or two days and work incredibly hard to get through all the work, ably assisted by a small group of volunteers. They work under fairly primitive conditions, which are often made even more trying by power cuts just at the wrong moment.

These sessions couldn't happen without the support of the people who let us use their properties, so many thanks to them. We are also lucky to have a champion cat catcher, Andrew Lewin, who has perfected the art of the cat trap and manages to collect impressive numbers of animals for each visit.

Julia Browne, assisted by Guy Routh, continues to provide an amazing service by dealing with urgent problems, first aid and general advice. With no resident vet this is invaluable and means that wherever possible no animal suffers unnecessarily. Unfortunately it also means that they have to deal with dumped kittens and puppies, still an all too common occurrence.

Much of the money raised for ASAP goes to fund vet bills, drugs and equipment. We are badly in need of some new cat baskets and extra shelters so if you would like to donate, you can be assured that your money is going to be well spent.

FEEDING UPDATE: Volunteers are making sure that the cats don't go hungry this winter with feeding stations across the island. There seem to be quite a few extra mouths this year so the food bills are higher than before. We are also feeding cats that belong to summer residents. One advantage to the feeding programme is that the cats often become tamer and easier to catch for neutering so in the long term the numbers will decrease.