



# ASAP News

JULY 2007

## Alonnisos Society for Animal Protection

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

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:

- €1.5 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, rabisan)
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## SWIMMING THE CHANNEL

**CONGRATULATIONS to two amazing supporters of ASAP who have just completed what must be this year's most gruelling fundraising events.**

Bert Dendy swam two kilometres between the island of Peristera and Steni Vala raising €275 for ASAP.

And eleven year old Michaela Kiriannakis swam the equivalent distance in the Nereides Hotel swim-

ming pool in one hour 45 minutes raising a staggering €775.

After her swim Michaela said she was happy and pleased that she had done it. She said: " It was definitely harder than I thought but I'm not tired!"

There are plenty more fundraising events planned including a quiz and a bring & buy sale.



*Michaela celebrates after her swim*

## UNWANTED GIFTS?

WE need items for tombola and raffle prizes. If you have anything you would like to donate please contact Beau on **6979853702**

## GOOD HOMES NEEDED

LOVABLE, friendly kittens urgently need good homes. Can you help?

Call Julia on **6978957142**

## STOP PRESS - BRING AND BUY SALE

Our first **Bring and Buy Sale** will be on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> August** from **7pm till 9pm**.

It will be held at the School next door to the Fire Station. So, please could you and everybody you know, start turning out your cupboards for anything that you don't use, that we can sell on the day. Individuals should run their own stalls wherever possible please.

## CHARITY VETS' VISITS

WE were lucky to have several visits from charity vets over the last year and 120 cats have been spayed or neutered, This was in addition to visits from George Michail, the vet from Volos who is so supportive of ASAP. As well as spaying and neutering, the vets are able to help with other problems including abscesses, tumours and injuries.

## **IT'S FEEDING TIME!**

*"We are making a real difference to the quality of life for animals on the island."*

**Despite the success of the neutering programme, there will always be strays to feed as well as those animals whose owners leave the island over the winter.**

The cat feeding programme is co-ordinated by Carol Holmes.

### **Who feeds the cats?**

Carol: Dedicated volunteers take food and water to the feeding stations at bins all over the island. Where animals are finding their way to holiday houses and visitors are happy to feed we leave food. In the Old Town during the winter when owners are away we have special sheltered feeding areas.

### **How tame are the cats?**

C: Most of them are quite feral but they do get used to us and this is useful for when we catch them to be neutered or if they need other medical attention.

### **What advice do you have for visitors to Alonnisos who want to help?**

C: Carrying extra water to put down is very useful. Especially in the hot weather when they get through so much.

### **What are the dog kennels doing at the bin feeding stations?**

C: They were bought with donations to ASAP and are used as shelter for the cats!

### **Is the feeding programme making a difference?**

Many visitors who return here each year comment on how they have noticed the difference in the cats. There is not the same amount of scavenging and fighting at tavernas for instance. I think that combined with the neutering programme we are making a real difference to the quality of life for animals on the island.

### **Do you need more volunteers for the feeding programme?**

With so many cats to feed the more people the better! If anyone is interested or if they want their cats fed over the winter they can contact me on 6976874657

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## **Arfa and Ollies' story**

**Dave Court and Gerry Ivison had only just moved into their new home when their family started to grow!**



*The pair are inseparable*

"Three days after our arrival on Alonnisos, there was a screeching and wailing at the front door. On opening the door, much to Dave's surprise, in marched a tiny white and ginger kitten, who walked straight over to the food bowl, ate enough for three days and then settled down to sleep on the sofa and never left.

We had to decide on a name. Simple! As he was half white and half ginger, and wasn't half a blooming nuisance, we called him Arfa!

Ollie the silver tabby, on the other hand, had to be coaxed to stay. He arrived in early January, was extremely small, his hair was standing on end (like a punk rocker) and he had wide, staring, bewildered eyes and enormous ears. What else could we call him but Ollie the Owl?

We think he was born just by the turn to Megalos Mourtias and became separated from his mother because he kept returning to that area to find her.

Arfa used to go out and sort of 'round him up' sheepdog style and bring him in to eat, but it took a long time before he decided to stay permanently. He and Arfa have now become inseparable; eating, sleeping, washing each other and play-fighting together."