

Keep RAWRING!

Newsletter December 2011

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Hello Everyone, welcome to the Christmas edition of our newsletter. Autumn has whizzed by, very busy, both with the animals & fundraising. We are all facing difficult times, not least the increasing number of companion animals that are finding themselves out on the streets & fields of West Cork. At RAWR we are working hard to help owners find a better solution. One thing proving very successful is our neutering vouchers, enabling people who so kindly feed the cats who visit them, to neuter them for just 35 euros. We would like to thank the participating vets who are supporting us in this project. We are also continuing to neuter feral cats.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas, and a bright New Year, from Didi, Jennifer and Susy.

Fundraising

In September we opened a shop just for a week, to see if it would work. It worked so well that we now have a shop open for 4 days a week, until Christmas. We are in "the Corner Shop" just up from the square in Bantry. You will find us on the corner of Bridge Street next to O'Donoghue's the Butchers.

We are open Weds & Thurs 12 to 6
Friday 10 to 6
Saturday 12 to 4

We have bric-a-brac and pet supplies, also some lovely Christmas stock.

All for Animals Calendars are 6 euros
Animal themed Diaries only 2 euros

Our very own Christmas cards designed for us by Geoffrey Phillips, available as packs



10 cards cat or dog or mixed
4 euros Per pack of ten

CAN You Volunteer? We need help trapping cats, or working in the shop, and all sorts of other things too. Give us a call, we have a lot of fun!!

Diary Dates

Saturday Dec 10th

4pm to 6pm Bantry "Open Shop"

All our volunteers are invited to come along for a glass of mulled wine and a minced pie with us in our shop, a chance for some social chit-chat, and some Christmas shopping

Friday December 16th

Christmas Singing in Bantry
between 11am and 3pm

Join us for some or all the time we will be singing in the square to raise funds. We do it for the craic, it's not the X-factor! So if you enjoy a carol or two then come along! Let Susy know you are coming on by email susy@rawr.ie



Saturday 25th February 2012

Our first AGM. The meeting won't be long and drawn out, but is very important! Find out all the facts and figures of our first 18 months! We will have something entertaining for you to enjoy as well.

Didi becomes our "International" Director.

Most of you will know by now that Didi & Bert are beginning a new phase in their lives, moving back to the Netherlands. But we are not losing them from West Cork. There are many jobs that Didi can do via the internet, and we will be holding our management meetings with her attending via Skype.

A message from Didi.....

I just want to say 'thank you' to you all. It is an amazing thing to be part of a group of people who do the right thing by giving animals a place and priority in their lives. I know that I won't be able to do as much for RAWR from a distance, but I am not ready to give up my involvement with RAWR. In a few years, this idea of ours has gained momentum. RAWR has achieved what many others in animal welfare in Ireland told us was impossible: communities are taking responsibility for animals by paying for neutering and monitoring colonies of feral cats. Working together, animals and humans then start to create a healthy and functional relationship that improves our shared environment. I know it is a slow progress, that is why – even from the Netherlands – I'll be doing my bit to help RAWR succeed. See you all at the AGM, if not before.....!



Didi with a sleepy Wilma

TNR in Kilcrohane

It's been a very busy few weeks at RAWR! We have just wrapped up trapping a large colony of 17 cats in Kilcrohane town!! The colony was brought to RAWR's attention by residents who had begun to be concerned for the animals' welfare, as the large number was starting to put pressure on resources. Thankfully, now they have all been neutered, the numbers will stabilise and their health will improve.



Setting the Trap



Looks like we are in luck



This is a good hotel!

We would like to say a big thank you to the local people who helped out with donations and 'cat spotting' for us!

If you would like to donate towards the costs of the project, please feel free, there is a collection bucket in the local post office or you can contact RAWR directly about allocating your donation to this project.

MANGO.



Meet the lovely Mango, one of the kittens from Kilcrohane. Like her two brothers, she has a bad case of Calici virus. When we caught them they were quite poorly. After veterinary treatment the siblings are on the road to recovery. However Mango is a bit more special. On examination the vet discovered that she has a genetic defect which means her chest has developed to be the wrong shape to fit her body. Basically, her rib cage is mis-shapen and too short so it doesn't fully protect her heart. Mango cannot be returned to where she came from because of this, any trauma to her chest could be fatal.

Mango will shortly appear on our "sponsor a cat" page on the web site. (Once she recovers from her virus and manages to clean herself up a bit!)

Eartipping



Mario displays his ID to save him from being trapped again

We are often asked how we manage not to catch the same cats over again. Simple solution, each cat we neuter has a small tip taken off one ear at the same time as being neutered, then it's easy to identify who's who, back in the colony

