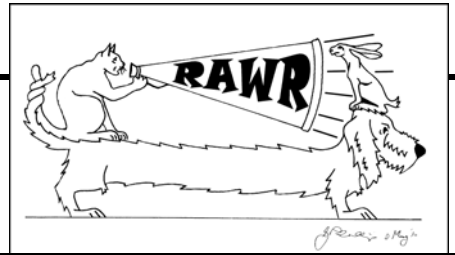


Keep RAWRING!

Newsletter February 2012

Find us on **FACEBOOK**

www.rawr.ie
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Charity Number CHY19607



Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2012.

Christmas was a busy, happy time for us at RAWR. We enter the New Year with optimism and energy, to build on what we have achieved over the last 18 months.

We are preparing for our first AGM, on February 25th. At this time we will be publishing our plans for 2012. We would like to thank all of you who have been so supportive of us since we took a deep breath and jumped into the world of Animal Welfare! We have come a long way in a short time, & established a good reputation; not only in Bantry but far and wide, through the web-site and the many visitors to West Cork. Our Cat Neutering Scheme has been well received by both the community and vets across our area. The Shop is now an established feature. We have had great success with the two feral colonies tackled, Whiddy Island and Kilcrohane. We have aided many animals to gain good "forever Homes." A full report will be published on the website after the AGM.

Here's to a successful 2012,

Jenny, Didi and Susy

Grant Received

In December, we were surprised and delighted to be included on the list of Grants given by the Dept of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

The grant is to be used to help with our veterinary expenses, and for a volunteer recruitment drive. Our volunteers are the lifeblood of RAWR so the grant will be extremely useful in developing a "friends" scheme for those who wish to support us. We will also be going 'on the road' this year, to take our message around the community, hopefully gathering new volunteers as we go. We have no paid employees, so every pair of hands is valuable to us. Whether it be fostering, trapping cats, working in the shop, fund-raising or one the many other jobs that are done to keep RAWR healthy, we appreciate you all.

It's the RAWR DRAW!

Get Your Tickets Now!!!

Would you like a weekend away in the Irish Countryside, with a delicious home-cooked evening meal?

First Prize in our Valentine's Raffle.

Given to RAWR with compliments of Jenny & Eric Clarkson of Borlinn Valley B&B.

We also have ten other wonderful prizes.

Tickets are just 2 euros each, or 3 for 5 euros. Available from the shop, or follow the link on the website

Can you sell some tickets for us? Email susy@rawr.ie

Tickets to be Drawn on Tuesday Feb 14th.

Happy St.Brighid's Day

Did You Know..... As well as marking the first day of Spring on Feb 1st, St.Brighid is the Patron Saint of Chickens!



Message from our "Foreign Correspondent", that's Didi. It is tough to settle in to a new habitat! Amsterdam is so different from Bantry comparisons are nearly impossible. This also has its benefits as you can't really think of 'this is better' or 'this is worse'. It is just ... completely different! Some things don't change though and I found myself volunteering for a cat (only) shelter in North West Amsterdam (SAZ) while looking for a job. I had offered to go out trapping, but the need for feral cat TNR is fairly low until April. So I ended up cleaning the quarantine area, learning a lot about infection prevention in the process! It is very nice to see how you can find people dedicated to animal welfare EVERYWHERE. It is less hopeful to see they are facing the same problems, RAWR encounters on a regular basis. People in the Netherlands can be just as self-centred about 'owning' an animal without taking responsibility for it. EG: at this time of year the SAZ is primarily taking in sick cats from people on benefit as they can't afford to pay the vet. For each individual cat, the SAZ is a great resource. They deserve the chance to get better and most are returned home. Most owners do try to learn how to take (better) care of their pets after such an episode. However, deep down I do feel doubt about the long-term sustainability of this type of charity and the benefits for the feline community as a whole.

Update on Red Spirits

If you've been on the website or the Facebook page you might have seen the story of Spirit, the little red kitten that was found by pure chance.



Spirit was brought to us two days after Christmas barely alive, in a pitiful state, having been hit by a car. Upon the vet examining him it was discovered that he had two broken legs, one front and one back. After being treated for shock, he perked up and has been making steady progress ever since. The little guy has come on in leaps and bounds. (not literally, yet, but soon!) Now his broken bones are healing, Spirit is running around the place, trying to make up for lost time and generally being a mischievous little fellow! He still needs a little more time to recover but so far his future is now looking much brighter!

The Veterinary Centre in Bantry are offering to microchip animals brought in for Neutering for just 14 euros, throughout February. 027 53639



Are the Animals in your care Micro-chipped?

Recently RAWR was alerted to a cat in Bantry town, hit by a car. We picked her up, straight to the vet, but sadly her injuries were too severe & she passed away. Unfortunately she had no ID (no collar, tag or microchip) so we have not been able to inform the owner. We would like to remind all our supporters of the importance of ID, not just for you but for your pets as well. All strays we take in are scanned for a chip which helps us to return them to their families. Without a means of ID it is difficult, if not impossible to reunite animals & humans. It is a legal requirement that all dogs have an ID tag in Ireland. All 'RAWR' animals are microchipped before they are re-homed. A microchip is tiny, the size of a grain of rice which is implanted under the skin using a needle & injected by a vet. It hurts no more than any other injection and it can mean the difference between finding and losing forever your animal companion. It is your proof that the animal is yours. Don't let them get lost - talk to your vet today about microchipping, its safe and affordable. - Don't be without it!

Here is an image from their website. These are called "Sazies" and are made by volunteers to sell for fundraising. Notice the eartip!

www.zwerfkattenamsterdam.nl

Our Bantry Shop Grows

In September we began to experiment with the idea of having a shop. We loved the buzz of the market square, but the weather often meant we had to stay home, or spoil the stock. We had three good months in the corner shop, and now we have made the move to our new location for the next year. We are to be found on New Street, next to Vickery's Hardware.



Open
Tuesday to Saturday
10.30am to 5.30pm

We are stocking the ever popular bric-a-brac, also gifts for people and their animals. We are becoming well-known as an Information Centre too, able to point people in the right direction. Every question asked presents an opportunity to improve the quality of life for both animals and people. Many thanks to Jenny & Eric who have worked so hard to make our shop successful. We love to receive donations of good quality items that we can sell, & textiles to recycle, it all goes to raise much needed funds.