RURAL ANIMAL WELFARE RESOURCES



registered charity no: 19607

August 2021

Email: info@rawr.ie find us on facebook

On a sunny day in mid-June Rural Animal Welfare Resources got a telephone call from our friends in the animal welfare/rescue world West Cork Animal Welfare Group, it went something like this

"Hey, we have a situation that I think we could work together on."

"Oh yes?"

"There's this group of cats that have kind of got out of control. They are breeding like mad and getting sick and they need trapping and neutering. So we thought who better to go and get them than RAWR with all the experience you have with Trap Neuter and Return".



"Ok, so, where are they, who do we contact and how many cats and kittens are there?"



"Well, it's Macroom. We know that's a bit of a stretch for you and there are, er quite a lot of cats, but we can do the fundraising for the vet fees if you can do the trapping and organize the neutering.

"What exactly is quite a lot?"



Well, it was a bit of a stretch and there were quite a lot but we decided to go ahead. The two charities, RAWR and WCAWG have always worked closely together and this was another opportunity for us to cooperate to help the animals; we would do the legwork and they would raise the funds.



The first group of 41 adult cats and 30 kittens were on a farm and, once word got out, more calls started to come in from the area. So RAWR and WCAWG decided to work together on several jobs.

So far our volunteers have made around 20 trips from base in Bantry to Macroom. The second large group of around 20 cats at St Colmans Park is ongoing and there is a third group of 10 to 15 cats in the Macroom area. We will continue until all the cats have been trapped and treated.

The trapped cats are taken to our vet and examined. Most of the kittens were suffering from flu. Sadly some didn't make it as they were too sick. There were also ruptured eyeballs, fleas, worms and ear mites for which they received treatment.

When well enough the cats are neutered and kept at the surgery until they are recovered. Next our volunteers make the return trip to take the adult cats back home where they are released to enjoy life without all the trauma of constant mating, fighting, pregnancy, feeding kittens and ill health. Now they will remain a healthy, stable colony and do their job keeping rodents in the area under control. The kittens are in the care of fosterers until they are grown and well enough to find their forever homes. Altogether so far about 80 cats have been neutered.

All this was achieved with the support of our friends in West Cork Animal Welfare Group – a big thank you goes to them.

Here are just a few of our furry friends from Macroom















With Kitten season well and truly upon us it's more important than ever that people get cats neutered, both pets and strays. Cats have also been neutered in Ballydehob, Murragh, Kealkill, and Dunmanway as well as other locations. The RAWR discount voucher scheme has been active throughout the lockdown and now we have been able to re-open our charity shop, we are planning to offer a 'Tackle it for a Tenner' event in the second week of September when we will offer neutering at €10 per cat. Keep an eye on our facebook page for details.

To support RAWR please come and see our shop on Bridge Street, Bantry opposite the car park below the library. We sell gift items, greetings cards, and pet treats, doggy jumpers and coats as well as bric-a-brac.

RAWR will be holding its flag day in Bantry on Friday 27th August so look out for our volunteers and donate as much as you can. Please contact us on susy@rawr.ie if you would like to volunteer as a collector.

RAWR DOG AND CAT NEUTERING DISCOUNT VOUCHERS:

For availability contact your nearest participating veterinary practice: Bantry: Fachtna Collins 027 53639; Skibbereen: Castlelands-Hourihanes 028 22211; Dunmanway: Brookpark: 023 884 5777;

Castletownbere: Brian Murphy 027 70366