

# LAW'S CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2007

Lefkas Animal Welfare Society

Dear friends,

For years we have been suffering with a lack of work force, but ... we have some very good news! Not only do we have some more volunteers, but we have a brand new fundraising committee. Various events have been and will be organised.

We have been flooded with abandoned young dogs. Once they are 4 to 5 weeks old people dump them in the street, take them into the mountains or leave them in front of old churches or monasteries. One dog, threatened with death, was removed from his miserable situation. He was so timid that it took weeks of patient coaxing before he could be handled. He was re-homed six months after being rescued.

Days were spent trying to catch two frightened puppies abandoned on the west-coast in the middle of nowhere. Higgins and Dolittle were vaccinated and finally re-homed in Germany.



**Higgins and Dolittle now in Germany**

Three transports relieved us of many strays. They were all re-homed in Austria and Germany!

Many kittens found dumped in rubbish bins were hand reared and rescued. Stray dogs and cats all over the island have been fed and vaccinated.

Most importantly, many bitches have been spayed to keep the population of strays as low as possible.

We were grateful to welcome again a vet and an equine dentist, funded by Greek Animal Welfare Fund, to tend to the island's donkey and horse population's wellbeing in general and to their teeth in particular.



We found a young injured and abandoned owl, unable to fly and almost starved, and sent it to the Wildlife Centre in Aegina. They specialise in treating injured birds and the owl made a full recovery.

In May we participated, aided by one of the local vets, in a local television program on a debate on the state of animal welfare on Lefkas and concern about the ongoing poisoning of stray dogs and cats. Hopefully programs like this help change the general attitude towards animals.

We attended the bi-annual GAWF conference in Athens. There was a wide variety of important topics and workshops. It is good to meet people from other animal welfare societies and to share each others problems and victories.

Last month we organised a very successful bring-and-buy, which raised more than 700 euros. The first LAWS Christmas fair was sponsored by the Lefkas newspaper Ta Nea Tis Lefkadas. These and other happenings will become recurring events.



**Bring and Buy proceedings for LAWS**

On a cheerful but embarrassing note, a Dutch organisation volunteered to re-home one of the stray pups. So, we brought it to airport to be checked in. Whilst waiting for the formalities to be finalised the nervous pup squatted down and deposited an enormous heap of shit in the departure hall of the airport!

Our aims continue to be to combat poisoning, cruelty and neglect, to educate and to re-home as many strays as possible. We vaccinate, sterilise and try to find homes. It costs a lot of time. Help us!

For all our work we are dependent on donations. If you want to contribute, contact us!

Finally a big thank you to all our helpers and contributors. LAWS was greatly supported by a grant from Greek Animal Welfare Fund and a donation from the Southern Ionian Regatta proceedings.

*Merry Christmas*

*And A*

*Happy New Year!*



**Tinka found a new home in Austria !**

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