

2014 & Beyond

Well, what can we say about the last 12 months? It was a year full of ups and downs.

A lot more cruelty cases landed on our doorstep from all parts of the country. Thankfully, they all recovered and were rehomed. But as a result our veterinary fees have almost doubled from 2013.

Despite the fact that the powers that be assure us that things have turned around, there has been an increase in people losing their homes, people emigrating and families splitting under financial strain. Due to the despairing situation many families find themselves in, pets become overlooked and transparent.

The enforcement of the Rabies laws by DEFRA in the UK was a double edged sword, on one hand, a lot more of our dogs are being rehomed in Ireland. But on the other hand, the turnover of dogs is much slower, which causes a bottleneck and prevents us from saving more.

On the upside, we have gained a lot more support, both through donations and moral support, than last year.

We were fortunate enough to secure the voluntary services of Sharon and her team at Plunkett PR, who have lots of good ideas for 2015.

With their help, we revived The PAW Trek, our annual sponsored walk, which was held in Clondalkin last August. Lots of adopters and

supporters turned up, as did Amanda Brunker and Gillian Quinn and her lovely daughter Ash.

We hope to hold our next one in June and plans for that will be getting underway soon.

We now have an email newsletter which goes out monthly (If you want to be on the list let us know) and two newspaper columns and another in the pipeline.

As an Organisation, we are still hoping to acquire premises in Leinster (Dublin, Kildare, West Wicklow) to expand our services and increase our work with donkeys. So if anyone has a lucky lotto win, we will be delighted to hear from you.

But for now, we can only do what we can do. We must go on... because together.....we are making a MASSIVE difference.

HUGE THANK YOU's to everyone who helped make 2014 a better year and hopefully 2015 will be better again.

Fundraisers, supporters, volunteers, dog walkers, patient suppliers, very patient vets and of course our donors. Because without YOU, we would be unable to continue to keep our doors open to those in need.

"Once upon a time, there was a wise man that used to go to the ocean to do his writing.

He had a habit of walking on the beach before he began his work.

One day, as he was walking along the shore, he looked down the beach and saw a human figure moving like a dancer.

As he got closer, he noticed that the figure was that of a young man.

The young man was reaching down to the shore, picking up small objects, and throwing them into the ocean.

He came closer and called out "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"

The young man paused, looked up, and replied "Throwing starfish into the ocean."

"Why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?" asked the wise man.

The young man replied, "The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in, they'll die."

The wise man said, "But, young man, do you not realise that there are miles and miles of beach and there are starfish all along every mile?"

You can't possibly make a difference!"

The young man bent down, picked up yet another starfish, and threw it into the ocean.

As it met the water, he said, "It made a difference for that one."

On behalf of all the Starfish at PAWS We THANK YOU



Inside this issue...

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Abbey's Story



Abbey is a stunning, affectionate, intelligent, happy girl. She has been with us in kennels for almost one year. Abbey was originally found as a stray- tied to a local pound gate. Abbey was pregnant at the time- a short time later she gave birth to 7 beautiful puppies. She was a fantastic mum. Her puppies grew up and were all homed. Abbey did spend a bit of time in a home- unfortunately due to the female dogs not getting on Abbey was returned. Abbey is best suited with male dogs or a single dog home, but definitely NO CATS. She also spent a short time in a foster home with children aged 3+.

She absolutely loves to play. She is very intelligent and eager to learn. Abbey is super affectionate and very loyal. She is a very loving girl. She is strong on the lead. She has fantastic recall. She is a fun loving girl!

Xena's Story

In August 2014, a litter of puppies were dumped in a sack into a river in Mullinahone. The three surviving pups were hand reared. Chance & Phoenix both secured wonderful homes.

But now Xena is looking for her forever couch. She is growing fast and will be a medium to large size dog. Xena is a typical puppy, full of energy and playfulness. She has been around both children and other dogs but never met cats. She is looking for an indoor home and will be spayed at 6 months old.



Shayla's Story

Shayla arrived at PAWS on Good Friday 2014. She was very malnourished, had a nasty eye infection and a few skin issues. Even with all her little health issues, she was full of cuddles and licks for all the staff. Whenever you walked past her kennel, her tail would wag and hit off the sides so fast, it was like the beat of a drum.

For the first few months after her arrival at PAWS, Shayla took it easy, it was clear she had been through so much in her life; she just seemed so pleased to be getting two meals a day and lots of attention from all our team and our volunteers. Little did she know, she had us all falling in love with her. No PAWS visitor, work experience student, or volunteer dog-walker could spend more than a few minutes with Shayla without trying to figure out how they could take her home with them.

Shayla has been at PAWS almost a year now, all her ailments are healed, she has put on weight and is looking healthy but she still hasn't been offered her forever home despite all the love she has to give. She is a truly sweet and super girl. She loves her walks and her cuddles; in fact, she loves everything as long as she can do it with you. She is really food orientated and, therefore, really easy to train and we think she would excel at some kind of training class or laidback agility sport. She is very well-behaved, excellent on the lead and she is at her happiest when she is sitting in your lap getting all of your attention, she will even give you a big grinning 'staffie smile. For more information on Shayla or to find out how to adopt a dog, visit paws.ie



We have lots planned over the coming months that should help towards paying the bills! For them to be successful however, we need volunteers!

We have a wonderful and loyal army of supporters. You really are the best. Your moral support keeps us going when things are tough. We would love if some of you could get involved in specific fundraising events we have planned for this year. A few hours of your time would make such a difference! We would also love to hear from anyone who would be willing to let PAWS come to their workplace one afternoon to introduce ourselves and ask for help. We wouldn't take up too much of your time, but we can't stress enough how much a simple gesture like welcoming us into your workplace means to us. If you can help at all, please get in touch.

Phone 052 9153507
email pawsanimalrescue@eircom.net
or visit www.paws.ie



It has been brought to our attention that there have been several incidents involving fake fundraisers, claiming to be from PAWS.

This varies from Street collections to door to door callers. If you are in any way suspicious, please contact us immediately via phone, email, facebook or twitter and inform the Gardai.

Always ask for a permit or ID from anyone who asks you for money for ANY charity. Better still, donate to your chosen charity by post or via their website.



The joys of the warmth of a Cold Wet Nose

While most pet owners are clear about the joys that come with sharing their lives with companion animals, many remain unaware of the physical and mental health benefits that can also accompany the pleasure of playing with or snuggling up to a furry friend.

- Pet owners are less likely to suffer from depression than those without pets.
- People with pets have lower blood pressure in stressful situations than those without pets. Playing with a pet can elevate levels of serotonin and dopamine, which calm and relax.
- One of the reasons for these therapeutic effects is that most pets fulfil the basic human need to touch. The companionship of a pet can also ease loneliness, and some pets are a great stimulus for healthy exercise, which can substantially boost mood.
- Exercise doesn't have to involve boring repetition at a gym. Taking a dog for a walk, riding a horse, or simply chasing a kitten around are all fun ways to fit healthy daily exercise into your schedule.
- Isolation and loneliness can make disorders such as depression even worse. Caring for a living creature can help make you feel needed and wanted, and take the focus away from your problems, especially if you live alone. Most pet owners talk to their pets, some even use them to work through their troubles. And nothing beats loneliness like coming home to a wagging tail or purring cat.

Many pets, especially dogs, require a regular feeding and exercise schedule. No matter your mood—depressed, anxious, or stressed—you'll always have to get out of bed to feed, exercise, and care for your pet. Dog owners frequently stop and talk to each other on walks or in a dog park.

Pet owners also meet new people in pet stores, clubs, and training classes. Touch and movement are two healthy ways to quickly manage stress. This could involve petting a cat, taking a dog for a walk, or riding a horse. Even if you're not able to handle the demands of owning a pet, you can still ask to walk a neighbour's dog, for example, or volunteer at an animal shelter.

Lifestyle considerations that influence your choice of pet

- Little outdoor activity – If most of your time is spent at home, consider pets that would be happy to stay with you in that environment. You may enjoy playing with or cuddling a cat or a bunny; taking leisurely walks with an older dog; watching fish or reptiles; or talking or singing along with a bird.
- High activity level – If you're more active and enjoy daily activities outside of your home, especially walking or running, an energetic dog might be right for you. Canine companions thrive on outdoor exercise, keeping you on the move.
- Small children and the elderly – Families with small children or elderly living in their homes should consider the size and energy level of a pet. Puppies and kittens are usually very active, but delicate creatures that must be handled with care. Large or boisterous dogs could accidentally harm or knock over a small child or adult who is unsteady on his or her feet.
- Home environment – If a neat, tidy home, free of animal hair, occasional muddy footprints and "accidents" is important, then a free-roaming dog or long-haired cat may not be the best choice. You may want to choose pets that are confined to their quarters, such as fish, birds, hamsters, or reptiles.
- Time commitment – Finally, and perhaps most importantly, keep in mind that you'll be making a commitment that will last the lifetime of the pet. You can, of course, consider adopting an older dog or cat from a shelter or rescue group and provide a deserving animal with a loving home for its senior years.



Stolen Pets

There are huge amounts of pets being stolen in the last 12 months.

Many are stolen to order and sold on in the UK. This is why we cannot stress enough the importance of having your pet microchipped and making sure the chip is registered in YOUR name with up to date contact details.

In the case of lost pets, we are delighted to announce that you can now buy pet tags on our website, thanks to The Pet Tag Store. There are 26 wonderful designs to choose from, including quotes such as "I'm not fat, I'm just fluffy" & "When I grow up, I want to be a Rottweiler." Or simply "Please scan me I'm microchipped"

The tags are available for the low cost of €12.50 which includes a personal engraving and delivery to anywhere in Ireland. €5 from the sale of each tag will be donated to PAWS to assist them in caring for the 80+ dogs in our care.



Just for fun!

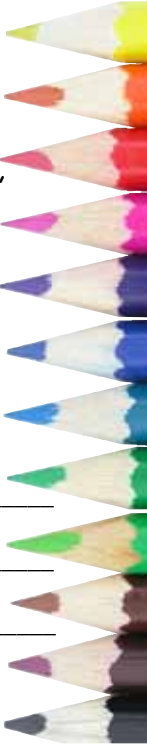
We are having a colouring competition for our junior supporters, aged 10 or under.

There will be two prizes drawn, one in April 2015 and one at our sponsored walk in June 2015. A little surprise will be given to the two winners & the two runners up. Just post your completed picture, with your name and address to: PAWS. Mullinahone. Co Tipperary.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Age: _____

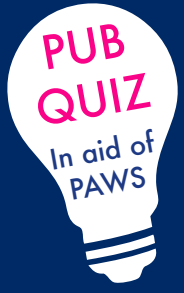


FUNRAISING IDEAS! FUNRAISING IDEAS! FUNRAISING IDEAS!



Sponsored Walk

Our Annual sponsored walk will take place this year in Corkagh Park in Clondalkin in June. Last year's walk was a great afternoon with both Amanda Bruncker and Gillian Quinn taking part. It is always so lovely to catch up on our adopters and adoptees and raise some much needed funds as in the process. Sponsor cards will be posted out in May, so please let us know if you would like one. **Contact us at 052 9153507 or email to pawsanimalrescue@eircom**



Could you organise a

PUB QUIZ?



Plan your day, choose a date between the 13th & 19th of April and find a venue. It could be anywhere from YOUR home or garden, at school, work place or even the local community centre or sports club.



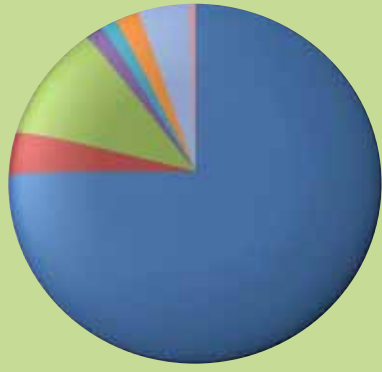
Put the Kettle on and plan your Paws For A Cuppa Party

Animal Welfare Grant

We would like to say thank you to Minister Coveney and the Department of Agriculture for their generous ex gratia animal welfare grant of €28,000 to PAWS. The grant was received on December 23rd and all used by Jan 4th. We would like to show YOU our supporters, how it was spent.

So as you can see, although we are extremely grateful for the Department's help, we still need YOUR support to continue our work for another year.

Thank you for being there.



- Veterinary Bill €21,000
- Ambulance Repair €1,100
- Dog food €3,000
- Printer €443
- Hardware €395
- Donkey feed €600
- Other 1,300
- Disinfectant €142

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms: _____ Name: _____
 Surname: _____
 Address: _____

 Date: _____ Phone No. _____
 Email: _____

Payments Details - here is my gift of:

€10 €20 €50 Other € _____
 or: I enclose a cheque/postal order (payable to Paws) for the sum of € _____
 or: Please debit the sum of € _____ from my card.

NO:

EXPIRY DATE:

Cardholder Name: _____

Signature: _____



PLEASE DONATE