



## 2024 Newsletter

PAWS is delighted to report that despite incredibly high temperatures in the summer of 2024, we treated over 800 animals. Paxos municipality Greek vet Nefeli worked several days at the PAWS clinic as well as dealing with emergency strays at her own clinic.

Greek vet Lefteris Gallidis came from Thessaloniki and worked 5 days at the end of February as well as hosting a school visit.

Vet Mike Houlihan with nurses Mandy Cooper, Jenny Proctor & Amy Readthorn volunteered for 2 weeks in September.

Vet Charmaine Cook with nurses Lisa Paszek & Megan Bucholz volunteered for 2 weeks in October.

The charity received £9075 worth of grants, and we sincerely thank GCWS, GAR, Jean Sainsbury and WVS for their continued support.

We would also like to thank Paxos Municipality for contributing 15000 euros to cat food and emergency treatment.

### The Figures

418 stray cats neutered.

126 other procedures on cats.

48 domestic cats neutered on the PAWS neutering scheme.

20 dogs neutered on the PAWS/GAR dog neutering scheme.

4 dogs neutered on the PAWS/GAR free dog neutering scheme.

43 stray cats fostered at the PAWS clinic (28 – rehomed).

36 cats pts.

162 stray cats treated at the Paxos vet clinic by our Greek Vet Nefeli Damigou and funded by Paxos Municipality.

**Total animals treated in 2024 = 857**

*Two stories for you now.*

*Firstly, from Faye.....Beki lost, then found*



Early morning on March 29<sup>th</sup> we noticed a post on our Facebook page about a missing dog on Paxos. A German family had sailed into Paxos on holiday and were anchored at Mongonissi. That morning their dog Beki had unexpectedly run off when out for her morning walk. The family were very distressed and hoped that posters and Fb posts with PAWS would help find her. The problem was exacerbated by the fact that the family had to return the sailing boat to Corfu that day.

PAWS volunteers immediately set off to look for Beki all around Mongonissi and Ozias. As Beki hadn't been neutered, we thought she might have run off with a male dog and would return in a few days. However, it wasn't until the 5<sup>th</sup> day that a fisherman called PAWS very early to say they had spotted a dog frantically running up and down the coastline at Mongonissi. A photo of the dog confirmed it was Beki.....she must have returned to the spot where she was lost and was looking for the sailing boat.

When I arrived at Mongonissi, the fishermen had Beki in their arms, and she happily came with me in the car to the PAWS clinic where she was fed and watered. It was obvious that Beki was still agitated and looking for her family who were on their way back from Corfu. Their reunion in the PAWS clinic garden was very emotional for everyone involved and Beki's mum

Hildegard was so grateful for our help. Beki was in fact very special as she had been trained as a therapy dog in Bavaria and regularly visits children's hospitals and plays a significant role in helping children with autism or other disabilities.

Meeting Beki was an unforgettable experience for me as her behaviour on the day of rescue was very impressive. Although she had been stranded in unfamiliar surroundings with strangers, she remained composed and trusting. She was truly a very intelligent dog with a lovely nature.



*Ruby and her kittens from Di Mitchell*



In mid-April, one of our PAWS volunteers received a call from the local supermarket in Magazia saying that a cat had given birth to 5 kittens in their back yard. Sadly 2 had already died but the cat and the remaining 3 kittens were taken to the PAWS clinic where they were cared for until the kittens were eating on their own. The cat was christened Ruby and her kittens Cheddar, Linos and little Amber. Once they were in good health, another volunteer very kindly offered to foster the whole family until homes were found. During that time, Ruby also fed and mothered another abandoned black kitten called Olive. All the kittens were adopted together on Paxos and Ruby was rehomed in Italy in September. A great story with a wonderful result!



## **FUND RAISING**

Once again we are so grateful for the continued support of our sponsors GAR, GCWS, Jean Sainsbury and WVS who in 2024 donated over £9000 worth of grants.

A huge thank you to Maureen & Jim Lemin who at the ages of 68 & 78 respectively ran the Edinburgh Marathon on May 26<sup>th</sup> in memory of their beautiful dog Buddy who they rescued 8yrs ago from Paxos. Despite appalling weather conditions of torrential rain and gale force winds, they completed the run in 5hrs 15mins which we thought was amazing. In total they raised £1655.70 all of which was donated to PAWS.



Other fund-raising efforts included:

Mandy Cooper and her friends once again raised £200 for making Christmas wreaths.

Trevor Munro raised £320 at his Faversham vet practice

The September Tabletop Sale on Paxos raised £970

So many of our supporters gave us generous donations and we sincerely thank them all.

## *Other News*

### New Outhouse



As we are now able to offer more medical facilities for stray cats, we decided to purchase a new outhouse for the PAWS clinic garden. This building is now used to care for the cats and kittens that need fostering or long-term care. Electricity and lighting have been installed together with a new set of large metal cages. We plan to insulate the building and fit air conditioning over the winter.

We are very grateful to the municipality for allowing us to erect this building and for helping financially with its installation.



## **EDUCATION**

We are delighted to have arranged 2 educational visits to the PAWS clinic in 2024. In February, Lefteris Gallidis agreed to host a school trip for the younger children. Later in April an older group of school children spent a day at the PAWS clinic with Nefeli Damigou.

Both visits were a huge success, and we hope that we will have inspired some of the children to seek a career in veterinary medicine!



**Please don't forget to use the Greek hotline for animal abuse.  
Callers can remain anonymous.**



**Εθνική Γραμμή Καταγγελιών**

Αναπτύσσουμε ψηφιακή εφαρμογή, καθώς και 5ψήφιο αριθμό καταγγελιών για τη διευκόλυνση αναφοράς περιστατικών κακοποίησης ζώων, καθώς και κάθε παράβασης του νομικού πλαισίου για την προστασία των ζώων συντροφιάς

**10410**

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ  
Υπουργείο Εσωτερικών

Πρόγραμμα  
Αργός

## **A BIG THANK YOU AS ALWAYS .....**

- to all our volunteers on Paxos for their daily commitment.
- to all our visiting vet teams from the UK....their dedication and continued support is exemplary.
- to all residents of Paxos who have been supporting animal welfare in any way.
- to Panos and Katerina who provide very good prices for accommodation and hire cars for our vet teams.
- to the private vets of Paxos.
- to Mayor, Spyros Vlachopoulos and Voula Apergi for their cooperation.

## **PLANS FOR 2025**

We are arranging for Greek and UK vet teams to visit the PAWS clinic in the Spring and Autumn.

With the help of grants and donations, we are carrying out upgrades to the new outhouse and maintenance work at the PAWS clinic.

Due to increased demand for animal welfare on Paxos, we are planning to arrange for 3 vet nurses to work full time for 2 months each from April to October. If this is successful, we hope to set up a permanent position in 2026 and beyond. We are extremely grateful to the nurses that have offered to support this new post.

We will continue to improve co-operation with the Paxos municipality so that they may become more involved with the day to day running of animal welfare on the island.

We are trying to extend our volunteer network on Paxos. Please contact Faye or email the charity website if you can help as there can never be enough helpers!

We will continue to arrange school visits and improve education on animal welfare.

We will keep the Facebook page [Municipal Vet Clinic / PAWS | Facebook](#) updated.....and we always love to see your comments!

PAWS - Greece has now been established so watch our Facebook page for more details!

PAWS Voucher scheme for financial help with neutering domestic cats and dogs will also continue.

*And finally, from Lindsay ....Director of PAWS*

*I cannot believe it was back in 2005 that I was first introduced to Faye whilst holidaying on Paxos and we chatted about how to improve veterinary care on the island. That same year I met fellow tourist Linda Parker, and we agreed that if we received permission from the Paxos mayor to help with animal welfare, we would create PAWS charity.....*

*And now here I am 20 years later writing my last newsletter.....so many stories to tell and so many memories!*

*I am delighted to report that 3 wonderful volunteers will take over the running of PAWS UK registered charity in January 2026. Claire Higgins is a PAWS supporter and lover of Paxos, Emily Fairhurst & Hayley Blackmore are both volunteer vet nurses. They are all very enthusiastic about starting their role and will assist me in 2025 before the takeover next year.*

*Being Director of PAWS has been a great privilege. None of it would have been possible without the incredible support of all the vets, nurses and volunteers that have given up so much of their time so willingly. I wholeheartedly thank you all and hope that the next 20 years will be as fruitful!*

***WISHING YOU A VERY HAPPY 2025.***

**Please find ways to support our projects financially by visiting our website page.**

**<https://www.pawspaxos.gr/contact>**

**(bank transfer, Paypal, Easyfundraising)**



*Our first vets – Claire & Eva*



*Lindsay, Linda & Claire*



*James operating at the Baronessa apartments*



*Russell & Zoe*



*Charmaine, Lisa, Megan, Faye, Hara & Di*

