

- Responsible Pet Ownership
- Happy Tails from the Home
- Socialising your Dog

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The SPCA - Society for the Protection and Care of Animals - is an associated organisation of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA). Its mission is to promote kindness and prevent cruelty to animals through education, advocacy and other activities. It runs the oldest home for dogs and cats in Malta and is officially recognised by the Maltese Government as the national animal welfare organisation.

THE SPCA COMMITTEE:

President: Barbara Cassar Torreggiani. Vice President: Paul Busuttill. Treasurer: Marisa Ciappara. Hon. Secretary: Jane Bannister-Grech. Committee Members: Simon Walker.

THE SPCA HOME STAFF:

Home Manager: Miriam Casha. Support Fundraising Coordinators: Darryl Grima, Danica Falzon. Kennel Staff: Larry Agius, Mariola Prorok, Mary Caruana, Nathalie Diacono, Tessie Micallef, June LaFerla, Carol Sherman.

THE SPCA BOOK SHOP VOLUNTARY STAFF:

Jane Attard-Manche, Carola Weitze, David Agius, Dr. Rosette Micallef, Joe Calleja.

OPENING HOURS

SPCA HOME: Mon to Fri: 10:30am - 2:00pm Sat: 10am - 12pm
SPCA BOOK SHOP: Mon to Fri: 10am - 1:00pm, Sat: 10am - 12pm
SPCA CHARITY SHOP: Paws 4 A Cause Mon to Fri: 9:30am - 5:30pm, Sat: 9:30am - 1:00pm

Closed on Sundays & public holidays.

www.facebook.com/spcamalta www.facebook.com/paws4acause

ISSUE 25



The Editorial Team (from left): Michelle Grech, Sara Hazzard & Frances Cassar Torreggiani

Our summer issue is the one where we report about our annual spring fair, which as time goes by, gets better, more fun and ultimately manages to raise the much-needed funds for the running of the Home. It has become a landmark on the local events calendar and those who have attended any of the SPCA's spring fairs can understand why. We wish we had more printing space to insert more photos of attendees enjoying the day, some with their pets, in the stunning surroundings of Palazzo Parisio. So do read about it in our News from the Home section and we hope to entice you enough to see you there next year!

We must say, that for us, the editorial team, the Happy Tails section is the one that gives us the most satisfaction in compiling as it shows the fruit of the hard work of all those involved with the Home, that is to place our dogs and cats in forever homes.

In this issue we are featuring a new way that generous people are helping us raise funds with, even on the most important day of their life, by using recycled SPCA memorabilia as souvenirs and even collecting funds for us. We hope this idea catches on for the benefit of our four-legged friends.

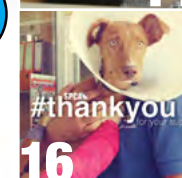
Barbara highlights the valuable work of volunteers without whom the charity would not be what it is today. We encourage our readers who always wanted to help out, to come forward and see how the little bit of time they can afford can be invaluable to us. It's also fun!

Barbara also takes on the main article in this issue and urges us to be 'responsible pet owners' and how following the basic rules can permit us, our pets and neighbours to live in better harmony.

We hope you enjoy the read and as always urge you to write in with any suggestions, articles and topics you would like us to include in future issues.

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ON THE COVER:

One lovely home resident looking for a good home

This quarterly newsletter is the official publication of the SPCA Malta. Issue: 25 Contact us: AnimalWatch, SPCA, St. Francis Ravelin, Floriana FRN 1231 Telephone: 2123 4431 / 2123 0468 Email: spca@maltanet.net Website: www.spcamalta.org Editor: Frances Cassar Torreggiani President: Barbara Cassar Torreggiani Designed by: Mikhail Basmadjian Printed by: Offset Press, Triq San Gwakkin, Mriehel. THE PRODUCTION OF THIS PUBLICATION IS ENTIRELY SPONSORED BY ADVERTISING.



*Barbara
Cassar
Torreggiani*

Hello,

As we all melt and wish we lived by the sea – I won't mention the weather!

Instead, I would like to pay tribute to our many volunteers. We have volunteers coming to our aid from all round the island. In hot weather and cold, they never let us down!

I suppose, most of our volunteers are in our Sliema shop on a regular basis. They are a great team for there's always plenty to do – up and down the stairs with the new stock coming in and out; cleaning and dressing the windows and keeping everywhere spic and span. I know they enjoy meeting the customers, as much as the customers enjoy meeting them! It's all part of the fun! Volunteer evenings are good fun too. With a multi-national group, everybody brings a dish and we all dig in to each other's offerings and probably drink too much!

Then there are the bookworms in our Floriana library. They lead a somewhat

quieter life but a very important one for us! Thank you all, especially Joe (our Saturday man) who has been there ever since I can remember! Carola, who I would like to thank for re-organising the library these last three years, will be returning to work so we will really miss her. If there is anyone who enjoys books and would like to help out just one day a week (we open from 10 till 1 everyday), we would be very grateful.

In the Home, volunteering is a little more difficult given the size and the logistics. However there are some lovely people who have found some time and a niche to fill and without whom, we would find it so much harder to cope. Of course we have our dog-walkers, a great bunch, who give our dogs that something to look forward to everyday.....Our dogs LOVE to meet new people! Be careful if you want to join in though, our walkers can get so attached that they sometimes end up adopting 'their' dog! I met one the other day who had come in to say good bye to her dog who was off to his forever home – What a wonderful relationship!

We must not forget our cat socialisers. If you want a little chilling-out time, what

better place than to be surrounded by serene (but curious) cats! We do like and need to have fundraising events which of course are not possible without help on the day. Luckily there are some wonderful people who enjoy getting involved occasionally and we can have some fun inventing new ways to support our cause and spreading the word. So, a very big thank you to all those who help and all those who donate to our shops and Home to keep them and us running. Of course, without these three volunteers, we wouldn't have a magazine at all! Thank you girls for making it happen and keep making it happen!

Have you seen our website? Well our Irish lad, Austen has set up and run this now for many years.....he's such a star! We really are lucky and so grateful for our SPCA family.....come and join us!

See you at our next event.....

Enjoy the heat!

26.06.2013



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Responsible Pet Ownership DO WE CARE ENOUGH?

Are we ever going to solve the problem of our dog/cat overpopulation? You would have thought that on an Island as small as ours, it really wouldn't be an insurmountable task.

“...whether bringing up an animal or a child, the same dedication is required in the early years.”

Year after year, all our Sanctuaries are overflowing and there are still more animals on the street. Our previous Government worked hard at tackling the problem and early indications are that our present Administration aims to continue the work, albe it with a different process.

When one adopts a cat or dog, what exactly does one have in mind? We call them 'companion animals' – that should give us a clue. They (the animals) are only too aware of what they are meant to be, would like to be and look to us (sometimes mistakenly) for guidance. In fact whether bringing up an animal or a child, the same dedication is required in the early years. The advantage with dogs is that they love to be trained!

Why do people think it is acceptable to close their dogs out of their house at night? Apart from increasing their chance of contracting Sand fly Fever out there? And don't they think they might be upsetting their neighbours too?

Unfortunately, this kind of behaviour influences people's perception of animals and it is what causes the sometimes unreasonable legislations that prevents us from having our pets in our new apartments (now, inundating our Island) and our outside spaces.

Around the globe, people live in flats and often, they are able to have their pets live with them. This is because they bring them up well and are considerate of their neighbours. Is it asking too much for us to do the same? If we want to see some empathy with our beloved animals, this kind of practice is necessary.

At the SPCA we are well aware that training a dog doesn't always come naturally (and maybe this is a relatively new concept).

Therefore, we are very happy to offer adopters the benefit of our help in those first weeks. We know our dogs, their likes and dislikes and this might help them settle into their new home a little quicker and so make life easier for both new owner and pet.

A new initiative coming from the Swieqi Council with ourselves and DogsTrust is looking very promising. Firstly, the Council is doing its utmost to help the residents be responsible pet owners by providing enough 'Poo bins' so that picking up the poo isn't such an inconvenience. As well as that, residents are receiving mail to remind them of their responsibilities.

Secondly, the Council is tackling the issue of obedience training for dogs. It is putting on a community event later in the summer, (8th September) which will be a fun evening for all the residents (and those who would like to join in). DogsTrust and SPCA will also be there to demonstrate 'Clicker Training' your dog.

For more info on this type of positive training, you can visit www.dogtrainingmadeeasy.org

As we know, Malta is vastly populated and unless we can agree the 'give and take' of living in such close proximity with our pets, it's only going to get more difficult.

Animals are very much a part of our lives, whether they are on a farm, drawing a carriage, in the sea or in our homes. If we respect and care for them, they can make our lives so much richer. It is all a question of balance.

Unfortunately we find ourselves running around too much for financial gain, when really, if we were to stop and 'smell the daisies', the simple things in life, we would appreciate what we have around us so much more and get through our busy days

a much happier race. Again, help from the SPCA – We will shortly be offering some interesting courses on these subjects:

1. Pet First Aid.
2. Pet Grooming.
3. Nutrition and Training your Dog.

Do contact us if you would like to join in - 99494115

So, to come back to where we started.....

If we cared a little more and took pet ownership a little more seriously, we would have fewer animals uncared for and unwanted AND on the street.



It's easy to be a great dog owner if you follow these 12 simple steps:

01. Obey all laws concerning your dog. Get your dog the proper license and vaccinations. Follow the leash laws and always clean up after your dog.

02. Try to spend at least a half hour or more per day playing with your dog. You don't want him to feel lonely.

03. Know about the importance of spraying or neutering your dog. Learn more about it before you make any decision.

04. Give your dog the best veterinary care you can afford. Don't forget yearly checkups, dental check-ups and vaccinations.

05. Give your dog lots of exercise. It's important for his health and wellness.

06. Get your dog's papers in order. Make sure he has the proper license, micro chip and ID tags.

07. Your dog loves you so much. Try and return the favour. Be a best friend to your dog and let him know how much you love him. Don't punish, beat or hurt your dog. Always treat your dog with love and kindness.

08. Be sure to always clean up well after your dog. This prevents infections and illness.

09. Bond with your dog by grooming him several times per week.

10. Your dog needs proper nutrition. Buy him the best dog food you can afford.

11. Teach your dog to be social and get along well with others. Take him to areas where there will be other people and dogs around, like a park.

12. Train your dog. To feel fulfilled, your dog needs and wants to be trained.

Hopefully, these simple rules for dog owners will help you to be a better dog owner. Be a good owner and your dog will be a good pet.

AT THE SPCA WE WORK TIRELESSLY ALL YEAR ROUND TO ORGANISE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES TO HELP RAISE MONEY TO SUSTAIN OUR HOME. WATCH OUT FOR OUR EVENTS BY JOINING US ON FACEBOOK AND KEEPING UP TO DATE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE. THANK YOU.

Two Local Councils take initiative

Swieqi Local Council is promoting Community Spirit and Responsible Pet ownership. Keeping in touch with its residents to remind them of their duties towards their animals whilst respecting their neighbours, the Council has provided extra 'poo' bins along the pavements, given out roles of 'poo' bags and will be having a celebration Street Party on the **8th of September**. SPCA and Dogs Trust will be there to join the fun and to advise on dog training with a clicker www.dogtrainingmadeeasy.org and to provide general pet info.

Sliema Local Council will be supporting our charity on **Saturday 31st August**, coming up to the 3rd anniversary of our shop Paws for a Cause in George Borg Olivier Street, corner with Howard Street, open all day. The day will start early with a dog walk around Sliema, ending up at our shop for some cool refreshments to celebrate with new and old customers. On the day we will also launch something new!.....see you there!

Sib Habib...Find a Friend

28th and 29th September - We are holding our first 'Adoption Weekend'

In the run up to **Flag Week, week of 4th October** (World Animal Day) come and join the fun at Floriana around our Homing Centre. There will be plenty to see. Learn more about us and meet our beautiful four-legged friends who are waiting for their forever home. Plenty of food and refreshments to keep you happy!



MALTANOW & GROWING UP MAGAZINE

We are now on MaltaNow newspaper as well as Growing Up Magazine. Both these publications are distributed for free and they are also both available online. Our monthly contribution will keep one and all abreast of our activities so please look out for these magazines and look us up!



Spring Fair Volunteers

Spring Fair 2013

We're sure many of you visited us at Palazzo Parisio, Naxxar, for the Spring Fair last May as thousands of animal lovers thronged to the Palace some accompanied by their pets! The Hon. Parliamentary Secretary Roderick Galdes was there to experience our fun-filled family day as well as to launch the Dogs Trust Clicker Dog training campaign. The day was made all the more special by the beautiful surroundings of the palace gardens. This year our set-up included well over 20 stalls offering a varied selection of wares and services. Pet owners were also offered the possibility of having a portrait of their pet done by the acclaimed Maltese artist Debbie Caruana Dingli or even a fun caricature by Izzy Ripard! Dogs Trust took the opportunity to demonstrate their Clicker training and dog owners were given a free training pack. A number of farm and exotic animals were also on show whilst Gorg and Pawlu completed the day with their hilarious antics.



As usual a big thank you goes to our sponsors. Our thanks also go to our volunteers without whom all this would not be possible; they sustain us not only in these events but throughout the year. Another very special thanks goes to the Marsascala Girl Guides who were instrumental in helping with the smooth-running of the day. And last but not least - a very special thank you to all those who came to support us throughout the day. Our Spring Fair would certainly not be the same without you; all our family at SPCA Malta are truly grateful for your constant support and we look forward to seeing all at our next event!



Dress Down Day

All local schools, be they government, church or independent, were solicited to assist us in encouraging their students to dress down on any day between the 5th and the 12th of June, on a voluntary basis together with a donation of € 1. Every € 52 collected entitled them to a 'Sponsor A Dog (or a Cat)' pack. We are pleased to say that notwithstanding the fact that this event was organised at the end of the scholastic year and during exams, a number of schools came forward and participated and we managed to get some 15 sponsors for a dog or a cat. Special thanks go to the Heads of Schools, teachers and students of the following schools who rose to the occasion wonderfully:

The Archbishop Seminary (Rabat), St Edward's Junior School, Tarxien Primary, Paola Primary A, Kalkara Primary, St Joan Antide, St Paul's Missionary, Gudja Primary.

This exercise has not only served to fundraise but also to continue to educate and increase awareness. A big well done to all! We plan to hold this activity again in October.





PAVI Fest

In June we were asked to join the Pavi Fest to further increase awareness and fundraise for our cause. The PAVI car park was transformed into an area of fun and music. We joined this event gladly and participated in collaboration with the Animal Welfare Department. This event was instrumental to further push our "Sponsor a Tile" Campaign as well as offer advice and information. Once again, a huge thank you goes to all the volunteers who put in a number of hours in the hot sweltering heat of that summer day!

Fund Raising through Weddings...



It is amazing how newly married couples are sharing their wonderful day with us. For a donation we are supplying bookmarks, badges, prints or mouse pads. Basically we try to personalise every couple's marriage.

Chloe and David were one of the first to join us in this new fund-raising idea and in fact they even recycled our 2013 calendars we had not used and turned them into lovely bookmarks.

The following is a quote from them regarding the whole experience:

"Lovely day spent with all our close friends & relatives - wish our furry friends were present too. A kind thought on this special day to all 4 legged ones who are in need of love. Sharing a fragment of your happiness can make all the difference. Support SPCA".

We have had other couples support us and we look forward to many more in the wedding season. If you had not thought of this idea please pass on the information to friends. Just contact Jane Bannister Grech on secretary@spcamalta.org and she will make it happen!



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You can sign in all participating petshops upto 30th September or online until 31st October.

Sign online!



How to make a Penguin

Total Time 1 to 2 hours
Ages school-age

Create your own march of the penguins by crafting a group of these adorable cold-climate creatures. You can make adults with the directions below or cut the pipe cleaners in half to make baby birds.

What you'll need...

- 1 (30cm) black pipe cleaner
- 1 (7cm) white pipe cleaner
- 2 (10cm) black pipe cleaners
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Orange craft foam
- Craft glue
- Googly eyes.

1. Make a body by coiling a 20cm black pipe cleaner around a pencil. Hook a 6.35cm piece of white pipe cleaner between the top third and fourth coils and around the bottom coil.



2. For each wing, fold a 10cm piece of black pipe cleaner in half and bend the ends. Attach it by tucking the bent ends between the top third and fourth coils.

3. Cut a beak and feet from orange craft foam. Stick the beak between the coils and secure it with a dot of craft glue. Then glue on the feet and a pair of googly eyes.



Q: Where do penguins go swimming?
A: At the South Pool!



Director:
Luc Jacquet

Narrator:
Morgan Freeman

Classification: U

MARCH OF THE PENGUINS is an account of the gruelling annual trek made by Emperor penguins. While temperatures reach some 80 degrees below zero, these flightless birds trundle across the tundra, walking and sometimes sliding on their bellies over some 70 miles, from the shore to an inland plain. Here they mate, gestate, and lay eggs, after which the males take over to protect the eggs while the females head back to the sea to eat fish and do their best to avoid hungry sea lions. The females then head back to the plain where reunited couples nurture adorable fuzzy little hatchlings until they are able to walk back to shore.

Continue these idioms by inserting the correct animal...

Q1 - If you have a lot of work to do, you are as busy as a _____.

- bat
- beaver
- bull
- dog

Q6 - If someone cries _____ tears, they pretend to be upset.

- wolf
- cuckoo
- crow
- crocodile

Q2 - If someone ruins their plans, they cook their _____.

- chicken
- beaver
- goose
- cuckoo

Q7 - If you work like a _____, you work very hard.

- bull
- dog
- cuckoo
- crow

Q3 - Hot summer days are _____ days.

- goose
- dog
- cat
- bull

Q8 - The shortest distance between two places is as the _____ flies.

- cuckoo
- crow
- butterfly
- bird

Q4 - If you haven't seen someone for _____ years, you haven't seen them for a very long time.

- bull's
- donkey's
- beaver's
- frog's

Q9 - If you solve two problems with a single action, you kill two _____ with one stone.

- geese
- crows
- birds
- cuckoos

Q5 - A big _____ is an important person.

- dog
- donkey
- fish
- chicken

Q10 - A person who is a mystery is a dark _____.

- bull
- horse
- fox
- dog



Answers:
1. Beaver 2. Goose 3. Dog 4. Donkey's 5. Fish
6. Crocodile 7. Dog 8. Crow 9. Birds 10. Horse

LOOKING FOR LOVE

OUR ANIMALS HAVE A LOT TO GIVE TO A NEW OWNER AND THEY ALL DESERVE A WARM AND LOVING HOME. GIVE THEM A CHANCE!



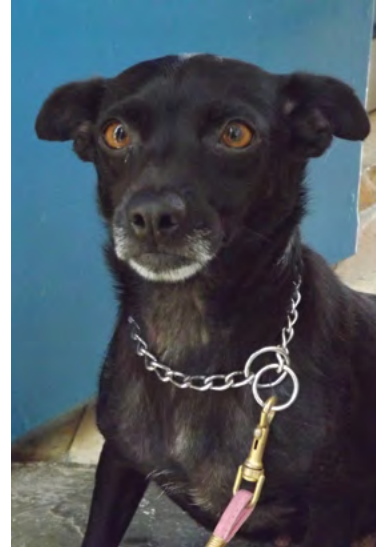
WEBSTER
MALE
5 years old

Boxer Cross - Neutered
He is a very handsome boy, walks well on a lead and looks forward to his walk. Very playful, loves to be spoilt and is quite a show-off. He can sit and give you his paw and can wait at the curb. Gets along with other dogs but needs to be introduced slowly. He is looking for an active companion.



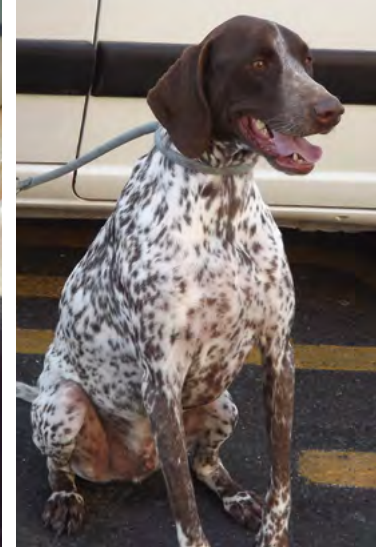
HEIDI
FEMALE
7 years old

Mixed Breed - Neutered
Heidi was brought in because her owner had to go into hospital. She has changed from a timid shy dog to a happy fun-loving dog. She's house-trained and walks well on a leash.



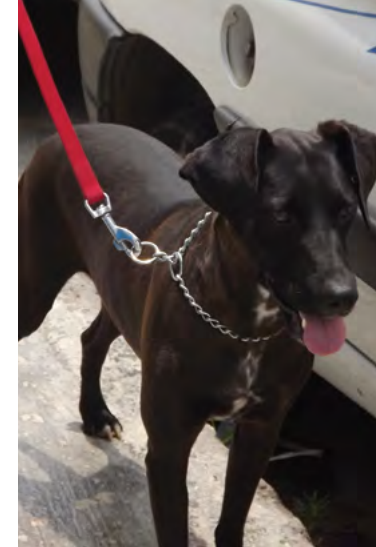
MARIE
FEMALE
4-5 years old

Mixed breed - Neutered
Marie is a little timid but very friendly when she gets to know you. She walks well on a lead and gets on well with most of the dogs. Cats are not her favourites. She would make an ideal companion to an elderly couple. She is a very happy go lucky dog and in need of a loving home.



SPIKE
MALE
3-4 years old

Kačča Cross
A pleasant dog with a big heart. Always friendly and ready to please, looks forward to his walks as he loves watching pigeons and chasing lizards. He is good on the leash, walks by your side and does not pull. Very sociable, loves to be surrounded by people. If you want a loyal dog, Spike is the best.



ARCHIE
MALE
5-6 years old

Mixed Breed - Neutered
He is a calm dog, loves cuddles and kisses. He is also a fan of food. He will settle easily in a happy environment full of love and care.



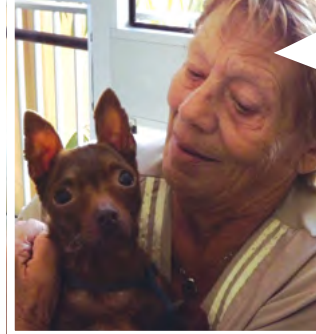
FRIEDA
FEMALE
6 years old

Breed: Kačča Cross
She is a loving lady, very caring. Her hobbies are walking, sunbathing and lazing around. Although she is 6 years old, she is still playful. Frieda is calm and placid and would be great company for a retired couple.



CATS & KITTENS WAITING FOR A LOVING HOME. COME AND CHOOSE YOUR PURRRRRRRFECT COMPANION FOR LIFE. ALL CATS AND KITTENS ARE LITTER TRAINED, NEUTERED AND LOVING.





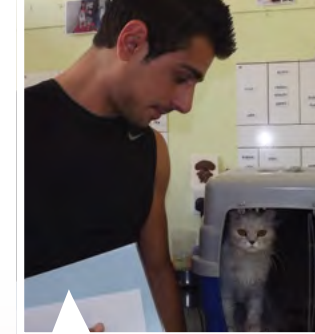
BROWNIE

Brownie, a small brown Chihuahua was found by a volunteer in a very poor state suffering from a skin allergy. We took him in, medicated him and he turned out to be a handsome little guy. Mrs Sammut who wanted a small companion dog found the ideal one. It was love at first sight.



MOLLY

Molly off to start a new life with the Zammit Family.



MAYA & PERSI

Maya & Persi, two Persians given up by their owner because of health problems, have now found a loving home with Adrian.



FRANKIE

Frankie, a jolly, playful kitten will be a bundle of joy to the Buttigieg Family.



TINA

Tiny Tina, with her calm and serene character will be calming therapy to Maria after a hectic day at work.

SAMMY ▲

A Bundle of Joy! Sammy was brought in by a kind-hearted woman who rescued him from a dangerous situation when he was dumped at the edge of a wall with a quarry on one side and a drop of four storeys high on the other. As soon as he was brought in to the Home this dog came into the office and sat there as if it was normal routine for him. He was so quiet and obedient that everyone loved him instantly. Soon a German man came by, saw Sammy.... and without a second thought told us 'That dog is coming with me'. Sammy will soon be safely enjoying the green pastures of Germany where he can run to his heart's content.

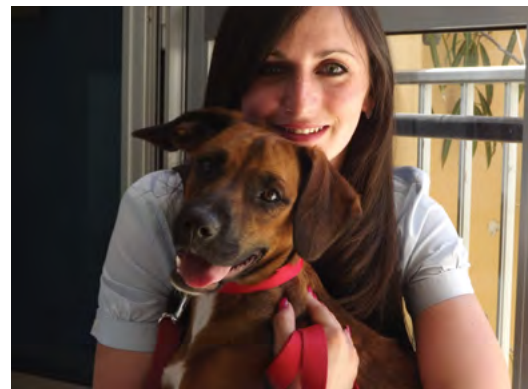
▲ NELLY Beauty is the promise of happiness. ~Stendhal

Nelly, a beautiful Pharaoh Hound, was left with a broken leg in a field under a fig tree. We picked her up and brought her over to the Home. We took her to the vet immediately and we were told that she needed an operation which was expensive. We asked for financial help and the response was extraordinary. The operation was done and it was successful. The staff all helped with the therapy and today she can walk and run properly. Nelly has beautiful eyes, her look pierces right through your heart. And that's what happened to our German friend who couldn't say no to her look either. So Nelly is off with Sammy to Germany. Just imagine her running across the fields racing against the wind. I am sure that she will be happy and will undoubtedly bring happiness to her new companions. Good luck to you both. We would like to thank all those who contributed towards Nelly's operation. A response like this gives us more courage to help these poor defenceless creatures....it gave us huge satisfaction to see this beautiful puppy walk properly and to know that she can enjoy the good life she deserves. A BIG Thank You to all for your support.



◀ MAYA & PIPPA ▶

Maya and Pippa are two sisters that were brought in because the owner did not have space to keep them. They were really cute and ever so playful. The two beautiful girls attracted the immediate attention of Emmanie and the Schembri Family. Today they are both happily settled in and living the life they both deserve.



BUTCH



TINY



KOLA



HOLLY



BINGO @ SPCA!

All these grand dogs that have been at the Home for quite a while are now having the time of their lives surrounded with love and care by their new family.



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dogs trust

FROM TRAINING TO SOCIALISATION



At Dogs Trust Malta the ball is always rolling and it rolls only for the dogs. We've spent three years telling everyone about the benefits of neutering and micro-chipping and about responsible ownership and what dogs need. Many did not understand before that compromising on one of those needs would lead to problems directly or indirectly.

Training can and will help you have a well-behaved and predictable dog. The most effective way to have a well-behaved dog, still too often ignored, is socialisation. Socialisation is the process of getting used to other people and animals and learning to cope with different experiences and stimuli in the world around you. Getting this right will ensure you can take your dog with you anywhere without problems.

The earlier you start socialising your dog the better results you will have. However socialisation isn't simply going to the park and letting your dog loose to run and play with the other dogs. You must make sure to keep the experience positive. If you are not supervising, your dog might get bullied and learn to fear certain types of dogs.

Here are some simple rules to follow:

- Introduce your dog to everything that will form part of his daily life. That may be dogs, cats, children, loud noises, transport and so on. Make a list so you know you've covered all of them.
- Don't do too much at one go. Introduce things in small doses and gradually build up the exposure. Doing too much, too soon, may have the opposite result and scare the dog.
- Get him used to dogs of all kinds as long as they are all vaccinated. Carry your puppy until he has had all his vaccinations.
- Let him meet a variety of people and children.
- Allow him to hear unusual sounds.
- If he shows worry at any time remove him from that situation and try again later, in a situation of less intensity.
- Reward him for calm and relaxed behaviour.
- Reward him for ignoring sounds, sudden movements, small cage animals, reward him for exploratory behaviour with other dogs, people and perhaps cats, although if the cats are unfriendly you'll need to teach the dog to ignore them. You decide how you want him to behave and you reward that behaviour.
- Don't ever stop. Like other skills, if unused, social behaviour can be lost and forgotten. Dogs actually need canine company to fulfil their 'dogginess' and need regular opportunities to meet other dogs.

www.dogtrainingmadeeasy.org



We all live in a yellow submarine.....??????

www.facebook.com/spcamalta
www.facebook.com/paws4acause

SPCA NEWSLETTER 19 SUMMER 2013

www.spcamalta.org

Sponsor a Dog (or a Cat!)



So how does one go about sponsoring an animal at the SPCA?

1. Firstly obtain an SADC sponsorship form using one of the following methods:

- a) Pick up a form from the Home.
- b) Download a form from the SPCA Facebook page or website www.spcamalta.org

2. Choose the pet you would like to sponsor.

3. Complete the form and send back together with payment details to:

**Sponsor a Dog (or a Cat!)
Paws 4 A Cause,
25, Gorg Borg Olivier Str.,
Sliema**

Alternatively call in at the SPCA Homing Centre, St. Francis Ravelin, Floriana or ring the Home manager on 21 230468 to set up your sponsorship today. Opening hours at the Home are from Mon to Fri 10.30am to 2.00pm and 10.30am to 12.00pm on Saturdays.

So by sponsoring one of these dogs or cats you are helping to maintain their keep. But you also acquire a new best friend for life and one you can visit on a regular basis. Ultimately you become their world.

When sponsoring a dog or cat, each sponsor is automatically entitled to:

-  **A wallet sized identity card of your new friend!**
-  **An exclusive SPCA car sticker so that everyone knows you have sponsored a Dog (or a Cat)!**
-  **Automatic membership to the SPCA.**
-  **A free copy of the informative SPCA 'AnimalWatch' magazine.**

Why not sponsor a dog or cat as a gift for someone else? It's the ideal way of bringing an animal into someone else's life without burdening them with a commitment they may not be able to take up on a full-time basis.

For further information on the SADC scheme as well as information on SPCA Malta, please visit www.spcamalta.org



SPCA Cat Sponsor JODIE NELSON

"One of the cats became very vocal and really wanted to communicate with me."

'When I first arrived in Malta, I was surprised to see stray cats on the streets near my hotel in St. Julian's. I was instantly worried about their safety, and I felt that my trip was ruined. Every evening I watched the colony of cats near my hotel and I started giving them food and water. While feeding the colony, other cats would visit who didn't look so healthy, including a cat with an injured tail. I also saw two kittens and a mother cat. In addition, the cats would sometimes fight with each other. That night I sat by the pool of my hotel and cried. I continued to feed the cats every evening, took some photos, and started looking up animal rescue organisations on the internet. After a few days, the cats became friendly towards me, and I was able to play with some of the cats and I could see that they would make great pets. One of the cats became very vocal and really wanted to communicate with me. Some of the quieter cats also wanted to get close, and would sit

a few feet away from me, including the cat with the injured tail, who stared deeply into my eyes. I was very sad to leave the cats behind after my holiday, but I decided to keep looking for ways to help them. I have now sponsored two cats through the SPCA called Felix and Alley. I also emailed the SPCA to tell them about my experience, and I am very happy that they were able to inspect the colony straight away, talk to the local people nearby, and get back to me with their findings and suggestions to help these cats with medical checks and neutering. I am happy to fund this project and receive photos back from the SPCA showing the cats that are helped. I really did not want to walk away and do nothing. It would be great if more people could get involved and give a little bit of money to help with neutering, or contact the SPCA to ask about feeding stations for stray cats. It's great to feed the cats, but they also need fresh water and a safe area for their food'.



During the AGM held last October, a motion was passed to change the current SPCA membership scheme to the Sponsor a Dog (or a Cat!) (SADC) scheme. Under this new scheme, people are being asked to sponsor particular dogs or cats at the Home for a minimum of Euro 1.00 a week for a minimum duration of 1 year.

So why sponsor a dog or cat? Some of our dogs cannot be re-homed for various reasons and because we never put a healthy animal down, they become long term residents at the SPCA. They will live at the Home for the rest of their lives.

Daya

Delicious meals for a strong and healthy feline friend!



veterinary services

Contact details during office hours:

CLINICS	ADDRESS	VETERINARIAN	PHONE	MOBILE
ATTARD	Dr Trevor's Veterinary Clinic, Kananea Street	Dr Trevor ZAMMIT	2142 3100	7949 4714
BIRKIRKARA	128 Valley Road	Drs Louis & Annette BORG	2144 2843	
BIRKIRKARA	Blue Cross Veterinary Clinic, Msida Road	Dr Martin DEBATTISTA	2149 2174	9949 2462
		Dr Carm Lino VELLA	2149 2174	7922 5363
		Dr Mireille VELLA	2149 2174	9942 0381
GZIRA	Vetmedic Pharmacy, Edgar Bernard Street	Dr Zoran D JANKOVIC	2132 4444	9984 8689
HAMRUN	Animal Doctors, 20 Triq Guze Bajada	Dr Sammy BEZZINA	2123 3011	9989 8614
		Dr Ivan GALEA	2123 3011	7929 0667
MOSTA	St Simon's Veterinary Clinic 53 Giorgio Grognet Street	Dr Anthony GRUPPETTA	2143 2280	7947 2542
		Dr Mauro BUTTIGIEG	2143 2280	9947 8289
MSIDA	Animal Aid Veterinary Clinic, Triq Oscar Zammit	Dr Quentin LAWSON	2783 8838	9923 8394
		Dr Geoffrey SCHEMBRI ADAMI	2783 8838	7983 8838
QORMI	Qormi Veterinary Clinic, 3 St Roque Street	Dr Adrian VELLA	2148 0480	9942 6632
SAN GWANN	Vet Care Animal Clinic, Misrah Lourdes	Dr Euridyke KOVACS,	2137 3277	
		Dr Victor Vassallo	2137 3277	
TARXIEN	All Animal Clinic, Raheb Street	Dr Paul J PORTELLI	2169 3061	9942 0158
TARXIEN	Best Friends Veterinary Clinic, Luqa Road	Dr Charmaine XUEREB	2189 6949	9942 4337
TA' XBIEX	Highrise Vet Clinic, Triq l-Imradd	Dr Duncan CHETCUTI GANADO	2132 2150	9982 9646
VICTORIA, GOZO	Veterinary Clinic, Wied is-Seqer Street	Dr Frank GALEA	2155 4257	9949 4254
ZABBAR	Pets Veterinary Clinic, Marsascale Street	Dr Kevin CAMILLERI	2189 6897	9946 8939
ZURRIEQ	St Francis' Veterinary Clinic, Triq il-Kittenija	Dr Antoine VELLA	2164 1411	9947 1110
By Appointment	Large Animal Practitioner	Dr James AZZOPARDI		9924 0329
By Appointment		Dr Patrick CARUANA		7989 1494
By Appointment		Dr Nikol FALZON		9929 3949
By Appointment		Dr Alex SCHIRO	2145 9831	7929 6550
By Appointment		Dr Gareth GRECH		7934 7534

VETERINARY PHYSIOTHERAPIST

By Appointment	Sue Portelli Demajo	7947 4433
By Appointment	Becky Gatt	7900 0569

PHARMACIES

BIRKIRKARA	AnimalPharm, Pope Pius XII Street	2144 9058
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SMALL ANIMAL VET EMERGENCY SERVICES - TEL: 5004 3888

For emergencies outside office hours. Calls cost €7.00 (per call) and cannot be made from a mobile phone. This service is managed by the Malta Veterinary Association.

ANIMAL AMBULANCE - TEL: 2122 4001



Collect wrappers and exchange for gifts and money vouchers at:
CD Gift Scheme Centre, Vincenti Buildings, 15/2 Strait Street, Valletta. Tel: 2123 6629 • Trade Enquiries Tel: 2146 0375

PAWS 4 A CAUSE



Old, new & recycled treasures

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■ Gorg Borg Olivier Str., Sliema

■ Mon-Fri: 9.30am – 5.30pm; Sat: 9.30am – 1.00pm