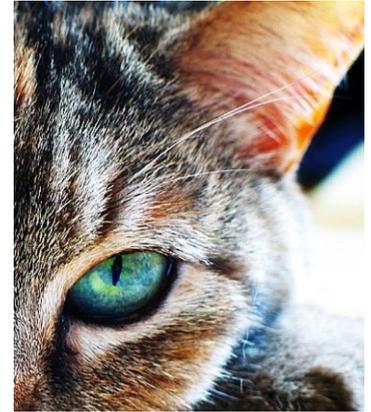




CARE 4 CATS – IBIZA

Autumn/Winter 2014 Report



Now online!

- No. cats TNR's during October = 440
- No. cats/kittens rehomed this year = 150
- No. sick cats nursed back to health this year = 40
- No. of assisted neutering calls this year = 200



Autumn Visit

Work has been continuing through Autumn and early Winter, including the visit of teams from the UK in October, most of them working for a full 2 weeks. October saw the return of some of our regular UK volunteers, Debs, Emma, Tracy, Lorraine, Jill and Steve, plus first timers Kammy, Nicky and Adele. They were met with long list of jobs to be tackled and the total number of cats neutered in these 2 weeks was 440. There were many problems to be faced as trapping is never straight forward, but they worked hard to overcome them. Day one, we received an urgent call. A lady was being evicted the next morning and was leaving 7 cats behind. The house was to be bulldozed and the cats poisoned. She was taking 1 cat back with her to South America but the other 7 were abandoned to their fate. Jill and Emma went to see what could be done and found a hysterical woman and an irate landlord and her car was being repossessed as they arrived. The cats were beautiful and had even been sleeping on her bed, so a cruel end awaited them unless we could do something. Jill and Emma, after trapping the 7 and taking them to the vet for neutering had to come up with somewhere they could take them to the following day. We have no shelter for cats yet, but a kind fosterer said she had a chicken house and if we made it more secure and cleaned out the chicken droppings, we could put them in there. That evening Steve and Angela, Jill and Emma did just that and the cats were put into their 7 beds inside the chicken house. Since that time we have found homes for 2 of them and the rest come and go as they please. It is a remote location and when Liz goes away we have a rota of feeders to make sure they are ok. So a lot of neutering and trapping time was spent on day one on this rescue.

Jill and Emma thought their next job would be easier, but no, they were lucky to get 3 trapped in one trap but sadly one of the carriers had a weak spot and in the van 1 cat escaped and was loose, being determined not to let it escape from the van they both got scratched and bitten. The next morning saw them both in Emergency outpatients with swollen fingers which was rather a bit of a hindrance for the week ahead, but they carried on.



Trappers Debs & Tracy

The first job for Debs and Tracy was in San Mateu – when they arrived – 50 minutes late due to a cycling race and most roads being closed to cars and having to take lots of detours – they met – Leena was crying her eyes out. She lives in a remote area and as it was Sunday, hunters had been out in full force; one of the hunter’s dogs had grabbed one of the cats and the hunter then shot the cat dead, all in from of Leena. She was heartbroken and distressed the rest of the cats were obviously spooked and trapping them was only going to increase their stress and the likely hood of them going into the traps was very slim. It was decided they would return again the next days when things had calmed down.

Trapping cats can take a lot of time and patience. Each job is different and brings it’s own challenges. The trap neuter and release programme, however is the only humane way to try and control the cat population. Neutering has so many health benefits and can change a colony for the better. This is seen by us and their feeders as the cats look healthier and fighting stops or reduces significantly. Cats are like people, they can’t



New volunteers

One thing we are always short of Apart from Cash – is the hands on volunteers- Have you ever thought of volunteering for a week, but been put off by the unknown?– never trapped a cat before ? – so think that you won’t be of help ?– well you could not be more wrong – we are always in desperate need of more trappers – if you live on the island or you want to be a part of the twice yearly major neutering campaigns. All you need is a big heart, stamina, and have a can do attitude, be prepared for long rewarding days, filled with laughter, tears and sweat.

This year as previously mentioned the west team was joined by a new volunteer – Kam – who had never trapped before – but what Kam did not have in experience, she made up for in determination and positive attitude. It was a pleasure having Kam as part of the west team. So if your thinking of volunteering – why not have a read of Kams report – and then contact us to have a chat and discuss further – email: tracym21us@yahoo.com – you will need to pay for your own flight – but accommodation will be provided. thank you :-)

Every year we look back at the work we have been able to carry out, and each year we want the next, to bigger and better than the previous, 2014 surpass our expectations – we neutered more than ever, we re-homed more than ever, we were known to more people than ever, our resources had to spread further than ever, our volunteers were in demand more than ever, we have had to fundraise more than ever, and all of this has meant that we are even more desperate for funds than ever!

Kammy's trip report - A week in the life of a new trapping volunteer

Hello my name is Kam Severin and I did my first ever trapping for Care4Cats in Ibiza in October 2014. I've known about Care4Cats charity for a few years now. Although I regularly donate to Care4Cats, I wanted to do so much more to help the charity. I admire the trapping volunteers who go out to Ibiza every year and the tireless work they do. I wanted to be a part of that team and give my time and energy to a worthwhile cause.

I had a long telephone conversation with Tracey, before going, who volunteers on the west side of the Island with her partner Debs. Tracey prepared me for the physical and emotional demands of volunteering telling me to expect very long working hour days. I was told I would be pairing up with Lorraine who has been volunteering on the west side for a few years.

I arrived in Ibiza and was greeted by Jaki. Jaki was so welcoming and drove me to her villa in San Jose. It made such a difference to receive such a warm welcome especially as I was a bit nervous about the whole volunteering experience. Jaki put me at ease straightaway. The villa we stayed in was stunning and I was greeted by Jaki's partner Steve and their lovely cats and dog Sky. As Lorraine was going to be the driver, my role was to complete all the paperwork and be the navigator.

Lorraine and I started our trapping early on day two of our week. We had a long list of trapping jobs to complete. We worked in Cala Tarida, Cala Moli, Cala Vedella, Cala D'hort and Port des Torrent. We also visited San Antonio for a couple of trapping jobs. I got to see another side to Ibiza which was very different from its reputation as a party island.

During my week of volunteering, I met many wonderful and caring people living on the island. These people shared a common goal which was to feed the cats and protect their welfare. It touched me that these kind people cared so much about these beautiful cats. My favourite person I met in Ibiza was a Spanish lady called Anna. She spoke hardly any English but somehow we were able to communicate with her. She clearly loved and cherished the increasing number of feral cats on her land. We had to make a few visits to her home due to the high number of feral cats to trap. On one of these visits, Anna presented us with some home cooked pies and pastries as gifts. She explained that she was celebrating her 40th wedding anniversary! It was so nice of her to share this joyous event with us and showed how she held us in high regard.

The evening before I was due to fly back to London, Lorraine and I spotted a dead black kitten on the side of the road. I was so upset by this and could not hold back my tears. All the emotions of the week came flooding out in my tears as Lorraine gently picked this kitten up and wrapped it in a blanket. We took the kitten home and planned to bury it someplace pretty like Es Cubells. This incident reminded me of how much more work is needed to help the feral cats in Ibiza. I loved having the daily contact with the beautiful cats on the island, but it also made me sad to think that a lot of them have to fend for themselves. This really opened my eyes to the disparity between the Spanish and the British culture.

I'm proud to say that during my week in Ibiza, the West Team (me, Lorraine, Tracey and Debs) trapped just over 200 cats. Tracey and Debs stayed in Ibiza for another week and trapped a further 100 cats totalling 300 cats on the west side of the island. We all worked extremely hard at achieving this number, often working 16 hour days or longer.

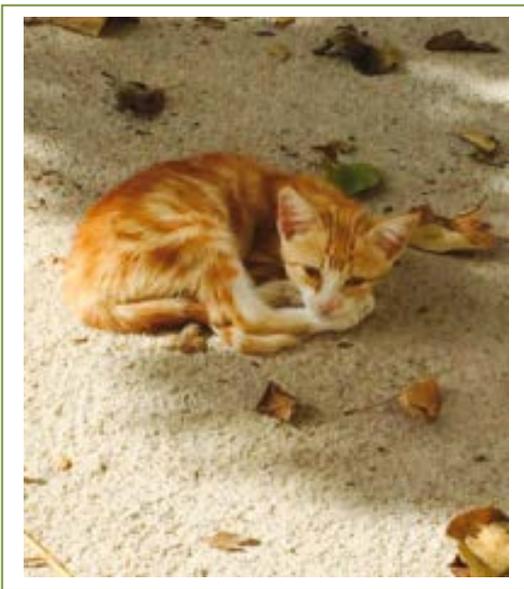
I enjoyed my volunteering experience in Ibiza. It was hard work emotionally and physically but well worth it. It was so good to see that we were helping the feral cat population in Ibiza. I would recommend this experience to anyone who cares deeply for animals and animal welfare. I can't thank Jaki and Ste enough for their kind hospitality. I loved spending time with them and their lovely pets. I also want to thank Tracey, Debs and Lorraine for their hard work and commitment to trapping for Care4Cats. This experience will stay with me forever and I hope I will get a chance to do this again.

A few words from Angela – the Charity’s founder

This year has been our busiest ever with calls coming in daily, all of which are for help for anything from 1 to 50 cats. These are put onto our list of jobs and every February and October we have two major campaigns for trapping and neutering. As well as that island volunteers attend all emergencies and no emergency is refused, sometimes requiring major operations. They also carry out trapping all year round and as most of them work, they have to fit it in with their busy lives.

Neutering will greatly exceed our usual 1000 this year plus in addition, there are hundreds of emergency call outs; some of them problems such as people leaving and abandoning 30 cats; all unneutered! So when we came to the end of October our finances had plummeted radically and we had to stop free neutering as this is 70% of our work and we can only trap/neuter/return for the time being for feeders that can pay, which is 2/3 less than the normal vet cost. These cats will mostly need to be trapped by us and taken to our vets. We will continue to take in emergencies as obviously these cannot wait and have to be dealt with immediately. Any major ops, we will make appeals for.

Another cost that is rising is the supply of cat food, especially when feeders have to provide food for large numbers; sometimes several different colonies. Some of our feeders now rely on us to supply regular amounts of food; providing enough cat food for 30 cats each day, is a big undertaking. We also buy food for the trapping, such as sardines, and tuna as well as normal wet cat food. We pray that things will improve by February in time for our campaign. We would like to thank all our members that send us standing orders every month, and those that generously send us donations from time to time. We are very grateful to all of them.



Found sick and alone



Needing treatment for Mange

Our Angels – foster carers – we are always in need of more.

We are often called by concerned members of the public regarding sick and injured cats. One of the main problems we have is that we are not a shelter, we started as a neutering charity, our aim is still neutering but how can we turn sick, injured cats away? We can't.... so we are in desperate need of people who live on the island to become foster's – all the cats/kittens we rehome are vaccinated, neutered if old enough – vet checked, and treated for worms/fleas.

Are you looking for a family pet? Get in touch – ADOPT.
Are you looking for a feral cat – to control the mice/rat situation – get in touch – we have various cats/kittens looking for homes.

Visit us on our facebook page: www.facebook.com/ibiza.care4cats
website: www.care4catsibiza.com

One of our fosterer's – Rainbow - when seeing the photos on Face book of a cat just brought in by one of our volunteers that had boiling water thrown on him, immediately went to see him and decided she wanted to take care of him. He was very badly burned and had been wandering around for a few days in this condition before we found him. He was only asking at a cafe for food, and this is what they did to him. So Rainbow then became Phonix's saviour, visited him every day for a few weeks and then took him home but brought him to the vets again every day (driving from Dalt Vila to Puigden Valls) and waited for his dressing to be changed.

Now he lives permanently with Rainbow; and after this treatment has made a remarkably recovery with most of his fur growing



Our roll call of THANKS, which is so important to us.

To all our volunteer trappers from the UK; and to our volunteers on the island; who all give their time and energy with a passion, to help the cats. our fosterers who care for an endless succession of cats and kittens with great love and for those that are continually rehoming cats and kittens in Ibiza and in Europe, and without them, all these cats would not survive and have long and happy lives.

Thanks to Bonnie and Jaki for providing apartments for the trappers from the UK twice a year. To Gina - for managing and chasing collecting tins and vets bills. To Angela Foskett for working so hard at running our UK charity shop. To John Kettle for such excellent photos of our auction at Atzaro. To Yasha and Peter - for storing, controlling and organising and repairing all our cat carriers and traps. Worldwide Veterinary Services an incredible charity who support our work with donations of various useful medications and are always on hand to help with advice. We could not do the work that we do without the amazing support that they all give to Care 4 Cats. Thanks to all our members who support our work.

Fundraising and thanks.

The White Island British Supermarket, The Tall Ships Pub and Thomas Green British supermarket, who all sell books to raise funds for us. They make a huge difference to our budget. Thanks also go to the many bars, restaurants, hotels and shops hosting our collection boxes.

We would like to thank Lubka of Zoo Project who kindly raised €1500 for us this summer

In August (the hottest month in Ibiza) we held an art auction at Atzaro, an excellent venue. We raised €4000 for Care 4 Cats clinic which after the many months of hard work by Lara Varga and Angela Collins, was a little less than we had hoped for. But it was a great evening - we were very understaffed as all our volunteers are busy working in August, so with a very small crew, we survived. Pauline Boom also came to our rescue as she very generously took all card payments for us on her own bank machine. I would like to thank Lara very much because it was a big undertaking and she worked very hard to make it a success. Also thanks are due to Eva and Amanda and Ella, plus Theo and Chloe, Lucy and Christopher, from the Collins family. Also our excellent photographer Jon Kettle, who took some photos of the evening. We are also grateful to Gary Hodges, Wildlife Artist who donated a beautiful limited edition print of a tiger, and his friend Dave who helped us with some excellent graphic work. Also to Chapter who also donated a large print called Balearic Cat which was from a design that he made especially to go onto the C4C t shirts. A very colourful and unusual design. Thanks also to Lucy Cavendar who donated her painting Dancing in Red. Also thanks to Marcos Torres for his donation of a limited edition screen print of Elvis. Thanks also to all the artists that made contributions of their artworks for which we are very grateful.



Wild Life Artist Gary Hodges



Trusts

We would like to thank the following trusts, without the financial support from the trusts below, it would not have been possible to carry out the work we have done this year. We are making a difference here in Ibiza, but there is still a huge amount to do, so it is important that we continue to get the support we do.

The Sheepdrove Trust
The Stuart Halbert Foundation
Alice Noakes Memorial Trust
Animal Defence Trust
Animals Worldwide



How can you support the cats?

With cat food!

For € 20,00 we buy a big bag of cat food.

Because we have to keep the motor running in Winter!

With supporting Care4Cats' ongoing neutering-program!

€ 40,00 neuters a cat.

Because in this way we can make sure no more unwanted cats will be born in Ibiza and need to live a miserable life on the streets in Winter!

With shelter!

For € 30,00 we can buy materials to build a wooden cat-shelter.

Because the cats and their food will stay dry during rainy days in Winter



The supporters 10,000 x 6 challenge! - are you prepared to complete our challenge?

It costs a minimum of 60,000 Euros a year for C4C to do what it does.

Neutering and giving medical care to thousands of feral cats, treating and re-homing abandoned cats and rescuing and raising the poor little rubbish babies that are so heartlessly tossed away before their tiny eyes are even open... and then finding loving homes for them throughout Europe.

We're asking 10,000 people to make a donation of 6 Euros. The old saying, "Many hands make light work" is so true. Not many of us can just donate 60,000 Euros but we can all afford 6 Euros without it being a heavy burden for anyone.

So please – donate to us this Christmas – this will be the easiest Christmas gift you will give this year, no wrapping needed, no secret hiding place, all you need to do is visit of website www.care4catsibiza.com and click donate. It really is that simple, in a world filled with complications, and ever increasing difficulty – you can make a cats life uncomplicated and easier to live – and all for the bargain price of 6 Euros.....



An appeal by Jacquie Bernier – which she put on face book

What year this has been! We started out as a trap, neuter and release (TNR) charity which involved trapping feral cats, sterilizing them and returning them to their colony. Our only real costs were sterilizations... but as the years have gone by we have become active in all aspects of cat welfare on the island.

We have been told by numerous individuals and charities that it's not sustainable to be involved in rescue and fostering, in adoption and in transporting cats to other countries to loving, forever homes. Right now it appears that they may be right but with your help, we can do it all!

First we have the box babies, bin babies, rubbish babies, buried alive babies, thrown from a bridge babies... however you want to phrase it. These are litters of domestic kittens from birth up to a few weeks old that someone didn't want to deal with and thought it was OK to simply throw these lives away to a slow suffering death of starvation, dehydration of suffocation.

For every litter found there are probably a dozen not found...and how can we possibly turn our backs on the lucky ones rescued? Some are so dehydrated and malnourished they require a vet hospital stay to receive fluids and nutrients through a bone drip as their tiny little veins are too small to go intravenous and they're too close to death to suckle a bottle.

They often have severe worm infections that quickly turn to bacterial infections that need to be treated with de-wormers, antibiotics and anti inflammatory drugs... and the vet costs and milk replacement costs quickly add up. So many of these situations could be avoided if people would simply sterilize their pets.

We have performed numerous surgeries on cats and kittens with broken hips, legs removed when they couldn't be saved, hernia operations... we've treated severe burns, given cancer treatment, eye treatment and removal when the eye couldn't be saved... and the costs mount up.

A few times this year we've been called into extreme cases where people's hearts were bigger than their wallets. People who couldn't pass by a suffering cat or kitten without helping and while being able to feed and care for the cats, didn't have the funds to sterilize and a few cats became many.

In the cases where C4C has stepped in, tragic personal circumstances have been involved and we've been faced with sorting out 20 plus cats and kittens in each case all of them needing sterilization, care and homes. These have all been domestic cats and life on the streets is not an option and so our involvement and costs have far exceeded the simple TNR that we started out doing. I guess you could say we're a little like those people whose hearts are bigger than their wallets right now.

The founder of the charity as well as the volunteers can't turn a blind eye at the suffering of cats and kittens that is brought about mostly through human carelessness but it's just hit November and we've blown our budget... we've never been in this situation before but then we've never accomplished as much before and to continue we need your help!!!

We've reached a point that the trustees have told us we can't do any more work until next year except extreme emergencies. Our veterinary bills run in excess of 60,000 Euros per year. Please help us by making a donation, visiting one of our vet's offices and making a payment towards our bill or donating food to our foster and feeding programs. We want to prove the naysayers wrong we can do it all but we depend on all of you to help.

Rubio – one of the many poisoned cats that we treated. Sadly he died despite our efforts to save him.



You can help – by simply clicking the **DONATE** button on our website.

There are always desperate cats, needing our help, broken legs, viruses, burns, RTA's the list is endless.

We would also like to remind a lot of our members to please remember to pay their membership fee every year. We do not send out reminders as this would be too costly. This money is vital and makes a difference to our work as we now have approximately 250 members. Payments can be made by cheque, or on our website via Paypal, or direct into our bank account. - Thank you.

Gift Aid – Gift aid your donations please, giving us more at no extra cost to you.

Gift Aid is a tax relief from the government which helps charities to earn more from their donations. To give under the Gift Aid Scheme, donors need to be UK taxpayers (Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax) to cover the amount that will be claimed by the charity in each tax year. For each £10 donated, the charity will receive £2.50 from HM Revenue and Customs. All the donor needs to do is to tick the relevant Gift Aid Permissions on a donation form or write your name and address together with ' Please Claim Gift Aid'.

How to help

We are here for the cats, but we need you to help us to continue fighting for cat welfare. If you would like to support the work of Care 4 Cats in Ibiza – you can help by:

1. Be a member of Care4Cats at £20/€25 annually
2. Fund-raise on our behalf
3. Make a donation once or as a regular bank payment.
4. Remember Care4Cats in your Will (form available)
5. Becoming a volunteer trapper / helper in Ibiza. (next visit – Feb 2015)
6. Donate cat food
7. Help us fly cats to Germany by taking them in the hold if you're a passenger
8. Become a short-term or long-term fosterer
9. Host a collection box at your place business

UK Account Name: Care 4 Cats **Sort code:** 40-43-51 **Account No.:** 91102508

Bank: HSBC Bank PLC, 21 High St., Storrington, RH20 4DR.

Cheques to be made out to Care 4 Cats Ibiza

DONATE ON LINE: *Web Site* www.care4catsibiza.com

Tel: + 44 1798 812 300 (UK) *Mobile* + 44 7803 605475 (UK) *Email:* care4cats1@aol.com

Facebook: [care4cats](https://www.facebook.com/care4cats)

Charity Registration Number: 1106345

Re-Homing - Sabine & Jessie – Helped so many cats on the island.

This year we have had the pleasure of working closely with so many new people who have the same focus as us. One of these being Sabine who has help us rehome so many cats – both to homes on the island as well as to new homes in Germany and Holland. We cannot Thank them enough – without this great partnership 100's of cats/kittens would still be living out their life on the streets, never knowing when the next meal would come, but now they have a home, and a family that they can call their own.

So Thank you!



NO ANIMAL SHOULD SUFFER! WE ARE HERE

Whilst our founder Angela, set this charity up for cats, we often come across other animals in need, and as our volunteers are purely animal lovers we cannot turn a blind eye – our resources do not allow us to help with neutering cost for other animals – but we will point people in need in the right direction, but on occasions we have come across a stray dog, an injured hedgehog, a starving dog, an injured bird, what did we do? Turn away and say we are care4cats, NO! We helped – if this be food, treatment or finding a home, we can never let an animal suffer, we help when we can.

This is why; we need to fulfil our founder's dream – a veterinary clinic – that will run as a veterinary practice– Evisa Animal Centre.