



June - July 2017

No 9

## Bi-monthly Newsletter

### Babs at the shelter



Babs Williams is known to many as the face of PAWS-PATAS in the UK. Recently, she decided to move to Spain on a permanent basis and we are fortunate to now have her building and management skills at the shelter full time. Babs has already been involved with many of the developments at the shelter in recent years – and will no doubt be involved with many more in the years to come. Welcome to the team, Babs!

### Bunny's big exhibition



Bernice ('Bunny') Willis is well-known to friends of PAWS-PATAS. She has done an enormous amount to raise funds for us, and has also livened up our premises with her wonderfully appealing artwork depicting animals and humans. During June she is exhibiting some of her work in La Fuente Art Centre, Mojácar, along with other well-known locals Didi Arias and Anika Poort. Bunny has previously produced work for restaurants, nurseries, large homes and pools in the UK, and has a devoted following locally. We hope as many people as possible will go to the exhibition before the end of June and wish Bunny and her friends every success.

### Las Baganvillas

Jill Wise and Chris Greswold retired recently after four years of hard work and

dedication at Las Baganvillas. We are very grateful for the contribution they made and wish them a 'happy retirement'. Simon Borg is now leading the team there and we look forward to the continuing support of our wonderful volunteers and loyal customers in a "100% Amigos de PAWS-PATAS" environment.

### Gary's walk

Did you spot PAWS - PATAS Vice President Gary King walking the walk and talking the talk as a precursor to the AECC cancer charity's Ribbon for Life event recently?

With his trusty c o m p a n i o n

Detty he started out at Hotel Indalo, passing the Irish Rover, Café Blu and Trufi Bar along the way. He finished at the Parque Comercial, no doubt a bit warmer than when he started!



### Spring Concerts

The Incognito Singers brought their 'songs with style' to appreciative audiences at the Multi-Use Centre in Mojácar. The programme consisted of a medley of songs



from Ain't Misbehavin' to the Pilgrims Chorus from Wagner's "Tannhäuser", and including a barbershop quartet performance of Coney Island Baby. Musical Director/MC, David Murphy, brought his usual professionalism and humour to the proceedings and the two

concerts raised a magnificent 930 € for PAWS-PATAS. A fantastic achievement for such an enjoyable experience.

### Puppy and Kitten explosion

More than 30 puppies and a similar number of kittens have been abandoned on our doorstep recently: it's the season for new litters, of course, but this is a huge additional load. All we can do is nurture these young lives until suitable homes can be found. With the necessity for vaccination, parasite treatment, and neutering if they are not homed before they



are 6 months old, it can cost us anything from 150 to 300€ per young life. We have to be very careful that new arrivals go to the right homes: more are needed – permanent and temporary – and we also need more money to help with the costs mentioned above, and more volunteers to work with us. If you can help, please see our website for details.

### Ground Force to the rescue

After all the Spring rain, vegetation has been growing apace recently – so much so that parts of the shelter grounds felt like they were being choked by the undergrowth. So – 'Ground Force' to the rescue. A band of plucky volunteers toiled over a hot weekend to hack, trim, dig and bin barrow loads of surplus growth – completely filling two large skips. Their efforts were rewarded with light refreshments and the satisfaction of knowing they were making a real difference. We are extremely grateful for all the hard work undertaken. We plan to repeat the exercise at the end of the summer: any more volunteer gardeners out there?