



NEWSLETTER

October 2026

No. 1



For those who don't know me yet, my name is Frank van den Akker, and since July, I have had the honour and responsibility of serving as the volunteer President of PAWS-PATAS.

Taking on this role is both a privilege and a commitment. PAWS-PATAS plays a vital role in protecting and caring for animals in need, and behind everything we do is a community of dedicated volunteers and supporters who give their time, energy and passion to make a difference.

As President, I believe it is important that we work together, communicate openly, recognise one another's contributions and continue to strengthen our organisation so that we can achieve even more for the animals who depend on us.

That is also why I am delighted to introduce our very first monthly newsletter for PAWS-PATAS members and volunteers. It is an opportunity to bring us closer together, share what is happening across our organisation, celebrate our achievements, address our challenges and look ahead to our ambitions for the future.

I hope you will enjoy reading it and feel increasingly connected to the work we do and the difference we make together.

Welcome back, Sam !

We are very pleased to welcome Sam Spencer, who has recently joined us again at the cattery as a volunteer.



Some of our longer-standing volunteers will remember Sam from her previous time with PAWS-PATAS, when she was Cattery Manager between 2016 and 2021. For those who do not know her, Sam has a long history with PAWS-PATAS and has been part of the cattery's story for many years.

In fact, Sam's connection with PAWS-PATAS goes right back to 2008, when the cattery first opened. That same year, she adopted Jess from us, and Jess has been part of her family ever since (it is not Jess in the photo) .

Sam brings with her a wealth of previous experience and a good understanding of the cattery, as well as a range of skills that will be valuable to the team. Having someone with her knowledge and experience back at the cattery is a real asset, and we are very pleased that she has decided to join us again.

We look forward to getting to know Sam again, for those who already remember her, and welcoming her properly into the current volunteer team.



A message from Vanessa:

September was a fantastic month for the dog department at PAWS-PATAS!

No fewer than 36 dogs left our shelter to start a new chapter in their lives, heading towards a brighter future. Every single departure represents a new beginning, a chance to experience love, security and the comfort of a home of their own. We couldn't be happier for them!

Unfortunately, there is also a downside. During that same month, we welcomed 33 new dogs into our shelter. This means that while 36 dogs left for their new homes, almost the same number arrived in need of our help.

We are incredibly happy for every dog that gets a second chance, but the constant arrival of new dogs also shows just how great the need remains. Our kennels may become a little emptier when dogs leave, but they quickly fill up again with new faces who need our care, attention and love.

We will continue doing everything we can for every dog who comes through our gates, hoping that one day, every one of them will have the chance to leave for a loving home of their own.

Nadeya: From a Terrible Start to a Hopeful Future

Nadeya, a tiny Bodeguero girl, was found in a box in a truly heartbreaking condition.



This is how she was found ! Her injuries were severe, with the bones in her hind leg protruding through the skin, and she urgently needed medical attention.



Thankfully, Nadeya made her way to PAWS-PATAS, where she received the care she so desperately needed. She has now undergone the necessary surgery, and we are delighted to report that she is doing incredibly well!

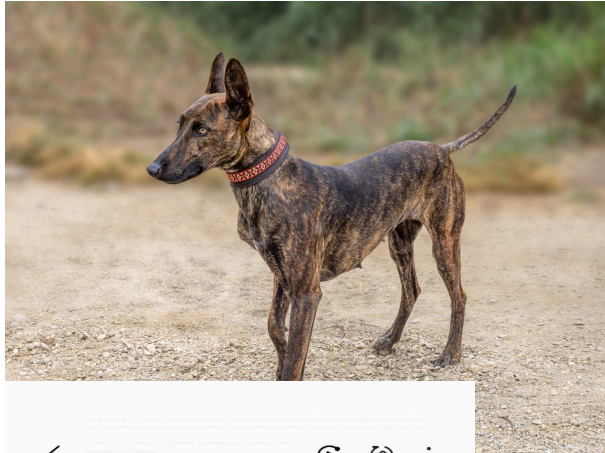
It is heartbreaking to think about what this little girl has been through, but Nadeya has shown just how strong she is. Thanks to the medical care she has received, along with plenty of love and attention, in a beautiful foster home, she can now look forward to a brighter future.



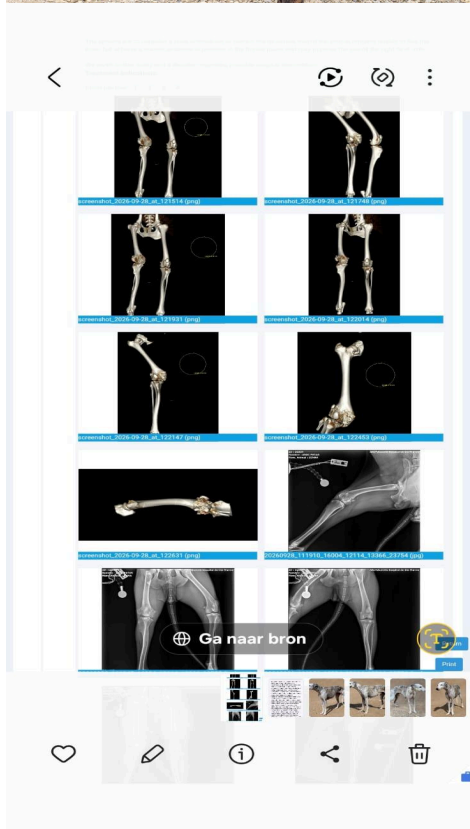
We will continue to follow her recovery with love and hope that a wonderful new chapter is beginning for Nadeya. She deserves to know nothing but love, safety and happiness from now on.

Senna: A Serious Injury and a Wonderful Act of Kindness

Senna is another one of our dogs who came to us with a broken leg. Unfortunately, further examinations have revealed just how serious her injury really is.



Senna has now undergone X-rays and scans, and the results are heartbreaking. Her knee is completely shattered, and it is also twisted outwards. Sadly, the outlook is not good, and she will need major surgery to give her the best possible chance of recovery.



The costs are substantial. The surgery alone will cost €2,500, while the X-rays and scans have already cost us another €600. For an animal shelter like PAWS-PATAS, these are enormous expenses, especially when so many other dogs also depend on us for their care.

But in the middle of this worrying situation, something wonderful happened. One of our fantastic dog walkers has donated an incredible €2,000 to help Senna! We are deeply grateful for this generous gesture. Donations like this make such a huge difference and help us provide the medical treatment our dogs desperately need.

Senna still has a difficult road ahead of her, and we sincerely hope that her operation will give her a chance at a better, pain-free future. Thank you to everyone who supports PAWS-PATAS and helps us care for dogs like Senna. Together, we can give them the chance they deserve.

One last dog story

Lottie: A Hopeful Future After a Difficult Start

Our sweet Lottie was found all alone on the streets, carrying an enormous tumour the size of a football. It was a heartbreaking situation, but thankfully, Lottie was given the help she desperately needed.



The tumour has now been surgically removed, and the wonderful news is that Lottie is doing really well!

Lottie is over 10 years old and deserves the chance to enjoy a happy and comfortable life. After everything she has been through, we can finally look towards the future with hope. We sincerely hope that our lovely Lottie still has several beautiful years ahead of her, filled with love, comfort and happy moments.

Because every dog deserves a chance at a brighter future, no matter their age.



Lottie now 🥰

Good News for Our Turre Outlet!

In November, we'll be taking an exciting step forward by moving our Turre outlet to a larger, more affordable premises — just two doors down from our current location!

The extra space will allow us to display our generously donated goods more attractively, making it easier for our customers to discover their next bargain. We'll also benefit from much-needed additional storage space, helping us organise donations more efficiently and make the most of everything we receive.

It's a positive move for PAWS-PATAS, our volunteers and, of course, the animals who benefit from every sale. We look forward to welcoming you to our new and improved outlet soon!

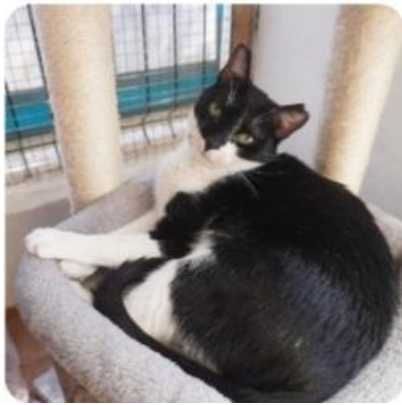
New payment options for our outlet customers

In our Bugarvillas and Mojácar outlets, we have introduced contactless payment terminals to make shopping with us even easier and more convenient for our customers. You can now pay quickly and securely using your debit or credit card, or a compatible mobile phone, making it easier than ever to pick up a bargain while supporting PAWS-PATAS and the animals in our care.

As soon as our new Turre outlet opens its doors, we'll be offering our customers the same convenient and secure contactless payment options.



Bimbo's Happy Ending - Two Years in the Making!



After two long years of waiting, our longest-staying feline resident finally has a forever home to look forward to! October 1st was a truly special day for everyone at PAWS-PATAS, as we received the wonderful news we had all been hoping for: our much-loved Bimbo has finally been adopted!

After spending two years in our care, Bimbo, our longest-resident cat, has found someone who can see just how special he really is. Bimbo may only have three legs, but what he lacks in limbs, he more than makes up for in love, affection and personality. His disability has never stopped him from being a wonderful cat, and we have always known that somewhere out there was the perfect home just waiting for him. And now, at long last, that dream has come true! Although Bimbo's adoption paperwork has been completed and his future is secure, we won't be saying goodbye to him just yet. His official departure date is February 15th, 2027, which means we still have a few precious months to enjoy his company before he begins his exciting new chapter.

For now, the countdown is officially on! Bimbo's story is a beautiful reminder that every rescue animal deserves a chance, no matter their age, disability or how long they have been waiting. Sometimes the happiest endings take a little longer to arrive - but they are always worth waiting for. To Bimbo's wonderful adopters: thank you for looking beyond his three legs and seeing the loving, special cat we have known all along. And to our gorgeous Bimbo - we will treasure these last few months with you, knowing that a lifetime of love and happiness is waiting just around the corner. From all of us at PAWS-PATAS, congratulations, Bimbo! Your forever home is finally in sight.

The History of PAWS-PATAS

More than 15 years ago, our long-standing patron, Belinda Meuldijk, a well-known Dutch actress, songwriter and animal rights activist, played an important role in fundraising, helping to build our current shelter, and making a film about the project.

The film is truly inspiring and offers a wonderful glimpse into the history of PAWS-PATAS and the people who helped make our work possible. You can watch it on YouTube here:

[Watch the inspiring film on YouTube](#)

The film is in Dutch, but the story is easy to follow even if you don't speak the language.

Belinda continues to support PAWS-PATAS to this day. She even has a dedicated PAWS section on her website:

www.belindameuldijk.eu

Help us keep our story alive! Take a few minutes to watch the film, share it with friends and family, and help spread the word about the work we do for animals in need. Every share helps more people discover PAWS-PATAS and the difference we can make together.

Did you know? PAWS stands for *People's Animal Welfare Society* — a name that reflects the compassion and commitment at the heart of our work.