

Fostering – Could you volunteer?

Axarquia Animal Rescue is a charity, reliant solely on donations and is managed and run by volunteers, all of whom are necessary for the rescue, care and re-homing of abandoned and unwanted dogs and cats.

A vital and major part of the re-homing process is placing the animals in foster homes, necessary because the charity does not have its own kennels, although privately owned kennels are used to house the overflow of dogs that do not have a foster home.

A network of foster carers has grown over the years, but there are never enough to cope with what seems like the relentless onslaught of abandoned puppies and dogs. Some of these are so young they have to be hand reared requiring special care, patience and stamina!

The fosterers take the dogs into their own homes living alongside the family's own pets and take responsibility for their care and welfare. This can include vet visits, socialising and training, exercising - anything that they would do for their own pet. All this is done with the help and support of AAR volunteers who also cover expenses for veterinary care, medication and food.

There are many people who would like to foster, but are reluctant for many reasons. The ones that do find it a rewarding experience. Here are some of the things they have said:



...taking a sad and scared soul and watching it blossom is worth all the tears when they run to their new home - Steph, Velez Malaga.

...we really find fostering rewarding. It gives us the opportunity to make a real difference in the life of a dog and while we get to know a new foster dog, we also learn something about ourselves - Denise, Alfarnatejo.

...every moment is special. It is heart-breaking at times waving waving them off to their forever homes but knowing that you helped them make it that far is reward enough . . . knowing you have a good back up team if any problems arise, that there is always someone on the other end of a computer to chat to - Jacqueline, Torrox Costa.

...it makes me feel like I am making a small, but important contribution . . . I am proud to be one small soldier of love working to make life better for these animals - Valeria, Frigliana.

...I am only into my second foster but I can't begin to describe the joy it has brought me . . . I never thought that I would be able to foster because I thought I would get too attached . . . once I saw how quickly he settle into his new life it made me realise how important we are in helping heal the mental and sometimes physical scars - Christine, Vinuela.

AAR's Foster Co-ordinator, Steph Powell, oversees a dedicated Facebook page for Fosterers which allows networking across the team and she holds monthly meetings for fosterers and potential fosterers to attend at Trapiche market the first Tuesday of every month. Anyone interested in becoming a foster carer can contact her by e-mail at axarquia-rescue@hotmail.com or attend one of the meetings.

*Axarquia Animal Rescue's foster carers
coffee morning 1st Tuesday of every month
Trapiche Market from 11am*

Everyone welcome



*Good to talk to
other fosterers*