

Axarquia Animal Rescue

Dedicated to Saving Lives and Re-homing Abused and Abandoned Animals
Dedicado a salvar vidas y encontrar nuevos hogares a los animales maltratados y abandonados



Paws A While Newsletter

AxarquiaAnimalRescueNewsletter@gmail.com

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Dear AAR Supporters and Volunteers,

Welcome and thank you all for your continued support. Without all of you our efforts at AAR would be much more difficult. Together, as a vibrant team of volunteers and supporters, we are able to offer a strong rescue and re-homing effort across the Axarquia, thus saving many lives of abused and abandoned animals.

This newly revised Newsletter is an attempt to further engage and inform all AAR supporters and volunteers, and to continue to showcase the wonderful work made possible by all of you. We want to hear from anyone who contributes to our organisation. Your contributions are invaluable, and we know you have amazing stories to share. The Newsletter belongs to all of us and we are excited to increase the AAR profile through highlighting and sharing our successes.

We want to reach out to as many people as possible, thus raising our profile. Please send all stories to our Newsletter Committee at the email address below. Feel free to include photos.

AxarquiaAnimalRescueNewsletter@gmail.com

Enjoy this first issue of the revised Newsletter! We look forward to hearing from you. Your feedback is always welcome. Just email us at the address above. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Diane McClelland
AAR Chair

Breaking News!

AAR Local Neutering Scheme has helped to neuter 290 cats, costing in excess of €4,000. Your support at events and your donations have made this possible!



About AAR and What we Do

Please support our important work by donating whatever you can. To donate, please visit our website at <https://axarquiaanimalrescue.com/donate.php>

Rescuing: When we are made aware of an injured, trapped or distressed animal we will do our very best to get people on-site to help. If we are unable to attend we will do our very best to give you the support, guidance, and advice you need. We work hard to rescue animals off the streets and from the campo, rather than from the perreras (pounds).

Fostering and Rehoming: Our animals go into Foster Homes or Kennels to give us the time that we need to find the perfect forever home. Every animal that comes onto our books is allocated a Case Worker who is then responsible for finding foster care, arranging vet treatment, advertising, and finding forever homes. We are committed to finding the very best home for each animal, and home check every potential new parent or foster carer. We then arrange any necessary travel and transport. Our animals can be fostered here in Spain, and adopted in Spain, UK and throughout Europe. Once an animal is rehomed we then follow up with the new owners. Since 2011, we have rehomed 3241 cats and dogs!

The AAR Charity Shop: Our AAR Charity Shop at 147 Avenida Andalucia, Torre Del Mar 29740 has wonderful bargains. We are always grateful to receive donations of clothes, bric-a-brac and other household items. Our shop volunteers keep our shop open.

AAR Local Neutering Scheme: Helps towards sterilisation of stray and street cats within our area.

Volunteer Network: Our committee and sub-committee manage all of AAR activities, from rehoming, fundraising, fostering, AAR shop, events, marketing and PR, animal travel, vet liaisons, communications, support and social media.

Our rehoming team comprises of Case Workers who manage an animal's case through, from rescue to rehoming and follow ups. All this is done on-line so it can be done from anywhere in the world – we have had s from the UK, Denmark, Holland, Germany, and even Australia. We are always looking for people to join our rehoming team.

We also have a group of AAR volunteers who do so much to help us. From helping to run our market stalls and events, to doing 'animal taxi's' to and from the vets and airport, going on actual rescues, and helping us to find home checkers.

We would love to welcome new volunteers to the team. If you are interested in volunteering, please go to the address below.

WE NEED YOU!

Case Workers, Fosterers, Adopters, Volunteers, Supporters and Donors
Contact us at: <https://axarquiaanimalrescue.com/index.php>

Our Foster Dog, Zac

In the summer of 2019, we had the pleasure of taking in our first foster dog. We were in Spain for the summer holidays and wanted to help Axarquía Animal Rescue. After a home visit from a lovely lady we waited for a foster dog who needed us.

A couple of days later I got a message from a support worker to say an emergency foster dog needed help and asked if we were available. I scooped up my children, aged eleven and fourteen, and we were off to the vet. We were welcomed by a heart-breaking sight! A small, scared but friendly little dog, covered in ticks. And, later, we discovered that the little guy also had Leishmaniasis. After introducing him to the children, we arranged to collect him to take care of him until a long term fosterer could be found. Since we had never fostered before we didn't know what to expect, but everyone was very helpful.

Having Zac for six weeks and looking after him was amazing, and seeing him recover slowly was very rewarding. The real heart-breaking moment arrived when we had to pass him over to another fosterer as we were returning home.

Foster dogs steal a little piece of your heart, but we knew we had helped in Zac's recovery and that he was going to a safe and happy long-term foster home.
I will never forget our first foster dog, Zac.

Story Submitted by Nikki Chediak, AAR Foster



A HOMELESS DOG A-Z

- A is for Animals, alone and afraid
- B is for Bewildered, at the choice someone made
- C is for Courage, struggling to live
- D is for Devotion, all our life we would give

- E is for Eager, for a future, a home
- F is for Freedom, from this hell, all alone

- G is for Generosity of the love in your heart
- H is for Hope, a new life, a new start

- I is for Ignorance, of people, we didn't choose
- J is for Justice, for those who abuse

- K is for Kindness, a thing that's been rare
- L is for Love, from those who do care

- M is for Memories, ours are quite bad
- N is for Neglect, afraid and so sad

- O is for Optimism, for a future that's bright
- P is for Pathway, to a life that is right

- Q is for Question, did we do something wrong?
- R is for Reassurance, our fears almost gone

- S is for Stability, where we're safe and can play
- T is for Training, sit, stand and stay

- U is for Understanding, some scars we may hide
- V is for the Vet, they cure some of what's inside

- W is for Wanting, a home all brand new
- X is for XXX, the kisses we will shower on you

- Y is for Yearning, for someone to care
- Z is for Zest, zest for life – we could share

Gill Gardner

Beware! AAR is Addictive

How to accidentally become part of AAR, told by our wonderful Case Worker, Henny Illingworth Rodenhäuser:

- 1) Arrive in Spain. Stumble across a post about an abandoned pregnant dog at Sam and Jo's doggy ranch (Winnie).
- 2) Follow Winnie's story intently, including watching the live video of birth in the early hours of the morning.
- 3) Offer to visit the puppies to help socialise them with children. It's fine, you've promised your husband you'll wait a year until adopting a dog.
- 4) Promptly fall in love with all puppies and Winnie. Daughter wanted Wishy but she was already reserved.
- 5) Start the process of adopting one of the puppies, Billy, but have to pull out due to (my) ill health. Luckily Billy is quickly snapped up by a super family.
- 6) Volunteer at the AAR dog show and shock (uh hum delight) Wishy is back up for adoption!
- 7) Offer to help find Wishy a home by walking around with her that day... only she whines if anyone else tries to hold her so unfortunately you "have" to adopt her there and then.
- 8) Explain situation to husband. It was fine. Honestly.
- 9) Wishy becomes Miley and joins the mad house. Non dog-person husband (no, I don't know how we ended up married either) frequently to be found rolling on the floor with Miley and greets her first when he comes home.
- 10) Act as dog taxi a number of times. Under strict instruction of no foster in case one accidentally gets adopted.



Adopted! Ozzie's Story

As the adopters of Ozzie (formerly known as) Oskar (born 1st January, 2017) I could not wait to express and share our sheer joy and happiness at being Ozzie's human Mummy and Daddy.

It was my husband who, back in February, 2017, surprised me meeting Oskar at Fosterer Brinnie's flat. At first, I was very reserved and distanced, not at all ready to meet this, it has to be said, adorable pup as we already had a much-loved rescue dog at home. My husband then agreed that the next day we would take Oskar for a walk. How he tricked me!! But how forever grateful I am! The nano-second this black, shy pup was placed on my lap, I was in love. That one day turned into 5 days as we holidayed in Spain and both my husband and I were smitten.

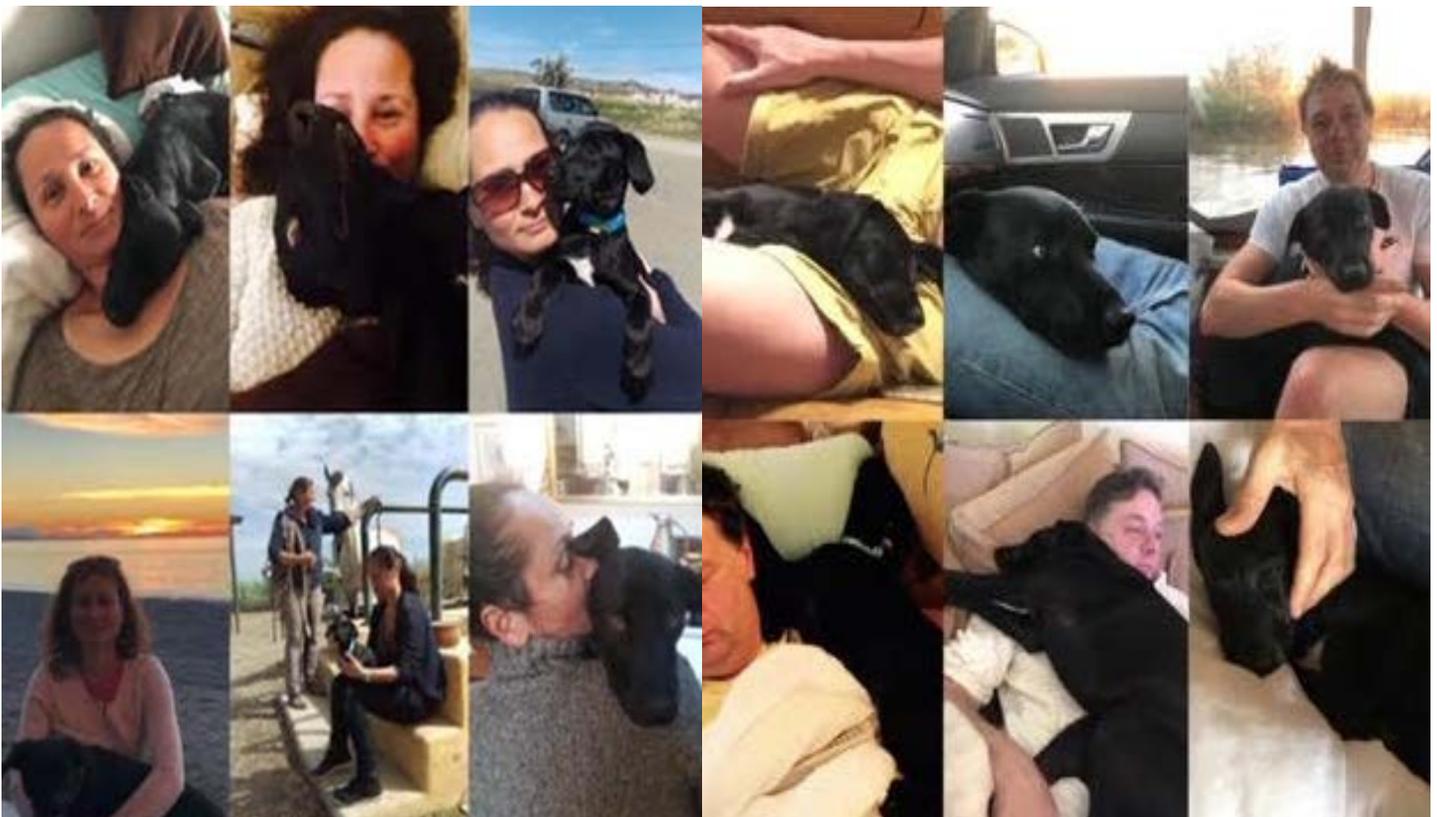
So, not surprisingly, we had decided to adopt Oskar, now renamed Ozzie, but we had to wait until May - an endless, everlasting time, or so it seemed, for him to finally arrive in the Netherlands.

Every day with him, initially with his dog brother, later on his own, has been true and profound happiness. We are both surprised how much one

can love such a heavenly creature like a dog. Ozzie is such a sweet natured, loving, well behaved, obedient dog. When my husband and I cuddle, he always wants to join in. He loves crawling under one's legs, lifting up your hand to rest it on his head. He always wants to feel you. There are so many people who have fallen in love with him: my father (who thought it was a "bad" idea to adopt a stray dog, but now says it was "the best decision ever." And kisses (!!!!!) him! He used to tell me off for kissing pets!), my mother, our neighbours, the dog walker, my niece and nephew, my friends, the list is endless. It is proof what a very special dog Ozzie is and I thank AAR (Brinnie and his other carers) for all the good work they have done and continue to do. You are a wonderful team! What tremendous good work you are doing! Thank you!!!

All the best, love,

Deborah Voorbij and Kacey Young
Mummy and Daddy of Ozzie



Adopted! Luchi's Escapade!

On 4th July, a frantic search took place for rescue-dog Luchi who escaped from her new Foster Home. Anyone following the call for help that day from Emma Bush, Luchi's former Foster, could witness the love and dedication shown by numerous AAR volunteers and supporters who offered to help find Luchi. The urgent situation showed the value of social media, as well as the lengths to which our volunteers and supporters will go to help an animal in distress. Although we were worried and fearful for Luchi, it was also heart-warming and wonderful to see the offers of help as the event played out on social media for two days.

Luchi was rescued one year ago from a life of misery, torment and loneliness. She had spent her life in the campo, struggling to survive, homeless and unloved. When rescued, she lived in kennels until, in February this year, she moved into Foster care with Emma. Luchi's stay with Emma was meant to be temporary but, because of the Covid 19 lockdown, Luchi's was moved to her new Foster Home just days before her escape.

After two days searching, Luchi made her own decision where she wanted to be and returned to her new Foster Home. However, she was soon reunited with Emma. As if we had won the lottery, the AAR team was delighted Luchi was safe, and Emma immediately made Luchi a permanent part of her family. It was a very happy ending to a frightening event and we are grateful to everyone who helped. Go team AAR!



Fill a Jar for AAR

Have you been Spring cleaning and decluttering during lockdown? Did you find change under your car seat, at the bottom of your bag, or under the sofa? If so, please put it in a jar and save all your change for AAR! Literally every cent or penny can be put to good use.

When full, jars can be brought to the AAR Charity Shop in Torre Del Mar, or an equivalent amount can be donated on our website at <http://axarquiaanimalrescue.com/index.php>

Thank you.

Meet Poppy and her Darling Puppies

Two-year old Poppy, a Spanish Water type dog, was found in Comares campo, where she'd been wandering alone for some weeks. Thankfully, a very kind lady took her home and informed AAR.

Soon after Poppy arrived it was discovered she was pregnant and the wait for the new puppies began. Under the watchful eyes of social media, and in the wonderful care of Fosterers/Kennel Owners, Jo McCarthy Matthews and Sam Matthews McCarthy, Poppy was able to build up her strength and see out her pregnancy in loving and restful care.

We are delighted to report that Poppy is now the proud Mum of 8 beautiful puppies, two black and six white. She is doing great and showing much love and affection for her new family.

Poppy's success story is at the heart of what we do at AAR. She has been saved from a life of misery and loneliness and is now in a safe and loving environment.

Poppy is now passing on those cuddles to her puppies and they are all doing great. In time, all will be available to foster or adopt. If you would like to support Poppy and her puppies, or any of our rescued animals, click here: <https://axarquiaanimalrescue.com/donate.php>



What to Do About Pet Grief

Here are suggestions to help your fur baby deal with the loss of a pet and pet grieving. If possible, allow your pet to see and sniff the body of the one who has died. Pets understand death and this helps them understand why their friend is gone. They won't go searching in the house for them.

If your pet is willing to play, activity can help. Exercise improves depression and playing will help your pet focus on pleasurable things. On the other hand, don't push your pet to play if he clearly wants to be left alone.

Changing up the routine can be helpful for some pets. For example, add an extra walk at the beginning or end of the day. This could help take both of your minds off the loss. Plenty of extra attention and cuddles are good for both of you, too!

Pet Grief, or Something More?

Not all pets grieve, and they may do it in different ways. If you notice a pet grieving, it will help both of you to try things to make it easier for your pet.

If your pet is lethargic, or stops eating, it would be best to have him examined by a vet. Your vet can determine if there is anything more serious going on, and if not, there are medications that can help.



Short Story "Lucky Saucer"

In front of the local butcher's, an art connoisseur noticed a mangy little kitten lapping up milk from a saucer. The saucer, he realised with a start, was a rare and precious piece of pottery. It was, in fact, a collector's item. He strolled into the store and offered two pounds for the cat. 'He's not for sale', said the butcher. 'Look', said the collector', that moggy is dirty and scabby, but I'm an eccentric. I prefer cats that way. I'll raise my offer to ten pounds'. 'It's a deal', said the proprietor, and pocketed the ten immediately. 'For that amount of money I'm sure you won't mind throwing in the saucer', said the connoisseur', 'The kitten seems so happy drinking from it.' 'I can't do that', said the butcher firmly, 'That's my lucky saucer. From that saucer, so far this week, I've found homes for 18 cats!



To find out more about AAR follow us on our Facebook page @ <https://www.facebook.com/axarquianimalrescue/> or go to our website @ <https://axarquianimalrescue.com/>