



EARLY SPRING NEWSLETTER 2023

February 2023

Update on the KWWSPCA Animal Shelter

We have put in an offer recently for some land between Kilcullen and Athy where we would like to build a new animal shelter, but it is dependent on a favourable Pre-Planning meeting with Kildare County Council. In the meantime, Kildare County Council has turned down our application to stay at our present location. We therefore have again to appeal to An Bord Pleanála to be allowed to remain at the present Shelter until new premises can be found.

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

The KWWSPCA would like to thank Minister Charlie McConalogue, his Ministers of State, Senator Pippa Hackett and Martin Heydon, and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine for the substantial increase in the Government animal welfare funding from €34,500 last year to €58,025 for the coming year. This increased funding will go towards the very large veterinary and other costs that will be incurred by the KWWSPCA in the coming months. The KWWSPCA has no employees, so no wages are paid out of this funding, nor from any other income, as all its work is done by volunteers.

Forthcoming KWWSPCA Events

St Patricks Day Parade, Newbridge – the KWWSPCA will again be entering into the Parade in Newbridge on St Patrick's Day, Friday 17 March. If anyone would like to join in with us, with their dog, please contact John on 085 2354939 or Ase on 087 3147695. We are also looking for soft toys to use during the Parade, so please drop any you no longer need to Noah's Ark or to the Shelter.

Easter Egg Hunt and Dog Walk at Punchestown Racecourse on Good Friday, 7 April. The Easter Egg Hunt is from 2.00 – 4.00 and the Dog Walk will start at 3.00. Everyone welcome. There is no entry fee but donations help fund this event and support our dogs and cats. Please call Sally on 087 6803295 or Ann on 086 3413017 for more information

Pop Up Shop in the Town Hall/Heritage Centre in Kilcullen probably in April. The date is not confirmed yet but will be announced shortly. A chance to buy some lovely new or nearly new ladies' clothes and accessories as well as some children's and men's clothes, at bargain prices.

Brocante and Bordeaux Gala Evening for the KWWSPCA in Narraghmore on Thursday 18 May. A date for your diary. More details later.

Vhi Women's Mini-Marathon, Sunday 4 June. If anyone would like to enter and run or walk on behalf of the KWWSPCA, sponsorship cards and T-shirts are available. Go to www.vhiwomensminimarathon.ie for full details of how to enter and then call/text Sally on 087 6803295 for a sponsorship card and KWWSPCA T-shirt.

The KWWSPCA has a New Bank Account

As the Ulster Bank will be closing soon, the KWWSPCA has changed its bank account to the Bank of Ireland. We have advised most of our donors who regularly donate by standing order of this change, but there are still a few people whom we have not been able to contact. If anyone, who very kindly donates to the KWWSPCA by standing order, hasn't been advised of our new bank details, please see below:

Bank of Ireland, Main Street, Naas, Co. Kildare

Account: Kildare and West Wicklow Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ltd

IBAN: IE42BOFI90123953942747

BIC CODE: BOFIE2D

We are very grateful to everyone who donates to the KWWSPCA; your generosity enables the Charity to continue its very valuable work.

The Importance of Microchipping

The KWWSPCA would like to encourage everyone to get their dogs and their cats microchipped. It does not cost very much, and all veterinary practices will perform the simple procedure, which only takes a few minutes.

It is now a legal requirement for ALL dogs to be microchipped and registered to a recognised database (such as Fido, the Kennel Club, Animark), so if your dog is not microchipped and registered, you are breaking the law! If you have a dog and it is microchipped, it would be worth getting your vet to check that your contact details have been registered and are up to date. Quite a few of the dogs who come into our care and into the care of the Dog Warden Service are microchipped, but they not registered, or the contact details are out of date, so their owners cannot be contacted.

We would also advise cat owners to get their cats microchipped. Although it is not a legal requirement, it is very useful when cats go missing and when stray cats are found. Cats are much more likely to stray than dogs and we get a lot of distressing calls and messages about lost cats. A lot of cats are also found but there is no knowing to whom they belong. Owners can be reunited with their pets so much more quickly and easily if they are microchipped, leading to a lot less stress and heartache.

The Importance of Neutering Cats

Much of the problem of unwanted cats and kittens could be solved if more cats, both male and female, were neutered. A female kitten can become pregnant from 4 months old, when she is still only a kitten herself. If you have cats of your own, or are feeding feral cats, please get them neutered as soon as possible as 'kitten season' is rapidly approaching. Call our TNR Cat Unit if you need advice on 089 4588162 or 087 7045913.



Rehoming Success in 2022

During 2022, 190 rescue dogs came into the care of the KWWSPCA and most of these have been rehomed. A few were still in our care at the beginning of this year and most of those have now found their forever homes. Also last year 256 cats and kittens were rehomed, and new homes were found for a number of guinea pigs, pet rabbits, a ferret and a budgie. Recently rehomed:



Darcey



Troy



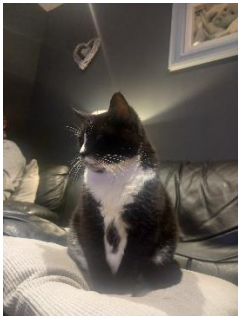
Wilbur



Smudge



Wednesday



Smokey



Freddy



Izzie



Harvey

TRN – Trap, Neuter and Return – 2022 was another good year

The KWWSPCA's Trap, Neuter & Return (TNR) Service for feral cats also had a good year last year with 405 feral cats being trapped, vet checked, neutered and returned to their original haunts, or if the location was not safe, they were rehomed to a stable yard or farmyard. If kittens were caught, or the cat responded well to human contact, then they were rehomed as domestic pets. The TNR Volunteer Team aims to reduce the number of kittens being born to the many feral cats in Kildare and West Wicklow, as well as giving adult feral cats healthier, safer and happier lives. We ask for the veterinary costs to be covered where possible by those wanting help, which is usually €50 per cat, which can be adjusted if several cats are involved. If you would like help with feral cats, please call/text 089 4588162 or 087 7045913. Also call/text those numbers if you are interested in helping with this work. Full training will be given, equipment provided, and appropriate costs covered. Below, a TNR volunteer sets a trap, six trapped cats are waiting to see the vet and Simone, whom we had planned to release to a stable yard or farmyard, but who decided she wanted to be a domestic cat instead.



Two Recent Welfare Cases

Summer was first rescued in 2021 by an animal rescue in County Leitrim as a heavily pregnant, very young, stray dog who went on to deliver 8 healthy puppies. Summer then found what was supposed to be her forever home in Kildare, but she was unfortunate once again when her owner very suddenly and unexpectedly passed away recently. After a few traumatic days with no one to take care of her, Summer came into our care and once again needs a forever home. She has settled well and loves to play games with a ball and will make a lovely pet for some lucky family.

Tiabeanie (Bean) was found just after the New Year, abandoned when she was just a few days old. Luckily, she was found in time before she succumbed to the cold and to hunger. Despite her sad start to life, she has blossomed in her foster home with the KWWSPCA Welfare Officer where she shares her home with several dogs, cats and her best friend, Buella the ferret. She is not yet ready for rehoming, but we are sure that the rest of her life will be more secure than her first few days.



Summer waiting for a game



Tiabeanie just a few days old



Buella the ferret and Tiabeanie

Noah's Ark – the KWWSPCA Charity Shop

The KWWSPCA's Charity Shop, Noah's Ark, had a very successful year last year not only selling from the shop, but selling Online and at its monthly Facebook Auctions. Noah's Ark has been trading for nearly 10 years now and is a vital source of income for the KWWSPCA. Everyone working in Noah's Ark is a volunteer, there are no wages paid, so all the profit made from the shop goes directly to helping animals in need. The present team of volunteers at Noah's Ark is a truly fantastic group, a large majority of whom have been working in the shop for many years. Everyone who works in Noah's Ark is a team player and enjoys working to support the KWWSPCA Shelter and all the animals in its care. Noah's Ark is in Cutlery Road, Newbridge, and is open Mondays to Saturdays (excluding bank holidays) from 10.00 – 5.00. The storage space in Noah's Ark is very limited, so if you have a lot of items to donate, or large items, please call Ann on 086 3413017 to make arrangements for delivery or collection. Please also note that we cannot sell electrical items, bedding or children's toys (unless they are new) and can only accept other items if they are clean and unbroken.



'Floating' Volunteers are needed for Noah's Ark. Noah's Ark needs some 'floating' volunteers - to fill in a morning (10.00 - 1.30) or afternoon (1.30 - 5.00) shift when one of the regular volunteers is not available. If you would be interested in joining the team as a floater, please contact Ann on 086 3413017. No previous experience is needed, just a friendly disposition and an interest in the work of the KWWSPCA.

February's Noah's Ark Facebook Online Auction is scheduled to start on Monday 20 and end on Saturday 25 February. Once the Auction starts, go to www.facebook.com/kwwspcashopnoahsark for full details of all the items in the Auction their reserve prices and how to bid for them.

Kildare Dog Warden Service/Kildare Dog Pound

It is over 11 years now since the KWWSPCA first started working with the Kildare Dog Warden Service/Kildare Dog Pound to rehome the stray dogs that were in the Pound. By law all stray dogs must go to the dog pound in the county where they are found for a minimum of 5 days. This gives the dog wardens time to find the owner, and the owner time to reclaim the dog. The KWWSPCA cannot legally take stray dogs into its care until they have spent time in the Pound. If the owner of a dog is not found, then the KWWSPCA can take the dog from the Pound and legally rehome it. Since we started our work with the Kildare Dog Pound, we have rehomed more than 1,000 dogs from that Pound and a good number from other Dog Pounds as well. In 2011, when we started taking dogs directly from the Pound, well over 60% of dogs going into the Pound were put to sleep. Now the percentage is less than 5% and these are the dogs that are not suitable for rehoming. We have already taken 13 dogs from the Pound this year.

Advice if you find a stray dog

If you find a stray dog, check for a tag on its collar for the owner's address and/or phone number. If there is no tag, take the dog to a vet or to a Maxizoo and have it scanned for a microchip; you won't be charged for this. If there is no microchip or if the microchip is not registered to an owner, you should get the dog's photo, details of where the dog was found and a contact phone number to the KWWSPCA and other local animal rescues (such as the Kildare Animal Foundation, My Lovely Horse Rescue and Littlehills Animal Rescue) and local vets so that the information can be posted on Facebook. You should also inform the local Garda station and local shops and ask around the neighbourhood where the dog was found to see if anyone recognises it. If no owner is found, you should call the Dog Warden (Kildare 05986 23388; Wicklow 0404 44873, 086 2771695/086 3846430) and they will collect the dog from you or ask you to take the dog in to them or advise you what other action you should take. The Kildare Dog Pound is open between 10.00 & 12.45 on weekdays and the Wicklow Dog Pound is open from 11.00 – 12.30 and 3.00 – 4.00 Monday to Friday and 10.00 – 12.00 on Saturdays.

Thank you to our Supporters and our Volunteers

The KWWSPCA would like to thank all its generous supporters who have donated cash, cheques, store gift cards, via PayPal, standing orders and through other channels, and those who have organised fund-raising activities and collections on our behalf. Thanks also for all the donations to Noah's Ark as well as donations of pet food and other pet products to our Shelter.

Thanks too to all the dedicated KWWSPCA volunteers who help in the Animal Shelter, in Noah's Ark, and at fund raising events. Thanks also to those volunteers who undertake the TNR work and to those who offer foster homes for some of the rescued dogs and cats. The KWWSPCA is a wholly volunteer society, with no paid employees, so its volunteers are very much needed, and their work is very much appreciated.

Governance

The KWWSPCA is a Registered Charity (No. CHY 6280) and is registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority (No: 20011048). It is a Company Limited by Guarantee (Company No. 448178). Its accounts are audited annually and available for inspection in the Companies Registry Office and on the KWWSPCA website. It is registered with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to rehome domestic animals (No: IPT20001C).

Contact the KWWSPCA

KWWSPCA General Helpline	087 6887136
KWWSPCA Dog Rehoming	087 1279835/085 7678722/085 1202125
KWWSPCA Cat Rehoming and TNR	089 4588162/087 7045913
KWWSPCA Animal Welfare Officer	086 1751841
KWWSPCA Noah's Ark Charity Shop	086 3413017
General Email:	kwwspca@gmail.com
Dog Rehoming Email:	kwwspcadogrehoming@gmail.com
Cat Rehoming and TNR Email:	kwwspcacatrehoming@gmail.com
Website:	www.kwwspca.ie
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/kwwspca
Facebook/Kitty Cottage:	www.facebook.com/kwwspcakittycottage
Facebook/Noah's Ark:	www.facebook.com/kwwspcashopnoahsark
KWWSPCA Shelter Address:	Athgarvan, Co. Kildare , W12 EV60
Noah's Ark:	Cutlery Road, Newbridge, Co. Kildare

Some of the Rescue Dog and Cats who are looking for homes



Bohdi



Oscar



Chewy and Chomp



The Remi Brothers



Blake



Victor



Sproai



Amber

(If you would prefer not to receive KWWSPCA Newsletters, please let us know.)