



## Summer Newsletter 2020

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### Covid 19 Update

Well, who would have thought that the virus would still be very prevalent throughout the world? Luckily for us, Portugal hasn't been too badly affected, probably due to the early restrictions put into place.

However, the restrictions have, of course, had a knock-on effect on APAA. We were unable to open our shops at all for ten weeks and then for only 2-3 days each week as some of our more vulnerable volunteers were, understandably, reluctant to expose themselves to possible infection. This has resulted in a big dent in our income.

Normally by now, we would also have raised around €4,000 from our events, but although we have managed to hold two small dinners since the restrictions came into force, this has meant that we have only managed to raise €1,600 so far this year.

We were planning to hold a lunch for around 20 people on 4 October to celebrate World Animal Day, but the recent change in the restrictions has meant that we are no longer able to do this.

However, we will be organising a Pet Food Collection on the weekend of 3/4 October at Kiwoko on the Retail Park in Portimão (next door to the Overseas Supermarket). If you are in that area at that time, please show your support by donating some food. Many of those who regularly feed street animals have had their income greatly reduced as a result of the crisis and are struggling to buy sufficient pet food.

During the first months of the lockdown, we used some of the money specifically donated to us for this purpose, to buy food for a number of cat colonies, and Jenny continues to pass on any broken or out-of-date bags of food that she collects from Continente.

Many of our supporters have been generous, either by taking part in our Photographic Competition, or, more often, by making donations, and we are very grateful for this

On the other side of the coin, our expenses have gone up! Many individuals who would normally have been able to settle their veterinary bills in full themselves have been requesting help because they have been unable to work. We know that some of the clinics that we work with have reduced their fees to help with this situation, but we have still spent approximately €36,000 so far.

Luckily for APAA, the proceeds from the inherited house sale has meant that we have been able to continue to help everyone that applies, and will, hopefully, be able to do so until the end of 2020. However, if the restrictions remain in force for too much longer, this may not be the case in 2021.

We are always looking for new ways to raise funds and would be very grateful for any ideas that you might have.

In the meantime, stay safe and well.

## Vickée Tayler

Jenny and her husband Graham first met Vickée in 1989 when they arrived in Portugal by boat, but had decided to rent a house as their Basset Hound was seasick! After helping to retrieve neighbour Vickée's exceptionally naughty donkey, Figgy, on numerous occasions, they all soon became firm friends.

Once Jenny had moved away, she saw less of Vickée because they were both busy with other things, mainly animal related, but when Vickée became involved with APAA about ten years ago, they saw a lot more of each other. Jenny regularly took donated broken bags of sand to Vickée for her huge family of cats and also gave her some cat or dog food when there was some to spare. Vickée was a member of APAA's Fiscal Council for several years.



Vickée already had cancer when she joined APAA, but she battled positively and bravely for many years. She was never down in the dumps and everyone started to believe that she would beat it.

However, it was very difficult to watch her getting so much worse in her final year and to realise that this horrible disease was going to claim a lovely, caring person.

Sadly, she died, at her home, on 4 July and the animal world has lost a great ambassador. She will be greatly missed.

## Dinner at Birgit's Home

On a hot evening in early August, Norwegian Birgit hosted another event for APAA. As she has a large garden, we were able to have 16 guests and still respect social distancing.

On arrival, guests were initially treated to a glass of Sangria and some petiscos. A refreshingly cold Cucumber Soup with Prawns and Home-made Bread was next, followed by either Scrambled Eggs with Smoked Salmon & Presunto (a typical Norwegian Summer meal) or Chicken Kebabs, both served with Potatoes in a Cream Sauce and Salad. There was a choice of either Mango Mousse or Strawberry Shortcake for dessert.



All of the guests generously purchased a number of raffle tickets and as Birgit would not allow APAA to reimburse her expenses, the event raised a much needed €630.

We must take this opportunity to again thank Birgit for her hospitality and also to thank Britt and Carolina for their help in preparing the food and clearing up afterwards.

## People & Pets Photographic Competition

Unfortunately, the response to the competition wasn't quite what we had hoped. Nineteen people submitted 53 photos of their pets, but only seven people attempted to match them! However, it was still a worthwhile enterprise as we raised a much needed €700 because quite a few people gave a donation instead of entering the competition.

Sue Sanders was the winner of the competition and will hopefully be able to use her prize of two places at an APAA lunch or dinner soon. Fenella Touch won the second prize of two bottles of wine.

Tim, owned by Nicole, had the most votes for the favourite photo of a dog. Nicole kindly donated her prize of a dog hamper back to APAA.



There were no votes for cats and so Jackie, as the competition organiser, had to choose instead. Of course, she thought that her own cat Magic deserved the prize, but as this wasn't allowed, she chose Gemma, owned by Lynda (but entered under the name of Lynda's granddaughter Chloe) instead. Lynda received a cat hamper as a prize.



## Patsy Bannister



Patsy, who was a member and supporter of APAA for many years, died here on the Algarve on 26 August, aged 91.

She was very active lady up until the very end, when she had had a few health issues after a fall. She still lived on her own with her faithful companion 'Munchkin' (smallest guard dog on the Algarve!).

For her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday she chose APAA to cater for her party in her home for 30+ people. It went very well and she did say we could do her 100<sup>th</sup> - we actually thought she might make it!

Our condolences go to her family and we should like to thank them for choosing APAA as the receiving charity for the collection at her funeral – it raised 215€

## Summer Dinner at Jackie's

Jackie and Jenny decided that it would be a good idea to take advantage of the warm weather to hold a small dinner outside in Jackie's garden in early September. Only 14 guests were invited to keep within the social-distancing guidelines.

Guests were seated immediately and were served drinks and a Cream Cheese & Pesto Dip with Pitta Bread whilst waiting for the 'real' food. The first course was half of a Red Pepper stuffed with a Mexican filling of Meat, Rice & Sweetcorn. Seafood Tagine with Couscous followed, with a Chocolate & Banana Trifle to finish.

The guests were very generous when purchasing raffle tickets and so we were able to raise €285.00.



## Stop Press!

In order to raise much-needed funds, APAA will be producing a calendar for 2021 featuring animals that we have helped.

**Please** do not yet buy a different calendar but wait until you can buy one of ours. We will let you know as soon as these are available and where you can get them.

We will also have for sale a Christmas card specially designed for APAA by Gill Goode. Again, we will let you know as soon as they are available.