



friends of
Bianca

NEWSLETTER 18: February 2017

Hi All,

We apologise for the delay in getting this newsletter out to all our supporters but they will be sent quarterly as previously.

First of all the Trustees would like to thank all our supporters of the charity for the help you have given us over this difficult year.

The Shelter has been struggling with so many dogs and cats arriving daily with various ailments and health issues.

We have with all your support sent out £18,694.00 pounds to Ana and her team in 2016.

The Puppy Walk – Aberdeen and Ayr on the 2nd October, 2016

This was a great success again with the walk at the Old Railway Line raising £1362.46 and the winner of this was Donna Dickson with Poppy who raised £350.00 photo on the website and Facebook

The Ayr walk co-ordinated by our loyal supporter Dawn Watson which raised £1095.00 and the winner was Margaret Watson and her dog Casey, they raised £441.50, one of our oldest dog walkers looking great photo on the website and Facebook.

With gift aid on top of this, from some of the entrants, which boosts these figures, we can only thank everybody who took part.

Website/Facebook – This is currently being updated and maintained by Eilidh and Krystal with many exciting projects to come – watch this space.

Merchandise – We would like our supporters to let us know what they would like to see us handle, - any thoughts or ideas welcome. At this time we have Canadian Bandanas from S-M-L, and our Puppy Notelets are 5 for a pack, with envelopes. Full range on the webpage.

Fundraising We had the Pop Up shop which was very successful, organised and run by Jacqui and a team of volunteers. Here we raised £2286.89 and the Trustees and committee have decided to apply for the shop again this year - date/time to follow. Other fetes throughout the year raised £2101.02 which all goes out to the shelter.

2017 Fundraising – Horsey/Raffle night at the Aberdeen Grammar Club on the 29th April 2017 - tickets will be on sale shortly with stovies provided.

Lush Shop The manager Rene has kindly given us a weekend where the volunteers will be selling a pot of special cream and all proceeds donated to Friends of Bianca. So come along and support us over the weekend – date to follow.

Fetes We will be attending various fetes over the summer, just waiting for dates to be confirmed by the different show societies. This will be posted on our webpage and Facebook. Airyhall is already booked with the traditional 3 Charities and the Brownies who are delighted to be holding this profitable fete again.

Ayr Supporters – Dawn Watson is going to do the Kilt Walk details will be posted onto the website page.

Ideas for Fundraising - If you have any ideas on how to raise funds please send them to us via info@friendsofbianca.org. We are the first to admit we can't think of everything so your knowledge and ideas are very welcome.

Volunteering – We held a Volunteer Day last year which was very successful and we have some new people involved helping with the fundraising and going over to the shelter to work. We will be launching a program to attract people to this cause as we need more people on board with ideas – date to be decided. Our contact details if you are interested in helping, either a few hours at fetes or going to the shelter, can be found on our Web page info@friendsofbianca.org.

Charitable Trusts- We have managed to get funds of 20,000.00 euros from The Marchig Animal Welfare Trust to allow the shelter to build the Mother and Puppy Unit and a new Cattery. The plans have been passed so watch this space.

Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Practice. – The relationship with Andrew and his team is so very successful. Through him, we have managed to co-ordinate the collection and palletising of 4 pallets, i.e. 4000kgs of dry and canned food out to the shelter in Portugal with the help of David from Meadows Transport in Edinburgh, who collected, palletised and is now shipping it to the shelter in Sesimbra as we speak. We are so grateful to him and his colleagues for their efforts and in keeping the cost of the shipment down to a minimum. We are currently working with Andrew to get various pieces of information into their website and ours. The Trustees have planned a visit to the school with Andrew and his team to discuss the various ways we can benefit the shelter.

Re-Homing – We have discussed this with people including various vets and Elaine Pirie, one of our supporters, who has given us valid points on this. At this time we will consult further with Elaine and the vets before proceeding.

Medicines – We would like to make a special thank you to Denise at Town and Country Veterinary Practice, Audrey from Ardene Veterinary Practice and Mr Swan at Swan Veterinary Practice for the kind donation of several boxes of medicines for the shelter all which was very much appreciated by Ana and her team this makes such a difference.

Changes to the Charity – Friends of Bianca Trustees have had a very challenging year and at the AGM on the 7th November, 2016 we appointed new Trustees. They are Valerie Finlayson, looking after the information site on the web page and Jacqui Milne who is our volunteer co-ordinator. The remaining Trustees, Lily Taylor Secretary and Linda Allan Treasurer remain. Prior to this meeting, Mike Gibb resigned as Chairman and Trustee at a meeting with me on the 1st October, 2016. Rhea Burr, over the year, had resigned several times to Mike and me, and on the 5th December, 2016 the Trustees accepted her resignation as we felt we needed committed people for these demanding roles. We have to inform you that Mike Gibb and Rhea Burr now have no part in the decisions or the running of Friends of Bianca Charity. The Trustees wish them both all the best for the future.

Linda

On behalf of the Trustees of Friends of Bianca Charity

