



Mani International Animal Organisation



WOLKE



BENNO



CARA

It's been a challenging month

After another record-breaking month of intense heat and unusually high humidity, wildfires and the frenetic busy-ness of the main holiday month for the Greek population, we are all looking forward to the arrival of the gentler autumn days.

July and August are the months that we struggle the most with covering our rotas for the shelter shifts, as many of our volunteers use these summer months to return to the more moderate climates of northern Europe to visit family and friends. But, somehow we all muddle together and it is somehow always done, with some volunteers taking on extra shifts. Sometimes we also have tourists who come to the area for a couple of weeks and want to help with care of the dogs - and this has again been so helpful this summer - a big THANK YOU to all those who offered some of their precious holiday time to help us take care of our shelter dogs. We really appreciate you! And whilst it has been a little quieter on the adoption front, we are pleased to say that 5 dogs have found their forever homes.

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Adoptions

A FEW ADOPTIONS AND MORE IN THE PIPELINE!

We are delighted to say that Phoebe (was Fig), Rose, Wolke, Jason and Troufa were adopted in August!

Rose is a foster fail - her foster mum just could not part with her after her own dog had died a few weeks ago, and the same goes for Phoebe, who has found her forever home with her foster mum. We couldn't be more delighted for them both. Wolke was adopted by a family in Austria, Jason will go and live in the Netherlands and lovely Troufa has arrived with her family in Germany.

There are also a few more potential adoptions in the pipeline as I write this on the 25th of August - and we look forward to sharing these with you in the next newsletter.

“The love for all living creatures is the most noble attribute of man.”

CHARLES DARWIN



TROUFA



JASON



PHOEBE



WOLKE



LUCKY PUPS



ROSE

Cat News

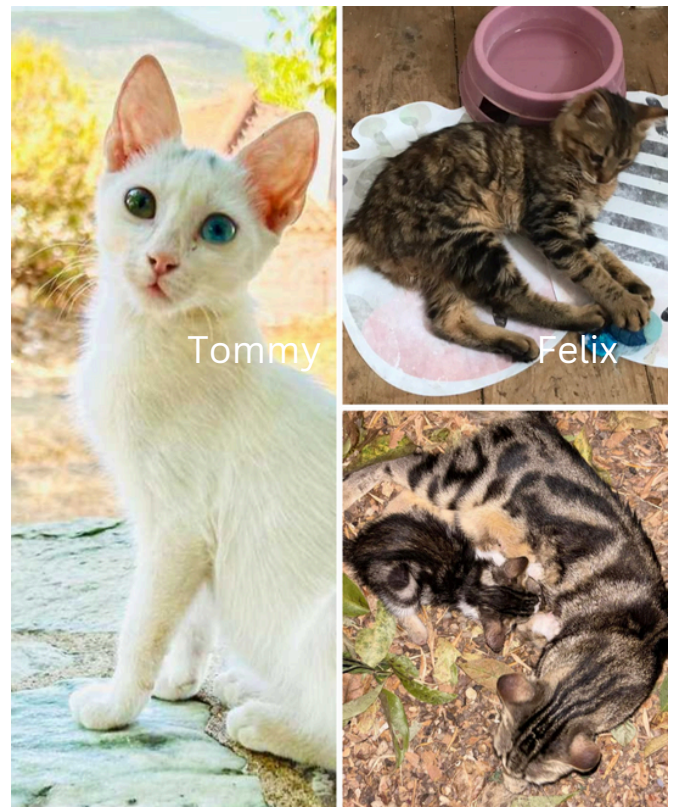
AUGUST WAS BUSY WITH MANY CALLS ABOUT ABANDONED CATS AND KITTENS

With the arrival of the main holiday month in Greece, the calls about abandoned and sick cats always sky-rockets. Tourists from other countries are a lot more aware of animal suffering and more inclined to try and do something about it. But in a country that is awash with strays - an estimated 4 million stray cats and 3 million stray dogs - all shelters and animal rescue organisations are overwhelmed - they are full - overly so - and whilst trying to help as much as they can, they just cannot cope with the sheer number of sightings and calls for help.

Here at MIAO we always do try and help as much as we can, but as we don't have an actual cat shelter but rather manage the stray cat population on the streets as best we can through feeding, neutering and medication programmes - we are often just as frustrated and helpless in the face of so much animal neglect. Having said that - we always do our best for any SOS calls when particularly sick cats are sighted or small kittens are in immediate danger, and August, too, brought some happy endings and success stories. Here are a few of them.

WHITE CAT WITH STRIKING EYES

A tourist who was staying in a mountain village above Kambos reached out to us to notify us of a beautiful white kitten with one blue and one green eye - she was all alone in the village and would certainly not have survived on her own. MIAO shared her story and a new forever home was soon found for this beautiful cat.



MOMMA CAT with two kittens

A kind tourist called us to notify us about a mum cat with two kittens struggling in Kardamyli. Whilst she did everything in her power to try and find a home for these three by posting them in many animal rescue groups online, she also reached out to MIAO. Luckily we knew of a lady who had lost her cat and who was looking for one or two new cats to join her in her home - so we called her and are delighted to say that momma cat and kittens have found a wonderful forever home with her.

LEO

Leo was spotted by a tourist in Kardamyli. She knew that once the season came to an end the restaurant where he was hanging around would close, and food would become a struggle. After reaching out to us an interim foster home was found for him and we will hopefully soon find a forever home for him.

DOG OF THE MONTH

Meet our lovely Lord

Lord is a typical happy-go-lucky, young male Pointer but luck hasn't been on his side so far. After having been found as a stray roaming the streets, he was picked up and fostered by MIAO. He was then adopted in the UK but that didn't quite work out through no fault of his own and in the end, as no alternative adoptive home could be found, he was sent back to Greece. He was welcomed back into the foster home where he began his story with us, but after a breakup, Lord has found himself all alone again and we are desperate to find him a kind foster home or better even - his forever home - that understands the nature and energy levels of a gun dog.

Lord really is an absolutely adorable dog, good with people, children and other dogs. Who can give this beautiful boy his lucky break?



New arrivals

We have taken 3 new dogs into MIAO care this month - first of all, there are Meli and Sika, two delightful 6-month-old terrier mix pups from Kastania, and then we also rescued Benno off the streets of Kambos. We knew we had to get him away from there as he would be at risk of being poisoned soon.



Meli & Sika

Meli is a super cute and active little bundle of joy. She is a confident, independent and adventurous pup and fine with other dogs, cats and farm animals. She will be great for an active family who can take her out and about.

Sika is a real love bug. All she wants is to be by your side, have cuddles and feel safe with her humans. She is a little insecure now and then, and is much happier being in the house than out with the pack in the garden. She will make a wonderful loyal companion.

Benno

Benno is an older dog, about 7 - 8 years and gentle and easy going in general. As he has only been with us a couple of weeks we are still assessing his character.

In Other News...

It is Sea Turtle Hatching Season!

Whilst the turtle conservation projects around Greece are of course not directly linked with the immediate work of MIAO - we do always try and support important local wildlife protection schemes. This year has, surprisingly, been a very good year for the turtles as many a mama turtle returned after being born here on the Stoupa beaches many years ago - and many eggs were laid across the region so far.

August is usually the height of the season for sea turtle hatchings. Kalogria already saw one sea turtle nest hatch very successfully this year, and over 80 baby turtles found their way to the sea!

This season, local animal volunteers unexpectedly found some sea turtle nests on our local beaches. Much to their surprise, after the usual routine morning explorations, they found little hatchling tracks on the beach and sometimes tourists were superlucky when they came across little hatchlings making their way to the sea during the daytime.

This has been an exceptional year for sea turtles, with nesting sites increasing across the whole of Greece and for the first time in decades, we also can witness this in our area. There are several other confirmed nests on several beaches this season and we hope that these will hatch successfully soon too. The hatching season lasts until mid of October so fingers crossed that a few more nests to hatch.

Dog Poisonings in the area

Every year we are notified of horrifying stories of dog (and cat) poisonings in the area. Last week we heard of a poisoning incident in the area of Germa, Lakonia. Sadly several dogs lost their lives. This is the sad reality of life in Greece, many of the old generation think it is perfectly OK to get rid of strays by putting out poisoned bait. Although we try to educate people about the devastating and gruesome deaths these animals experience, it is still a fairly common practice around the rural areas of Greece.

The best protection you can invest in to protect your animals if you live in Greece, is to ask your local vet for a "poison" kit. You will be given a set of injection needles, ampules and instructions on how to inject the medication when you suspect your dog has eaten poison. It will make your dog vomit immediately and this will prevent the poison from getting further into the bloodstream. Take your pet to the vet immediately after that so that they can further stabilise them.



Hatchlings on Pantazi

From Life on a Chain to Life in the UK - Kefalas' story

You may remember Kefalas- he's one of the 2 dogs abandoned on chains in a remote village. They were found at the end of last year - living a life with no hope - no shelter, limited food and water, no care and no freedom to run.

In early spring , both Kefalas and Roubi (now Cotton) got a fantastic new opportunity. They were able to stay with a foster family. There they've had care, company, food and lovely walks. They have been enjoying life again, but of course, it's not a substitute for having their own people.

The fantastic news is that now Kefalas has found a home of his own, with a lovely couple in the U.K. He arrived on 14th August and is already settling well into life in a home. He found the sofa in Day 1 ! We couldn't have wished for a better start with fabulous adopters who already love him to bits.

Jo has just been to the U.K. and was able to meet them all and go for a walk in the local park. It was an emotional but wonderful day.



From a Life on a chain to a happy Life in the UK

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