

S.O.S. Sardinian Cat Neutering Appeal - Update

A report by Animal Samaritan's volunteer Silvana Valentino Locke.

At the end of October three of us (Silvana, Gemma and Angie) went to Alghero for 4 nights to continue the neutering programme already well under way.

When we arrived it had been pouring with rain and this continued on and off throughout our stay. Undeterred, however, we started work straight away and after only 48 hours we had successfully had 16 cats neutered (9 male and 7 female) and they were released as soon as they had recovered enough to cope back in the colony.

Although it would be ideal to hold the cats for several days we decided to free them as soon as possible as the stress they suffer in captivity is enormous. The circumstances in Alghero are not ideal and until we are in a position to improve the holding facilities we feel that they are better off back in their natural environment than held by us. We did, however, monitor their progress for the duration of our stay and ensure that vitamins and antibiotics were fed to them to improve their chance of complete recovery. Silvana returned to Alghero more recently with her husband and we are glad to report that all the cats that had been neutered appeared to have recovered well.

On a less happy note the whole colony had developed cat flu and looked very poorly, with running eyes and lots of sneezing. We therefore plan to return for a brief visit to take medication to them. A local woman, who feeds and cares for them on a daily basis within her limited resources, will ensure that the course of antibiotics is completed.

Our intention is to continue the neutering programme in February. It is amazingly rewarding but very emotional; there are always more cats being brought to our attention and we so want to help them all.



Rita & Giovanni - The Sardinian Vets.



Silvana releasing some cats after treatment.



**If you can help in any way, please contact me,
Silvana on 01959 572319 or 07958 273118.**