

## Sardinian Cat Neutering Appeal - Update

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

Since my last report, issued in October 2004, much has happened in Alghero. Angie and I continued our work in February & November 2005 spending a total of 9 nights there altogether. In February we located another colony near the hospital and, with the help of a local woman who was looking after these cats as best she could, almost all of them were caught and neutered (16 in all). It has made a tremendous difference to the quality of life of these cats and it is a joy to return and see them all looking so well. We also provide food each time we are there to be used in between our visits and the local woman is now able to take any of her cats to the vet if necessary as we will pay the fees for the treatments. We were able to catch and neuter a few more of the cats from the colony at the port. This leaves only a few still needing to be done with the possibility of shortly being able to completely stop any further growth of this colony.



*A lovely blind cat now re-homed*

In November our attention was drawn to yet another colony of cats living in the grounds of a house. There were 13 in all and none had been neutered. With the help of Rita & Giovanni, our local vets, all the cats were collected, neutered and returned to be cared for by the family who had been trying to help them. This was such a positive experience and we are now finding more and more local people who are wanting to help. This is a huge step forward.

Another 5 cats from the port were neutered and treatments carried out for a variety of problems resulting from some of the many viruses that these cats carry. Again, should any of the cats need treatment when we are not there, we have arranged for them to be taken to the vet. It is such a relief to know this is being done.

Beside the above 2 visits described I have also visited Alghero several times with friends or family and have always found a sick cat needing help or a few more to be neutered. My next visit, with Angie, is planned for February 2006.

There will always be far more to do than we can ever hope to achieve but every time we are able to help a single cat we know we have made a difference.



*A local lady who is caring for, and feeding, cats in the Port area.*



*Rita and Giovanni are local vets who help us by carry out the neutering operations on the cats we are able to catch.*

**If you think you could help in any way, please contact me on 01959 572319 or 07958 273118**