

Newsletter

Issue : 10

We have reached December again and this year it seems to have come round even quicker than normal. The first half of the year was difficult for many with continued high unemployment and the ongoing need for people to watch the pennies.

On the property front, the first half of the year was not startling. There were some sales but not at great prices and all to cash buyers. However, we seem, to have a slight turn around in the second half of the year. Not only do we have several sales completed or in progress but also several clients looking to start a new business in Spain. This is something we have been short of for some time as foreigners prepared to invest their time and effort in our country have been very few and far between during the economic crisis. Lets hope this is a sign of better things to come in 2014 but it is not yet time to be over confident.

This month we are delighted to have an excellent money market article from our old friend James Baxter of Foremost Currency and a great article about the saving of a Palacete in Medina Sidonia and its refurbishment in to 5 spacious luxury apartments with a communal pool. We also take a look at The Good, The Bad and The Ugly of estate agency and the Parot Doctrine which has been causing great concern in Spain with the release of high profile, often violent prisoners, earlier than expected back on to the streets.

It's Christmas and a time for giving so we have a little article about some of the many charities which do incredible work in this part of Spain to help abandoned animals. The people who run these charities work long, hard hours, often for little thanks but their job is made harder by the lack of funding and they rely heavily on donations. If you can please give a little, their payment details are shown in the article. Even a little makes a big difference and allows them to go on helping animals in dire need.

Lastly, we sincerely hope that 2014 will be great year for you and your family and also a good year for Spain.

Lesley McEwan, MD, Cadizcasa

STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS

The actress Halle Berry and her husband Olivier Martinez have named their new baby Maceo, a Spanish medieval name which means "gift from God" in tribute to Olivier's grandfather. The unusual name was frequently used between the 9th and 14th century but later evolved in to the modern day name of Mateo meaning Matthew in English.

The baby's father is the son of the former Spanish boxer Roberto Martinez who was born in one of the Spanish protectorates in Morocco. Olivier is half Spanish, half French and was born in Paris. In the past his name has been romantically linked to Kylie Minogue, Juliette Binoche and the Spanish models Elsa Pataky and Goya Toledo but he now seems to have built himself a nice little family with Ms Berry.

THE PAROT DOCTRINE

You may have read in the papers about Spain's Parot Doctrine being over turned by the European Court of Human Rights, forcing them to release from prison some pretty heavy duty criminals before the end of their full jail terms.

The Parot Doctrine was a 2006 Spanish Supreme Court decision that sentence reductions for good behaviour where a prisoner could "earn" one day off their sentence for every two worked or spent studying should be taken off the total sentence and not the maximum sentence. This meant that for prisoners in Spain, where total sentences can run in to hundreds or even thousands of years, a prisoner would have little or no chance of earning time off their sentence by good behaviour. This was found to be a "cruel punishment" by the Strasbourg court.

The Parot Doctrine is named after Henri Unai Parot, an Eta member from the French side of the Basque country who was the first person affected by this new process.

Following the overturning of the Parot Doctrine by Strasbourg, a high profile prisoner named Ines del Rio Prada, 55, has been released and gone to ground. Spanish official sources say she is not registered anywhere in

Spain, causing concern in many quarters. Ines was a member of the Madrid Commando, a particularly bloodthirsty cell of the Eta organisation. Arrested in Zaragoza in July 1988, she was caught driving a car packed with explosives intended for an Eta attack on the Costa del Sol.

She was sentenced to more than 3,828 years in jail, most of the sentence pertaining to her role in an attack on the Guardia Civil police in Madrid which left 14 dead and 40 injured but also other attacks in which she killed a total of 24 people. The sentence was converted to the maximum life sentence of 30 years meaning that she should have left jail in 2008 having “earned” 6 years of reduction in sentence by working in the prison but with the Parot Doctrine applied she remained in prison after 2008.

Spain have been ordered to pay Ines 30,000 euros as compensation for the additional years she served past the natural end of her sentence.

That said, she is unlikely to see a penny of the payout as she was ordered to pay nine million euros to the next of kin of the victims and to those left disabled in the blast, as well as to the State for the clear-up operation and the cost of treating the injured.

Ines had given an address in Tafalla (Navarra) during her prison term and she has also been connected to two addresses in Pamplona, one where her sister lives, but she did not show at any of these addresses after her release. The last sighting of Ines was in the backseat of a vehicle being driven away from the prison by family members who had met her at the prison gates waving the Basque flag. Ines husband nicknamed “Willy” is also a central member of the Eta organisation.

Another Eta prisoner affected by the Parot Doctrine was released recently from Worcester prison in the UK. Antonio Troitino, sentenced for his part in the bombing of Hipercor in Barcelona in 1987, is the only case involving the UK courts. He was originally sentenced to 2,700 years for his part in the murder of 21 people but he was released 4 years early for good behaviour.

Some 7 days later Spain used the Parot Doctrine to circumvent the time limit and ordered Troitino to be rearrested. He fled and was eventually apprehended on an international warrant in the UK in June of last year.

The High Court in London ordered that he be released from Long Lartin prison recently on condition that he

report daily to a police station. Spain’s high court now has to decide whether to push for his extradition but in light of the release of Ines del Rio Prada the question is whether they will take things further.

The overturning of the law not only affects terrorism cases but also other serious cases such as the brutal abduction, torture, rape and murder of 3 teenage girls in the Valencia province in 1992. Referred to as the “Alcasser murders” the brutality of the crime has affected the small town ever since and its population has dropped over the ensuing years, some say as a direct result of the stigma attached to the crimes. Miguel Ricart one of the accused had the Parot Doctrine applied to his sentence by Strasbourg and was released on Friday, raising fears about the safety of the public when such notorious killers come back on to the streets.

There are 47 member states in the Council of Europe and Spain is one of only five who do not have a life sentence, the others being Portugal, Norway, Croatia and Serbia who’s maximum sentences range from 21 to 40 years.

STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS

Spain is about to introduce their fourth cash for scrap part exchange scheme on motor vehicles. This will allow owners to purchase new cars and receive a generous cash for scrap payment for their old car to offset the cost of the new purchase. First piloted in 2012 the highly successful scheme has helped to make the flagging Spanish car trade buoyant again. While the scheme will have cost the Spanish government 220 million euros it has earned them 3.4 billion euros through taxes paid by companies and employees, taxes on new car registrations, change of ownership, off road scrap charges etc. Cristobal Montoro, the Tax Minister says that the car industry is one that should be promoted by the government as it is generating huge returns on the public funding which it has received. It also helps to get old and unsafe vehicles off the road. Mr Montoro says that further tax incentives on change of ownership and vehicle registration is the way ahead. Over 200,000 people have traded in their old cars for news ones in the past year and a half alone.

EXCHANGE RATE OUTLOOK



Well, it's been a fairly eventful quarter for both sterling and the euro, with significant developments in both economic areas. The UK economic recovery seems finally to have taken hold, and there are now signs of the green shoots of

recovery in Europe, with Spain finally exiting recession after two years of negative growth. The European Central Bank also surprised markets by cutting their benchmark interest rate to 0.25%, weakening the euro in the process.

Recent economic data from the UK has been fairly positive, suggesting that the economy may finally be on the road to recovery with Mark Carney, the governor of the Bank of England, saying that the recovery seems to have finally taken hold. At the Bank of England's most recent inflation report the forecast for economic growth was revised upwards after a string of more robust manufacturing, retail and unemployment data. The better data has fuelled speculation that the central bank may raise interest rates sooner than expected. The Bank is currently pursuing a policy of 'forward guidance', whereby interest rates are tied to unemployment levels, with a rise in interest rates likely if unemployment falls to 7% or lower. The most recent unemployment figures showed a decrease from 7.7 to 7.6%.

As a result, sterling has been steadily gaining against most of its major counterparts, breaching the 1.20 mark against the euro on two occasions in the last 6 weeks. Put in real terms, a €200,000 property purchased on the 8th of November would have cost over £11,000 less than the same property on the 10th of July. With favourable exchange rates and low property prices, we've seen an increase in demand for Spanish properties as people decide that it's a great time to be buying.

The positivity hasn't all been one-sided though, with Spain finally emerging from a two-year recession, posting positive economic growth of 0.1%.. The positive data ended nine straight quarterly declines, a welcome relief to Prime Minister Rajoy and his party who pushed through deeply unpopular austerity measures when taking over government back in 2011. The data put an end to Spain's worst recession since its transition to a democracy,

following the bursting of the ten-year construction boom Spain had been enjoying prior to 2008.

The figures were boosted by strong exports and an increase in tourism through the summer, perhaps itself a result of the recovery in Northern Europe gathering pace. Spain's return to growth should be considered good news for the Eurozone as a whole, easing fears that Spain may need financial support to remain with the single currency bloc.

If you're buying or selling property in Spain and will need to convert funds into or out of euros, please contact James Baxter at the Foremost Currency Group for a free, no obligation consultation on 01442 892 062 or email him directly on jsb@fcgworld.co.uk for a free, no obligation consultation.

STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS...STOP PRESS

Spain have ordered Ryanair to remove 8 clauses from their terms and conditions which are deemed abusive. The Madrid court said that the airline could no longer "fine" people who arrived at the airport without a print out of their boarding passes. Previously the airline was taking 40 euros for this "crime" but it was found to be abusive as the "fine" in many cases came to more than had been paid for the actual flight.

The airline is also no longer able to demand that legal action against them be taken in the Irish courts or that Irish law will apply. Passengers have the right to refer to the law of any EU country and take action via any court in the European Union.

Demanding that passengers pay in either cash or by card is no longer allowed as they should have the right to choose their payment method.

Nor can they demand additional documentation which is not normally needed to fly such as driving licences, family registry documents, identity cards and so on, where children are traveling with their parents, or medical reports translated in to English for pregnant women.

Charging passengers luggage consignment fees when they do not pick up their checked-in bags immediately after their flight is now also banned.

Unilateral decisions on altering flight times must cease and denying boarding or refusing to carry luggage without having advised the passenger in advance is a practice Ryanair has been ordered to stop.

Finally, the airline is not allowed to prohibit customers from carrying money, keys, cameras, glasses, watches, mobile telephones or documents in their bags.

Actions were filed against other airlines for abusive behaviour including Iberia, Vueling and the now defunct Spanair but it is claimed that the highest number of complaints against abusive practices were against Ryanair.

IN MEMORY OF MARIA DE VILLOTA

The legendary young racing driving Maria de Villota passed away suddenly and unexpectedly in a Seville Hotel room in the early hours of 11 October 2013. The daughter of Spanish Formula 1 racing driver Emilio de Villota, Maria was severely injured last year in a freak accident when the racing car she had been straight-line testing for Marussia hit a lorry at the race track side as she was returning the vehicle following the test drive. Maria was in Seville to speak at a conference aimed at young students being held by the 'What Really Matters' Foundation. It is thought her death was as a result of the brain injuries she received in the crash although she appeared to have completely recovered. Maria leaves behind her husband Rodrigo whom she married earlier this year. We pay tribute to a stunning young sportswoman who was an inspiration to many.

STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS

A host of well known people from the legal, political and academic world have written to socialist leader Alfredo Perez Rubalcaba offering their support to "bring down the right wing".

The list includes the former National Court Judge Baltasar Garzon. Mr Garzon was struck off after he ordered telephone tapping in the investigation of the Gurtel corruption trial involving high level politicians, an action which implicated many of them. Also included is Pilar Rio the chairwoman of the Jose Saramago

Foundation and the Dean of Madrid's Complutense University, Dr Jose Carrillo besides union bosses, business owners and former leaders of the left wing party the United Left.

The open letter they sent to Mr Rubalcaba says that the PP "is taking advantage of the financial crisis to push unemployment and social exclusion to greater and greater portions of society" and states "It is essential, and urgent, that we reverse the destruction of basic rights that the PP is effecting through its funding cuts,"

Mr Rubalcaba thank those who had signed the letter via his Facebook page and said that "These are times when cooperation, strength in numbers and involvement are needed,"

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

A term often coined when speaking about estate agents. Never has it been truer than in Spain. Not only was estate agency an easy ride for any Spanish person with a piece of ancestral land to sell but also a cushy number for those who came to Spain thinking that they would just fall in to work, only to find that every English speaker and his dog had got there before them and there was no work to be had. Work for someone who does not speak the local language and has little knowledge about the administrative process of a country is hard to find. Many took to bar work, property rental etc, but those options are hard work, so some set up as estate agents. In the mid 2000's when property sales in Spain were at their height, you could quite frankly have put a Gibraltarian rock ape in a suit and called it an estate agent. They would have been just as able to sell houses as many of the erstwhile estate agents who lurked around hotel bars and the local cafes hunting down their quarry.

THE GOOD

Sadly there are few in this category. Very few indeed. These are the agents who are professional, honest and hard working, skilled and knowledgeable. They inform their clients of their legal obligations, of any pitfalls there might be to a sale, they do their homework on market pricing, they are honest with their clients about what is achievable and what is not. As a result, sometimes, they lose out on

selling the property because they basically talk the owner out of selling. It is easy to take houses on to your books but the difficult part is selling them and an honest agent will tell you the likelihood of getting a sale and if they believe that you will do better in a year or two when the market picks up they should tell you that.

A good estate agent is a major bonus to anyone wanting to market their property. Their professionalism will not only be clear to the seller but also to the buyer which, will build trust and confidence that they are dealing with a professional who knows what they are doing and in who's hands they will be safe.

Good agents tend not to negotiate much on commission because they work hard for the money they earn and they stick with a sale through thick and thin to reach a good outcome for their clients. They also do not ask for exclusivity. Exclusive and non exclusive commission rates used to be common place and you paid a different rate depending on which you chose. If you agreed to place your property only with one agent, they would reduce their commission a little but in the current market place, exclusivity has no benefit to the seller. It does however have a great benefit to the agent as he does not have to match competition from other agents or have his performance judged against other agents . So if you are offered such a deal, ask yourself what is in this for me and why does this agent want an exclusive?

All good agents give free advertising on their website and a selection of linked websites plus free advertising signs to put up on the property. No agent should ask for money up front for advertising even if they say it will be deducted off the commission you pay at the end and above all, any good agent should be happy to spend time with you and discuss the sale, then give you time to decide what you want to do. Never be rushed in to putting your house on the market and take with a pinch of salt the old tale "I have just the client looking for this type of property". Occasionally you can be lucky and have an instant match but generally it is just a come on to get your property on their books.

THE BAD

These are the agents who have little regard for the best interests of their clients. Their aim is quite simply to make money. They may be very personable but make no mistake they see you as a walking euro sign. They disregard the law, they disregard the ethical and moral code of estate agency and they will literally do what no other living creatures will do in order to get a sale. Some of these agents will hunt down house buyers. They seek them out in tourist areas, spot them looking in agent windows or hang around hotels they know are used by other agents for their clients when on a buying trip. I have had one of my clients approached when he went to the toilet by such an agent who wanted to give him his card. Not perhaps the most suitable venue to try and do business but this is the level that bad agents will stoop to.

This style of agent tells their sellers not to bother about the legality of their house, that house is the same as all the others. They tell them not to bother with a lawyer as they just cost money. They want to do business with as little paperwork as possible and preferably on a nod and a wink. In many cases, they could not advise a client because they do not know what is correct or what is required by law.

Dealing with a bad agents is not good for you as a seller, because their lack of professionalism and their disregard for the law will show to the purchaser and if they fail to advise you correctly, you could encounter problems down the line even after the sale is completed and the last thing you want is someone chasing after you several years after you have sold.

THE UGLY

To me the ugly are the agents who try to maintain a façade of respectability when underneath lurks something quite different. They are deceitful, manipulative and calculating. Their one and only aim, like the bad agents, is to make money.

They will twist the truth, using such terms as Eco House to describe a property with no main electric or water connections. They will take commission from both the

buyer and the seller, often trying to hide what their commission actually is by asking for it in cash and telling you that will save you money when in fact what they are asking you to do is commit a criminal act. They will ensure that their name appears on as little of the paperwork as possible and that they are responsible for nothing in the transaction.

These agents will blatantly lie to you and say that the market is buoyant and they are selling lots of houses in order to get your property on their books. When, sadly we all know that the market is far from buoyant and in order to achieve a sale, agents have to work very hard indeed. They target clients with a weakness, those who have a need to sell urgently due to old age or ill health and they talk them in to believing that their only hope of selling is with them.

At Cadizcasa we do not believe in overpricing houses, it only prevents the house being sold. When asked to market a property, we look at many years of data for that area, we look at current prices, we compare your property with others of a similar type and we are able to do that as we have a large portfolio. This helps us arrive at a true market value for the property not a figure we thought up on the way back to the office in the car. We do market valuations for the UK and American courts. In addition we look at the Catastral record for the house and we visit Urbanismo at the Townhall to find out exactly what the state of affairs is, so we can give you accurate information and flag up any possible problems before a potential buyer even comes to look at the house. If you are aware of any potential difficulties you can deal with them and your knowledge and confidence with help to reassure a potential buyer.

There are small signs of a turnaround in the market and for the first time we are seeing people interested in investing in Spain. We have people wanting to buy small businesses with a view to developing the business and building a life in the sun around it and that shows great promise for the future but we have a long way to go before we can establish a strong and constant market and the people who will do that are the good agents.

STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS

The Spanish National Transplant Association has reported a series of adverts online offering human organs for sale. The site in question, milanuncios.com have removed the adverts as soon as they were made aware but say it is very difficult to police their site being used in this way.

It is easy to find organs for sale by innocently searching on the word “kidney” for instance. Such a search will bring up information on kidney shaped swimming pools or BMW spare parts but some on line searchers were horrified to find human kidneys being offered as well.

Many of the advertisers are simply desperate for cash to buy food or pay bills and mortgages but there is a more sinister advertiser out there also. This advertiser is attempting to commit scams against people searching for transplant organs while on a transplant waiting list. These mafia style organisations aim to extract large sums of money without delivering the goods.

The advertising of transplant organs is highly illegal in Spain and carries a 12 year jail sentence. The use of organs obtained in this manner is impossible as transplants are only ever carried out in state or private hospitals under strict guidelines and using organs from donor banks.

SAVING A LITTLE GEM IN MEDINA



In 2007 Steve and Lynne were searching for a family home in Medina. They had been staying there a while and really liked the unspoiled Spanish town.

On their travels they came across a Palacete only a couple of minutes walk from the vibrant and popular Plaza de España. Too large for their personal needs, the building played away at the back

of their minds and they decided to have a look at it with a view to creating a luxury development of 4 apartments and 1 townhouse with pool.

Big hearts were needed for the project. The house had access on two levels from two different streets, both running parallel. The front half of the house had survived the years from its build date of 1857 quite well, the back half had not fared quite so well. It was at the back, known as the servants quarters which is entered from a different street, that the animals were brought in to a courtyard and stable. There was a bakery and various store rooms also in this area to supply the household and time had left this part of the house basically derelict.



The dimensions of the house offered a great opportunity to produce a really top class product and with the valuable help of their Architect Miguel Gonzales, who is one of the five Gonzales Byas brothers and the surveyor, Alfonso Domecq, also a member of one of Jerez's famous sherry families, Steve and Lynne set about planning what best to do with the building, while retaining its original features. First Miguel drew a plan of how the building was and then they looked at making those spaces in to workable modern living areas.



Steve says "the building to the front was actually quite well laid out and we wanted to retain the original entrance patio. During the build we actually uncovered the drawing by the original Architect for the patio drawn on a wall in the house and dated, so it was important to keep that as it was originally planned. We had a master carpenter rebuild exact replicas of the patio windows to replace the originals which were past their best.

It took us 18 months of planning before we even touched the site. We were keen to get it right on paper first and we spent a fair bit of time working with Medina Planning Department, who have been incredibly helpful. They were very enthusiastic about the renovation as were many of the locals, who wandered in and out during the build. Some had worked on the house in the past as tradesmen and many just remembered the house from their childhood and were keen to see what we were doing with the old place.

Our aim was always to retain as much of the original as possible and that involved employing a local plaster worker to repair the conche shell mouldings we found in the house and another local tradesman who recreated architrave to match sections we unearthed so it could be reinstated.



People have asked if it would not have been better just to take out the interior and build a new one within the original four walls and there is little doubt that would have been an easier option and a cheaper one, but that is not what we are about.

You cannot replace the 500 year old Moorish arch we discovered and which is now a feature in the Mirador apartment and I would not have missed digging out the 30cm deep floors and finding bits of old headstone they had used as infill. We had 300 skips, plus numerous lorries to take away the debris but what we were left with is breathtaking. The floors we reinstated with special lightweight insulation fill, along with sound and heat insulation and then retiled using reclamation tiles where possible. The majority of the rooms retained their original timber beams, with the first floor apartments still having the original plaster arches between each beam. All of these have been restored to their original glory.

We still have the old well with a depth of around 30m bored down through solid rock and we uncovered the natural stone used to construct the 1m thick walls, hidden behind false walls since their construction which we have left in some rooms as a feature.

It was traditional to have your own well within the walls of your house if at all possible. Water was vital for the animals and in times of civil unrest, you could barricade your home and basically be self sufficient.



As a listed building with historic content, the refurbishment was well monitored by the Archeologists from Medina Town and from the capital of the province Cadiz to ensure that the restoration was sympathetic and that all the artifacts were protected”.

I asked Steve why he chose Medina and he said “Medina is so central and has very easy access so you can get to the



beach and Jerez within 20 minutes. The main Plaza is a few minutes away and is full of the locals giving a warm and friendly atmosphere. The flexibility to create 4 apartments and a townhouse out of the building plus the addition of the rooftop pool and various sun terraces with breathtaking views across the countryside to the coast and bay of Cadiz give purchasers a unique

facility. Sitting on one of the terraces with a glass of wine in hand and watching the setting sun over the coast and Cadiz is stunning, during different times of the year, the view is constantly changing.

Having visited Palacete Thebussem as Steve and Lynne have named the house, I am always stunned by the quality of the finish on the interior such as the centralised music system, hot and cold ducted air conditioning, under floor heating, etc, depending on the apartment, but the

furnished apartments leave you breathless. Steve told me “originally, we were helped by an interior designer but decided to finish the project ourselves”. The end result is to be complimented, modern, well thought out, easy on the eye design but with a splash of wow factor.

There are still 3 apartments available at Palacete Thebussem with up to 100% finance. For further information click here

<http://www.cadizcasa.com/en/listing/for-sale-apartment-2-bedrooms-in-medina-sidonia-12075.html>

<http://www.cadizcasa.com/en/listing/for-sale-apartment-2-bedrooms-in-medina-sidonia-11479.html>

<http://www.cadizcasa.com/en/listing/for-sale-apartment-2-bedrooms-in-medina-sidonia-11477.html>

or call 0034 956 495 177/679553159/660668882

STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS... STOP PRESS

The European Commissioners have refused to investigate Gibraltar for alleged money laundering and tax avoidance as requested by the PP government of Spain. They have said that they intend to concentrate on border queues and inspections and smuggling of contraband goods such as cigarettes.

Spanish president Mariano Rajoy had called for the Commission to 'monitor' the Rock's economic activity and 'ensure it did not breach European laws' concerning money-laundering, tax avoidance or smuggling. Mr Bailly said this was 'not within the remit' of the EC and that they had received 'no formal complaints' about tax issues in Gibraltar.

Mr Bailly added that while they had not noticed any particular problems in this regard, they had received and indeed continued to receive a series of complaints about the border inspections by Spanish Authorities.

The saga of the Rock's sovereignty continues with the PP mayor of Tarifa (Cádiz) rumoured to have illegally sold sand from the Valdevaqueros dunes to the government of

Gibraltar to allow them to build the concrete blocks for the artificial reef which fishermen claim has destroyed their fishing areas, and which sparked off the initial conflict between Spain and the Rock in the first place.

LEND A HELPING HAND IF YOU CAN

As Christmas is almost here, we thought we would highlight two local charities who work endlessly to better the lives of our abandoned cats and dogs. While things have changed greatly over the last 14 years that I have been in Spain, we still do not have the large charities such as the RSPCA in the UK to deal with the considerable volume of abandoned animals. As a result, many are injured, starve and eventually die a wretched death on the streets. These are just two of the many charities who work hard to make the life of abandoned animals better and to rehome as many as possible to living homes where they can learn that not all humans are heartless and cruel.

STREET CATS



The first charity I would like to introduce to you is www.streetcats.es who are a Costa de la Luz based small group of volunteers who work tirelessly to rescue abandoned kittens and cats from the local area. The main aims of the group are to reduce the numbers of abandoned

cats by catching and neutering them to prevent breeding and to rehome animals wherever possible. Street Cats also help others who are feeding homeless cats by offering greatly reduced prices for neutering and veterinary treatment. They have taken responsibility for colonies of cats living on the streets such as the beach cats of Conil where there is a colony of cats numbering nearly 30

animals and another 20 kittens abandoned this summer. The animals need daily feeding and the group aim to neuter all of them as soon as funds will allow.



Street Cats follow a no kill policy unless on the advice of a vet where an animal cannot be saved due to severe injury or illness.

The group work with the local communities to help educate them about animal welfare and they constantly seek new overseas contacts to help with the adoption of cats and kittens.



If you would like to sponsor a street cat for 4 euros a month or make a donation please go straight to Street Cats website here

<http://streetcats.es/J25/index.php/en/sponsor>



SPANISH STRAY DOGS



Spanish Stray Dogs and Spanish Stray Dogs UK are small organisations, originally set up in 2010 to help just one stray dog. Since then, they have grown and grown and now have charity status in the UK. In the short time

they have been set up they have managed to rescue and rehome hundreds of dogs who were treated little better than rubbish on the streets of Spain. Those dogs have been rehomed far and wide around the world and are now living happy and healthy lives with their adopted families in such diverse countries as USA; Finland, America, Switzerland and the Netherlands.

The Spanish Stray Dogs team of volunteers work tirelessly, without pay



just for the love of these very special dogs. They not only focus on adoptions but also on castration days to cut down on the number of births and on supplying food and medications to the

kennel facility at Los Barrios close to Gibraltar. A recent fund raising project has seen them provide a vet to visit these kennels one day a week and this had been made possible by generous donations from individuals and organisations such as www.scotlandstophostels.com and the Gibraltar based www.4gl.gi The generous donations have helped them provide new kennelling and support seriously injured animals needing long term care.

Their volunteers are a key part of the charity. They often see terrible sights in their work and have to deal with animals which have almost given up on life due to the ill treatment they have endured but these people work with the animals tirelessly to show them that not all humans are bad and slowly and surely many animals are nursed back to health and are fit to be rehomed.



If you may be able to adopt a dog who is ready to go to a forever home. Please contact their adoptions team at adoptions@spanishstraydogs.org or view the wonderful dogs by following them on Facebook www.facebook.com/spanishstraydogs

One dog desperate for a forever home is Dixi. He is a 2 year old male Podenco cross. He was found abandoned in a box with his siblings Helena, Beatrix and Tino. Out of the 4 pups only Beatrix has managed to find a forever family and Helena, Dixi and Tino are still urgently searching for a forever family.



If you know someone in the UK interested in adopting from Spanish Stray Dogs please ask them to have a look at the UK website www.spanishstraydogs.org.uk

If you would like to help Spanish Stray Dogs with a donation, please donate via paypal to paypal@spanishstraydogs.org.uk

Thank you for reading our Newsletter, the next edition will be out on 1 March 2014. Please remember it is free to join our mailing list for the Newsletter and all you need do is register under Newsletter in the right hand column of our Home Page.

Everyone at Cadizcasa would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.