

April 2009 Donkey Newsletter

This month we have mostly been... baptising a donkey, sponsored walking, showing a school group of 80 kids round, climbing over roundabout rubble and the post office has decided to tighten up its post box rules (see end)

How to baptise a donkey.



At 18:30 with the sun setting we completed the naming ceremony for one of our baby donkeys, **Ziggy** officially gained a Spanish name to go with his adoption by the [Escuela de Idiomas](#) in Nerja. **Ziggy** will now also be known as [Platero](#) after the donkey in the book *Platero y yo* by Juan Ramón Jiménez.

Ziggy, sorry, **Platero** was exceptionally well behaved throughout and loved all the attention.

There will hopefully be a video of the ceremony on our [youtube channel](#) as soon as we work out how to shrink it. Incidentally one of our videos has had a whopping 208,233 views!

School Visits continue...

The latest school to take part in our education program came along from La Herradura ([the horseshoe](#)) and was our largest group to date with 80 pupils attending. We had to split them in to two groups, one group got to feed the donkeys while the other group listened to a short talk about donkeys and their history in Spanish culture.

On the road - We will soon be taking our school visits on tour with a series of lessons being taught in every school in Nerja shortly. Phew busy busy busy

Pictured are **Flash**, **Farry**, **Leo** (with head in bucket), **Chalkie**, **Paloma**, **Derek's ears**, **Bolera** in her pen waiting her turn and **Hillary** the pig hoovering up scraps.



Sponsored walk – the sponsored walk was enjoyed by all and made over 200 Euros for the donkeys. Pics below



Walking down the nice new tarmac road to el playazo beach



Woody loved walking by the beach and getting treats along the way went down well too.

Roundabout - After no work was done on the new roundabout outside our gates for ooh about 4 months one morning our volunteers turned up to find a gaping hole in the road and no access in to the sanctuary! Luckily the builders are very friendly and soon fetched the ever so slightly precarious blue "bridge" that let us in.

Spot the front gate if you can!
Bigger picture on the website soon
(when the internet comes back
from wherever it's gone this time)



The good news is, fingers crossed
we don't want to jinx it but...

although we have lost the parking outside and will probably have trouble
getting the hay truck anywhere near the sanctuary there will apparently
be a nice pathway leading to our front gate.

We came across this horse
wandering loose on the beach in
Nerja and returned it to it's field
complete with a head collar and rope
(which the owner hasn't returned
but at least his horse isn't miles
away!)



Diablo was returned to his owner and we have been down to check on him
and move him when needed.

We made numerous trips up and down the Rio Chillar in search of a baby
donkey after we received phone calls concerned
for it's well being. We eventually tracked him
down in a field nearby. We also made friends
with another baby donkey up at the car boot
sale of all places.



The Facebook group is currently stuck at 332 members i'm sure we can get that higher so search for the Nerja Donkey Sanctuary Appreciation Society (we didn't start it ourselves that'd be a bit weird). You can share picture of your visit to the donkeys with the group, get sneak previews of new tshirt designs and write on the wall about your favourite donkey. It's free and helps move us up the search engines and lets people all over the world know about the donkeys. Sign up! www.facebook.com

Also online you can make a [regular donation which helps us out massively so we can plan ahead for future projects especially in between the busier school holiday periods.](#)

Almuñecar art auction - Following on from their visit to the donkeys, see last months newsletter, the kids from Almuñecar International school painted some great pictures, most of which were of **Petra** who they adopted and who was clearly their favourite.



More donkey news: **Chalkie** had trouble with colic and had to be seen by the vet he has since recovered but did have to be injected with paraffin to help move everything through. **Farry** has been spending his time as our eco donkey with trips to the beach to collect left over bread and veg. **Connan** got a fantastic new wooden pen leaving just the babies fences to be replaced when we can afford the wooden poles to do it. **Mocarra** has been enjoying one of the new side pens as she rests and recuperates after her winter aches and pains. **Flash** has been naughty as usual.

Important note about our postal address

The post office have changed their policy regarding post office boxes and as such all mail must be addressed to the person who signed up for the box, that being the President of our charity Katherine Horne.

Please ensure all mail for the Nerja Donkey Sanctuary is addressed as:
Katherine Horne (Presidente), Nerja Donkey Sanctuary, Apartado de Correos 414, Nerja, 29780, Malaga, Spain

p.s. they're doing this to stop lots of people without addresses or addresses out in the hills from joining together and using one box. So if you were doing this you might need to look in to it!

Thanks to...

Everyone who was involved with the sponsored walk
Nicole Brouwers' pupils who donated 75 euros for the donkeys
Lynden and Sarah for their woofing expertise
Our car boot helpers and sorters (and our donors of course)
Anne Lohead for persuading lots of her friends to adopt donkeys
You for reading this
and anyone else we've forgotten!

Love from all at the [Nerja Donkey Sanctuary](#)

Any questions, queries or quiz night winners can contact us at
admin@donkeyaid.com