

February Donkey Newsletter

So much has happened over the last few weeks we've struggled to fit it all in one newsletter. If you've visited recently you'll already have met the new arrivals if not here's a quick summary so you can keep track of the comings and goings.

One new arrival who only stayed with us for a few days while we tracked down her owner was **Valentina** who incredibly turned up on Valentine's day itself!

She was left loose in a field near to the sanctuary with nothing to stop her wandering into the nearby main road. She was completely untethered so we took her in. She has a beautiful heart shaped mark on her forehead and fell in love with one of our other new arrivals. We quickly found her extremely grateful and relieved owner.



We mentioned in the last donkey newsletter how we needed to make room in the sanctuary for all the animals waiting to come in by homing some of our current residents. Well the good news is we managed to home a donkey and a big one at that. **Trevor** our giant baby donkey has gone to a nice foster home. Having made a bit of space we suddenly found ourselves with a new horse and another pony in a matter of days. So it turned out to be one animal out and two in! Luckily the pony, **Smarty**, is so small he doesn't take up much room.



Smarty had been kept in small area with no companions, little exercise and was being fed high energy oats so he's a little hyper to put it mildly. He particularly likes standing up on his rear legs and trying to box the baby donkeys and the volunteers with his front hooves. Once he gets used to his new surroundings and his more balanced diet he should calm down and we'll be able to move him on to a new home.

Another new resident **Shaggy** has settled in very well although we did have to move Pablo out of his pen and into the main donkey area to make room. We haven't been short of firewood this winter as Pablo's first trick on being let out with the other donkeys was to knock down a tree, we know he's a big donkey but it was a bit of a surprise.



Pablo surveys the damage



New arrival - Shaggy

With the side pens all full we've been busy repairing and renewing the metal roofs to keep everyone dry.

The original sheeting for Petra's pen has lasted nearly five years but it has seen better days so we are saving up to replace it and make sure she stays warm and dry.

40 kids from the Frigiliana primary school braved the rain to visit the donkeys, we didn't have enough buckets to go round so we filled a wheelbarrow with carrots and leftover veg donated by local fruterias and farmers.



Donkeys are known for their big ears but their eyes were pretty big too when they saw the wheelbarrow full of treats.

Connan and Woody enjoying special treats



The second annual yard sale in aid of the sanctuary took place in San Juan Capistrano and raised 580 euros a huge **thank you** to Mary, Eleanor and everyone else involved.

Last years successful sponsored walk, organised by Patricia, is to be repeated on Sunday morning March 14th come down and join in the fun.

Visitor numbers are still desperately lower than last year and the rainy weather is seriously impacting our donations. Your online support is vital in this difficult period. Please remember [online adoptions](#), [donations](#) and [adoption renewals](#) are extremely important for the survival of the sanctuary.

Adoptions make great presents and we aim to dispatch every online adoption within 24 hours. Check out our **new** postcards available on zazzle.co.uk



Donkey news

Chalkie is being treated for a fungal infection caused by the non-stop rain. Locals say it's 40 years since Nerja saw this much rain.

Connan decided he didn't like having his hooves trimmed and tried to kick the farrier. **Derek** was in a good mood for the farrier's visit thankfully.

Farry had a bit of a fall out with Feliz and had to be moved to a separate pen to chill out.

Flash hung out under his favourite tree.

Leo ran away from the farrier and took 6 volunteers and a long time to catch him.

Woody also wasn't particularly keen on the farrier but **Bolera** was a good girl

Billy is looking forward to the completion of his new pen and roof. **Chocky** has had a bit of a break from the disabled riding due to the incessant rain. **Iggy** has found himself a girlfriend and a nice new foster home in

Frigiliana. **Hilary** is now much happy and is venturing out into the visitor area again. **Paloma** gave us a bit of a scare when she seemed to be having trouble with her vision, she was checked out by the vet that same afternoon and given the all clear.

The **babies** have been naughty as usual although better behaved now that Trevor has moved to his foster home.

Thanks to – Thanks to Elena, John, Sandra & Stich for their donation. GINS for their 100 euro donation. Claudia and Carmen for their help with translations. Escuela de Idiomas Nerja for improving our Spanish. Jill Leeson for the knitted donkeys. Thanks to all our recent Woofers and brave caravan volunteers.



The important money bit

Donations via direct bank transfer are the quickest and best way to donate money to the donkeys and also incurs the least charges.

Our charity bank details are:- **Banco Popular Nerja No:** 0075-1458-25 060-00108-86 **IBAN** ES3700751458250600010886 **BIC** POPUESMM

Information about volunteering, school visits or opening hours call Rory on (+34) 664 558 133. Rescues call Harriet on 618 46 7575.

You can donate in Sterling or Euros with cheques payable to Nerja Donkey Sanctuary.

Postal address (must include our president's name) Katherine Horne, Nerja Donkey Sanctuary, Apartado de Correos 414, Nerja, 29780, Malaga, Spain.

The Nerja Donkey Sanctuary is a registered Spanish not for profit charity no.7502

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

Any questions admin@donkeyaid.com

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Who's this arriving in the dark? Find out in the next newsletter