

Irish Society for the Prevention  
of Cruelty to Animals

Spring/Summer 2014

# ISPCCA

## newsletter



# CEO's welcome

Dear Friends and Supporters,



I am delighted to join the ISPCA as Chief Executive Officer and look forward to working with the Society's dedicated staff, volunteers and supporters to improve the welfare of animals throughout Ireland.

2014 is an important year for animal welfare. The recent introduction of the Animal Health and Welfare Act is a major step forward for animal welfare in this country. This Act replaces a number of other pieces of legislation relating to animal welfare including the Protection of Animals Act which dates back to 1911. For the first time, animal owners have a legal responsibility to safeguard and not threaten the health and welfare of any animal in their possession. Failure to provide adequately for the needs of animals could result in prosecution.

The ISPCA's six fully trained and experienced Inspectors are authorised under the Act which will give them the ability to concentrate on prevention of cruelty instead of having to wait until cruelty occurs before being able to act. This will have a significant impact on the way we work and will result in better welfare for those animals most in need. For more information about the Act, please visit our website: [www.ispca.ie](http://www.ispca.ie).

The equine crisis in Ireland continues to pose major problems. At the end of February our Victor Dowling Equine Rescue Centre in Mallow, Co. Cork was caring for 45 equines, while the National Animal Centre was caring for 18 with a further 15 out with fosterers. Most of the horses, ponies and donkeys had been abandoned or were suffering from cruelty or neglect. Many of our equines are under three years of age meaning they will be with us for a long period of time as it is hard to rehome these youngsters. See page 4 and 12.

The ISPCA cares for all animals including companion animals, equines, farm animals and wild animals. Although we will continue to focus on companion animals and equines, the Society also recognises that there are many welfare concerns which we need to speak out about and press for changes in legislation and attitudes of the public. The use of wild animals for sport or entertainment can result in serious animal welfare problems. For example, the use of wild animals such as lions, tigers and sea lions in circuses continues to cause concern. Travelling circuses simply cannot provide a suitable environment for these animals and we believe this practice is out dated and should be consigned to history. See page 3.

Financially, times are still very difficult for us all but we continue to rely on your help and support. Your generous donations allow us to continue our vital animal welfare work and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. Animal cruelty and neglect can happen anywhere. Please be alert and aware and if you are concerned about the welfare of any animal contact our confidential ISPCA National Animal Cruelty Helpline on 1890 515 515.

Best wishes,

**Dr Andrew Kelly**  
ISPCA Chief Executive Officer



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## Sea lions are not clowns

The ISPCA is opposed to the use of any wild animals in circuses as circuses cannot provide sufficient space and appropriate conditions to guarantee the physical and psychological well-being of their animals, especially social species like sea lions.

Many circus animals show signs of stress exhibited by abnormal or stereotypic behaviour. Animal acts in circuses provide no useful function. Circuses claim that animals provide harmless entertainment but this disregards the suffering caused to the animals involved or the dubious training methods used. Circuses have no educational value and contrary to the claims

of circus proprietors, circuses contribute nothing to the conservation of rare species. Sea lions (or any wild animals) are not clowns. Sea lions are highly social and gregarious animals and are usually found in large groups with complex social structures. Sea lions can weigh up to 1000kg and dive up to 100m to catch their fish prey, although some can dive as deep as 250m. The circus is no place for them and it is simply not possible to provide a suitable environment for sea lions in a travelling circus. We urge people not to support circuses that use wild animals and instead to save their money for human only circuses. **Visit [www.ispca.ie](http://www.ispca.ie) for more information.**

## Become an ISPCA Buddy to the Easter Bunny!



ISPCA bunny Oscar is hoping you will help other bunnies like him this Easter by buying an ISPCA Thoughtful Gift rather than an Easter egg.

Many rabbits come into the care of the ISPCA when the novelty of caring for them wears off. Many are simply abandoned. A thoughtful gift is an alternative to adding another chocolate egg to the mantelpiece. Your thoughtful gift is vital and means the rabbits in our care will get a second chance at being loved. Visit [www.ispca.ie](http://www.ispca.ie) for more information.

### About the ISPCA

The Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ISPCA) is the largest national animal welfare charity and represents 19 affiliated member societies. Together the ISPCA and our members rescue, care for and rehabilitate thousands of animals every year and responsibly rehome them in loving new homes. Our mission is to prevent cruelty to animals, to promote animal welfare and relieve animal suffering in Ireland.

### Thank you for supporting My Dog Ate It

**A big thank you to all the Schools that have taken part in the My Dog Ate It this year.**

We are delighted so many children are so interested in animal welfare and responsible pet ownership, and want to support the ISPCA in preventing animal cruelty. My Dog Ate It was launched by Rosanna Davison and the fantastic Jedward in St. Stephens Green. Because of its popularity we will be running it in both the winter and summer terms.







TV presenter Andrea Hayes, Showjumper Gerard Clarke and ISPCA Inspector Michael Keane at the launch of the ISPCA Hay Drive 2014

## Dramatic increase of horses needing help

The ISPCA continues to call for strong enforcement of regulations governing identification of equines and the registration of premises where they are housed in order to promote responsible equine ownership.

TV presenter Andrea Hayes, International Show Jumper Gerard Clarke and ISPCA Inspector Michael Keane helped launch the 2014 Hay Drive Appeal, following a dramatic increase in the number of equines admitted to our Rehabilitation Centres. The celebrities joined forces to ask the public, who care about horses to please donate €4 or make a monthly gift of €4 on [www.ispca.ie](http://www.ispca.ie) to buy a bale of hay and feed a neglected horse. A massive **thank you** to everyone who donated. A bale of hay can make all the difference!



ISPCA Inspector Michael Keane fights to save horse trapped in drain



**Two gorgeous terrier cross puppies, only a few days old, were rescued in Longford the day before Valentine's Day.**

A passing workman discovered the puppies on the grass verge of the busy Athlone Road in Longford, keeping them warm in his hat while contacting the ISPCA. Kind hearted Denise from the ISPCA took them under her wing, initially bottle feeding them every two hours in a bid to save them. They were so small that their eyes still had not opened.

Denise said: "Thankfully these little puppies, Cupid and Valentino, are getting stronger by the day. It is completely shocking to see defenceless



## Dumped before Valentine's Day!!

animals being left to die at the side of a busy road. They were so young and defenceless when rescued that it really was touch and go if they would survive. They were hungry and cold and would probably have died within hours if they had not been found".

Cupid and Valentino are expected to make a full recovery and when ready the ISPCA will find them loving new homes.

The ISPCA is appealing to the public who may have information as to the origin of these puppies. Please contact the ISPCA National Animal Cruelty Helpline on 1890 515 515 in confidence or email: [helpline@ispca.ie](mailto:helpline@ispca.ie). For more information about these puppies or other animals at the ISPCA National Animal Centre, please visit [www.ispca.ie](http://www.ispca.ie), call 043 33 22035 or email: [info@ispca.ie](mailto:info@ispca.ie)

## Adaptil Collar and Diffuser Helped to Calm Frightened Primrose



**Primrose was found in Donegal. She had bull wire embedded in her neck which is believed to have been used to tether her. The wire had cut into her flesh leaving a deep open wound. She was also terrified of anyone leaning into her and could not get passed this fear.**

ISPCA Corporate Supporters, Interchem offered Denise an Adaptil collar and diffuser which contains a synthetic copy of the dog appeasing pheromone. It is proven to reassure both puppies and dogs in challenging situations and prevent or reduce stress-related behaviours. Denise has been using Adaptil for only 2 weeks and already can see a huge difference. Denise comments "She's much more relaxed and reassured.



When she came into us she couldn't be handled and would run away from us. With more time and the continued use of Adaptil I'm confident Primrose will recover from her experience and make a lovely pet".



## ISPCA urge dog owners to be responsible

**The ISPCA strongly urges dog owners to act responsibly and keep their animals under control around sheep and other livestock.**

Don't let your pets roam freely in the countryside where they can inflict horrific injuries and

suffering on lambs and ewes. Dog owners should also ensure that their dogs are secured at night. A dog attack on a flock of sheep, particularly during lambing season, can be fatal and may have financial consequences for the dog owner.



Cuddles on the sofa

## Happy Tails!

*"Elvis is settling in well to our home environment. He walks 5km per day, spends his day playing and fighting with Homer. He is very good with the kids and is very close to being house trained. Elvis is very intelligent and learns quickly. He is still hard work as a puppy, but he has brought a lot of fun and laughter to our home"*

Thank you!  
The Hogan Family

# Once in a lifetime Kilimanjaro Trek

**Help animals in the care of the ISPCA by Climbing Kilimanjaro the highest free standing mountain in the world.**

This trek is a once in a lifetime experience. Join our team who will be taking the Machame route which is surrounded by spectacular scenery and a wide variety of landscape. The eleven day trip is a remarkable experience not to be missed- and to top it off there is the option to add on a one day safari on your last day and be in with a chance of seeing the 'Big Five'.

There are dates available in October and January.

### Sounds good?

Contact the Fundraising Team today for full details on 043 3325035 (ext. 3) or email: [fundraising@ispca.ie](mailto:fundraising@ispca.ie).







## “Run for Me!”

The ISPCA is asking women who love animals to join **Team ISPCA** on Bank Holiday Monday 2nd June 2014 to walk, run, jog or crawl to help cruelly treated, neglected and abused animals. Every footstep taken will make a huge difference, so sign up and pledge your support today.

During the difficult economic situation we really value your support and even a small amount of fundraising makes a big difference to the work we do. So join Team ISPCA today.

Register for your race at [www.florawomensminimarathon.ie](http://www.florawomensminimarathon.ie) and then order your ISPCA Marathon pack at [www.ispca.ie](http://www.ispca.ie). For further information, email: [marathon@ispca.ie](mailto:marathon@ispca.ie) or call 043 33 25035.



## Rosanna does ISPCA a big (Wedding) Favour



ISPCA Wedding Favours are a lovely idea for couples who want to do something a little bit different, and personal, on their wedding day

Beautiful Bride to Be Rosanna Davison was kind enough to promote ISPCA Wedding Favours ahead of her own wedding. She said "For animal lovers everywhere, the ISPCA wedding favours are a wonderfully unique way to thank your guests for being part of your special day. Being able to tie them in with the chosen colour scheme on your big day, and using a picture of your beloved pet's means that they can also play a part in your wedding. But most importantly, the money raised from wedding favours will go directly to saving the lives of hundreds and thousands of animals. That most definitely beats chocolate wedding favours any day."





## Donegal man pleads guilty to seven counts of cruelty to dogs

A 77 year old man from Co. Donegal was convicted of animal cruelty at Carndonagh District Court on Tuesday 18th February. He pled guilty to seven counts of cruelty to a number of dogs on his property in early 2011.

Officer Kevin McGinley had found 18 dogs living in poor conditions. Some were tied on short tethers, others confined in sheds and a stationary jeep with inadequate ventilation and many were deprived access to water and suitable shelter and bedding. In addition, he discovered the decomposing and unburied carcasses of three other dogs.

Inspector McGinley tried to persuade the owner to voluntarily surrender the majority of the dogs to the care of the ISPCA, but he refused to cooperate.

Judge Paul Kelly banned him from keeping dogs for ten years and ordered him to pay a fine of €500 and costs of €400 to the accompanying vet. The vet, Stuart Johnston, kindly requested that his fee be paid to the ISPCA.

Inspector McGinley said *"I am pleased that the conclusion was successful. The ban will prevent a similar situation arising again for the foreseeable future"*.



Tulip with Pancake, Bud and Violet



## You can help reduce the number of unwanted pets by spaying or neutering

As kitten season approaches, staff at the ISPCA National Animal Centre are bracing themselves for an explosion of new born kittens. The weather this winter has been mild and we expect an even higher number of unwanted kittens in comparison to previous years. We urge all cat owners to neuter their cats both male & female from approximately five months of age. Not only will it reduce the numbers of unwanted kittens being born but your cat will live longer, be less at risk of contracting deadly viruses and be less likely to get injured while roaming to mate. If you are considering getting a cat or kitten, please consider the ISPCA. All our cats are vaccinated, neutered/spayed and treated for parasites.



## I didn't ask to be born! ISPCA anticipate explosion of unwanted kittens

We urgently need to find good homes for cats in our care so we can make space for the new arrivals needing our help. Visit our website [www.ispca.ie](http://www.ispca.ie) or visit the Centre Wednesday – Sunday between 11:30 – 4pm to meet the felines in our care waiting for a new home.

Thank you for reading our newsletter and for your continued support. Please don't discard this newsletter once read. Why not give it to someone you think would be interested in reading it or drop it into a waiting room near you. You can also sign up to receive our e-newsletter on [www.ispca.ie](http://www.ispca.ie)

## Adopt a goat!

The ISPCA have six goats looking for new homes. Goats are intelligent, sensitive animals and make rewarding pets in the right homes. Tulip is a white female goat that arrived with her three kids Pancake, Bud and Violet. Gimli and Frodo are two male pygmy goats. All six goats will be looking for homes when fully rehabilitated. They are currently receiving veterinary treatment for their hooves, parasites and will be neutered. As they are social animals they must be rehomed with other goats for company. They will require a large well fenced area with access to a warm dry shelter at all times. If you feel you can provide a good home to some of these beautiful goats please do get in touch.





## We Need You... For Fundraising Volunteers

The ISPCA Fundraising department needs you! We are looking for volunteers to help us with Fundraising Activities. From bag packs, to event marshals, flag-day collections, fundraising administration, to Christmas Agents to sell cards and calendars. Your support is vital in helping us achieve our fundraising goals. Can you donate your time to help us raise critical funds to rescue, rehabilitate and responsibly rehome animals in Ireland?

We are looking for enthusiastic and reliable Fundraising Volunteers who can help us in a variety of ways.

**Please email: [amy@ispca.ie](mailto:amy@ispca.ie) or telephone 01 400 3614 to discuss further.**

## Happy Tails!



### Ronnie

Ronnie is enjoying his fantastic new home, having been broken and ridden by two wonderful young girls.

This is a photo of Forest when rescued by the ISPCA

## Plight of Ireland's horses highlighted on RTE's Primetime

**ISPCA Inspectors are receiving more equine related complaints than ever before and there are now more calls to the ISPCA's helpline concerning horses than any other species. Equines that have been neglected or abandoned are now a virtually daily occurrence for the charity's officers.**

One of the horses featured on the programme was Forest. Forest came into the care of the ISPCA after Inspector Kevin McGinley responded to a call last October in the Lifford area of Co. Donegal. He came upon an all too familiar scene - a severely emaciated horse dumped in a field and left to die. The details on his micro-chip confirmed that Forest was an ex-racehorse. While his last registered owner was located, it was reliably established that Forest had been sold several years previous but his ownership never updated. Efforts to establish who

had been responsible for his care in the period leading up to his discovery proved unsuccessful. Forest was taken to the ISPCA's National Animal Centre in Co. Longford for rehabilitation where he required urgent dental and farrier treatment. He was also suffering from rain scald, lice and had a severe worm burden. Forest received the veterinary care he required and as soon as he was rehabilitated and fit enough to travel, he was kindly fostered by a lady in Williamstown, Co. Galway in January where he has been making a great recovery. The ISPCA is asking the Irish public who care about horses to please donate €4 or make a donation online at [www.ispca.ie](http://www.ispca.ie) which will help buy a bale of hay and feed a neglected equine just like Forest. A donation will enable the ISPCA to continue rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming the large number of animals who are in urgent need of care.





# ISPCA Outreach

St Oliver's School  
Co Meath visit the ISPCA  
National Animal Centre



## School Tours to the ISPCA National Animal Centre

The ISPCA works closely with schools as education is paramount to furthering our aims in preventing animal cruelty and neglect in Ireland. We hope to engage the next generation who will be responsible for animal welfare in the future. We welcome school visits to the National Animal Centre to visit our

kennels, cattery and stable areas and meet our animals learning about their rescue and rehabilitation progress. Our trained animal care assistants will explain the importance of animal welfare and responsible pet care and ownership. Students will see first-hand how they can make a difference.



Arrange a visit today by emailing: [nac@ispca.ie](mailto:nac@ispca.ie)  
or call Eva at 043 33 25035.

Students from St. Oliver's Post Primary School in Oldcastle in Meath visited the ISPCA National Animal Centre. The students saw first-hand the facilities and the animals that are in the care of the ISPCA. Animals that originated from Co Meath, via Inspector Elaine Reynolds, helped to highlight the reality of the student's animal welfare project.

### ISPCA Visit Bruach Resource Centre in Cork

ISPCA Inspector Lisa O'Donovan and ISPCA Rescue Dog 'Timmy' were delighted to get the opportunity to visit and chat about animal welfare and responsible pet ownership with all the wonderful people at Bruach Resource Centre in Cork.

### ISPCA Visit UCD Veterinary Students

ISPCA Chief Inspector Conor Dowling was delighted to have the opportunity to visit UCD veterinary students recently. The Veterinary Society had invited Conor along to speak about animal welfare and the work of the ISPCA.

"The veterinary students of today are likely to be our colleagues of tomorrow" commented Conor, "so it was exciting to get the chance to speak to so many at one time".

# Happy Homes needed



## Can you offer Stella a home?

Stella is a smashing four year old. She is unbroken but a well-handled lady, ready to start her education. Stella measures about 14hds.



## Can you offer Victor a home?

Victor is a four year old gelding, measuring 14.2hds. Victor is broken and riding and is a very gentle chap. He needs an extra specially kind home.

## Leave the world a better place

*Their lives are in our hands...  
our future is in yours!*

What would happen to the thousands of animals that need the ISPCA's help if we were not here? The ISPCA is entirely dependent on our supporters, people like you, who care about animals. We know that Wills and charitable legacy giving may at first seem daunting, but it needn't be. Having an up-to-date Will is the only way you can ensure that the people and causes you care about are provided for according to your wishes. To find out more

information about leaving a gift in your Will to the ISPCA, please contact Brid Sweeney in confidence at 043 33 25035 or email: [brid@ispca.ie](mailto:brid@ispca.ie)



## Rocky the Keeshond is looking for love

Rocky is one cool dog looking for his retirement home. Though he may not be a puppy he is still quite playful and you will never meet a more affectionate boy!



Can you give Rocky a home? Rocky is one of our ISPCA Cara program for dogs.

Visit [www.ispca.ie](http://www.ispca.ie) or call 043 33 25035 for more information.

### ISPCA National Animal Centre

Derryglogher, Keenagh, Co. Longford

T: 043 33 25035

E: [info@ispca.ie](mailto:info@ispca.ie)

Visiting hours are Wednesday to Sunday inclusive from 11:30am to 4pm daily (closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day)

### ISPCA Victor Dowling Equine Rescue Centre

Dromsligo, Mallow, Co. Cork

T: 022 43218

E: [victordowling@eircom.net](mailto:victordowling@eircom.net)

Visits by appointment only

If you believe an animal is being cruelly treated, neglected or abused, please call our confidential animal cruelty helpline on **1890 515 515** or visit [www.ispca.ie](http://www.ispca.ie) to report cruelty online in confidence.

