



## GET TO KNOW...

**Ingrid**, the nicest and sweetest husky girl ever has hip displasia. As the weather is getting colder and she is not comfortable walking, she needs to take vitamins and eat special food. As vitamins, she needs Omnicondro, 2 pills per day, and she also needs special mobility dry food that contains the right elements to help maintain joint mobility. The cost of Omnicondro for her is 30€ per month and a bag of mobility food of 14kg costs 80€.



**Flocky** is a puppy of 7 months who was found 4 months ago in a state of complete exhaustion of the organism. He has developed arthritis in his front legs and has problems walking because he was deprived of proper alimentation and suffered from tick fever - that can have serious consequences for a puppy - when he was growing up.



This is really sad for a puppy! Not being able to run and play

because of the pain!

He is taking vitamins and eating good food but what would really help him is hydrotherapy. We already have experience with other dogs and one month of swimming, 30-45 minutes every day, can really make miracles. The cost of such treatment would be around 400€.

## WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF...

- Deworming tablets
- Spot-on against fleas and ticks such as *Advantix* and *Frontline* and also *Advocate* for dogs with skin allergies
- *Scalibor* collars
- *Actidox* and *Becozyme* for treatment of tick fever and *Conofite* and *Oridermyl* for treatment of ear infections

This month we did not have many adoptions... We cannot say why. We did everything like we always do but somehow dogs were not going homes... We had as much as work as usually - we had many visits to the shelter and we spent lots of time with the potential adoptants but the result was very often frustrating. Either there were people that had no conditions to get a dog so we had to refuse, or there were people that insisted on adopting a dog that was completely inadequate to their lifestyle or there were people who came to the shelter to waste our time and only later considered well if they really wanted a dog in their lives. And the explanations... "puppy not young enough", "dog not small enough", "we would like to be certain about future size", "we would like to be sure about future temperament"... A dog is a living being and it cannot be programmed.

## FOLLOW UP OF INTERNATIONAL DOG ADOPTIONS

Many people in Portugal ask us: but how can you send dogs abroad, do you know where they go and how they are? Do you get news after they have been adopted? What if there are any problems and dogs are given back...?

The answer is **"YES"** and this is due to the structure of DOP and the dedication of the people "on the other side"...

DOP Portugal has partners in the countries where the adoptions are made: DOP Germany, DOP Denmark, DOP Sweden, DOP Norway and EGN in Italy. That means that our partners not only make a pre-adoption visit but also follow the adoption afterwards: ask about the news, give tips, pay a visit, recommend a vet or a trainer, organise doggy meetings (remember the german summer festival in August?). They will also be a backup in case something goes wrong, for example if a dog is given back they will find a temporary family and a new home, or if the dog runs away from home, they will make uncountable efforts to find him/her. And there are examples for that.

So concluding this short article DOP Portugal would like to give a big thank you to its foreign partners!

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## LAST MONTH ADOPTIONS

In September 2013 a total of nine animals were adopted!

The lucky ones were:

Annie, Gina, Joana (now Chilli), Lobo, Nina, Robert, Sarah, Silver and Yanka.

If you have adopted a dog or a cat from us, give us news!



## WE NEED FLIGHT SPONSORS...

We're always needing volunteers to help out at the shelter. But you can also volunteer occasionally as a **flight sponsor!**

What does it mean? Well, if you go on holidays and fly to the locations where we have homes for our dogs you can take a dog with you. We take care of the organisation of everything on both ends, you simply need to transport the dog.

We are looking for flights from Lisbon to: Oslo, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Brussels, Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Milan.



## DOGS TRUST INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME



This September, a DOP member attended the Dogs Trust International Training Programme in London.

During an intensive week, a small group of worldwide delegates approached different issues concerning animal welfare and attended talks from expert speakers regarding bio security, shelter construction, standard operating procedures, rehoming, volunteer management, TNR, educational programmes, dog training and rehabilitation, animal capture and handling, feline infectious diseases, fundraising, PR, marketing and communication.

It was an opportunity to share knowledge and experiences, to network and above all to learn so much. Now we feel able to go further, to improve on our efficiency and expand our work to new projects.



## DIA VERDE | GREEN DAY

Invited by the company Fidelidade, this December 22nd, DOP organized for "O Cantinho da Milu" to attend the Dia Verde (green day) event.

The superstars for the day where our juveniles Stella, Stallone, Júlio, Gabriel, Mimi, Joana, João, Nina, Serapintas e Tuga. We were visited by many families and had the opportunity to raise awareness amongst children and adults for animal welfare and responsible adoptions. We were complimented on the kindness, beauty and health of our puppies and two of them have consequently been rehomed.

It's always uplifting to place the animals we shelter in families but we know that the true value of these events is in the education of the people and that the results go far beyond the number of adoptions.

