# DOP

### REHOMING PORTUGUESE DOGS

#### WWW.DOGSOFPORTUGAL.COM

#### **EVENTS**

On 8-15th of October we had a sterilization project in the shelter that Dogs of Portugal support. Two brave vets, Louise and Fiorella, came from Denmark and worked hard for 6 days. (Thank you!)

There were 57 animals sterilized:

- male dogs 29
- female dogs 13
- male cats 4
- female cats 11

During the sterilization the dogs also received teeth cleaning, ear cleaning and nail cutting. They received a spoton against fleas and new collars. Real treatment!

The dogs were recovering after the operation in kennels with stone floor - it is important that the recovery should



be in a place that can be kept clean and dry (not the kennels with sand floor).

All the "patients" have recovered well.

We would like to thank our supporters for the donations - without them it would not be possible to organize this project.

This is our contribution against the overpopulation of homeless dogs and cats in Portugal - the first step to limiting the abandonment is to make sure there are no unwanted puppies and kittens. We know that what we do is only a drop in the sea but this is our part at least.

#### STERILIZE!

Sterilization is sometimes seen as a dilemma for pet owners... A dilemma that has to be dealt with, as soon as possible, considering the opinion of the vet that normally assists the animal. Several factors have to be pondered, such as the age and the general health state of the animal.

There are two types of sterilization, one that surgically removes all reproductive organs, meaning the uterus and ovaries in females (ovary-hysterectomy) and the testicles in the case of males (orquiectomy). The second one consists only in uterine tubal ligation in females and the ligation of the vas deferens in males. The second one may be effective as a contraceptive method, but it lacks many of the advantages of the first method.

The main advantage of sterilization is the population control. Sterilization also increases the life expectancy of animals. There are many health related benefits. In females the probability of contracting ovarian or uterinal cancer becomes minimal. It also prevents pyometra, an uterine pathology that results to be very serious if not treated in time, and the treatment is surgical and can be deadly. The development of mammary tumors can drop to almost zero, depending on the age at which the animal is sterilized. It prevents psychological or "false" pregnancy, a hormonal disorder that is quite common in females. It decreases the risk of contracting venereal diseases transmitted through sex or diseases transmitted by bites from other animals and it also decreases the risk of being injured or escaping due to fighting.

In males, castration prevents several types of tumors, perineal hernias and prostatic cysts among others. The ritual of marking territory with urine and possessive or dominant behavior also tend to decline. It decreases anxiety and the habit of running away or trying to mount other animals and people. It eliminates the risk of contracting venereal diseases transmitted through sexual intercourse, and also decreases the risk of being run over by a car or getting injured in fights. Some owners wonder about a possible change of character of their pet, but many experts affirm that the personality does not change, only certain behaviors related to sexual hormones might be mitigated, such as marking territory. The personality of the animal depends on its genetic inheritance and education, not sexual hormones. There should be no change in its behavior in relation to territorial defense, instinct to guard, or the attitude towards the owners.

Adopt a conscious decision. Neuter your pet.



Sterilization project has as objective to neuter an important number of dogs and cats — this is our contribution against the overpopulation of animals in Portugal and their abandonment. It also fulfills our commitment to always give a neutered animal for adoption.

Your support for this project has been very important.
THANK YOU!





Christmas and New Year are approaching, you are probably thinking what to buy as presents? You can buy a present, make someone happy and at the same time make your contribution for homeless animals. DOP has new merchandising, always very good quality and good taste. A present you are not going to be ashamed to give.

Look at our new polo shirts (men and women models) and most important: DOP CALENDARS 2013!



## DOP SPONSOR Casa Ignacio - holiday rental in Algarve

To book go to: http://www.ownersdirect.co.uk/ and insert property number P979. After you have booked, send an email to the owners and tell them that you had seen the property on the site of DOP. A percentage of your booking will be donated to support the activities of Dogs of Portugal rescuing and rehoming of abandoned dogs.





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#### **ADOPTIONS THIS MONTH**

In October 2012 a total of 24 animals were adopted!

The lucky ones were: Anita, Axelle (now Arruda), Bambi, Boldy (now Basil), Celine, Codorniz, Daisy, Dia, Eva, Génio, Ibiza (now Sina), Laika, Loba, Lorenzo (now Lorax), Lucky (now Torrie), Luna, Maru, Mickey, Missanga (now India), Pantufa, Piglet (now Benji), Princesa, Sandy and Sweet.

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

