



# *Mani International Animal Organisation*



2 of Olive's pups at the vet

## *Winter Struggles*

February was a tough month for our organisation, as winter hit us hard once again. An unusually long cold spell brought freezing temperatures, making life even more difficult for both our animals and our dedicated team of volunteers. On top of that, we faced an increase in seasonal illnesses and injuries, which made managing daily operations more challenging than ever. Life in Greece during winter can be unforgiving, and this year was no exception. Despite these hardships, our team worked tirelessly to ensure every animal remained safe, warm, and cared for, even in the face of tiredness and setbacks.

While adoptions were slower than we had hoped, there were still many bright spots to celebrate. We received our first deliveries of dog food from our Dimos - the local government, and look forward to receiving the remainder of puppy and cat food very soon. We witnessed wonderful acts of kindness from our amazing supporters, reminding us why we do this work. And each adoption is a victory, and every donation or helping hand makes a difference. Thank you for standing by us through thick and thin!

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## Adoptions

February was a month of puppy adoptions, which we are very, very grateful for. We are having to manage all of them in safe spaces outside of our shelters - there is just not enough space for them all, so any adoptions help our situation enormously.

So, in February Pit, Jaz, Iris, Perdi, and Pepper all found a forever home. Pit is going to live with a wonderful family in Belgium, Iris and Jaz have just travelled to Italy together to meet their forever families near Milan, Pepper will stay in the Mani with a fantastic local family, and Perdi will go to live in the UK. Also all of Olive's pups found good homes.

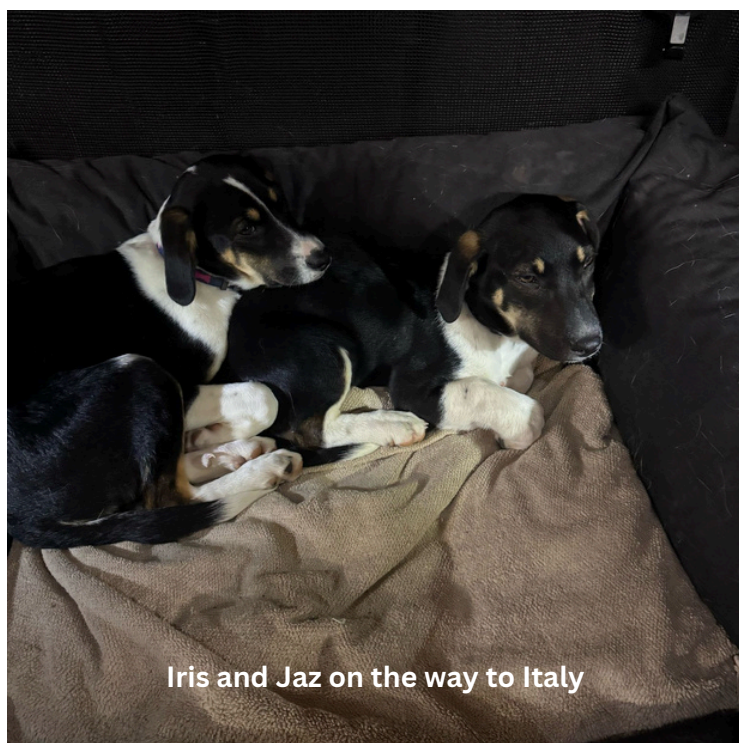
A few more adoptions are in the pipeline, so that is good news too. So with 10 more puppies adopted, we are making great progress from the 24 we had in our care since December, only 8 more to go! But... we have just been notified of a new litter of 8 found in Pedino and another stray female has just given birth too, so we won't run out of pups any time soon. But more about that another day.



Pit

*“If you have men who will exclude any of God’s creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men”*

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**



Iris and Jaz on the way to Italy

# DOG OF THE MONTH



## Bodhi

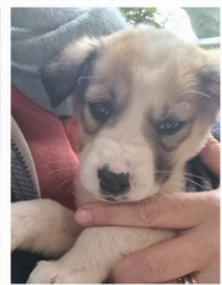
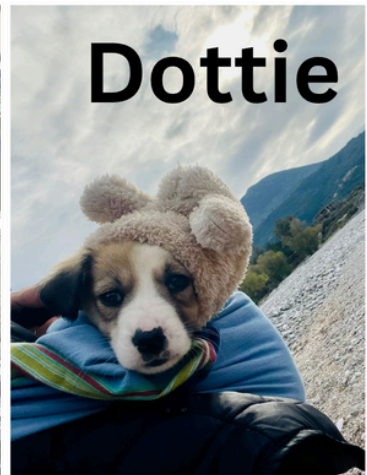
Bodhi is very people-oriented and happy for any attention and closeness, be it from adults or children. However, he is still a bit dreamy and learns a little slower because of that. He just requires a little more patience and understanding. But he tries hard to fit in with the family and its daily habits and rituals. On the other hand, he has the necessary courage to defend his territory when there is a clear reason for it, so Bodhi will make a wonderful "alarm bell" for someone. Walks with Bodhi are quite relaxed as he walks very calmly on the leash and is more interested in finding something to eat rather than picking up scents and hunting. He encounters new and new situations, dogs and people attentively and curious, but not aggressive at all. All in all, Bodhi is a really calm and friendly family dog.

Who would like to give our lovely Bodhi a forever home, he would so like to meet his forever human(s).

## New arrivals

### Dottie

Dottie was found by a kind passerby, all alone in the middle of the road between Kambos and Stavropigio, at the tender age of 4 weeks. We couldn't find a foster home straight away but luckily one of our temporary volunteers who came all the way from Germany in her campervan took Dottie into her care until we could find a more permanent foster home. We think both the volunteer and Dottie loved the week they had in the van and we are hopeful that Dottie has already found a forever home in Germany!





Marti

## MARTI'S FUND



### *More than 800 cats sterilised!!!*

When Chuck and Marti Bartlett arrived in the Mani 8 years ago, they were deeply concerned about the plight of hundreds of unwanted, unneutered, sick and injured stray cats and dogs. Both having had a background in the USA working with animal rescue they started volunteering with and supporting MIAO and Pantazi cats.

Marti had a special affinity for cats and it's fair to say that they loved her. Sadly, Marti passed away in 2020 and Chuck set up "Marti's Fund" in her memory. Chuck saw that there was a way of keeping Marti's passion alive in initiating a dedicated cat sterilisation program, tackling the issue from the root cause, thereby preventing so many unwanted litters of kittens. Working tirelessly under the "umbrella" of MIAO, "Marti's Fund" has now sterilised in excess of a whopping 800 cats!

The charity continues its great work, raising funds and working towards a better life for cats. The message continues to be strong and many local mountain villages, some kilometres away, have taken advantage of the program to help their local cat populations become healthier.

All of this of course could not be achieved without Chucks rigorous scheduling and liaison with local vets and with the dedication of the countless MIAO volunteers and the local villagers who collect and bring feral cats in for their appointments.

What began as a passion of 2 people determined to improve the lives of strays in the MANI has grown into a truly inspiring example of compassion in action.

Huge Congratulations to Chuck and Marti - your incredible work with "Marti's Fund" is making a real difference.



Chuck

## SPOTTY NEEDS YOUR HELP - A nightmare scenario that could happen to anyone!

Can you imagine your dog falling ill, but the insurance you took out to protect your pet (and your bank account) simply refuses to pay out because your dog's illness has turned "chronic"? This is exactly what happens to this family with one of our ex-rescues.

Spotty became very ill just before Xmas, and sadly, it was found his kidneys had been damaged. He will need lifelong medical care. €8.500 later... he is finally back home with his family. He was in the vet clinic for almost a week, and on an IV drip for days.

Special food, and blood tests to check his blood values on a regular basis were needed, and so the cost continued to rise. The owners love Spotty dearly and did everything to get him well again. But as you can imagine, it absolutely broke their bank account!

Their insurance cancelled their policy shortly after Spotty was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease. Spotty's owners were exasperated - they thought they had insured Spotty well. But it turns out that hidden amongst all the small print, the company was allowed to cancel their policy as soon as an illness turned chronic. Spotty's family had to face the cost of treatment alone. \*

We are delighted to say that Spotty is now over the worst of it all and is much better than he was. But the family is left with a huge debt which they are finding hard to cover. If you can help Spotty's family, please do. Every euro to support this family helps. Follow the gofundme linked below.

<https://gofund.me/0b58b7f2>

\*This may also be a timely reminder to check your own pet insurance policy too, and make sure that this won't ever happen to you.



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