



Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter

A quick look at this issue: steps toward banning fox hunting in Ireland, a thought provoking poem, a thank you to our supporters and a warm holiday message from the team.

Ban on Fox Hunting in Ireland Bill 2025

The Animal Health and Welfare (Ban on Fox Hunting) Bill is set for debate in the Dáil on December 17, 2025, it is a significant legislative proposal aimed at prohibiting the practice of hunting foxes with hounds in the Republic of Ireland. This bill reflects growing public concern for animal welfare and aligns with similar legislative measures enacted in other countries.

Supporters of the bill argue that fox hunting is cruel and unnecessary in modern Ireland. They emphasise that animal welfare should take precedence over tradition and that non-lethal methods of wildlife control are available. The bill has received support from animal rights organisations, veterinarians, and a significant portion of the Irish public.

We are asking everyone to contact your local TDs where possible. If you are talking to them, ask them to support this bill. Stand on the right side of this issue. Your message, your email, your call matters. Let's bring an end to this inhumane sport. You can read the Bill online at <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/bills/bill/2025/30/>

 Lobby your TDs. Make your voice count.
 #EndFoxHunting #DáilÉireann #ActNow
 #LobbyYourTDs #IrelandPolitics



Offaly Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ltd.

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Address: Market Square, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

OSPCA Registered Charity Number: CRA20033828

The New Puppy

It's now a week since Christmas and I'm really feeling fine,
I'm tired but quite contented from the fun that has been mine.

Day one was full of laughter, cuddles and great play,
"Look here's our lovely puppy", is what they'd proudly say.

They took me to the park for a lovely run around
And showed me to their friends, and friends they did abound.

It's two weeks now since Christmas and I suppose I am all right,
But I'd love to go out walking and I'm lonely too at night,
They're too busy now to pat me and the park's too far away,
Life's not the same and that's for sure as it was on Christmas Day.

I used to sleep so cosily at the bottom of the bed,
But now my lonely nights are spent out in the garden shed.



It's now a month since Christmas, I have no wish to complain,
O, how much worse it could be out there in the rain,
But there's no one now to comfort me as I lie there in the dark
And, o, they get so angry if at times I chance to bark.
Ah, now and then I feel quite sad and I can't quite understand
What changed so much in my new home, where life was really grand.

It's two months now since Christmas and things are looking bleak,
They now say I'm naughty if I play or accidentally leak,
They now no longer want me, yes they no longer care,
They think me just a nuisance and wish I wasn't there.
I'm off, I hear, to rescue or the dog place in the sky,
Folk should think long and hard before a puppy they might buy.

Education Programme 2025

At the start of the year the OSPCA contacted 60 primary and 10 secondary schools to offer our 2025-2026 Education Programme.

To date, we've received 19 responses and delivered talks at 7 schools, reaching 390 students and 17 teachers.

Our team has expanded with new volunteers assisting in successful programme delivery.

Once all scheduled visits are complete, we'll invite other interested schools or organizations to contact us for a talk. If you would like us to visit your school or organisation please email offalyspca@live.com

♥MEET TOBY a cavachon♥



Available for Adoption

Poor Toby at 10 years young has found himself homeless through no fault of his own. He is a fantastic dog full of life and acts way younger than his years, he loves his walks. He is house trained and loves all other dogs people and children but best of all he loves hugs and kisses. TOBY is neutered vaccinated and microchipped. If you can open your heart to taking this handsome man please call 086 8262986 must have an enclosed garden Adoption Fee & Home Check applies

Special Adoption Appeal

Meet Cleopatra (Cleo)



We cannot believe this stunner has not been adopted!. Cleo is approximately 2.5 years old.

She is a very sweet, a loving companion cat who loves attention and human company. She is very distinctive with her two different eye colours. She is looking for a mostly indoor home with adults/older teens only.....She is not used to small children. Cleo is neutered and micro-chipped and very healthy.



Have you read our latest Annual Report? It is available to read along with past editions & previous newsletters online at <https://www.offalyspca.ie/publications>



Many thanks to Geraldine who recently had a stall at the Christmas Fair in Walsh Island for the OSPCA and raised a magnificent €420, these funds will go towards the animals in our care. Well done Geraldine and thanks again



Thank you to TESCO Edenderry, TESCO Tullamore & Buckley's SUPERVALUE Birr

Thank you to each store for providing a space in their stores for our big **ORANGE** animal FEED collection boxes. Thank you "most" sincerely to all of you who generously donated food for cats, kittens & dogs into our boxes. Every morsel is used and greatly appreciated by hungry animals across Co. Offaly.

Thank you to our volunteers who regularly empty the boxes & bring the food to our store room for distribution to fosterers who are caring for our rescued animals. A sincerely Thank You to all of you for your generosity and care.



♥♥ WELL DONE ♥♥

These two fantastic girls Elsa Lee & Tara Condon arrived at our office the recently with a donation of €120. They made bracelets and sold them all to raise money to help the animals in our care. These lovely girls are so kind and we hope future volunteers!. You are an inspiration, once again well done and a huge thank you from the animals in our care.

Thank you PETMANIA

We would love to thank PETMANIA, Tullamore and all our SUPPORTERS who have contributed to the donation bin in their store. Our animals will have warm beds and full bellies this season .



We extend a sincere thank you to John Lees' bar, for organizing a Rocky Horror Fancy Dress party in October, to benefit the animals in our care.

We would like to thank all those who donated items to our shop "nook", and a heartfelt thanks to all those who made any form of donation to us in 2025!



Bill on regulation of puppy farms debated in Dáil

Dog breeding 'a profit model gone absolutely mad', TD says when introducing Bill to regulate €200 million industry

A new bill aimed at introducing stricter regulations on dog breeding in Ireland was debated in the Dáil. The bill, seeks to address serious animal welfare concerns linked to unregulated puppy farms, where large numbers of female dogs are kept in poor conditions and many puppies suffer from health and behavioural issues. The debate highlighted the need for better oversight to protect both the animals and the people who purchase them.

The Dail heard that Ireland is known as the puppy farming Capital of Europe with 30,000 dogs sold online every year for as much as €500 a pup.

The Power of Spaying and Neutering

Choosing to spay or neuter your pet is one of the most meaningful decisions you'll ever make. These simple surgeries aren't just about health—they're about giving your pet a better life and caring for the greater good. Imagine a world where every animal is cherished and no pet is left behind. Every appointment brings us closer to that reality!

Spaying and neutering are routine procedures that effectively prevent unwanted litters. They also boost your pet's health, helping them live longer and avoid dangerous medical conditions. Beyond the operating room, these procedures help foster calmer, more content companions who are less likely to roam or get into trouble.

When you choose to spay or neuter, you're not just benefiting your pet. You're helping solve the crisis of pet homelessness. Every year, animals enter recues or shelters—some never find a home. By taking action, you're giving hope and security to countless animals and creating a more caring society for all.

Spaying and neutering your pet is a simple, impactful way to improve their health, prevent unwanted litters, and support animal welfare. These routine procedures help pets live longer, healthier lives while also promoting a calmer, more content temperament.

In 2026, the OSPCA hopes to offer more subsidised neutering campaigns, in Co. Offaly. These campaigns are funded through fundraising by the OSPCA and DAFM Animal Welfare Grant Aid.

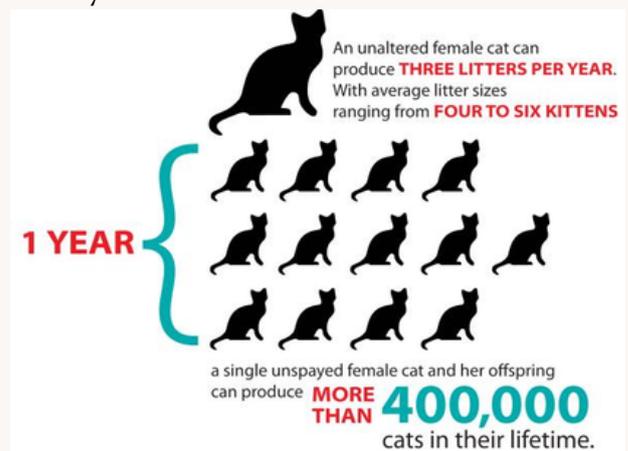
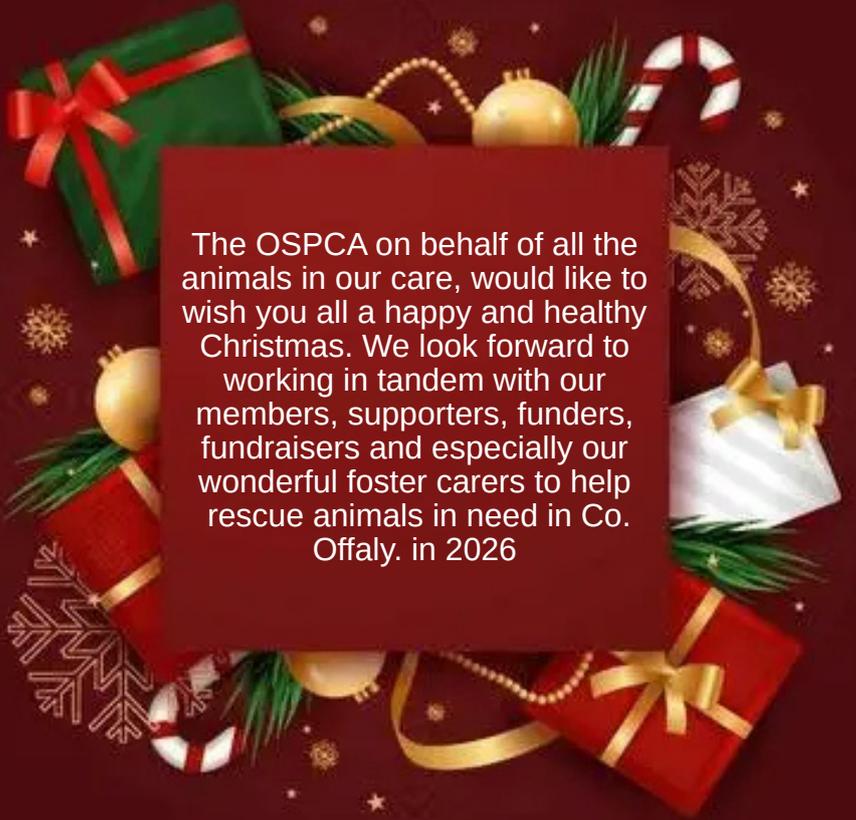


Photo from  LAKES REGION HUMANE SOCIETY



The OSPCA on behalf of all the animals in our care, would like to wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas. We look forward to working in tandem with our members, supporters, funders, fundraisers and especially our wonderful foster carers to help rescue animals in need in Co. Offaly. in 2026



CHRISTMAS DATES 2025

OSPCA OFFICE:
CLOSE - 19TH DECEMBER 2025
REOPEN - 5TH JANUARY 2026

ADOPTIONS:
FINISH - 12TH DECEMBER 2025
RECOMMENCE - 29TH DECEMBER 2025

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