Isn't the Algarve amazing?

If there's one thing we're constantly struck by here on the Algarve it's just how many amazing people live in this equally amazing place.

This issue is chock-full of such people; incredible individuals who, through their passion, selflessness and big-hearted nature, achieve all manner of wonderful things.

They include, in no particular order, Algarve proconsul Angela Morado, who has just received an honour MBE from Her Majesty The Queen (page 12); all the incredible staff at Gardenias Living, who - as Steven found out when he visited - do a truly humbling job at caring for local people suffering from dementia (page 22); and Sandro Pacheco, president of local football team FC Carvoeiro United who is driving the club forward through hard work and his sheer love of the beautiful game (page 30).

This month we also heard from Jackie Billings from the APAA (Association for the Protection of Animals in the Algarve), who told us about the 720-metre zipline she and other supporters of the charity took on in the name of fundraising. Read all about it in our Care Devils of the Algarve story (page eight).

Meanwhile, turn over to read the story of John Venner, a Dutchman who moved here with his family five years



ago and set about building their dream home from scratch - every stick, stone and caravan (you'll see what we mean...).

These are just a few examples of all the brilliant people we have been fortunate to meet and get to know through putting together the magazine you hold in your hands right now. And we also think *you're* pretty great for picking it up and reading it!

So here's to you, and all the other amazing souls living and working in this amazing place. We hope you enjoy the issue.

Oh, and if you're wondering how the cute kitty above fits into all of this, turn to page 10!

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On the cover

Yes, that's our Steven. In freefall. Hurtling towards earth. And somehow he's *still* smiling! Want to know whatever possessed him to hurl himself out of a plane high above the Algarve? Turn to page six to find out...

Stay Connected...

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Kittens arrive at local cattery

Earlier this year we ran an article on Maine Coon cat breeder Rose-Anne Burgunder and her husband Andreas (Crazy About Maine Coon Cats, February 2017). Rose-Anne recently got in touch with us to relay some happy news involving some very cute new arrivals...

We are pleased to announce that we have welcomed five beautiful kittens at the Maine Coon Cattery of Roucky's Spirit; two females, Ischka and Ila, and three males, Inouk, I-Boy and I-Red. Their mother, Kiss Me Kate, did a great job and all the kitties arrived within a two-hour period.

You will have noticed that all the kittens have names beginning with the letter 'I' - let me explain why. The rules of FIFE – the Fédération Internationale Féline – dictate that any cats born within a specific year must have names beginning with the same letter, and this year that letter is 'I'. So now you know!

At the time of writing the kittens are four weeks old

and have started to venture out of their kindling box and explore the far corners of their room. They have also started to eat on their own, but still prefer to suck on their mother or come to me when I arrive with a feeding bottle!

Three lucky kittens have already found new families in various parts of Europe: Paris, Luxembourg and (a little closer to home) Carvoeiro! They will leave here and go to their new homes in about three months' time.

We plan on mating two further sets of cats this autumn, so one thing's for sure - it's going to be quite a year for all our coonies, and also for us the breeders!

For more info, contact Rose-Anne directly. To read our original article, visit www.tomorrowalgarve.com/publications.

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