



My Island

For the past four years, Catwoman Lynne has spent much of her spare time looking after stray cats, particularly in the Corralejo area. But this busy woman also fits a job as an animal groomer and hobbies that include singing and a twice-weekly radio show.

Lynne, there must be more hours in your day than the rest of us have. How do you fit in all this?

I just love everything that I do. I'm lucky enough to have a great variety in my week. I wouldn't like to have a job that left me with no time for anything else.

So, what is your job?

I'm an animal groomer – dogs and cats – in the Pelibuy vets clinic, in Calle Juan de Austria. I also cover reception as I speak Spanish. I work split shifts so I fit in the other things around my hours.

Why are you known as Catwoman?

I don't know where the nickname came from. I started feeding stray cats in the streets and complexes around

town. I took a sick kitten home with me and it then escalated out of proportion. I check them out and if they need to see the vet, then I take them. The cats are treated for any ailments, neutered and when fit and well, I bring them back to where I found them. Last year, I found a cat that had cancer in its ears. He had an operation to remove both the ears and he's now doing fine, back in the complex where I found him.

Do you also try to find homes for them?

I'm always looking for homes for the cats. In fact, I have some really good news on that front. Two cats that I've been minding long-term are going to a home in Germany. For some reason, they just took to each other and neither likes any other cat. So I was looking for a home where they could be together. I got this one

via the Twinkle Trust Animal Aid in Germany. So Ginger and Maggie will be jetting off soon to their new home.

Do people bring stray cats to you?

Well, Judith who is from the West Midlands, has been coming out here for a holiday each year for the past four years or so. That's how we know each other – every time she comes, she seems to find a stray that's poorly or injured. The first time someone gave her my phone number and she contacted me. This year, when she arrived at her apartment, there was a kitten just sitting there. He has a mouth infection so he's not able to groom himself. I've been minding him for a few days and he's off to the vet on Monday.

What's this about the Catwoman calendar?

It's a 2007 calendar with a photo montage of some of the cats that I've rescued. It's still available – just call in to T2.

Tell me about your singing career? Have you always been a singer?

I've always sung in the shower but I didn't know I had any talent for entertaining until about a year ago. I wasn't sure if I'd be able to get up in front of people to sing. I sing soul and Motown - fifties and sixties stuff. I sing with Mel and we call ourselves Parallel Lines. We've sung in the Oasis bar, the Dubliner and recently, we were invited to sing in Music Square. I also do a bit of entertaining in the Pool Bar.

What kind of music do you play on the radio?

I work as a radio DJ with Hot FM (106.1FM) on Saturday and Sunday evenings. On Saturdays from 6pm-9pm, I play Northern Soul and Motown, which I really love. I get to play three hours of my favourite music. The theme changes for the Sunday shows (7pm-9pm). It's sixties this week; I did songs from the movies recently.

I have a real passion for music, so I love being involved with the radio. I use my own CDs and often spend time tracking down some rare music.

So, presumably the one thing you miss about the UK is to do with music?

Yes. I really miss going to all the soul clubs on a Saturday night.

Thank you Lynne.



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