



Newsletter

Summer 2020

Issue 17



**Barnstaple & District
Cats Protection**



Treat your cats and support Cats Protection!

We have handmade cotton catnip mice toys for sale so for a minimum donation of £2.50 which includes postage cost you will receive two catnip mice. They have been well tested and approved by a number of cats:-

'I loved mine so much that I told the staff to buy me two more' – Pixie, Fremington

'My mouse was a great comfort when people made a big frightening noise clapping on Thursday evenings' – Meggie, Sticklepath

'I provided hours of entertainment for an enthusiastic audience with my mouse throwing gymnastics' – Shadow, Swindon

If you want to support our branch, please send your name and address to Chris Mason along with your donation, preferably via BACS, and we will send your mice in the post or deliver them by hand, depending on where you live.



Catnip mice order form

I would like to order catnip mice

Please post or deliver to

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

.....

Please either post this form together with donation (cheque payable to Cats Protection)

To:

Mrs Chris Mason Treasurer

2 Campion Drive

Barnstaple

EX32 8RB

Or email your request to Treasurer@barnstaple.cats.org.uk

Lucky is a very Lucky kitten!

On Tuesday 30th June we received a phone call from a lady to say she saw a cat walk up her drive followed by 3 little kittens. The cat family then moved into a hedge between her garden and a sheep field next door. The lady made enquiries with her nearest neighbours (a rural area) but no-one had a cat nor knew of anyone with a cat so she assumed the cats may have been abandoned and started to feed them. I took 2 cat traps round to her that afternoon and got a phone call early the next morning to say she had caught the mother. I promptly went and collected the cat, put her in my cat pen and then returned with the trap. On my return, 1 of the kittens was in the other trap and another hanging around outside. So I transferred the trapped kitten to a basket, reset the trap and retreated to my van and waited. Half an hour later, I had one more kitten with no sign of the third, so I took both kittens back home, having reset both traps.

It was only when I went in the cat pen with the kittens that I discovered the mother wasn't abandoned but was actually a full blown feral! I just about got out of her pen without any injuries and decided to put the kittens in the second pen. The next morning, another relieved phone call from the lady to say the last kitten was caught. So I collected the kitten, retrieved both traps and put the kitten in with her siblings.

On the Friday, I had the mother neutered and relocated to a lovely farm where she can happily live as a farm cat.

Just when we thought that was the end of the story, I get a frantic call from the lady on Monday 6th June to say she had heard another kitten! I rushed back round with another trap and we could clearly hear the kitten respond to our calls but it was on the other side of the hedge in the field and I was very concerned that it may be too weak to climb the bank into the garden.

Having got the farmer's permission we went around and set the trap near a fox den where we believed he may be hiding. Unfortunately, despite my searching for him the next day and the lady constantly calling him, we didn't hear another peep from him and assumed the worst. Then, miraculously the lady discovered him in the trap late that evening!

So somehow this little 7 week old kitten survived for 8 days on his own, which is why I named him Lucky, and I must say, he was none the worse for wear and even more unexpected, he is really friendly and affectionate which is more than can be said for his siblings!



All these cats are now settling into their new homes.



Whiskie



Delores



Kaze



Paris



Lola



Charlie

A guide to our new hands-free homing process

We're keen to help as many cats as possible, both during the current crisis and beyond. Offering our cats a home will help to free up more space to take in emergency cases.

We have put in extensive procedures to make sure that our homing process is in line with the current government guidance, without putting adoptees or volunteers at risk.

Here is our guide to adopting a cat using hands-free homing.

- **Check you are within a reasonable distance of your chosen branch.** You can find your nearest branch by typing in your postcode at www.cats.org.uk/find-us
- **Enquire.** If you've found a cat on our website that you're interested in homing, send an enquiry through using our form.
- **Reserve your cat.** If you're found to be a match for your chosen cat, you'll be contacted by one of our volunteers. You may be asked for proof of consent from your landlord, to have a cat (if you live in a rented property).
- **Adopt.** Once you have reserved your cat, you'll be sent paperwork to sign and you will make a further telephone appointment with our team. In this call, you'll have a chance to discuss everything you need to know about your cat. You'll then pay an adoption fee, usually by bank transfer.
- **Bringing your cat home.** Once this is finalised, we'll arrange for a driver to bring your cat safely to your home.

Newsletter request

If you no longer wish to receive a newsletter please tick the box and return this slip to the address below ☐

If you prefer to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, we would appreciate an annual donation towards the cost of postage, cheques payable to Cats Protection. Donations and help towards the cost of our work for cats are, of course, welcome at any time.'

I enclose a donation of £.....

Please tick this box if you are a UK taxpayer and want to gift aid this donation, and any other donation you make in future or have made in the last 4 years to Cats Protection ☐

Name.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

I would like to start to receive my quarterly newsletter by email and I can confirm that my email address is:

.....

Please email your request to: treasurer@barnstaple.cats.org.uk

Please send postal donations to:

Mrs Chris Mason, Treasurer
Cats Protection Barnstaple & District Branch
2 Campion Drive
Barnstaple
Devon
EX32 8RB

