



KIT-E-MAIL

News and events from Cats Protection
Hemel Hempstead & Berkhamsted Branch

registered charity 203644 (England & Wales) SCO37711 (Scotland)

Tel: 03453 711851 Winter 2016-17

www.cats.org.uk/dacorum

Hello,

I hope you had a lovely Christmas and I wish you a very happy new year.

There are many people I would like to thank who work tirelessly behind the scenes to raise money, getting donations into our branch, and working in so many ways to support CP.

For example, Ali is our Neutering Officer but she has also taken on the task of claiming gift aid. This was a mammoth job, and dated back to 2010. Ali has done incredibly well and has nearly completed right up to 2016, with the following amounts:

2010 = £2738
2011-2013 = £4396
2014 = £2888
2015-16 estimated at £3000.

Then there is Amanda, she is a home visitor/emergency fosterer or whatever we throw at her. She also works tirelessly getting donations for the cats in our care. She has regular donations set up with zooplus, viovet and ocado, saving us a fortune in food, specially prescription food, litter and accessories. She doesn't stop there, as there is sometimes so much food, not just cat, she shares it with other charities including dog charities and small animal charities. This has created a community bond between the charities and we help each other.

Jackie is Fosterer, home visitor, lost, found, H2H (Home to Home) coordinator and my right arm. Jackie works tirelessly trying to re unite lost cats with their owners, from the initial call with advice and help. She contacts her list on a weekly basis for updates and support. She keeps in touch with all the owners on H2H to make sure of any changes or change of plans and to update them of any interest. She also keeps the records of all cat movements within the branch, from their coming into us, their health and their adoption. Anything thrown at Jackie she just gets on with it, always with the best interest of the cat as priority!

Debbie

Branch Co-Ordinator, Homing & Welfare Officer
Email: Debs.catsprotection1@outlook.com

Thank you to everyone who supported us in 2016 and beyond, we need you, please continue to help in whatever way you can.

We are still temporary closed to new incoming cats, but I am hoping we will soon be able to change this.

In 2016 we homed 115 cats from our care and 16 Home to Home cats. These are cats that are able to stay with their owner and we find them suitable homes.

You may remember in the previous newsletter the story of Squishy who came into our care as a tiny kitten who had been taken away from her mum far too early and then suffered neurological injuries. She gave us quite a scare at the beginning of December. She was unwell with a viral infection that required oral antibiotics. Unfortunately the combination of antibiotics and illness required a stay at the vets and a very intense enema. It was a very tough weekend and wasn't looking good but this little fighter turned it around again. She is now doing very well but still needs a lot of attention to make sure she eats correctly and is kept as healthy as possible.

Thank you to everyone who made donations via the Justgiving page or in other ways, the target was to raise £800 towards the cost of her treatment, and I am thrilled to report that the response so far has reached over 73%.

Ebay



Please could you help to keep the sales up by turning out your cupboards, garages and attics to find anything suitable to sell on Ebay to help our dwindling funds. Thankyou!

Our Ebay expert Caroline does a fantastic job of selling donated items on behalf of the Branch – Thank you Caroline.

She said *this years Ebay total is £2,493.27 (up by about £400 on last year). Not everyone will appreciate but I try and list about 5 items every day. (I don't always manage this!). Naturally not all of these sell and some will do better than others. However it boils down to the fact that I'm always on the lookout for items to list - all year round. I then photograph them all and hopefully post at least half of them. If you can help increase sales by donating more items then please, I would love to have them. Any that do not sell are returned to the 'pot' ready to be tried at the next event.*

Any unwanted gifts, good clothes, shoes, jewellery, craft items, handbags - you name it I will try it. I do not know what will do well - it all depends on who wants what we have on offer.

In order to keep costs to a minimum I also appreciate any bubble wrap, tissue paper, wrapping paper, polylopes and larger sized jiffy bags, small to medium boxes or other packing materials. Even sellotape/ brown parcel tape is most welcome (You can imagine I have to buy this on a regular basis!)

Items that did well this year were: a pair of bright orange Doc Martens, Ted Baker clothes, Thierry Mugler perfume, cashmere sweaters, several leather jackets, Prince's LP - Purple (sold just after he died), craft items (wool / material) , Welsh Blanket, handmade Mustang boots, musical box, special jigsaw and a sheepskin jacket. I even sold some parrot roller skates for £10!! Who knew parrots loved roller skates?? (Whatever next!!)

Thank you to everyone who already donates items/packing materials - I couldn't do it without you.

Caroline x

Contact Caroline at caroline@wwsl.co.uk (for ebay please mark your email with subject 'CP eBay item for sale') or call 01442 230874. Her user ID on ebay is 99kittykats if you're interested in buying.

Other fundraising news

Our first jumble sale for 2017 has been booked for February 18th at Potten End. Sallie said the jumbles last year netted £2863, a fantastic result! Thank you Sallie and all those who help at the jumbles by sorting and selling, providing transport and providing refreshments, clearing up afterwards and all the other zillions of tasks Too many to name individually but you know who you are and they would not be successful without your support. Thank you also to our regular customers and everyone else for coming to the jumbles – we make it possible for you to get the bargains and, hopefully, we have fewer things to take away afterwards, what's not to like!

We do, however, reserve the right to try to get more money for donated goods if we think they are worth more than we might get for them at the jumbles. Some items donated to the jumbles might be tested on ebay first and then perhaps one of the stalls. Sallie's stalls in Berkhamsted and various other stalls in Gaddesden, Aldbury, Boxmoor and elsewhere brought in £3235 last year.

Thank you also to Pat who kindly hosted her annual Christmas Party in December for members, friends and helpers and she made a beautiful cake for the raffle.

We need more volunteers to help with all events and to bring in ideas for new events – how about you? If you can help in any way call 03453 711851

Help Cats Protection Hemel Hempstead and Berkhamsted Branch raise money by using easyfundraising.org.uk every time you shop online.

Cats Protection Hemel Hempstead/Berkhamsted Branch Fundraising Ideas/easyfundraising.org.uk

Other Fundraising

If you have any toys or gifts to spare please contact Sallie , she has 4 market stalls booked for Berkhamsted next year (see dates in what's on) and will need goodies to sell and helpers to collect donations in March April June and September, If you are willing to help (subject to confirmation of dates) please let Sallie know, don't wait to be asked!

We always need things to sell at the jumbles, clothes in particular but most items will bring in some much needed funds. We usually do well at jumble sales and we are happy to receive clothes, bric a brac, puzzles, toys, games, ornaments and other items but, **please, they must be clean, complete, unbroken, and usable**, even for a jumble, or we can't sell it and it is not nice having to dispose of somebody else's rubbish.

We have been given notice by CP NCC (National Cat Centre) that there will be F2F (face-to-face fundraisers) operating in Hemel Hempstead Marlowe's outside Tesco between 13-19th Feb and 8-14th May. Some people do not like being approached in this way and may assume that our branch is responsible but we are not. They may also assume that they are supporting the local CP branch rather than NCC. We hope there will be more positive than negative reactions and we are told by NCC that it is has been proven as the best way of recruiting donors and that branches can benefit from these activities, ie:

Giving monthly via Direct Debit, has proved to be the single most reliable source of long term, sustainable funds for most UK charities.

Although the activity will be paid for by NCC, a one off payment of £15 will be given to the branch for each donor recruited in that branch's area for Cat Sponsorship, £10 for Weekly Lottery.

Fundraisers where possible will try and leave a flyer with people who don't sign up asking them to support their local branch

The long term funds from face-to-face will help our work with cats

Face-to-face fundraising should enhance branch fundraising efforts.

Alongside the money per donor mentioned above, the activity will raise awareness of the charity in the local area and this can make other fundraising approaches by the branch more successful.

We work with several professional fundraising organisations, and the costs vary depending on the terms that we have managed to secure with each, but somewhere between £70 and £120 per donor recruited is normal. It typically takes more than a year for a donor's payments to exceed the fee that we have paid for their recruitment. Once that 'break even' has been achieved, of course, all further donations can be used for our work with cats. It's the long term nature of the donor's support that makes this type of fundraising so successful and this is why it is used by so many charities.

If you are receiving this newsletter via email and wish to know more there is an extract FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) attached with this mailing but it is too long to reproduce in the newsletter.

Star is about 2-3 years old, we are unsure of her past as she was left in a carrier at our vets. She will need a home with an experienced cat owner, who is willing to give her lots of time and patience. Star is a very pretty girl with a lovely purr, and very chatty with it!. Although she loves rubbing herself round your legs, she is not keen on too much fuss, but we think this will change in time. We hope to find a home for her with a couple or a single person (not with children), where she is the only pet and will have access to a garden once she has had time to settle in. There is a very loving cat in Star, who has not had the best start in life and she now needs someone who can give her lots of love.



Bailey is a quiet boy and would prefer a forever home with an older family/mature family/single person environment. He is an older cat on special dietary food for a condition which is under control. He is a lovely cat and would make someone a great companion, but would do best as the only pet. . He would love a garden to explore after his settling in period. If you feel Bailey could be the one for you then give CP a ring.



If you would like to become a regular donor direct to our Branch, we can provide you with a standing order form (sorry, not direct debit) please contact Ali on 01442 251536 to find out more.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - WHAT'S ON IN 2017



Sometimes event dates have to be changed but at the time of writing these dates are scheduled in and we may add more events later. Our website will be updated as and when we have further information.

February 18th Saturday Jumble Sale at Potten End Village Hall, HP4 2QG

Doors open 11.30, close about 1.30pm. Entrance 50p. Refreshments available. You never know what bargains you might find.

March 11th Saturday Berkhamsted Market stall

Sallie is running bric a brac and jewellery stall and needs help with collecting donations so if you can spare an hour or two please contact Sallie 01442 256545.

April 8th Saturday Berkhamsted Market stall

As above

May 13th Saturday Jumble Sale at Potten End Village Hall, HP4 2QG

Doors open 11.30, close about 1.30pm. Entrance 50p. Refreshments available. Come for those bargains.

June 10th Saturday Berkhamsted Market stall

As above

September 23rd Saturday Berkhamsted Market stall

As above

October 21st Saturday Jumble Sale at Potten End

November 25th Saturday Jumble Sale at Potten End

Future editions of kit-e-mail news:Contact

j.taylor0402@ntlworld.com to be added to the mailing list. If you want to receive it by post call Janet on 01923 400520. We need a contribution of stamps towards post and printing (6x2nd class). We do our best to get the newsletter out at regular intervals but sometimes it is late, for which we apologise. We try to have spare copies available at events if possible.

**THE MAIN BRANCH CONTACT
NUMBER TO USE FOR CAT
REHOMING ENQUIRIES OR
GENERAL ENQUIRIES IS
0345 3711851**

PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AND WE WILL RESPOND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. (with huge thanks to Chris who takes the messages and deals with them or passes them on to the appropriate person)

You can also see information about our branch at www.cats.org.uk/dacorum www.facebook.com/HemelCPCats Twitter @HemelCPCats

Committee Members:

Branch Co-ordinator and Homing & Welfare Officer
Debbie 01442 217480

Neutering, Gift Aid
Ali - 01442 251536

Lost & Found Register/Homing Support
Jackie – 01442 249287

Berkhamsted/Tring Fundraising Vacancy

Hemel Fundraising
Sallie – 01442 256545

Non committee contacts
eBay
Caroline – 01442 230874
caroline@wwsl.co.uk (mark email subject line 'CP eBay item for sale')

Newsletter
Janet – 01923 400520
j.taylor0402@ntlworld.com

We make every effort to ensure event dates and times are correct but there may be last minute changes or cancellations for reasons beyond our control such as bad weather or other circumstances. If in doubt please phone the event contact. You can also check our website www.cats.org.uk/dacorum