



KIT-E-MAIL

News and events from Cats Protection
Hemel Hempstead & Berkhamsted Branch

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

Tel: 03453 711851 Autumn 2016

www.cats.org.uk/dacorum

Hello

Now that Autumn is upon us and Winter is around the corner, our thoughts are with the many stray/abandoned cats in need of help. In August our Branch had to close the doors to any new incoming cats. Sadly this is still the same situation. We are therefore busy organising a Homing Show on the 27th November in Hemel at Grovehill Community Centre from 2.00pm - 4.00pm. Caroline will run a stall full of goodies, volunteers will be on hand for advice on cat care and you can meet some of the lovely cats we have that are looking for their new home. If you know anyone who would be interesting in fostering or offering a loving home to one of our rescue cats please contact me.

Squishy came into our care as tiny kitten who had been taken away from her mum far too early. To add to her plight she had been caught in the recliner of a sofa and sustained neurological injuries. Her back legs resembled that of a frog and her pelvis was crushed leaving her unable to pass faeces normally. She was put on daily medication and enemas to stop her getting too bunged up but eventually she needed a delicate colon operation.

The days following the op were very stressful, but this little fighter is making good progress. She can run, with a bit of a wobble and the curtains are on reprieve as she hasn't learnt the art of climbing yet! She is getting stronger, still a long way to go but her future is much brighter.



A massive thank you is due to Richard Clark and his team at Clark and Marshall Vets in Berkhamsted, with their dedication Squishy has a new lease of life and a few nurse/receptionists friends ready with the cuddles and fuss.

Visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/HelpSquisy where you can read more about Squishy. If you feel able to make a donation towards her care, whatever you can afford, that would be wonderful. Thank you so much for your support.

Debbie

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

Cats Protection is campaigning to help change the law to prevent the sale of sick and underage kittens

Sadly there are those who, more motivated by money than welfare, are selling kittens that are sick and often far too young to be separated from the mother cat. Buyers report paying hundreds of pounds to private sellers for kittens that are ill and/or under eight weeks old. The true cost of a kitten to a purchaser can be the heartbreak of buying a kitten that becomes sick – and in some cases dies – and facing significant vet bills.

The Government is reviewing the law governing the sale of pets for the first time in over 60 years. Cats Protection wants better safeguards for the commercial sale of all types of cats across the board whether they are non-pedigree 'moggies' or pedigrees. We know that there are responsible sellers out there and that good practice and high welfare standards exist, particularly within membership organisations like the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy (GCCF) that register pedigree breeds and advise on welfare.

You can support the campaign at www.cats.org.uk/ or write to your MP

If you prefer to support on paper, rather than on line, contact Debbie as she has postcards/forms. These will need a stamp or get them back to Debbie and she'll post for you

A Lesson for Nine Lives

'twas in the early hours of the morn
When humankind were fast asleep,
The cats a-gathered, the young and newly-born.
For they had an appointment they had to keep.

They gathered in the back garden at Number 4,
And every one of them gazed towards the wall
Where Poppy the tabby sat solemnly and raised her paw:
A motion which silenced them all.

The youngsters waited, obedient and silent,
Whilst Poppy washed her face and licked her paws –
A studied ritual that made the kittens' eyes widen
Whilst she prepared her lines and every pause.

At last she looked at them direct,
Then stood on all fours, giving a little mew.
Her tail quivered, flicked, then stood erect.
She announced, "The Facts of Life are a concern to all of you."

She went on to warn them of traffic and of every road,
Of holes in the ground, sewers and high places,
Of dogs, broken glass, the shutting door or window,
And tales of terror that marked all the kittens' faces.

Then gently reminded them of the warmth of a loving home,
Of fun and games and stroking of hand upon fur,
"Be gentle with your humans, and you'll never be alone,
And all life long you'll know how to purr."

"But again I must warn you, some humans give cause for
complaint -
They're cruel, unkind, and should not have a cat.
So, look out for your local Cats' Protection, with every volunteer
a saint,
Where rescued, fostered, and homed felines get a very special
pat."

The kittens nodded sagely then gave wise mews,
Before fleeing in haste a shout from upstairs in Number 8.
Its human occupant saw nothing to amuse -
"Dozens of cats bawling" he roared, "Don't they know it's late?"

By Steve Webster

Steve Webster lives locally and is a carer for his wife, unfortunately their circumstances mean that they are no longer able to keep cats but he has kindly donated this poem to our Branch to use for fundraising or recruiting purposes so we are looking for ideas to do just that. Thank you for your support Steve!

Found fending for herself, so we are not sure of her past, **Tiffany** is a lovely girl who enjoys a fuss. Tiffany would be best suited as the only pet to a couple or a single person, or a family with older children. She is not keen on other cats, and we are not sure how she would be with a dog. She will also need access to a garden.



Two more black cats, **Martha** and **Ruby** are also in need of new homes.

Martha was found wandering with her 4 kittens, she is sweet natured and loves being stroked whilst sitting next to you. She is about 18 months old and is now neutered and ready to go to her new forever home. She would love a garden to roam in once she has settled in.

Ruby came into our care as a stray, she had kittens that we were able to home but at first she avoided capture. She is now making up for lost time! Ruby loves being warm indoors, regular food and lots of company but she does like the last word whether it be a tap of the paw or a vocal telling off! An ideal home might be as the only pet with a lady who lives alone and is home a lot. She wouldn't like to share you but could you be the centre of her world?

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 supremo Caroline said *I have been very lucky to have received a donation of some Rowan knitting magazines, Rowan wool, knitting kits and other miscellaneous craft items. All in new or pristine condition. They have all sold so we did rather well in September. (£462.33) This good fortune continued with donations of some beautiful patchwork covers and a Welsh Wool Blanket. At the time of writing they are being watched by lots of people so I am sure they will get a great price. I have several morning jackets too which I hope will do well. You see I get such a variety of items so when I'm asked what sells - I never know! If I can, I will always give things a go. Some of the larger items I will also try on Facebook - more for local sales but well worth trying. Thank you to everyone who has responded to my plea for more items. Always welcome. Keep 'em coming!*

Packing materials are always useful, eg selfseal mailing bags (the plastic ones), bubble wrap, sellotape / parcel tape and sturdy boxes of all shapes and sizes. 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.

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 to spare please contact Sallie , she has 4 market stalls booked for Berkhamsted next year 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!

At the end of October we held the last jumble sale for 2016. Dates have been booked for next year, to be confirmed in the next issue.

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,**

Bank Court Collection

We had a super day at Bank Court in Hemel in September. The grand total raised was £1059 so thank you to everyone who helped either on the day or behind the scenes. It meant an early start and a long day but the weather was kind if a bit windy. The stall was a great attraction and a lot of items sold and information given out. The collectors on bucket duty felt that donations were slower than usual but that raised £100+ so was well worth doing. Most buyers were generous and some just gave us lovely donations without even buying anything. There are too many helpers to mention all by name but I would like to mention Di in particular, she has done so much for this event over the years, collecting, cleaning and storing items all year round, as well as making lovely things to sell. Not to mention moral support for me too. Di said she feels she needs to step down from the stall *I would like to thank everybody who helped me to gather so much stuff and sell it on the day. I have really enjoyed watching it sell and the day has always been filled with fun and laughter and lots of chat with the customers. I would like people to know that I am not giving up completely. I am really happy to make pet beds and blankets, also to continue knitting baby clothes etc. as long as people are willing to ask me, for them to take to sell on their stalls.*

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

Janet

(PS thanks Amanda for stepping into the breach with your van!)

and usable, even for a jumble, or we can't sell it. As for heaps of plastic toys, often with bits missing – don't get me started! Sometimes jumbles are used as a dumping ground and we end up having to dispose of somebody else's rubbish – very unpleasant!

WHAT'S ON IN 2016



Please note that sometimes event dates have to be changed but at the time of writing these dates are scheduled in and our website will be updated when we have further information.

November 26th Saturday Charity Christmas Card and Gift Sale, Berkhamsted

9am-1pm at the Court House, St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted. Janet will be running the stall to include CP calendars and Christmas cards (subject to availability).

November 26th Saturday Christmas Fair, Adeyfield

10am 1pm at the Community Centre, Queens Square, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4EW

Please come along and support Chris who will be running the stall, to include CP calendars and Christmas cards (subject to availability). There will be several stalls so why not do a bit of early Christmas shopping!

November 27th Sunday CP Branch Homing Show, Hemel Hempstead

At Grovehill Community Centre from 2-4pm. We had a very good turnout for the rehoming show in July at Adeyfield and we have booked another, this time at Grovehill, everyone welcome. Caroline will be running the stall and refreshments will be available. Do come and see us there!

December Sat 3rd – Pat's Christmas Celebration

Probably the last Branch event of the year, Pat invites all CP members, friends and helpers to a festive get-together at Pat's house 10-12.30pm approx. Refreshments, including mince pies, sausage rolls, Punch, raffle and cat chat – do pop in at 30 Berkeley Square, Hemel Hempstead HP2 7QS where you will be sure of a warm and festive welcome.

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. (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