



Cats Protection

Newsletter

Summer 2011

Inside this issue:

Brownies	1
Message from the Branch coordinator	2
Neutering	2
Interesting Cat Fact	3
Trip to Hammerton Zoo	3
Horticultural Half Hour	4
Shop News	5
Does Anyone Make Lavender Bags?	6
Branch Helpline	6
Fundraising Notes	7
Homing Day	8
Rupert's Diary	9
Next Newsletter	9
Newsletter Editor Vacancy	9
Social Diary	10
About the Branch	11
Contact Details	11
Post Code Area	12
Gift Aid Declaration	12

Brownies Show Their True Colours!

In June, we were both surprised and delighted to receive a letter from the 5th Goffs Oak Brownies telling us that they had held an evening of signing, singing and dance to raise money for the Branch.

The Brownies' Brown Owl, Tina Bailey, after losing her cat of 8 years in December 2010, adopted a 10-year old cat called Jenny in March. She has made Tina so happy after



such a sad start to the year, that the Brownies decided to thank us by holding their fund-raising event.



The amount raised – an amazing £150 – will be put to good use, probably providing new plastic flooring for some of the outdoor cat pens where we care for cats and kittens awaiting new homes.

Attached to their letter was a series of charming cat faces painted in glorious colours by the Brownies; we reproduce the faces in various pages of this newsletter.

We are immensely grateful to the Brownies and Brown Owl, Tina, for undertaking this fundraising and for presenting the result to us in such a charming way.

Thank you all very much!



Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
SC037711 (Scotland).

Message from the Branch Co-ordinator

After such a stunning spring, we have reverted to the usual British summer of mixed weather. Another usual occurrence at this time of year is the arrival of hordes of kittens. We have had and still have large numbers in care and waiting to come into care. In fact, with a list of around 50 cats and kittens patiently waiting their turn to come into care, it really makes no sense to keep adding to the list. As it is, those at the end of the queue will have waited around three months before they come into care.

We continue to have between 25 and 30 cats and kittens in care at any one time, spread across our 12 indoor and outdoor fosterers. Even though we have managed to home slightly more cats than at this time last year, in these circumstances, these messages are most important to get across to our Friends, supporters and the public in general:

1. If you are able to provide a home to a cat or kitten, then please get in touch with us (0845 313 4746 or lyndelbelch@ntlworld.com) to see if we have an appropriate cat or kitten for you. You can see many of them on the 'Home A Cat' pages of our website www.leavalley.cats.org.uk.
2. If you have, or know of someone who has, an unneutered cat or kitten, then please have it neutered as soon as possible. Unneutered cats will keep producing kittens that often end up being offered to us and other charities to care for and find them good homes.
3. If you know of anybody who would find the cost of neutering a problem, then ask us if we can help (0845 313 4746). We have schemes for assisting with the cost of neutering or even paying for it in full, depending upon circumstances. There really is no excuse for not having your pet neutered.

To boost our homing numbers and increase our profile in our area, we held another Homing Day on 4 June at St Andrew's Church, Cuffley. Again, it was a real success and our next event is set for Saturday, 8 October from 1.00pm - 4.30pm at the United Reform Church, Mill Lane, Broxbourne, EN10 7BQ. This is a new venue and will help us to spread the word to another part of our large area (see the advert on page 8).

Again, many thanks to those Friends who are renewing their annual subscriptions by setting up standing orders for the payments. As I mentioned before, these will reduce our administrative overheads in years to come. However, we continue to accept cheques and, since the banks have recently withdrawn their threat to cease processing cheques, they will continue to be acceptable for the foreseeable future.

Details of Homing Days and other forthcoming events are in the Social Diary on page 10 and, of course, on www.leavalley.cats.org.uk. Please do try to support us; it makes the efforts of our volunteers so much more worthwhile.

Bernie Till

NEUTERING

Both male and female cats require neutering to prevent unwanted kittens, disease and other problems.

Could you do with some financial help neutering your cat?

If so, call 0845 313 4746 to see if we can help.



Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
SC037711 (Scotland).

Interesting cat fact



Over the years, on my many trips to the vets, I have noticed that the cats I have placed in front of the vet have then started to lose handfuls of fur!

On mentioning this to the vet recently, he said that this was quite a normal occurrence. When a cat is fearful, it produces adrenalin which is released into the blood stream and causes the fur to loosen.

The reason for this is that when a predator has a hold on a cat, the fur loosens so that the predator loses their grip and the cat can escape!

Kay-Louise Moore



Trip to Hammerton Zoo

This visit was arranged for Tuesday, 24 May but was, unfortunately, too late for inclusion in the spring newsletter. However we advertised it via e-mail and got enough people together for the visit.

We had a most enjoyable day. Hammerton Zoo is more of a rare breed conservation park than a normal zoo, with many of their animals being from endangered species. One of their main projects is a breeding programme for French Poitou donkeys. On



arrival we all had coffee then were taken to see the donkeys and were given a very interesting talk. They were a b s o l u t e l y gorgeous, really shaggy coats (nothing like the donkeys found in the summer on British beaches) and one was only three weeks old! There were also American Mammoth donkeys

which, as you can tell from the name and the photo, were huge, more the size of large horses!

We were then free to explore the zoo where, amongst many more very different animals and birds, we were enchanted by Lemurs with their babies, impressed by the Bengal Tigers and, of course, fascinated by



the delightful Meerkats, which were up to their usual tricks! Altogether we had a really interesting and enjoyable day.

If you would like to have joined us on this trip, please let me know and, if there are enough people interested, I will try to arrange another visit next year.

Maureen Till



Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
SC037711 (Scotland).

Horticultural Half Hour

What a strange year we are having again with the weather! A heatwave in April and May and no rain for weeks; plants seemingly flowering 'out of season' or at least a few weeks earlier than anticipated. Plants 'going over' early and birds and butterflies totally confused as their sources of food - nectar and bugs either finished early, or in the case of blackbirds etc. hardly any worms at all because of the dry weather and earth! Each year we wonder how nature does it, but apparently it does! We are being warned of global warming and season change but history teaches us that these conditions have often happened in the past and nature seems to catch up or slow down as necessary, even if it takes an extra year to do so!



Garden visiting is now in full swing and I know how frustrating and irritating it can be to visit a garden which seems to 'have it all' and is often perfectly presented. It is possible to go home feeling quite down but it is important to look not just at the 'whole' picture but the details. This is the same with Show Gardens at big Garden Shows. Look at the small corners or sections and see how they work, which



plant selections have been used and what position the plants are growing in (e.g. sun or shade, damp or dry.) These details can then be considered for gaps in your own gardens and by looking at a smaller area or particular plants groupings, you are more likely to succeed in eventually creating a great new picture in your own garden. When visiting other peoples' gardens they will often have plants for sale and are always ready and willing to share their garden secrets and where they source their plants from. Never be shy to ask. You will find people love talking about their gardens, just ask! Like everything in

life it is often more successful to complete a big task by breaking it down into small manageable chunks. Over a few seasons you can transform your own garden, you don't need to do it all in one go. Do it slowly and enjoy the journey!

Following on from my last piece about hedgehogs and rubber bands, it is also becoming clear that because many of us have fences between our gardens, hedgehogs are not able to travel so far and are sadly another creature in decline. The answer is to either cut a hole at ground level in the fence or dig a small trench under the fence so they



can get through and be able to wander about further in search of your lovely slugs and snails (which never seem to be bothered by weather change - they are always with us!). Try and agree with your neighbours at the same time to do the same, as it is amazing how far a hedgehog travels in one night!!

Enjoy your gardening!

Julia



Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
SC037711 (Scotland).

Shop News

Our 145 Chase Side, Enfield shop continues to thrive. So far this year, thanks to the continuing high quality and quantity of donated goods and our wonderful volunteer staff, our income is slightly ahead of last year's. If you have any bric-a-brac, clothing, costume jewellery, toys ,etc., please consider donating them for sale in our shop.

Although we are fortunate in having splendid volunteers, we still need more people prepared to work half or full days (10am - 4pm), if only to cover for holidays and other absences from the norm. If you are interested in working in our 'Aladdin's Cave', or know of someone who is, then please call

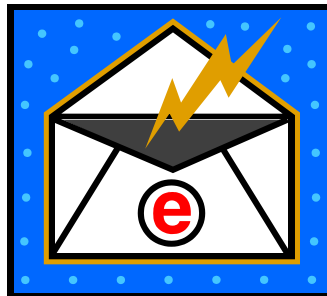
0845 313 4746

Bernie Till



**Are you reading this newsletter's printed version in black and white?
Would you like to read it in full colour?**

Then send your email address to cpleavalley@live.co.uk and we will send future editions to you by email. Well over 100 of our supporters receive their newsletters in this way. Not only will you be able to enjoy the full colour edition, but it will save our Branch the costs of printing and postage too!



We shall not use your email address for any other purpose than sending you copies of the newsletter or informing you of other Branch events.



Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
SC037711 (Scotland).

To keep up to date with Branch news and events, see our lovely cats and kittens that need new homes, read about the cats that we have cared for and find out about our sponsored cats, visit:

www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Does Anyone Make Lavender Bags?



Every year I cut down a mass of lavender in our garden and throw it away; it seems such a waste. If you could make use of it, please e-mail me on: stephanie.duffy1@btinternet.com or ring me on 01707 657876. Many thanks.

Stephanie Duffy



BRANCH HELPLINE: 0845 313 4746

Our new, single helpline number is proving to be a success. Having a single number for calls on any topic has proved simpler to manage and easier for the public to remember.

The new number is **0845 313 4746**.



Please make a note of it now and pass it on to anybody who may need to know it. The number should be used for any and all enquiries for our services. It is answered straight away, from 8.30am to 6.30pm weekdays and from 9.00am to 5.00pm on Saturdays, by someone who will understand your issue and take full details that will be passed on to the relevant volunteers within the Branch for them to respond in due course.

At all other times, a voicemail service applies. These messages, too, will be passed to our relevant volunteers. All calls are logged and managed, so none can accidentally slip through the net.



Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
SC037711 (Scotland).

Fundraising Notes

Plant Sale

Our plant sale on Saturday, 4 June was held at Cuffley Hall (close to our Homing Day at St Andrew's Church). Once again the weather was beautiful and the event very successful. Thank you to everyone who contributed plants and helped on the day. Shirley and Wendy also made cakes for us to sell, so thanks to them too.



Barbeque at Linda Haysey's.

Once again we had a most enjoyable evening at Linda's on Friday, 10 June. Although good enough to barbeque, the weather was not warm enough to sit outside so we ate the delicious food around the huge table in Linda's spacious kitchen. As usual Linda did us proud with plenty of lovely food and drink and, of course, the company was good. We also got the chance to meet Linda's new cat which, you may remember from our winter edition, was found abandoned in a box in someone's car parking space. Linda kindly took her in and now she has her paws firmly under the table!



Many thanks to Linda for her kindness and generosity in putting the barbeque on for us as a fundraising event. We all had a really lovely evening. Thank you!

Carnival in the Rain

Well this was our third year of participating in the Potters Bar Carnival. The last two years have been perfect weather; unfortunately it did not extend to this year. It rained all day on Sunday, 12 June, which was such a shame. We were lucky that Bernie had bought a new, covered gazebo just that week, so at least we kept mostly dry. However, everyone in the parade got really wet! It was very disappointing because, of course, far fewer people attended the Carnival, which is usually very well attended. It was such a shame also for the all the organising that goes into the event. Still, being English, we carried on regardless of the weather and, for stoically keeping a sense of humour through hours of rain, many thanks to Ann, Sheila and Shirley!



RSPCA Fete



Ann and Shirley manned our stall at this event on Sunday, 26 June; this time the gazebo was needed to keep the sun off, not the rain. The RSPCA always attracts a good turnout and we had a successful day.

Maureen Till

Please look at forthcoming events in our Social Diary on page 10. We are taking reservations for the Curry Buffet/Quiz with a Twist on Sunday lunchtime 18th September. The Quiz is run on bingo lines, with the first correct line winning. So no booby prizes! You can also book our Annual Quiz at Elm Court on 19th November and make a note to come to our Christmas Bazaar on 12th November.



Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
SC037711 (Scotland).

Saturday 8 October

1.00pm - 4.30pm
United Reform Church
Mill Lane, Broxbourne EN10 7BQ



COME AND VIEW SOME OF OUR LOVELY CATS AND KITTENS

ready for re-homing. You may reserve a cat on the day and a home visit will be arranged as soon as possible. Volunteers will be on hand to assist you with the adoption process.



Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
SC037711 (Scotland).

Rupert's Diary

I relented. Seeing Mum prostrate on the kitchen floor for hours on end trying to entice me through the cat flap made me feel quite sorry for the old girl. She really was desperate, tearing her hair out, so I couldn't put it off any longer – I nonchalantly walked through it. She was so effusive in her praise and gratitude that it was quite embarrassing. I suppose I shouldn't have teased her for so long, but I knew the longer I waited the more Brownie points I would eventually earn, and it worked!

This new cat flap presented lots of problems, mainly because my microchip had migrated to my hind leg. Now, the only way it could have operated the flap in that position would have been by me limboing backwards through it – some chance of that, I don't think! So Auntie Yvonne gave me a new chip which is firmly embedded in my neck. It didn't hurt and works like a dream. I feel so much happier now I know that horrible old bruiser can no longer enter my house and beat me up. In fact, I haven't even seen him in the garden recently. Mum

said he must be on his summer walkabout, causing havoc somewhere.

Mum and Dad went away recently and Auntie Sue looked after me. She was very pleased to see that I had mastered the new cat flap. You see, no one would have taken any notice or praised me if I had gone through it first time. Feline friends take note: NEVER make anything look easy, milk a situation for all it's worth and the humans will think you are wonderful!

Just off to laze a while in the sun. Enjoy the rest of the summer.



**Rupert Palmer
Duffy**

PS Oh dear, I've spoilt things again and lost my Brownie points. Dad's leg is looking a bit mangled.....

Next Newsletter

Our next edition will be distributed in December 2011. Please send any articles, pictures etc., to the editor—Helen Harding, at hah3105@aol.com, by the deadline date of

14 November 2011

If you do not have access to the internet, please phone and leave a message on 01582 832644 and you will be given a postal address.

Thanks in advance.

Newsletter Editor—Vacancy

Our newsletter editor, Helen Harding, has been preparing and printing our newsletter for the last couple of years. In July 2010 she and her partner, Glenn, opened a new Cats Protection branch covering the Welwyn/Hatfield District, and she is now finding it difficult to balance her time between the two branches and her full-time job!

She has said that she will continue with our newsletter until someone can step in and take the reins, but we must now find someone to fill her shoes! The newsletter is currently produced using Microsoft Publisher, but an alternative medium could be used.

If you are interested in taking on this role, which involves creating the newsletter four times per year, please contact me, Bernie Till.

Thanks to Helen for the time she spends on preparing our brilliant newsletter!



Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
SC037711 (Scotland).

Social Diary

Curry Buffet/Quiz with a Twist

Sunday 18 September

The Chilli Raj, 40 The Broadway, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 2HW.

12.30pm - 4.00pm £15 per person.

Join us for a quiz with a bingo twist whilst enjoying a curry buffet lunch. Please call Maureen on 077 699 73724 to reserve your place. Tables of 4, 6 or 8 maximum. English menu option available.

Homing Day

Saturday 8 October

United Reform Church, Mill Lane, Broxbourne EN10 7BQ.

1.30pm until 4.30pm

Some of our fosterers will be bringing along their lovely foster cats and kittens ready for re-homing. You may reserve a cat on the day and a home visit will be arranged as soon as possible. Fosterers and other volunteers will be on hand to assist you with the adoption process.

Visit to Guide Dogs Training School, Redbridge

Wednesday 19 October

11.00am from the Furze Field Centre in Mutton Lane, Potters Bar EN6 3BW.

Coach cost is £10 per person.

Lunch before the visit will be at a pub very near to the training school. The visit will be from 2pm to 4pm. Please telephone Maureen on 077 699 73724 to book your seat on the coach if you are interested in finding out more about these wonderful dogs and how they are trained.

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 12 November

Cuffley Hall, Maynard Place, Cuffley, EN6 4JA

11am – 3pm Entrance 50p or a tin of cat food.

Help to raise funds for our cats in care by joining us for early Christmas shopping from numerous stalls selling a wide variety of Christmas gifts, cards, calendars and home-made produce.

5th Annual Quiz Night

Saturday 19 November

Elm Court, 363 Mutton Lane, Mutton Lane, Potters Bar EN6 3BP

7.30pm £6 per person.

Tables for a maximum of 8 people, but individuals and couples are most welcome. Please bring your own food. Included in price: tea, coffee and biscuits available during the interval and entry to the Heads & Tails game to win £20.

Call Stephanie on 01707 657876 or email Stephanie.duffy1@btinternet.com to book.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
SC037711 (Scotland).

About the Branch

Branch activities cover the postcodes E4, EN1, EN2, EN3, EN4, EN6, EN7, EN8, EN9, EN10, N9, N18 and N21.

Amongst other areas, our postcodes include Barnet, Cheshunt, Chingford, Cuffley, Edmonton, Enfield, Potters Bar, Waltham Abbey, Waltham Cross and Winchmore Hill.

The Branch has a very active group of volunteers that provides much-needed care and attention to cats in need, education and advice on neutering and cat welfare and, of course, fundraising to pay for all the cat care, vet bills, food and associated expenses.

All Branch activities are overseen by the Management Committee:

Lynette Belch, Adoption Officer

Roger Hales, Treasurer

Kay Moore, Secretary and Neutering Officer

Yvonne Rapley, Welfare Officer

Bernie Till, Coordinator

Maureen Till, Fundraising and Advertising Officer



Contact Details

NOTE: We are all volunteers who have other calls on our time. If your call is not answered, please be patient and leave a message. Your call will be returned.

Local Helpline **0845 313 4746**

Adoption Officer & Volunteer Liaison

Lynette Belch
01992 301 404
lyndelbelch@ntlworld.com

Co-ordinator Bernie Till

07801 926 171
bernie_till@hotmail.com

Correspondence address

145 Chase Side, Enfield EN2 0PN

Friendship (Membership) Renewals and Enquiries

Bernie Till
07801 926 171
cpleavalley@live.co.uk

Fundraising and Advertising Officer

Maureen Till
07769 973 724

Newsletter Editor Helen Harding

hah3105@aol.com

Press Officer Suzanne Linsey

020 8372 4046 (evenings)
catsprotectionpress@hotmail.co.uk

Shop 145 Chase Side, Enfield EN2 0PN

020 8367 4813

Sponsorship Scheme Stephanie Duffy

01707 657876
stephanie.duffy1@btinternet.com

Treasurer Roger Hales

020 8505 9910
rogerbhales@hotmail.com

Welfare Officer Yvonne Rapley

yvonne.rapley@hotmail.co.uk

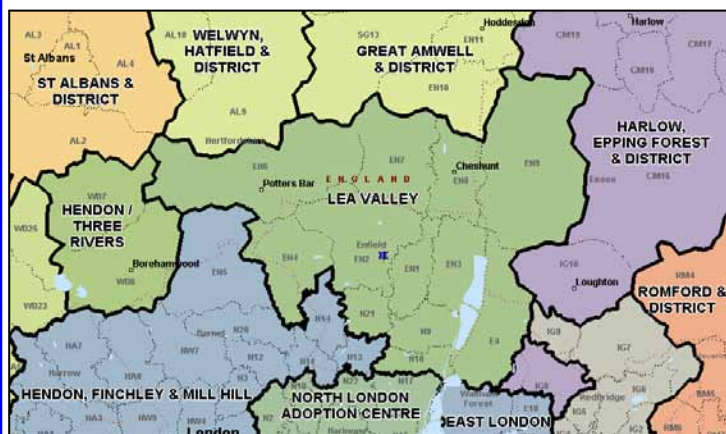


Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
SC037711 (Scotland).

LEA VALLEY BRANCH POSTCODE AREA



All CP branches cooperate with one another, but service recognised postcode areas. Lea Valley covers postcodes E4, EN1, EN2, EN3, EN4, EN6, EN7, EN8, EN9, N9, N18 and N21. If you know of cat care issues in surrounding areas, they should be addressed initially to the relevant local branch. The following table lists contact details for branches surrounding Lea Valley. National branch coverage can be found through the main Cats Protection website at www.cats.org.uk/find-us.

Neighbouring Branch/Adoption Centre

Great Amwell & District
 Harlow, Epping Forest & District
 Hendon, Finchley & Mill Hill
 Lea Valley
 North Hertfordshire
 North London Adoption Centre
 Romford & District
 St Albans & District
 Three Rivers and Watford Branch
 Welwyn Hatfield District

Telephone

0845 3712736
 01992 579539
 020 8952 1350
 0845 3134746
 01438 228877
 020 7272 6048
 01708 451341
 0845 3712064
 01923 283338
 0845 3711855

Website

www.greatamwell.cats.org.uk
www.harlow.cats.org.uk
www.hendon.cats.org.uk
www.leavalley.cats.org.uk
www.northherts.cats.org.uk
www.northlondon.cats.org.uk
www.romford.cats.org.uk
www.stalbans.cats.org.uk
www.threerivers.cats.org.uk
www.welwynhatfield.cats.org.uk



Registered Charity Numbers 203644 (England & Wales) SC037711 (Scotland)

Lea Valley Branch GIFT AID DECLARATION

You can make every £1 you give worth at least £1.25 with Gift Aid, allowing Cats Protection to reclaim any tax you have already paid. This does not cost you anything but makes more funds available to Cats Protection.

Name in full: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

email address: _____

I am a UK taxpayer and I would like you to treat all my donations in the last six years and until further notice as Gift Aid.

To qualify for Gift Aid, you must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax equal to the tax we reclaim (currently 25p for each £1 you give) on your donations.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please return the completed form to:

The Treasurer, Lea Valley Cats Protection, 37 Mayfair Gardens, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 9AB



Lea Valley Branch

Website: www.leavalley.cats.org.uk

Registered Charity: 203644 (England and Wales)
 SC037711 (Scotland).