

Newsletter

Autumn 2019 No 113



Superb Spartacus 🐾

Please See page 10



**Bury St Edmunds and
Stowmarket Branch**



Committee Members

Co-ordinator	Margaret Spratt
Treasurer	Sharon Hicks
Admissions/Lost & Found	Marina Veal
Homing/Welfare/Neutering	Margaret Spratt
Newsletter	Jenny Redington-Scott
Publicity	Rebecca George
Membership	Julie Nunn

Cats Protection
(Bury St Edmunds & Stowmarket Branch)
 PO Box 767, Bury St Edmunds
 IP33 9LW
Branch Helpline:
 01284 850887

www.cats.org.uk/bury-st-edmunds
 email: info@cplbury.org.uk
and follow us on Facebook



Welcome to the Autumn Newsletter,

Hello to you all, I hope that you are all wrapped up and keeping yourself nice and warm as the weather grows colder. My cats have started to spend more time indoors, seeking out the hotspots in the house. This has led to some disagreements between them as they vie for the best spot.

Teddy has been claiming the most wanted spot which is on a living room window looking out into the back garden, it has a fluffy blanket on the sill and the radiator is directly underneath so you can see why they like it! Joey the oldest and quite the oddest of my cats has decided that he wants to sleep there, so he sneaks up on the sleeping Teddy and nips his paws or ears until Teddy moves. If I see this happening I will look at Joey and say 'No Joey' he then gives me 'the look' and cleans himself as if to say 'I wasn't doing anything Mum!' They are such characters.

Poppy has been really busy catching mice and bringing them inside to play with, I normally check my boots and shoes but was in a rush on Tuesday. I was at a funeral wake and realised that I could feel what I thought was a bunched up sock in my boot. Upon a trip to the ladies I found a dead mouse in my boot which I then wrapped in toilet roll and took outside to dispose of, thank you Poppy!

Kind regards to you all,

Jenny - Editor

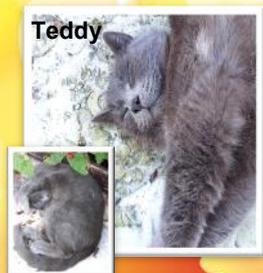
My moggies



Joey



Poppy



Teddy



Front cover: Spartacus - Please see page 10

Coordinators report

Well, here is our Autumn newsletter – time does fly as it only seems a few minutes ago that I was writing my report for the Summer edition. I must mention the very big surprise that I had in July this year which was totally unexpected but very much appreciated. My fellow branch volunteer friends had arranged for me to have a 40 year long service award to mark my time as a branch volunteer. I am now the very proud owner of “Murphy” a life size bronze cat statue so very many thanks to all involved in arranging this for me.

We had a very successful Autumn Faye again this year raising £1700 which was great as we were only open for 2 hours so it's a big thank you to everybody who helped and who supported us on the day as well. I also want to say special thanks to Debbie who donates over 50 bottles of wine to us each year and also to Karen and her company Ceroc Vision who very kindly donated a large quantity of non alcoholic drink for the very successful bottle tombola.

In the last newsletter I made a plea for homes for 3 cats that had been in our care for a long time - Tibby, Alfie and Freddie. Well, I have very good news as all 3 cats have now been homed – Tibby is now living with Susan and her husband, (after a little persuasion) this is their 3rd CP cat from us so we know that she has a great home. Alfie is also living with long time supporters of our branch – Pam & Mike who had seen our pleas for a home for him and made enquiries about Alfie at the Autumn Fayre. I have to say I was on the phone as soon as I got home from Woolpit to follow this up and arrange the home visit which needless to say went very well and is an ideal home for him. As for Freddie, he has now moved in with me to make cat No 6!

Our current free neutering scheme “snip & chip” for the month of October in the post code areas of IP29, IP30, IP31, IP32 and IP33 is going very well with over 90 cats booked on the programme. For the first time we are also offering to have the cats microchipped at the time of neutering as well. I will be able to give you a full update on the figures in the next newsletter.

As always a very big thank you to all our helpers, volunteers and supporters and wishing you all the very best for Christmas and the New year.

Very best wishes,

Margaret

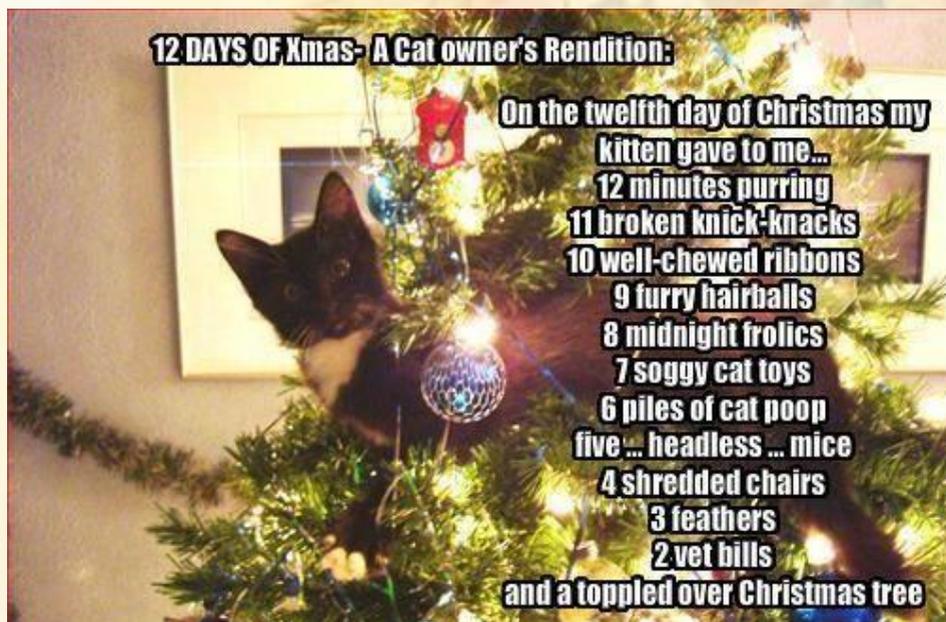


TOMBOLA PRIZES NEEDED!

Friends - we have another table top sale coming up in Needham Market on 1st December and, as our last one was so successful, we're a bit short on tombola prizes. If any of you would like to donate small items, such as confectionery, stationery, mugs or toiletries, we would be very grateful.

For collection in the Needham Market/Stowmarket area please ring 01449 720003. If you would like to donate prizes from the Bury area, please message the facebook page.

All funds raised will go to help cats in our care, including the lovely Spartacus. For more information on rehoming any of our cats please visit our website at www.cats.org.uk/bury-st-edmunds. Thank you!



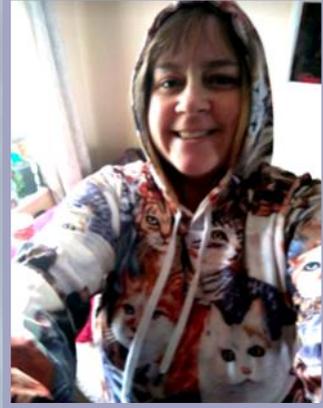
Dates for your Diary

<i>Saturday 1st December</i>	<i>10am - 3.30pm</i>	<i>Table top sale - Needham Market Community Centre</i>
<i>Saturday May 16th</i>	<i>2 - 3.30pm</i>	<i>Jumble Sale - Stowmarket Community Centre</i>
<i>Saturday 5th September</i>	<i>2 - 4pm</i>	<i>Autumn Fayre - Woolpit Village Hall</i>

Meet the Cats Protection team

Marina Veal has been a volunteer for Cats Protection in Bury St Edmunds and Stowmarket since 2002 and is currently Welfare Office of our branch.

Marina deals with new admissions, lost and found cats, Cats Protection enquiries, is also is a fosterer with two pens, and undertakes home checking for prospective homes.



How did you get involved with Cats Protection?

I started off by collecting and dropping off cat food and delivering it to Bradfield St George when the late Pat Greenhalgh was in charge. When our branch regrouped in 2002 I saw an advert for cat fosterers for the Cats Protection and I thought that I may be able to help and have been a fosterer ever since. This led me to undertaking many other positions such as homing officer, admissions, fundraising, home checking and now I am admissions Officer and Fosterer.



Where does your love of cats come from?

I have always loved animals, as a young girl I was rescuing insects, wildlife and all and sundry. Cats became my passion, which has led to me taking on my own cats, these were often feral and disadvantaged cats that would otherwise have found it difficult to be rehomed. I have had many wonderful feline companions.



Marina socialising kittens



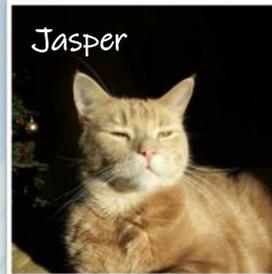
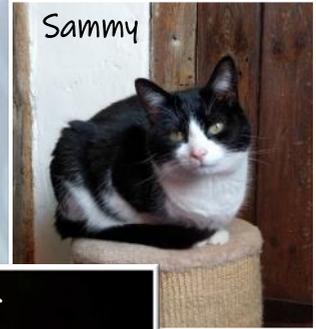
What are you most proud of in terms of the branch's achievements?

One of my greatest joys is taking a cat into my care that has had a very difficult life so far and giving them the love, time and attention to overcome their psychological problems. To see the cats flourish and learn to trust people again is amazing and allows them to be able to find a loving and forever home.



Marina's cats
Some of Marina's own cats.
Sammy and Ginge were Feral.

Harry and Jasper (who are no longer with us) were great friends with each other.



What is the most challenging aspect of your work?

Hearing about cats that we are unable to help as we don't have the space to bring them into our care, there are so many that need assistance. The amount of feral and stray cats around is challenging, Cats Protection do their best to neuter the cats that they can but if only people would take time to neuter their cats it would help.

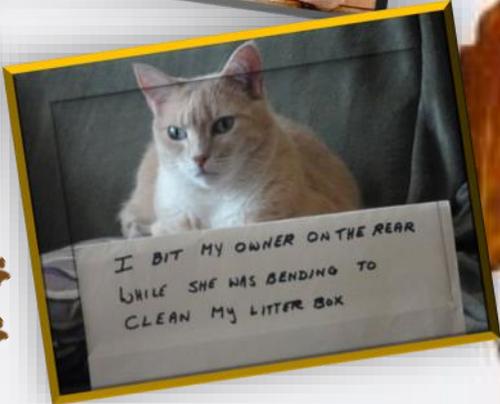
Although what I do for Cats Protection can be hard work it's the best feeling when the right cat goes to the right home and we know that they will have a happy and fulfilled life.



Cat shaming - Naughty moggies from the internet!



We have all had naughty cats but I really don't think that these cats are remorseful...



News from Needham Market & Stowmarket

Our recent table in Needham Market Craft Fayre raised an amazing £257.17. On the day the tombola prizes started to run out by lunchtime so I had to come home to collect more! Thank you to everyone who supported us in many different ways and special thanks to Maree and Margaret for all their help on what turned out to be a very hectic day. We are in Needham Market Community Centre again 1st December 10am to 3.30pm when we will be having a table to sell Christmas Cards and Calendars. We will also be having another of our very popular tombolas. Admission is free so do call in and see us.

Thank you so much for saving used stamps and old coins for our fundraising. To date £194.02 has been raised so please do continue to save them for us. If you are not able to bring them along to one of our fundraising events please ring 01449 720003 (Stowmarket) or 01284 700068 (Bury St Edmunds) to arrange collection or delivery. Items suitable to be used as tombola prizes are always appreciated as are mugs which make an attractive prize when filled with goodies and tied with cello wrap and ribbon. For collection in the Needham Market and Stowmarket area please ring 01449 720003.

Thank you for leaving cat food and cat items in our cat food collecting baskets at Needham Market Post Office and Cedarwood Vets throughout the year. Special thanks also to the management in both locations for their help.

A very Happy Christmas and a Purrfect New Year to you all. *Sue Coburn*

The charity makes most money from modern stamps, those printed before 2008 without security tabs have little or no value so please do not send them.

Please separate the stamps into British/Overseas, no other sorting is necessary, to ensure that the stamps reach us safely please pack the envelope as evenly as possible and try not to over fill it. There is no rush to get the stamps to us so please feel free to hold onto the envelope until it is sufficiently filled. We would like to thank you for your donation and send you a replacement envelope. Therefore, please fill out the simple form below so that we can get this to you. If you would like more than one envelope sent to you for yourself, family or friends please let us know on the form below.

We also now are able to take donations of foreign coins. We would be very grateful if you would choose to collect them for us. If you do please tick the relevant box below and we will send you one!

Thank you for your donation!

From: (first/last name)

Address:

.....

.....

Postcode: Email:

Yes! I'd like to collect foreign coins for Cats Protection, please send me a Collection Pack



Some of the Cats in Our Care



We'd like you to meet **Spartacus**. This playful little chap has been stressed by a young child and a puppy in his previous home and can be a little nippy as a result of being teased. He is getting much more confident and is very friendly & lovable but is a real live wire and is very full of himself. He needs an experienced cat owner and to be an only pet and with children over 12yrs of age. Spartacus is not used to the great outdoors so will benefit from a home in a quiet & safe area as he has little experience of traffic.



Spartacus



Maxi (black) and **Leo** (black and white). They are just 2 years old and, while they are shy when they first meet you, they soon relax once they get to know you and you gain their trust. They are very sweet-natured and love a cuddle and fuss.

They have been used to a quiet home so we hope to find them a similar home, perhaps with older children but with no other pets.



Maxi & Leo



Enid



Betsy (black) and **Enid** (tabby) are quite tiny but very pretty sisters who are about 14mths old. They are very sweet natured and love to be fussed and have attention. Enid is the most confident of the two but they both enjoy playing. They have lived in a very quiet area so are not used to traffic so we are hoping to find a home for them together in a similar location. The pair have not lived with dogs and would be suitable to live with children over 10yrs of age.



Betsy



Susie & Sally



Sadly **Susie** & **Sally** have had to come back into our care through no fault of their own. They are delightful sisters who just love to play and have a fuss. They were rather shy at first but have gained lots of confidence now. We don't think they are used to living with young children or dogs so they will be best suited to be homed with an adult only family or one with children over 10yrs of age. We are looking for a home where they can be together.

*If you are interested in offering any of our cats a home ,
please call: 01449 674584*



Please note:

All prospective adopters will be asked to have a home visit.

Some notes to help keep your cat safe at Christmas

Christmas is coming! Everyone wants a safe, happy Christmas for people and pets, so here are some tips to make sure your cat enjoys Christmas as much as you do... and avoid that Christmas morning trip to the vet!

Christmas Trees & decorations

Some cats regard Christmas trees as a playground. Others are pretty much uninterested. A nimble, careful cat may climb the tree in perfect safety, but just to be on the safe side, think carefully about where you put your tree and what you put on it.



Chocolate contains a stimulant called theobromine, a bit like caffeine, it's severely poisonous to cats.



Pot plants

There are a few traditional Christmas gift plants that are dangerous for cats. If you are given one of these, either keep them in a cat-proof room or re-gift them to a pet free home.

Amaryllis, daffodils, hyacinths, iris, mistletoe and ALL LILIES are very poisonous to cats. If you think your cat has chewed on any of these, take him to the vet IMMEDIATELY. Poinsettias are less dangerous but some cats are sensitive to them and can have upset stomachs and vomit if they eat them.

Cooked bones

Once cooked, all bones become brittle and splinter easily which can pierce your cat's digestive tract or cause an obstruction. Dispose of leftover carcasses in the outside bin.



The Rescue Cat



Once I was a lonely cat just looking for a home,
I had no place to go to, no one to call my own.
I wandered up and down the streets in rain, in heat, in snow.
I ate whatever I could find, I was always on the go.

My skin would itch, my feet were sore, my body ached with pain.
No one stopped to give a pat, or gently say my name.
I never saw a loving glance, I was always on the run,
for people thought that hurting me was really lots of fun.

Then one day I heard a voice - so gentle, kind and sweet,
and arms so soft reached down to me and took me off my feet.
'No one again will hurt you' was whispered in my ear,
'You'll have a home to call your own where you will know no fear.'

'You will be dry, you will be warm, you'll have enough to eat,'
'and rest assured that when you sleep your dreams will all be sweet.'
She said 'There is a family that's waiting patiently
and pretty soon we'll find them just you wait and see.'

I waited very patiently the days they came and went
Today's the day I thought, my family will be sent.
Then just when I began to think it wasn't meant to be,
There were people standing there, just gazing down at me.

I knew them in a heartbeat, I could tell they felt it too.
They said 'We have been waiting for a special cat like you.'
Now every night I say a prayer to all the gods that be.
'Thank you for the life I live and all they've given me.'

'But most of all protect the cats who are living on the street,
And send a rescue person to lift them off their feet.'



Written by Arlene Pace

The One Hundred Club

Many thanks for all who continue to support us through the 100 Club, your subscriptions help us to help the cats in need and we really do appreciate everything you contribute. **Please Note:** With effect from 1st January 2020 we are changing the way in which we run the scheme. In order to cut down on administration time and costs and enable more monies to be used for the cats and kittens in our area we are reducing the monthly prize to one of £30. We hope you will continue to support us.

	May	June
1st	E Lambert	C Bingley
2nd	C J Hambidge (donated back to the branch)	A R Clark
3rd	J Davis	J C Hardwick
4th	G Clarkson	S Ashford
	July	August
1st	V Manning	V Robertson
2nd	J R Jones	C Does
3rd	R Bullen	C Mayhew
4th	J Palmer	C A Lee

If you are not already a member (or you are a lapsed member) and would like to join, please contact me on 01359 231881, or complete the form below. The cost is £12 per year for each number entered and you could win our monthly prize of £30!

Thank you, *Carol Wood*

Name

Address

.....

.....Tel no.

E-mail

Return to: C Wood, 91 Mendham Lane, Harleston, Norfolk, IP20 9DW

Please make cheques payable to *Cats Protection Bury St Edmunds*

If you wish to join both the 100 Club and also become a member, please send to either Carol or Julie and it will be passed on.

Legacies

We're a busy branch juggling the rising costs of looking after the cats in our care – veterinary bills, food, litter and other equipment – with our efforts to help the cat population locally. We do this by offering financial support with neutering to those who need it and by neutering cats in feral colonies.

While we are all volunteers and put a huge amount of our own time into caring for and rehoming unwanted or abandoned cats, running our branch is expensive and we have to raise all of the funds we need ourselves. To give you an idea, the total cost of caring for our cats in 2018, including our neutering work, was around £16,000 and this excludes our running costs. With a diminishing band of volunteers, we are unable to run as many fundraising events as we used to so we are increasingly looking for other ways to raise funds.

One simple way you can help us is to leave us a gift in your will. It is a wonderful way to ensure that you continue to help cats after your death and leave a legacy to be proud of.

We are grateful to have been the beneficiaries of several legacies over the last few years and they have made a huge difference to the level of support we have been able to offer. We would like to express our thanks to the following from whom we have received legacies in 2019:

Ms Joy Bartlett

Mr Alan Turner

Ms Margaret Houghton

Ms Eileen Harris

Mrs Kathleen Price

Mrs Valerie Lock

Mrs Elsie Smart

Making a will is the best way to make sure that your wishes will be respected, that your family and friends are taken care of and that any gifts you wish to leave are clearly understood. If you decide to leave a gift to us, please state that you would like it to come to our branch specifically – Bury St Edmunds and Stowmarket. Thank you. We can assure you that every penny will be spent helping needy cats in our area.

If you would like information on how to make a will or how to leave us a gift in your will, the Cats Protection website has some useful information at:

<https://www.cats.org.uk/get-involved/support-us/gifts-in-wills>

If you have already made the decision to include us in your will, we are very grateful and would love to hear from you so that we can say thank you during your lifetime.

Thank you

MEWSFLASH!!!

Moggies in the news



Man and two cats rescued by firefighters!

A man and two cats had to be rescued by firefighters after getting stuck in a tree together.

At around 11am, firefighters were called to Arnold Pitcher Close in North Walsham to reports of a man stuck in a tree. A fire crew from North Walsham attended the scene, where they discovered the man stranded in the tree alongside two cats.

It is believed the cats had got stranded in the tree originally, with the man also becoming stuck on trying to retrieve the ill-fated felines from their predicament.

Firefighters then helped the trapped trio down, leaving the scene at around 11.20am.



Couple stopped at airport security after cat sneaked into their luggage.



A couple were shocked when they were pulled aside at the airport to examine an unexpected item inside this morning. Nick and Voirrey Coole were travelling from the Isle of Man to New York when the cat decided it wanted to come too. One of their hand luggage was left empty so they could come back with gifts.

They had no idea why their bag had been pulled to the side for additional checking, wondering what they might have left in there. When they were pulled into the interrogation room the couple became worried and knew it was serious – until they were told one of their three cats, Candy, had sneaked into their suitcase.

Thankfully, the couple were not prosecuted for the unexpected passenger and still made their flight on time due to Voirrey's father, Barry, rushing to the airport to pick up the kitty.



Bury St Edmunds & Stowmarket Branch

Registered Charity No 2036449 (England & Wales) SCO37711 (Scotland)



Membership Application Form

I / We would like to enrol as a member(s) of the Branch

Name _____ Title Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Dr/Other _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Tel No (optional) _____ Email (optional) _____

Annual Membership @ £12.00 (Cheque/Postal Order) £ _____

Donation £ _____

Total Amount Enclosed £ _____

Paid by Bank Transfer [] Ref _____ /M (please use your First Initial and Surname)

Cheques / Bank Transfer Payable to: **Bury St Edmunds Cats Protection**
A/c No: 50203394 Sort Code: 20-42-66

Gift Aid Declaration We are able to claim Gift Aid on your subscription/donations.

If you would like to do this, please complete the following, and sign below:

[] I would like to Gift Aid this subscription and any other donations I make

[] I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference

We can claim a further 25p for every £1 you give until you notify us differently

Payment must be in the **same name** as the person who completes this form

Please amend the following Privacy statements / boxes, as appropriate, and sign below

I agree / don't agree for my details to be held on a database by Cats Protection

I am / am not happy for Bury St Edmunds & Stowmarket Cats Protection to contact me by –

[] email with news, updates, event details etc

[] Newsletters via post

Preferred method of Contact Post [] Email [] Telephone []

Raffle Tickets

I am / am not happy to be sent Raffle Tickets, annually, to sell for Fundraising

Please Sign _____ **Date** _____

Please return completed form to Miss Julie Nunn, Membership Secretary
2 Covell Close, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 2HU

You can follow us on our website www.cats.org.uk/bury-st-edmunds and on [Facebook](#)

If you'd prefer not to receive information by post, or wish to change the ways we contact you, please contact Supporter Services by telephoning 0800 160 1012 Monday to Friday during office hours (9am-5pm), emailing preferences@cats.org.uk or writing to us at Freepost RTJK-TJJK-GREZ, Supporter Services, Cats Protection, National Cat Centre, Chelwood Gate, RH17 7TT

Please visit www.cats.org.uk/terms-privacy if you have any questions about how we use your data.

Happily Homed



Merry Christmas 



Cats in History



Also known as Oscar or Oskar, Unsinkable Sam lived during the World War II era and supposedly survived three separate shipwrecks, one in the German Kriegsmarine and two in the British Royal Navy. On all three occasions, Sam was found clinging to a floating plank. Veering from astounding to unbelievable, Sam's story is one of the numerous enduring tales of survival from that tragic period of history.

Born on board *HMS Reliance* in the year 1799, **Trim** almost didn't make it. The tiny black & white kitten fell overboard but saved himself by swimming back to the ship and climbing up a rope. Impressed, Captain Matthew Flinders adopted Trim. Flinders and Trim together circumnavigated Australia. When Flinders was imprisoned on charges of espionage in Mauritius, Trim stayed with him. Statues and plaques in both Australia and England commemorate Flinders and Trim's adventurous life together.



Gipping Advert

Cats rehomed since last Newsletter

Freddie



Pixie



Gentleman Jack



Junior



Alfie



Sox



Boysie



Tibby



Amber



Buttercup & Percy



Lady



Blaebell, Violet & Marigold



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