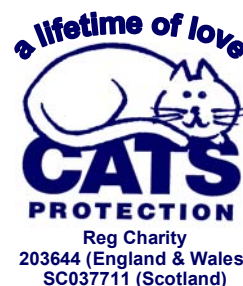


Cat Chat

Harlow, Epping Forest & District

February/March 2017



Dear Supporters



We homed 89 cats in 2016, and 2017 is proving to be just as busy. Some cats are adopted quickly, but older ones and those with health conditions may take longer to find a home.

We would put out a special plea for Charlie, who is just a super affectionate cat who tested positive for antibodies to FIV (feline immunodeficiency virus) but is in good health. If you know of anyone who would like an indoor cat who just loves people, do let us know - we are happy to answer questions. For further details, see page 4.

*Sue Harris
Coordinator*

Notice to supporters of national Cats Protection, recruited e.g. via the fundraisers in local shopping centres

We are sending you this newsletter as we thought you'd be interested to see how your local Cats Protection operates in the area. Our Branch is self-funding; apart from occasional neutering grants from HQ, we don't get any financial support. We fundraise locally and have a Branch supporters' scheme. More information about our work can be found at www.cats.org.uk/harlow or on Facebook at catsprotectionharlow.

If you have an email address, we will put you on the list for this bi-monthly newsletter unless you opt out (just email us back). If you don't, we are posting this issue, but would ask that you join us as a supporter to help cover our postage and printing costs if you want to receive future issues.

If you would like to help cats locally you can join our Branch independently or volunteer: www.cats.org.uk/harlow/support-us or see the back page for phone and email contacts.

You can also convert your sponsorship or lottery contribution so that it comes to us instead of going into central funding: call 0800 917 2287 or email supporterservices@cats.org.uk mentioning Harlow, Epping Forest & District Branch.



Sue Harris

FOR YOUR DIARY

- ☛ Sunday, 26 February Collection, Tesco, Bishop's Stortford (see Fundraising, page 2)
- ☛ Friday 10 to Sunday 12 March Pets at Home, Bishop's Stortford (see Fundraising, page 2)

FUNDRAISING

Hello and a very Happy New Year.

Our last bucket collection of 2016 held on 16 December in the Tesco store at Church Langley was very successful. We raised the incredible amount of £318. Thanks to everyone who gave up their time on a very busy Friday prior to Christmas.



Hopefully the people of Bishop's Stortford will be as generous, because Tesco have awarded us a collection day at their Bishop's Stortford store on Sunday, 26 February. If anyone can spare an hour, or two, to help by shaking a bucket please, contact me.

We will also be at Pets at Home, Bishop's Stortford, for their Cats Protection weekend from Friday 10 to Sunday 12 March. If you can help man the stall for a couple of hours, please contact Sue Harris.

We are hoping to have a Quiz Night in March - which should be great fun. As soon as we have a definite date, I shall let you have details.

Bye for now.

Jackie Horrigan
Fundraising Officer

THOMAS

We want to thank a very kind man, John March, who sent us a generous donation to treat Thomas, whom you will remember from our last issue of Cat Chat.

Thomas previously had a very hard life but was being adopted by his fosterer, Carolyn.

Sadly, we have to report that Thomas passed away two weeks ago. His health problems in the end were too much for him. However, he enjoyed his last few weeks with Carolyn and her other cats very much, and he formed a firm friendship with Khushbu, Carolyn's elderly female cat. He used to sit and wash her face for her, bless him.

We have no address for John but hope he will see this and knows how much Thomas appreciated his kindness.



Sue Rose

FOR CAT LOVERS

If you have internet access, do check out these wonderful sites: rather old-fashioned, no bells and whistles, but a fascinating wealth of content:

www.messybeast.com - all sort of cat facts and miscellany, eschewing excessive cuteness!

www.purr-n-fur.co.uk (also on Facebook) - stories of famous and notable cats.

Sue Harris

PEPSI'S PROGRESS

Well, it's 2017. I can hardly believe that by the end of this year I will have been with Kathy for ten years! And furthermore in May I will be celebrating my big ONE-O birthday. So I have been looking back over the years, and realise what a very lucky girl I was to have been "rescued" by Cats Protection after a somewhat shaky start in life. In fact I have written a poem to celebrate :

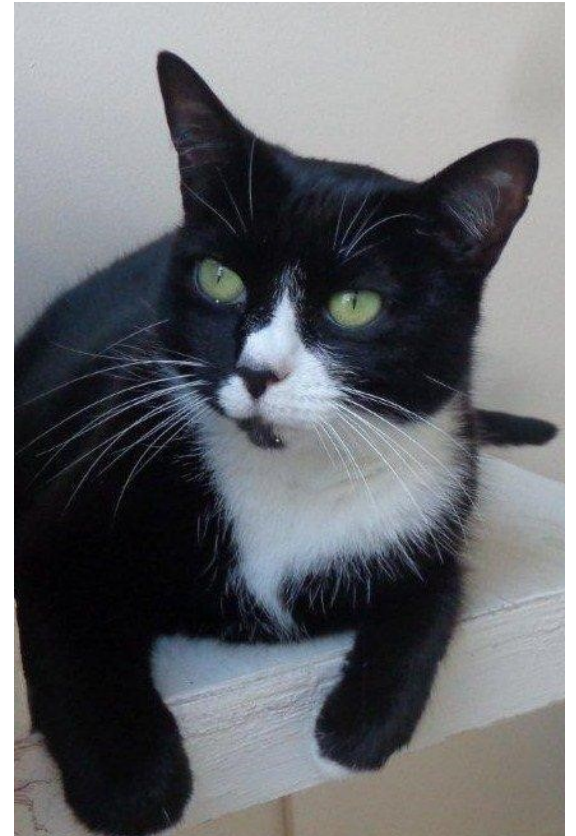
A black and white kitten was born in the spring
(I think it was probably May)
She may have had brothers and sisters - who knows
Maybe tabby, or ginger or grey?

Oh what a sweet kitten her "owner" did say
She's so tiny with little white paws
Let's hope she stays small, because if she grows big
I'm afraid she must live out of doors.

But the dear little kitten turned into a cat
And was forced to eat scraps to survive.
Till she found a warm shed where she curled up to sleep
And then waited for help to arrive.

You've guessed it - that sad little cat - it was ME
But soon I was warm, safe and fed.
Cats Protection had found me, now I had my own room
With a blanket, a bowl and a bed!

They chose the name "Pepsi" which suited me fine
And when Kathy came calling one day
Our eyes met - oh yes it was love at first sight
- and the rest is history, they say.



Thank you Cats Protection for giving me and many other cats, young and old, a second chance.

Pepsi



*You'd never get a cat to be a servant.
You ever see a cat return a stick?*

"Hey, man! You threw the stick, you go get it yourself! I'm busy! If you wanted the stick so bad, why'd you throw it away in the first place?"

Cat (Red Dwarf)

SOME CATS WE HAVE CARED FOR

Charlie was a stray or abandoned cat from Brockles Mead in Harlow, being cared for by a resident who had done a lot for him but couldn't keep him. He had various mouth problems and needed two operations on his gums and teeth, the second the result of some fragments of tooth left behind in the first, causing inflammation.

Charlie is a wonderful affectionate cat of middling years, and is now in fine fettle, but he tested positive for antibodies to FIV, which has sadly put some potential adopters off. Just like people with HIV, FIV cats can lead normal lives in good health, but because there is a theoretical risk of transmission to other cats if there are fights, we would ask that Charlie is homed as an indoor cat or with a cat-proof outdoor space.

If you can give this delightful chap a home, or know someone who can, do get in touch for more information. There is plenty of good advice on FIV cats on the web (and also some rubbish): a good place to start is with the Celia Hammond Animal Trust page or the CP leaflet:

<http://www.celiahammond.org/index.php/faqs/fiv-cats>

[http://www.cats.org.uk/uploads/documents/cat-care-leaflets-2013/VG09_Feline_Immunodeficiency_Virus_\(FIV\)_and_Feline_Leukaemia_Virus_\(FeLV\).pdf](http://www.cats.org.uk/uploads/documents/cat-care-leaflets-2013/VG09_Feline_Immunodeficiency_Virus_(FIV)_and_Feline_Leukaemia_Virus_(FeLV).pdf)



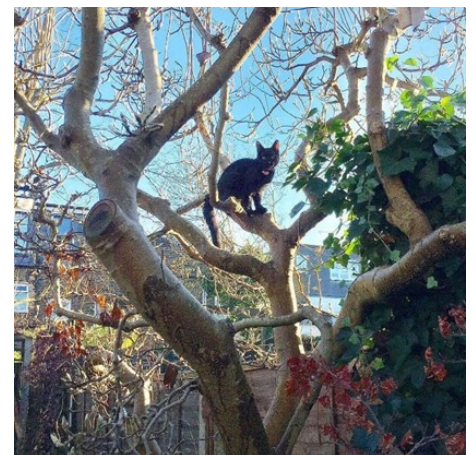
*Fostered by Carolyn,
then Peter*



Fostered by Anne-Marie and Simon

Big Claud turned up in the garden of an elderly lady in Bishop's Stortford and she fed him and provided shelter, but she couldn't look after him long-term. No-one claimed this magnificent-looking cat and he turned out to be probably feral, and was very mopey in the cat cabin. Fortunately he has found a home where he can do his own thing as an outdoor cat and with luck go on rodent patrol in the stables.

Amy, Rolo and Pip: We are pleased to say that Amy (mum) & Rolo (daughter) finally went to their new home together. We have also had from his new owner this delightful photo of Pip (now Rocky), Rolo's brother.



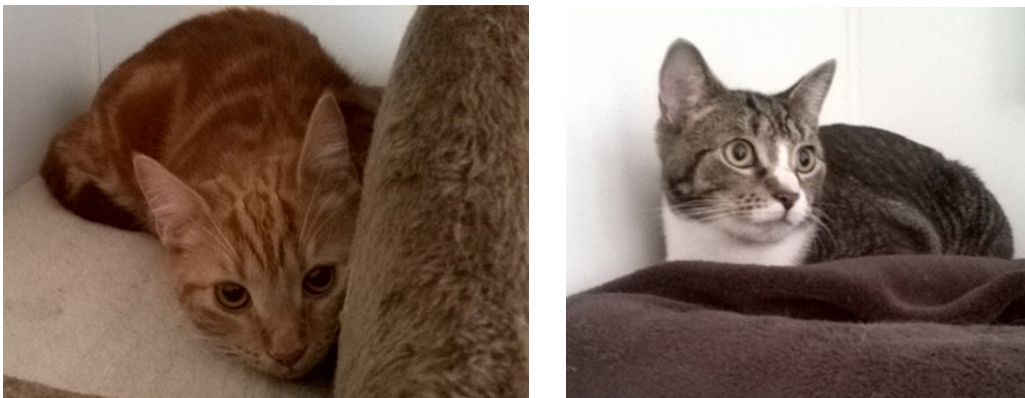
Fostered by Lissa

SOME CATS WE HAVE CARED FOR (Cont'd)

Summer and Twinkle, George and Tinker: Two delightful pairs came to us, one when their owner died and the other because they were in an unsuitable home environment. We have managed to home both as pairs: Summer (left) & Twinkle, fostered by Carolyn, and George and Tinker, fostered by Sarah..



Summer and Twinkle, fostered by Carolyn



George and Tinker, fostered by Sarah



Fostered by Peter

Phoebe: Phoebe was another stray who spent some time at North Weald vets before coming to us. She had a nasty cancerous lump on her mouth which has been removed and which, luckily, had not spread. This sweet girl has now found a super home in Roydon.

NOTICEBOARD

Deadline for the next issue is 18 March. Articles etc by post or e-mail to Denise Williams (see below).

Please support the Cats Protection Lottery



Tel: 01628 825928, or direct from Branch website: <http://www.cats.org.uk/harlow/support-us/weekly-lottery/>

If you shop online....



Give as you Live®

...register to support Cats Protection Harlow, Epping Forest & District Branch at www.giveasyoulive.com/join/catsprotectionharlow

If you have any unwanted Xmas gifts, collectibles, jewellery, toys, scarves, shawls, bags, cat goods, china/glassware that we can offer for sale, please contact Jackie Horrigan on 07914 819474.

BRANCH CONTACTS

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