



Autumn 2015

Lea Valley Branch

Sponsorship Newsletter

Dear Friends,

Although it is now November, the sun is streaming through the windows and there are many flowers still happily in bloom in the garden, what a beautiful Autumn it has been. I hope you have all enjoyed the summer and are now ready to wrap up warm for winter.

Most of the cats have had an enjoyable summer although, sadly, the semi-feral TABITHA TWO, died recently. She had been enjoying the freedom of the Hertfordshire countryside returning every evening for her food. Valerie was managing to gently touch her occasionally whilst she ate, but Tabitha was always going to be feral. She had comfortable and warm living quarters, when she chose to use them. We do not know what caused her sudden death, but she was found curled up and seems to have simply died in her sleep. At least her last year was a very comfortable one and she was well cared for by Valerie.

GOODBYE, DOLLY

Even though DOLLY was no longer a sponsored cat, Susan has been kind enough to keep me updated with her progress over the years. Dolly had not been well for a while and the time finally came for her to be gently put to sleep at the end of September. Susan and Neil were heartbroken. Dolly had been with them for ten years. She was a very lucky cat to have found such a loving home especially, it must be said, as she could be extremely stroppy at times! Thank you Susan and Neil for your kindness and love over the past decade.

GIFT AID

Just a quick reminder to please let me or our treasurer know if you have completed a Gift Aid form in the past and now no longer pay tax. Alternatively, if you are now a tax payer but haven't been before, please ask for a form as the charity can claim money back from the tax man, always satisfying!!

And finally...

It would be lovely to see you at our Christmas Bazaar and/or Quiz Night. Details on the back page and I hope it isn't too early to wish you all a

Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Max approx 7 years, grey/ginger tabby. Found straying and unwell, virus testing found he was FIV positive, needing an indoor home. Sam writes:-

Max has continued to have difficulties with his ears. Shortly after the last newsletter, he developed a severe infection and following three visits to the vets for a thorough clean and inspection, they discovered the cause of his recurring difficulties. He's been found to have polyps in his ear canals, which does mean the infections are likely to be ongoing. He could have an operation to remove the polyps, however, it is likely they will just grow back. So for now, the vet and I agreed that it's best to try to manage and treat the symptoms as they occur. Other than that, he's still a very loveable, cuddly and handsome boy!



Mollie — Ruth writes:-

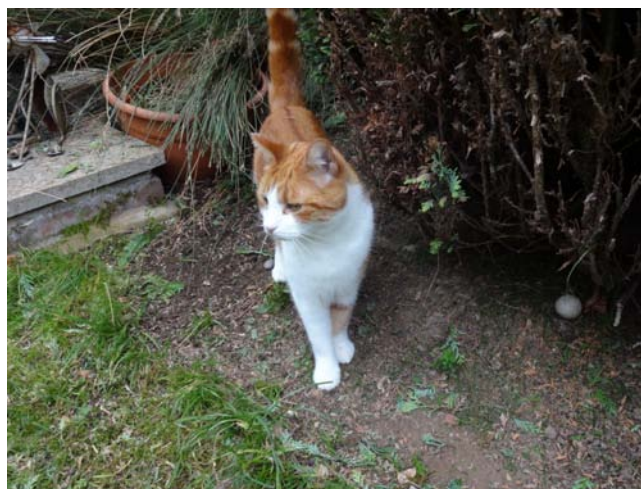


Hi Everybody,
Mollie here again! It seems ages since I said hello because Mum muscled in last time. I've been a really good girl since my last update. Dad bought me a new toy, a circular ring with a ball in it, I think it was advertised on the television. He thought it would keep me occupied and out of trouble for hours. I tried to get the ball out of holes around the top, but it was too big, so I just prised the two halves apart and got the ball that way, just ten minutes of fun, not such a good girl now, am I ???!! - But you have to admit, quite clever!
Love Mollie.

Bruce: Found living in bushes in Edmonton, Bruce was a very nervous boy who has formed a strong bond with Kay. Kay writes:-

Bruce continues to enjoy good health and is a happy soul. He enjoys his life with his pals and is often found grooming Boris, giving him a good clean round his face!

There have been plenty of chase games in the garden and I expect the coming of falling leaves will provide him with further entertainment. Bruce is keeping very well.



Winnie: Laura writes:-



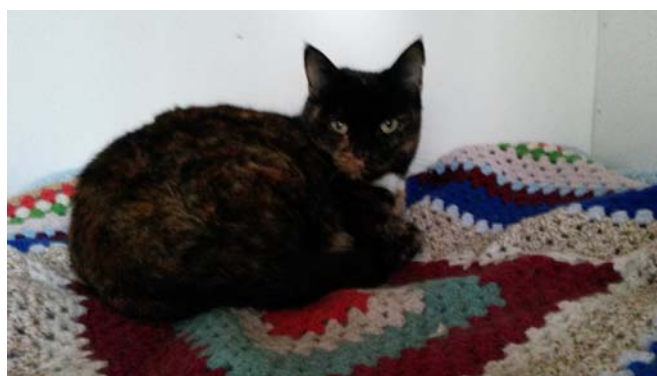
“Winnipeg” is doing great. We have moved house again and she has settled into her new home very well. In fact she seems more at home here than the last house as she has lots of big windows to look out of to watch the world go by.

She and my son William are getting on well, she is so so good with him and now they are great buds.

Her health and everything are still fine considering she is now 8 years old!

Lindi-Lou: Yvonne writes:-

Lindi-Lou is keeping well. She will now allow us to stroke her when she is eating, and occasionally when she goes into her pen at night [she sleeps in there most nights now.] She is becoming closer to us now [after 6 years] but still enjoys her independence. She will occasionally come indoors, but only if the back door is open, so she can make a quick escape! She still looks into the kitchen window, especially if she smells a joint of beef or lamb being cooked - she will then eat it from the window ledge.



Husky: Known as 'Hidey cat' Pat writes:-



Hidey has been full of surprises just lately. As you know she is known as our upstairs cat and refuses to come down no matter what is offered to her. So it was quite a surprise when I was in my kitchen and noticed a tabby cat walking around the conservatory and looking out of the patio doors. Yes, you guessed it, Hidey, so I walked up to her quietly, not even speaking to her and opened the patio door and out she went!! Not far I hasten to add just on the patio for a sniff around and then scooted back to go up the stairs to the safety of her domain.

The next day, down she came again and went straight to the back door and once let out went straight up the steps and went and laid on the grass in the sun. Well this is out of character but most pleasing. This went on all week and then she stopped. It seems that she was quite satisfied with her outings and then went happily back to her upstairs world. Here's hoping that this is not the end of her adventuring and she will repeat the process on a more regular basis.

Hughie

Sheila tells me that she is getting along and making slow progress. She has been able to walk up the garden and bring one or two plants into the conservatory ready for winter.

Hughie goes from strength to strength, now known as 'huge Hughie', he really is a large, rangy, cat. He continues to enjoy the visitors constantly calling at the house to see Sheila and Robin, always hoping that each one will feed him! He is very well and simply enjoys eating and sleeping. He is certainly enjoying the good life and has come completely out of his shell.



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Boris & Darcy Boris is a tabby male and Darcy a black and white female



Both cats have had a good summer with their usual antics up the elderberry tree after various birds! Thankfully with no casualties with either birds or cats!

Boris has found a new pastime – pole dancing with the washing umbrella. As you can see from his picture he is rather fond of his washing pole!

Darcy, as you can also see, watches on with disdain! Both cats are fighting fit and happy.

Tabitha 9 year old tabby/white, came into care when her owner died. Found to have a pronounced heart murmur and needing considerable dental work.

Tabitha has been spoilt rotten recently. She and Reighan's relationship has just grown, now Reighan has her new 'big girl bed' Tabitha also has a new bed. Reighan hasn't been that well recently and Tabitha is always on hand to help sooth her when she's distressed, to the point Reighan will cry asking for Tabitha rather than me or her dad!! Reighan refers to Tabitha as her best friend and the compassion this cat has for Reighan is unbelievable, its a beautiful relationship, long may it continue.



New Cat Rainbow: A semi-feral now living in Kay's garden



Rainbow has adapted well to her new routine with life at my home with her firm friends, Bruce, Boris and Darcy.

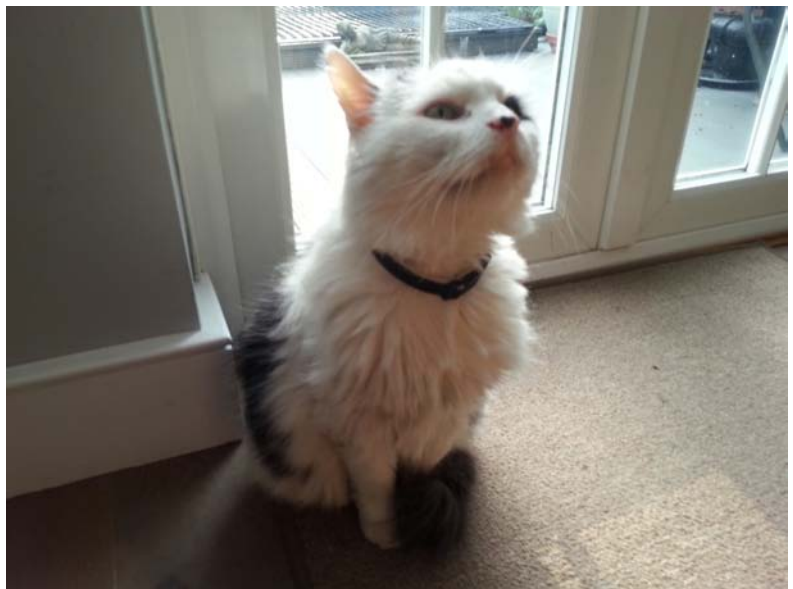
She enjoys cat company as much as she dislikes human attention. When she is hungry and I can tentatively stroke her head for a few seconds.

Over the summer I have propped open the cat flap and she has ventured in with the others but is easily panicked and retreats at any 'threat' back to the garden. I'm rather hoping that she will learn how to use the cat flap so that she can bring herself inside at night time rather than use the pen.

New Cat Basil: Eileen writes:-

Basil is okay now but very grumpy and rules the house. He doesn't like my cats and at every opportunity he lets them know but I guess when you have been a stray you have a right to express yourself however you can. He is less than impressed if they get on my knee first.

After he had the lump removed he had his thyroid gland taken out. Unfortunately he now needs to take tablets as his thyroid is under active. He is putting on a lot of weight even though he has been on a diet and is about to go onto a medical diet.



He also had to be shaved as his fur was in such a bad state. It is now growing back so he is looking much better.

EVENTS

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER AT 11.00am - 1.00pm

The Undercroft, St. Andrew's Church, Cuffley, EN6 4DR
Support our cats in care by coming to our bazaar to find gifts,
CP Christmas cards, CP 2016 calendars,
home-made cakes, etc. Refreshments available.

AUTUMN QUIZ NIGHT SATURDAY 21st NOVEMBER AT 7.30PM

Elm Court, Mutton Lane, Potters Bar EN6 3BP
As usual £6 a head, tables of up to 10.
Book early to avoid disappointment!
Ring me to book 01707 657876 or e-mail Stephanie.duffy1@btinternet.com

If you have received this Newsletter as a paper copy, you may find it more convenient to receive future copies by e-mail so please let me know if you have an e-mail address. Postage costs have sky-rocketed and it will save the Branch costs.

Very many thanks

**Thank you everyone for your kind and continuing support for the Sponsorship Scheme.
Very best wishes,
Stephanie**

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