



Welcome

to the very first Here for Cats newsletter. We have been operating for just over a year now so thought it would be a good idea to let you know what we have been up to, sharing the highs and the lows and letting you know how you can help us!

It has been a really positive year, hard work, as all those involved in animal rescue will acknowledge but we are gradually getting ourselves known and gathering support along the way. We have taken pride in responding when other charities have been unable to help with a case by case approach. Help is offered where we can, whether it be to give advice, practical help such as transport, sorting out behavioural issues or veterinary care and where necessary taking in and rehoming those cats in need.

We are currently exploring the issues around becoming a fully registered charity - whether spending the money involved in this is appropriate for us at this time, or would the money be better spent erecting more pens thus enabling us to care for more cats. This is a complicated situation and we want to give best value for money, whilst at the same time being as legitimate and transparent in our activities as possible.

We are pleased to announce that Pets at Home in West Byfleet have just made us their official local cat charity. This means we will have a presence in the store to advertise our services and cats looking for homes. We look forward to working with the colleagues in the store to improve the welfare of the animals in our area.

Planning to go on holiday?

Does your cat need somewhere to stay whilst you go on holiday?
Does your cat need special care for Diabetes or other medication?
If so please call Sue on 01483 577528. She has experience in rehabilitation with Noel Fitzpatrick and looking after sick animals. Sue has given us tremendous support and has become a very valuable member of our team.



LUCRUM – a special cat. Andy, his rescuer found this old reprobate living under a tarpaulin in his garden. He tried to take him in but Lucrum was spraying everywhere and fighting with his cats. He also appeared to have mobility problems. Andy spent 2 days on the phone looking for advice

and help before he reached Here for Cats. Oak Barn vets verified Lucrum wasn't microchipped and that he was an entire male. We agreed to neuter the lovely boy but pre op tests revealed the possibility of diabetes. This was verified in subsequent tests and Andy struggled to get Lucrum's sugar levels under control and Lucrum struggled with his hormones! Everyone did their utmost for this charismatic old fellow but sadly an ultrasound revealed a tumour on his pancreas and he had to be put to sleep. We can take comfort that in his last few weeks he was given love, a safe space and a full tummy. A special thanks to all at Oak Barn Vets in Shalford who were outstanding as usual with their care and advice, and our thanks to Andy's friend who paid his final bill. Beth, Andy's daughter provided this lovely drawing in his memory.



Here are just some of the cats we have found new homes for

PHOEBE



BEEBA



YOSHI



TOFFEE





SPECIAL REQUEST

Lovely Sapphire's devoted owner went into a home resulting in a stay of several months in a cattery for Sapphie. We found her the perfect home and she and her new owner were very happy together. Sadly it has not lasted as her new owner suffered a bad fall meaning a change in accommodation, so once again Sapphie is back in our care. We are determined to find the perfect forever home for this deserving girl who charms all she meets. Sapphie needs to be the only cat and needs a good sized garden. Are you the one for her? Do you know someone who has space for Sapphie in their heart and their home? There is a lovely film clip of her on our website.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- 1 Neuter and microchip your cats and ensure the microchip details are updated as soon as you move, and encourage other cat owners to do the same
- 2 Offer a cat in need a home, particularly an older cat or a black cat. These are the hardest to rehome
- 3 Foster a cat in need of temporary accommodation
- 4 Register with us as a supporter to receive updates. You can either do this online or fill in the enclosed form
- 5 Share and publicise the details of cats needing homes. This could be through Facebook or email or by offering to put the latest poster up in your vet, pet shop, place of work etc.
- 6 Help sponsor a pen to house a homeless cat. We have some pens allocated to us at Sue's cattery in Guildford
- 7 Donate to support our work. See the How to Donate section on page 3
- 8 Donate good quality unwanted items for us to sell and /or help to run a stall
- 9 Make cat toys, cakes, preserves etc for us to sell
- 10 Fundraise on our behalf, your ideas are welcome!
- 11 Volunteer as a homechecker for your area – ask for details

INDIA



India holds the distinction of being our first homed cat and Sue M our first 'failed fosterer', as she decided to give India a permanent home having weathered some spikey behaviour from India who was originally rescued from a cargo terminal at Heathrow.

MOLLY



Molly is 17 years old and is with us as a long term foster as she has been diagnosed with Cushings disease (much rarer in cats than it is in dogs). She is on daily medication which fortunately she enjoys!! Her owner who adopted her from Battersea several years previously needed to find her a new home, due to her work taking her abroad. She has been with us since May 2015. Would you like to sponsor her? Please contact us.



Lesson learnt the hard way!

- the importance of microchipping your cat

This is Rosie. She would not be featured here if her owner had microchipped her. Rosie was found in a car which had made several stops in the Sunbury area. The lady who found her, didn't want to just let her go as she didn't know from where she had hitched a ride. After visiting the vet and finding no microchip, her 'taxi driver' contacted us for help. We managed to get Rosie into one of our emergency foster homes, our thanks to Sheila! Leaflets and posters were produced to try and reunite her with her owner. We also used social media and checked various LOST and FOUND databases. After no one came forward we put her on our website for rehoming. Nearly 3 weeks later her owner contacted us after seeing a poster and sent us some pictures to prove Rosie was their missing cat. Luckily we had not yet rehomed her and she went home to be reunited

with her family. Just making the effort to get her microchipped would have saved a lot of heartache, time and money! Please ensure your animals are microchipped and the details are up to date.

If there is a stray cat in your neighbourhood please take it to your vet and ask them to check for a microchip. They will contact the microchip company to obtain the owner details if one is present. We have just acquired 2 microchip readers which are available to check for microchips. Would you like to contribute to their cost? (They were £45 each). There is a link to useful information about microchips on our website.

GREEN HOPE FARM FLOWER ESSENCES

These gentle but powerful remedies, imported from the USA are invaluable when dealing with issues such as spraying, fighting and bullying, fears and phobias and introducing new animals or settling in to a new environment. See our link on the 'Useful information' page of our website or call us for advice and access to these wonderful essences.



Find us on:
facebook®

Please like or share our facebook page so we can build our network of supporters. We will be posting funny photos and film clips, cats that need homes, up and coming fundraising events, lost and found cats.

www.facebook.com/Hereforcats

Our aims for the year

- To maintain our flexible approach and help as many cats and owners in as compassionate a way as possible
- Look at the benefits of registering as an official charity and decide when it will be the right time for us to do so
- Recruit more fosterers to enable us to take care of more cats
- Erect more pens where the opportunity and finances permit
- Attract regular sponsors to enable us to plan our activities
- Hold fundraising events for our supporters
- Recruit homecheckers for some areas
- Recruit helpers to keep posters updated at vets and on notice boards

DO YOU SHOP OR BOOK HOLIDAYS ONLINE?

You can earn us free donations if you do - it won't cost you a penny!

This is a very simple way to earn **FREE DONATIONS** for us whilst you shop by using **easyfundraising.org.uk**

Here is how it works

You make a purchase via the easyfundraising website from your chosen retailer, holiday or airline company. There are over 2,700 companies to choose from ie. Amazon, John Lewis, Marks & Spencer, Ebay, Expedia, Hotels.com, Travelodge, Thomson holidays and all the major supermarkets. The price is exactly the same as if you visited the company direct. After you have purchased your goods, flight or holiday the company will give a cash reward direct to the charity you support. Easyfundraising collect this and send it on at no extra cost, simple as that.

Don't forget to click through from easyfundraising though!

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/hereforcats

1. Visit: **www.easyfundraising.org.uk**

2. Support: **Here for Cats**

3. Shop & raise funds with over 2,700 companies

easyfundraising
.org.uk

HOW TO DONATE

Go to our website **www.hereforcats.org** and click on the **DONATE** button. You can pay by credit card, debit card and PayPal. This way we can also claim gift aid on any donations if you are a tax payer.

If you would prefer to **set up a standing order**, please fill in the enclosed form or download the form from our website. You can find this on our donate page. A small amount donated regularly by large numbers of caring supporters will enable us to support and care for an increasing number of animals. Larger donations will help us create the capital needed to acquire our own facilities. If you would like to make a donation by **cheque** please use the enclosed envelope, send us an email or call: **07546 010 154**.

We have also set up an Amazon wishlist on our website, if you would prefer to buy some catfood.

Any money or cat food donated will be very much appreciated and gratefully received.

Thank you from Michelle, Annie, Jan, Lesley, Chris and Sue

- All those who have donated time, money and items to sell. You, our supporters, make it possible to carry out our work
- Bobby and Emma at Pets Corner in Addlestone for their generous donations of all sorts of goodies



- Beverley from Claws for donating 2 good quality pens. We hope to have them erected soon
- Sainsbury's Cranleigh for their cash donation and the donation of flea treatments
- Sarah Perkins for agreeing to look after our Facebook page
- Guy and the team at Cobham Park Vets in Downside who continue to be our rock and centre of expertise
- Our local area vets who support our team
 - Barbara and team at Redleaves in Ashford who support Sheila and the kittens and send us wonderful homes
 - Milford vets who support Sue S
 - Louise and her team at Oak Barn Vets in Shalford who support Jan
 - Sherwoods for selling toy mice and their continuing support

If you would like to receive our newsletter or just keep up to date with our charity please fill in the enclosed form or you can give us a call or email us and we will add you to our supporter database.

Newsletter sponsored by Parkside Design Ltd – also available to be downloaded from our website

W: hereforcats.org

T: 07546 010 154

E: hereforcats@gmail.com