

Newsletter

2: 2005



*Magazine of Eskdale & District Branch
Cats Protection
Summer 2005*

Editorial

Hello & welcome to the second newsletter of 2005.

We have kittens coming out of our ears and not a home in sight. However we will soldier on.

Good news on the fostering front. Jane, who runs a cattery and uses one of her own pens to foster for us, is going to get a new double pen, paid for by the branch. It has been ordered and should be up and running by the end of the year.



If anyone out there is (or knows) an electrician who would be prepared to come and wire up a cat pen, we would love to hear from them. We will of course pay the going rate for the work.

If anyone would like to consider fostering, whether it is kittens or cats in a spare room or if you have space, a pen in the garden, then now is the time to contact us. We are short of fosterers for both cats and kittens and always have a waiting list for cats needing to come into care. We pay all fostering costs, food, litter, vet expenses etc; we need you to provide the time, care & love. Ring Anne on 01228 791364 or myself on 01461 202761 if you can help; please leave a message if we are at work.

Please take care with plants in the house and garden, many plants are poisonous to cats. Lilies have recently been highlighted in the news as even the pollen can be fatal to a cat. If a cat gets lily pollen on its fur & then grooms itself, it can ingest the pollen, this can lead to kidney failure. Other pet species are not thought to be affected, but cats lack certain enzymes, which make them especially vulnerable.

Would you like us to change this newsletter? What parts of it interest you most? What else would you like to see in it? Have you got something to contribute? A poem, story etc. Drop us a line with your ideas.

Happy Homings

Have you re-homed a cat, or kitten from us? Would you like to write about how it has settled in, and what it is doing now? If so we could include these letters in a future newsletter.

We are starting to get short of prizes for our tombola. If you have any unwanted gifts, then we would be more than happy to take them. Please hand them in to any of the committee or give us a ring & we'll arrange collection.

Fiona Gorman

Cat Work



50 cats & kittens have been successfully homed
42 are in care
21 are on the help to home list

Some of the cats in care include:-

Meg

4yrs old, female, tabby & white. Meg came into care when her owners moved home and were unable to take her. She is a very easy-going little cat and would suit most homes.

Kitty

5yrs, female, ginger & white. Kitty originally came into our care when her owner died. Unfortunately in her 2nd home the same thing happened, so poor Kitty is back in care. She is a very timid little cat, who will need a quiet home with someone who has plenty of patience for her to settle.

Tom

7yrs, male, black. Tom's original elderly owner had to move to live with his daughter, but Tom was unhappy with the existing cats in the house and had to come into care. Although shy at first Tom is a very loving cat.

At the moment we have 26 kittens waiting for homes. Only 1 kitten came from a home, the remaining 25 were all feral. Fortunately the majority were caught quite young so were quite easily tamed, although some have been more difficult.

Anne

Letter from Toby

Dear Fergus

Thanks for your letter. Your house has been busy with cats coming and going! I hope your new cat is OK and she isn't causing you any hassle. My folks haven't brought any new cats home lately, but we were all very sad that Fluffy, the cat that lived outside, sleeping in the wooden house with Denzil and Monty, died. She was a really friendly cat with dogs but not quite so sure of humans. She went to sleep in the sun and didn't wake up. Me and the new dogs - yes dogS - have been keeping Denzil and Monty entertained.

A very young dog came to live with us in March - her name is Kim and she is really really lively. We play chase the same toy and I win every time. But, realising that this is how things are, is part of her education. I don't tell my folks that I win every time because I make a growly noise in the back of my throat if it looks like she is going to get to the toy first! But you know how it is. You've got to make sure they know who's boss. Then, a couple of weeks ago another pensioner came to stay. She is another springer spaniel called Ella and she tries to be boss. So if she looks like she is coming to take my toys away I roll my eyes a lot and hope my mum comes and picks me up and takes me out of the way.

Anyway, us dogs have been spending a lot of time sitting with Denzil and Monty the cats because they have lost their old friend - we're making sure they realise they have lots of doggy friends.

Our other big entertainment is called buzzing the chickens. We aren't really allowed to do this but it is quite good fun. Kim is the best at it. You make it look as if you are not at all interested in the chickens and wait till everyone is looking the other way, then you run up to the chicken pen and the chickens flap their wings and the cockerel shouts at you. Perhaps if you had a look around the gardens near you there would be chickens for you to buzz as well?

Look forward to hearing your news.

Toby

Webcats



Fundraising News

Only a couple of shows and a coffee morning between us and the “Christmas Run” of fundraising. Scary! Just when you want to sit in the garden with a glass of wine you are ordering Christmas cards and calendars. Time really does pass more quickly as you get older.

No matter. How is the fundraising going? Well, takings are down on last year, at the moment. We think this is probably because of other campaigns and events that have been in the forefront of people’s minds. First we had the Asian tsunami, and the floods in Carlisle, and currently there is the Make Poverty History campaign. People only have a certain amount of money to give to good causes so we decided not to have a prize draw this year, and we shall quite understand it if we find at the end of the year that we haven’t raised as much as in 2004.

Please don’t think we haven’t been doing any fundraising, however. We have had several really good events in the past few months. The Dog Show raised just over £200 as did the Silent Auction (it would have been more but the road between Canonbie and Newcastleton was closed for part of the morning following a car crash). We had a much better attendance at the Dog Show this year, so lets hope it is on the up.

The Relaxation Day was very relaxing for all those who came along for therapy sessions. This year we also had a homoeopathy workshop with Chris Conyers, who gave individual advice afterwards and answered people’s questions, and Mitch Phillips gave wonderful aromatherapy massage treatments as well as reflexology. Many thanks to Chris and Mitch who came for the first time this year. Indeed, a very big “thank you” to everyone who so kindly gave their time and expertise to the day – Hazel, Eileen, Eleanor, Muriel and Sue – and of course also to June and Brian Davidson, who gave us six of their beautiful rooms in the Garden House Hotel for the day. We hope to be doing this again next year, so make a note in your diary for around the beginning of June, and come along.

So what now? We shall be at the Holm Show (Newcastleton) in our usual tent on August 27th and at Langholm Show in the same tent on September 24th. The shows are always good fun and worth a visit so

we hope to see some of our members at one or both of these. In between these there is a coffee morning in Newcastleton on September 10th. We shall have (I'm afraid) Christmas cards and calendars by then, so if you want to get your Christmas shopping over early, that's the way to do it.

Do have a look at the list of events and please support us if you can. We could do with a few more people at the Langholm coffee mornings, so if you live in or near there, think about coming along to the Day Centre and trying our cakes and coffee.

P.S My telephone number has changed and is now 013873 81929.



Events

27th August	Stand at Holm Show (Newcastleton)
10th September	Newcastleton Village Hall Coffee Morning & Sale. 10:30am – 12 noon
24th September	Stand at Langholm Show
1st October	Langholm Day Centre Coffee Morning & Sale. 10am – 12 noon
22nd October	Hawick, Trinity Church Hall. Coffee Morning & Sale. 10am – 12 noon
29th October	Lockerbie Town Hall. Coffee Morning & Sale 10am – 12 noon
19th November	Newcastleton Village Hall Coffee Morning & Sale. 10:30am - 12:30pm
End November	Dumfries Charities Christmas Fair
10th December	Langholm Day Centre. Coffee Morning & Sale. 10am - 12 noon

If you can help at any of the events, could bake, or would like to book a table to sell your own crafts, please ring Ginnie on 013873 81929

100 Club

March	No 77 No 103	M & G Cook Julia Fisher
April	No 107 No 97	Vera Knowles Irene Johnstone
May	No 60 No 67	Olive Donaldson Emma McManus
June	No 97 No 73	Irene Johnstone Muriel Jeffrey
July	No 26 No 110	Margaret Cook Helen Steele



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General Committee on inside back cover

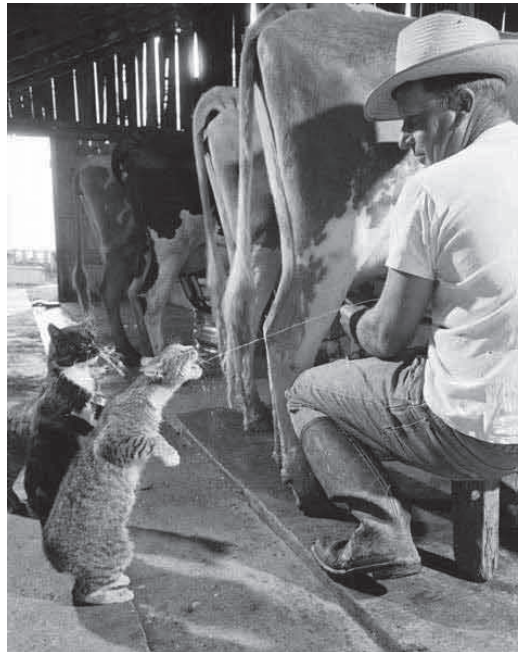


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Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Eskdale & District Branch of Cats Protection