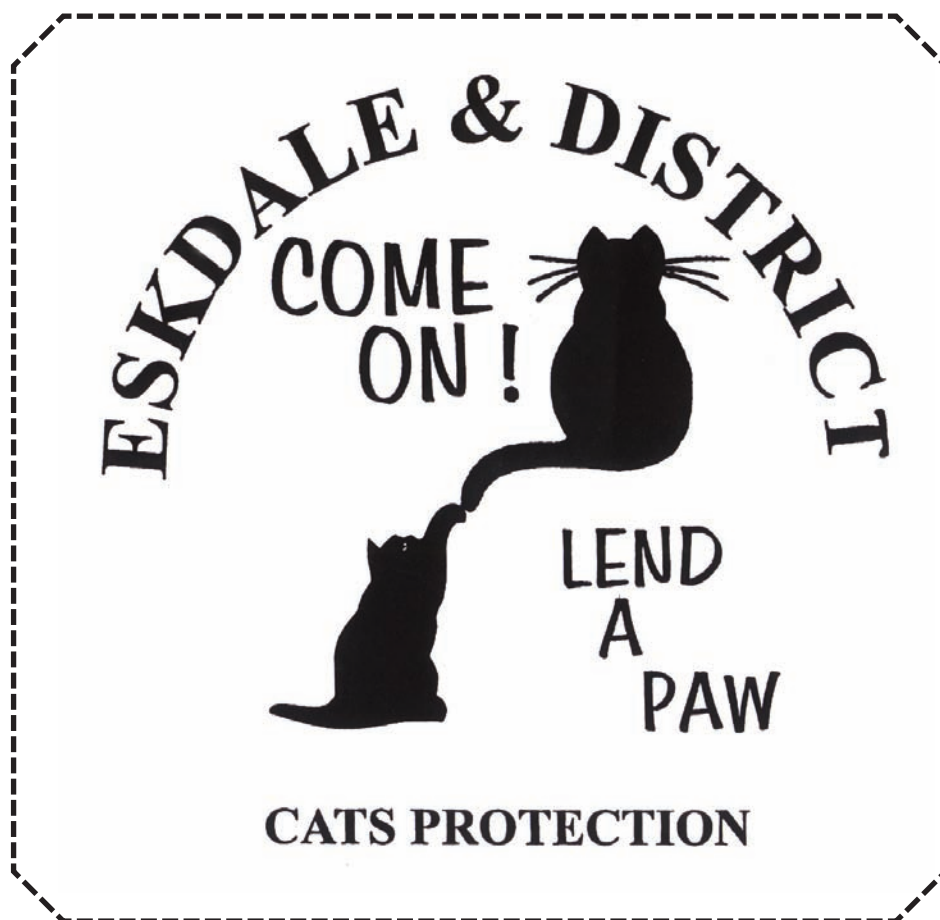


Newsletter

2: 2008



Cats Protection

Eskdale and District Branch

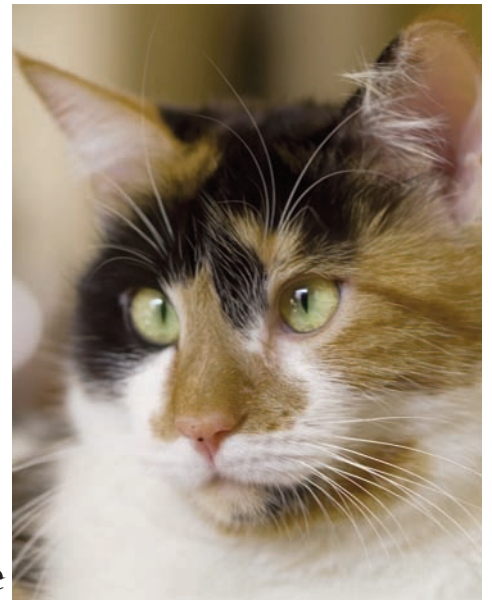
Summer 2008

Editorial

I hope everyone had a good summer in spite of the weather. Here at Riccarton Mill we are still mopping up after the great flood in July, in which one very big cat house and the shed we keep all the CP goods for sale in, were swept across the yard by the rising river, and completely flooded. We were very lucky; all the cats were safe - but we lost a lot of stock as well as cat furniture (radios, carpets, bedding, heaters, etc), and Rowan is still not back in his house. One other cat house is also going to have to be stripped and refitted with everything. Thank heaven for pressure washers - many thanks also to Anne for helping us clean up and shovel mud with her trusty snow shovel. We neither of us wish to see another muddy candle holder as long as we live. If any fosterers have been wondering why some of the cat food they have received recently has been covered in a fine layer of mud - now you know why.

This is only a fairly short newsletter - there will be another one in October, with the bottle draw. Meantime, please look at the various events planned for the rest of the year and try to come along. We have restocked with new goods, as well as Christmas cards and calendars - so no mud anywhere!

Ginnie





Cat Work

49 cats and kittens have been successfully rehomed

32 cats and kittens are in care

20 cats are on the help to home list, waiting to come into care

Some of the cats in care include:

LENNY: 1-2 years approx, male, black and white. Lenny was a stray living in a stable with horses. He is a lovely friendly cat and would suit any home.

CLEO: 8-9 years, female tortie. Cleo's owner no longer wanted her. She is a lovely little cat but has previously suffered a broken pelvis which has left her with a slight bowel problem. Cleo would like a home with no other cats.

SANDY: 2 years, male, ginger. Sandy came into care as a stray in January. He has been quite poorly with a kidney complaint and he has taken a long time to recover. He would now like a home with no dogs please as he feels he has been in his pen long enough. Anne

100 Club

March	No. 17	Carol Sawyers
	No. 47	Sheila Viviers
April	No. 48	Jane Henderson
	No. 86	Agnes McGarva
May	No. 15	Fiona Gorman
	No. 112	Noreen Tait
June	No. 94	Christina
	No. 100	Alan Rice
July	No. 3	Robert Willins
	No. 71	Kevin Beattie



Fundraising News

We had a really good Relaxation Day at the Garden House Hotel in Gretna in July, and made over £400. Thanks to everyone who came, therapists and clients and helpers, and to June and Brian at the Garden House, for giving us those super big rooms for the day. Once again we had to leave Sue, still telling fortunes at gone 6 o'clock.

We have several Coffee Mornings coming up, as well as the Langholm Show at the end of September, and a stall at the NCVS Charities Fair on 1st November. This is in a new venue – the DG One Leisure Complex – so we hope to see all our supporters from Dumfries there.

If anyone would like to help with fundraising please give me a ring. This could be coming to help at one of our events, or collecting or making things to sell, or organising an event, or taking some bric-a-brac to a car boot sale and selling for us (we can supply very good quality bric-a-brac). I would love to hear from you.

Ginnie 013873 76738

Letter from Lucy

Hi I'm Lucy.

I'm sure like my mum and Dad; your carers go on holiday. This of course means we go to the cattery. I don't know about you, but I make an effort in this respect. My tail goes down give them the usual sad look and I make sure they have trouble getting me into the cat basket. When I get there I stay in the basket as long as possible, just to make a point. I give them an angry look when they leave and hopefully, they will feel bad about it while on holiday.

Once they have gone, I make friends with the cats in the next pen. The children come in and play with me and I really have a good time. I look out of the window and watch the sheep and cows in the farm So far I have enjoyed my stays - until this time.

I did my usual "don't want to go" act and once my Dad left I looked into the next pen and found - Guinea pigs! The disgrace of it - no nice Siamese to organise the escape attempt (pity about the language difficulty), but squeaky guinea pigs. Have you seen what they eat? It's disgusting and it looks like mum's Muesli - one of the few things she knows I don't touch.

The other cats and I did have some fun with them. We sat staring at them whilst licking our lips! We also swapped guinea pig recipes. I must say I don't think they enjoyed their stay - not once did I see them wag any tails.



Events 2008

6th September	Stand at Westerkirk (The Benty) Show
27th September	Stand at Langholm Show
25th October	Coffee Morning & Sale, British Legion, Jedburgh 10am – noon
15th November	Coffee Morning & Sale, Newcastleton Village Hall 10:30am – noon
22nd November	Christmas Fair & Coffee Morning, Lockerbie Town Hall 10am – noon
29th November	Christmas Fair & Coffee Morning, Langholm Day Centre 10am – noon

These are the events booked so far – as at the end of January. I shall be booking other events, so please keep a look out for updated lists.

If anyone would like to help us at any event – selling, baking etc – or would like to book a table at one of the Coffee Mornings, or would like more information about any of the events, please ring me, Ginnie on 013873 76738

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that I have to tell you of Cameron's death on Sunday 4th May after a painful and protracted illness, through which Anne nursed him tirelessly and quite selflessly.

Cameron was a founder member of the branch, along with Anne and Fiona, and from the start he was involved in practically every aspect of the work – building pens, transporting, trapping, fundraising and fostering. He was also the Treasurer and kept the Lost and Found register.

Most importantly he was Anne's husband and partner in all the work of the branch and he was also a good friend. Throughout his illness Anne managed to look after the salon, the cats and the Cats Protection work, as well as looking after Cameron in a way that would have done credit to any qualified nurse. We all miss him very much.

Letter from Angus

Lavender Cottage
5 Rowanburn
Canonbie
DG14 0RQ

Dear Isaac,

Hello! We have heard that you want some paw pals, so here we are!

We were sorry to hear the news about Toby, even though we never met him. But we, too have lost a canine friend, Rob, only last week.

So, who are we?

Well, I am Angus, and the annoying one who is walking over the keyboard is Mischa. Mischa thinks she rules the roost here, but everyone knows that I do really. She is "top dog" even though she is a cat; how stupid is that!

Anyway, we both appeared in the last newsletter, but Mum says we can't put our pictures on here, as they don't show us up properly. So, here we are:

Mischa is the smaller, mainly black cat. You may notice that the caption says "before the operation". It was me who had surgery, towards the end of last year. I am a pure white cat, and if you look at my blue eye, first, I couldn't see through it; second, it is a different colour to my other one; third, it had a cataract. The newsletter tells you a bit about my story. I am totally deaf, and have never been able to see through that eye, even before the cataract developed.

Anyway, the vet said the cataract and the blue eye could mean something nasty was going on; and it was.

So, last autumn, when things got really bad, the vet removed it. Don't worry though. I am so laid back I didn't mind at all.

I get along fine with being deaf; I just miaow and purr very loudly! I have no problems getting about, though I only go outside on a lead; but I like that too. People come up and say hello, because they don't normally see a cat taking its owner out for a walk (purrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr). Mischa comes along too, on a lead. She's a scaredy cat, while I say hello to everyone, even the dogs that pass us. I even turn over on my back so I can have a tummy tickle.

Mum likes to spend a lot of time watching birds. She has put up some feeders in the garden, and takes lots of photos of them. Ah yes! That camera. She keeps pointing it at me and Mischa. I ignore it. But Mischa always likes to have her picture taken; vain little thing.

Anyway, Mum watches the birds, and so do I, of course. I find them really interesting, so I understand why Mum likes to watch them so much. (purrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr). They must be vain too, cos she takes lots and lots of pictures of them as well.

Well, Isaac, I hope you want to write to us!

I see you live at Rose Cottage, while we live at Lavender Cottage! We must like flowers!!!

Bye for now,

Angus + Mischa and Mum xx

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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