

Newsletter

3: 2013



Cats Protection

Eskdale and District Branch

Winter 2013

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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

Editorial

Good news first. Yippee! We have a new fosterer. Linda, who lives in a lovely part of the world, just outside Beattock, has recently started to foster for us, and the first foster kitten quickly found a home – with Linda. Hopefully the next one will go a bit further afield, but I know what it's like, I'm not good at parting with foster cats either (Tia and Missy and Corky being the most recent).

We still have a spare pen so if anyone would like to have a pen in the garden and foster for us, please get in touch (Anne 01228 791364 or me 013873 76738). You don't have to adopt any of the cats you foster, but it's always a possibility. Fostering is a big commitment, but it is also very rewarding. If anyone would like to talk to any of the current fosterers and get the lowdown, we can put you in touch.

Over the summer we have had several cats coming into care who have required costly veterinary care.

Peter came in as a stray tom who was beating up the resident cat and promptly developed serious urinary problems requiring emergency hospitalisation – on a Sunday of course – and ongoing residency at the vet. Peter is now fully recovered and awaiting a home but his treatment has cost around £600.

Then there is Meg who came in with a very nasty eye injury. It was thought the eye would have to be removed but luckily the treatment she received – sewing the eyelid shut and a course of antibiotics and a fortnight's hospitalisation, saved the eye and she is now well and has been homed. That cost around £200.

And then there was Kenzo who had been abandoned and was very timid and vanished. When he was eventually caught he was found to have a very deep wound caused by his collar embedding in his side after he got his leg caught through the collar. The vet thought he might need a skin graft but fortunately the wound began to heal so it was left. Several weeks later it still isn't healed in the centre and he may yet need surgery to repair the injury. Further updates in the next newsletter and on our Facebook page.

Ginnie



Fundraising

If you haven't already got your cards and calendars and gift wrap, please remember to pop in to your local vet and get them there. As usual they are all selling Christmas goods in aid of Eskdale branch, and we are very grateful to them all for having the things and also for selling them for us. They are also on sale at Anne's in Longtown. Prices are held the same as last year - packs of 10 cards for £3.99 or £4.99. Calendars are £4.95 for the large one and £3.95 for the long, thin, kitten one (the calendar, not the kitten). Diaries are £2.95 and there are also packs of gift wrap at £3.50 for 6 sheets and tags.

Vets to look in are:

Ark, Lockerbie

Dryfe, Lockerbie

Capontree, Longtown

Border vets, Longtown

Eden, Carlisle

Ashlea, Carlisle

Hawick vet, Hawick

Firth, Annan



Over the summer we were at both the Holm Show and Langholm Show as usual. Funnily enough we took more at the Holm, which is smaller and where it was wet, than at Langholm, where it was a lovely, sunny day. They were both good, however, and thanks to everyone who came and supported us. Also thanks to everyone who came to the Lockerbie Coffee Morning where we made £330 in spite of the main road through being closed that day.

Many thanks too, to Elspeth and the manager and staff at Bannatyne's in Dumfries for the book sales. The most recent sale raised just pennies short of £100 which is marvellous. It is also quite a lot of books so please keep the donations of books coming – especially fiction paperbacks in good condition. And if you have bought some from the shop or Bannatyne's and read them and are finished with them, just bring them back to the shop for resale.

Note – final fundraiser of 2013 – **November 30th Pets at Home, Galashiels**, we are having a collection. Come if you can.

Happy Christmas to all our supporters. Ginnie

Cat Work

62 cats have been successfully rehomed.

21 are in care.

16 are on the help to home list waiting to come into care.

Some of the cats in care include :-

Peter

Approx 5 yrs. old tabby and white. Peter appeared at a lady's house as a stray but was being aggressive to her own cat, so had to come into care. Now neutered he appears to be fine with other cats but isn't keen on dogs.

Kenzo

Kenzo's owner moved home and left him behind. He is 2 yrs. old, male, black and white. When he came into care he had managed to get his front leg through his collar causing a nasty wound under his armpit which is healing now (the importance of quick release collars).

Rufus

Approx 5 yrs. old, male, black and white. Yet another stray, Rufus was handed into the vets with an open wound on his forehead which has taken a long time to heal but is now healed. He was quite upset with himself when he came in but has settled down and become a lovely cat.

It would be so nice if some of the cats in care could find a nice home before Christmas. We always have a waiting list of cats waiting to come in, some are with their owners and for various reasons they need to rehome them, but it's always nice to get the strays in especially now the weather is getting much colder.

Tombola items needed.

We have worked our way through a lot this year, at shows and Coffee Mornings, and Anne's cupboard is getting quite bare, so if you have any small items for tombola (or indeed raffle) prizes – things like cosmetics, jewellery, bags, ornaments, smellies, new books, stationery etc we would be most grateful. Ring Anne or me, we can collect.

100 Club

July

5 Emma Snowden
116 Christine Ridley

August

41 Hazel Monkhouse
72 David Lister

September

23 Margaret Main
46 Betty Birrell

October

29 Ed Taylor
91 Mrs Ashmore

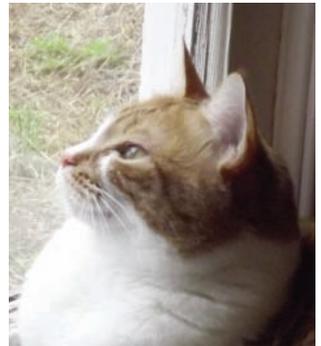
Bottle Draw

Don't forget to fill in and return your bottle draw sheets to me or Anne – addresses at front of newsletter - more sheets are available.
Ginnie (013873 76738)

Our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/eskdaledistrictcatsprotection

We are using Facebook to share information about:
Cats in our care looking for new homes;
Lost and Found Cats;
Sharing Successful Homing Stories;
Fundraising Ideas;
Stories and Pictures;
Cat Welfare and Responsible Ownership;
Forthcoming Events;
News from Cats Protection;



Please LIKE our facebook page and tell your friends about it too.
If you have any nice stories or updates (& photos) about cats you have adopted from Eskdale & District Branch please post on our Facebook page or forward to Julie Campbell at the following email address eskdalecats@outlook.com

There are a number of new ways to make donations directly to our branch using PayPal and our Ebay for Charity Page. Details are on our website: <http://www.eskdalecats.org.uk> and also see last page of this Newsletter.

Cat World

*When the tea is brought at five o'clock
And all the neat curtains are drawn with care,
The little black cat with bright green eyes
Is suddenly purring there.*

Harold Monro



“Pussy cat, pussy cat,
What are you at?
Where are your manners,
You bad little cat?”
“Miou,” said the pussy;
“Please, may I stay
To afternoon tea, ma’am,
For once in a way?”
“Pussy cat, pussy cat,
What can I do?
There’s no cup and saucer,
There’s no tea for you.”
“Miou,” said the pussy;
“Miou, ma’am,” said she.
“I don’t need a tea-cup,
I never take tea;
Some milk in a saucer,
Is better for me.”

Anon



Tiger

This is the story of how a tiny kitten changed our lives.

Tiger came into our lives fifteen years ago.

We were at friends of ours who have a farm and I was doing the farm books for them as I did every month. Dinner had just finished when we heard a meow at the back door. Opening the door Blacknight walked in with this tiny kitten trying to follow her. There were lots of awwws and ohhhs as this helpless little bundle of black fluff tried to follow her mum. As I went to pick her up Ettie said "Oh you will have to take her as she will get run over by a tractor or fall in the silage pit here".

We already had three cats at home and we didn't really want any more as this little bundle was only about three weeks old and was still being fed by her mother. In the end we decided to bring her home with us and the long nightly feeds started. We named her after Tiger Woods as he had just won a golfing match that weekend. I didn't have any kitten milk to feed her so I gave her evaporated milk diluted down with boiled water, which was not really what she should have been getting but I didn't know what else to feed her on at the time - I know better now. As the weeks went by Tiger grew and I was enjoying hand rearing her.

We had read adverts in the local paper looking for fosterers for the Cats Protection and thought we might try it as it was so rewarding seeing Tiger grow and thrive so well.

At the time I was working in the kitchens of the local primary school and happened to mention it one day. Anne's sister worked there and said she would get Anne and Cameron to come and see us and tell us all about fostering. They came to see us and told us all about it and that they didn't get that many kittens that needed hand rearing but that didn't bother us.

One night a few weeks later Anne rang us and asked if we would like our first lot to foster. We said yes, then she told us they were four kittens just ten days old. When Anne and Cameron arrived they not only had the kittens but bottles, kitten milk, blankets, heat pads and more and the sleepless nights started. We called the kittens Flora, Clover, Shamrock and Spot. All four kittens thrived and when they were old enough they went to their new mummy and daddy's except for Flora who I kept. Sadly Flora got knocked down and died six years later.

Tiger

Oh and every time I opened a tin of evaporated milk whether Tiger was asleep or not she would come for a little bit in a saucer.

Since we got those four little kittens nearly fifteen years ago we have fostered hundreds of cats. We still love doing it and Tiger will always be remembered as the tiny little bundle of fluff that started it all off.....

Elaine - Foster Mum and Volunteer for Eskdale Cats Protection.



Cat World

*Hear our prayer Lord, for all animals,
May they be well-fed, well-housed and happy;
Protect them from malice and fear and suffering;
And, we pray, protect specially, dear Lord,
The little cat who is the companion of our home,
Keep her safe as she goes abroad,
And bring her back to comfort us.*

*Before a cat will condescend
To treat you as a trusted friend,
Some little token of esteem
Is needed, like a dish of cream.
T.S.Eliot*

Letter from Beattie

Hello everyone it's Beattie here, and I am ever so slightly not amused.

As I was the very first foster cat she who has to be obeyed --- if you wish food and cuddles -- adopted, I do hold a very important place in this household. There are now 5 of us who live here and I have everyone aware who is top cat. They all know which dish is mine, which basket is mine and which neighbours are visited by me alone.

Everything was going along nicely until the arrival of a pesky thing called Peter the Puss!! Apparently he was injured when he came here and what a fuss my staff has made of him. He loves all the attention and never puts a paw wrong when she is about, however he is a bit different when she is out. The other night I had my tea, then a good wash - which only took me an hour or so - and was heading towards my basket looking forward to a quick nap of 4 hours when lo and behold Peter the Pest was curled up in it snoring away!! I growled and puffed myself up, threw in a few hisses for good measure but did he move - no.

I was forced to sleep on her bed.

When she returned did she sort him out? No; it really is too much. Now if this beast is as cute as everyone seems to think please please one of you out there give him a good home and get him out of my fur and my basket!!



Shopping for Cat-lovers

NEW CATS PROTECTION ONLINE SHOP

Please browse the new online shop here:

<http://www.cpshop.co.uk>

Every purchase made through the online shop will raise money to help our work with the cats.

If you would like the money raised from your purchase to go towards Cats Protection – Eskdale & District Branch please remember to select our branch when you checkout your order. New customers will receive a 10 per cent discount on all purchases on your first order. Please use the discount code “cpnew10” at checkout.

SUPPORT CATS BY SHOPPING ONLINE

DO YOU SHOP ONLINE WITH Amazon, Tesco, Sainsbury’s, M&S, Argos, Zooplus, Pets at Home?

You can raise money for Cats Protection - Eskdale & District Branch whenever you shop with these stores and 3000 other stores by using the fundraising website, Easyfundraising. It won’t cost you a penny more and everything you buy will raise a small donation to Cats Protection - Eskdale & District Branch.

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/catsprotectioneskdaledistrict>

<http://catsprotectioneskdaledistrict.easysearch.org.uk>

TIP If you install the easyfundraising Find and Remind Toolbar – this will show you how much you have raised for Cats Protection as you shop.



