

Catchat.org

The Cat Rescue Resource
Reg. Charity No. 1100649

NEWSLETTER WINTER 2010/11



BONNY & ANNIE – A Story of Survival



Bonny & Annie were both approx 13 years old, healthy, beautiful, confident, trusting and kind natured cats. Sadly, their owners both died within weeks of each other, and due to there being no relatives, the home was cleared and Bonnie & Annie evicted. They found themselves homeless, which was a great shock as they were used to being, much loved, indoor pets.

Following their tragic turn of events, and being left outside to fend for themselves, an extremely kind neighbour tried to take Bonny and Annie in but it wasn't to be, as they couldn't live with her dog. She took them to the vets for health checks and even partly paid for some dental treatment - she absolutely loved them! It is in part on her insistence, that these beautiful cats were not euthanased.

Bonny & Annie were finally taken in by the vet, and remained there for weeks while they tried to rehome them, but with no luck. The vets and nurses were adamant that Bonny and Annie would find homes, as they were so gorgeous (even if they did stop them from working, as they all liked to cuddle them!). Both cats love being carried around like babies and Annie (as you can see!), has an endearing habit of sticking her tongue out.

Their luck changed when they were then taken in by Cat Homing and Rescue, Warrington and a special appeal for a home placed on Cat Chat. In late November, after only a week or so on site, news came in to Cat Chat that Bonny & Annie had had a successful home check, and were moving to their new home! Their rescuers told us, "This is a direct result of your advertisement and we cannot thank you enough. The two girls are going to live with a gentleman who lives alone, where they will have a lovely, quiet retirement home."

Girls! If you're reading this, we wish you and your new human companion a wonderful life together. . .

Cold Weather Warning !!!

Congratulations! You've made it through the coldest December in the UK since records began!

But it is only February, and with the risk of unsettled weather and freezing temperatures to come, cats still need protecting. Cats left outdoors for long periods in very cold temperatures are at risk of developing hypothermia or even frostbite, and for older cats subzero temperatures can even be fatal.

Cats should not be shut out of the house for long periods of time and should always have access to warmth and shelter. If your pet answers the call of nature outside, please ensure they can get can get back in again! Check your cat flap regularly to make sure it doesn't get frozen shut by the snow.

For cat who do remain outside in cold weather, such as feral cats, please make sure there

is some outside shelter, which is dry and water-proof. This could be a shed, garage or similar, with some warm and dry bedding to snuggle down in. At the very minimum, a dry, water-proof cardboard box, covered with a bin liner or some cling film can make all the difference. It will need to be weighted down or tucked under a bush for stability, and contain a thick layer of straw (or thick wollen jumpers / blanket etc. which will need changing regularly).

Sheds and garages need to be checked for hazards where pets are likely to be seeking shelter: Don't leave Antifreeze unattended in places where they can get to it, and take care to mop up any spillages. Less than a teaspoonful of Antifreeze can be fatal if ingested by cats, and usually causes death by kidney failure. So please take care when it's cold out there!



Rescues... need MORE HOMES for cats in your care?

A FREE Rehoming Web Page on Catchat.org could help! Our homing pages are available to all UK Rescue Centres and Rehoming Groups, large or small. Even if you already use the web to rehome cats - by having a Cat Chat Homing page too, you will DOUBLE their chances!

Here are the Latest Cat Chat Homing Pages to go Live:
Safe and Sound Animal Care, Hants
Avon Cat Rescue, Welford on Avon
Lincs Ark Animal Welfare, Lincs
Teckels Animal Sanctuaries, Glos
Willows Cat Adoption Centre, Tyne & Wear

If your rescue would like a free Web Homing Page on Cat Chat, Just tell us the name and location of your rescue, the contact details you wish to be displayed on the page, and any other information you'd like included. Also helpful, is a list of main towns that you rehome to, so that we can better reference your page for search engines.

Please Email us at: freepage@catchat.org

Harder to Home Cats... Tango Revisited - 2 Years On



Tango had a tough start in life, living rough until he was rescued by Kirkby Cats Home, Notts. He was in rescue for months and returned 3 times as he couldn't cope with living in a house after a life on the street. He eventually found his home thanks to his appearance on Cat Chat, with a couple who were prepared to help him over his past trauma. His name is now Siegfried Barker-Powell (you can find him on Facebook!), and here's what his family have to say 2 years on:-

"Well, what can I say? He is absolutely a different cat! He loves being fussed, demands to sit on laps, asks to be stroked, adores being groomed, he keeps his orange & white fur in absolutely pristine condition & even

seems to have stopped fighting!! He got into quite a few rucks when we first got him, but now he's got respect from every other cat on the street, he's fine. Basically the other cats have more sense than to take him on!

Although he had tantrums & sulks and was a 'hard' cat, having had a long time living un-neutered & rough, he didn't have a lot of confidence with people and his body language seemed often to suggest he was almost waiting to be ill-treated. I think he used to bite first

sometimes to be on the safe side! All I can say is I wish you could see him now. He has turned into a genuinely nice cat with loads of character. He now does all the normal cat things like sleeping on clean washing, hogging all the duvet, digging up people's spinach seeds, nicking his male human's chair the minute he gets up, and pretending his biscuits are defective in order to get his meat a few hours earlier. It took a whole 18 months before he would play. He'd chase leaves & birds outside but was deeply suspicious of cat toys. Then he started playing with a little ball with a bell in it, and now he's gone the whole hog... I can't even knit with him beside me because he pounces on the wool about every 14 seconds!

So, for people who are worried about taking an older lad with cattitude, our big ex-bruiser Siegfried is proof that it can work. The key thing was letting him settle in at his own pace."

Our heartfelt thanks go to Siegfried's family for sharing his latest news with us. If Siegfried's story has inspired you, and you'd like to consider the rewards of bringing peace and stability to a troubled heart, please visit our Top Cat Homing Section: www.catchat.org/topcats/topcats.html There you will find harder to home cats in your area, who could definitely do with paw up, and an understanding home.



Rescuer's Corner

Featuring - Willows Cat Adoption Centre, South Shields

Willows Cat Adoption Centre is a small and personal rescue, which also incorporates an advice centre. All of the cats over 5 months old are neutered and all cats flead and wormed when they arrive. Cats are in pens, but numbers are kept small to avoid stress, and a lot of their cats are quickly homed. They try to find fosterers for cats they think will take longer to home. They pride themselves on matching the most suitable animal to each prospective home for adoption. They consider it crucial for the adopter to first consider the responsibility of adopting a cat for a possible 15-20 years and to take into account the cost of food, flea, worming, insurance and vet fees if the pet is poorly.

Neutering is a top priority at Willows, realizing it is irresponsible cat owners who don't have their pets neutered that have caused the horrendous cat overpopulation problem we have today. They reported an enormous task dealing with an increase of kittens in 2010 and feel it is going to be even worse this year! Sadly, during kitten season, adult cats are overlooked as everyone wants to adopt kittens. However, as the kittens grow, Willows find themselves having to take in the unwanted teenager/adults.

They constantly have a massive waiting list of unwanted cats in need of 'forever homes', most of which have had very hard lives. They've received little love or care and have been disregarded on a whim. "Unfortunately, in this throwaway society, people turn to us thinking we are there to take their cats when they are fed up with them."

Their advice is, if you need to rehome a cat and are unable to find a friend or family member to adopt it, you need to consider carefully which rescues to contact, and a visit is a must before leaving any animal there.

Willows encourage open mindedness about the age and the type of cat to consider when it comes to adoption. Their articles on the subject, along with many of the cats seeking homes can be found on their Cat Chat Homing Page: www.catchat.org/willows/cgi-bin/prtoc.cgi

Esther is one of the cats currently at Willows, patiently waiting for her forever home. Her details can be found on the Tyne & Wear page of our Top Cats homing section: www.catchat.org/topcats/topcats.html

If you'd like to read more about our Patrons and Famous Friends, and find out what they say about Cat Chat, visit:

www.catchat.org/patrons.html

Paws crossed for more news like this in future issues!

Cat Chat's Famous Friends

We have a recent and very exciting development to tell you about:

In addition to our two Patrons; MP and animal welfare campaigner Roger Gale and the wise and wonderful Bagguss, we've now been joined by 3 well-known supporters of Cat Chat, who we've named our 'Famous Friends'!

Far be it from us to name drop, but... our Famous Friends are:



Sir Peter Hall, one of the country's foremost theatre directors. Sir Peter was the Founding Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company in the 1960's and the Director of the National Theatre for fifteen years (1973-88).



Marilyn Edwards, long-time Cat Chat supporter and author of the bestselling "The Cats of Moon Cottage". Marilyn has so far written five books about cats, and says she is still writing on the subject!



Tom Cox - self-confessed 'Cat Man', noted for his humorous books about cats, music and golf, his most successful book to date being "Under the Paw: Confessions of a Cat Man"; a comic memoir of his life... as dominated by cats. His latest book "Talk to the Tail" was released in January.

Serving Cat & Country

Warm, welcoming furry paw shakes and sandpapery licks go to our two latest Cat Chat Volunteers to join the team... Carys and Ria will be giving their time and expertise in their new role as Feline Forum Moderators.

Thanks and good luck guys! (ok... we'll leave the sandpapery licks!!)

Adopt a Luck Black Cat



Rescues around the country will all confirm:

BLACK CATS are the HARDEST COLOUR to HOME!



Through no fault of their own, black cats are overlooked time and time again, as most people tend to choose cats with 'prettier' colours or more interesting patterns. Some will spend many months in rescue, sometimes even years, waiting for someone to see past their colour.

We received an email on the subject from Whiteknights

Animal Rescue, Reading - asking if we had any ideas on promoting black cats.

So we came up with a brand new page for our site with all kinds of facts and snippets on black cats, including: Foreword by Cat Chat's own Yogi Cat, Top Ten Reasons to Adopt a Black Cat and Famous Black Cat Owners. The new page can be found here:

www.catchat.org/black_cats.html

One thing is certain, those who have looked beyond the coat and adopted a black cat, consider themselves extremely lucky indeed... As do the following black cats, rehomed recently via Cat Chat:

SOPHIE - Burton Joyce Cat Welfare, Notts.

MR BIGGLES - Crescent Cat Rescue, Essex.

FUDGE AND LOLA - Cat Action Trust 1977, Doncaster.

PANDORA - Cat And Kitten Rescue, Watford, Herts.

PENNY - Cat Action Trust, Lanarkshire.

RUSTY - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.

JESSICA AND SUZY - Bromley & District Cat Rescue, Kent.

JESS - Feline Network, Paignton, Devon.

Many more super, sleek black cats are waiting right now... in a rescue centre near you:

www.catchat.org/adoption and on our Top Cats Rehoming Section here:

www.catchat.org/topcats/topcats.html

Mr Tom



A message to Cat Chat, from Pawz For Thought Rescue, Sunderland

"Our resident cat who was part of the staff got a dream home and new start today. Our very own Mr. Tom, the Daddy of the pallet yard feral colony, who we finally managed to catch in the summer (that provided us with a steady stream of kittens until his capture), has been snapped up today for his turn. This cat was brilliant with everyone, we put feral kittens with him to bring them round and he helped us out more than we can say.

He was our rock and we love him, and wish him well in his very well deserved warm home - very heartfelt thanks to the lady who took him.

Miracles have happened today at our rescue centre and in no small way because of your hard work. We have had no less than 4 difficult to place characters go to perfect homes this weekend and we are quite honestly blown over and completely ecstatic.

Thank you from all!"

Welcome to our Latest Advertisers

We have news of two new advertisers this time...

Well perhaps that should be one and a half?! Here's what we mean:

MPM Products have been long standing supporters of Cat Chat, advertising World's Best Cat Litter with us. It's made from milled, whole-kernel corn, it's dust free, organic, with no chemicals, flushable, biodegradable and long-lasting. Find our more here:

www.worldsbestcatlitter.co.uk

In addition, they are now advertising their Applaws Natural Cat and Dog Food on Cat Chat too! Applaws is 100% natural, and is available as both a wet and dry food. Visit their website for details:

www.applaws.co.uk



We'd also like to welcome PurrCats! They stock a Feline Friendly Range of products including natural and organic cat foods,

quality beds, toys and much more. To find out more about PurrCats, visit their website at:

www.purrcats.co.uk

Purrs of thanks go to these fab feline friendly companies, and all who support Cat Chat...

If you would like to place an advert on Cat Chat, or sponsor one of our site pages, please email: veronica_brown@catchat.org

So... How Does Cat Chat Work Then?

SPOTLIGHT on the 'BACKROOM' VOLUNTEERS

In previous articles we've focused mainly on those of our volunteers at the 'front end' of our operation, those dealing directly with getting the cats on-line for homing, or helping with the website itself, but what about behind the scenes?

With any organisation, there are a group of largely un-sung and un-seen heroes, doing the back-room jobs, keeping things running. Cat Chat is no different. As we've grown and developed, so has the need for our vital 'support' team, and we'd like to say a big 'Thank You' to all of them (you know who you are!).

For starters, there's our Web-shop, which is a really important source of funding for us. Our financial admin volunteer is vital to this operation; processing the payments, logging the orders, keeping a check on stock levels, and getting order information over to our packing and posting volunteer. Another important cog in that wheel, our 'posting' person, then has the fun job of putting the orders together and taking them to the post office for dispatch (in all weathers, we should add - so an extra thank you for that!).

As for 'Admin' - it may lack the air of glamour, but we'd be in a right pickle if it didn't get done! We receive kind donations in a variety of ways, so records must be kept, donations acknowledged, Gift Aid noted, and sometimes letters and receipts need to be sent. Also, our Friends of Cat Chat scheme, another major source of funding, which couldn't possibly run without proper administration; recording new Friends and 'renewing' Friends, and keeping the records up to date. And then there's keeping track of collection pots around the country, administering the 'Feline Fund', our on-line raffles, and much more.

The final 'behind the scenes' thanks should really go to our trusty board of trustees, who for better or for worse, are responsible for all the major decisions needed to keep Cat Chat moving forward. Every month we put them through the mangle, wringing ideas and decisions from their collective brains, which they thankfully allow us to do for nothing more than a mug of hot chocolate and a bag of crisps (although they did get lovely cup-cakes at Christmas, courtesy of our volunteer minutes secretary - thanks Lindsay!).

So, you may not see them on the site, but they're there... quietly beavering away in the background... the heroes behind the scenes. Thank you all!

Harder to Home Cats - Homed!

This is one of our favourite bits!! Get ready for the 'awww' factor... No one deserves a happy ending more than these guys:



TOBY

Beautiful blue Toby has got over his traumatic injury and sulks and has moved on after being seen on our homing page, he thanks Cat Chat for his change of fortune!
Burton Joyce Cat Welfare, Notts.

GEORGINA

Terrified, nervous Georgina has tugged at heartstrings and found someone who is going to persevere with her and gain her trust. She was homed via Cat Chat.
Kirkby Cats Home, Notts.



NAPOLEON & NELSON

This one is a bit of a surprise, our two kittens Nelson and Napoleon have found a home despite their problems. Nelson has one eye after having cat flu and had to have it removed, and Napoleon is tiny due to being the runt of six! All these cats owe their new starts in life to Cat Chat.
Burton Joyce Cat Welfare, Notts.



Burton Joyce Cat Welfare, Notts.

SOPHIE

Lovely, nervous Sophie has found a sympathetic Mum to help her overcome her fears. She says thank you to all at Cat Chat for this.
Burton Joyce Cat Welfare, Notts.



SARA

We have rehomed little Sara this week. She is such a shy little girl and has a deformed left ear. We never thought she would get a new home but hey, yes she has. Many thanks to Cat Chat!
Grendon Cat Shelter, Atherstone, Warks.



RUBY

We have rehomed Ruby (one of our very quiet, scared little ones). Many thanks to Cat Chat.
Grendon Cat Shelter, Atherstone, Warks.



BENJI

Brilliant news!!! Our deaf boy, Benji, has just got a home thanks to chatchat! Thank you from us all.
Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.

COLONEL MUSTARD, O'MALLEY & VINNIE



Busy time of year, but best of all is when the older cats rehoming is busiest - and that's exactly what we've had! Colonel Mustard, Vinnie and O'Malley, have all found forever homes and are now enjoying the good life. The Cat Chat site being up and running over Christmas has helped with this in no small way with enquiries rolling in. Thanks to all for their contribution.

Pawz For Thought, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear

More coming up later in this issue!

Quick as a Flash

Brief news of a few super speedy rehoming...

PEARL

The beautiful Pearl was soon snapped up after only a few days on our cat chat homing page, Pearl was very upset after losing her home of five years so we are especially delighted that she moved on so quickly.
Kirkby Cats Home, Notts.



MARIGOLD

Marigold was with us for some time as she came in pregnant and gave birth to 5 kittens. Once the kittens were no longer with her and she was spayed, we put her photo on Cat Chat, and in no time she was seen! A couple contacted us, and she is now in a home where she is loved.
National Animal Welfare Trust, Thurrock Branch, Essex.



POPCORN

Pretty Popcorn was soon spotted and whisked away to a better life; she owes this to Cat Chat.

Kirkby Cats Home, Notts.



Super Duper!

Long-Term Rescue Cats Homed

These cats had to play the waiting game, but their patience has now paid off!

ANNIE

Well a miracle has at last happened, our Top Cat Annie has eventually caught somebody's eye and got a home, Annie had been with us nearly a year so it's especially good news. *Kirkby Cats Home, Notts.*

JOY

Joy - a Top Cat has now found a home. The lady who took her, did so finally after seeing her on Cat Chat and decided she must meet her. Joy she has now happily settled, after being in the cattery for eleven months. *RSPCA, Medway, Kent.*

ODDBALL

Oddball had been with us some months so we were pleased when his new mum announced he was the one. She has since reported that he's perfect and has settled in straight away and that she is changing his name as 'Oddball' he is not. *Kirkby Cats Home, Notts.*

PEPSI

Top Cats Cola & Pepsi have a home after being on Cat Chat. Pepsi's nervous as expected as the pen at Kirkby is all she's known, but her new mum is sure she will soon bring her round. *Kirkby Cats Home, Notts.*

SAUSAGE & CHESTER

We have some fantastic news, Sausage and Chester a pair of cats that fell in love in the cattery have finally found a home after 11 months of being in the cattery after being seen on your Top Cats section. Thanks for your help and support. *RSPCA, Medway, Kent.*

ABE

Abe, was one of our longest residents as he didn't bother to sell himself has a home. The big, strong, silent chap has now come out of his shell and has started playing - something we'd love to see as he never moved when he was here! Thanks to Cat Chat. *Kirkby Cats Home, Notts.*

NEO

I'm just writing to let you know that thanks to your Top Cat advert for Neo, he has now been offered a home in the Lake District. It's taken a long time but we finally got there. *Cat Welfare, Leeds, W.Yorks.*



Pets and Humans Relationships - Survey Results

In 2009 a survey was conducted to investigate the relationships that humans have today with their pets. Although pet keeping is not a new human trend (evidence suggests that pet keeping might have its origins almost 40,000 years ago, and even places the domestication of dogs at least 12,000 years ago and cats around 9,000 years ago) the social role that pets play today in the modern human world has changed a lot. Pets now play different social roles, being equal family members, while others offer indirect social support, used as symbols of social status, or even for therapeutic purpose so humans can benefit physically and emotionally, while others who are occupying lower positions in the pet hierarchy are often treated as toys so humans can gain a sense of power or control. Whatever the role of pets is today, the fact remains that humans keep pets perhaps because of the natural and innate human anthropomorphic way of thinking, which makes them seeing human similarities in their pets. Cats and dogs appear to share not only a lot of human features but also a lot of their carer's personalities. Studies have shown that pets also have personality traits that can be categorised under the same personality dimensions of Extraversion, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, Neuroticism and Openness.

So the study attempted to explore whether these successful anthropomorphic relationships (accepting the position that anthropomorphism is not a negative human tendency but instead seeing it as being a natural hereditary human behaviour that has helped humans through history to understand themselves and the world around them) could be the result of favourable personality traits observed in both dogs and cats. It

also investigated whether there were similarities between pet and human personalities that could have also contributed to such successful relationships.

Although the findings appeared not to be conclusive because of some unforeseen variables, a chosen methodology that didn't produce the expected results and mainly because of the rather unexpected homogeneous and smaller sample size, the results seemed to suggest that the humans and pets that took part appeared to be sharing the same personalities, a result which seemed to perhaps explain the high scores on the anthropomorphic scale. These scores appeared to be independent of pet personalities, perhaps because of the similarities in the demographic characteristics among all participants. Most of the participant pets appeared to score high on the Motivational category. They all scored high on Openness, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness and very low in Neuroticism which could explain that both pets and humans are benefiting from these relationships since pets as it has been previously proved can contribute to well being. Also both had similar scores on Extraversion which could perhaps also support theories about the social role that pets play today. Participants also agreed that their pets can help in time of physical illnesses and depression, bond and protect younger children and being there when they are needed which as result makes them the perfect companions. (You can download the longer in-depth version of this study here: www.catchat.org/pets_human_survey.pdf)

The study was carried out by Cat Chat's Behavioural Adviser, Katrina Zurbanu BSc (Hons) (Psych) BSY(PetPsy) MSc (PRM), who wishes to thank those who gave their time to answer the questions.

What has 4 sets of Whiskers, 2 Tails and 2 Happy Hearts?

Purrfect Pairs Homed!

What a bumper season it's been for delightful duos finding homes together. So we proudly present the names of the purrfect pairs who've now moved on, with the help of a gentle paw pat from us... Take a deep breath:-

- TIGERLILY & BARNEY - Grendon Cat Shelter, Atherstone, Warks.
- JAKE & POLLY - Grendon Cat Shelter, Atherstone, Warks.
- RINGO & TABITHA - National Animal Welfare Trust, Thurrock, Essex.
- MACY & SPLODGE - Hounslow Animal Welfare Society, Hounslow, Middx.
- SYLVER & SPOT - RSPCA London South East
- HARRIETT & HENDRIX - Team Cat Rescue, Birmingham, Mids
- HERO & PARKER - Celia Hammond Animal Trust, Lewisham, E.London.
- ELLIE & SMUDGE - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.
- MOUSE & TILLY - Beverley & Pocklington Cats Protection, E.Yorks.
- CAPTAIN GINGER & YODA - Chapelhouse Persian Rescue, Oxford.
- CHICO & RINGO - Kirkby Cats Home, Notts.
- HOWARD & HUGO - Kirkby Cats Home, Notts.
- GRACIE & HARRY - Pawz For Thought, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear.
- MUM MOLLY & HER SON BOBBY - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.
- HEIDI & HENRY - Bromley & District Cat Rescue, Kent.
- DUSKY & SUMMER - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.
- PETRA & SAFFRON - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.
- FLOYD & TYLER - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.
- TWO TABBY SISTERS - Ann & Bill's Cat And Kitten Rescue, Hornchurch, Essex.
- TOM & JERRY - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.
- GINNY & LILLY - Life For Cats, Grantham, Lincs
- KATIE & SHANDY - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.
- FRODO & TUPPENCE - Life For Cats, Grantham, Lincs
- HANSEL & GRETAL - National Animal Welfare Trust, Thurrock, Essex.
- WILLOW & MALLEY - National Animal Welfare Trust, Thurrock, Essex.
- MUM & BABY - Ann & Bill's Cat And Kitten Rescue, Hornchurch, Essex.
- PRINCE & RUBY - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.
- STAR & TIBBY - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.
- KIZZY & ZIPPY - Life For Cats, Grantham, Lincs
- HUGO & TERRY - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.
- HARRY & HOLLY - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex.
- BARNEY & DAISY - Cat Action Trust 1977, Doncaster Area.
- DELBOY & RODNEY - National Animal Welfare Trust, Thurrock, Essex.
- EVIE & BRONTE - Cat Action Trust 1977, Doncaster Area.
- STELLA & CLEO - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton, Essex

Love and best wishes to cats, rescuers and the families with not one, but TWO new furry members.



More Harder to Home Cats - Homed!



BONNIE

Just to let you know that we have rehomed Bonnie. A lady saw her on your Top Cats page and remembered her being found where she works. She came to see her, and did not mind that she perhaps would never be a lap cat. Thank you for your help.

Ann & Bill's Cat &

Kitten Rescue, Hornchurch, Essex.



BONNIE & BAXTER

The beautiful, Bonnie and Baxter have today fallen lucky and moved on after being seen on our Catchat homing page. Their new mum and dad weren't

worried by them being very nervous and said that they

will be patient with them. We hope Bonnie and Baxter realise how lucky

they are as nice homes for nervous cats don't come up that often Kirkby Cats Home, Notts.

FARENHEIT

We have rehomed Farenheit to a wonderful lady who has experience with feral cats, and was once involved in rescue herself. It's fantastic news as we were very worried about finding the right home for him as he was very timid and frightened of everything.

Thanks to Cat Chat I think we must have homed at least 20 cats this year.

We are only a small enterprise but we really appreciate your help - couldn't do our rescue without you guys!

Life For Cats, Grantham, Lincs.



MONICA

Monica and her babies had been with us a while, we rehomed all her babies but she did have a bit of an attitude, an older gentleman saw her and she swiped him, despite giving her treats. He said yes and took her home, then phoned to say she was sat on his lap and not swiped him yet!

Ann & Bill's Cat And Kitten Rescue, Hornchurch, Essex.

MANDY

Our latest lucky girl is Mandy who has been at Kirkby since she was a kitten, after seeing our plea for homes for the nervous cats Mandy's new Mum decided that she wanted a project and chose Mandy.

Thank you to her and all the other wonderful people that are giving our nervous cats a chance.

Burton Joyce Cat Welfare, Notts.



BOBBY

Our lovely FIV cat Bobby went to a lovely new home yesterday afternoon. He's gone to an experienced cat owner who is also used to FIV+ cats.

The other good news is that his new home has come via Cat Chat. National Animal Trust, Leics.

Most rescues have some cats like those above, that always seem to be overlooked, and often stay in care for months or even years.

They may be elderly, have a medical condition, be very shy, or are simply passed by in favour of prettier or younger cats. Please consider giving a home to those cats who find it harder to get chosen. Visit our Top Cats section to see who might be waiting

for you there: www.catchat.org/topcats/topcats.html

More Long-Term Rescue Cats Homed



MOO

Moo has gone to a new home after a year in rescue... Wonderful! Her owner found us via your site. Her owner rang to give an update - Moo was happily settled into her new basket and they think she is wonderful.

Kingsdown Cat Sanctuary, Deal, Kent.

HEIDI

Great news - at last Heidi has found her forever home! She was seen on our Cat Chat homing page, but had to wait a bit longer as her new family were having some building work done. Anyway, she is now home! Thanks again for your help.

Bromley & District Cat Rescue, Kent.



JESSICA

Hello, I'm delighted to report that a Jessica has gone to a really nice couple who found us through Cat Chat. She has been waiting for quite a while for the right home, so it's particularly good news for her. Thanks again.

Bromley & District Cat Rescue, Kent.



JESSICA

Jessica who'd been with us quite some time had an early Christmas present when she was spotted on Cat Chat.

Burton Joyce Cat Welfare, Notts.



GEMMA

Lovely Gemma who'd been with us since we found her and her kittens under a hedge has eventually moved on after being seen on our homing page.

Burton Joyce Cat Welfare, Notts.

These guys never gave up hope and now their dreams have come true, thanks to those who chose to rescue. What better reason is there to rescue when seeking a new animal companion? To make this easier, we provide an extensive county by county database of rescue and rehoming centres across the UK.

Want to make more dreams come true? Start here:

www.catchat.org/adoption



Special Appeal For Homes

These folks have all been waiting for the chance of a home for far too long, as always, through no fault of their own. If you, or someone you know lives near one of the areas below and are considering adopting a new member of the family, please take a look at the following cats:-

RUBY-RED from Whiteknights Animal Rescue, Reading, Berks: A Beautiful tortie, who's been in rescue for almost 2 years! She is simply longing for a loving home, with a human companion who is home most of the day.

MADDIE from Goldies Oldies Romford, Essex: Maddie's dream is not to spend her retirement in a rescue environment, but in a cozy, peaceful home with a special human to settle down with.

DOBBIE from Blackpool Cats in Care, Blackpool, Lancs: Poor Dobbie was sealed in a plastic box and dumped on the doorstep of the shelter. He has since discovered human kindness, and now enjoys a good fuss!

PIGEON from Castaways Rescue, Dereham, Norfolk: A petite female, who can do a wicked impression of a pidgeon?! She has been waiting patiently for a loving home since Oct 2010!

ZIG from Kats Cradle Cat Rescue, Wolverhampton, W.Mids: Playful young lad, who has spent many months in rescue. If you know how to wiggle a toy mouse, or perhaps a piece of string, then Zig is the boy for you!

For more information on these special appeal cats, and for their contact details, visit our Top Cats homing section, and select the area from the left hand menu: www.catchat.org/topcats/topcats.html

We hope to bring you some happy updates in our spring newsletter!

New in the Cat Chat Shop



100% Cotton Shopping Bag (with Slogan: "Adopt a Rescue Cat")

A practical bag, strong enough to carry heavy items but lightweight enough to fold up in your pocket or handbag. Designed by us here at Cat Chat, to help promote adopting cats from a shelter.

Made from 100% Cotton, with long handles for carrying over the shoulder.

GINGER the CAT - a Set of 4 books for Children (age 6 - 10)

By Wendy Farmer. Illustrated throughout. (Paperback)

The four book titles are:

"The Cat Who Lost His Miaow"

"Ginger the Cat Has a Visit from the Tooth Fairy"

"The Hallowe'en Cat"

"Ginger Helps Father Christmas"



Drinks Coasters - Set of 4

Superior quality • Cork backed • 4 different cat photos

A lovely set of beautiful, functional coasters featuring one each of four fine looking moggies! Coaster size: 9cm x 9cm. Part of the superb quality "Pets Corner" range.



Pocket-size Notepads - Set of 4

Handy size • Spiral bound • 4 different cat photos

Set of 4 pocket sized notepads, featuring one each of four fine looking moggies! Notepad size: 9cm x 9cm x 1cm. Part of the superb quality "Pets Corner" range.



"SIMON'S CAT - Beyond the Fence" (signed by the author!)

By Simon Tofield. (First Edition. Hardback.

Published October 2010)

Simon Tofield's funny, charming and ever-so-slightly bonkers follow-up to the best selling "Simon's Cat - in his very own book", finds the incorrigible feline setting off for adventures beyond the garden fence.



By buying from the Cat Chat shop, you are helping even more cats out of shelters, into homes of their own, thank you! Visit the shop here: www.catchat.org/catalog

With a lick of the paw, and a flick of the tail – all that's left is for us to wish all readers (human and feline!) all the very best for 2011, and to remind you that our next Newsletter will follow in April... Between you and us, rumour has it that the next issue will contain news of the "Cat Chat Anniversary Raffle 2011"

