

Catchat.org

The Cat Rescue Resource
Reg. Charity No. 1100649



WELCOME TO THE CATCHAT NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2011

Geraldine's Story

I am very pleased to tell you that we have rehomed a very special kitten!



owner! A lady contacted us via Cat Chat, and said she did not mind a cat with special needs, as she has had cats in the past that needed extra care. I told her

about Geraldine, and made arrangements for her to come and see her. The lady came, and I left her with my wife to show her Geraldine. When I came back, Geraldine was on the floor and the lady was sitting on the floor with her.

I knew straight away that our little girl had found a new mummy.

Thanks for helping us to find our special girl a special new mum!

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

She is a female ginger kitten who we called Geraldine. Because of complications with a very young mum, the vet thinks Geraldine was probably starved of oxygen. This left her with impaired coordination; Her back legs would not work with her front ones. Well, with a special kitten we needed a special

Something exciting has happened to Cat Chat!

If you've popped onto our site in the last few weeks (course you have!?), you'll notice something a bit different on our home page... We've had a make-over!

Although the old site design had served us brilliantly for the last few years, we felt that it had started to look a bit dated. The new style is still instantly recognisable as Cat Chat of course, but the new menus make it much clearer as to what we do. The navigation options to other areas of the site have been improved also. We reckon the new style looks pretty snazzy, but more importantly, it should result in even better homing results.

So voila! New home page launched. Now all we have to do is get cracking on applying the new design to all the other pages on our site... so a busy few weeks ahead!



Calling All Cats (...and Cat Lovers of Course!)

Great News! We have another brand new and exclusive Cat Chat Christmas Card on sale in our online shop. The card features 'Jessie Cat' putting the final touches to the Christmas tree. That means that this year, we now have a total of three super, cat themed Cat Chat cards available! All cards come in packs of 10 with envelopes, and the wording "With Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year" inside.



You'll also find lots of special gifts for both cats and cat lovers, including Cat Chat merchandise in our shop this season! Check out our discount offers too!

Take a look: **Cat Chat Shop** and don't forget, by buying from the Cat Chat shop, you will be helping even more cats out of shelters, into homes of their own!



Harder to Home Cats - Homed



ZANAN

Hi There. Thank you for showing cat Zanan on the website as it brought him a home. A beautiful but timid cat, frightened of other cats, and needing to be an indoor cat in a quiet home, we were pleased when a couple saw him on the website and they could offer everything we wanted. He has been settled with them for a month now. Many thanks.

NATIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST, ESSEX



CHEECO

Cheeco; our ASBO boy who attacked everyone who came to see him, eventually met his match; a lovely girl who understands cat behaviour and is not put off by his tantrums. He has Cat Chat to thank for his new chance in life.

BURTON JOYCE CAT WELFARE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



SMUDGE

After being featured on Catchat we received several calls from people offering Smudge a home. She needed to be an indoor cat as she was frightened of meeting other cats and wildlife. Now having been in her new home for a couple of weeks she is quite relaxed and enjoying a lot of fuss! Thank you so much to Catchat. **NATIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST, THURROCK BRANCH, ESSEX**



MIA

Mia had been left to starve while pregnant and came to us when her kittens were just hours old. It took a lot of TLC but as you can see she is fit and happy now. Her new owner had been "browsing" on cat-chat (she already had 2 cats) but in her words "Little Mia just jumped out at me, I think she was meant to live with us". Thank you so much for cat-chat it brings us lots of enquiries!

ROTHERHAM RESCUE RANGERS, SOUTH YORKSHIRE



Top Cats - homed



AUNTY

We have rehomed 'Top Cat' Aunty, who came in as a kitten. She's now called Millie, thank you.

CAT ACTION TRUST, ANGELSEY BRANCH, NORTH WALES



HOLLY

Holly (who was on 'Top Cats') went with a black & white tom to a new home after being with us for about a year, we almost danced!

PAWZ FOR THOUGHT, SUNDERLAND



CHARLIE

Our little Charlie girl found a home - through her appearance on the Top Cat Page!

FELINE NETWORK, DEVON



STUMPY

Stumpy who has been with us for 18 months has now found a new home after being seen as a Top Cat. Many thanks to CatChat for helping our moggies to find their new homes.

CATS IN NEED, WARWICKSHIRE AND LEICESTERSHIRE



BILLY FIV VIP

Dear Cat chat angels, I recently contacted you regarding the need for help with a dear little FIV boy who was at risk of being pts due to the misconception of the ability to rehome FIV cats successfully and safely. Through cat chat I was able to find a wonderful lady who gave little Billy a forever home. I cannot thank her enough and I can't thank cat chat enough for providing the necessary information which saved his little life. Thank you, thank you." **Barbara, Southampton**



Welcome to our Latest Advertisers



Introducing 'Kitty's Crumble' from Midori CMS Ltd: "Looking After your Pets and the Environment"

Kitty's Crumble is a brand new 100% organic and biodegradable cat litter. The litter is made from 100% coconut husk, therefore is completely natural, chemical and fragrance free. The husk acts as tiny micro sponges which rapidly draw moisture and odour down, and traps them there. That's how it's capable of absorbing up to 4 times its own weight in moisture and prevents odour from escaping.



Compared with other pet litters, Kitty's Crumble is lightweight, and therefore, a 4lb bag will fill up to 3 litter trays, while a 14lb bag will fill up to 12 normal size litter trays. The packaging is recyclable, and by using Kitty's Crumble, your cat is helping to sustain the demand for coconut husks, so this multi beneficial tree will continue to be planted and developed.

This product is so environmentally friendly; you could even recycle it in the garden as a soil conditioner or lawn dressing. So go ahead – Reduce your carbon paw print!

Details of where to buy are on their website: Midoricms

Also available is Kritter's Crumble; a nesting & pet bedding substrate providing a natural home for reptiles, birds, invertebrates and small animals of all shapes and sizes!



National Cat Crisis



What's Going on Out There?!

Animal rescue centres across the UK are struggling more than ever to cope with the number of homeless cats. Many are already operating at full capacity, with large waiting lists of cats and kittens waiting to be taken in when a space becomes available.

The economic downturn has played a major part in the current homeless cat crisis, giving rise to thousands of stray, unwanted or abandoned cats and kittens.

Job Losses and financial constraints have forced some pet owners to give up their companions, moving into rented accommodation where they cannot keep animals. Others can simply no longer afford to keep their cats, while family break-ups due to the stresses brought on by the recession is another major cause of pet homelessness. Rescue centres have also noticed a sharp decline in the number of people adopting cats through the economic uncertainty and concerns about the cost.

What Can We Do?

There are many different reasons why people give their pets up, some clearly unavoidable, but in many cases this can be avoided with a little help and advice. Click here for more information: www.catchat.org/rehome.html

Direct Rehoming:

If you do need to rehome your cat, but can keep it until a home is found, you could ask a shelter if they will help you with a 'Direct Rehoming'. This monitored home-to-home scheme is less traumatic for the cat, and keeps valuable pen space free at the shelter:

www.catchat.org/direct.html

Fostering:

With most rescue centres full to bursting, just one extra foster home could make the world of difference! www.catchat.org/fostering.html If you feel you could care for a cat 'between homes', contact your local shelter:

[UK Rescue Centres](#)

Neutering:

Neutering your cat is the best and most humane way of reducing the stray cat population. If cost is a concern, help is at hand! If you are receiving benefit, are a pensioner, or are on a low income you can get low-cost, and sometimes even no-cost neutering:

[Neutering](#)

Please Rescue:

It's even more crucial now, than ever before - for potential owners to come forward and adopt a cat. If you could you make a cat's next life their best one ever, and free up some space at the rescue centre,

then what are you waiting for? [Please Adopt a Rescue Cat!](#)



Hayley's new human did just that, and here's what she has to say:

"Hello Catchat! I just wanted to say thank you. I have recently rehomed a cat via your pages through the Manchester and Salford RSPCA called Hayley. She's a lovely addition to our family. Thank you again!"



Special Appeal for Homes

These cats have experienced the hard end of life, facing the reality of being unwanted, and spending many months in rescue shelters. Can you help to redress the balance and offer a 'forever home' to a cat who desperately needs it? If the answer is yes, then these cats would love to hear from you:

Polly

from Kingsdown Cat Sanctuary, East Kent

See Polly's Video! Friendly female, about 3 years old. Polly has been blood tested, spayed, vaccinated, deflead/wormed and will be microchipped when rehomed.

[More Details](#)



Baily

from prevent Unwanted Pets Wigan, Lancs

This 2 year old Tabby and White female had a bad start to life, having come from a house of 47 un-neutered cats!! To top it all, she has since spent over a year at a rescue shelter... [More Details](#)



Heidi & Rosetta

from Cat Action Trust - 1977, Central & West London

Heidi was abandoned as a kitten and lived rough for some months. She is very shy & needs rehoming with her wonderfully affectionate daughter Rosetta.

[More Details](#)



Billy

from Pheonix Cat Trust Mossley Hill, Merseyside

Billy is an affectionate boy who needs a quiet home. He is very friendly and would love to be fussed over. He's been neutered, microchipped, wormed and de-flead! [More Details](#)



Pippa

from Ark Cat Rescue, Amersham, Bucks

If you are trying to lose a few pounds before Christmas, and need a friend for work outs, and motivation, Pippa might just be the girl for you!

[More Details](#)



Rescuing an animal can be one of the best decisions you ever make... For details of these, and around 150 other homeless, overlooked cats in your area, visit: www.catchat.org/topcats/

Latest Cat Chat Pages

We've had a bumper crop of new Cat Chat homing pages so far this Autumn! Check out the latest shelters to have a homing page:

Kitten Karers, St. Helens, Merseyside
Cats in Crisis, Lincs
Cats Whiskers Rescue Centre
Little Darlings Pet Rescue, Chingford
Walsall & District RSPCA, West Midlands
Mr Furry Hats' Home For Cats, N.Yorks.
Northamptonshire RSPCA
Cats Protection's National Cat Adoption Centre, Sussex
Maidstone & District Cats Protection, W.Kent
Homeless Cat Rescue, Luton

Welcome all, we hope your new homing page brings lots of happy homes to the cats in your care!

If your rescue group doesn't currently use the web to feature cats seeking homes, you are missing out on many potential new homes, as an increasing number of people are using the web as a first step to adopting a rescue cat. Even if you already feature cats on the web, you are still welcome to have a Cat Chat Homing Page. More details can be found here: www.catchat.org/rehoming_page.html

FREE PAGE!
cats for homing 

Now Serving Cat & Country

Cat Chat's Latest Recruit!

Our volunteers are crucial to us, and without them Cat Chat could not operate. So HUGE purrs of appreciation to you all! The latest feline fanatic to join our team is Kara... She will be dealing with email enquiries as part of our Helpdesk Team. Furry hugs and good luck Kara!

If you fancy being a Catchateer, check our Volunteer Opportunities page from time to time for news of vacancies: www.catchat.org/volunteer.html

Purrfect Pairs Homed



SPOTTY & TIDDLER
FELINE NETWORK, DEVON



PIP & THYME (Thyme, above)
NATIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST,
THURROCK BRANCH



JOEY & CHANDLER
BRISTOL AND WALES CAT
RESCUE, AVON



BETTY & HER KITTEN
PETERBOROUGH CAT
RESCUE, PETERBOROUGH



ARTHUR & PIPPA
CAT ACTION TRUST 1977
DONCASTER



SMOKIE & SHADOW
CAT ACTION TRUST 1977
DONCASTER



BUMBLE & COOKIE
NATIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST
THURROCK BRANCH, ESSEX



HECTOR & HATTIE
WILLOWS CAT ADOPTION
CENTRE, SOUTH SHIELDS



DYLAN & LYNDON
CLACTON ANIMAL AID
CLACTON



Fireworks are no Fun for Pets!

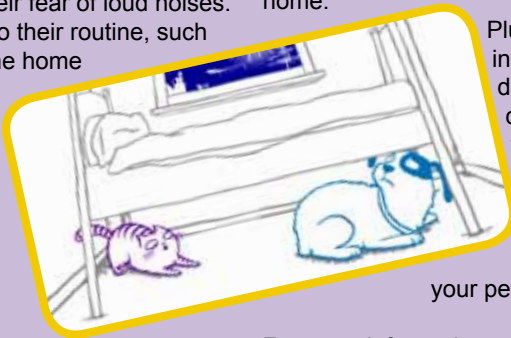


While many of us look forward to Bonfire Night and the accompanying firework displays, many pets become stressed and fearful in the run up to and during the firework season.

While dogs often show signs of stress, cats are masters of disguise and won't necessarily show their fear of loud noises. However, changes to their routine, such as confinement to the home during Bonfire Night, can cause some cats to show signs of stress including spray marking, vertical scratching and aggression towards other cats in the household.

Help is at hand though in the form of Feliway®, a pheromone product designed to comfort and reassure cats. When a cat feels safe and comfortable in its environment it rubs its head against the furniture, walls and many other areas, leaving a substance called the feline facial pheromone.

Whilst we humans cannot smell it, for cats it conveys a message of security and reassurance. Feliway is a synthetic copy of this pheromone and so can be used to make our cats feel more secure in times of change or stress. Feliway is available in a number of forms including a plug-in diffuser which releases the odourless product in the home.



Plugging in a diffuser in the run up to and during Bonfire Night can help cats cope with the changes in their environment, making for a more pleasant evening for both you and your pet.

For more information on how to help your pet cope with stressful situations and Bonfire Night visit: www.secrettohappypets.com



Remember to keep pets indoors when fireworks are likely to be set off, close windows and curtains and put on background music to mask the noise. Make sure your cat has somewhere to hide, for example, under some furniture or in a quiet corner. For more tips on keeping your pets safe this bonfire season visit:

RSPCA - Pets & Fireworks

Fireworks To Carry Pet Safety Information!

More than 80 per cent of pet owners have a pet that is afraid of fireworks. Please sign this petition to make it a mandatory requirement for Fireworks manufacturers to accept their responsibilities, and publicise pet safety information on packaging and on their websites.

Visit: [Fireworks petition](#)
Closing date for petition: 15/12/2011

Rescuers Corner



Presenting - Animal Accident Rescue Unit, Nottingham!

The Animal Accident Rescue Unit (AARU) is a Nottingham-based charity, working with vulnerable animals and birds. They don't have a central rescue centre, as rescued animals are looked after in individual foster homes.

They also run a dedicated emergency Life Line service, whereby their driver and a veterinary surgeon, work together dealing with emergency calls for sick or injured animals and birds. Volunteers who work shifts from Monday to Sunday, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m, carry out these roles. This is quite a demanding service, and AARU are urgently looking for volunteers to help out - either as a phone operator working from home, taking calls and giving advice, or for drivers who can pick up a sick or injured animal and take it to the nearest vet.

They'd also be delighted to hear from any potential fosterers who care for 'cats between homes' and prepare them for their new forever homes. All you need is room for a cat in your house (and

your heart!), reliability and experience in looking after a cat. Foster cats need a safe and secure indoor space, as they are not allowed to go outside.

If you can help, please ring Chris on **01159 563 799** or email: admin@aaruu.org.uk



Among those seeking homes through AARU, are a trio of siblings called Michaela, Terri and Erica. These loving, affectionate young females have sadly been overlooked for over 12 months through no fault of their own! They have a viral infection (coronavirus), which is quite common in cats and will usually clear up without any complications. But because of this, these girls need to be indoor cats, in homes without any other pets. Erica's virus has progressed slightly further than the others, so she would benefit from a home of her own, with lots of TLC. Michaela & Terri are very close so would prefer a home together.

Please see the Animal Accident Rescue Unit's Cat Chat Homing Page for more details: [AARU Rehoming page](#) or visit their website: www.animalaccident.org.uk



Long Term & Older Cats - Homed



OSCAR



SUZIE



JADE & MISSY



JERRY

OSCAR

A big thank you from Oscar who has just gone to his new home thanks to Catchat. He has been waiting for such a long time so hopefully this will be his lifelong home.

**SOUTH OXHEY ANIMAL RESCUE,
WATFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE**

OLLIE & JIMMY

We didn't really expect anyone to take the boys as they are both 14 but they were spotted on our Catchat homing page by a lovely couple who prefer older cats. We can't thank them enough for giving these two lovely boys a chance.

**BURTON JOYCE CAT WELFARE,
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

SUZIE

13 yr old Susie has gone to her new home today, and it's like she has been there for years. Bowl of chicken, massive fuss of her new owners, explored, played and in full purr mode after barely an hour. We love it. Thank you as always to Catchat ...for without you much of this would not have been possible. Keep it coming!

PAWZ FOR THOUGHT, SUNDERLAND

JERRY

Just wanted to let you know that Jerry has found a new home after being spotted on Cat Chat (Top Cats).

**WHITEKNIGHTS ANIMAL RESCUE, READING,
BERKSHIRE**

GERALDINE & MURRAY

Thanks again to your site these lovelies are now in their new homes, along with a bunch of kittens but they're too cute and numerous to take photos of - the golden oldies would have their noses put out if we did. Sure there will be more soon to add to your 'roll of honour'!

PAWZ FOR THOUGHT, SUNDERLAND

JADE & MISSY

Hi, I have some good news at long last. Jade (aged 16) and Missy (aged 17) have found a home - they were spotted on your top cat homing page, Thank you

AVON CAT RESCUE

HENRY

Thanks so much, Henry was homed as another great result from Top Cats, he has been adopted by a lovely couple who recently lost their own cat and he has settled in well, letting them know he's very happy!!!

**ANIMAL ACCIDENT RESCUE UNIT,
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

MONTY

Big ginger Monty eventually found someone who appreciated a more mature chap to share their life. Another new home thanks to Cat Chat.

**BURTON JOYCE CAT WELFARE,
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**



OLLIE & JIMMY



MURRAY



MONTY



HENRY



GERALDINE



Speedy Homings



GILBERT

Gilbert went to his new home this weekend. He was only on our Catchat page for a short time, when he had two homes offered! He is a smashing cat though, we never could understand how his previous owners could have just abandoned him like they did. Anyway, he's now gone off to a lovely new home, where he will be the only cat, and with a lady owner to dote on him. Thanks again for your help.

**BROMLEY & DISTRICT CAT RESCUE,
BROMLEY**

KITTY

Kitty found her new home after being seen on our homing page after four days, **BURTON JOYCE CAT WELFARE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

HARRY & HARTLEY

Harry and Hartley were on our homing page for only two days, their young lives that have known nothing but abuse have now been transformed and it's all due to Cat Chat. **PAWZ FOR THOUGHT, SUNDERLAND**

FREDDIE

Thanks to your website, kitten Freddie went to a lovely new home today. We home checked on Sat. morning, and he is delighted to be rehomed in a house where there is also a beautiful little female cat, and both of them will be spayed and neutered this week. Many thanks again. **NEWMARKET CATS, SUFFOLK**

Shopping online - do it the smart way!



Have you notice that nip in the air first thing in the morning? Still trying not to put the heating on just yet?? It can only mean one thing: That magical time of year is fast approaching - when every garden puts on her sparkling white winter coat, cats come indoors with snowflakes on their whiskers, ... oh, and Christmas is on its way too!

If you prefer to beat the crowds and shop online this time of year, a great way to do it is via the Easyfundraising website. Easyfundraising is a completely free to use service, whereby you can shop at over 2,000 brand name retailers, and at the same time, raise funds for Cat Chat! You still shop directly with each retailer, and they then donate a

percentage of each purchase to us, at no extra cost to you.

It's so simple! Just follow the 1 2 3 of Easyfundraising for Cat Chat:

1. Go to Cat Chat's page on Easyfundraising: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/catchat
2. Click on 'Register Now' - the form will automatically choose 'Cat Chat' as your chosen Charity.
3. When you want to shop, just login to Cat Chat's easyfundraising page using your email & password, so that Cat Chat benefits every time.

Why not give it a go, and help Cat Chat help more cats out of shelters, into homes, when you shop online this Christmas! www.catchat.org/easyfundraising.html

And to all those of you who already raise funds for us through Easyfundraising - a big **THANK YOU!**

easyfundraising
.org.uk

That's all folks! Hope you enjoyed our Autumn newsletter... we will again put paw to paper for the winter issue in January. Hold on... that'll be next year! In that case, although it's a little early to say this, but may we wish you all, human and furry, a very Happy Christmas!

