

Catchat.org

The Cat Rescue Resource
Reg. Charity No. 1100649



WELCOME TO THE CATCHAT NEWSLETTER WINTER 2011/12

Cat Chat Patron – Knighthood!

We were delighted by the news that our Patron, MP Roger Gale, received a knighthood in the New Year Honours List.

Sir Roger was our first Patron, and has supported Cat Chat for many years. In spite of his busy schedule, he has always been ready and willing to help and advise us when needed.

Both Sir Roger and his wife Suzy are devoted animal lovers, and campaign tirelessly on their behalf. We'd like to congratulate them both on this honour!

To find out more about our Patrons and Famous Friends, visit our 'Cat Chat's Patrons' page



Hamilton's Happy New Year



Here's a very special happy homing, to kick off our Winter newsletter:

"The gorgeous Hamilton was brought to us late on Christmas Eve - yet another stray cat, picked up during a house clearance, where the 'people', I use that term loosely, had left him behind. We had no room but couldn't refuse him, I'm glad I didn't, even though he was un-neutered and crawling in fleas he was the most laid back adorable boy you could hope to meet. He was chipped, wormed and flead on Christmas Day, neutered and tested Friday morning, put on Cat Chat Friday lunchtime, we had an enquiry Friday teatime and he left me at 3pm today (New Year's Eve) for his new life as a doted on family pet to a young family with three excited children and I'm delighted. Hamilton owes his new life and Happy New

Year to Cat Chat, if I hadn't put him on the site he'd still be sitting in the pen. Happy New Year to you all and here's to many more successful homings in 2012."

Burton Joyce Cat Welfare,
Nottinghamshire



Hamilton

Put an End to Antifreeze Poisoning!



Many cats, dogs and wild animals still die each year from antifreeze poisoning. Animals find the sweet taste of antifreeze pleasant, and therefore will often ingest it. Just a few licks can lead to kidney failure within hours, and unless treated swiftly, often results in death.

There is currently an online petition, requesting that antifreeze preparations are banned in the EU unless they contain a bittering agent to repel animals, and the labels are clearly marked with warnings & hazard symbols.

Please sign here: www.petitiononline.com/EGpoison/petition.html

Remember to keep antifreeze in suitable, clearly labelled, sealed containers, away from pets. Clean up leaks and spills instantly, and dispose of antifreeze, screenwash and radiator coolant safely. If you suspect your cat or dog may have been poisoned, you should take them to your vet immediately.



Older & Long Term Cats - Homed



MISSY AND JADE

Some good news! at long last, Jade (aged 16) and Missy (aged 17) have found a new home, after - they were spotted on your Top Cat homing section. **Avon Cat Rescue, Welford-on-Avon Warwickshire**



FERGUS

Fergus is one of our most pleasing homings of late. He was born at the sanctuary at the end of March 2010 and he has at last been offered a home thanks to Catchat. Such a long wait for such a lovely boy. **Clacton Animal Aid, Essex**



HAMISH

Hi Catchat. Just had to tell you how thrilled and delighted we are that our senior male cat Hamish has found his new loving home after being in our rescue for well over a year. He has gone to a lovely lady who will love and cherish him for the rest of his days. He was spotted on our Catchat page, thanks a million. **Cat Homing & Rescue, Warrington**



CINDY

Long overdue after spending most of her life in the pen lovely, cuddly little Cindy's time came. She has settled in well and is much loved, again her new start is down to Cat Chat. **Kirkby Cats Home, Nottinghamshire**



RASCAL AND EDDIE

Just to say thanks for helping us with our rehoming. Eddie and Rascal who have both been with us for about 18 months have now been offered new homes at last. **Clacton Animal Aid, Essex**



MONTY AND DON

Hi! This is fantastic news for Cat Chat but devastating for me, my baby boys, Monty and Don, have left me after two years, they were seen on Cat Chat and swiftly adopted. They have gone to a rural environment best suited to them and I'm sure they will be happy but at the moment I feel deserted! Thank you Cat Chat from Monty and Don. **Burton Joyce Cat Welfare, Notts.**



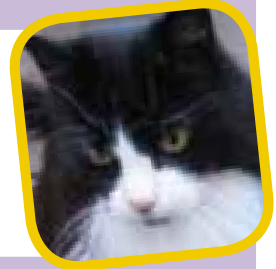
NIKKI AND POPPY

Brother and sister Nikki and Poppy found a home together, after being on our Catchat page. Their success was particularly poignant as they had been with us for 2 years! **Clacton Animal Aid**



BOOTS

Just to let you know that Boots has found a new home at long last. Many thanks for your help. **Cats Protection, Bury St. Edmunds**



SHADRACK

Fab news - lovely, shy overlooked Shadrack has FINALLY got a new home, as of about 7 days ago. Someone spotted him through your site, so a big thank you!!! He has been fostered for almost a year and apart from being shy and black and white had everything going for him! Thanks. **Animal Accident Rescue Unit, Nottingham**



CHARLIE

Hi there. We had a very successful month of rehoming our rescued cats during November and they were all seen on the catchat website, including Charlie - a gorgeous ginger boy who was in rescue for over 6 months - we couldn't be more thrilled.... Thanks a million! **Cat Homing & Rescue, Warrington**



80 FIV cats



Putting FIV into Perspective

Catwork Sanctuary in Somerset has been rescuing, caring for and rehoming cats with special needs since 1996. Run by Barbara and Bob, Catwork has helped a huge number of cats over the years, including over 80 cats with the FIV virus, many of who might otherwise have been needlessly euthanized.

Last year, Barbara and Bob decided to put their first-hand experience of years of living with so many FIV-positive cats into print, and in October "80 FIV Cats" had it's first print run (the first of many we hope) in the form of this 105-page booklet. It's not a scientific study, or a medical journal; it's simply an honest, practical, first-hand account of caring for more than 80 FIV cats over the last fifteen years.

Barbara and Bob explain why they wrote the book:

"We took in our first FIV positive cat in 1997, since when we have cared for more than 80 cats with the virus. Through the experience of caring for these cats, we have learned what the FIV virus really means to a cat."

There is, sadly, a great deal of misunderstanding about the virus. What one reads is mainly based on academic theory rather than practice, making it misleading at best.

We have done the best we can for those who have come our way, but we are getting too old to take on more - we know how long they can live! So the best we can now do is pass on what our FIV cats have taught us to as many others as we can, so they can deal properly with the FIV cats that come their way.

We want as many people as possible to have the information in order for them to give all future FIV cats the chance they deserve of a good life. That is why we have produced the booklet.

Please do what you can for FIV cats, even if it is just passing on the booklet to those who may deal with FIV cats.

The cats have taught us, now we want them to teach you."

**Bob & Barbara,
Catwork Sanctuary**



80 FIV Cats is a must-read for anyone who has any dealings with FIV cats, perhaps in a rescue or veterinary capacity, and also for anyone who owns an FIV cat, or who might consider adopting one.

There has long been a need for a book that truly puts FIV into perspective, and here it is. Well done Barbara and Bob!

The book is free (UK only at present), however, if, when you read it, you find it informative, a donation to Catwork towards the cost of producing and sending a free copy to the next person, will help them to increase awareness further - but that is entirely voluntary. For your copy, email: info@FIVcats.org.uk

Latest Cat Chat Homing Pages



HELP for SHELTERS... get more homes offered for your cats with a free Cat Homing Web Page on Cat Chat!

These are the latest rescue shelters to take advantage one of our Homing Pages – Happy Homings All!

- **Caring For Animals, Thurrock, Essex**
- **Tenterden & District Cats Protection**
- **Hazelwood Cat Rescue Centre**
- **RSPCA Sussex North Branch**
- **Prevent Unwanted Pets - Fylde Coast Branch, Lancs.**
- **Maesteg Animal Welfare Society, Bridgend**
- **Kitty in the City Cat Rescue, Brighton**
- **Katz Kingdom Rehoming Centre, Essex**

FREE PAGE!
cats for homing 

The pages are available free to all UK Rescue Centres and Rehoming Groups, large or small. We also have a volunteer help team for shelters who need assistance adding cats to their page. Here's what a few of our current homing page users have to say:

"Thanks for the opportunity of our webpage. After going live only 3 weeks ago we have had great response, with some amazing, nurturing homes and are blown away at how things have changed for us. Thanks again - you are wonderful people who are so supportive of our common cause. (Willows Cat Adoption Centre, South Shields)"

"I just wanted to say that your team of helpers/admin are absolutely fantastic. I send info about our new cats to them, and they get the cats on your website almost immediately. They are amazingly efficient and so friendly and helpful. (RSPCA West Norfolk)"

Find out more, plus how to get yours here: www.catchat.org/rehoming_page.html



Purrfect Pairs Homed



BANJO & GREGORY

Ann & Bill's Cat & Kitten Rescue,
Hornchurch



CLEO & SUZY

Cat Action Trust 1977 - Doncaster



ROSIE & MINNIE

Clacton Animal Aid
Essex



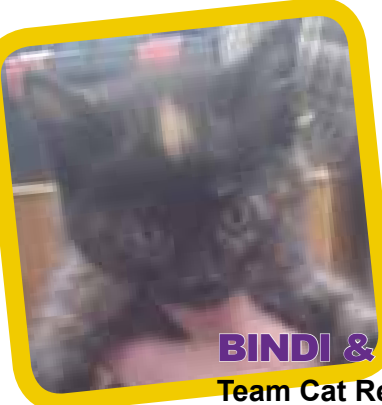
ALICE & EMMA

Bristol & Wales Cat Recue



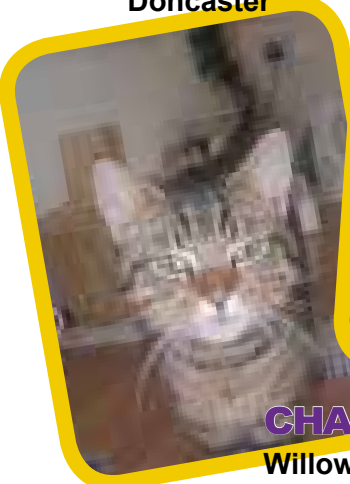
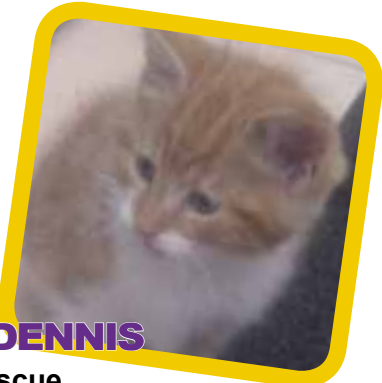
DEVLIN & PERDY

Cat Action Trust 1977
Doncaster



BINDI & DENNIS

Team Cat Rescue
Birmingham



CHARLOTTE & CUTHBERT

Willows Cat Adoption Centre,
South Shields, Tyne & Wear



JEEVES & WOOSTER

Clacton Animal Aid
Essex

Supporters Corner Katzecure



Allowing Cats to Safely Roam While Keeping Them at Home!

We all know that fresh air, some sun and increased exercise through outdoor play is healthy for cats, but free roaming presents many dangers. The vet statistics speak for themselves! However, your cat can have the best of both worlds! Cat proof fencing from Katzecure is a unique solution that offers your treasured companions safe access to your garden. Katzecure is based on the simple concept of a wooden pole attached to the top of an existing garden fence or wall that spins and rocks on contact, preventing the escape artist from getting the paw-hold needed to scale the fence to get over.

It sounds simple and indeed it is but Katzecure appreciates that no two gardens are the same and specialises in custom solutions taking account of individual garden features and layouts. Corners, trees, shrubs, window ledges, drain pipes, storage areas, etc –

Katzecure has an answer for everything. Andrew Farmer, who runs Katzecure with his experienced team of installers and estimators, prides himself on being able to find a solution to even the most elaborate feature and successfully contain even the most agile breeds with the two pole solution.



Katzecure is recommended by cat owners, breeders, vets and animal welfare organizations and offers:

- Proven and effective containment solutions to give you valuable peace of mind that your cat is safe
- Aesthetically pleasing and unobtrusive installations in a garden environment
- A sound investment – as it can save vet bills and your cats' lives
- Suitable for installing on many types of fences and walls
- Extremely durable, even in winter snow and autumn leaves, needing little maintenance

with an installation cost. Although most customers opt for the professional installation service, a DIY option with components and advice is also available.



Being a small agile company, Katzecure takes pride in building long term customer relationships. After installation, Katzecure support continues and after the 18-month warranty period, an annual maintenance service for a small monthly fee can deliver continued piece of mind that Katzecure is there, should any support be needed.



A home garden survey visit, or garden measurements, plans and pictures sent via email enables Katzecure to provide a fully itemised list of all the components required together

Katzecure

You can contact Andrew at Katzecure on: 0800 345 7003 or 07764831133
Find out more at www.katzecure.com

Top Cats - homed

LIESEL

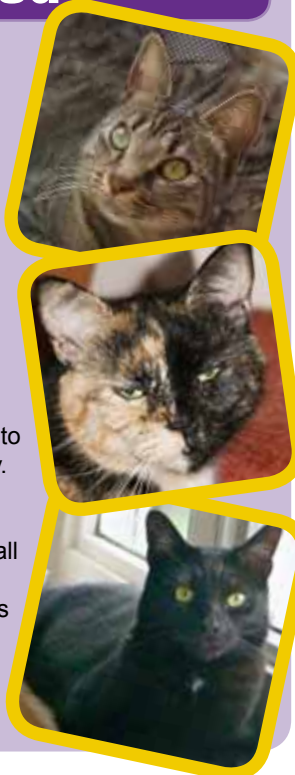
Liesel and Sloan were rehomed thanks to appearing on your Top Cats section. THANK YOU!
Cats in Crisis, Lincoln

COCO

Top Cat, Coco, was also homed via Top Cats and has a new forever home.
Grendon Cat Shelter, Atherstone Warwickshire

TOBY

Toby (Top Cat) has been rehomed thanks to your help, he has found a home in Bingley. His adopter has this to say "He's made himself thoroughly at home and is busy training us on what he likes (playing football and dribbling practice with a screwed up piece of paper, shredding cardboard boxes with his teeth and having the occasional mad 5 minutes!)"
Animal Accident Rescue Unit Nottingham



Chas & Dave seek new gaff!



Hello, my name is Chas and I'm the tabby guy. The big ball of black fluff is my brother Dave. Someone said that our names would be better suited to rabbits?? We're both 9 years old and are still full of life. We're very friendly and love having a fuss.

All-in-all we would make the ideal companions if you're looking for a couple of lovable guys who aren't

just going to sit around all day like couch potatoes. We're already neutered, micro-chipped and vaccinated so we can be round your cat and mouse before you can say "Gertcha". (Why do I keep talking like this, Dave?)

If your gaff is in the Welford on Avon area, and would like to find out more about these lemon squeezers, take a butchers at our [Warwickshire Top Cats](#) page, or call Avon Cat Rescue on: 01789 750235.





Special Appeal for Homes

Please consider adopting an overlooked cat. All they need is a caring person to give them a chance, and they will surely blossom if given love, stability, and a home of their own. Here are just a few of them:

Poppet

from **Camberley Cats Protection:**

A friendly, chatty tabby girl, 2 years old, longing for a loving home with a garden to potter in. Find out more about Poppet on our [Surrey Top Cats](#) page or, by emailing: camberleycats2000@yahoo.com



Mary

from **Eden Animal Rescue, Cumbria**

Sweet, shy lady looking for a caring home. Her kittens are homed, now it's Mary's turn. Find out more about Mary on our [Cumbria Top Cats](#) page, or email: elainebrown7@gmail.com



Drake & Charity

from **7th Heaven Animal Rescue Trust, Antrim, N. Ireland:**

These two were rescued from a house of 48 cats! They are looking for a caring indoor home to help them overcome their past. Find out more about Drake & Charity on our [Top Cats, Ireland](#) page or Email: animalrescuetrust@hotmail.com



Bobby & Eddy

from **Wolverhampton, W.Midlands:**

Best friends Bobby and Eddy used to live outside, fending for themselves. They are looking for a home together where they can get used to home comforts. Find out more on our [Midlands Top Cats](#) page or email: wolverhamptoncp@yahoo.co.uk



Maggie

from **Downham Market Cat Adoption Centre, Norfolk:**

Maggie was rescued after being callously dumped. She is longing for a loving, forever home. Find out more on our [Norfolk Top Cats](#) page or email: downham@cats.org.uk



For details of overlooked cats in your area, visit our Top Cat section: www.catchat.org/topcats and select your region from the map or menu. When contacting rescue centres please ask about their harder to home cats... It could be the most rewarding thing you ever do!

Rescuers Corner



65 Happy Cats & One Happy Shelter:

It's always great to hear from shelters who are regularly homing cats through their Cat Chat page, so we thought you might like read about one such shelter. Willows Cat Adoption Centre, a small, dedicated shelter in South Shields, Tyne & Wear contacted us to let us know how successful their first year of having a Cat Chat homing page has been, and how they use their page to it's best advantage! Over to Willows...

"In the year since our Catchat page went live we have had 65 extra homes. We have had exposure further afield than ever before, and most of these homes were really top class. To see cats who have lived rough and never having any love, going to lovely homes, wanting for nothing is what keeps us going. We are homing in places we never homed before, thanks to you, and it can only get better.

We are a small, personal rescue, and we like to keep our page like that, so we keep it bang up to date each day. People enjoy reading a full account of the cat in a personal way, adding the cat's personality to it and adding humour really makes it a

joy to read. Our idea is to tempt and draw in the human to each cat, and let the cat talk privately to the human. I think it's more endearing for the cats to 'talk' themselves and I love to write each little personal profile. I get a lot of compliments about the cat's



profiles and believe if you have this great opportunity, utilise it the best way possible. We really use our page to the maximum to tempt people!

The huge plus about our Catchat page is that it's simple to add a new moggy, and so easy to maintain. All of the present and the future Willows moggies give a BIG thank you to all associated with the wonderful Catchat and I personally can't wait for more



homes to roll in again this year!" Willows Cat Adoption Centre, South Shields.

Check out Willows current crop of Fab Felines on their Cat Chat page: www.catchat.org/willows/cgibin/prtoc.cgi

2012 Homing Pages News!

Over the last few months, we at Cat Chat have been developing a brand spanking new version of the homing pages we give to shelters. The new style pages will still be easy to update, but will look loads better! They are currently still in development, but shouldn't take too much longer. We anticipate that these new style pages will result in even better homing results for shelters around the country. Exciting times ahead!



Harder to home cats - homed



CRYSTAL



HERMAN



AIDAN



FRANKIE



ZEUS

HERMAN

We were amazed when Herman was enquired about, he was one of our most disreputable mogs after having been a stray all his life and being responsible for a lot of the black and white cats in the area, however the wandering star has settled down on his new owner's bed and doesn't seem to be missing his rock n' roll lifestyle, he also loves the children. This just goes to show that sometimes the battered old timers have a lot to offer if only people would give them a chance.

Kirkby Cats Home, Nottinghamshire

ZEUS (pictured) & LULA

Hi Guys. Some excellent news - our little visually impaired kitties Zeus and Lula were spotted on Cat Chat and are now busy exploring their new home which is just perfect for them - no stairs and a very enclosed garden where they will be safe. They'd been waiting for that special home for a few months so many thanks once again.

Bristol & Wales Cat Rescue

FRANKIE

Frankie was found dumped, scared and didn't know how to play. He is now getting on fine in his new home, thank you!

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

CINDY AND CRYSTAL (pictured)

Nervous Crystal was given a chance and it's paid off, she is slowly becoming accustomed to her new home and her owners are persevering. It's great when people turn up saying they want a black/older/nervous cat as they are not popular, and more often than not they have found this out through reading Cat Chat.

Kirkby Cats Home, Nottinghamshire

AIDAN

Our deaf little snowdrop Aidan has found a home thank you cat chat...he was a special boy who now has a special home.

Team Cat Rescue, Birmingham

Cat Homing and Rescue - CHAR



Cat Homing and Rescue (CHAR) are a voluntary organisation Based in Warrington, Cheshire, founded over 10 years ago by a dedicated group of cat lovers.

They rescue and re-home cats and kittens throughout north Cheshire and south Lancashire, and neuter, vaccinate and vet-check all cats that come into their care. As well as offering their rescue and rehoming services to domestic moggys, and pedigree cats, CHAR also lends a paw to feral cats, and are often in need of homes for working cats eg. stables, small-holdings, farms etc.

Rehabilitation and rehoming cats with various disabilities is something this organisation pride themselves on. They are also available for guidance on cat related matters, and support to the public at times of loss or bereavement.

SAMSON



LUCKY



If cats could talk, there is one cat; Samson, who could tell you a lot about this remarkable organisation:

A Warrington vet contacted CHAR and asked if they would be willing to rescue a badly injured cat, and fund his much needed surgery.

Little Samson's front leg and opposite back leg both had compound fractures, and his owners couldn't be traced. As funds are so desperately short, CHAR asked if the vet would be willing to accept monthly installments for this - and the rest is history! After surgery, and 6 weeks in plaster, Samson did remarkably well, and he now lives with one of the shelter's volunteers. He is a very happy strong gentle cat who literally survived against all the odds, to walk and play again!

Another cat currently at Cat Homing and Rescue; Lucky, is hoping fate will smile down on him too: Loveable Lucky is the most adorable, affectionate boy, who loves being made a fuss of. He is around 3-4 years old, loves his cuddles, and will make the most loving pet. He is looking for a home without other cats or dogs as they make him a little wary, but generally he is a very laid back chap with so much to give. His fosterer says he likes to follow her around when they are outside together. Please contact CHAR if you feel Lucky is the boy for you!

There are lots more cats seeking homes, and information on CHAR, including ways you can help, on their Cat Chat Homing Page: www.catchat.org/char/cgibin/prtoc.cgi



Speedy Homings



MISSY & PANDA

Hiya, Our little semi feral cats, Missy and Panda, were spotted on Cat Chat after just three days and are now snug in the hay in their new barn home looking forward to starting their new jobs as Mousers in Chief! Thank you yet again for helping find the perfect home for our more difficult cats!
Bristol & Wales Cat Rescue

HAMILTON

Homed in one week, full story on page 1.
Burton Joyce Cat Welfare, Notts

ROXY

Roxy is especially lucky as she was with us only days and is the fastest homing we have had for a while, thank you.
Kirkby Cats Home, Nottinghamshire

ROSA

Rescued just in time when her family took her to be put to sleep. She was homed within a week of people seeing her on Cat Chat and now has a wonderful new home. Thank you.
Team Cat Rescue, Birmingham

MINX

Minx would like to thank everyone at catchat for helping her find a new home. She was one of the lucky ones, only having to wait a few weeks.
Clacton Animal Aid, Essex

LUCY

Lucy can definitely go onto your Rehoming Roll of Honour. She was spotted just 24 hours after being added to our Catchat page! Another success story - thank you!
Cat Action Trust 1977, Doncaster

Unwanted Gifts = Happy Cats!!

Perhaps the most exciting things about this time of the year is unwanted gifts... No really!! You can turn unwanted items into loving homes for cats with [eBay for Charity](#)! Good eh? It's easy too:

1. Sign in to your eBay account, go to the 'Sell' hub and select 'Advanced Sell'.
2. As you're filling out the details, look out for the charity box just below where you set your price. Select a charity to support and the percentage (10%-100%) of your final selling price that you'd like to donate. Note: The minimum donation is £1 per listing.
3. A week after your item sells, MissionFish (eBay's charity partner) will automatically collect the donation from you.

You also have the option of using Gift Aid: If you are a UK taxpayer, Gift Aid means that for every pound you give, Cat Chat will receive an extra 25p from HMRC. Simply tick the Gift Aid box when you first list an item for charity.

To find out more about helping a cat go from Rags to Riches with eBay for Charity, go to: www.catchat.org/eBay.html

HUGE contented PURRS of THANKS to all of you who already support Cat Chat through eBay for Charity!



Now Available in the Cat Chat Shop!

We're starting off the New Year with some exciting new products in the Cat Chat web shop! As well as our existing, assortment of cat toys and goodies, and cat themed gifts - we'd like to introduce the following:

The carPET - Pet Hair Remover.

The carPET lifts, gathers & removes pet hairs from carpets and upholstery. It is one of those things that once you have one, you wonder how you ever did without it! Size approx: 12cm x 4.5cm x 4.5cm.

Flexible Fridge Magnet - 'I don't do mornings'

This fabulous flexible magnet, features a terrific tabby cat, and the slogan 'I don't do mornings'. Great for fridges or filing cabinets! Magnet measures: 13.5 cm x 9 cm

Mouse Mat - Tabby Cat Design

Developed for use with both optical mice and conventional 'balled' mice, they give 100% perfect tracking. Eco friendly, and very tough (won't turn up at the corners!). Made from recycled plastic vending cups. Mat Size: 24cm x 19cm

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



So that's it... You are now up-to-date! We know we speak on behalf of cats, cat lovers and rescuers everywhere when we say – Here's to 2012 being a great year for homing: Less homeless cats, more loving homes! Happy New Year to all! Catch you again in the Spring.

