



Welcome to the Spring 2010 edition of the Cat Chat newsletter!

CAT CHAT's 10th ANNIVERSARY

PARTY

SATURDAY 22nd MAY 2010 • LONDON

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS of CAT HOMING

Cat Lovers... Cat Rescuers... Come and join us!

- Buffet & BBQ
- Live Party Band
- Great Cat-loving Company
- Grand Draw
- Prizes & Surprises on the Night
- Optional: Tour of 'Kitten to Cat'

Saturday 22nd May 2010

The Botanist 3/5 Kew Green, Richmond TW9 3AA
From 7.30pm... until Late! (licensed until 1am)



Nearest Tube

Kew Gardens

Tickets £18.50 on sale at WWW.CATCHAT.ORG



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JUNE is National Microchipping Month!

Everyday, cats who have obviously been loved and cared for, come into rescues all over the country. Often, these are cats who have become lost, but haven't been microchipped and the owner is never traced. Sadly, so many people lose their cat, and wish afterwards they'd had them microchipped.

National Microchipping Month is a campaign that encourages and promotes microchipping, as the preferred method of permanent pet identification. This June, many vets across the country will be offering lower-cost microchipping. If you haven't done so already, this could be a great opportunity to get your pet microchipped - it's painless and worth every penny!

For more information on National Microchipping Month, visit:
www.petlog.org.uk/national-microchipping-month

Happy Endings – Biff's Story...

When Biff the cat went missing from his home in South Wales in February 2010, his owner feared the worst. Not only had Biff gone missing, he also had a habit of hiding under the bonnet of his owner's car.



That day, his owner had travelled to work and actually ran something over on the way to work. Fearing the worst, the owner searched the area, but there was no sign of anything in the road. After contacting Tom from Animal Search UK, it was agreed that a poster campaign would take place. Within hours Tom had traveled down to South Wales personally with the posters and leaflets.

After a few sightings in the first week (which turned out to be other cats), the family began to lose hope. Then out of the blue, an amazing phone call came through to



Animal UK's call centre from a member of the public, who thought that their son had been feeding a cat like Biff ever since the time that he disappeared. To everybody's amazement it was Biff, and he

had survived some of the coldest weather for years without shelter for six weeks. We're delighted to hear that Biff is back home now, and enjoying being back with his family.

Animal Search UK, Search & Rescue service for missing pets: <http://www.animalsearchuk.co.uk>,
sponsors of Cat Chat's lost & Found information page:
<http://www.catchat.org/lost.html>

RESCUER'S CORNER

Calling all rescues! If you would like your rescue centre to be featured in a future newsletter, please email: cats@catchat.org

This time you can find out more about 'Cats in Crisis', Kent - see page 5 for details.

Voting for Animals on May 6th!

With the General Election just around the corner, you may like to find out where the candidates in your area stand on some key animal protection issues, such as the hunting ban, battery egg production and animal experimentation.

A website by PAD (Protecting Animals in Democracy)

explains and analyses each of the main parties' policies on animal welfare and protection. Through the site you can also find out who the candidates in your constituency are and what their past voting record is on animal issues. If you wish you can also email your local candidates via the site to ask for their position on six key animal protection issues.

Animals can't vote, so we can help by giving them a voice on 6th May. Visit the PAD website here:
<http://www.vote4animals.org.uk>



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BLACK is BACK!

February saw an extraordinary number of black cats being homed through Cat Chat. Usually black cats are left waiting, overlooked in favour of 'prettier' colours, but not this year! Are black cats really lucky? Who knows, but the following beautiful black cats all got lucky in February due to their appearance on Cat Chat:



ROBBY (Left) & JENNY (Right)
KIRKBY CATS HOME, ASHFIELD,
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



CHIP RSPCA,
CRAVEN AND UPPER
WHARFEDALE



JET CLACTON ANIMAL AID,
CLACTON



ARCHIE BEWDLEY CAT
ACTION TRUST 1977,
WORCESTERSHIRE



SERENA
PAWS INN, CHESHIRE

PEPPER CAT HOMING
AND RESCUE (CHAR),
WARRINGTON



SOOTY CRESCENT
CAT RESCUE,
TENDRING, ESSEX



And the best news is, the trend seems to be ongoing, with many more black cats finding happiness during March and April. Here's to the Year of the Black Cat!



GYPSY (Left), SABLE (Centre)
AND EMBER (Right) CLACTON ANIMAL
AID, CLACTON, ESSEX

Thank You Petplan Charitable Trust!

We are delighted that Petplan Charitable Trust have confirmed they will be extending their grant funding to Cat Chat for a further year. Their funding pays for our dedicated web server, which thanks to Petplan, is now secure until Sept 2011!

Petplan specialises in pet insurance for domestic pets, helping with the cost of veterinary care when things go wrong.

If you buy on-line you can get a 10% Discount too!
[Click Here for a free quote.](#)



SERVING CAT & COUNTRY!

We'd proudly announce that we have 4 fantastic new Cat Chat Volunteers! So a warm, welcoming paw shake goes to:

Lisa Parry
Homing Pages Monitor

Maurice Hudson
Homing Pages Monitor

Polly Holmes a Court
Top Cats Monitor

Sue Cavill
Forum moderator

Welcome to Cat Chat guys... Thanks for the sterling work you've already done since starting!

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Welcome to Feliway® - Latest Page Sponsors:

Have you seen 'That Purple Cat' on TV? Well, he's on Cat Chat now too!

We are delighted to announce that Feliway® is now sponsoring our two 'getting a new cat' pages. These pages give advice on introducing a new cat to your home, and also understanding feline hierarchies, to help when introducing the new cat to any resident cats. Using Feliway® can help to make the settling in process much less stressful. Here's why...

When a cat feels safe in its environment, it rubs its head against the furniture, walls or the bottom of the curtains, leaving substances called facial pheromones.

Feliway® is a synthetic copy of this pheromone and is proven to reassure and comfort cats, helping to control signs of stress, which is why it has been used by vets for 9 years.

A cat's stress levels can be lowered by the use of Feliway® in situations such as multi-cat households, changes to the environment, a cattery stay or house move. It can also be used to help with stress-related behavioral issues such as urine marking and furniture scratching.

Feliway® is available in two formulations; the Feliway® Diffuser, which plugs into a wall socket, and the Feliway® Spray, which can be applied directly to objects or areas, such as doorways. The spray can also be used during transportation.

Feliway® - 'The secret to happy cats'.

Find out more here: <http://www.feliway.com/gb>



The Gun Control Network

Thousands of cats are killed and injured every year by individuals using 'low powered' air weapons which can be bought without any background checks. These injuries are costing owners and animal welfare charities thousands of pounds each year in surgery and treatment, as well as distress and suffering which is immeasurable.

Adults and children are also being killed and injured by these guns. Gun Control Network is lobbying for a change in the law so all air weapons have to be registered. This would ensure only responsible individuals could own them, and help reduce the problems. Gun Control Network collects data about shootings, including animal shootings. If you have been affected, please contact them: contact@gun-control-network.org

For more information, or to find out ways to help, visit their website at: www.gun-control-network.org



The Latest Cat Chat Homing Pages to go Live:

Animal Support Volunteers - Cheshire
RSPCA - West Norfolk Rehoming Centre
Danemere Animal Rescue - Worcestershire
CP Bridgend Adoption Centre - South Wales
North East Lincolnshire Animal Rescue
Ann Shunmann Rescue - West London
Kittikatz Rescue - Surrey
Ark on the Edge - Co. Durham
Cat Action Trust 1977 - Doncaster area
Aylesbury Cat Rescue - Buckinghamshire
The Retreat Animal Rescue - West Kent
Green Acres Animal Rescue - Pembrokeshire
Aristocat Rescue - Co. Durham

Happy Homings All!

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CAT CHAT SUPPORTERS CORNER

In this edition, we proudly give our Supporters Corner over to:

Purr-fect Fence!!

Purr-fect Fence allows you to give your cats the freedom to enjoy the great outdoors without worrying about their safety.

They have supported Cat Chat by sponsoring our pedigree rescues page (www.catchat.org/adoption/pedigree.html) for almost 5 years!

Purr...fect Fence is a family owned company which evolved from Benner's Deer Fencing systems, and now supplies cat fencing systems across the US and UK.

The same high-strength and long-lasting material utilized for Purr...fect Fence has been used for 15 years to keep deer out of gardens and landscaping.

Since the transformation to a fence system designed specifically for cats four years ago, Purr...fect Fence has experienced rapid expansion. Now many thousands of cat owners, shelters, and animal care professionals use their product with unprecedented results. Their goal is to continue to improve their system, expand production, and most importantly, enhance the lives of cats!

For more information on Purr-fect Fence, visit their website at: www.purrrfectfence.co.uk



RESCUER'S CORNER!

Featuring 'Cats in Crisis', Kent.

Cats in Crisis rescue and rehome cats & kittens (with a particular concern for Senior Kittizens!) within a 30 mile radius of Thanet, Kent. The area covered makes their job of home-checking prior to adoption, more manageable. They sometimes however, rehome further afield in exceptional circumstances.

The rescue has been running for many years, and is now a Registered Charity (No: 1122296), operating through foster homes. Additional Fosterers are urgently needed though, as are loving, permanent homes for cats such as **Louis & Satchmo** - friendly and very lively young brothers, who urgently need a home with plenty of space, such as a farm or stables, as they are desperate to run around!

Or **Millie & Cookie** - recently rescued and extremely nervous, identical Sisters, who need a loving patient home ASAP. Or **Billie**,



(pictured) who needs a quiet, indoor home. More details on their Cat Chat Homing Page:

<http://www.catchat.org/crisis/cgibin/prtoc.cgi>

Or visit new Cats in Crisis website: <http://cic-thanet.blogspot.com>

There are numerous small volunteer-run rescues all over the country like Cats in Crisis. So if you would like to help, either by adopting a cat, volunteering or fostering, just click through to your local area on Cat Chat to find their details: www.catchat.org/adoption/index.html

THE LATEST FIV VIP'S!

Marmite - AVON CAT RESCUE, Welford-on-Avon, Warwickshire:



Congratulations to **Marmite**, who was rehomed to a super couple from Buckingham, after being spotted on Cat Chat in February.

His Rescuers told us, "You may be interested to know that after several months of waiting, we had 3 enquiries about Marmite within 2 days, all having seen him on your site".

Marmite's Adopter said: "When we lost Riff Raff earlier this year, we decided that as a tribute to him we would give a home to another FIV+ cat. We saw Marmite on Cat Chat's Top Cats page and saw it as a sign, as I'm a bit of a Marmite fiend! Marmite had been in a shelter for 15 months, overlooked because he had FIV and was very nervous. We bought him home on Saturday and he hasn't stopped purring since!"

Congratulations also to **Nicholas** from FURRY TAILS FELINE WELFARE, Lancs.

We were also delighted to hear the following news in March, from Furry Tails Feline Welfare in Lancs:

"Hello to all, It is always a pleasure to update Cat Chat with our latest homings. Thanks to Cat Chat; Nicholas our special boy who has FIV is now happily settled in his new home. Many thanks."

We wish both Marmite and Nicholas lots of love, tickles and special treats in their new homes.

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Purrrfect Pairs - Homed

Ladies, Gentlemen and Furryheads... Please join us in raising your glasses/cat-milk for a toast: The following feline duos, have secured themselves loving new homes after being seen on Cat Chat, where they can now enjoy all their 18 lives together!-

Tag and Bobtail - Ann And Bill's Cat And Kitten Rescue, Hornchurch, Essex (January 2010)

Lawless and Blackie - Cat Action Trust 1977, Nuneaton And Hinckley (January 2010)

Harry and Ellie - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton (January 2010)

Tango and Pepsi - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton (February 2010)

Candy and Basil - Whiteknights Animal Rescue, Reading, Berkshire (February 2010)

Mabel and Max - Paws Inn, Weaverham, Cheshire (February 2010)

Richard and Celia - Ann And Bill's Cat And Kitten Rescue, Essex (February 2010)

April and March - Ann And Bill's Cat And Kitten Rescue, Essex (February 2010)

Izzy and Ella - Clacton Animal Aid, Clacton (January 2010)

Shadow and Storm - Fluff And Feathers, East Wittering, Sussex (March 2010)

Ella and Theo - Rattiemommys All Care Rescue, Nottingham (March 2010)

Roxy and Billy - RSPCA, Stourbridge And District, West Midlands (March 2010)

Fritz and Rory - Kirkby Cats Home, Kirkby In Ashfield, Nottingham (March 2010)

Tilly and Toby - Kirkby Cats Home, Kirkby In Ashfield, Nottingham (March 2010)

Ickle-Pickle and Upsey Daisey - National Animal Welfare Trust, Thurrock, Essex (March 2010)

Taz and Tc - Trust 1977, Worcestershire. (March 2010)

We wish them all well in their happiness, and their togetherness!





Harder to Home? That Didn't Stop These Guys!!



HECTOR

The best homing of the weekend was our new Top Cat Hector, his new mum had been watching him for a while and decided to take the plunge. Hector is tricky, but feedback so far says things are going well. Fingers crossed. Again, he owes his new start to Cat Chat.

KIRKBY CATS HOME, Kirkby in Ashfield, Notts (January 2010)



REGGIE

Reggie had been run over and had his head scraped along the road. Our Vets have operated to help Reggie close his eye, but he is still a bit of a tatty looking cat and no one seemed interested in him!

After his appearance on Top Cats, Reggie is now off to a new home!

CELIA HAMMOND ANIMAL TRUST Canning Town Branch. (January 2010)



ALFIE

Big ginger, grumpy Alfie eventually came round enough to attract attention, he was a lovely cat but didn't take to the rescue too well so we are delighted to see him move on.

KIRKBY CATS HOME, Kirkby in Ashfield, Notts (March 2010)



ROWAN

Rowan our blind boy was also lucky and found a lovely mum who had no problem with his disability and reported that he had settled in well and was bumping around walls getting used to his new environment.

BURTON JOYCE CAT WELFARE, Notts (March 2010)



SUSIE

At last Susie has found someone she approved of and moved on, after swiping at the last two potential adopters she obviously thought her new mum was the one as there was not a cross word said! Susie owes her change of fortune to Cat Chat.

BURTON JOYCE CAT WELFARE, Notts (April 2010)



HATTIE

We are especially pleased to have homed Hattie; a feisty little ex feral who seemed unlikely to ever get a home. Thanks to you all.

CATS IN NEED, Nuneaton & Hinckley (April 2010)



BLUE

You certainly deserve 10/10 for Blue's success as we have had her for over a year because although lovely to look at her temperament is somewhat mercurial!

Thanks again. **CLACTON ANIMAL AID**, Essex (April 2010)

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CAT'S EYE VIEW *by Ziggypig Cat.*

Lilies Warning:

At last! Spring is here. A scratch around in the warm soil, exciting things happening in the garden pond and a doze in a fragrant flower bed - what could be more perfect! And what better time to remind ourselves of the dangers of lilies?

Although exotic looking and very beautiful, lilies are potentially lethal to cats and every part of the plant is dangerous!

For example, fellow furryheads will know just how easy it is to get pollen on ones fur when having an innocent game of 'butterfly pounce' in the garden, or competing with the vase of flowers for space on the windowsill. But it's when it comes to wash time and paw licking, things go wrong.

Signs of poisoning can include lack of appetite, vomiting, blindness, paralysis, renal failure... If you suspect your cat has ingested lily, seek veterinary treatment immediately!

Please keep lilies away from cats. After all, we are also exotic looking and very beautiful, but far less deadly. (Unless you happen to be an unsuspecting mouse of course!)

This is Ziggypig Cat for Cat Chat News, down by the garden pond.

Now You See Them....!

We are proud to present news of some of the speediest homings we've had recently. Paws crossed that many more cats across the UK will land on their feet just as quickly!

SPARKLES & FLUFFY

Hi there, You guys are fantastic, our girlies went to a new home last night!! It was so quick finding them a home, thank you so much.



LITTLE ANGELS RABBIT RESCUE, Essex. (January 2010)

PIXIE

Hi, Pixie has been rehomed, she was on as top cat for only 1 week prior to getting her new forever home, thank you sooo much.

PREVENT UNWANTED PETS, Lancashire. (January 2010)



MOLLY AND LOTTIE

Thanks for putting the details of Molly and Lottie on your Top Cats page, well they have been snapped up, and today have gone to their new home.



RSPCA, WOKING BRANCH (March 2010)

VALENTINE

Just to let you know that dear Valentine has been re-homed already, after going online on Thursday, visited Saturday, home-checked Sunday! He was a very sad case who has now almost recovered from his ordeal of being locked inside somewhere and almost starved. Attached photo shows how he looks now, he arrived weighing 2.1kg as an adult cat! Thank you for helping him find a loving home. **ANIMAL ACCIDENT RESCUE UNIT, Nottingham (March 2010)**



MISTY

I am delighted to announce that on the day Misty first appeared on the Top Cat section of Cat Chat she was seen and offered a wonderful new home. She is now in her new home and settling in well. Many thanks to the CatChat team. **RSPCA MEDWAY WEST CATTERY, Kent (March 2010)**

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Long Termers – Home at Last!



DOMINO from CAT 77, CENTRAL AND WEST LONDON BRANCH –

Finally homed in January, after waiting many months for his lucky break.



MR SOFTY from PREVENT UNWANTED PETS (PUP) Wigan, Lancashire –

Was at the rescue for some time, so we are over the moon that he found a home in January.

FRED AND MAX from WHITEKNIGHTS ANIMAL RESCUE, Berkshire

These guys finally found a super new home in February, after spending more than 3 years in the rescue!



BETSY from ALLERTON CAT RESCUE, BRADFORD, WEST YORKSHIRE

Betsy had been in rescue for over 12 months, but found a home in January after appearing on Cat Chat.



MISTY from PREVENT UNWANTED PETS, WIGAN, Lancashire

Top Cat Misty, was homed in February via Cat Chat after more than 8 months of home searching.



LIDL from CAT AND KITTEN RESCUE, Chandlers Ford, Hampshire

After almost a year, Lidl was adopted in March, after being spotted on Cat Chat.

HEIDI from BROMLEY & DISTRICT CAT RESCUE, Kent

We're really pleased to let you know that Heidi was homed via Cat Chat in March, after more than 18 months in rescue.



MJ JACKSON from ANIMAL ACCIDENT RESCUE UNIT, Nottingham

MJ had been fostered for 9 months and finally found his forever home in March. He was spotted online at Cat Chat.

FLORENCE from RSPCA LONDON SOUTH EAST

Florence was rehomed in March, after waiting for 1 year for a nice new 'forever' home.



LOTTIE AND DENNIS from KIRKBY CATS HOME, Kirkby in Ashfield, Notts

A lady and her daughter adopted Lottie & Dennis in January, after they'd been waiting for a home since June 09.

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Special Appeal For Homes – Spring 2010!

These potential house mates won't be able to pay rent, chip in with the house work or get the groceries in... But then they won't squeeze the tooth paste tube from the middle, or leave the toilet seat up either!! What they will do, is be truly grateful for the chance of a home, and fill your life with love and purrs:



Bessie from Kingsdown Cat Sanctuary, Kent – A Very Important Pussycat (VIP)



China from Colchester Cat Rescue, Essex – Seeks Companionship.



Sylvester from Animal Aid, Walton, Merseyside – A cheeky monkey!

If you'd like to consider sharing your home with one of these deserving cats, log on to www.catchat.org and visit our Top Cats section for details. If these cats get their lucky break, we will be delighted to give you the news in the next newsletter!



Sophie from Pound Kitten Rescue, Poole, Dorset - Lovely, cuddly lady...

Gordon from Mayhew Animal Home, London – A Socialble Chap!



OLDER CATS – HOMED So many people automatically choose a kitten when adopting a cat, but kittens don't stay kittens for long! Mature Mogs are so grateful to have found a loving home again - they will repay your love ten-fold! So hats off to the following Senior Kittizens and their adoptors. We wish you long and happy lives together!



PURDY The good news is that Purdy has been spotted by a couple looking for an older cat and she has now left us. KIRKBY CATS HOME, Kirkby in Ashfield, Notts (March 2010)



MACAVITY Hi, Macavity was saved having to come into the rescue, featured on our homing page she attracted attention and was homed straight from her owner. Thank you to the person that was prepared to give a nervous, older cat a chance. BURTON JOYCE CAT WELFARE, Notts. (March 2010)



OSCAR We are especially pleased for Oscar who was thirteen years old, and was seen on the Catchat site... Thanks to you all. CATS IN NEED, Nuneaton & Hinckley (April 2010)

JOHNSON Our battered old boy Johnson tugged at heart strings and found a new home after being on the website for only a week. BURTON JOYCE CAT WELFARE, Notts (March 2010)

BOY GEORGE AND MR JONES Boy George and Mr Jones have been rehomed to a wonderful young couple who wanted to give two elderly cats a second chance. CAT ACTION TRUST - Carmarthenshire Branch (March 2010)



To see some super Golden Oldies, waiting right now in a rescue centre near you, visit: www.catchat.org/topcats/topcats.html