



Cat Action Trust 1977

Registered Charity No. 801245

PATRONS

Lesley Anne Ivory, Stephanie Cole,
Dame Eileen Atkins, Daphne Fowler

NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS

The COVID-19 pandemic has severely restricted our charity's activities and extra precautions have been implemented to keep our cats and our volunteers safe. We continue to provide the very best for the cats in our care and will carry on with our feral cat work as much as possible. This has come at a critical time as it is now the breeding season and we fear we will see many years of work undone. As our printer is closed, we have also had to scale back our newsletter and send you this mini version instead.

Our Christmas Appeal raised a total of **£14,812.54**. Thank you all for your amazing support.

PLEASE NOTE : The trustees are automatically renewing your membership for one year. This will prevent large amounts of post being generated at this difficult time.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our 2020 AGM is to be held at
St Pancras Church Hall, 1 Lancing Street, London NW1 1NA
(east of Euston station) off Eversholt St – on **Saturday October 17th at 2 p.m.**
(N.B. the hall is on the first floor and there is no lift).

If restrictions on gatherings are still in effect in October the AGM may need to be deferred. Please check our website nearer the time for an update.

BRANCH NEWS

We are sorry that we have not been able to include news from all of the branches in this edition but we hope you enjoy this small selection. Rest assured all our branches are still working hard for any cats in need. We will aim to bring you a bumper winter edition!!

JERSEY

Greetings from Jersey!

In the first weeks of December, I was able to home most of the cats due to a daily Facebook post showcasing the cats for homes.

The New Year started with just three rehomeable cats and the three oldies living in the house. It was a nice break from so many litter trays! The three ready for rehoming went to their new owners in January and a few new ones arrived and were quickly snapped up.

Jersey owners were desperately looking for new pets and because of the weather it was difficult to arrange for any to come over from the mainland to Jersey on the ferry. We had many days of cancelled boats and the storms battered the island.

In March I collected a lovely cat who tipped the scales at 10.8 kg! Definitely the largest cat I have ever dealt with.

Now living with Covid-19 restrictions, and with no ferries until at least the end of April, we have very few cats here.

Stay safe and well.

Jean Falk



Jersey boy Gatsby

NUNEATON & HINCKLEY

What a busy few months we have had! Sybil and Jo have been working tirelessly over in the Nuneaton area neutering and returning countless feral cats and kittens across a number of sites. Vicki and I have been equally busy covering the Hinckley area. August was busy as always with many feral cats and kittens being trapped neutered and returned or tamed and domesticated. We also had a litter of five 4-week-old kittens that were hand reared after being abandoned in a pub garden.

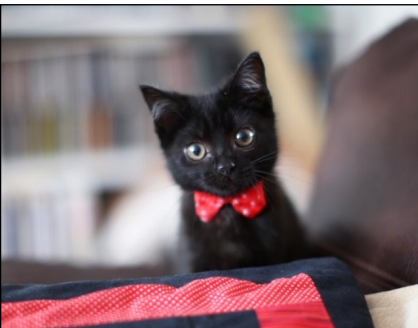
Early September I took a call from a member of public who was not from our area, living further afield in



Mum and kittens

sheltered accommodation. She had a feral cat living in her back garden, with a kitten from a previous litter and three new kittens. No other charities who dealt with feral cats covered the area, so she had not received any help thus far. I agreed to visit with a view to help neuter and return the mum and older kitten and tame the kittens if they were young enough. When I turned up the mum had a serious eye injury and walked straight into the trap within the first few minutes. The kittens were right little hooligans and had other ideas. It took several hours and countless sardines to catch two of them and the older kitten. As I had mum and the older kitten booked in at the vets for neutering, I had no option but to leave one of the kittens in the garden, the owner promising me that she would catch him and bring him to me... I dropped the two cats at the vets and left to take the kittens home. A short time later the vet called; mum's eye injury was so severe the infection had spread to both eyes. The vet had put her to sleep to end her suffering.

The next morning, I had a call: "I've caught the kitten, I'm on my way to you". Well, shortly afterwards a car pulled up outside with four old dears from the sheltered housing looking very pleased as they handed me the smallest of



Morgan

the little hooligans. I collected Kitty from the vets after her neuter and while I was there the receptionist asked me "Will you take this little feral for us too? He's been found on a building site." What could I say?

Ann Owen-Buckley

DONCASTER SOUTH

Hello from Doncaster South branch. I hope this finds you safe and well. As always, we have been inundated with feral sites but one in particular has been quite memorable.

Some of our ladies had a night out at the cinema a few months back to see Cats, then a couple of weeks later Karen and myself turned up at a new site that made us feel we had just walked onto the set of Cats live. Stirring movement from piles of rubble, little heads popping out from every gap. So obviously we needed to name them appropriately.

We found a battered tomcat first, just standing looking defeated. The finder said he was actually friendly, so Karen approached with caution and managed to lift him into the trap. He was named Gus and is the most loving grateful cat and is loving being fostered. The rest unfortunately were feral, or semi-feral, but they couldn't stay there as it was too dangerous, so Grizabella quickly followed into foster care as she was heavily pregnant. She has since given birth to 3 babies. Then we trapped Demeter, Victoria and Macavity who have all been relocated together as a group to a safer feral home. We have a couple more left to trap, and obviously when we know the sex of Grizabella's kittens they will all continue our Cats theme.

We have also booked our Festive Fayre in November and have had a few poor souls come in needing emergency and ongoing vet treatment.

You can follow everything we have been doing by looking us up on Facebook.

Leanne Gleave

BRIAN'S BATTLE

In September 2019 Brian was found at death's door on the streets. Sick, injured, malnourished, and abandoned, it seemed that "this cat had a broken heart!". Rescued by Nic Place with the support of Leeds Branch he is now in a home where he knows he is loved beyond words. An appeal to assist his courageous battle for recovery raised over £1000.



Read the inspirational story of this huge personality in our next newsletter.

And finally...

It would be helpful if you didn't post items to us at present since we have difficulties handling mail while restrictions on movement are in place.

We would like to wish all our members well at this extraordinary time. Please stay safe and well and thank you all for your continued support.