

CLAWS: Marlow Spring Fayre – 28 April 2007

Spring Fayre Day dawned with clear blue skies and the promise of hot weather ahead, plus lots of hard work for CLAWS volunteers.

Two months of planning culminated in All Saint's Church Hall, on the Causeway in Marlow, being taken over for a day of fundraising for CLAWS cat rescue charity. Big banners and colourful balloons hung outside, inviting the public inside. The stalls and hall were decked out wonderfully – a riot of colour and organised chaos!

Visitors were greeted with the sight of artfully displayed cat-related items, gorgeous porcelain & pottery items, photo frames & pretty pots, enough jewellery, accessories & toiletries to sink a ship, a huge stall laid out with furniture, hand-made cushions, kitchen and garden accessories, as well as patio pots brimming with colourful bedding plants. There were cakes galore, prepared by volunteers, and which made for temptation indeed. There were lovely handmade greetings cards and pretty floral candles. A large tombola beckoned with prizes of games and gifts for youngsters, and alcohol for adults. There was also a competition to name the cat pictured on the board: the young lady winner walked off with a nice big tin of chocolates!

A brand new large cat activity centre, donated by a volunteer, was also offered for sale. Sadly there were no takers on the day, so it is still available for purchase if anyone is interested (see photo below). We can deliver to your door within a ten mile radius of Marlow/Maidenhead.

Chairpurrson, Beverley Gubbins, was on hand to chat about the rescue work which CLAWS does. There was an exhibition of our current rescue cats, our elderly long-term sponsorship cats who are too poorly to be re-homed, as well as past rescue guests at Knowl Hill Cattery, which kindly assists CLAWS with its rescue work.

After a mooch round the stalls, visitors were tempted by the opportunity of light lunch and beverages from our kitchen. The food seemed popular and our organiser, Anne, and her assistants were kept busy serving savoury and sweet delights. The quiche was excellent, but not surprisingly, the chocolate gateau seemed a firm favourite with visitors!

Thank you to everyone to who took the time to come in and visit us, purchasing a wealth of items from our stalls, thereby supporting the cause of local cat-rescue. We raised just over £1,000 on the day – which monies will be used towards the welfare of the cats in our care. Your support for CLAWS is very much appreciated and we hope you enjoyed looking round at what we had to offer.

Thank you also to everyone who kindly donated contributions to the Fayre – be it cakes, handcrafts, or items for the tombola. Bless your hearts – we couldn't have done it without you!

Thinking ahead, we now have the Autumn Fayre to prepare for. It will be held at the same venue in October. We look forward to seeing you there, but, in the meantime, we wish you a very pleasant summer.

Some photos of the day



Some CLAWS volunteers before Fayre opens to public



One of the banners inviting the public into our hall



General view of the hall



Country living stall



Volunteer Jill at her country living stall



Pretty candles on the card & candle stall



Catcrystal Corner:
jewellery &
accessories.



Catcrystal Corner –
aka Bling Central!



Homemade cakes
stall – doesn't it all
look delicious?



Cat gifts stall, with Sarah, one of our volunteers



For sale: Cat activity centre - £100ono



Hmm.....I wonder.....

(all for a lovely box of choccies & a very good cause!)



Fayre open to public,
visitors enjoying lunch



Public enjoying lunch
and a browse of the
stalls



More stalls?
Now what can I buy?



Anne, our Fayre's main organiser, receiving flowers at the end of the day