

VOLUNTEERS' MEWSLETTER 32

June-Aug 2010



Hello Catlovers!

Wow - here we are, just past August bank holiday and I've been receiving Christmas charity catalogues for weeks! The countdown is on, and in a pub recently, I saw a sign with the immortal message: "118 days to Christmas". How time flies...

Thanks always to Sue, Jenny, Ann and Vaughan for keeping me updated with information for the newsletter.

NEWS FROM HQ

At the time of writing, 22 pussycats have been re-homed by CLAWS so far this year.

Sue has asked me to urge you to please note the appeal in the fundraising section of this newsletter. A fundraising initiative has been launched to get CLAWS through the winter months. The initial target is £1,000. A poster (see at end of newsletter) has been created to send to supporters and people who have adopted our cats to raise sponsorship for this magnificent effort by the gentlemen concerned.

If you can think of others to send the poster to, please let Sue know by ringing the CLAWS helpline (01189 341699). Please take the time to put the poster up at your place of work, if you are able. Every penny literally counts!

MINUTES OF TRUSTEES' MEETING JUNE 2010

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 March 2010 were read and approved.

1. CATTERY

As discussed at the previous meeting, we no longer have pens at Knowl Hill Cattery. There are 4 pens in Beverley's garden, plus a cat room in her house. At the present time, we have 7 cats ready for re-homing.

2. PEOPLE FOR PETS

Everyone who has adopted a cat under the above scheme has been written to, explaining the financial situation that we are in. They have agreed that, where possible, a donation will be given for any cat veterinary costs. During the last few months, we have not received any large vet bills.

3. SPONSORSHIP

We are looking at the possible of sponsorship for specific projects we may wish to undertake.

4. INSURANCE

Pet Plan will insure our older cats if we require it.

5. FUND RAISING

There was discussion on the events we have attended so far this year and those to come. It was decided that, at the end of this year, we would have further discussions based on the income from this year.

6. FINANCE

Our finances are a lot healthier now that we no longer have cattery fees and large vet bills. We are now receiving over £250 a month from Standing Orders from supporters.

7. NEUTERING AND MICROCHIPPING

These will continue for the foreseeable future.

[Editor's Note: next Trustees' meeting: Sept 2010]

ONLINE SHOP

Has anybody used our online shop yet? Any feedback would be much appreciated. I've just ordered my first items which arrived speedily and were just as I'd hoped (thank you, Ann). Click on the link on the CLAWS website home page.

CAT TAILS

We like to hear how some of our rescued babies are doing, but sadly, it's not all good news. However, loss is part of life and it is only right we celebrate the lives of our feline friends.

FERN

This note received from Fern's human companions:

You have probably heard our extremely sad news of the loss of our lovely little Fern, who you helped us rescue.

She gave us 3 happy years of her friendly, cuddly and affectionate little self. We are so glad she walked or, limped into our life, in the state she was in, looking for a home, and lots and lots of love and cuddles that she always looked forward too.

Please can you mention her on your website or newsletter? We would be honoured if you could xx

Here is our favourite photo of her for you to use..

Lots of love, Karyn & Tom

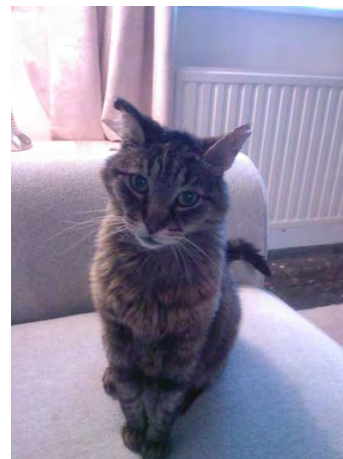


Photo: Fern

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PUDDING

We were saddened to learn of the passing of dear Pudding. She was 22 years old, a grand age.

We send our love and sympathy to Sarah who gave her a wonderful home for the last years of her life.

You may remember that Pudding lived at a care home looked after by one of the residents and came to CLAWS when the lady was no longer able to look after her.



Photo: Pudding

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

- 13/06 – Waltham St Lawrence Fete: £227.02 (Beverley, Jill & Di)
- 19/06 – Cookham Scouts Show: £190.43 (Jenny, Liz, Maggie & Penny)
- 26/06 – Cox Green Jumble Sale: £115.54
- 27/06 – Moss End stall: £82.60 (Beverley & Jenny)
- 17/07 – Maidenhead Street collection: £233.57 (Beverley, Barbara, Liz, Maggie, Diane, Penny & Jenny)
- 18/07 – DEBARC: £195.85 (Jill, Beverley & Jenny)

Thank you to all who participated in these events.

Our Treasurer, Jenny, recounted a little 'tale' from a fundraising stint, which I thought you'd like, so I have included it:

"I did the local school fete last Saturday (made £40) – I took the board we have that says 'Wanted – homes for these cats' and then has pictures of cats ready for rehoming. A little lad came up, read the board and

was quite upset and said 'Wanted? What crime did they do?' I now think I will draw black masks round all the cats faces and put a bag over their shoulders with SWAG on it. We may rehome more if people think they have a bit of 'previous'

FUNDRAISING EVENTS FOR 2010

Date	2010 EVENTS		
Sep 4th	Maidenhead	Street Collection	9am - 5pm
Sep 11th	Henley	Henley Show	10am - 5pm
Sep 25th	Sainsbury's Taplow	Collection	9am - 5pm
Oct 9th	Cox Green Community Centre	Jumble Sale	10am - Noon
Dec 11th	Maidenhead	Street Collection	9am - 5pm

SPONSORSHIP APPEAL: ORIGINAL MOUNTAIN MARATHON - 30/31 OCTOBER 2010

The phone rang – it was Joan, a long term supporter of CLAWS and devoted "mum" to Cookie, the latest of a number of CLAWS cats lucky enough to be adopted by her.

"You know you were asking for ways to raise money - well, I've had an idea. My son runs and I thought I'd ask him to do a run for CLAWS"

Great!

"What sort of runs does he do?"

"Well, he's run quite a few marathons. In fact, he has run 12 marathons (including Edinburgh, Peak District, Snowdonia, Cheviot Hills) the OMM in 2009, the York 3 Peaks 5 times plus numerous 5K swimathons!"

Wow!!

So we agreed that Joan would talk to Peter and see if he was prepared to help CLAWS and she was soon back on the phone saying, "Yes, he'd be happy to do it."

Peter, an ex-Army officer with 8 years' service including jungle warfare training, Atacama Desert Expedition and Mount Blanc ice climbing and winter mountaineering, is running as part of a two man team with John, an ex-RAF pilot

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The course (this year being run across Dartmoor) is about 45 miles long (25 miles on day 1 and 20 on day 2). There is an enforced overnight camp at the end of day 1 and competitors have to carry all their equipment and kit (tents, cooker, food, sleeping bags etc).

It is a long race and the navigation is a big challenge as check points are spread out in difficult to find places. Contestants have to navigate using a map, compass and precise pacing to reach them. Failure to do so, results in disqualification.

This is the premier UK event to test teamwork, self-reliance, endurance, outdoor and navigational skills. The reputation of the event is worldwide and every year there are entrants from between 12-14 countries.

This is a VERY SPECIAL FUND RAISING EVENT and we have pledged to raise £1,000.00 – a very ambitious target, but no more ambitious than the goals Peter and John have set themselves!!

As you know CLAWS has had a very difficult couple of years and, despite our best efforts, proceeds from fetes, jumble sales and other events we have attended throughout the year, have fallen short of previous amounts.

This event gives us the opportunity to make up the deficit and hopefully provide a reserve for the winter months so that we can continue to care for the needy cats in this area.

Please support us not only by sponsoring them yourself, but by getting your family, friends, neighbours and colleagues to sponsor them too.

Please ring the CLAWS help line (01189 341699) for a sponsorship form.

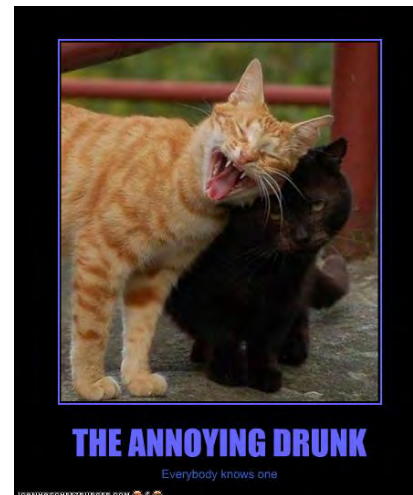
PLEASE HELP US HELP OUR FELINE FRIENDS !

JET'S JOURNAL

Jet is taking a sabbatical for the moment, but her column will hopefully return in the next edition.

AND FINALLY...

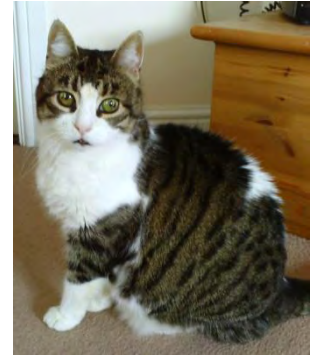
Something to make you smile...



Take care until next time.

Sam Collington
August 2010

WE NEED YOUR HELP !!



Marathon runner supreme, Peter, and friend John, are participating in the

ORIGINAL MOUNTAIN MARATHON

on 30 / 31 OCTOBER 2010 across DARTMOOR

to raise money for

C.L.A.W.S.

(Cat Lovers' Animal Welfare Society)

This is the premier UK event to test teamwork, self-reliance, endurance, outdoor and navigational skills. The reputation of the event is worldwide and every year there are entrants from between 12-14 countries.

Sponsorship forms are available where you see this poster or ring the C.L.A.W.S. help line on 01189 341699

