



2022 Calendar

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www.c-l-a-w-s.org.uk



C.L.A.W.S Newsletter No 74 September 2021

Facebook: @ClawsMaidenhead



Bertie

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Helpline 01189 341699

NEWS FROM HQ

We have had another very demanding three months but we are pleased to say that all is well at the sanctuary. Life for the cats has gone as normal – spoilt rotten !

In June 2020 we were pleased to welcome back the cat cuddlers, all of whom had had both their vaccinations, the first step towards a return to normality although there is still a long way to go.

We have identified some worrying trends.

Cat food, particularly specialist diets and brands imported from abroad, have become increasingly difficult to obtain. Cat litter also is in short supply.

Breeders are selling cats as young as 5 weeks old (minimum age for them to be parted from their mums is 8 weeks) Before buying a cat or kitten it is vital to check their backgrounds (parentage and living conditions). This will save heart ache further down the line.

The number of cats and dogs being abandoned now people are going back to work has increased considerably and may well continue to rise.

Microchip numbers are not being registered or updated making it impossible to trace their owners.

We have also noticed a rise in the number of pedigree cats being abandoned.

IT'S TIME TO LAUNCH THE CLAWS CALENDAR FOR 2022 !



PRICE £5.00

This time we have included cats from the sanctuary, from the many interesting cats we have met through our work in the community and two cats from our archives.

We feel sure you will find them interesting, inspiring and amusing.

To obtain a copy please ring the help line on 01189 341699

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

NEW ARRIVALS

Bertie



“We first spotted the cat in April and it has been coming twice a day for meals ever since. Our cat doesn’t like it. Can you take it in please ?”

It was arranged that they, long time friends of CLAWS, set a trap and when the cat was caught they would bring it over to CLAWS.

We scanned him and the microchip made it possible for us to trace its owner who didn’t want him any longer. He completed a waiver of ownership form which enabled us to take him in and

start looking for a permanent home for him.

We called him BERTIE. He is a beautiful boy, very friendly and loves a cuddle.

We are hoping to find him a new home very soon.

ADOPTIONS

Franky



You may remember that Franky came to CLAWS when we were asked by a gentleman in Wokingham to trap and take in a cat that had been living in his garden for some long time.

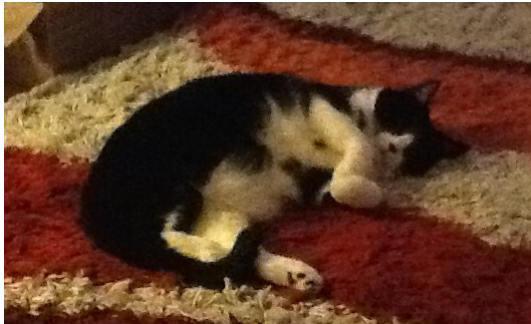
It was a beautiful ginger boy and once he had settled in we took him to the vet for a check. He thought he was about 6 years old. He had been neutered but not chipped and needed a dental.

He is a gentle boy and soon made friends with the other cats.

When visiting the sanctuary a supporter of ours, who had adopted cats from us before, took a shine to him and offered him a home. It wasn't long before he was off to his new home to join Chrissie, the cat from Cliveden, and the two other resident cats.

Franky soon settled in and made friends with the other cats – we are delighted.

Kyria



Kyria is about 12 years old and has had a very sad life, 8 years of which were spent living in a shed. Her owner fed her but did not allow her in the house.

When the owner died a gentleman who lived in a nearby property offered her a home but she does not like other cats and therefore did not get on with the resident cat. So once again she was "out in the cold".

She was trapped and C.L.A.W.S. was asked to take her in. What could we do but say "Yes"

She had been deeply traumatised by her treatment and sat behind her bed in her cat cabin refusing any human contact. Then she started to peer through the cat flap and eventually ventured out into the pen itself.

It still took a while but gradually she became more confident and relaxed.

We started to look for a home for her. It would have to be with an experienced person who would give her time and space and allow her to settle in her own way. Eighteen months had passed and the right person had not come along.

A supporter who had taken cats needing a special home in the past had recently had to have her beloved companion put to sleep. She was devastated but said the best way to remember her was to offer another cat a loving home.

Had we such a cat? We immediately thought of KYRIA.

A few days later we took her to her new home. We let her out of her carrier and she immediately disappeared upstairs. Only a few hours later she came down to have a look round and within 24 hours it was as if she had always been there.

Meet “Little” Rosie



A TNR (trapping, neuter and return to site) exercise was in progress in Slough.

Three cats had been trapped. A helper realised that one was not feral but yet another abandoned domestic. She rang CLAWS and we were able to take the cat in.

We took it to the vet for a check-up. It was a female about a year old and in good health. We arranged to have her neutered and vaccinated,

We called her “LITTLE ROSIE” to differentiate her from resident cat Rosie.

What a little spitfire ! She marches up and down the run of six pens spitting at all the other cats when all they want is to be friendly. She likes humans and enjoys her cuddles and playing with her toys.

FUND RAISING



COX GREEN CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2021

12.00 PM TO 3.00 PM

AT THE COX GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE

This is our first fund raiser for two years so please come along and support us.



IN MEMORY OF

Keith Jones



We were sad to learn of the death of KEITH JONES.

When he and his wife, Evelyn, lived in Slough they fostered cats for CLAWS for a number of years.

They moved to Cornwall in the early 2000's and we continued to keep in touch by telephone and E-mail.

We send Evelyn and her family our love – they are in our thoughts at this sad time.

MEMORIES

Betty



“You have helped me in the past, can you help me again ?” asked Gillian. It transpired that a year ago we had helped her with a stray which had been knocked over.

The little cat was seen running away with two other strays. All three were being fed by kind neighbours in the area. The two cats that were left were in a bad way – scrawny, bad coats and looking quite ill.

Luckily CLAWS had room for them so Gillian trapped them and took them to the vet for a check up.

They were both undernourished, full of worms but basically not too bad. The vet thought they were about 14 / 15 years old.

Sadly Bobby was put to sleep on 29 September 2020 but BETTY continued to thrive and made herself at home in the library.

On a routine visit to the vet a lymphoma was discovered in her mouth but even though it grew it did not impede her breathing and eating which allowed her to enjoy a relatively normal life for several months.

Eventually she began to deteriorate so was gently put to sleep.

She was a dear little soul and we miss her.

Dipsey



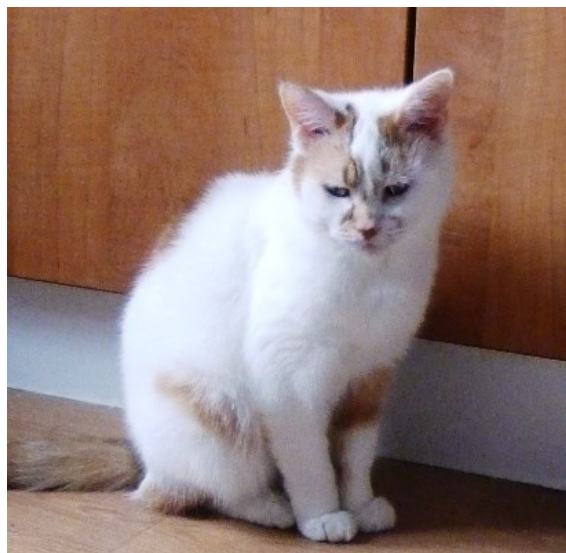
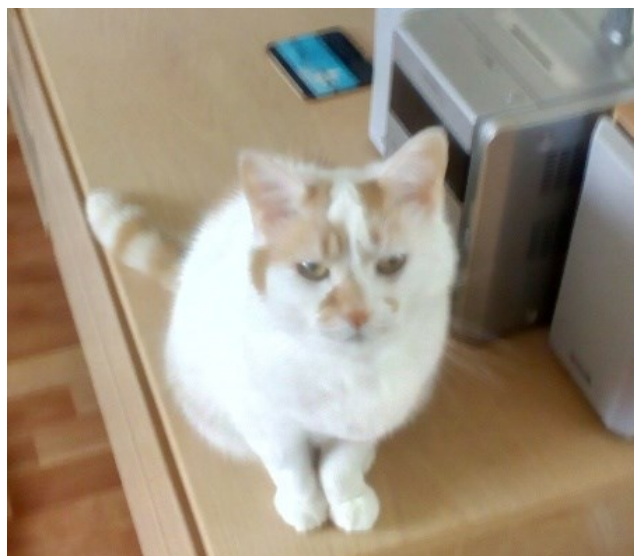
Dipsey came to me approximately four years ago. She was angry, depressed and nervous. After exploring every nook and cranny of my house, she finally settled on the rug in front of my sofa. Although very nervous of noise and people she eventually became less so.

Inside this angry and depressed cat was an immense amount of love just waiting to be released - and eventually out it poured. as she settled in her new home. She was a serial lap cat, lying on my lap, front paws on my chest and constantly head butting my nose!

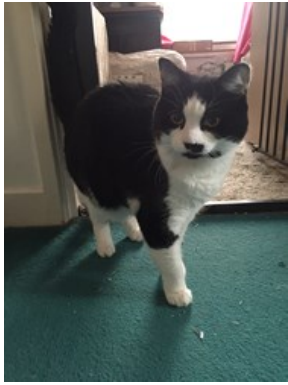
She loved to sleep at the foot of my bed. On quite a few occasions she would come up to me, purr very loudly in my ear and, for good measure, head butt me - always between 2.30 3.30 a.m.! She would then retire to the foot of the bed to sleep, leaving me wide awake!

Sadly, Dipsey's kidneys began to fail and, at the grand old age of 19, she was put to sleep.

Thank you C.L.A.W.S for letting her come to me - she was an absolute joy.



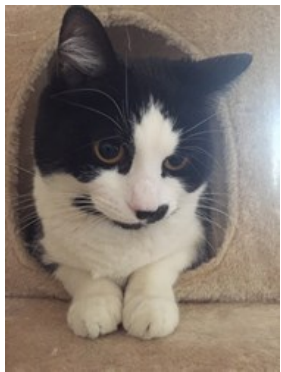
Molly



My darling Molly died peacefully at home on the 13th June on the bed next to me and her sister Lulu.

She had lost weight but was still her usual cheeky, loving self, but when I took her to the vet to check about her weight loss the vet found a lump. A scan revealed several lumps and some blood in her tummy. After discussing things with the vet, I decided I did not want to put her through surgery when it was extremely unlikely to change the end result. She was still quite lively up until about 48 hours before she died and then just became more and more sleepy and died peacefully during the night.

I adopted Molly, and her sister Lulu, in 2013. Their names when they came to me were Cherry (Molly) and Blossom (Lulu). I wanted to change their names as 'Cherry' had negative connotations for me. Whilst it took me a few days to find Lulu's name, Molly became Molly very quickly, as I found myself saying to her 'you're a little Molly minx aren't you!', as she was into everything and very much making herself at home! She loved being brushed and would line up when I got the brush out. She also loved it when I used a toy with a feathered bird on the end – she got very animated and almost turned somersaults in the air trying to catch it, making little excited noises at the same time..



She was very good at letting me know about 'food situations' as I started to call them. She would come and 'speak' to me and behave in a certain way which got me to follow her. It would usually be an empty food bowl, or a request for something else as she didn't like what was currently available, or for her bedtime treats!

However, one evening whilst I was watching TV, she came to me about a 'food situation' three times in the space of half an hour. Each time I checked, the bowls were full and I told her that I would put down her treats when we went to bed in a short while. When I started to prepare for going to bed I called for Lulu, but she didn't appear. I looked for her but couldn't find her. It was then that I realised that Molly was sitting outside the shut bathroom door (the door is always open) and the penny dropped! Sure enough, Lulu was shut inside the bathroom which had happened when they were chasing each other earlier. I then realised that Molly hadn't been alerting me to a 'food situation', but rather a 'Lulu situation'! Whilst I thought I had been following her out to the kitchen earlier, she had in fact been trying to get me to follow her to the bathroom – silly human being!

Although she and Lulu got on well most of the time, they did have occasional sisterly altercations when they would sit back on their haunches, waving their paws at each other – very girly fights!

I especially miss her during the night when she would curl up next to me on the pillow although Lulu has now taken to doing this. Molly would also bring me toy mice at night when I was in bed, and I now always make sure I have a couple of 'Molly mice' on the pillow next to me. She was a loving, mischievous, gorgeous little furry being and Lulu and I miss her so much. There is definitely a Molly sized hole in our home.

Chloe



We were contacted by a lady in Slough. A cat had been living in her garden for months—could we take her in ?

We said d “Yes” and we called her CHLOE. She soon settled in enjoying good food, a warm bed and a peaceful room.

We took her to the vet for a check up. She was in good health (except a heavy infestation of fleas) She was carrying two kittens which he thought would arrive in the next two weeks.

Beverley prepared a number of “nests” to keep her warm and comfortable. Her favourite was on the bottom shelf of a cupboard on top of a pile of comfy bedding.

Chloe had other ideas and it wasn’t until 4 weeks later that she gave birth to one kitten which was sadly dead.

We took her to the vet for a check up. She was fine. We got her neutered and vaccinated and after a period of rest and recuperation she went to a foster home.

In due course she will go to a loving, permanent home.

Dolores



Mel writes : - Dolores has suspected lymphoma which is the only explanation for the diarrhoea. The thyroid medication is at the right dose and all her bloods are fine so we just keep feeding her and keeping her happy which she is right now.

She is still as vocal and demanding as ever.



TEDDY THE GREATEST LOVE OF ALL

Teddy was another cat
Who lived a life of fear
But luckily for both of us
He chanced to visit here.

Twice a day he cleared his plate
Which I moved nearer to my door.
He had the endearing habit
Of picking food up with his paw.

At the time I had a cat flap
And in the middle of one night
I found him sleeping on the sofa-
It gave us both a fright..

I put a meal some way from him
And quietly returned to bed.
In the morning cat and food were gone,
A dented cushion there instead.

Quite soon he got brave enough
To forget to run away
I'd pat my chair so gently
"I do wish you would stay"

One day he walked to where I sat
We stared into each others' eyes
We really did communicate
As we learned to telepathise.

His face had been kicked and it left a scar.
He was terrified of black
Particularly boots and trousers -
He'd deliver a hefty smack.

This lad and I were inseparable
But his fear of strangers was strong.
I felt so humble and privileged
That to him I could do no wrong.

Vet visits were quite magical
Whispers of "He's feral - must be confined"
"While he's looking at me do as you wish".
They did think I was out of my mind.

I used to stand behind the vet
With prior permission I hasten to say.
As long as Teddy looked into my eyes
Totally calm he would stay.

In bed I'd make a tent with the duvet
He soon learned to jump inside.
Every night we slept so deeply
Laying quietly side by side.

One day, before shopping, for no reason,
I locked the cat flap from inside
Once home I called my beloved
No answer he had died !

He had hyper-thyroidism
Which meant blindness or heart attack
But why, oh why, my darling
Could you not wait until I got back ?

I am so glad I locked the cat flap
You might have gone away to die
And I'd have been worrying for ever
(As I'm writing this I cry)

When I think of all those magical years
Of deep love beyond belief
How privileged I was to earn your trust
Helps cope a little with my grief

There will never be another you
With you I was 10 feet tall.
But thank you for your memories
You are still the greatest love of all.

'Til we meet again.

Mummy xxx

Maggie Celebrates Her 11th Birthday

Maggie was 11 years old in August—where have those years gone ?

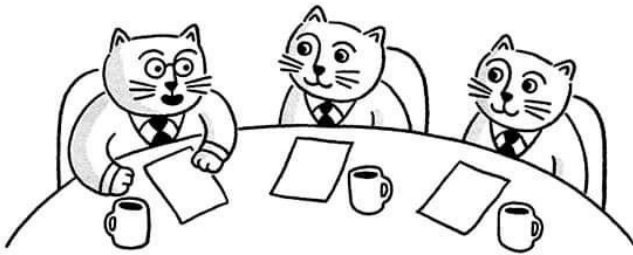
Her absolute favourite treat is the topping off a cheese pizza !



But, of course, she is only allowed a taster and that only on a special occasion like her birthday !

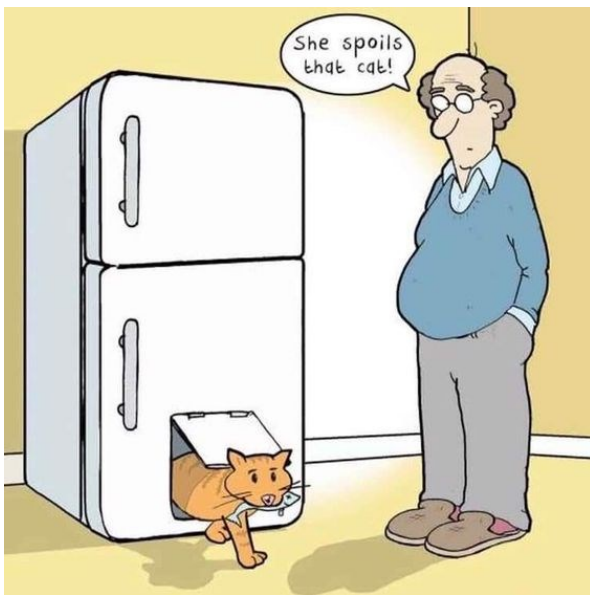
The dough base is put in the garden for the birds.

HOW AMAZON WAS INVENTED



m.e. mcmain

"Any ideas on how to get more cardboard boxes into our homes?"



when planting your cats, make sure you space them equally so they have room to grow...



IT COMES WITH A LEVER THAT SWEEPS OUT ALL THE CAT TOYS...



MARK PARISI

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It took Ralph six minutes to realize the balloon wasn't going to come back.

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SCARFACE: THE TRUE STORY

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