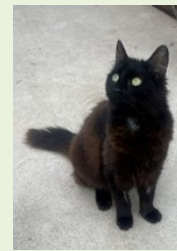




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www.c-l-a-w-s.org.uk

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NEWS FROM HQ



£5.00

To obtain a copy ring the C.L.A.W.S. Helpline

01189 341699

Helping cats since 1995!



NEW ARRIVALS

TILLY



The phone rang. It was a gentleman who lived in Taplow asking for help in trapping and re-homing a little black cat that had taken up residence in his garden. He had been referred to CLAWS by his neighbours who had been helped by CLAWS a number of years ago.

Beverley arranged to take a trap round the next day. She set it up in a quiet place in the garden and put plenty of tuna in it. She had no sooner turned her back on the trap than it sprung. ! The fastest trapping ever !

Beverley took it back to the sanctuary and put it in a pen with a cosy bed, litter tray, food and water and left it to settle in.

She had hardly got back indoors when the phone rang. It was the gentleman who had helped rescue the cat to see how it was.

It is a tiny little tot with a glossy black coat overlaid with a sheen of copper. We are sure she is a little girl hardly more than a kitten. We don't think she's a feral but yet another abandoned domestic.

We have called her TILLY. At first she stayed in her bedroom but was soon sitting on the shelf at the front of the pen watching the other cats as they came up to meet the new arrival. She soon joined the other cats running around, rolling on her back. She even gave Monty a bang on the head when he got in her way.

We are sure that with time and patience and lots of love she will make a lovely pet.

ADOPTIONS

ARTHUR

You may remember ARTHUR. He was the cat that arrived on Easter Monday evening.

He had been living with a local lady and her son since before the first lock down but sadly they could no longer care for him so they had brought him to CLAWS in the hope we could take him in and, of course, we did.

He was a full tom with the trademark “chubby chops”, a badly scratched nose and numerous lumps and bumps all over his body. He has obviously been through the mill but despite this he is a friendly, loving chap. He inter-acts with the other cats and likes to be made a fuss of.

We took him to the vet for an MOT and he was neutered, vaccinated and microchipped.

It wasn't long before one of our cat cuddlers met him on one of her regular weekly visits and took a fancy to him. She brought her partner to meet him and he was smitten too.

The home check went well and it wasn't long before he was off to his new home.



FUND RAISING

FUND RAISING COX GREEN CHRISTMAS FAIR

Please come along and support us at the

COX GREEN VILLAGE FAIR

ON SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2023

FROM 12 NOON UNTIL 3.00 PM



The proceeds will go towards the upkeep of the 40 resident cats
currently at the sanctuary

BEAUTIFUL BLANKETS

The cats at the sanctuary send a big

THANK YOU

to the customers at ASDA, Lower Earley
for the beautiful bright, cosy blankets



IN MEMORY OF

PETE RIDEOUT

We were very sad to learn of the death of Pete Rideout in July of this year.

Pete was a valued supporter of CLAWS. We had known him for 20 years and during that time he had become a dear friend.

He had adopted a number of our cats including Ginny - she was 12 years old when she went to live with him and was in her 22 nd year when she died .

And then there was Bruce, a one eyed tabby. He was very clever boy and used to write us letters!



GINNY



BRUCE

Pete was a real character with a quirky sense of humour.

We shall miss him.

MEMORIES

BEN

In 2021 a CLAWS supporter had been trapping ferals in Iver and asked if we would take one in. We said YES It was a black and white male, very bedraggled and very scared. He had been sleeping on an old mattress in a lady's garden and she had been feeding him. His coat had become very matted and somewhere along the line great patches of it had been shaved off so he looks very scruffy.

He soon settled in and, apart from a large ulcer in his mouth which responded well to antibiotics and pain relief, he has been fine until August 2023 when he began to lose weight.

He was examined by the CLAWS vet who referred him to a specialist. Extensive tests revealed an Inoperable malignant tumour for which there was no treatment. He was happy, eating well and playing with his friends until severe weight loss meant that we had to say "Goodbye" to him. We miss him so much.



ON HIS MATTRESS



AT THE VETS



IN HIS BED



IN THE ENCLOSURE

MEMORIES

MAU MAU

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Mau Mau. She would have been 22 years of age this November, but to have seen her, and heard her, you would never have thought it.

Mostly we miss being shouted at for serving her breakfast a minute or two late; or not being quick enough to provide tickles and brushing. She may have been a little madame, but she had a heart of gold, a gentle soul and made every day a joy.

We feel truly blessed to have had her in our lives and she will always live on in our hearts and in our memories.

Sleep well our little lady.



TOWSER

GLENTURRET'S RECORD BREAKING MOUSER

The Glenturret Distillery is near Crieff in the beautiful Scottish Highlands and for many years was home to TOWSER, the Guinness World Record mouser with 29,000 catches to his name in his 24 year career, .



CAT TALES

IGGY

Our friend Jean sent us this amusing story :-

“ I’ve sold my house and I’m leaving the country in a week I’ve tried to get a home for my 10 month kitten, but have been unsuccessful

“Well muggins here said “OK I’ll see what I can do. The only alternative was for her to come in and stay in my front room. When big Bertha arrived I couldn’t believe my eyes ! I was assured it was a she. She’s massive, never been to the vets, always been an indoor cat. Well, I’m still not sure if it’s a male or female. It certainly smells like a Tom. He/she is off to the vet PDQ

Just look at her ! I have never seen a tail like it just like Basil Brush!! “



A few days later I received another e-mail :-

“You will laugh - no wonder Lizzy had a smell it’s a bloke!!. Quick name change to Iggy..

I never thought to look as the owners were adamant it was a girl!

And ten months old ? The vet reckoned about 2 years!. He’s now been “done” and is the sweetest dollop in the world - loves being brushed and fussed. He’s going to make a super family pet,

MELVIN (FOUND IN SCOTLAND 9000 MILES AWAY FROM AUSTRALIAN HOME)

A cat has been re-united with its owners after being found 9,000 miles away from his Australian home.

He was picked up in Erskine on 22 May after members of the public who had been feeding him since Christmas reported that he looked unwell.

The Scottish SPCA was puzzled when it scanned his microchip and discovered that it was registered to an address in Australia.

The mystery was soon solved when the CP traced his owners, Jacqueline and Matt Dick.

The couple had adopted Melvin as a kitten but after 14 years “down under” they moved back to Scotland with Melvin and their dog, Max, before Melvin disappeared 8 weeks later in August 2022.

Melvin managed to survive on handouts from Erskine residents for 11 months before he was re-united with his owners at the charity’s Glasgow Animal Rescue and Re-homing Centre.

Jacqueline said “We were devastated when Melvin went missing, We did everything we could think of to try and find him but by winter we feared the worst”

“We were over the moon when we received the call that he had been found by the Scottish SPCA.”

The first night we got him home he didn’t leave my side and was purring loudly. I was in floods of tears as I never thought I’d see him again

“We just want to say a big “Thank You” to everyone who looked out for him while he was missing and helped get him back home where he belongs”

The Scottish SPCA is now urging people to make sure their pets are micro-chipped.

Laura McIntyre, the Chief Inspector of Scottish SPCA said “One of the first things we do with animals when they come into our care is to scan them for a microchips. As you can imagine, the team was slightly confused when Melvin’s details came back as registered to an address in Australia”

“We were delighted to be able to re-unite Melvin with Jacqueline and Matt after all that time. It is so important to have your pets microchipped so that, as in this case, owners can be traced quickly”



ZEBBY CP NATIONAL CAT OF THE YEAR

ZEBBY was honoured for the way in which he supports his deaf owner Genieve Moss by alerting her to sounds around the house. Genieve said “I am so proud of Zebby for showing the world how intuitive and caring cats can be. I can’t imagine life without him and I’m over the moon that he’s been honoured in the National Cat Awards. He was named as Family Fur-ever Cat of the Year (cats that go the extra mile for their families)

Genieve says : -

“Being deaf is very hard .It’s very difficult living alone , especially in a place where you feel quite isolated. I never really realised how bad it was at night-time, when hearing aids come out, until I was burgled in the middle of the night. It meant that I could be lonely but not with Zebby around – he’s my hero. Cats can have such a positive effect on people’s lives.

Without my hearing aid I can’t hear anything, but now I have Zebby to help me. He’ll come and tap me when the phone is ringing and then I can pop my hearing aid in and turn the speaker on and take the call in the night. If there’s an unusual noise he will bat me on my head to wake me up and let me know, If someone is at the door he’ll pace about in front of me until I get the message.

Right from being very small Zebby sensed that I had difficulty hearing and he became my night watchman, my postman and guardian. At night when the security light goes on he seems to know to wake me up and he does so by tapping my face. Without him I’d feel very frightened. I used to be scared to go to sleep. I used to sort of lie awake but now I can sleep knowing that Zebby’s going to be there.

“He is very helpful and likes to bring me things- he’ll get the post from the doormat and pick it up in his mouth before dropping it in the bedroom. He even brings me my slippers if he finds them other than on my feet. Zebby is very special. I’ve never known a cat quite like him. He loves to be around me – wherever I am he’s not far behind. We’ve got a very close bond and I wouldn’t want to cope without him.

If I can going out, as soon as I put my shoes on Zebby will lay in front of the door as if to say “Where are you going. You’re not going out are you ?”. Sometimes I do have to go out of the backdoor to escape! But when I get back he comes running up and gives me lots of cuddles. I’m no longer coming into an empty house. I know that my best friend will be there waiting for me. Oh, I just love him. He is my saviour.

At the end of the evening he was announced as CP National Cat of the Year. He received a trophy, a £200.00 pet store voucher and a year’s subscription to the Cat Magazine,



National Cat of the Year



BAGPUSS AND JOULES GO FOR A WALK

Beverley had just given Bagpuss his breakfast and stopped to have a few words when, quick as a flash, he shot between her legs and was out into the garden.

Joules happened to be passing and stopped to say “Hello”. It was a sunny day so they decided to go for a stroll and were seen disappearing round the corner of the house heading into the field next door .

Beverley continued feeding the rest of the residents keeping eye on the field where the tell-tale waving of the grass assured her that the “truants” were not far away..

A firm believer that any escapees will return to their food source she was not unduly worried. Her confidence was justified when coming out of the cottage she met Bagpuss and Joules arriving back from their adventure.

She bent down, picked Bagpuss up and put him back in the isolation unit whilst Joules went into her new home (one of the sheds) to catch up on her sleep..

Bagpuss has made a remarkable recovery but his experience being used as bait for fighting dogs means that he sometimes has flash backs which make him a little unpredictable We shall be transferring him to one of the enclosures shortly as the next step on the road leading towards a permanent home.



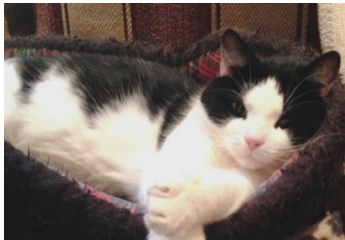
ANYONE FOR CHEESE ON TOAST ?

I had had one of those weeks !

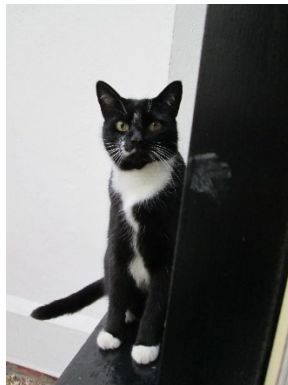
It was Friday evening. It was too late to have a meal so I did some cheese on toast and a mug of tea and went into the sitting room I settled down to watch the 10.00 pm news. After a swig of my tea I cut the two slice of cheese on toast into halves and settled down. Perhaps I was too comfortable because I suddenly woke up with a jolt. My tea was still there but not the three halves of cheesy toast!!!

There sitting opposite me were three cats looking very pleased with themselves !!!!! I could not tell them off as the temptation was obviously too much. So I finished my tea and went to bed.

Here are the culprits : -



HECTOR



ELVIS



TOBY

Rodders and the Swifts

Earlier this year I was dive bombed by two swifts as I went in and out of the garage. I could not understand why until one day when I was cleaning the litter trays. I was aware of the birds above me. They were making a nest!!!!

I was so pleased. I stopped people going in and out and let them build in peace. I was rewarded with mum sitting on a clutch of four eggs. These duly hatched and it was wonderful to see the little chicks grow and flutter around. I was there the day they fledged and flew away. Which was sad.

BUT then mum came back and laid another three eggs. And we duly had three chicks that thrived. Every family has one. One that will not leave home. I named him Rodney after the brother in Only Fools and Horses. Rodney LOVED to sit up on the beam and watch whatever I was doing and was not frightened at all.

Mum and dad used to fly in, shout at him, encourage him to fly outside. BUT no he stayed put. He loved to fly around the garage as though that was his world. Oh dear. What do I do with a little tiny bird weighing few grams in the winter time? I had all of these ideas about an aviary, or a cage or what Carey could build me. Then one day, whilst I was washing the litter trays again, mum and dad came in to sit with him. They flew around the garage and left, then Rodney flew around my head as if to say goodbye and out of the door he went.

I was relieved but sad to see him go, with the long trip ahead of him. But good luck Rodders the nest is still here. See you next year.



First Brood



Rodney



Rodney with his mum and dad

TALES FROM BEAR COTTAGE NORMAN

Hi Naughty Norman here

Well wot a summer!!! Mum usually sits with me in the evenings and either reads to me or we watch the tele. Well in June something odd happened. She came up in the afternoons to watchhumans hitting and chasing a little yellow ball!!!!!! I thought only those strange things called dogs did that !

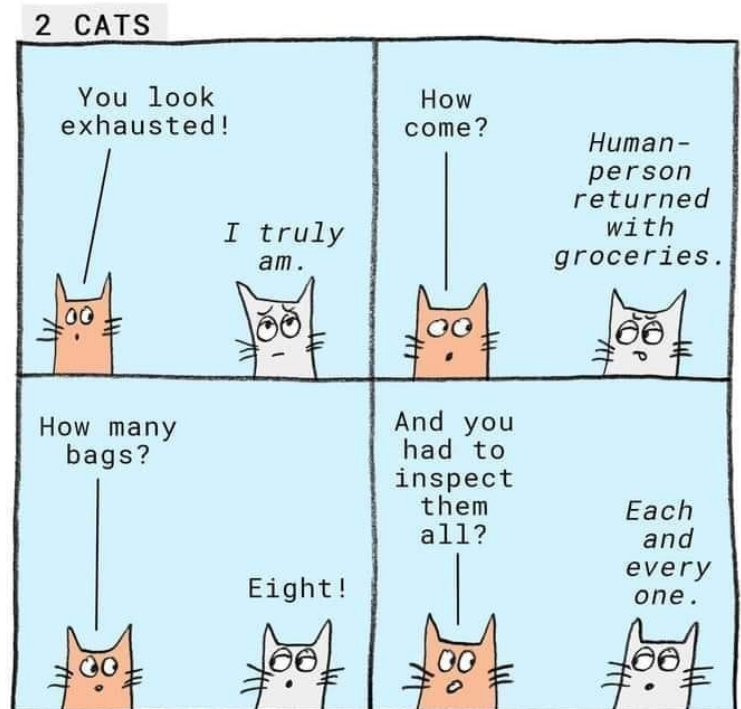
I HAD TO WATCH THIS FOR TWO WHOLE WEEKS!!!!!! Can you believe it ?. Plus mum was shouting and giving her expert advice to the humans. Between you and me I have never even seen her pick up a little yellow ball!!!! I felt really neglected, so being a diabetic I decided to get some attention and throw a hypo. That is when my sugar goes so low I wobble around , dribble and generally look ill. That got her attention. She tried to give me some honey but I refused, because between you and me I wanted a trip out to the night vets. It was such fun watching mum throw on a coat over her pjs , grab me AND try to call the vet all at the same time. I did this twice over the weekend. The night vet is soooooooo expensive. As mum said I had spent her face lift money in one weekend.

I now have to go to Kelperland vets every two weeks to check on my insulin levels. It's really fun because all the vets and nurses love me and I get extra cuddles. The good news is that Uncle Matt is at last finishing my enclosure so that during the nice weather I can stay outside in the sun..

Well I think that is all. OH YES. Save all your pennies so that you can buy our 2024 calendar. Guess who is on the front. ME!!!!!!

Lots of love
Norman





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by Mark Parisi

