



A PURRFECT FRIEND

CAT REHOMING CHARITY IN THE PRESTON AREA

1111

Registered Charity: 1195439

NEWSLETTER 13 | July 2022

Find us on...

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Welcome to our July newsletter,

It's kitten season again. Strangely, over the last couple of years we haven't been inundated with kittens, but this year is proving to be a little more challenging. As always, kittens are lovely, but they do take a lot of hard work, especially when it's a litter of six plus mum! (thanks Louise, you were definitely up for that one!). At the other end of the scale, we are seeing lots of older cats and we are always thankful when someone offers a home to a teenage cat. They can be so rewarding.

We, as people, are in the midst of some challenging times, and our charity is being asked for help with cats every day. That's why we appreciate every donation of wet food and litter we receive for our foster cats from our amazing supporters. We continue to need donations of goods that we can sell at our events. Please get in touch if you can help in any way.

Thank you.

Shirley



A Purrfect Friend - Financial Review for year to June 2022

In summary the key results are as follows :-

Income generated	£	
Donations, subs and sponsorship	10,327	
Sale of donated goods	3,850	
Events and raffles	12,266	
Adoption fees	4,440	
	30,884	
Costs		
Vets fees	(15,998)	
Cost of events	(1,611)	
Fostering supplies and other costs	(3,406)	
	(21,015)	
Net income	<u>9,868</u>	
Cats homed in last 12 months		74
Average cost per cat homed	£284	
Adoption fee per cat	£60	

The income generated this year is up £3,000 compared to the prior year with events this year being particularly successful. We are very dependent on donations from all our kind supporters as adoption fees do not cover the costs we incur in ensuring the cats are fit and healthy for rehoming. Clearly vets fees are by far our main expense despite the discounts Withy Grove Vets allow us as a charity.

Full charitable status with the Charity Commission was secured in August 2021 and we are now registered with HMRC to claim Gift Aid on donations. Our application for VAT registration is in progress.

The Trustees would like to again thank all our supporters for their generosity and a huge thank you to all our fosterers whose volunteering enables us to rehome so many cats with income we generate.

We look forward to the coming year and helping more cats to find their forever homes



Millie our longest stay cat

Our lovely 4 year black girl is still looking for a new home. She is a very gentle, friendly cat who loves attention and would make a wonderful addition to any family. She should be fine with other cats and respectful children.



Lola . Stop Press, Lola is reserved.

Lola is 5 years old and is a really friendly tortie and white girl. She isn't good with young children, having had a bad experience in her first year of life.

She loves fuss and should be fine with older respectful children. She doesn't mind other cats and is a bit of a homebird. In her previous home, she rarely ventured out so would be fine as an indoor cat.



Mama

Mama is a lovely friendly girl who came into our care 4 days before giving birth to 6 kittens. She has been a wonderful mum and all her kittens have been homed. It was believed that the person who notified us about her (she was a stray) would be offering her a home but that sadly has fallen through. Her photo doesn't really do her justice (always difficult with friendly cats) but she is semi long-haired.



Brian

Brian is another stray semi-long haired black cat. He is about 18 months old and was a little timid at first meeting but he is soon happy to have attention and be stroked.

He is a gentle boy and should be fine with older children. He is a bit nervous meeting other cats but not aggressive so would probably be ok with another cat in time



Sultan. Stop Press, Sultan has been homed



Bella

Bella is a two year old neutered female. She has found it difficult being in our care and is desperate for a loving home.

She does not like other cats so will need a home where she is the only pet. Bella can be headstrong and needs an experienced owner but once she has settled in we believe that she will become a very special companion. She would not be suitable in a home with young children



Kitkat

KitKat is a gentle, friendly natured 2 year old neutered tabby male.

He's not a boisterous cat so we are looking for a calm home environment for him with a garden away from main roads where he can relax and chill out



Maverick

Maverick is a lovely friendly boy.

He would be most suitable for a family with children. He loves attention.



Issy Stop Press Issy has been homed

Issy is a gorgeous 12 week old little girl who is ready for her new home now.



Charlie

Charlie was a stray for quite a few weeks and, as he was in really good condition, the people in the area thought he had a home. Sadly, with no chip or response to a paper collar, we eventually took him into care and are now looking for a new home for him. He is a really nice cat, most of the time, but he can turn.

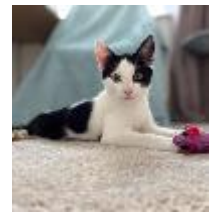
For more details of these cats, please visit our website or get in contact via our social media or email

Cats homed

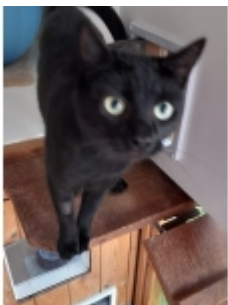
Since our last newsletter we have homed an amazing 22 cats.



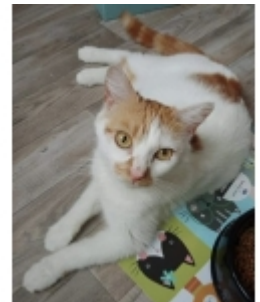
Midnight and Zeus looking chilled in their new home. They are both very sweet and enjoying the extra space to be mischievous. They are adored by their new family.



Kitten season is in full swing now and we have found loving homes for 14 kittens including these little beauties.



We have also been able to re-home Mum's Midnight, Misty and Lily.



Long stay cats Benji and Kovu (our semi-feral) now have new homes. Kovu has an outside home where he will be looked after and where he will have the option of moving indoors should he decide that's what he wants to do.



Brother and sister Tiny and Thomas (now called Freddie and Daisy) have a new home together and we wish them and all our other cats and kittens that have been rehomed recently and their adoptive families many long and happy years



We have also rehomed the lovely Henry but unfortunately we don't have a picture of this handsome chap.

Events

With special thanks to all who have helped with our fund-raising events

2nd June	Leyland Festival, Worden Park Leyland	£400
4th June	Car Boot Fair, Park Hall Charnock Richard	£100
4th June	Craft Fair, St Theresa's Parish Centre 34 Queensway,, Penwortham PR1 0DS	£31.5
11th June	Table Top, Lytham Methodist Church Park Street, Lytham FY8 5LU	£43
11th June	Penwortham Gala, Hurst Green Park Penwortham	£332
25th June	Jumble Sale, St Leonard's Church Hall Marshalls Brow, Penwortham PR1 9JA	£379
2nd July	Table Top, Warton Village Hall Church Road, Warton PR4 1BD	£49
2nd July	Craft Fair, St Theresa's Parish Centre 34 Queensway,, Penwortham PR1 0DS	£42
2nd July	Car Boot Fair, Park Hall Charnock Richard	£91
3rd July	Craft Fair, Fairhaven Lake Lytham	£13

Upcoming Events

Please support these events if you can. Our volunteers put in a lot of work and really look forward to seeing you all

30th July	Noah's Ark Summer Fair Tarleton Bowling Club, Sutton Lane PR4 6UY	12.00 am to 4.00 pm
6th August	Car Boot Fair, Park Hall Charnock Richard	9.00 am to 1.00 pm
6th August	Table Top, Warton Village Hall Church Road, Warton PR4 1BD	9.00 am to 12.30 pm
7 th August	Craft Fair, Bonds of Elswick	10.00 am to 4.00 pm
20th August	Car Boot Fair, Park Hall Charnock Richard	9.00 am to 12.00 noon
27th August	Jumble Sale, St Leonard's Church Hall Marshalls Brow, Penwortham PR1 9JA	11.00 am to 12.00 noon
3rd September	CAT EXTRAVAGANZA St Leonard's Church Hall Marshalls Brow, Penwortham PR1 9JA	2.00 pm to 3.30 pm

A chance to get your Christmas cards, calendars and some present ideas and catch up with everyone. More details in the next issue.

Supporting our cause

There are a number of other ways in which you can support our cause:

- We also have a dedicated Facebook marketplace page called 'A Purrfect Friend Fundraising Group' If you would like to sell anything to raise funds for us, please get in touch and we can add you to the group.
- We are also on Vinted, selling men's, ladies and children's clothes. Find us at:
<https://www.vinted.co.uk/member/7004861-annekelleher> and
<https://www.vinted.fr/member/58906269-apurrfectfriend> and
<https://www.vinted.co.uk/member/7526145-carole3591>
- We have an Amazon Wishlist to buy supplies for our pens. You can access this via our Facebook page.
- Check out our eBay pages: 'knitonepurrone', kathryn1804, apurf-0 & 'shirleyc4534'.
- Finally, the food bin at Penwortham Booths and Penwortham Tesco continues to be well supported by customers

Newsletters and Donations

Our bank account is with HSBC called 'A Purrfect Friend'. The sort code is 40-37-25, and the account number is 34512731. You can set up a standing order, pay online or send a cheque/ cash to:

Anne Kelleher, 3 The Crossings, Hoghton, Preston, PR5 0DH.

We also have a couple of options available to you if you would like to support us on a regular basis.

If you would like to continue to receive the newsletter via email, and you haven't already done so, then please let us know through our email address apurrfectfriend@gmail.com.

Our telephone number is: 07752 774852.

If you would prefer to receive the newsletter via post, then please return this form to our Treasurer at the address given. However, please note that we do ask for £15 a year to cover postage costs, this can be paid by online or by cheque.

If, in addition to receiving our newsletter, you would like to make a regular monthly donation (a minimum of £5 per month please) then you can sponsor one of our cat pens.

Sponsorship and Pen news

We currently have 7 pens available:

Isobelle's pen, Alfie's pen, Lucy's pen. Shadrack's pen, Marybeth and Marybeth1 pens, and Becks pen.

For a minimum of £5 a month, you will receive updates and pictures of cats housed in your sponsored pen, a tag on the pen to show your sponsorship, a bi-monthly (once every two months) newsletter, a special gift, and a membership card.

Alfie's and Isobelle's pens at Shirley's house. The current occupant of Alfie's pen is Lola, our 5 year old calico. Isobelle's pen has some new kittens in it. These kittens had been living in a garden in Bilsborrow. Thankfully, we trapped mum and she was tested, spayed and returned to site. Lucy's pen is with Louise and the current resident is Mama. Marybeth and Marybeth 1's pen are both at Deborah's and are the current home of KitKat and Bella. Shadrack's pen is with Emma where Sultan is staying. Charlie is in Beck's pen with Cheryl and her family. They are currently fostering a mum and her three kittens who have been living in a garden in Bilsborrow.

DONATIONS !

We are running short of items for our various events - Fairs, Jumbles, Car Boot sales, Tombola, Table Tops, EBay, Vinted & Facebook Marketplace.

Do you have any items to donate to us?

Unwanted Christmas or Birthday gifts, new unopened toiletries

Bric a brac & household items

Clothes, especially Ladies

Small items of furniture - as long as it will go in a car!

Collection can be arranged, please contact Phyl on 07866 943574 or 01772 612202

Our Website: www.purrfectfriendcatrescue.org
E-mail: contactus@purrfectfriendcatrescue.org

Co-ordinator, Welfare Officer
Trustee and Fosterer
Treasurer
Homing Officer and Secretary
Fundraising Team Leader

Shirley Chisnall
Janice Vaughan
Anne Kelleher
Deborah Murphy
Phyl Pearson

Felicity

Felicity came into care in March of this year, a beautiful tortie tabby girl who had been a stray for a while. The vets estimated her age to be about 14 and it transpired that the only health issue was that she had hyperthyroidism. Her teeth and all other blood results were very good, but she was grossly underweight.

The vets prescribed Thyromorm to combat her thyroid issues, but sadly, there was no improvement. Each time she went to the vets her weight had gone down. The best option was to remove her thyroid and the operation took place on the 8th June. She was returned to her lovely fosterer Emma.

On the 14th June, Emma found Felicity had passed away in her pen overnight. Emma was understandably devastated as we all were. Felicity had a wonderful personality, she was the sweetest thing, but sadly it was all too much for her.

Rest in Peace little girl.

We like to keep you updated with current feline problems. Here is an article relating to FIV which can be lived with but can be easily prevented with vaccination. Let us know if there is any other item you would like us to feature.

FIV (Feline Immunodeficiency Virus) and FeLV (Feline Infectious Leukaemia Virus)

Every cat that comes into the care of A Purrfect Friend is health checked by our vets. They are neutered, microchipped, vaccinated and are given flea and worm medication. Their heart, teeth, skin and ears are also checked and treated as necessary. Cats that are suspected to be over 10 years old have a full blood profile done and we also blood test all our cats regardless of age for two retroviruses Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) and Feline Infectious Leukaemia Virus (FeLV).

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is similar to the human virus HIV. Cats primarily contract the virus through fighting or mating (part of the reason that neutering your cat is essential). Once a cat contracts FIV they have it for the rest of their lives. Infected cats can have many years before they exhibit any symptoms. FIV results in a weakened immune system and infected cats can become repeatedly ill with cat flu, sore gums, skin disease etc., they may also be prone to tumours and lose weight.

There is currently no reliable treatment for FIV. A Purrfect Friend recommends that FIV positive cats are kept indoors and have no contact with FIV negative cats. Unfortunately, there is no current vaccine available for FIV in the UK.



Feline Infectious Leukaemia Virus (FeLV) is a virus that is fatal to cats. It is transmitted through direct contact with the saliva of infected cats. It can also be transmitted from an infected mother to her kittens while they are in the womb or through her milk. Sadly around 80% of cats die within three and a half years of contracting the virus. Symptoms include recurrent infections, enlarged lymph nodes (often cancerous) and anaemia. Many affected cats have to be put to sleep because they have a poor quality of life. It is A Purrfect Friend policy not to rehome cats known to be infected with FeLV.

There is a vaccine available to protect non infected cats from FeLV and A Purrfect Friend would strongly recommend that you speak to your vets about including this with your cats vaccinations.

Spudescapades

June 2022/July 2022

Wow, my 5th "Spudescapade" already!

BIG things have been happening here! I have 2 new sisters!!!!!!!!!!!!!! They are both black and white like me but they are semi-longhaired and they are not actually related to me, they are really my adopted sisters, but I love them as if they were real family. Their names are Blaze and Sox though, like me, they have posher show names. They were abandoned at 2 weeks old and mummy's friend, Chris, who runs another small rescue hand reared them. They are very naughty and do things like run up mummy's curtains, I NEVER did things like that when I was a kitten (Mummy – oooh Spud, you fibber!).



Blaze



Sox



My sisters have done a show already and did quite well and I did well too at the St Helens one I said I was going to. I won 2 of those Imperial certificates and then I won Best Non Pedigree at one show and OVERALL Best Pet Cat at the other! That Overall one won me another certificate so I am now IMPERIAL Grand Master Cat! This means I am up with the big boys in the Olympian class which is very, very hard

but I did get 3rd out of 6 at my first attempt.



I will not be going to a show for a while now but I do hope to see everyone at the fair on 3rd September.

I am still waiting for another photo shoot, we don't seem to be getting much at the moment, I could have done one but they got the dates mixed up and it ended up on a day when mummy was out for the day so we couldn't go. I hope I will get one soon as we enjoy the day out as we earn money for mummy to treat us and to be able to give our 2 rescue friends some too.

Big news too on my Instagram – I now have over 1100 followers!!!!!!!!!!!!!! As always you can follow me on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Spud-the-cat-with-a-tash-102068554670424> and Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/spudthetashcat/> to keep up with me in between newsletters.

Message from Smokey



I was going to let Hugo have his normal say but I thought I would take a short break from my guard duties. I really have to watch out for those pesky pigeons trying to pinch the bird food.

I wanted to thank Spud for his nice words about Hugo last time but just to say - he doesn't have to live with him! If Spud has two youngsters in the house - he will know what I mean. I hope you are all keeping alright in this heat. I rather like it because they get the chairs out (one just for me as well) in the shade of the trees and we all chill. Take care all xx



Scanning

For anyone that may be feeding a stray cat (or trying their best not to feed it as you think the cat may have a home), please feel free to get in touch as we have several volunteers who have micro-chip scanners who may be able to come out to scan the cat. Please consider how great it would be to re-unite the cat with its owner, especially if he or she has been missing for weeks, months or even years. Cats cannot tell us where they have been or how they came to be outside your home. I have heard people say the cat has left home for a reason, it has been abandoned, the owners don't deserve the cat, all sorts of supposition. In many cases, we just don't know, but if the cat is chipped, we can get a long way down the line to finding out some history and hopefully re-uniting he or she with their family.



Pets at home have included A Purrfect Friend on their lifelines scheme. It's huge for us, the scheme is very generous to charities. If you would like or already have nominated a charity for the lifelines scheme, you can now change your affiliation to A Purrfect Friend. To do it, go on the PAH website, select Your lifelines and the option should come up to support a local or a national charity. Click on local. Our charity is listed under the Preston Store, so if your card is registered to any other PAH, for example Capital Centre, please change that to Preston and you will see our charity at the top of the drop down list. It will now make any difference to yourself which your local store is down as, but it will be a huge help to us. We have received our first payment from Pets at Home (£10) which will go towards our next order of food and litter. Thank you.



O

On behalf of all our cats and kittens can we say a huge thank you to everyone who donates to our food collection bins at the Penwortham branches of Tesco and Booths.

They continue to be a lifeline for us. Thank you all.