

PAWS for THOUGHT



Newsletter Of The Cat & Rabbit Rescue Centre Sidlesham.

(Registered Charity Number 1010000)

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October, 2010.

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Welcome to the October issue of the Newsletter, the last one for 2010, and what an exciting year it has been, more space now for the animals but, we need more homes so, people need to “THINK RESCUE WHEN THEY WANT AN ANIMAL”.

Enjoy, and “A Happy Christmas” to each and every one of you who contribute your time, your money and your care for THE ANIMALS.

Monique.

Viv Eadon Lodge.

Not too much has happened since the last Newsletter except that the building was **officially opened on 8th AUGUST, by The Duchess of Richmond & Gordon** and has been full for the entire time, we are just inundated with animals. We had an article in the **Chichester Observer** about the number of cats and kittens we have taken in and to try to get people to think of Rescue Centres when they want a pet but, as I write this, we have had no response at all. The recovery room is now complete and has been well used after operations and for our neuter returns, (kittens that were adopted from us and come back here for their neutering/spaying). The ICU is also installed and we have not had to use it too much, which can be a good thing. With VEL we are nearly double our capacity so we have taken on more staff to ensure we have enough people to cover the extra work.

New Improved Centre, new staff.

We have always been proud to run this Rescue Centre on minimum costs but, as we have become so much bigger now, we need to become more professional if we are ever going to be able to compete with the big boys. We are all trying to vie from the same pot of money and I just feel, as a small Charity, we can do so much more with the money and we have to get people to understand that.

Our new staff, some working part and three quarter time, are **Laura, Lesley** (both been working for a time with us), **Natasha, Stacey** and, very recently **Colin**, (who is still on a job trial, but so far, all is going well. We have taken on **Drew**, who is the Centre manager, and he is here to ensure everything is done properly by the staff, all training issues sorted and, to bring in more money and look at cost savings in this Centre. I hope everyone will welcome our new staff members and bear with us while they are learning “the ropes”. Earlier in the year, **Vikki** left us as she had found a very local job working at a boarding kennel, and we wish her the best. She has popped back to see us and is enjoying the dog work, but misses the cats and rabbits.

Some People.

Anyone who is thinking of running a rescue centre needs to hold their tongue and, sometimes, it is very difficult. One such situation was a woman arrived here, no phone call, with 2 unwanted cats. One was a 5 year old unspayed female and, guess what, she had just re-homed the kittens (probably sold them). The other cat was a 13 year old who needed further veterinary treatment which she said she could no longer afford and, “she was now allergic to them” !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Look at the picture of **Tank**, the 13 year old, could you stare at that every day and do nothing? Surely, if she was a regular at her vet and said she would pay monthly, I am sure they would let her, but I also think she would qualify for the PDSA. But no, she has had the pleasure of the kittens and she will not have got them good homes if she regards herself as a good home. **Mark**, our vet, operated on Tank and he is looking very good, we are keeping everything crossed in the hope the tumour does not grow again. If you would like to help towards Tank’s vet costs, please send a cheque or donate on-line – “Thank You”.



Selsey Shop.

Dave Bailey and Lesley Swift are doing very well running the new shop in **Selsey**, but know that they have a target to reach or it will not be worth continuing, so, please visit and tell your friends to visit. The winter opening times will be 10.00 – 4.00pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 10.00 – 2.00pm on Wednesday, **CLOSED ALL DAY SUNDAY.**
Pick up a bargain and help the animals at 9, New Parade, Selsey.

Christmas Fayres.

Sunday, 24th October, at The Cat & Rabbit Rescue Centre, Sidlesham. (Park & Ride from the Sidlesham Football Club) 11.00am to 3.00pm. £1 entry or cat/rabbit food – come and support the work of The Centre and, see the animals. Food and refreshments available throughout the Fayre.

Last year’s event raised **£4,141.93** and this was partially due to the fact that we had Viv Eadon Lodge, without the cat pens, to display all our wares but now that it is full, and I mean full with cats and kittens, it is back to the greenhouse and some of the rooms in Viv Eadon Lodge. Not to fear, with your

help and generosity we CAN do better than last year but, as usual, I am pleading. (this lady is the biggest pleader I know, Ed).

HELP US BY:-

Donating some bottles for our very popular bottle stall.

Asking if anyone can give a store voucher for our Raffle.

Telling **Emma** or **myself** if you would love to run one of our stalls for us.

Offering to help set up (starts about 4 days before).

Saying that you will come at the end of the day and clear up.

Telling as many friends and neighbours as possible to come.

Making sure that those friends and neighbours spend lots of money!

HELP US TO HELP THOSE ANIMALS THAT NEED OUR HELP SO BADLY.

We are planning to have a display of some lovely pictures that have been donated by various people, in particular Artist **Julia Holmes** of **South Harting**, with quite a few cat ones which would make an ideal Christmas present, so there's another reason to come along.

Can anyone Sponsor/ Support our Christmas Fayres?

At our Open Day we asked for support in helping us with various items and the response was brilliant, so we are trying it again.

The items that we need are for the Café and Raffle Hampers:

£40 for soft drinks; £10 for milk; £10 for crisps; £13 for tea/coffee/sugar; £25 for bread, butter, cheese and eggs for sandwiches plus any items of food for the 4 Christmas Hampers – mulled wine, Christmas pud/cake, nuts, chocolates, pickles, chutneys, jams, etc., anything Christmassy!

Gregory.

I hope you remember the story of **Gregory** in February's issue of Paws for Thought. The lovely tabby feral cat who had spent most of his life dragging his damaged leg behind him. When we caught him, as well as being neutered, he had to have his "dead" leg removed. We had decided he could stay here and we let him out to run about but, he disappeared. Eventually he was found at **Brent Lodge**, the bird and wildlife hospital! We kept him in and he became friendly and was lucky enough to be adopted by **Nan**, one of our long and loyal supporters, and this is her letter.

I thought you would like to know that Gregory is now settling down well, although still nervous at times. That was to be expected, of course, as everything is so strange for him. He is still living in my bedroom which is the quietest room in the bungalow and the easiest one for me to keep him isolated from noisy visitors. Most of his time is spent under my bed – I remember my Fred (Nan's previous cat from here) spent his first three weeks hiding there

but Gregory now comes out for his and purrs and butts his head into my hand, which I think is a good sign. He really enjoys his food, Felix in jelly, all varieties, and, now and then, a little James Wellbeloved Turkey and Rice dry food for a change. He crunches that up nicely so it should do him some good.

The first three nights here were not good, he roamed round the room trying to get out while shouting and howling his disapproval so that I couldn't get much sleep. He has a very loud voice for a not very large cat. In desperation, I moved to the front room and slept on the sofa for the best part of a week. But last night, I moved back to the bedroom and, although he was restless for quite a long time, I did eventually get some sleep and, at least the yowling had stopped. I even heard him purring away to himself for a while so imagined he was feeling more cosy, comfortable and contented. I found that quite gratifying as you will appreciate. He uses his tray well and altogether seems in good health.

P.S. His name at home is **Grig**, which is shorter and easier – especially when – as I hope – he will be able to go into the garden and I shall need to call him in. There is an old saying “Merry (or lively) as a grig” which seems to suit him. Grig is a very old word going back to the Middle Ages and means a grasshopper or cricket. I like old words.

And we love you **Nan** for giving “Grig” a chance.

This lovely picture - is tinged with sadness.

I was not sure to include this picture of **Dominic**, a rabbit featured in one of our previous Newsletters because he was unwanted because he had a broken leg and the owner was not prepared to pay the vet to get it fixed! We took him in and he was adopted on our Foster Care Scheme because of the possibility of further leg problems but, in fact, after veterinary



treatment, it healed beautifully. But sadly, he got something known as Fly Strike. His fur was very thick and although no obvious injuries or open wounds were found, flies had laid their eggs on him and the maggots hatched out and it was too late before they were noticed. He was cleaned with washing up liquid and combed in an attempt to remove all the maggots, but sadly, he died, probably of shock, the next day. We were all heartbroken.

Please check even the healthiest looking rabbit every day during the warm weather. I think the picture is absolutely lovely and needed to be included.

RSPA – Changes.

This is taken from an article in the Daily Mail dated April 21st 2010.

The RSPCA is to turn away tens of thousands of unwanted and stray pets from its animal shelters to cut costs, it emerged yesterday. The Charity said it would focus more on caring for animals seized from owners after being cruelly treated. The move could affect up to 75,000 cats and dogs which are taken to its centres every year.

One consequence will be to put pressure on other animal Charities, local councils and police. Soaring numbers of abandoned animals in the last year have contributed to growing pressure on the Charity's finances. It goes on to say the recession has meant less money coming in and, more and more people buying animals as status symbols and taking on pets without realizing the responsibilities for the care and welfare of that animal.

My response.

I agree that badly treated animals should take priority but we will only see an increased number of abandoned animals. The councils and police currently do nothing for cats, only for dogs, although there is talk of some cat welfare work. The RSPCA has the clout that us "little people" have not and need to look at how to try to improve the problem and not just say "go to another charity". I sincerely hope that they have looked at all other ways of saving money, BEFORE they cut out the help they give to the animals because that is what they are supposed to be doing. I do understand the local RSPCA, **Mount Noddy**, is not happy with the changes.

I have some ideas which would sort out the problems:-

1. Make it compulsory for microchipping of ALL cats and dogs.
2. All breeders, even those who breed with their pets at home (known as hobby breeding) must pay 90% tax on the profit. (All this money should be passed to the charities to help them care for the resulting unwanted animals).
3. When advertising the puppies or kittens, usually in the papers, the media must be informed of the microchip number of the mother animal and this can be checked that it is from the correct name and address from the microchip database, (and that should correspond with the telephone number they are advertising with).
4. The mother animal's microchip will prove she has had xxx young and this could be checked to ensure appropriate tax has been paid.
5. The original owner of the mother animal must guarantee to take the offspring back if the owner can no longer care for it.

I know there will be a lot of work to do this but it would definitely help and, as all the governments are always trying to create jobs, well this would create

jobs and bring in revenue as well. It must be better than all these people collecting benefits.

Monique.

Fundraising Activities.

Forthcoming Events.

CRRC Christmas Fete.	CRRC.	Sunday, 24 th October (11am to 3pm)
Christmas Fayre	Drayton.	Saturday 13 th November (11am to 2pm)
A Christmas Festival	Stanstead House	Fri. 19 th November (5pm to 9pm)
		and Sat. 20 th November (10am to 5pm)
Chichester Christmas Market	East Pallant Car Pk.	Sun. 28 th Nov. 10am - 4pm)
Christmas Fayre	St. Peter's Hall, Petersfield	Sat. 4 th Dec. (10am to 12.30pm)
Christmas Fayre	Hayling Island United Reform Church	Sat. 11 th Dec. (10-15am to 1-30pm)

Past events from June 2010 and how much raised.

CRRC Summer Fete	CRRC	Sun. 8 th Aug. (11am – 4pm)	£10,439-15
Tesco Store Collection.	Havant	Fri. 9 th July, (9am - 5pm)	£215-23
Tesco Store Collection	Havant	Sat. 10 th July, (9am - 5pm)	£127-40
Tesco Store Collection	Chichester	Thurs 25 th July, (9am - 5pm)	£205-22
Worthing Festival	Worthing Seafront	Sun. 25 th July (10am - 5pm)	£236-10
Co-op Store Collection	Wittering	Sat. 31 st July (9am - 5pm)	£ 89-71
Morrison Store Collection	Horndean	Sat. 31 st July (9am - 5pm)	£245-10
Playday	Staunton Country Park	Wed. 4 th Aug. (11am - 4pm)	£182-70
Hotham Park	Bognor	Sat. 7 th Aug. (11am - 5pm)	£133-60
Pagham on Parade	Pagham	Sun. 8 th Aug. (11am - 4pm)	£167-00
Midsummer Madness	North Bersted	Sun. 15 th Aug. (11am - 4pm)	£ 93-60
Tesco Store Collection	Petersfield	Sat. 21 st Aug. (9am - 5pm)	£175-86
Tesco Store Collection	Bognor	Sat. 28 th Aug. (9am - 5pm)	£124-09
RSPCA Dog Show	Southsea Common	Mon. 30 th Aug. (11am - 4pm)	£237-30
Emsworth Show	Emsworth	Mon. 30 th Aug. (11am – 5pm)	£438-15
United Reformed Church End of Summer	Hayling Island	Sat. 18 th Sept (10-30am - 1-30pm)	£211-00
Aldwick's Bumper Day Run by Parish Council.	Avis Park Rose Green	Sat. 18 th Sept. (12noon- 4-30pm)	£ 43-70

More Thank Yous.

“Thank you” to **Jenni Grace** from **Grace Medi-spar** in **Clanfield** who very kindly donated **£211-20**. Give them a call if you are in need of a facial, massage, etc., Tel: 023 92 599199 – such a wonderful relaxing 16th Century Farmhouse.

Cathy Robinson brilliantly organised a concert and cycle ride for CRRC – “thank you Cathy and **family**, you raised a magnificent **£820-00** !!

Liz and **Daisy Donaghue** (and **friends**) have been fantastic with helping us feed the cats in the evening and this has been a godsend as this job takes 2 of us over 3 hours, with all the medication, etc. Our other regulars are **Julianne**, **Tanya** and **Jacqui**. “Thank you all, so much”.

Thanks also go to **Sue Zammit** for kindly running the stall each year at the RSPCA Southsea Common event and also to all of our other regulars who help to bring the coffers in.

The Neuter Scheme – can you help?

We are planning to expand our neutering scheme, where we help with the cost of neutering people’s cats and rabbits, when they cannot afford to pay the full bill. We are hoping to target places where we get a lot of unwanted and stray animals from, in an attempt to lessen the problem. We have written to lots of Trusts to try to get some contribution towards this as this currently costs over £4,000 a year. If you would like to contribute to this, please send a cheque or, ring up as we can now take Debit card payments.

Recycle – recycle – recycle – recycle – recycle.

As you all know, recycling is what a Rescue Centre does, it takes in the unwanted animals and re-homes them. We raise money from goods, donated at The Centre and at our 2 Charity shops, which otherwise would end up on a landfill site. We raise money from unsold items, like clothes, shoes and jewellery which again would end up at the landfill site. Unfortunately, some of these goods do not sell and cannot be recycled so, they do end up on a landfill site but, they have been given a fair chance to join the recycle chain. We also get most of our donated goods in cardboard boxes and these can soon clutter up the place but, thanks to our wonderful French lady, **Danielle Charbonneau**, who helps keep the Centre tidy. She comes in at the end of our events to help pack away, otherwise we would be over run by boxes. “Thanks” Danielle – merci beaucoup!!

Cats on the Radio.

I would like to do a big “THANK YOU” to **Steve Power**, presenter on **Wave 105 Radio Station**, who, after adopting 2 cats from us, gave us lots of

FREE publicity on Wave and the timing was just perfect, just before our Open Day, and I am sure it helped to make this our best Open Day ever.

Rabbit Accomodation – read all about it.

Debbie Cooper, our Volunteer Rabbit Homing Officer, was involved with Rabbit Welfare Association and Fund in getting a tiny hutch removed from the Argos website.

This happened as a result of the RWF and 20 or so members lobbying those organisations by writing letters. Many of us are joined to the RWF group on Facebook, which helps us RWF members to communicate, mobilise and take action. The RWF are also lobbying other organisations that sell rabbit hutches that considered too small.

These are some of the articles which led to Argos removing their tiny hutches from their website:-

[http://www.rabbitwelfare.co.uk/media/home media/PPMCoverSept.pdf](http://www.rabbitwelfare.co.uk/media/home%20media/PPMCoverSept.pdf)

<http://www.pressdispensary.co.uk/releases/992764.php>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/aug/11/rabbit-hutches-shops-size-cruelty>

If you would like to know more about the Rabbit Welfare Association and Fund, check out their website at www.rabbitwelfare.co.uk

Open Day – the Result.

“Thank You” to everyone who contributed towards our Open Day this year. We raised a magnificent £10,439-15 after expenses and 1,519 people came along. “Thank You” to everyone again and again, this is our best Open Day result ever!!

“Thank yous” go to the following for donations towards Open Day expenses and gifts for stalls:- **Jane MacSwayne** £100; **Sheila Rear** £10; **Chris King** £10; **Val Perryman** £100 plus Cokes; **Pat & Alan Martin** £80; **Beverly Fagg** purchased tomato ketchup, salt, vinegar and paper plates; **Friend of Janet Laws** purchased Coke; **Emma Nicoll** purchased the chip cones; **Mr. Stanley**, ‘Georgia’, Sylvan Way, Bognor donated 4 big plants & 40 small ones. **Cheryl Thomas** of **Sainsbury**, Farlington for a bottle of wine; **Debbie Webber**, **Morrisons**, Horndean for a £10 store voucher; **Kelly Hinshelwood**, **Co-op**, Wittering for £50 vouchers. Also **Manor Nurseries** for a floral arrangement, Selsey businesses – **Amanda’s Hobbie Hideout** £5 gift voucher; **Village Flowers** £5 Interflora voucher; **The Fruit Basket** for their fruit arrangement; **Enticotts Bakery** £5 voucher; **D & D Fisheries** £10 voucher; **Seales Butchers** £5 meat voucher; **Crafts Patch** £5 voucher; **Pet Pantry** £5 voucher; **Julie’s Hut** £10 voucher; **Rudwicks** £5 voucher; **National Book Tokens** £20; **Brick Kiln** 10% voucher and **Downland Veterinary Groups** for

Health Vouchers. I hope that we have not missed anybody out but, if so “THANK YOU”.

Our massive thanks go to **Rosemary** and **Sarah Clinch** who did, as usual, the most magnificent raffle for us, not only donating most of the prizes but dressing them up so beautifully, the lucky winners couldn’t wait to collect them. The lucky winners were :-

1. £200 vouchers – Sarah Woolrich;
2. Digital Camera – Mrs. S.Martin;
3. Champagne & Glasses – Mrs. Rampton (donated back);
4. Lego Hamper – Susan Harper;
5. Children’s Book Set – S.Mitchell;
6. Man’s Travel Set – S.Martin;
7. Garden Basket – H.Norford;
8. Pimms & Jug Set – S.Harris;
9. BHS Beauty Set – Adam Ramsden;
10. Children’s Beach Set – Mrs.S.Hillyer;
11. Cat Lovers Set – Susie;
12. Student Office Set – John;
13. Ladies Reading Hamper – Sam;
14. Lavender Basket – Mrs. M.Tranter;
15. Chocolate Heaven – Chris Warring;
16. Furry Dog & Chocolates – F.Lucas;
17. Floral Paper Set – Shelley;
18. Tea Time Tray Set – D.Clew;
19. Transformer Plane – Gill Buck;
20. Boxing Grannies – Jenny.

The Auction was a great success again especially with **Ian Stride’s** wonderful offer of a days sailing on his yacht ‘Summertime’ and **Sue Jameson** gave us a “New Tricks” cap which was only available to people on the programme. It was bought by **Mike Jones** who bid £250 and he got a kiss from Sue as a bonus.

Auction	£ 640	Pictures	£209.40
Pennies in Well	£ 7.60	Donation Tins	£125.18
Raffle	£687.76	Buckets & Chutes	£ 37.96
Donation Chute SL	£105.36	Pet Products	£200.40
Gate – Front	£782.76	Gate – Back	£368.65
Refreshments	£857.56	Rabbit Dice	£ 53.00
New Goods	£459.73	Info. Table	£155.14
Cosmetics	£105.72	Plants	£271.81
Tombola	£224.47	Teddy Bears Picnic	£111.50
Flossie & Sooty	£104.00	Sweets in Jar	£ 23.10
Toys/Games/Puzzles	£412.44	Books	£689.70
Clothes	£844.58	Chips	£586.25
Jewellery	£278.10	Bric-a-Brac	£292.20
Bottle Stall	£580.73	Eileen Giles Stall	£269.15
Home Produce	£184.64	Cake Raffle	£ 48.00
Silver Mine	£523.25	Pre-sold Raffle Tickets	£433.50
Donations – Various	£312.50	Owl Fundraising	£ 90.20

Grand Total Collected **£11,075 .90** minus Total Expenses **£636 .75**
 Gives us a GRAND Total of **£10,439.15.**

CRRC Kitten in His New Home.

This lovely picture was sent in by **Lea**, of one of the kittens from CRRC, not long after she adopted him. We think that it is plain for all to see just how well he has settled in at his new home. “Thank You” Lea for letting us see him in his new environment.



Sponsorship Changes.

As usual, detailed on the back of Paws for Thought, is the information about the animals and rabbit enclosures available for sponsoring and, I would like to tell you that this piece of administration has been taken over by **Valerie Deacon**, a long standing supporter of the CRRC. She made the mistake of saying “I wouldn’t mind helping with some admin when I leave work”. Big mistake Valerie, I heard you. Before Valerie knew it, great sheaves of paper headed her way, lots of thoughts and ideas of how to do it best, and she was left amongst it all. She has been great and, hopefully, all should go according to plan. There will undoubtedly be some hiccups but I hope that you will bear with us. We have increased sponsorship to **£15** a year now due to extra costs, mainly postage. We need as much money as possible.

Fund Raising.

Wendy Hodgkin, (known as Wendy Specsavers), has been brilliantly helping **Jan Tunnell** sort the mountain of goods that come in daily and has organised an event at Pagham Village Hall on Sunday, October 17th 11am to 3pm, all in aid of the CRRC. If it has gone by the time this Newsletter arrives on your doormat, I hope it went well, if not, please go along.

Our Hayling Island crowd (**Valerie Beck**, **Kate Hack** and all their **volunteers**) ran a very successful Autumn Fayre and raised **£211.00**. They did it all by themselves and Emma and I were not really involved to any extent, which was fantastic. **Anne Barber** continues to help raise money at numerous events, so things are going well. **Julia Connor** has continued with her market stall in Petersfield and they are doing well for us.

Sponsored Dog Walk – the final amount raised was **£706.20** – “Thank you” to everyone who took part.

Gone to Heaven Animals.

Mica – one of our sponsor cats died unexpectedly and has been replaced on the list by **Lenny Long Legs**, a very tall, slim tabby. Mica, as many will

know, was very friendly but could not be re-homed due to some trauma that caused paralysis some years ago and, although after several months was able to run about and play, had to have her tail removed as the paralysis had caused it to “die” and, she did “leak” but she was extremely happy here. We were struck dumb when she became unwell and, despite the best vet treatment, did not pull through. **Osbert**, the fabulous Tabby, everyone’s friend, who greeted all visitors, had a stroke and it did leave him a bit wobbly but otherwise he was well. Sadly he passed away in the pony shelter. **Nancy**, again a very old lady, had what we thought was an abscess but it was a massive tumour. Unfortunately, we were unable to save her.

It is terribly sad every time one of our friends leaves us but, I feel that we give them a good life while they are here and, we could not love any of them more.

Thank Yous.

Marian Trim regularly sends us the charity bags which are not used and I must admit I see loads of them around the streets, so if you have any spare, we use about 70 bin bags a week, so if there are any going spare, we can always do with them, unless of course you have goods for that particular charity.

Letters from Adopters.

This is a lovely picture of **Pixie**, and the letter that I received from the people who adopted her.

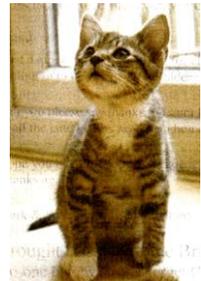
Hello,

Just a quick note to thank you for allowing us to adopt kitten KF65-10 (Pixie) on 4th September. Pixie is really doing well, settling in to our home and our older male cat, **Ted** has also been great with her so she is off to a good start.

Can you please say “thanks” to **Laura** for showing us around and for being very patient with us as we found it hard making a decision, due to all the cute kittens needing a home.

Hope you like the picture of Pixie, it took me ages to get it as she doesn’t keep still for a second.

Mark & Kate Slater (Bedhampton).



Brought back from the brink of death and now writing his autobiography (with a little bit of help). No one here will ever forget **Caellum**, now **Jake**, the road accident victim. His life literally hung by a thread. That was over a year ago now and he goes from strength to strength. This is one of his letters we received in June. (He had to get someone else to take the pictures).

To all my friends at the CRRC.

Thought you might like these photos of me. Aunty **Carol** took them while my mum was visiting her daughter in Boston (U.S.A).



Aunty Carol looks after me beautifully, seeing to

my every need – she’s more like a fairy Godmother! She writes a diary for me so Mum knows what I’ve been up to while she’s away (she has written 16 sides). Mum’s other daughter thinks we should make a book of all the pages. She, (Aunty Carol) even writes a diary when she looks after me for just one day. Well, thank you for having me to stay recently, it was good to see you all.

Love, Jake. X X.

We received a card from **Barry**, one of our adoptees, with this super photograph.

Dear All,

Here I am relaxing in my new home. I have settled in very well, as you can see. My new family love me very much and I get lots of attention. “Thank you” for finding me a new home. Much love from Barry.



Good Samaritan’s Good Deed.

We received a donation of from **£40** from **Jenny Hill**, who was given the money by 2 ladies in distress. Jenny changed their wheel when they had a puncture. We are extremely grateful Jenny and we suspect, so were the 2 ladies. Thanks Jenny.

We also recently received **£60** from **Mr. S. H. Redfearn**, along with the note below. Unfortunately I do not have an address for him so, if anyone knows him, will they pass on our grateful thanks.

To The Cats and Rabbits Care Home,

My son **Alan** and **Carol** are supporters of your caring. I have moved here recently. I, with my family, raised money from car boots and my wife was supporting animals all her life. So on retiring, we were for many years members of Battersea Dogs Home, and later, being involved with raising donations for the RSPCA. Now being of ageing health, I have need to slow down.

I raised the enclosed sum, together with help from my son Alan.

We also received **£1,000** from AMB Jones; **£1,500** from Animal Defence Trust; **£250** from I M Smith and **£200** from P M Hanmore. Thank you all, very much.

Young Artists.

We have some young artists in our midst and this is a copy of a lovely card they sent to us. The note inside, with more pictures, reads as follows:-

To all the staff at The Cat & Rabbit Rescue Centre, I would like to thank you very much for all your hard work at the Open Day on Sunday. I really enjoyed looking around the Centre at the cats and rabbits with my friends.
Love from **Jen Starnes**. X



Beautiful Bunting.

Our thanks go to **Party Packs** who very kindly donated some super bunting for our events and thanks to **Sarah Oddy** for asking them. Seeing the quality of their product I would certainly recommend them. Check out their website at www.partypacks.co.uk or ring 01749 872080.

Jewellery.

We have some great news on the jewellery front. **Valerie** and **Alex Deacon** are still collecting and sorting our wonderful donations and did extremely well at Worthing, raising **£216** for CRRC but we also have a way of making money from the bits we do not sell.

Recycle, Benefit your Environment

Raise Funds for our Charity

Please donate your unwanted Gold, Silver, Costume Jewellery and Watches



We have come up with a simple way for you to help boost the much needed funds of our Charity and benefit your environment. We are running an unwanted Jewellery Recycling Collection. Please donate **any** unwanted jewellery towards this recycling appeal; gold, silver, costume jewellery, watches... Then your unwanted items can be turned into a donation for us.

You can do a full “spring clean” of your jewellery box or just give items you no longer wear. **Even damaged, broken and incomplete items will help; so all the odd earrings and snapped chains are a great start!**

To send your jewellery to us:

Parcel up your jewellery and post, FREE of charge to:-
The Cat & Rabbit Rescue Centre,
FREEPOST
CENTRAL,
RECYCLING.

If you can, please ask your family, friends and colleagues to participate in this Jewellery Recycling Collection.

Why should I recycle? Recycling reduces the demand for raw materials. This means less mining or quarrying. Many parts of the world have been blighted by mining and quarrying which destroys the natural environment and wildlife habitats and can cause environmental and health problems for local people. Recycling is one way in which our community can lessen their usage of resources and help protect the environment. **Everything you give us is turned into cash and put to good use.**

Thank you very much for your support



Vet Bills.

I have always been proud that not only do we help the animals but we are very cost effective in how we do it. One particular bill we are very proud to keep to a minimum is vet bills. This is done by having our own vet facility, buying all the medicines, etc at cost, employing our own vet and contracting our own vet nurse. To give you an idea of how cost effective it is, see the table below. We got all this done for **£30,000** which is amazing.

	Spay	Neuter	Checks	Vaccs.	Myxi.	Microchip	Dental	Misc. Ops.
Sep-Dec 2009	104	77	85	194	32	39	45	10
Jan-Aug 2010	194	122	213	470	45	136	192	15
Total	298	199	298	664	77	175	237	25

We were very grateful to receive **£50** donation from **Penny Culverhouse** towards vet expenses .

With our new facilities we can help more animals , but, we need more money for the increased running costs. Please show the enclosed leaflet to your friends and encourage them to become a “Friend of the CRRC”. That way we can carry on “Helping those who need our help”.

More about Bunnies.

Although we are The Cat & Rabbit Rescue Centre, there has always been an emphasis on the cat, not deliberately, but more people are cat orientated and many are amazed that bunnies are high on the unwanted list. I always keep newspaper cuttings that I think might be useful and this one has been sitting in my tray since 2001! (it’s yellow. Ed). It was in the Weekend Telegraph in the Pet Subjects Section by Celia Haddon. It read: “Be grateful you don’t live with an Angora rabbit. If you want to knit its long hair into a sweater you will have to pluck out the hair daily with your fingers. If not, you will still have to brush it for 20 minutes every day or completely clip it every four to six weeks. If you don’t do this, its fur mats up and tightens into knots with raw skin beneath. Then its bottom gets dirty, flies lay eggs, they turn into maggots which start eating into the living flesh. The poor Angora rabbit is a victim of fashion, a sacrifice to fanciers and a nightmare pet. (I shall be afraid to go to bed at night, I shall see all this over and over, Ed)



Don’t forget, some lion head rabbits also have longer hair than you would think and that furry little bundle could turn out to be something you cannot cope with, the animal suffers and rescues are loathe to take them because of the work and the difficulty of re-homing them.

Thanks again to Brenda and Alan Spires.

Every year an event known as “Pagham on Parade” has the same day as our Open Day and, for some time, we have been lucky enough to get other people to run this event for us. My thanks go to **Brenda** and **Alan Spires** who have done this for us for a few years now and this year did extremely well, raising **£167** for the animals here.

Don’t forget the Plant Sale.

Linda Savage, a long time supporter of the CRRC came up with an idea for next year, probably to be run early May and that is a plant sale, so she will

need all you gardeners to get those plants propagated and get some for this event. Linda will run it and we hope to hire a hall.

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Colin Rose

Toby the Rabbit 2001 – 2010 – his Obituary, by Sandy Clarke.

Toby was born in 2001 of 2 female (Pet Shop description) rabbits and taken to The Rescue Centre later that year. He joined **Stanley** and myself early in 2002. Stanley never accepted that ‘interloper’ and they had to be kept apart for the rest of their lives. Stanley departed to that great hutch in the skies late 2003.

Then there were only the two of us. He soon let it be known that the house, as well as the garden, were for his amusement and thoroughly enjoyed bounding up and down the stairs. It was not that unusual to find him sitting in the middle of the dining room table, the bedroom door had to be kept shut as chewing bedding, clothes or anything else he could get his teeth into was another of his hobbies. He was very good in the toilet department and invariably either took himself outside or let it be known that he wanted to go out to ‘oblige’. I think our bedtime ritual amused some of the neighbours. He always slept in his hutch in the garden. During his Last winter he always had the extra heat of his hot water bottle. He did, in his long life, have a couple of stays in hospital. One vet called him a ‘remarkable rabbit’ and another said that he was ‘unique’. To me he was always this.

Bless his heart, he was an affectionate animal and loved nothing better than either laying on my lap or in my arms, washing me for all he was worth. Another love was for me to rest my thumb between his ears and my fingers under his neck and gently rub either, thumb, fingers or both. By his response it must have been ecstasy. Visitors were viewed as a case for investigation. On one occasion he was so fascinated by a briefcase, he sat in it obviously thinking of chewing the papers it contained. A great favourite at the vets? Yes, he spent a lot of time visiting them. A few weeks ago he developed a massive abscess which was far too dangerous to operate on and, ultimately, it finished him off. Enough to say, not only was I in tears but so too were the vet, the Receptionist and the nurse. Now, instead of laying in his special spot on the garden, he is under it.

God bless you Toby and thank you for being my pal for so long. REST IN PEACE. You certainly deserve it.

With love, **Sandy**.

So far this year, we have taken over 200 kittens and struggled to re-home them, but people still buy them out of the free ads or off the internet. People keep saying that the recession is the cause of all these unwanted pets, what utter rot!! Most people have paid out money for these animals and, a rescue centre is by far the cheapest place to get a kitten, so why oh why are people happy to pay £30 plus for an unvaccinated kitten but do not come to the

rescues? After all, we guarantee to take the animal back if they cannot keep it, for any reason, but most importantly, **THEY SAVE A LIFE.**

I was given this leaflet recently about current vet prices and this is a good comparison.

	cost	Kitten Vaccination course	Spay/ neuter	Micro-chip	Vet Insurance 4 weeks		Total
Advert/ internet	£30	£51	£45	£20	£24		£170
CRRC Minimum donation	£70	Included	Included	Included	Included	Worse Case Scenario if CRRC only Part vaccinated	£95 with a guarantee of returning The cat.

So, why do people choose the expensive route? Is it because they do not think? Can't afford the initial CRRC donation? Kittens don't become ill only when the next pay cheque is in. Don't they think that rescue centres have kittens? Do they think that 2,000 healthy animals should be destroyed daily is perfectly acceptable because they cannot be bothered to wait for the home visit? Or are they just plain stupid?

A Bit of TLC goes a long, long Way.

This is a letter received from **Sadie Burnett.**

Benson has now been with me for a year – one of increasing confidence, trust and affection. It is hard to remember the frightened little cat who hid under the sideboard or who cowered under the furthest corner of the bed in the spare room! Over the past few months he has started to use his voice – a welcome development although at times I could wish to have more patience! He is still a little scared of men and greets most unknown men with a heartfelt hiss – just a warning really, but a little discouraging for well meaning friends and family! He is more welcoming to women and outrageously affectionate to the few he knows. **Meg**, my grand daughter, who works occasionally at CRRC and who persuaded me into adopting him, is one of them and her older brother one of the few men he loves. As for me – he is my constant companion and friend. I didn't change his name – he'd been through enough – and he loves being talked to, being really cuddly (especially at night – in bed, of course) and funny. He has helped me through a spell of ill-health over the winter and I can't imagine life without him.

Thank you so much – I truly believe he is happy.

And we are very happy too Monique.
