



Stumpy, tiny, young and vulnerable, the only survivor of a litter.

of our pens smothering, in particular, a mother and kitten who had struggled for survival previous to the attack.

A noxious mix of Ammonium sulphate and Ammonium bi-phosphate, a powder used to tackle electrical fires, was sprayed into the pen covering food, water, all the bedding and the cats themselves.

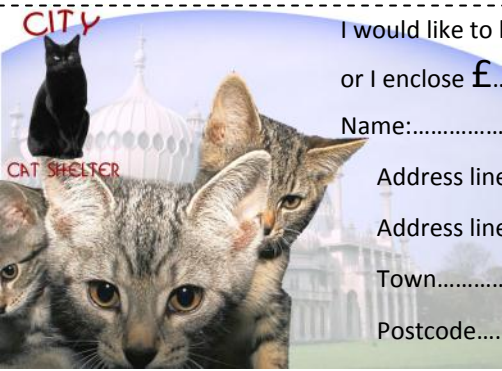
When Sam, went into the cattery to feed in the early morning of 28th October she was horrified to see a carpet of yellow dust in the mother and kittens pen. Soon the realisation of what had happened dawned on us all. I must tell you straight away that the kitten and mum are ok, as were the rest affected by the attack.

Humbling

The flip side of this is the overwhelming solidarity and kindness shown by those that support us. For the next few days a steady stream of people came in, some tearful, all clutching food parcels, blankets and toys for our inmates. We were humbled at the generosity shown and I remain confused that there are so many nasty people and so many decent people but the decent people outweigh the nasty by miles. Thank you all for your wonderful gifts. Go



Just some of the donations given in that fortnight Scratchy post from our you tube



Sometimes I fail to understand what goes on in the world and sometimes what I don't understand comes and hits me in the face.

As a lot of you most likely know

"Cruel, mindless thuggery"

now, the cattery suffered its most heinous attack since we opened some 15 years ago. Someone got into the cattery and released a fire extinguisher into 3

channel and or join our Facebook group page to see Stumpy enjoying his toys.

This year has been full of the usual influx of cats to us with all sorts of stories, we have some kittens that are growing into teenagers and soon will join the others in the main shed unable to find homes thus far. The economic problems faced by all of us are faced by the cattery. Less people are looking for cats and more people are getting rid of them. As people are forced into downsizing or moving to places that don't allow animals or simply can't afford them.

We also support people who need help to get their cats neutered, which, after all the years we have been doing this and knowing others before us that tirelessly battled to get the message on neutering out. Neutering is a huge cost we take on board in order to reduce the number of unwanted animals and every year we neuter roughly the same amount this year around 130 and counting. Our vet, Top Cat in Patcham have devoted some Sundays to us, which we are very grateful for, so we can neuter batches of cats in one go. However, the message seems to get lost and our work continues unabated.



Precious, a bit fed up with all the surgery but safe.

Precious was found nearby, she had her collar caught under her leg and has been in convalescence now for a very long time. The wounds that can be created by collars that don't release can be very serious, and as we

found out a couple of years ago with another of our memorable cats, Rainbow, fatal. She has to have her wound treated on a daily basis to avoid infection and she has patiently allowed us to do this and help her along to recovery. She is also on long-term antibiotics.



The Terrible wound is healing slowly

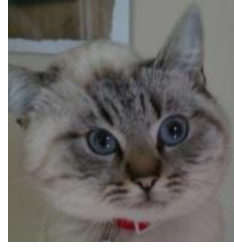


Biscuit photographed in August

One of our saddest cases. Biscuit came to us in the year and was a very pretty and lovely one year old but it was soon understood she had a tumour growing on her head. At the time of writing this she is loved and happy but the lump grows and is a ticking time

bomb for this little bundle. We have brought her into the house, as we do with these types of cases, and allow her to live as well as she can. Enjoying the many tickles she gets from our wonderful volunteers and company it is a very sad sight to see the lump grow.

But we at the cattery firmly believe that these animals deserve their time here as well as anyone



else and until their health deteriorates they will be loved here with the other cats that we find impossible to home.

Final photo: taken the day before she died

Between editing this story Biscuit died. She went quietly and quickly on the 3rd of November. She had found a special place in our hearts as many do.



The "seven Dwarfs" came to us this year, unwanted and black!

Of all the cats we have it is such a mystery that we get left with black cats more than any other. They have just as diverse personalities as other cats and it amazes us on a yearly basis that we can look one day and realise the sheds are pretty much full of black cats. So the journey began with this little lot and we still have four of them left. We also have this huge and lovable adult that is looking for a home. A nice quiet chap who loves tickles and cuddles.



This cat came to us all of a sudden on morning. We got a phone call about a cat that was deaf/blind roaming

Beggars belief

the street. When we arrived it was more likely the case that the cat was the persons who had called us and he simply didn't want to cope with what had happened to his cat. Caused by high blood pressure the 9 year old cat was suddenly whisked away from what he knew into an environment she didn't. it must have been truly terrifying for her. She has settled down and is really sweet and loves tickles and her food (There is nothing wrong with her sense of smell!!!).



Please cut this slip off and return it to:
The City Cat Shelter
14 Ingham Drive
Coldean
Brighton

I would like to become a friend of the City Cat Shelter. Please send a standing order form or I enclose £..... To help with the upkeep of the cattery.

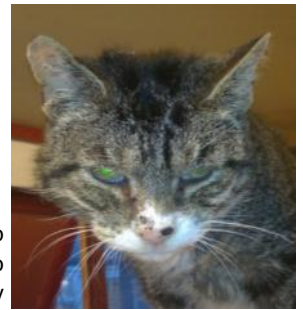
Name:.....
Address line 1.....
Address line 2.....
Town.....
Postcode.....

CITY

iGrip
 Claw clipping for cats
 (01273) 606843
 In your own home

DERRIMAN & HAYNES
ENGRAVERS
 Pet ID tags.
 Memorial
 plaques and
 much more:
 (01273) 509005

Top Cat Veterinary Centre
 01273 504800 - Care for cat & Rabbits
 Catch our "Cat of the Week" on radio Reverb with Nick Coquet, Wednesday morning: Indie and chatter 97.2fm



CAT SHELTER w w w . c i t y c a t s h e l t e r . c o m

But this is what the cattery, particularly ours I think, is all about. As we had to say a very sad goodbye to Biscuit we said hello to Poppy and our efforts simply transfer to other cats and kittens.

Our talented volunteers.



One of the pleasures we get apart from the cats is meeting lots of people from all walks of life. Alex, one of our volunteers occupies himself by being the Home Secretary one week and one of Robin Hoods friends the next, whilst another surprised us by nonchalantly showing us some pictures she had drawn which, quite frankly took me by surprise, they were fantastic!



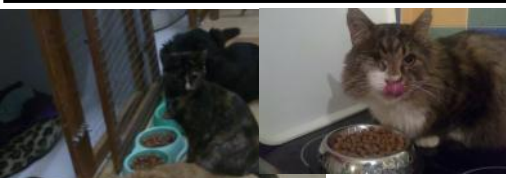
We owe an enormous amount of gratitude to everyone that assists us. Jane and Michael were amazed during the Christmas dinner last year, something they give to the volunteers as a thank you that there were 35 people there, all with an important function to play in the running of the cattery, without whom the cattery would be impossible to run. From our fund-raisers to our daily workers we can't thank you enough. To the donations that come in from time to time from people and those that expound our presence to others a huge thank you from all of us here.

We have food bins in ASDA, Hollingbury and CO OP in Hove and thank them for allowing us to do this and, if you can, please pop a tin or two in with your weekly shop. These bins help us enormously reduce the cost of running the cattery. We spend around £1,000 / month on ancillaries, including food and cleaning materials and anything up to £3,000 a month on vets bills.

We are also very committed to reducing waste and every fortnight the council take away 5 full bin bags of empty tins and the foxes, badger and hedgehogs help themselves to any food waste we have. We use environmentally friendly woodchip litter that goes to the controversial incinerator but hopefully produces some electricity!

We continue to work in partnership with Cat Welfare and Pet rescue and thank them for their assistance towards vets bills. If you can, or know anyone who want to raise money for us, please contact us, if its taking part in the marathon or jumping out of a plane any fund-raising ideas would be great, but if anyone does jump out of a plane, please use a parachute!

Food Glorious Food



Prices are rising and the ability to raise funds dwindling. Unfortunately the hard times are beginning to hit. Having pulled ourselves out of the nose-dive we experienced last year when our reserved had totally run out we still skip along the bottom of the account from month to month. As we continue to assist funding of neutering for those on low income, we help out people who have become ill by keeping their cats here until they are better and pretty much every day there is something that needs our help, either through advice or physical help which means travelling across town sometimes several times a day.



Feeding time in the main shed

along the bottom of the account from month to month. As we continue to assist funding of neutering for those on low income, we help out people who have become ill by keeping their cats here until they are better and pretty much every day there is something that needs our help, either through advice or physical help which means travelling across town sometimes several times a day.



Zoe sculpting with the litter trays

Sponsored Soak!



I have to tell you of the sterling and determined efforts of all those that took part in the Sponsored Walk this year. The weather was much like global fiscal policy—appalling! A brave effort by many as rain lashed and winds howled to complete the 5 mile event and thanks to those who continued to man the stations on the day.

We continue to be a home to the old fuddy duddies and I am not just talking about Jane and Michael! We have a shed with oldies, some feral and some with FIV. They could be found homes but no one wants them. We still have members of a colony retrieved from Lewes 3 years ago. They are happy with each others company and live quietly without want in the "Billy shed" named after my own boy who died of Lily poisoning. A wise word to those, keep poinsettias and other Lilies well away from your cats.



Billy "helping" to build the shed run in 2004

We are trying to get a Facebook page running and hope that new and old owners alike can share stories and experiences with each other. It would be a great way of seeing our cats in their new homes and a place for us to put more immediate news to try and keep people in the picture. If you have any queries for the cattery please continue using the phone as the page is not monitored by Jane and Michael. It can also be a forum for owners to discuss issues, although Jane and Michael aren't overly keen on Facebook and would rather be emailed or phoned about specific issues. We also have a range of cattery videos on my channel on YouTube "Hugbunny" where I put all sorts of other [hopefully] entertaining stuff.

Well the page is all but filled with our news. So enough space to, again, thank the many people who keep the cattery going and that includes you, yes you. The people that keep food donations coming in at ASDA and CO OP, those that help out financially and those that take on cats, especially the more difficult one to cope with, without you we are nothing. Do have the best holiday season you can.



Very grateful indeed just some of this years kittens

JUST LEAVES US TO WISH ALL OUR SUPPORTERS A FUN AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS AS POSSIBLE AND GOOD LUCK FOR THE NEW YEAR.
THE CATTERY TEAM

To save on printing we have our **Turkey fund sponsor** form online. If you can, please print off and distribute for us. "Every little 'elps." as they say..

