

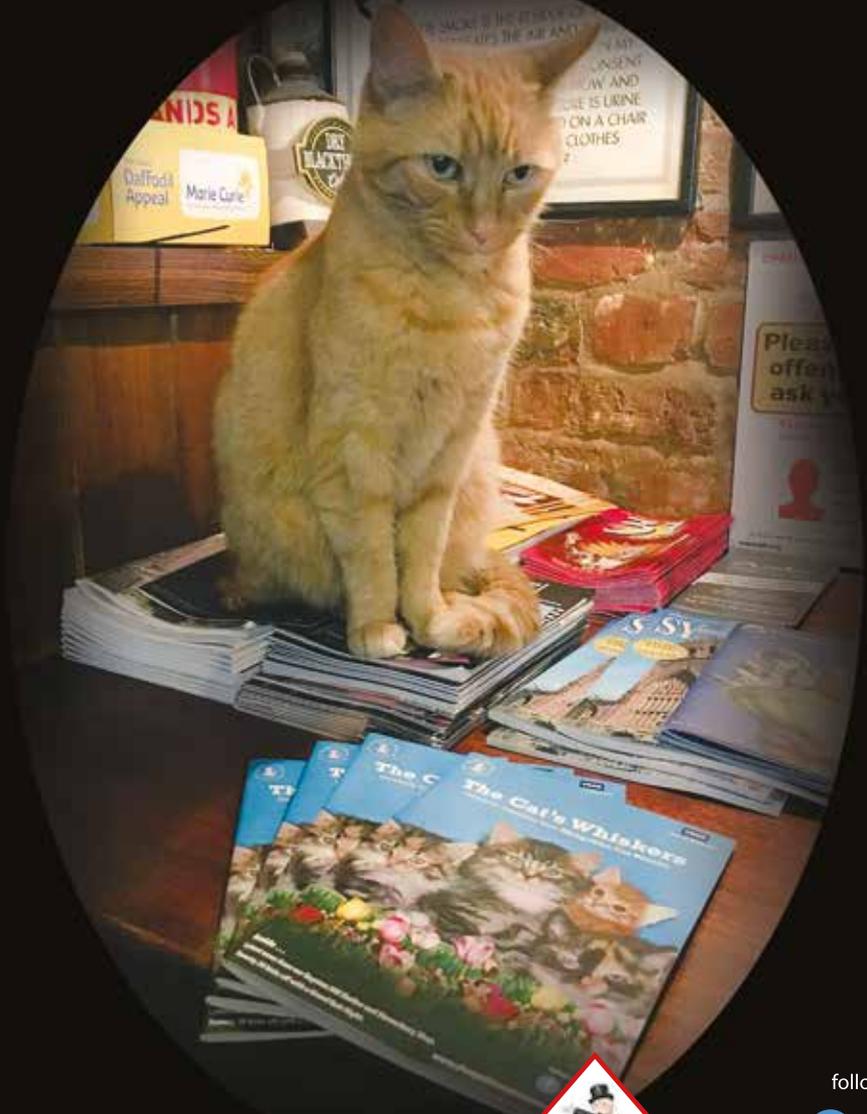


FREE

Issue 127 Autumn 2019

# The Cat's Whiskers

Quarterly magazine from **Shropshire Cat Rescue**



Inside ...

Shropshire Cat Rescue 'passes go' on Shrewsbury Monopoly edition

Latest news from our Bayston Hill Shelter and Shrewsbury Boutique.



follow us on



[www.shropshirecatrescue.org.uk](http://www.shropshirecatrescue.org.uk)

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Disclaimer: The information contained within The Cat's Whiskers we believe to be correct at the time of going to press. No responsibility can be accepted for any errors or omissions. The features in this publication are intended as guidelines only. The businesses and products advertised in this publication are in no way endorsed by the Charity

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# Welcome to the Autumn 2019 edition of The Cat's Whiskers.

Autumn is upon us; I hope you had a great summer. The big news items we are proud to cover in this edition are that Shropshire Cat Rescue will feature in the special Shrewsbury edition of Monopoly. Thank you to all who voted for us. Also, the great news that the Boutique won the Best Dressed Charity Shop Window competition as part of the Shrewsbury Flower Show. Congratulations to Mel Smith, Boutique Manager and Barbara Larkin, Volunteer.

Our cover star is Indie from the Nags Head. Thank you to Susan Marine, SCR Volunteer, for our cover photo. More pictures and a full story from Mel Smith, Boutique Manager, on page 10 inside.

We are, as ever, grateful to all our contributors and supporters.

I hope you enjoy reading the autumn magazine.

David Bates.  
Magazine Editor.

## Advertise your business in The Cat's Whiskers

Published quarterly – March, June, September and December

In June 2017 Shropshire Cat Rescue relaunched its quarterly magazine as a brand new, full-colour glossy magazine. It is full of interesting and informative articles about cat care and the work the Shelter does.

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Contact us NOW to be part of this exciting magazine!

Telephone Marion Micklewright on:

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[www.shropshirecatrescue.org.uk](http://www.shropshirecatrescue.org.uk)

# Shelter News.

By Marion Micklewright, Shelter Manager.

In March 2019 we had an unfortunate outbreak of Ringworm at the Shelter. We isolated the cases and shut down the respective areas and made the decision to cancel our first two open days to ensure that all traces of the infection were gone and unable to be passed onto anyone or anything. The experience left us with low funds, inability to take in and help any cats, and very low morale amongst the shelter staff. To make matters worse, the costs involved in testing and medication were very expensive. Some of our longhaired cats were shaved but luckily the weather wasn't too cold!



We would like to thank Karen's mum and dad for their monetary donation and also Rob, our very own IT guy, who bought us a microscope so that we could set up a mini-lab and start running some of our own tests to save money.

Luckily, we contained the spread of infection and with the assistance of our brilliant volunteers, we scrubbed, sprayed and re-decorated our pens and we have been clear now for several months, but can at least say that we may not be experts but we certainly know an awful lot more than most about Ringworm!





We do so love our Open Days – not only do we get to showcase our cats and kittens, our work and our vision of the future, but we get to meet such wonderful people and sometimes we get to sign them up as volunteers, as was the case with Tracy and Andy who have been visiting our Open Days for years. The couple were keen to give the village a bit of an overhaul and there was no stopping them!

We had to cancel our March visit from Runcorn school, but they joined us again in May and helped make some wonderful stick hobby horses for children to ride on at our Open Days. Of course, the visit wouldn't have been complete if they couldn't ride their horses and get over the jumps without knocking them over!



This year has been our busiest kitten year ever! With over thirty kittens in at a time, our volunteers have had to work extra hard to keep the pens clean and the kittens fed and entertained. Needless-to-say, our Nursery and our pens soon filled up and we have had to purchase additional temporary pens to erect in our staffroom.

In addition to all the kittens in the shelter, I have been caring for a delightful bundle of fluff who has been named Buzz (after Buzz Aldrin).



Buzz was found on a pavement with the placenta still attached; we can only think that the mother must have been disturbed whilst giving birth and poor Buzz literally fell out onto the pavement (but of course this could be anyone's guess). Buzz was brought to the shelter at one day old and at the time of writing is four weeks old – he has changed remarkably in that time and after Rachael took him home for a couple



of nights to give me some much needed rest, we have become his two mums. There is currently a lot of pressure from all who have met Buzz that we should keep him – but we shall have to see about that.

We now have two new friends residing at Windy Ridge – Lilly and Blossom, two cute Kunekune piglets.





## SHREWSBURY EDITION



Shropshire Cat Rescue was the first to be revealed as 'Passing Go' on the brand-new Shrewsbury Monopoly edition. The Charity will get to star on a Community Chest space when the game is unveiled in November. With no price tag on the Monopoly Community Chest spaces then it means the charity will be as priceless in the Shrewsbury Monopoly game as in real life!

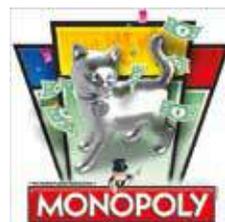
Shropshire Cat Rescue will be one of several that will feature on the board – the others will be announced at the game's launch. The new game should hit the shops in time for Christmas.

Margaret Lloyd, Trustee of the charity, said: "We are delighted that the legacy of Shropshire Cat Rescue's work in the community is to be recognised and immortalised in the Shrewsbury Monopoly game. "A huge thank you to everyone who voted for us."

The Shrewsbury Monopoly edition will feature more than 30 of the town's landmarks which will replace the famous London Monopoly

streets like Mayfair and Park Lane. Some of the cards will be themed too. Also, amongst the tokens is one of a cat. The makers of the new official game have extended their congratulations. "A huge congratulations to the Shropshire Cat Rescue charity, who proved very popular in the voting – and many thanks to everyone who voted," says Jake Houghton, Custom Games Executive at Winning Moves UK, makers of the game under official licence from Hasbro. "They will get to feature on a Community Chest space – we feel this is an appropriate position in the game, with them being such an integral and very big part of the Shrewsbury community. The game will feature the great and the good of Shrewsbury".

*This is an abridged version of an article that appeared on [www.Shropshirelive.com](http://www.Shropshirelive.com)*



## Pleased to meet you...

By Karen Wainwright Volunteer.

I have been a volunteer at Shropshire Cat Rescue since 2012. I started by cleaning and feeding all the adorable moggies in The Retirement Village. I volunteer with the Monday morning crew and have made some wonderful friends together with those who I have met at our open days.

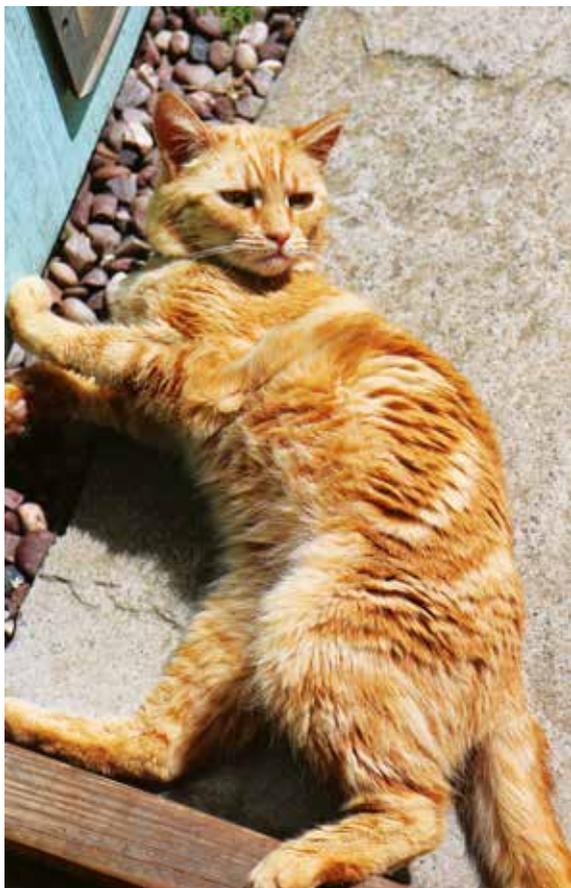
I enjoy spending time with the cats at the shelter and they have helped me to improve my own health for which I will always be grateful. I have two rescue cats myself who earlier this year reached the age of thirteen. My life would not be the same without cats and if I could, I would adopt them all!

I was lucky enough to witness the birth of some kittens for the first time one Christmas a few years ago and it was amazing to see.

As a volunteer:

- I keep the Shelter's database up to date with photos of all of our new arrivals.
- I am the Distribution and Accounts Officer for this magazine which includes invoicing businesses who advertise in the magazine.
- I create memorial stones for all the moggies we have lost which involves painting an image of their face on a stone together with their name.

Finally, I enjoy taking photographs of the moggies and to be able to share them on Facebook and a colleague forwards them on to other social media sites such as Twitter.



*Photograph by Karen Wainwright.*

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# Indie, never forgotten.

By Mel Smith, Shrewsbury Boutique Manager.

When Indie's previous owners moved away, Russell Preece owner of the Nags Head in Shrewsbury, was only too happy to take her on. She frequented the pub regularly anyway so it seemed right that she should move in.

For nearly 10 years Indie would often be seen wandering around the streets of Wyle Cop and beyond and was very much part of the Shrewsbury community. Loved by many she would pop into shops on the Cop, Severn Hospice, Feather and Black, The Lion Hotel, to name a few, and say hello or find a comfy place to have a nap, usually in the shop windows.



She was a real character and a very popular cat so when she was chased by a dog that slipped its lead and killed her in her own garden, hundreds were devastated. Indie



had her own Facebook page which was inundated with messages of sadness and condolences when





Indie's death became widely known. All at the Nags Head were so overwhelmed by the response to her death they decided to have a memorial event especially for her. Russell, Julie, Jen Dobbs the manager and all the bar staff created a wonderful day on Sunday 25th April in Indie's memory with food and local bands playing at her resting place in the garden of the Nags Head. Alice Small and Tracy

Morris decided to do a raffle and were given an abundance of raffle prizes from all the businesses on Wyle Cop and Shrewsbury town. They wanted to raise money for a bench to be put in the garden in Indie's memory and to donate to Shropshire Cat Rescue with the remaining proceeds.

They raised close to a whopping £1000! It was a very special day and Shropshire Cat Rescue are grateful for the very generous donation of £750. Thank you so much to everyone that contributed.

Indie will be sadly missed by so many, not only by all at the Nags Head and local shops but by the general public that she greeted on the streets of Shrewsbury. Rest in peace Indie, we will never forget you, you will always be in our hearts.



*Photographs supplied by Mel Smith, Boutique Manager.*

# Say cheese!

By Susie Phillips, Registered Veterinary Nurse and Volunteer.

Brushing your cat's teeth will reduce plaque and tartar and it will help increase gum health and reduce bad breath.



You can start from any age. Starting when you first take your kitten home will mean they will get used to teeth brushing quicker as kittens will still be learning and susceptible to new things. As your cat gets older it will generally take longer to introduce teeth brushing but it's still achievable so don't give up. If your cat has had a dental procedure, wait a few days after before introducing and recommencing brushing their teeth.

What equipment should I use? Use cat products only. Some cat toothbrush sets have a "finger brush". These are not always safe for you to

use as they are thin, and the cat may inadvertently bite you. Only use specific animal toothpaste. Human toothpaste has fluoride in which could cause toxicity if they swallow it and the foaming agents can cause gastritis. Choose the toothpaste flavour you think your cat will like they come in chicken, beef, fish or mint, yum!

## How to brush your cat's teeth using our step by step guide.

**Step 1** - Take your time and let your cat dictate the speed of progress from step to step. It may take days or weeks to get to the final stage but it's worth it as it will mean your help can improve your cat's dental health and reduce the risk of dental disease.

**Step 2** - Offer toothpaste on your finger, if not interested after few times then you can place a small amount on their nose. They will then clean it off and get used to the taste and may then start to lick off your finger.

**Step 3** - Spread your hand palm over the top of their head, wrap your second finger and thumb around their cheeks and raise your index finger so not to block or cover their eyes. Place their back towards you so they are less able to move away from you.



**Step 4** - Once in position gently lift their head up and slowly lift their upper lip with your thumb and the lower lip with your other hands thumb.



**Step 5** - Carefully start to hold your cat regularly throughout the day so they get used to being held in that way over the next few days.

**Step 6** - Introduce a cotton bud with toothpaste on starting at the back in

circles and moving gently forwards, so they get used to the feeling. If the cat lifts their paws to stop you, keep going with just the holding step so they get used to it more and then move back onto this step.

**Step 7** - Slowly introduce the toothbrush to them whilst holding them place the toothpaste onto the brush to increase acceptance.

**Step 8** - Then finally start brushing initially for 10 seconds and increase to 30-45 seconds.

Don't panic if the gums bleed a little initially as the gums improve in health with the brushing this will stop.

*Susie Phillips is a Registered Veterinary Nurse and has completed the ISFM Advanced Diploma in Feline Behaviour. Susie has volunteered for Shropshire Cat Rescue with her mum for over 5 years and loves it.*

*Photographs of Freddie and Pippin by Susie Phillips.*



# Village Life.

By Karen Wainwright, Volunteer.

I would like to introduce you to some residents who have not previously appeared in 'Village Life'.



## **Mindy** (Dark Tortie)

A beautiful little girl who is 16 years old. Mindy arrived at the Retirement Village in March 2019. She was part of a multi cat admission to the Shelter and is very affectionate.



## **Kitty**

Kitty is a cute ginger cat that we did manage to rehome but sadly she had to be returned because she was being picked upon by other cats in her area. Kitty is 14 years old with a grade 2 – 3 heart murmur. She is very friendly and if given the chance would be on your lap.



## **Barbara** (Black) & **Doris** (Tabby)

Both Barbara and Doris arrived at the Shelter in July 2019.

Barbara is 17 years old, is a nervous cat she only wants to stay in the cat carrier. Doris is also 17 years old and has a very outgoing personality. She is eager to make friends with everyone who enters the village. She was very popular with our visitors at the open day at the beginning of July.



*Photos by Karen Wainwright*

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## A big THANK YOU!

To ... Volunteer Ruth Saunders. Ruth raised £83.50 selling Shropshire Cat Rescue goods at the 'Eat on the Street' event held in July at The Parade Shops, Bayston Hill, Shrewsbury.

*Photograph by Ruth Saunders.*



*Nigel Thomas at 'Eat on the Street'*

To ... Volunteers Cressida and Ben Paige. Shropshire Cat Rescue were delighted to be asked to provide a scarecrow for the Oakmeadow School Scarecrow Trail in June. Cressida and Ben Paige "created" the superb Marmaduke who sadly got a good soaking due to the inclement weather.

*Photograph supplied by Marion Micklewright.*



To ...our fabulous Shropshire Cat Rescue fundraising team who organised a quiz held on Friday 7th July at the Unison Club, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury. It was well attended and expertly hosted by Quiz Master Carol Witherow. The questions were fairly tough, and it was a closely fought competition, but in the end Team Puss in Boots, led by Lorraine Fletcher, were worthy winners! As well as the quiz there was also a quick game of

True or False? which was won by Margaret Lloyd.

Overall it was a fun night and most importantly a whopping £400 was raised for the Big PURR Project!

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event, the fabulous bar staff who kept everyone well hydrated, the generous donations to our raffle, Carol for taking charge of the proceedings, Paul O'Callaghan who compiled the questions and our hardworking fundraising team: Carol Beels, Mandy Lloyd-Butler, Julie Kampler and Daphne Owen.

# How to sponsor Shropshire Cat Rescue

## Sponsor a Cat - £12 a year



**Pickle** moved into the Retirement Village in 2016 at the age of 10. She is tabby and white.



**Titch** is an elderly stray who came to live in the Retirement Village in February 2013. She is black and white and blind, but she still enjoys a good life.



**Annwyn** is a 12 month old tortoiseshell and white female. She now lives at the Shelter and has put herself in charge of vermin control.



**Mandy** moved into the Retirement Village in October 2014. She is a blue Chinchilla Persian with lots of character.

## Sponsor the Rabbits and Guinea Pigs - £15 a year



There are seven hutches and a large enclosure for the rabbits and guinea pigs. The rabbits are neutered and vaccinated. Some are rehomed whilst others are cared for at the Shelter.

## Sponsor the Nursery - £25 a year



The Nursery was built in 2011 from a grant by Support Adoption for Pets. There are seven pens for pregnant and nursing females and two incubators for orphans.

# How to sponsor Shropshire Cat Rescue

## Sponsor the Moggies Retirement Village - £50 a year



The Moggies Retirement Village was built in 2010 and is currently home to over 25 elderly cats.

## Sponsor the Shelter - £100 a year



The Shelter was built in 1999 and has continued to grow. We have 13 free ranger cats, 25 cats in the Retirement Village plus up to 122 cats and kittens waiting for homes.

## Your sponsorship or your gift

Pickle	<b>£12</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your sponsorship begins on the first of the month following receipt of payment and lasts for 12 months.</li> </ul>
Mandy			
Titch			
Annwyn			
Rabbits and guinea pigs	<b>£15</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You will receive a Sponsorship Certificate, plus an information sheet about your chosen sponsorship package, one or more photographs and an annual update to keep you in touch.</li> </ul>
The Nursery	<b>£25</b>		
The Moggies Retirement Village	<b>£50</b>		
The Shelter	<b>£100</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In addition to the above you will also receive 4 editions of The Cat's Whiskers Magazine</li> </ul>
<b>TOTAL PAYABLE</b>		<b>£</b>	

Please return the form and a cheque, made payable to **Shropshire Cat Rescue, to Shropshire Cat Rescue, Windy Ridge, Lyth Hill Road, Bayston Hill, Shrewsbury, SY3 0AU.**

More information about our sponsorship packages can be found online at **[www.shropshirecatrescue.org.uk](http://www.shropshirecatrescue.org.uk)**

# How to sponsor Shropshire Cat Rescue



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Surname:	
Tel:	
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Gift Aid is reclaimed by the Shropshire Cat Rescue from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

## How you can help us

Not everyone can adopt a cat but there are lots of ways you can support the work we do at the Shelter.

You can find out about our sponsorship packages on **pages 19 and 20**, visit us online at **www.shropshirecatrescue.org.uk** or contact Marion Micklewright at the Shelter on **01743 872857**.



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The quarterly magazine can be sent to you by post for a minimum donation of £5 for 4 editions. This covers the cost of postage and packaging. You can subscribe online at [www.shropshirecatrescue.org.uk](http://www.shropshirecatrescue.org.uk) or contact Cindy Mason-Morris at the Shelter on **01743 872857**.

## Leaving a Legacy

If you would like to remember Shropshire Cat Rescue, please write us into your Will and register it with your solicitor; that way you can rest assured that you are going to make a real difference to the lives of many cats. Ask your solicitor to record our charity name "Shropshire Cat Rescue" and number (No. 1071884) or contact the Shelter if more information is required.



# Quiz Night

In aid of Shropshire Cat Rescue

**Thursday 12th September, 7.30pm at**

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## **Keep the date free**

Our last Quiz of 2019 will be held on Thursday 5th December at The Shrewsbury Club, Sundorne Road, SY1 4RG at 7.30 pm, £5 per person, maximum of 6 people per team. Please contact Carol as above.

For more information and details of other forthcoming fundraising events please see our website [www.shropshirecatrescue.org.uk](http://www.shropshirecatrescue.org.uk)



## **Adopting or caring for an elderly cat.**

By Susie Phillips, Registered Veterinary Nurse and Volunteer.

It's a very sad truth that elderly rescue cats struggle to find homes. This is often because people either don't know how to care for them, worry about the costs of taking them in and because many prefer to rescue a fluffy new kitten.

So what do you need to think about if you are considering offering a forever home to an older cat?

**Mobility.** Older cats can have Osteoarthritis which affects the cat's mobility. It is important to consider the design and positioning of litter trays. There should be a litter tray on every level and use sand or very fine grit that is clumping as this is gentle on the paws. Larger types of litter will cause issues for a cat with osteoarthritis to walk on and they

may find it uncomfortable or painful so may not use the litter tray. The tray also needs to be accessible. So you could use a large seed tray or a large plastic box with the side cut down so only 4-5cm deep for the cat to step into the tray. If going outside think about creating a private toileting area close to the entry/exit from the house. Some cats like to have access to higher surfaces, so provide extra steps so they can get onto window sills and seats.

**Eating and Drinking.** Use raised bowls by placing them on a platform that lifts them so the cat doesn't have to bend or crouch down to eat or drink. This will help if they have osteoarthritis or painful joints. Ensure there are drinking areas



on every floor and these are kept topped up. As cats get older they can increase their need for water, for various reasons. Some cats, due to their mobility, may go out less so therefore will be finding water sources indoors and drinking less outside.

**Exercise.** Older cats may not be able to use a vertical scratch post so offer alternatives like horizontal scratch pads. You will need to ensure that you check their claws. As cats get older they are more likely to need their claws clipping to prevent them growing into their pads as they are less able to keep them short naturally. Older cats still have desire to play but it will be for shorter bursts. They still need the opportunity to engage in play, and rod or stick toys are good to use. You can join in with the play and keep it to a level that suits the cat.

**Health and wellbeing.** Take your cat for regular check-ups to senior nurse clinics. They will check their blood pressure, oral health and mobility levels, which can be monitored, so any signs of deterioration can be addressed early on. Try to introduce teeth cleaning, although if you are not able to do this, there are other options like mouth washes you can add to water, dental treats or powders.

An older cat can be a fantastic companion, you just need to make a few adaptations to make their life as comfortable as possible.

*Susie Phillips is a Registered Veterinary Nurse and has completed the ISFM Advanced Diploma in Feline Behaviour. Susie has volunteered for Shropshire Cat Rescue with her mum for over 5 years and loves it.*



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# The Big PURR Project

By Marion Micklewright, Chairman

The Big Plan for Ultimate Rescue Relocation (PURR) Project aims to raise £2 million to create an exciting new centre near Shrewsbury to encourage education, community activities, leisure, tourism and animal welfare, to benefit the whole community.

In this edition we feature “A Place to stay!” We are hoping that we will be able to afford a large enough house that will have numerous bedrooms to enable us to offer B&B to students and supporters alike who may wish to pay a nominal fee to stay at our shelter and have a “hands-on” experience with all the animals in our care. Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards expect students to stay away from home and offer volunteering support to a charity or organisation – this would be a good opportunity to attract help for more “demanding” projects. You can read more about our Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme on page 34.

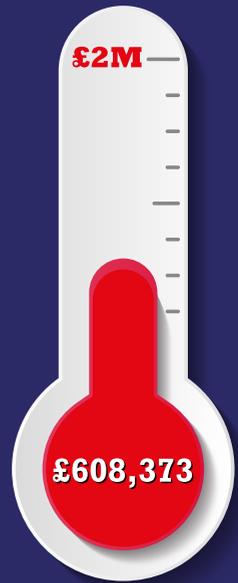
The detailed planning for all aspects of the Big PURR Project continues as the Charity aims to reach £2m to fund this ambitious plan.

Since the Summer edition of the magazine we have raised a further

£50,871. You can donate to the Big PURR Project in many ways. Please go to page 20 to see how you can help us achieve our target.

Also, another way you can help Shropshire Cat Rescue achieve our Big PURR goal is to leave us a gift in your will. If you haven’t already written a will please follow this link which will take you to Active Wills and make your will for **FREE** today.

[www.activewills.com/charity/shropshire-cat-rescue](http://www.activewills.com/charity/shropshire-cat-rescue)





## Helping Hands from Tesco

By Marion Micklewright, Chairman

# TESCO

Tesco's Community Project group comprising of Rachel Benson, Rachel Owen, Maria Worthington, Stewart Summers and Tom Penlington, all from the Shrewsbury store brought warm, sunny weather to the shelter when they volunteered for the day. They were a welcome sight bringing various materials, smiling faces and a generous helping of time to a very proactive day.

*Pictures supplied by Marion Micklewright.*



# Shropshire Cat Rescue Boutique



Open Monday to Saturday 9am to 5pm

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3 Roushill Bank, Shrewsbury, SY1 1PN



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## Afternoon Tea at Shropshire Cat Rescue.

By Marg Lloyd, Trustee and Volunteer

In July 2019 and for the third consecutive year, Shropshire Cat Rescue hosted an Afternoon Tea for the two Shrewsbury groups of 'Contact the Elderly'.

Contact the Elderly is an organisation that arranges monthly Sunday afternoon tea parties for small groups of people aged 75 and over, who live alone, offering a regular and vital friendship link every month, supported by a network of volunteers. The organisation, a registered charity, has been in existence for over 40 years.

Our thanks go to Alison Jones, @LaBonneParis1 for her delicious scones and Kath, @Crescent\_Cakes for her gorgeous cupcakes and bara brith (our friends on Twitter who are always willing to donate and help us).

Our sincere thanks also to Sandra Harris @ButtonburyCraft and Suzanne Masters @snoopysue71 who were once again only too willing to assist us in setting the scene for this happy event with Sandra also kindly providing her late mother's vintage tablecloths.

Food and refreshments were provided by Susan Marine and Marg Lloyd while Marion Micklewright furnished some lovely flower arrangements.



Some of our guests visited the cats and kittens in the Meet and Greet room, nursery and pens. Meanwhile, others enjoyed the Moggies Retirement Village, the pygmy goats, pigs, Shetland ponies, chickens, ducks and guinea pigs, spending time with the cats in the Village and then returning to the seats on the lawn to chat with their fellow guests and volunteers.



Everyone enjoyed themselves and all were presented with a 'goody bag'. Jo, one of the volunteer drivers, also took 'a goody bag' to take to the lady in hospital as she was going to visit her that evening.

If you would like to volunteer as an afternoon tea host or driver please contact:

**hayley.stokes@contact-the-elderly.org.uk** or visit

**www.contact-the-elderly.org.uk**

*Photographs supplied by Marg Lloyd.*



# Christmas is coming ...

The 2020 Shropshire Cat Rescue calendar will be available soon at the Shropshire Cat Rescue Boutique, Roushill Bank, Shrewsbury and from the Rescue Shelter, Lyth Hill Road, Bayston Hill, Shrewsbury. Alternatively, you can order a calendar directly from Anji Smith at shropshirecatrescuephotos@yahoo.co.uk. Anji Smith will arrange for a calendar to be posted at cost.

The 2020 calendar is bigger and better than in previous years. There are two extra features for 2020 - a page (two sided) for notes and an extra month (January 2021) - both features that customers have said they would find useful according to feedback received. It comes with a sturdy envelope.

Our price has been held again for 2020!

The calendar is priced at £5.

(plus, postage and packing if you need it posted)

Thank you to Anji Smith for her continued efforts producing our fabulous calendar.





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Sat 9.00am-12 noon



*Happy to support Shropshire Cat Rescue*

## Shrewsbury's best dressed charity shop window.

By Elayne Bates, Volunteer.

Shrewsbury is famously known for the annual Shrewsbury Flower Show. The origins of the Flower Show and its organisers, the Shropshire Horticultural Society, can be traced back over 140 years. The Flower Show takes place in the Quarry, a picturesque park in the heart of Shrewsbury, with The Dingle, a sunken garden, providing a magical centrepiece. The Show welcomes thousands of visitors with a stunning array of floral attractions, shopping, crafts, food hall and entertainment for all ages culminating in a world class firework display to bring the Show to a close on both nights.

As part of this year's 132nd show, the town's retailers have once again been invited to take part in the annual Midlands News Association Shop Window Competition. Here at Shropshire Cat Rescue we are not known to turn down a challenge, so Boutique Manager, Mel Smith, entered the Boutique in the Charity Shop category.



Mel, assisted by Volunteer Barbara Larkin, dressed the window to reflect the Flower Show, and wow, what a window! All of the goods in the window had been donated by Shropshire Cat Rescue customers and volunteers.

The window had to be 'dressed' and ready for judging from Monday 29th July until Saturday 2nd August. The Judges were Peter Bettis from

Shrewsbury Business Chamber, Beverley Thompson senior account manager from the Shrewsbury Chronicle/Shropshire Star and Andrew Cross from the Shropshire Horticultural Society along with organiser Laura Wilde from Salop Leisure. The judges made an unannounced visit to the Boutique and Shropshire Cat Rescue were awarded Category 3 (Charity Shops). Many congratulations to Mel and Barbara.

The judges were impressed with the standard of entries and enjoyed a couple of hours taking in the windows before making the tricky decision to pick the winners. Mr Bettis said: "I thought the windows were wonderful and was really very impressed with the number of people that participated. The theme was the Flower Show and the efforts that people had gone to was great. The charity shops were particularly good, as they always are, and had really used their imagination."

Laura Wilde, from Salop Leisure, said: "We had a fabulous amount of entries this year which was great to see so many shops getting involved. The judges were really impressed with the efforts that had gone into the displays



*Photographs supplied by Marg Lloyd and Mel Smith.*

### **Visit our Boutique on Roushill Bank, Shrewsbury.**

We have more preloved items arriving every day. The shop is located on Roushill Bank which is between Lloyds Bank and Caffè Nero at the bottom of Pride Hill, Shrewsbury.

We are open Monday to Saturday 9:00am to 5:00pm. and closed on Sunday

You can contact us on:  
**01743 236222**

Follow us on

 [ShropshireCatRescueCharityBoutique](#)

 [@SCR\\_Boutique](#)

 [shropshirecatrescue](#)



## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

By Tracy Frampton, DofE and Student Volunteer Officer.

Wow... What a busy few months we have had. Kitten season has hit Shropshire Cat Rescue at full force and everyone on the shift has fallen head over heels for one kitten or another. We have fed them, bathed them, dried them and played with them, and their energy is never ending, and with the new addition of the piglets! "Well I don't think I have had a shift with so many ooo's and arrrhhh's before."

Our tasks on the DofE shift aren't just confined to cats. We also look after the many farm animals that live on site and one of my young volunteers, Jayde, has been teaching others to groom the ponies and the goats, a task she does with ease. She also takes the ponies out every week, she also takes the ponies out every week with her Mum on long walks in her spare time. I have a passionate young lady by the name of Cloe who loves guinea pigs and has promised that she will show us how to groom and handle them confidently.

You see even though I oversee the shift it doesn't mean I know everything about every animal we care for, many of my students have so much knowledge and previous experience with animals and the



*Photographs by Liz Derby – Sunday Assistant Shift Leader.*

fact that they are willing to share with others is something I always encourage. I have students who are studying animal care and Veterinary nursing, so most weeks I am being asked or told of something they read about and want to know if we do this or do that. It's wonderful to see such bright minds having the confidence to speak up and wanting to share what they know. Our shift is a forever revolving door of volunteers, so training is a weekly task and one that everyone embraces and never tires of.

As always, I am proud of my shift and all of those who come, go and stay to make the shift a success.

*More information about the DofE award can be found at [www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org) or contact the Rescue Shelter on 01743 827857.*

# Who's Who at Shropshire Cat Rescue.

Shropshire Cat Rescue is a Registered Charity (number 1071884). The charity was established in 1998 and is proud to have Virginia McKenna and Jim Hawkins as Patrons.

You can contact the Shelter on **01743 872857** and the Shropshire Cat Rescue Boutique (3 Roushill Bank, Shrewsbury, SY1 1PN) on **01743 236222**. You can write to the Shelter Manager, Shropshire Cat Rescue, Windy Ridge, Lyth Hill Road, Bayston Road, Shrewsbury, SY3 0AU or email **info@shropshirecatrescue.org.uk**

Chairman..... Marion Micklewright  
Trustees..... Dianne Beaumont, Gill Bowler, Marg Lloyd, Ola Trillo  
Accounts Manager.....Suzanne Dolphin  
Boutique Manager .....Mel Smith  
Duke of Edinburgh Officer .....Tracy Frampton  
Facebook.....Pat Piggott  
Fundraising.....Gill Bowler  
Gift Aid Officer .....Marg Lloyd  
Legacies Officer.....Peter Kampler  
Outreach.....Julie Kampler  
Shelter Manager ..... Marion Micklewright  
Social Media Officer.....Dianne Beaumont  
Sponsorship .....Cindy Mason-Morris  
Twitter .....Susan Marine @SCR\_Boutique and @bigPURRproject,  
Marg Lloyd @ShropsCatRescue  
Website Design ..... Jem Turner

## Who's Who at the magazine.

Magazine Editor..... David Bates: waltonbarns@zen.co.uk  
Magazine Advertising.....Marion Micklewright: info@shropshirecatrescue.org.uk  
Magazine Co-ordinator ..... Susan Marine: susanmarine000@gmail.com  
Magazine Assistant .....Heather Acheson  
Magazine Distribution & Accounts Officer..... Karen Wainwright  
Magazine Subscription.....Cindy Mason-Morris



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