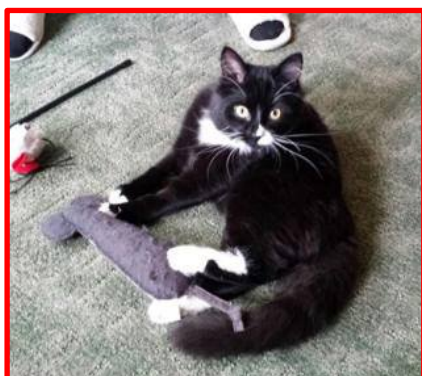
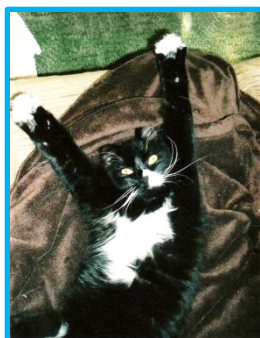


Tails to Tell



Mono, a semi-longhaired black & white boy came to our attention aged 6 months when his owners took him to a local vet for treatment following an accident. As a lively kitten they had been finding it difficult to manage his boisterous nature whilst living in an upstairs flat. His growing curiosity had got him into trouble once too often when he fell from a balcony onto scaffolding and fractured his hip.

His family reluctantly asked us to take him in for rehoming and following successful surgery to his ball & socket joint, Mono was placed in foster care, with the vet advice that exercise was the best therapy for recovery. This was very fortunate because this chap does not keep still! Within a couple of days he was up and running, literally, with little thought for his recovering leg. He would play and explore his new home until tiredness and then sleep took over. During the course of the following 6 to 8 weeks



he was re-checked by the vet, had his vaccinations brought up to date and given the all clear.

In the security of his foster home he grew; his personality developed and

he became healthy and strong again. He is very intelligent, hugely inquisitive and loves to please. Initially we thought he may never be able to jump and would therefore need to be confined to a garden. He is now jumping well and if anything looks too difficult, he will work out a way to manage the height eg. climbing the curtains!

His fosterer, Angela reported, "He plays for hours, collects letters from the doormat, chases insects, steals dishcloths from the kitchen sink – anything to get your attention!"



Mono on one of his daily trips to collect the post from the doormat!

Very happily we soon found Mono a new forever family where he has made himself completely at home. There are children to play with, a glorious garden to explore and better still, we were able to match him with a young female cat companion called Izzy who we rehomed to the family shortly afterwards. Mono, or Sylvester, as he has been renamed, follows Izzy everywhere and they are the best of friends.



Sylvester (left) and Izzy (right) enjoying time together in the garden sunshine

Review of our Branch Summer Fayre



Our first ever Branch Summer Fayre held in the Ash Victoria Hall in early July was a great success, raising £1,811 on the day itself; with £352 of that from our special "Family Attractions" Silent Auction. We continued the Silent Auction a couple of weeks later in our charity shops raising an additional £504, bringing the grand total to an amazing £2,667.

The event was a real Branch team effort with many volunteers and staff willing to do "their bit" to help. For weeks beforehand our shops were collecting suitable donations for our merchandise stalls or prizes in our Tombolas, and other fundraising stalls. Many of our Ash Vale customers did us proud by donating loads of items for our "Bottle, Tin & Allsorts" tombola, from packets of gravy to bottles of bubbly.

Our "Paws-A-While" Café did very well selling refreshments, freshly made rolls & homemade cakes to eat there or takeaway.



Cakes Galore, baked by our volunteers

We would like to thank the organisations who so kindly and generously donated such a variety of prizes in support of our Silent Auction, further details of which are on our website.

Finally we would like to thank everyone who played a part in its success – customers, donors and staff.

Special Rehoming Appeal



DO YOU HAVE A PLACE IN YOUR HEART FOR



WHIMSEY AND JENKINS, two gorgeous young boys who are desperate to find their forever home. And we are desperate to find it for them!

These lovely 11 month old brothers have been with us since they were 5 months old, meaning they have been living in a cattery pen for most of their short lives. Usually we would place cats this young into a foster home, but when they came to us they were not litter trained and unable to eat without fighting and growling at everyone including each other. Poor boys had begun life in a multi-animal household with no attention or handling and insufficient food to go round.

With the regular routine of the cattery and input from our Cat Cuddlers, ensuring they have human interaction, affection and playtime, they have learnt to be well behaved. Unfortunately the legacy of those early months is that they are still nervous with people. They are however gentle, will play all day with toys, and seem to like other cats. Also to our knowledge they have never been outdoors and for two such active cats, who are fully vaccinated, neutered and microchipped, it's a terrible shame.

They really need a patient, experienced cat family without a dog or very young children, to show them how nice people and a home environment can be and possibly even the company of a placid, friendly cat to teach them what being a domestic pet is all about!

Do you have space in your home and heart for them? If not, please help spread the word to friends, family, etc. to help find their perfect home. Any enquiries should be to Geraldine on 07880 547 502.

Hospitality from our Cattery Friends



On 29th June some of our Branch volunteers and trustees were pleased to attend a special lunch laid on by Bowenhurst Kennels & Cattery proprietor, Penny Wollen and her staff.

We have been fortunate to have a partnership with Bowenhurst, whereby they provide us with a number of dedicated cat pens for our strays. These pens are in a self-contained area, separate from the main public boarding pens and the service staff provide is to care for the cats, seeing to all their daily needs, for which we pay a daily rate per cat. Our own Volunteer Cat Cuddlers each spend an hour or two every day giving them companionship and play-time which helps to socialise them and keep them active and stimulated. A large percentage of our rehoming is done directly from Bowenhurst's premises, where prospective adopters can visit by appointment only.

On the day we were able to sit in the sunshine and enjoy a sumptuous ham and cheese Ploughman's lunch and lots of homemade cake, all made by the staff in their spare time. It was a thoroughly enjoyable time. One of the cakes specially made for us by one of their staff was auctioned with the proceeds donated to us.



Geraldine Pearse our Rehoming Manager along with our volunteers would like to thank Penny and her staff for putting on the lunch and for the care and attention given to our cats whilst in RSPCA care.

Volunteering for this Branch

This Branch relies hugely on the support of volunteers to help us to operate successfully. We are always looking for people who are passionate about animals and have some spare time to give; whether that's occasionally or regularly.



Volunteers at our recent Summer Fayre, having fun on our Cuddly Toy Tombola stall; face painted to be "in character"!

Our volunteers are of all ages from early 20's up to more mature, retired ladies who want something different and extra to do, plus every age in between. We have quite a number of varied roles, inc. hands-on with cats, (Right: Sarah, one of our Cat Cuddlers with Pandora at our cattery); working in our shops; Event fundraising and support roles, like Home Visitors or a new role that we've just created....



Volunteer Drivers. This involves running errands that are needed to help support our welfare work. You will need your own reliable vehicle and in the main, the journeys will be local delivering/collecting pet food; giving a lift to a welfare client with their pet to a vet appointment; transporting stock for an event. A mileage allowance is paid.

We are particularly desperate for more **Volunteer Shop Assistants, North Camp shop. The role involves a morning or afternoon shift, working in a friendly, busy shop helping to sort and price donations and serve customers at the till. Full training is provided as is out of pocket expenses.**

MORE DETAILS ON THESE, AND ALL THE VOLUNTARY ROLES, CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE OR PHONE JOY ON 07579 001459.