

Newsletter No: 66

Animal Aid & Advice

Registered Charity No: 1036940

www.animalaidandadvice.org

AGM

Our 2023 AGM will be open to members at 2:30pm on SUNDAY 2nd April at
48 High Road, East Finchley, London, N2 9PJ.

We hope to welcome back our members after our absence due to COVID.

Due to the small venue we ask that you let us know if you will be attending.

Text/Phone [07795 662 154](tel:07795662154) or [07533 268 649](tel:07533268649)

email: animalaidandadvice@gmail.com or letter to 48 High Road Thank you

Another busy year has passed

Our Charity shop is the main stay of the charity and shop sales have naturally increased as we have been fully operational through 2022; run by our hardworking volunteers they are the ones that make this possible.

We continue to pick up the stray cats and re-home them once they are back in good health and the right homes have been found. We are forever thankful to our fieldworkers for their efforts they put in to helping catch these garden warriors as we call them.

All of our volunteers are un-paid and without their dedication to the charity we would not be able to continue; we are always looking for new volunteers, anyone interested?

A big thank you to all involved

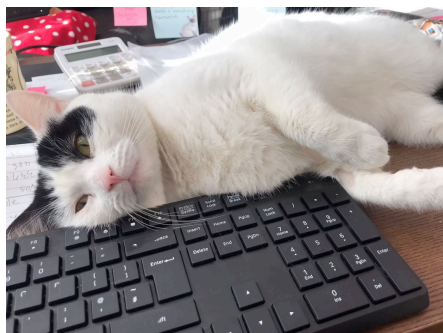
Fosterers are so important to support the fieldworkers by taking the cats in and looking after them, spending the extra time with them that they need when they are very shy.

Having to get them to trust and learn about human contact again, to show how life can be good again.

With all the extra hard work when the mums and kittens start coming in they are very special people, as it is not as easy as it sounds.

As we do not have any premises we are always looking for foster homes. The more fosterers we have the more cats we can help, anyone interested?

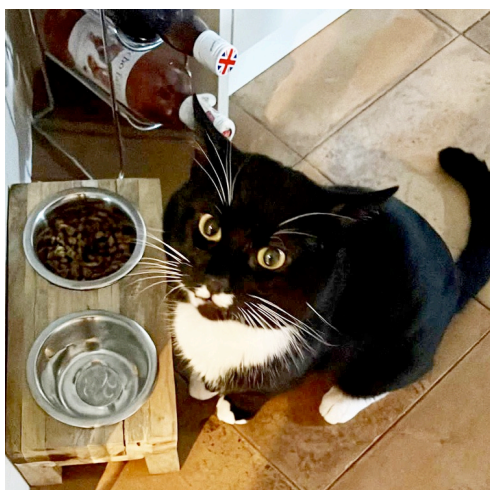
Some Rescues and Re-homings



Clover a rescue has had a very busy day.



Kittens who have found some really good homes.



Robin our first new year now stray was quickly homed.



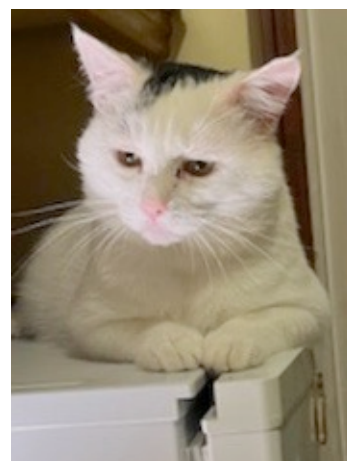
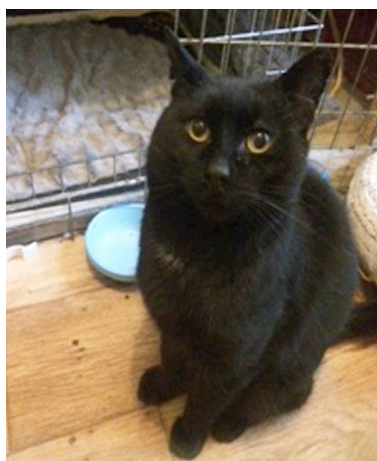
Adam our summer stray soon found a new home



Cheeky young Amy with Ian & his mum



Ryan a stray in need of an urgent rescue. He had a nasty wound that has now healed but still has some bald patches round his neck. We are not sure if the fur will ever grow back. FIV positive and still a bit shy we are waiting for that first head butt and purr!



Dylan waiting patiently wondering when he will get his new home

As spring fast approaches this is the time of year we look to brightening our homes and gardens with spring and summer planting. Here is a brief reminder that not all plants are safe

Poisonous Plants

Asparagus Fern - Often found in bouquets the poisonous agent in this plant is Saprogenic, can cause gastrointestinal and skin irritation if digested.

Chrysanthemums - Naturally contain the botanical insecticide Pyrethrin.

Cyclamen - All parts of this plant contain poisonous component Saponins, but the tubers and roots are the most toxic and can cause irregular heart rate and rhythm seizures.

Daffodils - All parts contain the toxin Lycorine. Cats can experience cardiac arrhythmias, low blood pressure.

Dieffenbachia – Exposure to this plant is extremely painful and uncomfortable for cats as it contains insoluble calcium oxalate crystals that cause oral irritation in rare cases can cause breathing problems.

Kalanchoe - Extremely toxic to cats. Contains toxins called Bufadienolides which can cause gastrointestinal issues for cats.

Lilies - All parts are toxic to cats if ingested and consuming small amounts can result in severe poisoning and kidney failure which can be fatal. Leaves, roots, petals and pollen, even the water from a vase of lilies can be toxic.

Marigolds (Tagetes species) - May cause mild stomach upset. The sap from the plant can cause skin irritation, Pot marigold, Calendula, is not toxic to cats.

Mistletoe - Poisoning is most likely to occur at Christmas, when you bring plants into the house. Symptoms of poisoning include drooling, upset stomach, difficulty walking, low blood pressure, seizures and even death.

Poinsettia - Another plant likely to be brought into the house at Christmas can harm your cat. However symptoms are usually mild and include stomach upset, drooling and skin and eye irritation.

Poppies – All parts can be harmful to cats if ingested. The amount of alkaloids or opioids can vary depending on the species, but all have potential to harm your cat.

Rhododendron and Azalea – The stem, leaves and flowers are all highly toxic and eating as few as three leaves may be a large enough dosage to extremely affect a cat.

Signs of poisoning can include Salivation, Vomiting, Diarrhea, Twitching, Fitting, Breathing difficulties, Shock, Collapse, Coma

Some Safe

Cut Flowers

Daisies (Gerbera, others)
Orchids
Roses
Snapdragons
Sunflowers
Zinnia

Some Safe

House plants

African Violets
Air Plants (Tillandsia)
Christmas Cactus
Parlour Palm
Phalenopsis Orchid
Spider Plant
Staghorn Fern
Succulents

Some Safe Garden Plants

Buddleia – common garden shrub/tree
Hibiscus
Hollyhock
Gerbera Daisy
Nasturtium
Pansies
Petunia
Roses
Sunflower
Valerian
Zinnia

COMMON HOUSEHOLD TOXINS

ANTIFREEZE - causes kidney failure, cats and rabbits need to ingest only very small amounts to show symptoms.

TEA TREE OIL - depression, weakness, coordination, muscle tremors.

PYRETHRINS, PERMETHRINS - usually found in supermarket/pet shop flea products, toxic (especially to cats) if ingested; cause salivation, tremors, and seizures.

PARACETAMOL (PANADOL) - toxic to the liver and interferes with oxygen transport, can be very quickly fatal in cats.

IBUPROFEN (NUROFEN) - depending on amount eaten, can cause gastrointestinal ulcers, kidney failure, and/or seizures.

ASPIRIN - can cause gastrointestinal ulcers.

BLEACH AND OTHER CLEANING PRODUCTS - many of these chemicals are highly acidic or alkaline, and can cause tongue and mouth ulcers when licked by dogs or cats.

RAT POISON - causes blood clotting problems, seen most commonly as internal bleeding, or blood in stools or urine, or vomiting blood.

SNAIL BAIT - diarrhoea, quickly followed by tremors and seizures.

CONTRACEPTIVE PILLS - bone marrow suppression, most commonly anaemia.

ORGANOPHOSPHATE FERTILISERS - tremors, seizures.

MOTH BALLS - vomiting, weakness, depression, liver disease, interference with oxygen transport.

RECREATIONAL DRUGS (e.g. marijuana, ecstasy) – uncontrolled and/or fearful behaviour, extreme agitation, incoordination, tremors, seizures, abnormal heart rhythm.

For more information, or in case of suspected poisoning, please contact your veterinary surgery.



Compulsory micro-chipping coming into force is a two edged sword. Yes it's good for the good owners who care about their pets. Unfortunately some cats do not have good owners. They have them chipped and when the vet calls them to say your cat has been brought in as a stray they are still not interested in getting them neutered. They take them home, let them out again, they wander off and the whole cycle begins again. They do not understand how important neutering is, that could stop them getting into nasty fights causing abscesses and end up becoming FIV positive, they just don't care. We can't understand why these people ever get pets!

MEMBERSHIP

Anyone who wants to cancel their membership with us and does not wish to receive our newsletter please let us know by either, email: animalaidandadvice@gmail.com or through our website animalaidandadvice.org on our contact us page, or by post at [48 High Road, East Finchley, London, N2 9PJ](http://48HighRoadEastFinchleyLondonN29PJ). or phone or text on [07533 268 649](http://07533268649). Thank you.

A reminder

Just recently one of our foster cats Jenny who was not the friendliest cat around, I noticed that she was doing a lot of wailing at night which we know can be a sign of dementia. She seemed ok with this, (as long as I could put up with it) but then I noticed she also seemed to be getting a bit lost in the room and not finding her way back to her armchair that she had claimed as her own.

Having fostered Alex, featured below (in remember me) until he went blind and then I managed to find him a new foster home, I realised that she may have the same problem, high blood pressure that Alex was diagnosed with having that contributed to his sight loss.

A trip to the vet confirmed that this was also her problem as well. She is now on medication for her high blood pressure but her sight will not come back. Like Alex, she is much more amenable to being stroked and actually enjoying the attention now.

A reminder that it might be worth getting your older cat checked for High Blood pressure as it may stop them going blind. Alex was 14 when this happened to him. With Jenny, we don't know how old she is, as she was an un-neutered garden stray when we picked her up two years ago. She must have had a very hard life outside.

Remember me

We have had many cats throughout the year and we would like to be remembered as they were much loved and part of someone's family

Alex - At 14 was found a new home after going blind. He was given a home by Charlie and he had the best love and care in his latter life. Sadly he had to be pts due to other health problems and has left a large hole in their hearts but his memory will live on.

Suzi - A much loved and cared for companion for Julie, who was a great comfort to her during the COVID years. Sadly missed.



Tom - A big beautiful fluffy black and white tomcat, a gentle giant who had a calm influence over his cat friends and a loving companion to his foster mum. Forever in our hearts.

Morgan - A stray boy who had too many health problems so we had to say goodbye to this poor lad, but we will remember him.