



AS News

Issue No. 54



AUTUMN 2002

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 295345

Object of Animal Samaritans

'To rescue and provide care and shelter for unwanted, abandoned, neglected or ill-treated animals and to provide new homes for such animals wherever possible.'

'To assist owners of pets to meet veterinary fees where owners are unable to meet such fees'.



IS THIS A TOWEL OR A DOG?

How to contact us



Post

Animal Samaritans
PO Box 154
Bexleyheath
DA16 2WS

Use this address if you wish to write to the Trustees, the Treasurer, Membership Secretary or Editor of AS News.



Telephone

Our dedicated telephone
also has an answerphone:
020 8303 1859



Fax

Our fax number is:

01689 831107



New Website

We have obtained the website address:

www.animalsamaritans.org.uk

Our Membership Secretary is busy getting the website up and running. Please visit the site from time to time and hopefully you will like the new format.

- What would you like to see on the site?
- Would you like a section just for AS members?
- Let us know what you would like included.

from the Chairman

Dear Member

Following an unfortunate period of unsettling activity amongst the Trustees, I write to reassure you that at *Animal Samaritans* it is business as usual.

AS was founded with two objects. These are given at the top of this Newsletter and I believe it is important that we do not lose sight of them. In any event, we must remember that we are legally bound by them.

It is the Trustees desire not to look back but to move forward with the support of the members, and to ensure that AS is on a firm administrative and financial footing and well placed to fulfil the hopes and wishes of its members. I am grateful to the Charity Commission for its assistance and guidance in the transitional period.

I wish to thank Alan and June James, together with Julie Capon, who served as Trustees until their resignations in June 2002, and to pay a special tribute to Harry Moore who decided to resign following the Trustees meeting with the Charity Commission in August 2002. Harry founded *Animal Samaritans* in 1986 and has worked tirelessly for it ever since. It was the unanimous wish of the Trustees that Harry's contribution should be recognised and he was invited to become our first President. Sadly, Harry has decided not to consent to this key new appointment.

I am pleased to report that Val Croxford, who was nominated by Harry Moore, will continue as a Trustee along with Edith Deveraux and myself. Two additional Trustees, Jean Chambers and Sue McLaughlin were appointed together with Val this August. A brief report on the outcome of the Trustees meeting is given elsewhere in this Newsletter.

If you would like to become more involved in the activities of AS, or if you have new ideas or suggestions, please write to me at the address given on this page.

I look forward to the challenges ahead and working with my fellow Trustees and all the members towards achieving our goals.

Chris Bishop



COMPETITIONS



The Trustees would like to introduce some competitions to promote Animal Samaritans and its work. This would also provide an opportunity to win a prize as well as showing us how talented you are. We have received a few ideas, what do you think of them?

- We thought we could have a children's poster painting competition, arranging for the posters to be put onto notice boards of schools, colleges, libraries, Citizen's Advices Bureaux etc. There would be two age groups: under 12s and 13s – 18s.
- Another competition would be to find the schools which have done most to promote good animal welfare, with two categories: one for Primary schools and one for Secondary.

Obviously, organising these competitions would take a lot of work so it would be helpful if some sponsorship could be found. We should also arrange a prize giving ceremony.

Would you be able to help? Perhaps you are already involved in this sort of thing or maybe you work for a company who would be prepared to help with some sponsorship.

Whatever help you can contribute it would be welcome. Please contact ☎ 020 8303 1589.

MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES

A meeting of the Trustees took place on 27th August.

The then current Trustees, Chris Bishop and Edith Deveraux, elected three new Trustees: Jean Chambers, Val Croxford and Sue McLaughlin.

The following appointments were made:

Chairman	Chris Bishop
Honorary Treasurer	Edith Deveraux

The Trustees considered a letter from the Charity Commission to the Chairman and, at the request of the Commission, put into train the following actions:

- A review of the Trust Deed
- Consideration of the future of the North West Kent Branch

(by Chris Bishop)

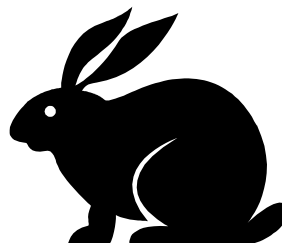
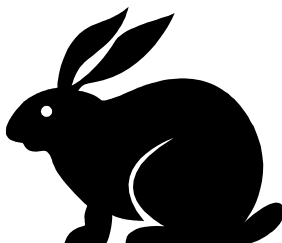
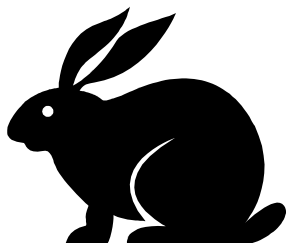
Some time ago, a Chinese gentleman rang to see if *Animal Samaritans* could help him re-home his 20 rabbits.

He had been breeding them for pet shops for quite a few years and now he wanted to move out of the area.

On a very hot day, two AS fosterers went to his house and took away his rabbits: there were 32 of them in all! Half of them were not in very good health and needed treatment. One fosterer took the well ones and the other took the rest to the vet for treatment.

Since then, most have now found good homes but there are some still waiting for a new home.

Could **YOU** find them a good home?



Dillon's Story (by Edith Deveraux)

Oh! Where am I? My owner just drove up to a car park at Safeways. He must be going in to get me some food – I hope it's butcher tripe. He has tied me to some railings which is strange as he doesn't usually do this. Oh well, I'll just have to wait.

Time passes; I think my owner must have got lost. A little girl and her mum come over and make a fuss of me. I'm just one year old and it's nice to play with the little girl. They look around and then walk into Safeways and come out ten minutes later with the Manager. One of them says: 'I think he's been abandoned.' I don't know what abandoned means but it doesn't sound good. The little girl and her mum take me to their house in their car. It's all very strange but it's better than being left in the car park.

The next thing I know I'm in the car again. I'm brought to a nice lady who says she will look after me and find me a new home. I'm given a new name: Dillon the Villain! I hear the nice lady and her husband discussing whether to keep me or not. They already have another dog who is 15 and never wants to play. It may be something to do with his age but at least he means me no harm. I hope I can stay as the nice lady's husband lets me sleep at the bottom of the bed, by his feet. I try not to wake him during the night but sometimes I do though it's 3 o'clock in the morning and he gets upset but puts up with me because he loves me.

The nice lady takes me to a vet who says I've got an umbilical hernia and a displaced kneecap; maybe this was why my owner abandoned me. I've got to have an operation to make me better; it's expensive but I know I am in good hands and I'm sure I'll get the care I need.

If you would like to contribute to Dillon's operation, please send a cheque or postal order made payable to: Animal Samaritans, PO Box 154, Bexleyheath DA16 4WS and mark the envelope: Dillon's Operation.



Donations & Legacies

AS gratefully acknowledges all the donations and legacies received in the last three months. Our work depends on such selfless generosity and we express our sincerest thanks on behalf of all the animals we are able to help with such support.

We thank everyone at Ladies Probus who kindly invited Edith Deveraux to give a talk about *Animal Samaritans* and the work we do — they organised a collection and raised a total of £65 which they donated to us.

Meeting of Members with the Trustees

The Trustees hope to be able to organise a meeting with the Members during Spring of 2003.

More information on this will be included in the next Newsletter.

Christmas Raffle

Would you like to organise this year's Christmas Raffle? If you would, please contact AS on:

☎ 020 8303 1859

Christmas Cards

The cost is the same as last year: £2.50 for a pack of 8.

Please send cheques or postal orders made out to Animal Samaritans with a note of how many sets you would like, to: AS Christmas Card Offer, PO Box 154, Bexleyheath DA16 2WS.

Hurry! Stocks are limited.

Animal Samaritans T-Shirts

Would you like us to sell AS T-shirts with our logo on them?

Which colours would you like?

Do you have any ideas for other types of merchandise which we could sell to raise funds for all the important work we have to do?

Let us know and we will see what we can do.

Would you be able to help us to sell them? Let AS know on

☎ 020 8303 1859

Honorary Editor for AS News

This edition of the Newsletter was produced by a volunteer, following the sad death of Dorothy Barton.

We need a permanent Editor to put together four Newsletters each year.

Do you have the time?

If you would like to get involved with the production of the Newsletter, please contact AS on:

☎ 020 8303 1859

Poet's Corner

How would you like to write a poem about *Animal Samaritans*?

We asked a friend to try his hand at writing one with the first letter of each line spelling out our name and this is what he sent us.

Abandoned or forgotten,
New household pets or old,
In pain or splendid mansion –
Mankind must not withhold
A helping hand, a heart with
Love to ease the unjust
Suffering and build good faith
Again to earn their trust.

Moggies, mutts, canaries, rats –
All creatures, great and small –
Rabbits, badgers, carp and bats,
In wilderness or hall,
They need rescue or our care:
'Animal Samaritans',
Now, always and for ever,
Since our name says it all.

He's not entirely happy with it – could you do better? You don't need to write another 'acrostic' and we look forward to getting your poems.

Please send your poems to the Editor at our PO Box, marking them "Poetry Competition" and noting your name, address and age group.

We hope there will be lots of poems for us to read so we can put them all together in a book.

A prize is offered for existing members who introduce a new one. Get someone to join on the form below and it will be put into a raffle at the end of November. The first out will win either a bottle of champagne or a gift voucher if a child.

Moving Home

(by Sue Sleiner)

My name is Trevor. I'm a large, handsome (though I say it myself!), fluffy tabby cat and I've just moved home.

One day 'Mother' (as we refer to the help) started filling big boxes and bags with 'stuff'. She got cross if I or my seven friends tried to sleep in any of the boxes, though Hanna Lulu Belle *did* manage to sneak into one and only just avoided being sealed up with the pots and pans. I found a holdall full of lovely soft bedding; Mother yelled at me when she found me there – well, how was I to know they were her best clothes?

Early one morning we were given our breakfast and then put into our baskets. I thought this was a bit odd; surely we couldn't *all* be going to the vets? We sat watching as strange men stole our chairs, beds and litter trays. We next went in a car and I'm glad to say that none of us was sick.

At the end of the journey, we were put into a room, still in our baskets, and we heard lots of noise and banging ... and then, silence. Mother came and let us out of our baskets and there was a mad dash for the litter trays.

The following days were great fun – lots of new corners to sniff and cupboards to hide in. It was all too much for Tiffey (the *Persian*) however, who cried for two whole days and nights. Looking out a window I saw we were on the ground floor and we had a garden. This was wonderful as our old home was a flat.

Now we are all settled (*including* Tiffey) and we are allowed outside where we have made loads of new pals and there are trees to climb, bushes to hide under and grass to chew (good for fur balls!) Mother has even put out a table and chairs for us to sleep on though I must put in a request for a parasol for next summer.

I do hope we stay here; it's nice and I don't like moving!



**WE URGENTLY
NEED A CAT
CO-ORDINATOR**

**INTERESTED
MEMBERS PLEASE
CONTACT**

**CHRIS BISHOP
DIRECT**

☎ 020 8303 1859

Application Form for NEW Members

I,, wish to become a Member of *Animal Samaritans*.

My address is:

I have the following pet(s)

I enclose a cheque/postal order made payable to ANIMAL SAMARITANS for £.....

Membership Fees: £8.00 per year – Child/OAP/Unemployed £5.00 per year – DONATION £.....

My email address is: *INTRODUCED BY:*..... (MEMBER)

Please return to: **Animal Samaritans, PO Box 154, Bexleyheath DA16 2WS**