

PET BEREAVEMENT

If you need to talk to someone about the loss of your pet, Angela Gatfield would be pleased to speak to you. Angela knows what a lonely experience this often is and has given over 26 years to the pet bereavement service.

Telephone: 01634 253195
or email: gordons@taransay.fslife.co.uk

“Loving & Gentle Pet Care”

**Holiday home for dogs ~ Walks and special outings
£7 per day - bring own food - Treats provided**

Hextable 01322 663322 or email: jeanphillips@cwctv.net

Have you thought of becoming a member of Animal Samaritans?

Your Annual Subscription entitles you to:

Four copies (quarterly) 'As News' post free.

On joining you will receive copies of previous newsletters (if still in print).

An introductory gift, a car sticker and membership card.

APPLICATION FORM FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP ONLY

Name.....

Address.....

Postcode..... Date.....

What type of pet(s) do you have.....

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

Membership Fees: £8.00 per year - Child/Senior Citizen £5.00 per year

Donation £.....

Please return to :

Animal Samaritans c/o Mrs Val Croxford
'Teal', Berrylands, Hartley, Longfield, Kent DA3 8AP



Newsletter

NORTH WEST KENT BRANCH

No. 35



AUTUMN 2004



Registered Charity No. 295345

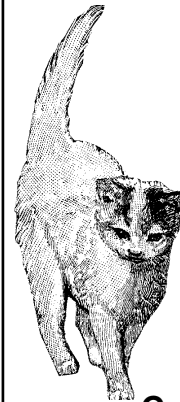
Patron "Twiggy"

OUR NAME SAYS IT ALL

**For Admin, general enquiries, make a donation,
join as a member**

Please ring

Valerie on 01474 703542



To give a kitten or cat a home

Please ring

Valerie 01474 703906

Silvana 01959 572319



Emer. Boarding - kittens/cats only

Contact - Valerie Wagland on 01474 703906

Items for fund raising stall wanted - can collect

Ring Valerie on 01474 703906

REMEMBER 5th November REMEMBER



To many people fireworks and bonfire night is great fun. For animals the noise is frightening.

Although some restrictions have been placed

on the use of fireworks, they have not been completely banned.

Animals will continue to be distressed at sights and sounds to which they are sensitive. Please give a thought to them and

make sure they are home indoors and safe.

Please be careful, have fun and avoid accidents.

BUSTER - a successful rehoming

Buster's picture was displayed on our website as wanting a home. A lady telephoned and asked if he was still available. Unfortunately her cat had died and she said Buster reminded her of him. After she had adopted Buster she wrote to Silvana. Here is the story.

"Just a quick note to let you know we got back OK and to tell you that Buster has readily made himself at home. As I write this he is laying on Paul's bed having a nap after a monster breakfast and a game of chase the sock. Buster soon settled in and spent the night on my bed. He likes to get up early like Spitty and is eating well. We've found he is a very vocal cat, which suits me down to the ground as I spend a lot of time talking to him, and he's not slow at letting his feelings be known - a right grumble bunny!! Spitty was a bit unsure at first, they still swear at each other in passing, but so far no fighting, which is much better than we expected. We have found that he responds to Bishop better than Buster and he loves stealing underwear - a secret knicker nicker and sock thief. He's really taken to Paul and has already started to follow him about and he let me pick him up this morning for a short cuddle. Something tells me this love affair could be the start of something that will last a lifetime. Thank you so much. After losing Ben last week it was as if my world had come to an end and I didn't think I would feel happy again for a long time. Buster has made all the difference in the world to both of us, in such a short space of time. It feels like home again. I meant what I said yesterday about helping out. I've plenty of time on my hands and filling in helping cats seems like a good idea. Keep in touch and I'll write again soon to let you know how things are going."

A week later and Silvana receives another letter from Buster's new mum.

"Hope you have had a good break. Lucky you. Hope the kitties are OK. Just to let you know Paul is dropping off the cat basket that you lent to us. He is at the Biggin Hill air show. Bishop (Buster) is fine. It is getting really strange just how much like my old cat he is. He likes the same food, sleeps in the same place in the garden, enjoys playing the same games. Ben must have found him for me. He is a really beautiful and loving cat with a great sense of fun. He is also very good at climbing. His favourite place is the roof. I've taken some photos of him and will send you some so you can see for yourself how at home he has made himself. He has taken over the sofa and the bed, mine of course. The neighbours think he is lovely and he just walks in their back doors if they leave them open. Good job they don't mind. He is getting very spoiled by everyone. Spitty now follows him about - something she never did with Ben and they've become firm friends. One is never far away from the other. Bye for now, all the best"

Pat and Paul

YOUR STORIES - YOUR PICTURES - YOUR NEWSLETTER

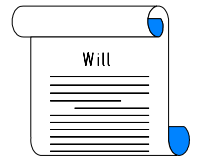
Sometimes we receive stories that seem to be written by the animal. One tale is told by a cat called 'Watley'.

"My name is Watley. This name was given to me by a lady called Valerie Wagland at Animal Samaritans. She rescued me when I was all alone, no home, no name. I was very lucky to have had the care of Valerie Wagland in my life. I am now a very happy cat and in a happy home where I am loved very much. We never thank people like Valerie Wagland and her colleagues enough. I have sent a photograph of myself to Valerie and it shows me under a sage bush which is one of my camps"

With love from Watley Jefferson

Legacies and Wills

Why let the Inland Revenue gain from inheritance tax! Certainly families have to come first when writing a will, but a vast majority of the public support charities. If your choice is to leave something for the benefit of the animals, who cannot speak for themselves, please consider Animal Samaritans. You may care to contact your Solicitor and request to arrange a legacy in your will. Our registered Charity No. is 295345 and if you need assistance in any way please contact our Chairman, Mrs Chris Bishop on 020 8303 1859.



Whilst the care of the animals has to take priority, this is the time of year when our volunteers are busy with Autumn and Christmas fund raising. Therefore we always welcome (and can collect) unwanted presents, bric-a-brac, and saleable items for our stalls. Please ring 01474 703906 if you have anything to contribute.

Remember the English Springer Spaniel? What a celebrity she has turned out to be. She and her handler passed all their tests. I received a letter typed on Metropolitan Police notepaper giving me the good news and I reproduced it here. For reasons of confidentiality I have left out certain facts.

"Dear Mrs Croxford,

I am writing with regard to the English Springer Spaniel that you kindly gave to the Metropolitan Police as a gift dog. I was allocated her in March and named her Abbey and she came home with me until we were both put on an eight week basic course on 21st June 2004 for her to be trained in detecting explosives.

We both had a successful course with Abbey working very hard, her eagerness to please me was a pleasure to watch.

We both passed our final exercise on the 12th August and after a weekend off we both became operational on Monday 16th August 2004.

I cannot thank you enough for your kind donation and I could not have wished for a better or loyal partner, hopefully we will remain working together for the next nine years.



I am assured that the dog school should have sent you a photograph of us both receiving our certificate. If this is not the case please let me know and I will ensure that you receive a copy. I will also send you any other relevant

photos that we may appear in throughout her working life.

If you are ever in London for a visit please do not hesitate to give me a call and if I am on duty I am sure Abbey would like to say hello!

Once again a big thank you from myself".

(This letter is signed and dated by the PC concerned).

BERTIE

Bertie came into us at four and a half month's old. Big, bold, brown-eyed and handsome. His attitude was friendly, gentle and playful. He proved to be no trouble at night, ate well and was good on the lead when out walking. Quick to learn and responded well



to Clicker training and was good with my own dogs. All the right attributes for a family who did not mind big dogs. He was put up for adoption immediately. A lovely family came to visit and were instantly captivated by his charm and good looks. They all wanted him and he has settled in with them. Jeanette his new owner says he goes everywhere with them and has met all the neighbours, friends, family and grand parents. After initially suffering car sickness, he has now overcome this and is treated to rides out to Shorne Country Park and other places that accept dogs.

Another successful rehoming.

Val Croxford

Togetherness

Here is a picture of Scruff and Timmy. Don't they look cute together. They belong to June and Alan James. June says they were not always this close, but I expect like humans they mellow with age and as they all moved a year ago it has proved to be to their liking and are content in their new surroundings. Alan is our webmaster and volunteers his free time (almost impossible to find) and keeps the web pages up to date for the Charity. The website is our most useful source of letting people know what we do and where we are and is a regular advertising space for the animals we need to rehome. If you have access to a computer, log on - look in - and learn all about us at www.animalsamaritans.org.uk



USEFUL NUMBERS

Animal Samaritans

South East London Area and Head Office 020 8303 1859
www.animalsamaritans.com

Battersea Dogs at Brands Hatch
Crowhurst Lane, Ash, Sevenoaks

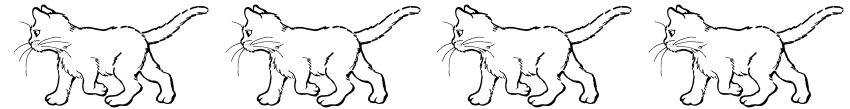
01474 874994
www.dogshome.org

Cats Protection League

08702 099 099

RSPCA

0870 5555999
www.rspca.org



If you have lost a pet contact the following:

Animal Samaritans, North West Kent area 01474 703542
01474 703906
01959 572319

Animal Samaritans, South East London area 020 8303 1859

Missing Pets Bureau

PO Box 2644, The Green, Warlingham, Surrey 08701 999 999
www.missingpetsbureau.com

Local police/local vet/Council dog warden.
Radio Kent - Lost and Found.

