



**Have you thought of becoming a member of Animal Samaritans?**

Your Annual Subscription entitles you to:  
Four copies (quarterly) 'As News' post free,  
a car sticker, badge 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 SA

# Newsletter

**NORTH WEST KENT BARNCH**

**No. 28**



**WINTER 2002 / 2003**

Registered Charity No. 295345



OUR NAME SAYS IT ALL

## Kind Homes Needed for Rescued Animals

**Cats**

Valerie Wagland  
01474 703906



**Rabbits**

Gwen Weeden  
01474 879154

**Domestic Birds**

Wendy  
01474 823306



**Branch Co-Ordinator**

Valerie Croxford  
01474 703542



**Bric-a-Brac**

Valerie Wagland  
01474 703906



**Treasurer**

Joan Seaman  
01474 824850

It is with much sadness and sorrow that we have to advise our members that Harry Moore died on Sunday, January 5th 2003. Harry dedicated his entire working life to the care of animals with the help of friends he formed a trust which became known as "Animal Samaritans". This was nearly twenty years ago.

We wish to express our very deep feelings and sympathy to his wife, Jean, who was always there to support him in his work.

Animal Samaritans' Trustees will continue to uphold all Harry's principles to make sure the creatures God has blessed us to look after will, to the best of our ability, receive all the tender loving care they deserve.



On 28th October one of our most loyal and dedicated supporters, Beryl Tomlinson, passed away. Beryl had been a devoted animal lover for over seventy years. She became a dear friend of Animal Samaritans many years ago when she and Barbara adopted Shelley an aged cat who sadly died after only a short stay. A little later Beryl and Barbara adopted kittens Billy and Charlie who became known as 'the boys'. We were regularly kept up to date with all their news, they were totally spoiled and loved. Throughout the past six years Beryl never forgot the charity and remained a wonderful friend. She was kind, compassionate with an abundance of love for all animals great and small. When Beryl died Animal Samaritans continued to receive through her request that we should be given donations. Through her many colleagues and friends in the teaching profession together with family and those close, we received over £600. We thank all those who gave so graciously. Animal Samaritans have lost a dear friend in many ways.

# NOTICEBOARD

## PET PALACE

Pets looked after with Tender Loving Care

HOLIDAY HOME FOR BIRDS

AND SMALL CAGED ANIMALS

Contact Irene Russell

**01322 35639**

Charges £3 per day - £20 per week - £30 for 2 weeks

### *"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](mailto:jeanphillips@cwctv.net)*

## **HELP! HELP! HELP!**

### **MARATHON MAN**

**Dave Jenkins will be running the**

**PARIS Marathon 2003 for Animal Samaritans.**

**Anyone wishing to sponsor him**

**please contact -**

**Chris**

**at 0208 303 1859**

**or write to: PO Box 154,  
Bexleyheath, Kent DA16 2WS**



This branch of Animal Samaritans is receiving a vast number of notices about lost, stolen or missing pets. It is, therefore, felt that we could assist with the cost of micro-chipping cats and dogs. We will be approaching our local vet and it is our intention to give the first twenty households to apply, the benefit of this service. You need to be a member of Animal Samaritans, however. (See the application for membership on the back page of this newsletter). As many families have multiple pets, we will be limiting this service to one pet per household. This is a pilot scheme for us, but we would like to give back to our members a service which will give peace of mind to pet owners. We have recently re-united a stray cat with its owner, but this took nearly a month to achieve and it was well looked after while it was in our care. If it had been micro-chipped we could have made this re-union sooner.

If you are in the Sevenoaks District Council area, you will find there is a scheme in place for dogs to be micro-chipped and this commences at the start of 2003. To make enquiries contact the Dog Wardens on 01732 227346 or email: [community.services@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:community.services@sevenoaks.gov.uk).

### **The Importance of Micro-Chipping**

During the time this newsletter was submitted to the printer for its first proof reading, fate took a cruel turn. Sunday 12th January was a bright, sunny, winter morning. Just the day for taking the dog for a walk. On a routine visit to the local village store, a member of the public went to collect their Sunday newspaper. A little Jack Russell bitch went happily along with its owner and was content to wait outside. It only took seconds to buy the newspaper, but in that split moment in time someone removed the dog and it is still missing. The tragedy is that this owner lives next door to one of our staff volunteers, so we knew about it instantly. Everyone is devastated and efforts are being made to see if anyone can give information as to what happened outside this village shop. A reward is being offered. This sadly is the stark reality of today's world when a domestic pet is stolen, with no thought of the heartache and fear for this little dog's future that we are all sharing with the owners.

We do not say that micro-chipping is fool-proof when a pet is stolen or lost, but it may help if the animal is abandoned to the streets and is found wandering. A simple scan by the authorities and rescue centers or veterinary practices may re-unite a pet with its distraught owner.

### **A retirement message to Anne Brewer from her colleagues at Animal Samaritans (North West Kent)**

She was always there when needed, to lend a helping hand to sell donated bric-a-brac, behind our gazebo stand. But more than this, it was her work as foster mum to those who came upon her doorstep, frightened, lost and alone.

This we will remember.

Unloved, injured, dying, unwanted and afraid cats left outside in boxes, people would just run away. Hundreds came in through the years, since 1995 all given another chance in life, to forget unhappy lives.

This we will remember.

Some rescue missions seemed impossible but Anne was never deterred from doing what she could for those, too weak and cast aside. She picked them up, took them home safely in her arms. Anne's home became a haven, no more would any cat starve.

This we will remember.

We wish you all the joy in life, happiness, and so much more never to be forgotten, you" we remember with pride.



**IN MEMORIAM**

*“Bonny” September 1986 to August 2002*

Much loved and greatly missed by Linda Croxford and doggy friends.

**IF IT SHOULD BE.....**

If it should be that I grow weak  
And pain should keep me from my sleep  
Then you must do what must be done  
For this last battle can' t be won.

You will be sad, I understand  
Don' t let your grief then stay your hand  
For this day more than all the rest  
Your love for me must stand the test.

We' ve had so many happy years  
What is to come can hold no fears  
You' d not want me to suffer, so  
The time has come, please let me go.

Take me where my needs they' ll tend  
And please stay with me until the end  
Hold me firm and speak to me  
Until my eyes no longer see.

I know in time that you will see  
The kindness that you do for me  
Although my tail it' s last has waved  
From pain and suffering I' ve been saved.

Please do not grieve it must be you  
Who has this painful thing to do  
We' ve been so close us two, these years  
Don' t let your heart hold back the tears.

*Poems are often sent to us without the originator's name.  
If anyone can tell us who wrote this poem we would be grateful*

**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: 01634253195  
or email: [gordons@taransay.fslife.co.uk](mailto:gordons@taransay.fslife.co.uk)

*If you wish to read more about coping with the loss of a treasured pet, Absent Friends written by Laura & Martyn Lee, published by Henston Ltd., covers all aspects of pet loss.*

Many Christmas Cards and Goodwill messages are received from our Members and we wish to thank everyone for taking the time to write in to us. From the business community we have received greetings from David Jasper Printing (who continue to provide us with our printed newsletter each quarter). North West Kent Council for Voluntary Service. Chris Pond, MP for Gravesham. North Shore Animal League International (Member of the Association of Dogs and Cats Homes). The Shrubbery Veterinary Centre, Northfleet. Angela Gatfield, Pet Bereavement Counsellor. We wish all our supporters, members, friends and family a very good New Year.

Although Animal Samaritans (North West Kent) are a small charity, we do what we can for those in need. We understand many elderly people have no one but their pets for company and the pet becomes their sole reason for getting up each day. Taking dog for a walk or ensuring the stray cat that keeps coming up to their back door is fed and watered. Responsibility in knowing an animal needs us can make a big difference to our well being.

We also understand that there are many elderly people who cannot afford veterinary fees when their pet is taken ill, this can be extremely worrying financially. Perhaps the stray they are feeding needs a health check. These are the things we can help to provide. If you know of an elderly person in difficulty please ask them to call us.

In 2003 we hope to be able to help if transport is a problem. As the saying goes, we are only a phone call away. 01732 824850 Joan. 01474703542 Valerie.