Cat Welfare Sussex and Southern Region
www.catwelfaresussex.com
Registered Charity No: 1044866
December 2025

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We began our projects early in the year by re painting the interior of the cattery. Nothing like a spot of redecorating to cheer us all up after the gloomy days of winter.

However, I would definitely not recommend 'Painting with Puss Cats'. It's certainly not an easy task, especially when several curious felines all attempt to assert their own individual interior design ideas!!

"Meow - Coloured paw prints across the floor would look nice"
"Meow - What about some tail shaped silhouettes across the window frames?"
"Meow - I really think fluffy fur on the wall for a textured effect would look great"

Of course, all our paint is pet safe but we didn't want it everywhere. Nor did we want our cats to resemble a live exhibit of modern art - so a definite NO to all their creative suggestions. Tommy and I persevered with the painting, despite frequent interruptions and, eventually, the cattery looked fresh and bright for another year. By now, the cats had become thoroughly bored with the whole scenario and had taken themselves back into bed to watch the paint dry.



This year we have provided orthopaedic memory foam cat beds to give comfort to our older residents. The younger ones love them too. In colder weather we can top them with thermally lined cat blankets and pet warming pads. The insulated cattery is heated throughout so everyone will be nice and cozy during winter. Our seniors now have tilted, elevated bowls to reduce neck and spinal pressure whilst feeding. Over time, we have introduced selective veterinary diets for our cats. This good quality, tailored and nutritional food has great benefits for feline health and the results have been very positive. The food is veterinary recommended re the cats own individual needs - i.e mobility, sensitivity, weight management etc. Of course, treats are still allowed along with fresh catnip and cat grass grown in the outdoor Catio.

In summer the cats love to be out in the sunshine so we have added another new exterior playhouse to the recreation area and a large cat lounger made from weatherproof fabric for sunbathing. They have an assortment of toys as well as a climbing frame and scratching posts. The favourite being a large tree branch that contributes to many hours of play.

Due to financial concerns and economic hardship, re homing is at an all time low, with animals remaining in shelters for not just months but years. Therefore, it's important to provide as much comfort and enrichment as possible for our feline family until their forever home comes along. CWS believe that every cat has a right to life and will only agree to euthanasia if advised to do so by our vets to prevent suffering from irrecoverable injury or terminal illness.

Most of our cats have been rescued after living on the streets in pitiful conditions. Sleeping under cars for warmth or sheltering from the elements in damp bushes. Often suffering injury, thirst and hunger or subjected to mindless cruelty. The life of stray cat is not a happy one. At CWS we consider it a great privileged to work with and to witness these broken, fearful creatures transform into confident, funny characters - each with their own unique personality. Whether placid or pushy, aloof or outgoing, cheeky or charming they are all very special and we are proud of each and every one and whilst we cannot change our world we will always endeavour to change theirs.

Huge thanks to Keren O' Mahony and her dedicated volunteers for all their fantastic fundraising efforts throughout 2025.

Their work has got harder and harder as the years have gone by. Donated items are scarce as people now sell their unwanted goods on Ebay & Vinted etc. Many charity venues, fundays and fetes have closed due to high insurance costs and volunteer apathy. Street and supermarket collections bring little reward as so few people carry cash. Chip and pin payment has its drawbacks for smaller organisations and lacks the spontaneity of donors dropping their loose change into a charity box. Do remember to take some cash with you when visiting a charitable event as payment facilities can be limited.

Despite all the odds the ever tenacious team still manage to raise funds from local charity bookshelves, tabletop sales, coffee mornings etc. Keren is always in need of good quality books and bric a brac, unwanted gifts, costume jewellery and other such saleable items.

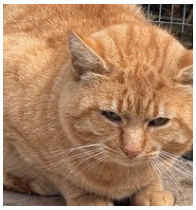
Thank you to Tescos Stores Boundary Road Portslade and Pets Corner George Street Hove for their continued support to Cat Welfare Sussex.

Grateful Thanks to all the vets and staff at the New Priory Veterinary Practice for all your professional help and guidance during the year.

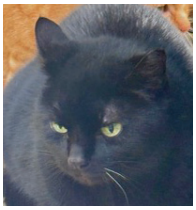
Sincere Thanks to all our loyal friends and supporters for your thoughtful donations, regular standing orders and contributions of cat food, treats and toys. Your unwavering support, kindness and generosity are truly appreciated by all at CWS.



CATS IN CARE



Dexter 3 year old ginger male stray from Hove Dexter has been neutered and is settling in well although he is still a little bit shy of humans. He is great friends with Trixie. We are looking to find them a rural home together.



Trixie 5 year old spayed female from West Sussex. Trixie came into care as the stables where she lived were being sold. Trixie is a great hunter and would make an excellent rodent patroller for a rural home along with with her best friend Dexter.



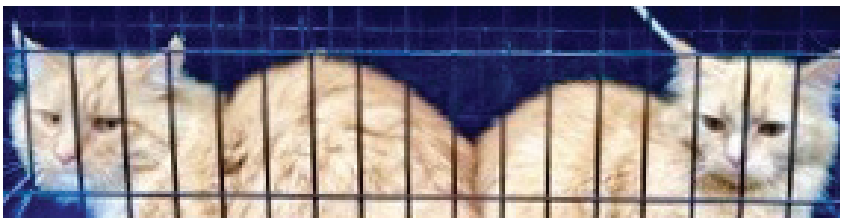
Rebel 6 year ginger male from East Sussex Rebel had been living on the streets in East Sussex for at least 4 years when he came to us via another rescue organisation. He has had a hard life and is in need of lots of TLC so that he can learn to trust people.



Shrimpy & Kinglsey our 2 black & white rescued brothers have at last found their forever home with a lovely family at a beautiful rural location in West Sussex

We have several adult cats with special needs. - They are of various ages, colours and temperament but all require permanent homes with patient, understanding owners.

We also require rural homes - Rural homes such as stables, smallholdings etc are always required for our semi feral cats. They will keep remises rodent free in exchange for food and shelter.



CWS will be busy over the coming months with two feral cat neuterings schemes, one in East and one in West Sussex. Winter is the ideal time for humane trapping and neutering as the cats will not be breeding until spring. Once neutered and veterinary checked the cats will returned to their locations. We always ensure that returned cats have sufficient shelter, regular food and responsible care.

If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter please complete the Opt Out form and return to the charity address. We will then remove your details from our mailing list.

Please note that CWS DO NOT market sell or share personal information with external parties.

☐ Tick box - I DO NOT wish to receive charity information

Name .....

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The Fittleworth Garden Trail in May was well supported again this year with friends and visitors enjoying the gardens and historical charm of Fulling Mill Cottage (bequeathed to CWS in 2011) Luckily the early bank holiday weather was fine with many flowers in bloom earlier than usual. The interior reparations continue and the ceiling laths in the upper rooms are now all in situ in readiness for several coats of lime plaster.



In summer, the drought was taking it's toll on the many birds and animals that inhabit the woodland and grounds around the property.

Always conscious of their needs, we supplemented food and water regularly as the soil had baked dry and worms and insects were scarce.

Fortunately, Mother Nature provided an abundant crop of plums, pears and apples in the orchard during September which the wildlife plundered with glee.

The trees and shrubs are now dressed for the season. The crab apples, hawthorn, holly and rose hips are resplendent in red and along with the acorns, hazelnuts, ivy and chestnuts will provide a plentiful feast for the wild creatures over winter.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CAT WELFARE SUSSEX

WISHING YOU A
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

From all at CWS

Please pass our newsletter to a friend in order to publicise the work of CWS

Trustees: Mrs J Grant, Mrs A Tines, Ms G Bristow, Mrs D Walton. **Patron:** Marc Abraham OBE BVM&S MRCVS
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Please make cheques payable to: **Cat Welfare Sussex** or **bacs to Cat Welfare Sussex,**
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