



TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND MAIDSTONE BRANCH AND THE HEADCORN CATTERY

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Spring/Summer 2015 Sponsored by Seaward Copy Shop Broadstairs

Greetings to all our loyal supporters whether you are a Member, Friend, Volunteer, Staff Member or one of those people or organisations that likes to support us in other ways by donating food or money towards the upkeep of our lovely animals. You are all very valuable to us and we could not continue our good work without your support.

Well here we are - already into Spring 2015! Where does the time go? We sincerely hope that each and every one of you and your pets is enjoying a happy and peaceful year and indeed some of the rather lovely unseasonable weather we have enjoyed since Christmas.

2014 was an excellent year with approximately 250 animals being found their forever homes. Add to this the amount of neutering and welfare work carried out by us and I think we can safely say it has been one of our most successful years yet. We have great pleasure in listing below our figures for the year.

Figures for 2014	Dogs	Cats	Rabbits	Misc	Total	Grand Total
Animals Rehomed	37	203	5	6	252	0
Microchipping of branch animals	41	208	5	0	254	0
Neutering - Branch Animals	40	193	5	0	238	
Neutering - Welfare/Vouchers redeemed	119	263	0	0	382	
Neutering -Welfare Events	35	0	0	0	35	
Neutering Totals	194	456	5		0	655
Welfare Assistance/Vouchers given - Branch Clinic	244	119		10	373	
Welfare Vouchers redeemed - general	5	8	0	0	13	386



The small variations seen between animals rehomed and those neutered/microchipped is due to some animals coming into the branch already done.



WOW - SO THIS IS WHAT HAVING A LOVING HOME IS LIKE -
BRING IT ON.....

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY LOVING NEW OWNERS = THANK YOU!!



RIO is much loved by his new owner Maxine and the family. He has settled really well and loves his new toys.



BAM BAM reclining happily by the window of her new home



BEAR is obviously enjoying Christmas in his new home. Thanks Bear

All the new owners of these beautiful animals have expressed their delight and pleasure with their new pets but we have chosen two stories that we feel show just how strong the bonds can be with an adopted pet. Thank you to EVERYONE who has taken one of our animals and given it a loving new home.

TWO TOUCHING STORIES - Norman and Squeaky



Norman's story is one of dedication and love beyond the call of duty. Norman had been with us for a long time before Michelle came along and fell in love with him. He had undergone all the normal veterinary tests before he went off to his new home and was found to be healthy. He and Michelle settled into their new life and were besotted with each other. After a short period of time Norman became unwell. Further veterinary investigation showed that Norman had developed an enlarged heart. Naturally upset the Branch offered to help Michelle with Norman or take him back but Michelle would not hear of it - such was the bond formed between these two. We kept in close contact with Michelle to monitor Norman's progress and are pleased to say he is doing very well on medication. Norman sent his own card to the branch saying

"I am unwell but mummy and daddy are looking after me and have taken me to an animal doctor called Emily. She is lovely. I am having tests to find out what is wrong with me. Mummy says I have a big heart which means I have got more love to give! I am a very spoilt little boy and I have the best of everything. I have a new raincoat, hi-viz coat, country coat, new shoes (because my feet get sore) and a new big bed. I am loved, spoilt and cherished and I have found my forever home. You are so kind. Thank you. Love Norman xx Thank you Michelle for giving Norman the love he so deserves.

This lovely email from Squeaky's new owner Jenny was especially touching.

"I had been looking for a rescue and saw Squeaky's profile. She'd lost her owner and subsequently her home and I lost my mum just a year ago and immediately she had my heart. From the moment we brought Squeaky home she has been a joy. We are both finding our place together and growing everyday.

She may be classed as an older cat but the inner kitten in her comes out more day by day and she has me in hysterics chasing her fish on a string. We cuddle on the sofa and she sleeps on her blanket on the bed and has a really annoying yelp when she wants me to wake up (as I'm up at 5 am) but she doesn't always win. I'm extremely lucky to have Squeaky; it's so obvious she was really loved by her previous owner and she will continue to be loved. She means the world to me and I feel honoured to love her. She's a complete love bucket.

Thank you so much for this lovely story Jenny. Good luck to you and Squeaky



CALENDARS 2014 - You may remember that we were let down at the last minute with the calendars for 2014 as a result of which, with the generous help of Seaward Copy Shop in Broadstairs, we produced our own calendar featuring our own branch animals. This has proved very successful and we are pleased to say that the sale of these has raised over £1000 for branch animals. Our thanks to everyone for their generous donations. With the continued support of the Copy Shop we have decided that we will be producing our own calendar for 2015 featuring just some of our gorgeous animals.

CROSSES - In the last issue we featured the pretty crosses that are made and sold by Trevor and Jan Willis. Trevor and Jan started making these to raise funds for branch animals and it has now surpassed all expectations bringing in to date the amazing figure of just under £5,000. The demand for the crosses shows no sign of diminishing and we thank all those people and companies who buy them in support of the animals! Once again we thank Trevor and Jan for their dedication to the branch and hope that this lovely idea will continue to thrive.

THE ROCKY ROAD TO A HAPPY NEW LIFE



Meet Ernie. Just look into his lovely face and then ask yourself if you could have him put to sleep (PTS) because he is no longer wanted. This is a decision facing many rescues and dog pounds across the country on a regular basis. Many of our dogs come from the dog pound where dogs are only kept for 7 days before being destroyed if unclaimed. Ernie is one of the lucky ones. He is 4 years old and was facing PTS. He came to us from Yorkshire to be given a second chance of life. Thanks to RSPCA networking Ernie was transported from Yorkshire by *volunteer drivers with money donated by members of the public*. Without the dedication of these good people we

could not help as many animals as we do and we thank them and all those people that donate money to enable this work to carry on. Ernie is still looking for his forever home so if you are interested call Katie on 01622 891222 or 07595997674. In the meantime he is warm and safe with us.

EASY FUNDRAISING

In the last issue I explained how Easyfundraising.org.uk works in the hope that some of our readers who shop on line would open a free account. By joining Easyfundraising.org.uk you have the opportunity to search for your favourite retailer i.e. Amazon, and once connected you can shop in the normal way. The retailer makes a percentage donation to your chosen charity. This donation can vary from 1.5% to 5%. So far £170 has been raised for your branch through a small handful of people subscribing. My own contribution shopping for goods has raised £21.29 and it has cost me nothing - and yes it really is easy. **So please**, if you are an online shopper, or you have friends who are, consider supporting the branch in this way. It may not raise a fortune but every penny that comes in will help the animals.

FUN DOG SHOW

Saturday 29th August 2015

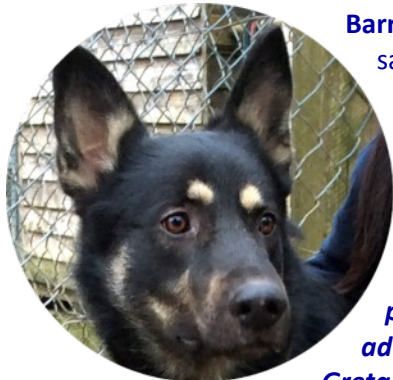
Teston Bridge Park, Nr Barming

Registration from 10.30 am, judging from 11.15

12 Fun-filled classes and BEST IN SHOW

£1/dog/class, Rosettes to 6 places,
Raffle, stalls, food stalls, fun scurry

Car parking charges will apply. For more information please
email: eb.dogshow15@gmail.com



Barry is desperately looking for a loving new home. Nothing new in that you might say but Barry was rescued at only 2 years of age, unwanted because he has epilepsy. Barry's story is on the RSPCA HQ website and our branch website where his plight was picked up by Elizabeth Benning who contacted the branch. This is the story.

Elizabeth says "If I could adopt Barry I would. My own dog Emma was in RSPCA kennels for 8 months before we took her on in January and her future was looking bleak. We want people to know that having a dog with epilepsy is NOT a major problem and as long as medication is given strictly in accordance with veterinary advice the dog can lead a normal life. Emma has a happy life with my other dog Greta and is absolutely lovely around my 2 year old daughter Hannah. Emma has her tablet at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily (in something tasty!) and this keeps her completely stable. She will have a blood test twice a year to check that her medication doesn't need changing and she has become a loyal and lovable member of the family. Giving Barry a loving home would mean you are giving a home to a beautiful dog that will give you many rewards and a huge amount of pleasure. If anyone is willing to give Barry the chance to live a normal family life I would be very happy to give them my telephone number so that they can contact me if they feel the need for a chat with another dog owner who is used to dealing with epilepsy. I feel so strongly that Barry deserves a loving home that I have offered to donate towards his care for the foreseeable future".

Daphne Harris, Branch Chairman says " Barry is a beautiful, loving boy now completely stabilised on medication who deserves the chance of a happy life. **The branch is initially looking for a LONG TERM FOSTER HOME** with a view to possible adoption for this lovely boy in the Maidstone area so that he can continue to be monitored via the local vet. The branch will continue to pay the cost of Barry's treatment. We are confident that once you have met Barry you will fall in love with him. The branch and Barry are extremely grateful to Elizabeth and her family for their generous offer of funding. Barry will stay with us until he finds that forever home – however long it takes! (Photos: Top beautiful Barry , right Emma & Elizabeth and Emma on her way to a new home)

