

These 63 animals were found new homes in the last 3 months



Buffy
loves West Malling



Graham
is very happy in Croydon



Pudding
has settled in Welling



Sandy
purrs in Gravesend



Taz
enjoys his walks in Chislehurst



Vanessa
has a new life in Forest Hill



Madison
adores Hayes



Sky
relaxes in Chattenden



Dave and Daisy
snuggle up in Blackfen

Also

RABBITS

Basil, Bonita, Carter, Flora, Harley, Harriet, Hattie, Herman, Howard, Mr and Mrs Tibbs, Olive, Otis, Ruby, Shirley, Skippy, Sleeping Beauty, Snow White, Sooty, Sweep, Tina

GUINEA PIGS

Alice, Andy, Badger, Barney, Dangermouse, Eric, Fred, Fudge, Ginger Betty, Ginger Rogers, Larry, Norman, Penfold, Ruddie, Treacle

DOGS

Loki, Scooby

CATS

Agnes, Clinton, Duchess, Fifi, Georgie, Joe, Maisy, Oliver, Oscar, Pomfrey, Poppet, Poppy, The Boys, Toska



Anim-Mates

Registered Charity No 1098252

Helping animals in need in the South East

Quarterly Newsletter

Patron: Jenny Seagrove

Summer 2010

A few of the animals who have recently been rescued



Albert A relationship split left two lovely Persians unwanted and neglected. Since having a haircut they are much more comfortable and now looking for a home.



Twinkle A unscrupulous breeder wanted to dispose of his 90 rabbits. He had some destroyed before we got there, but we managed to rescue 18, who all needed neutering.



Martha This very young stray arrived at Anim-Mates pregnant. She has since given birth to five kittens. So soon we will have to find at least three new homes for them all.





Buffy When a homeless man could no longer afford to keep his loyal companion of 5 years, he tried to have this Collie-cross put to sleep. She has been saved.

Eric As a child's birthday present, this guinea pig's novelty appeal soon wore off and he became yet another unwanted pet.



See all our animals at www.anim-mates.org.uk

FAMILY HOME Throughout the year Teresa welcomes many Friends of Anim-Mates and other animal lovers who travel to St Mary Hoo to see the 100 or so animals that she cares for in her home there. Please remember that Shakespeare Farm House is Teresa's family home, so all visits must be by prior arrangement. Teresa can be contacted on 07743 331397.

SUMMER FAIRS We're keeping our fingers crossed for a really fine June as our fundraising stall, staffed by volunteers, will be alongside dozens of other charities selling donated items at the Chislehurst Fair, Saturday 12 June on Chislehurst Common, and two weeks later at the Bellingham Festival, Saturday 26 June on Bellingham Green.




HOUSE CAT Dawn Gillam who gave Tooley a home in New Addington some six years ago took this photo of her beautiful 11-year-old tortoiseshell house cat. You'll find more photos of Anim-Mates pets on page 9.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Our mascot Willy reaches his 8th birthday on 16 June, defying, for yet another year, the vets who dared to suggest he be put to sleep just for being born with deformed legs. Willy, who is as mischievous as ever, receives many birthday cards each year.



TWO HELFUL FRIENDS Shelia Curtis ran a boot fair in Orpington for a neighbour and when she was told to give the proceeds to a charity she sent us £45. Julie Baxter co-organised a charity cake sale for the staff at the Horniman Museum in Forest Hill. It was a great success, raising £210 for Shelter and Anim-Mates to share.

BATHROOM PREFERENCE We had an email from Alison Zarkos who adopted Flora, an Angora rabbit, now named Lady Muck. "She enjoys running around our garden in Dartford. Her Ladyship also goes into the house a lot and prefers to hold court in the bathroom," said Alison. Read more of your letters on page 10.



New Friends / Donations / Sponsorship an animal Multi-use form

✓ Please tick the relevant boxes below

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Name.....

Address.....

Post Code.....

*Tel.....

Signed

Date.....

I wish to become a new Friend of Anim-Mates, for a minimum donation of £10 for a year, to support animals in need, and to receive a quarterly Newsletter. Please do not use this for renewals

I wish to a make a donation to Anim-Mates to help animals in need. I would like to receive a Newsletter which will show what my donation can achieve.

I wish to sponsor a Care-for-Life animal for a minimum donation of £10 for a year. I will receive a certificate, a report and photograph of my chosen animal. *Anim-Mates will call you about which animal you wish to sponsor

I enclose a donation of £..... payable to Anim-Mates. ■ Or if you prefer to pay by Standing Order, please tick the box and we will send you a form for your bank

Make your donation worth an extra 25% to Anim-Mates

Please tick the box if you would like Anim-Mates to reclaim the tax you have already paid on the above donation and any future donations you may make. You must have paid income tax and / or capital gains tax in the UK equal to the tax that will be claimed, currently 25p for every £1 you give.

Please post this form to: **Anim-Mates, Shakespeare Farm House**
Shakespeare Farm Rd, St. Mary Hoo, Kent ME3 8RS



Contact Anim-Mates by phone, letter, email and on the web

	General Enquiries 01634 271456	Animal enquiries	
	Post Anim-Mates Shakespeare Farm House Shakespeare Farm Road St. Mary Hoo Kent ME3 8RS	Cats, Kittens, Dogs and Puppies Teresa 07743 331397 01634 271456	 
	Email info@anim-mates.org.uk	Rabbits Terry 07821 318241	
	Website www.anim-mates.org.uk	Guinea Pigs Teresa 07743 331397 01634 271456	



Your letters and emails to Anim-Mates

From Julia Collins of Dartford



Ruby is enjoying life as an indoor rabbit but has full run of the garden when I am in. She is a very friendly, loving rabbit, but still a bit nervous, hopefully over the months she will become less so.

Ruddie and Alice the guinea pigs are getting along very well with their new friends, even though they argued for a bit the first

few days. Neutered Ruddie had to be knocked into shape at first as he was far too amorous still.

They are all lovely. Thank you again for letting me adopt them.



From Esther Berry of Sittingbourne
Caoimhe came round a lot quicker than expected and I think that is down to our cat Toby.



At first they would spend the entire time chasing each other, but now they have calmed down and spend their time sleeping

together; I even saw Toby cleaning Caoimhe the other day.

When they are wandering around they will rub against each other and smell each other, and if they aren't doing that then they are just playing, which can sound rather boisterous!

From Susan Goldfinch of Crayford
Wish has made herself at home and really settled in well.

She has made friends with my cat

Oscar and they follow each other around indoors and outdoors.

Originally underweight, Wish is now 4.2 Kilos, not a bone in sight. I am so glad you gave us the chance to give Wish a home. We can't believe how she has made herself at home in such a short while.



Photos and news of your rescue pets are always most welcome.

Please email them to info@anim-mates.org.uk or post them to Anim-Mates, Shakespeare Farm House, Shakespeare Farm Road, St. Mary Hoo, Kent, ME3 8RS

Acid attack kittens are now having the time of their lives

In the last issue of the Newsletter we told of two kittens who had deep acid burns inflicted upon them before they were rescued. We have now received a letter from Dippy and Mallen, who have been given a new home in Dartford by Lydia and Edward Sage.



Mallen and Dippy relax in their new home



"We like living here, even though they did take us to the vet a couple of weeks ago. I (Dippy) was very good, but I (Mallen) was a bit squirmy.

When mum and dad let us in their room, we like sitting on the windowsill because it gets really warm in the sun. We love watching the fire and sleeping beside it.

Mum and dad have bought us lots of toys; we love the little mice and chase

them all over the place - we also make mum laugh by using her vitamin pot as a toy - it makes a really good rattle noise when we push it around.

We've also got a leopard-print feather stick, which is really good. A visitor brought us a bright green long snakey thing which is so long we can both play with it at the same time, and we've also got an orange fish, which we ignore.



TAKE A LOOK Our website, which can be found at www.anim-mates.org.uk, has photos of all the animals that need new homes, plus all the Care for Life animals. You can also read our weekly Help a Pet appeal column that appears in the Kentish Times newspapers.

Each week we feature a video of animals doing clever, silly and sometimes amazing things. Their antics always raise a smile or two.

We are sad to report that Tia, a crossbreed who was adopted over six years ago, has passed away.

Josie Clark wrote to us from Dymchurch: "We were very lucky to have Tia in our family. She so enjoyed living by the sea and countryside.

We are not sure if we could ever find another dog as easy going as she was. She loved the kids; in fact she loved everybody she met.

Thanks for letting us take care of her. We will really miss her."



What is it about black and white and black cats? Why are they nearly always the last in the queue when it comes to being offered new homes?

I know traditionally there's been a lot of superstition surrounding black cats, which goes back to the 15th century, but do people really believe in it, still? Black or black and white - it's just a colour.

At present two thirds of the cats in our care are black or black and white. Some we have been trying to rehome since last year. Those we took in as kittens have now grown into young cats.

They have all had their photos in newspapers and on leaflets appealing for new homes, yet they have been continually overlooked for our tabbies, ginger and other colours.

If the makers of the popular Felix cat food think a black and white cat is best for their sales, why can't more people think they can be best as pets?



Dennis White, Hon. Secretary

Little Black Cat

I once was thought lucky,
but now that's 'old hat'
I'm not in the fashion, I'm a little black cat.
The visitors come and they pass with a smile
I'm young and I'm friendly,
but I've been here a while.
"We wanted a tabby" I've heard them request
I know I'm not tabby but I'm doing my best!
I've tried rolling over and waving my paw,
But they just take a glance
and pass by my door.
"Maybe a ginger? That one looks nice",
But a little black cat? Well no one looks twice
If you come to the rescue, just watch and see -
They'll choose all the others,
but no one picks me.

(We found this anonymous and appropriate poem on the Internet)

**News of our Patron
Jenny Seagrove**



Jenny with Louie and Millie

As always, Jenny's work for animals is a constant in her life. In the last few months she has been trying to keep The Horse Refuge - a wonderful sanctuary in Kent - afloat.

"I'm not sure yet if we've succeeded, but we're not giving up without a fight," says Jenny.

Her own life has been full of dramas, too. "I've been working flat out and so asked someone who knows my two dogs very well to walk them. Unfortunately, on two occasions Louie and Millie have got into scraps."

"Louie came off worse in his, but he's OK now. Millie, however, was kicked so hard by the owner of the other dog that she will probably be blind in one eye. I have banned the dogs from being in that particular park."

"I was very proud of my friend Mrs Doris Moffett's substantial bequest to Anim-Mates. She would be so pleased to know how many animals in need it will help. She worked very hard all her life and went without much herself for the sake of animals. Thank you Doris."



Photos and news of your Anim-Mates pets



Left Honey, who was adopted by the Smith family of West Wickham, is adored by their two sons.



Right Paddy was snapped relaxing while Kirstein Martin of Dartford was busy on her laptop.



Top left Three years ago Paul and Jason took brother and sister Hector and Pipkin into their Clapham home and gave them a fresh start in life. Here's their latest photo.

Top right 12-year-old Becky, described as 'our lovely Anim-Mates Princess' was snapped sunbathing in their Beckenham conservatory by Mr and Mrs Verlander.

Bottom left Kathy and Lesley Knowles of Orpington sent us a photo of their guinea pig Andy enjoying life with their other Anim-Mates adoptee, Bertie the rabbit.

Bottom right Lurcher Loki is doing brilliantly, says Becky Bryne of Peckham. Becky tells us that her other dog is very tolerant and is helping to show Loki how to behave.

Care For Life news We support Martie, Willie and Rosemary

Last November an elderly stray arrived at Anim-Mates in a dreadful state; he must have been living rough for quite some time. He was given a hair cut, dental treatment, a general MOT and a name, Martie. Like all the cats that we rescue, he was neutered, microchipped and vaccinated.

Martie then settled in as a Care For Life cat, soon becoming everyone's favourite at our sanctuary, where he flourished as a friendly, loving soul.

A couple of months later, following the death of their cat Suzie, Isobel and Rodney Shepherd visited Anim-Mates to offer a quiet retirement home in Blackheath to a rescue cat, preferably a black one.



We were thrilled when they chose Martie, who sadly has a kidney disease.

Rodney tells us: "Martie spends most of the time in the kitchen where he can keep an eye on our activities, often lying in a position where we have to step over him. He's friendly and affectionate."

Anim-Mates will support Martie for the rest of his years.

Did you know that you can sponsor a Care For Life animal? Please see page 11



Because of his health problems Willie, a 17-year-old Yorkshire Terrier, could not be rehomed and so moved into our Care for Life scheme.

He lives happily with Pat Austen, one of our fosterers who specialises in caring

for older dogs, in her Catford home.

Pat says: "Willie has a partly collapsed oesophagus and an enlarged heart. Despite this he is very cheerful and wants to be friends with everyone he meets."



Once her breeding days were over Shetland pony Rosemary found herself unwanted.

Now 25 years old, she shares her life with many Care For Life ponies and other animals at St Mary Hoo.

Could you give one of our Care for Life animals a permanent home? Anim-Mates will meet the costs of any

future vet treatment. If you can give a home to either a cat or a dog, please call Teresa on 01634 271456 or 07743 331397.

Fundraising news Continued success of annual appeal

When they made their annual appeal for donations of pet food, toys and bedding for Anim-Mates, staff at the Eltham Co-operative Travel agency were overjoyed by the generosity of their customers.

Manager, Janet Duval said: "As usual our customers and the general public were very generous with their gifts to Anim-Mates, who do such wonderful work finding homes for unwanted animals."

After the event Janet delivered the boxes of presents to Teresa at St Mary Hoo. "I had a quick look around Teresa's sanctuary and was so impressed by how all the animals are being cared for, I want to return soon with my mother."

In our picture staff members Maria, Pat, Janet and Kirsty show Katie, a 13-year-old Cocker Spaniel, some of the many donations.



Katie, one of your editor's dogs, then sniffed her way around the premises until she discovered a biscuit barrel on the staffroom table. A few digestives later, Katie said her goodbyes to the ladies.

Thank you Doris

We lost a good friend of Anim-Mates when Mrs Doris Moffett passed away last June, aged 90.



Doris, one of our most ardent and dedicated supporters, gave a home to a number of our rescue animals and regularly sent us kind donations.

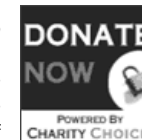
Doris was devoted to animals all her life and this love was reflected in her will.

Doris left generous bequests to a number of animal charities including the PDSA (People's Dispensary for Sick Animals), CPL (Cats Protection League), NAVS (National Anti-Vivisection Society) and Anim-Mates.

GIFT AID GIVES US £2,500 When we receive a donation, the donor has usually paid income tax on that money. Through Gift Aid, a government scheme, we can, as a charity, claim back the tax paid. Gift Aid provides us with about £2,500 each year to help boost our funds.

DONATE ONLINE We have always relied upon kind donations to help fund Anim-Mates.

In addition to the donation form on the inside back page of this newsletter, donations can also be made online via our website wherever you see the Donate Now sign.



Dog trainer helps Daisy

In her short life Daisy, a 6-year-old Collie-cross, has had three different owners.

Within a month of moving to her latest and final home, Daisy bonded well with her adopter Lesley Thomson in Highgate, but soon Daisy started acting rather aggressively towards

strangers, particularly men.

Lesley consulted a dog trainer. "She was very helpful," said Lesley, "and hopefully we can help Daisy to leave behind some of her more alarming behaviour. It will take time, patience and perseverance, but I am sure we will achieve our goals. Despite the problems, I have fallen in love with Daisy, she is such a lovely dog."

When we spoke to Lesley recently she told us that Daisy had made much progress in correcting her behaviour.



Old soldier walks with a limp

Oliver, an elderly stray, came to us with a dislocated front leg, which our vet promptly corrected.

X-rays also revealed that he had sustained an injury on a back leg many years ago which went untreated but had mended itself.

"He certainly is an old soldier and with a permanent limp he looks like he lost a couple of wars along the way," says Teresa who cared for Oliver while he was at St Mary Hoo.

Because Oliver, is FIV+ we needed to find him an indoor home for his retirement.

Linda Fivelman came to see Oliver and immediately knew he was the cat she wanted to share her Bromley home.

Should Oliver ever need treatment for his leg, Anim-Mates has agreed with Linda to meet the costs.



Booty and Maggie are a little puzzled in their new home

When their owner moved away without them, 4-year-old sisters Booty and Maggie were homeless until Anne Newport, a Friend of Anim-Mates, adopted them last October.



As you can see, these jet black ladies have certainly made themselves at home.

However, Booty, whose favourite place is on top of the aquarium, can't quite work out how to get at the fish that swim beneath her.

Meanwhile, Maggie still hasn't fathomed out why the mouse near the computer doesn't run and hide but just makes funny clicking noises.



Crofter's off to Switzerland



I'm Here By A Whisker

Me and the cats, or is it the cats and me?
For I'm not too sure who's in charge,
you see.

All I know is that we get along fine,
as long as I serve their meals up on time.

"Coming for cuddles?"
Tuppence knows what to do,
but poor Harry Potter just hasn't a clue.

Potter's a singer,
purr-fect tone of each note,
whilst Tuppence just mimes it
and wobbles his throat.

I tried to desert them
when their Mum passed away,
but fate said "No I think you should stay".

I'm sure Mum whispered
some words in their ears,
said, "Take care of your Dad
'cos he's so sad my dears".

Now, we three sit together
on our nice, snug settee,
one purr-ing, one cuddling,
whilst I watch TV.

Jonathan and Edna Wilkinson of Lee adopted Harry and Tuppence 6 years ago. Jonathan wrote this poem after his wife sadly passed away in January.

Crofter, who was adopted by Karin Cooper and her family in Brentwood over six years ago, has turned out to be a wonderful family pet.

"He is fantastic with our two children," says Karin. He still loves nothing more than his daily walks through the woods and chasing the odd squirrel or rabbit. I must say the squirrels are safer these days, as he has slowed down a bit with old age."

The Cooper family hopes to take Crofter to Switzerland with them again this summer where he loves playing in the river Rhine and going for long walks in the mountains.

SORTED

It's not always easy to find new homes for

elderly cats. We advertised for a retirement home for Joe, a stray. Judging from this photo he has no complaints about the new home that Gloria and Brian Turner have given him in Gravesend.

