

WELCOME to the Sunny Harbour Newsletter, August 2010. We had hoped to have our newsletter out a few weeks ago however life at the Harbour, it would seem, will not slow for anyone and least of all us!

Since our last Newsletter at the beginning of the year we have already come to the aid of 63 cats and kittens some have come from the most horrendous situations and others not so much but the one thing they all have in common is their need for the safety and refuge of Sunny Harbour.

We have seen a number of cases with fractured legs, facial injuries and other ailments which has meant many have had to spend several months at Sunny Harbour for rehabilitation prior to finding and moving onto new homes. The veterinary costs of these cases has been high and hit funds hard and with much longer accommodation needs at the Harbour it has meant that both space and money has been of a premium.

That being said we have not let them down and found the ways and means to see them through.

Since May - June of this year we have been working flat out on fundraising to keep up with the huge veterinary and food bills Sunny Harbour must meet each month. After a week of slogging our guts out its don the 'show attire' and head out for a Saturday's fundraising at the local Childrens Gala's.

Now, were it not for the 5am start and that the cats still insist on not cleaning up after themselves it would also make for a great day out!

We have also embarked on a couple of new fundraising projects which we have detailed later on in the newsletter which we hope you may find both useful as well as helping to raise funds for Sunny Harbour Cat Rescue.

If you have visited the website lately you will also have noticed that we have managed to finally re launch our Web Shop selling cat toys, bowls, feeding mats, water fountains and our new range of Cat Scratchers and posts.

These are hand built by the wonderful Paul from wood using sisal and faux fur as coverings. These have been branded Pawfect Posts and now have their own website at www.pawfectposts.co.uk



as well as being available on the rescue's web shop which can be accessed from our website at

www.sunnyharbour.org.uk

We also have in stock the new Fat Cat range of toys. These are an American brand and are filled with the Zoom Around The Room Catnip which the cats go crazy over - huge hit with everyone!

As always prices are very reasonable and in most cases much lower than retail prices.

with the objective to give our supporters access to a range of tried and tested cats toys and accessories at good value prices. Yes, all toys we have for sale have been tested by the Harbour Babies to some degree of destruction and if they last well and the cats like the toy then we will put them on sale.

Postage costs are calculated at cost according to the weight of your parcel so that you pay only what it costs us to post your parcel to you. By doing so it ensures that every purchase made from our online shop fully benefits the cats and kittens in our care.

We are working hard behind the scenes to secure even more ranges and hope in the near future to be able to offer a range of Cosmic products including Catnip Bananas and Cigars, puff balls and much more.

We are also very excited about the pending arrival of some of our very own Sunny Harbour Trolley Coins. These coins are substitutes for the pound coin you can never find for your trolley when out shopping and these particular trolley coins will come with the Sunny Harbour logo.

We were hoping to have delivery before the Pawrents Day on 1st August but as soon as they do arrive we'll let everyone know via Facebook and the Online Shop.

Speaking of which -

HAVE YOU FOUND US ON FACEBOOK?

Sunny Harbour Cat Rescue have a facebook page where a number of our adoptee's and supporters gather and follow our day to day work and get involved in discussions, ask questions and share information and funny stories.



If you would like to join with other Harbour Baby Pawrents and keep up to date on daily happenings then do visit us at the following address:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sunny-Harbour-Cat-Kitten-Rescue>

There is also a link to our Facebook and Twitter pages from the Sunny Harbour website, just look for the relevant logos on our home page.

FUNDRAISING

The months of May to July/August are always the months where we are working really hard on our community fundraising in the form of local Gala's and Fete's. The weather has been reasonably kind to us this year however the hard work and generous donations have quickly been eaten up by food and veterinary bills of late.

That said, we have a great many thanks to give to Caroline, Jenny, Linda and Sam for their help at this years fundraising events. I must also say a big thank you to my hubby Paul for all his hard work and putting up with a gaggle of wummin at each event - I'm very sure he



nearly pulled out what hair he has left in the frustration of shall we say; lack of Gazebo building experience! :-)) On the up side though Paul - it did make us all laugh!



We attended a number of events locally including the Children's Gala for Cupar, Dalgety Bay, Dunfermline and Halbeath where a good laugh and lots of hard work and happy kids were to be found.

We were pleased to see that Caroline and Linda managed to slink off for face

painting at Dunfermline Gala which made us all laugh. As you can see by the pictures we let our hair down and had a good laugh - something much needed after a very long year so far!

(is it only July!!??)



RECENT CASES

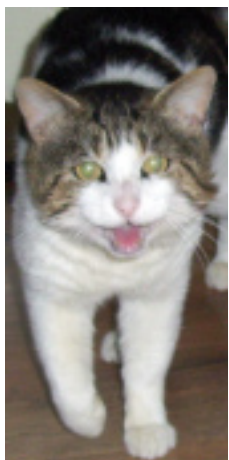
Star & Orion

These beautiful, loving little cats came to Sunny Harbour Cat Rescue after finding themselves caught up in the middle of a domestic violence situation. On arrival both were very dirty, matted to the skin (yes even the short haired cat) requiring shaving, suffering with sore eyes and poor Orion had bad teeth of which 2 were barely hanging in the gums. All this at just 2 years of age.

They have since received veterinary treatment and Orion has had teeth out and the rest cleaned up and after all they have been through you really could not ask for 2 better natured cats. These wonderful little cats are seeking a home together.

Benson

Benson arrived with us a thin, bedraggled lump of a cat at the beginning of July. Exhausted and absolutely filthy from living on the streets he was also an entire tom cat with huge facial abscesses and scratches to prove it!



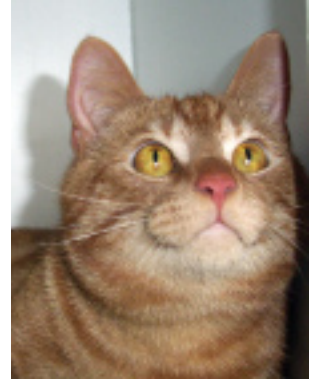
Just 3 weeks later this was our Benny boy! all cleaned up, neutered and abscess's healing, he proved himself to be nothing more than a big cuddly teddy bear.

Benson was very lucky and landed on his feet with his new family where he is utterly spoilt in every way - just how we like it

Indy

Indy is a great little boy. He came to us around June time after being found wandering the streets.

It later turned out that he had fractured his femur and needed x-rays, pain medication, checkups neutering as well as 9 weeks cage rest.



After all of the above (and the obligatory milking for sympathy) Indy has made a wonderful recovery and you would never know anything had every happened to the leg as he hares round the rescue like a looney on catnip!

Kaycee & Babies

Kaycee was merely a baby herself and when she came to Sunny Harbour after her elderly owner found her with 4 kittens she was struggling to cope. After just a couple of days at Sunny Harbour we had to make the difficult decision to remove the babies from Kaycee or risk losing her and all 4 babies.

It was touch and go for a while with Kaycee but we are very pleased to be able to report that she made a full recovery and was neutered before being returned to her elderly owner.

The babies however were now ours to raise and the first of a flurry of hand rearing litters they were to become. We are very happy to be able to report however that these little babes have started to make their way to their new homes.

Bow & Rio

Now these 2 little babies are just picture perfect. These 2 little lads were reported as having been found in a local stables.

On arrival they were weak, very small for their age, under-



weight and suffering with bad diahorrea. After a course of routine worming, anti-biotics and lots of tlc and good nutritional food the little ones made a brilliant turn around and are now fighting fit and currently awaiting their new home.

Molly, Jed & Eddie (Jedward)

Molly's case was heart breaking. After discovery by a family member that a relative had a cat and 3 kittens and the condition they were living in we were called to help by offering a place of safety.



Sadly by the time these little one's were noticed 1 kitten had already passed to Rainbow Bridge, most likely from starvation and the 2 remaining kittens and mum were pittifully thin.

On their arrival mum was immediately seperated from Jed and Eddie to allow mum to regain her strength and get some weight back on. The kittens were terrified of humans and saw us merely as a threat. They also had no idea what cat food was and it took several days for them to get the hang of it.

Mum was successfully neutered and has turned out to be a wonderful, loving little girl - she just doesn't do other cats very well. Her babies Jed and Eddie? well they have turned out to be the biggest sooks now that they have had some work and reassurance to learn that humans are not to be feared.

All will make wonderful family additions now that their past has been left behind and a new fresh beginning awaits.

Moushka

Moushka came to Sunny Harbour after her temper snapped following constant harassment from a toddler.

In honesty I don't blame poor Moushka as on arrival we discovered that her tail had in fact been broken with an injury consistent with a small child grabbing the tail.

Her first thoughts were fear and escape as she desperately tried to get away from you and to make things worse if you even so much as touched her back then she would freak and turn round to bite or hit you.

After a couple of weeks at Sunny Harbour little Moushka made a brilliant turn around and has now found a wonderful new home where she is a pampered puss and all fear and anger has gone from her eyes.

Billy Whizz, Slow Mo & Girls

After hand rearing Kaycee's babies and also Bow and Rio we were kind of hoping for a quieter spell in which to get a little more sleep. This was not to be the case.

We received a phone call at the beginning of July about a cat that had just had kittens. Mum cat had gone missing and the 'owner' had stated that if mum did not return kittens would be tossed out in the bin! Yes the bin!

So, without hesitation we collected the little ones and brought them back to the safety of the harbour. At the time of writing this newsletter all 4 of the babies are contining to do well and have now reached 4 weeks of age.

2 gingers, 1 torbie and a dark torti girl this is going to be one wild litter!



Smokey

Smokey is a lovely, dear old girl or around 13 years of age who just needs someone to love her. Smokey came to Sunny Harbour after her elderly owner was taken into care following mental health issues. After months possibly years of confusing behaviour and being unsettled she was then moved to the Harbour where she has finally found a bit more stability.



Smokey was a grumpy girl on arrival who found the upheaval a little too much at times. Despite this she has quickly shown herself to be a very chatty loving cat, however affection is on Smokey's terms as you would expect from any female cat really.

We would dearly love to find wee Smokey a new home to live out the rest of her life with a human to call her own.

Taz

This was a difficult case for us to deal with but nonetheless we gave Taz a chance. Taz had been refused from other rescue's due to his health concerns and with his owner in hospital and family unable to care for him we could not let Taz go on without help.

We brought Taz in and immediately had him checked over by our vets following suspicions of renal failure (kidney disease).

He was booked in to have further tests done however on sedation it was found that he had a massive tumour in the roof of his mouth and we had to make the heart breaking decision to let Taz go to Rainbow Bridge and ease his suffering.

Some people ask us why we get upset over cats we only have a short while or we know are sick - our answer is that each and every life is precious even if it is just

with you a day, a week or a month the love they receive is real and what they give us back is immense.

For these lost souls who just need someone to believe in them, someone to offer them hope, safety and a warm arm to cuddle into are what we are here for. These are the cats and kittens who are at the very edge of existence teetering at the bridge - and it is for them that we work tirelessly to save as many as we can.

Benson, Henry (aka Smudge), Wilfred, Honey, Molly and many many others would not be alive, happy and in wonderful loving homes without the Harbour.

Sammy Update

Honey's son, Sam, was the sole surviving kitten from the litter of 2 she had on her arrival at Sunny Harbour in September of 2009.

Sam stayed with us at the harbour for several months as his growth was stunted and he suffered with problems with his tummy and food. In all that time he certainly never learnt how to share toys either!!

He has now been in his new home for several months and we are overjoyed to be able to report that he is doing brilliantly well under Helen's watchful eye. He has begun to explore the outdoors and is a very lucky kitty to have a holiday home as well.



He has just spent a week with his new family at their holiday home and reports have been that he has thoroughly enjoyed himself running along the beach and playing hide and seek in the sand dunes.

You are one lucky kitty Sir Sammy. Hope to see you soon!

FOCUS ON VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is a great way to give something to the community. In the case of Sunny Harbour Cat Rescue our volunteer opportunities give you the chance to help those animals less fortunate, abused and abandoned through no fault of their own a second chance at life, by becoming part of our small team.

It will also help you to expand your skills and being able to add volunteering roles to your CV is always a bonus!

You will also find volunteering very rewarding and you will get back so much love and gratitude from the cats and kittens in our care.

What kind of people are we are looking for?

We are looking for people with an interest in animal welfare, eager to help less fortunate animals than their own pets and willing to give up some of their time to be a companion and carer. Diligence and common sense and an ability to follow processes in place at the rescue for the wellbeing of both you and the cats in our care is essential.

What kind of volunteering opportunities are there?

Cat Socialiser

Cat Socialisers are people who pop in and spend an hour or 2 as and when they can spare, to spend time in play and cuddles with our current residents. This is a key role and helps to keep the cats spirits up and is also critical in the care of nervous or timid cats who need that little bit of reassurance.



Fundraisers

We are currently looking for people to help develop and run existing fundraising activities for the rescue. This can include monetary fundraisers through car boot sales, spot the ball and events or alternatively organising bedding or food collections in the workplace, local communities, shops, etc.

General Volunteer

Difficult to think of an appropriate term for this role so we will go with General Volunteer for now! This role is for those who don't mind getting stuck in with the daily cleaning and grooming of the cats and kittens in our care.

This voluntary role is for between the hours of 1000hrs - 1200hrs and will involve; cleaning out cat pens; general tidying of cat ward; lifting; carrying; general cleaning duties; grooming and health checks of the cats.

Yvonne Says:

"I help clean the cat room - cleaning litter trays and cat pens, making sure the cats have comfy bed and toys. Much the same as I do at home, so it's no trouble.

Of course I smooch as I go - one of the big perks volunteering at Sunnyharbour! The cats really appreciate the attention.

You wouldn't believe all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes. While we get on with the cat room it frees up some time for Paul and Sarah to get on with something else - there is always stuff to do!

I'd really encourage anyone reading this, who loves cats, whether you have a cat or not, to think about volunteering at Sunnyharbour. It's just a few hours which is easy to do. It's enjoyable and rewarding and I've learned lots too."

SAVE MONEY AND HELP SUNNY HARBOUR CAT RESCUE GENERATE MONTHLY INCOME

Step 1 – Visit www.telecomplus.org.uk/E77225 or call the free phone number 0800 131 3000.



Step 2 – Choose which utilities you want to switch to Utility Warehouse on a single bill.

Step 3 – Once registered Sunny Harbour Cat Rescue receive a £5 donation and up to 5% of your monthly bill at no additional cost to you.

Optional Step 4 helps you to save even more money on your monthly bill without any extra work or changing a thing!

Step 4 – Take out the Utility Warehouse Cash Card and 5% of your total spend with registered retailers will also be deducted from your monthly bill saving you even more money.

CashBack card

Save 25% off your utility bill every month by shopping!

Utility Warehouse' exclusive CashBack card gives you 5% CashBack every time you shop at leading retailers including Sainsbury's, Argos, B&Q, Top Shop, Halfords, Homebase, Domino's... and that quickly adds up to a big saving on your monthly bill! There's no limit to the CashBack you can earn.

Spend £20 in Sainsbury's, and we'll take £1 off your next monthly bill. Spend £400 on groceries in a month, and we'll take £20 off your next bill. And that's on top of Nectar points, and any other in-store promotions and discounts!

Who are Utility Warehouse?

The Utility Warehouse is currently the only utility provider in the UK that can supply customers with both energy and phone services on a single monthly bill. With its unique range of utilities – landline, mobile phone, broadband, gas and electricity – the Utility Warehouse can simplify your household bills whilst saving you a considerable amount of time, effort and money!

The Utility Warehouse offers customers the opportunity to make huge savings on their essential household utilities. Customers can receive unlimited free calls at any time of day, to any fixed telephone number in the UK depending on the number of different services taken (eg Home Phone, Mobile, Gas, Electricity, or Internet). The more services you take, the more money you will save.

The Utility Warehouse is managed by Telecom plus PLC, a major UK company listed on the London Stock Exchange. It has a turnover in excess of £278 million, and over 300,000 customers across the UK receiving great value and outstanding service on a wide range of essential utilities: gas, electricity, home phone, mobile and broadband.

You may not have heard of the Utility Warehouse before as they don't waste money on expensive advertising, so they can keep costs down and pass the savings they make on to their customers. For more information about Utility Warehouse and the Fundraising Scheme in aid of Sunny Harbour Cat Rescue please visit the following website:

www.telecomplus.org.uk/E77225

Or alternatively please call 0800 131 3000 quoting our Appeal Number E77225