

Cat Chat

Latest news from
Worthing Cat Welfare Trust



A very warm welcome to the Summer issue of Cat Chat.

As the weather warms up, you may wonder why we've used a photo of a stunning white cat alongside a Christmas tree!

It might be unseasonal but that image is testimony to our motto: "Never give up".

It shows Lucas - a deaf cat with a heart murmur - who saw two Christmases with us.

Thankfully, he's a resilient boy and was in the care of two of our committed fosterers during that time, in a loving home environment.

As I wrote this, we were entering kitten season and rescuing pregnant female cats, who are struggling to survive on the streets.

One of these was Poppy - rescued as she frantically tried to get under a shed, about to go into labour. She gave birth just hours after coming into our care.

Others have been dumped - like little Stevie, who was left in a bag in a bin. Partially sighted, he's now being fostered by one of our partner vet nurses, pending rehoming.

On a positive note, there are the many success stories – approximately 300 cats now in loving, permanent homes.

**Issue Four
Summer 2026**

Lucas



Stevie



Poppy

Just some of their heart-warming tales are included in this newsletter - including positive outcomes for three strays featured on P7, and Kevin's rescue on P3.

Keen to help or to find out more - see the back cover for more details.

With thanks, as always,
for your ongoing support.

Joss Loader - Chair of WCWT



Paying tribute to Sharon Peters

Worthing Cat Welfare Trust's founder member, Sandra Collins, has paid tribute to one of our longest-serving volunteers, Sharon Peters, who has sadly died.

Sandra - who set up our charity 31 years ago with Iris Green - said Sharon and her husband, Tony, worked tirelessly for WCWT in their Lost and Found and Rescue roles.

Sandra said: "For those of you who didn't know her, Sharon and Tony showed great dedication in their roles, going out to help cats in all weathers.

"Sharon enjoyed helping with fund-raising and when we opened our first charity shop, they were both there, helping with cleaning and painting.

"Our sincere condolences to Tony and their family.

"Thank you, Sharon, for helping us to get WCWT up and running and to make it the charity it is today."



FUND-RAISING

As a small charity, finding loving homes for around 300 cats and kittens annually, we are under sustained pressure to balance our books.

Sincere thanks to everyone who supports us - including the new Mayor of Worthing, Cllr Lysanne Skinner, who's nominated WCWT as one of her three charities.

Supporting events:

We are always looking for volunteers to help our small team with fund-raising - particularly on event days.

In particular, we would welcome some "muscle" to help erect the gazebo before and after the fun starts.

Confirmed events as follows (subject to weather, please check our Facebook page for regular updates).

Saturday 6th June 2026 - Durrington Festival 8am – 4.30pm (includes set up)

Saturday 18th July 2026 – Broadwater Fire Station Open Day: 7.30 onwards ready for 9.30 start

Monday 31st August 2026 – Worthing Carnival – Steyne Gardens: 9.30am – 6pm (open to public 11am)

Saturday 12th September 2026 – Findon Sheep Fair: 8am – 5pm (includes set up)

If you can't help, please do come along and see us on the days.

Like to find out more?

Please email enquiries@worthingcatwelfaretrust.org for more information

Rescuing Kevin



Just look at him now!

Kevin's story touched many hearts after our fostering officer, Rachel, and WCWT chair, Joss, rescued this little lad from a garage in Durrington just a few days after Christmas.

He'd been trapped for at least a month - fed by kind-hearted neighbours but living amongst his own excrement, in a sad and sorry state.

He was scared, cold and alone - with a natural fear of humans.

To be honest, there were times when we feared that he'd never adjust to life in a home.

Rachel and Joss rescued Kevin on a dismal, cold December day. Our sincere thanks to everyone who helped, including the garage leaseholder who didn't live locally and travelled to help us and let us in.

Kevin was terrified, panicking and hard to pick up - but Rachel's experience paid off and he was safely confined to a carrier.



Rachel took him into her care initially and he was swiftly vet checked. She then used all her expertise to start Kevin on his road to happiness.

For seemingly endless days he hid - withdrawn and let down by the world.

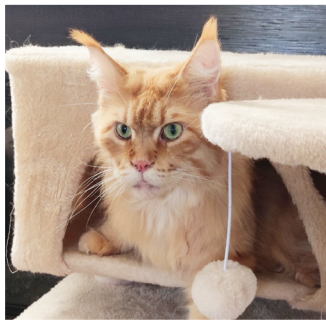
Patience slowly started to pay off and a kind-hearted fosterer came forward, after reading his sad and sorry story on Facebook.

Now - thanks to the kindness, compassion and love of Erin and her husband - Kevin has blossomed. He even sits on their knees.

The transformation is truly remarkable and, at the time of writing, we were looking for his permanent, loving home.

You can't buy love - but you can rescue it - and this is what makes our work at WCWT so worthwhile.

FelineForever Homes



Oriana - When Beverley lost her husband, followed by the further loss of her loving cat Pause, she was left with an empty house and what seemed like endless days of loneliness.

“I reached out to WCWT but wasn’t quite ready on the first occasion.

“And then, call it luck, call it fate, within a few days of reconnecting with WCWT I received a call one

Saturday morning from their adoptions officer, Sandra, stating that she had a special lady that urgently needed rehoming, and she thought she was a perfect fit for me! “A few hours later the beautiful Oriana was brought into my life. An eight-year-old ginger Maine Coon, who at first was a little skittish, has now become my new best friend, the perfect companion and someone that has honestly changed my life.

“I can’t thank WCWT and their lovely team enough. The work they do isn’t just helping cats, it’s helping people too. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.”



Anya - When Vince and Becky first spotted Anya on the WCWT website, they both independently thought that she’d be a great match!

They said: “After contacting Sandra, an appointment was made for a home vetting. Sandra was very open and friendly as well as being very professional and focused on making sure the match would be mutually beneficial for feline and humans alike.

“A few days later we were invited to visit Anya at the home and Five Star Cat Resort run by Tracie.

“She was even more adorable in the fur and purred like a jack hammer.”

A couple of days later, they took the little lady home. She settled in well and has been a delightful, furry, purring, mini meowing snuggle bunny ever since.

They added: “It was a genuine pleasure to meet the various individuals Involved in the process and very heartening to see the genuine love and care that goes into every adoption.”



Nova - Jenny and Dan had been considering getting a pet for a while and had decided on a cat.

Within just a few days, they spotted Nova online. Jenny said: "Her big blue eyes and beautiful markings stood out me and I rushed to show my husband. This is the one I said."

"We reached out to WCWT soon after and arranged a home visit. We then met with the lovely fosterers and decided to adopt Nova."

"Nova is a supported cat due to an ongoing skin condition and WCWT have been helpful with getting this sorted. She has now settled into life with us and is becoming more confident each day. She loves exploring the garden, sleeping on the bed and stealing the occasional crisp!

"We couldn't be without her and are so grateful to WCWT's caring team."



Linky and Lulu - After having cats most of her life, and all of them living to a good age, Karen decided to contact WCWT to adopt again, as she really missed her little furry family.

Karen said: "In December, two little brother and sister kittens needed a home - for me, a wonderful Christmas present!

"My family and I named them Linky and Lulu, and at just three months old, they were such little pickles! Climbing into the Christmas tree and making friends with my dog Lucie!

"Now, at seven months old, they are completely at home with us all, becoming more and more brave in the garden and even scaring off the neighbour's cat! Complete little treasures. And I'm so grateful to WCWT for helping me complete my fur family again."



Whiskey and Smudge - Rachel and Sam have reported a lovely experience after adopting from WCWT.

Whiskey and Smudge were ten months old at the time and a pair of bonded brothers and were looking for a new home.

Rachel reported: "This was the second time we've adopted with the charity, after rehoming Rex and Russell. We very sadly lost lovely Rex and a few months later we felt that

Russell was lonely and needed some company. Whiskey and Smudge were the perfect fit and gave Russell a new lease of life. He is now back to loving life and his playful self. The three boys did not take long to all become the best of friends and they all now eat, sleep and play together, all day, every day.

"We have nothing but positive things to say. Such an amazing charity which works as well as it does because all the fantastic people involved. Thank you so much for everything!"

More Feline “Tails”



Willow - Jacqui lost her beloved black and white boy called Sydney last July and by January, was ready to look for another indoor cat in need.

She said: “Someone recommended WCWT, and after my first conversation with Sandra, I felt they were well organised and caring, even though not many indoor cats come into their care.

“My flat has a balcony, so the lovely Cindy came to visit to ensure it was cat safe and had everything one of their cats would need. A few weeks went by and I was sent a photo of the lovely Willow.

“I went to see him, a nervous little boy who was being fostered at her home by Louise. I decided he was for me and to cut down on his stress Louise very kindly brought him over to me. He took a while to settle and is still a bit wary but left alone, he will come and say hello to visitors - like all cats, things are on his terms!

With me on my lap as much as possible and gently taking over!!

My thanks to all the WCWT team for all they did and the personal service I received - it made all the difference.



Loki – After losing her darling cat, George, Wendy was understandably devastated but wanted to offer another cat a loving home as soon as possible.

As soon as she saw the picture of Loki she fell in love.

She said: “Loki had had a rough start in life and at the time was being fostered by a lovely gentleman called Alex at his house. When we met her it was clear that she was very nervous and it would take some time to gain her trust, but we were fine with that. The next day during the drive home, I told her that she was going to have such a

wonderful life with us and a little black and white paw appeared through the carrier and she grabbed my hand. That’s how we stayed until we arrived home.

“As the days and weeks went by, this timid, little black and white baby grew and grew - in size and in confidence. She now has the most incredible swagger and completely owns the room when she walks in.

The little cat that we found when our hearts were broken has healed us and brought us so much joy and laughter. We can’t thank Sandra enough for her help and continued support.”

STRUGGLING FOR SURVIVAL ON THE STREETS



Rehoming stray cats can be incredibly rewarding - but takes patience, knowledge and care to find the right home.

From the truly feral - to those who lost their indoor homes for whatever reason - they need a bespoke approach. Here are three recent success stories:



Ettie was a stray who regularly visited a garden in Steyning. Local enquiries to find an owner drew a blank.

Naturally wary, she wouldn't get too close to the house but the occupants noticed she was growing rounder and contacted us for help. She was successfully caught with a humane trap and produced three kittens for us a few weeks later.

It soon became apparent that Ettie wasn't feral - she was an 'inbetweenner' and wouldn't want to live in a house.

Once her kittens were weaned and socialised, they were successfully homed and Ettie was spayed, chipped and returned to her finder's garden. They have provided her with a cosy, warm, dry shed to shelter in and she spends her days happily in the garden - sometimes venturing close to the conservatory.

Perhaps she'll come in one day!



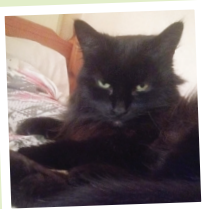
Panda was a wary cat who couldn't be touched or handled and was living as a stray in Storrington.

One day he arrived in a garden, unable to bear weight on his back leg. The houseowner contacted us for help and we took him straight to a vet.

The poor lad had an infected cat fight wound and a dislocated toe! He was given antibiotics and in time he was neutered and chipped.

It was apparent that Panda was a feral cat and wouldn't be happy in a traditional home environment. The finder was moving and unable to have him back.

We found Panda the most idyllic rural home - he has a cosy stable for shelter with warm bales of hay and acres of land to roam to his delight!



Pepper was a regular visitor to a house in Worthing - breaking in through the cat flap and stealing the resident cat's food.

This had been going on for some months and the homeowner had made extensive local inquiries to find an owner. Unfortunately, he couldn't get near her because she would shoot out of the cat flap.

He approached WCWT for help and we lent him a humane cat trap which was successful within a few days.

Pepper was a lovely friendly cat once we had her in our care and was successfully rehomed and is now living her best life in a loving, indoor home - not having to break into houses for food!

LOOKING TO HELP CATS IN NEED?

Worthing Cat Welfare Trust was set up more than 30 years ago, by Sandra Collins and Iris Green.

At the time, they had 40 cats and just £40 in the bank. Now WCWT is a registered charity, rehoming around 300 cats a year.

Keen to offer support?

Please visit our website at www.worthingcatwelfaretrust.org

Please donate

- our costs have soared during the cost-of-living crisis. It's easy to donate via our website or sign up for annual membership, pen sponsorship or consider leaving a legacy.

Adopt don't shop

- check out adoption guidelines and cats available now, plus details of our fostering scheme.



Getting in touch:



Contacts:

Please check which of the following subjects you need to talk to us about and use the contact details below:

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Rehoming to Us: 07340 986609
(between 9am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday)
or email rescue@worthingcatwelfaretrust.org

Adopting from Us: 07376 644085
(between 9am-5pm) or email adoption@worthingcatwelfaretrust.org

Fostering for Us: 07838 379599
(between 1pm and 5pm, weekdays only.)
or email fostering@worthingcatwelfaretrust.org

Lost & Found: 07340 986609 (9am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday) or email rescue@worthingcatwelfaretrust.org outside these times.

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