



Mann Cat Sanctuary

2018

Welcome

Dear Supporter,

Well, it's that time of year again, newsletter time!! So much has taken place this last year there is no shortage of content to fill the pages.

Many of our rescues are with feral cats and kittens. They have such a difficult life and at times, desperately need help. Our policy with feral cats is to neuter and chip them, and if possible, return them to the area where they are familiar with but only if there is a responsible person to care for them and keep them fed and watered. Should this not be possible, the cats are brought here to the sanctuary and placed in our designated area for ferals away from the main sanctuary where they are kept in for about a month. Once ready, we allow them to have their freedom back and start letting them out to roam our fields. However, they have learnt by this time that they have a permanent place where they can be warm, well fed and watered with minimal disturbance.

Much of our time and energy this year, has been spent trying to help and support a dog called Rex and some of you may be familiar with the tragic situation. Rex was brought to the Isle of Man as an eight month old rescue dog to be homed here and he had indeed found a very suitable home. On his first visit to the vet in February 2017 which was to have a simple neutering procedure,



the vet decided in his wisdom, to make the decision that Rex could be a banned breed and subsequently called the police who then seized the dog from the practice. Rex was then taken into police custody and was then transferred to custody in Essex, where he remained until December when he was released back to the UK based rescue centre on police bail. There have been numerous court hearings and eventually the CPS decided there was no case to answer and dropped all charges, however the Essex police have now taken out a private prosecution and this is set to be heard this Spring. This case has damaged the island with many people reluctant to bring any bull typed breed here and the damage it has caused to Rex himself at his age is immeasurable and incomprehensible.

We have had two particularly sad situations here since our last newsletter and these have been the loss of two big characters here at the sanctuary, Joseph the donkey and BooBoo. BooBoo our Macaw had lived here for over ten years although we had no idea how old he was and it came as a shock for him to die so suddenly without warning. He had made himself to be recognised

world wide as he loved to perform in front of the webcams, particularly when I passed through or when there was plenty of dishes to overturn in the conservatory. We all still miss him and he has left quite a large gap that won't be filled. Joseph, who along with Mary, had also been here for around ten years and his passing in early 2018 was not so much of a surprise as he had been suffering ill health for twelve months and was receiving medication. We are pleased to say Mary seems to be doing ok as we were very concerned that she would miss Joseph terribly as they were never apart. However, our two ponies Alfie Mann and Bubbles have comforted here and share her stable some nights.

As always, we couldn't manage the workload here without our excellent volunteers. We have the hard working staff in the mornings who undertake all of the cleaning duties and keep the cats clean and comfortable, these being Anita, Ann and Darryl. At this point I need to say a special thanks to Ann who after ten hard years is taking steps towards retirement and is now just doing the Sunday mornings. Our residents require lots of

comfort and attention and we have plenty of volunteers in the afternoon who provide all the attention the cats need, and spend time grooming them and making sure they're all fed enough and kept warm.

We say it every year, but we are so fortunate to have the relationship we do with our vet, Jane Callow and particularly her daughter Dr. Ruth who attends the sanctuary once a week and is always on call when we need her.

Finally the biggest thank you goes to you, our supporters. Without the finance we receive from you we wouldn't be able to do any of the work we do or care for as many residents as we do. So, from the cats and us, thank you!

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and I look forward to welcoming you all to the sanctuary when we are open during the summer months, April to September every Wednesday and Sunday,

Sue Critchely

Mann Cat's Guilding Principle
*"Until he extends the circle of
compassion to all living things, man
himself will not find peace"*



Our Latest Feral Family

Our first encounter with cats at this property goes back many, many years. The property was a very large one in the south of the island with one person, an elderly gentleman, occupying it. There has always been a large colony of cats living at this property and the gentleman was fond of them and always fed them. All of the cats were not neutered and were interbred and we had tried many times over the past few years to offer help and it had always been refused.

We have managed to rescue some cats from the property in the past but this was only when the cats had wandered out of the grounds and they had been picked up in a fairly poor state by neighbours or passers by who had then called us. One of them you may remember and that was Faye, a little torty who lived with us for about two years. She wandered out of the grounds and appeared to be disorientated as she was sitting on a busy road and once she had been picked up and passed over to us, it

was evident that she had eye problems and need urgent veterinary help. This led to one eye being removed and she was much more comfortable then. She became very friendly and made herself very popular with visitors, often liking to wrap herself around people's necks. Faye was very young when she came to us and soon it became apparent there was more health issues with her and she never grew any bigger than from the size she was when she came to us and unfortunately Faye died about two years after she arrived here. This story about Faye is one of many situations we have experienced with cats from this property over the past few years.

In January of 2018, we received a call from the gentleman's cousin, stating that he had been taken into hospital and wouldn't be





returning to the property. He explained that we could go into the property and take all of the cats and bring them to the sanctuary. Darryl and Anita went down one evening with traps and baskets and met the cousin who showed them around the property and it's grounds. Whilst walking around, many cats were present and when they entered one room there was a little kitten sat on the floor which was happy enough to be picked up and placed into one of the baskets. As the cats had been without food for a couple of nights, Darryl and Anita both thought they would be able to trap some cats whilst they were there so they began setting some both in the house and outside. Indeed, within moments cats were starting to go in the traps and they were tame enough to then be transferred into baskets, allowing them to reset the traps. From the first evening they brought back four cats of all different ages and sizes and the kitten. The kitten had one quite sore eye but this cleared up fairly soon after treatment started.

The next day, Darryl went away playing snooker in Bulgaria, leaving Anita flying solo with the rest of the cats, which we approximated to be about another six. Anita was down at the property early the

next morning setting traps and with the neighbours fully aware we were there she left them for an hour. When she returned there was another three in the traps which she then brought to the sanctuary. Once Anita had dropped them off, she again reset them but unfortunately when she returned, one of the traps had been stolen. We did find out where it had gone and had indeed been collected by another rescue centre that had interfered knowing the trap was ours and they informed us that it contained a kitten that they did not hand over to us. However, the remaining two cats were both in the other two traps so we very quickly had all of the cats from the property and all bar one were then brought to the sanctuary.

Shortly after their arrival, some needed medication and some are more feral then others but on the whole they are not bad. They have all been neutered and chipped and they will all remain together at the sanctuary.



The Fluffy Family

Towards the end of January, 2018, we received a call from a lady who had been put in a very difficult situation by her work colleague who had moved off island. The lady had moved off island and didn't take the cats with her. Instead she left them without much warning with the lady that contacted us. There were five cats, two young adults and their three kittens and unfortunately, the lady couldn't keep these cats as she had big dogs and genuinely didn't have room for five cats.

We agreed that they could all come here and the next day they were brought to the sanctuary. We were appalled to discover what state they were all in. The kittens were about four months old and long haired. They are all white so we couldn't instantly see that they were all heavily infested with fleas, one had a complete nest embedded in it's coat. The two adults weren't much better, they are long haired and tabby and we had to clip one from it's neck to it's stomach as it couldn't walk or move it's back legs! We found it difficult to understand how they could be in this state at such a young age and we were just fortunate that they allowed us to do everything we needed to do to them. All of the three kittens had eye issues and one kitten in particular was very weak when she arrived.

They were put into one of our porta cabins around the back of the sanctuary near the feral house, which we primarily use for kittens and is also occupied with Minnie, one of our popular blind residents. They soon settled in that room and once they did, we had the mother cat spayed and the male cat neutered. We will have to wait for the kittens to become a little stronger before they can be neutered and spayed and once they have been done, they will start to come outside during the summer months.

The mother and father cats are very friendly and now they are much more comfortable they are now happy and enjoying life again and we are certain that during the summer when we are open they will be keen to have plenty of fuss from visitors who in turn will enjoy giving them the attention.





The Inside Story

IT ALL STARTED on a sunny Sunday afternoon some 5 years or so ago. Armed with a box of Whiskas cat food sachets and a day to myself, I drove into the gates of Mann Cat Sanctuary, the black cat sign impressively stood out against the clear blue sky. All the years of travelling past the Sanctuary to spend depressing hours of work in Douglas, not a thought of what could be happening, in what I now know is a safe haven primarily for cats.

I parked in the grass field and as soon as I got out of my car, I was surrounded by cats of all colours and sizes. I crouched down and was nearly knocked over by cats climbing onto my knee. It was some time before I could get moving and walked to the main building.

What I saw was something I'll remember for the rest of my life, I saw a lounge and a conservatory completely taken over by cats, chairs and benches were full of cats all content and warm.

At closing, I happened to ask Darryl if they would like any help in feeding, and my offer was taken up.

That night, I couldn't stop smiling and after

that, I visited each Sunday afternoon and volunteered to assist feeding. It is a warm and special feeling when you sit down, as it is not long before you are covered in a furry cat duvet, each cat trying to be closest to you.

As time went by, I gradually got to know the horses, donkeys, geese and yes, the cheeky turkeys, who if not supervised, and a door open, would find themselves sampling the comforts of the cats' 'snuggly boats'. A snuggly boat is just my description for a cosy bed in front of the fires. It has been noted that as many as 12 cats will squeeze in together, of course, Zebedee is always snug in one of the beds. And not forgetting Dilly Duck who of course herds the turkeys into their straw bed and then keeps watch over them.

Today, I find myself volunteering 5 mornings a week, cleaning and stocking up in readiness for the afternoon volunteers to come in to groom and feed. As soon as the thick comfy purple rugs are set back down on the floors, a cat, another and another appears, tails curled around each other and friendships renewed, a nap is now the order of the day.



There are many characters here at MCS, Zebedee, of course, who has his autumn collection of jumpers to keep him snug. Ruby and Nico, both of whom have three legs and are very vocal. Ruby knows when 1 o'clock comes around and demands a cuddle. Mr Grey greets me each and every day and skips back over the gravel to announce my arrival. Each and every cat is special to me, but perhaps Tigger who came in with his brother Harry, holds a special part of my heart. We had to spend many hours with these two magnificent ginger cats, they completely shut down. But when we started to earn their trust and love, words cannot explain how I, and everyone here at MCS felt. From that moment they never looked back. Today, Tigger is a very vocal and loving ginger who loves nothing more than a knee and to wrap his arms around your neck.

I must also let you know a little more about the feral community here at MCS. Arriving very scared and keeping well to themselves in areas well apart from the daily comings and goings, there is nothing more heart-warming when, in their own time, whether it be weeks, months or sometimes even years, they find enough courage to pass over their fears and allow themselves to be stroked and to finally feel what it is like to be loved. These feral cats have so much love to share and seem to try and make up for lost time and can often be seen together, tails curling round and joining in the snuggles.

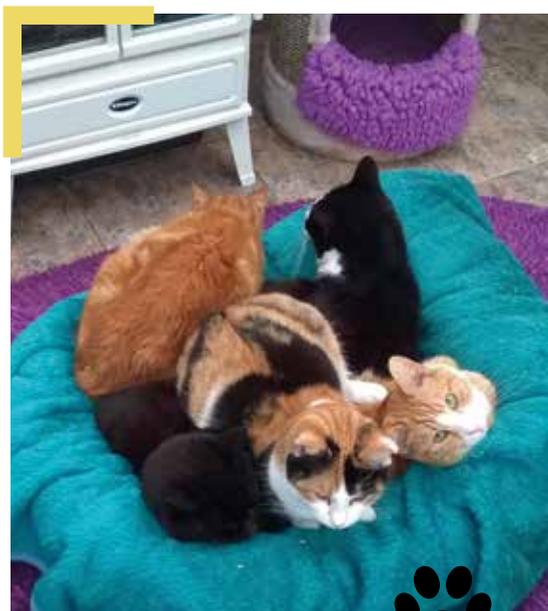
Something which brings a smile to each and everyone here is the development of kittens, the innocence of each and every one, the

first days outside, exploring and making new friends, everything an adventure.

I have put a full day aside on a Saturday, the morning is spent cleaning and stocking up and the afternoon is my special time when I can sit with the cats, have some quality time with my favourite characters or sit with a new arrival who is scared and upset and before I know it, it is time to start feeding.

I am very privileged to be a part of MCS. Although in many cases, there has been a sad and distressing start to the life of a cat, once it has settled down into the daily life here, I believe it couldn't be happier, making new friends, being warm and well fed. Whether it be a tiny abandoned kitten to an elderly homeless cat, nothing is spared to try and give that precious creature every chance of warmth and love.

Anita



Aid Rescue

Over the last twelve months, MCS has developed a very strong, working relationship with Aid Rescue, which is a new sanctuary operating on the island primarily for dogs. They do excellent work and share the same ethics we do and it is run by four people, Anita, Fiona, Lynne and Warren. Below is some background behind the new charity and what their work involves.

Aid Rescue was founded in 2012 with the aim to go over and beyond what a normal rescue group would do to help an animal, whether it be dog, cat or mouse. We will help in any way we can from offering financial support, to just being an ear to listen to an owner's story and we at Aid Rescue just want to help regardless of the owner, animal or their hardships. The team at Aid Rescue are full of diversity; from a pound puller to a transporter, an accountant, administrator, nursing vet, animal psychologist and our newest team member, an animal behaviourist. Our members are over 2342 strong and all are passionate animal owners.

Set in the foothills of Glen Auldyn in the north of the island, our home is set in 2 acres with more land available to us if and when we want. The Isle of Man is an animal paradise with unspoilt beaches and long woodland trails to explore. A truly wonderful animal friendly place. There are no kennels and there are no concrete yards. There is love and care 24 hours per day and our team are involved for the love of animals. Nothing more, nothing less. All of our rescued friends live in our home and often



accompany us when we are out and about. There is always someone at the sanctuary so no one is left alone... ever.

We have been working hard behind the scenes for months and earlier this year we received the letter we had been waiting for stating that we had been granted charitable status!!! To say we are overjoyed is an understatement.

We take animals from all backgrounds

and specialise in behaviour problems. We assist with animals in need not only on the Isle of Man, but from further afield too. Once a dog arrives at the sanctuary, they are all fully assessed and settled into their new surroundings. Following this, a care pathway will be established tailored to the individual needs and once we really get to know our new friend, we will put strategies in place to help correct any behavioural problems. Some need love, some structure, many just need both. We ensure all needs are met and are fortunate

and foremost and is her inspiration to give and not take in life.

The best and worst day is when we say goodbye to one of dogs when it is going to a new home. Best, because we thoroughly check any new owners so we know our friend is going to a great home to enjoy the rest of their life. Worst, as we will miss them terribly! That is why we will routinely get in touch to see how things are going and offer support whenever needed.



to have access to a wide range of training methods and opportunities.

Anita has been working as a laser vet for just over 20 years. Inspired by her father and his need to heal the damaged animals around them throughout his life, Anita followed in his footsteps. She admired his genuine ability to want to help those who had little to pay him and remembers many a payment being paid by potatoes, chickens, homemade pies and baskets of fruit. The man was a humanitarian first

We have a wonderful local veterinarian within a few miles, Jane Callow, a family business available to us at all hours.

Our main page on Facebook is set up to run our auctions and showcase dogs that are available for adoption. If you wish to donate to help us with any aspect of the process please do so via our Paypal address aidrescue@manx.net, or if you wish to bequeath any money in your Will, then please contact us and our lawyer will be happy to help you with this.



Sponsor Cats



Toby

Toby is one of many cats that has been rescued from the pit of our local incinerator, not far from the sanctuary. There are a lot of feral cats around the area as there is plenty of surrounding land but every so often some of them gravitate to the incinerator and more worryingly, into the pit itself. One worker in particular there, Leigh, has always been good to set our traps and monitor them whilst he is on shift there and it's down to him that we were able to rescue Toby from there.

It took several attempts to trap Toby and there didn't seem to be any more cats with him, although Toby was still a young kitten at this point. Eventually Toby did go in the trap and Leigh was able to bring him down to us. As usual, the kitten was infested with fleas and worms but he did let us treat him and de-flea him and he came in at around the same time that Pushkin's kittens were about five months old which he wasn't far off so he was able to be with them and grow up with them. We thought he reminded us of a cat we used to have here who was a very popular sponsor cat, called Toby, whom we sadly lost when he developed cancerous tumours so we decided to name this young kitten after Toby.

Toby settled in and for a while would allow us to touch him but he was never keen and now he has grown up and discovered the feral house, he tends to eat and sleep in there. During the day he will venture out into the fields and keep an eye on us from there, making sure he is back inside in time for his tea!



Miss. T

The story of Miss T is one very similar to that of Ruby, who is a very popular resident here.

Miss T was brought to us along with another cat after their elderly owner passed away. Shortly after she came in it was soon apparent that Miss T was in a lot of discomfort and was very unhappy. She is Manx but also had a very badly twisted back leg that was making it very awkward for her to sit and it also meant that when she walked she had to do so by twisting her back meaning she was in a twisted position most of the time. This also made her very bad tempered.

Almost immediately we had Dr. Ruth take a look at her and as with Ruby a couple of years ago, Dr. Ruth agreed that Miss T would need to have the bad leg removed. The procedure went well and as soon as she was back at the sanctuary in our Thie Noa building, she was moving a lot more easily and at a much quicker speed whilst also being able to keep her back straight.

Now Miss T is much happier and content and in early 2018, she began venturing outside when there was any winter sunshine available and although she didn't go far, she looks very placid when sunbathing on the warm concrete! After all of this, it's now time she had a sponsor!

Please sponsor one of us!!!

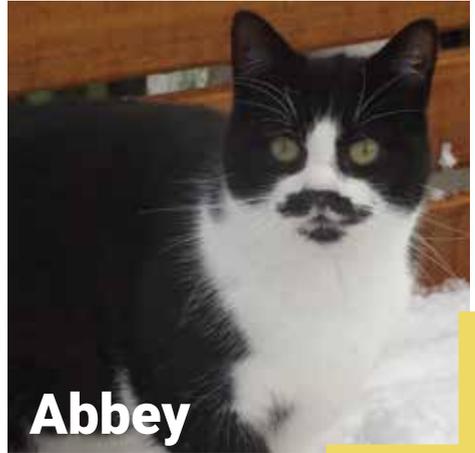


Dumbo

Dumbo has a very unique story in that his life started more than 4000 miles away from the sanctuary, in Doha, Qatar. Accepting cats from off island is not normally something we do but in this situation there was really no way we could refuse them in this case as not only was there Dumbo but also another four cats who all had their journey's planned and booked! So we prepared ourselves for these five cats and Warren took the MCS Ambulance over to await their arrival into Manchester airport where he then brought them all back to the sanctuary.

We knew that all five cats had sight problems and that all were not in the best of health but to our surprise not all the cats were totally blind, most of them just partially. Dr. Ruth came down very soon after to check them all over and she decided that several of them had such severe problems with their eyes that she would have to remove some of them in order to stop them causing bigger problems to their general health. Dumbo was one who needed to have one eye removed as soon as possible and with that he went up to the surgery along with another two, Timothy and Walter, the latter who is completely blind.

They were soon back at the sanctuary and all of the cats are much better and all of their minor health issues have been put right. In the summer they will enjoy venturing out from Thie Noa where they are currently living. Would you like to sponsor Dumbo after all he has been through?



Abbey

We received a call from a very concerned man who was working in his garden in the Abbeylands area of the island. He explained that two cats were chasing this very frightened cat and eventually she ran into his garden shed where he was able to shut the door on her. He then rang us to see what he should do and we thought it to be for the best that he brings the cat to us.

The cat was about four to five months old and we named her Abbey due to where she was from. She was domesticated however no owner has ever come forward for her. Although domesticated, Abbey was in quite a poor state when she arrived and it was obvious that she had been fending for herself for a long time and she was quite underweight. She began veterinary treatment and when she was old enough and well enough she was spayed.

Abbey is now fully grown although she is still petite but loves her food. She now regularly goes outside and really enjoyed some of the snow we had this recent winter. We are sure she is looking forward to meeting some visitors this year and should you sponsor her she would love to meet you too!

There are many cats at the Sanctuary in need of a kind sponsor. To do so, you can visit us, fill out the form on page 18 or visit our website www.mannecat.com for more cats awaiting sponsorship.



Facebook Friends

Alan and Lynda Dobson

We first holidayed in Isle of Man many years ago and on our second or third visit we found Mann Cat. What can I say? It is the most relaxing place I know. You are made very welcome by Sue, but more importantly by the bosses (the cats). We decided to sponsor a cat, I remember it well. Whilst looking through the list, I was approached by one of the Cats, this was Lucy. It was decided that we would sponsor her, for two reasons. The first was that she chose me and, we have a grandchild called Lucy, it seemed very appropriate. Lucy (the cat) passed away and following that we decided to continue our sponsorship. We now sponsor the Sanctuary and not just



one individual resident. My mother also sponsored a cat until she passed away, we asked if we could pay for a memorial for my mother. Sue kindly arranged a plaque to be fitted outside, above one of the seats. We go to the Island on holiday every year and we look forward to visiting 'the cats'.



Valérie

MCS, an island of Peace in the Isle of Man! I am Valérie from Brittany, France, and I visited MCS for the first time last year in June when I came for the Isle of Man TT.

This Sanctuary is an island of peace for cats (and some other animals) whatever they are or wherever they are coming from. I point out the big job of the great dedicated volunteers. MCS runs my life every day and night by Facebook, the Chatter... and when I am not in mood just a look at the webcam and everything feels better! So excited to go back to this oasis this year.

Michelle & John

Every year, John and I visit the Isle of Man for the TT races. I first visited in 2012 for my 40th birthday. John had been visiting on and off since 1983!

On our first visit to the island I didn't even know about the Mann Cat Sanctuary. Sadly and it was when I was looking on the internet to prepare for our next visit that I stumbled upon this magical place.

To say I was excited as well as anxious about our first visit was a massive understatement! I love cats and always have. I remember saying to John, '...John, it says if you don't like old age and imperfection this is not the place for you....' My stomach sank. What would I see? Are all the cats ill? Will I cry? 'Come on Shell, don't be silly' said John. So off we go....

Whilst riding to the Sanctuary my head was thinking all sorts. I remember looking on the internet and seeing the flag and sign outside, all of a sudden I was here!! John was riding in front of me and had missed the place. So I waited outside for him to turn around and join me. I lifted my visor and had a look up the drive. There were beautiful hanging baskets and happy looking cats wandering around. We both rode in and parked in a grassy field to the left of the drive. The minute we got off the bikes the cats arrived!! I sat on the grass in the sun and was in cat heaven. They were climbing on me and John, sitting on our legs. Climbing up our backs. It was amazing. And we hadn't even got into the main area!!



We eventually made our way into the main entrance. There were cats everywhere! We bought some Dreamies from the shop there and the fun began. I was trying to make sure that I didn't miss any of the cats there with giving them treats! Almost impossible I have to say. We wandered into the conservatory and met BooBoo. I was also keen to meet Bradley as I had sponsored him for a friend for her birthday. Sadly both no longer with us. Johns favourite there is Minstrel, I just love them all. The place was and still is amazing! I have also met friends there that I keep in touch with, (yes you Carole Blake)...

Since that initial visit we now go many times during TT week and the team there are all angels. I follow the team on Facebook, watch the webcams, join in the £1 Mann Cat Chatters monthly events as well as donate monthly to the sanctuary. And I also buy food for the cats from the food bank.

My stomach no longer sinks with what I will see here, there is nothing "imperfect" here at all. What I see is utter devotion and love. Yes, some of the little beauties may have some problems but that doesn't matter. If they didn't have this amazing place where would they be! Although my stomach does sink and I might have a little tear when I leave. It's for different reasons now...Next year is too far away...



My first five years

Five years ago I brought home my ginger boy, Khoona Cat, and I also asked Sue if she needed any help, which she did. I soon started helping out and with it began some of the best times of my life.

Prior to moving to the Isle of Man, I had only ever had dogs. I was brought up with dogs and understand them, they have simple needs, good food, fresh water, long walks, a comfortable bed and love. In return they give you devotion, absolute loyalty, adoration and try always to please you. Cats, however, are different, very different...

I find I am constantly trying to please the residents at MCS and by now, I have learnt many of their quirks and personalities. I know which ones like to be stroked and the ones who don't mind you stroking another at the same time (I'm sure it's why we have two hands)! Some will have a strop if you do that and some love to be groomed. Then there are residents who like to be fed alone and others who will share from communal dishes.

A lot of my time at MCS, is spent doing very necessary jobs, such as counting and collecting money that is donated in all of our collecting boxes from shops around the island, shopping for various things like cat food that we suddenly become short of, repackaging the large heavy duty black bags which come in one band of 100 and need to be folded individually. This means the majority of time I spend with the cats is around feeding time. It usually takes me about two and a half hours as I like not only to put the

food down but watch them to see if any are not eating or seem quieter than usual. At the end of my duties, I pop and see Sue and inform her if any of the residents needs her attention. One other important job I do, is to take and collect cats to and from our vet, Jane Callow. Fortunately I have a large boot and can carry five or six baskets in one journey should it be needed.

Until I became one of the volunteers at MCS, I didn't realise how very different every single cat is, their personalities shine through and I now realise why the ancient Egyptians worshipped them as gods.

Judy



Standing Order Mandate

This standing order cancels any previous instructions to make payments quoting the Isle of Man Bank Account number shown.

TO (BANK)

ADDRESS (OF YOUR BANK)

Please pay to Isle of Man Bank, South Region Isle of Man,
Sort Code 55-91-04,

for the credit of 'MANN CAT SANCTUARY', account number 13066633.

THE SUM OF* (IN FIGURES)

(AMOUNT IN WORDS)

THE FIRST PAYMENT TO BE MADE ON** (DATE)

and thereafter ANNUALLY/MONTHLY (please delete as appropriate) until
cancelled by me/us in writing.

NAME OF ACCOUNT TO BE DEBITED

ACCOUNT NO.

SORT CODE

SIGNATURE(S)

ADDRESS

POST CODE

DATED

*Minimum payments - Monthly £5/Annually £50 or become a Friend of the Sanctuary for £75 a year.

**This date should be at least ten days from the date of sending this form.





There are many permanent residents at the Sanctuary and we operate a sponsorship scheme with 12 monthly payments of a minimum £5 per month or an annual payment of £50. If you would like to help these animals, please fill in the form below or become a Friend of the Sanctuary for an annual payment of £75 (more if you wish!) by cash, cheque or standing order (see form on the following page). You will receive a sponsorship package. For even more cats to choose from please visit us online at www.mannecat.com or look through the sponsor book if visiting the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary welcomes visitors during the summer (1st May – 30 September) Wednesday and Sunday 2-5pm.

Thank you.

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

ANIMAL'S NAME

SPONSOR'S NAME

ADDRESS

POST CODE

TELEPHONE / MOBILE

AMOUNT £

Cheque

Postal Order

Standing Order

SIGNED

DATE

Rolo

Rolo came to the sanctuary twelve years ago as a two month old kitten. He was a small fragile kitten and needed a lot of attention and care in his initial days with us. However, Rolo developed into a very well and handsome young cat. He spent a few months here and once he had been neutered he was homed to what was at that time the perfect household.

For the next twelve years Rolo lived at the same house and after receiving several updates when he first left us, we had since heard nothing for a long time. That was until we were called one day by a friend of the family saying that all was not well within the household where Rolo lived. She explained that Rolo's owner was going through a very unpleasant divorce and that she was very distressed, distraught and homeless. The owner had moved into a temporary home where there was dogs and unfortunately, Rolo is terrible with dogs so we were then asked twelve years on, if Rolo could return to the sanctuary.

As soon as Rolo was back with us, we were sure that he remembered us and remembered being here as although he was very upset at his change of circumstance, he seemed to relax a lot sooner than normal here. Things were going ok with Rolo for about a week, he was in the Thie Noa building and was starting to go out into the enclosed outdoor area. We then had a slight



hiccup one day when one of the volunteers entered the outdoor area and Rolo shot like a bullet through the open door and took himself for a walk. We were very worried that Rolo would start to walk and try to find his way back to his home but initially he seemed to just be staying in the fields. So instead of approaching him which may have scared him we left him to his own accord. It was a few days then before one day when Ann entered our store room, he was sitting there in a cat bed making a lot of noise. We brought him into the utility room and gave him some food which he was very keen to devour and he has stayed in there and the kitchen ever since!! Rolo is still pretty bad with our dogs but seeing them every day he is getting used to them so hopefully this will continue to improve.

We were very pleased to be able to help out in this difficult situation and we always like any cats that we home to be returned to us should it be necessary. Of course, should circumstances change for his owner and she is in a position to take him back we would be happy for them to be reunited but for the moment Rolo is happy with us and has settled back in.



Our Vet, Dr. Ruth

I hope this issue of the newsletter finds everyone well. As usual, It's been a busy time at MannCat and Sue, John, Darryl and the team have been working tirelessly to look after and care for the cats and other animals at the sanctuary.

Although the winter is a quieter time of year in terms of births and youngsters, there have certainly been some babies appearing and arguably such unseasonal births demand more attention and dedication from the sanctuary staff. Winter also brings with it the usual colds and bugs , which the sanctuary animals are subject to as much as we are ourselves. The team at the sanctuary work

hard to minimise the impact and spread of such illnesses and as ever have done a great job of doing so.

We have also been busy catching up with routine dental procedures on members of the sanctuary family and ensuring we are up to date with the neutering programme in time for the spring and summer. The members of the sanctuary family remain for the most part healthy and extremely well cared for by the team and we hope this continues into the spring and summer when the sanctuary will undoubtedly become busier and bustling again with both youngsters and visitors.



Webcams

Did you know we stream the everyday lives of the Sanctuary's residents on our 4 webcams?

You can view them for free 24/7 at www.manncat.com/webcams.php.



There is plenty of action to see whatever the time of day. You can even join in the discussion by joining the 'Mann Cat Chatters' facebook page. To do so, simply search for 'Mann Cat Chatters' on facebook.com.

Conservatory



Feral House



Lounge



Thie Noa



Bradley's Gift Shop

Order online at www.manncat.com/shop/gift-shop.php

Mann Cat Official Apparel - from £17.99



Large Purse - £34.99 each

Large leather purse with cat and paw print design. Presented in a draw string bag with over design.



Coin Purse - £19.99 each

Small leather purse with cat and paw print design, beautifully finished inside with over design



Glasses Case - £21.99 each

Presented with cat and paw print design and sealed with a full length zip.



Mann Cat Keyrings - £3.50 each

Metal keyring with the Mann Cat Sanctuary logo and the 'three legs of Man' on the reverse side



£3.50
postage

Purr-fectly Manx Mugs - £8.99 each

Mug featuring manx cats with the wording 'Purr-fectly Manx' written across the top



MCS China Mug - £8.99 each

High Quality China Mug with the MCS logo screen printed in Purple. Tea never tasted so good!



The original 'Cozy Cat Rug' - £5.00 each

Hand crochet, each with a unique design



Mann Cat Sanctuary Pens - £2.99 each

Roller-Ball Pen with soft grip and MCS Logo. Black Ink only.



Metal key holder- £24.99 each

Unique new product – metal wall mountable Mann Cat logo with four key hooks.



£3.50
postage

Glass Manx cat ornament- £9.99 each

Unique new product – metal wall mountable Mann Cat logo with four key hooks.

Visitor's Information

MannCat Sanctuary
Main Road
Santon
Isle of Man
IM4 1EE



Arrive by Sea or Air



steam-packet.com



flybe.com
easyjet.com
aerarran.com



Throughout the summer, we welcome visitors every Sunday and Wednesday afternoon between 2pm and 5pm. Entrance into the sanctuary is free, however, we do expect visitors to bring a six pack of Whiskas for the cat's tea.

During your visit, you are able to sit with our many cats who will want to make friends with you, have a look at our aviary and say hello to our Donkeys, sponsor a resident and maybe take a souvenir or two back to wherever you visit from! We look forward to meeting you one day...

SPONSORED BY THE KAISER TRUST

This edition of the newsletter is supported by The Kaiser Trust as an acknowledgement of the important and excellent work of the Mann Cat Sanctuary.

"Supporting the Community" – Charity Reg in England 1097171

At Mann Cat Sanctuary, we ensure that all the cats in our care receive compassion, understanding and the ability to roam free.

How to contact Mann Cat Sanctuary

landline 01624 824195 **mobile** 07624 496440

website www.manncat.com **email** cats@manncat.com

facebook /MannCatSanctuary **twitter** @manncat_iom