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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

OPEN DAY AT WINDYWAY
SUNDAY 24TH AUGUST, 12.00—4.00

QUIZ NIGHT

POYNTON ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
GEORGE'S RD W, POYNTON, STOCKPORT SK12 1JY
FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER, 8 PM
£1.50 PER PERSON, IN TEAMS OF 4, PAY ON THE DOOR

******** CHRISTMAS FAIR

SENIOR CITIZENS HALL, DUKE ST, MACCLESFIELD SK11 6UR SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER, 10.30—1.30



Reg.Charity no; 1108111

Supporting
Animal Rescue
at Windyway,
Buxton Old Rd,
Macclesfield.

Hello and welcome to our Summer Newsletter.

us. He cannot live with children, cats or other dogs.

We are experiencing our busiest summer in memory for sheer numbers of abandoned animals, especially pregnant cats and kittens, so apologise for this edition being a little later than usual. The cat pictured below is one we have named Willow—she arrived highly pregnant and gave birth to 5 kittens in late July. She will be looking for a new home in late September. Inside we have the usual mix of news—some animal profiles, some happy endings and also reports on some of the events we have had. I'll begin with the updates on the animals featured in the Winter news; All three dogs; Buster, Bedbug and Lucy have happily found homes, as have the two bunnies; Hancock and Primrose. The three cats; Lily, Faith and Emily are still waiting although a few people have come forward to adopt semi feral farm cats. Tyson the elderly German Shepherd with CRDM is still here as well and if you think you may be able to offer him a place in your home for him to live out his days please do get in touch with



INTRODUCING....

We thought it would be nice to introduce you to two of our Staffie type dogs who have both been with us for over a year now. Staffordshire Bull Terriers have been getting such a lot of bad press and so many are finding themselves in rescue centres. Unfortunately in recent years this breed has become one of the most unwanted types of dog due in some part to a minority of owners who have tried to use the breed not as a loving family member but as a status symbol. Often they have been poorly and inappropriately trained (for instance with tugging toys) and then left unsupervised in situations they don't know how to handle. This in turn has hindered the image of the dog from a playful, happy breed to some kind of fighting dog – something that could not be further from the truth. They are actually very sensitive dogs who will do anything to please their human and can make a wonderful family addition; good with children, often quiet and easy to train, with a distinct personality, a love of play and not too excessive to exercise. Staffies are known for their loyalty and gentle nature when properly cared for in a secure family unit. They are also known as the "Nanny Dog" because of the protection shown for younger members of their family.

Arnie

See pages 4/5 for Lucy the staffie's happy ending **Ziah** is a really loving older boy who was brought to us late one night by the Police. He had been left alone in a locked flat for several days and worried neighbours had called 999. His previous owner didn't respond to our letters and so he became available for rehoming. Unfortunately we know nothing of his prior history but his age has been estimated at 7+. He is very friendly and loves to go out for walks on his special soft harness which, in the words of one volunteer, "could be made from tinsel". He did go to one home quite recently but the gentleman unfortunately decided to bring him back when Ziah showed a dislike for one of his friend's dogs—this after going out and meeting several other dogs quite happily on the fields and in the pet superstore. He just needs to be with someone who will love him and not expect perfection—at least not instantly! The one thing we would say though is that he isn't safe to be around cats or other small furry or feathery creatures.

<u>Arnie</u> was found in a Macclesfield park, joining in the fun with all the other dogs on their walks. Unfortunately he was still there once they had all gone home and it soon became apparent that no-one was coming back for him. He was brought to us and despite our best efforts no owner came forward to claim him. He is another firm favourite with the volunteers who love to take him out as he is so obedient and kind natured. Again we wouldn't home him with cats but he could go to a family with sensible older children where he would just love to play ball all day!

work and **Dionne** held a coffee morning at Congleton for us. **Mr & Mrs Bottomley** regularly hold table top sales near their home in Dobb Cross for us.

This year **Chris McGregor** and **Carol Davis** decorated the shop window as part of the **Barnaby Festival** and we received a 'Highly Commended' certificate for our efforts.

Finally, we would like to extend a very big thank you to all of our supporters and fundraisers for all their hard work and dedication to our Charity.

For forthcoming events see the back page.



Macc College Bikeathon and Cake Sale



Happy abseiler - 9 yr old Amy - our youngest participant



Barnaby Shop Window award

FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS

Report from the Trustees

We have had a very successful fundraising year so far. The Spring and Summer months have been extremely busy with fundraising events including Dog Shows, Fetes, and Events. Some of the fundraising activities included:

Our **Spring Fair** on the 12th April was very well attended and people went away very happy with some super bargains. Moss Lane Pet Supplies Open Day went very well—Gayle Parks, the owner, allowing us to hold a stall. Dig It Dog Club Open Day at Sandbach was a lovely day - Dig It are great supporters and we sold lots of merchandise and Doggy related items. **Bollington Festival Dog Show** was a lovely day and our Doggy Tombola sold out very quickly, this is a show run by Bolllington Veterinary Centre, who support us regularly. Mottram St Andrew Dog Show was also a lovely event held in a marquee and everyone enjoyed the day. Adoption for Pets (Pets at Home) held their annual Spring Raffle - we manned a fundraising stall at their Macclesfield store for two days, where they presented us with a cheque from their own fundraising activities. They also have a permanent collection point for donations to the sanctuary, as do Morrisons (Buxton and Chapel-En-Le-Frith), Jolleys (Congleton) and Tesco (Congleton). Thanks also go to Sainsbury's (Macclesfield) for inviting us in to have collections from their customers. Customers of Waitrose (Poynton) chose us as one of their charities for their token collection point, which they then turn into money for the Charity. We were delighted when contacted by Macclesfield College to say that we had been voted as their joint charity of the year. Various fundraisers have been happening, including a sponsored bikeathon and cake sale on 28th March. Pat and Misty went along to this to cheer them on. Peter Walker has been holding a 'Jazz at The Cragg Inn' at Wildboarclough on Sunday lunchtimes and the audience are encouraged to donate into our collecting buckets.

We are still giving talks/slide shows to various organisations including WI Groups, Brownies, Schools and Church Groups. If you would like to book one of our talks please contact Pat Barnard or Chris Earles and they will arrange a date on our calendar. Pat and Misty went to **St Barnabas Brownies** and gave a talk to them and they had each brought along some food for our animals.

Quite a number of people have had a fundraiser for us and then we arrange for them to come up to the kennels to have a look around, meet our animals and see how the money they have raised helps to look after the animals in our care. Recently we have been visited by students from **Tytherington Academy**, **St Alban's and St Paul's Rainbow Groups**. We have a number of fit and active supporters who prefer to do some energetic sponsored events to raise funds for us and they include; **Lynne Graves**, running the London Marathon for us; **Hayley Clowes** and **Harriet Rhodes** ran the Manchester 10k; **Mary Anne Tizzard** in the Manchester BUPA Run; **Jenny Brame** running the Cheshire Triathlon for the first time. **Sue Wainwright** and **Bollington Veterinary Centre** did sponsored swims and a whole group of volunteers, supporters and staff from Windyway held a **'Midsummer Madness'** sponsored abseil down Teggs Nose Quarry. We also have a lot of people doing individual fundraisers for us such as a lovely young man called **Scott** who, just before Christmas (in the middle of the really cold spell), did a sponsored head shave as he wanted to do something for Windyway because of his love of animals; **Penny Hardwick-Smith** organised a swap shop at her place of



Fudge and Alvin (left) are two lovely brothers who came to us from a lady who had rescued their pregnant mother and couldn't house all her offspring as well as her existing rabbits. They are just over one year old and neutered. They are very friendly, comical characters who always come to say hello whenever we go into their pen. They would possibly be able to join a confident spayed doe just as long as there is plenty of space to run around and a secure warm bedroom.





Topsy and Tim are a beautiful pair of young cats who we are assuming to be brother and sister. They were left outside Windyway in the box pictured above, but had escaped before we found the box. All we knew was that the masking tape was inscribed with "CATS INSIDE". Later in the morning a pretty young female made herself known to us in the driveway but we didn't find the other cat until we were about to leave for the Vet's—we found him cowering beneath a car in the driveway (he hadn't been there 30 minutes earlier) with a badly injured eye. He must have been hit by a car after escaping from the box. Miraculously he had no other injuries and recovered very quickly from the removal of his right eye—probably due to getting treatment so quickly. We have named them Topsy and Tim and they are such loving, happy friendly cats we can't imagine what was going on in the minds of whoever left them. She is really talkative and outgoing, he is a little more reserved but he is probably still learning to deal with his disability. Having said that he should be able to lead a full, active life

and we would love to home them together.

This summer we have had more kittens than we ever remember—so many young female cats are being allowed out before being spayed or microchipped and they end up in kitten far from home and unidentifiable. So far we have taken in 30 weaned kittens (many of those abandoned too young), 7 pregnant females who have produced 29 kittens and 3 mums with 12 kittens already born. WE HAVE TO BREAK THIS CYCLE; IF YOU HAVE A KITTEN OF EITHER SEX DO NOT LET IT OUT UNTIL IT IS NEUTERED AND MICROCHIPPED

Just 4 of our kittens—these were found abandoned in Macclesfield



HAPPY ENDINGS...

Dear Windway team,

I'm getting in touch to update you on the progress of the cats we adopted from you in 2013.

As you know, myself, my mum Kay and brother William adopted Hank (formerly Humbug) the male tabby from you in May 2013. He is such a character and we love him very much. He loves to explore outside and sleep on the bed when he's not playing with his toys. He is a big tom but now that he's been neutered by Windway he is relaxed and gentle for a three year old. Later in December 2013 we came back to you, realising that we had room in our lives for more feline friends who might also need a home. With Hank settled in Kay and William came to choose two beautiful little black kittens (formerly Romeo and Venus). We can't believe how they've thrived and grown. They love to play together and,



although Hank is a little wary of their spontaneous ways, we can't imagine life without them. We know that black cats in particular are under-adopted because of the colour of their fur, but to us they are lucky. Romeo and his sister Venus are now known as Clint and Eva, and Eva is going to be neutered next week. After this they will be able to explore the countryside of Bollington when our new cat flap is installed! We want to say a big thank you to all the staff and volunteers at Windway who believe in the responsible rehoming of unwanted pets. Our cats have brought joy and fun in to our lives and we are very grateful. Best wishes, Eleanor



We have adopted <u>Belle</u> 3 months ago knowing she could be a little feisty or even aggressive and she wouldn't like females. Once we had arrived at home, she attacked each one of us, it didn't matter if male or female. That might have been her way to say 'hello'! As we are respecting what she likes and doesn't like she hasn't attacked anybody ever since. With loads of TLC she became a lovely

cat which listens perfectly to her name and enjoys the outside very much. Belle loves to cuddle with us on the sofa especially lying on our bellies and licking all over our hands – it makes no difference if male or female. Our neighbours are telling us how pretty she is and we are sure the tomcats in the neighbourhood think the same. We are very happy that we got the chance to adopt Belle and thank you very much. Nancy & Tony

Hello, everyone; <u>Lucy</u> (now Cassie) settled in after 1 day. She seems to love it here & has been perfect. No escaping, or even tried to, no aggression to other dogs, no floor messes, no lead pulling, doesn't cry at night. Have left her for about an hour so far & she's been fine. Loves exploring walks & paddling, all on the lead. She comes when we call & with a whistle. Her favourite place is sitting on the grass in the sun chewing her little antler. We are thrilled with her, thank you so much for taking such good care of her. Everyone who's met her have loved her. Hope some of the other dogs can find a home soon too. Best Wishes, Bill & Sue

Dear everyone at Windyway,

<u>Leo</u> here, just wanted to let you know how I am getting on in my new home. I live with my new Mum and Dad, Karen and Steve. I have a new brother too, his name is Merlin, he is a lab collie cross, he is 13 and not very well now, so he can't come for walks with me, but we cuddle up and I finish off his food when he can't eat it.

Me and Merlin's baskets are in the kitchen, and we have a dog flap so we can go out into the garden whenever we like. I like to go out and lie in the sun. There is a wall round our bit of the garden, and then after that there is a lawn and lots of flowers, and at the bottom of the gardens there are two chickens, a black one and a white one. My Mum says I am not allowed to eat the chickens, which I think is a really stupid rule, she says they are friends not food, but she is wrong they are definitely food, I really want to eat the big fat white one.

At the bottom of our garden is the Churnet Valley, there are lots of fields and woods and a river, we go down there twice a day. There are lots of exciting things to sniff and loads of very smelly stuff to roll in. I don't roll in the smelly stuff as much as I did when I first came, as Mum makes me have a bath when we get back. There are some really big dogs down there though, they are black and white, and make a mooing noise. I am not sure about them, I stand and stare at them when I see them till my Mum makes me move.

Sometimes we meet other dogs down the field, that I can play with. My favourite friends are Will and Jake, who I love to run around with. I scare my Mum with how fast I run. Will came from Windyway too, so we chat about the place and how lovely you ladies were. Don't we both look handsome in the picture my Mum has sent you?

On Tuesday nights me and Mum go to dog training class. I love going to dog training and get really excited as soon as Mum gets the bag out of the cupboard to go. I just do all the things my Mum tells me to do and I get fed treats, it's really easy. Next week we are starting our bronze award, I think that means even better treats.

Today we have done a charity walk for our local dogs home, we have raised some money for them. We have walked 5 miles, I ran the whole way, and my Mum says I have probably done 10 miles compared with the humans 5. There were lots of people in bright jackets to point us in the right direction, and everyone kept asking about my leg, and seemed surprised that I could walk?! Silly humans, they can walk and they only have two legs!

Anyway it is time for me to go to my basket now. I just want to say thank you to everyone at Windyway for looking after me while I was there, and helping me find my new family. My Mum says she will bring me up one day to say hello, but I will never ever be coming back to

