

Newsletter

ROCHDALE ANIMAL CENTRE



IT'S KITTEN TIME OF YEAR



www.rspca-rochdale.org.uk

Our sixth shop opens



The shop in Milnrow with Diane German, Carol Merriman, Shirley Mellor, Donna Holt, Mark Bailey and Amelia Wood.

Shirley, our shops manager has been extra busy over the last couple of months as trade continues to increase in our shops. The financial squeeze is making many more people take a fresh look at what they can get from charity shops such as ours and we have responded quickly by refurbishing our shop in the Centre of Rochdale

and opening a new outlet in Milnrow. Shirley has worked hard to ensure that all our shops are fully stocked and catering for local customers needs.

Have you any unwanted household items?

The effects of the credit crunch are all too evident and more people than ever are trying hard to save money by shopping with us. We need all kinds of household items from CD's to large furniture. Please call in or telephone one of our shops and we will collect from you.
Rochdale shop 01706 522066. Heywood shop 01706 361444
Middleton shop 0161 6435944.

Yippee! I DID IT MY WAY

Linda King our Senior Animal Care Assistant completed the Bupa Great Manchester Run on 17 May, raising funds for both the RSPCA and Christies Hospital- well done Linda!



A little roll of Thunder

This adorable kitten was one of two abandoned outside a vets in Rochdale and brought to us.

We christened them Thunder and Lightening and made them feel as wanted as we possibly could. Linda (pictured across) hand reared them both. Very sadly Lightening had problems and didn't make it, but Thunder is doing just fine. He plays happily with one of the seven dwarves (featured elsewhere in the newsletter) and will be ready to go to a new loving home by the time you are reading this newsletter. Do you want to offer him a home? If you do, please ring the Animal Centre.



Please become a Friend of the Animal Centre



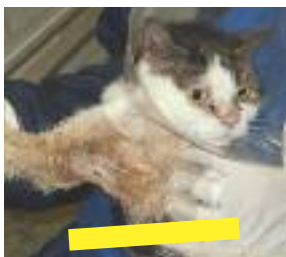
The Animal Centre in Red-cross Street costs a great deal to run. We rely entirely on supporters like you to keep the Centre open and ready to take in animals in desperate need of attention.

You can make a huge difference just by making a small regular contribution. Please help if you can - ask for details at the Animal Centre or see our website www.rspca-rochdale.org.uk

Rabbits everywhere!



The Animal Centre staff were kept busy on 24 April as people responded to our appeal to learn more about their rabbits, have them microchipped and get free advice on medical problems from our vets. RSPCA Chief Inspector Brett Witchalls, who attended the event said "I'm pleased to see so many people have come today"



Betty rehomed

We are pleased to say that Betty, the cat featured in our spring newsletter about the hidden dangers of cat collars has found new loving owners and is now fit, well and a very very happy cat indeed. Whilst recovering at the Centre, Betty made friends with another cat Fluffy and, happily, her new owner has taken Fluffy too.

Good homes wanted for kittens

At this time of year the Animal Centre usually has plenty of choice for those of you looking for a kitten. This year is no exception – in fact just at the moment we have the best and widest choice we can remember.



How come we have so many kittens? Finding itself pregnant can be a very bewildering time for a cat who has a disinterested owner (as many owners sadly are). Just at a time when it needs a bit extra love and attention, it can find itself being shown the door. Our inspectors come across mothers and kittens in all

sorts of predicaments during early summer. Happily, once mum and kittens are safely with us, they soon get their self-confidence back and by the time they are ready for rehoming they really are a joy. The cattery in the Animal Centre is absolutely full of the most wonderful cats and kittens you are ever likely to see. Please come for a look around and you are sure to find your perfect pet. Not all our cats are young – some are older and will be more suited to a quiet life. If you would like to share your life with a cat, please come for a look round.



Rochdale Animal Centre

Snow White and the Seven Dwarves



Six of the seven dwarves (we put one in with Thunder (see story) to give little Thunder some company).



Along with all the kittens currently at the Centre come lots of kitten stories with members of the public finding them in all sorts of predicaments. Often, the mother has looked for somewhere safe and quiet to have her babies only to find that us humans have been moving things round and she has just had her babies in the worst possible place. Poor old mum – just when she thought she was safe!

One such case happened recently and mum was spotted, but only just in the nick of time. An unused but well boarded up building in Middleton was the scene. We don't know how mum got in, but she certainly couldn't get back out and with seven kittens to feed things were looking very bleak indeed. Fortunately, eagle eyed Denise, from our Middleton shop, saw her at a window crying and went to the rescue.

All seven kittens were rescued safely along with mum, but as they were so thin their health has been quite a concern. However, we are pleased to report that over the last week or so they have really perked up and by the time you are reading this newsletter they will be ready for rehoming

Please remember us in your will

Be sure that the causes you believe in are supported when you are no longer here

Most people agree that it's vital that we all have a will (and that someone knows where this is). It's easy to put off, but we know many people feel great relief when they finally get round to putting their wishes in writing.

A solicitor will be able to assist you with your will and ensure that it is legally correct and that your wishes are carried out, including whether you would like to leave a legacy to charity. It is not a difficult process and not expensive either.

Please remember to keep your will up to date with changing circumstances. If you have already made a will and would like to include a legacy to the Rochdale RSPCA then all you have to do is contact your solicitor who can then make the addition – this is known as a Codicil. If you need advice, just give us a call and we will be pleased to help.

Without your generosity we could not continue

For us, a legacy is a precious gift. No matter how small, it will be put to good use.

Your solicitor will advise on the correct wording, which must be quite precise - see example below. Remember also to state 'RSPCA Rochdale Branch' and not the Rochdale Animal Centre.

EXAMPLE: I wish to bequeath the sum of £_____ to the RSPCA Rochdale Branch 1 Redcross Street, Rochdale OL12 0NZ. Registered charity No 232257.

In 2008 the Rochdale Animal Centre rehomed over 370 animals

Our 2009 AGM



Pictured receiving awards from trustee Siobhan Cunnane are Denise Appleyard and Julia Bache, Middleton shop and from Councillor Peter Rush – Colin Moran, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (receiving the award on behalf of Amber Watch).

This year's AGM was again extremely well attended. The Guest of Honour was Councillor Peter Rush who presented a special award to the Fire Crew of Heywood Fire Station – see story across.

Certificates of Merit were awarded to staff and volunteers who had made significant contributions to the work of the RSPCA during the year. Reports were given by trustees of the Centre and RSPCA Officers Chief Inspector Brett Witchalls and Regional Representative Mr Paul Draycott. Later in the evening everyone had an opportunity to look around the Centre and see the wide variety of Animals being cared for.

Molly and Scamp (remember Guy and Cinders?)



Two 'famous' puppies rehomed. What a terrible ordeal they had! After being used as playthings by children and passed through a bonfire these two cute puppies were thankfully spotted and brought to the safety

of the Animal Centre. Featured in the local and national press and on television, the pair had offers to rehome them pouring in from all over the UK. The puppies, who we called Guy and Cinders have now been rehomed in Skelmersdale. They have been renamed Molly and Scamp and have plenty of other animals for company including cats, a donkey and a pony. We wish them all the very best.

More products are Freedom Food labelled



Morrisons are now offering only Freedom Food labelled fresh and smoked Scottish salmon in 354 of its stores nationwide. The fillets are cured for 24 hours in a mixture of salt and demerara sugar, applied by hand.

They are then smoked in traditional kilns over the oak dust and chips of whisky barrels from local distilleries of the Spey Valley.

From Focus – Freedom Food News, Issue 39.



FIRE CREW'S AWARD FOR ICY RESCUE FROM LAKE

Story: Lisa Gray, HEYWOOD ADVERTISER

FIREFIGHTERS who risked their lives to save a dog trapped on the frozen Queen's Park lake last winter have been commended for their bravery. Heywood's water rescue team used specialist equipment to save stranded pup Ruby, who had fallen through breaking ice near to the lake island last December.

Members of Amber Watch crossed the lake on a floating sledge, developed in Iceland, to reach the dog and bring her safely to worried RSPCA worker Siobhan Cunnane, who was caring for Ruby at the time. During the rescue, firefighters Michael Wilkinson, John Nolan and Emma McGregor used the Hansa sledge to cross 60 yards of ice and had to wade through the freezing water for the final few feet to reach the animal. Now almost two, Ruby, who was rescued by the RSPCA after suffering neglect and cruelty, has found a new home with a Newhouse Road family and is said to be doing very well. Peter and Lynn Ramsden contacted Siobhan about the dog after hearing of her plight and it was love at first sight.

"She's a lovely dog," said Peter. "She's still very timid because she was mistreated in the past, but she's great with me and Lynn and is very healthy.

"If anyone wants to come and see how she's getting on we walk her in Queen's Park every Sunday morning."

Councillor Peter Rush, who sits on the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service board, presented the team with the RSPCA special award last week.

"They did an excellent job of saving little Ruby," he said. "We are lucky to be one of only two crews in Greater Manchester with specialist water rescue equipment and it comes in very handy for incidents like this one."

Pictured on Front Cover: Members of Amber Watch – Paul Doggett, Emma McGregor, Colin Moran, Dylan Carter, John Ogden, Michael Wilkinson with Ruby and her owners Lynn and Peter Ramsden.



Receiving awards from Siobhan Cunnane, clockwise –Chan Taylor, Deputy Manager of the Animal Center; Brenda Gardner; Eileen Jones and Alison Marsden.

The Animal Centre needs YOU



Jack, helping out on reception

Would you enjoy volunteer work at the Animal Centre, grooming animals or helping on reception? You would be working alongside the staff completing the day-to-day tasks such as cleaning, feeding, grooming and exercising of the animals, or working on reception, dealing with visitors and answering the phone. Many of our volunteers help just for the pleasure of being around animals whilst others volunteer to gain experience of working within an animal environment. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays are busy days with the Animal Centre staff working flat out so if you could help on those days it would be wonderful. You will need to be aged 16 years or above, have a real love of animals, and be physically fit. Please ring 01706 861 897.

Our litter is hurting animals

Keep Britain Tidy's campaign about the use of red rubber bands by the Royal Mail (estimated at 342 million per year) continues and while we sympathise with individual postal workers, the campaign highlights the problems animals face on a daily basis with all forms of discarded litter.

Extract from www.encams.org

RSPCA's Inspectors and Animal Collection Officers tackle many thousands of incidents each year. A hedgehog whose head was stuck in a can, a fox whose head was stuck in a discarded car wheel, a swan with a hook piercing its neck and a duck whose foot was chopped off by fishing line were all cases needlessly caused by people dropping litter.

Keep Britain Tidy research revealed that 95% of vets have treated animals injured by litter such as broken glass bottles, plastic packaging and fishing hooks. Swans often get into difficulties with thousands each year caught in fishing gear.

RSPCA campaigner Helen Ball said: "The really sad thing is that all of these incidents could have been avoided if people just took their litter home with them. We are urging people to take their litter home and, whenever possible, recycle it."



Can you help Mr T?

Mr T really is a big, fabulous cat who has lots of affection to give. He's come from a quiet home, where his owner had died, and he doesn't enjoy life at all in our busy cattery. He needs a quiet home quickly, where his owner has time to spend with him. Please help if you can- just contact the Centre.

Rochdale Animal Centre

Buy your pet products from the Animal Centre

We have a great range of pet products on sale at the Animal Centre and every penny helps us to keep the Centre running.

World's best Cat Litter



Without doubt the best cat litter there is - and at an unbeatable price!

Small **£7.00**
Medium **£18.50**
Large **£32.50**



Applaws 99p/63p

This delicious range of flavours will make your cat love you more than ever



£2.99

£2.89

£2.59

Toys and Treats

For Rabbits, Guinea Pigs Gerbils and Hamsters who enjoy a bit of pampering

Directions to the Rochdale Animal Centre



OPENING TIMES	
Mon	11.30 - 3.30
Tue	11.30 - 3.30
Wed	Closed
Thu	11.30 - 3.30
Fri	11.30 - 3.30
Sat	11.30 - 3.30
Sun	11.30 - 3.30

St Mary's Gate (A58) runs across the top of the town centre towards Littleborough in the north east, and Heywood and the M62 in the west.

Redcross Street is easily accessed from the A58, from either direction, or on foot directly from the town centre.

Limited free car parking is available for RSPCA visitors opposite the Centre, plus 'Pay and Display' car parking.

We are open every day including weekends, except Wednesdays 11.30am - 3.30pm.

TO REPORT AN ANIMAL IN DISTRESS: TEL 0300 1234 999

CALLS TO OUR CRUELTY AND ADVICE LINE ON THE NEW 0300 NUMBER WILL COST JUST THE SAME AS A NATIONAL NUMBER



Registered Charity 232257

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or the RSPCA

MCA DESIGN LTD david@mcadesignltd.co.uk

Rochdale Animal Centre 1 Redcross Street, Rochdale, OL12 0NZ