



REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1143338

Tails

Newsletter 2025/2026

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS AT THE KIT WILSON TRUST



STONEHURST LANE, HADLOW DOWN, UCKFIELD, EAST SUSSEX TN22 4ED

www.kitwilsontrust.org.uk

About the Kit Wilson Trust

How It All Started

The Trust was established in 1975 when Katherine Wilson (always known as 'Kit'), a well-known cat show judge and campaigner for animal welfare, left a small legacy to be used for the benefit of animals. A cornerstone of the Trust's founding policy then, as now, was to promote the spaying and neutering of pets. The need for the Trust's work in rescuing and re-homing unwanted cats and dogs would be greatly reduced if there were fewer kittens and puppies being born; animals rescued by the Trust are the lucky ones - thousands of unwanted pets are destroyed every year by other organisations and authorities.

What We Do

From a modest beginning the Trust has grown and in 1986 set up its own Animal Rescue Centre in Hadlow Down, near

Uckfield, in East Sussex. In addition to the animal rescue and re-homing work, the Trust has become increasingly involved in wildlife rehabilitation and operates a wildlife emergency help line. Over the years, the Rescue Centre has also become a permanent home to many animals that it is not possible or desirable to re-home; these include horses, donkeys, cats, goats, birds and small mammals.

How We Work

The Trustees give their time on a voluntary basis, including the Chairman who has overall responsibility for animal welfare, the organisation of the Rescue Centre, its staff and volunteers. Funds are raised mainly through local supporters' groups, individual donations, legacies, animal sponsors and our Charity Shops. We receive no Local Authority, Government or Lottery funding, relying on our supporters to continue our work.

Trustees

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Colette Marshall

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Marilyn Alexander

ASST. TREASURER

Vivienne Norman

HON SECRETARY

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PhD BVetMed MRCVS

Welcome to Tails 2025/2026



2025 is a significant year for us as we commemorate our 50th Anniversary.

It is interesting to look back on the years to remind ourselves of all our highs but not to forget the lows either. It has not all been plain sailing.

Without Kit (Catherine) Wilson's generosity in the early 70's, it is safe to say that The Kit Wilson Trust for Animal Welfare would not exist today. Many changes and much hard work have been carried out since those early days, but what has never changed is ensuring every animal we take in receives the very best care until they are placed in a suitable home.

Fast forward to March 1984, one of our lowest points, but who knew that when we were informed, due to a change in farming policy, we would have to close the cattery and vacate the loaned building in East Grinstead, we were using for our rescue work, it would turn out to be one of the best decisions for the Trust. Since the Trust was founded in 1975 we had homed 811 dogs, 2284 cats and 279 other animals as well as neutering 2,093 cats and dogs through our spaying/neutering scheme.

The time had come to find a suitable property to purchase to carry on our essential work. An appeal for funds was

launched over a two and a half year period and the search for property began. Continual fundraising and legacies were helping us ever nearer our target, all the time our rescue, rehoming and other welfare work continued apace. In 1986, after much anxiety, as only those who have purchased property can understand, we did it and the Rescue Centre in Hadlow Down became our reality.

The site had been used as an intensive pig rearing unit, so we were pleased to think that our future activities would wipe out the past misery that had taken place there. A huge amount of work was needed on the disused site, slurry pits to be filled in, buildings in need of repair, and in some cases pulled down. The massive electrical system was unsafe due to neglect and the water system nonexistent and would need to be completely rebuilt.

We have come a long way to where we are today and we are proud of what we have achieved but the journey does not stop here, we still have plans ahead, buildings to be updated and some still need replacing. It is all still a work in progress, as funds allow.

We would not be where we are today without the help of our supporters or the dedication and commitment of Colette in her voluntary positions as Trustee Chair, Centre Manager, and Chief Rehomer. Colette has been involved since the day KWT was established.

A trip down memory lane

As I put this newsletter together, I realise it is taking me far longer than it should. I have been totally engrossed and captivated by reading newsletters, from the very first one back in 1975, when the Trust was first established.

I have been transported back to a time before I became involved with the charity and adopted my first dog through them in 1986. Prince, a 3 year old Sheltie whose owner could not cope with him because she had a new baby, something over the years we have heard many times given as a reason the dog has to go. He was the sweetest dog and no trouble at all.

There is an overwhelming sense I get from those early days, that although the struggles were real, the work on occasions upsetting and never-ending, the sheer determination and camaraderie to deal with whatever came along was also real. Supporters then, as now, were always behind the Trust, donating, fundraising, and helping in any which way they could.

Looking back on a newsletter from 1976, It is certainly hard to remember a time when our 'Grand Raffle' tickets were being sold for 5p per ticket, or the approximate cost of an adult dog spay was £16 and an adult dog castration £9.50! But I suppose it was all relative.

I can honestly say that my time working at the Centre in the late 80's firstly as a Sunday volunteer, then as a kennel assistant was the best of my working life and the most rewarding. Yes the work was hard. At the time we were having to carry

buckets of hot water from the kitchen down to the kennels as work to update the site was being carried out, but we were of the generation where if a job needed doing you just got on with it. Health & safety wasn't like it is today. You went home exhausted at the end of the day but you went knowing you'd done a good job!

I have had various voluntary roles over the years with the Trust, each one as enjoyable as the last. I have jumped a few gates at the Centre in the past, with Colette, at the sound of an incessant buzz, neither waiting to find out what it was! Splitting up in the vain hope that it may confuse the offending insect, rather than one of us being unlucky enough for it to follow. Even though many years have passed and your knees start to feel that first sign of arthritis, (no jumping gates these days), one thing never changes for me visiting the Centre; whether it be to drop off donations or to take photos of the animals for the newsletter and social media, it still transports me to a different world, one of tranquility, love and peace.

Tina

Permanent Foster Home Appeal

A BIG GIRL WITH A BIG HEART

We are looking for a permanent foster home for Xena our Caucasian Shepherd, female, approx. 4 years old. Xena is a big girl, weighing in at around 45kg, so a physically strong owner is preferred.

Xena was admitted as a stray after having been dumped at a roundabout. How could anyone do that to this lovely nice natured dog. But we soon discovered that this beautiful girl has some health issues which will need to be addressed in the future and the veterinary bill will be substantial.

Xena will need a complete hip replacement at some stage in her life. The vets cannot determine when this will be, therefore, we are looking for a foster home, as the likelihood of her being adopted is very slim. We do not wish to prolong her stay in the kennels longer than necessary. Understandably most potential homes will shy away from a veterinary bill in the thousands, which is why we have decided to be on standby and will cover the costs for her new owners whenever this arises. She is able to do light exercise including short walks.

Xena is a magnificent, friendly girl and will make someone a loyal companion. She oozes warmth and intelligence, has a velvety coat and the most soulful eyes that seem to read your every emotion. She moves with a playful bounce and grace that defies her size. Her expressive face and eyes are a window into her keen mind, always eager to solve problems,

learn new things, or to simply comfort her favourite humans. Loyal to a fault, she will lean against you for reassurance, offering an embrace that feels almost human. Whether playfully bounding around, looking for a hug or resting her soft head on your lap, this affectionate girl is a perfect balance of strength and tenderness – a steadfast friend with a heart as big as her frame.

She will make a wonderful addition to her new family and is happy to meet people and other dogs but, due to her heritage, may be protective over her home, so she needs to be kept socialised as much as possible.

If you feel that you are able to give Xena the home her heart desires, then please give us a call for further details and a chat.



Will his wait be over for a new home.

BEFORE



Otis arrived at the Centre a year ago as a very subdued cat. He came in with a very matted coat and weighing a whopping 8½ kilos. He needed to go on a diet, but we found he was very fussy over food, enjoying his treats a little too much. What cat doesn't like a Dreamy or two? Because of his size, we had concerns that he might be suffering from symptoms associated with obesity such as diabetes, but after a veterinary check, fortunately that was ruled out.

Some serious work was needed to get his weight down to a healthy level. A member of staff took on the challenge and took him home to help get him in shape ready for his forever home. Otis worked hard to lose weight, keeping to his diet, eventually!

What a transformation! He's lost an amazing 3 kilos, he is no longer fussy with his food and he can move around more freely and easily. He loves to play and roll around, is no longer the quiet cat he was and he's gained a newfound confidence in the process.

He doesn't mind being brushed if he can have a Dreamy reward afterwards but not too many! He likes to walk beside you and is now so ready for his next adventure in his forever home. He is neutered, vaccinated and microchipped.

NOW



My Happy Ever After



Hi everyone, it's me again...Kip. I don't know if you will recall, but in Autumn last year, I put in a desperate plea to find someone to love me.

You will never guess what! The most amazing people came forward and now I finally have a family to call my own. I have three Shar-Pei siblings who I share my home with, they are absolute ace, I love them and they are so much fun. My dad says that I am a beautiful addition to their gang and that I am such a gentle and sweet boy.

Dasha, my sister who is the controller of our pack had to tell me off a couple of times when I first arrived, but I quickly settled in and learnt that even I have to follow some rules. I love our walks in the woods and the free running sessions in a secure dog field. Even though I am 11 years old, they tell me that I have the energy of a puppy.



My sister Shevvi and I love playing together and running amok as dad calls it. I remember Shevvi from her time at Kit Wilson a few years ago, even then we were the bestest of friends. All the things, people have previously turned me down for, my family accepts and loves about me, for example the daily hoovering...yes, my husky fur does tend to stick to the carpets...to everything really but my mum and dad take it in their stride. The same with my happy song of excitement every time we go for a walk. Apparently, I sound so very dramatic, but they love it.

I could not have wished for a better family, they are everything I have ever dreamed of and they love me just the way I am...and I love them with all my heart.

Christmas Food Appeal 2024

We would like to thank everyone who generously gave food, treats, toys and monetary donations to our 2024 Christmas Food Appeal. We are delighted to report that a record-breaking value of donations was received, via our Food Appeal boxes and on-line donations, amounting to £19,542.73. Thank you so much on behalf of the animals for your kindness.

We would also like to say thank you to all who hosted a Christmas Food Appeal box for us and to our volunteers who were able to take and collect the boxes in at the end of the appeal.



Some of the animals enjoying the donations.

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If your animal needs it we probably stock it!

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www.windmillfeeds.co.uk

Special Appeal 'Smokey'

Approx. 9 years old.

Our dear Smokey has been at the Centre for a long time now and desperately needs his forever home. When he arrived as a matted stray in 2021, he had a very obvious head tilt and was so nervous of everything and everyone. Goodness knows what had happened to this poor boy. He needed treatment for a bad ear infection, the reason for his head tilt, which was difficult at first, but with a gentle touch, soothing words, medication and time we did manage to get it under control and clear it up, but he has been left with a slight tilt, which makes him look very endearing.

Over time, with patience, Smokey started to let his guard down and little by little his trust was starting to show from taking a treat to having a stroke.

He is a very quiet cat and comes across as shy on first meeting but when you get to know him and he trusts you, he is the sweetest boy; he loves for you to stroke him under his chin and behind his ears.

He will sit next to you and given time maybe on your lap. He loves a sunspot too; he'll spend all day there if he could.

He needs an experienced cat home, someone willing to give him the time to get to know his new owner at his pace. He doesn't mind other cats for company.

He is neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped.



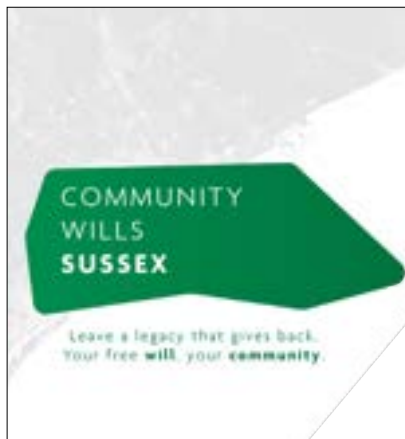
New Website

Exciting news....

we have been working hard behind the scenes with our web designers to launch a brand new website. A day we have been planning for over a year and to coincide with our 50th Anniversary year. We are almost there and cannot wait to share it with you. A launch date for going live is planned for April, but as with all the best laid plans, we will see. The site will need

testing to make sure everything has been uploaded correctly and is functioning as it should, with any glitches ironed out before it officially goes live. The site will be easier to navigate, more photos of the animals looking for loving homes, easier to contact us to apply for jobs or volunteer positions and more information about our shops, donating and eBay. We will keep you updated via our social media.

Free Wills Writing Months



Community Wills **Sussex** is a brand new free will writing community initiative brought to you by 5 of Sussex's most renowned local charities in partnership with Britton and Time Solicitors.

The scheme operates twice a year and is open to anyone over the age of 55, offering a free will in exchange for a **legacy gift** to one or more of our local charity partners.

And the best part is, all gifts that you leave go back into the local Sussex communities that you live in and that our charity partners work tirelessly to support.

The Kit Wilson Trust is very pleased to be one of the 5 local Sussex charity partners in this Free Will writing scheme.

If you are thinking about writing your will, why not take advantage of a free one during Free wills month with Community Wills Sussex, this April, or November. For more information find them online at www.cwsussex.co.uk or call Britton and Time solicitors on 0203 007 5500.

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Tear Here

THE KIT WILSON TRUST

ANIMAL RESCUE CENTRE, STONEHURST LANE, HADLOW DOWN, UCKFIELD, EAST SUSSEX TN22 4ED
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 7690478 Registered in England & Wales.

www.kitwilsontrust.org.uk
Tel: 01825 830444 Fax: 01825 830887

YOUR DETAILS

Your Details

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

First Name

Surname

Address

Town

Post Code

County

Telephone Number

Email Address

REGULAR DONATION BY BANKERS ORDER

I would like to make a donation

Name of Your Bank

Branch Address

Post Code

Account Holder

Account Number

Sort Code

Please pay ☐ monthly ☐ quarterly ☐ annually (please tick)

to: The Kit Wilson Trust for Animal Welfare, NatWest, 49 High Street, Uckfield,
East Sussex TN22 1AN Sort Code 60-22-05 Current Account no. 63156458

The Sum of

£

Amount in words

From (date)

/ /

and thereafter (please tick monthly/quarterly/annually above)

Until (date)

/ /

or until I notify you otherwise ☐

Signed

Date



REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1143338

***We are very grateful to everyone who makes a regular donation,
which helps us to plan for the care of the animals in the coming year.***

SINGLE DONATION

£

towards the care of the animals at
The Kit Wilson Trust.

Date

I enclose a cheque payable to "KWT"
Please tick if you require a receipt ☐

giftaid it

Gift Aid declaration

☐ Please tick here and sign below if you would like KWT to claim Gift Aid on this donation, any future donation and any you have given in the last four years. This means every £1 you donate will benefit the Trust by the standard rate of income tax paid.

"I confirm I pay sufficient UK Tax to cover any tax which KWT will reclaim from any donations that I make"

Signed

Date

☐ Please tick here if you do not pay tax.

We would like to stay in touch with you and keep you updated on our work. If you are happy for us to do this, please complete your details above and tell us the best way to contact you:

Please tick all that apply.

By post: Yes ☐ No ☐

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You can view our privacy policy online at www.kitwilsontrust.org.uk

04/25

Tear Here

Dogs in need of homes

EMBER



1 year old, female Lurcher

Ember was admitted in an emaciated state and is still in need of gaining a few pounds. This stunning girl has come on in leaps and bounds. She is still a little frightened of loud sounds and raised voices but is now ready to find her forever family to make her life complete. It is unknown whether Ember is spayed, so this will need to be done after her first season if not.

TULA



2 year old crossbred spayed female

Six months on and our poor Tula is still in the kennels waiting for her forever home. She enjoys the company of people and other dogs but can sometimes be a little bossy with her peers. This beautiful girl is highly intelligent, affectionate and cuddly.

JACK



1 year old neutered male Lurcher.

Jack is a young energetic lad with a lot of potential. He is in need of training and does tend to chew items but we hope that in the right home this can be resolved. He has the most beautiful face and you can see the kindness in his eyes. Jack is very affectionate, playful and loves attention.

KIRA



Approx. 1 year old female Lab x Lurcher type.

This young lady is looking for an active home to give her the exercise she needs. She can be bouncy but is eager to please. Kira is a fast learner and staff have reported that she is a delight to walk and very well behaved. Fencing 6' plus high around property is a must. It is unknown whether Kira has been spayed, so this will need to be done after her first season if not.

RONNIE



8 year old neutered male Lurcher

Ronnie is the sweetest boy; he is still very upset and confused after losing his home and desperate to be with people. This gentle soul needs stability and kindness in his life; an owner who will be as dedicated to Ronnie as Ronnie will be to them. He has some health issues which we are dealing with but this should not interfere with his adoption.



I'd like to give to home

Many people have questions about how to adopt an animal from

CAN I CALL IN TO THE CENTRE AND LOOK AROUND FOR AN ANIMAL?

You can visit our reception between 9.00am and 5.00pm daily to leave your details and the kind of animal you are looking for, BUT you will need an appointment to look at the animals.

AT SOME RESCUE CENTRES I CAN JUST TURN UP AND LOOK AROUND.

This system is for your benefit as well as that of the animals. We like to give people individual attention, so our animal care staff are assigned to appointments for re-homing within their daily work schedule, which allows the time necessary to deal with the important decision of which animal is right for you. As far as the animals are concerned, the Rescue Centre is their home and, as with established pets in their own homes, strangers walking through 'their' property can be distressing for them. Many of the newer arrivals have recently had traumatic experiences and disturbance to them is kept to a minimum.

WHEN I PHONE?

You will be asked about the kind of animal you are interested in and the facilities you are able to provide, as well as details of your family (i.e. whether you have young children, other pets, livestock, etc.) and whether you are working, retired or at home. If there is a suitable animal at the Centre we will arrange an appointment for you to visit.

I HAVE TRIED TO PHONE THE RESCUE CENTRE, BUT THE PHONE IS ON ANSWERING MACHINE. WHEN CAN I SPEAK TO SOMEONE IN PERSON?

We rely mostly on volunteers to deal with enquiries and it is not possible to deal with every call in person; the care of the animals here must come first. However, we do assure you that if you leave your name, telephone number and the nature of your enquiry, we will return your call as soon as possible. We endeavour to have the general line (01825 830444) covered from 10.00am to 4.00pm daily.

I LEFT DETAILS OF THE TYPE OF ANIMAL I WAS LOOKING FOR AND I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM YOU. HAS MY ENQUIRY BEEN OVERLOOKED?

A record is kept of all telephone calls and we do our best to contact people when an animal that may suit them comes into our care. However, we receive hundreds of calls every week and it is not always possible to do this immediately. We do, therefore, ask you to phone from time to time, quoting the reference number that you will have been given when you called, to let us know whether you are still looking for an animal, or indeed if you have found one elsewhere.



to a Rescued Animal

the Trust – we hope to answer most of them here.

WILL YOU NEED TO VISIT MY HOME?

We have a number of home-checkers in the area and prefer to ask them to contact you to arrange a visit to your home before you decide on an animal to adopt. However, because these people are volunteers and may have to travel some distance to your home, the visit may sometimes be carried out after your appointment at the Centre.

WHAT RULES DO YOU HAVE ABOUT WHETHER SOMEONE CAN ADOPT AN ANIMAL?

We do not have a rigid set of rules, but try to assess each potential home according to the animal being adopted. However, there are certain guidelines that we follow, such as not homing cats in houses on busy main roads and not putting animals into situations where they will be left alone for long periods of time, since their mental well-being is just as important as their physical needs.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN I HAVE BEEN GIVEN AN APPOINTMENT TO VISIT THE CENTRE?

A member of staff will introduce you to the animal that your enquiry relates to. This may take the form of a dog being brought up to Reception or you being escorted to the cattery, rabbitry or rodent house. The member of staff will discuss with you the animal's history and needs.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I ADOPT AN ANIMAL?

You will be required to sign an adoption form, which includes an agreement to have the animal spayed or neutered (if not already done, due to age or

health reasons) and to return it to the Trust if you are, for some reason, unable to keep it. The latter does not happen very often and we are always happy to give advice if there are any problems following the adoption.

IF I AM UNABLE TO KEEP MY ADOPTED ANIMAL, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Telephone us first to discuss the problems. If these are insoluble, we would ask you to give us at least 24 hours' notice to make accommodation arrangements, as our kennels and catteries are always full, with urgent cases waiting to come in every day.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO ADOPT AN ANIMAL?

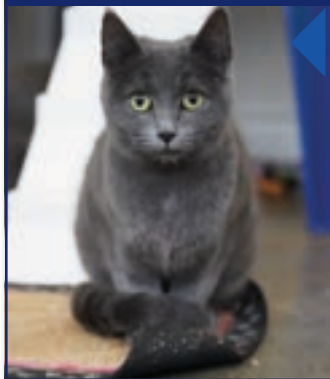
We do not sell animals, believing they are beyond monetary value. However, we invite you to make a donation, entirely at your discretion, towards the care of other animals at the Centre, either when you take the animal home, or whenever you feel appropriate. Our motivation is to secure a permanent home and, whilst we desperately need funds, we do not view the re-homing of animals as part of our fund raising activities.



Cats in need of homes

All our cats have been microchipped, vaccinated and neutered.

KIARA



KIRROS



Approx. 8 month old female and male siblings. These two absolutely adore each other. When they arrived at the Centre they were very nervous of people, but with time and lots of tlc they now enjoy being stroked and rubbing their heads with us. Both are playful and enjoy chasing toys.

Approx. 4 year old sisters. These two have been at the Centre for some time. When they arrived they were both extremely nervous. Sadly, their first interaction with people was not a nice one and because of that it has taken some time for them to gain trust. Peony loves a lot of attention but Portia not too much. Their bond is unbreakable. They are looking for a quiet experienced cat home together.

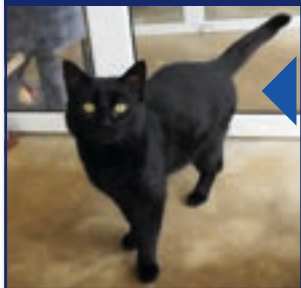
PEONY



PORTIA



NERO



Approx. 8-10 year old male. He loves company and conversation and will follow you around wanting to know what you are doing. Very much a lap cat. He can live with other cats.



All our cats have been microchipped, vaccinated and neutered.

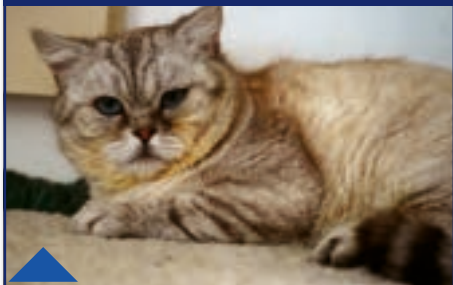
LUCKY, LAGO, NIMBUS & CIRRUS



Lucky, tabby male, was found in a lay-by one cold wet morning. He was so tiny that it was amazing that he was seen. He loves cuddles and has found a lovely bond with Lago (black centre.) They love to snuggle up together. Lago is very shy but follows Lucky everywhere.

Nimbus grey male, and Cirrus black male. 7 month old brothers who love to be held together. While Nimbus is the bolder of the two, Cirrus is content to just sit back and watch.

MATTEO



Approx. 3 year old long haired female. Tally is a gorgeous and very loving cat and happy to laze around all day. She likes the company of humans and cats. Very good with younger children. She will play with toys, especially a ball and will happily play on her own or with you. Does not mind being pampered.

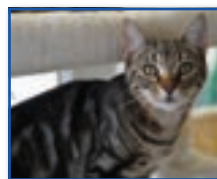
TALLY



4 year old male Matteo is a lovely boy; he can be a little shy but easily brought round with a shoulder massage or food. He likes the company of other cats.



AMBER, OPAL, SAPPHIRE AND MALACHITE – BORN 14TH JULY 2024



These 4 little gems, 3 sisters and a brother, were found in a disused and partly fallen down garage. They are full of energy and mischief. All very friendly and when tired they like to curl up in your arms. Malachite is the soppiest of the four kittens and will happily fall asleep in your arms. To be homed in pairs.

Rabbits in need of homes

5 year old crossbreed spayed female.

Wiggles is a lady who knows what she wants and unfortunately, it's not the companionship of other rabbits. We are seeking a home that can accommodate her needs, as this beautiful girl has been overlooked for far too long and it's her time to shine. If you are able to house her next to existing rabbits, this would be acceptable to her, but she needs her own personal space.

WIGGLES



KARA & GOLIA



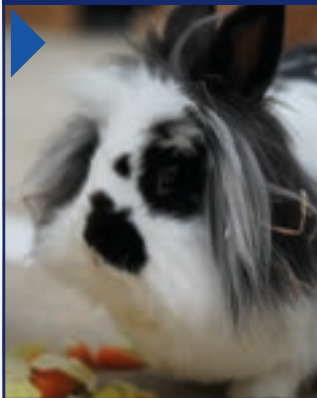
3 year old Himalayan spayed female sisters.

These two are an independent and quiet pair of rabbits. They are looking for their forever home with a large enclosure suited to their breed.

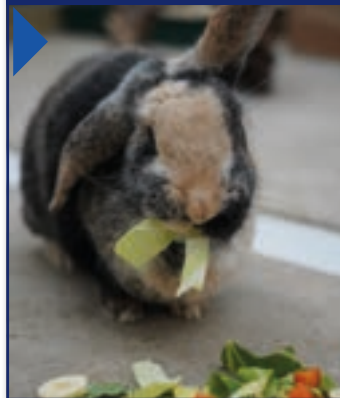
6 year old Mini Lop crossbreed neutered male & 4 year old Lionhead spayed female.

Sadly, this pair of shy yet lovely natured rabbits are still looking for their forever home. They would suit an adult only home perfectly.

THUMPER



DOBBY



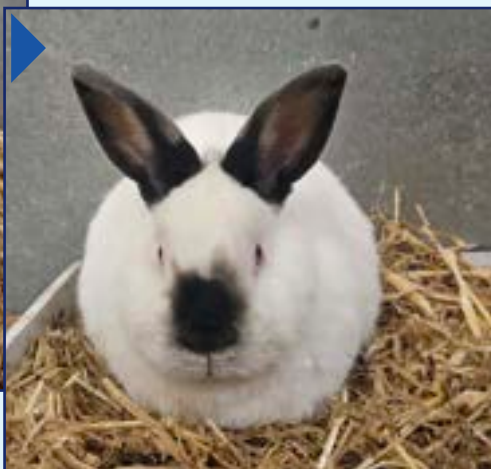
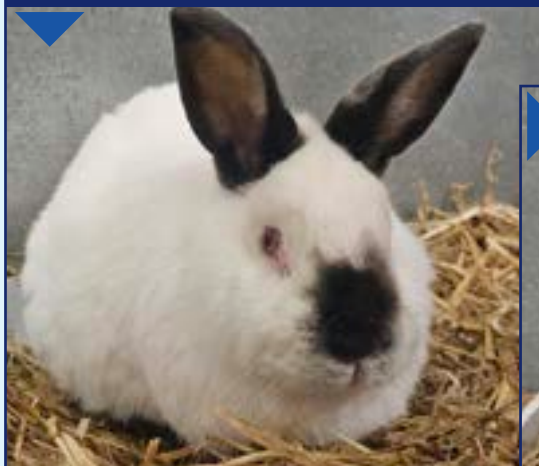
Special Appeal



Approx. 3 years old Himalayan neutered male.

Our darling Indi is looking for a special caring home. Unfortunately, he was born with a deformed penis which means his groin area gets stained and sore if not kept clean. He will need an experienced owner who has the time to check his genital area daily and is able to use a small clipper to trim the fur whenever needed. It is essential for Indi to have a spacious enclosure to avoid him sitting in his urine and compounding the problem. Indi is an exceedingly kind rabbit and is seeking the companionship of a lone female, as in a group situation he is bound to get bullied. Due to his issues, we are happy to discuss the possibility of an indoor home.

INDI



8 year old neutered male and 4 year old spayed female.

An experienced adult home is being sought for this pair as Blitzen is not for the faint hearted! He can only be described as an independent spirit who likes things his own way. Bursting with character, he will let you know through a variety of grunts if he is not at all happy. Hazel is his best friend who can see through this facade to a gentle side. They are both rabbits who would suit a home that does not need for them to be picked up regularly and for them to be in a large outdoor enclosure such as an aviary or converted shed.

BLITZEN AND HAZEL



All About Basil

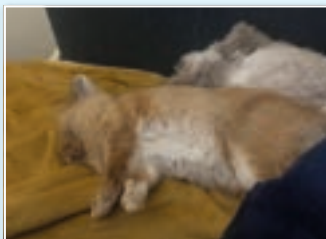
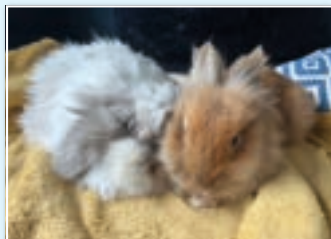
Beth has kindly written some words about the day she met Basil.

"I approached KWT after I had seen their advert looking for a home for a rabbit called Basil, a three year old male double Lionhead Lop or ball of fluff that doesn't even look like a rabbit.

At the time I was looking for a husbun for my female Lionhead, Jeffrey (yes still holding on to her name from when we thought she was a male.) My Jeffrey is a very friendly and affectionate rabbit and wants to be loved all day long and she is very bonded to me, but honestly I don't

have time to spend all day stroking and kissing her, as much as I would like to!

So, a rabbit companion was needed, and we took Jeffrey to meet Basil. The staff at the Rescue Centre were brilliant, they provided a lovely room for them to meet. At first it was a bit hit and miss as Jeffrey definitely wanted to be the dominant bunny. After a little while they seemed to calm down and even sat quietly side by side.



Basil came home with us and I wondered how many weeks it would take to bond them. I divided the indoor enclosure so that they could live side by side, see, sniff, and lay next to one another. I played it safe for six days but honestly think they could have been put together sooner. They fell in love and have been ever since. They spend all day licking and grooming each other, they eat together and sleep side by side. It is so lovely to watch.

Basil requires quite a lot of grooming from me too as his fur is so fluffy and it grows very quickly. He has already had two full

body haircuts! They both live indoors and pretty much have the run of the house. Basil has been very cautious about his adventures past his enclosure, probably due to the cat and dog that also live with us, but he is getting used to them now and realizes that they are not a threat and seems to take on a new room every day.

We are so delighted to have adopted Basil. He is such a sweet, nice natured bun and I am just so happy that he seems content and totally in love with his bunny wife.

SJD

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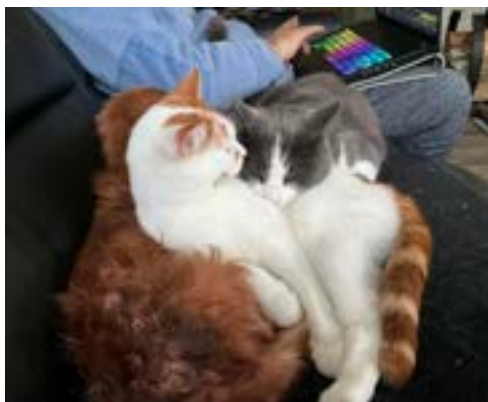
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(see more on page 26 -27)



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Shop News

In November last year our Heathfield charity shop came first in the Best Dressed Charity Shop Window Award competition held by Wealden Council in Heathfield. Winning £100 as a result. The paintings in the display were painted by Heathfield shop volunteer Jess and the display created by our Asst. Shop Manager Lu. What a great result for all their hard work.

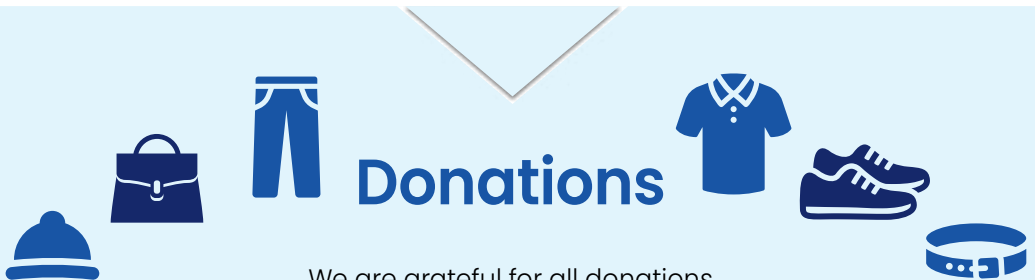


Volunteers Welcome

Our busy shops in Uckfield, Heathfield and Hailsham would welcome volunteers to help them raise money for the animals at the Rescue Centre. A variety of roles are on offer to suit your comfort and ability, whether it be on the shop floor or behind the scenes, such as customer service, till work, merchandising or stock sorting and preparation.

If you would like to be part of a friendly team do pop in for a chat with the relevant shop manager. We look forward to seeing you.

Please check our social media for regular updates on our shops.



We are grateful for all donations, although we are unable to accept donations of furniture, but we are particularly looking for donations of clean clothing, shoes and bags.

2 year old Border Collie Female DEAF

Sadly, Mist is still at the Centre, waiting patiently for her new family. We knew it would be a challenge to find her a suitable home, due to her deafness and needs, but so far no one has opened their heart and home to her.

This young lady needs an owner, not only experienced with deaf dogs but also with Border Collies and their traits and we are ever hopeful that 'special person' is out there for Mist.

Mist is the sweetest girl, very affectionate and loves attention. She goes on regular adventures with Zoe, one of our volunteers, to a secure dog walking field, to Zoe's parents' farm, Zoe's own home or sometimes simply on a country walk. Zoe has nothing but praise for Mist and often reports about their outings and adventures on our Facebook page. Please have a look if you can and see for yourselves.

Mist mostly meets dogs nicely when out but will need to be in an only dog home as she suffers from some anxieties which are better dealt with on a one to one. We are not saying it will be an easy ride to begin with. Mist has still got a lot to learn but she is the loveliest dog and just so deserving of a home of her own.

We will not give up on her and we will wait for someone to give her the opportunity for a better life.



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Fundraising

London Marathon

Local supporter, Alex Taylor, is taking part in and organising, all manner of events to raise money for the animals at the Rescue Centre, having adopted her dog Edie from the Trust. One of the events she is training for is the London Marathon which is no mean feat. Alex says "anyone that knows me knows that I whinge a lot during any exercise I do, so the marathon and the training that comes with it does not come easy. Knowing that I might be able to give something back to Kit Wilson will make all the difference." We wish her every success.

If you would like to sponsor Alex please visit her **JustGiving page** <https://www.justgiving.com/page/alex-taylor-fetch>



Dates for your diary

Uckfield Lion's Fun Day,
Luxford Field, Uckfield
Sunday June 1st 2025

Hooe Vintage Car Show,
Hooe Recreation Ground
Sunday 3rd August 2025

In our last edition of Tails, we wrote an article on Lorraine Wilson fundraising on two wheels, sadly Lorraine had an accident last year and was unable to take up her challenge. She is hoping sometime in the future to revisit the challenge.

Lifelines

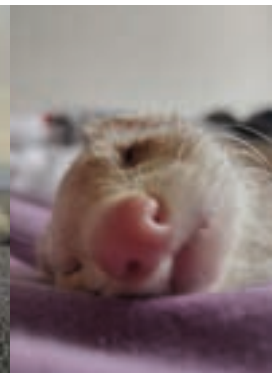
Valentine's Day love was in the air when we received a surprise email from the Pets Club Lifelines Scheme to say that they were spreading the love to all the charities on the scheme by issuing them a £500 donation to spend in store at Pets at Home.

We are so grateful to them and enjoyed spending the money on the animals, filling three trolleys with food, toys and treats.

If you would like to support us every time you shop at Pets at Home, download their app or visit the Pets at Home website and choose us as your charity.



Some of our Rescues



in their homes



KWT

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