

# **STOUR VALLEY CAT RESCUE**

Reg. Charity 514904

Trustee - Maureen Jennings

Treasurer - Mike Wells

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**Hello Everyone, and welcome to our Summer 2026 Newsletter.**

**Since my last letter the rescue has been inundated with requests to help cats and kittens. I have never known it to be this bad. We hate to turn away any cat in need but we are restricted to the number we can have. Also the more we have the more pressure is put on the volunteers.**

**To enable the volunteers to work efficiently under pressure we have had a training program for all volunteers kindly delivered by one of our other volunteers, Helen, who previously did this type of work as her job. The majority have now received training. We have taken on a number of new volunteers but we are always looking for reliable volunteers especially to cover the morning shifts.**

**The turnover of cats has been quite good but there are always a few that never seem to get noticed, particularly the shy, nervous ones some of which have been with us for years or the FIV cats. If anyone is willing to give any of these a chance you can find details on our website, Facebook page and cat chat.**

**Fortunately we've had success stories with some of our nervous ones like Lily, Leo and Boo, and Cinnamon and Spice together with some of our FIV cats Oscar and Wilf and very recently, Bella and Shadow our 16 year old pair. They came into the rescue last October after being dumped by their owner 5 years previously. A neighbour had been feeding them outside for the last 5 years but when he died there was no one to care for them. Such a happy ending for them.**

Our thanks go to Louise who has worked wonders in the garden to make it more manageable and Maurice who has continued to be kept busy making a patio area for volunteers to take a 5 minute break. We were very kindly donated a whole set of kitchen cupboards by our neighbours Sue and Dennis who were having a new kitchen. Maurice, helped by Brian Britt and my husband Phil, has recently finished installing it. There is just a bit of tiling and painting left to do. We must not forget to thank Joyce who is Maurice's helper and always there to tidy the cupboards. We would also like to thank Celia and Chris who have had the horrible job of taking our waste litter to the tip once or twice a week for the last few years. Unfortunately the tip will no longer accept waste litter and we are therefore having to look for alternatives but all of them are going to be costly. This of course is going to put added pressure on our finances.

Vet and food bills continue to rise. We appreciate any donations received. Thank you to all who donate regularly, without your support we would not be able to continue. Due to the increasing costs of running the rescue, fundraising continues to be very important for us. We have had many jumble sales and fundraisers both at Wollaston Village Hall and at Amblecote Church, and more are planned through late summer and autumn. Also this year our quiz nights organised by volunteer Gail have proved very popular. We would like to give a huge thank you to everyone who supports us in all of these events. It's lovely to welcome our regular customers and fantastic to see new supporters too.

During the next few months we have lots going on .....

Saturday 5th September jumble sale at Potters Cross Kinver 10am.

Saturday 12th September we have a stall at The Cat Show Live at the NEC which is a new and exciting event for us.

Saturday 3rd October we have our first Afternoon Tea. Come and enjoy delicious sandwiches, scones and cake. Entertainment provided by Enville Street Dramatic Society and a floristry demonstration too. Tickets £10 phone 07729 446836 to book your places.

Friday October 23rd evening event at Amblecote British Legion TBC.

Saturday 7th November jumble sale at Wollaston Village Hall 2.15pm.

**Saturday 12th December Christmas fundraiser at Hagley Community Centre 2.30pm.**

**Please put these dates in your diary and come and support us whenever you can.**

**I mentioned in the last newsletter that our treasurer, Mike Wells, had decided to stand down but so far we have been unable to find a replacement. Mike is staying on for now but if you or anyone you know might be interested in taking over please let me know.**

**Sadly, and in an effort to keep our costs to a minimum, my fellow trustees and I have decided that this will be our final newsletter. Although a few supporters are happy to receive newsletters by email, the majority are still sent out through the post which, as you will know, costs more and more each year. You can, of course, keep up to date through our website and facebook site and through the 'cat chat' website which can be found at '[catchat.org](http://catchat.org)'.**

**With very many thanks to all of you who support us with donations of money, food, litter etc. it is greatly appreciated.**

**Maureen**

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**[www.stour-valley-cat-rescue.org](http://www.stour-valley-cat-rescue.org)**

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