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## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

OPEN DAY AT WINDYWAY
SUNDAY 28TH AUGUST, 12.00 NOON —4.00 PM

#### CHRISTMAS FAIR

SENIOR CITIZENS HALL, DUKE ST, MACCLESFIELD SATURDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER, 10.30 AM—1.30 PM

#### **QUIZ NIGHTS**

YE OLDE KINGS HEAD, GURNETT, SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH, FROM 8.30 PM



Reg.Charity no; 1108111

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

Hello and welcome to our Summer newsletter. As always we have a mix of news, stories, introductions and happy endings. We'll begin though with updates from previous editions which can be viewed on the website at www.windyway.org. All the animals profiled last Winter have found lovely new homes—we have included photo's of Benson on page 5.

From the Summer 2015 edition we have homed Alvin & Fudge; Dilly and Lucky have also found lovely homes but Suzie, Arnie, and Fluff the bunny (now alone since her sister passed away) are still looking for that elusive family or individual who will make their life complete.

Our cover boy this time is Charles, one of our sanctuary cats. Charles is a familiar face for most Windyway visitors as he likes to mooch around the cattery entrance looking handsome. He regularly receives food and toy parcels addressed to Mr Charles Feral Puss from his adoring sponsor, much to the amusement of delivery drivers! I have included a photo inside of him diving into one of his latest boxes. If you would like to sponsor a long term resident cat or dog please get in touch with Pat Barnard; you will find her contact details on the back page.



## INTRODUCING.....

Casper bunny came to us from a home via a concerned neighbour as he was suffering from two gaping abscesses which the owner couldn't afford to have treated. He needed weeks of very close care and is now completely well and the good news is that his teeth are fine so the wound was not connected to dental problems. We have since had him neutered and attempted to bond him with other rabbits but he has shown aggression every time—we now think he got his initial wounds fighting with other rabbits in his original home. He is very friendly with humans and uses a litter tray so would

make an ideal single house bunny. **Obi** is a gorgeous super-friendly deaf white

boy. He has one yellow and one blue eye. He originally came in with another cat with whom he had grown up but, when we rehomed them as a pair, Obi became aggressive towards his 'sister' and had to







be returned to us. He is very inquisitive and hates being confined so needs a home with traffic free surroundings due to his disability. Alfie has lived at Windyway for far too long now and is well into his teens. He is a real character who loves to play ball and still enjoys pottering around the fields with his army of volunteer fans. He is generally great with other dogs (he shared with Annie for several years until she passed away) but couldn't live with cats or small children as his terrier nature takes over when he spots them. He would need someone extra patient to help him make the transition to house dog after so long in kennels but It would be so nice for him to have a special place in someone's home and life where he could end his days.

## Clemence (Clemmie) Coope

We are very sad to announce that Clemmie Coope, Windyway's longest serving supporter, passed away in July aged 88. Clemmie has been a very dear friend to several generations of family, staff, volunteers and rescued animals at Windyway for very many years. Her compassion and love for all animals was evident through her whole life and she always had several dogs initially German Shepherds and latterly Border Collies—many rescued via Windyway. When she was teaching history she used to bring pupils to help out, and when she retired she used to come and spend time doing whatever was needed she would assist on vet trips, late night rescue missions, mopping out kennels or answering the phone—she really didn't mind as long as she was helping the animals. She also used to run jumble sales in Bollington and Christmas bring and buy sales at her home in Rainow for many years and must have raised a good deal of money towards our work over that period. Another role Clemmie was well known for was being judge at our Open Day dog shows and in 2012 she did us the honour of cutting the ribbon at the official opening of our new kennel building. Even though she became quite frail she still attended and enjoyed Open Day up until last year—it will seem very different without Clemmie this year. We will always remember her for her cheerful and helpful character, and for her kind and gentle nature.





**Judging at Open Day** 

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# **FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS**

We held our **Spring Fair** in April and once again it was a huge success, raising the brilliant sum of £1604.15. We always have people waiting patiently at the door ready to come in and get their bargains, for which we are well known. We are very lucky to receive such lovely donations to sell at our fairs and in our shop, from our supporters, for which we say a big thank you to you all.

We had a lovely surprise in May. **Marks and Spencer, Macclesfield**, chose us as their charity of the year. We were over the moon at being chosen and they have already raised £1,200 for us. They aim to have a bag pack for us on the last Friday of the month, and if any of you are able to give an hour or two for this, it would be much appreciated. Please contact either myself or Wendy Bagley our shop manageress.

After all the unpredictable weather lately, with quite a few fetes and shows having to be cancelled, we were so lucky on the days leading up to our **Garden Party** on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July, keeping the meadow nice and dry for us. The day arrived and with it glorious sunshine. We had stalls and refreshments, including lots of yummy cakes and can I say a big thank you to everyone who baked for us. There was a lovely atmosphere, with people getting their bargains, sitting about eating and drinking and basking in the sunshine, made even more enjoyable by live music provided by Helen Walford, Tim Woodhouse and Steve Durant, who gave their services free, for which we are very grateful. If that was not enough, we raised a brilliant sum of £1337.58. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported us.



We are also busy holding stalls at various dog shows and fetes etc and thank everyone for inviting us. We have also had two fundraising days at Pets at Home as part of Adoption for Pets Summer Fundraiser. Whilst talking about Pets at Home could I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has joined their VIP Club and nominated us as their chosen charity. Every few months we get a voucher from them to spend on our animals through this scheme. Ye Old King's Head at Gurnett are still holding a **Quiz Night** for us on the first Thursday of the month, including a raffle. This starts about 8.30, teams of 4, at £1.50 per head.

Thank you to everyone who has been holding **fundraisers** for us, having **collection boxes**, and to Pets at Home, Jolleys and Tesco's Congleton and Morrison at Chapel en le Frith and Buxton for their ongoing **food collections**. We have also received quite a few donations **in memory** of loved ones. We are very touched that people should think of us at such sad times.

Finally, last but not least, a huge thank you to all our volunteers and supporters; Where would we be without you?

Pat Barnard

Kittery; The new kittery is now up and running and the first cats moved in during the winter. The first kittens to be born in there were born to Milly,

The first kittens to be born in there were born to Milly, the last feral mum cat from Chelford, who evaded capture all last summer and was trapped this spring just in time to give birth here to her last litter. The kittens have now been weaned and rehomed and Milly has joined our feral cats

along with her old friend Dolly who was also from Chelford.

Mr Charles Feral Puss is enjoying special deliveries from his besotted sponsor—here he is diving in to explore one of his recent parcels—the delivery driver actually asked for a Mr Feral Puss!!! He also loves to be groomed by Anita—one of his favourite volunteers. Lots of visitors want to adopt him but he is very happy living outdoors here and has a great life—we don't think he would adapt to being a house pet as he enjoys his freedom too much.

R.I.P. "Goodbye" has been said this year to two of our long term residents; Annie lived here for several years after bouncing back from various homes and struggled with deteriorating health over the winter. She battled against many setbacks but she eventually



Milly &

kittens

got to the point of no return in January and went to sleep in her kennel surrounded by people who loved her. She was a great favourite with volunteers and staff and is missed very much, not least by Alfie (appeal page 2) who shared a room with her for most of her time here. <u>Lex</u> was one of the sanctuary cats who many will remember as in later years he had his ears clipped back due to cancer—it is always worth remembering to apply sun block to the ears of white cats for this reason (not possible in Lex's younger years due to him being

Annie 'dressed' in a blanket; we often found her like this!

feral). He was a youngster when he arrived here and moved into the feral cat sanctuary where he soon became a familiar sight to visitors, eventually becoming tamer over the years but always definitely wild at heart! So, when he moved himself into the tack room over the last winter we knew he was beginning to feel his age. Investigations in the

spring proved he had a large inoperable abdominal tumour and the difficult decision was made to let him go to rest in peace.

We have scattered their ashes here at Windyway.



# **HAPPY ENDINGS... Dear Windyway...**



..... I thought you might like to see the latest photos of Barney. It's eight months since we picked him up from Windy Way. He's settled in so well, it's hard to imagine what life was like without him! He's such a lovely dog and is loved by everyone who meets him. Although he likes long walks, I think the best part of the day for him is when we go to the local park at 7.30 each day and meets all of his doggy friends - most of them are younger and fitter than Barney but he has a really good go at catching up with them and gets really excited. He's in good health and is very chilled. Thank you for giving me the opportunity of adopting him. Maria x

..... You may remember we rescued Charlie from you at the end of January.
Just a bit of a catch up—he's such a lovely boy—he's had

some training and knows all his basic commands especially where food is involved. As you will see he's losing weight and loves walks. He's a bit unsure round other dogs but we are working on that. We are going to take him to more classes and eventually try and do agility with him. Charlie has changed our lives and we wouldn't be without him. *Katherine & Laura* 



Minnie

Charlie & Esme

bonding

..... As promised just a short note

to update you on **Minnie**'s welfare since we adopted her in March 2016. Minnie is settling in really well. After her initial skittishness in the first couple of weeks of having her, she is now a loveable cat that follows us around everywhere. She has a mad ten minutes in a morning whilst waiting for her morning meal, but after that is always ready for a fuss. She seems happy and confident and is a great pet. When she's out and about in the garden we just have to call her name and she comes running immediately. I attach a photograph of Minnie on our garden bench. When we sit on this Minnie always snuggles up behind one of us. When either of us move she claims the space for herself. Thank you for such a great little cat. Jean and Gordon ..... **Having already** adopted a rabbit from a friend, my daughters asked if we could get another to keep her company. We visited Windyway, chose Charlie and were given good advice regarding pairing two rabbits. Although it didn't appear that the two rabbits were going to get on at first, after a week separated in the same area, we let them meet each other in the garden

under close supervision. A bit hectic at first but by the end of the day they were getting along together and now share the same hutch, run and garden. Thank you to the team at Windyway who do a fantastic job; my daughters and the rabbits couldn't be happier!! *Chris* 



We featured <u>Benson</u> in the Winter newsletter - as promised here is his update. A lovely older gentleman came to look for a companion dog and fell for Benson. As he had no transport of his own we agreed (after the usual home visit had been completed) to deliver him to his new home—these pictures show him arriving and settling in with his new owner.

We were all moved by another letter we received recently and are printing with permission:

Please find attached a donation in memory of our cat **Gypsy** who has passed away aged 20 years old! Gypsy was with kittens when we spotted her

at Windyway. As I guess happens a lot her kittens already had new families to go to but we were lucky to find that the 'mum' was still in need of a new home. Well after over 19 years together I can honestly say that we won the lottery the day we

Gypsy

were told we could have Gypsy. I really cant explain how much Gypsy meant to us. Not just Sally and I but all our friends and family. Her loss is immense and life changing. Things will never be the same without her. As we had to wait for the kittens to be old enough to leave their mum we came up to visit Gypsy quite a lot before we were allowed to take her home. I remember having a few conversations with Frank who was at that time building a stone wall for the porch on the farmhouse. I also remember you calling down the drive before we left as you wanted to say 'goodbye' to Gypsy—I recall your words after all these years "she's one of the best we have had here" you said! Well I can confirm those words were definitely correct! Included are a couple of pictures of Gypsy when she was 18 (one is printed alongside). I would just like to thank you, your family and all your helpers, past and present, for all the hard work that brought so much joy into our lives.

Even rabbits write to us and send photo's...

<u>Skye and Holly</u> did some visiting at a residential home—it is so lovely to see these people benefitting from contact with rescue animals;

"We were invited out to see some friends. We had such a lovely time.



Lots of cuddles. Apparently having a pet on your knee is relaxing. Well let us tell you, it's more relaxing for us!:-) Mum had to do a little talk about us. We are Mum and Daughter. We live with Lucky and Ozzy. We've lived in our furever home since January 2013. We are hoping to do this again."



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