



Welcome!

Hi everybody and welcome to our first newsletter. We aim to circulate a newsletter every month to keep you up to date with all of the activities and news of the charity. The newsletters will also let you know how the money you help to raise is being spent.

We would also like you to contribute to the newsletter as much as possible, and so we invite you to send in any cat related stories, tales or antics you might want to share. And these newsletters provide a fantastic and cost effective way for local businesses to advertise their services, so if you have a company, group or business that you would like to promote, please get in touch for further information on placing an advert with us. All stories or advertising enquiries should be emailed to pattes.velour@tiscali.co.uk.

And finally, we'll be including a 'Health Tip of the Month' within each issue, so watch this space for handy hints on how to keep your cats happy and healthy.

Health Tip of the Month: **Why not use Arnica for bruising and swelling? This can be crushed up in cream and helps if cats are limping or have been in a fight.**

Trials and Tribulations of the Committee

It's a great feeling when we successfully get a cat neutered. However, it is not all plain sailing to get to that point! The cats have to be enticed into a 'cat trap' with some tasty food and then the waiting starts! Once the cat is caught, it is transported to a 'safe house' to wait for the impending operation. This part does not always go to plan....ask our treasurer Nicky about the escaped cat in her maison d'amis! When the operation is over, the cat is sent to convalesce for 48-72 hours where they need to be kept warm and quiet to avoid infection and hernias. The cat is then returned to their owner. All of this requires planning and commitment to get to a successful conclusion.

Latest News

Great news! To date this year 35 cats have been neutered which is exactly what this Association set out to do. The total in 2009 was 45, with 106 cats neutered since the Association was established. To continue this important work, we need to raise funds. Our main income is via fundraising events and to date the community has been extremely supportive in helping us achieve this – thank you! Our last fundraising event was the quiz night, held on the 12th February; it was very well

attended and raised 297 Euro. Thanks to all who contributed and congratulations to the Pussy Cat Dolls who won on the evening. The question is...can they now hold onto their title?!



Other ways you can help

In order to catch wild/feral cats, we place some food into the cat traps. So donations of cat food are always very welcome! We also require old towels to provide comfortable bedding for the cats when they are recovering from their operation. Please contact Helen at helentw@orange.fr if you would like to make a donation.

Future Events

So...for the coming year we have lined up a number of fundraising events where everyone can have fun and enjoy themselves! So come along to:

Car Treasure Hunt & BBQ – **April 18th**
Quiz Night – **May 14th**
Afternoon Tea Party – **June 6th**
Vide Grenier – **July 4th**
Race Night – **Sept 10th**
Christmas Market – **Nov 20th**
Quiz Night – **Dec 10th**



Car Treasure Hunt!

Our next big fundraising event is the Car Treasure Hunt and BBQ. Starting at **2pm** at the Salle de Fêtes in Bouillé-Loretz, the treasure hunt will lead you to that all important BBQ! The entry fee is 5 Euro per person, plus 5 Euro for the BBQ. You can do either, or, or both! Registration is required by 9th April 2010...book early to avoid disappointment!

To book your place send an email to Debbie at dtinfrance@gmail.com, or call 05 49 66 47 43



Cats seeking homes

There are currently 6 cats that require re-homing. If you would like to give one or more of them a home visit www.stodel.org/Les_Pattes_de_Velours or e-mail pattes.velours@tiscali.co.uk

Look who was 100!

Felix was our 100th cat to be neutered.



Other Information

House for sale – 118,000 Euro
www.stodel.org/beauvais

For those Opera lovers
www.operadebauge.org

Contact Us

If you wish to find out more about the Association, volunteer to help or have any questions about our work please contact:

helentw@orange.fr

pattes.velours@tiscali.co.uk

And so to finish...

**Ma Cat had eight kittens,
For seven she's none too fussy.
The eighth is plump with a spikey rump,
Her little octopussy**

