



Meowti-tasking!

Working in an independent cat re-homing
charity

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Yorkshire Cat Rescue

Introduction



- Rehoming cats in the UK
- The history of Yorkshire Cat Rescue
- Who works there
- What our animal care staff do
- What it takes to be one of them

Rehoming cats in the UK



- Big charities with rehoming centres



Battersea. The cattery is over three floors and has several staff



Cats Protection. One of 32 adoption centres

Rehoming cats in the UK



- Small home based rescues
- Owners rehoming cats themselves



Free For Sale
FREE BW & Tabby cats to good homes
Q Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
I have a few very friendly black and white & Tabby cats free to good homes. Males and females wormed flea treated. Live indoor or out door although some are happiest in an outdoor environment and...

£0 No Offers For Sale
Free to a good home !
Q Kings Lynn, Norfolk
Zazzles is free to a good home as he doesn't get along with our other cat who we've had for tens years and she's too old to have so much stress ! He's lovely and kind and loves cuddles. Most human friendly...

Free For Sale
Cat free to good home
Q Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire
Free male cat to good home lovely and caring got get rid due to baby allergies

£0 Each For Sale
Free to a good home
Q Walsell, West Midlands
We need to rehome our girls Tink and Oski. They are both lovely cats. Tink loves a fuss and Oski is happy to play with a running tap of water. Due to work commitments we haven't got the time they need.

£0 For Sale
2 Cats free to a good home can go together or seperately
Q Beverley, East Yorkshire
8 years old One black & white and one ginger Neutered & munched out Can go together or seperately I have taken locally...

Rehoming cats in the UK



- Yorkshire Cat Rescue - in the middle
- Single rehoming centre
- Independent charity
- Still growing



YCR history



- Began in 1992 as the small rescue Haworth Animal Welfare. Taking in 80-100 cats within the founders home
- In 1996 the charity moved to a new site with individual wooden pens situated on the new property of the founder
- Built to International Cat Care standards but became outdated. Were drafty, difficult to clean properly and could be stressful for the residents

YCR history



- From 2014 to 2016 all accommodation was modernised
- Four main blocks containing two to ten pens. Kitten house with pods for kittens returning from foster care
- In 2017 YCR expects to find new homes for 1000 cats



YCR employment history



- For the first nine years all cat care was done by volunteers. The first employee taken on in 2009 was there to raise funds
- In 2011 two permanent staff members were taken on to act as Centre Managers and the founder became employed as CEO
- In the last two years these people have been joined by support staff, employed to undertake accounting, to manage communications and fundraising
- To ensure better standards of cat welfare the charity now also employs four Cat Care Assistants working full and part time



What do Centre Manager's do?



- Ensure that the centre runs effectively
- Get cats in and managing their intake
- Respond to enquires from the public including cat behavioural questions
- Liaise with vets and ensure every cat gets the appropriate medical care
- Manage and support Cat Care Assistants. Organise staff meetings, rotas and appraisals
- Speak at volunteer and foster inductions
- Manage and support volunteers
- Ensure that the centre is compliant under ADCH Code of Practice
- Support foster network (Over 160 registered foster carers looking after hundreds of cats and kittens)
- Get cats adopted!



What do Cat Care Assistants do?

A day in the life of a CCA



- The team of CCAs are responsible for the health and welfare of all the cats on site at the centre
- Two CCAs on site every day
- Approximately 50 cats on site at any one time
- CCAs check every one of them

What do Cat Care Assistants do?

A day in the life of a CCA



- Every cat is thoroughly health checked on arrival
- Cats are behaviour tested
- Every day each cat is given a demeanour score, poo score, their food and water consumption assessed
- Kittens are weighed daily
- Cats that are a concern are more closely monitored

What do Cat Care Assistants do?

A day in the life of a CCA



- Cats coming into a rehoming centre are often harbouring illnesses
- Stress in a rehoming centre increases the possibility and severity of illness and disease
- CCAs ensure medical treatments are given

What do Cat Care Assistants do?

A day in the life of a CCA



- Interacting with volunteers
- Training volunteers to do jobs they want to do at a set standard
- Awareness of their abilities, skills and limitations
- Making sure they feel welcomed and valued

What do Cat Care Assistants do?

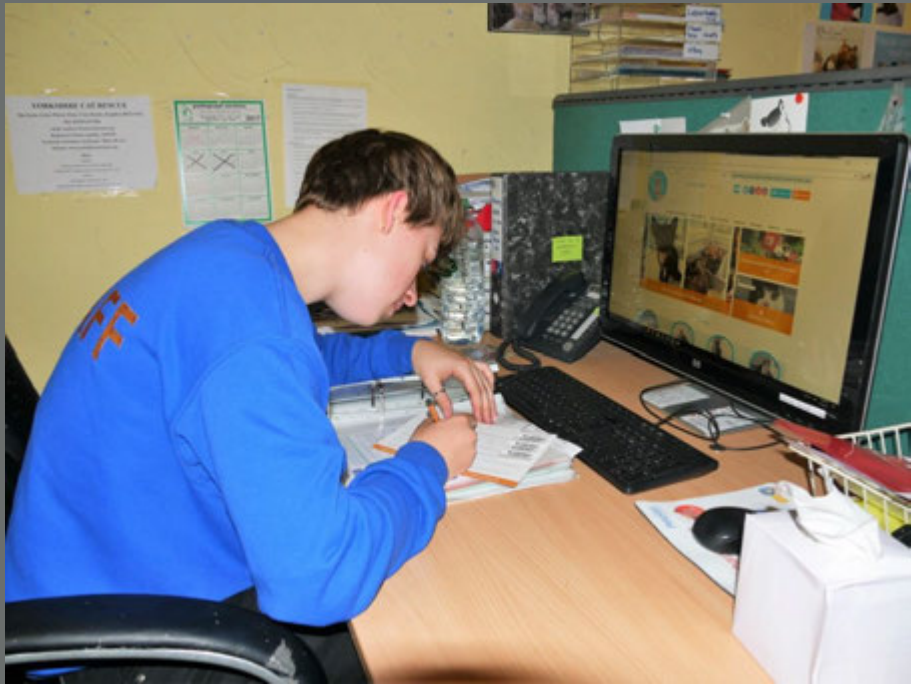
A day in the life of a CCA



- Greeting customers
- Showing supporters the work of the charity
- Interviewing potential adopters
- Matching cats to their potential new owners and introducing them to each other

What do Cat Care Assistants do?

A day in the life of a CCA



- Recording all the cat's information on their entry in the database (Animal Shelter Manager)
 - Health checks
 - Behaviour tests
 - Medical records
 - Neuter dates
 - Microchip numbers
 - Descriptions for potential adopters

What does a CCA need to be?



Why did we employ them?

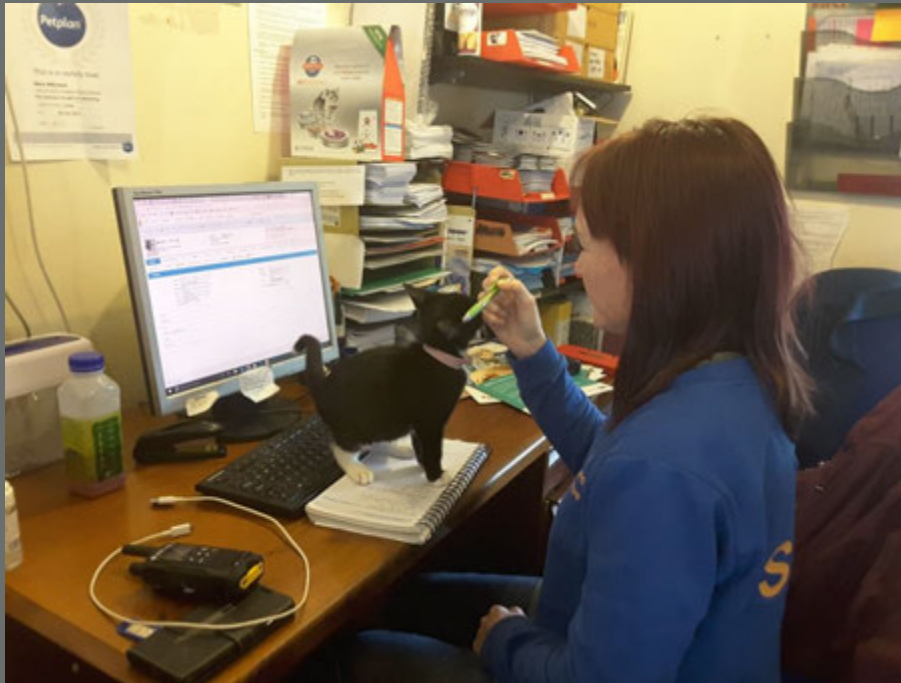


- They had experience with animals e.g. Animal Care Course, experience as a volunteer at an animal charity
- They showed an ability to work with volunteers and a willingness to communicate to all people
- They were dedicated to animal welfare
- They showed they could be hard workers
- They were meowti-taskers!

Why?



Why?



Occasionally you get a helping paw with your 'to do' list

Why?



When you take your work home with you. It looks like this!

Why?



To be part of this;
Lefty was a stray taken in by
YCR and found to be suffering
dementia from a slowly
progressing brain tumour

*'To all of you there, just to say he's
doing great. I'm looking after him---
and in his own very special way he
looks after me!! Love Daphne and
Lefty xx'*

Is this for you?



- Train. Practical courses give you knowledge and work experience in the sector
- Volunteer. Gives you relevant skills, shows dedication and you can see if it really is a job for you
- However, you can work in the sector without cleaning litter trays. As charities get bigger they are able to diversify and employ people in roles such as communication and education
- Every new skill you gain helps you become more employable to rehoming charities