



Dear Pet Owner,

Are you in the dog house?



Sam is - literally. And he has to stay there. Sad, unloved, lonely. Until someone like *you* helps him.

The good news is, it's very easy to help Sam - and all his friends - at Oldingham Dogs and Cats Home. By making a donation you will not only help feed him and keep him warm, you'll also help find him a new home. A home where he'll be loved and cared for. Just like your own pet.

Pets are for life...aren't they?

Oldingham Dogs and Cats Home is a busy place. It cares for 800 cats and dogs *every* year. Hard to imagine, isn't it?

Many have been abandoned or abused. Some are sick. Others are simply lost and pining for their owners.

But there's hope. Every month, at least 40 cats and dogs are re-homed or re-united with their owners. And it couldn't be done without our team of dedicated volunteers, or your money.

Every donation counts

It costs over £150,000 every year to care for these unfortunate cats and dogs. That sounds a lot, I know. Yet that's just 53p a day for each animal in our Home. Surprised? Perhaps you can now see that even a small donation will go a long way towards helping our best friends:

£5 will buy food for 5 cats for a week

£10 will buy food for 20 dogs for one day

£15 will pay for cat litter for 5 days

£20 will pay for 20 toys for the cats and dogs

What your money means

Quite simply, your money saves lives. Without the donations that are needed to run Oldingham Cats and Dogs Home, these poor animals would not survive.

Max is a typical story:

A tiny, ginger, 8-week-old kitten was found abandoned in a telephone box. He was underweight and he was very sick. It was clear that he'd been mistreated.



His rescuer brought him to the Home. The kitten was in such sorry state that we weren't very hopeful. We got the vet to see him immediately, and then we lavished lots of love and care on him for several weeks.

To our surprise, he made a remarkable recovery. We named him Max, we found him a wonderful new home and now he's a very happy and healthy cat who brings absolute joy to his new owners.

Max is just one of hundreds with a similar tale and we're determined to find a good home for each and every one of our guests. After all, they deserve it, don't they?

Reaping the rewards

As a pet-owner, you'll know that looking after a cat or dog brings fantastic rewards. But it also takes time, money and effort to keep them happy and healthy.

Looking after 800 animals is not an easy task and we rely heavily on volunteers at Oldingham Cats and Dogs Home. Katie is one of our younger volunteers:



“I love helping out at the Home. I spend every Saturday morning here. My first job is usually to take some of the dogs out for a long walk, which they love, because they have to spend so much time in the kennels.

After that I'll groom them. I make sure they have lots of hugs, too, so they know someone still loves them - I think that's really important for them. Then I'll clean out their kennels for them.

It's really great to know that these animals are being given a second chance and that eventually they'll have a really nice home.”

In sickness and in health

It's a sad fact, but many of the cats and dogs that are brought to us are very sick. Naturally, the first thing we do is have them seen by a vet but, as you'll appreciate, the bills are very expensive. 35% of our annual costs goes towards vet bills.

Matchmaking

Our mission is to find every cat and dog a new home - a home to be happy in. It's very distressing for an animal to be rejected by its owner so we need to make sure that it won't happen again in their lifetime. We do our best to make sure that the right people are matched with the right cat or dog. Jim Barnes adopted Penny a few months ago:

“Oldingham Cats and Dogs Home were very good in finding the right dog for me. They even came to my home to make sure that it was suitable.

Penny's a six-year-old mongrel and, because she's been through quite a rough time, she's a bit nervous of young children. She needed to be with a more mature person who could afford to spend lots of time with her. We've become great mates and now I can't imagine life without her!”



Thousands of cats and dogs have been re-homed by us over the years. We take great delight in helping them but we couldn't do it without caring people like you.

Act now – and make a difference

No apologies, we urgently need more funds. But it really couldn't be easier to make a donation to Oldingham Cats and Dogs Home. All you have to do is visit our web-site at www.give-a-dog-a-bone.co.uk.

There you'll find lots of different and simple ways to make a gift. If you haven't got access to the Internet then maybe you'd consider giving money direct from your salary (Give As You Earn). We've already enclosed a form for you. Just fill it out and hand it to your employer. What could be simpler?

Finally, you can always send us a cheque in the post. Remember, you really can make a difference.

Whatever you can afford - thank you very much.

Mike Blatch
Managing Director

PS: We're looking for people who are willing to organise a few fundraising events. For ideas and information, visit our web-site www.give-a-dog-a-bone.co.uk