

If you find a cat.....



BCWR Kittens
Bradford Cat Watch Rescue

- If the cat will let you approach him, make up a paper collar with a note on saying: "*If this is your cat please call this number...*", so that you can ascertain whether the cat is definitely stray. Place it round the cat's neck and secure the two ends with a small piece of Elastoplast (don't put the Elastoplast right round the whole thing as that can be dangerous if the cat gets caught up anywhere). If no-one calls in 24 hours you can be fairly sure it is most likely lost or stray, then proceed as follows...
- If the cat is hungry, please feed it, and provide clean water, (not milk, as many cats and kittens are lactose intolerant and this can cause irreversible health problems)
- If you cannot take it into your home, please make sure there is somewhere dry and waterproof outside for shelter. This can be as simple as a cardboard box covered with a bin liner and weighted down against the wind, or tucked under a bush for stability. Ideal bedding to put inside is a thick layer of straw, which acts as a heat-conserving 'nest'. Alternatively, a blanket or towel will do.
- Contact your local animal rescue groups, in case they have been reported as lost - contact details for rescues across the UK appear on www.catchat.org.
- Give the cat's description to local vets in case the owner contacts them, and if possible, take the cat to a vet who will check for a microchip.
- Phone Petlog on **0844 4633 999** Or visit: www.petlog.org.uk so that they can check their 'lost cat' records for your area.
- Check www.animalsearchuk.co.uk to see if the cat has been reported lost.
- Check the lost & found notices in your local paper
- Make up a small notice saying 'Cat Found' with a description, which can be displayed in local newsagents, shops etc. It is a good idea not to give a full description of the cat, so that if someone contacts you saying the cat belongs to them, you can check those extra details with them to know if they are the genuine owners, and not just someone after a 'free cat'. If the owner cannot be traced, and you are not able to adopt the cat yourself, contact your local rescue centre so they can advise you further.
- If you intend to keep the cat, take him to a vet for a health check, and to arrange for him/her to be neutered if not already, and microchipped