



HAVE YOU GOT ROOM in your heart and your home for two beautiful, silver-grey and white kittens? These little furry friends were brought to the shelter in Limehouse in the hopes of being adopted by a loving family.

Pet please

When a stranger walks through the Animal Control Shelter in Limehouse, little tails wag and large, wistful eyes plead "take me home." A tiny brown and black part dachshund, a large brown German shepherd, a brown and white terrier and a multi-colored "shep" sit in their freshly scrubbed pen waiting to be claimed by their rightful owners. If no one claims them in 72 hours, they will meet the fate of all the others who have gone before them.

"All animals are taken to the research centre at Guelph University to be destroyed if homes are not found within a reasonable length of time," said Joe Kirley, manager of the Halton Hills Animal Control Services. During the first week of January he stated, 21 stray dogs have been through the shelter. They had been picked up in all parts of North Halton.

"If a stray has a licence we can identify and notify the owner immediately," Mr. Kirley pointed out. "You then pick up your animal between 6 and 8 p.m. weekdays, or between 1 and 3 p.m. Saturdays. A fine of \$7 is charged, plus \$2 a day for pound fees." He added that a dog licence is insurance against loss. "If your dog is picked up by someone else, it's just a matter of a phone call to the pound to identify the owner. You then reclaim your pet at no charge. The shelter is presently undergoing renovations to accommodate the increasing number of stray pets wan-

dering about Halton. The large cement block garage has been converted and 15 new pens have been added to the existing seven. Each freshly painted enclosure is sanitized and disinfected before a new canine resident moves in. They are warm, well-fed and treated to an abundance of tender, loving care by the two full-time and two part-time employees.

"But we can only keep them until the pens are full and then we must dispose of them in the most humane way," Mr. Kirley said. He said last Monday all the pens were full, and all the animals had to be removed. Tuesday and Wednesday seven more dogs were brought in.

Not all the animals are strays. Sometimes a person will bring a dog or cat in to be sold. "We don't guarantee finding a home, but we do try. If it's a good pet with papers we have a better chance of adoption, but if it has no shots, and not been spayed, we won't keep it much after the three-day limit."

Surprisingly, this Christmas, Mr. Kirley noted, there were no calls for puppies. He said they kept a few pups around to fill the requests of previous years. "But there were no requests. I guess it's just too expensive to keep a pet, like everything else."

Do you have room in your home and your heart for a tiny brown dachshund, a large brown and black German shepherd, a brown and white terrier, a multi-colored "shep" or two little grey and white fluffy kittens? The number to call is 877-6223.



"TAKE ME HOME" two pairs of wistful eyes seem to plead, as this stray waits in the shelter to be claimed by its rightful owners. If not picked up in three days he will be sent to Guelph University Research Centre to be disposed of.



RASCAL, a pet raccoon at the Halton Hills Animal Shelter thinks he's a person, holding an apple in his hand. He likes to come out of his pen and join the company when he's not reading the paper.

Acton OPP are out, but no one knows when

Acton OPP will be leaving town, replaced by the Halton Regional Police Force. The problem is — no one is sure when they go.

The former Halton Hills contract with the provincial police for Acton expired Jan. 1, 1975 but there has been no official announcement concerning the future of the OPP. A seven-man detachment, including a corporal, are based on Willow Street to police the town. Prior to the arrival of the OPP, more than 25 years ago, Acton did have its own police force consisting of two or three men.

Constable Bruce McArthur has worked as an OPP officer in Acton for the past 13 years, longer than any of the other officers working now. He admitted that he'll be sorry to leave town, when the regional police take over.

"I'll be sorry to leave," he said. "This is home to me not just a place to work. I think most of the guys feel this way too."

Constable McArthur was originally transferred from Burlington to Acton. He explained that during the past years there have been few changes in the town's OPP force.

"In the beginning, everything

was controlled by the Burlington detachment, where there was a dispatcher," he said. "The only radio link we had to the dispatcher was in the police car."

Now the OPP have two cars and a monitor, which is used to receive messages from the Milton dispatcher. But, the Acton OPP still can not send radio messages unless through the car system.

A second change noted by Constable McArthur is the increase in man power from five to seven. This led to an expansion of the OPP offices from one room at the front of the building to the existing three rooms.

"The band used to practise right about the office, and it was sometimes difficult to work during the evenings and nights," he said.

Constable McArthur also pointed out that the OPP have had a high turnover in the men during the last 13 years, with "at least a dozen who worked in town and left."

He said that Acton residents for the most part have always been "very good and friendly." "During the years as a resident, I've tried to participate in town activities, not as a policeman, but as a resident," he said.

The other five constables

working in Acton include Ron Barrett, Dave Boyes, Duncan McAleese, Murray McCrea, and Bob Willmott. For the past 2 1/2 years, the men have worked under the direction of Corporal Bob Arbour.

Cpl. Arbour said he will be very sorry to leave Acton, and has enjoyed working in smaller centres since joining the OPP. In the past, Cpl. Arbour was in London, Tillsonburg, Port Stanley, Port Franks and Port Burwell.

"There's a variety of work in the small towns which would be performed by special units in the larger centres," he said. "An officer here covers everything from dog barking complaints to the more serious types of complaints."

Cpl. Arbour added that most of the men are still waiting to hear what will happen in 1975. He said that the four family men may be transferred to Milton or Guelph OPP detachments, and the single men could go anywhere.

But nothing is finalized yet. One thing he pointed out is that the number of daily occurrences from minor accidents to the more serious types of crimes are increasing in Acton as the population grows.

During the last five years, there have been three murders but only one or two during the 13 years before that.

"With more people in town, there have been more accidents and a higher crime rate," he said, adding that drug use has also increased during the last five years and may be contributing to the increased crime rate.

Cpl. Arbour did have some luck when he came to Acton and heard that police equipment used more than 25 years ago was stored in the town vault.

Two items he kept were guns used by either the original OPP squad or the town police force. The guns, he said are exactly the same as present day guns used by the OPP except they have a smaller calibre.

Cpl. Arbour explained that the OPP are using Colt .38's and the guns found in the vault are Colt .32's. He added that some other equipment including uniforms, badges, hats and holsters were also found stored away.

"It's been really great here," Cpl. Arbour said. "The people are good and usually co-operate fully with the police."

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