

### **A Snip in Time – Saves Unwanted Cats!**

Folkestone and Hythe Cats Protection is launching a new scheme for cat owners on benefits or low incomes, which will enable them to get their pets neutered for just £5. The scheme, which will run for the whole of April, will be implemented in the following postcode areas: CT18 CT19 CT20 CT21 TN24 TN25.

Cats are effective breeders and can become sexually active at just four months of age, with females coming into heat every 2 -3 weeks. There can even be sexual activity between siblings in a litter of mixed sexes. An estimated 85 per cent of kittens come from unplanned litters, invariably the result of owners believing a cat cannot get pregnant before she reaches four months. There is also an unrealistic belief that cats should be allowed one litter before being spayed.

The operation is a very simple procedure for male and female cats and can have significant health benefits, such as: spraying and wailing is reduced; fighting, with risk of catching diseases is reduced; and a cat is less likely to roam and get lost or injured on roads.

Anyone wishing to take up the offer can ring the following number for advice and will be sent a voucher which they can take to their nearest vet. If transport is a problem, the Branch may be able to arrange to take an owner's cat to their vet.

**Please contact: 0345 260 1253 (answering service) for details.**

**Or visit the website: [folkestonehythe.cats.org.uk](http://folkestonehythe.cats.org.uk)**

**Picture Caption:** These kittens were born outside, in torrential rain, to a cat found straying. This could have been avoided if she'd been neutered.

