



*FIRST TIME OUT FOR  
AMBER, POLLY AND SUKEY!*

MONDAY 21 January 2013

Having had all the 'works' we gave the kittens their freedom last Monday by leaving the cat flap open, and they were out pretty soon, led of course by Amber - Polly was not a bit impressed and soon returned indoors. Amber is without a doubt the strongest and most positive of the three, but they are all coming on very well.

As soon as Amber was out she detected some sounds coming from between the rocks immediately outside the back door, and after peeping inside, stepped back, and immediately a face appeared - what seemed like a female Stoat or Weasel; she went back inside and when she reappeared there were two small faces next to her own - two kits - strange for this time of year. They all went back in and after few moments I caught sight of the female disappearing behind the coal bunker but didn't get a sighting of the tail so I'm still none the wiser. As far as we know they are still in there, but we had no idea that they were there. Last week I did see a white Weasel in the front garden searching under the bird feeders for nourishment and which I assumed was a male.

On Wednesday we collected some self-release collars - with bells on to give some warning to the birds - but the kittens don't like the bells at all, specially Polly. But they are getting used to them and are getting braver about going about outside. We have cat doors in the rear utility where they live and are fed, and in the front Sun Room, so they can go around the house and get inside quite easily either way.

The pictures aren't brilliant, shot through double-glazing; I don't have a snow filter on my camera and I'm trying to get used to a new printer which seems to have strange ideas about colours! But we hope that you enjoy them.

Best wishes, Arthur and Sheila.

27th January 2013