

Patrons: Ian Fergusson
Piers Morgan



65 Longmead Avenue
Bishopston
BS7 8QB

Chair: Christine Bayka

Telephone: 0117 9243128
Website: themoggerly.org.uk
Email: moggerly@outlook.com

Registered Charity No. 1070330

Established 1997
Newsletter 146
August 2018

Stop Press.....

We sadly announce the death of our Patron and friend Tony Bullimore on 31st July. Tony was a larger than life figure, very enthusiastic about helping us and his great auction openings left us little time for the auction! He was happy to pose for a photo with people who attended our fundraising events in return for a donation. He will be sadly missed.

28th April

Long term resident Ollie was chosen today. His party trick is to hug a scratch post looking cute for an hour at a time but today he was having none of it. He began by biting his future mum then he bit his future dad, (at this point I informed them that they might like another cat instead) I left the couple alone for a few minutes and when they came out of the room to find me they were both smiling (and both bleeding) but they still wanted to take him home!

1st May

Little darling Adelaide was chosen today. This little cat is a tabby with ginger spots on her face and ears. Very pretty but when she cries it's like the sound of nails scratching on a chalk board, she left for her Fishponds new home.

3rd May

A black cat had been spotted in the carpark behind Rowe Vets in Filton and while I had been deciding the best place to put a trap to catch him I had a call from a cat loving resident who lived almost opposite the vet and was feeding the same limping, battered old black cat. The caller had enticed him into her house and through to the living room. Easy to trap indoors I thought- but no, the room was full of soft toys- four foot high chicks and bunnies and life size Bob the Builders and Betty Boops and the cat was hidden amongst them. Trying first to catch him, he moved from one room to another each time I located him amongst the stuffed animals. Leaving a trap baited with pilchards last night I was confident he would be caught by this morning, only to discover the well-meaning householder had put dishes of food around the room meaning he didn't need to enter the trap to get food! Armed with six front loading baskets and a volunteer I surrounded the armchair he hid behind this morning and he ran in the basket opening which was quickly closed. Five minutes later he was in the

vet surgery being neutered and deflead. Apparently he's almost five years and appears to have been living rough for some time. Wellington will now be fattened up and eventually join other older cats in our OAP lounge.

May 4th -Star Wars Day

Everything being admitted on this day each year is given an appropriate character name. Volunteer Denise brought in a family of five from Kingswood after a caller rang to say his three dogs were trying to kill the cat's new kittens. R2D2, CP30, Chewbacca and Luke together with their mum Princess Leia were admitted. I then travelled with Denise to a house in Fishponds where an elderly man living as a recluse had been given two female kittens last year for company. Both kittens had had kittens themselves and then gone missing. The 2017 kittens had now had kittens and the owner couldn't cope. We weren't allowed inside the house but a car load of baskets were passed in the front door and given back (fully loaded) half an hour later. The final mother took a long time to catch before Derek the householder appeared triumphantly with the feisty female in a red basket and as he handed her to me I could see both his arms were bleeding! Travelling back to H/Q Denise and I felt emotionally drained. At 6pm after decanting all the mothers and babies and feeding them, I was set to finish for the day when the 'phone went again. A black and white male cat, whose owner had died last week had been caught in the trap I had set in his Lawrence Weston garden. As always I put a crush cage against the trap to decant the cat into for transporting. The cat refused to move along the trap into the basket. The neighbour tried clapping her hands to no avail. Her husband arrived to help and I asked him to walk up to the trap and look fierce. Nothing doing. "would you go back and run around the outside of the house shouting and waving your arms" He did, the cat was startled (as was I and Emma his wife) and backed into the cage. I carried the cage back to the car and into H/Q. Total number admitted today 18! (Breaking the previous record of 17 in a Sunblest bread basket one evening almost 20 years ago.

May 5th

Old boy Jas was chosen today by a local woman who just wanted something furry to sit on her lap while she watched TV.

May 8th

Stray white and black Chloe was claimed by her owners today. She had followed a group of students home and they had handed her into Rowe Vets in Filton who had passed her onto me. She had a pink collar (without ID) and was not microchipped so it was a question of waiting for her owners to contact a vet or rescue in North Bristol area before she could be reunited with her owners. Yet another case of the importance of chipping when neutering.

The first female from Fishponds admitted May 4th was trapped (in her room) spayed, deflead and returned to her owner. Her four kittens, who are all black with white paws can now be cuddled and rehomed. (They had been eating well so I had made the decision to separate Mum from them)

May 12th

The first two youngsters of the feisty female were chosen today by a local family who had adopted from H/Q over sixteen years ago. (Now the Moggery has been established for 21 years ago I am receiving regular calls from previous adopters coming back for more)

May 16th

Madame Cholet had her babies under the bed in her allocated maternity suite in her foster home in Redland. I told her when she came in heavily pregnant just as I tell all black expectant mums- you can have just one black baby like yourself and the rest must be colours that the public will want to adopt. She listened to me and produced a mixed litter of one tortie, two tabbies and one black. Clever girl!

May 21st

When I receive calls from people wishing to rehome their cats I have to ask questions to determine how urgent the situation is e.g. a woman leaving a violent relationship and entering a refuge leaving cats behind in a property or a caller being evicted within hours are the most urgent cases. The least urgent cases are those moving abroad in a few months in these cases a home can be found for the pets while the family continue to look after them. This I call Direct Adoption. The Adoption forms are signed thereby giving The Moggery the right to carry out future Progress Checks, this way the owners have peace of mind. Today Amy should have been a Direct Adoption from a caller who had decided to part with their cat for personal reasons. A suitable home had been found but at the last minute- the owner changed her mind. Often it is only at the time of parting that people realise how much their pet means to them and they decide to find a way round the problem they were having.

May 22nd

A dear little black and white kitten was found in a garden in North Bristol. The finder searched for further kittens and the mother before taking the little soul to vet Julie at the Filton Rowe Branch. Volunteer Jenny collected the kitten, naming her Meghan (after our newest Royal Family member) and brought her into H/Q. Although only about five weeks old she is eating well and doesn't need bottle feeding. She's enjoying being cuddled, loves playing with a ping pong ball and should find a home quickly.

May 26th

Obi who was trapped on May 4th was chosen by a Central Bristol couple today. (His owner had recently died and he had been living in the back garden of his home)

May 27th

Jar-Jar and Binks the last kits of the feisty female were chosen by a lovely family living near H/Q.

May 29th

A suspected pregnant tortie stray was admitted today from a pub in Central Bristol. Maddy is very friendly and on scanning was found to have a chip registered to an address in Mid Wales! The telephone number registered, no longer existed so a letter was dispatched

promptly urging her owner to contact us. Perhaps the new occupier of the house will be able to redirect the letter to wherever the cat's owner is now living. (ID chips are wonderful but only work if the owner remembers to change the details with Pet Log when they move) Thankfully we discovered from the recorded details that she is already spayed. She obviously had been enjoying the Pub meals as her abdomen was seriously saggy.

May 31st

Little Meghan was loved on sight and left for a home with another female cat who hopefully will mother her.

1st June

A couple in Cotham rang to say a stray cat had given birth on their doorstep. Volunteer Jenny went out very early this morning to bring in the family of four. Keeping with the current Bagpuss theme, the black and white mum was called Jennie and her babies Bagpuss, Yaffle and Charlie. The poor mother has been living rough for some time because her paws are filthy. How sad to think she has been scavenging for food while heavily pregnant.

2nd June

Volunteer Denise brought in a little black and white kitten from Easton. Her owner had obtained her from a friend because her children were begging her for a pet. However her new owner wasn't familiar with cat care and couldn't cope, the fluffy cat was christened Poppy by Denise.

5th June

Poppy was snapped up by a lovely lady from Bradley Stoke who was a previous adopter and needed a young companion for her existing cat.

7th June

Tabby Princess Leia left for a home in South Bristol this morning. She had been admitted on Star Wars Day (May 4th) with her young kittens.

9th June

Yolanda's foster parents couldn't bear to part with her so when her first two youngsters, a tortie and her black and white brother left for a home today in Stoke Bishop. They then decided to adopt both Yolanda and her remaining tortie daughters. (Foster families are always distraught when losing their cats in care but I usually succeed in convincing them that they will love their next assignment just as much!)

10th June

Two of Miss Piggy's kits left for Redland and Miss Piggy and her last baby were adopted by our foster homes neighbours. (This will mean our foster home will not really have to part with them)

15th June

There had been no reply to our letter sent to Maddy's original owner in Wales so we were legally able to give her a new home today. This friendly torti was chosen by a couple in their thirties. After sniffing their hands, she rolled over to show she approved of them.

16th June

One 'phonecall today made my heart sink, a black male cat had been lost from a car on his way to the vet surgery. He was loose in transit because he didn't like baskets (would the caller have allowed her children to travel without seat belts if they were objecting) He was wearing a blue collar but it didn't carry an address disc, just a bell. The worst part of the story though was the fact that the rescue cat was from.....Cyprus

17th June

"A stray cat has had kittens in my shed"

"Two feral cats have had kittens in the outbuildings of my small holding one mother cat puts her six kittens up in a tree during the night for safety".

The first caller from outside Yate came to collect a trap and a basket to catch mum for neutering and the tree babies for rehoming,

The second caller was loaned two traps and felt confident she could pick up both litters because they were still small. The small holding was near Frampton on Severn.

The Frampton cat catcher returned in the afternoon with three spitting kittens who were absolutely terrified and threw themselves against the sides of their kitten pen.

19th June

I had booked the three females being trapped at different vets as no surgery could accommodate three in one day. The Yate mother cat was successfully trapped (pilchards in tomato sauce never fails) and whipped into Rowe vets in Yate. She was found to have a broken canine tooth so an emergency dental was carried out at the same time as the spaying. Two terrified black and white kits were caught also and brought to H/Q.

Both Frampton females were caught and luckily the six tree babies had been brought down by their mother enabling them to be picked up by hand and brought to the vet surgery. The tree babies look to be about five weeks. This is too young to be separated from their mother in normal circumstances but although they hadn't seen solid food before they immediately climbed in the food dishes offered them and hoovered up their breakfast. (I had milk mix ready in case they needed bottle feeding) Amazingly one of the kittens had used the litter tray within half an hour (he instinctively knew what it was for) All the trapped females will be returned to their origins as they were totally wild but I was assured they will be fed regularly for the rest of their lives.

20th June

A very, very sad case today. About eight years ago I had trapped and neutered a large group of ferals living amongst brambles in a lane behind a retired women's house in Patchway, North Bristol. The elderly householder had continued to feed the group regularly and they were slowly becoming tamer. One of the cats, the original mother, had what the pensioner described as 'a bleeding ear! I suspected skin cancer and took over a trap to catch the tortie. I was horrified on arrival this morning. The poor cat had a huge infected wound on her face, clearly infested with maggots. She was so ill, instead of setting a trap I was able to approach her quietly and grab her in a blanket and put her into a top loading wire basket. I rushed her to vet Julie who also was horrified to see her face and immediately ended her suffering with a quiet injection. The poor soul must have been in terrible pain.

22nd June

Admitted a spitting black kitten from Thornbury. Her Polish owner was going back to Poland for a long holiday and had failed to "get rid of" her cats last kitten. I booked the mother cat in for spaying but the owner wasn't prepared to keep the appointment. I will 'phone and strongly encourage her to spay her cat when she returns to the UK. Gave the little kitten a Polish name- Kamila.

23rd June

Another "can't get rid of my cats kittens" call. I agreed to take the kittens and booked mum in for spaying tomorrow.

24th June

While collecting the mother cat to take to the vets I spotted a similar black cat in the garden. The householder explained she was a visitor who didn't seem to belong anywhere. I scooped her up and arrived at the vet with an extra female for spaying. There was also a male in the house who I was told didn't need neutering because he was gay! (I booked him in for the next day anyway)

25th June

The three little kits I collected on 23/6 all turned out to be girls. My inspiration for their names came from the "three little girls from school" in the Mikado. So Yum Yum, Peep-Bo and Petti-Sing became playmates for Kamila.

26th June

I had booked in a young fluffy black female for spaying under our Assisted Scheme. The owner rang to say she didn't want her back so I collected her from Shirehampton vets tonight and christened her June.

27th June

Black cats are hard to rehome, fluffy black cats are impossible and the only thing worse than a fluffy black cat is a heavily pregnant fluffy black cat I admitted today from Fishponds. Yetta has teenage kittens living in the garden which I hope I will catch next week.

28th June

I had been told of a problem cat household in Knowle West. Volunteer Denise and I canvassed the designated road offering help with neutering to all the residents. I found the household who were adamant they had homes for the kittens running around the front garden and who declined to accept help with spaying the mother. (I will repeat the offer regularly) However while seeking the reported problem household I came upon an even more serious problem. 16 unneutered cats in one house and an elderly housebound couple. (I left a leaflet with The Moggery telephone number as the couple weren't prepared to give me their names or phone number)

30th June

Wonderful news! The 16 cat householder rang and asked for help. All the cats are booked in for neutering at the South Bristol vet which provides an ambulance to take them to the surgery. Onto the next problem!

1st July

Vet Julie who is doing a Sunday shift at the Rowe in Bradley Stoke hospital rang to say a wounded ginger cat had been taken into the surgery. Could we help? He had obviously been beaten up by other male cats as he was unneutered. I asked for him to be neutered, flead and wormed, microchipped and given antibiotics. Please let him be friendly. (Secretary Jenny chose the name Julius in honour of the new month and vet Julie)

2nd July

Took Shirley a gentle tabby to be spayed. She was admitted on Saturday with her three babies (two tabbies and a black) due to her owner being evicted.

Fluffy June was adopted by a Whitchurch family and little Hans was adopted by the couple who took Cracker in April.

3rd July

An interesting follow up on Maddy's story. The tortie had been found in Central Bristol and scanning revealed a chip with an owners address in Abergavenny in Wales. As there was no reply to the letter sent from The Moggery we had found her a new caring home. A 'phone call today cleared up the mystery. Maddy's original owner had been admitted into a nursing home in Wales. A granddaughter had taken in the cat and her flat mate had left a window open in their Bristol flat shortly after she had arrived. Maddy had been living rough for a whole year! The granddaughter found the Moggery letter while cleaning out her grans house and was very happy she had been found a lovely home.

4th July

Kittens Timmy and Pidsley, who were admitted with Mum Shirley due to their owners imminent eviction were adopted today. Very pretty tabbies no wonder they were snapped up. Black kitten Shauna can go to a home with mum now.

5th July

Travelled to Kingswood to collect two males cats to be neutered at Fernlea Vets. Their owner obtained a kitten last year which had had kittens were all kept. The female kittens were all now heavily pregnant themselves. I planned to admit the pregnant cats today and I booked in the original mum to be spayed as she was being kept by the owner. Howeveras I was about to load the first female she cried out loud and gave birth in front of me, in the bath! She struggled with the first kitten but the others followed more easily. I left her to recover from the birth and loaded her sister who also looked about to pop and another sister who had had four kittens but sadly three had already died.

6th July

As I was about to leave H/Q tonight I realised Olive Oyl (who was the size of a beach ball) was in labour I stroked her and spoke soothingly and then left to feed the rest of the house. About half an hour later I returned to check on her and found that she had already produced two babies. A little black one was sobbing quietly in the litter tray where she had been born. But the second, a little black and white Felix type was smugly already feeding from Mum on her bed. I rinsed off the litter tray baby and placed her next to her mother (who then remembered she had had two babies!) by nine o'clock five kittens had been born safely so I could go home.

8th July

Volunteer Jenny brought the 'bath' family in from Kingswood. Mum and her litter were named after our World Cup squad. Ally, Shaq, Trent and Ruben were settled in and given tasty food.

10th July

A Kingswood caller asked for help neutering two young cats she had just bought online. I arranged to book the cats in at the local vet surgery and then I was told her daughter also needed help because she had just been given an adult female cat. It's very rare for a phone call to be about one cat, by the time I got off the phone I'd discovered there are perhaps 7 other unneutered cats in the house and the auntie/Granny/cousin also has a houseful of unneutered cats! Each one neutered however, has to make a difference.

11th July

"I'll have to hand in my two three year old brothers because they're always fighting and they are spraying in the house" Are they neutered?" "Well no" I explained to the caller from Devizes that her male cats were both fighting and spraying because they were unneutered. I asked for details of her local vet and arranged the first available operating time to get them neutered under our Assisted Neutering Scheme.

13th July

"I've just bought a kitten but he's scratched my Chihuahua's eyes and the vet said I must keep them apart. "Can you take him in?" Volunteer Anthony drove to Emerson's Green and came back with a dear little black and white boy whose only crime had been to mistake the owner's dog for a fellow kitten he could play fight with. I named him Gareth after our

England manager and settled him in with a hearty supper.

“I’m being evicted at lunchtime and I have a four year old male cat I can’t take“

This male turned out to be unneutered so I rang Julie (our local vets) and arranged for the owner to drop him off at the vet to be processed before I collected him this afternoon. Evan turned out to be a handsome dark grey and white fellow.

14th July

Held the world’s first Sponsored Kitten Kuddle at H/Q Girls from the St Albans 93rd Brownie Group came and cuddled kittens for two hours and were sponsored by their Nans and Aunties. £120.00 was raised and our furry babies enjoyed the attention.

16th July

Kittens Pat and Jess were adopted by a lovely family near H/Q.

18th July

Tabby Shirley and daughter Shauna were chosen today for a home near the Downs. Gareth was also adopted by a lovely family in South Bristol.

20th July

“My neighbours moved away and didn’t want to take their cat. I offered her a home but my partner objects to her shedding hair on the furniture.”

“My indoor cat has been scratching my daughter can you take her?”

I explained to both callers that we were ‘ankle deep’ in mums and babies at the moment but would take their cats when a space occurred. I gave them all the numbers of the other rescues and asked them to add their names to their waiting lists also. Unfortunately, during the kitten season I can’t always admit on the day of the call.

22nd July

“I’ve found an injured baby seagull” I put this caller onto Secret World in Somerset. Who apparently are admitting approx 40 baby seagulls a day this month.

25th July

A mother and babies from the Kingswood house where I removed 17 in total two weeks ago, saw our local vet this morning. The vet found both obturator nerve paralysis and cerebellar hypoplasia intention tremor due to the poor diet of their mother. The two kittens will need physiotherapy every daytime hour. Sadly the owner has decided to keep the last pregnant mother despite the understanding that she would be handed over when she returned from her wanderings. I have been promised the resulting kittens but the wretched mother is having her third litter and will probably be too weak to give birth because of her poor diet. I went to the house to take some nourishing food -there was no reply so I left the bag of food with a concerned neighbour.

26th July

Admitted a young dark tortie I named Nichola after her owner (Sadly they weren't prepared to wait a day to move her on) she was promptly chipped and spayed by vet Julie.

27th July

Old ginger Julius, who was admitted with multiple wounds, has healed nicely and is now out of his pen and lounging about in the sunshine on the OAP room window sill.

28th July

A pet shop in Nailsea has offered us their short dated and shop soiled cat food and toys. We will be able to collect from 'Pets Corner' every month.

29th July

Today was a record breaking adoption day. McQuire and Kane two little black and white kittens were loved on sight and have gone to live with a lovely family from Redland. Pitti-Sing, YumYum, Peep-Bo and Kamila were chosen by a lady from Frampton Cotterill. She couldn't choose between them so decided to take all four. Wow, what a fantastic result, we are so happy they have stayed together. Po and NooNoo were chosen by a lovely family from Weston-Super-Mare who agonised over which two kittens to take as they loved them all. Sweet Nichola was also chosen by a very caring young lady from St Anne's. A truly great day, nine adoptions.