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Moggerly Diary

3rd Sept

“My neighbour has moved to South Wales and left her cats behind in the garden.” This caller from Lockleaze had kindly been feeding the pets but couldn’t take them in her home due to her little, but aggressive, dogs. I collected two beautiful young tabby sisters from the site with the aid of Naomi a student vet. As the road they lived on had an artist’s name I chose two women artists to name them after. ANGELICA and ARTEMIA were settled into their new quarters and began sampling Moggerly food.

4th Sept

“A mother cat and her four kittens have appeared under a building in our garden centre”. The son of the garden centre owner drove from Weston-Super-Mare to collect two traps and two crush cages (along with two tins of pilchards in tomato sauce). His family will begin trapping tonight.

“I’ve been feeding a tortoiseshell cat for two weeks, I’ve asked around and she doesn’t belong to anyone around here – can you take her?”

Drove to collect the friendly longhaired cat and, on arrival back at H/Q scanned her hopefully for a chip. There was a beep!

Her home was in a bungalow near the entrance of Southmead Hospital and as the owner had her mobile turned off and I didn’t have anywhere to decant the cat, I drove straight to the house, hoping her owner would be home.

Her owner greeted LUCY with a sigh. Apparently, she goes on regular walkabouts. Hopefully she’ll stay put for a while now as the weather is getting colder.

5th Sept

Two more of our eight black babies were chosen today for a Redland home. OCTELLA and OCTINE left with a very serious six-year-old girl.

9th Sept

There were lots of viewings today by possible adopters but in between the appointment times the doorbell rang, and a man stood on the H/Q doorstep with a small black and white kitten under his arm. He was a lorry driver and he had spotted the Felix type kitten in the middle of a main road while on his rounds. I admitted FELIX who seems to be about eleven

weeks and has a very healthy appetite.

10th Sept

“Can I come and do Reiki on your cats?”

“Would you like to bring some kittens for our Pet Blessing Service at St Anne’s Church in October?”

“Were a Japanese Film Company – can we come and film your black cats for Japanese TV?”

Typical day at The Moggery then...

11th Sept

The garden centre kittens arrived. There had been five altogether but two were tame and have been adopted by the centre’s family. We have three spitters at H/Q to tame and rehome. Mum cat is still evading the traps, but she’ll be given a home at the centre once she is caught and spayed.

13th Sept

12.00 Midnight

“There’s a limping fox in Lawrence Weston, I don’t want to leave my number” I used direct redial to try to reach this caller, but they didn’t answer their ‘phone.

6pm

“I’ve found an injured pigeon in the road” I advised this caller to take the sick bird to the vet in their neighbourhood.

In between these calls I had a few requests for help with cats...

14th Sept

Handsome and friendly black TARZAN was chosen by a local family with two children. I asked the parents if they would possibly consider two cats. They agreed, and I asked them to take JANE (the mother of TARZAN’S five children) she’ll be spayed in two weeks’ time when her babies leave home.

15th Sept

All the H/Q kittens are now fighting and playing but one little black baby was crying and asking to be picked up all day today. She was eating well but at 6pm as I was leaving I realised she was dying. I took her home and put her on a wrapped hot water bottle on my lap. I stroked her until she died just before 8.30pm. Baffling. There were no signs of illness at all.

17th Sept

Admitted a young tabby and white mother from Hartcliffe who came in with four eight-day old babies. On Thursday ill admit two older kittens from the same home. I’ve booked the original mother cat in for spaying and a male cat in the house. I’ve named mum FLORENCE GALE after the hurricane in America and the babies STORM, PITTER and PATTER and on the suggestion of new volunteer Kayleigh the last tabby kitten will be BOLT.

18TH Sept

A handsome and friendly black and white was brought in today because his owners in North Bristol had moved away and left him behind. CHECKERS should find a home quickly.

20TH Sept

“We’ve been feeding a pregnant stray – can you take her?” This young tabby arrived from Mangotsfield. MANGO seemed an appropriate name. She’s pregnant very late in the year though.

21ST Sept

Lovely tabbies ARTEMA and ANGELICA left today for a home together.

22ND Sept

A good adoption day, tabby kittens MEG and MOG and adult CHECKERS left for new homes.

23RD Sept

The doorbell rang and a lady on the doorstep indicated she wanted to write me a message. She wrote “I have a cat in my boot she’s been in my garden for three days and she’s acting lost” This caller from Lockleaze brought in a large dark tabby which seemed very disorientated. I admitted her and assured the deaf visitor she would be seeing a vet soon.

24TH Sept

The dark tabby, whose head is continuously swiveling from side to side, has swelling in her optic nerves suggesting a blow to the head. Vet Julie gave her a steroid injection to help reduce the swellings and an anti-sickness drug. By teatime the big cat, now named LOCKY, was able to keep still.

25TH Sept

“I bought a kitten for my elderly father, but he doesn’t want it and I can’t have him in the house because I’ve got a Rottweiler”

A little white kitten with a ginger head and tail arrived about an hour later.

RUFUS ate an early lunch and used his tray while the morning volunteers told him how pretty he was.

“I’m in poor health, can you take my ginger kitten?”

The caller arrived with five-month ED (I named him after Ed Sheeran) who is very friendly. We haven’t had any ginger kittens all year and now two arrive at once.

26TH Sept

A new boiler was fitted at H/Q yesterday and all seemed well. However, this morning the kitchen was flooded! The soldering at the top of the boiler hadn’t held and water was pouring down the walls. Litter trays were placed to catch the flow while I found the stop tap. Repairs have to be done and we will be without hot water for several days.

27TH Sept

Supporter Viv Poole, who died recently, asked for donations instead of flowers at her

service in Canford Crematorium. £200 was donated in her memory by current and past volunteers who attended. Viv was a very reliable and loyal volunteer who was determined to cuddle the most ferocious of our inmates. Her cats MINOU and KULFI will now be cared for at my house.

29th Sept

A very hectic day. YETTA, the black fluffy mother of the tabby kits who were adopted last week, was chosen by a young couple. The black and white sisters, ALLI and SNORKY, who were the mother and auntie of the paralysed kittens left together for a home near H/Q. Volunteer Anthony brought in five kittens from two different homes in Withywood, and the first two SEPTIMUS and SEPTINA hardly had time to finish their lunch before being chosen. The remaining three – CHERRY, DAMSON and KUMQUAT settled into their new bed and discovered they liked Felix Sensations.

When will this kitten season end?