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Registered Charity No. 1070330

Established 1997

Newsletter No 152

March 2019

Moggery Diary

Feb 1st

The phone was quiet today as nobody can travel to view our cats in care due to the snow.

Feb 2nd

A worker at Wessex Water in Avonmouth reported a new grey youngster in with the usual group of cats who are fed regularly by the staff. I asked the caller to come and borrow a trap to catch her for spaying.

Feb 3rd

Les from Wessex Water was shown how to set a trap and went off with the ubiquitous pilchards in tomato sauce.

Feb 5th

Success! Julie from Vets for Pets rang to say Les had arrived at the surgery this morning with a ferocious very young grey female. After spaying this morning I'll collect her to bring to H/Q. Hopefully, as she is young, she will become tame and homeable soon! (I've named her Aqua.)

Feb 6th

"I've been feeding a stray and he's in a bad way so I'm on my way to you now" I re-directed this caller to Vets for Pets for treatment. Fortunately, Lisa is willing to take the stray back home after neutering and patching up. (The cat had an ID chip, but the telephone number was not up to date on the Petlog Register.)

Feb 7th

Two cats were trapped at the Avonmouth Recycling Centre. One was found to be in a very bad way with blisters on her eyes. She was quietly put to sleep. The second cat, a large very angry black one was neutered and returned to the site. (The workers have put a composter with pillows inside next to their cabin for the cats to sleep in and they have been fed regularly for years.)

Feb 8th

"We've caught the last cat come and get him" At the recycling centre I downloaded a huge tabby and white male and whipped him in to Vets for Pets for neutering before returning him back to the site.

Feb 9th

Another early morning call from Avonmouth. "There's a kitten in your trap" This little black and white soul only looked about 12/14 weeks, so after neutering I admitted Sobriel (Welsh for rubbish) into H/Q.

Feb 10th

A family from Trowbridge visited and loved tabby Blancmange and his sister Blanche. The cats went off with two very excited children.

Feb 11th

A large black cat has been trapped at the Wessex Water site. Vet Julie discovered it was female so possibly was the mother of Aqua trapped last week. Aphrodite will be spayed, chipped and deflead and then returned to the Wessex Water site as she is too old to tame.

Feb14th

"I've been feeding a stray for some time."

I asked this caller to take the cat to his local vet to see if she had a chip. A chip was found, and the original owner had reported her missing 7 years ago and now didn't want her back. I'm amazed – I would have been thrilled if at last my cat had been found. Luckily the caller was fond of her and was happy to give her a home.

Feb 16th

Blancmange is now Benjy and is enjoying being brushed. (This is mindboggling because when he first came in, he was ferocious!) His new family love both him and his sister Blanche.

Feb 19th

Gentle black and white Blaze who came in cowering and very thin was chosen by a local family with two teenage girls. (She had put on weight while in H/Q but was still very nervous.)

Feb 20th

Little Mel (the last surviving kitten of Jinglebelle) is now small and fat. She's half the size she should be at nine weeks but she's heavy and strong enough to bite fingers as she tries out her new teeth.

Feb 21st

"We've been feeding a black and white cat for some time. The dog's home can't take her in – have you got room?"

I rang straight back and asked them to bring in the little cat tomorrow. The staff at the local railway depot suspect she is pregnant.

Feb 22nd

Today would have been my mothers 100th birthday, so I called the pregnant cat 'Alice' in her honor. The newcomer arrived at two pm and is very tame. Why didn't one of the staff, who have been feeding her for months, give her a home?

Feb 24th

"We're out walking, and we've found a ginger cat in a field in a bad way"

I asked this caller to pick up the cat and take him to a nearby vet to see if he had a chip. A short while later the phone went again to inform me that he was unchipped, and the vet suspected a thyroid problem. I realized the stray needed to see our vet urgently and met the caller to take him and the stray to our own Vets for Pets, I was shocked when he walked out of the basket. The poor cat had such heavy, thick mats due to months, perhaps years of neglect, vet Julie couldn't find his spine to check how thin he was. I left him overnight at the surgery to have a blood test to discover the state of his kidneys and thyroid. I've named him Jack Blackberry. Jack after his rescuer and Blackberry after the hill where he was found.

Feb 25th

Jack Blackberry is alive and enjoying his food at the vet surgery. (Yesterday he sat on the inspection table with his forehead down on the table, he had given up on life.)

Feb 27th

Jack's blood test revealed he has advanced kidney failure. Everyone at H/Q is giving him lots of cuddles and as much food as he can eat. He may only have weeks to live but we'll make them happy ones.

Feb 28th

Jack didn't lift his head today and by 2pm, I decided a trip to the vet for his final injection to ease his parting was necessary. I'm devastated we couldn't give him even two weeks of happiness.