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## Moggerly Diary

### April 1<sup>st</sup>

"I've lost my dwarf lop rabbit. Have you had one handed in?"

"Hello, its David I think you've got my number can you ring me back?"

### April 2<sup>nd</sup>

"I got a kitten recently and I can't cope with him because he's so lively and I've got two small children as well – can you rehome him?"

A friendly little soul arrived an hour later, a very handsome little chap with a white bib and paws. As he came in from Colerne I thought 'Colin' would suit him. I have a home in Cheltenham waiting for a youngster they will collect him tomorrow.

### April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Colin was viewed and loved by his new family and taken away to live happily ever after.

### April 4<sup>th</sup>

"I need to rehome my cat because I'm having a baby any day now."

I took down the details of this cat and added him to our 'cats to come in' list. However, I also explained to this caller that the cat would not be a danger to her expected baby.

### April 8<sup>th</sup>

"There's a cat lying on my neighbour's drive he's not moving and there's blood coming out of his mouth"

I asked this caller to wrap him in an old towel and rush him to her local vet as he was probably a road accident victim.

I rang her local vet and explained an injured ginger cat was coming in wrapped in a towel and in a recycling box. Please could they give him whatever treatment was necessary?

An hour and a half later a young vet rang to say he had sedated the patient and given him painkillers and was now amputating one of his legs which had a compound fracture. I asked the vet's name, "Fergus" he replied hesitantly, thinking I was going to complain about him, "That's a good name for a ginger cat" I said, "I'll name him after you".

### **April 9<sup>th</sup>**

I rang the surgery to ask the receptionist if Fergus had survived the night. A young receptionist gasped as I asked the question, I had to add quickly "Fergus the cat, not Fergus the vet".

### **April 10<sup>th</sup>**

Fergus junior is stable and being kept free of pain but is not out of danger yet.

### **April 11<sup>th</sup>**

"My wife and I have been feeding a white cat for several weeks."

I asked this caller to ask around his neighbourhood and fit a paper collar asking anyone who recognised the cat to call him. I also took a scanner to his house to scan for a chip.

### **April 13<sup>th</sup>**

The white cat hasn't been claimed and fortunately I had a perfect home waiting, so she was adopted directly from the caller's house after her new family had signed the forms at HQ.

Our Easter Fair today was a wonderful success. The sun shone enabling two stalls to be set up in the front garden of HQ. Our Patron, Ian Fergusson brought his family and opened the proceeding's standing on our HQ doorsteps. There were lovely goods on sale and several volunteers including Secretary Jenny & her sister Mary had made beautiful homemade cakes which were snapped up. By the end of the day we had raised £532. (which is much needed)

### **April 14<sup>th</sup>**

Fergus still isn't able to eat and has been fed for several days with a feeding tube. Each day hopefully he will become stronger.

### **April 15<sup>th</sup>**

A young heavily pregnant dark tortie was brought in this evening by our treasurer Nicky. Named in honour of her transporter, 'Nicky' was settled in and given copious food. Once our expectant mum has given birth there is a new foster home waiting to collect the family.

### **April 16<sup>th</sup>**

A pet food warehouse in Brislington Trading Estate rang to say that three black and white cats were coming in the building and setting off the burglar alarm. With vet student, Alice, I drove through the centre of Bristol with three traps and the essential pilchards in tomato sauce.

### **April 17<sup>th</sup>**

An early call from manager Simon informed me two cats had been caught overnight. I travelled across Bristol to transfer them into crush cages and then onto vet Julie for neutering. Before leaving the warehouse I set all three traps again to catch the third member of the family hopefully tonight.

### **April 18<sup>th</sup>**

The third very angry black and white cat was trapped this morning in the warehouse. He was taken promptly to be neutered.

Today, also, four beautiful kittens arrived to our expectant mum, Nicky.

The family seem healthy and the new mother is very proud.

### **April 20<sup>th</sup>**

I arrived at HQ in brilliant sunshine this morning feeling lighthearted because Roxy was leaving to live with her new owner Sally, a long term Moggery supporter. However, when I went to check on our new family, I saw one of the kittens lying away from the rest. She was alive, but very cold, so I made up a hot water bottle, and vet student Alice stroked her while I prepared some milk mixture. I fed her with a syringe because she was too weak to suck from a bottle but very sadly by lunchtime she had died, despite all our efforts to save her.

### **April 21<sup>st</sup>**

Fergus is now eating on his own and making good progress. He's certainly a fighter!

Volunteer Transporter Anthony brought in a very friendly white cat with yellow eyes. Lily is very dainty and will hopefully find a home quickly.

I loaned a trap to a Stapleton couple who are feeding a sick ginger feral stray. He is now almost blind, so his trip to the vet is likely to be one way, but his existence is a wretched one.

### **April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Another of Nicky's kittens has become very weak and unable to suckle from mum. I took her home to keep her by my bed and syringe feed her during the night. At 1am she had a big feed but wouldn't go to sleep.

I wrapped her in a flannel and held her against me tightly, but she continued to scream for nearly an hour. When I laid her down she would start screaming again, so I took her into bed with me and she stayed calm while we both dozed. She needed to feel a heartbeat next to her.

### **April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Early morning she was sleeping peacefully and was ready at lunchtime for a big syringe feed. I settled her with a hot water bottle and all seemed well.

At 3pm I uncovered to see if she was moving and ready for her next feed. She was motionless. I had lost her.

### **April 24<sup>th</sup>**

Lily has been chosen by a young volunteer and her family. She will be spayed at the end of the week and leave the next day for her new home.

### **April 25<sup>th</sup>**

"I've been feeding a tabby stray for some time I think she might be pregnant"

Foster parents Tom & Jackie were in HQ for the 'phone call and offered to bring the cat in from central Bristol. (Tom took the scanner with him in case the cat had a chip)

A few minutes later Tom had reached the house and a scan did reveal a chip. The possibly 'pregnant female' was a neutered male. His registered address was approximately six miles from where he was found so I rang his owner.

After several attempts, the 'phone was picked up. His owner was on holiday in Switzerland. The cat had moved to a new house with his owner (who hadn't changed his identichip details) to live three doors away from where he was found!

**April 26<sup>th</sup>**

Admitted our first “shed family”. Every year we have many calls beginning “I went into my shed/greenhouse/garage and a stray cat has had kittens in there” Today’s family consisted of a friendly black mum, three black kittens and one grey kitten, all with matching white paws. As the road name began with ‘LUC’ and she was black ‘LUCKY’ seems the obvious name for her.

**April 27<sup>th</sup>**

Nicky and family left with new foster home Helen, and Lucky and babies left with new foster parents Xenie & Jamie.

**April 29<sup>th</sup>**

Tango found a new home today through our Direct Adoption System. (This handsome ginger boy was loved on sight)

Amazingly there was also an instant Direct Adoption today.