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Registered Charity No. 1070330

MOGGERY MONTHLY 166 ESTABLISHED 1997

Moggerly Diary

April 1st

Our loyal skeleton staff are working extremely hard to keep up Moggerly standards.

April 3rd

“There’s a black and white cat in a bad way. He’s been begging at our back door for several months now and he’s missing a tooth”.

I went to a Southmead address and put a basket on the doorstep. (While gloved and masked.)

The occupants loaded the stray cat and put him on the step while I stayed at the end of the path. (What strange times we are living through.)

April 4th

The black and white cat from yesterday is eating ravenously and is quiet and friendly. Covid seemed an appropriate name for him.

April 5th

Wonderful news! A previous adopter travelled to Hartcliffe and collected two cats who have been on our waiting list for months. Flo has one eye and Batman is a fluffy black so both would have been very hard to rehome. They have a wonderful forever home now.

April 6th

Parents of a long-term volunteer came to collect three of our ferals. Aqua a little grey cat from the Wessex Water site in Avonmouth and Iris and Verbena from a garden centre in Weston all left for their new life in Box in Wiltshire.

April 8th

A Bishopston resident rang, looking to adopt any age, any colour, any length of fur – how amazing.

I put her in touch with a local OAP looking for a home for her 15-year-old.

Grey, fluffy Myrtle was adopted and taken away to her new retirement home. (A wire basket was placed on the doorstep, taken in while the new owner kept her distance and then replaced when Myrtle had been loaded.)

April 9th

“I’ve been feeding a stray and he has lacerations on his body, can you help?”

I gave this Hartcliffe caller details of her local vet and encouraged her to borrow a basket from her neighbour and call a taxi as she had no car.

The cat returned home from the vet with a week's supply of antibiotics and wearing a plastic cone to stop him licking his wounds. (The caller has been feeding him for a year and wants to keep him.)

April 10th

"I've been feeding a stray for two months. I'll keep feeding her until you can take her in, but I can't keep her as I have taken in 6 strays already."

The caller was prepared to transport her and arrived a little while later with a very beautiful, friendly fluffy tortie.

The caller and I were both masked and gloved when the cat was handed in. As it is Team Leader Jill's birthday today the new inmate was named in her honour.

April 11th

New inmate Jill is very friendly, and it is so frustrating that she cannot be rehomed immediately to one of the waiting homes on our list.

No vet in Bristol is carrying out routine operations at the moment so she can't be spayed or chipped and I cannot risk her going to a new home on the understanding she has to be kept in, because she may escape before the vets are once more in a position to operate.

April 12th

Foster home, Alice, rang to say that her kittens are trying their mother's food and two of them are already using the litter tray. Her little family were admitted on Mother's Day and mother cat MIA had cloned herself four times as all the family look little Felixes except for one black kitten (who must take after dad.)

April 14th

An unneutered male cat has been found in a bad way with a bitten face. Michael, our practice manager at Vets4Pets Filton has kindly agreed to patch up the cat and neuter him while he is in the surgery. (He will then convalesce in a supporter's home.)

April 15th

Two Siamese sisters are being adopted directly from their inner-city home today. Siameses are awfully hard to rehome because of their cry.

People either love or hate their voices, but their new family have always had Siamese cats and love their characters.

April 16th

A friendly tortie, Betty, is being directly adopted from her home today. (Adoption forms have been emailed to the prospective home, completed, and emailed back to H/Q)

Where there is a will there is a way!

April 17th

"I'm looking for two friendly black cats" said one OAP caller from Bradley Stoke.

Amazingly I had two older black sisters looking for a home, as their owner was moving. I checked the address and, yes, they were living in Bradley Stoke also! (I have put the

prospective home in touch with the current home and suggested a home visit while both wear masks.)

April 18th

The two Siamese sisters are already sitting on their new owners' laps and enjoying their new home. So far so good!

Sarah, a new foster home from Charlton Hayes came to collect equipment ready for her first foster family. (We have gained several foster homes due to people working from home during the lockdown.)

April 19th

"I saw on Facebook that you are still taking in cats, only my local vet is closed, and I didn't know what to do. A stray cat has had kittens in my shed"

I rang a lady called Kim straight back and she explained she had transport and would leave immediately with the little family for H/Q. I then rang a rather startled Sarah (our newest foster home) who also left home to travel to H/Q to receive her first foster family.

Kim arrived with a very young black mother and three black babies (one has white paws).

I was able to introduce her to Sarah who arrived within minutes of the new family.

Sarah left with her new charges and I asked Kim to watch out for more cat families arriving in her shed. I was then told of a stray cat living in a local cemetery having kittens on a regular basis. The cemetery is now closed to the public but there is a hole in the fence! I sent Kim off on a mission to climb in and hunt for the mother cat before she gives birth again.

She went off with a metal top loading basket from H/Q.

A vet nurse rang to say a young cat had been brought in whose eye had been nearly gouged out by another male cat. His eye needed removing urgently. Could we help with the cost as his owner could not raise the necessary funds.

I discovered the patient was unneutered which explains why he was picked on. If only pet owners would realise the need to keep their pet in until neutering to prevent them being targeted by other male cats. (The Moggery will help with the costs and neuter him free while he is in the surgery.)

April 20th

"I've been feeding a stray for months now and he's got open wounds on his back, can you help?"

After being told the cat was extremely nervous, I took a trap to a house in North Bristol and returned to H/Q.

As I walked through the door of H/Q the 'phone was ringing. The injured cat had gone straight in after the sardines in tomato sauce (works every time.)

I took him quickly to our local Vets4Pets as an emergency due to his wounds. Vet Michael discovered he was both identichipped and neutered and contacted the owner. Apparently, his elderly owner had died, and the daughter had inherited him. He obviously had forgotten where his new home was.

I took him back to his grateful owner and advised her to keep him in for at least a week while giving him his antibiotics.

April 21st

“My elderly mother is terminally ill, and she can’t cope with her cat. Please can you take her in?”

This caller from Weston Super Mare could not give the cat a home himself because he had a cat hating dog.

As the cat is 17 years old she will have as much chance of finding a home as winning the lottery, so I approached a foster home to see if they would give her a home for what is probably the last year of her life. I am awaiting their decision.

“Have you got any barn cats? We have a livery stable near Almondsbury”

I was thrilled to have this call. This will be an ideal home for two of our older Barton Hill youngsters. This is also the perfect time of year to settle in feral cats, so they acclimatize themselves before the Winter.

“I adopted from you 17 years ago and the last one has just been put to sleep. Have you got anything friendly?”

I invited this caller to come and meet Kay and Covid. (Both black and whites are very friendly.)

Kay was loved on sight and went off to his new home just as a car drew up outside with a young tortie whose owner had just died.

I admitted Avis and put her in a room with friendly Jill.

Observant readers will wonder why I’m referring to Kay (who came in as a pregnant female) as ‘he’. Well it’s like this – on closer examination Kay turned out to be a neutered male who just likes his food!

“I’ve split up from my partner and I’m now in a second floor flat with my two cats. Can you find them a new home?”

I rang a suitable home in Shirehampton. Photos of the cats Dot and Ruby were emailed, and the family will be visiting the cats very shortly. Adoption forms will again be emailed to be completed. I was very thankful when able to ‘shut up shop’ and lock up tonight – the ‘phone has been so busy!

April 22nd

A 2.46 am email was sent to Secretary Jenny by a young mother in Severn Beach. A stray black female had given birth under her young son’s bed. The mother told me that four cats had been left behind by a neighbour who had moved away, and a second black female had already given birth under the trampoline in the garden.

Jenny collected both families and I arrived with a trap to catch black cat number 4. (Apparently, one of the cats had been taken on by a neighbour last year and was found to have a profoundly serious medical condition and put to sleep.)

April 23rd

An early call informed me black cat no:4 was in the trap, so I took him straight to Vets4Pets Filton for neutering from Severn Beach.

April 25th

On the way into H/Q this morning I picked up Tilly a 17-year-old tabby whose owner is terminally ill. We will not be able to rehome such an old cat but perhaps I can persuade someone to foster her, as it will only be for a year or so.

April 26th

Volunteer Jill took two of our Barton Hill feral tabbies to a livery stable in a village near Almondsbury. They will be kept in a pen for three weeks to get their bearings and then they will be free to explore the 22 acres of their new home. (There are three pet lambs to keep them company.)

April 27th

An elderly lady in Northumbria rang offering a donation for her daughter's birthday present. (Her daughter had adopted two black kittens from us last year.)

April 28th

"My cat keeps bringing in mice, will you take her in?"

I explained to this caller that her cat was bringing them in the house as gifts to her. Sadly, she does not want to keep her so we will admit her as soon as possible

April 29th

Our Severn Beach babies are extremely fat, I suspect they are feeding from both Mum and Grandma!

They can now sit up and look around their room