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MOGGERY MONTHLY 187

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January 1st

Friendly black ZAZU was chosen by a single middle-aged man. Our first adoption of 2022.



Volunteer TONY brought in SILVER LADY from an elderly lady in Southmead who was frightened she would fall over her. This fat tortie should find a home easily.

January 3rd

“A stray cat has had kittens in my parents’ carport”

A short while later this caller from Southville arrived at H/Q to borrow traps and baskets to catch the family of five. (The kittens are already running around so they must be around 8 or 9 weeks.)

The carport mum was caught quickly and arrived at 4pm with one ginger and one black and white baby.

(Christmas Pudding mum will be ARGENTINA, her ginger baby SILVERADO and the black and white ZILURRA.)

Later this evening the remaining two ginger kittens were also safely caught.



January 4th

The carport family were too nervous to eat overnight. Mum cat is obviously an abandoned domestic because she enjoys being stroked but she is remaining crouched over her four kittens protectively.

January 5th

Overnight the carport family ate every crumb from the seven food dishes by their bed. Amazingly, also, the kittens used the litter tray overnight. (Mum has obviously told them what to do even though they had never experienced a tray before.) Throughout the day their food dishes were kept filled and although they didn't eat in front of us, the dishes were stripped once the volunteers left the room.

January 6th

SILVER LADY has found a loving home and is purring contentedly on her new mother's lap.

GUMAS was admitted. A very friendly, completely white 8-month-old female who loves everyone.

January 8th

A very productive day!

Tortie twins FAB and JUBBLEY left with their extremely excited new owners, SERAFINA has gone to a foster home to receive lots of cuddles and GUMAS was chosen by a family with a young daughter who wanted to call the young tabby white cat, GINGER!



January 10th

Admitted a long-term stray, PILAK was being fed by an elderly local resident whose life's mission is to find me regular cats to come to H/Q. (Averaging two a year.)



January 11th

Volunteer ANTHONY left to bring in an old cat who had been turned out by her owner because her current boyfriend didn't want the cat in the house.

I had just settled ZIV in when the phone' went.

"I'm bringing you my cat and kittens because the other place is full"

I assumed 'the other place' was the Dogs Home, I called volunteer CORAL to stand in the parking space by H/Q and guard the place while the family arrived.

A zipped canvas holdall contained a ginger mother AJAN, and a sealed cardboard box held three tortie and one ginger month old kits.

The family were settled in, and the doorbell went again.



I opened the door to see a grey-haired woman running to her car and speeding off.

On the doorstep in a blue plastic cat basket was a fluffy elderly cat with a note attached to the handle. SILBUR is 10 years old, blind in one eye and is unwanted.



He was settled in, and I did a quick head count.

H/Q had gained 7 cats before 12.30! (I spent the rest of the day, dreading both the phone and the doorbell.)

January 12th

MISTLETOE left for a lovely new home with a doctor and her partner. This friendly black cat could have been rehomed many times – she was so loving and gentle in H/Q.



January 15th

I had planned to admit a 7-year-old tabby male from Weston this morning. He arrived and was downloaded into a pen where his lunch was waiting. ARIAN is huge!



The phone' went again and a volunteer had spotted online an account of six abandoned black and white kittens. I asked the caller to get hold of the phone number of the person who had put up the entry and I would ring them.

Once I had the number, I was able to discover the kitten family had been left outside a block of flats in North Bristol.

The person who saw the litter was able to catch one but sadly the other five had run away.

I drove to the estate and collected the sad little black and white girl but there was no sign by the flats of the missing five.

I searched the area and asked local children to keep watch and keep me informed. I took FADAKA back to H/Q and she hungrily ate her tea.



January 17th

ZIV was chosen by a local newly retired lady who wanted a companion.



Tortie kitten SALAKA is the smallest of the family who arrived on the 11th. Her sisters and brother are eating heartily but SALAKA spends the day crying to her mother to be fed. I decided the time had come to try syringe feeding to start her off on solid food. I wrapped her in a pillowcase and offered her a 2.5ml syringe of convalescent food, which is very rich. I was expecting her to struggle and spit out the food – but she loved it! I couldn't fill the syringe fast enough for her, so I moved onto putting lumps of food on my finger. She ate solidly for about fifteen minutes and then I asked TONY to take over the finger feeding while I answered calls. Her sister KALA came over to see what she was missing out on and SALAKA growled at her, warning her away! She treated her mother in the same way. By now SALAKA had eaten about a third of a tin – she was insatiable!

TONY put the rest of the tin in a dish and put her next to it. No, she refused to eat the food in a dish and climbed back on TONY'S lap. Finger Feeding or Hunger Strike – there was no other option. Each day I will have to allocate a volunteer just to finger feed!

January 19th

SALAKA will now eat from a dish – if she is started off with finger feeding first. She is eating on a table away from any distraction i.e., her three siblings.



January 20th

A dark tabby and white mother and daughter were admitted due to their owner's illness. Mum FEDHA is nervous, but daughter KUMUSH is friendly and outgoing.

January 22nd

A wonderful adoption day!

As the Moggerly has been operating 25 years I am seeing more and more people returning who are past adopters. Today FEDHA and KUMUSH left with a retired couple who had previously adopted an old boy 9 years ago.



Even better elderly SILBER left with a Whitchurch family who have now adopted 5 Moggerly cats over 20 years. (SILBER wasn't just old but also had a cloudy eye, so was probably blind on one side.)



January 24th

SALAKA and siblings are loving their new toys and high-rise scratching post. They have a manic hour of play and then crash out in a heap – usually somewhere inconvenient!



January 25th

“We bought a cat through the PETS4HOMES site, and she gave birth the next day. That kitten died. She had another baby the next day which she is rejecting.”

I asked the caller to bring the surviving kitten to H/Q as quickly as possible and opened the I.C.U cupboard. Inside the cupboard, the emergency kit for orphaned kittens was stored.

I put mineral water in the kitchen kettle to boil and cool, heated up the small microwavable hot water bottle and located several 1ml syringes for feeding.

As the caller stepped in the front door just ten minutes later, I was ready with warm LACTOL to feed the hungry black and white baby.

Wrapped in a warm towel the kitten took 5ml of milk and I was able to settle him in a prepared container.



The mother cat had been obtained from a home in Swindon which contained many other cats living in filthy conditions.

I urged the couple to contact the RSPCA who hopefully will remove the other cats from the premises.

The mother cat was examined by our GROVE vets and found to be severely malnourished. However, she has a very caring home now. The baby continued to feed well every 3-4 hours.

January 26th

The kitten which I've now named JUMANO is drinking well and sleeping contentedly in between feeds.

January 27th

"I'm emigrating next week, and I've got a 15-year-old cat that none of my friends want to take."

"I'm going into care soon. Can you take my bad-tempered old cat?"

After 25 years I should be used to people leaving it to the last minute to approach me for help – but I'm still taken aback.

Yes, I'll find a way to help both of them.

January 28th

JUMANO was reluctant to take the bottle for two feeds during the night and I was beginning to panic.

This morning at breakfast he suckled so hard the teat went flat and he emptied the 10ml bottle!

I'll just have to accept that at some feed times he is hungrier than others and to stop myself worrying