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Dear Supporters

Thank you for your kind donations following the last newsletter.

Our local patron Ian Fergusson has kindly agreed to open our Auction on June 29th so please circle this date in your diaries. The Auction evening is very enjoyable and everyone leaves with wonderful goods.

Some of the cats in The Moggery are here for the duration either because they were feral and are still nervous of people or they were ill treated and have taken years to feel safe and secure in our care. These I refer to as our 'permanents'. Several of these have sponsors who donate towards their daily keep. Supporter Jean Perry of Bedminster sponsors Rachel and Velvet and receives regular updates of their escapades. Luna is now being supported by Pat Fulwood.

This is an ideal way for a supporter who would love to own a cat but can't, to share the responsibility for one of our unfortunates. Sponsors are very welcome to visit their cats when they can.



Rachel

More next month.

Christine

The Moggery Diary

March 12

Tonight Sue T chose Clare to take the place of her well loved OAP pet who had to be put to sleep last week. Poor Clare had been adopted from us 3 years ago and had been returned last year. She came back very upset and angry and has kept herself to herself since. She'll have a nice quiet home on her own now. (Thankfully returns are very rare because I am so choosy in the first place when adopters come to visit. I emphasise that pet ownership is an 18 year commitment – for better or worse!).

March 14

A Thornbury family came to view two black kittens this afternoon and instead chose to adopt two young adults. Zara a short haired adult and Ann Summers a pretty tortie.



Ann Summers

March 16

Bridget from Hartcliffe was chosen by a Bishopston couple today. This tabby had been living rough for about two years. A surprise phone call today from a vet in Stoke Bishop. A grey cat called Mary Rose had been adopted about five years ago from The Moggery. As with all adoptions the owner agrees to return the cat to The Moggery if for any reason they can't keep it in the future. The owner had died and his friend had taken the cat to be put to sleep! The cat was healthy and only middle aged and fortunately was scanned by the vet who found the indentchip which was registered to us. I was therefore contacted and informed. Fortunately one of the vet's



clients had seen the cat and loved her and offered to take her on so Mary Rose has a happy new home.

March 17

One of my volunteers found a young cat in her place of work. She insisted on running back in the entrance each time she was put out. Typical behaviour of an abandoned or lost cat. So Somerfield has been admitted into Spud's room. Did she have to be black?

March 18

A tortie stray had been fed by a disabled woman in Hartcliffe for several weeks so today she was admitted. Miss Millie is apparently between 10 – 12 years old and has a very sore toothless mouth. She has had antibiotics and a painkiller and was found to be thick with flea dirt so I bathed and combed her when I brought her home. By tomorrow morning she'll feel like a new cat!



Miss Mille

March 23

Foster home Valerie and Ken Andrews in Henleaze have been caring for tortie Wallis (who was trapped in St Pauls) for nearly six weeks. Volunteer Maria took her to be spayed and she was found to be in advanced pregnancy when trapped. No kittens have arrived and this morning Wallis was taken to be examined and x-rayed at the Animal Health Centre. An infection called Pyometra was suspected which causes the uterus to become huge. The x-ray showed 4 / 5 fully formed kittens but a uterus so stretched the walls were too thin to have the necessary strength to expel them.



Wallis

March 24

A caesarean was performed on Wallis today and six live kittens were removed! She came round from the anaesthetic to find she had an instant family who all appear to be healthy. (I had expected the worst today and just hoped that Wallis could be saved even if all the kittens were dead).

Apparently some of the kittens were kicking in their membrane bags as head nurse Carrie removed them.

(Obviously overdue they must have been calling out "get us out of here quick!").

March 25

Our miracle family are back home with their foster carers. I am so thrilled they were born alive I'll forgive Wallis for producing five black kittens to go with the token ginger.

March 26

At last Toppi and Tippi have found a home. 'Boisterous' doesn't come close to describing them but their new family in Downend love them.

March 28

Suggested to Valerie Andrews our Henleaze foster home that our miracle babies should have Saint names. They are now Bernadette, Theresa, Dominic, Arilda, Alfredo and Ignatius!



Bernadette, Theresa, Dominic, Arilda, Alfredo and Ignatius

Today William Hill and Coral (tabby brother and sister) were adopted by a family from Clevedon. They had come into care only a week ago. Their original owner had moved and had left them with a neighbour while they 'unpacked'. That was five months ago! The neighbour was now moving himself to a rented house that wouldn't accept pets.

April 1

Somerfield left today for a new home in Yate. (Fortunately as we are in between kitten seasons people are prepared to look at young adults).

April 3

At long last Etta from our Brentry site was chosen today by a Cheltenham family.

April 10

My heart sank as I approached HQ lunchtime as I walked back from the collection at Sainsbury's. On the doorstep was a plastic cat basket and I could see it was filled with something white and fluffy. However, happily it turned out to be a donated soft toy!

April 12

Set a trap at Vitals Pet Supplies Warehouse in Avonmouth this morning to catch a heavily pregnant black cat which has lived in the building for several months. With the usual



pilchards in tomato sauce as bait I laid a trail around the trap and asked the manager to give me a call if the cat was caught.

Tonight Rocket was adopted by a Stoke Gifford couple. She looked exactly like their last cat who sadly had been put to sleep with cancer. The second pair of sisters from Yate were also chosen tonight by a Henleaze family Crabtree and Barratt were loved on sight. The black kits will have a lovely home.

At 10.40pm the phone went and it was the night staff at Vitals to say the pregnant cat had gone into the trap and was caught. I asked for her to be covered with a blanket and explained I would collect her in the morning.

April 13

When I arrived at the warehouse this morning I could see how small the trapped cat was. She was no longer pregnant.

I took her straight to the vet surgery where they spayed her and confirmed she had given birth over the weekend as her uterus was still unlarged. The manager and several staff, myself and volunteer Sarah then began searching the warehouse for her kits. We looked under pallets and on shelves without success. By late afternoon I had brought the black cat to the warehouse and concerned about the welfare of her kits the manager and I decided to release her to return to them. With staff situated in different aisles we were able to spot her climbing under a pallet about three metres up against the back wall. I'll wait two / three weeks and hopefully the squeaking of the kits will confirm their location. I'll then trap mum again and take the whole family in together.

April 14

Collected two female cats from Southmead to neuter under our Assisted Scheme. The owner's neighbour also needed help so I

booked their cat in for tomorrow. The neighbour's mother living in central Bristol also needed help with two cats so I booked those also for neutering at a vet in Knowle. (However I couldn't give directions to the owner's neighbour's mother because she was out without her mobile phone but fortunately she was due at her daughter's house in Southmead, where I later spoke to her on her daughter's mobile. Where there's a will there's a way!).

April 15

Took 4 males from the same house as yesterday for neutering, as well as the neighbour's female. (That's nine cats neutered as a result of the phone call).

April 17

Asda and Makro, two friendly young adults left today for local homes and sadly Maria and Dickin were returned. Last year they were taken in after being abandoned on the doorstep of the PDSA charity shop in Westbury-on-Trym. A lovely local home was found but sadly the owners are moving out into rented accommodation and can't take them.

April 19

Good news – a neighbour who had been regularly visited by Dickin has adopted her and Maria has found a new home close to Moggery HQ. (Apparently the two sisters had fallen out – big time – so I didn't mind rehoming them separately).

April 20

An early call asked me to take in a five year old neutered male who had become aggressive. When I asked for more details I discovered he was one of four adult cats living in a high rise flat. No wonder he was aggressive! I put him on our waiting list (which is now very long) and gave other rescue numbers to the caller.

An elderly resident in Easton rang to say she had a very young pregnant black and white stray in her garden. (This is the garden Spud's mother



came from). I will collect the expectant mum tonight and foster home Elaine will admit her.

10pm. The pregnant stray reappeared in the garden at 9pm so I brought her in to have her babies in comfort in our new foster home in Emerson Green.

April 21

A note was put through my door early morning by a neighbour. A young tabby had been found in her garden. Was it a Moggery inmate? All our cats are accounted for but I admitted that the new youngster and scanned her (sadly she didn't have an identichip). As she is a little tabby I called her LT which could become Eltie for our admissions book. She's very friendly but without any ID I can't take her home.

Tonight I was contacted by a local couple who found a dead tabby cat in their back garden four days ago. (Their neighbours had prompted them to phone me). The cat had been buried but I uncovered his head and neck to enable me to scan for a chip – again, no luck. (The couple weren't aware of identichipping for cats so didn't take him to a vet to be scanned).

April 22

Notified all the vets within three miles of where the body was found and hopefully the anxious owners will make contact somewhere. (Two examples in one day of the importance of identichipping).

The expectant mum in our Emerson Green foster home is very happy to be indoors having regular meals. She is now Dionne as we are having a Motown theme for her and her babies. As this is foster home Elaine's first maternity case I hope everything will be straightforward.

April 26

A couple from Portishead contacted me when their missing cat's collar was found in a road near The Moggery. Perhaps someone has recently moved and she came in the removal van? I gave them advice and tonight the owners flooded the area where the collar was found with posters and leaflets. Monty a young grey and white was adopted from our Brentry site today and Dotty a tabby and white youngster will be leaving for a new home in Whitchurch tomorrow.

May 3

Admitted a friendly dark tortie with a sad story today. May had been trying to get in the house of the family who brought her. "Every time we open a window or a door she comes in," they complained. "She just wants a home," I explained. "How long has she been hanging around the house?" "Three years" was the reply. It transpired the previous occupants of the house had left her behind and she was just trying desperately to get back in to what she believed was her home. She had been locked out in the garden all this time and in all weathers!

May 4

"May the fourth be with you" was the inspiration for Princess Leia a young white and ginger female from Keynsham who was brought into today. Obviously abandoned she had been following everyone along the street.

May 6

Back in November I admitted Jasmine an 8 year old tabby whose owner had been evicted. The owner had tried and failed to find a flat where the landlord would accept a cat and tonight Jasmine was adopted by a local person whose elderly cat had just been put to sleep with cancer. (The new owner had asked me for the cat which had the least chance of being chosen – thankfully there are still wonderful people out there).



May 7

Fifi and Trixi Belle a matching tabby mother and daughter were admitted tonight due to a relationship breakup. Lazarus and Becky have been rejected again, this time by a Bath family visiting today. They are incredibly playful and friendly. I'm amazed they haven't been snapped up.



Lazarus and Becky

May 8

A freezing collection day at the Almondsbury Garden Centre. Hardy volunteers Anthony, Richard, Jane and myself braved the icy rain. Patron Ian Fergusson and his partner Rachel joined in mid afternoon to boost our takings.

Foster home Elaine rang tonight to say Dionne had given birth to four babies, three black and one black and white like mum. The whole family are well.

