

Patrons:
Tony Bullimore
Ian Fergusson
Piers Morgan



65 Longmead Avenue
Bishopston
Bristol BS7 8QB

Chair: Christine Bayka

Telephone: 0117 924 3128

www.themoggery.org.uk

Registered Charity
No. 1070330

Newsletter No 97

April 2011

Dear Supporters

As you read this The Moggery will be full of pregnant cats again. Please help spread the neutering message by photo copying the enclosed poster and displaying it on your work/church notice board, in your local library/newsagent/supermarket and in your car's rear side window.

Thank You.

This year's Auction is on July 5th and we have three collecting days in the Almondsbury Garden Centre on May 14th, July 9th and Dec 10th. Please put all these dates in your diary and please offer an hours help by calling 0117 9243128.

We urgently, urgently need foster homes for this year's pregnant cats. Even if you have never thought about it before – please consider it this year. If you have a spare bedroom we will supply everything else e.g. food, litter trays, baskets etc. You supply love and care only. Ideally we need fosterers within North Bristol i.e. Westbury, Henleaze, Horfield, St Andrews, etc. but if you are a driver you can be further afield.

Please call me for further details or to talk to or visit an established foster home. Don't leave it to somebody else to volunteer – we need you!

Christine

Jan 24

The first phone call this morning alerted me to the existence of a large number of feral cats living in a part of the Avonmouth Industrial Estate. Although I have been trapping on the estate for many years, this is a new section with a problem I was unaware of. I took traps down and set them by a portakabin office of a truck hire firm where approximately 15 black cats were sheltering. One sprang the trap within minutes and I transferred her into a basket and placed her in the car just as a second cat entered the other trap. As I reached the car a third cat was caught. By now I had run out of basket space in the boot so I headed for the vets to have the first catchment neutered.

Jan 25

Opened a solicitor's letter to discover an Almondsbury resident had left The Moggery sufficient funds to pay two month's vet bills. Wonderful news, however the Avonmouth ferals will swallow up most of our 'inheritance'.

Jan 29

Collected within Morrisons at Cribbs Causeway raising £62. I asked every donor if they knew of a stables or smallholding where I could place any feral cats. I desperately don't want to return the Avonmouth cats to their wretched existence on the industrial estate.

Jan 30

At last Princess Leia has found a home. The friendly white and ginger female was admitted on May 4th and has been constantly overlooked. This time she was determined to be chosen and rubbed against the childrens' legs willing them to take her home.

Lorna Waring and her baby Lawrence were chosen from our Brentry site at lunchtime. Lorna had cloned herself in her blacked and white baby who has the same cheeky face. They've gone

to a lovely new home in Westbury-on-Trym.

Set a trap this afternoon for a kitten sleeping on the balcony of a ground floor flat in Lawrence Weston in North Bristol. Each time the concerned resident opened her door the kitten would run away and couldn't be caught.

Collected the three Avonmouth ferals from the vets tonight. Took the youngest one to Brentry to join the feral group and the older, fiercer two I sadly had to return to the industrial estate. I released them in the dark – standing well back! (If suitable rural homes can be found then I'll catch them again next week.)

Feb 4

Radio Bristol interviewed me early this morning about the feral cats on the Chittering Estate in Avonmouth. I was able to appeal for suitable homes – I hope there will be people with stables who contact me.

Feb 7

Trapped four more Avonmouth ferals who were immediately taken to the vets for neutering.

Feb 8

Not one but two young black cats were chosen tonight. Miles and Malcolm left for Whitchurch.

Feb 10

Took the first two Avonmouth ferals from the vets to a stables in Coalpit Heath. I placed several double dishes of food and water in the stable and prepared a soft bed. (They will be kept in until they have found their bearings). I released the larger black male cat who didn't panic but walked around checking his new home before hiding behind the hay bale I had prepared for this purpose. The smaller female however did panic on release and ran up the breeze block wall head butting the chicken wire ceiling placed just an hour earlier to keep the new



cats in. Within minutes she had broken the wire and forced her head through. The wire ceiling was removed and I had a late night report that both cats were sitting on the rafters looking down on their soft bed and food dishes. Once they are settled I'll add two more from their family group next week. Another two ferals were collected from the vets and taken to a chicken and duck farm in Siston near Bath where a log cabin had been prepared for them. (The new owner was warned to stand well back when releasing them!)

Feb 11

An elderly grey and white cat was brought to my door this morning. She was wearing a black collar with the name 'Star' in diamante fixed to it. Without an address or phone number and not being chipped I can't return her to her home. She was so starving she began eating our corn based litter as soon as she was put into a pen amongst the living room cats. She had been a stray in the Bishopston area for several weeks.

Feb 12

I've notified all the local vets but no one has a lost grey cat on their books. Sadly Star has been sick almost every half hour tonight – there is something very wrong with her.

Feb 14

Caught three more ferals in the Chittering Estate in Avonmouth. A lorry driver who had been watching me remarked "I'll miss those cats". "I've still another 90 or so to catch, so don't worry about missing them yet!" I replied.

Star has stopped being sick but is quiet today. She may well be undergoing treatment for thyroid problems or diabetes but no owner has contacted The Moggery yet.

Feb 16

Took two more neutered ferals to the stables at Coalpit Heath today. Last week's two are now coming and going out of their stable freely. Hopefully they will welcome the new pair and show them around!

Feb 18

Managed to persuade the Coalpit Heath stables to take another neutered pair of feral kittens in addition to the four already placed and the Siston farm also agreed to take a second pair tonight. So far 11 have been relocated.

Star was lying on her side this afternoon so I decided to call time on her. I carried her in her bed for her final injection which was very peaceful. I just can't believe her owner could go as far as putting a diamante name on her collar but no phone number or identichip.

Feb 22

Amazingly little grey feral kitten Olivade, who was spayed last week was chosen tonight by a mother and daughter who had previously owned and tamed a feral. They realise it may be months before they can touch her but they want the challenge. I thought we would be ages cornering her in the Dayer Suite but when the adoption formalities were completed we went up to the Dayer Suite to find Olivade and Eunice (her friend) curled up together in an open front basket. I tried in vain to persuade the new owner to adopt Eunice as well but eventually brought her back to HQ while Olivade was being fed chicken by hand to help her settle in.

Feb 25

The results of Lyle's blood tests came back today. He has kidney failure. Lyle is the last of a family of four I brought from Lydney Road in Southmead 15 years ago. He began breathing heavily last week so I took him for testing. He is now on a low protein food and daily medication to



give him some extra time. His mother Elsa died two years ago. She had produced three ginger sons who she kept in order and they followed her everywhere for many years.

Feb 28

Had a lovely surprise today. I had taken the first Chittering kitten to our Brentry site to join the feral group there but had not seen him since the day I released him. A month before this I had released a neutered male kitten from Patchway into the Brentry garden and although he had been on site for three months he had also disappeared.

This morning I saw both the Chittering kitten and the Patchway kitten sharing the food bowl in the Brentry garden with the other ferals. The two boys have obviously 'chummed up' as they walked up the path together after they had finished eating.

Mar 2

Sleeping with two or three cats on a cold night is a good thing but when the bed companions exceed six I get very hot in the night and I can't move my arms to throw off the duvet because I am pinned down on all sides!

Mar 6

At last tortie, lindy, and her daughter Linda, were chosen today from our Brentry site. A family with two small children threw ping pong balls for the cat and kitten for an hour or so and they played football with left and right paws until they were exhausted. I'm so relieved they have a home together.

Mar 8

Collected one cat from Henbury and two from Southmead to neuter under our assisted scheme. Every neutering must help reduce the number of unwanted kittens we struggle with each year.

I made the mistake of leaving my lunchtime tray to open the door today and when I returned to the living room I could tell by Velvet's face that she didn't like Brie cheese.

Mar 10

Collected another female from the road where Lyle had originated. I ask each person I help to leaflet in his or her road publicising our assisted scheme.

Mar 11

I think I've cracked it. I had the best sleep I've had for months last night after carrying out several preparations. Firstly I filled all the dishes in my office/bedroom (which is 'cat free' and therefore only has 12 cats and kits at the moment) then I removed all the noisy toys and placed them in a cupboard. Then I pegged the curtains together (to stop the three 'amigos' running up and opening them in the early hours and after that I tied the plastic curtain pull ends together and put them in a nearby drawer (to stop Shelley batting them against the wall). I also left the room light on all evening until I got into bed to keep all the inhabitants awake. Without any toys everyone went to sleep including me!

Mar 12

Jamie and sister Shelley are now very tame and sleeping on my bed. These feral kittens came from a bush in the Avonmouth Estate in December.

