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## Newsletter No 92 March 2010

Dear Supporters

Our Annual Auction is fast approaching. Please let me know if you have any items to donate for June (I can't store items but if I can have the description they can be put in the catalogue).

Now for the very good news. For years we have been struggling to raise funds to build a row of 10 uPVC mother and baby pens in the garden in our Brentry site and as we only just cover our bills each year nothing has been left to carry over for our 'pen fund'.

A Bristol couple read of The Moggery in the local press and came to visit HQ. The couple have now decided to donate funds to provide 8 pens in memory of different family members. Planning permission has now been sought so hopefully we will have these 'des res' new pens by the Autumn. (As we currently have over 100 cats on our waiting list to be admitted these pens will be full before the base has dried!)

Please study our planned collection dates overleaf and if you can offer an hour's help call me on **0117 924 3128** straight away (we need to bump up our income as our outgoings increase each year).

## Dates for your Diary

May 8	
July 10	Almondsbury Garden Centre
December 4	
June 29	Auction
Sept 3	Morrisons (Cribbs Causeway)
Sept 4	Sponsored Walk
Oct 22	Cadbury Garden & Leisure
Dec 3	Bagpacking Days
Dec 18	Christmas Fair
First Fri / Sat Each month	Sainsbury's (corner Longmead Ave)

*Christine*

**\*\*STOP PRESS:** Tony Thorpe has recently run the Bath Half Marathon raising £250 for The Moggery.



# The Moggery Diary

## 1 January

"There's a heavily pregnant cat in our garden can I bring her to you as no other rescue will take her."

An hour or so later a fat well looked after black and white cat arrived in a zipped up suitcase.

Fortunately she wasn't pregnant but she could have died in the bitter weather we are having if left outside.

## 2 January

A frantic phone call from a Fishponds family led to the 'pregnant' cat being claimed. Apparently she is a housecat on daily medication for epilepsy and they didn't understand how she got out. I encouraged them strongly to have her identichipped ASAP.

## 9 January

Sadly Violet who had suspected FIP died in the night.

## 11 January

There was a knock on the door mid-afternoon a Slovakian man and his small son had brought me a ginger cat they had found. They were living in a high rise flat in Lawrence Weston and he had been found outside crying. No neighbour had admitted to owning him so they had found The Moggery website and driven him straight over.

This month our theme is shop names so John Lewis was settled in a pen in Room 1.

## January 12

Helper Lisa Cannon returned a tabby cat to Hartcliffe which had been spayed under our Assisted Neutering Scheme and then 'snowed in' at the Animal Health Centre. Lisa returned with a tabby kitten. Apparently a neighbour had taken one of her kittens before Christmas and found it too boisterous and had returned it. Missy is now in Room 3.



## 14 January

Kittens Blackie 4 and 5 were chosen today by a Thornbury family.

## 16 January

Some movement at last from our Brentry site. Fluffy tabby adult Meryl was chosen by a young couple from central Bristol and kittens Corey and Tiger left for Portishead.

## 17 January

Overnight someone left a beautiful fluffy tortoiseshell on my doorstep in a basket, Dorothy Perkins is now in the washroom as there is no other space.

## 18 January

Discovered Dorothy's original home today as she is microchipped. Her family in Patchway advertised her 'FREE TO GOOD HOME' in a local paper three years ago and that 'good home' has now abandoned her!



Dorothy Perkins

## 19 January

I left a retired couple in the washroom to get to know Dorothy Perkins on their own. They must have frightened her in some way because when I came back she had squashed herself under the fitted units. I could stroke her if I lay on the floor but there was no room for me to scruff her to bring her out.

## 20 January

3.3pm success! After spending half an hour or so stroking Dorothy Perkins under the unit range I opened a tin of tuna and held it under her nose. After emptying it into a dish I gradually

brought the dish from under the unit with Dorothy Perkins following an inch at a time. She's now in a fold up recovery pen relaxing in a basket next to her dish of tuna.

Primark went back to the vet today for more antibiotics. Although still less than a quarter of the size she should be for 6 months there has been a clear weight gain and her eyes are brighter. (I noticed last night that she has decided to be a boy!

Vet Nicky Bromhall may well need a magnifying glass to neuter him in a month or so but there are definite beginnings under her / his tail.)

### 21 January

I've just agreed to take in a cat we don't have room for but the 8 year old tortoiseshell is attacking the teenage daughter of the household and the daughter will leave if the cat doesn't! (Several volunteers with teenage daughters have already asked to borrow the cat.)

### 22 January

The tortie was delivered. Paperchase is very quiet and nervous. I was expecting something ferocious.

### 23 January

Lisa took 3 feral kittens who we have failed to home to a stables in Iron Acton.

### 25 January

Collected a black and white kitten from a house in Sea Mills. He had been bought for the baby. The baby had scratched him so he was now unwanted. Why didn't the parents buy a soft toy instead? Harvey Nicholls is gentle and friendly.

### 26 January

Lisa managed to trap a young black and white feral yesterday. He is a part of a family group who have been fed for years by an elderly lady who has now gone into a home. He was neutered today and will go with the



whole family group to stables in Wickwar. Helper Maria trapped the first of a family group living outside flats in St Pauls. The young ginger and white, Burton went straight to the vets.

### 30 January

Maria trapped the 'daddy' of the St Pauls family today. The large black cat has been neutered at the Animal Health Centre.

### 1 February

The second youngster Lidl was trapped so just tortie mum to catch and process before the family group can go to a stables together.

### 3 February

Spud is trotting around with his apprentice Mash (so named because he has Spud's black nose splodge). Mash is being shown how to pull my washing off the radiators, how to rip helpers' legs and the most painful way to jump on volunteers' shoulders!



Mash

### 4 February

A pet shop in Downend has just phoned to say a customer has left a young cat with them because she doesn't want it. The 8 month tortie is unsprayed and unvaccinated and I've asked the shop assistant if she will drop the cat off at the Animal Health Centre some time today.

Harvey Nicholls was chosen tonight. He loves everybody and purrs like a motorbike!

### 5 February

"is this your black and white room?"  
"Are all these cats related?" I'm being asked these questions increasingly by prospective adopters. "Well, no" I explain "all the cats in care look like this!"

### 6 February

Admitted an OAP black and white cat found wandering locally. I realised either her kidneys were failing or she had a thyroid problem as she was very thin.

Tonight I had a call from a worried local family who had lost an 18 year old cat being treated for a thyroid condition at the Animal Health Centre (she wasn't allowed out but one of the children had left the door open). Dizzy was reunited with her owners and the mother of the family and her teenage daughter are signed up as volunteers!

### 8 February

Davy was chosen at last today by a local family. After being rejected 3 times for being fluffy and once for not being fluffy enough! Davy and his brother Franklin were chosen for being friendly.

### 10 February

Supporter Maria arrived first thing with the mother feral from St Pauls who we have been trying to catch for weeks. Her sons Lidl and Burton were trapped and neutered and admitted two weeks ago. Once mum is spayed the whole family can go to a local stable.

### 11 February

The Animal Health Centre rang to say the mother cat can't be spayed because she's heavily pregnant. However, the good news is the nurses have been able to handle her and she has become calm. It's very likely she's a normal domestic abandoned by her owners when they moved out of the

flats but sadly her 2009 kits are now completely wild as they have had no human contact. Expectant mum Wallis will be going to our maternity foster home where Valerie and Ken Andrews will spoil her.

Nervous Laura Ashley a small tabby who was brought in by a social worker last week was chosen by a quiet childless couple tonight.

I've just had two unbelievable phone calls. The first caller wanted a kitten for her 91 year old mother and the second was making enquiries about neutering help after privately buying 2 kittens. I explained to the first caller that a kitten was an 18 year commitment and her mother could turn her toes up any day!

Sadly the caller will now ring an advertiser in Trade It who will give them a kitten if they put enough money in her hand. The OAP mother will either break a hip falling over the kitten or have lacerated varicose veins from having her thin skinned legs ripped.

I explained to the second caller that if she had the money to buy 2 kittens she must have enough to neuter them when the time comes!

Both callers put the phone down on me.

### 13 February

Tabby, tailless Marx and his ginger brother Spencer were admitted today as their owner is having her home repossessed. They are 11 years old and will be very hard to rehome but a special appeal will be made through a local free magazine.





Marx

### 16 February

Very sadly Arlene was returned tonight. This dark tortie was adopted last year with her daughter Bud and they were given a wonderful home. However Arlene been telling her child its time she left home! Arlene has been spitting and growling at her daughter and the owners were afraid to leave them alone during the day. Usually a mother / daughter homing works very well – this aggression fortunately is a rare occurrence.

### 17 February

Admitted an adult tortie who had been running after people at the local shops in Lockleaze. A kind person who had take her home to feed her as she was starving but couldn't keep her because she had an elderly very territorial cat. Ann Summers seems friendly and will be spayed and chipped next week.

### 18 February

The first caller asked me to take in her student daughter's kitten. In 2 weeks the daughter is moving where pets aren't allowed. (This is why The Moggery will not place in rented accommodation because even if the current landlord approves, the next one won't as in this case.)

### 19 February

I had offered help to a Patchway family under our Assisted Neutering



Scheme. Their female cat has had repeated kittens and her plight was brought to my attention by a neighbour who was anxious that she was having kittens in a house full of small children who probably didn't give her any peace. The family accepted my offer of help and they rang to say they didn't want her back after spaying. Athena is black and white and can now have a rest from kitten production.

### 22 February

Arlene's owners 'phoned to say they can't live without her and will come and take her home as soon as they get back to the UK. (She will be taken for behavioural therapy.) A happy ending I hope!

### 26 February

Arlene was collected tonight and so far is being nice to her daughter Bud.

### 4 March

A 6 year old white female was admitted this morning. She was terrified of her owner's new baby she wouldn't come indoors and was being fed on the shed roof. Zara seems friendly enough but being white will be very hard to rehome.

Looked in on the living room permanents just now and because the heating is on they are in a line along the top of the settee against the radiator. They all have to sit facing the same way because there isn't room for anyone to lie down and everyone wants to look out at passers by while enjoying the heat.

### 5 March

Spencer our talkative ginger boy was chosen today for a new home in Westbury-on-Trym.

### 7 March

One of today's callers left a message asking for a young kitten "which could be trained to get on with my parrot."

**8 March**

A young female stray tabby had been following people in Fishponds I asked for her to be delivered to the Animal Health Centre.

**9 March**

The new tabby Tammy Girl was spayed today and found to have 4 dead decomposing kittens inside her. Thankfully she was admitted by us in time or she may have died of blood poisoning.

**10 March**

The office is freezing. Although meant to be 'cat free', so many overflow cats and kittens have been making puddles on the old carpet I decided to cut it up and throw it out.

Much more hygienic with bare floor boards I thought, but no, Panther was sick twice in succession once on my unopened post and while I cleared that up he jumped down and was sick on the floor (most of it went down the gaps in the floor boards).

Tabby tailless Marx was chosen today by volunteer Meg and her mother. At the age of 11 nobody was going to rush to claim him but his saving grace is his sad expression.



**Tao was adopted in December**

