

Patrons: Tony Bullimore
Ian Fergusson
Piers Morgan

Chair: Christine Bayka

www.themoggery.org.uk



Registered Charity No
1070330

65 Longmead Avenue
Bishopston
Bristol BS7 8QB

Telephone: 0117 924 3128
the_moggery@btinternet.com

Newsletter No 94 July 2010

Dear Supporters

I hope you are all enjoying our long awaited Summer. Unfortunately for all cat rescues the warm months mean floods of unwanted kittens and pregnant mums coming into care. As you will see by the diary, this year is as bad as ever.

Our Auction this year was opened by our local patron, BBC weatherman Ian Fergusson and we had a very enjoyable evening raising £548.

John Lewis kindly donated five items for the sale this year for which we are extremely grateful.

Companion Care vets within Pets at Home at the Abbeywood Retail Park in Filton have helped us a great deal recently. Fortunately for us they are open 7 days a week as a kitten is just as likely to be ill on a Sunday as any other day!

Vet Paul Guckian's main disadvantage is that nobody can spell or pronounce his name!

And finally please make a note of our future events and call me for further details.

Dates for your Diary

July 10	Almondsbury Garden Centre
Sept 4	Sponsored Walk (please call to register interest 924 3128)
Oct 22 / Dec 3	Cadbury Garden & Leisure - Bagpacking Days
Dec 3	Almondsbury Garden Centre
Dec 18	Christmas Fair

See you all on the walk!

Christine

The Moggery Diary

May 16

The phone rang as I came back to HQ from our Brentry site this afternoon. A young woman walking her dog had found a black cat under a bush on the river bank in Sneyd Park. The cat seemed very weak and in need of medical treatment so I rushed to get him in. He appeared well looked after but very, very elderly. I scanned him and found a chip and his grateful owners came to collect him within half an hour. Apparently Sam had wandered over a mile from home and didn't know how to get back! (I suggested he become an indoor cat from now on.)

May 17

On Saturday the first two of our miracle kits left home leaving two feeding places on their mum Wallis. I returned to the pet food warehouse in Avonmouth to bring in the two feral kits of the mother cat spayed last month. A staff member used a wheeled ladder to reach them as they were on top of pallets about 5 metres up. (Mum is going to be the warehouse cat)

May 18

Admitted a young unwanted black female from a high rise flat in Easton. Her kittens had been sold through Trade It and she was being tormented by a second adult cat and a young puppy. Tamina is a gentle soul who hopefully will find a new home quickly.

Wallis and her remaining four kits are frightened of the warehouse babies so the new additions are housed in a pen where they can rub noses with Wallis's family but not frighten each other. In two days the warehouse babies Vinnie and Virginia have trained themselves to use the litter tray. Foster home Valerie and I have trained them to lap by dipping our fingers in milk and mashed pilchards and touching their mouths. I hoped Wallis would nurse



them but so far she has just sniffed them and walked away.

Very sadly Money who was brought in from Avonmouth last year has had to be put to sleep. This young black cat suddenly lost a lot of weight and despite medication continued to fail. She started hiding in the room this week and obviously knew she was dying. She was quietly put to sleep while I held her head.

Tonight Lydia returned to the high rise flat where Tamina came from and bought the puppy she had found there. She was due to be sold on again through Trade It and we couldn't bear to think of her uncertain fate. So Lola Beryl is now in our care.



May 20

Took Tamina for spaying and chipping and collected a tortie female from Lawrence Weston for spaying under our assisted scheme. Her recent kittens will be coming in for rehoming tonight.

Veronica from the Dayer Suite left for a new home in Henleaze. (This friendly black and white came in last Autumn and has been overlooked since because she is an adult.)

May 21

Admitted two tiny kittens which had been found in a box in Blaise Castle Estate in the north of Bristol. Blaze has a white stripe down her nose and Goram is completely black. Sadly these are the first of many abandoned kittens we will take in this year.

May 22

Works Outing – the volunteers met at The Mad Hatters Café in Kellaway Avenue today for lunch. (It's a chance for evening helpers to meet with daytime helpers)

Brought in ginger twins belonging to a mother cat spayed yesterday under our assisted scheme. Carrying on our theme of tomato varieties they were christened Jaffa and Avaro.

**May 24**

Wallis's last two miracle babies were adopted today. Theresa and Alfredo left together with a family from Redland.

May 26

A young woman living in Yate rang to say there was a heavily pregnant stray in her garden. I asked her to take her in and make arrangements to admit her this evening. When Emma arrived home tonight from work the stray cat had already given birth to two kittens in her home so I asked Emma to bring the new family over on Saturday when mum had recovered from the birth.

May 28

Brought in litters from Southmead and Lawrence Weston from households where I had spayed the mothers. Was horrified to receive a call from a local woman who had lost one of her pregnant cats. I realised it was the same household where I had neutered all the cats about five years ago. The



pregnant cat had been missing for five days in very high temperatures and I was very worried she would be dehydrated by now. Evening volunteer Suzanne and I walked around the area where she had gone missing tapping an open tin of pilchards and talking to local residents. Just before 10pm we were told of a householder who fed a lot of local cats and the missing cat was found with her newborn kittens in her shed.

By this time the cat's owner had arrived home and explained her other cat who had six week old kits would not let her pregnant sister in the house. I explained the importance of keeping both families in or the females could get pregnant again immediately and arranged to spay the first mother cat on Tuesday.

May 29

Yate new mum was brought in with two tabby kits. (Keeping with our tomato theme mum will be Isis Candy and stripy babies Harlequin and Pepino.)



At 9.30pm a Knowle West resident rang, her child had found a kitten in the back garden, Beefy was collected by helper Lisa.

May 31

On my 'homes offered' list I had a local family looking for a mother cat and her last two kits so I contacted them about the new family from Yate. They arrived at HQ loved them on sight so mum and babies have gone to a new home already.

June 1

Arrived to collect the mother cat in need of spaying locally and was met by a 'boyfriend' who refused to let me in the premises to collect the cat. The owner was obviously hiding behind him so I just explained it would be wise for her to co-operate with me because otherwise I would have to contact the RSPCA as the owner was apparently in the habit of going away and leaving her cats for days without food. (Apparently the neighbours have been feeding them for years.)

A social worker rang asking if I could take a black female cat from a Hartcliffe family. I asked if she was spayed the answer was negative so I explained there would be kittens in the house at this time of year **or** she must be heavily pregnant. She rang back "yes, there are three kittens in the house but they want to keep one" I replied "its all or nothing!"

A Shirehampton couple rang – a stray cat had given birth in their shed to six kittens. Three had died, please could I take the rest of the family?

The mother tabby arrived with the remaining three kittens who were all very weak. I took her straight to the Animal Health Centre where vet Sarah confirmed the mother cat was producing milk. I brought mum cat and babies home and they settled down together on a fleecy bed but I realised after an hour that the kits were too weak to suckle.

Using 1ml syringes I fed them each half hour just putting a few drops on their tongues as they were too weak to suck. After an hour all three could suck from the syringe and I was very hopeful. About 9pm one of the kittens died in my hand and her sister shortly after. I continued feeding the remaining black and white boy and he became stronger and noisier as the night drew on. At 1am after a big feed I put him back with mum in a pen next



to my bed. I could hear his angry squeaks everytime his mother turned around so I knew he was still with us through the night.

June 2

The surviving kitten is strong enough to walk to his mum now so I'll just top him up twice a day with special milk.

Lola our Staffie Cross puppy who has been staying with helper Lydia has found a lovely home with a work colleague. She is a very friendly puppy now having been looked after by various 'aunties' at The Moggerly and well socialised.

The Hartcliffe social worker brought the adult female and two kits as arranged. (The remaining youngster in the house is being spayed by the PDSA via the social worker)

Mum cat Vilma went straight to the vets to be spayed and tabby and black Totem and Matina were installed in the Dayer Suite.

June 3

Was thrilled to have a 'phone call from a Wotton-Under-Edge family who were living in a quiet cul-de-sac and ready to adopt asap. The Holmes family arrived and loved all the kittens before settling on Matina and Totem. I felt happy as they left the house with their new pets and then I realised the surviving kit with the tabby mum was screaming from the office. I rushed in to see him writhing with pain the mother cat was sitting bewildered behind him. I made up some warm milk mixture and added a few drops of painkiller. Within a very short time he was sleeping with regular breathing as I held him in a towel. I knew he was fading but he was too young to have any treatment other than easing his pain. I held him until midnight and he died without waking up.

June 5

A neighbour knocked on my door before I'd drawn the curtains this morning. A stray tabby had run in their kitchen and hidden under the units and had now been there for three days. I set a trap with never failing pilchards in tomato sauce and by teatime the call came that he was caught. Pomodoro was brought into the Dayer Suite and promptly ate two bowls of food.

June 6

"We've just moved in and a tabby kitten has climbed in and is sleeping on our bed." A Shirehampton couple arrived with Volkov who must be only ten or eleven weeks old.

**June 7**

Collected a male cat for neutering from Lawrence Weston and was told of a ground floor flat in a nearby block where there were seven unneutered cats.

June 8

Walking across the lawn to the shed today I saw Colette, Coriandar and Lyle lying in the sun as usual in the border. As I walked back to the house they sat up and I realised Colette's back legs were 'dead'. I rushed her to the vet surgery and what I suspected was confirmed, she had untreatable kidney failure. Just a few minutes later I was bringing her back home to bury her in her favourite spot.



I know I will lose all my older cats at some point but each one is a shock, Colette came in with her kittens almost eight years ago and had been part of a feral colony I trapped in Montpellier. She was grey with sandy patches and had a stripe down her nose which made her look permanently cross. Over the years she had become tame and loved being stroked.

June 9

Gave a talk today to 'The Willows' ladies group in Downend. I took ginger twins Jaffa and Navaro as visual aids.

June 11

Tabby mum Sungella (whose kittens had all died) was found to have a uterus infection when spayed today. This explains why all her kits died within days of being born.

June 12

Took in Amana a possibly pregnant black and white mum with her black twelve week old daughter Sausage. The wretched cat had had three litters last year and was possibly already pregnant with her second litter for 2010 and it's only June! I booked her in for the earliest possible spaying.

June 15

Collected Amana at teatime from the vet surgery. She had been early pregnant but now she can go to a home with her daughter. Volunteer Maria collected a cat for spaying from a flat in Stokes Croft today and found a very sick undersized black and white kitten in the room. She persuaded the owner to sign him over to us so that he could have the treatment he urgently needed. Ptolemy (Maria fancied an Egyptian theme) is sleeping in a shoebox and being fed mushy high protein food with a syringe.

June 17

Antibiotics and eye cream later Ptolemy is beginning to look presentable now and has progressed to licking food off my finger.

June 18

Offered neutering help to the occupants of the ground floor flat in Lawrence Weston that I had been notified about last week. All **six** of the male cats have been booked in for processing on Thursday 24 and I'll spay the only female when her kittens have started eating.

June 19

Ptolemy discovered pilchards in tomato sauce today and now there's no looking back. He sits in his food dish and slurps for fifteen minutes at a time.

June 22

Following up a 'kittens for sale' advert in a newsagent in Westbury-on-Trym I found a household in Southmead with three unsprayed females and an unneutered male. Took two females and the male to Companion Care vets today to be processed and admitted the third female who was heavily pregnant. Ponderosa will be rehomed after her babies have arrived and been weaned.

June 23

Foster home Elaine's babies are now six weeks, Marvin, Smokey, Otis and Diana will soon be ready to wreck their new homes!

