



**BATTERSEA**  
HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT

# PAWS

SPRING 2019

SUGGESTED DONATION £2



**REPORTING FOR DUTY**  
MEET THE BATTERSEA DOGS FINDING  
THEIR CALLING IN A WORKING ROLE

**CHANGING THE RULES ON  
TENANCIES AND PETS**

**THE BATTERSEA SUPPORTER  
WHO LEFT A LASTING LEGACY**

**HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR  
PET THROUGHOUT ITS LIFE**



# WELCOME

Here at Battersea, it's been as busy a start to the year as ever. Unfortunately, of the many animals that have arrived with us so far in 2019, we are sadly still seeing those who are not being given up by choice.

For many people living in rented accommodation, taking their beloved pet with them when they move or taking on a new animal companion may not be possible. Alas, with many landlords choosing to ban pets, tenants are often deprived of the benefits they can bring. 'No pets allowed' policies mean thousands of animals each year lose their loving homes when their owners are unable to keep them, and those handed in to rescue centres such as Battersea find themselves staying longer, as the pool of potential adopters shrinks. To try and combat this issue, Battersea recently launched a new campaign 'Pet Friendly Properties', which you can read all about on page 12.

Battersea couldn't exist without the help of you, our wonderful supporters. In this issue, we hear about one such incredible supporter, Maureen Brass, who sadly passed away at the age of 103 last year. Read about her life and legacy on page 14.

Spring is a wonderful time of year to get out and about with your dog to enjoy some fresh air and exercise, so why not make this the year you sign up to our Muddy Dog Challenge? With more dates and locations than ever, find out all the details on page 28, then get ready to have lots of fun with your canine companion to help other dogs.

I hope you and your pets enjoy all the natural delights that this season has to offer. And, for the dogs and cats here at Battersea, let us all hope that they too will find their new beginning this spring.

**Claire Horton, Chief Executive (pictured with Ellie the German Shepherd, who has now happily found her new home)**

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## GET IN TOUCH

### PAWS MAGAZINE

#### BATTERSEA DOGS & CATS HOME

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## ADVERTISING

COMMERCIAL@BATTERSEA.ORG.UK

## CHANGE OF DETAILS?

FUNDRAISING@BATTERSEA.ORG.UK  
0207 627 7883

Mon to Fri, 9am-5pm. If your details have  
changed or if you wish to stop receiving  
*Paws*, please let us know.

## OUR OTHER CENTRES

### BATTERSEA OLD WINDSOR

PRIEST HILL, OLD WINDSOR  
BERKSHIRE SL4 2JN

### BATTERSEA BRANDS HATCH

CROWHURST LANE, ASH  
KENT TN15 7HH

Due to space limitations, *Paws* magazine  
is unable to reproduce submitted short  
stories or poetry from readers.



On the cover:  
AJ the Labrador  
found his calling  
as an explosives  
detection dog  
with the British  
Transport Police



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14



22



28



34



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# HOME FRONT

ANIMALS | PEOPLE | EVENTS | CAMPAIGNS



The Battersea Academy is supporting organisations around the world to care for more dogs and cats by sharing knowledge.

[INTERNATIONAL]

## HELPING DOGS AND CATS WORLDWIDE

BATTERSEA ACADEMY IS EXTENDING THE CHARITY'S REACH TO HELP ANIMALS EVERYWHERE

At the end of 2018, Battersea launched the Battersea Academy, its new international centre for professional development to support rescue and rehoming organisations across the globe. The Academy brings the charity's 159 years of experience to the fore and will equip animal welfare practitioners with the knowledge and skills they need to increase their organisation's effectiveness and impact.

Based at our iconic London centre, the aim of the Academy is to enable

every rescue, whatever their size or resources, to do the best with what they have. The Academy provides a range of programmes of between one and five days, and the content is tailored to the needs of the organisations attending.

Twenty-seven organisations, from as near as London and as far afield as Australia, attended Academy programmes in 2018, and in 2019 we expect around 50 organisations to attend. Over the next five years the

Academy will transform the lives of up to 150,000 dogs and cats.

Executive Head of the Battersea Academy Paul Marvell says, "For 159 years, our charity has rescued and rehomed dogs and cats across the UK. We're now using our unparalleled experience, along with the knowledge we've gained on the front line, to help improve the lives of many more animals across the UK and around the world."

For more information, visit: [battersea.org.uk/battersea-academy](https://battersea.org.uk/battersea-academy).



[ANIMAL CARE]

# OUTDOOR FUN FOR BRANDS HATCH CATS

BRANDS HATCH HAS OPENED NEW OUTDOOR CAT ENCLOSURES TO IMPROVE THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE

Our Brands Hatch centre officially unveiled its new dedicated outdoor space for cats at the end of 2018. Named Collingwood Mews, the centre's three new enclosures will allow cats who especially enjoy time outdoors to stretch their paws in an engaging and protected outside space. The enclosures feature a solar panelled water fountain, trees and plants, a bench for human visitors, steps for climbing, and a shed complete with heater, cat flap, food and blankets. The new enclosures were the result of generous donations, and the official opening included the dedication of a plaque marking the occasion. We're sure our Kent cats will really love spending time in this wonderful new space.



[SUPPORTERS]

## LOTTERY RAISES £2.9M FOR BATTERSEA

Battersea received an incredible £800,000 from People's Postcode Lottery last year. This generous support has had a direct impact on the lives of thousands of animals that came through the gates of our three rescue centres during 2018.

The money has helped us to continue our much-needed work across different areas, including providing excellent veterinary treatment to the animals in our care and engaging with local communities to offer support and advice to pet owners and councils.

During 2018, Battersea's veterinary team helped dogs and cats with an array of medical issues, ranging from minor dental work and neutering through to major surgeries and long-term treatments costing tens of thousands of pounds.

The funds raised by the lottery's players helped many animals receive vital care. The players of People's

Postcode Lottery have been supporting Battersea since 2014 and have so far raised a total of £2.9m for unwanted or abandoned dogs and cats.

VISIT [BATTERSEA.ORG.UK/SUPPORT-US](http://BATTERSEA.ORG.UK/SUPPORT-US) TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP OUR DOGS AND CATS



[POGDOGS]

## POGDOGS PICKS UP THIRD NTA

In January, stars of the small screen hit the red carpet to see who would go home with a coveted National Television Award. It's a public vote and viewers showed their love for our hit ITV series *Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs*, choosing it over stiff competition including *Gogglebox* and *The Great British Bake Off*. In front of a star-studded audience and millions at home, Paul O'Grady was joined on stage to accept the award by POGDOGS star, Battersea's Director of Veterinary Services Shaun Opperman, and our Chief Executive Claire Horton. Paul thanked our staff and volunteers and gave a special thanks to all our dogs. This is the third time POGDOGS has won for Factual Entertainment. In 2018 it also received the Special Recognition award, for championing rescue animals.



[ANIMAL WELFARE]

## MINISTER VISITS BATTERSEA

THE ANIMAL WELFARE MINISTER HAS MARKED A STEP FORWARD IN THE PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF PUPPIES AND KITTENS

The Animal Welfare Minister David Rutley has visited Battersea to confirm the Government's commitment to banning third-party sales of puppies and kittens under six months old.

The Minister's visit came as the Government revealed that 95% of respondents to its Consultation into third-party sales were overwhelmingly supportive of a ban. A huge victory for animal welfare, the ban will make it illegal for puppy farmers to use third-party sellers, such as pet shops or fake 'homes',

to mask their business of selling puppies to unsuspecting owners.

Battersea's Chief Executive, Claire Horton, welcomed confirmation of the ban. "Properly enforced, this will help put an end to dogs being used as breeding machines and kept in shocking conditions," she said. "It makes all breeders accountable, makes it harder to make a profit by duping the public, and reassures future owners that they can adopt from a safe and trusted source and ideally from a rescue centre."



**5 MINUTES WITH...**  
**CRAIG PERERA,**  
**TEAM LEADER AT BATTERSEA OLD WINDSOR**

**What's the most rewarding part of your job?**

I coordinate the dog rehoming team, which works to find the best homes possible for the dogs in our care. The biggest reward is seeing the joy on customers' faces when they rehome a dog from us and the hope that the dog will enjoy the rest of its life in a loving home.

**What's the Battersea accomplishment you're most proud of?**

Being named as Battersea Old Windsor Staff Member of the Year in 2016. To earn that sort of respect from your peers was very special, especially as the quality of staff here is so high.

**Tell us about an animal in your care that stood out.**

My current foster dog Tyson, a 10-year-old Staffordshire Bull Terrier (pictured) who is still looking for a home. He has been with me for over nine months and is just the most amazingly intelligent and comical chap. Even on the tougher days, he never fails to raise my spirits.

[HAPPY ENDINGS]

## DAISY BLOOMS IN HER NEW HOME

Daisy, a nine-year-old Mastiff cross, first came into Battersea eight years ago as a young and energetic dog, staying with us for just 15 days. After a change in circumstances, Daisy returned to Battersea late last year as a much older dog and caught the attention of international press when – even after 100 days in our London centre – no one had offered her a new family, earning her the title of 'The UK's unluckiest rescue dog'. Thankfully, Daisy was spotted by Louise Daily and her two children, who saw her story online and thought she was the perfect dog for them. After 124 days at Battersea, Daisy joined her new family in the Hertfordshire countryside just in time for a very happy Christmas.





[LEGACIES]

## INCREDIBLE EFFORTS IN MEMORY OF ED

A supporter of Battersea for many years, when animal-lover Ed Cave sadly passed away last year, his wife Jacqui knew there was only one fitting way to honour his memory.

“We were keen to support Battersea in Ed’s memory,” Jacqui says. “Ed had always loved dogs. As a toddler, he was often found cuddled up in his beloved black Labrador Rosie’s bed.”

A JustGiving page was set up, requesting donations to Battersea instead of flowers, and has raised over £10,000 to date – an incredible amount to help our dogs and cats, for which we are truly grateful. “I know that Ed would have been overwhelmed and delighted by how much was raised,” Jacqui says.



[NEW FACILITIES]

## DOGS CAN LEARN NEW TRICKS AT BOW

NEW BUILDINGS WILL IMPROVE TRAINING FACILITIES

Those who visit our Battersea Old Windsor (BOW) site regularly will likely have noticed a host of building works going on recently. And now, thanks to the generous support of all our donors, the new training facility is up and running after a few short months of construction on the project. The new facility will help provide a warm and dry indoor training space for our dogs.

The project is part of ongoing property developments to improve the level of care we can give our animals across all three centres. The building opened for use in the new year. Meanwhile, more building work to construct new kennels is currently underway.

[HAPPY ENDINGS]

## PUPPY FARM DOGS GET THEIR HAPPY ENDINGS

You may have seen in the Christmas Day special episode of *Paul O’Grady: For the Love of Dogs*, that towards the end of 2018 Battersea took in a large number of dogs that had been rescued from a puppy farm. Some were in a bad way and taken straight to our clinic. Others had never even walked on a lead and had to be carried into kennels. Battersea’s staff worked tirelessly, and after three weeks the first of the dogs were ready to start their new lives, while others required more medical care and training before facing the world. After 121 days, the last of the group, Willow the Beagle and Morris the Cocker Spaniel, found new homes. Pictured is Morris, having a final cuddle with staff member Nat Ingham, before going home with his new owner David and a friend.





# UPCOMING EVENTS



## LONDON MARATHON

28th April 2019

Were you lucky enough to secure your own place in the world-renowned London Marathon? If so why not run for Battersea's dogs and cats? This incredible and highly popular challenge is often a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. You could be part of it and raise money for dogs and cats in need.

[battersea.org.uk/londonmarathon](http://battersea.org.uk/londonmarathon)

## BRIGHTON MARATHON

14th April 2019

Join team Battersea and take on the Brighton Marathon in 2019. Running along the Brighton seafront, you can enjoy the sights and sounds of this vibrant city while achieving something incredible for dogs and cats.

[battersea.org.uk/brightonmarathon](http://battersea.org.uk/brightonmarathon)

## OWN PLACE CHALLENGE

Are you thinking of taking on a challenge this year: a run, a cycle or even a swim? Why not raise money for Battersea at the same time? Get in touch with the Events Team and tell them more about your challenge.

[battersea.org.uk/support-us/challenges/own-place-challenges](http://battersea.org.uk/support-us/challenges/own-place-challenges)

## TREKS

Take on the challenge of completing a walk in some of the most picturesque places around the UK. This is truly an amazing experience to share with friends, both two- and four-legged. Wherever you are, check out the list of treks below and find out more on our website.

[battersea.org.uk/support-us/challenges](http://battersea.org.uk/support-us/challenges)

Isle of Wight Challenge

4-5 May

London 2 Brighton Challenge

25-26 May

Jurassic Coast Challenge

8-9 June

Chiltern Challenge

27-28 July

Cotswold Way Challenge

29-30 June

Peak District Challenge

13-14 July

South Coast Challenge

31 August-1 September

Thames Path Challenge

7/8 September

Thames Bridges Trek

7 September

North Downs Challenge

28 September

Lakes Four peaks challenge

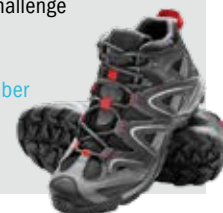
14-16 June

Three peaks challenge

9-11 August

Snowdon Trek

21-22 September



**FUNDRAISE YOUR WAY**

AND PROVIDE VITAL SUPPORT FOR THE DOGS AND CATS IN OUR CARE

Battersea Dogs & Cats Home is a charity registered in England and Wales (206394).

Thousands of lost and abandoned animals arrive at our gates every year, and without your support we couldn't provide them with the care they need and deserve.

Our fundraising guide is packed full of top tips on everything from fundraising ideas to advice on how to pay your money in. So, no matter how big or small your idea, we want to say thank you and are here to support you all the way.

Inspired to fundraise for Battersea? Find out more and download your pack by visiting:

[battersea.org.uk/fundraising-your-way](http://battersea.org.uk/fundraising-your-way)





# DOGGY PADDLE CHALLENGE

LEAVE YOUR INHIBITIONS AT THE (CHANGING ROOM) DOOR AND SWIM FOR BATTERSEA THROUGHOUT APRIL IN YOUR LOCAL POOL



SIGN UP TO THE DOGGY PADDLE CHALLENGE TODAY  
**[BATTERSEA.ORG.UK/DOGGYPADDLE](https://battersea.org.uk/doggypaddle)**

# HAPPILY REHOMED

DOGS AND CATS ENJOYING THEIR SECOND CHANCE AT HAPPINESS...



## I'M YOUR VENUS

Little Mongrel Venus arrived through Battersea's door as a stray at just 11 months old. Although an easy-going, sweet girl, staff knew Venus would need an owner who could put in the time to train her. Following a short 11-day stay, Venus found a home with Athina in south-west London, who says, "We're absolutely besotted with Venus! She's a total angel, with bundles of energy, and she's now a very spoilt pup."



## FIONA'S FOREVER HOME

Six-year-old Bulldog Fiona stole many hearts during her 58 days at Battersea. She was depressed in kennels and scared of noise, so she needed a calm home where she could overcome her sensitivities. Thankfully, Dean from Essex took Fiona home, and she looks very relaxed in her new abode!



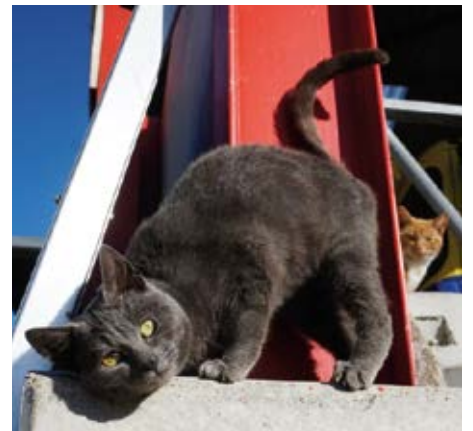
## A HOME FOR BRIX

Brix (formerly Onyx) arrived at Battersea when his owner couldn't look after him. Just two years old, the Domestic Short-hair was still kitten-like, with a happy and playful personality. After a month he was rehomed by Josie from London, who says: "Brix is a very contented, purry cat. I'm so happy to have him."



## WINSTON WINDS DOWN

Winston the Greyhound retired last year. After 33 days at Battersea, he went to a new home in South East London with Alexio, who says, "He loves home life, playing fetch and running in the park. He's learned the basic commands. We couldn't ask for a more relaxed and well-behaved dog."



## ROY AND RAQUEL GO RURAL

Found as kittens in a house with too many cats, these two hadn't had much human contact, so staff knew they'd suit a working life. After 24 days, our Animal Partnerships team found them the perfect home with Emma in Wales. Emma says, "They're doing great. They are now very tame and loving farm life."

A small, fluffy dog with brown and white fur is sitting on a purple couch. The dog has a white patch on its chest and face, and its ears are floppy. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

# NO PLACE LIKE HOME

WE SEE MANY ANIMALS WHOSE OWNERS HAVE BEEN FORCED TO GIVE THEM UP BY LANDLORDS THAT DON'T ALLOW PETS, SO WE'VE LAUNCHED OUR PET FRIENDLY PROPERTIES CAMPAIGN TO TRY AND TACKLE THIS ISSUE...

## “THOUSANDS OF ANIMALS ARE LOSING LOVING HOMES AND STAYING LONGER IN RESCUE CENTRES”

According to Government statistics, eight million households in the UK rent their homes, equalling 38% of all households, and this figure is predicted to rise to 40% by 2025.

In London the figure is even higher, expected to reach 60% by 2025. Unfortunately, ‘Generation Rent’ does not bring with it good news for pets and their owners. With many landlords choosing to ban pets, tenants are being deprived of the health and social benefits that can come with pet ownership and thousands of animals each year are losing their loving homes and staying longer in rescue centres as the pool of potential adopters shrinks.

Residents in social housing are particularly vulnerable to the barriers surrounding pet ownership. Although ‘no pets’ policies are common in private rentals, Battersea’s research has revealed that 21% of London Councils and 64% of the capital’s largest Housing Associations ban owning dogs in social housing flats with no direct garden or street access.

While 3.4 million UK homes are socially rented, the sector is dominated by a few big landlords, and tenants stay in their homes three times longer than those in the private sector. The policies of Local Authorities and Housing Associations therefore have a profound effect on many people.

### What is Battersea doing about this?

In November last year, Battersea launched a new campaign called Pet Friendly Properties. Through this campaign, we aim to help reduce the number of social housing tenants who are forced to give up a beloved pet – or denied the chance of getting a dog or cat in the first place – because of their housing situation.

We’re offering two solutions to encourage pet ownership in London social housing. Firstly, we’re giving London Councils and Housing Associations advice on how they can review and improve their own policies around pets. Secondly, we are offering to provide training and support for tenants who want to own a pet in social housing.

Our ‘model pet policy’ provides Local Authorities and Housing Associations with a template that can be adapted and used to support existing tenancy agreements, setting out the conditions and standards which social housing providers can expect of pet-owning residents, as well as providing a document that pet owners can refer to for advice and support.

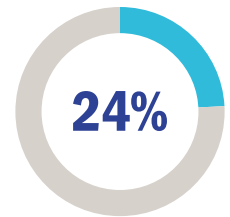
And, Battersea’s new Pet Friendly Training Programme offers social housing tenants the

opportunity to gain vital pet ownership skills to help them provide the best home environment for their pets.

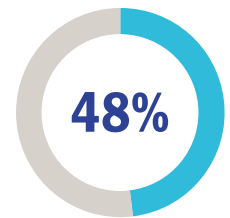
In our view, by working together with London Councils and Housing Associations, we can bring people and pets together for happier homes and communities. Battersea’s Chief Executive, Claire Horton, says: “The current postcode lottery facing tenants in social housing is unfair and we want to see more consistent, pet-friendly policies across London’s Councils and Housing Associations.

“The health, social and community benefits of owning a pet are well proven, yet last year we saw hundreds of dogs and cats arrive at Battersea when their distraught owners couldn’t find pet-friendly accommodation. Sadly, this is seen by rescue centres across the country.

“If tenants were given more flexibility around pet ownership, it would end the worry and heartache of not knowing if they’ll be able to keep their pet when they move – not to mention saving countless pets having to end up homeless in animal shelters.”



of Local Authorities allow tenants' dogs.



of Local Authorities allow tenants' cats.

**£2.45bn**

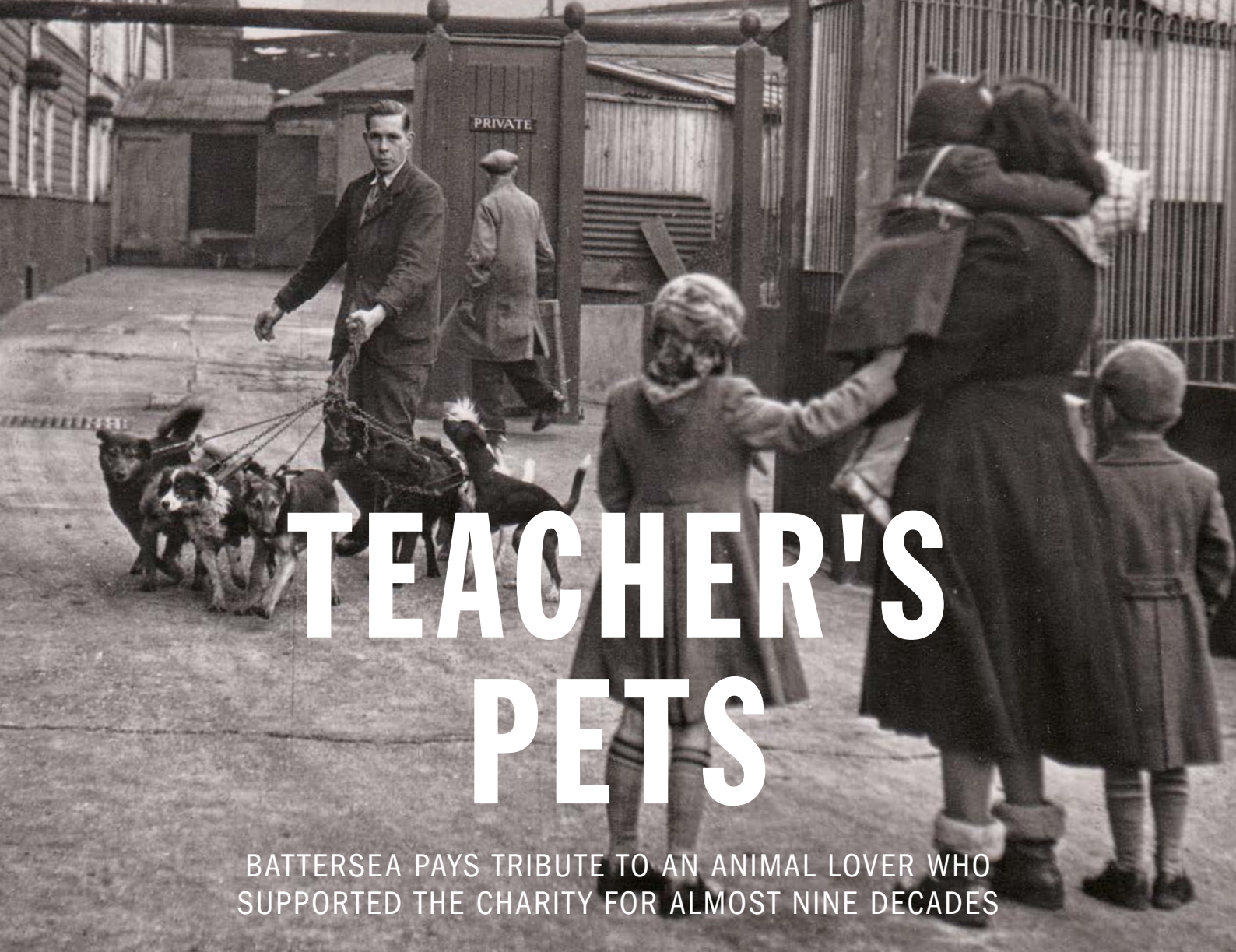
Pet owners make 15% fewer visits to a doctor, saving the NHS £2.45bn a year. (source: lincoln.ac.uk)



### BUBBLES AND MAIZIE

Wandsworth Council recently changed its policy on dogs. It used to require direct garden access but is now one of the most forward-thinking Councils in London. One tenant who has benefited is Joyce ‘Bubbles’ Neal (pictured above), who lives in a flat and is a full-time carer for her mum, who has dementia. Two years ago, Bubbles adopted 11-year-old Shih Tzu Maizie. “I always thought I wouldn’t have a dog,” she says. “But it’s the best thing I’ve ever done. Maizie means the world to me, and she will sit with my mum and make her smile. Having Maizie has made things so much better for both of us.”

HOW TO HELP For more information on our Pet Friendly Training Programme for Local Authorities and Housing Associations, please contact [communityengagement@battersea.org.uk](mailto:communityengagement@battersea.org.uk).



# TEACHER'S PETS

BATTERSEA PAYS TRIBUTE TO AN ANIMAL LOVER WHO  
SUPPORTED THE CHARITY FOR ALMOST NINE DECADES

Maureen Brass first came to Battersea with her mother in 1929, when she was only 14 years old and looking for a new family pet. It was love at first sight for Miss Brass and a rather sorry-looking stray named Jyp who had arrived in a bad way. The pair became firm friends and Maureen trained clever Jyp to do agility in the garden and take messages to her mother asking for a glass of milk and a biscuit while she did her homework upstairs.

Almost a decade after Jyp joined the Brass family, World War II broke out and Miss Brass, now a school teacher, had to leave her beloved Battersea dog with her parents while she accompanied her pupils to Kettering during a mass evacuation of London children. Sadly, in 1942, Jyp passed away. It wasn't until the summer of 1954 that Miss Brass was ready to adopt her next Battersea pet.

Upon returning to Battersea's London centre, Miss Brass remarked upon how much the place had changed since her first visit. Gone were the dog yards beneath the old railway arches, and in their place were wonderful new kennels. It was in one of these kennels that Miss Brass spotted lively Rusty. The copper-coloured Mongrel jumped up and down every time Miss Brass walked past his kennel and she knew this was a sign that he was meant for her. The 18-month-old dog was quick to make an impression with everyone in the community, from the pupils at the school where Miss Brass taught, to the local policemen. During a

perfectly friendly exchange between Miss Brass and a local police officer, the protective Rusty was quick to defend his owner's honour and had a lot to say for himself; fortunately he didn't get himself arrested.

Rusty soon became a regular fixture at St Dominic's School in north-west London where Miss Brass taught from 1938 until her retirement in 1980. Former pupils still remember Rusty as a 'character' and recall being sent to spend time with the dog when they had been naughty and needed to calm down. Rusty spent 13 years by Miss Brass' side and she described those years with him as 'wonderful'.

**“THE DEVOTED MISS BRASS SHOWED  
HER SUPPORT A FINAL TIME BY LEAVING  
PART OF HER ESTATE TO THE CHARITY”**



From far left:  
A family goes to  
find a new pet  
at Battersea in  
the 1950s; Miss  
Brass with her last  
Battersea pet,  
Tibby; with one of  
her Battersea dogs,  
Rusty, who often  
went along with  
her to the school  
where she was  
a teacher.



During her time as a teacher, Miss Brass made it her mission to get children from underprivileged backgrounds involved with music to help enrich their lives. She taught groups of students to sing and to play the recorder, with some of her pupils even performing at the Royal Albert Hall. Miss Brass also used music as an opportunity to fundraise for Battersea, including a marvellous choir performance in Trafalgar Square. Even after she retired, Miss Brass continued to organise reunions with some of her former pupils and everyone would get together to play their old recorders.

Miss Brass was not just a lover of dogs, she was also a lifelong cat lover and her final pet to be adopted from Battersea was a cat named Tibby in November 2005. During her visit to Battersea's cattery, Miss Brass met a member of the rehoming team who

took her to meet a forlorn-looking cat hiding in her pen. Feeling sorry for the timid cat, Miss Brass took her home that day. Tibby soon came out of her shell to become an affectionate lifelong companion.

As Miss Brass got older, she wanted to make sure Tibby would be cared for should anything happen to her, so she signed up for Battersea's Forever Loved service, entrusting Tibby to Battersea should the need arise. In the end, the service wasn't required as Tibby sadly passed away just a week before her owner did.

In October 2018, Miss Brass passed away at the remarkable age of 103. At her request, Battersea's Legacy team made all the funeral arrangements and, as her executor, are managing her estate. More than 100 people attended the funeral, including Battersea staff and former pupils who

had lots of lovely things to say about Miss Brass and her dogs. During the service some former pupils played their recorders to honour Miss Brass' enduring dedication. A four-legged Battersea representative was also there to meet well-wishers.

The devoted Miss Brass showed her support for Battersea a final time by leaving part of her estate to the charity. The proceeds will go towards helping the thousands of dogs and cats that come through our gates every year, ensuring that many more animals, just like Jyp, Rusty and Tibby, will find their own loving homes. We are so incredibly grateful for her support.

### LEAVE A LEGACY

To discuss leaving a gift in your will, email [specialgifts@battersea.org.uk](mailto:specialgifts@battersea.org.uk) or call us on 020 7627 9300.



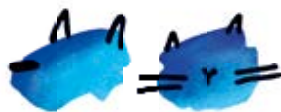
# WHO WILL LOOK AFTER HER WHEN YOU'RE GONE?

You promised your pet a lifetime of love and companionship, but have you thought about what would happen should you pass away before them? Battersea will help you keep your promise, and will care for your pet until we find them the perfect new home.

The Forever Loved service gives you peace of mind and the knowledge that your promise won't die with you. Keep your promise to your beloved pets with a Forever Loved card from Battersea.

[battersea.org.uk/foreverloved](http://battersea.org.uk/foreverloved)

- 1 Return the attached postcard or call 020 7627 9300 for your free Forever Loved information pack and application form.
- 2 Receive your engraved tag and card to keep safe.
- 3 Enjoy peace of mind that whatever happens, your beloved pet will always have a loving home.



**BATTERSEA**  
HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT





**KIDS PULL-OUT SECTION  
THIS IS YOUR BIT OF  
THE MAGAZINE.  
GROWN-UPS,  
HANDS OFF!**

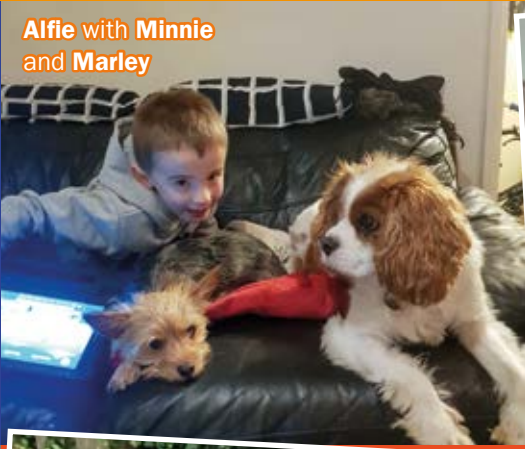
# LITTLE PAWS

SHARE YOUR PICTURES!  
SEND PHOTOS OF YOU AND YOUR PET TO:  
LITTLEPAWS@BATTERSEA.ORG.UK



COOL PICS, QUIZZES AND A POSTER!

## YOUR EPIC PET SELFIES



Alfie with Minnie and Marley



Chloe with Mimi



Esther with Teddy



**WINNER!**

Freddy with Jez



Max with Louis



Solar with Goblin



Sophie with Miah

### WIN!

This issue's lucky winner can choose either the Dogs and Puppies or Cats and Kittens board game from Laurence King Publishing (LKP) in partnership with Battersea. They are designed to raise vital funds, and to raise awareness of our dogs and cats.  
HOW TO ENTER: Send a selfie with your dog or cat to [littlepaws@battersea.org.uk](mailto:littlepaws@battersea.org.uk)



# LITTLE PAWS

Clever Jack Russell **Jenson** came to Battersea needing to do a little bit of brushing up on his manners. Luckily, with his love of learning, it wasn't long at all until Jenson had plenty of new tricks stored up his sleeve. After spotting him in kennels at Battersea, his new family fell in love with him at first sight and Jenson soon went home to his new life in Surrey.





WHAT DO YOU CALL A DOG MAGICIAN?  
LABRACADABRADOR



## FANTASTIC FUNDRAISERS

We were visited at the start of 2019 by three students from Townley Grammar School. Sofia (12), Evie (11) and Aimee (12) have been very busy over the past few months, running cake sales at school and selling their old things to raise money for our cats and dogs. Since November 2018 they raised over £300, and came to visit our London centre to drop off their donation and see some of our animals. Evie already has a Jack Russell called Teddy at home and was very keen on getting him a brother or sister!



## SUPER TOM TO THE RESCUE

Eleven-year-old Tom is quite the Battersea supporter. He's hosting an online fundraiser called 'Tom's Online Dog and Cat Show' to raise money. This is Tom's second fundraiser for us; his first one, when he was eight years old, raised over £2,000! Tom has a love of all animals, especially dogs and cats. He visits Battersea and many other rescue centres during school holidays. To show your support for Tom, join his Facebook and Instagram pages – he loves seeing new people follow his efforts online.



WHAT DO YOU CALL A PILE OF KITTENS?  
A MEOWNTAIN

## BILLIE'S BIRTHDAY GIFT

Young Billie, who visits the London centre several times a year, has long been a huge fan of our charity and POGDOGS. Her devotion runs so deep that rather than birthday presents, she asks people to donate money to our dogs and cats. She adds her own pocket money that she saves up all year, resulting in Billie donating over £500 in the last 18 months! Recently, Billie and her brother Teddy came for a visit, where they met Harlow the Bichon Frise (pictured).

## BATTERSEA BRAIN TEASERS

- How many dogs and cats did Battersea help last year?
  - Over 1,000
  - Over 5,000
  - Over 7,000
- How long is the average stay for a dog at Battersea?
  - 24 days
  - 38 days
  - 50 days
- How long is the average stay for a cat at Battersea?
  - 22 days
  - 31 days
  - 100 days
- On average, how many dogs and cats arrive at Battersea's three centres every day?
  - 2 dogs and 1 cat
  - 5 dogs and 4 cats
  - 9 dogs and 8 cats

Answers: 1 = Over 7,000, 2 = 38 days, 3 = 22 days, 4 = 9 dogs and 8 cats



WHAT IS A CAT'S FAVOURITE COLOUR?  
PURRRPLE

# TAKE US HOME

CAN YOU CHANGE THE LIFE OF AN ANIMAL LOOKING FOR A SECOND CHANCE?



**CURTIS**

2 years old, Mongrel

**[bow.rehomers@battersea.org.uk](mailto:bow.rehomers@battersea.org.uk)**

This energetic and bouncy boy is looking for experienced owners who are willing to take things slowly with him at first, as he is nervous around new people. But once you have gained his trust he is sure to make a fun and playful companion.



**CLEO**

10 years old, Domestic Short-hair

**[rehoming@battersea.org.uk](mailto:rehoming@battersea.org.uk)**

Cleo is a confident and good-natured cat who will shower you with affection. As she is a little overweight, her new owners will need to be willing to continue her weight management plan. She is sure to make a fun and very loveable addition to the family.



**FEATHER**

2 years old, Shih Tzu

**[rehoming@battersea.org.uk](mailto:rehoming@battersea.org.uk)**

A sweet girl who is worried of new people, Feather is looking for an owner with the time and patience to help build her confidence. She loves the company of other dogs and, given her nervous nature, she will need a steady canine companion in her new home.



**NUTMEG**

15 years old, Domestic Short-hair

**[bbh.rehomers@battersea.org.uk](mailto:bbh.rehomers@battersea.org.uk)**

This lovely older lady likes nothing more than curling up and sleeping all day, punctuated with a good amount of fuss, of course! Nutmeg is FIV positive, so her new owners will need to speak to a Battersea vet before rehoming her.



**MOLLY**

6 years old, Mongrel

**[rehoming@battersea.org.uk](mailto:rehoming@battersea.org.uk)**

Molly is a wonderful girl who is affectionate with everyone she meets. She's had surgery on a mass that she has developed, and so her new owners will need to speak to a vet prior to rehoming. Molly would be a great family dog as she has lots of love to give.



**SQUEEKY**

11 years old, Domestic Medium-hair

**[rehoming@battersea.org.uk](mailto:rehoming@battersea.org.uk)**

Squeeky is a sweetie with a bit of a sensitive side. She took a while to warm up to her carers in the cattery, but is now very affectionate. Her new owners will have to be willing to take things at her pace and give her time to settle in.

# WORKING K-9 TO 5

FROM THE PRISON SERVICE TO MEDICAL DETECTION, FOR SOME BATTERSEA DOGS A TRADITIONAL FAMILY HOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE ANSWER...

Battersea is perhaps most widely known as a place where people can come to give a dog a second chance at living a happy life in a family home. But what is less known about the 159-year-old charity is that Battersea has a team of dedicated staff that also help to train and rehome dogs to several different working outlets, from the prison service to medical detection dogs and many other disciplines in-between.

In fact, Battersea has been training and rehoming dogs ever since World War I, when dogs would be recruited and deployed to the front line in France to help find and rescue soldiers injured in battle, as well as helping with other vital wartime tasks such as keeping guard of the camps.

Nowadays, Battersea still supplies dogs who carry out important work in our society, whether that's sniffing out explosives, or providing emotional support to those who need it.

Jeff Moore, Working Dogs Manager at Battersea, says, "Not all dogs and cats that arrive at Battersea are well-suited to life in a domestic home, so Battersea will seek to find them an alternative home. Many dogs were bred originally as working dogs and certain breeds such as Border Collies, Labradors and Terriers thrive in a working role that provides plenty of mental and physical stimulation.

"There are so many kinds of working dogs and, while all of their roles vary, I often look for the same traits in each dog to know if they'd be suitable for a working environment.

"I always look for dogs that are confident enough to cope with different environments, and who are sociable and willing to interact with humans. These are two of the most important traits for a working dog to have if they're going to be successful in their new roles."

Jeff explains, "Here at Battersea, I see a lot





of potential working dogs come through our gates who are also under-socialised and not used to new and different environments. So, at times, it can be hard to tell if they'd be best suited to a working home or not.

"If this is the case, then I always check to see if they have a willingness to interact and play with toys. If they do, I can start working with their motivations and teach them to play some basic search games to begin their training."

While temperament is a vital part of what it takes to be a working dog, there are other qualities that a Battersea dog should ideally display if they're going to be rehomed to a working outlet.

"The ideal age for a Battersea dog to go to a working home would be anywhere from 12 months to three-and-a-half years old" explains Jeff, "Any working dog would also need to be medically fit to work, just the same as any human thinking of going to work in the services."

#### What's breed got to do with it?

There are some breeds that are typically associated with being working dogs. Labradors and Spaniels are typically used for scent work – such as narcotic or explosives detection – and breeds such as German Shepherds, Malinois and Rottweilers are often used for patrol work.

"Over the years, different breeds have become associated with different kinds of work because of their natural breed traits," says Jeff. "Dogs like German Shepherds and Rottweilers are a guarding breed and are likely to be naturally more protective of the area they're patrolling, whereas Labradors and Spaniels are gundogs and will naturally want to sniff things out when they're in a room, while ignoring everyone else!"

While certain breeds may excel at certain types of jobs, at Battersea we believe that a dog's breed shouldn't hold them back if they have all the other qualities that a working home would require.

And, recently, this was proved when Battersea rehomed Staffordshire Bull Terrier Cookie to the

Clockwise from above: Labrador AJ, Jeff with sniffer dog, Cookie, the first Staffordshire Bull Terrier drug detector; AJ next to a commemorative statue for police dogs; medical detection dog Magic the Labrador, assisting his owner with diabetes management.





## AJ'S STORY

Typical of his breed, AJ the Labrador proved to be a bouncy character during his time at Battersea, full of energy and excitement. Originally handed in to Battersea when his owners had a baby and could no longer give AJ the attention he needed, our team of specialist canine behaviourists noticed a strong leaning within AJ towards a working dog lifestyle.

After Jeff and his team began working with AJ on sniffer training, it was clear that he had found his calling. Luckily, a potential home with the British Transport Police had become available, and the lucky Labrador was soon off to his new role as an explosives detection dog in train stations across the UK.

PC Mark Read, AJ's handler, tells Battersea, "AJ is known as 'PD', which is Police Dog. His job is to search for explosives on the mainline and underground railway networks. He has got a very sensitive nose and he is very, very good."

PC Steve Witcomb adds, "The initial assessment by the team at Battersea was excellent. He turned up in very good condition, very well looked after by Battersea and obviously his previous owners. It was just that he was so exuberant, he needed to work. He needs to be out doing something every day, so he is the ideal dog for us."

Steve continues, "AJ is very driven to search – he loves his work. Throughout the force he's got a very good reputation. As soon as he walks into the station, he knows exactly what he's doing."

See more of AJ's story at [youtube.com/battersea](https://www.youtube.com/battersea)

HMP Six Counties Search Team, where she is now in training to detect drugs. Cookie was the first of her breed to hold such an important role in the prison service, and viewers of our ITV series *Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs* may recall seeing her story on the show last year.

Jeff recalls, "From her first session, Cookie showed great potential, so we were really hopeful that she'd be able to find a working home well-suited to her needs. She's very sociable and clever, and is a very high-energy dog, so I knew that in the right setting she could channel all that into doing something great.

"Cookie is a prime example of how dogs of any breed shouldn't be judged on their looks or 'reputation' alone. Any dog who is smart and loves the mental and physical stimulation of working with trainers has the potential to be an incredible working dog," Jeff adds.

"I really hope dogs like Cookie can help to pave the way for more unusual breeds to become successful working dogs."

**"DOGS OF ANY BREED SHOULDN'T BE JUDGED ON THEIR LOOKS OR 'REPUTATION' ALONE"**

# THROUGH THE AGES

**HOW DO I CARE FOR MY PET AS IT GETS OLDER?** YOUR DOG OR CAT'S NEEDS CAN CHANGE OVER THEIR LIFETIME – MAKE SURE YOU'RE GIVING THEM EVERYTHING THEY NEED TO GROW, WITH BATTERSEA'S TOP TIPS



## CATS

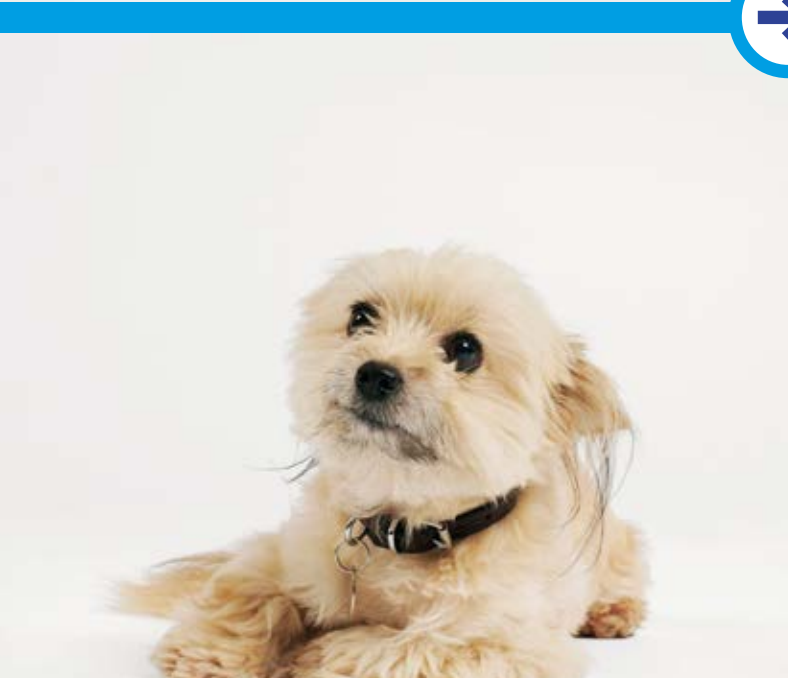
**NUTRITION** When bringing a kitten home, it's best to stick with the food it's used to for the first week, to reduce the chance of an upset stomach. If you change food, do so gradually by mixing a little of the new food with their current food.

**BEHAVIOUR** Kittens love to play. You can easily make toys out of things like toilet rolls! Don't encourage them to play with hands or feet, or they might think of them as toys for life. Get them used to being brushed, especially long-haired cats.

**MEDICAL** Your kitten will need to be regularly treated for fleas and worms with a treatment specific to its age and/or weight. Check you have a vaccination record from the breeder or rescue centre and take note of when they will need their booster injections.



## KITTEN/ PUPPY [0-1 YEARS]



## DOGS

**NUTRITION** Be consistent with their feeding schedule so they get used to eating at certain times of day. Try not to give in to cries or begging for food outside of these times, as this will teach your puppy that they can demand food whenever they want. Instead, use mealtimes as an opportunity to practise training.

**BEHAVIOUR** Whether it's mouthing, jumping up or chewing furniture, puppies can display a lot of 'naughty' behaviours. Telling them off might reinforce bad habits, so reward good behaviour and don't engage when they're behaving in an undesirable way.

**MEDICAL** Before bringing your puppy home, make sure you understand their medical needs – have they been vaccinated and treated for fleas and worms? Consider insuring your puppy, particularly if its breed has a greater risk of certain health conditions.

## “AS YOUR PET GROWS OLDER, BE WATCHFUL FOR ANY CHANGES IN BEHAVIOUR THAT MAY INDICATE A MEDICAL ISSUE”

### MEET OUR EXPERTS



**Sue Hartley**  
Feline Welfare  
Manager



**Claire Turner**  
Battersea  
Veterinary Surgeon



**Nathalie Ingham**  
Canine Behaviour  
& Training Manager

**NUTRITION** A cat that spends a lot of time outside and is very active will need more food than a sedentary or indoor-only cat. But this can vary – even the most active cat may prefer to stay inside during winter, so its diet should be adjusted accordingly.

**BEHAVIOUR** Most cats like to explore and climb. There are plenty of ‘cat trees’ that incorporate scratching posts and places to sleep, or help them access the top of a cupboard by placing other furniture nearby. A high space helps them feel safe.

**MEDICAL** Dental disease is very common in cats, with many needing teeth extracted at some point in their lives. You could also consider brushing your cat’s teeth daily if they’ll tolerate it. Ask your vet for advice on cat-friendly toothpaste and brushes.

**NUTRITION** As cats age, their sense of smell and taste diminishes, which can result in a loss of appetite. If your cat needs some encouragement to eat, try feeding smaller meals more often and serve it near room temperature to make it more palatable.

**BEHAVIOUR** Cats may go outside less as they get older, due to being less confident about defending their territory. Consider securing your garden to keep other cats out, so yours can explore in peace. A litter tray gives them the option of staying inside.

**MEDICAL** Older cats can be more prone to health problems, particularly kidney and thyroid diseases, so if you spot any changes in appetite or thirst, consult your vet. Cats can hide their symptoms, so regular health checks could detect problems early.

### ADULT [2–10 YEARS]

**NUTRITION** The variety of dog food available can be overwhelming, so stick to one brand that your dog enjoys. Use treats only as a reward and avoid those with high sugar content and colouring. Treats should not make up more than 15% of your dog’s diet.

**BEHAVIOUR** Most dog owners know the importance of physical exercise, but mental stimulation also has great benefits. This can be as simple as practising commands in fun games. Try a puzzle feeder, or hiding small treats to see if they can find them all.

**MEDICAL** It can be tempting to let your dog swim in a local pond or lake, but take care with water covered in algae, as some blue-green algae that ‘bloom’ during hot and dry periods can be highly toxic. If you’re worried your dog might have ingested anything harmful, seek veterinary advice immediately.

### SENIOR [11+ YEARS]

**NUTRITION** As your dog’s activity levels decrease, their calorie intake needs adjusting to prevent weight gain. Rather than reducing portions, which could leave them feeling short-changed, try a lower calorie food – many foods for older dogs are created for this.

**BEHAVIOUR** Just because their body is getting older, your dog’s mind won’t necessarily be slowing down. Try teaching them a few new tricks or see if they enjoy a new toy. Exercise them little and often – staying active is important to maintain their health.

**MEDICAL** Be vigilant to any changes in behaviour. Sight and hearing may worsen, and they might not move as easily. Older dogs are also more prone to lumps and bumps, incontinence, appetite changes and more. If you notice changes in your dog, especially if they happen quickly, consult your vet.

# READY, SET, RUN!

BATTERSEA'S MUDDY DOG CHALLENGE IS BACK, BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER. HERE ARE FIVE REASONS TO GET INVOLVED

After the success of 2018's Muddy Dog Challenge, which saw dog lovers across the country take part in the unique obstacle run – with or without their dogs – and raise a total of £620,000, Battersea's Muddy Dog Challenge is back, proudly supported by Seresto flea and tick control collar, and this year it's bigger and even better than in previous years.

For 2019, the UK's first-ever dog and human obstacle run is also open to children aged 8–15, who can enter as part of a team with an adult.

Places are still available, but if you're unsure whether to take part, check out these five reasons why you should get muddy for Battersea...

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



## 1. IT'S NOT JUST FOR FITNESS FANATICS

It's a fun day out for all. You can do it on your own, with your dog or with a group of friends. It will provide lots of laughter, fun and mud! There's a choice of either the 2.5k or 5k, you can walk or jog it – it's not a race, the aim is to have fun.



## 2. YOU'LL BE RAISING MONEY

Raise valuable funds for the thousands of homeless dogs and cats that come through Battersea's gates each year. We don't receive any government funding, so every penny raised from the Muddy Dog Challenge will go towards caring for these animals. Fundraising can also be fun: be as creative as you like! Find inspiring tips on our website if you're stuck for ideas.



## 3. YOUR DOG WILL LOVE IT

Not only will you have a great time, but your dog will have a fun day out too, spending time with you and tackling the course.



## 4. MEMORABLE MOMENTS

It will provide you with lots of lasting memories with your loved ones. Just think of all the great pictures you'll get for Instagram!

## 5. VOLUNTEERING

If you don't fancy taking part in the Muddy Dog Challenge yourself but you still want to get involved, why not volunteer instead? It's a great atmosphere, lots of fun, and there's just as much mud!



## 2019 LOCATIONS

### 1. EXETER

Saturday 13 April  
Powderham Castle

### 2. WINDSOR

Saturday 11 May and  
Sunday 12 May  
Windsor Great Park

### 3. CHELTENHAM

Saturday 1 June  
Stowell Park

### 4. NOTTINGHAM

Saturday 29 June  
Wollaton Hall

### 5. MANCHESTER

Saturday 14 September and  
Sunday 15 September  
Ashley Hall

### 6. TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Saturday 21 September  
Eridge Park

### 7. NEWCASTLE

Saturday 5 October  
Newcastle Racecourse

### 8. LEEDS

Saturday 19 October  
Harewood House

Whether you've been a Muddy Dog participant since the beginning, or whether 2019 is simply the year for trying something new – why not give it a go? For more information on how to register, visit [battersea.org.uk/muddydog](http://battersea.org.uk/muddydog).



**Marley** sent in by  
Jayne and Martin Cole



**Lucky** sent in by  
the Cottrell family

# LOVING LIFE

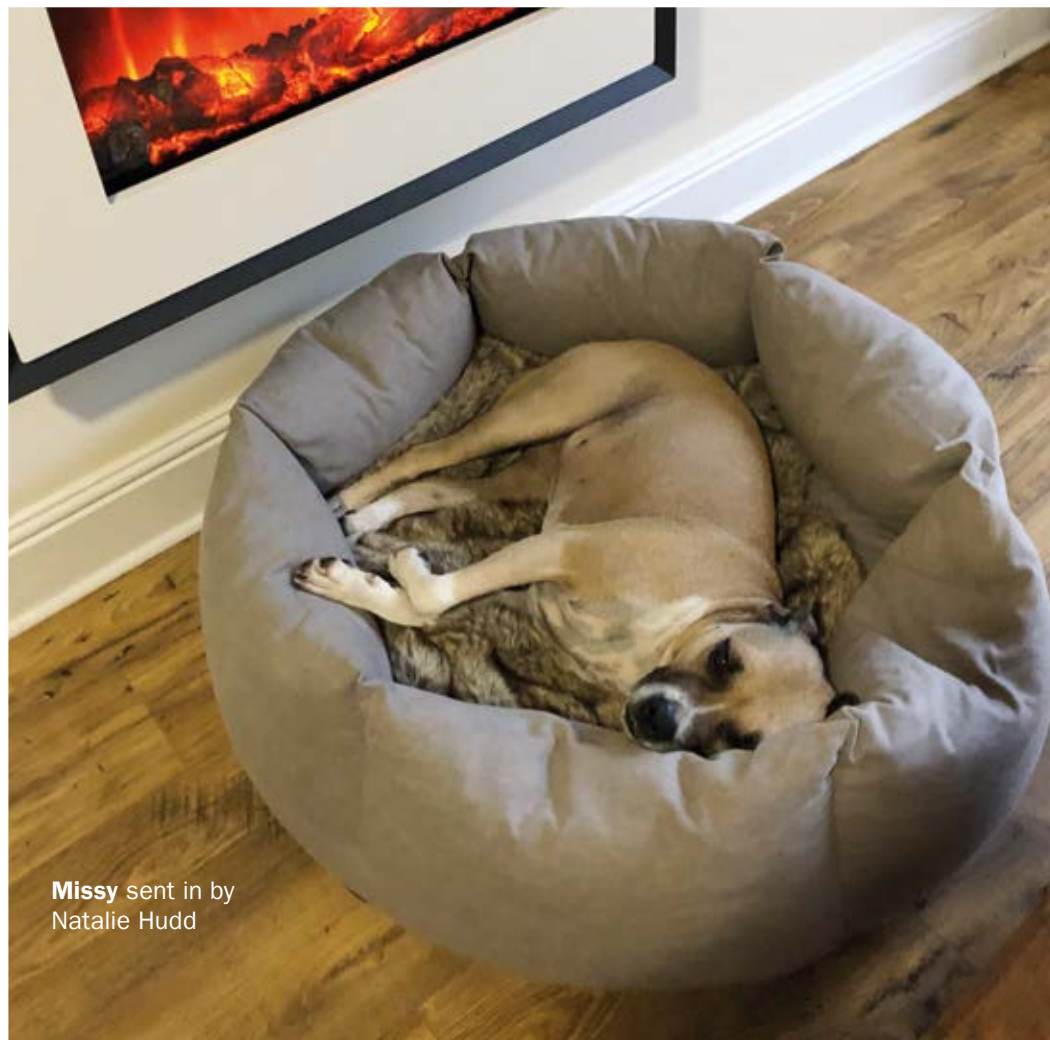
NOTHING BRINGS US MORE JOY AT BATTERSEA THAN SEEING OUR FORMER ANIMALS ENJOYING THEIR NEW LIVES AND PROVING RESCUE REALLY IS BEST.



**Beth**  
sent in by Laurie  
Wright



**Charlie** (formerly Brutus)  
sent in by Jo and Andy



**Missy** sent in by  
Natalie Hudd

SHARE YOUR PICTURES!  
SEND YOUR BATTERSEA PET PHOTOS TO:  
[PAWS@BATTERSEA.ORG.UK](mailto:PAWS@BATTERSEA.ORG.UK)



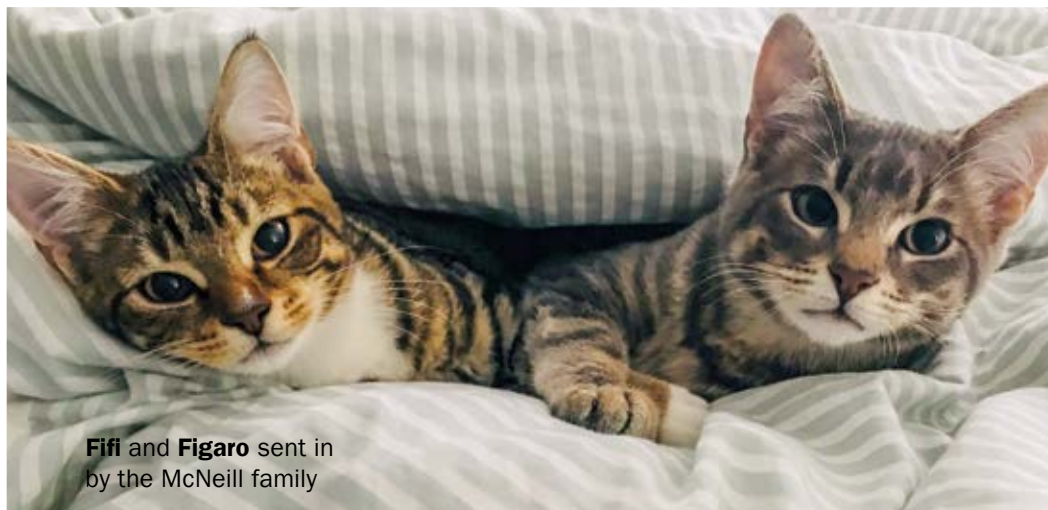
**Bill and Ben** sent in by Janet Birdseye



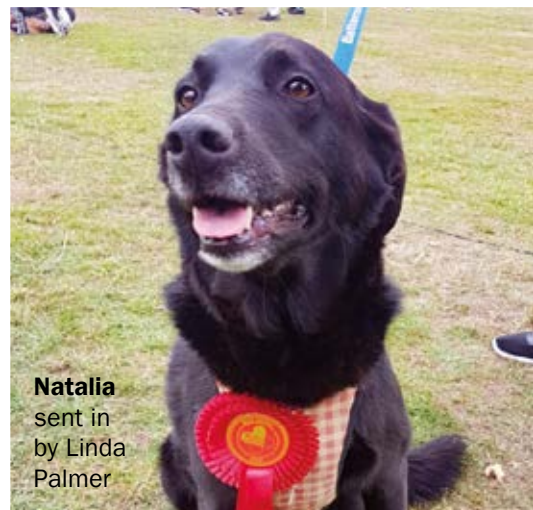
**Biff** sent in by Gemma and Daniel



**Angel** sent in by Stephanie Stoneman



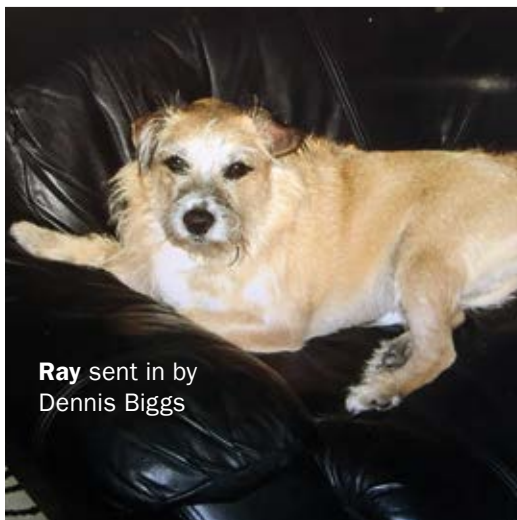
**Fifi and Figaro** sent in by the McNeill family



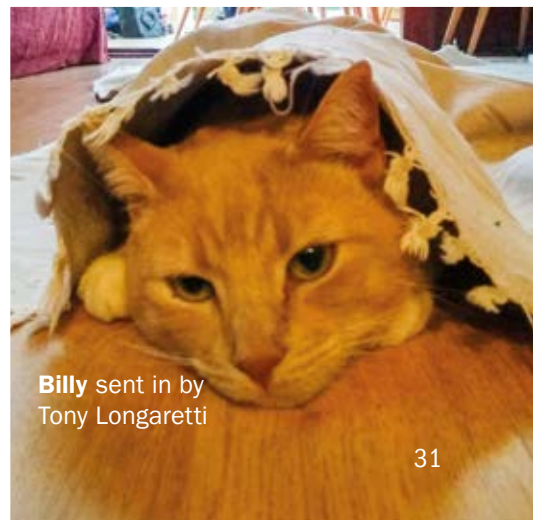
**Natalia** sent in by Linda Palmer



**Jeremy** sent in by Olav Olleson



**Ray** sent in by Dennis Biggs



**Billy** sent in by Tony Longaretti

# YOUR LETTERS

SHARE YOUR SPECIAL PET MOMENTS WITH OTHER SUPPORTERS



[STAR LETTER]

## MY BOY, BUSTER

I have always had rescue dogs – I would never buy from a breeder – so obviously, when the time was right I turned to Battersea. Buster came home with me in November 2017. A few months later, I was taken ill with a severe viral infection. I could get out of bed but I couldn't stay up long. Buster was an absolute treasure, never leaving my side except when he needed to go out – he even reduced his eating to about half. He was obviously worried and laid pressed into my side, so I always knew he was there and could easily stroke him, which was extremely comforting. This carried on for weeks without a complaint from him. I will always be grateful to him for giving me strength, comfort, and most of all companionship, as I live alone. I am so glad Battersea let me have Buster. Thank you so much for the perfect companion.

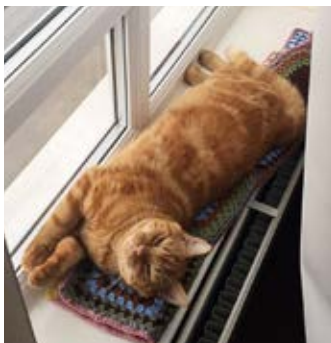
*Allan Moore*

### Your prize

The winner will be the most stylish dog walker around thanks to our partner Barbour, who kindly provided a pair of Jarrow Wellington Boots and a Wax Dog Coat.



## CARING KEVIN



I adopted Kevin from Battersea while I was having treatment for ovarian cancer. He brought so much happiness and joy to our lives. My son, Matei, was so excited to help take care of him that it distracted him at a difficult time, and we have no bad memories from that period because of Kevin.

Every time I had pain, Kevin

sat on my abdomen and purred, making me feel comfortable and cosy. He was so playful and made us laugh all the time – we've enjoyed every moment with him. When he didn't come home for three days, we were so sad and did everything we could to find him. Then, one night, he just came back. Since then he has become quieter but is still very cheeky. He likes to go outside in the evening, but we always call him in at night as we don't want another day without him. We love Kevin so much and thank you, Battersea, for that!

*Rodica Manolescu*

## WINSTON'S NEW LIFE



In October 2017 I made the long trip from Leeds to Battersea to meet Winston (known then as Chester). From the moment I saw his face on the adoption page and read his story he stole my heart. Winston struggled to breathe before being at Battersea and underwent surgery whilst there. However, now he is a different dog

and absolutely loves to socialise and run around with all his friends – Geoff the Terrier being his best friend of all! We were very lucky to attend the 2017 Collars & Coats Ball to raise money for such a worthy charity and speaking at this event with Winston by my side will be something that always stays close to my heart. I can never thank the staff at Battersea enough for giving me and Winston the opportunity to be brought together, he really is the light of my life – with a face like that, how can he not be?!

*Emma Wetherill*



## FAREWELL LYLA

Lyla was Battersea's first foster dog. She arrived in a bad state and wasn't coping in kennels, so she was given to us to nurse her back to health. She was such an amazing dog that we went on to enjoy 12 wonderful years with her. Lyla had such a sweet nature and was so gentle when our children came along. Finally, her body gave up, but she wagged her tail and played with the kids until the end. We take comfort from the fact that we were able to give this beautiful stray a happy life. She is immortalised in a statue at Battersea. RIP Lyla. *Nicky Richardson*



## THE MAGIC OF MANDU



It is two years now since I adopted Kat Mandu (formerly known as Baxter) from Battersea London. It was love at first sight when we were introduced in December 2016 and I knew I needed to look no further for my forever friend. Mandu has settled well into his new neighbourhood and is respected by everyone for his commitment to keeping the local mouse population under control. He has everything he could wish for here; the best chair in the house, a choice of beds, his own water fountain, a cat-sized summerhouse on the patio and entertaining wildlife of foxes, birds and squirrels to watch and keep him amused. Mandu is the best friend and companion I could wish for – thank you, Battersea. *Carol Pratley*

## PUDSEY THE GOLDEN OLDIE

We rehomed Pudsey from Battersea at 18-years-old and he is now 22 and doing just fine! Pudsey is an absolute king of all animals – he's calm, gracious, loving and affectionate. He's also wise, savvy, funny and fearless. Pudsey has a special gift I've never seen in any other cat ever before, where he can calm everyone he meets and put them at ease. Even dogs seem to understand his zen-like energy and just freeze when he so calmly walks up to them to smell and kiss them on the nose! I'm a dog walker so have all sorts in and out of the house, but I'm yet to find one dog who doesn't end up just sitting next to Pudsey on the sofa. What we thought would only be a few months with him has turned out to be so far from reality. It's now four years since he came home with us and life would be empty without my little prince! *Samantha Rossi*



We love to hear from you and catch up with how our rehomed pets are getting along in their new homes. Send us your stories and photos by email to [paws@battersea.org.uk](mailto:paws@battersea.org.uk) or by post to *Paws* magazine, Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, 4 Battersea Park Road, London SW8 4AA.

## ALWAYS LOVED, NEVER FORGOTTEN



### TIRA

In 1997, my husband and I visited Battersea Brands Hatch and fell in love with Tira. After my husband passed away, Tira was there to comfort me, and again when my mum passed away. Tira was 21 when the time came to say goodbye. I miss her so much, but I hope to visit Battersea to find another cat to love. *Jenny Robinson*



### SOFIA

We rehomed Sofia from Battersea Old Windsor in 2013 but, sadly, our dear Sofia passed away last April. We were extremely lucky to have a wonderful vet, Ryk, who did all he could for Sofia, and awarded her their clinic's own Brave Heart Award during her time with them. *Lesley Dumphreys*

## FONDLY REMEMBERED FRIENDS

Creating a memorial can be a comforting way to celebrate your pet's life after they're gone. Battersea's Fondly Remembered Friends is a space to upload photographs and remember the lives of treasured pets. Visit [battersea.org.uk/pet-memorials](http://battersea.org.uk/pet-memorials).

# A RAY OF SUNSHINE

HOW ONE BATTERSEA DOG HAS BEEN PROVIDING ENDLESS LOVE AND LAUGHTER AT A SUSSEX RESIDENTIAL HOME



Step inside the doors of Oak Lodge care home in Polegate, East Sussex and you'll be greeted with a very warm welcome. Not only from the caring and committed staff, but by newest recruit Teddy, a three-year-old Yorkshire Terrier.

Since being rehomed from Battersea in 2017, the playful Terrier has become the most popular and talked about resident. He even has his own noticeboard, displaying photographs and updates for his growing fan club.

For staff and residents at the home, Teddy has been a ray of sunshine. Most days you'll find him snoozing on the sofa of the entrance lobby, presenting his beloved tennis balls to anyone who'll roll one across the floor for him, and greeting visitors with a waggy tail.

Oak Lodge is a residential home for adults with learning disabilities, tucked away in a beautiful part of Sussex. For its six residents it's a home for life and, for some, Teddy is a reminder of the dogs they may have had themselves at home.

He's now a comforter, lying by their side in their beds or putting his head in their laps, and an entertainer, providing daily companionship.

And he's always there at mealtimes, for any titbits he can beg from his human friends.

For Senior Support Worker Geraldine Bird, finding the right dog was worth taking time for, and Teddy is everything they hoped for and more. The home needed a confident, calm, dog that would easily settle in and be unphased by sudden movements and sounds. Geraldine says, "Teddy's the perfect size, he jumps onto our residents' laps or lays calmly by their side if they become distressed. He brightens up everyone's day. He doesn't mind the busy nature of the home at all, in fact he loves all the attention! We've all been so inspired by him that we took part in the Muddy Dog Challenge last year to raise money for Battersea, and we held a summer fair to help benefit other dogs like Teddy."

Geraldine adds: "It took us about six weeks from first thinking about getting a dog to actually coming home with Teddy, but now it feels like he's been here forever. He has truly made himself at home, and all the visitors and residents love him."

[See more of Teddy's story at \[youtube.com/battersea\]\(https://www.youtube.com/battersea\)](https://www.youtube.com/battersea)

Yorkshire Terrier  
Teddy raises the  
spirits of everyone  
who meets him  
at Oak Lodge.



# CHASE, CATCH, PLAY!

WITH GIFTS FOR DOGS, CATS AND HUMANS,  
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BATTERSEA'S ONLINE SHOP.



Benjamin Bear Dog Toy **£6**



Jolly Doggy Vinyl Ball **£3**



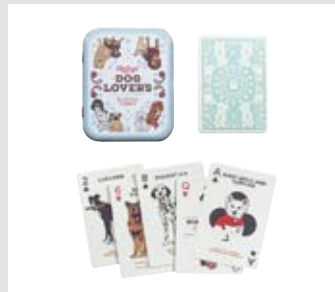
Rainbow Furry Mice Set **£3.50**



ActiCat Plastic Playground **£8**



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Dog Lover's Playing Cards **£10**



Cat Lover's Jigsaw Puzzle **£20**



Battersea Chocolate Bar **£3.50**

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# GET MUDDY WITH YOUR DOG FOR BATTERSEA

Join us at one of the 8 venues around the country to tackle a 2.5km or 5km obstacle course with your dog, and this year the kids can join in too!



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Battersea Dogs & Cats Home is a charity registered in England and Wales (206394). Age requirements, sign up fees and £100 minimum sponsorship apply.

**MUDDY DOG**  
A BATTERSEA CHALLENGE

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