



BATTERSEA

HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT

PAWS

SUMMER 2019

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YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND
HOW OWNING A PET CAN HELP
TO COMBAT LONELINESS

**HELPING DOGS AND CATS
AROUND THE WORLD**

**TOP TIPS FOR TAKING
YOUR PET ON HOLIDAY**

**COULD YOU OFFER A
TEMPORARY HOME?**



WELCOME

A recent study by the British Red Cross found that over nine million people of all ages in the UK would describe themselves as lonely. At Battersea, we are fortunate enough to see first-hand how owning an animal can be one of the best ways for many people to combat feelings of isolation, and it's a relationship we will always endeavour to encourage. Read more about the subject on page 10 of this issue.

For those unable to have a permanent pet, there is still a chance to provide a loving temporary home through fostering. On page 24, two of our dedicated foster carers, Gary and Naomi, reveal the rewards of fostering, not only to an animal's life, but theirs, too.

With the searing temperatures of summer starting to cool off, it's the perfect time to think about a 'staycation'. For many of us animal lovers, that means a dog-friendly few days away. So, if you're thinking of taking your four-legged family member along for the adventure, check out our expert advice on page 28, to ensure it's a happy holiday for all.

Let's not forget the thousands of dogs and cats still hoping to find loving homes for the last hazy days of summer. Just like those on page 21, there are many more waiting patiently for the perfect match. Will you be their summer romance that lasts a lifetime?

On the subject of lifetimes, it was with great sadness that I, and everyone at Battersea, recently said a heartbreaking farewell to my lovely Jack Russell, Wilma. Wilma stole my heart during my first week at Battersea, nine years ago, and became a true Battersea champion – meeting many supporters, raising lots of money, and reminding us all why rescue really is best. At 18 years old, Wilma lived a lifetime of highs, lows, and adventures galore. She's now at peace and my heart is aching, but every day I shall think of her and smile, knowing how much love she brought.

Claire Horton, Chief Executive
(pictured with Wilma)

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GET IN TOUCH

PAWS MAGAZINE

BATTERSEA DOGS & CATS HOME

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



On the cover: Companionship, comfort, and purpose are just some of the perks of owning a pet



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HOME FRONT

ANIMALS | PEOPLE | EVENTS | CAMPAIGNS



Rucca lost an eye due to a common health problem faced by flat-faced cats

[WELFARE]

FLAT-FACED FELINES ARE PAYING THE PRICE FOR PERFECTION

IT'S NOT JUST DOGS THAT ARE SUFFERING FROM BEING BRED FOR THEIR EXAGGERATED FEATURES

The health crisis facing brachycephalic, or 'flat faced', dogs is often talked about. But Battersea believes more must be done to make cats part of the conversation. With their huge eyes, tiny noses and lush manes, it's easy to see why breeds with exaggerated features such as Persian, Exotic Shorthair and Scottish Fold cats can be appealing. Battersea believes that social media has played a role in glamourising these health defects, turning them into something seen as desirable.

Battersea's Head Vet, Shaun Opperman, says: "At Battersea we treat our animals for a number of health issues that are specifically related to how they have been bred to look. In an apparent quest to make them increasingly photogenic or fashionable,

these cats can sadly spend their whole lives suffering with a range of problems, from matted fur and eye infections to difficulty breathing and degenerative diseases."

One such cat is CeeCee, a four-year-old Persian. When CeeCee first arrived, her fur was matted, she had excessively watery eyes and her breathing became laboured. Vets at Battersea operated on her nose to widen her almost non-existent nostrils, in a bid to make breathing easier for her. Another Persian, Rucca, had to have an eye removed due to chronic ulceration, faced by many flat-faced cats. While charities like Battersea do all we can, many of the problems cannot be cured and they face health issues for the rest of their lives.

Shaun adds: "With many of the pedigree cats that are brought to us, we can see that the owners clearly loved their pets, however their lack of breed knowledge means they have unknowingly neglected their care, such as not grooming often enough or failing to consult a vet at the right time. As with any type of cat, pedigrees can of course make wonderful pets for the right owners, however we would urge anyone thinking of adding a cat to the family to first consider adopting from a rescue like Battersea. If you do have your heart set on buying a cat, do your research first and ensure that you make a decision based on your lifestyle and an individual cat's needs, rather than which one might get the most likes on Instagram."



[OUR PAST]

DO YOU HAVE A HISTORY WITH US?

WE WOULD LOVE TO ADD YOUR STORIES AND PICTURES TO THE BATTERSEA ARCHIVES

For anyone out there who follows Battersea on social media, you may have noticed that we've been sharing some fantastic glimpses into our rich heritage thanks to ongoing work to catalogue our extensive archives. However, we're always keen to add more to our growing collection, and this is where you – our supporters – come in. If you have any interesting memorabilia, photographs, documents, videos or interesting glimpses into years gone by at Battersea, we'd love to see them. We'd also be keen to receive any interesting stories or memories from former staff members and visitors alike. Please contact archive@battersea.org.uk with any hidden gems you might stumble across in your own collection.

[AWARDS]

ROYAL RECOGNITION FOR BATTERSEA

In June, a group of dedicated Battersea volunteers were named as recipients of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK. Volunteers received the prestigious award in recognition of the outstanding work they do in the local community, by regularly visiting the retired servicemen and women at the Royal Hospital Chelsea. Volunteers started visiting the Chelsea Pensioners with Battersea dogs back in 2011 and since then a wonderful relationship has developed between the two neighbouring institutions.

Battersea volunteer Katie Morgan, who has been taking part since 2011, says: "It's a real honour to receive this award for doing something that is so beneficial for all involved. We always receive a very warm welcome from the Chelsea Pensioners, staff, volunteers and visitors and the dogs absolutely love meeting everyone. We've made some wonderful friends over the years and hope to make many more."

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service aims to recognise outstanding work by volunteer groups to benefit their local communities. It was created in 2002 to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee and the winners are announced every year on 2 June, which is the anniversary of the Queen's Coronation.



[LEGACIES]

STITCHING TOGETHER A LIFE OF LOVE

Growing up with dogs, cats and horses, Valerie Dennis started work as a kennel maid back in the 1950s, a job she loved so much that she returned to it after taking a break to start a family. Alongside looking after her own children and animals, Valerie spent her spare time stitching beautiful handmade quilts.

By the time she sadly passed away earlier this year, Valerie had built an incredible collection of 42 single and double sized patchwork quilts, many with desirable liberty prints. In a fitting tribute to her mother's legacy, and to honour her lifetime's work on the creations, Valerie's daughter Amanda decided to kindly donate the stunning collection to Battersea. The quilts will be auctioned off to raise funds to help our dogs and cats, just the way Valerie would have wanted.





[FUNDRAISING]

SLEEPING UNDER THE STARS

Brave animal lovers spent the night under the stars to raise vital funds for Battersea's animals. Held at our London and Old Windsor centres, Stray Over 2019 offered participating teams a night of street food, movies, yoga and games, while raising an incredible £60,000 for the thousands of stray dogs and cats that come to Battersea each year. If you fancy swapping your bed for a sleeping bag to help the 28% of dogs and 30% of cats that arrived at Battersea's three centres as strays, visit battersea.org.uk/support-us/events.

[PET TRIBUTES]

LIVING ON IN MEMORY

We know how heartbreaking it is to say goodbye to a pet, so we've introduced our new Pet Tribute Fund – a special place to celebrate the life of your pet, while raising much-needed funds to help animals still waiting for a home. It only takes a few minutes to set up, then friends and family can visit the page to donate and share memories. You can share it through email or social media and include details in a newspaper announcement or order of service. Visit battersea.org.uk/support-us/legacies-memory.

7 SEPTEMBER
STOKE PARK, GUILDFORD
10AM – 5PM

BATTERSEA'S BIG DAY OUT

Battersea will be working in Guildford to do more for dogs and cats. To celebrate, we're inviting you to a FREE fun day with a dog show, pet advice, agility course and much more.

[BATTERSEA.ORG.UK/BIG-DAY-OUT](https://battersea.org.uk/big-day-out)



AND THEY'RE OFF!

THE FIRST MUDDY DOG CHALLENGE EVENTS OF 2019 SAW PEOPLE – AND DOGS – OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES COME TOGETHER TO RAISE FUNDS FOR BATTERSEA.



The Exeter, Windsor and Cheltenham events have raised a staggering £410,716



This year saw many children also joining in the fun to raise funds for Battersea

UPCOMING EVENTS



LONDON LANDMARKS HALF MARATHON

29th March 2020

This event takes runners through the streets of London honouring the culture, heritage and history of the city. Join the 12,000 participants to take in landmarks such as Nelson's Column, St Paul's Cathedral and The Tower of London (to name but a few) along the route. There are themed pit stops, and you can expect to see some historical characters cheering you on from the sidelines.

WINDSOR HALF MARATHON

29th September 2019

Join thousands of runners in this picturesque half marathon. With the stunning backdrop of Windsor Castle and the autumnal setting of Windsor Great Park, this is one of the UK's most popular, scenic and challenging events.

BRIGHTON MARATHON

19th April 2020

Join team Battersea and take on the Brighton Marathon in 2020. Running along Brighton's seafront, you can take in the sights and sounds while achieving something incredible for dogs and cats. battersea.org.uk/brightonmarathon

LONDON MARATHON

26th April 2020

Were you lucky enough to secure your own place in the world-renowned London Marathon? If so, you have the opportunity to run for Battersea's dogs and cats. This incredible challenge is often a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and you could take part as well as raise money for animals in need. battersea.org.uk/londonmarathon

OWN PLACE CHALLENGE

Are you thinking of taking on a challenge this year: a run, a cycle, a swim, or something else? Why not raise money for Battersea at the same time, and help us to help even more dogs and cats? Get in touch with the Events Team and tell them about your plans. battersea.org.uk/support-us/challenges/own-place-challenges



TREKS

Take on the challenge of walking one of the most picturesque places in the UK. This is truly an amazing experience to share with friends.

battersea.org.uk/support-us/challenges

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).



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

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



BATTERSEA
HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT

CREATURE COMFORT

IN THE PAST YEAR ALONE, VARIOUS PIECES OF RESEARCH HAVE REVEALED THAT PET OWNERSHIP COULD HAVE A SIGNIFICANT PART TO PLAY IN REDUCING LONELINESS AND SOCIAL ISOLATION

As a rescue charity, Battersea prides itself on being there for every dog and cat. But as animal lovers we know that, just as we are there for them, our pets can be there for us, too. Whether it be acting as a companion to someone living alone, giving a person a reason to spend more time outdoors, or simply always being there to offer a warm greeting when you arrive home, our animal companions can make a real positive difference to our lives. Pets will love us unquestioningly and unconditionally if we let them.

Here at Battersea we see first-hand how strong the bond can be between people and animals, not just between dogs and cats with our staff and volunteers, but beyond our gates with all pet owners and with the wider community. Fortunately, we can bring a little touch of animal companionship to the general public not just by rehoming animals to their perfect new homes, but by organising events and taking some of our dogs out and about to lift people's spirits.

In the past, we've taken dogs to visit a broad range of people that we feel might benefit from quality time with a four-legged companion. From brightening the day of young patients and their families at Great Ormond Street Hospital, to visiting a local care home to spread cheer among

the elderly residents, our dogs are always guaranteed to put a smile on someone's face.

As part of Battersea's work to reach those who may be in need of a little company or a date in the diary to look forward to, on the second Thursday of each month our staff and volunteers take a group of former Battersea dogs to visit the retired servicemen and women at the Royal Hospital Chelsea. Like many of us, the Chelsea Pensioners' days are occasionally in need of brightening. Many of them have owned beloved pets before and miss the companionship that was part of their daily life.

This is where our wonderful dogs come in. Animals can be incredibly instinctive, and our dogs know just what to do – whether that's curl up for a cuddle or convince someone to get out for a breath of fresh air. One of the veterans recently informed our

volunteers that he always feels happier after spending quality time with dogs, while a member of staff at the Royal Hospital said that, for some of the residents, having a dog to talk to brings them out of their shell more so than when talking to people. These visits can mean the world to some and our dogs are more than happy to oblige as they get plenty of treats and attention.

Not all our dogs going into care homes are visitors, however. Some have been lucky enough to become permanent residents. Last year, a Yorkshire Terrier named Teddy left Battersea to start a new life in a residential home in a tranquil part of Sussex, where he spends his days keeping residents and staff company.

Furry friends

While pets can't solve all problems, there are many ways that owning an animal can help anyone who may be feeling a little lost or unsure. From the simple aspect of a constant companion by your side, to giving people a reason to get up in the morning. People like Hannah, who, after adopting a middle-aged Battersea cat named Lady Josephine, discovered that cats can be the perfect companion when you're going through a challenging time and need a non-judgemental shoulder to cry on. Once the pair

AGE IS JUST A NUMBER

When we think of loneliness, it may often be the older generations that initially spring to mind. However, feelings of isolation can affect anyone at any age. A recent study by the Red Cross found that over nine million people of all ages in the UK would describe themselves as lonely.



As well as providing companionship, owning a dog can motivate people to get out more and meet new people

Just receiving a warm welcome when you get home can help combat feelings of loneliness



had become inseparable, Hannah told staff, “I’d never owned a cat, but now I can’t imagine my life without her furry face and chit chat. She’s helped me through a very painful divorce, two stressful house and career moves and many failed dating experiences. She’s caught so many tears over the years I’m surprised her fur is ever dry, but we also celebrate in style, mostly with prawns and sometimes a bit of butter.”

Out and about

When they’re not acting as a confidante or cheering us up on the sofa, dogs are a great way to encourage people to go outside, get some exercise and meet new people. Anyone who has ever walked a dog will know how quickly your walking buddy can become an ice breaker with fellow dog walkers and passers-by. While some people may be reluctant to brave the outside world for themselves, they are much more likely to do it for their beloved pet. One person who can attest to this is Paul, from South London, who came to adopt a lovely Staffie named Bibi. Paul had suffered a stroke at an early age, and credits Bibi with getting him back out of the house and meeting people, which in turn helped him regain his confidence and improve his speech. The icing on the cake for Paul was knowing he was also helping Bibi by giving her a second chance in a loving home.

Of course pet ownership should never be taken lightly and we only encourage those who have the time and means to offer a

dog or cat a suitable home to do so. But that doesn’t mean those who aren’t in that position should miss out on the joy a dog or cat can bring. At Battersea, we’re always looking for great foster carers to take in some of our most vulnerable dogs and cats for a short time, helping them as they prepare to go to new homes. Not only can this be incredibly rewarding, it also enables people to experience ownership for a few days, weeks or months (turn to page 24 to read more about fostering).

If short-term ownership isn’t an option either, there are plenty of other ways to get involved. Rescue charities like Battersea often offer volunteer roles for anyone with free time to help animals in their local area. This is a great opportunity for people to interact with lots of animals and meet new people, as well as offering structure and routine, all of which can be helpful in alleviating feelings of loneliness.

Battersea believes that a lot more can still be done to help tackle the issue of loneliness within communities, and we will be revealing exciting new projects very soon. Expect to read a lot more about them in the next issue of *Paws* and if you can’t wait until then, keep a close eye on our website.



DID YOU KNOW?

- More than a third of people describe their first pet as their best friend (Blue Cross)
- Stroking a pet can significantly reduce blood pressure therefore lowering the risk of a stroke or heart attack
- Loneliness is as bad for your health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day (Holt-Lunstad)
- There are 1.2 million chronically lonely older people in the UK (Age UK)
- Disengaged communities could be costing the UK economy £32 billion each year (Eden Project)

TIME TO SPARE?

If you would like to find out more about volunteering or fostering for Battersea, please visit www.battersea.org.uk

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GETTING TO KNOW YOU

TWO OF OUR NEWEST BATTERSEA AMBASSADORS,
ANTHONY HEAD AND SARAH FISHER, TELL US WHY
OUR CHARITY IS ONE CLOSE TO THEIR HEARTS

You've both helped Battersea over many years, but how did you first get involved with the organisation?

SF: I was invited to demonstrate 'TTouch' techniques as a way of helping reduce kennel stress close to two decades ago. That first workshop was the beginning of a rewarding relationship and I have taught many TTouch workshops for the behaviour, training, veterinary nursing, and volunteer teams over the years.

AH: Even as a child, I knew Battersea was special. I thought of the Home as the true 'heart' of London, and somehow knew I would have some connection to it, one day. When Sarah first taught there, it felt like the most natural thing in the world, and I was so excited to join her there, on occasion. It was great to have a profile that I found could be of use to them.

Sarah, tell us more about TTouch and your work in the field of canine behaviour...

SF: I initially explored TTouch to help one of our horses, Otto, who had damaged his pelvis as a youngster. TTouch gave us a way forward and gave Otto a better quality of life, and I became fascinated by the link between posture and behaviour. Physical and emotional wellbeing is linked; helping dogs release tension and improve their balance through

low impact movement exercises and gentle bodywork with techniques that guardians can also learn has been both life enhancing, and lifesaving, for countless dogs worldwide.

You joined us as official Ambassadors back in 2018. Why did you decide to take this step in showing your support for Battersea?

SF: I'm not often lost for words, but when we were invited to become official Ambassadors, my jaw hit the floor. Battersea has always felt like a second home to me and, as we have been involved with Battersea in so many ways for so long, we both felt honoured to have been invited to become an official part of the inspiring Battersea family.

AH: It is truly the most flattering thing I've ever been asked to do. When we were invited to become Ambassadors, I went silent for a while. I was gobsmacked – it is such an honour.

What does Battersea – and the work we do – mean to you?

SF: I am fortunate to spend my life connecting with many animal welfare organisations and meeting animal ambassadors around the world, but there is something truly unique about Battersea. The public face of the charity is well known, but we have first-hand experience of the more private

aspects of the work that goes on, day in and day out. There is an honesty, warmth, and passion at the heart of Battersea that extends far beyond the three sites.

AH: The dogs and cats that find themselves in the Home have not asked to be there – we owe it to them to make their transition to another carer as quick and as painless as possible. Animals play a huge role in our lives and they put up with so much misunderstanding and mistreatment – we should be there for them, as Battersea is, to make their lives easier.

Have you both always been animal lovers?

SF: I've always been animal obsessed. Both my parents were brought up with animals and, when I was a child, my father always reminded me that our family pets hadn't chosen to live with us, we had chosen them and thus we should always be mindful of their needs. I feel so lucky to have shared my life with so many incredible animals over the years.

AH: I have always felt a bond with animals, and what they put up with is quite extraordinary, but since I met Sarah I have progressively become more and more aware of how important they are in our lives and the lessons we can learn from them.

Ambassadors Sarah Fisher and Anthony Head with their Battersea dog, Cookie Dough Dynamo (TBC?)



Can you tell us more about your own animals at home?

SF: We currently share our life with three dogs – Cookie Dough Dynamo, Henry and Alvin – six donkeys and seven horses. Cookie Dough was one of our Battersea foster puppies. She really struggled when she was young, but thanks to TTouch and reward-based training a whole new world opened for her. I spent so much time teaching her life skills and learned so much from her, I couldn't bear the thought of her being re-homed.

Why do you think rescue is best when it comes to rehoming a dog or cat?

SF: Dogs are so giving and forgiving. There is nothing more rewarding than helping a dog that has been let down by humans learn to trust and find joy in the company of people once more. Some animals also arrive in rescue due to sad and unavoidable circumstances that meant their families could no longer care for them. We feel for those animals and the people, too. Our rescue animals have shaped us,

“WHEN YOU FIND YOUR FRIEND IN A RESCUE, THEY HELP YOU FIND THE BEST IN YOU”

and we often wonder who we'd be without them. When you find your friend in a rescue, they help you find the best in you.

AH: We owe it to them. When so many dogs and cats need re-homing, either because they've been abandoned or perhaps their owners have sadly passed, they deserve our love and respect and the chance to live out the rest of their lives in peace. We have a responsibility, when there are so many out there in need of a home.

What do you hope to achieve for the benefit of rescue dogs and cats in your new roles as Battersea Ambassadors?

SF: If we have learnt one thing from animals it is not to focus on goals. We will continue to support Battersea in any and every way we can, as more life changing and exciting projects are developed. We look forward to collaborating with Battersea in whatever capacity we can while doing what we do best – promoting the joy and rewards of giving a home to an animal in need.

AH: Both Sarah and I have the opportunity to share all that we have learned and discovered, not only with the animals in our care, but with people we both meet in our separate occupations. Obviously, Sarah encounters many more, but I have always loved watching her work and always walk away having learned something. Whenever I can bring people's attention to an animal's needs, I will. We are passionate about Battersea and the animals in its care.



PET TRIBUTE FUND

CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF YOUR MUCH-LOVED PET WHILE
RAISING FUNDS FOR BATTERSEA'S DOGS AND CATS

At Battersea, we know that losing a beloved pet is incredibly hard. But we also know how comforting it can be to celebrate the joy they brought to our lives.

That's why we created the Pet Tribute Fund. So you can share happy memories while raising money for Battersea in memory of your pet. In doing so you'll ensure other dogs and cats experience the love that you were lucky enough to share, and make a life-changing difference to dogs and cats in need, now and in the future.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO FIND OUT MORE:
PETTRIBUTEFUND.BATTERSEA.ORG.UK



BATTERSEA
HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT



LITTLE PAWS

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

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



Bertie with Molly



Dulcie with Mitsy,
Tia and Rosie



WINNER!

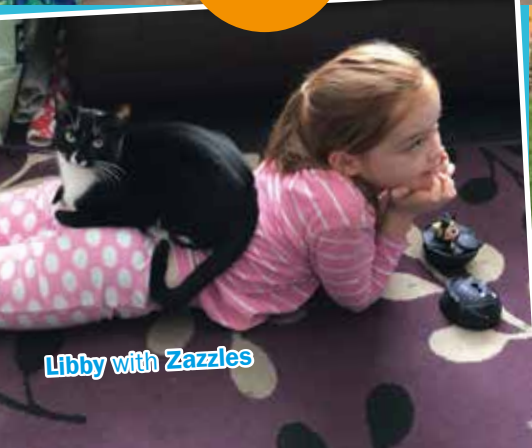
Glynn and
Kian with
Cali



Willow and
Lucille with
Chloe



Hattie with Buddy



Libby with Zazzles



Stella
with Joey

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



The background of the page is a photograph showing the rear portion of a light brown dog sitting on a grey gravel path. To the left of the dog is a dense area of green leafy plants. The overall scene is outdoors and brightly lit.

LITTLE PAWS

Cinnamon was only four months old when he came into Battersea's Brands Hatch Centre. He arrived with 15 other cats from a breeder and, sadly, they were all in a sorry state. Luckily for Cinnamon and his friends, Battersea got to work looking after them and finding suitable homes. Cinnamon needed somewhere he could be safe and looked after, but different from a 'normal' family home. It wasn't long before he went to live at a stable yard in Bedfordshire, where he's since been enjoying life and roaming around at his own free will.



WHY DON'T CATS PLAY POKER IN THE JUNGLE?

THERE ARE TOO MANY CHEETAHS!



ONCE UPON A TIME AT BOW

To celebrate World Book Day, pupils at Homer First School in Windsor came to our Old Windsor centre to read their favourite books to some of our lovely dogs. Studies show that reading to dogs can help build a child's confidence, increase their enthusiasm for reading and be relaxing for readers and dogs. A handful of excited children were more than happy to put this to the test. Lola the Mongrel was particularly engrossed in *Meerkat Mail*, read beautifully by seven-year-old Riley (pictured).



BOXING CLEVER

West Hill Primary Academy students paid a visit to our Brands Hatch centre to deliver boxes of donations, gathered as part of their Shoe Box Appeal. The event sees students collect items for a charity of their choice and was coordinated and arranged by the School Council in honour of Battersea. The students collected an outstanding 119 boxes filled with toys, treats and goodies for our dogs and cats. To say 'thank you' for their generosity, the students were given a special tour of the centre so they could meet the residents.



WHAT DO DOGS HAVE FOR BREAKFAST?

POOCHED EGGS

FUN FOR ALL AGES

Many of our young supporters have been getting very muddy indeed, all in the name of raising funds for Battersea. For the first year, our Muddy Dog Challenge opened to children aged eight to 15 to run alongside an adult, and you haven't shied away from the challenge! Kids across the country have been busy getting muddy for Battersea this summer, including Finlay (pictured), aged 11, from Reading, who took part with his dad, Joe, and their four-year-old Golden Retriever, Oscar. Finlay told us, "Oscar loves to roll around in puddles, so what better way to give him what he wants?!"

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

There are five differences in the pictures below. Can you find them all?



HAPPILY REHOMED

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

DEE-LIGHTED IN ESSEX

Dallas arrived at Bow in 2018 aged approximately 8 years old, having originally been a puppy farm dog. She was rehomed but sadly returned to Battersea by her owner due to behavioural issues. Fortunately, she was spotted by the Godman family, and went off to begin her new life in Essex as the newly named Dee. The family were besotted and worked patiently on her house training and separation anxiety. Dee also proved to have a somewhat destructive streak, and jumped out of an upstairs window, but miraculously after four days in hospital she was able to return home. Today, Dee-Dee, as the family affectionately call her is on top form, she is full of love and joy.



30KGS OF LOVE

One-year-old Daisy arrived here last September as a stray. During her five-month stay, she was given training to improve her manners and by 2019 was ready for her new home with the Scott family. Three months later, they are so happy with the way the '30kg of clumsiness' has adjusted and say she is a fantastic addition to their family.



ROSIE AND TIA

This lovely pair are the best of friends. They arrived at Battersea after the death of their owner. They were both quite relaxed, but Rosie was a little lacking in confidence. Now in a fantastic new home, their owner says they are both chilled out and enjoying meeting new dogs and people on walks, and have even befriended the cat!



THE LION KING

Simba was handed in to our Old Windsor centre in February, described as having no interest in people but a love of the outdoors. After eight days, he found a home with the Smith family in Woking who gave Simba the new life he needed. After a nery start, he is now a loving and affectionate cat, who also loves a spot of TV.



KORA THE EXPLORER

This magnificent girl was brought into our London centre as a stray in 2018. She won the hearts of staff due to her gorgeous looks and calm nature, and after a role in ITV's *POGDOGS*, it was only 28 days before she found a new home with Amie (and her ferrets), in Harlow, where she has fitted in perfectly and enjoys trips to the beach.



WORLD CLASS

WITH THE NEW BATTERSEA ACADEMY, OUR CHARITY AIMS TO HELP EVEN MORE ANIMALS BY SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE WITH COLLEAGUES ACROSS THE RESCUE SECTOR WORLDWIDE.

Everyone who has heard of Battersea knows that the charity provides a temporary home for thousands of unwanted dogs and cats each year. This has been the case for over 150 years and we have become a world-leading animal welfare charity, well-versed in the processes and problems that rescue organisations might face.

Now, with the launch of the new Battersea Academy, the knowledge and experience that Battersea has built up over the years is being shared with other rescues from across the world. The Academy is helping to maximise

the number of animals that benefit from the Battersea way of doing things.

Dogs and cats, no matter where they are, are sadly all vulnerable to a shared set of issues, from straying and disease to the consequences of being bred for profit. However, these problems are felt at vastly different magnitudes depending on the region. In India, for instance, there are around 30 million dogs living on the streets. It would be impossible for all these dogs to be taken in by rescue organisations, and those currently trying to help alleviate the problem are

often stretched to breaking point. There's a similar situation in Cyprus, where there are more strays per person than anywhere else in the world.

Animal welfare practitioners from India and Cyprus, as well as Ireland, Jamaica, Poland, Spain, Canada and Greece, have already travelled to Battersea this year to participate in Academy programmes.

The programmes we offer cover both classroom-based and hands-on sessions, delivered by Battersea experts. The courses offer rescue organisations a chance to develop and



refine their methods, with the goal of improving animal welfare and rehoming more cats and dogs.

As well as training staff and volunteers from overseas, the Academy also attracts participants closer to home. One such rescue that has already benefitted is Romney House Cat Rescue in Kent. Silvana Valentino-Locke, who runs the rescue, attended the first Intensive Cat Programme last summer with two colleagues. The course allowed them to better understand how to care for their cats, ranging from cat behaviour and stress management to welfare-friendly husbandry and hygiene, down to their intake and rehoming processes.

The changes that Romney House made included revising their cleaning routines, establishing a waiting list to manage intake and resolving to work more closely with local rescues to maximise the number of cats that could be helped. Having attended a programme, Romney House Cat Rescue was also able to apply for an Academy Change Programme Grant, to refurbish

one of its cat houses. We are delighted that, as a result of the programme and grant, it is now an official Animal Partner, working with us to provide the best outcome for cats.

The Australian Animal Protection Society (AAPS), who attended our programme last year, were in the process of building a new centre at the time and, as a result of their learning, made the decision to reduce the new centre's occupancy rate from 300 to 100 animals – this will speed up their rehoming for both dogs and cats. Construction is still underway, but in the meantime the AAPS have introduced a new tracking system in their cattery, which has resulted in reducing their rehoming time from 36 days to 16.

Natasha Marginis, Operations Manager of AAPS, says of their time at the Battersea Academy, "I found the experience incredible, it gave me the tools that I need to make changes within my own animal shelter and improve the welfare of the animals in our care back in Australia."

In the next five years, Battersea aims to see:



30,000+

animals rehomed from our existing three centres



60,000

more animals rehomed by the UK rescue sector



150,00

animals helped worldwide through the Battersea Academy

Dedicated foster carers Naomi and Gary offer temporary homes for animals who don't cope well in rescue centres.



HOME FROM HOME

FOR SOME BATTERSEA DOGS AND CATS, LIFE IN OUR KENNELS OR CATTERY CAN BE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT. THAT'S WHEN OUR AMAZING FOSTER CARERS, LIKE NAOMI AND GARY WORDSWORTH, STEP IN TO HELP.

Animal lovers Naomi and Gary Wordsworth have waved goodbye to more than 20 dogs over the past seven years. However, for the Buckinghamshire-based couple, each dog they bid a fond farewell to marks a cause for celebration.

Naomi and Gary are volunteer foster carers for Battersea, providing stressed-out or medically vulnerable dogs with the temporary, at-home respite they may require.

Naomi explains, "We first saw the opportunity to become foster carers advertised by Battersea London, but we lived too far away to apply. We'd been looking after friends' dogs when they went on holiday for a few years and enjoyed getting to know several different dogs so well.

"Although Gary's family had a rescue dog when he was younger, we have never had our own dog (yet!) as we couldn't be sure we'd continue being able to work from home. So, when we saw that

Battersea Old Windsor was recruiting, we applied straight away. We had an interview with a lovely elderly Staffie called Marcel (and some Battersea staff) and were delighted to be accepted."

Fostering is hugely beneficial to help Battersea determine what type of future home will be most suitable. The kennel and cattery environments can be alien to animals coming into our care and, as a result, some of them can become stressed and anxious.

As well as this being detrimental to their mental and physical wellbeing, it also makes it difficult for staff to assess their character and understand them as individuals – and therefore what type of home they would be best suited to. Often, once they have been placed into foster care and given time to settle into a normal home routine, they are better able to relax, and their true personalities shine through.

Last year, 1,284 animals from across all

“WATCHING A FOSTER DOG SETTING OFF FOR A NEW LIFE IS THE MOST REWARDING PART”

three of Battersea’s centres benefited from temporarily going to live with one of 313 foster carers currently giving their time. Our foster carers tend to be people who really love animals but are not able to take one into their home full-time. Fostering enables people to have animals in their lives, but without the permanent commitment.

Although it can be very hard to say goodbye to a foster animal, most of our volunteer foster carers find it extremely rewarding to see them successfully rehomed. In return, Battersea ensures that all foster carers receive ongoing support and help with behaviour training, along with continuous financial and veterinary support for their foster animals.

Naomi explains, “We always talk through all the details of any possible foster dog with our Foster Co-ordinator, Sharon. She’s always mindful of our circumstances at any time so suggests possible dogs that will suit, and we are happy to learn any new skills we need for each dog.”

Gary continues, “We have tremendous support from all the Battersea staff, and can ask for help at any time if problems or questions occur. Fostering long-stay dogs does mean that other arrangements have to be made for when we are away on holiday, but that is all organised for us. We’ve been lucky that there have always been other foster carers, volunteers or staff available to take our long-stays for a week or two – we’ve been able to return the favour at other times too.”

So, if you’re perhaps not in the position to permanently rehome a rescue animal, but would like to help them on their journey to a new, happy life, maybe fostering is for you?

Naomi says, “Becoming Battersea foster carers has been a wonderful experience for us. We’ve learnt a huge amount about dogs and know that we are making a real difference to the lives of those that come to stay with us.

“Our dogs attract a lot of generous attention when we walk them in their Battersea coats and that’s how one of our fosters, Jasper, met his lovely new owner.”

Gary adds, “Watching a foster dog setting off for a new life with their perfect family is the most rewarding part, and however much we will miss them we know that we’ve helped make it possible. There’s always another dog that needs help waiting to take their place after a day or two.”

CASE STUDY: ALL ABOUT AIDAN

Seven-year-old Mongrel Aidan first went to stay with Naomi and Gary in November 2017. Originally brought to Battersea Old Windsor as a stray, Aidan didn’t enjoy being in kennels at all, finding new places and people challenging. However, within just a couple of days of living with the Wordsworths, once the house and both Naomi and Gary had become familiar to Aidan, he settled straight into family life.

After a nationwide media appeal in June this year, staff at Windsor were contacted by his original owner who’d seen his story in the press and was keen to come and claim him. Back in September 2017, she’d asked her friend to care for Aidan while she moved home. When she went to get him back, he had been sold to a new owner. Excited to have found her missing dog, Aidan’s owner collected him and had a very emotional reunion. It’s safe to say she’s thrilled to have her much loved pet back home again after such a long time, and the care that Naomi and Gary gave Aidan for over a year was invaluable while he waited for his happy ending.



Other long-stay dogs that have benefitted from Naomi and Gary’s care include:

BUD

Greyhound Collie cross Bud had been looking for a home for nearly three years when he became known as Battersea’s unluckiest dog. Fostered by Naomi and Gary for much of this time, Bud’s luck finally changed for the better in October 2016, when he was rehomed by the Corns family, who spotted him on Battersea’s ITV series *Paul O’Grady: For the Love of Dogs*.



BISCUIT (NOW BLAKE)

When Mongrel Biscuit arrived at Battersea, he was only one year old, and he soon became frustrated being cooped up with so much energy. After being fostered by the Wordsworths, he relaxed greatly and came on leaps and bounds with training. In total, Biscuit waited for a new home for 689 days before his new owners, Gemma and Darren, fell in love with him. Lucky Biscuit – now Blake – soon trotted off across the globe with his new family to enjoy life in the Cyprus sunshine.

OUR CENTRES

Battersea Brands Hatch offers dogs and cats a rural way of life while they await new homes



COUNTRY LIFE

CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS OF BATTERSEA'S BRANDS HATCH CENTRE

Founded by Mary Tealby in 1860, the Temporary Home for Lost and Starving Dogs – as Battersea was then known – started life in Islington, North London. It wasn't until 1871 that the Home relocated to its current site in South West London, the location many people still think of first and foremost when it comes to Battersea. But, following the opening of our Windsor centre in 1979, Battersea also launched another centre in 1999, based in Brands Hatch, Kent, to enable us to help even more dogs and cats.

Now, to mark the twentieth anniversary year of Battersea Brands Hatch, we took a closer look inside the arguably lesser-known Battersea centre in the South-East.

Quality over quantity

The Brands Hatch centre takes in a smaller number of dogs compared to its counterpart centres in London and Old Windsor, but the impact it has on the animals' lives is just as huge. It is the biggest and most rural of Battersea's three centres, surrounded by 12 acres of tranquil

**BATTERSEA
BRANDS HATCH HAS
REHOMED 2,946
DOGS AND CATS
OVER THE PAST
FIVE YEARS
ALONE**

fields, including a beautiful woodland trail, providing a much calmer environment for dogs who struggle the most with life in kennels. The vast amount of natural space helps with vital one-to-one training and much-needed exercise to help the dogs settle during their time at Battersea.

Going through changes

Originally boarding kennels, the Brands Hatch site had laid unused for some time before Battersea spotted its potential to become a third centre. Over the past 20 years, the centre has gone through a complete rebuild with spacious kennels, enriching cat pens, as well as several large outdoor paddocks and – most recently – the opening of three garden cat pens, giving cats the freedom to roam around in a safe outdoor space. Battersea Brands Hatch now has just over 50 kennels and pens.

Other important changes have also included a modern, welcoming reception area, new laundry rooms and an updated computer system to help the entire rehoming process run more smoothly.



THEO

Originally found wandering the streets in South West London, Theo sadly became known as the 'Unlucky Malamute' during his staggering 759 day stay in our care. Due to his breed, it was thought the rural Kent location would better suit his needs. After a move to Brands Hatch from Battersea London, Theo's true character really came out, and his bubbly personality began to shine bright as he explored the vast open space on offer. As well as human friends, he bonded with other dogs too, including Fudge, a Jack Russell Terrier, a bond which earned the pair the affectionate nickname of Little and Large among staff. After a very long wait, Theo was eventually spotted by an active couple looking for a companion, and he now lives happily with other dog friends in Oxfordshire.

THE HUMANS AT BRANDS HATCH

Rehoming and Welfare Co-Ordinator, Sarah Busbridge, joined Battersea Brands Hatch on work experience in 2003 for a 'two-week stint'. Having stayed on as a volunteer, 16 years later Sarah is still a much-loved member of the Brands Hatch team.

Sarah says, "Back then, as a 'kennel hand', we'd work solely with the animals in the kennels and cattery. Nowadays, we work as a team, mainly based either with the dogs or the cats, and are involved with every aspect of the animal's journey – from when they first arrive to when they leave with their new owners. There's definitely a family feel here at Brands Hatch."

She continues, "One of the animals that always stands out for me is Cooper (right). He was a challenge, to say the least. As a young Mongrel that was quite reactive to other dogs, I did a lot of work with him, helping him to focus. He became very good with tasks and was very smart. It was great to see him re-directing his behaviours into something he really enjoyed. He did so well during his time with us that he was eventually rehomed as a working dog, sniffing out shipping containers."



TINY TIM

It's not often we see a Kokoni – a small, domestic Greek breed – arriving at our gates. But after being brought to England from Greece, the circumstances of Tiny Tim's owners changed and he found himself at Battersea Brands Hatch. Tiny Tim was very sensitive to everything when he arrived and became very defensive around other dogs. Careful training was carried out to build his confidence so that even putting on a lead wouldn't be too stressful for him. The big fields allowed him to eventually be walked in peace, and he discovered a love for soft toys during his 166-day stay. After a while, Tiny Tim became a happy, bouncy dog who now lives with his new family in Wales.



THE GREAT OUTDOORS

The centre's new dedicated outdoor space for cats, Collingwood Mews, gives cats the chance to stretch their paws in an engaging – and fully protected – outside space. The enclosures feature a solar-powered water fountain, trees and plants, a bench for human visitors, steps for climbing, and a shed complete with a heater and cat flap. The new outdoor enclosures were the result of generous donations from supporters just like you and have provided our Brands Hatch cats with a breath of fresh air while they await their new homes.





BON VOYAGE

MAKE SURE YOUR SUMMER HOLIDAY WITH YOUR DOG IS AS STRESS-FREE AS POSSIBLE, WITH BATTERSEA'S HANDY TIPS.

MEET OUR EXPERTS



Shaun Opperman
Director of
Veterinary Services



Alison Eve
Canine Behaviour
and Training Adviser
(Old Windsor)

Going on holiday gives the whole family the chance to escape everyday life and relax. And now, more of us than ever before are choosing to bring our dogs along for some quality time together.

However, if you're planning on taking your four-legged companion on vacation this year, there are things you can do to make the trip as safe and stress-free as possible...

VET CHECK

Shaun: Before taking your dog on holiday you should first check with your vet that they are fit and healthy to travel, especially if you are going abroad. Also ensure that all your dog's vaccinations, flea and worm treatments are up to date and appropriate for your destination.

If you're planning on taking your pet abroad, they will need a valid Pet Passport and up-to-date rabies vaccinations.

With Brexit fast approaching, there may be some changes to the current Pet Passport scheme, so always speak to your vet well in advance of travelling, to ensure that your pet meets all the correct regulations.

DOGS WELCOME HERE

Alison: Before you pick your holiday destination, make sure that the area you're going to is dog-friendly. Ideally, you'd want to go somewhere that offers plenty of activities for both you and your dog to enjoy, such as nice walks and cosy places to get some food and relax. This way, your dog won't be left alone in the accommodation all day while you're out and about.

LONG DRIVES

Alison: Chances are, if you're going on holiday with your dog you will be travelling by car. It is a legal requirement to make sure that your dog is restrained correctly in the car to keep both them and you safe.

If you're going on a long drive, it's important to make sure you make plenty of stops on the way so that your dog has time to go to the toilet and stretch their legs.

Make sure you bring water and food for them and consider giving your dog an activity to do in the car if they are easily bored, such as a Kong or treat ball. If you will be travelling during the hotter times of the year, ensure your dog is kept



Make sure you keep your pets cool during long journeys when you take them on a summer holiday

cool with either your car's air conditioning or a damp towel. You can also plan for regular breaks in the journey to allow your dog some fresh air and a drink of water.

BE PREPARED

Shaun: Holidays are meant to be a relaxing time for everyone to enjoy, but if something does go wrong it's always best to be prepared.

It is a legal requirement for your dog to be microchipped and wear a tag with your details on. Before going away, take the time to double check that all these details are up to date and correct. That way, if your dog does manage to take themselves off on their own little adventure, you can be reunited as quickly as possible once they have been picked up.

Secondly, take the time to research where the nearest vet surgery is to where you're staying and what their opening hours are; this will mean that if disaster does strike while you're away you will be

ROAD RULES

In the UK, rule 57 of the Highway Code covers dogs (and other animals) travelling in a vehicle. It states: "When in a vehicle make sure dogs or other animals are suitably restrained so they cannot distract you while you are driving or injure you, or themselves, if you stop quickly. A seat belt harness, pet carrier, dog cage or dog guard are ways of restraining animals in cars."

ready and prepared to act quickly. It may also be worth taking a pet first aid kit with you if you need to treat any minor injuries that your dog picks up.

CREATURE COMFORTS

Alison: For some dogs, being in a new environment can be quite stressful and unsettling at first, but there are little things you can do to help your dog feel safe and relaxed in their holiday home.

Give your dog somewhere safe and quiet to settle down in, and serve their food in that spot so they start to associate this area with something positive. It is also a good idea to take as many of your dog's things with you as possible. Their bed, blanket and toys are all familiar items that will smell of home and be comforting to them.

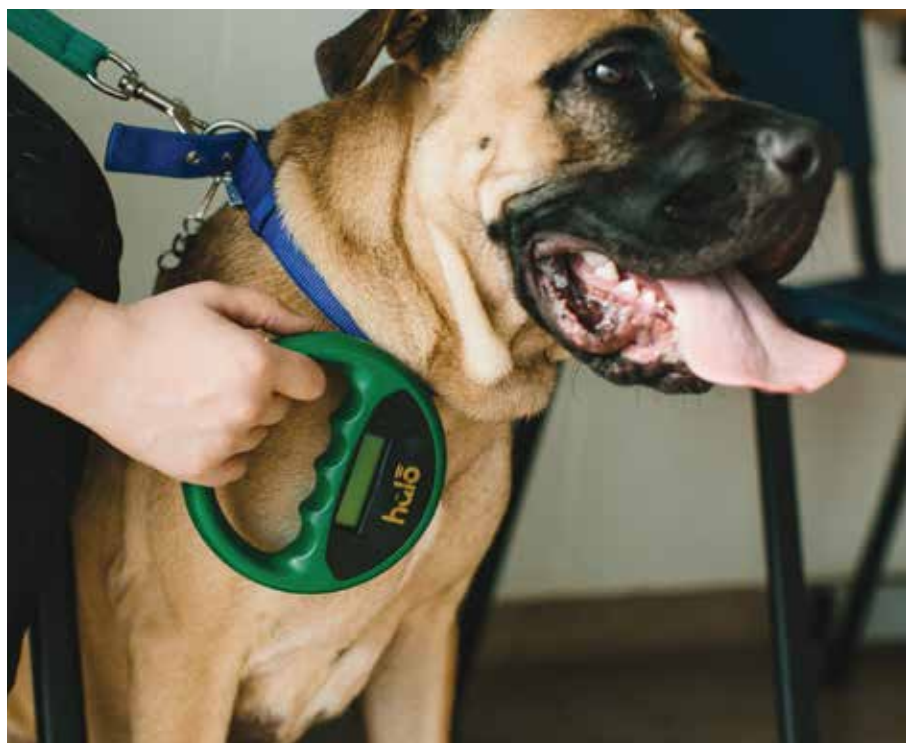
WHAT TO DO IF YOU CAN'T TAKE YOUR PET

Alison: If you are planning on going away without your pet, it is important to make sure that they are well looked after while you're away.

Ask a trusted friend or family member to look after your pet while you're away or consider hiring a reputable pet-sitter. Alternatively, you could send your dog or cat to an established boarding facility for their own little holiday.

Hiring a sitter or finding the right boarding facility needn't be stressful; ask your friends and vet for recommendations, visit any establishment you may be considering sending your pet to, and speak to the people who will be looking after your dog or cat so that you can get a feel of what they're like. If possible, introduce your pets to the people who will be looking after them.

Make sure your dog's microchip details are all up to date before you go





Cookie sent in
in by Clare



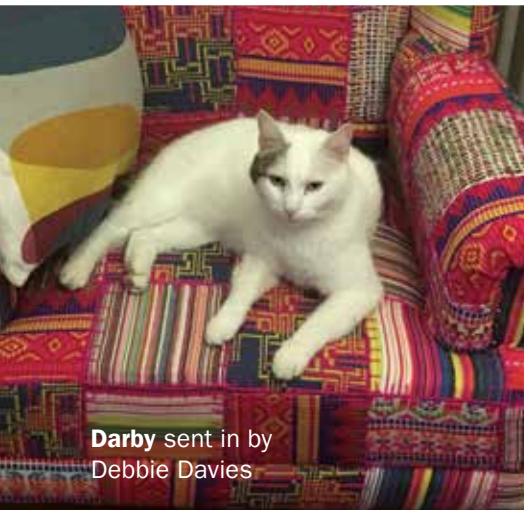
Daffodil sent in
by Cristina Ruiz



Tess sent in by
Fiona Dreghorn

LOVING LIFE

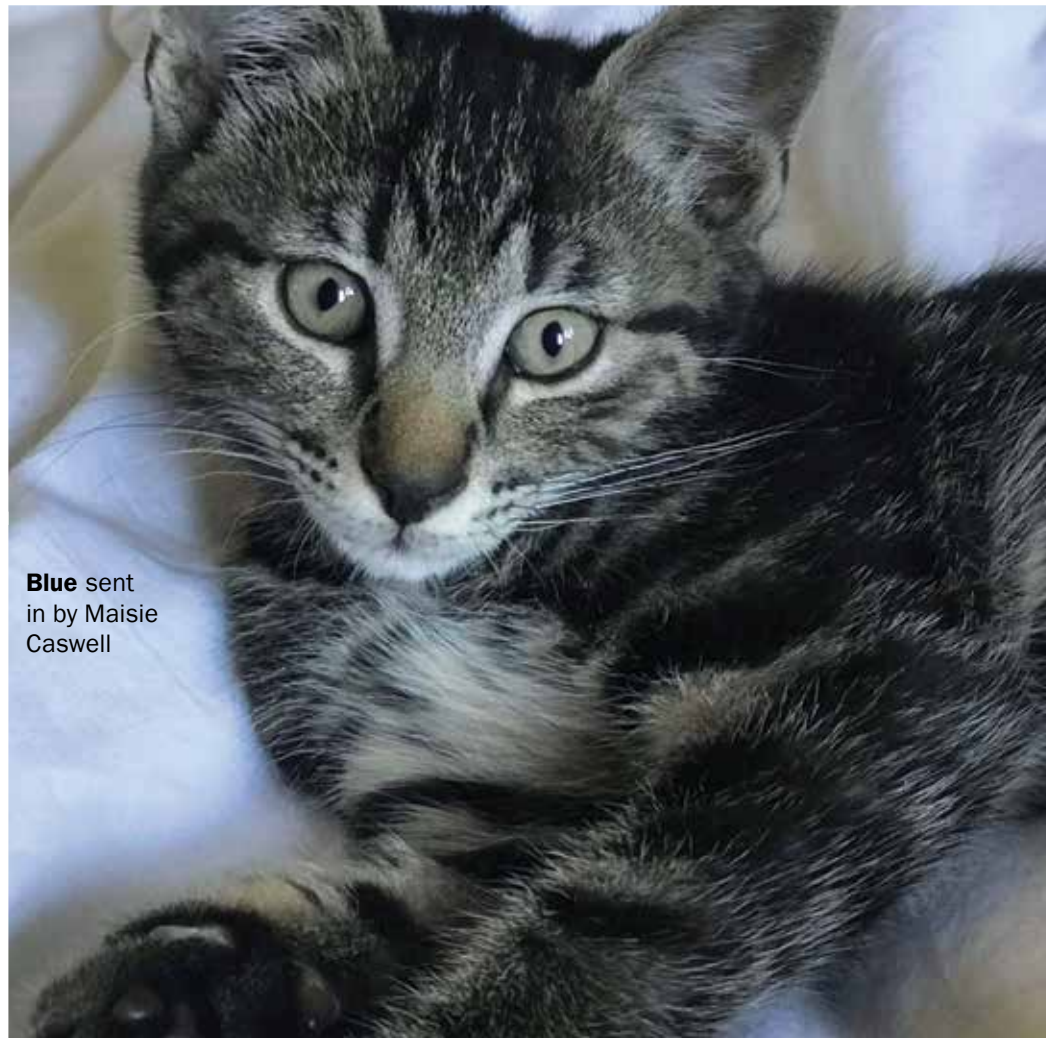
NOTHING BRINGS US MORE JOY AT BATTERSEA THAN SEEING OUR FORMER ANIMALS ENJOYING THEIR NEW LIVES AND PROVING RESCUE REALLY IS BEST.



Darby sent in by
Debbie Davies



Dudley
(formerly
Oberon) sent
in by the
Hodges family



Blue sent
in by Maisie
Caswell

SHARE YOUR PICTURES!
SEND YOUR BATTERSEA PET PHOTOS TO:
PAWS@BATTERSEA.ORG.UK



Jeff sent in by the Bignell family



Dakota (Koty) sent in by Kelly Mulready



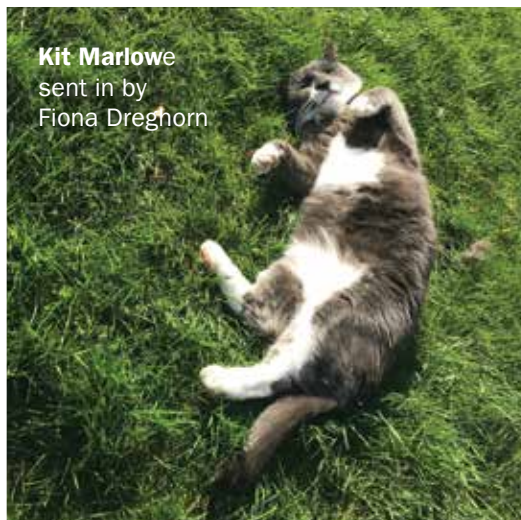
Luna sent in by Laura and Jamie



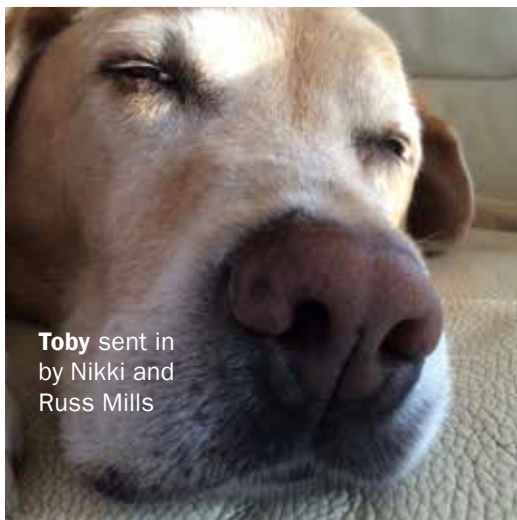
Pepper and Squigley sent in by the Foster family



Smokey and Bandit sent in by Anne-Marie Benson



Kit Marlowe sent in by Fiona Dreghorn



Toby sent in by Nikki and Russ Mills



Poppadom (formerly Marcus) sent in by Siobhan Burrows

YOUR LETTERS

SHARE YOUR SPECIAL PET MOMENTS WITH OTHER SUPPORTERS



[STAR LETTER]

SALISBURY SPRINTER

In September 2018 we paid a visit to Battersea Old Windsor along with our two young grandchildren. Two weeks later, while looking through the website, we spotted the dog we felt was the one for us. We arranged another visit to meet Bertie, and the little eleven-month-old Terrier cross melted our hearts. With lots of determination and love we now have a shy, but more outgoing, little dog who loves life. On his numerous walks on Salisbury Plain, he has made many new dog friends and loves to play – especially showing off his sprinting ability. Bertie also loves our young grandchildren and is always excited when they visit. His best friend is a Bracco Italiano called Hunny, who lives on the Isle of Wight. Bertie visits often and has developed a very strong bond with Hunny. We are sure they share many secrets.

Tony and Lorraine Bond

Your prize

Our partners, Lintbells, are giving the winner a year's supply of YuMOVE, a range of supplements designed to support joint health at every stage of your dog's life, helping you and your dog be active together. Find out more at lintbells.com.



SCOUT'S HONOUR



Scout, our six-year-old Abyssinian cross, had been reluctantly brought into Battersea Old Windsor by a young couple whose new baby had triggered predatory behaviour. Scout is a beautiful, highly affectionate, engaging cat. Most of the time! When something triggers him and we can't work out any specifics or

pattern, he can become guarded. But we adore having him as part of our family. We lost our beloved 19-year-old Bengal, Nasha, at Christmas, but Scout – with his own bright, unpredictable personality – has gone a long way to filling a cat-shaped hole in our lives. He may be demanding, but that doesn't stop us loving him to bits and ensuring he has the happiest of homes.

The Hayden family

KISSE KISSE



In February, we stumbled upon 12-year-old Kisse on the Battersea website. The lure of her beautiful split-face markings was too great and after meeting her, Kisse came home. We were told it could take weeks before she ventured around the house. However, it was only a few days before she came out of the office where we'd

made her a hideaway and found her customary spot on the sofa. Within another few days she'd explored the whole flat, rubbed against every surface and made it all her own. Kisse has now been with us six months and has become a noticeably calmer, happier cat. She loves the garden. Kisse has gradually grown more confident and will hunker down in the undergrowth for hours, even if she still dashes back inside at the first sign of rain, or the rumble of a lorry. She can be a troublesome little floof, but she's part of the family!

Claire and Adrian Hodge

FAREWELL, DEAR JAKE

On 31 October 2003, our lives were changed. During a visit to Battersea Old Windsor, we were introduced to a 10-week-old Springer Spaniel puppy named Jago. After renaming him Jake, he came home and began to grow in confidence. His non-stop running led us to the conclusion that he might benefit from dog agility, so training began. It was not long before we realised he had a flair for this activity. Over the next 10 years, he made over 900 competitive runs, becoming well known and respected on the circuit. Jake continued until he began to lose his hearing and was eventually retired from the sport at the veteran age of 13. In late 2016, Jake began to show signs of arthritis. But, with medication and therapy, his condition was managed. He also suffered other serious health issues, all of which he seemed to bounce back from, although growing a little wearier on his walks each time. Sadly, the day came when we knew that his quality of life was significantly compromised. Jake was peacefully put to sleep on our lawn, in the sunshine. Molly, his long-time companion, now herself aged over 14, was there with him at the end. Jake was 15. We are so grateful to Battersea for giving us the opportunity to share our lives with such a wonderful dog.

John and Gail Chinnery



ANGEL ON FOUR PAWS



I rehomed Angel in July last year from Battersea Old Windsor, and from the minute we met we were the best of friends. I knew from the moment she carried the fluffy mouse toy I'd bought her from reception into my car, then jumped in, that we were going to be just fine. We've had a few issues in the last year – her severe

anxiety and fear of other dogs, in particular – but we're making progress. We share everything. She gives the best cuddles and is the most loving dog I've ever known. I'm so happy our paths crossed, and that I was able to give her the forever home she deserved. I would urge people thinking of rehoming a dog to always consider the slightly older ones; Angel was eight when I took her home and she is as lively as a puppy now that she is content and happy. Thank you to all at Battersea for all the amazing work you do.

Steph Stoneman

JEEVES THE GENTLEMAN



I adopted Jeeves from Battersea early last year. He's such a happy, handsome cat who has become long-haired since coming home, even though his paperwork referred to him

as short-haired. He used to overgroom, but he's stopped doing this since coming to live with me. He now has his own garden, which must be better than his previous life in a flat, where he shared his space with a dog. I renamed him Jeeves (from Salim) to give him a fresh start. His previous owners described him as aggressive, but he's an absolute pacifist... other than the two mice he's brought me as a gift!

Ruth Stevens

ALWAYS LOVED, NEVER FORGOTTEN



CASPER

Our lovely Casper, who we adopted in 2013, passed away on Christmas Eve. Battersea told us he had a heart murmur but we had already fallen in love with him. We never regretted it and feel blessed to have had him in our lives. He couldn't have been loved more and we miss him very much.

Teresa Fulker and Cliff Lauer



OTHELLO

Othello, or Thelly, was a familiar sight on walks around Banbury. He was very good with other dogs, even boisterous ones! After the loss of my wife, he was my inseparable companion. I miss him terribly, but am thankful for the opportunity to look after him, and to my daughter, Louise, who found him for me.

Stephen Taylor

FONDLY REMEMBERED

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](https://www.battersea.org.uk/pet-memorials).

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 or by post to Paws magazine, Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, 4 Battersea Park Road, London SW8 4AA.

TAKE US HOME

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



TILLY

7 years old, Siberian Husky

bow.rehomers@battersea.org.uk

Beautiful Tilly has found kennel life a bit of a challenge and can often be heard 'singing'. She'd like an active home with experienced owners who can guide her dog interactions and continue her basic training, including house training, learning to be left alone and recall.



BOBBY

6 years old, Domestic Short Hair

rehoming@battersea.org.uk

Bobby can find new situations daunting but once he gets to know you, he's the most affectionate cat, showing his appreciation with head bumps and a loud purr, and would love a garden to explore. Owners would need to speak to a Battersea vet prior to rehoming.



OZ

14 years old, Domestic Short Hair

rehoming@battersea.org.uk

Wonderful Oz is a true gentleman of a cat. He will greet you enthusiastically before snuggling up for head tickles or a snooze. He may be slightly older, but he's as playful as a kitten. Oz is looking for a calm and loving home with a garden for his retirement years.



YARA

6 years old, Beagle

rehoming@battersea.org.uk

Beautiful Yara hasn't had the best start. She is looking for owners that are experienced with nervous dogs, as she will need most training from scratch. Yara is often worried by people and dogs, but is very sweet and is starting to slowly come out of her shell.



BRUCIE

2 years old, Staffordshire Bull Terrier

rehoming@battersea.org.uk

Brucie is a bundle of fun who loves attention. He needs an active home with owners committed to fulfilling his training. He would blossom in a family wanting to take up a dog sport with him, as he loves completing agility and playing searching games.



LYN

4 years old, Greyhound

bow.rehomers@battersea.org.uk

Shy but loving Lyn is looking for owners with lots of time and affection, and another dog to show her the ropes. Lyn is affectionate to people she bonds with and needs a home where she can enjoy life and relax. New owners need to go slow and give her plenty of time.



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PET MEMORY WALK

SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER
HATCHLANDS PARK, GUILDFORD
£15 FOR ADULTS, UNDER 18s ARE FREE

Join us and other like-minded animal lovers for a scenic 5km walk in Hatchlands Park, Guildford. Together, we'll celebrate the very special dogs, cats and other pets who may no longer be with us, but who brought so much joy to our lives.

FIND OUT MORE
BATTERSEA.ORG.UK/PETMEMORYWALK



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