

PAWS

SPRING 2021

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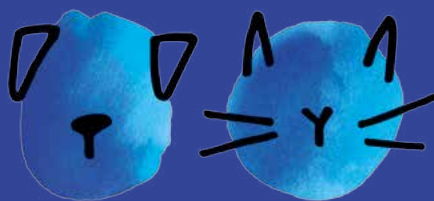
DIVE IN

OUR NEW HYDROTHERAPY
CENTRE OPENS TO HELP
DOGS IN NEED



BATTERSEA

HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT



HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT SINCE 1860

We will never turn away a dog or cat in need of help,
caring for them until their owners or loving new homes
can be found, no matter how long it takes.

CONTACT PAWS



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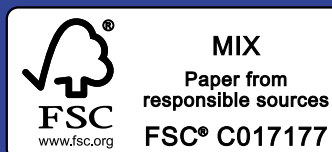
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BE FEATURED

Due to space limitations, *Paws* is unable to reproduce submitted
short stories or poetry. Reader letters may be edited for clarity
or length. Please ensure all photographs submitted for
consideration are over 1MB or 300dpi.



P. 10 Cover feature

MAKING A SPLASH

An exclusive first look at the brand new, state-of-the-art Hydrotherapy facility at our London centre, designed to help us be here for even more animals.



P. 20 Feature

BATTERSEA WORLDWIDE

How our Battersea Grants programme is helping more animals in need, all across the world.



P. 24 Report

PETS OF THE PANDEMIC

With demand for pets soaring during lockdown, rescue centres like Battersea remain here to pick up the pieces.



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IN BRIEF

The latest Battersea news and dates for your diary.

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HAPPILY REHOMED

Dogs and cats enjoying their post-Battersea adventures.

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LITTLE PAWS

Selfies, puzzles and stories from our young supporters.

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TAKE US HOME

Could you offer a loving home to these dogs and cats?

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ASK THE EXPERTS

Our canine behaviour experts are on hand to guide you through some of the basics of puppy training.



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NATION'S FAVOURITE

Larry, the Downing Street cat, celebrates ten years of proving to the world why rescue is best from Britain's most famous front door.



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Treat yourself or a loved one to something special, while also helping Battersea's dogs and cats.



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YOUR LETTERS

Heart-warming tales of happiness found at Battersea.

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PET GALLERY

Your photos of beloved Battersea pets.

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BATTERSEA
HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT

SHOP ALL YOUR DOG WALKING GEAR AT
WWW.REGATTA.COM



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Left: Peter with Nestor the Lurcher at our Battersea Old Windsor centre.

BATTERSEA

Our centres are currently closed to public visitors.

BATTERSEA DOGS & CATS HOME

4 Battersea Park Road
London SW8 4AA

BATTERSEA OLD WINDSOR

Priest Hill, Old Windsor
Berkshire SL4 2JN

BATTERSEA BRANDS HATCH

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With warmer weather, longer days and spring in full bloom, it feels as though there's a lot to look forward to and be hopeful about. That's certainly the case at Battersea, where we have a greater focus than ever before on ensuring we are here for all animals that need us. Our impressive new Hydrotherapy facility, funded by our wonderful supporters, is just one of the many ways we plan to offer the highest standard of care possible. I've enjoyed seeing the impact this is already having on dogs like Charley — find out more about his story and the new Hydrotherapy centre on page 10 of this issue.

As Battersea's new Chief Executive I feel very honoured and excited to lead this charity. Battersea's work now stretches far beyond our physical centres as we strive to build a better future for dogs and cats. We spend every pound we receive carefully, mindful of how we can make a real practical difference to the lives of even more animals. One of the ways we do this is by supporting a great many smaller rescues, shelters, and

charities to continue helping animals in need in their local communities, both in the UK and beyond. Read about how our Grants programme is helping animals all over the world on page 20.

We hope you enjoy the new look and feel of *Paws* magazine. We've made a few tweaks to offer what we hope is a better reading experience for all of our supporters. We'd love to hear from you, whether it's to tell us what you think of our new design, or to share photos and stories of your Battersea dogs and cats. If you're the proud owner of a rescue pet, show them off to the rest of the world and join in our #RescuelsMyFavouriteBreed campaign.

Thank you for continuing to support Battersea's work, so that we can always be here for every dog and cat.

Peter Laurie
Chief Executive

BATTERSEA IN BRIEF

NEWS · CAMPAIGNS · UPDATES

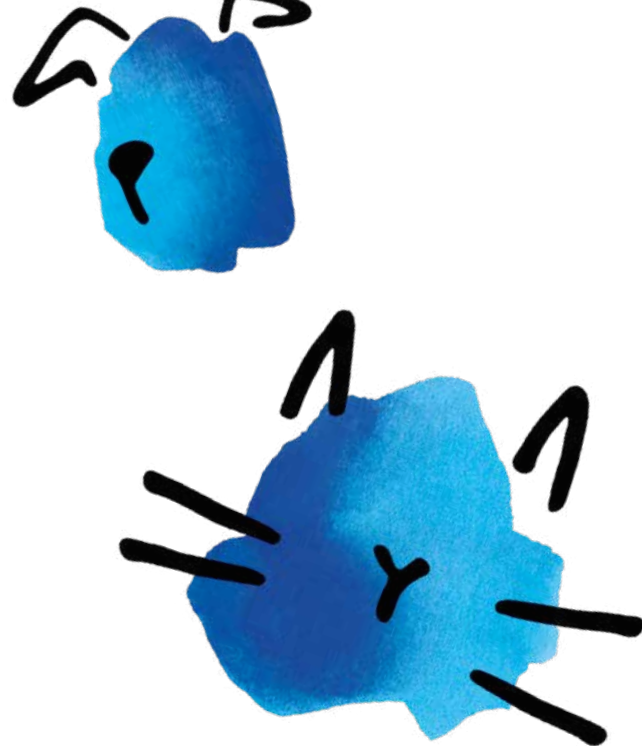
NEWS

A ROYAL OCCASION

Battersea got the royal seal of approval when Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Cornwall, paid our Windsor centre a very special visit.



Above: The Duchess of Cornwall gets Beth's help to unveil the new kennels.



In what was our 160th anniversary year, HRH

The Duchess of Cornwall paid us a visit to see how Battersea has continued to care for dogs and cats in need throughout lockdown, and take a tour of our newest world-class facilities, carefully built to help provide the best possible care for dogs and puppies that have been relinquished by their owners.

Battersea staff who have been on site throughout the pandemic to look after our homeless dogs and cats met The Duchess of Cornwall on what was her second visit to our Old Windsor centre. They were joined in a special Battersea Guard of Honour by some of our volunteers who have been temporarily fostering dogs and cats in their own homes throughout lockdown.

During the visit, our Royal Patron officially opened The Duchess of Cornwall kennels, a brand-new facility that includes a dedicated maternity area and puppy paddock, as well as outdoor paddocks and chill-out rooms. Thanks to generous support from our donors, the new kennels will help Battersea provide the best possible care to dogs that, for whatever reason, have to be given up by their owners.

Keen to have her own starring moment in front of the world's press, The Duchess' Battersea Jack Russell, Beth, also helped with the honours of the grand unveiling, whipping away the curtain covering a commemorative plaque thanks to a conveniently placed sausage on the end of a ribbon.

UPDATES

LOTTERY LUCK

Christmas came early for one lucky player in Battersea's grand raffle.

Battersea supporter, Steve, scooped the grand prize in our 2020 Christmas raffle and made sure his own dog, Dixie, and Battersea dogs all benefited from his good fortune.

Steve told Paws, "We've been supporters of Battersea through donations and by playing the raffles since we got our own Battersea dog, Dixie, in March 2011. She's been keeping us entertained over the last few months and has loved having us all at home. I was very surprised to be told I'd won the Christmas raffle — other than a few pounds from time to time, this is the first big prize I've ever won. While the money will come in very handy right now, I've also used some of it for a donation back to Battersea."



Above: Steve and Dixie can rest easy after their big raffle win.



WILL YOU BE A WINNER?

To play our weekly Paw Draw lottery and help dogs and cats at the same time, visit: pawdraw.battersea.org.uk

IN BRIEF 7

Left: Battersea will continue to stand up for innocent animals.



CAMPAIGNS

CLAMPING DOWN ON CRUELTY

Our campaign for tougher animal cruelty sentences progresses through Parliament.

In March, we welcomed progress towards strengthening sentences for animal abusers, after a long-awaited change in legislation completed its passage through the House of Commons.

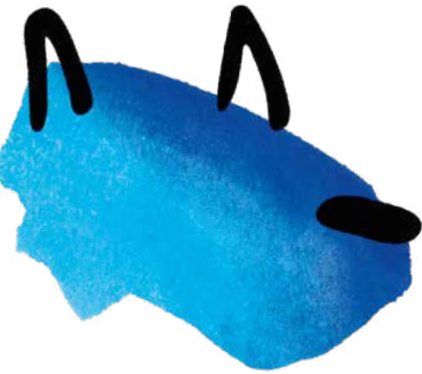
We launched our campaign to increase maximum sentences for animal cruelty from six months to five years in prison in 2017. The campaign has since gained universal support from over 60,000 members of the public and MPs across Parliament. The Bill, first introduced to the House in February 2020, has now passed its Third Reading after a protracted delay.

Battersea's Chief Executive, Peter Laurie, commented, "It's encouraging to see real progress being made to make five-year sentences a reality. Now the Bill moves on to the House of Lords, I urge the Government to keep up the momentum and make this the

law before the end of the current parliamentary term. Any further delays are unacceptable."

Previous Bills to introduce the change in the law in England and Wales have suffered many delays and setbacks, including the last Government Bill, which fell when Parliament was dissolved before the General Election in 2019. The proposal was brought back as a Private Member's Bill by Chris Loder MP in February 2020.

Peter continued, "Battersea will continue to stand up for innocent animals across the country no matter what. England and Wales have one of the lowest maximum sentences for animal cruelty crimes in the world at just six months — it's the same sentence you would get for fly-tipping or theft. It's time we had a punishment to fit the crime and send out a clear message that we will not stand for this."



In 2021, £700,000 from Postcode Animal Trust will fund Battersea's Volunteering, Fostering and Communities programmes — services that are vital in helping us to care for vulnerable dogs and cats.

PET REMEMBRANCE DAY 5 JULY 2021

For more information about giving in memory or Tribute Funds, visit: battersea.org.uk/inmemory

NEWS

A HELPING HAND FOR ANIMALS

Battersea is incredibly grateful to players of People's Postcode Lottery for supporting our work once again.

In 2021, £700,000 from Postcode Animal Trust will fund Battersea's Volunteering, Fostering and Communities programmes — services that are vital in helping us to care for vulnerable dogs and cats, as well as helping to support our wonderful volunteers and foster carers.

This takes the total to an amazing £4.35m raised for Battersea by players since 2014, and has been invaluable in enabling us to be here for every dog and cat.



UPDATES

TREASURED MEMORIES



In 2020, Laura decided to remember her cat, Misty, on Pet Remembrance Day by creating an online Battersea Pet Tribute Fund, setting herself the incredible challenge of running 100km in a week. Laura says, "Misty was always there by my side, so when we had to say goodnight to her I felt lost. The support I received from family and friends was incredible, not only did they share my page, we came up with #milesformisty and people started sharing this. By doing the event I was not only celebrating Misty's life, I was helping dogs and cats that haven't had the best start find their forever homes and have the happy life that Misty had."

UPDATES

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

The redevelopment of our

Prince Michael of Kent Kennels and Cattery will improve welfare and reduce stress for dogs at our London centre, and help prevent the spread of infectious diseases like kennel cough and cat flu. The new facilities will be calm and comfortable with more natural light, better noise reduction and temperature control, while redesigned kennels and 'home rooms' will recreate a more natural, domestic environment for rehoming introductions.

We are pleased to report work has resumed at pace, following suspension during the pandemic in 2020. Your support for this project is transforming the experience for dogs and cats that arrive at Battersea, and generations of animals to come.



NEWS

MARS MEALS FOR BATTERSEA



For over 12 years, Mars Petcare has been a valued partner to Battersea, generously providing Pedigree and Whiskas to help us feed the dogs and cats in our care a consistent, high quality diet. In 2020, Mars ran a special promotion in Asda on Pedigree, which saw them donate one meal to a dog at Battersea for every product purchased between 1 October and 12 November. The campaign was a huge success and means Mars Petcare will continue to support Battersea through the provision of Pedigree dog food throughout the year ahead.

Arthur Renault, Portfolio Director at Mars Petcare, says, "As a long-standing partner of Battersea, we knew the Covid-19 pandemic could have a drastic impact on the charity. Not only did we want to find a way to show our support, but also let our customers get involved too. We were thrilled to run such a successful campaign, which will see us continue to supply Pedigree dog food to Battersea in 2021."



2021 EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES FOR THE DIARY

Whatever your style — running, trekking, cycling or swimming — we want you to join Team Battersea. With your support, we can continue to be here for every dog and cat.



CONTACT THE EVENTS TEAM

Email: events@battersea.org.uk

Web: battersea.org.uk/challenges

LANDMARKS HALF MARATHON

1 AUGUST IN LONDON

This event honours the culture, heritage and history of London. 12,000 runners will pass historic landmarks such as Nelson's Column, St Paul's Cathedral and the Tower of London, with themed pit stops and quirky historical characters cheering them on.

BATH HALF MARATHON

5 SEPTEMBER IN BATH

The Bath Half is one of the longest established and most popular city centre road events in the UK. The course itself is fast and flat, making it suitable for all running abilities, starting and finishing in the heart of the historic city.

THAMES PATH CHALLENGE

11-12 SEPTEMBER IN LONDON

England's greatest river provides a fantastic backdrop for an unforgettable challenge. Walk the Thames Path and take in the wonderful sights from Putney to Henley. This is a truly amazing experience to share with friends.

GREAT MANCHESTER HALF MARATHON

26 SEPTEMBER IN MANCHESTER

This event takes runners through the closed streets of Manchester, past iconic landmarks and with DJs and live music along the route to provide a real festival atmosphere.

LONDON MARATHON

3 OCTOBER IN LONDON

Were you lucky enough to secure your own place in the world-renowned London Marathon? If so, you could run for Battersea's dogs and cats as part of this incredible, often once in a lifetime challenge.

ROYAL PARKS HALF MARATHON

10 OCTOBER IN LONDON

A wonderfully scenic run set in four of London's eight Royal Parks — Hyde Park, Green Park, St James's Park and Kensington Gardens. This popular event takes runners through the closed roads of London and past some of the city's most iconic landmarks.



PUBLIC PROGRAMME NO. 1

INTRO TO WATER

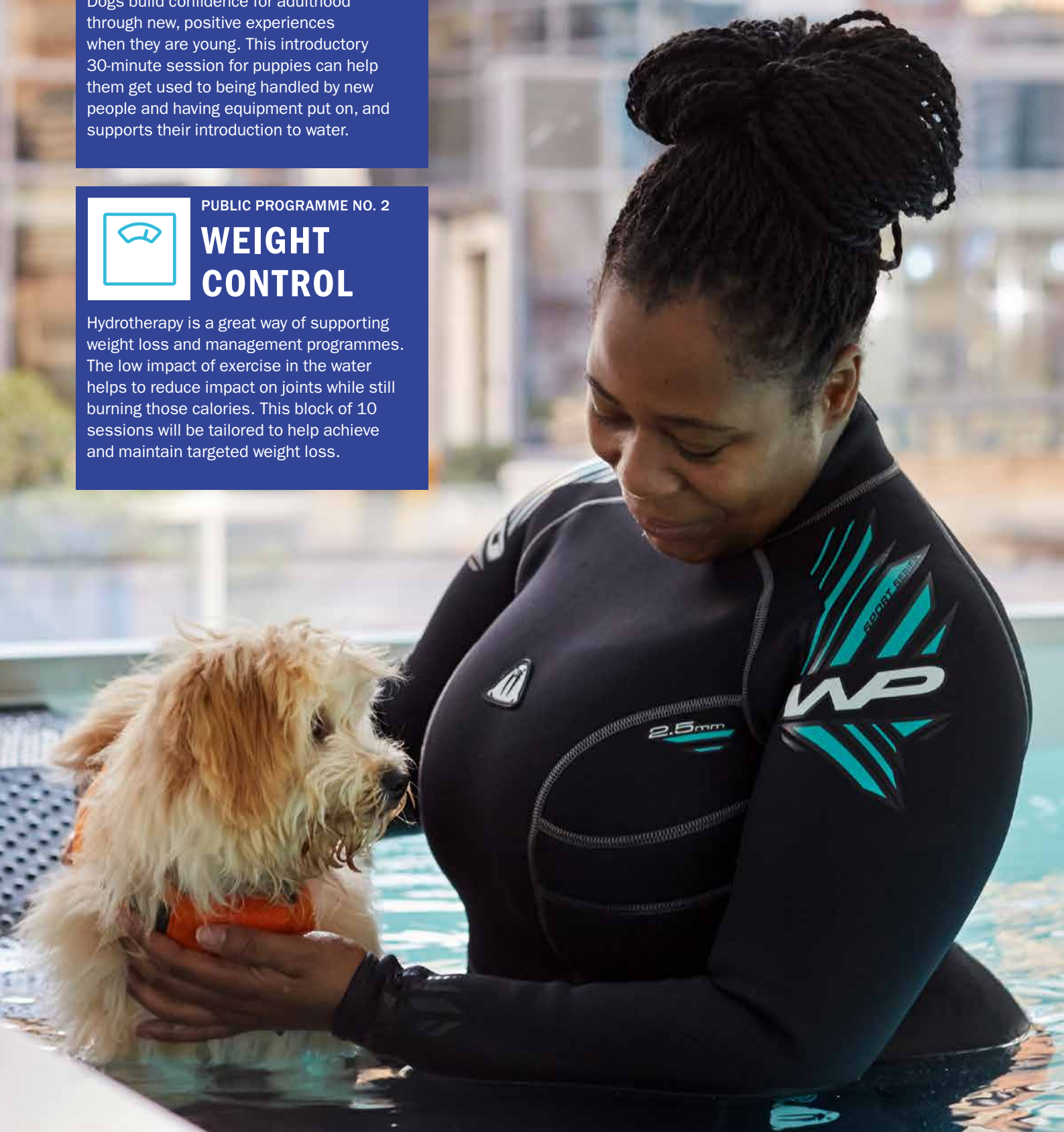
Dogs build confidence for adulthood through new, positive experiences when they are young. This introductory 30-minute session for puppies can help them get used to being handled by new people and having equipment put on, and supports their introduction to water.



PUBLIC PROGRAMME NO. 2

WEIGHT CONTROL

Hydrotherapy is a great way of supporting weight loss and management programmes. The low impact of exercise in the water helps to reduce impact on joints while still burning those calories. This block of 10 sessions will be tailored to help achieve and maintain targeted weight loss.



MAKING A SPLASH

Paws takes an exclusive first look inside Battersea's brand-new Hydrotherapy facility, opening to the public soon at our historic London centre.

Many dogs and cats arrive at Battersea's gates in good health, needing little more than a quick check-up, vaccination, worming and flea treatment before being matched to their perfect new home. However, others arrive in poor condition or ill health and it is up to our expert teams to care for them and nurse them back to health, ready for a fresh start.

As part of this journey, many of our animals will require some form of surgery and can often be faced with a lengthy rehabilitation process. Animals like Charley, who arrived at Battersea's London centre in October 2020.

The 18-month-old Border Collie came to Battersea from another rescue and it was apparent when he arrived that he had issues with his mobility due to what they suspected was an old injury. This had caused one of his hip bones to pop out of its socket and rub against his pelvis, so, after initial scans and assessments, Head Vet Shaun Opperman and his team got to work operating on Charley's leg.

Shaun says, "When Charley came into Battersea, we discovered that he had a dislocated left hip. It was a long-standing injury, making it impossible for us to simply replace the joint. The operation we performed removes the ball part of the 'ball and socket' hip joint →



HANNAH
SENIOR CANINE
HYDROTHERAPIST

Two years with Battersea

Level 3 canine
hydrotherapist

"I qualified as a Level 3 hydrotherapist back in 2017 and have been performing hydrotherapy in a private practice, rehabilitating dogs and cats. I went on to further qualify in using the K-Laser — a special laser treatment to aid healing and rehabilitation of injuries. I have since been working towards completing the Level 4 award in hydrotherapy."



PUBLIC PROGRAMME NO. 3

SWIMMING COURSE

A six-week course for puppies and younger dogs. This is a great way to provide variety to your puppy's weekly activities, tire them out, and build up their confidence and ability to swim. Each session is scheduled for 30 minutes.

Above: 18-month-old Border Collie, Charley, began his hydrotherapy on the new underwater treadmill.

so that it no longer rubs on the side of his pelvis, the weight then being taken by the muscles surrounding the hip."

It was important to return Charley to his feet as soon as possible after the surgery and to carry out gentle physio in order to maintain as full a range of joint movement as possible, and to build up muscles that had wasted due to the length of time he had carried his injury. Hydrotherapy is perfect for this type of case as it supports the dog's weight while allowing full movement, without putting undue strain on the joints and muscles. Thankfully, Charley adapted quickly to the water treadmill, helped in part by his absolute love of tennis balls, and has made an excellent recovery."

Battersea's new Hydrotherapy centre includes a 6x3m pool and underwater treadmill, designed to help provide our dogs with additional exercise opportunities to meet their medical, emotional and physical needs. The Hydrotherapy centre is not only ideal for dogs such as Charley, who require post-operative care and physiotherapy, but for dogs who →

**Exercising in water
allows us to focus
on building muscle
tone and strength,
without as much
impact on the joints.**

**HANNAH COLTON
SENIOR HYDROTHERAPIST**



**Above:**

Dogs can also benefit from the enrichment aspects of hydrotherapy.

Right:

Our experts ensure all dogs get the maximum benefit from the new facility.



may simply benefit from the exercise and enrichment opportunities it provides.

Senior Hydrotherapist, Hannah Colton, leads the team of four experts. She says, "Hydrotherapy can be beneficial for dogs of all ages, in many ways. The warm water not only helps to relieve pain and inflammation in older dogs or those that have had surgical procedures, but can also be pleasant and enjoyable for younger ones who may be experiencing it for the first time. Exercising in the water allows us to focus on building muscle tone and strength, without as much impact on the joints."

For Charley, the treatment was the perfect accompaniment to his overall rehabilitation plan and, in January this year, he was fit and ready to go to his new home in Surrey.

Canine Behaviour Manager, Nathalie Ingham, says, "Having the Hydrotherapy centre really helped Charley get back on his feet. Water-based rehabilitation has so many benefits and we're thrilled to be able to have this option available for our dogs now. Hydrotherapy isn't just for injuries or rehabilitation, however, but can provide many other benefits, such as weight loss and management, socialisation, and enrichment. We can't wait to be able to →



KALIA
CANINE
HYDROTHERAPIST

Two years with Battersea

Level 3 canine
hydrotherapist

"Before coming to work at Battersea, I worked with a couple of shelters abroad and I also hold a degree in Bioveterinary Science. I joined Battersea as a rehoming and welfare assistant — working in kennels providing essential care and exercise — but have now qualified as a Level 3 canine hydrotherapist."



LAURA
CANINE
HYDROTHERAPIST

Six years with Battersea

Level 3 canine
hydrotherapist

"I have been working at Battersea for six years and have continuously been developing my knowledge, particularly in dog behaviour. After being a canine behaviour and training advisor for three years, I started exploring rehabilitation and went on to qualify as a Level 3 canine hydrotherapist."



PUBLIC PROGRAMME NO. 4

VET REFERRALS

Where your vet would recommend hydrotherapy for a specific medical condition, your dog can be referred for treatment. We will work closely in conjunction with you and your vet to tailor your dog's programme.



PUBLIC PROGRAMME NO. 5

FUN SWIMS

This session can provide variety in your dog's exercise regime and additional enrichment. It can be used to build fitness where required (great if your dog regularly takes part in activities such as agility) or as maintenance sessions to help keep your dog in tip top condition.

open up the doors and welcome even more animals to enjoy the benefits of this treatment."

Battersea's Hydrotherapy centre simply would not have been possible without the generous funding of our supporters. Construction of the facility began back in early 2019, as part of the wider railway arches redevelopment, which also includes a new café and activity arena. After breaking through three feet of concrete to open up the closed-off, historic arches, the construction teams got to work creating the new facility and it wasn't long before the bare bones were in place. But then the Covid-19 pandemic struck and construction ground to a halt. During this difficult time, public support remained strong and — thanks to the unwavering generosity of our donors — we were able to resume building work as soon as government restrictions allowed.

From corporate sponsors to individual donors and fundraisers, every penny kindly received towards the project has helped make a difference to the lives of thousands of rescue animals going forward. ■



Above: The state-of-the-art facility will enable Battersea to help even more animals.

**MEGAN****SENIOR VETERINARY
NURSE**

Five years
with Battersea

Registered
Veterinary Nurse

Qualified veterinary
physiotherapist

"I qualified as a Registered Veterinary Nurse in 2015 and completed my BSc (Hons) in 2016. During this time, I joined the clinic team at Battersea. In 2019, I qualified as a veterinary physiotherapist and have since gained a master's degree in veterinary physiotherapy."



OPENING SOON FOR EVERY DOG

Battersea will be offering our Hydrotherapy facility to the public's dogs as soon as restrictions allow.

Keep an eye on our website for more information and booking:

battersea.org.uk

WE'RE BACK AND WE'RE MUDDY!



GET MUDDY!

It's time to lace up those running shoes and get set for the return of Battersea's Muddy Dog Challenge.

When the Covid-19 pandemic scuppered plans the world over during 2020, our much-loved Muddy Dog Challenge was no exception. Battersea's muddiest and biggest fundraising events of the year sadly had to be postponed in line with Government safety guidelines.

We at Battersea — and the thousands of you that had already signed up — were so disappointed that the events weren't able to go ahead. But, not to be defeated, our teams have been working hard behind the scenes and we are proud to be bringing the UK's biggest dog obstacle course back for 2021.

As all of the upcoming Muddy Dog Challenge events are scheduled to take place in September and October this year, we're hopeful they will be able to run as normal. However, we have Covid-safe plans in place to ensure the safety of everyone involved, should they be needed. We're striving to make sure each scheduled date is an enjoyable but, most importantly, safe event for all staff, volunteers, participants and their dogs.

Over 4,000 of you have also joined in the fun by taking on your own 'My Muddy Dog Challenge' in your own way, since last October. You've raised an incredible £175,000 to date, which will help Battersea be here for every dog and cat. We'll be running the challenge again this summer, so keep an eye out.

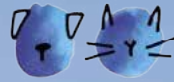
For those of you as keen as your four-legged friends to tackle one of our famous courses, we hope to see as many of you as possible at a Muddy Dog Challenge event near you, soon!

GET INVOLVED

Sign up for an upcoming Muddy Dog Challenge event, join in with your own My Muddy Dog Challenge, or keep up to date with the latest Muddy Dog news and information at: muddypup.battersea.org.uk

Canine
COTTAGES

A PROUD SUPPORTER OF



BATTERSEA
HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT

LEADING THE WAY FOR DOG-FRIENDLY HOLIDAYS



Proud sponsor of The Battersea Way email
caninecottages.co.uk

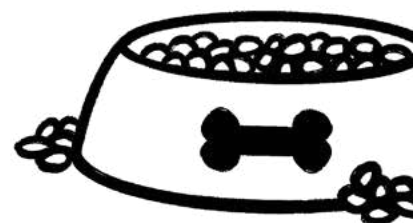


**CLEVER
CAVALIER COOKIE**

Cookie, a King Charles Cavalier Spaniel, came to Battersea in 2019 at two years old. Sadly, his previous owners could no longer look after him due to having a baby on the way, so they did the right thing and brought him to us. Cookie went on foster with a Battersea staff member, and eventually found his new home in Epsom. One year on, Cookie is an adored family member and has even become best friends with the pet rabbit.

HAPPILY REHOMED

Former Battersea dogs and cats enjoying their second chance at happiness.



**ROCCO THE
ZOOM-BOMBER**

Earlier this year, Burmese Rocco came to our Old Windsor centre as his owners were struggling with his behaviour. Even though Rocco could be sweet and affectionate, he could also get very frustrated. The cattery team kept him in an area where he couldn't see other cats and his behaviour soon improved. His charming looks meant Rocco received a lot of interest and he soon found his perfect new family in Oxfordshire. His owners report that the cheeky cat still craves attention, meaning Rocco is a frequent 'Zoom-bomber', making guest appearances during video calls to the delight of other attendees.

Noble and Coco left our London centre in 2019 to join Delroy and Patricia Campbell in Croydon. Known as Wilbur and Wendy during their time with us, the siblings settled in quickly to their new life getting up to mischief. Delroy says, "Noble is the leader and his sister likes to copy him. He loves visiting our neighbours and goes into their house — with Coco following — like it's his second home!"



**LOVABLE PAIR
NOBLE & COCO**



**BOUNCY BOY
SCOOBY**

Scooby (formerly Baxter) arrived at Battersea in 2019 from another rescue. Still just a puppy, this bouncy Lurcher was full of beans and always excited to see the kennel staff. Scooby soon caught the eye of the Lee family in Taunton and, two years later, we're pleased to hear that he's a much calmer dog now, who loves cuddles on the sofa, ear rubs and playing with other dogs.



PAWS

FUN & GAMES

CAT SEARCH

Can you spot the 11 famous cats hidden below in our word search?



CAN YOU FIND:

LARRY
SIMBA
NALA
TOM
CHESHIRE CAT
GARFIELD
BOB
PALMERSTON
TIGGER
GRUMPY CAT
ARISTOCATS

RESCUE IS BEST

A FRIEND LIKE WOODY

Rescue animals everywhere have been on hand to help with homeschooling.



Above: Harry and his Battersea dog, Woody, making the most of the great outdoors.

While most children have been staying at home over the past few months, it's been a case of 'rescues to the rescue' for many. Dogs and cats all across the country have been providing daily exercise, fun play time, and — in some cases — even a helping hand with homeschooling! Harry, aged seven from Surrey, sent in this lovely photo of him with his Battersea dog, Woody. Harry says, "I've been missing all my friends at school, but it's been brilliant having Woody at home. He's always there for cuddles, always wanting to play, and I've loved taking him for walks to our local woods every day."

DID YOU SPOT THE TWO FAMOUS BATTERSEA CAT NAMES?

It's Larry, who lives in No. 10 Downing Street and Palmerston, who became chief mouser at the UK Foreign Office!



SEND US YOUR PET SELFIES

We love seeing your photos and updates — email us at littlepaws@battersea.org.uk

WHAT DO YOU CALL
A COLD DOG?

A chilli dog!

WHAT'S A CAT'S
FAVOURITE COLOUR?

Purrrrr-ple

CRAFTS

THUMBPRINT PETS

Time to get your thumbs messy and create your very own rescue dog and cat characters.

Every rescue dog or cat is unique, just like a fingerprint, which is why we love making these easy-to-do doodles. Simply dip your thumb (or finger) into some paint, splodge it onto paper, then bring it to life as your very own dog or cat doodle! Not only will you be creating your own characters just like Battersea's, but you'll also be showing your support of rescue animals by giving them a big 'thumbs up'.

ALL ABOUT RESCUE

To help inspire your thumbprint characters, check out the 'What They Did Next' stories of some of our amazing rescue animals at: youtube.com/battersea



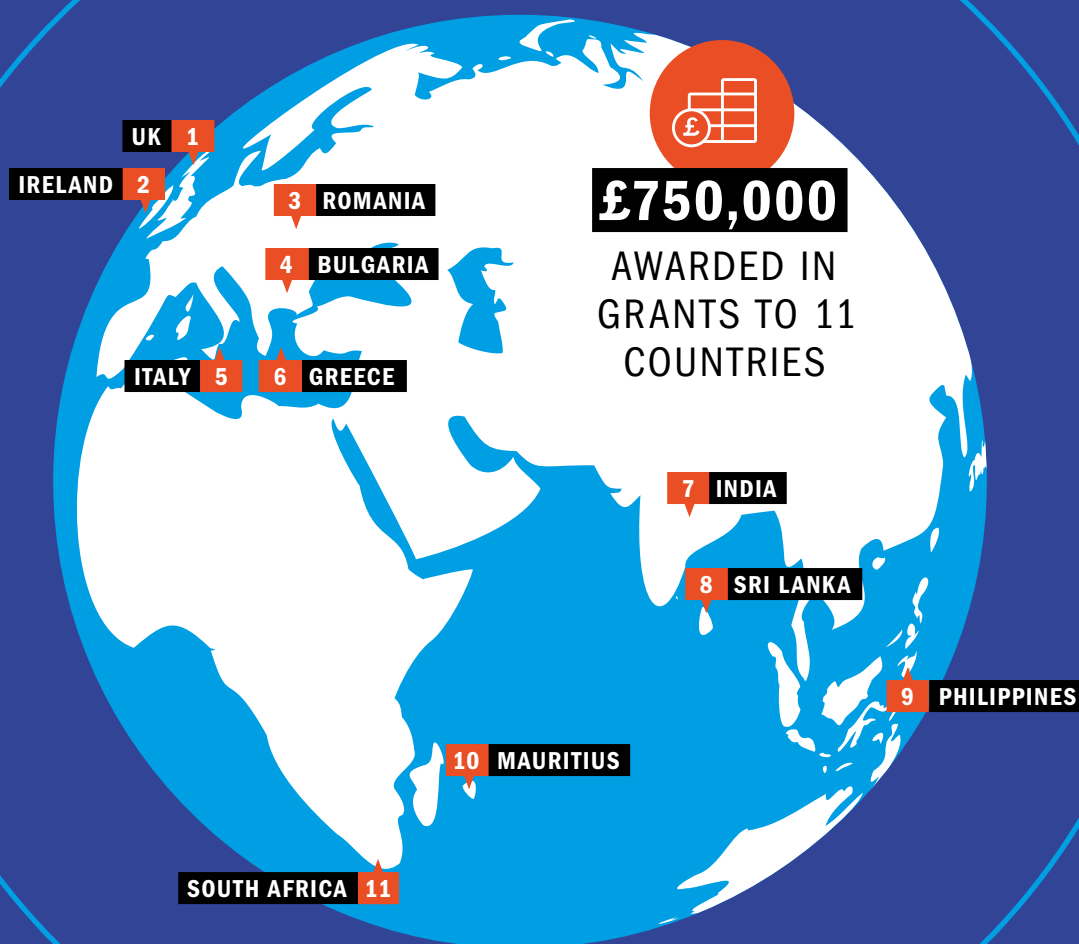
Above: Coco the Pug tries to find herself in her very own version of *Where's Wally?*.

DOG NEWS

DOG'S DIGEST

The very special rescue dogs helping children to read.

We hope that lots of you celebrated World Book Day in March, dressing up as your favourite book characters and sharing stories over Zoom with your classmates. Some of our special former Battersea dogs also got involved in the day, like Coco the Pug. Coco is a therapy dog at a school for students with learning and physical disabilities in West London, which means she visits the classroom to help children with many important skills, such as reading. While lockdown meant she couldn't go in to see all her friends this World Book Day, Coco still made sure she joined in the fun by starring in her very own home-schooling book, *Where's Coco?*, for the school's students to learn with and enjoy.



A HELPING HAND

BATTERSEA WORLDWIDE

Battersea's Grants programme is giving smaller rescue centres across the world a much-needed boost.



“

It was such an honour for us to receive a grant from Battersea, and a lifeline for us in these very difficult times. It is testament to Battersea that they not only offer grants to help out smaller charities, but also have the awareness to realise that there are huge numbers of animals that require help beyond the shores of the UK.

”

**WECARE WORLDWIDE
SRI LANKA**

At Battersea, our mission is not only to help every animal that comes through our gates, but those we may never see. We know that we can help more dogs and cats by working together with others than we can alone, so one of many ways we are committed to doing so is through our Grant Giving programme.

Battersea Grants are designed to support other rescue and rehoming organisations, helping them to do more with the — often limited — resources they have available. Since the programme was established in 2018, over 100 rescues have benefited from more than £750,000 in grants. The effects of this are huge, with an estimated 43,100 animals helped worldwide so far.

Margaret Hulme, Battersea's Grants Manager, says, “We see our grant programmes as a marvellous opportunity to extend our reach, increase our impact, and help more dogs and cats not just across the UK, but around the world.

“This, together with the launch and ongoing development of the Battersea Academy Programme, designed to educate and share best practice, is a fantastic way of ensuring rescues everywhere are operating to their best standard possible and providing the very best for animals in their care.”

Last year, 41 Battersea grants were awarded, including 10 international grants, to help dogs and cats. It's anticipated that more than 25,000 animals will benefit from these grants over a two-year period.

One rescue organisation that has benefited is Oak Tree Animals' Charity in Cumbria. After being awarded a grant in 2020, the organisation redeveloped its 'groom room', incorporating a new bath and other grooming facilities to help make dogs more comfortable during their stay.

Caroline Johnson, General Manager, says, “We are extremely grateful to Battersea for their support, which enabled us to redevelop our groom room. Many of the dogs we see at Oak Tree often need a groom on arrival for their welfare and, with all their adventures in our →



Top: UK vet Dr Janey Lowes set up WeCare in 2014 to help street dogs in Sri Lanka.

Above: Battersea Academy Programmes are designed to educate and share best practice.



43,100

ANIMALS HELPED ACROSS THE WORLD



Above: In South Africa, Dogtown staff dedicate their time to enriching the lives of abandoned dogs.

“

Battersea gave us the opportunity to put into practice what we had learnt at the Academy through a grant. This allowed us to redesign our adoption area, which became on site living quarters when our country went into lockdown. We are now about to embark on our arrivals area with the assistance of Battersea once again. Battersea has changed how our centre runs through its support and guidance.

”

**DOGTOWN
SOUTH AFRICA**

woodland and fields, benefit from a quick grooming session post-play.”

For Wadars Animal Rescue in Sussex, funding courtesy of a Battersea grant enabled the organisation to refurbish its cattery with new equipment, among other things.

Wadars Operations Manager, Tracy Cadman, says, “Battersea has been incredibly supportive of our work, and funding the equipment for our brand-new cattery was just one example of that. The grant we received funded everything from the cat beds and bowls to vet room equipment and, quite literally, the kitchen sink! We are extremely grateful for both the financial support we have received but also the ongoing partnership working and advice.”

Sadly, 2020 saw more rescues needing help than ever before. Results from a survey of rescue and rehoming organisations carried out by Battersea in January 2021 showed that 87% had experienced a drop in income with 36% of rescues reporting a drop in income of over 50%.

To help support the sector through the pandemic, Battersea led the establishment of, and managed, the Association of Dogs and Cats Homes (ADCH) Coronavirus Emergency Fund. This secured additional funding from organisations including the PetPlan Charitable Trust and Dogs Trust. From more than 150 applications received, 54 grants were awarded, and initial reports indicate that more than 3,000 animals have benefited so far.

Margaret says, “Funding in our sector goes a long way — helping dogs and cats in need, both in the UK and overseas. All countries have been hit hard by Covid-19. Our mission at Battersea is to be here for every dog and cat, even those we may never meet. The Grants programme is just one of the many ways in which we are honouring our pledge for animals everywhere.”

THANK YOU, TP ICAP

Each year, leading financial services organisation, TP ICAP, raises millions of pounds for charities across the world through the ICAP Charity Day. In 2020, Battersea was chosen as a beneficiary, with the money raised going towards the Battersea Academy and Grants programme. The generous donation will help us fund grants in 2021 that will deliver long-lasting changes to benefit dogs and cats in need. ■



**LITTLE MISS
MOCHA**

Mocha is an affectionate lady that loves human company, but her new owners will need to be able to read her body language and have some quiet walking routes up their sleeve where she won't be too intimidated by other dogs. Despite being 11 years wise, in the right home Mocha will make an ideal, playful and loving companion.



EMAIL LONDON

rehoming@battersea.org.uk

TAKE US HOME



Can you change the life of an animal looking for a second chance?



**BECCY THE
BEAUTY**

A gentle and lovely soul, beautiful Beccy is a perfect reflection of her breed. She is looking for a loving family where she can relax, after hanging up her racing shoes. Four-year-old Beccy is very friendly and loves a good fuss, so her new family will need to have a big sofa ready for snuggles and snoozing.



EMAIL LONDON

rehoming@battersea.org.uk

Tom is a friendly older gentleman and, after getting to know his new owners, his chatty character will shine through. He is a sensitive boy and will likely enjoy being at home most of the time where he can relax with his human companions. 10-year-old Tom will require access to a garden, to occasionally stretch his legs in.

**TOM'S GOLDEN
YEARS**



EMAIL LONDON

cat.rehoming@battersea.org.uk

**OLIVE'S OWN
HOME**



Adorable eight-year-old, Olive, is one of the most affectionate and friendly cats you could hope to meet. She loves people and will want to be exactly where her new family are. Olive is looking for a new home with humans who have lots of attention to lavish on her, plus a garden for all of her outdoor adventures, once she is settled.



EMAIL LONDON

cat.rehoming@battersea.org.uk



PETS OF THE PANDEMIC

The sad reality of the animals being abandoned during a downturn.

Last summer, a group of young people were making the most of the eased lockdown restrictions and enjoying a sunny day in Battersea Park. During their visit, the friends stumbled upon a cat, abandoned in its carrier with a handwritten note attached. With no owner in sight, they brought the cat to our London centre where his story began to unfold.

According to the heart-breaking note, the young Maine Coon named Casper had been a much-loved pet but sadly his owner could no longer afford to care for him after they lost their job as a result of the first Coronavirus lockdown. In an act of sheer desperation they had decided to leave him somewhere public in the hope he would be found and rescued, which, luckily for Casper, he was.

Throughout the pandemic, Battersea staff have continued to work tirelessly at our three centres, taking in emergency cases such as Casper, even during the height of each lockdown.

PAYING THE PRICE

One of the most common factors for animals being given up to rescues is the costs associated with a pet, such as vet bills, and an owner's inability to pay these.

Rescue is our favourite breed, but we know that rescue animals are not always everyone's first choice, and consumer demand for puppies, kittens and designer breeds continues to grow. While we would hope that pet owners consider the lifelong commitment of pet ownership, we know that the sad reality is that many animals will have been bought without due thought and planning. Even for those who added a new pet to their family with every good intention of making a lifelong commitment, circumstances can sadly change with little notice, now so more than ever.

Freddie the cat was brought to Battersea when his owners, who both worked for the same employer, were informed they were to be made redundant as a result of the pandemic. His owners knew this meant they would no longer be able to afford to keep a pet, so they made the difficult — but ultimately most responsible — decision to bring Freddie to a rescue sooner rather than later.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

If you can no longer care for your pet, visit: battersea.org.uk/giving-up-your-pet



In a recent Battersea survey, nearly half of new 'lockdown owners' confessed that they sometimes regretted getting a pet.

HIGH DEMAND

One of the biggest impacts the pandemic has had on animal welfare has been the sale of puppies and kittens. With most of us suddenly spending more time at home, it's only natural that lots of people started thinking about getting a new companion.

With so many potential first-time owners wanting a pet, puppies and kittens have never been so in demand. Sadly, this has created a lucrative opportunity for unethical breeders to sell young animals for thousands of pounds, many of which may not have been sufficiently cared for in the first weeks of their lives.

While there's no denying the joy that pets have brought many of us over the last 12 months, the decision to get a pet should never be taken lightly. Sadly, it seems like some people are still making more impulsive decisions than they perhaps should when it comes to the serious commitment of bringing a new animal in to their home. In a recent survey Battersea carried out as part of a wider report on the impact the pandemic was having on the nation's animals, nearly half of new 'lockdown owners' confessed that they sometimes regretted getting a pet.



ROCCO



ALANI

We rely on your generosity to help fund our vital work

To donate visit:
donate.battersea.org.uk



MAYA & SOPHIE

SOLD AS SEEN

Tiny Spitz puppy Rocco was brought to our London centre last August after his owners, who had bought him from a breeder, realised he had serious congenital eye problems they could not afford to treat. A sickly kitten called Alani was also rushed straight to our clinic when her owners found a lump only two days after they got her, which local vets had diagnosed as an umbilical hernia, something that would require expensive treatment that her new owners simply could not afford.

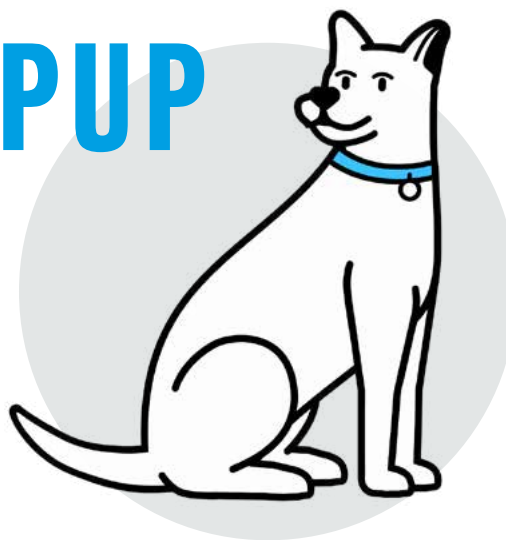
Undisclosed medical issues aren't the only thing that unscrupulous sellers have been misleading buyers about. Maltese sisters Sophie and Maya were bought from a breeder via an online advert for almost £4,000. Their owner had only intended to buy one puppy but was talked in to taking a second at no extra cost when she went to collect her new pet. When she realised she wasn't in a position to care for a pair of pups, who appeared to have been under-socialised before being imported from Romania and sold, she considered returning them to the breeder but ultimately decided they were better off coming to Battersea where they would be rehomed responsibly.

The rapidly increasing number of animals being traded on online marketplaces, and a sharp increase in puppies being imported or smuggled into the UK, gives us great cause for concern, signalling that rescue centres may soon be facing the consequences of dogs and cats bought without due thought and consideration.

At Battersea, we know there might be thousands of owners out there struggling to cope with their pets and we want to reassure them we're not here to judge — we're here to help. Taking your pet to a rescue centre like Battersea means they'll be cared for, loved and have the best chance of finding the right new home. ■

ASK THE EXPERTS

PERFECT PUP TRAINING



ROB

**CANINE BEHAVIOUR
& TRAINING MANAGER**

Seven years
with Battersea

Dog Training &
Behaviour Level 3

Foundations & Functions
of Behaviour Level 4

*"I love being able to give
animals a second chance."*



BETH

**CANINE BEHAVIOUR
& TRAINING ADVISOR**

Four years with Battersea

MSc in Animal Behaviour

*"You learn something new
from every single dog."*

At a time when many young dogs are not able to socialise in the normal ways, our experts are here to help walk you through the basics of training.

Training your puppy to become a well-rounded adult dog can be hard at the best of times. But, with coronavirus restrictions, many new owners may be struggling to give their puppy the training and socialisation needed in the early stages of life.

To help, Battersea has launched new online training classes to help the 'lockdown generation' of puppies develop a solid behavioural foundation.

Throughout the six-week course, our behavioural experts advise on everything from teaching your puppy to sit, to helping prepare them for meeting the vet. All tips and training that Battersea gives follow a positive reinforcement training style, encouraging puppies to become confident, happy adult dogs.

But it's not just puppies who can benefit from our expert training. For adolescent dogs (aged five to 18 months) that may also be missing out on areas of normal interaction and

socialisation, Battersea now offers Adolescent Dog Training — a series of six one-off sessions, covering more advanced topics.

For a taste of the content that you can expect to learn in Battersea's online puppy training course, we spoke to Rob Bays and Beth Kidd, the expert Canine Behaviour and Training Advisors delivering the classes.

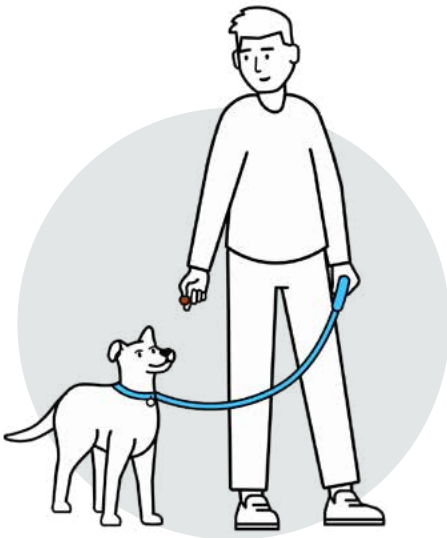
Beth says, "When training a young dog, it's important to keep sessions fairly short and in an environment where it's quiet and you're both comfortable and not distracted. Puppies can easily become tired or lose interest, so keep the experience positive, using lots of verbal praise as well as the reward they are working for. Pay attention to the signs your puppy is giving you and, if it seems they've had enough, return to practise the training again the next day."

Check out one of the basics of good behaviour taught in the training programme — walking well on a lead — on the opposite page. ■

A GUIDE FOR...

WALKING WELL ON A LEAD

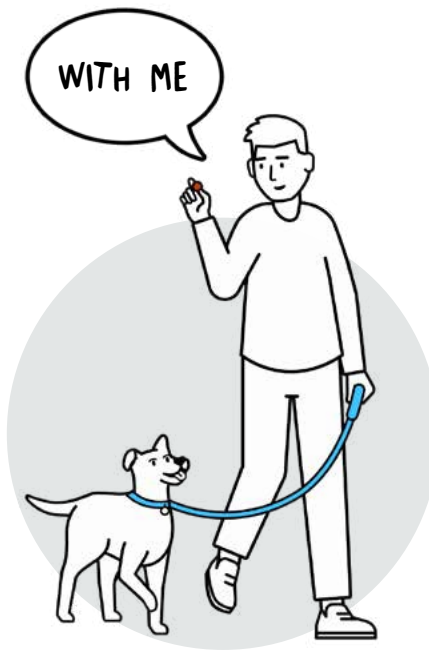
“Getting your dog or puppy to walk nicely on a lead is essentially getting them to walk next to you,” says Rob. “This exercise will not only encourage your dog to give you their attention, but it will also make going out for walks more enjoyable for you both, without them pulling against you all the time. It’s easiest to start this training indoors, away from any distractions.”



STEP ONE:

STARTING POSITION

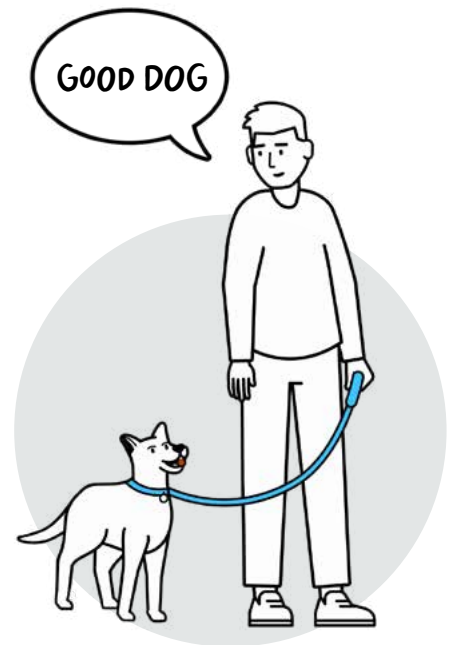
With your dog's lead attached, hold the lead in one hand and treats in the other. Lure your dog round to the side that's holding the treats so they are standing, facing the same direction as you. The lead should be crossing over your body and held loosely with one hand only. Feed your dog a treat. This is your starting position. Once they have eaten the treat they may move away, so lure them back to your side again and give them another treat. Reward them again for staying in the same place.



STEP TWO:

BABY STEPS

With your dog in the starting position, let them sniff the treats in your hand. Once they have done this, raise your hand to your shoulder, give an instruction such as “with me” and take a step forward. Repeat this again, adding in another step before rewarding. If your dog pulls or moves away from your side, simply stand still and lure them back to the starting position. Do not pull the lead to move them, just stand still and lure them back with a treat.



STEP THREE:

TIME FOR WALKIES

Practise steps one and two, each time trying to increase the number of steps taken before rewarding. Aim for success, and stop and treat while your dog is walking by your side. Once you've mastered this indoors, take your training outside. Consistency is key with loose lead walking, so ensure you're training every single time the lead goes on.



MORE TRAINING TIPS

battersea.org.uk/pet-advice



NATION'S FAVOURITE

Looking back on a decade at
Number 10 for Larry, Britain's
most famous rescue cat.



LARRY
CHIEF MOUSER

Ten years at 10
Downing Street

PhD in Pigeon Chasing

NVQ Level 6 Napping

BSc (Hons) Feline
International Diplomacy

**Larry has demonstrated to
millions of people around
the world how incredible
rescue cats are.**

LINDSEY QUINLAN ”
HEAD OF CATTERIES AND FELINE WELFARE

From charming world leaders to distracting the press, Chief Mouser Larry has done it all during his time at 10 Downing Street. But, before he began prowling the corridors of political power, Larry was a humble stray who came to Battersea in need of help and a home.

February this year marked ten years since the confident cat left our care to begin a new life as one of British politics' brightest stars. Battersea's Head of Catteries and Feline Welfare, Lindsey Quinlan, says, "It seems like only yesterday that Larry came to our cattery as a stray in need of a home. I don't think anyone back then could have imagined just how incredible his life would turn out to be.

"At Battersea we work hard to ensure that every animal goes to their ideal home, whether that be a cottage in the country or the most famous street in the UK. While the majority of our cats are content with a comfy sofa, some cats like Larry prefer to 'work' for their supper — from keeping an eye out for pests on a farm, to entertaining the political press with their pigeon-chasing antics."

During his tenure as Chief Mouser, Larry has been a trusted companion to three Prime Ministers. David Cameron was ready and waiting at Number 10



Above: Larry often checks in on staff to make sure things are running smoothly.

to greet Larry on his first day on the job and even dedicated part of his final speech in Parliament to Larry, saying, "Sadly, I cannot take Larry with me — he belongs to the house and the staff love him very much, as do I."

Larry was also there to offer his support when the next Prime Minister, Theresa May, left office — caught live on camera being moved from his sunbathing spot by security so that he wouldn't upstage the outgoing Prime Minister's announcement.

Now working under his third Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, the 14-year-old tabby remains as prolific as ever, even taking on the unofficial role of diplomat when former US President, Barack Obama, visited. Although rumoured to normally take his time making new friends, Larry made an exception for President Obama and photos of him happily being fussed by the charismatic world leader were shared globally.

When the next US President, Donald Trump, came to visit in 2019, however, Larry decided to create a potential 'security threat' by taking a nap beneath President Trump's vehicle, making it impossible for the car to move.

A Number 10 spokesperson told Paws, "A much beloved member of the No. 10 team, Larry plays a vital role as Chief Mouser and in delighting staff and the public alike with his playful antics. We're proud to support Battersea and other animal welfare organisations in their mission to ensure our furry friends have a loving and safe home." ■



LOVE RESCUE?

Share why rescue is your favourite breed at:
battersea.org.uk/RIOFB

UPDATE FROM EMMA & JACOB

Obi's Adventures

It really is our privilege to share our home with Obi — he is just a delight! We didn't want to miss a trick, so while we weren't allowed out and about, we arranged lots of puppy play dates and ploughed on with his training in the garden. Obi loves nothing better than nibbling all the plants and lawn in the garden (anything that's off access, of course). He's adventurous and — having decided he's a big boy now and does not require a puppy box — has got himself a lovely car hammock for days out. Here he is with his two-year-old chocolate Labrador bestie, Otis.



UPDATE FROM JULIE, TONY & GUY

Happy as Harry

We first met Harry through my cousin, who was fostering him for Battersea. When she had to go abroad, we applied to foster him while she was away. Needless to say, when she returned we'd fallen for his charms and soon adopted him! That was five years ago, and he has been the most adorable dog you could imagine. He's a true gentleman; sweet, sensitive and caring. If someone in the family is not well, he will cuddle up to them on the sofa. He likes to play the role of 'meeter greeter' and will welcome guests by grabbing whatever shoe or other object is nearest to the front door and parading it around. He particularly loves rescuing his orange bone from the sea — provided he doesn't go in higher than his armpits! We weren't looking for a dog when Harry came into our lives, but we are immensely glad he did, and we've enjoyed every day with him since.

LETTERS

We love to hear from *Paws* readers, so send your stories and photos for a chance to be featured.

EMAIL

Any photos sent with a letter should be over 1MB file size:
paws@battersea.org.uk

POST

Paws magazine
Battersea Dogs & Cats Home
4 Battersea Park Road
London SW8 4AA

UPDATE FROM JENNY

Marvellous Mocha

I rehomed Mocha, formerly Violet, from Battersea in August 2018. She was very nervous and shy at first, but she eventually settled in and now is very happy and loves her new home in Elephant and Castle. She loves to spend the day snoozing but comes to life at night when she patrols the garden and guards against other neighbourhood cats! She has also made friends with a local squirrel, who visits us every day. Thank you for bringing Mocha into my life.





UPDATE FROM TONY & FI

Mighty Samson

We adopted Samson in June 2020 from Battersea Old Windsor. He's our second Battersea rescue — we also adopted Charlie the Great Dane. Samson is small in comparison to all our other rescue dogs but has a huge personality. His favourite place is in my wheelbarrow once he's helped muck out the horses' stables, and he loves playing all day with our other dogs then spending the evenings snoozing on the sofa. He's an amazing addition to our family — thank you to all your staff for the fabulous work they do and especially Craig at Old Windsor who introduced us to Samson.

UPDATE FROM GEORGINA

Jasper's Lisbon Life

Having recently relocated to Lisbon, I'm pleased to say Jasper took the move very well — even the drive all the way here. Lisbon is much quieter than Brixton and I am now living alone, so I think the peaceful environment has helped him settle. I've even taken him to the beach, which he handled very well — although he wasn't keen on the crashing waves! In Portugal, Greyhounds are quite rare so he's attracting a lot of attention, but it seems he's growing in confidence with each interaction.



MEMORIES

Celebrating the lives and memories of beloved rescue pets no longer with us.



HONOUR YOUR SPECIAL PET
battersea.org.uk/inmemory



REMEMBERED
 BY YVETTE

Melvin

My husband and I were overjoyed to bring Melvin home from Battersea in 2006. We went on to have three children and Melvin was a fantastic companion to all of us throughout his life. Practically every photograph of the children we have has Melvin somewhere in it — keeping a watchful eye on their every move to protect them and herd them all! We realise he rescued us in so many ways. As I look back on the challenging years of raising children, having a beloved canine friend was so important to my mental health — both for getting outside every day and as company to us all. Thank you, Battersea, for rehoming Melvin with us.



REMEMBERED
 BY JACQUELINE

Jessie

We picked Jessie up from Battersea at ten weeks old in 2007. My sons were ten and 12, and as soon as we met him we knew this puppy was meant to be ours. As Jessie got older, nothing phased him. He was so laid back and so loved by us, in return giving his loyalty, love and kisses. He had so many different adventures, that was why we called him 'Jessie James The Outlaw'! He was almost 14, but we are never prepared for the final parting of our pets. Our hearts are truly broken — there will never be another dog like Jessie. He was handsome and gentle, and we want to thank Battersea for giving us a loyal, loving companion and friend.



POSE PURR FOR THE CAMERA

Nothing brings more joy than seeing former Battersea dogs and cats enjoying their new lives. Send in your pictures and prove rescue is best.

SEE YOUR PET IN PAWS

For a chance to be featured in Paws, send us a photo of your rescue pet (over 1MB file size) including their name — and your name(s) — to: paws@battersea.org.uk



RUBY IN SPRING

REHOMED BY THE D'SOUZA FAMILY



SLEEPY JED REHOMED BY PETER



COOKIE THE CUTIE

REHOMED BY CLAIRE



GORGEIOUS GIGI

REHOMED BY CHRIS & JAMES



MONTY THE CAT WITH HIS BFF, POPPY
REHOMED BY JAMES & JO



LAZY LUNA REHOMED BY
DAVID, LOUISA & MATTY



WILLIAM & HARRY
REHOMED BY ALEX & STUART

DASHING DALI REHOMED BY GILLIAN
PHOTO © RICKI GURNEY



PERFECT PEGI REHOMED BY ROBERTA



GEORGE REHOMED BY CLAIRE



LOLLY POP REHOMED BY
ANJA & INNES



TULIP REHOMED BY STUART,
IRENE, JOSHUA & SUMMER



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Squares of delicious vegan fudge in a Battersea tin. The perfect gift for anyone. £4

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A boxed set of clotted cream shortbread, chocolate chip cookies, stem ginger and lemon crisp biscuits in Battersea tins. Great as a group or separately if you prefer to pick and mix. £15 set or £4 each.

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SCAN FOR INFO

*Source: Nielsen GB ScanTrack Total Coverage Value and Unit Retail Sales 52 w/e 30/01/21. To verify contact Vitabiotics Ltd, 1 Apsley Way, London, NW2 7HF. UK's leading supplements for humans. Vitabiotics will donate 10p from the sale of each product to Battersea. (Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, registered charity number: 206394).



**Made in
Britain**



VITABIOTICS



JOIN TEAM BATTERSEA

Whatever your style: running, trekking, cycling, or swimming – we want to welcome you to Team Battersea. Find charity places in a number of events including:

26 SEPTEMBER
GREATER MANCHESTER
HALF MARATHON

10 OCTOBER
ROYAL PARKS
HALF MARATHON

GOT YOUR OWN PLACE?

If you've already secured your own place in another challenge event, you can still join Team Battersea to help us make life brighter for rescue dogs and cats.

REGISTER OR FIND OUT MORE AT:
BATTERSEA.ORG.UK/CHALLENGES



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