

KITTY MEWS

Quarterly Newsletter February 2025

June and her late husband Ian (Cat Daddy) started the GCH rescue 17 years ago, and she has been rescuing and rehoming cats and kittens in need ever since. June has a dedicated team of volunteers, amazing website, Facebook, and Insta pages, some wonderful foster parents, and superb support from Voo Vets. Starting with two cats, June now has 15 permanent rescue residents, as well as 11 cats of her own, and 12 in long-term foster care. In 2024, there were 64 cats and 95 kittens adopted, a total of 200. This year so far, there have been 9 cats and 12 kittens adopted. The rescue work is 24/7 and it thrives thanks to June's commitment, expertise, and care, along with fantastic support from dedicated volunteers and amazing followers. Thanks to June and all of you, GCH really is a very special place: a cat sanctuary.

Love Me Tender



Our gorgeous boy Elvis, who came to us in November 2023, has been having a tough time of it recently. His diabetes, which was in remission, has returned. At the end of January, we noticed he wasn't eating so well, he was drinking a lot and was also a bit wobbly. We took him into Voo for bloods, which showed his glucose levels were very high and his pancreas had become inflamed, which had triggered his diabetes.

Elvis stayed in intensive care for 2 weeks, while they treated his pancreas with antibiotics and took regular glucose curves. Thankfully, his pancreas is now better. The vets discharged him back to us, he is back on insulin and his glucose is being

monitored with Libre sensors. He even has his own iPhone! His readings were wildly erratic at first, but now they are settling down again, and his curves are mostly in the green. Elvis is back on Bozita food, his favourite is reindeer flavour (random!). He is back to playing football and trying to steal biscuits, whenever he gets the chance. We are hopeful that, all being well, Elvis will eventually go back into remission again. Paws crossed! Thank you for all your support.





The Never Ending Story

Kitten season usually ends for us (and other rescues) at the beginning of November but, this year, it just hasn't stopped!



The Polly Pocket Litter arrived on 27 November with a couple in a van, who had found mum Polly + three new kittens Beany, Furby & Dinky in their shed. The next day Miffy was born at the rescue. Shortly after arriving, we thought Furby had fallen and broken his neck but, after an emergency hospital visit, he seems fine. Dinky had to be hand-reared as she is so tiny; she is still only half the size of her siblings (0.84k). She got pushed out by the others initially, but now she is fully integrated again. Polly is a wonderful mum to her kittens. Furby & Miffy have already been reserved for adoption.











The KFC Litter: Popcorn, Zinger & Twister were found on Ripley common on 16 January by a member of the public, who stopped on the side of the road. One kitten had been run over but the other three were hiding in the hedgerow. After 4 hours, the finders got two kittens out, but they were struggling with the third. They took the first two kittens to Voo Vets, and then our very own Batman & Robin (Steve and Lee) arrived and coaxed the third kitten out of the thicket with KFC chicken! There was no sign of mum cat. They were hissy to start with but now they are doing really well. Zinger has been reserved for adoption.







The Ice Cream Litter: Solero, Magnum, Ripple & Kulfi were taken into their finder's home after their mum gave birth to them in the garden. Foxes were threatening, so the finder took them all in, but mum cat was very distressed at being kept inside, so she let her go. The kittens were surrendered to us on 27 January. At first, they were doing really well, but then they developed calicivirus and bronchial pneumonia. They had 3 days in hospital but now they home again and bouncing around, as if nothing happened!











Chandra [2] was surrendered to us on 8 February, unvaccinated and pregnant by her brother; she came in with her daughter Selene [1]. Chandra gave birth prematurely to 4 kittens. One kitten, Ariel, was stillborn, the other three kittens Hubble, Ginga & Gemini (the Telescope litter) were initially doing well, and Selene was helping her mum out with babysitting. Sadly, Chandra then rejected her kittens, who began to fade. Ginga, Gemini & Hubble died shortly afterwards. It is heartbreaking when premature kittens from such poor circumstances don't make it. RIP, little ones! We are hopeful that Chandra & Selene will be able to have a good life together.

Caroline Jeffcote Caroline's fundraiser for Ginger Cat House Fundraising for Ginger Cat House E891 raised of £1,000 target by 33 supporters

London Marathon Sunday 27 April

We are absolutely thrilled that two of our loyal supporters, Caroline and Ellie have managed to get ballot places for the London Marathon on April 27, 2025. Caroline fosters Khan and Taffy for us, two of our lovely golden oldies. Ellie adopted one of our gorgeous Greek cats, Monica (now Marseille), last year. Caroline & Ellie both have JustGiving pages so that you can easily donate, and the money comes directly through to us. Caroline is aiming to raise £1000, and Ellie is aiming for £2000. You can follow Caroline and Ellie's progress on Strava. Please support them if you can.



We are also delighted that our local merchandise firm <u>PB Leisurewear</u> has generously donated two running tops for Caroline & Ellie to wear on the day.



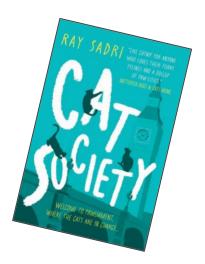




Cat Book Club



On February 20th, we were delighted to host author Ray Sadri who wanted to read his book '<u>Cat Society</u>' to our resident cats and film it! He is writing a sequel, and he wanted to do a Book Club for cats as promotion for it. Ray read excerpts from 'Cat Society' to the Hooligans, then he went upstairs to read to Elvis, Nelson and Jovi. The cats loved it, not least because Ray bought them lots of treats!



Other recent arrivals

Jinni [1] was found in a coffee shop in Leatherhead, where she had been visiting every day for a month. We are currently doing our best to locate her owners, though she is unchipped. She is currently in foster. Marianne [1] has been in four different homes and,

sadly, she was locked in the cupboard at the last one. Thankfully, a concerned neighbour persuaded the owners to surrender her. At first, Marianne was very hissy and growly,



but she has calmed down a lot in foster with Steve. She has just been neutered. Frostine [6mo] was locked in a flat, her owners had left her behind when they were evicted. The landlord only found her by chance and contacted us. She was very unwell and neglected when she came in, but she is doing well now.

Holby Kitty

Our main expense, as a rescue, is our vet bills. Last year we spent in excess of £140,000. We have so many cats and kittens through our doors that, inevitably, from time to time we come across some serious and unusual health issues. We are fortunate to have access to excellent surgeons at Voo Vets and generous supporters, who help out when we need extra financial assistance for such unexpected and difficult circumstances. Below are some of the cats and kittens who have needed medical help this quarter.



Gracie [6] has been losing weight and has not been herself for a couple of weeks. She has now lost nearly 20% of her body weight, so we are worried about her. While blood tests have not yet identified the problem, the next step will be a CT scan, as there is something not right with our lovely girl. The Ice Cream litter [11 wks] had high temperatures, so we took them into the vets for tests. They

were diagnosed with calicivirus and then they developed bronchial pneumonia. They stayed in hospital for 3 days, and they were treated with antibiotics. Now they are home and recovering well. Their recent check-up went very well, they are making great progress.











Hollis [2] was dumped in a wire carrier in Kingston with his sister Jovi. He has polyps in his ear, so he can't hear properly. He is currently having topical steroids to get it under control, and we are waiting to see if he needs specialist surgery. He has a check-up in two weeks, as his ears are still inflamed. He has a home lined up with Jovi when we can get him well. Frostine [7mo] was locked in a

flat when her owners were evicted and left her behind. She had a very bad tummy, and she tested positive for cryptosporidium (a parasitic gut

infection) which is spread in water. She had antibiotics for that and B12 injections to help with her tummy. She also has sensitive skin. Frostine has responded well to treatment. Her tummy is much better, and she has put on weight. She is about to head off to her new home, when she is fully recovered.





Salzi [18] developed cystitis, and went to hospital for a few days, but it was all sorted with antibiotics. We also tested the spot on his nose, which is a slow

growing melanoma; but no treatment is required at this stage. He seems fine in himself; he is an old boy who likes to sleep! Nelson [6-7] was more congested than usual for a little while, due to his deviated septum. He went in for a nasal flush, which worked very well. He is now back this usual self,



still demanding strokes before he eats and wrecking all his cat caves! We do love him!



Hope [4] is our very special disabled girl, who recently developed a UTI, and then Giardia. She stayed in hospital for 4 days and the was on pen-rest with regular

faecal samples. She is now clear of all infection, and she is back to normal. In fact, she is doing more than she was before; climbing the sofa, and scooting about with a lot more energy, which is lovely to see. Guy [11] was a stray, who was being fed for 7 months by neighbours. He came into us with raised liver enzymes and bad teeth, so he had a full liver biopsy. His liver enzyme levels are extremely high which show auto-immune hepatitis and pancreatitis. He has blood tests every four



weeks. Guy stopped eating at the beginning of February. We were concerned that he was giving up, but our vets are trying an injectable steroid to help his liver. He is now home again, but he is eating erratically. We are watching him closely. He is a traumatised boy who needs a lot of TLC.



Derry [2] came in with pelvic fractures from RTA, which we hoped would heal with pen rest. Complicated surgery was an option, to insert two screws and a bit of remodelling in his hip, but it was put on hold because the fracture was starting to heal on its own. X-rays showed that his fracture was not healing as well as the vets would like so he underwent more tests. Further X-rays showed not much change, so he was on a

month of whole-house access to see if more activity helped. Fortunately, our vets gave him the all-clear at his check-up in mid-February. Derry is currently in foster care with Rachel. He has now been reserved for adoption. Lisa [18 weeks] had a serious eye infection,

and she was referred to RVC for cataracts in both eyes, which had possibly been there since birth. Luckily, it transpired that she only had cataracts in one eye, and she was not in need of surgery. Lisa has one more check-up, and she should recover fully. Lisa has been adopted; she has a lively, playful character.





Rio [8 months] had 3 fits that we were aware of, and we had x-rays done on his joints because his front legs stick out. They showed loose ligaments and tendons on his joints on each leg and his hips, which is probably congenital. He also had an underlying inflammatory bowel condition, which is now under control. He was on potassium and probiotics supplements for his upset tummy,

and CBD oil helped for a while. Rio then had another fit, and he went into hospital with high temperature. He tested positive for calicivirus but now seems well again. He is under observation, and we are optimistic for his future. Benny [10] had an ultrasound, showing his heart is enlarged, and

he is in the early stages of heart failure. He had also developed FIP, which is very unusual for a cat of his age, and fluid build-up around his heart. His FIP has now been cured, and his heart condition is no worse. Benny is on palliative care, but he is not enjoying taking his heart medication! He is now going out more and he is definitely more friendly!





Bruno [6 months] has had two lots of surgery to insert an artificial sphincter to help control the flow of his urine. There was leakage following his first surgery to

reroute his urethra, which resulted in urine scalding on his tummy. The second surgery tweaked the first and he is now doing really well. He still has occasional leakage so is on medication, which is really helping him. He has had to have another tweak this week, but he had been doing really well till then. Eevee [3] is our deaf cat with a heart condition, who has recently been adopted by Jane. She is very happy and had her third ECG in January; everything currently looks good. Eevee is under our medical care for her heart.





Furby [4 wks] was found paralysed in his pen when he was 4 weeks old; we suspect he had fallen. He was rushed to hospital into an oxygen tent for 48 hours. X-rays and CT scans showed his neck vertebrae had pinched his spinal cord causing temporary paralysis. He will need a check-up, but he seems to have made a miraculous recovery and is full of beans. Nandi & Shani [6mo] had their eyes removed on 2 January. This was remedial surgery following on from their severe eye infections, when they were in Bulgaria. The surgery was successful, and their stitches were

removed a few weeks later. They have recovered and are very happy in their new home.





Lidl [5mo] became poorly when he was 6 weeks old. He had developed Bordetella, which was treated with antibiotics, and he has now completely recovered. Lidl is about to go to his new home.

Dottie [15] had a stress related angina attack at her foster home with Steve. She spent 2 days in hospital and came home with blood pressure pills, which she was not keen on taking. Dottie now takes her medication in in Lick-e-Lix, and she is looking forward to life in her new home.



Kittens Galore!

We have had some lovely babies growing up with us in these last few months.

Biscotti [9mo] adopted by June, Morrison adopted [5mo], Frostine [7mo] reserved & Hardy [1] in long-term foster with Dee & Andy









Lisa (Diddlys litter) adopted, Cherie [12wk] adopted, Sprout [10wk] foster fail with Viki!







Shelley litter [11 weeks]: Indy, Jazzy & Bebop all adopted







Double Trouble!

We are very lucky also to have had so many gorgeous pairs of cats & kittens at the rescue and at foster in this last quarter:



Chandra [2] & Selene [1] mum and daughter are a very bonded pair and will need to be re-homed together, when Chandra has recovered from her pregnancy, and they have both been neutered.





Sami & Fenni [13wk], such a gorgeous, bonded pair, have now been adopted. Hollis & Jovie [2] have been reserved as a pair. Jovie is about to go off to her new home. Hollis will stay with us for now while we treat his ear problems. He will hopefully join his sister very soon.





Lidl & Aldi/ Ocado & Asda [5mo] two gorgeous pairs from the Supermarket litter, who are all being adopted this weekend. They have come a long way since being found in a Tesco's carpark! Their sibling Morrison has already been adopted.





Hawkeye & Hopper [19 months] have been in long-term foster with Lee, but they are now up for adoption. They have finished their FIP treatment and Hopper has recuperated from his shoulder operation. Florentine and Rosetta [27 weeks] from the Biscuit litter are now chipped, neutered and vaccinated – they are ready for adoption as an adorable pair.



We also are looking for homes for Teddy & Coco [4] and Milo & Simba [1], both beautiful pairs who are up for direct adoption.





Cat Chronicles We have also had some fabulous junior and adult cats come into the rescue in recent months including:

Miley [6mo] adopted, Lonnie [6mo] adopted and Marianne [1] is in foster with Steve.







Rio [9mo], Bruno [8mo] & Guy [10] are all at the rescue; Cheeky [15] is in long-term foster with Emma & Nick.









Derry [2] is reserved for adoption; Dotty [15] is going to long-term foster with Katherine & Chris, Cindi Lou [8] is in foster with Byfleet Cat Rescue.







Tosca [2], Maggie May [1] & Olive [1] are all adopted.







GCH International

Nandi & Shani came to us from Hope For Paws in Bulgaria: they were taken in there at 12 weeks with severe eye infections. Nandi lost sight in both of her eyes, and Shani lost sight in one eye. They arrived with us on 11 December, and we fell in love with them straight away. Unfortunately, the severity of their eye infections meant that we had to arrange surgery for their affected eyes to be removed. Both girls recovered brilliantly from their surgery, and they are now in a lovely home with Kerrie & Emily.







Sponsorship

Some of our cats cannot be rehomed because of illness, old age, disability, anxiety, or the difficult circumstances from which they were rescued. They are all rescue cats and live under the permanent protection of GCH and there are currently 16 with June and 9 (Calli, Harvey, Kentucky, Khan, Koda, Memma, Taffy, Tinkerbell & Tommy) in long-term foster care with Natasha, Louise, Julie, Caroline & Jackie. Thank you to those of you who sponsor them monthly. Please see the website if you are interested in sponsorship. Here are our sponsor cats:

Benny [10], Calli [17], Charley [14] & Ellie May [6]









Elvis [13], Gabby [6], Gracie [6] & Harvey [18]









Hope [5], Kentucky [8] Khan [18] & Koda [15]

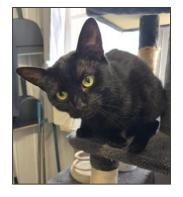








Lily [6], Lizzie [12], Memma [4] & Millie [10],









Nelson [6+], Razz [15], Salzi [18] & Shiloh [7]









Symon [11], Taffy [15], Tinkerbell [12], Tiny Tony [2] & Tommy [2]











Fostering at GCH

Fostering is very rewarding and an invaluable part of our operation here at GCH. If you are interested in fostering a cat, whether for short-, medium- or long-term, please fill out the application form on the <u>Fostering</u> page of our website and email it to us on team@gingercathouserecuse.co.uk.

Our current long -term foster cats are Calli & Harvey (with Natasha); Cheeky (with Emma & Nick); Doodles (with Evelyn); Hardy (with Dee & Andy); Kentucky (with Louise); Koda (with Brenda); Memma (with Julie); Taffy & Khan (with Caroline); Tinkerbell (with Jill) and Tommy (with Jackie).

Events

We love being able to invite visitors to the rescue to meet the cats and the team. Although we are limited by time, space and the weather, we try to host an event every fortnight from April to October, so as many supporters as possible can either come to the rescue or support us at car boot sales. Watch our Facebook page for the 2025 programme.

The winter months are downtime for us in terms of events, but we like to host a small social to thank the Cat Care volunteers for the invaluable work they do for us on a daily basis at the rescue. Our Mince Pies & Mulled Wine social was on Sunday 8 December and we were delighted to see them all!

Fundraising & Support

Fundraising is a huge part of the work we do at GCH. We have a number of initiatives, such as Ping A Pound, which enable us to keep looking after our feline friends 24/7 all year round. We are so grateful for the fantastic support of our followers who are incredible generous with their financial donations as well as food, toys, and cat furniture & treats. We couldn't manage without them and all of our volunteers who give so generously of their time.

Mellow Yellow

We are thrilled that <u>Big Yellow Storage</u> in Tolworth have offered us free storage space as part of their local charity initiative. We are gradually moving lots of our event stuff there, which is freeing up a lot of space at the rescue. You can get a discount there if you mention our name! We are so grateful to them for this opportunity.











One of our fosterers, Emma, organised a workplace Quiz in January which raised £498 for us! Well done, Emma!

In February, the MG Owners Club (Epsom area) kindly donated £400 to us. Each year their members nominate local charities to receive a donation. We were nominated by one of their members, Gina. Thank you, Gina!





Our supporter Gill and her family had a Christmas stall at their local church on 30 November. They crafted all the beautiful items themselves and raised an incredible £334, helped by their beautiful cat Molly Mae. Great work, ladies!



In January, supporter Julian did a birthday fundraiser for us through Facebook, raising a total of £116. Thank you, Julian!



Thank you to our volunteer and foster mum Dee, who has raised £200 for the rescue making beautiful cakes, such as this gorgeous cat cake. Also, thanks to our supporter Heidi from Sugar & Spice who raised £205 on a cake raffle for us. What amazing cakes she makes!





Regifting Sale

Our annual January Regifting Sale is always very popular as there such lovely gifts on offer. This year we raised an impressive £1219 over the weekend of 24/25 January. Thank you so much to everyone who generously donated their unwanted gifts. It makes such a difference to us.

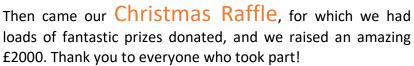
Blue Monday Raffle

To chase away the January blues, we held a Blue Monday Raffle. The prizes were M&S vouchers generously donated by Sean & Heidi from Porters Estate Agents: £300, £200. £100, £50, £20. In total, we raised £1824 for the rescue, which was a great way to start the year! Congratulations to all the winners.





Merry Christmas! Following on from the Christmas Bazaar in November, our Online Christmas Sale at the beginning of December raised £1000.













Ping A Pound

On the first of every month, we raise money through <u>Ping A Pound</u> to go towards cats with specific medical needs. In recent months, we have focused on:



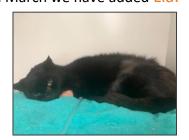






In December we supported Guy & Hope. In January, we supported Salzi & Furby. In February, we are supporting Elvis & Guy in their ongoing struggles with diabetes and liver failure, and in March we have added Lia.







To donate to Ping A Pound, you can:

- 1) Facebook PM us or email on team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk for our bank details.
- 2) PayPal donation via our PayPal Giving Fund.
- 3) You can also donate through the 'Make A Donation' page on our website.
- 4) Donate directly to our account at Voo Vets: 020 8399 6666/ 020 8337 9166.

Gift Aid

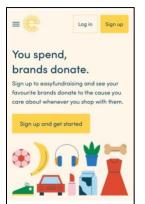
We are now registered for Gift aid so, if you are a UK taxpayer, we can claim on your donations. You can boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid on every £1 you donate.

If you would like us to claim Gift Aid on your donations (one-off, regular or sponsorship), please download the Multiple or Single donation form on our <u>Gift Aid page</u> on the website and email it to us on <u>team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk</u>.

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Add Gift Aid and give more without opening your wallet

Easyfundraising



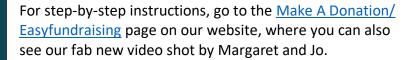
Do you love online shopping and booking holidays? Would you like to donate to The Ginger Cat House Rescue while you shop online at no extra cost to you?

If you are doing your shopping online with any of the 7000+ retailers registered with 'Easyfundraising', (including Amazon, eBay, Tui, Waitrose, Sainsbury's, Tesco, M&S, John Lewis, Asda, Currys, Iceland, Apple), they will make a donation to The Ginger Cat House Rescue. It costs you nothing!



Simply set up your account with <a>Easyfundraising, and select The

Ginger Cat House Rescue as your chosen cause. Remember to enable the donation reminder!



Now you can shop away with your favourite retailers and donate to us!! Happy shopping!!



Just Giving



We are registered with JustGiving as a charity, see our profile here and the JustGiving page on our website.

If you would like to fundraise for us by taking part in an event, celebrating an occasion, remembering someone or doing your own fundraising activity, you can set up a page on our account via this link.



You can also donate directly to us via this JustGiving link.

GCH Merchandise

We are very excited to have lots of fabulous merchandise for you to buy. Please visit the Merchandise page on our website for more details. Please email your order to team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk. Payment is by bank transfer.

Nelson Mugs £6 & T-shirts £12



For all our Nelson fans: our Nelson mugs are now in. Please note, these are not available for posting. Our lovely navy, Nelson T-shirts have been designed by Shanée Buxton and produced by <u>PB Leisurewear</u>. They are made by Gildan, 100% cotton and unisex. Up to 3 t-shirts can be posted for £3.50 postage (second class).







GCH T-shirts £12

We still have some lovely white GCH t-shirts available. They are produced by <u>PB Leisurewear</u> and designed by <u>Suzannah</u>. T-shirts are Fruit of the Loom, 100% cotton and unisex. Up to 3 t-shirts can be posted for £3.50 postage (2nd class).

To order, please email team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk. See the full range of our merchandise here.





Nelson & Elvis Prints by Shanée £5

We are delighted that talented local artist Shanée Buxton has designed some gorgeous watercolour prints and postcards for us to help raise funds.

The prints of Nelson and Elvis are £5 and will be available at Cat Cafés and via Facebook PM or email on team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk.



Mugs £6

These three fabulous mugs (Pitter Patter, Symon & Gracie) designed by <u>Andy</u> are ideal for your daily tea & coffee. Please note the mugs are not available for posting.













Cotton and Canvas Shopper Bags £5



Our long-handled shopper bags (in cotton and canvas options) are both attractive and durable. Take us shopping with you! Design by <u>Suzannah</u>



Pens £3
Our GCH Pens write beautifully and make a lovely gift.





Fridge Magnets £3

We have fun fridge magnets of Symon, Gracie and Pitter and our Ginger Is The New Black range, all designed by Andy.

















Key Rings £3

Our unique GCH key rings are a fun design and are easily identifiable.



Goodie Bags £15

If you would like a little bit of everything, treat yourself!

One bag (specify cotton or canvas)
One mug (specify which)
One pen
One key ring
One fridge magnet (specify which)

Bargain price of £15 (value would be £20). This item is collection only.



Socials



We are very lucky to have over 37,000 followers on Facebook, but we are also delighted that our Instagram account now has over 1700 followers! Please follow us!

Facebook: @gingercathouse118

<u>Instagram</u>: @thegingercathouserescue

Link tree: @gingercathouse



Volunteers



Cat Care Daily Volunteers every morning, our daily volunteers come to clean the pens, organise the rescue rooms, and look after the cats and kittens. This Cat Care Daily Volunteer group is run by Brenda, and is made up of regulars Amanda, Debs, Heidi, Mel, Dee, Taylor, Zoe, Linda, Jo, Bev, Michelle, Zara, Viki, Yvonne, & Jackie. We also have a further bank of lovely ladies, including Denise, Linda H, Eve, Suzannah, Sam, Fabi, Maya, Keeley, Lynn & Natasha who are ready to step in if we need the extra help or at busy times of year. We are so grateful for their invaluable help every day. It's not always glamorous work, but it is very rewarding and there are cats & kittens to cuddle!



If you are interested in being a volunteer, whether that be in Cat Care, Events, Car Booting or Fostering, please email us on team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk.

Dates for your Diaries:

Yard Sale: Sunday 23 March at the rescue
Online Beauty Sale: Friday 28 - Sunday 30 March

Summer Bazaar: Saturday 14 June 2025 at the Willow Tree pub, 12-5pm.



The Ginger Cat House Rescue

118 Vale Rd, Worcester Park, KT4 7EB | www.gingercathouserescue.com team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk adoptions@gingercathouserescue.co.uk Registered charity no. 1203475

Rescue with love Rehome with care