



KITTY MEWS

Quarterly Newsletter August 2023

June and her late husband Ian (Cat Daddy) started the GCH rescue 15 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](#), [Twitter](#) and [Insta](#) pages, some wonderful foster parents, and superb support from [Voo Vets](#). Starting with two cats, June now has 13 permanent rescue residents, as well as 8 cats of her own, and 7 in long-term foster care. In 2022, there were 117 cat adoptions and 128 kittens, total of 245. This year so far there have been 63 cats and 45 kittens adopted. The rescue work is 24/7 and it thrives thanks to June's commitment, expertise, and care, along with fantastic support from volunteers and amazing followers. Thanks to June and all of you, GCH really is a very special place: a cat sanctuary.

Blue came to us in mid-May at 7-8 weeks old. His story has been tugging at all



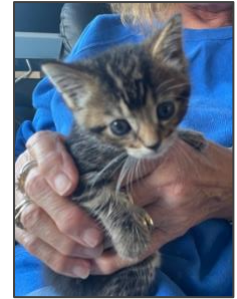
of our heartstrings ever since. Blue had been given adult flea treatments before he came to us which permanently damaged his kidneys. Because his blood tests results were so poor, he began having sub-cutaneous fluids administered 4 times a day. Just when we thought there was no hope, the vets recommended a new procedure, and he began having dialysis weekly. However, Blue was also suffering from constipation because his body is not processing food properly, and he had to have regular enemas. At first the dialysis worked well but, after a few weeks, his tiny body was no longer able to keep the tubes in and the vets advised that Blue be placed on palliative care with pain medication. He had an enema this week because of impacted faeces in his system, but he was up and down, one minute seeming bright and the next flat. Under the careful care of Julie his foster mum and volunteer Jackie, he was defying all the odds, he loved going outside, having regular healing sessions with Erica, and he was the VIP guest at our most recent Cat Cafe. Sadly, Julie saw that he was struggling over the last few days, and we made the really difficult decision to let him sleep on 31 August, with Julie, Lee, June & Jackie



at his side and the help of CT Vets. His poor tiny body couldn't cope any more, but he passed peacefully. We are all devastated at his loss, this brave little boy captured all of our hearts. RIP, Blue, rest now. xx



Kittens in a Box! On 23 August, we were alerted that 7 kittens had been left in a box at a bus stop in New Malden. We got there in 15 minutes, but the box had disappeared. We sent volunteers to search but there was no sign. Later that afternoon, a lady arrived at the rescue with three of the kittens in the box, which she said she had found at the nearby park gate, but there was no sign of the other four kittens or mum. The three kittens are about four weeks old and not weaned. They had been out on the heat all day so were very dehydrated, so we began bottle feeding them straight away.



Again, we sent volunteers out to search the park, speak to nearby shops and search the local bins, but we couldn't find the kittens or their mum. It was brought to our attention later that evening that the kittens were being discussed on social media and had been taken in, but we have had no further details, despite appealing for them to be brought into us for their safety and welfare. We can only hope that they are being well looked-after, as they are far too young to be away from their mum and need special care in their feeding.

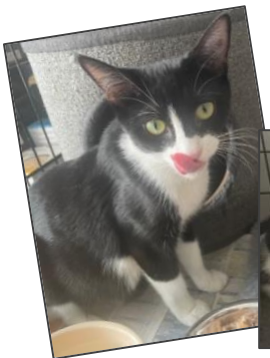


We have named the three kittens the Dance litter and their names are Mambo, Salsa, and Calypso. They are lovely little kittens who are responding well to their bottles and are behaving beautifully.

Summer Kitten bonanza

This summer, we have had a bonanza of mums and kittens keeping us all entertained and on our toes! **Socks** gave birth to her litter in a garden: **Spangle, Snickers, Skittles, Smartie & Sherbert**, the babies were 2 days old when they came in with mum.

Tailor, and her week old kittens were also found in a garden: **Button, Bodkin, Bobbin, Stitch & Thimble**. Mums and kittens are all doing well.



Socks litter



Tailor litter



Jessica litter

We have also been lucky enough to have five litters born at the rescue! One the 1st of July, **Jessica** (with foster mum Julie) had: **Mulberry, Teal, Scarlett, Cyan & Granite**. Then on 6 July, we had three litters born: **Maxy** (also with Julie) had **Fennel, Basil, Oregano, Saffron & Sesame**; **Ember** had the tennis litter **Alley, Hopper Hawkeye, & Ace**; **Miss Molly** had **Rhea, Elara, Thebe, Oberon & Charon**. A week later on 13th July at Julie's, **Olivia** gave birth to **Splinter, Leonardo, Donatello, Michaelangelo & Raphael**



Maxy litter



Tennis litter



Miss Molly litter



Olivia litter

Later that same month, **Marina** came in with her litter of 7 who were 3 weeks old: **Atlanta, Troy Tempest, Lady Penelope, Harmony, Melody, Medina & Destiny**. **Brie** and her litter: **Noodle, Honey, Cookie & Pretzel**, also surrendered at three weeks, are now with foster mum Mel. **Monsoon** came to us with her kittens who were born that very day in a Wendy house: **Drizzle, Mizzle, Raine, Puddle & Cloud**. Mums and kittens are all well.



Marina litter



Brie litter



Monsoon litter

New arrivals: Recent arrivals in the past couple of weeks have been:

Cuddles (15), Tico & Taco (6 mo), Lucky Charm (5mo):



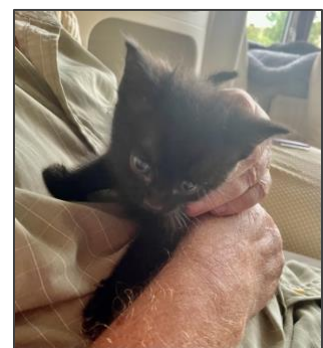
Ted (4mo), Jenga & Jigsaw (1):



Dance litter (4 week old Mambo, Salsa, Calypso), Wolfie (5mo) & Todd (5mo).



Our two newest 5 week old little girls, Shimmy & Lindy Hop, abandoned together and brought in yesterday:



Over The Rainbow Bridge

Pixie (12) came to us when her owner died earlier this year. She turned out to be rather unwell with suspected hepatitis, pancreatitis and possible liver cancer. Initially she was treated with antibiotics, pain relief and liver support. Pixie didn't respond to the treatment, so the next stage was a liver biopsy, which revealed a cyst on her liver so further investigations and treatment

were needed. Eventually she was diagnosed with liver failure and was receiving monthly steroid injections. Firstly, Pixie was fostered by Keeley and then by Dee and her husband Andy who wanted to foster her long-term. Sadly, on the morning of 2 August, Pixie collapsed, despite playing like a kitten only the night before. We rushed her to the vets and she passed away with Dee, Andy & Lee at her side. All of us are devastated as she was such a lovely cat. RIP, Pixie, our gorgeous girl.



Bonnie (15): was surrendered to vets by her owners who didn't want to pay her bills. Tests showed that she had pancreatitis, which is treatable, and dehydration, but also possible kidney problems. We arranged a foster place for Bonnie so that she could live out her twilight years, but further investigation revealed a lymphoma and dramatic weight loss. She went back into hospital but stopped eating and the vet advised that the kindest thing would be to put her to sleep. RIP lovely Bonnie.



Holby Kitty

Our main expense as a rescue is our vet bills and this year has been no exception. 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. As well as Blue, Pixie and Bonnie, here are some of our recent stories:



Boro is our 20 year old girl with dementia who is currently being treated for a urinary issue, which may also be affecting her bladder and kidneys. She is currently on antibiotics and undergoing further tests. She has blossomed under the loving care of foster mum Natasha.

Hawkeye was admitted to hospital with a temperature, which turned out to be mild pneumonia. He was put on fluids and antibiotics and is now fully recovered. Recently he may have pulled a muscle in his shoulder, but he is doing really well. Hawkeye is now coming off his bottle – and foster mum Lee says he is growing up.



Bramble gave us all a fright in early August when he began panting, we thought it was an asthma attack. Tests showed that he had tested positive for calicivirus, his litter had always been vulnerable because of the circumstances in which they were found. Bramble antibiotics to treat the inflammation in his lungs, and he is now fine. Never have we seen a cat so happy to get home! He didn't eat a thing at the vets but wolfed down his dinner as soon as he got back! He is a mummy's boy.

Jessica seemed a little off-colour, she had become slightly dribbly and looked uncomfortable so we took her into the vet because she was nursing her kittens. She turned out to be calici positive, but it has been treated and she is now recovering well with her foster mum.



Cyan, Mulberry & Granite: in mid-August, these lovely foster kittens began showing signs of discomfort in their legs, with possible inflamed joints. They tested positive for calici virus, which was most likely to be from their mum, Jessica. They were all put on anti-inflammatory pain meds and are now doing well with foster mum Julie.

Memma recently started peeing out of character and her urine had a strange smell. This turned out to be a urinary infection and an ongoing UTI in her bladder. She has had a recent change of antibiotics, so fingers crossed they will make her more comfortable. With her ongoing medical issues, she will always be prone to urinary infections, so her foster mum, Julie, will just need to keep a close eye on her.





Ember was a young cat who came to us when pregnant with her second litter. Her tiny kittens were born on 6 July. Ember was exhausted, and her breathing became laboured, so we took her into hospital the next day. It transpired that her pregnancy had pushed her bowel up towards her diaphragm which was hampering her breathing. An endoscopy showed her bowel was blocked by two big hair balls.

Ember had to spend some time in an oxygen tent. She then came off oxygen and fluids by the middle of the following week, and came home to feed her babies. Unfortunately by the time she was off her medication, Ember was rejecting her babies who then had to be bottle fed. As she was no longer interested in her babies and wasn't feeding them, she has now been neutered and rehomed. We hope she has a quieter and more relaxed life now!

Tennis litter: these gorgeous kittens of Ember started off being bottle fed every 3 hours by June and Lee. All suckled well and gradually took larger quantities of milk and began to put on weight. When June became unwell, Alley, Hopper, Hawkeye and Ace went to stay with Lee. Now they are being fed every 5 hours, and transitioning from bottles to solids. They are also starting to use the litter tray on their own. They are doing really well.



Cambridge is our lovely white boy whose devoted owner has been evicted from her home.



While we try to reunite them, Cambridge has not been eating and has been a bit congested. We had a swab done which revealed Herpes and Mycoplasma, both treatable with antibiotics. Cambridge is already showing signs of improvement, and he visibly brightens whenever his owner comes to visit him at his foster mum's home. He had a dental in July, when he had to have six teeth removed, but he has recovered well.

Tazz is not one of our rescues, but one of June's beloved pets, whom many of you also like to hear about. He periodically suffers from pillow foot, which flares up. Unfortunately,



Tazz developed an infection in his foot which then became pancreatitis and exacerbated a heart issue. Things were touch and go for a while and he stayed in intensive care for 3 weeks. Fortunately, his huge vet bill was mostly covered by insurance. Sadly, he does also have stage 4 kidney disease, which means he is no longer able to fight off the infection as well as we would like. Initially he had to have bandage changes every four days under sedation, but now he does not need the bandages as his leg is healing well. He is not currently taking medication, but he is choosing to wee everywhere but his litter tray!!



Kittens Galore!

Kitten season started early for us this year and, as well as all the mums with babies, we have also had many wonderful single babies growing up with us in these last few months:

Barry, Grady & Bertie:

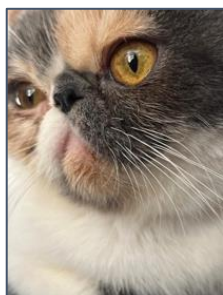


Cally, Pearl & Figgy, as well as all the new arrivals just in (see above).

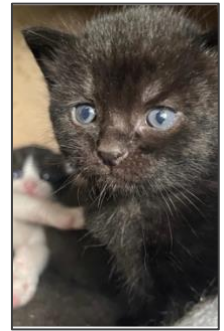


Double Trouble!

We are very lucky to have so many gorgeous pairs of cats & kittens up for adoption in this last quarter: Kenzie & Kiwi; Maurice & Robyn; Margarita & Bellini:



Beau & Bobbie, Meesha & Tala; Steely Dan & Davy Jones:

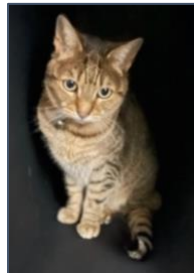


Joan Jett & Toyah; Tico & Teco:

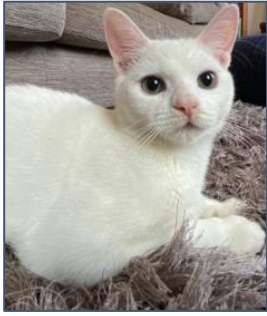


Cat Chronicles We have also had some gorgeous single cats available for adoption in recent months including:

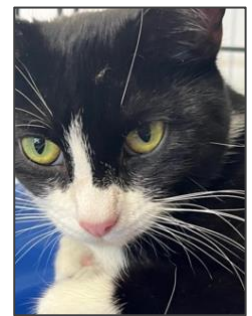
Bartholomew, Libby, Timmy & Penny Black:



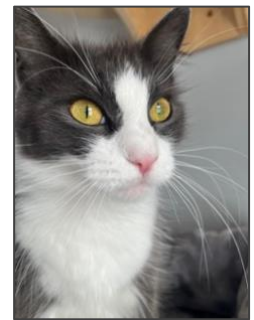
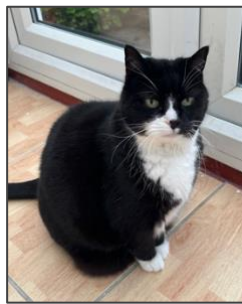
Cambridge, Betsie, Woodie & Renna:



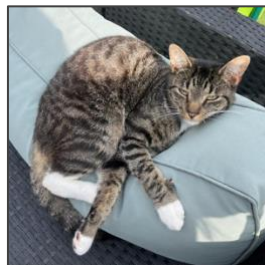
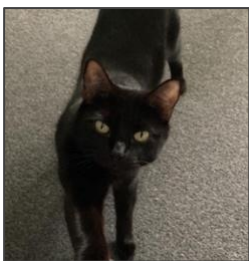
Maxy, Jessica, Scribbles & Socks:



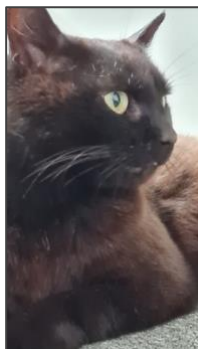
Matilda, Snickers, Jazzy & Miss Molly:



Olivia, Nahla, Kody & Angelo:



Mako, Zoey, Tippy & Zola:



Timmy, Taylor, Monsoon, & Barbie:



GCH International

We really enjoy being able to help our rescue friends abroad now and then with rehoming some of their gorgeous cats over here. This quarter, **Milo** from Dubai went to live with our long-term supporter Fiona in Scotland, one-eyed **Freddie** from Xristiana in Greece has found a lovely new home with Kate, **Soleil** also from Greece has gone to live with Megan. Our next international rescue will be **Tiny Tony** from Bulgaria, who also only has one eye. I'm sure we shall be able to find him a lovely home.

Milo, Freddie, Soleil & Tony:



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 13 with June and 9 (Memma, Kentucky, Kamran, Pebbles, Boro, Koda, Cuddles, Tinkerbelle, & Blue) in long-term foster care with Julie, Louise, Mel, Natasha, Brenda, Jill & Caroline. Thank you to those of you who sponsor them monthly. Please see the website if you are interested in [sponsorship](#). Here are the cats:



Symon [9]



Millie (8)



Charlie (10)



Shiloh (4)



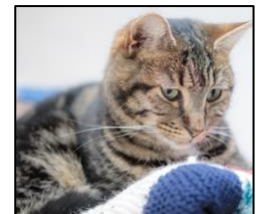
Benny (8)



Gabby (3)



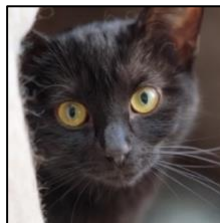
Gracie (3)



Ellie May (4)



Hope [1]



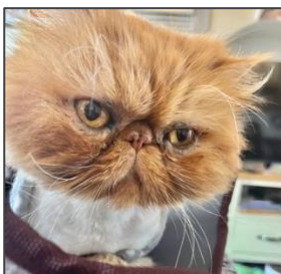
Lily (4)



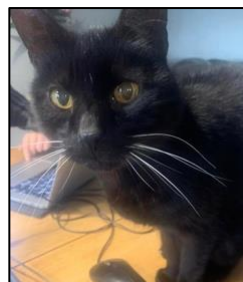
Lizzie (9)



Salzi [13]



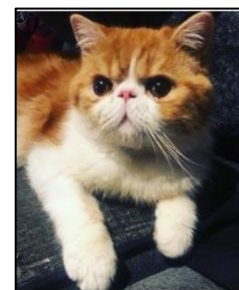
Rasputin [12]



Memma [1]



Kentucky [5]



Kamran [2]



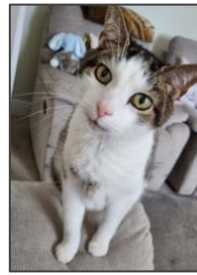
Boro [20]



Pebbles [19]



Koda [10]



Cuddles [15]



Tinkerbell [10]

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, please fill out the application form on the [Fostering](#) page of our website and email it to us on team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk. New fosterers this quarter are Jill (Tinkerbell), Dee (Pixie), Caroline (Cuddles) and Carolyn (Margarita & Bellini)

Charity Registration

Finally on 8 June 2023, we became registered charity 1203475. This was the culmination of months of hard work and form filling by the admin team. We are in the process of registering for Gift Aid and we now have a new PayPal Giving Fund for donations, which can now be given without paying fees. While it has been an exhausting process, we are delighted to have achieved charity status and believe it will enable us to continue our good work in caring for cats and kittens. Thank you to everyone who has supported us in this endeavour. It's been a long haul, but it was worth it!!



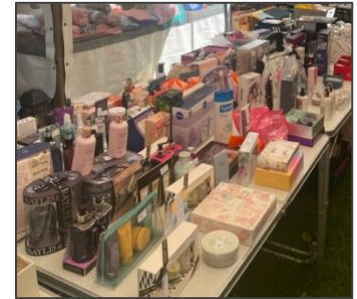
Fundraising & Support

Fundraising is a huge part of the work we do at GCH. Last year alone we had over £83,000 of vet bills and the work and day-to-day care is ongoing. 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.

Summer Bazaar



Our summer bazaar in the garden on 15 July had to be postponed at the last minute because of a severe weather warning. We rescheduled to the Sunday morning and were delighted to raise £2850. Thank you so much to the volunteers who re-jigged their weekends at such short notice to be able to help us. The lovely cake raffle was won by Colin & Sophie, and they donated the chocolate cake back to us which we thoroughly enjoyed! Gracie and Razz were locked inside for the day which they weren't happy about though, but at least they couldn't escape!



Online sales Following on from the bazaar, we made a further £1000 with online sales which included our luxury sunglasses sale.



Car Booting Because of poor weather, we haven't done as much car booting as last year, but we have been delighted with the results so far: Sunday 4 June £424, Sunday 18 June £482, Sunday 2 July £380, Sunday 20 August £417. We have been very lucky that Mel & Zach stood in for Margaret when she was away, so we could still take two cars. Thank you to our regular volunteers: Helen, Sally, Louise, Mike, Yvonne, Julia, Wendy, Thanuja, Wendy D and Vanessa.





Cat Cafés

The Cat Cafés have gone amazingly well this year and have not (thus far) been too blighted by the weather. With 30 guests per session, we have so far been able to welcome 180 supporters to the rescue to visit the residents and see the rescue at work. We have a couple more in September before the season ends. Gracie and Razz are the stars of the show in the garden, and Pitter Patter and the Brambles hold court indoors. Look out for dates posted on our Facebook page. Thank you to all the amazing volunteers who make these events possible.



Ping A Pound

On the first of every month we ask our followers to donate a pound to raise money for specific projects. We are always astonished at how generous our supporters are. Every single pound raised makes a difference – we are so grateful. In June and July, we were asking for help with Blue’s medical care and in August, we were raising money for Hawkeye. In September, we are raising money in memory of Blue, so we can help other cats in such difficult circumstances.



PayPal



Now that we are a registered charity (no.1203475), we have a NEW PAYPAL ACCOUNT!! We have enrolled in the PayPal Giving Fund so that you can donate to us without us incurring any fees. The new link to donate to us is here: <https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/4866139>

You can also donate through the new PayPal page on our website here: <https://www.gingercathouserescue.com/about-us>



If you have any questions, please see the 'PayPal Advice' button on the PayPal page of our website or contact us via Facebook PM or on team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk

Please note you must use the Giving Fund link, or we incur fees. You can search for us on PayPal under 'The Ginger Cat House Rescue' and donate that way, BUT we will incur fees e.g. on a £2 donation, we would receive £1.77. Once you have donated to us through PayPal you can make us a 'favourite charity' by clicking on the small heart symbol under our name. Thank you!!

GCH Merchandise



T-shirts We still have some t-shirts available, but are running out fast. If you would like one, please see the [merchandising page](#) on our website or PM us on Facebook. T-shirts are £12 each + postage, and come in S (35-37"); M (38-40"); L (41-43"); XL (44-46") sizes. The t-shirts are Fruit of the Loom, 100% cotton, and unisex made for us by a local firm [PB Leisurewear](#). We hope you like them!



Mugs & Fridge Magnets We also still have some lovely GCH mugs (£5) and fridge magnets (£3) (all plus postage). These wonderful designs are by our lovely supporter [Andy](#).



Socials

We are very lucky to have over 24,500 followers on **Facebook**, but we are also delighted that our **Instagram** & **Twitter** accounts now have over 1000 followers! This is all thanks to Nina, our social media guru, who regularly updates both sites with photos and news. Please follow us!

Facebook: @gingercathouse118

Twitter: @ginger_rescue

Instagram: @thegingercathouserescue

Link tree: @gingercathouse



Volunteers

Daily Volunteers

Every morning, our daily volunteers come to clean the pens and look after the cats and kittens. This Daily Core Volunteer group is run by Kym, and is made up of regulars Amanda, Dee, Tina, Linda, Jo, Nicola, Jackie, Viki, Vickie and Gabi. We also have a further bank of lovely ladies, 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. If you are interested in being a daily volunteer, please email on team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk. It's not glamorous work, but it is very rewarding!

Dates for your Diaries:

Car Boot: Sunday 3 September

Cat Cafés: 9 and 23 September, dates for ticket sales TBA

Sponsor Events: October dates TBC

Christmas Bazaar: 25 November at the Willow Tree pub.



The Ginger Cat House Rescue

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team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk | adoptions@gingercathouserescue.co.uk

Registered charity no. 1203475

Rescue with love
Rehome with care

