



KITTY MEWS!!

The Ginger Cat House

Quarterly Newsletter November 2022

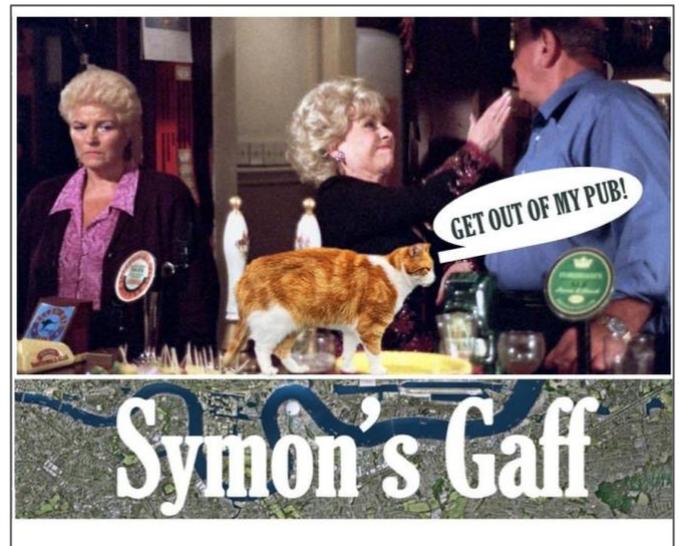


June and her late husband Ian (Cat Daddy) started the GCH rescue 15 years ago, and she has been rescuing and rehoming cats and kittens in need ever since. June has a dedicated team of volunteers, an amazing [website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Insta](#) pages, some wonderful foster parents, 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 2021, there were 145 cat adoptions and 75 kittens. This year so far there have been 111 cats and 117 kittens adopted. The rescue work is 24/7 and it thrives thanks to June's commitment, expertise, care and love of our feline friends, along with fantastic support from volunteers and our amazing followers. Thanks to June and all of you, GCH really is a very special place: a cat sanctuary.

Symon at the pub



After Symon's adventures in the summer, he has resumed his normal behaviour of trotting down to the Willow Tree pub and entertaining the locals. He has his own hiding place behind the bar for when it gets near to closing time, and he likes to loll in the sunny spots chatting away to customers! Our talented follower Andy ([@CosmicRubes](#)) has made some wonderful designs to show him off.



The Brambles



The Bramble kittens (Blackberry, Logan and Bramble) have come on in leaps and bounds since they came to us as orphans in August, having been found in a bramble patch in Epsom, covered in dirt, fleas and maggots. They have now been weaned and are lively, young kittens who enjoy kisses, cuddles and toys. Bramble in particular likes to cuddle with mummy June. They love to wolf down their fish in milk with a nob of butter and to play fight all day. Recently they all caught a respiratory infection, but antibiotics sorted that out. They have just had their first vaccination, so are growing up fast. They are now in a bigger pen, which they are racing around madly! We all adore them and will miss them terribly when they are ready to go after Christmas.

Orphans

We are fortunate that most of the kittens we have had this year have been with their mums. But there are always some sad cases, where we take in orphans who then need our extra special care.



Frodo & Bilbo came to us in September when three weeks old, they were being offered on Gumtree, and were not yet weaned. They are the most beautiful affectionate pair; Lee & Taylor have completely fallen for them. They used to love their bottles but have now graduated to real food and tuck into their fish dinners.



Zahra was found abandoned in some woods in late October and brought into us. We think she was about 8 weeks as she was so tiny. She is a stunner, but still a bit wary of strangers. She is now ruling the roost with foster mum, Nina. She had a delicate tummy at first, as she was weaned too early, but Nina sorted that out and she is all better. She loves to play and to chase her toys, and is very happy with her new warm surroundings. Zahra loves her food, and her foster mum, especially when she is trying to work! What a stunner she is!



Golden Oldies

As well as kittens, we think it is equally important to look after the golden oldies, who often come to us when their owners become ill or pass away. Older cats are great companions and bring a special kind of joy to their owners. If they are healthy, we try to rehome them, but if they have medical needs, they stay with us for palliative or long-term foster care.



Abbie

Abbie [14], an ex-GCH cat, has just been rehomed again with Dee, after her owner sadly died. **Dolly Parton** [12], also an ex- GCH cat and now being fostered by Lindsay, is in good health and about to be adopted, after her owner went onto care. **Koda** [10], and **Barclay** [16] are in long-term foster care with Brenda and Linda. **Babes** [15] is with foster mum Lea after her owner died, but she has some complex medical issues, as does **Pebbles** [19], who is with foster mum Natasha. **Rasputin** [10] is now at GCH and doing really well after his operation to deal with his bladder crystals. We are hoping to integrate him with the rest of the gang.



Dolly



Babes



Pebbles



Koda



Barclay



Rasputin

Christmas Bazaar

This last weekend, we hosted our annual Christmas Bazaar at our local Willow Tree pub. We had an army of volunteers who supported us in what was a very long but also very successful day. In total, we raised in excess of £6,600, which is amazing. Our thanks go to all our supporters who came to buy stuff, all the volunteers without whom none of this would be possible and to the staff at the pub, Tash & James. Thank you!!!!

Stalls included cakes, bottle tombola, beauty, GCH merchandise, Christmas, home, cats, crafts, jewellery, plants, knitwear, and our raffle!





Cake sale

Our thanks to Abi and Darcy who raised £153 for us with a cake sale on 22 September and a further £53 selling a friend's bracelets. We are so grateful for all of their hard work, and we invited them to the rescue for kitten cuddles as a thank you. We and their parents are so very proud of them for such a wonderful donation!



Fred



A heart-warming story is that of Fred who began visiting a garden in Worcester Park in the summer. He was looking unwell, and the weather was turning, so the finder Zahida contacted us. It turned out that Fred was chipped but the chip had not been registered by the implanter. With some help from Gail at Voo Vets, we managed to trace the owner Marc, who lived nearby. Fred had been missing since August and his parents were delighted to get him home again. We do love a happy ending!



Olaf



Olaf was found wandering New Malden High Street in August. Despite our appeals on social media, local vets and independent shops, there was no joy until we placed a poster in New Malden Methodist Church. Luckily, the owner's friend was a part of the congregation, and we were able to reunite Olaf with his owner in September. Thank you to Julie and Alison at NMMC for being so kind and helpful, and to Laura who fostered Olaf while he was with us.



This Is Local London

In late October we were privileged to have Young Reporter Jasmine visit us to interview June for This Is Local London. See her interview [here](#). Jasmine is a student at Esher Sixth Form College, and it was a pleasure to welcome her to the rescue. We think you will agree that she is a very talented young lady.

Over The Rainbow Bridge



Sophia was brought into us in August, after suffering a tragic accident at home which left her with her back legs paralysed and doubly incontinent, when she was only three weeks old. She was the most adorable, resilient little girl, who was welcomed by cat foster mum Babushka and her daughter Nikita. Nikita and Sophia became completely bonded, and Steve made Sophia her own little slope so she could climb up her customised cat tree, just like the other cats. We had planned to keep Sophia with us for as long as was needed as we were not sure of the extent of her injuries, and if she would ever be able to walk again. We all grew to love her loud miaow and her close friendship with Nikita. The strength in her front legs was truly impressive. Her regular check-ups to the vet showed that her bladder had begun leaking internally, at which point they advised us that there was nothing more we could do for her. We had to make the heart-breaking decision to put her to sleep so that she didn't suffer. We miss her terribly, RIP little one!



GCH Healing

We are so lucky to have weekly visits from local healer [Erica](#), who spends the whole afternoon with our cats and kittens who all need some extra special care from her. Recently she has spent a lot of time with Hope, Fidget, Sophia, Kamran, Rufus, Kenzie, the Brambles, Bilbo & Frodo, as well as some of the older cats such as Fudge. It is amazing to see how calm they become in Erica's hands; they can sense her healing energy and respond really positively to her. We are very grateful that Erica is happy to volunteer her time with us.



Holby Kitty

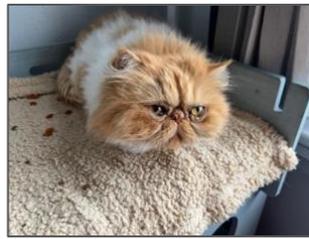
We have so many cats and kittens through our doors, that inevitably from time to time we come across some serious and unusual health issues. We are fortunate to have access to excellent surgeons at Voo Vets and generous supporters, who help out when we need extra assistance for such unexpected and difficult circumstances. Here are some of our recent stories:

Pebbles is 19 years old and came to us with a kidney infection, and hyperthyroidism. Her liquid medication is now working well for her and she is being very well cared for by foster mum Natasha, who says she is putting on weight and doing well. **Rasputin** is a lovely 10 year old Persian boy who came in needing an operation for his bladder crystals, which were making him very unwell. Fortunately the operation was a success and he is now recuperating with us and enjoying his life in Kitty Haven. We are hoping to integrate him with the other resident cats soon.

Babes is 15, and we are currently investigating her enlarged spleen. The results from her recent biopsy showed that she also has an enlarged liver and pancreas, so she is having treatment for that. In the meantime, Babes is being loved and cared for by foster mum Lea.



Pebbles



Rasputin



Babes

Buddy In early September, Lee noticed that our mafia boy's eyes were not looking right, and he was wobbly on his feet. It turned out he had Pyelonephritis – a urine infection which had spread to his kidneys. Buddy's white cell count was through the roof, so he stayed on in hospital on antibiotics and fluids. Thankfully, a biopsy showed no signs of cancer or kidney disease. After a recuperation holiday in Kitty Haven, he has returned to his usual spot outside and continues to enjoy pestering passers-by for Dreamies!



Memma is our one year-old hermaphrodite kitten who has a number of health issues due to her internal organs not being in the correct place. Most recently she needed an anal glands operation, as she was terribly uncomfortable and sore. Memma is recovering well, and her foster mum Julie is looking after her on a long-term basis. Memma is a little minx, but Julie loves her. **Kamran** is only one but has had tummy troubles since he was born. He has now had two negative coronavirus tests, and he is on specialist biscuits for his IBS. His tummy has been good for over a month now, but he needs ongoing testing for his condition and special foster care. He does have occasional flare ups, which need managing but he loves his life with Mel and her family. He is a little cuddle bug. **Santos** (now Harley) is one of Sheba's kittens who is now living with Helen and her family. He is also only a year old but has always been delicate and snuffly. He has finally been diagnosed with chronic rhinitis, and we are making progress with his antibiotic nasal spray. While he will always have flare ups, his condition is hopefully now under control.



Kamran



Memma



Fidget

Fidget is the smallest of Mili's litter, whose first vaccination triggered a reaction to corona virus, which he probably had picked up from his mum. After a glucose crash, we rushed him to hospital, and he was put in intensive care for a week on a glucose drip. Fidget is a lot better now, and he loves his cuddles from visitors and his healing with Erica.



Santos

Last but not least, our lovely old boy **Fudge**, who is 18 recently had a mini fit, and we are worried about his heart arrhythmia, as he has had a grade 4/5 heart murmur for the three years we have had him. The vets are doing bloods, and he is on Gabapentin. Overall, the vet is really pleased with his condition for his age, but the fit is an ongoing concern. We'll be keeping a close eye on him.



Kittens Galore!



Dexie litter

Perhaps unsurprisingly, this year has seen a huge rise in pregnant mums being surrendered to us. Some kittens already adopted this quarter include Caramelle, Ziti, Orzo, Gemelli (**Noella** litter); John Joe, Geno, Wiggle (**Dexie** litter); Tango, Pepsi, Fanta (**Fizz** litter); Saturn, Mercury, Jupiter, Pluto, Neptune (**Solar** litter); Rufus; Freddie; Rocco, Rafiki, Rexy (**Roxy** litter); William, Charles, Philip (**Greek** kittens); Hyde, Tatton, Wisley, Hampton (**Chelsea** litter); Jenna, Bianca, Silvio (**ZhuZhu** litter); Hobbes, Tora, Zabu (**Tabbi** litter); Penelope, Pippa (**Dubai** kittens); Tessie; Digit, Bridget, Margit, Widget, Bridget (**Mili** litter); Buttons (**Cinderella** litter). And there are more to come!



Mili litter



Noella litter



Roxy litter



Rufus



Tabbi litter



Tessie



Zhu litter

Double Trouble!

Some of the cats and kittens in our care are so bonded, that they have to be adopted as a pair, including: Dobby & Prince Caspian; Dexie & Shona; Solar & Fizz; Toby & Tabbi; Tatton and Hyde; Roxy & Ritzie; Mitzy & Joey; Zabu & Tora; Digit & Bridget.



Dobby



Prince Caspian



Zabu & Tora



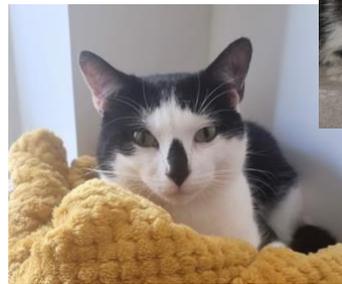
Tatton & Hyde



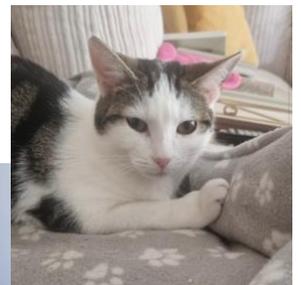
Solar & Fizz



Widget & Birgit



Toby & Tabbi



Cat Chronicles

Although the focus has been on kittens recently, we have had a number of lovely cats these last three months, all with their own bittersweet stories, who have also now found their forever homes. Special mention must go to our wonderful mum cat **Babushka**, our 10 year-old lady, who came to us pregnant and then nursed our wonderful Sophia as well as her own litter of kittens. Babs has the most wonderful temperament and is going to a fantastic home with Kathy. Some other beauties with new homes are: Bella, Ferne, Ella, Elm, Paige & Rosie.



Babushka



Bella



Ferne



Ella



Elm

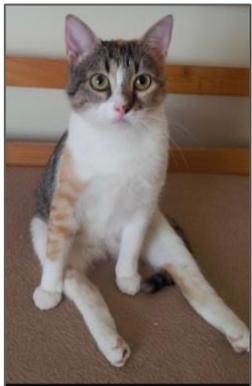
GCH International

Despite times being hard, we are delighted that we are still able to help some rescues overseas. These are the international cats we have recently been able to help:

Juno is our one year-old tripod from Abu Dhabi, who lost her leg in a road traffic accident. When we took her in, we were so lucky to find a new owner, Louise, with experience of tripod cats. Juno is now happy in her new home.



Juno



Julia



Alexandra

Julia is the wonderful mum cat in Greece with Xristiana who was so badly injured by dogs after giving birth in the street. Julia is doing really well and remains in Greece; we have rehomed three of her kittens: Charles, Alexandra and Philip here. Only Lilibet still needs a home.



Lilibet



William



Rosie's litter

Rosie and her kittens came to us last week from Dina in Dubai. Rosie has been adopted by Ruchira and her kittens will soon follow with new homes. They are all gorgeous. We also have four more beautiful kittens from Kristiana who came last weekend, the **Disney** litter. We will be looking for homes for Donald & Daisy, Micky & Minnie.



Rosie



Donald



Daisy

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 seven (Memma, Barclay, Kentucky, Kamran, Pebbles, Babes and Koda) in long-term foster care with Julie, Linda, Mel, Natasha, Lea & Brenda. Thank you to those of you who sponsor them monthly. Please see the website if you are interested in [sponsorship](#). Here are the cats you can sponsor:



Symon [8]



Millie (5)



Charlie (9)



Shiloh (4)



Gabby (3)



Gracie (3)



Ellie May (4)



Benny (8)



Lily (3)



Lizzie (6)



Salzi (13)



Hope (1)



Fudge (17)



Kentucky (4)



Kamran (1)



Memma (1)



Barclay (16)



Pebbles (19)



Koda (10)

Fostering at GCH

If you are interested in fostering, please fill out the application form on the [Fostering](#) page of our website and email it to us on team@gingercathouse rescue.co.uk.

This year we have had an enormous number of cats staying with our foster parents. Without their help, all of these kitties would have been in trouble as the rescue was full. Huge thanks this last quarter to:

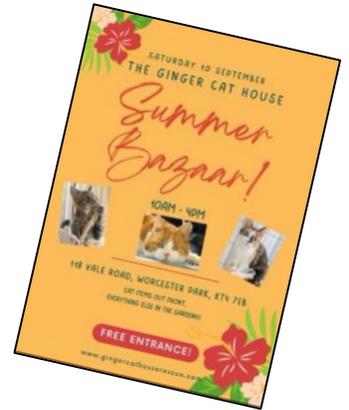
Julie, Lindsey, Steve, Mel, Linda, Keeley, Nina, Natasha, Arco & Kiki, Laura and to our newest foster mums Brenda and Lea.

Fundraising & Support

Fundraising is a huge part of the work we do at GCH. Last year alone we had over £50,000 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 late Summer Bazaar at the rescue in September raised £2800. We had some wonderful stalls including Margaret's Wool Emporium (looked after by Fudge!), and Kym's Cakes which raised £450. We had bad weather all week but were so lucky with fine sunshine on the day. All the volunteers were amazing!



Car Booting

Every Sunday from March to October, (except bank holidays) we go car booting at Hook Road Arena to raise funds for the rescue. It is not easy work, but it is good fun for our close-knit team of volunteers, and it is very rewarding. Our loyal supporters including Lisa, Elaine, Colin & Sophie, and Sue cover our pitch fees and we make £200-£400 per week on sales. We are so grateful to everyone who donates items and comes along to support us. Lee & Steve look after the rescue while we are away. At our last car boot in September, we raised £370!! Almost as impressive is Helen's colour coding of the cat items!! See you all again next Spring!



GCH Merchandise

We have recently had some wonderful designs made for us by Andy (@CosmicRubes). It started off with some fun posts about Symon at the pub and has developed into Christmas cards, mugs and fridge magnets. They were all so popular at the pub and there are still some available, contact us via Facebook PM to place an order.





We also have a lovely new desk calendar, full of the GCH resident cats. Order via Facebook PM. Mugs & calendars are £6; fridge magnets are £4, and cards are £1 each (all plus postage).

Socials

We are very lucky to have over 15,600 followers on **Facebook**, but we are also delighted that our **Instagram & Twitter** accounts now have over 600 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 Volunteer group is run by Kym, who comes herself on a Friday, and includes Amanda, Margaret, Jo, Laura, Gaynor, Richeall, Karla, Jani, Ellen, Lynn, Susan, Nicola, Ellie, Dee and Jackie. We are so grateful for their invaluable help every day.

Hook Road Arena Volunteers

Our heartfelt thanks to this season's volunteers: Margaret, Helen, Vanessa, Louise, Sally, Richeall, Siobhan, Michaela, Rachel, Amanda, Elaine, Patsy, Keeley, Kiki & Arco. They have also been wonderful in helping us at the summer and Christmas bazaars.

Bazaar Volunteers

Thank you to all the daily and car boot volunteers who helped out and, in addition, Yvonne, Anita, Loraine, Lisa, Heather and her daughter Lisa.

Dates for your Diaries:

- Look out for our online Advent Calendar **every morning in December** on our Facebook page.
- Flash Xmas sale on **Sunday 4 December**.
- Our Christmas raffle draw is at **6pm on 16 December**.
- Bargain online sale in **January**.

