



KITTY MEWS

Quarterly Newsletter November 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 14 permanent rescue residents, as well as 10 cats of her own, and 8 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 88 cats and 102 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.

Xmas Bazaar

We were delighted to raise £7820 at our Christmas Bazaar at the [Willow Tree](#) pub on Saturday 25 November, which is a record amount. Thank you to all the volunteers, without whom it would not have been possible: those who helped set up and ran stalls on the day, and those who priced items, and offered their time (and their cars) to ferry goods around in the weeks leading up the event. There were fantastic cake, beauty, home, garden, cat, craft, Christmas, jewellery and merchandise stalls, as well as knitted cats, bottle & chocolate tombolas and raffles. We even had our very own Santa Steve! We are so fortunate to have so many loyal and enthusiastic supporters. The cake raffle on the day raised £127 and the winners Chris, Teresa, Tina & Dee were thrilled with their amazing cake prizes. Thank you to Tony, Lottie & their staff at the Willow Tree pub for being so welcoming and accommodating on the day and thank you to everyone who came to support us!



Medical Miracles

Tommy came to us in mid-September paralysed in his back legs after being sat on by the family dog. His first operation for a ruptured disc in his spine was successful and he was put on 8 weeks pen rest. Unfortunately during that time, he slipped another disc, the next one down on his spine, and was paralysed again. After further surgery and pen rest, slowly gradual movement is returning to his legs. He has a special letter tray with a cutout section, and now he is tentatively standing and walking. Jackie bathes him 3-4 times a week and exercises his back legs. The vets are very happy with the outcome of his surgery, and he is now having physio sessions as well. While he is healing well, there is a long way to go, but we are hopeful that, in time, Tommy will make a full recovery. He is currently being fostered with Jackie who is able to give him the intensive care and daily physio he needs. Tommy is a playful boy, who loves to watch what the other cats are doing. For a while he was only eating poached fish in milk, but is now eating Lily's Kitchen. The physio is really pleased with his progress. He is such a brave boy!



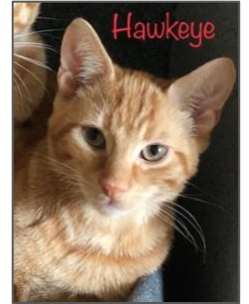
Elodie & Evie developed watery eyes in the week after their adoption in September. This unfortunately developed into a very serious eye infection, and they were diagnosed with calicivirus & chlamydia. Initially, they were in danger of losing their eyes, if their corneas had ruptured. They were released back into our care and went into intensive care in hospital. Upon returning to the rescue, there followed weeks of intensive medication every four hours, which is ongoing. By a miracle, it now looks as if their eyes will be saved, though their vision may be impaired. They will be having specialist care for foreseeable future, but their prognosis is looking much brighter. The vets have detected pressure behind their eyes, which is positive, but they might have corneal scarring. They are still on 6 hourly meds, but we are now confident that they will at least have some vision. They are playful and friendly girls, very sweet and totally bonded. They have been having vet checks every three days but going forward it will be weekly.



Hopper & Hawkeye After 4 months in foster care with Lee, in late October Hopper developed a high temperature and fluid belly. We were devastated when he was diagnosed with FIP (a mutation of coronavirus). This is no longer a death sentence, so we began immediate treatment with Remdesivir. Hopper was admitted to hospital for 8 nights. He had 7 days of injections, and now must have 77 days of oral meds, with regular blood tests and scans to monitor his fluids. We are delighted that he has responded brilliantly and quickly to the treatment as we caught it so early because of Lee's vigilance. We are delighted that Hopper is doing really well.



Two days after Hopper returned home, Lee noticed that his brother Hawkeye was also under the weather with a temperature. Hawkeye also tested positive for FIP (though it is not infectious). He was not carrying extra fluid, but he had enlarged lymph glands. Hawkeye then spent 6 nights in hospital, and he is now undergoing the same course of medication as Hopper. We are now slightly concerned that Hawkeye has an issue with his joints and may need a CT scan.



New arrivals in the last three weeks:



Fonzie just turned up on our doorstep all by himself in an advanced state of starvation and dehydration. He has had a full set of tests, and there is nothing wrong with him except severe malnutrition, so it is hard for him to keep his food down. He was on intensive care on a drip, but now he is back home with us. He will have B12 injections for next 6 weeks, and folate supplements while his body heals. We hope Fonzie will a full recovery, he has put on a little bit of weight to 2.9 kilos. He will be going to foster with Dee this week.

Eleanor Rigby is a stray who gave birth to her four kittens in a shed. Her finders had been searching for her owners for a while, to no avail, but they became concerned when Eleanor gave birth outside and called us. Mum and babies are doing really well.



Harrison had been spotted for a few weeks hanging around a local school. Eventually a concerned member of the public brought him in to us, but he was covered in fleas and had a dodgy tummy. Harrison is currently in foster with Katerina. We were concerned about his tummy, but his vet check showed nothing serious, even though the problem remains. He has been given worming treatments and we are monitoring him closely, so we are now doing faecal samples to see if that can shed any light on his condition.

Shelby is only about 8 weeks old. He was found by the side of a road in Birmingham, and his finders brought him down to London, but were unable to keep him. He was covered in fleas, and very lethargic for a few days, but after being defleaed, he has brighter moments. His demeanour is still up and down, as is his temperature. So far, he has been negative for all tests, and we hope he has turned a corner. He is a dear, wee thing.





Elvis is about 8 years old and was abandoned by his owners about a year ago. The finders became increasingly concerned as he appears to have trouble walking, so we brought him in. The vets ran tests on him, and no injuries showed up. He then has a spinal tap which showed nothing; we now suspect he may have arthritis of the spine and he will need an MRI scan. At 6kg, he is a big boy, who sings like an angel for his breakfast! Hence his name!

Joey is a 5 month old kitten who was rejected by his mum and both his siblings. He is currently in foster with Julie, and he is settling in well getting to know her crew.



Over The Rainbow Bridge



Boro [20] was found wandering the streets in April 2023. She had gone missing from her previous home and was very unwell with dementia. We found her owner, but she was not able to give Boro the medical care she needed, so we took Boro into respite care. She was fostered initially with Steve, then Nina and finally with Natasha. Eventually her fur all grew back, and she began to put on weight. She loved all her special food, but she did have a permanently grumpy demeanour (partly because she didn't get on with Natasha's other foster cat Pebbles!). She liked to sit on



the bathroom ledge, and she came for occasional cuddles. For six months, Boro really thrived under Natasha's care, and she was loving her new life. In September, however, she began to decline, stopping eating and drinking, and we suspected kidney failure. On 27 September we made the decision to have her put to sleep with June, Lee & Natasha at her side. She lived a long life, and she knew safety and love for her last six months with us. RIP Boro, our gorgeous girl.





Mila was only 19 months old when she came to us with a severe heart condition. We were contacted by Voo Vets when her owners were unable to afford her treatment, and she needed a specialist scan and potentially palliative care. At first, we thought Mila had a congenital heart issue, based on her age and the volume of fluid around the heart. She came out of hospital for a few days, but she was under par, so we had her readmitted. We were very worried that there was no hope for her. Our vets



brought the specialist heart scan forward because they were so concerned but the scan showed that Mila's condition might not be congenital. She had pulmonary hypertension and fluid around her heart which they hoped could be treated once we knew the cause. Mila was on new medication and had made some improvement back at the rescue; she was doing quite well. Her first scan did not give the vets all the information they needed so we planned for her to have a more extensive CT scan. Unfortunately, the fluid returned around her heart and her condition deteriorated unexpectedly and rapidly. The vets advised us that there was nothing more they could do for her, and the kindest thing would be to let her sleep. Poor Mila had such a short life, but we loved her in the short time we had her. RIP, sweet girl.



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 our medical miracles and the new arrivals already mentioned, here are some of our other recent stories:

Hula came in to us pregnant and she had one kitten on 12 September then no more. We took her in for a scan, and she had a mummified kitten inside her. She has now been spayed but has a post-spay infection, which is being investigated and treated, but she is now coming home from hospital. **Todd** came in as an unvaccinated stray and he tested positive for Calici/ mycoplasma/ toxocara/ isapora. He took a long time to shake it all off but is now back in full health and he is up for adoption. He is an adorable boy who loves to play. **Pitter Patter** has been up and down with his calicivirus which sometimes affects his skin. But he has been on antibiotics and he is now well again, and back to his incorrigible self!



Marina had an allergic reaction to the stitches used for her spay, and had a course of antibiotics. She stayed in hospital overnight but she has made a full recovery and been adopted. **Blackberry** (one of the Brambles) had a flare up of his coronavirus, with some fluid on his lungs. At first the vet thought he may have FIP, but fortunately that was a false alarm and, after a short hospital stay, he has returned home. **Tailor** came in as a stray and she was carrying tritrichomonas, a parasite, which was sorted with medication – her kittens have ongoing tummy problems, but all tests have come up negative so we now suspect IBS, which will be treated with diet.



Monsoon was under par when she first came in with her kittens and they had bad tummies. They have undergone tests and are positive for coronavirus; the symptoms are being treated. **Jenny** [10] came to us after her owner died. She has been on the streets for 18 months. She had a skin infection, which is now better, and a bad tummy. She has tested positive for chlostridium, which is treated with antibiotics. She is an affectionate and needy girl who is just looking for love and her forever home. **Michaelangelo** was one of Olivia's kittens who developed coronavirus. His symptoms were treated with antibiotics and he is now doing very well.



Margarita had a touch of constipation, but a quick vet visit and some sorted it out. **Kane** had an eye infection, which was treated with antibiotics. **Rain** had a high temperature, and was admitted to hospital but is now doing really well.



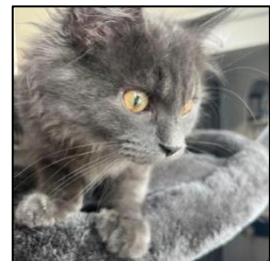
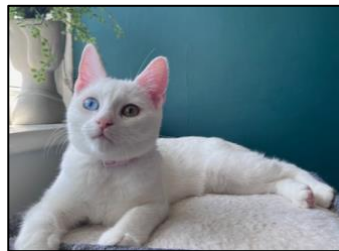
Bellatrix had a post-spay infection, another bad reaction to sutures, but she has had antibiotic treatment. **Logan** was admitted to hospital with a very high temperature and had some x-rays under sedation, which showed a distended bladder and hard stools in his intestines. He has a suspected severe urinary infection. Logan is on antibiotics, anti-inflammatory medication and IV fluids while they monitor him, but his temperature has, thankfully, returned to normal so he is on his way home.



Kittens Galore!

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

Bertie, Ted, Pearl & Wolfie:



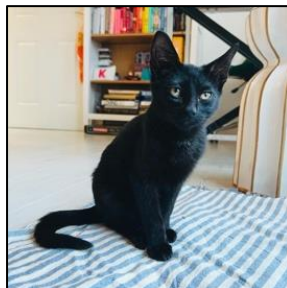
Lucky Charm, Kane, Oliver & Nick Nack:



Spook, Tommy & Todd:



Fonzie, Harrison & Shelby:



Mums & Babies

We have also had a crazy kitten season with so many mums coming in either pregnant or with their babies. It has been a privilege to watch them all wean and grow, and many of them have now been adopted. Kitten season seems to be getting longer and longer!

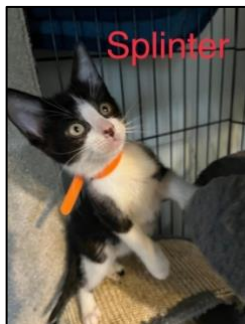
Socks' litter: Sherbert, Spangle, Smartie, Snickers & Skittles



Maxy's litter: Basil, Saffron, Oregano, Nutmeg, Sesame & Fennel



Olivia's litter: Michaelangelo, Splinter, Donatello, Raphael & Leonardo



Jessica's litter: Mulberry, Cyan, Granite, Scarlett, & Teal

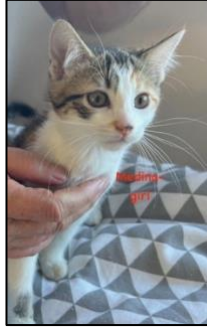


Miss Molly's litter: Rhea, Thebe, Oberon, Charon & Elara



Marina's litter: Destiny, Troy, Penelope, Melody, Harmony, Medina & Atlanta





Brie's litter: Pretzel, Honey, Cookie & Noodle



The Dance litter: Mambo, Calypso, Salsa, Lindy Hop & Shimmy



The Tennis litter: Hawkeye, Hopper, Ace & Alley



Monsoon's litter: Mizzle, Rain, Cloud, Drizzle & Puddle



Tailor litter: Thimble, Bobbin, Bodkin, Button & Stitch



Eleanor Rigby litter: Maxwell, Lucy, Lady Madonna, Sergeant Pepper



Double Trouble!

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

Margarita & Bellini; Evie & Elodie; Rodney & Lola,



Sugar & Spice; Blackjack & Keno; Acorn & Conker



Morticia & Gomez; Trick & Treat; Cricket & Peggy Sue



And we are delighted to have had a gorgeous trio: **Velvet Jigsaw & Jenga**, now homed together!

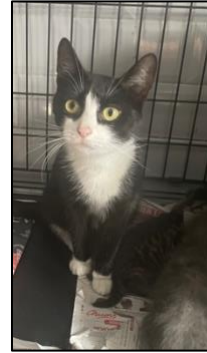


Cat Chronicles We have also had some fabulous single cats available for adoption in recent months including:

Maxy, Jessica & Socks:



Miss Molly, Tailor & Monsoon:



Barbie, Olivia & Marina:



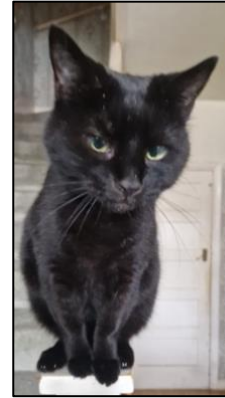
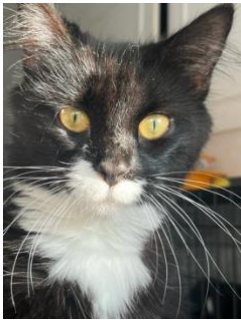
Brie, Jazzy & Mushi:



Sandi, Jenny & Hula:



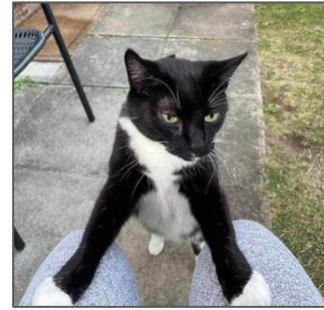
Holly Hop, Bellatrix & Minnie:



Coco, Queenie & Angel:



Bluey, Pepper & Elsa:



Eleanor Rigby, William & Elvis:



GCH International



Tiny Tony from Hope 4 Paws (Rebecca) in Bulgaria, is a street cat who lost his eye because of a serious infection. When he came to us, we had intended to place him in specialist foster care, but he integrated with the others so well that we decided to keep him at the rescue. He is an adorable boy, who is a bundle of energy. Totally fearless, he runs around like a mad thing and then falls asleep! We all love him to bits, and he is best mates with Pitter Patter and Bramble.



Hope is a lovely, gentle, tortie girl who came to us from Sarah at Tails of Hope in Bulgaria. She is a street cat, who is quite timid, but she loves her foster mum Caroline, who is trying to integrate Hope with her two foster cats Cuddles & Taffy. Fingers crossed it works out for them all! Hope just likes to play but the two boys are a bit wary at the moment.



The Friends litter came to us courtesy of Xristiana in Greece. We named them Monica, Chandler, Rachel & Bing, and they have all captured our hearts. Bing and Monica have already been adopted and we are looking for a home for Rachel & Chandler as a pair.



Sponsorship

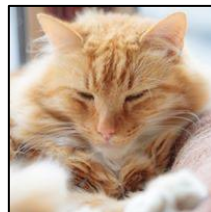
Some of our cats cannot be rehomed because of illness, old age, disability, anxiety, or the difficult circumstances from which they were rescued. They are all rescue cats and live under the permanent protection of GCH and there are currently 14 with June and 8 (Memma, Kentucky, Kamran, Pebbles, Koda, Tinkerbelle, Cuddles & Taffy) 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 (6)



Charlie (10)



Shiloh (6)



Benny (9)



Gabby (4)



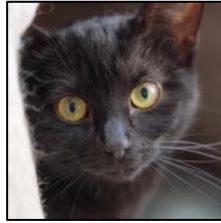
Gracie (4)



Ellie May (5)



Hope [3]



Lily (5)



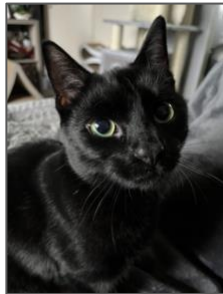
Lizzie (10)



Salzi [14]



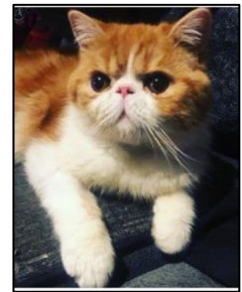
Rasputin [13]



Memma [2]



Kentucky [6]



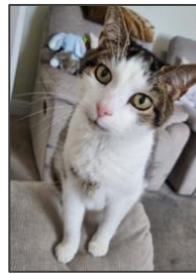
Kamran [2]



Pebbles [19]



Koda [11]



Cuddles [15]



Tinkerbelle [10]



Toffy [13]



Tiny Tony [7 months]

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 Elizabeth (William, already a foster fail!) and Katerina (Harrison).

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.

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 [Gift Aid page](#) on the website and email it to us on team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk.

giftaid it

**Add Gift Aid and
give more without
opening your wallet**

Easyfundraising



Do you love online shopping? 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, 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!

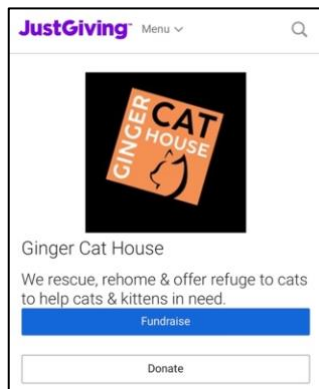


Simply set up your account with [Easyfundraising](#), and select The Ginger Cat House Rescue as your chosen cause.

For step-by-step instructions, go to the [Make A Donation/ Easyfunding](#) page on our website.

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

Just Giving



We are excited to announce that we are now 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 do so via [this link](#).

You can also donate directly to us via this [JustGiving link](#).



Advent Calendar Raffle

We were very fortunate to have these two wonderful Look Fantastic Beauty and Nivea advent calendars donated to us. We raised £605 and the calendars were won by Michaela and Sarah.

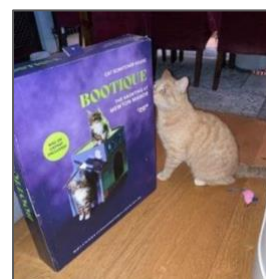




Our Christmas Bazaar Raffle is still open and there are wonderful prizes available. Raffle numbers are £1 each and the draw is on Friday 8 December. We have raised over £1200 on this raffle already. Please apply for numbers via Facebook PM. Payment by bank transfer.

Our Christmas Online sale & Auction began on Tuesday 28 November. So far, we have raised over £1500 on sale & auction items. The auction has now closed but the sale is still ongoing. Keep an eye on the Facebook page for fantastic bargains.

We held a **Water Fountain raffle** on September 14, which raised £800 for Tommy's scan and was won by Julie, Tracy & Michelle and a **Halloween cat house & Garfield house raffle** which raised £309 for Hopper. The cat houses were won by Nicky & Maria (Hendrix is thrilled!)



We are incredibly lucky that some of our loyal and dedicated supports have also done their own fundraising for us:

Mr T's Tiffers in Stoneleigh raised £93.19 at the Surrey Steampunk Convivial on 23 October and our very own volunteer Nikki raised an incredible £710 when she ran the **Oxford half marathon** for us on 15 October. Well done, Nikki!



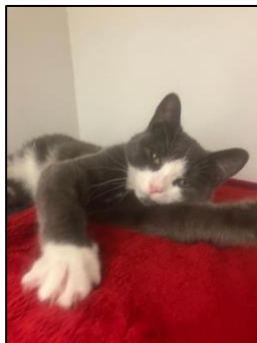
Car Booting



The car booting season at Hook Road Arena, which started late this year, finally drew to a close in early October. We have been going fortnightly and we raised £275 on 3 September, £440 on 16 September, and £343 on 2 October. It has been a very successful season. Thank you so much to all the regular hardy car-booters organised by Margaret, including Helen, Yvonne, Vanessa, Mike, Julia, Sally, Siobhan, Louise, Wendy, Thanuja, Keeley, Lee, Natalie, Arco, Kiki, Steve & Mel. We look forward to starting again next Spring.



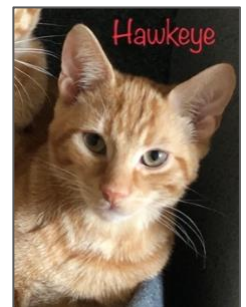
Ping A Pound



On the first of every month, we raise money through [Ping A Pound](#) to go towards cats with specific medical needs. In September, we raised money in memory of Blue, to help other cats in similar difficult circumstances. In October we raised money for Tommy's scan and in November for Hopper.



In December we are raising money for the CT scans for Elvis & Hawkeye.



To donate to Ping A Pound, you can:

- 1) Facebook PM us for our bank details.
- 2) Pay 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.

Events

We love being able to invite visitors to the rescue to meet the cats and the team. Although we are limited by time and space, we try to host an event every fortnight from April to October, so as many supporters as possible can come.

Our final two **Cat Cafés** of the season were on 9 and 23 September, once again we were blessed with good weather. On 30 September, we hosted a **Fosterers' Afternoon Tea**



so we could say thank you to all our amazing foster parents who look after so many of our precious cats for us. They all do an amazing job.

In October we held two **Sponsors' Open Afternoons** where we could meet and thank our monthly donors. Throughout the season, our cats have been amazing. In particular Gracie, Razz, Salzi, Tammy and Louis kept everyone entertained in the garden. Inside, the Brambles, Pitter Patter, Hope, Lizzie and Tiny Tony were the big stars! In the front yard, of course were the Mafia!



GCH Merchandise

We are very excited to have lots of fabulous new merchandise. Please visit the [Merchandise page](#) on our website to order. Please email your order to team@gingercathouserescue.co.uk. Payment is by bank transfer.



Calendars £7

Our gorgeous wall calendars (150mmx420mm), designed by [Suzannah](#), are perfect to hang on your wall.



Mugs £6

These three fabulous mugs (Pitter Patter, Symon & Gracie) designed by [Andy](#) 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 [Suzannah](#)



Pens £3

Our GCH Pens write beautifully and would make a lovely gift.



Fridge Magnets £3

We have fun fridge magnets of Symon, Gracie and Pitter and a new range of Ginger Is The New Black, all designed by [Andy](#).



Key Rings £3

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



T-shirts £12 We still have a limited number of small & medium t-shirts available, but are running out fast. More to come in the New Year. Fruit of the Loom, 100% cotton and dunisex. Design by [Suzannah](#), T-shirts by [PB Leisurewear](#).



Goodie Bags £22

If you would like a little bit of everything, why don't you treat yourself to a goodie bag?

It includes:

One bag (specify cotton or canvas)

One calendar

One mug (specify which)

One pen

One key ring

One fridge magnet (specify which)

Bargain price of £22 (value would be £27).

This item is collection only.



Socials

We are very lucky to have over 30,000 followers on **Facebook**, but we are also delighted that our **Instagram** & **Twitter** accounts now have over 1200 followers! Please follow us!

Facebook: @gingercathouse118

Twitter: @ginger_rescue

Instagram: @thegingercathouserescue

Link tree: @gingercathouse



Volunteers

Daily Cat Care Volunteers

Every morning, our daily volunteers come to clean the pens and look after the cats and kittens. This Daily Cat Care Volunteer group is run by Kym, and is made up of regulars Amanda, Dee, Tina, Linda, Jo, Nikki, Jackie, Viki, Vickie, Majella, Taija, Debbie, Taylor & Melanie. 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 always glamorous work, but it is very rewarding and there are cats & kittens to cuddle!

Dates for your Diaries:

Christmas Bazaar Raffle: the draw is on Friday 8 December.

Christmas Online sale: from 28/11, keep your eye on the Facebook page!



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