

PAWPRINT

Changing the story for pets in need

SPRING 2016

LONG ROAD TO RECOVERY

MIRACLE AS EDWARD
SURVIVES CAR ACCIDENT

BROKEN HEARTS
CRUEL CRIME PET
THEFT IS ON THE RISE

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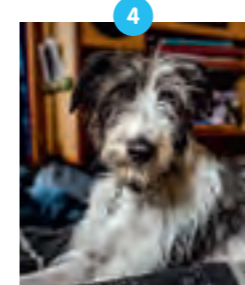


Welcome

Welcome to *Pawprint* magazine, which once again is packed full of our pets with tales to tell. Over the last few months we've been busy putting the finishing touches to our TV advert, starring brave dog Baxter who we told you about in the last issue. So many of you have told us that you love the ad, which we're thrilled to hear.

There really is no better feeling than seeing happy and healthy pets with their loving owners. Whatever their age, every pet deserves a good home, and we're here to find the unwanted and abandoned pets that come through our doors the one that's right for them. Meet older lady Charcoal on page 16, a cat who found herself homeless at the age of 18. There's a happy ending for Charlie too, a dog who needed a job to do. Read his story on page 30.

Rachael Millar, Editor



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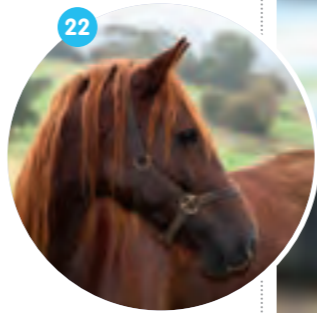
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Don't write off an older pet.

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SAFE AND SOUND

Find out how Edward's unlucky accident brought him into our care and then the loving arms of Roz and her dad Tony

Looking at Edward now, with his head rested on his owner's lap as he enjoys a good chin scratch, it's hard to believe this is the same dog we first met abandoned and injured by the roadside several months before. Edward is lucky to be alive after he was hit by at least two cars.

Dazed and confused after being hit once, the young dog crossed the path of another car, causing the driver to slam on her brakes. Though she tried to avoid him, Edward was disorientated from his first encounter with a car, and the second clipped his body.

Luckily for Edward, a member of the Blue Cross team was driving home on a day off and came upon the incident as it unfolded.

Julie Stone, Operations Manager, told of the horrific situation she encountered as she made her way

from an art exhibition one Sunday: "There was a queue of traffic ahead, and I realised there was a dog in the road and no one knew what to do.

"The lady who hit him was very upset. He had just run into the road out of nowhere and was staggering around as if he had been hit once already."

Emergency treatment

Julie sprang into action and, with help from other motorists, lifted the limp dog into her car. Edward had been injured not too far from our Burford rehoming centre, so Julie knew the local area and location of an emergency vet.

The journey there, while not far, seemed like an age. She phoned ahead to the veterinary surgery to make sure Edward would receive emergency treatment on arrival.

She said: "I thought he was going to die in the back of my car. He just lay



Edward's story

"There were zooms and brums in every direction. I really didn't know which way to turn, so I just ran for it – I just wanted to get away from the busy road. I didn't get very far, but luckily Blue Cross was there. I know I'm safe and sound with Roz and Tony, and I'll never be abandoned again."

there motionless, his gums were pale and he was frothing at the mouth."

Julie explained to the vet that she worked for Blue Cross and – if he survived – would help the stray dog if his owner could not be found.

As she had been on her way back from a display of artwork by Edward Lear when she came across the accident, it seemed appropriate to Julie to name the dog after the poet and illustrator, who often drew inspiration from animals.

Thankfully, Edward pulled through and X-rays revealed his bones were still fully intact. For a short time he was walking around in circles, so we monitored him extremely carefully under veterinary supervision.

Abandoned at roadside

Edward was not wearing a collar and tag when he was discovered, and a microchip could not be detected either, so there was no way of finding his owner. We suspect he was abandoned at the roadside and just left to fend for himself against the busy traffic of the dual carriageway.

When Edward was well enough to leave the vet's, one of our foster carers looked after him and gave him some

much-deserved TLC. Lydia Sawyer, an Animal Welfare Supervisor at Burford rehoming centre, said: "His foster carer watched him closely but did not notice any further circling, which was an excellent sign he was on the mend.

"He came on in leaps and bounds. When he first came into Blue Cross care, Edward didn't know how to play, but with help from his fosterer's resident puppy, he soon began to pick it up."

New best friend

After a period of recovery in his foster home, Edward was given the all clear to find a new family. Being a lovely long-haired lurcher, it didn't take long for him to find one.

Roz Jacobs and her dad Tony were keen to find a companion for their staffie, Nigel. Wanting to give an unwanted dog a chance, they checked the websites of rehoming centres daily.

Roz explained: "I checked one morning and couldn't see any available to rehome. Half an hour later I just thought, 'I'll look again', and up Edward popped. I thought, 'look at that little face'. I'd always wanted a scruffy mutt. I phoned and booked to come and see him. After the first meet we came back for the second, and that was it!"

"I thought, 'look at that little face'. I'd always wanted a scruffy mutt"



THANKS

to you all for your ongoing generous support – we couldn't look after all the pets that we do without you

How to help a stray dog

If you've found a stray dog, check to see if they're wearing a tag with the owner's details on. If they are, and you're happy to do this, contact the owner and arrange to give the dog back.

Otherwise, contact the dog warden via your local council. They are legally responsible for stray dogs and will collect the dog from you and take it to holding kennels. If the dog is poorly, the dog warden will get veterinary help.

Register the dog as 'found' on www.doglost.co.uk, a national website.

Although it might be tempting to keep the dog, you're legally required to let the local authority know about any strays. If you don't, you could be accused of theft. If the dog is microchipped, it could be easy to find their loving owner.

If you do want to keep the dog, let the local authority know and they may be able to arrange for you to rehome the dog if no one claims them.

If a lost dog isn't claimed after seven days, the dog warden may contact a charity like Blue Cross to see if we can find them a loving new home.

Roz and Tony brought Nigel to our centre to meet Edward and check the pair would be happy together. We don't think Edward had been particularly well socialised with other dogs but the two raced around our doggie play area as if they had been best friends for years.

Edward now lives an idyllic life on the family barge. The boat is moored in a marina, and many other households have dogs, so there are always friends to meet and sniff. While he is taunted by swans, he takes no notice of them and plays it safe around the water.

Roz and Tony have discovered that Edward is a very good thief and has a taste for everything. "This week he decided to try a book for the first time. Thankfully one I've already read!" says Roz. "He steals all sorts. We've had to turn everything upside down."

Edward has good recall and enjoys retrieving a ball, and his besotted new owners are working on his socialisation by exposing him to new situations little and often. The family have visited small friendly dog shows with people and dogs they know well, and Edward has even won rosettes.

Roz says: "He's so sweet. If you're fussing him when he's lying down, you get the 'more paw' and the look! He's coming on leaps and bounds."

Tony agrees: "With more help and time, he'll get there."

Several months on from his accident, Edward has shown no sign of ongoing injury. Though he's been through so much in his young life, clouds do have silver linings and he's found the best of all of them – a loving home.

"This week he decided to try a book for the first time. Thankfully one I've already read!" says Roz. "He steals all sorts. We've had to turn everything upside down"



COULD YOU TAKE ME HOME?

Can you offer any of these Blue Cross pets a place in your heart and your home?

GRACIE

I was a stray when I had my kittens. They've got loving homes now but I'm still waiting. I'm told I'm lovely and affectionate, and I would love a home where I'd get lots of fuss. Hope to meet you soon.

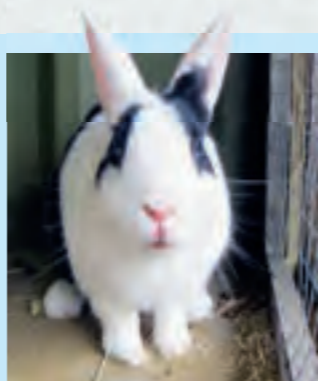
Solihull 0300 777 1935



RUBY

My perfect owner would have a great sense of humour and fun, as I love to play and I'm full of mischief. I do love a cosy lap to curl up on too. Are you my special someone?

Cambridge 0300 777 1470



SIMON

I am a confident chap who would love to follow you around the house and garden to see what you are up to. I'm also looking for Mrs Right. Could you introduce me to a neutered lady friend?

Burford 0300 777 1570



SWEENEY

I know my battered visage is not as lovely as many other cats', but it's because I've been a street cat for most of my life and I've been beaten up a lot. I'd like to live indoors from now on, with you.

Cumbria 0300 777 1920



EVIE

I am a gentle giant who loves to stroll through the countryside. After a walk, I love nothing more than to curl up and have a snooze. Hey, maybe we could do this together?

Lewknor 0300 777 1500



LADY PENELOPE

Do you like toys? I do – we could be playmates. I also love to sit on comfy laps. Being on your own is boring and can be scary when you're as little as me. I need someone to make sure I'm okay.

Burford 0300 777 1570

SILVER LININGS

Sheila's been bashed and bruised but she's safe now. We helped nurse her back to health and found her a happy new home

Pets arrive in our care for all sorts of reasons, and it's not uncommon for owners to part with their pets when they're not getting on with others in the household.

Poor Sheila is one such pet. She'd been picked on by her cagemates and was in a very sorry state. In fact, we're amazed she survived.

Chinchillas are social animals and get the best out of life when they're together in pairs or small groups. However, if the number of chinchillas is too large for the amount of space they have, it doesn't take long for things to turn sour.

Four-year-old Sheila got into a few scraps with the others she lived with. As you can see from her photo, she now sports holes in her ears, and she only has one eye.

Nutrients round the clock

As soon as Sheila arrived at our Burford centre we knew something was wrong. She needed urgent vet help, so we rushed her in for treatment.

Hannah Bryan, Animal Welfare Supervisor, said: "Sheila's eye was very swollen, weeping and very badly infected when she arrived. We needed to remove her eye as quickly as possible, but she was so weak that she stopped eating and drinking."

Sheila was dehydrated and it wasn't safe to operate until she was strong enough to undergo the procedure.

Hannah added: "We fed her fluids and a recovery diet through a syringe every hour for four days. Our Centre Manager Jenna took her home with her each night so Sheila could get the vital nutrients she needed round the clock."

Finally, the little chinchilla built up the strength she needed. The surgery was successful and she adapted quickly to life with one eye. Due to her ordeal we've found Sheila a home on her own, but new owner Olly Baldry is monitoring her progress and may find her a friend in the future.

For now, she's having a great time spending her days sleeping and her evenings exploring her huge multi-levelled cage, as well as playing with lots of toys. Olly and his wife Jane make sure she's getting the exercise and human company she needs by getting her out for an hour each night to explore and enjoy cuddles.

"She's settled in really well," says Olly. "She's part of our family now."

All about chinchillas

Origin: South America

Age: Can live for up to 15 years

Favourite food: Grass and bark in the wild. Pellets and hay for pets. Raisins as a tasty treat.

Home: Minimum cage size for a pair is around 1m x 1.5m floor space, by 1.3m tall, with shelves at different heights.

Favourite pastime: Dust baths. Chinchillas roll in dust every day to keep their coats clean.

Personality: These nocturnal critters love to explore and need supervised exercise every day. With time and training, they can become very tame. They like to live with other chinchillas.



Words by Rachael Miller



Cruellest crime

“My son cries himself to sleep at night because he misses her so much and my disabled daughter can’t understand why Lola has gone”

Lola, a then 15-month-old miniature schnauzer, went missing while staying with relatives in August last year. Neighbours saw two men and a woman snatch her from a nearby doorstep and she hasn’t been seen since.

To say Gemma Atkin-Brown and her family miss their pet is an understatement. Gemma said: “We’re devastated by the loss of Lola and are desperate to get her back.”

The heartache caused to owners by the theft of a pet shouldn’t be underestimated.

Grief and worry

Tracie McGrory manages our Pet Bereavement Support Service and her team often receives calls and emails from owners whose pets have been taken from them.

She says the emotional toll can be hard for owners to bear, and those whose pets are missing experience a feeling of grief and worry.

“A pet is an integral part of so many families who are absolutely devastated if they are stolen,” explained Tracie.

“Not only are they missing their pet, they are also desperately worried about what is happening to them.”

We asked every police force in the country to share their records of pet

Protect your pet from theft

- Never leave your pet alone in the car, garden, or tied up outside a shop
- Take photographs of your pet from different angles to help prove ownership
- Train your dog to come back to you when called
- Beware of strangers asking questions about your pet
- Make sure your pet is microchipped and don’t forget to update your contact details if you move
- If your pet is stolen, report the crime to the police and ask for a crime reference number
- Contact local dog wardens and rescue centres in case your pet escapes or is dumped

theft with us, and were saddened to discover that the crime is on the rise. Figures for 2014 showed 1,567 cats and dogs were reported stolen across the UK, compared with 1,150 in 2012; an increase of almost 40 per cent in two years.

Our survey found a discrepancy in the way pet theft is recorded across forces. According to current law, ‘pet theft’ and ‘petnapping’ are not specific crimes in their own right, and pets are considered ‘property’. This means it’s impossible to get consistent recording of pet theft across the country because police forces are not given specific requirements about how to note down details of the crime. The true number of pet thefts is likely to be higher than our figures suggest.

We’re calling on the government to make sure ‘petnapping’ is taken seriously so police forces nationwide can investigate thefts consistently.

Emotional suffering

Pets are part of the family, and current legislation does not recognise the emotional suffering owners face if their pet is pinched. The law also fails to recognise the welfare impact on the stolen pets which, unlike other often-stolen items such as TVs and laptops, are living creatures.

Words by Rachael Millar



Gemma's son Liam with Lola before she was stolen. If you have seen Lola, please let us know immediately. Her family just wants her back at home where she belongs

Are you worried about pet theft? Write to us at the usual address to tell us what you think, or you can email editor@bluecross.org.uk

"The effect of having your pet stolen can be absolutely devastating for owners. This is why we want the government to do more to deal with this increasing problem"

As well as contacting police forces, we asked owners for their thoughts on pet theft.

Unsurprisingly, over a third of those we spoke to said they are worried their pet could fall prey to thieves.

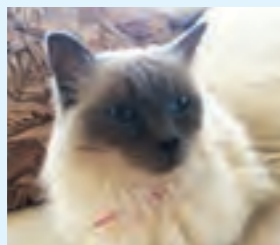
Two thirds of those questioned thought that if tougher sentencing was introduced for perpetrators, fewer pets and their owners would become victims.

Becky Thwaites, Blue Cross Public Affairs Manager, said: "Penalties need to be tougher for those committing these crimes to act as a deterrent to others. We also believe that police forces need to ensure they deal with these cases in a sensitive manner and highlight where owners can go for further support."

Tougher sentences needed

Bereft owners of stolen pets, including Gemma and her family, are backing our calls for tougher sentences for those who commit the crime, and hope this will stop other families going through the nightmare they are currently living.

You can help make a change in the law a reality by asking your MP to back our campaign. Visit www.bluecross.org.uk/pettheft to download a letter template today.



Back together

Boo, a ragdoll breed cat, was stolen from St Katherine's dock in London. She was later found inside a carrier bag in Greenwich. It is believed the thieves panicked and dumped her. She was reunited with her owner thanks to a microchip.

ASK THE EXPERTS



Diane James

Pet Bereavement Support Training Officer

Our Pet Bereavement Support Service is there to provide a free and confidential emotional support for all types of pet loss, including theft, illness, accident, death and rehoming, and also prior to loss. If you need somebody to talk to, please call us on 0800 096 6606 or email pbsmail@bluecross.org.uk. You can also find help and advice leaflets on our website.

Written with support from Claire Stallard, Blue Cross Animal Behaviourist



SAYING GOODBYE

Losing a beloved friend affects us all, writes Diane James, Pet Bereavement Support Training Officer

Have you ever wondered what happens to a pet when they lose their human or animal companion? We humans have the Pet Bereavement Support Service to turn to, but how do animals cope? They too show signs that could be interpreted as grief.

When an owner or fellow housemate passes away, pets may experience:

- loss of appetite
- change in sleep patterns
- crying or searching
- a need for extra attention
- a generally sad demeanour

But you should also note you may not witness any of these changes. Many anecdotes suggest that animals do feel what humans call 'grief', including an understanding that the deceased is not coming back, but there is little scientific evidence to back this up. What we do know is that many species are affected by loss and experience feelings of sadness and loneliness.

When a pet passes away it can be tempting to get another quickly, not only for your own benefit, but so your surviving pet will have another

companion, but don't rush into this. Remember, each pet is an individual and different species bond with each other in different ways.

Dogs are sociable animals who live in family groups, so your surviving dog is likely to adapt well to a new canine if the pair are a good match.

Cats have a very different social structure to dogs and by their nature don't always bond with other cats, even if they have lived alongside them peacefully for many years. Give your surviving cat time to adapt to life without their companion and avoid getting a new cat or kitten straight away. If, after a few months, you think your cat would be happy with a new friend, get in touch with your local rehoming centre.

Rabbits are extremely sociable animals and may react badly to the death of a companion. The best thing to do is find your bunny a new partner quickly. Introductions should be carried out slowly.

Only get a new pet if you feel it is the right thing for you, your family, and your pets.

How to help your pet

Keep your surviving pet's routine as similar as you can. Pets thrive on routine, so any event that disrupts this can be upsetting. Make sure they are eating, drinking and toileting properly. Pheromones may help to calm dogs and cats that are stressed. Ask your vet about these.

Give your pet lots of love and attention, and take the time to focus on your bond with your pet. Human or animal, loss affects us all, but we cope best when we care for each other.

GOLDEN OLDIES

Don't write them off – there's life in the old pets yet. In fact, they could be just what you're looking for in a new companion



Charcoal is lying on owner Elaine's bed when we pop round to see her in her new home. She's tucking into a lunchtime snack and is enjoying it so much that she doesn't notice the strangers that have come to take her photo.

At the grand old age of 18, Charcoal suddenly needed us to find her a new home. She had lived with the same owner since she was a kitten, but sadly they could no longer care for her and called on us to make sure she had the best chance of finding a loving new home.

Charcoal is 19 years old now and we're catching up with her just over a year after she went to live with Elaine Willingham.

Elaine said: "When I read the story about how she'd lived with the same person her whole life, I thought 'poor little thing'. All she knows is this one place, one home, and she must have been so bewildered to leave. It just broke my heart and I knew I couldn't leave her like that."

Senior kit-izen

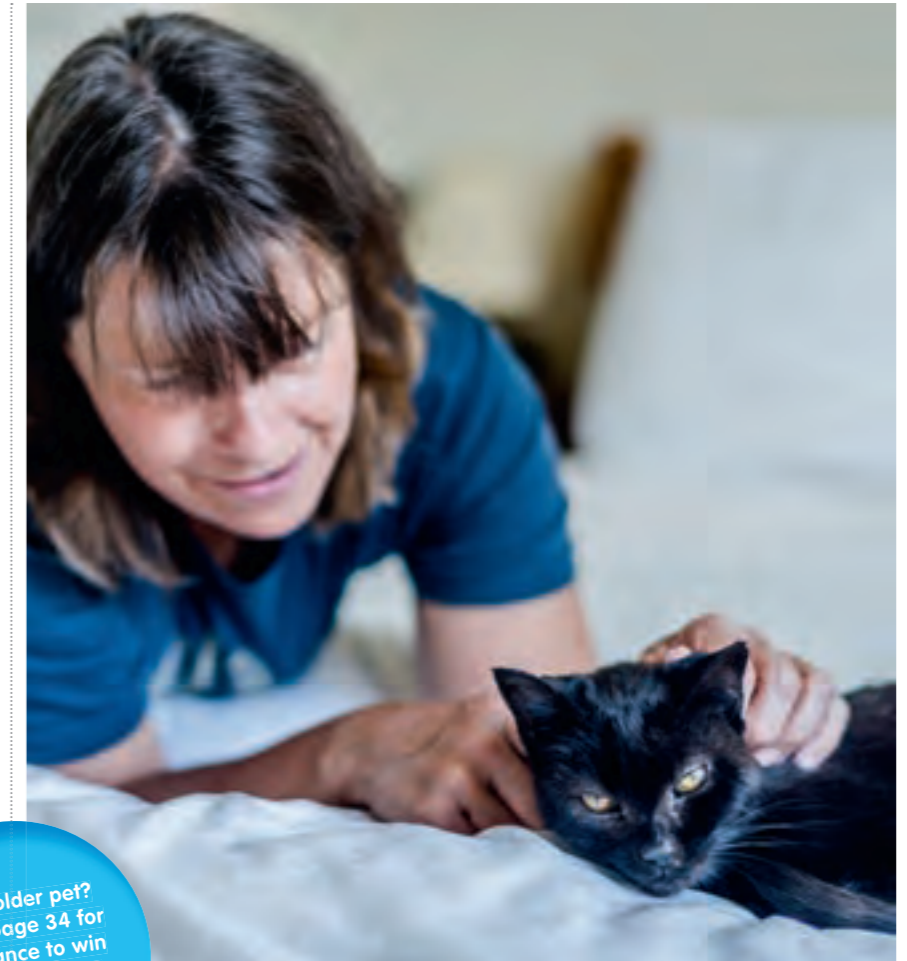
Elaine says it was love at first sight between her and Charcoal, despite the senior kit-izen's years. "I reached in to give her a fuss, and she just erupted into the loudest purr. She is so little bother; she doesn't create mess, she's so, so clean, and I don't have to worry about her going out near the road because she likes to stay inside."

Charcoal is one of the lucky ones. She was only in our care for 26 days before Elaine gave her the precious gift of a home, but on average older pets take much longer to rehome.

While it takes just days to find a new home for a kitten, adult cats tend to wait well over a month on average for a new owner to come along.

It's a similar story for dogs too. While we have waiting lists for pups, adult dogs stay with us for 33 days, and even longer if they're senior.

Words by Rachael Miller



Got an older pet?
Turn to page 34 for
your chance to win
joint supplements
to ease age pains

Lisa Kent, an Animal Welfare Assistant who cared for Charcoal at our Lewknor rehoming centre in Oxfordshire, said: "Rehoming an older pet is often much easier than taking on a youngster. Their personalities are already developed so you know exactly who you are getting and they are generally much calmer."

No regrets

So would Elaine encourage others to take a chance on an elderly pet?

"I thought if I give her a home and she only lives for six months, its six months of love and affection, and after 18 years of being with one person, she deserves another shot. I would recommend taking on an older cat. If you're looking for a pet that's going to be happy to let you love them, then you want a Charky. I don't regret a day."

"I reached in to give her a fuss, and she just erupted into the loudest purr. She is so little bother; she doesn't create mess and she's so, so clean"



To read more about the pets featured here and others, please visit www.bluecross.org.uk



Top Staffie Lady waits to be seen by our vets
Left Vet Mark Bossley and Ginger Biscuit's owner Nicola Henry

A DAY AT THE MOBILE CLINIC

Parks are normally for walkies, but today one bustling London green has transformed into a veterinary waiting room for pets of all shapes and sizes

Dogs sit beside cats as they line up with their owners before their appointments at the Blue Cross Mobile Clinic. The van is parked up beside a busy green in Islington – one of four London boroughs that the service, which has been bringing treatment to pets that need it for more than 10 years, stops off at each week.

Our first patient is 10-year-old Staffordshire bull terrier Lady, who has come along for a check-up following surgery at our Victoria animal hospital three weeks ago. She has suffered from poorly ears since before owner Jimmy Morrice took her in eight years ago, when Lady was two and no longer wanted by her previous owner.

Chronic ear problems are often caused after allergies are left untreated, and can be very uncomfortable.

Jimmy has taken Lady to the vet to get help with her ears a number of times, but her problems began when she was a young dog and, now she is 10, are irreversible. Lady had reached the stage where only surgery would

help, and she had to have her ear canal removed at our Victoria animal hospital. "She has dirty, gunky, painful ears. Even just brushing past your leg, she screams in pain. It was time to get the first one done," said Jimmy.

As Jimmy has mobility issues, we scheduled Lady's check-up appointments at our mobile clinic, which is nearer his home. Once Lady was given the all clear, she was booked in to have the same operation in the other ear. While her hearing will be limited, she won't be totally deaf, and she knows she will always have Jimmy by her side to take care of her.

It was a more standard check-up for 12-week-old kitten Ginger Biscuit, who arrived at our clinic with his besotted owner Nicola Henry.

The cute cat needed a vaccination to protect him against several diseases, including the potentially fatal cat flu and feline leukaemia virus, which can also cause severe illness and death.

Chief Vet Mark Bossley explained that preventative treatments like this, as

Words by Aimee Bannan

"We can help so many more people who may struggle to bring their pets down to the hospital"

well as microchipping, flea medication, worming and advice on neutering, formed a large proportion of the mobile clinic's day-to-day work, although they also deal with sick animals and emergencies, which are referred straight to our Victoria animal hospital.

Next up was Lil, a bouncy two-year-old boxer cross American bulldog, whose sore paws are getting her down. When the problem flares, the skin in between her toes goes red raw and it's causing her lots of discomfort.

Our clinic vet suspects the cause of the irritation is an allergy to grass. But she's given medication to treat fox mange to rule that out first.

Owner Roger Meek, a disabled pensioner, said: "I'm not sure what

I would do otherwise, as I'm a pensioner, so I'm very thankful to Blue Cross."

To help reassure nervous Lil, her best friend and Blue Cross regular Buster – a nine-year-old Staffordshire bull terrier – tagged along for a general check-up with his owner Lee Whittington.

However, after being examined, Buster is booked in for major surgery to fix a painful condition which causes his kneecaps to pop out of place. Although concerned about Buster's operation, it's life-changing treatment that would be hard for Lee to access were it not for Blue Cross.

Mark added: "It is great to get Blue Cross out into the community like this. We can help so many more people who may struggle to bring their pets down to the hospital.

"It also gets us noticed, so we can improve the welfare of pets by providing basic veterinary care to eligible people who may not have been using our services previously."



Friday 13 May



...to help sick, injured and homeless pets

For a free Tea Party host pack

call 08444 993 663 or visit

www.bluecross.org.uk/teaparty

Blue Cross is a charity registered in England and Wales (224392) and in Scotland (SC040154)

CATCH UP

WHAT HAPPENED TO...?

Every year Blue Cross finds homes for thousands of abandoned and unwanted pets. We've caught up with some familiar faces to see how they're doing now



Kenny

Eight-year-old Kenny arrived at Blue Cross in February 2014 when his owners had to move away. During Kenny's 17 months at the charity over 3,000 dogs found happy new homes and he was overlooked by over 13,000 potential new owners who enquired about rehoming a dog. But the Staffordshire bull terrier-collie cross landed on his paws in August last year when David Broadfield and his family heard about Kenny's plight.

David explained: "We'd recently lost our beautiful 17-year-old collie cross, Murray, and were absolutely devastated. A friend emailed me a link to Kenny's story and although it was so soon after losing Murray, we knew that we couldn't walk away from him. Kenny's a wonderful little dog. We all love him to bits. He's got a 'forever home' now, and is settling into the routine of being the 'apple of everyone's eye' very well!"



Zak

You may recognise Zak from our festive letter that arrived on doorsteps a few months ago. When we wrote to you, the four-year-old terrier cross was facing spending the festive season at Blue Cross after his elderly owner could no longer give him the care he needed.

We're thrilled to tell you that Zak's Christmas wish came true, and he didn't have to spend 25 December in a kennel because he had a loving family to enjoy the day with.



Babybell

When four-week-old kitten Babybell got one of her front legs caught in a mousetrap, the kindest thing to do was amputate it. Vet Cristina Buil said: "The trap had caused irreversible neurological damage and the wound was infected. She was lucky she was found; she wouldn't have survived much longer." After she recovered from surgery, we found her a loving home. New owner Tasha Henderson said: "She is totally fearless".

HOPE AGAINST HOPE

Boyd was living in squalor without food, shelter or care and he was terrified of people. Today, he's unrecognisable in his new home with owner Jane



A afraid of people and neglected, poor Boyd must have been terrified when he first came to Blue Cross. The 18-month-old pony had never known human kindness, and he didn't know what it was to trust.

Boyd had been living in squalor; left to roam in a cement yard without any proper food, shelter or veterinary care. We took him in with two other ponies, Spencer and Young, in 2011. They were in a bad way too but it was Boyd's condition that was the most shocking.

He was malnourished, weak and infested with lice. His muscles were severely wasted and he was riddled with worms. The young pony's condition was so critical that it was going to be a battle to keep him alive.

Tamzin Boyd, from the Rolleston rehoming centre team that cared for Boyd, said: "It was clear from the onset that these horses had never been handled as they were extremely nervous around people."

Time, space and encouragement

We kept Boyd comfortable for a few weeks and monitored him closely, without getting too close. Too much attention too soon can have a seriously detrimental impact on the recovery of horses who, like Boyd, are terrified of people. We tread carefully around these ponies, giving them the time and space they need to get used to us, along with plenty of encouragement.

Tamzin said: "His two companions progressed quickly and were rehomed together, where they grew in confidence, but poor Boyd really struggled for a long while." The team spent many months working with Boyd to bring him out of his shell.

In spring 2014, Boyd was ready to go to a foster home. Fostering is an important stage of a Blue Cross horse's rehabilitation as it allows us to monitor their behaviour away from the rehoming centre environment, and gives us a good idea of the type of home that will best suit them.

Tamzin said: "Boyd went to live in a livery yard with a variety of horses. He



"His two companions progressed quickly and were rehomed together, but poor Boyd really struggled"

got used to a consistent routine and met many people, including children, and adapted well to the busy atmosphere. It did him the world of good and he started to take life in his stride."

We discovered that Boyd would benefit from a very special home with someone who was truly understanding of his nervous nature and character. They would need to spend plenty of time with him and give him lots of love.

We're delighted to tell you that in the summer of last year, Boyd found that perfect home and has bonded beautifully with his new owner Jane Wight.

As you can probably tell from Boyd's wavy mane in the photographs, it had been raining when we caught up with him, but that doesn't faze him. He and his new best friend horse Boris (who was also in need when Jane spotted him) have been racing around their nine-acre paddock and rolling in the mud. It's a joy to watch this once timid chap galloping around carefree.

Aware of Boyd's confidence issues, Jane has been taking her time to introduce him to new items. She gives Boyd a brush and says: "I definitely couldn't have done this with him when he first arrived."

When an animal arrives in such a shockingly bad state, our rehoming team faces an emotional battle to get them ready for a home but seeing them loved makes it all so worthwhile, and we couldn't be happier for Boyd. We couldn't have got him back on his hooves without your support. Thank you.

Words by Rachael Miller



COME AND JOIN IN!

There's a Blue Cross fundraising event for everyone, and each one helps sick, injured and homeless pets. On your marks, get set, go...

Big Blue Bungee Saturday 14 May

Combine the thrill of a lifetime with raising vital funds towards our Burford rehoming centre refurbishment by bungee jumping in Carterton, Oxon.

London 10,000 Monday 30 May

Pound the streets of one of the world's greatest cities and raise pounds for pets as you run the 10km course past Buckingham Palace.

Trekfest: The Beacons 4 - 6 June

Hike the stunning range of hills in this beautiful part of Wales, including the peaks of Pen y Fan and Fan y Big. We guarantee a spectacular trek!

Nightrider London 4 - 5 June, Bristol 25 - 26 June, Liverpool 16 - 17 July

A one day charity ride with a difference...it's at night! Taking in all the key sights in each city, this is a unique way to explore the iconic landmarks.

Hadrian's Wall Trek 9 - 11 September

One wall, one epic adventure, one weekend. This fantastic 25-mile route takes you along the most remarkable Roman monument in the country, from Chollerford to Gisland.

Wolf Run Various dates

You'll tackle a series of tough obstacles designed to test your mental and physical strength, skill and stamina on this exhilarating 10km wild run.

To find out more about any of these events, please visit www.bluecross.org.uk/activechallenges

LOCAL CENTRE EVENTS

There's lots to do throughout the spring and summer at our rehoming centres. Do give your local one a call to see how you can get involved in the fun, which ranges from open days to dog shows and much more. We're waiting to hear from you!

Hadlow College Saturday 30 April

Join us for Hadlow College's open day in south London. You'll get the chance to meet our cats in need of a home who may be the right match for you. Call 0300 777 1937 to find out more.

Burford Friday 6 May

Rehoming evening and tack sale. Come along to look at our lovely horses available for rehoming while grabbing yourself some bargain tack. Call 0300 777 1570 for more information.

Tiverton Saturday 25 June

Come along to our summer fun day and dog show at Willand Village Hall. Bring your dog along too and you might just win a prize! Call 0300 777 1560 for more information.

FRIENDS DAYS

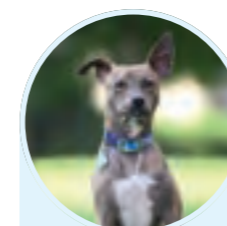
We hold Friends Days throughout the year at our rehoming centres and hospitals to thank our supporters and give them a unique, behind-the-scenes look at our work. They're a great chance to see first-hand how we're helping pets thanks to your generous support. We're hosting the following events for the year at these centres:

- Lewknor - 6 April
- Torbay - 28 April
- Rolleston - 13 May
- Thirsk - 15 June
- Cambridge - 14 July
- Suffolk - 21 September
- Victoria - 7 December

If you'd like to find out more about our Friends Days, please call our Legacy Team on 0300 777 1757



Victoria sponge and chocolate brownies are perfect choices to tempt your mates to join you for this year's Tea Party - but why not add some pet friendly cakes into the mix too?



Paws for me!

"My skin was terribly itchy. No matter how much I scratched at it, I just couldn't make the pain go away. People terrified me so I didn't want them to help me, even though they seemed kind. I feel so much better now. My skin is soothed and I'm so happy to be loved!" **Blossom the dog.**



Put Friday 13 May in your diary and invite your friends to Paws for Tea.



In 2016, we would love to see your pets join your tea party. We're not suggesting you undermine any carefully trained good habits, but pets are part of the family and we think they should be able to join in the fun!

Of course human food is a no-no, as many of our favourite tasty treats can be harmful to pets. So to help you out, we've put some top notch recipes in our fundraising pack that are specially designed for your pets and are easy as pie to make. In fact, the biscuits you see here on Boo the cat's plate are safe for his consumption. Hosting a Paws for Tea party is a piece of cake and it is a great way to catch up with your friends and family over a cuppa, or get everyone in your office or school together. Every penny you raise, however you choose to host your event, will help us help animals.

Order your free pack today. Simply fill in the form in the back of Pawprint or visit www.bluecross.org.uk/teaparty



VISITING TIME

Our refurbished Bromsgrove rehoming centre is officially open! We now have the facilities to help double the number of homeless and abandoned dogs and cats in the region – and it's all thanks to you

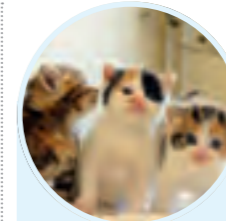
Our revamped rehoming centre now boasts spacious kennels and a cattery, maternity units for puppies and kittens, a veterinary clinic, housing for new arrivals and a dedicated behaviour assessment area.

Before the refurbishment, we cared for around 600 dogs and cats every year at Bromsgrove, but are now able to help twice as many. Neil Edwards, Bromsgrove Centre Manager, said: "We are so grateful for all the donations."

Five terrier cross puppies and their mum, Minnie, were the first canine family to benefit from the specially designed puppy unit. Born in our new mum and pup area, which is right next to the centre's team room, separated by large sliding windows, this meant mum Minnie could care for her pups

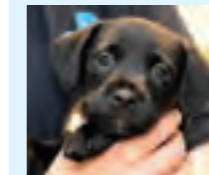
while we kept a close eye on the new family. Before the refurbishment was complete, we had to transfer pregnant bitches to other Blue Cross centres as we couldn't provide the specialist care they needed, but now – thanks to the generosity of our supporters – we can help those in need.

The closeness of the maternity unit to the team room means that pups can get used to the many sounds and smells of everyday life, including the vacuum cleaner, which is perfect preparation for life as a family pet.



"We were born in Bromsgrove's new kitten maternity unit, which had everything we needed."
Charmander, Squirtle and Jigglypuff

"I settled into my new home easily because I learnt about household sounds and smells in the puppy unit."
Beau



Other new facilities that we're really pleased to offer pets include admissions areas for newly arrived pets, and isolation units for pets who may have infectious diseases.

Admissions areas allow us to give each pet that is brought to us a full health check and assess their behaviour so we can tailor care to their individual needs. Isolation areas mean we can keep sick animals away from others so they don't pass on diseases, such as cat flu and kennel cough, while they are recovering.

When pets are healthy enough to go to their new homes, we can now move them to the rehoming wing, where they wait in comfortable kennels to meet their new families.

Emergency treatment

We're thrilled with our brand new veterinary suite, too. Rather than poorly animals having to travel, now the vet comes to us. Demand for our veterinary help in the region remains high, and the new clinic means we can continue to care for local pets whose owners can't afford private vet care.

We don't receive any government funding and are totally reliant on public support. You helped us raise over £1.9 million to fund our new facilities and, as you read this, ill and injured pets are getting better, and unwanted abandoned pets are finding loving homes because of it. Thank you.

THANKS
we couldn't have done it without you

PEOPLE POWER

How our volunteers can make a real difference to animal welfare

Jo is a Blue Cross Campaign Volunteer motivated by helping pets in need. While this role is not one that is hands-on with animals, the positive change she and her colleagues are making is easy to see.

Our volunteers are using the power of the internet to research problems pets face, and lobby for change. Led by our Public Affairs Team, campaign volunteers investigate crucial topics that may have a negative impact on pet welfare, like the unscrupulous sale of exotic pets and dangerous dog laws.

Tasks are varied and depend on the topic. You could be asked to write to your MP or to look through particular websites to find trends.

Jo says: "My first task was researching the breeding and sale of cats and kittens. There were three main websites that I looked at to find the number of cats advertised for sale

"If you've had a long day at work you don't always feel like switching on the computer, but knowing that what you're doing is making a significant difference to animal welfare makes it all worthwhile"

within 20 miles of my home. It was a great idea to focus locally because volunteers across the country could get involved.

"I'm now writing to my MP to ask him to look at the regulations surrounding the welfare of racing greyhounds, and asking for more transparency."

Data collected by Jo and more than 80 other campaign volunteers was collated and used to moderate a set of industry standards for selling pets online. This was backed by Defra, the government department responsible for animal welfare and some major websites signed up to it too.

Becky Thwaites, Blue Cross Public Affairs Manager, says: "Our campaign volunteers are directly helping to influence government policy concerning animal welfare. Being able to present law makers with well-researched reports has a real impact on policy, and we simply couldn't do this without committed volunteers like Jo."

If you have basic computer skills, a home internet connection and want to make a real difference to the nation's pets, we'd love to hear from you. **Visit www.bluecross.org.uk/volunteering or call 0300 790 9903 to find out more.**



Praise for Baxter

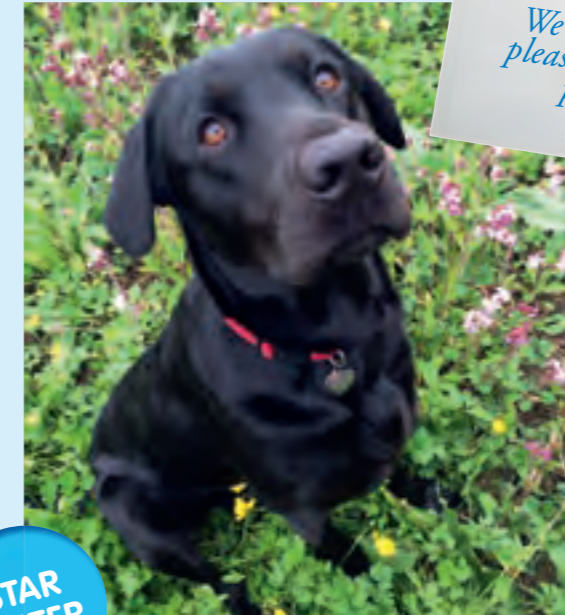
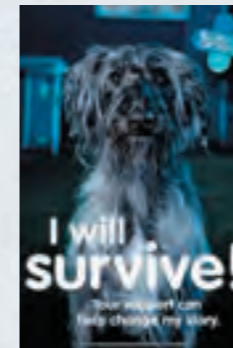
Ed's note:

We've been overwhelmed by your support of our TV advert, starring Baxter. Thank you so much for your good wishes. Here's a selection of the wonderful messages we've had. And remember, if you'd like to let us know what you think of our ad, do drop us a line as we'd love to hear from you.

Oh what a brilliant advert for the charity. I have two dogs but if I could I would home lots and lots more.
Caroline, by email

Beautiful, stunning, and the right side of emotional. Well done Blue Cross, I'm proud to be a tiny part of this superb organisation.
Anonymous supporter

I just wanted to say that it's an amazing TV ad. So enjoyable to watch, and the main protagonist is perfect!
Roma, by email



STAR LETTER

SCOOBY DO!

Just been looking at your latest Blue Cross publication and wanted to share a picture of our gorgeous Scooby, a 21-month-old black labrador. We think he is lovely, and we love it that so many people agree with us! He's kind, gentle, friendly and loves nothing more than learning, along with a nice cuddle and cup of tea.

Ellie Andrews, by email

As writer of the star letter, Ellie has won £100 of Love2shop vouchers for her family, provided by Petplan, the UK's no 1 pet insurance provider.

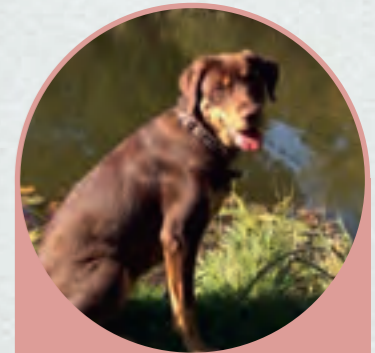
For more information on Petplan, visit www.petplan.co.uk/bluecross

Would you like to see your pet on this page?

We love to hear how your Blue Cross pets are getting on. Please email your letters and photos to editor@bluecross.org.uk or write to *Pawprint* Editor, Blue Cross, Shilton Road, Burford, Oxon OX18 4PF.

PET POSTBAG

We love to hear from you – please send us your news and pictures of your pets



OUR LITTLE FAMILY

We'd like to introduce you to Twiglet, our lab cross who joined our family last year. She's our first dog as a married couple and she has made our family complete.

Over the past few months we've taken her to the beach, swimming, on lots of country walks, and to the pub!

Now we're expecting our first baby. We've read your dog and baby advice leaflet online and can't wait to introduce our son or daughter to Twiglet, very slowly and with your advice.

Mr and Mrs Gilling, by email

Ed's note:

See our website for lots of tips on everything to do with owning a pet

BITESIZE STORIES
ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM BLUE CROSS



WORK BEGINS AT BURFORD

We've welcomed in the builders at Burford as our rehoming centre refurbishment begins to take shape. When the doors of our new facilities open to pets later this year, we'll be able to double the number of dogs and cats we can help, like cute kittens Jude, Johnny, Pepper, Rita and Penny.

The five-week-old siblings needed our help when they were just a few days old after their

mother was killed by a car. Luckily they were adopted by a feline mum who was raising one of her kittens in our cattery. All six grew healthy and strong, and we found the whole feline family loving homes.

Centre Manager Jenna Martyn said: "Kittens like this adorable bunch will really benefit from the new facilities once they are built."

Once complete, our Burford centre will boast new kennels, with bigger, comfier

accommodation and outside runs, separate dog and cat units for new arrivals and poorly pets, dedicated puppy and kitten areas, new veterinary facilities and a relaxed reception area.

To get involved with our Go Blue for Burford fundraising challenges, or to make a donation, visit:

www.bluecross.org.uk/burfordappeal or call 0300 790 9903.

NEW LIFELINE FOR PETS IN CRISIS

A new Blue Cross grant is offering a lifeline to pets in a crisis whose owners can't afford vet bills.

Our Veterinary Grant Scheme gives financial support for some health conditions to pet owners on means-tested benefits who don't live near our hospitals or clinics.

Caroline Reay, Clinical Compliance Manager, said: "We're trying to avoid the tragedy of an otherwise healthy pet with a curable condition being put to sleep because the owner can't afford the surgery."

We hope our grant will give sick and injured pets all over the UK the best shot at a healthy life.

Visit our website www.bluecross.org.uk or give us a call to find out more.



FROM HOMELESS HOUND TO POLICE POOCH

An unwanted pet has gone to the top of the class after becoming a qualified police dog. Charlie the springer spaniel arrived at our Tiverton centre in Devon when his owner was no longer able to care for him. We quickly realised that he had what it takes to be a working dog.

Jay Cruikshanks, Tiverton Centre Manager, said: "As soon as Charlie arrived he had his nose to the ground sniffing or he would be staring at us as if he was desperate to be given a job. We tried some simple searching games with him and he took to them like a duck to water – it was obvious that with his drive and energy levels, Charlie needed more than the average family home."

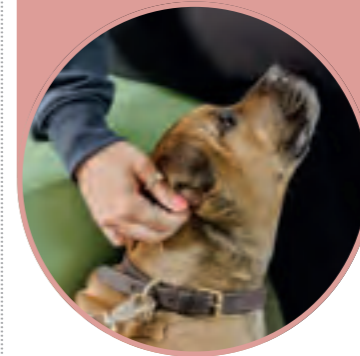
We got in touch with a number of organisations that train working dogs and after passing some tests, Charlie secured a place with Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Police. He embarked on a training course to learn how to sniff out large amounts of cash and a range of illegal substances and proved to be a natural. Charlie's trainer, PC Jason Keir of the Beds, Cambs and Herts Dog Unit, said: "Charlie picked up everything we taught him so quickly. We're really lucky to have him on the team."

Charlie now works alongside his human colleagues in drug and money laundering cases. Jay added: "Charlie's a great ambassador for rescue dogs and has shown how amazing they can be."

MAKING THE GRADE

Thousands more young people are set to learn about dog safety thanks to the Blue Cross Education Team.

We've partnered up with several organisations so we can spread the word across the country, including at Safeside in Birmingham. Safeside teaches children about all aspects of safety, from fire to 'stranger danger', using actors. Since November, these workshops have included dog safety messages and 10,000 young people each year are set to benefit. In Staffordshire, we've educated 50 Police Community Support Officers on how to talk to youngsters about canine safety. If you represent local government, children's charities or the police and are interested in working with us, please email education@bluecross.org.uk



BOBBY'S BACK ON HIS FEET

A dramatic rescue has saved the life of a tiny kitten who became trapped beneath a building at the busy Felixstowe docks. Bobby the kitten's pitiful cries were heard by office workers from Mitie Security at Felixstowe Port in Suffolk, and, after realising the young cat's calls were coming from underneath their feet, they called the dock police.

Police officer Carly Wicks, who helped rescue Bobby, said: "We don't know how he became trapped underneath the building but he couldn't find his way out. It must have been terrifying for him as he was under there for a few days with no food or water."

The dock police ripped open the floor to free the distraught kitten and took him to our Blue Cross Felixstowe rehoming centre, where we named him 'Bobby' in honour of his rescuers.

We treated him for fleas and worms, and gave him some much needed food and water. Once he was old and well enough, Bobby went off to a loving new home.



CHIPPING'S IN

Don't forget to get your dog microchipped by April. Owners who don't will face a fine of up to £500. Contact your nearest Blue Cross to get your dog, cat or rabbit chipped for free

80%
of British gardens contain plants that are poisonous to cats and dogs



Pets can suffer fatal heatstroke after just 15 minutes in the heat. Never leave your pet alone in a car.

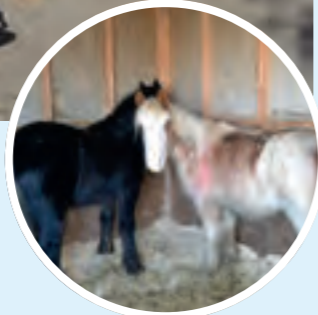
DEAR FINDER...

A giant rabbit is now in safe hands after being abandoned in a box with a note from owners saying they couldn't afford his vet bill.

The bunny, nicknamed Nivens McTwisp after the white rabbit in a recent film adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland*, had a suspected broken leg and was dumped in a box on somebody's doorstep, before being handed into our Grimsby animal hospital.

X-rays have revealed his wonky leg is either an abnormality he was born with or a very old injury he has adapted to over time, and cannot be fixed. But despite this and his whopping 6kg weight, Nivens is content enough to hop about and isn't in any pain.

Nivens isn't a big fan of carrots but he does like kale, swede, apples and grass.



ZERO TO HERO

A young cob rescued from a miserable life of neglect has landed on his hooves in his new home.

Rafiki was found fly grazing in a field with several other horses. Sadly, three were already dead and a further two had to be euthanased as nothing could be done to save them. At just 18 months old, Rafiki needed urgent veterinary help to stop him from suffering the same fate. We nursed him back to health at our Burford rehoming centre and began to get him used to being handled and groomed.

Rafiki is now living like a king in his new home with Margaret.

She suffers with severe arthritis and, following surgery last year, is now unable to walk and needs a power wheelchair. Rafiki has turned her life around. "He gives me a reason to get up in the morning," she says.

Unrecognisable as the shabby waif he once was, he is Margaret's pride and joy.

An experienced horse handler who has, among other things, worked with semi-feral young New Forest ponies, Margaret was determined not to let her wheelchair curtail her lifestyle: "Once I had got used to the wheelchair I was bored, getting fat, and really missed fresh air and equine company.

"I looked at the Blue Cross website and there he was. We went to see him and he was perfect. He was not the slightest bit bothered by the wheelchair and quite happily sniffed me all over."

Margaret handles Rafiki every day and she plans to introduce him to as much as she can in time, including a saddle, bridle, rugs and a trailer. With the help of her daughter, she hopes to be able to take him for walks soon.

"I couldn't have asked for a better home"

88%

of people think getting a pet before having children is a good idea

PLEDGE FOR CHANGE

We've joined with animal welfare organisations from across the European Union to call for an end to puppy smuggling and commercial pet breeding. At the first EU Dog and Cat Alliance event there were over 30 MEPs and 11 pet welfare organisations lobbying the EU for better welfare legislation for dogs and cats.

Becky Thwaites, Public Affairs Officer, said: "We hope that by working in partnership with animal welfare organisations from across the EU we'll be able to make a real difference to pets."

VOTES ARE IN

Postman Pat and Jess the cat are the nation's favourite owner and pet partnership.

THANKS FOR YOUR #SUPPAWT

Did you spot Baxter and his friends on your TV screens?

As you know from the sneaky peak we gave you in the last edition of *Pawprint* magazine, we launched our awareness and fundraising campaign just before Christmas – and we're so pleased at the support we've received.

Our advert was designed to make us better known and better funded so we can give more pets happier and healthier futures.

Millions of people across the UK have watched Baxter's tale and many were inspired to show us how they and their pets were supporting Blue Cross.



Here's a selection of our favourite 'paw bumps'

Black and white kitten Mr Grumpy was just two weeks old when he showed his #suppawt for the team at our Southampton rehoming centre. With the increase in support from the Great British public, thanks to Baxter and his chums, we'll be able to change the story for many more pets like Mr Grumpy.



STEPS FOR PETS

Pet lovers laced up their boots and walked over 10 million steps to kick start our first ever Steps for Pets fundraising challenge. We were chuffed to get celebrity backing from singer Ed Sheeran and Olympic cycling champion Victoria Pendleton, who donated their autographed footwear to be auctioned.

A huge thank you to everyone who took part and helped ill and unwanted pets.



DONATIONS FLOOD IN

Despite being devastated by flash flooding, our Cambridge rehoming centre is now up and running again thanks to the generosity and kindness of supporters.

Storms brought dirty water into the cat pens and ruined nearly all their scratching posts, toys and bedding.

Most had to be thrown away because of the risk of contamination, leaving the cats without the vital enrichment and mental stimulation they need as they wait for new homes.

Thankfully our cats and kittens stayed safe and weren't too traumatised by the ordeal.

"We'd like to thank everyone for the generous gifts and kind thoughts at our time of need – it's been amazing," said Claire Thomas, an Animal Welfare Assistant.

"We raised a lot of money and received wonderful presents from people all over the world. The cats are loving their new toys!"

An appeal for donations and gifts raised nearly £11,000, and hundreds of toys, scratching posts, treats and other goods. Thanks to your incredible support, the centre is now back to normal and busy rehoming needy cats.



WIN! SUPPLEMENTS TO SOOTHE AND SUPPORT YOUR OLDER PET'S JOINTS



Five boxes of LOGIC® EaseFlex for dogs and five boxes of LOGIC® EaseFlex for cats up for grabs

Life can cause wear and tear to your pet's joints. Has your pet reached a senior age and have you started to notice changes?

If the answer is yes, then look no further than Ceva Animal Health's super tasty veterinary strength supplements, LOGIC® EaseFlex for dogs and LOGIC® EaseFlex for cats.

LOGIC EaseFlex are high-quality joint supplements formulated to help soothe active joints and support long-term mobility. Both include glucosamine HCL and chondroitin. LOGIC EaseFlex for dogs contains green-lipped mussel, a source of omega-3 fatty acids known to support and maintain joint function, while EaseFlex for cats contains MSM, a source of naturally occurring sulphur required as a building block in cartilage.

LOGIC EaseFlex for dogs comes in packs of 28 beef flavour soft-chews, which provide up to eight weeks' supply for a dog weighing up to 25kg. LOGIC EaseFlex for cats is available in packs of 28 tuna flavour soft-chews for four weeks' supply.

For further information on the LOGIC range visit www.logicforpets.co.uk.

Mrs S Harris, Mr Peter Stevenson, Glenis Moore and A Kilmartin were the lucky winners of Adaptil® for dogs and Feliway® for cats in our autumn 2015 competition. Congratulations!

HOW TO ENTER

Answer the following question for a chance to win:

In our Pawprint news update, we told you the percentage of British gardens growing plants that are poisonous to cats and dogs, but was it? (please tick)

- 8 per cent
- 18 per cent
- 80 per cent

Prize (please tick)

- LOGIC EaseFlex for dogs
- LOGIC EaseFlex for cats

Enter online at www.bluecross.org.uk/pawprintcompetition

Alternatively, fill in your answer on this coupon, along with your name, address and telephone number, and post to:

Pawprint Competition,
Blue Cross, Shilton Road,
Burford, Oxon OX18 4PF

Strictly one entry per household.
Closing date: **29 April 2016**

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

We'd like to tell you about the great work we do for pets and how you can help. Please tick if you are happy for us to contact you by phone email.

Telephone _____

Email _____

FIND US

Discover your nearest Blue Cross centre

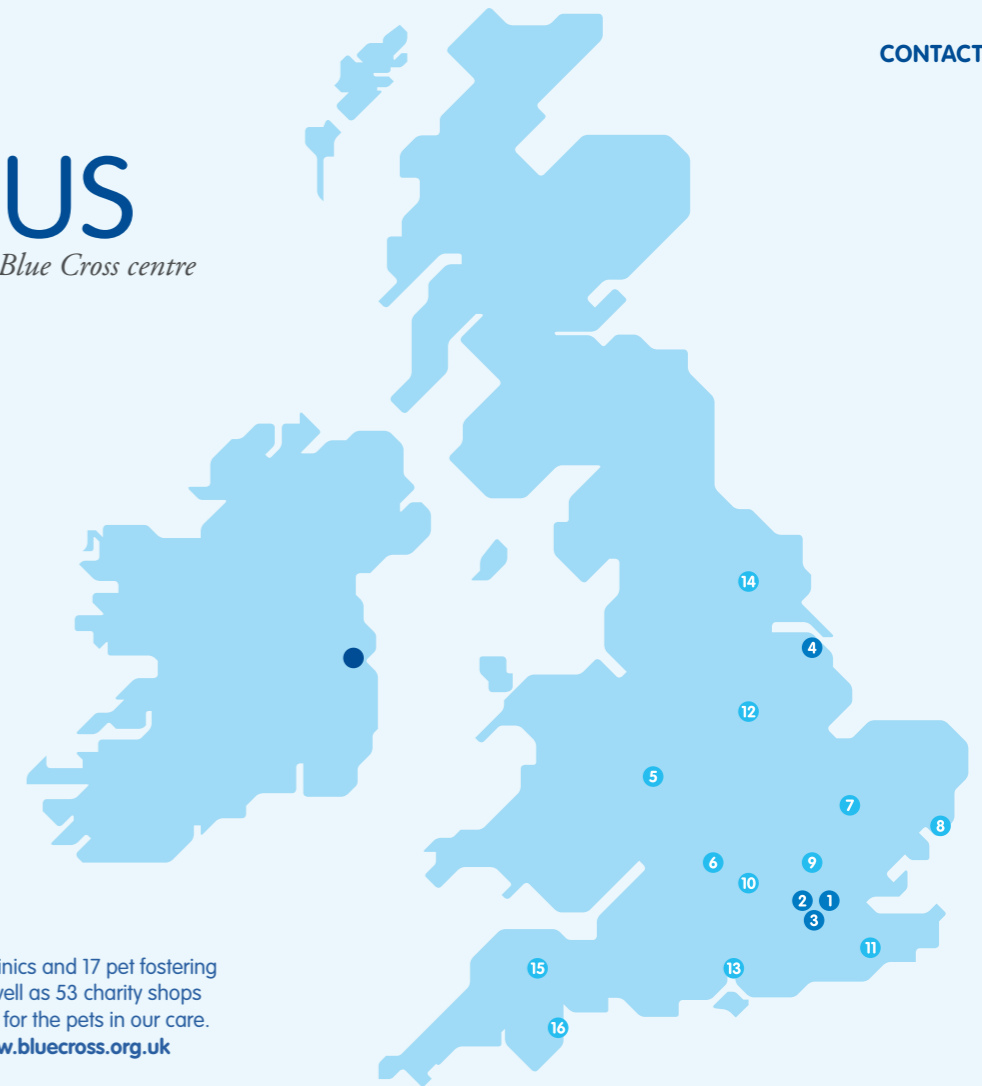
BLUE CROSS ANIMAL HOSPITALS

- 1 Victoria
- 2 Hammersmith
- 3 Merton
- 4 Grimsby

BLUE CROSS REHOMING CENTRES

- 5 Bromsgrove
- 6 Burford
- 7 Cambridge
- 8 Suffolk
- 9 Hertfordshire
- 10 Lewknor
- 11 Northiam
- 12 Rolleston
- 13 Southampton
- 14 Thirsk
- 15 Tiverton
- 16 Torbay

● Irish Blue Cross



Plus, we have five pet care clinics and 17 pet fostering locations across the UK, as well as 53 charity shops selling goods to raise money for the pets in our care. Find your nearest one at www.bluecross.org.uk or call **0300 790 9903**.

MOVING HOUSE?

Please don't forget to let us know if you have moved home recently. Updating us is really important, because without your new address, we are unable to claim Gift Aid on your donations, which is worth 25p for every pound you donate.

Call our Supporter Care Team on **0300 790 9903**, email info@bluecross.org.uk or fill in and return this coupon. Thank you! Remember to update your pet's microchip details when you move, too.

Old address

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

New address

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

We'd like to tell you about the great work we do for pets and how you can help. Please tick if you are happy for us to contact you by

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please cut out this coupon and send it to the following freepost address:

Freepost BLUE CROSS FOR PETS

We select our mailing up to two months in advance, so you may receive one or two more to your old address before the change takes effect. We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience.

If animals
have a place
in your heart...



...find a place for them in your Will

We've been dedicated to the health and happiness of pets since 1897. Abandoned or unwanted, ill or injured – we do what's needed to give every pet a healthy life in a happy home. We're a charity, so the more help you give us, the more help we can give pets.

**A gift in your Will can help secure the future for thousands of animals.
If you need us, we can also be there for your special companion.**

Thank you.



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