

paww's

The supporter magazine
of Battersea Dogs & Cats Home

SUMMER 2015
SUGGESTED DONATION £1
battersea.org.uk



**Clinical
excellence**

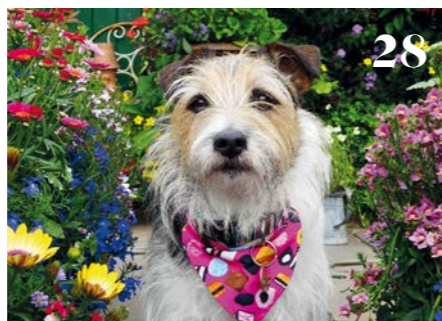
Behind the scenes in Battersea's
veterinary clinics



24



12



28



32

FEATURES

- Clinical excellence** 8
Behind the scenes in Battersea's veterinary clinics
- International rescue** 10
News from some of the Battersea dogs and cats who have gone the extra mile
- Mobile chip shop** 12
Battersea's brand new 'van about town' is moving into top gear this summer
- Stressing the need for calm cats** 20
By reducing stress for cat in our care we can ensure that they are happier

REGULARS

- Claire's welcome** 1
- News** 2
- Little Paws** 15
- Cat gallery** 19
- Sue Barker: Me and my... Spaniel** 22
- Dog gallery** 27
- Letters** 28
- Ask the experts** 30
- Take us home** 32

paws
Summer 2015

Executive Editor
Dee McIntosh
Editor
Caroline Stringer

Contributors
Claire Fishersmith
Lisa Nugent
Yogamaya Von Hippel

Paws Magazine
Battersea Dogs & Cats Home
4 Battersea Park Road
London SW8 4AA

✉ paws@battersea.org.uk

🐦 @BDCH

📘 Battersea

For more information and our opening hours, call 0843 509 4444 or visit our website battersea.org.uk

Old Windsor
Priest Hill, Old Windsor, Berkshire SL4 2JN

Brands Hatch
Crowhurst Lane, Ash, Kent TN15 7HH

Patron
Her Majesty The Queen

President
HRH Prince Michael of Kent, GCVO

Paws is designed on behalf of Battersea Dogs & Cats Home by williamjoseph.co.uk

Advertising enquiries
corporate@battersea.org.uk

Advertisements and advertising inserts appearing within or sent with Paws magazine have been included at the advertiser's request only. Battersea Dogs & Cats Home does not verify the quality, condition, validity or standard of the offers, products or services advertised. Battersea Dogs & Cats Home does not in any way endorse any of the products or services offered.

Keep us up to date
If you would like to let us know about any changes to your details, or if you wish to stop receiving Paws magazine, email us at fundraising@battersea.org.uk. Please include your name, address, and postcode so that we can find your record. You can also write to:

Supporter Services Team
Battersea Dogs & Cats Home
4 Battersea Park Road
London SW8 4AA

By sending us imagery for use in Paws, you grant Battersea a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free right to use, reproduce, modify, adapt, and publish any photos or videos. Any photographer or videographer may retain copyright and moral rights in their submitted images and every endeavour will be made to credit the copyright holder when the image/video is used and published by Battersea. Although Battersea Dogs & Cats Home will always supply the correct information to third parties (for example to press/media), it cannot accept responsibility for any credit line errors or omissions by these parties.

Front cover
Director of Veterinary Services Shaun Opperman with Barney

Welcome

Claire Horton, Chief Executive

'The happiness that the look in the eye of a rescue dog brings when he knows he's come home is priceless'

Before humans die, they write their last will and testament, giving their home and all they have to those they leave behind.

If, with my paws, I could do the same, this is what I'd ask...

To a poor and lonely stray, I'd give my happy home; my bowl and cosy bed, soft pillow and all my toys, the lap which I loved so much, the hand that stroked my fur and the sweet voice that spoke my name.

I'd will to the sad, scared, shelter dog the place I had in my human's loving heart, of which there seemed no bounds.

So, when I die, please don't say: "I'll never have a pet again, for the loss and the pain is more than I can stand."

Instead, go find an unloved dog, one whose life has held no joy or hope, and give my place to him.

This is the only thing I can give... The love I left behind.

Last Will of a Loved Dog
– Author unknown

“Our summer issue is filled with Battersea animals who are making the most of their second chance”

Golden oldies Sam and Cane shine alongside Claire

When I came across this anonymous 'Last Will of a Loved Dog', I struggled with tears of both sadness and joy. The grief of losing a beloved friend, after a long and securely-loved life, is unbearable – but the happiness that the look in the eye of a rescue dog brings when he knows he's come home is priceless.

We have a saying at Battersea that each dog and cat who finds a new home is rescuing another, by leaving behind a kennel or pen which will soon be filled by the next sad and lonely soul.

Our summer issue is filled with Battersea animals who are making the most of the second chance they've been given by their wonderful new families. On page 10, it's all abroad for a world tour of former residents. And you can tell from the wonderful letters on pages 28 and 29 that all owners of a Battersea dog or cat share the same pride and excitement in their special companion.

On page 2, we share news of how we plan to mark 150 years since the death of our Founder Mary Tealby who made all these rescue stories possible.

Mary Tealby's tireless efforts on behalf of London's stray dogs laid the foundations for every single one of us to give ourselves in the service of lost, bewildered and frightened animals.

If she could see us now, I hope she would feel we have served her memory well, and stayed faithful to her high ideals and clear vision of a kinder world for companion animals.

Mary Tealby created the special charity we love so much. Her legacy is over three million Battersea animals given the care they needed and the peace and safety they craved.

Our staff, volunteers, supporters, friends, partners and rehoming all contribute to the continued power of that legacy to transform lives. And so do generous-hearted people like Ann Stanborough on page 3. Ann's dogs were the centre of her life, and her amazingly kind Legacy to Battersea is bringing joy to the homeless dogs and cats who are the centre of ours. 🐾



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

COMPETITION



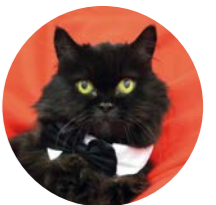
Pets less ordinary
Win pet goodies worth £100
p24

EVENTS



Flight of your life
Do something amazing for Battersea by joining one of our events, including our skydiving challenge
p5

TAKE US HOME



Perfect catch
Six fantastic felines are looking to catch your eye
p32



Three million dogs owe a debt of gratitude to our Founder Mary Tealby

A life of promise

The life and achievements of Battersea's Founder Mary Tealby, and the legacy of commitment and love which have saved the lives of millions of dogs and cats, are being celebrated by the Home this autumn.

On 3 October it will be 150 years since Mary died at 63, just five years after opening her Temporary Home for Lost and Starving Dogs in a stable yard in Islington.

Today, her Home is a charity known and loved everywhere, caring for around 9,000 dogs and cats each year and campaigning for animals to be treated with the respect and dignity they deserve. We still aim to keep Mary's promise never to turn away an animal in need.

To mark this amazing legacy, the Home is planning commemorations centred around the 150th anniversary of Mary's death. A memorial stone will be laid

at Mary Tealby's grave in the churchyard of St Andrew's in Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, telling the story of our Founder and the huge impact of her work.

In Islington, a blue plaque at the site of our original Home will be unveiled, showing the world where the Battersea story began.

At the Battersea centre itself, we're planning a day of celebrations to honour Mary Tealby and her work, on 3 October. Our Victorian Day will take visitors back to the world of Mary's London, explore what dogs meant to our ancestors, and explain why our Founder was one of the architects of the nation's love for their canine companions. We'll have some very special guests, and entertainments.

You can find out more by keeping an eye on our website battersea.org.uk/batterseaevents

Kennels have a Royal visitor

Our homeless dogs were out in force to welcome Battersea's President, HRH Prince Michael of Kent GCVO, to the Home this summer.

During his visit Prince Michael toured the Home's Cattery, Clinic and its new £4.8m kennel facilities for dogs' first few days at the Home named, in honour of Battersea's Founder Mary Tealby.

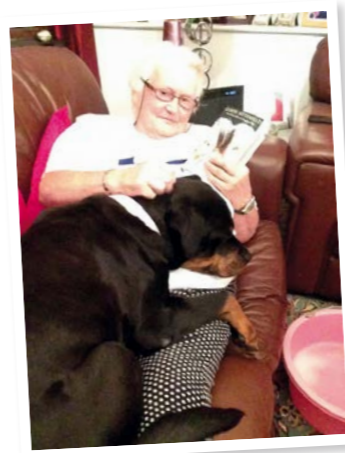
Each kennel has built-in speakers to play calming music and an external run area, whilst adjoining paddocks have paddling pools, climbing mounds, play equipment and plants to awaken and interest dogs' senses.

The owner of a Battersea dog himself, Labrador Shadow, the Prince was keen to meet all the dogs making up our Guard of Honour to greet him.



HRH says hello to Husky pup Pandora

Rehoming news



ROSIE

Everyone at Battersea loved Rosie, our sweet, giggly Rottie. We knew she was a bit of a lapdog and here she is proving it, with mum Carol Barritt. "She loves to sleep, in fact I think she is the laziest dog I've ever known," says Carol's daughter Sam. "But she also loves a good walk and a play and a run too, even if she always needs a sleep after because she is exhausted."



CICI

Stunning youngster Cici liked to play hide and seek with her carers in our Cattery, but now she's been rehomed by Kamran and Shazia Younas and their three children, from Slough, she's really started to come out of her shell. "She settled in very quickly with us, and has already built close relationships with our entire family - she is very much a part of our family now!" said Shazia.

If you think you could give one of our animals the loving home they deserve, turn to page 32 for *Take us Home*



Legacy giver Ann Stanborough with her dogs

Teddy care

Ann Stanborough adored her Poodle companions, so she honoured their memory by leaving Battersea a Legacy in her Will.

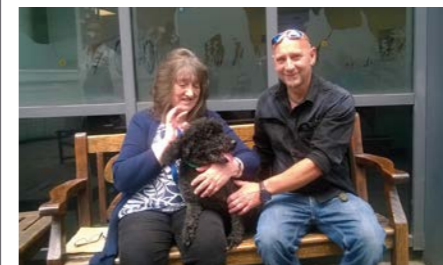
We were touched by her generosity, and delighted to welcome her Executor and friend Harriet Di Luzio and her gardener Peter Hearn for a visit to Battersea on the anniversary of her death.

They loved meeting our dogs and cats, and they were amazed when our Legacy Manager Spencer Wisdom introduced them to Teddy – a dead ringer for Miss Stanborough's much-loved Poodle Sasha.

"I firmly believe this was Ann's doing, on this of all days, and we're absolutely delighted that her Legacy is helping dogs like Teddy," said Harriet.

Our photos show Miss Stanborough and Sasha together, and Harriet and Peter with Teddy, who has since found a happy new home.

For information about remembering the Home in your Will, call 020 7627 9300, email a.parente@battersea.org.uk or visit battersea.org.uk for an information pack.



Gabbi and her kittens relax in a foster home

Calling all foster heroes

There's nothing better than snuggling up with a pet dog or cat but, sadly, hundreds of Battersea animals are without that spot on the sofa. Many of our current residents would really benefit from a foster family to love them while they wait for permanent owners to come along.

We urgently need more foster carers, particularly for dogs from our Old Windsor and Brands Hatch centres. Find out how to get involved at battersea.org.uk/foster



Lurcher Carta puts his paw of approval on our very own Magna Barka

All dogs are created equal

Eight hundred years ago there was no *POGDOGS*, but if Paul O'Grady and his film crew had been around we know they'd have surely taken a Battersea dog or two to witness the signing of the Magna Carta just metres from our Old Windsor centre in 1215.

When King John and his lords gathered at Runnymede to sign the contract that made everyone in the land (including the King) subject to the rule of law, little did they know that Battersea would be standing up for the rights of dogs and cats in that very spot!

To mark the historic anniversary of what many believe laid the foundations of democracy and human rights, we published our Magna Barka. It's a fun name for a very serious plea, that every dog and cat should live in a home where they are treated with love, care and respect and sets out the following clauses:

- Animals are brought to Battersea having been neglected – a dog or cat should never go hungry and always have access to food and water.

- An animal should always receive medical attention and have regular visits to the vet – it is wrong that people abandon animals to avoid the cost of vet bills.
- All animals should be free to express normal behaviours. At Battersea our staff work tirelessly to give dogs and cats the best standards of care. Every animal needs daily exercise to keep it happy and healthy.
- All animals should be kept in an appropriate environment, neither too hot or cold. Battersea sees too many dogs found suffering in the winter cold or in distress from overheating in summer.
- No animals should be put in fear or distress. Battersea works in London's communities to promote responsible pet ownership and to reunite lost animals with their owners.

In 2015 it's a common sight to see Battersea dogs being walked in the fields around Runnymede where history was made. And Battersea's wish for them, and every animal, is that they're treated with dignity and respect.

LIKE!
BATTERSEA

The news that Battersea cat Bob was now living Down Under in Australia made it a g'day for our Facebook fans

"What a wonderful story and shows that people are still kind out there."

"What a beautiful boy. Well done on your great age, may you have many more years of love there in Oz."

"Fabulous. Must be the sun keeps him going – and love"



Bob enjoying the sun

Home delivery

We're working with the nation's postal workers at Royal Mail to raise awareness of the risks to our deliverymen from dog attacks.

Dog Awareness Week in July saw Battersea partner up with Royal Mail to promote safety around dogs, especially in the home. Each day, an average of eight postal workers across the UK are attacked by dogs, and the total for 2014 was 2,980 attacks.

Chief Executive Claire Horton attended a drop-in briefing for MPs at the Houses of Parliament, asking them to support Dog Awareness Week. More than 30 politicians from across the House of Commons came along.

We've also put together a guide for dog owners on how to help keep their pet under control when postal workers come to the door. It also offers advice to Royal Mail workers on how to approach dogs on their delivery rounds.

To get a copy, please email paws@battersea.org.uk



Going Dutch

Battersea's work is internationally renowned, so it's no surprise that 95 students from vocational agricultural Wellant College in Houten, in The Netherlands, have visited the Home this summer on a fact-finding trip.

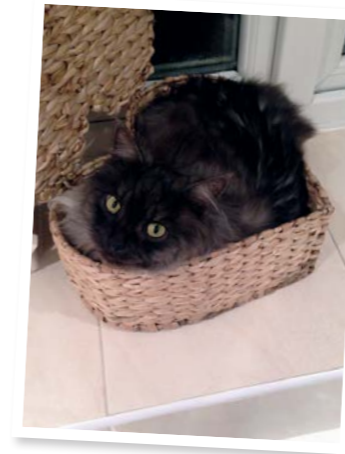
The veterinary assistant and animal care management trainees were shown around the Home by our Community Engagement team, and gained valuable insights into animal

rescue as they study for their qualifications.

Wellants' Jan Bernd ten Berg says Battersea is a mainstay of the students' annual visit:

"We visit colleges, museums, companies, and charities. Battersea was visited by our students on our very first excursion ten years ago and has been the only mainstay besides the National History Museum and London Zoo."

Rehoming news



SPOOKY

We don't see too many Norwegian Forest cats at Battersea (just two in 2014), and when we did it was Spooky! After a stay of 52 days, Spooky went home to Tunbridge Wells with Lisa Farrell and Alex Eastwood. Apparently, he likes a bath. Or a box. Or a heart-shaped basket. "I miss him so much during the day, I wish I didn't have to work so I could just cuddle with him!" says Lisa.



RILEY

With a summer of top tennis in full swing, we asked Brands Hatch Jack Russell pups Murray, Federer, Sharapova and Djokovic to serve up an appeal for tennis balls. They came bouncing in, and Federer (now Riley) aced himself a new home too. New owner Pippa Quinton from Sevenoaks says: "He's a gentle boy, amazingly well behaved for a puppy, and very keen to learn."

If you think you could give one of our animals the loving home they deserve, turn to page 32 for *Take us Home*

Events

Do something amazing for Battersea.
Find out more by emailing events@battersea.org.uk
or visit battersea.org.uk/getinvolved



Thames Path Challenge

12–13 September

Follow the Thames from the heart of London out to historic Runnymede (alongside our Old Windsor centre) on this marathon challenge. There are two distances – 50k and 100k – and you can go it alone or with company in teams of up to six.
Email events@battersea.org.uk or call 020 7627 9339

Royal Parks Half Marathon

11 October 2015

Join Battersea's biggest running team in this year's Royal Parks Half Marathon and enjoy a scenic run through London. Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, St James's Park and Green Park – what a beautiful way to start autumn as the leaves turn golden.
Email events@battersea.org.uk or call 020 7627 9339

Annual Reunion

6 September 2015

Meet Gibson, the lovely Rottie who became our newest Ambassador when he won Best Battersea Dog at our Old Windsor Fun Day. On Sunday, 6 September he'll be joined as a Battersea ambassador by the dog who wins the title at our 21st Annual Reunion and Fun Day in Battersea Park. We have a kennel-full of family fun lined up including dog classes and trick displays, the chance to maybe spot a Battersea-supporting celebrity or two as well as some of the four-legged stars of Paul O'Grady: *For the Love of Dogs*.
Find out more at battersea.org.uk/annualreunion and join us in the Park

London Marathon

24 April 2016

A huge thank you to our 40 wonderful runners in 2015. And there's no rest for the fittest, so if you've entered the the public ballot and would like to support Battersea please get in touch. Whether you've entered the ballot or not you can still apply for one of Battersea's charity places.
Email events@battersea.org.uk or call 020 7627 9339



Skydiving

All year round

We want you to fall for the ultimate adrenaline event, a skydive for Battersea. You can go tandem or solo, and enjoy the view on your 10,000ft descent on the flight of your life.
Email events@battersea.org.uk or call 020 7627 9339

Mucky pups

Battersea's first-ever Muddy Dog Challenge this year was splashing good fun. Over 200 people and 161 dogs took on the fun-packed obstacle course at Brockwell Park, London, and they raised an amazing £40,000 in sponsorship money to help us care for homeless animals.

Join in the fun in 2016 and register your interest at battersea.org.uk/muddydog



Jersey boys and girls

Bikers can now complete their cycling outfits with our very first Battersea branded men's and women's cycle tops, with illustrations by Jason Chapman. The premium, lightweight tops with self-wicking fabric will keep you cool, dry and comfortable.

They also feature a full length front hidden zipper and three convenient rear pockets for all those essential items. Jerseys cost £46.95 and you can buy via our website at battersea.org.uk, from summitdifferent.co.uk or in the shop at our London centre. Royalties from the sale of these jerseys go towards supporting our work.

YOUR TERRIFIC TWEETS @BDCH

We love seeing pictures of your pets on Twitter, especially when we're celebrating the end of the working week with **#FridayFeeling**



Fudge with his friday outfit on @BDCH @kevinfin



Box fresh #FridayFeeling for my @BDCH boy George @sidoniedaovu



@BDCH #thatfridayfeeling Friday is movie night! @emmahland2000



#FridayFeeling my @BDCH boy Moogie refusing to let me work @moogiecarr15

let sleeping dogs lie...



...treat them at home

With Johnson's Veterinary strength flea control available from your local pet shop, it's easy to care for your pets yourself.

www.4fleas.co.uk



50p

OFF

your next purchase of any Johnson's 4fleas products

At all participating pet stores. No cash alternative. Only one voucher per pack.

To the retailer: Johnson's Veterinary Products Ltd. will redeem this voucher, providing it has been received in part payment for any Johnson's 4fleas products. Redeem by returning all vouchers to JOHNSON'S VETERINARY PRODUCTS LTD. FREEPOST (BM2565) SUTTON COLDFIELD, West Mids B75 7DF. (Please note there is a £2 minimum redemption value) Johnson's Veterinary Products Ltd reserve the right to refuse the redemption of any vouchers. Terms & Conditions apply. Offer ends 31.10.2015



Clinical excellence

Battersea's 39 veterinary staff give the very best of care to every dog and cat who comes into the Home. In 2014 that meant almost 4,800 general anaesthetics and over 3,400 neutering operations. But many Clinic days are far from routine...



Veterinary Director
Shaun Opperman
and Head Nurse Rachel
Abd'ee with Barney

All fans of Paul O'Grady: *For the Love of Dogs* will know of the heroics performed daily in Battersea's Clinics in London and Old Windsor.

Who can forget tiny Bourbon and the caesarean section that saved her life and her pups? Or Patrick, the Bull Mastiff cross, who found that eating too many takeaways can be bad for your health when our vets found a kebab skewer protruding from his stomach? And what about Twinkle? Someone had left her tied to the gates of our Brands Hatch centre, so emaciated she could barely stand. After six weeks of intensive care from our veterinary team she was able to start a new life.

The Home's 39 veterinary staff give the very best of care to the dogs and cats who come to Battersea – 10,484 in 2014. That's almost 4,800 general anaesthetics and over 3,400 neutering operations. But many Clinic days are far from routine...

ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

After 24 years as a Battersea Vet, Shaun Opperman, Veterinary Director, is still excited by the challenges he and his team face every day.

In our Old Windsor Clinic, Vet Breeony Hunt recently carried out a delicate surgical procedure to remove part of Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Trixie's ear canal.

"Dogs with chronic ear infections can suffer severe discomfort, pain and even loss of hearing," explained Breeony. "Ten-year-old Trixie has made a good recovery and has since been rehomed."

Procedures like these are a far cry from the far off days of 1991, when Battersea had one vet and eight nurses to look after the 800 or so dogs on site each day.

"I've witnessed the number of clients we care for rise and rise and, 24 years later, we can see over 10,000 dogs and cats a year come through our door.

"But some things never change. The team and I still get attached to the animals who require extra veterinary care and attention and, when they're well enough to leave, there are some long goodbyes. But what makes it all worthwhile is knowing we've given them a second chance of a new life in a new home."

MARK OF EXCELLENCE

In May this year, both our London and Old Windsor Clinics were awarded the Small Animal General Practice accreditation by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

This is a quality assurance scheme which certifies practices who offer the highest standard of care to animals.

"Both Clinics had to prove evidence of excellence in over 100 different areas ranging from quality of care to clinical governance and diagnostics. We are really proud the Royal College views both our practices as specialists in small animal care," Shaun explains.

Over 57% of UK practices in the UK are accredited, with the majority being private ones. This makes Battersea only one of a



Vet Nurse Chris Hann with a patient

“What makes it all worthwhile is knowing we've given these animals a second chance of a new life in a new home”

few select rescue centres in the UK to have this accreditation.

BOBBY DAZZLER

Red tabby Bobby was rushed to our London Clinic in a pitiful state. He'd been found at the roadside, the victim of a hit and run – and his survival was nothing short of miraculous.

Bobby's jaw was smashed, his chest crushed and he had a collapsed lung. He spent his first night propped up to help him breathe, with a Vet Nurse beside him.

The following day revealed a fractured and dislocated jaw, a fractured rib and a badly-bruised eye. Bobby had to be fed through a tube, and it would take two more operations and five weeks in intensive care before he was well enough to go home.

"His jaw may be slightly wonky, his tongue lolls out, and his left eye has a permanently dilated pupil, but Bobby is doing fine, and hasn't used up any more of his nine lives," says Vet Nurse Chris Hann.

HAVING A BARNEY

Head Nurse Rachel Abd'ee has taken expert care of thousands of Battersea dogs and cats, and they all touch her

heart. But none more so than Yellow Labrador pup Barney.

When they brought him to our Old Windsor centre at 14 weeks old, Barney's owners confessed they believed he'd been born in a puppy farm. He was put into quarantine for a week, just to be on the safe side. Rachel found him hard to resist and decided to rehome him. Barney still experiences health problems which are frequently seen in overbred farmed puppies and he requires ongoing treatment.

Barney is currently sharing bed space with orphan kitten Wizzy, who was found in a garden, abandoned by their mum and suffering from cat flu. Wizzy is now doing well after a rough start in life.

"Barney and Wizzy get on great, and they're learning lots about being well-mannered and sociable from each other," Rachel told us. "It's not always as straightforward though. I fostered a finch once before it was taken to a wildlife rescue centre, and over the years various builders have found and brought us fox cubs and even rabbits on Christmas Day.

"We also had a snake left outside with a note attached saying 'Not poisonous'"

HOWARD'S WAY HOME

Three-year-old Lurcher Howard is going to tackle life head-on as a tripod dog, after having one of his legs amputated at Battersea. He was in a terrible state when he arrived at our Brands Hatch centre as a stray – emaciated, patchy skin, sore toes, and a chronically lame hind leg that seemed to be wasting away, and probably caused by a trauma injury.

Vet Phil Robinson decided to monitor Howard's progress. "He was painfully thin, and eating four meals a day to build him up. Unfortunately his leg was getting no better at all, and for Howard's sake I had to amputate. After the operation he was closely monitored for signs of breathing difficulties, hypothermia, heart rate and nausea. We all fell for this little guy – after just three days he was well enough to try a little walk around the courtyard, and in the weeks that followed he made an amazingly good recovery."

Just three weeks after his operation, Howard went home to Caterham in Surrey. His new owner reports that he's very energetic and playing with his pal Diego, a fellow Lurcher.

Bobby, Barney, Wizzy and Howard all have our amazing Veterinary team to thank for their second chance in life. They, and generations of animals to come, will be saved from pain, misery – and death – by the expert care of all our Vets, Nurses and Veterinary Care Assistants.

In years to come, we want to be able to say that no-one, and nowhere, is caring for homeless dogs and cats like Battersea.

"We're very excited about the work we do," says Shaun. "Being able to help more and more animals and also being a training centre for student Veterinary Nurses means we're always very busy. We are very lucky. Yes, really lucky." 🐾

At Battersea, we know no boundaries when it comes to finding the right home for the animals in our care, so we now have English Bull Terriers in Denmark, Mongrels in Guernsey and a Staffie in France.

Super Staffies Buddy and Dizzy were rehomed by Jersey couple Leslie Coles and Chris Fritot. New Zealand Huntaway Loki is enjoying the wide open spaces of Loch Lomond. Inseparable Chihuahuas Annie and Clyde also made tracks for Scotland – Falkirk, to be precise – while elderly Jack Russell Terrier Beau is currently settling into his new rural home in Carlisle, Cumbria, with owner Rachel Allen. And on 31 January this year, stray cat Jubilee (who was found on the London Underground at Acton) made the rather longer commute from Battersea Old Windsor to Ryde, on the Isle of Wight.

They're getting on famously in their far flung new homes, and so are the many former residents who have moved overseas with their owners and are roving ambassadogs and ambassacats for Battersea, making us a truly international rescue.

CHANNEL ISLANDS' ALFIE

 "Our journey with Alfie, one of Battersea's beautiful young cross breeds, started when my partner and I moved to Guernsey and began searching online for a rescue dog to enjoy the sandy beaches and beautiful cliff walks with us. Lots of rescue homes thought we were more than capable and willing to provide a dog with a forever home, but due to the distance our communication links seemed to fade quickly.

"Months passed, and we were slowly giving up hope of having a furry friend in our lives.

"One September weekend, we were due to go over to London so decided to phone Battersea. From the initial call to the rehoming team, I felt valued as a potential new owner and was delighted when they said that they would consider us rehoming a dog overseas!

"After a phone interview three potential dogs were found to be a match and we were invited to meet them. When we saw Alfie (then Arnie) we immediately fell head over heels in love!

"A week later we came and collected Alfie and made the long journey home with no problems. Alfie settled into our lives immediately and has become a loved member of the family.

"His favourite pastimes are running along the beach chasing seagulls and meeting new doggy friends on the cliffs.

"I can't thank Battersea enough for their understanding and support when we rehomed Alfie to Guernsey. I would thoroughly recommend anyone thinking of giving a dog a second chance to contact staff at Battersea who were always willing to help."


Emma Cusack, St. Pierre Du Bois

International rescue

Paws shares happy news of some of the Battersea dogs and cats who have - quite literally - gone the extra mile.



INTO AFRICA

 "We collected Pumba from Battersea in January 2006 as a 10-month-old, and she emigrated with us to Port Elizabeth, South Africa, in January 2008.

"We immediately got her a friend from another rescue, a complete mongrel called Pablo, and the two of them became and are the great love of each other's lives.

"Every Saturday and Sunday they get to go to the beach, miles and miles of beautiful, almost deserted, sand."

Clive & Kathy Hassell, Port Elizabeth


JASPER, A CANADIAN MOGGY

 "Last year we moved from the UK back to our home country of Canada, and Jasper the cat, who we adopted from Battersea in October 2011 has come along for the journey. He has moved from his Chiswick neighbourhood to the leafy west end of Toronto, and is clearly loving his larger home, plenty of trees to climb, plenty of fellow cats and hot summers lying in the sun.

"He no longer needs to flee the foxes of London, and is still trying to sort out what exactly he's looking at when he comes across nocturnal wildlife in his new neighbourhood like raccoons and skunks. His only difficulty has been adapting to the relatively frigid and snowy Canadian winters, when it's a quick stroll outside before running back in and curling up in front of the fireplace."

Oliver and Jen Johnston, Toronto

ALBIE THE OZZIE

 "My husband and I moved to London from Melbourne in 1998 with his job and I started working at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home. I was desperate to rehome a Battersea dog, and eventually met Albie (or Albert as he was then known). He was a 12 month old Collie/German Shepherd.

"The time eventually came for us to move back to Melbourne and there was never a doubt that Albie would be coming with us. He was five by then, and young enough to adapt to life in a new country, but I often wonder what must have gone through his head; one day he gets in the car in London and what do you know, he ends up in Australia!

"He settled in immediately to life in Melbourne and didn't miss a beat. He loved going to the beach and barking at the waves and coped with the heat well. He joined us on all our family holidays and became a regular attendee at school drop off and pick up. Albie still enjoyed his long walks and gradually he got used to chasing possums instead of squirrels, as he had done all his life in London.

"He really slowed down over the last year, his hearing and sight gradually deteriorated and he got very slow on his feet, but he was always our constant companion and no matter how much of an effort it was, he'd get up and make his way to the door and greet whoever was there.

"We finally said goodbye to Albie last week, he was 17. He had been part of our lives and life events for 16 years – in fact my son nicknamed him 'the photobomber' because it seemed that just about every photo of our family had Albie lurking there somewhere.

"We miss him every day and we'll definitely get another dog but we all need time to get over saying goodbye to our much loved (and much travelled) Albie."

Eleanore Casey, Melbourne

OUR BRITISH COUSIN SPIKE

 "Hailing from the Battersea London centre, in May 2007 Parson Russell Terrier Spike (formerly Spangle) retired to Kent with our Aunt Christa. When Christa passed away just two years later, she left a bequest to Battersea, thankful for your work, and had an assurance from my husband Eric that we would look after Spike.

"After travelling from our home in the US for the funeral, we found out there was a place for Spike on the return flight. Luckily his shot record was up to date and his Kent Vet advised we had the necessary paperwork to take him to the States. Ten hours later, we touched down at Washington Dulles International Airport. Pets (and other international packages) were sent to a separate warehouse for pick up. There, amid a busy office bustling with people and cargo, was the kennel, with Spike sitting inside, completely calm, sporting his blue Battersea collar.


"Within a few weeks, he was sunning on the deck of our home in Arlington, just outside of Washington DC, chasing squirrels, and playing with our daughter. He summers in the mountains where he swims, kayaks and avoids bald eagles. He is about 15 years old now, spending more time sleeping than rampaging, but still wins tug of war matches with Moose, our second Terrier adoption.

"We always introduce Spike as our British cousin, from Battersea. Most Americans don't recognize the name but appreciate that it is a shelter. Of the British folks we occasionally meet with Spike, they inevitably do recognise the name Battersea, with a nod and 'oh yes, the Battersea!'

"We had a chance to make our pilgrimage to Battersea this Easter. What an impressive place! The dogs seemed all so sweet, and happy, as best they can be and Spike now has a Union Jack bowl from your gift shop."

Gayle von Eckartsberg, Virginia

AND FINALLY...

 In 2012, Battersea cat Tenet was technically rehomed to Vietnam when she became the resident mouser at the country's Embassy in Victoria Road, London.

Ambassador Vu Quang Minh said his little black and white moggy was loved by everyone.

"Tenet has found a loving home, and more, a thankful job at the Embassy of Vietnam in London," he said – and three years later, when the Ambassador and his family came to the end of their stay and returned home to Hanoi, Tenet went too. We think that makes her one of our farthest-flung ex-residents – unless you know different?

We love hearing news of the dogs and cats we've cared for, so if you'd like to get in touch (from close to Home or anywhere in the world), email paws@battersea.org.uk

Mobile chip shop



Battersea's work in the community is moving into top gear this summer with a brand new 'van about town' which will take us on a microchipping odyssey across London. *Paws* gets the low-down from the Lost & Found team and hears some of their more unusual microchipping tales...

From April next year, all dogs in England and Wales must be microchipped, by law, with Scotland expected to follow suit too. We're keen to spread that message, and to deliver practical help to owners by actually chipping their dogs.

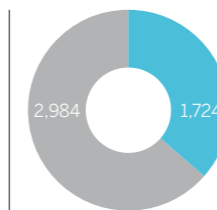
The more animals who are microchipped, whether by Battersea or at their local vets, the fewer we hope to see turning up at our gates all alone in the world and with no means of identifying themselves.

In 2014, 1,724 of the 4,708 dogs who came to the Home were strays, found wandering the streets by dog wardens or kind individuals who brought them to us, or from the police and vet surgeries.

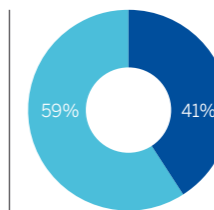
Each one headed straight for the team in our Lost & Found welcoming area, where they were scanned to see if they had a microchip, and 41% of the time, there was no welcoming ping from our machine. That's 706 dogs without the minute record of identification which could have taken them home.

Statistically, that represented a drop of almost 20% on our 2013 unchipped strays. Good news, but we hate to see one lost soul, never mind 706.

We aim never to turn away an animal in need, so we give our love and care for as long as it's needed. But for every unchipped stray who then has to be assessed both medically and temperamentally, and looked after until a



Last year, 1,724 of the 4,708 dogs who came to the Home were strays



Of those strays, 41% (706 dogs) were not found to be microchipped

For more information about People's Postcode Lottery please visit postcodelottery.co.uk

Left Laura Stubbs scans a stray for her microchip
Below Our van in action on Clapham Common

new home comes along, there's another needy dog waiting for an empty kennel.

So we really do want to see many more dog owners take the responsible, simple step of microchipping.

Which is where our new van revs up. In April, we were thrilled to have news of funding from players of People's Postcode Lottery, to provide vital resources for our Community Engagement work. The grant is part of an amazing total of £600,000 from players so far, and this portion will pay for two new members for the team, and a purpose-built, fully-liveried Battersea/People's Postcode Lottery van.

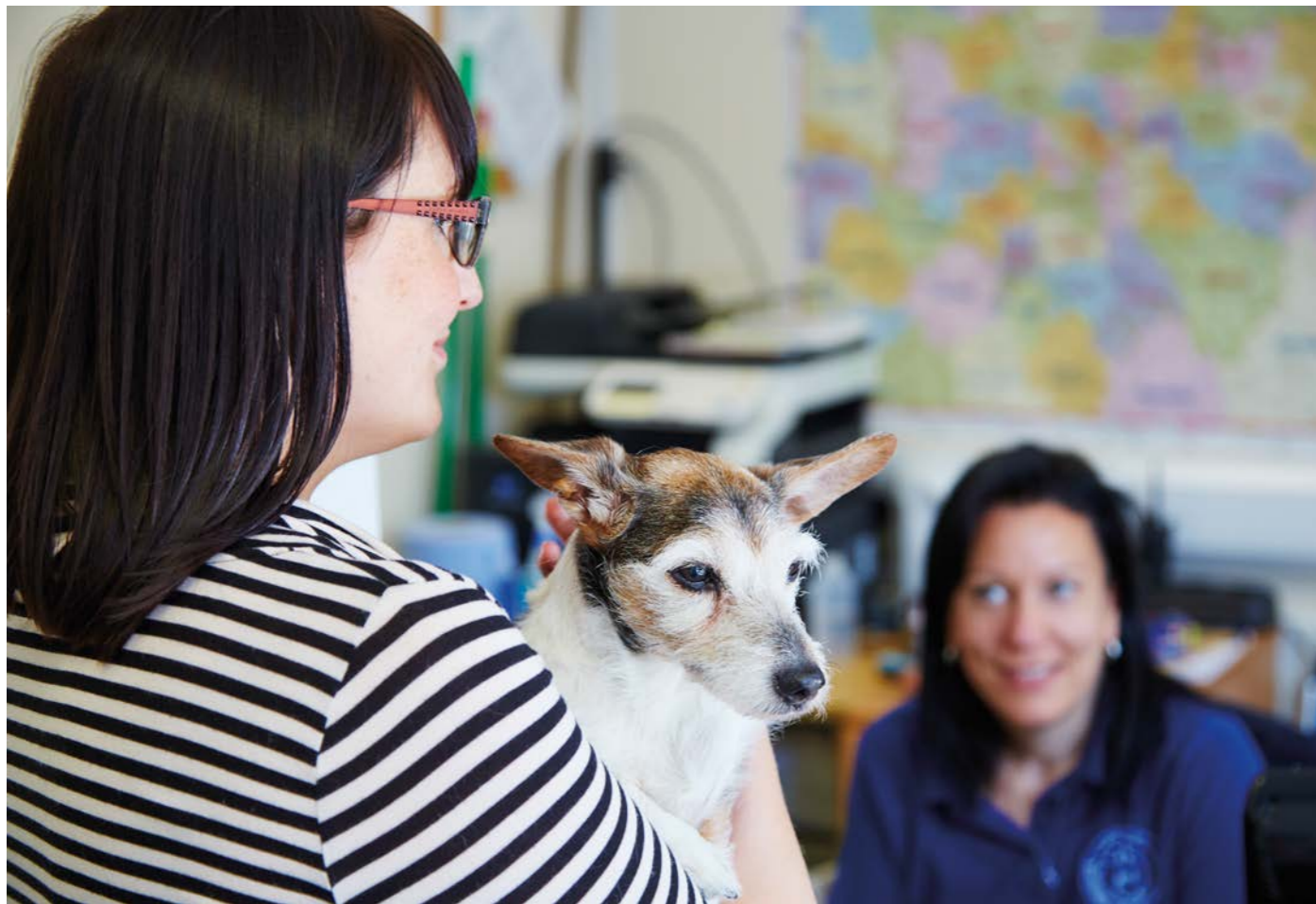
The team works across London, talking to people about safety around dogs and responsible ownership, and providing free services such as microchipping and ID tags.

Many dog owners are still unaware of the new law which will be enforced from next April, so our Community Engagement team is gearing up for a busy summer of activity, which will see them working in boroughs across London, with events and educational workshops already planned in Hillingdon, Hounslow, Hackney, Haringey, Lewisham, Greenwich, Bexley, Lambeth, Southwark and Croydon.

The team believes that it can handle almost any situation but has adopted the motto of "expect the unexpected", as it never knows quite who or what it might encounter at an event.

Once the benefits of having their dog microchipped are explained, most members of the public go ahead with the procedure, but on one occasion, Community Engagement Officer Laura Hopwood encountered resistance from a woman who said that her church had told her not to get her pet microchipped, as once all the dogs were done the Government would start on humans.





When strays are brought to Battersea, microchipped animals can quickly be reunited with their owners

On another occasion, fellow officer Lisa Nugent was asked if she would chip a Burmese Python.

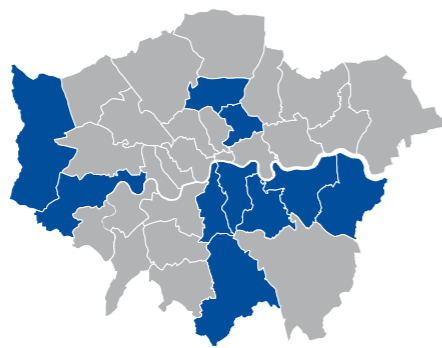
Apart from the fact that Lisa doesn't much like snakes, the team is only permitted to microchip certain animals, which, depending on the training, could be dogs, cats, rabbits or ferrets. In response to next year's changes, a new qualification setting a national standard has been introduced, which will lead to more comprehensive training and our microchipping work out in the community being monitored.

At the Lambeth Country Show a couple of years ago, the team were asked to help catch a stray dog. Fortunately, Staffie cross Shampz was microchipped, but the owner had failed to keep the contact details up to date and Shampz spent a night in kennels before being successfully reunited.

New Year's Day this year saw an owner who hadn't had her best friend chipped making a very heartfelt resolution to do just that.

11-year-old Ruff the Yorkie was brought to our London centre late on New Year's Eve by the police. He'd been found tied up outside Tesco on Battersea Park Road, and wasn't microchipped. The next morning, his distraught owner Maria Harvey was knocking on our door at 9am sharp. Maria had tied Ruff up briefly when she went to do some shopping, then panicked over a lost purse and completely forgot she had left her furry friend behind. She was soon on the phone to Lost & Found and

“I got Humphrey microchipped eight years ago, as a puppy; if it hadn't been for the chip, I don't know what might have happened to him”



Our Community Engagement team are gearing up for a busy summer of activity, with events and educational workshops already planned in several boroughs across London

described getting Ruff back as the best possible start to the New Year.

Nicola Clapham from Leatherhead lost her Shar Pei Humphrey one evening in March:

“I went to feed him and he was gone. After a sleepless night, I phoned the microchip agency again and found out his microchip had been scanned at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home. If it hadn't been for the chip, I don't know what might have happened to him. I got Humphrey microchipped eight years ago, as a puppy. I'm so pleased that I did, I would recommend it to every dog owner.”

And in April this year we saw another variation of a microchip drama which is still having an impact. A very young Staffie who had clearly just given birth and was very underweight, was found wandering the streets on her own – her puppies were nowhere to be found. After a lot of investigation, we found the owner Mirta had been chipped to, and discovered she'd been stolen and possibly used for breeding. With her own pups gone, who knows where, Mirta was heartbreakingly distressed. But as fate would have it, Battersea staff were hand-rearing two newborns whose mum had died in labour – and when we introduced them she began to mother them as her own.

For more information on microchip events happening close to you, please visit the Responsible Ownership Events page at battersea.org.uk/responsibleownshipevents

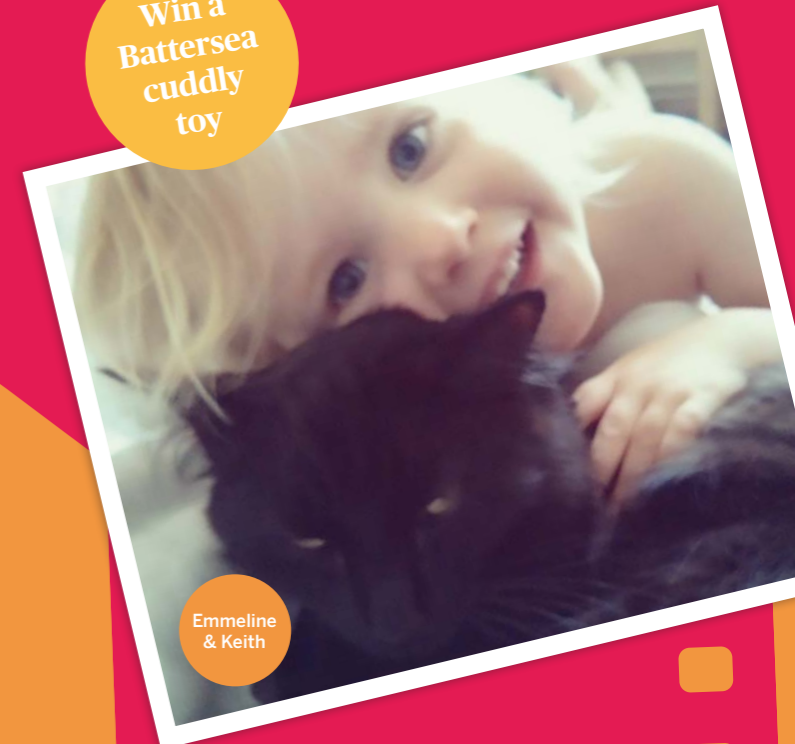
Little paws

FOR JUNIOR SUPPORTERS OF BATTERSEA DOGS & CATS HOME

STORIES GAMES FUN

HOW TO APPROACH A FRIENDLY DOG

Win a Battersea cuddly toy



Emmeline & Keith

Our resident experts Batt & Zee give you some great insights into how dogs and cats think, act and behave



If a dog is hurt, frightened or angry he might bark, snap or even bite you. Here is a simple way to say "hello" to a dog.

- 1 Be calm and quiet. Make sure he can see you so you don't make him jump!
- 2 Gently offer the back of your hand for a sniff. Make sure to tuck your fingers away.
- 3 Gently stroke his shoulder. Most dogs don't like being patted on the head.

TOP TIP

Never touch dogs that you don't know without checking with their owner first.



Selfies competition

Take a photo of yourself with your family cat or dog and send it to *Little Paws* for the chance to win a Battersea cuddly!

What are you waiting for? Get snapping! Send your selfies to

littlepaws@battersea.org.uk

And don't forget, all our Battersea soft toys are available from our shop battersea.org.uk/shop



Oscar the Ginger Cat

Huey the Husky

Little
paws



Weird but true



ONLY JOKING!

What's a cat's favorite dessert in the summer?
A MICE CREAM CONE!

ARE YOU SIRIUS? THE TERM "DOG DAYS OF SUMMER" WAS COINED BY ANCIENT GREEKS AND ROMANS TO DESCRIBE THE HOTTEST DAYS OF SUMMER THAT COINCIDED WITH THE RISING OF THE DOG STAR, SIRIUS.

Little Paws Letters

Me and my Shadow

Shadow has settled in really well with us. He likes to make little nests around the garden and sleep in them too. Shadow likes to try out all the beds in the house to see which one he likes best so we call him Goldilocks.

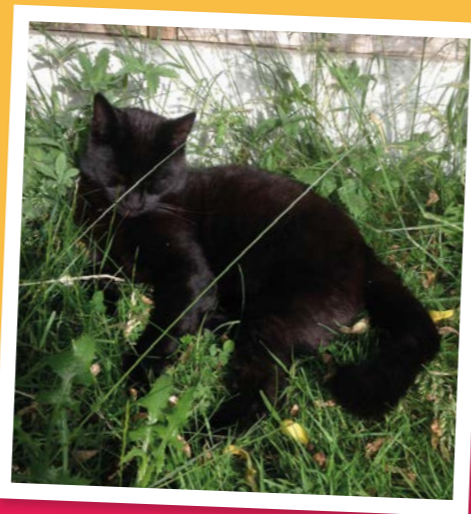
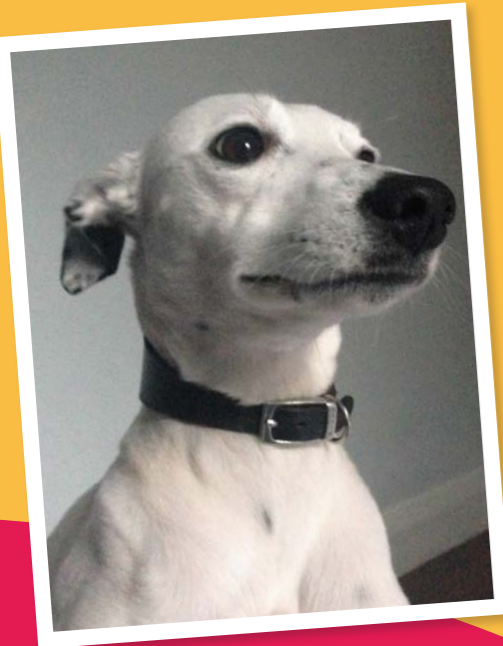
Shadow likes to play with my Nan's wool and knock it off the table and it gets all tangled up. He likes to play chase with a stick and he goes up, down and all around. In the evening he relaxes by the twisted willow tree in our garden.

From Isabel (aged 8)

Poppy's blooming

We had been to Battersea three times but couldn't find the dog for us. Then on what we thought was an ordinary day we received a phone call saying that they had a dog for us. We were so pleased that we rushed there and met her immediately. It has been a year and a half since we got her and she is fitting in well. She was only four months old, now she is growing up fast and is nearly two. We love her so much and wouldn't change one bit of her!

From Isabella (aged 10)



Thanks Harper!

Seven year-old birthday boy Harper asked friends and family to donate money to Battersea, rather than spending on presents for him. A grand total of £180.79 was raised and Harper was very excited to meet Herbert the Mongrel when he visited us. Thank you very much Harper and also to your generous friends and family.

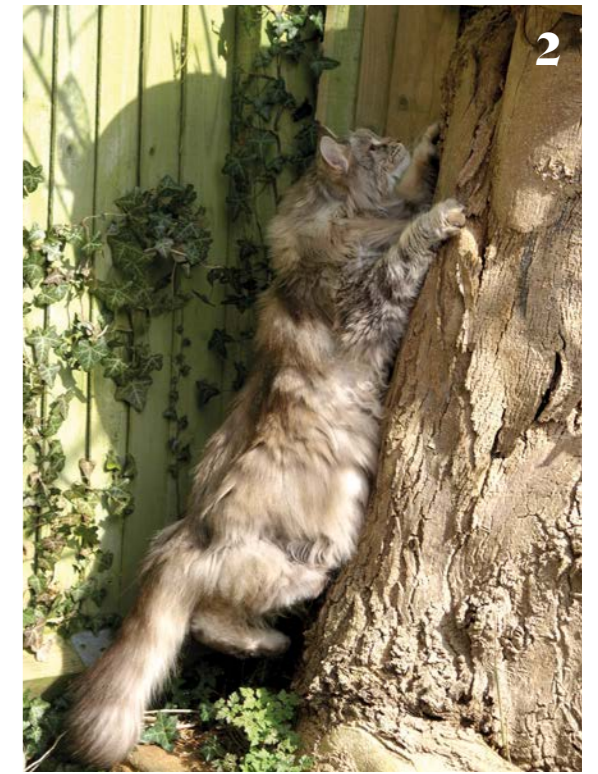
WOOFSEARCH CAN YOU FIND ALL THE TERRIER BREEDS HIDDEN BELOW?

O H N L A P F Q P S K G J W I
 U B O R D E R K B F S X P L E
 C Z R D R A H T L O K D Q A J
 H M F N S W P E N X S A I F A
 G P O A J Q V W D B N T G O C
 M A L T E S E I H V D I O W K
 A C K Q O P T C M S A B W N R
 N S P S G S T A F F I E S R U
 C K A L U W X I J O R X A L S
 H Y T O C H Q R B G I A D F S
 E E O N E J E N L P S N O E E
 S X B R S T D P W E H B R Q L
 T P L A K E L A N D E F X G L
 E D R Z Y I H W S C O T T I E
 R O Q P A X E U O A Q H M J X

BORDER
 BOSTON
 CAIRN
 CESKY
 FOX
 JACK RUSSELL
 IRISH
 LAKELAND
 MALTESE
 MANCHESTER
 NORFOLK
 SCOTTIE
 SKYE
 STAFFIE
 TIBETAN
 YORKIE

Cat gallery

Ripley looks like he's ready for Christmas already, but the rest of these Battersea graduates are still enjoying summer. We love a happy ending, and there are many more to read at battersea.org.uk/cathappyendings



- 1 Simba, from Jaye Hunt
- 2 Cassie, from Steph Ede
- 3 Ripley, from Angela Lazenbury
- 4 Billy, from Sid & Sheila Rackstraw
- 5 Bear, from Jemima Bokaie
- 6 Tammy, from Juliet Chua

Please send us your pictures by email to paws@battersea.org.uk You can also write to the address on the contents page. If you'd like your pictures returned, please enclose an SAE.

Last year was a milestone for Battersea's cats; it was the first time in our 155 year history that more cats than dogs were rehomed – over 3,000 of them. Our three centres have seen an overall 20% rise in cat rehoming, with people choosing a purr over a wagging tail.

Leading animal behaviourist Dr John Bradshaw says homes across the world are favouring felines over 'man's best friend' by three to one and puts this increase down to more people choosing to live in cities where the environment is less suitable for dogs.

But as the demand for pet cats increases, the cat population continues to grow too, with our centres taking in over 3,200 cats in 2014, 14% up on 2013. And it's not just the moggies who continue to arrive; Battersea has seen a 56% rise in the number of pure-breed cats coming through our doors this year.

INTRODUCTION OF EARLY NEUTERING

An un-neutered female cat can produce 20,000 descendants in just a five year period, as her kittens go on to have kittens and then those kittens go on to produce litters as well – and so on. And, new figures from the Cat Population Control Group (CPCG) tells us that 85% of all litters are unplanned, so you can imagine the extent of the problem unneutered cats can cause.

Battersea's Head of Cattery Lindsey

CATS AT BATTERSEA IN NUMBERS

73%

73% of cats that arrive at Battersea London aren't microchipped

220

The Home cares for an average of 220 cats at any one time

27

The average cat stays at Battersea for 27 days before it finds a home

3,423

During 2014, Battersea neutered a total of 3,423 cats

669

669 cats were fostered in 2014

“People are often misinformed about when to neuter... we recommend that owned cats are neutered at four months”

Quinlan sits on the panel of the CPCG, which was formed by major cat welfare organisations in 2011.

“We know that a lot of kittens are born as accidental litters. Kittens reach maturity at four months and owners don't realise that their kitten can in fact get pregnant at such a young age. People are also often misinformed about when to neuter, or believe in myths such as cats should be allowed to have a litter before neutering. We recommend that owned cats are neutered at four months, and that all cats being rehomed from a rehoming organisation are neutered before rehoming, which is usually between eight and nine weeks to prevent litters being born,” she says.

To tackle this issue head on, leading animal charities began neutering kittens at this stage. This was initially considered to be 'early neutering' but is now the norm for Battersea and other CPCG members. We introduced the programme in our own cattery in 2014 and Head Vet Shaun Opperman tells us: “There are no more risks neutering a cat at nine weeks to neutering

at six months. We don't want to risk any kittens having accidental litters which is the main advantage with neutering and at a younger age.” Our clinic neutered 481 kittens in 2014 and we continue to aim to neuter all cats before they leave the Home.

The changes meant new ways of working in our Clinics, as well as practical training for our vets and nurses. New instruments are used to operate on smaller animals, the amount of sedation is adjusted and kittens are given heat pads during their operations to help maintain their body temperatures. Kittens are given food within 30 minutes of coming round from sedation, and monitored in Clinic for two to three hours before being taken back to their pens.

Our Clinic team is delighted with the new procedure as fewer follow-ups are required, freeing up more time to treat sick animals.

REHOMING STUDY

Our London Cattery recently helped with a study carried out by Lauren Finka PhD, funded by the University of Lincoln, COAPE and International Cat Care, focusing on reliably assessing a cat's temperament in a rehoming environment. The findings were presented at prestigious animal conferences throughout 2014 as well as at this year's Association of Dogs and Cats Homes (ADCH) conference.

MAKE YOUR VERY OWN HONEYCOMB PUZZLE FEEDER

- Things you will need:
- 6 empty toilet roll tubes (or paper towel tubes cut in half)
 - Sticky tape or safe, non-toxic glue such as PVA
 - Your cat's favourite dry treats

Tape your cardboard tubes together in a pyramid style. Attach the pyramid to a flat piece of cardboard and you have a honeycomb style puzzle feeder, where you can place treats in the different compartments.



Lauren has since joined Battersea as a Feline Behaviour and Welfare expert.

IMPROVING OUR CATS' WELFARE

Over the past year, our catteries have put new stress management techniques into practice. We've reduced noise levels, and changed the way we interact with and manage our cats. Our pens have custom made curtains to give the cats a choice of hiding or coming out to see life in the Cattery. Pens also have multiple levels enabling cats to be up high or down low. Some cats such as mothers with kittens, and cats recovering from medical procedures can benefit from going to a loving foster home. In 2014 alone, 669 cats went out on foster, many of them kittens needing around the clock care.

The Cattery also created a plan to reduce stress by providing an enriched environment that meets each cat's individual needs and gives them an opportunity to express their natural behaviours. One aspect of this plan is using puzzle feeders which keep them occupied in their pens, making feeding fun and helping to stimulate natural behaviours associated with foraging. See the instructions within this article to learn how to make a feeder your cat will love. You can even adapt some of our basic stress strategies for your own cat, to help bring harmony to your pet's home.

Stressing the need for calm cats

Research suggests that cats that are more stressed in the rehoming environment are more likely to become physically sick. They are also less likely to be, or will wait longer until they are adopted. By reducing stress for every cat at Battersea we can ensure that they are happier - and happily rehomed.



Top tips for stress-free cats

1 Provide a safe place
Always ensure there is a quiet, private and undisturbed area for your cat. This could be something as simple as placing a blanket over the back of a chair or providing a cardboard box.

2 Offer a variety of resources and space them out
Ensure each cat has a feeding area, a drinking area, a toileting area (their litter tray) and a place to rest, sleep and hide. Providing more than one of each of these resources (especially vital in multi-cat households) can also be beneficial. All should be placed in separate quiet and undisturbed locations.

3 Encourage play and predatory behaviour
Experiment by finding out which toys your cat prefers to encourage them to display their natural behaviours. Laser pens aren't an ideal toy - they can frustrate cats as they are unable to actually catch their 'prey'.

4 Positive, consistent and predictable human-cat communication
Cats respond well to routine, so when spending quality time with your cat, give them consistent and predictable interactions and don't cross their threshold for physical contact. Following these simple tips will help you to build a stronger bond with your cat. 🐾



Me and my Spaniel

With Sue Barker

With 27 rescue Rotties to her name, tennis legend Sue Barker certainly wins the Grand Slam of Rottweilers. Now she's added 'Battersea rehomer' to a long list of achievements as top player, sports presenter, the host of BBC's Wimbledon coverage, and fair-but-stern referee of the gladiatorial combat which is *Question of Sport*.

After 27 years of owning Rottweilers, we have just welcomed our first English Cocker Spaniel into the family. Of course we aren't Rottie-less – Charlie joins our beautiful girl Nina, who we adopted in 2013. Wonderful Charlie came from Battersea, given up because of a relationship breakdown, and finding himself all alone and bewildered for the first time in his life. He's a true Battersea boy – full of character and cheek; he makes us laugh every day.

We'd not long lost Bosley, who was frightened of his own shadow, epileptic and followed us around everywhere. Because he was just that little bit vulnerable, he had a special place in my heart, so when we lost him to cancer, only eight years old, we were hit really hard.

We started to look for another Rottie, but then my husband Lance said: "You know what, Sue, how could we ever



replace Bosley? It wouldn't be fair. Let's think about a different breed."

And then I came to Battersea Dogs & Cats Home for a fundraising evening, and got chatting about Bosley, and how we were looking to rehome another rescue dog.

My family had looked after a couple of Cocker Spaniels when I was young, growing up in Devon, so when Battersea called to say they were looking for a good home for a four-year-old golden Cocker, we knew it was fate.

Nina, Lance and I went to the amazing and beautiful Old Windsor centre to meet Charlie. He loves other dogs, and it's fair to say that Nina fell pretty heavily for him, so home he came to rural Gloucestershire.

When Bosley died, Nina used to go and sit on her own, in another room. Charlie's given her back the joy in life. They have Colin the Caterpillar who they play tug with around the house, they sleep on the same bed and unsuccessfully chase squirrels and rabbits together. And Charlie absolutely loves his tennis balls, so he's in the perfect home.

Like all the Rotties, Charlie has yet to recognise me on the television, which is very disappointing. Maybe it's because we always have older dogs, and their eyesight's not so good! Nina was six when we rehomed her – the oldies do struggle, yet they are so special – so loving and so aware this is a second chance. They have seen what the alternative is, and they appreciate everything.

We love seeing Charlie blossom and become more confident. He's making lots of friends around the village, and the separation issues he had initially have disappeared. Although he does like to come into the bathroom with me!

And he's now a Hollywood glamour Cocker – an American tourist stopped me and asked if he could take a photo, as he'd always wanted an English Cocker Spaniel.

I'm so pleased we were lucky enough to rehome Charlie from Battersea. It's a wonderful organisation doing great work, and all the animals are so loved. 🐾

Do you know your dog's heritage?



With our unique service you can find out the breed ancestry of your mixed breed dog. All it takes is a simple and painless DNA test you can do in your own home.

A qualified behaviourist will provide you with a unique and personalised behaviour profile. This information will help you understand your dog's needs better, and make both your lives happier.

Visit us at www.blackdogdna.com

DO YOU KNOW YOUR DOG'S HERITAGE?
BLACKDOG
DNA.COM

DNA Breed Identification For Mixed Breed Dogs

LV= Pet Insurance
from the UK's most recommended insurer



0800 085 0140

- ♥ We can pay your vet directly
- ♥ No upper age limit
- ♥ Pay monthly at no extra cost



FS21547987

LV=
LIVERPOOL VICTORIA

LV.com



For TextDirect, first dial 18001. Mon-Fri 8am-8pm, Sat 9am-5pm. Calls may be recorded. Research from YouGov BrandIndex using 'Recommend' measure conducted online between March 2014 and February 2015, sample size 36,159. More information go to LV.com

A partnership less ordinary

We've teamed up with notonthehighstreet.com to give our Battersea animals the extra love they deserve. Our year-long partnership with the UK's largest curated marketplace will see 5% of every sale from the Battersea Dogs & Cats Home Collection donated to us.



We're huge pet lovers at notonthehighstreet.com. Dogs, cats, bunnies, chickens – our team have pets of all shapes and sizes. So of course, we jumped at the chance to partner with Battersea Dogs & Cats Home.

As a business, we're all about championing the 'less ordinary' things in life, and Battersea is doing something extraordinary by looking after thousands of animals in need. (Over 8,000 dogs and cats every year, to be exact.) So, what can we do to help?

Well, it's just a few months into the partnership but we kicked things off in March by launching new rehoming packs. The idea was to give newly adopted pets a really special homecoming. As part of that journey, we've created an inspiring take-home piece for owners and their new pets.

Now every animal that leaves Battersea goes home with their very own 'Welcome to the Family' catalogue. It features a selection of unique pet products (drool-worthy from cover to cover), and comes in a stylish tote bag, designed by talented notonthehighstreet.com seller, Ros Shiers.

Lights, camera, animals

Our team had an amazing day at Battersea Old Windsor photographing some totally loveable Battersea ambassadors. Seven lucky pets were chosen to feature in our catalogue, and – with a bit of expert coaxing and quite a lot of patience – they were all natural stars. Here are three of our favourites and their stories.



Steven

Breed Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Family The Goughs
Loves Bananas (yummy)
Life ambition Be the coolest three-legged dog ever

Steven was found wandering the streets in Hemel Hempstead without a collar or microchip. He came to Battersea and had to have a leg removed, and then spent 352 days in kennels before the Goughs found him. Now he's part of their family, living with two dogs, a cat and a cockatiel – just a few miles from where he was found.



Peggy

Breed Domestic Short Hair
Family The Toynbees
Loves All the cuddles
Life ambition Be 'Queen Cat' of the Flat

Peggy was born with bones missing in her left foreleg. She was treated at Battersea but needed a special family to look after her – and she found just that with Em and Drew Toynbee. Em only visited Battersea because she was feeling a bit down one day, and she ended up falling head over heels with Peggy and her poorly leg.



Look who's happily rehomed

Here are just a couple of the amazing rehoming stories we've heard so far.

Left Lily
Below Suki (right)



Hugo

Breed French Bulldog
Family The Lansons
Loves Being the centre of attention
Life ambition Become world famous

Hugo was rehomed soon after arriving at Battersea – the Lanson family had always wanted a French Bulldog, and we're not sure they could have hoped for a cuter one than Hugo. He's the constant centre of attention (as he likes it) and he even lets the Lanson children dress him up. His favourite activity is riding in the family convertible, cruising round Guildford with the top down.

LILY'S TALE
Wandsworth restaurateur, Alessandro Cibocchi, and his family, wanted a very special dog. They knew they'd found her when they met five-month-old Beagle, Lily. She's moved around a lot despite her tender age but is home for good in Surrey.

SUKI'S STORY
The Willet family wanted a companion for their dog, Dusty, who they adopted three years ago from the Old Windsor centre. They saw Suki and fell in love. She's now settled happily with them all in Swindon.

Shop the Battersea collection

Visit notonthehighstreet.com/battersea-collection to shop the full range of products featured in the catalogue or check out some top picks, below. **5% of every product sold goes directly to Battersea.**



Personalised Pet Name Tag



Personalised Dog Collar



Personalised Pet Food Mat



Personalised Stripe Pet Bowl



Personalised Dog Umbrella



Personalised Dog House Wall Sticker

Is your pet less ordinary?

To celebrate the partnership, we want to hear what makes your dog or cat a pet less ordinary. Whether it's a special talent, a quirky character trait or whatever you think makes them extraordinary, we want to hear your tales. Enter our Pinterest and Twitter contest and you could win a bespoke range of goodies for you and your pet from the Battersea Dogs & Cats Home range on notonthehighstreet.com, with an RRP of £100.

We'll work with the winner to pick products to specifically match your pet and their less ordinary personality. Terms and conditions apply. Head over to [@BDCH](http://pinterest.com/bdch) or battersea.org.uk/petslessordinarycontest before the closing date of Friday 21 August 2015 to enter or to find out more. 🐾

Win pet goodies worth £100

Join Team Battersea at the Thames Path Challenge

Trekking on 12 and 13 September 2015.

Choose from a moderate trek or an epic hike taking in the beautiful sights of Hampton Court, Royal Windsor and the National Trust site at Runnymede. As you take in the picturesque, riverside views you will be playing a special role in helping the animals in our care.

Select your distance and your challenge, we'll be there to support you every step of the way with your fundraising.

To join our team visit battersea.org.uk/thamespathchallenge

For more information contact the events team on 0207 627 9295 or email events@battersea.org.uk

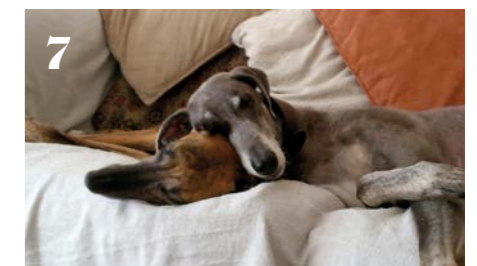
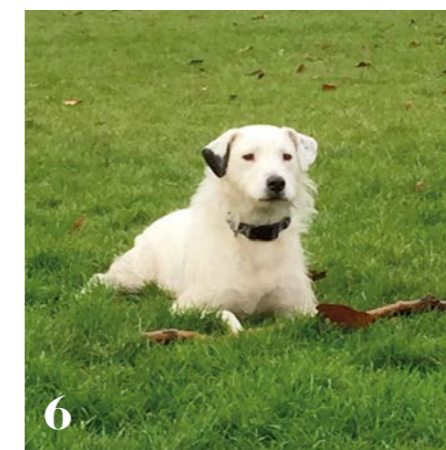


Choose from a 25k, 50k or 100k hike



Dog gallery

Meet some outward hounds who began their journeys to happiness at Battersea. Sadly we can't fit all your Happy Endings tales into *Paws*, but for many more please head to battersea.org.uk/doghappyendings



- 1 Gigi and Holly, from Brian Phillips
- 2 Harvey, from Steven Morris & Chris Stables
- 3 Leo, from Sarah Morris
- 4 Buffy, from Christina Richards
- 5 Holly, from Guy Gurton
- 6 Charlie, from Frankie Godding
- 7 Corneil and Zeus from Sarah Snow

Please send us your pictures by email to paws@battersea.org.uk You can also write to the address on the contents page. If you'd like your pictures returned, please enclose an SAE.

Christmas Carol Concert

Monday
7 December 2015
Doors open at 7pm

St Luke's Church
Sydney St
London SW3 6NH

Wrap up warm and join the Home's family and friends at a festive evening of carol singing, mince pies and mulled wine in the beautiful St Luke's Church. As you arrive you will be warmly welcomed by our Battersea doggy Guard of Honour, before joining us inside to celebrate Christmas.

For further information and to book tickets visit battersea.org.uk/carolconcert or call 020 7627 9295



STAR LETTER

Happy home for poster boy Harry



Hello there! My name's Harry, and you may recognise me from some of the posters around Battersea, when my name was Paws! I've been sent to stay at Battersea, not once, but twice, by the families who I used to live with. So they know me very well there.

My first family had to give me away because my big sister kept bullying me and made me miserable. Then the second family gave me back to Battersea because they didn't have room for me anymore. I was very sad. It made me very nervous, and I used to bully people sometimes when they tried to be kind to me.

But I'm so happy now... I've been living with my mummy in a lovely sunny and warm flat for nearly two years. I can't go outside because I've got cataracts, which means I can't see very well. But as I'm 10, I'm happy spending my days sunbathing on the windowsill, or sleeping on

mummy's bed with my teddy bear when she's at work, or chasing brightly coloured balls around the flat.

Although I'm a 'blind-as-a-bat-cat', I still love chasing my tiny, furry mice around the flat, which Mum bought me at Tesco. I can tell where they're going as they rattle when they move, and I use my sense of smell a lot too. Mum says I'm also excellent at telling the time; I always know when it's 6.20am because I start meowing for my breakfast, which is just as well, because this is the time she has to get up for work.

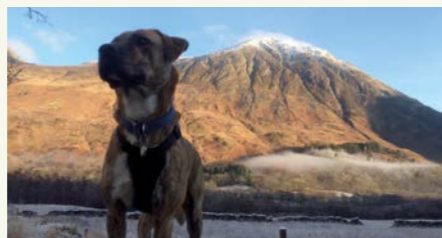
I'm really happy being the only cat in the flat, because I like the calmness and peace. I don't need to punch anymore, because I know I'm safe with my mummy. I'm really, really glad Battersea let me go to live with her, and I know that we chose a loving home for me to settle in.

Harry (and Nina Harrison)

MONARCH OF THE GLEN

This is Sam (was called Corey) from Battersea Old Windsor, our third Battersea dog. We got him in July 2014. He's a former street dog about a year old. Well, he really settled in and here he is as King of the Mountains in Glencoe.

Alan & Anne McLaughlin, Staines



BOO WOW BOUVIER

This is Boo the Bouvier at 14 years young. We met him at Battersea in 2000 and fell head over paws in love. He's always been a cheeky rascal but he's a gentle old chap now. A bit of a hopalong these days but loves visits to town centre for treats at the pet shop and getting lots of strokes and fuss. He has a very long list of fans and puts a smile on so many faces.

"I put up with Maisie the cat on my bed 'cos she's 21 years old and she loves me!"

Those eyes! They go right to the heart-strings and he knows how to pull on them. Every day he carries on is a joy for me.

Janet Maresca, Oswestry, Shropshire



JAKE LEARNS TO LOVE AGAIN

Jake obviously decided my bed was more comfortable than any of his three scattered around the house! He came home with us in July 2010 from Old Windsor, and was a very frightened dog when we first got him. I remember him coming into the kitchen whilst I was cooking; I turned round to say hello with a spatula in my hand and he wet himself. He did this several times, when I held a mop or newspaper or umbrella.

It took him a year before he wagged his tail and we had to teach him it was okay to bark. He is a very different dog today, entertaining people at the park with his diving skills and his obsession with sitting on our laps. He's changed our lives. Thank you Battersea.

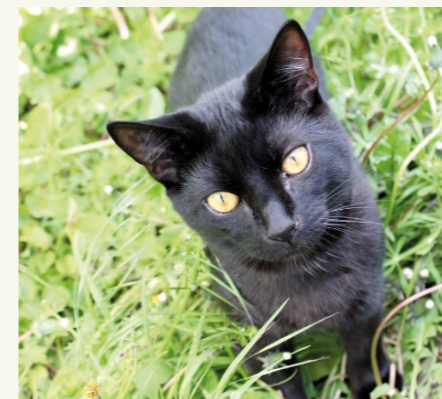
Anita Lakes, Watford



PHOEBE – OUR STAFFIE MIMIC

After losing our Dachshund we came to Battersea with no preconceived ideas about what we wanted except that we probably didn't want a Staffordshire Bull Terrier.

There were two matches – both Staffies. As a family we decided that if the experts thought both were suitable, we should at least do them the honour of respecting their opinion. And that's how we met Phoebe. She was a stray, had been very stressed by the kennels and was being fostered with a lovely family with little



FELINE EINSTEIN

Kissten Kat's mum, a stray, gave birth to him in our shed. We looked after them in the house until a space became available for them both at Brands Hatch. We did feel torn about not keeping them, but felt it was far too soon for us as our cat of 18 years had recently passed away, and we didn't feel ready for another.

However after just a week, we missed Kissten so much, we rang to ask if we could rehome him.

I cannot express how much fun we have playing. He is also a feline Einstein, a real problem solver, if there's something he wants or a place he can't get to, five minutes max, he's figured it out.

We can't imagine life without him now, the best decision we made was getting him back. He is a much loved member of our family and he loves us right back.

Debbie & Jade McSweeney, Swanscombe, Kent

children. The foster mum talked to us about Phoebe and she seemed a perfect fit.

Phoebe has now been with us for three months and she is the most loving, wonderful, sweet natured creature you could possibly hope to share a home with. The people at Battersea gave us the heads up about possible pitfalls in terms of behaviour that are common to most adoptions and she hit the milestones, but she has fitted into our family so well it feels like she's been with us for years.

Phoebe thinks she's a pussy cat and tries to sit on your lap and curl up. None of us has a lap quite big enough for that, but it is wonderful that she feels safe and cared for and that she looks to us for comfort. She does an amazing vocal likeness of Chewbacca, a gremlin, a zombie and a passable Albert Steptoe.

So here is my plea. Rehome a Staffie, give them a chance. I will never regret taking the advice that Battersea gave us. I can't imagine our family life without Phoebe.

Beth Hayward, New Cross, London
Find out more about fostering for us at battersea.org.uk/foster



MAD ABOUT MAX

Six year old Cocker Spaniel/Pekinese cross Max has shared my life for three years now. He is the perfect little chap and has passed the Kennel Club's Good Citizen Scheme Gold Test. His only failing is that he's a rather greedy little man.

Shortly after Max came to live with me I was diagnosed with bladder cancer and put on a course of chemotherapy and other treatment which left me ill and with barely the energy to make a cup of tea. However bad I felt I had Max both to look after and to comfort me. I cannot express how much he helped get me through that very bad period. Two years have now passed and I am still enjoying life and the company of my little dog.

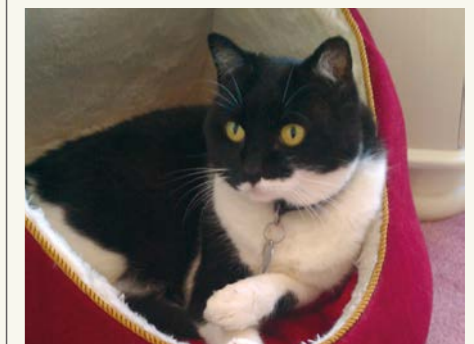
John Webber, Finsbury Park



ALBERT IN BLOOM

We rehomed Albert back in 2006 and he is very much at home in our garden which we open for the National Garden Scheme.
Geoff Stonebanks, Seaford, East Sussex

Happy Memories



Little Gucci was beautiful, loving, funny but more importantly a key member of our family. Thank you Battersea, for 13 wonderful years.

Josie, Phil & Jack Boad, Rainham



Thank you for rescuing my Battersea boy Brussels from the street. The house (and the neighbourhood) is unnaturally quiet.
Debbie Walker, Ron Walker & Grandad Jimmy Carter

We adopted our Jack in October 1999 when he was nine weeks old. He has just died, at the ripe old age of almost 16. We wanted to let you know what a happy life we gave your rescued dog and what a happy life he gave us.

Holly and Michael Weiss, North London

Ask the experts

Every issue, Battersea's experts answer some of the queries *Paws* readers have about their pets. Send your questions to paws@battersea.org.uk or write to us at the address on the contents page and we'll do our best to help.

Battersea has partnered with Petplan to bring you top tips for keeping summer fun, and safe, for your pets.

Sun's high, tide's in, and we're all out for summer. Our pets are paddling, purring and playing. And if we're not mindful that this country can actually heat up and get a bit steamy at this time of year, it could also be ouch on the couch for your pooch, or a groggy moggy.

Here at Battersea, with over 500 residents to take care of, we watch the weather carefully. On days when the mercury rises uncomfortably, our Welfare

“Just like us, dogs and cats can find a hot summer uncomfortable and even dangerous to their health”



SUI LI WEIGHT
Cattery Team Leader



SHAUN OPPERMAN
Veterinary Director



MALA BREEZE
Canine Welfare Trainer

and Veterinary teams make sure it's cool for cats and delightful for dogs.

CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF

Make sure your cat always has access to fresh, clean drinking water. You could also offer a second water bowl with very cold, or even iced water – but some cats don't like water this cold, so give them the choice – the last thing you want is to deter your cat from drinking as much as it needs. Be vigilant for signs of heatstroke as this will require immediate veterinary treatment.

Make sure your cat always has access to a range of shady, cool places with good ventilation or a breeze, both indoors and outdoors. Although cats are renowned sunbathers, they need to keep cool too.

Don't encourage too much activity in the sun. Encourage your cat to stay calm and relax in a shady spot without becoming overstimulated, and save playtime until the cooler evening.

Groom your cat daily to remove loose hair. This will help to stop the coat becoming matted, which can trap heat.

Cats with white ears and noses are particularly at risk of sun damage, and will greatly benefit from a cat-safe sunblock on the ears and nose (ask your Vet what you should use – some human products can be potentially toxic to cats).

Provide cooling surfaces; damp towels to lie on, a hot water bottle filled with cold or iced water. Your cat may have its own favourite cool spots, such as the sink or bath, or cool kitchen and bathroom

tiles. Cats are pretty good at being self sufficient and finding what they need, but it is important to make sure that these options are provided and accessible too.

DOGGONE, IT'S WARM

We Brits like to take full advantage of warm weather with barbecues, boot fairs, summer fêtes, pub garden lunches, and as dog lovers, we like to include our dogs in all this fun.

But is he going to enjoy the experience, just tolerate it or actually be stressed out by it, and have you thought about the risks of the environment you're taking him to? Barbecues may give him the chance to get his paws on dog-unfriendly food like cooked bones, onions, corn on the cob husks or food that's been left out and is well past its best. He could even get his paws burnt on the barbecue itself.

If you are considering taking your dog to a summer event, is he going to be overwhelmed by crowds of people, is he sensitive to noise, and are you sure there are plenty of cool, shaded spots to rest in? Remember to take water, a bowl and maybe a cooling coat or a towel that can be dampened. A dog who is suffering in the heat may be irritable and more likely to act out of character. And of course, never leave your dog in the car.

No walks during the midday sun, so find other ways to occupy him with games that don't involve so much physical exertion. You can teach your dog to search for toys or treats, or retrieve specific toys (object discrimination). Perhaps you can encourage him to retrieve toys from a paddling pool in a shaded part of the garden. You could teach your dog new tricks, use food puzzles or freeze food to make doggy ice lollies (pupsicles) so that using his brains tires him out rather than physical exertion.

And how about a swim just for fun at your nearest canine hydrotherapy centre? (You will usually require a Vet referral to ensure your dog is fit enough to do this.)

TRAVELLING WITH YOUR PET

Make sure your dog is happy on short journeys first, before embarking on a long one. His welfare must come first.

Plan several months ahead and check your destination is suitable for dogs – not just accommodation but places you can take him to once there. Check out the info from defra.gov.uk on foreign travel regulations, research laws relating to dogs in your destination country, and speak to your Vet several months beforehand to ensure all the necessary inoculations can be done in time.

For the journey itself, exercise him before you go and consider feeding a smaller amount than usual before the journey to reduce the likelihood of motion sickness.

When driving, fit sun visors or blinds as shade from the sun and properly secure your dog using a car harness, crate or dog guard. Drive steadily; brake softly, change

SUMMER SAFETY QUICK TIPS



NEVER LEAVE PETS ALONE IN A CAR

A cracked open window or keeping the air conditioner on will not keep an animal cool. In a hot car, with the greenhouse effect, when it's 22°C outside, inside can reach lethal temperatures in minutes.



NEVER LEAVE PETS ALONE IN A GLASS CONSERVATORY

Especially if there is no access to shade or water. As with cars, conservatories can rapidly heat up.



SUNBURN AND SKIN CANCER

Dogs can burn in the sun just like humans. Lightly coloured or thinly coated dogs are at a greater risk of burning, so apply a waterproof sunscreen specifically formulated for pets.



SUMMER SAFETY QUICK TIPS



GROOMING

Groom your dog regularly to keep a clean, tangle free coat. This provides better circulation and helps a dog regulate their body temperature. Consider clipping long coats for summer.



INDOOR CATS

Try to keep your home as cool as possible during the hot summer months. Ensure indoor water bowls are kept filled up.



OUTDOOR CATS

Check paws to ensure they haven't burnt them on hot roads or patios. Apply cat sunscreen to the tips of the ears & top of the head. If you are concerned about your dog or cat during the summer months, always seek advice from your Vet straight away.

gear smoothly and go around corners carefully. Have windows open, but for safety reasons don't let your dog put his head out. Make frequent toilet stops and always park in the shade, and take plenty of water – for your dog as well as you!

Finally, your dog should be microchipped and the details must be up to date. He should also be wearing a collar with an identity tag so you can be contacted (at your holiday location) if he gets lost.

WATCH OUT FOR HEATSTROKE

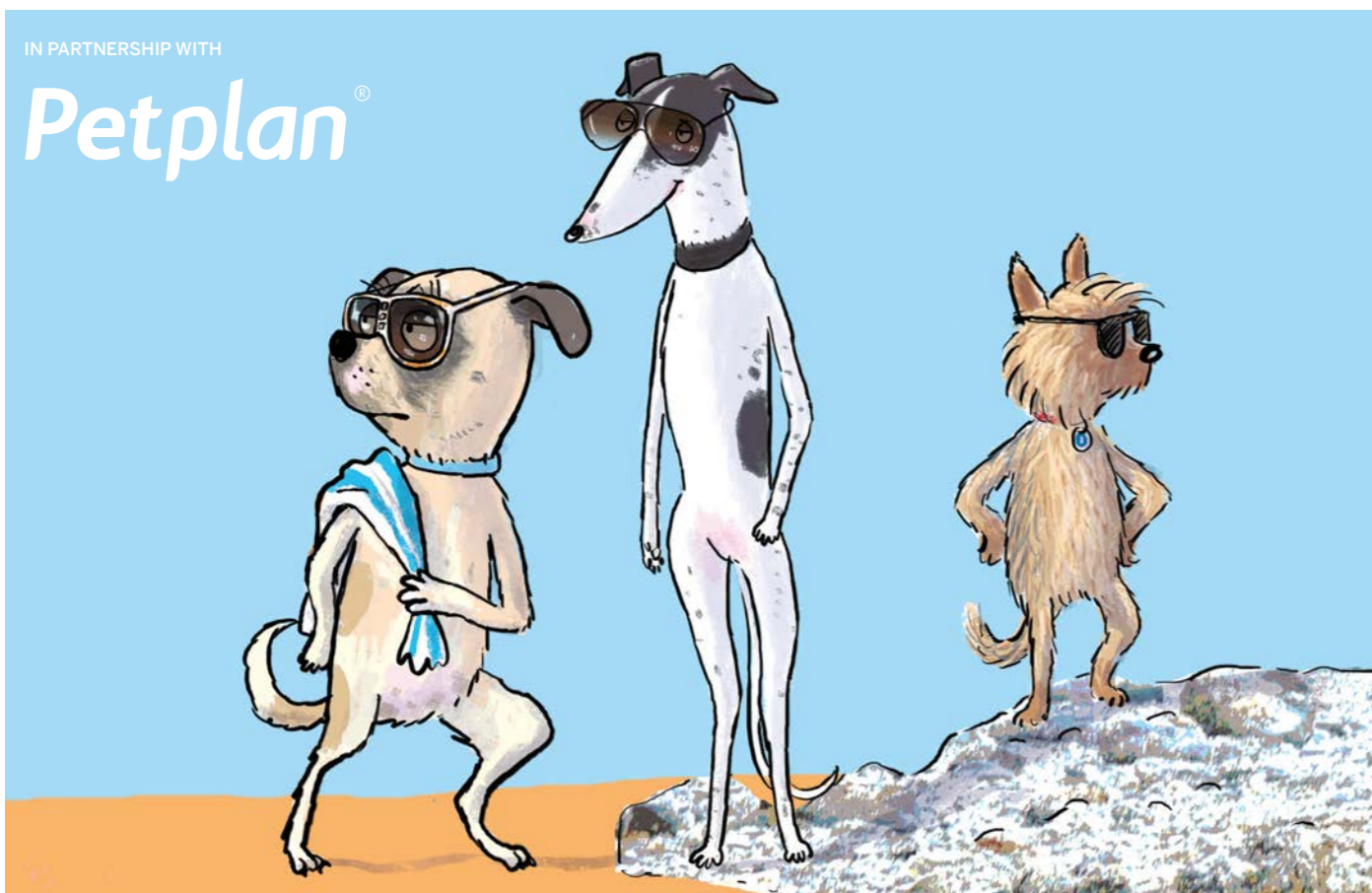
Just like us, dogs and cats can find a hot summer uncomfortable and even dangerous to their health. On sunny or very humid days, animals can develop heatstroke when they can't reduce their body temperature and it rises to dangerous levels, which could lead to irreversible organ damage or even death.

Heatstroke signs can include heavy panting, glazed eyes, rapid pulse and profuse salivation, very red tongue/gums, and lack of coordination (wobbly legs). Extreme symptoms include vomiting, diarrhoea, loss of consciousness.

Dogs most at risk are the very old, very young or overweight, flat or short snout breeds – Bulldogs, Pugs, French Bulldogs, Boxers, Pomeranians, Pekingese – and long haired breeds.

If your dog does develop heatstroke immediately move them into the shade or a cool area and apply towels soaked in cold water to their head, neck and chest. Let them drink a small amount of cool water or lick ice cubes. Never place them in ice cold water which could put them into shock, or give them excessive amounts of water to drink. You should call a Vet immediately.

Established over 39 years ago, Petplan is the UK's No.1 pet insurance provider, offering comprehensive pet insurance, including Covered For Life® policies for dogs, cats and rabbits. Petplan is part of Allianz Insurance plc, one of the largest general insurers in the UK. 🐾



Take us home

Six fantastic felines are looking to catch your eye in this Brands Hatch special. All these Domestic Short Hairs have notched up a century of days at our Brands Hatch rehoming centre, and although we love them to bits, we want to see them happily settled in loving homes. Call us on 0843 509 4444 or email bbh.rehomers@battersea.org.uk



LOLO, 6

Do you have space in your home for an overgrown teenager who likes to rule the roost and take over? Lolo adores company and is a chatty cat who likes to tell you all about his day with little chirps and mews. He really needs a home with a garden, ideally in the country where there are few cats around so he can go outside.



ABBEY, 10

Ten-year-old Abbey is a sweet independent girl, who likes a lap, a potter around the garden and time to herself to snooze the days away. She does have her mad moments, especially when there's catnip around, and if you like your tortoiseshells spirited, she's the girl for you.



MUSHKA, 17

Mushka's all dressed up in his best dickie bow and hoping for a summer prom date. Like many more mature moggies, Mushka is clean, calm and in great shape. He loves a promenade around our Cattery, and adores company and a good chat. Are you ready for a waltz or two with our prom king?



CLYDE, 6

We think Clyde's been a stray for quite some time, so although he's a bit rough around the edges, he's started to feel the love and see the attractions of human company. He's a sweet boy, with a polite personality, and he's great around other cats so he could live with feline company. Clyde's a country boy, so he'd prefer a quieter area to live in.



MOSSY, 4

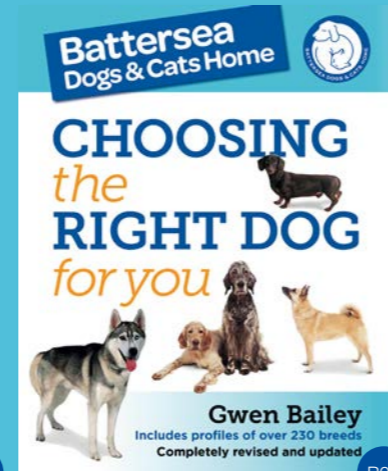
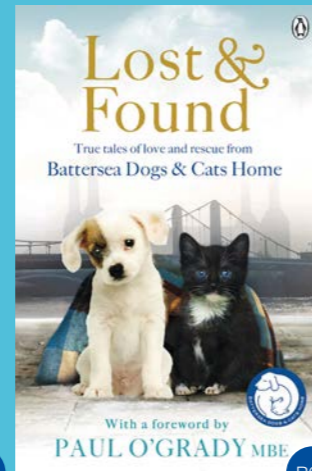
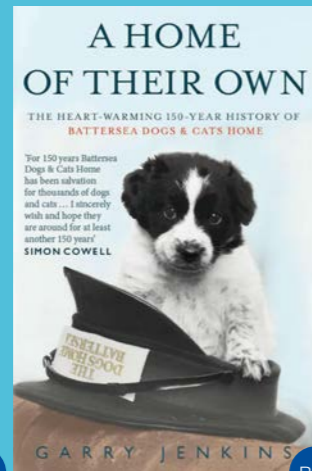
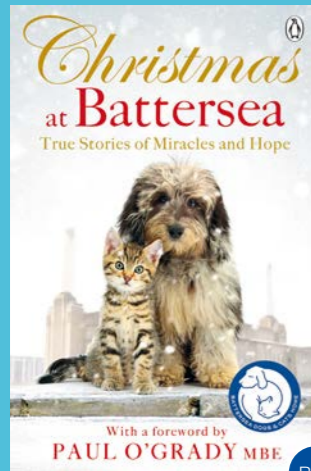
This stunning boy was returned to Battersea through no fault of his own. He's a pure white cat with blue eyes and a touch of the oriental about him. He can be a bit of a nervous chap if his surroundings are busy, but when it is quiet, he loves attention and his favourite game – chasing balls and feathers around.



LOLA, 4

This tiny girl has loads of personality to offer. She has had a somewhat sheltered life so far, so is looking for owners who will let her make the moves. She can be worried at times, but loves to play, her food, and is becoming a rather full-on lap cat. She weighs just under 3kg so is really small for her age. She is currently on foster, and is getting braver each day, especially when her foster family cooks shepherd's pie.

Books



B01
Christmas at Battersea
£6.99

B02
A Home of Their Own
£7.99

B03
Lost & Found
£6.99

B04
Choosing the Right Dog
£10.00

Wrapping paper

Available from late September 2015

6 sheets of wrapping paper, 500x700mm, and 6 matching tags



W01
Season's pup
£3.99

W02
Santa's cosy kittens
£3.99

W03
Cats 'let it snow'
£3.99

W04
Puppies in baskets
£3.99

W05
Festive pup
£3.99

Calendars

Available from late September 2015

A01
Traditional Advent calendar
245 x 350 mm
£4.99

A02
2016 square family calendar
305 x 305 mm
£9.99

A03
2016 slim calendar
150 x 410 mm
£5.99



A01

A02

A03

Gift catalogue 2015

Order at battersea.org.uk or call 020 7627 9228

Battersea Dogs & Cats Home rescues, reunites and rehomes dogs and cats. Since 1860, we have helped more than three million dogs and cats and we aim never to turn away an animal in need. We care for around 9,000 lost, abandoned and unwanted dogs and cats every year, and the purchase of these goodies will help us to care for them.



G01
'Best seat in the house' mug
£4.99

G02
Travel mug
£5.00

G03
Americano mug
£5.99

G04
Logo mug
£3.50

G05
I love cats tote bag
£3.00

G06
I love dogs tote bag
£3.00

G07
Pin badge
£1.50

G08
Fridge magnet
£0.50

G09
I love cats key ring
£1.25

G10
I love dogs key ring
£1.25

G11
I love cats lanyard
£2.00

G12
I love dogs lanyard
£2.00

G13
Trolley key ring
£1.50

G14
Ball pen
£1.50

G15
Book mark
£1.00 (please request colour)