

pawws

The supporter magazine
of Battersea Dogs & Cats Home

SUMMER 2014
SUGGESTED DONATION £1
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A Home for Heroes

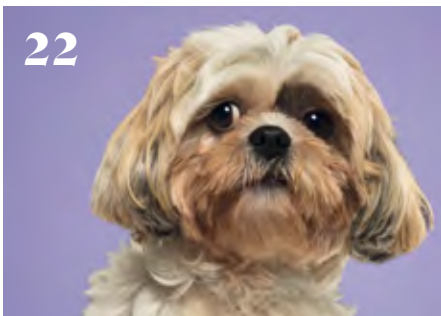
Commemorating the brave
Battersea animals and staff who played
their part in the First World War



RE



PICTURE PERFECT
PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR PETS
THE MISFITS
BEAUTY IS MORE THAN FUR DEEP
WONDER WOOLFS
CELEBRATING SUPER STAFFIES



FEATURES

A Home for heroes	8
The brave Battersea animals and staff who played their part in the First World War	
Picture perfect	12
Photographers pass on their top tips and advice for capturing those special moments of our pets' lives	
The misfits	22
Battersea knows that real beauty isn't only fur-deep	
Super Staffs	24
We celebrate the super side of Staffies	

REGULARS

Claire's welcome	1
News	2
Little Paws	15
Cat gallery	19
Letters	20
Ask the experts	28
Dog gallery	31
Take us home	32

paws

Summer 2014

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Front cover

Sergeant of the Royal Engineers Signals Section putting a message into the cylinder attached to the collar of a messenger dog at Etaples, 28 August 1918
©IWM

Welcome

Claire Horton, Chief Executive

‘Our volunteer roles have a beneficial impact on every area of our work.’

Welcome to the new-look *Paws*, which now has a section specially for our younger supporters. We hope you like it, and would love to hear what you think of the new design and content.

Battersea simply wouldn't be Battersea without its volunteers – over 1,000 incredibly generous people who give freely of their time, and love, to care for the 9,000 dogs and cats who need our help every year.

Our volunteer roles have a beneficial impact on every area of our work, from fundraising support, legacy administration, gardening and washing laundry, to walking, playing with and training dogs, and spending time with cats and kittens.

Our longest-serving volunteer, Laurence Smith, has been with us for 28 years, and I'm thrilled that his unparalleled contribution to Battersea has been recognised with the award of the British Empire Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours. So many thanks are due to him and all our amazing

Battersea staff and dogs have served their country, in peacetime and in conflict

Claire celebrates National Volunteers Week with our longest-serving volunteer Laurence Smith, and Alfie

volunteers at the London centre and in Old Windsor and Brands Hatch, for their love of Battersea. Our staff and dogs have served their country, in peacetime and in conflict, for over 150 years – and never more poignantly were our dogs called on than to stand alongside the men in the trenches fighting the war to end all wars. That's why this issue of *Paws* commemorates the animals of war on both the cover and a special feature on page 8.

Battersea dogs were the first-ever recruits for what became the British War Dog School, put through their paces on an assault course emulating the trials of the trenches. Speed, loyalty and navigation skills made Lurchers, Airedales, Collies, Sheepdogs, Whippets, Retrievers and Deerhounds the ideal messengers and sentries, and our Great Danes, Boarhounds and Mastiffs were the best watchdogs due to their keen alertness. Some 20,000 dogs took part in the war.

Happily, it's unlikely that our own pets will be called on to display such valour – but every dog (and cat) has its day in one way or another, and on page 12 we share some top photography tips for capturing that immortal moment on video, camera or smartphone.

Our regular cat and dog galleries, on pages 19 and 31, show the pride of those amazing people who rehome a Battersea animal, so I'm looking forward to some

Win a fabulous VIP day out at our Annual Reunion

extra special shots next time around as you use our picture perfect advice. And we're asking Super Staffie owners to post their videos on Facebook and Twitter and win a fabulous VIP day out at our Annual Reunion on Sunday, 7 September in Battersea Park. You can meet some Staffies we think are super on page 24. 🐾

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

COMPETITION



Say cheese!
Win a photography studio session worth £350
p12

LITTLE PAWS



Feline happy
Find out what your cat is really thinking in our all-new kids' section!
p15

EVENTS



Dates for your diary

7 September
Annual Reunion

12 October
The Royal Parks Half Marathon

24 October
Tea Party for Battersea

8 December
Battersea Carol Concert





First class help for posties

We're helping the nation's posties stay safe as they deliver around 50 million letters a day, by advising dogs owners how their pets can be more postman-friendly.

There are more dog attacks on postal workers during the summer than any other time of the year, so Royal Mail teamed up with us during its Dog Awareness Week to advise dog owners on how they can be more proactive in preventing incidents inside and outside the home.

Royal Mail figures show that on average around nine postmen and women a day are attacked by dogs across the UK with over 3,300 attacks from April 2013 to April 2014, an eight per cent increase on the previous year. The number of attacks peak during school summer holidays.

Taking a little time to train your dog can make all the difference, and you can find out how with the help of Battersea Canine welfare Trainer Brian Brady at battersea.org.uk/dogaware

Our behaviour experts are also giving advice to Royal Mail workers on how to approach dogs on their delivery rounds. Together, we hope to make the garden path a safer journey for postal workers.

Laurence, we salute you

Every week for the past 28 years, Laurence Smith has made the hour-long, 12-mile journey from his South London house to his Battersea Home, to walk and spend time with our homeless dogs.

His amazing efforts on behalf of all those animals have now been recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours, with the award of the British Empire Medal.

Since 1986, when Laurence embarked on the commitment which has made him our longest-serving volunteer, we estimate he's made the day better for over 6,000 abandoned, unwanted and neglected animals, simply by being a calm and comforting companion.



Laurence with Alfie the Pug

"I was absolutely amazed when I heard that I'd been awarded the BEM," said the 84-year-old. "I volunteer because I thoroughly enjoy it. I've always loved the company of dogs and I enjoy the exercise I get from walking them."

Carly Whyborn, Head of Operations at Battersea, said: "It is the selfless generosity of people like Laurence who allow us to care for lost, abandoned and unwanted dogs. Without Laurence and over one thousand others like him, we would be unable to do what we do. I am so pleased that Laurence has been awarded the BEM for his tireless dedication to volunteering – he is a Battersea hero and entirely deserving of this honour."

Mrs Grant says 'cheers'

A Scottish centenarian who was friends with cosmetic queen Elizabeth Arden has left Battersea a gift in her Will.

101-year-old Anne Grant, who lived in Selkirk and died in 2013, shared her estate amongst a range of charities, including Battersea.

Mrs Grant, who was a voluntary nursing assistant during World War Two before going to work for the cosmetics empire, became a close friend of Arden, and once said that the secret of her long life was "Elizabeth Arden products and gin and tonic".

To find out more about remembering the Home in your Will, call us on 020 7627 9247 or email legacies@battersea.org.uk

Rehoming News



INDIE

Wandering the streets of London at a dreadfully thin 12kg, brindle Staffie Indie was on her last legs, and in a state of collapse. With the help of Battersea's vets and nurses, she fought for her life – and now she's loving life to the full with Sarah and Richard Brown, from Hitchin in Hertfordshire.

"Indie has settled in beautifully in our family, my children Jo and Olivia love her and she's having the time of her life and getting used to all the new countryside smells!" says Sarah.



FAT HARRY

Our boy Harry slimmed down a bit during his three months at the Home, thanks to park walks twice a day, time socialising in our offices and a spell in a foster home. His new family, the Blanchards from Tonbridge in Kent are delighted with Harry – and his name – so Fat Harry he stays.

Harry has just written to us (clever boy) to say: "Mum, dad and my two sisters all love me very very much, but I am rather trumpety (do not know why they are complaining, after all I am only eating what they give me)".

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



Paul O'Grady with Becky the Beagle

Paul makes it a hat-trick

Nights will soon be drawing in, so pull up an armchair and settle down for a brand new series of *Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs*. Yes, Mr Battersea himself is back for a third season of our multi-award winning show, coming up very soon on ITV. And this time there's even more to enjoy: 11 episodes and stories of joy and heartbreak from our Old Windsor and Brands Hatch centres as well as Battersea in London. Keep an eye on our website for breaking news of when the third series starts. That's Battersea for you!

Long weekend for long stays

What do Battersea Cattery Rehomers do on a Bank Holiday weekend? They break records and change lives.

Over the May Bank Holiday weekend our London Cattery rehomed 36 cats, including all our long stay moggies. Dizzy (155 days), Lucy (94 days), Lucy No 2 (104 days), Jerry (70 days) and Pippa (70 days) all found loving homes, despite having medical conditions. With August Bank Holiday on the horizon we'd love to do even better, so if you're thinking about rehoming a Battersea cat, visit one of our catteries (in London, at Old Windsor and Brands Hatch) or look on the website. battersea.org.uk



Top dog Buster, Best Battersea Dog at the Fun Day

Autumn Fun

Friends, reunited
Join us on Sunday 7th September for our 20th Annual Reunion and Fun Day in Battersea Park - and do bring along your canine pals to say hi. Enjoy our fun dog show, dog games, canine events, children's games, stalls and refreshments for visitors to look around.
battersea.org.uk



Park and glide?
If you're fit for anything and would like to take on a challenge to support Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, we still have places available in the Royal Parks Half Marathon in October, and would love you to join our team.
battersea.org.uk/eventsandchallenges



Char-a-tea fundraiser
Hot dogs or purr-fect taste - which one's for you? Register for our Tea Party on 24th October, and brew up a storm for Battersea. Invite your friends, family, cats and dogs round for a cuppa and a cake. Every pound you raise will help us care for the 9,000 pooches and pusscats who need our care each year.
battersea.org.uk/teaparty



Rehoming News



MARMALADE

Marmalade and his sister Sabrina had been abandoned to fend for themselves at just 12 weeks old. Sabrina is recovering after an operation on her leg, but Marmalade is making a new name for himself - Hugo - with the Daly family from Grays in Essex. "He's eating like a horse, charging around like a lunatic and then napping at the drop of a hat. All in all he seems very happy," says Justine Daly.



JAZZ

Our Rehomers feared elderly Staffie Jazz would be waiting for a new home forever, after he had seven lumps and bumps removed, and a much-needed dental operation which left him virtually toothless. But then the wonderful Carr family from Wareham in Dorset came along and now Freeway, as he's been renamed, is settling down nicely to life in the country with his two Westie brothers.

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



Best of Battersea Abby, Molly and Ben enjoy the summer

Three of Battersea's best

What could be better than a Battersea dog? Another Battersea dog... and then another.

Chris and Linda Hunt from Sittingbourne, in Kent, knew they had the time, space and love to share their lives with more than one deserving dog, so over the past three years they've given a second chance to a terrific threesome.

In the summer of 2012, Beagle Ben arrived from our Brands Hatch centre, followed by Beagle cross Molly (from Battersea in London) in November 2012. This year, a look at the dogs on our website at battersea.org.uk had them travelling to Brands Hatch once again, to meet Mongrel Abby who had been bred for sale, given back to her breeders and then brought to Battersea.

"Ben, Molly and Abby have made our family complete," says Linda. "It's almost as though we all needed each other - most dog owners will understand what I mean!"



LIKE!
Our digital supporters on Facebook were thrilled to hear that a new series of Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs will air on ITV this autumn. Fans of the series around the world expressed their excitement:

"Brilliant news, I love this programme although it does reduce me to tears at times. Battersea is such an amazing place"

"Marvellous! Paul certainly has a way with animals that is fascinating"

"Great news hope to get to see it here in New Zealand - and Paul, you're so compassionate with all the animals"

"How wonderful, best news yet - please send them to Perth, Australia"

f BATTERSEA

Bonnie journey for Annie and Clyde

A Falkirk family made an 852-mile round trip from Scotland to Battersea's London centre this summer to rehome a pair of inseparable Chihuahuas. Andrea Downie spotted Annie and Clyde on the Battersea website. "My friends said I was crazy but I knew I could give them a loving home. So I booked the next day off work and flew to London from Edinburgh. Annie and Clyde have settled in brilliantly, and really come out of their shells - they love to snuggle up together."



Prizes galore at Old Windsor

Everyone's a winner at our Old Windsor Fun Day sponsored by Petplan, from the tastiest baker to the best Battersea Dog. We raised £20,300 at this year's event, which will help us care for dogs and cats who need new homes.

One of the most prestigious titles in the canine world was won by one-year-old Border Collie/English Setter cross Buster - Best Battersea Dog at Old Windsor's Fun Day this summer. Buster was one of hundreds of dogs and over 2,500 people who visited our country centre to enjoy dog classes, stalls and the *Great Battersea Bake Off* competition judged by Chief Executive Claire Horton and Battersea Ambassador Dame Jacqueline Wilson, pictured here with winner Holly Alderson, 13, from Maidenhead.



Lord of the manor

Visitors to 17th century merchant's mansion Fenton House, in Hampstead, have a Battersea dog to thank for its beautifully-kept walled garden.

Corgi Jack Russell cross Jack is responsible for Head Gardener Andrew Darragh, and spends his days on official duty in the 300-year-old garden and orchard, making sure everything is coming up roses. Andrew and Francois Van Zyl say rehoming Jack in 2011 was

the best thing they ever did.

"When he rises he goes on our morning stroll of the grounds inspecting my work and marking it as he goes, if you pardon the pun. He loves to play ball on our formal lawn and gets loads of attention," says Andrew. "People often say he is a very lucky dog to have landed himself here at the National Trust property, but we feel that we are the lucky and blessed ones to have him, and would like to thank everyone at Battersea for bringing us together as the happiest family ever."

Right Jack lording it with Andrew

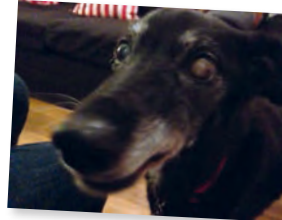


YOUR TERRIFIC TWEETS 🐦 BDCH

As we work hard to raise enough money to rebuild our London kennels, we were overwhelmed with tweets from people sharing selfies of their pets to raise awareness of our text to donate appeal. This has made a huge impact on our most urgent fundraising drive to provide a Home from home for the dogs who need us. (And please text **DOGS** to **70800** to donate £5 to the appeal!)



"Here's Chips' selfie #petselfie #kennelappeal"
@Ginniebins



"Ebby's #petselfie in her memory as we lost her yesterday age 17"
@lhorton

"You will be charged £5, plus one message at your standard network rate. 100% of your donation will be received by Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, Registered Charity No: 206394. For full terms and conditions visit battersea.org.uk or call 020 7627 7883. Find out more at battersea.org.uk/kennelappeal

A Battersea star of the future?

Fifteen-year-old Molly Pearson is so passionate about animal welfare that she cut off her hair to raise money for Battersea. Molly, from Surrey, collected £400 to help homeless cats and dogs. Bringing her generous donation to our London centre was a great excuse for Molly's first visit to Battersea, and a cuddle with little Ernie. She says she'll be back – to volunteer, as soon as she's old enough. Find out about volunteering with Battersea at battersea.org.uk/getinvolved



Florrie's story

THE PARISIAN PUSS

Earlier this year, our Battersea Ambassador Dame Jacqueline Wilson had the brilliant idea of supporting our Cat Takeover campaign to rehome even more Battersea cats than ever, by running a cat-based short story competition for children in her official magazine. Out of simply scores of well written entries, she chose nine-year-old Florrie Hansen's story, *The Parisian Puss*, as her favourite.

Now, lucky Florrie – who lives in Blandford Forum, Dorset – not only has a very special fan but she also got to visit the Home and name a Battersea cat (she chose to call her Tabitha).



Dame Jacqueline had this to say about her winning entry:

"I loved Florrie's story from the first magical paragraph. She writes with remarkable style and sophistication for a nine-year-old. Her cats have immense personality. I found the elegant Parisian cat, Madame Azura, particularly amusing as she shows off 'her glamorous indigo fur to all of the strays'. I think Florrie has a writing future in front of her." 🐾

Above
Budding author Florrie Hansen
Right
Dame Jacqueline Wilson with furry friend Jacob



There is a beautiful legend that tells of a wizard who created a Persian Blue cat out of a sparkle that skipped out of a raging fire, two evening stars and a wisp of grey smoke. This legend describes the Persian Blue cat in this story - especially the sparkle from the fire part, as it does really represent this cat's feisty personality...

Madame Azura was a proud, snooty cat - in fact, she was the snootiest cat in Paris. She adored her owner, Marianne, who spoiled Madame Azura rotten. She loved stalking down the tree-lined boulevards and showing off her glamorous indigo fur to all of the strays. But the one thing Madame Azura loved more than anything was meeting her friends at Lady Bianca's Pampered Parisian Pussycats Grooming Salon. Today, Marianne was taking her to the salon so she could get prepared for an important cat show taking place tomorrow.

As they entered the pampering room, Madame Azura spotted her friends sitting on their plump purple velvet cushions.

"Bonjour," purred Madame Azura to her kitty pals.

"Bonjour," they chorused back.

Their owners tried to hush them but they continued to meow and point at one bushy tabby cat having a comb. They all agreed *she* would never win a cat show.

When Madame Azura got back to the penthouse, she went to her room to relax on her velvet chaise longue.

"This is the life," she purred as Marianne came to place a bowl of creamy milk on her bedside table.

When everyone was asleep, Madame Azura peeped out of her window at her favourite Parisian view - the glittering Eiffel Tower. But suddenly, a noise came out of the fireplace, a strange figure emerged from the soot and everything went black...

"Hello? Marianne?" whimpered Madame Azura. Then she realised she was *not* in her room! She was enclosed in a cage and in front of it, perched on a box, was the bushy tabby cat from the salon.

"*You!* What is your name and why am I here?" hissed Madame Azura.

"My name is Tabitha. You're here because my owner, Fleur De Vere, does not think I will win the cat contest tomorrow. She is going to claim you are her pet instead of me," she mewed sadly. "She doesn't think I'm good enough."

"Hang on! You are keeping me locked up in this cage because your owner thinks you're not good enough? If you really want to be her star, let me go and show her what you can do!" said Madame Azura crossly.

"But if I let you go Fleur will be so annoyed, and she never has time for me, so how could I possibly show her what I can do?" asked Tabitha.

"Just be your friendly, loyal self," said Madame Azura.

"Do you think it will be enough?" wondered Tabitha.

"If you believe in yourself you can accomplish anything."

Tabitha let out a great sigh and leapt on to an old desk to retrieve a copper key. *Clunk!* went the cage door as it flew open.

"Thank you, Tabitha," smiled Madame Azura as she shoved at a loose window and jumped out on to the wet streets of Paris.

As the rain pattered down on to the paving stones, Madame Azura passed the River Seine in the dark. She plodded around the streets all night until finally she spotted a familiar apartment block. She crept through the doors and up the stairs. The reunion between the owner and her beloved cat was tearful but hurried as they only had a few minutes until the cat show.

They made it to the show just in time. There were lots of other nervous cats there, including Madame Azura's friends, but Madame Azura was not nervous. The judges saw that when she strode down the red carpet, not a care in the world. Hers was the last performance and the announcements were made straight after. Madame Azura mewed loudly when she heard Tabitha win the prize for the Friendliest Feline, proving that what's on the inside counts the most!

And Madame Azura? Well, she won Best in Show, of course...



A Home for heroes

To commemorate the centenary of the First World War, *Paws* looks at the history of some of the brave Battersea animals and staff who played their part in the war effort.

Above
A British Army messenger dog, clearly showing the tin cylinder in which the message is carried, taken at Etaples in April 1918 ©IWM

For everyone who has ever worn a poppy, or studied the poetry of Wilfred Owen at school, the beginnings of the First World War in 1914 will be etched into the memory.

But it still seems incredible that one hundred years have passed since the start of the bloodiest conflict the earth has ever witnessed. Harry Patch, the last British veteran of the war, died only in 2009. An unassuming man, he nevertheless became a spokesman for the human cost of war, declaring in an interview that “irrespective of the uniforms we wore, we were all victims”.

Nine million people lost their lives in the years between 1914 and 1918, when the hostilities ended. An entire generation of Europe’s young men were lost, leaving families without husbands, fathers and sons.

But it was not just the bravery and sacrifice of people that we should remember. An estimate by the Western Front Association puts the number of animals employed over the course of the War at 16 million – and some of the bravest were from Battersea.

BATTERSEA AND THE WAR EFFORT

In 1914 Lieutenant Colonel E. H. Richardson, a police and military dog trainer, wrote to the Home to request the first batch of recruits for a specialist canine brigade training centre that he was planning to establish in Shoeburyness, Kent. He was most particular about the breeds he wanted: Lurchers, known as the poacher’s dog, were considered the best all-round war dogs while Airedales, Collies, Sheepdogs, Whippets, Retrievers and Deerhounds were regarded as good messengers and sentries. Great Danes, Boarhounds and Mastiffs were the best watchdogs.

The skill, courage and tenacity of these dogs was amazing

By 1915, the training centre was up and running, and dogs were being put through their paces across a five or six week intensive stint. The training consisted of an obstacle course where each dog would have to swim, jump and negotiate their way through water traps and barbed-wire fences, preparing them for the realities of life on the front line.

Richardson’s plans for his dogs extended initially only to medical search, locating injured soldiers on the battle field, but soon they began making names for themselves as excellent messengers as well.

THE BATTERSEA DOGS HOME FRONT

But the War was not only fought in France: back at Home in Battersea, the consequences of conflict were being keenly

felt. At the outbreak, a third of the entire workforce had signed up to go and fight – 10 out of 30 – and more were to follow over the coming years.

The numbers of dogs arriving at Battersea Dogs Home fell in the first few months of the war. Initially, this was attributed to women wanting to keep their canine companions and guard dogs close while their men were away fighting.

But there were also reports of dogs brought to the Home by young men who had signed up, and the numbers didn’t stay low for long.

Battersea employed a veterinary surgeon, John Stow Young, to run a twice-weekly surgery for the pets of people too poor to afford to pay. But once war

Irrespective of the uniforms we wore, we were all victims

was declared, Young signed up and put his talents to use by joining the Army Veterinary Corps. The clinic was closed down.

But not for long: minutes from the Battersea Dogs Home committee meetings of the day show that it re-opened in 1916, with a Mr F. W. Chamberlain at the helm, holding twice-weekly surgeries as before.

Despite these best efforts to continue in the face of adversity, the numbers of dogs being brought to the Home were beginning to soar. Strays were appearing across London as people struggled under the privations of rationing to feed themselves, let alone their pets. Some desperate owners slipped off their dogs’ collars and brought them to Battersea on a piece of string, passing them off as strays. One story tells of a woman breaking down in tears after doing this, when her dog tried to follow her away as she left. →



Dogs lined up for inspection by Major Richardson

Lack of food was the biggest problem facing the Home, an issue that would continue long after the troops returned. Of course, not all of them did return. George Gridley, a cycle boy who joined the Home in 1911, died serving in the Royal Berkshire Regiment. Mr Shiell, head clerk of Battersea after 13 years' service, drowned on New Year's Eve, 1917, when his ship was sunk by an enemy submarine.

But many did come back, to continue the mission of caring for London's stray and unwanted dogs. The years after the War held great difficulties of their own, with food shortages and diseases (the deadly Spanish flu pandemic killed 50 million people worldwide) looming large. At least, for a while, there was peace.

FOUR LEGS ON THE FRONT LINE

Dogs were employed in a variety of roles during the First World War. Newspaper cuttings from the time show that 20,000 were trained for front line duties, including running messages, carrying munitions and first aid supplies, as well as sniffing out enemy soldiers and warning their battalions of incoming shells and gas attacks. Undoubtedly, there were substantial numbers of well-trained Battersea dogs amongst them.

The roles of dogs in the War came to be considered so vital that in 1917

Battersea's decorated vet: John Stow Young

Young was in charge of a group of young vets in the Army Veterinary Corps when they encountered a group of wounded men and horses near Guy in northern France. Young and his team rounded up the petrified animals and were able to mount the wounded men upon them, leading the party away to safety as a shell bombardment began. He returned with the horses for a cache of arms and equipment, saving it, as well as men and animals, from the advancing enemy forces. For this, John Stow Young was awarded the Military Cross for 'conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty'.

ANIMALS IN THE GREAT WAR

16m

Animals estimated to have been used over the course of the War

20,000

Dogs trained for front line duties

the War Office established the War Dog School of Instruction, run by the same Lt Col Richardson who had come calling at Battersea. "The skill, courage and tenacity of these dogs has been amazing. During heavy barrages, when all other communications have been cut, the messenger dogs have made their way, and in many cases have brought messages of vital importance," he said in 1918, when dogs were still laying down their lives in support of man.

WAR HORSES

Some 8 million horses and donkeys died during the War, 250,000 on the Western Front alone. They were used to transport ammunition and supplies as well as people, and there are many stories of soldiers choosing to suffer themselves rather than neglect their animals: anecdotes tell of men inhaling poisonous gas while they struggled to get specially-designed gas masks on their horses before attempting their own. Both men and horses dehydrated as the soldiers shared their meagre water supplies with their steeds.

The numbers of horse casualties were kept as low as possible by the work of the Veterinary Corps – awarded the prefix of 'Royal' in 1918 to commemorate their incredible contribution to the War effort.

In August 1914, when the British first

set out for France, anticipating a 'short, sharp' war, its number included 919 personnel from the Army Veterinary Corps (AVC), charged with the welfare of the 53,000 horses they took with them on that first push.

At the height of the War, 60 divisional AVC Mobile Sections and 20 horse hospitals were set up across France and Flanders. The AVC's records show that they treated 2 million animals over the course of the War, and that the number of those treated and then 'Returned to Duty' was an impressive 80%.

Nevertheless, the casualties were enormous. Trench warfare, with its deep muddy gullies, miles of tangled barbed wire and the continual spray of machine gun bullets, was a terrible environment for both men and horses, and millions lost their lives on the Western Front.

MESSENGERS IN THE SKIES

Every way in which animals and people work together was inventively used for the war effort. 100,000 carrier pigeons were employed by the Allies, and numerous anecdotes tell of quickly scribbled notes attached to a pigeon's leg on a battlefield, despatched back to base at an extraordinary 60mph and able to save the day in the nick of time. Amid the chaos, smoke and confusion of the Western Front, with

BATTERSEA IN WWI

1914

Early 1914
Battersea Dogs Home receives letter from Lt Richardson proposing a 'canine brigade'

4 August
Britain joins the war

28 July
Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia

1915

Start of 1915
The Canine Brigade is established in Shoeburyness, Kent

1916

1 July
On the first day of the Battle of the Somme, the death of Battersea's George Gridley, serving in the Royal Berkshire Regiment

1917

The death of the Home's best street fundraiser, Sam the Retriever

31 December
The death of clerk turned sailor Mr Shiell, drowned in his ship under enemy submarine fire

1918

The return to the Home of vet John Stow Young and three of the kennelmen: Ball, Ball and Brenchley

11 November
Signing of the Armistice of Compiègne; an end to the fighting

27 November
The Army Veterinary Corps is awarded the prefix 'Royal'

1919

9 July
The Treaty of Versailles ratified; the official end of the War

shells dropping and bullets flying, the speed of the carrier pigeons and their ability to quickly gain height made them a critical part of the Army communications strategy. An estimated 95% of pigeons successfully delivered their messages, with the remaining 5% succumbing to the bombardment of poisonous gas and gunfire.

One of the most famous stories is from the Argonne Offensive in 1918, when an American Battalion was lost. A wounded carrier pigeon flew across enemy lines over 25 miles, making it back to base, delivering its message and ensuring the battalion was successfully rescued.

CAMELS AND GLOW WORMS

In the Middle East and Egypt, camels were used to carry water in large zinc containers called fantassi, as well as transporting wounded soldiers on makeshift stretchers called cacolets, one person slung on each side of the camel – not a very smooth ride.

Even glow worms were used by the Allied troops to help read maps under cover of darkness. From the Indian elephants employed by the German army to move timber, down to these tiniest of insects, each life, no matter how small, had a role to play in determining the outcome of the First World War. 🐾

Find out more

You can find out more about animals (and Battersea) at war here:

The Western Front Association
westernfrontassociation.com

The Animals in War Memorial Fund
animalsinwar.org.uk

FirstWorldWar.com
firstworldwar.com

A Home of Their Own: The Heart-warming 150-year History of Battersea Dogs & Cats Home
Garry Jenkins

Lost, Stolen or Strayed: The Story of the Battersea Dog's Home
Gloria Cottesloe



Above
Dogs being put through their paces at Shoeburyness
Far left

A dog handler of the Royal Engineers (Signals) reading the message that has just been brought to him by his messenger dog
©IWM

Left
Jim, an Airedale Terrier who was trained for coastguard duties stands watch at Birchington, Kent ©IWM



The story of the Home from its beginnings in 1860 to the present day. *A Home of Their Own* is now available in paperback for £7.99
battersea.org.uk/shop

We all want to capture those special moments of our pets' lives, but how often do you end up with a dog's dinner instead of a heartwarming portrait? *Paws* asked some of our photographic friends to pass on their top tips and advice.

Picture perfect

Win a studio session worth £350 with 



Love to photograph your dog, but he looks like something the cat dragged in? Is your cat totally dog-eared in all her pictures? Never fear, Battersea's here.

We asked some of our perfectly-focused friends with a camera to take a shot at passing on their top tips and advice.

Jo Sax, professional photographer

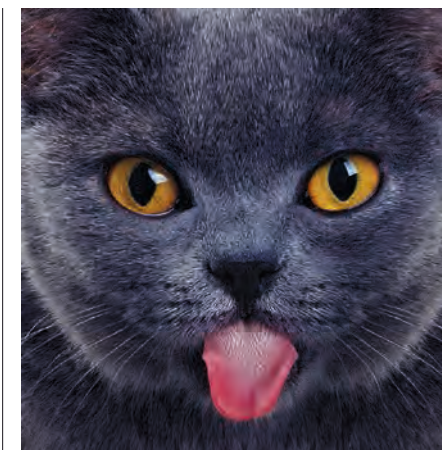
JOSAX.COM

What's your pet's motivation? A squeaky toy, a tennis ball or, my favourite, a tasty piece of sausage? Use a treat to get them focused and concentrating, and looking alert and excited. Talk to them from behind the camera, and do give them the treat sometimes or they'll get bored and wander off.

Pick somewhere with good light – outdoors is better than your front room. Animals move, and will do while they're being photographed, so if you're somewhere with a lot of natural light you'll need less exposure time, and you're much more likely to get a sharp image.

Dogs are easier to photograph than cats because they'll (sometimes) do what you ask them, although they do overact! But cats are more satisfying because they just do what comes naturally, so you get fun and unexpected pictures – although cats can also drive you insane.

If your pet is overweight, go for a head and shoulders shot and leave the chunky bits out. And to preserve your pet's modesty in seated poses, line up the shot with a carefully placed paw or leg in the right position – or photograph from the rear.



Above, left and bottom Photography by Jo Sax



Use a treat to get your pet focused and concentrating, and looking alert and excited

Leo Francis, Venture Photography's leading pet photographer and Art Director

VENTUREPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

I have always loved photographing animals, especially dogs. People say never work with children or pets, but I've always found that's when shoots are most fun. You just never know what's going to happen and if you capture the 'decisive moment' when something spontaneous is happening then you'll capture a memory you'll never forget.

Work fast; pets can be pretty quick so you may only get one chance at the shot you're after. If possible use an assistant (or friend). They can play with the pet, move it into position or get its attention so you can concentrate on taking the shot.

Consider lighting; direct sunlight or a camera flash will help to bring out the texture of a pet's fur and really make your image pop.

Consider how to get an expression from your pet. Would they look content if you shoot them when they're asleep, proud if you use a lower angle to shoot from, or inquisitive if you make a sudden noise so they look straight at the camera?

Finally, think about what will best show off your pet's personality and tell their story in an image. My cat Burtie likes to sit on the sofa with her front legs on the arm rest so it looks like she is watching the TV! Observe your cat's behaviour and try to shoot any little quirks they may have so you can get an image that makes you say 'that is so them'.

Enjoy it, if you can get an image of your pet that makes you smile, you've succeeded. Good luck! →



Pawtraits competition

Now us ordinary folk with a camera or smartphone can make our dogs and cats look smarter, brighter, thinner and more professionally composed.

And to prove it, we're asking *Paws* readers to send in your best-ever dog or cat shot for our special Pawtrait competition.

Venture Photography will present the winner with a £350 voucher prize for a photo session at one of their studios, to put you and your pet properly in the picture. Venture will judge all the photos and choose the winner, and we'll publish the ones we love best in a future issue of *Paws*.

Please email your masterpiece to paws@battersea.org.uk, in high resolution jpeg format, or post a copy to the address on the contents page. Please enclose an SAE if you would like your photograph back.

**Kate Walch,
Battersea photographer**

Get down to eye level. Use noises or treats to encourage them to look at the camera (a squeaker from a ruined dog toy can be really helpful here). Avoid using flash to stop the dreaded red (or green) eye.

Use the rule of thirds for composition and avoid placing the animal right in the centre of your picture. The rule of thirds is like putting an imaginary noughts and crosses grid over your image. Try and place your subject on one of the lines, or even better where the lines meet. This makes for a more attractive image.

If the animal is looking in a particular direction, try and leave empty space in front of them – this makes the photo 'read' better.

If your camera has a continuous shooting mode (so it fires off lots of shots at once) this is really handy for pet photography. Often the first shot makes the animal look at the camera, which means the second captures them properly!

VIDEO VITALITY

Holding your video camera low makes for interesting shots when shooting pets – and makes the viewer feel closer to the animal. Don't just film from your normal standing position. If you're filming on your phone or tablet, turn the device on its side.

TV screens are landscape orientation, not portrait – it's best to match that.

The microphone will be nearest you (on your camera or phone) so remember that when filming – no cursing or shouting.

Any number of free video editing software packages are straightforward to use and can greatly improve your video – cut down to use just your best bits all together in one film.

Try not to use the camera to zoom in and out while filming – the transition can be a bit of a jolt for the viewer. If possible, move yourself, or shoot wide shots and

close up shots separately and edit them together.

LENS FLAIR

More and more people are buying SLR cameras and getting frustrated that their pictures don't look that much different than ones taken with a cheaper compact camera.

Often the trick to getting a more professional look is your choice of lens. Using the 18–55mm kit lens that comes with your camera won't give you a particularly wide aperture needed to create the blurred background ('bokeh') you get with many professional looking portrait photographs.

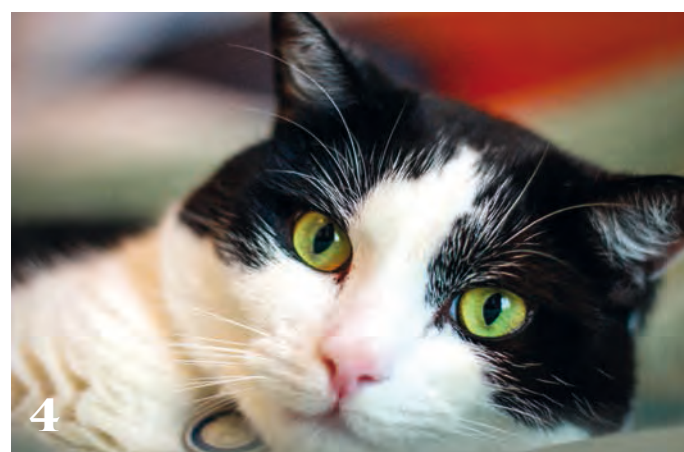
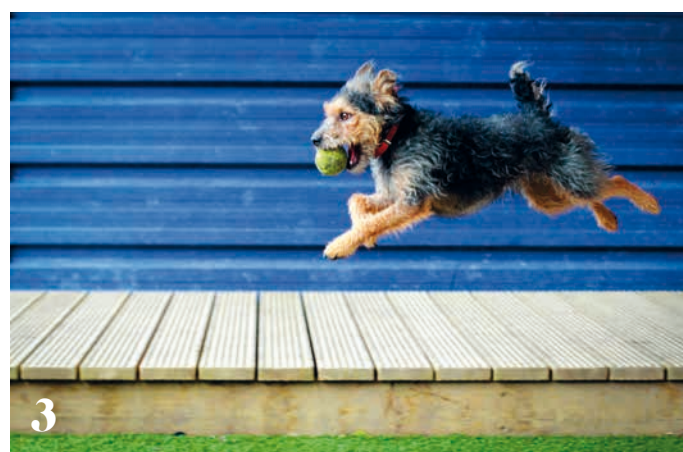
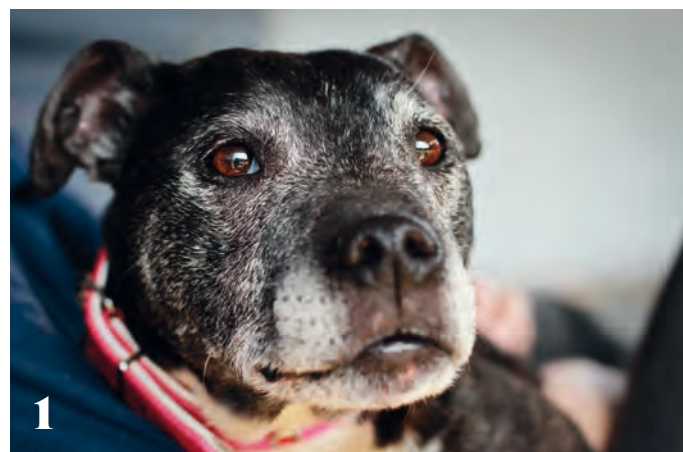
A 'prime' lens is one that has a fixed focal length, so it can't zoom in and out (you have to move yourself to zoom) but because of this it allows the lens to have a wider maximum aperture. If you have bought or are thinking about buying an SLR camera, budget for a 50mm prime lens too. They are fairly cheap as far as lenses go (you can get one for about £80) but the image quality is far superior and will give a very different and much improved look to your images. Using a 50mm lens on an SLR camera to shoot video can also produce some lovely results.

Know your camera – find out about the basics of exposure, which really only comes down to three things: aperture, shutter speed and ISO. Understanding what they do and how to control them will greatly improve your pet photography. 🐾

“
Understanding aperture, shutter speed and ISO – what they do and how to control them – will greatly improve your pet photography
”

Below: Kate's top tips

- 1 Shoot at your pet's eye level
- 2 Use the rule of thirds for composition
- 3 Leave empty space in front of where the animal is looking
- 4 A wide aperture creates an artistic blurred background



Little paws

FOR JUNIOR SUPPORTERS OF BATTERSEA DOGS & CATS HOME

**STORIES
GAMES
FUN**

**HOW TO TELL
WHAT YOUR
CAT IS
THINKING!**

Win a Battersea cuddly toy



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

Content

Unhappy

HUNGRY

HAPPY

Scared

ARRRR!

SLEEPY

PLAYFUL

UNWELL

Need the loo

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

PULL-OUT POSTER



Little paws



DOGS ARE CAPABLE OF UNDERSTANDING UP TO 250 WORDS. CLEVER BOY!

Weird but true

ONLY JOKING!

What do cats read in the morning?
NEWSPAPERS!

Battersea Book Club

PIPPIN'S story

Zoe is fed up with being little. Her brothers keep teasing her, and she's too short to go on the best rides at the water park. But when her family decides to adopt a puppy from Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, Zoe is over the moon. Pippin, the adorable Jack Russell, is a tiny terrier with a big heart. Can this playful puppy prove that the best things come in small packages?



Find out what happens next in *Pippin's Story*, just one of over 20 exciting tales available now from battersea.org.uk/shop

SUPER PET

Did you hear about the Hairy Houdini, who loved to liberate his canine chums to share in a midnight feast?

Four-year-old Red the Lurcher was able to reach up on his hind paws and use his nose and teeth to undo the lock on his kennel. He then moved swiftly from kennel to kennel to free his pals before raiding the Battersea kitchen!

If you're living with a Superdog or Supercat, we'd love to hear about it. We promise not to reveal their secret identities!



Celebrity Moggy Lover

Ever listen to DJ Lauren Laverne on the BBC? Did you know that Lauren rehomed two tiny kittens, Jasper and Whisper, from Battersea after they were born under a building and abandoned by their mum?

Weird but true



RESEARCH SUGGESTS THAT CATS CAN MEMORISE AND UNDERSTAND MORE COMMANDS THAN DOGS. THEY JUST CHOOSE TO IGNORE THEM. NAUGHTY!

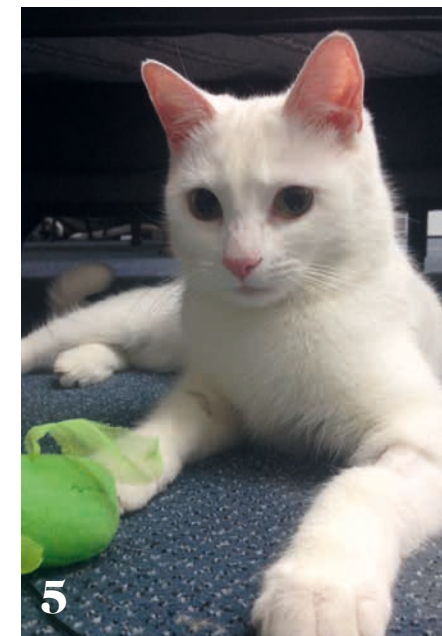
WOOFSEARCH CAN YOU FIND ALL THE DOG BREEDS HIDDEN BELOW?

F W D T B A S S E T H O U N D E E
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BASENJI
BASSET HOUND
BEAGLE
BLOOD HOUND
BULL TERRIER
CHIHUAHUA
DACHSHUND
GREAT DANE
IRISH SETTER
KEESHOND
MASTIFF
NEWFOUNDLAND
OTTER HOUND
PEKINGESE
POMERANIAN
SAINT BERNARD
SCHIPPERKE
WEIMARANER
WHIPPET

Cat gallery

What a striking line-up of Battersea cats in their new homes. Thank you to everyone who sent us a photo of their special pal, we're sorry we can't publish them all. You can see more at battersea.org.uk/cathappyendings

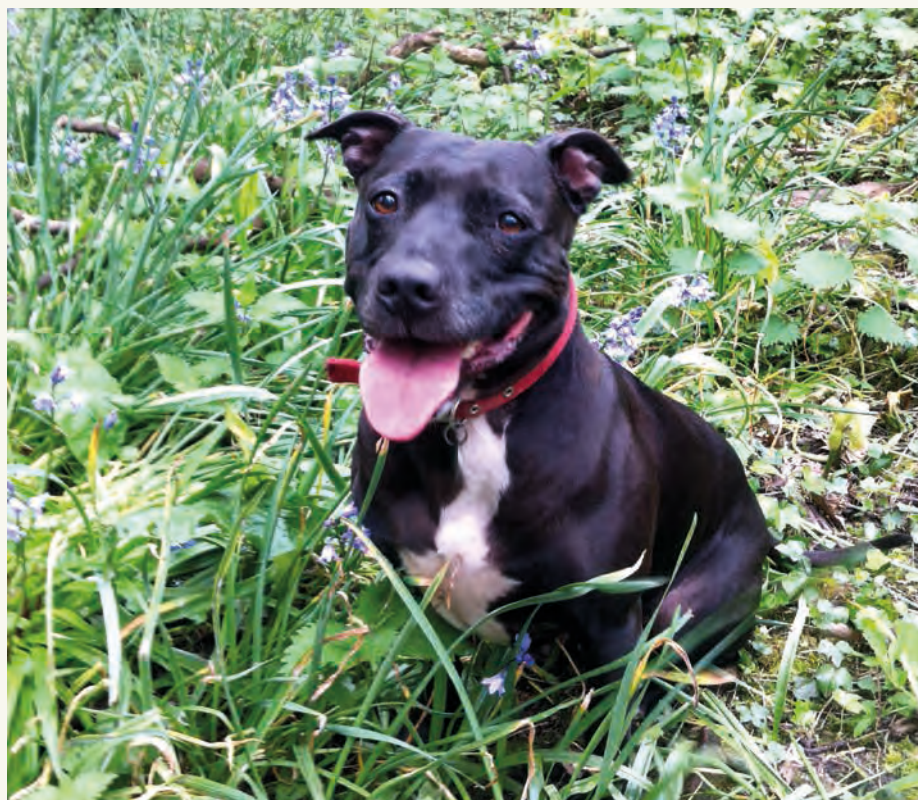


- 1 Harvey, from Neil Herbert
- 2 Albert, from Lee Ellis
- 3 Bertie, from Mark & Philippa Newman
- 4 Jasper, from Lyndee Harper
- 5 Delilah, from Poppy Olsen
- 6 Socks & Louie, from Natasha O'Regan

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.

STAR LETTER

Clara's gained her wings



We adopted Clara from Old Windsor almost two years ago, as company for me as my hubby was often away with the RAF.

Neither of us went looking for a Staffie, but we fell in love with her on our first meeting.

She is a lovely, calm and happy girl who has a Collie 'boyfriend' called Max. She still doesn't like being left alone, so after two years of trying we have given up and just accepted that she will not change. Whilst it's difficult to pop out for a meal at short notice, a majority of the time it's fine as we get a dog sitter in or she stays with her boyfriend. At least she has given us

an insight to what it's like when we have children.

She really has made our family happy. My mum is petrified of dogs, but within 30 minutes of meeting Clara she had a new favourite 'grandchild'. Clara has a really big personality and is a lot smarter than we first thought.

Thanks again for rescuing her (she was a stray). She is part of our family and she has kept me company when my hubby is away. Everyone Clara meets falls in love with her – our friends are always asking to have her sleep over.

Jade Williams, Reading

MAXI ENJOYMENT

Our youngest, and furriest, member of the family has been with us a year. We can't believe how much our lives have been transformed and how lucky we are. Maxi has become quite a character, she likes to bring in worms from the garden, lounge in the bath tub, and play 'it' under the covers (she always wins).

We are all happy campers, most of all Maxi. We wish all the cats and dogs at Battersea a good and loving future.

The Lenz family, London



OUR ROSIE

We rehomed Rosie, a Borzoi/Lurcher, in November 2003. She went in for several fun dog shows and was amazing, she just flowed round the ring. I have never owned such an amazing dog, but this all suddenly ended in 2005 when she saw a cat through the hedge and tried to pursue it, but hit chicken wire instead and broke her neck. She was rushed from my vet to a specialist, where they operated, screwing her vertebrae back in position. She spent 19 days recuperating and had to re-learn how to walk.

She is now 12 and although she still has a weak right-hand side and walks slightly crooked, she enjoys life to the full and has never lost her 'wicked' sense of humour. She lives with another Borzoi Lurcher, Mishka, and Tornado and Queenie the Greyhounds, and always lets them go first so she can take her time.

Graham Crick, Amphill, Bedfordshire

“
Thank you so much
for bringing us together
”

MOLLY ON THE SHORE

I rehomed Molly from your Old Windsor site in 2008 when she was five.

It's the best thing I have done. I suffer from multiple sclerosis, but she gives me the get-up-and-go to take her out and about, as she loves the sea and beach. She is now the love of my life.

Staffies get a bad press, but they are adorable. Thank you so much for bringing us together.

Ray Magwood, Bideford, Devon



OUR DEAR MEL

Mel, a Doberman/German Shepherd, was 6–18 months old when we rehomed her from Brands Hatch in 2000. It is with very great sadness that we had to have our dear Mel put to sleep; she died peacefully at home with us around her.

Thankyou, Battersea, for giving us such a loyal, affectionate and gentle companion who meant the world to us.

Doreen Warner, Goudhurst, Kent

Right Mel
Below Jessie, Molly and Edith
Below right Bilbo



“
He loved life with a passion
”



NEW FRIEND TAKES GIRLS OVER AND OUT

Our daughters Jessie and Edith first saw Molly on your online gallery and started a campaign of wearing us down until we agreed to visit one Sunday.

The team at Battersea spent so much time checking that Molly would be a suitable match and let us spend time with her. As a first-time dog owner I was apprehensive, however I felt very reassured by being given clear information as well as advice.

Molly has got all our children off their devices and out into the garden and parks. She is just starting to settle into routines and, as told, we are now seeing 'the real dog'.

We were so impressed with how caring and thorough all the staff were that we met; so committed to making sure that we had the 'right' match.

We thought the best way to thank you all was with a video that our girls made – <http://youtu.be/q7ge2K3ku3s>. It shows not only two very happy girls, but also a very loved pet. The work you do is so worthwhile and really does have positive outcomes for the dogs.

Lucy Berholt, Isleworth, London



A STAFFIE DOUBLE ACT

We adopted Millie as a nine-week-old in April 2013, and she has been a complete joy. Millie (then known as Pie) was one of the nine Staffie/Jack Russell pups in Series 2 of *Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs*.

However, being hand-reared we felt that she would benefit from an older doggy role model, so on Good Friday this year we went to Battersea Brands Hatch to meet Max, a gorgeous hunk of six-year-old Staffie. It was love at first sight and, as you can see, the friendship is now well cemented. Where Millie is bouncy and energetic, Max is calm and steady. We love them both dearly and we're so pleased to have them in our lives.

Sharon, Chris, Millie & Max, Hampshire

MY BILBO, A PASSION FOR LIFE

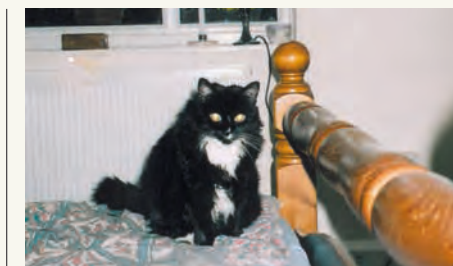
About 12 years ago I rehomed one of your long stay residents, Rottie/Collie Rocky Bear (renamed Bilbo). Last December he went to the Bridge. He was about 13 years old. I still can't believe he's gone.

I have to admit he was hard work, especially to begin with. He had the strength and the stubbornness of a Rottie, coupled with the intelligence and energy of a Collie! He was the best, but then I'm biased.

He loved his food, his walks, other dogs, people, children, water; he just loved life with a passion. He was a fantastic role model for other dogs, he seemed to have a calming influence on them – frightened dogs would look up to him and aggressive dogs would calm down. There wasn't a bad bone in his body, and I would have trusted him with my life. He's left such a huge gap in our lives.

Thank you Battersea, for allowing me to share almost 12 years with him.

Caroline Carmona, Hampshire



TREASURING TIGS

Tigs came into my life and helped me to really find joy again; she turned both our lives around. From spending the first six months hiding, she became such a sweetie, and would come to fetch me to lead me to the sofa for cuddles! She was my treasure and I loved her so much. She was in her 21st year when she died.

Sarah Batten-Hill, Putney, London

You can write to us at the address on the contents page, or email paws@battersea.org.uk

The misfits

Battersea knows that real beauty isn't only fur-deep, but some of our extra-special residents need all the help we can give them to find a new soulmate...



Here at Battersea, we see cats and dogs of all colours, shapes and sizes come through our gates. Overweight, undershot, earless, legless, spotty, stripy, bald – we love them all for the special individuals they are, eager to be adored for their character, not their coat or their picture perfect profile.

One such stand-out star is little Bailey, a four-year-old Shih-tzu at our London centre who was spending too much time on his own because his owner's job had changed. Bailey's a brilliant little chap – loyal, loving, playful, good with other dogs and gentle and steady with children of all ages. Shih-tzus are a hugely popular breed, too. Yet Battersea staff know they will have to put in an extra special effort to make sure Bailey gets his second chance at happiness.

With his undershot jaw and protruding teeth, Bailey has a face we all love, but which might hinder his progress into the heart of a new owner. Looks, you see, do play a part in how long it takes for a dog or cat to find a new home, as Canine Welfare Trainer Nathalie Ingham explains.

"Of course people are naturally attracted to cute dogs, we totally understand that. So with dogs like our lovely Bailey we work just a bit harder to emphasise their characters and temperament. And the good news is that Bailey will find a very special home with someone who has taken the trouble to see past his looks and get to know and love his character."

When it comes to choosing a canine or feline companion, looks aren't the only thing that comes into focus through rose-tinted glasses. So does the colour of love.

We all have preferences, and animal rescue centres know that some colours and coat patterns may just make a dog or cat that bit harder to rehome. 'Black dog syndrome' even has its own page on Wikipedia, where it's described as a phenomenon in which black dogs are passed over for adoption in favour of lighter coloured animals.

The same theory applies to cats, and Battersea staff can even tell stories of



Buddy's home for Christmas

Like many of us, our Ambassador Paul O'Grady loves an underdog. So when he met three-legged Staffie Buddy while filming *Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs at Christmas*, he made him a star of the show, and even had him appear on his ITV chat show, with singing legend Michael Bublé.

Buddy had been at Battersea for several long months, and was being overlooked by visitor after visitor to his kennel - but soon after being taken under the O'Grady wing he was given his happy ending by Steve and Beverley Suluk from Kent.

cute cats being given to us because they shed black hairs on the white carpet, or perfectly lovely dogs finding themselves in our kennels because the new partner of their owner found their colour made them 'scary' or 'mean looking'.

"One dog was returned to us last year as he apparently didn't match the colour of the sofa!" says Head of Dog Rehoming Rob Young. "He lasted about six hours in his new home before he was brought back to Battersea."

"There shouldn't be any reason why people wouldn't want a dog based purely around their colour. Some white dogs can suffer from related medical issues such as deafness or skin complaints, and skin problems can look worse with white dogs as they're seen more clearly through short hair, but real beauty isn't just skin deep."

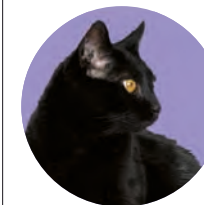
"Maisie, at our Brands Hatch centre, has been with us since last November. She's a white Staffie cross with dark coloured ears and absolutely bundles of character, but she's just not being seen as the great dog she really is."

Cats don't fare any better, as Head of London Cattery Lindsey Quinlan points out. "At Battersea we take in almost twice as many black cats as any other colour. The quickest to find homes tend to be tabbies and then greys, blues and ginger. I've asked colleagues at other rescue centres and it seems that across the board, it's white cats that stay in shelters the longest."

"People do tend to look for what they've had in the past, too, but that's not necessarily just down to colour; it may be a pink nose or white socks or a very friendly personality. Here at the Home, we hope that who they actually leave with in the end is purely down to the immediate bond they form when they meet."

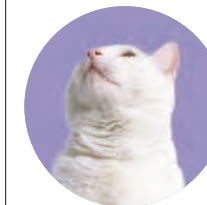
So our message is that it's not the colour or the shape, but the character that counts. The amazing people who give our black dogs, white cats, triped and dentally diminished their new homes prove it. Your hearts tell you who belongs in your family, not your eyes. 🐾

TWICE AS NICE

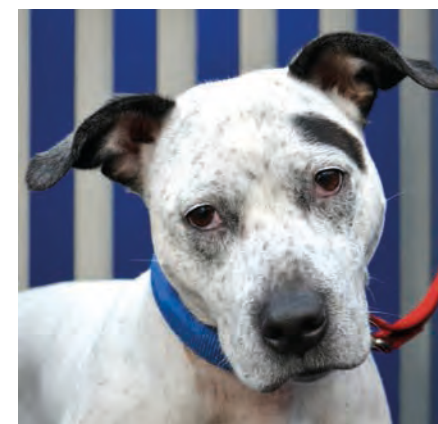


Battersea takes in almost twice as many black cats as any other colour

BIT OF ALL WHITE



Across the board, it seems white cats stay in shelters the longest



Above Maisie
Right Buddy and Michael Bublé



Super Staffs

As we continue to raise awareness of the softer side of Staffies, we celebrate how absolutely super they are too.

In 2013, Battersea took in a staggering 1,598 Staffordshire Bull Terriers which equated to over 30% of all dogs that arrived at the Home over the course of the year. In fact the number of Staffies we look after has almost doubled since 2000 which is why our ongoing *Staffies. They're softer than you think.* campaign is more relevant than ever. Our aim is to challenge people's opinions of the often-maligned breed and we have joined forces with animal centres throughout the UK to highlight what is, if given the chance, the Staffie's true, friendly nature. The campaign has so far reached Edinburgh, North Clwyd, Manchester, Leicester, Rugby, Doncaster, Lewes, Biggin Hill and Cheltenham and is helping to rehome even more Staffies to loving new families which is fantastic.



Handsome boy Frank poses for his portrait

As we continue to raise awareness of the softer side of Staffies, we want to celebrate how absolutely super they are too. After all, since first being registered as a show breed in 1935 the Staffie has been renowned for its courage and relationship with people, and especially its affinity with children.

We see and hear about the super side of past and present Battersea Staffies every day here at the Home, from taking part in our events, to impressing in agility displays, featuring on primetime TV and even getting interviewed on the radio, so we thought it was about time we introduced you to a couple of them too. We're sure you'll agree they're pretty pawsome.

Frank Holds no fear



Rachel Mailley from Essex rehomed Frank back in 2006 when he was six months old and had been brought in as a stray. Just six months later Frank was fully immersed in classes at the Essex Dog Training Centre where he took part in obedience sessions and agility training. The classes clearly paid off as today Frank is a proud member of both the Battersea Agility and East Anglian Agility Display Teams and is a regular at Crufts and Discover Dogs. He even took part in a display at Crufts 2012 with Paul O'Grady and won the hearts of the nation together with first prize. In his down time Frank has also become a bit of a media star, not only featuring on ITV's *Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs*, but also holding court with his own interview on Radio 4's *Saturday Live* programme.

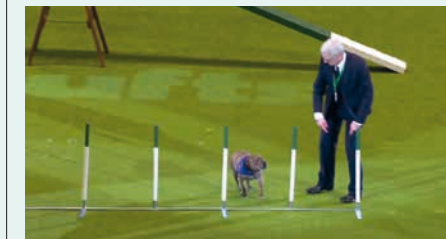
“Frank has an amazing temperament and there is never a dull moment when he's around—truly a fantastic dog”

However Frank's super-ness doesn't end there. Just last year he passed a strict 22-point assessment to become a Cynophobia assistance dog – one of the first of his breed to do so in the UK. Together with 14 other dogs, Frank regularly attends classes to help children overcome their Cynophobia, which is the morbid fear of dogs and can often leave people physically shaken by even the distant sight of man's best friend.

“Frank is such a fantastic dog even despite a pretty tough start in life. Together with a very funny personality, Frank has an amazing temperament and there is never a dull moment when he's around. He truly is a fantastic dog, my best friend, and an absolute superstar.”



Frank relaxing at home with owner Rachel



Paul O'Grady putting Frank through his paces at Crufts. Or was it the other way around?...

Jimmy Good listener



Louise Twinberrow made the 220 mile round trip from the Isle of Wight to rehome 10-week-old Jimmy from us nearly six years ago.

After excelling in his puppy training, Louise decided to take Jimmy to an obedience class where he stole the show – and has continued to do so ever since. Amongst his many accolades, he has a Gold award from the Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme, the UK's largest dog training programme and only recently won his second beginners prize in obedience meaning he is now at novice level. Among a sea of Border Collies, Jimmy definitely stands out as being an extremely super Staffie.

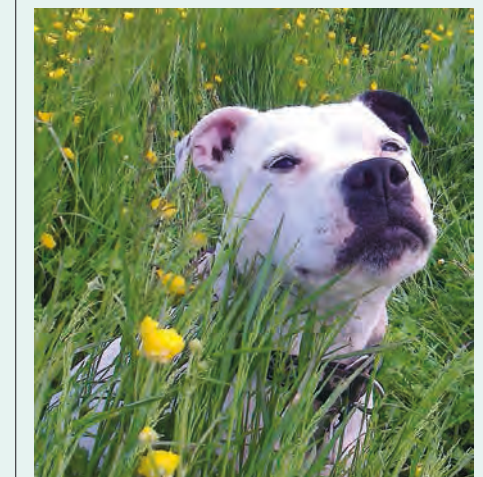
“Jimmy has just been the most amazing boy to train, he loves life and loves learning new tricks. People used to avoid us at shows because of his breed but when they watched us work they would soon change their minds and often come over to congratulate us. Jimmy is just super and has done more than I could ever imagine. He has changed my life for the better in so many ways.” 🐾



#SuperStaffies

WIN A VIP DAY AT OUR ANNUAL REUNION

We want to see your Staffies being super too. Share your videos with us on Facebook and Twitter using the hashtag **#SuperStaffies**, or via email to **softerthanyouthink@battersea.org.uk** to be in with a chance of winning a VIP day at our Annual Reunion. Terms and Conditions apply, please visit **battersea.org.uk**



Top tips for summer safety

Battersea Dogs & Cats Home introduces top tips for summer safety sponsored by Petplan. We've put together our top tips to ensure your pet's summer safety so whether you are going abroad or enjoying the sunshine at home, stay cool for cats and make sure you don't have a hot dog.

Travelling with pets

If you have a cat, remember to make arrangements for her to be cared for, or boarded, as part of your pre-holiday plans. Relaxation of the rules has made travelling abroad with your dog a lot easier – but some of the rules are complicated, so do check carefully before you travel. Make an appointment with your vet for a pre-travel consultation well in advance of your holiday as there may be treatments required beyond those that are mandatory, which are important to your pet's health, depending on where you are visiting. Find out more at www.gov.uk/take-pet-abroad/overview

If you are taking a UK road trip with a dog on board, please remember:

- A crate or safety harness – if you're involved in an accident, your dog may hurt himself too if not secure.
- Frequent toilet stops for your canine companion. If the break is for humans in your party, never leave your pet alone in a hot parked car. The temperature can soar to deadly levels within minutes, even with the windows open.
- Luggage – your dog needs to pack a case too. Take their bed, favourite toy, food, treats, poo bags, medical records and any medication they're taking.
- A light meal three to four hours before you set off and a plentiful supply of water.
- In case of emergency make sure you have details of a local 24-hour vet at your destination.

Reaching your destination

There's an abundance of four-legged friendly accommodation available, but do your research before booking and once there, take some time to check for dangers both outside – poisonous plants, ponds and swimming pools – and inside – pot plants, low-level electrical goods and potential escape routes.

Try to maintain as normal a diet and routine as possible for your dog. They are creatures of habit and may be stressed by changes in their routine. Only give them food and treats formulated for animals. Some foods are poisonous to dogs – chocolate, onions, grapes, raisins and garlic all fall into this category.

And while you'll enjoy lazing around the pool, your dog will need shade and a ready supply of drinking water, as well as his daily walk (early or in the evening if temperatures are high).

“
Always take water with you when going on a walk and consider indoor activities instead
”

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Petplan[®]

Remembering the three I's

INOCULATIONS

All dogs and cats should be vaccinated once a year to protect them against diseases like parvovirus and cat flu. Puppies and kittens cannot be walked or allowed to roam outside until they've had their vaccinations. Please ask your vet for advice.

INSURANCE

Insuring your pet is a vital part of being a responsible pet owner. Petplan offers insurance plans for your pets should the unexpected happen and can give you the peace of mind of knowing treatment is attainable and affordable*. Petplan also offers Holiday Cancellation, which covers up to £2,000 towards travel and accommodation costs if you have to cancel your holiday due to the illness or injury of your pet. Go to www.petplan.co.uk/bdch to find out more.

IDENTIFICATION

Identifying your pet is an important part of responsible ownership whether home or away. A microchip has a unique code which, when scanned with a special reader, can be matched to the owner's details on a central database and is inserted by a vet in a simple and quick procedure. It is very important to keep your pet's chip details up-to-date with your details so you can be contacted if your pet is found. It is also a legal requirement for your dog to wear a collar and identity tag so when going on holiday, have a second tag engraved with your temporary address and contact details.

Summer holiday venue guide

ON THE BEACH

If you are planning on spending a doggy-friendly day at the beach remember to check the tide times before you go – not all dogs can naturally swim and may quickly get out of their depth. Running on sand will leave your dog a lot more tired than on grass, and the heat of the sand may damage their paws so be sure to keep them in the shade as much as possible and have a drinking water supply handy. Once home, wash your dog thoroughly to remove all traces of salt and sand from their paws and fur.

CAMPING

Camping with your canine can be lots of fun but always remember to check before booking that dogs are allowed on site. Be mindful of low-level cooking equipment and remember that dogs running free can be a danger to nearby livestock. Check the local laws and byelaws whether home or abroad to ensure you are not breaching any restrictions.

SUMMER PARTIES

There are lots of dangers that may be lurking in your (or someone else's) garden, including pesticides, fertilisers, slug pellets and rodent baits; gardening tools, ponds and dirty puddles that are harmful for your pet to drink from; and unattended barbecues. Never give pets meat with cooked bones in, and ask other guests not to feed your dog or cat treats from the barbecue.

10% discount when you buy online

10% of the premium will be given to Battersea Dogs & Cats Home when you take out a full policy

10% of the renewal premium will be given to Battersea Dogs & Cats Home every year that you renew

petplan.co.uk/bdch

GET YOUR PET INSURANCE QUOTE FROM PETPLAN AND HELP BATTERSEA

Sun/hot weather health

Just like humans, the sunshine can make pets ill. Symptoms of heat exhaustion or sunstroke include excessive panting, drooling, convulsions, collapse and shock. If your pet is suffering from any of these get them out of the heat, shower them with cool water (not too cold as this can have an adverse effect) or wrap in wet, cool towels or blankets – and seek immediate veterinary advice.

Animals can suffer from sunburn, particularly those with thin, pale or white fur. Cover any extremities, especially ear tips, with a pet-safe sun cream at least once a day and before going outside.

Dogs can burn their paws on hot pavements so it is important to only exercise or take them for long walks at cooler times of the day. Always take water with you when going on a walk and consider indoor activities instead.

So now it's time to pack those suitcases, check the passports (including that all-important dog passport) and head off for summer fun. Have a good trip.



*Terms, conditions and excesses apply and may be varied on renewal. Battersea Dogs & Cats Home (Registered Charity No: 206394), through its trading subsidiary, Battersea Dogs Home Limited, is an Appointed Representative of Pet Plan Limited but is not part of the Allianz (UK) Group. Petplan is a trading name of Pet Plan Limited and Allianz Insurance plc.

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 Fox Terrier Melody who has recently had an eye removed due to glaucoma and is now anxious of other dogs



NATHALIE INGHAM
Canine Welfare Trainer

Q Melody, our Battersea Fox Terrier, has recently had an eye removed due to glaucoma. Although she thankfully remains just the same with her human interaction she is now very unsure of other dogs she meets on walks and is extremely protective of us. Obviously she needs a time of transition but do you anticipate this will always be a change in her defence mechanism?

Lucy Watson, Chislehurst

A Having an eye removed or even just a deterioration in eyesight can be a traumatic experience for any animal (or human). It will take Melody time to adjust her senses and learn to perceive things where she previously may have used her vision. She is likely to feel particularly vulnerable at the moment and unfortunately other dogs may not be sensitive to this when they meet, which is why she is trying to keep them away.

To help her feel less worried, make sure that you always stand on the side of her removed eye so that you are protecting that side. This will also encourage other dogs to approach from her seeing eye.

Melody will probably prefer to be around calmer dogs she can choose to

“*As long as Melody continues to have positive experiences with calm dogs who don't worry her she should start to get used to her visual abilities and her anxieties should hopefully decrease*”

interact with or move away from, so try to avoid bouncy young dogs.

As long as Melody continues to have positive experiences with calm dogs who don't worry her she should start to get used to her visual abilities and her anxieties should hopefully decrease, but if she continues to be concerned you may want to find a local dog behaviourist to come out and provide you with some practical support to help her feel more confident.



TAZ WILLIS
Old Windsor Cat Rehomer

Q Last March my husband and I adopted Zippy and George from your Battersea centre in Old Windsor. They are eight, and the most adorable boys. However, George has a condition where he sprays indoors, usually on a daily basis, marking many different places around the house. Doors, sofa, shopping, walls, clothes... as you can imagine, it's a testing time for both him and us.

Joanne Cohen, Egham

A Urine spraying is a form of territorial marking. Anyone who has this problem should take their cat to the vet to check there is nothing medically wrong to be causing a change in behaviour.

This can be a complicated problem to fix but a behaviourist visiting your cat in its home environment should be able to determine the causes of stress or anxiety triggers. In neutered cats the most common triggers for spraying can be:

- Conflict with other cats in the house
- High cat population outside the home
- Invasion of your home by outside cats
- Decorating or building work
- New additions to the house (human or animal)
- Change of routine.

And here are a few things you can try to help George:

- Clean sprayed areas with a solution of nine-parts warm water to one-part biological washing powder, rinse thoroughly and allow to dry before spraying area with surgical spirit
- Treat sprayed areas with Feliway spray and use a diffuser(s) to help reduce stress
- If you have a multi-cat household ensure you have multiple resources and in different locations (this includes litter trays, food and water points, beds, etc.).



VICKI MILNER
Canine Welfare Trainer

Q We adopted Gavin, a Parson Russell Terrier from Battersea 18 months ago. He always barked and lunged at buses, but he has suddenly got worse. The problem is with white vans, dust carts, lorries, even tractors mowing the grass in our local park.

We have tried all sorts of things to get him used to the noise, standing back from the edge of the pavement, talking to him, shouting at him 'leave' or 'no', and trying to distract him with treats. Please help, as the rest of the time he is the most loveable and well-behaved dog.

Debby Holloway, Erith, Kent

A This is a distressing and potentially dangerous behaviour, and I'll be paying Gavin a visit to see first-hand what he's doing and help Debby address these behaviours. If your dog does this, you should consult a behaviourist too. And here's some more training you can try:

- Use his daily food portion as a way to get him used to working for all his food. He will learn that food comes from you, and for doing something you've asked for like a 'sit', 'wait' or 'watch', and not just from a bowl
- Set aside a special toy for training – one that makes a noise if possible

“*The more familiar Gavin becomes with these sounds, the less bothered he should be*”

- Work on a 'watch me' command to train Gavin to shift his attention to you when asked (there are lots of videos of this online – Google 'Watch command for dogs')
- Record some of the noises he is most reactive to and play these in the house, on a very low volume at first, and monitor how he reacts to them – the more familiar he becomes with these sounds, the less bothered he should be
- Keep a diary of walks and what types of traffic he reacts to and what he does, so you have lots of information to help the behaviourist.



SULI WEIGHT
Cattery Team Leader

Q Our rescue cat Tyson is very friendly, likes a fuss, comes in at night and generally is everything we could wish for. However, every so often he just attacks me for no reason. The first time he grabbed my arm with teeth and claws and I was so surprised I threw him off thinking that would be that, but he flew back at me and grabbed my other arm.

Since then he has attacked a couple of times, I have stayed still thinking he would release me to no avail and when I try to gently prise him off he immediately goes for my other arm. There doesn't seem to be any reason for it.

Carol Lane, Potter Heigham, Norfolk

A The tiniest, seemingly most inconsequential things can affect how a cat is behaving. Similarly, an apparently unprovoked attack will have triggers – change of perfume, tiny noise outside that we haven't heard, owner moving too quickly and starting a hunting reaction from the cat, dinner is five minutes late...

Settling in to a new home is (literally!) life changing for the cat, and the stress of this can come out in many different ways, but will only improve as he becomes more settled and relaxed in his surroundings.

This can also be typical young male behaviour, especially if he is not yet or recently neutered, as the hormones will still be settling down.

He may be displaying 'petting aggression' (deciding he doesn't want any more strokes, or being touched somewhere that he finds uncomfortable, such as on the belly) so work to the philosophy of leaving him wanting more, and carefully watch his body language and physiological signs that he has had enough or doesn't like something – including tail swishing or flicking, ears flattening, pupils dilating and/or face becoming more tense.

Or this could be 'play aggression' (play interactions with the cat that have ended abruptly, or the cat has become over excited and doesn't know the boundaries of the game). This is often true of cats that have been played with inappropriately by people when they are kittens, who as a result think that hands and feet etc. are fair game.

The longer both you and the cat know each other, the better this relationship will become as you will know what he likes and how long for, and he will increase his trust that you aren't going to do something he doesn't like.

NEW



GIVE YOUR PET & HOME THE ALL CLEAR FROM FLEAS, TICKS & WORMS



AVAILABLE IN ALL MAJOR SUPERMARKETS & PET SHOPS

Christmas Carol Concert

**Wednesday
8 December 2014**
Doors open at 7pm

**St Luke's Church
Sydney St
London SW3 6NH**

Wrap up warm, enjoy a festive dog Guard of Honour and join the Home's family and friends to sing carols and celebrate Christmas in the beautiful surroundings of St Luke's Church. Mulled wine and mince pies will also be served.

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



Registered charity No. 206394 FundRaising Standards Body

Dog gallery

What a beautiful bunch of Battersea graduates. Catch up with more Battersea dogs in their new homes at battersea.org.uk/doghappyendings



1



2



3



4

- 1 Apples, from Cheryl Scicluna
- 2 Buddy, from Helen Shoemark
- 3 Oscar, from Mrs Hilda Griffiths
- 4 Bonbon & Maxim, from Mark & Margaret Woolcott
- 5 Jess, from Nicole Spriggs
- 6 Fluke & Roxy, from Robin Acton



5



6

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.

Take us home

Could you give a second chance to one of these great animals looking for a good home? Contact Battersea on **0843 509 4444** or via the centre email addresses below.



GOODIE

4-year-old Greyhound

✉ rehoming@battersea.org.uk

Former racing Greyhound Good Moves Nod was quite the champion, winning 33 of his 141 races. But like World Cup footballers, his sporting career was soon over and now he's looking for a retirement home where he can chill and enjoy cuddles.



MELISTA

5-year-old Domestic Short Hair

✉ catterybbh@battersea.org.uk

Melista is something of an enigma. At times she craves attention, but she can also play hard to get, so her new owners will need to be able to read that body language accurately, or risk a hiss! She loves to hide in boxes, under duvets or behind the sofa.



TULA

4-year-old Canary Dog

✉ bbhrehomers@battersea.org.uk

Tula is a slightly nervous dog with a big wrinkly head. She hides at the back of her kennel so no one sees her, but she's really cuddly and just wants to sit on your feet all day. Often overlooked through no fault of her own.



ELSA

8-year-old Domestic Short Hair

✉ bowrehomers@battersea.org.uk

Chatty Elsa will chirrup like crazy when there's fish or chicken on the menu. As well as being something of a gourmand, she's a sensitive old soul who gets spooked by everyday noises like the washing machine, so she's looking for a peaceful home... with chicken.



LADY

1-year-old Mongrel

✉ bowrehomers@battersea.org.uk

Lady is a stunning girl who loves games, tennis balls and people. She came to Battersea when her owner was evicted, and has ladylike manners all in place. She can be uncomfortable around dogs she doesn't know, though, and likes her quiet time.



TILLY

5-year-old Domestic Short Hair

✉ catterybbh@battersea.org.uk

This sweet tabby is Battersea's longest-stay moggy – 165 days and counting. But at least that's given her time to mellow into a loving girl who is now willing to make friends and share fun with string, while still valuing her independence.

Boxed christmas cards

24 boxed cards, four of each design



Christmas card packs

10 cards per pack



C01 24 Boxed cards £8.99	C02 124x210mm £5.99	C03 120x172mm £4.75	C04 120x172mm £4.75	C05 137x137mm £4.75	C06 160x114mm £4.99	C07 228x86mm £4.25	C08 210x124mm £5.99	C09 159x159mm £5.99	
C10 137x137mm £4.75	C11 140x140mm £4.75	C12 108x108mm £3.40	C13 140x140mm £4.75	C14 117x117mm £3.60	C15 117x117mm £3.60	C16 140x140mm £4.75	C17 150x150mm £4.75	C18 108x108mm £3.40	C19 228x86mm £4.25

Christmas gifts for cats and dogs



T01



T02



T03



T04



T05



T06



T07

T01
Polly
Penguin
30cm
£6.99

T02
Mini Noodle
Noel
25cm
£3.99

T03
Rita
Reindeer
44cm
£6.99

T04
Mini Rosie
Robin
33cm
£3.99

T05
Tough Trevor
46cm
£7.99

T06
Cat Toy
Snowman
12cm
£2.99

T07
Festive Cat
Ball Tube
19cm
£4.99

Wrapping paper

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



W01



W02



W03



W04

W01
6 sheets
£3.99

W02
6 sheets
£3.99

W03
6 sheets
£3.99

W04
6 sheets
£3.99

Battersea dog toys

Tested by our dogs, for your dog



T08



T09



T10



T11



T12



T13

T08
Tennis balls
£3.99

T09
Foam flyer
£8.99

T10
Super squeaky toy
£6.99

T11
Foam Tumbler
£7.99

T12
Super flinger
£6.99

T13
Reward bone
£5.99

Help a dog or cat in our care

Show your support for the dogs and cats in our care over the festive period by buying a gift for them this Christmas*



N01	Dog treat	£2.00
N02	Dog toy	£5.00
N03	Dog blanket	£10.00
N04	Cat treat	£2.00
N05	Cat toy	£5.00
N06	Cat blanket	£10.00

*The actual product given to a dog or cat will be at the discretion of Battersea Dogs & Cats Home. Delivery charges do not apply for these items.

ORDER FORM

Thank you for supporting
Battersea Dogs & Cats Home

Order online at battersea.org.uk

or alternatively please complete this form and together with a cheque or your card details return to:

**Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, Summer Retail,
4 Battersea Park Road, London SW8 4AA**

Postage and packaging is charged at £3.00 for each order unless stated. All orders are delivered by Royal Mail 2ndClass. We will try to send all orders out within one week but please allow 28 days for delivery. Please note that Royal Mail 2nd Class last mailing date for Christmas 2014 is 18th December. Orders received after this date may not be received before 25th December. For deliveries outside the UK please email shop@battersea.org.uk or call us on 020 7627 9228.

giftaid it

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You can make your donation worth a quarter more, just by ticking the box below. **So for every £1 you give, we receive an extra 25p from HMRC** at no extra cost to you, provided you are a UK taxpayer.

I am a UK taxpayer and I wish all donations that I make today and in the future and have made in the last four tax years from the date of this declaration to be treated as Gift Aid donations until I notify you otherwise.

You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax all the charities you donate to will reclaim on your gifts for that tax year (currently 25p for every £1 you donate). Please note that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify.

Signature	
Date	

Data protection

We like to keep supporters in touch with our work. If you do not wish to receive further communications from Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, please write to Supporter Services, 4 Battersea Park Road, London, SW8 4AA, email us at fundraising@battersea.org.uk or call us on 08435 068998*

Please tick this box if you do want other offers or information from our carefully selected partners. Please refer to battersea.org.uk for our full statement on the use of your data. By providing your email address you are agreeing to receive updates about Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, and those of our carefully selected partners, from time to time. You can unsubscribe at any time.

*Calls cost 5p per minute from a BT landline, mobile charges may vary. All income generated from these calls will go towards the care of the dogs and cats at Battersea.

Registered Charity Number 206394



Gifts for all the family



G01



G02



G03



G04



G05



G06



G07

G08



G09



G10

G11



G12



G13

G01
Slim calendar
2015
£5.99

G02
Square family
calendar 2015
£9.99

G03
Traditional
advent calendar
£4.99

G04
Travel mug
£5.00

G05
30cm ruler
£3.50

G06
Bookmarks
£1.00 each

G07
I Love Cats key ring
£1.25

G08
I Love Dogs key ring
£1.25

G09
Coloured pencils
£1.50

G10
Trolley keyring
£1.50

G11
Pin badge
£1.50

G12
100 piece puzzle
£7.99

G13
1000 piece puzzle
£11.99

Battersea Dogs & Cats Home

Gift Catalogue 2014

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 over 3.1m dogs and cats and we aim never to turn away an animal in need. Each year we look after 6,000 dogs and 3,000 cats, the purchase of these goodies will help us to care for them.



K01

K02

K01
Kids' dress-up dog costume
 K01A 3-4 yrs £19.99
 K01B 4-6 yrs £19.99
 K01C 7-9 yrs £19.99

K02
Kids' dress-up cat costume
 K02A 3-4 yrs £19.99
 K02B 4-6 yrs £19.99
 K02C 7-9 yrs £19.99

K03
Kids' apron
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K04
Posh Pooch T-Shirt
 K04A 9-12 mths £8.99
 K04B 12-18 mths £8.99
 K04C 18-24 mths £8.99
 K04D 2-3 yrs £8.99

K05
Rock Out T-shirt
 K05A 9-12 mths £8.99
 K05B 12-18 mths £8.99
 K05C 18-24 mths £8.99
 K05D 2-3 yrs £8.99

K06
Top Dog T-shirt
 K06A 9-12 mths £8.99
 K06B 12-18 mths £8.99
 K06C 18-24 mths £8.99
 K06D 2-3 yrs £8.99



K04



K05



K06



K03