

Summer 2022

Bonnie

**Who found a home recently
with her best friend Chase**

Read more on page 8

Support our Seniors

**Help senior pets who need
that extra bit of comfort**

Welcome

"I couldn't be happier to join and lead an organisation with such ambitious goals."

Hello, I am delighted to introduce myself to you all. I joined the charity earlier this year and it was instantly apparent that Margaret Green Animal Rescue has strong support from wonderful people like you.



This is an exciting time to join MGAR. It is a well-run and successful charity but we have challenging times ahead. I look forward to working with everyone to navigate through and to demonstrate even greater impact for animal welfare into the future.

As we prepare for the year ahead, we have many exciting projects and plans, including our well-awaited opening of the Church Knowle centre. Whilst we have been able to continue to rescue and board animals during difficult times, we are planning to open to the public from the 23rd July to show what a working animal rescue charity is all about and in such a beautiful setting.

Work has been underway at our Wingletang centre to rebuild the cattery, which will significantly improve the welfare of cats in our care, you can read more on page 7.

I must thank everyone who donated towards the Shining Light appeal, it is clear we have many people who, like me, want to make sure rescue animals have the best possible chance in life.

Our GroundDog Day event at the Lincoln Farm centre returns this year after a 2-year break and I look forward to hopefully meeting many of you there, more about this on page 5.

Nigel Mason

CEO

What would you do with £600?

By entering our Summer Grand Draw for just £1, you could win £600!

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to win. We have 7 cash prizes to give away and all money raised will go directly towards caring for the animals at our centres.

Stay in touch

For all contact information visit our website:
www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk

Patron: Edward Fox OBE

Thanks: Kim Lillington for additional photography

Registered charity number: 1167990

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How *you* can help



Raised over
£3,500

Rowing for Rescue

A great example of a challenge that was completed recently, was by Holt Recruitment Group in Bournemouth. The team achieved a whopping 2,000+ mile 'Row around Great Britain' on 6 indoor rowers in just 5 days during March this year, which we can imagine was an intense challenge to undertake!

They raised over £3,500 which will make a big impact to our mission.

If you would like to join the team in completing your very own fundraiser, please get in touch with comms@mgar.org.uk and keep us updated with your fundraising plans.

Facebook Fundraisers

Do you have a birthday coming up soon? You could make your day extra special by setting up a Facebook birthday fundraiser!

It's very quick and easy to create and you will get that 'warm fuzzy' feeling by helping others on your birthday. Make sure you visit the **Support** page on our website to discover how to set up your fundraiser.



Fit for Paws

We wouldn't be able to do our work without incredible supporters like you, who help us to rescue and look after over 1,200 animals each year.

If you're looking to take on a new challenge or sporting activity this year, why not make your fitness journey even more rewarding by fundraising for our rescue animals at the same time.

There are so many ways that you could get involved, from entering a local running or swimming event to participating in a triathlon, signing up to an obstacle course like Tough Mudder or even setting yourself a steps challenge for a month.



Lincoln Farm News



Buddy the Brave 'Heart'

He may weigh just 2.6kg but 13-year-old Buddy is one tough little lad.

When he arrived at the centre, he had been through the wars and needed lots of TLC, after sadly being attacked by another dog. On top of that, he also desperately needed a dental procedure, however, the vets were concerned about putting more strain on his heart. To be able to provide this procedure, the vets would need to give Buddy a general anaesthetic but this would have been too much for dear Buddy, who already suffered from a heart murmur.



We swiftly booked him in for a heart scan, so that we could establish what was going on with his ticker. The scan showed a significant mitral valve deformity alongside a septal prolapse (his septum was pushing into his left atrium when contracting) and considerable mitral valve regurgitation. As a result, both his left ventricle and atrium were enlarged – all of this put together meant that little Buddy was in the early stages of heart failure and needed some intervention to keep him healthy for as long as possible. We were all relieved to know that Buddy could take life-long medication to help support his heart.

After a few weeks on this medication, the vets were happy that his condition was stable and he would be in a much better position to cope with an anaesthetic, so his dental was booked in. He ended up having a whopping 14 teeth removed, and boy did he feel better for it once he was all healed up!

Due to Buddy's larger than life personality, it took him no time at all to capture the attention of his new owner and he is now settled in his new home, enjoying all the luxuries life has to offer. Buddy took everything in his little stride. He really is a true brave 'heart'.

The more you buy, the more you help



Have you been to our shop at the centre? We have recently added an array of new items... The perfect excuse to treat your four-legged friend!

We specialise in natural, healthy treats from 'Green and Wilds' which have been responsibly and sustainably sourced. We are proud to stock Forthglade dog food which is made in Devon. Their dry dog food range contains natural ingredients which is cold-pressed to retain the natural flavour. If your pooch prefers wet food, their range is made with 75% salmon, lamb, duck, beef or turkey to make mealtimes extra tasty!



As well as many toys and comfortable beds, we also have a selection of Sighthound-specific products, as we understand how difficult it can be to find products that fit the unique shape of Sighthounds!

If that hasn't tempted you enough, the great thing about shopping with us is that the funds will go towards caring for the animals.

Thank you

Earlier this year, we received a surprise visit from **Paddington the Cockapoo**. He sadly went missing on Boxing Day and his owner created a Facebook group called 'Paddington Cockapoo Adventures' in the hope of finding him. The public generously donated to help with the search for Paddington and for any potential veterinary bills and drones to find him. Luckily he was found after 9 days and once he had fully recovered, he made a trip to the centre to donate £300.

It just goes to show wonderful things can happen when the community pulls together! It is a legal requirement to microchip your dog and it's so important to make sure their records are up to date. Thousands of pets go missing each year and by checking your details are correct, you are giving your pet a better chance of being reunited with you.



Free Entry
Donations
Welcome

It's like Ground Hog Day!

We are delighted to let our readers know that our GroundDog Day event is back this year.

It's been far too long and we miss all our lovely event attendees. Our gates will open to the public at 11am on Sunday the 29th May, with the dog show starting at 11.30am.

Will you be entering your dog into the Waggiest Tail or try your luck with Most Appealing Eyes? All winners will receive a jammed packed goodie bag.

This event is welcome to everyone!

Join us and enjoy local produce from a selection of fantastic stalls, delicious food, ice cream and refreshments. We have a brand new activity for this event, which you are sure to love! You will be able to try out the ever-popular Fly Ball. Your dog will love zooming down the jumps to retrieve the tennis ball and running back to you. It is always a great opportunity for an action shot photograph.

Wingletang News

Dear Daphne

When Daphne came into our care, it was very noticeable that she was struggling to breathe. This sadly isn't an uncommon issue with French Bulldogs and often is misconstrued for being a 'cute' feature of the breed.

Daphne would have fainting episodes and wasn't able to play like her friends at the centre, but not through lack of trying! It was heart-breaking to see such a young dog (just 2 years old) with her whole life ahead of her, not being able to play with her toys.

On top of that, she wasn't able to eat and was regurgitating her food due to constantly gasping for air. Because of this, she was very underweight and it was clear she needed our help straightaway.

Westmoor Veterinary Hospital performed the costly BOAS and Nares surgery, which means shortening the soft palate and widening her nostrils. After the surgery, Westmoor reported that it was the worst soft palate they have ever seen, so they had to be

conservative with how much they removed due to the lack of space in this surgical area.

Daphne recovered extremely quickly and is now a totally different dog. We cannot express how amazing it was to see her doing 'zoomies' in the field and boy did she have a lot of energy to unleash! Daphne (renamed Toffee) is now happily in her new home and enjoying life and breathing easily.

Help now & beyond

We are delighted to showcase our new cattery!

This features 21 rooms so that each cat can enjoy a quiet space to rehabilitate, including a large inside and outside area so that they can display natural behaviours. Furthermore it allows the cats more room to play, jump and roam around which will help reduce stress.

With this new facility we will be far better equipped to cope with the demand for rescuing cats, which sadly is on the increase.



We have made sure this space allows access for all potential rehoming by widening the corridors, which in turn will help rehome more cats.

This project was one of our most costly builds to date. We are appealing to any local businesses who would like to

support the project. We have bespoke support packages that are tailored for a wide range of audiences. To discuss in more detail, please contact niki.ging@mgar.org.uk



Time for change

Even though we are known to be a nation of animal lovers, many landlords still don't accept cat and dog owners. We have seen first-hand how this can cause despair for pet owners. In just 1 month, we have had 14 animals brought into our rescue centres due to their owners needing to move into non-pet accommodation.

Housing Secretary Robert Jenrick MP called on landlords to make it easier for responsible tenants to have well behaved pets in their homes, as he announced an overhaul of the model tenancy contracts. He goes on to explain "Pets bring a huge amount of joy and comfort to people's lives, helping their owner's through difficult times and improving their mental and physical wellbeing. So, it's a shame that thousands of animal-loving tenants and their children can't experience this because they rent their homes instead of owning property."

We stand with the many campaigns that highlight this issue and advocate for more support to be provided. We continue to be on hand to help owners through any difficult circumstances they find themselves in.



Church Knowle

News



Harley

Not just one success story, but three!

Spirits have been high at the centre, as we have seen some of our unlucky animals finally find their forever homes! We are sure all our readers are aware of **Bonnie and Chase**, two sweet rabbits who couldn't seem to find their perfect fit. We are delighted to share that after exactly 999 days at the centre, they have now been rehomed to their wonderful new owner. They are going to be spending their days munching on greens and snoozing.

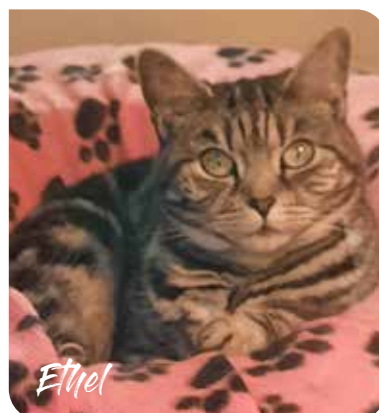
We were so pleased for **Harley** the 22-year-old horse, who had been in our care for over 200 days and unfortunately had many potential rehoming opportunities fall through. This was no fault of Harley's and he spent his days peering out of his stable, waiting for a home to call his own. He finally had some luck and found the best possible owners we could have wished for who utterly adore him. It was a

sweet moment waving him off in his new trailer. We were sure we saw a little smile as he looked back at us.

The good news doesn't stop there! **Ethel**, who like Harley, was waiting for over 200 days to find her new owner recently found her forever home. Ethel had a few quirks that to some may have put them off. She is a slightly older cat and usually wanted to be left to her own company, only enjoying a few strokes here and there. She needed an understanding owner that would be happy to go at her pace. We were all so relieved when after many attempts to find what she needed, she eventually found her home. Her new owners recently sent an update explaining "Ethel has settled in well and she is sleeping on the bed and enjoying her new space. She is currently laid out in the sun and I can already see how clever she is!"



Bonnie & Chase



Ethel

Positive PR!

Have you recently started a new business and want to help gain more awareness of your work? Or are you well known within your community and just want to give back? We have many sponsorship opportunities that you can get involved in. Why not sponsor a class at our dog show? Or help fund a project at one of our centres? Becoming a Corporate Supporter is a cost-effective way of advertising and helping the animals in our care. Get in touch today: comms@mgar.org.uk



You really beaked my interest

Owning a cockerel is a brilliant experience and they make great pets too.

We have many cockerels and hens waiting to find their forever homes. We have found increasing demand from 2020 to rescue cockerels, the majority of these pleas have been due to the popularity of hatching chicks at home. Although this can seem useful for educational purposes, particularly within classrooms, the reality is that most of the hatched chicks could be cockerels and their future is usually uncertain.

We are still finding supply is higher than demand and sadly many cockerels end up in rescue for many months. This not only puts pressure on rescue centres but also comes with costs.

With cockerels and hens, it can often be a misconception that they are viewed as a group, when in fact they all have their own personalities. They are very loving and live happily in the correct environment. When rehoming any pet, it is important to do your research and make sure you are prepared. Check you have the correct housing and are aware of any treatment they may need. It is also vital to be aware of Avian Flu restrictions that can impact the movement of birds and if restrictions are put in place in your area, housing will need to be made secure.

Once you have made preparations, we advise you to get in touch with us so that we can start your rehoming journey. It is worth the wait!



Welcome to the team

Paula, our new Customer and Volunteer Champion, joined the Church Knowle centre recently. She is very excited to be a new member of the team and we are all thrilled to welcome her.

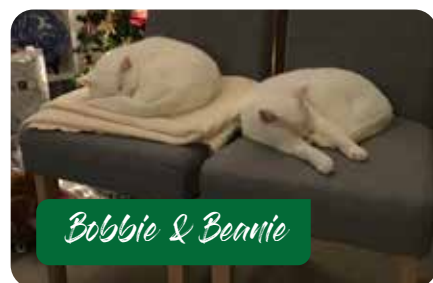
Paula spent her early career travelling the world with competition horses and then moved into management within the health sector.

She brings with her not only a great passion for animals, but extensive customer service skills. Paula is looking forward to learning more about animal welfare, working with our fantastic volunteers to make a real difference in supporting the animals in our care.

If you are calling Church Knowle, Paula will be your first point of contact and she looks forward to helping you with your queries.

Forever home stories

Finding forever homes is at the very heart of what we do and it truly makes our day when we receive your updates! It is incredible to see our rescue animals settling into their new home and starting the next chapter of their lives with their loving families.



Bobbie & Beanie

I am over the moon with Bobbie and Beanie. They are both settling in very well and checking the whole place over. Beanie is not as nervous as Bobbie, rolling all over the carpet, which I thought was a good sign. They both seem to like treats! I would like to take this opportunity to thank you so much for your kind assistance.

Rita



Cali

We are so pleased to say Cali seems to have settled in well now and enjoying her life. She loves cuddles and strokes and plays a lot. She has access to everywhere and especially favours upstairs, where she can view below from a small mezzanine. We are really happy she has settled with us.

Ian and Christine



Alfie

Alfie is getting on better than we ever could have hoped, he is so happy. I'm afraid that our house rules of not getting on the sofa or bed have quickly broken... we need

a bigger sofa! He sleeps brilliantly in the study, with Classic FM playing. We are all totally in love with him.

Harriet

Henry

I am settling in very well and I have claimed several beds. I've been having lots of attention and playing sessions!

Henry xx



Benji

I am having a lovely time in my new home with my buddy, Jake. We have even been on a little holiday which was great fun. I am definitely enjoying my comfy bed, in fact, I have 2. Yes, 2 beds, how about that! I love my walks with Jake, we are going to the beach at the weekend, so I may even dip my paws in the sea. Thank you for looking after me so well.

All my love, Benji



Beau

It is nearly six years ago that we visited the Centre in response to an ad for Beau, a ten-year-old English Collie who was described as very needy. We had a little difficulty in deciding that she was the dog for us and we took her home after two more visits. She settled in immediately and has been an absolute joy from the moment she got here. At ten years old we thought she would be slowing down a bit, which suited us being on the

older side of life. However, until the last few months, she has been a bundle of energy and has contributed to our wellbeing. She is still ready for walks three times a day and once she gets on the cliffs at Bude, she is ready to take on the ocean. Her staying power is amazing considering her age! We are so grateful to the Centre and all the wonderful, caring staff.

Malcolm and Jeanette



Tiny

She has settled in really well, each day she's getting braver and more comfortable. She has claimed an armchair and half of the sofa as her own and she loves our evening cuddles and playtime. She's discovered freshly cooked chicken breast and salmon!

Katie

Do you remember our cover star from our previous newsletter?

Here he is in his new home! Pixel (was Tiny Tim) has settled in very well, his name has been changed to Pixel after a lot of debate! He's very sociable, everyone that visits is amazed at how friendly he is. He also loves all of his toys and always wants to play. We're so happy we got to rehome him! Thank you for all the wonderful care you provided for him.

Megan



Pixel

Cooper

Cooper has made himself at home and is currently flat out under my desk. We've been out for a couple of drives in the van, which he seems to be happy with. He loves to sit in the garden and listen to all the new noises and is such a lovable little character. We can't thank you enough for matching us up!

Natalie & Rich



Don't forget!

You can join our 'MGAR Forever Home Stories' Facebook group!

It's a great opportunity to post updates about how your animals are getting on and to share the adventures you are having.

Gift in Will

Have you left anyone out of your Will?

We have been caring for rescue animals for over 55 years. We are dedicated to providing the best welfare for any pet that needs our help.

To request more information on leaving a gift in your Will, contact: legacyoflove@mgar.org.uk

If the situation arises where you can no longer look after your pets, we can also provide for their future care at one of our centres, where they will be cared for by our dedicated staff until we can find them a new forever home.

If you would like to sign up to our FREE Future Care scheme, please include this request in your email.

By leaving a gift in your Will, it means that you will be supporting animals that have no voice to ask for the help they need.



Pawsome Events

We can't wait to welcome you back to our centres for our events again this year.

Save the Dates

GroundDog Day at Lincoln Farm
Sunday 29th May

Novelty Dog Show at Wingletang
Sunday 12th June

Country Dog Show at Church Knowle
Sunday 7th August

Walk for Rescue at Wingletang
Sunday 4th September



We will also be attending:

Family Fest Dorset, Wimborne
Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June

Lydford Summer Fair, Tavistock
Saturday 9th July

Okehampton Show
Thursday 11th August

Chagford Show
Thursday 18th August

The Melplash Show
Thursday 25th August

Dog, Sausage and Cider Festival
Sunday 28th August

Please see website for full details.

Wonderful Support

We would like to say a massive thank you to Norden Farm for funding our brand new volunteer t-shirts!

With their support, we will be able to purchase high quality, sustainable t-shirts for our incredible team of volunteers. These will make a huge difference to our fantastic crew, as they will be able to wear them when going around the local community and helping us at our events. Not only will this raise even greater awareness of our charity, but the t-shirts will be much easier for our supporters and event attendees to

recognise our volunteers and show what a vital part of the team they are.

We are always looking for volunteers to join our Fundraising and Marketing team and help at our events, as we really wouldn't be able to do our work without them. We would love to have you on-board!



Help out!

If you are interested in helping at our events this year, please email: comms@mgar.org.uk and our team will be in touch with further details.



Crazy for K9's

We recently welcomed Alison to our team of volunteers who runs Kismet K9 Grooming, which is a new dog grooming studio in Christchurch, Dorset. Not only has Alison been lending a helping hand at our Lincoln Farm centre, but she has also been planning her very own fundraiser to support us and has a food donation bin in her grooming studio.

We are incredibly grateful for Alison's support and if you see her helping at one of our events, make sure to say hello!

If you would like to donate any items to our rescue animals, such as food, toys, treats, then make sure you pop into Alison's studio at:

1 Regent Way, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 1FL



Retail

Sunday Shopping

Following our recent success, we are pleased to share that Weymouth has joined our Swanage shop in opening on Sundays!

The team in Weymouth have really enjoyed opening on a Sunday and welcoming customers into the shop 7 days a week. This extra day of the week gives our Weymouth and Swanage shops an extra opportunity to raise even greater funds for our animals and provides our customers with even more time to explore our fantastic range of stock.

Welcome to the Team, Tom!

We would like to introduce you to Tom Chant, who is the new Retail Support Manager.

Tom has previously been the manager of the Wimborne shop and now supports the whole retail team, by carrying out administrative duties for our Charity Shops. One of his responsibilities includes overseeing our fantastic team of volunteers who drive the Retail van. His role also involves covering holidays for staff and sickness, which will make a big difference to the entire department.

Tom is a really positive member of the team and we are very glad to have him on-board in his new role. He comes from a really strong charity retail background, having worked for several charities previously.

If you should bump into Tom in one of our shops, please do stop and say hello!



Lend a helping hand?

Our volunteers make such a huge impact to our Retail team and we really wouldn't be able to do our work without them. Whether you can help us with preparing stock, arranging window displays, serving customers or helping on the shop floor, we would be grateful for any support you can offer. Even just a few hours a week can make all the difference and help us to serve the local community with our wonderful pre-loved items.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering, please contact the relevant shop directly to chat to the team, they would love to hear from you!

Kinson

1551 Wimborne Road
Kinson, BH10 7AZ
t: 01202 582115

Weymouth

5 St Thomas Street
Weymouth, DT4 8EW
t: 01305 839201

Wimborne

27 Mill Lane
Wimborne, BH21 1JQ
t: 01202 880462

Winton

531 Wimborne Road
Winton, BH9 2AP
t: 01202 514976

Swanage

20 Institute Road,
Swanage, BH19 1BX
t: 01929 421634

Ferndown

105 Victoria Road,
Ferndown, BH22 9HU
t: 01202 875207

Projects

A BIG hello to Joe

We have been thrilled to welcome our new Estates Volunteer, Joe, to the team recently.

Joe joined our Estates team through Allsort'd, who provide bespoke learning support for young adults with learning disabilities and have worked closely with us for many years. He has a great passion for cars and engines and he loves getting stuck in and helping at the centre.

Joe has made a big impact to the team since he started and we are incredibly grateful for all of his support.



Come on Board

Would you like to join the team and help with repairs and maintenance across our centres and shops?

If so, why don't you come on board and apply to become an Estates Maintenance Worker!

We are currently looking for dedicated individuals who have good skills in general maintenance, such as plumbing, carpentry and basic electrics, as well as experience in grounds and buildings maintenance.

This is a great opportunity to join a busy team and to help us look after the rescue animals in our care.

If you would like to find out more, please contact: david.dubois@mgar.org.uk for further details.



Walking in 'Stile'...

One of the many projects completed recently includes building new stiles along the public footpath at our Church Knowle centre.

We are lucky to have a public footpath that runs alongside the site, which gives people the lovely opportunity to explore the area and take in the stunning landscapes. Our Estates team noticed that the paths were in need of some new stiles, to ensure they were safe for the public to step over during their walks.

They even have a doggy flap for your four-legged friends to go under with greater ease. We are very pleased with this development and we are delighted to have received some great feedback from the public too.



Finding Your *Perfect* Match

Have you ever thought, how do I rehome a pet from Margaret Green Animal Rescue?

Look no further and read below.

Let's introduce you to Saskia, Lucy and Fin who are currently looking for their forever home.



Saskia

Hi there, I am Saskia and I'm a pretty Husky who is 8 years old. I am an active girl who is looking for an adult-only, experienced home in my breed. Because of my love of people, I am looking for a home where someone will be around most of the time. Even though I get on well out and about with my four-legged friends, I would prefer to be the only pet in the household.



Lucy and Fin

Hello, my name is Lucy and I am 5 years old. I am looking for a forever home with my best friend, Fin. I am a loving girl who dotes on Fin and my human carers. We are both very friendly and sweet and as you can see, we are very bonded and love nothing more than a cuddle. We would like to find our new home soon, as we are the loveliest pair of rabbits and we would bring a lot of happiness to our new family.

Rehoming process

Once you have spotted an animal on our website that you can provide a home for, contact the relevant centre to book an appointment.

- You will then be invited to visit the centre and will be able to spend time with your potential new pet. We will be able to help with any questions you may have.
- You may visit a few times to get to know the animal, but it is really worth the wait.
- If it is a dog you are looking to rehome, you will be able to walk them around our on-site exercise field and play with them in our rehabilitation room. If it is a cat, you will be able to sit with them in one of our cat pens so that you can get to know each other.
- You will then fill out a reservation form. Within the form you will be asked for more information regarding your home situation, including lifestyle, to ensure that you are well-matched to each other. We do require a letter from your landlord should you live in rented accommodation.

- We may ask to meet the whole family and any other pets. This could include a home visit to check the garden as in most cases pets need access to a garden.
- After your visit, we normally advise you to take some time to reflect on the decision and prepare for the adoption. In some circumstances you may be able to rehome on the same day.
- Once required steps are taken, you are officially ready to rehome! We will then go through the rehoming paperwork with you which includes: 4 weeks free insurance (for the majority of rescue animals), top tips on how to care for your new pet and official rehoming documents.

*each rehoming journey can differ due to every pet having individual needs. We always act in the best interest of the animal.

