



Second Chance Animal Rescue

2021 Winter Newsletter

Charity Reg. no. 1002511

Patrons:

Fred Dinenage MBE

Lady Leigh

4 Mansbridge

Cottages

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Portsmouth cats

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As 2021 draws to its end, we think back over the last 2 years, the pandemic that changed so much.

We saw weeks without any dogs in kennels. A good thing people would say, but now we know it wasn't all good.

Although the demand was so high, with people working from home and deciding to add to their family with a furry companion, we knew that this would change.

We started to receive phone calls from owners that could no longer cope. Unsocialised dogs, both with humans and canines. Dogs that had never been left, now wrecking the home. Adolescent dogs out of control.

As a rescue we can not help them all, but have tried to help where we can. Now, we have full kennels, but with dogs that have issues, plus needing neutering, vaccinating and so many with unregistered microchips.

We think 2022 is going to be an expensive one and we thank you all for your continuing support.



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Second Chance Animal
Rescue Southampton

Email contact Southampton: contact@secondchanceanimalrescue.co.uk

Check out our new and updated website!

Website: www.secondchanceanimalrescue.co.uk

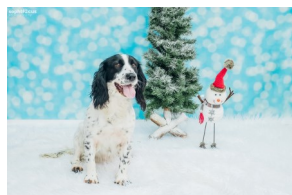


Email contact for Portsmouth Cats:

janeendavis1@gmail.com



Second Chance -
Portsmouth Cats

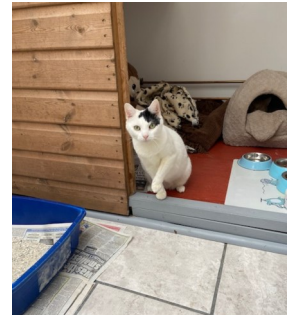


Photos taken by our lovely volunteer photographer, Sophie from 2019

We have had another busy few months...

Our outside cattery - The Cat 'Hotel' is now complete and open for business!

We have to say a huge thank you to **Dave Brown** who has helped 'our Dave' to complete the cattery, tiling the floors, painting, and fitting the kitchen units. Our cats are all leaving positive reviews before they go off to their new homes.



Sadly this month we had to say goodbye to the apple tree in the garden. According to the insurance company the tree was responsible for the huge cracks appearing on the walls in the house. Whether they are correct, we have yet to discover but it was so upsetting to see a tree that had stood for **over 100 years**, produced apples every year (many will remember at our Open day the 'BEWARE FALLING APPLES' signs) and was home to a nest of Great tits and numerous insects.



Sir Richard Leigh

It is with great sadness that we have to report the passing of Sir Richard Leigh, our patron. He, along with his wife were great supporters of our rescue for over 20 years. His wife, lady Cherie continues to be a patron and is now looking to open an animal sanctuary/rescue of her own in the Kent area. We wish her great success in her endeavours.

First fundraising event!

We had a wonderful day at the **Bitterne Trifest**.

A little windy on the day but the sun shone and there were plenty of people and their lovely dogs visiting our stall. A huge thank you to Mary and Anne who judged the dog show. They had many difficult decisions to make as there were so many fantastic dogs. Here are just a few of our winners:



The people at Second Chance

We would like to say a warm welcome to our new cattery assistant **Kayleigh**. She was volunteering for us pre-lockdown but has now joined us every weekday, just in time for an explosion of cats! Re-joining us after lockdown, we have **Pauline**, who we would be lost without, maintaining such high standards of cleanliness in the cattery and training our new recruits. Along with **John, Kate, Cathy, Mariska** and **Emma**, we now have a growing team. We also welcome some new volunteers working with the cats: **Kate, Erin** and **Giselle**. Also, joining in the office, is **Yvonne**.

Sadly, we lost **Gemma** who was such a great help throughout the pandemic whilst her DJ career was on hold. She also raised £1,355.00 in one evening at one of her DJ Twitch live streams. Thank you Gemma, from all of us and we wish you well with your career.

Pat is still with us, working so hard looking after a varying number of dogs, from just a couple during lockdown to full kennels at the beginning of November. September of this year, marked 20 years of Pat working at Second Chance. **Thank you Pat, for all your hard work and dedication!**

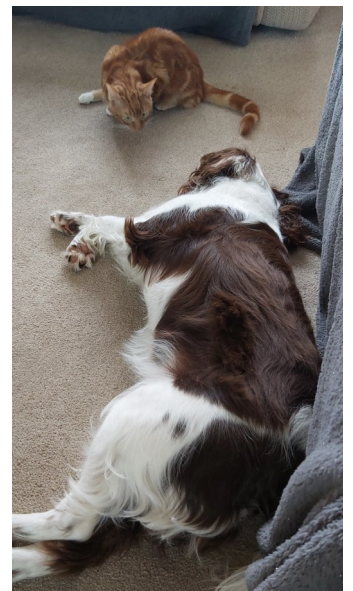
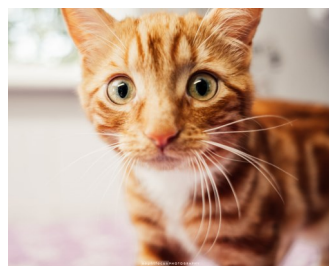
Annette and **Richard, John, John, Terry, Anne** and **Lynne** ensure our dogs have been receiving regular walks. Thank you to all.

We also need to say Thankyou to **Sheila** who has visited so many homes doing our home visits, wearing her mask and staying as Covid safe as possible.

Timmy's Update

You may remember Unlucky Timmy from our Summer Newsletter. Well, he is now doing brilliantly in his new home. Here is an update from his new family:

"Timmy has been getting on well with our dog and if needed Timmy shows her who is boss. In terms of Timmy's health, he is fine on his back leg though he does not bend it at the knee and even though he has seen a vet on 2 occasions they have no concerns. Climbing rather jumping is Timmy's way of getting up onto the couch or our bed at night so we know he will not wander far when he goes outside. He has also associated with our other rescue cat who we have had for 15 years so he is in good animal company. He is now getting better and very much part of the family."



Bramble's Rescue Mission

Whilst working in the enclosed garden of our main cattery, 2 of our cattery assistants looked up to see a small black cat lying on the roof. The poor cat was crying, starving and looked extremely unwell.

Rose and Wendi came to have a look and knew they needed to get the cat down from the roof as soon as possible. However, the only way to the cat was going around the back of the cattery through the jungle of brambles and stinging nettles! This wasn't going to be an easy mission.

With a trolley, broom, ladder and cat basket, Rose and Wendi proceeded to make their way through the jungle. Using the trolley to trample down all the nettles, they finally made their way through.

Wendi then climbed on the roof and put the cat into the cat basket. He was so unwell, he just wanted to be helped.

Wendi took the cat back to her house and to see a vet. He was very dehydrated, so Wendi spent the night keeping an eye on him and giving him fluids every hour.

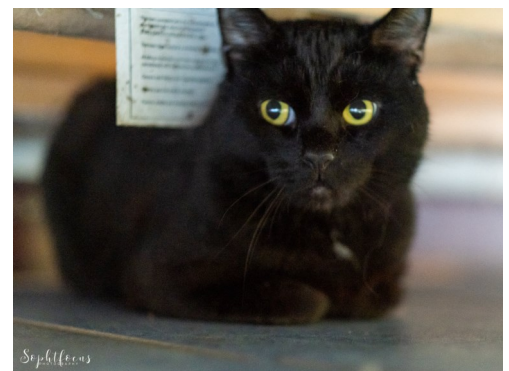
We all decided on the perfect and most fitting name for this lovely boy - **Bramble**.

After a few days with Wendi, he was able to come back to us at the rescue where he began to grow in confidence. Bramble is truly one of the most affectionate and loving cats. He loves a tummy tickle!

He is now vaccinated, micro-chipped and neutered and therefore looking for his forever home.

Can you offer this special boy a loving home?

Thank you to Wendi's son Myles for this brilliant cartoon of the mission!



If we have made a spelling mistake or your address is incorrect on the envelope for your newsletter - we apologise. Please send us an email to contact@secondchanceanimalrescue.co.uk and we will change your details. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Thank you very much to the customers and staff at **Sainsbury's Badgers Farm** for all their donations You're all amazing!



Amazon have now been donating some of their split bags to us. This has been a great help to us.

If anyone is feeding their garden birds we do have some 1kg bags of seed available at 50p a bag. Please email us or call and we can arrange a time for you to pop down and purchase some, while stocks last.

Pandemic Shortages.

3.2 million pets were purchased in the UK during the pandemic!

Enquiries increased by 253% during lockdown across all rescues and breeders. There were some shortages in the supplies of pet food as a result. However the biggest problem from this surge has got to be the shortage of vets and vet nurses, resulting in many practices having to close their doors to new clients.

With restrictive new work practises and vets burning out from the stress, it has been increasingly difficult to get appointments for all but emergencies. There is now a national shortage of cat vaccines. We were using 5 different vets, yet still having problems.

Saddest of all were the owners unable to be with their beloved pets at the end of their lives. Thank fully this is beginning to change as vets allow owners back into the clinics. But the shortage of vets may well be a long-term problem.

Thank you to **Wickham Court** for choosing Second Chance as one of their nominated charities this year.

From their fundraising events so far they have raised £833.50! Thank you!



A big thank you to the staff and customers at **Pets Corner** in **Romsey**, **Bitterne**, **Chandlers' Ford** and **Winchester** for all their donations and continuing support. You are all brilliant!



When we can't help

We received a call from a lady who was distraught. She had found a cat collapsed on her door step. Hardly moving, the cat had maggots around its tail. She brought the cat to us, not knowing what else to do. We immediately took the cat to see Kevin, our vet. But sadly the cat was in such a poor state that there was only one kind solution and that was that the cat was to be put to sleep. With no microchip we were only able to share online and no owner came forward.

Christmas Fundraising

Thank you very much to **Keydell Nurseries** for all their donations over the last few years.

Keydell have generously donated a large amount of brand new Christmas items/decorations which we are able to sell at our Christmas Fundraising events.

We have already done two sales at Winchester Covert and raised over £800 so far. We have 2 more dates booked - Thursday 25th November and Thursday 16th December. If you are shopping in Winchester please come by and take a look at the lovely items we have for sale.

Pets at home

We would like to say a big thank you to the staff and customers at **Pets at Home in Hedge End** for their continuing support.

The Groom room were offering a free groom to any dogs in rescue to help them find their forever homes. Thank you very much to **Sarah**, who came to the rescue and groomed 2 of our dogs.

Here is a photo of Max after his groom looking very smart. He is now settling into his new home.



Thank you to **IKEA** for their donation of new sofa covers.

Our cats absolutely love the large ones on the sofas in our main cattery and the smaller ones fit perfectly over a pillow in the pods in our isolation!



Missing Dogs

We were very impressed with **Dogs Lost** who in September helped us with a lost dog that should have been staying at the rescue, but never made it into the gate, instead straying for 3 nights. Luckily she remained in the area as her sister was safely in the kennel.

Without Dawn, Jan, Nicki and Christine, who set up cameras and a trap, we would not have managed to catch her. Thank you ladies.

Elderly pets

We are seeing an increase in the number of elderly pets coming into rescue. A variety of reasons are given: "he doesn't get on with the new puppy", "my new partner is allergic", "my parent has passed away and no-one in the family can have her", "we have a new baby on the way".

Some are more understandable than others, but all are no fault of the pet.

We recently had a dog in who we were told was 10, but when we checked the chip, was in fact 15! The expected dental was needed, and thankfully we were able to find a new home with an older gentleman, who had recently lost his wife and needed a companion.

Harry's House

We finished our new little shed in our main cattery garden and decided to dedicate it to one of our gorgeous feral cats who passed away last year.

Harry was a lovely boy who was deaf and suffered from asthma. He could be found mooching around in the cattery garden. Although not at the rescue for long, he was a favourite with many.



Thank you to all the brilliant staff and customers at **Jollyes** in Totton. Thank you for all your support and donations!



Would you like to receive our Newsletter by email instead of post?

Please email us: contact@secondchanceanimalrescue.co.uk and let us know.



What an absolutely strange 12 months.

Months of no cats to be rehomed and everyone phoning for cats, then all of a sudden there are dozens wanting homes!

Many of these cats were being fed throughout the lockdown and with people moving around more, these kind people are looking for forever homes for the strays. But were they all strays? We have been able to reunite a number of cats through their microchip details to the delight of their owners. I know we keep banging on about chipping but we believe it an essential part of showing you care for your pet. *It is not the vet who is responsible for registering the chip, it's you the owner.* It saves heartache if your pet goes missing, they can be picked up, scanned and reunited.

The amazing **Marion Burdett** has our gratitude for spending so much time socialising the most difficult of cats. All of which have gone on to loving homes.

Thank you **Amber Edwards** of Stubbington who raised £180 for us by going on a sponsored slim. A great achievement by a young person.

Clyde

Do you remember reading the story of Bonnie and Clyde? Clyde was the cat with Cerebellar Hypoplasia known as a 'wobbly cat', that we were asked to rehome. We found an amazing lady in Shoreham who wanted to give them a home together, fully understanding the commitment required. Faith spent ages helping him with his mobility and when she thought she had done all she could she contacted a vet specialising in alternative treatments. Clyde had a number of sessions of acupuncture and the last video she sent showed him running after a pigeon trying to catch it. We were so impressed we have been taking Miracle, our wobbly cat for treatment. We doubt he will ever be able to walk like Clyde but something is happening. He is so much stronger and although his legs still go in different directions when he walks in his harness he can now put his feet down on the ground and play football in his harness.

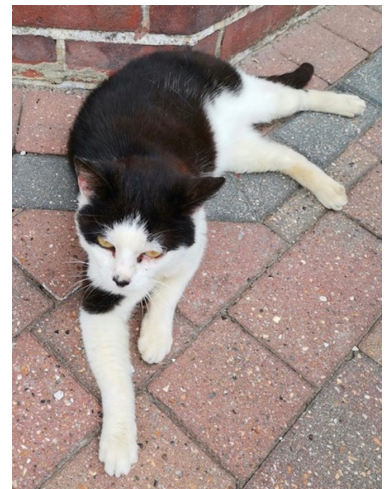




Goose

Goose the entire male from Portchester was picked up by us with his collar caught round his neck and under his arm, we mentioned his predicament in the last newsletter in the summer. It was a stark warning to make sure that if your cat has to wear a collar to make sure it's neither too loose or too tight and it's a safety collar so the cat can escape if he is caught by it. The area under the arm is such a difficult area to heal and each time it was stitched back together it would break open after the slightest of movement.

Finally, a decision had to be made and in November the leg was amputated. It was a hard decision to make but at least he will be able to go out when it is properly healed. Barbara, his foster mum who has been looking after him throughout, has decided that after such a time with so many highs and lows it would be unfair to rehome him. I think we realised that before her and certainly the vets did. Maybe it was something to do with the fact that every time he was kept at the vets, she visited him?



Without the fostering facilities given to us by **Helen** and **John**, we would be unable to rehome the number of cats we find forever homes for.

Our personal thanks to them for looking after Miracle and his sister Star when we have a short break.

A big thank you to **Stephanie** and **Jan** who get up at silly o'clock to sell at boot sales for us and have raised over £4500 this year paying the money straight into the vets to come off our bill.

Online Raffles

We are able to organise online raffles almost monthly with the help of our neighbour **Nikki**, who is fully aware of our limitations on social media.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for our next raffle!



Thank you to **Cosham Dog Grooming** and **Best Pals Pet Shop** for fundraising and raffles, for allowing us to use them for donations and for making our Stevie Girl look wonderful.



Second Chance - Portsmouth Cats



You may remember that at the start of Lockdown we lost Alfie our Bichon-Frise who had an amazing personality and frequently made us laugh. He left a big hole in our lives but we had Charlie Farley and Stevie Girl to help us with the loss.

Alas, Charlie Farley died at the end of lockdown. We brought him home from Second Chance when he was 6 months old, having been born at the rescue. Rose said no one wanted him as he was 'ugly', we thought him the most handsome mongrel we had ever seen. Yes he was 15 when we lost him, so a good age and not wholly unexpected.

On 4 separate occasions in the past 10 years we had not expected him to survive due to illness or on one occasion a foreign body causing a blockage, but Greg and his amazing team pulled him through each time. He was poorly in July and yet again they pulled him through, this time it was Saffiya-al-Hafidh at The Grove who worked the miracle.

We recorded him playing ball on the green and the following day swimming near Portchester Castle, 2 days later he was put to sleep. He had so much personality and enjoyed life to the full and we were honoured to have had the pleasure of him for so many years.



A massive thank you goes out to our **foster homes**, to the people who we use as **drop off points**, the **Vets** who do collections for us, **Tesco at the Pompey Centre** for the trolley loads of donations and **Pets at Home Newgate Lane** for their amazing support.

We never forget our special team of Helen, Ian, Ruth, Linda, Nikki, Sarah and TA whom we can never thank enough.

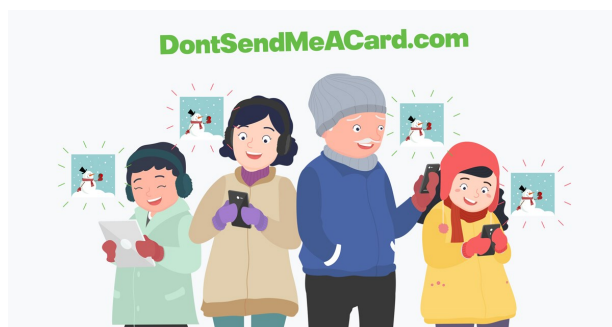
Last but never least to you. **You the supporters**, many of whom have adopted from us over the years, who have answered our appeals and come out in all weathers to meet us.

Thank you!



Ways you can raise money for the rescue...

Switch to ecards, help our charity, and save the planet. We've teamed up with DontSendMeACard where you can support our charity by giving what it would have cost to send cards. You can then send loved ones ecards instead! Check out ours here: <https://www.dontsendmeacard.com/charities/CWGs>



Thank you to all our supporters who raise money for us via Easy Fundraising!

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for Second Chance Society Southampton?

There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/secondchancesocietysouthampton/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and we will be really grateful for your donations

You can donate via our website or Facebook page. Or Online banking, please see details at the bottom of the next page. Please let us know by returning the form overleaf to us. Or by cheque, made payable to SECOND CHANCE SOCIETY.



We would like to say a big Thank You to all our supporters!

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for 2022!

Donations

Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms etc) Initials Surname

Address.....
..... Postcode Tel No

Date / / Email Address

Donations can be paid by Cheque, payable to SECOND CHANCE SOCIETY or Bank Transfer, please see the bank details at the bottom of this page and Ref Winter newsletter.

For MEMBERSHIP, to join or renew, please CIRCLE the type of membership needed

FAMILY@ £10 ADULT @£6 JOINT@ £8 CHILD @ £3 OAP@ £3 TOTAL £.....

DONATION TOWARDS THE WORK OF THE RESCUE (Without you, we couldn't do what we do) £.....

Or STANDING ORDER DONATION: I have completed the standing order instruction (below), returned it to my bank and am donating

£weekly/monthly/yearly * (*Please delete as appropriate)

Gift Aid– Give more at no extra cost to you.

The Gift Aid scheme means that we can claim tax on any donations you make to us. This would increase each donation by 22% providing you have paid sufficient UK tax to cover this amount. To enable Second Chance to re-claim the tax on any donations you make, please tick the box ☐ and write today's date.

SIGNATURE DATE//

Standing Order Instruction (Please return to your Bank)

Customer **Bank/ Building Society**

Branch

Details: **Account Holder Name(s)**

Sort Code

Account Number

Ref. No. (your surname & initials)

Amount of payment £.....**When paid** (weekly / monthly / yearly)

Date/Day of payment/...../..... **Date of first payment**

Please continue payments until further notice (tick) **Or until** (date)//

Signature(s) **Date**//

Organisation **Bank:** Lloyds TSB PLC. **Branch:** Shirley High Street, Southampton.

To Pay: Account Name: Second Chance Society. Account no. 00484648. Sort Code: 30-97-58.