

NEWSLETTER

10 Market Square Hayle Cornwall TR27 4HE
Telephone 01736 757900 Fax 01736 757010
Email admin@cinnamon.org.uk www.cinnamon.org.uk

Registered Charity No 1134680



Christmas 2013
Number 55

Dear Friends

Well, what a beautiful summer we've had, and as I write this it's not quite over yet! Lazy, hazy days for everyone to enjoy, the sun worshippers, those who prefer the cool of shady trees, the water-babies who could dip in and out of paddling pool, river or ocean with no fear of catching cold Just about perfect for fundraising activities and early morning or evening doggy walks. I do hope you've enjoyed it as much as we have!

Hazy but not so lazy at headquarters, I hasten to add - it's been very, very busy with 12,904 much loved pets needing walks or fosters or lifelong care.

I took this picture of Emma, Davina, Katie, dogs and chickens just having fun when I was at Poldarves Sanctuary doing the photography for the Christmas Card. It had to be our cover picture!





Catalogue

We have a great selection for you this year with some truly delicious eats, very special dog biscuits with nothing artificial, lovely soaps and scented candles. The post office, in its wisdom, has changed the way we are charged for postage, so instead of incorporating the cost into the products we've had to add postage - but we've reduced the cost of products as low as we can to compensate And this year you can phone your order in using a credit card, which I hope is useful!

Linda Rush, battling her cancer so bravely, sadly lost her beloved husband, Trevor to the same disease at the end of last year but amazing lady that she is, she has once again painted a stunning picture for our Christmas card - Cinnamon Christmas Games:



Whisper (10)



Bella (12)



Bernie (13)

Chess



Lola (7)



Mattie (7)

Hide and Seek



Elizabeth (12)

Hoop-la



Matilda and Henrietta (3 we think!)

Spectators



Scruffy (11)



Muppet (16)

Catch



Breezer (11)



Jenny (11)

Football



Lily (12)



Tara (14)

Skipping



Buster (17)



Teddy (12)



Honey (14)

CT '100' Club

Winners who have each received £25 are April: **Peter Hammond** (Essex), May: **Shirley May** (Somerset), June: **Valerie Wright** (Lincolnshire), July: **Lyn Maddison** (Cornwall), Aug: **May King** (Cornwall) and Sept: **Pat Wade** (Yorkshire).

Forms for the new start are enclosed. If you pay by standing order and wish to continue, just send the form back marked "existing standing order".



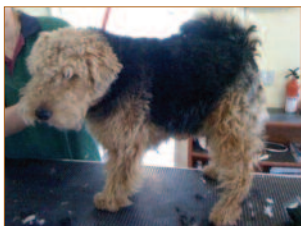
Fundraising Events



Emma Waller, Sue Mosedale and Trevor Cooper



Caroline Jany



Brilliant grooming by Helen... before and after

Joan Lipross (Kent) and the **Elmstead Friends and Neighbours Club** sadly decided to close, they sent us £255.67. **Mike Hasshill's** (Cornwall) muck continues to be popular, he raised £50. **Joyce Welch** (Glos) celebrated her 90th birthday with a party and raised £250 - may there be many more! **Amanda Hurst** (Surrey) and colleagues at **Optomen Television** raised £570. **Pauline Agar** (East Yorkshire) raised £60 in lieu of Christmas presents. **Maralyn Bickham** (Somerset) and everyone at her church held a Christmas Tree Festival, they had 26 Christmas trees and Maralyn dressed her tree as Cinnamon and raised £25. **Pam Constance** (Glos) and daughter, **Abbie** (age 12) raised £20 from roll a lop game on a very wet and windy day. **Christine Lawn** and **The Lupset Park Group** (Yorkshire) have been brilliant yet again and raised £725. **Emma Waller** from **Axe Valley Vets** and friend **Sue Mosedale** (Pawsability dog Agility) held a seminar presented by **Trevor Cooper** and a raffle and raised £93.50. **Caroline Jany** (Sussex) ran the Brighton Half Marathon and raised a wonderful £359 - well done! **Lesley Crook**

(Buckinghamshire) and everyone at **Jephson East** held a charity event and raised £55.35. **Maureen** and **Derek Edwards** (Norfolk) raised £351.41 on their two stalls. **Helen Curtis** (Lancashire) entered and won

Animology International groomer of the month competition. Helen nominated us to benefit, **Martin Breen** from Group 55 sent £150 in recognition. **Irene Jones** (Cornwall) sold surplus patchwork fabric and sent £20. **Anita White** (Warwickshire) and colleagues at **Avonvale Vets** made and sold scrumptious jam and raised £349 and **Stella Smith** (Carmarthen) raised £62.10 on her stall. **Lesley Darcy** (Kent) and staff at the café at Bedgebury, Pinetum sold homemade dog biscuits and second hand books to raise £200. **Christine Hoswell** (West Yorkshire) raised £25 at her birthday party. **Sam Mason** (East Sussex) and everyone at Heathfield vets raised £30. **Pam Lambert** (Cornwall) sold house plants at St Columb Pet Supplies and raised £75. **Margaret Cooper** (Devon) raised £50 from sale of goods. **Ann Rayner** (Devon) and her assistants at **PAWS** raised a wonderful £200 from their puppy training classes. **Clive and Hazel Elrick** (East Sussex) together with **Brenda, Eve, Faye, Jim, Liz** and **Marianne** of The Bagatelle Club Bexhill raised £80 throughout the year for us. **Marian Foers** (Leicestershire) held a great Charity lunch with **Pollyanna Picking** and her daughter, **Anna Louise** and 80 guests. **Pollyanna** held guests in admiration with her talk and work and a staggering £600 was raised. **Rod Woodward** (Hertfordshire) raised a superb £364.47 from a collection with help from **Lindsay, Katherine, Carol, Beryl, Siobhan, Ann, Val, Sue, David, Ian** and **Timothy**, snowdrops supplied by **Deborah Woodward** and **Elizabeth Wells** and last but not least, the contents of **Pete** and **Ray Fisher's** change jar. **Ellen Botterill** (Cumbria) completed the Bath Half Marathon and raised £330 - brilliant, well done! And **Lucy Williams** (Gloucestershire) also ran the Bath Half Marathon and raised £771 for us - amazing, very well done! **Louise Matlock** (London) made and sold more of her fantastic Christmas crackers to raise £320. **Pamela Chadaway** (Worcestershire) attended an event at St Peters Church and raised £55. **Beryl Leake** (Dorset) raised £25 from the sale of honey from her bees - delicious! **Beryl** and **Harry Stevens** (Beds) celebrated their diamond wedding and raised £50. **Carl Drinkwater** (West Midlands) with friends, family and work colleagues raised £210.56 from their wonderful recycling efforts. Staff and clients at **Knotts Yard Veterinary Practice** (Norfolk) raised £41.47. **Rosemary Dunbar** (Kent) raised £200 from the sale of books etc. at Planters Coffee Shop, Tenterden Garden Centre. **Janet Smith** (Essex) raised £385 by looking after Sam and Snoop - good one Jan! **Janet Morgan** (Worcestershire) raised a stunning £3,402.08 at



Ellen Botterill



Lucy Williams



Janet Morgan, Sunny and friend



Janet's scurry winners

Malling Abbey Chapter (Province of East Kent, Royal Arch Freemasons) held a Sunday lunch with raffle and raised a wonderful £100. **Bernie Lewis** (Cornwall) raised £45 from her tombola stall at Boscastle Harbour. **Jan Rhodes** (Staffs) and her friend **Sandra** who runs agility



Michelle Orme

held various events from talks, sponsored walks to stalls and a Fun Dog Show at "Animals R Magic" with help from **Emma Brotchie, Chris Hyde, Wendy Ralphs, Jean Wesley, Sheila Clifford, Jane Simons, Anita Moore, Pam Jameson, Jane Barstow, Heather Earp, Rachel Wilkes, Lynne Warren, Jenny Bull, Hannah Lee (age 12), Sue Bradford, Cynthia Husbands, Laura Gould, Charles Welsey, Michael Barstow and Kevin. Adrian Bishop**, The First Principal of

competitions. **Muriel Sibree** (Norfolk) raised £113.50 from her beautiful jewellery which she designs and sells. **Bernice Miller** (Norfolk) raised £121 on her stalls. **Angela Hallett** (Dorset) raised £45 from her coffee morning. **Neill Reardon** (Cornwall) sold produce to raise £187.34. **Michelle Orme** (Leicestershire) from **The Vegan Cakery** raised £140 for us from her fantastic baking. **Mrs P Woodman** and residents of **Silkin Court Sheltered Housing** (Herts) raised £150 throughout the year. **Ann Canfer** (Sussex) raised £30 at The Mount Noddy Dog Show. **Linda Beddows** (Lancashire) last year's President of Soroptimist International of Fylde, sent £300 raised throughout the year. **Beryl Hayes's** (Lancashire) friend **Averil King** celebrated her 70th birthday and

raised £20 in lieu of presents. **Evelyn Pratt** (Norwich) had a table at her neighbour's garage sale and raised £50. Volunteer, **Sian Wade** (Warwickshire) celebrated her birthday and raised a staggering £450 in lieu of presents. **Anne Coles** (Herefordshire) made and sold greeting cards at her local veterinary surgery and raised £20. **Dawn Bushnell** (Kent) and all the residents at **Preston House** held a coffee morning, volunteer **Mary Smith** went along and they raised £72. **Maggie Thwaites** (Warwickshire) is part of a group of singers called "Sweet Memories", they perform at various events and raised £50 - lovely one! **Mary Halliwell** (Gloucestershire) raised £120 celebrating her 80th birthday - I hope you have many more, Mary! **Aberdeen Asset Management** hold an Annual Dinner and Dance and a game on the night. The lucky winner nominates a charity; **Tony Russell** won so we received £200 - excellent. **Christine Tolworthy** (Yorkshire) sent £60 raised at Wilsill Luncheon Club. **Christine Sumsion** (Somerset) and a friend abstained from exchanging Christmas presents and raised £25. **Margaret Pengelly** (Cornwall) held another coffee evening

and a raffle, **Cleo** one of her beloved cats, had a winning ticket and raised £55. **Tessa Innes** (Suffolk) raised £75 from her Open Morning. **Juliette Podger** (Wiltshire) raised £30 over six months at her shop. **Rachel Duncan** (Staffordshire) and everyone at **387 Veterinary Centre** celebrated "National Pet Month" by asking clients to vote for a charity, they donated 50p for each vote and sent us £174.51 - superb. **Angela Harris** (East Sussex) and friend, **Jackie Gordon** raised £61 at the May Bishopstone Fair. **Alison Bryant** (Hampshire) held a coffee morning at her newly opened pet shop. She had delicious homemade cakes and raised £35. **Willows Vet Centre** (West Midlands) nominated us as their one of their charities; they held a small animal show and guests were invited to place a disc into one of three charity tins when they bought refreshments, volunteer, **Pat Sanderson** was presented with a cheque for a stunning £1,926. **Lyn Neal** (East Sussex) and everyone at **Pet Express** raised £75. **Wolfgang Dohne**



Pat accepts a cheque from Malcolm McKee

(Surrey) took part in the World's most northern cross-country ski race, the Svalbard Skimarathon. This 42 km ski marathon runs through the frozen landscape near to the town of Longyearbyen, which spends most of the winter in total darkness. Cross-country skiing in Svalbard is normally only possible when armed with a rifle, because of the high risk of meeting a polar bear!!! He raised a breathtaking £1,941.26. What an amazing feat!



Wolfgang Dohne

Enid Hill (Conwy) grew and sold plants and produce throughout the year to raise £100 - brilliant! **Dorothy Chadwick** (Derbyshire) makes catnip toys which she sells at Clowes Chemist in Buxton, she raised £15. **Sacha Hamlin** (Cumbria) long term fosters **Brigg** (Lab/Doberman 12 yrs), she took Brigg along to represent CT at the funeral home where she works during Dying Awareness week and raised £33.25. **Lynne** and everyone at **Oakhill Vets** (Lancs) raised £23.10 from weighing in their old uniforms as they rebranded. **Sally-Ann Davies** (Cornwall) and all the staff at **Preston Golburn Solicitors** raised £27.94 in lieu of sending Christmas cards. **Cath Pattinson** (Cumbria) and her daughter, **Allana** ran a stall at Penrith Lions May Day and sent £33. **Marion Eburne** (Surrey) celebrated her birthday and raised £75 in lieu of presents. **Jill Blackwell**, Chairman of Blaby District Council (Leics) chose us as



Jill Blackwell presenting a cheque to Pam England, Poppy and Oscar

her charity of the year and raised a fantastic £1,212.29, volunteer, **Pam England** with **Poppy** and **Oscar** were presented with the cheque. **Linda George** (West Midlands) and staff at **Cogent Elliott Ltd** organised a cake sale and sent £100! Oh yes, good one! **Caroline Briggs's** friend, **Judith Evans** (Somerset) abstained from receiving a birthday present to raise £30. **Carol Knott** (Kent) raised £10 from her dog show. **Sheila Hurst** (Devon) raised £34.53 from her stall at Beech House Day Centre's coffee morning. **Siân Fletcher** (West Sussex) and the **Arun Healthy Walking Group**

raised £25 from their walk through Clapham and The Downs, followed by coffee and cake at her house - perfect! **Katie** (8 year old Parsons JR) who is in ltf with **Nigel** and **Sue Orrett** (West Midlands) sent in £514.5 which Nigel raised, with thanks to **Paula, Woody** and **Pete** and the trainers at **Solihull Arden**. **Denise Caulfield** (Suffolk) made more of her delicious homemade preserves which she sold to raise £90. **Edna**



Kathryn Willis

Neave (Norfolk) celebrated being 90 years young and raised £106.50 in lieu of presents - many congratulations! The congregation of **All Saints' Church, Great Braxted** held their annual PETS service and raised a marvellous £140.12. **Kathryn Willis** from **Oakmount Vets** (Lancashire) completed the Burnley 10km run and raised £388. Well done, Kathryn! **Nick** and **Kath Harris** were married by **Rev'd Canon Angela Townshend** at Christ Church Bath; they raised £153.50 for us being part of the retiring collection - congratulations to both of you and much happiness. **Elisabeth Swan** (London)

sold her car through GIVEACAR.co.uk and sent the proceeds £85.05 to us. **Sue Clarke** (Cornwall) and the members of **St Day WI** held a Bacon Butty morning (sounds delicious!) and raised £108.50. This is lovely - **Mrs V Sparkes** (Somerset) and her mother booked their village hall to have a family get together as the children and grand children are widely scattered around, over 70 family members joined them and they raised £75 - wow! **Julie Henning** (Cornwall) raised £141 from another of her fabulous quizzes. **Margaret Rhodes** (Nottinghamshire) celebrated her 80th birthday with a party and raised £125 in lieu of presents. **Rachel Adams** (Somerset) sold some of her surplus plants to raise £20. **Jessica Keene** and everyone at **Gladstone Vets** (Shropshire) held a raffle on their Open Day and raised £32. **Louise Ozwel** (West Midlands) sold paperbacks at her local vets to raise £10. **Audrey** and **Christina Davidson** (Glamorgan) held a cream tea; they had a lovely day, lovely scones and raised £145. **Anne Scholey** (Surrey) celebrated her 90th birthday and

sent £50 from her friends **Yvonne** and **Robin Vallins** - congratulations Anne! **Tom** and **Kate Shepherd** (Gloucestershire) were married in May and in June they took part in Trekfest, a 28 mile hike in the Brecon Beacons which they completed in 12 hours and raised an unbelievable £2,400.01 - well done and every happiness to you both. **Sarah**



Tom and Kate at TrekFast



Tom and Kate's wedding

Johns (Hampshire) raised £120 by completing the Riga Marathon (10km marathon through the streets of Riga) - brilliant! **Elaine Bird** (Somerset) held a stall at Oldbury Fun Run Bristol and raised £24.45. **Jan Roche** (Sussex) completed a 7 mile walk with her Springer Spaniel Toby 2 to raise £200. Fantastic - hope he and Lettie had a sausage even if she didn't go! **Heather Stepney** (Dorset) held an afternoon tea party at her local over 50's club with help from Paula and raised £165.20. **Dawn Swinnerton** (Shropshire) raised £100 from an open day she held at her house. **Diane Richards** (Norfolk) with friends, **June Banwell** and **Linda Massingham** organise a monthly quiz night at the Carpenters Arms and they raised £100. **Mercer and Hughes Veterinary Surgery** (Essex) held a fundraising dog walk, 40 people and 28 dogs joined in the fun and they raised a wonderful £300. **Christine Derham** (Suffolk) has sold more of her lovely peacock feathers to raise £42.46. **Nancy Johnson** (Gloucestershire) raised £140 from the raffle of a brand new "all singing all dancing" lady's



Elaine on her stall with Sylvie, John and Mitzi, Tiffany (aged 5) and Milly

Mercer and Hughes Veterinary Surgery (Essex) held a fundraising dog walk, 40 people and 28 dogs joined in the fun and they raised a wonderful £300. **Christine Derham** (Suffolk) has sold more of her lovely peacock feathers to raise £42.46. **Nancy Johnson** (Gloucestershire) raised £140 from the raffle of a brand new "all singing all dancing" lady's



Mercer and Hughes Vet Surgery



Jan, Toby and Lettie

bike at the Society Welfare of Horses and Ponies with thanks to **Jenny McGregor OBE** for including us. **Ellen Herring** (Year 4) and **Matthew Herring** (Year 5) from Summerlea CP School (West Sussex) ran a stall selling cakes and doggie treats and guess the weight of the cake and name of the dog to raise £36 - a lovely one! **Hannah Sneller** (Surrey) celebrated her 80th birthday and raised a wonderful £300 in lieu of presents, **Sallie** her gorgeous Cocker Spaniel enjoys many walks with her volunteers, especially **Sue**. **Miss P Hepple** (Norfolk) raised £60 from a Companion Dog Show she arranged at Glebe Meadow, Starston. **Christine Meaden** (West Sussex) and friends raised £220 at the "Dogs Galore" event in Fishbourne. They had a glorious evening, lots of great prizes, musical sits and various dog classes. **Jan Vallance** (Yorkshire) and friend, **Jan Smith** raised £150 at their coffee morning.



Mary Ede and her stall at Paws in the Park

Elizabeth Street (Warwickshire) held a "paint in the garden day" and raised £35.

John Durstone (Somerset) is fundraising for us during his year of office as President of Barbarians and at The Barbarians v Denny'side Bowling Association Match at Winscombe Bowling Club raised a magnificent £1,400.

Jane Smith (Worcestershire) raised £17 at a staff breakfast at Somers Park School. **Verena Young** (Devon) and clients at "Cully Pets"

pet shop raised £18. Staff and clients at **Tyldesley Veterinary Centre** (Greater Manchester) held a raffle and raised £107.50.

Lorraine Hawkins (London) held a garden party, the sun shone, she had bric-a-brac and all guests enjoyed a delicious cream tea to raise £302.

Kirstie Hennessey (Hampshire) raised £16.50 on her stall. **Jan McLean** (Hampshire) raised £28 at her car boot.

Mary Ede (Berkshire) raised £85 from Paws in the Park Brackwell.

Margaret, David, Michele and Brian Cooper (Devon) raised a fantastic £600 at Postbridge Dog Show and raffle.

Judith Sander (Cardiff) held a most successful coffee morning to raise £100. **Angela Harris** and **Jackie Gordon** (Sussex) held a stall at Elstree Court Nursing Home in Eastbourne and raised £55.

Kay Silver's daughter, **Isabel** (Essex) and her friends held a cake sale and raised £101.88 - how perfect!

Jayne Lockey (Northumberland) raised £317 from her stall at work.

David Pyta and colleagues at **Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Trust** held a Dress Down day and sent £149.23.



Postbridge dog show



Kay, Isabel and friends

Toni Deaves (Norfolk) with help from **Ray Kitchingham** and **Bernice Miller** held various stalls throughout the year to raise an amazing £930. **Nita Patel** (B'ham) and everyone at **Elas** held a Dress Down day and raised £40. **The Inner Wheel Club of Penryn** raised £25. **Redruth DTC** raised £50. **Frampton Cotterell DTC** (Glos) raised a brilliant £500. **Perfect Paws Dog Training Club** (Lancs) raised £10. **Plymouth DTC** members raised £41.05. **Iver DTC** (Bucks) raised a fantastic £500. **Inderbrook DTS** (Surrey) raised £125. **Welsh Corgi Rescue Service** raised a stunning £1,750. **Cornwall Agility Club** raised a superb £400 from their fundraising stalls at their Dog Agility Shows and matches throughout 2012. **Cheltenham and District DTC** sent £200 and **Westward Ho! Greyhound Supporters Group** raised £100. **Members of St Leonards DTC** raised £500. **Jacobs Well DTC** (W Sussex) raised £35 from their raffle. **Billingshurst DTC** (W Sussex) celebrated their 50th Dog Show; they held agility, cross-country and obedience classes, a raffle and much more to raise a staggering £1,200. **Stoke Hill and North Dartmoor Beagles** held a dog show and raised £72. **Brockworth Puppy and DTC** held a dog awareness day; it was a happy, sunny and great day and raised £50. **Eastbourne and District Canine Society** raised an amazing £820 from their evening companion dog show and **Brook DTC** (E Sussex) raised a brilliant £250 from their Christmas and summer raffles.



Billingshurst DTC

Thank you so much for all your efforts, which, once again, leave me speechless and very touched. Just the thought of someone braving the freezing cold, training every day and then running marathons, planning and baking for coffee mornings, coming up with ever ingenious ideas just for us moves me more than words can say which, I hope, is a great excuse to keep doing it!!



Volunteer View

Our first view is from **Steve Brocklesby** in Yorkshire:

"I have owned border collies over the last thirty years, but when the last one Arran a rescued dog, died at the ripe old age of thirteen, my wife and I decided to have a rest from dog ownership for a while. This left a void in my life, I had always had a dog and certain routines no longer needed to be done. I felt strange not having to go out for regular walks. My wife and I enjoy walks and cycling together and there is often that



John, Vi and Peter

treasured memory of walks with our dogs in days gone by, guaranteed to raise a smile or two.

I had no hesitation when I responded to the advert in our local paper, for people to walk dogs for those who could no longer manage due to ill health. This is how I first made the acquaintance of John and “Vi”. Vi is a black Labrador, ten years old and a working guide dog. She does sterling service getting John out and about when he visits the shops or local friends. What Vi needs and which I supply is a good vigorous walk. When I arrive at Johns, I open the door and Vi is ready and waiting all excited and fussy. John tells Vi I am coming after I telephone, and she stands by the door until I get there. We are lucky, quite near to where John lives is a disused railway track. The

track has been turned into a walking and cycling trail, ideal for long walks.

I must say that there is a social aspect to walking dogs, when you don't have one you often miss out. I did not realise this until I started walking Vi, we are always saying good morning to other dog walkers, and often engage in a conversation. It felt like old times again when we had our collies. I am usually out for about an hour, sometimes it may stretch to two, when we get back to John's I am always made very welcome. Indeed we have become friends and we enjoy a chat, often over a cup of tea. On one of our recent walks I asked my wife along so we could both enjoy the company of Vi. On our return we made John laugh when we told him that Vi had eaten a piece of stale bread that she picked up before we could stop her! Apparently she does this all the time with John.”



And this is wonderful from **Anne Canfer** in Sussex:

“In early January The Cinnamon Trust contacted me to ask if I would walk Brandy for Kath who is 103 years old! Kath had fallen and bruised her ribs so was unable to walk Brandy daily which she had been doing. I was delighted to accept as I felt this was going to be very special, to walk the dog of a Centenarian.

Brandy is a cute little Terrier; she can be a little feisty but fortunately gets on very well with my dog Heidi, so we walk together with Stanley (a Westie) also a Cinnamon Trust dog I have been walking for 16 months.

Since walking Brandy, Kath has moved into a Care Home, run by Nuns, very near the sea front in Bognor Regis. This means we have some lovely walks on the promenade. Alex and Elaine are also walking Brandy so she gets out nearly every day.

Kath is such a lovely lady, very interesting and talented. She only stopped dancing last year when her 93 year old partner died! She still misses it very much. She was featured in the Daily Mail and our local paper when she was 100 and that led to appearances on the television, she loved it all. I said she should charge for her autograph and make some money for Cinnamon!!



Kath and Brandy (centre) with Anne and friends

She also used to paint in watercolour and oils and several of her pictures are in her sitting room and bedroom.

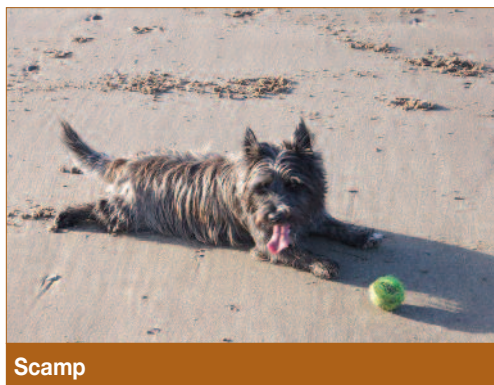
I really look forward to walking Brandy then having a cup of tea and listening to the next installment of her fascinating life story, which her family are chronicling at the moment."



Carol Oakes in Conwy, Wales writes:

"I first read about The Cinnamon Trust about 3 years ago and remember feeling relieved that, without family, there was still a means of making sure any pets I owned would be loved and cared for in the future. I thought about volunteering at the time but my situation was uncertain just then and I was thinking of relocating; I didn't want to start something that I wasn't going to be able to commit to for very long.

Eventually I moved to beautiful North Wales and had plenty to do trying to sort out my new home, settle in and look for work. So much so that I found I was too preoccupied to take time out to go for a walk and explore my new surroundings. My elderly cat had settled in well but wasn't much help when it came to exploring. I thought about The Cinnamon Trust again and by coincidence, I saw an advertisement in the local paper about The Trust seeking



Scamp

volunteers to walk a dog nearby. Initially I was surprised at the requirements for three referees as you generally only need two for a job application, but I appreciated that, as volunteers are going into people's homes and taking responsibility for their much loved pets, trust is hugely important.

As soon as the paperwork was approved I met my first charge, a deaf middle-aged Cavalier King Charles Spaniel; we enjoyed weekly, then twice-weekly outings for a few months until her owner's health deteriorated and one of the other volunteers took on her long term foster care. In the meantime, I found work and helped my parents move to the area but I missed the fresh air, exercise and companionship. Going for a walk is lovely but there is less impetus to do it when there isn't an excited furry face queuing up by the door and walking on your own doesn't tend to invite conversation the way it does when you have a dog with you, so I was delighted when The Cinnamon Trust asked if I'd be interested in walking a young Cairn Terrier.

Bill and Scamp turned out to live not far from my parents' new home making it pretty convenient. Bill has problems with his knees and finds that Scamp, though small, can pull him over quite easily, an event that happens on a number of times in the local park. To avoid injury, Bill had to make arrangements which included a lady walking Scamp twice a day while taking her children to school and picking them up, but eventually she found the commitment too much.

So, we agreed on a schedule of twice-weekly walks fitting in with a couple of other volunteers; as I work afternoons and evenings, two weekday mornings suited me best and between us we manage 6 or sometimes 8 outings each week. Scamp (who quickly became Scampi to me) was something of a contrast to my previous charge; she was very fussy and would simply sit down and refuse to budge if she didn't want to go a particular way. Instead Scampi was an extremely lively little chap who pulled on his lead and twizzled in circles with sheer excitement. We worked on some simple things like waiting at pavements and close walking on a short lead but Scampi needs lots more activity especially as the vet has told Bill he was getting too heavy. We very quickly graduated to an extendable lead so he could run a little bit but it seemed a shame that he couldn't play properly with balls or other dogs, both of which he clearly wanted to do. The hunt was on for a safe environment where we could try an off-lead walk; one of our routes was via a public right of way through a farm park where there was a temporary empty field with stock proof fencing so I decided to release him. It was something of a leap of faith because he wasn't used to the freedom and didn't respond to calls so I could picture myself being stuck there for hours on end, though there was at least no likelihood that he could get out on his own. Eventually he gave himself up but it was very much his choice, not mine; toys and treats had completely failed to entice him. As the field remained llama-free we had some more goes but things hadn't improved greatly when I had a friend visit and we took Scampi with us on a couple of longer outings. I gritted my teeth and released him on a long stretch of sandy beach with no doggy distractions anywhere about. He loved playing

a game with the two of us and running about through all the puddles, but he just didn't want to stop. In the end the two of us climbed over the winter tidal water barrier and walked along the promenade to collect our picnic while he dashed about on the beach climbing all the groynes to keep up with us. We set our picnic up at a point his little legs could just about reach and eventually the suggestion of food brought him close enough to clip on his lead.

Thankfully since then things have improved hugely - he has learned that freedom will be a regular event so he doesn't have to push his luck. I can now expect him to come back when called, unless he's having way too much fun with a doggy friend obviously! It helps that at least one of his other walkers is also releasing him. Scampi is only about 2 years old and has boundless energy so the exercise is great for tiring him out, stimulating him and controlling his weight.

Favourite things - apart from running just for the joy of it - include water, though the first couple of times I introduced him to the sea, he hid behind me. Now though, whether it is running along through the surf, puddles or ditches, he makes a bee-line for it regardless of whether Bill has kitted him out in his smart hi-vis coat (come to think of it, he is doing that less often now presumably as he knows he'll probably have a sodden coat to dry out). Best of all he loves to lie flat out in it or give his ball a wash. As he hasn't quite got the hang of the fetch part of ball games (unless it suits him of course), he will sometimes leave his ball there. Thanks to helpful tides and breezes blowing them my way we haven't lost any yet but I draw the line at wading in after them! Mud features quite high on his list of favourite things along with rolling in disgusting smells while dashing about through the undergrowth in woods; suits him very nicely too, and running up and down hills and sand dunes is even better.

Socialising with other dogs is a bit of an adventure; Scampi has grown bolder so is less inclined to hide behind my legs and he loves playing chase. He will try to play with pretty well any dog but some small elderly ones, not to mention their owners, can find his exuberance a bit intimidating, despite his modest size, so I seek out locations where we are more likely to find other active dogs that will be happy to join in. I get to stand and chat to their owners while lots of exercise happens around us. The tricky bit is separating them when we each need to move in opposite directions! Family groups of dogs tend to faze him but he is immediately smitten by any black Labrador we meet and frequent playmates are bigger dogs such as collies and boxers. Scampi's little legs have to work extra hard but he loves the challenge! It isn't unusual for him to follow other dogs off in the opposite direction but he comes back eventually.

Scampi does everything at top speed and is easily distracted so our off-lead walks have to avoid roads, cliffs, sheep and cats, though the Great Orme wild goats managed to show him who was boss without any trouble during a brief unexpected meeting. While generally a quiet dog, he goes berserk when he sees a cat so visits to my home have to be carefully managed. A swipe across the nose from my 19 year

old cat, Robert, didn't slow him down on their only (unintentional) face-to-face meeting. Bill and Scampi joined my family for Christmas so Robert had to be banished for the duration, though a dish of turkey meant he soon got over it. It also meant I escaped the washing up while I took Scampi out - perfect!

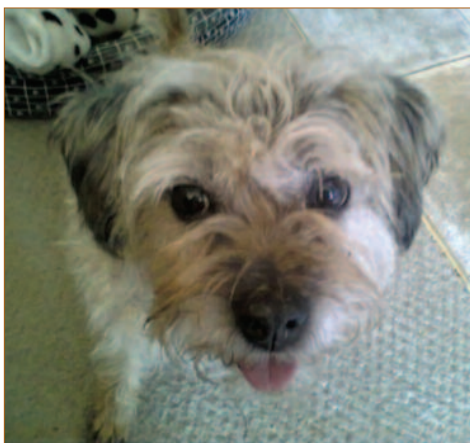
I am sometimes accompanied on trips out by my parents; my father likes to join us on some of our walks and mum too occasionally. As we call in for a chat afterwards, it means Bill gets visits from more than just me and while they are a few years younger than him, they can certainly find something to chat about. I think we all benefit from the arrangement and look forward to it continuing.

When we get some warmer weather, the plan is that Bill should come along too and see for himself how Scampi enjoys his off-lead run and play sessions. There is one location where Scampi is safe but which is close to parking and lots of seating; Bill can walk a short distance with his stick so would be able to watch the fun, something he has never yet seen. I am looking forward to sharing the experience with him as I find Scampi's obvious enjoyment uplifting and a delight and it would be lovely for Bill to be a part of it too.

I so appreciate the service that The Cinnamon Trust provides that I have become a life member and have made a bequest in my will. I can't imagine life without a pet, but have no family of my own, so I feel reassured that I can carry on in the knowledge that if I need any help I only need to ask and The Trust will guarantee that any pets I have at the end of my life will be loved and cared for until the end of theirs."



And from **Pauline Winder** in Hampshire:



Lettie

"Lettie.... A tan Border Terrier a canny, intelligent and stubborn dog but very loving. She is always pleased to see me when I arrive and sometimes Josie her owner and I have to wait a few minutes while she does her mad run around the lounge and dining room with a toy in her mouth and ends up in the kitchen to have her lead put on. Lettie sighs and goes under the table and puts her head between her paws if we have a too long chat before we go out.

When I started walking Lettie I had to find out her ways but we soon came to a good understanding. Lettie loves sniffing smells

and if she had her own way we would be there all day! So when we go out I say 'Lettie, let's have a bracing walk' and we will walk and walk.... little time is allocated to sniffing until towards the end when we slow down and Lettie can sniff to her delight! Or I will say lets have a nice walk and you can sniff but not too much!

Lettie has a thing for big dogs and when she sees one she thinks 'ah I'm going to have fun having a go at that dog ruffing and barking'. So when I see the dog I say to Lettie - 'oh no you don't, you behave' Or 'Lettie!' and she looks at me 'you spoilsport!' She is getting better - she knows it's a waste of time But when she is in one of her moods she will make a go for the big dog and then afterwards she has a smile on her face ... 'yay I did it!'

At the beginning I thought I was doing Lettie and her owner Josie a favour by walking Lettie, but over time I realise Lettie is good for me ... I get my daily exercise, I look at the changing seasons, I have time to think, I can talk to Lettie about anything and I know she won't repeat it, and when I am having an off day Lettie listens and gives me love and attention. Meeting Josie has been good for me too and we have long chats over a cup of tea and Lettie ever hopeful for a biscuit!"



Janet Windsor in Denbighshire says:

"We joined The Cinnamon Trust, having heard about it from a friend, in January 2012. Our daughter, Freya, adores dogs, but as I and my husband both work full time it is unfortunately not practical to have our own. We were very quickly introduced to Joan and Sam. Joan is an incredible 90-year old lady who lives for her pets (Sam plus five cats), and Sam is a charming 11year-old black Labrador (ex-guide dog) who happily befriends all humans, dogs and cats! We are thoroughly enjoying our participation - it's great for us to get out for a walk in the evenings after a day cooped up in the office, and we've also gained a wonderful lasting friendship with both Joan and Sam.

Keep up the good work Cinnamon Trust - it is so rewarding on both sides and we will most certainly be encouraging our friends to become volunteers."



From Norfolk, **Annette Burlingham** writes:

"When I retired from the Health Service I really missed doing something to help people. I adore dogs and thought how upsetting it must be for people who are no longer able to give their beloved pets the exercise they need so I became a volunteer for The Cinnamon Trust.



Annette with Tetley and Diesel

In 2011 I was asked if I would walk two lovely Jack Russell Terriers for Jean. Sadly, she had lost her husband and was unable to walk them herself. They are very strong little dogs! At first, the idea of taking on two dogs was a little daunting but it didn't take long for Tetley, Diesel and I to get to know each other. They are such characters and really enjoy their outings. I don't have to ring the doorbell when I arrive as they hear the car arriving from some way off! They are always very excited when they know they are going out.

During our walks they meet people they know with great enthusiasm and we have lots of smiles from people we pass as they look so happy trotting along together with their heads and tails held high. They love to have a run off the lead in

the grounds of Weeting Castle. The grounds are fenced off so they are always safe there. After their run I encourage my little charges to sit at the kerb before we cross roads. They are proper comedians though. When Diesel sits, Tetley remains standing then when Tetley sits Diesel stands again and so on ... and so on... but we get there in the end!

When we get home they are lovely and calm so Jean and I can have a nice chat. Jean used to be a nurse so we have a lot in common and spend a while putting the world to rights while the dogs enjoy their treats.

I can certainly recommend volunteering for The Cinnamon Trust. It's so worthwhile and such fun too. For me, as I am not in a position to have my own dog this is a lovely way of having my "dog-fix". More importantly, it makes such a difference for those who would otherwise struggle to keep the pets that are such good company and they love so much."



Anne Taylor in Gloucestershire writes:

"When I was assigned to Doreen and her lovely little 3 year old Westie, Skye, a wonderful friendship with two very important people began.

I started walking Skye most afternoons. We explored the town together and soon learnt our way around all the various footpaths and walks, enjoying the lovely countryside. We also experienced some of the extremes of the British climate.

One of our favourite walks is to go uphill from the town to Dovers Hill. This is on the edge of the Cotswold escarpment, and on a clear day you can see across the Vale of Evesham as far as the Malvern Hills. Skye enjoys Dovers Hill for a different reason! On our first visit, Skye really enjoyed running over the short grass amongst the grazing sheep. I was quite naively amused at one point to see her having great fun rolling in the grass. It wasn't until we were walking back that I noticed a rather unpleasant smell and the disgusting nature of the deposits that were now stuck to her coat. She had been happily rolling in the sheep pool! I was in a bit of a panic as to what to do. I couldn't take her back to Doreen in her present state, and I didn't have enough time to take her back to my home to sort her out. We ended up calling on a friend in the town, who kindly allowed us to use her bathroom to bath Skye and dry her off. Skye wasn't at all impressed with being put in a bath and scrubbed with soap. We returned, a bit later than planned and Skye was still a bit damp, but Doreen laughed with amusement when we told her the tale.



Doreen and Skye

Skye loves a ride in the car. She sits in the front seat beside me, safely secured in her travel harness, and likes to stand on hind leg, tip toe to look out of the window. When her legs get a bit tired she sits upright in the seat, looking up at me and smiling, with a funny little expression.

Skye has more recently spent more time with me, during periods when Doreen has been unwell. Skye trots through the back door of my cottage when she arrives to stay, as if she had lived her all her life, galloping up the stairs to find herself a comfy spot on the bed to curl up for a nap!"



This is from **Lisa Morath** in Devon:

"Looking after Gus as a short-term fosterer has been an absolute pleasure! He came to us in November and very quickly became a much-loved member of the family. We have enjoyed lots of funny moments with him; he is a real character and, as Cairns tend to, he likes his own way!

One funny incident happened at Christmas, when we took him to my husband's



Gus's birthday treats

parents' house for a visit. He was so excited to meet new people and their Miniature Schnauzer that he cocked his leg on my mother-in-law and her new shoes! Luckily she is a dog lover and saw the funny side!

As strange as it may sound, he is in love with a cuddly toy goat which sings the yodelling song from 'The Sound of Music' - he became fascinated by it shortly after moving in that it now sits in the corner of his bed.

One of his favourite hobbies is patrolling the back garden in search of next door's cat; he has even climbed a tree in hot pursuit ... He also enjoys sitting on the arm of my chair in the lounge because it provides him with a great view of the garden.

Gus particularly enjoys caravanning and has travelled as far afield as the Brecon Beacons and the Lake District; he gets excited when we pack to go and has his favourite seat in the caravan, from which he keeps an eye on what's happening on the site!

In May, we started 'Dog Training Classes' and, to be honest, at the beginning he was completely bemused by the whole experience and considered the other dogs - all running around, barking and sniffing each other - rather immature! After a while, though, he got into his stride and was awarded the 'Best Improver' rosette at the Awards Evening, after passing his final exam with flying colours.

For his birthday, Miss Jepson, his owner, explained that he usually enjoys a sirloin steak! As you can see from the photo, we maintained the tradition and he wolfed it down.

He also has a sweet tooth and gets very excited when he sees a bowl of trifle or an ice-cream! Luckily we live opposite some woods and he has plenty of exercise every day; I'm much fitter than I was, that's for sure.

It is a privilege fostering Gus for Miss Jepson; he is a cheeky chap who gives us so much in return, and hopefully when Sheila is a bit better he can go home to his Mum who clearly adores him."



A sad one from **Marilyn Wright** in Sussex:

"For over three years I have known and grown to love Tara, a very gentle and loving staffie. This is her story. Tara belonged to Jim, who had been ill and she was in need of walks that Jim could not do. So I and Karina, another Cinnamon Trust walker, became part of Tara and Jim's life. Tara was 10, when we first knew her but enjoyed a steady walk, slowly becoming used to us and she enjoyed getting out and about and exploring her seaside home.

Jim was a true gentleman who always had a good tale to tell and after walking Tara, Karina and I spent time chatting to Jim who was always entertaining. Unfortunately Tara developed a toe problem, which had to be removed. This done, she recovered well, but it was cancerous and her prognosis was not good, as it had spread. However, she defied all and continued to stay with Jim and still enjoyed her walks. Fate interrupted again and in the summer of 2012 Jim was taken very poorly. I agreed to take Tara on a temporary basis, as it was not known how Jim would respond to treatment. Jim's family contacted The Cinnamon Trust as it became clear that Jim would not be able to look after Tara again and Tara became part of The Cinnamon Trust family. At this point they contacted the vet who had been treating Tara and who said that it was not good news and that she was very poorly. When The Cinnamon Trust told me this it took me all of 20 seconds to say that I would keep her and make her life comfortable and as happy as I could 'til her time came. She then took on a new lease of life and enjoyed life in a house with a garden that she could sit in and just enjoy mooching around. Tara enjoyed life with my family and soon became a firm favourite with everyone. This continued until February of this year when she stopped showing her usual zest for life and then stopped eating. As had been agreed with The Cinnamon Trust, no invasive tests were done and at 13 years of age Tara passed away. Jim had previously passed away, so I do hope that they are together and at peace. I thoroughly enjoyed my time spent with Tara and after a short break will offer my services to The Trust again."



Jim and Tara at home



And this is from **Carole Brothwell** in Norfolk:

"Kara came to us with the snow at the end of January. My first vision of Kara was her growling in the back of a van. I'm sure she hadn't wanted to get in the van and now

she didn't want to get out. The transport lady who brought her confidently pulled her out; she was the biggest German Shepherd I had ever seen. I offered her my hand to sniff and gave her a stroke; I never heard her growl again. She was in fact a great big gentle giant.

Kara had had a difficult couple of weeks. Her elderly owner had died tragically in a road accident and she had spent time in a boarding kennel before The Cinnamon Trust were made aware of her plight.



Kara

Trust were made aware of her plight.

She settled with us very quickly. Despite her bereavement I think she was just so pleased to be in a real home again. After a few days she started to take one of each of our slippers to bed with her when we went out, which was really sweet. The only problem we had was feeding her. The dog food we were told she ate was left untouched. We tried putting a

bit of chicken on top. The chicken was eaten but any dog food that accidentally got into her mouth was spat out. After a few days we decided to try her on the food that had been our own dog's favourite, chicken, rice and vegetables. As soon as she smelt the rice boiling she went into the kitchen and started pacing, something she had never done before. After that her dish was always licked clean.

We fostered Kara for a month and it was very difficult to let her go. She is a very special dog; it seems that everyone who has dealings with her falls in love with her. Keeping Kara was not an option as we are early retired and travel a lot. One day, when we are done travelling, another Kara will come along and stay forever. Until then we will continue to foster and occasionally shed a few tears when they move on."

Kara settled very quickly into her lifelong foster home with Carlton and Sue Keast, where she and their Alaskan Malamute are the very best of friends - two gentle giants!!



Moira Carr in Tyne and Wear has been having fun with Charlie:

"Charlie, a West Highland Terrier, is loved and owned by Mr and Mrs Douglas, an elderly couple who both have Alzheimers. Mrs Douglas is now in residential care and her husband visits her every day with Charlie. Mr Douglas had to be admitted to

hospital for a time and I was lucky enough to be asked by The Cinnamon Trust, to foster Charlie until he could be returned to Mr Douglas's care. I was excited and looked forward to meeting Charlie.

Charlie was delivered to me by Cinnamon Trust volunteers who were Charlie's walkers. He came newly clipped, clean and excited. He also came fully furnished with his holiday togs, a cat bowl, his usual dog food and a blue lead with matching collar which was already attached to him. Charlie proceeded to familiarise himself with his new foster home and seemed pleased to discover there were no cats in residence. He then proceeded to "water" every flower and grass shoot in the garden to mark his new place of residence.



Charlie with Max

The next day Charlie was greeted by our grandson, Max, who had been dying to see the new addition to the household. Charlie yapped at Max, wanting to be stroked and once this had been accomplished Charlie rushed out into the garden, only to return with a ball for a game of chase. Max and Charlie became firm friends and Charlie showed complete tolerance of our boisterous 6 year old grandson. It was obvious that Charlie had settled in and seemed very happy.

We live on the north east coast about 100 yards from the beach with long country walks nearby, so he had plenty of exercise. He was a joy to take out, going up to people for a stroke and extending a friendly acknowledgement of other dogs and then swiftly going on his way.

After a few weeks of living with us, lots of rain and muddy puddles were walked through and, although happy with his look, Charlie gradually became the scruff out of all the other Westies we met on our walks and so the inevitable visit to the poodle parlour loomed! A date was set and he was delivered for the new look. A very white, fluffy Charlie emerged from the salon. We walked home via the links where the grass had been cut that afternoon - Charlie did enjoy himself, running off-lead and visiting every corner, lamppost and any other place he could cock his leg. After a few minutes Charlie obediently returned to me, but I was surprised to see that he was no longer the white fluffy Westie of 15 minutes ago, but a delicate shade of GREEN after rolling in the newly cut grass!!

We arrived home and although Charlie seemed to sulk about the hair cut he definitely cheered up when he found a new lookout post situated on my dressing table. From

this viewpoint he could be the champion lookout - warning us of any impending danger from ferocious cats or postmen who dared venture near his front door. In fact it was such an interesting viewpoint, that Max, our grandson, felt that anything Charlie was allowed to do; he should be able to do also. So be it!

The next day all was very quiet as Charlie did his tour of office in the garden. I called for him only to be met by a Westie who had been GREEN the previous day, but now was BLACK. He had very quietly liberated all the newly planted flowers in the garden by digging them up.

I have never owned a dog with legs less than 5 inches long and certainly not a yappy terrier, but I am a reformed character. Charlie was my first foster dog and he was an absolute pleasure to look after while Mr Douglas was unable to.

After 3 months of caring for Charlie, I got the phone call that Charlie could go home to his owner and would I like to take him? As I drove Charlie home I was filled with "what ifs" but his owner was waiting at the door calling to Charlie and steadying himself by holding either side of the door frame. I let Charlie off lead and he raced up the path to be reunited with his excited owner. The two were so happy to see each other. In that moment I knew what The Cinnamon Trust was all about and felt so privileged to have been able to look after Charlie until his owner was able to have him back. There are now carers to look after Mr Douglas and Cinnamon Trust dog walkers for Charlie. A job well done!!!"



Life long Foster Pets...

Now, let's catch up with some of our 946 life long foster pets ...

Pat Hibbs has been a life member for many, many years. Earlier this year we received a sad call from Pat (now in her eighties) to say she had rapidly accelerating dementia and had decided to go into care. She could only take one of her precious dogs with her, could we care for Breton? Of course we could!

Jarvis and **Lesley Turner** in Lincs adore him ...

"Breton is an absolute poppet. He came to us in May 3013, and Pat sent along his pedigree information, he is a Brittany Spaniel, and a fine one too as he has won rosettes at Crufts, no less! Breton is a champion of his breed standard for The Kennel Club. He has rosettes for obedience and field trials and Pat also sent pictures of him in his prime doing movement to music. He has quickly become a champion in our household too. He gets along with all our other animals, both cats and our dogs, including our other long term foster, Duke.

He has never chased the cats we own but he does have a rather special skill of pointing at them. When we are out in the garden or on a walk, Breton will stop suddenly and thrust his neck forward and stare at what he wants you to look at. He then looks back at us as if to say “I am pointing please pay attention”. You have to tap him these days to let him know you have seen it as he is very hard of hearing now. He takes his role of pointing very seriously, although for us it's more light-hearted. Perhaps that is because the things he thinks are worth notifying us of are more of interest to him than they are to us! Recently he has pointed at a bumble bee! I warrant it was a big bumble bee but we melt with laughter at the way he looks at me sincerely to ask “have you seen it?”. In the past he has pointed at birds on the bird table, frogs in the garden and our neighbour's life sized concrete owl. They are all of great interest to him clearly!

Breton loves his walks and when we are out he often stops to point out things of interest on the way. After a long walk and lots of pointing there is nothing better for Breton than to curl up on his bed and sleep. I am not sure what he likes more - his pointing, walks, bed or food? We think he is just wonderful whatever he does. Thank you so much for letting us have Breton and Duke, we hope they both have a long and happy retirement with us.”

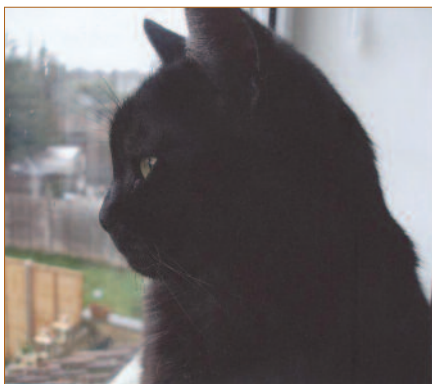


June Richards in Kent is enjoying the company and the character that is Puss after the death of her owner.

“I wanted to share how very much part of the home Puss is now and how well and happy she is here. Puss has a lovely nature and is very affectionate and sociable. We spend a lot of time together, but when I go out it is nice to have her welcoming me when I come back. I have many visiting friends and they love her greeting and purring at them.

One of the things that I love about Puss is that she often urges me to walk down the garden with her. That's when it is not raining! Puss will then sit for ages contentedly watching me doing all my weeding and planting. I am very grateful to you for the chance to have Puss as such a good companion.

Here you can see Puss sitting in her favourite spot overlooking the garden. You cannot see it easily but Puss has a beautiful black coat with an undercoat of soft pale grey fur, this is typical of well-bred British short hairs.”



Puss



Sally

Andrew and **Lynda Matthews** in Worcestershire write:

"Andrew and I fostered Sally three years ago when her owner, Trevor, went into hospital. On his return home we stayed in touch; sometimes meeting for coffee or lunch and accompanying him on his walks with Sally.

We were very upset to receive a call from The Cinnamon Trust to hear that Trevor had suddenly died in his flat. We immediately went to collect Sally. Unfortunately, she had been in the flat with Trevor for some hours but seemed very pleased to see us. She settled in straight away at our home because she had

visited many times with Trevor. She ate and slept well and didn't seem to be grieving.

Sally was very over-weight so we immediately put her on a diet and cut out the jug of tea with two sugars that Trevor said she loved each morning! We didn't need to be too drastic as just reducing a few of her treats had the desired effect. Two walks around the park each day also helped and she soon had a nice trim waist-line.

In the circumstances, it seemed only natural that she should stay with us and we are now long-term fostering her. Having lived in a ground floor flat, it took a few weeks before she realised she could venture down into the garden. She enjoys digging up the nuts the squirrel has buried in our lawn, leaving a large hole - our lawn is now looking like a miniature golf course! Once a month a friend organises a 6 mile walk for dogs and their owners in the Worcestershire countryside. Sally loves these walks but, for some unknown reason, has to be at the front with the leader!

Having lost our previous Cinnamon Trust adoptee three years ago it has been lovely having Sally around. We are enjoying meeting up with all the 'doggy' people again on our walks. When friends invite us for dinner at their homes, Sally is also invited and seems now to enjoy being sociable and joining in. Our home no longer feels empty now that Sally has joined us and she is a delight to be with."



Riley is loved by **Alan** and **Janet Birdsall** in Northants the reason is so sad ...

with aggressive Parkinson's disease. Jenny could no longer walk Riley so we stepped in to help and our volunteers Helen Kay, Mandy Richardson and Helen Theakston provided comprehensive dog walking cover and fostering when needed so that Jenny and Riley could stay together. In February 2013 Jenny started to have violent fits and came to realise that she could not stay in her own home. We tried our best to get a home where she could take Riley but they all refused because of the severity of Jenny's condition. Jenny asked The Trust to take Riley but asked that we not give her any updates because she would find them too upsetting.



Riley

Deborah Man who co-ordinates fosters has struck up a real friendship with Jenny and we have sent her little gifts to cheer her up, pictures of Cornwall, listening books etc. At some point we feel she will be ready to see a photo of Riley because she has started to ask after him and knows he is loved and cared for.

Now, Janet says:

"On Wednesday 3rd April this year I had a call from Moira at The Cinnamon Trust asking how I was. I had badly broken my leg the preceding August. In addition I was still very much grieving over the loss of my last two dogs (the last one being a Cinnamon Trust long term foster dog). I told her I would be available for long term fostering again when I was more fully recovered from my injury and less emotionally raw from my loss (if ever). "As a matter of fact I have a little lad who really needs somewhere to go". He was being short term fostered by someone who would love to have kept him but who was frequently away from home and in fact was going on holiday very soon. I said I would have to discuss it with my son and would seriously consider the matter and would give Moira a yea or nay answer the following day. Of course it was a yea and I thought perhaps in a couple of weeks Riley arrived the next day.

My first impression of him was that he was so small. He is a Sheltie. I had always been used to labradors and retrievers (golden and flat coat) and border collies. I have to say though the only small thing about Riley is his stature. He is huge of character and large of heart. He very quickly settled in - it seemed as if he had always been here. He is an absolute delight. He is very friendly, obedient and very well behaved. I can't tell you how pleased Alan (my son), and I are to have Riley in our lives.

When it comes to food I'm convinced Riley is really a Labrador in sheltie clothing. Fortunately his lack of inches means he can't reach tables or worktops so I don't need to suspend food from the ceiling (as per labs).

He is a very friendly little dog, with people and other dogs. In fact we have a photo of him walking off with another couple and their dogs looking for all the world as if he was with them. (He came back when called). He sometimes rushes up to other dogs then seems to say "Oops, didn't realise you were so big. Sorry. Excuse me." And dashes back to us.

Alan is able to get down on the floor with Riley and has lots of cuddles. I can't get down (well I could but I couldn't get up again and I don't want to live on the floor forever) so Riley and I have our time together on the settee. No other fella in my life has been as accommodating to my need for hugs and cuddles as this boy is.

Riley is such an attractive lad that I am often given the opportunity of proudly telling people Riley is a Cinnamon Trust dog and telling them about the wonderful work The Trust does for people and animals. My son and I feel very privileged and honoured to be part of this work.

Long term fostering is such a joy. We have all the support and help we could possibly need. I call Riley my little gift from God and he is just that. Thank you Cinnamon for entrusting Riley to our care. The pleasure is all ours.

RILEY

He came, he saw, he conquered,
Our lives will never be the same,
A handsome little lad arrived,
Riley is his name.

He needed a place to rest his head,
And we were the chosen ones,
We were asked to give him a home with love,
And of love we have got tons.

It isn't hard to love this boy,
This we can do with ease,
Because he's such a lovely lad
And he isn't hard to please.

Riley's a member of our family,
He has surely come to say,
For the privilege, dear Cinnamon,
We thank you each and every day."

Stanley's story comes from **Bernard Beal** in Yorkshire:

"Six months ago things were looking black for Stanley. He was eight years old, and belonged to a frail old lady, who lived alone with a houseful of cats. She loved her cats (she had joined The Cinnamon Trust for their benefit) but as she declined with age she'd been finding it harder and harder to look after them all properly. Stanley was a trouble maker, liable to fight with the others. The old lady could think of nothing to do but to shut him up in isolation in a bedroom. This went on for several years, until her health began to fail and Irene started looking after her - and the cats.

Irene released Stanley from his confinement as soon as she could, and he resumed his trouble-making.

When the old lady died Irene and The Cinnamon Trust had the task of finding homes for five cats. It was plain that Stanley



was going to be the main problem. He was a handsome tabby cat, usually quite friendly but rather skittish, and prone to moments of madness when he would suddenly attack you with tooth and claw. Obviously he couldn't go to a home with children, or even with adults who weren't familiar with cats and their ways.

Pam and I had kept cats of our own for many years, usually adopted strays. A few years ago our last pair of cats died, one after the other. Then two years ago Pam herself died, leaving me all alone. I didn't think I wanted another cat. But Irene had told me all about Stanley, and after thinking it over for some time I felt I should offer him a home. Through Irene's good offices and The Cinnamon Trust, he soon turned up with all his worldly goods, and it didn't take him long to decide he was here to stay.

That was three months ago. Now Stanley and I are the best of friends, and we have come to an excellent understanding. The first thing he did was to take over my favourite chair, and he's never looked back. He is a forceful character; inquisitive, innovative, and pro-active. He's very friendly and fussy, and pushes his nose into everything I do. Although he still has his mad moments, they are becoming less frequent. He's taken charge of the house, and provided I do what he wants without argument he's quite happy. His trouble-making now is confined to the back garden, where having come to terms with Tom the neighbours' cat, he's now waging war on the mice and shrews. Most mornings I find one, or some part of one when I get up. He has a fancy for big game too, once or twice bringing home a rabbit or a wood

pigeon. I wish I could cure him of it, but that's what cats like Stanley do. I can't imagine life without him now, and I fancy he'd say the same about me."



Ben Wooding in Devon and **Mary** have had many very happy years of adventure together ...

Mary's story

"I'm 10 this Christmas and I've now been living with Ben 7 years. I went to Ben for a short foster when my owner Peggy had to go to hospital. When Peggy came out of hospital she couldn't really look after me any more so I've stayed with Ben as a long term foster. We used to go and have tea and biscuits with Peggy every Friday but eventually Peggy died. Ben and I miss her very much as she used to make Ben laugh and she used to give me biscuits. Ben has a motorhome so we've travelled all over England, Scotland and Wales - I even managed to climb Mount Snowdon when I was younger.



Mary with Ben

I also have a passport so I've been to Spain, Portugal, France, Italy and Switzerland. On top of all this, when we're home, Ben sometimes has other short term Cinnamon foster dogs, which is great fun as I have another dog to play with me and share my toys. I've loved having all these other dogs come to stay but I think my favourite friend was Mrs Pickles as we used to play tug of war. She was a bit naughty though, as she would insist on sleeping in my bed forcing me to sleep in hers, which was a bit small for me really."

Ben's story

"I really enjoy being a Cinnamon volunteer. The dogs I've walked, the dogs I've fostered and the people I've met have all added so much to my life. As Mary has told you, she's been with me for 7 years and is a huge part of my life. She travels with me home and abroad wherever I go, other than when I have to fly to visit my overseas relatives. On these occasions, she stays with other Cinnamon volunteers where I know she will be safe and happy. This is just part of the support I get from Cinnamon but has previously prevented me from getting a dog as I hate the idea of kennelling."



How do the wonderful people we help feel? Here are their thoughts:

First, **Patricia Bentley** in Conwy,

"I am writing to let you know how reliable, valuable and reassuring I have found your charity over the last year. In reality, I do not know what my little dog, Monty and I would have done without you!

I have been diagnosed with leukemia and following treatment and regular blood transfusions my condition is now being managed accordingly. One of the drawbacks with leukemia is having low immunity and therefore I am susceptible to viruses and infection. Last July I found myself in and out of hospital with pneumonia until December. In addition, I was suffering with an abscess in my lower colon, which was excruciatingly painful and was not initially detected. This left me house bound and not able to walk for several months.



Monty

In addition, Monty, my 13 year old Cocker Spaniel was diagnosed with diabetes 2 years ago. This is managed with insulin injections and a strict diet. My family who all work full time were unable to fulfil the commitment of injection times so it was imperative he stayed at home with me

My family were given the contact for The Cinnamon Trust from my Vets in Colwyn Bay. It is from this point I will be eternally grateful. I was introduced to Terence, a local gentleman, who was prepared to walk Monty, not every now and again (for which I would have been appreciative) but once every day! This has continued throughout my illness and recovery. Terence has been on dog walking duties through thick and thin, wind and snow, sun and showers. Over time he has also become a great companion (for us both) and often stays for chats after his walks. Monty now has a new 'pal' who he methodically sets his 'dog clock' for, every morning ready and waiting with lead and collar.

My recovery has been slow but I would not be in this position without the help of Terence and The Cinnamon Trust. I love Monty dearly and miss our walks on the beach and in Eiris Park together. However, I whole-heartedly do not think I would be spending my precious time together with Monty if it wasn't for the work of The Cinnamon Trust. I wish I could donate more money for other people in my situation, but I will recommend that any dog lovers with time on their hands volunteer for such a vital service. It would be wonderful if Terence could be given a commendation of any form. Thank you once again for being there and all that you do as a charity; you are worth your weight in gold."

Pauline Kelly in Yorkshire writes:

"I am writing to ask if you would mention my two wonderful dog walkers in your magazine. I am the proud owner of a nine year old Jack Russell /Collie cross dog called Champ. Due to my mobility problems I was upset that he wasn't getting the exercise he needed. I then noticed a leaflet about the work The Cinnamon Trust does



Champ

in a local store and decided to contact you.

Within days a young lady called Joann contacted me and offered to walk Champ at the weekends, later, a lady called Kate (who had put the leaflet in the store) offered to walk him during the week. At first Champ was reluctant to leave me and go with them but now waits patiently for them to arrive and literally drags them

through the door to go for a walk! Both Champ and I have built up a lovely relationship with these two great ladies.

Recently, Champ went on two sponsored walks with Joann to raise money for Cancer Research, I thought it was really kind of her to offer to take him with her. They both enjoyed the experience, returning home with a rosette and a bag of doggy goodies.

We were talking about holidays the other day and I said Champ would love a seaside holiday. Kate very kindly offered her caravan at Hornsea free of charge, but unfortunately I am unable to take him. Up stepped Joann, and mid-June she took Champ to Kate's caravan for the weekend. I cannot explain how happy this makes me and how grateful I am to the both of them. They are two fantastic, devoted volunteers who I think deserve some recognition, hence the request of a mention in your magazine.

I would also like to thank The Cinnamon Trust for providing this much appreciated help. This last year Champ and I have made two new friends, hopefully for life."



Lynette Barnes in Hants says:

"I could not manage, nor could Alfie and Mollie, without our wonderful friends from The Cinnamon Trust. In June last year, my GP sent me to a lupus consultant in

Southampton who diagnosed yet another operation for my hands. As I have had dogs all my life, even my parents had dogs, I did not fore see any problems. During my physiotherapy session at the hospital we were talking about our hobbies. Obviously I enthused about my dogs. I agreed with her how it is so very difficult to walk them as I already walk with a stick. She asked if I had heard of The Cinnamon Trust and immediately gave me their telephone number. Thank goodness she did, as I have come to regard these wonderful people as friends as well as helpers. Alfie and Mollie are Lhaso Apsos and are brother and sister. They are adorable and everyone falls in love with them."



Alfie, Mollie and Lynette

And **Fzeelah** will break your heart

"My brother, Abdul Jaleel fell ill at the beginning of 2012 and following some false starts with the doctors he was eventually properly diagnosed with cancer in April 2012. Unfortunately, he was already at Stage 4 and they initially thought he would only live 6-9 months.

He reacted to the news with his typical odd sense of humour and outlook on life with a 'the sooner the better mate!' which stunned the consultant but gave me a good laugh!

His main worry when sorting out his affairs was Smithy, his companion for the past 13 years, his little feline friend whom he adored. He wasn't afraid of dying or of having cancer but he was afraid of what would happen to Smithy.

We researched on the net to see if we could find a home for him, and through that we found The Cinnamon Trust who agreed to have Smithy when Abdul Jaleel was ready to let him go, or when he passed away.

It wasn't easy initially to get Smithy registered, not because of anything from The Trust - their support was absolutely wonderful - but because it was painful for my brother to read the literature we'd been sent, watch the video and then actually fill in the paperwork, which must have felt like he was 'signing Smithy away'. However, over the months that followed he got accustomed to the idea and indeed found comfort knowing other people's pets have been successfully fostered and continued to be looked after. The website with the case studies was looked at often.



Then as the cancer progressed he asked about the possibility of Smithy going to someone but on the condition that we could visit him. The Trust was very understanding and said they would try and see if that was possible.

In the end he kept Smithy with him until he was admitted into hospital for the last time on May 19th.

After he passed away The Trust found me a temporary home for Smithy - a lady local to us and on the day of the funeral, as my brother went to his new place Smithy too went to his new home!

I think that was something he would have liked because as Muslims we believe in the Hereafter so death isn't the end, so as Abdul Jaleel's journey continued so did Smithy's.

Smithy only stayed for a while and has now moved to his permanent home with a couple in Kent.

We've had contact with them and it was reassuring to talk to his new 'mum' and also comforting to be able to explain his little quirks and know they will be considered in his new home just as they were when he was with us and with Abdul Jaleel.

Throughout the process of diagnosis, chemotherapy, in and out of hospitals and generally knowing that death is the most likely outcome, Abdul Jaleel's focus on taking care of his friend didn't waver. So to have had The Trust there to chat with the staff and know that the pet he so cared for would continue to be cared for has been a huge relief for us, the family, now, and also a huge help for my brother while he was alive.

Thank you for being there and for the work you do.

Rest in peace big bro, your treasured, valued friend is in safe hands."



David Crichton in Prestwick, Ayrshire wrote to us:

"I thought I would write to thank Cinnamon for your wonderful assistance to our friend Jean Barry in Prestwick. We live a two hour drive away from her and we gave her your contact phone number in case she fell ill. Recently she was taken ill and her doctor said she had to go to hospital. At first she refused, and I think she would have still refused if she had not had the backup from your organisation. Your volunteer, Maggie McNulty, kindly took the dogs while Jean was in hospital and even visited her there before and after her operation. I am sure it gave her great peace of mind.

Jean was so seriously ill that she actually died three times in the hospital and had to be resuscitated and operated on in the ward. She was fitted with a pacemaker. I am pleased to say she is making an excellent recovery and is now home with her dogs, though she still needs help with walking them. She now gets meals on wheels and has carers - something she had always refused in the past.

The whole event has brought her closer to her neighbours who she did not know before and they are keeping an eye on her, as is Maggie. It is very reassuring to know that she now has support on her doorstep.

Thank you very much again, I believe that Cinnamon has saved Jean's life and given her a better and safer quality of life."

Misty and Topsy, adorable toy poodles are now enjoying daily walks with volunteers Maggie McNulty and Laura Beeson. Jean is doing really well.



Volunteers who have received Gold Awards for exceptional service are:-

Helen Westfoot (Cornwall), **Diane Fairhurst** (Merseyside), **Christine Harrison** (West Midlands), **Gloria Woodward** (Northumberland) and **Gillian Bisiker** (Devon).



To all our volunteers everywhere, thank you. Thank you for making such a difference to so many (20,329 this year) lives and for helping to ensure the happiness of all those wonderful pets. I say it every time, but we couldn't do what we do without you.



Happy Ending...

In 2010, **John Boucher** from Leamington Spa contacted us for temporary help walking his beloved dog Fossey. This we did. John then resumed his walking.



Reunited at last

We heard no more until May this year when John contacted us in great distress, he was in tears.

He said he had come out of hospital and someone had taken his dog and he did not know where he was. He had called the dog warden, the RSPCA, the council, everyone in the local area that might give him an idea of where his beloved dog might be. He said that he had been told that his care agency had taken the dog but when he called them he could not get any answers. He said we were his last resort and he knew that it was nothing to do with us but that we had been so kind to him before he thought he would try us. We promised him that we would do our best to help find Fossey.



Fossey and friends off for a walk

After many, many calls it transpired that the Lifeline care company John was signed up to (the red button service) had taken Fossey and had decided that because he had been in hospital a few times, that he should not have a dog. They were of the opinion that Mr Boucher could not care for Fossey and had homed him with a member of staff. We outlined to them that this was not their decision to make and that legally Fossey belonged to Mr Boucher. We also said that they had greatly distressed an elderly man who had no idea where his beloved dog was. After outlining the possible consequences of their actions they gave us details of where Fossey was.

The person who had homed Fossey was not pleased that we were considering

taking him back to Mr Boucher. We said that The Cinnamon Trust were now involved and would make sure that Fossey was well cared for and his future would be secure. This lady had changed Fossey's name, his diet, his bed, the poor little chap must have been so confused. We arranged collection the following day.

After everything was in place, we had the privilege of telling Mr Boucher that we had found Fossey and he was coming home. There were tears and grateful thanks. The day Fossey arrived we knew we had done absolutely the right thing because of Fozzey's reaction; he clearly adores his dad and was very pleased to be home.

We immediately put dog walking in place with our volunteer, Roz Koppel, who walks Fossey with her dogs. Roz also takes Mr Boucher to a day centre while she takes Fossey for the day, so he has new friends and a new lease of life..."



Pet Friendly Care Homes



The fourth edition of PFCH - Star Rated is proving even more popular than the previous editions. We still have copies available at £3.50.

This year due to our ever increasing numbers on the register we have put the top thirty retirements at the end of our guide, next time they will have their very own publication as they are fast becoming as popular and equal in number to the care homes, which is great news.

Our biannual award ceremony is getting ever closer and we have ten finalists this year, six from the care home sector and four from the retirement housing sector and they are.....

Care Home contenders: **Dunster Lodge** (Somerset), **Elizabeth Court** (East Sussex), **Rotherbank Residential Home** (Hampshire), **The Old Vicarage** (Dorset), **The White House** (Hampshire), (West Sussex).

Retirement Complexes: **Mytchett Heath** (Surrey), **Runnymede Court** (West Sussex), **Sydney Hall Court** (Flintshire), **Ward Chase** (Essex).

We have a panel of three judges:

Pam Rhodes who did such a sterling job last time has very kindly agreed to judge again this time. Pam is a writer as well as TV Presenter (Songs of Praise among others) and Pam has her own cattery.

Geraldine Cove-Print who is a journalist, a great animal lover and has a weekly column 'Wet Nose Rescue' with Dog World.

Sue Benson Managing Editor for Journal of Dementia Care and a staunch supporter of the elderly and their pets.

The award ceremony will be held in London in October - how exciting!

There were so many well deserving 'homes' it was tremendously difficult to choose the finalists. Well done to all of you on our register and thank you for your care and compassion, between us we will keep owners and pets together.

The Old Vicarage (Dorset)



Sheila a resident and pet owner who judged "The dog The Old Vicarage would most like to keep"

The Old Vicarage had a very exciting day recently when they hosted a dog show for 'Canine Partners' a charity that trains dogs to assist disabled people, our brave soldiers being some of their recipients. With the beautiful summer we have been blessed with this year they had a glorious sun filled day and everyone had a great time. The proprietor Annie Sinnott MBE commented "There is not a lot of

excitement in elderly peoples' lives so we do what we can to provide some".



The White House (Hampshire)

The White House has recently welcomed a new member to their team - Betty the Bassett. They were looking for a dog to join their many, many pets including pigs, horses, peacocks, wallabies, goats and exotic birds. Betty's previous life was not all it could be and The White House face a fairly large vet's bill but Betty is thrilled with her new home and gives so much love and companionship



to the residents, it's as though she has always been there. The staff have been very patient re training Betty with toileting etc and now she is back on track and marches around greeting everyone she meets and she smiles!

The White House were runners up last year and put their prize money towards a new aviary, the birds love their new home and are very busy building their nests and establishing themselves.



Rotherbank Residential Care Home (Hampshire)

Rotherbank have several pets resident and one of them has a particular problem.... his feet! John the boxer has unusually soft pads and his feet were getting continually sore when he was out for walks so boots were ordered for him. He was delighted with these although they did rub a little, as new shoes can, anyway not to be deterred socks were sourced for him and now John enjoys his boisterous plays and running as much and often as he wishes.



Another little problem he had was being such a happy dog his long tail would get knocked against the low tables etc and one time he even broke it, his vet advised removing it to save him the pain so now he can wag and jump and run all he likes.



From **Timperley Care Home** (Greater Manchester) **Deborah Gebel**, Home Administrator, writes:

"I would just like to forward to you the response that we receive from visitors to Timperley, the surprise and joy they express when we tell them about the Cinnamon Trust especially when we tell them that we are a pet friendly care home and we actively encourage pets to come to the home is fantastic, with that in mind we have now run out of your leaflets so may I request some more."



A few messages of thanks after receiving a listing of pet friendly care homes:

Thank you so much for this information. It's very helpful. I'll pass it on to my client. I see there is a care home in Inverness which might be very suitable.
Lynn Black, Information Officer, MND Scotland.

Thank you so much for the list of Pet Friendly Care Homes. It will be very helpful to me in choosing a Care Home and re-assuring to know that I can keep Jamie with me. Joan Barfield.

That's fantastic, thank you so much for the helpful information and such a prompt reply. Tracy Parsons, Independent Mental Capacity Advocate.



Hillside Farm Sanctuary

What fantastic opportunities this summer presented! Opportunities for chicken flavoured ice lollies, for diving in and out of water sprinklers, for wrecking the big paddling pool with unbounded enthusiasm, for walks in the cool of dawn and sunset and meeting all the secret wild residents of Hillside, including the most enchanting baby fawn, not forgetting the opportunities for sun worshipping felines!

As ever, sadly, there have been down times ... we've lost **Biggles** (15), **Naomi** (14) Silver Persian princess, **Bootsie** (17), **Toby** (20), **Somalian Queen of cats Jade** (12) and **Stephanie** (15) all pussy cats with their very own "funny little ways" missed by their friends and so missed by us. And we lost **Tess** (14½) and **Maddie** (13½) beloved Labradors and little **Billy** (17) Jack Russell - getting cheese out of the fridge will never be the same again! Sweet and precious memories...

One is very aware here of the circle of life with old friends passing on and new ones arriving - each with their own sadness and each more than ready for what we hope we can give them - the time of their lives!

Certainly true of **Mattie** (7) and **Scruffy** (11) younger than our usual newcomers but lifelong friends not to be separated and Mattie had undiagnosed health problems - luckily, as it turned out, nothing that good, fresh food, lots of love and new friends galore couldn't put right - he hasn't looked back! They are both crazy about water, biting the spray from the hosepipe to help spread it around the patio and facilitate

cleaning - takes twice as long but you have two soggy, deliriously happy little mischief makers smiling at you! They are the greatest of friends determined that one day they will catch **Shaz** (9) a fabulous German Shepherd Dog - she's full of life and full of speed and leads the boys a merry chase on every walk! Shaz loves to roll in the wet grass and then rub herself dry on us, lovely girl! She is getting on for a GSD but she's incredibly fit, ever curious and loves Hillside We can go down to the river, in the river, along the river bank, through the trees and there's squirrels and voles and mice and pheasants, so much fun for her to fit in her busy day. And at the end of it she gets all gooey eyed and smoochy and is ready for a big girly cuddle. With Shaz came

Tarra (14) Westie with huge beautiful eyes who lives to eat! They keep tabs on each other but Tarra couldn't help herself and she mostly joins forces with Hamish and Molly, our other Westies and they do look a picture, or rather they do for a few minutes after a bath, when they are snow white and could easily go on TV, but you can't keep a tomboy or a boy

out of mischief for long and all too soon you have three dusty, or muddy, or soggy off white little dogs with sparkling eyes and a "hey, where's dinner?"



Scruffy and Mattie



Shaz



Tarra



Tally



Pansy



Moby



Babby



Rosie



Jenny



Lucky



Tiger

And seconding that is **Tally** (12) the most handsome big Doberman boy who found love at first sight of Shaz! He completely forgets he's "getting on a bit" and when Shaz takes off, Tally is there in hot pursuit. She is happy to have the company but as far as she's concerned love is not reciprocated. He's fitted in so well and gets on with everybody, ready to join in anything going and if he thinks he hasn't had enough dinner, well, there's always seed he can filch off the bird table! When he's tired, he can curl up in the smallest, tightest little ball on the sofa, tucking his head right in so you can't see where he starts or ends! He has his own rubber sandwich which he takes to bed and sometimes falls asleep on it and as he snores, it squeaks!

And we've been invaded by tabby cats! First came **Lucky** (12) a big boy with a stunning long coat, a cat hard to resist cuddling nonstop. He does like to use his big, big paws and his gorgeous deep brown eyes bring the girls running but as they approach, he taps their behinds - is this playing hard to get? Then **Tiger** (13½) checked in - he's diabetic but he doesn't let that come in the way of LIFE! He comes to his name or even a whistle and he loves the gardens - he'd been an "indoor cat" but the great outdoors at Hillside beckoned and he couldn't resist! He's a loving, gentle boy and our Penny in particular has taken to unabashed flirting, equally gentle, her advances are taken in good part.

Then came the **Parkers** - one feels the need for some dramatic music here - an impressive family of five led by the tabby Godfather **Moby** (8) weighing in at 10.8kg and with only one eye. Despite his size this beautiful boy can move - this is Mr. Twinkletoes - he's wider than the garden wall but he jumps up and sits on it with great aplomb. On his first visit to the garden he spied Dermott the goat and gave him a real mouthful! Accompanying Moby is his mother, **Jenny** (9) and half sisters **Pansy**, **Babby** and **Rosie** (all aged 7), all different shades of tabby, some with white and can be hard to tell apart! All of them are gorgeous and very friendly. They all have marvellous appetites and have settled beautifully - a close and charming family.

We're still enjoying lovely warm weather and hoping it'll stay much longer but as the days grow shorter, winter will come and with our thoughts turning to the joy of Christmas, "the blues" are not an option!



Poldarves Farm Sanctuary

A truly beautiful summer full of adventures and picnics, paddling pools and games, beach walks and river walks, lazing in the sun, dozing in the shade and charming visitors and passers by alike - lovely, lovely memories to take us all through the year....and lots of amazing little characters have come to join the family.

Before we introduce them, though', we had to say sad "goodbyes" to **Jamie** (17) and **Carnie** (13) both miniature poodles, **Lulu** (16) Border Collie and **Arthur** (6) rabbit. Each has left very special paw prints on our hearts; each will always be remembered with a smile for their own inimitable little ways.



Jess

A very happy day when **Jess** (13) came to stay. She is a sweetheart who loves everyone and everything and very, very gentle. She adores going to the beach and she very sweetly wanders in and out of all the surf shops - no need to rush and fetch her, everyone loves her and they really enjoy her visits! She is well known now and they call her to welcome her in ... At home she lets you know if

you're too long in preparing a meal - she does enjoy her grub and she has a favourite sofa for dreams of her busy day and plans for tomorrow!



Jodie and Sophie

Jodie and **Sophie** 13 year old brother and sister are always together and from day one acted as if they'd always lived here. They do everything together - Sophie is Jodie's eyes as he has little sight left - he trusts Sophie will keep him safe, but they still have fun adventures together with the rest of the dogs. Jodie repays Sophie by cleaning her ears and eyes - until she's had enough of him fussing over her

and changes beds! Sophie is very ladylike at mealtimes with impeccable manners, Jodie is a boy, enough said!!

Charlie (15) and **Honey** (14) also came together and although they like to know what each other is doing, they plough their own furrow a lot more. Honey bounces everywhere, she is as sweet as her name suggests but cute and innocent as she looks she's also a tease! At meal times, she guards her meal until everyone else has eaten, then, when all attention is directed at her she will

slowly eat her meal, relishing every mouthful and pretending she's got the best dish. At bed time she rushes and bounces on the bed.

They both loved summer picnics even though Charlie is very fond of her home comforts and she's very funny at walk times... She will pretend she can't hear us calling and acts like she's fast asleep, 'til everyone's out the door then it's a "sudden wake-up", a mad dash to join Honey in front of everyone else! And Charlie does like a game of "tag, you're it" with us, indoors, outdoors, who cares - it's fun!

Cassie (14) and **Zebbie** (13) are another pair - each has her own "little ways" but the thing they never tire of is playing ball together - it is so lovely to watch! Cassie especially loved the paddling pool and she does like a bit of telly - any animals on there and she's fixated with her little head going from side to side. She's also a socialite and loves meeting new dogs and people when we're out walking. At the end of the day, it's upside down on the sofa, snoring!! Zebbie has grown hugely in confidence since she's been here and now she's like a sergeant-major, barking her orders to all and sundry. So friendly and



Charlie



Honey



Cassie and Zebbie



Sharlie

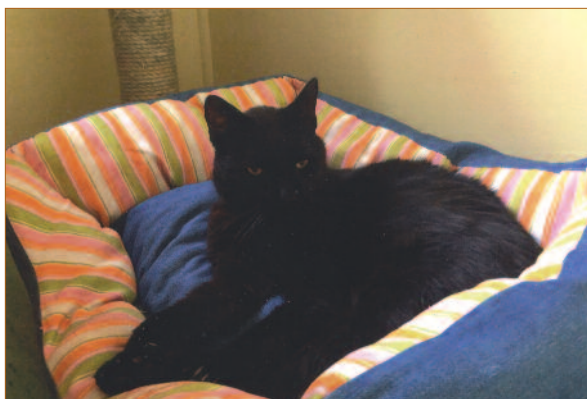
with such a sweet nature, nobody minds! She has to “re-make” every bed going before she walks off and lays on the floor!

Sharlie (13) is a perfect addition to the family - the cutest little fluff ball of joy. She might be tiny but she's clever - she never wasted her time learning all those silly words like “sit” or “stay” but she did choose to learn “din dins”, “walkies”, “chicken”, “good girl” - she just loves praise. Impossible to resist, ready for anything, friends with everyone, what a girl!



Lucy

Lucy (14), a Jack Russell/Sheltie mix, is a sweetheart and so loveable. She is very laid back and unassuming, and another impossible to resist. She's a country girl through and through and loves her walks and often takes a stroll around the fields to check on everything. And she does love a good cuddle, she will lick you to let you know not to stop until she says so! She's really enjoyed all the summer fun, whatever's going, Lucy is there



Billie

Then we had a gorgeous family of six cats arrive - well five actually, because **Billie** (14) was missing and nowhere to be found when we went to fetch them, but three weeks later he was spotted and we managed to bring him home. He was overjoyed at meeting his family again and a real “tears in your eyes” moment as they all made such a fuss of



Pickles



Muppet



Humphrey



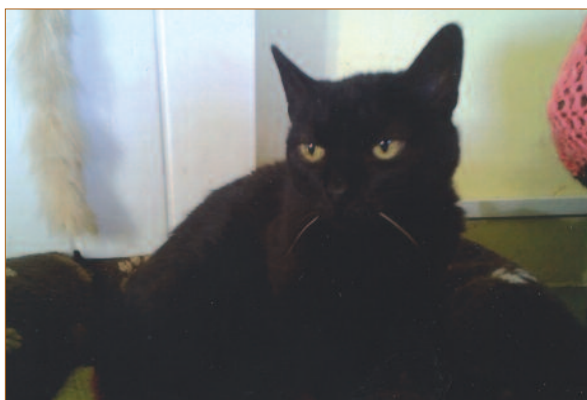
Topsy

each other. Billie has settled and now shows how affectionate, friendly and playful he is. **Pickles** (18) is the oldest and she has very particular tastes - she'll only eat fresh chicken or cat biscuits. She spends much of her time in blissful reverie but enjoys sun bathing when it's "just right" outside! **Muppet** and **Topsy** are both 16. Muppet, a petite, fluffy girl who loves to have a good chat with you and, if you sing, she'll join in! Topsy is also chatty, he's disabled since birth (he can't jump and he walks sideways) but so happy he'd win any prize for the loudest purr and he loves being held like a baby. He's the first to welcome visitors who all fall in love with this charming boy. **Humphrey** (13) is a girl! She so loves to cuddle in to you but watch out if you have some beef



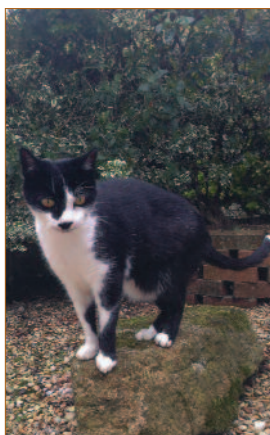
Saffron

skirt on offer - she'll take your hand off! Last but not least is **Saffron** (14). He has attitude - he puts everyone in their place, including us, he goes for regular walks around the grounds, making sure everything is satisfactory, and pouncing on anything that moves - he's having fun with autumn leaves! That done, he comes in and everyone has to listen to the story of today's adventure!



Panny

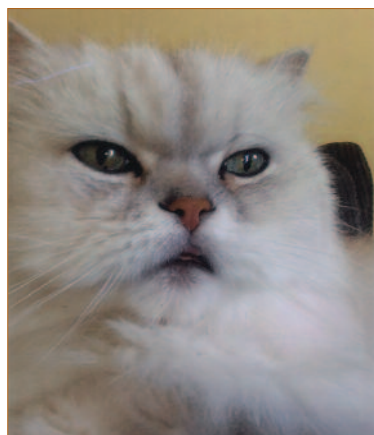
A smaller family of three have also joined us. **Panny** (18) is mum to **Tippy** and **Toppy** (14). Panny is very playful and very feisty - she plays to kill! Watch out catnip mice!! She also has a great appetite and demands snacks at regular intervals... Tippy and Toppy are as thick as thieves and once they realised that not all our other residents want to be pounced on, they just use each other as trampolines. Very funny to watch playing, very loving and



Tippy



Toppy



Oliver

they have great appetites - fuel for the adventures outdoors together.

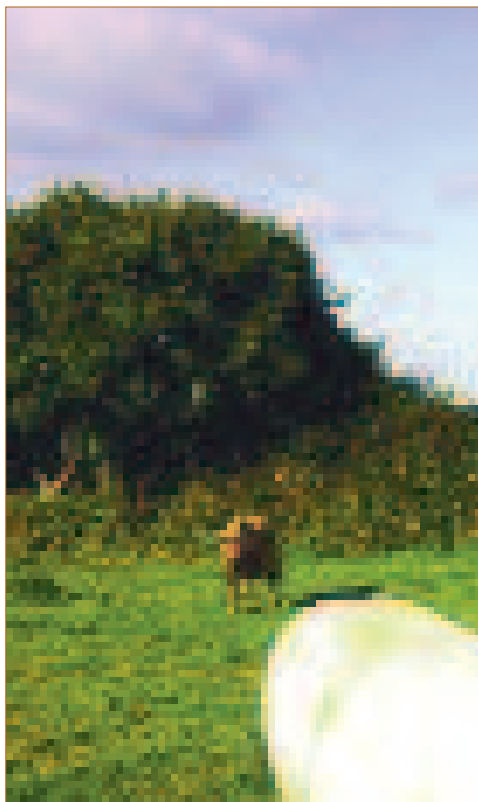
And beautiful, stunning, **Oliver** (14) has stolen hearts without even trying. He has refined tastes - fresh fish or chicken and he has really loved the summer sunshine. He's his own little man and from grooming to socialising and pastimes, it's all on his terms but as you can imagine, he is so cuddle-able!

We waited with great excitement as the arrival of a family of five Shetland ponies from Cumbria was imminent. We'd travelled them gently over several days, which was best for them but hard to contain ourselves! Then they were here, the door came down, and out they calmly walked - fantastic!

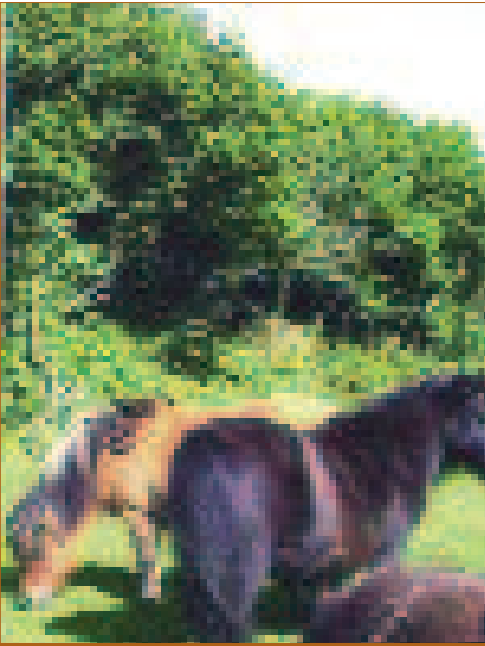
Brigit (25) is the mother of **Bella** (12) and **Buttons** (13) and although she likes to check on them during the day, she does like her own space. She's taken a fancy to and plays with Tim, one of our other Shetlands. She's very gentle and wise. Bella was a bit nervous at first but has transformed into a loving, pampered princess. She'll take all the fuss she can get and loves to be involved with everything you do from filling the water bucket to poo picking in



Brigit



Bella



Whisper, Marion and Button

the fields - and she's very good at apple-bobbing! Buttons is a little madam. She loves our boys and teases them all day, strutting her stuff, you can hear her before you see her - squeaking and flirting with them. She sure is an eye-catcher. Her favourite summer treat was ice block with apples and carrots frozen in the middle - she didn't give up 'til she got what she wanted. **Marion** (10) is a sweetheart - perfect in every way. She makes loving and caring for her so easy as she loves to be pampered and so laid back her motto is "go with the flow"! She has her special love in **Whisper** (10). He is tiny, with the shortest little legs you've ever seen on a pony! A huge character in such a little package - he's full of fun and adventure and can put a smile on

anyone's face. He's always up to mischief and will play with his treat ball for hours. These five don't like being separated one bit, so as we had to build new stables for them, we've built one where they can all go in together to shelter from the cold, the rain or worse, snow!

And so to Christmas with its own special magic, not least sparkly eyed excited residents when the turkey comes out of the oven happy days!



Poetry Corner

Our first poem is from **Christine Shove** in Aberdeen:

For Candy

My old dog rests her tired head on my knee,
ears that don't hear, eyes that can hardly see.
We've had such fun together now it's time to say goodbye,
I could never bear to think that one day you would die.
Your final day on earth we'll spend together me and you,
and do one last time all the things you like to do.
I'll stroke your silky head old friend and be with you at the last,

only memories will be left of a time too quickly past.
So rest your weary head on my knee dear friend,
I know this goodbye won't really be the end.
I'll see you again when at last I come,
to join you one day in that heavenly home.
Where all who've ever loved will meet once more,
and you will greet me as you've done so many times before.



Sent in by **David Bolton** and written by **Mary Levick-Atkins**, this is perfect for Christmas:

Away In A Manger

The little black cat knew her time had come.
But she was a stray and had no home.
The leaf-lined hollow where she lay was chill,
The wind-blown bracken thin, and offering little shelter,
Boding ill for her coming litter.

She sensed that near was warmth and
shelter from the winter's bitter blast,
And watched the ladies with their secateurs
Trim and cut the holly in the Church's porch
And twine the ivy, and arrange the pure whiteness of
the flowers until, at last they left.

The open door invited, and she crept within
With footfall soft and deft.

She sniffed the strange sweet harshness of evergreen,
The incense of chrysanthemum, a whiff of fresh warm straw
And what was more,
Quite near her quivering whiskers,
She leaped into the welcoming safety of the manger
And pushed the Christ-child just a little further on,
Making room for her, the Stranger.

Christ's Mass dawned,
And choir and congregation sang, and Heaven with jubilation rang,
And in the crib's strawed comfort curled the little stray,
Amber eyes a-blink with love and ecstasy
On this, HER infant son's birth day.

The children crowded round as children will;
But in that Holy place she had no fear,
And joined her rapturous purring song with theirs,
Just loud enough for God to hear.



And Finally

The years seem to race by and this one is no exception but we have so many glorious sunshine memories to warm us through the winter. Before we look forward to Spring I must thank all of you who make Cinnamon Trust so special, our volunteers, staff, supporters, those we help and their beloved pets.

As Christmas approaches with its eternal message of love and hope, as this year draws to an end and a new one begins, let us pause once again, raise a glass, and remember with undying love and gratitude, absent friends.

A very happy Christmas and May 2014 be kind to us all.

God Bless, everyone.

Averil R. Jarvis MBE
Founder and Chief Executive

