



The Cinnamon Trust

The national charity for older people,
the terminally ill and their pets



**THIS IS SAACHI; READ ABOUT THE PLANS
FOR HER NEW HOUSE ON PAGE 33!**



Dear Friends,

Spring is finally here, and with it comes a sense of fresh energy and new beginnings! I just wanted to take a moment to say a big THANK YOU for being part of our journey. Your support means the world to us and is what keeps us moving forward.

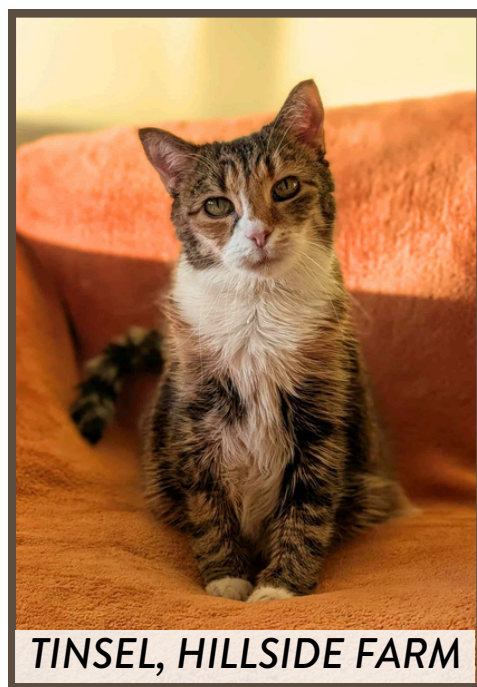
This year is all about growth and renewal, and that’s exactly what we’re focused on; finding new ways to make a positive impact together. One of the most exciting developments is our new cat home at Poldarves Farm, where the builders have started preparing the way, eagerly watched by the ducks, geese and Pepper pig, of course!



After the great fun of celebrating our 40th year, we were thrilled to learn that we’ve once again been listed among The World’s Happiest Workplaces for 2026. It’s a fantastic start to the year and a true reflection of the wonderful team working across The Cinnamon Trust.

Looking ahead, our Big Walk on the Early May Bank Holiday (4th May 2026) will continue to shine a light on the incredible work our volunteers do every single day. We’re delighted that Pet’s Larder here in Hayle and Natures Menu are sponsoring the goody bags with tasty treats!

We’ll also be launching our ‘Regional Representatives’, volunteers who will keep an eye on their county to make sure The Trust is included in local events, talks, and fundraising opportunities. Having someone on the ground will make a huge difference.



Part of what makes us different as a charity is our two dedicated sanctuaries for those pets who need specialist care or have reached their twilight years. In this edition we show you behind the scenes at Poldarves. Look out for our feature on Hillside in our next newsletter.

Here’s to a year full of possibilities, progress, and plenty of sunshine. Thank you for being such an important part of our story and for everything you do.

Take care

Patrick Williams
Chief Executive



Feline Friendships



Our brilliant volunteers offer cat care: this could mean brushing a long haired beauty, helping to change litter trays or transporting a four-legged friend to the vet.

Let's hear from one of those volunteers, Kirsty, who has made friends with two lovely gentlemen, Raj & John...

I have been visiting John and Raj since June 2024 and it is the highlight of my week. I visit twice every week and help with Raj's (very high-tech) litter tray. My other duties include giving Raj lots of cuddles, listening to his chirps and meows as he updates me on his week, (and the lack of food in his still full bowl).



RAJ & DAD, JOHN

Raj recently celebrated his 20th birthday and I attended his party with my husband and son. Raj was an absolute delight and made sure to come and greet us and thank us for attending with a cuddle.

We have two cats of our own at home, and I know how empty a house can feel without the presence of the little chirps, the purring and the patter of paws. I'm honoured to represent The Cinnamon Trust in supporting John in looking after Raj, and hope to continue my weekly visits for as long as John and Raj will have me.



John's nephew Alexander continues...

My uncle John has Parkinson's and his sight is declining, so I have helped him to share his story. John approached The Cinnamon Trust when he starting to find it increasingly hard to manage Raj's litter tray.

Raj is now very fortunate to be supported by The Trust and is the happy recipient of visits from Kirsty, which are without doubt the highlights of his week.



Last November, Raj celebrated his 20th Birthday. He was present at the occasion in full party mode, welcoming his friends and showing his gratitude for their care and attention. Raj is without doubt the most human-like pet we have had the fortune to know and love for these past two decades. If there were ever a case for describing a feline as Man's Best Friend, Raj would certainly fit into his category!

But what is his secret? The first answer is **luck**. Raj and his sister Ellie came to live with John in the spring of 2006. Fortunately, on that day, John had arrived early at the rescue centre, beating several other potential owners that had expressed interest in them. So, they were never short of options for a good home. Sadly Ellie passed away after a lovely life with John and Raj. Raj continues to spread joy to all who meet him.

The second is **love**. Raj is very affectionate, to the extent that sometimes you wonder whether he is really a human in a cat-suit. He adores people and likes to be involved while you work and rest. He will always greet you and enters into conversations. His social interaction will normally include an attempt to get onto your shoulders and even face-to face contact if you let him. Raj gives so much and is a loving addition to any situation or occasion.

The third answer is **leisure**. Raj will not be alone in some of the characteristics already mentioned, but he probably is one of a very small minority who visit their local pub and engage socially. Over the years, he has become a regular who has even had a draught beer named after him. When his busy social life catches up with him however, Raj, of course knows how to take a rest properly. He has therefore been able to strike a healthy balance between play and sleep in his spare time.

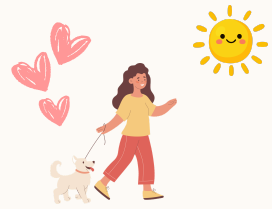


The final answer to Raj's secret is his **lust for life**. Raj has always made the most of every opportunity and he is not easily forgotten by those who meet him. He knows how to give back the affection he receives and, having now entered his second decade, still strongly supports his owner, close family and friends.

Thank you so much to Kirsty and The Cinnamon Trust for helping Raj to continue to be who he is and for your care and support. This means the world to John and, of course, to Raj. Congratulations on reaching such a grand age Raj; you are a true star!



Dog Walking Stories



Volunteer Sarah, in Hampshire writes...

By five o'clock, my brain is spreadsheet grey, Teams-notification numb and running on fumes. But the moment I head over to collect Alfred and Stanley for our evening walk, everything changes.

As I walk towards the door, I spot them – two Jack Russell-shaped projectiles zooming around the sofa, knocking each other off, scrambling back up and doing it all again with comic determination. By the time I reach the door, they're vibrating with anticipation and greet me in an excited rush. There's always a moment when I clip on their leads that I feel a warm spark in my tummy – a reminder that joyful chaos is about to begin.



Before long, we're on the beach and the boys are playfully wrestling, whizzing around, and abruptly stopping to interrogate a leaf or pebble as I try to stay on my feet! Locals now recognise them; they've earned minor celebrity status for their elaborate and very funny beachfront wrestling routines!



Stanley, who has a round belly and warm-grey heart-shaped splotches on his white coat, is normally first to lead the charge as he's the more confident of the pair. He approaches every dog he sees with his chest puffed out, convinced that he's going to make a new friend. Alfred, who is longer, leaner and speckled with black and white patches, takes a more strategic approach. He pauses to check where Stan is, glances up for reassurance as he decides whether sprinting full pelt is, in fact, the most tactical choice. But Alfred's caution disappears the moment he commits to chasing his brother. He clamps on to Stanley's harness and lets himself be towed across the sand like a determined, spotted hitchhiker. Stanley powers forward without a flicker of awareness that he's hauling extra cargo!

By the time we loop back home, my shoulders have unknotted and the workday feels pleasantly distant. Walking these two delightful characters is a reminder, in the most straightforward way, that joy doesn't need to be complicated.

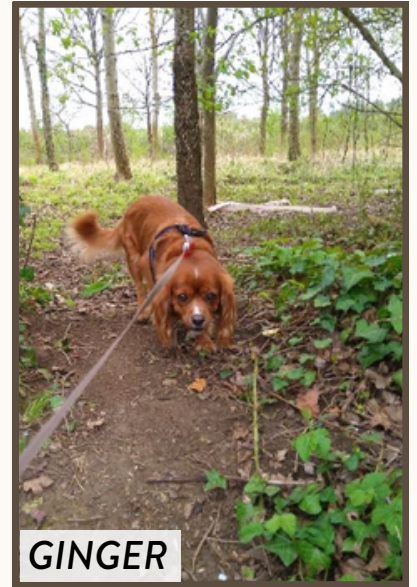
What a magical quote from Laura in Somerset: "Volunteering has made me feel more connected, grateful and ultimately, happier as a person."

Volunteering for The Cinnamon Trust has been one of the most meaningful things I've ever done. My journey with the charity began not as a volunteer, but as someone whose family received their support. My mum was sadly diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease (MND) and during a very



difficult time, The Cinnamon Trust helped ensure she could keep her beloved dogs by her side. Their help meant the world to us. Mum not only received practical support but also formed friendships with the volunteers who helped her. She always spoke highly of them and really enjoyed their visits. When Mum passed, the volunteers attended her funeral which was so touching. Our family took in Mum's dogs and loved them until they, too, passed.

After losing Mum, I knew I wanted to give something back to the charity that had supported her so kindly. I started volunteering last year and now walk a lovely Cavalier called Ginger. Her owner, Rachel, is absolutely lovely and I've really enjoyed getting to know her too.



Our regular walks have become something I genuinely look forward to; it's a way to help someone else, just like those volunteers who helped my mum.

Walking Ginger through the beautiful countryside of South Somerset has become an important part of my routine, and I often bring along my own dog, Ralph, who's always up for an adventure! The walks are not only beneficial for the dogs but for me as well. They give me a reason to get outside, enjoy nature and feel good about doing something that matters.

I'm also about to walking another local dog for The Trust and I'm excited to fit this into my life as a part-time teacher and a mum of two. Life is certainly busy, but making time to help others, especially in a way that honours the help my Mum once received, is something that brings me real happiness.

Being a part of The Cinnamon Trust reminds me daily of how important community and kindness are. It's much more than just walking dogs: it's about showing up for people when they need it most. Volunteering has made me feel more connected, grateful, and ultimately, happier as a person.



We travel now to Northumberland to hear from Alfie's owner Angela...

Alfie is a Terrier, which could spell terror! And like all Terriers, he has a mind of his own, but that's all part of his charm! For the eleven years I have owned him, he has been my best friend. When I became less mobile, walking Alfie was increasingly difficult. I bought a mobility scooter, and this helped, but I couldn't give Alfie the long walks that an active little dog needed.

Contacting The Cinnamon Trust was one of the best moves I've ever made. They introduced me to several volunteer dog walkers in the area. That was some five years ago and two of them are still walking him. Alfie welcomes them with open paws as he knows he will have a fun, long walk. We are lucky to have both the countryside and the beach close by, both of which he loves! So, thank you to The Cinnamon Trust for everything that you've done for me and my Alfie.

ALFIE



Volunteer Leo tells his side of the tale...

Like many of The Cinnamon Trust's staff and supporters, I'm mad about dogs and have been since I was little. Back in 2016, as part of my Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, I was looking to volunteer. I came across The Cinnamon Trust and couldn't believe my luck. I read about all the great support they offered elderly people and their pets, including help with dog walking. It sounded like the perfect opportunity, so I jumped at the chance to volunteer with them.

Now here I am, many years down the line, still doing what I love for some wonderful people and making memories along the way. I'm amazed that almost ten years has passed since I first joined The Cinnamon Trust! I recently walked the gorgeous Alfie, a little Patterdale-Cross, to help his owner

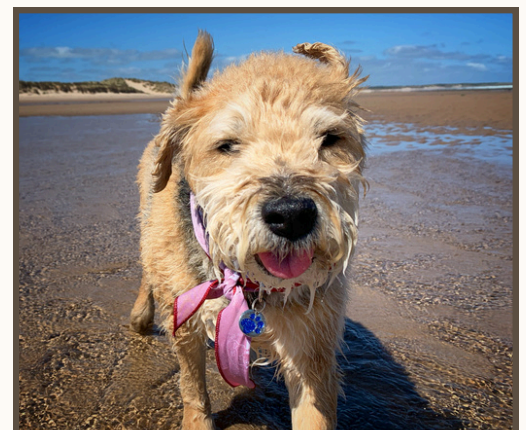
Angela. At first, he wondered who I was and made a bit of a scene whenever I showed up at their house. But he soon settled down and, every Wednesday afternoon when I rang the doorbell, Alfie knew it was time for his walk.

We started by exploring the local area around Druridge Bay before venturing further. One day, we took a trip down to Alnmouth Beach. Alfie was well behaved in the car and got lots of treats as a reward! Alfie and I have enjoyed many adventures together. I've taken hundreds of photos but have chosen a couple of my favourites – I think you'll agree that he's the sweetest boy!

Last summer, we took part in The Big Walk event (one of my highlights since being part of The Cinnamon Trust). We travelled down to Newcastle-upon-Tyne to meet lots of other keen dog walkers and their owners. Lots of the dogs, including Alfie, wore 40th Anniversary bandanas to celebrate.

I was amazed to see how many people took part; we all shared our special stories and memories, it was lovely. And everybody was given a goody bag filled with treats for our dogs. Alfie was a very happy boy, that's for sure!

Since moving away, I'm no longer able to walk Alfie, but I know he still gets his regular 'Wednesday walkies' with the new volunteer that has joined 'Team Alfie'. Supporting The Cinnamon Trust means so much to people and their pets that really need it, and I'm so happy to be part of that.



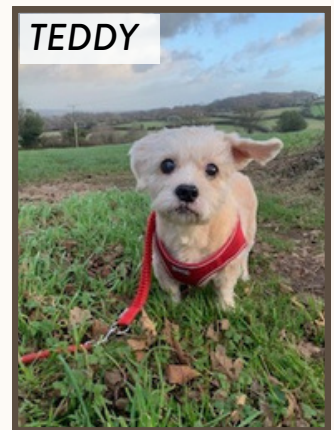
'A Dedication to Brian, Val, and Teddy' by volunteer Chrissy in Cornwall...

I have been a volunteer with The Cinnamon Trust for four years and, for almost three of those, I've had the privilege of walking a very special dog named Teddy. Teddy was a rescue dog, adopted by the lovely Brian and Val. To say that Brian and Teddy adored each other would be an understatement. They were inseparable. Teddy is undoubtedly a man's best friend and, with Brian, he discovered a bond that was truly unique.

Brian had been poorly for some time and throughout those difficult years Teddy never left his side. He stayed with Brian day and night, offering comfort, company and unwavering loyalty. Their bond was something truly beautiful to witness. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to Brian in November 2025 and his loss has been felt deeply by everyone who had the honour of knowing him. He was a gentle giant: warm, kind and someone who quietly touched the hearts of those around him. But of course, the biggest impact has been on his beloved wife, Val, and on Teddy.

With help from Val, Teddy likes to jump up and sit in Brian's chair. Even though he has his own little chair. He chooses Brian's place next to Val, as though keeping watch and staying close to where he feels Brian should be. In many ways, Val and Teddy are looking after each other now. Teddy brings comfort and routine, while she brings reassurance and a gentle presence. Their relationship is a testament to the power of love and companionship.

Chrissy writes... Teddy is now 15, soon to be 16, and while we take our walks a little slower these days, he still finds so much joy in the world. Every blade of grass needs sniffing (usually two or three times!) and he always manages to find something interesting to investigate. He might be a fair-weather boy who would rather avoid the rain, but his character and charm shine through in every outing.



Being Teddy's walking buddy has enriched my life more than I ever expected. I work remotely in a quiet, rural location and heading out with Teddy, no matter the weather, gets me away from the computer and into the world of humans and canines. Our walks give me structure, purpose and a reason to lace up my trainers each day. I've made friends I never would have met otherwise, simply by stopping to talk to neighbours or other dog walkers. Over time, even my partner has joined us on our walks, and Teddy now feels like a cherished part of our little family too.



Teddy gives so much back without even knowing it. He's a stubborn devil when he wants to be, a nightmare when you try to dry his paws (it's like a rugby tackle each time) but he's also a joy, a comfort, a teacher of patience and a reminder of how powerful love can be – particularly during loss. I feel incredibly lucky to be part of his journey and to support Val in any small way I can. Brian may no longer be here, but his love continues to live on in Teddy, in Val and in the lives he quietly touched. Thank you, Cinnamon Trust, for making these connections possible. They don't just change the lives of pets and owners; they change ours too.



MARLEY & VOLUNTEER KAY

A wonderful all-around view into the joys of dog walking support, starts with owner Maggie...

I took in little Marley two years ago, just before Christmas. I hadn't planned on adopting a dog, but when I saw him, I knew he belonged with me at home.

Marley and I enjoyed many lovely walks together and really got to know each other. He was a brilliant walking companion. After an injury, I found walking longer distances very difficult and worried about how I'd carry on giving Marley the exercise he relied on.

I remembered The Cinnamon Trust from years before when I'd been a volunteer myself, looking after dogs while their owners were in hospital. I called them straight away and, to my relief, they said they could help. I now have two wonderful ladies, Kay and Sam (and her two sweet daughters pictured below) who come to walk him. Marley is a lovable dog, so the volunteers get as much enjoyment from the walks as he does!

Marley is a huge comfort to me. The Cinnamon Trust and the volunteers have made it possible for me to keep him, which I'm incredibly grateful for.

Marley's dog walking volunteers are up next:

Jasmine (13)

We've been walking Marley for three months now and I can't wait to see him each week! Maggie and Marley are both so sweet, it's always lovely to see how excited Marley is when we go to pick him up. We've taken him all around Exeter and he especially loves walking by the river. He trots ahead and always wants to be the leader but makes sure to look behind and check on us!

Ruby (9)

Marley is a sweet and funny dog. I love walks with him. He's well behaved and has even inspired me to write a story about him. Maggie is always really kind and I enjoy chatting with her. Walking Marley is a nice calming thing to do on a Sunday and I look forward to many more delightful walks with him.

Sam (Mum)

We all look forward to Sunday and our walk with Marley. We enjoy thinking of new places to take him and enjoy spending time together as a family. Marley is a gentle, happy, easy going and sweet dog. He's enjoyed trips to woodlands and rivers. He likes stopping to dip his paws in the water, sniffing the air like he is contemplating diving in. He loves being the leader on walks and happily bobs along, ears flapping. He's now so pleased to see us when we arrive which makes us smile.



JASMINE, MARLEY & RUBY

Volunteering for The Cinnamon Trust isn't just about the lovely dogs we get to walk but also the friendships that are formed with the owners. Maggie has been so kind and caring. She is always up for a chat and asks how our weeks have been. We've been connected with some lovely people and dogs through our volunteering and we feel lucky to have met Maggie and Marley. We look forward to many more happy Marley walks.

And now from Dorset, we hear about a not so typical dog walk...

At the same time each day, Cinnamon Trust volunteer, Kitty sets off on a familiar route, heading out for a walk she knows by heart. But before long, another figure quietly joins her. Humphrey, a sleek black cat and Kitty's neighbour, appears as if on cue. No matter the weather, even in snow, Humphrey insists on coming along.

Accompanied by Humphrey, Kitty walks on to collect Izzy, a beautiful King Charles Cavalier who lives nearby with her human, Sylvia. Izzy looks forward to these regular outings and greets both Kitty and Humphrey with unmistakable enthusiasm.

Humphrey takes his walking duties very seriously and has even been known to turn up ready for a walk when Kitty has been away. Although Kitty initially tried to discourage him, worried about his safety, Humphrey is a streetwise boy who knows the quiet area well.

Humphrey's owner, Lindsey, is very proud of his unusual hobby. Together, Izzy and Humphrey are a wonderful sight, often prompting neighbours to step out onto their balconies and smile at the unexpected scene of a cat accompanying a dog on her walk.

Sylvia says she has never seen such a strong friendship between a dog and a cat and Izzy loves nothing more than coming to the door to greet both Humphrey and Kitty.



SYLVIA, IZZY & HUMPHREY



Mother and daughter team, Carly and Thea, tell us about dog walking in Warwickshire...

While we've always had our own pets, including mice, guinea pigs and a hamster, a year ago we decided to adopt two rescue dogs. They've been a wonderful addition to our family. They bring us so much fun and have really shown me just how much my daughter thrives from being in the company of animals. We've had a great year with them and have taken them to various dog shows and events – one of which we were awarded second best dog in show!

We've fully embraced the wonderful world of dogs, which has come as a shock to most people who know me, as I've never been much of a dog person before now! As with most rescue dogs, our two have come with their own challenges and have been hard work to train to a point where we'd like

them to be. While they are still improving all the time, they can often be tricky when out walking, especially with there being two of them, so I thought it would be lovely to gain experience walking other dogs. When we learned about The Cinnamon Trust, we decided that it would be a great way to make the most of our love of dogs and our newly acquired training knowledge!

Shortly after joining, we were matched with Flo, an 11-year-old poodle. You could not imagine a dog more different from our own! While our tiny young dogs like to chase and bark at absolutely everything, Flo is an exceptionally calm dog who acts like a true lady. Going for a dog walk with Flo is a totally different experience to our own spritely dogs! Flo lives with the wonderful Joan, who has had dogs all her life, including many who she took to Crufts. After our walks, we stop to chat with Joan, who is super knowledgeable on all things dog, and has taught both myself and my daughter so much. As much as we look forward to our walk with Flo, we also cherish our little chats with Joan afterwards.



CARLEY, THEA & FLO

One of the best things about our walks is that it is an hour of our day when my daughter and I have no need to rush and have nothing else going on, so she chats to me about all kinds of crazy and wonderful things - these last few weeks she's been imagining her dream house and telling me all about it: it's been hilarious and fantastic to hear all of her imaginative plans!

To anyone who has time to spare, volunteering for The Cinnamon Trust is rewarding in so many ways. It's heartwarming to see the strong bond between Joan and Flo and, if our dog walks help to keep them together for as long as possible, I couldn't ask for much more!



SHIZZI

Shizzi, a Shih Tzu from Surrey, tells us about what it is like being a part of The Cinnamon Trust...

Hello everyone! My name is Shizzi and I'm a 15-year-old Shi Tzu. I live with a lovely lady called Wendy and I have four very nice people who will give me a biscuit if I take them for a walk.

Vicki pops by on a Wednesday. I look forward to her visits as she takes me for a little ride in her car and we visit the local cricket ground. I enjoy it very much as there are lots of interesting smells and other dogs. We do a couple of laps and then, if I feel like it, we walk around the block. There is a school adjacent to the ground and, as it's lunch time, all the children are in the playground. They call out to me as I go by and we usually stop to say hello. But I am used to this kind of thing, people seem to flock to me wherever I go. Mum says it's because I am so handsome.

My volunteer Vicki wanted to tell you about our fun walks!

"I was introduced to The Cinnamon Trust by my sister who was also walking a dog in her local area. I take Shizzi out each Wednesday morning, which I've been doing for the past year. He's 15 years old now which is hard to believe because he scoots along at such speed. He is a special little friend to me and he has helped me overcome the grief of losing our beloved dalmatian, Luna. It has been a pleasure to have become a part of The Cinnamon Trust!"



You're my special friend too, Vicki! I also have lovely Freda who arrives on a Thursday afternoon and I get very excited to go for my weekly walk with her. If I'm a good boy (I always am of course), I get a treat or two and if she forgets I remind her by slowing down or stopping and giving her my best doggy smile! I like to walk certain routes where there are the best sniffs and Freda follows obediently behind! Freda has been walking me for over 7 years: we are very good walking buddies and enjoy our time together.

By the time my other pal, Carrie, arrives on a Friday, you'd think I'd be quite tired. But no, I love to go out and I always make sure to greet her enthusiastically because I know it makes her happy. Once she has said hello to Wendy and put on my harness, I take the lead because I know exactly which direction I want to go in. Carrie has to jog to keep up (even though her legs are a lot longer than mine) but I think she loves it as much as I do! Once I get to the green, it's all about sniffing who has been by recently and then it is a smart walk around the block.

Over to volunteer Carrie who would like to say a few words...



"My job can be very busy, but I'm able to leave early each Friday to walk Shizzi. It's a real highlight of my week – he's such a cheerful chap and however tricky or tiring the week has been, he makes me smile. And as much as it helps Wendy to have us volunteers, it really helps me too to keep a good work life balance. Whatever is happening at work, my teams know I leave at 3pm for Shizzi, no debate! I really like supporting Wendy, Shizzi and The Cinnamon Trust more widely. I think the work The Trust does is so important and it's comforting to know that if I ever needed help, they would be there."

Thanks Carrie, you're a su-paw-star!

My Mum, or 'Wendy' as most people call her would also like to say a few words (don't believe what she says about me being naughty!):

"I'm Wendy, Mum to my little rascal for the past 15 years. Shizzi is the naughtiest dog I have ever had and can be very stubborn when he wants to be. I took him to puppy training classes but all he wanted to do was play with another tearaway puppy! In one of the classes, the puppies were introduced to farm animals, where Shizzi encountered a mature sheep. He bounded up to her, full of energy and ready to play. Not at all amused, the sheep promptly nudged him - at which he looked very surprised.

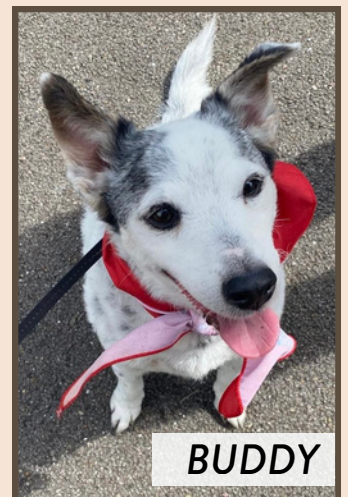
At 15, I would not have expected him to behave like such a Peter Pan dog. But no, he still does his zoomies. He is also an escapologist - there were many times when I was younger and more mobile that I had to chase after him. He would pretend not to hear my commands and carry on about his business. All that being said, he has been a wonderful companion and I love him to bits! My most sincere thanks go to The Cinnamon Trust and my lovely volunteers for all the support over the years."

And a huge thank you from me, Shizzi - I know that I'm a very lucky little dog!

Another touching family view now, written by Lucy, in Bedfordshire...

I've always loved animals and have begged my Mum for a dog for as long as I can remember. But, because of our busy schedules, we haven't been able to have one of our own. One day, my Nanna mentioned The Cinnamon Trust and straight away we signed up to volunteer.

That's where Buddy comes in. My Mum, sister and I have been walking him for almost four years now. He's an elderly Jack Russell who is packed with love. As soon as we ring the doorbell, he's waiting ready to smother us in kisses. Buddy has just the right amount of attitude for a dog (like the time he tried to scramble up a brick wall to chase a cat!). That's what makes him so great.



BUDDY



BUDDY WITH CAREY, AMY & LUCY

His owner, Sheila, is absolutely lovely. She always greets us with a warm welcome and we have a good old natter. I've learnt so much from Sheila through her strength, gratitude and generosity. Her love for Buddy is endless, almost as much as Buddy's love for food! Over time, our walks have become about more than just exercise for Buddy; a true friendship with Sheila has blossomed, too. Our walks with Buddy mean a lot to us. It allows me, my Mum and my sister to spend quality time

together and has given us a great friend in Sheila. I always look forward to walking Buddy, even on the days when rain pours or strong winds blow. It's also a great way for me to keep up with my physio and spend time in nature, so it's win-win!

We've had the pleasure of attending a couple of Cinnamon Trust Big Walks, meeting other volunteers and their animal friends. Buddy loves exploring new places, wearing his Cinnamon Trust bandana with pride to impress the ladies! Volunteering with The Cinnamon Trust has done so much more than just help Buddy and Sheila stay together at home, it's provided us with a sense of connection, community and many, many smiles. So, thank you to The Cinnamon Trust and Sheila for giving us with this wonderful opportunity.

Katie shows her dedication to volunteering in the West Midlands...

In early 2019, I was contacted by The Cinnamon Trust and asked if I would help walk a dog named Georgie for a lady in Kenilworth. I was told that Georgie was a German Shepherd cross Shar Pei and he didn't quite know his own strength, so they needed someone strong and confident. That was 6 years ago and Georgie has been a big part of my life ever since.

Georgie is the most loving boy and over time he's become like my own. Despite his size, he's scared of his own shadow! Especially when it comes to fireworks or any kind of loud bangs.

He's definitely a creature of habit. Georgie loves his routine and insists on doing the same walk every Sunday, no veering off the route! We walk around the castle in Kenilworth and his favourite part is a field we've fondly named Georgie's Field. It's where he loves exploring, sniffing and meeting other dogs.

When I first met Georgie, he was just 3 years old. Now, years later, he's getting slower and greyer with age (aren't we all!). But he's still the same sweet, loyal boy. Over time, I've also become very good friends with Georgie's owner, Joan. She is always so grateful for me walking him and loves to receive photos and videos of him on his adventures.

The Cinnamon Trust is such an amazing charity, providing lifelines for people and their pets. Without them, many owners like Joan wouldn't be able to keep their devoted companions, especially a big boy like Georgie! Last year, I even had the pleasure of volunteering at The Cinnamon Trust stand at Dog Edition Live at Stoneleigh. It was brilliant to meet other local walkers and supporters and share our stories. Thank you, Cinnamon Trust, for everything you do for Joan, for Georgie and for so many others.

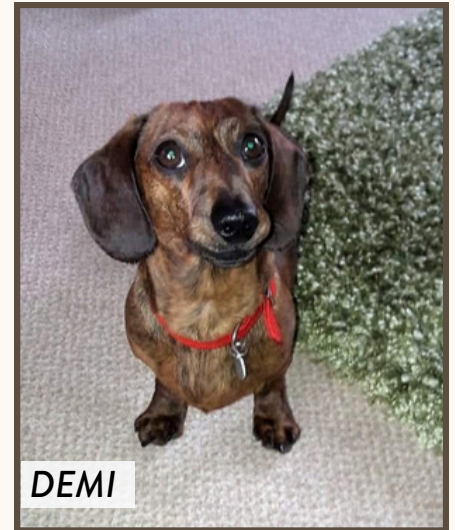


Now a two part view, first from our volunteer Wendy in Cambridgeshire...

I first heard of The Cinnamon Trust when it was nominated as our company's Charity of the Year in 2016. When the company's charity year ended in 2017, I decided to apply to become a volunteer dog walker so that I could continue to support The Trust.

My first dog was Audrey, a lovely little Border Terrier. On our first walk together, Audrey, being the headstrong female that she was, knew her favourite routes and was keen to stay on the well-trodden path - so that we did! We went on to enjoy many walks together, but we always had to take the same route to the park. Sadly, Audrey's owner passed away after a couple of years and Audrey was taken into Forever Foster with The Trust so I was able to visit her in her loving new home, which was always lovely.

Over the following years, I have been lucky enough to always have dogs to walk. Some for only short periods, where an owner has been temporarily incapacitated, which included Raven, a sweet Dachshund. While chatting to Raven's owner, Jon, after my second walk, I clocked some photos on display. I then realised that I'd been his bridesmaid over fifty years ago - what a small world!



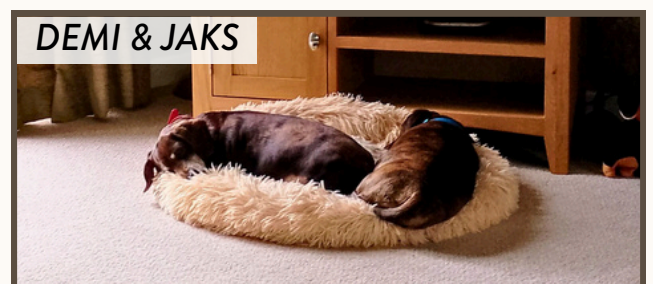
My current doggie pals are Demi and Jaks, two adorable Dachshunds - what a welcome they give me! Hearing their barks and seeing their wagging tails is a tonic and makes my day. They may be small, but they have such big characters! A quick hello to Wanda, their owner, and we're off. And while they love their walks, they are always happy to get home, too, as they know that their biscuits are waiting for them.

While writing this, I realise how walking Cinnamon Trust dogs for ten years has become such a big part of my life. It is such a privilege to be allowed to help the owners and their pets and the payback is immense - just so rewarding. I would recommend to anyone thinking of volunteering to 'just do it'!

And Demi and Jaks owner, Wanda...

I'd just like to tell everyone how grateful my two Miniature Dachshunds, Demi and Jaks are to Wendy who comes and walks them. The 'Demon Daxies', as they're affectionately known, absolutely adore her! Though Demi, who is 13, is often reluctant to go out when it's cold, she always enjoys her walks and returns home, tail wagging joyfully.

The dogs wait impatiently for Wendy. They have a ritual where she has to give them a treat out of their treat tin before they go and they expect a dog biscuit when they get home! Sadly, I can't walk far anymore due to health problems so it's such a weight off my mind to know that the Daxies get regular walks.



'How Dogs can Lead us to Love' from owner Judith, in West Yorkshire...

Long before hearing about The Cinnamon Trust, I regularly took my dog, Jason, for walks in the woods on a beautiful ridge of land, 'The Chevin' above our town, enjoying the beauty of our local landscape. One day, I was busy locking up the car before we started our walk and when I turned around, I saw Jason bounding around happily with a Labrador.

"Max!" came a command. What a brilliant name for such a handsome dog, I thought, as Max took absolutely no notice of his owner. A gentleman walked over, clipped a lead on Max, then smiled and apologised on Max's behalf. I soon learned that the gentleman's name was Eric. "No problem, Jason doesn't usually fraternise with strangers so your dog must be a bit special." We turned to cross the road and, like old friends, the four of us walked together, Eric and I putting the world to rights. By the time we returned to the car park, there was a spark and a feeling that this new friendship could be promising. It was, and not long after, Eric and I got married and have been together for more than 20 years!

Jason and Max grew old and passed away. Eric and I now have Robbie, a lively 4-year-old Cocker Spaniel. He's quite a handful, but without him, life wouldn't be the same. He tries hard to be a sensible dog, but that's not easy for any dog, (especially a Cocker Spaniel) no matter how hard he tries!

A couple of years ago, our circumstances changed quite drastically. I overdid it in the garden which resulted in osteoporosis, along with asthma and heart failure which I'd been trying to cope with. Six months later, with the help of a chiropractor, I could walk again, but sadly, lacking the energy needed for our lively young companion. Meanwhile, Eric, who has had diabetes for many years, got an infection in his foot and he was no longer able to take Robbie for his precious walks. We got by with help from our family and kind neighbours when, just as we seemed over the worst of it, Eric had to undergo further surgery.

Then one day, a friend told us about The Cinnamon Trust. It seemed too good to be true! Within just a few days of contacting them, we were linked with a volunteer who wanted to meet us and Robbie. She explained how everything worked and now a few months down the line, Robbie's social diary is many times busier than ours! Robbie has five wonderful volunteers; Claire, Neil, Sue, Alan and Ellie, that walk him every week. He waits at the front door, harness fastened and his lead on. It's the only time of the day when he is completely patient. Robbie absolutely loves his walks and I think his volunteers rather enjoy his company too! Knowing that Robbie is getting a great quality of life is such a relief for us and we feel very lucky to be part of this special community.



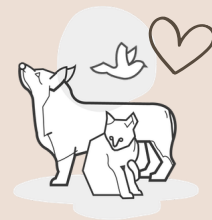
CLAIRE & ROBBIE



ELLIE, ALAN & ROBBIE

From finding love on a dog walk to making new friendships with dog walkers, it goes to show just how important our canine companions are to us, which is what makes The Cinnamon Trust so amazing. Thank you for all the support you have given us!

Emergency Fostering Stories



We hear from owner Marianne in West Sussex who expresses her gratitude for The Trust's Short Term Fostering service...

Last September, I had a fall outside our village shop, and broke my shoulder blade, my pelvis and banged my head. Inevitably, I ended up in hospital and was to find myself there for 9 weeks! My small, beloved dog, Jackson was immediately my greatest worry. He came to me as a rescue seven years ago; he is now aged 9 and I live alone with him.

I approached The Cinnamon Trust for help. Jackson is profiled with them, so that in the event of my death he will go to them and find a Forever Foster home under their care. What a relief that is to know! And in the event of hospitalisation or temporary disaster, I knew they would help if they could. And indeed, they did. They found Jackson a temporary foster home until I was able to return home. The lovely Kathy collected him and took him home.

The Cinnamon Trust kept in touch with me throughout and so did Kathy. She and her partner treated Jackson as their own and he adored them. It was such a relief, and I could stop worrying. Many of us older folk live alone with a pet that means the world to us. How lucky we are to know that The Cinnamon Trust is there. Not enough people know of the work that this small charity do for the elderly or terminally ill and their beloved pets.

Oh, Cinnamon Trust, what an amazing job you do! And you do it with empathy and kindness when we elderly, devoted pet owners need you the most. Thank you!

Volunteer Jayne in Hampshire, summarises Short Term Fostering perfectly and tells us 'How One Little Dog Showed Us the Power of The Cinnamon Trust'...

We had never owned a dog before, though my youngest son had wished for one for years. Wanting him to experience the responsibility of caring for a pet, while also hoping to help others, we reached out to The Trust.

Very quickly, we were matched with Lovely, a 14-year-old Miniature Schnauzer whose owner had been rushed into hospital. Lovely was needing some short term care. With a gentle spirit and a wonderfully calm presence, Lovely arrived with her soft grey curls, bright eyes and a personality that lived up to her name from the very first moment. Being an older dog, Lovely didn't enjoy long walks. Some days we only made it as far as the neighbour's drive before she would politely refuse to

go any further. But the moment we turned back toward home, she would trot along happily, her little legs suddenly full of energy. We quickly learned that Lovely knew exactly what she wanted, and she communicated it perfectly.

She had her own special ways of talking to us: a light paw on the leg when she needed to go into the garden, a gentle nudge after 9 p.m. to remind us it was time for her before-bed biscuits (a tradition we kept from her owner's routine). And every morning, without fail, she greeted us with the pure joy only a dog can give. Lovely adored attention, especially from anyone willing to offer a gentle stroke or a bit of fuss. When she wasn't collecting cuddles, she was usually curled up asleep, as you'd expect from a dignified lady of 14.

Fostering Lovely taught us so much. We discovered the comfort an older dog can bring, the importance of maintaining their routines, and above all, how deeply the bond between an owner and their pet matters. And that is where The Cinnamon Trust truly shines. They make it possible for pets like Lovely to stay safe, loved, and cared for when their owners face challenges - illness, hospital stays, or other circumstances that mean they need temporary help. Volunteers like us step in to offer a home, walks, or companionship, making sure the pet remains happy until they can be reunited with their owner or to a forever home.

We thought we were signing up to help someone in need. What we didn't expect was how much Lovely would give back to us. If you or someone you know needs support with their pet, or if you're thinking of volunteering, The Cinnamon Trust is a lifeline for people and animals alike. Lovely is proof that even the smallest dog can make a big difference. She will stay in our hearts forever.



Volunteer Zaza details her experience fostering handsome Scruff on The Isle of Wight...

Scruff was the perfect first foster dog. I picked him up after his owner had very sadly died; she had died at home so Scruff was with her 'til the end. I too was grieving as our dog had died about six weeks earlier. The house felt so empty without her but it was too soon to think about another dog so a friend suggested The Cinnamon Trust and I volunteered, initially just to walk dogs, but after a few weeks I also decided to offer short term fostering. Hardly a week had passed before I got a call:



I cleared my diary and went to pick him up. Scruff already had a forever home to go to but they could not have him for two weeks. The Trust had been told he wasn't confident with stairs, the benefit of which would be that he wouldn't go upstairs. However, I live in an upside down house with the bedrooms on the ground floor, living rooms on the top so he would need to come upstairs! When I first got him home he was determined to follow me so getting upstairs was not an issue; getting down

-stairs was more of a challenge but by the end of the first night, my new shadow had mastered it!

After a few days, when I could tell he was desperate to run, I found a secure dog field and threw Scruff's ball as far as I could. He brought it back to me every time, until he was so exhausted he lay down for a rest! I took him to the beach for the first time where he would play with his ball in the sand like a cat!

He brought a variety of toys with him and would play with them for hours at a time, filleting one in particular...

Over the course of two weeks, Scruff and I went on many adventures together. He has the sweetest nature and, despite his name, is very handsome - lots of people, not only dog walkers, would stop and admire him.



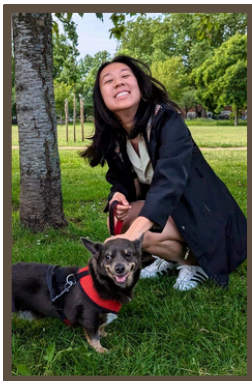
When the time came to take him to his new owners, I was very sad to see him go but I am delighted to have been able to help him; in doing so he certainly helped me!

I enjoyed meeting Scruff's new family in Cornwall, who are absolutely lovely! I look forward to my next foster dog whenever that will be, and one day there may be a dog who needs a permanent home.

Share your story!

Our newsletter couldn't exist without you, so please, if you love our newsletters, write to us!

Thank you to our volunteers, who spread joy throughout our communities every day



If you have a story to tell or photos to share, please email them to joy@cinnamon.org.uk or post them to 10 Market Square, Hayle, Cornwall, TR27 4HE

Extraordinary Events!

We'll be out and about again in 2026 with our lovely Cinnamon trailer. Come and find us, we'd love to say hello!



- ✓ Bandanas
- ✓ Dog treats
- ✓ Big Smiles



Planner

2026

- ALL ABOUT DOGS
- NEWBURY 11-12 APRIL
- NEWARK 25-26 APRIL
- LONDON MARATHON 26 APRIL
- THE BIG WALK 4 MAY
- ROYAL DEVON SHOW 21-23 MAY
- DOGSTIVAL, NEW FOREST 30 MAY
- WOOFSTOCK EXETER 12-14 JUNE
- THE CAT SHOW LIVE
- BIRMINGHAM 12 SEPTEMBER
- LONDON 28 SEPTEMBER
-

We would love to see you there!



 cinnamon.org.uk/events
 events@cinnamon.org.uk

Get involved with The Big Walk!

Monday
4th May

2026 marks our 4th Big Walk, this year falling on Monday the 4th May. We would love as many of our volunteers, supporters and dogs as possible to take part!

Be a Big Walk Champion

Host a Big Walk! Be the warm and welcoming leader of your local walk. You may think that being a Champion is challenging, but our events team are on-hand to make it as easy as possible for you. **Plus, all our Champions will be given one of our Cinnamon Pups - read more on page 31.**

Attend a Big Walk near you

Our Big Walks wouldn't be the same without the marvellous array of friendly faces who participate. Once a Big Walk location has been established, we plot it on our events map on our website. If you see a walk on the map that you would like to be a part of, register to attend and reserve your goody bag!

Support in your own way

For those who want to take part in a different way, you can join in too! Whether you do The Big Walk solo, in a small private group, or in your own garden: celebrate with us by sharing social media posts, cheering others on and supporting our Big Walk community.



Big Walk
Partners

Natures
Menu

&

PETS LARDER



Get involved with The Big Walk

 cinnamon.org.uk/thebigwalk

 events@cinnamon.org.uk



Our Big Walk Partners

MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER

We're big fans of natural treats and we're drawn to organisations that pour love, kindness and compassion into making products that are nutrient rich and good to our companions. We're delighted that our lovely friends at Pets Larder and Natures Menu are walking alongside us, adding an extra dose of goodness and magic to our fourth Big Walk, by providing delicious treats for each of your goody bags.

The Pets Larder

The Pets Larder is a thoughtful, eco-conscious pet shop with a gentle, common-sense approach to nourishing pets and supporting their wellbeing. Every product is chosen with love and care, handpicked because it truly makes a difference to the health and happiness of our four-legged family members. This year marks their second year supporting our Big Walk.

"After the incredible experience of supporting The Big Walk last year, and seeing the amazing community support for The Cinnamon Trust, we couldn't wait to join again. This year marks our second time taking part, another chance to champion their mission and celebrate the special bond between people and their pets."

As a family-run business in Cornwall, giving back to our local community is something we're truly passionate about. The Cinnamon Trust, just minutes from us, does vital work helping older and terminally ill people stay with their pets, and we're proud to play our part in supporting them."



The Pets Larder & Cinnamon Trust Subscription Box

In the spirit of our connection, we've put together a subscription box that can land at your door as often as you like. Bursting with best-selling, hypoallergenic goodies that are delicious, nutritious and a big time hit in our pup community.

From locally baked fish treats to wholesome cookies, every bite nourishes your furry friend and with 100% compostable packaging, it's kind to the planet too. With every box sold, 10% of profits go directly to The Trust, helping us continue our vital work.



Pop in the code 'TRUST10' for 10% off your first order.

www.thepetslarder.co.uk



Natures Menu

Just like us, Natures Menu recognise that pets enrich our lives every day and in return, Natures Menu helps owners nourish their companions from the inside out.

Thanks to our volunteer Jacqui, we were introduced to their team and attended their company conference in 2025.

Mel from Natures Menu, shared:

"After meeting one of their wonderful volunteers, Jacqui and her dog, Nancy, at a local community hub, I began to learn more about The Trust and the vital support they provide to people from all walks of life.

Working for a pet food company, I felt compelled to help in any way I could, which led us to support The Trust through treat donations and fundraising whenever possible.

Having Jacqui attend our company conference in 2025 was particularly powerful. It helped our staff understand that even those without pets may one day need the support of The Cinnamon Trust - whether for a relative's dog, a neighbour, or a colleague who is unsure what to do with a much-loved pet. We understand the incredible and precious bond between pets and their owners, and what better way to celebrate this by supporting The Big Walk with delicious, natural, healthy treats to share with 4-legged friends."

With an wonderful range of food and treats, they specialise in natural, wholesome feeding made easy, offering everything from frozen raw meals and ready-to-feed freeze-dried snacks to cooked wet food, enhanced dry food and a tasty range of cat foods for every taste.



Take part in the Big Walk and claim your goody bag!

 cinnamon.org.uk/thebigwalk

 **Love-a-lot code:** 
Our lovely community has been given a little something extra. Use code 'TCT30' to enjoy 30% off your order.

www.naturesmenu.co.uk

Tales of Giving

The past few months have been truly special, with so many of you embracing incredible challenges and going the extra mile to celebrate and support our cause. We know how busy life can get, so we appreciate each one of you that creates something special and raises vital funds for us. Here are some incredible stories:

Braving ice and wind for Betsy: Charlotte's Cold Water Dip Challenge

Throughout December, Charlotte completed a 31-day challenge, taking an open water plunge every single day!



CHARLOTTE

"Working as a Veterinary Surgeon, I know the extraordinary bond people share with their animals. That relationship is something truly special and it is exactly why the work of The Cinnamon Trust resonated with me so deeply. So, in 2020, I signed both myself and my husband Nathan up as volunteers. We had always wanted a dog of our own, but work commitments had never quite allowed it, so this felt like the perfect way to welcome a dog into our lives, even temporarily.

We were soon put in touch with Keith and his beloved dog, Betsy. Keith was finding it increasingly difficult to get out with her, particularly during the challenges of Covid, and wanted to be sure she still had the chance for fresh air, exercise and a good run. From our very first meeting, it was clear how much Betsy meant to him.

We walked Betsy every Tuesday and Saturday and, as hiking is one of our favourite pastimes, weekends often turned into little adventures. Betsy joined us in the Yorkshire Dales, on beach trips and on countless countryside walks. She was always more than happy to chill out afterwards, soaking up attention at cafes and pubs along the way. She slotted into our lives effortlessly.



A YOUNGER BETSY & KEITH



Just as special as our time with Betsy was the time we spent with Keith. We shared trips to the cinema and outings for tea, and it was a joy to listen to his life stories and his lifelong love of dogs. He was incredibly kind-hearted and always made us feel welcome. Over the years, we fell in love with both Keith and Betsy.

During this time, we were finally in a position to adopt a dog of our own. Harris joined our family as a puppy and quickly became best friends with both Betsy and Keith. Keith always had a biscuit waiting for him when we arrived to collect Betsy.

We shared so many adventures together, but very sadly, in Spring 2024, Keith passed away. There was no question, Betsy was family. So with the help of The Cinnamon Trust, Betsy came to live with us, and it didn't take her long to claim her place at the end of our bed.



It was a deeply sad time for everyone. Betsy adored Keith and we all felt his loss profoundly. The Trust's support during this period was invaluable, helping us ensure everything was in place for Betsy and reassuring us that we were never alone.



We went on to share hundreds more adventures - holidays, weekends away and quiet everyday moments - before our hearts were broken once again when we lost Betsy in spring 2025, almost a year after Keith. We miss them both terribly, but like to think Betsy wanted one last adventure with us before being reunited with her dad.

Betsy was the gentlest, funniest soul. She could nap anywhere; legs splayed in every direction and would make us laugh with her zoomies, her excited cries for dinner and her absolute love of a cuddle. She brought so much joy to our lives. After losing Betsy, I knew I wanted to give something back - to support the most wonderful charity that had given us so much. We had a few ideas but eventually settled on a challenge that felt both fitting and slightly mad: a cold water dip every day throughout December. Ironically, the idea always made me smile when I thought of Betsy, who would go to extraordinary lengths to avoid getting wet. She would have highly disapproved!

So, every day - come rain, wind, ice, darkness or early mornings - I got into my cold water bath. The 6 a.m. dips were the hardest; straight from bed into 2-3°C water is no small ask for a non-morning person. I used that time to reflect on our time with Keith and Betsy, to smile, remember and pause in an otherwise busy day.

My final dip took place at midnight in Lake Windermere. With Nathan and Harris as my support crew, armed with a hot water bottle and a glass of fizz, I swam out as fireworks lit up the sky around me. It was a truly magical moment and one that will stay with us forever as a fitting tribute to Keith and Betsy. We hold such treasured memories of both Keith and our lovely Betsy Boo and we are endlessly grateful to The Cinnamon Trust for bringing us together."



Michael's Football Fundraiser: Spreading Kindness in Memory of Mum



My Mother passed away 25 June 2023 after a period of ill health. What kept her alive for the last few years was her King Charles Cavalier Spaniel called Benji. He meant the world to her. Even through all her weeks in hospital, she would continuously worry about who was looking after him and if they looked after him like she did. I must say that this was one her biggest concerns at the time.

My Mother of course, knew that once she passed, Benji would have a loving home and be cared for by my family. But many people are not that fortunate - that's why The Cinnamon Trust matters and why we are thrilled to fundraise for them.

When my Mum did pass away, Benji wasn't quite the same - he still isn't. He continuously looks for her from room to room, hoping that she will appear in the house. And, in some way, I think Benji keeps a piece of her with him - a reminder, warm and breathing, that she mattered deeply and that she is still felt.

Watching Benji grieve has been its own kind of sorrow. Yet, at the same time, it reminds me of the depth of what they shared. Not everyone gets a bond like that - with a person or a pet. It was real and it mattered. And even though she's no longer here, Benji carries that love with him, just as we do. In a strange way, he keeps a part of her alive. We now care for him not only because she loved him, but because he loved her. And every time he curls up at my feet, or looks up at me with those soft, searching eyes, I'm reminded that love doesn't end.

The Four Paws Cup

When we received Michael's call, we were incredibly touched to hear his story and how his Mum's love for Benji highlighted the importance of The Cinnamon Trust.

What came from this moment of appreciation was the ideal of a football fundraiser. Michael, using his professional network as Founder of Belleveue Mortlakes Chartered Surveyors, gathered four teams to compete in a friendly competition for The Four Paws Cup. The teams were: Coutts Bank, Arbuthnot Latham, C. Hoare & Co and Belleveue Mortlakes. We were thrilled to hear about The Four Paws Cup and thrilled even further to be invited to attend the event!



Kyle, from The Cinnamon Trust Head Office was invited to represent The Trust as part of team Belleveue Mortlakes and had a great time doing so. The event was hosted by Michael and ex-professional footballer Jimmy Carter, who watched on and encouraged those playing to summon his footballing ability from somewhere within them. This worked better for some than others... Coutts finishing the competition as champions.

The event helped to introduce The Trust to a new audience, make friends with some wonderful people and raised over £3000 in the process. Thank you to everybody involved and to Michael and his brilliant team for putting on such a wonderful event.

AMAZING FUNDRAISERS



Our wonderful volunteer, Sally, represented The Cinnamon Trust at the Godiva Vets 40th Anniversary Celebration in Coventry. The day was a big success: with vintage afternoon tea being served; guided tours of the veterinary clinic; a tombola and gift stalls; some delectable food and the opportunity to share information about The Trust. There was even a special visitor in the form of Bluey, the famous cartoon dog!

Alx has been raising funds in fond memory of her sweet boy, Dobby. It all started with the lending of Dobby's buggy to another dog so that they could enjoy one last trip to the forest. The dog's owner made a donation to The Trust, but the fundraising didn't stop there! As well as loaning Dobby's buggy, Alx also set up a fundraiser at her local café, with a portion of sales of cinnamon cakes and lattes being given to the cause. Alx then set about making hundreds of dog ornaments to sell on behalf of the Trust at craft markets.



This Autumn, alongside many other events in aid of The Trust, Jacqui organised a dance party to shimmy away the winter blues and raise funds. As well as fundraising and being a dedicated Forever Foster mum, Jacqui also does talks, dog walks and last year organised a Big Walk for us, too! So many great ways to raise awareness, funds and morale in the community!

Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro

Our colleague, Rima, took on the challenge of a lifetime: climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. A few months after returning from Tanzania, she shares:

“I should probably start by saying this: climbing a mountain that size was never ‘on the cards’ for me. It lived firmly in the category of things you mentally file under ‘one day’, until you realise that ‘one day’ shows up as today. There were many threads leading to that decision. A huge part was witnessing the touching legacy that our founder Averil, created by daring to take a chance and build The Cinnamon Trust and asking myself what meaningful things might never exist if I didn’t do the same. So, I took a chance!



The physical challenge was exciting, but I wanted this climb to honour something bigger than myself, to connect me to others, and to give something back. After being part of The Cinnamon Trust team for two years, the answer was obvious. Coincidentally, 2025 turned out to be a celebratory year for both of us. The Cinnamon Trust was celebrating 40 years of compassionate care and I was turning 30. So, pen met paper, and a plan was born.

Making things possible... together

The months that followed tested me in many ways. I trained hard: gym sessions, long hikes, and outdoor field training. I bought an altitude training mask and completed seven-hour hikes wearing it, restricting airflow to simulate high altitude. I also drove eight hours to climb Snowdon in 40 mile wind gusts. Sounds mad, right? But I knew I had to seek discomfort and prepare for the unpredictable. I changed my diet, I trained, adjusted, repeated. The more I shared about my climb, the more ambitious the plans became and the more I realised how deeply I relied on others to bring them to life.



Word reached The Trust’s partners, Vetsure, during a conversation about their five-week free pet insurance, when I jokingly said, “I hope my Kilimanjaro insurance comes with so many perks!”. That led to conversations about the climb, and ultimately to Vetsure generously sponsoring my challenge as part of their ongoing support for the charity. We later met at the sanctuary, shared ideas in person, and worked together to carry The Cinnamon Trust’s mission even further.

Before I knew it, I was in Tanzania, driving to the starting gate. My group included two fellow climbers, Martin and Philip, two guides, and ten porters all whom were dedicated to getting us safely to the top. For eight days, they were my mountain family.

Every day tested me differently, with some days harder than others. I kept The Trust and sanctuary



pets in my thoughts, and this motivated me during the tough times. We passed through rainforest, volcanic landscapes, fiery sunsets, and oceans of cloud. The higher we climbed, the more familiar the sound of emergency helicopters became. But not for us!

The Big Night

On day six, it was time for the final climb. At 11:30pm, layered up and fuelled with tea and pancakes, we set off. It was -15°C and pitch dark. Five of us. Six hours. Pole-pole (slowly, slowly as they would say). Breaks were very short, mostly a couple of minutes per break. After Stella Point, we could hear cheers echoing from the top. We were the third group to reach the summit that morning. As the sky exploded into pinks, oranges, and blues, I stood at Uhuru Peak with the Furtwängler Glacier glowing icy-white on my right and the sunrise on my left. There were tears, awe, joy and a quiet, disbelieving thought: I really made it!



Taking Chances

I raised £1,434 for The Cinnamon Trust, all because I dared to take a chance. I'm endlessly thankful to every single person who stood beside me, donated, shared, encouraged, and believed along the way. Now, when people ask, "What's next?", one thing feels certain: I'll keep taking chances, keep shaking up the day to day, and keep doing what I can to make a difference.

A Safety Net for When it Matters Most...

We all want the same thing - to know our beloved pets will be tended to when life catches us off guard. If you'd like that extra reassurance and to rest easy knowing you're supported when emergencies arise, Vetsure's 5 Weeks Free Pet Cover offers exactly that. You, too, can start your 5-weeks of free cover and help protect your furry one from day one.



Together we're here for pets - for life!

5 WEEKS
FREE
COVER

Scan me!



**MORE
AMAZING FUNDRAISERS**



Joanne and Sandie run regular dog walks meeting at The Lamb pub in Hendon. With the walks and also a collection tin at the pub, they raised £759.00 in 2025.

Close to home, here in Cornwall, Gail has run multiple craft fairs to raise money for The Trust and has collected toys and treats from the local community to donate to the animals who live at our sanctuaries.



South West Care Homes residents, staff, families, and volunteers took on a brave challenge to “Walk 1000 Miles in one month”.

The team well and truly blew their target out of the water and walked a staggering 1700 miles during the challenge! South West Care Homes not only raised funds for The Cinnamon Trust but proved that age is no barrier when it comes to making a difference, raising an incredible £2000!



Long standing fundraiser, Maggie was invited by her neighbour, Gill, to hold an outdoor party for her Christmas lights switch-on. Maggie and her husband John took along a collection tin and raised money by selling Christmas cards. Maggie also ran her annual Christmas Fair, raising, in total, £2,293.00 for The Trust.



Our fundraising team are here to support all of our wonderful volunteers who kindly raise funds and spread the word about the vital work of The Cinnamon Trust.



We would love to hear your fundraising ideas. You could plan a themed bake sale, a crafty-afternoon with friends could lead to a craft fair, or you could set yourself a challenge and ask people to sponsor you for a fantastical feat. If you can dream it - we can help you plan it!

We have brilliant, ready-to-go dog show packs which include stunning rosettes. This is a wonderful way to fundraise in your local community. You get to meet lots of animal enthusiasts and their beautiful canine companions - what could be better!



What do Davina McCall, a Bank Founded in 1672 and a Dog Show have in Common?

Fundraising for The Cinnamon Trust, of course!

In May 2025, we were delighted to be chosen by C.Hoare & Co. as their charity of the quarter. The brilliant team certainly took the reins with so many great fundraising ideas. Organising a cake sale and sponsored bike rides, 'pet pawtrait' classes, a band night, a football competition and – the icing on the cake (or Cinnamon bun, as you will) - an online dog show judged by the fabulous Davina McCall.



Davina had an exceptionally hard job deciding winners from five categories. Over 100 staff sent in pictures of their beloved animals, who they obviously adore. Prizes were awarded at a glittering evening event at the bank's offices in Fleet Street. There was a raffle, a quiz and each table was named after a breed of dog (complete with interesting breed facts – so, informative as well as fun!).

The evening was hugely enjoyable and there were many good fundraising ideas we will take on board for future events.

Angie Lawrence-Scott, Internal Communications Manager, says:

"C. Hoare & Co. has been in business for over 350 years, and charitable giving has always been embedded in its heritage. We regularly fundraise for chosen charities, and our colleagues were

excited to support The Cinnamon Trust, as an animal-themed charity with such an important purpose of supporting those who are elderly and terminally ill. It was a pleasure to organise fundraising events, with the Dog Show being a key highlight!

Colleagues really engaged with the charity and its mission and had lots of fun sharing images of their precious pets – from dogs, cats, rabbits and even a prized cow! We were delighted that we could make a difference and very much look forward to hearing how the money raised will help with the development plans for the sanctuaries."



Luna



Potter & Corky



Sherrie

Thank you to everyone at C. Hoare and Co. for taking part and being one of the highlights of our year. We will be in touch with some exciting news about how we have used your kind donations...

Cinnamon Pup

We were delighted to collaborate with Charlie Bears, who are also based in Cornwall, to design our exclusive Cinnamon Pup.



William and his team from Charlie Bears have been supporting The Trust in other ways too; they held two events which our Hillside sanctuary team attended and William is a dedicated volunteer and participated in our last two Big Walks.

As a thank you, all our of Big Walk Champions will receive a Cinnamon Pup. If you would like to be one of our Champions, you can read more about this years Big Walk on page 20.



You can also buy one of our plush friends through our charity shop, while stocks last!



shop.cinnamon.org.uk



Regional Representatives



We have been working on something new and exciting for The Cinnamon Trust - Regional Representatives. Our aim is to have a dedicated network of volunteers around the country who are committed to regularly promoting The Trust at community events like county shows, fetes and fairs.

Our Regional Representatives will be our 'go-to' people to help make The Cinnamon Trust, a household name. We are still in the early stages of approaching volunteers to talk about this exciting development and will share some more details in our next newsletter.



At this time we are building groups in Cambridgeshire, Derbyshire, Hampshire, London, Norfolk, Northumbria and Somerset. If you are interested in learning more about our regional groups, please email MandyS@cinnamon.org.uk



Run for Charity

*Lace up your trainers and run for a purpose!
Whatever your pace, whatever your distance,
we want to support you across the finish line!*



From marathons to park runs, your support means the world to us and every penny raised makes a difference! You can join an established event or do things your own way; choose your own route, collect sponsorships and make your own rules!

There are no wrong ways to fundraise, we just hope you will let us know so we can support and cheer you on every step of the way.



Find out more!

 cinnamon.org.uk/run-for-charity

 events@cinnamon.org.uk

Last year we had runners take part in

- ★ Marathons
- ★ Half Marathons
- ★ 10Ks
- ★ 5Ks
- ★ Challenges
- ★ And more!

If you are interested in running for The Cinnamon Trust, please get in touch. Whether you are an experienced runner or just getting started, we would love to hear your ideas. We have helpful resources on our website too, so do check it out!



KEEP AN EYE ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA AND EVENTS PAGE FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS!



Because of You



From our very first sanctuary, through 40 years to our next chapter, your steady generosity has carried us.

Every fundraising event, regular gift, one-off donation and membership supports The Cinnamon Trust to grow, plan and keep delivering the support and services that thousands of people and pets count on. And for this we are deeply grateful.

Donating a little each month means we have the reassurance that we can keep helping those who need us most. Your generous contributions support us to:



Pay for specialist foods

Improve and upkeep our sanctuaries



Cover vet bills for our forever foster pets

Pay for supplements and pet supplies

cinnamon.org.uk/membership

The Purrfect Home

Many months ago, we planted the seed of a dream: a new **Cat Home** at our Poldarves Sanctuary to help more cats live the best of their nine lives. We shared this dream with you, not knowing how it would be received – and you blew us away with your response!

Your messages, phone calls and offers of help have been heartfelt, with so many of you asking how you could be part of building this new home for cats in need.

Thanks to you, the plans for our new cat home are moving forward and there are some wonderful new developments taking shape behind the scenes. We're excited and we can't wait to share the next steps with you soon.



Gold Awards

These volunteers have received a Gold Award for their exceptional service:

Elizabeth Arendt (Hertfordshire), **Gary & Alison Avard** (Cornwall), **David Brant** (Yorkshire), **Jennifer Griffiths** (Hampshire), **Santa Drozdova** (Lincolnshire), **Julie Roper** (Kent), **Linda White** (Suffolk), **Sue Wright** (Surrey)

Owner Nominated Awards

The following volunteers have been nominated for a special Owner Nominated Award:

Lynda Copping (Bristol), **Lorraine Coveney** (Kent), **Claire Holt** (Essex), **Jayne Loader** (Kent), **Kenneth Smith** (Somerset), **Jennifer Tobin** (Kent), **Bertie Woodward** (Kent),

Long Service Awards

The volunteers listed below have received a Long Service Award for volunteering with us for over 10 years:

Pamela Scottorn (Lincolnshire), **Lavinia Johanna Foster** (Cornwall), **Barbara Smith** (Cheshire), **Martin & Lynn Laramy** (Devon), **Patricia Baily** (Lincolnshire), **Anne Taylor** (Gloucestershire), **Catherine Shawyer** (Durham), **Gill Moody** (Hampshire), **Hayley Preedy** (Buckinghamshire), **Claire Smith** (Durham), **Rod & Steph Thompson** (Lincolnshire), **Jess Tweney** (Yorkshire), **Julia Linford** (Surrey), **Jane Clarkson** (Lancashire), **Helen Jones** (Yorkshire), **Wendy McPherson** (Devon), **Ann Belton** (Worcestershire), **Elaine Mole** (Sussex), **Neil Roberts** (Bedfordshire), **Wendy Haslam** (Buckinghamshire), **Jan McLean** (Hampshire), **Laura Hasluck** (Hampshire), **Norman Swift** (Dorset), **Dianna Rodger** (Lanarkshire), **Clodagh Mallison** (Warwickshire), **Sally Johns** (Hampshire), **Stella Taylor** (West Midlands), **Charlie & Jamie Chapman** (Mid Glamorgan), **Leanne Clark** (Buckinghamshire), **Ruth Hill** (Somerset), **Kylie Brennan** (Tyne and Wear), **Holly Clark** (Buckinghamshire), **Sheila Fellows-Turnbull** (Sussex), **Celia Doyle** (Middlesex), **Elaine Thornton** (Lancashire), **Celia Friedeberg** (West Midlands), **Jo Pool** (Surrey), **Louise Griffin** (Oxfordshire), **Hayley Vitti-Gordon** (Greater Manchester), **Linsey Rogers** (Wiltshire), **Dave & Susan Ronald** (Cumbria), **Evonne Ginman** (Devon), **Carol Pearce** (Hampshire), **Jane Brooks** (Buckinghamshire), **Sophie Coombs** (Cheshire), **Liz Lester** (Oxfordshire), **Lesley Harston** (Wiltshire), **Angie Barker** (Dorset), **Christine Henry** (Somerset), **Gail Login** (Devon), **Michelle Brown** (Berkshire), **Michael Edmonds** (Devon), **Bethan Thompson** (Warwickshire), **Joanna Pang** (London), **Sharon Tunncliffe** (Staffordshire), **Keith & Elizabeth Ritchie** (Yorkshire), **Graham & Carol Jackson** (Essex), **Gay Bentinck** (Lancashire), **Amanda Rossiter** (Cambridgeshire), **Kate Waldock** (Surrey), **Leigh Carter-Shaw** (Kent), **Gary & Deborah Parker** (Devon), **Sherry Flanagan** (Shropshire), **Jack Becket** (Shropshire), **Craig Hubble** (Essex), **Madeleine Shaw** (Devon), **Gill Peters** (Yorkshire), **Grace Mulhearn** (Clwyd), **Paul Wardley** (Yorkshire), **Robert Rourke** (Leicestershire), **Alison Roberts** (Lancashire), **Christopher & Mary Goodall** (Sussex), **Louise Smith-Jones** (Flintshire), **Cathy Griffiths** (Cheshire), **Lyn Partridge** (Dorset), **Linda Bryan** (Norfolk), **Shirley Newsome** (Dorset), **Sarah Carter** (Sussex), **Angela White** (Cornwall), **Lindsey Smith** (Surrey), **John Baker** (Sussex), **Emma Hackett** (Cornwall), **Caroline Woodward** (Sussex), **Peter & Julie Mawe** (Northumberland), **Marion Houlding** (Lancashire), **Veronica Woods** (Norfolk), **Teresa Taylor** (Nottinghamshire)

Pet Profiling



If you are worried about the future of your pet and have no secure forward plan, you can profile your pet with The Cinnamon Trust. Loving care when you're not there.

Kipper explains why Pet Profiling is so important to his family...

Hello! My name is Kipper. I'm a young tabby cat with a matching tail, a smart set of whiskers, very fast paws and a serious talent for sleeping on tummies. I live with two wonderful humans: my Margaret and my Jeremy.

He is 85, she is 82 and I decided quite quickly that they were exactly the right people for me. I came into their lives thanks to family kindness. Apparently, I arrived at just the right time. Humans talk a lot about timing – I don't know much about that, but I do know that from the moment I walked through the door, everything felt warmer.

Margaret has dementia. Some days her world can be confusing but I've noticed something important: I am not confusing at all. I am very clear. I am soft. I purr. I listen. I sit close. Margaret talks to me constantly, telling me stories and asking me questions. Sometimes she repeats the same thing, but that is absolutely fine by me. I never interrupt; I simply purr louder. Jeremy says I've changed their lives. Personally, I think they've changed mine too.



Every morning, I help Jeremy wake up by jumping on his chest (a vital service). I love our walks up the drive, where we play my favourite games: racing up trees or chasing about. At night, I settle down to sleep by curling up on their bed - or, preferably, on a tummy. I take this job very seriously! When Jeremy goes out walking or rowing – he's still very fit, you know – I stay behind with Margaret and her carer. I make sure no one feels alone. Companionship is quiet work, but it matters.

I am also what you might call a moorland cat. During the day I look innocent. At night, I prowl across fields like a striped shadow. The neighbours have wildlife cameras, and I am often spotted moving quietly through the darkness. I like to think I'm well known locally as I have a big fan club.

One day, I overheard something important. Jeremy had registered me with The Cinnamon Trust. I didn't fully understand at first, but I could feel the relief in the room. You see, my humans love me



deeply, but they also think ahead. They wanted to know that if they could no longer care for me – if illness came, or if they had to go into care, or even when the time comes to say goodbye – I would still be safe, loved, and looked after.

That's what The Cinnamon Trust does. They make promises that last a lifetime. Not just human lifetimes, but pet ones too.

Knowing that there is a plan for me gives

my humans a lot of reassurance as they enter their later years so they can relax, love me fully and enjoy every moment we have together. That matters more than you might think!

So here I am, Kipper: beloved cat, moorland prowler, loyal companion, tummy sleeper, chaser and tree climber. Thanks to The Cinnamon Trust, my humans know that no matter what happens, I will always be cared for. And thanks to my humans, I know what it means to belong. Now, if you'll excuse me, I have a nap scheduled. On a bed, I think – exactly where I'm meant to be.

Make provision now!

Loving care when you're not there

"I just wanted to say thank you to the pet profile team, for giving me peace of mind that if something happens to me, you will find my dog a wonderful forever foster home. It's such a relief to me. Having been a volunteer for many years I know what a great job you all do." - Kate

If you would like to find out more about registering your pets with The Cinnamon Trust, please call Wendy or Penny on 01736 758 706, email petprofile@cinnamon.org.uk, write to us or visit our website!



cinnamon.org.uk/pet-profiling



petprofile@cinnamon.org.uk



01736 758706



10 Market Square, Hayle, Cornwall, TR27 4HE



A loving future made possible by your heartfelt gift

For 40 years, we've been a beacon of hope for countless pets and their owners nationwide.

But our work wouldn't be possible without the ongoing generosity of others.

With your support, we can continue to provide hands-on assistance and lifelong pet care to those who rely on us.

By leaving a gift in your Will, you are ensuring that our mission can live on for generations to come.

Our Free Will Service

The Cinnamon Trust works with trusted partners across the UK to offer a Free Will service, offering you the opportunity to write your Will at no cost. To give yourself and your loved ones peace of mind, please get in touch with our Legacy Team.

✉ legacy@cinnamon.org.uk

🌐 cinnamon.org.uk/wills-legacies

☎ 01736 809722



Scan the QR code
to find out more

Registered Charity No.1134680

Forever Foster Stories



Our first Forever Foster story comes from Anders and Lorna who tell us about Fred, a handsome chap that some of you may recognise...

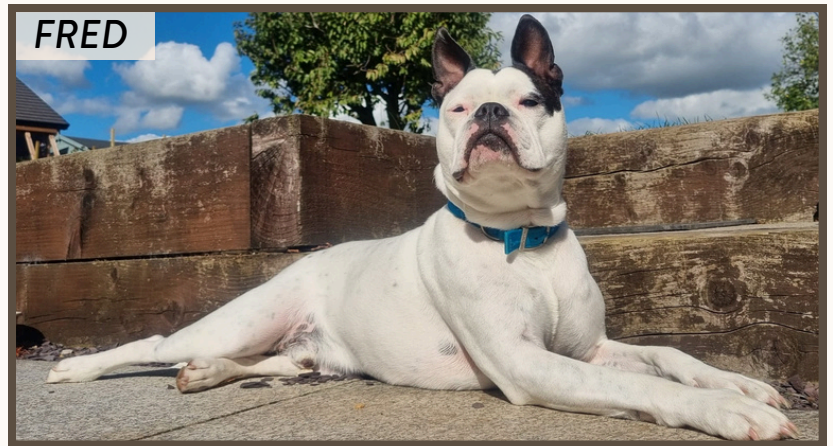
We first found out about The Cinnamon Trust through a friend who is a Forever Fosterer to two amazing Maine Coon cats, as well as a volunteer dog walker. Just before Christmas 2024, we were browsing The Trust's Facebook page and stumbled across a photo of Fred. We weren't expecting to want to foster a dog at that point, having sadly lost our beloved 19-year-old cat just a few months before.

But something drew us to him! In January, we arranged to travel to where Fred was being cared for. He was bigger than he looked in his photo, but very handsome! He gave us a lovely warm welcome, so much so, that the following week we collected him and brought him up to Derbyshire. He travelled perfectly in the car and had a good run around checking out his new, exciting garden when we got home.

In the last few years, we've helped to walk many dogs at our local rescue centre, but Fred was our first forever dog. He made those first few weeks so easy for us, and it didn't take long to work out our new routine. We quickly knew we'd made the right decision and Fred became a very important part of our family. Fred is an extremely sociable boy and wants to say hello to everyone he meets. He always gets lots of smiles from passers-by, and regularly people want to talk to us about him and his unique looks. His DNA test confirmed that he's 76% French Bulldog and 24% Boxer/Frenchie cross, but at 25kg he's on the larger side!

Whenever he sees a cat, his instincts kick straight in. Squirrels don't catch his attention, but he's always eager to play with other animals.

Fred loves fruit so much that he insisted on having fresh raspberries from our plants every morning, often taking more than his share, I also had to move my strawberry plants, so he couldn't eat them all!





A friend recently organised an amateur cycling event in Derbyshire. It was a fundraiser for three local charities, and we agreed to use Fred's image on the T-shirts. Fred was the star of the day and thoroughly enjoyed meeting all the riders!

He is a very adaptable boy and settles into new surrounding and routines quickly. Being his Forever Fosterers has certainly enriched our lives, and during his first year with us he will have had four holidays: two to Norfolk, one to Yorkshire and one to Cumbria – not too shabby at all! We feel very lucky to have Fred in our lives and would like to thank The Cinnamon Trust for accepting us as Fred's mum and dad. We would also like to thank them for all the help and support with managing his allergies and working to reduce his medication: we will get there one step at a time!

Cat mum, Janet, tells us about life in Essex with her two gorgeous British Colourpoints...

Zeta and Zebedee (known as Zeb or Zebby) came to live with me about four and a half years ago. I was so lucky that they arrived just before England's Covid lockdown. It meant I wasn't as lonely as I could have been, and they provided me with wonderful companionship and comfort during what was a weird time. Needless to say, I love them to bits.

The Zs are very laid-back and affectionate pussycats. They love their food and the best sound is hearing Zeb chomping his breakfast/lunch/dinner while seriously purring, at the same time. Although he is a foodie, he is also a real gentleman: he will always stand back and wait until his sister starts her meal, before he tucks in. Mind you, if she walks away, then any leftovers are fair game... I think that's reasonable! They do not have a huge interest in toys (even catnip ones) and yes, I have tried most everything. The only thing that seems to appeal is paw-football and so there are often several little balls that need to be recovered from under various pieces of furniture.

They come and go during the night - sometimes stopping for a stroke or sometimes settling down for a lean-in sleep (human hot water bottle is becoming a bit more attractive as the nights get cooler). At the moment I am still trying to persuade Zeb that the relatively new headboard isn't a scratching post. Mind you if this retiree is staying in bed too late, Zeta will make the point by shoving things off the bedside table - it's usually my glasses and then the alarm clock etc. but how can you be cross with such sweeties? Thank you, Cinnamon Trust, for my lovely cat family.



ZEBEDEE & ZETA

Jayne, in Kent, shares a very special story about being a Forever Foster mum...

A dog is man's best friend. They are our world, our family, and often the reason we get up in the morning. This was so true for Ray and his dog, Bojangles. The other Cinnamon Trust volunteers and I witnessed the deep bond Ray had with his little, shy, fox-like Yorkie/Chihuahua cross, or a "Chalky", as we were once told on a walk! Bojangles was spoilt, or "loved a lot", as my Nan always said and only the best food would do. She had to have her freshly cooked beef every day!

Ray was quite a character with a life story to match. Sadly, his health began to deteriorate in 2019, and this was when he sought support from The Cinnamon Trust. He always said it was the best decision of his life.

The wonderful team at The Trust organised for me to meet Bojangles to take her for a walk and, over time, we built a great relationship. Our regular Saturday morning walks included a variety of country parks, coffee shops and the occasional pub!

Ray was housebound, so the support from The Trust was crucial for both him and Bojangles. He had no immediate family and few friends close by. The Cinnamon Trust and their volunteers were his lifeline to the outside world and this support was so important. His life would have been very lonely without Bojangles, yet he never once complained about his situation and was always so grateful for volunteers taking "his princess" for a walk.

In 2023, Bojangles was the ambassador for our local, inaugural Big Walk. What a proud dog dad moment that was! Ray told absolutely everyone about it and when he saw her photo on The Cinnamon Trust Facebook page, well, you can imagine his delight (we won't mention how he kept asking how many 'likes' his princess had received!). That same year, Bojangles came third in a local dog show where we were running a stall to raise awareness and funds for The Cinnamon Trust. Ray's face was a picture when she returned home proudly wearing her rosette. These small moments of joy, which might seem insignificant to some, meant the world to Ray and truly reflect the ethos of The Cinnamon Trust.

During 2023, as Ray grew older and frailer, he began to worry more about what would happen to Bojangles in the future. Ray decided to profile Bojangles and, one Saturday, after Bojangles' walk, he asked if I would consider having her when he passed away. It was an honour to be asked, but I already had an elderly Border Collie and, the previous year, we had inherited a teacup Chihuahua, not to mention juggling my full-time job! But I adored Bojangles and wanted her to have the best possible future and, just as importantly, for Ray to have peace of mind. We had a good chat with the team at Cinnamon and it was decided - I would be the proud Forever Foster to mum to lovely Bojangles, with The Trust there to support us when the time came.

Bojangles began having more short stays at our house whilst Ray was in hospital. We always kept in



touch. We even began planning dog-friendly holidays, and in June 2024, Bojangles enjoyed her first ever trip to the beautiful Yorkshire Moors. Ray loved receiving a postcard from Bojangles, telling him all about her adventures. Bojangles kindly bought Ray a Christmas present, a cushion with her smiling face on it. It was treasured and Ray kept it close by so he could always see his princess.

The Trust and I stayed in regular contact, and it was always reassuring to know that they were there to support us. Last September, Ray was again admitted to the hospital, so Bojangles came to stay for a longer period. Sadly, after much fighting, Ray was told that his health would not improve and that his 87 years had finally caught up with him.

Bojangles was able to visit Ray one last time to say goodbye. Although it was heartbreaking, Ray found peace knowing Bojangles was with him until the very end and would be really well cared for once he was gone.



Now, as I sit here with Bojangles by my side and a few tears in my eyes, I feel so privileged that we have a charity like The Cinnamon Trust; one that allows us to uphold and live by its values and ethos every day. Bojangles will always be Ray's dog, but my family and I now have the honour of looking after her on his behalf, something made possible only because of The Cinnamon Trust. Ray can now truly rest in peace.

Ludo in West Sussex now tells us about life as a Forever Foster Cat...

My name is Ludo. I moved from Sunbury-on-Thames to Sussex after my previous Mum died. I have a wonderful life here with Lynne and Phil, who know that I adore being brushed. I have many beds around the house but most nights I end up on Mum and Dad's bed which is purrfect!



LUDO

Here's a photo taken on my birthday in October with one of my presents. For Christmas last year I was given a plastic bungalow which is on a shelf in the garden, so even when it's raining, I can sit inside and watch the world go by.

I have had problems with Struvite Crystals and had to have a huge operation to remove them. Thankfully, I'm a Cinnamon Pet, so with helpful advice from the vet nurses and my loving foster parents, I've made a marvellous recovery. I'm now on a special diet but it's not too bad and I have fish occasionally, which I love.

I know I'm spoilt and not every cat is as lucky as me - thank goodness for The Cinnamon Trust.

Lindsay is Somerset tells us how she came to be a Forever Foster mum...

I received a call from The Cinnamon Trust to say that Mia, a lovely little Spaniel cross Jack Russell, was in need of a Short Term Foster as her owner was in hospital. She was a little shy at first, but as soon as I put her lead on her for our first walk together, she perked up, with her tail wagging and eyes twinkling. Mia settled in at our house very quickly, curling up on my husband's lap or as close to him as she could manage. I remember thinking at the time that she somehow knew he wasn't well.

When Mia's owner sadly passed away, we were more than happy to care for Mia as her Forever Fosterers. At first, she was nervous around people we met, which I think was because she'd lived such a quiet life. We live in a very sociable village, and now she happily goes up to everyone, keen to say hello and make friends.



My neighbour, Pauline lives about a five-minute walk from me. We became close friends soon after I moved here eight years ago. Sadly, both of our husbands died about a year apart. We supported one another as best we could, but over time I noticed Pauline becoming anxious and confused. She was eventually diagnosed with Alzheimer's just over two years ago. Although her condition is gradually worsening, she remains positive and still loves getting out for a walk.

Most afternoons I tell Mia that we're going to see Pauline. As soon as we reach her drive, Mia turns in and races to the front door. I ring the bell and stand to one side, but Mia waits right by the door. When Pauline opens it, Mia greets her enthusiastically, then dashes into the house and runs from room to room. Pauline's face is a picture every single time (even though we do this almost daily!) and it always makes us laugh. Mia then returns for another cuddle before rushing back outside, ready for her walk.

Pauline often says how much she loves Mia; she brings such joy to both of us, marching proudly in front as if she's on an important mission. I know there will come a time when things change for Pauline, and perhaps she won't remember these walks. But for now, she loves our slightly silly routine and the happiness Mia brings her is immense. I feel incredibly blessed: although I rescued Mia, I truly believe she rescued me and she has helped Pauline too.

Mia is now over 13 and has heart and liver problems, but with the right food and medication, supported by The Cinnamon Trust and my wonderful vet, we hope she will continue bringing joy to me and my dear friend for some time yet. I often feel thankful that I noticed a small advertisement in my local paper many years ago. I cut it out, thinking how much I'd love to walk dogs for people who no longer could once I retired. I've done that and will continue to do so, but most of all, it led me to Mia, and through her, to being able to help Pauline.



Now, a couple of familiar faces from our previous newsletter! Amiee, in Devon writes...

From the moment my eyes fell upon Tilly and Max, I instantly fell in love with their adorable Staffy faces. They were both full of energy and absolutely adored cuddles; my partner and I knew straight away that we would love to give them a forever home: a home where they would receive endless love, care and treats!

Once all the paperwork was completed, it was time to set a date to bring our gorgeous pups home. From that day on, we couldn't imagine life without them. They have settled in beautifully and truly feel like part of the family.

Their favourite activities include cuddling up on the sofa and enjoying delightful walks along the beach, particularly when they have the chance to splash around in the water. Tilly adores playing with her toys, whereas Max favours relaxing in his bed or on the sofa, relishing endless cuddles. They are the perfect additions to our family, and now our family feels complete!



Anne-Marie in West Yorkshire talks to us about her Mum's experience as Forever Fosterer of the gorgeous Holly...

After my Dad passed away a few years ago, my Mum really missed his companionship. While she always loved visits from me and my family who live close by, she wanted a friend to fill her home with constant joy and warmth - so she decided to become a Forever Fosterer with The Cinnamon Trust.

Her first foster dog was a handsome chap called Dougal who filled all our hearts with love and was a great companion for Mum. After Dougal passed, we all felt an empty space and a sense of loneliness hit Mum again. Then, on her birthday, she was given the best birthday present imaginable. The Cinnamon Trust needed someone to care for a 13-year-old dog named Holly. Mum and our whole family were so excited to meet her. Holly arrived and straight away went to explore the house. At first, she was a little nervous of her surroundings and the new people, but she soon settled in and became the boss of Mum's house.



Holly is one of the most loving dogs ever. She is brilliant with my two young children and is a wonderful companion for my Mum. Holly loves being around everyone and people in the street often stop and say how beautiful she is.

Although Holly will soon be turning 14, it hasn't stopped her from going on walks with Mum. But

one of her favourite things to do is laze in the sunshine in the back garden. We have also found she is ruled by her tummy and loves mealtimes! Holly is such a big part of our family and, when I look at Mum, I see how much Holly means to her – and vice versa! Thank you, Cinnamon Trust!

Forever Fosterers Sally and Alan tell us about their two boys Logan and Chester...

Hello everyone, we're Sally and Alan from sunny Exmouth in Devon. We are the proud Forever Fosterers of 'Cheeky' Chester and 'Looney' Logan, two Fox Red Labradors who sadly lost their dad at the beginning of 2025.

We've adopted several rescue dogs in our time, including our beloved Black Labrador cross, Bess. Bess was a special soul, and when she passed away, we were devastated. With a dog-shaped hole in our hearts, we were keen to get back the canine companionship that we sorely missed.

A good friend of mine, Terri, has always sung the praises of The Cinnamon Trust and, knowing that we wanted to adopt again, suggested we reached out to see if they could help. We were delighted to be told about two lovely brothers, Chester and Logan. Chester: a sweet boy with his share of health problems, including epilepsy. At first, we were a little concerned, but The Trust reassured us that through medication and regular vet visits, his condition could be managed. Logan: a ball of energy with so much love to give. Clearly, the two boys were as thick as thieves, totally inseparable.



On first meeting, we fell in love with them and couldn't wait to welcome them into our home. They have slotted so well into our family, enjoying adventures and regular trips to the beach - they're both such water dogs!

They are one of the best things that have happened to us, and we look forward to many more years of happiness as we all reach our golden years! Thank you to The Cinnamon Trust for making us so happy.



We travel South-Westerly now to Rose, in Cornwall...

When our beloved dog, Doughnut passed away last May, we were completely heartbroken. She had been our wonderful companion from the day we collected her as a puppy to the grand age of 15. We missed her very much but knew that getting a young dog at our age was probably going to be a stretch. We feared we wouldn't be able to provide a youngster with the stimulation required.

We considered going to a rescue centre and rehoming an older dog but were worried about the possible financial implications. The Cinnamon Trust and the support that they offer came to mind.



BUDDHI & QUANYIN WITH ROSE

After some thought and discussion, I filled in the form to become a Cinnamon Trust Forever Fosterer.

Then one day, The Trust called to tell me about two older dogs who needed a home. Sadly, their owner was in hospital and seriously ill. Without hesitation, I said yes!

Within a couple of days we collected a rather timid, sweet little pair of dogs: Buddhi, a 17-year-old boy, and QuanYin, a 10-year-old female. That day, we put them into the car and brought them to their new home. Naturally, they were a little withdrawn to start with. But very quickly, they settled into daily life with us.

I'm a regular sea swimmer and take the dogs with me when I go to the beach. We always meet up with friends and their dogs, and it's fast become quite the sociable event. Buddhi was a little unsure to start with, so to help him feel more comfortable, I made him a temporary cosy bed in a big IKEA bag. This really helped him relax and now he sits patiently waiting for me to return from the sea. Meanwhile, QuanYin takes up residence underneath my beach chair (they are always watched over by a willing friend or two while I swim). It didn't take the dogs long to welcome this daily expedition. Now they adore their trips to local swimming spots, particularly when I get back from the sea with a tasty biscuit to reward them for being so good. It's heart-warming to receive such an excited welcome when they see I've returned safely!

Buddhi and QuanYin are fully integrated into our lives and we love being their Forever Foster parents. They are such cheery little souls – gentle, affectionate and have enhanced our lives immensely. I sometimes find myself looking at the pair of them, thinking how lucky we are to have them as part of our family.

I'm so glad that I decided to become a Forever Fosterer with The Cinnamon Trust and I have zero regrets. The Trust are always on hand to offer support and advice, so it is very reassuring to know that whatever the circumstance, Buddhi and QuanYin will always be well cared for.



Nearby in Cornwall, Natalie and Dan tell us about life with beautiful Pixie...

When we moved to Cornwall, we left behind a neighbour's cat, called Mr Pickles. He was a black, short haired 10-year-old, who had adopted us for the past year. Mr Pickles would visit us every single day for cuddles, playtime and for the occasional treat (with our neighbour's permission, of course). We were devastated when our move day finally came and we had to say goodbye to him. He had woven himself into our hearts and we knew that we would miss him enormously.

After a good six months of settling into our new home, we registered our interest with The Cinnamon Trust for volunteering and Forever Fostering. The Trust contacted us a few months later with a description of Pixie, who just so happened to be a short haired, black, 10-year-old, female cat! They asked if we could possibly give her a new forever home, as her elderly lady owner had recently passed away.



PIXIE HAVING A CUDDLE

Feeling like fate was playing a part, we spoke to The Cinnamon Trust and explained why we felt Pixie would be a particularly good fit for our family. After a thorough home check and a few phone conversations, we went and met Pixie. We fell in love with her straight away and my two young children were so excited that she was joining our family. The Cinnamon Trust were incredibly supportive throughout Pixie's transition to her new forever home. They supplied us with calming supplements for her travels, a few food pouches to get us going, supplements to aid the ongoing health of an older cat, along with contact numbers for general advice and emergency care.



Although Pixie was a little nervous in the beginning, I was amazed by how brave and adaptable she was on her first day with us! After an initial 15-20 minutes of gathering her thoughts behind our sofa, she came out and began giving us cuddles and nudges. By the end of that day, she had sat on everyone's laps, had eaten food and used her litter tray like she'd been with us for months! During that first week, her confidence and character continued to shine through as she explored every room with enthusiasm and curiosity.

Since Pixie arrived, I honestly cannot imagine a better fit for our family; I have never known such a cuddly cat! If there's a lap to be had, she's there - she has a never ending supply of snuggles that she's always happy to provide. Pixie is allowed to sleep wherever she pleases and

seems to enjoy taking it in turns to settle down at night in each of our bedrooms in turn.

Pixie is a comfort and a joy, and it is an absolute honour to have her in our lives. I cannot thank The Cinnamon Trust enough for bringing us together; they continue to be a support for both us and Pixie. The Cinnamon Trust is a wonderful charity that I would highly recommend to anyone looking to foster an animal.

Our next Forever Foster story comes from Jill in Dorset...

I retired to Bridport, Dorset, in Christmas 2014 and quickly grew to love the vibrant town. With more free time, I began to miss having a dog to walk. I had already been a volunteer for The Cinnamon Trust whilst I was living in the Midlands and eagerly awaited being matched with a dog in my new locale.

In March 2015, I met Poppy, a Welsh Collie with striking black, white and tan markings, and a very expressive face. Her enthusiastic greeting was impossible to resist. Poppy's owner, Ann, was a retired farmer in her 80s. After the death of her previous Collie, Ann had adopted Poppy. When Ann first met Poppy, the poor dog was unkempt and not in the best way. Ann suspected Poppy had been used as a 'training dog' for aggressive dogs and wisely decided to take her home.

Over time, Ann restored Poppy's health and from that moment on, Poppy always loved people. While wary of certain dogs, particularly those that seemed aggressive, she preferred to avoid conflict. Walking with her was a joy. Full of energy, Poppy loved chasing balls (the only way to tire her out), she quickly responded to my commands and was a pleasure to walk. When Ann passed away suddenly in 2016, I felt it was my turn to care for Poppy. After ensuring she and my cat Hendrix could co-exist, and with support from The Trust, I offered her a forever home.

Ann had trained Poppy well and I was able to continue her training. Poppy was eager to please, incredibly intelligent and always a joy to be around. Even rainy walks left me feeling cheered up and I could easily dry Poppy off, as she knew commands like "mat," "stand," "down," and "turn over."

Poppy became an integral part of my family, especially with my grandchildren. Oscar, at two years old, needed some gentle training to learn to be kind to her, but Poppy was always calm and patient. My son's family often visits and we enjoy walking down to West Bay with Poppy where she loves playing on the dog-friendly beach. Poppy has also formed bonds with my partner Bruce, who has known me for nearly seven years. Bruce walks Poppy daily and she waits eagerly for him at the door each morning. Over the past three years, Bruce's daughter's stepdaughter, Evie (now 11), has also become one of Poppy's biggest fans.



JILL, BRUCE & POPPY

Although I sometimes feel nostalgic when we walk by the river Asker, where we used to run across fields together in Poppy's younger days, Poppy's love for walks remains as strong as ever. Nowadays, our walks are mostly around Bridport and along the coast. She also enjoys café stops, where she sits quietly and waits to be petted by anyone nearby. People often greet her with "Hello, Poppy!" while I quietly follow behind.

Thanks to The Cinnamon Trust, we've had wonderful support and despite her being an older girl at 13, Poppy still looks great, with just a little blonding (her version of grey!) in her coat. Though she naps more often now, especially after walks, she continues to amaze the vets, who say she's the best-looking dog they've seen with her condition.

Though Poppy has a heart murmur and Cushing's disease, I'm hopeful that our time together isn't ending soon. She continues to be a remarkable, gentle companion. Long may it continue!

Frances tells us about a wonderful, gentle new friend who came into her life in 2023...

There had been a certain emptiness in my home after the death of my ginger cat, Solomon. It was the lack of a friendly welcome, a warm touch and an answering voice that made me think of welcoming a new cat into my life.

I had always had kittens as I loved their enthusiasm, but this time, maybe something different - an older cat in need of a home. I looked at various charities before a friend told me about The Cinnamon Trust and the amazing work they do for animals in need. After reading about them, I was inspired to make an enquiry. My contact with The Trust was immediately positive. Someone came to check my house, the garden and the surrounding area - all found to be fit! Time went on and then one day, when I was volunteering with Tetbury in Bloom, a message came from The Trust. It included a photograph showing a beautiful grey and white feline face which almost seemed to be smiling! It was an instant intense feeling of love and, four days later, Tiggy arrived at my house.

He was very calm and interested in his new surroundings and we began to bond. Tiggy is a very tactile cat - nudging and patting for contact and using his gentle voice. He likes to be petted and stroked but only up to a point and he shows his disapproval with a love bite.



Tiggy likes to be close and sit or lie against me, night and day. He is also quite a private boy enjoying forays into the outside world. In the early days after Tiggy arrived, The Trust made welcome calls to see how things were going. After I found Tiggy on my bed asleep on his back with relaxed curled paws, I felt that he had truly made himself at home.

Tiggy is on a special bladder diet which The Trust kindly pays for and supplies when we are ready for more. It's brilliant that The Cinnamon Trust very generously pays for all the vet bills. I am so fortunate to be with Tiggy, and it is all thanks to the generosity of The Cinnamon Trust whose team are always at the end of the line for support.



We are always on the lookout for more loving Forever Foster homes, especially for beautiful cats like Tiggy. If you have space in your home and heart for a feline friend, please do get in touch.

“Forever Fostering is the best decision I have made, it has brought so much joy and purpose to my life!” - Lucy, Carmarthen

If you would like to learn more about Forever Fostering please give us a call, visit our website or scan the QR code!

 cinnamon.org.uk/forever-fostering

 01736 757900



Animal Welfare Case Study



Meet Benji, the amazing £12,000 dog! The financial support that we offer our pets is unique to The Cinnamon Trust. Our Animal Welfare Team work closely with our Forever Foster families and vets in local communities.

We first hear from Sarah, our Animal Welfare Manager:

Benji is a beautiful, nutty boy who went into foster with Fiona in 2019. What started as short-term care while his owner was unwell soon became a Forever Foster.

In 2021, after some weight loss and fitness work, it became clear Benji was struggling on his back legs. X-rays showed little, and the vet initially suspected it was a cruciate injury. But Fiona, being the great dog owner she is, knew something wasn't right. Further investigations revealed a shock diagnosis: Benji had a bulging disc in his spine! Despite being young and incredibly energetic, he had been bravely hiding the symptoms. Benji underwent specialist surgery and, thanks to the dedication of Fiona and her family (and plenty of physio), made a fantastic recovery. Before long, he was back enjoying his walks and playing ball, which, to Benji, is everything!



Fast forward to 2024 when Benji, for reasons known only to himself, decided to help himself to a piece of hedge. Fiona quickly dissuaded him but not before he gave a yelp and looked a bit sorry for himself. In true Benji style he shook it off and continued his nice long walk. Once home it was clear something was wrong and an emergency vet visit revealed that poor Benji had torn off his own tonsil. He was rushed to the specialist for a CT scan, followed by surgery to repair the damage and remove any debris. Recovery involved rest, lots of TLC and Fiona's homemade Greek yoghurt ice lollies to soothe his sore throat.

But this misadventure turned out to be lifesaving. The CT scan revealed a small nodule on Benji's thyroid, which was later confirmed as a malignant tumour. So, for a third time, poor Benji was urgently whisked off to the specialist. Thanks to early detection, the tumour was quickly removed and luckily hadn't spread. After this last vet visit, Benji was finally able to put it all behind him.

Today, Benji is back to playing ball and enjoying his walks, while Fiona and I try to fight off the grey hairs he's given us! All he's left with is a very reasonable vet phobia and a few impressive scars to show off to his mates.

And now, we hear from Benji's Forever Fosterer, Fiona...

We have been Forever Fosterers to Benji, a beautiful tri colour Border Collie, since his previous owner passed away in 2019.



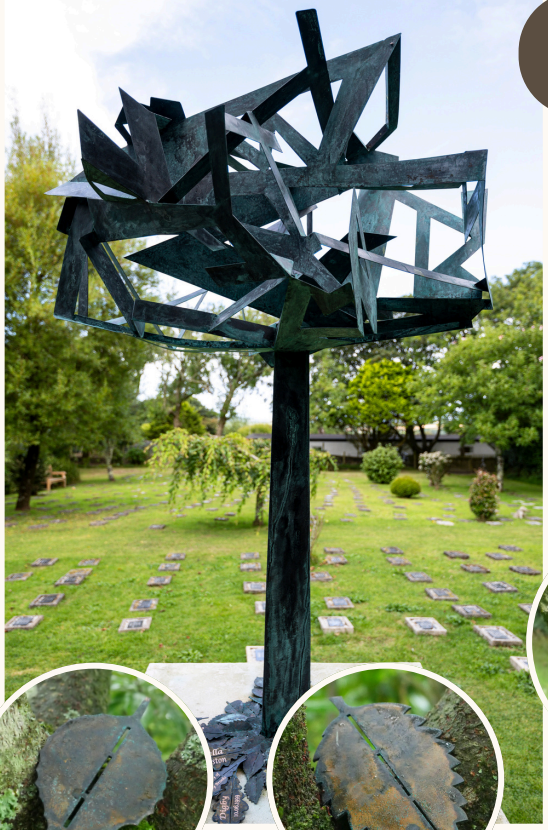
Benji has bounced back from a number of operations and is now living his best life exploring the Peak District, walking the Chesterfield canal and chasing squirrels in the woods opposite our house. All things considered, he has leapt over the hurdles life has thrown at him like a prime athlete and has made all our lives so much better for being here.

We are so grateful to The Cinnamon Trust for allowing us to foster him and for their generosity in helping Benji through his veterinary care. Strangers often admire him as he is so friendly and I always tell them about The Trust and their fantastic work.

Founder's Tree

We have been delighted with the growth of our Founder's Tree and the addition of more and more Memory Leaves. Our trees are beginning to flourish in our sanctuary gardens!

If you would like to memorialise a two or four legged loved one, do get in touch. Our memory leaves are available for a suggested donation of £100, all you have to do is choose a leaf and we will engrave your loved one's name and, if requested, their date of passing on the leaf. The leaf will then be added to our Founder's Tree in the tranquil memorial gardens at either Poldarves or Hillside Sanctuary. Please contact us for more information.



Birch

Beech

Oak

📞 01736 757 900

✉️ hello@cinnamon.org.uk

📍 10 Market Square, Hayle, Cornwall, TR27 4HE

A legacy in a leaf

A leaf that will never wilt, for those for whom our love will never waiver...

This year we were privileged to meet Sarah and Ronnie, who share their story here...

When our beloved daughter Kate died of cancer aged just 25, our world simply fell apart. Kate was a kind, caring, sensitive, fun-loving person.

She had recently qualified as an Occupational Therapist and got engaged to her long-term boyfriend; she thought she had her whole life ahead of her. Sadly in July 2020, while working on the wards of Treliske Hospital, she became ill and died just 9 months later in April 2021.

As a family, we needed something positive to come from this tragedy - something that would be a fitting tribute to our beautiful Kate and serve as her legacy. We came up with the idea of 'Kate's Fund'. We gathered together a group of family and friends and started to raise money for charity in her memory.

Kate had a very kind heart and was touched by stories of people and animals in need. With that in mind, we decided that we would make donations to lots of different charities, covering the wide range of interests that she had.

To date we have raised over £12,000 and donated to 28 different charities. We have been privileged to meet some amazing people doing excellent work for charity and our most recent donation to The Cinnamon Trust was no exception. We had a wonderful tour around the headquarters in Hayle and got to hear about the incredible care and support offered to people and animals in their time of need.

We were delighted to present a cheque for £400 to this exceptional charity. Fundraising for charities and good causes gives us something positive to focus on and is a way to channel our grief. It also helps to keep Kate's memory alive for her young nieces and nephews. We hope that she would be proud of what we do, and we will continue to do this as long as we are able to, in memory of our most precious Kate.



KATE



RONNIE, MARTHA & SARAH

Bertha's leaf has been placed on our Founders Tree in the Hillside Memorial Garden



My dear friend, Bertha Hodgson, was a devoted Cinnamon Trust lady and visited you a few times with her husband Bill. She used to make lots of little toys and send them to you at Christmastime. Sadly, she lost her husband, Bill, and she and I became best friends, two 'peas in a pod', although there were 30 years between us. I looked after her until she passed at home, where she wanted to be. Bertha and Bill thought you were an amazing charity, as do I, so I have taken up the baton so we can still support your special charity. - Chris, Somerset



I note at the back of the newsletter that you have created a Founders Tree. I first heard about The Cinnamon Trust 40 years ago when I read Averil's article in Good Housekeeping magazine. We corresponded on a personal basis for a while until the charity was formed. I have supported the charity ever since. We have had 14 cats. Our first was Sophie who belonged to our neighbour. In true cat fashion, she decided life was better next door with us and so she moved in. Thankfully our neighbour was okay with this and he was happy to look after his cat when we went on holiday! We currently have Patch, a 2-year-old rescue cat. He is adorable but bonkers and his favourite toy is his Molly's Mouse from your catalogue. We would like to memorialise Sophie on the Founder's Tree. - Charlotte, Suffolk

A Tribute to Diane Davis by her husband Peter...

We had just moved house and I was coming up to retirement, when we lost our lovely rescue Border Collie, Patch. We took Patch's passing as a sign to pause our many years of looking after dogs and do some travelling while we were still able to. My dear wife, Diane then decided to expand her volunteering activities (for several years she had already been volunteering at The Diamond Centre for Disabled Riders and The Cats Protection shop) by registering with The Cinnamon Trust for dog walking. That took us on a completely different ball game!

After walking a few dogs, she was asked to walk Kimmy, a lovely Lurcher owned by an elderly couple in Coulsdon, both of whom were house-bound. She and I walked Kimmy for some years and during this time, we were also introduced to their elderly widowed sister who lived nearby with her Collie, Honey. It didn't take long before we were walking Honey, which was organised by The Cinnamon Trust.



DIANE

Sadly, the couple died and with support from The Trust, a loving foster home for Kimmy was found and Diane and I fostered their cat Benny. We continued visiting the sister and walking Honey which we always looked forward to. After several happy years, the sister died and we fostered Honey until she passed away too. All the above as a result of walking one dog! During this time,

Diane continued her other volunteering work, and in 2007, started what was to become an annual run each August for The Cinnamon Trust in our back garden. Starting off with a modest coffee and cakes do, it gradually progressed to a full-blown BBQ, cream teas, raffle, tombola, quiz, games and social event regularly attended by over 100 neighbours, friends and relatives most of whom knew the occasion as "Diane's Dog Day". Over 13 years, she raised almost £10,000 for The Trust.

Tragically in 2020 Diane was diagnosed with ovarian cancer which she dealt with very bravely and with great stoicism until her death in May 2025, only a month after we lost both our beloved dogs, Flynn and Toffee for separate, yet untreatable, conditions. This huge double blow could not have come at a worse time for a very poorly Diane, as you can imagine.

140 friends and relatives attended her funeral in Leatherhead, Surrey. Diane now lays alongside her parents in the family graveyard at St Keverne Parish Church in Cornwall, following a memorial service there on the 30th September on what would have been her 73rd birthday.

Following Diane's services, donations to The Cinnamon Trust in her memory reached a wonderful total of over £7000. This is to be put towards a hydrotherapy pool at its Poldarves Sanctuary. It is the family's intention to hold future memorial 'Dog Days' each August to raise further funds for The Trust in Diane's memory. What a massive loss to our family and The Trust our beautiful Diane is.

We are so grateful to Diane, Peter and her family for continuing Diane's legacy and raising funds for The Trust. We have placed a memory leaf on our Founders Tree at Poldarves in Diane's memory.

Poetry Corner



Willow Pond

By the willow pond at break of day,
where silver mist and sunlight play,
a little duck with feathers bright
waddles softly into light.
She greets the morn with gentle quack,
ripples shimmer in her track;
golden down and hopeful eyes,
holding all the summer skies.
She is small, the world is wide,
reeds that whisper, tides that glide.
yet brave she dips her tiny head
where dragonflies in blue have sped.
She trusts the water, cool and deep,
trusts the sky its watch will keep,
trusts her wings, though not yet strong,
to learn the wind's unfolding song.

- Evelyn, Berkshire

Sustainability

Sustainability for The Cinnamon Trust, doesn't just mean reducing our carbon footprint, it also means securing our future so that we are here for many years to come.

Head office

- Our energy supplier provides 100% of our power from renewable energy sources.
- The Green Policy for our catalogue products state that all packaging must be plastic-free and biodegradable. All products must also be palm oil free.
- Our head office and Hillside sanctuary have solar panels and we are working on getting them installed at Poldarves too!

Our Sanctuaries

- Our beautiful grounds are managed sympathetically for wildlife and are home to many species of birds, hedgehogs, pheasants, deer foxes, badgers, and more!
- We encourage wildlife with: compost heaps, bug hotels, bird nesting boxes, hedgerows, planting wildflowers and berry-producing trees.
- Our fields are strip grazed and rotated - giving the land time to recover and regain vital nutrients.

Thank you for going paperless!

In an ongoing effort to make The Cinnamon Trust more sustainable, we have encouraged those of you who can to go paperless. This is not just a step towards reducing the impact we have on our planet, but is a step that allows us to focus our spending on the people and pets who need our support. Thank you to the thousands of you who have already chosen to go digital!



If you would like to continue to enjoy our newsletters but don't mind it being in a digital format, then please let us know! Scan the QR Code or visit forms.cinnamon.org.uk/paperless.

Go paperless!



forms.cinnamon.org.uk/paperless

A day in the life at POLDARVES Farm SANCTUARY

Dawn: the sanctuary stirs



Mist hangs low across the dewy fields and the first sounds of life welcome the new day. In the distance, birdsong threads softly through the hedgerows as the horses chomp on bales of golden hay. Everything is tranquil. Then, like a siren cutting through the calm, the geese announce the morning with loud honks, making sure that no one is left sleeping for long.



At 7am, the overnight team wishes everyone a good morning and begins setting up for the day. As soon as there is enough light, the dogs are let outside for their morning toilet breaks and the overnight checks begin. By 8am, the full team is on site, sharing updates before heading to their areas. Some are with the cats, others the dogs, while a few check the fields, saying hello to the residents and noticing the small details that make each one unique.

To Do

- Clean out Pepper's trough
- Do Kera's nails
- Keep Badger out of the fridge!



Pepper, the resident Kunekune pig, is always one of the first to be seen. Now an older lady, she is a little slower on her trotters, but still sharp as a tack and always knows when the staff have eggs in their pockets - and if she's feeling especially cheeky, she may help herself! Medications are given with care, breakfasts are prepared and every animal is given a meal best suited to their diet.



Morning: food, care & big characters

Food is serious business at the sanctuary. Cats are head-bumping for breakfast. Ponies cluster around their feed buckets nudging one other, while dogs cast suspicious glances at their neighbours' bowls. With the Chihuahua sisters comically bossing everyone around, Badger (slow on walks but nimble when there's food), sneaks into the kitchen and swipes one of Manager Eileen's fishcakes, straight out of the fridge!

By mid-morning, the sanctuary hums with life. Washing machines whirl, tumble dryers rumble and the day's chores blend with the soundscape of animals playing, eating, snoring and purring. It's busy - sometimes chaotic - but full of the warmth and love that is often found in a big household.



FEEDING TIME FOR THE SHEEP





Midday: walks & wellness



The dogs head out in small groups, exploring the surrounding hills, woods, lanes and sandy coves; sometimes a van ride is needed to reach a favourite spot. The walks, while essential for exercise, give space for freedom, adventure and plenty of fun, with tails wagging and noses twitching at every new scent.

The staff then take a short lunch break, often surrounded by residents eager for a sniff of whatever's on the menu. This is followed by grooming for those animals that may need a little spruce-up. All of the dogs, cats, horses and ponies love this VIP treatment and cuddle time. It helps them look and feel much healthier and allows the team to build special bonds with them that are rooted in trust and affection.



Afternoon: love in the details

At 1pm, the sanctuary serves home-cooked lunches, thoughtfully planned by nutritionist, Emma. One of the dogs' favourite dishes is lambs liver, cottage cheese and mashed potato, while the cats enjoy fresh fish. Pepper is happy with porridge and fruit - as long as it's a piggy-sized portion! Bowls are emptied almost as soon as they're put down and happy snores are proof that mealtime has been a success. 2pm is time for enrichment. Some of the team take the ponies and a few of the more lively pooches on gentle strolls through the woods to stretch their legs and enjoy playtime. Others stay closer to home, joining Pepper, the sheep and Elizabeth (the sanctuary squirrel) for games, more cuddles and a chit-chat.



THE PONIES



It's in these moments that personalities shine. Freddie the Westie, a creature of habit, insists on using one particular door to go outside. Maisie barks frantically whenever Shaun the gardener appears (she isn't a fan of his hat!), while 15-year-old Kera, who has cataracts, curls up in her favourite spot, soothed by the familiar sounds of the television.



Over with the cats, Catkin takes on the role of hair stylist, opening her salon especially for Tara, the assistant manager, to get preened and fluffed to perfection.



Evening: full bellies & creature comforts



At 5:30pm, the sanctuary team are busy preparing dinner. The menu rotates between roast chicken, fish, beef and turkey, thoughtfully planned around individual needs and illnesses, from pancreatitis to kidney failure. Some residents follow strict diets, but the team always find ways to keep meals both nutritious and tasty. For special occasions, they go a step further, making animal-friendly treats including birthday cakes, pancakes for Shrove Tuesday and Cornish pasties for St Piran's Day.

By 6pm, the staff have fed everyone; with full bellies all round, the bustle of dinner time fades and the sanctuary begins to slow down. The team take their time with each resident, working through lengthy medication sheets, settling everyone in and fitting in plenty of cuddles along the way.



It is time for everyone to drift toward their favourite cosy places. Cats curl inside their beds and baskets and purr contentedly. Dogs snuggle together on the sofas, while Russell, the Jack Russell, one of the sanctuary's more particular residents, prefers his own space. Little Rue's idea of comfort involves burrowing under a blanket, ready to ambush anyone who dares sit nearby. The manager's bed is a firm favourite too. It's not unusual for eight or nine dogs to queue up, hoping for prime position at the foot. As dusk settles, the team gently usher the geese, ducks and chickens into their houses. Sheep, horses, ponies and Pepper, snug beneath her blanket, are settled for the night. Inside the house, even the tortoises are quietly watched over during hibernation, their temperatures just right for a long and peaceful sleep.

Night: a home that never closes

At 10pm, the late shift hands over to the duty managers who are always there through the night. They listen out for any signs of restlessness or distress, and step in when they need to. Sometimes it's a quick check, sometimes a moment of reassurance, but their presence is always felt. Here, care doesn't stop when the lights go down.



Poldarves Sanctuary is a small haven, a home away from home for the pets who live here and the people who care for them. The team is here because they are passionate about what they do. The work can be hard and loss is a part of it. When a resident passes away, the team gathers with flowers in the memorial garden, taking a moment to remember a cherished soul who was known and loved as family. What keeps everyone going are the changes they see over time. A shy dog begins to relax; a sick pet starts to get better. The difficult days do come, but are far outweighed by the amazing moments and it's these that make all the difference.



Polly: a journey of love

When pets move into our sanctuaries, they do so to live out their twilight years in peace and comfort, surrounded by love. We would like to share Polly's story and her journey that lead her to becoming part of our Poldarves family.

Libby, Pat's daughter, tells us about her Mum and Polly...

Polly, a Maltese cross, was rescued by my Mum Pat, when Polly was a couple of years old. Not much is known about Polly's life before then, but it is thought that it wasn't pleasant. With Mum, life very quickly changed for Polly. She received the love and care she needed and she became very attached to Mum. They were constant companions and rarely separated over the years.

Then, last year, both Mum and Polly became very sick at the same time. Polly had developed a chronic gut condition along with a number of secondary health issues. Her health started to deteriorate, fast. She was put on medication and a special diet and very slowly, bit by bit, over a period of many months, Polly began to improve. However, my Mum did not.

My Mum got in touch with The Cinnamon Trust, who chatted to her all about Polly and made a promise to profile her. When the time came, and Polly needed a new home, we got back in touch with The Trust. Due to Polly's complex health conditions, it was decided that one of the sanctuaries would be the perfect place for Polly. So The Cinnamon Trust offered her a place in their sanctuary in Cornwall where she would continue to have all the love and care she needed as well as a number of new doggy friends to live with.

We took Polly to Poldarves which is in a beautiful part of the Cornish countryside. The sanctuary is so well set up for dogs like Polly. It's warm and homely with space for the residents to run around both inside and out and to be on their own or to snuggle up together. Whilst it was hard to say goodbye to Polly, we knew that she was in a good place where she'd be expertly cared for.

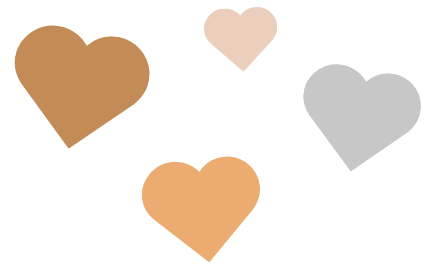
Several months later, it's been amazing to hear how well she's settled into her new family and home at the sanctuary and is thriving. We have no doubt that this is due to the care and love Polly is receiving from The Trust's staff. We're so grateful to The Cinnamon Trust for taking Polly into their hearts and for giving her a home.

Mum would be overjoyed if she could see how happy and healthy Polly is now.

Polly is just one of the many pets that come into our care each year. We use our years of experience and care to make sure each pet finds their perfect home, either in a Forever Foster home or one of our sanctuaries.



Poldarves Farm Sanctuary



We have welcomed some lovely new faces to Poldarves that we'd like you to meet!

Tilly loves to go for walks and will do a little dance of joy when she sees her lead. Her favourite place is the beach, and she will bound along the sand and forget she is an elderly lady.



TILLY



KERA

Kera is a real little lady who likes to sit and have a nice cup of tea in the mornings and have a biscuit dipped in for her. Kera loves to have her head groomed with a slicker brush and this will send her off to sleep.

Polly, who you met on the previous page, is a very affectionate little white bundle of joy who just loves life. She is a confident little girl who loves to go out on adventures.



POLLY



LUCY

With the cutest little face, everybody falls in love with Lucy. She is a very elderly lady but still loves to go on her walks. She has a very refined palette and will let you know what she likes and doesn't like to eat with no uncertainty. If she dislikes something, it gets spat right back at you!

Eddie looks like a little fox cub, and everybody just falls for that gorgeous baby face of his. He is such a playful little boy and he loves to play tug with one of his soft plush toys. He will greet everyone with a sweeping, furious tail wag.



EDDIE

Daisy May is a very quiet, loving, little girl. She loves nothing better than to snuggle into a little bed and will often be seen with her bottom hanging out of the bed. She likes to have a warm, woolly jumper on and just loves her food.

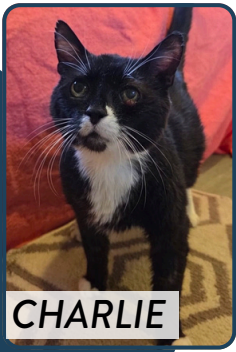


DAISY MAY

A very astute little lady, Steffie is always on the lookout for anyone rattling a treat packet, that person then becomes her favourite person. She is such a happy character and is always on the go. She loves her walks so much and gets very excited at walk time.



STEFFIE



CHARLIE

A very distinguished elderly gentleman, Charlie charms all who meet him and loves to have cuddles and scratches. He draws you to him with his intense gaze, which says "come over here and give me some attention". He gets on best with his little sister Chloe who is a very pretty, chatty, little girl. She loves lots and lots of fuss and attention. She enjoys playing with her collection of toys and is a very active, agile cat. Chloe is like spider woman and can climb anything that is put in front of her.



CHLOE

Leo and his sister Tootsie are the King and Queen of our cats. Tootsie will sit on her big chair, by the door and when any of her human subjects walk past she will sing to them until they stop and say hello with a little scratch until they are dismissed and allowed to go about their business. Leo is as brave as a lion, he will climb as high as he can, usually on a very high cat tree, and survey his kingdom. A very serene boy, he is a little aloof but enjoys it when his masseur comes to give him his very well-deserved cuddles and massages.



TOOTSIE



LEO



SIDNEY

Sidney is a quiet, little man with a very strange habit of walking backwards at times. Sidney can sometimes be heard whistling, our exotic vet has checked him and given him a clean bill of health, so he has now gone into hibernation with the other 3 tortoises.



Fun on the Farm

Summer passed and left us with the golden trees and balmy nights of Autumn. All of the doggies have enjoyed trips out. We've had field trips to an unused, local show field, woodland walks at Godolphin and our local beach, Praa Sands, is a beautiful golden stretch of sand. Beach days are always fun and the dogs love to frolic along the shoreline and sometimes dip their toes in the gently lapping waves.



DERREN & ANNIE

Visitor Snippet:

One year ago, in October 2024, The Cinnamon Trust saved my Nanny's beautiful dog, Annie. My Nanny passed away suddenly and The Cinnamon Trust sprang into action to organise a forever home for Annie. Annie now has an incredible life with all of the animals The Trust looks after at Poldarves Sanctuary. Thank you for all of your love, care, support and kindness. We are forever grateful for everything you do. - Derren



We had our annual Halloween party where all of the team and their chosen canine partner dress up and have an afternoon of games and fun. Also, this year we celebrated St Andrews Day at the end of November, we wore kilts and enjoyed traditional Scottish fare of mince and tatties. Any excuse for a party!

The ponies have been out walking on the bridlepaths and having some delicious munches on the verges. Finding herbs and long grass to dip their warm little muzzles into. They have had their pedicures from Nigel the Farrier and had the equine dentist, Lucy, out to make sure their mouths are comfortable.



The little squirrel, Elizabeth, has had her fill of berries, mushrooms and acorns. She's also had her very own little squirrel plush in her drey as she is on her own and needed someone to cuddle up to.



Duvet days are quite a favourite with the doggies here at Poldarves. Well, who wants to go out and walk in torrential rain when you are in your twilight years? With the fire roaring, duvets and bean bags on the floor and dog TV on, we play indoor games, have treats and lots and lots of cuddles too.



Pepper the pig has had her bed revamped to suit her aging limbs. With a little age-related arthritis creeping in, she has had new bedding put down in her stable so that she can grip better to stand up. We've also made her a wind break using straw bales so that she is even cosier and can snuggle right down into her bed and pull her blanket over her, which was gifted by Father Christmas!

Christmas was a lovely with all of the residents unwrapping their presents. The chickens had fresh sprouts still on their stalk, which they loved. In Cornwall, we very rarely experience snow, so we decided to organise our own 'Snow Day' and hired a snow cannon. It was fabulous fun; Freddie especially loved it and was very excited.



The tortoises have had their last outdoor walks before hibernation and are now cosy in their straw filled boxes. The sheep have moved into their big winter shelter and like to sit on big piles of straw and munch on their hay whilst watching the weather outside pass them by.

Batten Down the Hatches!

On Thursday 8th Jan, Storm Goretta came thundering across Cornwall. With lashing rain and staggering, gale force winds, Goretta devastated ancient woodlands and caused havoc across the county. Despite suffering the loss of a few trees and a roofing sheet lifting, thankfully, Poldarves Sanctuary was left relatively unscathed. We lost power for 48 hours and water for 72 hours, but our wonderful team came together and made the best of it.

The residents were kept warm and cosy with blankets, jumpers and our open fire. We still have our wonderful old aga to cook the dogs' dinner, so they were able to have their yummy roasts.

Monumental efforts were made to get to work after the storm; one team member was driven to work by her husband in a tractor. He cleared the roads on the way so that others could also pass. In the



TINK

evenings, everything was done by torchlight or battery candlelight. The Thursday evening team couldn't get home, so stayed at Poldarves and got straight back to work the next morning, making sure all of the residents were safe and well. Even though it was a worrying time for us, we rallied together and kept spirits high!



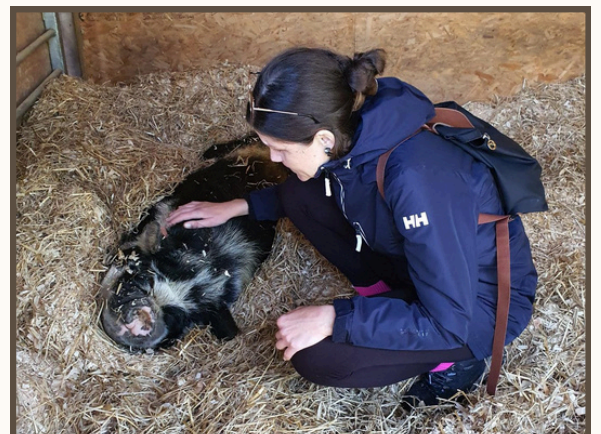
Visitor Snippet:

My partner and I visited Poldarves Farm, and we just wanted to say a huge thank you to the team, especially to Eileen who showed us round. We absolutely loved all of the animals - Pepper was a particular favourite - and we were so impressed with the work that you are doing there.

Visiting the Farm was the highlight of our week. We wanted to wish you all the best with your ongoing work and hope the lovely animals continue to enjoy happy lives thanks to your expert care. Many thanks again, Harry and Elizabeth



ELIZABETH AND HARRY





Hillside Farm Sanctuary

It has been a busy few months at Hillside Sanctuary, with lots of lovely moments with friends old and new. Here are some of our new friends that have already captured all of our hearts.

Trixie is our quiet queen who enjoys testing out the best beds in the house. Funnily enough, we rarely see her change from bed to bed, Trixie may well just teleport herself to her next comfy spot as she is a little bit magical!



TRIXIE



TINK

The addition of Muffet, a naughty Torti, was much welcomed. She arrived and quickly named herself queen of the cats. Muffet enjoys directing the team to perform to her every whim from her cozy nest inside her teepee bed.

Puss-Puss and Daisy-May took to life at Hillside like ducks to water. Daisy-May quickly took over as 'Head Gardener' and can be found snoozing in the cat nip or climbing on the sunbathing rocks. Puss-Puss is 'Chief Sofa Tester' and can be found rating the sofas out of ten. Their day is rounded off with a groom and massage performed by the ever-dedicated team here at Hillside.



PUSS-PUSS



DAISY-MAY



JAMIE

Jamie was his mum's little prince and we can understand why. Jamie has this regal way about him; he carries himself with great dignity and poise. When he first joined us, we placed him in a room to get used to all his neighbors; when time came to allow Jamie to wander around freely checking out the other rooms in his retirement home, he quickly decided that his room was the best and, of course, Jamie deserves the best!

He has recently welcomed a new roommate in Tiggy, who arrived a little after him. A more beautiful boy you would struggle to find, Tiggy makes sure to taste test anything that is dished out to make sure his fellow residents are getting the best of the best. After dinner, he searches for the best warm spot and snoozes the evening away until it's time to brush out those long, luscious locks. He will allow one of the team to give him his daily groom, finishing his pamper session by straightening his bow tie and admiring himself in the mirror.



TIGGY



FRANKIE

Frankie arrived with warnings of being a very naughty Torti! Whilst she likes to have her say to make sure we are performing to the best of our ability, she is also quick to give us a nuzzle and an appreciative purr of a job well done, especially when the team bring her favorite snack.

Zach took no 'getting used to' or 'settling in' - he was simply at home here. Zach behaves himself impeccably: sitting in close when the team have their tea breaks; enjoying a gentle scratch under the chin or a nibble of a digestive if one is going.



Harvey is a little shy but very curious in nature and is still settling into sanctuary life, his favorite time is when the team members come and sit with him. He happily comes down from his windowsill and indulges them in a cuddle and a fuss.

Harvey has attracted a sanctuary guardian in the form of Tinsel who will happily nap next to him, reassuring him that life here is the absolute best. Tinsel arrived with us 11 days before Christmas, you couldn't make it up! She quickly made friends with both cats and humans alike as she took her change in circumstances in her stride. She can be found cuddled up with Darkie, who has shown her all the softest sofas. Or Jamie, who has shown her where the best snacks are kept and how to head bump the team into submission for them.

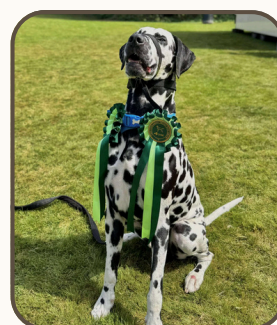


We also took on 16 hens who needed a home and our doggies needed fresh laid eggs, so this was a match made in heaven! These lovely ladies have brightened our daily routine with happy clucks in the mornings and evenings. We had a naming competition: Queen Egglizabeth, Margret Hatcher and Princess Layer, just to name a few!

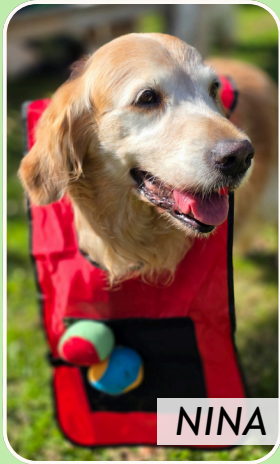


Hooray for Holly!

Holly, one of our senior animal carers at Hillside, is running the London Marathon this April for The Trust and as part of her fundraising, she decided to put on an epic Cinnamon Trust dog show. Holly and her partner Austen organised a spectacular event. There were several stands, a raffle of items kindly donated by local companies and people, a tombola was run on The Cinnamon Trust stand, and of course the dog show itself. It was a very popular event, drawing in lots of people and dogs. The show went very well and Holly raised just over £1000! Holly hopes to make The Cinnamon Trust dog show an annual event. Keep your eyes peeled for the next show, it will be held near the Hillside Farm sanctuary in Devon.

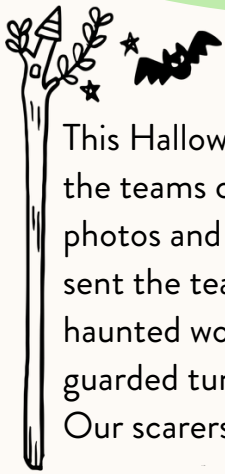
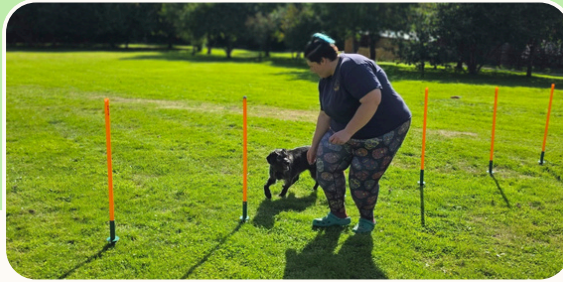


Sports Day Shenanigans



NINA

Hillside's annual sports day was once again a big success, the weather also blessed us and we managed to break out the BBQ. Three teams took part in the games, from the three-legged race to welly wanging. Much fun was had by the dogs who went to retrieve the wellies and then took part in the weave poles. Betty surprised us all with her weaving skills! Nina was great at the dodge ball however she did manage to catch more than she dodged. The event was finished with tug-o-war which was supervised by Tilly and Rosie, making sure no one was cheating.



This Halloween, we were haunted by three ghostly ghouls. While the witch running the show kept the teams captive with sweet treats and party food, the dogs posed for frightful photos and the ghouls laid out their traps. Full up on sweet treats, the witch sent the teams out to compete for the purple skull. They had to navigate haunted woods (dog field), bog dwelling monsters (duck pond) and spider guarded tunnels (polytunnel), all while being chased by the ghosts of Hillside. Our scarers took their job very seriously and lots of fun was had by all.



BETTY



TIGGY



HATTIE & ABBIE

Christmas is about endings and beginnings, remembering those we have lost and celebrating those that have found us. This is just what we did here at Hillside, with the Christmas tree up we decorated it with the names of animals who had crossed the Rainbow Bridge. We also added Christmas wishes from those that are still with us, like a stroll in the woods for Tilly or a game of cat and mouse for Thomas. New stockings were added to the decor this year with the names of animals that had parted ways with us in 2025, this was such a beautiful way to remember them with the team adding in notes of memories they had made over the past year. We also made sure that the animals that are still with us have the best Christmas ever. Parties, presents and treats were had by all.

Our annual Christmas meal is a joyous event where all the team come in to have a home cooked roast dinner and a party. The team enjoyed a carvery with the dogs sampling all they could to make sure it was up to par. On Christmas day, the team came in to care for all the animals as always. However we do treat it as a pyjama day and once all the hard work is done, the team can be found snuggled up with the cats, dogs, horses and birds. This year the residents had new cat towers, jumbo Christmas pudding toys for the dogs and Stud Muffin cookies for the horses and sheep. The joy of Christmas was felt by all at Hillside.

The chickens were green with envy at the sight of the duck house that was built at the start of the year, they almost went on egg-strike! We, of course, gave into their demands and built them their own state of the art ark. With high windows and raised position from the ground, this property offers commanding views over the local duck pond. Our chickens are happier than ever and we now have more eggs than we know what to do with.



Lights, Camera, Cat-tion!

As you may have spotted in this edition of our newsletter, here at The Cinnamon Trust, we're a little cat-obsessed! And what better way to celebrate our feline friends than to award them with their very own Oscars! Here are some of our Hillside glamour pusses with their prestigious Oscar awards, looking particularly elegant, if we do say so ourselves.



Barney: 'Zen Paw-Master'
winner



Odin: 'Chief of Cosy-Chic'
winner



Tiggy: 'Most Distinguished Gentleman'
winner



Jamie: 'Prince of Pawsitivity'
winner



Frankie: 'The Naughty Torti'
winner

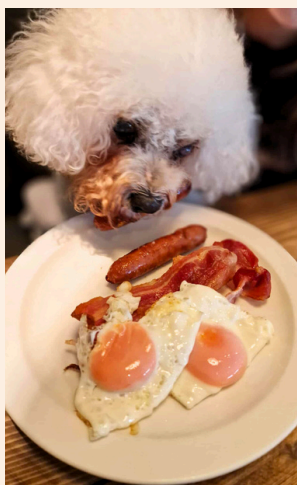
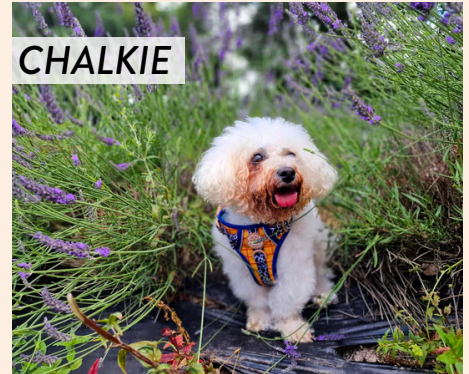
We're always looking to welcome new Forever Fosterers to The Trust. Although the fabulous felines above have their forever homes, it won't be long before we are in need of a special someone for a cat awaiting their happy-ever-after. If you can offer your heart and home to a cat looking for a special someone, please visit cinnamon.org.uk/forever-fostering/.



Going Above and Beyond

We're very lucky to have such wonderful sanctuary staff who dedicate their time and kindness to the residents they care for each day. They know and love each animal like family and go above and beyond to give them the very best life until they cross the Rainbow Bridge.

Last year, Hillside said their final goodbyes to beloved Bichon-Westie cross, Chalkie. When he arrived at the sanctuary, he quickly made friends and melted the hearts of everyone he met. His favourite things in the world were tummy tickles and snacks and he loved to try everyone's lunch!



When Chalkie became ill and it was clear that he was reaching his final days, the team wanted to give him the most special and wonderful send-off. They took him to all his favourite spots: the lavender fields where he could sniff to his heart's content, Black Rock beach in Bude for a splash in the rock pools, and to a cafe to enjoy one last tasty breakfast with his best pals. Chalkie had a lovely life, right until the end, wrapped in the warmth and love of his dedicated friends at Hillside.



Chalkie is no exception, every single pet at both of our sanctuaries receives the very best care, from the day they arrive until their last moments. This is what makes The Cinnamon Trust so special.

Art From the Heart

The lovely Kath, Deputy Manager at Hillside Sanctuary, is another brilliant example of putting her heart and soul into her work. When she isn't busy looking after all the residents, she's a keen and talented artist who paints the most gorgeous portraits of the sanctuary animals. Her paintings decorate the walls of the house at Hillside and are a daily reminder of the beautiful bond between the staff and the animals they care for.





Until We Meet Again



Please join us in remembering our sanctuary family who crossed the Rainbow Bridge.

Poldarves Farm Sanctuary: **Georgie**, 18y tabby cat, was the most adorable girl who loved her sleek and shiny long coat being groomed. **Mitzi**, 15y Toy Poodle, was a very tiny girl who loved her food and would sit and wait beseechingly for just one more treat. **Jonty**, 13y Cocker Spaniel, was a delight to be around, his favourite thing was to sit and snuggle with you for an ear scratch. We will all miss seeing **Lucy**, 17y Whippet, galloping in our fields at walk time, and whizzing past you with joy. Our free-spirited 15y cat **Gemma**, didn't want to live in our cat rooms so had her own outdoor house built which she loved and enjoyed the freedom to come and go but also rather liked her meals being brought to her 4 times a day. Handsome **Felix**, 16y cat, was such a friendly boy, who craved attention and loved to be loved. **Jaffa**, 11y Pomeranian, was a tiny man with the heart of a lion, a huge character who enchanted everyone that met him, we were all smitten. **Butterfly**, 12y sheep, was a big, bonny, fabulous boy with a larger-than-life presence. **Benji**, 15y Shih Tzu, lived life to the full, he was bold, brave, cuddly and playful.

Hillside Farm Sanctuary: **Gemma** our 18y Belgian Shepherd, who stayed with us as long as she could, guarded Hillside and our hearts. **Bramley**, 14y Cairn Terrier, was the sweetest gentleman you could wish for. We are lucky that, although we lost our beautiful old man, he left us his daughter, Sadie, so we never forget him. **BonBon**, 10y Cocker Spaniel, was a super spaniel! She was our little miracle, fighting a rare condition with the enthusiasm that only a spaniel can. **Patches**, 13y cat, was always about when you needed a cuddle, you could hear him calling from the cat gardens for a gentle pair of hands to come and give him some smooches. He will be greatly missed. Our 14y, toy loving, sappy Golden Retriever **Zoe**, made our day brighter with her husky woof of greeting in the mornings. Zoe left a lasting impression on all that knew her and how can we forget, we are still finding her hair everywhere! Our beautiful Muscovy duck, **James Pond**, took his final dip in the pond surrounded by his friends; we will miss his sassy waddle. Tiny **Carla**, 18y cat, could always be found in the sunniest spots in the cat rooms. Sunshine suited Carla, she always seemed to have a warm glow about her; we will miss her inner sunbeam. Sheep sisters who were never parted, **Flora** 14y and **Violet** 12y, did everything together including crossing the Rainbow Bridge. We will miss their fluffy noses peaking around the corner looking for an extra biscuit or two. **Fudge**, 18y cat, a little queen, that came in with her family of 5 including her 3 younger brothers that she managed to keep in line, each night she would be joined by one of them to make sure their sister kept nice and warm. She ruled them all with a gentle paw and will be greatly missed. **Miss Minx**, 11y Greyhound, stayed with us for a while, but it was not long enough. She would pile toys up and bury herself in them, insist on cuddles and having prime sofa spot. She broke our heart but is now running free forever.

**While they may be at peace in their forever sleep and no longer with us,
they will remain in our hearts and cherished in our fondest memories.**

Something New

Book review

When The Cranes Fly South



Swedish author Lisa Ridzen wrote *When the Cranes Fly South* after finding the carer's notes about her grandfather. Told from the perspective of Bo, an elderly gentleman living alone with Sixten, his devoted Elkhound. Through his memories, we learn of his younger years, family and relationships and how his history has shaped his current thoughts and feelings.

We meet Bo at a time in his life when he is coming to terms with changes in his health and losing his independence. Sixten is a constant, reassuring presence for Bo and becomes central to the story.

When the Cranes Fly South has been written simply with honesty, compassion and love. It doesn't feel forced or sensationalised and we found it deeply impactful. This story has stayed with us, long after we turned the final page. We feel that many people will be able to empathise with Bo, his family and the difficult choices they face.

The story echoes strongly with the ethos of The Cinnamon Trust and highlights the importance of pets to our older family members and the love and dedication a companion can give.

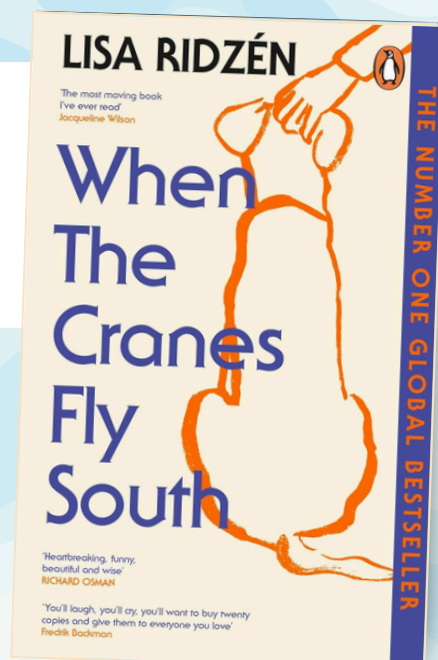


Penguin Random House have very kindly given us 10 copies to give to our newsletter readers. If you would like the chance to win your own copy, please get in touch.

10 names will be drawn at our stand during Dogstival 2026 on the 31st May!

 joy@cinnamon.org.uk

 **01736 757 900**

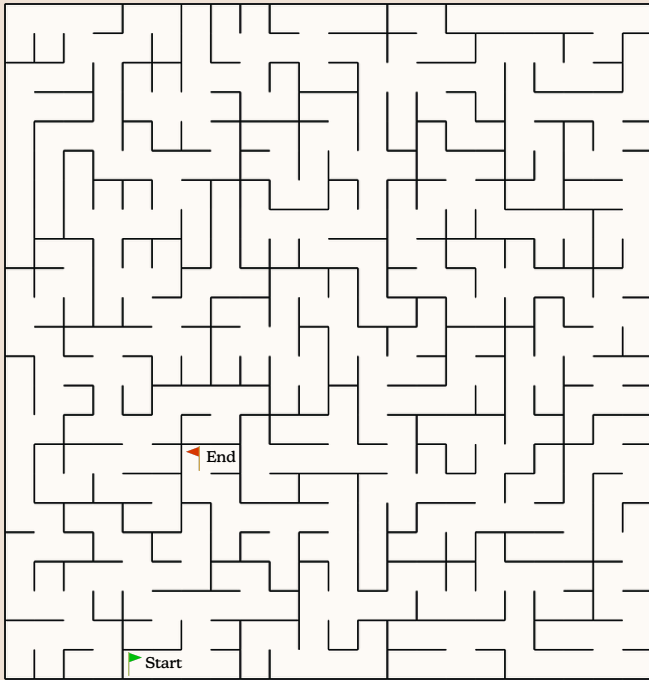


Puzzle Page



Walter's Wordsearch

Maya's Maze



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Y	W	N	S	A	P	U	R	O	E	N	E	M	X
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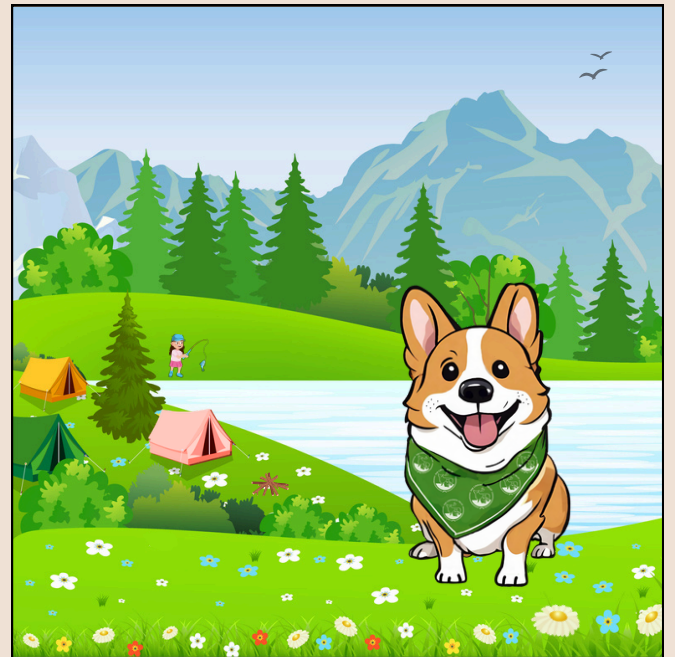


Dave's (8) Differences

**ANIMALS
GIVING
FOSTER
CORGI**

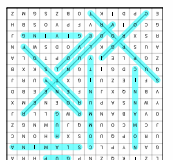
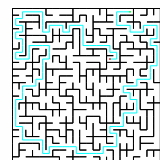
**PONY
LOVE
HUG
PUG**

**COMMUNITY
VOLUNTEER
CINNAMON
SUPPORT**



Rotate for answers & clues

Clues:
Sea gull
Campfire
Extra Tree
Eyebrow
Large daisy
Pink Tent
Fisherman
Missing flower





The Cinnamon Trust

The national charity for older people,
the terminally ill and their pets

HILLSIDE SANCTUARY

REGISTERED CHARITY
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