

Featured Felines: Escapes and Rescues 18 (2024)

Big Ginge from Birmingham UK; **Prometheus** from California, USA

Big Ginge who went missing for 10 years



Growing up from kittenhood on a canal boat in the Birmingham area of England, **Big Ginge** knew that was his home and would usually not stray far away. When the boat was moored for the night, he would go exploring ashore with his mum **Weasel** and brother **Diesel**, but the three cats would return when they'd finished exploring to their satisfaction – although occasionally their humans, Colin and Eva, might need to stay an extra day if the cats hadn't returned in time..

But one day in 2011, having travelled some 25 miles from their home base while on their honeymoon, and the cats having gone out for their usual foray, Weasel and Diesel returned – but 3-year-old Ginge did not. Colin and Eva spent five days in the area, searching, calling him and putting up posters. But there was no sign of him, and eventually they had to leave without him. He was microchipped, so they registered him as missing.

It was some ten years later, in 2021, that a stray ginger cat in Lichfield came to the attention of the local Cats Protection branch, and one of their team spent several weeks trying to trap him, but without success. He was nicknamed Marmalade; the public was alerted to him via Facebook, and news and sightings of the cat began to trickle in. It seems that one particular kind man started feeding him, gradually gaining his trust, until one day he went into the man's flat. He seemed to have a lump on his side. Finally captured, the cat was soon at the vet's, where his true identity was discovered! And the lump was found not to be serious.



So after his lengthy absence, Big Ginge was finally able to be reunited with his humans. Colin and Eva were keeping him indoors for a while, but he seemed to have had enough adventures and wasn't showing any interest in going out again. Presumably Weasel and Diesel had died while he was away, as he was reported as having two canine companions, Mutley and Misty Moo, with whom he seemed to get along well.



[Cats Protection](#) (Nov. 2021) | [BBC News](#) (Nov. 2021)

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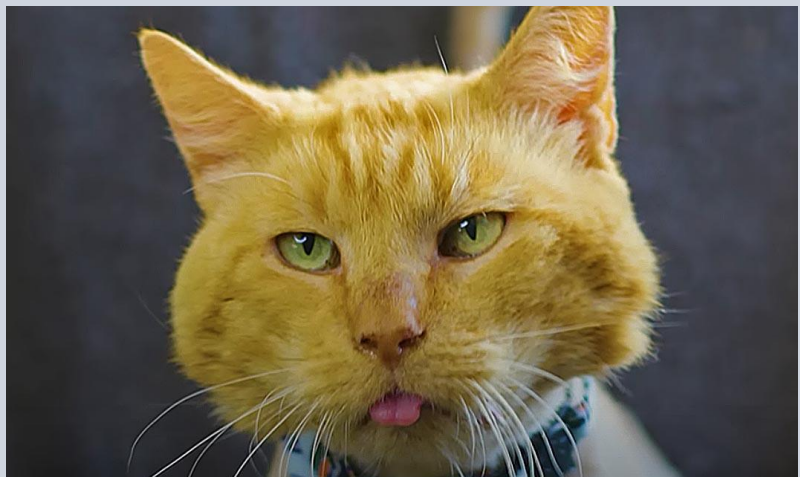
Prometheus (2024)

Rescued from euthanasia in California, USA



Rescuers from the organisation Cats of San Bernardino, in the town of that name in California, make it their business when possible to rescue from other shelters cats that are due to be put to sleep. They came across a sad-looking ginger cat all alone in his cage, with an injured front paw and severely matted fur. They took him to be fostered, treated and, it was hoped, eventually adopted.

The only way to deal satisfactorily with his matted fur was to shave it off, apart from his head, so for a while **Prometheus**, as he was named, resembled a little lion until it grew again. He had surgery that successfully treated his injured paw. When he was well on the way to recovery his story was shared on Instagram, leading to many expressions of interest,



However, ,when a lady called Carrie – who, incidentally, is one of only two female NASA pilots – and her husband met Prometheus, it turned out to be a perfect match. As soon as he was fully healthy he went home with them and was soon finding his feet. He liked to groom their dog April, who didn't quite know what to make of it, and he was at first very food-motivated, no doubt owing to his time living rough and not knowing where his next meal was coming from. Carrie said that one of the best things was just seeing him sleeping comfortably and not being on edge. Prometheus became a loving, affectionate cat who enjoys attention: a real happy ending!

[We Love Cats and Kittens](#) (Jan. 2025)

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