

## Featured Felines: Miscellany 13 (2022)

(page checked July 2026)

### Supermarket visitors 3

Thomas of Mold; Oscar of Stowmarket  
Gimli of Cheshire Oaks; Mo of Newtongrange

#### Thomas Mold, Flintshire, North Wales



I'm not sure when **Thomas** the cat – widely known as 'Tom' – began frequenting the Tesco store in Mold, but he was certainly doing so early in 2022. He actually belonged to the Practice Principal, Andy Wignall, at the nearby Grange Veterinary Centre, but obviously enjoyed going out and about and getting lots of attention from the supermarket customers. His regular visits made him something of a mascot for the store, where he'd often be found hanging around the plants and ornaments outside, or else in the car park. He gained a notice saying, 'I have a loving home and I am a healthy cat. PLEASE DO NOT FEED ME. Meow.'

Thomas was one of two kittens that came into the vet practice in 2017; his sister is called **Dinosaur**. In September 2022 Andy and his family moved to Halkyn Mountain, and took the cats with them, so Tom wouldn't be seen at the Tesco store any more, and many people would miss his presence. 'Trips to Tesco won't be the same without him,' said one person. Andy said, 'They're both [Tom and Dinosaur] very loved by us, and we know everyone loves them, but we couldn't move and not bring them with us.' However, Tom was said to be loving his new surroundings in the countryside.





[The Leader](#) (Sept. 2022)

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## Oscar

Stowmarket, Suffolk, UK



According to his human, six-year-old tabby **Oscar** liked to visit the local Tesco Superstore almost every day; it seems he picked up the habit after following his human when she walked her dogs. He would

often be found in the area by the 'click and collect' department, where a staff member said they were used to him 'chilling all day' there. He had been known to wander into the store itself, and then had to be coaxed out. He was popular not just with customers – children in particular loved him – but also with store staff, who liked to sit outside with him in warm weather when they took their breaks.

After completing his shift at Tesco, Oscar would wander home for some food and relaxation!



There's a [Facebook](#) page, not used extensively, and last used in August 2023, when it seems Oscar was still making his visits.

[East Anglia Daily Times](#) (Jan. 2021) | [BBC News](#) (Jan. 2025)

**Update:** Late in 2024 Oscar had been ill for a few weeks, and a subsequent vet visit determined that he had stomach cancer. Even an operation and chemotherapy would likely have given him only a few more months to live, so rather than put him through all that it was felt best to put him to sleep, early in January 2025. He was very much missed at the store. Plans to publish a book about him were unfortunately not successful, as not enough money was raised for the project.

One of his followers also produced a statue in Oscar's memory that she had hoped to display in the store, but Tesco said they couldn't allow that: see [this link](#). They did, though, allow cards, flowers and treats to be left there following his death.

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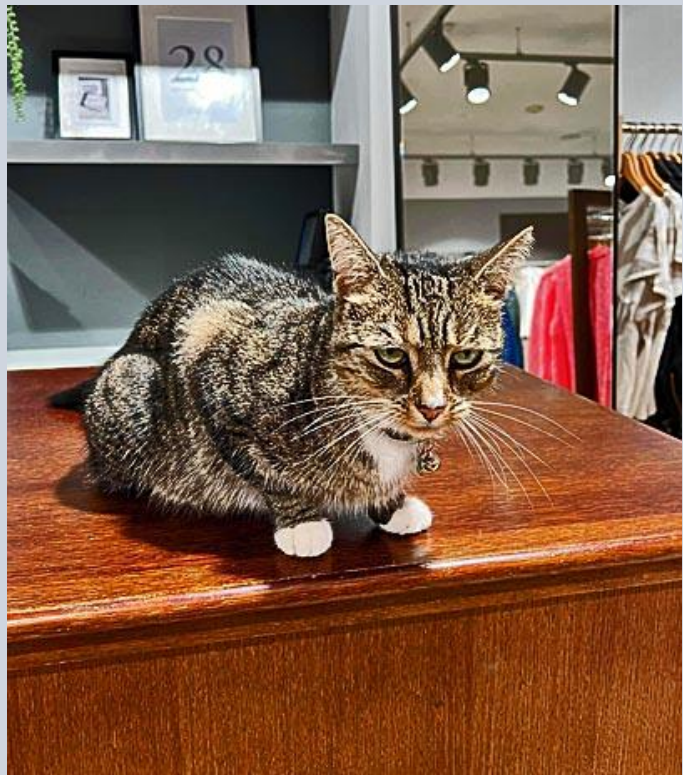
## Gimli, 'Queen of the Oaks'

### Cheshire Oaks, Ellesmere Port, UK



Cheshire Oaks Designer Outlet is the largest such facility in the UK, with nearly 150 shops and services – so visiting cat **Gimli**, widely known as 'Queen of the Oaks', didn't just have a supermarket to frequent: she had all those possible shops to visit! And she made the most of it, walking the aisles, tunnelling into piles of blankets, curling up on shelves or posing in shop windows. Living with her human – who'd had her since she was a kitten – just behind the Oaks, only a couple of minutes' walk away, it was easy for five-year-old Gimli to pop over to the shops and then back home again for a snack.

Her owner said she'd always been a bit of an adventurer. 'Personality-wise she was a typical cat, really: mostly quite aloof, but she'd have moments of being incredibly sweet. She enjoyed a fuss, on her own terms, but when she'd had enough, if you didn't spot the warning signs she'd certainly let you know!'



Gimli has her own [Facebook](#) page, which includes contributions from customers and staff at the Oaks, picturing her latest exploits.

Gimli went missing in late April 2023 and, despite extensive searches and publicity, there was no sign of her for two-and-a-half years. But in October 2025 she was reunited with her humans; a Facebook post said she'd been sitting outside someone's house for two days, so she was able to be recovered and identified with the aid of her microchip. Where she'd been is unknown, but presumably someone had been looking after her. See this [Facebook](#) page.

[The Manc](#) (April 2022)



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**Mo** (2026)

**Newtongrange, Midlothian, Scotland**



There doesn't seem to be any information on when he started his visits, but I think **Mo**, the

tabby cat, must have been making his daily outings to the Co-op store near his home for quite some time. He became well-known and loved by many in the former Scottish mining town of Newtongrange.

It's reported that he'd usually be at the store for opening time at 6 a.m., often staying till closing time and enjoying the attention of customers. A favourite place to lounge around was by the self-service tills; he was quiet and mild-mannered – one person even described him as 'the most well-behaved customer in the store'!

But then, I think during 2024, came the inevitable complaint from a customer – there's always one – about his presence, and shop staff were instructed to keep him out. Poor Mo would sit outside, wondering why he wasn't able to go in; he even tried sneaking in behind entering customers, but was soon detected! However, the local community rallied round to challenge the decision, and a petition with nearly 3000 signatures had the desired effect: Mo was allowed back in..



Sadly, his humans announced in late February 2026 that Mo had been put to sleep; his age and illness weren't stated. As with a number of much loved 'community cats' a fundraising appeal for a statue was begun. Things seem to have moved quickly, and by mid-May the sculpture was being unveiled outside the Co-op store.



Mo is also remembered by a series of children's books; see [this site](#).

[Daily Record](#) (Feb. 2026) | [Edinburgh News](#) (May 2026) | [Facebook](#)

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