

## **Headlines**

#### Issue 909 **FirstNews** 17 – 23 November 2023

# MANY MARCH FOR GAZA CEASEFIRE



HUNDREDS of thousands of Palestinian supporters took to the streets of London on Saturday 11 November calling for a ceasefire in Gaza.

Police say around 300,000 took part in the rally, while organisers claim it was closer to 800,000.

The crowd urged world leaders, including UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, to call for an end to the fighting between Israel and Hamas in the Palestinian territory of Gaza. Hamas, which runs Gaza, has been named a terrorist organisation by many countries, including Israel, the UK, the USA and the European Union.

The latest fighting began after Hamas attacked Israel on 7 October, killing 1,200 people and taking around 240 men, women and children hostage. Israel has responded with heavy bombing of Gaza, killing more than 10,000 people, in its attempt to destroy Hamas.

Saturday's rally took place on Armistice Day, an annual commemoration to mark the day when the agreement was signed that brought an end to World War One.

While for many it was a peaceful protest in London, for others it was a chance to spread violence and hatred. A group of people who were against the protest shouted offensive chants at campaigners and threw bottles at the police.

London's Met Police condemned the "extreme violence"

from those it says set out to confront Saturday's march. Nine officers were injured and 145 people were arrested, the "vast majority" of whom were counter-protesters. The police also said they were investigating serious offences relating to anti-Semitic (anti-Jewish) hate crimes.

Many senior police officers said that the problems on the day weren't helped by comments from Suella Braverman, the Government's Home Secretary at the time, who said the police were not being strict enough with pro-Palestinian protesters.

Ms Braverman was sacked by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Monday as part of a reshuffle of his top Government ministers. See page 3 to see who replaced her and who else Rishi Sunak changed in his Government.



ceasefire – an end to fighting counter-protesters – people who don't agree with the protest anti-Semitic – being hostile to Jewish people majority – most of

See first.news/IsraelGaza for all of our coverage on the conflict and a background to the history.

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## **The purrfect rescue!**

#### A HEROIC dog helped to save the life of his kitty companion after she got stuck 30m (100ft) down a mineshaft in Cornwall.

Daisy the dog could sense poor Mowgli the cat was in trouble when she'd been missing for six days. The animals' owner, Michele Rose, started to think they'd never see her again. But then, one day while out walking, Daisy alerted Ms Rose to something unusual in the woods and led her to an abandoned mine.

It turned out that Mowgli had fallen down a mineshaft and couldn't get out again.

The next day, the RSPCA teamed up with firefighters to pull the kitty to safety. Thankfully she was unharmed.

Ms Rose later said: "Daisy is a superstar, she's an amazing dog. Without Daisy doing that, Mowgli could still be down there, that's for sure."

Mowgli soon returned home, where she was greeted not only by Daisy but also the family's other pet cat, Baloo.



The Rose cats are reunited!

### EDITOR'S COMMENT

THE United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is like a rulebook that makes sure every child around the world is treated fairly and with kindness.



Imagine it as a shield that protects you and your friends. It says that every child has the right to learn, play and be healthy. It's also meant to make sure that no child is badly treated or left out. Just as you have rules at home or in school, the Convention is a big set of rules for the whole world to follow. It's like a promise from adults to make sure you, and all kids, are happy and safe.

Sadly, adults don't always make sure that is the case. Turn to our centre-page pull-out to see how some kids are being let down and aren't getting the rights they deserve.

### The 'lost echidna'

THE rare Attenborough's long-



beaked echidna has been caught on camera for the first time, proving the animal hasn't become extinct. Scientists managed to film the egg-laying mammal, named after Sir David Attenborough, in Papua in Indonesia. The only evidence they had that this particular species existed, before this new sighting, was from one specimen in a museum.



## Australia

NEARLY half of Australia was left without internet or phone service last week, when the country's



second largest telecoms provider Optus crashed. Around ten million people were cut off, with train systems also going down and businesses unable to operate because they couldn't get online. A badly planned software uparade was found to be the cause.



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