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Merlin –I recognise you

It was my worst fear. I had just placed Merlin's little friends to bed and was returning down the lane to prepare him for bed also, when I realised I could no longer hear his little baa's beckoning me. A pang of concern welled into a river of fear as I cried "Merlin's gone" on finding his yard empty. How could he possibly get out or worse? Racing in the darkness to find my little buddy, there was nothing.



Nothing, until I heard "He's over here". Merlin and his plaster cast had somehow morphed into a worm and squeezed under the gate and the little mite had taken himself off to his night time house with his bunny friends. On hearing my voice he raced over, plaster clad leg oddly trailing behind the bleating lamb. "He's looking for you" Mum called. And indeed he was, once Merlin made my

figure out in the darkness and descended upon the familiar voice the panic stricken bleating stopped and calm returned to my pom pom lamb.

That Merlin should recognise a familiar face is nothing new to anyone who knows sheep. In fact sheep have been known to recognise the faces of up to 50 of their mates and they have been shown to have the same specialised part of the brain as we humans have for doing so.



With each passing day Merlin grows stronger and so too does his personality. I swear his bright little face lights up each time he sees me, ambling over for a scratch or simply just to enjoy my company. He sits peacefully on my lap each morning as I wrap his leg up to protect it from getting wet. And he has really gotten the hang of taking his milk, he now holds the syringe in his teeth as I push the

plunger. Next Tuesday will be the big day for Merlin to have his plaster removed and a new cast put on. Fingers, toes and trotters crossed for that one.

I call Merlin my pom pom lamb due to the huge mop of wool that sits atop his tiny head, yes it was just made for kissing. Which reminds me, I had better go and do so...



“I expect to pass through the world but once. Any good therefore that I can do, or any kindness I can show to any creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer it, for I shall not pass this way again.”