

# THE CATS PROTECTION LEAGUE AND TAILWAVERS

## HOMEFINDING AND REHABILITATION SERVICE

Inquiries from anyone who wants a kitten or is prepared to adopt a cat or two would be welcomed by:—

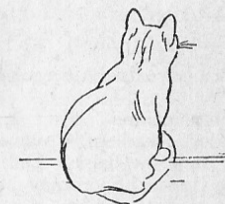
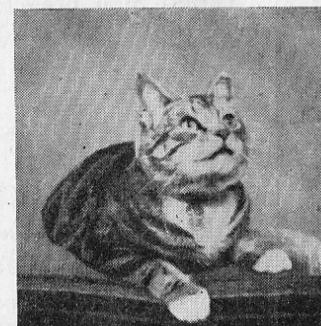
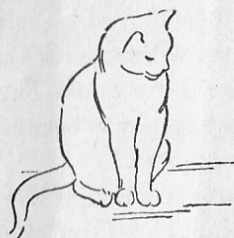
- Mrs. N. de Clifford 21 Holland Park, London, W.11. No Phone.  
or 12 The Close, New Malden, Surrey. MALDEN 1563.
- Mrs. Walledge. 39 Oxford Road, Lower Edmonton, N.9. EDMONTON 1264.
- Mrs. Davies 435 Caledonian Road, London, N.7. NORTH 5355.
- Mrs. Middlemiss Pendennis, 335 Springfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex.  
Chelmsford 55065.
- Mrs. Barrett 7 Lynton Avenue, St. Albans, Herts. No Phone.
- Mrs. Tench 23 Highfield Crescent, Highfield, Southampton.  
Southampton 57212.
- Mr. G. M. Holmes c/o 35 Pevensey Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.
- Miss R. A. Nash 25 Wolverhampton Street, Walsall, Staffs.  
Walsall 21630.
- Mrs. Wilson 147 Clifton Park Avenue, Belfast 14. Belfast 748663.
- Miss A. Bignell 78 Old Park Avenue, Canterbury.
- Miss M. Wilson. Cowbrook, Glossop, Derbyshire. Glossop 2156
- Mrs. P. Rees 48 Hendon Rise, The Wells Road, Nottingham.
- Mrs. K. Beesley Carclew Catteries, Trewinnard Road, Parran-ar-  
Worthal, Nr. Truro, Cornwall.  
Perran-ar-Worthal 176.
- Miss A. Sydenham 59 King's Road, Bournemouth, Hants.  
Bournemouth 50165.

### Note:

Please do not call at any of the addresses except by appointment. The above are Honorary representatives of and not employed by the League. They cannot be expected to be available at any time an inquirer may wish to call. It is essential that first contact should be made by letter or phone. More names will be added to the list in due course.

# THE CAT

M. Rayner  
THE OLDEST MAGAZINE  
DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO  
CATS AND THEIR WEL-  
FARE



A CAT'S A CAT FOR A' THAT

AUGUST 1967

# THE CAT

VOL. XL

No.9

Official Organ of the Cats' Protection League and Tail-wavers - Founded 1927 - Registered National Charity. Prestbury Lodge, 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks, England. Telephone Slough 20173

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CONTENT  
Short Stories - Branch and Group News - Members Corner - CAT CHAT dealing with press and other published cat papers.

Selected photos of Members' cats and kittens - notes relating to Leagues' activities and appeals

Literary contributions and photos welcomed, but no publishing fees paid.

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NEXT ISSUE 1st September 67

WITH a successful A.G.M. behind us we can now give attention to the important matters of the near and distant future, but we would like to thank all who attended the meeting on July 1st for their support and their interest in the proceedings.



CAT WEEK. We said in our early comments that in creating a new image for this Annual Fund raising event we would have teething troubles, but they appear to be much less troublesome than expected.

So far we have encountered one snag, a few of the collapsible collecting boxes top labels are not split in the centre so there appears to be no opening for the coins to be inserted. Thumb nail pressure at the centre of the label between the two cats' heads will reveal the slot.

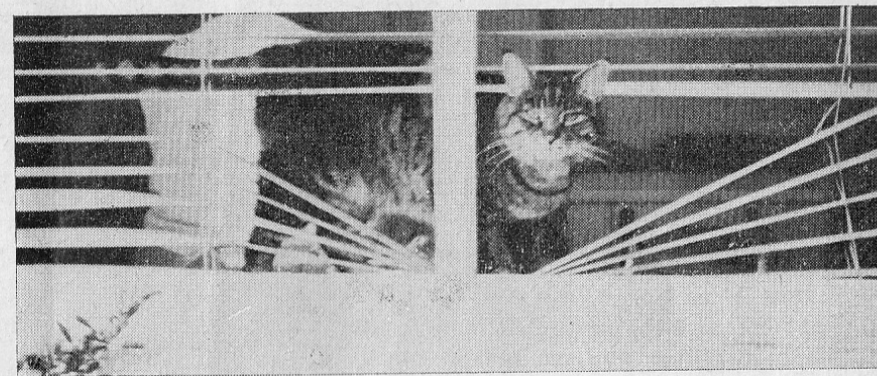


SOME FACTS ABOUT CATS. The second edition, enlarged and illustrated, is now available and should prove a very useful booklet for cat owners who want to do the best for their cats and to know about the C.P.L. The price: 2/6d. post free. Our Illustrated Brochure; the League Headquarters in pictures, is also now available and a free copy is enclosed with this issue:

PLEASE READ THE CAT WEEK DETAILS ENCLOSED WITH THE BROCHURE:

A. A. Steward.

EDITOR and GENERAL SECRETARY



## CAT WEEK - 1967 - A G M

### CAT WEEK 1967

Before even the "Forty" appeal had reached you, one of our members had the same idea, and sent us our first "Forty".

You can imagine how thrilled we were at H.Q. to think that the appeal was going so well before it had even started. We took it as a good augury and are full of hope.

### THE OTHER APPEAL

Some of you have received books of tickets for a Draw. There is a misleading statement on the very arresting cover. The League's address is 29 Church Street, Slough. New Malden houses the London Committee only.

I point this out as such an error can and does lead to misunderstandings. Since this

appeal has gone out at the same time as the Cat Week effort, some people may think that they are helping to provide funds for the annual share out from which ALL Branches, including the London Committee benefit.

Good luck to both efforts.

Osyth Sherratt,  
Chairman.

A.G.M. 1967. With temperature in the upper bracket and with many counter attractions we were exceptionally lucky to be so well supported. Committee Members from Edmonton, Chelmsford, Leicester and Oakham, Nottingham, Southampton, London Committee, North London, Ulster and Canterbury were present. Sussex and Dover representatives were unable to attend and sent their apologies. The usual business matters were dealt with in good time to allow questions, proposals and enquiries from members and representatives. There were interesting discussions some of which created "food for thought", generally and at Committee level.

One of the most interesting points arising

from the Branch delegate comments was co-operation between other Societies and the local police. It would appear that most of the Branch and Groups have a good working understanding with other Animal Welfare Societies in their districts and the police too are helpful. There were one or two districts however where relations with the police are not at all what one would wish; we will try to improve these relations, as co-operation in every direction is so necessary in our particular work.

We were pleased to be able to have a talk with most of the delegates after the meeting and hope that next year more will be able to attend. A.A.S.



**KITTENS GALORE:** It becomes almost a ritual to depreciate the annual "slaughter of the innocent" at this time of the year but what more can we do? We appeal to cat owners to co-operate, distribute literature on the subject and advise at every opportunity, but there appears to be no abatement of this menace to a rational feline existence.

This appalling situation is the result of a build up of a vicious circle, starting with unneutered male and the unspayed female. Their natural alliances produce masses of kittens, only a small percentage of which can be placed satisfactorily. Too many kittens are kept and too few neutered and/or spayed.

**The Heartbreak Period:** For years it has been recognised by Animal Welfare Societies that for at least three months every year there will have to be a daily slaughter of kittens, cats, puppies and dogs, probably in that order as far as numbers are concerned. The intake far exceeds the homes available, from 50 to 100 per week is not an exaggerated assessment of what the average Shelter has to contend with.

It is impossible to find homes, it is equally impossible to accommodate such vast numbers of unwanted kittens.

The imagination bogles at the immensity of the problem that would face any organisation that attempted to meet the demands that homes should be found for all and sundry. The premises, the staff and the cost are the three main factors that have to be taken into consideration and each in itself would be an insurmountable obstacle. To deal with all the pros and cons would require much more space than is available in this issue and it is therefore best that we confine ourselves at this stage to the only solution



and the objections which stop cat owners from co-operating.

The solution is neutering males and females until kittens are at a premium, and the nomads of the feline world are a thing of the past.

What stops the dawn of this much desired day: Prejudice, very strong against "interference with nature", hyper sensitivity in the matter of "taking life", irrational attitude to advice, suggestion or proffered assistance.

Licensing under the same conditions as dogs are licensed is regularly suggested and rejected on account of its impracticability, but official control of male cats is something that is being investigated.

Meantime we are still having to deal with a recurring situation that is distressing to say the least of it and as often as not provides more "kicks and ha'pence".

A. A. Steward.

We regret to have to record the death of Miss C. E. Cart de Lafontaine who for many years was a staunch supporter of the League and especially our work in London. She was a member of the London Committee to which she gave much practical assistance. We and the cats of London have lost a very good friend, but the London cats were remembered in her will. London Committee, North London Branch and the Edmonton Group all receive a share.



## BRANCH & GROUP NEWS

**CHELMSFORD & DISTRICT GROUP**  
Hon. Sec. Mrs. J. Middlemiss, 335, Springfield Road Chelmsford.

June's activities began with a market-stall on Saturday, June 3rd which rivalled all others in taking 26 'phone calls on the previous Thursday to re-organise because of "emergencies"! We therefore called off the July stall as several helpers would be away and Mrs. Middlemiss could not face repetition! The stall, however, took £16—the weather was kind! It was far from kind on Saturday June 24th for the "Strawberry Fair" in the garden of "the Plough", Springfield—at 3.00 p.m. precisely, opening time, the rains came!!! Eighty pounds of dessert strawberries, some resting on plates beside sugar and cream, were hastily removed to shelter, or covered as well as possible, also the "Bring and Buy", a produce and childrens stall. We all retired to the tea-room, which we hoped to use only for Mr. and Mrs. Colville and their beautiful cats and kittens, all their photographs and press-cuttings and rosettes. However, least worried were "Nelson" from the top of the piano, of "Lucky Numbers" fame, and later in the year, "Kivi", Bruma whose photograph, with outsize tins of "Kattomeat", beamed at us, better known as "Arthur" to T.V. viewers, and the four white kittens who sometimes accompany him,

now in a pen with their beautiful mother "Auntie of Rosental" from "Paws" (minus jewels!) plus her one little black kitten. Dave Clark of "pop" fame claims one kitten on his return from America and his secretary already owns the sixth, which he gave her. The James Bond cat, Dolly, was "otherwise engaged"—recent kittens!!! In spite of the upheaval, £30, to keep their less fortunate relatives, was taken, as the remaining strawberries, obtained at a very reasonable cost from a large wholesaler were sold later by our ever-obliging "hostess". This event has been photographed and reported in the local press. One of the "less fortunate" turned up next morning at the Secretary's home—a tiny kitten, found in a field, gummy-eyed and emaciated necessitating several 'phone calls and a Sunday visit to the "Vet", warm milk feeds two-hourly, etc., but it has responded to treatment.

We now have a considerable range of kittens from which to choose—either in the cattery or private homes. Three cats and eighteen kittens have gone to homes in June, usually one of the most "trying" months, with holidays ahead.

Our thanks go to "Anonymous, Bow", for their donation—I expect we all have a different "mind-picture" of the donor? The pseudonym hides a kind heart, anyway.



GLOSSOP & DISTRICT GROUP. Hon. Sec., Miss M. Wilson, Cowbrook, Glossop, Derbyshire.

"Fantastic! I have never seen anything like it" remarked a friend from the South who recently moved into this district.

The time of the general exodus of the industrial North—the annual 'Wakes' holiday is upon us,—now, extended to a fortnight.

The time of headache and heartache, for workers in animal clinics sickened by the number of pets brought in for destruction.

The time also of surplus kittens reared until they are running around and now no longer wanted. All we are able to do for these is to put them on a waiting list for homes, preference being given where the owners have the mother cats spayed.

The time of little straying female cats expecting kittens and wandering from door to door in search of food. These we always take in as quickly as possible. The time also of little families born in derelict buildings, outhouses and under hedges.

At present we are sheltering eight mothers and their kittens and three expecting kittens. These will each keep one.

An appeal in the 'Pets Lost and Found' column of the evening paper with the largest circulation in the North, for a home for a stray cat and kitten, brought — NO RESPONSE AT ALL.

We leave you to judge the extent of our difficulties.

Now for a happier note.

A friend at present sheltering a number of our strays is moving to a house in the country and has offered us the use of a very good outbuilding as a shelter for strays. They will be under her personal supervision.

We hope to move in most of the twenty eight cats and sixteen kittens at present in our care.

By bulk buying of food and litter we estimate that two shillings each a day for cats and one and threepence for kittens would cover our expenses including the part-time services of a kennel maid.

**WE NEED £200**—by the end of August. If you consider our work worthwhile will you help us to raise it?

1. For wire netting partitions in the shelter, and strong mesh over the window frames to guard against vandalism. Several of our kennels will be moved in. We could make good use of one or two more but the price is now over fourteen pounds. These are ideal for cats rearing kittens.

2. For food for the cats and kittens in our care and also for the many strays we help to feed.

3. For vets' bills for the ones which have had flu and also for increased charges for spayings.

We have brought Tiddles and Tortie into our home to recover from road accidents. They are using the latest two kennels donated by readers, and our own cats are making friends with them through the wire netting. Tiddles is a lovely friendly grey barred and white, about two years of age and now neutered. He is rather too boisterous, could anyone offer him a very good home? He gets on well with children.

Sometime in October we hope to have a bazaar. In the meantime would any friend care to have a garden party for us? We would provide things for a stall.

On behalf of all our little homeless ones we thank the friends who send us regular donations which make this work possible.

LONDON COMMITTEE: Hon. organiser, Mrs. N. De Clifford, 12, The Close, New Malden Surrey.

Two dates which everyone must remember: Wednesday 20th September 1967 1 p.m.

The Community Centre, St. George's Rd., Wimbledon.

this is our Wimbledon Autumn Sale, for which we hope that everyone will help, by coming on the day, telling all friends, letting us have stock, all offers of help to the Countess Grudzinske, 48, Home Park Road, Wimbledon Park, S.W.19.

And then we announce

THE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday 28th October 1967, 2.30 p.m.

The Cathedral Hall, Ashley Gardens, Ambrosden Avenue, Victoria, S.W.1.

We have taken the decision to hold our bazaar in this very large hall, and we hope that all our friends will justify our daring. Please remember these events.

We are making a great drive for funds, because there are a number of things needed at the Rescue Centre. If the list were drawn up by the cats living there, no doubt Chicken for Mum would be top of the list, with sardines the next item. Mum is still with us, and we have some new arrivals. Our worst cat is very small, very active and very greedy, her name is Bobbie Sox, and if any kind friend would send her a few shillings to buy special extras for dinner, she would be glad! Please mark your kind letters "Bobbie". Our golden cat, and his small black friend are becoming much braver, but so far no homes have been offered for them, however, they are still hoping. They are very nice cats.

London Committee cont.

**Curio Corner.** We will be glad of any contributions to this. Our Customers are asking for silver spoons, glass paperweights, old fans of every kind, chain purses, and boxes large or small, jewel cases and workboxes, any kind of little object more than 25 years old, and the older the better. If anyone happens to have any very old dresses, lace or embroideries, they are all wanted to turn into help for small needy cats. We are able to get good value for broken bits of trinkets, odd earrings or any "scraps" of ornaments. Please remember us when you are turning out your cupboards.

NORTH LONDON BRANCH: Hon. Sec., Mrs. D. Davies, 435, Caledonian Road, London, N.7.

All seasons alike bring worry to those engaged in animal rescue or concerned with the welfare of strays. Although Winter is an anxious time because of the severity of natural conditions, yet summer—especially July and August—brings such waves of kittens that it is often impossible to cope satisfactorily. One of the regular and disheartening features of summer is the stream of people bringing in so-called "strays"—in reality their own pets of which they casually rid themselves before the holidays.

"Speedy", of whom we wrote recently, is still with us, dashing around in high spirits and hoping for an owner to share her sense of humour, as it will be difficult to keep her much longer. It is a sad reflection that only some ten per cent of our intake go out to new homes.

Readers will be glad to know that our Shelter cat, Straykins, who underwent a special dental operation at the age of sixteen years, has come through it successfully and seems likely to make a good recovery.

Our spaying programme is proceeding apace, after a lapse of four months due to our vet having sustained an injured arm. The back-log which built up during this period is now almost clear, thanks to the organisation of Miss Magee and the hard work of our driver Mr. Corroyer.

We have to report a happy occasion which, took place on Saturday, namely the twenty first birthday party given for Sally, one of Dr. Matthew's cats. Sally enjoyed herself very much and her physical and mental condition were greatly admired!

Finally, it is my sad task to say goodbye, as Magazine Secretary, to all C.P.L. members and readers who wrote to me so kindly on many, many occasions. Mrs. Davies, who so nobly shouldered the burden which I, perforce, had to lay down, is now able to take over the remaining work.

NOTTINGHAM BRANCH: Hon. Sec., Mrs. D. Davis, 65 Edale Road, Sneinton Dale, Nottingham.

I am the new Secretary, and hope to be able to report on Nottingham activities a little more often, the work of the Branch is progressing, I am happy to report. A Chalet has been built in the garden of one of our members, Mrs. Prince, as a temporary home for two cats at a time. We hope in the near future to have some adjustable divisions made to accommodate four should the need arise.

We have also been asked to find a good home for two female long-haired cats, one blue, one black. It has been arranged for them to be accepted at Mrs. Princes garden Chalet first, they have both been offered a good home by another member, it is nice that they will not be separated. The two long-haired little cats have now arrived at their new home, and they are really very pleased with the arrangements and needless to say so is their new mum.

SUSSEX BRANCH: Hon. Sec. Mr. G. M. Holmes, 35 Pevensey Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

This month has been a very busy one for us. We have had a stall at the Grand Charities Fair which is held every year on Hastings Pier, and also a Coffee Evening.

Our stall at the Fair looked very attractive and colourful, with a wonderful show of coloured postcards of cats collected by Miss Darlington one of our members. Miss Madden, another hard working member, made us some very clever posters, and we had a Lucky Dip and an Apron with a 100 pockets which made a total of £7 10 0d.

Our Coffee Evening was a great success in spite of a very wet night, and we made the sum of £32 12 0d after paying expenses. We had a wonderful surprise in the receipt of a cheque for £10 from Mrs. Tomlin of Boscombe Road. We had a Bring and Buy stall and three raffles, and one of our members Mr. Davis very kindly gave us a film show in colour.

Reports of strays are constantly coming in, and one wonders at the cruelty of some humans. For instance—a phone call from a man who told us that the people next door had done a "moonlight flit" and left a cat with five two week old kittens in the house. They are now being cared for at our Shelter.

We would like to thank Anon and Animal Lover for their donations, and also "Tinker" (no address) for the 5/- postal order so kindly sent last week.



ULSTER BRANCH: Hon. Sec., Miss E. R. McKee, 92a Earlswood Road, Belfast, 4.

Very brief notes indeed this month as life is just too hectic!

The Shelter is still being carried on by the Kennel-men and voluntary helpers and the summer months will present problems as various people go on holiday, especially as we are absolutely full up with cats and kittens. Some of this may be due to publicity in our local news-papers. We like publicity, up to a point, but it does tend to add to our cat population. We would have preferred it to work in reverse and bring us offers of homes, which are most urgently needed. Would some of our members like to make a big drive for homes—needless to say they have to be good ones. Come to think of it, if fifty members each got ONE good home it would fairly do the trick.

A Jumble Sale held in June raised over well thirty pounds and our thanks are due to all who sent contributions and all who helped. We also wish to thank you, Anon., of Bow, London, for yet another Postal Order.

I'm sorry not to be able to give a list of Stalls and Stallholders in connection with our Annual Sale. I'm afraid I have not had time to contact all the good folk who usually undertake to be responsible for the Stalls and until I do this I can't publish details. However full particulars will be in the September issue. Meantime I hope you are all keeping the Sale in mind and are busy collecting suitable items.

WEST CORNWALL BRANCH: Hon. Sec., Mrs. K. Beesley, Carclew Catteries, Trewinnard Road, Perran-ar-Worthal, Nr. Truro, Cornwall.

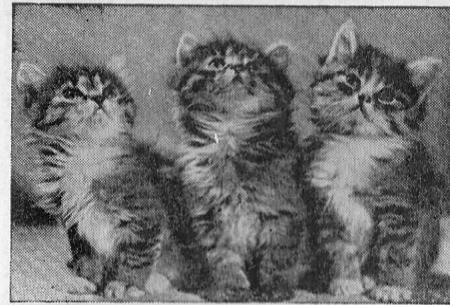
Some really sunny weather has turned our garden into a blaze of colour and a cats' paradise. Every nook and cranny boasts a blissfully sleeping feline. They blend magnificently with the oriental poppies, fuchsias and roses. A lovely garden is enhanced by cats, and we delight in some cryptic remarks when we are presented with redundant cats who have upset an over zealous gardener. After casting an expert eye over cheerful lawns and shrubs complete with an array of cats, the cat owner wonders sheepishly if his journey was really necessary... after all one stormy night can cause more havoc in a garden than fifty cats put together.

The pool alive with flashing goldfish always boasts an interested audience. They respect the "Paws Off" notice, adopt their customary poses for meditation, and glue their eyes onto the handsome waxy heads of the water lily blooms, at least this is what they would have us believe, but the twitching tails and

slightly chattering teeth tends to belie that their intentions are strictly honourable.

The gathering of cats around the pool deserve special mention. They are our much loved O.A.P's. Left behind by old folk who have had to move into special homes, or have departed this life altogether, they have formed their own sedate Darby and Joan club, and they philosophically enjoy each new day in harmony with their contemporaries. Amber a portly ginger charmer who has seen more than eighteen summers sets the pace for the "younger set" whose ages vary from ten years upwards. Tiggy the sixteen year old tabby, Dinkie, plump and jolly. Susie, slightly asthmatical but very active, Nigs, Rufus, Katie and dear old Harry who would still like to be a gardeners cat.

When we discovered that no one at all would adopt these ageing pussies, our commonsense told us that the kindest action would be a visit from a sympathetic vet who would leave behind lots of space in our overcrowded cattery. Then as if by accident the cattery door was left open one day and a pack of curious cats began exploring the garden.....every cat lover can fill in the gaps and visualise the end of my story. If they could imagine our group of aged cats around the lily pond, perhaps they will forgive us for seeming over sentimental.



## MEMBERS CORNER

### ARE MY CATS PECULIAR?

I was interested to read about the cat belonging to Mrs. Gilver in her new flat in Cheshire. Our own house is divided into two flats, we occupy the upper and let the lower during the summer, this makes our two cats seasoned flat dwellers. They are nearly six years old, Harry, a Siamese and Alfred all black who was found wandering homeless when about four months old. They are happy and contented in their upper apartment and although we have a garden we are too near a busy road to allow them out. I also have a tiny whippet called Clara—all three are devoted to each other and usually prefer to share the same bed piled on top of each other.

Naturally I provide the cats with grass but chives is the great favourite. Harry is certainly odd, he would rather crunch Felix all day ignoring meat or fish. He adores pineapple or pear juice, soda water if he can get it and anything in the light ale or shady line. Both are in perfect condition and full of vitality.

Now however, comes the strangest part. They are often taken out in the car, they are perfect travellers and enjoy a ride. Ever since we have had them we have taken them over to my mother's large garden, isolated in the country, where they are allowed to wander and hunt in the surrounding fields just as they please. Harry never goes far, he has a short stroll and a dust bath and then seems happier to stay indoors. Alf loves to hunt, but will keep coming back every so often. We leave them free until late at night, usually after 11 p.m. Harry is always on hand and Alf is given a final call. He is usually back within five minutes and is ready for the journey home.

They have been doing this now for years and have never put a foot wrong or attempted

to run off. As my mother is in process of moving house we now take the cats with us to the new house while we help decorate, although strange and still empty this new domain has been accepted by them, they have investigated every corner and explored the garden and surroundings. They stay near at hand while we work, share our picnic, sun themselves and follow us for a walk—all this on their very first day there.

Although they obviously enjoy these outings they are always pleased to get back to their own flat and dash in up the stairs. Surely this is proof that they have no desire to run away when given their freedom after being confined to the flat most of their time, perhaps not so remarkable for a Siamese but certainly so for an ordinary cat—not that Alf is ordinary to us. They have proved that there are no complaints as far as they are concerned. J. Olney.

The worst crime our cat ever committed was to kill our pet budgie. He really seemed to think it was some "special delicacy" caged to fatten up for his benefit! Although in the short time we had had the bird, we had become fond of him too. After a family conference we decided to forgive our pet, as he seemed to be genuinely sorry for the furore he had started.

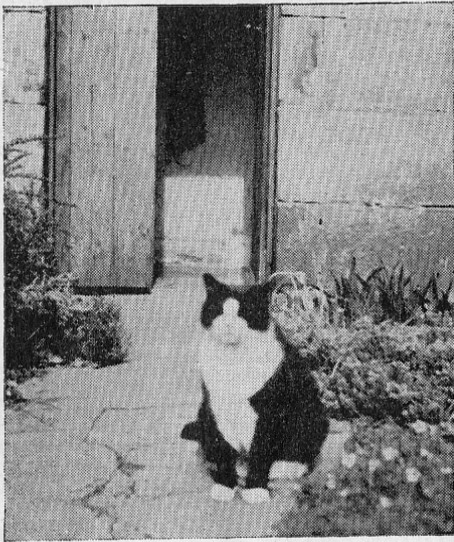
We even left our cat for several weeks during last summer. In the care of a neighbour, of course, He had the run of our house and had a whale of a time entertaining his friends and being in sole control of the estate. We visited him about once a fortnight to let him know that we had not deserted him. He remained in perfect condition, with normal appetite, during this period.

But, please do not abandon your cat when you move house. We tried to adopt a cat that had been left and that had been catering for itself for several weeks.

But it had lost its trust of people and never seemed ready to rely on them again. Although it responded temporarily to kindness it never lost its wild ways. Also it seemed unable to relearn house training. After a while its coat lost gloss and became bolted. Then it began to have little accidents with its limbs, perhaps climbing about underneath car bodies. A real danger for all cats. In the end, the only kind thing we could do was to take it to the Vet and have it painlessly destroyed.

So you see, I feel in a position to recommend an ordinary mongrel cat, neutered, as the perfect nuisance free family pet.—Jennifer Bland.





CHARLES HUNTER

I enclose a snap of my present companion—Charles Hunter—familiarily called Charlie Hunter because of his excellence in that occupation. So far his record are five rabbits in eight days and four mice before 11 a.m. in one day. It is a sore trial to me but I dare not curb it in case he was ever lost and dependent on his own abilities for food.—D. M. A. Duxbury, Alloa.

#### Cats That Held The Rank Of Nobles

More than any other race, except perhaps the Egyptians, the Japanese have heaped honours upon the cat. The CAT MAGAZINE, published in the United States, tells us that they first came to Japan from Korea around the tenth century, having been placed aboard ships to protect the cargoes. As soon as the Japanese set eyes upon the cats they fell in love with them and decided that such beautiful creatures should belong only to their Emperor. However, as there was a rule at the Imperial Court that only a noble of the Fifth Rank could appear before him, this title was immediately bestowed upon the cats. Especially appointed officials were appointed to wait upon them and no other pets were allowed in the Palace.

Although cats have descended quite a way in the world since then, they are still highly regarded in Japan and there are several Japanese plays in which a cat plays an important role.

A magazine published by the Cats Protection League of England, tells us that Japanese folklore is especially rich in cat tales. It says that the first cat sprung, full grown, from the ashes of a great monster who lived in one of the four corners of the world, and whose body was consumed by flames. To this origin the cat owes its quality of mystery.

Another bit of Japanese folklore, appearing in The Cats Magazine explains the cat's instinct for catching mice and rats. It seems that a Buddhist diety told all the animals in the world that if they came to him on a certain day with appropriate greetings, they would have a year named in their honor. The rat deceived the cat about the day, so lost this great honor. In revenge, from then on, cats hunt rats and mice. While this is only a folk tale, it is true that the word for "cat" in Japanese, is written with the compound Chinese character "NE", meaning mouse or rat, and "KO" another way of saying "likes".

As is only natural with such mysterious creatures, hundreds of superstitions have grown up around them. We are indebted to The Cats Magazine for telling us that, at one time, a Japanese fisherman would pay a high price for a tri-color cat, feeling that it would bring good luck. Also, Japanese sailors used to predict the weather by watching the ship's cat. If he washed his face in a westerly direction, there would be a fine weather, easterly there would be rain and if he touched his ears frequently, a typhoon was brewing. Also they said that if the compass failed you could depend on the ship's cat for, when a cat was in trouble, it always looked north.

While there is no record of a specific monument to a cat in Japan, there is an interesting legend about one as told in the magazine published by the Cats Protection League of England. A very celebrated woman in Yashiwara was annoyed because her cat kept pulling at her dress. An attendant tried to stop the cat being a nuisance and finally, losing his temper, drew his sword and killed it. The cat's severed head flew up and caught a poisonous snake in the ceiling beam. Usugumo then realized that her cat had been trying to warn her about the snake. She ordered that it should be given an elaborate funeral and a costly tombstone erected. One of the lady's admirers, hoping to comfort her, commissioned a renowned artist to carve a cat out of aloes-wood, with its left paw raised as if in salutation, or warning. Usugumo fondled the carving daily and gave permission for it to be reproduced as a mascot. This was the first of the **manaki-nako** ornaments, still to be seen in many Japanese homes.

#### MEMBERS CORNER—cont.

Brigadier The Rt. Hon. Sir John Smyth Bt., V.C., M.C., writes: I was interested in the letter from Mrs. M. Gilver in your issue of June, 1967, with regard to keeping a cat in a high flat. Hers is on the ninth floor, and ours is on the eighth. We were faced with exactly the same problem with our first cat, Pooni, and now with our four cats. We thought at first we could make them into out-door cats and flat cats, and perhaps if we had had more time we might have succeeded, but we found they would have to be trained to be entirely flat cats, and they now are completely happy in the flat and the balcony, which they love.

The lady in the flat above ours had a lovely Siamese cat, but when she went on holiday she left it with a friend, who had a little ground floor maisonette. The cat was bewildered in its new surroundings, and was either run over by a car or just disappeared.

We used to send our cats to a cattery when we went on holiday, but now find that, with a secretary and a Mrs. Mop, to see that they are fed, they are far happier staying in the flat.

If Mrs. Gilver would read my latest cat book, MING or, better still, BELOVED CATS, which is out of print, but she could get it from a library, she will appreciate the problems we had and how we managed to overcome them.

Below is a reproduction of a clipping from the Van Nuys News and Green Sheet column by Jan, referring to your organisation.

Any Cat fancier desiring to help the Cats Protection League further its fine work can send used stamps and news cuttings concerning cats or linen and blanket pieces and extra pieces of string (about 18 inches long) to be used in the animal clinic.

These things, in any quantity, may be sent to the Cat's Protection League, 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks, England.—Love and Kittens, Jan.—Mrs. Marie R. Donnell, 4241 Tosca Road, Woodland Hills, California 91364, United States of America.

It gives me much pleasure once again to double my subscription to the C.P.L. Nimrod THE Siamese (otherwise Tailwaver 3097) is likewise delighted to send 10/6d to his own branch of the Society! We wish we could afford more. I am always full of admiration for the really wonderful work you do.—E.M.S.

I have much pleasure in sending you a cheque for £11 7s 0d. This has all been made from the sale of stamps. From: Audrey Cozens, Sheba and Casey Jones.

Going through some family papers the other day, I came on this letter written by my mother in 1908. I thought it might amuse readers of The Cat. Unfortunately the elysium fields claimed my mother before Wee Wee, who lived to be eighteen.

"Dear Wee Wee,

Thank you very much for your letter and good wishes also for the mouse which I enjoyed—it was nice and high. I am very well, I hope to see you in a few months my pretty—I can't quite gather whether your insinuations are quite what they should be, when you say you recognised my clothes from their "smell"—Perhaps I may take it in its more refined sense?

I am glad to hear that you do not kill chickens—go on being a good cat—and you will reap your own rewards. You would not like India. It is a place of unpleasant customs and over crowded habitations. No cat can walk by himself such as you like to do. You would be demolished by a pi dog (pi means offal) and you might die of hydrophobia which even cats get here, so do not I pray entreat me to let you come out. Thank you for your hair. Its odour recalled many pleasant.....".—Mrs. H. Sanders, Cornwall

Dear friends:

I read your appeal for stamps and linen pieces in the Valley Times, here in North Hollywood. I have been collecting stamps for a couple of years for an Animal in Wellington New Zealand, where my cousin lives and I have sent them quite a few. I am enclosing those I have on hand and hope they will help in some small way. I am also enclosing an old sheet and a pillowcase that I thought might come in handy for bandages etc. I will only declare the sheet and pillowcase as I am not to sure that the stamps will be passed otherwise.

My Mother was born in Penzance Cornwall and I was born in Avonmouth, just outside of Bristol, we both love animals and we are only too glad to be able to help in some way. We do hope our first small effort will help. We shall collect more stamps and linen but, we are sending this off in a hurry. It was in the May 25th issue of Kitten Tales, an article in the local Valley paper.—Lynn Rawlinson (Miss)

Kind homes badly needed for two black and white kittens, female (almost identical) and one tabby and white kitten, tom, all born May 16th would deliver reasonable distance.—Mrs. J. Pipken, 66 Humberston Avenue, Humberston, Grimsby, Lancs.





### JUST AN ORDINARY CAT

Not a Russian Blue nor a shaded silver Persian, but a medium sized black and white mongrel.

Who cares if the black patches are peppered all over with stray white hairs! He is for us and not for show. But you could not find a better pet. He is so much one of the family that we are never quite sure whether he considers himself a human being or us of the feline species.

I grew up a dog lover as my Mother detested cats. She considered them untrustworthy and malevolent creatures. So when my husband was adopted by a stray kitten my heart sank, but I was soon won over.

The small creature chose to make a drawerful of hard prickly toy cars his bed. His first meal was a piece of Swiss roll. He must have been hungry! It is said a hungry cat will even eat bread. He christened the corner of the kitchen with a puddle but to his astonishment he was not promptly thrown out for his cheek. He decided to stay with us and never again offended in the same way.

Nowadays on any cold morning he will be found underneath the eiderdown of the marital bed. We seem to have contravened every health precaution there is over him and none of us is the worse for it. Each night he solemnly climbs the stairs and chooses his

bedmate, whom he will only forsake if the owner of the bed is too restless or if he gets one of his occasional fits of madness and spends the rest of the night chasing his tail up and down the stairs.

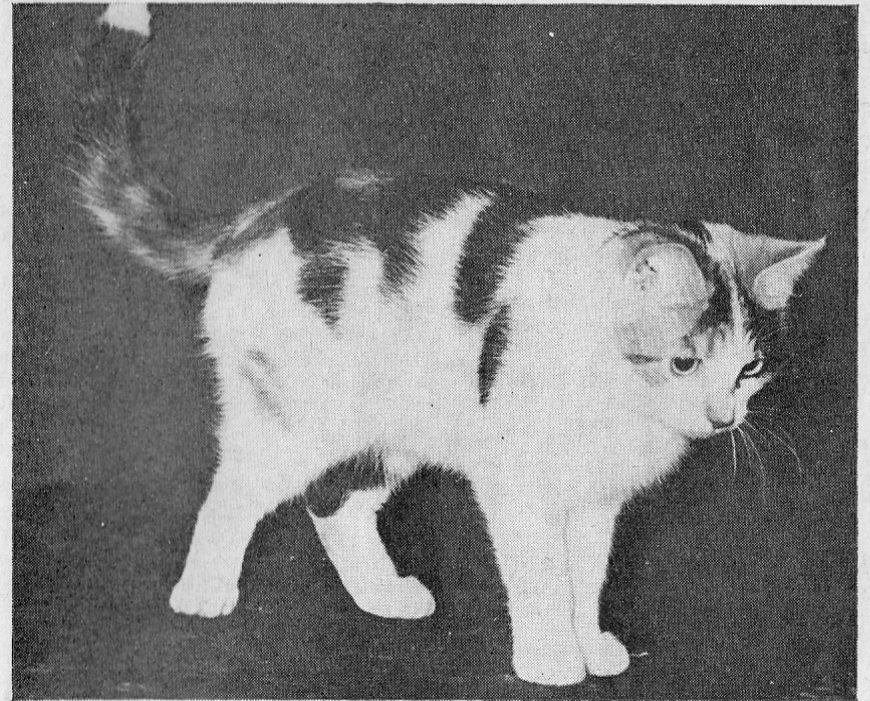
Cats have more than one aspect in common with their larger relatives the lions. Apart from their demeanor and the hypnotic quality of their eyes, they have the rather endearing habit of brushing up to and stroking their dinner before eating it. A tin of cat food, perhaps, for the smaller—a gazelle in the wilds of Africa for the fiercer.

Never tie string or anything onto a cat that could tighten round its neck. Collars are not really suitable for cats, because they can get caught on branches of trees and choke the animals. To hear a cat choking is an alarming experience. I know, because our cat became strung up when an unwise child had tied a lead round his neck in order to play circus's. By prompt action we saved him. He was unhurt but very frightened and thirsty. It was the only time he ever allowed us to give him water.

Do you have your cat neutered, you will like him for more if you do. Four months old for a male, consult your Veterinary Surgeon for a queen. Because afterwards they never leave unpleasant smells about—unless they let their friends in! And it does make for a patient animal ready to put up with endless attentions from children. There is no safer companion for a young child than a neutered cat. The only time ours bit a youngster hard enough for tears was after the youngster had dropped him into a bucket of water! Cats hate water as any owner will have noticed on a rainy morning when the cat finds it necessary to excuse itself outside the back door. After several minutes of hesitating on the brink ours always makes straight for the garage.

You do not have to exercise cats. But they will sometimes take you out for a short walk. Down the garden, perhaps, or halfway down the road. A cat enjoys a short walk with someone of whom he is fond. And, after a while, they really do become more fond of their owners than the place they live in.

Our cat has survived from a leap from an upstairs window, jumping through when he heard me coming into the room with a new and extremely noisy cleaner. I looked out of the window expecting to see a quivering little body upon the grass below upon the grass below. But, mercifully, he was sitting up glaring at me. Nevertheless, it is as well to discourage a cat from napping on an upstairs window-sill, as they can be injured if they topple off un-expectedly when half asleep or off balance.



### Still hopes cat may turn up after 4 years.

Nearly four years ago a Siamese cat named Bhoo disappeared from a cottage in Zennor and ever since his owner, Miss Gladys Morton, has been trying to find him.

Although not a wealthy woman, she has already spent well over £100 on regular advertisements in local weekly, provincial daily, and national newspapers, because she has a feeling the cat is still alive.

Her latest advertisement is a local weekly circulating in West Cornwall, where she thinks the cat may be, says: "Urgent, missing from Morton, Treveglows Cottage, Zennor, June, 1963, Sealpoint cat round brown face, both top fangs broken. Will finder please return him—£10 reward. My cat and I are no longer young. He loved his home very much. We were both happy. Please help him come back to me."

Miss Morton, who is in her middle 70's, said this week-end that Bhoo would now be 11 years old. He was her constant companion, slept on her bed, and followed her about like a dog.

"There was no other Siamese cat in Zennor, and one reason I think he is still

alive is that some time after he disappeared a village cat had a litter, and some of the kittens were definitely Siamese.

*Copy Extracted from the Sunday Express, 25th June, 1967.*

### CAT TO THE RESCUE

Farmer Relatives of mine were awakened by loud, long, and insistent miaows. At last the farmer—and after much prompting by his wife—went downstairs and opened the back door, thinking the cat wanted to come in.

But she would not enter and continued to miaow in a startled and urgent manner. Seizing a storm lamp, the farmer went to investigate—and there in the barn two older cats were fighting a huge rat. He joined in and was able to despatch the rat with a hay fork.

The two cats were bitten about the ears and lots of fur had flown in the battle. The farmer said the intruder must have been a King Rat, he had never seen one so big.

The young cat must have realised the rat was winning the fight so went to the farmhouse for help.—(Mrs.) K. Smith, 4. The Avenue, Penwortham, Preston.



## IN MEMORIAM



I am sending herewith a donation of 10/-. This is in treasured memory of Wendy, the Goodest Cat, died 27th July, 1962. Still loved and sadly missed by Joan and Anne Dodd.

My beloved Joe, T.W. 3440 died on 21st June, 1967, aged 11 years nine months.—Mrs. P. Adams.

In loving memory of "Penny" my Swiss friend's cat, a poor stray taken in by her in 1963, suffering from a broken thigh. After veterinary treatment he recovered and lived happily with her until his death at about 12 years old.—M. Wood.

In loving memory of "Misty-Heather" who died on May 14th, 1967. She would have been 15 years old on July 7th. Sadly missed by A. Howbrigg.

### Sidney Launcelot 1955-1964 Personality Puss 1957

In sweet remembrance of our darling golden Sidney, put to sleep aged 9½ years as the result of a blow 18 months before.

With his prizewinning personality, irresistible charm and beauty and indomitable courage and gaiety which he kept right up to the last, he brought great joy to his human friends I. & M. Henderson who think of him with love and gratitude. "He shone for us like the Evening Star".

In memory of my little Blot, always loved and remembered.—M.G.K.

In affectionate remembrance of our little Chloe, a companion for nearly ten years, put to sleep 6th August, 1966.—I. & F. Riches, Norwich.

## WAYS and MEANS

Readers can greatly assist the League by sending to Headquarters, 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks, any of the following:

Odd ounces of wool for making woollies for sale at our Bazaars.

Notification of change of address.

Linen and blanket pieces, newspapers and odd pieces of string (about 18 inches long), for use in the Clinic.

Used envelopes, foolscap size only please, with flaps intact.

News-cuttings concerning cats, but please make sure that the name of the paper and the date of publication is given.

Used stamps, British Foreign and commemorative.

Unwanted birthday and Christmas presents or anything saleable for our Bazaars.

Names and Addresses of Boarding Catteries.



### Other ways of helping the C.P.L.

**Astrological** analysis of character. Letter with date of birth, stamped addressed envelope and donation for the C.P.L. to Mr. Curtler, 5, Hill Avenue, Worcester.

**Graphology** (Character from handwriting), letter with signature, stamped addressed envelope and donation for my C.P.L. collecting box to Miss E. M. Jackson, 11, Clarence Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

**Buy your hand knitted dishcloths** from Mrs. Peggie Ilves, 38, High Street, Oakham, Rutland, Price 1/9 including postage.

**A Toy Mouse** will provide fun and exercise for your cat or kitten. Send 2/6 to Secretary, Cat's Protection League and Tailwavers, 29 Church Street, Slough.

**Aprons to order** in aid of funds 6/11 each. Details from Mrs. P. Ilves, 38, High Street, Oakham, Rutland.

**Perspex Name Brooches** in various colour 1/6d. each. Profits to C.P.L. Send S.A.E to Miss P. E. George, Gilfach, Whitton Knighton, Radnorshire.

**Dolls**, specially old ones, bits and clothes for dolls are wanted by The Doll Club, 21, Holland Park, London, W.11.

**Water Colour Portraits of Pets** from a clear snapshot, 10/6 each. Snaps of pets or children Enlarged and Coloured from own negatives, £1. Please give description. Cheques should be made payable to C.P.L.—Dorothy Hall, Plemont, Hill Road, Watlington, Oxford.

**Old Postally Used Picture Postcards**, dated before 1920, of Britain or overseas wanted by the Revd. A. W. R. Hughes, The Vicarage, Coalbrookdale, Shrops. 5/- for every 100 received to the C.P.L. Sender's postage refunded.

### S.O.S.

Very urgently required, good home, in Sussex for preference, for a three year old long haired Tortoiseshell speyed queen. Further information from Mrs. G. Evers, 258 Lauderdale Road, London, W.5.

## CAT WEEK 1967

October 1st to 8th

IF YOU CAN HELP IN ANY WAY FILL IN AND  
RETURN THE ENCLOSED "APPEAL"  
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE PLEASE