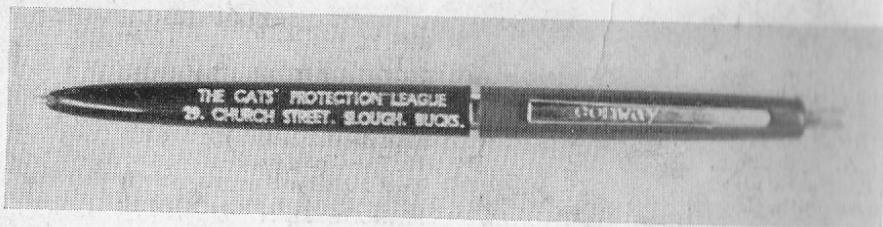


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FAULTY PENS OR REFILLS REPLACED FREE

OTHER WAYS OF SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THE LEAGUE

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.

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SOLD

**THIS MONTH'S "SPECIAL"
A HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH SPEAKING
PEOPLES OF THE WORLD
6 VOLUMES (As new)**

By Sir Winston Churchill

SOLD

Published Bi-monthly by the Cat's Protection League, 29 Church Street, Slough and Printed by C. Luff & Co. Ltd., Albion Close, Petersfield Avenue, Slough.

Jean/Christine

THE CAT

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



"Perhaps the most valuable gifts which the cat can give to man are its tranquility and grace and detachment, and in this distracted era of ours we were never more in need of tranquility and grace and detachment." *Compton Mackenzie.*

MARCH/APRIL 1969

THE CAT Vol. XLIII No. 2 MARCH/APRIL 1969

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY - FIRST OF THE MONTH

CONTENT: Short Stories — Branch and Group News — Members Letters — CAT CHAT dealing with published references to Cat Welfare and the League's activities and appeals.

ILLUSTRATIONS: Selected photos of Members cats and kittens.
Literary contributions and photos welcome. NO PUBLISHING FEES PAID.

Official Organ of
THE CATS' PROTECTION LEAGUE AND TAILWAVERS
(Founded 1927)

Registered National Charity No. 203644

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Subscriptions can be paid under Deed of Covenant and by Bankers Order. Details from the General Secretary - Mr. A. A. Steward - to whom communications should be addressed.

ALWAYS WANTED AT HEADQUARTERS

Unwanted birthday and Christmas presents or anything saleable.

Notification of change of address.

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

Beads of any size, colour etc.

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.

Names and Addresses of Boarding Catteries

PRESS REPORTS can and do play a big part in matters relating to animal welfare and draw the attention of the reading public to the many "incidents" that benefit or affect, as the case may be, the numerous felines at home and abroad. In the majority of instances the reports are commendable but sometimes an over enthusiastic comment has the opposite result.

THE VOUCHER SCHEME mentioned in the January issue under the caption "Cat Population Limitation" has already gained support in principle and financially. We have no doubt that as the purport of the project becomes more widely apparent to cat lovers generally greater interest will be aroused and more support forthcoming.

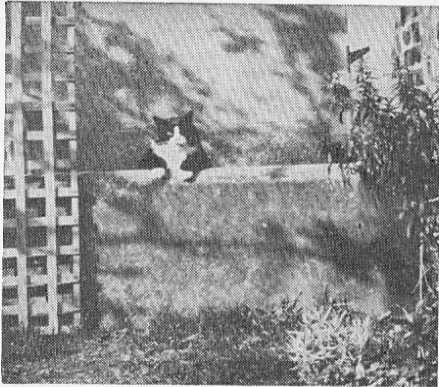
THE C.P.L. AND SISTER SOCIETIES. It is sometimes said either in conversation or correspondence that we, the C.P.L., should give more support, complain to or about, or take proceedings against this or that society that has, by its action or press comments said, done or not done something to displease someone in the animal welfare movement. Much time is often wasted in an exchange of views by a correspondent mostly without getting much satisfaction either way, mainly because it is so often true, "a man convinced against his will is a man of the same opinion still". Perhaps it would be opportune to clarify the position in Round and About.

RECOMMENDATION *v.* ADVICE. We are often asked for a recommendation on such matters as foods, cat books, boarding accommodation etc., but our policy is never to "recommend"; we will advise to the best of our ability and knowledge but recommendations are risky to say the least of it. Our experience, in the past has been somewhat discouraging to put it mildly and, in consequence, we have adopted the policy of "no recommendations under any circumstances." This point is stressed for a particular reason—see Round and About.

C IS FOR CAT

By Frank Manonlson—Handy size, 7 in. x 4½ in.—220 pages—
Art paper covers—5s. 6d. including postage. From Cats Protection League, Prestbury Lodge, 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks.

NOTE:- All proceeds from the sales of the above will be devoted to our neutering project. *Editor.*



✠

ROUND AND ABOUT

The Secretary's Comments on "this and that" concerning cats and kittens and the work of the League.

CAT POPULATION LIMITATION

The proposals we have made and the action that has been decided by the League's Executive Committee in connection with our Voucher Scheme, that we hope will eventually create the condition of limiting the cat population of this country, have not given the details and we are being asked how the scheme is intended to operate.

We anticipate extending considerably the original voucher arrangements for neutering, both male and female, cat and kittens, to a national coverage and this will automatically mean that our Branches and Groups will come within the scope of this project. First of all let me explain the simplicity of the working of the Voucher System. Anyone owning a male or female cat, and particularly the latter, who is genuinely unable to afford the Veterinary Surgeon's fees for this operation can apply to the League for the operation to be done by a Voucher issued from Headquarters. On receipt of the letter of application the cat owner is sent a form which he or she is asked to fill in giving the name and address of the Veterinary Surgeon who will be doing the operation and the amount that will be charged. This form is returned to C.P.L. Headquarters and a Voucher is sent to the cat owner which is taken with the cat to the Veterinary Surgeon and is a guarantee that the operation charge will be paid by the C.P.L. The form in question is a two-part one and has, as already explained, to be filled in by the cat owner and the bottom portion is so arranged that it constitutes a complete record from the time we receive the application until the receipt of the Veterinary

Surgeon's account. It is as simple as that.

The only complication that might arise is in connection with the Branch, Group or Representative co-operation and we have to decide in what way we can best administer the scheme with the assistance of our representatives. This particular problem, if such it can be called, will be solved when the newly appointed Finance Committee meets on Friday the 14th February, and the fact that it is St. Valentine's day should be a good omen, or should it?

Your Executive Committee decided that it would be advisable for a Sub-Committee to be appointed to deal with these and other matters where financial and other assistance is requested because it is easier for a small committee to meet more frequently at a short notice than the full Executive. By the time this issue of the magazine goes into circulation it is hoped that the majority of our present problems will have been solved and I refer of course to the Voucher Scheme and the many requests that have been received from various people to help in one way or another in home finding feeding and neutering, all of which are the immediate concerns of the Finance Committee.

P.O.P.: Most of us are well aware of POP via television entertainment, is but the caption which indicates Post Office Preferred, relates to envelopes and the new restrictions that will come into operation in the Autumn of this year. Its effect generally is one of frustration but to the C.P.L. it means for a considerable time we shall incur an additional charge of twopence per item for each magazine that is sent out in the envelopes which we have been using over the past seven or eight months and which we shall continue to use until our stock has run out. After that date, we shall then have to decide what to do about our magazine and we are faced with two alternatives: one, to reduce its size to that which would be contained in an envelope 4½ in. x 9¾ in. which is the maximum size, or reverting to the use of foolscap envelopes which would entail folding the magazine. It was on account of requests received that the magazine should be sent flat that we switched over to the size that we use now. We would prefer to maintain the existing arrangements but it means an extra shilling a year on the magazine cost for postage. No decision has yet been made but the matter will be discussed in committee at the next meeting.

We are grateful to those members who have, from time to time, included a little extra to cover postage and perhaps we may, after all, be able to absorb the extra cost through the medium of the generosity of members and friends who help out in this problem. **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

ROUND AND ABOUT—contd.

THE CASE FOR KITTENS

Most of us remember the series of newspaper advertisements that caused so much anxiety and I refer to the homes for kittens via pet shops. It would be remembered that we involved ourselves in this and corresponded with those pet shop owners concerned and the firm that sponsored the project. We have not lost interest in this matter and, indeed, we are still "following up" in case there is anything else that we can do.

Quite a number of our letters to pet shop owners received replies, some of them appreciative, others caustic and we were able to make contact with proprietors of pet shops that were working, what we considered, along the right lines. Publicity was given to this matter in one of the trade journals and a very interesting article appeared in Pet Store Trader, September 1968, and the writer's views and apparent policy are worth recording. The article is entitled "The Case for Kittens" and below are quotes from it. If all pet shop owners worked along the lines and held the views that Mr. John Hutchinson does there would be little cause for complaint. I am sure our readers will agree.

"Experience has taught me how to overcome some of the little problems that arise in the sale of livestock of any kind and perhaps a few tips would be welcomed by those who are selling kittens for the first time.

As far as possible I insist on accepting only complete litters. It is common practice for owners to give the Toms away to friends and neighbours and then to offer the less acceptable female "left overs" to the pet store. A certain amount of tact is needed here, but I find that most people are prepared to see our point of view.

It is of no benefit to me, or the trade as a whole, if kittens are sold indiscriminately to people who are going to put them out after a few weeks. To the pet store the sale of a kitten to a responsible purchaser is a sound investment, which will bring in a steady income over the period of its natural life. I have always sought the guidance and help of the animal societies and have experienced no difficulties in my dealings with them. They have their standards to consider and it is well for us to appreciate them.

To accept kittens under eight weeks old, attractive as they are, is harmful to the pet and bad for the business. They will inevitably suffer from nutritional deficiency, missing the natural milk from the mother. At eight weeks the teeth should be clearly showing, particularly the front. I find that most people are honest about giving the age of

kittens when they are offered, frequently giving the exact date of birth.

It goes without saying that only healthy stock should be accepted or offered for sale. Make sure there is no puffiness round the kittens eyes or signs of watering. This could indicate cat 'flu which can spread through your stock like wildfire.

It is as well to treat them on arrival for fleas whether or not they show any signs of them. Flea infestation can lead to sores which will need Veterinary attention.

People who obviously require a kitten for a plaything for the children are met with a polite but firm statement that I have not got in stock the type of pet they are looking for.

If, for some unforeseen reason, something should go wrong after purchase I offer a free replacement.

There is still much to be done. There is a sound case for a greater degree of neutering of house-hold cats. While this would have the inevitable effect of reducing our supplies it would also raise the status of cats as pets and ensure that only those people who really wanted a kitten—and were prepared to pay a more realistic price for it—did in fact get one. The animal societies have, in the past, tended to look with suspicion on the pet trade. It is up to us to co-operate in any scheme which will lead to a greater understanding of our respective roles."

BOARDING CATTERIES: We have been approached to take over or subsidise boarding catteries. Unfortunately it is not possible for the League to do either one or the other for a number of reasons but partly because we have had in the past to turn down similar requests.

Briefly there is a great deal more to taking over properties/business of this nature than the initial capital expenditure. We have found from past experience that owning property other than the League's Headquarters can be very costly. **IF THERE IS ANYONE AMONGST OUR READERS WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THESE CATTERIES WE WOULD BE ONLY TOO PLEASED TO GIVE THE INFORMATION ABOUT THEM OR PUT THEM IN DIRECT TOUCH WITH THE PEOPLE CONCERNED.**

Next month we will include more press reports about cats and information regarding other organisations, at home and abroad, with whom we have contact and those objects and aims link up with those of the C.P.L.

ROUND AND ABOUT—conclusion

PRESS REPORTS: The value of press reports has been stressed from time to time in these columns and I would like to reiterate that we, the C.P.L., are deeply appreciative of the many ways in which animal welfare, particularly where cats are concerned, has been helped. It is rather unfortunate that there are odd occasions when quite the opposite has been achieved by comments that have been made by over-enthusiastic reporters. I refer in particular to two incidents which resulted in a very wrong impression of the League's views with regard to anti-vivisection societies, and the B.U.A.V. in particular, whose policy is one that is not appreciated by everyone. It does not follow that because the press article is reproduced in our magazine, because of its interest to members who like to know what is going on in other parts of the country, that we at Headquarters are either responsible for what has been said or agree with the whole of the press report. The second incident was one in connection with a C.P.L. branch where it was stated that 200 cats were doomed to die if homes could not be found for them within a specified period. This gave rise to numerous letters, telephone calls, complaints etc., and a great deal of concern at this end. It is true that there were and still may be a number of cats for which homes are required but certainly not the number mentioned, nor were those that were waiting rehabilitation likely to be destroyed within the time indicated by the reporter. So much harm can be done by well-meaning people who do not either get all the details or present the situation in the manner that is intended to be helpful but giving a picture that is entirely out of context. It is not always possible for the C.P.L. to do what its members would wish to be done. It is not always right to pursue a line of action that could harm the animal welfare movement generally. It is not within the scope of the League's work at present to instigate legal proceedings and it is on record that any action of a legal nature that is brought to the attention of the League's Executive Committee must be referred to our Solicitors for their advice. It has been said on previous occasions that as much as we would like to do so many of the things which our members and correspondents ask, we cannot do the impossible. We are considered a National Organisation and are registered as such by the Charity Commissioners but by comparison with other organisations, that have been much longer established and find greater favour in the public eye because of their popular activities, we are considerably smaller from an administrative and staff point of view and cannot operate on anything like as large a scale as we would wish. I think it

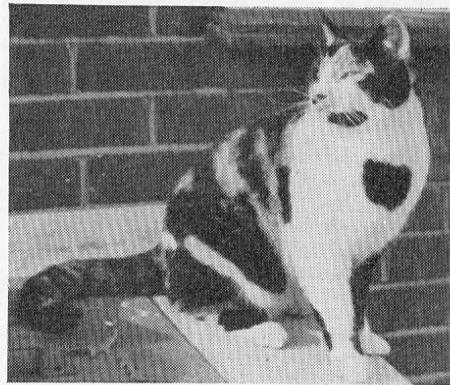
may be truthfully said by those who know that it is surprising how much is done by so few; and in case someone feels moved to comment on the £60,000 legacy, I hasten to reply that in point of fact money is not everything, there is also the fact that we are still unable to use this legacy either in the way which we hope or in the way in which so many people outside the League consider we should.

ANNUAL REPORT 1968: If you have not had your copy would you please let me know. We have distributed copies to those who have asked for them but knowing that correspondence etc., does go astray it is possible that some of the reports have not reached the people to whom they have been addressed.

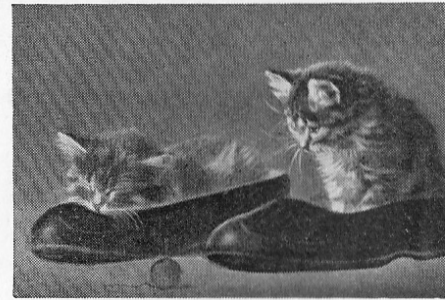
C IS FOR CAT

I am constantly receiving enquiries for a practical and comprehensive publication on cat care. I reviewed "C is for Cat" when it was first published and was very impressed by it, so much so that when it became available at 5s. a copy (paper back edition) I decided to give it the publicity it deserves but please note I am not making a recommendation. However, I must repeat what I said previously, it is a "must" and should be in the home of every cat owner, it is an extremely useful A to Z guide to cat care and can now be obtained direct from the C.P.L. Headquarters—see page 21.

SHEBA



see page 26



MEMBER'S CORNER

May I thank you for the splendid advert and "S.O.S." in the December issue of "The Cat" and, too, for the three issues, one of which I have given to a friend.

I would like to make known the fact that due to a conspicuous notice given to Rochester on December 11th, in the Newbury Weekly News, a lady living in an isolated part of Enborne, where the cat was lost on 23rd July last—saw the Newbury press notice and wrote immediately stating that a stray cat (tabby) answering to Rochester's description had been in and out of her place for the past month and that she had been feeding him and for the last fortnight had taken him in. I had some difficulty in finding her place and it was quite four to five miles from the kennels. She said that Rochester's ears were badly scratched and she had been attending him, also one of his eyes has a cold in it or he has knocked it. Apart from this, and being very wild when she first took him in, also of course thinner, he is the same Rochester. Just think, nearly five months and he is still alive, I am overjoyed. It makes my Xmas.

Rochester knew me at once and not a murmur on the journey back to Reading, he knew he was going home. He has been sleeping most of the time in between eating and drinking and does not want to leave the divan in my room. He is scared of my other two cats and the Yorkshire terrier and scared to look out at the garden, although his wire run is attached to the window-sill of my downstairs bedroom and all he has to do is step in and out. However he will gradually adjust himself and at the moment he likes to have me near him as much as possible.

The Editor and two reporters came up on the evening of the day 16th December on which I collected Rochester and they are printing another report of the Return of the Prodigal Son". I will send you a cutting from the magazine of January 69 as soon as possible.

Many people have also seen the advert in "The Cat" and I had a long letter of sympathy and hope from Mrs. Freda Jones of 43 Woodlands Avenue, near Reading, one of your members. She told me "St. Francis was working for me and that I would get him back quite soon now" and she was right. This is all quite wonderful.

I look forward to becoming a life member of the Society at the end of January 1969 and will from time to time send through oddments and articles of us. C. M. Maze.

Recently I was unable to eat any breakfast or leave for the office by reason of the sudden onset of 'flu, so flopped down on the settee. At once Georgie (who was a starving kitten when he arrived from nowhere in 1953) jumped as usual on my waistcoat, purred his pleasure into my ear and then stretched out on my legs for a cat-nap. Soon finding that I was too tired and ill for reading, I put down the paper and closed my eyes. Some minutes later an urgent miaow aroused me and as I opened my eyes they met his anxious gaze. Realising that he had not previously seen me playing the invalid, I comforted him and we settled down again; but after a few more minutes he urgently renewed his enquiry and 15 minutes after my reassurance, he put his anxious question for the third time.

"All animals are equal, but some are more equal than others". So with that support from George Orwell's "Animal Farm", I am not justified in considering our solicitous Georgie quite the most equal of felines? For is not the expression of commiseration by a cat somewhat unusual? J.R.R.

THE HUMBLE CAT

I stroked, its strong arched back
Giving the shining coat, a gentle pat.
It began to purr and croon a song
I noted the tail; so stiff and long.
Behind! A gentle creature; with pride and charm
What a ghastly thought—to think, that
people did it harm.

This ball of fluff; all glistening and sleek
One could just picture it, curled up on bed or
chair asleep.

The huge, round, green-eyes of mysterious air
Made one and all; want to give it love and care.
Wild or tame it rids us of mice and rats
Let us rejoice! And take pride in this
magnificent animal—the humble cat.

J. W. F. Chadwick



"Get out the flags! We've reached our £1,000. I enclose cheque for £15.1.2d. which brings our total to £1,000.1.6d. Please send the next box of stamps as soon as possible,—we are anxious to get on with the next £1,000. Audrey Cozens, Sheba and Casey Jones."

I have a lovely big ginger and white cat a real jungle cat) who won't be stroked or loved at all, yet is most devoted. Every evening when I take my sister's old dog for a run, Andy is on the doorstep waiting, always on time and rushes along by the side of the dog and really enjoys the run. Mrs. M. A.

After another successful sale of Xmas cards and gifts we are happy to send a cheque (from all the helpers) for £10. Could it, please, be put to the "Strays" fund? J.K.M.

I enclose a cheque for £5.5.0. for the "Pussies" Xmas, in memory of my wonderful "Puss" known as Duke, who died 22nd December, 1965. W.H.R.D.

I enclose cheque for 30s. for some extra for your cats at Christmas. I got this from the sale of a doll I had since I was a child. R.R.

I am so glad to learn that your organisation has decided to concentrate its resources primarily upon neutering. This seems to me to be by far the most sensible means of limiting suffering. F.S.

Please forward me another seven of your splendid little pens. I am using one now. They are good value and attractive, beside being an excellent way to advertise your fine work. I give them to friends and tell them about you. E.J.P.

The pens are grand and all my friends were delighted with them and I have taken some to business and hope to interest others in them. Mrs. D.A.

Please send me six of the C.P.L. Pens. I've already had some, but they have been much appreciated! D.G.M.

I am enclosing a cheque for £5. in memory of all my cats. For 48 years I have never been without them, but on August 19th my last one died. E.D.

Please accept this small contribution in memory of a revered member of our cat family, who has left us after 18 happy years. Mrs. B.Z.

LEGEND OF THE TABBY CAT

When the animals came to render their homage to the Christ Child lying in the manger, there came with them, also, a little striped cat who sat shyly in a dusty corner of the stable.

The Christ Child smiled on all the animals, but they interested Him so much that when His sweet Mother told Him He must sleep, He could not compose Himself. The Mother called on the kind placid ox, the gentle donkey, and the faithful shepherd dog to help her put her Child to sleep but He remained wakeful. Then the little tiger cat, dirty and dusty, crept from her corner. First, she washed herself from the black tip of her tail to the pink top of her nose. When she was clean she jumped lightly into the manger, and curling up beside the Babe, she purred softly the lullaby that every cat-mother purrs to lull her kittens to sleep.

Soon the Christ Child slept, and ever since all tiger cats have carried the grateful mark of the Madonna, an M in the middle of their foreheads. The Animals' Crusaders, Inc.



BRANCH AND GROUP NEWS AND DIRECTORY

Enquiries from anyone wanting a kitten or who would adopt a cat or two are welcomed by C.P.L. Honorary representatives whose names and addresses are starred. *

But please note:— DO NOT CALL AT ANY OF THE ADDRESSES EXCEPT BY APPOINTMENT: MAKE CONTACT BY LETTER OR PHONE FIRST.

— SEE INSIDE BACK COVER —

BIRMINGHAM

It is just over twelve months since our branch came into existence. As we look back, our first feeling is one of amazement that a whole year has past. Time, it seems, is a precious commodity, and with most of our active members doing full-time jobs, our continual cry is: "If only we had more time". Closely followed by: "If only we had our own cat shelter . . . more transport . . . more people willing to advertise . . . vet homes etc., etc."

Yet looking back on our humble beginnings, we have certainly made progress; reseuing and rehabilitating over 70 cats and kittens, and arranging for many others to be spayed and neutered.

Our membership has increased from the original ten to 93. Our thanks to all who have joined us. Many have given us valuable help both financially and with our Fund Raising activities. But it is with our Home Finding that we really need more ACTIVE help: advertising for homes, vetting would-be-adopters, transporting cats and kittens to their new homes—This is where we are really short of help. Any volunteers—please contact.

But perhaps our biggest problem is that of having nowhere to house our rescued or homeless cats and kittens when they come to us. Consequently we have to rely on boarding at our vet's, which is far from ideal and, of course, very expensive. We should very much like to hear how other Branches managed to raise enough money to buy their own Cat Shelter. Looking at property, we found an ideal house, with secluded garden, backing on to a park; but we should need nearly £4,000 to buy the house and build a cattery. However many Fund Raising activities we organise, we cannot hope to raise this kind of money. In this matter we are despondent. Yet when we look back on some of the pathetic little creatures we have rescued we know we must go on. For example there was Penny, the little homeless cat who looked as though she was having kittens, but whose swollen tummy turned out to be the result of the last stages of starvation. Happily with good care and treatment she survived and is now a beautiful and happy cat in the loving home of our Chairman.

There were the two small kittens rescued only a fortnight ago from a home where they had been left to the mercy of nine children. I have never seen such terrified little animals. They hid their heads in fear, cowering as I approached them, and spat at me as I went to pick them up. I had a home for only one, but took both, and ended up riding round and round in my car with the second kitten. I knew all our Committee members' homes were full, I was miles from home and it was late. Finally, in desperation, I called on someone I knew to be an animal lover, introduced myself, and told my story. Happily, the little kitten was given shelter and much love for a week until a second good home was found—with a childless couple!

Since the first news of our Branch appeared in "The Cat", we have received parcels, donations and letters of encouragement from all parts of Britain—from as far north as Glasgow and as far south as Guernsey. To all these kind and generous people, we say a very big Thank You. Especially to those who sent anonymously, and whom we have been unable to thank personally.

We met many friends and members at the Annual Animal Lovers' Fayre at Birmingham Town Hall last November, where we took just over £90 on our stall, and we hope to see many more of our Members at our first Annual General Meeting to be held this spring.

Finally, if any reader has any ideas as to how a small new Branch can raise £4,000 for our Shelter, we should be delighted to hear from them.

CHELMSFORD

Mrs. Rayner, who has been our Press Secretary since the Branch was formed in 1963, has unfortunately had to give up her good work at least for the time being, due to poor health and family pressures. For the present, the report will be written by our Hon. Secretary, Mrs. J. Middlemiss and our Assistant Hon. Secretary, Mrs. C. Peterson.

Last year seemed a very difficult year whilst we were in it; the worry of being unable to meet our veterinary and cattery bills despite constant money-raising activities; our helplessness in the height of the "kitten availability and holiday season" when there

was apparently no cattery in Mid or North Essex when we could squeeze in just one more homeless cat or kitten for a short stay; the innumerable cat problems all seeming to need mid-week transport, lack of which is one of our biggest headaches . . . but somehow we managed, and we can look happily back on 1968 and say that we did what we intended, which was help, feed, shelter, neuter and find good homes for all the cats coming into our care (and a good many more as well via the local Branch of the RSPCA). Homes were found for 472 cats and kittens and a large number of these were spayed and neutered at our expense.

It only takes a short visit to the cattery to let us see our difficulties of last year in the proper perspective and renew all our good intentions to do everything we can for the needy cats in our area. Although homes have been found for 29 cats in the first three weeks of January, we still have a total of 31 adult cats awaiting homes because there is a steady intake all the time. We have an especially beautiful pale beige tabby who was run over, taken to the vet and thence to us. Her leg was broken and she had a very bad gash, but she has healed beautifully and joins in the loud chorus of "Welcome" (or is it "Feed Me"?) whenever anyone visits the cats in the cattery. She was obviously someone's pet but adverts have brought no response and, of course—as with all adult female cats of unknown origin—we have no way of telling if she has been spayed or not. Time alone will tell—we hope!

The most recent arrivals in the cattery are four cats which belonged to a very elderly lady who has now died. She lived in a fairy-tale cottage on one of the local "Commons" and tragically made the local newspaper headlines two or three years ago when two of her cats were torn to pieces by a local Hunt. Since then, there have been four other incidents like that in our area. Words cannot express our feelings on this subject.

On a more cheerful note, we always take great pleasure in returning lost cats to their homes, and the return of "Misty" to his delighted owners is a fine example of what carefully kept records of lost and found cats can do. A lady telephoned us to ask us to do something about the semi-wild long haired grey cat which was living in her hedge and which she had seen around on and off for at least a year. "Long haired grey" rang a bell with our Secretary who turned up her records and discovered that *more than two years ago*, Misty, a neutered tom had disappeared. The owners had since moved to another town but we contacted them via their old neighbours, they came over to view the cat from a distance

as he was quite unapproachable, recognised him immediately as Misty, called him by his name whereupon he immediately bounded into the kitchen, purring and rubbing their legs, jumped on their knees and settled down in absolute bliss. Apparently he's hardly stopped purring for a minute since!

We have already planned many fund-raising events for 1969. We have booked the Chelmsford Shire Hall once a month throughout the year and plan to hold our three main bazaars there (Easter, Autumn and Christmas Fairs). On the remainder of the monthly dates we shall have our Saturday Sale. We seem to have made a hit with these Saturday morning sales for the bulk of what we sell is good second-hand clothing and white elephant items for which there is a real demand. Please turn out your cupboards and drawers and send us your parcels of unwanted clothing etc.

We would also welcome anything saleable for our Easter Fair in late March. Our Christmas Fair last December was most successful and so we are practically sold out of nice things for future bazaars.

We also regularly hold Rummage Sales, Coffee Evenings and Bring and Buy Stalls, so *anything* anyone is kind enough to send will be sold at one or other of our "sales".

At this stage we would like to thank all the kind people, mostly anonymous, who have sent us used Christmas cards, milk bottle tops and postage stamps. Please carry on saving and sending.

We fear that this—our first report—is overlong, but with practice we shall know how to condense it!

EDMONTON

We are sorry that we have not sent in a report for the past few months but we have been so very busy. However, we would like to thank, most sincerely, those kind Members and Supporters for their charitable donations and gifts for the cats.

During the Christmas holidays we fed the cats who live on factory sites, which covers quite a large area. Trapping on these sites continues whenever we can fit it in with our other work. Speying and Neutering takes up quite a lot of our time, and money too.

The local Council have been kind enough to let us have the free use of a shop in Edmonton which is to be demolished sometime in the future. This shop is doing well, but we are desperately in need of goods to sell, and our stock is almost running out. Please do send us whatever you can spare, anything and everything. Unless we can get more items to sell we shall be forced to close down. Also, please continue to send us your unwanted trading stamps and cigarette coupons.

As you no doubt realise, sick and ill-treated cats and kittens need special care and nursing, and very expensive special diets; Veterinary costs are continually rising in the present economic situation and, therefore, we need help, however small, in order that we may continue our vital work.

A kind and loving home, with a well stocked larder and comfortable sleeping quarters is urgently required for poor 'Sally', a really beautiful black and white feline. Sally is not a fussy eater, but she likes a lot to make up for what she has missed in the past. Her story is very sad, so if you are thinking of adopting a deserving cat, please consider her and you will be truly rewarded with her captivating ways.

GLOSSOP

He was small, black and frightened, but cold and hungry so bravely begged for food with his little black mother. It was mid-winter when we heard of them and brought them in from Ashton-under-Lyne. The four months old kitten had found shelter under a shed but his mother could not get through the small hole. Now he is bringing joy to a couple whose dearly loved cat had recently died of old age.

I am quite sure that the best gift one can give in memory of a much loved cat is that of a home to a destitute one, or better still, to two.

We would like just such a home for two beautiful long-haired very timid kittens, now speyed. Tinkerbelle and Fluff had been fed outside by a person out at work all day and unwilling to take them in. Now they have found sanctuary in one of four comfortable kennels. In another is black and white Tish, terrified of any sudden noise and unwilling as yet to leave the safety of his little house and run. For weeks, perhaps months, he had run the gauntlet of dogs, children and other hazards to visit an elderly couple who put out food for him. Apparently abandoned he was sheltering in derelict property due for demolition.

Sharing the same building in another of our kennels with her kittens Darkie is still too nervous for a home. They thank friends who sent them a little extra for tit-bits. All these and others are gaining confidence in Mrs. Honer who takes such good care of them, but it will be some considerable time before they are ready for any but very special homes.

At present we have no room to take another kennel, but if any friends, perhaps in memory of a much loved cat, would care to 'adopt' an inmate of one of these for a few days or weeks

two shillings a day would cover the expenses including electric heating in cold weather.

We are faced with larger bills for others boarded out in catteries until homes can be found. Altogether we have 30 cats and kittens in our care at present.

During January 13 were speyed, two males neutered, homes found for 17, two lost ones restored to their owners, eight strays and one unwanted admitted.

Three years old Tig was brought to us in a shopping bag by a man and child. The wife had obtained a new suite of furniture and was afraid of it being scratched so the cat must go. We wonder which of these was most in need of our pity. Does this woman, we wonder, realise what she is sowing in the minds of her children and what she may one day reap?

With all the cruelty and indifference to suffering in the world today, one cannot help but wonder how different things might be, were children taught by example the old but ever new words "Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy".

Gifts of tinned cat food have been sent to the elderly people feeding strays and we wish that friends who made this possible could read their grateful letters of thanks.

I would be pleased to send an Easter egg collecting card or little collapsible collecting box for food for strays and our rescued ones to anyone who would care to help us. S.A.E. for price list of little things made from shells.

Miss Houston wishes me to thank all who have sent books for the lending library in her home, but to let them know that lack of space prevents her from taking any more.

Miss M. Thomas, 292, Hyde Road, Woodley, Near Stockport, Cheshire, still collects Green Shield and S. and H. stamps for us. A receipt will be sent for a complete book. I deal with special issue and foreign stamps. Please leave a margin of paper round them.

Finally A WORD OF WARNING to all who use the wire cages type trap. Bend under the end of the sharp pointed bait hook to prevent frightened cat injuring itself.

We wish all cats and their friends everywhere a very happy Easter.





ISLE OF WIGHT

A successful meeting was held at the Memorial Home, Marlborough Road, Ryde, when Mrs. Webb, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Cooper and Mrs. Bethridge agreed to become members of our committee. These ladies were good enough to organise a jumble sale which brought in £20 for our funds. We are very grateful for their interest and happy to have them with us. Unfortunately Miss Druce has resigned owing to ill health and difficulties in transport. We are extremely sorry to lose her but do realise her circumstances. Mrs. Pank is also no longer able to attend meetings but she still does all she can for the cats that are brought to her home. Mr. and Mrs. Hadley have retired, which means we no longer have anyone to deal with investigations, or do any outside work, but we are improving and enlarging the voucher scheme started with the Aston Bequest Fund. Boarding has been discontinued at the Home pending the purchase and erection of new cat houses.

The cats and kittens passing through the home are too numerous to mention. In a small place like the Island suitable homes are soon filled and there is the greatest difficulty in placing unwanted kittens. The following incident is only one of many which the Home contends. A cat hit by a car was found by another motorist and taken to Shanklin police station and from there to the Memorial Home at Ryde. It was successfully treated subsequently advertised, and claimed by the grateful owners.

The problem of the semi-wild cat abounds and there are colonies of them in various parts of the Island. It is impossible for much to be done, the cats all breeding amongst themselves, too wild to be caught. This state of affairs arises from a female cat being left behind or turned out to fend for herself. Before long she has a litter of kittens which in turn mate together and so it goes on. The story of Toose is an example of what may happen. Toose, our name, came to my notice as a Tortie and White kitten hovering in the vicinity of the local post office, some distance

from my home. No-one knew where she came from and apart from one or two people, no-one cared. She was terrified and could not be touched so there was little we could do. In due course she was mated by a black and white gentleman owned by one of the "It's cruel to neuter, I don't believe in it" adherents, although the position was explained to him. By luck, more than anything else, we discovered her kittens, about a few days old, in an old coal bunker and I was able to remove all but one which we left for her to nurse. From that time, some eighteen months ago, she has been fed every day, with either Mrs. Holroyd or me trekking down to an old car where she was usually to be found. Gradually she began to know us and would quite often appear when we called. Two more litters of kittens were born, goodness knows where. I feel sure someone knew but would not tell us because they thought we should pick up the pretty little pussies! Toose would bring her spitting, fighting little family to the old car when they were ready to run around. Then one day she followed me to Mrs. Holroyd's home and was enticed with food into her sun parlour. From then on she would arrive each day to be fed, although sometimes she would not be seen for days.

She is much tamer, but still will not let us touch her. We hope in time to gain her confidence—she is NOT to be put to sleep. Her destiny is spaying and a home with Mrs. Holroyd. We hope we can achieve it. Eight of her various kittens have homes in the village after the endless task of catching them. She found a home for two herself by depositing them on the doorstep of, fortunately, a cat lover, who took them in, and who also knows her story. We are quite prepared for another family on the way again. If only she will consent to have them in the sun parlour all will be well, but is it doubtful. The foregoing is a true story of something that is happening all the time through the utter indifference and unconcern of people who abandon their cats.

Finally, I would ask that rumours of the Island Branch doing nothing, refusing to take in cats, putting them to sleep directly they arrive etc. be disregarded. These stories are dangerous tittle-tattle and completely untrue. We get little publicity to help us along. The Memorial Home accepts strays, lost, and injured cats, who are kept for at least a week pending a claim. The only cats put to sleep at once are those in such condition it is kinder to do so.

Please remember we have one Superintendent working at the Home and no-one else, with no outside help, part from the few loyal voluntary helpers who have been doing all they can for the Island cat population long before the C.P.L. Branch or Home existed.

LONDON COMMITTEE

Firstly, Douglas sends his thanks to his many friends, he really does enjoy his extra treats, meals are now a great interest in his life. He hopes kind people will go on sending him small presents!

Three important dates are fixed for our next three occasions!

Saturday, April 12th our APRIL MARKET at St. Cuthbert's Hall, Philbeach Gardens, Earls Court, S.W.5. Doors will open at 2 o'clock.

Saturday, May 17th, a Mini-bazaar and Maxi-Jumble Sale at St. Philip's Church Hall, Earls Court Road, W.8. Doors will open at 2 o'clock.

Saturday, June 14th our JUNE FAIR. The Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue, near Victoria, S.W.1. Doors will open at 2 o'clock.

We hope that all our kind friends will come to these. There will be books of tickets for sale for the June Fair, which will be sent in advance to anyone who would like to have them.

We are planning several new and charming stalls, and all the usual ones as well. We will be most grateful for stock of every kind, and we can arrange to collect, with due notice, in London. We have several "depots" in different parts of London where goods can be handed in. We will be glad of helpers on the day, so if anyone has not yet been pestered to come and help, I hope she will send in her name without delay.

Please do help us, it is important to us that these events should be successful.

Animal Flag Day is approaching. So far, only two people have offered to help. I am hoping that there are several others who will give us a hand, even if only for a short time. Please write in without delay. The house-to-house collecting begins on April 20th. The big days are April 25th and 26th.

The Rescue Centre is a busy place just now. The Shipwrecked pussies have made wonderful recoveries, the youngest and smallest "Mokey" gave us a lot of trouble, but he is a handsome kit, and they are all off to new homes, where they will always be plenty to eat and drink. Their place in the pens and on our list of "worries" has been taken by three small shy kittens. Pretty as can be, but so wild, that it will be some time before they can hope to attract new home-offers, they are called Tessa, Tosca and Tom and they are all-black. If anyone would like to send a "wild cat" donation, to help them, it would be very welcome.

My own special concern now is old cats, there are so many over 14 years old, left to fend for themselves, or handed over to be destroyed. They are spry and well, but there can be only a very few short years ahead for them. No one will offer a home to an old cat.

or I should say, only very rarely will anyone take an "old darling". Everyone, even the keenest catlovers, seem to be resigned to "putting down" old cats. I would like to have a special little fund for the very old ones, to keep them for just so long as they are well, to give them the extra year or two or three, not often more than that. They are not difficult to look after, and we have room for them, but it is a moot question of whether we ought to take from general funds, meant for the young ones, to feed the oldsters. If anyone feels as I do, I would be glad to know. I should like to organise just one sale or coffee morning of an "O.D." fund. There are so many things we have to do for our cats, but I would like the old ones to have some help.

We are still busily collecting odds and ends for our "one shilling" stall. It is wonderful what varied articles there are. This is going to be a very fine stall.

Our gold nugget is growing steadily. Any scrap of anything that can possibly contain gold is welcome for this.

We have a special request for a knife. This seems rather alarming, but the collector assures us that his knives are all kept carefully locked up. He would like any kind of unusual knife, either table—paper— or plain dagger. He wants specially a dirk, and a scimitar, so if you happen to have one about the place which you don't need at the moment, let us have it. Actually, we will be delighted to have anything you can spare, one friend has suggested that we could call ourselves "Dustbins", as we are interested in such odd, old rubbish. Some of our oddities are interesting. We have just been given a complete album, date 1904, of Louis Wain post cards, with original stamps and post-marks on several of them. This is unique and delightful. Who would like to make a really handsome offer for it?

I have just been round the pens, looking at all our cats. They are pretty, and cheerful and most of them are friendly, and the shy ones are getting tamer every day, but, oh! the bills for food and care. We need just all the help you can give us, please do help.



MANCHESTER

During the month of December millions of letters and presents conveying good wishes are sent to friends and relatives. It is a memorable occasion to celebrate the Birth of the "Prince of Peace" but we must not forget that to the majority this is a time for human happiness and the animals are pushed into the background—I refer, of course, to non-animal lovers.

Kittens acquired for pets are often sadly neglected after being overwhelmed with mistaken kindness during the Christmas festivities. Once the novelty wears off many of these unfortunate, innocent creatures are abandoned or discarded and a large number arrive at Clinics throughout the country—Headquarters of the Cats' Protection League being no exception. In recent weeks we have accommodated and found excellent homes for a dozen homeless, half grown cats. This repeated in all Branches adds up to a large number of cats whose future is now assured.

Our experienced "Animal Nurse", namely Miss Joan Bradbury, commenced work for our Branch on the 6th January and we are now fully prepared to meet any influx of unwanted cats and kittens that may arise. Our last report brought inspiring letters from supporters of the Cats' Protection League in Scotland and the South of England and we are grateful for their encouraging sentiments.

The writer of this report feels that we are all members of one big happy family in the Cats' Protection League and conscientious workers at Headquarters are our "Parents". They treat us with "parental" consideration and listen to our troubles and diplomatically solve any worries we may encounter on our humane travels.

On behalf of all our huge "family" may the writer express most grateful thanks to Mr. Steward in particular, and his staff for their devotion to duty throughout 1968.

We now look forward to the months ahead and with sincere prayer, devotion to duty and endeavour thousands of cats and kittens will receive the "milk of human kindness" from all who love, cherish and support the great movement which embraces all who belong to the Cats' Protection League.

NORTH LONDON

For us, 1969 started on a very sad note. We had not long been open on January 1st when a Member brought to us a young kitten which she had found, crying, under a parked car in Kings Cross. The kitten, not old enough to be on the street, had been hit by a vehicle and its hip smashed. There was no hope of saving it and we could only relieve it of suffering by

putting it humanely to sleep. We wondered if the kitten had been given to a child for a Christmas present by some misguided adult.

All four of our pure white cats have gone to good homes but, strangely, yet another had just arrived whose owners are going abroad. We hope he will be well established in a new home by the time you read this report, but if you are looking for a white cat and can provide a good home, please phone or write to us before seeking elsewhere.

We have not yet thanked all those who helped to make our Christmas Bazaar such a wonderful success. Goods came from everywhere and if we haven't thanked everyone, we do so now and apologise for our omission. Several parcels arrived without the names of senders and we could not acknowledge.

During the past week telephone calls have been received asking us to undertake trapping at Stratford by Bow, Chelsea, Wandsworth and Shoreditch. We feel sad that we must refuse so many requests but we are already involved with two colonies of cats in our own area and cannot possibly undertake sites outside the Islington area. Most callers ask that we find homes for the cats trapped but it is our experience that if cats require to be trapped, it is unlikely that they can be placed in homes. If the people who have fed them for years cannot pick them up, how would they settle into a home?

Like Mrs. Walledge, of Edmonton Branch, who mentioned cat stealing in the last issue, we are now experiencing a spate of stealing in our area. Many calls have been made during the past two weeks concerning lost cats, four one morning from houses in the same street.

We have had to speak very firmly to our resident cats lately. We learn that, apart from 40 cats in residence, we now have mice. Admittedly, they are in the loft and, from the noise they make above Mrs. Dempsey's head, they wear hob-nailed boots. It seems that they have come from an adjoining Church which is being repaired. Our faces were very red when we wrote to the Council to enlist their aid.

On the 8th March we have our Jumble Sale at the Hall of the Upper Holloway Baptist Church. Goods for sale would be gratefully received.

If any of our readers have Green Shield Stamps or for that matter pink or any other coloured stamps, they would be gratefully received. We use them to obtain utensils for the Shelter and for goods for sale at our Bazaars.

* * *

SUSSEX

At Christmas we were fortunate to receive many donations, and I would like to thank again Miss McLean of Frensham, Mrs. Doig of Lunsford Cross, Mrs. Tyfa of Bexhill, and Margaret Madge (no address given), and many others for their very generous gifts. Also many thanks to O.A.P. for her donation "for any poor old cat in need". We had several letters from people who had taken a cat or kitten from us, including one from the owner of Jenny, the little cat we had taken with her kittens from the mentally sub-normal child. The letter was full of praises for Jenny, but the little cat still runs away when she hears children.

The problem arises again and again as to whether to let people with young children have a cat or kitten. If we refuse they will obtain one from somewhere else, and so in most cases, after making enquiries as to the childrens treatment of pets, we do allow them to have one. We had a kitten brought to us recently because the poor mite was having no peace with a boy of two chasing it round all day. The little thing was very nervous, but we soon found a home for it where there were no children. Another gentleman called asking if we had a kitten, as he wanted to give his little boy of three for a birthday present. When I suggested that the child was rather young to have a kitten he said they didn't know what else to give him as he had everything. So the kitten was going to be just another toy. I was thankful to be able to say that we had no kittens.

In the past number of the magazine I told you of the semi-wild cat and kitten at our Shelter. Mrs. Banks persevered with them until they were much more friendly, and then before we thought they were ready for homes a lady insisted on taking the kitten and giving it a trial, and it has been a great success. The little mother cat was also offered a good home and has turned out well, and to everyone's surprise, she has just had kittens! Unfortunately they were born dead; she must have been in kitten when she first came to us.

Cat Haven was empty of cats for a week or so, and then we took in a little stray, and another poor cat that had been left behind when its owners moved away. It was seen sitting outside the empty house crying in the rain and getting a few scraps to eat from dustbins.

During the year 1968 we have placed 78 cats and kittens in homes and neutered 57.

* * *

ULSTER

First the true story of Katie-kitten, a stray rescued from a miserable home in the country and brought to town where she soon settled happily and rarely left the garden—until one morning she was missing! Her distracted owner spent the day touring the neighbourhood, searching gardens and mentioning the missing pussy to various folk she met on her travels. Among these was a young woman who lived some distance away, across a fairly busy road. Next morning, at 7 a.m. when the said young woman was preparing breakfast her husband remarked that he could hear a cat crying at the back door. It was opened—and in walked Katie. How did she decide on that particular door in a thickly populated area? Well, it could have been pure coincidence—or an answer to prayer. Anyway it does demonstrate the worthwhileness of spreading the news when a cat is lost—so many people seem to think it hopeless and just make no effort.

This month I want to thank the anonymous donor of two cartons of cat food, delivered to my door at Christmas with no indication as to the sender. The Shelter cats were very happy to have it. Also, I would like the Newtownards reader to know that I entirely agree with her when she says we should tackle the "stray" problem at the source. This we try to do by making every effort to encourage neutering and spaying which in the end may well be the answer. I wish she had supplied name and address so that I could have contacted her. Could I ask the lady who sent us 1s. 6d. for a C.P.L. pen to get in touch with us again—unfortunately we have mislaid the name and address.

I think the readers of "The Cat" enjoy competitions so here's one to keep you busy. Could you write a Limerick about a cat—or cats? Entries should be sent to me (Miss E. R. McKee, 92A Earlswood Road, Belfast, 4) with entrance fee of 1s. (in 4d. stamps please). Two small prizes will be offered, and I hope the winning Limerick will be published in "The Cat". Closing date—15th April, 1969.

By the time these notes appear our first Jumble Sale will be over but we still need jumble for our next effort. We hope to have a White Elephant Sale in April so do look around your house and see if you have anything to spare. Postage stamps (used), also milk bottle tops and old nylons (for stuffing toys) are always required. Many people do send these regularly and we thank them—but like Oliver Twist we are always asking for more.

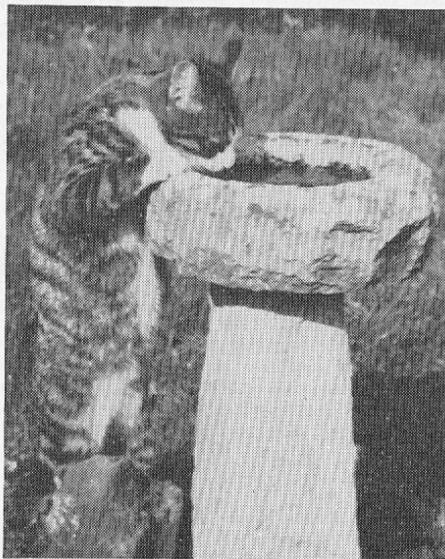
We hope to have our Annual General Meeting on 19th March and appeal for a good attendance. I know these business meetings can be a bit dull but we'll try to have an extra nice supper to make up.

We have been lucky recently in getting some splendid homes for our older cats. One special case was Kelly, a lovely big fellow who was left homeless when his owner died suddenly and was brought to the Shelter. He did not much take to communal living but a few days before Christmas a nice young couple with a small daughter came to choose a cat and Kelly went home with them. He settled down happily and his new family are delighted with him. Miss Gulston and Miss Kent have taken over the responsibility for home-finding and checking and are doing a wonderful job—every home is thoroughly investigated and a follow-up visit is paid to ensure that puss has settled happily.

LIMERICK

We've a lovely black pussy, called Sooty,
She's sweet, but remarkably snooty.
The food that we give her
Just has to be liver.
That snooty black pussy, called Sooty.

CASEY JONES



see page 26

WEST CORNWALL

The response to the "Amber Appeal" was heartwarming to say the least. We received kind letters and generous donations from thoughtful pet owners. The names of these animals will be included in Amber's Garden in a delightful way. At a recent committee meeting it was decided that the members should search for the smoothest pebbles from the Cornish beaches, and Vivienne Ford, the artist of the group should inscribe the names of pets on them and the other members would varnish the pebbles for weather protection. These pebbles each bearing the names of departed beloved pets will be cemented onto a wall which shelters Amber's Garden and later we hope to produce photos to sell to donaters. All monies received for inscribed pebbles will be spent entirely on the welfare of old cats to enable them to enjoy their remaining years in peace and comfort. So please send us the names of your pets, it doesn't have to be a cat, and as much as you can afford, and we can keep our cheerful ladies busy scoring the beaches for the loveliest pebbles.

Over a year ago we were saddened by the death of Miss Stella Crossley-Meates one of our committee members. Recently we received a legacy of £500 left by her. We were extremely touched and grateful for this generous gift and cat lovers can well imagine the number of cats lives this will save.

Open Day afternoons are quiet now, a few hardy souls turn up for a chat or to adopt a cat or bring one in, but very little money. However Spring is on the way, and with it visitors with cash we hope. We are still searching for a cheerful saint who's idea of heaven is to cope with the human race. We realise this is a tall order, but we will keep trying.

The Bazaar stock is rather depleted and we would be grateful for any unwanted Christmas gifts to replenish the shelves. If you have any of Grandma's clothing, knick-knacks jewelry, old postcards, prints or books we have a ready sale for these. Foreign stamps, musical instruments, furniture, and lace sell quickly, so please don't throw anything away, we would be very glad to have your unwanted items.



IT'S TRUE



SILHOUETTE T. W. 4496

St. Katherines Convent
Henley-on-Thames

* * *

Missing—January 13th, 1969—from Ein Cartref, Bryn Gynog Farm Caravan Site, Hendre Road, Conway. Timmy: dark grey-white chest, white on legs, white inverted V on face. Information please to Mrs. Dodd at above address or phone Dodd, Llandudno 75344 between 8.30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Information leading to recovery Rewarded by owner and Cats Protection League.

* * *

A MALIGNANT TUMOUR

Just in case the report on the illness of my spayed cat Rocky, aged 11 years, might be useful to other cat-owners, I am sending it in. At the end of April last year I noticed a hard spot like gristle at the back of Rocky's neck. It was quite painless, Rocky did not mind my even pressing it. The very painlessness of the lump made me anxious and think of cancer. There is a large surgery run by a group of veterinaries not far from me, but each of them is quite willing to come to the house, if owners are unable to carry heavy baskets with animals in them. In May I carried Rocky to the surgery, and the veterinary on duty advised an operation to remove the growth. When he opened up he found the growth far bigger than we could have felt from outside, and a fairly long incision had to be made, to remove the growth. The healing of the wound took longer than expected, but the tumour was not believed to be a malignant one. Eventually the fur grew over the scar, which, however, did not remain flat as it was after the operation, and in addition a small lump developed rather soon by the side of it. In September I had to leave my two cats for 10 days at a boarding cattery. The lady who runs it is a very observant person and warned me, when I came to fetch my pets, that Rocky's lump had considerably grown in these ten days. Again Rocky had no pain. When I had the vet in to pull an injured tooth of my other cat, I showed him Rocky also. With consideration of her age he did not advise another operation but asked to be kept informed of further developments. By and by she was bothered by an unbearable itch which made her scratch her scar open again, and the lump began to show under her beautiful black glossy fur. On 2nd of December I called in the vet again. He talked of treatment with antibiotics, but admitted that it would only be a question of time when the final farewell would have to come. I had once seen a beloved cat of mine tortured with intestine cancer, so I made the sad decision quickly to let Rocky go while she was still a bonnie cat without any smell of illness and only bothered by an itch.

Marie Louise Hiller.



IN MEMORIAM

Darling Rosslynda, perfect in all her ways; died age two years.

Dearest little Jasmine, died age one year.

Beloved Taffy died age 11 months. Broken-hearted mummy's little sweetheart.

"For some, the loveliest and the best, whom rolling Time from his vintage hath pressed, have drunk their cup a round or two before, and one by one crept silently to rest".
E.A.P.

My darling Peter passed on December 17th, 1968, aged 17½ years, always will be remembered and blessed for his many years of love and comfort to me. I pray I meet him one day. D.P.

Minette, Siamese cat, beloved companion of Reg Bowland and the late Mrs. L. G. Bush of Lancaster Road, Hitchin, died October 28th, aged 17 years. "The long day done".

In loving memory of "Jason", died 12.9.55, and "Middle", died 23.1.67. E.H.

Our darling Kiki (Tailwaver No. 1519) beloved little companion for 13½ years. Released from illness by kindly sleep on February 12th, 1952; also our beloved little Tiger (Tailwaver No. 2039) aged 12, who fell asleep after a very short illness on February 21st, 1958. A loving, humble little creature, very dear to us. "Until we meet, little ones".
Mr. and Mrs. A. Turner.

January 10th, 1950, Peter, Tailwaver 1154. Always loved. E.M.P. E.R.R.-T.

In memory and gratitude for our darling little Poo who died last July. He gave us so much happiness during his short life. He will never be forgotten, by my husband and myself. M.G.

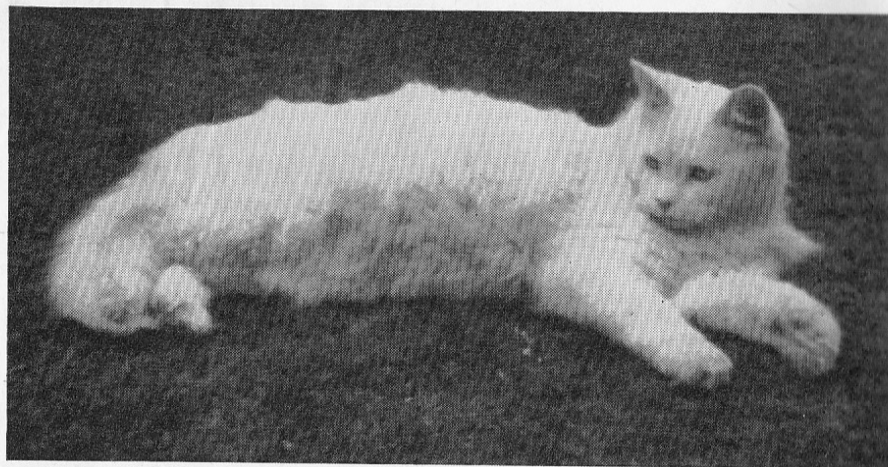
With great sadness—My Ginger passed away in November. Two years of perfect beauty. Hazel Barton.

In loving memory of my Pal "Mickey" who died on Wednesday, January 8th, 1968. I have missed him so much. M. Walker.

HOMES WANTED

Six years old half persian, white with black and orange markings. Very pretty, and she has been speyed. Mrs. Olney, Gallows Lodge, Shootersway, Berkhamstead, Herts.

Good home urgently required for good looking young tabby male cat. Believed abandoned. Very good mouser. Mrs. P. Kirkby, Naden House, Norden, Rochdale, Lancs.



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