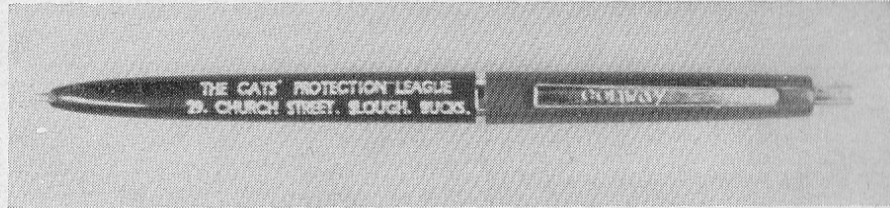


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C.P.L. PENS: 1/6 each REFILLS 6d. POSTAGE 6d.

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FAULTY PENS OR REFILLS REPLACED FREE

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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.

Buy your hand-knitted dishcloths and/or Aprons to order, in aid of funds. Details from Mrs. P. Jives, 1 Penn Street, Oakham, Rutland.

Wanted: Cloth Badges, County, Club, School Cap or Blazer. Each will earn 2/- for my C.P.L. Collecting Box.

Your interest and co-operation will be much appreciated. Miss D. Gowing, 40 Heath Crescent, Cromer Road, Norwich, NOR 58N Norfolk.

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

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.

Perspex Name Brooches in various colours 1/6d. each. Profits to C.P.L. Send S.A.E. to Miss P. E. George, Rose Villa, Ackhill Prestiegne, Radnorshire.

Water Colour Portraits of Pets from a clear snapshot, 10/6d. 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.

THIS MONTH'S "SPECIAL" APPEAL

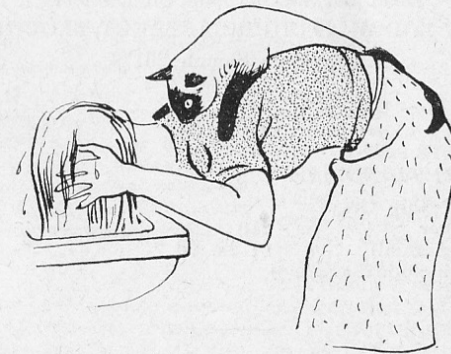
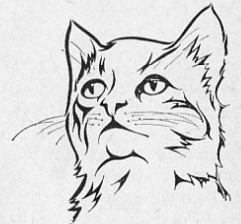
**GIVE C.P.L. PENS
ON EVERY OCCASION**

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

THE CAT

Christine

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.*

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1970

THE CAT Vol. XLIV No. 5 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1970

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

Headquarters Office and Clinic are at
PRESTBURY LODGE, 29 CHURCH STREET, SLOUGH, BUCKS.
Telephone Slough 20173

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

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(all above include magazine)		

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.

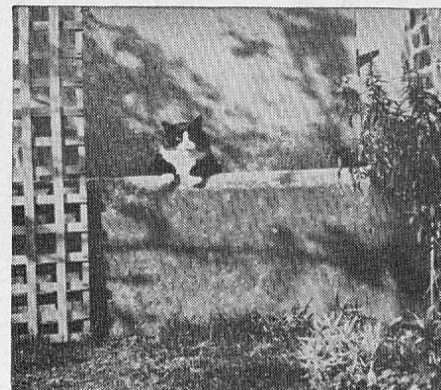
Notification of change of address.

Linen and blanket pieces, for use in the Clinic

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 com memorative.

Names and Addresses of Boarding Catteries.



ROUND AND ABOUT

Report and Comments on "this and that" concerning the welfare of cats and kittens and the work of the League generally by the General Secretary/Editor.

HOW LITTLE OR HOW MUCH can we say about the Annual Meeting

We have had our 1970 Annual General Meeting - Saturday July 11th and can say it was well attended and interesting. Discussions etc on various aspects of the League's works, and financial position were a mixture of fact, approval, controversy and gratification, adding up to general satisfaction.

Branch Representation was below the usual attendance due mainly to illness or prior engagements and the difficulty some representatives had in making the long journey from the Midlands and the North and back in one day. Perhaps next year we may be able to ease the situation.

Haslemere For many years we had a rescue centre at Chase Lodge Studio, Haslemere under the control of the late Miss A. B. Joy. It did not altogether serve the purpose for which it was intended, but during her term of service as Warden and up to the time of her illness and decease Miss Joy took the greatest care of the cats and kittens in her charge.

Although Chase Lodge Studio known as the Haslemere Memorial Home is not ideal as a shelter/sanctuary or rescue centre it is being re-opened as such for the rehabilitation of some of the cats and kittens on the many derelict sites of London.

Mrs. de Clifford will be in charge as Warden and Miss Godbolds will officiate as assistant Warden. **Headquarters will be responsible for all expenditure.** There will be no special fund, but the running cost will be shown as a separate item on the Annual Statement of Accounts, together with donations towards this particular project.

The initial outlay. For repairs, renewals, re-decorating the house (already done), new cat house and runs (on order), clearing and leveling the ground and putting down concrete slab foundations for house, runs and paths will cost about £2,000. The latter has yet to be done. It is hoped that all will be completed and ready to commence operations by the time this issue of "The Cat" is in circulation.

We must state the scheme is intended as an experiment and will operate on a trial period of 18 months. There will be a limit to the number of cats and kittens we can accommodate. Priority will be given to the most necessitous cases and acceptances will be at the discretion of the Warden in consultation with Headquarters if or when necessary. The situation will be under review at our Executive Committee meeting and the Committee reserves the right to continue or discontinue the experiment in the light of achievements and cost. More about this project next issue.

Isle of Wight Memorial Home. We hear from our Mr. Dennes, the Resident Supervisor that work on the second cat house and clinic building is progressing very satisfactory and the old age pensioners' cats will now have moved into their new quarters, the first cat house completed. As soon as all buildings have been finished and fitted out and it is possible to announce the opening date we will do so.

Beware Metaldehyde slug bait has been a very prominent topic in the Press/via correspondence to this office. It is said to be a killer of cats and other domestic pets and small wild life if they eat it. It appears to have great attraction and according to the letter from the

Henry Doubleday Research Association, cats and dogs have been poisoned by it. Our experience, unfortunately can neither prove or disprove the case, but without any doubt there is foundation for the statements that have been made. The writer on behalf of the Research Association mentioned says "If you notice any signs of paralysis especially in the hind quarters, or difficulty in walking, get your cat to a vet., and ask him to administer a sedative which will stop the attack before the fits start". It is possible that Metaldehyde can be withdrawn from the market if the manufacturers can be persuaded. Apart from the advice given, in the event of your cat having been in contact with Metaldehyde, the obvious thing for anyone who has a slug problem is to avoid using this particular bait. I may be able to enlarge on this subject later on.

The animals fair - 1970 will be held on Friday and Saturday, 4th and 5th December in the Royal Horticultural Hall (old hall), Vincent Square, Victoria, S.W.1. from noon till 8 p.m. each day. We expect to be represented as in the past 2 or 3 years by London Committee, North London Branch, Edmon-ton Group and Headquarters. We hope to meet friends and members on this occasion to deal with problems or to advise or help in any way possible.

The McNeal legacy: after nearly 3 years of waiting and controversy, the legal and monetary problems have been solved. As a result the Cats' Protection League is permitted to retain possession of Government Stocks of varying values, the bulk of which was at 3½%. The collective interest income would have produced about £2,300. On the advice of Brokers the Government Stocks have been redeemed and invested in higher yielding Loan Stock with which we shall be able to do a great deal more in connection with the neutering scheme. This could mean an increase in neutering of as much as 30% and will certainly enable Headquarters to continue to supply it's Branches with neutering vouchers within the limits already agreed.

The wind of change: the pattern of "cat welfare" activities has changed considerably over the past few years, at least as far as the Cats' Protection League Headquarters Clinic is concerned and would appear to be a pointer to the future and of which we must take notice.

Clinic work as such has gradually given way to an increased demand for a "rescue" service entailing trapping to a greater extent than ever before and changes in our methods of operating our cat welfare services are having

to be made. There are fewer "patients" requiring clinical or hospital services but many more urgent requests to rescue/remove cats and kittens, living wild. The falling off of our clinic service is mainly due to the expansion of veterinary surgeons' private practices. The general tendency now is for partnerships and or group practices as opposed to the one man practice. This allows for opening of branch surgeries over a wider area and offering better services than in the past and surgery hours more convenient to people who are at work all day.

Animal welfare clinics that have not got or cannot afford a resident or full time veterinary surgeon cannot possibly hope to provide anything like the service veterinary surgeons' partnerships etc. are now able to offer. This progressive change in the world of animal welfare will obviously necessitate changes in the services that smaller animal welfare organisations and we, the Cats' Protection League, moving with the times must turn our attention to other aspects of cat welfare where the demand has increased.

The stray and unwanted cat/kitten problem: when the Cats' Protection League launched its neutering scheme it was realised it would be a long term policy and that there would be problems to solve. So far the financial situation has not proved more than a slight headache, but the continuance of indiscriminate breeding and disposal of kittens of both sexes, (that more than likely will not be neutered) by owners of mother cats and I regret to say, members of sister societies is heart-breaking. During the 18 months or so since the scheme has been operating on wide basis, we have come across some very disturbing incidents. Old age pensioners, acquire one way or another a little "boy kitten" that in due course has a family, most of which are given away probably too young, in a frantic hurry to avoid having to feed the "unwants".

Widows or deserted wives with large families of small children are given a kitten "for the children". No thought of whether it will present a problem, monetary or kittenwise, with the result that appeals have to be made to people like ourselves to help or the kitten has to be disposed of, usually at an adult age, having become either a nuisance or a burden.

Owners of mother cats keep all the litter, usually 4/6 kittens, on the promise of neighbours or friends to have one of them. Unfortunately it so often happens that they are left with the biggest part of the litter which find their way to pet shops - if they will accept them - or they are disposed of by "losing them or put to sleep.

continued on next page

Where people are of a nature that they cannot bear to part with the "little dears", a large feline family is often the result. One incident is worth recording. In one family which was not blessed with too much of this world's goods had a great-grandmother, grandmother, mother and daughter all in kitten. This was one of the cases which we hastened to assist and stop a recurrence of this particular problem.

At this time of the year cat clinics/shelters' mortuaries are over-flowing with unwanted cats and kittens. Here at Cats' Protection League Headquarters the intake of unwanted kittens of ages varying from 6 to 14 weeks, has over the past 2/3 months averaged 50 per week. In addition we have had to put to sleep far too many cats that for one reason or another cannot be kept (automatically assumes and probably rightly so that many of these destructions are directly linked with holidays) We wonder how many of these unwanted kittens are the direct result of the "homes for kittens" scheme so widely advertised and practised by pet shops in many parts of the country.

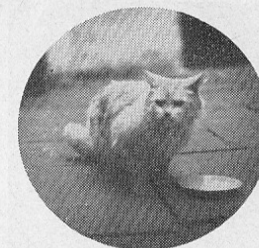
As distressing as it is we know what else we have to face and must make the necessary preparations to overcome obstacles in the way of limiting the cat population and join with those whose theme is **we will overcome some day.**

Apart from the practical endeavours of our neutering project a vast amount of educational effort will be needed and we have this very much in mind and are working on it.

Cat week and Christmas appeals; to maintain interest in cat week and to create incentive we are introducing "Bruin". He is all of 2 ft. 9 ins. from the soles of his boots to the top of his saucy cap and is complete with "gift sack" hanging from his right hand.

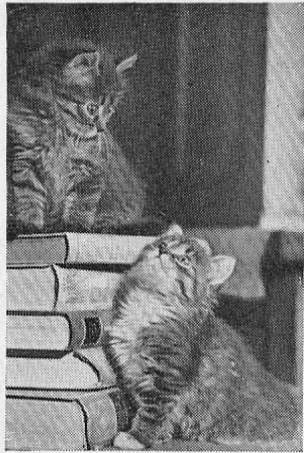
He was presented by one of the League's fervent supporters and we hope to be able to show a picture of him in the next magazine. He is a black and white bear and his name is not "Teddy, but you guess what it is. If you wish to try at 6d. a guess, starting on October 1st and closing November 30th, we would welcome your support. The first correct name received to be declared the winner who can either have the prize sent to him or her direct, nominate a friend as the recipient or have it sent by us carriage free to a childrens' Hospital or Home, proceeds to the League's neutering project.

Cat care. A recently published 10-page pamphlet on cats and the law, neutering, feeding and fleas etc. is the first of our new line in educational propaganda and is available for free distribution on request.



Can we afford cats: in addition to the ever rising cost of living, which to so many of us is not compensated by increased income, those who possess or should I say are possessed by a cat or cats are faced with expenditure increases in one or more of the following; cat foods, boarding fees, veterinary charges and incidentals like cat litter, flea powder, milk, brushes and combs etc.

One of the biggest problems cat owners may encounter is the payment of an account for veterinary services in connection with prolonged treatment for illness or accidents on the roads, or injury sustained through fights with other cats or dogs. This comment is made in the light of recent experiences where cat owners have taken their pets to a veterinary surgeon and been faced with a bill that they cannot afford to pay. Some of these accounts run into double figures and whilst it is appreciated that the cat owner would very naturally want to obtain treatment for his or her pet they seem not to be aware of the extent of the cost of treatment which can include X-ray, a course of injections and in some cases hospitalisation. In some cases where we meet this kind of problem, and we do quite frequently, we make a point of mentioning the situation both to the veterinary surgeon and to the owner of the cat. Although we give as much help as we can there is a limit to what can be allocated to any one case. Invariably the incidents to which I refer are "out of the blue" so to speak and the accounts have been forwarded to us at the suggestion of friends or the veterinary surgeons themselves. Our financial expenditure is budgeted periodically and we try to keep an account of what we had committed ourselves and can only do this through our voucher system. It is therefore necessary that we should know in advance what the cost of any treatment, operation etc. is likely to be, so that we can agree on what we can afford to pay. The exception is the accident case where we do undertake to meet the expense incurred in examination and initial treatment. More than this we obviously cannot do if we are to ensure that the League's finances are not too deeply involved so as to put us in "the red".



"THE CATS MEDICAL DICTIONARY": Hamilton Kirk: Routledge and Kegan Paul Ltd: 15/-.

Authors knowledge of his subject stems from past experience as a veterinary Surgeon, lecturer, etc. So much of considerable interest both in text and illustration lies between the covers (200 odd pages) that it is impossible to estimate its value.

"THE NEW BOY" by Doreen Tovey: Michael Joseph: 30/-

If you have read "Cats in the Belfry, in May" etc., you will be compelled to add "The New Boy" to your library. What could one say about the inimitable Doreen Tovey's books except that you just must read them.

"CATS" by Christine Metcalf: Hamlyn: 6/- A pocket sized volume of immense value to cat owners whose interest goes beyond the generalities of cat welfare. Combined with illustrations of an unusual nature it is probably the best buy.

"THE DOMESTIC CAT" by Brian Vesey-Fitzgerald: Pelham Books Ltd. 35/- Who amongst cat lovers is not interested in so-called "domestic cats"? The name merely separates them from cats with pedigrees but that does not mean a great deal because "a cat is a cat for all that". The Domestic, or Family Cat as we prefer to call it, deserves all the praise the writer has given it and if we do not altogether see eye to eye on some cat matters, we are glad so much attention has been given to this particular subject, its needs and special place in our lives which B.V.F. knows all about.

A.A.S.

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 C is for Cat will be devoted to our neutering project. *Editor.*

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 — FOR BRANCH AND GROUP HONORARY REPRESENTATIVES NAMES AND ADDRESSES

BIRMINGHAM

The telephone never stops ringing! We are inundated with calls for help to find homes for unwanted kittens, abandoned mother cats, stray cats, cats which have arrived at factories in packing cases, cats and kittens of all ages, shapes, sizes and varieties. Life is one round of answering the telephone, advising, advertising vetting homes, collecting, delivering, and taking older cats to the vet for neutering or speying.

One six week old kitten was discovered being used as a ball by some children who had been given the kitten by an Indian gentleman to "play with". Although utterly exhausted, she fully recovered after a good sleep and is now awaiting a really super home.

Another was found being bartered for by some very young boys in a school playground. She has already gone to a good home.

A third was discovered with cotton tied in several places round its leg and paw. It was tied so tightly that it had eaten into the flesh. The vet thought that its leg may have to be amputated. Happily it did not, and Venus, as she is now called, found a lovely home, and is now the happy little companion of Appollo, another stray!

Our hope of helping the pet shop kittens had to be abandoned, as we were snowed under with so many requests for help.

In a city the size of Birmingham we need about 20 active workers. Instead, there are just three or four of us trying to cope, with full time jobs during the day, homes to run, and our families and pets to care for.

If there is anyone living in the Birmingham area willing to give just a little ACTIVE HELP, especially with advertising and transport, we should appreciate it so much.

We should like to thank the one or two readers who have sent us donations to help our neutering scheme to continue, as our second half-yearly quota of 50 Neutering Vouchers from Headquarters has all been used. They were certainly a tremendous help. We sincerely hope that the voucher scheme for neutering will continue and expand.

Two GOOD pieces of news: First, news of our Shelter - One of our members is moving into a new house, and has offered to let us erect our Shelter in her large garden. Planning permission has yet to be obtained, but our hopes are high, and we are keeping our fingers crossed that our plans materialise as boarding our really homeless strays for just a short period, until we can rehabilitate them, is still our main problem.

Secondly, we have had news of our first legacy this month. It was left to us by the late Mrs. A. B. Hodges, of Guernsey. Mrs. Hodges was a true cat lover, whom we came to know through The Cat magazine. We corresponded with her regularly, and she sent us several small donations for Branch funds. Last year, while on holiday in Guernsey, our Chairman visited Mrs. Hodges in hospital. We are only sad that we are unable to express our gratitude to her for remembering our Branch in her will. We can only hope that we shall use the money as well and as wisely as she would have wished. CHELMSFORD

More good news in our Shelter Saga! We have at last got planning permission for the Main Shelter and Mini-Shelters as envisaged by us. There remains just one more "permission" we have to get before we can start to build and this is something to do with our complying with the local By-laws. Surely by the next issue of the magazine we shall be able to report that it is all happening!

We now know that there has been quite a lot of local opposition to our Shelter, and this has no doubt contributed to the delay in getting permission. Local residents seemed to imagine that hoards of wild, smelly noisy, garden-wrecking cats would be roaming the neighbourhood. If only people would find out the facts before they protested, they would know that all our temporary cat guests will be completely confined in buildings and wired cages and runs, and if they arrive unneutered - well, we'll soon take care of that, so there should be no tom cat smells. Nor do we expect much noise. We have noticed that our cats in the boarding kennels only talk when they want food and

Chelmsford cont.

attention, which ours will have plenty of. The cats themselves will help us to keep the Shelter clean and fresh (and many people could learn a lot from cats in the matter of personal cleanliness).

We thank all the wonderful people who have sent donations towards the Shelter as a result of our latest appeal, particularly two "anons" we can't thank by letter - Tilly, Birmingham and A cat Lover, Newcastle. We still haven't enough money to lay on electricity or water, which would cost more than £200, but we will manage with torches and hoses to start with at least, and perhaps by the winter we can have a big heating and lighting appeal:

We have been so very busy trying to raise money to pay for our cat boarding bills and for the Shelter that we have now sold out of just about everything. Not surprising, as we have been having a Sale of one sort or another every week for the past two months. Our most profitable fund raising activity is our "Saturday Sale" (one each month), when we sell good second hand clothing. Please see if you can spare something from your wardrobe - large sizes are in great demand.

We still need large quantities of postage stamps, any country, and please leave a good margin of paper around the stamp, and we are crying out for anything suitable to sell at our numerous bazaars. We really want to get a good stock ready for the Grand Opening of the Shelter.

Our Secretary, Mrs. Middlemiss, is unfortunately in hospital at the moment and so we will combine the May and June figures for cats we found good homes for, and cats we had neutered, with the July/August figures in the next report.

Edmonton

On Saturday the 25th July our Grand Old Lady 'Fluffy' celebrated her 24th birthday. What a marvellous party she had. Guests came from far and near bearing gaily wrapped gifts and were astounded and delighted by her wonderful condition and kittenish antics. Our very good friend Mr. Donald Chamberlain travelled from Norwich to run a Bring and Buy stall for us which was very successful indeed. Mr. Chamberlain brought 'Fluffy' (among other things) a nicely cooked chicken one of several that she received; these were of course shared with her pussy pals at the Sanctuary. We all thank, most sincerely, all the kind friends for donations and gifts received at the Sanctuary on 'Fluffys' special day and also for the birthday telegrams and cards and flowers.

We are still running our Charity Shop, but we are getting rather low on stock. Goods of all kinds are needed for this; clothing, shoes, books, etc., especially jewellery, even if it is broken we can repair it. So please sort out your cupboards and drawers for us and send whatever you can.

No doubt that cat lovers in general will not need to be reminded of this, but some people although good and kind in other ways to their pet, do not realise the importance of giving their cat liquid paraffin to help prevent internal fur balls. We have had several cases recently of cats who have been very poorly through this nuisance which seems worse in the summer through heavy moulting. If you are in doubt, consult your Veterinary Surgeon who will advise you.

Once again, please urge pet owners to be extra vigilant against pet stealing, as cats do so like a night out, especially in warm weather and cases are being reported of missing pets in several areas.

Glossop

By the time this is in print the holiday period will be drawing to a close and we hope some of our many strays and unwanted will have gone to homes.

At present we have a record number of 26 cats and 18 kittens in our care. We do not take litters of kittens from private homes. This would be an impossible task.

We are doing our best to tackle the problem of unwanted kittens by encouraging people to get their cats spayed. The cost of this operation has increased enormously and many people with young families and old age pensioners cannot afford it. We are being asked for help over a large area.

Another cat lover in the country is caring for some of our cats in our own indoor kennels with runs, in two large sheds with electric heating when necessary. There is also an isolation unit. These are living in much better conditions and at considerably less cost than they would be in boarding kennels.

We have room for two more of these comfortable little houses with runs which we are still able to obtain for fifteen pounds each. We have received £3 towards the cost of one. Would any friend care to hold a coffee evening or little sale and send us the proceeds to enable us to purchase at least one of these?

One of the services we offer is the free loan of a carrying basket - most essential for taking cats to and from the vet. We thank our friend in Chesterfield who sent us the price of one of these. We also thank a friend who sent us two baskets but with the strict instructions that they must not be lent out. Grateful thanks also to all who sent donations and parcels.

Glossop cont.

Some of the parcels did not contain an address including two very useful ones from Cliftonville, also two parcels of cat blankets.

Pieces of clean woollen blanket are always welcome but please do not send any if your cats have had any infection, as this is one of our greatest hazards.

Three friendly abandoned cats each rearing two kittens are being cared for temporarily in outdoor shelters by people who rescued them. If we do not take them in a few weeks time they will be put down by the R.S.P.C.A. As our financial position is so critical we just cannot afford to take them in. Will you help us? Please mark your donation "Little Families".

WE ALSO NEED

1. Gifts for our Autumn Market.
2. Green Shield and S. and H. trading stamps to Miss M Thomas, 292 Hyde Road, Woodley, Nr. Stockport, Cheshire.
3. Coins including pre 1954 pennies for which we get 3d. each. I could supply a little collecting box.
4. Used postage stamps particularly foreign and special issue. Please leave margin of paper all round.
5. Post war novels for our little lending library on the South Coast - also unbreakable disc records. Address on request.

Please remember to put out clean drinking water for strays, birds and the harmless hedgehog so beneficial to gardens as it lives on insects harmful to plants.

Water is the one thing we can all afford to share with the least of these our brethren.

London Committee Important dates:

THE AUTUMN BAZAAR
at 2 p.m.
St. Mark's Hall,
Compton Road,
Wimbledon.

Organised by the Countess Grudzinska, who will be glad of goods and offers of help at 48 Home Park Road, Wimbledon Park S.W.19 (tel. 946. 2025).

THE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
at 2 o'clock

The Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue, S.W.1. (this is near Victoria Station and Ashley Gardens).

We can arrange to collect goods for sale in the London area, and we have "depots" where they can be handed in, as well as at 12 The Close, New Malden, Surrey.

We hope that all our friends will come to both of these bazaars, we do like to see everyone, and to exchange cat-chat. These occasions are most important to us, and your help to make them a success is of real value.

Curio Corner

We are now making a collection (for collectors) of books autographed by their authors, or books from the libraries of well-known writers. If you have any on your shelves, which you can spare, please send them to us. And of course, please also send us anything old or new that you can find for us.

Our Boutique

Of nearly-new clothes has been so well patronised, that we are almost without any clothes, so please go through your wardrobe and send some pretty garments.

The Rescue Centre seems to be more crowded than ever before. Cats are coming in and going out, till I think we might call ourselves "cats Bed and Breakfast hostel" We have some lovelies just now and, of course, a few imps. We sent off our worst "Sweetie Pie" with some fears, but we have heard that "he is an angel". We are glad to know that: Our most needy is Dorcas, a pretty tabby-and-white who was in a sad state when she arrived. Many of our cats are at least partly endowed, but Dorcas hasn't a friend in the world, but she is cheerful and affectionate, so if we can keep her just a little longer, she will certainly find a home. Any small contribution specially for her would be a help.

The Milton Memorial garden is full, as ever, with strays from the worst parts of London, and hard cases. Fortunately we have been able to take a number before they became very wild or shy, which makes a great difference. They are ready for new homes very quickly. So all we need are the new homes, please help, if you should hear of a kind home, remember us.

North London Branch

Our intake of strays and unwanted older cats is at its peak now. Holiday makers are bringing us cats by the score for destruction and others are turning their cats on to the streets for the duration of their holidays. In addition, unwanted kittens are pouring in and life at the Shelter is very hectic and very depressing.

Two white cats (a tom of about 5 months and a lady of about 1 year) are with us awaiting homes. The lady arrived as an expectant 'Mum' and now we also have two white kittens ready for good homes when old enough. If you know of good homes going at around the end of August, we would be glad to know.

Will members please note that we DO NOT take in boarders. A large amount of our time is spent, on the telephone and in writing letters stating this fact. We will, however, send a list of boarding catteries in the London area to those who require it, and who send us a stamped addressed envelope.

North London cont.

We have 40 beautiful cats at the Shelter at the moment, all wanting good homes. Among them is a gorgeous blue cat of about 18 months and Steptoe, a young black cat of about 3 months who came to us as an orphan of two weeks and who was reared on the bottle by the Shelter staff. He is now feeling his feet and is anxious to go out into the world to do a good job by reciprocating the love of a kind human. Surely someone has room for him.

To save our sanity, we are even more anxious to be rid of Fred, a lovable ugly neutered Tom of about 6 months. He is a common cat and, if he were human, he would be wearing a flat cap and selling apples from a market stall. He is fraying our nerves at the Shelter by his anxiety to leave us. Any caller with a shopping bag finds Fred curled up inside it when she leaves. If the bag is not put down Fred will leap into it from a distance of five feet. He will also leap into cupboards whenever they are opened and has all kinds of tricks up his sleeve calculated to drive humans to distraction. He is quickly forgiven because of his wonderful character and lovable disposition which makes him a candidate for the best of homes.

Our worthy Treasurer Miss Hutt is back with us and in full swing after her stay in hospital and we are thankful for it, and thankful to her for all the work she does for us. We also thank Miss Hoey for all the correspondence she undertakes as Assistant Secretary. Her name will be familiar to most members since she has written to many of them during her years in office.

We again remind you of our next Jumble Sale on the 10th October at the Upper Holloway Hall, Holloway Road, N.7. We would be glad to receive goods for sale and will be pleased to collect if within reasonable distance.

Also we remind you of the beautiful Christmas cards we have for sale, all featuring our past inmates, including a lovely Siamese. They are 12s. 6d. a dozen, including postage and packing. Order early and avoid being disappointed.

Purina cat foods. Their preparations should be obtainable from pet shops or chemists or in stores where pet food is on sale. It is a product of the Ralston Purina Co., St Louis, Missouri, U.S.A. The London agents are:

NOTE: we give this information at the request of members who are interested in the previous announcement in the magazine.



Sussex

We are very sorry to report that owing to illness Mr. Ruckert who has been our very hard working Hon. Treasurer for several years, felt compelled to resign. He will be greatly missed on the Committee. We are grateful to Mr. Grist for kindly taking over his work as Hon. Treasurer.

Before Mrs. Banks went into hospital we found good homes for both little cats in her care. She is now out of hospital, and after some convalescence is now home and once more able to look after our little strays at Cat Haven.

Two little kittens were taken up, one by a lady who found him wandering about crying pitifully. A home has been found for that one. The other was on the sea front, and after fruitless inquiries was taken to the Shelter, such a pretty little white kitten with some tabby markings; one wonders how it came to be lost.

Miss Mark has had a miniature Cat Haven built in her garden, consisting of a wooden Shelter and quite a large wired in run. Any cats or kittens that she may be looking after for us are now able to be out doors during the day time and are taken into the house at night. She has been looking after three little fluffy kittens which were taken to the P.D.S.A. to be put to sleep. The two tabbies went to a home together, and the little black one is now another member of Miss Marks own family of six.

And now a sad story with a happy ending. A young couple living in the country heard a car stop outside their house and then drive on. It was late at night and they thought it rather odd so went outside to investigate, and there sitting by the road side looking bewildered and frightened was a little cat which must have been dumped. The poor little thing was obviously soon to have kittens. The next day they took it to the P.D.S.A. and the vet there phoned Miss Mark who agreed to take it in. One little kitten was born dead and the vet. was called in, he took the little cat to his

Sussex cont.

surgery where he operated and took away three more kittens which could never have been born normally. The little cat went back to Miss Mark, very thin and weak, but after a lot of care she is now well once more and is going to be adopted by Miss Woolgar, one of our Committee members who has always wanted a cat of her own.

It is really heart breaking to think of the number of kittens wanting homes at this time of the year. We have such a long list that we've come to the point where we just can't add any more. Why are people so casual about letting their cats have all these kittens, taking it for granted that we can find homes for them. When we do agree to try and place the kittens we make it a condition that they have the mother cat spayed, at our expense if necessary.

A young man called recently to know if we could find homes for some kittens. Apparently there were so many of them that he really couldn't tell me how many! When I enquired about the mother he said he had four female cats and had never got down to having them spayed. Then and there I gave him a voucher to take to the vet and made him promise to get them done at once. The kittens will be just another problem.

Since my last report we went to Bexhill at the kind invitation of the Bexhill Cat Club to attend their cat picture show which was opened by Beverley Nichols. At the Charities Fair, an all day event on Hastings Pier we had a stall at which we made £18 16s, 10d. and enlisted several new members.

Mrs. Adams, one of our very active Committee Members gave a Coffee Morning at her home which was attended by her friends and members of the Committee. She made £10 which is to go towards providing heating in our Shelter. We would like to express our thanks and gratitude for her help.

We are always glad of any goods for our stalls at Coffee Evenings, and these can be brought to the office at 35 Pevensey Road. We are particularly glad of any paper backs for which we have a big demand.

Ulster

Following a rather quiet period at the beginning of the year the Ulster Branch swung into action around Easter and we had a most successful Jumble Sale which brought in about £45. Immediately we got the place cleared and tidied we started to prepare for the Open Day which this year was combined with a Coffee Party and Bring and Buy Sale.

This effort was exceptionally well-supported, especially in the evening and to our great surprise and delight we found we had made approximately £108. We thank all who helped and all who came and brought their friends. We also are most grateful to the Milk Marketing Board who looked after the Coffee-making. Very good coffee it was.

During July and August we relax as far as fund-raising is concerned, but come September we'll be at it again, so please save jumble, white elephants and collect items for the big Sale of work on 7th November.

The list of Stall holders is as follows:

Gift Stall Mrs. Jackson, 30 Ladas Drive, Belfast, 6.

Cake/Sweets. Dr. L. McElroy, 268 Antrim Road, Belfast, 15.

Grocery Stall. Mrs. K. Y. McBride, 265 Cavehill Road, Belfast, 15.

Kitchen Stall. Mrs. M. Gunning, 87 Victoria Gardens, Belfast, 15.

New and used Jewellery and Novelties. Mrs. J. Kennedy, 3 Waterloo Gardens Belfast, 15.

Toys. Mrs. Gilmore, 36 Malone Avenue, Belfast, 9.

Books Mr T. E. Oldham, 26 Summerhill Park, Belfast 5.

White Elephant. Mrs. M. Billington, 13 Cavehill Road, Belfast, 15

Bottle Stall, Gillian Alford, 490 Antrim Road, Belfast, 15.

Handkerchief Girl. Hilary Clark, 16 Kincora Avenue, Belfast, 4.

Christmas Stall. Miss M. Malcolmson, 34 Diamond Gardens, Finaghy, Belfast 10

Refreshments. Mrs. A. Elliott, "Nara" Craigavad, Co. Down.

Items for the stalls may be sent direct to the Stall-holders or left at 147 Cliftonpark Avenue.

Mrs. Jackson has asked me to thank all who responded to her appeal for envelopes, suitable for sending out the magazines. She got a lovely lot but can use more, so please keep collecting them.

Now for request. One of our members wants three books by Florence Barclay and will give a generous donation to our fund if we can obtain them for her. Could anyone send me: "The Mistress of Shenstone" "The Following of the Star" and "The Broken Halo"?

You will probably wonder why this Magazine is so late arriving. The reason is that we are planning to hold it until we can send out along with it details of a meeting in mid-October at which we plan to hold the Draw being arranged as usual by our good member, Mrs. K. Y. McBride, also invitations to the annual Sale with postage charges likely to shoot up at an alarming rate we have to try to economize in every possible way.

Ulster cont.

During the summer the number of cats and kittens being brought to the Shelter reached frightening proportions. Among them was a mother cat and two kittens found by a soldier in a burned out house in the riot area. One kitten was so badly injured that we had no alternative but to put it to sleep. What with the troubled state of the City, which often prevented the voluntary helpers from other areas getting to the Shelter, the extra cats and kittens and holidays, it has been an enormous strain but thanks to the effort of the Staff and helpers we've struggled through and with the Autumn we hope many more homes will be available. If you can take a cat or know of a possible home please contact us. Good homes are a most urgent need.

I would like to record our appreciation of the parcels, packages and donations which continue to arrive. We are most grateful.

From E. R. McKee, 93a Earlswood Road, Belfast, BT4 3DZ.

WEST CORNWALL

We are happy to inform you that the stamps sorting problem has been resolved, two souls have volunteered and we hope soon to be flogging stamps galore, so please send any you have to spare.

More orders for Amber pebbles, we are getting a large number of requests for inscribed Cornish pebbles and we could take on hundreds more, a donation and the names of your departed pets will ensure a spot on Amber's wall.

Brilliant sunshine and holiday makers thronging the County doesn't exactly give one a feeling for Christmas preparations, but we must be prepared and we do need help especially when there aren't many around to support the funds. Sadly we cannot afford to have new cards printed but we have a large number of Cathlowena prints at 3/6 each and some handpainted copies at 7/6 each which would make gorgeous greeting cards or calendars with a minimum of effort, so please take advantage of this unique offer. I feel sure a print of a little bit of old Cornwall would make anyone happy.

Saturday afternoons are unpredictable, sometimes crowds arrive, if it rains we have half a dozen brave wellwishers. They don't spend much money these days, and we do realise there just isn't much about so we are very glad to assist the cats to make them happy. It is good to meet people from overseas who have heard of us, and I am sure they return to their own countries with some amusing if zany tales of Cathlowena.

As always, and we are not hinting at you dear readers (but we always hope you pass on your copy of the Cat to the lady up the road) the humans are our main cause of worry. The cat lovers who cannot bear to put down unwanted kittens and thrust them onto all and sundry. The hearty men who WILL NOT interfere with their cats' sex life, "Let them enjoy themselves ha ha ha . . . but you will take the kittens dear (said with a lecherous grin which sends our females scurrying). The knowing doctors who condemn the family cat every time the children develop hay fever or a rash, why don't they try a diet or ration the sugar and sweets first? We have six cats in at the moment, loved pets who have been discarded because they are suspected of causing allergies. When we have placed these unhappy cats we often discover that the allergies were not caused by animals at all and the kiddie still suffers with hay fever, asthma, or skin troubles. . . The list is endless, the destruction of cats and kittens is too. The R.S.P.C.A. officer in one area in Cornwall informed me the other day that he had destroyed one thousand cats in six months, heaven knows how many we have condemned to death and there are other animal societies who have no doubt been involved in this grim destruction. What can we do.

The following true cat story which occurred but a few weeks ago could provoke mirth or thought. . . .

Phone call. . . . Please could we take the family neutered ginger cat who would keep roaming? We would. . . Please could we collect no transport? We would. . . Please could we have another cat who wouldn't roam? Yes. . . Please could you call for our family to choose cat? Yes. . . Family collected and ginger cat. Tabby cat chosen and delighted family and tabby cat returned home. 4/- donation.

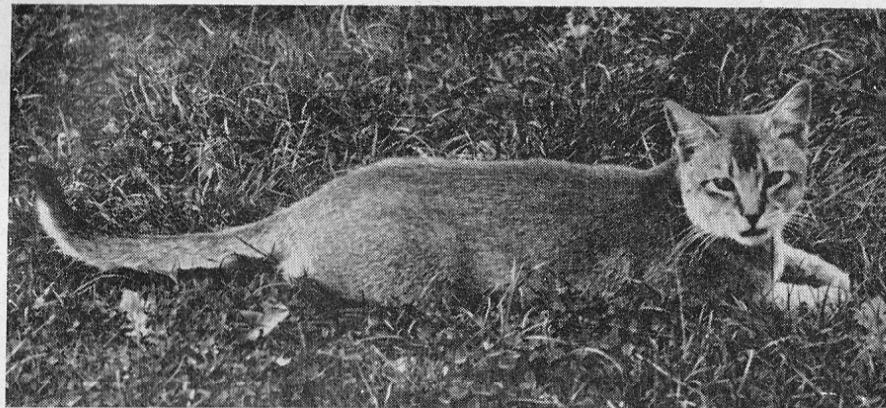
One week later. Phone call. Please could you take back tabby cat and give us back ginger cat family miss him. We carried out these instructions 4/- donation.

One week later Phone call. Please could we have our tabby cat back, as we miss him and he would be company for ginger cat. We would love to. . . .

A week later. . . Please could you collect tabby cat our ginger cat won't get on with him Delighted, and yet another 4/- donation. . . .

Happy ending. . . family reunited with original cat and no prizes offered for guessing the costs of all this. No one could deny that the services we offer are excellent.

NEXT ISSUE
NOVEMBER 1st



NEWS ITEM

PETS corner will be introduced at Leavesden Psychiatric Hospital, near Watford, Hertfordshire, for the patients.

"I thought the enclosed cutting, from today's "Eastern Daily Press", our local paper would be of interest.

Last year I had a cat boarded with me, who was 21 years old. He died before his 22nd birthday. Was the late Angus, I wonder, the oldest living cat?

KATHERINE REEVE

BEWARE THE CAT THAT GROWLS

DIGGLE, the cat who thinks she's a dog, has gone missing. And her owner warned cat owners yesterday that Diggle may be looking for a spot of aggro.

Mrs. Joan Hickmott, of Salisbury, Wiltshire raised Diggle in a litter of puppies after she found her in a dustbin. Now the year-old tabby chases cats and growls like a dog.

Said Mrs. Hickmott: "She hates other cats and will terrorise them. But she loves dogs.

"We cat lovers and owners owe you a dept of gratitude for your splendid and unceasing endeavours over the years.

E.M

I enclose a donation in memory of Mrs. Elise Haldane, who died recently, and by her wish as it was her favourite Animal Society.

I.L.W.H

My cat very seldom catches a bird but when she does and comes to be praised I have a very successful way of saving the bird while not hurting the cat. I take hold of her tail gently but firmly. I do not pull but she does, then opens her mouth to protest and the bird flies off unharmed. I have found this rescue tip very successful and so have others to whom I have passed it.

L.M.F. (Life Member)

My cat gets 1/- a week pocket money and also 1/- on numerous Saints Days and 3/- on the major feasts of the church. She uses her money well and even sends a yearly donation to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds as "conscience money".

M.W.

I get my neighbours who own cats to give me one penny a week for the C.P.L. and I hope the money will be put to further your work for strays.

S.B.

Please read Cat Week and
Christmas Appeals. Page 75

IN MEMORIAM

SNOWY (Snowkins) my faithful little friend and companion for 13 years, who passed away 21st June, 1970. Sadly missed every day. Remembered and loved always. Au revoir, little sweetheart. A broken-hearted mummy.
L. McA.

In loving memory of our JACKIE who died July 19th, 1968 aged 6 years - still missed so much; also of PETER, BILLY and MICKEY who preceded him.
W.S. & B. St. Leonards.

To dear PADS, 15 years my friend who lived and died with great affection and supreme dignity. Much missed.

S.D.G.
In fond and ever loving memory of our beloved DO-DOS who died aged 13 years on September 23rd 1968. Sadly missed though always in our thoughts.
E.M.P. Hove S.G.P. and K.W.
4285. Putney

In memory of LENNIE and DOUGLAS who were killed so young, and beloved WEBBY, our immigrant cat who died in Canada, aged 17.
M.R.E.R.W. & A.W.

In loving memory of my darling TWINKLES put to sleep aged 5 years on August 2nd, 1967. Gone but never forgotten. Free from pain. God bless you.
J.C.

Just a little donation towards your wonderful work. I would willingly give more, if I had it, but am only an old age pensioner, and we have an Animal Shelter in Bolton that I help all I can.
E.W.

I am enclosing a cheque for £10 towards something needed for your I.O.W. or Headquarters Clinic, in memory of France (Frankie) Weatherbe "who loved all animals, especially cats".
M.B.H.

In memory of TWIDDLES my wife and I send this donation.
E.M.

In memory of our beloved SMOKEY T.W. 3460 who died on August 21st 1964, aged 9½ years. We loved him very dearly and miss him still.
M. & D. Revill.

In memory of my beloved cat MOSES put to sleep a few months ago.
A.M.C.

In loving never-to-be forgotten memory of my precious Siamese "TOOTIE" T.W.3103 my dearest companion, fell asleep Oct. 18th, 1968, aged 14 years. As precious in memory as she always was in life. Also lovingly remembering a dear puss friend SOO-KEE-PARKER, fell asleep July 27th, 1970. aged 14 years
Gladys Kent Chink & Prue.

Remembering all my dear cats, TIBBY, MR. TIBS, BILLY the dearly beloved and MIMI.
G.L.

In memory of MITTENS of Dreich, FAIRLIE and PTOLLY of the Knapp, Camberley and of PUDDY of Dorchester Abbey. Always remembered.
M.H.J.

PRINCESS POUFF, our darling little girl who passed on to the Heavenly Glade, 18th June, 1952, aged 17 years. Never forgotten. Till we meet again, little sweetheart.
Two loving Mummies.

Enclosed is a cheque for your funds in memory of my dear "Simon".
M.G

I enclose a cheque in memory of my dear cat, who died in an accident on June 3rd.
C.C.

Enclosed you will find my cheque as a donation to your league, in memory of BIMBO. What a wonderful job you all do.
M.W.

**We regret the reduced number
of pages—this issue only
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