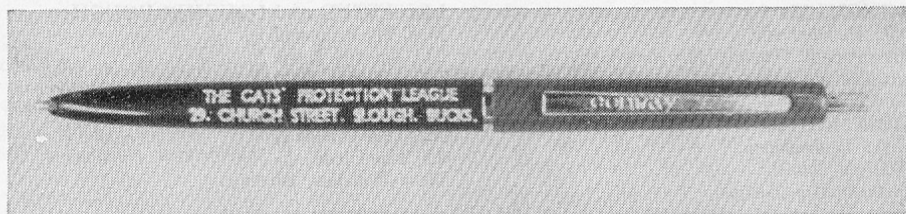


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Astrological analysis of character. Letter with date of birth, stamped addressed envelope and donation for the C.P.L. to Mr. Curtler, 5, Hill Avenue, Worcester.

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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, Rosemary Cromer Road, Roughton. NOR 29Y Norfolk.

C.P.L. Slogan Labels are sold in Aid of Funds 3/- per packet. The Cat's Protection League, 29, Church Street, Slough, Bucks.

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.

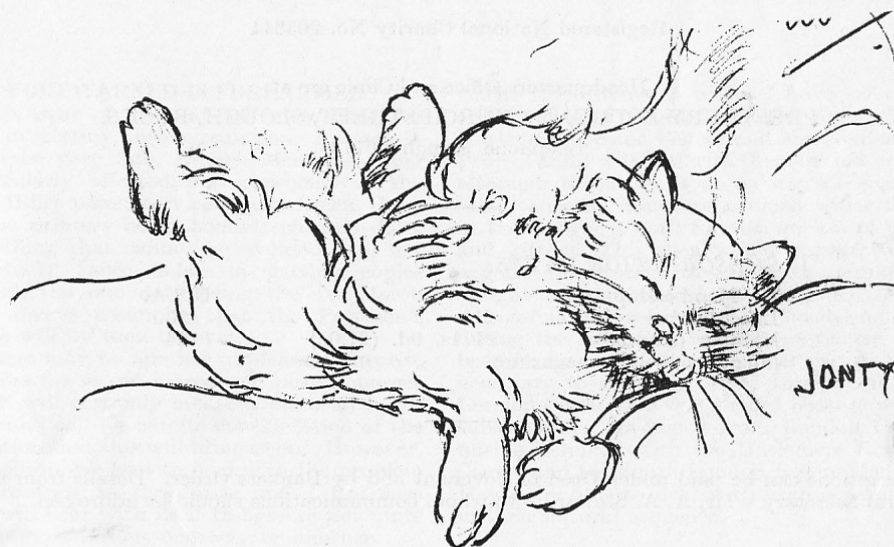
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**WILL YOU TRY
TO ENROL ONE NEW MEMBER
DURING 1971?**

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 1971

THE CAT Vol. XLV No. 2 MARCH/APRIL 1971

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

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ALWAYS WANTED AT HEADQUARTERS

Unwanted birthday and Christmas presents or anything saleable.

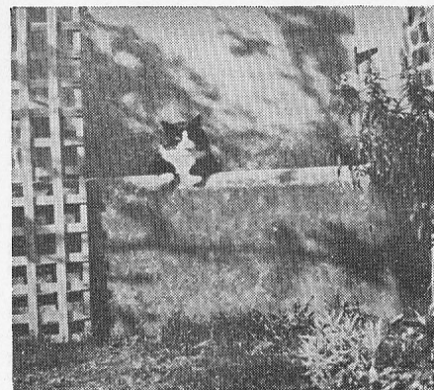
Notification of change of address.

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 commemorative.

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.

FOREWARNED IS FOREARMED

This issue of The Cat will most likely be late in getting into circulation. In fact it could be very late, Branch Members being particularly affected and especially if the Post Office parcel service is withdrawn. Copy to the printers being behind schedule date, something that cannot be avoided, will undoubtedly cause delay in getting copies posted, the due date being the 1st March and always assuming that the Postmen's strike will by then be over.

There may be another unpleasant surprise in store for us, an increase in postal charges which will certainly create a financial headache and call for careful consideration of the situation that this will bring about. However, we will do our best to deal with the problem or problems as they arise and I feel sure you will bear with us if things are not quite up to expectations one way or another.

The question of whether we should forego this particular issue was discussed with our Chairman on the grounds that very little copy from Branches would be available. As we have not missed an issue since we first published the magazine it was naturally our wish not to break the sequence. The fact that branch reports will take up little space, copy only for two having been received at the time of going to press, gives an opportunity to bring Members up to date with two or more of the League's special activities and put them in the picture regarding the Voucher Scheme by giving a little more detail as to its operation.

The three items to which I have referred are the Isle of Wight Memorial Home, The Haslemere Rescue Centre and the Neutering Project and I will deal with them in that order although the latter is in its way of greater importance as it covers a much wider field in the League's work for the welfare of cats and kittens. This then would appear to be a good opportunity to clarify the situation and, at the same time, to give as much detail as possible with regard to what has been done during the time that the Rescue Centre has been in use again. To get a clear picture it is necessary to go back to the time when the London Committee was formed because what subsequently developed from London Committee is linked with the Haslemere Rescue Centre and the South London Rescue Centre. It will be best to deal with each separately in their natural sequence.

ISLE OF WIGHT MEMORIAL HOME

For general information the address is C.P.L. Memorial Home, Marlborough Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

The official opening date has not yet been fixed partly because there is still some work to be done in connection with the Clinic Building and also with regard to the ground on which the old building stood. Clearing the site removing hedges and replacing with fencing, is scheduled for completion at an early date but weather conditions have rather upset calculations. Members will be interested

to learn of a report that appeared in the press which originated from the local Health Inspector's Report to his Committee after inspection for licensing purposes. This in itself is as good a commendation as could be wished for.

PURR, PURR (it is a Pussy Paradise)

A CATS' HOME so luxurious that each cat has an electric heater hanging over its own bed-basket has been completed at Ryde, Isle of Wight.

There are 12 heaters for 12 baskets for 12 cats. Each cat has its own little room to be known as a cat chalet.

Details of the home were intended to remain secret until an official opening ceremony next month.

But the cat was literally let out of the bag because a senior Public Health Inspector has visited the home for licensing purposes. He was so impressed he told his Health Committee about it.

Fun parlour:

At the home in Marborough Road, in addition to the chalets and heaters, Mr. Stanley Dunmore, Ryde's Health Inspector, saw:

A scratching pen where the cats can go to sharpen their claws on wooden poles. This is a fun parlour.

A gleaming sink with constant hot water, so that hot food can be served to fussy cats which scorn cold snacks.

The home is not for the cosseted pets of the wealthy and privileged.

Boarders:

It belongs to the Cats Protection League, who will reserve a few chalets for boarders to offset costs. But the other chalets will be open to the lost and the strays.

The opening ceremony is held up until the adjoining garden is stylishly landscaped.

But there are already two cats sampling this feline Dolce Vita. They belong to two old ladies - one in her 80's who had to go into hospital at Christmas.

Resident Superintendent William Dennes didn't have the heart to turn a deaf ear to the old ladies' please take in their pets.

Southampton Echo.

IT IS WITH DEEP REGRET that we have to report the death of Mr. W. V. Dennes on Wednesday 6th January 1971 following a short illness. He had been resident superintendent of the home for many years and so very much looked forward to the official opening of the newly developed Cattery in which he took so much interest and pride. It was a great shock to us to hear of his passing but we have the consolation that what he supervised for so long and the work that he did will be carried on by his wife Mrs. Dennes with an assistant.

As was only to be expected the sudden upheaval limited our activities for a short time but things are now gradually getting back to normal and some of the new cat houses are being occupied. As is mentioned in the press report part of the new facilities will be reserved for Boarders in order to off-set the running costs but the main part of the Cattery will be for the stray and unwanted cats and those whose owners are unable to have them temporarily owing to illness etc. It will take a few months to get re-organized but by the time holiday makers are visiting the Isle of Wight we should be well established and can probably arrange visiting days especially for them. We hope one day to feature in the Holiday Guide as a Ryde attraction.

HASLEMERE RESCUE CENTRE

Not everyone knows just why the Haslemere home has been re-opened and from enquiries recently received it would seem that some of our Members are not conversant with the situation which lead to the recent statement in the magazine regarding the phasing out of London Rescue Centre Activities.

At the time when the London Committee was formed, quite a number of years ago the North Shelter as such did not exist. It was an independent body under the control of the late Dr. Matthews. The Edmonton Group, too, was non-existent at that time being run as a shelter and boarding place by Mrs. C. Walledge. The function of the London Committee was to represent Headquarters in London and for some time it operated in this particular capacity. It later undertook rescue work in addition to the issuing of Vouchers for treatment and cats and kittens were accepted as they are now at number 12 The Close, a property which does not belong to the League. At about this time Headquarters was urged to obtain premises for the reception of cats and kittens from bomb sites etc., etc., which was to be designated the South London Rescue Centre.

Many enquiries were made and various properties inspected but for various reasons the majority being unsuitable or permission to use the premises for the purpose required, not obtainable. No. 10 The Close became vacant and Headquarters were asked to buy it mainly so that the ground at the rear of the premises could be used for the acceptance of stray and unwanted cats from London and particularly the bombed sites where the late Mr. Milton and others regularly fed cats and kittens.

Against the League's solicitor's advice the property was bought in the names of Mrs. de Clifford, Miss Fryer and the League's Secretary. In the early stages of negotiation and in order to assure the property becoming available to the League Mrs. de Clifford made the usual deposit. In due course cat houses were erected on the site and cats and kittens accepted.

In view of No. 10 The Close having been bought for the purpose mentioned in the previous paragraph it became the South London Rescue Centre and has operated as such and indeed is still operating and will continue to do so until the phasing out has been accomplished. At various times in the past year or so attempts have been made to sell No. 10 (the house) independent of the ground at the rear. From time to time the Executive Committee have been informed that the local authorities could intervene and compel the League to discontinue accommodating cats and kittens there. It was this fear that prompted the decision to find other accommodation if possible.

Chase Lodge Studio, Haslemere, has been the property of the League for a number of years but was not in use as a shelter owing to circumstances beyond our control. However, when we knew that we should be able to have control of the property again Mrs. de Clifford expressed a very strong wish to take over Haslemere, live there and use the place for the purpose for which No. 10 The Close was bought. After considerable discussion at Executive level it was agreed to re-open Haslemere and use it for the acceptance and rehabilitation of the cats and kittens on various London sites and it was agreed that when the cats that were accommodated at No. 10 The Close had been found homes then the work that had been done at 10 The Close would be continued at Chase Lodge Studio which, it was agreed by the Executive Committee, could be fully developed if the project in question justified it. Mrs. de Clifford and Miss Godbold are

officially in residence at Chase Lodge Studio, Haslemere, and conducting operations, "rescue/rehabilitation", satisfactorily.

In view of the fact that the League's property at Haslemere has the requisite space for development and authority to use the premises for the purpose has been established and that such permission in connection with No. 10 The Close is not available, it is obviously realistic that we should do what has been agreed and without any doubt the work which had previously been carried out at 10 The Close can be successfully transferred to Chase Lodge Studio. There is no valid reason for operating two separate establishments when one can satisfactorily cope.

Now for the report of the activities during the period that the home has been re-opened.

In view of the fact that the accommodation for cats is at present limited to 10 individual cat houses each capable of housing two cats if necessary, each house complete with run and the addition of a similar number of cat cages in what was previously used as the winter quarters attached to the house, it has been necessary to keep the number of cats/kittens accepted to just what could be satisfactorily accommodated. However, as the intention is to maintain a fairly regular in-out flow it was considered that number of houses provided would meet our requirements at this stage. The property at Chase Lodge Studio is capable of development to contain three times the present number of cat houses but at present we are feeling our way along.

So far 61 cats have been through the home. They have come from all over London from sites in: Acton, Amberley, Bermondsey, Ealing, Fulham, Hackney, Hammersmith, Kensington, Kilburn, Mile End, Pimlico, Shepherds Bush, Streatham, Willesden and Paddington. Naturally, or perhaps we should say, as would be expected the condition of some of these unfortunate creatures has to be seen to be believed. The procedure is that each cat is examined by a Veterinary Surgeon and it is then decided what is in the best interest of the cat. It could be treatment and neutering where this has not been done and rehabilitation, or it could be humane destruction. At a later date we hope to be able to give information as to how many were given treatment, neutered, rehabilitated or destroyed and probably to where homes have been found. As it will no doubt be

NEXT ISSUE APRIL 1st

appreciated the cost of running a rescue centre is something which has to be given a great deal of consideration and particularly if one expects to use such a centre to its limits. There are no special appeals in mind at present but this particular problem will have to be considered in the light of what has been expended up to the end of December 1970 which will be a guide as to what can be the over-all cost during a full 12 months. More about all this in the next issue of the magazine.

NEUTERING PROJECT

Owing to press reports that were not quite in line with the facts the general public to some extent has been given the wrong impression and we feel it is necessary to put the facts of the project in black and white not only to applicants but the press as and when the opportunity presents itself and in order that our members too should know what the position really is we give project details which are as follows:-

The scheme, extended to National coverage since January 1970, was only possible because of the use of the interest on a substantial legacy bequeathed to the League for its general purposes. Unfortunately Press comments on the legacy gave a wrong impression and the general public, and others too, conceived the idea that the whole of the legacy was for the Neutering Scheme.

As there is a limited income the amount that can be allocated to each Voucher has also to be limited as the funds available must be used to the best advantage. In order to do so and not to commit ourselves to expenses that cannot be met we have introduced conditions under which the Vouchers are issued. They are as follows:-

1. Old Age Pensioners with no private means and cat owners suffering hardships through accidents illness or family problems, will be given a Voucher without their having to make any repayment.
2. Cat owners who can afford to pay half or part of the total cost will receive a Voucher under those conditions.
3. Cat owners who are temporarily financially embarrassed but are prepared to re-imburse the League the full cost will receive a Voucher on that understanding.

DONATIONS

I am sending you this gift in memory of my cat Topsey.

G.M.H.

We have had a very good year in our money-raising efforts so we can make our donation £30 this year. I must have made 4,000 cards this year - Exmas, birthdays, "get well" and various other anniversaries. Of course none of these results would be possible without my wonderfully loyal and generous friends.

Mrs. I.K.M.

Please accept the enclosed donation in memory of my beloved "Tabby" John and his constant companion black Sammy. 10.7.70. 15.570.

Mrs. T.R.D.

We have pleasure in enclosing a donation in memory of Susie, T.W.4602, who died July 6th, 1970, aged 14 years.

E. & A. Cobb.

I enclose donation in memory of my dear cat "Putti" who was put to sleep on December 1st. A loving and beloved companion for almost 17 years.

V.G.

Enclosed is a postal order and enrolment form for Chi-Chi. Many thanks for the copies of "The Cat" which I found very interesting and also 'touching' in parts.

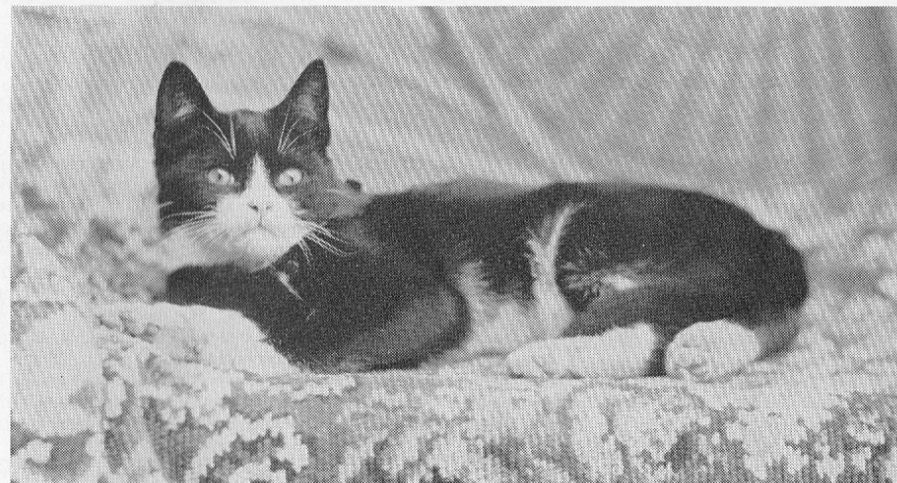
My husband and I are physically handicapped and Chi-Chi has brought us much happiness. She is beautiful and affectionate and much admired by everyone. We want to do everything possible to keep her happy and healthy and know we can always ask you for advice. You do an excellent job. M. Jones (Mrs.).

Our teacher brought the cat box to school and in our class we have collected five shillings for the suffering cats. Sorry we couldn't collect more but we are only a small school. Hatcher, on behalf of the Junior class, Brorland, C.E. Primary School.

I enclose £12 made up from my collecting box, 1d. Fund from neighbouring cat lovers, and my own contribution from selling hand-work, crochet, etc: in aid of C.P.L.

S.B.

GUESS THE DATE AND ORIGIN



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

LONDON COMMITTEE

Our kind friend who has offered to double our Extra Fund if it reaches £100 by a fixed date has most nobly suggested that we should have rather more time to allow for the postal stoppage. So now we have until the end of April; and if anyone has the good intention of sending us a contribution for it, please send it along as soon as it can be done, it will be in time.

We are making plans for our usual April Market and June Fair, but till letters can be written, we cannot get the dates fixed, however, we will certainly be holding them, and also several Bring-&Buy parties in the houses of our members, and somehow or other, by pigeon-post if necessary, you will be notified.

Cats are standing waiting to go to new homes, we have some really lovely ones just now at the Rescue Centre — also some not quite so lovely, including "Pickle" who is a demon-kitten, into all the mischief a cat can find. He had a bad start in life, but is making up for lost time, specially at his meals. He would like a bit extra, so please note his name for any little extra you can spare.

Stock for our stalls is our great need. We would specially like any pieces of china and glass, of course they could not be posted, but if anyone in the London area who can give us any would let me know, we will collect (tel. 042-873 4297). Or any kind person coming to our sales, might perhaps bring the breakables? We also would be very grateful for suit cases. We have a storage problem between sales, and after trying all kinds of packages, we find that suit cases are really the easiest to stack and handle. I think that many people have an odd case or two that are not really needed, so I hope that we may get them. These, too, could be brought to our bazaars, or we would collect.

Our curio corner is now so well-established that we must keep it on, please send us anything — anything at all — for this. We like old coins, old silver, even tiny things, and anything made of jade, jet, mother-of-pearl or ivory. Little boxes are in demand, old fans, samplers and, by special request, coronation mugs, the older the better.

We are glad to have anything you can spare, and it will all help to keep a deserving cat.

NORTH LONDON—Next Page

C IS FOR CAT

By Frank Manonson—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.*

NORTH LONDON

The year has begun as we expected, with many Christmas present cats being brought to us for disposal. Why do people give innocent animals as presents without a thought for their future and without enquiry as to the suitability of the home?

As though our staff did not have enough work, they have now taken a pet rabbit named Billy into the Shelter. Billy belonged to a family moving abroad and came to us for destruction. Our 'Daisy' fell in love with him, asked if she could keep him and so Billy is now a friend of all cats and rapidly becoming convinced that he, too, is a cat. He loves the company of our cats and they, after their initial puzzlement, love him. Both Daisy and Mr. Smith, our Driver, contribute to his keep and welfare. How lucky we are to have two people on our staff who are so devoted to the welfare of animals. Neither have yet taken their 1970 summer holiday being more concerned with the smooth running of the Shelter than with their own personal needs.

Our Stall at Horticultural Hall and our Christmas Bazaar were most successful, the financial takings of both breaking all previous records. At both, we also met large numbers of our friends, those people who, by their contributions and sympathy with our aims, help to make the Branch 'tick'.

No sooner have we put behind us our Bazaar than we are preparing for our next Jumble sale which is on the 6th March at the Upper Holloway Hall, 626A, Holloway Road, London, N.7. If you have bric-a-brac you wish to be rid of, please send it to us. If you are in the North London Area, we would be happy to collect if from you. Better still, if you are free on Saturday, the 6th March between 1 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. come and help us serve. Just ask for Mrs. Davies and she will find you a place behind a stall. You would be most welcome, but particularly so if you can convert a nine-penny pair of men's trousers or a 1s. 3d. teapot into decimal currency without the use of your fingers.

MEMBERSHIP ENROLMENTS

(6 months)

Aug.	...	5	Nov.	...	14
Sept.	...	11	Dec.	...	19
Oct.	...	16	Jan.	...	10

**WILL YOU TRY
TO ENROL ONE NEW MEMBER
DURING 1971?**

THANK YOU

CAT-LOVER'S PUZZLE

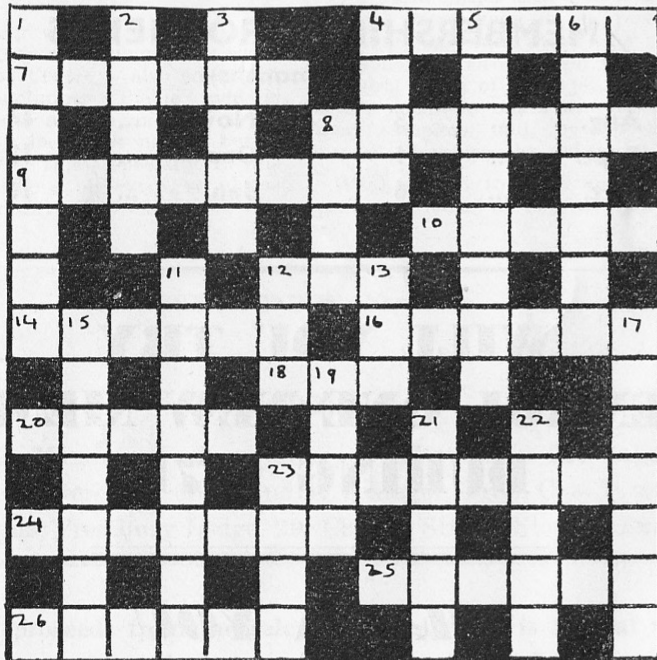
Loretta Bruce

Clues Across

4. This cat is known as 'yellow leopard' in China. (6).
7. Silky, long-haired cat from Turkey. (6).
8. Similar cat to 7 across, but with coarser fur. (7).
9. How to treat very young or old cats. (8).
10. What every cat owner must do to ensure a well-behaved pet. (5).
12. A running one means an unhealthy kitten. (3).
14. A well-known feline skin disease. (6).
16. Do so to a cat to prevent her breeding. (6).
18. Rare colour for a short-hair. (3).
20. Like a wild cat. (5).
23. These wild cats may be black or clouded. (8).
24. All tabby cats are. (7).
25. Tiny cat from the Kalahari Desert. (6).
26. What a 5 down coat does. (6).

Clues down

1. Another name for the Russian Blue cat. (7).
2. 14 across is a common complaint of such cats. (5).
3. Colour of a jealous cat's eyes? (5).
4. Smokey's colour? (4).
5. Describes a healthy, well-groomed coat. (8).
6. Do so regularly to a cat's fur, to ensure no fleas. (7).
8. Kittenish way to act. (4).
11. 7 across is one of 8 across, for example. (8).
12. Extremely sensitive part of a cat. (3).
13. The very tip of the tail. (3).
15. Eastern wild cat, famed for its speed. (7).
17. Foreign blue short-haired cat. (7).
19. What the cat did to the mouse, before pouncing? (5).
21. 15 down's special quality. (5).
22. Colour of some short-hairs—and their favourite food? (5).
23. A long-hairs are usually shorter than a short hairs! (4).



The Editor,

Knowing from reading your magazine that you and your readers share a concern for the welfare of animals, I wondered if you and they might be interested to hear of a very kind-hearted Parisian lady who is devoting a great deal of her time and energy and practically all her resources to caring for a large number of abandoned cats.

Last August, while visiting the Cimetiere du Nord in Montmartre, Paris I was surprised to see great numbers of cats running between the tombstones. They were beautiful animals, of all colours, but very thin. I then saw that they were assembling at a central point where a lady had arrived to feed them.

She told me that a great many people living nearby who have no further interest in their cats, bring them to the cemetery and abandon them. The number rises steeply in July when Parisians leave the city almost en masse for their long summer holiday.

For more than three years Madame C. (she does not wish her name to be made public) has been coming here every day and tries to see that each of the forty or fifty cats has at least one mouthful of food. She was almost in despair at the time I first met her because of the enormous burden this is both physically and financially, and she begged me to help.

For the few days that remained of my holiday I did take food and cream which were eagerly accepted by the cats. The cemetery is surrounded by high walls, some of the tombs are very elaborate, honouring France's great men of the past, and offer shelter. In a way, it is a sanctuary. But no grass grows except in formal flower beds at the entrance, and there is nothing to drink except rainwater which has collected in

puddles on the paths. Mme. C. says she has seen them licking the stones in desperation.

Since coming home I have written to Mme. C. and sent a few francs to help her. However, this task is so great that I feel it needs wider support. I am only too well aware of the constant demand there is for the relief of human suffering, but animals, too, deserve a share of our love and consideration. They are totally dependent on us, and those of us who have enjoyed the affection and companionship of our own pets, would welcome an opportunity to offer a little help to their less fortunate French cousins.

If any of your readers know of an international animal charity through which help could be channelled, I should be very glad to hear of it. Alternatively, I am quite prepared to organise any help cat lovers are able to offer. I intend returning to Paris at the end of April. By that time I should be encouraged to feel that we had done something to relieve the enormous burden Mme. C. has carried all these years entirely alone.

Her life now is a great contrast to the glamour of earlier years, when, as a member of a ballet company, she toured the world. She has danced, among other places, as a soloist at Covent Garden. She is a widow now, and by no means rich. Yet she willingly sacrifices so much for these animals, even to the extent of nursing the ones which are ill at home. One young cat recently needed weeks of care and is not strong enough to go back to the cemetery. She now lives with Mme. C's own cats at home.

I hope you will be able to publish at least part of this rather lengthy letter. I look forward to hearing sympathetic readers' suggestions or ideas.

Anita J. Chalmers.



A-HUNTING WE WILL GO (if we do not stop them)

The winter sun shone brightly but without warmth as a bedraggled fox cub loped wearily along a charming bridlepath. Minutes later a white, black and tan wave rippled along the path, silently, menacingly. A beautiful, awesome wave flowing so silently then suddenly wheeling in a wide arc from the bridle-path over the ploughed field. Without a break in its rhythm the wave broke at a tangent to its left and through a garden where the silence was broken as the wave of hounds bayed the song of the kill as a bantam cock died. The baying continued for minutes and reached a crescendo as a cat was mangled.

Where was the Master of Foxhounds? Where was the Huntsman? Minutes behind the hounds but still in time to hear the song. Where was the Hunt? Minutes behind the Master but still in time to revel in the song of death.

BARNEY'S BACK HOME

AND LIVING HAPPILY EVER AFTER WITH MABEL, MEG, DON AND MRS. NEEDHAM. ONCE UPON a time there was a cat called Barney. He was a very contented cat who loved his own fireplace at The Spinney, Newton.

Life was sweet for Barney until the day he started to miss his mother, Mabel, who lived three miles away at Cowley Cottage, Caldby, on the Wirral with Mrs. Eunice Needham.

All of a sudden Barney's bungalow no longer came up to scratch. It was no use pussyfooting around. He wanted his mum.

So off he set back to where he was born, braving the traffic on the main Hoylelake-Chester road, padding across playing fields and parks to find Mabel. But when arrived he was promptly returned to his owner, Mrs. Needham's daughter, Mrs. Mary McDermott.

Just a cat! Press on — the fox cub still lives. Whip these hounds off and press on! Leave these tattered remnants for the woman of the house to clear up. The Master can return later to apologise. The Hunt pressed on and the fox cub died a mile away from the cat.

The Master changed his jacket and duly made his formal apology.

There is no redress for who can restore life. How long does the stag, badger, otter, fox hen or cat live under the ripping teeth. And only one person can stop it — YOU. Write to your M.P. and ask him to use all his influence to stop the barbaric practice of hunting animals with packs of hounds. Hunting is legal and only you can make it illegal.

D. Robertson, "Almaro", Hamilton Road, Little Canfield, Dunmow, Essex.

But Barney dug his claws in. He set off once again and eventually repeated his incredible journey nine times, taking several days for each trip, before his point was taken. He clocked up a minimum of 27 miles on his catwalks.

Such determination cannot be denied and so Barney is now staying for the time being with Mrs. Needham, her two pet dogs, Meg and Don, two sheepdogs and, of course, Mabel. "I don't know why he suddenly developed this wanderlust", said Mrs. Needham at her home last night. "He had lived with my daughter for more than 16 months. Now he is getting on very well with his mother and the dogs".

And so, every one lived happily ever after.

MORAL: Home is where the heart is — and Barney's heart is with mum.

Daily Express, 12.1.71.

MANDY—R. K. Smith

Her ninth life lost at last, Mandy lay on the grass verge curled up with her nose under her tail, as if she were settling down on the garage roof to enjoy the last rays of the warm spring sun. Her beautiful thick yellow fur was unmarked. It was hard to believe she was dead.

As I picked her up gently and took her home, I remembered the first life she lost—six years ago—when I brought her home for the first time; a little scrap of a thing, too young to leave its mother, but due to be drowned.

That night I fixed her up in a warm box by the kitchen stove. The two Dachshunds lying with their noses on either side of the box, lying with each other for protection rights. I had no fear of them hurting the newcomer. They were used to cats, and I knew they would not harm her.

I was woken up at about 2 a.m. by whining and scratching at the kitchen door. When I went down I found the kitten lying in the draught on the cold tiles by the back door. Its soft fur was soaked from licking and clung to its pathetic little body. It looked newly born—and dead. I picked the little scrap up gently. It must have climbed out of its box and the dogs had licked it so much it was too exhausted to climb back. There was a twitch of life in my hands, and I thought there might be just a chance for it. I opened the oven door and held the kitten inside between my palms. Gradually the soft fur began to dry off and fluff out—one little leg twitched, then another, and the body to quiver.

When it was quite dried out I tucked it into my nightdress and went back to bed. It curled up on my chest and slept till morning.

It took Mandy three days to sort out the dogs. From then on she was boss. If she preferred to sleep in one or other of their baskets instead of her box the wretched owner lay out on the floor. They both had a healthy respect for her hiss and needle-sharp claws. She would play with them wholeheartedly for a time, hiding under newspapers and jumping out at them, chasing round the kitchen and up the curtains and chairs, then, just when they—being rather slow and clumsy—began to get the hang of the game, she would turn on them with vicious swipes, swinging her tail back and fourth in great sweeps, leaving them completely bewildered.

She had a wonderfully expressive tail—thick and strong and almost prehensile—and a tremendous sense of fun, so long as no one

took advantage of her; then she would turn as vicious as a lynx, with a wicked flash in her eye, that it was as well to respect.

One game which was rigorously kept to every day of her life was played with my husband. Every morning after breakfast, when he retired to the 'lou' she would sit outside the door until a piece of paper was put through the crack at the floor and moved back and fore. Once she had caught the piece of paper, the game was over and she would saunter off, well content; but if no paper was put through she would knock on the door until it came. This was only done with my husband, no one else was bothered. I think she only did it to amuse him.

She used to come for walks with us and the dogs, playing tag with them when they could be bothered, but walks are serious things for dogs and they had other interests as a rule. One day we were coming through a camping field and a strange dog decided to chase her. He was very much put out when he found that she had no intention of running, and he drew up sliding on all fours with his nose only a few inches from her flailing paw. He slunk away as fast as he reasonably could, looking very sheepish, and pretending to be after something else. We never had stray dogs in the garden. Mandy would sit on the gate post with a malicious look of hatred on her face, daring any one to enter.

Twice she fell out of upstairs windows, trying to catch birds in the gutters above. The first time her fall was broken by the clothes line, but the second she fell straight onto the concrete below, got up, shook herself and walked off with great dignity.

The time I saw her most angry, and she could be very angry, was one day when I came home to be told by my neighbour, that she had been run over. He had picked up her body off the road before any cars ran over it, and had put her on the back seat of my car. He knew how fond we were of her and thought we would probably like to bury her ourselves. I was very upset, and dreaded looking in the car which was standing outside the garage. As I approached there were some horrible noises coming from inside, and standing up at the back window with a face as black as thunder was Mandy, swearing all the dreadful words she knew, at having been locked in anywhere, let alone a car. As I opened the door she shot out like greased lightning.

Where she lost her other lives I do not know, but one thing is certain, she enjoyed them all to the full, and though we will miss her abominably, she had a good run for her money.



IN MEMORIAM

March/April, 1971

Inky-Puff, a lovely fluffy black and white cat killed by a car on February 14th, 1970, aged 4 years: and Trixie (my baby ocelot) a sweet little tortoiseshell, put to sleep on February 20th, 1970, aged 11½ years. Sadly missed: treasured memories.

P.E.G.

In loving memory of Siamese Susan, died in her sleep November 8th, 1970 aged 16½ years.

W. L. Fforde & M. S. Alford.

In loving memory of Sneezy T.W.3006, put to sleep November 18th, 1970.

H.A.T.

In memory of my beloved "Tabby" John and his constant companion Black Sammy. 10.7.70. 15.5.70.

T.R.D.

In loving memory of Susie, T.W.4702 who died July 6th, 1970, aged 14 years.

E. & A. Cobb.

In loving memory of our dear friend Hamlet, killed in a road-traffic accident August 12th, 1970. He is sadly missed by his feline companions Sally, Gilbert and Mickey, not forgetting Phoebe the Jack-Russell terrier: and an affectionate thought for Bruiser (like Hamlet a red tabby) Timothy and Jeremy who were much loved members of our family.

Pamela Tabelin, London.

In loving memory of Aurora, former Tail-waver, who developed pernicious anaemia and died as he had lived, a perfect gentleman.

R.H.

In loving memory of Tinker who passed away January 7th, 1971, aged 14½ years, and is very much missed.

M.C.H.

In ever loving memory of Timmy who became a victim of human wickedness on 13th January 1971. He remains forever beloved in our hearts.

A. & J.D.

Have enclosed P.O. for the sum of 14/- which I have saved weekly from my pension during the year.

(Mrs.) A.T.

In loving memory of our dear little pals, who are never forgotten Billy, Jimmy, and Jillie all three very lovable companions.

H.A.P.

In loving memory of Tailwaver "Honey" who at 16½ years was helped out mercifully on 18th May, 1970. She is still missed so much.

M.C.

In loving memory of our Tinker Tar, Tail-waver No. 4768, our loving and faithful companion for seventeen and a half years. Sadly missed by Dadda, Mama and Granny.

In loving memory of dear Fluffy passed on February 26th, 1970, aged 14 years. Sadly missed.

Rose Martin.

IMPORTANT NEWS ITEM RE. "RAT EXTERMINATION"

The People,
Editorial Dept.,
Readers Letters.

Dear Sir,

The letter by Mrs. E. J. Hughes of Chester last week shows just how people suffer through the use of "acute" poisons, when their pets eat rat bait. Her plea for an effective yet humane pest killer has been answered.

Recently this company, who are specialists in the rodenticide field, launched a new product called DI-THOXIN. This contains a chemical that is harmless to domestic or farm animals and humans. It is so selective that it will only kill rats. The chemical has the effect of causing death by producing a shock-like fall in blood pressure some 30 minutes - 4 hours after the rat has taken the poison. There is no haemorrhage or signs of suffering by the rat, and there is no possibility of secondary poisoning. Should a dog or some other animal feed from the carcass. Research has been extensive and the product is Ministry approved, it is effective against all types of rat including the "Super-rats".

Why people use the extremely dangerous acute poisons that can kill domestic pets or livestock in a most painful way is beyond our understanding.

Sales Manager,
P. J. Tyler.

Gerhardt-Penick Ltd.,
Thornton Laboratories,
Purley Way,
Croydon CR9 3BE.

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