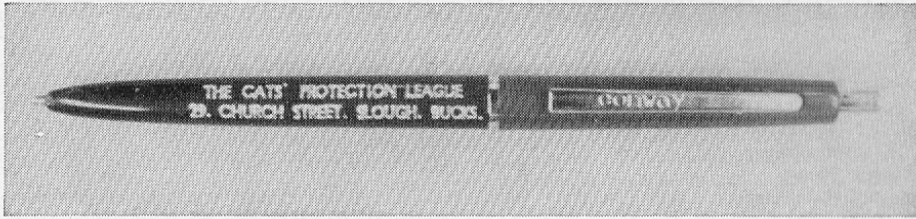


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FAULTY PENS OR REFILLS REPLACED FREE

OTHER WAYS OF SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THE LEAGUE

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

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

Wanted: Cloth Badges, County, Club, School Cap or Blazer. Each will earn 10p 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 15p 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 7½p each. Profits to C.P.L. Send S.A.E. to Miss P. E. George, Rose Villa, Ackhill Prestiegne, Radnorshire.

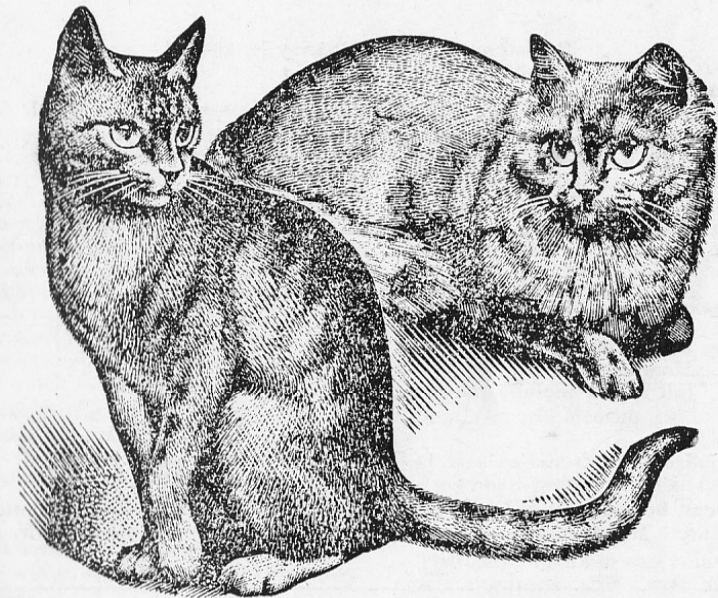
Water Colour Portraits of Pets from a clear snapshot, 52½p each. Snap of pets or children, Enlarged and Coloured from own negatives, £1. Please give description. Cheques should be made payable to C.P.L.—Dorothy Hall, Plemont, Hill Road, Watlington, Oxford.

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

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

THE OLDEST MAGAZINE
DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO
CATS AND THEIR
WELFARE



"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.*

SEPT/OCT. 1971

THE CAT Vol. XLV No. 5 SEPT/OCT. 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.

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THE CATS' PROTECTION LEAGUE AND TAILWAVERS
(Founded 1927)

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ALWAYS WANTED AT HEADQUARTERS

Unwanted birthday and Christmas presents or anything saleable.

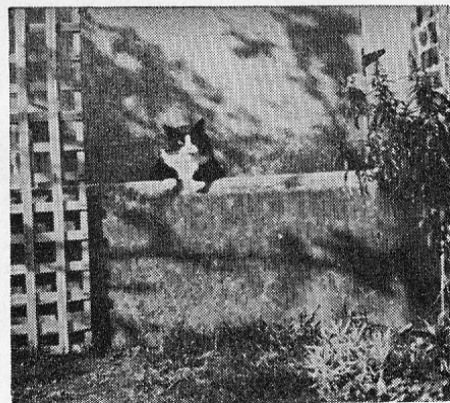
Notification of change of address.

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 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.

EDITORIAL

Another A.G.M., has come and gone with the usual smoothness that marks almost all the League's A.G.M.s. In this we are fortunate and particularly in view of the fact that we have to deal at times with the controversial matters, relating to cat welfare. There was a very good attendance but a noticeable absence of Branch officials. We would like to see more representation from Branches on these occasions, so perhaps the difficulties which prevent representatives attending can be overcome in the future and our Annual General meetings be much more representative.

The significant item on the agenda was the introduction of Mr. A. E. Parratt, the incoming General Secretary. Those who regularly attend our Meetings will have met him in his office as Honorary Treasurer so he is no stranger to the League. His appointment was received with much applause and we have no doubt he will prove a popular figure as my successor.

As you will realise or have seen in the previous issue of the magazine, I am still very much with you as Editor, apart from other responsibilities as Trustee and committee member. I hope this will ease the fear of so many who thought my retirement must be the severance with the C.P.L. NOT YET. To all who have written to my wife and me, sending their good wishes and invitations, thank you most sincerely. We will write to you individually in due course. Meantime our grateful thanks, the overwhelming expressions of appreciation are very touching.

This brings me to something I was very reluctant to do but have bowed to the wishes of the many because so often members have said "I have never met you or Mrs. Steward, why can't we have a photo in *The Cat*. As the local press made a feature of my retirement and insisted on a picture, it is reproduced on page 74 with permission of the *Slough Observer*.

Editorial Continued Page 75

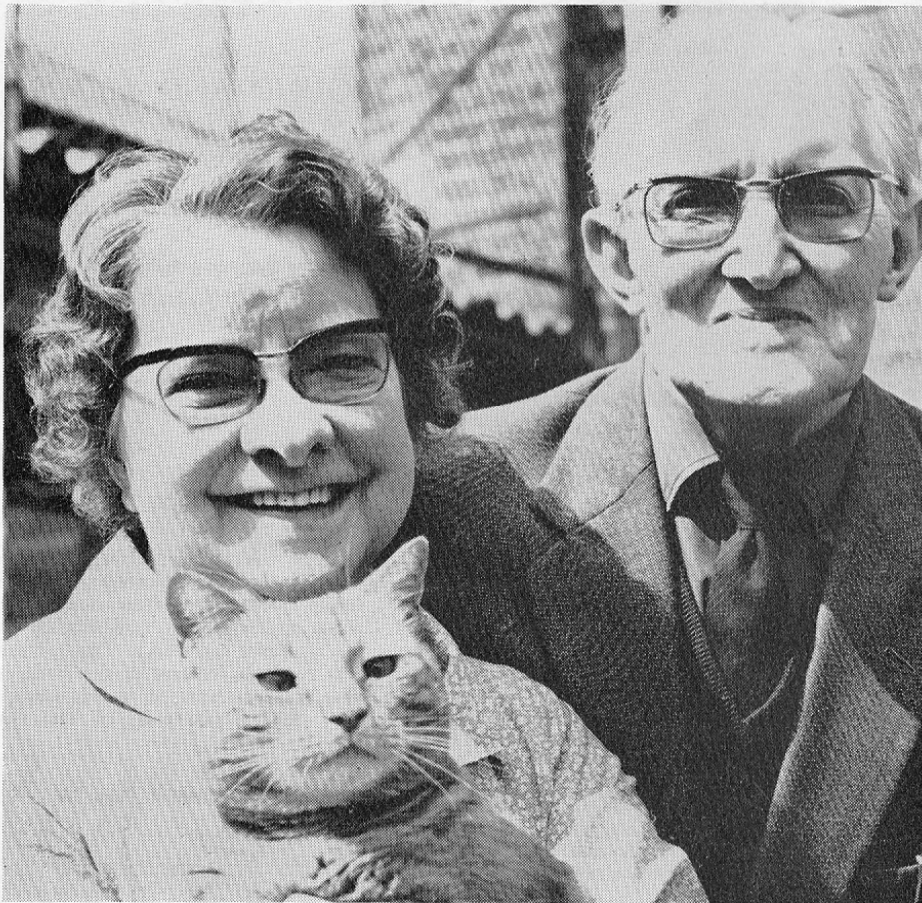
Annual General Meeting 1971

It was rather disappointing to see rather less members present than on former occasions especially the absence of Branch representatives.

The usual business was transacted without much comment. The meeting was chiefly important in being the last appearance of Mr. Steward as Secretary after so many years in that position, and the first of Mr. Parratt who fills the post from now on - for many years I hope.

Once again let me wish a happy retirement to the Stewards and a future full of work well done to Mr. and Mrs. Parratt.

OSYTH SHERRATT, *Chairman.*



Mr. and Mrs. Steward & Samson

(Retired July 1971)

Photograph & Reproduction by courtesy of Slough Observer

Editorial—*contd.*

NOW TO OTHER THINGS. My prerogative as Editor is to use the "blue pencil" or in other words to cut out anything which is considered too controversial to publish. I seldom do more than make necessary alterations in copy received from Branches but from now on I'm afraid the blue pencil will be much more in evidence. I know from correspondence on the subject that many members feel, as I do that recording "horrors" in Branch reports is not necessarily the best form of publicity especially, when readers are cat lovers. The press generally provides this particular "service" and is better able to reach the general public "via their nation-wide circulation" than our magazine which reaches only the comparative few. Branch Secretaries are being contacted in this connection.

HEADQUARTERS AND BRANCH RELATIONS. As stated at the A.G.M., we are now in the happy financial position to give more assistance to Branches, in addition to the free issue of vouchers. This is another promise we are fulfilling, not perhaps as quickly as we would have wished but like many other things connected with our activities the opportune moment has to present itself. We are a reputable organisation and cannot act irresponsibly. We know that we cannot please everyone and therefore do not attempt the impossible. We do not expect everyone to see eye to eye with us and especially on such matters as home finding and humane destruction which are possibly the most controversial and heart breaking but we hope that our common interest, the welfare of cats and kittens in the broadest sense, will bridge any gap that may arise. Above all we must face realities and get our priorities right.

OUR NEUTERING PROJECT. We make periodic reports on this subject which we consider the most important of our work and we are delighted to have the whole hearted support of so eminent a person as Claude, Countess Kinnoull on whose behalf we have received following message, Lady Kinnoull considers that the League's neutering project is one of the most effective means of preventing suffering to animals.

In support of her view Lady Kinnoull has made a very generous gift which will be used entirely in the furtherance of our neutering scheme. We had hoped that she would have consented to become our President but her many commitments abroad where she resides, make it impossible. We shall be submitting periodic reports from Lady Kinnoull's perusal through her representative in England.

BOOK SHELF REVIEW: CHIA, The Wild Cat—Joyce Stranger—Collins—£1.50 The majority of us think of cats as the lovable creatures they are although they are likely to show a streak of wildness in provocations the history of cats is an absorbing study and the wild cat plays a prominent part. I have always been intrigued by matters concerning cats in the wild and I am sure that all cat lovers will be deeply moved by Joyce Stranger's story on her experience and research as given in this most entertaining book, *The Wild Cat* is still very much a mystery to us and to have so much first hand knowledge available in "CHIA" in not only a commendation to the author but a great pleasure to all who read her novel.

EDITORIAL MATTERS. Now that I am able to concentrate on my obligations as Editor I shall attempt to do the things I should have done when my secretarial duties had to be given priority. In my own little corner in the League's board room I am engaged in going through the copy (stories etc.) that have accumulated over the years and have no doubt that I shall find much food for editorial thought.

Please send "copy" for the magazine addressed to the Editor, *The Cat*, Prestbury Lodge, 29 Church Street, Slough., so that I can make personal acknowledgement and at the same time save work in the General Office. Should you be sending for the magazine with letters etc., to the General Secretary would you please keep it separate.

AMONGST MY SOUVENIRS. Many and varied are the items on cats in my collection I hope to include some of them or extracts from time to time. In 1938 the following appeared in the *News Chronical*. The article was illustrated by the picture that appears on the cover of this issue and is from Wood Grave by Agnes Miller Parker to whom we make acknowledgement having been unable to make contact with her.

RAFFLES AND PET PRIZES. We have always been very much against raffles where any animal especially a kitten, is offered as a prize and the recent report of a highly infectious kitten given as a prize is another very good reason why animal prizes should be banned. We feel certain that C.P.L., members would never contribute to a raffle where such a prize was offered but we ask that should any reader come into contact with a similar offer that the promoters of the raffle be contacted immediately and a strong protest made.

NOTE: *The article mentioned above was accidentally omitted.*

F.I.E. (FELINE INFECTIOUS ENTERITIS.)

For quite a long time injections to protect cats and kittens from F.I.E. have been advertised, recommended and indeed insisted upon by some catteries as a condition of acceptance of cats as boarders.

The method employed in cultivating the vaccine did not meet with the approval of the C.P.L. so we would not recommend it, but now there seems every possibility that we shall be able to give our blessing to a new preparation. This seems to be the breakthrough we have been waiting for. We understand that laboratories are able to produce a vaccine without using methods to which we objected. We hope to be able to judge for ourselves by accepting an invitation to the laboratory demonstration in the near future.

A.A.S.

MESSAGE FROM GENERAL SECRETARY

As this is the first Magazine since my appointment as the League's General Secretary I am taking this opportunity of sending my greetings and thanks to all members and readers.

I realise that I have undertaken a great task not only in carrying out the normal duties called for as Secretary but also in following the great service given by my predecessor for so many years. Like Mr. Steward I am fortunate in having my wife very much behind me here at H.Q. and together we shall do our utmost in carrying on the wonderful work done for so long by Mr. and Mrs. Steward.

Our thanks to the many Members who have written to wish us well and my personal thanks to our Chairman, Mrs. Sherratt, and the Executive Committee for giving me a chance of serving the League in this capacity

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of two prominent members of the League, Mrs. Dorothy Noble and Mr. S. Pepper. Mrs. Noble was one of the first members of the Slough and District Cat Club, the forerunner of the Slough branch of the Cats' Protection League. An ardent cat lover and active worker in our Cause, she joined the Executive Committee in the early days and took a leading part in Cat Week and its Bazaar arrangements. She reluctantly resigned from the Executive Committee when she and her late husband left Slough for Bournemouth, where she died in her sleep.

Mr. Pepper was well known and respected in many walks of life apart from his active participation in the animal welfare movement. He was a member of the League for many years and was actively connected with us both in London and on our Executive Committee. He also maintained a private Sanctuary at his home in London where rescued cats enjoyed safety and comfort.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to their relatives.

PICTURES WITHOUT WORDS

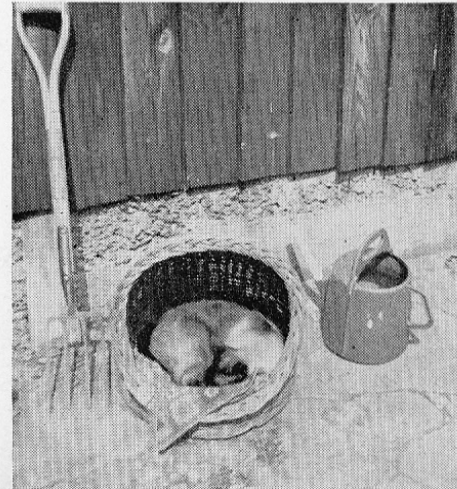
JUST FOR FUN FIT
A CAPTION

YOU MAY WIN A
PRIZE

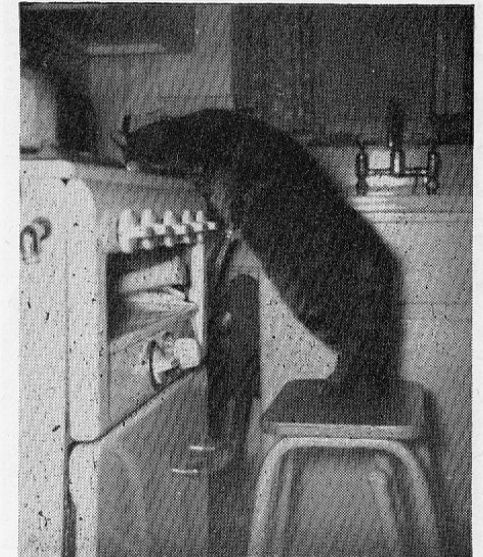
NO ENTRANCE FEE.
JUST QUOTE THE
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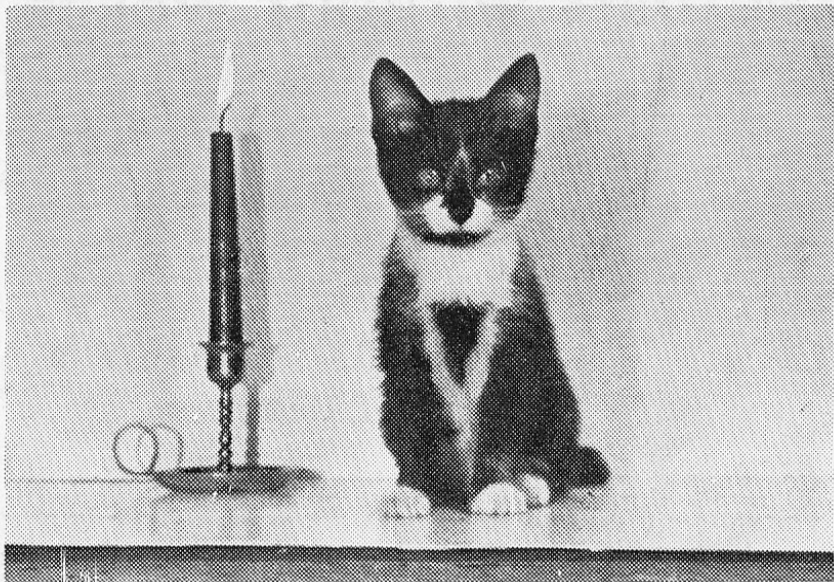
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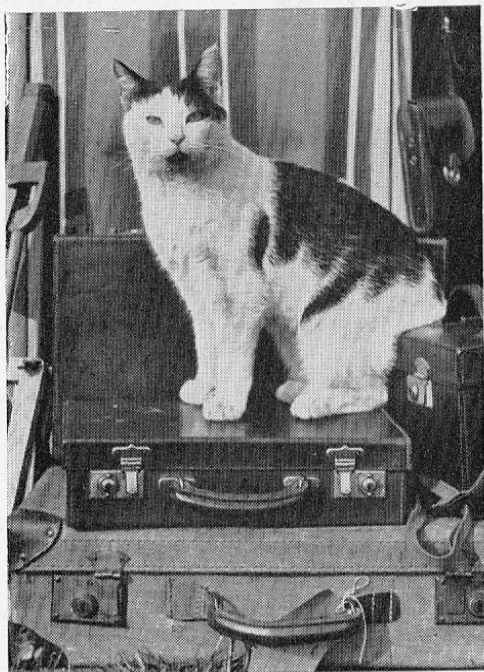
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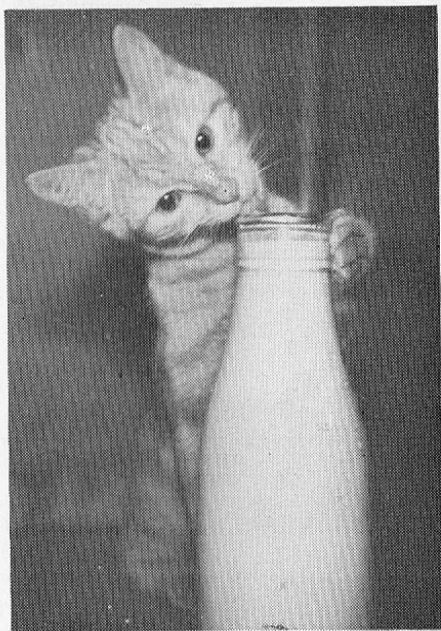
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BRANCH AND GROUP NEWS AND DIRECTORY

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

It has literally been raining cats and dogs here, in spite of the fine weather. We are inundated with kittens of every conceivable colour, shape and size, and increasing numbers of pregnant feline ladies. This came at a time when enteritis was raging through the boarding kennels and 25 out of 30 cats and kittens died.

Then, out of the blue, we were offered the use of a shelter in a member's garden. Since this shelter is in central Birmingham and will cost less than the boarding kennels we are in the process of moving cats there.

However our A.G.M. showed that our funds are at a dangerously low level and we are having to make drastic economies — difficult to do without affecting the rescue work. The cat problem in this city is enormous, only matched by the apathy of the public. Extracting a few new pence is a major operation!

For instance, lovely Snowflake was left in a locked kitchen when her owners moved away. Heavily pregnant, she was seen mewing at the window by a neighbour and is now at the shelter. She is looking for a good home, preferably with an Alsatian (as she seems to think that she is one!)

Two little grey and black bundles, with their black and white Mum were taken to the Vets' to be put down; why? Their owner had seven un-neutered female cats and could not cope with them all! They are all in good homes now.

Freddie and Fluffy, a real chocolate box tabby kitten, were featured in the *'Birmingham Evening Mail'*. A lot of people wrote and offered to take them and through this we found quite a few good homes.

Among forthcoming fund-raising events is our Prize Draw — if any kind C.P.L. member would donate a prize this would be very much appreciated. The toymaker still needs attractive material and odd balls of wool, although since I have taken over as Hon. Secretary

the production line has slowed somewhat! June Scriven has had to hand over the job but is of course still doing a lot of work for the cats. I would like to say a public 'thank you very much' to her for all she has done in putting the Birmingham Branch on the map with her delightful reports.

P.S. Minnie is a very thin little cat who lived rough with her last litter of kittens. She needs a special diet before she is fit to go to a new home and any small donations would mean a lot to her.

CHELMSFORD

One would think that after 7 years of home finding and neutering in this part of England there would be a reduction in the number of cats needing our help. We must have found homes for nearly 4000 cats during that time and, to the best of our knowledge, all of them have been neutered. Wherever do all the countless unwanted and stray cats and kittens come from?

This is of course the worst time of the year for home finding, and it is the worst time of the year for abandoned cats, but by September we should all be looking a little less worried, especially Mr. and Mrs. Middlemiss who have to care for all these cats.

As with everyone else these days, shortage of money is a real problem. We need to make at least £35 a week to pay for the Shelter and for the food which we provide for many other homeless and hungry cats in and around Chelmsford. Add on to this veterinary bills, advertising and transport, and you can understand that we just don't know how we can keep going another week! But then we look at our dependants in the Shelter and at all the other cats we feed elsewhere (more than a hundred), and every single one of them is well loved, well known to us and very special and so we know that we must make even more efforts to raise money for their care whilst they are our dependants. Because we know that you too care about cats, we don't mind asking you to help us. Here are some ways.

1. GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW 1971

We aim to collect together at least 30 very nice prizes, and by October the books of tickets will be available (4 tickets for 10p in each book). Please write to Mrs. Stiling, 48 Highfield Road, Chelmsford for as many books as you think you can sell without all your friends! We would also be very grateful to anyone who could donate a suitable prize for the draw (e.g. gift sets, linen sets, wines, spirits, cigars, cigarettes, chocolates, groceries, jewellery, poultry and game – or, of course, the money instead!)

2. PLEASE LET US HAVE

Your unwanted gifts for our Bazaars, fairs, coffee mornings etc.

Your good second hand clothing for our Saturday Sales.

Your remnants of material and wool for our sewing and knitting ladies.

Large quantities of stamps, torn off with a good margin of paper around them.

3. TUCK BOXES FOR CATS AT CHRISTMAS

We are asking our local supporters to please buy an extra tin or packet of cat food each week and place it in a box marked "Tuck Box". If enough members and friends donate a regular supply of food "for Christmas", we might have a little money to spare for all our other expenses.

We certainly wouldn't ask our friends from far away to post us a heavy carton of tins, but if you would put 5 or 10p a week aside, and send it to us when convenient, we will buy the tuck box contents for you, write and tell you what you have paid for, and add your name (or your cat's name) to a new list of "TUCK BOX PROVIDERS" in our Beautiful "Book of Donors", where everyone who has helped us with the Shelter has their name (if they wish) and or their cat's name recorded.

We would like to record our appreciation of the great kindness and the readily available help which we have always received from Mr. Steward. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Steward a very happy retirement and long may they live to enjoy their wonderful memories of the work they have done for cats.

Finally, we have got out of step with the numbers of cats we have found homes for on a monthly count, so we will record that from January to the end of July this year, 373 cats and kittens have been happily placed in homes and all of them have been or will be neutered.

DERBY

The peak holiday season is now with us and we are faced with the problems of the abandoned cats and kittens so cruelly left

to fend for themselves while their once 'loving' owners disappear. The problem of the abandoned cat is even further aggravated in Derby at the present time due to the huge redevelopment scheme both in the town centre and immediate outskirts, which has caused demolition of a great deal of property and consequent re-housing of occupants. Cats have been abandoned, have produced many kittens, all living rough, and wandering helplessly among the debris. Whenever a case is reported the necessary steps are taken to provide whatever is most needed in each individual case.

We continue to give help to our elderly cat lovers, by advice, provision of food, and the conveyance of their pets to the vet., when treatment is needed, and the issue of a free voucher for neutering and spaying where necessary.

We have recently welcomed onto committee Mrs. V. Clarke, our new social secretary, who is fairly 'bursting' with fund raising ideas to help boost our campaign for a 'nursing home'—desperately needed for the temporary accommodation for cats in kitten and cats awaiting spay. A coffee evening will be held at Mrs. Clarke's house on 4th August, when she hopes to 'fire' the rest of us with her enthusiasm for making soft toys, home-made ties (the prototype of which is very fine indeed) form scraps of material, and many other articles, all for sale at our Autumn Bazaar which takes place on 23rd October, in Derby's spanking new Guild Hall, very central, and a crowd-attracting location—we hope! Will members please note this date and venue, any articles such as unwanted presents, and good second-hand clothing—this latter stall went like a bomb at our last Bazaar.

Enquiries regarding the above—Mrs. V. Clarke, 30 Sanderson Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

Please help us make this year's Bazaar a swinging success. We thank all our members and friends who give so willingly their time to help at jumble sales, bazaars et cetera., but please friends do let us have your overdue subs. We must keep the money rolling in if we are to achieve our ambition for our 'Rotunda' for pregnant lady cats! The A.G.M. in London was attended by Mrs. C. Prince, Mrs. M. Norton, and Mrs. D. Ellis, who were saddened by the resignation of Mr. Steward, and all at Derby wish Mr. and Mrs. Steward a very happy retirement after their untiring care and attention to countless cats over the years. We look forward to a happy association with Mr. Parratt and wish him well.

GLOSSOP AND DISTRICT BRANCH

As we predicted, the summer months have been the worst for homefinding, and more strays than ever have needed our help.

New arrangements have been made for the nervous and older cats which have been with us for some time. Three of these have been temporarily 'adopted' by readers of 'The Cat'.

We thank all friends who have sent donations to help with our rescue work, but still income does not meet expenditure.

Trading stamps have helped considerably with sheltering expenses. Lots more are needed. Loose Green Shield and S. and H. stamps should be sent to Miss M. Thomas, 292, Hyde Road, Woodley, via Stockport, Cheshire. Full books and Cooperative Society stamps, used postage stamps, particularly foreign and special issue, coins and gifts for sales should be sent to me at Cowbrook. It would be helpful to have some idea of prices to charge and to know whether clothing is new or second hand.

Perhaps some friend may care to 'adopt' one of our rescued cats at 10 new pence a day for a short period or until a home is found. June was brought to us with a month old kitten. They had been sheltering in an outside toilet. Unfortunately the seemingly healthy kitten died suddenly a few weeks later and to everyone's surprise the following week six more were born. The mother is keeping one, the other newly born kittens were put down by a veterinary surgeon. Aster, a thin little cat in kitten was straying in Ashton-under-Lyne. Topsy walked into a local shop in the busy High Street, Tortie was left at our back door in the early morning, in our own basket kept there for emergencies!

A man working on a sewage pump in Stalybridge has been feeding two friendly little cats which he thinks are a mother and her kitten. As he is moving on to another job and they are living in the bracken he has asked us to take them. These and others should get homes when the holiday period is over.

We would welcome offers of help with a house to house collection in Glossop, also with the following—October 9th, Jumble Sale; October 23rd, Autumn Market and Harvest Sale; December 4th, Cats' Christmas Tree and Sale. All on Saturday afternoons, 3.00 p.m., at Community House, Market Street, Glossop.

NEXT ISSUE
NOVEMBER 1st

LONDON COMMITTEE

The Autumn Bazaar—Saturday 11th September, St. Mark's Hall, Compton Road, Wimbledon, 2 p.m.

The Jumbo-Jumble Sale and Mini-Bazaar, Saturday 25th September, St. Philips Hall, Earls Court Road, W.8., 2 p.m.

The Christmas Bazaar, Saturday 30th October, Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue, Victoria, London, S.W.1., 2 p.m.

We will be very grateful for stock for the stalls, we will be glad of helpers on all these occasions, and specially we hope that all our friends will tell all their friends, and that as many people as possible will come to see us.

In between the big events, we plan a series of smaller parties in the houses of members; anyone who would like to give a coffee-morning, or a bring-and-buy tea party, or an auction evening for us can count on enthusiastic support.

I have been asked to tell members again about our Memorial Book. We will have it on view at all our sales and meetings. It contains the names, pictures and short accounts of the lives of much-loved cats. Anyone who would like to have a puss remembered in this way, please send names and dates and if possible a photograph and the life story. There is no fixed charge, but most people send a donation. Send to me, Mrs. N. de Clifford at 12 The Close, New Maldon, Surrey.

Has your cat been given his mouse? We have a speciality, mice made by Miss Schefer, 10p each or 3 for 25p. Every cat should have one.

Now for my next idea, and it is ambitious. We have been given a boxful of odd silver articles, spoons and forks and tiny ornaments. I want to have a silver stall; I am fortunate in having found a good valuer, so we get the full price for everything. Now, can anyone send us just anything in silver? Foreign or English, old or new, thick or thin . . . we will be delighted to have what you can spare.

At the Rescue Centre we seem to be entirely surrounded by kittens, they are in the pens, and in the garden and up the trees and in the house, and I am a bit nervous when I open the food-cupboard—so far nothing has sprung out, but several active bits of fur have tried to spring in. We have had a rather anxious week with the return for a brief visit of Minnie-Ha-Ha, she was well up to form, and had thought out several new ways of amusing herself. In the midst of all our activity, we had brought us a sad, frail creature with large eyes and gentle ways, she had been ill-treated and then abandoned, we have named her Perdita, for she has a lost look, I can foresee that there

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LONDON COMMITTEE—contd.

are weeks and weeks ahead of us of coaxing her to eat, and persuading her that life will be better, any small donation to help her will be very welcome. And if anyone can find a home for a tough determined kitten, please let us know without delay.

We have had one special request, from a friend who is making a dolls house, she wants any *little* thing—just any small object, which she might adapt to turn into something for the house, or any miniature that would fit in. She will give high prices for everything, so please have a hunt through drawers and cupboards, and see what you can find for us! Thank you very much.

NORTH LONDON

We must start this report by wishing Mr. and Mrs. Steward a long and happy retirement after so many years of unremitting work for cats. They must certainly be very proud in their retirement when they view the position of the League today and look back to its beginning. We also wish Mr. Parratt every success in the formidable task before him. Having often met Mr. Parratt, we know that he is equal to the task.

Both white cats mentioned in our last report have gone to good homes as has a beautiful Burmese cat who came to us as a stray. We reported our stray to the Burmese Cat Club and immediately telephone wires were buzzing from Land's End to John O' Groats as members were contacted. We were most impressed with the unity and organisation of the Club and only wish there could be a similar 'English Moggies' Club.

We were sorry that we were unable to inform members of the one month's postponement of our last Jumble Sale, due to work to the roof of the Hall. The sale was eventually held on the 10th July and we thank all those who sweltered in the heat of that day serving on the stalls. We also thank all those who sent us goods for sale including parcels which arrived without the names of the senders and the suitcase full of very saleable goods left at the Shelter by an anonymous donor.

We have at the Shelter a very beautiful Siamese needing a good home—a queen of about nine months with chocolate points and china blue eyes. She is a real 'one man's cat'.

Our next Jumble Sale is on Saturday the 18th day of September and goods for sale are urgently needed as they are also for our Christmas Bazaar which, this year, will be held on the 11th December. All our functions are held at the Upper Holloway Hall, 602A Holloway Road, London, N.19, but goods

for sale should be sent to the Shelter at 435 Caledonian Road, N.7.

Again this year NORTH LONDON BRANCH will be selling a new range of very attractive Christmas cards, all featuring past residents of the Shelter. Sadly, with rising costs, the price must be increased to 76 pence per dozen, including postage and packing. Please apply to North London Branch for these cards, not to Headquarters who, each year, are given much unnecessary work forwarding misdirected applications.

SUSSEX

There is very little to report for this issue of the magazine. Subscriptions have been coming in steadily owing to the good efforts of Miss Felthouse, our Subscription Secretary. She tells me that whenever she sees a cat in a house or garden in Fairlight, which is near Hastings, she makes a point of letting the owner know that the C.P.L. exists and has thereby gained new members.

Unfortunately we have not been able to arrange any Social Evenings or Mornings during the last two months but we hope to rectify this after the peak holiday period has passed.

Our "Cats and Kittens" lady, Miss Mark has been more than usually busy. She has taken in eight kittens, six of which still require homes and she has two "spayed" mothers urgently asking to be adopted. We rescued a stray mother and three kittens who had taken refuge in a shed at Pett, a village near Hastings. Unfortunately the kittens died but the mother has been spayed and she is now a fine cat waiting for a new home. Our Cat Shelter "Cat Haven" has also been full, but two cats have recently gone to homes.

We have only issued 6 Spaying Vouchers. We do find that some owners of female cats are reluctant to take advantage of this facility. If only the public could realise how difficult it is to find homes for kittens they might adopt a more sensible attitude.

ULSTER

I have discovered that C.P.L. members enjoy competitions so here's one that I think will appeal to many of you. First, though, let me explain that at our Sale of Work on 13th November the cats have arranged to have their own stall. It will sell "all things catty" and, with a little help from humans they hope it will be a huge success. In conjunction with this stall a competition is being organized. You are invited to submit articles suitable for sale which must incorporate a cat in some form or other. The scope is endless—an attractive

ULSTER—contd.

cat calendar, an apron with cat embroidered thereon, a cat pincushion, a matchbox novelty. Ideas come tumbling but I'll not enlarge further. The only rule is that the article should be mainly made from odds and ends and judging will be on originality, suitability for sale, general attractiveness and so on. Entrance fee, five newpence per item—closing date 31st October, 1971. Enclose name and address, entrance fee in stamps or postal order and send to me—Miss E. R. McKee, 92a Earlswood Road, Belfast, BT43 DZ marked "Competition".

Talking of the Sale may I again remind you of the date which is Saturday, 13th November in the Rosemary Central Hall as usual from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. In addition to the Cats' Special effort there will be the undernoted stalls: Gift Stall, Cake Stall, Kitchen Stall, New and used Jewellery and Novelties, Toys, Books, (old and new), White Elephant (good quality please), Bottle Stall, Christmas Stall, Handkerchief girl and, of course, we'll need lots of small cakes, biscuits and scones for refreshments. Please send your contributions to 147 Cliftonpark Avenue, Belfast, 14 or if more convenient, to me. The name of the stall can be marked on the parcel. It's very important that we make a *big effort* to ensure that the Sale is a *big success*.

STAMPS. Mrs. Wilson, our expert in the field of stamps, has asked me to thank the many people who keep her supplied with these fascinating things. She wants you to keep on collecting them—but please could I make a plea on her behalf. Used postage stamps are an excellent source of income, but they MUST be in good condition. Dirty or damaged stamps are no good at all and valuable time is wasted sorting them out. They should NEVER be peeled off the envelope but cut or torn leaving a small margin of paper round them. And—if you want to be extra helpful and have a wee bit of time on your hands—why not sort them roughly into the following categories: British, Commonwealth, Foreign and Eire.

I would like to say a warm and appreciative "Thank You" to all who, in response to my appeals, send me parcels of old nylons (we're going a dinger at the cushions these days) tinfoil, wool scraps (we need lots more) jumble and white elephants and money. I hope I have acknowledged these in every case where a name and address has been given but often they are anonymous (this very morning I got a postal order in an envelope with no indication as to the sender, another time it was a cheque). To these kind friends, many thanks indeed.

Our Cattery continues to be crowded, our staff overworked and we urgently need a few more voluntary helpers. This is one area where my appeals seem to fall on deaf ears. I wonder why. There must be many people who could spare a couple of hours a week to help with the feeding and dish-washing. It's a job that needs no special skill—just a desire to do something practical for the cats. Food means so much to them. Think about it. My phone number is 653844 or you could contact Mrs. Tredrea at the Shelter. Phone 748663. I do hope you will.

WEST CORNWALL

Writing these notes in the height of our Summer season amidst a continuous hub-bub, produces a feeling of nostalgia for the Winter months when we are comparatively quiet. The mild long days allows work to progress late into the evenings and it is a rare treat to have a few free hours. The other night we managed to visit friends for a couple of hours and returned home at 11 p.m. relaxed and happy. Nearing the gates we discovered one of our helpers frantically waving a lantern. Returning home earlier he had found a family of cats hanging round the gate. Obviously they had been dumped. The following hours were like a bad dream. It was a wet night and the mother cat was badly frightened and in catching her we were severely mauled. The kittens were easy enough although we had to use the car headlights to help our search . . . the battery ran down and the car had to be pushed a considerable distance to a hill to get it started again, in the excitement the door swung open, fell off, and a window was broken. We cleared the glass up, prepared a pen for the cats, comforted and fed them and finally staggered supperless to bed at 2 a.m.

The callousness shown to fellow humans is bad enough, but the practise of dumping helpless animals is deplorable, and unfortunately this is not an isolated case. We wonder how many cats have been left at the gates and taken to the fields when in time a colony of semi wild cats will evolve and mass shooting will be the only answer. We so rarely refuse to help cat owners with their problems, and we only request the courtesy of a phone call or an appointment to visit, so the frenzied impatience of disposing with unwanted cats at a moments notice is most bewildering, and often we are accused of indifference, rudeness or stupidity. Our hides have grown tough, but we find it difficult to love some of our neighbours.

This seems to be a prime example of

WEST CORNWALL—contd.

preaching to the converted, but I know from many years of correspondence with hundreds of *The Cat* that copies of the magazine and leaflets which we produce on cat care are distributed and passed on to others and we hope that one day more publicity will be given to the plight of cats, and the only logical solution to the mass destruction which is to neuter all pet and working cats.

Saturday afternoons are for entertaining cat lovers and friends, and visitors from faraway places enjoy themselves surrounded

by large numbers of felines. We have forty unwanted in the catteries, ten O.A.P.'s wandering around the premises, and the boarding catteries are full. Amber's garden is still helping to increase our funds, the pebbles are going up regularly and the flowers create a blaze of colour. The lovely parcels you have sent us help to stock our gift shop and book department, and there is plenty for all to see and do. So if you can't come on a Saturday, please phone for an appointment and we will try to see you in the week.



WHISKEY

Doing His Sergeant-Major Act

L. Gillard

MEMBER'S CORNER

MOSTRENKO

Moss—here seen in bed in a blaze of Spanish sunshine—was just one of the thousands of strays which haunt the streets and fields of Spain, where cats have never been thought of as pets, but merely as working creatures, kept to destroy rats and mice, accustomed from birth to fend for themselves, living and dying in the open, cursed and clouted when they get in the way, mercilessly thrown into streets or valleys when they become too numerous or are too ill to do their work. (The Spanish people, or at any rate the poorer sections, must not be blamed for their callous treatment of the cat. In common with most Latins, their own history has been one of near-starvation and endless deprivation; and for the toiling peasant, children are given to be fed and loved, and animals are given to work for man; and though the horse and the dog have attained a little status, with growing prosperity, and are often now classed as companions, the cat is still something of an outcast, an untouchable).

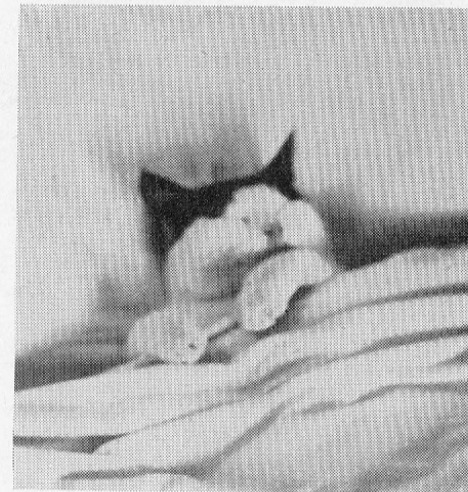
To return to Moss. One day, in the Telegraph Office of the small Spanish town near our home, I found him cowering in a corner, distraught, panic-stricken, bewildered. His howls of terror almost drowned my voice as I asked the counter clerk about him.

"Does that cat belong to you"?

"My goodness, no. As soon as the office shuts, I shall have to throw it back into the street. It just crept in here, and it can't stay here all night".

Something about Moss's piteous wailing went to my heart. The busy street meant certain death. I picked him up and carried him down the stairs to our car.

We adopted him. We called him *Mostrenko*, which, according to a Spanish dictionary, means "Waif" or "Stray"—though no Spaniard I have ever spoken to has heard of the word. He was a white kitten, some six months old, very clean, with a black hat, saddle, and gloves. He had obviously had a more civilised life than most of his breed, for he was well-covered and free from fleas and soon adapted himself to a life of cushioned ease on our sunny terrace. Moss was inordinately affectionate. It was almost as if he knew that he had been rescued from his misery and was thanking us every hour of the day. He seldom left us, and became well-mannered, playful, interested in all our doings, immensely responsive to all we said, extremely courteous to our visitors (especially



to any who happened to be allergic to cat-fur or in some other way non-cat; these he would rush up to with exclamations of joy and welcome, jumping on to their knees immediately they sat down, and refusing to be dislodged).

And every morning, without fail, when we first woke up, Moss would enter the bedroom, jumping first on one bed, then on the other, to kiss his master and mistress good morning. Then he would settle down, in the crook of his master's arm, stretched full-length like a small child, and purr away the minutes until it was time for us all to get up and serve his morning milk.

One morning, we were up earlier than usual, and Moss's inbuilt watch made him late for his customary cuddle. When he arrived at his usual time, there was no one in the room. Moss leapt as usual on to his master's bed, however, settled down beneath the sheets, paws on coverlet, and closed his eyes against the brilliant sun. It was there, some minutes later, that I found him, and it was thus that we photographed him.

It was a far cry from the dark dusty corner of the telegraph office with the noisy dangerous street below.

MRS. KAUFMAN

MEMBERS CORNER—contd.

I would be grateful if you can include the enclosed cutting in your next Magazine. I've known Charlie since we came here to live. He was a land mark at the Pet Shop. Poor Charlie I missed him yesterday. He usually sat on the counter—Summer on their window sill—of the shop. Mrs. Hayes contributes generously to my collecting boxes. Cutting is from the Rhyl journal of today's date. Mrs. M. A. Dunning. 8th July, 1971.

GOODBYE CHARLIE. PRESTATYN

children, especially, will be sorry to learn that Charlie, the tabby cat at the Garden Centre, High Street, died last week. Charlie who was almost 21, was a great favourite with the children, and loved all the attention he received. He was born on the premises when the late Mr. Sidney Humphries was the manager, and in latter years has been the pet of Mrs. A. Heys, who told us Charlie would be missed by many customers.

WHEN PUSSY LIKED WATER

The white half Siamese cat on the Karroo farm, South Africa came mewing at my bedroom door early one morning asking for help. I gave her a drink of water but her gruff voice continued. I noticed her side was all black. "Where have you been?" I said as I applied a cloth lying nearby. She stood stiffly and silently at attention. So I washed her side well with soap and warm water. After all the oil was removed she licked herself and walked proudly away. E. M. C. Harrison.

I have seen your most valuable booklet in our local library and wonder if we might have one for ourselves. If we can, it will be much appreciated. So please may we have the 1st edition of 'SOME FACTS ABOUT CATS'? M. Thomson.

Our Buster (25 lbs. weight and very healthy) sends greetings to Chads, and all his pals. Buster is a giant cat and self appointed "policeman" for all the neighbouring felines. A. Eastwood.

I enclosed our latest cheque for £7.35 with our best wishes from Audrey Cozens, Sheba and Casey Jones.

To Jason, a Siamese Kitten

Of what do you dream when you're two months old, so recently gone from your Mummy?

Of ankles to nibble, or marvellous food that has found it's way to your tummy?

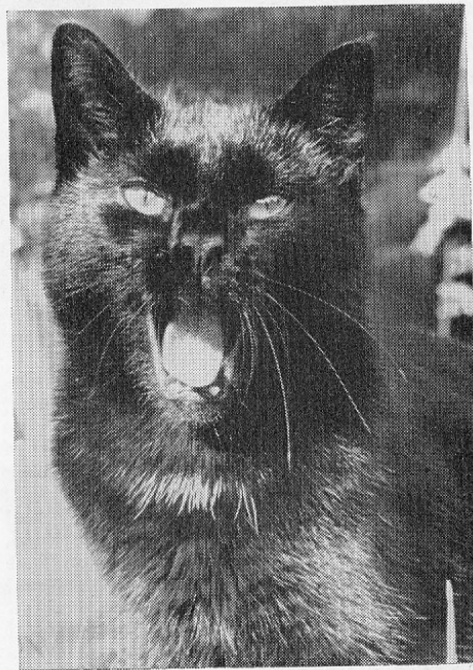
You curl in my lap and your little heart beats, loud and strong 'gainst my hand while you sleep.

Trust in me, little prince, and vow in return, you'll not want, you'll not fear, you'll not weep.

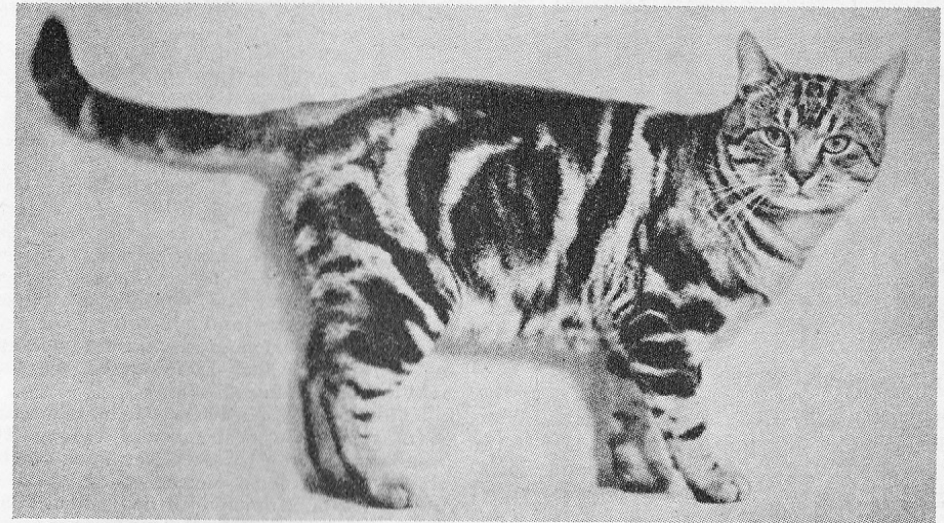
Stephanie Talbot-Butler. 29.6.71.

"ROOM WITH ACCESS TO GARDEN URGENTLY WANTED in London (Central if possible) by: Mrs. Sorge, 11 Mentone Mansions, Fulham Road, London S.W.10 and her 2 cats, neutered males. Mrs. Sorge would be willing to look after animals on premises whilst owners are on holiday".

OPEN WIDE PLEASE



MISS J. STEPHENSON



A TYPICAL TABBY

IN MEMORIAM

In memory of "BLACKIE", died on February 24th, 1971, aged 14. Loved and missed by K.A.W. and B.O.W.

In memory of my CINDY, T.W. 4216 who died last year and who I still miss so much. J.B.

In loving memory of "TIM" who passed away on April 12th, 1971. Sadly missed but happy in the knowledge that he is reunited with my darling Mother. K. Gaster.

In ever loving memory of my Best Beloved BABY TWEENS, who passed over 21st September 1968. Forever in my heart. Averil Horsfield.

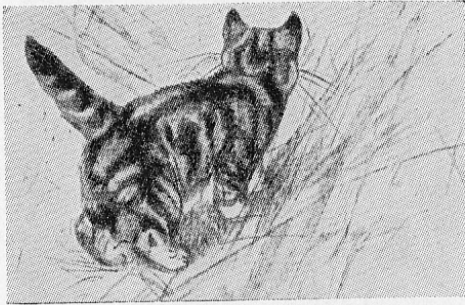
In loving memory of my dear "CHINKI" kindly put to sleep 17-10-70, aged 17½ years. Never was a cat loved more. R. O'Donoghue.

In ever loving memory of my dear Smokey, aged 14 years, who passed away June 9th after a short illness. He will always be remembered with love and affection. M. Norton.

In loving memory of my darling "TWINKLES" kindly put to sleep on August 2nd 1967, aged 5 years. Gone but never forgotten. J. Courtney.

Remembering our beloved SMOKEY T.W. 3460 who died peacefully on August 21st, 1964, aged 9½ years. Always in our hearts. N. and D. Revill.

In loving memory of dear old FLUFF my affectionate and only companion for 14 odd years, put to sleep 8th June, 1968. Sadly missed and never forgotten; also his loved predecessor put to sleep 15th December 1953, aged 14½ years. D.L.



CHALKLANDS, Tattingsstone, Ipswich, Suffolk

By the courtesy of Mr. Steward articles have been published in *The Cat* on many occasions in the past concerning this Sanctuary which was ran by Miss Norton and had been in existence for over twenty years. Over the years much valuable work was done for the rescue of unwanted and stray cats, and it covered an extensive area, animals being taken in from all over East Suffolk and other parts of the country, including even London. Chalklands was known throughout East Suffolk and beyond as a rescue centre and no animal was ever refused, it was an ever open door for unwanted and stray cats and kittens who were rehabilitated and found homes.

Unfortunately Miss Norton died in tragic circumstances in a fire last January. Her friends are trying to carry her work on, but what they are most concerned about is the fate of Miss Norton's own personal cats. There are a number of these, cats of all varieties, and ages, tabbies, ginger, tortoiseshells, black and whites and blacks, and it is earnestly hoped that homes can be found for them and we appeal to any member of the League who might have a little corner and could take one, to help. They are all neutered and in good health. Their fate is more uncertain owing to a dispute of the Will which may mean that Chalklands will pass into other hands which would decree their immediate destruction and also end the wonderful work which has been done and for which Miss Norton gave her life.
Ann Good, Miss.

The Trustees of the Cats' Protection League would be glad to hear from cat lovers, with a view to appointing two Wardens at the League's memorial home at Ryde, Isle of Wight. Two friends or a retired married couple might be suitable. Applicants must have organising ability and experience. Apply for details to the Chairman, Cats' Protection League, 29 Church Street, Slough, SL1 1PW.

LOCAL (Slough) NEWS

PURFECT ENDING TO TALE OF TWO KITTIES.

AN UNUSUAL case of catnapping was solved by an anonymous call to The Cats' Protection League at Slough.

The "cat burglar" was tracked down to Langley and Timmy the missing tom cat was returned to his home at The Eagle, High Street, Slough.

Timmy, the eight-year-old ginger cat, was abducted last week by a woman who picked him up near the pub as he started his daily walk-about in the High Street.

His anxious owner Mrs. Joan Povey, wife of the landlord, put up a sign in the public bar urging the woman to return him. A group of regulars worried about his disappearance and wrote to the *Evening Mail* asking for our help.

Modern police methods were clearly called for to trace missing Timmy, identikit pictures. But before these could be arranged a good old fashioned "tip off" came through.

"The Cats' Protection League had an anonymous call giving the address of a woman in Langley", said Mrs. Povey.

"We went round to see her and she claimed it was her cat which she had lost three months ago.

Fortunately for the Poveys "fangs" aint what they should be for Timmy. He lost one of his large fang teeth five years ago in an accident.

The case is now closed and is being put down to a case of mistaken identikitity—a simple "tale of two kitties".

Mrs. Povey and the regulars at the pub are delighted to have Timmy back.

"We really missed him", said Mrs. Povey. "People kept ringing us to find out if there was any news of him".

"The woman who picked him up swears he is her cat but we know Timmy".

Evening Mail, 29-6-71.

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