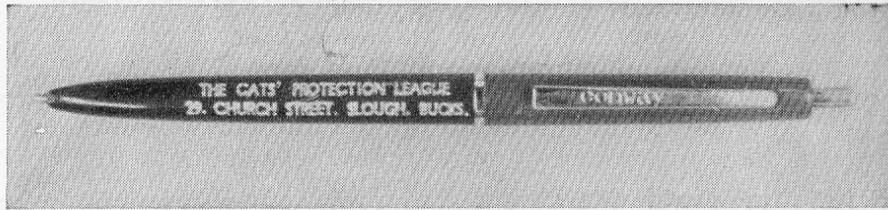


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C.P.L. PENS: 7½p each REFILLS 2½p POSTAGE 3p

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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: Hand-knitted dishcloths and/or Aprons, from Mrs. P. Ilves, 1 Penn Street, Oakham, Rutland. Prices, Aprons 45p. Dishcloths 9p.

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.

Wanted: by cat lover/writer: unusual cat stories for eventual publication; part of proceeds to go to the Cats Protection League. Epton, 58 Vale Road, Seaford, Sx.

C.P.L. Slogan Labels are sold in Aid of Funds 17½p 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 or children – from clear snaps with description – price 60 pence. All money for C.P.L.

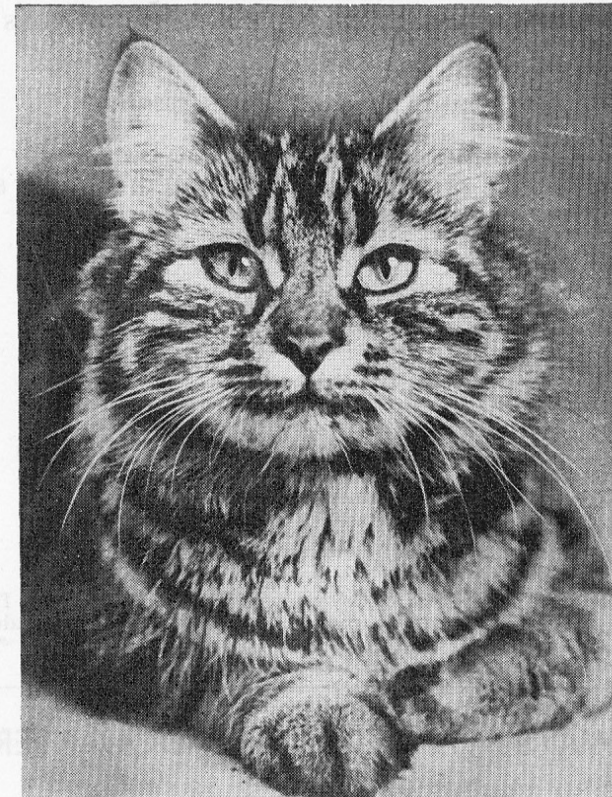
Dorothy Hall,
78 Hill Road
Watlington,
Oxford.

**WILL YOU TRY
TO ENROL ONE NEW MEMBER
DURING 1972?**

Published Bi-monthly by the Cats 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 tranquillity and grace and detachment, and in this distracted era of ours we were never more in need of tranquillity and grace and detachment.” *Compton Mackenzie.*

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1972

THE CAT Vol. XLVI No. 6 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1972

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY

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)

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Arthur E. Parratt

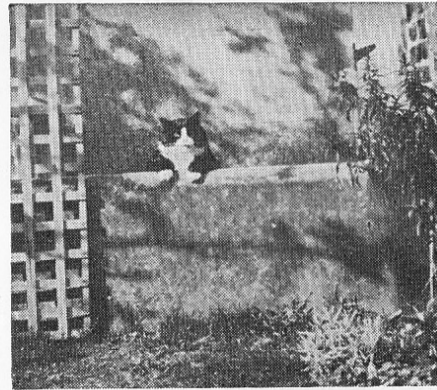
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| By Membership Only | | U.S.A. |
| Life Member | £10 | \$30 |
| Member (Annual) | £1.05 | \$4 |
| (all above include magazine) | | |

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

ALWAYS WANTED AT HEADQUARTERS

- | | |
|--|--|
| Unwanted birthday and Christmas presents or anything saleable. | News-cuttings concerning cats, but please make sure that the name of the paper and the date of publication is given. |
| Notification of change of address. | Used stamps. British Foreign and commemorative. |
| Linen and blanket pieces, for use in the Clinic. | 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 Editor/Secretary.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

With the approach of the Christmas season all our Branches will be holding Sales, Bazaars and Fayres which means a lot of hard work for the helpers and organizers. We do ask you to support them whenever and however you can.

If there is no Branch function within easy distance for you to attend then more than one of them will be delighted in sending you Christmas Cards, Raffle Tickets or even Calendars and details of these items will be found in the respective Branch reports.

May I also remind you of the London' Animal Fair in December which you will find advertised on page 112 of this magazine.

As this is the last issue of The Cat for 1972 may, I, on behalf of all staff at Headquarters, our Chairman, the Executive Committee and our waifs and strays, who, we hope, will be low in number, send you our best wishes for a very happy Christmas, a very happy and rewarding New Year and our sincere and grateful thanks to all our workers and Branch representatives for all their valiant work in 1972.

A. E. PARRATT

EXPERIMENTS ON LIVE ANIMALS AND ESPECIALLY CATS

During the past two months we have had the annual Summer excursions, conferences and trips to the seaside by all the theorists who do their best to cause alarm with their mystic animal theories but very seldom producing any facts to support their claims.

This year's outbursts appear to be wider than ever. Cats, it has been claimed, are dangerous to expectant mothers, a theory which we were pleased to see very quickly

denied by a senior obstetrician from one of our leading maternity hospitals. Another self described cat loving scientist gave details of how he sews the eyes of kittens together for several weeks and calmly states that they prefer the darkness and all this is done to aid the squints in childrens eyes. Many letters have been written during the past weeks to the national and provincial press commenting on the articles printed in their respective newspapers and we have also written to the Home Secretary regarding the ever increasing number of experiments being carried out on cats and kittens. Again these produced many theories and few facts but one of our many complaints is the sheer repetition of all these experiments. Most of these have been carried out before so why must these barbarous experiments go on with repeat after repeat, producing theories and few facts. Perhaps in due course the Home Office will follow their acknowledgement of our letter with a definite answer.

Meanwhile we are watching these points and will continue on behalf of all members to ask why and also to support sister societies who concentrate more deeply on vivisection of all shapes and forms.

VALUE ADDED TAX

With the introduction of V.A.T., during the early part of 1973 we shall no doubt have new problems to face.

At present everybody is rather groping with the new rules and regulations and the only definite knowledge we have to date is the fact that Charities are not exempted from this tax and that our subscriptions will be liable to a 10% tax in the future.

ROUND & ABOUT (Cont'd.)

We are, at this moment, seeking advice from higher authorities but will keep you informed as widely as possible during the coming months. Whilst we are aware that more than one Charity has already increased its subscription rate to cover the estimated increased costs involved, we will do this only as a last resort. At the present time we are far more interested in obtaining some financial relief or exemption on the grounds that we are a Charity and not a Business in any sense of the word.

POCKET CALENDARS

Enclosed with this copy of your magazine you will find a 'pocket' or 'handbag' Calendar for 1973 sent with Headquarters compliments.

We hope that their use will be two fold - in a practical sense and for publicity purposes, so might we suggest that you supply your friends or work colleagues with a date reminder for the forthcoming year.

We can send you one for 5p including postage or larger supplies at 3p each plus 2½p to help with the postage and packing. All orders to Headquarters please as early as possible to save the Christmas rush and any delays in dispatch.

MEMBERS WRITING NOTEPAPER

In response to many requests from Members we can now supply pads of writing paper for Members private and personal use.

The pad consists of 50 sheets of good quality note paper containing the League's full title and naturally a suitable feline face appears in the top left hand corner.

These supplies will be obtainable only from Headquarters at 20p each plus 5p to cover postage and packing. Whilst it is regretted that due to the heavy cost of postage we are forced to make this additional charge on one pad, the charge for any orders exceeding this amount will remain at 5p i.e. three pads would cost 60p plus 5p postage thus reducing the over all cost of your supplies.

We have a large initial stock of paper and if the demand remains steady we shall retain this item in constant stock as are our C.P.L. pens.

With reference to your contributor's article about Sir Walter Scott's cat I should like to point out that there is a small rather dark painting of him at Abbotsford which shows that he was a tabby.

Amy Coe.

A CAT'S RECORD

(Extract from "Black and White", 7th April 1895)

The big, black cat whose picture we give, was born and reared in one of two semi-detached houses on a hill overlooking the well-known and historic racecourse, the Carholme, of Lincoln. This house has been occupied by a medical man and his family for the last six years, and the cat became so great a favourite that, last December, when its owner removed to Forest Hill, puss was taken to the new home; being conveyed, like the rest of the family, by train and cab. For about a month the cat seems to have been contented and happy, but it was noticed it ate largely and slept much, and as a consequence it became fat and looked sleek and well-to-do. Towards the end of the month, after this careful training, the cat disappeared and, after a thorough search, was lamented as a friend gone for ever. This event took place in the beginning of the severe frost and snow-storm, and before the storm was over the cat turned up at its old home in Lincoln, where one morning the gentlemen who occupies the other half of the detached villa was aroused by the loud mewings and noise made by the cat to gain admittance to its former home.

The next door folks, who knew puss well, guessed at his achievement and gave him a great reception. It is computed that the animal performed the journey in about eight days, travelling at the rate of over seventeen miles a day, and, although the cat was rather thin in flesh, still it was in fairly good condition when it reached Lincoln. When one takes into consideration the distance between Forest Hill and Lincoln - nearly 140 miles - the intense severity of the weather, and the thousand obstacles the poor creature must have encountered on its way across London and down to Lincoln, the journey is a marvel for so small and weak an animal to have accomplished. But everybody knows that when a cat once makes up its mind to any course of action it carries the matter through or dies in the attempt.

Note—"Black-a-moor" made the journey in January 1895.

*Greetings to all
our Readers*



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

We were very pleased to receive a visit from Mr. Parratt, at our July Committee Meeting and think that he realised the vast job we have in Birmingham coping with all the strays and the almost impossible task of home finding for cats and kittens, this job being done by a small band of dedicated members.

We are also very grateful for the Vouchers from H.Q., as we have not the funds to pay for neutering on the large scale which is wanted in this very large city, the Voucher System has been a God send to us. We have one member who is doing a road and street campaign for neutering and the results have been excellent. Most cat owners are taking advantage of this campaign as she uses her car to take the cats to and from the vets for their operation.

We have the Animal Fayre as our main forthcoming event and would be very grateful for any gifts for sale, the date of the Fayre being 18th November 1972. We still need lots of homes for cats and kittens, also Foster Homes. Offers of transport too would be very welcome, especially on the North side of the City. If anyone can help please contact our Secretary, Miss Primmitt, 109 Handsworth Wood Road, Birmingham, 20 or myself Mrs. D. Vanes, 23 Minstead Road, Erdington, Birmingham, B24 8PS.

As this report is for the November/December Magazine I would like to wish all other Groups a very Happy Christmas and also all Pussies. Do ensure that adequate provision is made for shop and factory cats over the Christmas period.

CANTERBURY

The A.G.M. was held on Friday 29th September, by kind invitation of Mrs. Franklyn.

This revealed a year of solid work and dedication, 52 cats were placed in new homes under the usual agreement, seven lost cats were traced and returned to their owners. We have also arranged boarding for the pets of old and sick people or owners in temporary

difficulties and usually have an average of twenty cats weekly for boarding throughout the year. Our service has also included general veterinary treatment, neutering and spaying, the loan of baskets, the provision of transport and helpful advice is always available when and where necessary.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to the members who loan their cars and give up their spare time, for all our members work is voluntary and no payment what-so-ever is ever made for the help given.

Our Christmas Draw Tickets are now available so please take as many as you can or offer a prize. The Christmas Market will be on November 18th at St. Alphege Hall, Canterbury with coffee served from 10.30 a.m. A great variety of high classed goods will be on sale also raffles, lucky dip and refreshments will be available. There will also be a display of cat paintings by the well known Kentish Artist Edith Deely. Please do send us goods for sale, or donations and above all please give your assistance we shall need every helper available.

Finally, please do your best to find a home for one or more of the many beautiful cats seeking new accommodation. There are some really lovely cats, friendly, healthy, house trained and neutered and we assure you your home would be a better place for having one.

PLEASE DO NOT DISAPPOINT THEM.

CHELMSFORD

It was a great pleasure to meet so many friends from near and far at our Open Day on September 17th. The cats were, of course, the main attraction and five kittens and four cats were lucky enough to be chosen for homes during the afternoon. The Shelter is still overfull, but happily September turned out to be — as always — the best month of the year for home finding.

We have been extremely busy coping with the summer's unwanted kittens and their mothers, in car parks, gardens, farms, factories, yards, warehouses, hospitals, etc. etc. and by the time you read this all the kittens will have gone to homes and all the mothers will have been spayed if we have been able to catch them — and if not — well,

CHELMSFORD (cont.)

we shall keep on trying! We have not had any healthy cat in our care destroyed, either in the Shelter or amongst the very many we look after "outside". Our policy is still to neuter and feed cats wherever they are, providing that they have adequate shelter, and as soon as we can, we take them into our own Shelter and a home is found. This policy seems to work quite well except that our food bills go up and up and up — and we do have problems in finding people to "do the rounds daily", feeding all our outstation dependants!

On the fund raising side we have been as busy as ever and the pace is quickening as we get towards our Christmas cat-care money making activities. During the next three months we hope to make enough money, one way or another, to keep the Shelter and the cats going for almost half of 1973.

First of all we have our GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW. With the help of many of our friends we have again collected 30 nice prizes, to be drawn at the Christmas Fair on December 9th. The tickets are in books of four for 10p, and we would be very grateful if you would try to sell some tickets to your friends on our behalf. Please write to Mrs. Ann Barker, 136 Beehive Lane, Chelmsford for as many books as you may be able to sell without losing all your friends! (If you take more tickets than you can sell, we won't mind at all).

Next, Mrs. Brenda Hopkins of 24 Peel Road, Chelmsford, is happy to take your orders for her attractive home made calendars, details of which were in the last issue of THE CAT.

On November 25th, we have our big event of the year, the CHRISTMAS MARKET AND FAIR at Chelmsford Cathedral Hall, 10.30 to 4 p.m. We would welcome *anything* suitable for sale on our stalls, and it goes without saying that we would welcome you too! We hope to have one or two extrovert cats on show for your pleasure, and other attractions too. It would be nice if you could come and have lunch with us.

On December 9th, Saturday morning, we have our final event of the year — another CHRISTMAS FAIR combined with the GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW. We are hoping that we shall have enough goodies to stock the stalls at both these Christmas events.

Particularly at this time of the year, we welcome TUCK BOX donations so that we can provide extra, and more interesting food, for all our cats. Please be a TUCK BOX AUNT OR UNCLE, and we and the cats promise you that you'll hear a great chorus of purrs right through Christmas!

We all wish you a very happy Christmas, and peace be with you in 1973.

DERBY

Alas, the crisis reported previously regarding colonies of homeless cats continues. We cannot supply food to every site where cats and kittens are foraging among demolition rubble, but we are doing our best, despite acute shortage of helpers. We do thank most sincerely our friends for their kind donations who sympathise with us during this very difficult period. They will be pleased to know also, that the cats with amputated tails have now gone to loving homes. As this report is written our small cattery is suffering with a severe epidemic of cat 'flu and many cats have died as a result. The temporary closure of the cattery has caused distress and sadness among our members, but obviously the situation is one over which we have no control, and we will therefore remain in isolation until our veterinary surgeon gives us the all clear.

We wish to thank a friend who took the trouble to send a parcel, and regret very much that all contents were missing on arrival and the only possible identity is a Stratford-on-Avon postmark. Immediate steps have been taken with the post office to trace the missing articles.

From time to time we have reported on the odd (to say the least) names we have been called. Two of the latest are (1) The Cat *Splaying* Association and (2) The Cats' *Detention* League — certainly cats are detained for their own good, but for no longer than we can help, and no hard labour is involved other than eating and sleeping!

We welcome to Derby Branch new members — Mrs. G. Bell, Mrs. E. Bennett, Miss G. Bowyer, Miss J. S. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Godrich, Mr. D. A. Parkes, Mr. S. Pratley, and Mr. L. V. Sewell.

We are very grateful to the friends who sent articles for our jumble sale on 23rd September and also to those who helped on the day. We are now busily preparing for our next function — our annual bazaar, and arranging dates for 1973. For the benefit of members we are hoping to have all these dates confirmed in time to print a syllabus for distribution early next year.

Best Wishes for
the New Year

ISLE OF WIGHT

The Memorial Home under the able supervision of Mrs. Eldridge, and her assistants has been busy throughout the summer, both with lost and stray cats and with boarders. Incidentally 180 new homes have been found during the past year which constitutes a record for the Island.

Firstly, we would like to thank Mrs. Buxton of Shanklin for her kindness in completely fitting out our Clinic for us. This lady is the promoter of a White Elephant shop in Shanklin and proceeds from this happy idea are divided between a number of animal welfare societies. This is the first time the Memorial Home has benefitted, due to Mrs. Buxton visiting us and being impressed with the facilities we provide. We are most grateful and appreciate the help given in this way.

We would also like to thank the unknown "Animal Lover" who has again sent us a donation, towards the upkeep of the Home, and Mrs. German of Ventnor for her kind donation in memory, of her Siamese Sheenie.

Finally, our Superintendent would like to thank all the C.P.L. members and cat lovers on the Island who, have in various ways shown their confidence in her over the last twelve months, and given homes to our cats and kittens. Also we are grateful to our veterinary surgeon for his co-operation in always giving us advice at all times.

"Tiny" a little black female was collected from Freshwater. She had been straying for months, with a dislocated shoulder, several teeth missing and a split ear following an accident of some kind. After an examination by our veterinary surgeon it was decided the whole shoulder had been smashed completely but somehow she had survived by looking after herself. Her shoulder could not be re-set as it had knitted together by this time. The dew-claw on her injured paw proved to be a hazard so that was removed. She was in due course speyed, de-fleaed, wormed, groomed etc. and now enjoys a perfectly normal cat's life as one of our Superintendent's own pets.

Jumble Sale.—Two children, aged approximately 10-11 years with a lot of help from their MUM worked very hard this summer in the aid of the C.P.L. and another well known organisation. They collected sorted and held an open-air jumble sale and raised £10. £5 of which was very proudly presented to us. Thank you Peter and Caroline of Nettlestone.

Three lovely little "home-grown" kittens (born wild in a shed.) were brought to us when they were about two weeks old. But no mother. With the aid of a premature baby feeder the staff took turns to give two hourly feeds days and night together with mopping up procedure. After a week of intensive care the mother was finally trapped and re-united

to her babies once more. All have been placed in excellent homes and have since visited us with their owners.

A young couple found a hare in the middle of the road badly injured at 1 a.m. and brought it to the Home where it was immediately humanely destroyed.

We have managed to get over the onslaught of spring kittens and unwanted pregnant mums by now. We are getting ready for all the stray cats who have been willingly fed by kindly people outside their back door through the summer months. Very soon, as the weather changes these back door visitors will want to come inside, but will, in turn receive a very cold reception from the family's resident cat. We would suggest, when it becomes impossible to permanently adopt a stray, that it should be brought to the Home and not turned away, particularly after they have perhaps been fed during the summer.

"Tibby" the white fluffy female who was delivered by her owner from London N.W.3. She came into the Home on Friday, was speyed on Monday and re-habilitated on the Tuesday.

Thank you to the driver who hit one of our own cats right outside the Home and couldn't be bothered to stop and carry her up the path, during day-light hours, just in case that driver should be losing his or her sleep. She is still alive and managed to escape our wheels with no more than a fractured pelvis and a few teeth less!

Of course there is always "Ginger" for a laugh. He is a lovely cat owned by a Dr. D. opposite the Home. When collected from the boarding section after each stay with us, he bluntly refuses to go home. Dr. D. on collection, opens Ginger's door and that's that. Ginger spends the rest of the day playing in the garden with the resident cats, completely ignores the dog. He usually spends the same night in the kitchen, eating the cat's food, humiliating the dog, and has to be delivered by hand over the garden gate the next morning. This is a regular happening now, and why not, at least it let's us know we must be running a pretty good boarding section too.

Pitch, the little black female found having her kittens on a doorstep at Cowes and brought into the Home, sadly put to sleep suffering from a mammary tumour, after seven happy years in her new home.

**NEXT ISSUE
JANUARY/
FEBRUARY 1973**



WE CAN ALWAYS PURR WHILST WE WAIT!!!



LEICESTER AND LOUGHBOROUGH BRANCH

What a wonderful blessing is the neutering and speying of cats. Fewer mewing of unwanted homeless felines, and less nocturnal howls.

Many thanks to Mr. Parratt for a very much more simple way of issuing our vouchers.

None of our gift stalls were a success because of wet weather, but Mrs. Bakewells open house - coffee - bring and buy and raffle raised - £43 to aid the little waifs.

Her Mum and about 10 O.A.P. friends thoroughly enjoyed helping and being appreciated! Cakes were baked and sold immediately. Mrs. Owen catered lunch and tea for us all. Hot potatoes, salad, soaked dried peas, and cold meat to keep us going.

We made many cat loving friends.

Now, the story of cruelty and sadness of unwanted cats and their little ones is undesired by many readers of the "CAT", so once again, we will not relate the injustices we have come across.

We greatly appreciate the thankful help of all cat lovers in our task. Money for cake mix, anything to sell, indeed, all you can spare to help us in our work is so very welcome. Our next raffle draw is on - Monday, December 4th 1972. So please turn out cupboards and drawers of gifts or unwanted white elephants for us to show on this occasion.

LONDON COMMITTEE NOTES

We have only one more event before the end of this year, and that is our *extra* Jumble Sale on December 16th at St. Philip's Church Hall, Earls Court Road, W.8. It will include the Mini-Bazaar with stalls of pretty things for sale, which has been popular in the past, and after that everyone can have a Happy Christmas. I hope that you will, in preparation for the future work which is ahead of us all. So please come to the Jumble Sale or send us something for it if you can - and thank you very much. (Now, don't forget: doors open at 2 p.m.)

Looking back over the past year, we have had some wonderfully successful sales and our wildest ideas have brought splendid results, thanks to the loyal backing and help from all our members and I cannot, I really cannot, tell you all how truly grateful I am. It is a good record we have, but there is no denying, we had one complete and utter flop, for there was one event which was not supported nor helped - Animal Flag Day. Only fifteen people took a box for us, and of those, only eight were actually out in the streets selling. Those eight collected £78, which was really marvellous. It is not a big total compared to others, but it was raised by hard, hard work for hours and hours.

I can't help thinking what a few more people might have done. To-day I have had the form for next year's Flag Day, asking how many boxes, etc., we will use. I was on the point of writing "none" and closing down the A.F.D. for us, but I suddenly felt inclined to make one more big effort so I have taken the plunge and asked for 100. If the fifteen people who helped last year will help again, it only means that we need eighty-five more, so come on, will you be one of them? And perhaps you have a good friend or a meek sister or energetic aunt who could be roped in to help. The date is not finally settled, but it has been nominated as Saturday 28th April, that is the day for selling emblems in the streets, during the preceding week from the 22nd onwards, we can have house-to-house collections and on the Friday 27th, sell in the City. There are several ways in which anyone can help:

- a Selling in the Streets, a horrid job I know, but rewarding, even if only for an hour during the day, it does bring in money.
- b House-to-House collecting during the week, this can be done in daytime or evenings.
- c Take a box to work and see what can be done, some people do marvels in this way.
- d Place boxes in shops and specially in cafes, or The Local.

Now, who will help? This is the Last Chance, please do something! Send in your name as a helper, get a friend too if you can, we will remind you in good time.

The closing weeks of the year are anxious ones for us, we are inclined to rush out to grab our letters from the postman and make furious calculations - we have *two* generous offers: each special donation of £10 is to be doubled, and in addition, if we can raise £100 *extra* in donations for this extra appeal, that will be doubled as well, but it all closes on December 31st. In previous years, we have been able to get an extension, this time however, our kind sponsor is going abroad and will give me his cheque on January 6th, so please be prompt if you can help.

Home-hunting is our main thought and work at the Rescue Centre now, we have a regular stock-pile of lovely cats and rather stout kittens, all waiting for the rush which we hope will start soon. We also have two mothers-to-be who will soon be giving us more kittens, they are both rather poor creatures and without special friends or endowments, so any help you can send will be very welcome.

Would you like to have your fortune told by a curious method? Think back in the past for a happy time, any day or any event which you enjoyed, and write it down - just the date month and year is enough, no other details, add your full name and send it in.

LONDON COMMITTEE (cot'd)

(There is no fixed charge, but several people have said it is worth 50p). Send to Mrs. A. Dee, at 12 The Close, with a S.A.E. and see if you like the result, you need not send a donation till you have read the "fortune."

Duffy and his wicked brothers send Christmas wishes to all their kind friends, and hope everyone will have a lovely fat turkey.

NEREA DE CLIFFORD

NORTH LONDON BRANCH

Our period of extreme pressure is beginning to ease off with the ending of the holiday season. Since mid-July we have been called upon to put down many hundreds of cats through the callousness of humans and we are left with fifty in the Shelter - all urgently requiring good homes.

Our latest arrival is a pure white cat, complete with china blue eyes and a siamese howl and we would very much like the offer of a home from any of our readers.

We are still kept busy with neutering and our driver is fully occupied on six mornings each week on this duty. It is work which we are glad to do since, in time, it may help to reduce the present wholesale abandonment of cats.

May we remind you that we have beautiful Christmas cards for sale? They show cats which have passed through the Shelter, photographed by John Gay, the well known animal photographer. They cost 80 pence per dozen including packing and postage to you. Please order from North London Branch and not from Headquarters and thus save Mr. Parratt a great deal of unnecessary work in forwarding orders to us.

Our Christmas Bazaar is being held on Saturday the 25th November at the Upper Holloway Hall, 602, Holloway Road, London, N.19 which is next to the Royal Northern Hospital. We look forward to meeting many of you there.

While on the subject of sales, we would like to mention and thank a Mrs. Lunn of Finchley, who, with a few helpers, systematically collected Jumble for six months, ran a sale which raised about £350, shared the proceeds between two animal societies and gave us what was left over from the sale. What was left over is enough to run another sale and is of excellent quality. With it, we hope that, at our next sale, we can reach Mrs. Lunn's magnificent total of takings.

Over the years, we have taken into the Shelter, apart from cats, rabbits, mice, dogs, tortoises and even a goat. Our latest acquisition, however, is the most exciting of all - a parrot whose language leaves much to be desired but who gets along well with cats. No home for him is required since he is already

firmly entrenched at the home of our Secretary, who is now busily engaged in trying to teach the bird better manners.

As this is the last report before the New year, may we at North London Branch wish you all a happy christmas and a prosperous and peaceful New Year.

MANCHESTER

It is most encouraging to read the reports of Branch activities published in "The Cat" and judging all the work carried out in a collective sense must add up to the rescue as well as the care and welfare of numerous cats and kittens.

I am sure readers and Branch officials must find the contents of "The Cat" most useful and of immense psychological value. Due to pressure of work I have been unable to submit regular reports but this is not to say that the good work is diminishing in the greater Manchester area. From the 1st of June, 1972 up to the 31st of August, 1972 a total of 169 cats and kittens were received at our Convalescent Home. Homes were found for seventy-seven kittens and twenty-one cats during the three months under review and one must remember that this was accomplished during a holiday period - a very difficult time for "home finding". Twelve kittens and nine cats had to receive a humane passing. Ten kittens passed away having been subjected to enteritis as well as two accidents received, one with skin disease and three cats exceptionally wild, making a total of sixteen. Thirty-four kittens of tender age passed away during the three months without any signs of enteritis or "flu". At the time of going to press our cat population is increasing but to balance that more good homes are materialising.

At the present I am engaged in the sad duty of trapping wild cats and their offspring in the basement of one of our large hospitals. This is work that I do not relish because due to the wild nature and characteristics that these creatures possess I am left with no alternative but to administer a humane passing to the majority of these unfortunate creatures when captured. Sad this may be but with so many lively, affectionate kittens available for homes it is impossible to place wild kittens. We must always remember that there are a large number of strays in our midst and with so many friendly cats available and awaiting adoption, the possibilities of placing semi-wild creatures in a home is very remote. Our Branch does not possess a vehicle but as I have a car at my disposal this is obviously used in respect of my duties on behalf of cats in need of rescue. The greater area of Manchester is covered and my son who also possesses a vehicle does place his services at

MANCHESTER (cont'd)

the disposal of the Branch when he is available.

There is much to be done in this hard world of inhumanity and animal lovers are but a small band of workers in comparison with the population numbering approximately sixty million. The odds are against us numerically but with courage, determination and love for our feline friends we shall press onwards in our humane endeavours to rescue as many creatures as possible from unnecessary suffering and an uncertain future.

Together we STAND – Divided we FALL.

SUSSEX BRANCH

“Cat Haven” and the Annexe are completely full with so few people coming lately to enquire for a kitten, but we are hoping very much that with October/November and the end of the holidays more homes will become available. Brandy has been spayed, and has gone back to her old original home, and two of her kittens have been very lucky and have gone to good homes where they are the apple of their new owners eyes.

We have booked the Library Extension Room, Hastings for our special Christmas Sale on Wednesday November 22nd at 2.30 p.m. and hope to make this a great success though at the moment we have practically nothing to put on the stalls, but our members are so good it will undoubtedly be, as they say, “all right on the night”.

By the time these notes are read it will be almost time to send Christmas Greetings and Best wishes to all Branches and to everyone at Headquarters, and may more and more of our Feline Friends find warm homes this Winter.

ULSTER BRANCH

The Ulster Branch got off to a good start after the summer holiday season from the City centre. It was a glorious afternoon and I rather thought folk would be tempted to head out of town to take full advantage of our Indian summer so it was a pleasant surprise when the members began to stream in and instead of asking ourselves “What will we do with all this food?” we began to wonder would there be enough for everyone. (There was – but only just?)

The main attraction was the Draw which, as usual, had been organized by Mrs. K. Y. McBride. A sum of approximately £125 was raised and I know everyone would wish me to express our thanks to Mrs. McBride who tackled the big job with her usual enthusiasm and carried on with it when her home was badly damaged and one of her beloved cats killed in a bomb attack on nearby shops.

By the time you read this we will, I hope, have had a successful Jumble Sale – the first

for a long time, also a Hallow'een Party-cum-Mini Auction, which is a new venture. We can't of course, have the big annual Sale of Work in the City so instead we have arranged two smaller events, one in the Malone area, the other at Knock on 25th November and 2nd December respectively. Please support these efforts and send us lots of nice things to sell on the stalls. We'll want lots of cakes too and biscuits and shortbread to serve with the Coffee. I suppose it would be too ambitious to expect that we will make as much as the two Coffee Parties as we would have done at the big Sale but maybe if we try very hard we'll come fairly near it.

It has been a busy summer at the Cattery what with Staff holidays, voluntary helpers' holidays and the endless stream of strays and unwanted and all the impossible-to-explain complications arising from Ulster's troubles. Apart from the everyday routine we have unusual incidents cropping up from time to time. One such occurred when a pensioner called to ask for advice about her white cat which she said had something terribly wrong with its hindquarters. She was instructed to borrow a basket and bring the cat along – if we thought it necessary we would ask our Vet to look at it. Alas, she decided to transport the cat in a cardboard box – she thought it was too ill to try to escape. Well, needless to say it jumped out, ran under a breadvan and disappeared. Later that evening a phone call to the Bakery (which is right across the town) elicited the unexpected information that indeed a white cat had jumped out of one of the vans when it arrived at the Garage. Next morning I collected the cat's owner and armed with a tin of Kit-e-Kat we spent a long time in the Garage where our attempts to entice the missing pussy were rather hampered by the loud “mewing” of thoughtless young mechanics. In the end we gave up and secretly I thought the search was pretty hopeless. However a few days later I was in the district and spoke to the security guard at the Garage door. “Funny you should ask” said he, “Just this morning the night man told me he saw a white cat running past but he couldn't get near it. Maybe if you come down after ten you could have a word with him”. Now that particular district is not the safest place to be after dark at present, but another member and myself presented ourselves at the Garage that night and talked to the night-guard who was an animal-lover and extremely co-operative. He confirmed having seen the cat and allowed us to search the building thoroughly. We explained how upset and worried the owner of the cat felt and left phone numbers so that we could be contacted if it was seen again. Exactly one week after it disappeared the phone rang at the Shelter.

ULSTER (cont'd)

They had the cat cornered under some shelves – could someone come at once. Mrs. Tredrea made a quick dash across the town by taxi and an hour later returned, covered in oil, but with the cat in a basket. I'm sorry to report that it was indeed so very ill it had no hope of recovery but at least we knew it's fate. The moral of the tale – always transport cats in a safe container. A lot of people spent an unhappy week worrying about a sick cat, lost in a completely strange district. It could so easily have slipped out of the garage for the big doors were open most of the day.

I've said this before but it bears repeating – we need more good homes for our cats and kittens. Please, please keep a constant watch for homes, especially those of you who live out of the city and in safe areas. Maybe some of you could take just one more – think about it.

And now, as we approach the end of 1972 I would like to say a sincere “Thank you” to everyone who has helped the Ulster Branch during a year of unprecedented difficulty and unhappiness for our Province. Our very best wishes for Christmas to you all.

Winning numbers in Draw

1798, 3212, 2894, 3229, 1072, 2229, 2048, 225, 1436, 1255, 70, 2905, 2433, 2189, 120, 2543.

WEST CORNWALL

Unwanted CATS! where do they all come from? This is beginning to become our signature tune. So many cat lovers see our collection of handsome cats and remark “You wouldn't think they were poor strays would you?” Quite a lot of them weren't, they come from lovely homes, from devoted owners, from old people's laps and beds. Rather than put down their beloved pet when circumstances forced folk to give up a home, a divorce, death, illness or lack of finances, they ask us to take the cat and we usually do for these cats make fine pets when they settle down again in new abodes. The stray semi-wild cats are different, it is often kinder to put them to sleep to save them agonising months of being caged in order to tame them, and I often think this amounts to cruelty. Therefore, when the phone rings and a good-doer implores us to take the umpteen cats she has been feeding for months, sometimes years, and they have bred and increased in numbers, but are too wild to be handled, what is the answer? Catching wild cats isn't an enviable job, I know – as I once spent every day for three years rounding up the famous wild cats at Castle Drive Falmouth. Wonderful tourist attraction in the summer, but heart breakers in the cold of the winter and contrary to much popular belief, Cornwall

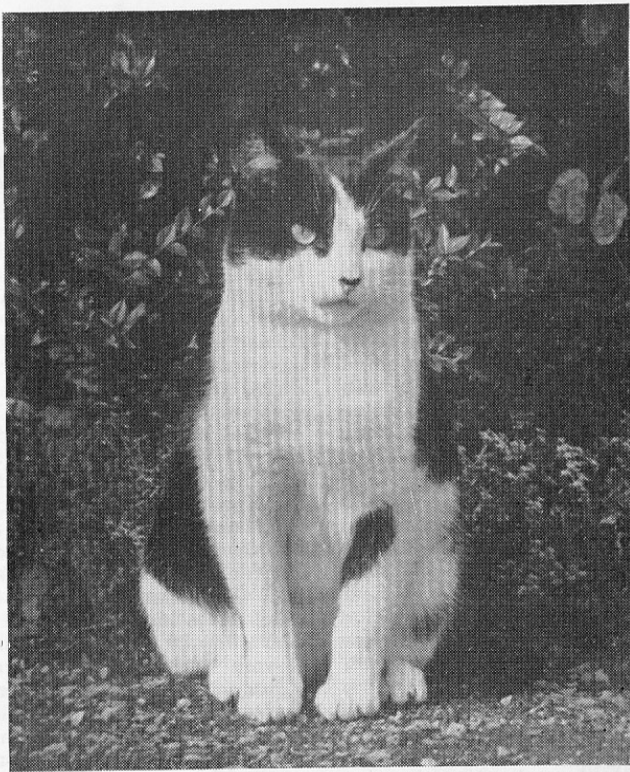
can be so cold and windy that one wonders how anything survives let alone poor wild cats. The question of what to do with semi wild cats still hasn't been answered, poisoning, shooting, trapping, or years of taming. It is like a bad dream which we try to make out isn't there. But Cornwall abounds with colonies of wild cats, and we all tend to pass the buck because we know unless the public co-operate in the quest to catch them they will continue breeding and disturbing our minds. Any suggestions?

Open Days have been up and down through the summer, one week seventy cat lovers turned up, the next week twelve arrived so we are used to fluctuating numbers. Visitors who arrive regularly each year are particularly welcomed as they enjoy our somewhat unusual entertainments and sit and absorb the changing moods of the animals and the scenery. Our good friends from the Derbyshire Branch came along and we were glad to see them again, and Miss Loane who does such a wonderful job with our stamps came out for an afternoon, the first time she has seen the catteries although she has been in touch for a long time. Mr. P. T. B. Lewman who adopted Sindy and Sunny two of our unwanted cats some years ago makes a regular visit with his brother. This soul helps us in so many ways, sending us donations from time to time but the nicest thing of all he is appreciative, and when one is dealing with so much negativity, kindly words go a long way. Thank you Mr. Lewman and to all the other folk who keep us ticking over.

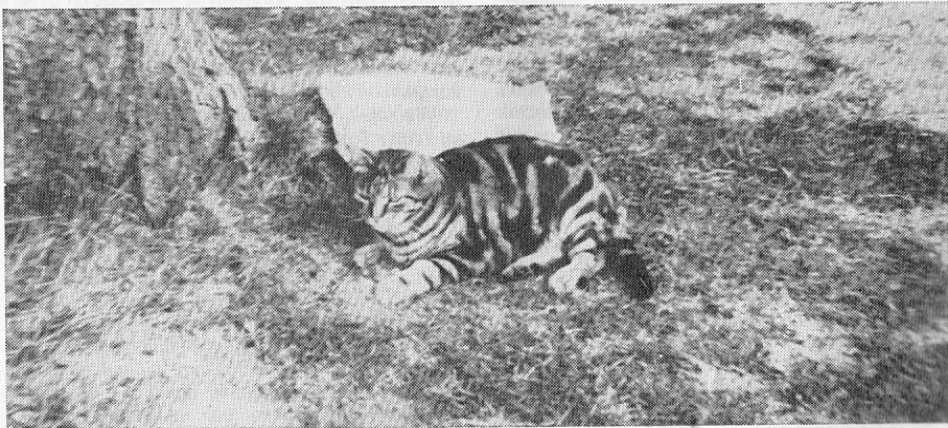
Christmas is approaching and we aim to hold a Fayre then we shall close on Saturday afternoons except for adoption and inspection, until Easter. It is difficult to get regular helpers and depressing for them when few people turn up. As always we plan to give the cats a good time, we are usually about two hundred felines in number including boarding cats so, the festive fare will take some organising.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and our love to cats everywhere.

Happy Xmas



“TRIXIE”



“WOOLLEY”

A DATE TO REMEMBER

ANIMALS FAIR
OLD HORTICULTURAL HALL
WESTMINSTER

FRIDAY/SATURDAY DECEMBER 8th/9th 1972



MEMBERS' CORNER

'CHAN'

Slinky-slim, daintily she goes
Across the grass, brushing the rose
With her tapering tail, now she stoops
To spring, to the top of the fence.

Camouflage-tabby with soft cream paws,
White 'V' Shaped front, her hidden claws
Now scraping and scratching, she clings
With skill, to the top of the fence.

From vantage-point, back hunched, tail
curled,
she watches losely her private world,
ars move and twitch at each new sound -
CHAN suveys from the top of HER fence.
Gwen Day.

May I appeal to Members of the Cats
Protection League not to buy food containing
Kangaroo meat for their cats.

Apparently pets are no longer to be exploited
when consuming the Whale meat product but
a cruel racket in the slaughter of Kangaroos
in Australia continues. Human greed is
callously exploiting these creatures and, too,
making use of the domestic animal in encoura-
ging the purchase by cat owners of Kangaroo
meat.

E. G. Ruffle

WANTED

Housekeeper wanted for a disabled but cat
loving lady in her 40's.

Modern labour saving bungalow situated
near a beautiful part of the Sussex Downs, full
central heating and many electrical applian-
ces.

Please apply to: Mrs. Orchard,
1 Manor Close,
Seaford,
Sussex.

TO KATIE

Tiny girl, so clean and sweet
Silken paws and little feet,
Pointed, white and pretty chin,
Clean without and good within.
I hear a tap upon the door
And recognise her little claw,
She looks at me with starry eyes,
She often purrs and seldom cries.
I love her pretty child-like ways,
Her fluffy tummy, when she plays,
And when I go to bed to rest,
My Katie sleeps upon my breast.
E. Walton.

NINE MOUTHS WAITING

Sing a song of happy cats
Sitting in the Sun.
Black and white and tabby cats
And a Ginger one.
When the time is five o'clock.
In they all run -
All the waiting, watching flock -
To see if FOOD'S begun.

Nine tails waving,
Eighteen eyes aglow,
Thirty-six paddy paws
Pacing to and fro.
On their marks: Ready!
At the word: Go!
Nine heads in nine bowls
All in a row.

M. Arnott.

Whilst writing, I should like to mention
the West Cornwall Branch of the C.P.L., in
praise of the work done by Mrs. Beesley and
her helpers. They work very hard and always
with the interests of the cats at heart.

O. O'Donnell

IN MEMORIAMS

In ever loving memory of our darling
ULLY who was reluctantly put to sleep on
January 23rd in her 17th year. A faithfull
friend who loved her lakeland home and
never failed to be waiting for Master & Mis-
tress each evening when they returned home.
Resting now in the garden she loved, and
always in our hearts. M.L.M. C.A.M. and
Aloysiusm a worthy descendant.
C. Moreton.

In ever loving memory of our dearest best
beloved BOY and NELL, who loved us and
each other so much. With my ever lasting
love.
Auntie Averil.

In ever affectionate memory of my dear
Fred, aged 4 who died after a short illness on
September 26th 1971. Sadly missed.
Leo Guise.

In loving memory of dear little GILLIE
who passed away on August, 9th 1972.
K.M.H. J.I.

SEMOLINA

Your term of life imprisonment
Is over, Semol.
Loved as any child could be,
A fair domain was yours
And you embellished it
An ivory and amber jewel,
Aloof and dignified
Tolerent, assured, secure.
We'll never cease to see you
Sunning on the wall,
Or sipping at the spring
Whose waters flow around
The Willow.
The Arch through which we all must pass,
Still lies ahead;
You, Semol, lead the way;
We follow.

Sheona Lodge.

"In memory of all our beloved pets, always
remembered, and still deeply mourned,
Eric & Elsa Martyr.

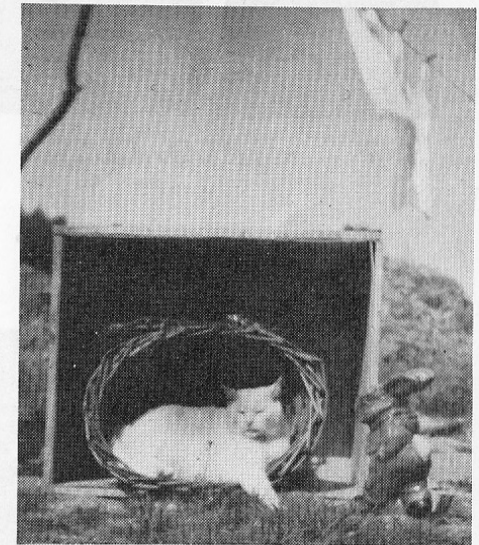
In loving memory of our dear little TRUDI
who died on August 28th 1972 aged 14 years.
C.B.D.

In fondest memory of "CURRIN" who
taught us so much, "MITZY & CHERRY
BOY", with us so short a time, accident prone
"CURRIN-GIRL" our Bournemouth special
and "TICH" who so suddenly disappeared.
Live on in the garden of memory.

Mummy & Daddy Mason
In memory of my loved and devoted cat
FERGUS.
D. Robinson

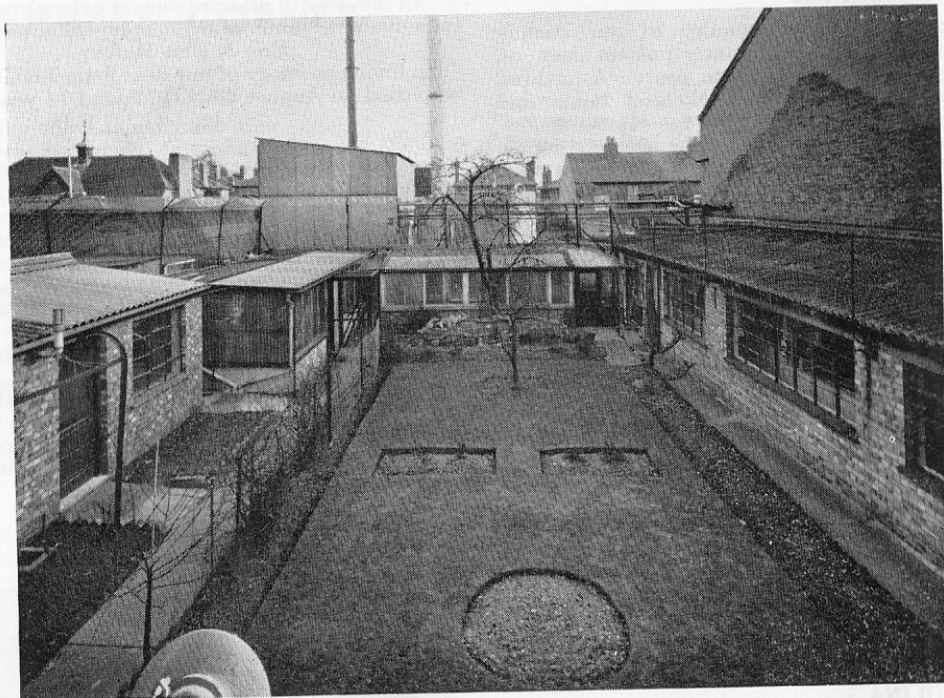
In loving memory of Mr. Hetty of the
Loving Heart (one young Mr. Hett) put to
sleep on November 11th 1970 dearly loved from
Tom Kitten, Cat-Kee, Mum and Tiny, Lassie
and the collie dogs and Ginger.

J. Cohn.

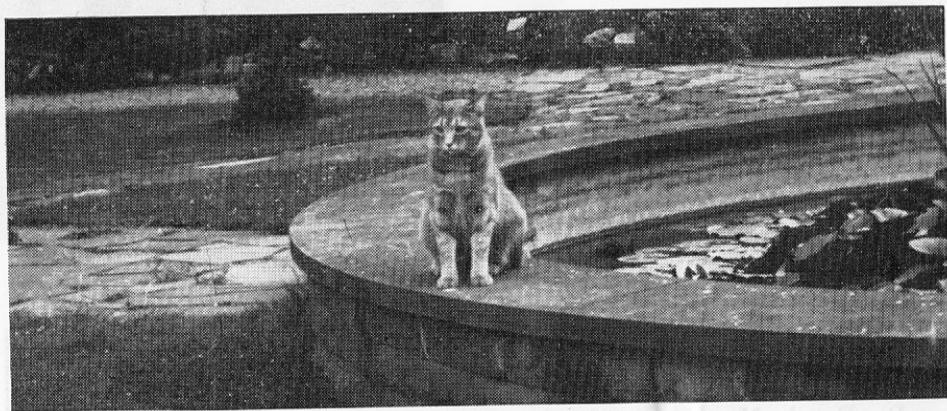


C IS FOR CAT

By Frank Manolson—Handy size, 7 in. x 4½ in.—220 pages—
Art paper covers—27½p. including postage. From Cats Protection
League, Prestbury Lodge, 29, Church Street, Slough, Bucks.



H.Q. CLINIC AND GARDEN



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