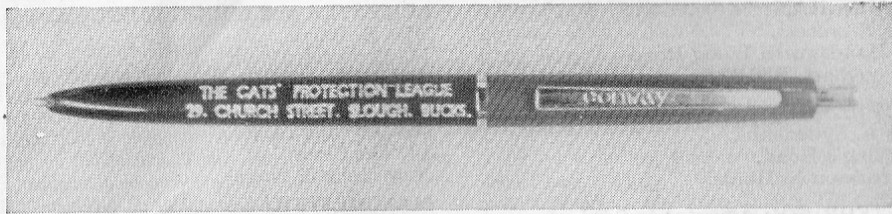


## SHOP WINDOW



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

Two or more post free from Headquarters only

**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.

**Cat Blankets** - home knitted all wool cat blankets - matching colours at 30p each proceeds for my C.P.L., collecting box. Mrs. M. Foster, 11, Monmouth Road, Oxford, OX1 4TD.

**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 1973?**

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

A Happy  
and Prosperous  
New Year  
to all our readers

The Cat is indeed the symbol of the home. Mark Twain summed this up when he wrote in Pudd'nhead Wilson that 'a house without a cat, and a well-fed, well-petted, and properly revered cat, may be a perfect house, perhaps, but how can it prove its title?'

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1973**

# THE CAT Vol. XLVII No. 1 JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1973

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)

Registered National Charity N. 203644

Headquarters Office and Clinic are at  
PRESTBURY LODGE, 29 CHURCH STREET, SLOUGH, BUCKS. SL1 1PW  
Telephone Slough 20173

Editor  
Arthur E. Parratt

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

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.

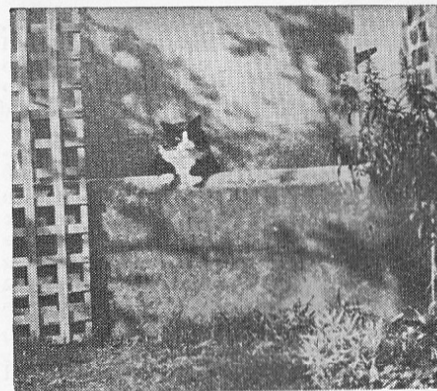
Notification of change of address.

Linen and blanket pieces, for use in the Clinic.

News-cuttings concerning cats, but please make sure that the name of the paper and the date of publication is given.

Used stamps. British Foreign and commemorative.

Names and Addresses of Boarding Catteries.



## ROUND AND ABOUT

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

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

Once again we embark on yet another new year and wonder what 1973 will bring in the way of fresh problems. Entry into Europe, Value Added Tax, the income tax alterations that will reduce the income obtained from our covenanted members and no doubt many more problems as yet unknown. I am sure that as ever all these difficulties will be overcome and that 1973 will become yet another year of success in every way. Great strides of the past year will be maintained and even improved on.

As I write these notes the year end has not quite reached us, but we can already say that the new Members enrolled this year have doubled the previous years total, and I am confident that the final tally will pass the figure of 300, a truly great and rewarding total, reflecting the efforts made throughout the country in getting the League better known and even better support.

It is hoped that early in 1973 we shall be launching a new branch in the South Eastern part of the country and a little later on there is every hope of similar news from the South Western area. With that thought in mind, I send greetings from us all at Headquarters to all our members and readers, to our branch workers and representatives, with special thought for our friends in Ireland both North and South for a successful and peaceful 1973. A happy New Year to you all.

### OLYMPIA — 1972 CAT SHOW

This year it was decided that Headquarters would be represented at the "show of the year" held at Olympia on November, 25th. For so long the League has been represented by a section of our London workers and so after booking the necessary space we found ourselves this year with a more

than worthwhile area in which the work both selling our bazaar goods and spreading the name of the C.P.L. could be carried out.

Mrs. de Clifford was assisted most gallantly by her New Malden colleagues throughout the long cold day and one of her stalls was worked for the greater part of eight hours by Miss Ellett, a devoted London worker and, of course, a member of Headquarters Executive Committee.

Headquarters stall was effectively brought to life by a magnificent dressage which made the League's title visible across the hall and attracted many eyes amongst the large number of visitors. For this show piece we are greatly indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Simmonds who, after designing and constructing the stand at our request, then kindly donated the fixture to the League. I was able to thank these good friends personally on the day and I now wish to thank them again on behalf of the League, for their most generous gift which, I am sure, will be used often for various future functions.

Our Headquarters stall was manned throughout the day by Mrs. Heycock and Miss Hamilton whilst yet a fourth member of the Headquarters Committee, Miss Troughton, circulated amongst the show visitors expounding the deeds of the League and luring many people towards our stalls, where they were invited to inspect and take our literature thereby learning all the many reasons why we are in existence. To date some twenty odd members have been enrolled as a result of these efforts, but I am sure that more of our especially printed enrolment forms will continue to find their way to Headquarters all in good time. My sincere thanks to the ladies named and all the good people who made the effort seem all worthwhile.



## ANIMALS' FAIR - 1972

After a very wet and dismal week in London we managed to have two days that were reasonably dry (at least during the daylight hours) and even a little sunshine for the annual Animals' Fair held once again in the Horticultural Hall. Again the League was well represented by our London workers, New Malden this time being joined by our friends from North London with Mrs. Davies as usual at the helm. Again my thanks to all the participants who helped to make the effort successful, including the four ladies of our Executive Committee who, as at Olympia, were present here for one or even both days of the Fair.

## TEMPORARY SHELTER/BOARDING FACILITIES

One of our greatest problems is always the temporary boarding or sheltering of strays until they can be rehoused. Some of our larger branches have permanent shelters, others have emergency homes maintained by their own workers who do wonderful work in this way, others have to board these unfortunates in private establishments for the vital period, thus using considerable portions of their branch funds to pay for such service.

Our greatest need for temporary accommodation is within the larger towns and cities which all seem to be undergoing redevelopment and, even in London where we have several independent homes and groups, all workers doing great work, we shall need many more. If any member could manage to give this type of help, even if it is a temporary home for only one or two strays, we would be extremely pleased to hear from you. Please write to your local branch Secretary in all cases and I remind you that if you are a resident within the London area and can help you have three branches who would be pleased to hear from your or, if in doubt please contact us at Headquarters. We shall always be pleased to advise you in the best possible way.

## USED POSTAGE STAMPS

Again we would ask our friends who keep us well supplied with used stamps to try and help by trimming the surrounding paper as much as possible. Just a narrow margin left round the actual stamps, this helps us very much, but please do not trim too closely otherwise the stamp itself can be cut or become torn and this does make what might have been a valuable collector's piece quite useless and unacceptable.

In the first eleven months of 1972 the stamps received at Headquarters alone raised £154.12p. and once again we would specifically thank Miss Audrey Cozens

and Sheba for the foreign varieties and, like us, they hope you will continue to send all stamps to us as often as possible and no amount will ever be too large or too small to be acknowledged.

Book Review - The Treasury of Cats published by Octopus Books Ltd., at £1.05p. A simple but accurately compiled book with the ingredients thoroughly blended by six of our well known writers. To illustrate the most informing details and stories ranging from unusual breeds and new breeds right down to the domestic pet cat, there are no less than 145 illustrations including many coloured photographs.

For the cost this is a book which will hold the attention of adults and children alike, the photographs are simple and the list of writers involved in "The Treasury of Cats", can and do already hold their own individual places on many a book case throughout the world. An ideal New Years present for any cat lover.

A. E. Parratt

## Press Statement

### DRY CAT FOODS

#### Report of the B.S.A.V.A. Scientific committee

Because of the recent controversy about the possible relationship of dry cat foods and feline urolithiasis (bladder disease in cats) the Scientific Committee of the British Small Animal Veterinary Association set up an inquiry in early September into the whole question so that members of the Association could give proper advice to cat owners. The Committee has made its report and makes the following recommendations.

1. There is no justification for asking for withdrawal of dry cat food at present available.
2. Dry cat foods should not be used as the whole diet for cats with a history of bladder disease. If it is unavoidable, then dry foods fed to these animals should be mashed with water or milk.
3. All packs of dry cat food should carry the recommendation that the dry diet should be introduced gradually over a four day period.
4. Instructions to provide fresh water or milk at all times should be printed prominently on the packs of dry foods.
5. It is also recommended that manufacturers should consider displaying an analysis of their food on the containers.
6. The whole question of feline urolithiasis (bladder disease in cats) requires urgent investigation.

## 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 BRANCH

##### SUPERCAT COMPETITION

Very many thanks to everyone who entered the Supercat competition.

For months I have been sorting through photographs of magnificent, obviously much loved cats, and our judge, Mr. Barry Griffiths, the well-known Birmingham Veterinary Surgeon, has freely admitted what a difficult task he so kindly took on.

Firstly however, an apology: due to continuing interest the closing date was extended from 31st August to 31st October, as announced in 'The Cat' magazine, and I must apologise if any anxiety over the return of photographs was caused. Every effort has been made to handle entries carefully and to return all those which enclosed an S.A.E.

#### HERE ARE THE PRIZEWINNERS

**BEST CAT IN THE COMPETITION:** Katie, a 12 year old tabby tortoiseshell cat belonging to Mrs. D. M. Summers of Langley Road, London, S.W.19.

**MOST BEAUTIFUL CAT:** Mimi, a 10 year old neutered female, with tabby, tortoiseshell and white colouring, belonging to Mrs. M. Wilson, of Billesley Lane, Birmingham.

**BEST FEMALE NEUTER:** You-You, a 15 year old Seal Point Siamese, owned by Mrs. S. Kaufman of Stert, Nr. Devizes, Wilts.

**BEST MALE NEUTER:** Perry, aged 12 years, a brown tabby with white markings, belonging to Mrs J. Moule, of Hatch Lane, Chartham Hatch, Canterbury, Kent.

**CAT WITH THE FUNNIEST FACE:** Sarfi, a pure white neutered female cat, aged about 13 years, owned by Mrs. D. Ryder of Tresilian, Nr. Truro, Cornwall.

**BEST CAT THAT WAS ONCE A STRAY:** Treacle, a one-year-old neutered tom, brown tabby, belonging to Mrs. A. Rose of Oxford Road, Birmingham.

Many congratulations to all the prize-winners. The final choice was exceedingly difficult as there were so many lovely cats who deserved recognition, so please do not be disappointed if your own cat was not one of the lucky ones. Apart from Treacle all the other prizewinners were older cats, some even

'Senior Citizens', and this is a great tribute to the care given by C.P.L. owners to keeping their pets in top condition.

Remember that every entry will go to help one of the very many stray or unwanted cats and kittens that the C.P.L. is continually being asked to shelter, neuter, give veterinary attention to, or to place in a new home.

A copy of the accounts is below. Printing costs, as ever proved to be high, especially as several thousand leaflets were distributed in Birmingham area in order to publicise the work of the C.P.L. and the advantages of neutering cats. Although little financial advantage can be expected from this, I hope that there will be future dividends not only from donations, but from more cats being neutered. The only other item of expenditure was the prizes themselves. All other expenses, postage, display boxes, etc. about £25 in all, came from the sales of my handmade toys from a showcase in Mr. Griffiths surgery. I am most grateful for the use of this.

#### EXPENDITURE

Printing	£67.02
Prizes	35.00
	-----
	£102.02
	-----
INCOME:	£198.83
PROCEEDS:	96.81

The proceeds are to be divided as follows:

Headquarters £55.25 and Birmingham Branch £41.81

3,500 leaflets kindly distributed in 'The Cat' magazine by Headquarters brought 136 entries (one entry might be for several cats), and the remaining 7,500 distributed to Birmingham members, shops, veterinary surgeries etc. brought 122 entries. Although this seems low, I am reliably informed that one entry in 1,000 is optimistic!

Best wishes for a Happy New Year to all Cats Protection League Members.

Mrs. S. J. Thulborn

P.O. Box 390, Birmingham B13 8DS

As a small reward for the hard work put into this competition by our friends in Birmingham it has been decided that the Headquarters portion of the receipts should be

kept by the Birmingham branch for use in their own area of operations.

A. E. Parratt

### CHELMSFORD AND DISTRICT REPORT

Although I am writing these notes shortly before the end of the year we are very happy to tell you that so far this year 971 cats and kittens have gone to good homes from the shelter, from our various outside cat-care refuges and from Mrs. Hazel Peachey's Mini-Shelter at Witham. We do not think that we will quite make the total 1,000 but we are all very pleased that all the hard work has resulted in so many homeless and unwanted cats being placed in good homes. We know too, that many of you will be delighted to learn that we have not had a single cat destroyed. During the last few weeks of the year we found life very busy whilst in amidst all our Christmas fund raising activities. Our all day Fair on November, 25th raised £110 which was very good as there was a great deal of competition in the town. On December 9th we had a similar Fair combined with our Christmas Draw and £56 was raised in approx one hour the rest of the time being taken by the draw. "Crumbs" a beautiful blue-eyed white persian drew the winners. At least he tried for the first few and then his owner Mrs. Kalis helped him out. There were 37 prizes in all and nearly all of them came from kind members and friends many of them via trading stamps green shield, pink and co-operative. The first few winners were: £5 - Miss G. Mitchell, Chelmsford, 6575., Turkey - Mrs. Morena, London, W.1. 0694., Candlewick Bedspread - Mrs. Mears, London, W.2., 4682, Whiskey - Mrs. Cridland, Billerica, 7299., Gin - Bobbie Hondman, Hornchurch, 6701, 200 Cigarettes - Mrs. Holmes, Danbury, 4977.

A full list of the 37 winners is available upon request from Mrs. C. Peterson, Piers Gill, Fir Tree Rise, Little Baddow, Chelmsford, CM3 4SS. We do thank all of you kind people who helped us to sell the tickets which we completely sold out much to our chagrin three weeks before the draw - next year we will be sure to order more tickets.

We had a wonderful response from our Tuck Box "Aunts and Uncles" for the cats Christmas feeding and the 60 cats in the shelter and our 50 or more outside dependants all had their usual treats of rabbit, chicken, fresh fish and liver. Three or four of our helpers gave a hand with Christmas cooking of the special food which lasted for four days and we are feeling very thankful that we knew one or two people with a deep freeze. If all the cats had received two meals a day, it would have worked out at about 900 meals.

However, a lot of them got only one meal with double rations, of course.

To commence 1973 we have Saturday Sales in January and February and also a St. Valentine's Fair at Danbury in February. Our members and friends will receive a news letter in January giving the dates for the next few months and the draw results. Finally, we hope to tell you some very special and important news in the near future. We are expecting to move the shelter to a splendid 1 acre site in early 1973 where at least we shall have room and facilities enough to care for as many homeless and unwanted cats as may be necessary.

A big thank you to everyone who helped us in 1972, we could not have managed without you and all the cats, the Committee and helpers wish you a very happy New Year.

Mrs. C. Peterson.

### DERBY BRANCH

We hope we have now recharged our batteries sufficiently to face the oncoming year. Throughout 1972 there was very little let-up in the numbers of abandoned cats and kittens which passed through our hands, and far more kittens than usual, for the time of year, have put their names on our list for homefinding. Horror stories still crop up from time to time, to quote just one - a small kitten found on a busy road, a piece of concrete tied around its neck. This poor soul was rescued and is now thriving in its new home. The supply of food for homeless cats on demolition sites continues, and nearly every week another area lies derelict in the wake of King Bulldozer.

Our Annual Bazaar was very successful, and we wish to record thanks to all members and friends, who helped; Mr. Reg Waterfield for his role as Father Christmas, Mr. Albert Flynn who made various posters, and who donated one of his lovely paintings: all friends who sent us generous donations, both in this country and as far afield as U.S.A., and Monaco, the latter unfortunately cannot be acknowledged personally as we have no address. We are grateful indeed to Mr and Mrs. Mason of Allestree, and friends of St. John's, who very kindly made available an ambulance to transport people to our Bazaar, who are normally housebound through indifferent health. Finally we would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. J. Hobbs for allowing us to have copies printed of one of their poems, which we are finding so helpful for the purpose of spaying and neutering propaganda. Alas there are still those who do believe strongly in allowing cats to breed indiscriminately, thus making our work that

much harder . . . but we feel sure we will overcome some day.

Mrs. M. Norton  
24 Sevenoaks Avenue, Derby.

### GLOSSOP AND DISTRICT

This is our first contribution to the magazine as the Glossop and District branch since we were reformed in August, 1972. At the moment we have a small but hard working temporary Committee but hope, in the New Year to hold a full branch meeting to elect a more permanent working Committee.

To date, most of our time has been spent in organizing fund raising activities as the branch as ever is in need of funds. With this in mind, we would be grateful for any offers of help, monetary or material, from our members and it would be very heartening if all our present members and friends could enroll at least one more supporter in 1973.

We were fortunate in receiving a visit from Mr. Parratt at a time when our hopes were at their lowest but his help, advice, encouragement and, most of all, his faith in our future, gave a much needed boost to our flagging morale. We appreciate and thank him for his time and trouble.

Our main hope for the future is to arrange for the neutering of as many cats as possible, for the distress of unwanted kittens and cats is almost more than can be borne, and to concentrate on eliminating this problem at source is the best thing possible, although this will not help us with the present population of unwanted strays with which we are also trying to contend. We have still quite a number of beautiful cats and kittens in the cattery whose keep is straining our finances, and if any member in our area can find a home for one of these it would greatly help in relieving our problem.

Our thanks to you all in advance and may you have a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

Mrs. R. Ward  
21 Palmerston Road, Manchester  
M34 2NZ

### LEICESTER AND LOUGHBOROUGH

There are so few people in Leicester helping out with the overwhelming problem of "Thrown-out" Cats and Kittens, that we, the willing ones, have to bear the brunt of brick-bats and sharp words if we are physically unable to do all that is requested of us.

Cat-baskets are rarely returned, and this necessitates another journey before we can collect a cat from perhaps ten miles or more for spaying or neutering - we pay for the petrol out of our own pockets - and then there is the return journey. If there are more than one cat from different houses on that

specific day, we are travelling until midnight or even later. (And we all have to work in our businesses next day).

We have been unfortunate with people who volunteered to run our Cat shelters for the "Street Strays". Two years ago, as perhaps you remember we had two days notice to quit and rehouse about 130 Cats, and the samaritan who took over has now died.

Another grumble. We arrange to fetch a Cat or Cats for neutering, and are held up by traffic jams or an accident. The owner then loses patience and goes out to have coffee with a neighbour, almost spitting venom over the telephone when we ring to ask why she did not wait for us. We always start out in good time in the morning to allow for hold-ups but sometimes they are worse than normal.

I realize that we are perhaps preaching to the converted, but, to bring to the notice of those who are a little in the dark about the hard work we are called upon to do. Mrs. Linwood-Wright and myself were out at 1.30 a.m. on a rainy night struggling to pull nails which had pinned a lovely Tabby by his front paws to a wooden garden fence. He had Veterinary treatment, and has been found an excellent home.

Very many, many thanks for all the patient Cat-lovers who quietly and understandingly help by sending anything to sell at our various activities. Betty in London who has been a God-Send, and to Mr. Parratt whose calm kindness, but firmness, is helping us to continue and Mrs. Tarry who has typed this article for us.

Mrs. M. Bakewell,  
211 Anstey Lane, Leicester

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*Best Wishes for  
the New Year*

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**NEXT ISSUE  
MARCH/  
APRIL 1973**

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## LONDON COMMITTEE

### THE CLOSE RESCUE CENTRE

12 The Close, New Malden, Surrey.

The New Year opens for us on January 27th with our January Sale at the Presbyterian Hall, Briary Walk, Upper Richmond Road, Putney. There is a request bus stop opposite the hall, called Northumberland Arms, for buses 30 and 37. E. Putney is the nearest station, the doors will open at 2 o'clock, and we hope that all our friends will come to see us there.

Then on Saturday 24th February we will have our Monster Jumble Sale and tiny Bazaar at St. Philips, Earls Court Road, W.8. again at 2 p.m. and these are only the start of all the lovely events we hope to offer you during the year; we will be very grateful for stock of every kind to sell. Anything you can make, knit, crochet or sew for us will be most welcome, and so will any little curios you may have about the house which you can spare, specially anything made of silver, amber, jade, jet or mother-of-pearl. Our friend who is furnishing a dolls' house has asked again for any small articles which could be put into it, or any old dollhouse furniture which might be put away somewhere. Please go through all your cupboards and see if you can find us something.

I am rather afraid it is just possible we may not have the turn-out of eager helpers for Animal Flag Day which I was rather counting upon, the reason I think this is that in reply to my impassioned appeal for one hundred kind people to help us I have had only one offer - so far. It looks at present as if this one person and myself are going to have a very busy Animal Flag Day - won't someone else come and share the burden? We still have one hundred boxes - ninety-eight of them going spare at present.

At the Rescue Centre an eager row of little cats is waiting for homes, all prepared, groomed and ready to be the model companions anyone would like, real furry friends - we also have Duffy and his tough gang, whose hobby at present is seeing who can make the muddiest paw-marks in the most unlikely place. I still don't know how they managed to send a kind local delivery man, who happens to be bald, away with a paw mark on the top of his pate without his feeling it! We have two very pathetic new arrivals, a brother and sister, who have never, I think, heard a kind word, they are called Saffron and Simnal, and anything anyone can send for a bit extra for them would be greatly appreciated.

If there is anybody, anywhere in the Kingdom, with a little time to spare who would like to help us, we are trying to find someone who will thread beads for us. I have boxes of

lovely bead necklaces, all broken - will someone please help?

Mrs. N. DE CLIFFORD,  
12, The Close,  
New Malden, Surrey.

## NORTH LONDON BRANCH

We wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year and pray that you will be as kind and helpful to us in 1973 as you were in 1972. Your support is most vital to us and to any Branch. It is most encouraging to know that some members collect jumble, others send us Green Shield stamps and some send us donations; others lift and carry for us. How would we cope without you, including Sammy and Fred, two cats from Dorset, who sent us a donation? Thank you all.

Our sales of your jumble during 1972 have been most successful, helped by our Daisy who, in between all her work at the Shelter, shows the odd piece of jumble in the window of the Shelter. So far, in the last four months, she has sold £53 of jumble for us. Perhaps others of you might like to try to sell your jumble for us to friends and neighbours and send us the proceeds.

Our Fred, the Cockney Cat, is again cock-a-hoop. He has had his photograph taken again, this time for an advertisement. In spite of his clumsiness we become increasingly proud of him.

Although our Christmas Bazaar was held in a smaller hall it was a great success. We didn't break records but we did earn enough to keep the Shelter going and feed our 40 resident cats well for seven weeks. We are well satisfied. On average, each of our three jumble sales pays the Shelter expenses for 2½ weeks and with the Bazaar, our takings at sales pay shelter expenses for 14½ weeks. You, of course, enable us to keep running for the remaining 37½ weeks of the year.

In our last report we said that we were saving Green Shield stamps to replace feeding bowls for our cats and the response was magnificent. Stamps arrived from all over the country and, just as we were about to reach our goal, a very kind member gave us all the feeding bowls we needed, so instead we obtained modern hygienic sleeping baskets for our cats. Our old wicker baskets were inclined to be harbourers of germs, taking in as we do so many strays with an infection. We were also able to obtain an electric iron to smooth jumble sale clothing so that it can be sold at Bazaars and thus obtain a higher price.

Please go on sending us trading stamps. We always need something at the Shelter and the stamps save us money to spend on feeding our hungry strays.

## NORTH LONDON—cont.

Lastly, we thank you so much for your support during 1972.

Mrs. M. DAVIES,  
435 Caledonian Road,  
London, N7

## NOTTINGHAM

The Nottingham Branch have just held a very successful Wine and Cheese Party and Tombola in a well-known hall in Nottingham.

This was the first fund-raising event of this type held since the Branch had been reformed, with a new Committee and Officers, so it was undertaken on an entirely experimental basis.

We had mounted considerable publicity, each member being written to personally by the Chairman, large notices displayed in considerable quantities, and insertions placed in the local papers. The Chairman was interviewed on Radio Nottingham regarding the details of the event, and many members of the Committee and other friends sold as many tickets as possible on a personal basis.

Whilst being interviewed on Radio Nottingham concerning the Wine and Cheese Party, our Chairman took the opportunity of referring to the distressing aftermath of slum clearance work, in relation to abandoned cats, and asked that anyone requiring advice or assistance should telephone, giving numbers of the chairman or Secretary.

Several calls were subsequently received, and dealt with, resulting in satisfactory and practical conclusions.

Miss M. J. MARRIOTT,  
Risewood, Debdale Lane,  
Notts., NG12 5HZ

## SUSSEX BRANCH

A Happy New Year to all our fellow C.P.L. members everywhere. 1972 ended with our Christmas Sale, which in spite of a nasty wet day was most successful, thanks to the generosity of not only our local members but from all over the country, Devon, Northampton, Newcastle among many, a most fabulous response, and we are deeply grateful. We made £77 at the sale and we had a marvellous donation from a great cat lover who sold a treasure at Sothebys and sent us £30 to add to our total so that makes it £107. Thrilling news indeed.

Now we start a New Year and wonder what it will bring. Let us hope not so many unwanted cats and kittens and more good homes offered. If you have one or two cats, one more won't make much difference to the work, but it will make all the difference in the world to some poor little unwanted cat to find a home and comfort and a fire in winter to sit by, and most important love and attention which will be repaid ten times

over. So please increase your own cat family in 1973 and have a really Happy New Year.

Miss P. MARK,  
113 Ashburnham Road,  
Hastings

## ULSTER BRANCH

My first opportunity to say Happy New Year to everyone and special greetings and thanks to our friends across the seas who, although not members of the Ulster Branch, have done so much to keep us "on the map". This time last year I expressed the hope that 1972 would bring better days for Northern Ireland. Instead we have endured twelve months of death, destruction, hatred and lawlessness that has shocked and saddened the saner elements among us, of whom there are more than you might imagine from Press and Television reports. I won't dare to anticipate what 1973 will bring - maybe the peace we want so much, maybe even worse trouble than we have known already. We must just wait and see.

We have been very busy during the Autumn trying to do as much fund-raising as possible in rather difficult and frustrating conditions and we have been surprisingly successful. In addition to the Jumble Sale and Mini-Auction, which between them brought in around £100 we have had two Coffee Parties which, thanks to extremely hard work on the part of our helpers and generosity from the folk who supported us, has resulted in sums of approximately £196 and £200 being raised at the two venues in Malone and Knock. We are extremely grateful to all who contributed in any way and may I also thank the kind friends who have sent money so that the cats could have a special treat at Christmas.

We now turn our attention to the year ahead and intend to have our first event at the beginning of February. It will take the form of a New Year Party, but will undoubtedly include some fund-raising. We hope members will receive notices about it along with this magazine. We also plan more Jumble and White Elephant sales so please collect suitable items, but please can it be fairly "good jumble". I'm sorry to say we tend to have rather a lot of rubbish sent us. Some time, in the Spring, we have plans to run another Coffee Party in Bangor - perhaps our members in and around Co. Down will consider this their effort, with our assistance of course, and start collecting and preparing well in advance. Then we still want used stamps, lots of them please. Also will everyone please note that they should be sent to:

Mr. Norman Liken, 61 Cherryhill Road, Dundonald, Belfast.

This does not mean that Mrs. Wilson has entirely given up - but because so many



## ULSTER—cont.

stamps are left at the Cattery or with me and in view of the fact that Mrs. Wilson now lives in Co. Antrim and there is a problem getting the stamps transported, she and Mr. Liken are working together on the project.

Now here is a suggestion the Committee would like you to consider. We sometimes need short-term Foster parents for cats or kittens, for example where an old person has to go into hospital or if the Cattery is overcrowded and we need breathing-space for a few days or for some other reason (there are lots). If you think you could help us in this connection phone Miss Audrey Kent, (641947) or write to her at 24, Broughton Park, Belfast, 6.

Members and friends of the Ulster Branch will be sorry indeed to hear that our beloved Magazine Secretary, Mrs. Kathleen Jackson, died on Sunday, 10th December after a brief illness. Although her health had been causing anxiety for some time past she was well enough to help at our two Coffee Parties on 25th November and 2nd December and she thoroughly enjoyed meeting her many friends and chatting with them. On the following Friday she had a stroke and died without regaining consciousness. She was much loved — she will be greatly missed.

Let me end with a happy story. A nice tiger cat was picked up right in the centre of Belfast (not too safe a place these days) and brought to the Shelter. The finder kindly put a "Found" advertisement in the local paper which brought an immediate response from a young woman in the Shankhill district and her joy at being re-united with her pet was quite touching. Incidentally she had inserted a "Lost" advertisement two weeks earlier with no result. As she left, the young woman, who did not give the impression of being overloaded with this world's goods, handed £5 to the Shelter Superintendent and when Mrs Tredrea protested that it was too much replied "My Penny's worth every tiny bit of it". How the cat came to be so far from home is a mystery, but it seems he had a habit of jumping on car bonnets! I hope he has learned his lesson.

Miss E. McKee,  
92a Earlswood Road,  
Belfast 4. N.I.

## WEST CORNWALL BRANCH

Battling with floods and storms seems to highlight our Winters, and we spend a great deal of time mopping up water in the catteries, mending leaky roofs and trying to keep the dogs out of the mud. Saturday afternoons the visiting children run riot so we have them to clean up as well. In the house various buckets are left to catch the drips from our

own tatty roof which has been repaired so many times that it is almost caving in. So much for sunny Cornwall! Fortunately most of our helpers have a sense of the ridiculous so we make the best of a hopeless situation.

Our Christmas Fayre is next Saturday and will be a past event when these notes are read, but at the moment there is a tremendous amount of activity going on pricing and packing, because for the first time in history we are holding the Fayre in Falmouth at the home of Miss Davis who has so kindly loaned us her large meeting room, and it will be ideal for us really to display our wares and encourage more people to support us. Miss Davies adopted a cat from us some years ago and I feel there has been a conspiracy going on between them. We have a lovely lot of goods to sell and we will let you know the results in the next issue.

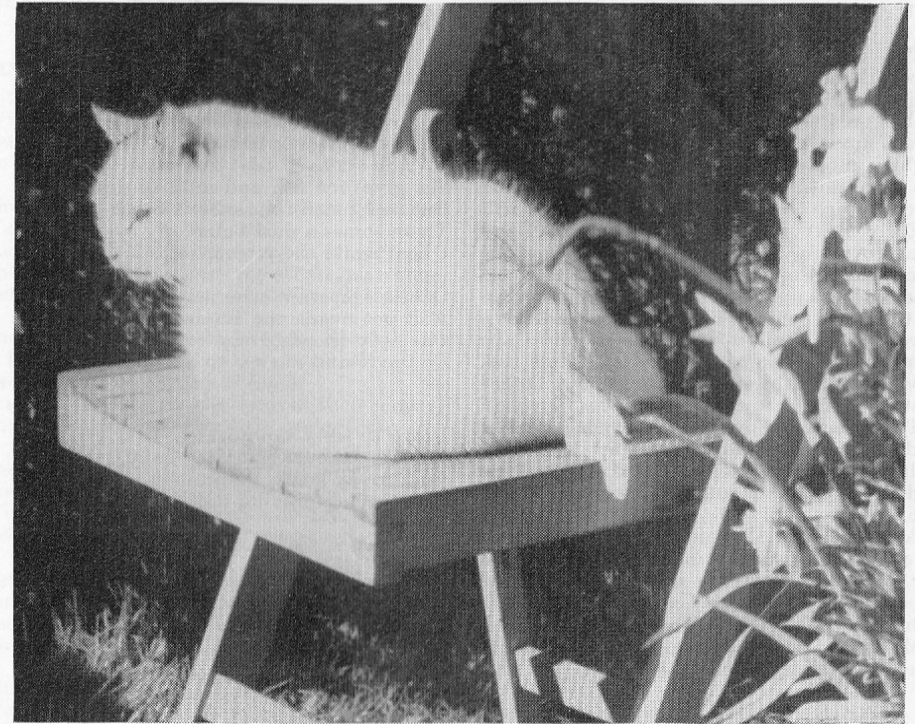
A few Saturdays ago, one of our helpers found a wooden crate of cats dumped along the main road not far from our lane. Three very-well-looked-after cats emerged and we have since found them good homes, I shudder to think what could have happened to these poor creatures if they hadn't been rescued by a sympathetic cat lover. As someone explained to me the other day, "It isn't the work we have to do that takes up our time, it's the work we shouldn't be doing that wears us out". This is true, because if very-one stopped to think, and then tried to do the sensible thing, even if they can't manage the orthodox procedure, then life could be so much easier for us and others too. The cats bless them, are so little trouble, they can teach us many a lesson in patience, kindness, and cleanliness. But people who have cat problems or want to discard their cats often have no feeling at all for their fellow humans.

We are so very grateful to the kind readers who write and send donations and parcels regularly. We are particularly touched by members who still remember Yum-Yum, who seems to have become a legend, and gifts arrive often to mark her anniversaries. Even Amber's Garden is still flourishing and the pebbles are increasing and the funds for feline O.A.P.'s come in without fail. We have a lot to be thankful for.

Vivien Hircock and her wonderful band of helpers in Boscastle have done it again. They carried off our jumble the other week, ran a sale and a cheque for £20 arrived in due course, no fuss no bother and no work on our part. What can we say? You see what I mean.....

Mrs. K. BEESLEY,  
Cathlowena, Cusgarne, Truro.

## GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS



## THE ADDICT

Twib is a soft coated, gentle eyed, sweet faced, loving and lovable bundle of snow white fur, as innocent looking as a baby girl, but under that sinless surface lies a guilty secret. She is a drug addict.

At the matronly age of nearly fourteen Twib still enjoys what human addicts call a trip, under a drug she has taken since kittenhood: catnip.

Catnip is not classified a dangerous drug. The World Health Organisation seems disinterested in its effects; nor are its perils discussed by the United Nations or Parliament. They devote their debates to international affairs, while the catnip menace threatens ordinary citizen's property.

Look at Twib again; those soft paws can move an object thirty times her size when powered by the drug, as on the night of the Great Catnip Trip. It started on a mild summer evening, with everyone resting but the gardener of the family who had spotted some untidy fronds on the catnip plant.

Thoughtlessly she snipped them off, releasing the strange strong scent that has always acted on Twib like . . . . . well, like catnip on a cat.

The dozing bundle stirred; opened one eye; shut it again; opened the other eye; and sniffed. Nose twitching, she stretched and walked towards some carelessly dropped stalks. She tasted the leaves, found them fresh, and took a good mouthful. Soon she was rolling deliriously, almost standing on her head in the sap; wagging her head from side to side; rolling her eyes in intoxicated ecstasy, purring and chirruping.

Very funny the humans thought the performance. The Deputy Head of the Household, Master (Twib herself is, naturally, the Head) was less amused on waking to the noise of burglars smashing the front door in soon afterwards. Clumsy burglars, too, making enough din to rouse the police. Thud! crash! The Deputy Head, leaning over the bannisters, found the hallway completely blocked by a heavy timber hall stand, formerly standing about 6 feet tall but now toppled drunkenly across the floor surrounded by coats, hats, umbrellas, and broken wood. The wreckage was as impressive as the noise but where were the burglars?



## THE ADDICT—cont.

The offender emerged from a heap of wreckage, a very small, much sobered wrecker beside such destruction. One white cat. In her greatest catnip orgy she had dragged herself up a coat by her claws, to perform slightly unbalanced gymnastics on the narrow top ledge until her squirming weight sent her perch flying.

Early next morning the Deputy Head went to work, glueing and hammering the pieces into shape. Grimly he bolted the repaired hall stand to the floorboards, then to the wall behind, like the furniture in a naval vessel built for service around Cape Horn in the worst weather. The hall cat-proofed at last, he surveyed the piano. Ought that to be fixed to the floor, too?

Two things Master could not bring himself to do: punish the culprit, or dig up the catnip. Still the plant flourishes, and still the little addict goes on regular head-rolling catnip trips.

And the moral? Let a catnip addict enjoy herself at a reasonable hour, but never give her the stuff late in the evening. She might set about wrecking the home while under its influence.

Muriel V. Searle (Miss), 164 Queen Anne Avenue, Bromley, Kent, BR2 0SF.

## TO PENKIE

She is called Penelope  
And she is most dear to me.  
I'm her Auntie, she's my niece,  
And my love will never cease  
For such a charming little cat  
Not too thin and not too fat,  
Golden eyes and tabby stripes,  
She's the best of all the types.  
Penkie's haughty, Penkie's proud,  
Too much petting's not allowed,  
On the curtains high she swings,  
But how much joy her presence brings!

E. WALTON

## CATS

Prowling about like a thief stealing goods,  
Waiting in prey to catch mice or fat ducks,  
Climbing so swiftly like squirrels darting up,  
There go the cats,  
The bane of the cook.

Mice fear the worst as if death were near  
Here come the cats from the darkened rear,  
Kittens watch their mothers in vain,  
Looking out at the blinding rain.

Lions and tigers they all think the same,  
All they think of is glorious fame,  
Merry and cuddly are the cats,  
But beware dear cat of the prickly mats.

A. SWALES

## MEMBERS' CORNER

I have a place to call my own  
With one I love who lives alone,  
She rescued me when I was small  
And so I love her best of all.

She gives me fish and milk to drink  
But as I touch the saucer's brink  
There comes a mist before my eyes  
I hear again the piteous cries.

Of those in want who need so much  
And yet evade the human touch,  
Oh, little friends I say to all,  
Be brave and answer to a call.

C. F. MCCONAGHEY

I love to see a tabby cat,  
With green eyes sparkling gaily,  
And, in my heart, for animals,  
I'm praying-praying daily.

To watch a marmalade cat,  
Run blithely through the grasses,  
Is wonderful to me - I feel  
The Sunshine as she passes.

And when a puss as black as night  
With snowy front, is purring,  
A little poem within my mind,  
To praise her beauty's stirring.

The fairest one of all the cats,  
Pure white with shining blue eyes,  
I love her best, but animals  
Have all sincerest true eyes.

I had a cat of misty blue -  
Green-eyed, and white spot-fronted,  
The dearest pet that any woman  
Ever could have wanted.

MURIEL IVENS

Would any lady or ladies like to offer services as 'cat minder' for a week or ten days next May/June while the owners take a much needed break. Sussex village 14 miles from Brighton. Pleasant house and surroundings. All expenses plus gratuity.

Mrs. D. Bing, 9 Barleycroft, Cowford, Horsham, Sussex.



## MEMBERS CORNER—cont.

### TINY

Tiny's asleep on a cushion of red  
Where she so often makes her bed  
But the top of the oven's her greatest delight  
So cosy and warm on a cold Winter's night.

She's sweet and so cute and she's ginger all over,  
Such a grand life, she is living in clover  
She's the last of our pets the others have gone,  
Let's hope for a long while, she'll still live on.

She lost her two brothers dear Sparky and Punch  
No one now to share her lunch  
But I'm sure she misses them at their play  
She was sitting on Punchy's grave today.

She is full of fun and frolic and play  
And gets more kittenish every day.  
We get a good pantomime now and then  
You would never think she was over ten.

She rumbles and tumbles all over the floor  
And often we get a twice nightly show,  
She's a fine ballerina, leaps up in the air,  
And turns a somersault over the chair.

Tiny, dear Tiny, we do love her so,  
We'll miss her so much when her time comes to go,

Such joy she's brought while she's been here  
Please stay a long while yet Tiny dear.

N. HENDERSON

### LOST

Lost in the Bradmore area of Wolverhampton - white and black cat, long haired with bushy tail and large black patch on centre of back.

Named Chippy but might answer to name of Snowy, my other pet Puss.

He resembles the cat depicted in the round and about feature of the magazine.

Any news please to Booth, 25 Furnivall Crescent, Lichfield or phone Wolverhampton 30678.

A CALLING OF CATS: Twenty poems by Mary Collier, described by Derek Tangye as "outstanding in their charm and delightful insight into the world of cats". Published by the Anglo-Venetian Group for the protection of Stray Animals, Condurro Cottage, St. Clement, Truro, Cornwall, 20p. Cash with order. All profits to the cats of Venice.

## A STRAY CAT'S PRAYER

Dear Lord, it is so wet and drear,  
The icy wind is beating round  
The archway where a carter here  
Has dropped some straw upon the ground.

I curl in tight against the cold  
And wash the leg that got a kick.  
I used to be so spruce of old  
But now I have no strength to lick.

In some dim way I think I knew  
A gentle hand that stroked my head  
And spoke kind loving words and true  
And made a warm and cozy bed.

And laid down plates of milk and meat  
Before a warm and glowing fire.  
Today I only had to eat  
A fish head lying in the mire.

I am a little frightened, Lord,  
The world is very cruel and wild  
You love the little children, Lord,  
I also am your loving child.

Father of all the tiny things  
(The fallen sparrows in their plight  
Are sheltered by your heavenly wings)  
Care for a little cat to-night.

MAUD CHRISTIE (Dublin)

WANTED by reference librarian and research compiler for a collection of true stories: anecdotes about relationships between cats and other animals, especially the horse. (Wild animal and cat relationships would also be welcome).

Also, can anyone tell me about cats exhibiting an unusual taste for food(s)? (Our cat, for example, likes canteloupe, cucumber and orange juice, as well as the expected milk, pork chop, and salmon).

For your information, Mr. Editor, (and if you think it appropriate to include it or part of it in your magazine): This is actually for a surprise for my daughter. She loves her male Siamese cat who thinks she is his pet rather than vice versa. (She loves horses, too, but only knows the mounted police animals here in the city). Sir Loyal Heart, the cat, called Hearty, is, to her young mind, most unusual as he disdains practically every other human being but relates beautifully to other (non-cat) animals, the larger the animal the better (and horses are very much "in")!

Dorothy Hite Claybourne (Mrs.),  
Reference Assistant,  
SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

## OBITUARY

It is with deepest regret that we have to report the death of Miss Phoebe Mills-Palmer. Both she and her sister Dorothea have had very close connections with the League for many years mostly during Mr. Steward's time as Secretary. I am sure he would want to join me in expressing our regrets at the loss of this great friend.

Miss Mills-Palmer had been a keen and enthusiastic supporter since 1936 when she enrolled Lotti as a Tailwaver, a beautiful black persian bred by her sister in the previous year and a Tailwaver for the following sixteen years.

For the past eight years Miss Phoebe had been unable to read The Cat due to failing sight, but so great was her interest that every issue was carefully read to her by her sister up to August. After a long period of suffering she slipped away to join her long passed pets. To Miss Dorothea we extend our deepest sympathy.

A. E. Parratt

## IN MEMORIAM

Princess Pouff — our darling little girl who passed on to the Heavenly Glade on the 18th June, 1952, aged 17 years. Never forgotten, always loved. "Till we meet again, little sweetheart". Two loving Mummies.

In gratitude for the love of a little cat Nell put to sleep October, 10th 1972 about 16 years old. Gladys B. Mantle

In ever loving memory of Charlie (T.W. 4870) and Claud (T.W.478) most reluctantly put to sleep on the 20th July, 1972 and 30th July 1972. Will always be remembered by N. W. and M. Gilmer.

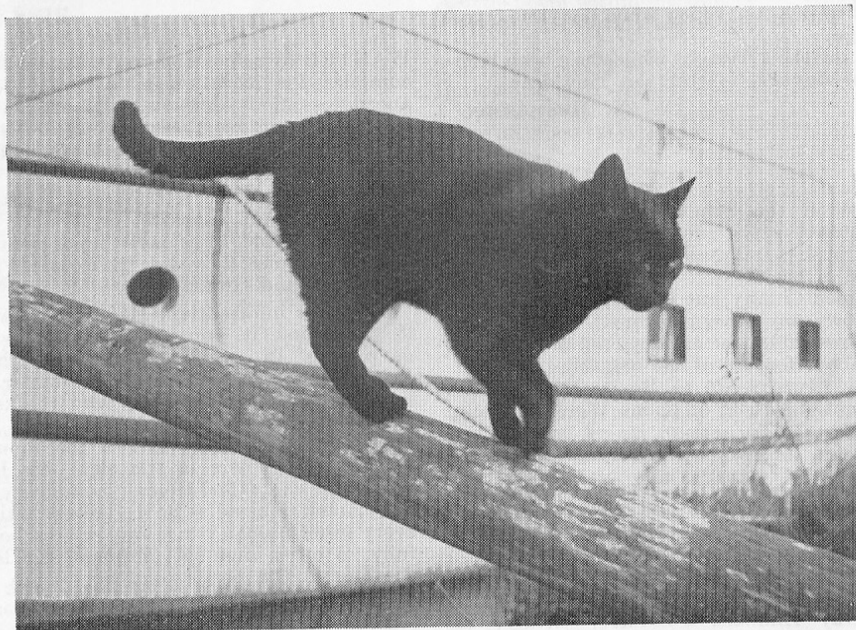
In loving memory of our beloved TINKER TAR, tailwaver No. 4768, who died on October 18th 1970 aged 17½ years.

Two years today you slipped away, but even in our hearts you'll stay. M. Sears

In memory of dear Smoky who died on 21st November, 1972. A perfect pussy missed by us both. D. Smith

For Bee-Bee, 1950-1965, whose dear companionship is remembered every day by his mum. F.G.S.

In loving memory of Timothy put to sleep January 1971. Gone from our Home but not from our Hearts. Ange and Doug.



"BLACKIE"

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