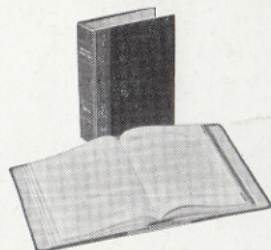


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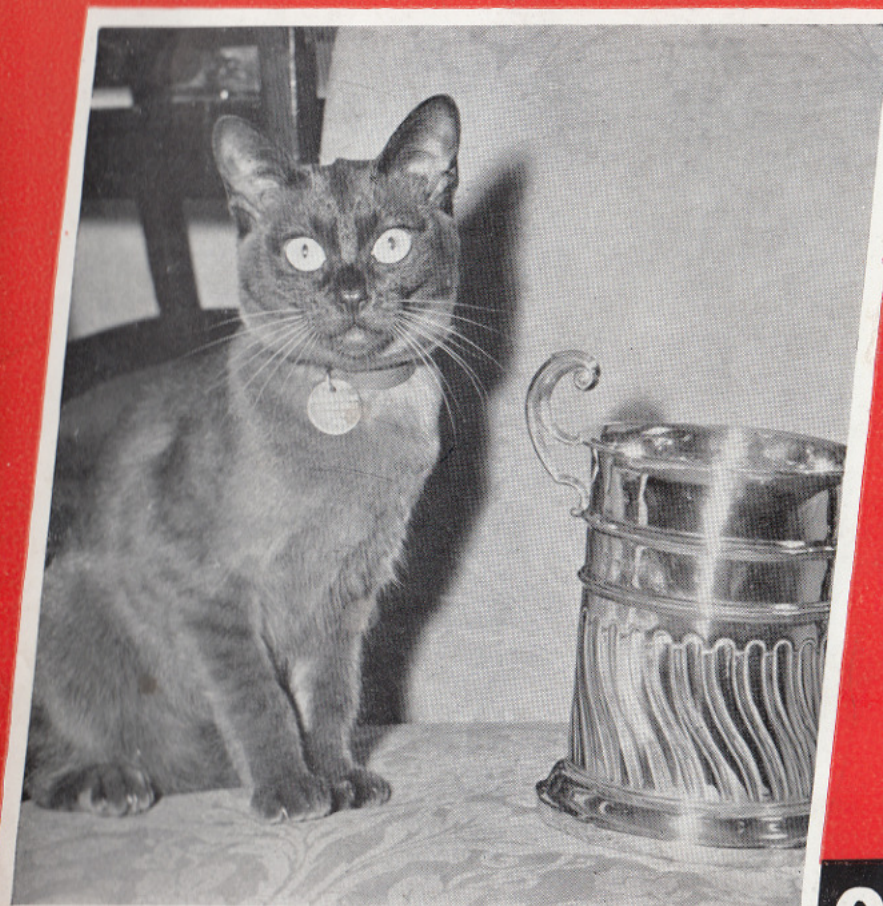
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# Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE  
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AUGUST 1962

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# Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

Published every month with the best possible features and illustrations and circulated to Cat Lovers of every kind throughout the world. Our editorial purpose is:

- (1) to spread a wider understanding and a better appreciation of all cats, their care and management;
- (2) to encourage in every way the breeding, handling and showing of pedigree cats;
- (3) to work for the suppression of every form of cruelty to cats;
- (4) to act as a link of friendship and common interest between cat lovers in different parts of the world.

VOL. 14 No. 8  
AUGUST 1962

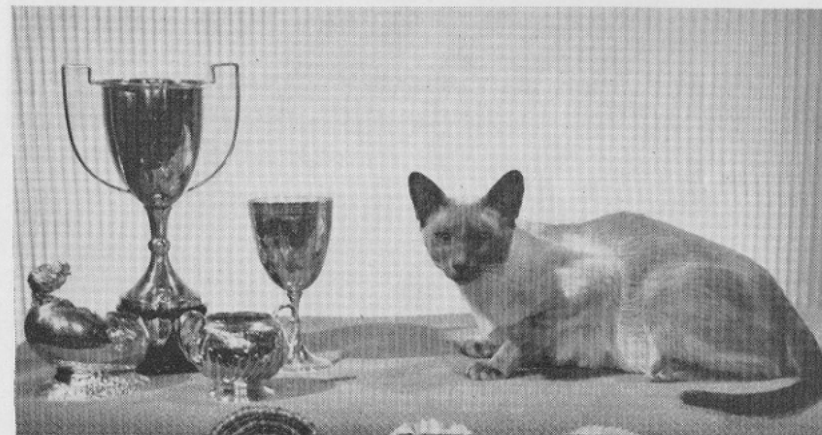
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MR. F. W. PEARCE, 33 OLD BEROWRA  
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THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



CH. KUALA AZURE CYNARA, winner of four C.C.'s and other awards and trophies, is a Blue Point Siamese queen of excellent quality and temperament. She has produced at least one outstanding kitten in each of her first three litters—Kuala Azure Ahlim, who has been neutered after winning a C.C. at 10 months, K.A. Bogyi, who is now a successful sire in Surrey, and K.A. Chakri, adjudged Best Kitten at the National Show last year. Cynara is bred and owned by Mrs. M. E. Macalister, of Clifton, Rugby.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** The address for all communications relating to editorial and advertisements in OUR CATS is 4 CARLTON MANSIONS, 378 CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9. (Macaulay 1462).

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## GUIDE TO CATS

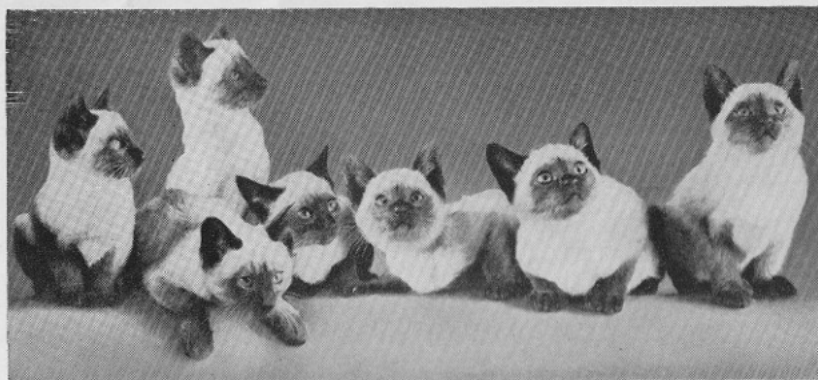
By Ann L. Stubbs

22 Photographs. Crown 8vo. 17/6 net.

*Guide to Cats* is not only for the new owner or prospective purchaser of a pedigree kitten, but for all who own cats; whether aristocrats of the feline world or "Moggies" of no known parentage and for all those who love cats but cannot through force of circumstances keep one. Cats are fascinating creatures; a joy to look at and a delight to live with—they have a past rich with history and a future bright with promise—all these facets have been touched on here. In addition to which the various breeds are described and there are chapters on breeding and exhibiting pedigree cats; an absorbing hobby which gains more adherents each year.

Ann Stubbs has lived with cats all her life, both pedigree and non pedigree, and for many years has bred and exhibited British Shorthairs and run a small holiday home for cats. Her book is well illustrated with photographs and is a "must" for every cat lover.

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## My tiger cats

By MARIA FALKENA (Holland)

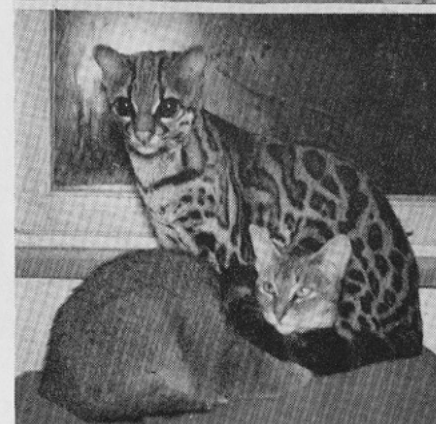
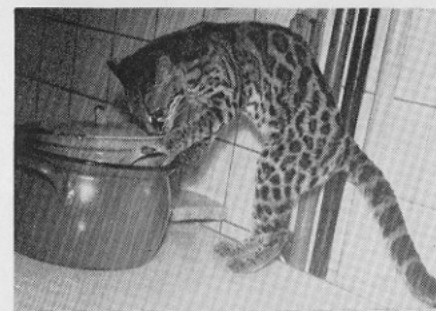
**D**O you know what an oncilla is?

Perhaps on hearing this name your reaction is the same as mine when first I heard it. The only thing I could remember was that somewhere in one of the papers I had read that Farah Diba had bought an oncilla fur coat when she became engaged to the Shah of Persia.

So when in answer to my enquiry as to whether there was a margay for sale in Ecuador I received a telegram saying that they could offer me an oncilla, something even more rare and beautiful than a margay, I immediately telephoned a zoologist friend to ask him: "What would *you* do if you could buy an oncilla?" He replied that he would send an urgent telegram to snap up such a wonderful offer.

Four days later, Buenaventura, the oncilla, entered our home and now as I write this it is difficult to imagine what life would be like without her. The oncilla is one of more than forty different kinds of "wild" cats in South America. Many of them to-day are in grave danger of extinction because their beautiful coats are valued by the furriers.

Buena developed into a most intelligent and lovely cat who accepted the rules of the house in a very short time. She was house-trained by nature and friendly disposed towards visitors and other cats. When we go out and leave her she is most



- (1) Buena inspects prospects in the kitchen.
- (2) Cleoni and Delila, the two Abyssinians, sleep peacefully with Candy, the little margay.
- (3) Buena wraps a protective tail round Cleoni's neck.



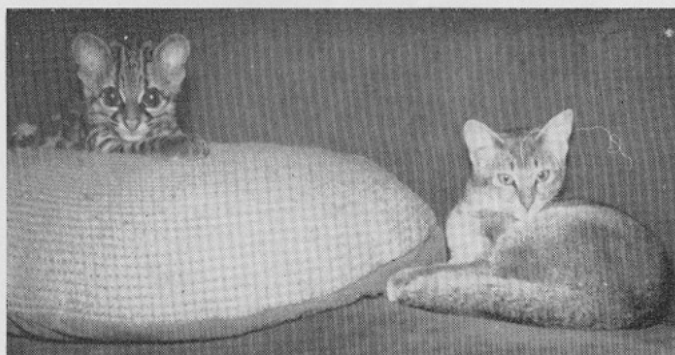
unhappy and when we return she shows her joy by jumping around us and on our shoulders, playfully nipping our ears and pulling our hair.

Buena's build is more slender than the house cat. Her weight is about ten pounds and her tail half-a-yard long. I have heard her called "the long tailed cat" now and then and that is a good name for her. The coat is light brown with big black spots all over, the largest of which are broken. The eyes are large and brown and the ears round and black with a white spot in the middle that is a characteristic of the tiger and leopard.

Buena, although friendly with

with spots all the same size and round in shape. She is very small and slender and jumps around the house like a little toy panther. We call her Candida de Jacuacanga because she was the gift of Mrs. Verolme, the wife of the owner of Verolme United Shipyards. Candy was caught near the shipyard of Mr Verolme in Jacuacanga.

Candy was not a year old when she came to us and she had known freedom in the woods. She was afraid of everything and everyone who came near her. The exception was Cleoni, who seemed to personify trust and friendship to the little margay. Candy appeared to "discover" Cleoni.



Candy and Cleoni when they were kittens.

all cats, shows a marked preference for Abyssinians. I attributed this to the fact that she grew up with my first Abyssinian Taishun Cleoni. The pair did everything together—ate from one plate, played together and slept in one basket.

But in January of this year the thing I had thought impossible happened—I got a little margay! The margay is a small edition of Buena. Her coat is a bit deeper in colour, a warm shade of copper,

She went towards her, rubbed her head against Cleoni's legs, and followed her around like a shadow. She got to know everything about the rules of the house just by doing what Cleoni did. Whenever Cleoni left her, Candy would let out her harsh cry.

It was in April that I got the chance I had waited for over many months. Mrs. Winsor sent me Tranby Delila, one of her beautiful red Abyssinian kittens. How would the oncilla behave

towards a strange new kitten? I trusted Buena of course as she had done nothing wrong since we had her. All the same, it was an exciting and anxious day when the apricot-coloured Delila arrived. I need not have worried—both our tiger cats were as thrilled with her beauty and charm as we were. They greeted her, licked her and spoiled her in every possible feline way. Buena now brings Delila pieces of her meat. Candy will not go to sleep without Delila by her side.

Just a short time ago I had the opportunity to purchase yet one more Abyssinian cat—a truly rare one with absolutely no white, no bars, and perfect type and colour. Assunta von Ras-Daschan is one-and-a-half years old and here again I encountered no difficulties in introducing her into the house. Buena and Candy were the perfect hostesses.

I do not draw conclusions from all this; that's a task for the zoologists. But there are many questions I would like to ask as we know so little about the South American cats. Look into your zoological books and all you will find about them would fill less

than a page of this magazine. One does not know where they came from and whether they are related or should be divided into different "families". Are they related to the cats in the Old World and if so, to which? Where is the link between the "prionailurus bengalensis", a tiger cat looking so much like the South American oncilla, but only to be found in Asia, and the South American cats? Why does a young oncilla look so very much like a little serval baby that you will find only in Africa?

At present I can only ask the questions and hope that later I may be able to lift the curtain of secrecy. Nobody has yet succeeded in crossing the South American and European cats. I have some special plans and should there be any worthwhile developments later on, I will certainly let you know.

A final word. If you are thinking about "taming" an oncilla, you must be prepared to give her the freedom of the house. But be warned—you can't have hanging lights and torn curtains and scratched chair legs are items to be ignored!

## A VISIT TO THE BARTON

By FRANCES L. PERRY

I HAVE just had the great pleasure of visiting Kit Wilson in her West Country home. Knowing the help she has given to cats and their owners, and the affection with which many members of the Cats' Protection League regard her, I feel sure of their interest.

A winding North Devon lane, banks heavy with hawthorn, the

Heddon river a meadow away, leads to The Barton and a handful of houses at the head of thecombe. When I saw it, coming from overcrowded Essex, it was a paradise of flowers, sunshine, and silence. The Barton is not only a home in delightful grey stone with a river at the end of the garden overgrown with roses, it is a heaven for animals. Here Kit Wilson



and Audrey Martyn have brought three dogs, three cats and two of the smallest and four of the largest terrapins I have seen.

First, the famous Bubbles, the tireless worker for the C.P.L. and the collector of over £2,000 for his less fortunate brethren, is "the Squire of Barton". His every step shows that he realises the place is his. Tadpole (Miss Martyn's treasure) was once a shivering four-weeks-old puppy, sold from an open pen on a market stall. Now she is an enchanting Manchester terrier with an alert personality.

Three months ago Kit Wilson met two weeping children with a bag. They had been sent out by dad to get rid of the contents of the bag; "throw it in the river". The bag contained Me-Too.

Kit took the bag home. The contents had been got rid of; in a different way to that intended.

Me-Too is developing into a large lady (spayed) who needs a country estate, and leads a life the longest pedigree might enjoy. I think she talks to Bubbles about "those poor people".

Mirabel is a deep gold and black tortoiseshell with a fluffy coat and charm. The Shy One we did not see; when there are

visitors and men painting she stays in an upstairs retreat.

Usually I have seen terrapins in dirty overcrowded glass containers in a pet shop, available to all and sundry minus instructions. It is not surprising that they do not live long.

As a member of the Herpetological Society I was interested to hear Kit Wilson's four were six years old and feed from the hand. Their private pond has rocks to climb on, and a large lido border for sun bathing. One gentleman in the water was basking in the Devon sunshine, neck stretched out, as I had seen in photographs, and now saw in reality. In a smaller pool were two tiny terrapins with gleaming shells the size of a penny plainly enjoying life.

The garden and six acres of land is a sanctuary for all animals and birds. For to know Kit Wilson you will not be surprised to hear that she is planning space for horses and donkeys saved from the infamous Irish meat trade.

One day I hope an otter will find the river stretch where no hound comes and there is no killing for fun; somewhere he may lead a happier life than Tarka.

Question and answer in a woman's magazine recently: "(Q) My darling cat is having her fifth litter of kittens and my husband says he intends to drown the lot once they're born. Isn't there a law against this, as the cat belongs to me? (A) Unfortunately, everything that belongs to a wife is also the property of her husband. But tell him not to be so beastly. Can't you ask a friend to look after the cat until after the kittens come, then have her back? And the local R.S.P.C.A. will tell you how to arrange a small operation that will stop the problem arising again".

"The moment my two Siamese cats hear my aunt's voice at the door on her fortnightly visit", (writes Mrs. V. Kent, of Chepstow, to *The Sunday Express*), "they rush to meet her, gazing at her and climbing on the furniture for a closer look. They are waiting for just one thing—for her to take off her rabbit wool hat. Then they go into the attack—tearing, shaking and throwing the hat around. If she hides the hat in her bag they soon find it, but if she puts it in the sleeve of her coat, where they cannot see it, they follow her round the house and yell as only two Siamese cats can".

## Siamese—in variety

By PHYLLIS LAUDER

THERE seems indeed an infinite variety of the points colour of the Siamese cat! At the Croydon Cat Club's Championship Show of 1961, there were exhibited, in an Any Other Variety class, some kittens with points for all the world like zebra markings.

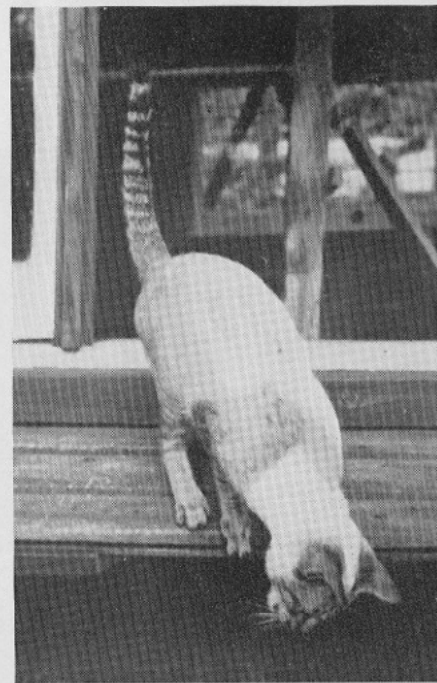
These were bred and shown by Miss Alexander of Etchingham. They had pale coats, the type and the slanting blue eyes of the Siamese; and one, a female kitten named Tansy, was purchased by our most distinguished Siamese breeder, Mrs. Duncan Hindley.

Mrs. Hindley has very kindly let me have some notes on the subject of these kittens. She describes them as having self-coloured ears of greyish-fawn, and all their other points striped, the marking on the tails being very clearly defined, and seal-black. No name has yet been decided upon for them, though "tiger-cats" is under consideration. Tansy is to be mated to Mrs. Hindley's Seal Pointed stud, and Tansy's litter-sister will be mated to an unrelated male, also stripey-pointed, the property of Miss Alexander. Thus it will be discovered whether this new variant is true-breeding.

At the Kentish Cat Club's Show last month several of these "kittens with striped points" were on view. I thought of them in my own mind as "Silver Tabby Pointed". They were extremely beautiful, and of completely Siamese type. One of

these, a delicious young male called Mister Buttons, belongs to Miss Alexander, and another is the property of Mr. Richard Warner.

Mrs. Hindley has described to me the breeding of the kittens shown last year, and I have seen their pedigree. It appears that a Seal Pointed queen belonging to Miss Alexander mated free with, it is believed, a tabby. From this mating was born Miss Alexander's Seal Pointed queen Patti, who is the dam of the



TANSY, the tabby pointed Siamese bred by Miss Alexander, which has been purchased by Mrs. Duncan Hindley for experimental breeding purposes.



tabby pointeds in question, including Tansy.

Genetically speaking, it is not strange that some of the second generation from a Siamese tabby mating should be "tabby pointed": Patti could, and did, produce these kittens, their sire being a Siamese. What is unusual is that she should have a *whole litter* of "stripey pointeds" and, above all, that Patti herself should be a Siamese.

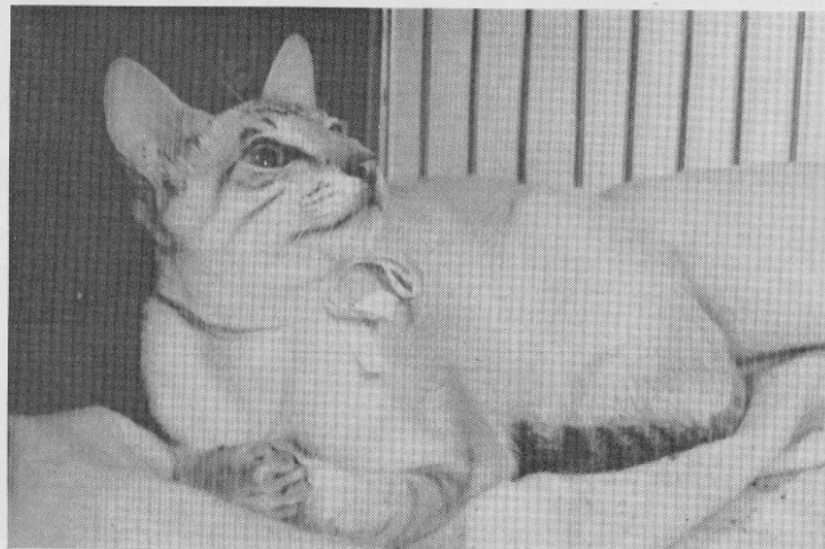
If the tabby who sired Patti were "pure" for his coat pattern, then none of his offspring should have had the Siamese coat pattern; and they in turn could hardly have been expected (even though mated to Siamese) to produce a whole litter of kittens with the colour restricted to the points.

The answer must be that Mr. Tabby carried the gene for the Siamese coat pattern. As Dr. Nora Archer points out, so much Siamese breeding has been done

in this country that probably many a free cat population comprises individuals heterozygous for the restriction-of-colour-to-points factor. Over the years, more than one treasured Siamese has "got out" and mis-mated! And a recessive can spread very quickly through a population.

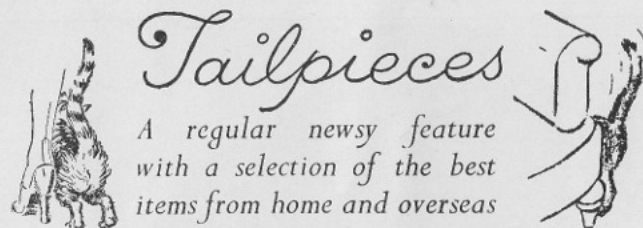
I have seen a picture of a tabby pointed cat—this time of British type—for whom it is claimed that he was the result of a first cross between a Siamese and a tabby; as was Patti. So, clearly, there is Siamese ancestry in unexpected places!

There is, of course, no reason in the world why Siamese cats should not be bred with points of any colour or permutation of colours proper to *felis domesticus*; and in the case of this latest variety, the result is extremely attractive. It is to be hoped that a great success awaits these unusual cats and their breeders.



Hugh Smith

"A delicious young male called Mister Buttons" on view at the Kentish Cat Club Show. Is there a future for these attractive tabby pointed Siamese?



*A regular newsy feature with a selection of the best items from home and overseas*

THE cats of Fairfield Park, Bath, have been exonerated of the charge of attacking babies in their prams. Women detectives discovered that the real "culprits" were two little girls who tried to play with the babies.

A letter from a subscriber raises the legal point in the case of cats which trespass and do damage in neighbouring property. It is settled in law that a cat owner is not, in general, responsible for the trespass and cannot be compelled to keep it confined to his own premises.

An illustrated newspaper clipping received from an Australian subscriber records the amazing rescue of a black cat who was found trapped beneath the floor of a new and unoccupied house in Salisbury. The floor had been completed at least five weeks when a Brighton electrician and his son went to the house to complete some work. They heard faint cries in one of the rooms and finally traced them to the floor. Floor boards were hastily ripped up and there the cat was found, weak, thin and very frightened. They took "Blackie" home and some careful feeding and nursing soon brought him back to normal.

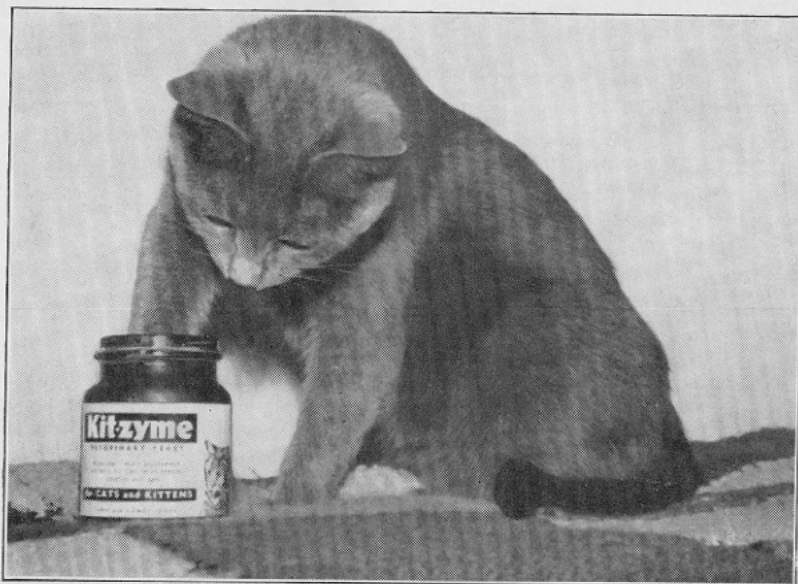
The annual animal service in St. Paul's, Covent Garden, held recently was attended by cats and dogs, bugerigars, hamsters, mice and goldfish. The canines included Lady Munning's famous Toby, a black dog who sings.

Lottie Conklin, of San Leandro, U.S.A. left a 6,000 dollar trust fund for her cat Susie so that she could enjoy the following meals daily: Three prawns for breakfast; beef kidney for lunch; beef liver for dinner and milk and water with every meal.

The progressive South African club Western Province Cat Club held another successful show in Cape Town on April 28th. It was noteworthy for the record achieved by Mrs. Nash's Siamese entry Penang Milori Anya, an English bred queen who became the only Siamese Champion of Champions in the Republic. Anya, winner of 39 trophies, was also the dam of the Best Adult Male and Female in Show. Other main awards went to Mrs. I. M. Hunter's Blue male Ch. Westridge Beautiful; the same breeder's Blue male Constantia's Grand Vizier; Miss V. Armstrong's Blue female Mistilands Chiquita; Mrs. L. B. Emery's Abyssinian queen Taishun Diana of Selworthy; Mrs. M. A. Simpson's Burmese female Kusima of Bon Accord (Best Kitten in Show); Mr. E. J. Anderson's C.P. Siamese female Madresfield Bon Bon and Mrs. F. M. Daly's Siamese kitten Simani Sabrina. The Club now has 133 fully paid-up members and a second show is fixed for October 27th in Claremont.

Two boys, ages 14 and 15, were recently fined £3 with £2 12s. 6d. costs each for killing a cat by throwing iron rods at it as "spears". Evidence





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**MRS. M. A. READ of 44 Fairway, Raynes Park, London, S.W.20., owner-breeder of the Sylphides Russian Blues, writes:—**

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was given at Stockport Juvenile Court that the cat died from a broken neck after great suffering. They would not have been caught but for the evidence of another 14-year-old boy who said that he was doing his homework in a bedroom when he overheard one of the "killers" say: "There's a cat down there. Let's go and get it".

It was recently reported that a Caesarian operation on the ship's cat Ticky was performed during the homeward voyage of the liner *Pretoria Castle* from South Africa. Dr. J. L. Francis, a gynaecologist and obstetrician who was a passenger, performed the operation. The five kittens did not survive but Ticky made a good recovery. The captain of the liner said he thought it must be the first operation of its kind ever performed on a cat at sea.

Vichy, France, was the venue for the 3-day show last month of the Cat Club du Centre. It was truly international in atmosphere with entries and visitors from France, Belgium, Germany, Italy and Sweden. Mme d'Alleizette and Mme Villechaise were responsible for the smooth running of the fixture and the judges were Mme Poirier (France) for Longhairs and Mrs. Cremer, the well known German judge of Shorthairs. Outstanding exhibits were Mr. Schonau's Int. Ch. Don Juan de Beloeil whose Blue Longhair babies took the litter prize with their mother Prestwood Aubrietta (imp.), Mrs. Neyron de St. Julien's Ch. Iris Blue Iceberg of Gallahad (a lovely Blue-eyed White Persian); Mr. Rodenstein's Bayhorne Eager (imp.), who became a Champion; Mrs. Ficheux's Int. Ch. Beauregard Joris; Mr. Lebeau's Shorthair kitten from Belgium; and the S.P. Siamese entries from Mme Daboncourt and Mlle de Kerever.

A tiny kitten found starving in a Salonika square by an English visitor subsequently made his mark in British

legal history. He was the subject of a prosecution believed to be the first of its kind since the Importation of Cats and Dogs Order was introduced in 1928. It was Mrs. Eileen Bayley, of Stevenage, Herts., who found the kitten whilst touring with her scientist husband. She adopted the kitten there and then, named him Aristotle, and decided that he would travel with them on the rest of their European tour. The thought of parting from Aristotle was too much for Mrs. Bayley at the end of the holiday, so she tried to hide him in a vanity bag when she reached England. She was subsequently fined £5 because she did not have an import licence. Aristotle is now in quarantine at 4s. 6d. per day but prefers this to starvation in a Grecian street. The prosecutor for the Ministry of Agriculture said they took a serious view of the case.

I hear that the Frontier Cat Fanciers, Inc., of Oklahoma City, U.S.A., intend to really "go to town" for their show on October 13th-14th next, when one of the judges will be Mrs. Ulla Magnusson, of Sweden. They plan to have large bronze medals cast for top awards and these will have a natty cat design on one side. They are also making cage curtains for all 300 entries, with white fabric for the dark cats and blue fabric for the light cats. Apparently this effective colour scheme has been tried out at a Paris show. All cages will be double cages. Mr. Len White, President of this progressive club, has written me to say that he hopes in the very near future there will be a wider use of judges from other countries, thus placing the Fancy on a truly international level.

Cat lover John Gordon, reporting in his column in *The Sunday Express*: "In Barking two 14-year-old boys gouged out a cat's eyes, broke its legs, and threw it into a ditch in an attempt to drown it. When blind and screaming with pain, it scrambled up a tree, they stoned it back to the ground. An Alsatian dog set about it. Then the torturers rode



their bicycles over it. What penalty did they get? A £5 fine each. I think a sound thrashing would have been better".

A certain school had installed a new solid-fuel cooker whose name was regarded as a guarantee of efficiency. But, mysteriously, it kept going out. And, even when the suppliers sent a fitter to investigate, the mystery remained unsolved. He could find nothing wrong with the cooker or with the installation. After another, and stronger complaint, a second fitter was sent. "I will stay here," he said, "until the fire goes out. Maybe then I will know the reason why." And after a while the solution to his problem strolled in. It was the school cat. She lay down against the pleasant warmth of the cooker and her furry body completely covered the air-intake near the floor. The fire slowly sank and went out; after which the cat, no longer interested, rose and departed. Had the fitter not been there the mystery might have remained unsolved to this day.—

*The Ironmonger.*



**PERSEPOLIS MOHAWK CHIEF**, a delightful seal pointed Himalayan (Colourpoint) male kitten bred by Miss Carol MacMillan, of Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Ozymandias, the Bishop of Derby's pet cat, is reported to have thoroughly digested Shelley's words, "My name is Ozymandias, king of kings." Ozymandias, who only has to rub up against Dr. Allen's gaitered legs to gain entrance to the episcopal sanctum—the study—shows a regal disdain for ecclesiastical correspondence by rushing to the desk and sitting on his pile of letters.

A letter writer to *The Times* comments that a singing bird is surely less remarkable than a talking animal. He adds that a rather grubby white and ginger cat visits his back garden most mornings and says "Hallo!"

A well produced booklet has been circulated to the press of the country and interested people to mark the Jubilee Year of the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Vivisection. The printing and illustrations are excellent and the information it contains is most comprehensive. One of the photographs shows a kitten inside a space rocket or ship that is five miles above the earth and

outside the gravitational pull. The puzzled kitten is seen floating in air trying desperately to overcome its helplessness. The Society was founded by the Misses N. and L. Ivory and during its fifty years has been fortunate in having such distinguished Presidents as the late Earl of Haddington, the late Duchess of Hamilton and Brandon and now Miss L. Lind-af-Hageby.

According to a recent survey on Pet Foods in *The Financial Times*, competition among the leading manufacturers continues to be very keen. One firm is even offering to weigh your cat against gold and then give it all to you. Providing, of course, that you are the winner of their £6,000 competition. The problem among the tinned food makers appears to be that having pushed up the number of cats, dogs and birds who eat their products to a high level in recent years, it is now proving difficult and expensive to "rope in" the remaining potential consumers. The all-meat pack is now being pushed at the expense of the old-style meat and cereal mix. *Petfoods Ltd.* have brought out *Dine*, which is wholly fish and dearer than the majority of brands. *Top Cat (Spratts)* is nearly all fish and has quickly established itself as the third largest seller after *Kattomeat* and the overall leader of the market *Kit-E-Kat*. "Cats have always been something of a problem to feed," continues the report, "since the sort of tit-bits they like are usually only to be found in the average kitchen on Fridays. And they also smell. So tinned food has provided a particularly easy way out and over two-thirds of all cats are already given branded products—a substantially higher proportion than dogs. . . . Consequently, saturation point is even nearer here than it is among the dog foods".

Mrs. Dewhurst, of Lancaster, contributed the following item to the correspondence columns of a national newspaper: "While I was queuing for fish a woman behind me asked: 'Would

you mind if I was served first? My dog is getting impatient.' A woman in front turned round and snapped: 'Yes I *would* mind. I'm buying fish for my cat, and he doesn't like to be kept waiting.'"

Two ladies who ought to know—Mrs. Mary Wyborn, R.S.P.C.A. Secretary, and Mrs. Amy Luck, a nurse at the animal clinic—have let it be known that the pet owners in the new town of Hemel Hempstead, Herts., are a poor lot in comparison with many other places. Mrs. Luck has said it is the most heartless town she has known and sometimes she could weep at the thoughtlessness and callousness of people with pets. All they cared about were their shiny new cars, their new homes and going one better than the neighbours. Mrs. Wyborn says the town is worse than any other in Hertfordshire and the number of people who look after their animals properly is definitely in the minority.

*The Annual List of Cats at Stud*, No. 20 is now in course of preparation and owners of studs may obtain entry forms on application to the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, Mr. S. E. Barnes, O.B.E., 4 Elim Court Gardens, London Road, Crowborough, Sussex. The entry fee is 5s. per cat and when ready the List will be available at 2s. 6d. per copy.

"A friend of mine had a white furry hat which was quite dirty, so I told her to try some of my cat's dry shampoo. It came up like new".—Mrs. H. Prior, of Colchester, Essex, in a letter to "She".

The Exclusive Brethren, a breakaway sect from the Plymouth Brethren and now known as the Saints, have been getting a lot of unfavourable publicity following their conference in London. This is not surprising when one realizes that among the harsh rules imposed on members one forbids children to have cats, dogs or birds as pets; nor may they



mix or play with others outside the Brethren.

The Rookwood Hospital, Worcester, has had to declare war on the cats who have invaded its premises. First, a few cats wandered into the grounds from a nearby housing estate. Now there are dozens in the main building and they are considered a danger to the health of patients.

A plague of a different kind is worrying the smart new residential area in Countess Wear, Exeter . . . rabbits. The bunnies are reported to be eating their way through hundreds of garden plants and vegetables and so far all attempts to dislodge them have failed. It is said that they are not the least bit frightened by cats and dogs and even ferrets have proved ineffective.

An enterprising firm in Johannesburg, South Africa, has started a "Cat's Box Service" for flat tenants and owners of one or more cats. Every week they deliver a plastic box filled with clean, white sand, plus 20 lbs. of extra sand in polythene bags for re-filling. A dustbin with a hermetically closed lid is also supplied. After being in use seven days the boxes are collected and exchanged for new ones, filled with fresh sand and ready for immediate use. Rather a snappy idea, when you come to think about it?

I must also find a few lines for another snappy idea which is being tried out by a company with headquarters in N. Hollywood, California, U.S.A. It is the Pampered Pet Taxi, a 24-hour taxi and ambulance service for pets in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Veterinarians, grooming parlours and various associations are reported to be enthusiastic over this novel service, which has been used by a number of famous names in the film community.

The annual exemption show of the Three Counties Cat Society was held

on July 4th at the Corn Exchange, Salisbury, Wilts. Show Manager was Mrs. M. A. Wilson. The trophies were presented by the Society's oldest member, 90-year-old Mrs. H. Kennedy, of Southampton, who had spent the day helping with the tombola. Main awards were: Best Exhibit—Miss D. M. Collin's Gippeswyk Jake; Best Kitten—Mrs. M. le Goubin's Marcasite Melisande; Best Neuter—Mr. H.W. Griffin's Kala Nikki; Best L.H. Adult—Gippeswyk Jake; Best L.H. Kitten—Mrs. H. Scudder's Capreze Cressidy; Best S.H. Adult—Mrs. D. Stracey's Clitherow's Calcot Ras; Best S.H. Kitten—Marcasite Melisande; Best L.H. Neuter—Mrs. M. Hopkins' Pr. Sealcoat Golden Melody; Best Siamese Adult—Mrs. M. Peck's Ch. Roseway Cinderella; Best Siamese Kitten—Mrs. Peck's Bru-Bur Suhali; Best Siamese Neuter—Mrs. M. Bartholomew's Tia-Mic Trinculo. The Best Household Pet was Mrs. M. Crampton's Timmy, a handsome 11-year-old from Frome, Somerset. Many of the visitors to the show and some of the exhibitors and their cats attended a special animal service at Salisbury Cathedral in the evening.

Members and those wishing to join the National Cat Club are asked to note that the Hon. Treasurer is now Mrs. E. Polden, The Polden Hills, Frensham Road, Crowthorne, Berks. Only applications for new membership should now be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. M. Brunton, Rose Cottage, Maplehurst, Sussex.

**That newsy little item about cats you have read in your local newspaper or in the magazine you have just put down . . . will you be kind enough to clip it out and post it to me in an unsealed envelope? Cuttings from overseas publications are particularly welcome but it should be remembered that we cannot reproduce direct from newspaper illustrations. I send best thanks to all who have helped in this connection.**

MICKEY

**FRED W. PEARCE—Australia's leading judge—sends**

## **News from "Down Under"**

**H**ELLOA, folks! Plenty of frost and ice about, likewise chilblains and hands. Our Sydney drought of 35 days broke with lots of floods and many people were left homeless.

I have the second issue of *Cats Digest* of N.S.W. to hand from editress Mrs. Savage, and it is even better than the first. It should soon regain the big readership it enjoyed years ago. It seems to be a family affair with even the pussy-cats entering into the spirit of things.

The Siamese Cat Society had a very nice entry for their show in the City, on July 14th and a lovely day. The specialist club shows are very nice, but always seem lacking something without any L.H. entries. I had a talk to Mr. and Mrs. Read of the famous "Far-aways" Cattery, Brisbane, at the show. They flew down Friday night and returned the next night. They enjoyed the day. Mrs. Wharton, Secretary, made the arrangements and opportunity was taken to put Mrs. Thom and Mrs. Hinde (of the current judges training class) through some practical work under actual show conditions. The other four will go through at later shows. The Annual General Meeting and ballot for Consultative Comm. members takes place at the end of the month.

I have received a very nice letter from Mrs. Wright, Canada, but so far, have found it hard to find enough time to write to her.

No word or catalogues, of late from Melbourne. I hadn't time for a talk to Mrs. Whyte, (who recently judged down there) at the show on the 14th, so I guess things are going along nicely. She did say Melbourne Royal Ag. Society had taken over "affairs cat" as from July 1st.

Adelaide are nearing their big "blue riband" show, the Royal, at which Mrs. McAdie is judge. Have not had their *Newsletter* lately, and no word from old friends there.

I have heard that most of the new judges in Brisbane have been operating and, generally, doing well. The latest show, Wynnum, was very well attended and received a good entry. They (the new judges) are very keen and anxious to improve and this is a big factor.

### **N.Z.'s new President**

I have the *Newsletter* for May-June from New Zealand and note that the recent Sec. Miss D. E. Menzies, O.B.E., is now gracing the Presidential chair and Mrs. G. B. Bassett is the new Hon. Sec. to the N.Z. Gov. Council. "Congrats" to both ladies. Miss Menzies should certainly know all the procedure and short cuts by now. A very hearty "cheerio" to the Pres. and also ex Secretary Bon Moran who did a whale of a job, and certainly kicked the *Newsletter* along whilst on the job.

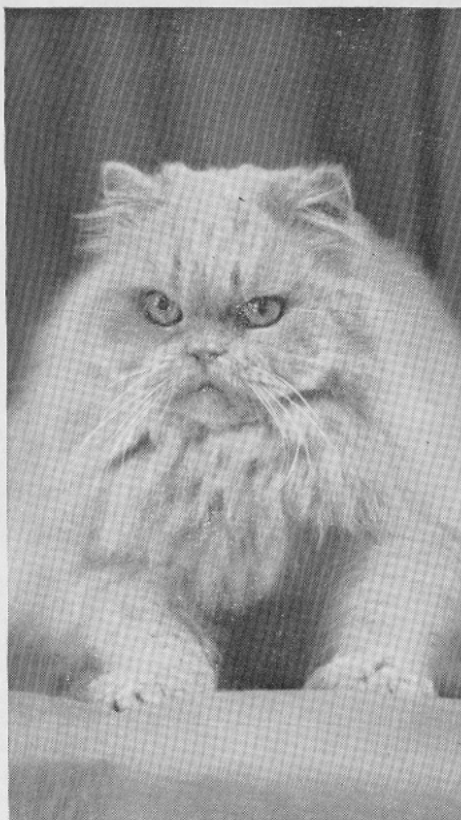
### **Pictures wanted**

Any nice sharp black and white photos of famous cats, recent winners etc., to spare? If so, please send to me for consideration by the Editor of *OUR CATS*. Also new subscribers are welcome. Just send me your name and address.



THINKS:

*'Time for my  
daily Tibs'*



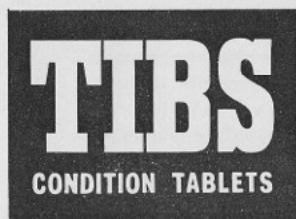
This handsome cat is sitting pretty. International champion, winner of best of show awards on the continent—and a regular Tibs cat.

Miss E. M. Sheppard of Meadow Vale, Berden sets great store by Tibs tablets. All her famous Widdington cats—the one in the picture is Int. Ch. Widdington Valerio—are given Tibs regularly.

In all parts of the world where Cream Longhairs are bred, Widdington studs and brood queens are renowned for their fitness and peak condition. "You see", Miss Sheppard explains, "I always supplement their carefully balanced diet with Tibs."

This way she makes sure her champions enjoy a daily supply of vitamins and minerals essential to a cat's good health. Why not follow her example? Keep your cat in show condition with daily Tibs.

Famous breeders say  
OUR CATS ARE TIBS CATS  
Tibs tablets for cats  
are a Bob Martin product.



Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

**M**RS. JOAN THOMPSON—popular and active figure in the Cat Fancy for many years, breeder and International judge—turns the pages of her diary to reveal the most interesting entries concerning personalities, both human and feline.

#### Kittens' big day

**T**HE Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club Show on July 25th at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, attracted 379 pedigree exhibits and 42 domestic pets.

Congratulations to Mrs. Barron on her efficiency and excellent management of this very enjoyable fixture. Few exhibitors realize the enormous amount of work involved in coping with such a numerous entry unless they have been in close touch for some weeks helping the Show Manager. The gate was not quite so good as last year but rain in the afternoon and the impossibility of getting the penning for a Saturday date probably accounted for it. Blues and Creams were the most competitive numerically in Longhairs and the former provided the Best L.H. Kitten—Mrs. Benbow's male Ardwyn Vedette by Ch. Bayhorne Ajax and Ch. Uplands Anna Capri.

Other main awards were: Best Shorthair Kitten—Mrs. J. Burrow's Abyssin-

ian male Aldermere Kedervi by Nigella Sita and Calcot Isis; Best Longhair Neuter—Mrs. Taylor's Blue Brightstar Aldebaran by Woburn Chippy and Briaric Petra who completed his Premiership; Best Shorthair Neuter—Mrs. Grant-Allen's Silver Tabby Premier Elvaston Silver Mist.

There were several lovely L.H. kittens among the first prize winners in their Open Classes and some which had the qualities to make good adults were Mrs. Polden's exquisite Chinchilla female Poldenhills Meresca by Poldenhills Merlin. She was Best Chinchilla kitten. The other firsts in this variety were Mrs. Lloyd's Clondegad Ragged Robin by Jasper of Thame and Mr. and Mrs. Wilson's Amberley Thistledown by Ch. Fidelio of Allington.

Mrs. Claxton's Blue female Gentian Heidi by Ch. Briaric Beauty was awarded the Blue Persian Cat Society female kitten trophy. She was a well balanced, well-grown kitten pleasing in colour, her sire being a grandson of Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous and her dam Felicity of Pensford, his daughter.

#### First from Congo

Mrs. Brunton's Busybee of Dunesk awarded first in the 2-3 months class is the first kitten exhibited by Ch. Congo of Knott Hall; just a baby but a promising one. Best Cream Kitten Miss Rodda's male Chadhurst Bright Star by Chadhurst Golden Monack, is a lovely kitten excellent in type with a long sound pale coat. He has been purchased by Mrs. Rowena Ross for a future stud.



Other winning Creams were Miss Sheppard's Widdington Sophia by Aviary Cream Puff, Mrs. Nash's Hendras Silver Tassie by Bourneside Cream Bunne and Mrs. Nelson-Green's Sunbeam Apollo by Ch. Ousedale Maximillian.

Three Blacks were entered but only one was present—Mrs. Reynold's Pet-ravian Jacqueline by Ch. Bayhorne Ajax. Mr. and Mrs. Holdaway's White Charmina Zenobia by Myrwal Andy was Best White Kitten and one of those brought out for Best in Show. These owners also owned the winning Smoke Charmina Virginia. The Best Blue-Cream, Mrs. Litten's Redcliffe Little Bud was an appealing little gem by Bourneside Cream Bunne. She was purchased by Mrs. Benbow. Mr. Pad-don bred the Best Silver Tabby Longhair Courtmoor Nepeta by Ch. Silverseal Herrick. Only one Red Tabby was entered—Mrs. Evans' Jonquil.

The winning Colourpoint Mrs. Harding's Mingchui Mali is by Ch. Briarry Euan. The Any Other Colour Long-hair Premier Except Self winner was Miss Sheppard's spayed female Blue-Cream Ch. Widdington Salome, looking very bonny. The nineteen neuters in the two Premier classes were a handsome assembly of 12 males and 7 females.

### Strong Siamese classes

Siamese breeders supported the Show generously and the winning Seal-Point kittens in the seven Open Classes were Mrs. Dunnill's male Sumfun Kaseh Say-ang by her male Beaumanor Tammi; Miss Ann Codrington's Watermill Solomon Seal by Ch. Dunchattan Sabu Hassan; Mrs. Ashford's Annelida Azbac by Whiteoaks Malahide. The last-named was also awarded first litter in a very competitive class of 14 Siamese litters and she also won first in the Stud Class judged on progeny with their sire Misselore Chocolate Whey. Kittens of Mrs. Ashford's breeding and by this

sire won the younger Chocolate Point male or female class namely Mrs. Jones' Annelida Snow-White, and the Lilac-Point kitten Mr. and Mrs. Tunncliffe's Annelida Lilac Hiawatha was first in a class of seven. Altogether, a very successful day for Mrs. Ashford's Siamese and for full measure she was awarded first in the Brood Queen Class with Phoca Violet by Doneraile Lilac Dalman.

The winning S.P. Siamese females were Mrs. Ireland's Wildpear Emblem by Ch. Helsby Cheetah; Mr. Colin Campbell's Colgrove Silver Cloud by Selborne Prairie Wolf; Miss Gambel's Mansel Safia by Mansel Hamid; and Mrs. Buttery's Samsara Victoria by Samsara Saracen. The winning Blue Point kittens in the three Open Classes were Miss Alexander's Jolly Boy, by Praha Andante Maestro, Mrs. Denny's Pi-den Acacia by Doneraile Lilac Dalman and Mrs. Croft's Roseway Super Star by Tornado. The winner in the older Chocolate Point Class was Mrs. Cotsford-Parker's Thaipuss Wai-Yoo by Ch. Jaddyx Quoff Deaner.

Altogether there were 114 Siamese kittens entered in thirteen Open Classes—a show in themselves—plus no fewer than thirty handsome Siamese neuters with Mrs. Bullock's Jubilee Banty by Ruselon Zi and Doneraile Nicolette heading this comely array. What a sorting out for the judge Dr. Groom!

### Burmese best

Any Variety Foreign Shorthair winner was Miss Ritleng's Burmese Practical Petra by Lamont Blue Burmaboy. The above two were the Premier classes and with the Siamese and Longhairs there were 70 neuters exhibited. Burmese with 36 kittens were the most competitive in Shorthairs after Siamese and the judge Mr. Stirling-Webb chose the following as his first prize winners in their respective Open Classes: Mrs. Lench's male kitten Mayford Tosca by Ch. Casa Gatos Darkee; Lady Glubb's

female Heartsease Nerissa by Kathoodu Kimi and in the 5 to 9 months male or female class Mrs. Grove-White's N-go Amina by Ch. Kingsplay Fei-Fo.

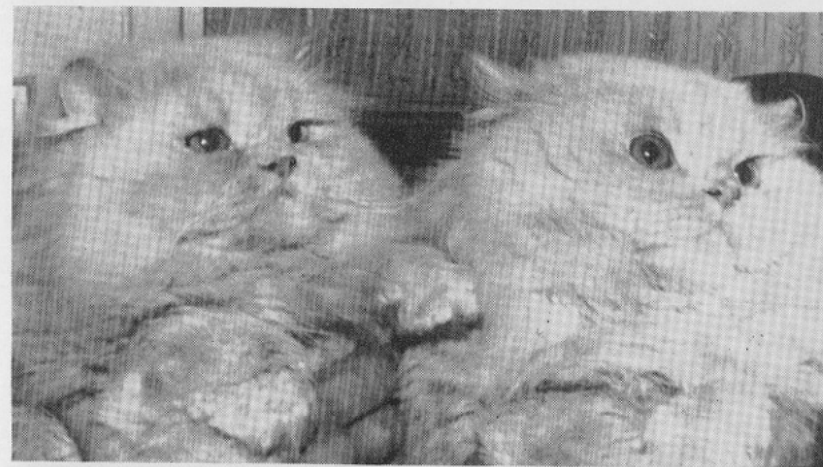
### Success for novice

Blue Burmese first prize winners were Mrs. Knowle's Ballard Sanana by Lindale Dear Dumbo and Miss Bone's Ballard Taro by the same sire. In an Open Class of six Silver Tabbies Mrs. Eustace won with Hillcross Silver Lace by Bellever Calchas d'Acheux. This fine female kitten also won many firsts in side classes. Congratulations to novice exhibitor Mr. Robert Shrimpton who was awarded first with his British Blue male Bonaventura Jackson by Jezreel Jake. He also won the Novice Exhibitors class. These two classes were judged by two British Blue connoisseurs namely Mrs. Hughes and Mrs. Budd. The female winner was Mrs. Richard's Pensylva Bella by Ch. Jezreel Jake. Only one Black British kitten one White, one Cream, (which was absent), one Blue-Cream, and one

Brown Tabby were entered. Those present were awarded firsts—Miss Reading's Aldra's Black Witch by Aldra's Dark Talisman; Lady Glubb's Heartsease Hubert by White Pervanche; Mrs. Richard's Blue-Cream Pensylva Pansy by Ch. Jezreel Jake and Lady Glubb's Heartsease Orion, a Brown Tabby male with the sweetest expression who completely captivated us all. His photograph appeared in the London *Evening News* the same evening. Lady Glubb also bred his sire Heartsease White Knight.

### Plenty of competition

Two Chestnut Brown Foreign were headed by Miss Swyer's Elvyne Billy Budd by Crossways Histrion. Mrs. Colville won in Manx with her White male Rosental White Solitaire. Six Abyssinian kittens entered in three Open Classes with one absent had a generous classification. The winners were Mrs. Burrow's Aldermere Kedervi by Nigella Sita, Mrs. Knowle's Bernina Cordelia by Nigella Enrico and Mrs.



An outstanding exhibit at the international show staged in Nancy last June by the Cat Club de Paris was the pair of lovely Cream Longhairs—Int. Ch. Startops Starduster and Int. Ch. Startops Thais—belonging to Mr. Schonau, of Brussels. With the addition of his Ch. Melody of Pensford to make up a trio, Mr. Schonau won the award for the best group of Longhairs.

Wood's Regency Cassiopeia by Ch. Nigella Rashid.

The majority of the club and side classes were well filled so many of the exhibits had plenty of competition to face in these, and as usual in such cases many grand kittens and neuters could have no awards. It was a lovely show with the organization and the quality of the exhibits well up to the standard which has been maintained since Captain and Mrs. Williams launched out and organised the first summer show at the New Royal Horticultural Hall on behalf of the Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club in 1951. This was a Championship fixture and looking back on my notes written at the time in this journal, I read that there were 512 exhibits, Siamese cats, neuters and kittens numbered 177 which exceeded by two the entry at the Siamese Cat Club Ch. Show in October 1950.

### Our best venue

The New Horticultural Hall is probably the finest in this country for perfect lighting, space and restaurant facilities. Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Denham's well arranged exhibition of many items appertaining to cats called "Cats through the Ages" was one of the attractions and in another part of the hall there was a representative collection of many lovely photographs and the fact that it was Festival of Britain year doubtless helped to attract press publicity.

It is interesting to recall that this show still holds the post-war record for the biggest profit made on a cat show. Previous to that the Kensington Kitten Shows were held at the Porchester Hall, Bayswater, or similar venues.

Surely the outstanding success of this show refutes the idea which a minority appear to have that the Fancy can progress by taking Championship shows, previously held in London, to the

suburbs. If so much could be accomplished in 1951 surely similar success could be repeated in 1962 when more pedigree cats and kittens are being registered than ever before. We know that costs are a very important item but the 1951 show was organised on the proverbial shoe string. But it was a gamble which came off and placed the K.K. and N.C.C. in a stronger position financially than it had ever been before.

### An unnecessary rule

The Kentish Cat Society exemption Show at Maidstone, Kent, on July 7th was held in the well lighted Corn Exchange in the centre of the town. The Committee have certainly found a suitable venue for their annual show but why oh! why did they impose the unnecessary restriction at a mid summer fixture that: "Kittens must be three to nine months old on the day of the show". This virtually put it out of bounds for Longhair breeders because nowadays L.H. kittens are seldom born before the end of April, May or June. The Governing Council recognizes this fact and its rule states:—"No kittens may be shown that are under three calendar months old on the first day of the show except in Litter Classes, unless between May 1st and October 1st". Before a Committee imposes a restriction like this it should in my opinion, be put to the members at the annual general meeting.

Owing to this, every L.H. kitten class had to be cancelled as there were no entries and Mrs. Darby's litter of four Chinchillas by Sunhaven Neptune were the sole representatives of the many lovely breeds.

July 7th is too early for L.H. adults so there were only five to represent them and six neuters. Mrs. Stephenson's Ch. Ashdown Nuthatch by Woburn Sunshine was Best L.H. Cat. The remaining four were Mrs. Orpin's Blue male Robhurst Rudolph, Mrs. Darby's Chinchilla Sheans Spinaway, Mrs. Roden's

Chinchilla Martita of Allington and Mrs. Rosell's Red Tabby Bruton Princes Aurora. The Best L.H. Neuter was Mrs. Stephenson's Blue female Ashdown Maidenhair.

The other exhibits were nearly all Siamese. The winning Seal Point male was Miss Gamble's Mansel Yahmani by Mansel Hamid and the winning female Mr. Richard Warner's Samsara Siva, by Doneraile Druid, already a winner of several firsts at previous shows. The winning Blue Point in an amalgamated class of nine males and females was Miss Alexander's female Samsara Sarmila by Helsby Chipmunk. The winning Lilac Point was Mrs. E. Fisher's Praha Poco Allergando by Browndreys Chuan. Mrs. Hudson's Chocolate Point female Tanchai by Sunland Sijal was the only one exhibited.

Any Colour Cat owned by a resident in Kent was a nice class of eleven Siamese, the winner being Miss Hughes' Supra Socrates. The Best Shorthair kitten was Mrs. Ashford's S.P. Siamese male Annelida Azbac by Mrs. Helen Martin's Whiteoaks Malahide. Best Shorthair Neuter was Mrs. Richards' Blue Bambi's Mischief by Myowne

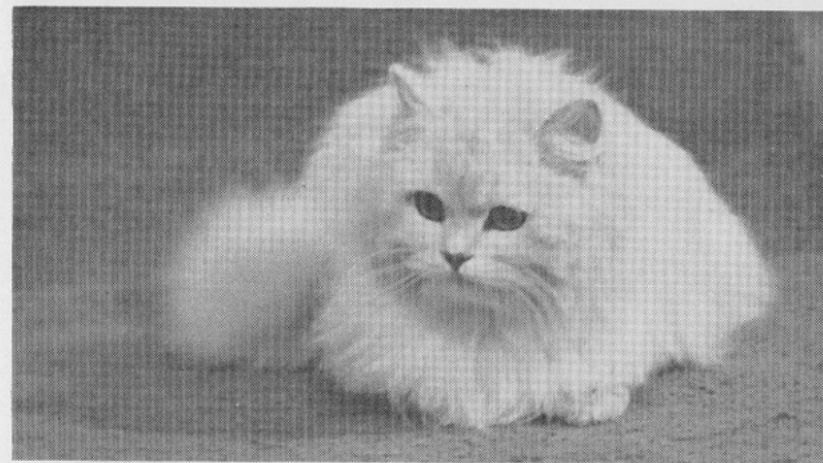
Caesar. Best British Shorthair Exhibit was Mrs. Colville's Manx Brumas Ino imported from the Isle of Man and of unknown parentage.

The winning S.P. Siamese female in the six to nine months class was Mr. Tew's Bradbourne Virginia by Whiteoaks Malahide and the winning Blue Point Mrs. Denny's Pi-den Acacia by Doneraile Lilac Dolman.

The lynx-pointed Siamese, so called at present as they have no breed number and their title has not been decided, captivated many spectators. They are certainly charming with their blue eyes, tabby points and soft colouring. They originate from a mismating of a Silver Tabby Shorthair and a Siamese. It will be interesting to watch their future and the re-action of Siamese breeders of the orthodox Seal, Blue, Chocolate and Lilac Pointed varieties.

### A worthwhile journal

Congratulations to the Siamese Cat Association on the June issue of the *Journal* compiled by Mrs. Helen Martin



This lovely young Chinchilla female FISHERMORE AMANDA is a credit to her breeder, Mrs. D. H. Lodge of Hull, and her owner, Miss J. M. Morrison, of Liverpool. Born in June last year from Ch. Fishermore Helios x Fishermore Circe, Amanda has been placed first in her open class each time shown, including Harrogate, Birmingham and Southport fixtures.



and Mrs. Towe. There are 34 pages of detailed information about members' activities such as their awards at Championship shows in the Association's classes, G.C.C.F. registrations, news of exported cats and kittens, cats at stud, and several interesting articles some of which are reprinted from other journals.

These articles are very acceptable as they refresh ones memory, are of general interest in many cases whichever variety one breeds and are written by such authorities as Miss Kathleen Yorke who also quotes the late Mr. Cyril Yeates. A reprint of Mrs. Elsie Kent's (Chairman of the Siamese Cat Club) article entitled "Let's Breed the Exotic Siamese" is amusing, practical and down to earth.

I must quote this excerpt for those who delude themselves that virile males can be kept as house pets: "Oh! I forgot. I also tried keeping a male in the house too, but not for long. A visiting friend's reply to my question 'Does the place smell?' 'Not so much as it does sometimes', cured me of that". Of course one does hear occasionally of entire males kept as house pets but they are very rare especially when they fraternise with queens.

The article "Animal Care" by

Grahame Dangerfield (reproduced by permission of Associated Rediffusion) I should like to see blazoned forth in every periodical dealing with animals. No one can feel complacent if they subscribe to the magazines of the R.S.P.C.A. the P.D.S.A., the Cats' Protection League and other welfare societies. I understand Mrs. Helen Martin does the duplicating for the S.C.A. *Journal*. She is certainly doing something well worth while which all members and others must appreciate.

### A happy occasion

Miss Elspeth Sellar kindly acted as hostess for the first tea party of The Long Hair Cream and Blue-Cream Association which was held at her London penthouse last month. Miss Kathleen Yorke, its founder in June 1961, its Chairman, and most generous supporter, was present to make us all welcome and on this occasion she presented the Association with a lovely silver bowl which is to be The Founder's Perpetual Points Trophy and in addition a delicious birthday cake iced in the Association colours cream and blue.

## Let's go to a show

1962	Promoted by	Venue
13 September...	*Herts. and Middlesex Cat Club...	London
22 " "	*Edinburgh and East of Scotland Cat Club	Edinburgh
27 " "	*South Western Counties Cat Club	Exeter
11 October ...	*Siamese Cat Club ...	London
27 " "	*Midland Counties Cat Club ...	Birmingham
7 November ...	*Blue Persian Cat Society ...	London
15 " "	*Croydon Cat Club ...	London
8 December ...	*Northern Counties Cat Club ...	Newcastle-on-Tyne
15 " "	*National Cat Club ...	Olympia, London
1963		
12 January ...	*Notts and Derbys. Cat Club ...	Nottingham
19 " "	*Scottish Cat Club ...	Glasgow
24 " "	*Southern Counties Cat Club ...	London
9 February ...	*Lancashire and N.W. Counties Cat Club	Southport
23 " "	Coventry and Leicester Cat Club ...	Leicester
28 " "	West of England & S. Wales Cat Society	Cardiff
16 March ...	Hull and Lincolnshire ...	Lincoln
	Siamese Cat Society of the British Empire (date and venue to be fixed)	

\* Denotes show with Championship status. A detailed list of these fixtures may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, Mr. S. E. Barnes, O.B.E., "Mosgiel," 4 Elim Court Gardens, Crowborough, Sussex.

Mrs. Iris Herbert came from Bourne-mouth and the beautiful rose bowl she presented was much admired. We shall hear later her wishes regarding it. The delicious tea was provided mainly by Miss Sellar with contributions from Miss Yorke, Mrs. McVady, and Miss Statman and the Committee were very attentive to our needs. Five members of the Committee of the Notts and Derby Cat Club made the long journey to be present—Mrs. Bastow (Hon Secretary) accompanied by Mr. Bastow (Vice-President), Mr. Brice-Webb (Hon. Treasurer) accompanied by Mrs. Brice-Webb and last but not least Mrs. Iris Hancox (Chairman).

The Hon. Secretary of the Association Mrs. Brough all the way from Lincolnshire was beaming with pleasure at the success of the party. She was accompanied by Mrs. Proctor, also from that county. Mrs. Dugdale (Hon. Treasurer) brought beautiful floral gifts and a musical cigarette box which was won in a competition by Mrs. Proctor.

Telegrams of good wishes were received from Madame Ravel, President of the Federation International Feline Europe, Madame Gibbon and her sister Madame Bridgett residing in Switzerland and Madame Pia Sandoz. Here's to the next time!

## THE TRAGEDY OF TIM

Cats during the month of July made headlines to an extraordinary degree and many of you may have noticed how prominently they came under the legal limelight. There were at least two most unusual situations.

The Wandsworth County Court heard of the strange tragedy which struck down Tim in the prime of his life. His owner Miss Enid Bradford sued her neighbour Mrs. Joan Harris for having Tim neutered without her permission. Mrs. Harris accused Tim of being the tom cat which kept her husband awake at night with his backyard howling. But Miss Bradford claimed that this was a case of mistaken identity. Tim, she said, was always locked indoors at night and had his bed beside the kitchen stove. He had a wife, Kitty Clover, who had borne him three litters of kittens. Now things had changed Kitty had taken another lover.

Counsel for Miss Bradford described Mrs. Harris's action "arrogant and insolent" and it had caused Tim to suffer shock and become prone to ill-health.

Miss Bradford explained that Tim was always a very gentle cat. She first knew something had happened when he crawled into the house in a sorry state after being missing for a day and night. She found out which veterinarian had done the operation and who had taken him there. There was still a full male dark cat resembling Tim in outline which roams the gardens at the backs of the houses.

The judge awarded Miss Bradford £20 damages for Tim's loss and shock.

### THIS MONTH'S BACK-SLAP

A lady in N.S.W., Australia, has recently returned to us as a subscriber after a lapse of several years. She writes: "I enclose a cheque for a year's subscription to OUR CATS, which I used to receive regularly in the 1950's. Friends have lent me copies after my sub. lapsed. News of overseas cats (and people) is of great interest to us all—my own stock is derived from well known English catteries. I have always enjoyed OUR CATS and have retained all my copies as I find some of the authoritative articles most interesting to look back on."

G.M.K.





## Correspondence Corner

Readers are invited to send contributions to this feature and so to join in the useful exchange of ideas, experiences and knowledge. Letters should be concise and deal preferably with items of general interest.



### A trek to show

I AM staying more in the bush than ever now, but still going on with the breeding of my Burmese, Abyssinians and Siamese. We are 45 miles from the nearest town and 90 miles from the nearest vet, which makes things a bit difficult when the animals get ill. Needless, to add, I've learnt a lot of cures, even how to give injections, a thing I would never have ventured before. I therefore find OUR CATS so useful as you so often have an article on illnesses which helps me.

In spite of all this we never miss going up to Salisbury (140 miles away) where they usually have the shows. This delightful event takes place twice a year; so twice a year the Wagners have a "great trek" to Salisbury with numerous boxes and baskets. We enter all our cats and kittens just for the fun of it. We have been fortunate so far in not returning empty-handed where prizes are concerned.

My one Burmese female has been the Best Cat in Show, also Best Foreign Shorthair other than Siamese. The others have all won prizes. Then I believe that I'm the only breeder to have a Blue Burmese in the country. Although I've not been able to breed any Blue Burmese my brown Burmese has a blue gene, so I will keep on trying.

People come to see us and say: "What do you find to do all day?" Believe me, there are not enough hours in my day as my family keep me ever so busy and there is never a dull moment. I don't know what I'd do without them.

Once a month we have to slaughter a bullock. The choicest bits are cut up for the cats and my two Boxer dogs. It means hard but worthwhile work.

MRS. LUCILLE WAGNER,

Que Que,  
S. Rhodesia.

### My collection

I am greatly enjoying OUR CATS and especially have I enjoyed the June issue and the article "Collecting Cat Models", by Amy Leigh Sherwin. I only wish I could see her collection; it must be fascinating.

I have a collection of 78 models myself, including two doorstops and I thought that was a fair number, but her 340 beats mine hollow! And I quite agree they *do* take a lot of time to dust but are well worth it. And I shall go on increasing my collection whenever I can.

MRS. SHIRLEY WELCH,

Ore, Hastings,  
Sussex.

### Male Torties

The July issue of *All Pets*—Dr. Young's Cat Care column—carries an item of possible interest to your question: Have you ever really seen a true male Tortoiseshell cat? If so, when and where? Answer (by Dr. W. A. Young): "Yes! Twice in my time".

"The first one was a truly marked tri-colour Tortoiseshell male kitten at the Anti-cruelty Society in Chicago. He was exhibited for all to see and was photographed in colour by the Chicago press.

Unfortunately, he died before maturity so no opportunity arose to test his potency. His body was embalmed and maintained at the Society for years as evidence of his sex and years.

"The second time has recently occurred. A distinctly coloured male cat with about even amounts of each colour—black, white and yellow—is alive in Culver City, California, U.S.A. I have seen the cat and checked his sex, etc. He is fully developed as a male and appears normal in all male char-

acteristics. He is over 18 months old and has been exhibited at a licensed cat show. He has not been used as a stud as yet.

"I hope his owners will try him as a breeder in the near future, especially to mate him to a Tortoiseshell female. This is a fine opportunity to settle many questions about such male cats".

MRS. HAYNES

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Grand and Triple Champion ROOFSPRINGER MAHOGANY QUINN: Havana Brown female, was the first of a pair bred in England by Miss Edith von Ullmann and exported to America in 1956. Mahogany was the first to attain Grand Championship status, also Best All Western and All American 1960-61. She has since become the mother of six Champions and grandmother of others. Proud owner is Mrs. Elsie L. Quinn, El Monte, California, U.S.A.



Mark Doyel



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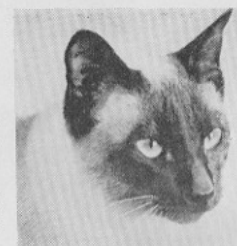
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