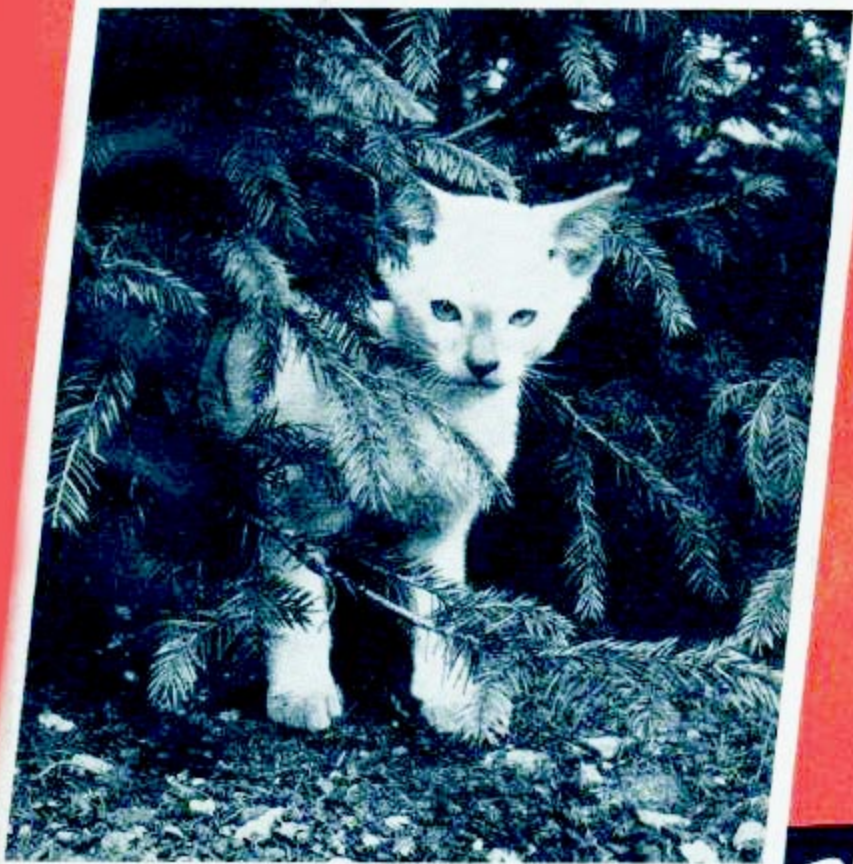


Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
COMPREHENSIVE



"WHO'S READY FOR A GAME?"

Liede **KHANDOR KITA**, a Spring 1965 kitten bred by Mrs. M. A. Hopkins, of Clevedon, Somerset is enjoying a first taste of adventure out in the big new world.

Photographer G. Dr. J. Andraus.

JUNE 1965

2/6

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. 17 No. 6

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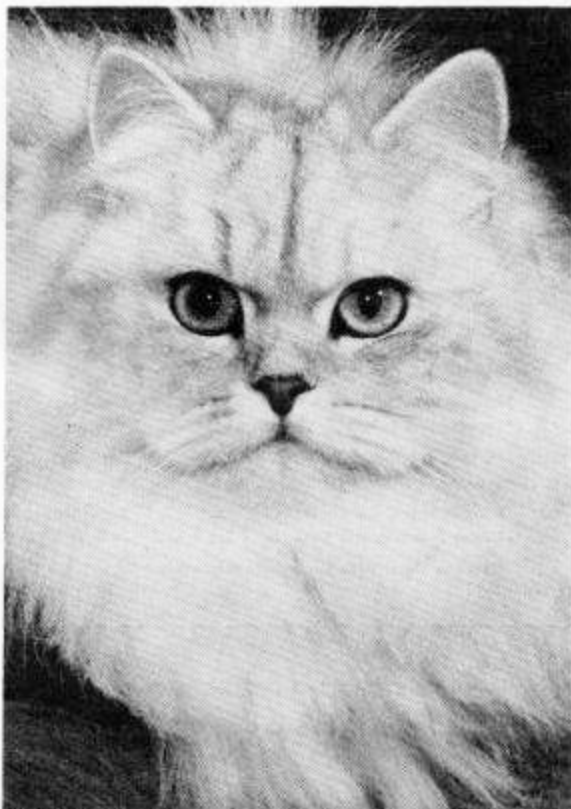
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THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



SONATA ANDANTE is a "glamour puss" bred and owned by Dr. and Mrs. Roden, of Stanford-le Hope, Essex. She won her Open Class every time she was shown as a kitten and on the first occasion was Best L.H. Kitten at only just over 10 weeks old. That was in 1963.

SHOWS FOR THE 1965/6 SEASON

Brief details of the remaining show fixtures for the 1965-6 season are provided below for the information and guidance of readers. A list giving fuller information may be obtained (price 6d.) from the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, Mrs. S. Berliner, 146 Western Avenue, East Acton, London W.3.

1965	Promoted by	Venue
10 July ...	Three Counties Cat Society ...	Salisbury, Wilts.
17 " ...	City of Liverpool Cat Show ...	Wavertree, Liverpool
31 " ...	Hull Show ...	Hull, Yorkshire
31 " ...	Kensington Kitten & Neuter C.C. ...	London
11 August ...	Airedale Agr. Soc. (Bingley Show) ...	Bingley, Yorks.
14 " ...	Halifax & District Agr. Society ...	Halifax
21 " ...	Northern Siamese Cat Society ...	York
28 " ...	N. East of Scotland C.C. ...	Aberdeen
8 September ...	Macclesfield & Dist. Agr. Society ...	Macclesfield, Cheshire
11 " ...	*Herts. & Middlesex C.C. ...	London
2 October ...	*Yorkshire County C.C. ...	Harrogate
7 " ...	*Siamese Cat Club ...	London
23 " ...	*Midland Counties C.C. ...	Smethwick, Staffs.
4 November ...	*Blue Persian Cat Society ...	London
6 " ...	*Preston Cat Club ...	Blackpool
20 " ...	*Cheshire Area Cat Club ...	Chester
4 December ...	*Siamese Cat. Soc. of the British Empire ...	Newbury, Berks.
4 " ...	Northern Counties Cat Club ...	Newcastle-upon-Tyne
16 " ...	*National Cat Club ...	Olympia, London
1966		
8 January ...	*Notts. & Derbys. Cat Club ...	Nottingham
22 " ...	*Southern Counties C.C. ...	London
5 February ...	*Scottish Cat Club ...	Glasgow
12 " ...	*Croydon Cat Club ...	London
19 " ...	*Lancs. & N.W. Counties C.C. ...	Stockport, Cheshire
26 " ...	*Coventry & Leicester C.C. ...	Coventry
3 March ...	Suffolk & Norfolk Cat Club ...	Ipswich
23 " ...	*Wessex Cat Club ...	Bournemouth
21 April ...	Hull & Lincs. Cat Club ...	Scunthorpe, Lincs.
23 " ...	Ulster Siamese Cat Club ...	Belfast, N. Ireland
*Denotes show with Championship status		

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

Due to recent increase in postal charges, we have been compelled to take a good look at our costs of distribution. It has been decided to discontinue forthwith the sending of acknowledgement cards to our friends when they renew their subscriptions to the Magazine. All new subscriptions will be acknowledged and we shall also be pleased to send an acknowledgment card when this form of receipt is requested. Special care will be taken to ensure that our record cards are always up-to-date and correct as to detail. Subscription renewal reminders will be issued in the usual way.

Will it be Shadowpoints ... or what?

WE hear from reliable sources—as the newspapers say—that very soon the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy may see their way to grant a breed number to those delightful cats who have been winning a great measure of popularity despite the handicap of having three different names—Lynx, Attaby and Shadowpoints and maybe others!

Although this variety has made occasional appearances over the last decade, none seems to have bred them seriously until Miss E. Alexander, of Battle, Sussex, showed a litter at the Croydon Cat Club Championship Show in 1961. Mrs. Greta Hindley, doyen of the Siamese world, fell for one of these kittens and became the owner of Tansy. She has since taken an active part in the formation of a new club known as the Shadowpoint and Progressive Breeders Club. Mr. Maxwell Knight, author and broadcaster, is the President, and there are already over 50 members. It is hoped that affiliation to the Governing Council will be granted in the near future.

It would be true to say that Shadowpoints have all the beauty and type of the Siamese. Whilst the blue eyes are retained, the coat is paler, though with distinct markings on the face. These markings are not so distinct on the legs, which are more shadowy in colour. The tail is boldly ringed and gives a pleasing effect against the pale coat.

Mrs. Tatjana Folkes, of Glou-



Stanford Silver Birch

cester, is a keen member of the new club and owner of Stanford Silver Birch, whose picture appears on this page. This kitten was bred jointly by two Hampshire ladies Mrs. Audrey Bowen and Mrs. Jane Eckett from Champion Bolney Kien, a chocolate pointed Siamese and Samsara Silver Sprite, who appeared on television last year as being an outstanding Shadowpoint kitten.

During the last show season, Silver Birch did exceptionally well despite her youth. Entered in seven classes, she gained five firsts and always led her Open Class. At the February show in Cardiff of the West of England and South Wales Cat Society, she won her

Open A.O.V. Kitten Class (M or F 3-9 months) and judge Miss Ann Codrington praised her most highly as a representative of her breed.

Cats with a future

Understandably, Mrs. Nancy Hardy, of Guildford, Surrey, is another keen club member and also its chairman. She is the proud owner of Prestwick Pervenche, the playful little Shadowpoint kitten whose picture adorns this page. Pervenche (French for periwinkle) was bred from Mrs. Warner's

Polar ex Miss Alexander's aforementioned Tansy. Shown only once at Olympia last December, Pervenche was entered in three classes, winning five prize cards, including a first and a third.

The presence of the Shadowpoints could very well be a noteworthy feature of the 1965/6 season.

What's in a name? Apparently quite a bit at the moment and it would be a great pity if the progress of this attractive variety is handicapped by any failure to have them named and recognized at an early date.



A delightful study by Mr. Raymond Garnett, A.R.P.S., of PRESTWICK PERVENCHE.

The case of the stricken fancier

By MAY EUSTACE

TO look at me you would not guess that I was ill. Yet for many years I have been in the grip of a slow fever, which first manifested itself at the time of the arrival of my first Siamese cat, Ming. The onset was mild and under control, but it assumed high proportions as my cat family increased. My condition became obvious to my all-medical family and several antibiotics and anti-feline drugs were injected into me. But the fever persisted. True, there were periods of remission when my temperature nearly settled, but this was mostly in consequence of what feline humans said of me and did unto me.

But, as cat love overshadowed most of the other trials, the fever kept recurring and medical science could not find a cure. Frustration developed. I became unsteady of foot and ill at ease. I was addicted to blush and to stammer. It looked as if I got worse instead of better.

Then my husband took over, displaying a firmness of character that he had hitherto concealed up his sleeve. He decreed that we should go away together. Fortunately a business conference at Folkestone was in the offing and he saw for me in this dull and uninteresting company, a period of convalescence, if not of complete cure. I acquiesced readily.

But there first had to be some plans. There were cats to be considered. My husband was a little sceptical of cure when he heard me arrange to take two with me, but, being a doctor, he understood that the cure would have to be gradual to be effective. A sudden com-

plete shutting off of contacts was not desirable.

At Crimplesham Hall in King's Lynn, we made our first stop, and here, the lady-in-charge took the form of another stricken fancier—Pess Wilson-Taylor. Sig and Guey had been invited to holiday there. In the drive, the sight of a little Crimplesham Seal Point lady, standing gracefully aside to allow the car to pass, made my heart beat unevenly and I felt that a return of the fever was imminent. Then, when I went into the Hall I suddenly felt gripped by the cat atmosphere that was almost stifling and all I could utter were the words, "Ashford in Middlesex. Could you please put us on the road. Ashford, tonight, tonight please". I felt suddenly from within a return of all my symptoms. No kindly words could I whisper but "Ashford, Ashford", for I felt that I might yet be saved and if Ashford were gained "could Folkestone be far behind?"

The familiar scent

At Ashford I slowly recovered for there was little to remind me of any anxiety state—only but!—Margerita had planted a few cuttings of our home-grown catmint right under the deckchair on which I rested. But I was then strong enough to resist the claims the familiar scent made on me.

Then off to Folkestone. The first few days were magnificent and both myself and my husband felt that a complete cure was imminent. The company was so stodgy and so dull that even my husband opted for lengthened golf sessions and shortened agendas. The reception worked wonders for nobody much wanted or cared for me. (Once

during a slight relapse I found myself cogitating "How different if there were catty folk! How infinitely more pleasurable the party!").

When I left the hall I did so in a brave and determined manner. My fever had left me, but only just. . . .

An unexpected letter from a fancier nearly put me back to where I had been. I will quote some of it to show how delicate the situation was. I know that Mrs. Murray will not object to this as by writing to me she knew the risks she ran!

The letter concerned her quest for a good reliable husband for her little tortie-and-white queen. "Minnie had so far only mated with the local layabouts and one of her sons had won the title of Champion of Champions but only in my private 'clown' class".

At Chester Show, Mrs. Murray acquired a Champion British Shorthair, and it was because of this fine fellow's impotence that Mrs. Murray sought a remedy from me. I was not overwhelmed with pride at her deference to me for she had already written to a well-known judge who had prescribed a course of Ephynal tablets.

"For six weeks", wrote Mrs. Murray, "I have been stuffing him with sex pills so he should be full of fervour and tender passion. But no! All he can say is 'When can I get my dinner?' ". Her letter ended with an appeal that any further cat books of mine should contain a chapter headed, "What Every Young Tom Should Know". Yes, Mrs. Murray, thanks for the letter!

Fate continued to stack the cards against me. Even when I got safely inside the hotel walls, out stepped a rare and beautiful little Lilac Siamese neuter. He was really the penthouse cat with quarters dug out in the roof, but very soon he was every place I turned. I could see him six flights up treading carefully, almost in the clouds; other times he emerged from the basement preceded by the low growl of a Siamese returning to earth. But he bore himself with such grace and dignity that his undefinable charm got right under my skin. His affairs became all-absorbing to me.

Sad to say the fever returned. My husband looked at me and sighed. He gave up. I was an incurable case.

So now, fancier friends, it cannot be farewell. We'll meet again, you'll see.



Understandably, the author's Blue Point SIGISMOND is a contributory factor towards her condition of "slow fever!"



Tailpieces

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



A SPOKESMAN for the Defence Ministry, replying to a question raised in the House of Commons, revealed that the animal population of the Ministry's breeding station at Allington Farm, Wiltshire, consisted of 100 cats, 42 dogs, 160 cattle, 7 horses, 630 sheep, 5 geese, 870 rabbits, 530 fowl, 2,400 rats, 8,300 mice and 2,150 guinea pigs.

Whisky, a black and white male cat, was found alive after six weeks without food or water. He was accidentally locked in a furniture warehouse in Hythe, Kent, where he was found in total darkness, unable to stand and terribly emaciated. The veterinarian who was called in immediately said that Whisky was almost completely dehydrated. Saline injections and careful nursing are helping him back to normal health.

According to the *Daily Express* cats are winning the struggle with budgerigars for No. 2 place in the popularity polls. A survey reported that "for a time the budgie seemed to be winning, then suddenly the cat leaped ahead. Not in front of the dog, of course. He is still tops".

Here are some recent quotes: Peter Black, TV critic of the *Daily Mail*, writing about Cassius Clay before the big fight fiasco: "... he has only a slightly firmer grasp of the colour problem than my Siamese cat, Lupin Pooter Black". From Sir Malcolm Sargent, our ever youthful conductor who has just celebrated his 70th birthday: "I love animals. I'm on the Council of the Zoo and I'm

President of the R.S.P.C.A. ... I can't bear badly fitting clothes, so I have a good tailor, but nothing flash. I think if I'd been a cat I would always have made sure my fur was in good condition". From Mrs. I. W. Pearson, of Guildford, Surrey, in a letter to *Fur and Feather*: "... Some breeders know nothing of and care less for genetics. Their main concern is to send abroad all the kittens, good, bad or indifferent, they can get together. If a few breeders keep shouting, the walls of Jericho will tumble down one day".

Mr. Douglas Jay, President of the Board of Trade, unveiling a plaque at Battersea Dogs' Home, said he prefers cats to dogs as they tend to be more silent and don't answer back. If some animals had the vote, he thought the human race would treat them a good deal better than it does. But there was one thing the British could be proud of—they treat animals better than in other countries.

A newspaper report refers to the Australian bush as a vast dumping ground for unwanted domestic cats. So many families are taking their cat with them when they go for a picnic—and leaving it there. And they are breeding with such rapidity that they are approaching pest proportions. Although the cats do not harm the crops they threaten the bird and animal life. At a native reserve near Wiluna, 520 miles from Perth, an aboriginal in from the desert was asked on what he had been living. He replied: "Pussy cat. Much better than rabbit!"

(continued overleaf)

Mrs. Clare Clive-Smith, of Hindhead, Surrey, wrote to *The Field* as follows: "I saw one of our cats carrying something in her mouth. Thinking it was a bird, my young son ran to the rescue. To our surprise it proved to be a blackbird's egg, quite unharmed. My son took the egg away and the cat vanished, only to return a few minutes later with another one. This also we removed, much to the cat's indignation; again she ran off to return with a third egg, but she was wiser this time and broke and ate it before we could reach her. I have never known any of our other cats do this".

"Great Britain has been the largest source of supply for the Russian Blue until recently, but now, for some strange reason, breeders there are reluctant to part with their stock. Importers must now turn to Norway for top grades of the Russian Blue and pay an average price of \$150.0 per cat for quality strains. Several breeders in California, noting the short supply, have now stepped up interest in this cat and, as of recent date, there are now more Russian Blues showing up at shows". Extract from an article on the breed by Virgil S. Springer in the American trade journal *All-Pets*.

And so it goes on! The Hereford Juvenile Court recently heard the case of a 9-year-old boy who smashed in a kitten's skull with a 30 lb. stone. Not satisfied with the result of this fiendish act, he took a skewer and stabbed the kitten several times. The boy, who pleaded not guilty, was fined £7 with £9 13s. 6d. costs. The R.S.P.C.A. brought the case. Getting away with murder? Of course it is!

John Masefield, Poet Laureate of England, has celebrated his 87th birthday. J. H. B. Peel, who interviewed this grand old man for the *Evening Standard*, observed that Masefield loves cats almost as much as he loves the ballet. "No matter who you are", he writes, "the talk may be interrupted while the Poet Laureate opens or closes a window for the cat".

We received from Mr. Carl Stein, President of the Deutscher Edelkatzenzuechter-Verband e.V., a delightful postcard in glossy colour commemorating the Queen's recent visit to Western Germany.

You just can't keep marmalade cats out of the news! Jake, 2½-year-old belonging to Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Conover, of Newtonville (reports *The Boston Herald*, U.S.A.), has been recalled to life by veterinary skill and science in a case so striking that Dr. Donnellan, D.V.M., intends to write it up in detail for the American Veterinary Medical Association. During a bitter spell of winter, Jake wandered away from home and was missing for five days. He was discovered trapped in a snowdrift and when he was brought in to Dr. Donnellan he was "frozen stiff. His eyes were frozen shut and his legs and tail were rigid". Examination revealed a faint heart beat. Jake was put into an infra-red cage at about 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Later, Dr. Donnellan heard a faint rattling in Jake's throat and then went to work with injections of dextrose and saline, which had to be given under the skin because the needle would not penetrate the frozen veins. After that came days of injections with cortisone, B.12, bicillin and liver fluid and slowly the work of restoration progressed. All that Jake finally lost was his tail. Soviet veterinarians have frozen mammals to a state of suspended animation and then brought them back to life. "But", says Dr. Donnellan, "they said in their report they were in a frozen state for only two or three minutes. Jake apparently was frozen longer than any cat in Russia—or anywhere else, for that matter!"

Kittens born just after Michaelmas, when the blackberry season has just ended, are called blackberry cats, and have the reputation of being especially mischievous in their youth. So the saying goes.

George Mattar, a retired civil servant, living in Beirut (Lebanon) kept nearly

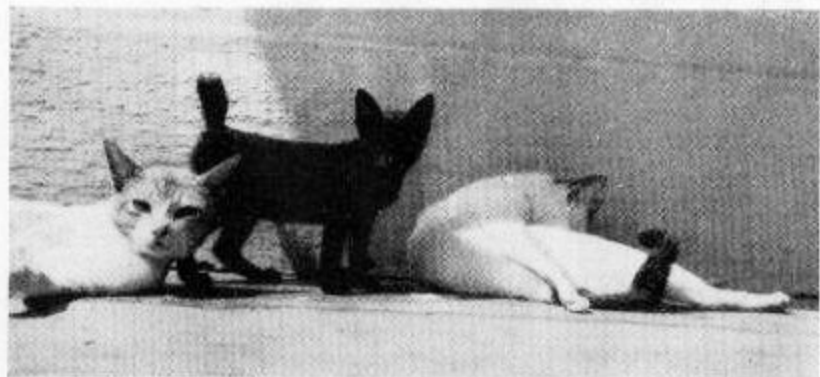
160 cats and when he discovered that 40 were missing he began to make enquiries in official quarters. The mystery was solved when an employee of the physiology section of the University of Beirut admitted he had been collecting stray cats and dogs "to serve humanity and science" in the laboratories. The chief of the local Ministry of Hygiene ruled that there is nothing wrong legally in the capture of stray cats provided no weapon or poison is used.

Cookie, a white three-year-old male cat who appears on the TV screen in High Speed Gas advertising, has been awarded a gold medal by the *Television Mail* as the star in the year's best TV commercial. He shared the first prize with a blonde model in a car advertisement. Cookie lives at the animal farm conducted by Mr. John Holmes at Benson, Oxford, who took him in when he (Cookie) was found wandering in the streets.

The controversial subject of our quarantine regulations has been raised once again in Parliament with little hope, I fear, that there is any likelihood of any early deviation from the existing stringent regulations for cats.

The Report of the Committee on Experiments on Animals can now be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, Kingsway, London, W.C.2 for 16s. 9d. post free. The findings and recommendations of the Committee will spark off lengthy and lively discussions for some time to come and no doubt we shall be returning to this important subject in a later issue.

Here is a shaggy cat story for a change! Ginger, a 14-year-old male cat, is the treasured pet of Miss Elizabeth Heales, a medical student at the Oldham and District General Hospital. When Ginger's coat started to fall out from a nervous skin condition, Elizabeth found a cure by using a Philips Ultraphil sun lamp. Wearing the essential protective



This interesting picture of a family group of Malaysian cats comes from Mrs. Molly White, of Worthing, Sussex. The quaint kitten has a knot and bend near the tip of his tail. The accompanying letter observes that "nearly everyone keeps cats in Malaysia—from aristocratic Siamese, gentle Burmese to the common or alley cats of all shapes and sizes. This is partly to help control the rather large rat population and of course cats are really at home in the tropics. Many have long legs, large ears, a demanding voice and lovely round eyes of clear jade green. They are friendly and intelligent and make wonderful pets and companions". Mrs. White's own Tiddles travelled home with her from Malaysia and is now in quarantine.

goggles, Ginger was given two minute sessions and he just loved the warmth radiated by the lamp. The treatment worked wonders for the old fellow.

A new cat club has been formed in Scotland called the Nor' East of Scotland Cat Club. The Hon. Secretary is Mrs. I. Weymouth, The Bungalow, Ythanbank, Aberdeenshire, and the first show is fixed for August 28th in Aberdeen.

Publications received include the March issue of *Cats Calling*, the official journal of the Western Province Cat Club, South Africa. Membership figures for 1964 at 226 are an all-time high for this go-ahead organization. Two Championship shows are held each year, one in May and the other in October. I was interested to read about "Mrs. Wheels, who lives in a stately house out on Port Elizabeth's tree-lined Kragga Kama Drive." Mrs. Wheels is an eight-year-old cat belonging to Mrs. Barbara Matlock. Last September her litter of five brought her tally of kittens up to a carefully documented 101. Good homes have been found for everyone of them.

Advertising on canned cat food during 1964 is estimated at £1,329,000, compared with over two million spent on advertising for canned dog food, dog meal and biscuits. The figure for cat food in 1960 was £300,000.

Film star Shirley Eaton is appearing in the film of Agatha Christie's thriller "The Ten Little Indians" in which there is an important role for Russ, a blue short-hair, who is an important clue to the whodunit riddle.

Children should be discouraged from "playing at vets" and using elastic bands to keep the "bandages" in place.

At the annual general meeting of the Chinchilla, Silver Tabby and Smoke Cat Society held in London last month, Miss Evelyn Langston, the Hon. Secretary, commented on the very gratifying increase in membership and the great improvement in the quality and quantity of Smoke cats.

"In an affluent society, made up of



GRAND CHAMPION THANI SA MO OF SUN DANCE, Seal Point Siamese stud, has won numerous show awards for Mrs. Gerald Coss, of Rochelle, Illinois, U.S.A. "Sa Mo" is shown here with his special friend Miss Jody Coss.

people who love animals, who also like convenience foods, it seems logical that more and more of them will turn to feeding their pets by opening a can. . . . There are, however, many pockets of resistance, made up of those who believe that there is nothing to compare with fresh meat from the butcher or with food prepared by their own hands. Working against this section of the buying public are two factors: the persuasive techniques of mass advertising and the rising cost of fresh food." Quote from the *Financial Times*.

Apropos Dimvar Golden Monarch, the striking red pointed Siamese whose picture appeared on page 22 of our April issue, it should be noted that he was bred by Mrs. Smith and purchased from her by Mrs. Margaret Worsley. The sire is Southview Havoc and the dam Senlac Aurora, both red points.

How's this for a success story? The Hon. Mrs. Haden Guest, breeder of

Snowdrift Chinchillas at her Swiss home took five cats to the International Show at Berne, where Madame Ravel was judging. Her imported Statesman Bonavia was Best Longhair and also got the third leg of his Championship. Amerlia Snowdrift was her class winner and Best Swiss Chinchilla and also won the pairs with Statesman against all breeds. Two Snowdrift kittens also took a first prize. Incidentally, there are quite a few good English Chinchillas in Switzerland.

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



Toni Ottosson

Mrs. Vera Lang, of Genevad, Sweden, is a Longhair Tortoiseshell enthusiast. Here she is with COLUMBINE OF VERVILLE with whom she won at the Malmo Show under English judge Mrs. J. M. Newton. Columbine is a daughter of Ch. Pathfinders Stardust and Int. Ch. Rufus of Verville, a Cream grandson of Ch. Widdington Wintersohn. Whilst on a visit to England earlier this year Mrs. Lang purchased a blue Tortie and White from Miss Woodfield's cattery.

Feline Advisory Bureau

Report on the May Conference

THE Second Annual Conference of the F.A.B. took place last month at the Cavendish Hotel, London, and was once again under the chairmanship of Mr. Maxwell Knight, O.B.E., F.L.S. One hundred and thirty members and veterinary surgeons attended a most successful day.

A paper on Vitamin E and other antioxidants in food was presented by Dr. Patricia P. Scott, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.R.M.S. After outlining the origin and discovery of Vitamin E, Dr. Scott went on to describe its role in protein synthesis and the conditions that result from hypovitaminosis E. She described in particular the symptoms and necropsy appearance of kittens suffering from the condition.

The paper next following was presented by Mrs. Christine Startup, M.R.C.V.S., who described and illustrated the acute and chronic forms of feline rhinitis and sinusitis. She went on to enumerate the treatment of the condition including the technique for sinus lavage that she has developed.

Following luncheon, a paper by Dr. Ivor Raleigh, Ph.D., B.Sc. (Chairman of the Siamese Cat Association) put forward a number of reasons for neonatal mortality of kittens. As well as mentioning the more obvious causes due to infection and diet, Dr. Raleigh discussed inherited factors concerning anatomical physiological failures. In addition he outlined the possible errors that might arise in the chemistry of the nucleus in early life.

Views of the breeders

There then followed three short papers by cat breeders attending the Conference. Mrs. Allison Ashford, S.R.N., discussed the many problems that are encountered

by breeders of show cats, and was particularly concerned that shows should be more widely dispersed through the year. Miss E. E. Sellar in a paper on Long-haired cats deplored the limits to which brachycephalism had been taken in these breeds and believed that they should be penalized at shows. The third paper, by Mrs. D. Silkstone, B.Sc., took the form of a list of queries to a panel consisting of Dr. Scott and Dr. Raleigh who had been joined by Mr. G. T. Wilkinson, M.V.Sc., M.R.C.V.S. and Mr. Roy Robinson, N.R.D.

Each paper presented was very well received and the amount of discussion that they each produced did credit to the authors.

Serving mutual interests

An appeal from veterinary surgeons present that breeders should ask for help when they met problems and also that they should be prepared to notify their own organizations of these problems was received with applause by the breeders. In their turn the breeders stated their belief in the establishment of a register of matings and the registration of the results of breeding. There can be no doubt that the Conference was a success and the increased harmony that results from these meetings is to the mutual benefit of breeders and veterinary surgeons alike. Mrs. Joan Judd, the Hon. Secretary of the Feline Advisory Bureau, is to be congratulated and must be well pleased with the outcome of her efforts.





SCARLETINA NARCISSUS (a 3½ years son of Devonmore Brandy) is one of the rarer lovely British White Shorthairs. He is owned by Miss Jeanette Hyde, of Oxford.



FROM "DOWN UNDER"

Our picture of the executive of the Cat Fanciers Society of Western Australia, Inc., was taken on the occasion of the State Championship Show held in Perth in November last. They are (standing from left to right) Mrs. A. Dentler, Mrs. R. W. Woodbury (President), Mr. A. A. Taylor, Mrs. F. W. Pearce (guest judge), Mr. K. Synnot (Asst. Show Manager), Mrs. F. Taylor, Mrs. L. M. White, Mr. L. W. Orr (Show Manager), Mrs. K. Synnot (Treasurer) and Mrs. G. G. Henn. Seated are Mr. F. W. Pearce (guest judge), Mrs. J. Taylor (Hon. Secretary) and Mrs. L. W. Orr (Vice President and Asst. Secretary).

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No. 1 WHAT'S GOING ON?

The following extract is one of several taken from *Animal Breeding Abstracts*, one in a series of journals published by the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux, a Government subsidized organization. Further extracts will follow as although they hardly come under the heading of light reading they do at least provide us with a peep into the laboratories of the world.

"Gilmore, C. E., Gilmore, V. H. & Jones, T. C. (1964). **Reticuloendotheliosis, a myeloproliferative disorder of cats: a comparison with lymphocytic leukaemia.**

This anatomical entity of unknown cause was characterized by severe progressive anaemia and proliferation of undifferentiated (reticulum) cells in bone marrow, spleen, liver and lymph nodes. There was no obvious malignancy of the abnormal cells. Clinical, haematological and P.M. findings in ten affected cats were compared with those of ten with lymphocytic leukaemia. The clinical picture was similar in both conditions. In reticuloendotheliosis, totally undifferentiated cells accounted for between 16 and 77% of cells in bone marrow and up to 55% of cells in peripheral blood. Gross findings were anaemia and enlargement of spleen, liver and lymph nodes. Cases previously reported as leukaemia may have been reticuloendotheliosis".

Mrs. Joan Thompson will resume her "Just Fancy" contribution in next month's issue, which will also contain the official list of Champions for the 1964/5 show season.

A page for the proletarian puss—No 115



Georges H. Wellbeu

WHAT ABOUT ME?

Florence, the tabby house pet, feels "out of the picture" when Baby, the fawn, is bottle-fed with her warm milk. We are indebted to the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Vivisection for the loan of this beautiful print, which we understand has its origin in Norway.

WE MEET THE "COOL CATS"

A few weeks ago we accepted an invitation from the Rank Organization to attend at their private theatre in Wardour Street, W. London, for a special screening of "Cool Cats," the latest film in the popular "Look at Life" series. No doubt many of you have since taken the opportunity to see this little gem.

"Cool Cats"—a rather confusing sort of title?—runs for only ten minutes but the editing has been skilful and the colour is excellent. It was thoroughly enjoyed by the small audience of cat people which included Miss Kathleen Yorke, Chairman of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy and Mr. Beverly Nichols, the author. Miss



Among the prominent personalities of the cat world who attended the special screening of "Cool Cats" were Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Mary Dunnill, Secretary of the Siamese Cat Club whose Sumfun Mimi is being admired, Mrs. P. Warner with one of her china cats, Mrs. Colville with her White Maus Ch. No-end Bromas and Lady Smyth.

Yorke had the great pleasure of seeing her Rex pet Honeybun (bred by Mrs. A. E. Ashford) making a film debut.

The camera took a look at all sorts of cats. In particular, it followed the adventures of Mrs. Dunnill's little Siamese Sumfun Fifi from a few days after birth to her departure by air to a new home in Canada. It took us into

the Warner home at Little Foxes, near Sevenoaks, where Mrs. Warner indulges in her fascinating pursuit of feline ceramics. We were given a look at the headquarters in Slough of the Cats' Protection League and there were also some quite amusing shots giving the "cat's eye view" of proceedings at the Coventry and Leicester C.C. Show.

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To fanciers overseas . . .

Panel advertisements in our DIRECTORY OF BREEDERS (Longhair and Shorthair sections) are not confined to members of the English Fancy. Indeed, we shall be only too pleased to see the Directory develop along truly international lines. All announcements must conform to our usual typeset style. Full details of rates, etc., will be gladly supplied on request to any of our friends overseas. For over seventeen years our DIRECTORY OF BREEDERS has been an economical and efficient medium for fanciers of international repute who have stock to sell and services to offer.

If you know any cat lovers who are likely to be genuinely interested in a sample copy of OUR CATS, we should be glad to have their names and addresses. Just jot the details on a postcard, address to 4 Carlton Mansions, 378 Clapham Road, London, S.W.9, and we will do the rest.

THEY ALMOST TALK TO US

By J. A. Watson

IF you pride yourself as being a very practical and down-to-earth person who has a great liking for our fur-coated friends, but considers them dumb animals, then you have made a mistake.

You have only to hear them calling their mates or asking for food to know how noisy they can be. But this seems to be only a means of drawing attention to themselves. Much more conversational is our cat's purring or his gentle nodding or rocking as he sits on our lap or beside us.

Although our pet may sit for ages appearing to contemplate the whole destiny of cat and man, you should have noticed that once he has passed the kitten stage and is on into youth or middle age, how much he enjoys a little quiet talk.

It is from this knowledge of his appreciation of a friendly word that has sprung up the "diddums diddums come puss puss" type of language which is so often heard from cat lovers when they speak to their feline friend. Ah! be very careful not to underrate the diddums-type cat talk that goes on, for it is more than likely that our diddumer is receiving a reply from his pleased listener.

To receive an answer from didduming you must experiment, preferably when

you sit comfortably opposite each other. As you sit eyeing one another begin by saying "Hello Blackie" (or whatever other name your pet has). Say the name slowly and quietly with an almost mewling undulating note. Repeat this a few times varying the speed, note, etc.

On hearing his name so mewlingly spoken you will see a look of added interest in his eye and after a while you will (if rewarded for your efforts), receive either a whisker twitch, wink, or meow or a combination of these.

Good, so now you are on speaking terms with him, and all that remains is for you both to keep practising. You will soon come to recognize the "talking" voice he uses and even begin to understand something of what he is trying to say and as you each become experts at conversation, you will find it will often be your cat who will begin talking first. His enjoyment in learning to know you better will be shown by his happy purring.

So if you haven't tried it already, next time you speak to your cat, try to come in on his wavelength and you will soon see how much more he will appreciate a little talk. After all it's not entirely by chance that a cat in French is called "le chat" you know.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

The rate for prepaid advertisements under this heading is 3d. per word per insertion (minimum 12 words) and instructions must be received by *not later than the 1st day* of the month of issue. Please write "copy" clearly and post with appropriate remittance to OUR CATS MAGAZINE, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9. Use of Box No. costs 1s. extra

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