

1991

Celebrating Our
10th Anniversary

2000

tonkinese
BREED CLUB



tonkinfo

Spring

2000

ISSUE 21



President: Mrs Alison Ashford

COMMITTEE 2000

Chairman: Mrs Carol Poole

7 Langworthy End, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berks. SL6 2HJ Tel: (01628) 784646

Vice-Chairman: Mrs Brenda Rawlinson

44 Fore Street, Chudleigh, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ13 0HY Tel: (01626) 854735

Hon. Secretary: Mrs Linda Vousden

Lansdale, 12 Robinhood Lane, Winnersh, Berks. RG41 5LX Tel: (0118) 9791940

e-mail: tbc@mymystic.demon.co.uk

TBC website: www.mymystic.demon.co.uk/page13

Hon. Treasurer: Mr Mike Vousden

Address as per Hon. Secretary.

Membership Secretary & Show Support: Mrs Christine Richards

41 Park Close Road, Alton, Hants GU34 2EZ Tel: (01420) 86085

Ms Sue Davison

15 Willoughby Road, Horfield, Bristol, Avon. BS7 8QX Tel: (0117) 9425934

Miss Miriam Haas

33 Polsloe Road, Exeter, Devon EX1 2HW Tel: (01392) 495275

Mr Kevin Leaver

78 Lower Hanham Road, Hanham, Bristol, Avon BS15 3BZ Tel: (0117) 9491507

Miss Karen Hood

9 Littlemeadow Close, Adminston, Telford, Shropshire TF5 0DN Tel: (01952) 248771

Mrs Kathy Wilkinson (Editor of Tonkinfo)

5 Beltana Drive, Gravesend, Kent DA12 4BT Tel: (01474) 352711

e-mail: kathyw@pamplecat.demon.co.uk

Club delegate to the GCCF: Mrs Kathy Wilkinson (see details above)

Substitute-delegate: Mrs Christine Richards (see details above)

Kitten Register – Miss Miriam Haas (see details above)

.....

Rescue & Welfare Officer: Mrs Felicity Jolley

4 Lower Ferry Lane, Callow End, Worcs. WR2 4UH Tel: (01905) 830685

CONTENTS

	Page
Honorary Secretary's Report	4
Happy 10 th Birthday!	5
Tonkinese Breed Club Show	5
Show Support	6
Cup Winners from the 2000 AGM	6
The Easy Road to Becoming a South African Tonkaholic	7
Limping Syndrome and Feline <i>Calici</i> Virus – FAB article	9
Tonkinese – A View from Abroad	10
Little Known Feline Ailments - Part 1	11
The Cats in Our Lives, by Maggie Chitty	13
Recipes	14
How to Give Your Cat a Pill	15
What's in a Name?	16
Poetry	17
<i>Origami</i>	18
<i>Origami</i> instructions	19
The GCCF's General Code of Ethics for Breeders and Owners	20
Sheet for <i>Origami</i>	

The Editor and the Committee cannot accept any responsibility for the opinions expressed by Contributors. The Editor reserves the right to accept or reject material without giving a reason.

No portion of this publication may be reproduced without prior permission.

Notes from the Editor:

I hope you all enjoy this issue of 'Tonkinfo' - I am very pleased to say we have 2 articles from overseas Tonk enthusiasts, one of whom is a new Club member: welcome, Saskia, and the other article is by Jeanine, a member of the e-mail Tonklist (for details of how to join the Tonklist, please see Linda Vousden's web site, www.mymystic.demon.co.uk). And once again, some non-club members have been good enough to let me have 'offerings'. I have also included some information and an 'exercise' on a new interest I have found for myself (*origami*) and one of my work colleagues, also very keen on this activity, prepared an exercise especially for us. So have a go!

Take care of yourselves, and I look forward to seeing you all out on the 'show circuit' from June in friendly pursuit of ICs for our cats. Don't forget, if you have any queries about anything to do with the Club and showing, just contact a committee member and we will try to answer your questions.

Regards

Kathy Wilkinson



Linda Vousden

Hon. Secretary's Report - 1999/2000

Hi Folks, and welcome to a rather special year for your favourite Club. Not only is it the year 2000 but it is the Club's 10th Anniversary and the first year of the Tonkinese as a Provisional breed! First, I would like to thank to those Club members who turn out to support the Club at meetings and shows including the promotion stand at the National. We didn't have a stand at the Supreme this year, we run it for the benefit of members and we rarely have more than the same 4 members visit it. Sadly, despite appeals for help on the Club stands we have only had offers from three members. Is there any one out there? The Committee really does need more help from the membership, especially with the work involved in the Club show so please help out.

The main achievement of 1999, of course, was breed promotion. Another achievement was our 1st Sanction show! The entries came in so late that at one point we even thought that we might have to cancel it - but the Show Went On. Hopefully we shall have better/earlier response this year. However, there was a good turn-out and we were pleased to hear from many whom enjoyed themselves again. Sadly, Christine's hard work as Cup Secretary was disregarded by one member who berated her about the allocation of some of the BIS cups. 1999 was an unusual show as it was the only time we will ever have a Merit awarding Sanction - some of the BIS cups were re-allocated specifically for this show so that each of the BIS cats was able to receive a trophy. The photo competition, run by Miriam (who also took some beautiful photos for the Club again) was very successful and likely to be repeated at the 2000 show. We asked all exhibitors to produce their cats' vaccination certificates, a practice applauded by nearly everyone - although we did notice a drop in the Household pet entries! We shall be continuing this practice. Exhibitors were all given a complimentary copy of the Club Show Results book for their cat. We must thank Sue Davison and her team for taking on the always difficult-to-fill role of caterers (no pun intended). We had several visitors from around the country and even from as far as France, who saw details of our show on the Club web pages. As ever, many thanks to Helen Hewitt and Sandra Bush for pulling out all the stops and managing the show so well.

During the past year, the Committee received just a few complaints from around the country about judging at some of the shows. Can we please emphasise that if you are not happy with the judging and believe that there is genuine problem concerning a judge's behaviour you must put your concerns *in writing* to the Tonkinese BAC, not to the Club.

This year, as of June 1st, we will be competing with each other but naturally we hope that the spirit of camaraderie that has kept us working together to gain our Merits for promotion will stay with us - and we will encourage each other to show our best Tonks in our efforts toward Championship. We do need people to keep showing their cats and to encourage some of their kitten owners to do so. The Tonkinese presence on the bench is important and good critiques and side-class results are necessary for us to keep our archive records up to date. Indeed the same goes for our Pedigree bank, we *need* this information and still only get it from new members, so again we ask breeders - please would you make an extra copy of each litter's pedigree for the Club records?

Thanks to Kathy, this is another excellent issue of Tonkinfo - *enjoy!*

Tonkinese BAC Seminar -

Sunday June 18th, St Mary's Church Hall, Winnersh Berks.

This year the key topics will be the new colours (Caramel and Apricot) and Tonkinese Variants. Tickets will be £2.50, available from Mrs C Poole (7 Langworthy End, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berks. SL6 2HJ) on application with a SAE. *Keep up to date with the breed!*

Tonkinese Breed Club Annual Accounts - 1999

The audited Club accounts were duly presented to, and approved by, attendants at the AGM, April 16th 2000. As per common practice, if any member would like a copy of the accounts please send a SAE to the Hon. Secretary (see Committee list for address).

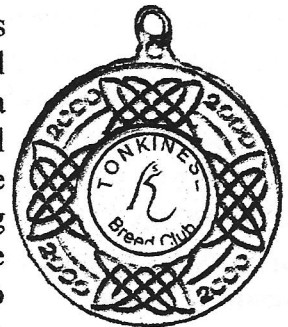


HAPPY 10th BIRTHDAY TO THE TONKINESE BREED CLUB!

On an auspicious December day in 1990, a group of Tonkinese breeders and exhibitors got together to discuss plans for a new Tonkinese club. The objective was to gain breed recognition for the Tonkinese from the GCCF.

On April 21st 1991 the Tonkinese Breed Club held its inaugural meeting.

To commemorate this anniversary Members will be able to buy this very attractive medal. The medal is cast metal and quite substantial weighing 1.5 ozs, and approximately 5cm in diameter. It will feature a Club logo as its centre-piece and the back of the medal, also cast, will have room for you to engrave your prefix or cat's name on it. The medal comes in a very attractive presentation box. Due to printing restrictions the picture on the right does not do it justice! We are offering this unique souvenir at cost price plus p&p (expected to be no more than £4 altogether) so place your orders, in writing please, with the Hon. Secretary before July. You *will* be advised of the exact price before the orders are placed. *Don't miss out, place your orders soon.*



The Tonkinese Breed Club Show (2nd Sanction)

Saturday October 28th, 2000 at Downend, Bristol
Show Manager: Mrs H Hewitt, Assistant: Mrs C Poole.

Schedules will be available on request from the end of July. Send a SAE to Mrs H Hewitt, The Braes, 160 Hermitage Road, Woking, Surrey, GU21 1XH.

If you want to stay overnight the Forte Posthouse, Filton Road, Hambrook (Tel: 0117 956 4242) offers good rates and will allow you to take your cat. It is just 10 minutes drive from the show hall and close to the railway station, but book early!

The Club needs the support of its Members at its own show so we look forward to seeing a full house - join us in celebrating the Club's 10th Anniversary!

SHOW SUPPORT

I would like to give everybody that has ever shown their Tonkinese A BIG THANKYOU. As from 1 June this year we will be collecting ICs (Intermediate Certificates). Yet again I will be donating rosettes. These will be special, to be given out next year at our AGM. I will give a one off rosette to the first adult/neuter cat of each colour that provides me with photocopies of their 3 IC Certificates. Good luck to everybody.

The colours will be Brown, Brown Tabby, Brown Tortie, Blue, Blue Tabby, Blue Tortie, Chocolate, Chocolate Tabby, Chocolate Tortie, Lilac, Lilac Tabby, Lilac Tortie, Red, Red Tabby, Cream, Cream Tabby, Apricot, Apricot Tabby, Caramel, Caramel Tabby, Caramel Tortie and any Tortie Tabby's.

Chris Richards

Cup Winners from the 2000 AGM

The **ISHMAL CHLOE MEMORIAL CUP** for most successful Brown (74), Blue (74a), Chocolate (74b) or Lilac (74c) went to **Mymystic Goldenshadow (74)** and **Samkabar Walnut Witch (74)**.

The **MYMYSTIC LANSDALE FABLE TROPHY**, for the most successful Blue (74a) went to **Adouzsh Hypnos** and **Addeish Lansdale Fable**.

The **ISHOKATS TROPHY** for the most successful Chocolate (74b), Chocolate Tortie (74h) or chocolate Tabby (74bt) went to **Mymystic Firebird (Phoenix) (74bt)**.

The **WIZADORA CUP**, for the most successful Red Adult, was not awarded this year.

The **MELUSINE ROMANTICA LEONORA MEMORIAL AWARD**, for the most successful Red, went to **Romantica Remus**.

The **EPISCOPUSS TROPHY**, for the most successful Cream (74f) went to **Muras Charlie Brown**.

The **GRIMSPOUND ROSE BOWL**, for the most successful Brown Tortie (74e), Blue Tortie (74g), Chocolate Tortie (74h) or Lilac Tortie (74j) went to **Melusine Bellaclova (74e)**.

The most successful **Adult Male EKAHTI CUP** went to **Bonzer Flash Harry (74bt)**

The most successful **Adult Female EKAHTI CUP** went to **Samkabar Walnut Witch (74)**.

The most successful **Adult Neuter EKAHTI CUP** went to **Romantica Remus (74d)**.

The most successful **Kitten EKAHTI CUP** went to **Mymystic Firebird (Phoenix) (74bt)**.

The **TONKAHOLICS TABBY FEMALE KITTEN CUP** went to **Mymystic Firebird (Phoenix) (74bt)**.

The **TONKAHOLICS TABBY MALE KITTEN CUP** was not awarded this year.

MYMYSTIC PHAROAH CUP for Adult Male Tabby, went to **Bonzer Red Rum (74dt)**

MYMYSTIC PAGAN SALVER for the most successful female Adult Tabby, was not awarded this year.

The **MYMYSTIC NIMROD TABBY NEUTER CUP** was won by **Bonzer Blue Print (74nt)**

The **MYMYSTIC GOLDENSHADOW CUP** for the most successful Brown (74) went to **Mymystic Goldenshadow**.

The **TONKAHOLICS SHIELD** for the most successful newcomer, in the preceding 2 years, went to Christine Tamlin.

The **TONKAHOLICS EXHIBITION TROPHY**, now to be called the **TONKALHOLICS AMBASSADOR TROPHY**, for the cat who is on exhibition most, went to **Mymystic Starshadow** (alias 'Buster').

The **MELUSINE BREEDERS TROPHY** went to Helen Barnes.

The **WILKINSON CUP**, for showing the greatest number of cats in 1999, went to **Jenny Ponsford**.

10 Merit Award Winners

Romantica Remus
Muras Charlie Brown
Tonkitu Tatak
Ramesis Nemesis

20 Merit Award Winners

Mymystic Nimrod
Mymystic Goldenshadow
Adouzsh Hypnos

25 Merit Award Winners

Mymystic Nimrod
Mymystic Goldenshadow

30 Merit Award Winner

Mymystic Goldenshadow

40 Merit Award Winner

Mymystic Goldenshadow

Top Merited Cat in UK

Mymystic Goldenshadow

THE EASY ROAD TO BECOMING A SOUTH AFRICAN TONKAHOLIC

OK – why do some of us love cats so much? For me my love affair with animals, but especially cats started when I was four years old and I got my first cat, a pure black moggie called Nugget. We went on holiday one year, Nugget was sent to a Cattery where he died from Cat Flu (no cats were inoculated against it in those days). Well, we came back and every time I asked “When are we collecting Nugget?” My parent’s reply was “Tomorrow.” Tomorrow never came, and I eventually stopped asking.

Nearly thirty years and many rescued moggies later I had become a firm cat lover, be it that cats fill a lonely gap that children would have filled, or that they are the most perfect selfless and loving companions – who knows? They are always there for me, and their soothing presence is a great tension releaser, the only time that my cats ever hurt me is when they die, but I know they are waiting at the Rainbow Bridge for me. On the other hand you might say that I have now successfully completed steps one and two to becoming a Professional Spinster!

In March 1996 I finally was presented with my first Pedigree. My very good friend Donna Le Roux presented me with the gift of a lifetime – a Chocolate Burmese, I called Kataya (Cat in Hebrew). Kataya soon become our beloved Princess and the hunt was on for a suitable husband, Donna, also being my vet felt I would make a very good responsible breeder – little did she know that I will make a **terrible** breeder as it is much too hard to see the little darlings go. I can see me either keeping all my kittens or requesting the following from prospective buyers : (1) Ten Page document on why you feel you should be so privileged as to own one of my kittens, (2) Photographs of you, your family, your house, your closest friends, (3) A certificate from the Health Department. (4) A sworn promise in front of a High Court Judge that you will look after this darling very well for the rest of your life.

My luck in finding that specific husband that would be good enough for Princess Kataya soon turned sour as I realized that the breeder whom I got Kataya from was not going to provide me with a Pedigree or Registration Papers. I had by this time gone through the agonies of having a young female cat in serious heat in the house – the noise!!! I also learnt that there are such things as “teaser toms”, and one lovely Somali called Nimrod was found who fulfilled his job, he however was a bit wary of the ferocious Kataya on her second and third visit to him, my girl is apparently not a cat to be handled without gloves!

I by now realized that if a suitable mate was not found for Kataya she might be in serious troubles as “her womb has to be cleaned, or she might develop problems”, I was informed. None of the local Burmese breeders were prepared to help me out as Kataya was not registered, and I was left in a quandary. A fellow cat lover suggested that Kataya be mated with a Siamese or a Chinchilla. Why? To get either a Tonkinese or a Burmilla I was told. I checked out my bookshelf full of cat books and found very little about the Tonkinese – only a few pitiful entries, so I decided on a Chinchilla – got a suitable father to be, but was informed Kataya is very small, and might be injured during birthing. So, on to the Siamese – a very handsome virile Seal Point Siamese Orimese Canto was offered by his owner, Dr Johan Lamprecht (then Chairman of the Cape Town based All Breeds Cat Club). A date was made, and Kataya left for her honeymoon (well second, but who’s counting). Then the big wait started.

By now my interest in the Tonkinese breed was piqued and I went Net Surfing. Luckily for me, the very first site I came across was Linda Vousden’s Mymystic Cats – one look and I was hooked. I think it might be the “aqua” eyes that did it in the end. A worthwhile visit was also made to Dr Sham’s Kitten page that has a very informative calendar, so dates were marked off on the calendar against my door. Having by now bought any and every book available on kitting, I felt I was ready for the big day. All the paraphernalia was bought, from kitting pen, box, electric blankets, syringes,

bicycle tubing unpronounceable medicines the house was soon filling out as quickly as Katy's tummy. When I have a headache or cut a finger, there is nothing in the bathroom cabinet, but I have a bursting Cat First Aid Box! My sisters even threw her a Stork tea at which she was presented with a receiving blanket for herself, cans of prima food for herself as well as Smoked Salmon from Harrods which was kindly shared with me and the bottle of champagne.

Knowing that most cats give birth during the night, I started preparing for this as the due date drew close. On 26 May 1998 Kataya was extremely restless and after locking in the rest of the flock in my bedroom, I spent the night on the lounge carpet with Kataya on a pillow next to the heater – I was so nervous that I never even thought of getting myself a pillow as well. Nothing happened, and as I prepared to go to work the next day, I decided to rather stay with her. Just as well, as she went into labour at noon. A very harrowing three hours then started that nearly put me off cat breeding for the rest of my life.

The first kitten was still born, and I was really panicking. The next one arrived without a hitch, but number two didn't make it even, I tried for nearly 45 minutes, but couldn't revive him, and he was such a big little boy. Three more were born, and then two half-formed little kittens slipped out. All in all out of eight only four made it that first day. More disaster was to strike as a further two died during the next three weeks, one from diarrhea and the other one from FCK – I was brought back to earth firmly by this horrible defect in kittens. One of the remaining two kittens was also an FCK and his chances were very slim for survival.

The Princess proved to be an absolutely wonderful mother, and nursed her two remaining kittens with tireless zeal. A really sad moment was the morning when I took the ailing kitten with diarrhea to the vet; I had the carrier ready with hot-water bottle folded in a blanket. When I went to retrieve the kitten from the kitting pen, he was gone – I looked and looked, but without success. Kataya was sitting in a corner grimly looking at me, I gave her some time, and she finally led me to the bookshelf in the lounge where she had hidden her little baby right in the back. It really broke my heart to take him out, and I felt so bad when I couldn't return him alive and well to her at the end of the day.

Many, many tears and six little graves later Princess Kataya and I had two gorgeous kittens, the girl named Melita and the boy 2PUC. They soon developed from really ugly little things to wonderful rich, champagne coloured balls of inquisitive fun. By now my heart was fully set on this extremely beautiful breed, and even Donna who's only stipulation for giving me Kataya was that she wanted a Burmese kitten in return, has now requested a Tonkinese instead!

The Twins as they are now known are still with me nearly 11 months later (I have been begged to part with them, but these pleas fell on deaf ears). It is now my wish to get the Tonkinese breed going in South Africa and to hopefully one day be able to have them registered. Sadly I cannot show the Twins as they aren't registered, but they will be making their debut at a show on 22 April 2000 where they will appear as Exhibits.

2PUC went for his x-rays at eight months of age, and everything is perfect, barely any sign of FCK, he is a wonderful lovable talker and his favourite toys are anything remotely spider shaped, that is if he can't attack any part of my anatomy daring to not be tightly covered by the duvet at night, he has huge clear dark blue eyes. Little Melita is a real stuck up madam with a serious attitude, with perfect aqua eyes, not quite as beautiful as her much bigger brother, but she steals my heart just for being so cantankerous, and she knows how to melt mommy's heart as **her** favourite toys are anything and everything that I use to tie my hair back – talk about sucking up!

My thanks to Linda Vousden for valuable advice and her wonderful book which I managed to obtain – autographed too!, and the Tonkinese Internet List that I joined through her web-site, and lastly to Kathy Wilkinson for giving me the opportunity to write about my favourite thing in the world.

In closing - how long did it take me to become a Tonkaholic? 2 Seconds flat.

Limping syndrome

AND FELINE CALICIVIRUS INFECTION

FELINE CALICIVIRUS (FCV) is one of the major causes of feline infectious upper respiratory tract disease (cat 'flu'). Classical cat 'flu' follows a short incubation period of three to five days and consists predominantly of signs of upper respiratory tract disease, typically sneezing, rhinitis, nasal discharge, conjunctivitis, ocular discharge and oral ulceration. These signs may be accompanied by pyrexia (raised temperature) and occasionally other manifestations, such as coughing and pneumonia.

From an early stage, transient lameness was also observed as a clinical feature in some cats infected with FCV and it now seems clear that this is, in fact, a common clinical manifestation of FCV infection. The transient lameness associated with FCV has acquired the name 'limping syndrome'.

Limping syndrome is caused by FCV infection

FCV was confirmed as a cause of lameness during studies performed at the University of California, where kittens infected with two different strains of FCV (isolated from cats with transient lameness) exhibited signs of disease 48 to 72 hours after infection. The first clinical sign to develop was pyrexia, accompanied by depression and inappetence. However, within hours of the onset of pyrexia, the kittens were all reported to develop generalised or localised stiffness, manifesting as shifting lameness in some, and an almost complete reluctance to move in others (Pedersen and others 1983). Although none of the cats developed sneezing or ocular discharges, about one third developed oral ulcers (one of the 'classical' signs of FCV infection). Clinical signs were reported to resolve within 48 to 72 hours with no residual effects. The precise cause of the lameness was not determined, although the authors reported pain on manipulation of joints, and generalised hyperaesthesia (pain or hypersensitivity to touch).

FCV can affect the joints

Further information on the role of FCV infection in limping syndrome came from studies performed at the University of Liverpool. In 1989, Bennett and others reported the results of a study which demonstrated that FCV antigens (proteins) could be identified in the synovial membrane (the membrane surrounding the joint space) in several cats either vaccinated with a commercial live FCV vaccine and, or, infected with an isolate of FCV. Although none of these cats had shown any signs of lameness, the calicivirus antigens appeared to be within macrophages (a type of white blood cell) and to be associated with the presence of antibodies.

This suggested that the antigen might have been present in the synovial membrane in the form of 'immune complexes' (a combination of the viral antigen and a specific antibody produced against it). Further studies at Liverpool University demonstrated that in addition to the identification of viral proteins, the entire virus could be isolated from joints of cats exposed to FCV showing signs of disease including lameness. Furthermore, microscopic examination of the joint tissues from some of these cats provided evidence of an acute inflammatory process (Dawson and others 1994).

These studies therefore demonstrated that following the natural route of exposure to FCV (ie, oronasal exposure), systemic infection arises which can, at least in some circumstances, involve localisation of the virus to joint tissues where it may cause an inflammatory reaction. However, both experimental studies, and also the observations from naturally occurring cases of FCV-associated lameness generally suggest that some strains of FCV have a greater propensity to cause lameness than others.

FCV vaccination and the limping syndrome

A curious feature of the association between FCV infection and the 'limping syndrome' is that the lameness is most frequently observed in kittens, and often following their first vaccination (which is typically a combination vaccine for feline calicivirus, herpesvirus and parvovirus). Workers at the University of Liverpool investigated the association between the syndrome and FCV vaccination in detail (Dawson and others 1993). They found that of 123 vaccine reactions reported to them, 80 per cent involved lameness (either alone or in combination with other signs such as pyrexia, oral ulceration or respiratory signs). Furthermore, of the cats developing lameness after vaccination, 96 per cent occurred in cats less than six months of age, and 88 per cent occurred after the first vaccination. All of the cats investigated had received one of five different commercial vaccines, and it emerged that one of these vaccines was responsible for over 60 per cent of the transient lameness cases reported (this vaccine has since been changed by the manufacturer). Signs of lameness were reported to develop typically six to seven days after vaccination in these cats. FCV was isolated from oropharyngeal swabs of 71 per cent of cats that developed post-vaccination lameness. Investigation of the strains of virus isolated suggested that in many cases there was infection with 'wild' virus (ie, natural infection with FCV not associated with vaccination), but in some cases the virus isolated was very closely related, or identical to the vaccine virus. In the same study, these investigators also evaluated 19 cats that developed transient lameness not associated with vaccination. FCV was isolated from 89 per cent of

these cats, 63 per cent were less than six months of age, and 79 per cent had accompanying clinical signs (pyrexia, oral ulceration).

Conclusion

In conclusion, these studies have helped to establish the role of FCV in the development of a transient polyarthritis (inflammation affecting more than one joint) in cats. From the studies performed, and the number of enquiries regularly received by the Feline Advisory Bureau, it is clear that the limping syndrome is a common manifestation of FCV infection. It occurs most commonly in young cats and its severity can vary from inapparent arthritis and mild limping, through to severe polyarthritis where the cats are reluctant to move, inappetent and seen to be in pain when touched. Although the 'limping syndrome' is commonly seen after kittens receive their first vaccination, it is clear that the vaccine virus does not always cause these signs, and natural infection with 'wild' virus may be involved in some cases.

Most cats affected with this syndrome will spontaneously recover without the need for any treatment. However, if clinical signs are severe, anti-inflammatory medication may be required and veterinary attention should be sought. Although FCV is obviously a common cause of 'limping syndrome' in young cats, there are numerous other potential causes of lameness, and if clinical signs are severe, or persist for longer than a few days, veterinary attention should always be sought.

Interestingly, we have recently heard of a few cats that appear to have developed signs of lameness very similar to the 'limping syndrome' after receiving only feline leukaemia virus vaccination. If anyone has encountered this with their own cats we would be very interested to hear about it.

Further reading

Pedersen NC, Laliberte L, Ekman S (1983) A transient febrile 'limping' syndrome of kittens caused by two different strains of feline calicivirus. *Feline Practice* 13, 26-35
Dawson S, Bennett D, Carter SD, Bennett M, Meanger J, Turner PC, Carter MJ, Milton I, Gaskell RM (1994) Acute arthritis of cats associated with feline calicivirus. *Research in Veterinary Science* 56, 133-143
Bennett D, Gaskell RM, Mills A, Knowles J, Careter S, McArdle F (1989) Detection of feline calicivirus antigens in the joints of infected cats. *Veterinary Record* 124, 329-332
Dawson S, McArdle F, Bennett D, Carter SD, Bennett M, Ryvar R, Gaskell RM (1993) Investigation of vaccine reactions and breakdowns after feline calicivirus vaccination. *Veterinary Record* 132, 346-350

Tonkinese - A View from Abroad

A few weeks ago I was asked to write something about the Tonkinese in Holland.

Let me start by introducing myself. My name is Saskia Boone-Standaar and I live in Beverwijk in the Netherlands and I'm working part-time at the X-ray department of our local hospital.

I can't recall a moment without cats in my life. I've always had 'house' cats and since a couple of years I have Sphinx and Burmese.

The planning was to breed Burmese, but when I saw pictures of Tonkinese I was hooked!

Here in Holland the FIFE don't recognise the Tonkinese, so I became a member of an independent association.

Neocat does recognise them since a few years but there are very few people who breed them. I guess there are only 3 or 4 breeders and as there are no studs available we don't get any further than first generation. Last year I had my first litter of 5 Tonkinese with my choc Burmese. I didn't keep a kitten from this litter as in my point of view the type was too foreign and I wanted to think over how to get on.

As the modern Siamese is very extreme first generations will be too foreign typed and I decided to go on anyway, so December last year I had my second litter of my lilac Burmese girl and a seal-point Siamese. She had a litter of 7 and I kept one blue girl for myself.

I managed to find a 'classic' Siamese stud (they are very rare) and my choc Burmese had her second litter on the 24th of March. She had 5 beautiful kittens. These kittens have a more 'classic' look. I kept a girl from this litter as well.

With a bit of luck I hope to get a beautiful male-boy from Australia by the end of April. He is a fifth generation Tonk and bred by Loris Kerlake.

With my 2 Tonkinese girls and the Australian boy I hope to contribute to the breeding of Tonkinese in Holland. The breed needs lots of promoting and therefore I will attend shows in the near future. My impression is that "the people in the street" are more interested in the breed than the judges, so there are lots of works to do.

The Tonkinese has champion status with the independent associations, but as there is not much competition it's needed more people are going to show our beautiful and most affectionate Tonkinese.

Saskia Boone
Cattery 'de boonestaakjes'
The Netherlands

Little Known Feline Ailments Part 1

Some oft-observed, but little-documented, afflictions of cats:

COLLAPSIBLE LEGS

Symptoms:

The affected cat places one side of its head on the ground as though cheek-marking the concrete, carpet etc. after several such manoeuvres, the legs on that side of the cat suddenly collapse, leaving the cat wagging its feet in the air.

Treatment:

This involved placing the palm of one hand on the exposed belly and rubbing gently. There are side-effects though – some feline sufferers attack the rubbing hand while others recover spontaneously, often after prolonged treatment. This condition is probably incurable and any cat which requires prolonged treatment after an attack will most likely suffer repeated attacks of collapsible legs throughout its lifetime.

SNUDGING

Symptoms:

The affected cat repeatedly headbutts any available part of a readily available human and turns its head slightly so that the lips and cheek are rubbed against legs, arms, clothing etc. This condition gets its name from a contraction of the phrase 'soggy nudging'. Snudging may well be a form of excessive scent-marking. A bad attack can result in soggy clothing.

Treatment:

Give the sufferer lavish affection. Most attacks subside between 10 minutes to 1 hour after onset of symptoms. You may need to dry off snudged clothing or skin. Attacks recur frequently, usually when the most readily available human is engrossed in a TV programme, book or telephone call.

BED-HOGGING

Symptoms:

The cat spreads to take up all available free bed space at night. It then expands a bit more until any human occupants occupy the smallest possible area of bed. It may do this on top or underneath the covers or on the pillow. It is highly contagious – any other cats on the bed will also develop symptoms of bed-hogging.

Treatment:

The most obvious solution is to evict the cat from the bed. If this is morally unfeasible, train yourself not to give way as the cat expands. Buying a bigger bed is probably pointless as most affected cats can easily expand to fill standard, queen-sized and king-sized beds. Otherwise, simply train yourself to sleep while hanging precariously off the side of the bed. Attacks of bed-hogging have been known to last up to 23 hours (in one case a 3-day attack was noted by a cat-owner who was confined to bed with flu; the cat thoughtfully kept her company during this time).

NON-SPECIFIC INSECT INFESTATION

(also non-specific spider infestation)

Symptoms:

A disorder more prevalent among outdoor-going cats and cats with access to conservatories and garden rooms. Symptoms range from minor (the odd greenfly in tail, money-spider on fur) to severe (entire eco-systems of insects living on cat, spider webs spun between ears/whiskers, cat so weighed down with spider webs that it has difficulty walking).

Treatment:

Minor symptoms can be treated by simply removing the infesting agent (aphid, ladybird, spider etc) and combing webs out of fur. If the cat suffers recurrent or severe symptoms an exercise regime is highly recommended since highly mobile cats appear to attract fewer greenfly (research into this factor continues).

To be continued ...

Humour!

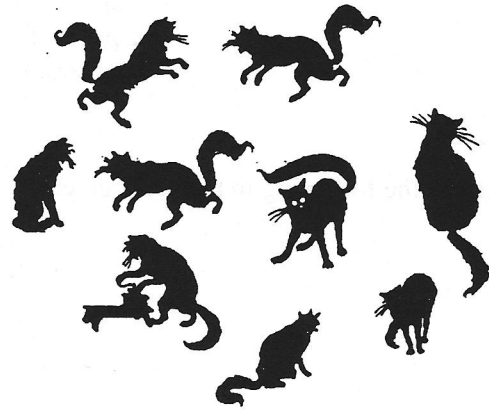
Don't get a man, get a cat – they don't hog the duvet and they don't snore.
(the writer obviously hasn't got any cats like mine/yours?)

Men don't like cats because cats are cleverer than them.

Definition of a husband: one who stands by his wife in troubles she'd never have had if she hadn't married him.

THE CATS IN OUR LIVES by Maggie Chitty

Devon Rex will romp and play
And leave your home in disarray.
Total chaos is their aim,
Destruction is their favourite game.
It really will astonish you
To see what Devon Rexes do

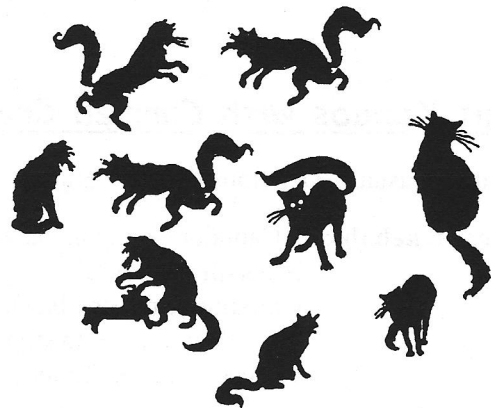


Cornish Rex are crafty cats,
Their goings-on will drive you bats.
They, scratch your chairs and steal your food;
They re never up to any good.
It will be a total shock to you
To learn what Cornish Rex can do !

Siamese are wicked creatures,
To cause mayhem is their nature.
They grow more naughty every day;
It really fills you with dismay.
It will come as a surprise to you
To see what Siamese can do !



A subtle way have Russian Blues;
Very carefully they choose
How to conceal their wicked ways
And fool you with their innocent gaze.
It will be a revelation to you
To find out what Russian Blues can do



British cats look placid and sweet;
You'd be amazed at what they eat !
Like baby elephants they leap around,
Causing chaos at every bound.
It may well stagger you
To know what British Shorthairs do



While it well may startle you
To see what all these cats can do,
It comes as no surprise to me
For I own all these breeds, you see,
And they have so much charm about them,
I simply couldn't live without them

German Apple Cake

Apple Filling

Mix together the following:

- 1 lb cooking apples (peeled and chopped)
- 2 oz sultanas
- 1oz walnuts, chopped (optional)
- ½ teaspoon of cinnamon
- 2 oz Demerara sugar

Cake Mixture

Mix together the following in the order given:

- 4 oz sugar
- 5 oz SR flour
- Pinch of salt
- 4 oz melted butter
- 1 large egg, beaten

Method

Grease and line with greaseproof paper an 8" cake tin. Put $\frac{2}{3}$ of the cake mix into the tin and smooth over.

Arrange the apple filling on top of the cake mixture. Put the rest of the cake mix on top of the apple filling, using a small teaspoonful at a time until filling is almost covered.

Bake in oven at 350° electric or Gas mark 4, for 50-60 minutes.

Eat immediately, served with cream, or alternatively leave in the tin until cold.

Fruit Kebabs with Curried Cream Cheese & Chutney Dip

Slightly unusual? Delicious though. Enjoy!

Makes 36 kebabs:

- 1 Cantaloupe melon, halved, seeded, peeled in 1" cubes or balls
- 36 small strawberries
- 6 medium firm ripe bananas, peeled and cut into $\frac{1}{4}$ " slices dipped in lemon juice to stop them going black
- 36 seedless green grapes

On toothpicks make up 36 kebabs using one of each fruit.

Curried Cream Cheese & Chutney Dip:

- 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- 12 oz chutney – your choice
- 1 tablespoon curry powder
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 10 fl oz whipping cream, whipped

Method

In blender combine cream cheese, chutney, curry powder and lemon juice.

Put mixture in a bowl and then fold in the whipped cream. Chill before serving with the fruit kebabs.

How to Give Your Cat a Pill

(tongue in cheek here, folks)

1. Grasp cat firmly in your arms. Cradle its head on your elbow, just as if you were giving a baby a bottle. Coo confidently, 'That's a nice kitty.' Drop pill into its mouth.
2. Retrieve cat from top of lamp and pill from under sofa.
3. Follow same procedure as in (1), but hold cat's front paws down with left hand and back paws down with elbow of right arm. Poke pill into its mouth with right forefinger.
4. Retrieve cat from under bed. Get new pill from bottle. (Resist impulse) to get new cat.)
5. Again proceed as in (1), except when you have cat firmly cradled in bottle-feeding position, sit down on edge of chair, fold your torso over cat, bring your right hand over your left elbow, open cat's mouth by lifting the upper jaw and pop the pill in quickly. Since your head is down by your knees, you won't be able to see what you're doing. That's just as well.
6. Leave cat hanging on curtains. Leave pill in your hair.
7. If you're a woman, have a good cry. If you're a man, have a good cry.
8. Now pull yourself together. Who's the boss here anyway? Retrieve cat and pill. Assuming position (1), say sternly, 'Who's the boss here anyway?' Open cat's mouth, take pill and ...Oops!
9. This isn't working, is it? Collapse and think. Aha! Those flashing claws are causing the chaos.
10. Crawl to linen cupboard. Drag back large beach towel. Spread towel on floor.
11. Retrieve cat from kitchen counter and pill from potted plant.
12. Spread cat on towel near one end with its head over long edge.
13. Flatten cat's front and back legs over its stomach. (Resist impulse to flatten cat.)
14. Roll cat in towel. Work fast: time and tabbies wait for no man or woman.
15. Resume position (1). Rotate your left hand to cat's head. Press its mouth at the jaw hinges like opening the petals of a snapdragon.
16. Crop pill into cat's mouth and poke gently. Voila! It's done.
17. Vacuum up loose fur (cat's). Apply bandages to wounds (yours).
18. Take two aspirins and lie down.

What's in a Name?

In his poem 'The Naming of Cat' the poet T S Eliot said cats have 3 names – one each for its owner and feline friends, and one known only to itself. I don't know how you breeders think up the lovely pedigree names you select for the kittens, but I know how difficult it is for us new owners to choose their pet names.

When you got your kitten, did you look for ideas from the pedigree name or leave it a while and see if his/her personality suggested something, or perhaps you already had a few names lined up to see which one suited best?

When we have known that we have a kitten due, Richard and I suggest names to each other, and one important thing to us is if it can be shouted easily. Not that silly, when the kitten/cat is being naughty at the other end of the bungalow and we need to let them know we are about. Tuppence was originally 'Rosie' but we found we couldn't holler that so she became Tuppence because you can emphasise the first syllable – and this has been very necessary recently when she has been picking on the new boy, Levi.

Some people say that we show our inner feelings about ourselves in the way that we name our cats. For example, a shy person might call their cat Rambo, or someone who would like to be sophisticated might call him Gucci, and there are also fashions in cats names just as there are in children's names: traditional names like Fluffy, Tiger and Sooty for boys, and Tabitha and Queenie for a female. Cat magazines periodically do surveys on cat names and these are always interesting to read to see if your cats' names are included.

Perhaps it is easier to select a name if the kitten or cat is distinctive in some way, for example our Levi was called that because he has white trousers on his back legs: trousers – jeans – Levi Strauss, get it?! Then there's Tigger or Tiger for a tabby, Smudge because he or she has a smudge of colour on the head, and so on.

Naming a pair of kittens is no easier either if you want to give them complementary names. We once had a pair of tabby and white moggies called Gem and Mini (GeMini – twins), but I found that in a book and the one called Mini wasn't small at all, but we never changed the spelling. And how about Sausage, Egg and Chips – I knew of 3 kittens called that. Compo, Clegg and Fogy? Fortnum and Mason? Adam and Eve? Bill and Ben?

Some families always have a cat with a particular name, like Sam or Tom. Perhaps you have seen a name that you like in a cat magazine and decide to remember it for the future, and of course there are books of cats names, often split into different *categories* such as those suitable to different colours, characters or breeds. Here are some of my favourites picked up over the years:

Lineaker – brilliant little football player

Perry (Mason) – always detecting

Jezebel – a flirtatious young lady

Freckles – a tortie

Motley – I suppose this should be a tortie but I think it is a boy's name, so a tabby?

Cfer – C for Cat!

Domino – a black and white cat

Willow – a dainty blue lady, perhaps

Spangle – another tortie

And my two favourites – Wysiwyg (What You See Is What You Get) and PLUM (Poor Little Unloved Moggie).

So really there is no excuse for having a mundane name. However, the difficult part is getting the cat or kitten to recognise it, but that's another tale.

A Poem about Cats

Cats are soft
And cats have fur
Cats go meow and
Cats go purr

Cats are jolly
They like to play
Some of them
Rest all day

Cats are friendly
Cats are sad
Cats sometimes
Are a bit bad

Cats like telly
Cats like dark
Cats are cheeky
But never bark



Zoe Plummer

Editor: Karen Plummer, one of our newer members, sent this poem written by her 6 year old daughter, Zoe. A lovely poem, Zoe, thank you.

To A Vase

by Elizabeth Barrett Browning's Cat

How do I break thee? Let me count the ways.
I break thee if thou art at any height
My paw can reach, when, smarting from some slight,
I sulk, or have one of my crazy days.
I break thee with an accidental graze
Or twitch of tail, if I should take a fright.
I break thee out of pure and simple spite
The way I broke the jar of mayonnaise.
I break thee if a bug upon thee sits.
I break thee if I'm in a playful mood,
And then I wrestle with the shiny bits.
I break thee if I do not like my food.
And if someone thy shards together fits,
I'll break thee once again when thou art glued.

Henry Beard

Reproduced by kind permission of Henry Beard, from his book 'Poetry For Cats, The Definitive Anthology of Distinguished Feline Verse', published by HarperCollins Publishers.

Origami - the Art of Paper Folding

Origami is traditionally associated with Japanese culture but actually originated in 1st century AD china with the invention of paper. The forerunner of modern day *origami* served practical purposes for the Chinese, who made useful commodities such as vases, bowls, and boxes from folded paper. Almost 500 years after paper was invented, Buddhist monks brought the secret to Japan, where, because paper was a scarce and treasured material in this small island country, the practice of paper folding was originally confined to the wealthy nobility.

Increasing trade eventually led to the widespread availability of affordable paper and the Japanese quickly integrated paper into everyday life, first using it in architecture and for ceremonial functions, resulting in *origami* becoming a popular pastime among rich and poor alike. Japanese culture emphasises respect for the economy of nature, so practitioners have never lost the impulse to save even the tiniest scraps of paper to fold into miniature models.

With foundations in formal usage of architecture and ceremony, *origami* slowly evolved to become what we recognise today as Japanese paper folding. Passed from generation to generation by oral tradition between mothers and daughters, designs remained simple until about 1797 when the first written instructions for paper folding designs were published. It is interesting to note that prior to 1880 Japanese paper folding was known as *orikata* (folding exercises), but as designs changed to become more playful and complex, the name became *origami* (to fold paper).

In the West the Moors (Muslims from West Africa) brought paper folding with them to Spain when they invaded in the 8th century. Although Islam proscribed the making of representational figures, Islamic mathematicians and astronomers were fascinated with pattern, symmetry, and space. These investigations of pattern were often given form in architecture. Even after the Moors were expelled in 1492, the tradition of paper folding survived, to be revived and rejuvenated by the work of a 19th century poet and philosopher, Miguel de Unamuno, who created a number of original models, including a gorilla.

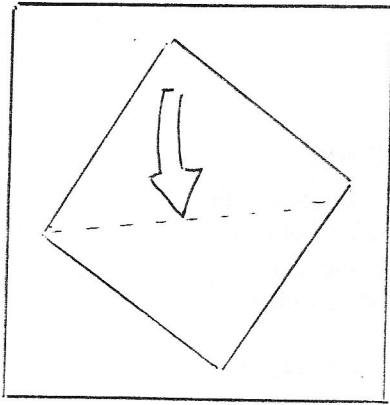
As global trade introduced Japanese aesthetics to the rest of the world during the 18th and 19th centuries, *origami* enjoyed a steady gain in popularity. The influential educator Friedrich Froebel included ornamental paper folding in his kindergarten movement which he introduced in Germany around 1835. Paper folding had become a popular children's pastime in Victorian England, and Tenniel's famous illustrations for 'Through the Looking Glass' by Lewis Carroll feature 2 simple paper hats, a pillbox and a 3-cornered hat. These hats are typical examples of the type of *origami* popular in the West, where, until recent years, it has been practised mostly by children and not been revered as an art, as in Japan.

As *origami* entered the realm of creativity, as opposed to its original ideal of repetition of set designs, two men developed a system of lines and arrows to simplify written instructions. This system has been adopted worldwide and has opened the doors of paper folding to an unlimited audience. Generally starting with simple designs, *origami* books with this method systematically lead paperfolders from the novice stage to expert.

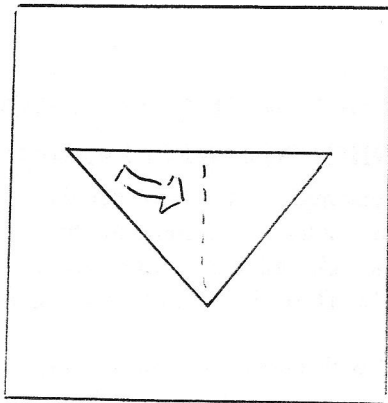
No matter how intricate the final design, *origami* adheres to its original concept that the product must be achieved exclusively by folding paper (no glue, tape, staples, scissors, or other auxiliary aids). Contemporary *origami* techniques continue to develop into seemingly impossible feats of folding. Master folders produce objects such as recognisable, anatomically correct insects with segmented bodies and multiple legs.

Now try the following:

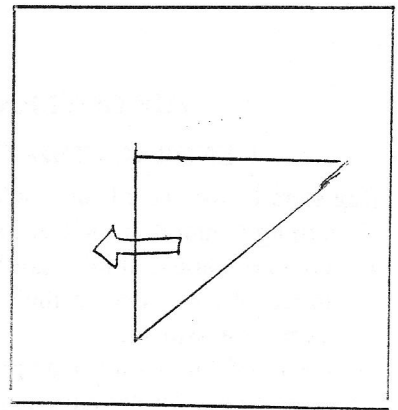
ORIGAMI CAT



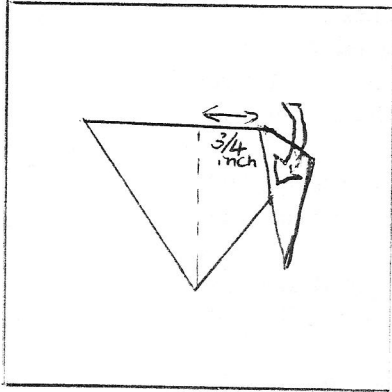
1. FOLD IN HALF TO FORM A TRIANGLE



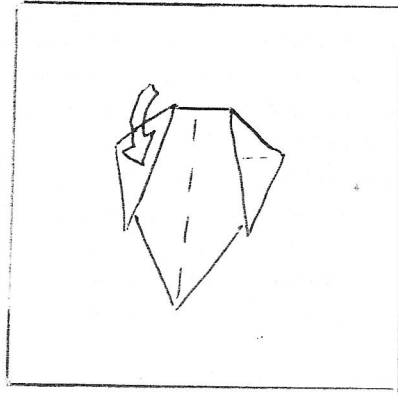
2. fold again in half



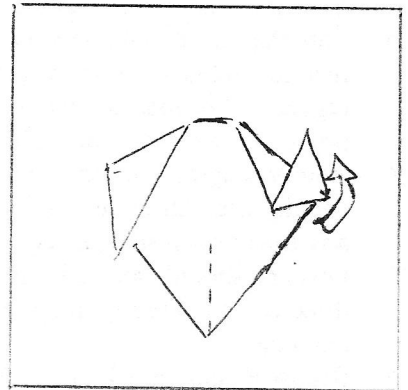
3 UNFOLD Step 2
So you have a crease in the middle.



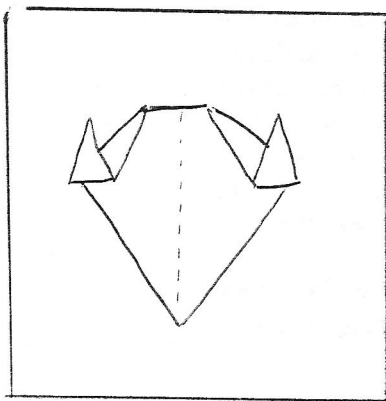
4. Leave $\frac{3}{4}$ inch from centre crease and fold down as shown.



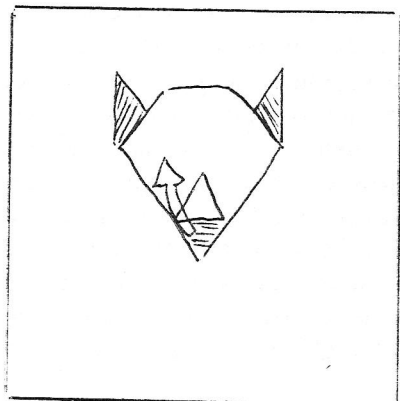
5 Do exactly the same to the left corner.



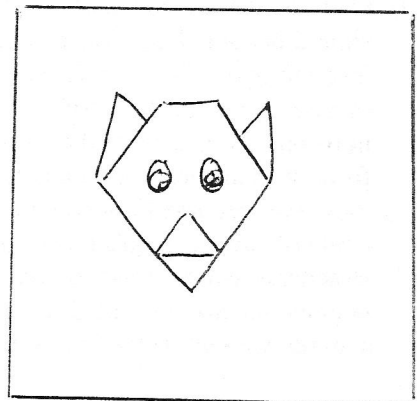
6. fold in half upwards as shown.



7. Repeat step 6 on the left side.



8. Turn over. fold top flap up towards top of head. Leaving the shaded area of mouth.



9. Draw and colour to purrrfection.

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY'S

GENERAL CODE OF ETHICS FOR BREEDERS AND OWNERS

Registered owners of all GCCF registered cats/kittens accept the jurisdiction of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy and undertake to abide by this general code of ethics.

1. Owners should think carefully and take advice before getting a kitten and choose a breed of cat suited to their lifestyle. They should only keep as many cats as they can care for adequately.
2. Cats and kittens must be provided with warm and comfortable housing, with plenty of opportunity for exercise and play. Cats should be kept indoors at night for their own safety. Drinking water must be available at all times and cats must be fed regularly and adequately. Breeders will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing cats in a new home.
3. All cats need some grooming to keep the coat in good condition and to check for parasites, eg fleas. Longhair cats need daily grooming to prevent the formation of knots and matted areas of fur, which cause considerable discomfort to cats.
4. Veterinary attention must be sought whenever a cat is showing signs of illness.
5. Cats that are bought as pets, not for breeding, should be neutered or spayed at the age recommended by your veterinary surgeon. If cats are registered on the Non-Active register, this means that under no circumstances should the cats be bred from; no progeny from these cats will be registered by the GCCF.
6. Breeders agree only to sell cats where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life. An offer should be made at the time of sale to help with the rehoming if at any time circumstances require the cat to be found a new home.
7. Owners should not sell any cat to commercial cat wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow cats to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind.
8. Breeders must not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise cats nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of the cat and must draw the attention of purchasers to the implications of the Non-Active register when selling pet kittens.
9. Breeders selling a kitten on the Active register should offer advice and support to the new owners. Owners should not breed cats in a way that is deleterious to the health of the cat or the breed.
10. Owners should consider carefully the best means of identifying their cat in case it should become lost. This can be done by means of a microchip, which can be painlessly inserted under the cat's skin by your veterinary surgeon and then registering the number of your cat with the RSPCA registration scheme run by the Kennel Club and also by notifying the GCCF of the cat's chip number. The alternative is for the cat to wear some form of identification on a collar. However, there are dangers for cats wearing collars as they may become hooked up and caught by them or more likely the collar will break or come off over the cat's head, so preventing easy identification.
11. Breeders/owners must ensure that all relevant Governing Council of the Cat Fancy documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a cat in accordance with Rule 10 (see below), *including* a copy of this code.

N.B. Transfer of Registration - GCCF Rule 10

- 10a. When a cat or kitten is advertised or sold as a pedigree cat or kitten the breeder shall, at the time of sale, provide the purchaser with a properly completed pedigree signed by the breeder, carrying 3 generations at least, showing all the breed numbers and registration numbers, also the breeder's name and address.
- 10b. If, at the time of sale, the cat or kitten is registered the seller shall provide the purchaser with a transfer form, duly completed and signed by the seller, unless it is jointly agreed in writing by both parties at the time of sale not to do so.