

The Scratching Post



SABCCI Newsletter - Spring 2011

www.sabcci.com



The Scratching Post

Contents - Spring 2011

Editorial	page 3
The Pedigree - The Havana	page 4
SABCCI Show 2010	page 5
Introducing a New Kitten To Your Home	page 6
Cats In The News	page 7
Quiz & Cat Things	page 8
How Cats Drink	page 9
The Catwalk	page 10/11
Cat With a Lion's Roar	page 12
When & How to Make Your Cat Throw Up	page 12/13
Cat Things	page 14
Kits Korner	page 15
The Final Miaow	page 16

SABCCI Committee

Chairman – Tony Forshaw
Vice Chairman – Karen Sluiters
Treasurer – Alison Kinsella
Secretary - Gloria Hehir

Ronnie Brooks, Elizabeth Flood, Alice Forshaw, Hugh Gibney,
Aedamair Kiely, Sue Middleton Membership Secretary - Betty Dobbs



Of all God's creatures, there is only one that cannot be made slave to the leash. That one is the cat. If man could be crossed with the cat it would improve the man, but it would deteriorate the cat.

Mark Twain



Editorial

Welcome to the Spring
2011 issue of The Scratching Post.
Breffni House Pets in Dundrum once again has given us sponsorship so many thanks to them.

So if you're ready, sit back, have a pink champagne and ENJOY! Karen and Gloria ^..^

Do you have any photos or articles for the newsletter?
Please send them to karen@sabcci.com or gloria@sabcci.com



The 21st GCCFI Supreme Show



Sunday the 8th of May at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Blanchardstown
Blanchardstown Shopping Centre

Doors open to the public at 12:30 with Best In Show judging from 4:00pm

See you there!



SABCCI News

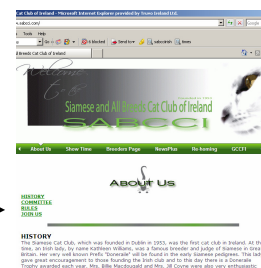
Congratulations to -

Arthur McMahon, this year's winner of €200 worth of cat food provided by Husse. His name was drawn from all SABCCI members at the SABCCI AGM in February. The draw is made each year at the AGM. All paid up members go into the draw.

Yulita Dmytriyeva, who has been awarded the SABCCI 'Points Trophy' for being the exhibitor with the most points accumulated at the SABCCI show in October.

Are you a non-member of the Club in the SABCCI site and viewing 'The Scratching Post'?

Would you like to join us? Just click on the 'About Us' tab and then click on 'Join'



What are Cats, Really?

Cats do what they want, when they want.
They rarely listen to you.
They're totally unpredictable.
They whine when they are not happy.
They expect you to cater to their every whim.
They're moody.
They leave their hair everywhere.

Conclusion: Cats are little, tiny women in fur coats.

The Pedigree –The Havana

Oriental Shorthair Breed - The Havana Brown was created around 1952 by crossing Siamese with black shorthairs. Named for its cigar brown colour, they are a medium sized cat with a conformation mid-way between the thickset and svelte breeds.

The coat of the Havana is short to medium in length, lustrous and smooth. Their body is firm and well muscled throughout. Havanas have a wedge shaped head with large pricked ears which are wide at the base with their setting continuing the lines of the wedge. Their medium sized eyes are oriental in shape and slanting towards the nose with good width between them. The eye colour is vivid green.



This is an intelligent breed which likes human attention and company. They are very vocal and will involve themselves in every aspect of your home life. Devoted to their owners, they demand to be spoiled and praised. Havanas love to exercise and will play for hours.

My own two Havanas, are two little girls called Lola and Flower. Just eighteen months old, they are real characters with a dog like personality. They will greet you at the door, play fetch and sit on command when receiving a treat. Lola and Flower will gladly let you put a leash on them and bring them for little walks. These two little girls are meticulously clean and spend considerable time grooming each other. On occasion Flower will attempt to groom my hair while I'm watching TV.



The Havana Shorthaired Oriental breed make affectionate loving pets that will give as much affection to you as you indeed will to them. They are chatterboxes, attention seekers and extremely intelligent. This is a breed that will appeal not just to cat lovers but to animal lovers in general through a combination of their sleek look, intelligence and great interactive nature.

Maureen Kennedy 

What is A True Cat?

A true cat....purrs only to please itself.

A true cat will endure discomfort for hours and wait patiently until 3 a.m.
to cough up a hairball on your bed.

A true cat always comes between you and your newspaper.

A true cat has a Houdini-like repertoire of ways to slip out of a collar and
dozens of places to hide it where you'll never find it again.

A true cat would rather eat what you're having, even if what you fixed
for him is better than what you fixed for yourself.

A true cat knows his name but will never acknowledge it.

A true cat likes to roll around in the dirt, especially if she's just had a shampoo.

That's because true cats prefer to do their own grooming.

A true cat enjoys catching, tormenting and killing small furry creatures and
leaving them as gifts for her owner especially if her owner is a vegetarian, or so it seems.



SABCCI 2010 Show Report



The 57th SABCCI Show was held on 17th October 2010 at Knocklyon Community Centre, our usual venue

We had a magnificent entry of 125 cats (including 4 on exhibition) – is this a record, I wonder? We had a lovely day for the Show with plenty of visitors, who had some extras this year to keep them amused. We had a Speakers Corner (ably run by Karen Sluiter) with a grooming demonstration by Maura Lenihan and a talk by behavioural expert Jim Stephens, two very popular subjects with plenty of advice for members of the audience. We also had a large tombola and raffle, both organised by hard working Betty Dobbs who seems to turn her hand to anything.

Our judges were Val Anderson, Daphne Butters and Monika Forster from UK and Lotte Borch from Denmark. Because we had such a high entry we also had to call in the services of Margaret Baker to judge some of the Non Ped Open classes and pedigree miscellaneous classes – thank you Margaret.

The highlight of the day of course was the Best in Show, organised as smoothly as ever by our secretary Gloria Hehir, and compared by Margaret Baker, after she had finished judging – we do like to get our moneys worth from our judges!

The Best of Group winners were:

Best Persian: Ms Tetiana Sezina's Exotic Kitten CATSCASTLE MARQUISE

Best Semi Longhaired: Sharon Saville's Maine Coon Adult CH. COONTASTIC TANGERINE DREAM

Best British: Martin O'Sullivan's British blue Kitten SLAIBH NOTSO

Best Foreign: Amy French's Singapura Neuter CH. ISMISHA YES VIRGINIA

Best Burmese: Ken & Lorna Taylor's Blue Tortie Burmese kitten BACKCHAT SILVER WHISPER

Best Oriental: Mrs Anderson's Choc Tortie Oriental Kitten COOMAKISTA BANDIA DATHUIL

Best Siamese: Teresa Monahan's Seal Point Kitten COOMAKISTA SIODAH

Best Non Ped and Best In Show Non Ped: Clodagh Hayde's ginger & white Kitten OLLIE.

BEST IN SHOW PEDIGREE

Sharon Saville's Maine Coon Adult CH. COONTASTIC TANGERINE DREAM

Joint RESERVE BEST IN SHOW

Martin O'Sullivan's British blue Kitten SLAIBH NOTSO

Teresa Monahan's Seal Point Kitten COOMAKISTA SIODAH

The GCCFI now offers a further certificate to the overall best in show, which meant TANGERINE DREAM was awarded a further Grand Challenge and this in fact made him up to GRAND CHAMPION. Well done to Sharon on such a beautiful boy and congratulations on your well deserved success.

Any Show stands or falls on the help given in the background so extra thanks go to chairman Tony Forshaw for help and moral support and all those wonderful signs both outside and in the Hall – not forgetting the delightful front cover of the catalogue also designed by our talented chairman.

To Alice Forshaw always a calming influence in the background; Karen who also did the publicity; Hugh our indefatigable cup secretary who had to clean many of the cups returned on show day; Aedamair doing Vet steward, Elizabeth who did those bags for you to take away your litter – even things like that have to be done by someone but is always taken for granted; Sue who produced those wonderful results sheets so we didn't have to mark up loads of catalogues; Carmel for the smooth running of the table; she makes it look so easy but it isn't – take my word for it! Annie who ran the children's drawing competition, Gloria who was running around doing all the odd jobs when she wasn't doing BIS and of course Alison our treasurer who was also sorting out and chasing up, when she wasn't counting money! Our wonderful vets John Bainbridge and Mark Heffernan who turn up at the crack of dawn every year without a word of complaint. My thanks to all our stall holders especially those who come along to support us year after year, Judges and stewards who had a really hard working day but mostly to our exhibitors and their beautiful cats without who there wouldn't be a Show. Have I missed anyone out? Probably there are so many wonderful people who come along and give freely of their time, thank you one and all.

Ronnie Brooks, Show Manager

Introducing Your New Kitten to Your Home

To go back to basics, it is important to remember that cats are solitary animals living together in related packs only when there are sufficient resources available within the immediate environment. The socialisation period for the cat is over between seven and eight weeks of age and at that point kittens, especially males, are deemed to be sufficiently independent to live on their own. Male kittens may well be banished from the birth environment so as to not incur the wrath of the incumbent primary male. Female kittens may well be adopted within the larger female community to which they would be related.

Bringing a new cat into your home can be a trying experience for both owner and cat. However, with a little planning the experience can be made less daunting and stressful for both animals. Cats are motivated to be safe and secure within what is termed the core territory, that is to say, the places where the cat sleeps, eats and relaxes. It is for the new owner to determine exactly where the core territory will be placed. Ideally this should be away from main thoroughfares through the house, a spare bedroom or other room is ideal. Into this should be placed sufficient resources for the cat to be made at home: feeding station, water bowl, scratching post, toys and of course the litter tray which should be placed as far away from the feeding station as possible. The use of calming sprays and rescue remedy are sometimes recommended by people to help settle the cat into the new environment. However, I would recommend the use of pheromone technology (Feliway diffuser) which is proven to help cats in a stressed environment. Owners should visit the new cat on a regular basis of approximately 30 minutes per visit in order to gauge how the cat is relaxing into its new environment and to play and otherwise interact with the cat. Gradually over several days or weeks the kitten can be allowed to explore the remainder of the house, a room at a time. It is important not to rush this process, the time taken now will save many weeks of rehabilitation if the process of safe introduction fails. If the kitten is to be also an outdoor cat it may be prudent to train the cat to wear a collar or harness so that it can be lead trained in order to be safely exposed to its immediate outside environment.



However, I suspect that many reading this will already have a cat in situ and will be looking to introduce a kitten into an environment which already belongs to the resident feline. Again it is imperative that such introductions are done over a good deal of time weeks or months if necessary and this cannot be overemphasised. Again the kitten should be placed into the secure core territory away from the other cat. Both cats can meet via their sense of smell: a clean cloth can be wiped down one cat and placed into the other cat's territory and vice versa. A good idea is to place the cloth near the feeding situation. The cat will be motivated to eat and at the same time recognise the other cat's scent during what is a pleasurable time. This should help speed along the process. Later the cats can be put into one another's environment. Obviously this should be done without the cats meeting.

Eventually the cats will have to meet and this is best done in a controlled fashion. There are several methods to choose from, the best may vary between each environment and owner. One method is to stretch a piece of nylon mesh (an old net curtain for instance) across the door frame and allow the cats to meet with this barrier in place; another is to place the kitten into its carry box and to bring it into the resident cat's territory. The latter process is more time-consuming that gives the owner more control over the ensuing interaction and more importantly protects both cats from any possible injury during any possible escalation of the inevitable hissing, spitting and boxing behaviours. Once owners are confident that interactions are progressing amicably then the barriers can be removed and both cats allowed to interact freely. However it is better to maintain the distinct core territories of both cats or where space prohibits this, to ensure that there are sufficient resources available for both cats: an especially important fact with regard to litter trays, where the golden rule is there should always be one more litter tray than there are cats.

It is important to realise that the ultimate decision of how the two cats eventually interact is made not by the owner, but by the felines. Friendship and being best buddies is an owners concept and it may well be that the best that can be expected is that the two cats tolerate one another. Some owners may be lucky and find that their cats get along famously. However, it is often the case that in multi-cat households rather than there being a happy group of six there is in fact several distinct groups which may number one, or more cats within them, a situation which suits the cats involved by reducing stress, but one to which the owner appears oblivious.

Cats In the News

15th February 2011 -

Larry The Cat Joins David Cameron in Downing Street



David Cameron has welcomed a cat to Downing Street in an effort to deal with No 10's rat problem. The four-year old tabby, called Larry, has joined the prime minister and his family from London's Battersea Dogs and Cats Home.

The arrival follows weeks of speculation about potential pest control measures after a large black rat was seen scuttling past No 10.

A Downing Street spokesman said the former stray was a "good ratter". Larry arrived via van shortly after 1300 GMT, and was carried into Number 10 in a covered cage. According to Downing Street, the animal has "a high chase-drive and hunting instinct", developed during his time on the streets. A spokesman said he had also shown "a very strong predatory drive" and enjoyed playing with toy mice.

It is not known whether Larry will be granted full access to the Camerons' living quarters, although he is believed to family-friendly. Given his exalted status among the nation's pest controllers, Larry's name is appropriately a shortened version of Lawrence, meaning "laurel-crowned".

BBC News. 15th of February, 2011

The Following Day

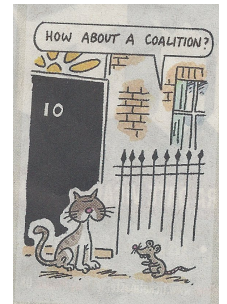
16th of February 2011 -

Catfight at No.10: Rat-catcher Larry Claims His First Victim After Turning On ITV News Girl

The white-and-tabby tom slashed at ITV correspondent Lucy Manning as she tried to hold onto him while filming a piece inside the Prime Minister's residence yesterday.

He had been drafted in to catch the rats which had appeared in her reports - but instead of targeting the rodents he went for the journalist. Ms Manning was left with four scratch marks down her arm as the cat from Battersea scrambled out of her arms and jumped to the floor.

The shy moggie was perhaps fed up after a day of filming and photo opportunities during his first day in his new home. Mailonline



Mewdini: The Feline Escape Artist Who Just Loves Nothing More Than a Tight Squeeze

You've heard of the cat in the hat. Now meet the cat in the vat. It certainly seems that Ksyusha the kitten has got herself into an impossibly tight spot. But according to her owner she has no problem escaping the glass container, rather like a feline Houdini.

Ksyusha the kitten loves nothing more than a tight squeeze. The excitable female kitten has been squashing itself into jars from when it was a few weeks old.

The cat's owner has been taking photos of her animal and posting them on the internet since the start of last year. 'It looks like she is stuck, but actually her body is not as big as it looks because of the large amount of fur,' said Yuriy Korotun, who lives in Moscow. 'She likes hiding in different places and is full of character.'

Yuriy said he first realised his pet, a Himalayan breed similar to a Persian, had a love of confined spaces when he heard a commotion in his kitchen one day. 'I came in to find her in the jar,' he said. 'I couldn't believe my eyes.' She is also partial to curling up in the washing machine, said Yuriy, who has posted pictures of Ksyusha on the internet.

Ksyusha's ability to get in and out of seemingly impossible situations harks back to the comedy capers seen in classic kids' cartoon Tom & Jerry.

Dailymail.co.uk 19th February 2011

Quiz - True or False



- 1) A group of Kittens is call a pack.
- 2) A cat's jaws cannot move sideways.
- 3) Cats have the same number of vertebrae as humans.
- 4) A Cat can jump as much as seven times its height.
- 5) A cat's ear pivots 180 degrees.
- 6) Cats have better memory than dogs.
- 7) Catnip doesn't affect lions and tigers.
- 8) A cat lover is an ailurophile
- 9) Catgut formally used as strings in tennis rackets and musical instruments comes from cats.
- 10) Cats can see directly under their nose.

Answers on page 14

The Tsar Nicholas 1 of Russia fed his cat, Vashka, a concoction of the best caviar poached in rich champagne, with finely minced French dormouse, unsalted butter, cream, whipped woodcock's egg and hare's blood.

Maybe try something more simple for your cat(s). Why not try out the recipe here.

A Recipe: Mouseberger Bites

- 3 oz sausage meat or finely ground beef
- 2 tbl oatmeal
- 1 egg, to bind
- whisker of catnip, finely chopped

Directions:

Knead the ingredients together very thoroughly and form into a flat oval. Broil under a medium heat for 5-7 minutes, turning frequently, until the outside is crisp. Wait until cool, then slice into bite-sized chunks.



Recipe courtesy of I-Love-Cats.com

Derivations of Phrases – Letting the Cat Out of the Bag

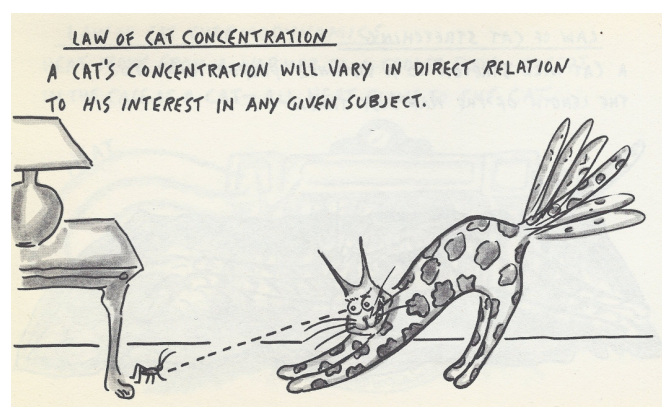


A secret is revealed if 'the cat is let out of the bag' and in the days when this originated that is precisely what happened. The cat would have been put in the bag by an unscrupulous market trader hoping to pass it off as a young pig, similar to one on open display at his stall. Unwitting buyers would pay for a pig in one of the sacks only to find later that they had bought a puppy or cat instead. Those who had the good sense to check what they were buying would 'let the cat out of the bag' and revealed the trick that was being played on them.

from : Lock, Stock and Barrel Familiar Sayings & Their Mean-



"I started out with a little scratching on the couch, then I totally lost control."



For Cats, a Big Gulp With a Touch of the Tongue

Cats lap water so fast that the human eye cannot follow what is happening, which is why the trick had apparently escaped attention until now. With the use of high-speed photography, the neatness of the feline solution has been captured.

The act of drinking may seem like no big deal for anyone who can fully close his mouth to create suction, as people can. But the various species that cannot do so - and that includes most adult carnivores - must resort to some other mechanism.

Dog owners are familiar with the unseemly lapping noises that ensue when their thirsty pet meets a bowl of water. The dog is thrusting its tongue into the water, forming a crude cup with it and hauling the liquid back into the muzzle.

Cats, both big and little, are so much classier, according to new research by Pedro M. Reis and Roman Stocker of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, joined by Sunghwan Jung of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Jeffrey M. Aristoff of Princeton.

Writing in the Thursday issue of *Science*, the four engineers report that the cat's lapping method depends on its instinctive ability to calculate the point at which gravitational force would overcome inertia and cause the water to fall.

What happens is that the cat darts its tongue, curving the upper side downward so that the tip lightly touches the surface of the water.

The tongue is then pulled upward at high speed, drawing a column of water behind it.

Just at the moment that gravity finally overcomes the rush of the water and starts to pull the column down — snap! The cat's jaws have closed over the jet of water and swallowed it.

The cat laps four times a second — too fast for the human eye to see anything but a blur — and its tongue moves at a speed of one meter per second.

Being engineers, the cat-lapping team next tested its findings with a machine that mimicked a cat's tongue, using a glass disk at the end of a piston to serve as the tip. After calculating things like the Froude number and the aspect ratio, they were able to figure out how fast a cat should lap to get the greatest amount of water into its mouth. The cats, it turns out, were way ahead of them — they lap at just that speed.

To the scientific mind, the next obvious question is whether bigger cats should lap at different speeds.

The engineers worked out a formula: the lapping frequency should be the weight of the cat species, raised to the power of minus one-sixth and multiplied by 4.6. They then made friends with a curator at Zoo New England, the non-profit group that operates the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston and the Stone Zoo in Stoneham, Mass., who let them videotape his big cats. Lions, leopards, jaguars and ocelots turned out to lap at the speeds predicted by the engineers.

The animal who inspired this exercise of the engineer's art is a black cat named Cutta Cutta who belongs to Dr. Stocker and his family. Cutta Cutta's name comes from the word for "many stars" in Jawoyn, a language of the Australian aborigines.

Dr. Stocker's day job at M.I.T. is applying physics to biological problems, like how plankton move in the ocean. "Three and a half years ago, I was watching Cutta Cutta lap over breakfast," Dr. Stocker said. Naturally, he wondered what hydrodynamic problems the cat might be solving. He consulted Dr. Reis, an expert in fluid mechanics, and the study was under way.

At first, Dr. Stocker and his colleagues assumed that the raspy hairs on a cat's tongue, so useful for grooming, must also be involved in drawing water into its mouth. But the tip of the tongue, which is smooth, turned out to be all that was needed.

The project required no financing. The robot that mimicked the cat's tongue was built for an experiment on the International Space Station, and the engineers simply borrowed it from a neighbouring lab. Nicholas Wade, Published: Nov 2010



Cutta Cutta

It is a very inconvenient habit of kittens that whatever you say to them, they always purr.

Louis Carroll

The Catwalk

Mojo & Tia -



OMG, she has taken my side of the bed again!

L Leech, Dublin

Emily -



Have cat will travel.

How about security?
Going to give me a cat scan..?

S Mackey, Dublin

Midge -

And you think you can just come up here and take the washing..?



J & A Rosse, USA

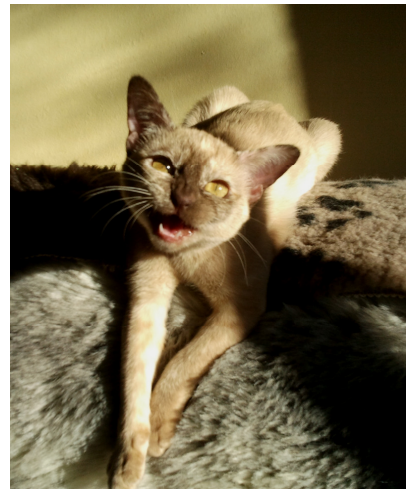
The Catwalk



Star -

Now, I told Vincent
Browne the other day.....

K. Sluiters, Dublin



Oreo -



Is it OK if I come in
for some milk?

G. Hehir, Dublin
(in Gran Canaria)



Best Friends -

Stay still while I
groom you !

I. Barova, Gran Canaria



A Mighty Moggie Has a Lion's Roar

When it comes to making a purr-fect noise, Smokey is the top cat.

The powerful pet is thought to have the loudest purr in the world - making a racket which sounds ten times louder than a regular purr.

And her roars of contentment have left her owners reaching for the ear plugs and unable to watch television or talk on the phone when she is nearby.

'She has always been very vocal and purrs at some level nearly all the time,' said Ruth Adams, who adopted Smokey from a rescue centre for her 10 year old daughter, Amy. 'She even manages to purr while she eats. The only time she is quiet is when she is asleep. When I'm on the phone, friends often ask what the loud noise is. They can't believe it is coming from a cat.'

Most cats purr at about 23 decibels but Smokey averages more than 80 and has been recorded at a deafening 92 - the same as a hair dryer.

It's either adorable or annoying depending on what mood you are in' said Mrs Adams, who also shares her home with husband Mark, 2 children, 2 dogs and 2 other cats. 'You don't even have to stroke her to start a purring session - often she'll do it for no reason. It can be annoying if her loud purring starts as you are watching television and it has reached a romantic bit in the film, because it's impossible to hear and spoils the moment.'

Smokey, 12, did not seem bothered by the noise, although it sometimes made her cough, said Mrs Adams. 'It's not just the volume of her purr which is unusual - she makes quiet a unique sound, as if she has a dove stuck in her throat. My daughter thinks it is adorable.'



The family of Pitsford near Northampton, has now sent an application to Guinness World Records. 'The record for the loudest scream by human is 129 decibels' said an official. 'If Smokey the cat is able to purr at over 80 decibels, it would be an astonishing feat.'

Metroherald - February 2011, photo Mail Online, Geoff Robinson

When & How to Make Your Pet Throw Up

Many owners ask Vets how and when do I make my pet throw up if they think he's swallowed something dangerous?

If this isn't something you've ever considered, it's better to have the knowledge before you need it, rather than need it and not have it in the middle of a crisis with your beloved pet.

If you see your dog or cat consuming something she shouldn't. Do you automatically induce vomiting? Not necessarily. An animal might be seen in the yard or behind the garage chewing on something. Sometimes cats consume house-plants. You might see tooth marks on a plant, or notice some of the leaves look stripped or shredded. You don't necessarily need to induce vomiting in these situations, depending on the circumstances.

Circumstances in which you should not make your pet throw up include:

When he's already throwing up. Don't induce more vomiting in an already vomiting animal, because you can incite a worse vomition response.

- If your pet has lost consciousness and/or if she's very weak or has trouble standing. Do not induce vomiting in this situation because aspiration pneumonia, which can result when an animal inhales vomit into its lungs, can become a secondary problem.

- If your pet has swallowed bleach, a drain cleaner, or a petroleum distillate. These chemicals can cause burning as they are swallowed and secondary additional burns as they come back up. Don't induce vomiting if your pet has swallowed a caustic substance.

Continued page 13

- If it has been over two hours since your pet ingested a potential toxin. Once a substance enters your pet's small intestine, vomiting will not clear the stomach of that toxin. Inducing vomiting in a dog or cat that has already digested a potential toxin won't be effective in ridding her body of the substance.

When Should You Absolutely Induce Vomiting?

- When your pet has consumed antifreeze within the last two hours.
- When you've called your veterinarian, discussed the specific circumstances around your pet's swallowing a potential toxin, and your vet instructs you to induce vomiting.

The only substance recommended you use at home to make your pet throw up is hydrogen peroxide. Use about three percent hydrogen peroxide – the kind you purchase at any pharmacy. Do not use the stronger, concentrated peroxide found in hair color, use only the three percent kind. The dose is one teaspoon (five milliliters, or cc's) for every 10 pounds of body weight.

The hydrogen peroxide must be given orally to your pet. If it is a dog, you can mix it with a little vanilla ice cream to make it palatable. It is necessary to make a pet vomit; hydrogen peroxide hidden in sugary ice cream usually gets gobbled up with no argument. You can also try using a little bit of honey if there's no ice cream on hand. Or just syringe the solution down an animal's throat. With cats, it's usually easier and more effective to syringe it.

If your pet is a dog, after you get the hydrogen peroxide down, you should walk her around for a few minutes to get her moving, which will help the hydrogen peroxide do its work. Cats, of course, are a little harder to get moving, but getting them in motion will encourage absorption of the hydrogen peroxide.

Hydrogen peroxide is an irritant to the gastrointestinal tract, so it typically induces vomiting of stomach contents within 15 minutes of use. If your pet doesn't vomit within 15 minutes, you can give him a second dose. However, if another 15 minutes pass and he still hasn't vomited, don't give him a third dose of the hydrogen peroxide. It's time to call the vet.

Vets use specific drugs to induce vomiting in pets – apomorphine is used for dogs, and xylazine is used for cats. These medications are by prescription only and can only be administered by a vet. They can be much more effective at inducing vomiting than hydrogen peroxide. So if your pet isn't throwing up from your at-home hydrogen peroxide treatment, you should seek veterinary care immediately.

Taken from Dr Becker - Mercola.com

Little Known Feline Ailments

Having conquered cat flu, triumphed over tapeworm and braved behavioural quirks, it is time to focus attention on 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 involves 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.

Lap Fungus Disorder

Symptoms: Having taken over a human lap, the cat proceeds to spread in all planes. This may be accompanied by secondary symptoms such as high volume purring, dribbling, kneading and snoring. The condition is highly contagious and several fungoid cats may infest a lap simultaneously.

Treatment: Topical treatment with proprietary anti-fungals is ineffective. Prompt treatment (as per Irritable Lap Syndrome) is required to alleviate the worst symptoms although in a number of cats, such treatment actually exasperates the condition. This disorder manifests itself periodically through the affected cat's life and there is no long-term cure.

The Science of Women and Cats: The Bond Is Real

The kittens love us back! A new study demolishes the stereotype of cats as cold, aloof animals that want only food from their owners. The study also reinforces the idea that a special bond exists between females and felines.

In research to be published in the journal ‘Behavioural Processes’, scientists observed the interactions between 41 cats and their human families during lengthy four-part periods. Researchers noted all behaviors of both cats and humans, and also assessed their personalities as well as their influence over one another.

What they saw was not just cold, food-seeking behavior on the part of the kitties, but real attachment to their owners. The researchers observed a mutual social interaction in which both cats and humans signaled to each other when they wanted to pet or be petted.

Like our human friends, cats keep track. They were more likely to respond to owners' needs, if their owners had previously responded to theirs.

Cats also seem to remember kindness and return the favours later. If owners comply with their feline's wishes to interact, then the cat will often comply with the owner's wishes at other times. The cat may also "have an edge in this negotiation," since owners are usually already motivated to establish social contact.

While men certainly got along with their cats, researchers saw more interactions between women and their animals, finding that cats were more likely to approach women than men and to do things like jump on their laps to initiate contact. Study author Manuela Wedl of the University of Vienna told Discovery News that women's relationships with their cats were also "more intense."

By M. Szalavitz, February 2011 Time Healthline

Fragment

by Dutch poet Willem Jan Otten

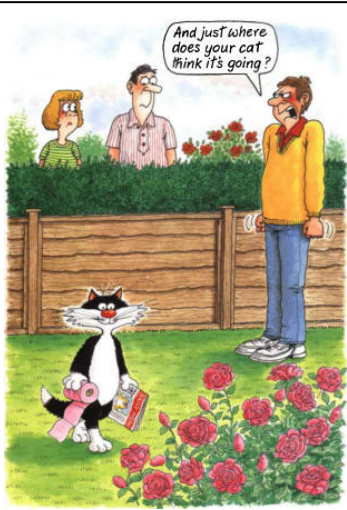
To be able to
hear the sun
he slowly
closes his eyes.

He then suddenly jumps
on top of my book
and pukes:
a crushed butterfly.

In his ears
as thin as the wings of a bat
the light weaves
a fine web of veins.

Proceeds to lick the powder
from his lips
satisfied
he rubs his whiskers

Freely translated from Dutch by Karen Sluiter



Quiz answers from page 8

- False (Kindle)

True

False - have 30, 5 more than humans

True

True

True

True

False

True - sheep, hogs & horses

False
- 1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

7)

8)

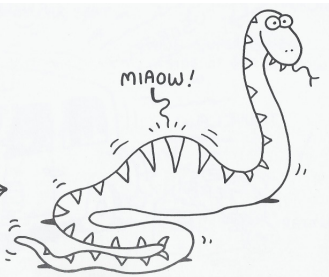
9)

10)

Cats & Other Pets

The basic relationship between a cat and another small domestic pets in the same house, such as hamsters, gerbils, goldfish, budgies, canaries, etc is generally: ‘Me cat. you Food’

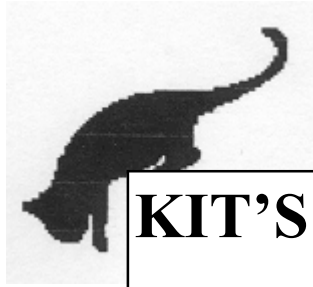
When larger domestic pets, such as dogs, the relationship trends to be more on the lines of: 'Me cat...you scratching post! Hold out your nose!' Much the same goes for children and toddlers, but then the kids usually ask for it, unlike the poor unsuspecting dog.



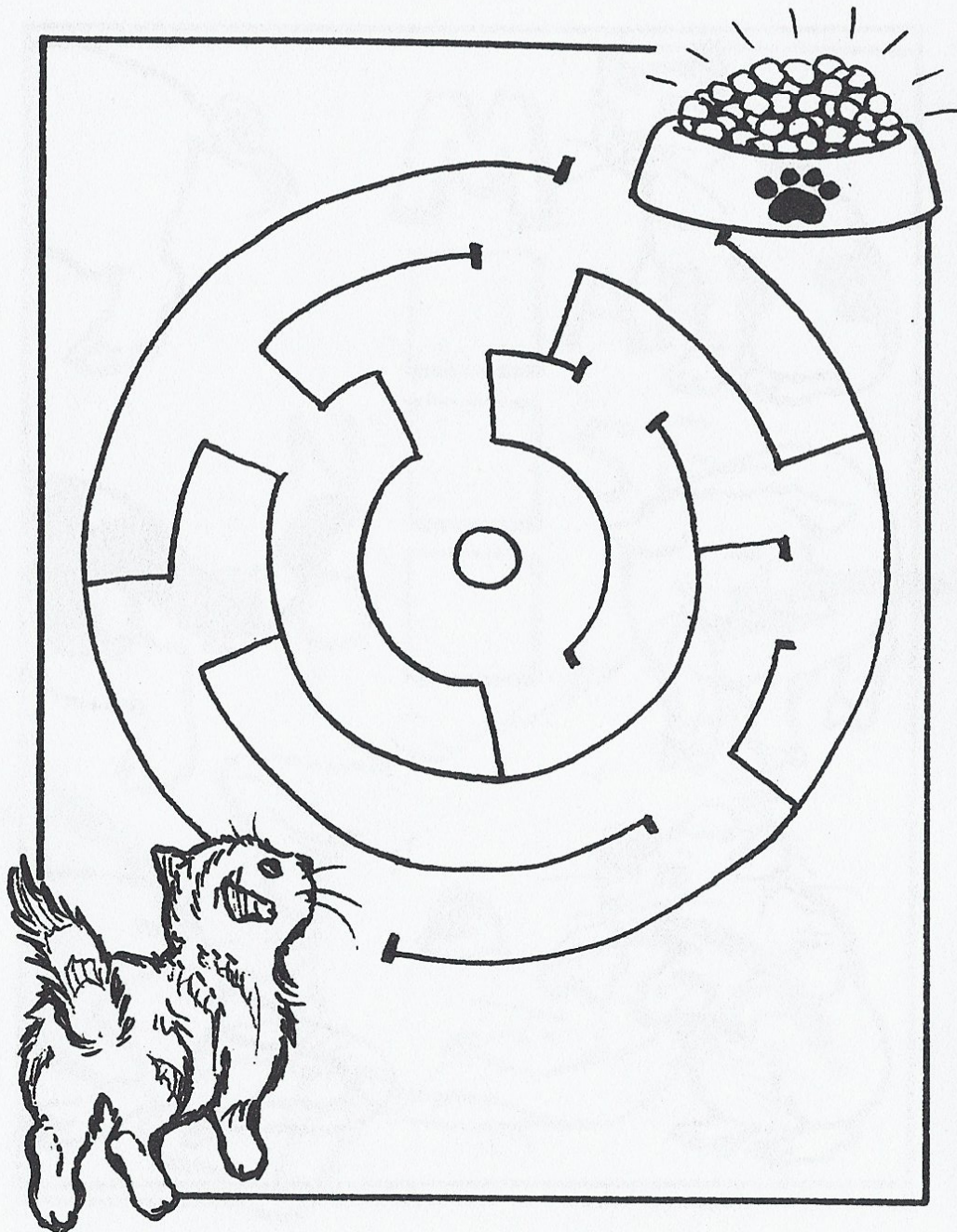
As far as constantly trying to devour other small pets goes, if it proves to be a major and continuing problem with your cat, we would strongly recommend teaching the little terror a lesson.

Simply find a pet shop with a full grown python in stock, arrange to borrow or hire it for a day, and see how Tiddles likes that.

From ‘The Cat Owners Survival Guide’



KIT'S KORNER



The kitten wants to get to her food dish! Help her find the path through the maze to her bowl of food at the end.

The Final Miaow

As you can see we have come to the end of our newsletter and we hope you found it interesting and enjoyable. Many thanks to everyone who sent us material and photos for the CATWALK. We can always do with more photographs and stories, so please keep sending us more.

Many thanks to our sponsor **Breffni House Pets**. Unfortunately, they will not be able to attend The Supreme Cat Show due to other commitments. We will miss seeing them at the show.

**Remember - The Supreme Cat Show on the 8th of May at Crowne Plaza Hotel
Blanchardstown Centre**

Doors open to the public 12:30 to 5:00

See you all at the show! ^..^

For All Your Pet Needs

Breffni House Pets



Good Luck to All Exhibitors at The Supreme

**Breffni House Pets
Windy Arbour, Dundrum Dublin 14
(01) 2961339**