



Overall BIS

37th
Championship
Show in 2017

*IGRPR Johpas From
RussiaWithLove.*

"Superb Oriental
Bicolour neuter, full
of style, presence
and quality."

Mrs J Starr



Karen Holder



Do you use Langford for your genetic testing?

Did you know that
fully paid up SPSCC
Members can get a
discount code from
the Club Secretary to
help reduce your
genetic testing costs.

Cat Sitters Paradise

by
Linda McKellar



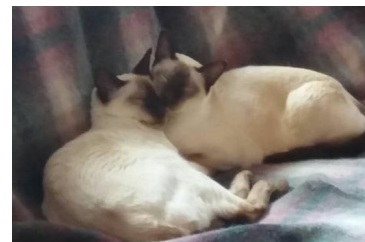
I suppose my love of cats started when we got our first cat Ginger who was a stray. That was in the 50's and my deep love of cats has never diminished! My husband and I have had at least 15 cats in our 43 years of marriage, even though he was allergic to cats when we first met. Sadly, our last cat Max, a lovely ginger boy, died 3 years ago aged 22 leaving us catless. To get our cat fix now, we regularly go to our nearest cat café in Edinburgh where we have cuddles with a silky smooth Sphynx. We have also visited cat cafes in Vancouver and Melbourne. I am also Aunty to five Devon Rex and get cuddles when they travel to shows in Scotland.

You must be wondering where this story is going? Well, a few years ago we decided we would like to cat sit so joined a suitable online company. Our first cat sit was in Barcelona looking after seven cats and two strays that came for breakfast. Hank and Frank. Although I'm sure they had Spanish names! That was a challenge as they all had their own personalities and had been rescued feral cats and most of them had become domesticated. We got through it and they asked us to do it again.

Since then we have looked after Gemma and Simon in North Vancouver three times. Simon is a Siamese, he has a gorgeous slim face but very timid. He hid in the wardrobe for three weeks the first time we looked

him. He has come around since then.

We cat sat for two lovely apple-head Siamese. Their octogenarian mum and dad were going on a cruise for 4 weeks and had never left them with anyone. The Siamese are brother and sister and had been so previously neglected until they found their forever home. These two are so loving it makes a rewarding stay.



At the moment we are in Suffolk looking after a fluffy tortie called Phoebe. She is hard work but we love her. She tries to box with you if you get too close and has huge paws. It is never dull when cat sitting and just love doing it and always so happy when we get picked. It also gives the owner's peace of mind and someone to stay in their house. Sometimes the wee rascals hide in bushes and totally ignore you when you call them in for tea, but cats will be cats! This "job" is worldwide and of course dogs, horses, lizards and rabbits all need looking after too, but we are die hard cat people. I think the biggest challenge for the cats is getting used to our Glasgow accent! Cat sitting is such a privilege and each cat with their own purrsonality always steal our hearts!

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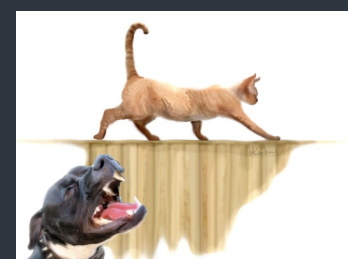
Mad Max Tester P.4



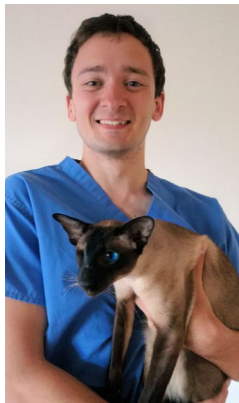
Keep cats safe

By Eve Davies, ProtectaPet

In Britain, it is commonly accepted that cats have the right to roam freely. However, free-roaming cats have a life expectancy of two years, as opposed to the otherwise expected longevity of 15 years. This is due to exposure to dangers such as increasingly busier roads, fighting with other cats in the neighbourhood, consumption of pest control, such as slug pellets, amongst many other risks.



In New Zealand and Australia, cat owners are obliged to microchip their cats and keep tabs on their whereabouts. But Britain is leading the way in cat containment solutions. Companies have designed and patented technologies which contain even the most agile breeds of cats like Siamese and Orientals, with the simple addition of a fence-top barrier to garden fencing. For larger rural gardens, steel or wooden freestanding fencing can be built with an overhanging bracket and gated access. This enables cats to come and go from their house and garden freely, enjoying the optimal quality of life, while owners have peace of mind and assurance of their safety.



JAMES ALEXANDER

Veterinary Surgeon MA VetMB MRCVS

Small animal vet based in Leicestershire, graduated from Cambridge in 2016. Interested in orthopaedics and diabetes. Lives with a one-eyed Seal Point Siamese called Gus who loves catching flies and throwing things on the floor. Is a triathlete in his spare time.



War on Fleas

How do you get rid of them?

As with all diseases, prevention is better than cure. Keeping up to date with flea treatments helps to stop an infection becoming established in the house, as once in, fleas can be tricky to eradicate!

"Gus eats his flea tablets out of my hands!"

Frequent vacuuming helps to reduce numbers of immature stages, especially by focusing on dark cool areas where fleas like to lay eggs. If an infestation is established, use an effective insecticide after thorough vacuuming. Wash bedding on a hot cycle, or destroy if heavily infested.

What treatments should I use?

There are a HUGE variety of treatments available for fleas from spot-ons to tablets, from pet stores and vets. Generally speaking, products available from vets are more efficacious and safer. - ***if you are in any doubt, speak to your vet!***

Most treatments require 4 weekly administration as this is approximately the length of the flea lifecycle. However, there are 3-monthly treatments becoming more accessible.

Spot-ons are the most common method of application as they are easy to give and tolerated well. These tend to kill adult fleas, but can also interrupt their development and prevent them reproducing.

Tablets work in a similar way to the spot-on treatments. They may be easier to give if you have a willing cat - Gus (pictured with me above) eats his flea tablets out of my hands!

Flea collars are making a comeback, and can be good if used correctly. However the vast majority are not hugely effective, but some newer collars are showing good safety and effectiveness. But please use with caution!

A further note of caution is ***NEVER to use dog flea products on cats*** - some products contain permethrin, which is toxic to cats. Some toxicities have been seen with cats coming into contact with recently treated dogs, so please take care!

What are they?

Small jumping insects, that live off blood meals from mammals. They tend to be host-specific (ie cats have cat fleas) but different fleas can bite the wrong hosts. They spread by jumping from host to host, and lay eggs in secluded areas which develop into adults. Typically found as adults in the cat fur, and also diagnosed with findings of 'flea dirt'.

Why do we care about them?

- Fleas can carry tapeworms which infect cats, along with other disease agents.
- Fleas can cause anaemia in young kittens by feeding on their blood, and in severe cases death.
- Flea bite allergies, in both cats and humans!
- Fleas also help transmit 'cat scratch disease' between cats and humans.



Bringing home a new kitten

by

Ross Davies

So you are lucky enough to be bringing a kitten home and of course you want your new kitten to settle in without too much



Cat Fact 1:

A cat's nose pad is ridged with a unique pattern, just like the finger-print of a human.

Cat Fact 2:

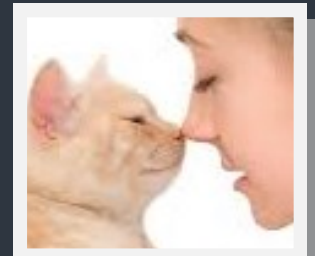
The technical term for a cat's hairball is a "bezoar."

Cat Fact 3:

A cat can travel at a top speed of approximately 31 mph (49 km) over a short distance

Cat Fact 4:

Owning a cat can reduce the risk of stroke and heart attack by a third!



Bringing home a kitten is an exciting time but can also be very stressful for your new arrival. Here we give you some tips for ways to ease your kitten into your home with the minimal amount of stress caused.

1.. Blankets. When you visit your kitten at the breeder's house take a blanket which has been in your home with you. There are 2 reasons for this firstly it has the smell of your home on it and secondly that smell will be replaced with the smell of the breeder's home. This will get the kitten used to your smell and then it will have the smell of its family as well when it moves to your house. Some breeders provide blankets in their kitten packs but take one along with you just in case.

2.. Diet. It is important to keep the kitten eating the

same food he/she was used to at the breeders. Make sure you have some at home before the kitten arrives. A sudden change in diet can easily upset the kitten's tummy. You should be given a diet sheet by your breeder.

3.. Litter Tray. Kittens will automatically go to a corner to toilet and likewise they will not eat from bowls which are too close to the litter tray. When preparing for your kittens arrival think about where you will put the food and water also the litter tray and the kittens bed. These all need to be in a quiet area of the house where the kitten can have some privacy.

4.. Access. When settling your kitten in for the first few days you may find it useful to restrict access to the house to just a couple of ground floor rooms. This can be useful as

your kitten has less chance of being 'caught short' while trying to remember where you have hidden the litter tray. It is also useful to know exactly where your kitten is.

5.. Introductions. Sometimes an existing pet will feel somewhat "put out" by a new arrival. Here are a few ways you can help to introduce them slowly. Please remember that it will take time and patience for them to become friends. Let them get used to each other's smell using blankets or your own clothes. Put their food bowls either side of a closed door and feed them both at the same time. Introduce them under supervision making sure dogs are under control and the kitten has an escape route if needed. Then feed them in the same room gradually moving them closer together and give them all separate litter tray at first.

Harness Training for safety

We take our cats away each year in our caravan and tour all over the UK. When you have 5 girls, 2 neuters, 3 entire, it takes a fair amount of organising. We travel in the summer and have a litter in the winter time. That way, everyone gets time off to relax and unwind.



Harness training is a must when we are away as is collar wearing. They are started at a young age with velvet kitten collars and once they have flung themselves around a padded room for a few minutes, the second they stop, they get a prawn and the collar comes off. Rewarding desired behavior is good. Ignore the rest, they are quick learners, especially for prawns!

Once they are happy with the collar, it's time for one

around the ribs. I use the same velvet collars for training and join with a rubber band. Again, wait for the bouncing to stop and reward instantly. This can take several days to achieve and you soon have kitten eating and playing in the harness. When it comes time to slip the lead on, the hard bit is done.

Don't loom over your kitten, sit on the floor with baby between your legs, let them feel the lead and just gently control. Don't allow twisting or backing out. Hold them, and steer them keeping it all calm with rewards.

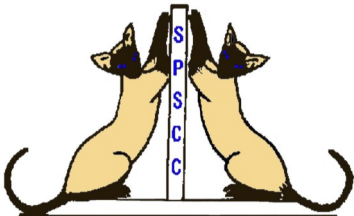
Once they get the basic idea, walking forwards is the key, never pull or drag or allow your cat to get behind you. Keep them in view at all times and have fun!

PAWS FOR THOUGHT

In ancient times cats were worshipped as gods; they have not forgotten this.

Terry Pratchett





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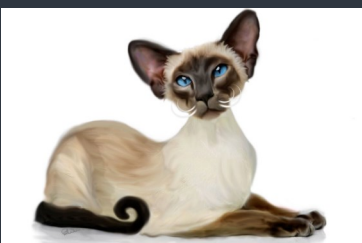
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38th

Champion Show

10th November 2018



PIRATE GUS TOY TEST



Hi everyone,

I am one-eyed Gus and I live with Vet James Alexander. Being a busy lad I enjoy zooming about the place and creating havoc and best of all I LOVE TO PLAY.

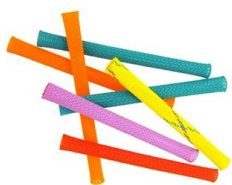
I have been asked to test some toys for our readers and have come up with my absolute FAVES. I hope they will be your best toys too!

No.1 Flying Frenzy with Wiggly Wormz attachment. 5/5



OK, So I thought I wasn't even going to give this the time of day, but it seems to have woken up my senses a little. I suppose they wriggle and dance just like a shoe lace. I can't get enough of this chap, even wriggles over the ground just like a real worm. My paws ache now—time for a lay down!

No.2 Large Boink Toy. 4/5



Love 'em, just like a straw, these can be squished and fired across the room, great for chasing & pouncing on.

Considering I don't play much, I got out of bed for these!

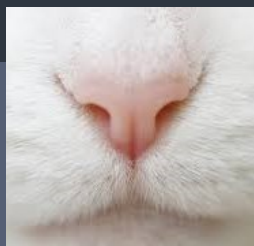
They come in large or small and lots of different colours.

No.3 Yeowww Stinkies Sardines. 3/5



Whoa baby! These pricey little bad boys really do stink, in a nice way to us cats. I go all gooey and wide eyed and my legs don't work properly. I have to chew them, kick them, slobber on them and now I need a sleep from all this excitement.

Going Viral - FCV



The Feline Calicivirus (FCV) is a common viral disease which attacks the respiratory tract, lungs and nasal areas. Ulcers form on the tongue, intestines and musculoskeletal system. Most cat owners are aware of such diseases and about making sure new cats into the home or cattery are correctly quarantined before exposure to a 'clean' household. Stress can trigger an outbreak from a carrier cat which has perhaps laid dormant. The virus is then shed to others in the household and then usually shed back to the carrier.

Antibiotics will not do much but can help with secondary infections making kitty more comfortable. Blood tests usually reveal a rise in white blood count. The more reliable diagnostic test involves identifying a build up of FCV antibodies. These *antibody* tests can be used to detect and measure the levels of feline calicivirus *antigen* and/or antibodies corresponding to the viral antigen (feline calicivirus). A more advanced test that may be used involves growing the isolated viruses under controlled conditions using a technique called cell culture.