

# **MICE-ELLANY by Tony Cooke** Are genetics really necessary?

I WAS interested by John Palin's article in the March 29 edition of FUR & in the March 29 edition of FOR a FEATHER and by Roy Robinson's reply. I cannot entirely subscribe to the viewpoint that the practice of genetics in the Fancy is entirely irrelevant. It IS possible to be 'number one' in the Fancy

possible to be 'number one' in the Fancy without any knowledge of genetics whatsoever, but any achievements would be 'in spite of' the absence of genetics. Without some grasp of the principles the Fancy would be a much poorer hobby. For example, without the knowledge of how to propagate a recessive or combine it with others the rabbit Fancy would not possess the rex today. Neither would the mouse Fancy possess the Satin. So the Fancy has reaped enor-mous benefits from a little knowledge of

mous benefits from a little knowledge of this 'unnecessary' science.

And then again, what is 'the Fancy' all about? It's about relaxing and having fun. For some individuals the genetic pottering around is as much fun as the pure showing and for others showing is the be-all and end-all. Neither is absolutely light or expeditable wrong in pursuing right or absolutely wrong in pursuing their version of the hobby. Indeed, for a few fortunates there is the best of both worlds.

worids.

No, John, genetics is no more limiting than showing. You talked in your article about winning the Mendel Gold Cup and you infer that genetic knowledge alone cannot contribute to a person winning

this trophy. I suggest that while you are not entirely wrong there you are certainly not entirely right.

In my last article I talked about ambitions and referred specifically to an ambition to win the Mendel Gold Cup ambition to win the Mendel Gold Cup with a Dutch. There is just no way that this could be achieved by a 'pure' (nongenetic) fancier—not a snowball's chance in hell. Yet I WILL do it (eventually) if it takes me another 50 years in the Fancy. To borrow a phrase from another regular FUR & FEATHER contributor 'I want to win and I will'. And when I do it will be a little genetic knowledge which has helped me do it.

To close this topic I think a quotation To close this topic I think a quotation from Percy Ashley is appropriate. I don't know the date as I only have an undated copy of an article by Percy entitled 'How To Breed Good Silver', but in it he says: 'I well remember the late Doctor Kerr MBCHB whenever we met at shows would say "Come on Ashley sit down and let us chat about how you have bred your black-eyed whites". I would say "Doctor, you know all the answers in genetics". He would reply "You, Ashley, have all the practical breeding answers". Many an interesting hour we spent discussing the pro's and con's of various breeds and I am certain we both derived untold am certain we both derived untold benefit from it.'

That really says it all doesn't it?

# **Lancashire Hotch Potch**

LOOKING BACK over 1978, it was not the happiest year of my life. First I fractured my leg in two places. My old Siamese cat, companion of seventeen years died. Brian was ill for months with whooping cough and acute bronchitis. To top it all my mice picked up a virus from some unknown source and commenced to hunch up and die in about two days, just as I was doing rather well at the shows.

I took a specimen to my veterinary surgeon and stopped showing and banned any visitors to my shed, while the results from the laboratories came back. They found it was a virus of 99% fatality. I lost 350 mice altogether and when I obtained a trio of stock about four months later I had them examined once more before I increased stock. They were proved clear, and I had a fresh start.

My friends in the Fancy, and even fanciers with whom I had had differences in the past offered mice in profusion which moved me deeply. I realised what a wealth of true friendship exists in our Fancy—sometimes its even a kind of love, which one does not realise until one is a recipient of the warm generosity extended to a fellow fancier. When I am feeding my mice I always think about the others who will be feeding theirs, and I am never lonely in my hobby.

I was given some of my improved, original stock and am now building up a good stud of many varieties.

I feed my mice on the best possible diet, with lots of Sunflower seed (which is their all-time favourite), a new brand of dog food which contains lots of calcium and is in the shape of small bones.

and is in the shape of small bones.

Cider vinegar, which is obtainable at health food shops (just a drop mixed in with the moist baked bread) is a wonderful conditioner recommended to me by a livestock producer who breeds commercial rabbits and milk producing cows. He said that since his stock had been having it in their food, the size and condition had improved beyond belief. I'm trying it now. I'm trying It now.

For 'reluctant bucks' a little hemp seed does the trick, for does, vitamin E (alpha tocopheryl) prevents abortion, increases fertility, and is an 'anti-ageing' vitamin, again obtained at health food stores.

again obtained at nearth rood stores.

I feed dandelion buds and clover flowers which the mice rip apart to get at the pollen and nectar. I never feed steam-baked bread unless it has been steam-baked bread unless it has been 'toasted' in the oven, as a few years back, when I had run out of my supply of oven baked bread, I fed for a fortnight on steam sliced type and found it caused enteritis, diarrhoea, bleeding, and the fading of mice. When Brian saw this happening he swore never to have any of that kind again!

that kind again!
You can always test whether bread is steam-baked or baked the old-fashioned steam-baked of baked the old-rashioned way, by putting a small piece of each in a glass of water and leaving them for say five days, then squeezing out the surplus water. The steamed variety will look like cotton wool and smell terrible, and the baked variety when squeezed will crumble.

Another effect of steamed bread is hat pregnant does swell up to bursting point as though they are filled with gas, and then just die. Maybe other fanciers have experienced these effects and will write about them.

I never use hay which is prepacked in plastic bags, because in changes of weather condensation occurs and makes the hay sour. The best hay is 'Clover Hay' but I haven't been able to buy any for about ten years. My father always used it and the mice ate every bit. It is nutritious

and the mice ate every bit. It is nutritious and very economical.

A few days before a show, a few drops of cod liver oil, or linseed, mixed with the food gives the coat a lovely sheen, but it mustn't be overdone. Chop bones, bacon rind, chicken bones, mice relish, they pick the bones clean and it gives the mice something to gnaw during the day. I get bags of dog bones from the supermarkets—usually ten pence a bag—and hammer them into small. bag-and hammer them pieces. The mice love the m

# Something must be done about show schedules

says G Harlow

RECENTLY I decided to check on how each section had fared at shows over a period. From the reports in FUR & FEATHER I listed each section at six shows—two championship shows, one annual cup show and three others. The shows listed are all based on 5p entry fee and the standard 30p, 20p, 10p prize money in breed and section challenges only.

At these shows Tans showed a loss at four and a profit at two, Marked lost at all six, Satins and a profit at two, Marked lost at all six, Satins lost at three and made a profit at two (I could not find the results of the other show), AOV made a loss at all six. Selfs made a profit at five of the shows and although I could not find the results of the Airedale show I was present and know that a good entry had been received.

Members cannot agree that entry fees should be raised but I believe that something will have to be done because if it were not for the big duplicate classes getting good entries the clubs would go bust. It is a great pity that clubs have to rely on making a profit from the

catering side and raffles—or even on donations—to make the shows pay. And remember that you still have to take into account the supply of prize cards, judging slips, pen labels and other hidden extras, it is no wonder that clubs are running on very tight budgets.

There are two ways of alleviating the situation. Either entry fees must go up in the straight classes (thus upsetting a lot of exhibitors) or we must make the schedules smaller by putting more varieties in the one class. In my opinion unless something on these lines is done we won't have a mouse Fancy in a few years' time.

I have heard exhibitors say that they won't

years' time.

I have heard exhibitors say that they won't enter at a show unless there is a class scheduled for their breed or variety on its own. In reply to this I say that a win in a class with a lot of entries carries more prestige than a win in a class which has attracted only two or three. Besides the win from a large entry is eligible towards a championship claim.

ı	AIREDALE, FEBRU	JARY 10 1979					
1	AII.		Entry	Prize			
1		Entry	fees	money	Loss	Profit	
. 1	TAN	108	540p	580p	40p		
1	MARKED	83	415p	470p	55p	_	
1	SATIN	64	320p	360p	40p	******	
'	AOV	78	390p	450p	60p	_	
SELF Results not published  CALDER VALLEY, NOVEMBER 25 1978							
	CALDER VALLEY,	NOVEMBER 25	1978 Entry	Prize			
١		Entry	tees	money	Loss	Profit	
1	TAN	95	465p	540p	75p	_	
ıl	MARKED	55	275p	470p	195p		
ı	SATIN	57	285p	180p		105p	
1	AOV	65	320p	460p	140p	_	
,	SELF	143	715p	600p	-	115p	
i	MANCHESTER MO	MANCHESTER MOUSE CLUB, NOVEMBER 11 1978					
٠		,	Entry	Prize			
		Entry	fees	money	Loss	Profit	
1	TAN	42	210p	560p	350p	_	
	MARKED	20	100p	320p	220p	_	
	AOV	47	235p	510p	275p		
•	SELF	157	785p	830p	45p		
•	SATIN	Results n	ot published	•	·		
,	BRADFORD CHAMPIONSHIP 1979						
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•	BRADFORD CHAN	IPIONSHIP 1979		Prize			
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	TAN	Entry 188	Entry f <del>ees</del> 940p	money 540p	Loss — 50p		
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1	TAN	Entry 188 86	Entry fees 940p 430p	money 540p 480p	_	400p 10p	
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1	TAN MARKED SATIN AOV	Entry 188 86 74 98 276	Entry fees 940p 430p 370p 490p	money 540p 480p 360p 600p	50p	400p 10p 660p	
1	TAN MARKED SATIN AOV SELF	Entry 188 86 74 98 276	Entry fees 940p 430p 370p 490p 1380p	740p 480p 380p 800p 720p Prize money	50p	400p 10p 660p	
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## **MIDLAND MOUSE CLUB**

MIDLAND MOUSE CLUB
SINCE MY last club notes we have had our first show at the Village Hall, Twycross, which turned out to be very poorly supported as the entry was only 462. The club would have lost over £15 on this show but for a member paying the hall rent £5, best in show and all loss on prize money. All the exhibitors present spent well on the tombola, raffle and the refreshments so we came out on top.

I hope our next show which is on Saturday June 30 will be better supported as I am sure all the people who came to the first show enjoyed themselves and many of them said what a good hall it was and in a very good area. I will not report on who did the winning as the judges will be putting their show reports in FUR & FEATHER.

The judges for our June show are Mr G

& FEATHER.

The judges for our June show are Mr G Lupton (Selfs), Mr J Hartley (AOV and Satins). I am awaiting confirmation of the judge to do Tans and Marked. The show will be advertised in FUR & FEATHER a bit nearer the time.

I thank all who made donations in cash or helped in other ways which made it possible for me to get this club off the ground. They include N Davidson, J Strutt, J Hartley, Mrs D Cooper, K Blackford, G Moore, C Cole, Mrs I Day and the following who made donations at the show and later, I Davies, D Parkinson, D Taylor.

Taylor.

We are putting a show on at the Waisall show on August Bank Holiday so I hope we will get a good entry and good turn out of exhibitors.

G HARLOW, secretary

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS PLEASE MENTION

#### NATIONAL MONGOLIAN **GERBIL SOCIETY**

THE ANNUAL members' stock show will be held at Poynton on Saturday August 25, in conjunction with the open gerbil section of the Poynton annual show. It will be judged by David Robinson.

David Robinson.

David was to have judged our show at Doncaster in January and was as disappointed as we were that the section had to be cancelled, so start planning your breeding now to ensure him a good entry. The open section will be judged by Andrew Amos who had also taken over from Keith Smith as section manager for the 'London' in October. We got many inquiries from the general public at Poynton last year plus a few new exhibitors so put your best stock on view there and help make our Fancy a little better known.

One of our members has offered a rose bowl

put your best stock on view there and help make our Fancy a little better known.

One of our members has offered a rose bowl to be called the Calderpark Rose Bowl to be awarded annually to the member whis judged to have made the greatest overall improvement in the black gerbil. Once the black is stabilised as a recognised type and colour and breeding freely the award can, with the committee's permission, be assigned to a particular show for the best black or something similar. It was felt that the bowl would commemorate the contribution of an outside body to our hobby and also reward conscientious breeders.

I am often asked what we call baby gerbils—are they called kittens as in rats, cubs as in many animals or perhaps pups as sometimes used in research papers? What do you think would be appropriate? Also, is the male a buck and the female a doe? It seems time to make some sort of decision on this.

News and views to me please at 3 Tracks Lane, Billinge, Wigan Wh5 7BL.

(Mrs) M BROOKES, secretary

# Ailments in hamsters (Part 2)

### **Dennis Homes**

THE SYMPTOM of a cold in a hamster is very similar to that of a human—wheezing, running eyes, nasal discharge and sometimes sneezing. The coat becomes open and appears dull isola-tion from the rest of the stock is of paramount importance as the virus is highly contagious. Clean bedding should be given and the cage should be brought into a warm, but well ventilated room. A mash made from 'Bemax' and warm milk is quite beneficial. Sometimes a bronchial condition can arise from a cold and if this is the case the animal should be seen by a veterinary surgeon, who may prescribe aureomycin or terramycin.

The cold virus that affects a hamster is the same as that which affects humans. If you happen to have a cold great care must be taken to ensure that you dont infect your stock. Wearing a mask over your nose and mouth at this time would perhaps be advisable. If a cold develops into pneumonia it is usually fatal in hamsters

Sometimes a hamster may appear to have all the symptoms of a cold when in nave all the symptoms of a cold when in fact the condition may be an allergy. Very fine sawdust or dusty hay is quite often the cause, and the condition may be likened somewhat to hay fever. Changing the sawdust and bedding to that of a better quality will usually remedy the

### Constipation

The first indication of this condition is usually a reduction of absence of faeces in the cage. Sometimes the faeces that are present are small, hard and shrivelled in severe cases the animal will sit hunched up with an open coat and the tummy will be hard and swollen. Constipation is often the result of the harmster eating to many pellets and not taking enough water. The provision of plenty of greenfood, dandilion and apple will usually remedy the condition. A very small pinch of epsom salts in the water

bottle may help, but it is best to first try temperatures. Heartbeat, temperatures the greenfood. Constipation has some- and respiritory rate all drop drastically times been the result of a hamster having and the animal becomes quite stiff. Many an intestinal blockage caused through a hamster found in this condition has chewing cotton wool. Obviously cotton been mistaken for dead. wool or any other form of wool bedding should never be given.

This is usually caused by either eating too much greenfood or eating food that has been contaminated. Obviously the need for hygiene must be observed and, as previously stated, infected animals must always be isolated. Clean bedding should be provided and only dry food given. Arrowroot or a little cornflower may be added to the food. Diarrhoea is often natures way of dealing with an intestinal infection and in most cases the condition will cure itself within a few

In an average sized cage a fall could never really be of a serious nature. Most nasty falls take place when the animal is being handled. It is important that you should always hold a hamster over a table top because, unlike mice, they seem to be quite unable to judge heights. Extra care should be taken when handling young or nervous animals as they have a tendency to take a sudden leap. Pregnant females should always be held

rregnant remales should always be held with extreme caution.

If you have a hamster that has suffered a fall and you suspect a broken bone, then you should immediately consult a vet. If a hamster shows signs of shock then he should be given a warm mash and left alone preferably in a warm place.

#### Hibernation

As with cannibalism, hibernation is more prevalent among certain strains of hamsters and may also be partly inherited. The condition is more likely to happen when temperatures drop below 45°F, although there have been cases of hamsters hibernating at much higher

been mistaken for dead.

The best treatment is to move the cage

into a warmer room, but ensure that the change is gradual or the creature could die from shock. Gradually the hamster will come round and in no time at all will be acting quite normally. At this time a warm mash would be of great benefit.

## Inability to give birth

A hamster has a double uterous and a baby passes into the birth canel in turn from each womb. The inability to give birth is usually caused by a baby turning and becoming lodged in the birth canel. Sometimes the condition can be attributed to too much fat around the uterous, making the birth difficult. Obviously a mother should be well fed, but it is imperative that she does not become too fat. become too fat.

If a hamster is found in this condition it

should be taken to a veterinary surgeon at once. If caught in time a cesaerian birth may be possible. Unfortunately, in most cases it is fatal.

#### oss of fur

As a hamster gets old it is perfectly natural for a loss of fur to be encountered. The first place that it becomes noticeable is usually on the ears, which become quite shiny. The belly fur also becomes rather thin, starting from the area around the pits of the leg joints. If a loss of fur is found on a young animal then it could be attributed to a deficiency of vitamin A or C. Plenty of greenfood and regular cod liver oil may be helpful. A small sprinkling on the food of a multi-vitamin compound such 'SA37' or 'Abidec' may also be of use.

# Black gerbils

Black gerbils

MRS MINA HENLEY, on behalf of Calderpark
Zoo, kindly gave me two pairs of black gerbils.
These arrived straight from quarantine and appeared healthy. Despite this, one male died within three days from no obvious cause. The remaining pair gave no signs of wanting to breed with each other and eventually each of the blacks were paired with an agouti.

Two litters have been produced, one of four and another of six, all agoutis, the procedure is to inbreed these agoutis to recover the black. The black colour is inherited as a recessive, hence the expectation in the F2 in three agoutis and one black.

I have recently bred a 'waltzing' gerbil. This interesting little animal is healthy but tends to spin in circles when disturbed. It also circles spontaneously. I hope to determine if the behaviour is inherrited. I should be pleased to hear from anyone who may have had or seen such behaviour. It should be added that this circling behaviour is not the same as the epileptic fits which most gerbils are prone. This tendency is probably related to their very quick and high-strung natures.

ROY ROBINSON

## Club secretaries

Smith, 26

National Mouse Club: Mr S Smith, and Grasmere Road, Bolton, Bradford.

Airdals Mouse Club: John Kellett, Claremont Grove, Wrose, Shipley, We Yorkshire, telephone Shipley (0274) 55621.

Calder Valley Mouse club: E Longbottom, 109 Hopwood Lane, Halifax, Yorkshire, tele-phone Halifax 54124.

Paywood Hamster, Mouse, Gerbil and Fancy Rat Club: Mrs F Johnson, 79 Burdett Avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.

Greater Manchester Mouse Club: D Taylor, 252 Stockport Road, Marple, near Stock-port, Cheshire SK6 6EX. Telephone 061-427

ondon and Southern Counties Mouse Club: Eric Jukes, 26 Downs Road, Enfield, Middx EN1 1PB, telephone 01-366 6162.

Midland Mouse Club: C Harlow, 11 Holly Bank Estate, Austrey, Atherstone, Warwickshire.

Estate, Austrey, Atherstone, Warwickshire.
North Yorkshire Mouse Club: Mrs N Horne,
Edofiss, Echo Hill, Sleights, near Whitby,
North Yorkshire YO22 5AE. Telephone:
Whitby (0947) 810272.

National Fancy Rat Society: Joan Pearce, 57
Myrtledene Road, Abbey Wood, SE2.

National Mongolian Gerbil Society: Mrs M
Brookes, 3 Tracks Lane, Wigan WNS 7BL.

Northern Countles Fancy Ret Society: Mrs M

Northern Counties Fancy Rat Society: Mrs H Dagg, 44 Bower Street, Mill Hill, Blackburn, Lancashire.

Yorkshire Hamster Club: Mrs E Baxby, 8 Rawlins Court, Coal Aston, Sheffield.

Midland Hamster Club: R Hegarty, 36 Welbeck Street, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire. Tele-phone: Mansfield 36580.

Southern Hamster Club: W Drake, Rosewood, 29 Bardenville Road, Canvey Island, Essex.

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# Where and when to show

#### HAMSTERS

JUNE 9

JUNE 30 Faywood

JULY 7 Alton

JULY 28 Abergavenny Agric

AUGUST 26

SEPTEMBER 1

SEPTEMBER 8 SEPTEMBER 29

OCTOBER 20

OCTOBER 26/27 London Champio Super Pets

# MICE

JUNE 9

JUNE 10 Rradford Metro

JUNE 16 Calder Valley JUNE 30

JULY 22 Dartford

JULY 28 Cleveland County

AUGUST 5

AUGUST 25 Faywood

AUGUST 26 Harlow

SEPTEMBER 1 SEPTEMBER 8

SEPTEMBER 16 Bradford Metro

SEPTEMBER 22 Greater Manches

OCTOBER 6 OCTOBER 13

Airedale London & Southern

OCTOBER 20 Faywood

OCTOBER 21

OCTOBER 26/27

ristol Southern CC roadlands SLS

NOVEMBER 18 Bradford Metro

NOVEMBER 24 Calder Valley

DECEMBER 1

DECEMBER 8

DECEMBER 16 Bradford Metro

# GERBILS

JUNE 30 Faywood

JULY 27 St Helen

AUGUST 15

AUGUST 25 Faywood

SEPTEMBER 2

SEPTEMBER 9

OCTOBER 20

OCTOBER 26/27 London Champio

NOVEMBER 25

### DATE

JUNE 30

JULY 15

JULY 28

AUGUST 25 Faywood

SEPTEMBER 29

OCTOBER 20

OCTOBER 26/27

NOVEMBER 24

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# Best friends

Best friends

I THANK Roy Robinson for his interesting article. He just about sums up the intelligence and friendliness of the fancy rat and one wonders why it does not become popular. I have spoken to many a person, who has agreed that there are mice, rabbits, etc in the wild and there are also tame ones which can be kept as pets and become lovable members of the family. At the same time these people just cannot accept that there are rats in the wild and also tame rats that can become just as lovable members of the family. (I am beginning to wonder just who has the most intelligence and commonsense, the human being or the rat!)
Regarding the intelligence. I have recently found out that the intelligence of a rat can be greatly improved in the early days of its life before it leaves the nest. If young rats are handled for a minute or two each day from the day they are born they are subjected to a certain amount of stress which helps their brains to develop to a greater degree. This does not apply solely to rats, but to other mammals as well, mice and cats, etc. Also by repeated handling at this early age the rat learns that even though it is taken away from the warmth and comfort of the nest and lits mother, it soon learns that it is only temporary and that no harm has come to it. Subsequently this makes for a much tamer rat.

I have heard one or two judges who have remarked that my eight week old rats which they have judged are extremely tame and have no skittishness about them.

My rats are also acquainted with my two cats and my dog as well. They will not harm them and my rats are not frightened. They love to be let in the house to play with the cats though they do sometimes take advantage by teasing them and pulling their tails and whiskers. But the cats don't seem to mind. They take it all in

their stride as being part of the mad household that they live in!

that they live in!

I recently had to take one of my cats to the veterinary surgeon for an injection and as one of my buck rats had a couple of small sores, I thought that I would kill two birds with one stone, as they say, and take the rat with me. I put them both in the same basket. When I arrived at the veterinary surgeons and entered his surgery he could not believe his eyes and called in his other two colleagues to have a look. I felt rather like I was doing a circus act. Still it's all part of the publicity.

look. I felt rather like I was doing a circus act. Still it's all part of the publicity.

Which brings me to another subject of the publicity. When I started out to let everyone know via newspapers, radio and television about fancy rats I did not realise just what the effects It would have on my friends and neighbours. My neighbours haven't spoken to me since and have sent in three petitions so far to try and get rid of them. The Health Department have been about six times, till they finally got sick of the complaints and petitions and sent a letter to all my neighbours saying that the only reason that they could tell me to get rid of my stock was health reasons only, and as far as they were concerned they could see no reason at all. That stopped the petitions but then they started something else. I came home one day to find my sister-in-law's Jack Russell Terrier in my backyard with my Alsatian. I learnt that someone had thrown him over, as he was such a good ratter, in the hope that it would get mine! Unfortunately, my Alsatian was on heat at the time and as he couldn't get in the shed to my rats, he took my bitch instead! And the silly dog lay down to make it easier for him! So in about three to four months time if anyone wants a Jack Russell cross Alsatian puppy you know where to come! Still it's all part of the publicity.

(Mrs) HELEN DAGG

### **Aylesbury**

Aylesbury

APRIL 28. SCC Two star. Judge F Holmes. Exhibits sixty-seven. Entries 245. Best in show D and M Beasley's Dutch.

SELF Black ad 3:1 Mrs R Swain 2 3 W Vale AOC Ad 3:1 8 King 2 3 Cueil Stud Chall ad 4:1 8 King 2 R Swain 3 Cueil Stud Black 5-8 mth 1: 1 P and K Lane White 5-8 mth 1: 1 P and K Lane Chall 5-8 mth 7: 1 P and K Lane 2 Brentwood Stud 3 M Gore Black 5 mth 1: 1 M Gore AOC 5-8 mth 6: 1 Brentwood Stud 2 3 P and K Lane Chall 5-8 mth 7: 1 P and K Lane 2 Brentwood Stud 3 M Gore Black 5 mth 1: 1 M Field AOC 5 mth 4: 1 C Cueil Stud 5 mth 3: 1 D Cueil Stud 5 mth 4: 1 D 2 Cueil Stud 3 N J Field ABYSSINIAN Ad 2: 1 2 T Merry HIMALAYAN Ad 1: 1 G Tyler DUTCH Ad 3: 1 D and M Beasley 2 R Fountain 3 Mrs E Green AOV Ad 2: 1 B King 2 W Vale NON-SELF Chall ad 8: 1 D and M Beasley 2 G Tyler 3 B King 5-8 mth 1: 1 no award 2 T Merry SHELTIE 5-8 mth 1: 1 E Miles HIMALAYAN 5-8 mth 1: 1 G Tyler DUTCH 5-8 mth 1: 1 D and M Beasley AOV 5-8 mth 2: 1 B King 2 P and K Lane NON-SELF Chall 5-8 mth 4: 1 D and M Beasley 2 G Tyler 3 C Tyler ABYSSINIAN 5 mth 2: 1 2 T Merry HIMALAYAN 5 mth 4: 1 Cueil Stud 2 G Tyler 3 C Chestnut Stud AOV 5 mth 1: 1 no award 2 W Vale Chall 5 mth 4: 1 D and M Beasley 2 C Rostnut Stud AOV 5 mth 1: 1 no award 2 W Vale Chall 5 mth 4: 1 D and M Beasley 3 C Chestnut Stud AOV 5 mth 1: 1 no award 2 W Vale Chall 5 mth 3: 1 M Gore 2 D and M Beasley 2 B Trentwood Stud 3 M Vale Chall 5-8 mth 3: 1 P and K Lane 2 W Vale 3 Z and J Field 5-8 mth 3: 1 P and K Lane 2 W Vale 3 Z and J Field 5-8 mth 3: 1 P and K Lane 2 W Vale 3 Z and J Field 5-8 mth 3: 1 P and K Lane 2 W Vale 3 Z and J Field 5-8 mth 3: 1 P and K Lane 3 T and S Field 5-8 mth 3: 1 P and K Lane 3 T and S Field 5-8 mth 3: 1 P and K Lane 3 T and M Beasley 3 C Restrut Stud Grand chall 6: 1 B King 2 K and P Lane 3 B King Chall 6: 1 B King 2 K and P Lane 3 B King Chall 6: 1 B King 2 K and P Lane 3 B King Chall 6: 1 B Ki

# Yorkshire Championship

APRIL 28. Judges A Robinson, B Emmett, F Kershaw. Best in show Palemoon Stud's Self White sow. Best non-Self H Laycock's Abyssinian. Best juvenile B Gibbons.

#### Mr R FMMETT

THIS EVENT appears to be now well established and draws prominent fanciers from a wide area. Show organisation in the hands of John North leaves little to be desired. I would like to thank my willing stewards, Aubrey Roebuck, Jim Tenner, Tim Chew, Vic Bailey and my efficient book steward Mrs Mary Davidson.

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Bailey and my efficient book steward Mrs Mary
Davidson.

ABYSSINIAN Brindle ad 7: 1 H Laycock,
boar, well set out, fit and in good harsh coat,
fine centres and strong ridges 2 L Heath, boar,
well set out, good coat, weakest point was on
collar 3 S and C Deadman, boar, open rump
rosettes, weak collar, otherwise good 5 mth 5:
1 D R Outton, boar, well set out, nice centres,
shade weak on ridges 2 K Yates, boar, good
rosettes, one slightly out of line, good coat 3 L
Heath, boar, out of line, falls on rear ridge,
good coat AOC Ad 4: 1 H Laycock, boar, well
set out, good centres and rosettes, nice harsh
coat, really a brindle but with white patch and
feet 2 A Siddali, well set out, good rosettes and
coat, fails on one hip rosette 3 M Yates, boar,
fails on having plain back and shoulders,
otherwise good 5 mth 3: 1 S McVay, boar, well
set out, good rosettes, just a shade soft in coat
and weak ridges 2 K Yates, well placed
rosettes but shallow, plain on shoulders,
otherwise good 3 A Robson, well set out, good
rosettes, plain on one side AGOUTI, SILVER
or GOLDEN Ad 9: 1 DLC Stud, silver boar,
good, fit, large, just a shade dark on feet 2 A
Terry, golden sow, excellent type, not finished
feet, could have been groomed better 3 V and
G Bailey, silver boar, fit and large, good chest,
nice top and feet, just dark loes 5 mth 10: 1 S
Hayward, silver boar, fit and large, good chest,
and fair type, good chest, not finished on feet, fair
chest, nice coat but prick-eared 3 G Fox, boar,
very wild, long in coat, fair colour and feet AOC
Ad 3: 1 A Terry, cinnamon sow, good type, fit
and fair chest, not finished on feet, fair chest,
nice coat but prick-eared 3 G Fox, boar,
cery wild, long in coat, fair colour 2
G Fox, cinnamon boar, good feet, fair chest,
fails on type and undercolour DUTCh Ad 3: 1 2
DLC Stud, red boar, well balanced pig ali
round, fit and good colour 2 red sow, good
stops and saddle, fa

boar, good on colour and definition, slightly out under 3 sow, good definition, top and under, fair colour and patches, could be brighter one side 5 mth 9: 1 C Cooper, boar, good definition, fair top, square patches 2 B Kent, sow, reasonable distribution and definition 3 DLC Stud, boar, good definition under, tacks white AOV Ad 6: 1 B Gilbons, Peruvian, fair length, good texture and density (but washed too near show), good frontal 2 S Kent, Peruvian, fair length, texture, good colour, faulted on frontal 3 S McVay, white Crested sow, could be cleaner, nice coat, lacks flesh, fair crest 5 mth: 1 J Wood, Peruvian, good texture, density and frontal, very well presented 2 S Kent, Peruvian, fair density and length, good frontal, nice texture 3 B and V Mayoh, black Crested (pity to meet Peruvians), good all, just faulted on coat length AV Breeders ad 28: 1 H Laycock 2 B Gibbons 3 DLC Stud 5 mth 12: 1 J Wood 2 D R Outton 3 S Hayward Boar ad 26: 1 H Laycock 2 B DLC Stud 5 mth 13: 1 D R Outton 2 S Kent 3 P Liddle Sow ad 16: 1 B Gibbons 2 A Terry 3 DLC Stud 5 mth 17: 1 J Wood 2 D R Outton 3 S Hayward 5 B Mayoh Chall ad 34: 1 H Laycock 2 B Gibbons 3 DLC Stud 5 mth 31: 1 J Wood 2 D R Outton 3 S Hayward 5 B Mayoh Chall ad 34: 1 H Laycock 2 B Gibbons 3 BRIAN EMMETT

MANY THANNS to my stewards and to Eileen Emmett for attending to the book. The best in my section was a good white sow from Palemonn Stud, put down in tip-top condition, clean and of good colour with excellent coat texture, eventually best in show.

SELF Black sow ad 13: 1 Land F Davidson, a rice, cobby, fit pig with good shoulder and frontal, wins special best black 2 C and M Knowles, good cofour and shoulder, not just as good frontal as winner 3 J Wood, same remarks as second Boar 9: 1 2 S and C Deadman, good type and coat quality, excels frontal 2 same remarks but not as good muzzle 3 R Watson, a good pig nevery respect but needs a little more flesh on rump Boar or sow 5 mth 20: 1 Andrassy and Parker, sow, good type, fine coat quality and excellent expression 2 S and C Deadman, boar, same remarks as first but not just as good frontal as yet 3 B and V Mayoh, sow of good type, fit and well shown—a good class White ad 4: 1 2 Palemoon Stud, reported above 2 sow, not much between first and second 3 J Johnson, sow, good all-round pig, not just as good colour 5 mth 4: 1 J Johnson, sow, good colour 5 mth 4: 1 J Johnson, sow, good colour 5 mth 4: 1 J Johnson, sow, good colour 5 mth 4: 1 J Johnson, sow, good colour 5 mth 4: 1 J Johnson, sow, good colour, special best cream 2 Rivendell Stud, good all round, just a shade darker and not as good undercolour, special best cream 2 Rivendell Stud, good all round, just a shade darker and not as good undercolour, special best cream 2 Rivendell Stud, good all round, fit pig, nice level shade, a bit light on nose end but a good boor 5 mth: 1 J and R Wood, nice quality sow, level colour, good frontal 2 Palemoon Stud, sow, on as good muzdercolour, could be better ear carriage 5 mth 4: 1 S and C Deadman 3 gloed boor 5 mth: 13 and C Deadman, golden sow, one of the best for type, colour and coat itour, polden sow, rich dark red, level throughout, very attractive 5 mth 1: 1 Rivendell Stud, a very fit pig with good texture and condition, a good pig 2 D Oulton, chocolate sow, fair type

#### **BOTH JUDGES**

Yorkshire Championship AV 82: 1 Palemoon Stud 2 H Laycock 3 B Gibbons.

#### Mr F KERSHAW

ALL EXHIBITS were of a high standard and were a credit to their owners.

JUVENILE AV Self 3: 1 D P Taylor Non-Self
7: 1 B Gibbons 2 T Ostle 3 S and C Deadman PET Condition 11: 1 M Wall 2 E Avery.

F KERSHAW

# **National Tort and White**

National Tort and White

AN ENJOYABLE show with a good entry, best in show went to DLC Stud, with a nicely presented pleasing looking pig, this sportsman's stock show produced a lot of good triers.

Boar ad 8: 1 2 DLC Stud, breech, slight white, nice patch, good colour and type 2 short black one side 3 B Kent, slight breech, back and head 5 mth 5: 1 R Sharp, slight break on back spoils nice patch work 2 S Hayward, falls line on top 3 DLC Stud, short white one side, good line top and under Sow ad 7: 1 2 DLC Stud, good line top and under sow ad 7: 1 2 DLC Stud, good line top and under sow ad 7: 1 2 DLC Stud, good line top and under sow threeched head 2 good patch work, brindle cheek 3 C and B Longthorn, runs over slight black, runs through white 5 mth 4: 1 B Kent, fair line, band white 2 DLC Stud, short white one side 3 C and B Longthorn, short red one side, long white patch spoils Breeders ad 11: 1 23 DLC Stud 5 mth 6: 1 R Sharp 2 B Kent 3 S Hayward Chall ad 13: 1 2 3 DLC Stud 5 mth 5: 1 R Sharp 2 S Hayward 3 DLC Stud Grand chall 10: 1 2 DLC Stud 3 R Sharp.

P KELLY

### mice

#### Midlands Mouse Club

MAY 5. Judges A Collins, L Heywood, J Strutt, Exhibits 109. Entries 462. Best in show B Dickinson's Self Champagne doe. Best copposite age J Hartley's Agouti doe. Best Satin F Hawley. Best Tan P Hall. Best marked H

#### Mr A COLLINS

MF A COLLINS
FIRST MAY I say to George Harlow, well done
George, and follow up by saying I was
disgusted by the low entry, where were all the
Yorkshire boys? Is nobody supporting these
new venues? People like George Harlow will
just not bother—it was a good venue, easy to
get to and yet only 462 entries. I hope at the
next show held by the Midlands Mouse Club a
few more NMC members will make an effort to
give George the support he deserves. Best in
show went to B Dickinson with an under eight
weeks champagne doe, best opposite J

few more NMC members will make an effort to give George the support he deserves. Best in show went to B Dickinson with an under eight weeks champagne doe, best opposite J Hartley's adult Agoutl doe.

AGOUTI/CINNAMON or ARGENTE Ad 1: 1
J Hartley, Agoutl doe, wonderful colour and Uppe, nice feet, without any white toe nails, best opposite age in show 8 wk 3: 1 2 J Hartley, Agoutl doe, a really smashing mouse, wonderful colour, as always from this stud, my nomination for best in show 2 Agoutl doe, as good as the first, one white toe nail cost it first place 3 J Sheer, Agoutl doe, not the colour of first two but still very young, four white nails back foot AOV Ad 1: 1 A L Lee, Chinchilla back foot AOV Ad 1: 1 A L Lee, Chinchilla back, massive mouse, good white belly but is really past its best, moult face and rump 8 wk 2: 1 G Squibb, Pearl doe, nice little mouse, still very young, good white base fur and nice even toking 2 A Lee, Chinchilla doe, far too young, hardly any white on belly and a brown cast on top coat Chall ad 2: 1 J Hartley 2 A Lee & wk 5: 1 2 J Hartley 3 J Steer SELF Satin ad 8: 1S Davis, fawn doe, very nice top colour, belly could be a little better, a bit thin but a mouse! could take home with me 2 3 F Hawley, silver doe, nice typy doe but very moulty or would have changed places 3 ivory doe, another good mouse, slightly narrow skull, and moult on face 8 wk 13: 1 2 3 F Hawley, silver doe, a real beauty, good type and colour, nice shiny coat, another good one Frank, best Satin 2 ivory doe, just as good but thin belly, should get better 3 champagne doe, same again, three very good mice AOC Ad 5: 1 S Davis, champagne/tan buck, massive mouse, good type and condition, just a little fat, good buck for breeding, smashing tan 2 P Hail, champagne/tan boe, good top and tan, tan behind ears spoilt a good mouse 3 G Harlow, champagne/tan boe, top coat too dark for me, fails tail set, good tan 8 wk 3: 1 P Hail, champagne/tan boe, top coat too dark for me, fails tail set, good tan 8 wk 3: 1 P Hail, champagne/tan

### Mr L HEYWOOD

Mr L HEYWOOD

SELF White or cream ad 5:11 Davies 21 Day 3
Mrs 1 Day 8 wk 5: 1 S Davis 2 3 I Davies
Champagne or Fawn ad 4: 1 3 C M Harlow 2 J
Steer 8 wk 4: 1 B Dickinson 2 3 J Steer Black or
Chocolate ad 1: 1 D Parkinson 8 wk 1: 1 D
Parkinson AOC Ad 3: 1 B Dickinson 2 3 D
Parkinson & wk 5: 1 Z I Davies 3 D Parkinson
AC Chall ad 11: 1 C M Harlow 2 I Davies 3 B
Dickinson 8 wk 15: 1 B Dickinson 2 S Davis 3 B
Dickinson 8 wk 15: 1 B Dickinson 2 S Davis 3 B
Dickinson 8 wk 15: 1 B Dickinson 2 Davies 3 B
Dickinson 8 wk 38: 1 B Dickinson 2 J
Hartley 3 S Davis Boe ad 17: 1 J Hartley 2 C
Hall Grand chall ad 29: 1 J Hartley 2 C
Hall Grand chall ad 29: 1 J Hartley 2 C
Marlow 3 S Davis S wk 45: 1 B Dickinson 2 J
Hartley 3 S Davis Seiling class 6: 1 J Hartley 2
G Moore 3 N Davis Seiling class 6: 1 J Hartley 2

#### Mr.J.STRUTT

Mr J STRUTT

TAN Chinchilla or Silver ad 2: 1 S Davis 2 J
Hartley 8 wk 3: 1 J Hartley 2 3 P Hail Black or
Chocolate ad 2: 1 2 G Squibb 8 wk 2: 1 2 G
Squibb AOC 8 wk 5: 1 3 P Hail 2 J Hartley AC
Chail ad 4: 1 G Squibb 2 S Davis 3 J Hartley AC
ki 10: 1 P Hail 2 3 J Hartley Davis 3 J Hartley S
Wk 10: 1 P Hail 2 3 J Hartley David Ad
J 1 2 H
Jessop 3 N Davidson 8 wk 4: 1 H Jessop 2 3 N
Davidson 8 BOKEN or EVEN Ad 2: 1 2 N
Davidson 8 wk 1 N Davidson AOV MARKED
Ad 1: 1 B Dickinson 8 wk 1: 1 B Dickinson Chail
d 6: 1 2 H Jessop 3 B Dickinson 8 wk 5: 1 B
Dickinson 2 N Davidson 3 H Jessop. J STRUTT

# gerbils

#### Chester

MAY 5. Judge L. Collier. Exhibits twenty-four. Entries seventy-two. Best in show Mrs Brookes W. B. Golden male. Best opposite sex, best opposite age Mrs Brookes' Canadian White Spot under thirteen weeks.

AGOUTI 40 3: 1 Mrs Phillips 2 I Search 3 A Morris 13 wk 4: 1 A Brookes 2 I Search 3 A Morris 72 WHITE 13 wk 1: 1 Mrs Morris C. WHITE 9POT 40 2: 1 Mrs Lyons 13 wk 2: 1 Mrs Brookes 2 I Search WB GOLDEN 40 4: 1 Mrs Brookes 2 I Search 3 A Brookes 13 wk 6: 1 3 A Brookes 2 A Morris UNSTANDARDISED 2: 1 West Park High School 2 Mrs Brookes Male 5:

1 Z Mrs Brookes 3 A Brookes Female 5: 1 3 Mrs Brookes 2 Mrs Lyons Breeders 8: 1 Mrs Brookes 2 Mrs Lyons 3 A Brookes Non-Breeders 9: 1 A Brookes 2 A Morris 3 Angel Brookes 2 A Brookes 3 Mrs Phillips 13 wk 9: 1 2 A Brookes 3 Mrs Brookes 2 A Brookes 3 Mrs Brookes 2 A Brookes 3 Mrs Brookes 2 3 A Brookes Pets 1: 1 Campbell.

# poultry

### **Ipswich**

APRIL 28. Judge J Grimshaw. Best in show D Symond's Minorca.

#### Mr J GRIMSHAW

Mr J GRIMSHAW

A TOTAL of fifty bantams on show. It was very nice to see some keen young fanciers, but what a pity lpswich doesn't get more support from local Colchester and Hadleigh fanciers. A very nice Minorca took best in show.

OE GAME Black or Blue-red 2: 1 2 C Joiner Wheaten 1: 1 C Joiner Spangle 1: 1 C Joiner Black or Blue-med 2: 1 2 C Joiner Black or Blue-med 4: 1 D Symonds 2 3 A Marven Female 4: 1 D Symonds 2 3 A Marven Remale 4: 1 D Symonds 2 3 A Rutter AOC 3: 1 C Joiner 2 A Marven 3 R Bird MODERN GAME 1: 1 A Marven WYANDOTTE 3: 1 C Joiner 2 3 D Manni Leghorn/Minorca 6: 1 D Symonds 2 R Axman 3 D Taylor Pekin 2: 1 2 Mrs D Marven Australorp 1: 1 L Marven Orpington 5: 1 R Axman 2 3 D Mann Welsummer 2: 1 2 L Marven Rock 4: 1 3 B Hibberd 2 D Mann AOV Male 4: 1 2 3 M Axman Female 3: 1 3 C Hull 2 C Joiner Female 3: 1 3 C Hull 2 C Joiner Female 3: 1 3 C Hull 2 C Joiner Female 3: 1 3 C Hull 2 C Joiner SF 28: 1 D Symonds 2 R Axman 3 C Hull Grand chell 33: 1 D Symonds 2 A Rutter 3 R Axman. JOHN GRIMSHAW

### forthcoming shows

RATES
WITHOUT FULL CLASSIFICATION
23-60 per single column inch per
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with FULL LIST OF CLASSES.
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each insertion.

Cash with order please for adver-tisements of one, two or three single column inches.

# rabbits

BRC STAR SUPPORT: Show sec-retaries please note that, at the request of the British Rabbit Council, unless a show advertise-ment is accompanied by a BRC form confirming the star value allotted, reference to Star support will be omfitted from the advertisement.

SCUNTHORPE & DISTRICT RABBIT CLUB

### IMPORTANT MEETING

to be held in the Church Institute, Winterton at 7 30 pm. To discuss the future of the above

club.
Will members make every effort to attend.

### CRANLEIGH

RABBIT AND CAVY CLUB
YOUNG FANCIERS OPEN PEN
SHOW on SATURDAY JUNE 16, at
Chiddingfold Village Heil.
Judging at 1 30 by Mrs B Scammell
(Rabbits), Mr B Styles (Cavies).

Schedules (SAE) to Mrs P BEAUMONT, 1 Forest Cottages, Fisher Lane, Chiddingfold, Surrey.

# SOUTHERN YOUNG **FANCIERS**

Judging 130 pm by Sue Vickers (Rabbits), Kirby Spencer (Cavies). Entries both shows to Mrs P BEAUMONT, by June 13.

# BRC \*\* SHOW FELIXSTOWE

TWO STAR OPEN ANY AGE SHOW and TWO STAR CAVY SHOW on SATURDAY JUNE 23 1979 at St Philips Church Hall, Wadgate Road, Felixstowe. Judges: Fancy, Mr K Buck; Fur/Rex, Mrs P Gaekin (Strfolk); Cavies, Mr R

Steel.

Steel.

BRC offers 45 CC's, Bests of Breed,
Diplomas, Best Juvenile, BIS.
Prize Money: Rabbits 50p, 30p, 20p,
guaranteed; Cavies 75%.

guaranteed; Cavies 75%.
Entries close June 18 1979.
Entries to: (Rabbits) Mr E J FLACK,
1 Goyfield Avenue, Felixstowe,
Suffolk.
Telephone: Felixstowe 5105.
(Cavies) Miss C GEATER, Westward
Ho, Leiston, Suffolk.
Telephone: Leiston 830761.