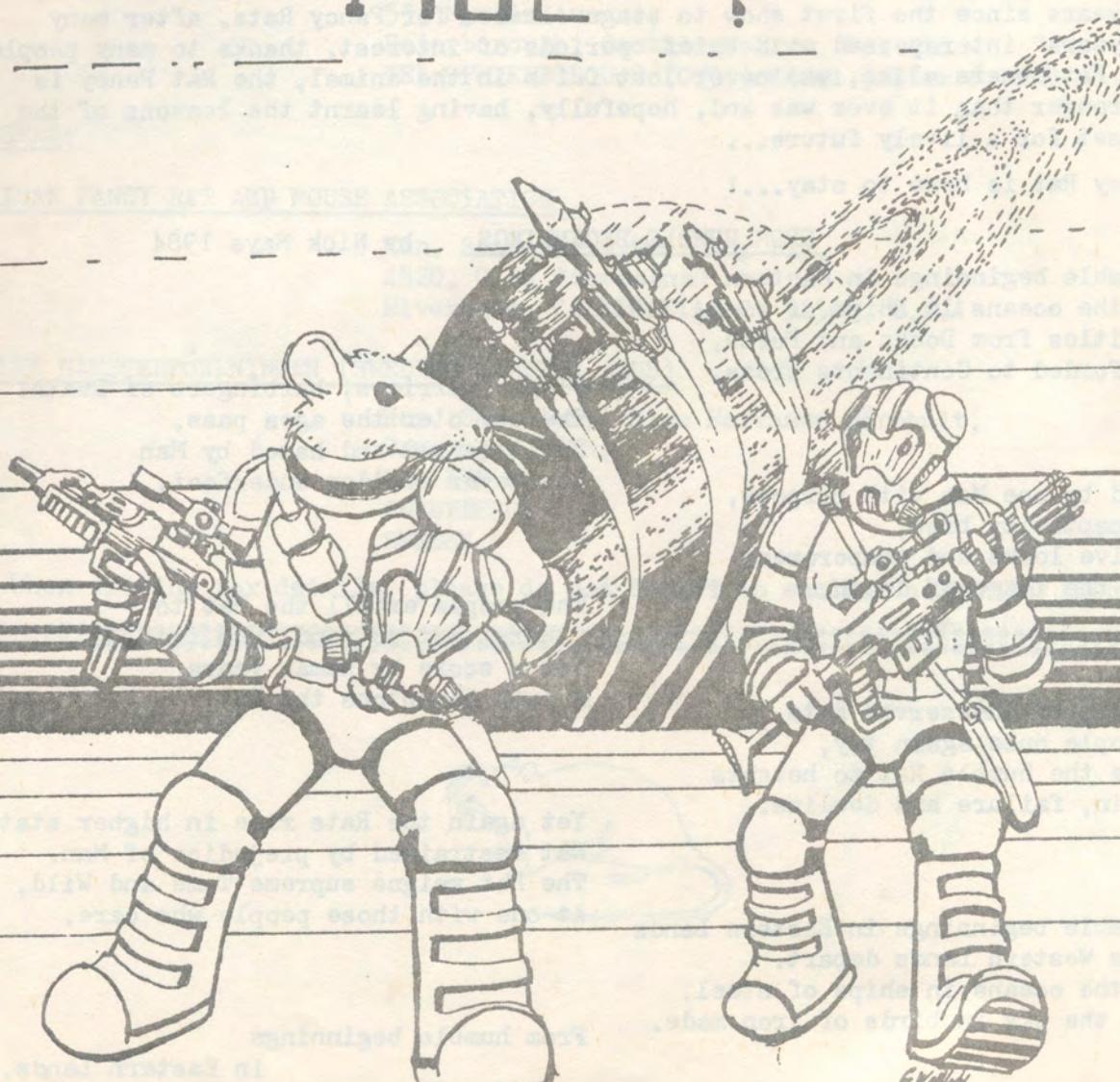


PART SIX

TO
THE
FUTURE

1982- ?



P A R T 6
TO THE FUTURE
(1982 - ?)

The National Fancy Rat Society has grown steadily since it's formation. There are, at the time of writing, over 20 differnt varieties of Fancy Rat, many being bred and/or worked on over the past few years. The more exotic varieties include Pearl, Cinnamon Pearl, Variegated, Siamese - bred from the 1978 French arrivals, along with Himalayan. There are just under 40 classes staged at normal N.F.R.S shows and well over 20 N.F.R.S shows per year, excluding shows staged by the London and Southern Counties Mouse and Rat Club, as it was re-named by unanimous agreement at the club's A.G.M in 1982, and summer shows staged by various Town councils.

'Fur & Feather' has been re-published by Winckley Publishing based in Preston, Lancashire from January 1982. The Watmoughs' magazine 'Rabbits' died fairly early on, although the lavish 'Cats' continues. 'Pro-Rat-A' is still published by the N.F.R.S and goes from strength to strength.

In late 1982, the Mouse and Rat Breeders Association based in Riverside, California, U.S.A, founded in 1978, made contact with the officials of the N.F.R.S and the N.M.C. In November 1983, the N.F.R.S successfully exported 32 English Fancy Rats to the group and these were gratefully received. The M.R.B.A changed it's name around this time and is now known as the American Mouse and Rat Breeders Association. The two Rat Societies affiliated in early 1984. Also in early 1984, some officials of the Svenska Hamsterforéningen (Swedish Hamster Club) attended an N.F.R.S show and took some Rats back to Sweden with them, having a definate view to staging classes for Fancy Rats at their shows in the future. At the time of writing, the Author has received a letter from Australia, where there is also a growing interest in Fancy Rats. So it would seem that, like their wild ancestors of old, Fancy Rats are spreading across the world - in aeroplanes as well as ships.

So, over 150 years since the first Fancy Rats were bred (according to records) and over 80 years since the first show to stage classes for Fancy Rats, after many long "bleak years" interspersed with brief periods of interest, thanks to many people, Fanciers and Pet owners alike, who never lost faith in the animal, the Rat Fancy is back, far stronger than it ever was and, hopefully, having learnt the lessons of the past, looks set for a lively future...

The Fancy Rat is here to stay...!

FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS by Nick Mays 1984

From humble beginnings in Eastern Lands,
 Across the oceans in ships of wood,
 Human cities from Docks and Ports,
 Rivers forded to Continents cross.

Captured by one Man with purpose,
 And in captivity bred,
 Attractive looks and temperament
 Replace the image of death.

More years of undeserved hate,
 Then people once again try,
 To raise the humble Rat to heights
 But again, failure and decline.

From humble beginnings in Eastern Lands
 Now from Western Lands depart.
 Across the oceans in ships of steel,
 Through the sky in birds of iron made.

Plague carriers, harbingers of Death!
 The cry o'er the ages pass,
 Still feared and hated by Man
 But never trodden underfoot.

The people extoll the Rat to
 Others, not so fond, who fear.
 For a score by human years
 A lady champions the Rat.

Yet again the Rats rise in higher status,
 Not restrained by prejudice of Man.
 The Rat reigns supreme Tame and Wild,
 At one with those people who care.

From humble beginnings

in Eastern Lands.....

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF CLUBS/SOCIETIES WHERE FANCY RATS MAY BE EXHIBITED

NATIONAL FANCY RAT SOCIETY

Membership Co-ordinator: Mrs. Jenny Cléroux,
18, Browns Lane,
Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 1RY
TEL: UCKFIELD (0825) 4537

LONDON AND SOUTHERN COUNTIES MOUSE AND RAT CLUB

Hon. Secretary: Mr. Eric Jukes,
26, Downs Road,
Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 1PE.
TEL: (01) 366 6162

NORTH LONDON LONGTAILS

Hon. Secretary: Mr. Tony Jones,
44, Cromwell Road,
Walthamstow, London E17 9JN
TEL: (01) 521 1019

READING AND DISTRICT HAMSTER AND RANCH CHINCHILLA SOCIETY

Hon. Secretary: Mr. Tony O' Sullivan,
Flat 1, 13, Upper Redlands Road,
Reading, Berkshire,
TEL: READING (0734) 64094

NATIONAL YOUNG FANCIERS SOCIETY

Hon. Secretary: Mr. Allan Fairchild,
53, Myrtle Avenue,
Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE1 4LR
TEL: PETERBOROUGH (0733) 44441 (After 6.30 P.M.)

OVERSEAS:

AMERICAN FANCY RAT AND MOUSE ASSOCIATION

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Joy Ely,
4520, Glen Street,
Riverside, CALIFORNIA, CA 92509, U.S.A

SVENSKA HAMSTERFÖRENINGEN (SWEDISH HAMSTER CLUB)

Hon. Secretary: Miss Marianne Börnhult,
Orsvangen 76TR,
S - 172 42,
SUNDYBERG,
SWEDEN.

N.B: When writing for details, please do not forget to enclose a STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE!



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National Fancy Rat Society

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UCKFIELD,
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PRO-RAT-A
THE NATIONAL FANCY RAT SOCIETY JOURNAL

NO. 22
JUL/AUG 1984



BLACK RAT
- Esther Davies -

1984 SUMMER
SHOW SEASON

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ALSO REGULAR FEATURES...

