

'YOUR CAT' - MAY, 2005 P.24

your letters

Saving the Maus in Egypt

Many will have read the article in January's *Your Cat* featuring the beautiful Egyptian Mau breed. Like me, you may have admired their beauty and the star quality that they display.

What most won't be aware of is that their ancestors, the cats that appear on walls and parchments and were worshipped as divine beings, have slipped from favour in their own country.

The Egyptian government, in an attempt to control the stray cat population, is poisoning all cats roaming the streets, the wonderful Mau cats included. Their lives are short and miserable, never knowing love, kindness or comfort until a painful death brings release.

Hearing this will cause sorrow to many and I do not blame you for thinking that we have lots of sad cases in our own country to tackle so what am I doing adding to the burden?

It is only by being aware of the danger that we may be able to make a difference.

A group has formed to try to create a sanctuary for them to live in, where they can be treated and live safe lives.

EMRO (Egyptian Mau Rescue Organization) has many supporters from as far away as New Zealand, USA and Canada, as well as respected cat breeders and judges in the UK.

To finance a sanctuary and staff is a very prohibitive cost, but they are determined it will happen and, like many dedicated people before them, they refuse to acknowledge their task's magnitude.

Contact Dr Ismail Elkholy and Ms Gloria Lauris, The Egyptian Mau Rescue Organisation (EMRO), c/o 76 Gamet El Dowal El Arabia Street, Mohandesseen, Giza, Egypt. Website www.emaurescue.org
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