

PLEASE REPLY TO
MY HOME ADDRESS:
21 Chippingdell
Witham
Essex CM8 2JX

England



2 Cecil Court, London Road
Enfield, Middlesex EN2 6DJ
Telephone: 01 367 4567
Telegrams and cables: MOSTEST ENFIELD
Telex: 23573

Guinness Superlatives Limited

A MEMBER OF THE GUINNESS GROUP OF COMPANIES

Miss Lulu D. Rowley
Petil-Lu Cattery
Ringland Lane
Costessey
Norwich
Norfolk

PUBLISHERS

January 12 1983

Dear Miss Rowley

I am currently working on a new compilation called THE GUINNESS BOOK OF PET RECORDS, which is scheduled to be published next year, and in it I would like to mention "the largest breed of cat".

There are apparently two contenders for this title, namely the Ragdoll and the Maine Coon, both American breeds, but I am getting some conflicting information regarding the sort of body weights they attain at maturity. The Ragdoll, for instance, has been credited with weights of 15-20 lb for males and 9-12 lb for females; the Maine Coon, on the other hand, appears to have a much wider range if we are to believe some writers, and I have seen weights as low as 10 lb and as high as 35 lb (!) quoted for adult males of this breed.

Personally I believe the Ragdoll is the larger of the two, but I would be grateful for confirmation of this based on your own experiences with the breed and any information you can give me regarding the poundages of the specimens in your cattery.

I look forward very much to hearing from you and enclose a stamped addressed envelope for reply.

Yours sincerely

Gerald L. Wood
(GERALD L. WOOD, F.Z.S.)

ENCLOSURE

Petil-Lu Cattery International

(LULU D. ROWLEY)

RINGLAND LANE · OLD COSTESSEY
NORWICH · ENGLAND

Telephone: 0603 742578

26 January 83

Dear Blanche,

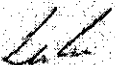
As you have probably heard from Denny, I had the enclosed letter from Guinness Superlatives Limited, wanting details about the weight of Ragdolls as a breed.

This would be fantastic publicity if the Ragdoll was the largest breed of domestic cat, both for breeders in the US that are established, and for us that are just on the fringe.

I have answered Mr Wood's letter by telling him that Ragdolls in England are young, and have only been here just over one year, and that it takes about three years before they are mature. I have introduced you as sec of RFG by proxy, and that I am sending you a copy of his letter for you to deal with this and communicate direct to him.

I hope that you feel as I do, and that you will do all you can to find the largest Ragdolls as specimen.

Be lucky



Lulu

Gerald L. Wood, F.Z.S.
GUINNESS SUPERATIVES LIMITED
21 Chippingdell
Witham
ESSEX

26 January 83

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your letter regarding the 'largest breed of cats'.

Yes, I agree with you, I think the Ragdoll has the edge, but as I was the first person in the UK to import them one year ago, we do not have a fully grown Ragdoll in England, it takes about three years to reach maturity, but the Ragdoll male grow to 15-20 pounds with a three foot leg span and the female 12-15 pounds, there is obviously the exception that gets larger. I have had a copy of your letter sent to the secretary of the 'Ragdoll Fanciers Club' in the US and she will be contacting you, her name is Blanche Herman, 6345 Jefferson Avenue, Hammond, Ind. 46324 U.S.A.

If I can be of any further help to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Lulu O Rowley

6346 Jefferson Avenue
Hammond, Indiana 46324
February 4, 1983

Dear Lulu,

Enclosed is a copy of the letter I sent to Mr. Wood and hope that it is satisfactory to you.

Yes, Denny called me and we discussed this matter and we both thought it was important not to over-emphasize the weights of the Ragdolls.

I have seen large Ragdoll cats and not so large Ragdoll cats - the same with Maine Coons. However, I do believe that the weights can be controlled through selective breeding.

Sincerely,

Blanohe



RAGDOLL FANCIERS' CLUB

6346 Jefferson Avenue
Hammond, Indiana 46324
February 4, 1983

Gerald L. Wood, F.Z.S.
Guinness Superatives Limited
21 Chippingdell
Witham
Essex CM8 2JX
England

Dear Mr. Wood:

Your letter addressed to Lulu Rowley of Petil-Lu Cattery regarding the size of the Ragdolls has been directed to me.

I agree that the two largest breeds of cats are the Ragdolls and the Maine Coons. Of course, it is only the altered cats that obtain the large size. In my literature, I state that altered male Ragdoll cats grow up to 15 lbs. or larger with a three foot leg span, altered females 9-12 lbs., requiring at least three years for growth.

I have seen very large Ragdolls in structure and weight and presently have a two year old altered male Ragdoll, Bartholomew, who weighs 15 lbs.

Hoping this information will be helpful to you, but if I can be of any further help, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Blanche K. Herman
Secretary-Treasurer
Ragdoll Fanciers' Club

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Guinness Superlatives Limited

A MEMBER OF THE GUINNESS GROUP OF COMPANIES

PUBLISHERS

April 15 1983

Ms Blanche K Herman
Secretary-Treasurer
Ragdoll Fanciers' Club
6346 Jefferson Avenue
Hammond
Indiana 46324
USA

Dear Ms Herman

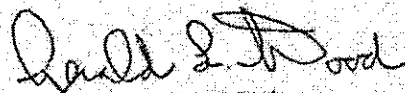
Thank you very much indeed for your extremely helpful letter concerning my enquiry about the weights reached by the Ragdoll.

In the light of your information, I think my best way out of the problem now is to mention both the Ragdoll and the Maine Coon under the heading "largest breed of domestic cat" and see what sort of correspondence this brings in. In conjunction with this, photographs of the two cats would also be useful, and I am wondering if you could possibly supply me with a clear colour print or transparency of your male "Bartholomew" showing off his large size, together with the name and address of the Secretary of the Maine Coon Fanciers' Club.

Needless to say, I shall be more than pleased to send you a complimentary copy of THE GUINNESS BOOK OF PET RECORDS when it comes out next year as a token of my appreciation for your help with this enquiry.

I look forward very much to hearing from you again.

Yours sincerely


(GERALD L. WOOD)



RAGDOLL FANCIERS' CLUB

6346 Jefferson Avenue
Hammond, Indiana 46324
May 8, 1983

Gerald L. Wood, F.Z.S.
Guinness Superatives Limited
21 Chippingdell
Witham
Essex CM8 2JX
England

Dear Mr. Wood:

In answer to your letter of April 15, 1983, I have enclosed the business card of the secretary of the Main Coon Breeders & Fanciers Association, as well as their literature.

A photographer has recently taken a color photograph of Bartholomew, my large Ragdoll cat, and as soon as it is ready, I will forward it to you.

Also, I have enclosed literature on the Ragdolls.

Sincerely,

Blanche K. Herman
Secretary-Treasurer
Ragdoll Fanciers' Club

Enc: The Ragdoll - Description, History + Lths (prepared by Davis).



RAGDOLL FANCIERS' CLUB

6346 Jefferson Avenue
Hammond, Indiana 46324
June 8, 1983

Gerald L. Wood, F.Z.S.
Guinness Superatives Limited
21 Chippingdell
Witham
Essex CM8 2JX
England

Dear Mr. Wood:

With reference to my letter of May 8, 1983, enclosed is the professional photograph of:

Ragtime Bartholomew
Sealpoint/Mitted Ragdoll
Weight - 15 lbs.

The photographer and myself could not get Bartholomew to stand up for the photograph. I have also enclosed a snapshot that I took of him.

Please return the photographs, and I shall be anxiously awaiting my complimentary copy of THE GUINNESS BOOK OF PET RECORDS.

Sincerely,

Blanche K. Herman
Secretary-Treasurer
Ragdoll Fanciers' Club

Enc: (2) Photographs

8-14-84 Julie called and said this book is to be published in Sept. 1984, and they listed the Ragdoll larger than the Maine Coon.

Dec, 1984 - Rec'd. my copy of book.