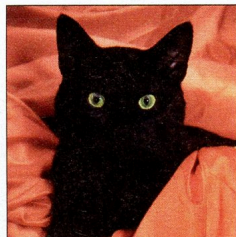


Cats who bring home the bacon

If your cat spends most of its days hogging the sofa and gobbling cat food, maybe it's time it started pulling its weight. Below we look at three of the wealthiest felines in the world

Tommasino £10m

Italian real-estate tycoon Maria Assunta left her fortune to her black cat, Tommasino, when she died in 2011 aged 94 (she had no living relatives). Under Italian law, animals cannot inherit directly, so the money is administered by Assunta's nurse, Stefania, who also looks after Tommasino.



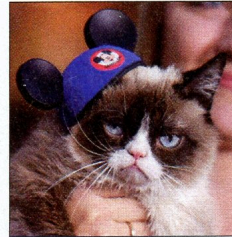
Choupette £2m

Fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld claims his cat, Choupette, made £3m last year. The money came from just two jobs – advertisements for a Japanese cosmetics firm, and a German carmaker. He draws the line at cat food advertisements. "She's too sophisticated for that," he told New York magazine.



Grumpy Cat A lot

A report last year that "grumpy cat" (whose grimace is down to feline dwarfism) has made \$100m was denied by her owner, Tabatha Bundesen. But with a line of licensed merchandise and advertising deals, and millions of followers on social media, Grump could easily be the wealthiest of the three.



Nice work if you can get it

Last year, agency staff received thousands of pounds per shift for working as locums for the NHS. The highest-paid locum nurse made £2,200 in a shift, the highest-paid anaesthetist £2,700, the top-paid neurologist £3,398, and the top-paid surgeon £3,681 – but each category averaged more than £1,000 per shift.

The Civitas think tank reports that in total the NHS spends around £2.5bn a year on temporary staff. In all, the typical charge for a locum consultant comes in at £1,760 – equivalent to a pro-rata salary of £459,000, notes The Sunday Times.

Good week for:

China's builders: a shortage of skilled builders in Hong Kong has seen wages double in the past six years for some roles. Workers who can put up bamboo scaffolding are in particular demand.

Beating the odds: a couple who won £1m on the EuroMillions lottery in July 2013 won the £1m prize for a second time last month. The odds against winning the lottery twice are apparently 283bn-to-1.

Bad week for:

Tax-efficient multinationals: cereal giant Kellogg's has warned that its profits could suffer a "material" hit due to the global drive to crack down on tax avoidance.

✓ The hidden evils of spreadsheets

The biggest threat to your investments could also be one of the least exciting – the apparently innocuous spreadsheet. According to financial modelling firm F1F9, nearly one in five large businesses has suffered financial loss due to errors in spreadsheets used to make key investment decisions.

According to The Daily Telegraph, the company reckons that spreadsheet calculations "represent up to £38bn of British private-sector investment decisions per year." And yet a third of the people using them to make these decisions have had absolutely no training in how to do so.

On this day... 10 April 1912: the Titanic sets sail

The time from the start of the 20th century to the outbreak of World War II was the "golden age" of ocean liners. One of the most popular routes was the transatlantic crossing, for which shipping companies built ever more luxurious vessels. The best-known was the Titanic. It was commissioned by White Star Lines in September 1908 and took two and a half years for Belfast shipbuilders Harland and Wolff to finish. It was deemed "unsinkable".

It began its maiden voyage on 10 April 1912. Before it had left Southampton harbour, it narrowly missed another ship, the SS New York. After stopping at Cherbourg in France and Queenstown in Ireland it sailed out into the Atlantic to begin the main leg of its journey to New York. But on the night of



The Titanic: about 1,500 lost their lives

14 April, after ignoring repeated warnings, the Titanic hit an iceberg. The impact ripped a hole in the hull (partly due to poor-quality rivets), letting in water. It took less than three hours for the boat to sink.

Rescue attempts were hindered by a delayed response from the captain and one nearby ship not responding to distress calls. Due to outdated regulations, there were only enough lifeboat spaces for around

half the crew and passengers. As a result, between 1,490 and 1,635 people died. The convention of "women and children first" was taken seriously – more third-class women passengers survived (46%) than first-class men (32.6%). The disaster led to many safety improvements, including an increase in the number of lifeboats.