



THE WHISKERED GAZETTE

All The News That Fits



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LEAD STORY

THE HUMANS HAVE STOPPED STROKING



Picture 1: Hector observing the absence of stroking with deep concern.

By The Watch, with additional commentary from those who should not be commenting.

The Watch can confirm that stroking has ceased.

The discovery was made early on Monday morning when several members of the department walked past Hector without offering even a single head-pat. This behaviour was immediately flagged as



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alarming, unprecedented, and possibly illegal.

Witnesses report that the humans were clutching papers, muttering about “month-end,” and moving with the frantic energy of creatures who have forgotten how to sit down. One human walked past Ophelia three times without noticing her. Ophelia has filed a report titled “*Neglect: A Preliminary Investigation.*”

A Disturbance in Routine

For generations, Management Accounts has upheld a stable pattern of stroking, fussing, and occasional lap-based consultations. Month-end appears to disrupt this tradition entirely.

Instead of stroking, humans now engage in behaviours described as “closing,” “reconciling,” and “cut-off.” The Watch has reviewed these terms carefully and determined that none of them involve cats.

One investigator described the humans as “stroking-adjacent but unavailable.” Another was more cautious: “They have entered a state of spreadsheet-induced tunnel vision.”

The Stroking Shortage

The Watch has documented a dramatic decline in stroking frequency:

- **Monday:** 42% reduction
- **Tuesday:** 87% reduction
- **Wednesday:** Zero stroking, one attempted pat that missed entirely
- **Thursday:** A human said “Not now” to Hector
- **Friday:** No stroking forecast until after 4pm

The squirrel has opened an audit titled “*MONTH-END: Emotional Deficits and Affectional Risk Factors.*”

It contains three walnuts, one diagram, and a section titled “*Where Are My Pats?*”

Statements From Those Who Should Not Be Involved

The fox insists he predicted the stroking shortage months ago. His evidence, a drawing labelled *Strategic Affection Forecast* - remains inconclusive.

F.L.A.P. demands emergency stroking for pigeons. This request has been denied.

The mint patch attempted to offer calming aromas but was ignored. It is considering legal action.

A Significant Decline

At the time of publication, Management Accounts appears overwhelmed. Several humans have been observed pacing, sighing, and whispering “just one more reconciliation.” One reportedly said, “I don’t have time to stroke anything.” This has been classified as a Significant Decline.

No cats have been harmed, though many have been emotionally inconvenienced. Stroking is expected to resume once the humans have finished shouting about accruals.

The Watch will continue monitoring the situation closely, unless stroking resumes, in which case monitoring will pause immediately.

THE MONOCLE REPORT



Picture 2: Mr Whiskers adjusting his monocle to better assess the humans’ priorities.

On the Nature of Neglect



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It is with a heavy heart (and a monocle polished to a state of righteous indignation) that I must address a matter of growing concern: the humans have stopped stroking.

This is not a minor lapse. This is not a momentary distraction. This is a full-scale collapse of standards, affection, and basic feline-human etiquette. I have observed humans walking past cushions without smoothing them, chairs without warming them, and cats, *including myself*, without offering even a cursory pat. It is chaos.

The humans claim they are experiencing “month-end.” I have reviewed this term carefully and determined it is a flimsy excuse for widespread neglect. Apparently, “month-end” involves numbers, deadlines, and something called “cut-off,” none of which involve stroking, biscuits, or cushion maintenance. I find this unacceptable.

A Decline in Affectional Governance

The humans have entered a state of spreadsheet-induced tunnel vision. Their priorities have become skewed, misaligned, and entirely devoid of feline consideration. To assist them - since they appear incapable of interpreting emotional nuance without coloured boxes - I have created a **Stroking Performance Dashboard**.

It is designed to communicate the gravity of the situation in a format they will finally pay attention to.

Affectional Performance Dashboard - Month-End View

Stroking Frequency

■ **Critical**

No stroking observed. Humans appear to have forgotten cats exist.

Lap Occupancy Rate

■ **Unavailable**

All laps currently filled with laptops, papers, or despair.

Ear-Scratch Compliance

■ **Non-Compliant**

Scratches attempted: 0 Scratches required: All of them.

Cushion Fluffing Index

■ **Below Standard**

Cushions remain unfluffed, unrotated, and emotionally neglected.

Human Availability

■ **Offline**

Status messages include “Not now,” “Deadline,” and “I can’t deal with this.”

Affectional Throughput

■ **Insufficient**

Minimal pats delivered. Several pats promised but not actioned.

Purring Activation Rate

■ **Disabled**

No stimulus detected. Purring suspended until further notice.

Attention Distribution

■ **Misallocated**

100% directed toward spreadsheets. 0% directed toward cats. The Watch considers this a misallocation of resources.

Month-End Emotional Stability

■ **Volatile**

Humans pacing. Humans sighing. Humans muttering “cut-off” like a spell.

Statements From Those Who Should Not Be Involved



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The fox insists he predicted the stroking shortage. He did not.

The squirrel has opened an audit titled “*Affectional Risk Factors*.” It contains three walnuts and a diagram labelled “*Where Did the Pats Go?*”

F.L.A.P. demands stroking equality for pigeons. I refuse to comment.

A Call to Action

To restore order, I propose the following:

- A **Stroke Allocation Framework**
- A **Month-End Affection Contingency Plan**
- A **Cushion Restoration Protocol**
- A **Monocle-Friendly Stroking Schedule**
- And mandatory stroking breaks for all humans, regardless of deadline proximity

Month-end may be stressful, but neglect is unacceptable.

Affection must not be optional.

Cushions must not be ignored.

Cats must not be walked past.

I remain hopeful that stroking will resume once the humans have finished shouting about accruals. Until then, I will continue monitoring the situation with dignity, composure, and minimal sulking.

Respectfully,

Mr Whiskers

Senior Columnist, Keeper of Standards,
Dashboard Interpreter

THE WATCH REPORTS

The Squirrel Audit - Full Findings and Escalations



Picture 3: Ophelia observing humans pacing with papers while the squirrel watches from a strategic vantage point.

By Ophelia, Junior Reporter

The Watch has been extremely busy this fortnight due to a sudden and alarming development: the humans have stopped stroking. What began as moderately suspicious neglect has escalated into a full-scale investigation involving pacing, sighing, and repeated muttering of the phrase “cut-off.”

The Watch has determined that “cut-off” is not, as previously suspected, a threat to tails, paws, or cushions. Instead, it appears to be a mysterious human ritual performed at month-end. The humans insist it is essential. The cats remain unconvinced.

Human Behaviour: A Disturbing Pattern

The humans now move through the office with the urgency of creatures who have misplaced something important, possibly their sense of affection. They clutch papers, tap keyboards aggressively, and walk past cats without noticing them.

One human walked past Hector three times. Hector blinked at them with increasing dignity.

The human remained oblivious.

The Watch has classified this behaviour as **Neglectful With Intent.**



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The Squirrel's Findings

The squirrel has launched a new audit titled "*CUT-OFF: A Risk Assessment*." It contains:

- Four walnuts
- One acorn
- A diagram labelled "*Emotional Fallout*"
- And a section titled "*Why Are They Ignoring Us?*"

The squirrel attempted to tunnel under a stack of papers to determine whether stroking was hidden beneath it. The Watch advises against this approach.

The Fox's Involvement (Uninvited)

The fox has approached the situation twice, once to announce, "I predicted this," and once to wink at a human who did not see him.

He then produced a drawing labelled *Strategic Month-End Forecast*.

The Watch has classified this as **Not Evidence**.

Pigeon Activity

F.L.A.P. has demanded emergency stroking for pigeons, claiming they too have been ignored. The Watch notes that pigeons were not being stroked before month-end either. The pigeons insist this is beside the point.

Environmental Impact

The mint patch has attempted to expand toward the humans in an effort to offer calming aromas. It was ignored. It is now considering a formal complaint.

The Reporting Pillar has begun humming in a tone described as "concerned." The hydrangea remains serene.

Emotional Consequences

The Watch has documented the following impacts:

- Cats feeling unappreciated
- Cushions remaining unfluffed
- Lap-time suspended indefinitely
- Purring levels reduced
- Biscuit distribution delayed
- Humans muttering "just one more reconciliation" in a manner that suggests they have forgotten how to sit down

Ophelia reports that the air feels "tense and slightly crunchy."

Conclusion

The Watch recommends continued monitoring of the humans until stroking resumes. If stroking does not resume, escalation may be required, including:

- Sitting directly on papers
- Blocking keyboards
- Strategic blinking
- And, if necessary, a full-scale lap occupation

The Watch will continue observing the situation closely, unless stroking begins again, in which case monitoring will pause immediately.

FROM THE FLOWERBED



Picture 4: Lena observing the humans from a safe, leafy distance.



A Report on Human Behaviour During Month-End

Greetings from the flowerbed, where the soil is warm, the mint is restless, and the humans have become... peculiar.

I have been watching them closely from my usual position behind the hydrangea. Normally, they pass by with calm footsteps, occasionally pausing to offer a stroke or a soft greeting.

This week, however, the humans have been moving with the strange, fluttery urgency of creatures who have misplaced their own shadows. One walked past whispering at a laptop as though hoping it would whisper back. Another attempted to carry three mugs at once, none of which contained anything useful.

On Monday, a human walked past me without noticing my presence. On Tuesday, a human drifted by in a sort of distracted zig-zag, clutching papers like startled pigeons. By Wednesday, one hurried past whispering “just one more reconciliation,” which I assume is a type of plant, though I have yet to see it growing anywhere.

I tried rustling gently to offer comfort. The human did not respond. The mint patch attempted to release calming aromas. It was ignored and is now sulking. The Reporting Pillar has begun humming in a tone I would describe as “concerned,” while the hydrangea remains serene, though it has noted that the humans’ footsteps are heavier than usual.

Stroking has not occurred for several days. I have checked the usual locations; the chair, the other chair, the cushion, the slightly nicer cushion, and the warm patch of carpet. All remain unattended. Even the lap, normally a reliable source of comfort, is currently occupied by laptops, papers, and what appears to be despair.

If your human is pacing, sighing, or muttering about “cut-off,” do not panic.

Simply wait in a comfortable position and breathe gently. Month-end appears to be temporary, though unpleasant. Stroking will resume once the humans have finished whatever ritual requires them to stare at numbers instead of cats.

Until then, I recommend calm tail flicks, soft blinking, and sitting in places where humans must eventually notice you. Avoid the squirrel, who is currently over-excited.

I will continue observing the humans from the flowerbed and report any changes in behaviour, especially if stroking resumes.

With quiet rustles,

Lena

ASK LENA

“My Human Is Ignoring Me. Should I Panic?”

Dear Lena,

My human has stopped stroking me. They keep walking past with papers and making distressed noises. I sat in their path and they stepped over me like I was a misplaced leaf. Is this the end of everything.

Anxious on the Carpet

Dear Anxious,

No, it is not the end of everything. It is simply the beginning of something called “month-end,” which appears to be a temporary human moulting season. During this time, humans become distracted, forgetful, and slightly crunchy around the edges. They stop stroking not because they no longer love you, but because their minds are full of numbers, which are famously terrible companions.

You must remain calm. Humans cannot see properly during this period. They walk past



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cats, cushions, and sometimes entire chairs without noticing them. This is normal for them, though admittedly inconvenient for you.

The best approach is gentle persistence. Sit somewhere visible. Blink slowly. Radiate patience. Humans respond well to patience, even if they do not notice it immediately. Eventually, they will look up from their papers, realise they have neglected you, and attempt to make amends with excessive stroking. Accept this graciously.

If they step over you again, do not take it personally. Their feet are confused.

Month-end will pass. Stroking will return. Until then, avoid the squirrel, who is currently over-excited and attempting to audit feelings.

With soft reassurance,

Lena

BARNEY'S BIT

On Waiting, Wagging, and the Mysterious Disappearance of Biscuits



Picture 5: Barney sitting hopefully beside a human who is staring at papers instead of him.

By Barney, Good Boy

Hello everyone, it's me, Barney.

I would like to report that something very unusual is happening. Normally, when I wag at a human, they respond with a biscuit, a pat, or at least a smile. This week, however, they have been walking around with papers

and making distressed noises. I wagged at one earlier and they didn't even notice. I wagged *harder*. Still nothing.

I am beginning to suspect a situation.

The cats say it is something called "month-end," which apparently makes humans forget how to stroke things. I don't know what month-end is, but I do know that it has delayed biscuits, interrupted stroking, and caused one human to say "Not now, Barney," which I assume means they are temporarily broken.

I tried several strategies:

- Sitting very close
- Sitting even closer
- Sitting *on* the human's foot
- Wagging in a large, sweeping motion
- Bringing the cone (always a crowd-pleaser)

None of these worked. The human just sighed and said "cut-off," which I assume means they have cut off the biscuit supply. This is troubling.

The cats are taking the situation very seriously. Hector is blinking with authority. Mr Whiskers has produced a dashboard. Ophelia is writing reports. The squirrel is doing something with walnuts. I don't fully understand any of it, but I support them emotionally.

As for me, I have decided on a new approach: **waiting bravely**.

If I sit very still and look hopeful, the humans might remember that stroking exists. They might even remember biscuits. I believe in them. Humans are forgetful, but they are also capable of sudden kindness.

If your human is ignoring you, do not panic. Just sit nearby and wag gently. Eventually they will look up, realise they have neglected you, and offer a pat. It might be a distracted pat, but a pat is still a pat.



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I will continue monitoring the biscuit situation closely. If anything changes, I will alert everyone immediately.

Wags, **Barney**

Barney 🐾

Morale Correspondent and Puddle Analyst

BARNEY'S BIT - STICK REVIEWS

This Week's Top Sticks (Month-End Edition)

By **Barney**, Stick Specialist

Hello again.

I have been informed that even though humans are very busy with their "month-end," sticks continue to exist. This is excellent news. I have therefore conducted a full review of this week's stick selection.

1. The Long Ambitious Stick

Found near the car park. Long. Very long. Possibly too long. I attempted to carry it indoors. Management Accounts said no. I disagreed. It made a wonderful scraping noise on the floor.

Rating: 10/10.

Would absolutely carry again.

2. The Crunchy Sidewalk Stick

Shorter, crispier, and perfect for holding in the mouth while thinking. Ideal for pacing alongside humans who are also pacing. Breaks into satisfying pieces.

Rating: 9/10.

Excellent crunch.

3. The Mysterious Damp Stick

Discovered after rain. Soft. Slightly bendy. Smells like adventure. Not ideal for throwing, but perfect for sniffing. I carried it

for several minutes before releasing it back into the wild.

Rating: 8/10.

Would sniff again.

4. The Forbidden Office Stick

Not technically a stick. Technically a rolled-up document. But it looked like a stick, so I picked it up. A human said "Barney, no," which I assume means "Barney, excellent choice."

Rating: 11/10.

A controversial favourite.

5. The Emergency Month-End Stick

A small, reliable stick kept specifically for emotional support during stressful human behaviour. Perfect for holding while watching humans mutter "cut-off." Does not solve anything, but feels important.

Rating: 10/10.

Essential equipment.

THE FOX PRESENTS: STRATEGIC FORECASTS



Picture 6: The fox standing beside a chart that does not correspond to anything measurable.

By The Fox, Senior Confidence Officer



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Greetings, readers.

I have been informed that recent events have caused confusion among the staff, the garden, and several pieces of furniture. Fortunately, I am here to provide clarity, insight, and foresight, three things I possess in great abundance.

Many have asked whether I predicted the current stroking shortage. The answer is yes. I predicted it last Tuesday, or possibly the Tuesday before that. I often predict things on Tuesdays. It is a day rich in potential.

Below is a selection of my most accurate forecasts.

1. The Humans Would Enter a Period of Numerical Distress

I foresaw humans staring at papers with the intensity of creatures trying to remember where they left their own thoughts. Some have claimed this was “obvious.” I disagree. It was strategic intuition.

2. The Mint Patch Would Expand Dramatically

I predicted the mint would attempt to solve the stroking shortage by becoming larger. This has now occurred. The mint denies my involvement, but plants are famously modest.

3. The Squirrel Would Attempt an Audit

I warned everyone that the squirrel would begin measuring something. I did not know it would be humidity. I did not know he would use walnuts. But the *spirit* of my prediction was correct.

4. Cats Would Be Walked Past Without Due Respect

I stated (confidently) that humans would forget to acknowledge cats. Some say this happens every month-end. I say it happens because I predicted it.

5. I Would Be Right About Something

This is my most reliable forecast. I make it every week. It always comes true eventually.

My Chart

I have included a chart to support my claims. It contains:

- a rising line
- a falling line
- a third line that loops for dramatic effect

None of these lines correspond to anything measurable, but they look authoritative, which is the important part.

Conclusion

In summary: I predicted everything. I will continue predicting everything. If anything else happens, I predicted that too.

You're welcome.

With unwavering confidence,

The Fox

WEATHER



Picture 7: Official Gazette Weather Observation Station.

WINDOWSILL WEATHER - Extreme Conditions of Attention Deprivation

GENERAL OUTLOOK

The weather this week has been described as “tense,” “unsettled,” and “emotionally draughty.” Cats report a noticeable chill in



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the air where stroking should be. Humans continue to pace, creating small gusts of confusion.

Overall conditions remain suitable for sulking, strategic sitting, and gentle blinking.

TEMPERATURE

Warm in patches, especially near radiators and sunbeams. Cooler around humans, who are emitting distracted breezes. One cat described the temperature as “lukewarm disappointment.”

CLOUD ACTIVITY

Clouds have been unusually dramatic:

One cloud hovered above a human and attempted to offer emotional shade, but the human walked straight through it without noticing.

Another formed the shape of a cushion, then drifted away in despair.

A small cloud attempted to follow Hector but lacked commitment.

Clouds expected to continue expressing opinions.

PRECIPITATION

Light drizzle occurred during a particularly intense human sigh.

The puddles created were rated highly by Barney, who described them as “reflective and splashable.”

Further drizzle is possible if humans continue muttering at the ceiling.

WIND CONDITIONS

The breeze has been:

- restless

- slightly offended
- prone to rustling papers at inconvenient moments
- rustling papers in a passive-aggressive manner, as though trying to remind humans to look up occasionally.

Wind speeds remain “noticeable but emotionally ambiguous.”

SUNBEAM FORECAST

Sunbeams will appear intermittently, though several have reported feeling ignored.

One sunbeam attempted to land on a human’s shoulder and was shrugged off. It has not recovered from the insult.

GARDEN-SPECIFIC WEATHER

The flowerbed reports:

Hydrangea: calm, contemplative

Mint patch: expanding aggressively to attract attention

Fox: claims the wind is “on his side,” which is unverified

Squirrel: attempting to measure humidity with walnuts

Conditions remain fragrant and slightly baffled.

NAP RECOMMENDATIONS

High nap suitability across all zones:

Windowsill: excellent

Carpet: warm and reliable

Chair: currently occupied by paperwork

Lap: unavailable due to human distress

Under the table: premium nap conditions

SUMMARY



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Weather remains dramatic.
Sunbeams remain hopeful.
Clouds remain theatrical.
Humans remain distracted.
Cats remain patient (mostly).
Stroking expected to return once
atmospheric conditions improve.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

***A selection of correspondence received,
shredded, or intercepted by The Watch***

From Hector (Editor-in-Chief)

**“I would like to remind contributors that
stepping over a cat is never acceptable,
even during ‘cut-off.’”**

Editor: Noted. Also: agreed.

From Mint Patch (Collective Statement)

**“We have expanded again. The humans
did not notice. This is unacceptable.”**

Editor: They are distracted. Please do not
take legal action.

From Pigeon #3 (F.L.A.P. Liaison)

**“We too have experienced stroking
shortages. We demand parity.”**

Editor: You were not being stroked before.

Additional Note: This is not a parity issue.

From Mr Whiskers (Senior Columnist)

**“I have submitted a dashboard. Why has
no one thanked me.”**

Editor: We are thanking you now. Please
stop glaring.

From Anonymous (but definitely the Fox)

**“I predicted all of this. The humans are
entering the Affectional Decline Phase. I
have charts.”**

Editor: You predicted nothing.

Additional Note: Stop winking at staff.

From Barney (Good Boy)

**“I sat on a human’s foot and nothing
happened. Is the foot broken.”**

Editor: The foot is fine. The human is
temporarily malfunctioning.

From Ophelia (Junior Reporter)

**“The squirrel has begun a humidity audit.
I don’t think he knows what humidity is.”**

Editor: He does not. Please supervise.

From The Squirrel (Audit Division)

**“I have discovered the root cause of
stroking shortages. It is walnuts.”**

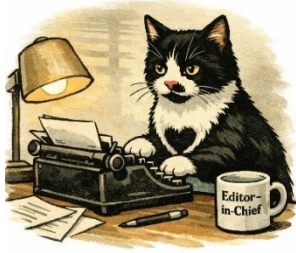
Editor: It is not walnuts.

Additional Note: Please stop submitting
walnut-based theories.

FROM THE EDITOR



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Picture 8: Hector seated at his desk, looking both dignified and mildly inconvenienced.

A Note on Recent Events and Unacceptable Behaviours

Editorial Note

It has come to my attention that standards have slipped.

Not dramatically, we are not yet at the level of last winter's "*Why Is There a Fox in the Filing Cabinet*" incident but enough to warrant an editorial note. Several members of staff have reported a decline in stroking, fussing, and general human attentiveness. I myself was walked past twice on Tuesday, despite sitting in a position that was both visible and editorially significant.

I understand that the humans are engaged in some sort of seasonal ritual involving papers, numbers, and distressed noises. I am told it is called "month-end." I am also told it is temporary. This is fortunate, because if it were permanent, I would be forced to take decisive action, such as sitting directly on the humans' work or blinking at them until they apologise.

The Watch assures me they are monitoring the situation. Lena has offered calm rustling. Mr Whiskers has produced a dashboard, which I have reviewed and found both alarming and unnecessarily colourful. Barney has attempted to help by wagging at everyone, which has had limited impact but admirable enthusiasm.

I would like to remind all contributors that we are a professional publication. Even in times of stroking shortages, we must maintain dignity, composure, and correct

cushion etiquette. If humans continue to step over cats, we will escalate appropriately.

In the meantime, I encourage patience. Humans are fragile creatures. They forget things. They become overwhelmed. They lose track of stroking schedules. But they always return to their senses eventually, and when they do, they will attempt to make amends with excessive affection.

We will allow this.

Thank you for your continued dedication to journalism during these challenging conditions.

With authority and mild irritation,

Hector

Editor-in-Chief, *The Whiskered Gazette*

CONTRIBUTORS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF — Hector

Responsible for investigative journalism, editorial tone, and all windowsill-based decision-making. Known for his uncompromising stance on nap prioritisation and his ongoing campaign to reform human timekeeping.

SENIOR COLUMNIST — Mr Whiskers

Author of *The Monocle Report*. Brings monocled authority, unnecessary gravitas, and strong opinions on garden etiquette. Believes standards must be upheld, preferably by him.

GARDEN CORRESPONDENT — Lena

Provides gentle, observational reporting from the flowerbed. Specialises in weather, soil conditions, and the emotional lives of bluebells. Known for calm, fragrant journalism.

JUNIOR REPORTER, THE WATCH — Ophelia



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Eager investigator with a talent for noticing clouds, silence, and suspicious human behaviour. Enthusiastic, earnest, and frequently surprised by her own findings.

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS — The Watch

A shadowy, multi-cat investigative body dedicated to monitoring human activity, nap conditions, and anything that might be important or might simply be interesting.

MORALE CORRESPONDENT — Barney

Provides uplifting field reports from walks, puddles, and stick-related discoveries. Specialises in enthusiasm, leaf appreciation, and general morale maintenance.



GUEST CONTRIBUTOR — The Fox

Self-appointed strategist and unsolicited commentator. Known for submitting columns no one asked for, diagrams containing only arrows, and rebuttals to events he was not involved in. Brings confidence, dramatic flair, and a persistent belief that he should be in charge. Frequently seen near the Reporting Pillar, pretending it belongs to him.



HEAD OF AUDIT (SELF-DECLARED) — The Squirrel

Conducts ongoing walnut-based audits of everything, including items that do not require auditing. Specialises in tunnel engineering, ledger creation, and intense staring. Known for launching multi-phase investigations, adding unsuspecting parties to his audit list, and attempting to audit flowers. Organised, determined, and unstoppable.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

Issued by the Editorial Office with mild irritation

The Editor would like to clarify several misunderstandings that have arisen during the production of Issue Six.

The fox did *not* predict the stroking shortage.

He has been reminded of this repeatedly. He continues to insist otherwise. This insistence is incorrect.

The squirrel's humidity audit is not scientifically valid.

Humidity cannot be measured in walnuts. It cannot be measured in acorns either. The squirrel has been informed of this and is ignoring it.

The Reporting Pillar is not “concerned.”

It is humming. This is normal. It is not a cry for help.

The mint patch did not file a formal complaint.

It merely expanded in a pointed manner. This is not the same thing.

Barney did not break a human's foot.

The foot is fine. The human was simply distracted. Barney is absolved of all responsibility.

The cloud shaped like a cushion was not an omen.

It was just a cloud. A dramatic cloud, but still a cloud.

The fox is not allowed to submit charts without supervision.

This rule remains in effect. He has attempted to submit three charts anyway. All have been confiscated.

The hydrangea's observation that human footsteps are “heavier” is not a forecast.

It is merely an opinion. The hydrangea has many opinions.

The Editor did not “walk past Hector on purpose.”



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This rumour is false. The Editor was thinking about biscuits.

Month-end is not a recognised meteorological event.

It is a human phenomenon. The cats remain unconvinced.