

READING: A VERY UNUSUAL BURGLAR



A very unusual burglar

Brigit is a cat burglar. A cat burglar is usually a burglar who climbs through windows on higher floors to enter a property. But Brigit doesn't fit this description. This criminal is, in fact, a cat which commits burglaries.

Brigit is a beautiful Tonkinese cat which walks the streets of Hamilton, a town in New Zealand, every night. The crime scenes are usually people's homes, where she mostly steals one thing: men's socks. Sometimes Brigit brings home a pair of socks and leaves one at the front door of her home, and the other at the back door. This is something which her owner, Sarah Nathan, has learned to deal with.

Brigit's night-time burglaries started several years ago. In the past, she had stolen different types of clothing, but after Sarah moved house, Brigit began to concentrate only on socks. Sarah, who found her pet's crimes quite embarrassing, didn't know what to do. No witnesses to the crimes had reported the thefts, and she couldn't explain her cat's motive.

Sarah didn't know what to do, so she posted photos of the evidence on social media. Soon, victims of the thefts responded, saying that the socks were theirs. Fortunately, they weren't angry – they actually thought Brigit's behaviour was very amusing.

Eventually, Sarah made the decision to move to the countryside. By that time, Brigit had brought home about fifty socks, and the number was still growing. Thankfully her new home is in an area where there aren't many neighbours – or men's socks to steal!

1. Match the sentence halves 1–4 and A–D.

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|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) Brigit the cat | A) were the crime scenes |
| 2) Men near her home | B) committed the burglaries |
| 3) Homes | C) were the evidence |
| 4) Photos of socks | D) were the victims |

2. Complete each sentence with one or two words from the text.

- 1) Cat burglars normally climb _____ to enter buildings on higher floors.
- 2) Brigit the cat likes to steal _____.
- 3) Brigit's strange behaviour with one type of clothing began after her owner Sarah _____.
- 4) Sarah used social media to find the _____.
- 5) There wasn't a clear _____ for her cat's crimes.

3. Answer if the following questions are true (T), false (F) or the answer is not mentioned in the text (DS)

- 1) Brigit's owner trained her so she could commit burglaries
- 2) Brigit is a kitten
- 3) Brigit's favourite target are men's socks
- 4) The cat lives in the street
- 5) The object Brigit steals is always kept in her basket
- 6) Years ago Brigit used to steal different objects
- 7) Some people have complained to Sarah about her cat's thefts
- 8) Sarah moved to the countryside in Australia

