

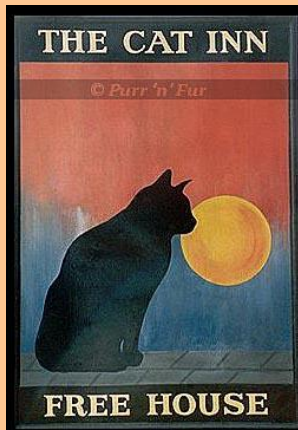
British Pub Signs featuring Cats

Gallery 4 (2005/2021)

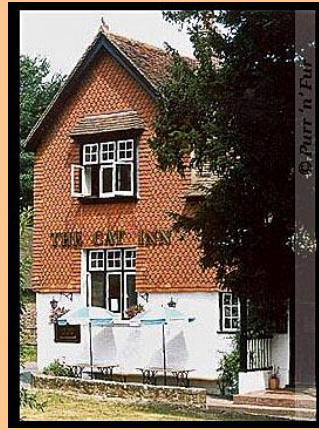
(page checked April 2026)



2011 sign ↑



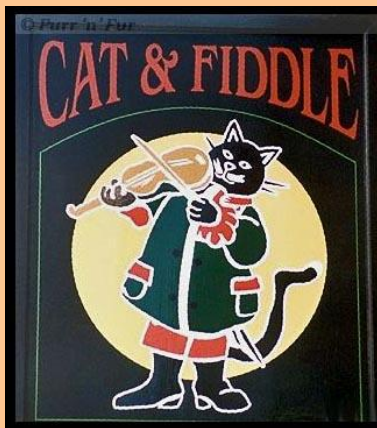
2005 sign ↑



his **Cat Inn** (2011) is to be found in the quiet village of West Hoathly, near East Grinstead in the county of West Sussex. It also has rooms and a highly rated restaurant.

Still operational in April 2026.

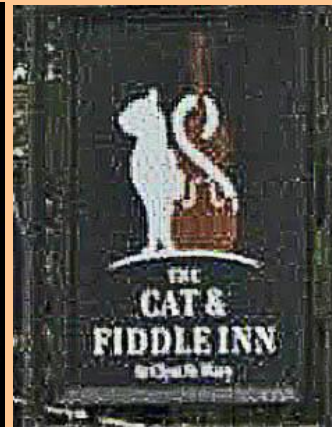
[Website](#) | [Facebook](#)



2005 sign ↑



1999 sign ↑



2024 sign ↑

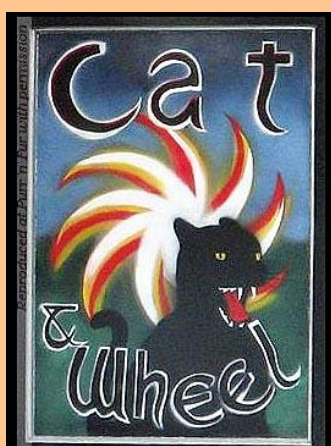
Cat and Fiddle (2005-09) This pleasant and busy pub lies a short distance from the village of Clyst St Mary in Devon, south-west England, near the cathedral city of Exeter. A sign outside proclaims that it dates back to the 16th century — or, at least, there has been a pub on the site since that time. **Still operational in April 2026.**

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#)

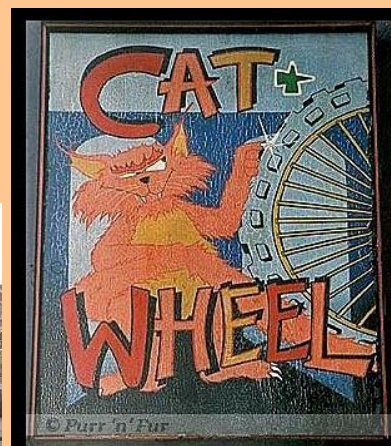




The **Dick Whittington's** (2005-09) is close to the cathedral in the centre of the city of Gloucester, in south-western England. Presumably it marks the connection with Gloucester in the [story of Dick Whittington](#). As well as the sign with Dick and his cat, the rather fine building also boasts a separate sign for its Black Cat bar. **Closed in 2021, but changed hands and was refurbished and reopened by summer 2024. However, it closed again in October 2025, but by February 2026 there seemed to be a chance it could reopen as a community pub.** [Wikipedia](#) | [Facebook](#)

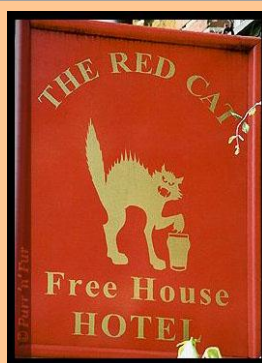


2011 sign ↑

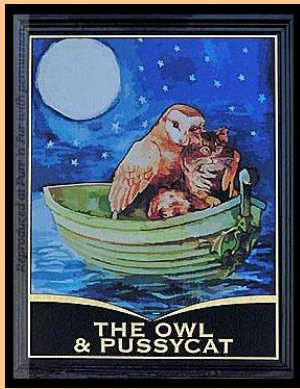


2005 sign ↑

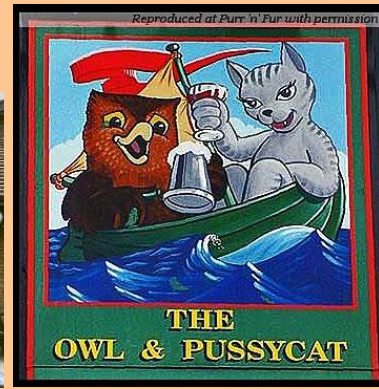
Cat & Wheel (2011-08) The only pub known of with this name isn't far from the centre of the south-western city of Bristol. A request about the origin of the name brought a reply from Graeme Robbins, who paints inn signs; he said it's a corruption of 'Catherine Wheel' (a medieval instrument of torture!). **Still operational in April 2026.** [Website](#) | [Facebook](#)



This **Red Cat** (2005-06) at North Wootton is not far from King's Lynn in Norfolk. By 2024 it was no longer offering accommodation or meals: just the bar five evenings a week. It's noted for having a mummified red cat in an illuminated glass case above the bar (thanks to Stuart Grant for the photograph, above right). **Still operational in April 2026.** [Website](#) (archived copy)



2011 sign ↑

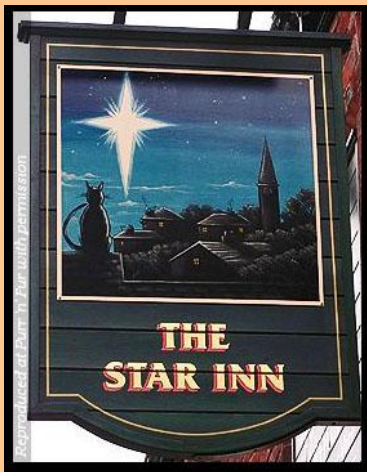


1990 sign ↑

The **Owl & Pussycat** (2011-01), in the Walton district of the important North Sea port of Felixstowe, on England's east coast, seems to be an adjunct to a large Morrison's supermarket — certainly it's right next door. When I visited in 2005 there was no pictorial sign, but later there was a new one, kindly sent by Peter Crosby (*above left*).

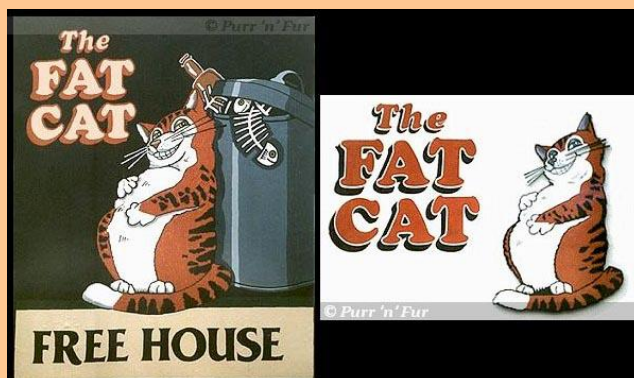
Still operational in April 2026.

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#)



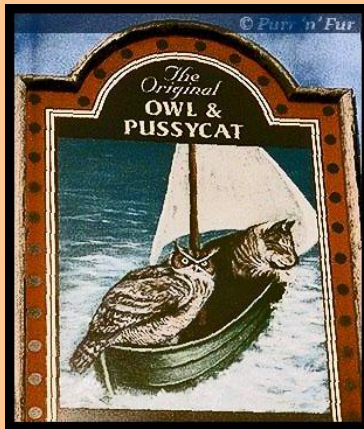
The **Star Inn** (2005-07) at Beeston, in Nottinghamshire, is an example of a sign that wouldn't be an obvious one to show a cat. However, there is Puss looking out over the rooftops, rather similarly to the Black Cat in Bedminster. **Still operational in April 2026, but it looks as though the sign has changed.**

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#)

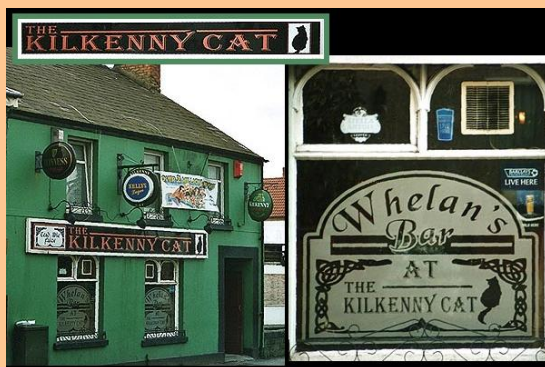


This **Fat Cat** (2005-10) is to be found in the East Anglian city of Norwich, and has repeatedly won a CAMRA award (Campaign for Real Ale) for best beer. The sign is the same as for the Fat Cat in Ipswich, in the neighbouring county (*see Cat Pub Signs 3*), so maybe the two pubs have the same owners. This one has an extra 'fat cat' at the side of the building (pictured to right of sign). **Still going in April 2026.**

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#)



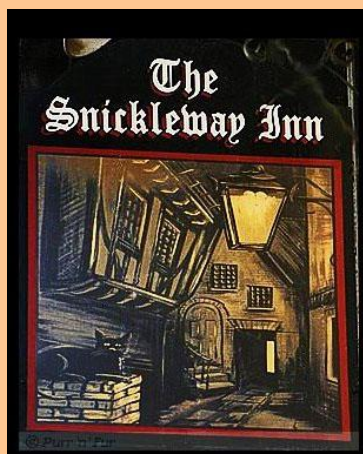
The **Owl and Pussycat** (above: 2005-10), claiming to be the original one of that name — with what justification isn't known — is a large pub on the northern fringe of the East Midlands city of Leicester. The owl and pussycat are seen setting out to sea in their 'beautiful pea-green boat'. **Still operational in April 2026; menu appears to be Indian.** [.Website](#) | [Facebook](#)



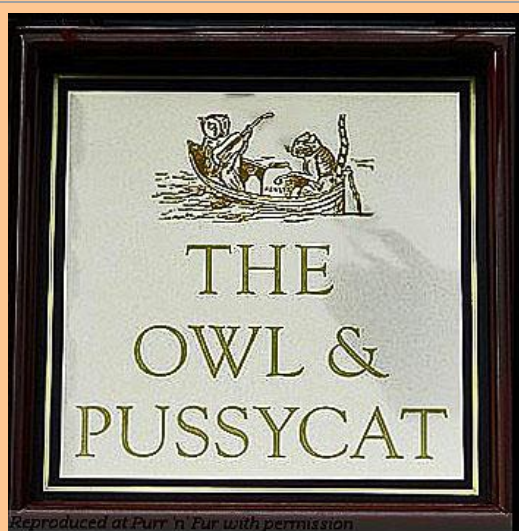
Formerly called the West End Inn, the **Kilkenny Cat** (2005-10) at Llanelli, south Wales, was renamed when it was taken over by an Irish landlady and repainted in a suitable emerald green. There wasn't a pictorial sign as such, but the cat appeared on the signboard and on a window. The name 'Kilkenny Cat' has a story behind it, to be found in Notes and Anecdotes. **Still operational in April 2026, but seems to be no longer green!** [Facebook](#)



The **Forest Home** (2007-08) at Hardley is, as its name suggests, on the edge of the New Forest in Hampshire and is near the large oil refinery at Fawley and not far from Southampton. The 'homely' sign has a contented-looking white cat on the rocking-chair in front of a roaring fire. **Still operational April 2026; sign probably changed.** [Website.](#)



The **Snickleway Inn** (above: 2009-05) is in the medieval city of York and is an old pub, with parts dating back to around 1500, although this name has been used only since 1994. The pub is said to be haunted; one of its ghosts is a woman who has been seen with a cat walking at her feet, so maybe that is the cat shown on the sign. Some customers claim to have felt the cat rubbing against their legs. **Still operational in April 2026; sign probably changed.** [Wikipedia](#) | [Instagram](#)



This **Owl and Pussycat** (2009-05) is in Basildon, a large town in Essex, east of London, and I think the pub is situated on a big housing estate. It's another pub and sign kindly brought to our attention by Peter Crosby, to whom many thanks. [Basildon History](#)
Still operational in late 2024.

* * * * *