

APPENDIX 3

The alternative rat dictionary and phrase book

Percussion – ringing in the ears caused by a blow to the head

Ratkin - slang for a ratty with a very un rat-like tail.

Raining rats and dogs - not a comfortable partnership - umbrellas are inadequate to say the least.

Rat's got your tongue - unsqueakable horror - worthy of Stephen King.

Rat burglar - one who enters illegally by climbing a wall.

Rat-a- wauling - either a high pitched ear-splitting squeaking, or rapid scaling of walls when being pursued - or both- see above

Rat nip - either a turn-on or a sharp reminder.

A rat has nine lives - a little known fact except by those trying to catch them.

Rat and mouse - a variation on hide and squeak.

Rat 'o nine tails - a fearsome weapon of punishment for miscreant sailors, with a sting at both ends.

Ratastrophe - an occurrence inflicting widespread destruction and distress-mostly for humans.

Ratamite - a very rare occurrence in rat relationships, rats not too keen on doing 'passive'.

Duckfilledratipuss - what you get if a duck eats a cat and a rat.

Ratapult - used to propel small bodies at speed - once a form of torture - now just used in circuses.

Ratnap - a very short sleep with eyes Wide shut.

Rat mint - aromatic plant with yellow flowers- (the flowers start out blue-but rats like the smell and-well-you know-like to- wee on them).

Rat's whiskers - Just the job and a good deal more prestigious than cat's.

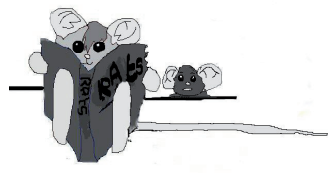
Ratalyst- something small that causes change in something else- (Sam would agree with this). NB. The best ratalyst is one not actually involved in the process- (Kevin would agree with this).

Rat in a Hat - usually carrying a trombone.

Ratacomb - underground passages inhabited by a rats of old, with more fervour than luck.

Rat among the pigeons - bad news for someone.

Ratoric – ratspeak with rattitude



Scritter – an animal of indeterminate species that scratches a lot
Schitters – as above only for scratching read sh** a lot. (SHEEP!
(Comment by Kevin; asterisks supplied by Sam)
Ramshacked – left in a state of disorder by a bulky creature with
wool all over its body and between its ears
Who let the rat out of the bag - the squeakret is out