

Angelica's new flatmate must not send the fur flying



● FERRET FRIENDLY - Tim Pizey shares his cuppa with Angelica at his Wickham home. - 2112-1

Homeshare ad calls for ferret fancier

FERRETING OUT a new flatmate sparked an advert with a difference in *The News*.

Anyone planning to share Tim Pizey's household expenses has to be "ferret friendly" and accepted by his existing flatmate, two-year old Angelica.

In return, Mr Pizey and Angelica offer a modest rent with built-in entertainment.

Mr Pizey, a project manager, aged 30, believes he has now ferret-proofed his apartment in Little Park Mansions, Wickham.

Which is why a new flat-sharer must remember to shut doors and and close low-level windows.

Angelica, found wandering Portsmouth, is an appealing, fast-moving little creature happy to introduce herself to newcomers.

At home her den with mod cons is a former pantry of the period-piece house in Titchfield Lane. The sandy ferret makes tracks all round the territory she shares with Mr Pizey, who had a ferret when he was a child.

Angelica regularly bustles in

bedrooms and peeks into the fridge for favourite foods - milk, cheese and cat food.

Mr Pizey said: "She might take a bit of getting used to but she's lovely, and everyone that meets her likes her."

"She certainly isn't spiteful as some people believe ferrets to be. That's a feature that marks underderf, badly housed and poorly handled ferrets.

"So our new flatmate may find her occasionally sleeping among his socks or clambering up to see what's in the biscuit tin. And she drapes herself round my neck

when I sit down. She is very frisky and affectionate."

Another good point displayed by carnivore Angelica, is ensuring the old property remains mouse-free. But her explorations of its historic underpinnings have led her into adventures.

"I was having a new toilet fitted when she disappeared. She'd gone down the drain, so I had to run round the other flats urging people not to flush their loos until I retrieved her from under the drain-cover."