

CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF N.S.W.

February, 1979

Registered Charity No. CC 17122

P.O. Box A523

SYDNEY SOUTH, 2000

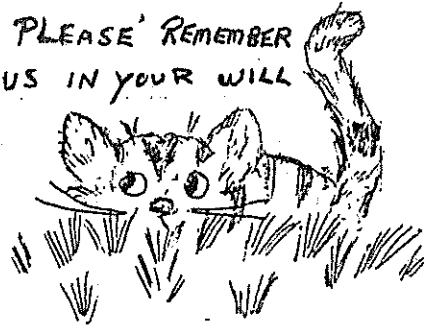
PATRON

The Hon. Sir Robert Askin, G.C.M.G.

COUNCIL

President: Mr. Ronald Carberry, B.E.M.
Vice-Presidents: Mr. Geoffrey Luton and Mr. William Graham
Honorary Secretary: Mrs. Shirley Bowles
Honorary Treasurer: Mrs. Judith Graham
Minute Secretary: Mrs. Sue Hitchen
Councillors: Mrs. Leonore Bowman, Mrs. Sybil Cozens,
Miss Thea Dullo, Mrs. Beulah Harvey, Mrs. Celie Smith

PLEASE REMEMBER
US IN YOUR WILL



NOTICE OF MEETING

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES will be held on SUNDAY, 4TH DAY OF MARCH, 1979, AT CITY OF SYDNEY R.S.L. CLUB, 569 GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY, COMMENCING AT 2 P.M.

BUSINESS

1. Read and confirm Minutes of November, 1978, General Meeting
 2. Business Arising.
 3. Tri-Annual Report
 4. Treasurer's Report
 5. General Business
- By order of the State Council S. Bowles, Hon. Secretary
-

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER. Some of our members are still in arrears. If you are in doubt please enquire. C.P.S. subscriptions are as follows:-

Life Governor	-	\$300
Life Member	-	\$50
Annual Member	-	\$5
Annual Pensioner	-	\$2
Annual Junior	-	\$2

THANKYOU, CITY OF SYDNEY R.S.L., FOR USE OF THE MEETING ROOM.

OUR APPRECIATION is extended to GARRY SOMERVILLE who gave our Appeal an excellent spread in his "Animals, and You" page in the Sun-Herald of 28.1.79 after "Chairman's Report" was completed for press.

THANK YOU GARRY.

Dear Fellow Member,

Another year has rolled around and once again it is our pleasure to bring you the C.P.S. "Newsletter", the first for 1979. We take this opportunity to thank all those members and others who, by their support, helped make 1978 the success it was. The Editor would also like to express his regards and affection to colleagues on the Council for their cheerful co-operation and help which made it such a pleasure for him to work with them throughout the year.

Best wishes to all for 1979. Hoping you enjoy your Newsletter.

The Editor.

TRI-ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

February, 1979

Dear Member,

AND SO ---- it came to pass.

Any organisation from its inception and inaugural meeting can, if it has the right governing body and the support of its members, build itself to become a voice within the community in its chosen field of action and endeavour; but, unfortunately, in the past this Society, with its impersonal Post Office Box address, lack of its own office where members could meet, and with no listing in its own name in the phone book, was unknown to most citizens in this metropolis and State and its good deeds known only to its members. However, we now have two very important milestones behind us, with the first being:-

INCORPORATION AS A PUBLIC COMPANY. After many months of being nearly strangled with red tape in our application under Section 24 of the Act I sought the help of The Hon. Kevin Ryan, LL.B., Member for Hurstville, who promptly made representations to his colleague the Attorney General, The Hon. F.J. Walker, LL.M., Member for Georges River, who recognised that we were having the run around and smartly cut that endless tape we owe a debt of gratitude to these two gentlemen for their consideration and help.

The first matter of business after receiving our Certificate as a Corporate body has been the transmission of the title of the Kingsgrove shop property from the Morris Estate into the name of this Society. This will be completed in the next week or so, and all future property, shares etc. will automatically transfer to us in our own right.

Of course, the further milestone is the acquisition of:-

THAT DESEXING CLINIC. In 1974 this was a very youthful organisation, not so much in years, being registered in 1960 as a charity, but in financial standing with the coffers practically bare, and while many members had reservations and doubted our ability to come up with the goods, they unanimously voted in General meeting in February 1975 quote

"This meeting of The Cat Protection Society of N.S.W. instructs the Administrative Committee to make all efforts to secure as early as possible premises for the Society in a central location as its Head Office and Clinic".

There was, and there is still, no doubt about the enthusiasm for such a venture. Continuous correspondence supports the idea, and every member one meets and greets adds his or her thoughts to the proposition. It seemed a dream, a mirage at first; but that second milestone is now past and it is history.

Everything in the future will fall into place on these two vital accomplishments so that our growth stands fast forever. Committee (now State Council) were unswerving in their aim and, allied with the continuing financial support in response to my earnest soliciting (right word?), the men and women, but mostly the ladies who collectively are the C.P.S., built up a bank roll and brought us to the point of taking that first assured and firm step on to ground where others seemingly fear to tread. It is a challenge to the Government and others to emulate that example. Over recent years the climate relative to desexing is slowly changing for the better. One hears many authoritative voices speak on the urgent necessity for reasonably priced desexing for felines -- but that is what it has remained -- talk.

I have little patience with those who speak on the problems of the unwanted feline, the threat of the feral cat, wring their hands and yet continue to follow the time honoured solution of slaughter which does not contain the mounting surplus let alone diminish the breeding stock. Ninety per cent of the cruelty, misery and suffering among cats is due to the huge floating population of unwanted; and many fail to grasp (or do the ostrich act) that in preventing the birth we automatically eliminate the illtreatment and the need to destroy. Our Past President, Mrs. Jessie Taylor, who was a pioneer in desexing, spent her own money to this end over many years. Years ago I could not see the wisdom in such expenditure, but now I see the futility of gathering up some of the excess, year after year, and how wrong it is to receive donations to-day and add them to huge mounting financial reserves while cruelty surrounds us. Money gifted to prevent cruelty to-day should be used now. Next year will take care of itself.

However, being a youthful organisation in outlook, we are not inhibited or shackled with the doctrines of grandpa's day and, with all administrative work honorary, we do not have to worry about next month's salaries; so our members and the animals receive good value for every dollar which comes our way. Now that our Clinic is a realistic and positive edifice of bricks and mortar and we give it the finishing touches, we should be able to get along on a shoestring by comparison and nothing can stop us. Once rolling the next unit will be Darlinghurst or Paddington, followed by Central Coast and others.

I HAVE TOLD YOU the essentials about 103 Enmore Road in the "Appeal" letter; but every member, and his dog and her cat, will wish to see the premises as soon as possible. So State Council has set down Sunday afternoon on the 25th February from 2 P.M. as open house day for you to meet and greet, and see the property in the raw after takeover. You can help us plan. If coming by car slip in a folding chair or box as, apart from the stairs, we will have nothing for you to sit on. If coming by Government bus from the Quay or Railway Square the following will drop at the Enmore Picture Theatre opposite 103 -- bus No. 423, Earlwood, 424 Undercliffe, 426 and 450 Dulwich Hill, 446 and 448 Canterbury, 449 Hurlstone Park, 451 Enmore. Those coming by train disembark at Newtown station with Enmore Road to your left at the entrance. Lowes private bus service from the corner of Moore Park Road and Oxford Street, Paddington, only runs weekdays on the hour and half-hour. You get off at Newtown RSL Club, a few yards from the Clinic. Keep these particulars for future use.

THE MAGNIFICENT RESPONSE to the "Urgent Appeal" letter has been most heart warming. It is surprising the many avenues from which offers of help in some form or other have come, but we still have a long way to go. Apart from our members, the letter went forward to all State Parliamentarians, many of whom have replied in favourable terms; also to the daily and Sunday papers, radio and T.V. stations. But, to my knowledge, the only one in the media who extended a hand was that stalwart DITA COBB -- she has a heart as big as they come - our sincere appreciation to her. You, the reader, can help further - have photostat copies of your "Urgent Appeal" run off, send them to all the media, your local paper, Council, M.L.A. and your friends. But please do it now. Do not put it off. If you are unable to help in other practical ways, this is an avenue. SPREAD THE WORD.

As I have mentioned in the past, no charity in whatever field of endeavour it may labour can hope to grow and expand without the support of legacies; and in this regard I know that our future in the long-term is assured from the many messages conveyed to me by kindly and liberal minded men and women who, as a mark of their appreciation for the affection and companionship they have received from their felines, have made provision in that last document (which we should all prepare) for our work to continue, and thus their voice will still be heard when they are following different guidance.

So, it is in the short-term now that I seek and solicit your help in whatever capacity you can extend your hand. We are still far short of that cent from the child, that dollar from the pensioner or the X amount from the more affluent. If you can deprive yourself of one packet of smokes or one bottle of tanglefoot in our favour the proceeds will be gratefully received and faithfully applied. ALSO we still need some more extra hands to help us prepare and put the house in order before we

open the door. Will you give an hour or a day out of your lifestyle? All I can do is appeal - even if you leave me flatfooted! AND the advice of a painter would be gratefully appreciated.

In conclusion --- PLEASE --- PLEASE --- PLEASE --- We have not had one offer from any member with a commercial vehicle, trailer or station sedan whose vehicle would take some of the more bulky items that have been offered. If we have to employ Taxi trucks or similar we lose icing off the gingerbread. At least please offer - we will not kill the willing horse.

Aforegoing Report by

R.K. Carberry, Chairman

EDITORIAL COMMENT

As we remarked in an earlier editorial, 1979 could be a vital year for your Society and lo, it has duly come to pass. With the acquisition of our own premises at Enmore plus our Certificate of Incorporation certain of our goals were reached; but they must be consolidated and expanded. All members, plus other interested parties, who received the informative broadsheet, written, produced and directed by Ron Carberry (which was sent out in January) will be aware of the requirements. It is now up to the members to help in any way they can. The Auxiliary we are hoping to form must not be regarded as being for ladies only. We need all the help we can get and in these days of "Unisex" the men are more than welcome. Therefore, let us not think in terms of a "Ladies' Auxiliary" but rather a "Unisex Auxiliary". So come forward and get your name on the roster. We thank those fine people who have already offered help in varying forms but much more is needed. We would be pleased to hear from any of you who can help in any way. Remember, there can never be too much offered. Full credit must go to Mr. Ron Carberry who, along with Mrs. Shirley Bowles, expended so much time and effort in securing the goals we set ourselves in 1978. We are proud of the courage and tenacity they displayed in achieving those goals. Now let us stress again, it is up to you, the members, to see that their efforts do not go in vain. Stop and think for a minute. What is it that we are aiming at? What is it that we would most desire for the future? A future where those of us now present will no longer be around. In my "Utopian" dreams I see the world as a far better place for all living creatures, a place where the words "cruelty" and "unkind" need no longer be a part of the vocabulary, and where organisations such as ours are no longer needed.

It is heartening to know that in the world to-day there is a growing emphasis on the rights of other animals. In the U.S.A., the Endangered Species Act has recently been upheld and enforced for a further 3 years by Congress, despite the enormous pressure from lobbyists. A fact known by very few is that in 1980 a charter on animals rights will become

United Nations law. According to the U.N. declaration, all animals are born with an equal claim on life and the same rights to existence. It casts a cold eye on scientists, hunters and film makers. It says:- "Animal experimentation involving physical or psychological suffering is incompatible with the rights of animals. "No animal shall be exploited for the amusement of man. Exhibitions and spectacles involving animals are incompatible with their dignity". "Scenes of violence involving animals shall be banned from cinema and television, except for humane education. An act involving mass killing of wild animals is genocide, that is, a crime against the species." The charter also protests against pigs and cattle locked inside container trucks, sweltering or freezing; chickens or rabbits kept in tiny containers; live lobsters dropped in boiling water; geese force-fattened for foie gras; dogs or cats abandoned.

A true story, an event of long, long ago which illustrates the rights and feelings of other animals might be apposite here. It was told to me some years ago by an old-time country police sergeant who has since passed on. As a future "limb of the law" was involved, we could call it if you like:

The Case of the Kidnapped Koala

In the words of my old friend:- "When I was a small boy we lived on a farm in the Hunter Valley. My older brother and I used to ride to school on an old draught horse. One morning round about the turn of the century on our way to school we spied a mother koala playing with her baby near the base of an old gum tree. Uncaring of the little animals' feelings we decided to steal the baby bear and keep it as a pet. Quick as a flash my brother was off the horse and had seized the baby bear before the mother could realise what had happened. Stuffing the bear inside his shirt my brother quickly remounted and we cantered off, having already decided to wag it for the day. As we made off I could hear the mother bear crying and I began to have misgivings over what we had done, but older brother was adamant we should keep the baby. (Editor's note:- Koala bears, when frightened, hurt or alarmed, cry a very human manner. I remember my own father telling me that, in the days before man had driven them almost to extinction, koalas were a common sight in this State, and that one day when he was a boy he stoned some bears in a tree whereupon they rubbed their eyes and cried like babies.)

"Back at the farm we sneaked down to one of the sheds and fixed up a cage for the by now very unhappy and fretting baby bear. Our mother, when she discovered we had a captive bear, was instantly suspicious:- "Where did you boys get that bear? Surely you were not heartless enough to take it from its mother?". "No Ma" we both lied, "We found it wandering. It must be an orphan". Our mother, though still very suspicious, was for the moment mollified.

"Each day for the following week when we passed that gum tree there would be mother bear, still crying and prowling the surrounding area in search of her offspring. As each day passed I felt worse and worse about the whole cruel episode and was all for giving the baby back, but my brother would not hear of it. Eventually, however, the thought of that anguished mother and her stolen babe became too much for me and I went to my mother and spilled the whole sorry story. My mother's maternal instincts were outraged. She had a large brood of her own and knew just what that mother bear was feeling. On pain of the greatest belting of our lives she ordered us to return that baby bear to its mother at once. When we got back to the mother bear and she saw us with her baby she overcame all her fear and rushed at us furiously, and that's saying a lot for a koala bear. Anyway, we pretty smartly gave the baby back before she removed a few inches of our hides. It knew it was a pretty mean thing we had done, stealing that bear, and in all the years since I never did anything like it again. I always felt pretty bad about it. "What about your brother?" I asked. "What was his reaction?". The old man was silent for a short while as he reflected on the events of that long gone day. Then, coming back to the present, he spoke in that slow bush drawl, painfully and slowly emphasising each word:- "He gave me (pause) the greatest father of a hiding I ever had for blabbing to our mother".

Taman Shud

FUND RAISING - By Mrs. Sybil Cozens of Council.

Fete in the garden of Sybil and Gordon Cozens, 16th December. This function netted \$642.20 with donations. "Pre-sale" throughout the year of knitted coat hangers, tea cosies, toys and hats totalled \$359.20, making a grand total of \$999.40. The morning after some customers came back for more goodies and another \$30 was taken - which starts off the 1979 column in Judy Graham's "big black book". Thank you one and all for donations of money, goods and time.

Raffles - Our first big raffle was drawn at the 26th November meeting and netted our "treasury" \$345.00.

1st Prize:	Opal pendant	-	Ticket 2699	Miss M. Wilson
2nd Prize:	Crochet Cloth	-	Ticket 3462	E. Toth
3rd Prize:	"The Love of Cats"	-	Ticket 2691	Miss M. Wilson

Miss Wilson has donated the book (3rd prize) back to the Society to be re-raffled. Could you organise to raffle it in your circle? Ask me for ticket books. I still have some items for raffles. So how about it?

1979 Big Raffle. This year it is a "Golden Raffle".

1st Prize: Gold "Royal Worcester" casserole dish (value \$50)

1979 Big Raffle (continued)

2nd prize - 6 gold on glass sherry glasses. Etched vine leaf design (value \$25)

3rd prize - Rodd gold plated cake server (value \$12)

To be drawn in July at our General meeting. Please contact me for books of tickets.

Fashion Parade, 2nd December. Lots of very satisfied customers on this day - fashion wise and tummy wise - after Mrs. Shirley Bowles' Dress Parade and delicious afternoon tea. A "dicky bird" told me that Mrs. Henderson, Shirley's Mum, had "two hands" in this. Thank you both and everyone for a great afternoon. The treasury gratefully received \$112.00.

On the subject of Fashion Shows - Can you lend a verandah on a big house, a big verandah on a small house, a rumpus room, a garden for models to glide through or a pool for models to waft around or anywhere an afternoon parade could be staged? (Only the models would possibly need house access - for changing). I could arrange a collection to be shown.

Knitters - Do you know any? I want knitters to make babies and children's clothes, pullovers, cardigans etc. I have some packets of wool in varying plys. Children's garments sell very well and shortly we will have to stock and keep stocked our opportunity shop. Doesn't only have to be children's wear, but my "wool bank" doesn't run to any great quantities. Do you have any packets of wool put aside for that "rainy day"?

Mrs. Harvey daily churns out intricately knitted coat hangers and begs for anything from a bale of wool to even $\frac{1}{4}$ of a ball. Please call her for collection or bring to a General meeting.

For Sale - Red leatherette boxed volume (published by Collins) of William Shakespeare's "Complete Works". Treasury asks \$7.50.

(Editor's note:- It was indeed a fortunate choice when Mrs. Cozens was appointed by the Council as Chairperson and Co-ordinator of fund-raising and raffle activities. Since assuming these responsibilities she has demonstrated a remarkable flair for the job, thus freeing the Council to devote its time to other matters. Any person who is considering holding a fund-raising fete or similar activity and feels she, or he, need advice can ring Mrs. Cozens, on 427-3828 for "All you ever wanted to know about fund-raising but were afraid to ask".)

NOTE FROM THE HONORARY SECRETARY - As it is not possible for me to send a personal acknowledgment to every kind individual who has forwarded donations to our appeals, I would like to express publicly to one and all the sincere thanks of State Council for contributing so willingly to our cause. I wish to convey special thanks to ANONYMOUS who sent us a bank cheque from Kingsford in January for the sum of \$100.

LOST PETS (From information supplied by Sybil Cozens)

A news item which appeared in a recent edition of the "North Shore Times" may be of interest and could possibly benefit any of our members whose pet may become lost. A condensation of the article is reprinted below:-

"Animal lover, Mrs. Glynne McGregor of Lane Cove, has launched a Pets and Property Information Service for recovery of lost pets or property. "If you lose a pet or find one our service is a central point to aid speedy recovery" said Mrs. McGregor. "If you find a pet there is no charge but details are filed and followed up for one month. If you lose a pet a fee of \$3 is charged to register your loss and assist in recovery. The recovery rate is 75% successful. This service is to speed recovery of losses and can cost only a telephone call, plus the original \$3 fee."

Since the above item was brought to our notice we got in touch with Mrs. McGregor for further information. She informed us that a tremendous amount of interest has been aroused in her novel and humane idea, and further, the service covers the entire Metropolitan area. She expressed the desire to interest all animal groups and clubs in the service and seeks their co-operation. She is willing to give talks on the subject to any such groups and has kindly offered to come along to one of our meetings. We, all of us who love and own (or are owned) by a much beloved pet know what it is like to lose one and how terrible it must be for the poor lost creature. We feel Mrs. McGregor must be a very kindly person to have thought of this idea and we therefore hope to arrange an invitation for her to be guest speaker at our forthcoming March 4th General Meeting.

The Editor.

CENTRAL COAST CALLING! From Dorothy Haines, Hon. Organising Secretary,
Woy Woy District Group.

"How now, pussycat?" ... Well, we have not experienced this festive season the usual deluge of people's cat troubles. Not that we are being entirely ignored as of this morning, Jan. 9th, four feline jobs were set in motion. We advertise in the Gosford "STAR" practically weekly, and these ads usually bring in enquiries, work to do, and people wanting kittens from us.

A new departure - kindly St. Nicholas, upon request for a suggestion, erected in the Secretary's garden a practical "Cat Motel" where cats/kittens can stay overnight, so to speak, until they are picked up or placed. Saves short-time boarding, and we try to avoid long-time boarding. The "Motel" immediately went into business; two kits admitted who were at risk trying to dodge heavy trucks where Mum had deposited and was rearing them. Mum's wings were immediately clipped - one kit placed, one remaining on the Haines' payroll. Followed a Persian mum, very pregnant, then a problem tortie and offspring whom folk had taken

in, and were moving off to Sydney at short notice; so these follow the Persian (Iranian?) lot.

Visited by W.W.D.G. member, June Brown, this week. Also, Evelyn Cleary breezed up to Woy Woy, Jan. 8th, still actively busy on the cat-napping front - claims it has not ceased at all. Was able to give her some local information and a few steers. She has been in contact with local press and radio in her tireless efforts in the crusade to have this nefarious trafficking halted.

Final Committee meeting of W.W.D.G. was on Dec. 13th when Kay Renton hosted a bright party after the meeting. The occasion was taken to present to Doris Jackson, who runs our Kitty Clinic, an enormous toy puddicat; it came to her from all the little wards she has sheltered and rehabilitated, all wee waifs who have, many of them, gone to "stately homes" ... Doris was overjoyed - she really was!

A street stall is planned for Easter Saturday at Umina Beach. The lovely baby doll was won by member, Mrs. Kummerfeld, who donated it back, and it will be raffled on April 14th. Some really lovely things have come in and we are optimistic about a good result. We have a good bank balance, and have done much vet work, kitten placing and advertising during recess, supplying tinned food to needy ones pending new homes etc. Have approached good old Uncle Ben for some pet food and an advert -- fingers well crossed!

All hands thrilled at news closing deal for Clinic property. Plan get-together visit - Edith Duport offered to hostess reps. from HQ and local members, to say thanks for their help; also to spread idea of a local group at Chittaway Point in February.

Cheerio for now. Woy Woy District Group C.P.S.

IN MEMORIAM

Donation in lieu of flowers - in fond memory of Mrs. F. Long, late of 17 Blaxland Ave., Penrith, who died on 14.10.78.

Mrs. Long was a Life Member of the Cat Protection Society and, although a pensioner, made many substantial donations to the Clinic Fund. It is her heart's desire to live to see the Clinic established, but sadly this was not to be. During the fifteen years that I was privileged to know her she took in many stray animals, had them desexed, and cared for them in a manner which was an example to some self-styled "animal lovers". She did all this compassionate work for needy creatures in a quiet and dignified manner and it is to the unsung heroines such as she that we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude.

I have lost a dear friend and animals have lost a dedicated champion.

Inserted by Mrs. E.B. Smith

In memory of Norman Murphy, passed away 16.9.78, aged 45.

A very dear friend of mine.

Inserted by Lorna Devine

DOWN MEMORY LANE

Our much loved cat "Violet". Died on Remembrancé Day, savaged by a dog, her back broken. 13 years old.

Inserted by Marjorie Barnard.

In memory of little "Noddy", tragically killed at only 6 months. So small in size, but so big in love.

Inserted by Miss Margaret Wilson.

A donation on behalf of my darling mother (Mrs. McParland, 87 years) in memory of her dear "Speckles" and the many other cats she has fed over the years and who now no longer survive.

Inserted by Ruby Wearne.

In memory of our pet doggy "Prince", 11 years. Missed very much by his cat friends "Franz" and "Tiger".

Inserted by Mrs. G. Reynolds.

In memory of a little cat I have just lost. She was a charming little animal and, in spite of a heart defect, lived for 12 years. I wish your Society success in all your undertakings and your efforts to spread knowledge of cats and their correct treatment.

Inserted by Miss L. Harper.

Last Words to a Dumb Friend - Thomas Hardy

Pet was never mourned as you/Purrer of the spotless hue,
Plumy tail, and wistful gaze/While you humoured our queer ways,
Or outshrilled your morning call/Up the stairs and through the hall
Foot suspended in its fall -
While expectant, you would stand/Arched to meet the stroking hand,
Till your way you chose to wend/Yonder, to your tragic end.

ADVERTISEMENT

CONTENTED CAT INN. Exclusive boarding accommodation for Cats only. Run by MEMBER, Mrs. D. Foster, the cattery is located at 1403 Old Northern Road, Glenorie (near Dural). Phone 652 1162. All cats are fed according to owners' instructions. Rates \$2.00 per day. Committee members, Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Cozens, Mr. Graham and Mrs. Graham, have personally inspected this cattery and were all impressed with the sunny, spacious and clean runs provided for cats fortunate enough to spend a holiday there. The cattery also has the endorsement of the Kuringai Animal Hospital.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Graham,

Vera Murdoch and I appreciated your very kind letter of last June. We have not forgotten The Cat Protection Society and enclose a donation with best wishes for the Society's work.

A harrowing example of human cruelty, backed up by colossal indifference, has just come to our knowledge. A neighbour took her children to the beach and playing there they found the body of a drowned cat. Her legs were tied together. She was pregnant and one kitten had been born in her last struggle for life. And that is only one instance in thousands I know.

Yours Sincerely,

Marjorie Barnard

Dear Animal Lovers,

On 21.9.78 I was informed that a 16 year old boy had thrown a pregnant cat in the creek nearby. The cat returned later and I was very upset and searched around, and eventually found the boy. I then took the cat away, and she was in a very bad condition, having a skin cancer, blind in one eye and her ear weeping. I took the cat to our Granville Vet. who administered a sleeping draught. Next day I picked up her son from a previous litter. It was very wild and had been mauled by a dog. The Vet also put this cat to sleep. This I can assure you is the worst of the many heart-breaking things I have had to do, and I have no doubt your members would show an interest in this case if published in your magazine.

Olga Mennell.

(The above two letters describe instances of thoughtless cruelty which unfortunately occur far too frequently. However, I doubt that the Smiths, Dullos, Carberrys and Harveys, just to mention a few of the many who have devoted a great part of their lives on behalf of animals, would be surprised. Let it be re-stated here that the law has prescribed penalties for any person committing such crimes, and if the offenders are known to you then do not hesitate to report them even though, in my view, the penalties are not sufficiently severe. The Editor).

The following are extracts from a letter which arrived in time for the November edition but limited space did not allow for publication. We are pleased, therefore, to include them now:-

"Your Newsletter is great and full of interest. I am noting the cosmetics that we can buy without using animal experiments! I write a weekly Pets Corner for one of our Central Coast papers and my articles are varied as I am always "on" about cruelty. Am involved with "Save the Roo", "Save the Whale"; - Project Jonah had a seminar here at

Gosford High School. Lynette Abra from Australian Reptile Park had collected 35,000 signatures but 24 people turned up! Recently my husband and I had a lovely little visitor, a six months old joey named Justin. He was brought by a lady who is rearing him and she takes him to work, and he is fed on a bottle.

I would like to see tax deductions on all animal donations. I feel very strongly that people who give to animal organizations are not allowed tax deductions.

Such a lot of cruelty in a beautiful world, and it saddens me to think of any animal that is being cruelly treated. Wishing C.P.S. every success for the future."

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs. E. Kitching

(The question of gifts to animal organisations being non tax deductible makes our task that much harder. It is something we just have to live with as I do not envisage any change in the Government's attitude. Thank you for your kind remarks Mrs. Kitching. The Ed.)

The final offering in our mail bag is from Celie Smith. She says:-

Christianity Without Compassion

Recently I received a letter from a heartbroken elderly lady who lives (?exists) in a cottage in a church administered village. She, and other occupants, had been ordered by the Matron (who, one presumes, is a dedicated christian lady, otherwise she would not occupy this position of trust and authority) to have their pet cats put to sleep or give them to relatives as she was "getting rid of all cats".

These cats were desexed and no trouble to anyone. They provided companionship for their owners who live alone. Does this christian lady Matron believe she was acting in HIS name when she caused the slaying of these innocents? Perhaps she may care to read the Gospel of the Holy Twelve in which is said re Jesus and the stray cat, "After tending and feeding her, Jesus found her a good home. Some of the people said, "This man careth for all creatures; are they his brothers and sisters that he should love them?". Jesus said unto them, "Verily these are your fellow creatures of the great Household of God".

When one has reached the winter of one's life and family and friends are no longer close, the comfort and love of a pet is surely one of the few reasons for sustaining the will to live.

There is a great need for education of those in authority regarding domestic animals. Unfortunately, too many people with a little authority close their minds to any information about the difference between a desexed pet and an undesexed one. Too often we read "No pets", or "Only two dogs per household", and similar unenlightened statements.

Let those of us who care and understand the great mutual need and

love between the elderly and their desexed pets do all we can to reverse the harsh and closed mind attitude of so many who use their positions to inflict pain and misery on lone persons by depriving them of all they have left - their desexed pets.

Celie Smith.

(We whole-heartedly support Mrs. Smith in her views. We understand what she means, but would gently point out that there are those of us who do not follow the Christian, or for that matter, any other religious ethic, but who nevertheless, believe in the rights of all creatures including Man. This matter will no doubt be brought up before the Council of the C.P.S. where it is to be hoped we may be able to do something to influence a change of heart towards these old people and their pets. The Ed.)

Members are reminded that the "Letters to the Editor" column is their forum. We welcome your contributions whether they be critical or otherwise. It is the place to get in your licks, or you may have helpful advice to impart. Write us. We want you, the Member, to feel involved in the affairs of your Society.

Attention Mr. Buchanan. A great deal of interest was shown by members in Mr. Buchanan's letter re vitamin E for eczema in cats. One lady rang enquiring what strength tablets to use as they are supplied in varying strengths. Would Mr. Buchanan kindly supply us with the information?

ARE YOUR CATS TORMENTED BY FLEAS? When Summer arrives one can always be sure, particularly in Sydney, that the flea menace will assume its usual plague proportions. Fleas, their eggs and their dirt can give some cats a mighty bad time: Constant scratching and biting does, in some cases, produce a type of flea eczema. Small scabby scales form, particularly round the neck and spinal areas. Our 3 cats, at the start of the present Summer, were going through their usual torments, biting at their backs etc. "Mang", our big half persian, was covered in lumps on neck and lower back. My wife and I decided to take steps to overcome the problem, and what we did may be of benefit to you and your cat.

On veterinary advice we obtained a rinse, supplied by the Vet. This particular product is called "Supreme Flea and Tick Wash", produced by Supreme Ethical Products. (I believe there are others which are probably just as effective.) We then proceeded in the following 2 person operation:

1. Choose a hot day and dilute wash as directed in suitable container.
2. Cat is held firmly by dumb assistant (husband) while practical partner (wife) thoroughly drenches cat with sponge or flannel washer, covering all areas, particularly back, belly, tail and neck. A certain amount of the liquid will get sloshed about but dumb assistant cops most of it.

3. Take care to keep wash away from face and eyes of cat.
4. Do not dry off cat. Allow to dry naturally.
5. Release cat, exchange cross words with partner, then proceed to next victim.

Results Cat 1 "Mang". Did not struggle (much), seemed slightly perplexed and put out about the whole business, but appeared to enjoy cooling effect. Coat now silky and beautiful, most lumps gone. When combed after she dried off many dead fleas fell out. A happier and very relieved cat.

Cat 2 "Tosca". Took to whole ordeal with surprising calm. This cat tends to show off, is frightened of no man and very few women. Results same as Cat 1.

Cat 3 "Yum Yum". Different kettle of fish. Took one look at water-logged colleagues, then tried to hide in garden. Attempted usual blandishments on dumb assistant. When reproachful looks failed, resorted to hideous banshee wails designed to fetch neighbours running in with police to prevent murder of cat having throat slowly cut with blunt hack-saw. Results as per cats 1 and 2.

When whole operation completed dumb assistant is as wet as all 3 victims. Joins them in garden to dry off. Cats show no resentment. Dumb assistant is relieved.

Overall results:- No harmful side or after-effects, all cats happy and relatively flealess. We intend to carry out this procedure once or twice each summer as it appears to be the most effective method. It is also a tick deterrent. If you wish to follow our example, first seek veterinary advice, then harden your heart and go straight ahead. Your cat will forgive you.

The Editor.

CAT NUTRITION (Condensed from information contained in "Cat Catalog")

Article by Shirley Bowles

How should you feed your cat? Apart from some chopped raw steak, the best thing you can do for your cat is to feed it one of the balanced, properly supplemented commercial rations. These come in two general forms at present - moist canned, and dry. Remember, tuna and other 100 percent fish foods have special problems, so feed these foods only once or twice a week. They contain a high percentage of fatty acids which can result in a disease called steatitis or yellow fat disease caused by a vitamin E deficiency. Although most manufacturers to-day add large supplements of vitamin E to prevent the problem it is still wise to restrict their use. On a canned food diet some cats may not drink any additional water, but fresh water should always be available. Dry cat foods come in a variety of flavours and are completely balanced

rations. Most cats do well on them, and such foods have the advantage of being relatively inexpensive. Another advantage is that you can leave out a large bowl of the food and several dishes of water when you go away for the weekend - no need to board the cat. It is extremely important, however, to always leave your cat water to drink as on this diet the cat has no other source of liquid. A word of warning - a cat that has been switched from moist to dry food often becomes affected by feline urolithiasis, a disease characterized by partial or complete obstruction of the urinary tract by mineral deposits, causing pain and difficulty in urinating and frequently resulting in death. It is much more common and deadly in the male due to the relatively long narrow urethra. The cat may have needed to drink very little water while on the moist food diet. Cats are creatures of habit, however, and after switching to the dry food they might not have drunk any water for a day or two, resulting in a very concentrated urine. A cat prone to the urolithiasis condition would possibly be more likely to get it at this time. To be on the safe side, make any change from moist to dry rations gradually over several days.

(Note:- A very strong doubt on the benefits of dry food is held by some Vets, mainly for the reason above-mentioned. Our 3 female cats sometimes enjoy a supper treat of no more than a dozen pellets, but dry food is not a staple part of their diet. We did lose a much loved male cat, with blockage of the urinary tract, and we have always held the suspicion that dry food caused it, as he had never had this trouble until introduced to pellets. Ed.)

Many people feed their cats dog food. In general, this is not a good idea. Cats require a higher protein and fat content than dogs and a higher density of calories. If you use dog food, supplement it with a good protein and fat source such as a small amount of cheese. Do not supplement with milk. Many adult cats get diarrhoea from milk because they do not have an enzyme called lactase which digests a milk sugar called lactose. If your cat eats dog food, a low-potency general vitamin supplement is important. It is a good idea for all cats, as well. As a general rule, do not give table scraps to cats. What is good for humans may not be good for cats, and there is little advantage in accustoming your cat to a diet of food which may not be nutritionally balanced.

Many people feed their cats a diet very high in or exclusively of liver. Liver is a poor choice for anything other than an occasional diet supplement, preferably not more than once a week. The main problem resulting from a diet high in liver comes from its high content of vitamin A, a fat-soluble vitamin. Excess vitamin A is stored in the body rather than eliminated, as are vitamins of the B complex family and vitamin C. If the cat has too much vitamin A, vitamin A toxicity will occur. Excess vitamin A will cause damage to the articular surfaces of

bones which will in turn cause pain and difficulty in moving the neck and limbs.

A diet of raw fish can result in deficiency of thiamine due to the presence of thiaminase, a thiamine-destroying enzyme. The disease can cause vomiting and nervous disorders, even convulsions and death. So many species of fish caught have this enzyme in varying concentrations that it is easier merely to avoid raw fish in your cat's diet.

An excess of muscle meat, liver, chicken or boned fish result in a diet that is very high in phosphorus causing weakening of the bones.

In conclusion, be kind to your cat. Vary the diet as much as your individual cat will allow you to. How would you like to eat the same food all the time?

MORE FROM "COCKNEY CATS". Submitted by Len Bowman.

Min.- "The Millwall Dock Cat"- lived in "K" Warehouse in the Millwall Dock. She had the longest and finest white whiskers of any cat around. At that time she was well on the way to producing another batch of kittens - her sixth litter - and the kittens had already been bespoken, usually heavy coated semi Persian tortoise-shell.

She would tackle a rat so big she could hardly drag it back across the road and as soon as she could leave her kittens she would go foraging for baby rats to bring them back alive and teach her kittens what's what. She held her warehouse against any visiting animals, including dogs, and although she hunted away from her warehouse she was never known to board a ship.

Her home was mainly the warehouse office where she would doze peacefully beside a whistling kettle, but the moment she heard a drawer open and the rustle of a paper bag containing a bit of cake, she was up and ready on the spot, waiting for the odd crumb or two which someone was sure to give her.

CONGRATULATIONS to Life Member, Miss Helen Heney, on the publication of her latest book "Australia's Founding Mothers".

MONKEY BREEDING FOR MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS. We have received the following letter from the Australian Association for Humane Research:-

Bullen's Rhesus Monkey Breeding Foundation

"With our last Newsletter in September, 1978, our members and others received a form letter to be signed and sent to Mr. Stewart, Minister for Health, protesting against a monkey breeding programme conducted by Mr. Stafford Bullen of Bullen's Animal World. In addition to our obvious objection to breeding animals for experimentation we stated that Mr. Bullen was convicted of cruelty to a monkey in 1974.

By now those who responded to our call will have received the

standard letter of reply giving assurances that the Cruelty to Animals Act covers all aspects of cruelty, etc. You will agree that this generalised answer is not good enough. We would now request that your organisation send an official letter to the newly established Animal Welfare Division within the Department of Services. Your letter should be addressed to Mr. W.F. Crabtree, Minister for Services, Animal Welfare Division, Box 30, G.P.O. 2001.

I am certain that Secretaries of all Animal Welfare organisations will agree that further action must be taken in this particular case.

Yours sincerely,
U. Jones
Hon. Secretary "

For the information of members, it was reported in the Sydney Morning Herald on May 29th, 1978, that Mr. Stafford Bullen is establishing a research foundation at Luddenham to breed rhesus monkeys for medical experiments. You will recall that we mentioned in our November Newsletter that Mr. Bullen was successfully prosecuted by the R.S.P.C.A. in 1974 for cruelly ill-treating a monkey in whose neck a chain had become embedded. We strongly believe that anyone who has been convicted of cruelly treating an animal should certainly not be allowed to breed them. Those of you who agree with our sentiments could add their individual protests to those of the various animal welfare organisations by writing to the Minister for Services at the above address.

Further Editorial Comment

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS In the "Letters to the Ed." column we remarked on the lack of adequate penalties provided to deal with those vicious sub-humans who are convicted on cruelty charges. How often do we grind our teeth in silent rage when we read in the papers that one, "John Doe", received only a \$100 fine for dragging a dog behind a car, or one, "Hermann Doe", was let off on a bond for starving animals in his keeping, or that "Enrico" or "Emile" or "Charlie" or any other "Doe" received only a paltry fine for any one of the numerous cruelties that we read about? Our use of the above fictitious names was meant to imply that cruelty is not confined to any particular nationality but covers the whole broad spectrum of which this country is now made up. Similarly, the membership of the C.P.S. appears to represent a wide range of nationalities, and that is a fact which pleases us very much.

People who are capable of cruelty towards dumb creatures must, in some respects, be regarded as unfortunates. Unfortunate - because of the very darkness in their nature which prevents them from ever experiencing the joys of comradeship and affection which dumb animals so freely give to man. It is doubtful also that they would be capable of giving

or receiving love from their fellow human beings. Nevertheless, we feel that the full weight of the law should be visited upon them.

Happily, our present State Parliament appears to be made up of a large number of thinking people who are concerned about the rights of animals, and by that I mean both sides of the House. For example, and for those who may have missed it, we quote an item taken from the Sydney Sun of 23.1.79: "Stiff new penalties for people convicted of cruelty to animals will go before State Cabinet within the next few weeks. Under draft legislation which is being drawn up the maximum penalty will increase from \$400 to \$1000. Magistrates will retain the option of imposing a jail term of up to 6 months if the offence is serious enough. Another likely provision is that people convicted will have the animal taken from them unless they can prove they should retain ownership. Amendments to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act have been drawn up after consultation with the R.S.P.C.A. and other animal groups. They will be presented to Cabinet by the Minister for Services, Mr. Crabtree. It is understood Mr. Crabtree believes penalties imposed by Courts have not been heavy enough. Although a maximum fine of \$400 can be imposed, few fines go over \$200. The new legislation is likely to classify acts of cruelty."

Now that should be pleasing news to all you marvellous people who make up our membership, whether your name should be Mary or Maria, Andre or Andrew, or Henry or Heinrich.

We were very glad to note the provision for people convicted to have the animal taken from them. This backs up our argument that Mr. Bullen should not be allowed to breed the rhesus monkeys.

BOOK REVIEW By Leonore Bowman, Committee (tut tut, Len dear, Council - Council!)

A CAT AFFAIR - By DEREK TANGYE.

Those members who have read and enjoyed previous books of this author - e.g. "A Gull on the Roof"; "Cottage on a Cliff", will find this book a delightful story in which the Author touches on stories of present and past pets - Monty, with his beautiful dark ginger stripes and white shirt front, a haughty face, was an aristocrat of cats, lived through the bombs of London, was hailed by the crowds on Boat Race Day as he sat in the window of his home overlooking the finishing post, wearing a light blue ribbon around his neck; when he later moved to Cornwall a small stream was called Monty's Leap at the spot he used to leap across. Then came Rosebud who took up residence in the barn for a short time and then disappeared; the Donkeys, Penny and Fred. Penny was found by Derek and his wife, Jeannie, in a field, looking very forlorn; so they bought her on the spot and a month later she gave birth to Fred. When Penny became very ill Fred saved her life by sounding the alarm - hooting and trumpeting at the gate until Derek heard him. Because of the warning the Vet. arrived in time to save her. Fred's Birthday Party was attended by all the children of St. Buryan shouting "Happy Birthday, Freddie". The B.B.C. supplied a cake with red

marzipan carrots and green apples. Penny and Fred stretched forward their heads and ate the fruits before they could be stopped. Lama, who came to the door in a storm, succeeded Monty. She was very pretty and small, with a black pansy of a head and a black retrousse nose. Her eyes were the colour of almond, and oriental like those of a Burmese Cat; her coat of a special texture, silky but firm like a beaver lamb. She was named Lama before it was realised she was a girl when Sammy, a tom from the neighbouring farm jumped through the bedroom window. After she had been to the Vet she never went more than half a mile from "Minak" in her wanderings. Oliver, a black cat, so like Lama that they looked like a pair of bookends, found himself a lady cat. The lady was not pretty - brown, black, grey, white with a slash of orange across her face, but Oliver was enraptured. A few weeks later a tiny ginger kitten stumbled out of the leaves gathered in the lane. Oliver ran towards it and began to lick him. He was called Ambrose and they became inseparable. When Lama passed on - Derek opened the door one night, the light shone on Oliver and Ambrose waiting, side by side in the wind and rain, - a black cat and one the colour of autumn bracken - as if Lama and Monty had returned to Minack.

Available at Dymock's in a paper back only, at \$1.90. Sphere Books.

HOMES WANTED Gorgeous calico kitten, female, offers her life to kind owner. Help with desexing fee. Phone 047 213096. Will deliver. Many cats, kittens looking for good homes. Please enquire.

TATTOO THE CAT. When having your cat or dog desexed ask your Vet. to tattoo a capital "D" or "S" in the animal's ear. This will save many unnecessary operations being performed. We truly hope that your animal will not be lost, but one must be prepared, and we have had the experience of having cats and dogs undergo surgery only to discover that they are already desexed.

We would like to see it universal practice for all cats and dogs to be thus marked while still under anaesthesia for desexing, and look forward to the co-operation of the veterinary profession to achieve this desirable state of easy identification of desexed animals. Celie Smith.

WANT HELP?

TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO RING

Administration and Desexing (Eastern Suburbs)	662 6085	Mrs. Harvey
Fund Raising and Desexing (Northern Suburbs)	427 3828	Mrs. Cozens
Desexing (Western Suburbs)	798 6767	Mrs. Faulkner (6.00 - 7.30 pm)
Membership enquiries and Letters to Editor	477 1316	Mr. Graham (A.H. & weekends)