

JOURNAL OF THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF N.S.W.

June, 1979

Registered Charity No. CC 17122

P.O. Box A523

SYDNEY SOUTH, 2000

PLEASE REMEMBER
US IN YOUR WILL



PATRON

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

OFFICE BEARERS

President:

Mr. Ronald Carberry, B.E.M.

Vice-Presidents:

Mr. Geoffrey Luton, Mr. William Graham

Honorary Secretary:

Mrs. Shirley Bowles

Honorary Treasurer:

Mrs. Judith Graham

COUNCILLORS:

Mrs. Leonore Bowman, Mrs. Sybil Cozens,

Miss Thea Dullo, Mrs. Beulah Harvey,

Mrs. Sue Hitchen (Minute Secretary), Mrs. Celie Smith

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, 29TH DAY OF JULY, 1979, AT CITY OF SYDNEY R.S.L. CLUB, 569 GEORGE ST., SYDNEY, COMMENCING AT 2 P.M.

BUSINESS

1. Read and confirm Minutes of 1978 Annual General Meeting.
2. Business Arising.
3. Annual Report.
4. Balance Sheet and Financial Statement.
5. Election of Executive and Council 1979-80 term.
6. Election of Auditor.
7. General Business.

PLEASE NOTE: Annual subscriptions fell due on 1st June, Financial members only are entitled to vote, nominate or accept nomination for office. All nominations are to be in Honorary Secretary's hands no later than 15th July, 1979. See inside for further details re nominations for office bearers and Council.

REMINDER: If you can place a cat or kitten in a good home please ring and let us know.

THANK YOU, CITY OF SYDNEY R.S.L. FOR FREE USE OF MEETING ROOMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

ANIMAL AMBULANCE AND CLINIC APPEAL EDITION. (SEE INSIDE)

The Cat Protection Society of New South Wales

19th Financial year ending 31st May, 1979

Dear Member,

With pressure from many sides and a deadline to meet earlier than I had anticipated I find that I am unable to do justice to an Annual Report similar to those which I have submitted over the past four years, but the reader will find further in this Newsletter various segments covering other fields of endeavour over the period concerned.

Our financial year now ends as at the 31st of May in each year pursuant to Article 13 of the new Constitution of the Society and brings us back one month from the previous financial ending at June 30th.

During the period that unique happening in this State, and to the best of my knowledge - in the Commonwealth, became reality - the acquisition of our own premises to be used wholly and solely for desexing felines as a challenge to others, and with the object of reducing in some measure the misery and suffering within the tens of thousands of unwanted felines - a field of cruelty which overshadows all others on the domestic scene within and beyond the environs of every village, town and city where thoughtless and apathetic humans gather in N.S.W. and allow their cats to litter.

But one cannot help but feel sadly disappointed at the lack of physical involvement by many members, some of whom say to me - "You are doing a great job". I do not ask for pats on the back. They mean nothing to me. My whole thought and being is concentrated on seeing that facility established. I am totally committed on many fronts for the Society seven days a week. A lot of my own personal obligations are put aside to my own detriment in attending to Society affairs, and so I see talk as a very cheap commodity. Therefore, if you wish to throw any bouquets tell some responsible person on committee that you are prepared to roll up your sleeves, or do this or do that. If you do not help at this critical formative period this organisation will be the same as many similar where one hundred percent of the members are willing ---- to let three or four ---- DO ALL THE WORK and that really browns me off. I know that there are some who will never get off the broad side of the body and those who will not give up their life style for an hour. But I also know there is a hard core who sincerely believe as I do in what we are trying to achieve. Your help is needed NOW - not twelve months hence when we look back and say "Yes, it was worth it". For the benefit of those who are not conversant, I would point out that this society is the "baby" of the four major humane groups and our financial resources are now nil and, therefore, we must scrounge and cadge the things we need and beg you to

become involved and, like the horse, all I can do is invite you to drink at the fountain. If you do not respond that is another story. Ninetynine percent of you people reading this wish to see that project off the ground. Please do something.

As usual, our ladies have been the main supporters - firstly with the folding stuff, then cleaning up the premises, collecting goods for the shop and signifying their availability to Mrs. Cozens when the shop is open, but they are very few. However, the response from the men has been few and far between, and here I depart from my practice of not mentioning names. Mr. E. Drum of Kogarah and Mr. Tim Moore, M.L.A. for Gordon, were the only two who conveyed goods for us. Vice-President, Bill Graham, was on the ball in many directions and that terrific pair, Gordon Cozens and his helpmate, Sybil, (as good as most men when there is a bit of work to be done) have been at Enmore every Saturday for weeks, apart from their other accepted obligations.

ENMORE CLINIC AND OPPORTUNITY SHOP. We accepted possession of the premises in February last and Mr. Blomfield and two colleagues from the Department of Services were early on the scene with helpful advice and the promise of sympathetic consideration of our cumulative problems. But March, April and May brought progress only into the mire of red tape, delay and frustration in other directions, accompanied by the worry of trying to make ends meet in a cupboard bare. While the members were generous in their response to the December "Urgent Appeal", and we are hopeful that the Government will extend a hand, our commitments have raced far ahead in renovating costs and carrying out Marrickville Council alterations under Ordinance 70. Architect, Craig Meredith of Surry Hills, has donated his time in preparation of plans and specifications, and Mr. T.J. Cahill, M.L.A. for Marrickville, brought an important breakthrough with a very costly condition imposed by Council. We had hoped to pay for the many repairs out of earnings over a period of months but Marrickville Council stipulated that we cannot occupy until their conditions are completed to their satisfaction, and this forced our hand further into the red. However, we will overcome.

Priorities are, firstly, to prevent entry of rainwater to various sections, renewal of and repairs to galvanized roof, flashing, gutter and drops; reinforced concrete slab to floor of shop, painting to same and facade, then interior; installation of two hour rating fireseal door between surgery and living area; alterations to existing rear concrete stairs; entry gate in roller shutter; with other matters of lesser importance to follow. Then a very pricey item will be vinyl floor covering for shop and adjacent area, measuring some 60 ft. by 14 ft. (anyone in the trade?) While Ruther Clarke has gifted most of the surgery furniture and Agnes Gillham has given us three nice showcases, the mind boggles when thoughts

are focussed on the assorted shop fittings, other furnishings and miscellaneous equipment still to be scrounged with Mother Hubbard in the background. For a small charity endeavouring to lead the way, it is indeed a rich man's world. I think we can make it, but what is of great import --- what do you think? Everyone knows someone who can make things easier for us. What about it?

APPRECIATION. In expressing earnest appreciation on behalf of State Council in particular and the Society generally many names spring to mind of those who have given the cents and the dollars within their capacity; of the goods gifted covering a wide range of merchandise from paint, ladder, furniture and what have you, which all represents money; the time given generously in the field or other society business irrespective of personal obligations; and brings the evident truth that without the assistance and help of this dedicated and sincere cross-section of the members we would never have reached the point of advancement at which we now stand. So, to one and all, THANK YOU.

R.K. Carberry,
Chairman.

ANIMAL AMBULANCE TRANSPORT AND CLINIC RENOVATION APPEAL.

In place of our usual Winter Appeal we are now begging funds for:-

1. To provide this Society with an animal ambulance which will also double as a means of transporting goods to and from our Opportunity Shop. When used as an ambulance it would be of wonderful help to those field workers of whom Mrs. Bowles has written in this issue of the Journal. Previous appeals for transport have produced very little. Therefore, we are desperate to provide our own. The premises at Enmore have a very good lock-up garage in which it can be housed. If you can't donate a small van, can you spare a dollar towards one?
2. Funds are still needed to effect the necessary renovations to the Enmore Clinic. Requirements are - roofing repairs, electrical fixtures, flooring, painting etc. etc. If you can't give a money donation perhaps you may have unwanted goods which could help stock the Opportunity shop.
3. Willing Workers Wanted! Vacancies still remain to be filled on the Opportunity shop voluntary helpers roster. To avoid disappointment ring Mrs. Cozens on 427-3828 while vacancies last. First to call get the jobs!

PLEASE PASS THIS NEWSLETTER ON

NOMINATIONS AND VOTING PROCEDURES - By The Editor.

Now that we have become a Corporate body it is essential that elections be held in accordance with our Articles of Association. The following extract may help members who are in doubt as to the procedure:-

40. The election of office-bearers and other members of the Council shall take place in the following manner:

- (a) Any two members of the Society shall be at liberty to nominate any other member to serve as an office-bearer or other member of the Council.
- (b) The nomination, which shall be in writing and signed by the member and his proposer and seconder shall be lodged with the Secretary at least fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting at which the election is to take place.
- (c) A list of the candidates' names in alphabetical order, with the proposer's and seconder's names, shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the registered office of the Society for at least seven days immediately preceding the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) Balloting lists shall be prepared (if necessary) containing the names of the candidates only. The order in which the names of the candidates appear on the Ballot Paper shall be decided by lot, and each member present at the Annual General Meeting shall be entitled to vote for any number of such candidates not exceeding the number of vacancies.
- (e) The Ballot shall be conducted by a returning officer appointed by the members present and assisted by two or more scrutineers elected at such meeting.
- (f) In case there shall not be sufficient number of candidates nominated the Council shall fill up the remaining vacancies. - End of Extract.

Put simply, any member seeking election to a position on the Council should ensure that his/her nomination be in the form as set out below:-

"I, the undersigned financial members of The Cat Protection Society of N.S.W. hereby nominate for the position of^x at the election to be held at the Annual General Meeting of the said Society on Sunday, the 29th day of July, 1979.

Proposer Address

Secunder Address

I, of born being a financial member of the said Society, do hereby agree to such nomination, and if elected, agree to be bound by the Memorandum and Articles of Association for the ensuing twelve months from such election.

Signed Date

^x President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, State Councillor

Nominations not correctly signed and completed will be declared invalid. Only financial members are legally entitled to nominate and vote.

Any member who feels they could serve as a useful member of Council is cordially invited to seek election. Remember - nominations must be posted to our usual box number no later than 15th July, 1979. Address to the Honorary Secretary.

MEMBERSHIP FEES. Life Governor \$300, Life Member \$50, Annual Member \$5, Annual Pensioner Member \$2, Annual Junior Member \$2.

We are always sorry to lose members but, unfortunately, a number of members have still not forwarded their 1978-9 dues. In accordance with the rules we have reluctantly removed their names from the Register and can no longer afford to post the C.P.S. Journal to them. Members are requested to notify us of any change of address as the Journal is occasionally returned, stamped "No longer at this address".

IN PRAISE OF FIELD WORKERS. By Shirley Bowles, Honorary Secretary.

I would like to draw attention to that oft-forgotten group, the small band of field workers (including those who are not members) who selflessly give up hours of their time to go to the rescue of the starving strays. Their's is the greater sacrifice for they often have to endure the biting winds and cold while carrying out their self-appointed tasks. They also have to withstand the "blasts" from some of the ignorant and rude people with whom they have to deal. They are the backbone of our Society. To them we owe an enormous debt of gratitude. Although they may not see their names mentioned publicly we want them to know that their actions do not pass unnoticed or unappreciated.

Footnote: Some of the field workers lack transport which makes their job doubly difficult. If any member can help out by offering them a lift when needed (you would only be called on occasionally) they would be most grateful. Perhaps you would like to leave your name and 'phone number with us and we can pass it on to the ladies closest to you.

"IN GOOD COMPANY" - a little booklet of quotations about animals and beautifully illustrated by Astra Lacis, is now selling for \$1 at the Pocket Bookshop, 137A (basement) King Street, Sydney. These quotations from the famous were compiled by Elizabeth Ahlston of the Australian Association for Humane Research. She says in her preface - "Be proud to speak out against animal experimentation: you are in good company!" The first quote in this booklet is from Confucius: "It is better to light one small candle than curse the darkness", and this sums up the spirit of this delightful publication. Your purchase of this booklet will help in the fight against vivisection.

FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES - By Sybil Cozens

Luncheon and Dress Parade, 24th March. Many thanks to Dr. Louise Jones and her team of helpers for producing a splendid luncheon and afternoon of trans-seasonal fashions. Chairs were set out in her garden and lunch was served before the Parade. The models paraded along the garden paths and swimming pool showing the latest styles, trends and fabrics. There was a rush afterwards to "buy up big" and many girls bought their winter wardrobe. Nett result for the exchequer \$400 - a fantastic result.

Crochet Lace Party. This was held at my home on St. Patrick's Day - 17th April. A group of 16 ladies enjoyed a very interesting lecture on the cottage industry of crochet lace making and embroidery in India. As it is a cottage industry no import duty is levied on the goods coming into Australia. This is the reason the cost is so low for the magnificently done tablecloths, bed spreads, mats, duchess sets etc. \$48 was raised and this was used to purchase a dress rack for our opportunity shop.

Noritake-Mikasa Party. This was held on 26th May at my home and netted the Treasury \$45. We all wished we could start from "scratch" again when the demonstrator revealed the latest trends in china, glass, pottery and cutlery.

Forthcoming Functions:

Indian Crochet Lace. An afternoon tea has been arranged at Miss Silin's home in Seaforth on Saturday, 22nd September, at 2 p.m. sharp. She has given us a large rumpus room for displaying this beautiful craft which is for sale. So please bring your friends. (Incidentally, she is making us the "yummiest" of Continental Cake for tea). Cost \$1.50. Ring 427-3828 for bookings.

Fashion Parade. Another Parade on the North side, - good for our northern members! This time in Turramurra - date: Saturday, 6th October at 12.30 for light lunch of chicken sandwiches and champagne, cheese cake and coffee - \$4.50. Come and buy your summer wardrobe at very reasonable prices. No need to worry about the weather as this is an indoor showing. 'Phone me 427-3828 for details and reservations.

Have your own Functions. I have contacts in Tupperware, Mikasa (beautiful glass and china), lace and the dress industry, who will be happy to do a show for you. It doesn't have to be on a grand scale or manner - just a few people and a simple "cuppa". Remember, we must have a supply of money coming in to run the Clinic.

Opportunity Shop Auxiliary. Three talented ladies have signified willingness to found and start off our opportunity shop. However, we still need

more helpers. Can you spare some time to work in it? A half day, full day, once a week, a month or whatever. I am compiling a roster list and need more names. Let's hear from you and your retired man - a change from Bowls!

Wool. Thank you for donations of wool and thanks to the two very kind ladies at Drummoyne and Terrey Hills who are going to knit it into garments for the shop.

Materials. Pieces of fabrics can also be made into garments. Perhaps you have some; also trimmings like braids, ribbon and lace. Every little helps as often a small length is sufficient to trim a coat hanger, a baby's dress, a waste paper basket, a pot holder and such things as our team will be making for our shop. Do you have a special handicraft or skills that we can use? Perhaps you are a painter, potter, embroiderer, knitter, sewer, jeweller, preserver of fruits, jams etc. Please call me and talk it over.

Paintings. Mr. H. Thompson of Leura has generously donated six of his own delightful oil paintings of landscapes. These are all framed and will be for sale in our shop. Many thanks, Mr. Thompson.

Raffle. The "Gold Raffle" will be drawn at the Annual General Meeting on the 29th July. Have you sold your book yet? Let's have the butts back before the Meeting.

Goods for the Opportunity Shop. If you have anything for our shop you can call me on 427-3828 should you need a "pick-up" service. We can use goods from antiques to "best Woolworths". On behalf of Council, many thanks to you all for your donations of goods.

"CENTRAL COAST CALLING!" Greetings from Dorothy Haines, Organising Secretary.

Fund Raising: Extra good street stall, Umina, Easter Saturday, netted \$209. Thanks to Chittaway ladies for grand array of jams. Thanks to Betty Hornby, Umina, for lovely plants and opportunity shop goods. Special thanks to some special people; Mrs. Mabel Rafe and Miss Carrie Almond (sisters) for loads of lovely gift articles, plus a really lovely Easter cake which raffled very well.

Our bus tour on April 26th was very successful. Visited kitchen of Sara Lee, Sanitarium factory, aged folks units at Cooranbong etc. A happy day making new friends and supporters. Raised \$58. Congratulations to coach hostesses, Kath and Gwen.

Chittaway Point Get-together:- A most happy Sunday afternoon, March 18th, was arranged by Edith Duport where she welcomed members and supporters

to the "top end". Unfortunately, Edith suffered a broken ankle the day before, but Kathy Adams rose to the occasion as "stand-in" hostess. Mrs. Campbell's lovely cakes and other festive items, plus Mrs. Verity's grand work in setting up the entertainment ensured all went well. Bert D. and Jim G. were "tea bashers" and Bill Graham dispensed the "bubbly". A good assembly of "top end" members and supporters made it a friendly and rewarding occasion, as well as hearing of the Clinic and suggestions for a local group. (Two splendid locals have offered for key positions in proposed Wyong/The Entrance group.) Well done, Edith, get well soon!

Thank You:- to tireless worker, June Brown, Sydney resident and W.W.D.G. member. Collected mountains of material for Enmore opportunity shop. Has netted lots of cash with aluminium cans project, enlisted many supporters in this quest and provided grand support with all our stalls. B. Treasurer, Gwen Arnold, burning the midnight oil with that May 31st deadline in sight. Always raising masses of plants and seedlings for our stalls, not to mention all those jams, pickles and scones. This is the "Year of the Child" - it is also the year of the Clinic. Our heartfelt good wishes to those brave souls and willing toilers who will bring this wonderful project into being and operation. We are grateful (The Editor probably won't print this) but our sincere thanks to Bill and Judith Graham for advice, moral support, transport, and patient guidance in our varying problems from time to time, and their welcome visits around our Shire. (The blue pencil was poised. However, just this one time, Dorothy, will let it pass. The Ed.)

Kay Renton to Melbourne. Prominent Committee member, Kay, leaving us, but will contact C.P.S. in Melbourne. More news later on.

Our Clinics for the "Littlies":- The "Kitty Clinic" at Umina, and the Cat Motel at "South Pacific" are always full. The doors swing in and the doors swing out - "out" as rapidly as possible, and numerous little waifs find stately homes and warm welcomes for the term of their natural lives. These littlies are those with nowhere else to go, and with no-one else to help them pending new homes.

De-sexing Report. For the period 30.6.78 to 31.5.79 25 cats were neutered, 17 euthanised, 27 grown cats and 89 kittens found good homes, 6 treatments and 3 feline enteritis needles were given. We were contacted by 264 people for help - we telephoned 300 and wrote to 52, and we personally handled 236 of the cases on our welfare book.

Till we meet again. Woy Woy District Group. C.P.S.

Leonardo da Vinci, 1452-1519 - "O justice of God! Why dost thou not awake to behold thy creatures thus abused?" (By courtesy of "In Good Company")

REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP. We set out below our membership figures for the past six years:-

30/6/74	Life 13	Annual 436	Junior 4	Total 453
30/6/75	Life 21	Annual 647	Junior 10	Total 678
30/6/76	Life 95	Annual 767	Junior 32	Total 894
30/6/77	Life 171	Annual 795	Junior 33	Total 999
30/6/78	Life 232	Annual 718	Junior 28	Total 978
30/6/79	Life 293	Annual 645	Junior 20	Total 958

Although we are down a few members in the Annual membership, our Life Membership has risen dramatically as you will notice from the figures. Since 1974 when there were 13 Life Members the number has risen each year until we now have 293 which is a very healthy increase. Part of the drop in Annual Members is accounted for by some of our dedicated members transferring to Life Membership. Over 30% of our members are now Life Members. A few of our old members have unfortunately died, and others have gone overseas. The drop in Junior members is due to their moving into the Annual or Life Membership brackets.

FINANCIAL REPORT (for the 11 months ended 31st May, 1979). The most outstanding item in the financial report is, of course, the purchase of our Enmore property. The painstaking building up of funds to finance the purchase of the desexing Clinic has been no easy task but the eventual acquisition of Enmore has been a most gratifying result. Donations towards the Clinic have gathered momentum over the last 4 years culminating in the members' generous response to the President's excellent December Appeal letter. The result of that Appeal accounted for almost half of the yearly total of Clinic donations. Income from functions and raffles increased considerably over the previous year and the result of the Xmas and Winter Appeals almost doubled.

On the expenditure side, veterinary services rose. This was mainly due to additional advertising which produced an increase in desexing and other help. Printing and stationery, together with postage, were up on the previous year as a result of the larger Newsletter and the exceptional December Appeal. Rates on properties increased but this was more than offset by increased rents received. The costs relating to the establishment of the Enmore Clinic and Opportunity Shop will continue into the next financial year but sales from the shop are expected to boost our income significantly.

WOY WOY DISTRICT GROUP. You will have read earlier in this Journal, under "Central Coast Calling" the report from the Secretary, Mrs. Dorothy Haines, on the Branch's activities. These girls continue their magnificent work and are expanding their field of endeavours. We send them our heartiest congratulations and sincere thanks and hope that they will receive increased support from the local residents to achieve their goals.

Editorial Ramblings.

Reading Norman Lindsay's "Bohemians of the Bulletin" just recently. In the chapter on J.F. Archibald he says "Archie loved looking at girls; so did I". To which I'll add, so do I. He goes on; "No man is worth a damn unless the spectacle of femininity has an eternal interest for him". You may ask what relevance has the above to this Journal? Just this - some weeks ago a feature was running on T.V. that had to do, if I remember rightly, mostly with the big cats. I can't remember who the commentator was, but on one occasion when speaking of the leopard, he explained how they were being exterminated for their skins. He went on to describe how, in order not to damage the skin, a red hot wire was forced into the anus of the leopard, thus causing it to die in extreme agony. He concluded by saying, "Ladies, is that not too high a price to pay for a fur coat?" So what I am saying is - Men love to look at women, my word we do, and a fur coat is not required to claim our attention.

I had written the above par just prior to having the pleasure of attending a talk on "Beauty Without Cruelty", given by Lady Dowding. She came out strongly against the use of furs. She labels them "garments of shame". All her furs are fake and are prominently labelled "make no mistake, my fur is fake".

Lady Dowding, who is the founder of Beauty Without Cruelty, has fought for many years against the brutality involved in making women more beautiful. "Cats and dogs are used in the manufacture of soaps, every type of animal is used in testing cosmetics. Some perfumes are based on fluid taken from the gentle musk deer or in dreadfully cruel fashion from the civet cat". Lady Dowding went on to describe how Beauty Without Cruelty was formed in order to provide an alternative to animal based cosmetics. She has succeeded in providing a complete range of products which in their manufacture have not harmed any living creature. Some of the ingredients used are - avocado pears, extracts from the exotic ylang ylang flower, wheat germ, sunflower, cucumber and the healing myrrh of ancient times. Among the questions asked of Lady Dowding was - could she recommend any other brands of cosmetics as being free of any animal product, or not resorting to animal experimentation. She replied in the negative and explained that, unfortunately, some products which had previously been cleared had now been taken over by others and were no longer reliable. Lady Dowding, herself, is the guinea pig on which Beauty without Cruelty products are tested and, judging by her beautiful complexion and youthful smiling face, I can only say that as a person over sixty, she is a terrific advertisement for B.W.C. products.

Beauty Without Cruelty is a non profit organisation dedicated to the cause of all animals. It numbers among its members Spike Milligan, Rolf Harris and a former Miss Australia. The products are available from Vince Russell (life member C.P.S.), True Health Aids, 443 George St., Sydney.

I have a number of photo-copies of the pamphlets which list and describe these products. Any member who would like one, or better still, would take several to distribute, may obtain them by contacting me by phone 477-1316, or writing the Editor c/- our usual box number. It would be a good thing to spread the word on Beauty Without Cruelty and, although we may never put out of business those who rely on animal experimentation to sell their products, we may in time put one hell of a dent in their profits.

Recently spent some holidays on the South Coast, mainly watching the tide roll away and wondering what to write about for this Column. One thing I thought about was the wild duck hunting season and the many letters of protest which had been appearing in the newspapers. One thought leads to another and soon I was many years back in a holiday which I once spent on a relative's sheep station in the outback. One particular day I saddled a horse, armed myself with a double-barrelled shotgun, then set off in search of a brace of ducks for dinner. I eventually came across a water hole where the wild, wood ducks were feeding. I bagged two and we all enjoyed our duck dinner. Next day I set off for the same water hole with the intention of enjoying a further gourmet dinner of wild duck. When I arrived at the water hole the birds took off. Sadly, one remained, left behind because of a broken wing. It was obvious that a shotgun pellet fired by me had wounded him on the previous day. The sight of that poor wounded creature extinguished all desire on my part for further duck dinners. I took the broken bird back with me to the homestead and placed him in the home dam. My sister assured me she would see the bird was well fed and kept on the dam as a pet.

That duck lived on for many years, a prisoner in the domestic pond, but one thought always bothered me. I knew that when the wild ducks wheeled overhead, and called to the cripple down below, how wistfully he would answer back but could never join them in their wonderful freedom of the sky.

Not since that time have I eaten wild duck nor pulled a trigger on any wild creature. I wonder - how many wounded and crippled birds and animals are left behind when the hunter has passed by?

SEAL SLAUGHTER. The following appeal, though dated 26th October, 1978, was not received by us until March this year. Nevertheless, as the mass murder of seals continues we feel that the request is still timely:-

"International Fund for Animal Welfare, 26th October, 1978

The March, 1979, quota of seal pups to be slaughtered in the North West Atlantic seal hunt is 195000. Please write an aerogramme to the Prime Minister of Norway in accordance with this letter:-

Dear Friend of IFAW:

I have an urgent request of you.

Sources close to high government circles in Norway tell me there is near agreement to end that country's direct participation in the mass slaughter of seals off the east coast of Canada. Only Norway's Fisheries Minister, Mr. Eivind Bolle, continues to support those who still wish (despite world wide condemnation) to cruelly kill the seals.

In 1975 I was the first person to independently film the Norwegian hunt when at the controls of IFAW's helicopter I reached the killer ships off Belle Isle; in the frigid Labrador Current, and I wrote: "On the ice almost all the baby seals were actually butchered with light steel hooks. Many, receiving multiple blows to various parts of the body, died in apparent agony. Often, seals, which to me were obviously vividly alive, were 'hooked' and dragged, twisting and squirming, over the ice to 'skinning stations'. At these locations, some appeared to die only as hunters used their knives on them."

We must attempt to tilt the debate in favour of the seals. Will you please sit down right now and write a short note to Mr. Odvar Nordli, Prime Minister of Norway, P.O. 8001 DEP, OSLO 1, Norway, pleading for his country to pull out of the seal hunt. Write a courteous note - try to win him over to our side.

Thank you so much for your help in what is clearly a battle of attrition with those who profit from the brutal exploitation of animals.

Sincerely,

Brian Davies, Executive Director

(Editor's note: Will you sit down right now and pen your protest?)

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

The Treasurer and Editor,

Dear Ladies,

I thought a comment on sunscreen lotions for cats might be suitable for your magazine.

White or light coloured cats with pale skin are prone to hyper-keratoses (sun spots) and skin cancer where the fur is sparse or absent. Sunscreen application can reduce the risk. Unfortunately, the tip of the nose and lips are virtually impossible to protect because the cat will lick off the lotion immediately. The ears, however, can be readily protected.

Any approved preparation that is fixed to the skin can be used, but cats dislike those with an alcohol base. One that stains the skin brown, such as Sudden Tan, is useful because you can see when the next application is due. Once a week may suffice unless the cat has been busy cleaning those ears.

A sunscreen preparation is the only satisfactory way to protect a susceptible cat from sunburn and its consequences. Tattooing has little value because the tattoo goes into the dermis or deeper layers of the skin while sunburn affects also the epidermis or superficial layers.

Yours Sincerely,
Marion D. Cridland.

(People whose white cats suffer from skin troubles may find the above thoughtful advice the answer to their problems. Thank you for your constructive letter, Dr. Cridland. Just one thing though Doc: Your diagnosis regarding the Treasurer and Editor was only 50% correct. The Treasurer is certainly a lady - the Editor, alas, though perhaps not a gentleman, is certainly no "Lady". The Ed.)

Dear Mr. Graham,

Many thanks for your letters, newsletters and receipt for my subscription.

My heartiest congratulations on the tremendous effort in at last obtaining premises for a clinic. I agree entirely with the Society's outlook on desexing - it is so necessary to help the poor little waifs who cannot protect themselves. My best wishes for the continual success of the Society. Am very interested in the newsletters but must admit that the stories of cruelty really upset me. Having had two cats over a period of 18½ years for whom I lived & worked & loved - plus always the odd stray and other people's cats, I feel I really know cats and their many delightful, loving ways and to me they are the Cream of the Animal kingdom.

Yours Sincerely,
Betty Scrivener.

Letters to the Editor (continued)

Congratulations on the most informative, interesting & encouraging and I am sorry to say, in parts, horrifying newsletter - or should I say Journal?

With best wishes for a bright & successful future.

Sincerely,

Myra Whatmore

(Journal is right, Mrs. Whatmore. The foregoing two members express concern at stories of cruelty. Some other members feel the same way as the Editor has received certain criticism in this regard. Please let me explain, as I did at our last General Meeting; we are an Animal Protection Society and as such it is our duty to expose or describe certain cases of cruelty no matter how distasteful. I too, am revolted - often. But there is no Santa Claus and we do not live in Fairyland. Life is cruel but we cannot bury our heads. What we must do is to keep on trying to improve the lot of all animals, and to do that we have to alter the thinking of a lot of people.

What would we know of the whale slaughter, or the kangaroo slaughter, or the dreadful baby seal slaughter if it were not for thinking, kind and humanitarian people bringing such horrors to our attention? What would we know of Auschwitz or Belsen, or for that matter, Dresden or Hiroshima, if somebody in their revulsion over such things, had not published the grim and sordid details of Man's bottomless capacity to inflict cruelty? Those of you who have seen in the newspapers those pictures of a sub-human armed with a club, about to bash out the brains of a baby seal must have felt as I did - crushed and defeated. But then, after a while, we feel a rising anger and a grim determination to do what we can to stamp out such things, do we not? Therefore, Members, our fight is to publish and expose. The Ed.).

Vice President, Mr. Graham

Dear Sir,

I have just become a member of your wonderful Society, wanted to do so for such a long time. My beautiful Mandy passed away 12.12.71. I still visit her grave. I live in a unit. Unfortunately, the people here dislike animals, especially cats. Mandy was only here five months after her operation for cancer. How I miss my darling pussycat and best friend.

There are many stray cats around here fighting, babies in an old house next door. Everyone should be fined if they fail to have their animals desexed.

Sincerely,

Rita Abell

(Thank you, Mrs. Abell, know how you feel about your cat. Your idea of fines for people who neglect to desex their animals is good. The Ed.)

Letters to the Editor (continued)

To the Editor, C.P.S. Newsletter.

Dear Sir,

Firstly, I would like to express my appreciation of the many useful letters of information (Lost Pets, Central Coast Calling, Contented Cat Inn etc.) published in the latest newsletter.

Now, and please forgive, the article by Taman Shud is dangerous - it could give some children dangerous ideas. The article Cat Nutrition is extremely misleading because I think most Vets will agree that dried foods should be used only as a very occasional snack. Again, the article re washing a cat (for de-fleaing purposes in this case, but at any time) could be quite a dangerous procedure in irresponsible hands.

Finally, if we are to have a clinic, would the Committee and members please most strongly insist upon a resident Caretaker (say, a responsible pensioner, rent free and paid out of petty cash - \$20 per week should not be beyond financial possibilities.) Otherwise, vandalism, once it is known that the premises are vacant at night, and that animals are helplessly locked in there, will surely occur. (I would have attended last meeting but for a heavy cold and very bad weather, to voice this proposal.)

The alternative is to renovate the place, sell it at a profit, or rent it and find another where a resident Caretaker is no problem.

Thank you for your attention, I am

Yours faithfully,

(Mrs.) Edith de Segoyer

(Well, I did say "Letters to the Editor" was the members forum and it was the place to get in your 'licks', so I asked for it, didn't I?).

O.K., Mrs. de Segoyer, I do not agree with your criticisms but I support your right to voice them. Now, let us look at each point you have made.

1. 'Dangerous article by "Taman Shud", - was not written by "Taman Shud" but part of my editorial. The "Taman Shud" was in memory of my old friend and was from the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayam (Persian).

'And when Thyself with shing Foot shall pass
Amongst the Guests Star-scatt'd on the Grass,
And in thy joyous Errand reach the Spot
Where I made one - turn down an empty Glass!'

TAMAN SHUD

How the true story of a man's life-long memory of the remorse he felt when as a child he stole a baby animal from its mother could be regarded as giving children dangerous ideas is hard for me to fathom. I should think the reverse would be the case, as surely it contains a moral.

2. 'Extremely misleading Cat Nutrition article'. I suggest you did not read it fully or carefully, otherwise you would have noted the Editor's remarks re dangers of dried food, snack only, etc. How many Vets have

Letters to the Editor (continued)

you questioned about dried cat food, Mrs. de Segoyer? I have queried several and their answers for the most part have been ambiguous. It is worth mentioning here that dried food provides sufficient abrasive action on the teeth and gums to prevent tartar which can result in gingivitis, a gum infection.

3. 'Dangerous Cat Washing procedure'. A match, gun or automobile is also dangerous in irresponsible hands. Article was not intended for irresponsibles but directed at the type of responsible person of which this Society is made up. Furthermore, it commenced with the words - "First seek veterinary advice".

4. 'Problems with Clinic'. The matter you raised should be discussed at a General Meeting. If you wish to put a resolution to the membership on it is your right to do so. Mr. Carberry, by resolution of the membership present and voting, had been given full authority to purchase the present clinic property with no objections being raised. - Thank you for your letter, Mrs. de Segoyer. The Ed.).

The Editor, Cat Protection Society of N.S.W.

Cat Carriers. In the newsletter would you draw members' attention to the importance of checking very carefully the fasteners on the plastic based and wire topped carriers before purchase, the particular one being with two looped wires on the lid which slide backwards and forwards to fasten it.

I purchased one a few months ago and have used it three times. After collecting our cat from the veterinary where she had been for treatment we were unable to open the container to let her out as the wire had jammed. After struggling for some time and the cat going berserk inside the two wire loops had to be cut off to open the lid and release the cat. This of course makes the container useless. When the local store where the purchase was made was asked if the fasteners could be repaired I was advised "No spare parts" as the container was supplied from overseas. It was suggested I buy a similar one they had in stock with improved fasteners which I refused as I will not put our cat in that type again.

Yours Sincerely,
Mrs. H. Austin

(The type of container Mrs. Austin describes has been used by myself over a number of years and has not given any trouble. I would suggest that because of a lack of adequate quality control many products manufactured these days are shoddy. Therefore, one should check carefully before purchase that containers such as the above are in proper working order. Try to deal only with merchants who offer 'money back or exchange'. Thank you, Mrs. Austin, - and remember, 'Caveat Emptor'. The Ed.).

Letters to the Editor (continued)

Dear Sir,

The following article is from a recent newspaper and I thought it would interest a great many of our members. I have condensed it slightly. Milk and your Cat. A cat requires a high protein diet, meat and eggs, plus a relatively high fat content. It can absorb carbohydrates such as kibble, grain or biscuits but not sugar. Cows milk contains lactose - a type of sugar which causes cats to develop flatulence and chronic diarrhoea.

Siamese cat breeds show marked intolerance to cows milk. Basically, cows milk is much weaker in protein (3%) compared to feline milk (10%). Orphaned kittens flourish on tinned milk such as Carnation which has a high protein content. However, some cats will not drink milk of any kind and some breeders claim adult cats do not need it, but all state categorically that fresh water is essential. Without plenty of fluid intake a sick cat can dehydrate very quickly and death often occurs. As cats are very fastidious, water bowls should be kept clean as even cat's hair floating on the surface will often cause a cat not to drink.

Sybil Cozens (Council)

IN MEMORIAM

Donation in lieu of flowers. For Richard.

Inserted by Mrs. B. Harvey

Donation in lieu of flowers in memory of the late Mr. N. Loader.

Inserted by Peter Gillan, and Peter White

MEMORY LANE

In memory of our beloved cat "Trudy" who passed away in March, aged 13½ years. A faithful and loving companion who will never be forgotten by all who loved her.

Wishing the Society every success in its wonderful work.

Inserted by Miss Enid Brown.

Donation in memory of "CAT" SEAL, aged 14, who was put to sleep as her owners were obliged to move to Western Australia.

From friends "Ginger" and "Sambo" Bowman.

"A little lion, small and dainty sweet

(For such there be!

With sea-grey eyes and softly stepping feet."

Rosamund Marriott Watson

The Night The Possum Came Down The Chimney - By The Ed.

Out our way, way out in what some of my friends describe as the 'boondocks', in fact, some of them tell me they wouldn't even travel that far on their holidays, we often live in a state of confusion. This is largely brought about by the 3 cats and numerous wild-life who share the place with us. It is not unusual to be awakened in the small hours by that peculiar cry of 'prowraa, prowraa', which heralds one or other of the cats obsequiously soliciting approval for the catch brought in, whether it be butterfly, field-mouse, frog, or as happened on one occasion, guinea pig. These hapless and reluctant captives are always in prime physical condition - they are not damaged by the cats as this would detract from their capacity to provide FINE FELINE FUN AND FROLIC. The sport the cats enjoy is the chaos and confusion of the chase and what they enjoy most of all is to observe those dumb humans bumble sleepy-eyed all over the house in their efforts to rescue and expel the wretched hostages. These efforts, of course, are always hampered and impeded by the cats who hypocritically pretend to help. We had reached a stage where we felt we could deal with these situations until the horrendous night when the possum came down the chimney! How the cats engineered it we don't know, but we have no doubt that somehow, some way, they were at the bottom of it. Once upon a mid-night, about 3 or 4 years back, we were woken from our slumbers by a loud slithering sound, followed by a dull thud. Our dulled senses were further assailed by rapid scurryings and excited cat cries. These noises seemed to be coming from all parts of the house. After the usual brief argument as to who was going to get up and deal with this latest fiasco, (such arguments I invariably lose) but on this occasion the result was a draw for it appeared the cats had a really big deal going this time, so we both got up. On looking at the scene which confronted us our hearts sank, for we both knew that all sleep for what remained of the night had forever flown. At the base of the fire-place, spilling onto the carpet, lay a great heap of soot, enough to fill a chaff bag. Leading from this mess - a set of black, sooty tracks wound in, around and over just about every object in the house. The led us eventually to the hall picture rail. From this was hanging a very large, puzzled and angry possum. After giving us a brief once-over and dismissing us as of no consequence, the possum resumed hurling obscenities at the 3 grinning and highly delighted cats below who were returning his insults threefold. Every once in a while, like some marsupial Blondin the possum would inch along his precarious perch, release one arm and take a wild swing at one of the excitedly leaping cats. This only caused the cats to redouble their FRENZIED efforts to dislodge him, and to yowl the louder. As you can imagine, my wits were now wildly scattered, but gathering what pitifully few remained, I hastily organised an escape route for the possum. I opened all doors leading to the back verandah, ordered the cats to block the front entrance, armed my wife with a broom after clearly explaining to her how best to prod the possum toward the open back door. Then, like any good general, I stood well back behind my troops and awaited

results. They were not long in coming.

The cats sneeringly refused to obey my command. They had no intention of being done out of their fun. They cunningly placed themselves between all exits and the possum. My wife, after one or two timid and ineffectual prods with the broom, which the possum treated with the contempt they deserved, then retreated behind her General from which position she refused to budge. Stalemate!

Now if anything can go wrong in our house it will go wrong. The possum, having long since decided that the two bipeds were no threat and having overcome his initial irritability, now entered into the spirit of the game with a vengeance. Suddenly releasing his hold on the picture rail, he dropped to the floor, then raced back through the pile of soot hotly pursued by the cats. Now, instead of one, there were four sets of little filthy sooty tracks branching every which way. Amid this pandemonium all decorum was abandoned. The cats were swearing at the possum, the possum was swearing at the cats, my wife was swearing at me, and I was swearing at the cats, possum and wife. Back up the picture rail went the possum! Square one again! It was at this stage I thought my wife, who is normally a pretty sensible sort of person, was about to have hysterics, whilst I seriously debated whether to just go quietly and have a mental breakdown. However, being male, and therefore made of sterner stuff, I acted on the principle of - if you want it done then do it yourself.

Stern action was required. Locking my wife in one bedroom, the cats in the other, I then took up the broom and advanced resolutely upon the possum. How easy it turned out to be with wife and cats out of the way! With a minimum of fuss I gently and simply eased that old possum out through the back door. I then went back to my wife to explain to her the simplicity of my technique in evicting possums from the house, but somehow she didn't seem to want to listen. In fact, she didn't want to listen for several days. She had plenty to say herself though. One of the few coherent sentences sounded something like:- "You had better do something pretty damn soon about boarding up that chimney".

WANT HELP?

TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO RING

Administration, Letters to the Editor	477-1316	Mr. Graham (After hours and week-ends)
Fund Raising and De-sexing (North & East Suburbs)	427-3828	Mrs. Cozens
De-Sexing (Western Suburbs)	798-6767	Mrs. Faulkner (6.00 - 7.30 p.m.)

PLEASE PASS THIS NEWSLETTER ON