

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

Editor: W. Graham
Editorial Asst.: S. Bowles

November, 1979

Registered Charity No. CC 17122

P.O. Box A523

SYDNEY SOUTH, 2000



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NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, 25TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 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 March, 1979, General Meeting.
2. Business Arising.
3. Report on Enmore Opportunity Shop and Clinic.
4. Treasurer's Report.
5. General Business.

WELCOME. A hearty and warm welcome to all those new members who have joined us in recent months.

IF YOU CAN PLACE A CAT OR KITTEN IN A GOOD HOME PLEASE LET US KNOW.

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

THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends,

Our Society now takes its rightful place among the humane welfare groups in this State with our own edifice of bricks and mortar situated at 103 Enmore Road, Enmore (close to Newtown bridge), and with the sign-writing now complete we proclaim to the hundreds of thousands of people who use this busy thoroughfare by bus and other transport that we are a live organisation going places. We also have our listing in the phone book. While this facility is a very necessary instrument of our growth to extend help and advice and bring to the attention of the community that we are in business it can, at this stage of our development, bring some problems to our ladies who, as a voluntary team, are staffing our opportunity shop. They can be flat out attending to a number of customers and some caller wishes to engage in a lengthy conversation about everything under the sun except felines. Very difficult, but it will work itself out.

For the benefit of those members who live too far afield and those who have as yet been unable to visit what will be our headquarters for some time to come, I give a run-down on events since the Annual Report.

When Marrickville Municipal Council gave approval in December, 1978, for the Society to conduct a spaying and neutering facility on the Enmore premises they imposed some conditions under what is termed Ordinance 70. Firstly - a fire escape door in the rear roller shutter which did not lend itself to conversion - cost of new unit \$954. Fair enough. Then installation of a two hour rating fireseal door between preparatory/recovery area and dwelling section of the building - cost \$634. Quite O.K.; and finally, that the existing three foot wide concrete stairway be extended to three feet four and a quarter inches so that it conforms to the Ordinance. The writer tried every trick in the book to have this latter condition broken down as being unreasonable and which, if carried out, could affect the stability of the seven inch concrete slab forming the first floor, but to no avail. Finally, an appeal was lodged with the Local Government Appeals Tribunal. This brought relief when on the 29th August last Mr. B.M. O'Neill of the Tribunal, at a conference between the parties, found in favour of the Society on the argument presented. By the time this copy is presented to your eyes these matters will be complete.

While negotiations on the above matters were continuing with Council the builder, painter and other trades had been carrying out the various renovations and making a silk purse out of a sow's ear (come and see for yourself) and the "shop" was opened on Monday, 3rd September last with results in the first week from sales and donations being in excess of \$1,700.00. Terrific and very heartening. Sales have now settled down to a steady norm, but one thing is apparent. This is our sure source of

income through the years ahead to help defray the cost of the clinic. It opens up great possibilities for our future growth and expansion. The success of the shop is all due to that marvellous team effort organised by Mrs. Sybil Cozens as President of our newly formed Auxiliary (men can be part of it) who co-ordinated the efforts of all those nice "Girls" as the work force in pricing and selling the generous and comprehensive range of goods and merchandise contributed by our members covering every field of human endeavour from the garden, through the home to the motor car, that camping trip and what have you - you name it and we are selling it.

As Chairman, I convey my very grateful appreciation to one and all who by their involvement financially or by physical activity, or by giving of goods made the whole possible and showed those who had doubt, that if we have a goal, together with team effort, one can bring reality to a dream. Five years ago it was a dream. Remember, we will accept any saleable article from a packet of needles to a household of furniture - although in the latter field we still have transport problems.

CLINIC. While the aforesaid matters have been unfolding and the consent of Marrickville Council, as the first hurdle, has been surmounted, we have a further hurdle. Let me say now, my further remarks are not directed at individual veterinarians, many of whom extend to us reduced fees far below the official line. The profession is governed by two organisations; firstly, the Veterinary Surgeons Board of N.S.W., who are within the Department of Agriculture (issue of license), and the Australian Veterinary Association which is controlled by the profession and sets the scale fee. Both bodies have a basic and necessary function to play in the control and conduct of those in practice and to protect their interest. I have no argument with that, but this is where the official line starts and hardens and for all I know individuals could be members of both bodies.

As an approach to the second hurdle I forwarded a communication to the V.S. Board on the 5th March, 1979, making formal application for a license for The Cat Protection Society of N.S.W. to conduct a spaying and neutering clinic on our Enmore premises in its own name, fix its fees and employ qualified veterinary surgeons. Lacking the courtesy of any acknowledgment or reply by June (3 months) a reminder was forwarded. Eventually a letter, dated 15th August, was received on the 29th of that month, an extract from which gives the story, quote -

"The members of the Board of Veterinary Surgeons of N.S.W. resolved at the meeting held on the 1st of August, 1979, not to approve of the application by your Society.

The Board made this decision since they considered that the pilot scheme envisaged by the State Government, Local Councils, Welfare groups

and the Australian Veterinary Association should be given an opportunity to operate for a period of 6 months after which the matter can be reviewed" - end of quote.

It is obvious that the Board's refusal is governed by its collective opinion and not the facts before it, and a desire to maintain existing conditions. What our application has to do with any "scheme" or the price of butter, is beyond my comprehension.

The scheme envisaged as they put it and submitted to the Government on a platter as something new to fulfil Mr. Wran's pre-election promise to set up "Pilot desexing schemes" is a resurrection of the old A.V.A. scheme submitted to animal welfare groups as a fait accompli at a meeting with the Association at their Artarmon office back in 1975 as this extract from those Minutes dated 24th June illustrates - quote "FEE FOR SERVICE. Members of the A.V.A. will charge 75% of the recommended scale fees for welfare cases" unquote.

This was, and still is, an attempt by the A.V.A. to dictate and control the minimum fee charged by welfare groups, and restrain opposition and competition. While some of the groups went along with the idea in those days I, as an individual, and the State Council of the Society as then constituted, could not accept the other conditions and procedure they wished to impose as part of the package. They are governed by self interest and money, and we are governed by compassion. Such outlook is worlds apart, and I cannot reconcile the two.

A reduction of 25% on scale fees does nothing for pensioners and those in necessitous circumstances to have their felines desexed. It does nothing for the 35,000 unwanted cats and kittens destroyed by the RSPCA (no reflection on the Royal) over the past twelve months, as the tip of the iceberg of further tens of thousands by other agencies. To be realistic we should be thinking in terms of .50% off the going rate for the needy. As Mr. Justice Holland said - gathering up the unwanted and destroying them --- is not the answer.

I was State President of the RSPCA for many years during the formative period of the veterinary clinic we established at the then Dogs' Home, Moore Park, and now removed to Yagoona; and the C.P.S. has the same right to practice if it fulfils the conditions.

I place on record that we have tried the correct approach, and in our fight to gain our rightful place and recognition we will have to sort out those powerful and influential men in high places who have compassion, as opposed to those who give lip service. I will be expounding in far greater detail on this most important issue (than these pages allow) at the Extraordinary General Meeting as shown on front cover. We have struggled for five years to secure this clinic and I, for one, cannot accept such cavalier treatment. Please be there and bring your friends.

A warm welcome to:-

THE HON. NEVILLE WRAN, Q.C., M.L.A., PREMIER OF N.S.W.

For some years now The Hon. Sir Robert Askin, G.C.M.G., has been the Patron of our Society and as a charity we have no political bent. However, our membership is a cross section of political thought and, accordingly, an approach was made to the Premier as the leading citizen in our State seeking his consideration and approval to lend his name as a Patron of our organisation, and so add further prestige to our name.

To this proposition Mr. Wran kindly consented, and it is our earnest wish that both these outstanding men within our community in their support of our aims, objects and struggle to bring reasonably priced desexing to those on low incomes, find such association with our cause a pleasing and rewarding experience.

VALE Miss Loreen Jean Somerled McDougall, late of Eastwood.

Many of my generation will be saddened to hear that Loreen passed away on 10th October, 1979. Her whole life was devoted to helping animals and I could write books on her physical and financial effort, but space dictates that I record that she gave substantial donations to our Society over the past four years, and even in death her work will continue on with the whole of her considerable Estate being left to the Society to further our spaying and neutering programme. Yes, I and many others, and the animals, have lost a friend of outstanding worth.

Mrs. Olga Szmidt, late of Balgowlah, who died on the 13th October, 1979, has entrusted the future care of her cat "Baby" to the Society and has made generous financial provision in this regard.

WANTED - COMPETENT BOOKKEEPER/TREASURER. Many of us within the Society, those who keep the wheels moving, have more than our fair share of the burden, and a classical case is the Graham family. Vice-President, Bill Graham, takes care of the Members' Register - quite a work load. He is also Editor of which you see the results; and Mrs. Judy Graham, with her accountancy training, carries forward our financial dealings from month to month. Will some competent member relieve her of this chore so that she can help Bill with his obligations?

LEGACIES. With all the many years experience in the RSPCA and our Society behind me I can never remember so many enquiries from solicitors and others; since we opened the Shop, seeking advice as to the correct wording for inclusion in that last document, so that the work of our Society continues on into the future. The number has been unprecedented in my experience. On behalf of State Council, sincere appreciation to those unknown to me who have taken this step.

R.K. Carberry,
Chairman

Editorial Ramblings

We have said in earlier editorials that 1979 could prove to be a very vital year for the Society. It has certainly turned out to be just that - the acquisition of our Enmore opportunity shop, the forming of a ladies' auxiliary, plus advanced planning and preparation for a de-sexing clinic at Enmore, being the most significant. However, we do have one small complaint, and take the opportunity now to register, on behalf of men's lib, our protest at the title, Ladies' Auxiliary. Having some time ago been converted (reconstructed may be a better word) into a strong supporter of equality of the sexes, we now find certain female members of this Society still practising sex discrimination. Take the wording - "Ladies' Auxiliary" - automatically it excludes the poor, downtrodden males from joining in and having their say. Male members who are married would, of course, be quite used to such a state of affairs and thus, I suppose, could not be too disappointed at their exclusion. However, should there be any male member foolish enough, or intrepid enough, who wishes to take part in the deliberations of this secret society, I can only suggest that he emulate Hilarion, the hero in Princess Ida and dress in drag. That would probably be the only hope he would have of scaling the walls of this latter day "Castle Adamant", otherwise known as the "Ladies' Auxiliary". Should any of the ladies' auxiliary feel affronted at our words we hasten to quote: "True, God did make man first, but then She was only experimenting".

In more serious vein, those members who have so generously supported the animal/transport fund will be pleased to know that it has been resolved by the State Council to purchase a suitable vehicle for this purpose. Actual date of purchase will depend on various factors such as funds available, roster of duty drivers etc. It must be borne in mind that the vehicle we eventually purchase will have to be of a type easily driven and handled by women, yet suitable for the carriage of cats in cages, plus largish items of furniture. Your suggestions would be welcome; also the names of volunteers willing to drive on a part time roster basis.

Special thanks to Miss Dita Cobb of radio station 2GB for her efforts on behalf of animals, and the publicity she has given to this Society of which she is an esteemed Life Member. Miss Cobb recently interviewed Sybil Cozens on air in order to help further the cause of the Enmore clinic and opportunity shop. Thank you, Dita Cobb.

Our apologies to those applicants who missed out on the B.W.C. pamphlets. Requests for them were unexpectedly high and unfortunately we were unable to satisfy demand. So, without further hyperbole from the Editor and because many contributors to this issue have many more interesting things to tell you than he, we propose to say no more.

FUND RAISING AND 'OP' SHOP ACTIVITIES

By Sybil Cozens

CROCHET LACE PARTY A very successful afternoon was held at Miss Daina Silins' house at Seaforth on 22nd September. \$138 was raised and State Council applauds Miss Silins for her splendid effort.

FASHION SHOW On a beautiful sunny day in October Mr. & Mrs. Dent opened their home at Turramurra for a dress showing. Lovely floral arrangements of azaleas and wistaria decorated the rooms where four models paraded the collection. Many fashionable garments were oh'd and ah'd over, and the lucky ones possessed them. Our heartfelt thanks, Mr. & Mrs. Dent. \$238 has gone into the Clinic Fund.

FORTHCOMING FUNCTION Dr. Louise Jones is having another luncheon and Fashion Parade around the pool in her garden at West Pymble. Remembering how nice her last function was I'm sure you'll all want to come again. Admittance \$4.50

Date: 1st December at 12.30 p.m. "Summer Sellout" this is called as Mrs. Peck closes then until March, 1980. For reservations, which are essential, please call 427-3828 NOT DR. JONES

KNITTING & SEWING I now have six "Knitters" churning out goods for the Opportunity Shop. One is 86 years young and does a splendid job of hats, tea cosies and toddlers pullovers. Many thanks, also, for the generous donations of wool received since last Journal.

My Ryde "Needlewoman" dressed numerous dolls for opening day and also made shopping bags, throw-overs, toilet roll covers and other things. A versatile lady! Another worker in Drummoyne does knitting (on the buses too) plus making cushions in all sorts of fabrics. These are a sellout. I must also mention my "coat-hanger girls" for their steady contributions. Many thanks, one and all.

<u>OPPORTUNITY SHOP</u>		First month's Trading - September 3/29	\$
Banked			3,247.21
Cash in Hand			65.30
			<u>3,312.51</u>
Expenditure (Shop Fittings, Lighting etc.)			1,135.67
(Since 3rd September the Op. Shop incurs its own accounts)			<u>2,176.84</u>
Donations			540.61
			<u>2,717.45</u>
Cheque to C.P.S. Treasurer			<u>1,500.00</u>
		<u>BALANCE:</u>	<u>1,217.45</u>

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On behalf of the Auxiliary Committee many thanks to the shop volunteers, donors of goods, especially the Warwick Farm gentleman for the magnificent velvet pieces; and to Mr. & Mrs. Bethke who loaned us their station wagon for "pickups" - very useful indeed!

HOLIDAY IN FIJI The C.P.S. has had donated by one of our members two air tickets to Taveuni to visit Soqulu Plantation. Taveuni is a small island off the coast of Vanua Levu Island. Soqulu Plantation is a Development Scheme with freehold land for sale to build the "Holiday House of your Dreams". When complete the complex will have a Golf Course, tennis and squash courts, a Club House, swimming pool - in fact everything! There is no obligation to purchase land. Taveuni Travelodge offers accommodation at \$12 single, \$26 double, with restaurant and all facilities. The cheapest return fare in off season is \$300 per person. The C.P.S. is offering these two return tickets for \$350, so it's a v big saving. All ground content - accommodation, tours etc. are at your own expense. One month's notice of intending travel is required.

SUGGESTED ITINERARY

Friday	Sydney to Nadi to Suva - O/N "Travelodge"
Saturday	Suva to Taveuni - Accommodation "Taveuni" Travelodge" Saturday and Sunday.
Monday	Taveuni to Suva to Nadi - Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday at "Regent".
Thursday	Nadi to Sydney

Call 427-3828 for further information.

WANTED !

A SOCIETY EMBLEM OR LOGO

COUNCILLOR MISS DULLO, HAS SUGGESTED THE NEED FOR A STANDARD EMBLEM WHICH WOULD APPEAR ON ALL SOCIETY STATIONERY, SHOP, CAR STICKERS ETC. HER SUGGESTION HAS BEEN AGREED TO IN PRINCIPLE BY COUNCIL. WE THEREFORE INVITE MEMBERS TO SUBMIT DRAWINGS OR SKETCHES FOR CONSIDERATION. THIS IS NOT A CONTEST, NOT A COMPETITION NO PRIZES AWARDED. WE HOPE THAT SOMETHING ACCEPTABLE MAY COME FROM A MEMBER OF THIS SOCIETY RATHER THAN SEEK IDEAS ELSEWHERE.

'CENTRAL COAST CALLING'

Well, "Spring has sprung, the grass has riz, Puss knows just where the birdies is!"

Business as usual up here. With 9 here to feed, flea, de-tick, cuddle and trip over, one is never bored.

Statistically, since last June:- neutered 12 cats, plus another 11 at our instigation and no expense to us. Euthanised 1. Grown cats placed - 11, kittens found good homes - 16. Vet treatments, F.E. needles etc. - 12. We were contacted by 106 people for help or advice.

Having so many animals to support we contacted A.V.A. for advice on supplementary food for cats. A lengthy reply came to hand, and we hope to circulate a short guide which can be circulated to assist needy owners to keep their cats going.

Street stall, holiday week-end - wonderful local support. Thank you to Mabel Rafe, Sister Carrie, Anne Crain, Daphne Pratt, Edith Duport, Gwen Arnold, Betty Muir, Rene Kummerfeld, Olive Graham, Betty Scrivener, Sybil Cozens and other members and friends for their support and gifts of stock. Branch members here put forth a really herculean effort for this stall. Result: bigger and better than ever - netted \$243.

Have street stalls booked for Australia Day and Easter Saturday. Also bus tour of Northern areas for November.

Heartwarming:- Local school teacher, Daphne Pratt, rescued a dumped kitten in the playground, had it desexed and brought over to us where we took it in. Resulted in 9 new members - school teachers, parents and friends of Daphne Pratt.

Overjoyed to learn of the financial success of first weeks of Op Shop trading - must be very gratifying to all concerned. Each time we have a stall or function we box up stock remaining - though there aren't many diamond tiaras I daresay every little helps.

We are hopeful of new branches forming to serve the needs of the huge area of Wyong/The Entrance, also Wyong beyond the Woy Woy Peninsula. Come on, you pioneers and cat lovers outside the Met. Be in it! You can contact the writer - 72 Mt. Ettalong Road, Umina Beach, 2257, or the Honorary Secretary at the Box No. (see address this Journal). That's the way it all got started.

Till we meet again,

C.P.S. Woy Woy District Branch

Dorothy Haines,

Hon. Organising Secretary

IN MEMORIAM

A donation in lieu of flowers in memory of my dear husband who passed away on 10.8.79, following a long period of declining health. We both shared great affection for pussies and a concern for their welfare.

Inserted by Mrs. Edith Follows

A donation in memory of my late wife, Dorothy, and our favourite cat, Joseph, who passed away within days of each other 5 years ago. My wife died on the 15th August and Joseph refused to leave her bedside and also died 4 days later. My wife loved cats and worked hard behind the scenes for The Cat Protection Society in its early years, particularly for our first domestic cat show which was held in the Randwick Town Hall in 1965. May they both rest in peace.

Inserted by Mr. William Turner

A donation in lieu of flowers in memory of Mr. W. Molloy.

Inserted by Mrs. Beulah Harvey

MEMORY LANE

A donation in memory of my beloved Siamese "Taralga Phitsamai". Died 19.7.79, aged 18 years. "One of nature's gentlewomen".

Inserted by Mrs. P. Kelf

A donation in memory of "Salome". Left for the happy hunting ground 27.6.77. "Never to be forgotten, most good and beautiful".

Inserted by Mrs. G.M. Thompson

A donation in memory of my darling little black cat "Jedda". He was only 9 years old and was the most gentle and kind natured Cat I have ever had. He was quaint in many ways and would sidle up to you and give you a gentle nip on the ear or chin.

Inserted by Mrs. M. Dominy

A contribution in memory of my late much missed tabby "Jacky".

Inserted by Miss Lydia Tomich

A donation in memory of my Cat "Tippy" who was put to sleep - a dear little friend aged 17 years.

Inserted by Amy Hefft.

A donation in memory of Siamese "Petit Pasha" and silver, grey and white "Thomas", my brothers when I was young.

From "Ginger" Bowman

MEMORY LANE (cont'd)

A contribution in loving memory of "Beau Royal", my lovely Siamese who gave me so much comfort during the 13 years of her life. Put to sleep 11.8.79. In my heart she will always stay.

A donation from "Toby" De Milne, a beautiful ginger and white Cat who came to comfort me at my friend's house. Usually a shy Cat he seemed to know my sadness.

Inserted by Stella Kelley

A contribution in memory of "Snowy", our devoted and beloved little Cat.
Inserted by Mavis Bethke.

donation in celebration of Ginger Bowman's 17th Birthday on 18.10.79

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

A comment on protecting the ears of white cats that have skin cancer. Our cat "Qmo" who we have had for 10 years was a stray and his ears were so scaly and dry. The Vet told me to put triple dye or gentian violet on his ears and rub gently a sun screen ointment on them. This we have done 3 times a week, perhaps more in summer, and I can guarantee this.

Good to notice in your June newsletter an article on the mass slaughter of seals. I visited the offices of "Greenpeace" and received stickers, leaflets etc. I have written Prime Minister of Norway & Canada and also to Mr. Fraser. I have left 2 large petitions at our local paper and will post this off to Mr. Clarke, P.M. of Canada.

If people care enough to voice their opinions and do something about it who knows what good will come due to a little effort on their part.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,
Mrs. Enid Kitching

(Thank you, Mrs. Kitching. Perhaps some of our readers may give thought to your suggestions re petitioning the appropriate politicians and hopefully help change their apathetic attitude towards animals. The Ed.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Cont'd)

Dear Sir,

I have a worry concerning Cat flea collars. I have purchased four different kinds which are in an alfoil envelope, so you can't see if they have the safety elastic in them until the packet is opened. Two of the four had the elastic. Also, on the packet it says:- "Some Cats may be allergic to the Collars." I will enclose one part of a collar. You will find the edge is very sharp. I found on my cats the continual rubbing on the neck soon cuts the skin, and if not seen will soon become infected.

I wonder could Cat Protection inform the Coy's who made the collars of the injuries inflicted while trying to keep them free from fleas, as my letters to the Companies have received no replies.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs. F. Saunders

P.S. If you examine a cat flea collar you will find the edges of the part which contains the insecticide are much sharper than the piece enclosed.

(Dear Mrs. Saunders, I do not like collars on cats, but that is only my opinion, others differ. I presented your problem to the Council but we reached no consensus. If any member reading this can come up with any good advice we would be pleased to pass it on. Two points I would like to make:- 1. Don't buy anything you can't examine properly.

2. You asked us to make representations to the makers but you omitted to tell us who they were. Councillor, Mr. Luton, suggested that 'Choice' magazine may be interested in making a comparison of the collars. That may be a worthwhile avenue to explore. The Ed.)

From 2 of our youngest members:-

Dear Mrs. Bowles,

Thank you for your Newsletter. My sister and myself have always liked cats and try to be kind to them. We liked Mrs. Cozens' letter welcome. It is a shame that people have to be unkind to cats and we are so glad that the Society is doing so much to help these dear little things. After all cats do no harm to anyone.

There is a book that Rudyard Kipling wrote called "Honourable Cat". It has got some poems about cats complaining about humans. We enjoyed it very much. Your Society was a very good idea. I have been explaining to all my friends how important a cat's life is.

..../

Letters to the Editor (Cont'd)

This is my poem called "Cats":

Cats are kind and sweet, their life to me is a treat
Why should they be thrown out the door
And kicked from the stair to the floor
They are not poisonous snakes, and to think of it brakes (sic)
My heart to hear what you / have tried to do
To Cats.
That explains why we like the Society so much.

Yours Sincerely,
Cathy Hope and Sarah Hope

(Thank you, kids. Well that letter gives us a bit more encouragement to plug on. The Ed.)

The following letter is in further comment to Mrs. Bowles' article on field workers which appeared in the June issue of this Journal.

The quiet workers! Let us pause to give thanks to the unsung heroines and heroes in the unglamorous area of "field work". Not for them the acclaim of the multitudes but rather the everlasting silent gratitude of millions of rescued cats and their unborn kittens that would otherwise have added to the statistics of the surplus feline population. They come from all walks of life, these silent workers, but all have one thing in common - dedication to their self-imposed and never-ending task of alleviating and preventing suffering. The majority are in the low income group, often going without themselves to provide succour for those they have brought in from the cold. Their selfless work does not make the headlines but without them the misery and suffering among felines would multiply to even more horrifying proportions. Sometimes recognition comes belatedly when one dies. We hear, "Oh yes, I remember her. She was the Cat woman", or, "She was a funny old thing, kept to herself, collected cats." We don't know what's waiting for us after this life but I'm willing to wager that, if there's a life hereafter, those who were compassionate to all creatures on this Earth will have a happier time than those who found it easy to "close their eyes and regard as non-existent the suffering of which they spared themselves the sight" (Albert Schweitzer) Most of the work done by these tireless people is self-financed out of their meagre incomes/pensions, including veterinary expenses for desexing etc. So how about some donations to help hasten the establishment of our Desexing Clinic at Enmore, thus easing the burden of our quiet workers.

.../

Letters to the Editor (Cont'd)

The previous letter was submitted for C.P.S. Newsletter by "Someone" who wishes to remain anonymous. (Name and address supplied but withheld on request).

(I believe this Society should do a lot more to help those admirable field workers and if it is any comfort to "Someone", and others who think as she does, we hope eventually to be able to provide an animal ambulance service. Further, if the Opportunity shop continues to thrive, I see no reason why monetary aid cannot be distributed in a generous manner and within our budgeting requirements, amongst the worthy of the field workers. The Ed.)

Dear Madam/Sir,

Animal Liberation now has various publicity items for sale and we are wondering about the possibility of advertising them in the next issue of your Newsletter. Details are as follows:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Stickers - vinyl, non-fading | 30 cents + 25 cents postage |
| 2. Badges | 40 cents + 20 cents postage |
| 3. Posters | 20 cents + 25 cents postage |
| 4. Booklets - contain information about factory farming | 60 cents (inc. postage) |
| 5. T-shirts - available in white, with either blue or red design. They are very small sizes, so please order at least one size larger than you usually take. | \$5.20 if collected
\$5.70 posted |
| 6. Cards - hand made in India, suitable for any occasion | \$1.00 for 10 + 25 cents postage |

In addition to the above, we are selling items 1 to 5 inclusive in an Animal Liberation Bundle for the low price of \$6.50. For this you will receive one sticker, one badge, one poster, one booklet and 1 T-shirt.

We would be pleased if your organisation would print this information in its next Newsletter.

Yours Sincerely,
Genny Young, Hon. Secretary

(Delighted to help out, Genny Young. Animal Liberation is a most worthwhile cause. So get your orders in while stocks last.)

Send your orders to: Animal Liberation, C/- Total Environment Centre, 18 Argyle Street, Sydney, 2000. If ordering by phone - 41 5607 or 27 4714

Letters to the Editor (Cont'd)

I have recently become a member of Animal Liberation which, among other things, is promoting Beauty Without Cruelty cosmetics. This is an area of cruelty which concerns me greatly and I hope through publicising the cruelty involved in the manufacture and testing of some cosmetics more women will become concerned and do something about it.

Yours faithfully,
L. Desmond

(The response to our B.W.C. pamphlets was so great that we were not able to honour all requests. The Editor would like to offer his apologies to all those who missed out. Nevertheless it was gratifying to know so many people are keenly interested in these products. The Ed.)

Dear Mr. Graham,

Perhaps you can use the enclosed little story. It is quite true, the location being Hampstead near the Heath; the two ladies, cousins of mine. They share one room in a converted Edwardian house where the other residents do not seem cat minded but who, nevertheless, aided with food, old cushions etc.

I wish I could come to meetings; alas, impossible.

Sincerely,
Vera Jones

From Snowbound London - By Vera Jones

There is in North West London an old church surrounded by a churchyard. The latter has long been the haunt of a score or so of stray cats, some former household pets but most virtually feral and untamed. Kindly neighbours fed them as the spirit moved them but, as the winter grew more severe, some of these benefactors dared not venture out and the plight of the cats became desperate.

Living nearby are two elderly ladies, sisters. They live frugally, for they are not well off and no longer in the best of health, but they took pity on the cats. They spent a sum of money - a Christmas gift, intended for themselves - on a tarpaulin, some planks and stakes. Wooden boxes they got from grocer and fruiterer. Armed with hammer, nails and mallet, snow-booted and well muffled, they set out for the churchyard. In a sheltered corner they laid planks for flooring, then arranged the boxes with, inside them, bits of matting, straw or whatever else they could find that might hold warmth. Next came supporting stakes and last, the tarpaulin, stretched like a roof over the "village". They left food and departed.

It did not take the cats long to catch on. Quickly some took over the chosen boxes, and lived there. Others shared. A few timid outcasts cowered right under the tarpaulin roof, at least out of the weather.

Letters to the Editor (Cont'd)

1398 7282
ring at writing

It was "all present" at meal times.

Some days snow had to be shifted from the roof. After heavy rain the tarpaulin could sag and the ensuing puddle must be emptied.

In time even the wildest cats would in their own ways show confidence and a willingness to be friends. But many were sick. Of these, Peter, a snow-white tom was caught and carried to a Vet, cured and desexed and he passed to a good home. So did a few others.

With the advent of Spring most of the cats disappeared. The shelter will probably have to come down, by now no longer needed by the inmates.

And all the time, the ladies' own puss, ex terrified stray and now boss in her own household, continued to live in feline luxury. 'Tiggy' seemed to approve of her benefactresses' work for those unfortunates of her tribe.

(A very big thank you to Mrs. Jones for her beaut story. I am so pleased that more and more contributions to these pages are coming from the members. It is your Journal; so once again, if you feel you have something to say or an interesting tale to tell, then send to 'Letters to Ed. c/- usual box No. Original material is preferred. The Ed.)

(LATE POST)

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

Dear Sir,

I would like to comment on the newspaper extract "Milk and your Cat" referred to in a letter to the editor in the June issue of the Journal. The article states that cow's milk contains lactose which causes cats to develop flatulence and diarrhoea, a fact which is becoming more widely recognised of late. However, the article recommends tinned milk such as Carnation for orphaned kittens because of its high protein content. Certainly, undiluted Carnation, or any other brand of unsweetened evaporated milk, contains more than twice the amount of protein that ordinary milk contains, and in a fairly digestible form. However, because evaporated milk has nothing but water removed in its processing, it contains more than twice the amount of the potentially harmful lactose as well. Therefore, if a cat or kitten cannot tolerate the lactose in ordinary cow's milk it will not be able to tolerate the lactose even in diluted tinned milk.

Readers may be interested in a milk preparation available for babies who suffer from lactose intolerance. It is a powdered milk called Digestilac and it has 95% of its lactose converted to glucose. Last year I adopted an orphan kitten who hadn't been weaned and could not lap. I gave him milk from a syringe until he quickly learnt to lap. He was old enough (about 8 weeks) but was obviously the offspring of a

Letters to the Editor (Cont'd.)

wild mother and hadn't been given the opportunity to lap. He developed diarrhoea which persisted as long as I gave him milk. Incidentally, it was Carnation which I gave him thinking it would be easier for him to digest than ordinary milk. When I stopped giving him milk to control the diarrhoea he missed it terribly and fairly demanded some. Being a mid-wifery nurse I was aware of the special products available for babies with feeding problems, and so obtained a tin of Digestilac. From the time I gave this special milk to my little one he had no more diarrhoea and his craving for milk was satisfied. Result - a happy kitten and a relieved owner. Digestilac is available from chemists and is very easy to prepare.

Yours faithfully,
Margaret Wilson (Miss).

(Thank you, Miss Wilson. A very constructive letter containing information which should be of benefit to any reader with similar problems.

The Ed.)

To The Editor, C.P.S. Newsletter

Dear Sir,

As a foundation member of the Woy Woy District Branch I am always interested in receiving the Newsletter with its variety of topics, and something to interest everybody. Would it be possible to include a section in each issue setting out new members enrolled since the last issue - names and addresses etc. By the way, Woy Woy has enrolled 10 new members in September. All good wishes to the forthcoming issue.

Yours in Cat Protection,
(Mrs.) Glad Hagen

(Dear Mrs. Hagen, your suggestion has merit. It could be put to the members at the November meeting. However, it is not our policy to reveal addresses. Names, yes - districts, perhaps, but not full addresses.

Thank you. The Ed.)

Possum

I was angry when I saw my fruit, strewn, half eaten on the ground.
I swore when wakened by your patterings, on my roof at night.
And then, once, in the moonlight I saw you:
I had not known how tiny were your hands,
Nor how delicate your face and ears.

PLEASE PASS THIS NEWSLETTER ON

My reading of the daily papers lately leads me to believe that the message on "animal lib" is finally seeping through; and what is more, it would appear that the media is on the side of the animals. For example, The Australian on 25.9.79 gave prominence to an article headed:- "Animal lib threatens upheaval on the farm".

For the benefit of those of you who did not see this article I have culled some extracts and offer some comments upon them:-

"The animal libbers have declared war on farmers who crowd 6 chickens into a tiny cage and cut off pigs' tails. The animal lovers' declaration of independence sent shock waves through the opening of a Convention of 600 intensive farming experts from all States in Surfers' Paradise, Q'ld., yesterday.

The (then) Minister for Primary Industry, Mr. Sinclair, told them:-

"Animal Welfare lobbyists have begun to campaign against intensive animal production. Their claims cannot be totally ignored".

The President of the Australian Stock Feed Manufacturers Federal Council said, "We are treating this threat very seriously".

The biggest shock for the factory farmers came from Mr. Ronald Anderson, Melbourne based rural commentator. He warned:-

"You are going to find yourselves fighting a defensive action at political level against near-impossible odds. It's easy to demonstrate apparent cruelty in the intensive livestock industries if one attributes human feelings and needs to birds and animals. One newspaper article or T.V. program is enough to bring the bleeding hearts out of the woodwork. Heaven help us if animal liberation ever learns to really use the media and begins to mount a telling campaign." He said Australia was starting to form branches of overseas groups such as Friends of Animals, The Society for Animal Rights, United Action for Animals, Beauty Without Cruelty, and Compassion in World Farming. "The Australian mass media will not be on your side. They will be on the side of the birds and animals the libbers say you people exploit". Mr. Anderson said animal libbers claimed in Victoria alone 42 million chickens and 87,000 pigs were reared intensively. He said the patron of the Melbourne group was Professor Peter Singer, Professor of Philosophy at Monash University and author of "Animal Liberation - Towards an End to Man's Inhumanity to Animals". "For most people at this conference he should rate Public Enemy No. 1" said Mr. Anderson, a Victorian deer breeder. "Peter Singer is no emotional do-gooder. His main weapon is logic - cold, unemotional, damning and overwhelming. Animal Libbers want to abolish all practices which might cause pain, suffering of any sort, and even unhappiness to animals of any species. Don't make the mistake of believing animal

liberation can be dismissed lightly. True, most Australians couldn't care less whether their eggs come from hens crammed 3 to a cage, whether their broilers are debeaked, or their bacon from pigs tightly enclosed. But animal liberation is a ready-made, highly emotional issue with wide appeal."

A careful analysis of the article leads us to several conclusions, most of which are encouraging:-

1. Government Ministers, even those representing primary industry, are beginning to demonstrate an awareness of the justice of the animal cause.

2. The opponents of animal lib are beginning to experience the first chill winds of change as more people are becoming aware of, and expressing their revulsion at the inhuman treatment meted out to animals, particularly in the areas of intensive farming.

3. The media is giving more and more space to articles which draw attention to the plight of animals who are the victims of cruel and thoughtless people.

4. You will have noticed in the above article that when pressed, the defenders of intensive farming when describing people who are concerned about animals, descend to such phrases as - "bleeding hearts coming out of the woodwork". They also imply in their defence that animals are incapable of, and do not have 'feelings'. Now that is rot as all of us know who share our lives, our homes and our companionship with our animals. When I arrive home from work each day and see our 3 cats lined up on the verandah waiting to greet me and in their various voices telling me how much they missed me and how much they love me - well, it would be impossible for anybody to ever convince me that animals do not have feelings. I know the cynic would say the cats are only hungry and wanting food, but that is not so for our cats eat many hours after my arrival home. One could go on quoting many instances of animals and how they express their feelings, but why do so? You all know what I mean. The thing is - publicity is turning the tide. So, members, whenever and wherever you can, spread the word.

DO ANIMALS THINK AND HAVE FEELINGS?

By the Ed.

Although not intended to be a scientific, or even serious article, the following stories are true and were related to me over a period of time by a colleague with whom I work. They are really just a sequence of small but intriguing events in the life of one family and the animals who share that life with them. No doubt most of you who are reading this have observed in your time similar animal antics and behaviour but you probably feel, as I do, any story or yarn which illustrates the funny

little quirks of animals and how they reason is always of interest. So here goes:-

My friend has a holiday cottage set in very beautiful and natural bush surroundings on the South Coast. Whenever a trip down to the holiday cottage is imminent my friend's wife and three children are always excited and anxious to be on their way, but not more so than the family cat and dog. With the packing of the first bag both cat and dog lose no time in taking up position in the car. No amount of coaxing can get them out. They would rather miss a meal than take the risk of being left behind. Once arrived at their destination, cat and dog race off delightedly into the bush with glad yelps or loud and happy meows. The cat invariably returns with a baby rabbit. Being female, the cat nurses, fondles and washes baby rabbit as though it were her own offspring. These tiny, bewildered creatures are always returned to the bush in a course by one of the kids.

When the time to leave for home draws near both animals go missing. The dog is usually found skulking under a bed and a thorough search of the nearby bushland by all hands is necessary to locate the cat. Sometimes the round-up is not successful and has often led to a very belated departure. Unlike the trip down, both animals are silent and morose on the return journey.

On a recent week-end holiday the cat apparently did something which aroused the ire of a local denizen, namely a butcher bird. As usual on arrival, cat raced off into the bush. A short while later, howling and screeching, she came speeding back, hotly pursued by a very irate, indignant and aroused bird. At every second or third bound the bird, with wildly chattering beak, would swoop down knocking the cat off stride. The cat eventually found sanctuary beneath the car but the drama did not end there. Every once in a while a little cat face would poke out from under the car, look carefully around, decide the coast was clear, then make a break for the house. Diving down out of the sky would come bird, beak clacking like twin machine guns. Cat would dive back under car. After the cat finally made it to the house she suddenly developed a marked partiality for the indoor life. Somehow she seemed to know that bird was out there waiting for her. She was right. Next morning at breakfast an amazing thing happened. The bird, obviously still angry and impatient at the cat's reluctance to offer herself for target practice, suddenly and unexpectedly flew into the kitchen, made several swoops in vain search for the cat, then flew off, chattering angrily to itself. As far as the cat was concerned this was the last straw. For the remainder of the holiday her plaintive meows would, if it were possible to translate cat into English, have meant something like this: "Please, isn't it time to pack up and go home?". When the time did arrive to depart, cat was first into the car.

My friend's story does, I think, offer plenty of food for thought on how far animals can reason or have feelings. I had originally intended to conclude this article at that point, but since then further research on the subject has led me to more interesting little discoveries. I offer them for your interest. I leave you to your own conclusions.

Dr. Gustav Eckstein, psychologist at the University of Cincinnati, in his book "Everyday Miracle", tells of "Willie", the time conscious cat. Apparently "Willie" most of the time was nonchalant about schedules, wandering around at all hours, careless about when he ate. But Monday nights were different. On Monday evenings "Willie" wanted his food promptly at 7.30. Fifteen minutes later he would head down the street, wait at the stop lights for the green, then walk for several blocks to a hospital. Once there he would perch on a window-sill and spend the next two hours watching a group of women playing Bingo, in the nurses' dining room. Dr. Eckstein followed "Willie" on three successive Monday nights. He wrote, "That cat knows Monday. That cat knows 7.45. I thought it might be food, but there was no food. Or a congregation of cats, but there were no cats. He was there at that exact time to hear and see women playing Bingo".

In "Elephant" J.H. Williams tells how two young elephants stuffed mud into the bells hanging about their necks and thus prevented them from ringing. They then proceeded to steal bananas quietly during the night and managed to plunder entire banana groves undetected.

A story related by the naturalist, Alan Devoe, tells of a man named Phil Traband who was hiking in the woods. He heard sounds behind him and turned to see a large cat, a lynx, coming towards him. The lynx is generally considered mean and dangerous, but Traband held his ground and waited. As the big cat drew near, he could see in her eyes the unmistakable look of a kindred spirit appealing for help. The cat's mouth and muzzle were swollen, and as the man, almost instinctively, reached out a hand, the animal opened her mouth. In some manner one of the lynx's fangs had pierced the tongue and held it fast. The wound had become infected. A groan of pain rumbled in the cat's throat as Traband held her mouth open and, as lightly as he could, worked the swollen tongue free from the impaling fang. The act required several long minutes and must have been very painful, but the wild-cat stood quietly. When the tongue was free the still incredulous man patted the tawny back. A glow of thankfulness appeared in the cat's eyes and with a soft "mrrowra" the lynx slipped away into the woods. How did the big cat know that understanding and help would be found in the man she followed?

Finally, in her book, "Many Lives, Many Loves", Dr. Cerminara tells of her personal beliefs regarding animals. She says: "I do not apologise

for my sense of certainty. The certainty is this:- Animals are related to us much more closely than we think. Though they lack speech, their mental processes are not very unlike our own. They are similar to us in their fears, their pains, their affections, their frustrations, their terrors, their devotions, their gratitudes; in short, in all their emotions, even though they may know them in lesser complexity and degree than we. They are, as Mohammed said, a people like ourselves. Regarded from the evolutionist and reincarnationist point of view, they must be a people struggling along like ourselves on the long, difficult road to perfection".

YOUR CAT CAN LIVE LONGER IF DESEXED

James Hamilton, Ruth Hamilton, and Gordon Mestler reported in 1969 on the causes and age at death of 629 cats who had been seen over an 8 year period at the clinic of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. They found that castrated males outlive intact males at all stages of life; they are less likely to die during their first five years, have greater resistance to infection, and live longer. Of those who make it to the age of five, the average age of death was 10.8 years, whereas that of intact males was 8.6 years. Of living tom-cats over ten years old who were seen in the clinic, only 7 percent had not been castrated.

Females, like their counterparts in human society during the course of the past two centuries, now outlive males. Spayed females follow a life course similar to that of castrated males; they are less likely than intact animals to die in youth, are more resistant to infectious diseases, and live to an average age of 10.5 years. For both neutered males and females, life span is lengthened if the gonadectomy is performed before the cat is six months old.

Source material: "The Cat - History, Biology and Behaviour".

Recommended Reading: "Orphans of the Sea" by Ken Jones.

Fontana paperback \$1.75

"The best true book about seals I have ever read" - Derek Tangye.

This book is about the successful efforts, despite opposition from some quarters, of Ken and Mary Jones to establish a seal sanctuary on the coast of Cornwall. It is an enchanting story of many years spent in not only creating a refuge for seals, but many other species of animals and birds in distress. There are some charming photographs in the book of baby seals rescued by Mr. Jones.

CARE OF YOUR CAT

- PREVENTIVE MEDICINE CALENDAR

DAILY: Feed a balanced diet. Groom cat as demanded by coat type and cat's habits.

Observe cat's general external appearance, attitude, activity and appetite. Any change may indicate a need for complete physical examination.

Clean litter pan, observe cat's stool and, if possible, also observe the urine. For outdoor cats, look for evidence of abnormal stool on coat.

WEEKLY: Examine for external parasites and treat as necessary. Examine ears. Clean teeth if your cat's teeth demand it. Administer hair ball preventive.

EVERY TWO WEEKS: Check claw length and appearance and trim, if necessary. Examine teeth if weekly cleaning is not necessary.

MONTHLY: Examine mammary glands. Bathe, if necessary.

EVERY SIX MONTHS: Perform a complete physical examination if one has not been indicated earlier.

Take a fecal sample to a vet if there is an internal parasite problem in your area.

YEARLY: Take your cat to a Vet for a physical examination and booster vaccinations as necessary.

Source Material: "The Well Cat", by Dr. Terri McGinnis D.V.M.

NEWS ITEM ON MARINE LIFE SLAUGHTER: Seals, penguins and dolphins are being slaughtered off the South Australian coast and used for crayfish bait, a Federal conservation enquiry was recently told. The killings had become a major problem, according to the head of the South Australian Department of Environments' National Parks and Wildlife Division, Mr. T. Robinson. He asked the enquiry for Federal help in policing the illicit slaughter. He told the House of Representatives' Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation's hearing on coastal management in Adelaide that there were about 90 islands off the coast which were difficult to patrol because of their isolation.

Joseph Addison, 1672-1719 "True benevolence, or compassion, extends itself through the whole of existence and sympathises with the distress of every creature capable of sensation."

Extract from "In Good Company"

Compiled by E.M. Ahlston



By Courtesy of Eric Gurney's "How to Live with a Calculating Cat".

WANT HELP?/WANTING TO HELP?

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Mrs. Cozens

PLEASE PASS THIS JOURNAL ON

NOTICE - CHANGE OF VENUE

General Meeting to be held

Sunday 25th November, 1979

at 103 ENMORE ROAD, ENMORE

(opportunity shop)

Please bring a chair if possible