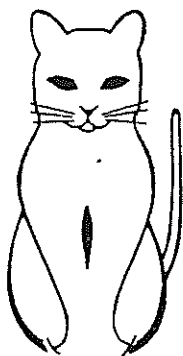


'CAT AFFAIRS'



JULY 1984

# JOURNAL

WINTER APPEAL EDITION

**The Cat**

**Protection Society of N.S.W.**

(Registered Charity CC. 17122)

P.O. BOX A523, SYDNEY SOUTH, 2000. Registered Office: 103 ENMORE ROAD, ENMORE, N.S.W. 2042. Telephone: 51 1011

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PATRONS: The Hon. Neville Wran, Q.C., M.P.

OFFICE BEARERS: PRESIDENT: Mr William Graham • VICE PRESIDENTS: Mr Geoffrey Luton, Mr Fred Meyers

HONORARY TREASURER: Mrs Judith Graham

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SECRETARY: Mrs Shirley Pikler.

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Mrs N. Iredale, Mrs S. Springfield, Mrs I Tattersall, Miss D. Silins, Miss H. Heney

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS: Mrs A. Gillham, Mrs D. Haines, Mrs B. Harvey, Mr G. Luton,  
Mrs N. Iredale, Mrs S. Pikler, Mrs T. Nelson, Mrs J. Taylor, Mr & Mrs G. Cozens



*"Out on a Limb" — Photo courtesy of Councillor, Nancy Iredale*

**IF YOU CAN PLACE A CAT OR KITTEN IN A GOOD HOME,  
PLEASE RING OUR WELFARE SERVICE — 'PHONE 51 1011 or 651 2169  
PLEASE DO NOT RING 651 2169 ON MATTERS OTHER THAN THE  
PURCHASE OF A CAT**

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of The Cat Protection Society of New South Wales will be held on Sunday, 2nd day of September, 1984, at the Y.W.C.A., 5-11 Wentworth Avenue, Darlinghurst (Near Hyde Park) commencing at 1.30p.m.

## BUSINESS

1. Read and confirm Minutes of 1983 Annual General Meeting.
2. Business Arising.
3. Annual Report.
4. Balance Sheet and Financial Statement — Treasurer's Report.
5. Election of Executive and Council 1984-5 term.
6. General Business and Discussion — Question Time.

A member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote instead of the member. A proxy need not be a member. All proxies must be in the Secretary's hands not later than 48 hours before the time of the holding of the meeting. Only financial members are entitled to vote, accept nomination, or nominate others for positions on Council.

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 proposers' and seconds' 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.

Any member seeking election to a position on the Council should ensure that his/her nomination be in a form similar to that as set out below:—

"We, the undersigned financial members of The Cat Protection Society of N.S.W., hereby

nominate .....

for the position of .....\*  
at the election to be held at the Annual General Meeting of the said Society on Sunday, the 2nd day of September, 1984.

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 .....

\* President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, State Councillor.

A Director of a Company shall give notice in writing to the Company if he is a Director of a Public Company, of the date when he attained or will attain the age of 72 years. A person of or over the age of 72 years may, by a resolution reciting the age of that person, being a resolution of which no shorter notice than that required to be given to the members of the Company of an Annual General Meeting has been duly given, passed by a majority of not less than three-fourths of such members of the Company as being entitled so to do, vote in person or, when proxies are allowed, by proxy.

Reminder: Some members' subscriptions remain overdue. The cost of printing and postage precludes us from sending further journals to unfinancial members. If you are unfinancial and wish to remain on our mailing

list, please forward your subscription without delay. All subscriptions become due on 1st June each year. Payment of subscriptions on day of meeting does not confer voting status on previously unfinancial members.

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## TUGGERAH LAKES/WYONG BRANCH 1983-84 REPORT

**Committee:** President, E. Duport; Treasurer, E. Watsford; Hon. Secretary, E. Rogers; Members, M. Kelly, L. Kelly, Val Carr, R. Mumford, D. Mumford.

**Contacts Made:** Cat Protection and Welfare  
cats dealt with during the above period.

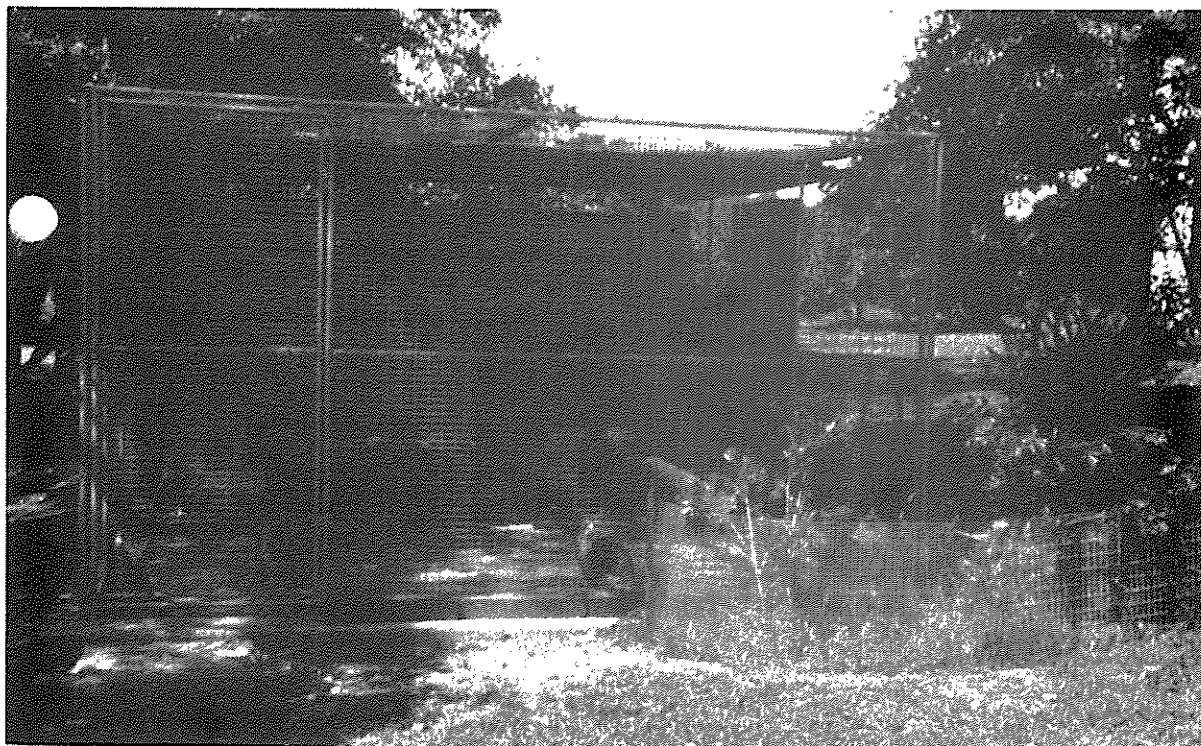
Cats Desexed	459
Euthanised	3
Homes Found	559

This our fourth year was our most successful for desexing of male and female cats and finding good homes. Medication was carried out under Veterinary instructions for many sick abandoned cats and kittens. Feline Enteritis needles were paid for in a few instances, always recommended by us to be done at an early stage in the animals life.

Thanks to Joy Skinner who for the last few years has tended the unwanted cats and kittens that were brought to us. Many thanks to Sybil Cozens for the splendid goods supplied to us for our stalls and raffles. Thank you Moreen Kelly for your beautiful needlework and your staunch support over the last four years.

We wish to express our gratitude to all our wonderful helpers and supporters, The Editor and Staff of The Advocate & Guardian newspapers, 2GO Radio Station and all members and transport workers who have helped us throughout the year.

Edith Duport, Branch President



*C.P.S. Cat Pen at Dural*

# CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

Dear Members: Once again it is time to present to you a full accounting of the year's business and activities. So much has taken place during the past financial year that it is difficult to know where to begin. Perhaps the main concern that occupied State Council's attention was the millionaire Haege family's claim for \$20,000 damages against the Society. This historical and precedental case which had been held up in the legal system since 1981, was finally heard in the District Court on the 17th and 18th May — the fading moments of our year.

Given the woeful inadequacy of the current animal welfare legislation, coupled with the lack of a Companion Animals Act, the eventual outcome could be viewed with a measure of satisfaction — there is a power of difference between \$20,000 and \$120 damages, which was the amount awarded to the Haeges. With all parties paying their own costs, the only winners were, once again, the legal practitioners.

We have written to the Premier and the Minister for Local Government and Lands protesting the lack of adequate animal welfare laws. We have also forwarded letters to all municipal Councils in the metropolitan area pointing out what we consider to be their responsibilities in the matter of stray, feral, dumped or unwanted cats, as many Councils continue to pass on these problems to our Society. If it were not for the sake of those unfortunate animals we would, of course, leave these Councils to handle such problems as best they may.

Rather than take up further space on the matter here, a more comprehensive account can be found in the Editorial. Also, see special section "letters and articles re The Tom Cat Trial".

**A.B.C. Programme "Encounters":** During March I was contacted by Mr. Richard Corfield, producer of the A.B.V. T.V. "Encounters" series. He wished to do a film on cats — why people like them, cat nature and philosophy and so forth. After I had given him a comprehensive account of the Society's work he became very interested in including a large segment on our Society. During a meeting I subsequently had with him and one of his assistants, full details of filming were discussed and agreed to.

Now all the filming is complete and in the can. Richard has informed me that it has turned out very well and he is delighted with it. It is scheduled to appear somewhere about late September, around 9.50p.m. So keep looking at your programmes.

To give you some idea of what is shown, several days were spent filming Sandy Moss in

her ambulance going about her daily routines, attending emergencies, picking up cats for desexing, trapping strays etc. (nothing was rehearsed or specially posed). Further filming was of the cats awaiting homes at Dural, and one very interesting part is where the film is from the cat's eye view looking up at prospective owners. One cat is shown from the time it was surrendered to us, taken to be desexed, delivered to Dural and then being selected by a very happy young owner. Even shots of the humane method of putting down are shown. All members are urged not to miss this film which does so much to illustrate the value of our work.

**Statistical Analysis Welfare Activities for year ended 31st May, 1984**

We now come to that part of the Report which deals with all aspects of our vital welfare programme. In the matter of placing cats, there was an unhappy period where, try as we might, we could not successfully combat the spread of sickness among the younger kittens. From all reports this problem was widespread and we were not the only animal welfare agency to be so affected. It was distressing and heartbreaking that many kittens which were otherwise ideal home material had to be put down. Fortunately, we had no such problem with the older cats.

The results for all sections of our activities were as follows:

Cats Desexed (per ambulance)	2098
Vouchers Issued	1120
Total Cats Desexed	3218
Cats Humanely Destroyed	4344
Cats Placed In Homes	481
Jobs or Calls Satisfactorily Completed	3602

22 emergencies were attended. In the miscellaneous section, 33 dogs were desexed, 3 destroyed and 1 placed in a home. Several birds were rescued included 1 wild duck and her 8 ducklings.

**Thank You and Au Revoir** to that dedicated welfare officer, Mrs. Lena Larsen, who has decided to curtail her activities to her immediate area. Lena has been feeling the strain of her many years of animal welfare work, so is taking a well-earned holiday, and then going into semi-retirement.

Before our present welfare section was formed, when many requests for assistance came to our Opportunity Shop, it was Lena and Sybil Cozens who attended to all these calls. In fact, they became so busy that Lena learned to drive and purchased her station wagon to undertake the work involved.

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## — Continued

In September, 1980, when the welfare section really became official, Lena continued to help with the field work in a voluntary capacity.

We know we will be seeing Lena on duty in the Opportunity Shop, but on behalf of our members we wish to express our thanks for all her work in welfare, and extend to her our best wishes for the future.

**Honorary Life Membership:** In April, honorary life membership was awarded by State Council to Mrs. Nancy Iredale and Mrs. Shirley Pikler for their sterling and unselfish efforts over many years on behalf of the Society. Honorary life membership is an award of distinction. As stated in the Articles of Association: "An Honorary Life Member shall be a person elected

such by the Council by reason of services of a special nature rendered to the Society. The number of Honorary Life Members at any one time shall not exceed fifteen". As the latest award brings our total to only ten, it can be seen that it is a rare honour indeed.

**Kingsgrove Property:** State Council has made a final decision to develop this property following the departure of the sitting tenant (anticipated date, September). The intention is to situate our registered office in the shop portion of the property, with a resident caretaker occupying the living quarters. Garages are to be installed for our ambulances and a storage shed for gear such as cages, baskets, traps etc. It is hoped also to use the spacious ground for the installation of a suitable cat pen where stray animals can be held for short periods. Development and restoration will take some little time but one advantage is that Mrs. Cozens and her auxiliary will have more room to store and manage all the goods they handle at the Enmore premises. They will also be able to take over the present office space and make much more use of the garage area.

**Sad Farewells:** With the attrition of time, which eventually overtakes us all, several of our members passed away during the year. While bidding them a sad farewell we offer our sympathy to their nearest and dearest: Mrs. Gwen Abdy, life member, one time Councillor and a longtime worker for animals; Miss H. Alexander, life member for twenty years; Mr. R. Ashton; Lady Askin, Patron of the Society and a wonderfully encouraging supporter; Mrs. A. Batchman, life member; Miss E. Brewer; Mrs. Ruth Connell (in response to a call from the police we were able to collect Ruth's cats and, by a stroke of good fortune, place them during the same week. We were pleased to perform this last service for a member); Mrs. M. McDonald; Miss I. Reeve; Mr. W. Stone, a good

neighbour and cat person; Mrs. G. Strachan, life member; Mrs. A. Tomkin; Mrs. M.E. Maver.

**Nominations for Council:** In many ways it was a rather rough year what with one thing and another, but we managed to see our way through the night. The volume of our welfare work increased and we still finished in the financial black. However, our work cannot continue indefinitely unless we have a strong, vital and willing complement on Council and encouraging support from members. Individuals cannot keep going forever and this was brought home rather forcibly during the year with, first, the lengthy and serious illness of Mrs. Iredale, my own unexpected and debilitating eye trouble, and at time of writing, Mr. Meyers is laid low and in intensive care with a serious heart problem. It is sincerely to be hoped that by the time this report is published, Fred will be up and about and his old self. (If good wishes have anything to do with it he will be).

Therefore, it is essential that any member who feels competent to serve on Council and who has a contribution to make, should not hesitate to seek nomination — all positions are open. Also, it would be cheering and encouraging to see a good attendance at the A.G.M. If you can attend please do so. We'll try to make the meeting interesting for you.

**Thanks a Million:** Over the year, so many worked their butts off for the Society and for the animals that we try to succour, or contributed in so many other ways, that it is hard to know where to start and finish in the matter of thanks. Should any be overlooked who are deserving of our gratitude please accept my sincere apologies.

As has come to be expected, the Ladies Auxiliary turned in another fine performance and in so doing helped immeasurably with the finances of the Society. As ever, Sybil and Gordon Cozens continue with seeming tirelessness and one wonders what we would do without them.

All connected with the welfare section performed with merit despite having sometime to deal with difficult or stupid people, and the heart-breaking discouragement of cases of sadistic cruelty which come their way. (On one occasion a kitten was brought to them with both hind legs chopped off. This pathetic small creature was still alive and attempting valiantly to crawl about on the stumps. Sickening; but I tell you this so that you may understand the guts needed to carry on the welfare work).

Thanks are due to those members who have contributed interesting items to the journal, either in articles or letters to the Editor. Mrs. Jones of Normanhurst has contributed a beautiful story for this issue, and Mrs. Thompson of Leura has been a regular contributor, coming up with

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### — Continued

delightful little poems or amusing "catterell". (See her latest on Reza Pahlavi this issue). Miss M. Wilson of Frenchs Forest has been concerned to contribute articles on cat medicine and care. Some letters to the Editor are of necessity delayed, but eventually every contributor gets a guernsey, and I thank all who have taken the trouble to write.

John Tingle of 2GB rates a pat on the back for the very favourable and sympathetic live interview he gave me following the court case. Several members who heard the interview rang to congratulate me on my performance, though, personally, I believe I came over like a bag of lead. Still, it was kind of them to say otherwise.

We would also like to thank our Central Coast branches for their wonderful and dedicated work throughout the year.

Our sincere thanks go out to all who sent notes of encouragement and donations to help with the legal costs of the Haege case, and those who attended Court in support of the Society.

I thank all State Councillors for their efforts over the past year and for their forbearance in patiently putting up with a tough Chairman who

has an irritating tendency to hold the floor. Nancy Iredale, in particular, came back from a lengthy illness more than ever determined to see the job through.

Dorothy Foster, who cares for our waifs at her Dural cattery, rates a mention in despatches for the excellent way in which she places the right cat with the right owner, and I hope I may be permitted to give our Treasurer a little pat for going over to Dural almost every Saturday to help.

On a more personal level, I wish to thank that member, the lady doctor who gave me such kind and thoughtful attention when I needed it, and although they are not members, that specialist and his two nurses who gave me such concerned care when I was in rather dire straits with my eyes. They all did much to convince me that there are still very worthy people in the medical profession.

And that, members, about wraps it up for the fiscal year 1983-4. I have tried not to overlook anything of importance. The financial statement and balance sheet, along with the Treasurer's Report are published elsewhere in this journal.

Hoping to see many of you at the A.G.M., and wishing you all well.

Bill Graham President and Chairman.

## "Willow Park"

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*Principal: Mrs Diana Gould — Teach. Dip. London. Approved Member Association of British Riding Schools. Member C.P.S.*

**Slogan:** *"If you **must** ride horses ride them with feeling."*

**Note:** *Horses not for Casual Hire.*

*(This Establishment visited and recommended by President C.P.S. of N.S.W.)*

# EDITORIAL

## Marauding Tomcat Desexed — Millionaire Fails In Court Claim For \$20,000 Damages

In the crass, sensationalised treatment of news items which contain elements that are unusual or bizarre, commercial T.V. sank beneath its customary low in reporting the Haege vs. Cat Protection Society court case heard on the 17th and 18th May.

Let it be recalled that all commercial T.V. channels and the major newspapers gave wide coverage and publicity to the multi-millionaire plaintiffs, filmed and photographed in their palatial Darling Point mansion, posing with Reza Pahlavi, the feline Don Juan of Darling Point, who was the focus of it all. Reza Pahlavi same name, if memory serves, as the late, lamented Shah of Persia — could there be a clue in that?

Although the plaintiffs were allowed open licence by the aforesaid media to express their feelings and air their views on the matter — even before the case was completed, which one might have thought subjudice — not one representative of press or T.V. sought out our Society to give it equal opportunity to comment. Such, apparently, is the drawing power of millionaires.

Fair play? You must not expect it, for where lies the glamour in Enmore's dusty streets, or its many deprived inhabitants, a large number of whom come to our modest little Opportunity Shop (most definitely not a boutique of the latest and most fashionable garments) to purchase cheaply, secondhand clothes which are not even the castoff of millionaires? Little, unknown people whose aspirations are a thousand light-years distant from even dreaming about dwelling in marble halls. No, we are not invested in the glamour associated with the wealth of Croesus; thus we lack the attraction for publicity that the wealthy and powerful can so easily engender.

Be all that as it may, in an effort to put our own point of view and raise a few very relevant questions, we fired off letters after the event to all the major newspaper chains. As far as we are aware, only The Australian was fair enough to publish our letter. On Wednesday, 23rd May, it was featured prominently as the major letter of the day. Rather than reprint our letter here in full, the following can be taken as a summary of the whole unsatisfactory affair, combined with extracts from and points raised in the letter:

In September of 1981, in response to a call for help from a harassed resident whose premises were being over-run with scavenging wild or feral cats, a welfare officer of the Society trapped several of the nuisance cats. One of those cats was desexed in error and according

to the evidence given by our Miss Moss, she did not discover until after the operation that it was wearing a collar with a tag attached.

In our opinion, and in accordance with Society policy, Miss Moss took the correct and proper action by informing the cat's owners as to what had occurred, and by returning it the next day, in company with Mrs. Iredale who was at the time Director of Welfare. As it turned out, the cat was owned by the multi-millionaire Haege family, well known in high financial circles. Irrate, and taking umbrage at the castrating of their tomcat, they sued for \$20,000 in damages.

For the better part of three years the Haeges pursued the matter until on the 17th May the case came to Court. As everybody is now probably well aware, the Haeges' enormous claim for \$20,000 was reduced by the judge to what may be considered a nominal \$120, with each party to find their own costs.

The main point of evidence was the collar and tag, and, unfortunately for the Society, the judge did not accept that these were not discovered until after the operation on the cat. It was also the judge's opinion that the Society had seized the opportunity to desex a straying, nuisance tomcat.

With respect to the judge and his findings on those two issues, we are unequivocal in our belief that Miss Moss did not observe the collar and tag as stated in her evidence. With regard to our desexing policies, it is most certainly not part of our endeavours to go about desexing free-ranging tomcats, whether the property of millionaires or otherwise. Further, were we to carry out such an activity gratis, the Society would soon go broke.

The fact that a millionaire's marauding tomcat was caught, castrated and returned in good condition to its owners has now been established beyond question. But what of those questions still left unanswered? We quote now from the body of our letter as published in The Australian:

"Had this cat been returned with all its luggage intact there would apparently have been no case. Yet, it was proved to the Court's satisfaction that the cat in question had regularly travelled a great distance to the residence of the chief witness in the case, where it committed various intolerable nuisances. On many occasions during both night and day it had entered the living room of the witness where it had urinated on the carpets, bullied the resident 18 year-old



## EDITORIAL — *Continued*

desexed male cat and fought and mated on the premises with wild or feral cats which had also invaded the premises and become pests. (This type of unacceptable behaviour being standard practice with undesexed male cats).

In response to a request by the offended resident, our Society trapped some of the offending feral cats along with the millionaire plaintiff's cat. As already stated, this cat was castrated by a vet and returned to its owner.

The result of this action by our Society brought a claim from the cat's owners for damages of \$20,000 — ultimately reduced by the Court to \$120 and a warning to the Society that it had transgressed the rights of the cat's owners.

One question now is: What rights does the average citizen have who is forced to suffer the unwelcome intrusions, damage to property and nuisance caused by other people's pest tomcats? Complaints to local Councils bring little or no response other than to refer such complaints to our Society.

The Court's decision leaves us with the impression that we have no protection under the present laws and that it would perhaps be unwise of us to become involved any longer in helping those who come to us for help in matters regarding nuisance cats.

A further question: Now that a precedent has been set and persons who interfere with a trespassing tomcat may be taken to Court by the cat's owners, what cruelties will now be committed?

It is patently obvious that many people who rightly resent the intrusions of evil-smelling and noxious tomcats will resort to all the old cruelties of deterring or doing away with the cat — boiling water thrown over it, beaten cruelly to death, etc.

The very reason our Society was formed years ago was to help prevent such cruel and inhumane acts and to educate the public in these matters by having their pets desexed, and by offering our help in humanely removing unwanted cats.

It is impossible to determine how many feral kittens Reza Pahlavi, the Don Juan of Darling Point, would have sired prior to his operation, nor how many of his unwanted offspring we might have been called upon to trap and destroy — always a distressing business.

If we, and the person who was the victim of his depredations, had no integrity or honesty of purpose, the easy way out would have been to destroy the cat and no questions asked. As it is, Reza Pahlavi is back in the loving arms of his owners because he fell into our hands and not those of lesser scruples.

We accept the verdict of the Court. But has justice really triumphed?"

In some respects, when considering the amount of damages awarded, it might be felt that we gained a moral victory, and we took some consolation in the Judge's concluding remark.

However, it was a costly exercise for the Society and was not a pleasant experience for those of us who appeared in Court to uphold and defend the Society's good name. Faced with the power of all that wealth and with the biased media coverage going all one way, it was like David entering the ring with Goliath. But as the scribes of ancient times recorded it, the stripling David, last forlorn hope of the beleaguered Israelites, defeated and slew the titan Goliath, undefeated heavy-weight champion of all the Philistine army. And furthermore — if a parallel can be drawn — Michaelangelo's wonderfully beautiful sculpture of David is world renowned, whereas, whoever bothered to create a statue of Goliath?

Regardless of what a Court's findings may be, the real courtroom is out in the streets of "everyman", the ordinary, everyday person who usually brings in his own verdict — and that verdict almost invariably favours the Davids of this world — the underdogs.

And so it proved to be in this case, judging from the response we have received in messages of goodwill, and donations toward the costs of the Court action. More than one person forwarded the exact amount of the damages awarded; one was from a relative of the plaintiffs — even well-known columnist David McNicol, who is a friend of the Haeges, made his feelings on the matter very clear in his Bulletin article. No, the real verdict was not delivered in a Court of law.

Before the two-day wonder had faded completely from the news headlines, we were approached to appear on a midday T.V. program. We accepted the offer but changes were made to the extent that we eventually had no representation at all. The resultant program was an unfunny mixture of buffoonery and adolescent humour which did nothing for the cause of animal welfare, and I can only thank the merciful providence that prevented any representative of the Society from involvement in the farce.

About a week after the smoke had cleared and all the Captains and the Kings departed, I had a call from a young woman, a stranger to me, who expressed a sympathy and understanding of the Society's cause. She wished to prepare a radio program on the inside story of the Society; would I give her an in-depth interview? Yes, I certainly would.

Toward the conclusion of the interview the young lady asked how come one such as myself first became interested and involved in animal welfare matters. I answered in this wise:



## EDITORIAL — *Continued*

Because of a little tabby and white cat who came into and disrupted my life a decade past, and who is sitting beside me right now, taking in every word. Her name is "Yum Yum" and she is a little, urchin, waif of a cat; the cobby type with a fat bottom, stout little legs and a somewhat flat, puggish sort of face. She is, of course, the most beautiful of all cats.

She and I came together on a July day in 1974, and from first sight she was for me and I for her. At that time I knew little or nothing, and probably cared even less, about animal welfare agencies. I was just an ordinary "Joe", come in response to a C.P.S. ad to pick out a cat. The day I took possession — oops! — the day that cat took possession of me was the day I joined the Society.

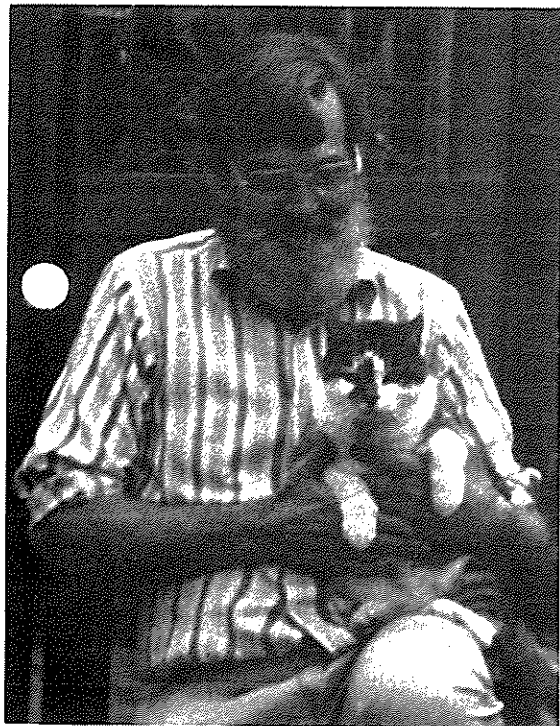
The way I got the story from the late Mr. Arthur-Smith who had been caring for her (among others) at his Turramurra cattery, she had been the unwanted offspring of a stray mother and her sire had apparently been another such roving tom as Reza Pahlavi (though highly doubtful the prized property of a millionaire). When found at the age of about 6 or 7 months, scavenging and half-starved in the grounds of a Children's hospital, her chances

for survival had been very slim. But the one-in-a-thousand chance paid off for her; rescued by a kindly lady doctor, she had been handed to the Society where she had been desexed and cared for until a home could be found.

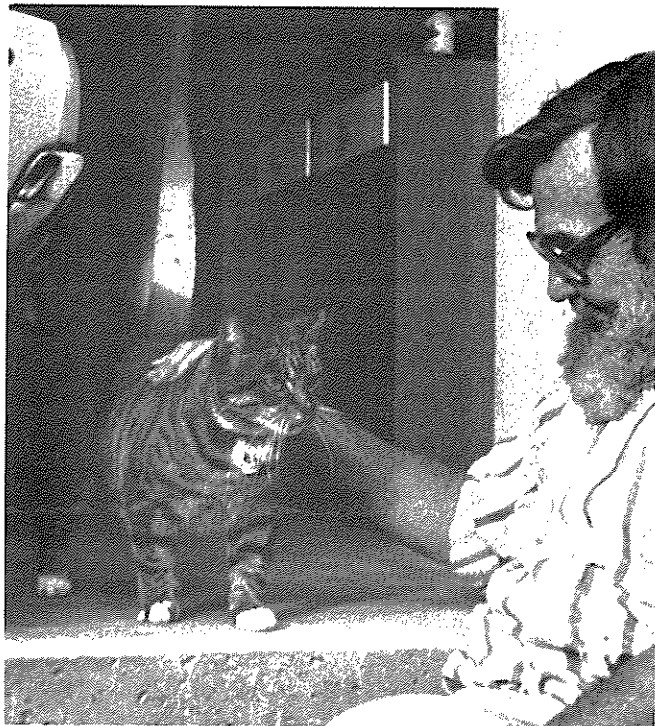
Over the ten years she and I have been together she has been for me the talisman, the representative of all those small creatures who have needed someone to care. All those hundreds of letters I have written, all the many thousands of words I have struggled to put together for the journal, she has been with me; just as she is right now, scrambling onto my lap, jabbing at the moving pen, and scrooching up the paper — making the job a damn sight harder.

From the day "Ms" died she took over as top-cat, became the major-domo of every domestic chore, the supervisor and overseer of every new project undertaken in the garden. She is spoilt, demanding, self-willed, takes up too much of my time, and she can be naughty. But I gave up scolding her too severely years ago.

She has seen me off to work every morning and is there waiting for me when I arrive home. On those occasions when I am very late and night has already fallen, she is still there, waiting with infinite patience. She comes toward me then, trotting up the drive with a glad



*"Yum-Yum" — The cat that got me into all this.  
(Photos courtesy of life member, Betty Gill)*



*And the gentle Tosca — who'd like to be "top-cat". (In their time, both cats were unwanted strays.)*

## EDITORIAL — Continued

little cry of welcome as though to say "I'm so glad you're home, you had me worried". And so it is with me; on those very few times when she has not been there, the heart sinks, and all cannot be right in this world until I have found her. After a decade we are now the companions of both our Autumns, and with a little luck we'll have another decade together — though that is a long time in the life of a cat.

To rephrase a line half-remembered, she is to me "the moon of my delight that knows no wane". And knowing her background as I do, she epitomizes for me all that we have fought and struggled for in this Society; all those fearful, unwanted, ill-treated, starved and

abused small creatures that come our way, and in the majority of cases all that we can offer them is the solace of the final sleep.

It may seem unfair, unjust, that we should be hailed to a Court of law to defend an action that arose from an act of common humanity, and which was not the result of malice aforethought or deliberate intent; but, that is the way of the world and some of those in it. To be weighed in the balance in the same Court and to be found a little wanting (according to the law) may give pause to feel discouraged. But if our cause be just then we should not despair. There is a proverb in the Old Testament which says: "For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again; but the wicked shall fall into mischief". — Amen.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In our end of the financial year "mail bag" we received quite a number of letters expressing good wishes and thanks to all those efforts helped further the aims and activities of our Society. We are gratified with the members' expressed confidence in what has been achieved over the past year and what we hope may be achieved in the coming year. We thank you all for your letters of encouragement.

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Dear Sir,

This donation and the one I gave last year is a "thank you" for the times your wonderful helpers have come to the rescue. I have my own beloved pets but was "invaded" by those poor, unwanted, completely wild, starving toms.

J. Napier

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Sir,

A small tribute to a truly grand person — Sybil Cozens. Frequent visits from Sybil have done so much to recharge our batteries. Encouraged by her shining example many loving souls have created marathons of beautiful needlework: garments, household necessities, woolly animals and dolls.

Thank you Gordon and Sybil Cozens for your unflagging zeal and your practical, timely aid.

Dorothy Haines,  
former Hon. Secretary Woy Woy Branch

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the 'new' magazine, it is very nice to handle. Please find cheque enclosed and thank you sincerely for the good work you have done and are doing. It is love, being

demonstrated in a practical way. My dear friend Helen Heney, made known to me many years ago, the existence of the "Cat Protection Society".

Thank you for the bit about the "Lan-Choo" tea labels. My collection of such will be posted to the Enmore address.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. M. Lloyd

(Editors Note: This member also mentioned her cat suffering badly from fleas. See article this issue — "Caring for your Cat").

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Dear Madam,

I read the Journal with great interest and thank you for a wonderful service to the Community. I wish I lived closer to Enmore so I could be of some service to some of the things you need a hand with. Keep up your great work. I am a great lover of cats — I own one but always seem to be taking pity of a stray — much to my own ones dislike!

Sincerely,

L. Gillan

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Dear Mr. Graham,

I am satisfied after reading the March Edition of the C.P.S. Journal that we now have the best President, best Vice-President and best Council that we have ever had and if I could turn the clock back it would be nice to join the team.

After reading the interesting news compiled by Mrs. Cozens re the opportunity shop, and the dedication of her Auxiliary assistants, I feel that the least that I can do is to donate the cost of a rack to hang some of the unpacked clothes

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR — *continued*

upon. I will endeavour to attend Enmore on the 29th with a friend.

With best wishes,  
Bill Turner

(Editors Note: Mr. Turner is a past Vice-President of the Society and it would be lovely to have him back on the team. Unfortunately, time takes it toll of us all. Thank you Bill for your very kind thoughtfulness).

Dear Shirley,

Thank you for the most recent edition of the Journal. I have noted the "dress show" and will try to attend. There are a lot of interesting items in the special autumn edition of the Journal and I would therefore be grateful if you could send me a couple of extra copies to hand on to people.

If you hear of people enquiring about engraving of identification tags, I can recommend Eddie Edmundsons' engraving/shoe repair shop at the Spring Street end the Royal Arcade in Bondi Junction. He has been producing very fine cat and dog discs for me at a very low price, for about 5 years. His price is about \$2.50 — this includes "Please Be Kind To Me" on reverse side of disc.

Many thanks for your assistance, and I wish all at the Society a prosperous and healthy 1984.

Yours sincerely,  
Carol Dressler

(Editors Note: The "Please Be Kind To Me" on the reverse side of the tags is a nice touch).

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Graham,

Thank you for the March Journal. I think it is better than the previous one, compact, easy to handle and easier to file for reference. I thank very much all you tireless folk who perform your incessant labour of love for our dear little four legged friends. I feel badly about not being about to help personally but age, health and distance have caught up.

On the personal side I care for my five who all were given homes, although sometimes I feel they are a bit much, specially in bad weather and medical visits — two days in Gosford hospital recently. But I have a special house and yard for them so they can be safely shut up as long as someone feeds them. It looks very much as if I will be taking a dear little kitten soon who needs a home — we cat people are "softies". I have often worried about them being left when I have to "go" but Mr. Grahams' remarks in the Journal about giving them a home while we can

made me feel better about it. Kindest regards to you both and remember me to Mrs. Cozens.

Sincerely,  
Eve Parsons

(Editors Note: Mrs. Parsons has been a long-time supportive member and we hope that the article which reassured her about elderly folk keeping pets will be equally reassuring to other elderly persons who are doubtful about keeping a pet).

Dear Mr. Graham,

If it is not too late, may I add a P.S. to a letter which I wrote some time ago and which I think you are holding for publication in the Journal. It concerns the tablet Ovarid which is used for various purposes including contraception, certain skin maladies and for calming cats under stress. I understand that some good souls who feed wild cats use it as a contraceptive — for the cats of course! I would like to point out that it increases appetite very considerably so that cats taking are very much more hungry than usual. Also, two cats of mine who needed Ovarid for skin conditions developed sugar in the urine and as a consequence were extremely thirsty. So when cats are taking this medication they will need extra food and a constant ample supply of drinking water.

Of my two cats referred to above, one was diagnosed as having diabetes by one vet while the other was treated by a different vet who said true diabetes in cats is very uncommon although sugar in the urine is not uncommon.

Both cats also developed kidney trouble — again a cause of increased thirst. This may have been coincidental or have been indirectly related to the Ovarid. Of course, there is no proof that the Ovarid caused the sugar, but sugar in the urine pre-disposes to urinary tract infection and the increased meat intake, to appease their increased appetites, may have been a contributory factor.

In any event, the Ovarid miraculously controlled the cats' skin problems and their lives would have been miserable without it — even if it did reduce their life span (and that is not established), it was still of great benefit to them while they were alive.

Yours sincerely,  
Margaret Wilson (Miss)

(Editors Note: Miss Wilson's helpful advice may well be of benefit to members whose cats may suffer from skin complaints).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR — *continued*

Sir,

A little tale which luckily has a (we hope) happy ending!

Driving with a friend in Victoria Road, Ryde, which as you may know is a very very busy three lanes each side motorway — my friend suddenly swerved slightly and said "Oh my God". I had seen a tiny ginger bundle on the road as she swerved and I said "What was that". She replied, "a kitten".

When she was able to pull over — some 200 metres from the "bundle" — I was about to run back when a man spotted it. He pulled over and went to remove it from the road thank God.

It was so tiny. I would judge it to be only about five weeks old, and how it ever got in the middle lane of the highway and stayed in one piece defied all reason. I shudder to think how long it had been there, terrified out of its wits, and literally hundreds of vehicles, cars and trucks driving past it, within inches. Some I have no doubt having passed over it, wheels each side. Whether it had been dumped, fallen from a vehicle, thrown out by a child from a car, or what? It could not have strayed across three lanes, a median strip and another two lanes — not something as tiny and weak as that. One can imagine the horror of being an adult human (?) being sitting in that position, with speeding cars within inches, but for something as small as 2 inches high!

My friend had observed it had its mouth open as if mewling — one could imagine, pitifully. I was going to bring it home and somehow find a home for it, even through your cattery, but as luck had it, I didn't need to.

It quite gives me the horrors to think of the suffering through terror that the little thing must have gone through.

Yours sincerely,  
Norma Gray (Miss)

(Editors Note: It is not uncommon for our welfare personnel to be called to attend cases where kittens have been dumped in the middle of a busy thoroughfare. Usually such kittens are in carrier bags or cardboard cartons. Miss Moss recently attended one such case. One might wonder about beings that are capable of such atrocities until one remembers Belsen & Auschwitz and the like. There is no depravity to which Man will not descend but the real concern is — so many people hurrying by in their cars without bothering to stop. Such are our fellow creatures. You may well shudder!)

Dear Mr. Graham,

Many thanks for sending me your very interesting Journal. I have read it from cover to cover. I was very interested to read the letter

from Mr. Arthur Humphries of Victoria, about adopting older cats. I met Mr. Humphries and his wife (a veterinary surgeon) while my husband and I were on the Council of the Victorian Cat Protection Society a few years ago. They were both dedicated to cats.

It seems you need two racks for your opportunity shop. Please accept the enclosed cheque to pay for them, in loving memory of my dear husband.

Yours sincerely,  
Margaret Hunn

(Editors Note: Many thanks to Mrs. Hunn for her kind generosity and for her strong support of the Society. Mr. Humphries' letter proved to be quite coincidental and we hope it has helped to place many more of the older cats).

Dear Mr. Graham,

I thought I would write to you and to congratulate you on your new Journal. Though it often causes me to weep I feel what wonderful people you and your team are. I passed your cat ambulance the other day, the first I have seen it and it reminded me though I am a life member, I must send my yearly donation and I do like to feel I take part even if it is in such a small way. Owing to health problems this is the only way I can help.

I would also like to include an annual subscription for my brother as I feel it would make a good birthday present for him. Once again, Mr. Graham, wishing you every success in your wonderful work.

Yours faithfully,  
Marie Tuchen (Mrs.)

Dear Madam,

Congratulations on our new style of Journal. Easier to handle and much more compact.

My main reason for writing however, is to express my opinion in regard to the proposed Cat Shelter. I have always been very much in favour of it. Of course, so are we all! But we simply must leave "cloud 9" and "the impossible dream" behind and become practical. How could the Society possibly cope with the expense?

We are indeed fortunate in being able to house our cats so well at Dural and I agree with the Presidents thoughts on this arrangement.

With regard to the Kingsgrove property, I cast my vote in favour of selling it and investing as much of the money received as practical at that time.

My thanks and best wishes to the staff and that small band of tireless workers.

Betty Scrivener

# REPORT OF THE COUNCILLORS ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MAY, 1984.

The Councillors present their report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st May, 1984.

## Councillors

The names of the Councillors in office at the date of this report are:

1. Mr. W.J. Graham
2. Mr. W.G. Luton
3. Mrs. N. Iredale
4. Mrs. J. Graham
5. Mrs. L. Bowman
6. Mrs. S. Cozens
7. Mr. F. Meyers
8. Miss D. Tierney
- . Mrs. E. Francis

## Activities

The principal activity of the Society for the period under review was desexing of felines and prevention of cruelty.

## Result

The nett surplus of the Society for the year was \$33,071.

## Reserves or Provisions

No material transfers to or from reserves or provisions were made during the year.

## Dividends

The Society is a non-profit organisation and no dividends are issuable.

## Debts Receivable and Other Current Assets

Before the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account were made out, we took reasonable steps to ascertain what action had been taken in relation to the writing off of bad debts and the making of provisions for doubtful debts, and to cause all known bad debts to be written off and adequate provision to be made for doubtful debts.

At the date of this report we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the amount written off for bad debts or the amount of the provision for doubtful debts inadequate to any substantial extent.

Before the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account were made out we took reasonable steps to ascertain whether any current assets (other than debtors) were unlikely to realise, in the ordinary course of business, their value as shown in the accounting records of the Society. Where the book value of any of these assets was in excess of such realisable value it was either written down to an amount which it might be expected so to realise or adequate provision was made for the excess.

At the date of this report we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the values attributed to current assets in the accounts misleading.

## Events Since Balance Date

At the date of this report there are no charges on the assets of the Society which have arisen since the end of the financial year and secure the liabilities of any other person.

At the date of this report no contingent liability exists which has arisen since the end of the financial year.

No contingent or other liability has become enforceable, or is likely to become enforceable, within the period of twelve months after the end of the financial year which, in our opinion, will or may substantially effect the ability of the Society to meet its obligations when they fall due.

At the date of this report, we are not aware of any circumstances not otherwise dealt with in the report or accounts which would render any amount stated in the accounts misleading.

## Material and Unusual Items

The results of the Society's operations during the financial year were not, in our opinion, substantially affected by any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature.

There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in our opinion to affect substantially the results of the Society's operations for the next succeeding financial year.

## Share Options

Options to take up shares granted to persons by the Society at any time are Nil.

## Councillors' Benefits

Since the end of the previous financial year, no Councillor of the Society has received or has become entitled to receive a benefit by reason of a contract made by the Society or a related corporation with him or with a firm of which he is a member or with a Society in which he has a substantial financial interest.

Signed this Thirteenth day of July, 1984, in accordance with a resolution of the Councillors.

W.J. GRAHAM  
Councillor

N. IREDALE  
Councillor

## STATEMENT BY COUNCILLORS

In the opinion of the Councillors:

- (a) The Balance Sheet is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society as at 31st May, 1984.
- (b) The Income and Expenditure Account is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the result for the year then ended.
- (c) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Society will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Signed this Thirteenth day of July, 1984, in accordance with a resolution of the Councillors.

W.J. GRAHAM  
Councillor

N. IREDALE  
Councillor

## AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

In our opinion:

- (a) The accounts which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and include the Councillors' Statement set out above, are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Companies (New South Wales) Code and so as to give a true and fair view of:
  - (i) the state of affairs of the Society as at 31st May, 1984, and of the results of the Society for the year then ended; and
  - (ii) the other matters required by Section 269 of that Code to be dealt with in the accounts.
- (b) The accounting records and other records and the registers required by the Code to be kept by the Society have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions thereof.

A.J. WILLIAMS & CO.  
Chartered Accountants

P.F. WALES  
491 Kent Street, Sydney N.S.W. 2000  
16th July, 1984

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31ST MAY, 1984**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT  
31ST MAY, 1984**

	1984 \$	1983 \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Appeals — Ambulance	1,213	1,265
— General	5,754	3,882
— Cats Home	35	64
— Christmas	986	944
— Winter	329	580
Ambulance Service	67,456	47,082
Advertising	100	20
Enmore Shop Sales	23,000	22,693
Functions and Raffles	536	476
Government Grant	10,000	9,000
Interest	27,896	21,561
Pets in Memoriam	223	213
— Rent	5,375	4,782
Sales — Cats	10,416	2,132
Subscriptions	2,515	3,358
Snappy Tom Label Promotion	3	—
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>155,837</b>	<b>118,232</b>

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Advertising	1,302	2,297
Ambulance Supplies	334	217
Audit and Accountancy Fees	700	550
Boarding Fees	19,110	9,555
Cat Food	326	920
Depreciation	7,701	7,597
Electricity and Gas	413	362
Legal Expenses	3,487	—
Insurance	615	555
Motor Vehicle Expenses	16,028	10,373
Printing and Stationery	5,620	4,755
Property Expenses	3,091	2,825
Postage	1,619	1,746
Repairs and Maintenance		
— Buildings and Plant	129	209
Salaries and Wages	39,730	34,291
Sundry Expenses	353	130
Telephone	1,836	2,217
Veterinary Expenses	53,910	38,123
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>156,304</b>	<b>116,722</b>

<b>OPERATING SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</b>	(467)	1,510
Net Income/Expenditure		
of Branches	(18)	(1,181)
Legacies — Cash	33,783	23,643
Surplus on Realisation		
of Investments	—	18,677
Loss on Disposal of		
Fixed Assets	(227)	—
Surplus for Year	33,071	42,649
Accumulated Funds		
at Beginning of Year	319,816	277,167
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>352,887</b>	<b>319,816</b>

	1984 \$	1983 \$
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>	<b>352,887</b>	<b>319,816</b>
<b>Represented by Net Assets as follows:</b>		
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
<b>Property:</b>		
— 103 Enmore Road,		
Enmore — at Cost:		
Land	11,500	11,500
Building (Note 2)	40,657	42,779
— 16 Richland Street,		
Kingsgrove — at V.G.		
Valuation date of acquisition	25,000	25,000
Office Furniture (Note 3)	564	650
Plant and Equipment (Note 4)	4,889	4,561
Motor Vehicles (Note 5)	9,589	14,427
	<b>92,199</b>	<b>98,917</b>

<b>Current Assets</b>		
Commonwealth Bank of		
Australia	26,465	21,675
Sundry Debtors	5,466	247
Deposit — Electricity	40	40
	<b>31,971</b>	<b>21,962</b>
<b>Branches Balances at Book Value (Note 6)</b>	<b>5,478</b>	<b>5,497</b>
<b>Investments</b>		
N.S.W. Permanent Building		
Society	90,872	83,937
Interest Bearing Deposits	100,000	76,000
Shares and Debentures	14,600	14,600
Deposits at Call	32,200	32,200
	<b>237,672</b>	<b>206,737</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>367,320</b>	<b>333,113</b>

<b>Less Current Liabilities</b>		
Sundry Creditors	14,433	13,297
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>352,887</b>	<b>319,816</b>

(The following Notes 1 to 6 form part of these Accounts)



**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF  
THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR  
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MAY, 1984**

**LEGACIES — YEAR ENDED  
31ST MAY, 1984**

**1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accounts are prepared under the Historical Cost Convention and in accordance with the accounting standards jointly issued by the Australian Professional Accounting Bodies.

**a) Depreciation:**

Fixed Assets including buildings, are depreciated on a straight line method over the period of their expected effective lives.

**b) Income Tax:**

The Society is exempt from Income Tax

**2. PROPERTY — 103 Enmore Road, Enmore.**

	1984	1983
	\$	\$
Building at Cost	51,371	51,371
Less Provision for Depreciation	10,714	8,592
	<u>40,657</u>	<u>42,779</u>

**3. OFFICE EQUIPMENT**

Book Value 1st July, 1978	139	139
At Cost	<u>732</u>	<u>732</u>
	871	871
Less Provision for Depreciation	307	221
	<u>564</u>	<u>650</u>

**4. PLANT & EQUIPMENT**

At Cost	5,377	1,771
Additions	<u>817</u>	<u>3,606</u>
	6,194	5,377
Less Provision for Depreciation	1,305	816
	<u>4,889</u>	<u>4,561</u>

**5. MOTOR VEHICLES**

At Cost	24,413	15,775
Additions	<u>51</u>	<u>8,638</u>
	24,464	24,413
Less Provision for Depreciation	14,875	9,986
	<u>9,589</u>	<u>14,427</u>

**6. BRANCH BALANCES AT  
BOOK VALUE**

Ladies Auxiliary	700	1,556
Tuggerah Lakes — Wyong	3,550	3,299
Woy Woy — Umina	<u>1,229</u>	<u>642</u>
	<u>5,479</u>	<u>5,497</u>

Estate Late B.D.H. Scholem	\$ 8768.61
M.E. O'Connor	21270.10
D.G.M. Florance	3000.00
Minnie Gullett Memorial Trust	<u>744.73</u>
	<u>33783.44</u>

# FORM OF BEQUEST

To those benevolent persons who may be disposed to assist this Society and its work, the following FORM OF BEQUEST is suggested —

I give and bequeath to "THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES", for the use and purposes of the said Society, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars, free of all death and estate duties and the receipt of the Treasurer of the said Society shall be sufficiently discharge to my Executors.

The Society, being a corporate body, can receive bequests of real and personal property as well as money.

## CONTACT

**FOR ALL ANIMAL WELFARE ENQUIRIES,  
INCLUDING AMBULANCE SERVICE AND DESEXING RING 51 1011**

**WANT HELP/WANTING TO HELP?**

**REGISTERED OFFICE 103 ENMORE ROAD, ENMORE  
PHONE: 51 1011**

**ALL MAIL SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: P.O. BOX A523, SYDNEY SOUTH, 2000**

(Administration

(Letters to the Editor PHONE 477 1316, Mr. Graham

(Membership

**OPPORTUNITY SHOP: PHONE 516 2072 9.30—4.30 week days  
9.30—11.30 Saturdays**

(Auxiliary

(Fund Raising

**PHONE 427 3828 Mrs. Cozens**

## **DOROTHY FOSTER'S CATTERY (Member C.P.S.)**

Licensed Boarding Establishment

Separate Apartments — Complete with Sun-deck.

Care with love. Individual diets. Veterinary supervision.

Your inspection invited.

**29 Cranstons Road, Dural — PHONE: 651 2946**

C.P.S. Cats awaiting caring homes sheltered here.

**PHONE: 651 2169 (Cats for homes)**

**C.P.S. COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION**



# CARING FOR YOUR CAT

Cats provide excellent companionship, love and loyalty. But a cat's love has to be earned; it will not give devotion to a domineering owner. Once given, however, the love is life-long, and will survive prolonged absence (although your cat may sulk for a little while upon your return just to punish you).

Careful thought should first be given to the practicalities and future implications of owning a cat. With proper parental instruction on how to treat it — particularly how to pick up and hold it — a child can learn valuable lessons on responsibility from cat ownership. It is not wise, however, to acquire a young kitten until a child is old enough to appreciate how it should be treated. For instance, a small kitten must be allowed its' rest periods as ordained by nature, yet too often young children will continue to pull a kitten about when it is over-tired or exhausted.

The prospective owner must be aware of certain responsibilities involved in owning a cat. Too many cats are abandoned or destroyed when the first novelty of ownership has worn off and the kitten has outgrown the playfulness of its youth. It must be provided with regular meals and a warm place to sleep, groomed and petted, and if necessary let in and out of the home.

The sexual proclivities of cats put off many potential owners. An uncastrated tom will spray its pungent urine and a queen is liable to produce unwanted kittens — possibly resulting in unnecessary suffering if these are abandoned or destroyed.

Desexing, however, is a routine, safe and humane procedure that should be always carried out. The result will be a happy, healthy pet, and in most cases a more affectionate one. Never fall for the fallacious old wive's tale that a female cat must be allowed to produce at least one litter. Absolutely untrue and ridiculous. Also, a neutered tom can be just as friendly and affectionate a pet as the female.

For busy families, or for an elderly person, it may be best to acquire an adult cat which is steadier in its ways than a kitten. It is also a fact that any undesirable traits will already have become apparent in an adult. With an adult cat, some little time may be needed for it to become attached to its new owner and home, and to become emotionally secure. There are others of course, who make themselves at home straight away.

**The Settling-In Period:** Can be greatly eased by sensible and sensitive handling. Training given early on establishes the "house-rules" and habits that the cat will follow for the rest of its time in your company.

When acquiring a new cat or kitten, aim to collect it when it can be given as much attention as possible. Ideally, it should be transported in a carrier and when travelling do not take it out before reaching home.

When you reach home, shut all windows and doors and generally ensure that the home is safe before letting the cat loose. Offer a bowl of water and introduce it to a litter tray. During the first few hours the cat or kitten will probably want to explore every corner, savouring each new scent with interest — although sometimes with apprehension — so set aside as much time as possible to spend with it. Be ready to amuse it, but allow it to sleep whenever necessary. Kittens are best confined to one room until they have gained confidence. Avoid the pressure of too many people and distracting noise, but at the same time give plenty of attention. Make sure that children are quiet and gentle with the new cat. Toddlers too young to understand how to treat a cat are best kept out of the way until the cat has settled in.

After the first excitement of exploration is over, show the cat its bed. In all probability a kitten will want to play, but knowing where its bed is will be reassuring. One common sign that the cat is settling in is when it starts to groom itself. Now may be a good time to offer some food. With a kitten it is particularly important to keep closely to the recommended diet and timetable in order to reduce the chance of stomach upsets. As it grows, the amount and type of food and the frequency of meals will have to be adapted.

After feeding, the cat should be once more shown its litter tray. A kitten should have been toilet-trained by its mother but may still need encouragement to use the tray. It is also important to begin other aspects of general training as soon as possible. Teach the kitten with gentle but firm reprimands but on no account ever attempt to rub its nose in any mess it may have made — the cat will not understand and will only become distressed.

**Meeting Other Pets:** If a cat or dog is already in residence, extra care is needed in the introduction of the new cat, for an unplanned meeting could result in enmity. Ideally, the first pet should be shut in one room while the new cat roams around and becomes accustomed to the other's scent. After an hour or so, gently pick up the cat, release the other pet to detect the newcomer's scent, and remain with the latter in a quiet room. The first introductions can be made at feeding time, when you should give each animal a separate dish in the usual feeding

area. If all goes well, they will enjoy the meal before looking up to see their neighbour, but you should stand by as injuries could be inflicted — though the only signs of aggression may well be a few bouts of spitting.

Take particular care when introducing a kitten to a resident adult dog, as a jealous dog can inflict grave injury on a small kitten. Even if two animals do establish a speedy relationship, they should always be fed in separate dishes, as sudden jealousies can be aroused.

Pet birds or fish should be adequately protected before the new cat makes its tour of inspection.

The new cat should not be allowed out for at least a few days. You should first allow it to become completely familiar with its new home before taking it out. The first outings should be made in the company of the owner, for any expected noise may cause a kitten to bolt in fright, and an adult cat may wander in unfamiliar territory. The first few times you can carry a kitten or adult cat out into the garden, but after that it should walk (accompanied), so that it gets to know the way in and out and begins to mark the route with its own scent. As a kitten matures it can be allowed to play alone in a safe enclosed garden, but before long it will want to explore further afield, and will easily scale most fences.

**Picking Up The Cat:** Place one hand under the chest behind the front legs and the other beneath the hindquarters to take the weight. The cat can then be positioned in the crook of your arm for carrying. Never leave the back legs unsupported, and avoid holding the cat towards you or it will claw to gain a hold. If the cat struggles use the same method but simply grip both the front legs with your hand. Kittens may be lifted by the scruff of the neck provided that the hindquarters are supported, but use this method for an adult cat only in emergencies.

**Collars:** Collars can be used to carry an identification tag bearing the owner's telephone number. A collar must fit properly; too loose and it may catch in the cat's mouth, too tight and it may choke or rub. It should have an elastic section so that the cat can escape if the collar catches in some hazard.

**Flea Control:** Insecticides are toxic products and must be chosen and applied with care. Never use those sold for other pets or for garden use. Those containing DDT, dieldrin, benzyl bendroate, benzene hexachloride at a greater concentration than 1 per cent, phenols and tars are lethal to cats. Others are safe only if used correctly, particularly with the constant risk of their ingestion during grooming. They should not be used on very young kittens, or on sick cats. Some can be cumulative if the cat is exposed to different sources.

Getting rid of fleas can best be done with a spray or powder used as directed and worked well in against the lie of the coat. Your vet can also recommend and supply safe flea shampoos and rinses. Applied to the coat as a liquid and allowed to dry they can be a useful method of control. It may be however, that over a period of time, the fleas will become immune to the rinse or wash you are using. In such case it is best to consult your vet re a change of rinse type. Flea collars have various drawbacks and are not generally recommended where flea infestation is severe. Some cats are allergic to them and for the lazy owner they are the easy way out.

**Your Cats' Diet (Foods and Feeding):** The most important thing to remember about feline nutrition is that **cats are not dogs**. The dog is a meat-loving omnivore, prepared to eat anything, plant or animal. The cat on the other hand is a miniature lion with mouth and teeth made for killing and eating whole animals which provide a rich and balanced diet.

Although most domestic cats thrive on commercial cat food, the cardinal rule is variety. Feeding steak, chicken, boned fish and other muscle meats on their own will inevitably lead to bone disease, stunted growth in kittens, poor eyesight and other problems, because these foods lack calcium and vitamin A. Too much liver will cause vitamin A poisoning. It is no good relying on the cats' natural instincts to choose what is good. If presented with nothing else, cats will over-indulge.

**Fresh Foods:** Animal products are the best way of supplying the cats' need for finely balanced amounts of the minerals, calcium and phosphorus. Cats require a diet twice as rich in protein as do dogs — and only animal products such as meat, offal, fish, eggs and milk provide high enough concentration of the right kind of protein.

Do not feed dog food to cats and do not provide them with a human type diet. Cats have a poor ability to detoxify and excrete poisonous substances from the body; consequently, relatively harmless drugs such as aspirin are extremely toxic to cats. So is benzoic acid, a widely used food preservative — another reason besides nutritional inadequacy, for not feeding your cat a human diet.

**Fat:** Fat, which should ideally provide 25 to 30 per cent of the cats' calorie intake, or about 10 per cent of its food by weight is also vital. Cats enjoy fat and can digest much more of it than humans.

**Fish:** Too much of a certain fish can be dangerous as oily fish (particularly tuna) can lead to a deficiency disease called steatitis or yellow fat disease. Too much horsemeat can have the same effect. Commercial cat foods

containing fish have a vitamin E supplement to compensate.

**Raw Foods:** It is usually best to lightly cook all raw foods. Raw fish contains an enzyme that causes vitamin E deficiency. Raw meat and fish can also carry germs that cause diarrhoea or other infections such as toxoplasmosis. However, cats can be given an occasional treat of raw minced meat or offal (apart from pork) provided it is fresh and safe for human consumption. Raw egg white destroys the vitamin B biotin, but egg yolk and cooked egg white provide valuable protein, fat and vitamins.

Meat should in any case be only lightly cooked to avoid destroying Vitamin B1. Yeast tablets will provide extra B vitamins in a home-made diet, and there is no risk of over-doing in this case.

Foods containing bones should be minced after cooking to prevent bones lodging in the cat's throat or intestines. Remove fish bones altogether.

**Cereals and Vegetables:** You can give cooked cereals and vegetables — given raw they are not digested properly — separately or mixed in with the food up to a proportion of one fifth of the total.

**Fluids:** A fresh diet generally contains enough moisture for the cat, but always provide extra in the form of milk (if tolerated), water or gravy. Water is an essential part of the diet; if cat's food is not moist enough they must drink fluid. Many prefer water from puddles, ponds, aquariums or even toilets rather than the fresh water in a bowl; but always provide it.

**Canned Food:** The safest and probably the easiest way to feed your cat a diet that mimics its natural food is to use formulated proprietary canned cat foods. Having been available for a number of years they have been thoroughly tested on generations of cats. Good canned food contains carefully balanced amounts of protein and fat, some carbohydrate and fibre, and adequate vitamin and mineral supplements to compensate for any loss in processing.

The canned cat foods produced by reputable manufacturers are adequate for all cats, or give instructions on supplementary feeding for kittens. Read labels carefully and check that the food is sufficient for growing kittens. "Specialty" or "gourmet" rations are usually nutritionally incomplete and should only be given as occasional tasty treats.

Beware the temptation to give your cat canned dog foods. These may contain considerable amounts of cereals and vegetables and as a result not enough animal protein or vitamins A and B for cats. Dog foods fed to cats over long periods have been known to cause blindness.

**Semi-Moist and Dry Foods:** The semi-moist type do not dry out or go mouldy. As a result they keep well in the bowl and if necessary the cats' food for the day can be put out all at once. They contain less water than canned foods and more protein and fat than dry foods which makes them more palatable. They may not be nutritionally complete, especially for growing kittens, so alternate them with canned or fresh food.

**Dry Foods:** Dry foods contain only about 10 per cent water, and cats on this diet must have fluid with each meal and must drink at least 200 ml (7 fl oz) a day. This can be in the form of water, milk or gravy, alone or mixed with the food. If your cat fails to drink on a dry diet or is prone to bladder problems, stop the diet.

One advantage of dry foods is that they exercise the cats' teeth and gums and may help to prevent a tartar build up. This diet is different in texture from other cat foods that your cat may need time to get used to it. Even if dry foods are accepted you should alternate them with others.

**How Much and How Often?** If an adult cat is left enough semi-moist or dry food for the day it will choose its own meal times and will seldom overeat unless presented with very large quantities.

Canned food will probably keep 12 hours in the bowl if in a cool place and flies are kept away. It is best fed in two separate meals, but take care not to give the whole day's ration each time.

You can train your cat to eat its meals promptly by removing the food after about half an hour. Growing kittens must have several meals a day. A kitten's stomach is smaller than its head, and it is incapable of eating its daily requirement in one or two meals. A cat recovering from an operation or illness needs to be tempted with tasty snacks, little and often.

The amount of food that each cat needs depends on age, weight, condition, whether active or inactive and individual differences. Elderly cats tend to need fewer calories and obese cats certainly need less.

Individual food needs are so variable that the only real guide is to feed the amount that maintains the cats' normal weight. If you cannot feel the ribs, then your cat is probably overweight.

**Likes and Dislikes:** It is essential to accustom your cat to a variety of flavours and textures from an early age. This will not only ensure a balanced diet but will prevent the cat becoming addicted to a particular food. Past experience plays an important part in the cats' likes and dislikes, and if at some time it needs a special diet — perhaps when it is old or ill — it may starve rather than eat a new food.

A cat's appetite can be greatly affected by how its food is prepared and presented. Noise, the presence of strange people, and stale or tainted food can all put the cat off its eating. Cats will also soon lose interest in very bulky foods with a low concentration of protein.

The temperature of the food is another important factor. Do not serve food straight from the refrigerator. Let it warm to room temperature first, or add warm water or try heating it a little.

Appetite may be affected by a move or boarding, but should return to normal with encouragement and attention. If your cat seems generally unwell or loss of appetite persists — seek veterinary advice.

**Note:** The above article was based partly on the result of careful research, and partly from the experiences and personal observations of the

Editor over a number of years. Although hopefully it will be of interest to members generally, it is specifically published for the benefit of all new and inexperienced owners; particularly those who have, or may in the future, purchase a cat from this Society.

Within the limitations of space we have tried to give some guidance in the care of cats so that you, the new owner, will have a better chance of enjoying a lasting companionship with your new friend. We would like you to know that in all good faith, we believe that the cat you have obtained from us is a sound animal. However, should you have reason (within one month) to feel that the cat you have chosen has an undesirable defect, you are free to return it for another, or if you choose, full refund of the purchase price. This is the guarantee of The Cat Protection Society of New South Wales.

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## "MEMORY LANE"

A donation in memory of my beloved tabby "Bubbles". Aged 9 years, she passed away in February, 1984. She loved to sit up for her meals, and her little ways and affection will never be forgotten.

Inserted by Mavis Mason  
and her little mates "Smoky" and "Skye"

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A donation in memory of my lovely "Beau Royal", my Siamese for 12 years, and "Thomas" who died when we were on a trip though he was left with kind people.

Inserted by Stella Kelly

\* \* \* \* \*

A donation in memory of two beloved Siamese cats, "Samatha Tuchen" and "Whizz McMahon" who brought great joy and pleasure to their families.

Inserted by Marie Tuchen

\* \* \* \* \*

A donation in affectionate memory of "Dandy", a much-loved pet.

Inserted by Mrs. Doris George

\* \* \* \* \*

A donation in memory of our so-beloved, "Salome", never forgotten by the ones she owned.

Inserted by G.M. & H.F. Thompson

\* \* \* \* \*

### "In Memorium"

A donation in loving memory of my dear husband.

Inserted by Margaret Hunn

\* \* \* \* \*

A donation in loving memory of my friend, Joyce Scott of Blakehurst, a voluntary worker for animals. Passed away 18th April, 1984.

Inserted by Shirley Pikler

\* \* \* \* \*

A donation in memory of Helen Tyers, cat lady of Balmain for many, many years.

Inserted by Patricia Healey

\* \* \* \* \*

A donation in memory of my loving mother, Mrs. G. Strachan.

Inserted by daughter, Elizabeth

\* \* \* \* \*

A donation in memory of a very dear friend, Sylvia Cahill, whose kind heart and loving home saved many a four-legged person.

Inserted by Cherie Payne

\* \* \* \* \*

A donation in memory of Gwen Abdy who died on 23rd April, 1984. Gwen devoted a long lifetime to giving aid to animals in need.

Inserted by Mrs. E.B. Smith

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# SOME SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE & ARTICLES RE THE "TOMCAT TRIAL"

Dear Mr. Graham,

"It isn't the money, it's the principle". How often have we heard these words spoken to justify some particularly mean act! Now the Society, whose members work so hard and with such dedication to raise funds for the alleviation of animal suffering is to be penalised . . . and therefore the animals themselves are ultimately deprived.

I enclose a small sum as a contribution towards the costs involved. I do wish I could pay the lot, but as an age pensioner this drop in the ocean is all I can afford.

Without wishing to pursue a post mortem, I must comment that we all make mistakes — and the only real mistake in the recent case lay in thinking that honesty is the best policy, and that the offended party would appreciate the integrity which actuated the confession of the "crime" and its attendant apology.

I only hope that the members of the Society involved, and the vet concerned, will not be discouraged by this setback. No good was ever achieved without its accompanying persecution.

## Ode to Reza Pahlavi

The aristocat is much improved  
Since he had his spheres removed.  
No longer does he want to roam  
But sits in gilded state at home;  
Leaving the Streetcar named Desire  
For a soft seat beside the fire.  
His droit de seigneur brings no more  
Unwanted kittens by the score.  
Deserted females mourn in vain,  
They shall not see his like again.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs. G.M. Thompson

Dear Secretary,

Please find cheque attached as small token of appreciation for the work of the Society.

My once stray "Tom" helped by you is now a loving, healthy and cherished member of the household, friend also to dog and cat alike. Whereas once he killed and came close to the same fate himself.

Darlington is not Darling Point, but unwanted kittens is a cruelty.

Yours sincerely,  
Marie Hobbs

Dear Cat Protection Society,

As a former neighbour of the Haeges I have had first hand experience of what Mrs. Haege described as "an engaging and delightful companion" — their cat Reza Pahlavi. That description is akin to describing Genghis Khan as "meek and mild". No cat ever deserved to have its pockets picked more than him/it, and this small donation is just a token of my support for your actions and in memory of my neutered tom "Trevor" who went to his grave recently still bearing the scars of a vicious attack by Darling Point's most aggressive feline resident.

Sincerely,  
Gail Shaw

Please find enclosed cheque to help pay fine to Paul Haege. He is a relative of my late husband.

Yours truly,  
Doris Graham

Here is something towards the legal costs of that ridiculous court case.

Best wishes,  
Judith Stirling

Dear Sir,

Although I live in Queensland I am contributing the proceeds of my collection of Snappy Tom labels plus this small donation to your Society in the hope that it will relieve to a small degree, the burden of having to pay the fine and costs of the recent unfortunate litigation against you.

In spite of the Court's findings, I urge you not to lose heart completely because if you do the real losers in the case will not be you but those who are in no position whatsoever to help themselves — the cats of Sydney.

Yours sincerely,  
(name illegible)



Dear Director,

This letter is in response to the Channel 10 T.V. news 18.5.84.

The item of interest was the neutering of a tomcat and subsequent legal action by the owner. All of which was viewed with a mixture of amusement and disbelief by my friends and I.

We support the work your Society is doing in the area of cat welfare, and recognise the importance of having domestic pets neutered. Much more needs to be done by government and the community to make people aware of the problems of uncontrolled breeding.

To that end please accept a donation towards the payment of the fine. We think the owners of the tomcat should be taken to account for the disruption, not to mention the progeny, which no doubt the tomcat has left in its wake.

I hope public support for your stand in the matter is enthusiastic and widespread.

Yours faithfully,  
Kevin Lee, Mitzi Finney, Harry Tediensky, Nana De Garza

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Portion of a letter which appeared in The Australian (1.6.84)

"Bill Graham and The Cat Protection Society need congratulating on their humane and sensible attitude regarding felix catus (Letters 23/5).

Let me hasten to say that I am not a cat enthusiast, but I do have a great deal of compassion for all those animals which are regarded (erroneously in many cases) as having less intelligence than homo sapiens.

For many years now I have watched the growth of restrictions on dogs and their owners while any such limitations on the activities of cats have been put into the too-hard basket by various authorities.

Indiscriminate reproduction . . . continues to be, if not the greatest, then certainly the most pernicious source of misery in the world today. Whether it be by human beings, money-hungry pet breeders, or simply by owners of animals uncaring as to the ultimate fate of such progeny.

It should not be beyond the ability of governments to ensure that all pets are licensed and, except for those of registered breeders, desexed. Such a measure would immediately place responsibility on all pet owners, a factor sadly lacking at the moment.

As to the fine imposed for cutting off this feline Lothario in his prime, that was just one more example of the law. While not exactly fulfilling the qualifications for being a domestic pet, most certainly fulfilling those for being an ass".

L.F. Winston, Taree, N.S.W.

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— And columnist, David McNicoll in The Bulletin (June 5, 1984)

"Paul Haege is a name which has struck perturbation into the heart of many a company chairman. At annual meetings, anxious board members scan the rows of shareholders hoping that the analytical Haege isn't going to get out his scalpel and start operating on the balance sheet.

Last week Paul and his attractive wife, Helen, stepped into new territory. Their tomcat, Reza Pahlavi, had been captured and subjected to an irreversible operation which put an end to his sexual activities and the Haeges were after damages. I did not envy the Judge. I now hold him in high esteem.

I know Paul and Helen well, though I was not on patting terms with their tom cat. But I must confess that my sympathies came down on the side of those people who had rearranged the tomcat's equipment. The reason I feel this way is that we, in a suburb near the Haeges, suffer from wandering toms.

. . . The flying foxes seem to have an arrangement with the district tomcats. If you can imagine the screeching of flying foxes mixed with the caterwauling and hissing of tomcats, you have some idea of the sound effects of Dante's Inferno. I deplore ever having lost my youthful skill with the catapult.

. . . But if you want to see my hackles rise, start talking about flying foxes, currawongs and tomcats".

# OF CATS and DOGS and BIRDS and THINGS (and Cabbages and Kings)

Recently, my wife paid a visit to Mrs. Vera Jones, a very charming, elderly lady who for some time has resided in a nursing home not very far from where we live. Mrs. Jones has lived a much travelled and interesting life and has, in her retirement, set down her reminiscences of an earlier, and perhaps more romantic, time and age. At the conclusion of the visit, Mrs. Jones was kind enough to lend my wife a volume of those reminiscences.

Having read through the volume with keen interest, I came upon the following story which occurred during the time of the Sino-Russian war (1904-6) when Vera Jones was no more than a small toddler living with her parents in Russia.

This story of a small dog's devotion to his young mistress is told with a poignancy which I found extremely touching, and serves to highlight yet again that wonderful love and loyalty that does so often exist between man and a faithful pet animal.

**"Hekkie" — by Life Member, Vera Jones.**

My Aunt Elizabeth and her three young children had been bitten by a terrified small dog that, it was feared, could have been in the early stages of rabies. Elizabeth and her three youngsters had come into the beautiful countryside, just resurrecting from a severe winter, welcoming the advent of spring. The great snowdrifts in Southern Russia were melted and had yielded up the poor bodies of birds and animals — sometimes the corpse of a human being; they had perished there and been covered by the white blanket. Now everything was green again, the trees their buds swelling into joyous leaves, and early spring flowers held up their faces, most still greenish white, also the first yellow or blue, to welcome the life-giving warmth. Again there was birdsong, for many migrants were back.

But so, too, was rabies back again to menace with its unimaginable horror, people no less than animals, especially those of the canine race. Familiar house dogs, Siberian wolves from the wildest regions far away to our East — none were immune.

The affected animal seems to feel in advance what is in store. It shudders in terror, tries to hide, neither eats nor drinks. Then saliva begins to gather, frothing at the mouth. The eyes glaze and the poor creature rushes away, tearing forward in a dead-straight line, itself at full stretch, tail rigid. No rabid animal can do other than seize whatever happens to be in its path. Sinking its teeth into the victim, it injects some

of the disease-bearing saliva into the smallest wound.

The dog that had bitten my aunt and little cousins was immediately shot; a precaution, although it had not yet manifested any hydrophobic symptoms except fear. But some saliva must have entered through broken skin. It could have terrible results.

A through train to Kharkov was stopped and Elizabeth and her two small daughters and little son were shown into a compartment to themselves, then securely locked in from the outside. The children were too young to realise the reason for cutting short the stay they were enjoying; but Elizabeth placed them on the seat, while she sat opposite, watching them closely, trying to amuse them and praying all the time that, were they to break out in the dreaded signs, then she might be the last to go.

A carriage, with two of the fastest available horses, was waiting when they pulled into Kharkov. Accompanied by attendants of the Pasteur Institute, they were, without delay, taken where doctors were waiting with the remedy: very deep injections of serum into the abdomen. Collecting the serum was, in those days, very dangerous. Louis Pasteur insisted on carrying it out himself. Some of the hydrophobic dog's frothing saliva had to be sucked up by the operator through a pipette held between his lips. The dog, raging, was held down by two assistants protected by leather gloves and aprons.

Treatment at the Institute went on for some time, relentlessly, no matter how pitifully each child wailed. But all three of them and their mother emerged safe.

It was not always so. Those who have read Dr. Axel Munthes' "The Story of St. Michele" will remember his account of the Siberian peasants who, having been bitten by rabid wolves, were rushed to Louis Pasteur in Paris. They reached him too late.

Terrifying incidents were possible in the cities. My own encounter belongs to my fourth or fifth year. Hector (Hekkie to his friends) came to me at Christmas, my most cherished gift. He was only a puppy, yellow and fluffy, of uncertain ancestry. His tail curled gamely over his back. He had a merry grin and brown eyes that adored those he loved. Though not allowed on my bed, he slept in a basket of his own, placed beside my bed so that at night I could put out a hand and touch his warm, friendly little body.

Spring has come and everyone was out in light coats, having left off the clumsy snow boots of winter. My nurse, Hekkie and I were

walking up a fine, leafy avenue that linked some outlying villages to the city.

Suddenly there was a cry of warning from over the hill ahead and everyone, all who, like us, were out enjoying the renewed sunshine, had scattered in every direction. Another moment, and only I was left! — that is, I and Hekkie, close by me. In that moment I saw the dog coming over the hill. To me that dog was enormous — black, stretched out, tail straight and stiff, and it was coming straight for Hekkie and me. Its mouth was agape and the foam from its lips was flying back in thick, white flecks. Another moment and it would have been on the two of us. But already Hekkie had left my side: on his stomach he was creeping into the black dog's path. Another breath and he was under the mad animal, the two rolling over and over, sending the air with ear-splitting howls and curls.

At once those who had fled returned. First on the scene were two gendarmes. Two shots in to the frenzied mass — and there was silence. One gendarme had snatched me up and handed me, still screaming with terror and crying for Hekkie, to my sobbing nurse. Someone escorted us to my home not far away.

Much later I understood that there was nothing left of Hekkie, only blood smears on the pavement, some shreds of torn flesh, and a tuft or two of his yellow coat. A few there were, including the gendarmes, who had seen what happened. They insisted that the little dog had acted of his own volition. Against all instinct, he realised what he must do, and he gave his life for his playmate.

Most of this story was retold to me by my parents.

Dear Bill,

I recently read a book which contained this small 'vignette' which touched me so much that I thought I would pass it on. Perhaps you would like to reproduce it in your Journal if space permits. Although the book from which it is taken is covered by copyright, I feel confident that the author would not object to its use, since she is a woman who cares deeply for all living things, and whose personal philosophy is based on respect and protection of animals.

Yours sincerely,  
(Ms) Genevieve Young  
Co-ordinator — NSW Branch  
Animal Liberation

### On the Move

I often leave the front door to my house open to allow the breeze to clear out the still air within. One crystal morning the shadow of a cat drifted past my door — a cat old as time, atrophied, disintegrating, wasting away. Nobly she entered my doorway with a dowager air as though it were her home. I saw a flame burning behind the oozing eyes that could no longer see in the night. Her heart had not grown old. She purred and spoke as though she knew me, then wandered through the rooms and settled comfortably on a sheepskin rug; dignity reigned. Tiny free spirit, take courage. You are alive though dying.

I examined her and found her deaf when I snapped my fingers. I stroked her mud-caked, matted fur — no phosphorescence here. And I discovered the deterioration of her bones. No teeth remained in her mouth; her gums were bare. She cried in a faint little meow, then curled up in my lap and died.

From 'The Gentle Jungle' by Toni Ringo Helfer, pub. Brigham Young University Press, 1980.

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## TABBY CATS ARE GOOD PROSPECTS

I cannot for the life of me see why tabby cats are not popular. Have another think about this. Tabby markings are absolutely stunning if you look properly; usually stripes on the tail and body, and often spots on the tummy, like a lovely combination of tiger and leopard.

I also think that tabby cats get less problems. Ginger cats have a tendency to suffer more from skin colour and bladder problems. White cats in Australia get many a problem with their ear tips suffering from solar dermatitis which causes the tips to get inflamed, crusty and eaten away. Take a look into a tabby's eyes surrounded by the black rim and have a change of thought.



*"Silhouette" — Photo courtesy of Nancy Iredale.*

# AUXILIARY NEWS

by Sybil Cozens

## Vale Gwen Abdy

Sadly I have to report the death of Gwen Abdy — deeply mourned by all animals. With her passing a great void has been left in the animal world.

For a long while Gwen gave her time weekly to the Op. Shop not only serving behind the counter, but also collecting goods. Her cheerful, helpful outlook was an example to all who worked with her and I am grateful for having known her.

A little story now. One of Gwen's last acts for the Op. Shop before she left Sydney to take up residence on the North Coast was:— One night her very good friends drove her to Enmore in a very loaded car, parked right outside the shop, opened up the boot and car doors and proceeded to carry the many bags inside. Three very busy people scurrying back and forth to the holding room at the back of the shop. Suddenly they found themselves — all three together in the room. Panic — raced outside but it was too late. Himself had left the keys in the boot. The car was found many days later but of course no bags!

## Dress Show at Enmore

2nd June: Once again Cynthia "put on" a very pleasant parade showing the latest fashion trends. These are very informal afternoons and I think most enjoy themselves — some are even lucky to buy their "new wardrobes". \$140 was raised which was very rewarding considering the poor attendance.

## Dress Racks & Hangers

A wonderful response to this appeal and I have been able to purchase 4 Dress Racks, 350 Childrens and 150 skirt hangers. These have made life so much easier for our "backroom girls". A very big "thank you" donors.

## From the November 1982 Journal — An Updated Reprint of What Happens to Goods and Clothing Brought into the Shop.

### Household Items

These are unpacked in the backroom on the ground floor, checked, sorted, priced and placed on the shelves in the holding area or "middle room" to be drawn from by our daily shop workers as required. **Books** are paperbacks generally go straight onto the shelves in the shop after sorting. Special editions, sets of cook books, hobbies, educational, pictorial or old etc are put aside for final appraisal.

### Electrical Goods

These are tested and cords repaired if necessary.

## Clothing

This usually comes in garbage bags or old suitcases, unpacking is done in the big upstairs front room. We have set two laminated kitchen tables — donated of course — under the window where we get very good light for the job. Everything is put on wire hangers and hung on dress racks except some baby wear, scarves and hats. The next job is to separate summer and winter, then to categorise — ladies dresses, coats etc and mens shirts, suits etc onto the appropriate racks, label (which is done with staplers), and price. Everything looks great now all ready to cover with a dust sheet, but this is the time the workers usually start trying on buying. Its just like being in GB's on late shopping night. Unsuitable garments are stripped of buttons, buckles, beads, zippers and sometimes lace applique. Buttons, buckles and beads go into small clear plastic bags and zippers are tied in bundles with elastic so they may be withdrawn easily when sold. Two of our workers do these chores at home whilst watching T.V. — so they say!

## Wool, Materials, Ribbons, Laces and Stockings

This is my job to sort through these goods and allocate to the appropriate workers, sadly not many. I usually do a couple of trips a year with sewing oddments, to Woy Woy. The two Northern Branches have active groups of needleworkers and the Auxiliary is very happy to help them.

## Stamps

These are sorted into countries, types etc., and placed into small plastic envelopes, sealed and priced.

## Soft Toys & Dolls

Dolls in reasonable condition are cleaned and redressed likewise the washable soft dogs, rabbits etc are bathed, given new eyes or neck collars.

## Garbage

Household type from the Kitchen and shop bins is collected weekly by the Marrickville Council. Other heavy rubbish is taken to the Artarmon transfer station where a charge is paid.

## Papers & Cardboard Cartons

Papers used for wrapping china etc is flattened and placed in cartons along with any old magazines and surplus cut up cartons. As the paper collector no longer calls, these boxes end up in the suburban paper collection of a couple of our workers who taken them home.

## Aluminium Cans & Scrap Metal

We have a bin near the front door of the shop for cans and several C.P.S. members have depots for the collection of cans. Quite a tidy sum is collected each year.

Aluminium (old pots, pans etc), copper (pipes, washing coppers etc), brass (old broken door knockers etc) is placed in tea chests in the garage and taken once a year to a Metal Dealer.

Generally speaking, cats aren't as fussy about pleasing humans as dogs are. This stems back to the origins of the cat; it's never been a pack animal. That doesn't mean puss doesn't form a strong bond of affection with his owners.

Sometimes they have funny ways of showing their affection. If the cat starts rubbing his face on your leg he's sending you a message. Hidden on each side of a cat's mouth just below and in front of the ears are some special glands. With these glands, each cat will leave his own perfume on you. It's his way of saying "we're friends".

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The one flaw in a cat's mind is his attentiveness. Like kids doing their homework, cats can't always concentrate their attention for an extended period. They're bright enough all right, but concentration lets them down. That's why so few of them can be trained to sit or give a paw.

When it comes to senses, cats are as sharp as any animals. A cat's sense of touch is hard to beat. Every hair is finely turned to pick up any feeling. Eyebrows, whiskers, hairs on the cheek and ears — even the tip of the nose — are all extremely sensitive. The cat's night vision is legendary. They're sensitive to tiny movements which humans could never pick up.

\* \* \* \* \*

Certain smells, to which the bloodhound is indifferent, will attract or repel a cat. It's nose will pick up even the slightest scent of its master or a slice of fish shut up in the fridge, yet for some strange reason they can't resist the pong of petrol and oil used in cars, or the scent of freshly done washing. Of course, they all love flowers and the various scents given off in the garden.

A cat's hearing is also tip top. It's helped by the fact that a moggy's ears can swivel to be precisely in line with the sound he's listening to. A cat's ears contain around 30 muscles, three times as many as human ears. Like dogs, a cat's hearing is ultrasonic. What's more, he can hear while he's having a snooze. He may look like he's in the deepest slumber but he's still alert to the slightest tremor. Look how often his master's car drawing up outside will have him instantly awake.

As you can see very little goes to waste, since it became uneconomic to take the unsaleable rags and what is left of the unsuitable clothes to Hansel and Gamble, it is now given to the Smith Family. It is used in their recycling plant and sold to developing nations for carpet manufacture. Thus the Smith Family is helping the poorer nations and us by their monthly removal of our unwanted material. By the way old towels and sheets are saved for the cat cages.

The feline monitoring system helps cats respond to human signals. They're acute observers of our body language — as well as having a special language of their own. When moggy stretches in front of the fire, closes his eyes and yawns, you may think he's bored. Far from it. That's just his way of saying "you're ideal, and I feel great living with you".

The lazy lump of fur that lies for hours in front of the fire is really one of nature's greatest athletes. An incredibly fit body with a mind to match. And don't think he doesn't use that feline brain to get the better of you.

Cats are constantly watching their human masters, logging gestures, tones of voice, even the slightest movements humans make that they'd never notice themselves. That's why your cat knows the exact time to put on that "butter-wouldn't-melt-in-my-mouth" expression if he's pining for a succulent tit-bit.

\* \* \* \* \*



*Secretary, Mrs. Shirley Pikler; on the job at Enmore.*

The Secretary  
The Cat Protection Society of N.S.W.  
P.O. Box A523  
SYDNEY SOUTH, 2000

(Please cut out and return to address shown)

I/We apply for **Membership or Renewal of Membership** of the Society for the year commencing June, 1984. **Note:** all persons joining from January remain financial until June the following year.

Subscription	\$100.00 — Life Membership	Enclosed Cheque/Money Order
	\$ 5.00 — Annual Membership	for \$ .....
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Ms.  
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The Secretary (Please cut out and return to address shown).  
The Cat Protection Society of N.S.W.  
P.O. Box A523  
SYDNEY SOUTH 2000

Enclosed is \$ ..... (Cheque, Money Order) as donation to the:—

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**Plea from the Secretary:** Due to the high cost of postage and envelopes, if members sending in their subscriptions wish to receive a receipt, would they please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Otherwise receipts are not sent.