

# Cat Affairs

Journal of  
**THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF N.S.W.**

(Registered Charity CC 17122)



**Darryl, Most Beautiful Cat in our Photo Contest.**

## **INSIDE:**

- **Complete details of Contest winners**
- **Notice of our Annual General Meeting**
- **Directors' Report on Accounts for Year Ended May 31, 1989**
- **Where to see baby turtles hatching**
- **Check list of "Beauty Without Cruelty" products**
- **Cat Language - things you may not have realized!**
- **And lots more fascinating cat lore and information**

## President's Page

Welcome once again to you all, as we present another information packed journal and also announce that we are extending our issues to four each year instead of the current three! Not only will this give us the chance to be in touch with you more often, but we can also include topical issues as they occur, whereas before it seemed such a long time between writing and publishing our bits and pieces. As an added benefit we have also found that our postage rate will be reduced substantially so it's good news all round.

Inside you'll find out about the results of our photo competition. Many thanks to all those who entered, and what a very difficult decision it was to choose. All entries were delightful and Personality Boy/Girl proved very hard to decide upon, but anyway, we finally bit the bullet with the judges' decision being final of course!

The major event for your calendars is of course our Annual General Meeting, which is scheduled for Saturday 9th September. It's being held in the Committee Room at Enmore which should prove just as easy to get to as the YMCA, and we think it's a great chance for all those members who are new, or those who don't know where we operate from, to see our premises and get a feel for our work in both welfare and the opportunity shop. We are always looking for extra helpers in the shop so here's your chance to check us out!!

We're also keen to hold some new member functions to introduce the steady stream of new joiners both to us and each other. What would you like us to organise? Are weekends the best or do evenings suit you better? Would you like to hear from guest speakers on animal welfare or other subjects? We need your suggestions and input to get it all up and running. Use your journal as **your** platform to tell us what you want.

By the way, we've also got some terrific raffles planned, so keep your eyes open for news on them, plus we'll be offering tea towels and T-shirts which will make perfect Christmas gifts for friends and relatives. We're also working on greeting cards and other cat paraphernalia which we know will delight you all.

Remember, the AGM is just around the corner and we're planning a wonderful Devonshire Tea to serve after the formalities are over, so come along and be part of your Society and find out what makes us tick!

See you soon.



Lyn Thomas

### Calling all Foundation Members!!

If you are a Foundation Member of The Cat Protection Society of NSW, would you be kind enough to write to let me know?

Any reminiscences or accounts of those early days would also be most appreciated, and of course, any pictures of meetings or activities.

- Editor.



*The cat seldom interferes with other people's rights. His intelligence keeps him from doing the fool things that complicate life.*

- Carl Van Vechte

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

Registered office & postal address: 103 Enmore Road, Enmore, N.S.W. 2042.

Telephones: 51 1011, 519 7201

**PATRONS:** The Hon. N.P. Greiner, M.P., Premier of N.S.W., Miss Ita Buttrose, O.B.E., Professor Charles Birch, F.A.A.,  
The Hon James McClelland.

**OFFICE BEARERS:** President: Miss Lyn Thomas  
Vice-Presidents: Mrs. Sybil Cozens, Miss Jo Tomkin.  
Honorary Treasurer: Mrs. Nance Iredale  
Membership Secretary: Miss Jo Tomkin

**COUNCILLORS:** Mrs. June Chapman, Mrs. Stephanie Forsyth, Mrs. Lena Larsen, Professor Daria Love, Mrs Shirley Pikler,  
Mrs. Robin Warner, Mrs. Beverley Walsh.

Secretary: Mrs. Julie Gorrick

**WELFARE COMMITTEE:** Mrs. Nance Iredale, Mrs. Lena Larsen, Mrs Robin Warner

Journal Editor: Mrs Julie Gorrick  
Editorial Consultant: Miss Jo Tomkin

Honorary Life Members: Mr. G. Cozens, Mrs S. Cozens, Mrs. E. Duport, Mrs. A. Gillham, Mr. W. Graham, Mrs. J. Graham, Mrs. D. Haines, Mrs. B. Harvey, Mrs. N. Iredale,  
Mr. G. Luton, Mrs. T. Nelson, Mrs. S. Pikler, Mrs. T. Taylor, Mr G.J. Thatcher  
Life Governors: Mrs. L. Braby, Miss C. Bryant, Mrs. B. Morrison, Mrs N. Iredale, Mrs S. Springheld, Mrs. I. Tattersall, Miss D. Sillins, Miss H. Heney, Mrs F. Best,  
Miss V. Murdoch, Mrs. I. Cheffings, Mr. W. Turner, Mr. H. Thompson.

## HOW TO KITTENPROOF YOUR HOME

Every home has hazards for curious, playful kittens who haven't learned from experience. Here's a check list of items that present potential dangers:

- 1. Sewing Kits.** *Keep your sewing box well out of reach. Needles and threads look enticing playthings to a kitten, but can cause a lot of damage within seconds.*
- 2. String or wool.** *The same applies here. The cat's throat and tongue are so constructed that substances swallowed are forced downward - the kitten has no way of regurgitating. It may end up helplessly consuming lengths of string or wool, which can fatally bind its digestive tract.*
- 3. Rubber bands, twist ties and tags from bread wrappers.** *Again, the curious kitten may swallow them and cause internal injury. Keep small items like this in tightly lidded jars, out of harm's way.*
- 4. Venetian blind and curtain cords.** *These are a hazard found in many homes. Dangling cords say "play with me" to the youngster, but he can get the cord tangled around his neck or body with sometimes fatal results. Make sure all cords are tucked up well out of the kitten's reach.*
- 5. Dangling toys.** *Your kitten loves playing with a piece of scrunched up paper dangling from the back of a chair. Just make sure you supervise his play. If the string is long it can get caught around his body, or his claws can catch in the string itself.*
- 6. Electrical appliances.** *Open ovens, hotplates or gas rings, irons, dishwashers and clothes dryers are among the dangerous kitchen items your kitten might encounter. Don't leave a pot bubbling unattended on the stove if he's big enough to climb, and don't slam the dryer shut without checking inside first. It goes without saying that irons, radiators, fans and toasters should not be operated within his reach.*
- 7. Plastic Bags.** *Kittens enjoy playing with bags, and stout brown paper or plastic bags make good hidey-holes. But thin plastic bags can be a health hazard if he gets trapped inside, or the handles get caught around his head. Even with a thick plastic bag, if he goes in frontwise he may have trouble retreating... kittens have to learn how to reverse! If you leave bags of any kind on the floor for him to play with, you should be in the room to watch.*
- 8. The Bathroom.** *Always keep the lid of the toilet closed, and never leave water in the bath or sink if the kitten can wander in. Tales of kittens drowning in the bath are not uncommon. Also don't leave pills or medicine in open containers. Some smell and taste pleasant enough for him to try.*
- 9. Pesticides.** *Pesticides strong enough to kill cockroaches can be fatal to very young kittens, or make*

*Because you care, we care.*



## THE PET CARE PEOPLE

**The complete Home and Pet Care Specialists**



**GOING AWAY?** Don't worry, no need to board. We visit your home, feed, exercise and play with pets, water plants and collect mail. Other jobs as requested.



**HOME PICK UP AND RETURN OF PETS TO/FROM VETS.** Boarding facilities, pet transport across Australia, pensioner discounts.



**DOG WALKING AND EXPERT GROOMING**

**Hand drawn pet portraits**

Home Delivery of pet food. Lots more!

**Central Office, 387 2644, all hours.**

**Richard Durant,**

**Proprietor and Licensed Security Agent**

*them very ill. A special danger is when the inside of a cupboard is sprayed or dusted, and the kitten gets shut inside, exposed to the pesticide for a lengthy period. When you use pesticides, make absolutely sure the kitten is out of the room. If you spray or dust behind refrigerators and cabinets they must be blocked off, so he can't crawl behind and become exposed to the pesticides. (Remember, some of them remain active for months.) The same applies to sprays used in the garden. Don't use them when the kitten is outside, and be cautious where you place slug and snail bait if the kitten is allowed into the garden.*

**10. Hidey Holes.** *The smaller the kitten, the more likely he is to squeeze through a crack or crevice - often so small, you think it doesn't present a danger. Check inside and outside the house for potential hidey-holes, where he could squeeze in and become trapped.*

**11. Outdoors.** *A kitten should always be supervised when it's let outside to play. Left alone by itself in the yard it faces all the hazards of an adult cat, without the adult's mental or physical agility to protect itself. Threats to its safety include cars and machinery, attacks from other animals, insect bites, human cruelty and falls. Remember, it can't climb a tree or jump a fence to escape! Kittens are also more likely to be stolen than mature cats, and are less able to withstand changes in climate - rain, wind, a cold snap or blinding sun.*

*All cats are safer indoors, but the rule applies particularly to kittens. Even if you think for some reason that cats belong outside, you will be giving your kitten the best chance to grow into a happy, healthy adult if you keep it indoors at least MOST OF THE TIME, and always stay with it when it's allowed outside.*



# Notice of Annual General Meeting and Nominations

**The Annual General Meeting of The Cat Protection Society of NSW will be held on Saturday, September 9, at the Society's premises, 103 Enmore Road, Enmore, commencing at 2.30p.m.**

All members are cordially invited to attend. If coming by car, the nearest cross street is Phillip Street, and the premises are opposite the Enmore Theatre. By train, come to Newtown station, cross King Street, and walk straight up Enmore Road. Buses 423, 426 and 428 pass our door, proceeding from Circular Quay through the city and Broadway to City Road, then up King Street and into Enmore Road.

A Devonshire Tea will be served after the close of the meeting, and it is hoped to see new members as well as old friends among those attending.

## BUSINESS

1. Read and confirm Minutes of the 1988 Annual General Meeting.
2. Business arising.
3. Annual Report.
4. Balance sheet and financial statement - Treasurer's report.
5. Election of office bearers and Councillors, 1989-1990 term.
6. Appointment of auditors.
7. General business and discussion - question time.

## VOTING AND PROXY VOTING

Only financial members are entitled to vote, accept nomination, or nominate others for positions on Council. However, a member entitled to vote and unable to attend the meeting may arrange for a proxy vote in his/her place. A proxy need not be a member, and unless otherwise instructed may vote as he or she thinks fit.

If you wish to appoint a proxy to attend in your place, the following form must be completed and returned to The Cat Protection Society no later than 48 hours before the time of the meeting.

I .....  
of .....  
being a financial member of The Cat Protection Society of NSW  
appoint .....  
of .....  
to vote on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting to be held on September 9, 1989.

Signed.....

## ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COUNCILLORS

A president, two Vice Presidents and a Treasurer, together with eight other state Councillors, shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting

Each person seeking nomination must be nominated by two financial members, and the nomination must be set out in the following manner:

## NOMINATION FORM

We, the undersigned financial members of The Cat Protection Society of NSW, hereby nominate

.....

for the position of .....  
at the election to be held at the Annual General Meeting of the said Society on Saturday, September 9, 1989.

Proposer.....

Address.....

Seconder.....

Address.....

\*\*\*\*\*

I, .....  
name of nominee

of .....

Born..... being 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 12 months from such election.

Signed.....Date.....  
\*\*\*\*\*

The election shall take place in the following manner:

1. The completed nomination shall be lodged with the Secretary at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting at which the election is to take place.
2. A list of candidates' names in alphabetical order, with the names of proposers and seconders, 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.
3. If necessary, ballot lists shall be prepared containing only the names of the candidates. The order in which the candidates' names appear on the ballot paper shall be decided by lot. Each member present at the Annual General Meeting, or his/her appointed proxy, shall be entitled to vote for any number of such candidates, not exceeding the number of vacancies.
4. 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.
5. In case there shall not be sufficient number of candidates nominated, the elected Council shall fill up the remaining vacancies.
6. In accordance with section 226 of the Companies (NSW) Code, a member aged 72 years or over at the date of the Annual General Meeting may be elected as an office bearer or Councillor of the Society provided his/her age is recited, and he/she receives 75% or more of the votes.

## Form of Bequest

To those caring persons who may be disposed to assist our Society in 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 purpose 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 sufficient discharge to my Executors.

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

## CAN YOU HELP US FIND HOMES?

We always have healthy, affectionate cats and kittens for sale at our Parklands boarding kennel. The address is 505 Sunny Holt Road, Blacktown, opposite Lalor Road in the directory, and the number is 626 9333.

Parklands is open 7 days a week from 9a.m. - 5p.m., except for Wednesdays, when it closes at 1.30p.m. The price for a wormed and immunized kitten is \$ 16.00 and for a desexed cat, \$ 40.00.

Do let your friends, relatives and colleagues know about Parklands. It's a very pleasant place with a country atmosphere, and we always have a lovely selection of colours available.

## A Friendly Reminder... Is your membership up to date?

If you joined our Society between January 1 and May 31, your membership is current until May 31 of the following year. In other words, if you joined in the early months of 1989 you don't need to renew membership until June 1 of 1990 - you get a nice little bonus! If you joined between June and December of last year, however, your membership was due on the 1st of June THIS year. Please check your receipt and see if you're up to date, your membership is vital to our work. If there are any queries, membership secretary Jo Tomkin (see below) can help you. And just another little reminder... the annual rate for adults is \$10.00, or \$5.00 if you're a pensioner and quote your pension number.

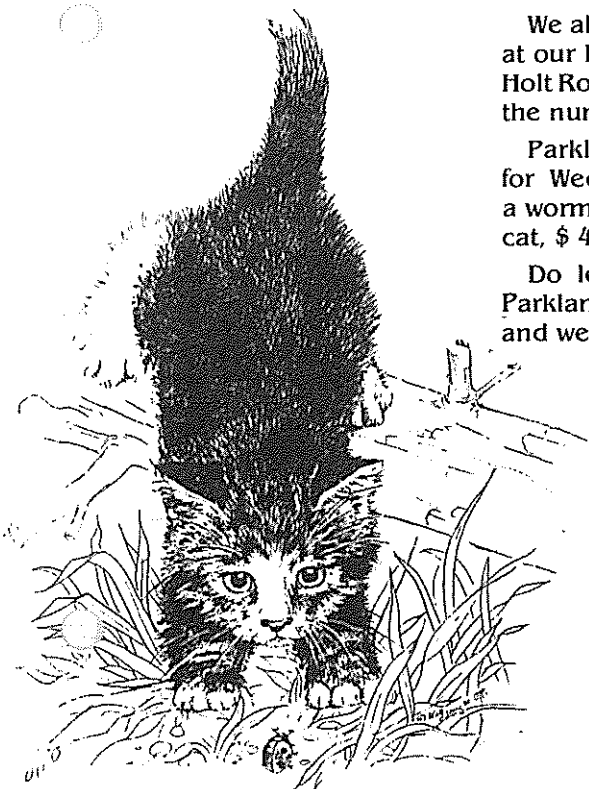
## KEEP THESE 'PHONE NUMBERS HANDY

Welfare administration inquiries:  
Opportunity Shop:

511 011, 519 7201  
516 2072

To have goods picked up, Mrs. Sybil Cozens:  
Membership and volunteer inquiries, Miss Jo Tomkin:

427 3828  
713 8576





# BLACK CATS

## *I Like Black Cats Because*

- \* *They are discreetly dressed for every occasion*
- \* *They bring good luck to their owners*
- \* *If wearing a white bow tie they make excellent butlers*
- \* *They are dramatic by day and invisible by night*
- \* *They make unwelcome visitors feel ill at ease by suddenly looking sinister*
- \* *The black leather on their paws and nose is always in good taste and very durable*
- \* *They enjoy Hallow'een parties*
- \* *Their pleasing sobriety of manner fits them for unobtrusive duties in undertakers' parlors, public libraries, ladies' waiting rooms and the better kind of family restaurant*
- \* *When they stretch their fore-paws they appear to be wearing long black elbow-length evening gloves*
- \* *They look wonderful riding pillion when I fly across the sky at night*



"Now, you tell  
me you get airsick!"

		W		B	A	I	T			A	P	A	R	T
		H	.		C	O	A	C	H				A	
T	R	Y		A	P	E								T

## How to Improve Your Scrabble

This article was written specially for "Cat Affairs" by CPS member Lena Boyd.

Lena is Treasurer of the Sydney Scrabble Club, plays in the Masters Division, and won the Victorian Championships in 1987. She says Scrabble is more than just a word game, where you can do well if you have a reasonable vocabulary. It requires as much strategy and skill as Chess or Bridge... and is twice the fun!

I've found it fascinating talking to Lena about Scrabble. I didn't realize that there were clubs for players, regular competitions, and so much to learn if you want to be a competent player.

Incidentally, the Sydney Scrabble Club is situated in Foveaux Street, Surry Hills, and meets on Sunday afternoons. You can call in any time for a casual game, and pay only \$3.00 (including tea or coffee.) Lena will be there to introduce you, and there's no need to worry if you're just a beginner - there will be other beginners to play with, and experienced players to advise you.

You'll find Lena's 'phone number at the end of her article, and I know she'll welcome your interest.

-Editor

Scrabble is the most popular word game in the world. Playing with words is a natural form of amusement for many people. For as long as I can remember I have taken words apart, rearranged them, tried to find smaller words within larger ones, and looked up my Chambers Dictionary for the meanings of unfamiliar words, TAGHAIRM, PODZOL, KEEVE, EUOUAE and CRWTH are just a few that come to mind.

However, to be a good Scrabble player, a good vocabulary is not enough. Strategy in Scrabble is just as important as in Chess, Bridge or Backgammon.

I shall endeavour to give you a few pointers which I hope will be of some use in improving your game. Please note that it is with great difficulty I do this, as my cat has decided to take over the computer, and give some occasional help with an appropriately placed paw on the keyboard.

**BALANCING YOUR RACK:** Good rack management maximises your chances for making good plays on future turns. Too many vowels (vowelitis) is messy and not conducive to making seven letter words. Firstly many consonants combine with each other in groups of two or three (eg., BL BR CR TH NTH RTH TCH WH WR STR STY RTY) but it is relatively rare to find more than two vowels which combine well. Of course there are always exceptions, like, COOEE, UNAU, AUREI, but as all the vowels are only worth one point, it is more profitable in the long run to miss a go and change them, rather than playing one at a time and scoring badly, while your opponent is forging ahead. Too many consonants can also clog up your rack. For instance your rack has CCVVZUT. You can play CUT for a few points, but the CCVVZ is highly unpromising even if you do pick up two vowels. My choice would be to exchange all seven tiles and hope for better things to come. Two or three vowels and the remainder consonants is a reasonably good balance.

Eighty percent of all bingos (seven letter words) played in tournaments have no, or only one, high value letter in them, so play off your high scoring letters as profitably as you can while saving good low scoring ones. A classic group of letters in the low scoring group is AEINRST. This can give you a wonderful selection of words like., NASTIER, RESIANT, RETINAS, RETSINA, STARNIE, STAINER, STEARIN, RATINES and RETAINS. Never part with an S or a blank for a low score, these are the most important tiles and should be saved for high scores only.

**WHAT TO DO WITH THE Q:** Some people hold on to the Q because it is worth 10 points. There are a few Q words without the U, such as QADI, QANAT, QINTAR, QIBLA, INQILAB, but if you don't have the U and can't play any of these immediately, then exchange it for another tile. You are going to waste time fishing while your opponent is gaining points, and if the game ends that 10 points is deducted from your score and ten is also added to the winner's score. Don't cry your sour grapes, because you got what you deserved!

**HOOK WORDS:** Hook words are words that can have a letter added to them and are transformed into another word. HARM can become CHARM. SQUINT can be changed to ASQUINT. When the board looks as though it is closed up, look carefully, as you may have an opening in a hook word. Better still try to set up a few openings. I prefer to go for the more unusual words, after all, you don't want your opponent to see them too easily. Here are a few examples, all of which are in Chambers Dictionary, the official Scrabble dictionary in Australia and Britain. PRAISE to UPRaise, HANDLES to HANDLESS, WATCH to SWATCH, SQUARER to SQUARERS, ELASTIC to GELASTIC. Yes, they all exist in Chambers.

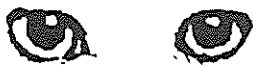
**TWO AND THREE LETTER WORDS:** It is vital in Scrabble to have a good working knowledge of these, as quite often a winning play hinges on a two letter word. If you are really motivated to win, you should commit them to memory. Here is a list of the acceptable twos:

AD AE AH AI AM AN AR AS AT-AW AX AY BE  
BO BY CH DA DO EA EE EF EH EL EM EN ER ES  
EX FA FY GI GO GU HA HE HI ID IF IN IO IS IT  
JO KA KY LA LI LO MA ME MI MO MU MY NA  
NE NO NU NY OB OD OE OF OH OI ON OO OP  
OR OU OW OX OY PA PI PO RE SH SI SO ST TA  
TE TI TO UG UM UN UP UR US UT WE WO XI YE  
YO YU ZO

Lastly, if all else fails and you are being trounced, call your cat in a cajoling voice and puss will instantly jump on to the Scrabble board and scatter the tiles every which way. You then apologise and say "Oh, what a pity, we'll just have to have a replay"

I do hope these few hints will be of some help in your game, and if you would like to come to the Sydney Scrabble Club on a Sunday afternoon, give me a ring for further details on 519 6992

Happy Scrabbling  
Lena Boyd (and Possum) 7



## Cats Boarded for \$5.00 a Day Also a discount for pensioners



**Our rates are low, but our  
service is high!**

**Individual runs...  
Access to enclosed grassy nature area...  
Cats fed twice daily...**

**Lots of TLC...  
Pick up and delivery service...**

**Managed by veterinary nurse  
with 11 years experience.**

**Inspections most welcome.**



**Naomi Collins,  
GLENWARRI BOARDING KENNELS  
& CATTERY, Werombi Rd, Werombi  
Telephone: (046) 531 375**



## AUXILIARY JOTTINGS

### A REQUEST AND A THANK YOU

First, to all the dedicated workers in the Auxiliary, I extend my own thanks and that of the Society. I also wish to thank all those who donate goods for the Op Shop. Our customers say it's the best in the area, and we certainly offer a wonderfully wide range of goods - thanks to you.

Now, a request. Our workers returned a great result this year, but goodness knows how, when the volunteer roster is down to bedrock. We desperately need more helpers to serve in the shop, as well as people to help with weekend working bees. Can you spare just one day a month? Are there any new members who would like to join the Auxiliary?

The shop, by the way, is always manned by two people - you're never on your own. And the hours are only from 9 to 3.30pm (9 to 12pm on Saturdays), giving you plenty of time to get home before the peak hour rush. Please ring me, or Jo Tomkin, and talk it over.

## VALE MR. RON CARBERRY

I had a call from a long-time member today (June 11) to tell me Mr. Carberry has died.

Mr. Carberry was the CPS President responsible for finding us our Enmore premises some 12 years ago, after the Society decided an Opportunity Shop could help finance further Welfare activities.

A retired builder, he looked at sites all around the Sydney suburbs before deciding on 103, and in those early days I was very closely associated with him. In fact, my husband Gordon and I spent every weekend working with Ron to get the premises into shape. We pulled up old lino and removed thousands of nails from the floors, took up the floor boards and tons of blue metal from beneath the shop area. We painted, scrubbed, cleaned. In fact, you name it, we did it! The three of us and other volunteers enjoyed it, but there was no-one quite as energetic as Ron - he was tireless, despite giving most of us a good 20 years in age.

To his family, I extend our own and the Auxiliary's sympathy.

## FINANCE:

The figures are quoted elsewhere in the magazine, but I'll jot them down again ... last year, the shop made a total of \$39,054 for the Society, getting up to the 1/4 million dollar mark we've contributed all told to help the vital work of Welfare.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Once again, yours truly is President, with Jim Thatcher as Vice President, Jo Tomkin the Treasurer and Flo Best our Auxiliary Secretary. The four committee members are Hilda York, Lena Boyd, Ruth Booth and Barbara Kuhn, with Barbara serving for the first time. Welcome, Barbara.

## CHEERIOS:

Special "get well" wishes to Irene Jones, who was down with bronchial pneumonia, Flo Best who has had eye problems, Monty with a broken arm, and Morrie Booth who had five heart by-passes. To them, and everyone else who's been feeling a bit poorly, we hope you'll soon be fighting fit again.

## SPECIAL BOUQUETS:

To our prolific knitters in Springwood, Kings Langley and Maroubra Junction, and our own Enmore lass who goes to work (she must be a TV knitter!). Also to our coathanger ladies, and the anonymous "crafters" who make things so generously for the shop. We couldn't do without you.

## WELCOME HOME:

Good to see you back, Jim, and the "girls" are looking forward to hearing all about your holiday in foreign climes.

Goodbye for now, and see you at the Annual General Meeting on September 9.

Sybil Cozens, President of the Auxiliary.

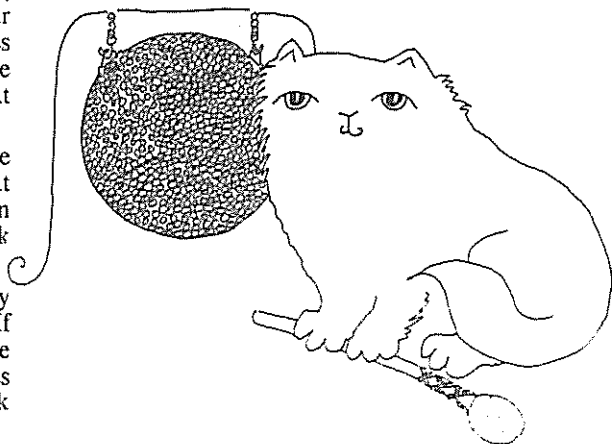


# Announcing the Winners of our PHOTO CONTEST

Thank you all for sending in photos of your lovely cats, and supporting our Home Placement drive with your entry fees and donations. We are having a good success rate finding homes for cats and kittens from our Enmore office, as well as Parklea, and the contest has been a great help.

Of course it was hard to judge the entries! We all have our own views on what is beautiful or aristocratic, what constitutes personality and charm, and not one decision found the judges unanimous. Especially as all cats look wonderful to us!

Never mind, the winners were finally chosen, and many other entries were selected for special commendation. If you, cat isn't among those pictured in this issue, there will be more photos published in issues to come. Entries will also be returned in due course, when they come back from the printer.



**Most Beautiful Cat:** Darryl, owned by Mrs C. Morton of South Strathfield. Darryl wins for his owner an original painting of a Feathertail Glider possum, and is featured on the cover.

**Most Unusual Cat:** Tibba, owned by Mr and Mrs Gordon Symons of Concord, who wrote, "Tibba is most unusual because of her physical appearance. She wandered into our backyard aged about 5 months, with her face terribly disfigured. Our hearts went out to her. The vet believed the mutilation must have been caused by a human, but otherwise she is fit, loving, and well adjusted. Mealtimes are s-l-o-w, of course, as she has only two teeth. She can't flea or groom herself, either, so this is a nightly job for us. We love her very much." Tibba wins for her owners a fascinating book, "Artists in Early Australia and Their Portraits."

**Personality Boy/Girl:** Mickey, owned by Mrs Angelika Elliott of Rose Bay. Despite the fact that Mickey is snoozing in this picture, judges felt the pull of his personality. He wins two Irish linen teatowels for his owner.

**Most Aristocratic Cat:** Watchcat Gulley, owned by Mrs. Christina de Villier of Newport. It's Watchcat's imperious bearing which impressed the judges, and he wins two Irish linen teatowels for Mrs de Villier.

**Most Charming Cat with Owner:** Kiri with Robin Tyler of Wollstonecraft are the winners in this category, in a picture that sums up the loving bond between cat and owner. Again, the prize is two Irish linen teatowels.

***Our judges would also like to highly commend the following owners, and congratulate them on having such delightful cats:***

Ms Kate Wenban, of French's Forest  
Mrs Jenny Kentwell of Springwood  
Miss D. Dullo of Bondi Junction  
Mrs Alice Dreves of Bankstown  
Ms Nicky Hawthorn and Miss E Douglas for the picture of Nicky with Fritz.  
Mrs J. Wilkinson of Alligator Creek, Qld  
Mrs Madge Raymond of North Bondi  
Miss Margaret Wilson of French's Forest  
Win Norbury of Bankstown  
Elizabeth Winning of Greenacre

Lena Boyd of Stanmore  
Beth Watts of West Ryde  
Mrs B. Champion of Narrabeen  
Mrs and Mrs M. Buhagiar of Marrickville  
W. J. Taylor of Cabramatta  
Mrs N. Wilkinson of Lavington  
Mrs Shirley Willett of Budgewoi  
Mrs Heather Bickford of Chelsea Heights, Vic.

Your photos were very special, and gave all of us at CPS a great deal of pleasure.

Thank you.  
Now turn the page. 9

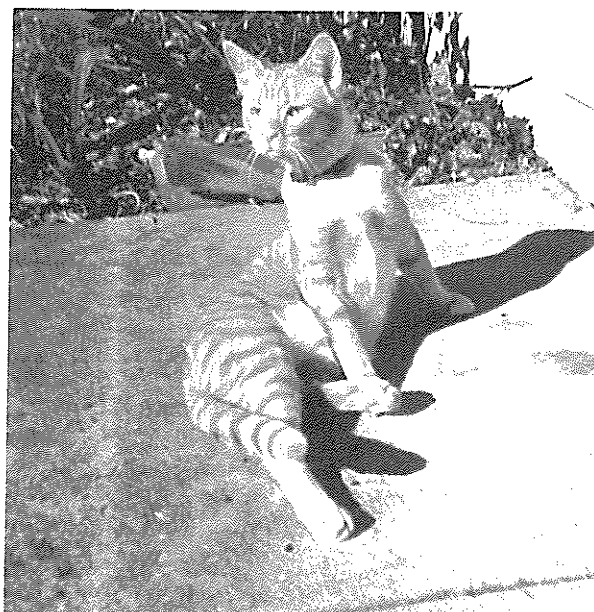
## ***Most Beautiful Cat:***



### ***The Winner***

Darryl, aged 18 months,  
owned by Mrs C. Morton of South Strathfield

## ***Most Aristocratic:***



### ***The winner:***

Watchcat Gulley, owned by  
Mrs Christina de Villier of Newport

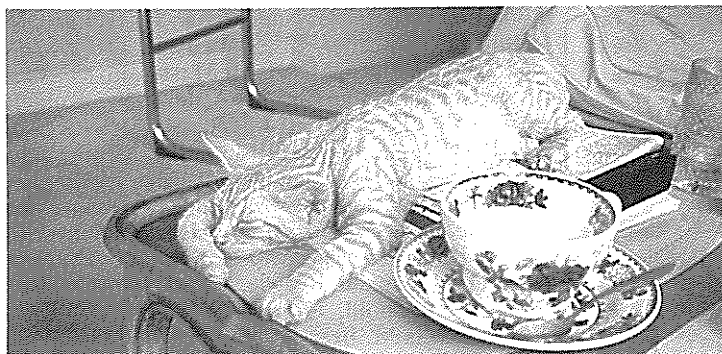
## ***Most Unusual Cat:***



### **The Winner**

Sweet Tibba, with her disfigured face and loving nature. owned by Mr and Mrs Gordon Symons of Concord.

## ***Personality Boy/Girl:***



### **The Winner**

Mickey, owned by Mrs Angelika Elliot of Rose Bay

## ***Most Charming Cat with Owner:***



### **The Winners**

Robin Tyler and Kiri, of Wollstonecraft

# A Tribute

*Recently I learned of the death of Ronald Keith Carberry, B.E.M., and my thoughts travelled back over twenty five years to when I first met this remarkable man.*

*He was then President of R.S.P.C.A., N.S.W., and later, at an age when most of us are enjoying deserved retirement, came to the aid of the struggling Cat Protection Society of N.S.W. as its President. His contribution to the growth of C.P.S. to the vital and thriving Society it is today is inestimable. It was he who handled the matter of purchasing the Opportunity Shop which now, thanks to the Ladies of the Auxiliary, provides admirable revenue. It would be fair to say that Ron, with his dynamic and unflagging energy, was the main force in putting C.P.S. on its feet.*

*He devoted a long lifetime to easing the plight of suffering creatures and would "take on" anybody or anything for the cause in which he believed.*

*As President and Vice President, Ron and I had many differences of opinion, often quite vocal, on various ways and means of attaining objectives. But my respect for him never wavered nor, I believe, did his for me.*

*A staunch family man, his devotion to his ailing wife over many years was a lesson to us all.*

*Ron never sought self-aggrandisement and, when offered Honorary Life Membership of C.P.S., declined to accept.*

*The animals are the poorer for his passing.*

**VALE, RON.**

**Celie Smith  
Life Member, C.P.S., NSW**

## Thank You, Miss Heney

There are many warm and caring people who help our society... with time, with goods, with membership fees and donations. We value each and every contribution, and it is not our usual practice to single out a special act of kindness for mention in the magazine.

However, this time we'd like to say a special thank you to Miss Helen Heney of Wahroonga. Miss Heney is giving the Society \$500.00 a month for a specific cause close to her heart, and to ours... to help disadvantaged people, especially pensioners, have their cats desexed.

Thank you, Miss Heney, from the Society itself and from all those who will benefit from your kindness.

## The Society Welcomes New Members:

Since our last issue of "Cat Affairs" was published in April, the Society has had a record number of new members. We welcome all of you, and hope you will remain with us for many years to come.

As you'll see on the President's page on the inside cover, we also hope to organize more functions for members in the future. The Christmas party is always great, but we're open to other suggestions and welcome your ideas.

For example, are there any new members who'd be interested in starting a Younger Set? If there are, please ring me at the Society and talk it over. And don't forget, if you'd like to help with "hands on" work at our premises in Enmore, we always need volunteer helpers in the Op Shop. If you work and can't get here during the week, there are Working Bees at the weekend.

The following list is of members who joined between March and June. Names of those who joined later will be included in our next issue in December. And again, thank you for helping with the vital work of the CPS.

- Julie Gorrick, Editor/Secretary.

Miss L. Ihlein, Stanmore. Miss A. McLean, Caringbah. Miss V. Flatley, North Lismore. Mrs. Carol Hubbard, Boronia, Vic. Mrs. G. Nancarrow, via Bathurst. Mrs. J. Hudson, Jambaroo. Ms. P. Benson, Bathurst. Ms. P. O'Hehir, Bathurst. Miss J. McMaster, Five Dock. Mrs. Mrs. G. Hodik, Campsie. Mr A. de Aboitz, Paddington. Miss N. Carradori, Darlinghurst. Mrs. S. Abnett, Mulwala. Ms. C. Joyce, Erskineville. Mrs. L. Jenkins, Auburn. Miss N. Arden, Narrabeena. Mrs. D. Bruest, South Strathfield. Miss M. Flint, Asquith. Miss A. Moline, Castlecrag. Mrs P. McAleer, Chipping Norton. Mrs I. Ray, Westmead. Miss M. Symonds, Hornsby. Ms. D. McDonald, Rozelle. Ms. M. Howard, Rozelle. Ms. W. Leopold, Campsie. Mr and Mrs K. Cole, Austral. Mrs M. Brassill, Drummoyne. Mr I. Watkins, Arncliffe. Mrs N. Wilson, Belfield. Mrs N. Pugh, Huskisson. Mrs. D. Douglas, Concord West. Mrs. H. Doran, Dee Why. Mr B. Crispo, Revesby. Mrs P. Ferguson, Balmain. Mrs A. Hudson, Rushcutters Bay. Mrs F. Jackson, Glebe Point. Miss E. MacArthur, Five Dock. Miss M. Reed (Life), Terrigal. Miss G. Meir, Hurlstone Park. Mrs D. Sutherland, Ashfield. Miss S. Gutugno, Botany. Ms L. Bennet, Marrickville. Miss J. Dunlop, Redfern. Mr A. Rouse, Darling Point. Ms. J. Lawless, Mosman. Mrs J. Edwards, Mosman. Ms S. Marks, Neutral Bay. Mrs E. McKay, Epping. Mrs M. McMahon, St. Ives. Mrs C. McGlynn, Balgowlah Heights. Ms J. Ball and Mr S. McDowall, Pymble. Mrs K. Schweers, Woy Woy. Mrs M. Wilson, Lalor Park. Miss J. Miles, Strathfield. Ms K. Marcussen, Meadowbank. Mrs P. Plotsch, Belmore South. Miss M. Sinclair, Rozelle. Mrs A. Brown, Marrickville. Mrs L. Atherden, Abbotsford. Mrs C. Thomson, Concord West. Miss E. Condello, Villawood. Mrs S. Butler, Parklea. Miss J. Britton, Woollahra. Mrs C. Morton, South Strathfield. Mrs N. Hazel, Bondi Junction. Mr R. Durant, Bondi Junction. Ms M. Dinning, Cabramatta. Mrs K. Anderson, Stanmore. Mrs K. Jennings, Bathurst. Mrs Pam St. Clair, via Hall, ACT. Mrs C. Bailey, Leichardt. Mrs N. Gibson, Yandina, Qld. Mrs R. Allen, Woollahra. Ms W. Norbury, Bankstown.

# the Petfood People

## We deliver Pet Food to your door!

Carrying home heavy tins of cat food and bags of litter is a tiring chore. Running out of fresh meat is another problem, when your fussy puss won't eat anything else.

Now you can relax! We deliver absolutely everything you need for your cat (and dog, too) right to the door. And at prices that will delight you.

### HERE'S HOW THE SERVICE WORKS:

★ You can choose deliveries on a weekly, fortnightly or other regular basis. We can also add a bag of dried food once a month, or a flea collar every three months - we won't forget.

★ Your delivery is on a set day, between 4.00pm and 9pm. You don't have to sign any contracts, and you can change your order at any time up to midday the day of delivery.

★ If you're not home, our driver will leave the order in a prearranged place. He'll pop fresh food in your esky to keep it fresh and safe.

★ Payment can be made on each delivery, or we can arrange for you to open an account and send you a monthly invoice.

★ It's that simple! And if you have any questions, our 'phones are manned 24 hours a day, every day of the year. You can call us in an emergency (if you've been ill or unable to shop, for example) and we'll have a parcel on your doorstep on the next delivery day.

Just the thing for birthdays, Christmas and special occasions, delivered to the favourite pet.



A choice selection of toys and treats for cat (or dog), packed in an esky with a big red bow on top. **Only \$12.00**

### CHOOSE FROM OVER 120 VARIETIES OF FRESH, CANNED AND DRY FOODS.

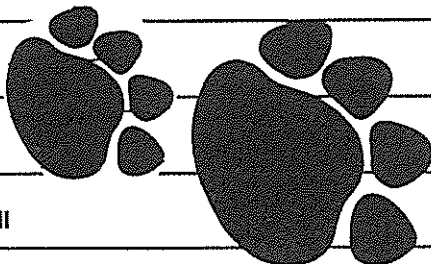
#### HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES:

PURE FRESH MEAT for cats and dogs	460g	1kg
Prime Beef (lean fillet, chopped)	1.30	3.50
Beef Fillet (1kg pieces, trimmed)		3.50
Brisket (beef blend, chopped)	1.50	2.90
Show Dog (Brisket with added fat for coat gloss)	1.50	2.90
Just Lamb (lean chopped lamb)	1.50	2.90
Just Rabbit (minced)	1.50	2.90
Just Chicken (minced, lean, with a dash of Brisket)	1.10	2.20
Mutton (high fat content for energy or skin problems)	1.20	2.40
<b>Especially for Puss</b>	460g	1kg
Cat's delight (brisket with a dash of liver)	1.20	-
Cat mix (Blaid, Rabbit, Kidney, Heart, Liver)	1.20	-
Chopped roo (always a favorite)	1.30	2.50
Roo Fillet	1.40	2.80

CANNED FOOD Variety	Size	Qty. Case	Price Case	Per Can
Case lots only. Add 1.40 for mixed case. Special mixes available				
<b>DINE</b> Tasty Beef & Kidneys, Country Style Lamb, Tender Chicken & Veal, Fisherman's Feast, Scrumptious Sardines, Select Tuna & Salmon, Salmon & Pilchard Selection	400g	24	26.40	1.10
<b>WHISKAS</b> Chicken & Turkey, Chunky Tuna, Tasmanian Mackerel, Lamb & Kidney, Beef & Liver Pate, Pilchards and Whiting, Sardine Platter, Chicken & Rabbit, Jellymeat, Ocean Fish Platter.	415g	24	21.50	0.90
<b>SNAPPY TOM</b> Seafood Platter, Pilchards, Mackerel, Sardines.	400g	24	24.80	1.03
<b>SNAPPY TOM</b> Sardines, Pilchards, Tuna, Seafood Marinara.	100g	24	16.40	0.68
<b>DRY FOOD</b>				
<b>WHISKETTES</b>		1kg	\$2.80	2kg \$5.20
<b>GO CAT</b>		1kg	\$2.80	
<b>CAT CHOW</b>	500g	\$1.50	1kg \$2.50	4kg \$8.90

### SPECIAL INVITATION:

We invite readers of "Cat Affairs" to discuss their personal requirements with us. We're cat lovers, too! We'll also send you a bulletin with a complete price list, and there's absolutely no obligation.



the Petfood People

1 Carden Avenue, P.O. Box 429  
Wahroonga 2076. Tel: 489 0077

Rhys and Carolyn Daniell

**489 0077**



# The Animal Lover's

## SHOPPING GUIDE

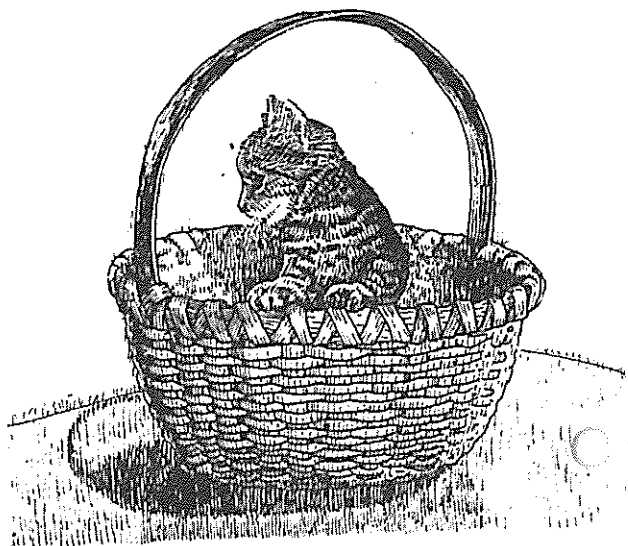
The following is condensed from a leaflet sponsored by *The Humane Society of Australia*, with information supplied by Beauty Without Cruelty in Queensland.

It lists cosmetics, toiletries and other products whose manufacturers have guaranteed they do not commission experimentation on animals during the formulation or manufacture of the final product.

*It should be noted that all major companies have been surveyed and asked to supply such guarantees. The following brands have confirmed that animals are not involved in experiments, and should be supported.*

## COSMETICS, Skin & Hair Products.

Anastasia's Herbal  
 Australian Wildflower Incense and Perfume  
 Beauty Without Cruelty Limited  
 Begold Products (Household)  
 Biokosma  
 Blackmores  
 Body Basics  
 Braidwood  
 Briggs Herbal Creams (NZ only)  
 Caring Products (Household/personal)  
 Comvita  
 Corps D'Elite  
 Creightons  
 Dallyence  
 Doctor's Choice (Sunscreens, Hair Care)  
 Ecol Fragrant Delights and Craft Supplies  
 Evanol Hair Dyes  
 Ever Bilena  
 Floris  
 Geisha  
 Ginza  
 Golden Wattle (bee pollen) Hair Care  
 Grace Cosmetics  
 Herbon (Household)  
 Hoffels  
 Hunzana  
 Hymosa  
 Janesce Ageless Skincare  
 Janine and Sensual Delights  
 Jenaureilie  
 Josephone (shampoo, conditioner, treatment)  
 Jurlique  
 Laurels Soap (NZ)  
 Luminance  
 Meltone Products  
 Mikado  
 Mill Valley Products



Monastique  
 Natural Oil Workers Cooperative Products  
 Naturally Lovely  
 Nature's Herbs (shampoos, conditioners, bath foams & oils)  
 Newland Chemicals  
 Paul Penders  
 Rimmel  
 Rivendell  
 Riverbank Herbs and Oils  
 Rose of Lilies  
 Rosewood Oils and Lotions  
 Sharyss  
 Sonning Beeswax/Wildflower Cream  
 Springwood Aromatic Oils  
 Swami Sarasvati  
 Tao Aromassage Oils and Rainbow herb and flower remedies  
 Thursday Plantation Tea Tree Oil Products  
 Tiki  
 Tinderbox Products  
 The Body Shop Products  
 Toms  
 Tru-Alo  
 Wattle Creek Herbal Products  
 Weleda  
 Wildcrafted Products  
 Yardley

The range listed below meets the Beauty Without Cruelty Society's standards on animal experimentation, but contains animal ingredients and would not be suitable for vegetarians.

Dr. Hauschka Skin Products  
 Innoxa  
 Karisma Cosmetics Australia  
 Lange Hair and Skin Care  
 Lechner

## Tallow free soaps

Ahinsa Neem  
Australian Wildflower  
Bel  
Blackmores  
Blue Palm  
Caring  
Chandrika  
Gem  
Herbon  
Laurels  
Meltone  
Sapna  
Self-Managed Soaps  
The Body Shop Soaps  
Vegol  
Weleda

## Hairbrushes and Toothbrushes.

Avoid those with natural bristles, as bristles are sometimes pulled from live animals. Modern nylon bristles do not damage teeth and gums. Also avoid make-up brushes which use sable or other animal hair.

## Household Cleaners.

Those approved by Beauty Without Cruelty are Herbon Washing Soaps and Detergents, Begold, Newland Chemicals, Ecol and Coring.

However, as most cleaners etc. found on supermarket shelves have probably been tested on animals, it is time to consider alternatives:

**Bleach:** An all-purpose cleaner, which can also be used as a disinfectant and to remove mould. Dilute as directed on the label.

**Eucalyptus Oil.** Good for spot removal of stains, added to hot water for cleaning surfaces.

**Vinegar.** Use in rinse water to revive colours in clothes, stop colours running. Use to soak dish cloths and freshen them.

**Ammonia.** Add to rinsing water for bright glassware. In the wash helps to remove stains and grease, restore whiteness.

**Borax.** Mix with sugar, use to keep ants and cockroaches in check. Add to final rinse water when washing cotton fabrics (helps retain gloss.) Helps remove tea, coffee, and vegetable stains, also grease marks.

**Methylated Spirits.** Helpful in removing stains caused by fruit, grass and Biro ink.

**Epsom Salts.** Diluted solution helps restretch shrunken woollens, makes new teatowels more absorbent.

**Bicarbonate of Soda.** Use for washing out refrigerators, to remove fish and other odours from hands. Helps to flush out blocked pipes.

**Salt.** Cleans brass and copper, mixed with lemon juice removes stains and odours from hands.

## Garden Chemicals and Fertilizers.

Chemicals are likely to have been tested on animals, causing agonizing poisoning. Many fertilisers are derived from animal bodies.

Less harmful sprays that do not involve testing are available, and gardens thrive on organic gardening methods. For details, write to the Brisbane Organic Growers Group, P.O. Box 550, Fortitude Valley, 4006.

---

# TESTING OF BEAUTY PRODUCTS



While there are some Australian regulations against certain cosmetic tests, most cosmetics and toiletries sold in Australia, except those mentioned here, have been tested on animals overseas.

In an age in which sophisticated technology advances at unprecedented speed, the continued testing of products on animals seems strangely out of place.

In addition, many cosmetics, deodorants, shampoos and household cleaning agents contribute to animal

suffering and even to the extinction of the species.

Popular fixatives used in toiletries include civet, castoreum and musk taken from the genital glands of civet cats, beavers, muskrat and deer. Muskrats are trapped, killed and skinned. Small Himalayan deer are lured out of hiding with music, then shot. Ethiopian cats are kept in tiny cages and whipped in the face to promote glandular excretions.

Examine your shampoos and conditioners before buying, and read the labels. "Hydronised animal protein," "placenta," "elastin" and other ingredients are derived from animals. Turtles, seals, swans and mink are killed for their oils to be used as popular ingredients in skin creams and scents. Ground fish scales make that "frosted" look in lipsticks and blushers.

If we want to help animals, the most important place to start is with our own lifestyles.

What we eat, wear and use has a direct impact on the lives and deaths of animals. Every time we visit the grocery store, the pharmacy, or go shopping for clothes or shoes, we VOTE with our consumer dollars FOR or AGAINST animal suffering.

# Welfare Report

Our welfare year has been full of events. There were some trouble spots caused by changes in staff and illness, but members should be proud of the unique role we play in cat welfare.

No animal is ever turned away, although sadly, many then have to be destroyed. The girls who perform our unenviable work with compassion - often mixed with anger at irresponsible owners - deserve our admiration.

A highlight of the year, although it did not have the appropriate ending, was our first prosecution for the ill treatment of a kitten. A young man placed a kitten on the bumper bar of his car, then drove off, observed by one of our Welfare Officers.

Of course, the kitten fell off and was injured - dying from internal injuries.

Although I gave evidence in the case, and listened to the magistrate's summing up, I am still confused about the outcome, as the man was found not guilty.

It apparently hinged on the definition of the word "abandonment," which was the charge brought against him. The magistrate felt the definition in Webster's Dictionary did not constitute a wilful act of cruelty, and so the case was lost on a technicality.

However, the accused at least had to pay his own legal costs, which I understand could amount to \$1000.00. The prosecution was undertaken for us by the RSPCA, which was also completely dismayed by the outcome. Such is Justice.

Our home finding was a little disappointing when we looked at the total figures. We were 49 up on the previous year, but had hoped to have a much better result in placing cats and kittens.

Factors that may have contributed include the 60 Minutes programme which put the cat "on trial," scaring off prospective owners, and the awful weather which stopped people going up to Parklands at the weekend. The overall economic situation no doubt contributed as well... taking on any pet is a financial responsibility these days.

However, towards the end of the kitten season we advertised kittens for sale - with some success - from our Enmore Office, and we'll try the same tactic this season, starting earlier, in October.

---

## HOW TO TRAIN A CAT

Our young daughter had adopted a stray cat. To my distress, he began to use the back of our new sofa as a scratching post. "Don't worry," my husband reassured me, "I'll have him trained in no time."

I watched for several days as my husband patiently "trained" our new pet. Whenever the cat scratched, my husband deposited him outside to teach him a lesson.

The cat learned quickly. For the next 16 years, whenever he wanted to go outside he scratched the back of the sofa.

- Betty Woodard

(reprinted from Readers Digest, May '88)

As usual Parklands Boarding Kennels did a great job for us, often holding well over the number of allotted animals for extended periods. There are new people managing Parklands now, and I know it's going to be a happy relationship with Ron and Shirley Butler, who really care about cats as we do.

To all our generous cooperative vets must go a great thank you. We have a truly wonderful rapport with them, and I personally feel perfectly at ease seeking advice and reassurance on any matter. Their cooperation is invaluable, and gratefully acknowledged.

I would also like to thank my fellow Councillors, Lena Larsen and Jane Chapman, for their constant efforts in the Welfare field. Lena is tireless, out on the road as well as helping us in the office, and she and June have a wonderful way with clients on the 'phone. Welfare wouldn't operate as smoothly without them.

The girls in the office have also asked me to thank Monty for her lamingtons, and Alice for her home-made goodies. Morning tea is always special when these two are working in the Opportunity Shop!

Finally, we now have a fleet of 4 Hiace vans to carry out our work, including a brand new one which is performing very well. All in all, we are confident that our continuing endeavours will bring better times for our cat friends.

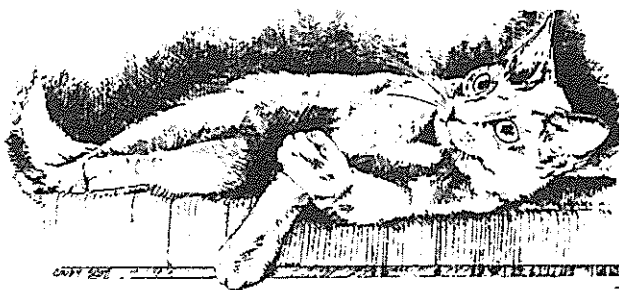
The figures for the year ended June 30 1989 are as follows:

Desexed: 2533  
Desexed by referral: 899  
Euthanasia: 4694  
Homes found: 828  
Jobs completed: 4612

Thank you, all our good friends, for your support. You can be proud of the work of our Society.



- Nance Iredale,  
Welfare Director.



*If it should be, that I grow frail and weak,  
And pain should keep me from my sleep,  
Then, you must do what must be done  
For this, the last battle, can't be won.*

*You will be sad, I understand  
Don't let your grief then stay your hand,  
For this day, more than the rest,  
Your love and friendship stand the test.*

*We've had so many happy years,  
What is to come can hold no fears,  
You'd not want me to suffer, so,  
When the time comes, please let me go.*

*Take me where my needs they'll tend,  
Only, Stay with me to the end,  
And hold me firm and speak to me,  
Until my eyes no longer see.*

*I know, in time you will see,  
It is a kindness you do to me  
Although my tail its last has waved,  
From pain and suffering I've been saved.*

*Don't grieve it should be you,  
Who decides this thing to do,  
We've been so close, we two, these years,  
Don't let your heart hold any tears.*

*Smile, for we walked together, for  
a little while.*

This moving poem appeared in "Doberman World" in 1987. The plea from a pet to its owner, asking the owner to find the courage to stay close in those last moments, is of course universal.

It does take courage to hold your friend as it's put to sleep, but some of our Councillors have had the experience on more than one occasion, and say it is a moment of peace, not a tragic moment. Our Welfare Director, Nance Iredale, shares her feelings with you in the adjoining comments.

Only readers care to give me their own views on the subject, I would welcome them.-

- Julie Gorrick

## Sharing those last moments...

*A comment on the poem, "A PET'S PRAYER"*

Many friends of beloved animals cannot make that final - and I think, necessary - decision to stay with their pet while it is given the releasing needle. I'd like to explain my views:

I have watched a close friend torn apart by the death of two of her cats - mostly from guilt for not being there with one of them, and worrying that the second was subject to too much treatment for a terminal illness, in an attempt to keep him alive for her.

Then, very quickly, three of her old cats became ill, and she made the decision to end their lives and stay with them until the end. These deaths she coped with very well.

I'd like to go step by step through this dilemma.

You have loved and cherished this small being, and you really know that its life is becoming insupportable, and that pain and indignity for a proud little creature will be the next trauma.

To help you at this time you will need an understanding vet surgeon, hopefully one you have come to know and trust over the years.

Taking the next step is the hardest, but only for the first time around, I can promise you. If you are to stay with your friend to the end you need to think more of its welfare, and your vet's feelings, than your own. You can give way to your grief later - you have a long time to work on that. But your beloved animal needs your arms, your loving voice and your calmness. And your vet needs to have confidence that you will be calm, strong, and not alarm your animal. It is an ordeal for any caring vet to destroy a loved pet, and he needs your support to do his part smoothly.

If you can manage this, you will see how quickly, painlessly and with how much dignity death will come to that beloved scrap.

In overcoming all your fears, and thinking only of your pet, you will also know you carried the task of caring and loving to the very end, and that will be a comfort in itself.

- Nance Iredale

## ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

One of our hardest-working volunteers in the Opportunity Shop is Jim Thatcher, the only male who so generously gives the time to serve behind the counter.

Jim is a born salesman! People come in with a dollar to spend and go out spending three, which is a big sale in our Op Shop. He also has a great sense of humour, which explains why he won't mind us telling the following story about one of his experiences a month or so ago:

We came across Jim waiting outside the door to the toilet on the first floor (the shop is on the ground floor.) Unusual for a man who's always calm and smiling, he looked somewhat flustered.

"I'm just keeping guard on the door," he said, "there's someone inside." At that moment, while he talked, there was the sound of clinking and clanking from behind the door, like coins dropping.

"I've just made a big sale," said Jim" and she's in there getting out the money. She didn't have enough in her purse."

It transpired that the customer, obviously cautious about bag snatchers, kept her money in several belts strapped to her body underneath her clothing. She couldn't hitch up her skirt in the shop to get at the belts, so Jim had to escort her to a private place, the toilet.

The clanking went on for quite some time. Finally a very large woman emerged from the toilet with a handful of coins, and Jim escorted her downstairs again.

Talking about his experience later, Jim said that at one stage she'd asked him to come inside and help her undo the money belt. "I told her to take as long as she wanted," said Jim, "I'd just keep on waiting until she got undone all by herself!"

# CAT LANGUAGE

*What is your cat trying to tell you when he rubs his nose against your face? How should you interpret licks to your hand?*

*You can understand your favourite feline better with these happy translations from the book "No Naughty Cats" by Debra Pirotnin and Sherry Suib Cohen, published by Harper and Row.*

Your cat has something to say about how you will co-exist with him. Cat language will be understandable to you if you pay close attention, and your language, in great part, is understandable to the cat - in both content of certain key words and tone of voice. We who own and love cats must consider cat communiques not as sound from an alien species but as the endearing messages of close friends.

Your cat smiles, freezes, shows love, terror, anger, in the way he holds his tail, head, body, hair. People who spend time discussing matters of importance with cats (as every cat owner should from time to time) come to know, as surely as if the cat were speaking words, just what he wants, thinks, needs. Although every cat is unique, has his own adorable way of saying, "Let's play", certain communiques are quite universal.

In this respect, cats are no different from people. You must surely be able to read the communiques your cat is sending before you and he can have a meaningful relationship.

## Tongue talk

The tongue lick speaks volumes. Cats are remarkably versatile with their tongue licks and say different things with them.

**Affection.** Every now and then, if you are extremely lucky, your cat will lick you with affection if you've been good.

**Permission seeking.** A cat will lick you or another cat if he's seeking permission to climb on your lap or on the couch another cat happens to be occupying. Short, staccato licks while he looks at you poised for flight are usually the pattern.

**Nerves.** A cat who's nervous or has an excess amount of energy will lick himself inordinately in short, shallow licks. This means he needs diversion and extra playtime.

**Neatness counts.** A cat really believes this. The most common lick is the grooming lick. The rough tongue can cause problems with over-grooming, though, because some irritation and skin inflammation can result. Certain cats (notably Siamese and Abyssinian) tend to lick and even bite certain areas more than others. If your cat is grooming himself raw, certain veterinarian-administrated medication will help.

**Contentment.** When a cat's licking himself and he's feeling warm, relaxed, and happy, grab the opportunity to work at whatever training you'd like to accomplish. However, if you see your cat licking himself because he's embarrassed, anxious, the time's not ripe.

## Head talk

The cat who shows affection by nuzzling and rubbing his head against your hands or body is the cat who creeps into his owner's heart.

## Tail talk

On the other end of the cat is a very model of expression - the tail.

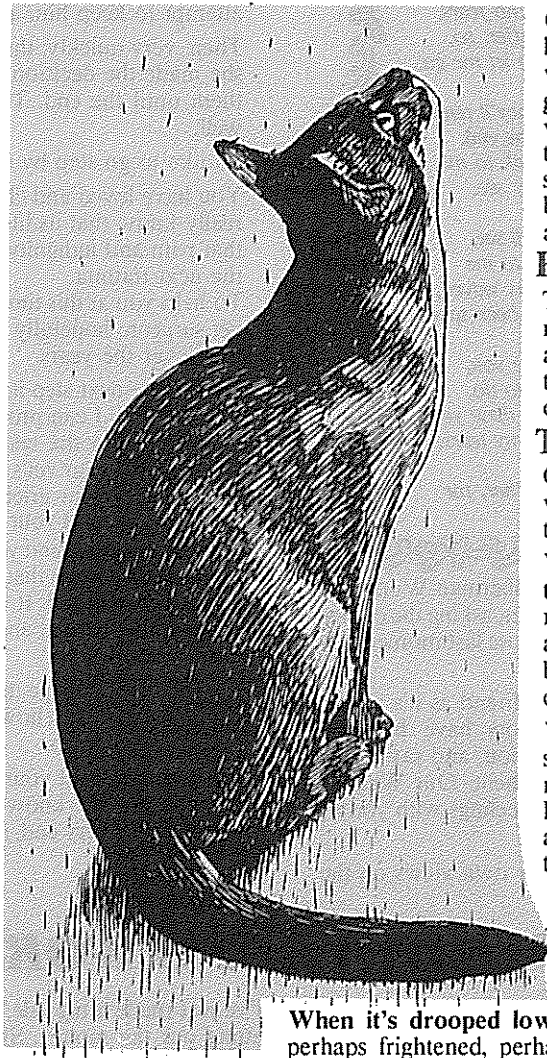
**When it's flying high.** All's terrific. Your cat's not fearful, not particularly hungry, not angry. He may be very excited because you or dinner is coming. He's ripe for lessons.

**When it's half-mast.** All's not so terrific. He's a little afraid or maybe unhappy with his food. Perhaps he's spotted his basket and doesn't feel like taking a trip. Leave him alone.

**When it's drooped low.** This cat is very unhappy - perhaps frightened, perhaps in retreat. Something not very nice has happened to badly discourage him, leave him alone.

**When it actively twitches or lashes back and forth.** Back off!! Now's not the time for discussion. Don't even approach the cat to offer affection - he really wants to be alone. Sometimes a cat will twitch his tail when another cat has usurped his favourite nap spot or dropped something unpleasant in his litter box.

**When it's bushy.** Anger! The kind of anger associated with the threat of another aggressive animal is often shown by a fluffing up of the base of the tail and much of the coat. This is designed to make the cat look larger than life and scare off the invader. A bushy tail is often accompanied by a humped back and a good deal of hissing and spitting.





When it dips between the legs or is wrapped around them. Fear. This cat is quite frightened of something! Look for the source. Don't pick him up.

## Ear talk

**Ears alert and straight up.** He's ready for fun or training or affection - the point is, he's ready and in a good mood.

**Ears flat out sideways.** "What's up?" the cat is saying. "What's that noise?" "What's going on around here - where's my special box for hiding - I'm a little bit nervous around here."

**Ears pulled downward.** "I'm feeling defensive... keep your distance."

**Ears pulled downward and to the rear.** "I'm really furious! Watch out!!"

## Eye talk

**Eyes wide open and looking straight at you.** You've got his attention. He's interested in what you say or do.

**Eyes half closed.** He's either sleepy or slightly wary.

**Eye pupils in slits.** He's alert and quite confident - maybe feeling territorial.

**Eye pupils bug-eyed and round.** He's frightened - be careful.

**Eyes blinking and winking.** He's talking - sharing his day, expressing his devotion, or nagging for a little treat.

**Eyes clouded.** Cats have a murky, greyish membrane that ordinarily remains stationary within the bottom of the eye, invisible. When the cat is ill, sometimes this membrane is visible. It might move over the eye when the cat is relaxed and being petted. Time to check with the vet.

**Eyes staring.** This says, "Keep a proper distance." A stare is a challenge. When a cat crouches without staring at you, it's feeling submissive.

## Paw talk

**Paw kneading.** Watch a kitten as he sucks - he kneads his paws against the soft body of his mother, much like a baby will stroke and touch her mother's skin. Paw kneading means contentment.

**Paw hugs.** Cats will often hug with their paws - actually exert pressure in a kind of caress. This is the most endearing of acts, and melts even a confirmed cat hater.

**Paw blows.** Paws and claws are traditionally defence weapons, and a cat attacked will respond by lashing out with paws and unsheathed claws. You don't have to be adept at reading body language to recognise a paw blow.

## Nose talk

If a cat ever rubs his nose across your face, or brushes his mouth on yours, then you've been made love to.

## Whisker talk

If you touch a cat's whiskers, he will close his eyes. This means little except that the whiskers protect the eyes by announcing when a piece of dust or a blade of grass is on its way. Sometimes a cat will rub his whiskers across your hand or face - this is an indication of great affection.

**Whisker twitching.** Signifies scouting for food or another animal.

**Whisker droops.** Denotes a bored, listless, or sick cat.

## Sound communiques

**Purring.** Now we're into sounds. The purr traditionally has always been thought of as a sign of great contentment - which indeed it may be. It's interesting to note that purring doesn't come from the cat's vocal chords but from (most scientists think) a vibration of blood vessels from the chest area. If you can't hear the purr of the cat, you can always feel it by very softly stroking the cat's throat and neck area. A cat's purr, while it surely expresses contentment, can also express nervousness.

**Hissing.** If you had never seen a cat before, you would not mistake a hiss, especially when it's accompanied by an arched back or a bushy tail. *Keep your distance until further notice.*

**Yowling and growling.** A cat in heat will yowl all night long. If you've never heard yowling before, you'll know it when you hear it. A mother cat will growl deep, throaty, dangerous growls if she thinks her kittens are threatened.

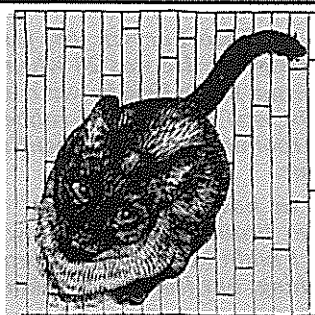
**Miaowing.** This is an attention-seeking sound, perhaps frustration or need. Miaows come in all lengths and intensities.

**Chirring.** This is a twirly, rolled miaow given by a mother cat when calling her kittens or by a cat calling her own person or cat friend.

## Talking back

And what about your own body language? Cats will definitely pick up messages by the way you look and act towards them. If you have a child and you never look directly into that child's eyes, it'll feel greatly deprived. In the same way, a cat must see bright, affectionate eyes, feel a warm and compliant body if he's to grow up to be open, inquisitive, and loving.

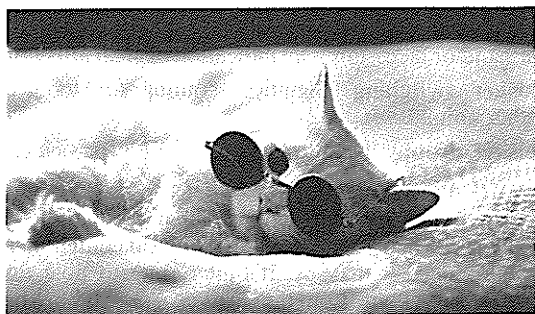
Just as a husband (who feels initial jealousy at the time his wife spends with their new baby) learns to become closer to an infant by changing her, waking up to soothe her, playing with her, a slightly insecure-around-a-cat friend can have a much happier co-existence with a cat if he cares for it, feeds it, is given some cat responsibility. A cat sizes up people very quickly. You're part of his territory, and once he marks you - puts his scent on you by rubbing against you - it's a good idea to respect his claim on you by acting warmly in return.



*He lifteth up his innocent voice  
He lifteth up, he singeth  
And to each human countenance  
A smile of grace he bringeth*

- Stevie Smith, from "Singing Cat"

## REPORT FROM THE SUNNY CENTRAL COAST



### Introduction:

For some years, The Cat Protection Society had a branch in the Woy Woy area. When it decided to close the branch last August, a new, completely autonomous group was formed to look after the welfare of cats of the Central Coast.

The new group chose the name "Central Coast Cat Care Inc.," and the following account of its first year of operation is from tireless President/Publicity Officer, Mrs Dorothy Haines.

Our Society continues to take a keen interest in its activities, and commends its outstanding work. We are sure Dorothy's report will be of general interest to all reader, as well as giving a deserved pat on the back to her fellow workers on the lovely Central Coast.

CENTRAL COAST CAT CARE INC. started with a nucleus of dyed-in-the-wool cat lovers still keen to serve the cause of cats in distress. They included Mrs. Doris Jackson, foster mother to a thousand kittens, Mrs. Judith Parsons, mastermind of the "Thrift Shop, Umina," super saleslady Mrs. June Brown and myself. And so our little group, the only one in two shires dealing exclusively with the welfare of cats, got off to a flying start.

Next, we were more than fortunate in reaching the attention of a Gosford resident, an animal lover whom countless animals have found a friend in need, Mrs.

Merlene Nichols. With Judith and Merlene as our most capable welfare officers, there was no holding us back!

Apart from a few early hiccups, and the need to set up a sturdy band of office bearers, we forged ahead. The public has responded wonderfully to our efforts to care for cats, and we have more achievements in our sights.

A particularly pleasing response has come from Gosford City Council, whom I approached with a request for a grant to supplement our fund-raising activities. In the Council Minutes of March, 1989, we were heartened to read the following:

This new organisation only commenced operations in September 1988. There are a large number of pensioners in Gosford City who have taken advantage of this service for their pets... furthermore, this service plays an important role in controlling the cat population."

The subsequent receipt of a cheque for \$400.00 was even more heartening! Thank you, Gosford City Council.

Our first "year" ended with the June meeting in Umina, and the final receipt of our Charter and election of officers in July will see us even more firmly established.

The following figures of our work up to June, supplied by Welfare Officers Merlene and Judith, make all of us who work for our organization very proud. And they are a tribute to the tireless work of the officers themselves:

Figures from Judith cover the Woy Woy Peninsula area:

Cats Desexed: Males, 37. Females, 117. Total, 154

Figures from Merlene include Gosford, Wyong and the Lakes areas:

Cats Desexed: Males, 76. Females, 274. Total, 350

Cats Euthanised: 10 (mainly semi-feral)

Merlene, who has a large and efficient handling area, is also in charge of home placements. Her work resulted in 50 kittens and 20 mature cats finding loving, responsible owners, a splendid achievement.

Finally, Central Coast Cat Care Inc. wishes to thank The Cat Protection Society, and especially Welfare Director Mrs. Nance Iredale, for the continuing advice, help and encouragement that has been extended to us.

- Dorothy Haines.

## Cats bring inner Peace

*Dotted throughout the inner city are dozens of cheap rooming houses. Most residents are men, many of them elderly, often with a variety of social problems including illness, alcohol and difficulty with communication.*

*Ukrainian-born, Theo Lucyszn, 68, fitted most of the above description. He was 28 when he arrived here as a migrant, but in 1956 he was a lonely drunk who one night was bashed and robbed in Surry Hills near the rooming house in Crown Street that he still calls home.*

*"I woke up in hospital, paralysed," he recalls. "They did two brain operations in two days and later told me I hadn't only suffered brain damage from the bashing, but from the drinking."*

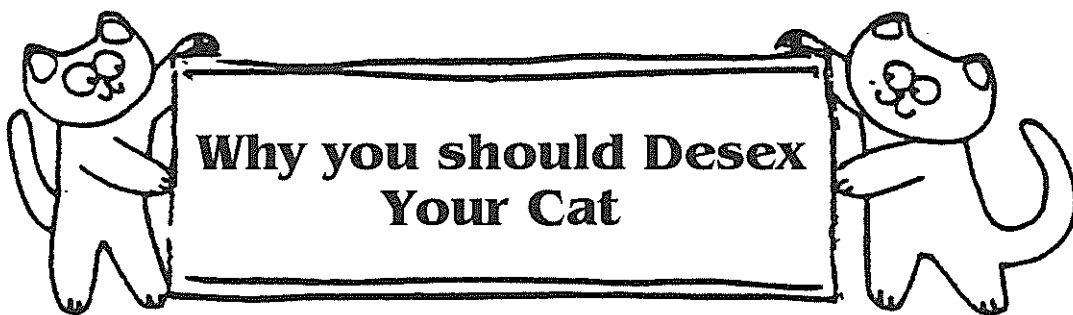
*Still barely able to move, he was sent home and allocated home care. It was then the cats began arriving. "First there were only a few," he says. "The nurses tried to feed them, but they would accept food from no-one but me."*

*Theo believes this was the beginning of, and reason for, his recovery.*

*"Now, after midnight nearly every night, I go to back lanes in Darlinghurst and Kings Cross and feed other cats with any spare food my seven don't eat.*

*"I started to believe in God because I am doing something good now. I always feel safe and nothing bad has happened to me since the cats came."*

- From The Sydney Morning Herald May, 1989



**for**  
**Good health**  
**Better behaviour**  
**and to reduce overpopulation**

## HEALTH

Spaying or neutering your cat offers numerous medical benefits. In fact, spaying or neutering are second only to annual vaccinations as a means of assuring your pet a longer, healthier life.

**In the female**, early spaying will reduce her chances of developing mammary cancer and will completely eliminate the possibility of uterine infections and tumours of the uterus and ovaries. The problems and dangers of pregnancy are also avoided.

**In the male**, neutering ensures that he can never develop testicular cancer and will virtually eliminate the possibility of perianal tumours or hernias, and prostate disease.

In addition, your neutered male will be less likely to roam, and therefore, less likely to be injured by a car, sustain fight wounds, or contract diseases from other animals.

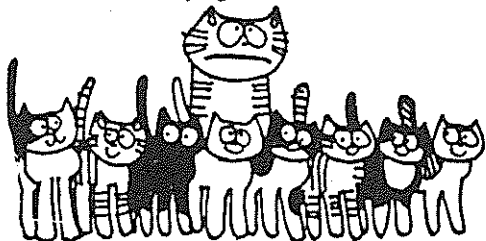
## BEHAVIOUR

In general, spaying or neutering will result in a calmer, more even tempered pet. **IT WILL NOT CHANGE YOUR PET'S PERSONALITY.**

Spaying your female **WILL** eliminate the nervous howling and pacing which are associated with the heat cycle. It will also eliminate the annoyance of male suitors, likely to appear at anytime when she is in season.

Neutering your male cat can reduce or eliminate behavioural problems associated with the hormonal sex drive, such as roaming and excessive aggression towards other males. It can also reduce or eliminate territorial spraying. The behavioural benefits will be greatest if your pet is neutered at an early age, before the problem behaviour has become a habit.

(Note from the C.P.S.: In general, we recommend five months as a suitable age for a female to be desexed, and six months for a male. If a female shows signs of coming into season at an early age, check with the vet at once.)



## OVERPOPULATION

Every year, eight million dogs and cats have to be destroyed in the United States because there are no homes for them. (In Australia, the estimate also runs into millions.)

Millions more are abandoned to meet a far worse end - killed on the roads and highways, or dying slowly and painfully from disease and starvation.

With such a surplus of animals and lack of homes, there is no need for more puppies and kittens to be brought into this world. Animal welfare organisations try to find homes for these pets, but supply far exceeds demand.

The destruction and waste of innocent lives can be prevented if owners will spay and neuter their pets. We must all work towards the time when all pets have responsible owners and euthanasia is no longer needed.

## THE MYTHS AND THE FACTS ABOUT DESEXING

**Myth:** "My cat will not be fulfilled until she has nursed at least one litter."

**FACT:** Allowing your female to have a litter will not make her a happier, more contented pet. She wants your love and companionship, not motherhood.

**Myth:** "It is cruel to deprive an animal of a sex life."

**FACT:** Don't confuse romantic attitudes with your pet's hormonal sex drive. Pets conceive and reproduce purely by biological instinct, which lasts for that moment alone. Spayed and neutered pets don't feel sexually deprived.

**Myth:** "Desexing will cause my cat to become fat and lazy."

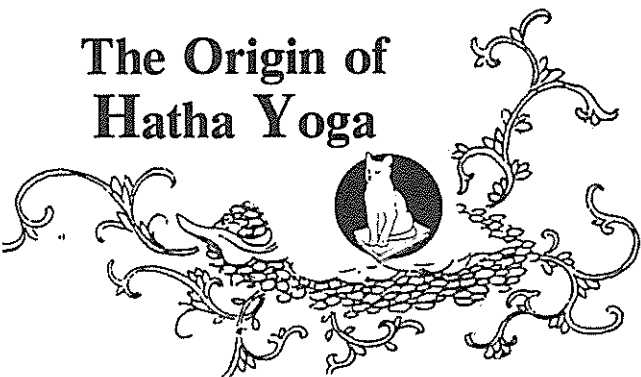
**FACT:** Obesity is the result of too much food and not enough exercise. However, spayed and neutered cats require fewer calories, calories which were previously expended on nervous energy and roaming due to the hormonal sex drive.

**Myth:** "Desexing my one pet will do little to curb the pet overpopulation."

**FACT:** Providing all live, the female 'progeny' of one female cat can reach in excess of 1,000,000 in 10 years. A male can sire thousands of kittens in one year.

**By ensuring YOUR cat won't have kittens, you may be saving countless innocent lives.**

# The Origin of Hatha Yoga



*There are several different systems of Yoga, sharing paths to the same goal of self-knowledge. Some concentrate directly on the spiritual aspect of being. Hatha Yoga, most well known to Westerners, concentrates on the body as a path to spiritual awareness.*

*This charming little fable was recounted by a master Yogi to a journalist visiting India. It is his story of how Hatha Yoga came about:*

"My master told me," he said, "that he had learned from his master, and he from his master, and on back for several hundred years, that an Indian boy of Royal birth had been trying to learn Karma Yoga, the most advanced of the spiritual Yoga.

"He was trying to meditate, but his mind kept wandering. After hours of frustrating failure, the boy decided to go for a walk in the nearby woods instead.

"Walking along the path, the boy chanced to look up at a tree stump on which a large cat was sitting. The cat was sitting very straight, her paws precisely in front of her, the tail wrapped around her body. She was purring.

"Oh, Cat," said the boy. "Why is it you can meditate so peacefully, and I, try as I can, my thoughts keep wandering?"

The cat opened her eyes, blinked, and yawned at the boy. Then she jumped down from the tree and landed on the path in front of him. She stretched her paws out in front, and wiggled each toe, while balancing on her haunches. Then she moved her weight forward on to her front shoulders and smoothly shifted the movement to her back, while she arched more than seemed possible.

Just at the top of the arch she yawned again, long and loud, and started the process of slowly reversing each and every moment she had just performed. At the end of the complete cycle, she lay down, turned over on to her back, stretched her paws, neck and tail in all directions, and turned back over.

She got up and looked into the face of the boy. "That is how I meditate," she said. "I have learned to prepare myself for meditation by practicing relaxing exercises. I tense and release my muscles and all parts of my body. Then when my body is completely relaxed and satisfied, I can meditate without distraction. Here, I will show you.

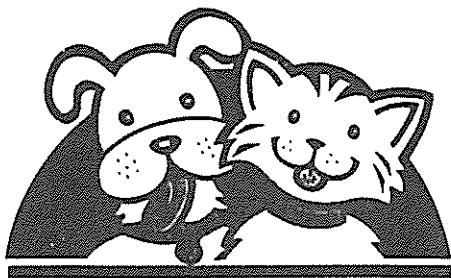
"And the cat taught the boy a few postures, to help him relax. First was the spiritual twist, in which from the seated position, the boy learned to turn the top of his body around to face backwards.

"Then also seated, she showed him how to sit on his hips and raise one leg directly in front of him (all the better to wash it, of course!)

"All that day the boy learned exercises from the cat, and when he was through, he sat down on the path, crossed his legs, and imitated the cat's purring sound by saying "Om" to himself over and over again.

After 15 minutes or so, the cat rubbed her face against the boy's knee. He opened his eyes, blinked, and yawned. "Why," he said, "I've finally learned to meditate." And he thanked the cat with all his heart.

"For many days after the boy returned to the woods to visit the cat, and she showed him all she knew. Finally she said he was ready to pass his knowledge to other humans who also wished to meditate... and so Hatha Yoga was born."



# The Nation's going to the Dogs and Cats!!

A few months ago The Sydney Morning Herald commissioned a poll to investigate dog and cat ownership in Australia. Here are the results:

For every 2.5 Australians, there is a pet dog or cat. Add to this an estimated two million urban strays and an unknown number of wild cats and dogs, and the figure is 22 more like one animal for every person.

There are 3.8 million dogs and 2.8 million cats in private households, according to the poll, conducted for the Herald by Irving Saulwick and Associates.

There are dogs in 41% of Australian households and cats in 34% of homes. In 16%, there are both cats and dogs.

To feed them, Australians spend a staggering \$570 million a year on processed pet food - about 5% of all grocery sales.

Most dog owners (70%) have only one dog, but 22% have two, and 10% have three or more.

69% of cat owners have one cat, 21% have two, and 10% have three or more.

Melbourne homes are more likely than those in Sydney to have a cat. One in three Melbourne households has a cat, compared to one in four in Sydney.

The incidence of dog and cat ownership is highest in people aged between 40 and 54, and declines sharply in the over 55 age group. More blue collar workers than white collar workers own dogs, while cat ownership is slightly higher among those in white collar professions.

For what it's worth, Liberal voters are more likely to own a pet than Labor voters.

# Have you ever seen a Baby Turtle?

In the last issue of "Cat Affairs," we mentioned that Welfare Officer Sandy Moss had just been on a wonderful Queensland holiday, which included a visit to Mon Repos Environmental Park on the coast near Bundaberg.

Here, Sandy saw tiny turtle hatchlings emerge from the nest and waddle rapidly towards the sea - the magic highlight of her holiday.

If you are planning a holiday next year, perhaps you'd like to share her experience. Here are the details, from a leaflet issued by the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service:

Mon Repos Environmental Park on the coast near Bundaberg protects an internationally significant sea-turtle rookery. This nesting habitat is important for the long-term survival of sea-turtle species nesting there. The park comprises foredunes overlooking Mon Repos beach, an estuary and a small rocky headland. Historic features include a Kanaka built rock wall and the site of Bert Hinkler's first flights.

For eight months of the year Mon Repos, like other beaches, is popular for sunbaking, surf swimming and fishing. Then from November to March Mon Repos becomes a place of night time visitation as people arrive to observe female sea-turtles leaving the ocean to nest in the foredunes (late November-January) and hatchlings emerging from the nests (mid January-March).

At Mon Repos the most common nesting sea-turtle is the loggerhead, followed by the green, flatback and leatherback in decreasing order of occurrence.

Queensland National Parks and Wildlife service staff and volunteers work through the night during the turtle season recording details vital to turtle management. Another important role they have is to assist visitors in observing and understanding the turtles and ensuring they are aware of the appropriate visit behaviour code, designed to minimize disturbance to the sea-turtles.

## Access

Access is via Bundaberg (374 km north of Brisbane.) From Bundaberg bitumen roads provide access to Mon Repos.

## Accommodation

Various types of accommodation are available at nearby coastal towns and Bundaberg. A caravan/camping park is located at Mon Repos.

## Facilities

Facilities at Mon Repos include boardwalk beach access, a kiosk and public toilets.

## Things to do

The sea-turtle rookery can be a source of endless fascination. Some basic knowledge of sea-turtles and acceptable human interaction with them will help ensure that your visit to the rookery is an enlightening and enjoyable experience.

Adult turtles are timid, being easily disturbed at any stage from leaving the water until they begin laying eggs. Sea-turtles and hatchlings are sensitive to interference in the form of bright lights and excessive noise. Consideration is needed for these aquatic animals which, for most of their lives, do not leave the sea. You can help avoid unnecessary disturbance by observing the following behaviour code:

disturbing her greatly. Avoid excess noise or sudden movements. Flash photos may be taken once the turtle is laying. Q.N.P.W.S. permission is needed for floodlight filming

Dogs and other domestic animals are not permitted on environmental parks.

Do not dig up nests as this can destroy the eggs, unless special precautions are taken. You can dig gently behind the laying turtle to observe eggs as they drop. Campfires are not permitted. Heat over nests will cook turtle eggs. Flames attract hatchlings.

At times staff may restrict your movements on the beach. This is usually to allow a turtle emerging from the water to make its journey up the beach to the foredunes without disturbance. Please abide by their requests.

## Planning your visit.

The nesting beach is 1.6km long. Wear suitable footwear. Carry a raincoat.

There are peak times which vary according to environmental influences. However, below are some guidelines that may assist you in planning your visit.

Nesting turtles (late November to January) are most likely to be encountered from about 1 hour before high tide to about 2 hours after. More turtles can be expected on nights when high tide occurs near midnight than when high tide occurs near dusk or dawn.

Hatchlings (mid January-March) take only a few minutes to reach the water once they leave the nest. The best time at Mon Repos is between 8pm and midnight.

## Caring

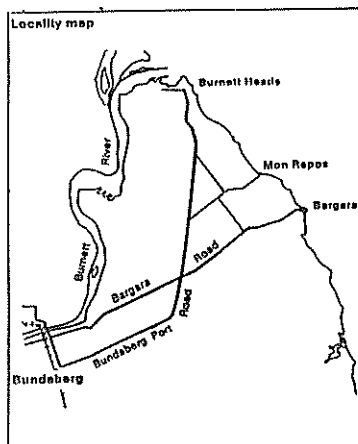
Visit Mon Repos to enjoy the tranquil beach by day, and, in season, the turtles by night. Remember that this park plays an important role in the long-term survival of the sea-turtle species that nest here. Treat the park and its seasonal marine visitors with care and respect so it will continue to be a pleasant place to visit while providing a nesting site for future generations of sea-turtles.

## For further information contact:

Wide Bay-Burnett Sub-Regional Centre. P.O. Box 101, Maryborough, Qld 4650. Phone: (071) 22 2455

or

The park ranger. P.O.Box 1735 Bundaberg, Qld 4670. Phone: (071) 79 2628



Keep lights off while on the beach. You may carry a two-cell torch. All other forms of lighting - spotlights, fluorescent and higher wattage torches - not permitted.

Do not approach or shine lights on a turtle leaving the surf or moving up the beach. When a turtle has dug her nest and begun laying, she is not normally disturbed by soft lights and gentle touching. This is when you can observe her closely without



## HAVE YOU TRIED THIS?



**Timely hints on cat care from our welfare officers, volunteers and Councillors. We'd appreciate contributions from readers, too. Just mark your envelope "Have you tried this" and send it to 103 Enmore Road, Enmore. 2042.**

### Holiday Time

What to do with your cat when you're going away on holidays? There are a few options available. You can have it boarded at a cattery, you can hire a Home Feeding Service, or you can ask your friendly neighbour to feed it while you are away. The last mentioned is perhaps the cheapest, but not necessarily the best. It all depends on how much your neighbour is prepared to do.

Most boarding catteries require your pet to be fully vaccinated before accepting it. The majority of cats will soon settle down after a day or so in their new surroundings. They have plenty of company, roomy compartments, and are generally well cared for. Fees vary little from one place to another, but it's very wise to check the premises personally before making your final decision.

A Home Feeding Service is excellent for long weekends or short holidays. Pets can become frustrated, impatient and lonely at the silence of an empty house and garden if left too long without their owners. Some have been known to stray.

However, if your cat is one of the minority who tends to fret badly if boarded at a cattery, the ideal solution is to have a relative or close friend stay in your home for the duration of your holiday. The place will have that lived-in atmosphere, and the interruption and upheaval to your cat will be minimal. (You could make arrangements with a friend to share "cat sitting" duties if you take holidays at different times.)

Never, ever, entertain the idea of letting your cat fend for itself. This is just not on. Sadly but true, this is a practice that has been repeated many times.

- Lena Larson, Councillor.

### THE EDITOR

---

Dear Readers,

As our President told you, we are now going to have four issues a year of "Cat Affairs." After the next issue in December, they'll be coming out in March, June, September and December from then on. It's exciting for me, but of course I'll need your contributions more than ever. Send me stories and pictures of your own cats, snip out anything you see in newspapers and magazines. And as well as items about cats, consider anything else you think would be of interest to other readers.

For example, in this issue we have a marvelous story on Scrabble from member Lena Boyd, and another about turtles, brought back from Queensland by Welfare Officer Sandy Moss. You may like to share one of your own travel stories with us, or have a special interest to tell us about. With your help, I want our magazine to be the "best read" in town!

Meanwhile, with the results of the Photo Contest to announce in this issue, and all the end-of-year information that has to go in, I haven't had the space to include a couple of promised features. NEXT issue there'll be the fascinating article on Naming Your Cat, and more Questions and Answers. A couple of surprises, too!

Finally, when I wrote the story about my cat Mr. Moggs, I hadn't heard from anyone about their own psychic cats. Since then, Margaret Wilson of French's Forest has told me about her experience. She writes, "Sadly, I had to have an old, sick cat put to sleep. To spare him the trauma of taking him to the surgery, I had the vet come to my home to give him the needle. I held him in my arms, with the back door shut. At the precise moment that he died, there arose a pitiful howl from my other cat outside - a cat who had known the dying one since he was a kitten. The howling cat was one who rarely even miaowed - he talked with his eyes - and there was absolutely nothing physical to explain his grief."

Margaret gave me some more fascinating insights into her cats, which I'll tell you about in December. Meanwhile, I look forward to your own letters and comments.

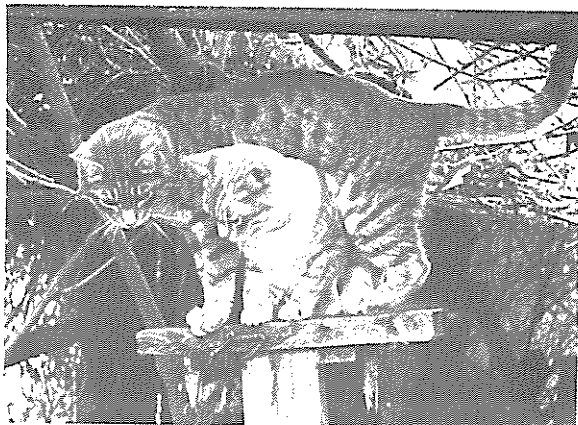
Cheers!

- Julie Gorrick,

# The story of the Spotted Mist...

## Australia's own Cat

By Truda M. Straede



Two Spotted Mist male cats, Calias and Lamkin, who live together.

**Editors Note:** A couple of months ago, Nance Iredale and I visited the Federal Cat Club Show held at Canterbury Racecourse, and were fascinated by what was a new breed to us - the Spotted Mist, looking very much like a domestic tabby.

As tabby lovers, we were interested to know how the breed was developed and became recognized, so contacted the breeder for details. Here is her charming story:

\*\*\*\*\*

I have always loved tabby cats, and when it dawned on me that I could buy a pedigree cat now that I supported myself, I also fell in love with Burmese and Abyssinians. I hunted for a tabby-pattern pedigree cat, but alas, in those days there were few British and Oriental tabbies, and Tabby Rex were undreamt of.

Then a few accidental cross-matings occurred between Abyssinians/Burmese/tabbies. The interesting looking progeny, with their vigour and charming temperament, suddenly made me think! "I CAN sell tabby-pattern kittens if I can manage to make them spotty in pretty Burmese colours." So I was off.

It took me two years to produce sufficient stock to demonstrate that I knew what I was doing, then on the experimental register for another eight years, four generations of breeding, until in 1986 the birth of the first full-register litter, and breed recognition.

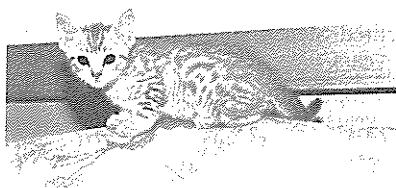
Spotted Mist kittens have a charm of their own, with open, friendly natures, a lot of bounce, and a rather alarmingly bold fearlessness - which I regret to say has and will land them in bother at times! The kittens make excellent pets for children, being very amenable to manipulation - dressing up, riding in prams, in fact there was even one who rode her master's skateboard!

Spotties are delicately marked in brown, blue, chocolate, lilac or gold, over creamy warm undercoats. Their big eyes, broad whisker pads and noses give them a smiling appearance, whilst the eyeliner and tabby facial patterns give them a debonair and jaunty touch. (Bronson the TV star is a spotty!)

Their markings are spots on the body, rings and bars on their legs and tail. The background is misted with the spot colour, the desired effect being a subtle contrast between spots and background.

Coats are soft, short and springy, tails well formed, their heads and body contours rounded, their size moderate. Males should be larger than females, and both make remarkably solid, desexed pets - definitely in the back rest and foot warmer class. In fact, the main drawback with my Spotties is that the moment I sit down an absolute inundation occurs, with lap, shoulders and chest occupied by determinedly vibrating bundles. As you can guess, I love them all.

**A Spotted Mist kitten**



### A snug bed for little cost

The comfortable cat in this picture is Anastasia, who belongs to CPS member Connie Batchelor of Balgowlah.

Anastasia has her own "basinette," which Connie says is easy and economical to make. What's more, Anastasia loves it, because it's got a nice protective "roof," and Anastasia enjoys crawling inside.

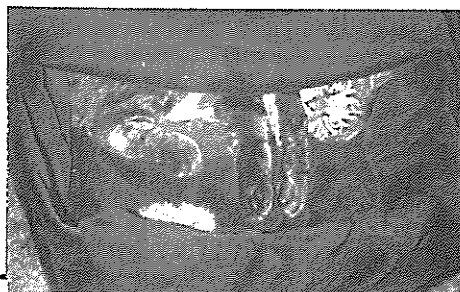
All you need to make the bed is an empty, sturdy fruit box, two pieces of soft, washable fabric, and a pillow - plus a couple of safety pins.

Put the pillow in the bottom of the box, and cover pillow and box with one piece of the fabric. Cover the top of the box up to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of its length with the second piece of fabric, and secure in place with safety pins.

Both pieces of fabric are easily removed for washing.

You can even have a summer and a winter look - cosy corduroy or wool for the colder months, a pretty cotton print for warm weather.

Connie says that since she made her a special bed, Anastasia has given up her previous special sleeping spot - the shopping trolley. It's a lovely idea for you to try, and we thank Connie for sending us the picture and instructions.



# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1989

The Directors present their report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st May, 1989.

## Directors

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

**Mrs J. Chapman:** Red Cross Library Assistant and Director of Company for one year.

**Mrs S. Cozens:** Retired Secretary and Director of Company since incorporation.

**Mrs N. Iredale:** Retired Secretary and Director of Company for six years.

**Mrs L. Larsen:** Retired Welfare Officer and Director of Company for two years.

**Dr. D. Love:** Doctor of Veterinary Science and Director of Company for one year.

**Mrs S. Pikler:** Retired Stenographer and Director of Company for four years.

**Miss L. Thomas:** Property manager and Director of Company for three years.

**Miss J. Tomkin:** Retired Secretary and Director of Company for five years.

**Mrs B. Walsh:** Retired Stenographer and Director of Company for one year.

**Mrs R. Warner:** Retired Stenographer and Director of company for two years.

## Activities

The principal activity of the Society for the period under review was desexing of felines and prevention of cruelty. No significant change occurred in the nature of those activities during the year. The Society is a company limited by guarantee and not having capital divided into shares.

## Results

The net surplus of the Society for the year was \$62,269.00.

## Dividends

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

## Review of operations

During the financial year, the activities of the Society were confined to those activities shown above, resulting in the net surplus as stated.

## Significant changes

Significant changes in the state of affairs of the Society that occurred during the financial year were as follows:

- (i) Abnormal item - Refund of money to Woy Woy branch \$6,949 (no applicable income tax).
- (ii) Closure of the Woy Woy branch during the year.

## Events since balance date

There has not arisen since the end of the financial year any matter or circumstance that has significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Society, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Society in subsequent financial years.

## Future developments

It is the expectation of the Directors that the Society will continue with the activities described above with results similar to those of the past year.

## Directors' benefits

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

Signed this 27th day of July 1989 in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

S. Cozens  
Director

N. Iredale  
Director

## DIRECTORS' STATEMENT 31st MAY, 1989

It is the opinion of the Directors that:

- a. the accompanying profit and loss statement is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the profit (loss) of the company for the financial year ended 31st May 1989.
- b. the accompanying balance sheet is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year.
- c. as at the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Except as disclosed in the Notes of the Accounts, the company's accounts have been made out in accordance with applicable Approved Accounting Standards.

This statement is made and signed in accordance with resolutions of Directors.

this 27th day of July 1989

S. Cozens  
Director

N. Iredale  
Director

# PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1989

	THIS YEAR \$	LAST YEAR \$
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Appeals - Ambulance .....	126,463.00	117,664.95
Appeals - General .....	11,554.00	10,618.00
Journal advertising .....	275.00	150.00
Opportunity Shop .....	38,075.00	34,684.00
Government grant .....	11,000.00	11,000.00
Interest .....	66,600.57	56,533.65
Pets in memoriam .....	369.00	472.00
Sales - Cats .....	13,528.00	10,824.50
Memberships to C.P.S. ....	6,377.00	5,591.00
Money boxes .....	1,273.24	533.03
Cat boxes .....		150.00
Fund raising .....	689.59	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>276,204.40</b>	<b>248,221.13</b>

## EXPENDITURE

Accounting & audit fees .....	1,585.00	1,450.00
Advertising .....	3,003.27	2,843.47
Ambulance supplies .....	394.03	923.87
Bank charges .....	361.50	334.53
Boarding fees .....	26,400.00	29,898.00
Cat boxes (net of trading) ..	132.00	356.40
Collars & tags .....	568.69	333.46
Depreciation .....	11,574.00	10,764.00
Donations .....		15.00
Electricity & gas .....	647.83	639.97
General expenses .....	980.74	387.00
Insurance .....	2,770.66	829.67
Journal - "Cat Affairs" .....	9,276.33	9,642.73
Legal costs .....		311.14
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	705.00	496.00
Motor vehicle expenses .....	19,389.14	23,977.26
Postage .....	759.17	540.93
Printing & stationery .....	3,774.87	1,920.29
Property expenses .....	2,851.23	2,984.77
Provided for annual leave .....	1,021.26	5,514.13
Provided for long service leave	593.43	35.00
Refund of money to Woy Woy branch	6,948.74	
Staff amenities .....	210.88	241.51
Subscriptions and memberships	169.13	614.50
Telephone .....	4,279.75	3,180.45
Veterinary expenses .....	125,275.23	102,179.35
Wages & salaries .....	93,699.73	72,722.14

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE** ..... 317,371.61 273,135.57

## OTHER INCOME

Insurance recovery .....	1,565.94	773.08
Net income/expenditure of branches .....	(1,819.13)	2,106.17
Legacies - Cash .....	101,211.62	14,583.34
Profit on sale of fixed assets .....	2,478.00	3,476.00
	<b>103,436.43</b>	<b>20,893.59</b>

**NET OPERATING PROFIT/(LOSS)** 62,269.22 .. (4,020.85)

# BALANCE SHEET as at 31st MAY 1989

	THIS YEAR \$	LAST YEAR \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash at bank .....	11,367.01	3,288.02
Other debtors .....	2,882.00	1,382.00
Accrued interest .....	14,267.35	7,473.60
Deposits - Electricity .....	40.00	40.00
Branch balances .....	603.30	9,567.17
	<b>29,159.66</b>	<b>21,750.79</b>

## FIXED ASSETS

Land - at Directors' valuation 31/5/88 .....	30,000.00	30,000.00
	<b>30,000.00</b>	<b>30,000.00</b>
Buildings - at Directors' valuation 31/5/88 .....	120,000.00	120,000.00
	<b>120,000.00</b>	<b>120,000.00</b>
Plant & equipment - at cost .....	6,641.30	6,580.00
Less: Accumulated depreciation .....	2,346.00	2,462.00
	<b>4,295.30</b>	<b>4,118.00</b>
Motor vehicles - at cost .....	81,134.95	63,950.90
Less: Accumulated depreciation ..	23,420.00	20,823.00
	<b>57,714.95</b>	<b>43,127.90</b>
Office equipment - at cost .....	2,749.95	1,382.95
Less: Accumulated depreciation ..	650.00	757.00
	<b>2,099.95</b>	<b>625.95</b>
	<b>214,110.20</b>	<b>197,871.85</b>

## INVESTMENTS

Deposits at call .....	51,080.40	60,943.54
Term deposits .....	(461,000.00)	400,000.00
Shares - Pacific Dunlop Limited, at market value (cost \$nil) .....	1,787.52	-
	<b>513,867.92</b>	<b>460,943.54</b>

**TOTAL FUNDS EMPLOYED** .... 757,137.78 680,566.18

Asset revaluation reserve .....	104,398.00	104,398.00
Unappropriated profit .....	626,036.16	563,767.15
	<b>730,434.16</b>	<b>668,165.15</b>

## CURRENT LIABILITIES

Other creditors .....	17,600.80	4,912.90
Provisions for long service leave...	2,567.43	1,974.00
Provisions for annual leave .....	6,535.39	5,514.13
	<b>26,703.62</b>	<b>12,401.03</b>

**TOTAL FUNDS PROVIDED** .... 757,137.78 680,566.18

## Announcing Our New Patron

We are delighted to announce that the Hon. N.P. Greiner, M.P., Premier of New South Wales, is now a Patron of the Society. In our next issue of "Cat Affairs" we will reprint the charming letter the Premier wrote to us in extending his patronage.

# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1989

## SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### Accounting Policies

In order to assist in the understanding of the figures presented in the accounts, the following summary explains the significant accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of the accounts.

### Basis of Accounting

The Accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and have not been adjusted to take account of either changes in the general purchasing power of the dollar or changes in the prices of specific assets, unless where specifically stated.

### Depreciation

Calculated on either the prime cost or diminishing value methods, is brought to account over the estimated economic lives of all fixed assets.

### Investments

The company's interests in terms deposit and debentures are shown as investments and valued at cost. Interest received is taken into profits on an accruals basis. The company's interests in companies is shown as investments and is valued at market value. Dividend income only taken into profits as it is received.

### Income Tax

No tax is payable by the company.

### Employee benefits

The amounts expected to be paid to employees for their pro-rata entitlement to long service and annual leave are accrued at pay rates having regard to employee's period of service. A provision for annual leave has been taken up for the first time to reflect the accrual required. This change in accounting policy has resulted in abnormal charge to the account of \$2,089.00.

### LEGACIES... Year ended 30/5/89

Rosalin Worrall .....	5,000.00
Marjorie Barnard .....	1,406.30
Marjorie Nicholls, legacy one .....	9,618.88
Harriette Ryan .....	66,214.58
E. D. Morris .....	802.15
Irene McMurtie .....	100.00
Violet Aggett .....	14,497.50
Marjorie Nicholls, legacy two .....	1,384.69
Grace Trail .....	400.00
	<b>99,424.10</b>

# LADIES AUXILIARY PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1989

	THIS YEAR \$	LAST YEAR \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Opportunity Shop .....	39,054.49	36,202.49
Donations .....	357.33	165.43
Interest received .....	19.86	-
	<b>39,431.68</b>	<b>36,367.92</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Advertising .....	16.00	16.00
Bank charges .....	28.79	27.80
Donations - C.P.S. of NSW .....	38,371.40	34,734.93
Fares .....	20.00	42.30
Fitting - Shop .....	230.00	175.00
Freight & cartage .....	-	31.70
Fuel .....	85.44	140.65
Loss - money stolen .....	40.00	-
Materials .....	241.60	330.79
Postage, printing & stationery .....	65.94	265.2
Repairs & maintenance .....	381.11	179.93
Staff amenities .....	179.04	96.28
Subscriptions .....	-	20.00
Telephone .....	185.83	246.76
Waste disposal .....	132.40	110.40
	<b>39,961.55</b>	<b>36,417.75</b>
<b>OPERATING LOSS .....</b>	<b>(529.87)</b>	<b>(49.83)</b>

# LADIES AUXILIARY BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st May 1989

	THIS YEAR \$	LAST YEAR \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash at bank .....	563.30	1,093.17
Change float .....	40.00	40.00
	<b>603.00</b>	<b>1,113.17</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS EMPLOYED</b>	<b>603.30</b>	<b>1,133.17</b>

## AUDITORS' REPORT CONTINUED

a. the account together with the Directors' Statement are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Companies (New South Wales) Code so as to give a true and fair view of:

- the state of affairs of the society at 31st May, 1989 and of the surplus of the Society for the year ended on that date;
- the other matters required by Sections 269 of that Code to be dealt with in the accounts;

b. the accounts are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Applicable Approved Accounting Standards, except as disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts.

MAXWELL BRIAN FARR  
Date 28th July 1989  
LOWER, RUSSELL & FARR  
Certified Practising Accountants

## AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1989

We have audited the attached accounts in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

28 In our opinion:



## A MISSING PET

She opened her front door  
As the sun was about to set  
She looked out into the front yard  
For her friendly little pet.  
The front yard was empty  
No sign of the little cat  
She checked around the back  
And in the porch near his favourite mat.  
When bed-time came  
He still didn't answer their call  
The family were all worried  
They couldn't sleep at all.  
Next morning at first light they arose  
With heavy hearts they searched again  
The yard was bleak and empty  
They looked around in vain.  
As time went on, the family never knew  
What happened to their pet  
They wished he'd been indoors earlier  
So that they might have had him yet.

Miss M. Tate  
C.P.S. Member

## We Welcome your inspection

- Trained veterinary nurse in attendance.
- Large, modern, individual facilities.
- Pick up and delivery service.
- Personal attention and affection for every pet.
- Yes! Special diets gladly catered for, and cat companions can stay together.



### HOURS:

8.30am-11am  
Monday to Saturday.

## Puss'n'Boots

Exclusive boarding Cattery  
664 Old Northern Rd, Dural.  
Telephone: 651 1401



## Always Remembered

A donation from Mrs. E. M. Douglas  
in loving memory of Sandy.

A donation in memory of our beloved Peter Albert Brown, put to rest on 19th May, 1989, aged 16 years. Will be remembered always for the love and devotion he gave us. Greatly missed by Enid Brown and his mates Bill, Gemma, Toby and Annie.

\*\*\*\*\*

In loving memory of Mohamed Ali, died last October aged 16. He was born in London, England, and came to Australia in 1984. Diabetic in his last 3 years, he still enjoyed life to the end.

... Always remembered by Angelika Elliott.

\*\*\*\*\*

A donation from Kay and Les Warren in memory of their dear little Penny, put to rest on May 19. "Penny was with us for 15 years, and gave us much happiness. Sadly missed by us both."

\*\*\*\*\*

A poem dedicated to Twinkie, knocked over by a passing car, from Carolyn Craddock:

### Twinkletoes 111

In your brief life, fourteen months,  
You gave such delight.  
Beautiful in appearance, grey and white,  
Cute nose, pink mouth, white-lined golden eyes.  
Such a spunky personality -  
Commented upon by all!  
Always present to greet us home,  
You left us far too soon.  
R.I.P., dear Twinkie.

\*\*\*\*\*

A donation in memory of Wee Pattie, Junie and Peter  
We have them in our hearts,  
God has them in his Care.

Sadly missed by Avis and Frank Dunlop and Sadie.

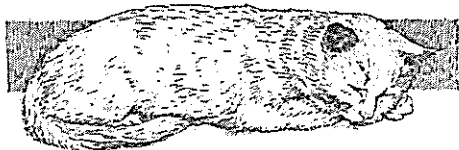
\*\*\*\*\*

In loving memory of Joey,  
a beautiful ginger kitten who came to live  
with us 8½ years ago. I loved him so much,  
and I miss him so.

- Nola Walsh

# ANIMAL WELFARE IN THE USA

By Barbara Kuhn



**Barbara is a dedicated member of our Society, and a hard working volunteer in the Opportunity Shop. Here is her account of the work being done by the S.P.C.A. in New York and Los Angeles.**

On a recent visit to the United States I thought it would be a nice idea if, while my husband was involved in business, I indulge a secret wish to visit the animal welfare organisations of another country, and perhaps exchange a few ideas about our mutual involvement.

In New York I 'phoned for an appointment first, speaking in a self depreciating manner and leaving the way clear for a polite "thanks for calling." I was pleasantly surprised to be invited to meet Mr. Michael Kaufman, the A.S.P.C.A. Public Relations Officer, that afternoon.

This visit, and a subsequent visit to the Los Angeles S.P.C.A. (I was more confident now) turned out to be the highlight of my trip.

I could not have been made more welcome. Never at any time did I feel like an "Old Cat Lady." Instead, Mr Kaufman gave me much of his valuable time, introducing me as we walked from office to office as a "visiting Australian Lady."

The New York staff is huge. First I toured administrative floors, which provide offices for three resident lawyers and their attendant staff, at least three full-time vets, the Education staff, the auditors, the financial team, and others.

I was shown some videos dealing with education in the schools, in one of which Mr Kaufman himself showed a group of children how to treat a domestic chicken (we would say a "chook"! ) with kindness. The children were most interested, by the way.

I was taken on a tour of the rooms where animals are housed, trying not to linger in front of cages (large and comfortable) containing sweet pussycats just like ours. Glancing through the observation windows of beautifully set up operating theatres, I saw operations in progress. Animals who have been cruelly treated, and are the subjects of court action, are kept in comfortable accommodation until their cases are dealt with, then found suitable adoptive owners.

Incidentally, as I read through the very comprehensive adoption forms I wondered if I would qualify for a New York cat! But in essence, the questions asked aren't very different from those we ask ourselves, and are obviously compiled by similar caring people.

In Los Angeles, a delightful lady called Jane Evans, in charge of Education, showed me around. She had her little dog Ruggie (aptly named because of his coat) with her in the office all day, reminding me - as I told her - of our own Nance Iredale and her sweet Heggie.

Indolent, superior looking cats - obviously the office pets - were draped around every piece of furniture in the Los Angeles office, making a beautiful oasis of a building which is situated in what I was told was the very dangerous drug area of the city. Naturally, it was locked up like a fortress.

In exchange for the two glossy New York SPCA magazines Mr Kaufman gave me, I timidly handed over a copy of our magazine, saying as I did so that he might find it rather "Mumsy" compared with his. "On the contrary," said this nice young man, "I sometimes think ours is rather stark and documentary, and in yours we may find just the warmth we need."

I must admit to being rather taken aback by the direct methods used by the financial departments to produce the money necessary to run this huge organisation. There is no government help, so the general public is contacted by 'phone and mail, asking for donations. Complete explicit instructions are given as to how one prepares a will, leaving as much as possible to the ASPCA. Admittedly, we are also in need of donations and legacies to carry on our work, but I think we have a more delicate touch.

All in all, it seems to me that, putting aside the staggering size of the American society, our aims and methods are very much the same. In particular, desexing is the major issue, as it is here, with control of stray and feral cats another important aim.

I came away from the USA with a wonderful warm feeling that there are a great many people out there in the world who care as deeply as we do here at the C.P.S., and who will continue to work for the protection and comfort of our little friends.

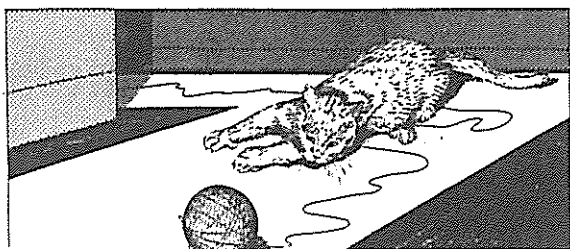


*"All in all,  
our aims and  
methods are  
very much the  
same"*

**Editor's Note:** Barbara brought back a wealth of interesting brochures and documents from her visits to the SPCA in New York and Los Angeles. (S.P.C.A. is, of course, The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.) On page 21, I'm reprinting some of the excellent material from a leaflet on the need for desexing, prepared by the Los Angeles SPCA.

If you have friends, neighbours or colleagues who need any persuading to have their pets spayed or neutered, here are the arguments clearly set out, with all the myths dispelled!

## ON KITTENS



*A kitten with a length of string  
Is such a pretty, playful thing.  
A kitten with a leaf to chase  
Exhibits beauty, form and grace.  
But I love kittens curled up, wise,  
With ancient mystery in their eyes.*

- Salvatore Marsiglia



## Home care for pets... What it's all about

One option to consider when you need cats (or other pets) looked after, is to have someone come to your home. Ideally, a friend or relative could move in. But there are also people who specialise in home care for pets, and will come once or twice a day to carry out all your instructions.

Using this type of service also adds a security measure to a home or unit. For instance, you can arrange to have your mail taken in and newspapers collected, lights turned on and off, leaves swept up. Naturally, indoor and outdoor plants can be watered.

During the warmer months, and especially over longer periods of absence, animal's bedding can be washed, and the pet's favourite spots sprayed to reduce the risk of fleas and insects.

Of course, you will want to feel entirely comfortable about having a stranger come into your home. Whichever care service you choose, ask for client references and follow them up (preferably, by a home visit.) Also ask the person if he or she has insurance, how long they've been in business, and for a personal reference. Ideally, they should be able to refer you to a veterinarian who will vouch for their bona fides.

During this first visit to your home, the prospective carer will also meet your cats and any other pets, and you will be able to gauge how they get on together. Exercise the same judgement you would use in choosing a cattery - you must have complete confidence in the person you're leaving in charge of your loved pets.

If I were choosing this type of care - which I think has a lot to offer - I would give it a "trial run" first. I'd have the carer come over a weekend or a long weekend, before committing myself to a lengthy period of time when I'd be away from home.

Incidentally, as you can appreciate, the fees vary according to the number of visits each day, and what you want done. But as a general yardstick, it's usual to charge around \$7.00 a day to care for one cat. It's certainly an option worth considering.

Julie Gorrick

## "Is that you, Mummy?"



An English magazine recently published this letter from Sally Williams, who works for British Telecom:

"My colleagues and I are asked all sorts of questions and told all sorts of stories about telephones.

"Yesterday a customer asked me if I could provide her with a 'phone that the cat wouldn't be able to knock off the hook!

"Apparently, her cat first managed to hook his paw under the handset and remove it from the base when he was a tiny kitten.

"On hearing the dial tone 'purring' at him he mistook the phone for 'Mummy,' and became totally mesmerised. Ever since, the lady has not been able to keep the cat away from the telephone, so it's forever off the hook!"

**Ed's Note:** No, Miss Williams did not say what solution she suggested to the problem.



**A Thousand wonderful gift  
ideas for cat lovers**

... Pictures, prints, postcards  
... teatowels, aprons, T-shirts...  
paperweights, mobiles, ornaments  
... stickers, stationery, key rings...  
a whole wonderland of irresistible  
feline inspirations. Come and  
browse, you're very welcome.

**Shop 121, (The Argyle Centre.)  
18 Argyle Street, The Rocks  
Telephone: 27 7709. OPEN 7 DAYS**

## *Burmese in a Blissful Mood*

These beautiful cream Burmese cats are called Ajax and Cardy, and are the fond owners of Charles Birch, one of our Patrons.

Professor Birch wrote, "The photo shows Alex and Cardy in one of their gentler moods. They are now 8 years old, and don't like me to get out of their sight. One is twice the size of the other.

"This is the first time I have not had a stray cat living with me. The last one I had was rescued from a rugged life at the University of Sydney after she had been chased up a tree by dogs. I took her home to recover and she never left.

"The present ones have never known anything but a life of luxury, except for one unhappy episode when Cardy fell five floors to the ground. He was a bit bewildered but otherwise unharmed. This episode won him some celebrity, in an ABC TV programme, "All About Cats."

We thank Professor Birch for sending us the delightful photo, and for his continued interest in the Society.



## Parklands Boarding Kennels

- We really care for cats



Shirley and Ron Butler offer a happy, caring environment for your animals, long or short term. You can leave them at Parklands with confidence

- \* Separate runs
- \* Veterinary attention on hand
- \* Special diets catered for
- \* Pick up and delivery service
- \* Cuddles guaranteed

Open 9-5 7 Days a week  
Dogs also boarded

505 Sunny Holt Road,  
Parklea.

Tel: 626 9333

My cat's silly.

When he hits his head on the arm of the chair  
He sits on the floor for a few minutes,  
And then he jumps up at the chair  
And hits it even harder.

- Joanne Compton, aged 10

## INTRODUCING THE NEW KITTEN



There are lots of approaches to introduce a new kitten to an older cat, or cats.

Here is an interesting suggestion from an animal psychologist, which seems very sensible:

The idea is to let the older cat think the kitten is "his," You, the owner, are simply a bystander.

It works like this: You don't bring the newcomer into the house yourself, but arrange for a friend to bring it home at an appointed time.

At this time, you should be playing with your cat or feeding it - engaged in some happy activity together.

The friend takes the kitten (which should be concealed in a basket or box) to another room in the house, quietly lets it out, and leaves the door ajar. Then the friend leaves.

You allow the kitten, all by itself, to find its way to the room where you are socialising with your older cat. And you let the kitten and cat discover each other.

You do not pick the kitten up, pat it, or even notice its presence. You leave the two animals to themselves. If the kitten runs away under the sofa, don't try to call it out. If the older cat hisses, don't reprimand it.

To all intents and purposes, says the psychologist, the kitten is INVISIBLE to you.

It should be fed and put to sleep when the older cat is out of the house or in another room, so the "No 1" pet doesn't see you paying attention to it.

The psychologist believes that by using this method, the older cat will feel responsibility for the baby, and will accept it more easily. Only when the two animals have established a bond should you pet the kitten in front of the older cat, and the adult should ALWAYS receive a petting first.

If you've had any trouble with introductions in the past, this method is certainly worth a try.

# LEIBCHEN, WHERE ARE YOU?



**Sometimes, a cat takes a little while to settle down into a new home. But there was an unusual reason for Wagner's standoffishness!**

The story began with the surrender to our Enmore office of a glorious Himalayan cat. His elderly owner was German, and a change in circumstances made it impossible for him to keep the cat, which was called after the German composer.

Wagner was placed in our Parklands cattery for adoption, and found a new owner at once, a young man.

Several weeks later, he rang us to say that Wagner was thriving, and had brought a great deal of happiness into his life. But this wasn't the case in the beginning!

Then he went on to tell us this fascinating story: For the first few days, the cat hid under the bed and refused to come out. The young man had to put the litter tray, food and water under the bed, and was beginning to despair that Wagner would ever make friends.

Then he had an idea- if the previous owner was German, perhaps Wagner would feel more at home if someone spoke to him in German.

The young man invited a German-speaking friend for dinner, and the friend crouched beside the bed softly speaking to the cat in its own language. There was much use of the word "Leibchen," which is German for darling.

Five minutes later, Wagner strolled out, purring loudly, and allowed himself to be petted.

That night, his owner learned several phrases in German, so he would be able to talk to his cat when the friend left. He learned things like "Good morning," "Time for lunch," "what a beautiful boy," and so on, and subsequently learned more.

Wagner has never gone under the bed again, and his owner is gradually introducing him to English, as well, so he'll become bi-lingual!

Just another fascinating true story from the files of The Cat Protection Society, where there's truly never a dull moment!

## When Your Pet Needs to Travel... Rely on

# TRANSPET

(AUST.)

### Our services include:

#### Shipping:

Wherever your pet is going - locally, interstate or to another country - we will arrange it smoothly and efficiently. Road transport, flight bookings, documentations and other requirements will be handled with minimum fuss, maximum care.

#### Ex-Quarantine:

If your pet is being quarantined at Eastern Creek Quarantine Station, let us help with arrangements for its release and transportation.

#### Pick Up and Delivery:

Transpet will collect your pet and deliver it right to your new door - wherever that may be. We coordinate with kennels and agents throughout Australia and the world to ensure your loved animal has every attention it requires.

#### Documents Processed:

There are various documents, some complicated, required to move pets from Australia to another country. Let us take the worries off your mind.

#### Boarding:

Our kennels and cattery have a pleasant country atmosphere. In the cattery, there are shelves for jumping, tree branches for scratching and climbing, comfy cushions. Staff are competent and caring, and there's a veterinarian available at any time.

**1176 Bringelly Road, Austral, 2171**



# TRANSPET

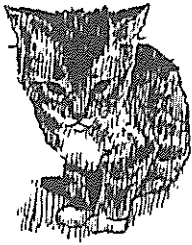
(AUST.)

Phone: (02) 606 6655  
Fax: (02) 606 6047

Toll Free: (008) 25 1418  
Telex: AA 121822, quote SY 1141



# Do Cats Understand What We Say?



In the last issue of "Cat Affairs" we brought up the subject of psychic cats, and mentioned experiments that indicate cats can respond to their owners' thoughts.

Since then, I have come across further evidence.

For example, a Russian parapsychologist has described experiences with her own cat, Dyashka. She said to him once, "Your nose is dirty, wash it!" and he immediately began to groom his whole nose area.

On another occasion she told the cat to leave her alone and play with his ball of string, and he went straight to the string and started playing with it.

When she described to a friend how Dyashka had pulled a nail from the wall, Dyashka went straight to the very spot where the nail had been removed, and went through a pantomime of pulling it out.

The psychologist commented that this behaviour "not only suggested telepathic communication - he caught on to our thoughts, or the sense of our conversation - but also suggested pride and other human qualities."

It is interesting to me that Dyashka's behaviour is seen as unusual enough to be reported in scientific journals. Here in Australia, I'm sure that many cat owners can not only report similar stories, but take such behaviour for granted! Surely, all cats understand a great deal of what we say?

As an example, take my own eldest cat, Mr. Moggs. He is half Siamese, a very large, black and white neutered male. Now 10 years old, he has been able to make his own needs known to me since he was a kitten. The sounds and the body language are as clear as speech... all the usual things like waiting at the door to go outside, nipping my ankle if it's 10 minutes past dinner time, throwing himself against the bedroom door to come in for a morning cuddle.

At the same time, he does have a few extraordinary feats up his sleeve. One is his ability to open the front door. It's a very heavy door, with a strong brass handle that pulls down, and it quickly bangs shut again if it's not opened wide.

As soon as he was tall enough to reach the handle, Mr. Moggs discovered how to pull it down hard with one paw, then quickly put the other paw in the opening and push it ajar. Visitors find it quite eerie to see him doing it, it requires such strength and coordination.

But that's not the whole story. Talking of telepathy and understanding what we say, there's an amazing incident connected with the front door.

It happened quite recently, on one of those stormy Sunday mornings. In my pyjamas and dressing gown I opened the door to collect my paper, and the door banged shut behind me.

I knew my neighbours, who had a spare set of keys, were away for the weekend. The house on the other side had been sold, and was empty. It was raining furiously. I was barefoot, had no money, and the nearest public 'phone was streets away. It was one of those horrible, horrible predicaments where the mind refuses to work... you can't believe something so awful has happened, with no solution in sight.

Mr. Moggs was at the window, watching me. In desperation I pressed my face to the glass, tears in my eyes, and said "Mr. Moggs, would you PLEASE open the door and let me in?"

He looked at me intently, absorbed my distress. Then with a bound he was at the front door. I heard the handle click down, once, twice... as I said it's very heavy. Then magically the door swung open.

Almost hysterical with relief and amazement, I hugged him and thanked him for minutes. He took it all very calmly.

There are other instances of Mr. Moggs' telepathic abilities and understanding of language. At the moment, he is teaching my kitten Billy to open the door, turn on the TV and climb the tree in the courtyard. Billy is even taking on the aloof, slightly amused expression that is habitually on Mr. Moggs' face.

Last issue, I asked readers to send in stories about their own cats' psychic or telepathic abilities. I haven't received any stories from you yet, which is why I'm telling you about Mr. Moggs.

Do write and share your experiences! Who knows, we may even be able to compile a book of our own some day.

- Julie Gorrick



Mr Moggs  
who can open  
doors on comand

# FELINE AIDS — THE FACTS

By Margaret Sabine, Associate Professor in Veterinary Virology, University of Sydney.

In 1987 Pedersen and co-workers in the United States isolated a virus from cats suffering apparently from immunodeficiency disease. All cats in the particular cattery had been screened for feline leukaemia virus and were negative. The new virus proved to be very similar to the human immunodeficiency virus HIV which caused AIDS. The feline virus came to be called FIV and the disease FAIDS.

FIV has since been isolated in Britain and in Australia and FIV antibody has been found in cats in all countries where tests have been carried out. However, the feline virus does not cause disease in humans, and the human virus does not cause disease in cats.

**What are the tests for FIV?** The most commonly used test is for FIV antibody. This is a similar test to that used for AIDS detection. The presence of antibody in FAIDS (as in AIDS) usually means that the cat has both virus and antibody, which may persist for life.

**What are the clinical signs of FAIDS?** There are no specific signs seen in cats which tell you that a cat has FAIDS. Most of the signs seen relate to immunodeficiency disorders as they do with humans with AIDS. FIV positive cats are most likely to have chronic disease such as gingivitis and periodontal disease, upper respiratory tract disease, enteritis and conjunctivitis. (Lymphosarcoma has been reported in cats which are negative for feline leukaemia virus). Fever, loss of appetite, weight loss and vomiting may occur. Therefore, there is no specific treatment for FAIDS and treatment is directed at the symptoms the FAIDS positive cat is showing. With good veterinary care some cats can live comfortably for a long while.

**Will all FIV positive cats develop immunosuppressive diseases?** It is too soon yet to say but most people think "probably".

**How is FIV spread?** With difficulty. Cats appear to spread the virus by bites - through virus infected saliva. There is no proof that spread is venereal or to kittens in utero. As with HIV, spread is not via aerosol or through sharing bowls etc.

**Which cats are particularly at risk?** Various surveys have shown that male cats which are over the age of 6 and free-roaming are more likely to be antibody positive. Cats of all ages may be affected but the infection is more common in older cats.

**Is FIV dangerous to humans?** No, nor is HIV dangerous to cats! These viruses belong to the group called lentiviruses or "slow" viruses because the diseases they produce have very long incubation periods. Lentiviruses are very species specific, ie the human virus affects only people and the cat virus only cats.

**How dangerous is a FIV positive cat to its housemates?** With household pets the dangers seem slight. In an American survey, none of the 31 feline housemates of the 28 FIV positive cats were positive. Some cats in contact for years with FIV positive cats remain uninfected. Spread occurs between fighting animals, either in free-roaming, or in crowded conditions.

**Should my cat be tested for FIV?** Only if an undiagnosed immunosuppressive disease is suspected.

**Should I have my FIV positive cat put to sleep?** Definitely not if it is healthy. If it becomes very ill with a disease linked to immunosuppression the cat is unlikely to recover. Euthanasia may be the kindest course.

**Should I breed from my FIV positive cat?** Although there is yet no evidence that FIV is spread sexually, to the foetus from the mother, or via colostrum and milk, the human virus is spread in all these ways. Thus it would probably be better, in the light of current knowledge, to have all FIV positive cats desexed.

**What is the best way to limit the spread of FAIDS and to protect my cat?** Ensure that male cats are desexed before they begin to wander. Shut all cats inside at night when most fighting occurs. There are no vaccines against FAIDS - or AIDS.

**The Australian situation** FIV has now been shown to be present in NSW, WA, Queensland and Victoria. In the original survey it was shown that the virus has been present at least since 1972. Thus we have lived with FIV for a long time without knowing. There is no need for panic now.

## CATS' MIAOWS are trying to tell us something.

There are four basic cat noises. First, there's the noisy catawauling that accompanies fights, and that says that one particular cat owns this territory, and woe betide invaders.

This noise could be equated with the chanting of spectators at a big football or cricket match - packed with excitement and bravado, and directed at encouraging "our side."

Then there are the mating noises, usually heard at night. They may be strident and tuneless to our ears, but they're sending out a powerful message. Perhaps we could compare them to a disco or pop concert, when the music has a powerful beat demanding an emotional response.

Thirdly, there's the miaow ... plaintive or urgent, it's the cat's way of letting us know just what he wants.

Most cats use their miaows to trigger conditioned responses in their owners!

She stands by the fridge, miaows sweetly, and we instantly feed her. She waits at the door, miaows urgently, and we let her out. Ten minutes later

she scratches at the door from the outside, miaows loudly, and we let her in. The miaow is a telegram message - urgent and specific, we simply can't ignore it.

Of course, the noise that endears cats to us most of all is the purr. It's comforting to hear, nice to feel when we give him a cuddle, and makes us feel loved.

No-one has fully explained how cats purr. There have been lots of theories, no concrete facts. Some cats purr softly, some loudly. Some purr often, some infrequently. But the general understanding is that pleasure, contentment, and a feeling of ease are all incorporated in that background buzz.

One vet thinks there's even more to a purr. He says he has heard it when a very old, ill cat was about to be put to sleep. He says the cat does not have a premonition, but is a bit worried because he's weak and defenceless. So he purrs to indicate that he has no aggressive intent.

His owner may feel it is the first sign of a miraculous recovery, but the vet says he'd rather interpret it that the cat is content, if a little wary. He deserves his peace.

The Membership Secretary  
The Cat Protection Society of N.S.W.  
103 Enmore Road,  
ENMORE, N.S.W. 2042



## Membership Form

(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, 1989. Note: all persons joining from January remain financial until June the following year.

Subscription \$250.00 — Life Membership  
\$ 10.00 — Annual Membership  
\$ 5.00 — Pensioner Membership  
\$ 5.00 — Junior Membership

Enclosed Cheque/Money Order

for \$ .....

Please cross cheques and make  
payable to:

**"The Cat Protection Society of N.S.W."**

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_  
SURNAME (BLOCK LETTERS)

Address .....  
..... Postcode .....

Pension No. ....

Phone No ..... Signature ..... Date .....

Secretary's Note: Receipts for subscriptions will be forwarded upon request if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

The Secretary  
The Cat Protection Society of N.S.W.  
103 Enmore Road,  
ENMORE, N.S.W. 2042



## Donation Form

(Please cut out and return  
to address shown)

I/We would like to make a donation to the Society.  
Enclosed is a Cheque/Money Order for DONATION of \$.....

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_  
SURNAME (BLOCK LETTERS)

Address .....  
..... Postcode .....

The Membership Secretary,  
The Cat Protection Society of N.S.W.  
103 Enmore Road, ENMORE, 2042.

## Change of Address Form

(Please cut out and return  
to address shown)

If you have changed your address since applying for new membership or renewal, would you be kind enough to fill in this form

Surname ..... Initials .....  
(BLOCK LETTERS, PLEASE)

New Address .....  
..... Postcode .....

Previous Address: .....

Thank you for your co-operation