

Cat Affairs



December 1992

Journal of The Cat Protection of N.S.W.
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THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF N.S.W.

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Opportunity Shop: 87 Enmore Road, Enmore. 516 2072

Parkland Boarding Kennels: 505.Sunny Holt Rd, Blacktown 626 9333

PATRONS: Miss Ita Buttrose, O.B.E., Professor Charles Birch, F.A.A.,
The Hon. James McClelland.

Office Bearers: Presidents: Mrs Shirley Pikler,
Vice Presidents: Mrs Lena Larsen, Mrs Beverley Walsh
Honorary Treasurer: Mrs Nance Iredale
Honorary Secretary: Fred Price

Councillors: Mrs Megan Breust, Mrs June Chapman, Mrs Angelika Elliott, Mr Geoff Hall,
Miss Elizabeth Strachan, Mrs Eileen Taylor, Miss Jo Tomkin

Welfare Director: Mrs Nance Iredale
Assistant Welfare Director: Mrs Lena Larsen
Membership Secretary: Mrs Beverley Walsh

Opportunity Shop Co-ordinators: Miss Elizabeth Strachan, Mrs Eileen Taylor

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Mrs. S. Springfield, Mr. G. Tiley, Mr. W. Turner, Mrs. S. Watson,

PRESIDENTS PAGE

An eventful year, 1992, regrettably, our Administrator, Julie Gorrick chose to retire from the Society. We wish her well.

Mrs Wright did not stand for re-election but has indicated she will provide her computer expertise as required.

Our promotion of micro desexing continued. Through our efforts we believe we are encouraging the development of "specialist surgeon gynaecologist" Vets as opposed to G.P.'s.

The Opportunity Shop goes from strength to strength thanks to our very dedicated volunteers, **more are always needed.** A net profit of \$29,000.00 for 1991/2.

Your Society has been very active in general Animal Welfare issues at Government level. We are represented on both the Review Council to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and Sub-committee of the Animal Welfare Advisory Council looking into the need for a Companion Animal Act.

Many press releases have been issued and our services and advice have been requested by State Govt., Local Govt., radio & television producers, the print media and other Welfare Societies.

Two of our members have been appointed as Animal Welfarist on Ethics Committees under the Animals Research Act.

Our excess of expenditure over income for the year amounted to \$49,000.00. Much of this represents the increase in desexings for which we are responsible, Veterinary fees increased by \$10,223.00 Interest Received from investments decreased by \$24,279.00 and memberships subscriptions fell by \$8,460.00. These three items account for a short fall of \$42,962.00.

Legacies dropped by \$20,370.00 so it can be seen that without the stringent house keeping adopted by your Council our deficit would have been much larger.

Happily, our re-homing of desexed cats & kittens was considerably up on last year.

One of your Council's major priorities is, as ever, de sexing not destruction.

Your newly elected Council starts 1992/3 with high hopes, a full Council including both a return of old strengths and the election of new blood.

It is wonderful to have Jo Tomkin back on Council, her experience and acuity should be of real value.

Eileen Taylor joins the Council and brings with her a lifetime of management and retail skills. Her input is already noticeable in the Op-Shop.

The Council wishes all friends and members the very best of health, a happy Christmas and a New Year full of the wonderment that our feline friends bring into our lives.

Not Forgotten



Marta Ayling defies convention by thinking kindly of her mother-in-law and even more kindly of her mother-in-law's cat, "Jack". Soft & gentle "Jack" was in-law's companion and organised her constantly for almost seventeen years. Such longevity bespeaks much loving care. Heart / circulation problems, there is no remedy for old age. R.I.P. 15/8/92.

★★★★★

There comes a time when we have to be cruel to be kind. Wendy Irish misses "Pete", put to sleep on 17/7/89. Congratulations Wendy in having the strength to treat "Pete" with the loving care he deserved.

★★★★★

S. Subaich fondly remembers her two beautiful cats, Sooty & Tabby.

★★★★★

REUNION

*If ever I stand before heaven
St. Peter at guard at the door'
If a certain small shape sits beside him
I'll not feel alone any more.
When he asks, "Do you know whose this cat is
Who always waits here by the gate?"
I shall stoop to pick up the wee bundle
And know it's the end of my wait*

★★★★★

Shirley & Michael Hough remember "Samantha Jane" with love for her kindness in sharing her life with them. Died 18/6/90.

★★★★★

Maya & Mark Kala muse:
"In memory of all our beloved furred friends who over the years have gone to the Feline Elysian Fields.

★★★★★

Joan Denny's "Goldie" put to sleep 5/9/90
Boo Sootie & Kit-E-Kat also remember the living & loving days.

★★★★★

Alison & Ross Dorward fondly, remember "Lady", a German Shepherd Dog who grew up with & was owned by thirteen cats. "Lady" lived with Gwen Keena & Stella Thompson and recently had to be put to sleep. "Lady", was an abandoned, tethered stray found in a park and went on to live 13 years with her rescuers & feline friends. Special people. special pets!

★★★★★

Norma Clouston now sleeps alone. Tiggy put to sleep after being run over by a car sleeps alone (I wonder) in pussy heaven.

★★★★★

J. Rocca's "companion in loneliness", "Jerry Baby Carter". lived a happy 14 years before succumbing to earthly illness. 5/8/92. No more pain, plenty of romps and as always, a full tummy. Meow.

★★★★★

In loving memory of dear "Thai-Tu". For the short time he lived - For the loving disposition. His company, his love and gentle mannerisms we miss you so.

"Raja and Carolyn"

★★★★★



Mugsy's Spirit Chimes



As I buried my beloved Mugsy the neighbour's wind chimes were tinkling gently. I had never consciously heard them before and I felt the sound of the chimes was carrying Mugsy's spirit upwards. From then on I associated the sound of chimes with Mugs and determined to get a set for the house.

Tinkling chimes in shops became a favoured pastime and I quickly found the voice I wanted but never had the money and, even more, never had the room to hang them. And so it went. I became a rabid wind chime tinkler but not a wind chime owner.

Then we went to Canberra for a weekend and stopped in Bungendore to see their woodwork shop. Numerous chimes were hanging from the shop eaves; I set the first in motion and revelled in the sound. I moved to the second and almost cracked up. Don't ask me why, or how, but the sound was Mugsy. I still don't know what it is about the chimes. It was a different brand but a similar oriental tone, deep and rich, but it was undoubtedly 'Mugsy' to me. I tried the other chimes and they were beautiful, none carried the magic of the second set.

I went back and sounded them and again I was flooded with Mugsy memories, painful but loving. What was it about the tone? What made that particular tone so special that it touched me in a way no other wind chime ever had? Why was it so intrinsically 'Mugsy' to me?

When I asked to buy the set of chimes the shop assistant started to get an already boxed set. I'm sure they all sound the same but it must be those chimes outside'. I explained why, with cracking voice, trying hard to hold back the tears. She was wonderful. She quickly left her busy counter, grabbed a stool, and was back in a minute with the magical chimes in her hand. They came in a special wooden box and she laid them in as carefully as though she were

handling Mugsy's soul. I only hope she understood how much that meant because there was no way I could control my emotions except by keeping my mouth firmly shut.

The next weekend I made a place next to the back door and hung 'Mugsy's Spirit Chimes'. It was days before there was the right wind to sound them and I really didn't know how I would react or if I could cope. And then the gentle, magical music started one evening. A soft chuckle, a deep singing laugh, a loving poke of fun at us mere mortals who loved and lost.

There was pain, deep gripping pain. But there was also a sense of happiness that I hadn't felt for a long time. A sense of closeness with a part of my life I had lost two years before and had neither been able to relinquish nor come to terms with. I stated that the chimes were to be nicknamed 'The Spirit Chimes' but it hasn't happened. The chimes are 'Mugsy'. And it is quite common to hear one of us say, "Mugsy's singing his little heart out", "Mugsy's laughing at me" "Mugsy's chattering away".

Although Mugsy's Spirit Chimes are situated next to the house Mugsy only sings in a certain breeze. The big gum tree can be waving and swaying and beating against the sky with agitated branches and Mugsy is silent, or maybe a short chortle. But let tree be all but still, let only a few light branchlets on the outer limbs move and Mugsy sings his little heart out as though he's a soloist in a choir.

I normally put a meaningful plant in the garden to commemorate a deceased pet and Mugsy has a sunny yellow flowering vine that climbs along the fence. But the Spirit Chimes are more Mugsy than any plant and truly the most beautiful memorial to the dearest beloved friend, confidant and lover who ever wore fur.

- Lee Wright

A Day at The Office

The day actually begins at our Burwood vet, where Lyn, our very capable office worker and driver, collects all the desexed cats and brings them back to the office. They are then unloaded from the van and placed in a rear room where they await to be collected by their respective owners.

At approximately 9 a.m. the phones are switched into action, the front door is opened and for the next few hours all hell breaks loose. The phone rings constantly, cats are brought in for desexing, cats are picked up after desexing, cats and kittens are surrendered and numerous office chores have to be attended to.

Our feline friends are not the easiest creatures to handle and even the most affectionate can turn nervous under strange surroundings, so the day is not without its moments. Then there is the aroma that filters through the cats' holding room; it doesn't always blend in with your morning cup of coffee, but one soon learns to live with it.

All sorts of queries and requests are handled through our office, some are hilarious, some are quite disturbing, but we are all trained to cope with various situations and events. In the case of an emergency in the near vicinity, Lyn, who is also trained for road work, will immediately drive to the scene, assess the problem and pick up the injured cat if necessary.

There are usually two people in the office as the work load is heavy and demanding, so a volunteer from our State Council is normally in attendance to assist with the work. Our Welfare Director and Treasurer, Nance Iredale, also comes to the office daily. She has the enormous task of coping with the ledger, accounts, decisions and all other minor problems that any Society is

confronted with during the course of the day. The afternoons are less hectic and we can afford to relax a little, and ponder over the day's work. The job has its rewards and merits, and many happy stories and results are associated with it. There is the real indication that people are becoming aware that desexing their pets is essential, and we are happy to report that our clients come from every suburb in Sydney.

The day usually ends at 4 p.m. when all the cats are loaded on the van by Lyn, and transported to our Burwood vet for desexing. Others that have been surrendered are taken to our Concord vet, where they are assessed and chosen for our Parkland Cattery and eventually found homes. As we all finally head for home and watch the sun slowly sink in the west, one common and mutual thought crosses our minds, 'Tomorrow will be another day'.

Lena Larsen



Lost Pets

Cat Protection Society recommends PET SEARCH to those grieving people who have lost a pet. This is a computerized listing of lost and found animals and for a reasonable fee three searches will be made to find the missing animal. We think it is a very good idea and hope it prospers.

Reporting found animals only costs a phone call but could help return a beloved pet to its friends.

For more details ring 427 0121.



CAT CONFERENCE AT TARONGA PARK 1st September, 1992

A conference called **PROTECT YOUR CAT...SAVE YOUR WILDLIFE** was held at the Zoo on 1st September and was extremely well attended. It lasted all day and was opened by Michael Photios MP, Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment who appeared to promise early introduction of a Companion Animal Act embracing compulsory registration and identification probably by micro chip and suggested a curfew. He presented this extremely well and as a boon to both cats and the wildlife. I was present to speak on **RESPONSIBLE CAT OWNERSHIP** and was excited to hear his 'promises'.

Next came two members of the Animal Welfare Advisory Council to the government who dashed my hopes of any quick fix. Consultation and **COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE** was preached. We've had some kind of consultation on and off for many years and **COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE**, in my book, will need a real nudge.

Of course in the office of C.P.S. it appears that **COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE** is almost impossible don't we sometimes have to be told what to do by governments.?

How can we reconcile these attitudes:?

Compulsory registration of cats -

No, it costs

What a good idea, it will do wonders for cats.

Curfew -

No, my cat likes to get out at night - it is his right, he never leaves our yard, he is not a hunter.

Of course, our cats are always indoors at nights, cat fights, the road and we wouldn't like him to be responsible for any nocturnal hunting or to bother our neighbours.

Numbers of undesexed cats -

I don't believe in desexing toms, spoils their fun, the kids like kittens and we want them to see kittens being born.

The undesexed cats in the neighbourhood are a problem fighting and making caterwauling noises. Think of the unwanted kittens being born.

We heard a lot of percentages at this conference on the evils of cats and their alleged rate of killing wildlife. What percentage of **COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE** is required before we get our promised Companion Animal Act?

We heard from Environmentalists and Wires - all anti cat - Frank Burke of A.W.L. and I were the only pro cat speakers. The usual slides of stuffed museum pieces of cat strikes were shown and, believe it or not, two speakers showed the same slide.... and we have seen it many, times anyway.

However there were at least eight Council representatives present and I was able to speak to them all. They were appreciative of our realistic approach to the over population and sought our advice on correct catching cages, methods of trapping.

I promised one of our girls would go with one council rep. to make sure they know the correct way to deal with the trapped animals.

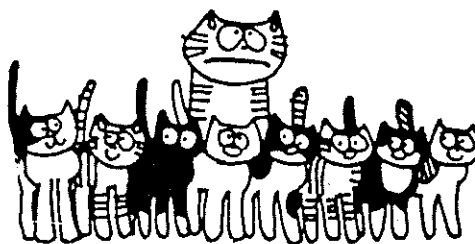
We already have good friends in Ryde, Blacktown and Concord Councils and, following the conference Penrith Council invited me to speak to a Council Meeting with a view to having a Cat Month in their municipality. This has now been arranged for October. Involvement in the Conference has also resulted in a few articles in various papers.

Burke's Backyard had already asked for an appearance on one of their shows and, at the Conference confirmed this. The interview took place at Parkland and I hope, but am not confident, that it will be acceptable or even go to air. With the cat issue dying down somewhat they may have changed their minds. In any case it appears they will be having quite a few anti cat segments and toxoplasmosis is likely to come up yet AGAIN.

Whilst the conference had some good points for us it also revealed the extent of the hostility to cats in the community. For instance, Dr. Ashok Rathore from the National Parks and Wildlife Service stated that various methods of eliminating the feral cat were being tested, including poison. He stated quite calmly they were testing a poison, a very low dose of which would cause death to a cat, so low that its body could be eaten by another animal without causing death. He actually volunteered the information that it would take 8 to 9 hours for the cat to die. "Yes, that was regrettable." The press has sensationalised the curfew and compulsory registration but has anyone heard a mention of this horror. Certainly, the doctor was not one of the speakers but, wearing the uniform of the National Parks and Wildlife Service, he carried authority. Once again I implore member support for these proposed laws to make our cats safer.

They have many enemies.

* NANCE IREDALE



By Cat Month we mean that for one month a council places announcements in local papers stating they will take requests for cats to be desexed at a discount rate, unwanted cats will be picked up and re-homed (if possible) and nervous cats will be caught in our special catching cages. These nervous creatures of course will not find homes. C.P.S has had several very successful Cat Months, particularly with Ryde Council .

The Penrith cat month is very important as it is the first time that all veterinary surgeons in the chosen municipality have joined together to provide discounted desexing. It is a real break through as in the past we have had such opposition from some vets that such efforts have been discontinued.

Usually the Society has done all the work of picking up for desexing as well as trapping~ and taking in surrendered cats. This time Penrith Council will refer requests for desexing directly to the nearest veterinary clinic or hospital, another break through.

We hope that other Council Cat months will follow. Our aim is to have every Council becoming aware of the huge over population of cats, and taking steps, with our assistance if necessary, to rectify the problem and, at the same time, educating residents.

C.P.S feels strongly that this co-operation with councils will be a good introduction for the Companion Animal Act which we so badly need.

Just as pleasing is Burwood Council's initiative in commencing their own desexing scheme. With the co-operation of at least five local veterinary surgeons, clients can obtain desexing vouchers from the Council (phone 747 2822 extension 215) for discounted desexing, of both dogs and cats. A condition, is that dogs are registered.

Joint efforts between Councils and veterinary surgeons, must bring positive results.



WELFARE JOTTINGS



Recently we were asked to supply two kittens - preferably brother and sister - to the Strickland Villa, a nursing home in Randwick. We made the usual inquiries about the suitability of their new home and found the management and patients were looking for a replacement for a beloved poodle. They planned - when the kittens were of sufficient age to cope - to acquire a puppy. We had two adorable young tabbies, slightly long haired who seemed to fit the bill. When we volunteered to deliver them - an unusual concession - Matron said they would take all the mobile people in the bus to Parkland and make an outing with a wonderful surprise at the end. So the busload arrived at Parkland, the kittens were duly purchased with a unanimous decision about their perfection and off the bus went with the two boxed kits.

Of course we've checked up. We were a bit apprehensive they might slip through doors and get lost but NO. They are a source of great entertainment, they are not allowed outside the courtyard, they are greatly loved and are being fattened up to resist the onslaught of a bouncing pup - maybe the pup will need the extra muscle.....but what a nice story.

We have a wonderful benefactor in a member who - every month - undertakes to pay for some desexings so that some cats can be kept by people who cannot afford the desexing cost. This month his project is to desex six females for an unemployed couple. We were asked to pick up 18 kittens and 12 cats but the couple refused to surrender six undesexed females. You can imagine the breeding that would follow. There is still a pregnant cat to be picked up with the kittens in due course. We'll make sure of that.

Last month this Good Samaritan paid for treatment and desexing for a poor little cat that had been struggling to give birth to a litter. She had already had a litter - all of them born dead. The problem came to us one Saturday afternoon and it was difficult to find a surgery where she could be treated. The RSPCA took her in, reducing the fees considerably. However, with desexing and treatment over quite a few days, the bill was quite heavy. We

don't have to worry about it. We consider ourselves to be a very lucky society to have so many good friends and its great to record such happy endings.

THERE ARE SOME SAD ONES cats being surrendered with no chance of finding a home, because people are in such financial difficulties...the usual dumpings..the man who wrote a very nasty letter, not agreeing with our policies, but at least he provided a laugh when he signed himself 'Definitely NOT Yours'....

The most appealing outgoing ginger chap who went to a home in Plumpton and was accidentally let out too soon by a small boy and lost. He was wearing our collar and tag and is such a friendly puss surely he will be found and returned. - He was.

The cat, wearing a collar, dragging a Steel Jaw Trap on a back leg, attempting to get over a fence (no doubt heading for home) caught by the fence and trap, hanging head down. Its front paws just touched the ground. The RSPCA was there so quickly we couldn't believe it. They told us you can buy these ghastly traps easily but it is illegal to use them.

The broken hearted people who ring us about missing cats. There is surely some kind of cat napping going on. So do collar and tag your cat, implant with the micro chip as soon as it becomes the norm, keep it in at night and keep as close a watch during the day. Alert your neighbours to keep watch too. If you have any clues or theories about these disappearances please let us know.

Then there was a poor stray mite surrendered to us with one eye a mass of blood, as big as a 10c piece just about to fall out of the socket and he could still purr and be friends.

I read somewhere a quote - don't know by whom - and it has haunted me ever since 'If animals believed in the devil, he would look remarkably like a human being'.

At C.P.S. we are spurred on by the kindness we see and the horror, too, to carry on with your help and we hope, your approval.

◆◆◆◆◆ Questionnaire ◆◆◆◆◆

1. Using the number 1 to indicate your favourite type of article through to 11 as the type you like least, please number the following:

- ☐ Pet care/veterinary topics
- ☐ Environmental/conservation issues
- ☐ News of the Council's activities
- ☐ Wildlife essays
- ☐ Information on other animal organisations and the work they do
- ☐ Light-hearted/humorous articles
- ☐ Information on legislation and government policies related to Animal Welfare
- ☐ Poems
- ☐ Short stories
- ☐ Historical, background, trivia, about animals
- ☐ Religious articles
- ☐ Readers' contributions



Any comments or suggestions?

2. Would you like to see the following included in the 'Journal' (circle your answer)

'Letters to the Editor'	Yes	No
Quizzes, crossword puzzles, games	Yes	No
Articles on cruelty cases and prosecutions	Yes	No
An 'Ask the Vet' page	Yes	No
Book reviews	Yes	No
Who's who on the council (photos, backgrounds, etc)	Yes	No
More hard-hitting, controversial news items	Yes	No
Profiles of prominent people who work for or with animals	Yes	No
Cartoons, jokes, humour	Yes	No
'Consumer Watch' on animal products, service, etc	Yes	No
Articles on the animals at Parkland	Yes	No
'Pet of the Month'	Yes	No
Other suggestions		

3. Regarding illustrations and photographs in the magazine, are there:

- ☐ Too many ☐ Just right ☐ Too few

Comments or suggestions:.....

4. Have you any comment on the standard of journalism, layout, or presentation in the magazine?

5. ☐ I would like to buy a tasteful Cat Protection Society Badge Approximate Price \$15.00

Thank you for your help.

After you have completed the survey, please remove the page or photostat and send it to:
The Editor, Cat Affairs,

Fairy Stories & Grim Tales - The Domestic Cat



Once upon a time every farmhouse had its quota of cats; their job was to keep rats and mice from destroying stored grains.

The riddle of how the cat came to Australia is easily solved; they were the means whereby foodstuffs could be maintained in the rat ridden old sailing ships bearing their cargoes of human misery to our shores.

Cats have contributed to our very survival and may do so again. I refer to an article in the September issue of the publication 'Cat Affairs' the journal of the Cat Protection Society of NSW, in which attention is drawn to the new breed of neophobic rodents (following an article on rats in a London newspaper).

Whilst I fully support restriction of the cat population by desexing programmes, I still put the blame for feral cats squarely on the shoulders of people who abandon pets. People casting about for a 'cause celebre' could focus their attention on the trapping and smuggling of natives birds.

There is the sad report in the June issue of the RSPCA's journal 'Animals' with five pages of court proceedings both heard and pending, of cruelty to dogs, horses and livestock - including the live baiting of rabbits by some greyhound owners, and five cases of cockfighting and illegal spurs possession.

Before becoming too hysterical about wildlife protection, let us look back to our own record and consider the fate of the native dog, the dingo, hunted near to extinction because we chose to bring sheep here.

The native crow is a good example of the harm a native bird can do to lambs - diving and swooping to pluck out the eyes of the newborns. Then there is the story of the horses, brought out to labour in the logging

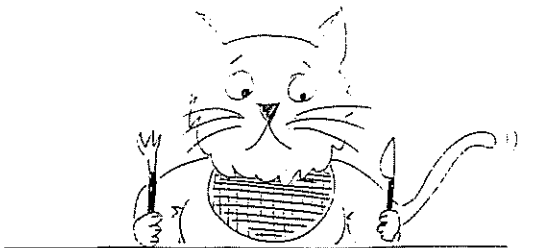
camp, transport industry, etc., and which helped to open up the hinterland of this vast country, now long since abandoned and forgotten, left to wander the countryside destroying the flora before being shot from helicopters or mercilessly rounded up and herded into holding yards, exhausted and frothing at the mouth, awaiting slaughter to enrich producers of pet foods.

I have not even touched on the fate of the native kangaroo, the shooting of endangered species during the duck shooting season, nor the destruction of rain forests and habitats of the native birds and animals or the pollution of rivers and seas with chemicals and sewerage to make sure that marine life does not escape our ministrations. Then there is the imported cane toad! What to do? Well may we speak of the destruction of wildlife indeed!

Let us hope that the so-called 'cat problem' will be kept in sensible perspective and solved humanely by proper authorities and NOT by bands of marauding yahoos let loose in wildlife parks, shooting at everything that moves, and leaving a trail of injured animals to their fate. There are more than enough sadists in the community.

Finally, it is fair to say a lot of people don't like cats. Cats have an inbuilt ability to assess people, especially if they suffer from an inferiority complex, a condition that tends to make them envious of the cats' composure and independent nature, and their own inability to dominate this beautiful animal. No one can make a cat like them; for a cat's affection is something that is bestowed. True the cat, like man, is an efficient killer, for which we should be eternally grateful when one considers the rat infested, cholera and smallpox infected slums of the great cities of the past.

V M Albrecht



*MANJITU, as we have named him,
was abandoned*

*and left to die without food or water
in a dis-used Council yard.*

*He could not have got there himself
nor could he escape.*

*After hearing his cries for help
for at least two weeks*

*he was eventually rescued by
a couple of young people.*

*Almost dead he was put in intensive care,
fed often and desexed.*

*We think he has scrubbed up nicely,
he is friendly, very un-demanding
and loves dogs and cats who like him*

He's also looking for a home.

Please contact the Office for further enquiries.

Homeless

Stalking around the streets late at night
The homeless cat is such a sad sight
Hunting for food, anything will do
She scavenges in bins and gutters too
She probably has kittens hidden away
So hunt she must, no time for play
She once belonged, she had a home
Until she was dumped and left to roam
So she prowls late at night to stay alive
Life's tough on the streets, will she
survive ?.

- Annette Barber



True Love

A distressed young lady rang us recently to report her beloved gray Burmese missing. We gave her all the advice we could and told her to keep hoping he would come home. Next day she rang to say at 1a.m there was a scratching on her bed and there he was not able to get onto the bed and leaving her wondering how on earth he had made it home. A visit to the Vet and X Ray revealed a displaced femur which was manipulated and puss prescribed 'cage rest'. That means to be contained in a very small cage for weeks. When she told us she just had to have him in bed with her that night after his ordeal we all expressed horror and told her she had his cure in her hands only and that meant 'cage rest'. As we continued to beg her not to have him out of the cage she said 'Oh well, alright, I'll take the cage to bed too. and she did.

Parkland Boarding Kennels

- We really care for cats



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offer a happy, caring
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animals, long or short
term. You can leave
them at Parkland
with confidence*

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

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Parklea.

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Companion Animal Legislation

There is a lot of talk about new laws for cats, most it seems to curb their destruction of native fauna and many cat owners are panicking unnecessarily. As we hope these laws will be enacted, the cat will be a winner too.

I'd like to explain and reassure our members of what may probably will be the basis of such laws. C.P.S. Council supports these moves. We are told it will take at least eighteen months to draft so we only have a short time to work towards this long sought after goal. We are aware that when such a law comes in there will be a drastic surrender of cats. It was like that when dog registration came in - but it soon settled down. Therefore we should put all our efforts for the time being into reducing the cat population to make that change-over period less traumatic.

Let's take the probabilities bit by bit:

COMPULSORY REGISTRATION WITH MICRO CHIP IDENTIFICATION. This will almost be equivalent to compulsory desexing as the registration fee for an undesexed cat could be \$150 to \$200, certainly far greater than the cost of desexing. Very low registration for desexed cats. The micro chip lasts for life. All vets and welfare agencies would have a scanner (many vets already have them) and all surrendered cats would be scanned and identified. This would mean many more would be returned to their rightful owners, illegal cat napping would be reduced for fear of detection and dumping should also fall off for the same reason.

POUNDS would have to be set up for cats and it would be illegal for cats to be taken anywhere but a pound where the cat would be scanned and identified. Like dogs, impounded cats would have to be held for a required number of days, giving owners time to reclaim them - at a cost.

CURFEW. Owners will be told to keep cats in during hours of darkness. C.P.S. has always advocated this anyway. Cats venture onto roads at night and they certainly disappear mostly at night...and they are disappearing in large numbers at the moment. Councils will not send out officers at night to pick up curfew breakers but, of course, unfriendly neighbours would, as

no doubt they do now, remove them. This would be an illegal act unless they were taken to a pound where they would be scanned and identified.

These laws will give cats a legal standing which they don't have at present...it will make them safer.... which they certainly are not now....it will reduce their numbers over a period so they are not a nuisance which causes them to be classed as vermin. The New South Wales Government, through the Animal Welfare Advisory Council, is consulting interested parties to work out details for such legislature. They are seeking "community acceptance". These laws are absolutely essential for C.P.S. and other welfare organisations if we are to make headway in controlling cat population. So please members, look at the advantages and support any efforts in this direction.

We expect that the sale of cats and kittens would be limited to welfare agencies and registered breeders - we wholeheartedly approve. There would probably be a limited number of cats permitted per household but certainly, where there are large numbers owned and cared for responsibly natural attrition would be allowed. It has always been my contention anyway that most people - if not everybody - would prefer to have 4 to 5 but they are constantly being confronted by some waif with the alternative of euthanasia if they do not add it to their gang. We need to support these moves enthusiastically or the government will back away and we will have to start all over again.

There is also a real danger that cats could be banned by certain Councils, given the present 'cat' climate and the blame that the cat is getting for just about every killing in our national parks. Drastic measures to reduce feral cat population are being suggested - such as poisoning, introducing a new disease, trapping heavily. All these could bring problems if not disaster to our domestic pets. So, members, think carefully about these matters and be assured the cat needs the protection these laws can give it.

Stamps for Cats



I would like to thank all those members and friends who have sent stamps to be taken to the stamp man. Every little bit helps. Here are a few hints to get the best from them according to the stamp man's suggestion.

1. If you wish to cut excess paper off be careful not to cut the perforation.
2. DO NOT bother soaking the stamps off the paper - it makes no difference to the price.
3. If you think you have first day covers do not cut the stamps from the envelopes he pays more for the stamps with the clean date stamp of the first day of issue.

4. If you have a mixture of Australian and overseas stamps it helps me if you put them in separate packets.

Thanks again

- Barbara Levien



RENEWALS

Would the three kind members who renewed their membership with p/o, m/o & cheque please ring and advise names so we can keep records up to date.

30/6/92 p/no. X180428B	\$10
2/9/92 Chq. R53242	\$10
11/9/92 p/no. H038981V	\$10



Your Talking Cat

*Book Review: Written By Jack Richter.
Published by Vital Books. Cost \$29.95*

For cat fanciers an exciting new hard cover book of 86 pages has just been released which simplifies the learning of how to communicate with your cat.

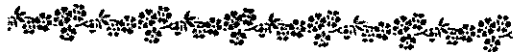
Full of cat behaviour the author explains in easy to understand language how your cat reads your body language. In cat detail he explains why your cat behaves the way she does and what a cat likes and dislikes. Your cat is always listening to and observing you and this in time teaches her to behave in a manner you will understand.

The book just makes it easier for you to get close to your cat. All cat lovers like to know why cats purr, why she blinks and when, how she sizes up your visitors, why she circles in your lap before settling down, etc, etc.

The book gives a fascinating insight into how puss can hear sounds well, why she likes to sleep in different areas and all about greeting behaviour.

It is surprising but all domestic cats still show the instincts, senses and behaviour patterns of cats evolved centuries ago. My criticism would be that it doesn't have an easy to find index at the back. And the line drawings leave a lot to be desired

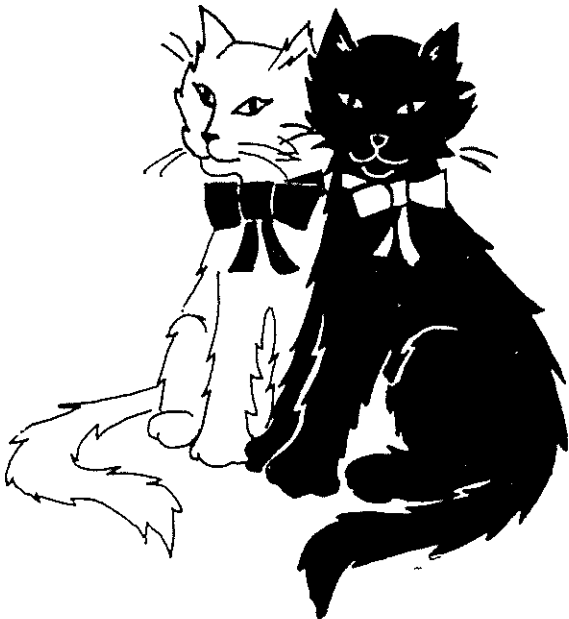
Garry Somerville



Mysterious Cat

*Mysterious cat sitting regal and refined.
I wonder what thoughts are in your mind.
Are you thinking of days so very long ago,
The days you were worshipped and loved so,
When harming your kind was a severe crime,
And the death of one was a sorrowful time.
Or of the dark times you were hunted, despised,
Burnt at the stake through fear and lies.
Living with lonely women was all you had chose,
Cause of mankinds stupidity, many deaths arose.
Or maybe your thoughts aren't that far away
And you're thinking of now, how it is today
For you sit deep in thought, I don't know of what
Maybe you are thinking of the life of your lot
How you're loved by so many but still, by so few
When I look into your eyes I wish I knew
Oh, mysterious cat sitting regal and refined,
I often wonder what thoughts are in your mind*

- Annette Barber



Comment on Annual Report

Please forgive me for being pedantic.

In the annual report it was stated that we had a loss for the year of \$49,000.00.

We are a non-profit Society charged with animal welfare.

It is not in our charter to make a profit, but, to use the funds of the Society, in the best way possible, to ensure the quality of life and care of felines in Society.

I believe the correct terminology is that there was an excess of expenditure of income for the year of \$49,000.00



Can You Help

As our charter specifically instructs us to use the funds of the Society for the welfare of felines, specifically the placing of de-sexed felines in good homes and painless euthanasia of the excess bred by an uncaring public, the Council has aimed at the reduction of costs in this area without decrease in number of cases.

Without reduction of the above, we must strive for an increase in income to balance our budget.

Only by such an increase can the necessary work of the Society be continued without a diminution of funds leading to our eventual demise.

F.P.

Cat at play

*Crouched down low
Ready to go
Heartbeat pacing
Legs start racing
Leap in the air
Nothing there
Twist, jump, bend
Its only pretend.*

- Annette Barber

C A T B R O A C H

Designed by Wendy O'Rourke



WOOL: Use 8 ply wool

FRONT BODY

* 6 Chain join with slip stitch to form ring

1st round: Into ring do 1 chain and 10 D.C. Join with slip stitch to top of chain.

2nd round: Do 1 chain. Into each D.C. work 2 D.C. Join with slip stitch into first chain *

3rd round: Do 1 chain. Into each D.C. At end, join with slip stitch into 1 chain.

TAIL

Do not break wool.

work a further 5 chain. Turn and into each chain of tail,
work 1 D.C. Break off wool.

For the back facing, repeat from *to*

HEAD:

Work as for body ie. 6 chain into ring, then 1st & 2nd rounds as for body. Repeat this for facing ie. you now have 2 separate heads. Now sew heads and bodies together but don't join in bodies together just yet. First make the Ears. Thread wool in a large blunt point needle and sew a V shape in the ear position. Then, Cat back to front can be sewn together, and any loose threads hidden.

NECK RIBBON: Crocheted, 8 chain, slip stitch together

EYES: Use either stick-on Smallest) or embroider

NOSE: Embroider with pink

WHISKERS: Can embroider or use fishing line, this has to be sewn in at the same time as the nose and caught in securely.

The stick on eyes and fishing line whiskers would not be suitable if small children were to touch them.

TO FINISH: Sew a small gold pin at the back to back a broach.

ABBREVIATIONS: D.C. Double Crotchet

NEW VACCINE for Cat Leukaemia

More than 60,000 household cats in Australia die every year from feline leukaemia, a disease similar to AIDS in humans.

Now for the first time, a vaccine is available against this infectious and highly contagious killer.

Called Leucogen, it has been brought to this country by Virbac, the Australian pet care and animal health company of the international Virbac group. Leucogen is regarded by world veterinary authorities as a major scientific breakthrough. It is a genetically engineered vaccine developed by Virbac after eight years research at a cost of \$18 million.

One vaccination, followed by annual booster doses, will ensure protection throughout a cat's life. Leucogen is already in use in the UK, Continental Europe and the US, where more than three million doses have been used by veterinary practitioners.



Feline leukaemia is the most fatal and one of the most widespread cat diseases. It is virtually incurable once contacted.

Similar to the impact of AIDS in humans, it attacks the cells of a cat's immune system, making it ineffective, or transforms the cells, which leads to cancer.

The disease can strike any breed of cat, male and female.

Cats over the age of seven years and kittens are particularly vulnerable. Around 75 per cent of the cat population will come in contact with the disease once or several times during its lifetime.

Research shows that cats living communally, such as in catteries, boarding or breeding establishments, are at higher risk because of the greater number of contacts and the more concentrated pollution in their environment.

The risk of cats contacting leukaemia is regarded as very high, because of the disease's peculiarities and because of an almost total lack of awareness of the disease among cat owners.

Dr Michael Foster, veterinarian in charge of Virbac's new product development, said that in Australia, it is estimated that between 9 and 12 per cent of the three million cat population carries the virus. Yet many generally appear to be perfectly healthy.

"Of these, 6 per cent, or 180,000 actively infected cats will die from the disease, generally at the rate of about 60,000 per year," he said.

"In a further 30 per cent of infected cats, the virus is present in a dormant state in the bone marrow cells. For these cats the virus can be activated by stress caused, for example, by transportation, pregnancy and other diseases."

Dr Foster said that infection occurred very easily, as the virus was present in the salivary glands and the saliva itself, in other parts of the body, and in urine and milk. "The most common method of infection is by mouth or nose contact," he said.

"One millilitre or half a teaspoon of saliva from an infected cat may contain up to one million viral particles, allowing efficient spreading of the virus to occur through licking, defensive spitting, and even feeding bowls.

"Blood penetration by biting, scratching or transfusion is also a common method of spreading the disease.

"A further frequent method of transmission occurs during pregnancy. An infected female always infects her litter in the womb. "This leads to the premature death of the foetuses or may result in the birth of kittens which are congenitally infected and are at risk of developing a disease at an early stage."

Dr Foster said that during 10 years, there have been many attempts to produce a feline leukaemia vaccine, but almost all of them had ended in failure.

"The genetic engineering production technique employed with Leucogen enables optimum safety to be combined with 100% efficacy," Dr foster said.

Virbac (Australia) Pty Ltd
15 Pritchard Place
Peakhurst NSW 2210



Penrith Pet Expo

When we were invited to man a free stand at the Pet Expo we started to panic. We wanted something very professional but we didn't have enough time and now we are very pleased. We examined all the competitive exhibits very critically, Bev watched the crowd with her discerning eye and pronounced we had too much on display and people could not take it all in. With time to plan we are borrowing the items displayed by the A.V.A. as they seemed to us to be the clearest and most easy to read. Watch us at the next effort.

We did have three wonderful exhibits - a mum with four, five day old babies, a micro (eight weeks old female desexed kitten) and Manitou, a cruelty case. It was our first attempt at having cats on display as it has generally been frowned upon. Probably choosing the right promotion is the necessary decision. The micro enjoyed every moment. A fellow exhibitor presented her with a toy mouse which she 'killed' to the delight of crowds of children. Mum alternately purred and made eyes at prospective friends and arranged herself to feed the babies. We booked the micro, mum and one baby to be picked up later. Quite a number of people joined the society there and then We have received a few more members since in the mail. Of course we handed out lots of information and membership sheets.

Several cat owners with pregnant cats, cats ready to be desexed and just wanting information stopped to have their problems solved. It was a hectic two days for those who attended and especially for Shirley Butler from Parkland who spent two days with us, driving the cats in their van to and from Expo with all the paraphernalia that was necessary. A successful two days... we hope we are invited next year.

★★★★★ *Domestic Cats and Wildlife* ★★★★★

Dear Members,

Questionnaires, similar to the below are being forwarded to Environmentalists for completion. We fear that the results may be biased. Please keep records based on questionnaire and we will advise, through the journal, when we want them returned.

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

Size of property:

Building Block _____

Acreage _____

How many cats live on property/ _____

How many times in the last year have you seen stray or feral cats on this property?

Please fill in the following table for each cat on property. (use a second sheet if more if more than four cats.)

	Example	cat 1	cat 2	cat 3	cat 4
Breed of cat (e.g.Siamese)	Unknown				
Sex (male/female)	male				
Is the cat desexed	no				
Does the cat wear a bell?	no				
Is the cat inside or outside mainly?	outside				
Does the cat collect birds/	yes				
If yes, about how many birds per month	5				
Does the cat collect reptiles?	no				
If yes, about how many reptiles per month?	N / A				

Christmas Party Raffle

You can buy tickets only at our
Christmas Party to be held at Enmore Office
on Saturday 19/12/92 Starting 2.00pm.

We will be offering for sale tickets
in our Raffle
of this beautiful Royal Doulton Figurine.
Please join us for good cheer and don't forget
to bring your money with you.



Members

Mrs. P. Albaytar, Mrs V. H. Albrecht, Mr. J. M. Allert, Mrs. M. Barker, Mrs. V. Begnell, Ms. B. Boyce, Mr. R. Brooks, Ms. P. Brown, Mr. R. Butler, Mrs. G. Clayton, Ms S. Campell, Miss N. L. Cook, Ms M. P. Carr, Miss M. Coveney, Mrs. A. Craijevic, Miss S. Costa, Mr. D. Cremer, Mr & Mrs D.R. Doward, Mrs A. Dullo, Mrs. J .H. Eastllam, Mr. J. Elliott, Mrs. J. and Miss Helen Finch, Mrs. J. Fletcher, Miss J. Fournier, Mrs P. A. Galvin, Miss K. Gilpin, Ms .E. Gill, Mrs. C. Gowe, Mrs. K. Hall, Mr.W. Halliday, Mr. P. Hammond, Mr. R. C. Henderson, Mrs. G. Hogan, Miss K.A. Holloway, Mr. W. J. Holloway, Miss L. Honeyset, Mr. S. Kensey, Mr. N.J. Keable, Miss V. P. Kuzlow, Mrs. C. Kirth, Mr. R. Lim, Mr. G. Lower, Ms. A.M. McCarthy, Ms A.L. McGrowdie, Mrs. M. B. Mack, Mrs. J. N. Marshall, Mrs. E. Miller, Mrs. J. C. Muldoon, Mrs. A. Moonier, Mrs. J. O'Keefe, Ms. H. Perdriau, Ms. K. Pettit, Mrs. D. M. Phillips, Mrs. M. Poole, Mr. M. H. Priest, Mr. & Mrs. L. Purkiss, Miss A. Rath, Mr .D. Ricardo, Miss. E. Rodgers, Miss E.M. Rush, Ms. O. H. Smiths, Mr. R. K. Spowart, Mr. J. A. and Mrs. F. M. Steele, Ms. K.Sunnerdahl, Mrs. I. Tomazewski, Mrs. C. M. Tapp, Miss M. Thurston, Miss. C. Venables, Mrs. M. Watts, Mrs. G. S. Woods, Mrs. H. A. Woods, Wat Buddha Dhamma, Mrs. G. S. Wren, Mr. P. Werstak, Mrs. W.F. White,



Tiger and Hazel



My name is Tiger and I live at 37
Christabel Street, Lawson, 2783

I am nigh on 20 years old and I am still
getting around, and enjoying the chilly
winters up here. My owners, Bill and
Edna, look after me really well (they also
have 2 dogs and 3 other cats who own
them!)

My friend Hazel Patterson (who is a
member of the Cat Protection Society) is
writing this letter for me. I just wanted to
say "hello" and let you know a little bit
about me.

Much love to you all there

From Tiger and Hazel Patterson



THE CAT WITH NO EARS.

Once upon a time there lived at Kings Cross
A white and tabby tom cat who lived on the streets.
One day he wandered into a carpark not realising it
was the ABC carpark in Upper Forbes Street. He
decided to stay there. After a while people from the
ABC began to care for him and give him scraps of
food. They called him Matthew Talbot because he
was a homeless gentleman.

Matthew made lots of friends, especially Alison who took
him to the Vet when he was sick or hurt. He stayed
in the carpark for about nine years.

Now because Matthew had white ears and he lay in
the sun a lot he got skin cancer and had to have
his ears cut off by the Vet, which was very sad
for him.

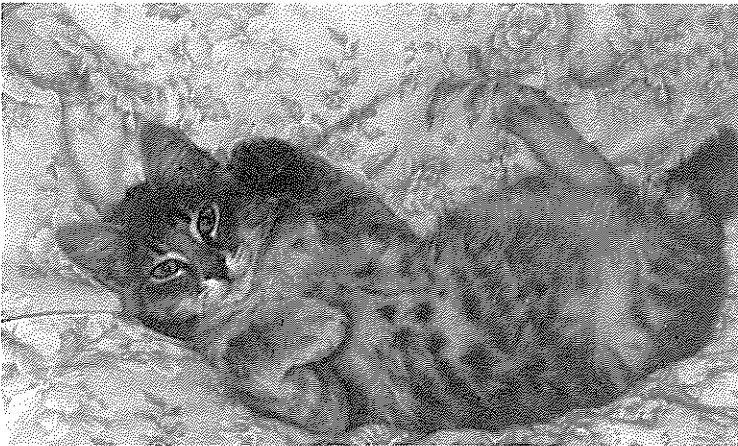
When the ABC moved to Ultimo there was no place
for Matthew to go so now Mum and I have got a
RETIRED PADDINGTON GENTLEMAN
living with us !!

- Chasna Harper

9 years, 1991.

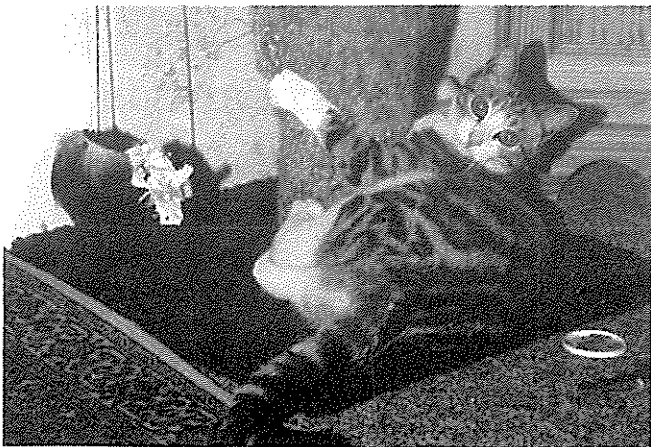
PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

*After long deliberation we have selected the winners
from a record number of applicants
- all very beautiful and charming
but doesn't that describe all our cat friends.
So congratulation to these cats, Oh, and yes their owners.*



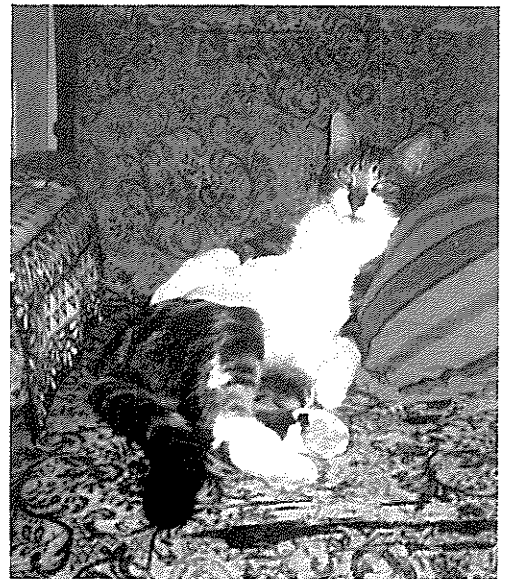
MOST IRRESISTIBLE

'Jaspar' 12 months,
Owner Mrs Gabrielle Williams,
Macquarie Fields.



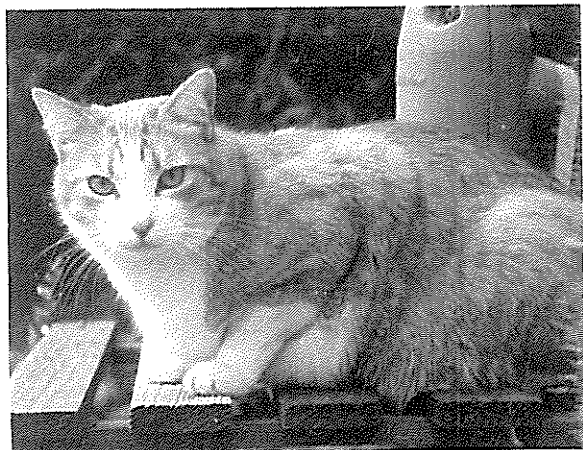
MISS PERSONALITY

'Talitha', 17 months, Owner Mrs. J. Nelson, South Strathfield



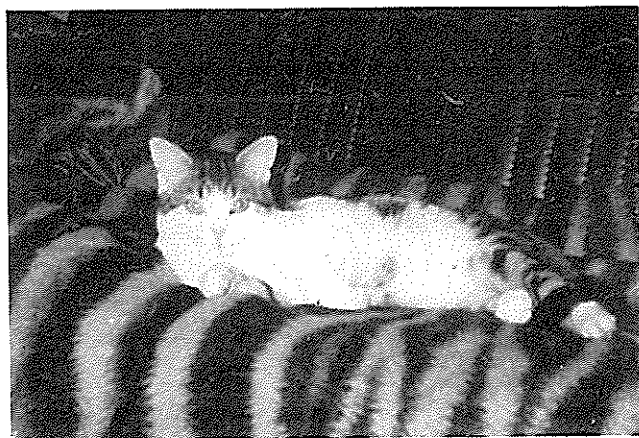
MR. PERSONALITY

'Thomas' 7 years,
owner Ms P. Hampsey, Katoomba



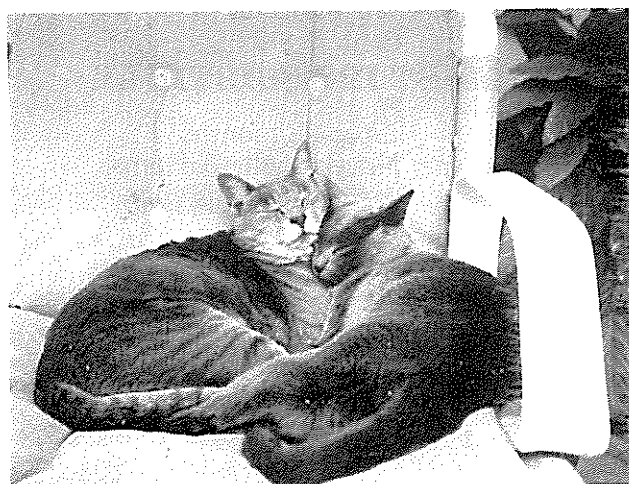
MOST HANDSOME MALE

'Basil' 4 years, Owner Mrs. C. Duane, Merrylands



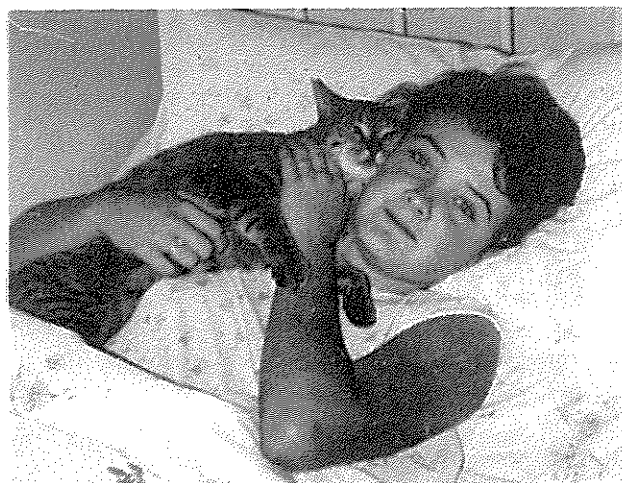
MOST BEAUTIFUL FEMALE

'Tabiths' 7 months, Owner Annette Barber, Sadlier



BEST FRIENDS

'Mandy' 11 years and 'Purdy' 3 years,
Owner Mrs. C Paine, Surfers Paradise



BEST FRIENDS

'Cat with Owner, 'Clare' 6 years,
Owner Wenban. Harbord.

SPECIAL MENTION goes to:

'Pip' Mrs, N, Bridge, Bankstown
'Natasha', Trish Smith, Cremorne Point
'Ginger', Mrs Phillips, Regents Park
'Tabitha', Mrs. G. Fletcher Guildford
'Roxy' and 'Onions', Mrs. C. Johnson, Auburn
'Winnie', Mrs. J. Hamill, Hunters Hill.
'Henry', Marta Alying, Ermington
'Domino' F. Kurschildgen, Baulkham Hills.



*Thanks everyone for
your great response.
You gave us quite a job.*

**WE HOPE YOU'VE
ENJOYED THE RESULTS.**

Most photos have already been returned but winners will be sent off when they come back from the printer. Prizes will be going off shortly.



Our members have been so generous to us over the years that we intend to create a *Wanted Column*. We'll try to make it a bit interesting and, on the rare occasions when we have no wants, we'll fill it up with odds and ends.

Of course our Op Shop constantly needs restocking - cutlery, crockery and ornaments - jewellery - are the best sellers. Clothes (clean and in reasonable condition please) are our steady source of revenue. Good books sell like hot cakes. Mills and Boon take a bit of time to be claimed.

Pick ups often are a problem - we have quite a few volunteers but there are a few areas we can't service. If you are able to help in this way you may only be called upon every couple of months. It is not a constant job.

Incidentally, although we are no longer selling electrical goods in the Op Shop, we do still need them. They are stored at the Welfare Office for a young man who repairs and sells them and gives us 50% of the profit.

This lad is a great help to us in all sorts of ways and this system of handling electrical goods will be good for us both.



MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

To The Secretary, Cat Protection Society of NSW,
103 Enmore Road, ENMORE, 2042.



Membership

I/We apply for membership or renewal of membership for the year commencing June, 1992.
(Note: Those joining between January and June remain financial until June, 1993.)

Subscription:

Life membership - \$250.00 Annual membership - \$10.00

Pensioner Membership - \$5.00 Pension Number

Junior membership (16 and under) - \$5.00

Birth date:.....

Enclosed is cheque/money order for \$.....My name and address are given below.



Donation

I/We would like to make a donation towards the humane work of the Society.

Enclosed is cheque/money order for \$.....

.....
Signature

**Please cross all cheques and make payable to
THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW**

Mr/Mrs/Ms/MissInitials.....
SURNAME Block letters please

Address:Postcode:

Postcode:Telephone.....



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.

Publicity

Readers are asked to send in to us any mention we get in the press. We often send out press releases to all newspapers and only know if they have been published if members see them. We have a publicity book of course which we like to see bulging with our comments.

It is a big responsibility being spokesperson for our society.

Almost without exception there will be something in any article slightly or greatly exaggerated and causing gnashing of teeth and cries of 'I didn't say that!' It is a risk we have to take if we are to get our message across. We can only hope our members will understand that the press likes sensation and often picks out and highlights a point we consider very minor.

Just recently we have had some publicity, especially in the Penrith area, so please members dont assume we have seen it - cut it out and send it in.