



Cat Affairs

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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 Sunnyholt Rd., Blacktown 626-9333

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

Office Bearers:

President: Mrs Shirley Pikler

Vice Presidents: Mrs Lena Larsen, Mrs Beverley Walsh

Honorary Treasurer: Mrs Nance Iredale

Honorary Secretary: Fred Price

Councillors:

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Mr Geoff Hall, Mrs Eileen Taylor.

Welfare Director: Mrs Nance Iredale

Assistant Welfare Director: Mrs Lena Larsen

Membership Secretary: Mrs Beverley Walsh

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

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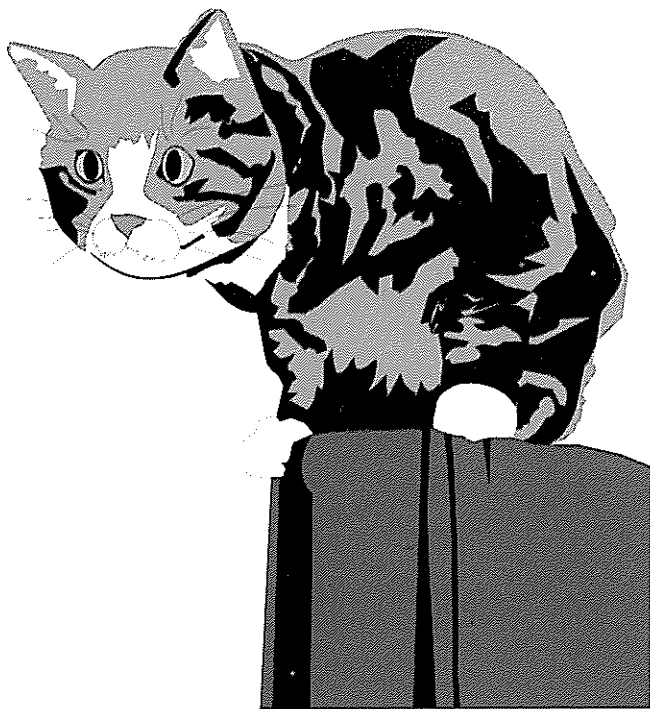
PRESIDENT'S PAGE.

We are now well into the new State Council's term of office and during the last few months we have been able to reduce our overheads and streamline our operations to meet the challenge of difficult economic times. This is being achieved without cutting back on the number of desexings being carried out or other areas of our welfare work, and is due mainly to two factors - the enlargement of our circle of co-operating veterinarians and the many hours of voluntary clerical work, phone answering, membership record keeping, accounts keeping and sundry other tasks being performed by our Councillors. Our Hon. Secretary, Mr Fred Price, is proving to be a tower of strength in so many ways. With the aid of his beloved, 'though sometimes fickle, computer, he taps out the Minutes of our meetings, edits and types up the Journal, attends to various correspondence and, as well as all this, he is our representative on the Review Committee for the proposed new Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, known briefly as P.O.C.T.A. He is also on the sub-committee of the Animal Welfare Advisory Council, dealing with the proposals for Companion Animal Legislation. On behalf of the Society, Fred has just expertly completed a lengthy and detailed submission on the P.O.C.T.A. draft, sent to the Minister of Agriculture. This covers the whole gamut of animal welfare - farm animals, wildlife and domestic creatures. It will take several months for all the public submissions to be considered. We can only hope that the combined efforts of animal welfarists in this State, having involved enormous expenditure of time and effort, will not be lightly shrugged off by politicians who have in the past, proved to be more intent on listening to the arguments of influential commercial interests.

Our opportunity shop continues to be ably managed by our co-ordinators, Eileen Taylor and Elizabeth Strachan, supported by the hardworking backroom girls and the sales ladies and gentlemen. To them and all our welfare and clerical volunteers, without whom this Society could not exist, to our caring Welfare Officers, and to the many members who are able to support our work with their donations, both in money and goods, I extend my heartfelt thanks.

In conclusion, to all of you who must be so tired of reading anti-cat letters to the newspapers, I commend to you the hard-hitting article written by our Patron, The Hon. James McClelland in his column in the Herald and re-printed in this Journal.





WELFARE JOTTINGS

Before Christmas we had several emergencies which fell to the lot of the welfare office. In both cases it was both inspirational and heart-warming to be present.

Of course, the field officers attend emergencies regularly but we, in the office, just don't get to see them.

In these cases Lyn Edworthy showed amazing patience, concern and determination to pick up these two frightened and therefore dangerous cats.

One was a little female brought in for desexing - not in a box and terrified of the passing traffic. It badly scratched the owner's arms in its bid to escape and was lucky not to be run over as it fled into the road and then around a corner. We tracked it down, crouching in an overgrown garden but it was unwilling to be picked up. Lyn sat and talked to the little thing and gradually moved closer until she was able to gently pick it up. The owner, incidentally, was prepared to abandon it.

The other case was a mother cat with very young kits found in a chemist shop which was about to close for three days over Christmas. It raced around the shop and fortunately took shelter in the window amongst a display of soft toys. Lyn edged into the window and one by one removed the toys until she had room for the catching cage and just forced the terrified cat back and back until it had no alternative than to go into the cage OR jump over the top and perhaps attack Lyn. It takes courage and compassion to do the work these girls do.

You can be proud of them.

It would be impossible to write cheerfully about the last few months. At the beginning of the mating season we

were delighted with the numbers of cats coming through for desexing. The influx of kittens suitable for homing was reasonably low. Dumped sick kittens and cats, surrendered pets for various reasons, were numerous but we thought maybe we were starting to win the battle of loved females producing. How wrong we were. Now almost every request for help is accompanied by "she had just had a litter". That is bad enough but when we ask what has happened to the kits? it's like olden days again: "Gone to a pet shop" ... "Put up a **FREE** sign outside the house and they all went" ... (that makes our hair stand on end) ... "Took them to a fete" ... :Dogs got some of them" - and so on. Do you wonder that December to March are months of horror for us?

Our co-operating vets and every vet we have asked for help have been marvellous. For instance, a mother cat and kits dumped in a hostile backyard. Haven't been fed or even given a drink for a week or so; it is declared that they must GO TODAY. The people generally won't touch them, but if they will, we arrange for the animals to be taken to the nearest vet whom we ring and ask to accept them on our behalf and send any cost to the Society. Not once this year have we received a bill from these vets.

Those worried cat lovers who don't as yet support the proposed new legislation should answer our phones for a few days. I am sure very few councils will be a worry to those people whose cats are not a nuisance to their neighbours.

We had a ring from a gentleman recently who stated he has 12 or 14 cats, desexed. His neighbour was complaining because they were defecating in his backyard and complained to Burwood Council. The story I was given was that the numbers had to be reduced to 2 within a month. Knowing Burwood Council to be animal conscious, I rang and spoke to a person in the health department. Their story was very different. The big yard was full of rubbish including one or two old cars - there were about 40 cats mostly un-desexed, fighting and caterwauling all night, the cats were not in good condition and were messing everywhere. Moreover, some of the gentleman's relatives living in the house wanted the animals to be reduced too. I was told that if the gentleman had all the cats desexed, arranged for them to be locked up at night and generally made a good effort to control his cats, he could keep them all. Yes all - but it would have to be agreeable to his neighbour, who, by the way, was a cat lover.

I think all councils will take this attitude at least until we get the population under control.

A young Asian man - with very little English - called into the office recently. We struggled to understand what he wanted - I thought he had lost a cat that he had tried to keep locked in.....but when he drew this very elementary drawing, saying 'chop, chop', we got the message.



Continued in our next issue.

DOWN WITH THE MOGGY HATERS

JIM McCLELLAND, PATRON C.P.S.

Everybody, it seems, needs either a religion, a philosophy, an ideology or just a plain obsession to guide them through life. It takes various forms: Christianity, Islam, atheism, socialism, economic rationalism, conservatism - take your pick.

For others, something or someone to hate will suffice, such as the way Serbs feel about Croats and vice versa. In the Blue Mountains, I have sometimes feared lately, the leading religion has become allurophobia - hatred of cats.

For the past few months in the correspondence columns of the local paper, the cat has been depicted as a predatory ghoul, threatening the continued existence of almost all living creatures from the wallaby to the lizard. Headlines such as "Mountain Wildlife in Danger" have abounded. A leading feminologist has been wheeled out to dish out the terrifying statistics. "Feral cats [each] probably account conservatively for more than 1,000 native animals per year. A conservative estimate puts 400,000 feral cats in NSW alone, killing some 400 million animals annually." (Including rabbits, by the way. Is that good or bad?)

He added that in NSW alone "the estimated domestic cat population is one million, and the annual toll by domestic cats alone could be 30-90 million prey items". (The fox, by the way, is acknowledged as a greater predator than the feral cat. How do the experts distinguish between the predatory victims of foxes and feral cats?)

I don't know by what scientific method these figures are arrived at but even the fearsome flayer of feline hunting habits, Dr Rathore, specialist scientist for the National Parks and Wildlife Service, admits that the fundamental problem is people, not cats.

At this stage, I should declare an interest. Like President Bill Clinton and my eloquent colleague Peter Smark and, in the past, writers such as W. B. Yates, T. S. Elliott, Lewis Carroll, P. G. Wodehouse, Colette, Dr Johnson and John Keats and artists such as Monet, Watteau, Goya, Gainsborough, Renoir, Rousseau, Paul Klee, Ronald Searle and Picasso - I am a cat-lover.

I could not imagine life without a cat. Our present feline in residence is an aristocratic desexed Abyssinian named, in order to counter any patrician pretensions, by the plebeian moniker Fred. (Our previous cat was a humble moggy, but just as beloved as Fred.) I have already admitted, in this column, that in his two years of life Fred has committed such heinous crimes as to bring into the house the odd small lizard and once even a small bird, which I rescued.

This record, which I understand from fellow cat-lovers, approximates to the hunting exploits of their own cats, hardly strikes me as a threat to our wildlife warranting

punitive action against the cat population. A well-fed and loved domestic cat hunts only for sport, not to stay alive. And not very efficiently - watch the way birds tease them and get away with it.

But what has stirred me to write another column about the current atmosphere of persecution, not confined to feral but extending to domestic cats, is a letter I received recently from a Braidwood doctor. She laments that the current negative view of the cat, promulgated in the media, has engendered something resembling an anti-cat pogrom in her area. In her town a number of pet cats, including her own (a desexed male), have disappeared, causing much grief and trauma among their owners. She has been informed by the local police that several local hoons have taken it upon themselves to kill cats - not feral but domestic pets. This, she declares, is a result of the media, in response to pressure-group handouts, using the word "domestic" in tandem with feral. This inflammatory confusion of the relatively harmless with the genuinely fauna-threatening is, she suggests, an incitement to cat-haters to seize, kidnap and kill domestic pets.

As I pointed out in my last piece on the cat, human attitudes to the cat have alternated throughout history from deification to vilification. The cat in ancient Egypt (from which our Fred is considered to be a direct descendant) was regarded as divine. The goddess deity was sometimes depicted as a woman with the head of a cat. In the Middle Ages the cat's fortunes hit rock-bottom, when they were associated with witchcraft and shared the same fate as witches, being burnt or drowned. Today, I sometimes fear that we are in for a rerun of that sad stage in their history, with fundamentalist environmentalists in the role of persecutors.

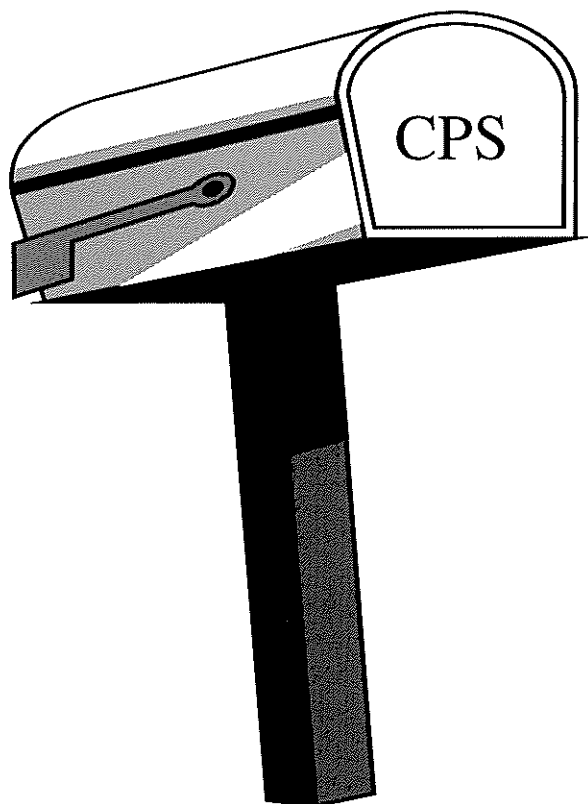
Let us frankly admit that cats have their faults. So have human beings, but nobody suggests the answer is their extermination.

Domestic cats should be desexed and kept inside at night. But alleged plans to make it compulsory for the desexing of all except thoroughbred cats should be opposed. This would involve the virtual disappearance in urban areas of the wonderful variety of shapes, colours and sizes of the current array of moggies. The breeding of moggies under controlled conditions must continue.

Ultimately, it's up to people. If they treat these magnificent animals properly, there will be no justification for a pogrom against cats.

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The Society is not in the habit of requesting members to write to members of Parliament but perhaps this is different. Elsewhere in the journal, in fact, is a further request along similar lines.

Dr Sally Ray of Braidwood is a good correspondent. Perhaps she is the person mentioned in 'Diamond Jim's' epistle. Her letter following is, we believe, too important to precis and is printed in full.

The Hon Bob Carr, etc.

I was appalled to read in the local paper yesterday that the NSW Farmers' Association has come out in support of your suggestion that a bounty be introduced on feral cats.

I can scarcely believe that you have thought this policy through and considered some of its obvious ramifications. Whilst acknowledging that a feral cat problem exists, and that control measures need to be taken in relation to it, has it occurred to you that a bounty will place all domestic cats in danger of seizure and kidnap for their scalps?

Do you not see that there are people in the community who are only too willing to steal people's loved pet cats, and then claim them as feral in order to get monetary gain? Not to speak of thrill-killing per se. Already in this town a number of people's pet cats (including my own 5 y o desexed male) have recently disappeared much to the grief and trauma of their owners. According to the local police there are several people illegally

engaged in killing town cats. I've heard reports of this also happening elsewhere.

The problem will obviously become even greater if a bounty is introduced. Public pronouncements by you and the NSW Farmers' Association are, I believe, inflammatory and will have the (perhaps unintended) effect of causing much suffering on the part of pet cat owners (including children) and their cats by people intent only upon collecting money. A by-product of a sanctioned bounty will result in a de facto 'licence' to kidnap and perhaps even torture cats - domestic or feral. Surely there is already enough violence and social problems in society without adding to this by policy certain to encourage more violence to people's pets, and therefore to their owners!

Control of feral cats by authorised National Parks and Wildlife officers and farmers in designated areas — yes; an indirect blanket invitation to any thug to steal domestic pets and claim them as feral — NO! I, for one, will positively vote against any political party at the next federal and state elections which sanctions such an uncivilised approach. Hopefully, other cat owners and lovers will do the same.

For your information, I enclose a copy of a letter to The Cat Protection Society. Already, many people I know are appalled by the disappearance of, and threats to — our pets — inflamed, we think, by media use of the words "domestic and feral" in tandem. Your suggestion of a bounty can only make matters worse - a view shared by many people I know, following radio publicity of your views prior to Christmas.

Yours sincerely

(Dr) Sally Ray

The power of the pen is mightier than the sword.

Please write to your local member if you are concerned. Preferably also to the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition as well.

The same letter can be sent to all three and the address is simply

C/- PARLIAMENT HOUSE
SYDNEY.



Local Member
C/- Parliament House
Sydney



NOTES ON SOME ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANISATIONS IN N.S.W.

CAT WELFARE

A relatively new cousin in the family. Started by Debby Hancock & Alwyne Watson. Primary area of operation south eastern metropolitan area, Sydney.

Objectives:

Reduce the number of unwanted kittens by de-sexing and placing only de-sexed felines in caring and responsible homes.

Rescuing of abandoned and unwanted cats and transport to Vets for medical attention, vaccination and de-sexing or where appropriate euthanasia.

Hire of and advice in the use of traps to assist the public in trapping stray, frightened or feral cats in their immediate area.

Altogether a hands-on worthwhile group who do and don't just talk.

R. S. P. C. A.

In early January the Society arranged for a detailed report from our oldest welfare organisation, the R.S.P.C.A.

We received a well prepared and informative resume of an organisation we all have been trying to support since childhood and from it we deduced that the objects of the R.S.P.C.A. were still in good hands.

At that time I wrote that Amanda Large, then Deputy Director of the RSPCA, was the best single thing that had happened for animal welfare in New South Wales during my lifetime. (My hair & beard are white).

I have had no reason to change my mind.

As is well known the C.E.O., Dr David Butcher, of the R.S.P.C.A. parted Company with the Board in August last year with much adverse publicity.

While it is agreed that David is outspoken, is no diplomat and has little people skills, to my certain knowledge his press releases were always based on fact and his comments of true value to the cause of animal welfare. He was no respecter of persons and treated all welfare and inspectorial matters that came before him with equal impartiality and with the one object that of the betterment of conditions for all animals.

Then to our surprise, Don Harrod, personally trained by Colin McCaskill and with unsurpassed knowledge and experience in the administration of this huge organisation disappeared from the scene.

In January of this year the Deputy Director, Dr Amanda Large, found that her position had been removed and she was made redundant.

We are now informed, The Daily Telegraph Mirror, 20th March, 1993 that the business manager, Ross Hillyard, who apparently was the Board's answer to

three of the most experienced animal welfarists in the state has been, to quote the RSPCA President, Deborah Vitlin, removed from his post "in the best interest of the animals". Ms Vitlin would not comment on the reasons for his dismissal.

It was then decided not to publish the prepared article until the dust settled. Does it ever at the 'RS' ?

The R.S.P.C.A. has been subject to the winds of change since inception. The Annual General Meetings over the years have provided animal welfarists with dramatics varying from the tragic to the comic.

However, it is the oldest, wealthiest organisation of its type in the Country. It has an obligation not only to animals, but to its members, all those big hearted people who have left their life savings expecting that they will be used for the benefit of "ALL ANIMALS, GREAT & SMALL".

I am left with only one comment.

WHITHER GOEST THOU

?



The Domestic Animal Birth Control Co-operative Society Ltd was registered as a charity in 1978, with Mrs Jill Wran as Patron.

Its aims then, and still are, to promote the welfare of domestic animals, particularly in regard to the desexing of dogs and cats, thus reducing the numbers of unwanted puppies and kittens born, many of which have no hope of finding any sort of home, let alone a GOOD HOME.

In brief, the Society:

- ✓ Advocates the desexing of domestic pets, MALE and FEMALE, and assists dog and cat owners with advice and, where necessary, practical help with desexing.
- ✓ Raises money for a continuing DESEXING CAMPAIGN.
- ✓ Promotes the welfare of dogs and cats by all possible means.
- ✓ Endeavours to establish a better understanding of the needs and care of dogs and cats by the general community.



- ✓ Liaises with other animal welfare organisations to work towards the introduction of further legislation to give greater protection to all animals, particularly with regard to Animal Birth Control.
- ✓ The day to day work of the Society is carried out by a Board of nine, consisting of the President, (Mrs Dianne King), Honorary Secretary, (Mrs Norma Faulkner), Honorary Treasurer, (Miss Sue Martin) and six other Directors. ALL POSITIONS ARE HONORARY. The Society does NOT have any paid employees. All funds are raised by members and supporters voluntarily.

For a long time now, with the assistance of our compassionate and practical veterinarians, we have helped many under-privileged pet-owners and those taking in a stray to have their animals desexed at a reduced rate. We have a proud record and hope to continue our present programme for many years to come.

Norma Faulkner

January, 1993.

IMPORTANT

I believe that co-operation and communication are the two most necessary goals to achieve between animal welfarists and animal welfare organisations, I am in the fortunate position of being aware of certain objects of the ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE which may be shortly bearing fruit. Large, juicy fruit.

Look forward to a possible insight into the future in our next journal.

One could perhaps style the article

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

It is expected though, that the **STRIKE** will be based on plain common sense and mutual benefit to all animals — both four legged and two legged.



When I commenced my apprenticeship with the Council I was much impressed with a quiet Councillor who said little but who achieved an appreciative audience whenever she did speak.

Regrettably, other commitments forced her to retire from her official position.

It is one of the pleasures in working at CPS that though some of our workers and Councillors disappear for a time we know we are never forgotten. They all seem to be good correspondents.

We can thank Lee Wright for most of the quotes and bon mots in this journal and the journals to come.

Such research is time consuming and the type of job that is easily put off.

Your time and interest is much appreciated.



WE CARE FOR WILDLIFE

NEW SOUTH WALES WILDLIFE
INFORMATION AND RESCUE SERVICE INC.

WILDLIFE RESCUE - A SERVICE LONG OVERDUE

When one considers that the RSPCA has been helping domestic animals in NSW since 1873, it is surprising that an equivalent service for NATIVE animals was not established until 1985 - one hundred and twelve years later !

What is NOT surprising is that once established, WIRES took off like a rocket !

In the seven and a half years since its inception, WIRES has established seven Sydney and fourteen country branches, has trained over two thousand volunteer rescuers and foster carers, and has taken over one hundred thousand calls for advice and assistance. It is generally recognised as the foremost wildlife rescue service in Australia.

INCREASED PUBLIC AWARENESS OF WILDLIFE

Although the main aim of WIRES is to provide a community service for the rescue, rehabilitation and release ('the three Rs') of native animals, its other benefits to wildlife, though less visible, are perhaps more profound.

The existence of WIRES has increased public awareness and knowledge of wildlife, especially in the urban environment. People are now more aware of the problems that exist for native animals struggling to survive in an increasingly depleted and hostile environment. Once people have this awareness and knowledge, they can begin to take positive action.

THE VOLUNTEER NETWORK

WIRES currently has an active network of some one thousand trained rescuers and foster carers. Its popularity across a broad spectrum of the community can be



attributed to the fact that it provides one of the few opportunities available for people to have hands-on contact with native animals.

Levels of involvement vary greatly depending on a person's time, space and financial availability. However, all who become involved agree on one thing: Once you've joined WIRES, your life will never be the same !

TRAINING COURSES

All prospective rescuers and foster carers undergo an initial two day training course before they are authorised by WIRES. Specialist and advanced courses are also held for those who want to look after animals that require more specialised care, such as macropods (kangaroos and wallabies) , possums, flying foxes and venomous reptiles.

THE SYDNEY NETWORK

The number of rescuers and foster carers living in Sydney fluctuate between 350 & 500, depending on the season, and operate within seven Branches. Each Branch has its own management committee and holds regular meetings for its members. Representatives of these seven Branches make up the Sydney Management Committee, which oversees the running of the Sydney network. However, there is only one Sydney office, located in the Forestville Public School, where all incoming animal calls are attended to.

THE COUNTRY NETWORK

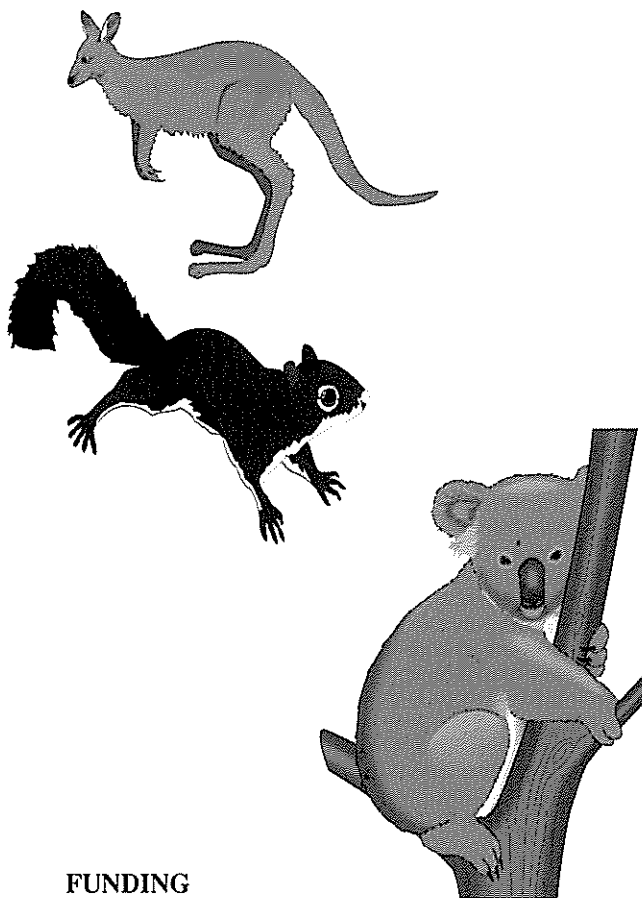
Rescuers and carers in the huge country area of N.S.W. are usually static at around six hundred. The Blue Mountains was the first of fourteen country Branches to form, in 1986. The remaining thirteen country Branches cover the Central Coast (Gosford), Central West (Bathurst & Orange areas), Clarence Valley (Grafton area), Coffs Harbour, Dubbo, Illawarra (Wollongong area), Mudgee, Narooma, New England (Armidale), Southern Tablelands, Tamworth, Wagga Wagga and Wingecarribee (Bowral area).

THE VETERINARY NETWORK

WIRES would not be able to operate without the magnificent support of the Vets who volunteer their services. A total of about two hundred veterinary clinics and hospitals (100 in Sydney and 100 in country areas) are on call to treat any sick or injured animals that come into the system.

LICENSING

WIRES is licensed by the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NSW), to whom we provide detailed reports each year. All rescuers and foster carers are authorised by WIRES under this general licence.



FUNDING

Like so many similar organisations, WIRES relies heavily on financial support from the general community. Two annual State government grants and an active fund raising agenda also contribute to our financial well being.

Recognition by the corporate sector of the value of WIRES was finally given last year when the **Hongkong Bank of Australia** became our first major sponsor. The sponsorship ended seven years of financial struggle, enabling WIRES to move towards implementing major preventative and education programmes.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

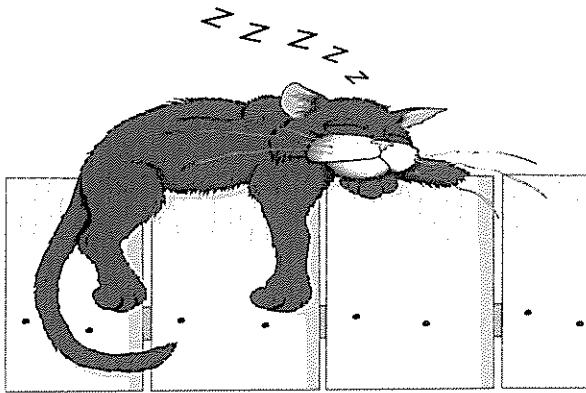
If interested persons would like more information on WIRES, or how they can help in the office or as a rescuer/foster carer, please contact **MIKLA LEWIS** at WIRES office on **02 9751633**.

NEXT ISSUE WE WILL LOOK AT THE ANIMALS THAT WIRES DEAL WITH, THE PROBLEMS THEY ENCOUNTER AND SPECIFICALLY WHAT PEOPLE CAN DO TO HELP. ED.



A NATURAL DIET FOR CATS

Barbara Fougere BSc BVMS (Hons)
Veterinary Advisor for Uncle Ben's of Australia



Most nutritional diseases seen by veterinarians arise from caring owners inadvertently feeding an unbalanced home prepared "natural diet". These natural diets often consist of pet mince or raw meat and anything from wheat-bix, cheese, sea-weed supplements to vegetables and pasta. This may be natural to us pet owners but is it really natural for cats?

A natural diet for a cat would consist of the carcasses of many small birds, mammals and reptiles. Such a diet would include fur, feathers, skin, bones, cartilage (providing gum massage and fibre) organs such as liver, kidneys, stomach and stomach contents (providing vitamins and other nutrients and importantly the meat for protein. All together the essential nutrient requirements would be met. Meat on its own is deficient in calcium, phosphorus (with a poorly balanced ratio of these) and other essential nutrients.

Given that it is impossible to provide fresh whole carcasses for our cats, what should we be feeding them? A suitable diet is safe (free from parasites and bacteria), convenient, economical and proven to be complete and balanced. Good quality canned and dry cat foods which meet international standards such as Whiskas and Whiskas Whiskettes are guaranteed to provide all the essential nutrients a cat needs. Foods such as these consist of export quality meat or fish, bone meal, feather meal, liver, kidneys and other animal by-products. The dry foods usually contain various cereals also. These foods have been scientifically balanced for vitamins and minerals, "processed" by cooking and then fed to cats all around Australia to ensure that the food is not only nutritious but tasty too.

Read the label to see whether it states the food is complete and balanced -this saves the worry of wondering whether your cat is getting everything it needs.

Most cats prefer to eat several small meals a day if allowed. They enjoy a variety of flavours and textures so a combination of canned moist food and crunchy dry food is interesting to a cat. They prefer warm foods (body temperature) and may turn their noses up at food

straight from the fridge. Most cats regulate their food intake naturally and eat to their energy requirements. There are some cats however like us, that enjoy their food too much and end up carrying extra weight.

Fussy cats tend to nibble and pick at their food and will refuse food for days if not fed to their discerning taste. It is a case of trial and error - start by offering top quality cat foods which are complete and balanced, otherwise a trip to the vet may be necessary to discuss appropriate supplementation or nutritional deficiencies may occur.

Most cats enjoy fresh water and others enjoy a lap of milk. However many cats cannot tolerate the milk sugar- lactose. This intolerance, characterised by diarrhoea, is often difficult to detect since cats are so fastidious about their hygiene. If your cat enjoys milk there are available, a number of specially formulated cat milks including Milk Plus by Whiskas which are low in lactose.

Finally a word on your cats dental hygiene. Cats teeth, like ours can suffer from a build up of plaque and calculus (tartar). Once fur and feathers would act like a natural toothbrush promoting healthy gums. If your cat has any brownish yellowish hard material coating the teeth, particularly the back teeth, veterinary attention is necessary. Once this material is removed by scaling, home care can be carried out. Your own vet can advise you on the best way to maintain teeth and this may require tooth brushing, giving your cat raw bones to chew, regular checkups at vaccination time or a combination, to suit your cat and you. Cats today live longer for many reasons including better care, veterinary attention and good nutrition.

Your cat is dependent on you to make the right decision about its diet. If you are feeding quality cat foods that have veterinary endorsement, you can be confident your cat is receiving everything it needs.



A LITTLE HISTORY

Talking about CPS with CPS friends recently, feeling depressed at continued over-population, dumping, etc., - but then got onto the past.

Reviewing the past, could not but be impressed at the advances we have made.

Thought it may be of interest to new members.

Have broken up the years into Presidents but of course they have only been the leaders of devoted bands of volunteers, without whom, the Society would not exist.

Our first President was Mary Kay-Cooper who presided over a very small band of animal lovers dismayed at the abuse and neglect of cats and felt they, of all animals needed their own special Society. Mary had been keeping a mini-cattery for years.

Next President was our Honorary Life Member Jessie Taylor who set up quite a number of backyard catteries at her own expense. (One of these was Gem Bohman and it was through my association with her work that I became a member of CPS and learnt to be a 'cat lady'). Jessie was outstandingly generous in lots of financial ways. {Not only to CPS, but also to the RSPCA and AWL. Ed}



When Ron Carberry - a business man - assumed office he set out to put the Society on a good financial basis. The constitution was changed so that we became a Company able to accept real estate. We did have several properties left to us. 103, our present premises was purchased for \$62,871.00. He started the Op shop, and dreamed of a desexing clinic of our own.

That dream was not to be realised.

Perhaps Ron was a man ahead of his time.

But the Op shop under Sybil Cozens flourished.

With finances accumulating and no hope of a desexing clinic, {Govt. bureaucracy. Ed} Bill Graham won presidency on the platform of establishing a welfare section.

Now that the Op shop was listed in the telephone book many calls for assistance were being received.

These had to be farmed out to other welfare agencies or attended to by two CPS volunteers.

Bill Graham was quick to honour his promise and within weeks a small van was purchased, a welfare officer employed and an office set up on the first floor of 103.

It quickly became obvious that the demands for help could not be satisfied and before Bill resigned some years later the office was manned daily by welfare officers or volunteers, and the third welfare officer had just been employed.

To help in this work there were several volunteers who contributed unstinting hours to the cause.

This was a period when the veterinary profession too were not acceptive of our role.

So Daria Love became President at an awkward time. President and Treasurer resigned, Secretary on long leave and a Council of dedicated, but inexperienced members.

New boarding premises for re-homing were immediately found to give longer hours for people to acquire a pet.....seven days in fact. Clients were encouraged to bring their animals into our office instead of every request having to be picked up as formerly was the case. This was a major step forward.

There was some slight improvement with the Australian Veterinary Association and a good number of Vets recognised our work and were prepared to be part of the team.

Lyn Thomas, a young career woman, was next and we began to see how shabby and unprofessional our welfare office looked. The efforts made to keep the Op shop and welfare under the same roof are a nightmare to recall.

Finally, with Marrickville Council's advice to stay where we were accepted, it was necessary to rent premises for our Op shop.

The move for welfare to the ground floor, with renovated premises - only going as far as the public could see, let us add - has been a wonderful move.

The work that goes through our office is equal to one and a half welfare officers on the road.

Probably the greatest achievement made by the Society during Lyn's stewardship was the commencement of micro-de-sexing.

A revolutionary concept that caused much discussion and argument between welfarists and some of the veterinary profession at the time, a discussion that still continues, but an inspiration that may be the single most important factor for improved lifestyle for cats in our time.



Lyn stood for professionalism and evolution even if that meant a small revolution.

It was probably about this time that the Executive began to believe that the battle might be winnable. That we may be able to improve quality of life as well as quantity of life.

Now Shirley Pikler is our leader.

Shirley has been in the forefront of most of the activities listed above.

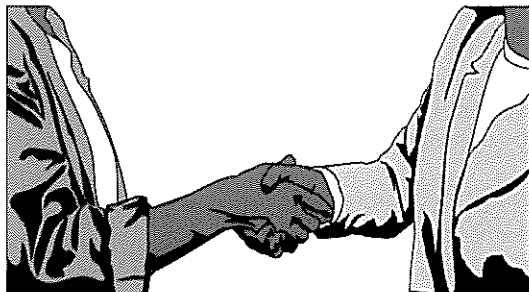
We hope that Shirley's time in office will see the implementation of the Companion Animal's Act. Shirley sat for many years as our representative on the Animal Welfare Advisory Council. (Where she was a quiet and thoughtful voice for the welfare of all animals, not just cats. Ed)

It will be a challenge for which we all need to prepare.

Shirley's avowed objective is to consolidate the ground-work of those wonderful people of the past who have done so much for cats, while pursuing advantageous legislation for the future benefit of the feline.

Outwardly a quiet, even shy, gentle person she, like her cats, has steel claws inside her velvet gloves.

NANCE IREDALE.



Any charitable organisation is only as effective as its directorate. Historically, CPS has had a dedicated and harmonious Council, headed by conservative, straight-thinking, honest people who doff all caps when entering the spheres of CPS except that of feline welfarist in particular and animal carer in general.

An Invitation

The NSW Animal Welfare League proudly presents this FREE seminar

Dr Gus Thornton
on
Early Desexing

Dispel any doubts about desexing cats and dogs from 8 weeks of age.

Learn the benefits of mandatory sterilisation, breeding control and hear solutions to overpopulation of companion animals.

Attend this evening seminar by the President of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,

Friday 30th April at 7.30pm
at the

Bill Spillstead Complex
NSW Canine Control Luddenham Road
Erskine Park

Everyone welcome, but bookings are essential.

R.S.V.P. Claudia Ph: 606 9333

The above invitation from the Animal Welfare League of NSW represents Victoria, South Australia, Queensland and NSW welfare groups joining together to form the Animal Welfare League of Australia. They are sponsoring the visit of Dr Gus Thornton, President of the M.S.P.C.A. to promote early (8 week) sterilisation of dogs and cats among animal welfare groups, government bodies, and veterinarians.

To give you some background as to Dr Thornton: Dr Gus Thornton is a practicing veterinarian, and is the former Chief Of Staff of Massachusetts S.P.C.A.'s Angell Memorial Animal Hospital in Boston. He is now, President of the Massachusetts S.P.C.A. American Humane Education Society, Boston. He is also Vice president for the World Society for the Protection of Animals, London.

Angell Memorial Animal Hospital opened in 1915 and has developed the protocols used in early sterilisation anaesthetics. They have been performing surgical sterilisations on cats and dogs from 8 weeks of age for the past 10 years!

M.S.P.C.A. operate seven animal shelters and three veterinary hospitals in Massachusetts alone!

Certainly a worthy cause to give your support to, and just by showing up, you can help to show that all animal loving organisations can act as one for the right topics!



MEMORIES



"Bubba Tik", officially Cricket Haub, asleep under the bedroom window next to the rose bush, sends purrs to friend Joan. She sleeps peacefully with fond memories of seventeen happy years of shared companionship. Do not remember days, remember moments.

Gwen Meredith, Craig and Minnie remember the blessings shared with "Monty". Gone but never forgotten.

Our very long time and valued member, Sybil Cozens, reminds us that Vilisha Mitchell of Willoughby has been re-united with the cats she shared her life with in peace. Sybil's reminder is typical, a cheque to the Society in lieu of flowers.

Mrs Mitchell, a long time member and an excellent recruiter of new members worked for quite a long time in the Op shop to great effect. We were very pleased and thankful when we received advice from her estate that we had been remembered in her will.

Annette, Glenn & Rodney Barber fondly remember Gabrielle, 16 months old and a victim of a hit & run driver. A ray of sunshine in their lives, gentle, sweet & lovable Gabrielle.

(It is an offence under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act not to render aid should you injure an animal).

"The comfort of having a friend may be taken away, but not that of having had one."

What a beautiful sentiment?

Betty Camphuis of Berowra shares this thought with us in remembering her best friend, Sahib, who shared her life for eight years.

An anonymous gift has been received from Sooty, Blackie, Rachel, Hecate and Twinkle. I wonder what the story is behind the naming of Hecate or is it that he really was a HE CAT.

He makes himself the companion of your hours of solitude, melancholy and toil. He remains for whole evenings on your knee, uttering his contented purr, happy to be with you, and forsaking the company of animals of his own species.

Theophile Gautier

During childhood my father had always brought home any stray dogs he found and our yard was a collage of Sydney mutts wondrous to behold.

I have forgotten none of these companions. Two stand out, Peter, a maybe bull terrier who growled at my mother every time she raised her voice or her hand in threat. My mother was euphemistically described in the language of the day as petite, as I grew up she was called a little person. Today I suppose that would qualify as discrimination, however, I digress. She was frightened of anything that barked with four legs. She arranged for Peter to disappear to a home some streets away. Every morning of my life after that Peter would jump, scramble, whatever two six foot fences to say good morning to me before being chased back to his new home and this continued until we moved away.

The other was a part cocker spaniel called pup, he had not been around long enough to be given a name. Coming back from the shopping I saw pup across the road, stupidly, I called him. I buried him, with the car driver helping me, in the back garden. That was my introduction to tears.

Many years later, married, living in a flat I brought my spouse a Siamese cat for mother's day, we had no children. Greenoaks Dal Cheenee, George, was my introduction to felines.

I often sit and think of my past pets. The years have moved on. For forty years there have always been dogs, many dogs but there has only been two cats.

Every pet has been different. All have been an education and a joy to live with.

Yet.

When it comes right down to it George stands out. I can't tell you why. What is it that sets a four legged, destructive, short lived animal apart, nay above, so many other animals and into that part of the heart usually reserved for one's very own special people?





When I agreed to chair the Journal committee I did not realise the amount of work necessary to put it together or how many other commitments I had made.

The preparation of the Journal is an exercise in co-operation and communication.

The Council is made up of twelve disparate people who, although sharing a common bond in love of animals, also represent a cross section of a cosmopolitan community.

It seems to me that cat-lovers are much like their cats, independant, self-possessed and competent in the field of their endeavour.

Perhaps our journal's objectives should be described as Alan Devoe sees cats

"We tie bright ribbons around their necks, and occasionally little tinkling bells, and we attempt to think that they are as sweet and vapid as the coy name 'kitty' by which we call them would imply. It is a curious allusion. For, purring beside our fireplaces and pattering along our back fences, we have got a wild beast as uncowed and uncorrupted as any under heaven".

Each individual councillor has their skills and our President's problem is to use everybody where they are most effective.

We await your opinion as to whether she has been successful.

It is imperative that we have your input. We need to know what you think of the problems currently facing the feline community. It is also essential that you keep us informed of your activities and those of your pets. A joy shared is a joy doubled.

The format of the Journal necessarily becomes a melting pot of diverse opinions all striving to produce a common end, an informative, instructive volume representing the spirit of the feline.

A heartfelt thanks to our many contributors.

FORM OF BEQUEST

To those caring persons who may be disposed to assist our Society in its work, the following forms of bequest are suggested:

Where a specific amount of money or a specific asset is to be bequeathed the form would be:

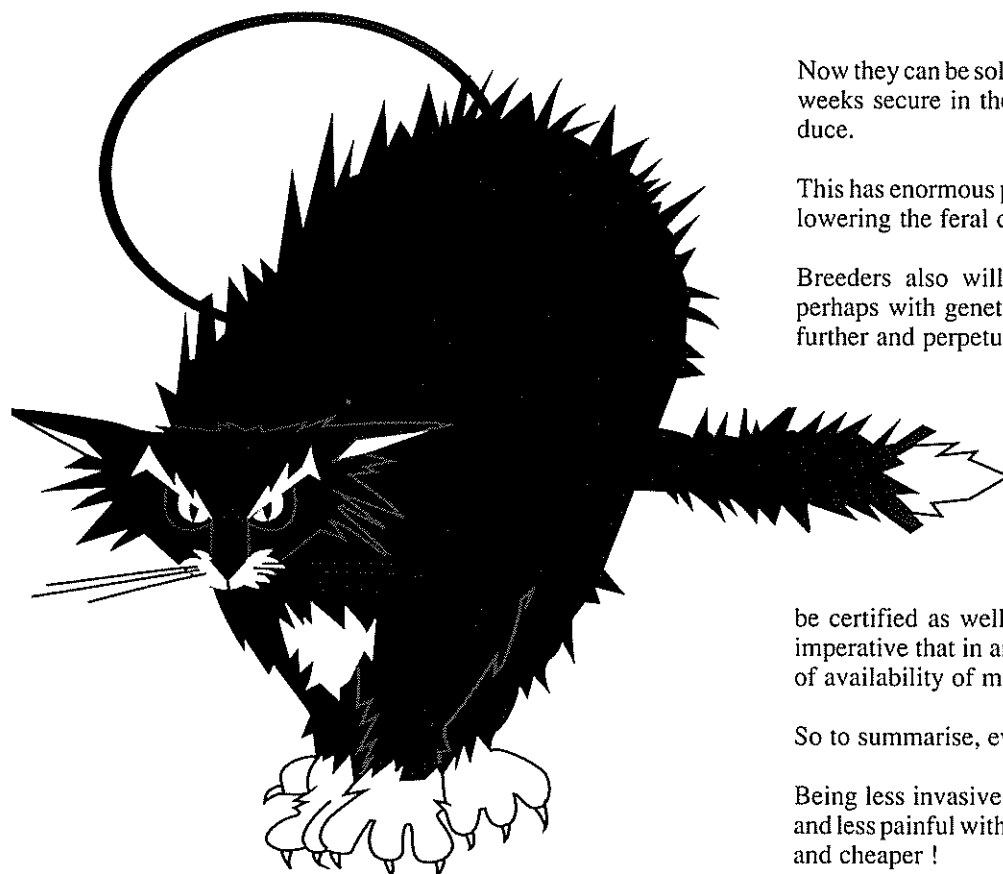
I
give and bequeath to The Cat Protection Society of NSW, the registered office of which is 103 Enmore Road, Enmore, NSW, 2042, the sum of
dollars (or a complete description of the asset). I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said The Cat Protection Society of NSW shall be sufficient discharge for the legacy which is to be applied to the general purposes of the said Charity.

Where a bequest involves the residue of an estate, the wording would be:

I
give and bequeath all the rest and residue of my estate of whatsoever kind and wheresoever situate to The Cat Protection Society of NSW, the registered office of which is 103 Enmore Road, Enmore, NSW 2042. And I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said The Cat Protection Society of NSW shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executore.

For further information on leaving a bequest to the Society please contact the Secretary on (02) 51 1011.





Now they can be sold - desexed - at the usual age of eight weeks secure in the knowledge that they can't reproduce.

This has enormous potential to help the environment by lowering the feral cat population.

Breeders also will be happier selling desexed pets perhaps with genetic faults knowing they can't breed further and perpetuate these faults.

It would not be surprising to one day see legislation requiring desexing prior to sale to all but certified breeders - most breeders will tell you they probably ought to

be certified as well ! {The Society believes that it is imperative that in any such legislation the continuance of availability of moggies must be considered. Ed}

So to summarise, everyone wins.

Being less invasive the surgery is safer, less traumatic and less painful with faster recovery, less animal scaring and cheaper !

The earlier you have them desexed the more you will save over conventional surgery - and your pet will thank you for being in less pain and for having a nice bikini line !

Another small bonus is that due to the advanced sutures we use there won't be any need to return your pet for suture removal in most cases.

This procedure, apparently relatively new in NSW, is well researched in USA.

The principles are undoubtedly of recognised value for some procedures in human medicine.

One of our younger, yet senior members has observed the techniques.

A surgeons skills can only be developed with practice. The Society will be an interested spectator of this procedure.

We sincerely hope the procedure will be a further weapon in our arsenal providing less intrusive surgery, less anaesthesia and altogether an improvement in veterinary science.

*I have studied many philosophers
and many cats.
The wisdom of cats
is infinitely superior.*

EARLY DESEXING WITH A LAPAROSCOPE.

This is a very exciting new project we have developed at North Rocks Veterinary Hospital.

Puppies and kittens as young as seven, repeat 7, weeks can now be desexed safely and relatively painlessly at a much earlier age than normal.

Early desexing is practised widely overseas and is well supported in the scientific literature.

What makes our service unique at least in Australia is the use of a laparoscope - we are the only veterinary hospital using this advanced technology in dogs and cats!

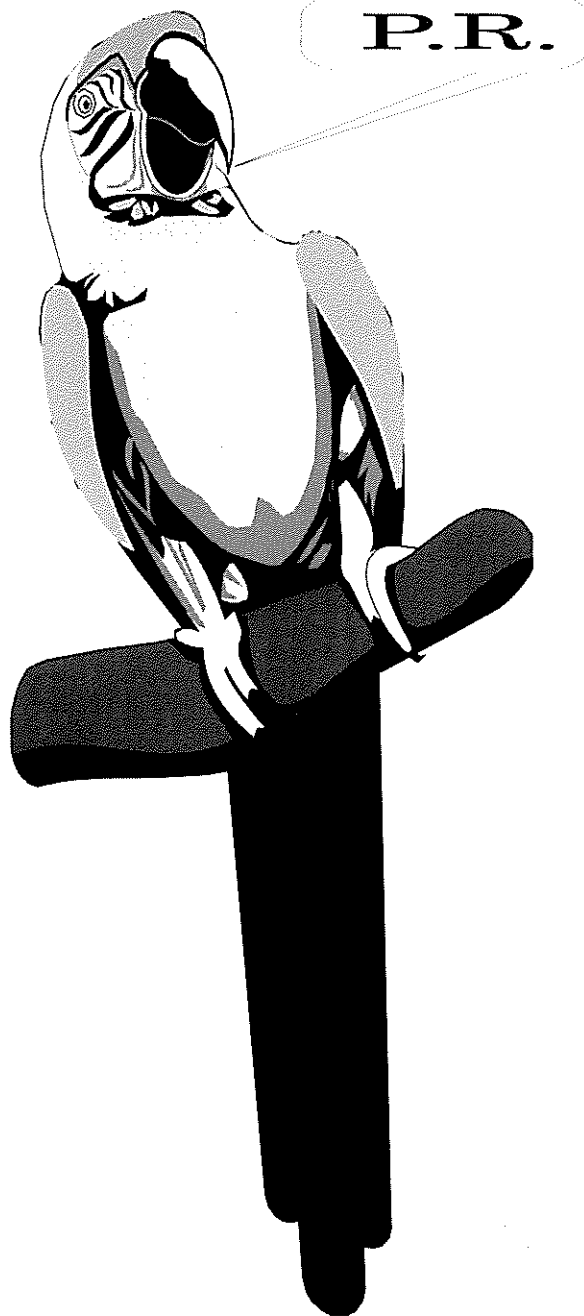
The laparoscope is an amazing instrument - a powerful miniature light source only 2 mm in diameter. Under anaesthesia this is inserted painlessly into the abdomen through a minute incision.

Desexing females involves removal of the uterus and ovaries. Now that they can be seen with the light source they can be removed through another small incision. Males are done externally, of course.

Simple as that!

Kittens and puppies can sit up within ten minutes of surgery and are happily running around and playing again the next day.





MEDIA EXPOSURE - FELINE AFFAIRS

When **Nance Iredale** heard she could talk for exactly one minute about any subject, three times in one day, on Radio 2GB (and win \$100.00 worth of socks, (she would give them to the Op-shop. Ed.) she decided to volunteer.

She says it is hard to stop at one minute when there is so much to say about cats.

Here is what she managed.

Good morning.....I'm Nance Iredale.

I hope for a change in community attitudes towards animals. We don't ask that everyone has the same affection for them as we do we ask for respect and

consideration.

Every week hundreds of cats and kittens are surrendered to the Cat Protection Societymany sick, most neglected.

People of a gentle nature say they cant bear to hear of such things but no one may shut his eyes and regard as non-existent the suffering of which he spares himself the sight.

There are cruel people who can abandon a young mother and her kittens.....anywhere and drive away. To these people I say....if animals believed in the devil, he would look remarkably like a human being.

There is no excuse for the neglect that we contend with daily. The answer is responsible pet ownership, including de-sexing of domestic animals. We need to believe that....to the universal ethics of reverence for life....pity for animals....often dismissed as sentimentality....becomes a mandate no thinking man can escape.

Betty Scrivener, who never misses speaking out or dropping off a letter or two about cats, also had her one minute say and here is Betty's contribution.

Re the cat issue! We think that all dogs and cats should be kept in at night for their own safety and for the safety of the native fauna. We have lived in several areas bordering bushland and found that many people allow their animals to roam the streets day & night. This is wrong! It is at night they become bored and go further afield.

As for fouling the streets, it is, mainly, the poor, starving and abandoned animals who have no choice but to do so.

Regarding the Blue Mountains restriction on cats! It has been reported by WIRES that in this area, over a period of twelve months, there were 2088 animals injured, 337 by cats, but of the remaining 1751 injured, we were not told who or what was the cause.

Why hasn't anyone bothered to find out?

Why should the cat be singled out as such a threat?

It seems to us a smoke-screen to divert attention from other culprits.

Another two of our members spent 30 min. one Sunday morning on Radio 2KY. A talk-back show. Not a lot of public response, however, one member listening recognised a voice and rang asking the very questions we wanted to answer. Good on you xxx.

Next time we may be given more notice and we will give them a panel discussion that may really do some good.



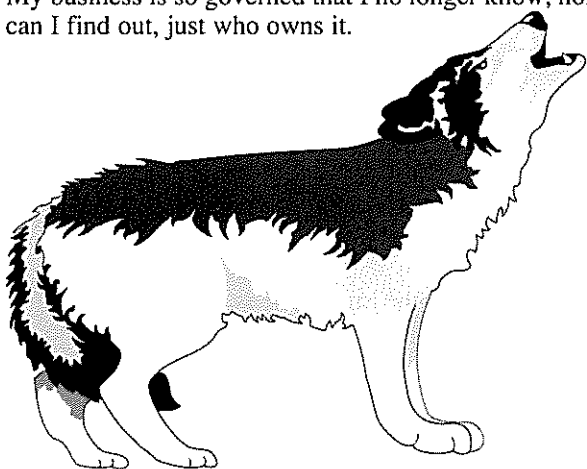
AN HONEST? RECESSION STORY

The following is a reply received by an associate Society after a reminder notice that annual subscriptions are due.

In reply to your reminder to send my subscription I wish to inform you that the present position of my Bank Account makes it impossible to comply.

My shattered financial position is due to Union Law, Liquor Law, Federal Law, State Law, Mother-in-law and outlaws. Through these laws I am compelled to pay business tax, super tax, sales tax, petrol tax and amusement tax (*I haven't laughed in years*). Even my brains are taxed.

I am required to hold a business licence, car licence, dog licence, and marriage licence. (*I believe they now want to charge me for a pussy-cat licence*). For my own safety, I am required to carry life insurance, property insurance, liability insurance, fire insurance, accident insurance and quite a few others I can't quite remember. My business is so governed that I no longer know, nor can I find out, just who owns it.



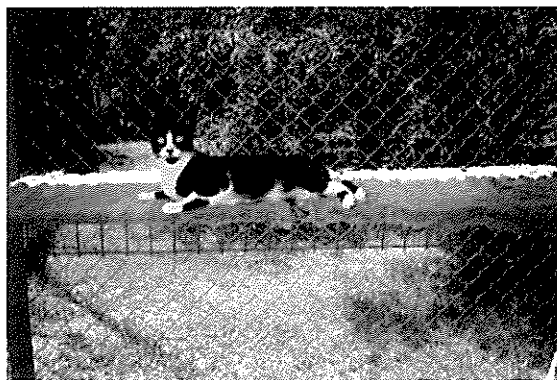
I am constantly inspected, suspected and disrespected. I am examined, summoned, fined and compelled to supply an inexhaustible supply of money for every known need, desire or home of the human race.

I can honestly tell you that excepting for the miracle that happened to me, I could not enclose this money.

The wolf has come to the door so often that it now sleeps in the kitchen.

Last week it had pups.

I sold them and here is the money.



PARKLANDS

Aren't I stunning?

Beautiful eyes, and my ancestry. Whew! You see, one of my parents was a Siamese who married beneath their status. My other parent must have been very attractive, though.

I really do add something to my surroundings.

Some people say I can be a little difficult to get along with from time to time, but that's typical human non-understanding. I have a very strong personality, I am clever and occasionally, I get a bit carried away while playing. It's only exuberance - I don't realise I am being a little rough. Humans bleed awfully easily, don't they?

Now, admittedly, I'm not keen on taking pills. or medicine, but I do give in eventually if I know it's for my own good.

Oh! another thing, I'm not very fond of other cats, but I tolerate them as long as they know their place, which is, a reasonable, agreed distance from me. The same feelings apply to dogs and children.

I have been at **PARKLAND CATTERY** for twelve months now, and feel that I have taught them all I can. Its time to enrich somebody else's life with my experience and personality.

I do require my own space. I'm not really one for a lot of cuddles and smothering. I find it a little undignified really, but I'm not averse to games and the odd loving stroke as long as I am allowed my privacy and self-respect. I am capable of great love and affection in my own way.

By the way, my name is Carmen, I am 18 months old, short haired, black & white. my eyes are probably my best feature (after my personality, that is.)



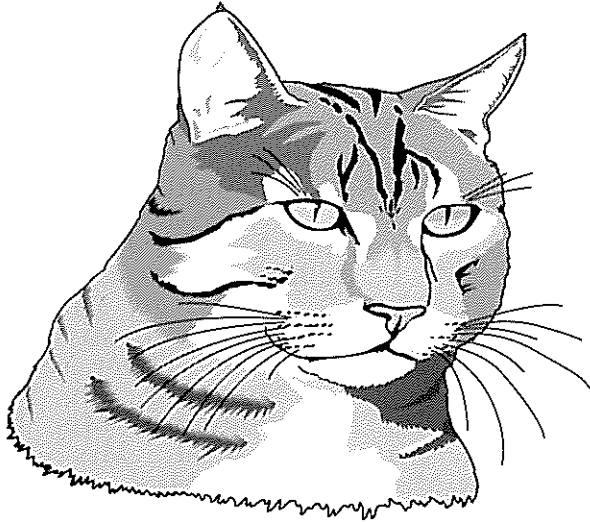
AN INVITATION:

Stephen Austin and your committee cordially invite you to an informative and fun afternoon on Saturday, 26th June, 1993 at ENMORE HEADQUARTERS, 2PM.

BENEFITS OF TRAINING YOUR CAT!!!!

One of the main benefits I have found in training my cat "BATMAN" Is that the understanding between us has become so much stronger. The more you work with any animal the more your understanding of that animal develops.

I always make Batman's training periods very positive and use positive re-inforcements, never any negatives. I develop the natural abilities of Batman, e.g., prey chase, balance & agility, food and of course verbal and physical praise.



Batman has been asked to do many T.V. commercials and film work over the past six months, mainly because of his ability to come when called and to stay, but more important than that is his ability to do all these exercises in a neutral area. As any cat owner realises, getting your cat to do something at home is a lot easier than doing it out of your home.

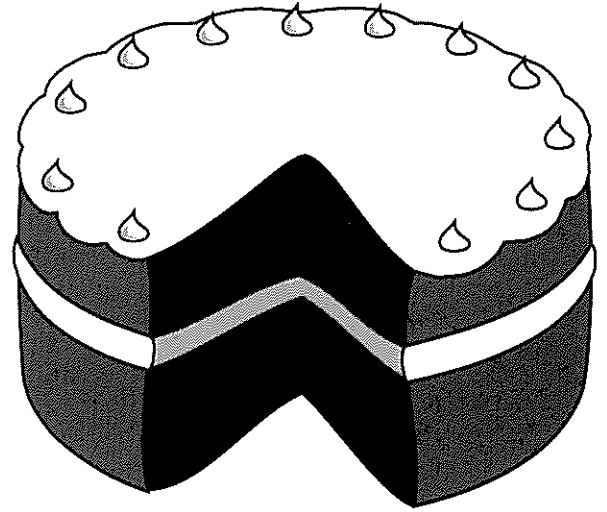
Probably the most important reason for training him however is that I can speak to many people about the importance of desexing and general care of the cat while I'm doing demonstrations with him.

Batman receives a lot of media attention and I always try my utmost to put Batman in particular, and the domestic cat in particular, in a very positive light.

Batman is trained every day. He walks on lead, sits, stays and comes when called and does many other small tricks.

"Please try to make the time to come and see Batman and I will answer any questions you may have on the day." says Steve.

IT IS YOUR COUNCIL'S INTENTION TO PROVIDE AFTERNOON TEA SO THAT MEMBERS MAY SOCIALISE WITH 'BATMAN' AND STEVE AUSTIN. PLEASE RING THE OFFICE IF YOU ARE COMING AND HELP US WITH THE CATERING.



DON'T BE LATE

SPHYGMOMANOMETER:

An instrument for measuring blood pressure.

A blood pressure test seems obligatory for humans whenever they visit the Doctor. It would seem that it can form the basis of many diagnoses.

Have you ever wondered why the vet never takes your pets blood pressure ?
Would you believe, without invasive surgery, he can't.

No Sphygmomanometer for pets !

I believe, in the U.S., this will be remedied shortly. An animal blood pressure testing unit is about to come on the market.

A reporter's job is to report news, not to draw conclusions from it. That pleasure belongs to the columnists.

How I would love to be a columnist !!!



CATS USED AS HUMAN SCAPEGOATS ON KILLS

Bernadette Symons has kindly forwarded an article by M Lidden published recently in the Noosa Citizen, Q'land newspaper. She feels that it is well written and topical and we agree.

I refer to your recent report with the heading "Cats Cause Havoc" (NC 21/10). Virtually every week nowadays you find the media publicising pet and/or feral cats as major destroyers of this country's unique wildlife, thereby promoting an extremely disturbing "anti-pet", "kill-cats" stance among certain types and groups in the community.

As a qualified psychologist who has made a lengthy study of animal behaviour and who regularly collects reports by world authorities on the cats versus wildlife question, I am well aware that such claims are demonstrably untrue. So is anyone else who takes time to observe how relentless development, pollution, pesticides and motor vehicles are destroying countless numbers of both our fauna and flora everyday.

Undoubtedly, wandering cats and dogs do kill some wildlife species but their overall impact is small compared to what humans have done to the environment. Natural justice therefore, demands that the blame for our frightening losses in wildlife should be shared out fairly between human and other animal culprits at all times instead of endlessly pointing the finger at cats. This is a blatant evasion of our own responsibility.

As for allegations that "every cat killed on average five to ten birds a year" — what irrefutable proof of these figures exists? I have never been shown any from an unimpeachable source.

Undeniably, today there are far too many uncared-for cats and kittens in the world. Equally obvious is the solution which is fully supported by overseas veterinary investigations. It is for Councils to provide affordable, subsidised desexing services to ensure unwanted cats are never born to be dumped by irresponsible owners to either starve or kill in bushland areas.

Lastly, to those who hate cats, I suggest they try to imagine what their wonderful catless world would be really like. Not even 20th century science could hold back the rodent-born plagues, diseases and famines which would inevitably result.

Did You Know?

The fastest flying insect in the World is our own Australian Dragon-Fly?

In short bursts, it can attain 36 miles per hour or 57.5 kilometers per hour!



NEW MEMBERS

Alletson, Mrs C., Biggart, Mrs M., Bodill, Ms J., Branford, Ms J.F., Byrne, Miss N., Comassutti, Ms L.M. Crighton, Mrs M., Dahl, Ms B., Edwards, Miss L.M. Fitzgerald, Mrs L., Francis, Mrs L., Gallagher, Mr S. & Mrs P., Gardner, Mrs M., Gonzalvez, Mrs A., Gotzopoulod, Mrs M.A., Hall, Miss K., Joy, Ms K., Kelly, Master B., Lublow, Ms S., Malins, Ms M., Murdoch, Ms R., Strang, Mrs M., Summers, Mrs J., Turner, Mrs M., West, Mrs B., Williams, Miss K., Zammit, Ms R.,

MEMBERSHIP

It would appear that every thing we do today has a political connotation. If we are going to be able to protect our pets and our & their lifestyle the most important thing we can do is to have a strong lobby group.

This means members.

It is imperative that we have a strong, numerical voice to ensure that our wishes are considered in the halls of power. Please speak to your pet-owning friends and try to convince them not to leave the responsibility of animal care to you. **TO JOIN CPS AND LEND THEIR VOICE TO THE ANIMAL WELFARE LOBBY.**

WANTED COLUMN

THANK YOU MEMBERS

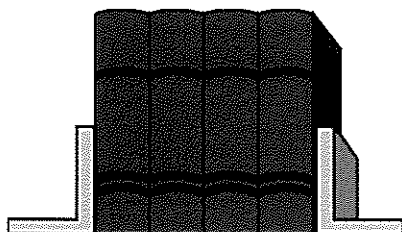
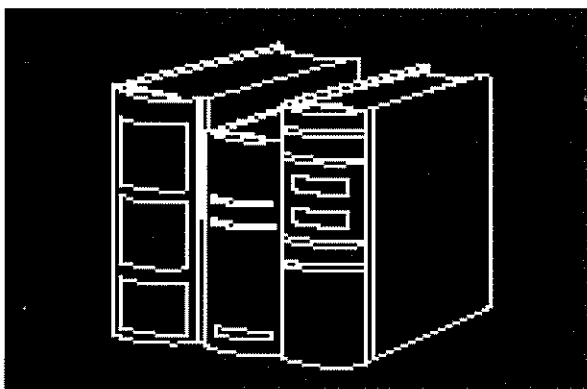
WE HAD HUGE DONATIONS OF GOODS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY SHOP DURING JANUARY.

Our sorting ladies were kept very busy. Clothes and books are our bread & butter, kitchenware and crockery our jam, but the cream is bric-a-brac. No sooner do we receive these odds & ends but they are gone. And so we need more and more novelties. We just can't get enough.

As our Society grows so does the book work and correspondence. That means an ever growing need for filing and storage space. We would love to know whether some of our members have a set of filing drawers or cupboards suitable for storage. We can, of course, pick up.

In an endeavour to contain costs some of our volunteers are using computers for preparing and editing the Journal. Any expertise in this area would be appreciated together with computer software, hardware or literature.

Though the Society is growing and is responsible for more and more public awareness of the role of cats in the community our paid staff is still diminishing. Our office runs entirely with the assistance of volunteers, no paid wages at all. Without in any way decreasing the welfare work done by the Society our commitments have grown yet our welfare staff has decreased. Re-organisation & re-structuring are well to the fore in your Council's agenda.



NOSTALGIA

Has anyone a copy of **BLUE CASTLE** by the Authoress, L. M. Montgomery who wrote the Anne books. Nance Iredale would like to borrow or buy a copy.

Dogs come when they are called; cats take a message and get back to you.

Mary Bly

We know that Dr. Johnson's cat was called Hodge and that Dr. Johnson loved him dearly. But we have no idea what Hodge was; Whether longhaired or shorthaired, whether black or yellow. We do not know because that is not important. What was important was that Hodge was a nice cat.

Marion Garretty.

Thanks Lee. Ed.



A DAY ON THE ROAD

A day on the road is usually a combination of satisfaction, glory, frustration, and trauma. You cannot even begin to realise what the work entails unless you have actually been associated with it.

Our girls start their day at 8am. Their jobs for the day have all been previously arranged by telephone, usually in the same area so that the distance between jobs is minimal. They wind their way through heavy peak hour traffic, on hot summer days, or cold wintery ones, picking up unwanted cats, trapping feral cats and kittens, and rescuing abandoned cats that have been left behind by their callous owners. Cats are also picked up for de-sexing, but this service has been somewhat reduced since the introduction of a very successful referral system with many more very co-operative vets offering their services.

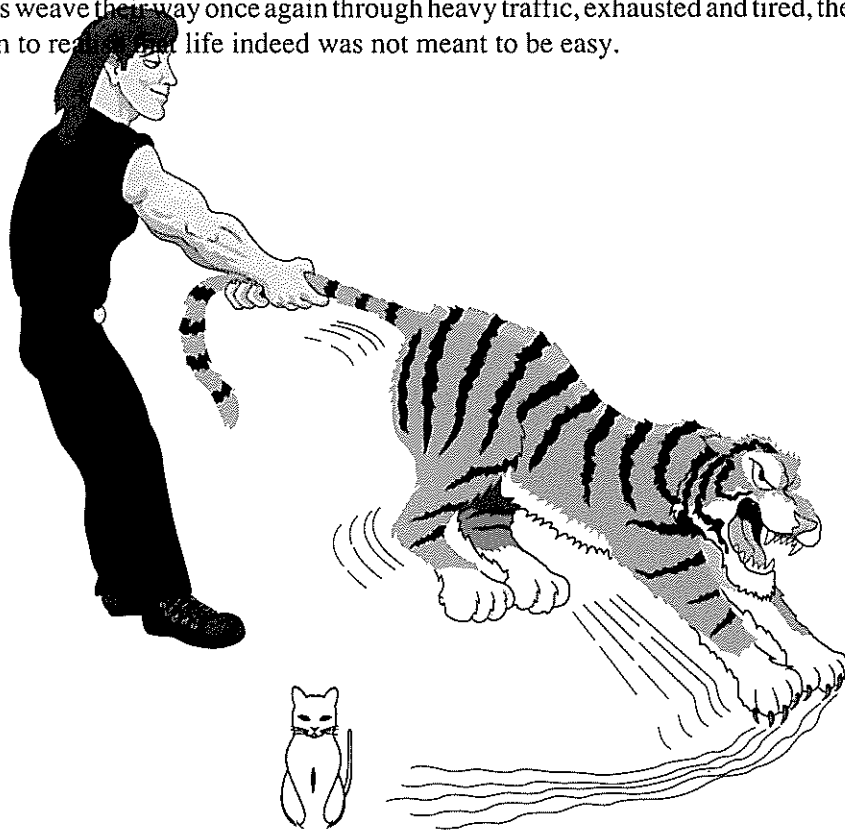
Parking in the more congested areas of Sydney is a nightmare, and carrying huge cats in wire cages, to and fro can be an experience that is not easily forgotten. Climbing stairs and steep driveways is another problem that needs a lot of energy and effort. There are times when clients are not at home as arranged when our girls arrive. This is maddening especially if the client lives three floors up and has no elevator, but come rain, hail or shine our girls carry on relentlessly, the job eventually becoming an obsession.

The trapping of feral cats and kittens is perhaps their most tedious and demanding role. It is very frustrating, needs a lot of time, a lot of patience and skill, and it can become distressing at times. Certainly not an enviable job. Clients can also be very unco-operative and this can lead to unnecessary trauma. The summer season is the busiest time for road work, as there is an abundance of cats and kittens. We all hear about the enormous cat problems, but when you are faced with the reality of it all, the problem is even more appalling.

A day on the road is tiresome, rarely cheerful, but you do get to meet a diverse group of people. The rich, the poor, the generous, and the 'tight-fisted'. The comfort and welfare of our cats is paramount in our thoughts, so air-conditioned vans are used at all times. In spite of all this, the cats can become restless, so it is important to get them to their destination as soon as possible. The vans are cleaned out regularly, and the cages washed with disinfectant. It is the girls responsibility to see that their vans are serviced and checked at regular intervals.

The homeward journey at approximately 4 pm. leaves them with a feeling of accomplishment, knowing that they have helped many people with their problems, but there is sadness too as only a few of our animals are chosen for home material. As the girls weave their way once again through heavy traffic, exhausted and tired, they reflect on their days work and begin to realise that life indeed was not meant to be easy.

Lena Larsen.



MICROCHIP

Perhaps belatedly, but better late than never the Council has ordered a scanner to help enable the Society to ensure that all cats that pass through our hands are not 'owned' cats. Until all cats are microchipped there can be no total assurance, though we believe this is only a matter of time.

We have contacted all our helpful vets, many of whom have scanners, and it is believed that within a very short period of time all vet surgeries will be equipped with this device.

Our next objective in this area, money permitting, which it does not do at this time, is to implant all cats passing through our hands.

The full system which is already operating successfully with other animals would enable any vet, any pound, ourselves and some other welfare societies to scan any stray cat and if the cat has been implanted the scanner will record a number. This number can be traced to an owner and an address so ensuring the safe return of the cat to it's proper owner.

There are two systems available and the Society has delayed involvement until we felt sure of the superiority of one system over the other.

Oh!! for a pot of gold.



Black cats
White cats
Ginger cats
Tabby cats
Short fur
Long fur
Soft fur
Glossy fur
Big cats
Small cats
Thin cats
Amber eyes
Blue eyes
Green eyes
Beautiful to many eyes.

ANNETTE BARBER

THE HYPNOTIST.

We're all so fond of father,
Regarding every whim,
Of his with understanding,
We try and humour him.

But something's wrong with father,
We feel quite sure of that,
Since he became a hypnotist,
And practiced on the cat!

"I'll charm that cat," said father,
"With just a steady look,
I'll make him think he's human,
It says so, in the book".

He chased Tom to a corner,
And there the strange pair sat,
Father staring, while a stare
Was stared back.

Well.....after twenty minutes,
Tom blithely meow'd away,
While father "purred" and licked himself!
(Poor mother's going grey)!

He sidled up and at meal-time
Back arched, and rubbed her leg,
And after lapping some milk,
He played "mouse" with a peg!

And at bed-time Gran found him
All moon-struck up a tree,
With Tabby cats around him
All meowing musically!

Oh, Something's wrong with father
We're all so sure of that,
Since he became a hypnotist,
And practiced on the cat.

Louis H. Clark



I've travelled the world twice over,
Met the famous: saints and sinners,
Poets and artists, kings and Queens,
Old stars and hopeful beginners,
I've been where no-one's been before,
Learned secrets from writers and cooks,
All with one library ticket
To the wonderful world of books.

Thankyou
Penny Ferguson



Membership Form

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

(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, 1993.
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
(state birthdate).....

Enclosed cheque/Money Order

for \$.....

Please cross cheques and make payable to:

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

Mr.
Ms.
Mrs
Miss
SURNAME (BLOCK LETTERS)

Initials.....

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.

Donation Form

(Please cut out and return to
address shown)

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

I/We would like to make a donation to the Society.
Enclosed is a cheque/money order for DONATION of \$.....

Mr
Ms
Mrs
Miss
SURNAME (BLOCK LETTERS)

Initials.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Change of Address Form

(Please cut out and return
to address shown)

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

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



When Serbia's army invaded Bosnia last April, they not only attacked the Bosnian people and their infrastructure, but they also killed many of the region's agricultural and work animals.

Neil Trent, field officer for the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPCA), and John Walsh, international project director for WSPCA, travelled to Bosnia last October and distributed antibiotics, syringes, and other medical supplies to sixteen veterinary stations that are at or near the front lines.

"There is a network of veterinarians who want to help these animals, but they didn't have the supplies," says Trend. Last December, WSPCA supplied these stations with 15,000 doses of rabies vaccine and arranged for more supplies to be sent from European pharmaceutical companies.

According to Trent, rabies is especially rampant now because rabid wild animals, which have been forced out of the mountains due to advancing armies, are interacting with domestic and work animals that have been abandoned because their owners have been killed or have fled the hostilities.

At least half a million agricultural and domestic animals have been killed in the conflict, and over one million were killed in Croatia in 1991.

EUROPE BANS TESTING COSMETICS ON ANIMALS

The European Community (EC) has agreed to ban cosmetic companies from performing toxicity test on live animals beginning in 1998.

The agreement, announced last November, came as a welcome surprise to European animal-protection groups. Organisations that had lobbied for such a ban for more than two years said that most EC nations appeared to oppose a ban. Only two countries, Germany and Denmark, went into negotiations backing the proposal, which was seen as necessary to promote research for alternative, non-animal tests.

Currently, before such products as lipstick, shampoos, or sunblock enter the market place, they are tested on animals to determine lethal dose, eye and skin irritancy, cancer causing potential, and other health effects. As many as 50,000 rabbits, rats, mice and other animals are used in the EC alone for the development of cosmetic products.

The number of animals used by the cosmetic industry is estimated to be less than 1 percent of the laboratory animals used for drug testing and other purposes, according to Karel Van Miert, the EC commissioner for consumer affairs. Veronique Neiertz, the French junior minister for consumer affairs, had proposed that the ban apply to all types of testing, but the motion was rejected.

Did you know ...

... Cats can have freckles? Freckles can appear anywhere on a cat's skin and even in its mouth.

... Cats use more than 500 muscles to jump, leap and spring?

RARE GORILLA SHOT

A 24 year old silverback mountain gorilla was found shot to death in late May, 1992 in Rwanda's National Parc des Volcans, an apparent victim of the long-standing conflict between the Rwandan government and rebel forces.

The gorilla, known as Mrithi, led a family of gorillas known as Group 13. He had appeared in the movie *Gorillas in the Mist*, as well as several documentaries.

Fighting in the park had previously disrupted conservation efforts and scared away tourists, but Mrithi is thought to be the first direct casualty of the civil war between rebels from the Tutsi tribe and the Hutu tribe that controls Rwanda's government. A cease fire had been agreed to in the spring of 1991; however, disruptions continued to flare in gorilla habitat.

No one knows which side fired the shots that killed the gorilla, but several bullets were found in Mrithi's chest, indicating that bullets were sprayed by a group of people that may have thought the animal was an enemy.

A younger male has assumed leadership of the group.

Only 309 of the animals are thought to exist.

*WHEN ARE HUMANS GOING TO LEARN THAT
CONSERVATION AND CONVERSATION ARE
INSEPARABLE AND INTERCHANGEABLE TERMS
IN THE FIGHT TO PROTECT OUR WILDLIFE!*



Australia's two most feared imports



CAPTION COMPETITION

Although the Australian media would have us believe this caption, we would like you to come up with a more suitable title!

Please send your ideal caption for this photograph to:

The Editor,
Cat Affairs
103 Enmore Rd,
Enmore 2042