

Cat Affairs

The Journal of the Cat Protection Society of NSW



THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW

Registered Office and postal address: 103 Enmore Road, Enmore, NSW 2042

Welfare Office - Volunteer Enquiries: 557-1011, 519-7201

Opportunity Shop: 87 Enmore Road, Enmore NSW 2042, 516-2072

Parkland Boarding Kennels: 469 Sunnyholt Road, Blacktown NSW 2148, 626-9333

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

In reviewing the past year our Society is becoming better known. The cat has been the subject of unprecedented discussion in the media due to environmental concerns. Because of this more people are conscious of the need to prevent their cat from becoming a nuisance and the first step is desexing. Those who phone councils for advice on low cost desexing are referred to us. Satisfied customers then spread the word about CPS by word of mouth so the more jobs we do the more the word spreads. One indication of our growing profile is the number of radio stations and newspapers wanting to interview us - a task which Nance Iredale is always willing to perform.

To take some of the load off Nance and give her more time to do the things she enjoys most (such as helping in the Opportunity Shop with sorting and pricing) we appointed a full time Secretary who also assists Nance in the management of the Welfare office. Bob Fitzpatrick, an ex high school teacher, is very efficient and has the qualities of patience, understanding and compassion needed for this position. After working for some months with the CPS he is very happy in his new vocation.

Opportunity Shop - the nett annual income from this venture has risen from \$27,399 in 1994 to \$29,374 at the end of the 1995 financial year. This is a pleasing result but we could do better if we had more volunteers to keep the shop manned by two people each day. **We need a larger pool of helpers willing to come in at short notice to cover absentees rather than having to continually ask the same willing folk time and again. There must be many members with a day or so to spare each month. Please ring!** I wish to extend our grateful thanks to all our team, whether selling, sorting, cleaning or sending handmade or excess goods. They are ably supported by the Co-ordinator, Grace Ayling, who spends innumerable days keeping things going.

Journal - I have been delighted by the number of people who have complimented the Journal. Much of the credit goes to Lee Wright, our Editor, who constantly sources new and interesting articles on all aspects of Cat for our readers pleasure and education. Thanks also go to the contributing members as readers contributions give the magazine a personal touch and go a long way to making it as good as it is.

Welfare - In recording another successful year, I know our members join me in congratulations and praise to our welfare staff who have to face many difficult and upsetting tasks in the course of their duties and who never flinch in a crisis. They always put aid to the animal before their own comfort and well-being.

In conclusion, my personal thanks to the members of the administrative Council who all work congenially together to make policy decisions in the perceived best interests of the Society.

On behalf of the State Council I wish you peace and joy during Christmas and the New Year. Please try to come to our party on the 9th of December and say 'hello' to old members and get to know some of the new ones.

SHIRLEY PIKLER

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VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED FOR OPPORTUNITY SHOP

COVER: **Sylvius**, CPS adoptee - his story is on page 10

PAGE 23: **Metro** at the window - CPS kitten - photo by Frances Kaukerei

CENTREFOLD: **Whitey** - photo by Joy Harland, Melbourne

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS OVERDUE

FINAL NOTICE - FINAL MAGAZINE

STILL ONLY \$10 FOR 3 ISSUES / \$5 PENSIONERS

RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP CONTEST WINNERS

SHIRLEY WILLETT, Budgewoi

Responsible Pet Ownership is a lifetime commitment. If you go to work then buy 2 kittens, it is very unfair to leave a little kitten on its own all day. It is not enough to say you love your kitten/cat, there's much more to it. The right food, fresh meat, tin food, fresh water, worming every 3 months, boosters every 12 months, clean litter trays each day. Teeth usually need cleaning as the cats get older. Don't have a long haired kitten or cat if you are not prepared to comb it every day. Cats must be inside at night. The more love you give them, the more you'll receive in return.

DOROTHY TAYLOR, Clovelly

Responsible cat owners love their pets in a practical and unselfish way, realising and attending their essential needs. Desexing, vaccinations and boosters and regular grooming are paramount. Confining cats at night is important to protect them from predators, both human and animal, and traffic. Cats are very adaptable and will soon accept routine. My cats know after tea they must use their litter box as there is no more going out until morning.

Responsibility is never allowing a cat to suffer. Caring cat owners find courage to say goodbye when euthanasia is the only humane solution.

CLEM O'SHEA, Ashbury

People owned by a cat have many responsibilities. First the cat should be examined by a veterinarian for health reasons, vaccinated and desexed. It should be fed regularly with nourishing food and have plenty of fresh water available. Regular grooming with a brush is necessary and a scratching post should be provided. The cat should be kept indoors at night and a litter tray provided in a suitable place. If possible a patch of stiff grass is valuable for the cat to eat when it swallows hair. Finally and most importantly, the cat should receive lots of tender loving care.

Dept of Environment & Planning

Responsible cat owners care for their cat and keep it healthy. They prevent it from taking wildlife and from breeding freely. They don't let their cat disrupt their neighbours' lives. They don't feed or encourage strays but ask neighbours if they own the cat. If not, they catch it and take it to the RSPCA, CPS or AWL or ask them for advice on how to catch cats.

Our increasing urbanisation demands that pets must be kept under tight control. No longer is there room in our cities for free roamers - both for the animal's safety and the neighbour's convenience. With so many specialised enhancements for a good indoor life on the market, any cat can be happy in the confines of a home with proper care and love. A responsible owner makes an indoors cat happy and content doing cat things in safety.



The following is not a contest winner - but is being printed 'democratically', as requested. No amount of 'compulsory' desexing will ever totally remove breeding cats - as much desexing as possible must be done to reduce the pet over population. Surely promoting freedom and partial desexing promotes over population, starvation, illness and abuse!!

Lee Wright - Editor

Dr SALLY RAY

Responsible cat ownership means loving your cats, caring for all their needs, food, health, shelter and general care and allowing them to be a cat. It does not mean incarceration as promoted by the misguided. Must one's cat never experience the fun and joy of chasing butterflies or scaling a tree? Incarceration produces neurotic cats. RCO does not mean compulsory desexing. Compulsion will lead to loss of natural vigour. RCO also means courteous attempts to prevent your cat being a genuine and demonstrable nuisance to neighbours. It means you should keep your cat indoors at night to protect your feline.

CAT MYTH No 1

Roger A Caras, ASPCA President

It is utter nonsense about cats being 'no maintenance' pets. Their food, their preventative medical schedule, and their spaying and neutering are not one whit less imperative than the same concerns in canine care. And in almost all settings, cats are far better off inside than outside. *Reprinted from 'Cats of Thistle Hill, Simon & Schuster,*

SEMANTICS

Roger A Caras, ASPCA President

Typically we refer to mixed breed animals as mutts, mongrels and by other regional expressions the disdain of which is often emphasised by the words 'only' or 'just' preceding them. The whole feeling is of 'lesser cat'. That lack of image can lead to a lack of concern. I am holding out for the term 'random-bred' as the perfectly natural counterpoint to 'purebred'.

It gives our friends with whiskers the dignity they deserve and the kind of identity they need. In our world today logo is what it is all about, logo and image. With our television-commercial mentality, a breed or nonbreed designation is nothing more or less than a brand name. Would you buy anything as classless as Mutt Soup or Mongrel Denture Glue? In contrast, Random Bred has a free, wind-in-the-hair feeling about it. It sounds good enough to be a soap scented with mountain laurel from Ireland in the springtime.

Categorically, random-bred cats need and certainly deserve exactly the same care and consideration, the same nutrition and the same protection against disease that purebred cats require. The idea that they are tougher and less needy is one of the most cruel hoaxes traditional knowledge has played on our cats. We are dealing with sensitive living creatures and anything that minimises their really simple needs is contrary to their well being. *Reprinted from 'Cats of Thistle Hill, Simon & Schuster, 1994.*



THE . S C R A T C H I N G P O S T .

Did you hear about the cat who ate cheese and waited at the mousehole with baited breath?

MARGARET PAINE

Thank you for publishing the picture of my two cats, Mandy and Purdy, in the August Journal. I was very pleased and surprised to see it - however, the youngest member of the family, Spotted Mist Daisy Mae, was rather jealous and has asked me to send you a picture of her.

(Ed note: it's not in my makeup to offend a cat so here's your moment of fame Ms Daisy Mae. And congratulations to you, Margaret, for becoming a Life Member of the Society.)

IRENE SHEREVERA, Blasland

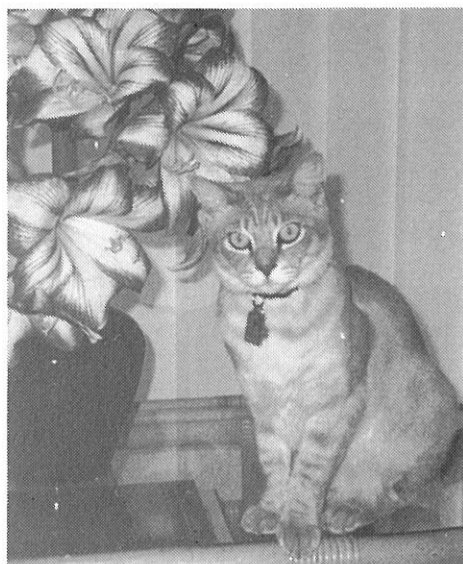
I've been a member of the CPS for years and one of the delights of membership is the lovely Journal. I always look forward to receiving it because it is fun to read and we love the interesting articles and gorgeous photos. One of the things I like best are the stories written by other members about their experiences in adopting cats from the CPS. One such experience befell my friend and fellow member, Gerlinde Slip, back in 1992. It was really touching and after mulling over it for the last three years, I have finally written the story. This is definitely one of the CPS success stories!!



Gerlinde & Sylvius Slip

To understand a cat, you must realise that he has his own gifts, his own viewpoint, even his own morality

In a cat's eyes all things belong to cats.



JOAN RUDD, Waitara

I enclose a donation for Camellia. The rest of the family, Sir Gilbert Sardine (white with black), Hunter (ginger and newly adopted), Black Sally, who says she's a Persian (suffers delusions of grandeur) and Madam Daffodil (tortoiseshell), who rules us all with a velvety iron paw, send greetings. All have been rescued and now live comfortable, happy lives, for which they repay us with love and beauty.

ERIN LOWE, Mayfield

I am 12 years old. I love my cat. She is a Russian Blue that Mum got from the RSPCA and I have made up a poem for her (and other cats too!). My grandpop thinks you might have a tiny space for it in your next journal.

CATS

FUR, TAIL, MEOW, FOODS -
playful, jumpy, lazy,
Fat, skinny, great, moods
Fleas, deposits CRAZY!



MARION DUNN

Show Secretary, Desexed Cat Club
On behalf of the Club I would like to thank the Society so much for the wonderful trophies that have been donated for our show. We are very grateful to have the support of the Society and will do our best to promote the CPS at the show. We are very happy to distribute the complimentary copies you gave us for all the exhibitors at the show and hope that you will receive many new members for the Society.

GRACE TAYLOR is a long standing member of the CPS and is Mum to 4 cats from a wild mother. But loving cats is just one of Grace's fortes. She has an enviable reputation of being one of the best contributors of goods to the Op Shop and she has recently been awarded special recognition for knitting the most beanies for the children of the Chernobyl disaster. Grace epitomises the generous spirits that contribute so generously to help others, be they cats or people. The CPS salutes Grace and her continuing efforts to help those around her.



ROAMIN' TAILS

Judeth Materna

Boadicea, queen of an ancient tribe.
Augustus, warrior with a Roman pride,
Their meeting; non-injurious,
The neighbourhood was furious,
They both parted with a smile.

Owner & neighbours yelled 'castration'
Boadicea was serene in her gestation.
Augustus sought new conquest
Cat traps rated a 'no contest'.
As he conquered mile after mile.

If the parents 'marriage' was operative
Appearance of heirs was dramatic.
Owner falling prostrate
Unsuspecting the queen's state,
Boadicea wore a look of guile.

MARITAL BLUES

Judeth Materna

And what of my good friend Chris
Who sought out marital bliss
Now his life is all strife
No, it isn't the wife
It's her four furry felines that hiss

To err is human - to purr feline

CATMAS CAROLS



By Laurie Loughlin and illustrated by Mary Ross, Harper Collins, \$9.95. This little stocking stuffer is a MUST for cat lovers. You don't have to believe in Christmas to get it, just believe in cats. Some of the well known songs are: "We Three Cats of Orient Are", "Awake in a Cat Bed", "Collar Bells", "O! Little Town of Cat Mayhem", "Go, Smell It At the Fountains". There are 20 carols in the book and an equal number of delightful illustrations. Don't miss this one!

Oh, Christmas Tree!
 Oh, Christmas Tree! Oh, Christmas Tree!
 Your Ornaments shine temptingly.
 I want to whack them with my paw
 And grab them when they hit the floor.
 Oh, Christmas Tree! Oh, Christmas Tree!
 Your ornaments shine temptingly.

Wreck the Halls
 Wreck the halls with two cats running
 Fa-la-la-la-la ... la-la-la-la
 Fur goes flying, lamps get done in,
 Fa-la-la-la-la ... la-la-la-la
 Tumbling swiftly down the stairway,
 Fa-la-la-la-la ... la-la-la-la
 Woe to those who get in their way.
 Fa-la-la-la-la ... la-la-la-la

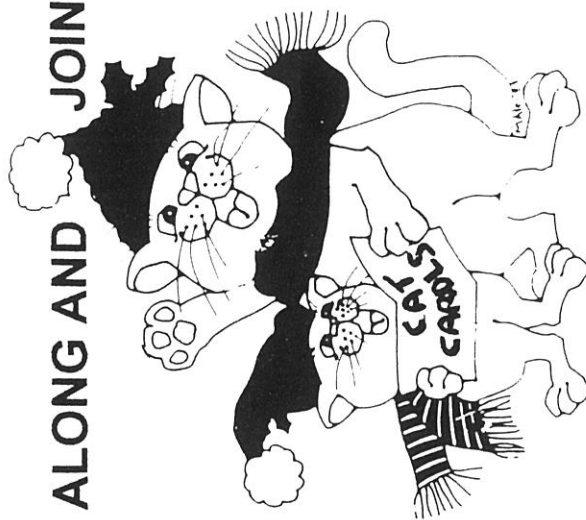
CPS CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY, 9 DECEMBER
 2:00 p.m.

103 Enmore Road, Enmore

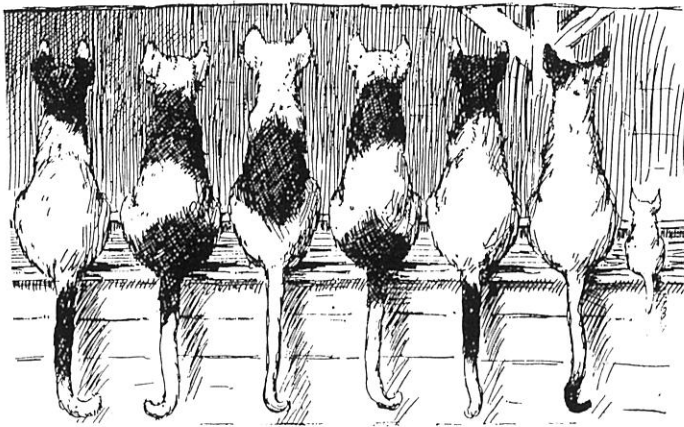
**** EVERYONE WELCOME ****
CAT CHAT GALORE
FOOD, FUN, PHOTOS and FRIENDS
DOOR PRIZES & A RAFFLE

COME ALONG AND JOIN US



The CPS is across the street from the Enmore Theatre
 Street parking readily available
 Buses: 426, 428 from city stop close by
 Train: Newtown Station, 3 block walk up Enmore Road

CAT TALES



FROM CRICKET IN CAT HEAVEN

(author's name not given)

It is now 7 long lonely days you have been without me since I left you for the Big Cattery in the sky. You miss me terribly as you sit by our heater and see my empty basket and look at my picture. But please Mum, don't cry for your 'Bubba' as you mostly called me. We found each other quite by chance and so began our 17 wonderful years together. I know I ruled the household with a rod of iron but we both loved it that way. I was the small weak one in a Siamese litter but your special love and care gave me a long and comfortable life.

How you agonised over letting me go but I was getting so tired. You are so lonely now I wish you had got another kitten before I had to leave, but you thought a lively youngster would disrupt my peaceful, sedate way of life. How I surprised you the last evening when I came out to meet you at the door when you arrived home. I had not done that for ages. This last winter, I stayed in my sleep igloo until you put the heater on for me and the house was nice and warm - then I would venture out. How happy I was that we could sit by the heater until the vet came and I could go to sleep peacefully at home. I always hated going in the car to the vet.

We are not so very far apart as I sleep soundly beneath your bedroom window by the little rose bush you planted for me. Soon the spring flowers will be blooming above me and perhaps they will brighten your day a little as you pause by my sleeping place. Love and Purrs, from your Little girl.

POLLY - a most unusual cat

Nola Foster, Port Macquarie

On 17 December, 1993, I was handed a 6 week old scrap of blue grey fur with the words of the local vet - 'this little Mongolian doesn't fit in with the other kittens'. This was my introduction to Polly. Like 9 out of 10 kittens taken in by the RSPCA, Polly was rampant with fleas so a swift tub in Martha Gardener followed by a flea rinse was the first step in her care.

As she was towel dried the reason for the Mongolian label was noted. All her four feet were in some way deformed. Her tiny front feet only had two claws and both back legs were stubby deformed and also had only two claws. In every other aspect she was a normal, healthy, hungry little kitten.

A story about this oddity was published by the local free Port Macquarie Express. I wondered if there were more of the same litter out there in public hands. Annette Barber from Western Suburbs Animal Welfare League saw this write up when a friend brought the paper back from a visit to Port. Annette phoned to say what she had found in some 10 year old English books on cats that this condition was referred to as 'Split Toe'.

In the hopes of finding out more I wrote to Dr Carol Webb of the Victorian CPS. Dr Webb was good enough to reply and said that in 8 years some 180,000 cats and kittens had passed through her hands and only 2 such kittens had been seen. One of these was still alive and had been adopted by Dr Webb's mother. The other had been wild and was euthanased.

Last year Polly was entered in two sections of the local pet show. She took 2nd Prize in the shorthaired cat section, beaten by another RSPCA cat Jac. Then, much to the consternation of the presiding steward, she took 1st prize as the most unusual pet, beating the lizards, rats, chooks etc. Maybe the judging, done by a local vet, had something to do with this!!

Polly is now a plump 2 year old. Her nails need to be constantly checked and trimmed, otherwise the two front nails grow around and into her pads. She has never climbed a tree, she does not catch anything (just thieves from the other cats when she can!). No visitor's handbag is safe if left on the floor (Polly climbs in to reorganise the contents). When it is time for ice cream, Polly will be close by smacking her lips, sour cream goes down well also.

Polly now has a green ribbon with gold lettering and a certificate to prove she is 'A Most Unusual Pet'. She is, of course, a very rare cat also.



Readers contributions to Cat Tails are warmly welcomed. This feature is one of the most popular in Cat Affairs so please send in stories and poems about your cats and kittens!
Editor

LOOKING FOR A SPECIAL GIFT -

FOR YOURSELF OR SOMEONE ELSE?

PUSS 'N' POOCH GALLERY

is the place to go!

HUNDREDS OF UNIQUE GIFTS - TOYS, COLLECTIBLES,
ORNAMENTS, NOVELTIES, LIMITED EDITION PRINTS,
CARDS AND MUCH MORE.....

ALL CELEBRATING OUR FELINE AND CANINE FRIENDS

For that PURRRRRR-FECT gift!!



Opening Night - Marilyn Carragher of 2KY and Jenny Gibson, Co-Owner

PUSS 'N' POOCH GALLERY

Shop 2, Balmain Village Arcade
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Open 10-6pm Mon-Sat, 10-5pm Sunday
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*My clients often tell me it is getting harder to keep a cat
My reply is that it is getting tougher to stay sane in
our mad cities so we are integrating our pets
more into our social structure. Therefore,
if your cats are to be part of your life
and totally reliant on you, you must
take on total responsibility for
them. If there were halcyon
days of carefree cat owner-
ship, they have now
passed in both
urban and rural
Australia*

Kim Kendall BVSc, MRCVS

So much more than just food and water RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

SO WHAT GOES IN TO OWNING YOUR CAT RESPONSIBLY?

It is certainly much more
than a bowl of milk and a dry
spot in the garage!

The issues and actions I would consider
high on the list of keeping a cat responsibly
are DESEXING (females absolutely! and as
soon as possible - with males there is more leeway),
preventative medicine, curfews or restrictions to a cat's
movements outside the home, identification, and provision
of a safe, interesting environment. I don't think this readership
needs to be told about quality feeding - I'm sure most Cat Affairs
readers are already well trained by their felines.

DESEXING, (technically spaying/ovariohysterectomy or
castration) is an issue which seems to be quite divisive, and
somehow vets get the blame for being qualified to perform these
operations where others are not.

Cats are gloriously efficient about nearly everything they do, and
breeding is one of the fortes. The statistics are well known, if *one
female cat* breeds as often as she is capable (two to three times
a year) with an average of three kittens per litter up to 13 years
old (many breed beyond that), and none of her kittens are
desexed, SHE WILL BE RELATED TO ONE MILLION CATS
by her 13th birthday. Now, Nature is never going to let that
happen because food will run short and many would die of
disease and accident. But the principle is clear - cats are very
good at creating cats. If we are not going to let Nature keep the
numbers down through starvation and disease, then the
responsible action is to prevent the cats from breeding, and there
are several ways to do it.

You should ask your vet or their nurse to point out the relevant
parts on your own cat next time, for a three dimensional view, but
this is the basic layout. The anatomy in question for females is
two ovaries (about the size of a child's little fingertip), two
fallopian tubes wrapped around the ovaries and pretty hard to see,
two horns of the uterus (varying in size from about the size of
parcel-tying string to big enough to carry 10 kittens full term), a
small body of the uterus (the equivalent of the human womb
where our babies usually lodge) and then the cervix (a tough ring

of tissue to keep the inside sterile but
then enlarging to let the kittens out at
full term.

For males, what you see is what is removed -
two testicles in tough tissue sacs beneath the skin
of the scrotum (which is just below the anus in the cat
and pig, but definitely not in the kangaroo!)

The most Common method of pregnancy prevention is the
SURGICAL method as performed humanely, ethically and with
a minimum of fuss by your vet (after 5 years full time at Uni and
with a huge investment in premises, equipment and staff time).
And what they do is this - the cat is anaesthetised (in one of
several ways, but usually by intravenous agents). In females the
hair is shaved from the site preferred by the vet for access to the
ovaries and uterus. As the ovaries are located near the kidneys
(just behind the last rib on both sides) and the cervix, or womb
exit, is located just about under the base of the tail (in the pelvic
canal area), you can see there is a variety of places to enter the
abdomen to get hold of the pertinent pieces.

Once the area is scrubbed and disinfected, using the same
solutions and care as used on humans, and the surgeon has
scrubbed their hands to be bacteria and virus free, then they place
a sterile drape over the area and cut through the skin with a scalpel
blade. The muscle of the abdomen is then lifted and cut, and the
vet uses one of a variety of instruments to find the uterine horn
and lift it out of the incision. Different vets use different tools and
techniques, but the end result is that the uterine horn, with the
ovary following naturally, is pulled out of the wound in the
abdomen. The blood supply is tied off by a loop of suture
material and several knots, the ovary is then amputated, and the
blood vessels replaced into the abdomen.

In times gone past, often only the ovary was removed, so at this
stage the other side of the ovary would have been tied off and the
uterine horn left behind. This is rarely done now and usually,
after the second ovary is found and tied off, the uterus is tied off
near the cervix, and the whole apparatus removed. Stitches
(sutures) are then placed in the abdominal wall and then the skin.
The cat wakes up in a warm cage and goes home, never to have
to worry about unwanted pregnancies and too many kittens for too
few good homes.

A variation on the theme is to use a laparoscope (a long tube of
glass bundles that magically provide light and vision in the
darkness of the abdomen. The ovaries and the uterus are still
removed, but access is varied by the ability of the laparoscope to
allow the vet to see everything inside from the eyepiece of his
laparoscope. Another option is having the cat's 'tubes tied' so
they don't have kittens. That is easy enough, but the cat is then
exposed to all the dangers and ills associated with repeated
matings (e.g. male cats with FIV, FeLV, or flu, plus a much
greater risk of malignant breast cancer), plus the nuisance factor
of calling in season and all those boy friends in the backyard.
Hardly a 'kind' option.

For the male, it is all less dramatic as everything you need is
visible! As long as both the testicles have 'dropped' into the
scrotum, then the surgery (once the cat is anaesthetised, of
course!) involves a quick scrub up, then cutting the scrotum (skin
layer), removing the testicle (in or out of the tough white 'tunic')

and tying off the blood vessels. Now there are as many ways to castrate a cat as there are vets. However the end result is two testicles no longer attached to the cat so their testosterone and sperm producing facilities are gone. I describe the post operation difference as the difference between the guy who wants to go to the football match and the one who stays to wash the dishes. Same cat person, different interests!

In other countries there is a variation on the cat breeding control theme. In France, the females are desexed but not the males, and I can only assume that if everyone is on an equal hormone footing it all works OK. In Sweden, the law prevents 'unnecessary surgical intervention' so the cat owners are left with hormonal tablets and injections to prevent pregnancy and these carry the risk of diabetes, breast cancer and uterine infections (at which point the cat is surgically desexed as it is now a problem to the cat!) Bear in mind the level of social responsibility shown in all parts of Swedish lives and you can see how this method only works with deep commitment. In England the attitude is that desexing is the right thing and certainly there seemed to be fewer strays - but then they also have urban foxes. In Zimbabwe, well, what the leopard didn't get the snakes sometimes did. However, most people did get their animals desexed to reduce wandering (leopards aren't far out of towns).

New methods of birth control are being developed as an aid to feral animal control. There is already an injection to vaccinate cattle against their own hormones so they don't become pregnant and so can fatten for market (previously they were spayed under rather grim conditions). There is a cat castration vaccine developed but it does not work for life yet. And within 10 years they reckon to have a virally transmitted vaccine that will sterilise rabbits (and then probably cats).

In the meantime it's you and your vet teaming up to keep the numbers of homeless cats down. It is not really up to the RSPCA or CPS or other welfare agencies to pick up the debris of people's inconsiderate and irresponsible actions. Interestingly, 96% of cats are desexed, and funnily enough, 96% of people believe in desexing their cats! This has been proven time and time again by the failure of 'free desexing' programs to have any effect on the stray population or kitten oversupply. It only requires a few 'can't be bothereds' to keep the problem on the boil.

Cats, male and female, can be desexed at 6 - 8 weeks and this early desexing has no detrimental effect on their subsequent health. The research has been done by welfare agencies in the USA and several agencies here are doing the early desexing. There is a slightly higher anaesthetic risk, so the recommendation for 'owned' kittens is 12 - 20 weeks, especially females. Males can be left longer but have a tendency to wander, have tangles with cars and eventually spray.



VACCINATIONS Moving on from desexing, there are more things that the cat owner should be aware of as part of the responsibility of fully caring for a cat. The next 'vetting' responsibility is vaccination - critical for young cats for flu and enteritis and probably for leukaemia, useful for older cats and necessary again for the elderly. **Worming** is the same - roundworms, hookworms and tapeworms should be eliminated by regular tablet or paste administration. Even flea control is now a major veterinary issue. Many of the cats I see have flea bite allergies and their comfort depends on concentrated, applied, tailor made flea control.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY requires control of your cat's movements. Yes, I do believe that 'flat' cats are happy cats, they have a proven greater longevity, and as long as their social structural requirements are met, have a very pleasant life. Cat curfews are a big issue in Australia. Most endangered wildlife is nocturnal so the dusk to dawn curfew concept has ecological plus physical benefits (most cat fights, car accidents, etc, seem to occur after dark). Once the councils start regulating cat ownership, as per Victoria, then the curfew will be mandatory. I think it is high time cat owners are responsible for their cats (as co-habitees if the actual 'owner' concept seems odd!!) instead of hiding behind 'the cat does what it wants'. Cats will always get their own way - but you can make them think that the parameters you set are what they want anyway. Cats are smart but so are children and you don't let them get away with everything if you want them to be happy in their adulthood. Cats and kids need boundaries, so define them!

The next level of curfew is to put outdoor cats in a "Cat Modular Park (ph 053 584 555). These are constructed around the bushes and trees in your garden so your cat can spend time outdoors safely. The cost of each module varies but it is no more expensive than having one or two abscesses treated! The wildlife is protected, there is lots of room for the cat to play outdoors and no danger from cars or other cats. Of course the same goes for totally indoor cats. Most people make their flat cat's environment more interesting with scratching posts, climbing boards, concentrated playtime and other cats.

IDENTIFICATION is increasingly important to the responsible cat owner. It will become a legal requirement once cats are to be registered. Cat collars and discs are useful but often transient forms of identification. The new microchips, tiny, non-toxic, silicon slivers placed painlessly under the skin by vets - are permanent markers. They are read by a special scanner placed near the cat and the code shown on the scanner is given to a central registry who can then look up the owner's address and phone number and the cat can be home in hours. The scanners are at all welfare agencies and most vets. Once councils require curfew, it will be the only reliable way to get your pet back.

SO WHAT DOES RESPONSIBLE CAT OWNERSHIP INVOLVE? It involves you treating your cat with the same amount of concern and devotion most cat owners are sure that their cats show them. Modern living is pretty intense and terribly regulated, but if most people insist on high density living, a few cannot be allowed to ruin it for the many. Good manners is the basis for most regulations; it's just that not everybody is well mannered enough to consider the consequences of their actions!

I wonder how the world would be if cats could be bothered ruling it

SYLVIVUS \ JULIUS

A FURRY TALE FOR CAT LOVERS

(Cover Story)

Irene Sherevera

Once upon a time ... Well, not so long ago, a most unusual and magical cat story occurred. It began sadly with tears, but ended, like all good fairy tales, with great happiness and joy. And if anybody still has doubts about the magical nature of cats, they can lay those doubts aside once and for all, because this story definitely shows that cats are indeed creatures of magic and mystery.

Harry and Gerlinde Slip are two good folk who live with a large family of happy cats, two dogs, itinerant children, friends of the family and other visiting odd-bods; a warm, cosy and bookishly crowded house which would delight any snug hobbit, rabbit or wombat. Now, both Harry and Gerlinde are a bit of a soft touch for homeless kittens. In the school holidays of 1992 they adopted a kitten, an endearing bundle of soft grey fur who was named, in the best spirit of classical 'dignitas' - Julius. Julius grew up into a magnificent fluffy cat with a lavish coat of creamy champagne grey, and a lovable nature which soon enthroned him in everybody's heart as 'King of Cats'. Adored by all, Julius proved to be as good natured as he was handsome.

Harry used to take the two dogs for long walks down to the park. The lure of the open road proved irresistible to Julius. Despite all efforts to keep him at home, Julius also took to the road. Alas, dear reader! The dreadful, the unimaginable happened. Julius was killed on the road and early the next morning a distraught Harry brought him home, so beautiful but so lifeless. Julius was buried in the garden and family and friends grieved because he left such a vacuum behind. He had been a rare and irreplaceable creature, plucked from his adoring family at 12 months. Poor Harry! He blamed himself - though we all know that he was not at fault.

This is where I come in. I am a colleague of Gerlinde Slip, and myself the mother of a blissful family of seven cats. I had been one of the many people who had fallen under the spell of the beautiful Julius. We'd duck off at lunchtime just to visit him for a few minutes. One morning, on arrival at school, I saw immediately that the normally calm and collected Gerlinde was tearful and dreadfully upset. A premonition of doom came over me. "Gerlinde!" I exclaimed, "What on earth has happened?" "It's terrible!" she said, blinking away the tears. "It's the worst day of my life!"

I think I knew at once what had happened. "It's not ...?" I hesitated. "Yes," she said, "It's Julius. He's dead!". And then I heard the awful details. I felt so sorry for Harry. I felt very sad indeed - I think all cat lovers will understand how we felt.

By mid morning I'd had enough. "Gerlinde," I said, "You know what you have to do. You must get another cat straightaway. It's the only way to get over this tragedy. I know that you will never replace Julius, but another lovely cat will help you all to recover quickly. And you would be saving another cat." After a bit of soul searching Gerlinde decided to do it, mainly for Harry's sake because he was so disconsolate. She phoned a couple of animal shelters and a pet shop, seeking a young grey cat - without much success.

I have been a member of the CPS for a few years and suggested them. "Let's phone the CPS, I'll bet they will be able to help us in our quest. They directed us to Parkland Kennels. We decided to go the moment school ended to find a nice grey cat for Harry. "You know, Gerlinde, I have a premonition that we are going to find something, I can't get rid of this feeling." Gerlinde, being a pragmatist, and a scientist to boot, was not quite as sure as I was.

At Parkland we were delighted by the lovely ambience of the place. We were greeted by Shirley who took us to meet a beautiful grey Persian. It was indeed beautiful but we were a bit put off by its nervousness. "There is the other grey cat," she said, "but he's not very fluffy and he is in quarantine with a cold. He's about 15 months old. Not wanting to hurt her feelings we said that we would look at him - even tho Gerlinde was on the verge of settling for the Persian. Shirley took us to the recovery cages for convalescing cats and opened one cage. "He's lovely," she said, "and he's nearly over his cold." I knew Gerlinde was not thrilled about taking a sick cat home but we felt we owed it to Shirley to at least see the poor cat. The door opened and out came

'Good God!', I exclaimed. "No," exclaimed Gerlinde. We stood in stunned silence, not believing our own eyes, staring at a superb champagne grey cat who stood calmly gazing up at us. We felt we must be seeing a ghost because he could have been Julius himself! After a few minutes of astonishment we began to see various differences in shape of face, tufts on ears and so forth. But overall, he was as close to Julius as anyone could imagine. You will just have to imagine our feelings at that moment because I can't describe them-all.

"It's fate, Gerlinde, you realise that you have to take him, don't you? It's as if Julius has sent him to you because he can't bear your distress." All I could think of was to get him home to poor Harry as soon as possible. Trying to collect her thoughts and behave rationally and decisively, Gerlinde finally produced her trusty Visa card with the words, "I'll take him!" She joined the CPS, paid for his costs, purchased a cardboard pet case and accepted his remaining medication, before staggering to the car with her precious cargo.

We couldn't drive to the Slip house fast enough - through peak hour traffic. A great commotion from inside the box prompted Gerlinde to 'just give him some air'. A fluffy, handsome grey head and two chunky paws emerged from the box on Gerlinde's lap. The cat clung to her bosom and gazed into her eyes, emitting the occasional musical miaow. I could see that the new mother was quite overcome and incapable of doing much more than murmuring endearments in her native German. Happiness was definitely on its way back!

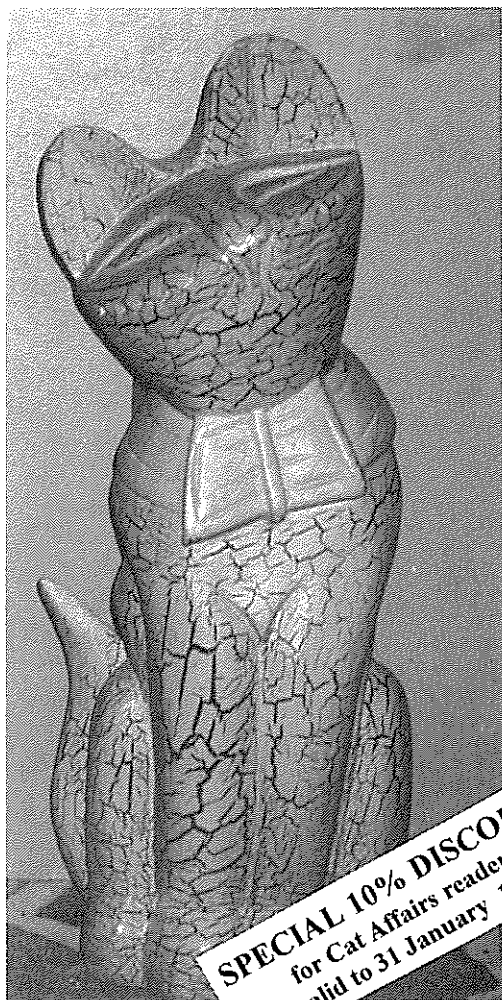
Dear reader - how can one describe the meeting between the new cat and Harry? Suffice it to say that they remained closeted together for about 40 minutes, after which Harry emerged, shaking his head but smiling. They had obviously come to an understanding. The rest, as they say in the annals of the CPS, is history. Who is Sylvivus? Only Julius, safe and happy in Cat Heaven, could tell us. But it is his secret. As for Sylvivus, he is also a magnificent fellow, he is - 'The King of Cats', adored by everyone, cat and human alike, who, from the best chair in the lounge, lays down the rules in Harry and Gerlinde's home.

Green Magic

Gifts, Souvenirs, cards

Promoting an extensive array of cat statues, t-shirts, jewellery, cards and more (also owls, birds and dogs galore)

Ideal shopping for cat lovers
Ideal shopping for animal lovers



"Crackle Cat"
from a large range of cat statues

Shop 5049, Level 5
(Next to food Hall)
Westfield Shopping Town
Parramatta NSW
02 633 2418

CAT SHOPS MAKE A COME BACK

Since Sydney's boutique cat shops closed or moved during the recession people wanting cat oriented items have had to shop around in a variety of stores for jewellery, statues, bric a brac. REJOICE!! This drought is over! Two specialist shops have opened this year and an existing shop has renamed itself to indicate its penchant for paws.

Parramatta's Westfield Shopping Complex had a major face lift this year and added **GREEN MAGIC** to a host of new shops. Green Magic, located under the glass roof near the food hall, is a shop crammed full of all manner of cat paraphenelia. And not just cats, but dogs, chooks, cows, dolphins and any number of other popular fauna are well supplied. Whether you want statues, wearables, fabric items, jewellery, something for yourself or a special present - it will be very hard to come away empty handed with such a selection. Prices will suit all pockets from budgets to 'blow-the-wad'. For the 'Westies' there's plenty of selection in this little animal haven so come and see for yourself. **Green Magic, Shop 5049 (next to food hall) Westfield Shopping Complex, Parramatta. (02) 633-2418.**

Have you ever phoned a shop and had the proprietress greet you with the shop name and a 'Woof'? Definitely a different approach - even if you are a confirmed cat lover. It is a standard opening for **PUSS 'N' POOCH**, a boutique shop specialising in merchandise for dog and cat lovers. The shop is spacious and contains many unique items that are reasonably priced. Do you have someone who is hard to buy for and you only want to spend about \$10? Try the cat notepads. Incredible! It would be a hard person they wouldn't please. And if you have several hundred dollars free - well try the wrought iron bedside lamp. And between those two there's a wide range of unique and quality items to choose. And once you've shopped till you drop - wander around Balmain village and see the other lovely shops and (on a Saturday) take in the Balmain Markets at the Village Church. **Puss 'N' Pooch, Shop 2, Balmain Village Arcade, 269-271 Darling St, Balmain. (02) 810-5025.**

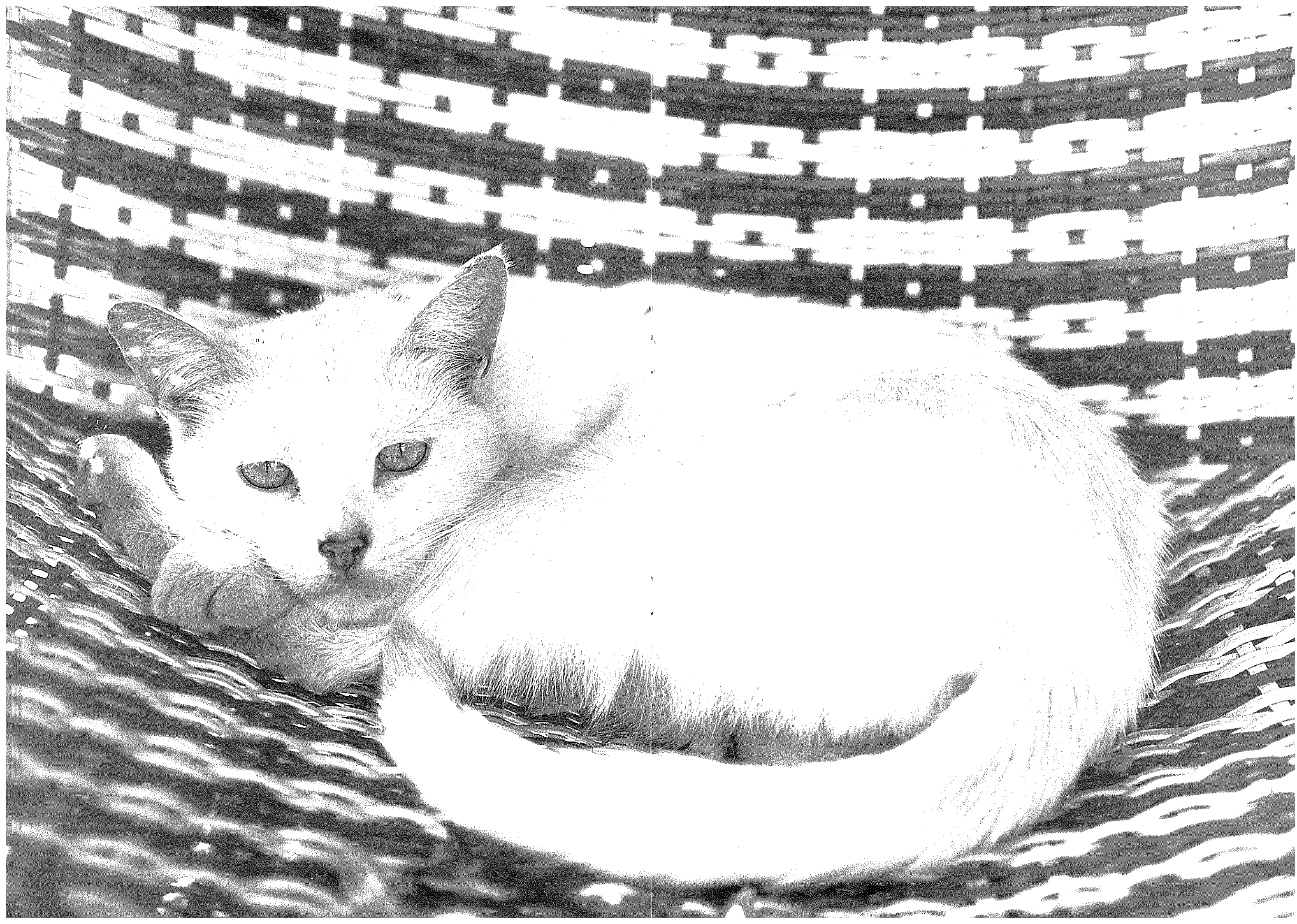
PAWS A WHILE used to be a linen shop but when the owner realised her display unicorns were selling better than the actual merchandise she wisely started to switch and it wasn't long before the animals did away with the fabrics. Now the shop specialises in a range of quality animal statues, clothes and gift items but the main focus is the range of 'living stone' statues. These are imported from America and very realistic and well made. The stock reflects quality workmanship and various sized figurines in a large range of domestic and wild animals will suit all budgets. There's also a lovely range of hand puppets. There are items priced to suit anyone but don't miss the architrave cats - they are wonderful and are more than a cut above any architrave cat you have yet seen! So ideal to rest on doors, windows or picture frames. **Paws A While, Shop 42, Level 1, QVB, George St, Sydney (02) 261-2952**

For jewellery, **Glitz Gifts**, shop C39 in the Imperial Arcade has a good selection of cat designs.

*A dog is a dog, a bird is a bird
and a cat is a person.*



*Cats asleep on the shelves like
motorised bookends*



IN REMEMBRANCE



OLIVE GRAHAM

Olive Graham died of renal failure on 29 August, 1995. Olive had a long involvement with the CPS and was a Life Governor. Nance Iredale, CPS Director, heard that Olive was in hospital and sent her the August Cat Affairs. Just days before Olive died she sent a note to Nance, "Thank you for sending me Cat Affairs. I was proud to become a Life Governor as our little friends are so alone but I hope to win Lotto and be more helpful". Olive always had the love of cats in her heart and was a strong supporter of the CPS. She will be missed by the CPS and by the cats who found help and support through her generous donations.

MRS CROFT of Hurstville

In memory of my mother
Mrs Vickery

PETALROSE

In loving memory of my darling Petalrose, put to sleep 7 April, 1995. Too dearly loved to be forgotten by her mum.
Marjorie Smith, Annerley, Qld

SAM McVAY

In loving memory of Sam, our handsome, loving and wonderful little man. Our love for you continues and deepens as each day goes by. Love always.
Anne, Mum & Dad McVay

MY CATS

In memory of my 5 lovely cats who are now all at rest.
Mrs AJ Kensell, Bondi

CAMELLIA

In Camellia's memory, she who sleeps now in our leafy garden.
Joan Rudd, Waitara

FELIX

I apply for membership in memory of 'Felix' an extremely affectionate grey part-Burmese who adopted me 11 years ago.
Diana Carr, Five Dock

KELLY

Died aged 17 years. Always beloved.
Miss EB Hardy, Ryde

MEGSIE

Thinking of you, my dearest Megsie.
Donna Dickson, Bondi Junction

TWIGGY

In memory of my old cat.
Ms S G Fleming, Five Dock



I KNOW YOU'LL UNDERSTAND

Barbara Carter

Like so many people
I said 'Never Again!'
Now my sweet cat has gone
Another would be too much pain.

But oh - the house is so empty.
No welcome at the door,
No warm body on my lap,
No tapping of your paw.

So, I must find another -
A sweet and needful pet.
But never think, because you've gone,
Don't think that I forget.

For it's because of you
And the love you brought each day
That I can't face this empty house
Since you went away.

I'm sure you know that many
Cats are all alone and sad
If I can help another
It won't harm the joys we had.

So many lonely ones there are
In this great big land
If I can help another,
I know you'll understand.

Every pet we hold is a tragedy waiting to happen. It is inevitable. Besides, from long experience I know that the fact a pet dies is far less important than that it lived. I remember the wonderful things they used to do, not when they stopped doing them. Roger A Caras, Reprinted from 'Cats of Thistle Hill, Simon & Schuster

PET MEMORIAL CEMETERY

Noreen Jessop-Smith

What happens when a loved pet, who has become one of the family, dies? For those who think about what happens to the pet after death, it can be a real worry. Burying in the backyard is not always a possibility, as apart from being beyond many people's capabilities, it may not be allowed by Council, or the landlord, or people may move and so on. There is a dignified answer to all this.

For 28 years The Pet Memorial Cemetery & Crematorium has been providing a dignified and personal service for pet owners of pets of all kinds. Many vets will now recommend to a grieving client that they can contact the Pet Cemetery at Berkshire Park, on the western outskirts of Sydney, and arrange for a burial or cremation. Indeed, many vets themselves have used the cemetery for their own pets.

When you lose a pet - your beloved companion, best friend, and perhaps the only creature on earth who never left your side in good times or bad, you can feel you will never get over it. Many owners bond with their animals over 10 to 20 years, they are one of the family, and as such, deserve a caring resting place. Ed and Noreen Jessop-Smith created this unique cemetery in 1967 and it has steadily grown into a very beautiful and peaceful place where pet owners are offered an important and personal service when they are facing a most difficult loss.

If they choose a burial, owners are encouraged to attend, and previous to the burial there is a viewing room where they can spend some time with their pet. Memorials are available in brass, bronze, marble or granite. Pets can be buried in

their favourite blanket or in a lined casket.

If cremation is chosen, several options are available. The Cremains may be scattered, or taken home in a urn, of which there is a large variety. Memorial Walls and Gardens are also available for those wishing the pet to remain in a permanent place at the Cemetery. All pets are cremated or buried individually and with the dignity they deserve. The cemetery is beautifully maintained and continually being upgraded, and is open to the public daily and for visiting memorials. It is necessary to make an appointment to discuss arrangements if using the Cemetery and the phone line is available 24 hours. Pets can be collected from home or the vet, but many prefer to render that last loving service by bringing the pet themselves. It assures the owner of the caring facilities that will be handling their animal. This is not a sad place, it's headstones tell a story of love and devotion.

Those wishing to know more or have a coloured brochure should contact The Pet Cemetery, St Marys Rd, Berkshire Park, NSW 2765. ph.. (045) 72-5333.

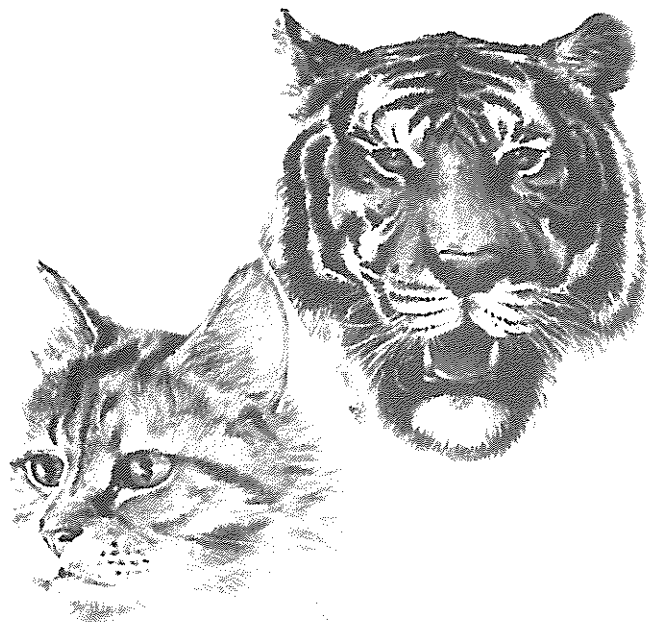


IRON ON TRANSFERS

Decorate your own T-shirt with cat motifs. It's as easy as removing a wrinkle! Position the transfer and apply a hot iron. Three transfer designs can be ordered from GET SMART DESIGNS; a sitting kitten, a tabby head and a tiger. Most people think of transfers as something used to decorate a T-shirt but there's a host of ideas for their use. Use them for needlework patterns, iron on the front of a child's pants so the front is obvious, decorate tablecloths, curtains, lampshades. To really personalise a design, highlight it with paint, embroidery, beads or whatever mode or material takes your fancy to make it uniquely you.

Transfers are approximately \$1 each and can be ordered from GET SMART DESIGNS, 87 Turea St, Blacksmiths, NSW 2281. You can see the full range of designs at the Needlework Craft Fairs.

Get Smart has kindly donated 5 cat transfers to the CPS so the first 5 readers who post their name and address will receive one of the free transfers. Address your request to TRANSFER OFFER, CPS, 103 Enmore Road, Enmore, NSW 2042.





JAN TAYLOR

fabric artist - cat specialist

Peter Taylor

(Photos by Robin McLatchey)

For a number of years Jan Taylor has delighted people in the Blue Mountains with her exquisite studies of cats. Many of her paintings hold prime positions in the living rooms of cat lovers all around Sydney. Scores are proud owners of her wearable art, whether it be sweatshirts, T-shirts, silk scarves, top of the range silk garments or just simple brooches and earrings. All agree that her cats look 'alive'. Jan says that it is her attention to the eyes that makes them look like that - 'the eyes have it'.



Jan showed artistic talent from early childhood. Adrian Feint, the famous still life artist, saw her caricatures of animals and was impressed and said that she had great talent and should be enrolled in art school immediately. Unfortunately, her family did not act upon the suggestion. After her marriage at 19 she entered formal training at East Sydney Technical College. In two years, with two children to look after, she had to leave the college, the start of a long absence from art.

Decades later she joined the ABC and it was at the Perth branch that she regained her desire to draw again. Concentrating at first on caricatures of ABC personalities, her great sense of humour was soon acknowledged by the ABC national magazine and she became a regular contributor of cartoons. Then she illustrated her husband's book, 'Days of Wine and Poseurs', and her drawings were so widely

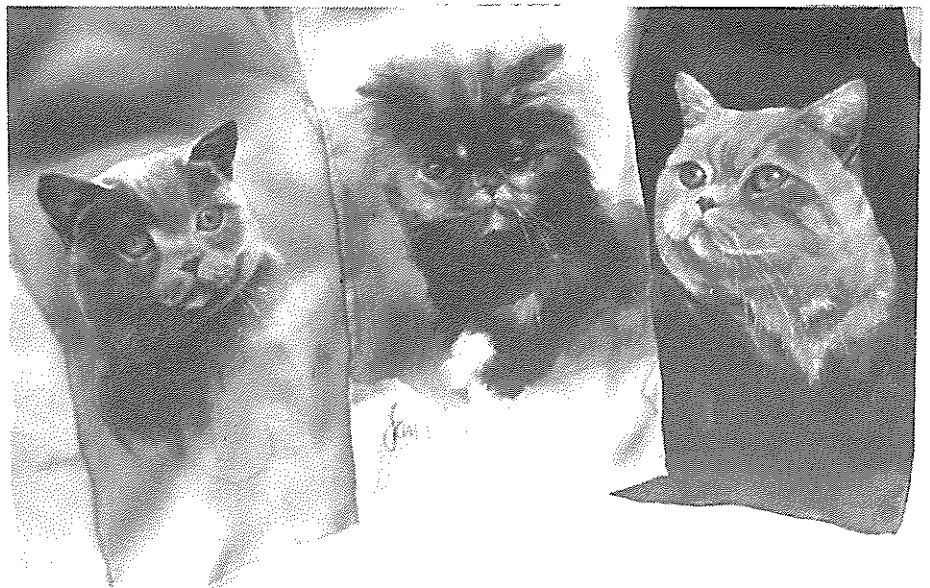
acclaimed that she decided to concentrate on art. Her dream took another ten years to achieve, during which time she received further tuition at Willoughby Art Workshop.

After illustrating two more books she resigned from the ABC to become a full time artist, choosing the then greatly increasing demand for fabric art as her starting point. At first Jan concentrated on painting Australian wildflowers and native animals on T-shirts and other cotton items, selling them at the popular Balmain Markets and gift shops. By way of a change she produced a few designs of humorous studies of cats she named 'Mad Cats'. Jan is a great cat lover with at least two family cats at all times, so it was an easy assignment and an instant success. In fact, The Russian Blue Club commissioned Jan to paint caricatures of Russian Blues on T-shirts for its members. It was then that Jan realised there was a great demand for cat studies on garments.

At the same time she was fascinated by the delicacy of silk and investigated ways to paint on that without using the conventional method of gutto and dyes. Ordinary fabric paints proved impossible as they left the silk stiff and unsightly. By chance she came across a French fabric paint made by Pebco and called Seta colours, which left the silk soft and smooth. This opened another area of painting and her fame increased along with the demand for her beautiful handpainted silk scarves with flowers and cats.

Jan's great opportunity came in 1991 when the Painted Moon Gallery in Katoomba sponsored her solo exhibition 'Cats in The Blue'. Well over forty paintings of cats of all breeds and in all possible poses were on display together with garments, scarves and jewellery. The success of the exhibition catapulted her into prominence as one of the leading artists of animal studies and she was visited by cat lovers all over Sydney. She even receives orders for paintings from the cat's traditional enemy territory -- the dog world.

Jan originally worked from a workshop but now prefers to work from home which she finds much more relaxing. She supplies up market gift shops such as the Fairmont Hotel, Bellissima in Berry, East Chatswood Cat Clinic, etc. She also has a regular stall at the Springwood Ivy Craft Market and the larger cat shows. With these markets, personal orders, and her other love - landscape painting - Jan is a very busy, happy person.



CAROLYN FORDHAM-IRWIN

Australian artist and entrepreneur



Bernadette Ashley

A trip to the USA was the catalyst for Carolyn Fordham-Irwin's conversion to patchwork. She began teaching the craft and then opened 'The Cotton Patch' in historic Bendigo. Twelve years later she is still as absorbed in textiles as ever, continually adding designs to her range of kits, as well as teaching and retailing.

Carolyn had a desire from the start to develop Australian themes and found this aim was shared by others at the first Australian Quilting Seminar. She was inspired by the quilts of Deborah Brearley, Marg Coleman and Margaret Rolf and Carolyn's first quilt exhibition reflected this Australian interest.

Groups in Bendigo and country Victoria were inspired by Carolyn's classes, for which she designed and made her own samples. Interest in her designs led to creating packs of the same fabrics she was using and from there the production of kits seemed a natural progression. Carolyn's 'Cotton Patch Kits' cover a variety of patchwork, embroidery and applique techniques on cushions, small quilts, dolls and the like, using lots of muted ticking, checks and calicos.

The heart of her design style is 'country' from which a never ending array of themes can be developed. "Country appeals to the very essence of people's first loves: - family, friends, religion, animals, growing vegetables - the basics in life", says Carolyn, "and if something turns out 'not quite right' it doesn't matter because it just gives it that 'country ease'".

Carolyn has taken the country to the city and markets her kits at the big craft shows. 'Cotton', the bird and 'Patch', the cat, are characters she developed as shop and kit mascots. They feature in cartoon form in the shop newsletter as a fun analogy to busy, progressive quilters (Cotton) and more home loving traditionalists (Patch). But while Cotton was well received, it was Patch who received most of the attention and won the hearts

of cat lovers in the shop and at craft shows. Patch's character continued to evolve and his mischievous side emerged, with a certain smugness occasionally apparent as he became the focal point of new



kits. Now there are kits for a cat doorstep, cat jewellery roll, soft dolls, welcome sign, T-shirt appliques and much more. "There are as many possibilities as cat personalities", says Carolyn.

PATCH THE CAT

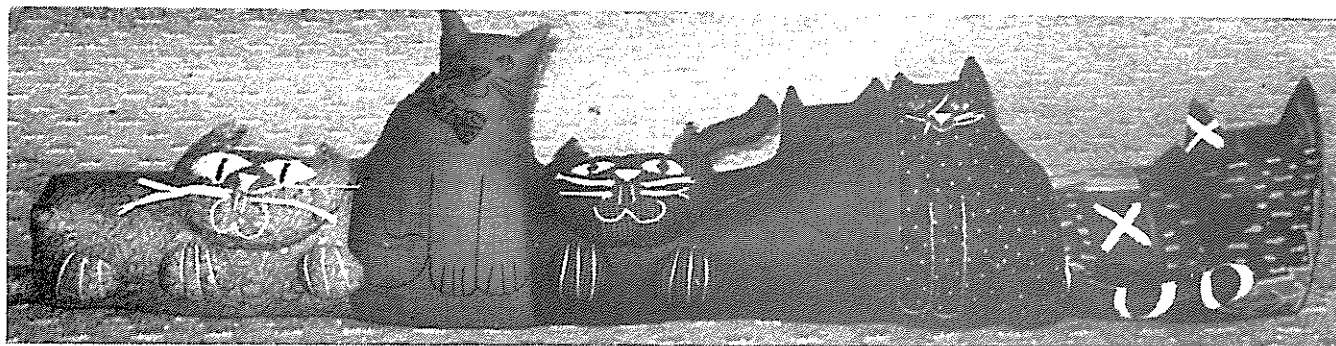
Patch walked into the Cotton Patch one day, all shabby, unkempt, streetwise, carrying the traces of many a cat fight with his torn ear and broken heart. Since making The Cotton Patch his home, Patch has received a '9 patch' to cover over his broken heart, hence his name, and sleeps happily day in and day out on his patchwork Ohio Star quilt. Patch has found a life filled and surrounded by patchwork to be a dreamlike haven. In his new life at The Cotton Patch, Patch has gathered many friends around him, hence the inspiration to make the Country Cat Caboodle Doorsock (see bottom



photo). Cats are such home loving friends it seemed fitting to include them in the practical items we have in the house - or just simply reminders of loved ones at home. There's hardly a more charming way to be greeted at the door than to have the loving eyes beaming up from so many cats.

Carolyn, remembering a cat's mischievous frolicking and rolling to and fro, created the Patch Wrap Jewellery Roll - in the shape of a cheeky cat which unrolls to reveal pockets for jewellery. Great for travelling. Carolyn finds cats a great source of inspiration when it comes to creating items for around the home because they represent friendship, companionship, homeliness, fun and personality - a great catalyst for creativity.

The kits contain fabric, thread, pattern, photo and easy to follow instructions. The catalogue is \$5 which is refundable on the first order over \$25.00 and contains many clever and original patterns and a large number of exciting cat designs which can be worked in a variety of mediums. **THE COTTON PATCH, PO Box 3093, Belconnen Canberra, ACT 2616. Ph 06 241-6227.**

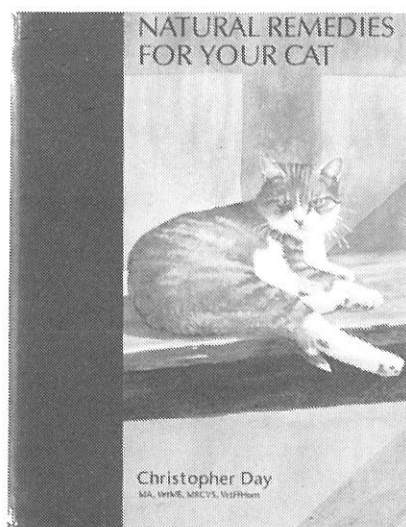


BOOK REVIEWS

Lee Wright

NATURAL REMEDIES FOR YOUR CAT

by Christopher Day MA, VetMB, MRCS, VetFFHom; CIS Cardigan Street, \$19.95. For those who are interested in homoeopathic treatments for cats this book is ideal. It is written specifically for cats by a practicing vet surgeon specialising in homoeopathy. Christopher Day presents an alphabetical listing of common cat complaints and offers the best treatments in homoeopathy, herbal remedies and essential oils. Each alternative is clearly explained, as is the importance of conventional vet medicine. This book is not an instant do-it-yourself course. The preparations are extremely varied and would require a large medicine cabinet to cover the need. But it provides a good basic guide to natural remedies. ☺☺☺☺



THE CATS OF THISTLE HILL.

Roger A. Caras, Simon & Schuster, hardcover \$29.95 Roger Caras is the 18th president of the ASPCA and this book is a loving recount of the cats in his life, past and present.. The cats are mainly 'recycled' from ASPCA pounds or adoptees who drift in from dumpings in the area. Mr Caras adroitly combines many a good cat tale with responsible pet ownership and interesting tips on living happily with cats. Some quotes from his book are on page 3 and 14. Highly recommended. ☺☺☺☺

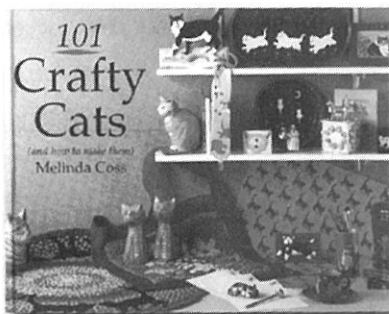
THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING OSCAR

by Yvonne Skargon, Florilegium, \$16.95 Oscar cat was born in obscure circumstances and adopted by wood engraver Yvonne Skargon. Many of Oscar's daily activities have been made into woodcuts which capture the magic of cats - each highlighted by a saying from Oscar Wilde. It

is a captivating portrayal of a beloved cat and a book to read again and again. ☺☺☺☺

CAT CUTS

by Miriam Macgregor, Florilegium, \$18.95 is a collection of engraver's woodblock cats, most with a short piece by the particular engraver. The artists' love of the cats permeates the book and it is pure delight. 'Because wood engraving can be a chilly occupation, a cat curled up on the lap is a marvellous source of warmth and because, of course, he must never be disturbed, one is anchored there and obliged to face up to difficult passages rather than procrastinate with endless cups of tea'. This book is a celebration of this evident affinity. ☺☺☺☺



101 CRAFTY CATS

by Melinda Cross, CIS Cardigan Street, \$24.95 covers a wide spectrum of cats from fabric to paper to edibles - and a whole lot more. There are lino cut cats, clothes peg pussies, printing stamps cut from potatoes or erasers, decorated tins, pencils, boxes, household items and fun items. You can make them in cotton, wood, dough, yarn - there are 101 choices! If crafting cats is your game this is a book of unique ideas and patterns not to be missed. ☺☺☺☺

THE KITTEN BOOK

by Camilla Jessel, Hardcover, Walker Books \$ 17.95. Do it yourself - without having real kittens. This book starts with a pregnant queen and excellent photographs highlight the delivery of her litter and the subsequent development of the kittens. It offers an excellent teaching medium about birth and handling baby kittens for children without bringing more kittens into the world. ☺☺☺☺

THE MOUSEHOLE CAT

by Antonia Barber, illustrated by Nicola Bayley, Walker Books, \$ 9.95. One of the great things about children's books is the illustrations and this book superbly illustrates an old Cornish folktale of a cat who saves her master and the town from starvation and from the wiles of the great Storm-Cat. It is heartwarming and beautiful and is a wonderful Christmas tale for the 25th ... and the rest of the year. ☺☺☺☺

THE MOUSEHOLE CAT



Antonia Barber · Nicola Bayley

CATKIN

by Antonia Barber, illustrated by PJ Lynch, Walker Books, \$19.95. Beautiful illustrations highlight this story of a tiny cat entrusted with the care of a beloved baby girl. When the Little People steal the baby the parents are bereft and Catkin, small enough to find the secret way to their underground realm, undertakes the challenge to bring the girl home. An absolute delight!! ☺☺☺☺

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WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

The CPS Policy

Nance Iredale OAM, Welfare Director

Some animal welfare agencies are critical of our Society's stand against colonies of wild cats being desexed and returned to what are, in fact, often hostile situations. We have many reasons for this decision, based on 'hands on' fieldwork over many years. Let me share with you some of the situations I have handled.

A woman was feeding many wild cats in hospital grounds. When she was told to desist or lose her job, she coaxed the cats just outside the gates and into a very small street, where she continued to feed them. Not only was the hospital annoyed, but so too were all the residents in this street - maybe ten houses. She would only allow me to take any of the cats if we promised homes for them. We couldn't - they were wild, and many were sick. Finally she found 'homes' for two females which we desexed and delivered to an 'escape-proof' garage, where they were to be kept for some months in an endeavour to tame them. They escaped on the first night. So there were two terrified creatures And that is only the beginning. The feeder became very ill, so the other cats were starving and invading houses. A young man began to bring his two dogs into the street most Sunday mornings, and if the dogs caught and tore to pieces two cats or kits, the residents were happy. We soon changed that.

In another incident, a woman asked me to take away many kittens and eight or more mums while she was on holidays: she 'didn't want the children to be there'. She hadn't been feeding them, but said they had been scrounging for food in the neighbourhood. I will never forget those little creatures. As I set the cages down they fought to get in for the food. Six at a time were caught, and the cages were covered with other little creatures trying to get in from the sides and the top. I was alone and just could not get the cages from my van fast enough. I made sure they ate all the way back to the vet.

The other day a woman rang to ask for a mother and kits to be taken away. She hadn't fed them, and refused to do, even for the few days it would take us to get there. I asked if they were getting any food at all and she replied that she had seen the mum eating **lettuce**.

I could go on and on, but surely this is enough to explain why we do what we do. We should point out, too, that Societies who are our severest critics are those who do very little 'hands on' field work and do not see the hideous things our girls handle.

There are other logical reasons too:

- 1) If a wild cat is caught and desexed and then becomes ill, there is no hope of catching it again.
- 2) To leave a colony of wild cats where they are not wanted is asking for trouble. Cat lovers have to realise that people who don't like cats have rights too!
- 3) Hopefully, new laws such as in Victoria, will soon be introduced into NSW and all cats will need to be registered and identified. It will certainly lead to more responsible cat ownership. Who will be responsible for the wild colonies then?

We hear lots of sad stories and lots of happy and touching ones which we share with our colleagues in disgust or pleasure. One story comes to mind of a young man who heard a feeble meowing in his car for 3 days. He had a heavy night out the first time he heard it and, as he couldn't find the kitten, he was about to give up drinking.

Fortunately, he finally found the wee thing in his dashboard - a mystery how it came to be there as it was only a very young. Of course he nurtured it with a view to finding it a home. He had a Stafford Bull Terrier and didn't think the two would agree. However, when 'Fred' came in to have his operation, we were advised that he sits on the Staffie's head and sleeps on his back.

We had a delightful little black and white stray handed in with a generous donation, only to have the kit reclaimed a few days later with the explanation that the resident pooch was missing 'Cici'. We thought that the pooch's mum did too. Oh for some more 'poochies and mums'!! There is never a dull moment on the road or in the office. What we would all love, though, is an office, a cattery and an Opportunity Shop all on one nice, big piece of real estate in a very convenient suburb. And it would be great to have our members visit and SEE the work we are doing.

FOR CHRISTMAS and the New Year - please be generous so we can help even more cats and kittens to a home, health and happiness. It all takes money and your generosity makes it happen.



'LUV' a stray waif who was rescued, rehabilitated and homed.

Thank you CPS

Purring seems to be an automatic safety valve device for dealing with happiness overflow.

Monica Edwards

DONATION FORM

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

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

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms
Surname (Block letters) Initials

Address Suburb Post Code

FORM OF BEQUEST

To those caring persons who may wish 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 (insert full name and address) give and bequeath to the Cat Protection Society of NSW, the registered office of which is 103 Enmore Road, Enmore, NSW 2042, the sum ofdollars (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, (insert full name and address) 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 executors.

For further information on leaving a bequest to the Society please contact the Secretary on (02) 557 1011.

✂

HOW WE DO WHAT WE DO The CPS Welfare Office

Nance Iredale

Our welfare office is a very busy one - even Telstra knows that and now tell people reporting our phone out of order, 'No, just keep trying, it's a very busy phone'. It does mean we are helping lots of people to solve their cat problems and that is great. However, some laws to enforce responsible cat ownership would remove many of the existing problems. Members, please support the legislation which we hope will be introduced before too long.

Let me describe the work we do. We have three Animal Welfare Officers, two doing the fieldwork and one in the office. Sandy, Melinda and Janelle are our field officers. Sandy has been with us for 14 years, Melinda for just over a year and Janelle on and off for 6 years, coming in to take over for holidays, roster days, sickness, etc. We couldn't do without them. These girls cover the whole of the metropolitan area, picking up for desexing, catching the nervous little creatures and the unwanted ones that people can't bring in for surrender. There are always over 200 jobs on our books: the animals are taken to our co-operating veterinary surgeons, without whom our Society could not exist. They share our disgust at the neglect of so many cats and the still large numbers that cannot find homes.

Tania is now our office welfare officer. Tania, Bob (our Secretary), Lena Larsen and myself, answer the phone, take in jobs, accept surrenders and desexings at the office, and this keeps us all very busy. Bob joined us last year to head up our team and, in between phone calls, he keeps the books and writes lots of letters.

Tania takes the animals that have come in during the day to our Ashfield vet, George Lang, and those that have been desexed are picked up by her next morning and brought back to the office. Cats which are suitable for rehoming are taken to Concord Animal Hospital.

We try to encourage animals to be brought to the office. This allows us to help many more cats, as the numbers that come into the office are even more than one of our field workers handles. Instead of picking up all desexings, we have a referral system to forty (yes, forty!) veterinary surgeons where discounted desexings are available - once again by our understanding vets.

Emergencies are mostly handled by the office Welfare Officer, but very often the RSPCA or the Animal Welfare League are able to help out. Of course, we return the favour by having referrals from these two organisations to do the kind of work in which we specialise - catching the wild creatures and being able to refer clients to discounting vets. The problem of over population of cats MUST be tremendous - and we know it is - if the concerted efforts of the CPS, RSPCA and AWL can't correct it without some relevant laws.

We extend grateful thanks to

LOGICAL SOLUTIONS
Australia's largest Macintosh reseller

for their gracious assistance
in converting the CPS mailing list
from one computer system to another

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Cat Protection Society, 103 Enmore Road, Enmore NSW 2042

I/We apply for membership or renewal of membership of the Society for the year commencing June 1995.
(Note: All persons joining from January remain financial until June of the following year).

Subscription	\$1000.00	Life Governor	Pensioner Membership	\$5.00
	\$ 250.00	Life Membership	Junior Membership	\$5.00
	\$ 10.00	Annual Membership	(state birthday)	

Enclosed find cheque/money order for \$
Please cross cheques and make payable to THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY of NSW

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss SURNAME Initials

Address: Postcode

Pension Number: Signature:

Please include a stamped, self addressed envelope if you require a receipt.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

If you have changed your address since applying for membership or renewal, please fill in this form.

SURNAME (block letters please) Initials

NEW ADDRESS Postcode

Previous Address Postcode

NEW MEMBERS

Miss M Alhenden, Ettalong; Ms T Bacon, Rosebery; Miss M Barnes, Collaroy Plateau; Mr Brannan, Banksmeadow; Mrs L Buckley, South Penrith; Miss K Bullock, Wagga Wagga; Ms J Byrne, Eastwood; Ms D Carr, Five Dock; Mr E Cowen, Roseville; Mrs U Coxall, West Ryde; Mrs B Cummins, Berowra; 'Dragon Frames', Enmore; Mrs BJ Fuz, Kincumber; Ms N Gabriel, Arncliffe; Mrs R Gaddes, Caboolture; L Gateke, Enmore; L Godrova, Newtown; L Hammond, Wollongong; Miss J Howard, Randwick; Miss I Hughes, Hornsby Heights; Mr G Hughes, Caringbah; Ms C Irby, Guildford; Miss R Jacques, Narellan; Ms D Kaese, Granville; Ms C Kafka, Bondi Junction; Ms A Kay, Dulwich Hill; Mrs F Keep, Mona Vale; Mrs C Lewis, Botany; Ms A McGranahan, Wattle Grove; Miss M Montfort, Chatswood; Mr C O'Shea, Ashbury; Ms W Penny, Winston Hills; Mr C Pidding, Campsie; Mrs J Pomponio, Moor Creek; Mrs S Proctor, Baulkham Hills; Mrs J Rowles, Bondi Junction; Miss S Seccombe, Parramatta; Mrs L Steven, Ms M Supple, Caboolture; Grassy Head; Master M Tatam, Annandale; Miss A Taylor, Darlinghurst; Ms J Terrans, Curl Curl; Mrs S Thomas, Penshurst; Ms M Turner, Stanmore; Mrs M Urwin-Davies, Naremburn; Ms H Ware, Beverly Hills; Mr M Whitford, Darlington; Miss J Withers, Hornsby Heights; Mrs D Woods, Concord West.

PURRSPECTIVES

The first recorded cat show was held at St Giles Fair, Winchester, England in 1598.

The average domestic cat has about 144 bones, including 21 caudal vertebrae that make up the tail. Shorter tails - less bones, hence the 'about'.

The cat's pads contain sweat glands and damp footprints can result from heat or fright.

Spot the Differences: no bottle stopper, no cigarette, bigger cuff, missing table leg, shorter tail, tie spots, empty glass, no spectacles

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES



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PAWS A WHILE

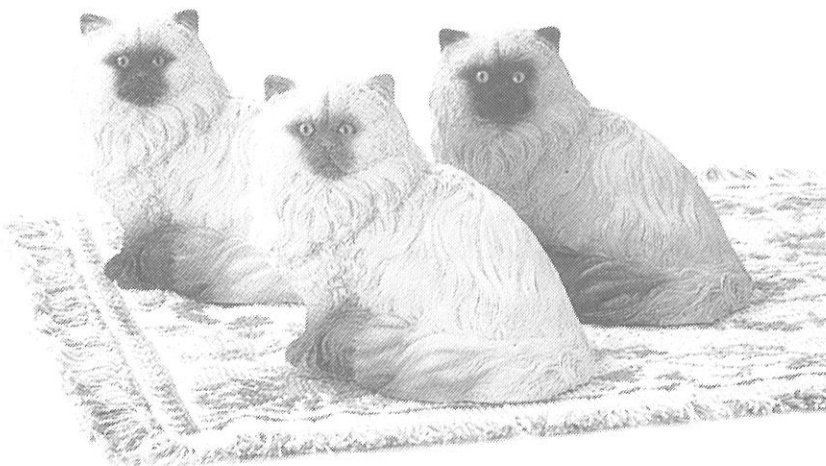
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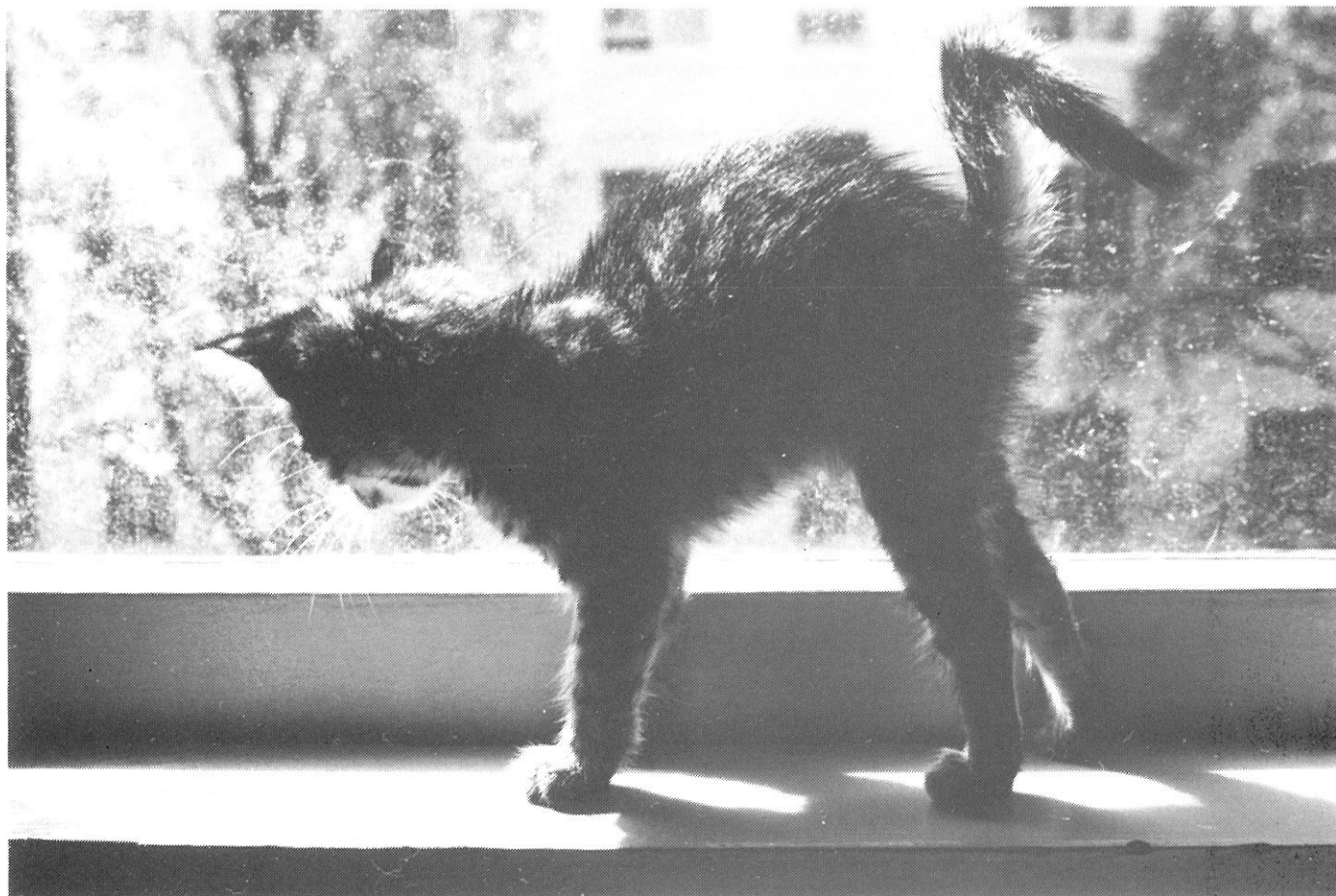
PAWS A WHILE,

Shop 42, Level 1

Queen Victoria Building

455 George Street, Sydney

Ph (02) 261-2952



FOR SALE

ORIGINAL WATERCOLOUR 'after' LOUIS WAIN

('After' means it is painted in the style of Louis Wain, including signature, but is not confirmed to be the actual work of Wain)

Angelika Elliott, a director and active member of the CPS, has kindly donated this original watercolour for sale. The watercolour is coloured in soft pinks, greens and natural tonings. It is beautifully framed and in excellent condition and is valued at

HELP CATS

\$200.00

HELP CATS

In England, during the late 19th century, cat art developed into the anthropomorphic idea of cats acting out human activities. Louis Wain, retaining a child-like sense of humour, started sketching his kitten, 'Peter'. Soon his artistic skills started to receive attention and in 1886 he was asked to illustrate a children's book entitled *Madame Tabby's Establishment*. (It is interesting to note that Louis Wain cats are often fully dressed but seldom wear shoes). In 1890 he created the comical cat and the 'Wain' cat was born. A big boost to Wain's popularity was the picture postcard, first produced in 1870. In 1902 improved technology allowed the picture to completely cover one side of the card. Within hours of the postal authorities agreeing to this, new postcards began to appear and the latest collecting craze started. Wain's work is popular and this original painting, **done in his style**, is fresh and charming.

Now is your chance to own an original framed watercolour and help the CPS help cats by taking advantage of this sale. Phone the office for details 02 519-7201 - Price includes delivery.

Photo courtesy of Europhoto Studio, Petersham



On display at CPS office, 103 Enmore Rd, Enmore