

SUMMER 1998

The Journal of the Cat Protection Society of NSW

Cat Affairs





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Opportunity Shop: 87 Enmore Road, Enmore NSW 2042, 9516-2072

Parkland Boarding Kennels: 469 Sunnyholt Road, Blacktown NSW 2148, 9626-9333



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

In this, my first letter to you as President, I would like to take the opportunity to extend my thanks to some important people and then to say something about my idea of the future directions for the Society.

Thank you, Shirley Pikler, for all your efforts at the helm of the Society. Your efforts, along with other councillors, have steered the CPS to its current strong position. Enjoy your retirement from the CPS, Shirley. Next, thank you members of the CPS, for the tremendous support you have given to our Cattery Appeal - the total now stands at more than \$350,000 - a remarkable effort, well done! Finally, thank you staff of the CPS for your great efforts, I hope we now have a stable crew so we can implement all our aims effectively and efficiently.

Now to the future. I would like to see the day arrive that when people think cats, they think Cat Protection Society. This includes members of the public wanting information or help with cats or kittens, the government seeking input into cat management issues, and the media seeking informed, sensible comments on matters of public interest relating to cats.

I believe we are now ideally situated to make this happen. With a long period of stable and sound financial management behind us and with dedicated and knowledgeable staff, we have the resources to make it happen. The recent introduction of the Companion Animals Act (CAA) provides us with a legislative framework within which we can work and for the first time gives the cat a legal status. The pressure is now on to ensure that the CAA will be used for the benefit of both cats and members of the community, regardless of whether or not they have cats. We hope to have direct input into this process as the CPS was invited to nominate a candidate for membership of the Companion Animals Advisory Board. The Board will advise the Minister for Local Government on the implementation of the CAA.

The other resource that we have is you, the members of the Cat Protection Society. Your active involvement in the Society's activities, as well as your financial support, is critical to our success. Some of you already work as volunteers in the Opportunity Shop, but there are many other possibilities for volunteer work if you can spare some time. These could include office work or involvement in promotional activities. There is also the possibility of becoming a member of the local committees that each council will be required to set up to advise on companion animal matters. Please think about how you might be able to help the Society with your own personal skills and dedication.

So, the challenge is there for all of us to use these resources wisely to make the most of the opportunities that there are so we can safeguard the welfare of cats and to ensure that in the process, we enrich the lives of both the cats and those who interact with them. Please, contact the office if you need further information or have any ideas about how we can move forward and achieve our aims.

Keith Edwards.

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VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED FOR OPPORTUNITY SHOP

COVER: Sweetie, Photographer: Derek Blew

CENTREFOLD: Why we need a cattery.... Photographer: Frances Kaukerei

BACK COVER: HAPPY NEW YEAR, Photographer: Derek Blew

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THE CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



Tickets are being sold at several Sydney spring/summer fairs and we have brought this issue out early to give our readers the opportunity to have a chance to win these great prizes.



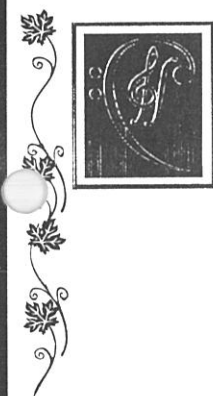
Cat's Pee on a
Gooseberry Bush

*50 ml • Product of Australia 12.5% Alc/Vol Preservative 230 Antiseptic 900
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The infamous **CATS PEE** on a **GOOSEBERRY BUSH**, available only from **BARMANS Strathfield**. An easy drinking, flavoursome dry white, it is the 'purrfect' gift for your best friend! Also available is our new, exciting red, 'Viagra Falls' (a big BOLD red). Call Rob, Roy, or Lilia on (02) 9764 4906. Barmans, Strathfield Plaza, Churchill Ave, Strathfield.



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**MANY
THANKS
TO OUR
SPONSORS
FOR THEIR
GENEROUS
DONATIONS**

RAFFLE TICKETS >>

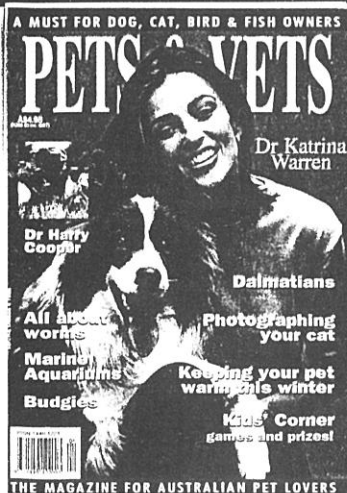
\$2 each or 3 for \$5

Clip out the tickets, fill in your name and phone and post your tickets and payment to:

The Cat Protection Society Raffle
103 Enmore Road
Enmore NSW 2042

The RAFFLE IS DRAWN 18 December
Winners will be notified by phone

Another opportunity to help the Society help cats



PETS & VETS

RAFFLE PRIZES

- 1st 2 night weekend B&B for two at CATERSFIELD HOUSE in the Hunter Valley (Value \$250.00)
- 2nd \$200 Gift Voucher for any Westfield Shoppingtown
- 3rd 1 dozen bottles of White Wine from BARMANS at Strathfield Plaza, Strathfield (Value \$96.00)
- 4th A gift basket from FLAT CATS (Value \$50.00)
- 5th PET & VET MAGAZINE - One year subscription
- 6th PET & VET MAGAZINE - One year subscription
- 7th PET & VET MAGAZINE - One year subscription

FLAT CATS™



HEAPS OF FLAT CAT GOODIES FOR YOU

\$200 GIFT VOUCHER
Redeemable at any shop in any
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CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY
Guessing Competition
C_t P_ot_ct_on S_ci_ly

name _____
Phone _____

CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW
Guessing Competition \$ 2.00
C_T P_OT_CTLN SOC_E_Y

PRIZES
1st: 2 NIGHT WEEKEND for 2 at Catersfield House, Hunter Valley, + hot breakfast (value \$250)
2nd: \$200 GIFT VOUCHER Westfield Shoppingtown
3rd: WHITE WINE Dozen bottles
4th: FLAT CATS GIFT BASKET
5,6,7: PETS & VETS MAG. 1 yr membership
Raffle drawn on 18 December. Prizes delivered free within NSW. Winners notified by phone.

CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY
Guessing Competition
C_t P_ot_ct_on S_ci_ly

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

JOAN HAUB, West Wyalong

My friend in Germany has a daughter who wants a penfriend. Dany is 17, works for a vet, loves animals and can write English well. Dany would like to establish a regular correspondence and she doesn't mind what age as long as the writer loves animals. If you are interested, please write to: Dany Weigand

Nordend Strasse 102
82275 EMMERING
GERMANY

LEGISLATIVE MADNESS

I am sorry to hear that the CPS is disappointed with the new Companion Animals Act in NSW. While I am bound to agree that compulsory microchipping and a curfew would have been excellent provisions, I found myself almost tempted to move back to NSW when the Act was promulgated. Consider the difference between a COMPANION animal Act and a Domestic Animal (NUISANCE and FERAL) Act as was foisted on cat lovers here in Victoria. Our Act doesn't provide for microchipping or curfews either, although many councils in Victoria have introduced curfews. Unfortunately, the Victorian legislation does *empower* councils - the least qualified level of government to make such decisions - to limit the number of cats which may be owned, and councils have been draconian in implementing such limits. The accepted number in most areas is two cats!

Most cat lovers I know find this limit intolerable, and it truly does not seem to make sense from the point of view of councils, who *ought* to be interested in getting homeless cats off the streets. Surely, most people can decide for themselves how many animals they can afford to care for and house! For example,

we are middle aged, kids gone from home, and relatively high income earners; we illegally own five cats, all of whom are desexed and **PERMANENTLY** indoors - they are our 'fuzzy children'! Our married children likewise have five and six cats respectively; many of these cats were rescued, all are desexed and 'indoors only'. All three households live in permanent fear of our local councils! How dearly we would all embrace an act of legislation which recognises that where there is no nuisance, there can be no reasonable objection to ownership.

So, although perhaps not perfect, the NSW Act should be seen as a positive step forward by caring cat people: elevating the status of cats in Australian society is going to be a long and arduous battle. I would dearly love to see curfews become the next big step: this would alleviate a great deal of the anti-cat hostility from non-cat people, and almost inevitably lead to a higher level of voluntary desexing, as cat owners would be made aware of the consequences of living with entire animals.

If you publish this, please do not include my name in case my local council is watching!!
Name withheld on request, Victoria

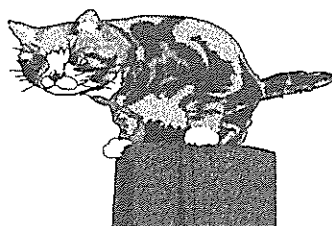
INSPIRATION

I was inspired to write and send this poem for Cat Affairs after observing for many weeks a neighbour's beautiful tawny tiger-like cat always curled up against the inside of her front window. What a contrast to my little tabby playing and pouncing with imaginary prey in the garden!

DAWN BRUCE, Croydon

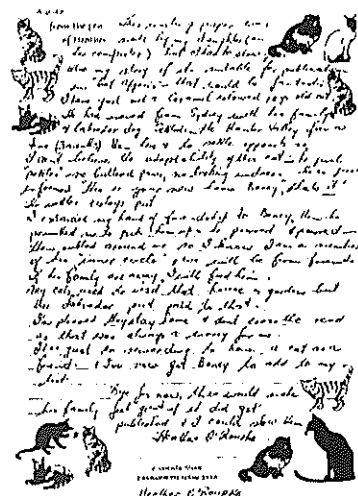
INSIDE CAT

On the window ledge
my neighbour's cat
stares at the world,
squints her eyes
at fluttering birds,
stretches and curls
into a fat ball
and dreams of the days
stalking
through tall grasses
way back in history
with her large cousins.



HEATHER O'ROURKE, Tamworth

This writing paper was made by my daughter on her computer and I wanted to show the Cat Affairs readers. Also, I have submitted my story about "Boney".



A MICROCHIP STORY

Snuggles was a gorgeous long haired grey and white female tabby bought by Robyn Douglas of Concord West for her daughter. Being a responsible cat owner, Robyn had her desexed and microchipped, kept her in at night and lavished her with love and affection. Alas, in the middle of a particularly wet period she disappeared and Mrs Douglas and her daughter searched everywhere to no avail. Reluctantly they decided to buy another kitten to try to replace the one they thought had disappeared forever.

Meanwhile, 4 months later

Angela from Burwood, a confirmed cat lover, had been caring for an extremely thin and hungry cat that had wandered into her place about 3 weeks before. She brought the cat to the CPS for desexing and microchipping. The cat was scanned at the Ashfield Vet Hospital and... EGADS! She was already microchipped and the owner was .. you guessed it .. none other than Robyn Douglas. Snuggles is now reunited with her old family and is living happily with the new kitten. Now all we want to know is what had she been doing for the past four months. Snuggles knows - but she's not telling!

And if anyone needs to be reminded of the value of a microchip - this has to be a top example. If you lost your cat in Concord, would you do a search of the streets in an area several suburbs away??? And which direction would you head?? So to have a better chance of getting your Significant Other back in your arms, MICROCHIP NOW!!! It is really THE thing to do!



TAILS

Sue Matysek

It's been a busy start to the season with our first kittens arriving in September and a steady stream since. We have had a lot of success finding homes and we hope this trend continues for as long as possible.

Sadly we do not have the number of homes we need for every adult cat that comes our way. If you know of anyone that wants a well behaved, healthy, desexed, microchipped, vaccinated and wormed cat, ask them to give the Society a call. We always have a good selection of cats looking for homes, particularly so at this time of year. Obviously the more homes we find, the more cats we are able to help.

Our welfare staff are busy on the road dealing with the latest summer influx of new litters. We are particularly fortunate with the new staff members that have come on board. We warmly welcome Jennifer Saba, the newest member of our welfare team, who is working competently and enjoying the challenges of life on the road.

A warm welcome also to our new office staff, Judith Levitt and Carina Bentos. Judith is a multi talented person who is coping well with her dual role of welfare officer and administration support (not an easy task!). Carina with her cheery smile and confident manner has taken to our busy office and front counter position like the proverbial duck to water.

Life as a welfare officer has its share of difficult jobs. Sandy and Tania recently attended a house where the owner had died and they picked up some very sick cats. Thank goodness we were able to help in such a tangible way.

I have received a number of letters from members who have raised their concerns about the new legislation. The new Act

arose largely because it was felt that cats needed protection under the law and to combat the irresponsibility of some pet owners who feel that domestic animals are disposable. From July 1, 1999, all new cats and kittens must be permanently identified (microchipped) with lifetime registration. Eventually the numbers of lost cats euthanased simply because lack of identification will be vastly reduced.

Your cat cannot be impounded simply because it is walking down the street or sunning itself in a neighbour's yard.

Also, if a cat attacks your cat you will have some recourse under the law. It does not mean that anyone is able to place your cat in a pound simply because they find it walking down the street or sitting in the sun in their garden. I have a number of pamphlets here published by the Dept of Local Government about the Companion Animals Act and if you would like one, please call the office.

We strongly encourage everyone who is having their cat desexed to have them microchipped at the same time. For our Sydney members we are able to offer microchipping for only \$25 if you have your cat desexed through our Enmore office, thanks to Dr George Lang from Ashfield Vet Hospital. If your cat is already desexed, microchipping is a simple procedure. Just call our office to book in.

procedure, just call our office to book in. I have been visiting as many Councils as possible regarding the new Act and I will continue to do so since many Councils are unaware of our discounted desexing and microchipping and we want to encourage as many people as possible to participate.

Our public engagement calendar is active. We participated in the Mt Druitt Fire Expo organised by the Dept of Housing where we demonstrated pet safety in case of a house fire. Tips we suggested included: knowing where your pet is; don't lock your pet inside the house while you are out with no escape route and identify your pet so if it goes missing you will have an excellent chance of recovering it.

We were present at the Marrickville Festival in September. We offered super discounted desexing vouchers (hoping to prevent those spring pregnancies). Judith ran the face painting (cat faces proved VERY popular, though she was asked to do the occasional Power Ranger), while Carina organised a kid's colouring competition. We had a successful launch of our raffle. Full raffle details are on page 3 and members are encouraged to buy tickets.

Many **MANY** thanks for the wonderful support from our sponsors who donated prizes to our raffle; Catersfield House, Barmans Strathfield, Flat Cats, Pet and Vet Magazine.

BY THE WAY - see you at the Newtown Fair on 8 November!



MARRICKVILLE FESTIVAL

Councillors Nita Harvey & Grace Ayling with

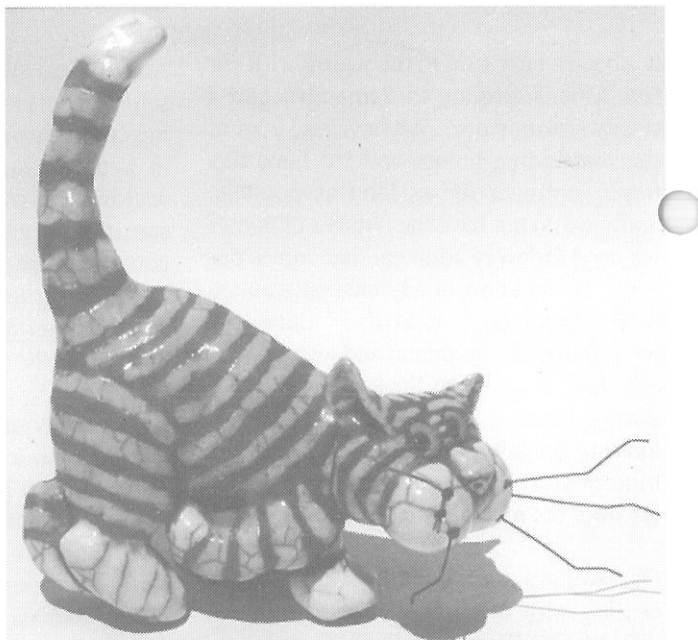
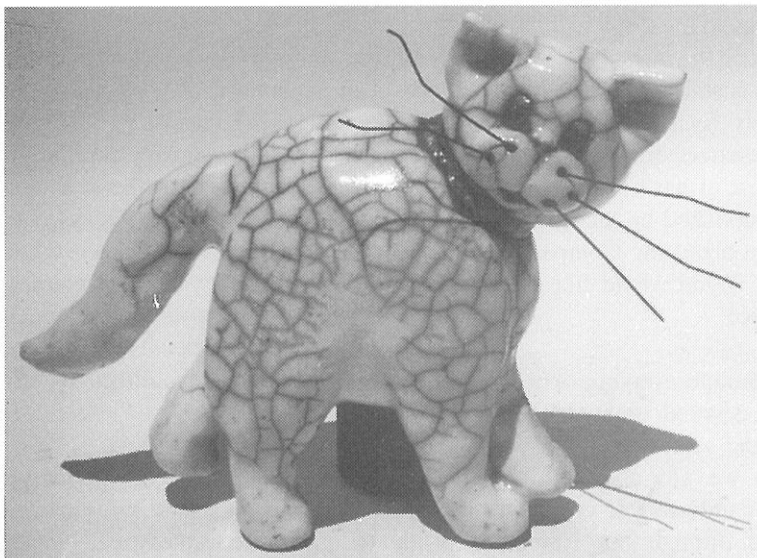
Judith Levitt and Carina Bentos.

VALERIE WILLY

SCULPTOR

Thank you for asking me to write an article for Cat Affairs. Some of the photos I have sent are 'one-off' pieces, other articles I produce in the multitudes. Each one is handmade and they come in tabby, tortoiseshell, black and white and any colour I choose. Each is different and individual. A sitting cat is one of our 'bread and butter' lines and we also produce chooks, cows, pigs, kookaburras, parrots, cockatoos, guinea hens and more in this size.

to creating new and different types - I especially love the old moggie types. My husband, Phillip, and I are full time sculptors. Phillip does all the Raku firings, he also does bronze and aluminium sculptures for which we pour our own metals. We live in a beautiful valley in the Noosa hinterland on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland and make our living doing work that we both love.

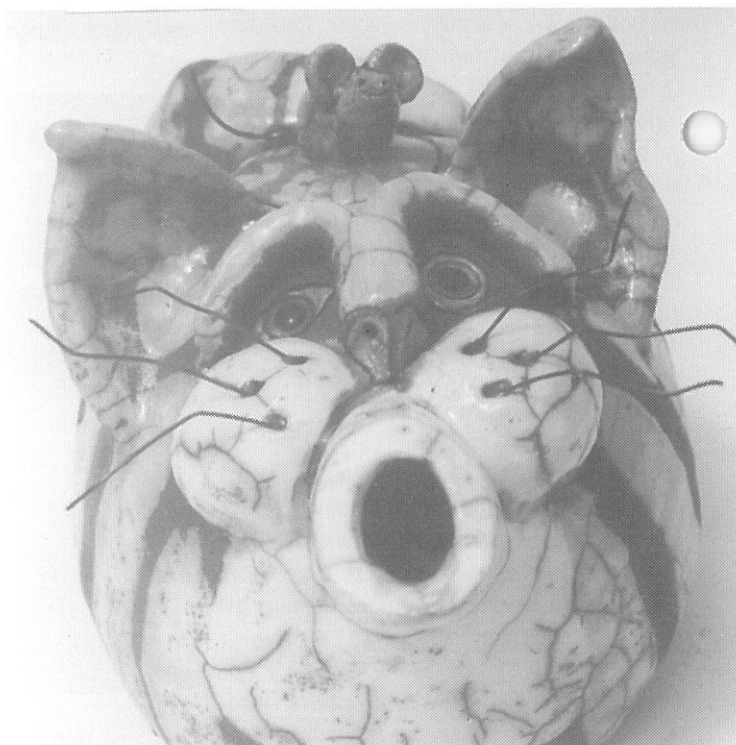


My larger work is dogs (dawks!) And birds with metal legs. Phillip, my husband, does the metal work. I have made many special cats for Barb, my sister - she has ordered purple ones and even whimsical sculptures of her own three cats.

First a confession - I am actually a cow/dog/chook person and sculpted these for many years before my sister, who is a total cat person, prevailed upon me to try making cats. She is my sternest critic so I know that if she likes them, they are probably okay. All my work is whimsical. Cats are full of whimsy of course, but one of the most difficult aspects is their subtlety of expression and their delicacy.

I work using pinch pot and slap construction; bisque fire the dry work; then glaze it and fire again in a small Raku kiln. This kiln is taken up to 1050°C, then switched off, kiln opened and glowing red hot wares are taken out and placed in bins of straw and paper. These naturally, catch fire, and the bins are closed and left to cool. Later the cold wares are removed and scrubbed to remove the ash and tar. This ancient technique produces a characteristic black crackle effect on the glazes and adds depth and lustre to them.

There is always an element of unpredictability to Raku firings that makes it very exciting. I enjoy doing cats now and look forward

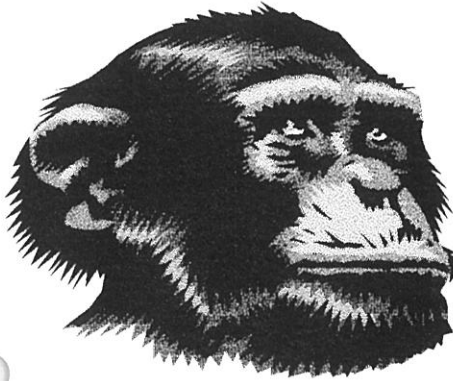


Phil & Valerie Willy, enquiries (07) 5485 2219

Summer 1999

The Gorilla

The Human



Being president of 'Primates for Primates' (formerly known as International Primate Protection League), my attention is often drawn to the similarities between

humans and other apes. There are five apes; human, chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans and gibbons. The chimpanzee is our closest relative sharing 98.6% of our genes. Our next closest relative is the gorilla.

Humans are not the only ape that loves a cat. This week I received photographs and a video of a chimp in an overseas zoo. The chimp, Tommy, has been in solitary confinement for several years after the death of his mate and no new mate has been obtained for him. Tommy's quarters are dark, damp, totally bare and cold. However, the chimp is holding, ever so gently, a domestic cat.

Our informant who took the video explained that the pet cat is Tommy's only company. The cat sometimes leaves the cage and goes for a walk but always returns to Tommy. Tommy receives protein every day in the form of meat and fish. When he receives fish it is always fed to his pet cat. If he receives meat only, then the cat gets a portion of the meat. Tommy grooms the cat, checks its ears and mouth and makes sure it receives much love and attention. Tommy gives the cat everything he can within his power. The cat also derives some comfort from this as he curls up to sleep with Tommy and always returns to Tommy's cage. There is no mistaking that there is a very strong bond between these two and separating them would be cruel and inhumane.

We have now convinced the zoo to let us find homes for the camels and get a vet to treat the camels and the bears. We are waiting for the appropriate moment to ask for the release of Tommy. A sanctuary has been contacted and we feel sure they will take Tommy. We are also asking that Tommy's cat goes with him if he is released. It would be devastating to separate the two.

Koko is a gorilla that was taught sign language in an experiment. Koko learned over 500 words and uses approximately 100 every day. Koko often signed her interest in cats and listened carefully when she was told stories about cats, looked at cat pictures in books and had a toy cat. Koko knew what birthdays were and one year, when asked what she wanted for her birthday, she signed 'cat'. She was eventually given the choice of 3 cats from one litter

and Their Cats

and chose a tailless grey tabby. Koko, like Tommy, cradled, groomed, fed, played and slept with her cat. When asked what she wanted to name the cat, Koko signed "All Ball".

All Ball often bit or scratched Koko but not once did Koko ever hit or swipe back. Koko truly loved All Ball. All Ball was never afraid of Koko and willingly went to Koko just as Tommy's cat spends time with him. Koko often placed All Ball on her back and carried All Ball as she would a baby gorilla.

Koko's pet cat was hit on the road. When it was signed to Koko that All Ball had died, both Koko and her trainer cried together. Koko cried (a loud, long series of high pitched hoots) for three days and was suffering depression for months. Anyone who has suffered the loss of a pet will understand just how much Koko ached at this time and will understand her feeling of sadness.

Months later Koko signed that she wanted another cat. This time she signed that she wanted a "cat cat tiger cat". She did not get her tiger cat but was given a red tailless Manx cat. Koko named this cat "Lips-Lipstick", probably because it was red.

People have said to me when they hear of Tommy and Koko that it is amazing or astonishing. It is neither amazing nor astonishing when you consider that chimps and gorillas are so closely related to us. However, while it is not amazing, it is beautiful and tender and it proves beyond a doubt that love crosses the barrier. Love knows no boundaries.

There is a human in this story. Me. Another cat has come into our garden and now comes twice a day for food. He is now coming closer to the door and it is only time before I will be able to trap him and get him the vet attention he needs. I am luckier than Koko and Tommy. The number of my cats has just now grown to eleven. Like them, I have also suffered the loss of a pet cat and this is why it is important that Tommy and his pet cat remain together as long as possible.



Us apes, we love them cats!

☆☆ THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS ☆☆

ON THE FIRST DAY OF CHRISTMAS, MY KITTEN RUINED FOR ME.....

A batch of my special hand-print biscuits. I had turned my back to grab the biscuit tray sitting on the stove. In that micro-second, Sara climbed onto the table, poked her paw into the delightfully kneady mixture and, suddenly off-balance, fell into the biscuit dough. Net loss? Six cups of flour, four cups of sugar, a kilo of butter.... Of course, it would have been cheaper to remove the feline ingredient, pick out the hairs, and just rename the recipe Paw Print Biscuits.

ON THE SECOND DAY OF CHRISTMAS, MY KITTEN ACCOMPANIED ME.....

On a trip to the vet clinic. Who knew that skinny curling ribbon had feline taste appeal? I didn't. Damages: \$28 for the office visit, \$50 for anesthesia so the veterinarian could take \$55 x-rays in case Sara had taste-tested any other Christmas decorations, and a heck of a lot of embarrassment when the vet removed the 6 cm curly tail in slightly less than two seconds by tugging at it with a pair of tweezers.

ON THE THIRD DAY OF CHRISTMAS, MY KITTEN WRECKED FOR ME.....

13 ornaments on my Christmas tree. My mistake was forgetting to chain the decorations to the branches. My other error was leaving the room to go to the bathroom while Sara feigned sleeping under the tree. How was I to know she was actually measuring its climbing potential? Value of broken bulbs? \$17.50.

ON THE FOURTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS, MY KITTEN BROKE FOR ME.....

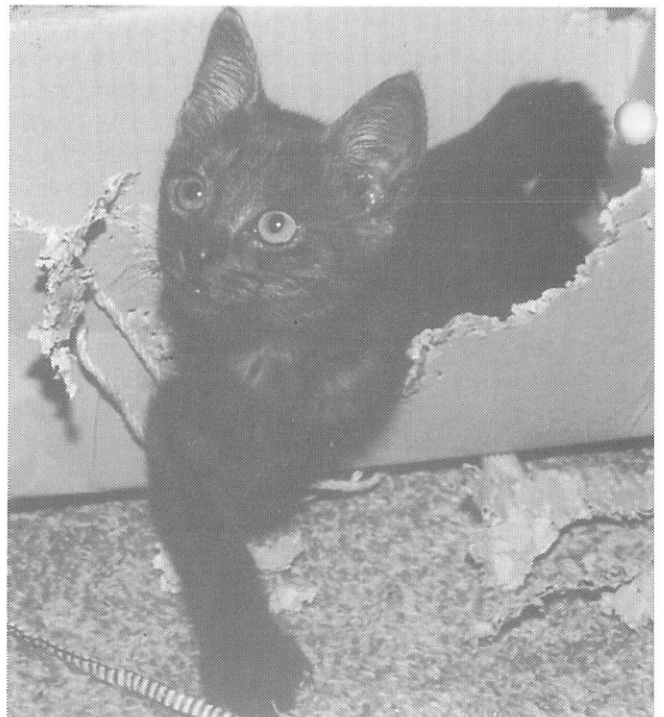
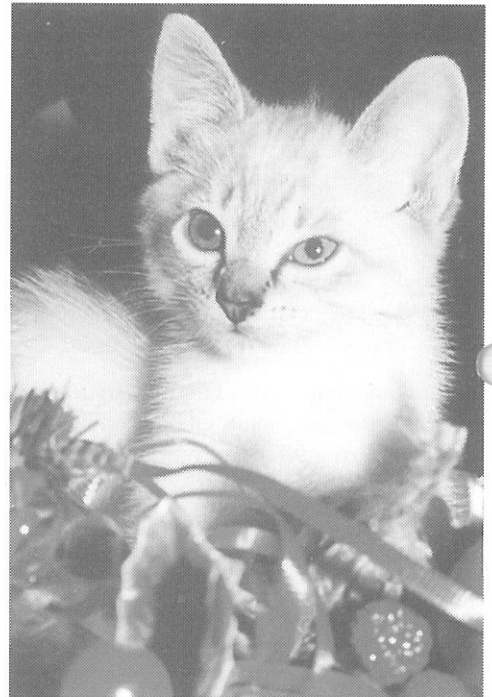
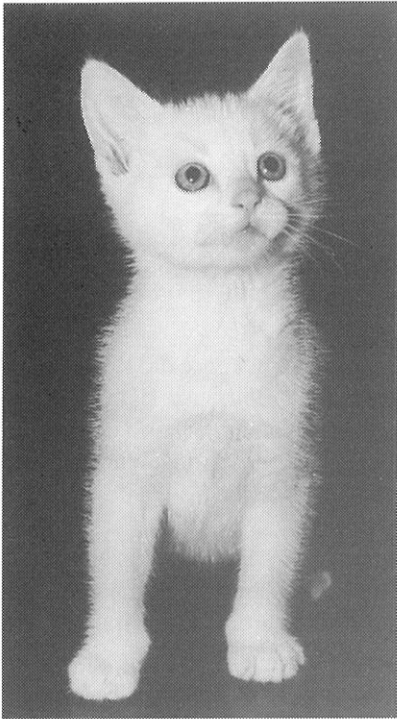
A statue in my Lenox nativity. Would you believe two Wise men plus a head? Lenox nativity figurines: \$55.99

ON THE FIFTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS, MY KITTEN SCRATCHED FOR ME.....

The kid across the street who collects for charity. It was an accident. She merely wanted to reach out and touch someone. Unfortunately, she used an unsheathed claw to do so. I settled out-of-court for the cost of a jacket to replace the boy's blood stained one and a hefty donation to the charity of their choice. Although the amount must remain secret according to our settlement, let me put it this way. You haven't seen many soldiers for the Salvation Army this year, have you? Think: Major Windfall!

ON THE SIXTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS, MY KITTEN OPENED FOR ME.....

The presents beneath my Christmas tree. It was only two, really. While doing some early shopping at a discount store, I purchased a catnip mouse for Sara's stocking. Apparently, anything in the same bag as catnip takes on its potent aroma for a very long time. Replacement costs: \$3.99 for another roll of Christmas wrapping paper, \$4.50 for two empty boxes, \$1 each for the kind of bows Sara can't unravel.



0100000N THE SEVENTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS, MY KITTEN LOST FOR ME.....

The earrings I bought for my sister Mary. Actually, it was one earring but since Mary doesn't have a hole in her nose or navel, a pair of matching earrings does make a more appealing gift. Sale price: \$29.95.

ON THE EIGHTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS, MY KITTEN HELPED ME.....

Replace my E and G guitar strings. Would you believe a kitten could fit into the itty-bitty hole in the middle of my Yamaha guitar? Neither could I, but Sara thought so. And she succeeded once she got those rascally strings out of the way. Unfortunately, her little rear end couldn't get out the way it came in. After paying through the whiskers for her previous escapades, I would have been willing to leave her in the guitar for the duration of the holiday season, except that she chose to get stuck two hours before I was due at the nursing home for our annual Christmas carol sing-a-long. Set of steel guitar strings: \$12.95; jar of petroleum jelly: \$1.79.

ON THE NINTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS, MY KITTEN DESTROYED FOR ME.....



My Christmas card list when she walked across my computer's delete key. Cost for call to software help line: \$17.50. And I still don't know what happened to the listings of B through H.

ON THE TENTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS, MY KITTEN HID FROM ME.....

The remote control from my 13-inch TV. This wouldn't be such a disaster if she hadn't previously stolen the power knob. I missed a week's worth of Christmas specials, including my all-time favorite, "It's a Wonderful Life." Rental of "It's a Wonderful Life" \$5; purchase of book, "Good Owners, Great Cats": \$24.95. Unfortunately, it never mentions the psychological profile of kittens with kleptomania.

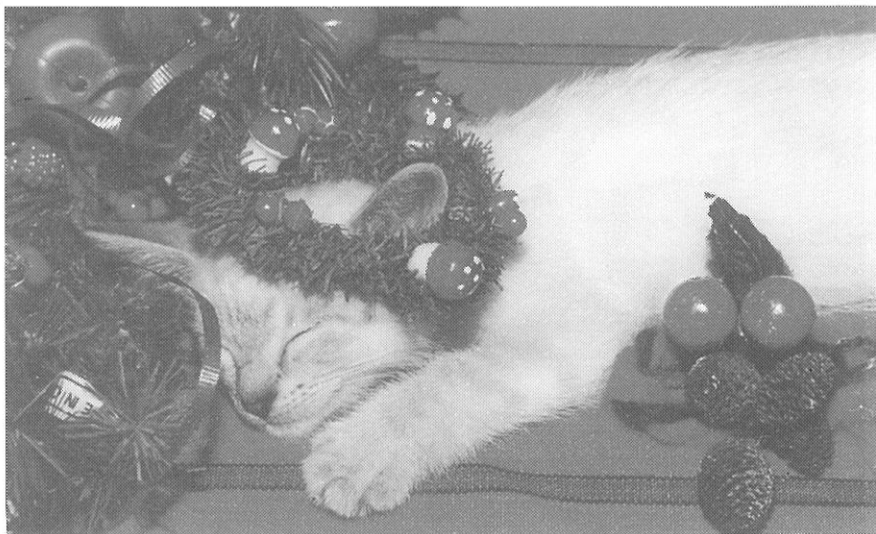
Photographs courtesy of Frances Kaukerit

ON THE ELEVENTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS, MY KITTEN ATE FOR ME.....

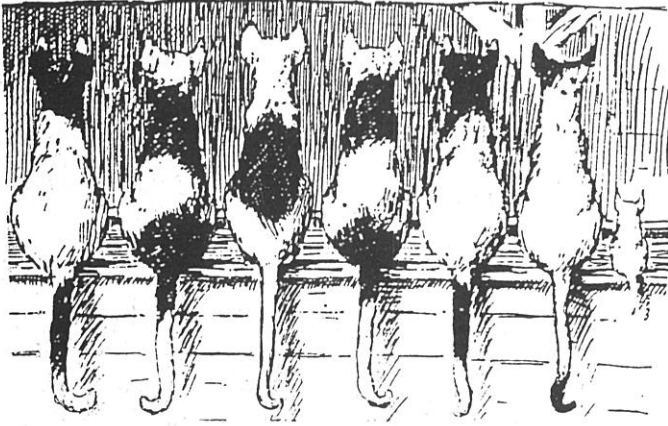
The drumsticks off my 19-pound turkey. OK, OK, So this one time it was my fault. I knew I never should have uttered those now infamous words: "Your first turkey, Sara. Want to try just a little piece?" Cost: Christmas Dinner.

ON THE 12TH DAY OF CHRISTMAS.....

Sara rested. And so, thank goodness, did my VISA card.



Cat Tails

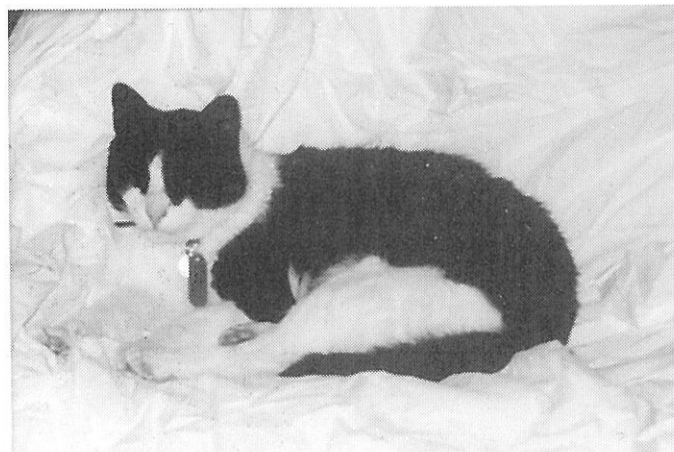


BONZO

Alias BRONSON, the black and white cat from the Canterbury Ice Rink who is now happily settled into his new home in Erskine Park. We met at the rink some two years ago, he was a very friendly puss who loved everybody in sight, especially children. We thought he had a home and was only visiting. However, as time went by Bronson spent most of his time helping at the ticket box. From early in the morning until late at night he would help count the cash as it went through the window, as well as receiving plenty of pats and hugs (well earned, I'd say!).

But food was a problem - a few scraps here and there. Then there was no warm place to sleep. Soon I started feeding him nice meals every Monday night, the only night I came to the rink. Everyone thought it was best if Bonzo remained at the rink as it had been his home for so long. Then a dog attack left him in a terrible mess, as well as startling everyone when the vet said she was actually a neutered male.

What to do? It was a long trip to Erskine Park but well worth the ride. The vet there microchipped Bonzo as well as giving him a good checkup. From then on it was settling into his new home and establishing a good relationship with his new four brothers and one sister. Bronson now lives like a real gentleman. He is not allowed to roam the streets at night as he used to but he hardly seems to care. He is loved and well cared for and he finds the grandkids great. The vet thinks he is about 9 years old but he looks much younger now. Bonzo is a very lucky cat and even better, I think I am very lucky to have him.
Bronson and his Mum



BONEY

Heather O'Rourke

I have just met a caramel coloured 12 year old cat. He had moved from Sydney with his family and a Labrador. He settled in the Hunter Valley for 3 months and then they moved to Tamworth to live opposite me. I can't believe the adaptability of this cat - he just 'settles' - no buttered paws, no locking indoors. He is just informed 'this is your new home, Boney', and that's it. He settles and stays put.

I extended the hand of friendship to Boney; then he permitted me to pick him up and he purred and purred. Then he rubbed around me so I know I am a member of his 'inner circle' and we will be firm friends. If his family are away I will feed him. My cats used to visit that house and garden but the Labrador put paid to that. I'm pleased they stay home and don't cross the road as that was always a worry for me. It is just so rewarding to have a cat as a friend and I've now got Boney to add to my list.



BANJO REVISITED

Judeth Materna

There was movement in the household for the word had got around

That the mouse had sprung the trap and got away,
And invaded kitchen cupboards making mess and stealthy sound,
And all the cats had gathered for the fray.

There was Chatzie, there was BB, and the Tonkinese for fun,
And some kittens much too young to keep the pace

Older cats with one sole purpose to outsmart the mouse this run
Catch the critter and by doing so - save face

Off they started with the battle plan, the Devons led the way
Followed closely by the Tonk and kittens three

Silent footsteps, whiskers twitching
Six tails were all a-sway

But the mouse had heard them coming and did flee.

Round the kitchen, round the table, up the stairs along the hall
Seven bodies crashed and thundered through the house

Rugs a-flying, vases smashing, precious ornaments did fall
All this noise and this destruction for a mouse.

When at last the front door opened what a sight did greet my eyes
Six cats asleep all innocence itself

Glassware shattered, house looked battered
and there upon the bookcase I did spy

Washing face, a mouse sits upon top shelf.

I'M A CAT PERSON



Pussycat, pussycat, why do you tarry?
I'll bet you've had dinner with Tom, Dick and Harry
You turn up your nose at fine quality meats
And sniff with disdain at the gourmet fish treats
I trudge to the market with furrow in brow
You greet all my meals with a scornful meow
I wail to my mother, "He'll starve to a sliver!"
And why are you eating that horrid rat's liver?"



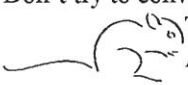
When it rains, from one door to the other
you go
And I patiently open it so as to show
That rain tends to fall in an impartial way
and it probably will keep on raining all day
Your meow's a reproach, your pose a critique
You're perfectly ready to do this all week
Until I am right at the end of my tether
As ceaseless you search for the door to fine weather.

Pussy cat, get those claws out of my chair
I brought you a scratching post, go and scratch there
I bought you a basket, does it not seem wrong
To sprawl in abandon upon the chaise longue!
I bought you a rodent, a small windup mouse
It's pitiful squeaking is heard through the house
I'm down on my knees to show how mice are chased
But it seems that velour doesn't have the right taste.

You've killed a marsupial, what a furore!
The wildlife and parks man who's living next door
Has tersely explained to me how I'm to blame
and I shuffle and grimace with head hung in shame
I should have made sure you were wearing your bell
And had your amygdala excised as well
Never has any cat been quite so lawless
You should be lobotomised, de-toothed and clawless.

You've pissed on the doona, you hideous mog!
An acrid miasma, a foul feline fog
Envelops my boudoir and floats in the air
It permeates even the clothes that I wear.
Just wait till I catch you, vile creature, you're dead!
I'll kick your bum up through the top of your head
I'll rub your nose in it, you'll die of the snuffles!
There, there, mummy's sorry, now have some more truffles.

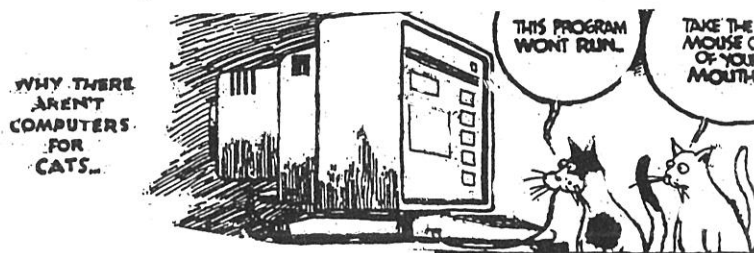
I bought a Chihuahua, you purred with delight
It was snugly ensconced in its bed through the night
It seemed to quite like you all curled up beside it
If you hated dogs you had managed to hide it
This puppy was tiny, the size of a rat
And really, you'd think I was brighter than that
But my jaw dropped in shock when next day I arose
To find nothing left but it's toenails and nose.

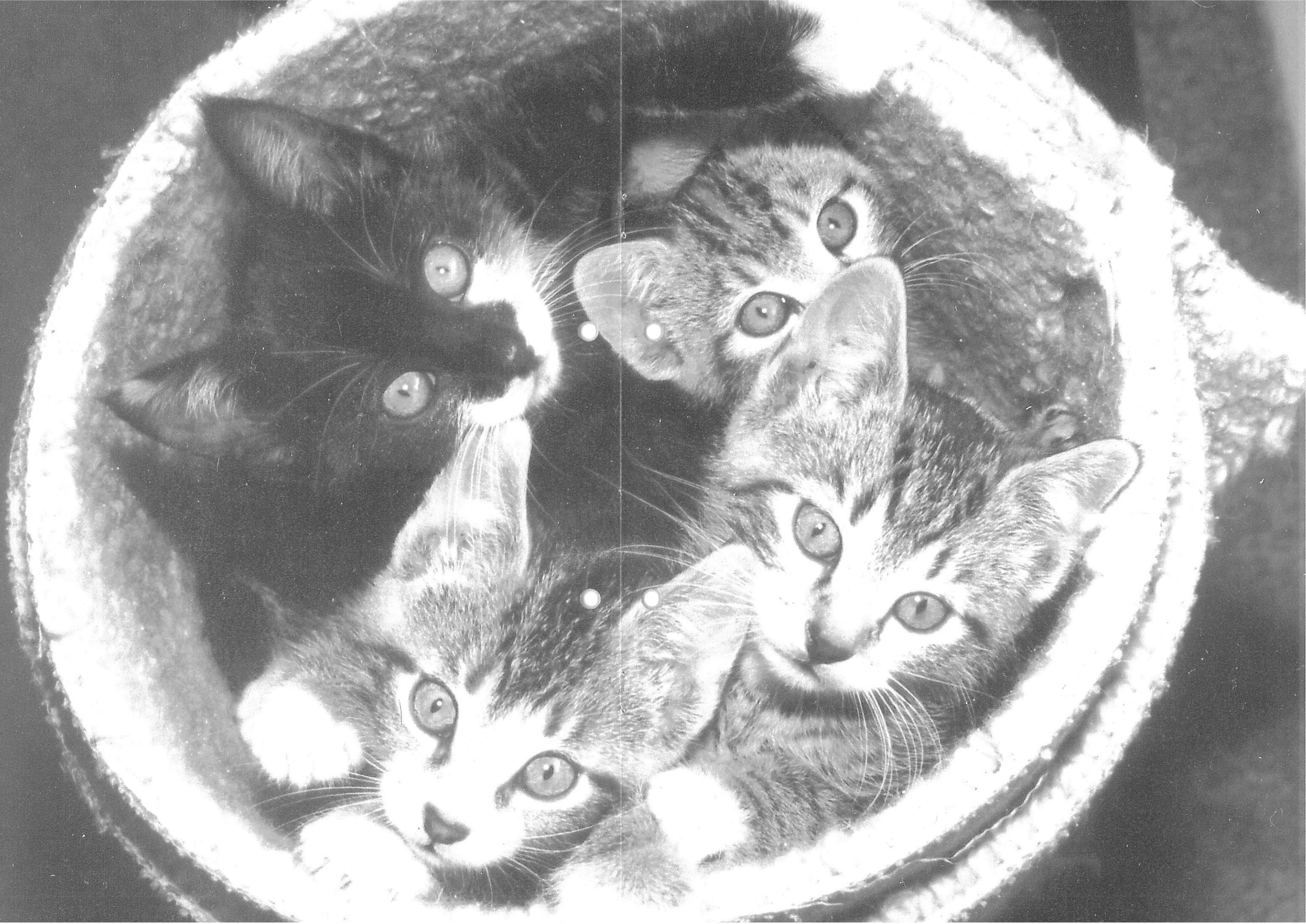
After that our relationship took a downturn
An array of bad habits you'd managed to learn
Like putting a funnel web into my shoe
I saw the whole thing so I know it was you
My tyre on the front driver's side was quite flat
Don't try to convince me you didn't do that
 The milk has gone sour and the baby has croup
And I know it was you put a mouse in my soup.

I sit in the corner, wild-eyed and dishevelled
I'm plagued and I'm pestered, I'm fraught and bedevilled
Wherever I turn I see evil green eyes
Reminding me silently, He Who Sleeps, Dies
The darkness is gathering, I'll write no more
I can hear the grim reaper, his scythe raps the door
Some fiends in white coats sink their talons in me
And I simper and sob and smile fatuously

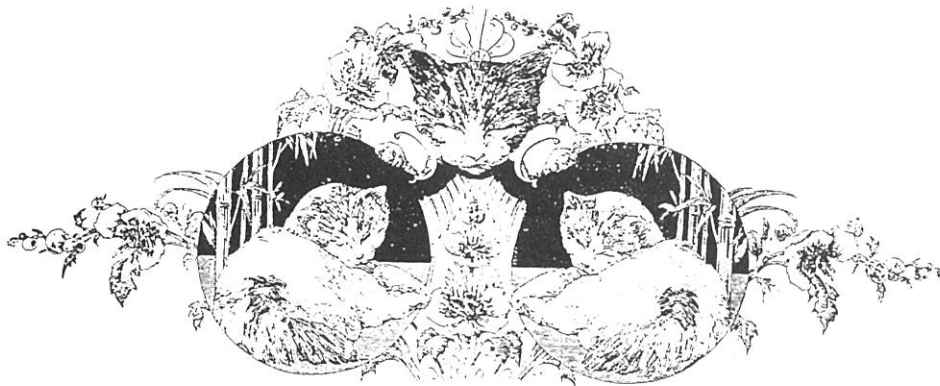
It's been a few weeks, the Largactil's kicked in
Sometimes I can sleep without making a din
I still check beneath every bed in the ward
I'm fairly discreet to make sure I'm ignored
My new secret formula's going quite well
I've tested it on half the demons in Hell
My band of supporters is growing each week
A world free of felines is all that we seek.

My chemical spray sticks like glue to their fur
For a start they'll be far too exhausted to purr
The formula's secret but I'll tell you something
It owes quite a lot to the dining room pumpkin
They'll lick and they'll groom and in less than two hours
Where once there were cats you'll find only Chihuahuas
Long live the Chihuahua, death to all cats, I say
..... and they stick me with needles and wheel me away.





REMEMBRANCE



LOUISE McMANUS

In memory of my friend, Louise. Also in memory of my 'Rexie' whom she loved. I'm sure she's looking after him now.
Joan Haub

ALICE DREVES

I wish to advise that Alice Dreves has passed away. She loved cats so we would like to give a donation to your cattery appeal in her name.
Mrs Norma Clouston



VALE

BARBARA PARKES

All her life Barbara had a brimming affection for animals. Her father bred dogs and it was only later that she came to know and appreciate the very different love of cats, which must be earned (as we all come to know!). She was besotted with her two charmers and they were indeed fortunate.

For a time Barbara worked behind the scenes at the Op Shop and she never ceased to be concerned with the welfare of the stray, disowned and starving cats. This concern she has shown in a very practical way by bequeathing a substantial portion of her estate to the Society.

Betty Gill, Life Member



GEORGINA MULLAN

My mother, Georgina Mullan, was a regular donor to the CPS as she loved cats. She passed away in July.
Patricia Hillary

OUR BELOVED CATS

In fond memory of our beloved cats, particularly "Boris" and "Dewey".

Diane R Wyatt

For RUSTY

"It's just a cat, they said. You can get another."

Heartache, heartbreak; silky soft curly fur, deafening purr
grief, raspy tongue licks, adoring green eyes,
bereaved; busy, busy, collar bell tinkling,
lizard hunter, hide 'n seek in the sheets,
sadness, mourning; cuddly companion,
sunshine in my life,
weeping; always demanding, always giving, always loving, my comforter,
hurting, missing, seeing him everywhere
- nowhere,
despondent, suffering; little fence climber, lap sitter, sleep snorer, sleep snuggler,
lamenting, weeping, alone, alone,
desolated, hurt, wounded, weeping.

These are just words.
For the seven short years of life he shared with me.

Kerri Hudson

THE DECISION WAS FIFI'S

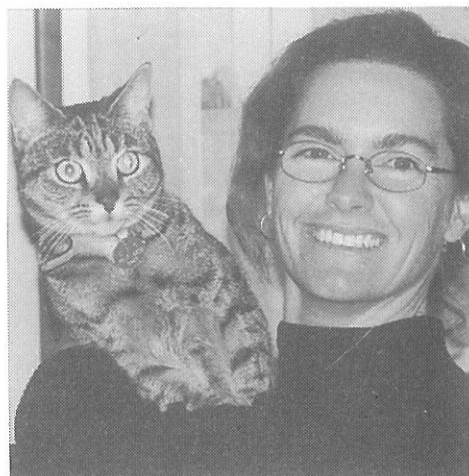
Fifi was handed to the CPS as a stray from the area. She was an 18 month old tortie tabby who definitely had a mind of her own. She was the boss of the office. She knew it and she knew we knew it and it was accepted by all. She would appear out of nowhere, demanding head rubs, stepping on the phone as soon as it rang and just being, well..., demanding! We could say we found her a home but in reality it was Fifi who decided it was time to move on. When a young and very unsuspecting couple popped into the CPS 'just for a look', Fifi took one look at them and made her move. She decided then and there she was going home with them, it only required some feline persuasion. She literally hopped right into their laps and, let's face it, they had little choice in the matter. We are pleased to report that her new owners slaves are overjoyed with Fifi and she has settled in well. Yeah, ok, we admit it, we kinda miss her....

HALLEY'S COMET

This has been a sad time for me as I have had to cope with the loss of "Halley's Comet", the top cat of my little family. I had expected little 'Willow', the aggressive, feisty one, to step forwards, but 'Crispin', my baby, not yet five, took over the job. His takeover has been quiet, efficient and non-aggressive. The cats seem to be coping with the big fellow's loss better than I am.

So in memory of my big, lovely Hal, here is a donation towards your great project.

Robin Thomsen



Judith Levitt with Fifi

A Living Love

Martin Scott Kosins

If you ever love an animal, there are three days in your life you will always remember.

The first is a day, blessed with happiness, when you bring home your new friend. You may have spent weeks deciding on a breed. You may have asked numerous opinions of many vets, or done long research to find a breeder. Or, perhaps in a fleeting moment, you may have chosen that silly looking creature in a shelter - simply because something in its eyes reached your heart. But when you bring that chosen pet home, and watch it explore, and claim its special place in your hall or front room - and when you feel it brush against you for the first time - it instills a feeling of pure love you will carry with you through the many years to come.

The second day will occur eight or nine or ten years later. It will be a day like any other. Routine and unexceptional. But, for a surprising instant, you will look at your longtime friend and see age where you once saw youth. You will see slow deliberate steps where you once saw energy. And you will see sleep when you once saw activity. So you will begin to adjust your friend's diet - and you may add a pill or two to its food. And you may feel a growing fear deep within yourself, which bodes of a coming emptiness. And you will feel this uneasy feeling, off and on, until the third day finally arrives.

And on this day - if your friend and God have not decided for you, then you will be faced with making a decision of your own - on behalf of your lifelong friend, and with the guidance of your own deepest Spirit. But whichever way your friend eventually leaves you - you will feel as alone as a single star in the dark night.

If you are wise, you will let the tears flow as freely and as often as they must. And if you are typical, you will find that not many in your circle of family or friends will be able to understand your grief, or comfort you. But if you are true to the love of the pet you cherished through the many joy-filled years, you may find that a soul, a bit smaller in size than your own, seems to walk with you, at times, during the lonely days to come.

And at moments when you least expect anything out of the ordinary to happen, you may feel something brush against your leg, very very lightly. And looking down at the place where your dear, perhaps dearest, friend used to lay - you will remember those three significant days. The memory will most likely be painful, and leave an ache in your heart. As time passes the ache will come and go as if it has a life of its own. You will both reject it and embrace it, and it may confuse you. If you reject it, it will depress you. If you embrace it, it will deepen you. Either way, it will still be an ache.

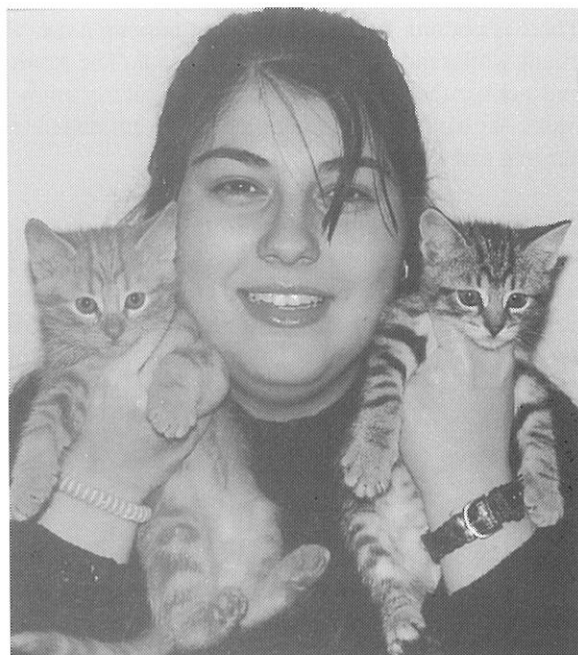
But there will be, I assure you, a fourth day when, along with the memory of your pet - and piercing through the heaviness in your heart - there will come a realisation that belongs only to you. It will be as unique and strong as our relationship with each animal we have loved and lost. This realization takes the form of a Living

Love - like the heavenly scent of a rose that remains after the petals have wilted, this Love will remain and grow - and be there for us to remember. It is a love we have earned.

It is the legacy our pets leave us when they go. And it is a gift we may keep with us as long as we live. It is a Love which is ours alone. And until we ourselves leave, perhaps to join our Beloved Pets - it is a Love we will always possess.



Carina Bentos and 2 recently homed kits



Ancient Cures

When a pointed or other substance has stuck in the throat, by rubbing it externally with cat's dung, the substance, they say, will either come up again or pass downwards into the stomach.

For quartan fever, the magicians recommend cat's dung to be attached to the body, with the toe of a horned owl, and, that the fever may not be recurrent, not to be removed until the seventy paroxysm is passed. Who, pray, could have ever made such a discovery as this? And what, too, can be the meaning of this combination? Why, of all things in this world, was the toe of a horned owl made choice of? Other adepts in this art, who are more moderate in their suggestions, recommend for quartan fever, the salted liver of a cat that has been killed while the moon was on the wane, to be taken in wine just before the paroxysms come on.

Thorns and similar foreign substances, are extracted from the body by using cats' dung, or that of she-goats, with wine.

Calf's marrow, boiled in wine and water with the suet, and applied as a pessary, is good for ulcerations of the uterus: the same, too, with foxes' fat and cats' dung, the last applied with resin and oil of roses.

Veal suet, pounded with salt and applied to ulcers of the head, is a very useful remedy; the fat, too, of the fox is highly spoken of, but the greatest value is set upon cats' dung, applied in a similar manner with mustard.

From the Natural History, by Piny

THINGS THAT DRIVE VETS MAD!!!

Most clients are terrific, but many make basic mistakes which make the vet's job harder than it need be. Please help the vet and your animal by noting the following points.

1. Always have your animal restrained at the vets:

There is nothing worse than a client nursing a cat, when another client walks in with a dog not on a lead! The result is obvious - and neither the vet nor the nurse particularly enjoy breaking up fights - or having to search for a cat who has bolted because it was not in a carry cage.

2. Restrain animals at all times in the car:

You would not believe the number of car seats I have had to remove to try and fish out a terrified cat, the number of dogs that fall out of the back of utes, the number of pets that are lost after an accident, and the number of accidents caused simply because people have their animals loose in the car. If you cannot get a strong carry cage for a cat, then use a banana box (with air holes) from the fruit shop and secure well with strong string.

3. Don't leave animals in the car:

This one has been stressed so often everyone is sick of it - but you would be surprised how many people still leave animals in the car, even in mid summer! I have had clients waiting in the air conditioned reception area who leave their pet in the car (windows up, of course) until their appointment.

4. Restrain your children, or don't bring them:

Often children pose a greater problem than the animal. Restrain your children, or don't bring them! It is very hard to concentrate when there are children behaving noisily in the surgery, frightening animals that are already nervous and upset.

5. Listen to what the vet says:

You are paying for a professional opinion so listen to what is said, and if you do not understand, say so! If the instructions or diagnosis are confusing, ask the vet to write them down for you. It is important to know what is happening and why so that you can follow up treatment appropriately. Many disasters would then be avoided!

6. Don't try to "cover up":

Often people will not tell the vet the whole story. For instance, that they tried their cousin's tablets on the dog before bringing it in, or that they kicked the animal in anger and don't want to admit it, or that they knew the dog was sick a week ago, but did not have the time or money to come to the vet. Tell the vet as much as you possibly can about what the problem is, the chances of fixing it are much better. If your animal is booked for surgery and the kids mistakenly fed him, tell the vet. It makes the anaesthetic safer if problems are anticipated.

7. Tell the Truth:

Some people don't! Lines like "He wouldn't know how to bite, Dr"

when the dog is bristling and growling in the background. I have never refused to see an animal because it is untrustworthy, but if I am forewarned I am much safer and have more respect for the client and their pet.

8. Don't be ashamed to ask for a second opinion"

If a client wants a second opinion, most vets will not mind - as long as the client explains the reason for the need to seek another vet's advice.

9. Look at your animal:

Particularly after surgery, - look at the wound every day. Notice if your pet is eating, drinking and acting normally. If it isn't, ring the vet. If there is an infection or any other problem, it is easier to control in the early stages than when it is severe. The only way things get really bad is if the first signs of a problem are either noticed or ignored.

10. Always ring before going to the vet:

If you let the vet know you are coming in, he will be able to prepare for your visit. This is particularly important in emergency situations when even a few minutes can save your pet's life.

11. Come back for check ups:

If the vet says they would like to see your pet in 3 days to check how the condition is going, there will be a reason. If, in 3 days, your pet seems fine, ring and say so - and see what the vet says.

12. One owner per pet:

If your pet is in hospital, organise one person to ring the surgery and pass on the information to others. When many people ring it is time consuming for the vet and staff.

13. Check about payment:

It is embarrassing for everyone if payment is expected when the animal goes home and the owner is expecting to receive an account at the end of the month. When you bring your pet in, ask the likely cost and when payment is due. If you anticipate that payment will be a problem, tell the vet in advance so something can be arranged. Many vets are very reasonable. However, if you just say, "Oh I haven't got any money", when you come to collect your animal, it puts everyone in a difficult situation.

14. Know who owns the animal:

Clients come in and give their name, say Betty Jones. The nurse cannot find the card. Then they say it could be under the first husband's name, Bill Smith, or the nice lady across the road who brought the animal in once when the car was being serviced. What was her name again - that's right, Mary Brown. You can imagine how fed up the nurse gets.

15. Get to the Point

Tell the vet the reason for your visit immediately. In an emergency this is vital.

CAT BATHING

AS A MARTIAL ART

Some people say cats never have to be bathed. They say cats lick themselves clean. They say cats have a special enzyme of some sort in their saliva that works like new, improved Spray 'n Wipe, dislodging the dirt where it hides and whisking it away.

I've spent most of my life believing this folklore. Like most blind believers, I've been able to discount all the facts to the contrary, the cat odours that lurk in every corner of the house and dirt smudges that cling to the throw rug by the fireplace. The time comes when a person must face reality; when he must look squarely in the face of massive public sentiment to the contrary and announce: "This cat smells like a Port-A-Loo on a hot day in Penrith." When that day arrives in your house, as it has in mine, I have some advice you might consider as you place your feline friend under your arm and head for the bathtub.

* Know that although the cat has the advantage of quickness and lack of concern for human life, you have the advantage of strength. Capitalise on that advantage by selecting the battlefield. Don't try to bathe him in an open area when he can force you to chase him. Pick a very small bathroom. If your bathroom is more than 1 metre square, I recommend that you get in the tub with the cat and close the sliding glass doors as if you were about to take a shower. (A simple shower curtain will not do. A berserk cat can shred a 3-ply rubber shower curtain quicker than a politician can shift positions.)

* Know that a cat has claws and will not hesitate to remove all the skin from your body. Your advantage here is that you are smart and know how to dress to protect yourself. I recommend canvas overalls tucked into high-top construction boots, a pair of steel mesh gloves, an army helmet, a hockey face mask and a long sleeved flak jacket.

* Prepare everything in advance. There is no time to go out for a towel when you have a cat digging a hole in your flak jacket. Draw the water. Make sure the towel can be reached even if you are lying on your back in the water.

* Use the element of surprise. Pick up your cat nonchalantly, as

if to simply carry him to his supper dish. (Cats will not usually notice your strange attire. They have little or no interest in fashion as a rule. If he does notice your garb, calmly explain that you are taking part in a product testing experiment for a surplus store.

* Once you are inside the bathroom speed is essential to survive. In a single liquid motion, shut the bathroom door, step into the tub enclosure, slide the glass door shut, dip the cat in the water and squirt him with shampoo. You have begun one of the wildest 45 seconds of your life.

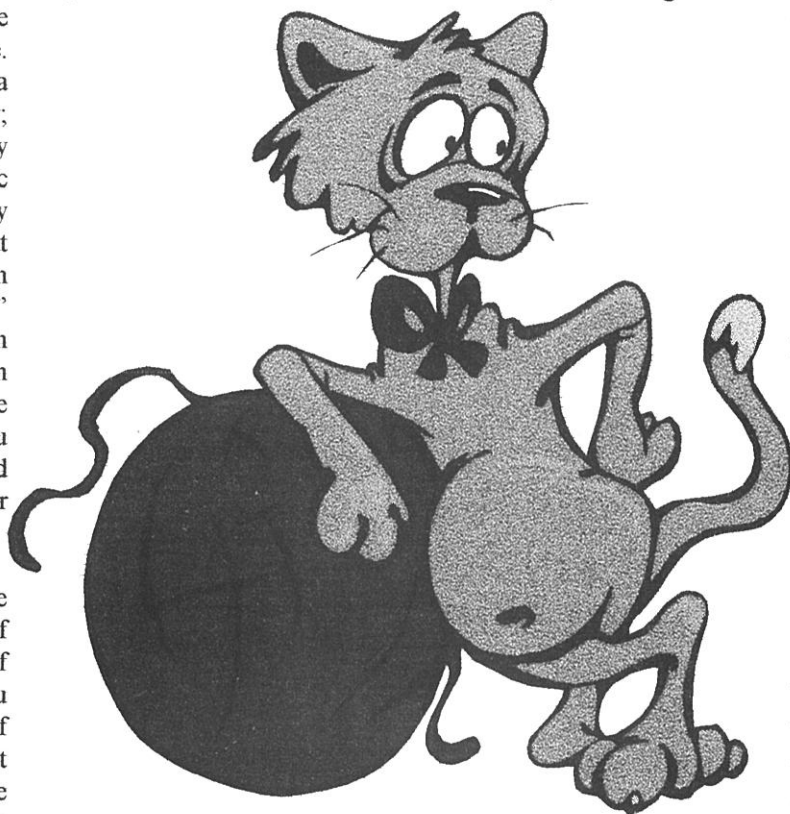
* Cats have no handles. Add the fact that he now has soapy fur and the problem is radically compounded. Do not expect to hold on to him for more than two or three seconds at a time. When you have him, however, you must remember to give him another squirt of shampoo and rub like crazy. He'll then spring free and fall back into the water, thereby rinsing himself off. (The national record for cats is three latherings so don't expect too much.)

* Next, the cat must be dried. Novice cat bathers always assume this part will be the most difficult, for humans are generally worn out at this point and the cat is just getting really

determined. In fact, the drying is simple compared to what you have just been through. That's because by now the cat is semi-permanently affixed to your right leg. You simply pop the drain plug with your foot, reach for your towel and wait. (Occasionally, however, the cat will end up clinging to the top of your army helmet. If this happens, the best thing you can do is to shake him loose and to encourage him towards your leg.) After all the water is drained from the tub it is a simple matter to just reach down to dry the cat.

In a few days the cat will relax enough to be removed from your leg. He will usually have nothing to say for about three weeks and will spend a lot of time sitting with his back to you. He might even become psychoceramic and develop the fixed stare of a plaster figurine. You will be tempted to assume he is angry. This isn't usually the case. As a rule he is simply plotting ways to get through your defences and injure you for life the next time you decide to give him a bath.

But at least now he smells a lot better.



MOGGY Versus PEDIGREE

Some people may own pedigree cats as snob value but the vast majority who own specific breeds do so because they want a particular look and personality. While each cat, like each human, has its own specific personality, a great many traits are breed traits and appeal to certain human personalities. Selective breeding chooses and refines characteristics to produce animals that can eventually differ widely from the founding parents. A number of breeds have been cultivated for so many generations that their exact origins are obscure but many contemporary breeds originate from domestic cats by controlled breeding, outcrosses or mutations.

A breed can be established from or saved by domestics. The British Shorthair was originally a domestic cat. Dedicated breeders controlled the breeding to establish desired characteristics in type, coat and temperament. After WW2 the British Shorthair was so reduced in numbers that the breed was in danger of extinction. Cats were bred to suitable domestics, the offspring closest to the British in type were used to breed on until breed numbers were increased and the correct type regained. When the gene pool was widened and the breed well established, the use of domestics or other breeds was disallowed.

An outcross is when a pedigree cat is bred to a domestic or to another breed to improve breed vigour, minimize inbreeding, or to get or accentuate certain features. Recently breeders have bred the British to Siamese in order to introduce the pointed colourway into the British breed.

An increasing number of breeds have been developed from natural mutations that occurred in domestic cats and these cats were used in controlled breeding programs to 'set' the particular characteristic and create a new breed. Well known examples are the Rex breeds. In each case, a domestic to domestic mating produced a litter of domestic kittens - and one natural mutation. The mutant gene altered not only the coat but the normal cobby body type to produce a kitten that was longer in body, leg and tail, larger in eyes and ears and more people oriented in personality. No amount of controlled breeding could ever produce a curly coat but careful breeding did set the desired characteristics.

Numerous Rex mutations have been recorded but only 4 have been developed. The Cornish Rex and Devon Rex appeared in England in 1950 and 1960, the Selkirk Rex and the La Perm in America in the 1980s. All four breeds have different genes which cause the coats to curl, different physical features and coat types and they cannot be inter-bred. To increase breed numbers, domestics and suitable pedigree cats were used to establish these breeds.

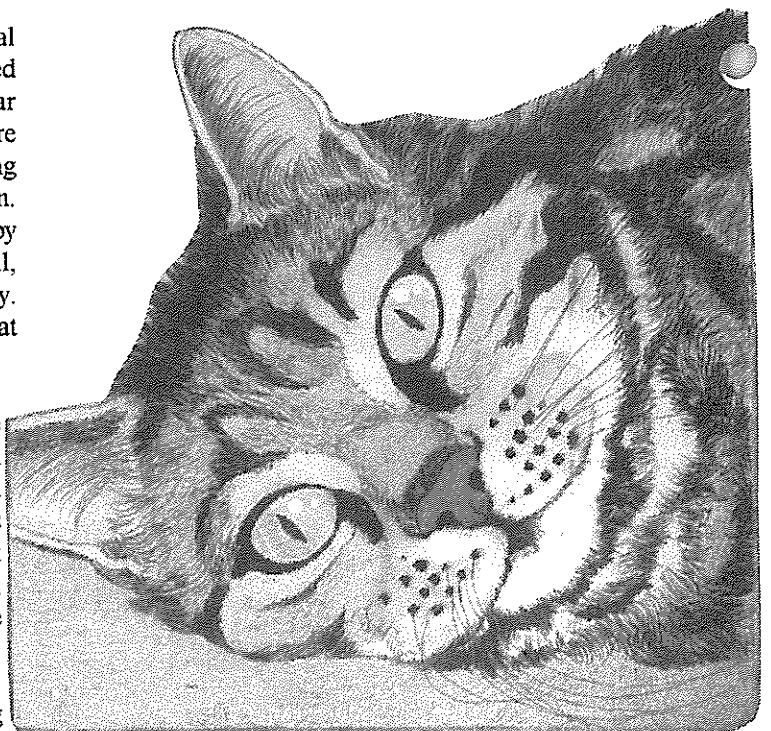
Another mutation is the American Curl. The originating

domestic queen produced a litter with two kittens whose ears curled backwards. The American Wirehair was a domestic kitten born with a coarse wiry coat, totally unlike his littermates. A domestic queen regularly produced kittens with shorter legs and the Munchkin was developed. Several instances have been recorded where naked cats were born to domestic queens, again with a markedly different body type to the parent cats, and the Sphynx was eventually developed.

Breeders can also decide to combine characteristics or accentuate a characteristic to develop a new breed. In the last few years breeders have selected short tailed domestic tabbies and worked to produce a naturally 'bob-tailed' cat, thus producing the American Bobtail. Unlike the Japanese Bobtail's curly tail (whose origins are lost in the mists of history), the American Bobtail has a very short straight tail.

Spotted cats are very popular so domestics and pedigrees were combined to eventually produce cats such as the California Spangle, the Bengal and the Ocicat and, in Australia, the Spotted Mist, now renamed The Australian Mist to reflect its country of origin. Truda Straede, a Sydney breeder, spent 10 years developing the Australian Mist from Abyssinians, domestic tabbies and Burmese. While people may scoff at the time, money and commitment necessary to establish a new breed to championship status (about 10 years to standardise type and produce sufficient quantities of the cat and breeders to ensure the breed's viability), The Australian Mist has proved hugely successful and its numbers are rapidly growing each year.

Much as the British Shorthair was 'pedigreed' from domestic stock, so too was the Maine Coon and the American Shorthair. The Maine coon has long been known an 'America's pedigreed domestic' but it has experienced a well deserved popularity revival in recent years and is doing well in Australia since it was introduced in the early 90s.



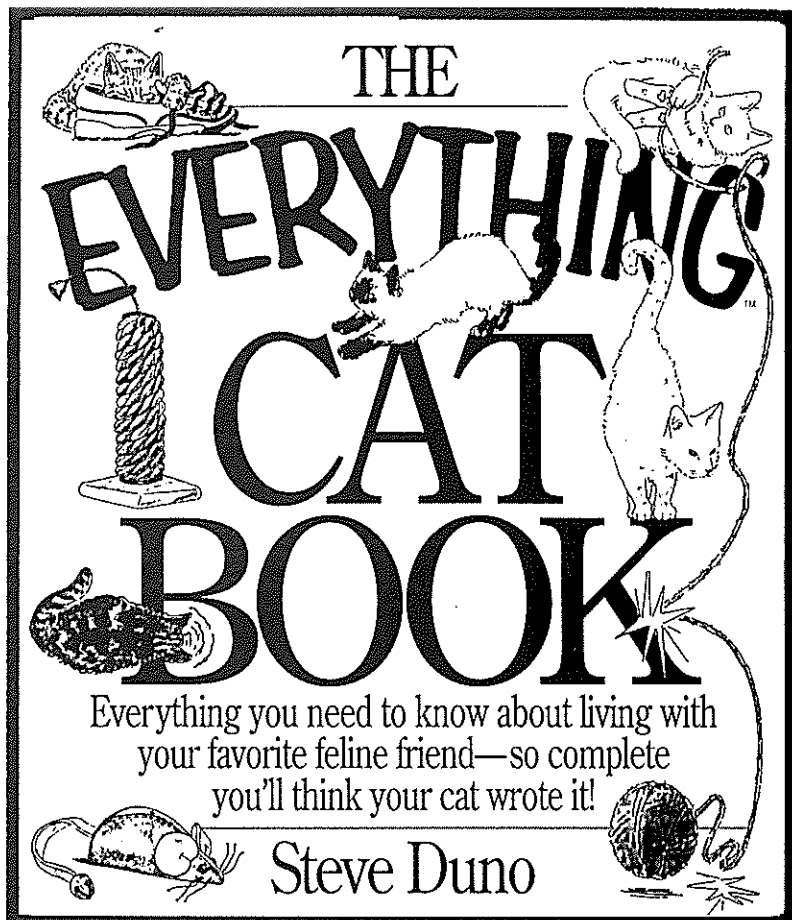
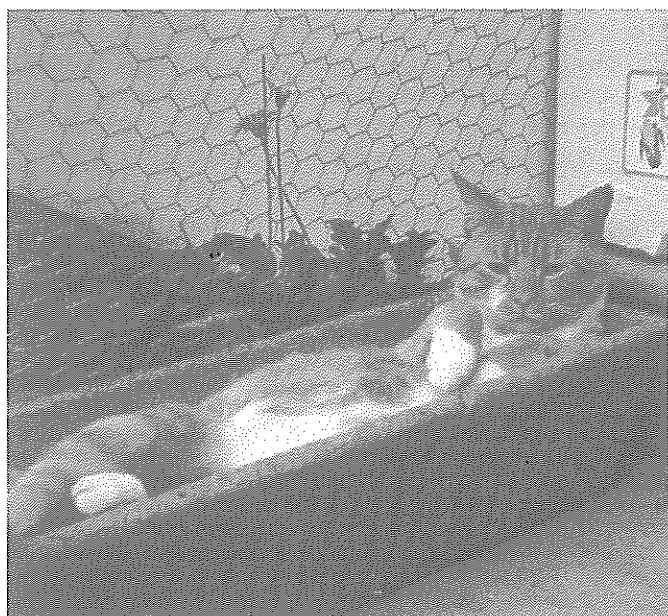
And what of the domestics - how do they fare against the pedigrees? Depending on how well you know your cat breeds, you can derive a great deal of amusement from studying various domestic cats and trying to ascertain their ancestors. I was recently talking to a lovely, extremely friendly mackerel tabby bi-colour who was long in the leg, quite vocal, possessed an elegant long tapering tail and a pronounced wedge face. Now this lady was not the typical domestic cobby body type (short and stocky) - somewhere in her background was a Siamese or Oriental.

The clues are in the body type, the colour, the coat, the voice and/or the personality. In some breeds (Siamese and Rex, for instance) the gene that carries the main identifying factor is recessive and both parents must pass a gene to the offspring for the Siamese colouring or the Rex curls and waves to be evident. But the kitten doesn't need two matching genes to have big ears, a wedge face and an expressive voice.

While some of us prefer pedigrees, some prefer domestics and some owners happily have both; pedigree cats owe their very existence to domestic origins and, in many cases, their present survival or improved breed features, colour or genetic strength, to domestic outcrosses. Many of the domestic cats that we love and treasure owe some specialness to a pedigreed parent in their colourful lineage.

Because of pet overpopulation, many people tend to scorn registered breeders as doing little more than creating cats that the world does not need. But they are creating cats that appeal to people who would not necessarily want a typical domestic. And by creating these cats they are introducing felines into far more households than would own cats if the only available feline was a cobby type tabby. Once one cat comes in, more often follow and often one or more of those are domestics. It only takes one cat to show a person what a lovely companion they make and whether that one cat is a domestic or a pedigree, it is, and always will be, 'just' a cat.

VIVA the MOGGIES!!!
VIVA the PEDIGREES!!!

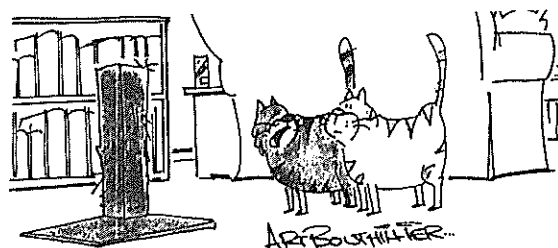


BOOK REVIEWS

Lee Wright

The EVERYTHING CAT BOOK by Steve Duno, distributed by Peribo, \$24.95, 293 pages. This is a GOOD book. It is extremely readable and written in a conversational style which makes the information easy to absorb. Not only does the author tell you pretty much everything about a cat, but he also explains the whys of a cat's behaviour in a way that makes understanding felines a bit easier (if no less frustrating!) The content covers a wide spectrum of cat facts and I would rate the book quite highly for its common sense approach to every day cat care. You can read through it cover to cover or browse as you need to. The presentation is good and the many cute sketches make page turning a delight. Christmas for yourself, Christmas for someone else - this is definitely a good book to have. ☺☺☺☺

CATS AND KITTENS AT PLAY, The Art of Henriette Ronner-Knip 1821-1909, distributed by Peribo, \$39.95. Henriette Ronner-Knip depicted cats and kittens in period settings with a warmth and homeliness that makes each picture very appealing. The queens are regal, the kittens are kittens ... and treating the items around them, be it jewellery, cigars, artist's paints, with the careless abandon of kittens. The artist's love for cats shines through every masterpiece and it all adds to the reader's visual delight and enjoyment. ☺☺☺☺



"Somehow It makes people happy... I scratch it, and they smile."

SHIRLEY PIKLER RETIRES

Nance Iredale OAM

To pay tribute to Shirley Pikler is something I can do with great affection and admiration for I have worked with this gentle lady since 1980. Shirley is, by far, the longest serving person the Society has had. She has worked in every executive position except treasurer and became our 7th president in 1992.



Even before our welfare section was formed in 1980, Shirley had been doing field work for the Society which she joined about 1959. As well as her intensive involvement with the CPS, she was a member of the Animal Welfare Advisory Council (to the State Government) for almost nine years. Now she has decided to become an ordinary member (in addition to already being a Life Governor and an Honorary Life Member) but she plans to keep her hand in by doing regular weekly stints at the Op Shop.

At the July Council meeting she officially resigned as President and handed over the Presidency to Keith Edwards. Every President hopes to leave a good legacy and Shirley has done just that. Realising we had few volunteers to continue the management of the office, she had the foresight to see we needed experienced people to carry the CPS forward and so we have Sue Matysek as our Office Co-ordinator. Shirley headed the team which introduced early desexing and microchipping of all our cats and she was strong in her determination to acquire our own cattery as soon as suitable premises can be found. During her term, our investments reached one million dollars.

Shirley has handled every office she has held with great ease and attention. She is always calm, helpful and optimistic and dearly loved by all who work with her. We wish Shirley a happy retirement after a job superbly done. Of course we will be seeing her at the Op Shop and at AGMs and fund raisings and many more times, we hope, as a friend with whom we have shared some tough and some happy times.

A gracious lady - Shirley, we salute you.

HILLS SCIENCE DIET 'CAT OF THE YEAR AWARD' CONTEST

The 'CAT OF THE YEAR AWARD' has been organised to celebrate the many important emotional and practical ties that people have with their cats. It is being judged on 1 March, 1999, (which we have declared to be the International Cat's Birthday). The object of the competition is to show that, contrary to 'public opinion', many cats are in fact selfless, loyal (within a feline definition), affectionate and very much worthy of their place in our homes and lives. Cats may well walk alone, but they often seem to herd us humans along the road with them.

There are a few CATEGORIES for the entries, and we need a photo (SAE if you want it returned) and about an A4 page on what your cat has done that would help dispel the myth of the 'selfish, calculating cat' variety. The Bravest Cat (saving another's life), the Ecocat (not hunting or desisting from hunting, recycling?), best Poem by a cat(...). Last year the judges (including the CF own Nance Iredale) made up CATEGORIES to fit the entries.

**So, if your cat has a 'Tale to Tell', send the entry to:
EAST CHATSWOOD CAT CLINIC
346 Penshurst Street, WILLOUGHBY NSW 2068
BEFORE 10 February 1999.**

Hills have agreed to donate a year's supply of premium food to the winner, and came up with a little something for most entrants last year. GOOD LUCK

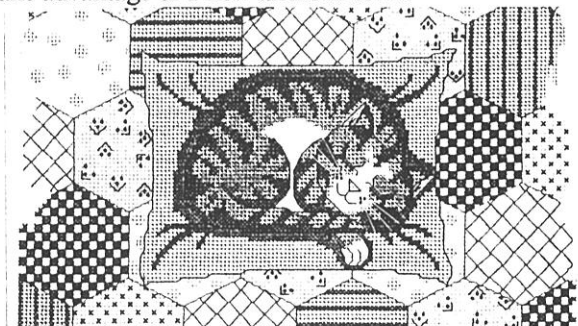


BOOK REVIEW

Lee Wright

CUTE CATS and TEDDY BEARS, Debbie Minton, distributed by Peribo, HB, \$34.95.

The title is 100% correct. For those who love needlework - this book is full of clever, witty and easy-to-do cat and teddy designs. The book advertises 25 designs but there are more than that with a host of bonus faces. I am a needlepoint addict and can see all these designs done in needlepoint as well, whether the creator prefers the tent or continental stitch or chooses a variety of stitches. With such a wealth of inspiration it seems a shame, to my mind, to limit the context to just cross stitch. And quilters could easily adapt the cat faces to a cat quilt design. So don't limit your assessment of this new designer's work to just cross stitch, as the title implies. Adapt them to your favourite stitching medium and take advantage of a new talent in town.



DONATION FORM

The Membership Secretary, The Cat Protection Society of NSW,
103 Enmore Road, ENMORE NSW 2042 Ph (02) 9557-1011, 9519-7201

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 persons who wish to assist our Society, 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) 9557 1011.



ROLL OF HONOUR

The Cat Protection Society of NSW salutes members who contributed so generously to our
'The Cats That Need the Cattery' Fund Raising Appeal.



★ BRONZE ★			★★ SILVER ★★
S Abnett, Mulwala	M Harris, Drummoyne	V Hackett, Penrith	E Williams, Telopea
H & W Allan, Turramurra	E Krynda, Erskineville	S Hosick, Caringbah	A Dreves, Bankstown
P Allen, Kincumber	V Kuzion, Blacktown	T Howell, Lindfield	D Wyatt, Tumby Umbi
P Argue, Terrigal	J Lategan, Epping	C Johnston, Auburn	
L Begley, North Balgowlah	J & B Lucas, Annandale	J Schuur, Rydalmere	
R Bond, Canley Heights	M Montefort, Chatswood	J Singh, Artarmon	
L Buckley, South Penrith	C Payne, Cranebrook	P Smith, Rosebery	
J Campbell, Auburn	R Parsons, Killarney Vale	M Snodgrass	
M Causer, Culburra Beach	R Payne, Cranebrook	J Summers, Jannali	
C Christensen, Croydon Park	D Podesta, Petesham	R U Weissflog, Wahroonga	
P Clarke, Stanmore	S Proctor, Langwarrin	BM Weston, Dundas	
K & H Edwards, Campbelltown	H Rhodes, Cabarita	S Wilkinson, Mackay Qld,	
D Elias, Nambucca Heads	DL Ross, Lalor Park	V Wilkinson, Nulkaba	
V & H Finch, West Ryde	K Rowe, Petersham	R Wyatt, Tumby Umbi	
N & B Fox, Alexandria	E Rush, Balmain	MY Xu, Coogee	
	D Silins, Seaforth		★★★ GOLD ★★★
			V McLeish, Tempe
			P Scott, West Ryde
			B Parkes

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Cat Protection Society, 103 Enmore Road, Enmore NSW 2042. Ph 02 9557-1011

I/We apply for membership or renewal of membership of the Society for the year commencing June 1998.

All persons joining from January 1999 remain financial until June 2000.

Subscription	\$1000.00	Life Governor	Pensioner Membership	\$10.00
	\$ 250.00	Life Membership	Junior Membership	\$5.00
	\$ 15.00	Annual Membership	(state birthday)	

Enclosed find cheque/money order for membership \$ + Donation TOTALS.....

Please cross cheques and make payable to THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY of NSW

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss SURNAME Initial

Address: Suburb: Postcode

Pension Number: Signature: Date

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

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

If you have changed your address since becoming a member please fill in this section.

Surname(block letters please) Initials

New Address Postcode

Previous Address Postcode



NEW MEMBERS

August 1998 - September 1998

Mrs J Campbell, Bondi; K Carley, Killara; Miss NJ Collins, Little Bay; NH Harvey, Stanmore; Mrs L Hilton, Marrickville; Ms L James, Sydenham; Miss S Kent, Heathcote; Ms J Knowland, Annandale; Ms E Krynda, Erskineville; Mrs Y Langley-Walsh, St Pauls; M MacFarlane, Winmalee; Mr P McLaren, Surry Hills; N Oliver, Leanyer, NT; Mr R Ploeg, Cobbity; Ms V Roach, Marrickville; Miss B Rutter, Rose Bay; Mrs Y Ryan, Killara; Miss T Spaulding, Cranebrook; Mrs R Staines, Dulwich Hill; L ward, Riverwood; Mrs N Wilkinson, Lavington; Mrs P Willems, Grenfell; S Yangou, Enmore.

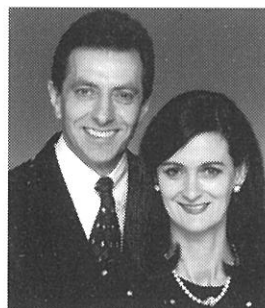


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and people.

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on selling
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the husband & wife
real estate team
from

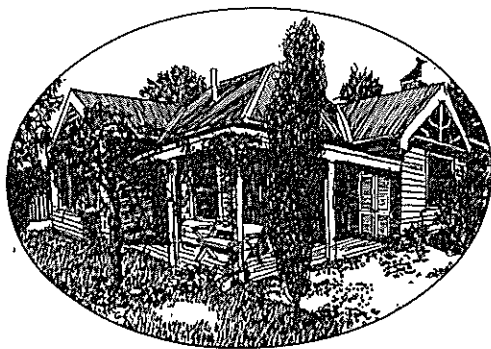


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CATS IN PHYSICS

1 Law of Cat Inertia

A cat at rest will tend to remain at rest, unless acted upon by some outside force such as the opening of cat food, or a scurrying mouse.

2 Law of Pill Rejection

Any pill given to a cat has the potential energy to reach escape velocity

3 Law of Cat Magnetism

All blue blazers and black sweaters attract cat hair in direct proportion to the darkness of the fabric.

4 Law of Cat Thermodynamics

Heat flows from a warmer to a cooler body, except in the case of a cat, in which all the heat flows to the cat.

5 Law of Cat Stretching

A cat will stretch to a distance proportional to the length of the nap it has just taken.

6 Law of Cat Sleeping

All cats must sleep with people whenever possible, in a position as uncomfortable for the people involved as is possible for the cat.

7 Law of Cat Elongation

A cat can make her body long enough to reach just about any counter top that has anything remotely interesting on it.

8 Law of cat Disinterest

A cat's interest level will vary in inverse proportion to the amount of effort a human expends in trying to interest him.

9 Law of Random Comfort Seeking

A cat will always take over the most comfortable spot in any room

10 Law of Rug Configuration

No rug may remain in its naturally flat state for very long.

11 Law of Obedience Resistance

A cat's resistance varies in proportion to a human's desire for her to do something

12 First Law of Energy Conservation

Cats know that Energy can only be stored by a lot of napping.

13 Law of Refrigeration Observation

If a cat watches a refrigerator long enough, someone will come along and take out something good to eat.

14 Law of Electric Blanket Attraction

Turn on an electric blanket and a cat will jump into bed at the speed of light.

15 Law of Bag/Box Occupancy

All bags and boxes in a given room must contain a cat within the earliest possible nanosecond.

16 Law of Cat Embarrassment

A cat's irritation rises in direct proportion to her embarrassment times the amount of human laughter.

17 Law of Furniture Replacement

A cat's desire to scratch furniture is directly proportional to the cost of the furniture.

18 Law of Cat Composition

A cat is composed of Matter + Anti-Matter + It Doesn't Matter.



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**Dog and
 Cat** lovers

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