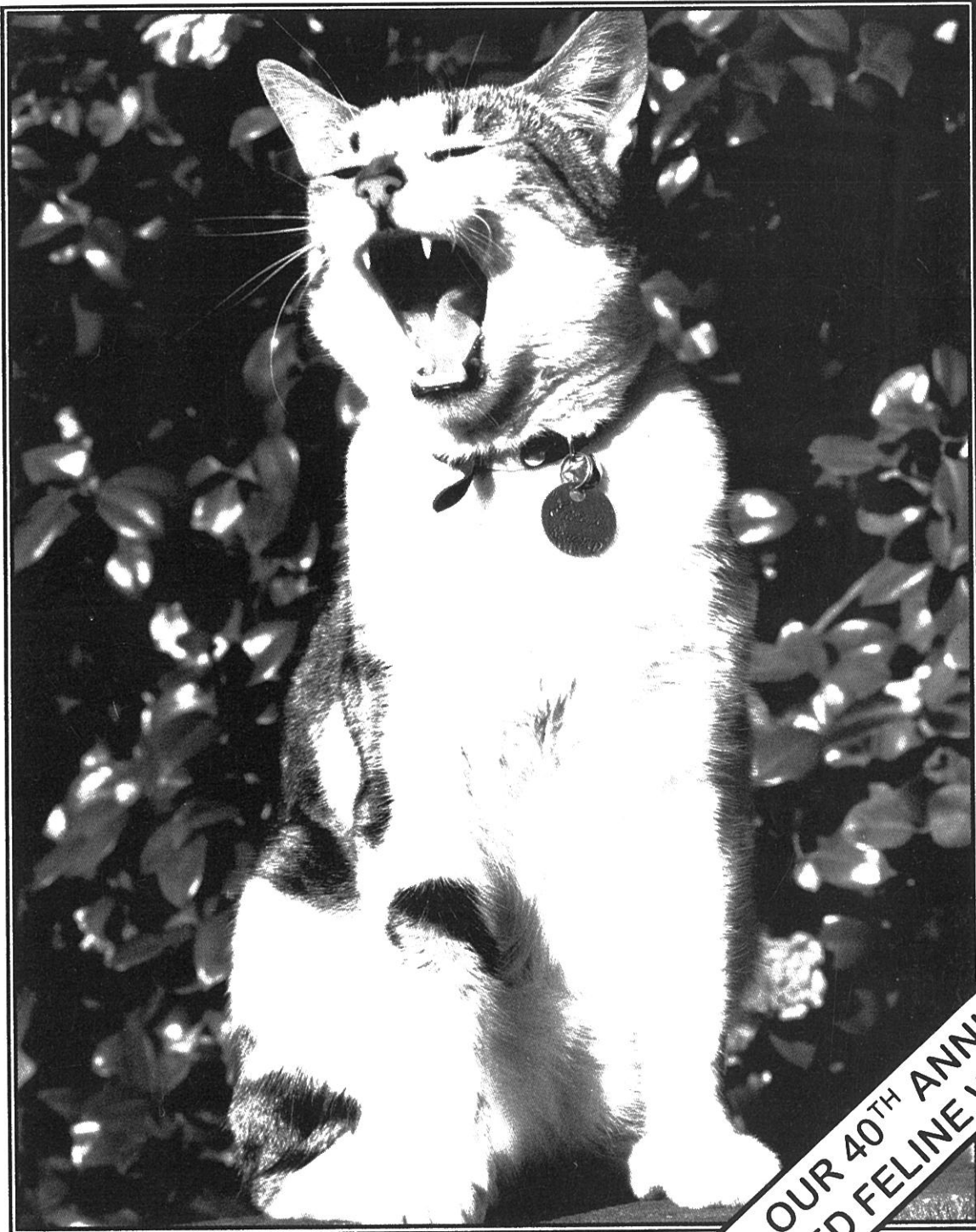


The Journal of the Cat Protection Society of NSW

Cat Affairs



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1958 - 1998 OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY
OF DEDICATED FELINE WELFARE



THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW

A.C.N. 001 604 815

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

Welfare Office - Volunteer Enquiries: 9557-1011, 9519-7201 Fax 9557-8052

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

This year we are celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the founding of our Society. To mark the occasion we are starting our drive for funds to bring to reality one of the dreams of those field workers of the 50s - OUR OWN CATTERY. These people felt compelled to aid thousands of stray cats which the majority of the community ignored. They knew, even then, the only way to do the job better was to work towards a CPS CATTERY. A cattery to house strays and surrendered cats suitable for adoption.



Although we have partly achieved this dream by owning our Enmore premises, we have always had to board our cats at commercial catteries. Our long held and cherished goal, to have our own cattery and on-site Welfare Office, is now within sight.

To speed us towards our target of Half A Million Dollars, we are asking you to do all you can by being even more generous than usual and contributing anything and everything that you can towards our CATTERY APPEAL FUND. We know you would not be a member unless you had compassion for cats. We ask that you stand by your personal commitment to felines and dig deep.

Every benefactor will be recorded in a special Benefactor's Roll of Honour, a special register that will be on public display in our new cattery reception area for all to see. As well, 1998 issues of Cat Affairs will have a special 'Benefactor's Column' listing all the Cattery Fund Appeal participants in alphabetical order.

To do our part to initiate this important fund raising, the CPS is donating the proceeds from the February sale of the home of the late Marjorie Barnard and Vera Murdock. Both ladies were loyal supporters of the Cat Protection Society and it is right and fitting that their bequest should be the start of our dream coming true.

Other fund raising functions are being organised to boost the level on our Ladder to Success. The CPS had a stall at the Victoria Park Fair in Camperdown and sold T-shirts, memberships. We will be in attendance at the Royal Easter Show on 17 April in conjunction with the Desexed Cat Club of Australasia in a push to get new members and broaden our public profile. The Newtown Fair and the Glebe Street Fair in November will also have a CPS presence as we take advantage of the large crowds to push our cat care message and bring in revenue through membership and goods sales.

We're doing all we can - and we need your active help too. To broaden our fund raising activities, we would greatly appreciate the services of any member(s) with marketing skills to assist us with fund raising and/or social activities. We can advertise activities through the journal so we need ideas and details for fund raising functions now that can be planned for dates from September to December.

SHIRLEY PIKLER

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VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED FOR OPPORTUNITY SHOP

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PURRSON



Kathryn Williams, C.E.O

Greetings Members,

This year's breeding season brought the same outcome as other years. Hundreds of abandoned, unwanted, starving, diseased and injured kittens. Not to mention the beautiful mother cats that arrive with them and the adult cats either abandoned or surrendered by their owners. It is heart-breaking that the first few weeks of the kitten's tiny lives are spent with disease.

Just too many cats

The RSPCA, The Animal Welfare League and the CPS are struggling enormously with the strain of not being able to find enough homes. Our hearts go out to the adult cats who don't even get looked at at this time of year. They can't compete with all the cute kittens that instantly appeal to people. Mother loses to her offspring in the bid for a home, as she watches them chosen and she is left behind. She is only a kitten herself at seven months but too old to be 'attractive'.

It never ceases to amaze me how many calls we get from people who are surprised that the stray they were feeding in their yard has had kittens and now they are desperate for us to pick them up. In breeding season, the cats that were acceptable before are now a nuisance.

A nuisance!

That is exactly what most of the public perceive stray and wild cats to be. It's hard for cat lovers to believe that our best friend could be so branded. To the non-cat lover, having two cats fight or mate on top of their new car and scratch it takes no imagination to what the result will be. Our phones ring non stop all day - 90% of people complaining and threatening to "take matters into their own hands" if we

are not swift about coming out. I will not discuss here the options suggested to us.

Dashed hopes

Our hopes for correcting this tragic situation for cats were crushed by the Companion Animals Legislation. The Legislation does **not** call for compulsory desexing or curfews. It requires microchip identification only on cats and kittens purchased after 1 July 1998. Already owned cats are not required to be ID'd. While none of these imperative issues are required under the Legislation, it is "recommended" that all cat owners do them. Well, I'm sorry to say, that CPS and other animal welfare groups have been "recommending" that people desex, ID and curfew their cat for years and most people are not listening.

Does The Minister really believe that people are going to comply because the Legislation "recommends" they do? The Legislation rests complaint resolution with Councils. We know of only one Council that is even taking the situation seriously, my impression from all other Councils is one of low priority. While we are glad to see that cats are finally recognised as a companion animal, this Legislation will do little or nothing to correct the continuing problems caused by irresponsible owners.

Ownership is NOT a right

The notion that the compulsory implementation of these three key factors will make pet ownership too difficult comes from a sad misconception that having a companion animal is a right.

It is not a right - it is a privilege. We do not want to see anybody, young or old, without a companion animal, only that the number of animals is kept to a level so that each animal can be given the appropriate care, medical attention and basic necessities, thus providing their owner with years of love and devotion. These key issues will help considerably to make sure that no pet ends up at a pound for animal experimentation or caught up in the copious amounts of lost pets each year. Sounds like common sense to me!

Unlike animal welfare organisations who boast a No Euthanase policy, your Society does not close its doors when we are full. We do not turn people or animals away for the owner to dispose of the animal through other means. We tackle the difficult issues head on, tell people the truth, do not return undesexed

cats to the community, offer discounted desexing and microchipping, educate the public, pick up unwanted cats and kittens that would suffer an unpleasant end. As a result we carry the emotional and financial burden of taking in more cats than we can home.

40th Anniversary Appeal

You, our members, have kept us going through your continuing support. I draw your attention to our 40th Anniversary and our Cattery Fund Raising drive. This is a very exciting time for us, our dream of our own cattery can help us to home even more unwanted cats and kittens and show the public that owning a cat is the best investment they will ever make.

Yours purrsonally

Kathryn Williams CEO

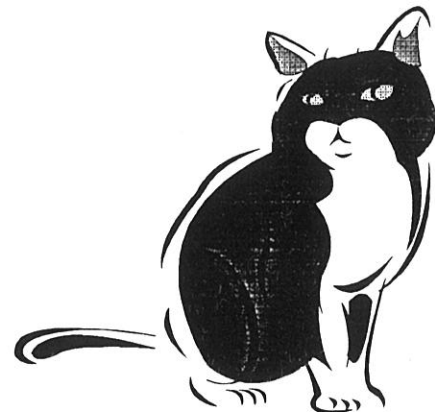


MY CAT PROUDIE °

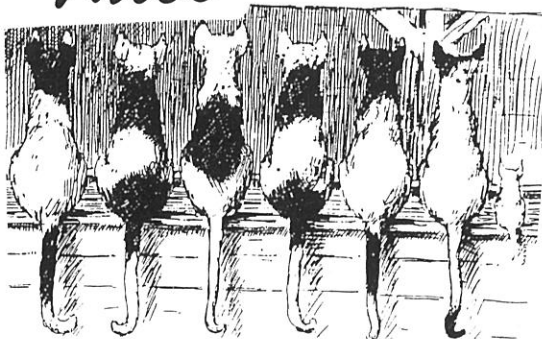
Dawn Bruce

In the cosiness
of a full-length coat
she sits and stares,
stretches

To the edge
of our brick fence,
turns
and faces the sun,
flicks at the flies,
watches a passing moth
through half closed eyes,
ignores my greeting
and gentle pat ...
But when shadows
of late afternoon lengthen
like cold grey fingers,
I hear a miaowing, a scratching,
happy to twine
around and around my legs,
purr,
and be gathered warmly
up into my arms



Cat Tales



EARLY MORNING WAKE UP CALL

Yvonne McAllen

Anyone that says that cats are not intelligent has no idea what they are talking about. My beautiful 3 year old grey tabby, Matilda (alias Tilly), has learned how to work my wake up mechanism. The only problem is that this usually occurs between 2 am and 4 am. Tilly has worked out that if she stands on a certain button on my clock radio, loud sounds will erupt (blaring music, race calls) and her owner will foolishly bound out of bed to give her attention. I made the fatal error early on in the piece by offering cat biscuits, her all time favourites. I'd wake up with a start, grope around for the off button, stumble out to the kitchen like a zombie, pour biscuits approximately into her tray and fall back into bed. Now the attention I give her usually takes the form of opening her cat door or locking her out into the hallway.

"Ignore her", I hear you saying. Believe me, I've tried. One night I was determined to do just that. The music came on - I automatically stuck my hand out and turned it off. When I didn't move she started pushing everything on the bedside table onto the floor as I waved my hand around while mumbling incoherently into the pillow. I was just about to drift off again when I felt a paw prodding my face - I looked up to see her standing on the pillow looking intently into my face. All I could do was laugh, she looked so cute. What a character!

Another time when she had been shown out into the hallway I was woken again by loud banging on the door. And as I related to a friend later that day, it sounded like someone beating on the door with their fists. I can't help but giggle, she is a constant source of amusement. Tilly certainly has me tied around her little paw but I know she loves me.

UNWANTED RE-RENOVATIONS

'Cromwell and Webster', two 2 year old British Blues, were reported missing and the CPS took details of the lost cats. Cheryl McDoagh, their distraught owner, put up posters and did everything she could to locate her cats. In the meantime, Cheryl's house was undergoing renovations, the bathroom in particular.

Ten days passed and Cheryl was still unaware of her cats' whereabouts. Even tho an occasional distant cry could be heard no one could find the source of the sound. Then the cats were discovered tiled into the space beneath the bathtub when one of the cats put his paw out through a small hole in the outer wall of the tub. Cheryl thinks they must have been curious about the goings on and when they were investigating the intriguing space behind the tiles the workmen came back and tiled their exit.

Cromwell and Webster spent some time in their vet clinic under observation but, considering their ordeal, they are in good health.

TALKING OF FERAL CATS....

Dorothy M Taylor

I was busy painting my sunroom today when the post brought my copy of Cat Affairs. "Ha", I thought, "a good excuse to sit down for a bit and have a read". Browsing through it, the first article which caught my eye was Lynette Shanley's 'My Sweet Titus'. I read it and ended in tears. It was so simply and truthfully written that I felt that I had myself known her 'Titus'.

For I have, in my time, partly tamed two feral cats, both of them pale ginger. 'Shy' was ginger and white - unfortunately because he got cancer on his nose and under one eye and eventually had to be euthanased. This was because no treatment is effective unless the cat is afflicted only on the ear tips, which can be amputated. I have such a cat at present, although she is not feral. She is quite well now and resembles a little white otter. Of course, I now limit her sunbaking time. However, I digress.

"Shy", my beloved feral cat, was always extremely nervous but I know that he loved me. I shall never forget the day I was sitting reading the newspaper when he climbed on my lap for the first time and began to purr. However, the least sound would cause him to fly into a frenzy and he would never accept anyone else.

How I understand your trauma, Lynette, in initially capturing Titus, and I know what patience you expended in the process. I actually trapped Shy in my front hall, enticing him in with food, just inside the door I had rigged with an invisible string as I stood hidden, watching. However, having him safely inside was only half the battle! Like you, I then resorted to a thick bath towel and captured him as he attempted to clamber up the wall. I put the struggling bundle into a waiting cat cage, by which time there were two nervous wrecks in my hall! So I understand from my heart, and deeply sympathise with your feeling for Titus. May I say too that you are a true, unselfish cat lover who put the welfare of your pet first, even making the final sacrifice for his sake. Would that there were more people of your ilk!



Jackie & Kittenchops Wilson
Do The Right Thing - Desex your cat!



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COVER STORY

George is 9 years old and consistently takes up a favourite position by the front gate where he accepts the admiration of passers-by. Maybe this became a bit much for him on this particular day and all those pats was one big yawn. Or it was too much food and sun - or maybe he was practicing for an operatic role unbeknownst to us, our tabby tenor extraordinaire.

Faye Wickenden, Drummoyne

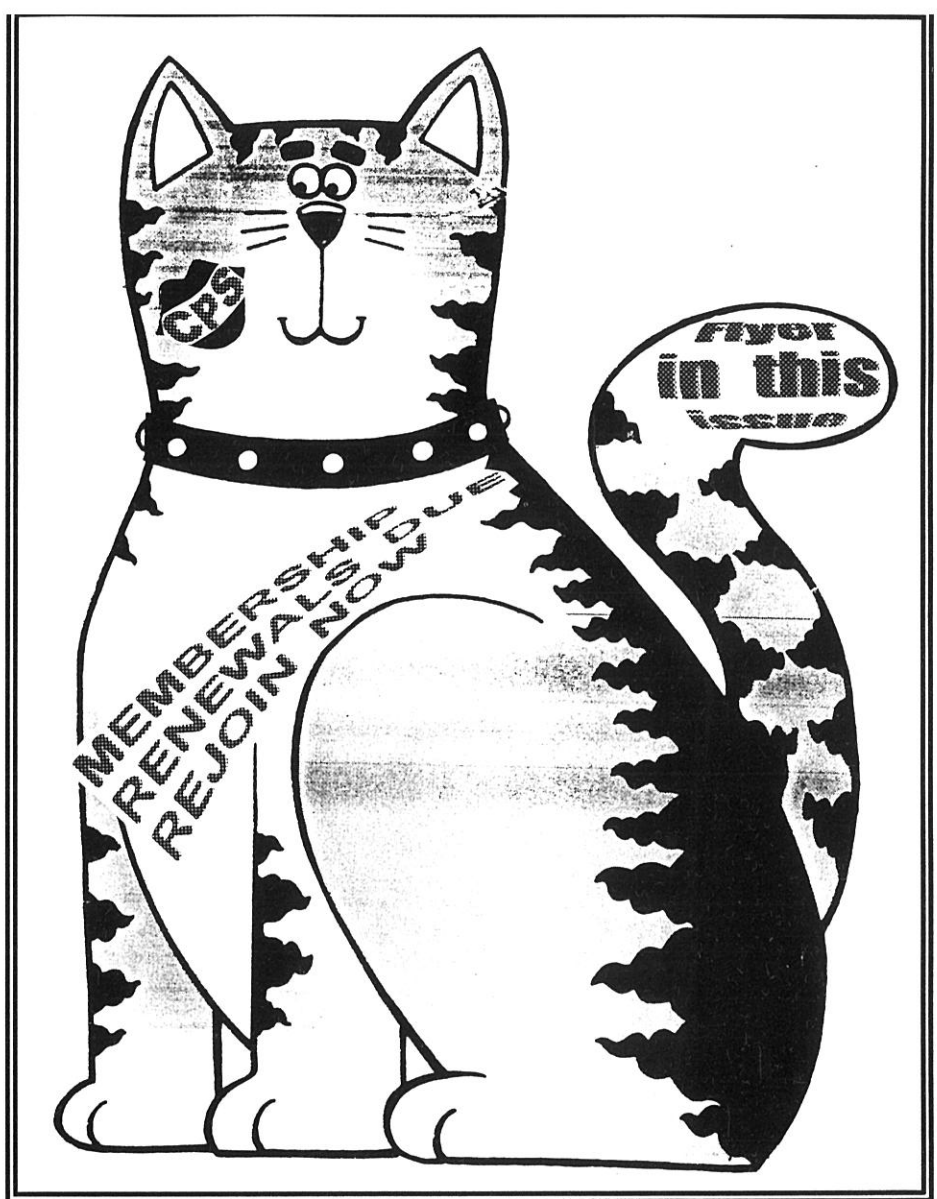
KITTENCHOPS

Jackie Wilson, Guildford

I would like to say thank you for publishing 'Kittenchops'. I actually found out about it by luck - my grandfather was reading it and was amazed that there was another cat called Kittenchops! Needless to say, I feel this is a great start to my life here in Australia. (I am from the USA).

I didn't even realise that there *was* a Protection Society in this seemingly cat-hating country. I have always loved cats and because of this, I will now join the Society. My husband used to hate cats, calling them sneaky and dirty, and, in fact, I have had them in my life since I was little (I'm 30 now) and have always adored them. I understand them. My family's cat, Siegfried, died this year at the ripe old age of 17. I've never had a 'death' before. Since we got Kittenchops more than a year ago, my husband Bill has gone from pushing the cat away from him to talking to it, bundled in his arms, in baby talk. He loves Chops. She looks just like Siegfried.

I think this country is a bit too dog-biased. I don't mind dogs but I think cats do get a



hard rap because of a few bird chasers. My cat Chops is *afraid* of birds, *afraid* of our budgie, respects other animals and is too chicken to even contemplate killing anything except maybe a Christmas beetle.

Kittenchops got her name because when I was little, I asked Mum what the little pads of whiskers on a cat's face were called. "I don't know ... Chops, I guess, like a bust in the chops?" she answered. It stuck. Kittenchops will always be a kitten to me.

PAULINE WILLIAMS Katoomba

I love your magazine and the new article 'Purrson to Purrson' really hit the nail on the head. I have written letters on the same theme to my local paper over the years I have lived in the mountains. Recently Kate and I rescued 5 stray cats and immediately had them desexed and found good homes for 4 of them. I took the mother who was quite wild. I have now had her for 4 months and she now has a

game with her ping pong balls with me and rubs herself on my legs. I still get the occasional spit but I'm pleased with her progress as in her 6 years she had little or no human contact.

My family of cats has grown over the years and I now have 18 but am unable to take any more as my cats have said "no more!" In 1998 I am approaching the local Council on the subject of subsidised desexing so wish me luck. Unfortunately it has become fashionable to hate cats. Keep up the good work. I wish you had a branch in the upper Blue Mountains. I am including money for membership for Kate as I rave on about your magazine and am giving her one year's membership as a present - after that she will be hooked.

DAWN BRUCE, Croydon

Thank you so much for printing my poem 'Trim', in Cat Affairs. I enjoy the magazine and its wide variety of writings.

WEIGHING UP POUNDS

The following is a submission from the Cat Protection Society presented to the State government appointed Working Party on the use of pound animals in medical research. This was followed up by the participation of Kathryn and Sue at a public hearing held at Parliament House where we presented our viewpoint to the Working Party about the hundreds of cats held in pounds throughout NSW.

The Cat Protection Society is primarily concerned with the ethical treatment of all companion animals, particularly cats. To this end, it actively promotes early and cheap desexing, responsible pet ownership and the humane trapping of stray or wild cats from premises in response to public needs. The Society accepts all unwanted cats including surrendered cats from people who have no alternative but to surrender their pets if they find themselves in situations where they find it difficult or impossible to continue to care for their cat. We re-home as many surrendered cats as possible, unfortunately due to limited space and resources many are humanely euthanased.

Our organisation has an important role in public education by ensuring that people are educated in responsible pet ownership and the importance of early desexing so, as much as possible, litters are prevented. By fulfilling this role, our organisation feels that the contribution that cats and other companion animals make to many people's lives is recognised and valued.

We feel strongly that our concerns along with other animal welfare organisations involved with this type of work should be considered by the Working Party in preparing their recommendation to the Minister.

We are against the supply of pound-sourced animals for use in any type of research, medical or otherwise for the following reasons: pound animals may be from any of the following categories, namely, abandoned, surrendered, stray or lost. While there is no compulsory form of registration or permanent form of identification for cats as currently exists for dogs, it will remain difficult to trace cats to their owner and many will be euthanased as a result. This is unfortunate and would be made worse by transporting already frightened domestic animals to a supplier where they are kept for several days before being sent to a research institution. As humane thinking individuals, we have a moral obligation to treat all animals under our protection with compassion and reason and not as expendable resources. We have taken these animals into our domestic scene, we have a symbiosis in our relationship with them and therefore we have a responsibility to ensure that they are treated humanely.

The signatures on our petition clearly demonstrate to us where the community stands on this issue. They also state that the provision of pound-sourced animals for scientific research is unacceptable. If the community ceases to surrender animals to pounds or by association, animal welfare agencies, where appropriate responsibility can be taken for them, due to a fear that their pet may be used for medical research purposes, then the problem of unwanted cats will only be exacerbated. This may result in an

increase in dumped cats or the death of the cat by inhumane methods. The Cat Protection Society has worked tirelessly over the past forty years to convince the community that these methods are unacceptable. We must provide the community with an assurance that if they are unable to care for their companion animal then animal welfare agencies and pounds are able to take responsibility for that pet in a humane and fair way. This is particularly vital considering the advent of new legislation via the Companion Animals Act where all animal welfare organisations that accept surrendered animals may have to register as pounds.

We feel that alternatives to animal use must be explored. By continuing the supply of cheap animals from pounds, society is subsidising and encouraging the continued use of animals and discouraging the search for alternatives.

Society, on the whole, is careless in our treatment of companion animals by not taking the appropriate measures in guarding against unwanted litters. However, to treat animals as merchandise simply because they are surrendered by a community that is unable to care for them or lost due to legislation that doesn't exist, is insupportable. We owe our companion animals a debt of gratitude for their enrichment of our lives and constant companionship. Surely we owe them respect as well.

INTERLUDE ©

Mandy Murrell

A regular rumbling purr overlays the peaceful silence

stretched out luxuriantly on the warm woollen blanket
he meows softly
and rhythmically kneads my pillow with his paws

Extending each rounded toe wide
holding for a second
then unsheathing sharp curved claws
before retracting them
as each foot curls into a tight little fist

Constant purring becomes louder with each stretch
vibrating the stillness of the room

His comfort is catching

I stretch too
then gradually relax every muscle
while stroking his sweetly perfumed fur
in even, repeated motions

Outside, thousands of leaves rustle and hiss their annoyance
as a sudden gust of wind throws them against each other unmercilessly

One soft, padded paw reaches out
and comes to rest gently on my cheek

His white hair glows golden in the dim light of the electric heater
and I whisper "I love you too".



The CPS Welfare Team

A typical day starts with the two office phones ringing non-stop from 9am - 4pm.

SANDY MOSS - Welfare Officer

Most are distress calls about an injured cat or kitten or some stray causing havoc in someone's yard. CPS is the only organisation that will catch wild cats, this is why we are inundated with work. Each call can take between five to twenty minutes, during which we establish whether the cat belongs to someone or if it is indeed stray or wild. We never pick up a neighbour's cat simply because it's causing trouble, we discuss ways for the caller to work through the problem. Most calls are stray and wild cats and we take down the details and estimate when a Welfare Officer will arrive. The calls in the office are taken by Sue, Nicole, Kathryn and Nance Iredale. We have many calls reporting cats that are lost - about 90% have no form of I.D. We also have a lot of calls about our discounted desexing program which works three ways; the cat is brought to our office, referred to the one of forty vets who is closest to the caller or our exclusive pick up and return service, all at about half the price vets charge. You see! There's no reason for not having your cat desexed. We now offer discounted microchipping and we are receiving more calls about that.

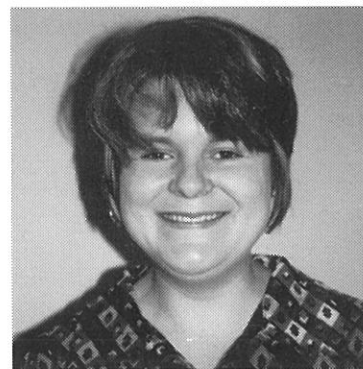
Society. Sandy has been with the Society for 17 years and has seen the growth and progress the Society has achieved and braces herself for even more changes as the Companion Animals Legislation takes effect this year. Tania has been with the Society for 8 years and has also witnessed many changes. Tania balances this emotional and demanding position as well as running a family of three boys, including one set of twins. What a Super-Mum! No doubt it will be a great



SUE MATYSEK - Admin Assistant

feeling for both Sandy and Tania to see The Cat Protection Society with our own cattery and entering a new era of education and care.

The Welfare Officers feel that the most rewarding side of their work is the pick up and desexing of cats. This is a service unique to CPS where we assist those people, particularly the elderly, who do not have transport. It is a great feeling to hand back a desexed cat to its caring owner.



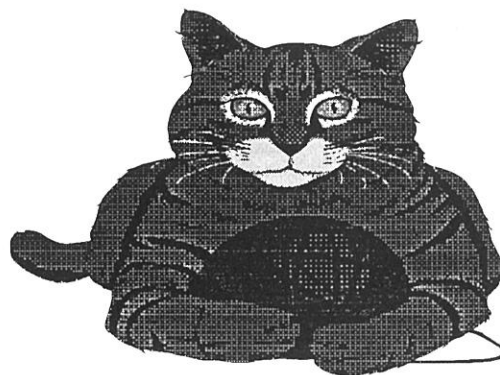
NICOLE HADLOW - Welfare Officer

With our great Welfare team your Society is offering tangible and practical solutions to help cats and the community.

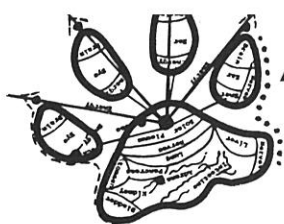


TANIA CURRAN - Welfare Officer

The work sheets are handed to the Welfare Officers who organise their days to fit as much work into one area as possible. The Office phones the client to arrange a time. Many people stay home from work or other commitments to meet us. This is why it is so difficult for us to attend urgent work because someone is waiting. But injured cats take priority and this makes things very difficult for our Officers who get abused if they are late. Tania works the western suburbs. She works from home and we don't get to see Tania in the office very much. Sandy works the southern suburbs in much the same way. Nicole is a jack-of-all-trades. Nicole picks up the desexings and returns them to the office then works the inner city suburbs for a while and works in the office in the afternoon, answers the phone and takes the office cats to the vet for desexing. Sue takes many phone calls and is unique in her patience with people, she provides clerical support to Kathryn and Nance and participates in the day to day running of the office.



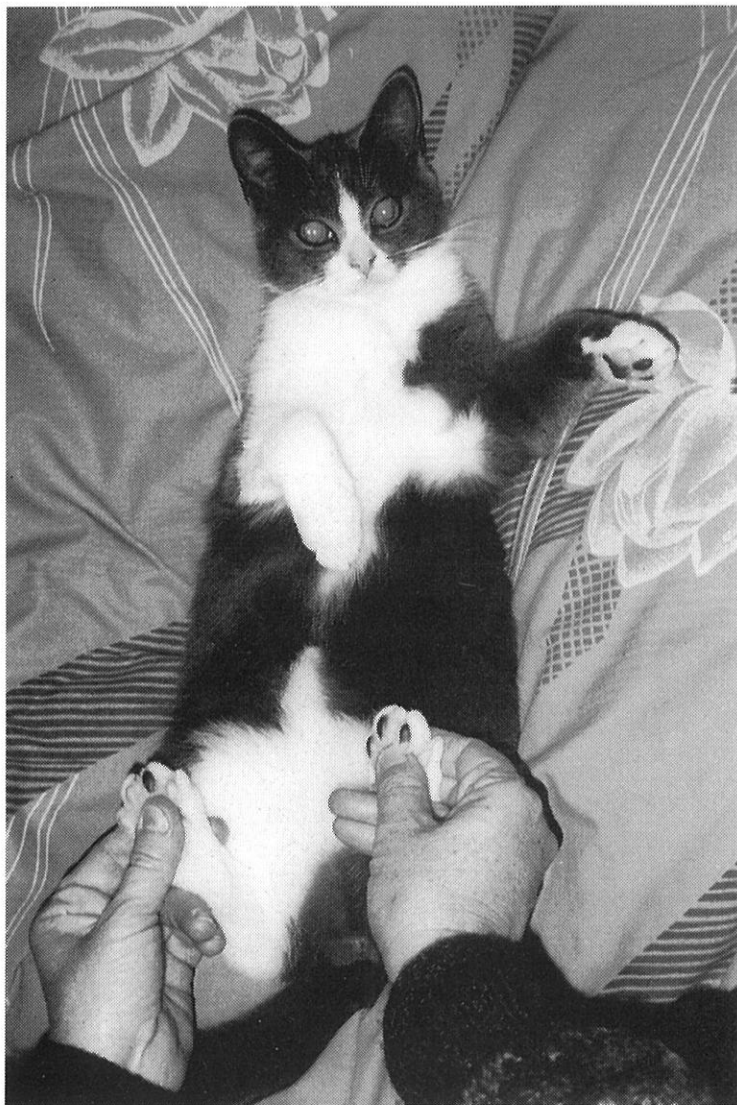
Accolades go to Sandy and Tania for their years of service to The



ANIMAL REFLEXOLOGY

Carol Morphet RN Dipl. Reflexology
Deputy Principal Australian School of Reflexology

There are many ways of caring for your best friend. Just spending 20 minutes a day of quality time can be very beneficial for your animal and you. Animal Reflexology has many techniques that can help with a variety of ailments while giving quality time.



What is Reflexology?

Reflexology is a natural, non-invasive therapy of relaxing the body with a pressure technique that, when used, helps to relieve stress and tension of body parts and organs. It improves blood and nerve supply and gives a sense of well being to the recipient. Research into Reflexology has shown that stimulation of the reflex points of the human foot and hand can double the speed of blood circulation and improve nerve supply.

The reflex points are found in a logical position in the hands and feet. Right side of the body is reflected in the right foot and left side of the body in the left foot. No organ or gland functions independently within the body, therefore the body is treated as a whole and not for specific conditions.

Where to find some reflexes on the human hand and foot?

Teeth	found on top of the toes and fingers
Lungs/chest	on the ball of the foot and the hand
Bladder	in the centre of the heel of the hand
Spine	on the side of the big toe and thumb down to the base of the heel and heel of hand respectively.

All the body systems are easily accessed by working on the reflexes so that symptoms are eased. For instance, if a human suffers with arthritis some of the systems worked would be:

Digestive system to help with the digestion and metabolism of foods.

Urinary system to help remove waste from the body

Skeletal system to help relieve the congestion of the affected area

Endocrine system, in particular the adrenal glands, to relieve pain and also the thyroid gland.

Muscular system to relieve tension in the affected area

A session of Reflexology takes from 45 minutes to 1 hour and many other areas would be worked all the while, looking for reactions of the client to the session. Reactions to a treatment can be: increased volume and frequency of urination, increased bowel movements and mucous secretions. Reflexology may also be used to improve such conditions as muscular pain or strain, asthma, bronchial congestion, diabetes, hypertension, nausea, vomiting and teething, to name a few.

During a session sore points found on the foot or hand indicates which body system may be involved and the area may be worked either by stimulation or sedation. Reflexology is also beneficial to 'healthy' people as it gives a sense of well being and relaxation.

Cats can benefit

Cats suffer from many of the same complaints as their masters do and their reactions will be as individual as their master's. A session for an animal may last 20-30 minutes.

A Cat's reaction to having a treatment

We cannot communicate verbally with animals and therefore, it may be difficult to know what the cat is feeling - their body language will be an indication of what is happening. The whole of their body is mirrored in the front and back paws as well as the ears. So by working specific areas you are able to effect a reaction within the body. Every cat, like their human, is an individual and their reactions will be different. They may lick or chew at your fingers while you are working their paw, or move their body to place the part they want worked near your hand. They often salivate during a session.

Case Histories

I began working with Misty, my 3 month old cat, to see how she would react; licking my fingers told me that she liked what I was doing. Her body language was very relaxed - she lay on her back with her belly exposed and went to sleep. Each time I worked with her the reaction was different. She prefers to have her ears and face worked. Rose Marie enjoys having her paws worked, her eyes become glazed and she finds it difficult to keep them open. Rose Marie holds her front paw tightly over my finger as I am working the area, almost like she's holding my finger.

Working special areas of the paw for cats when they have colds helps improve the symptoms quickly - it reduces the sneezing and runny nose. Working with Rose Marie's paws when she had the beginnings of a cold seemed to ease the symptoms quickly.

Very young kittens with teething problems react when you work on the teeth area of the paw. Simba is one such case. I found him chewing on the edge of a book and wondered if his teeth were hurting him. While working his paws he responded by licking my fingers and being very loving and did not want to be put on the floor. He followed me about the house until I worked on his paws again. Cats who are very scared or flighty have quietened down considerably after having Reflexology.

Dogs also benefit from and enjoy Reflexology. When Bill, the dog, was hit by a car he suffered with a badly strained muscle in a back leg. He was unable to walk or put weight on it. Reflexology was applied over a period of 2 weeks every 2nd day to improve blood and nerve supply to the area. He was then able to walk slowly and then run a few weeks later. Max, an elderly Blue Cattle dog was very weak in the back legs and found it difficult to walk. After several sessions his hind legs were stronger and he was more agile.

How do you learn Reflexology?

Weekend courses are available for humans and animal Reflexology can be adapted from that. Contact Reflexology Association Australia (02) 9665-7716 or mobile 015 102 655.

Reflexologist

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Carol Morphet
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Specialising in Animal Reflexology

SPRAY BOTTLES

A garden spray bottle filled with water and left in a convenient position is the handiest cat discipliner ever created. You are metres away when puss is on the kitchen counter or clips the calico with her claws. A quick spray dampens her enthusiasm before she has time to move away at your approach. The cat does not associate the spray with you but does associate the unpleasant wetting with the act you are trying to discourage. Of course - there will always be one who likes water!!

EDUCATION STARTS WITH OUR KIDS

Congratulations to Cronulla South Public School for promoting a Pet Care Education Day in December. Students and teachers put in a huge effort to hold their Pet Show. Students contacted the Cat Protection Society to speak about caring for their cat in the school holidays. A demonstration by Hanrob on Disability-Aid Dogs was also held. The day was as educational as it was fun.

For several years the students have pressured their Principal, Mr Thomas, to let them have a Pet Show. For obvious reasons Mr Thomas had reservations, you know what they say about working with children and animals. Mr Thomas finally agreed and some very strict guidelines were set in place. The students, with the help of Mrs Beryl Nelson and Mrs Narelle Simpson, organised a great day that went off without a hitch. Kathryn Williams, the CPS's CEO, attended and judged many of the pets. There were many beautiful cats, all immaculate and well cared for. The Cat Protection Society presented it's own award for "Best Cat" to Miss Kate Marshall for her lovely tabby cat.



Kathryn Williams with Miss Kate Marshall and her award

WOMEN & CATS

Women and cats are in fashion as never before - even the style bible, Vogue magazine, ran an article stating that felines are a girl's best friend and counted the number of self-confessed cat lovers. Elizabeth Taylor apparently wants to be reincarnated as a cat and model Lisa B thinks she already has.

Part of the cat's attraction is that they can actually be women's role models. Intelligent and capricious, they are discriminately affectionate to humans. They are sleek, clean, agile and always land on their feet, looking immaculate. Female cats aren't afraid of being sexy .. no wonder then that women often wish to emulate cats.

Lost Pets

are Just Like “Missing Persons”

Pets are family members. Over two-thirds of Australian homes have at least one pet. Australia is a nation of pet lovers - we can't resist their unconditional love and satisfying our basic need for company and the urge to nurture that we get from our pets. It is well established that pets make a significant contribution to the physical, emotional and psychological well-being of their owners.

When a pet disappears it is a family tragedy - often more traumatic than the death of a pet due to old-age or disease. While the latter is most upsetting, at least the family knows what happened. A significant number of callers to the Pet Loss Hotline are seeking grief support not because a pet has died, but just because it has disappeared.

Separation is grief.

Pets disappear for a number of reasons:

1. Certain breeds, and especially un-desexed pets, simply do a bolt when a family member, visitor, or contractor leaves the gate or door open. Thunderstorms, when the family moves home or is away are other prime-times.
2. Pets are stolen. Sometimes they are stolen to keep because they are inherently beautiful and friendly or very valuable and can be used for breeding. Others are stolen for re-sale for profit.
3. Pets are removed. Neighbours who dislike a particular pet simply up-lift it, remove its tags and either take it to a remote pound or release it far from home. Frantic owners contact local pounds and vets to no avail.

Anyone who visits a pound will see happy, well adjusted pets which obviously had families but which are on “death row”. Misappropriation of loved pets by resentful neighbours is common - visit a pound and see for yourself.

In most instances of escape, and in all instances of theft or malicious removal, all external identifiers are removed or fall off. Each year thousands of pets die simply because they lack effective identification, and this is preventable if pets are microchipped. A microchip is a tiny computer chip about the size of a grain of rice that is injected under the skin of a pet between the shoulder blades. It is a quick and simple procedure very similar to immunisation. There is no need for any anaesthetic and it is no major trauma to the pet. The chip, which has a unique number that is one of 70 trillion possible combinations, remains in place, is totally inactive and causes no reaction in the pet. A tag saying the pet is microchipped is attached to the collar. At the time the pet is microchipped a registration form is filled out with the owner

and pet details and the microchip number. The Australian Animal Registry records the owner, pet and microchip number on the database. A certificate is mailed to the owner confirming the details.

Lost pets are scanned at the pound or a vet clinic - when the radio signal from the scanner hits the microchip it flashes back its unique number, the Australian Animal Registry can be phoned and the owner contacted. Every day microchips are bringing pets home to their owners. No pet is immune to the possibility of loss, theft or relocation and the best form of protection is a microchip.

The new NSW Companion Animals Act will introduce mandatory microchipping of all new puppies and kittens, all dogs within a three year period, and all cats and dogs that are sold, gifted or otherwise change hands. It simply makes sense because:

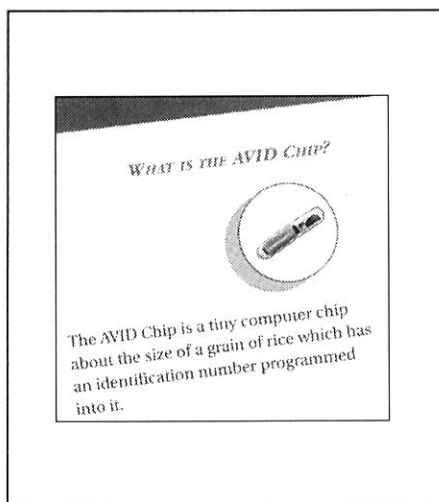
1. Dog registration has been a failed system with less than 30% compliance and tags can be removed or lost.
2. Cats have had no protection or recognition under the law.
3. Lack of ID is a preventable cause of pet death.

The existing system of annual council registration will be replaced with a microchip and lifetime registration at the Registry. Changes to owner details are free and registered owners will be liable for their pets. Dangerous dogs and the like will be identified for life.

The legislation balances the rights of pet owners, the community and the environment. The new Act does not introduce limitations on the number of pets people can own nor does it introduce cat curfews. Local councils may, under their Local Plan, bring in some local rules but the underlying principal of the Act is that if pets are being well cared for and not injuring property or animals, then it is fine to keep and enjoy them.

The bottom line is that pets do frequently go missing, most are never seen again, and this causes anguish and grief. It's too late to microchip them once they're gone, so why not do yourself and your pet a favour and have it microchipped now! It is the best protection you can provide for your pet and for your own peace of mind against the loss or theft of a family member. The new Act recognises this and will make microchipping a required procedure, but even if it were not becoming law, owners who love their pets should want it done yesterday!

Lack of ID is a preventable cause of pet death



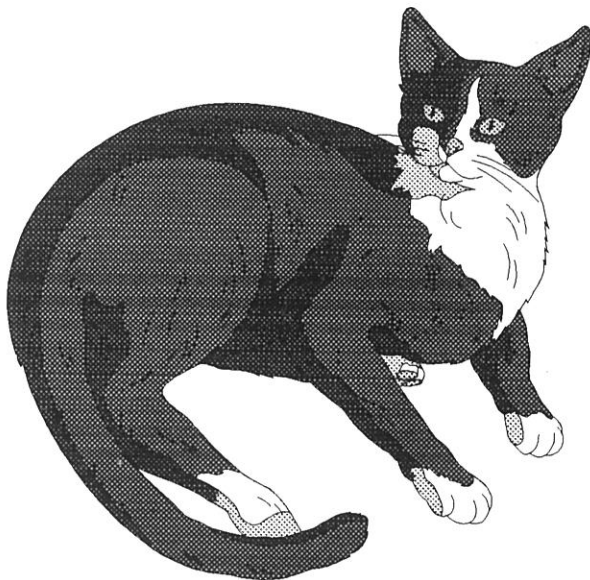
CPS LEADS MICROCHIPPING PRICE WAR

With the help and support of George Lang from Ashfield Veterinary Clinic, the CPS now offers Avid microchips at only \$25.00. We are microchipping every Friday by appointment.

An objection to the proposed Legislation is that microchipping is too costly. Currently fees at vets range from \$50 to \$70 but it is anticipated that vets will have to become more competitive and reduce their fees. This is already happening in our area where vets are charging around \$35 in direct response to our \$25 campaign. The 'Cost of Microchipping' argument also neglects to point out that Animal Welfare organisations have always done microchipping at a substantially lower price.

Again, while some may spend their time objecting, the Cat Protection Society is doing.

Don't Microchip because of the Legislation, do it for your treasured companion.
If it assists in getting your cat returned safely surely it's worth it.



**The love of your cat
deserves the protection
of an *AVID* microchip.**

**Don't delay. Do it today.
Call the Cat Protection Society
9557 1011, 9519 7201**

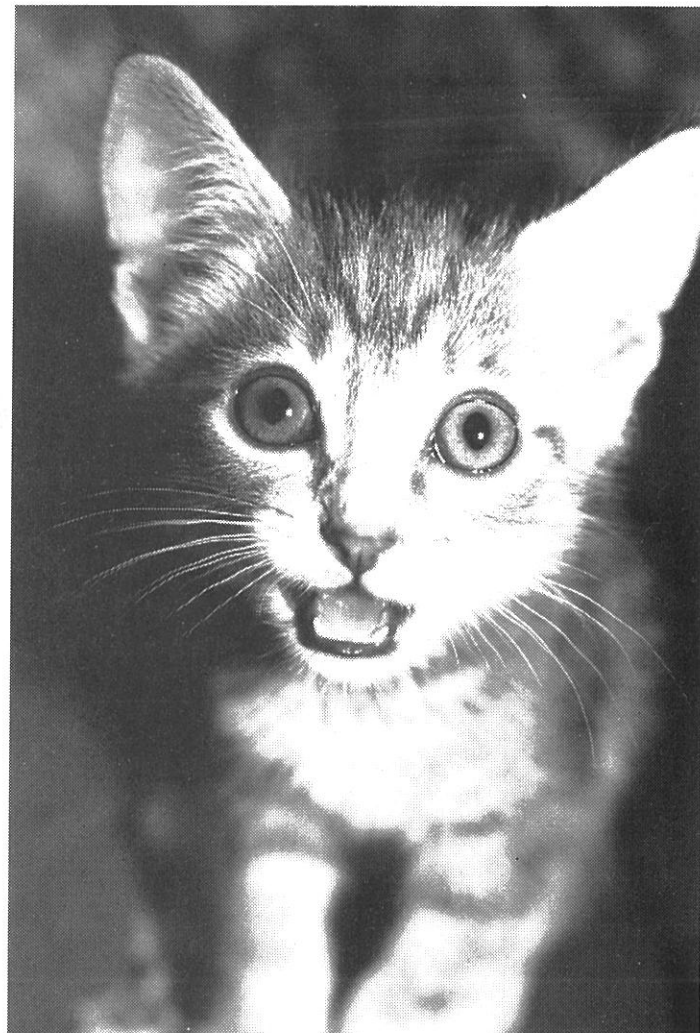
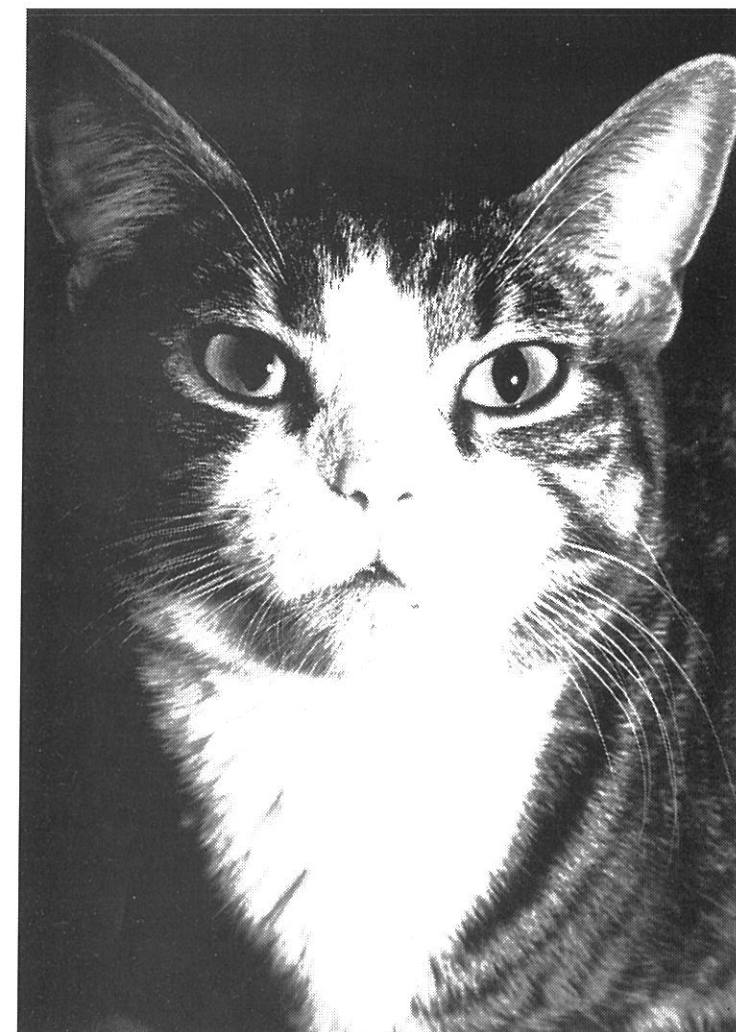
HELMUT FETZER, West Wyalong

One of my German penfriends told me she trained her Persian to walk on a leash since kittenhood. Twice when she has taken Pascha for a walk, men have approached her, asking, "What type of dog is this, I have never seen one like this before!" She put them wise and their surprise was something to behold..

If you get some orders for our new T-shirt on white order forms - you can blame me. I photocopied the orange one and put some out with our local vet and our local newspaper, West Wyalong Advocate - they are quite cat friendly! And, of course, I added some membership application forms, hoping this might do some good for you

[Ed note: Thanks Helmut, we need more like you!!]





"The Cats That Need the Cattery"

FUND RAISING APPEAL

The Cat Protection Society of NSW is promoting a major fund raising appeal to purchase our own cattery and we are giving all our members and friends the opportunity to have a part in this important milestone in our history.

Target \$500,000

All who donate are entered in our

Roll of Honour

which will be on display in the reception area of our cattery.

All Donors' names will appear alphabetically in 'Our Benefactors' column in each 1998 issue of Cat Affairs.

To commence our **Cattery Fund Raising Appeal**, The CPS is donating our bequest from the estate of Marjorie Faith Barnard and Vera Murdoch - which will give us a good boost up the ladder to our target.



\$500,000

\$ 450,000
\$ 400,000
\$ 350,000
\$ 300,000
\$ 250,000
\$ 200,000
\$ 150,000
\$ 100,000
\$ 50,000

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY

"The Cats That Need The Cattery" Fund Raising Appeal

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103 Enmore Road, Enmore NSW 2042

I have enclosed a cheque for my donation of \$ _____

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr _____
Please print your name clearly

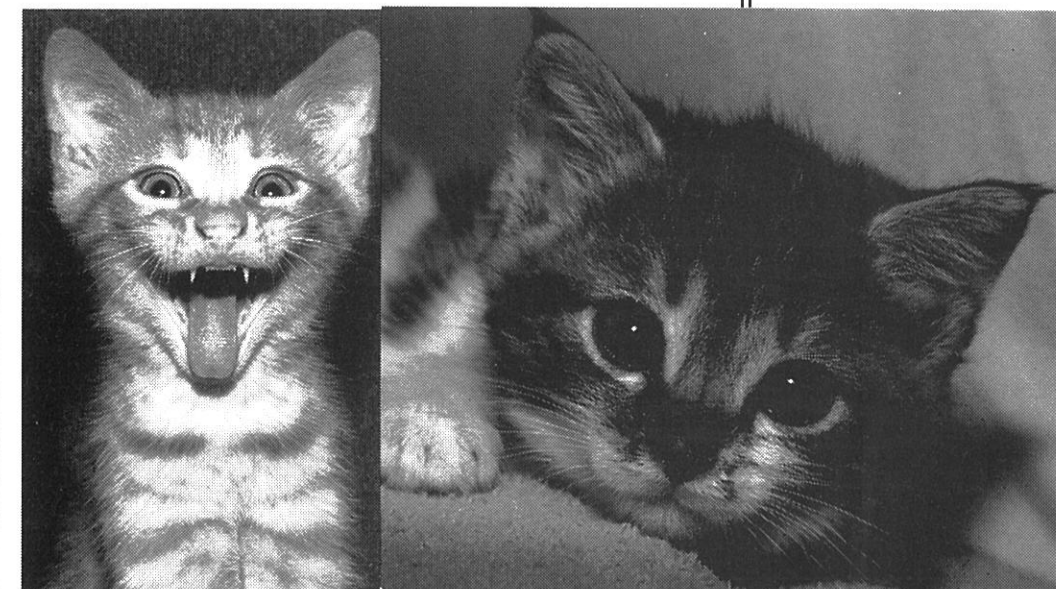
Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Phone _____

(If you prefer, write the above information on note paper and send it in with your cheque)

Photographer:
Frances Kaukerei



Remembrance

Grief is a most peculiar thing; we're so helpless in the face of it. It's like a window that will simply open of its own accord. The room grows cold and we can do nothing but shiver. But it opens a little less each time, and a little less; and one day we wonder what has become of it. Arthur Golden

MEMORY OF MEG

Melinda Page

I have memories of 'Meggie'
a frail and timid stray,
who came to start a brand new life
when she wandered in one day.

The vet helped her get better
along with a good feed,
but all in all it was our love
that she ever seemed to need.

We advertised - but we were glad
when no one came to take her home.
We named her then we belled and tagged her
but she never tried to roam.

You see, this cat had claimed us
after whatever had gone before.
Just as our love for her was instant
it will remain forever more.

YETI (Pixicato Owen Derful)

It's been 2 years my beloved cat. I miss you
immeasurably and your sister, BBQT, has never
shared another cat's warmth since you died. You
were our love and the Sun and Moon of our lives.
Lee & BBQT

FIVE IMMORTALS

In memory of my cats Snowy, Possum, Princess,
Thomas and Amber. I loved you.
Pauline Williams

LOLA MINI McMASTER

In loving memory of my dear Mum who gave
me a home when my master died and I was on
the streets. She passed away on 2 October
1997.

Daddy Long Legs McMaster

LOLA MINI McMASTER

In loving memory of my aunt who passed
away 2 October, 1997.

Mrs B Weston



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Photographer: Frances Kaukerei



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CHRONIC SNUFFLERS

Drs Randolph Baral & Melissa Catt
Paddington Cat Hospital

This condition most commonly occurs secondary to a prior Upper Respiratory Tract infection. The most common cause of infection in this case are the Cat 'Flu' viruses (Herpes or Calicivirus) or Chlamydia. This infection causes damage to the tissue (mucosa) and cartilage inside the nose. Unfortunately, the damage inside the nose is often permanent and means your cat has a chance of always having some degree of snuffliness.

What do we do now?

When a cat presents with a history of snuffles, we like to take swabs to see if we can establish the cause and what's causing the problem now. For the initial cause, we swab around the eyes and the back of the throat. This tests for the respiratory viruses and Chlamydia (as mentioned above). These tests are very specific but can still miss the original cause if the disease course has been long.

We will often also swab the nasal cavity. This tells us which bacteria are causing the current snuffliness (and usually snottiness). This infection is usually secondary to both the original infection and the damage that has been caused inside the nose.

Are there any other tests?

We can also x-ray your cat's nasal cavity. This most often tells us the degree of damage that has already been sustained and how congested 'Puss' is but can also give us some indication if there is another disease process (such as fungal infection). Another possibility is 'rhinoscopy' (an optic fibrescope to explore the nasal cavity). This involves very specific equipment and so needs a referral.

Can we treat Chronic Snufflers?

Yes, but in most cases treatment is unlikely to give a long term cure. In most cases the clinical signs can merely be controlled, since the chronically damaged bones cannot be repaired. Antibiotics can be given to reduce secondary bacterial infection. It is usually necessary to give them for a long period or as repeated courses in order to control the clinical signs. Other treatments that can be considered include drugs to reduce the thickness of the nasal secretions (mucolytics or decongestants).

Usually, we can manage quite reasonable control (ie occasional sneezes), however your cat is always at risk of recurrences.



A lot of people may love their pets and do anything in the world for their pets, but sometimes they forget they're living, feeling creatures, just like we are. Cats are fully capable of feeling every emotion we feel. They may not react the same way, but they definitely feel the same emotions we feel.

For most people a relationship with a domestic animal is the only link they have with the animal kingdom. Thankfully it is a powerful one. Every animal is the gateway to the phenomenal world of the human spirit. Susan C McElroy, "Animals as Teachers and Healers"



DAMAGED STOCK

We received one of many desperate phone calls about a box of abandoned kittens. The interesting thing about this call was that it came from a shop next door to a pet shop at St Marys. This box was left outside the pet shop which didn't want them. The caller had asked the pet shop to contact the appropriate people to collect the kittens but the pet shop refused and showed no concern about the kittens crying in the box. The distressed caller from the shop next door contacted us. Luckily, Sandy was able to go straight to the pet shop which had not brought the box in from the sun, or even opened the box to give the kittens water. We always discourage people from giving unwanted kittens to pet shops or purchasing a kitten from them.

Animals are just 'stock' to pet shops and the damaged stock is disregarded. Pet shops will sell to whoever has the money. On many occasions I have seen children push and pull at kittens and puppies and they are still sold to the parents like toys. Many animals are purchased on impulse along with the day's shopping and don't warrant much more thought when brought home. The term 'free to good homes' or 'please find good homes' always sends shivers up my spine. I know that many people have given a 'free' pet a good home but many more see the term 'free' as free forever. These kittens were riddled with intestinal worms and ringworm, which makes it ironic that the person who neglected to provide them with a good home now expects someone else to.

As for the pet shop, how shocking they couldn't take a few minutes to contact us out of respect for the subject of their livelihood. Pet shops turn away hundreds of kittens because of saturation, this type of occurrence happens to us all day, everyday through breeding season and we never get used to it.

Paw note: Several days after this occurrence the same shop owner contacted us because another box of kittens had been dropped at the pet shop which again refused any responsibility for their welfare. We are not asking pet shops to take such kittens, but to provide water and to phone animal welfare agencies for collection - surely that is not too much to expect.

WE'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY

Shirley Pikler & Nance Iredale

IN THE BEGINNING ...

The Cat Protection Society of NSW was formed in 1958 by a small group of people who were concerned about the plight of the thousands of stray cats in the metropolitan area. They were appalled that almost nothing was being done to prevent the over breeding that resulted in such misery, starvation and suffering. Some of the ladies were field workers, going out, mainly at night, into the lanes to trap what cats they could. Most had to be euthanased because there were not the homes for the well ones and others were too diseased or injured to be rehabilitated. It was a thankless, frustrating task and there was no end to it unless people were educated and encouraged to desex their pets.

A post office box was rented, some stationery purchased and \$2 left in the 'kitty' to start what was to become today's CPS. There was little they could do in those early years beyond forming a network of co-operating vets who agreed to desex at reduced fees when presented with a voucher from the Society.

FIRST STEPS ...

The Society became a registered charity in 1960 and was incorporated under the Company's Act in 1978 as a non-profit making organisation. Mrs Kay Cooper was the founder and first President. In 1964 Mrs Jessie Taylor became president and used much of her own money to desex cats. In 1974 Mr RK Carberry took over and this was the first year a sizeable legacy was received, a cottage at Regentville which was rented for a number of years. The next substantial legacy was in 1975, a shop and dwelling at Kingsgrove. We leased this initially but eventually sold it when the Council refused our cattery application.

THE SOCIETY GETS A HOME ...

Under Mr Carberry's leadership we purchased 103 Enmore Road for \$51,500. Councillors formed a working bee to repair and restore the badly run down building which became our Opportunity Shop. Mrs Sybil Cozens, then Vice President, formed the Ladies Auxiliary in 1979 which ran the Op Shop. She and her husband, Gordon, worked like Trojans with their dedicated band of volunteers; collecting, sorting, cleaning, pricing and selling. Their hard work paid off to the tune of thousands of dollars going into the Society's funds yearly.

In 1977 a branch, the Woy Woy District Group, was formed by the late Mrs Dorothy Haines, whose members raised funds for the desexing and care of unwanted cats in their area. Eventually they became a registered charity in their own right, The Central Coast Cat Care, with an Opportunity Shop at Umina.

SETBACKS AND SUCCESSES ...

It was Mr Carberry's plan to use the first floor of 103 Enmore Road for a veterinary clinic so we could offer the public subsidised desexing. This was vehemently opposed by the Australian Veterinary Association and the Board of Veterinary Surgeons. When Mr Bill Graham became president in 1980 the Society established its Welfare Section upstairs. An ambulance was purchased, welfare officers employed and with the help of co-operating vet surgeons, a desexing service was offered to the public as well as assistance with stray cat problems.

Dr Daria Love replaced Bill Graham, who retired due to ill health, and she was followed by Lyn Thomas who led the CPS until Shirley Pikler, the current president, was voted in in 1991.

The CPS initially employed one Welfare Officer. Today we have four and three specially insulated ambulance-vans. An increasing number of vet surgeons support us and our approval rating by vets is now almost total - a far cry from the suspicions of our early years. We are immensely grateful for this as their assistance has been crucial to the success of our work.

EARLY DESEXING PIONEERS ...

Originally our cats were sold with a signed guarantee that they would be desexed at a specified age or we would pick them up. This system was closely monitored by Lena Larsen and we realised that the fate of 1/3 of the cats we homed was unknown. The cats were supposedly lost, stolen, given away or the owners moved. At that stage we looked into early desexing which had been instituted overseas some years earlier. With the support of Dr Paul Waters from Concord Animal Hospital, we initially commenced desexing at 10 weeks. That was 1992. Now absolutely no animals leave our care undesexed and that means we desex as early as 6 weeks. This practice has proven to be very safe and has no greater mortality than desexing at later stages. We are extremely proud that our Society introduced early desexing and we feel it is the only way to get the cat population under control. Other societies are with us on the issue and many vets in private practice are embracing it.

A LOT FOR YOUR MONEY and love as well!

Our cats and kits are sold desexed, wormed, immunised, microchipped and wearing a collar and tag. Our latest success is having microchipping done at the office for \$25 (barely above cost price!) every Friday by appointment (refer article pg 10-11).

Over the years we have been able to accumulate some funds through the support of our members with legacies and generous donations and the marvellous and dedicated work of the members who staff the Opportunity shop - which continues to raise thousands of dollars annually. These funds are used to cover running costs and the purchase of a cattery/office has remained an elusive dream for over 3 decades.

OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY

OUR CATTERY FUND RAISING APPEAL

This year, our 40th Anniversary Year, we hope to see the realisation of that dream. We imagine a smallish property but large enough to hold lots more cats. It must have an isolation section and, hopefully, a Legacy House so some of our older, surrendered cats can live out comfortable and cared for lives, waiting to welcome visitors and show them how happy we are to have achieved our ambition.

To help us, and we do need all the help you can give, please dig deep and be generous so we can even better help these companion animals we love.

Full details on page 12-13

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This article is the first in a series compiled by Amanda Oswald and Kahn Priestley from materials provided by the Royal Canin Research and Development Team in France. For further information you can contact the authors on 1800 622 969.

How many people have a fussy eater in their household? Virtually everyone you ask, or so it seems. Cats can rule the menu with daily whims and food preferences. Of all pets, cats appear to be the most choosy about what they eat and, as a result, often get fed a wide variety of foods including meat, fish, canned foods, cat biscuits, cheese, vegies, milk, yeast tablets and other supplements.

Although your cat may well eat some, or all, of the above, have you ever stopped to wonder if you are doing the best by them? Like all animals, cats have specific nutritional requirements for good health. Their food must contain the correct balance of protein, fat, carbohydrate, fibre, minerals, vitamins and, of course, water - these are the building blocks for growth in kittens and maintenance in adult cats. A cat fed on a complete and balanced diet will be healthier, with a lower risk of many diseases and more likely to lead a long and active life.

When looking for the correct diet for your cat, you must take into account the three main dietary problems caused by incorrect feeding: Nutritional deficiencies, obesity and urinary stones.

Nutritional Deficiencies

More than any other household animal, cats can suffer from specific nutritional deficiencies. Cats were originally a desert animal and still have a very primitive digestive system. Unlike dogs, who can obtain nutrition from a variety of food sources, cats must have a diet that above all is rich in animal proteins. Cats are unable to produce certain minerals and vitamins themselves; animal proteins are their sole source of Vitamin A and two essential amino acids, arginine and taurine. Arginine works to break down nitrogen waste in the urine and taurine is used in the production of bile salts. A deficiency in either of these amino acids can affect digestion, sight, hearing and reproduction.

Obesity

Many people interpret a diet 'rich in animal proteins' to mean a fresh meat diet or a diet containing milk and cheese. Certainly cats are attracted to the smell of a food, and usually eat fresh meat very readily. However, a meat only diet is deficient in vitamins and minerals and is high in fat which can quickly lead to obesity. Milk and cheese contain lactose, which is not easily digested by adult cats and can often lead to diarrhoea.

Obesity is one of the biggest problems caused by feeding an incorrect diet. 60% of all cats in Australia are currently either overweight or obese. Desexed cats are particularly prone to

obesity due to the affect the operation has on their hormones and metabolism.

Obesity is caused by simply overfeeding, as it is commonly believed that cats can regulate their food intake. This misconception arises from the cats' natural eating habits. Cats will eat up to 20 small meals a day and will walk away from their bowl without finishing the food. However, the more you put down, the more they will eat. The only true way to prevent obesity is to feed a measured amount per day and to use a good quality and balanced food.

Urinary Stones

Kittens and senior cats have very different nutritional requirements to younger adults. Feeding the same food to all ages is not doing the best for your cats.

Obesity can also be a major contributing factor in the third dietary problem for cats - urinary stones. The most common type of urinary stones are called struvites and form in the urinary tract from crystals of magnesium phosphate and ammonia. They are most common in adult cats between 1-10 years of age.

To prevent struvites, adult cats must be fed an acidifying diet which keeps the urine in the band pH 6-6.5. This is the single most important factor in controlling urinary stones. It is also advisable to feed the cat a diet that has

a moderate magnesium level, feed small, frequent meals rather than one large meal a day and to feed a high digestibility diet, so that most of the food is absorbed into the body and less moisture passed through into the stools or urine.

Although it is essential to feed an acidifying diet to adult cats, kittens should not be fed an acidifying diet as it will affect their bone formation. It is also not advisable to feed an acidifying diet to senior cats of 10 years or older. As cats grow older, they are less prone to struvites and, instead, can suffer from oxalates, another type of crystal. The formation of oxalate crystals can actually be aggravated by an acidifying diet. Both kittens and senior cats therefore have very different requirements from their diets than younger cats.

So it is clear that cats need a very specific diet to meet their individual nutritional needs. Their diet must be complete and balanced and should be adapted to match the age of the cat or kitten. It is also essential to feed the correct amount on a daily basis to prevent obesity.

How should you choose your cat's diet? Traditionally, many cats are fed on a home cooked diet. Not only is this time consuming and demanding in terms of the freshness of the ingredients, it is also very difficult to maintain a correct nutritional balance. Commercial cat foods are either canned or dry. Canned foods are actually 80% water, which makes them very low digestibility (the cat has to eat a lot to get the nutrition it needs), too soft to exercise teeth and gums and expensive. As a comparison, 1 kg of true premium dry food is the equivalent to 14 x 400g cans! Dry foods offer better nutrition, but there is

then the choice between standard 'supermarket' brands and premium foods. The choice is not just down to price either.

Premium foods have been developed through extensive nutritional research to be the best made foods on the market. A true premium food is made from the best quality ingredients and is high in the essential animal proteins. Premium foods are highly palatable so that cats will readily and consistently eat them. They are balanced to contain all the essential ingredients at the correct levels including arginine, taurine and, for adult cats, urine acidifying minerals. Premium foods are highly digestible, which means that you feed less and have less to clear up and they will not cause digestive upsets. Premium foods are available in a range tailored to all types of cats, from kittens to senior cats, from pregnant queens to show cats.

Whatever you feed your cat now, ask yourself if it is the best possible diet for their health. Unless it is a premium food, the answer is likely to be no. Don't just take our word for it, though. Check your foods out, ask questions and get the answers you need. After all, if the food you are using now does not deliver what your cat needs for optimum health, why keep using it?

ROYAL CANIN is the leading manufacturer of premium dog and cat foods in Europe. For over 30 years, the company has been at the forefront of research into correct nutrition and the foods it has developed are endorsed by veterinary surgeons and breeders worldwide.

The **Royal Canin** premium cat food range is made from the highest quality ingredients (including a combination of chicken, turkey and fish) to provide a diet that is highly palatable to all cats, highly digestible and designed not to cause digestive upsets.

The range of foods is the most comprehensive available on the market, consisting of 5 tailored diets: **Kitten 34** - for kittens from weaning to adulthood and also suitable for gestating or nursing queens; **Fit 32** - a maintenance diet for normally active cats; **Sensible 33** - for fussy cats or those with a sensitive digestive system; **Slim 37** - for those cats with a tendency to gain weight and **Senior 28** - a special diet for older cats.

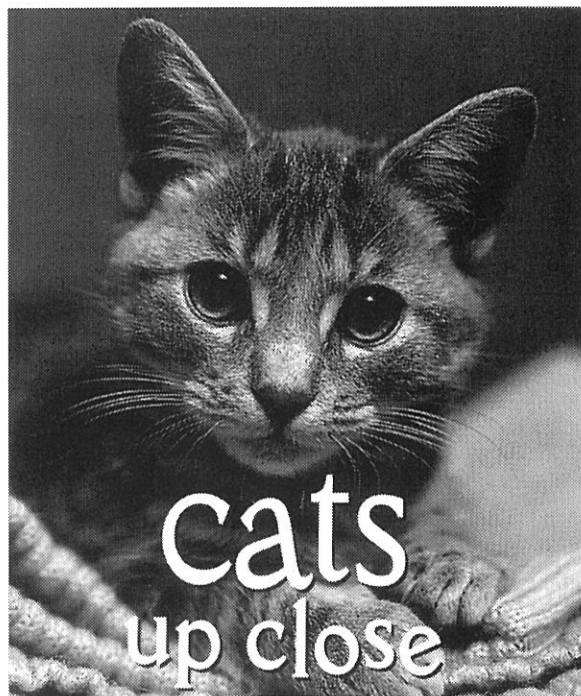
BOOK REVIEWS

Lee Wright

MRS CHIPPY'S LAST EXPEDITION 1914-1915, Alexander Caroline, Allen & Unwin, HB \$24.95. For my money this is a real cutie. Mrs Chippy (inappropriately prefixed) was a male cat on board Shackleton's ill fated Endurance voyage to the Antarctic. The book is a diary of the ship's cat's view of life aboard the vessel and gives the reader an idea of what life was like when you're stuck in the unrelenting ice pack, as well as offering a gentle and humorous insight of life from the 4 paws perspective. Very cleverly written to take advantage of known diaries of the episode. Highly recommended.

OPERA CATS, Susan Herbert, Thames & Hudson, \$29.95. Ms Herbert has added another cat fantasy to her collection of cats in famous artistic or, in this case, operatic roles. Whether it's Boris, or Butterfly or Violetta, or quite a few others, we see how well cats fit in ALL walks of life.

CATS UP CLOSE, Vicki Croke, dist. by Peribo, HB \$16.95 This is my pick of the books for this issue. It's a small book but what a wallop it packs. Over 200 colour photos of some of the best cat snaps going. The picture titles are very clever tie-ins and the complete quality of the book makes the price absolutely spot on and a bargain. Don't miss this one!



THE CAT IN ANCIENT EGYPT, Jaromir Malek, Thames & Hudson, Softcover \$27.95. With the increasing popularity of cats, most cat lovers are aware of the importance and high esteem cats were held in Egyptian life. This book presents a far more detailed picture of Pharaonic felines. The indepth history of cats in this era is highlighted with many colour photographs of statues, jewellery, wall paintings, sculptures. All in all, if you are interested in the prominence and importance of cats in this important chapter of history - this is a book not to be missed.

GOOD CARE FOR YOUR CATS, Claire Bessant and Bradley Viner; **HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CAT**, Claire Bessant, Allen & Unwin, \$12.95 each. Two recently released paperbacks covering general cat care and cat behaviour, both intended to give a cat's owner more insight into why he is doing what he should and what he shouldn't!! They are easy to read and should be a good help to people interested in knowing a bit more about the companion animal they are sharing their life with. Claire Bessant is a cat behaviour specialist and Bradley Viner is a TV/radio vet. The books aim to show you how your cat can be happier, fitter and live longer and how you can more correctly interpret what he/she is trying to tell you.

MORE THAN 9 LIVES, Philip R Rush, ABC Enterprises, \$9.95. This paperback of 49 cats in verse is not a high rolling poetry exercise, but a very entertaining lot of poems on cats in the home. My favourite has to be the 'The Computer Cat' since I live with it all the time. So here's the last verse as a teaser --
*'I know that I should be very pleased to have an expert teacher,
But I'm alas, what you could call a most ungrateful creature.
I know you'll think it's rude of me, and that my thoughts are
shabby,
But I would rather do without my own computer tabby!'*
Now, that was painless, wasn't it - try the rest.

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.

HELP !!

WE NOT ONLY NEED YOUR MONEY



WE ALSO NEED YOUR BODY



OPPORTUNITY SHOP DESPERATION

We are again having great difficulty in keeping our shop open every day of the week due to the shortage of staff. I am often amazed at the number of volunteers who work on Saturdays. These people are all full time workers who are willing to give up a part of their weekend to work in the shop, so many in fact, that I can't fit them all on the roster. We have a staff of 9 for Saturdays, and **only 18 for the week days!** Of these, some are workers too, and can only come one day each month, which is a great help, of course, but **surely** there are some reasonably active retirees out there who could help out!

If you had a 'cat problem' in your area, would you ask the Cat Protection Society for help? And if you did, would you wonder where the money comes from for the ambulance and the welfare officer who would attend? Probably not, but the Opportunity Shop is a valuable source of income for the CPS welfare work!

9 workers for the four Saturdays of each month. Only 18 for the 22 week days! Not a very good ratio is it? Let's challenge the Saturday staff and improve that ratio. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

**Ring me and I'll get you started.
Grace Ayling 9638-7364**

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 1998 remain financial until June 1999.

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

November 1997 - February 1998

Mr G Andrews, Epping; Mrs F Barker, Maroubra; Ms J Bastin, Kensington; Mrs N Beveridge, Concord; Mrs E Bruce, Croydon; Mrs P Bryant, Eagle Vale; Mrs S Bunyon, Hurstville; Miss T Carroll, North Ryde; Miss B Chandler, Engadine; M Collian, Daceyville; Mr K Cunliffe, Lane Cove; Mrs MJ Dolling, Ermington; Ms D Drummy, Lalor Park; Mrs H Ferris, Turramurra; Mrs J Gotee, Belmore; Mrs S Hedley, Campsie; Mrs R Helback, Scarness Qld; Ms D Hourez, Camperdown; Miss B Jennings, Erskineville; Mrs C Kenworthy, Balmain; Ms B Klumpsch, Eastwood; The Lategans, Epping; Miss J McGavick, Sydenham; K McMurray, Katoomba; Ms B Marshall, Glebe; Miss K Masters, Enmore; Ms I Novak, Erskineville; Mrs I Nowak, Roselands; Miss J Odlum, Maroubra; R Raper, Killara; Ms N Roberts, Leichhardt; BJ Russo, Eschol Park; Ms K Rowe, Petersham; Ms G Robin, Randwick; Mrs B Sharpe, Erskineville; Ms M Snodgrass, Mosman; M Struach, Rooty Hill; Mrs B Vaka, Camperdown; Mrs K Vincent, Balgowlah; F Waring, Bellevue Hill; Mrs T Wills, Figtree; Mrs J Wilson, Guildford.

ARTIST WANTED

Are you clever with pen and ink, do you have a flair for zany cat characters, do you live in or near the Inner West? And are you happy to do your bit for the CPS without recompense?

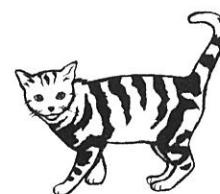
I have occasional need for artistic skills to highlight an article. Clip Art is great, but not when I need related sketches. In 2 forthcoming articles I need 2 X 12 sketches of a kitten to be immersed within the two articles - so the artist would have to be willing to work by my PC while we adjusted copy and sketches. It could be a 2-3 hour session to get the final page. No pay but a prominent by-line guaranteed!!

Please phone Lee (w) 9383-7562.

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We care about cats
and people.

We'll give you
free professional
and caring advice
on selling
your Sydney
property.



Ronald & Susan
Hayes,
the husband & wife
real estate team
from



INNER CITY INNER WEST

Please call us on 02 9550 1333

202 King Street Newtown N.S.W. 2042

TABBY ROW

ALIAS ENMORE ROAD

The Summer 1998 cover featured Gregory Bolton and Brian, a CPS tabby that he adopted after it had been abandoned by its owners. Gregory has a talent for finding the right cat for friends and acquaintances. He has also been instrumental in helping to organise media interviews for CPS and Brian is always available when we need a cat for photos.

Once Gregory and Brian fell head over paws in love, Gregory set out to find a shop companion for Elaine Vassallo who owns Elaine's Past Pieces on the other side of our Enmore office. Elaine wanted a female with ginger on her. We found a darling tabby with flecks of ginger who was also left behind on moving day. The neighbours who surrendered her were prepared to keep her until she started 'acting funny'. We asked if she was desexed (knowing full well she wasn't!). This is such a common occurrence for CPS; a cat gets over the kitten stage, 6-9 months, and is handed in because it 'starts acting funny'. The lucky ones get handed in, others get dumped and left to breed continually.



We knew this girl would be perfect for Elaine and happily Elaine agreed. Elaine called her Beryl and we call her a tart (the cat, not Elaine!). Her favourite game is to approach people in the shop and roll over on her back for a tummy tickle. Then she pushes off on the carpet and slides along on her back. She is so playful and friendly. Beryl also fills in when we need some 'models' for local advertising. Beryl, not content with making a name for friendliness, is now taking to guarding the door and letting local dogs know exactly what she will do if they don't missel off. So far she has had her way. Elaine's just hoping her luck continues.

Another famous (or infamous) tabby on Enmore Road is ZiZi. ZiZi is now the proud owner of Amera and rules the roost at Amera's Palace. Amera, a professional Belly Dancer, owns a Belly Dance costume shop where she also holds classes. Gregory canvassed Amera about how she desperately needed a shop cat. We had a very special case come in and ZiZi was destined for her.

ZiZi had a short but somewhat cnequered history with the CPS. She was surrendered - yet another case of moving and leaving the cat behind. We noted her outgoing nature and she was adopted from Parklands. Not long after we received a call. "You've sold me a sick cat! Come and pick her up and fix her". CPS staff picked her up and had her treated. ZiZi had very mild flu symptoms, she was given a course of anti-bs and returned.

We received another call, "I paid \$90 and I expect a well cat". ZiZi developed diarrhoea from the antibiotics. The owner dropped her off at one of our vets and did not want her back until her health was 100%. We told the owner that she was not suitable to own a cat and gladly refunded her money. As CPS has to bear the expense of vet care and hospitalisation, we brought ZiZi to our office to monitor her. We could not see what the fuss was about, she showed no signs of flu or diarrhoea. Her personality shone and we knew she was a perfect shop cat. Amera says she has never met a cat like ZiZi. She has a way of ruling and letting people know if they are in the place she wishes to be. The temptation of all the sequins and beads proved to be too tempting and she spends more time at Amera's home where she is spoiled rotten by Amera's grandmother and family. She has let Amera's husband, Claude, and the dog know there's a new boss in town. They don't mind a bit - and ZiZi has shown no signs of illness in a loving and caring environment.



Pinot was picked up by CPS staff who answered a call about a cat who had gotten into a home through a window and had her litter. It was at the beginning of the kittening season and she was the first of many cases to follow. We fell madly in love with Pinot's personality. She was a fantastic mother and affectionate to people. She was protective of her 4 babies, she allowed us to handle them but if one cried she always rushed to see if they were ok.

Pinot's unusual shaped face intrigued us and one of her babes inherited it. This baby was the last to find a home because people thought he was ugly. Luckily another shopkeeper in the area took our advice about his personality and he now has a wonderful home. After her kittens were adopted we became frantic about Pinot's future as more and more kittens were coming in. Gregory strikes again! Gregory found a home for Pinot with his friend, Robert. Robert and Pinot make a great team and Pinot has remained every bit as loving and affectionate.

A black and white photograph of several kittens looking up at the camera. The kittens are of various breeds, including tabbies and bicolors. They are all looking directly at the camera with large, expressive eyes. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on their faces and deep shadows in the background. The kittens are clustered together, creating a sense of a group. The background is dark and textured, possibly a patterned fabric.

PLEASE HELP US HOUSE THESE KITTENS FOR ADOPTION
CONTRIBUTE TO OUR CATTERY APPEAL FUND