

SUMMER 2000

The Journal of the Cat Protection Society of NSW

# *Cat Affairs*





# 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, Ph: 9516-2072  
Glenhaven Cattery: 145 Glenhaven Road, Glenhaven, NSW, 2156, Ph: 98940788



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## THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE . . .

It was good to see some new faces as well as some more familiar faces at our Annual General Meeting. The revised format of the meeting was well received by everyone and was generally agreed to be the most informative meeting for members in recent memory (see report on page 18). Topics of interest were the new cattery, and how we have achieved our much improved adoption rates, partly resulting from our involvement with the Cat Adoption Centres. Members were also given an insight into the way that we handle cats and kittens from the time we receive them to the time that they find a new home. If you haven't been to one of our AGMs before, why not think about coming next year? We'd love to see you.

I would now like to touch on a topic of great concern to me and a great many others, and that is the culling of animals in National Parks. You would no doubt have heard the publicity surrounding the shooting by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service of a large number of horses in the Guy Fawkes River National Park. Real questions need to be asked as to why the killing was necessary and secondly about the inhumane manner in which the shooting was done. My understanding is that it is almost impossible to humanely kill horses by shooting them from a helicopter.

A related matter is the promotion of a toxic pill designed specifically to kill feral cats. According to press reports, the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service has expressed strong interest in the poison. The poison has been described as a "magic bullet" for the feral cat "problem". Of course, the claim is made that the poison is humane and will not affect other species. But what about those animals that consume sub lethal doses of the poison? What about kittens that remain behind after their mother has been poisoned? What about domestic cats who are just as susceptible to the poison as the feral cats? Is there an antidote available for those accidentally poisoned?

In the case of the shooting of the horses and the proposed cat poison, the argument is that the animals are being killed to protect the environment. However, agencies such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service must be aware that the killing of animals is becoming less and less ethically acceptable to the public and that public outrage will inevitably arise when culling programs become public. Alternatives must be sought, and there are alternatives available. If there are too many animals, rather than increasing death rates, why don't the authorities try and lower the birth rates instead? Around the world scientists are working to develop an effective means of birth control for free living animals, including both native animals and introduced animals. To date there have been successes with controlling the fertility of a range of species such as elephants, horses and deer. Work in Australia is at an advanced stage in controlling the fertility of marsupials such as kangaroos and possums.

Just as the Cat Protection Society tries to manage populations of cats in our urban environments by encouraging and supporting people to desex their cats, so must managers of our National Parks become more serious in developing and adopting humane techniques to manage populations of animals living in our National Parks. The public is sick and tired of killing being seen as the preferred solution.

Having said that, please now take the time to read the rest of *Cat Affairs* and enjoy the entertaining and informative articles that Suzanne Jenkins has prepared for you.

**Keith Edwards**

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Articles may be reprinted: credit Cat Affairs, Journal of the Cat Protection Society of NSW

**VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED FOR OPPORTUNITY SHOP**

**FRONT COVER:** Penny (Barbara & Tony Jenkins)

**BACK COVER:** Sylvester (Diane Elias)

## Attention: Contributors!

If you would like to send a contribution to the magazine you can E-mail me at my E-mail address:

Suzanne\_Jenkins@hotmail.com

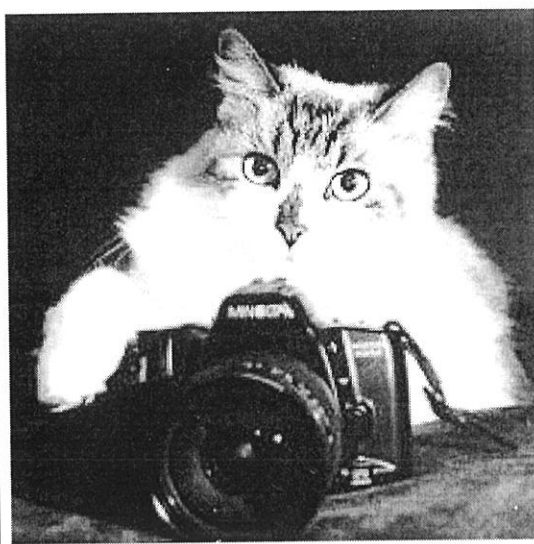
or send contributions care of the Enmore office.



The CPS Staff and Council members would like to wish all our members and readers a very happy and safe holiday season.



**CORRECTION:** Mrs D Muskett from North Bondi was listed as a new member in the last Journal. Apologies to Mrs Muskett who has been a CPS member since June 1998.



## PHOTOGRAPHERS!!

Please note that you should include a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like pictures submitted for possible use in the Journal returned. Also, please note that, generally, you will be without your photos for a few months, particularly if they just miss an issue and are held over for the following Journal.

## Who is Joanne Righetti?

Dr Joanne Righetti is an animal behaviour consultant, working with pet owners and animal organisations to educate, research and offer counselling in animal behaviour. With a degree in zoology, a PhD in animal behaviour and a diploma in counselling, Joanne enjoys working with all aspects of the human-animal relationship. She lives with three cats at home (one of which is a Cat Protection Society rescue kitten), a Dalmatian, three boys and a husband.

CPS would like to thank Dr Righetti for giving her time to write for us on such an important yet not widely discussed subject. We hope her advice and insight will give some relief to our members, most of whom we are sure at some stage or another will be affected by the loss of a much loved pet.

Dr Righetti's article begins on Page 8 and is continued on Page 14.

## EAST CHATSWOOD CAT CLINIC

The East Chatswood Cat Clinic is now at:

329 Penshurst St  
EAST CHATSWOOD  
Ph: (02) 9417 6613

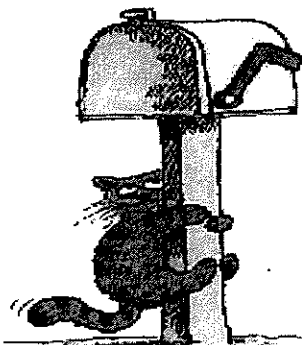
Refurbished, with new 'Cat Shacks' for boarding cats, and with better parking.

**Still open 8am to 8pm weekdays  
9am to 4pm Saturday  
12 noon to 4pm Sunday and Public Holidays (except Xmas Day and Good Friday)**

All manner of cat care items (toys, treats, food and beds), plus some Cat Art.

**Full Service Vet Clinic for Cats Only**

# The **SCRATCHING**



## Post

When I renew my membership each year I include a donation. This year it is in memory of my beloved cat Leicester, brother (but not litter mate) to our 2 girl cats, Willow and Wattle. I had to take one of the harder decisions in life recently when I had to put Leicester down. He had kidney failure. We had tried various treatments but to no avail. We managed to keep him going for about 6 months but in the end he went downhill very fast. He went to sleep in my arms for the final time on 16 June - he was only 8yo. I was lucky that it could be done at home because our local vet does house calls. Leicester's dislike of the car was only exceeded by his dislike of the Vet surgery!. Leicester is very sadly missed. He was a real personality - a smart ginger boy about town.

I have a question for the Journal's panel of experts. After Leicester was put down should I have shown his body to the girls before the vet took his body away? I was too distressed at the time to think of it. (By the way I had Leicester cremated and his ashes were returned to me in a beautiful pottery urn). Willow spent a lot of time with Leicester and I like to think that she cared for him right up until the end - keeping him warm and grooming him. He was well groomed up to the end. (See photo taken a week before he died). (Page 10)...

I think that the work of the Society is tremendously worthwhile and the achievements of the CPS over the last 10 years something that you can all be proud of. When my family is older I plan to return to voluntary work with the CPS. I was on council in the mid 80's and worked in the Op Shop.

**Helena Cooke-Yarborough  
Lindfield**

*We hope the article on Pages 8 and 14 by Dr Joanne Righetti helps with your question. We receive many questions on this subject and thought such an article might be helpful. Ed.*

### Wonderful news . . .

An environmentalist was saying that 7.5 million birds are being killed annually . . . and the cat wasn't named as the culprit. Land clearance was - MAN is the devil incarnate. About time that was realised!!!!

**Lee Wright**

**Note: Further good news on this subject is reported by Sue Matysek on page 6. Ed**

Miss Diane Elias of Macksville wrote to us about her 7 cats who share their lives with herself and her Mother on their acreage in a small country town.

All but two of these cats were strays or the result of rescue efforts. Of course they're all desexed and thoroughly spoilt. The two oldest girls (fifteen year old sisters Dinah and Rachel) even have their own electric blanket in Winter. Then there's Roger, Cyrus, Lady Salome, Sylvester and one year old Raisa, a Russian Blue and the youngest in the family. Take a look at some of Diane's beauties on Page 21 and the magnificent Sylvester who features on our back cover.

## VILE BILE



Confused and a little disturbed by the Headline? Well, visit "Free The Bears Fund Inc." at

[www.freethebears.org.au](http://www.freethebears.org.au)

where you will read about Mary Hutton, an Australian actually doing something to help. Visit the "World Society for the Protection of Animals" at:

[www.wsps.org.uk](http://www.wsps.org.uk)

where you will read about what is going on elsewhere. Your confusion will be relieved, but it's not an easy read and I am afraid your sense of disturbance will not subside, but hopefully turn to outrage and a burning desire to help.

**Warning: This material is disturbing, so be prepared for an emotional experience!**

Please protest by writing letters to:

Chinese Consulate,  
15 Coronation Drive,  
Yarralumla, ACT, 2600


Or


The Honourable Jiang Zemin  
People's Congress,  
Beijing,  
China


**Concerned Member**


**Note: If you do not have access to the Internet but would like to read about this issue, please contact the CPS office and a copy of the relevant material can be posted to you. Ed.**


# KITTY ETTIKIT


 Determine which guest hates cats. Sit on that lap during the evening. They won't dare push you off and will even call you "nice kitty." If you can arrange to have cat food on your breath, so much the better.


 If you have to throw up, get into a chair quickly. If you cannot manage this in time, get to an Oriental rug. Shag is good.


 For sitting on laps or rubbing against trouser legs, select colours which contrast with your own.


 Always accompany guests to the bathroom. It is not necessary to do anything. Just sit and stare.


 For guests who say, "I love kitties," be ready with aloof disdain, claws applied to stockings or a nip on the ankles.


 Do not allow closed doors in any room. To get one open, stand on hind legs and hammer with forepaws. Once the door is opened for you, it is not necessary to use it. You can change your mind. When you have ordered an outside door opened, stand half in and half out and think about several things. This is particularly important during very cold weather or mosquito season.


 If one person is busy and the other is idle, sit with the busy one. For book readers, get in close under the chin, unless you can lie across the book itself.


 For ladies knitting, curl quietly into lap and pretend to doze. Then reach out and slap knitting needles sharply. This is what she calls a dropped stitch. She will try to distract you. Ignore it.


 For people doing homework, sit on the paper being worked on. After being removed for the second time, push anything movable off the table - pens, pencils, stamps - one at a time.

 When it becomes time to dislodge a fur ball, choose the dining room at dinner time.

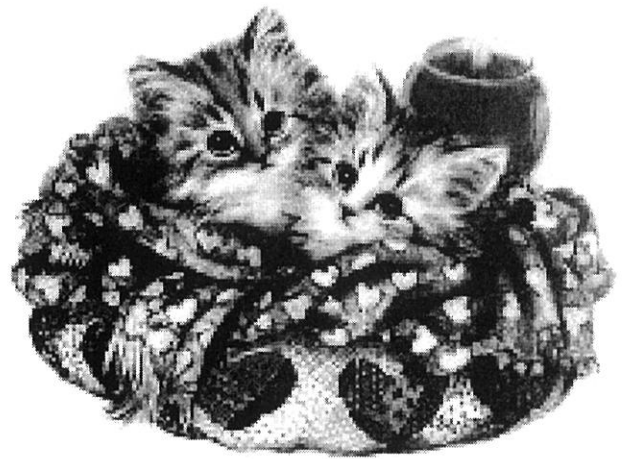
 Should you run into a closed sliding glass door or do anything stupid, never let on as much and go about your business as if "I meant to do that."

 If you allow a dog to share your domain you are in luck. Should you tatter the drapes or destroy anything for which you fear retribution, wait until your owner (misnomer if there ever was one) is nearby, slap the dog and run for it. Dogs are stupid and will accept blame for anything. If this ruse should fail simply run and hide. No one really expects to catch a cat.

 Chase, frolic, and run from invisible entities. The why doesn't matter, it is just expected.

 Get enough sleep during the daytime so that you are fresh for playing at night between 2 and 4 a.m.

**Final Note: ALWAYS walk ON the keyboard!**



## GOT A CAT STORY TO TELL???



Take 5 Magazine pays \$100 to 'Animal Tales' stories published in their weekly national magazine. If you have an original, unusual cat (or animal) story to tell and accompanying photographs, try your luck and send it to:

Take 5 Magazine  
Attention: Warner Russell  
PO Box 3525  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wish your photos to be returned.

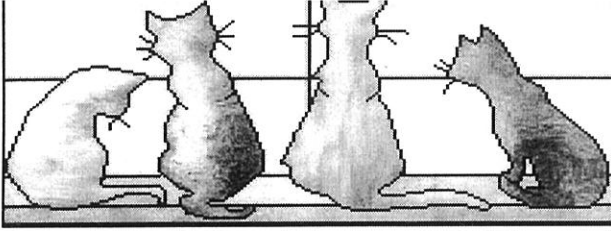


## Cat Kisses

Author Unknown

*Sandpaper kisses  
on a cheek or a chin-  
that is the way  
for a day to begin!  
Sandpaper kisses-  
a cuddle and a purr.  
I have an alarm clock  
that's covered in fur!*





# OFFICE TAILS



The staff here at CPS have normally entered kitten season with a mixture of dread and anticipation. While it gladdens us to find so many homes for so many beautiful kittens there has always been a certain percentage that have exhausted our resources. I am pleased to say that this year we anticipate that when our current trickle turns into a flood towards Christmas that we will still be able to have the homes, the resources and the outlets available to accommodate every adoptable kitten. Time will tell.

Recently, I attended a National Urban Animal Management conference in Hobart in November. From a cat's perspective, one of the most interesting issues that was raised was that the current demonising of cats as environmental predators in Australia is completely undeserved. Barbara Fougere's paper entitled 'Cats and wildlife in the urban environment' clearly gives cats back their good name. Her research demonstrated the following facts:

- (a) not all cats hunt (only one-third to one-half of cats hunt at all)
- (b) those cats that do hunt tend to only hunt the most abundant food source, for example, rats/mice/introduced species
- (c) if cat numbers are reduced then we could potentially be overrun with mice and rats - oops, this does sound oddly familiar!
- (d) in Sydney at least, birds like the Pied Currawong do far more damage to our native bird population by eating chicks and taking over nests, than cats could ever do.

According to Barbara's literature review, destruction of habitat and motor vehicles are much more likely to cause species extinction than cat predation.

It's comforting to have facts and figures to back up our argument that cats are not the demons that the popular press regularly conveys and that responsible cat ownership/desexing, identifying and curfewing, makes cat ownership one of the best things you can do for your health! If only more doctors would prescribe it.

It was great to visit the local Animal Preservation Society Cats Home in Hobart. I was impressed with their setup and the numbers of homes they are finding for cats in the Hobart area. Their goals and motivation are very similar to our own and it is always educational to learn how other welfare groups go about their business of awareness-raising and finding homes for their numerous charges. Their kitten season seems to start a little later than ours so even in November they were mercifully kitten-free.

Operation Cat is still happening. Currently it has extended to the northwest region of Sydney. Hawkesbury Council is the latest Council to join us with our desexing and microchipping initiative. We are hoping for a big response in this area.

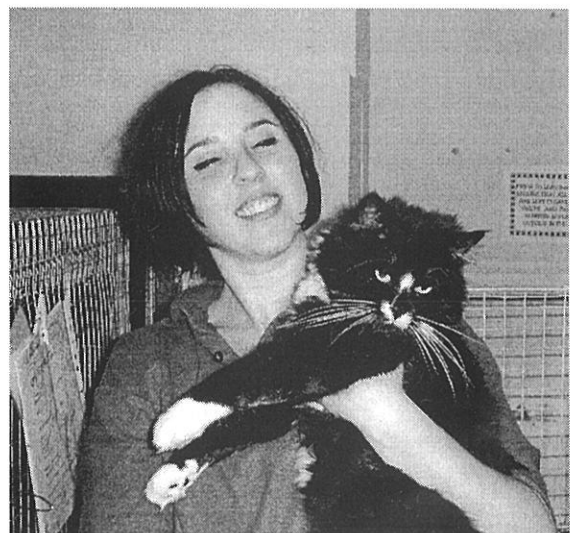
Every pet owner will face the fact that one day their beloved pet may have to be put to sleep. We receive a lot of calls at the office from people who are facing this predicament or who are in need of solace after such an event. Dr Joanna Righetti, one of our members, is a trained animal behaviourist and has kindly provided an article on issues surrounding pet loss and how best to deal with it. Having faced the situation recently concerning my own cat, I re-read Dr Righetti's article with some considerable poignancy. Keep this article on hand because it may help you also one day.

## **CPS would like to extend a warm welcome to new staff memers:**

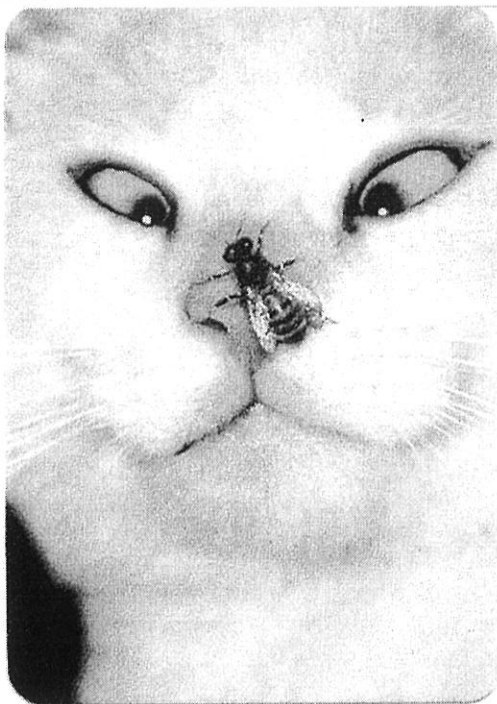
### **Lynda O'Grady, Administration Assistant**



### **and Tara Millett, Cattery Assistant**



## CAPTION CONTEST



**Send us your caption for the picture opposite and you could win a copy of THE BLUE DAY BOOK which is reviewed on Page 19.**

**Post entries to 103 Enmore Road, Enmore NSW, 2042 or Email entries to CPS at:**

**[cps@idx.com.au](mailto:cps@idx.com.au)**

**The winning caption will be published in the next Journal.**

## **FOSTER CARER ALERT – Hardworking, dedicated carers required**

We are now entering the kitten season and already have been inundated with under-aged bundles of joy. Despite having a growing list of dedicated foster carers we require all hands on deck to help an ever increasing number of kittens through the danger period. Initially it sounds like fun and games but the bottom line is hard work, dedication and quite often heartache.

Kittens generally feed from their mother for the first six to eight weeks of their lives. From approximately four weeks of age the kittens will begin to attempt to lap food from a bowl imitating the mother they have been observing so closely. Similarly they will enter a litter tray and copy mum, still requiring her assistance.

This however is not always the case and many kittens are abandoned before they reach an age where they can cope with life's basic tasks alone. That is where CPS comes in!

Foster carers will generally take home between two and four kittens and care for them anywhere from two to eight weeks, or until they reach 800g. The kittens require meals at least four times daily and must be weighed prior to feeding every morning. The weight and condition of each kitten must be recorded and reported to the Cattery Manager on a weekly basis. If a kitten goes off its food or has any other problems, the Cattery Manager must be informed immediately. It is desirable for foster carers to have a separate room to house the kittens and relatively relaxed surrounding environment, avoiding crying babies,

loud music and barking dogs. All kittens remain the property of CPS and foster carers must follow the strict guidelines set out by the CPS when fostering, including which vet the kittens should be taken to in the case of an emergency.

Foster carers must also be prepared for a kitten's health to deteriorate, possibly resulting in death. This is not uncommon and generally has nothing to do with the care the kitten has been receiving. Finally, carers must return kittens to the CPS cattery once they reach 800g, resisting the temptation to adopt one or all of them. The latter is probably the most difficult part of becoming a foster carer. Basic requirements of a foster carer are as follows.

### **Foster Carers Requirements:**

- a separate room to house the kittens;
- relaxed surroundings;
- spend most of the day at home;
- follow a strict diet (supplied by CPS) and be prepared to feed during the night if required;
- weigh and note kitten condition daily;
- be completely dedicated to the welfare of the kittens;
- report problems immediately (to Cattery Manager/CPS approved veterinarian); and
- be prepared for hard work, dedication and heartache.

**Anyone interested in becoming a foster carer for the Cat Protection Society please call Peta Edwards at the office on 9557-4818.**



# Cat Loss Grief

By Dr Joanne Righetti

## *Losing Your Friend*

When your cat dies ... a friend and family member is lost. Pets offer unconditional love and companionship in our increasingly busy but often lonely society and so it should not be a surprise to feel intense sorrow after the death of a feline friend. In fact, you may experience all the same symptoms or more, as when you have lost a person close to you. This is normal.

## *Feelings*

The grief reaction is varied and may include such feelings as sadness, denial, anger, guilt, depression and acceptance or a mixture of all of these, in no particular order. You may even feel some relief that you no longer have to care for a sick animal or pay vet bills. Nothing is certain about grieving, only that it may be a time of true chaos.

Grief may be associated with situations other than death. Illness, for instance, may bring on the feeling of grief, especially if the cat's lifespan is limited. The disappearance of a pet cat may also cause grief. It is difficult to know when to stop looking and to accept that the animal will never return. In other cases people are forced to give up their pet due to relocation. Families may have to move overseas or an elderly person may have to move to a retirement village where pets are forbidden.

Many people have to decide when it is the right time for their pet to die and must take it to the vet for euthanasia. This may result in intense feelings of guilt and confusion. It is difficult to know when it is the "right time" and important to be guided by your vet's advice and the animal's quality of life.

Unfortunately, when a pet dies, there is often nobody to talk to, no-one who can understand how the grieving person feels, after all, in many small minds, it was "only an animal". There are, however, many ways that you can help someone who is grieving or understand the feelings that you are experiencing if your cat has died recently.

## *Helping Yourself*

Look after yourself physically by getting plenty of rest, eating and drinking but do not resort to alcohol or other drugs to block out the grief. Also look after yourself emotionally – allow yourself time to grieve. Crying helps. Talk to friends and family members who understand. Alternatively call a grief counsellor, one who understands about pet loss. If a friend is grieving, let them tell you about their pet, its life and death. Reassure them it is alright to feel the way they do.

If your cat's death is imminent, think about how you would like to say goodbye. Find ways to remember that pet such as taking photographs. If euthanasia is an option decide whether you would like to be present. What will you do with your pet's body? Cremation or burial in your garden are two common options. It often helps the grieving process to memorialise your pet, for example, having a ceremony; making a photo album; keeping a lock of hair.

When children are involved explain death honestly, preferably long before the pet has actually died. Choose words carefully, saying "helping Puss to die", not "putting Puss to sleep". Expect lots of questions about death and dying. Where possible include children in decision making, for instance, they might be allowed to decide what memorial is placed in the garden.

Give yourself time to heal. Do not be too hasty and throw away items such as your cat's collar or bowl. They may become important keepsakes later.

## *Animal Grief*

Often pet owners wonder if their other pets grieve when their companion dies. We can never really know what animals are feeling but they will probably sense that a change has happened.

In some circumstances, owners will show their remaining pets the body of the dead animal, in the hope of informing about their companion's death. There is no evidence to suggest that this is of benefit or not. Animals may sense death with or without viewing a body; they may appear to grieve intensely or they may look like they have noticed absolutely nothing. Each pet is unique and that's why we enjoy them.

If two cats have been particularly close then the animal left behind may miss its companion intensely and may need to be comforted by extra attention from you. Homeopathic remedies may also help.

## *Case Studies*

Everyone has a different reaction to the death of a pet. The grief experience can also be affected by situations outside our control. The following case studies reveal differences in the dying and grieving process.

Case study 1: Monster was a 3-year-old ginger cat who was run over by his owner in the driveway. The cat died after the owner took him to the vet. The other members of the family did not get the opportunity to say goodbye. The owner felt extremely guilty as well as sad. He bought a new ginger kitten 3 days later but the family felt they were not ready to accept the kitten.

\*\*\*\*\* Continued Page 14

## - Feline Dental Care

### Tartar Build-up

Cats, like humans, are prone to tartar build-up on their teeth called plaque. An accumulation of plaque can lead to periodontal (gum) problems, and the eventual loss of teeth. Plaque is a whitish-yellow deposit. Cats seem to accumulate plaque primarily on the exterior face of their upper teeth. Reddened gum lines can indicate irritation from plaque.

Some cats are more prone to plaque build-up than others. Some never need dental care, others need to have their teeth cleaned at regular intervals. Many vets encourage you to bring your cat in annually for teeth cleaning, using a general anaesthetic. The cost, which can be considerable, and the risk of the anaesthesia itself are both good incentives for doing some cat dental care at home.

If you must have the vet clean your cat's teeth, check if your vet is willing to try a mild sedative (rather than putting the cat under entirely) first when cleaning the teeth. If your cat is an older cat and he or she must be put under, see if the vet will use a gas anaesthesia rather than an injected form.

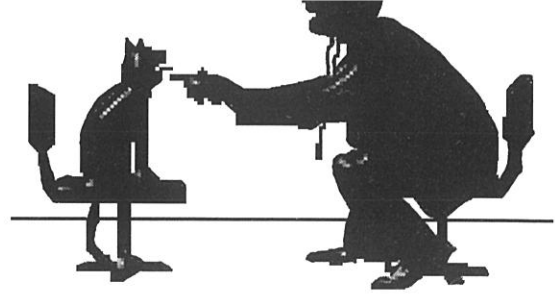
### Prevention

If you can, brush your cat's teeth once a week. Use little cat toothbrushes (which fit on a human finger), or soft child-size toothbrushes, and edible cat toothpaste (available at most vets). Cats usually hate to have their teeth brushed, so you may have to use a bath towel straightjacket and a helper.

There is a new dry food on the market called "T.D." (Teeth Diet) from Hills Science which is now available from vets at a cost of about \$19 for a 1.8kg bag. This is said to be better than the usual commercial dry food in helping a little in the fight against tooth problems, although the benefits of dry food are not as great in this area as a raw chicken wing given a few times a week. Cats can really work their teeth and gums on wings (or drumsticks) which helps to remove tartar. **Do not feed cats any cooked chicken bones** though as these can splinter when chewed and cause serious injury.

### Rootwork

Cavities in cat teeth often occur just at or under the gum line. If your cat has an infected tooth, you will have to have root work done on it. It is typical to do x-rays after such a procedure to ensure that all of the roots have reabsorbed. If the roots haven't done so, then the infection can easily continue on up to the sinus and nasal passages and from there to the lungs. Such infections require long-term antibiotics.



### Smelly Breath

If your cat has smelly breath, there are various possible causes. Teething: at about 6 months of age, cats will lose their baby teeth and get permanent ones. If the gums are red and puffy and you can see the points of teeth breaking through here and there, the cat is just teething and the odour will subside as the teeth come in.

### - Gingivitis

If the gums appear red and puffy and you've ruled out teething, your cat may have a gum infection of some sort. Take the cat to the vet.

### - Diet

Certain foods, usually canned foods or prescription foods, can make your cat's breath smell. If possible, try changing your cat's diet. In any case, your cat's diet should be varied to ensure exposure to all nutrients.

### - Abscess

An abscessed tooth may show no symptoms other than smelly breath. Drooling sometimes occurs in conjunction. The cat must be taken to the vet to have the abscess drained and possibly the teeth involved removed. If this is not done, the infection can easily spread to the sinuses and cause the face to swell, especially just under the eyes.

Source: Originally written 1991 & updated through 1997 by Cindy Tittle Moore. Fanciers website ([www.fanciers.com](http://www.fanciers.com))

\*\*\*\* \* \* \* \*



Sheba (who lives with CPS Members, June & Peter Munday)

# In Memorium

## THE CHILD THAT NEVER GREW UP



**"She walks in beauty like the night  
Of cloudless climes and  
starry skies;  
And all that's best of dark  
and bright  
Meet in her aspect and her eyes"**

Byron

I gently held the wasted, emaciated creature that was Selena with my left hand and quietly stroked her back with my right. Her skeleton was palpable under her thin fur. She lay very still on her well-worn mohair rug on the clinic's cold, hygienic table as Penny the vet trimmed some of the fine soft brown fur to expose the artery on her upper right front leg. She was sick, weak and dying.

Her fragile body flinched only a little as the lethal syringe went in. Although the vet's assistant held her back legs, Selena was past caring.

I clenched my teeth, I felt my face burn, a heavy weight descended on me, my body ached all over.

Within ten seconds, her still graceful form slumped like a rag doll and life departed from her yellow eyes, made bigger yet by her still dainty shape. A little white pointed tooth became visible as her mouth relaxed and opened slightly.

She died with dignity, as she had lived.

I tried to close her eyes, but could not. "Cats' eyes stay open" said Penny. I tried to pull her upper lip over her tooth but could not. Her big black perky ears stayed jauntily erect.

A short time later, Selena gave a little start. "Just a reflex action" said the vet.

Did I want to be alone with her? No, I had already said goodbye many times during the last painful days and couldn't bear to see her lying lifeless and somehow no longer full of her natural grace and beauty.

The vet gave me a small piece of fur and carefully cut two whiskers for me - "they bring good luck" she said and promised to phone me when I could collect the ashes.

I walked out into the sunny street in a daze. I had lost a sweet and modest little friend who had been part of my life for sixteen years.

I picked up her ashes and placed them in a small wooden box four days later.

So ends the story of a small kitten that came into our lives one rainy day and who gave us all she could offer - love, joy and fun. We called her Selena, after the Goddess of the Moon "who with her golden crown illuminates the shadowy night"

She came to us a little stray at death's door with her third eyelid almost closed by cat flu, was tenderly nursed back to health by Jackie who fed her warm milk through a medicine dropper. She was there when the children grew up, consoled us in her simple fashion in the years after Jackie's death, and slowly wasted away with failing kidneys in the last six months of her life. I knew her days were numbered but couldn't bring myself to put her down until her suffering became too obvious to bear.

Because she had been given so much love by us all and treated like the littlest child of the family, she displayed her affection at every opportunity, unreservedly, as only a child or an animal can.

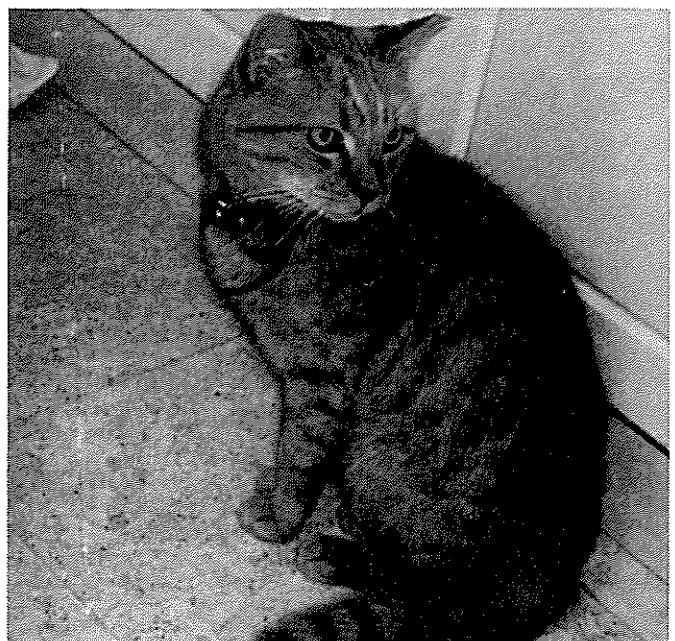
She was truly a child that never grew up and we weep for her and will remember and miss her always.

**"She who had so little gave so much  
And when she dies,  
Take her and cut her out in little stars  
And she will make the face of heaven so bright  
That all the world will be in love with night  
And pay no worship to the garish sun."**

Shakespeare

Name Withheld

*In memory of our beloved ginger boy cat  
Leicester  
A loyal and loving companion for 8 years  
So very sadly missed by  
His mum, Helena Cooke-Yarborough and the rest of the  
family*



*Leicester (one week before he died)*

# MATCH MAKING

Lee Wright

After relinquishing the editorship of Cat Affairs I was still keen to have an active involvement at CPS. Working full time makes it hard but the Society decided to roadtest opening the Enmore Adoption Centre on a Saturday. To cut costs and make the additional selling day economically viable, the Society determined to operate with one welfare officer and a volunteer. And so began my first Saturday of the month CAtegorically a fun day.



Things are quiet from 11 to 12 or so which gives plenty of time to investigate every cage to chat with the inhabitants and get an idea of their personalities and owner needs. It is also yet another chance to socialise them a bit more ... although I have yet to find a cat that needs (as opposed to wants) that touch. By the time prospective parents start arriving the cat population is pretty well defined. Not all cats or kits are available for adoption on the Saturday, some are waiting for an adoption before they are desexed ... but there are always a number that have been prepared for an immediate homing.

The people's needs are as varied as the cats. Some visitors are browsing, some come in only for a cat-fix. They can't have their own and the need to pet and cuddle a feline is strong. It is good to see and the cats appreciate the extra attention. Some people arrive thinking they want a cat but it doesn't take too long going around the cages with them to realise that their requirements are too stiff for any cat to meet. That is all a part of buying and selling. The most important thing which we keep foremost in mind, is to find a good home for the animals.

I have had an active part in a number of adoptions, some of which were really special!

A bloke and his girl friend arrived late one Saturday. He had a shaven head, some piercing, tattoos and a warm and friendly personality. When he held the first cat I handed to him I knew immediately that he was a top prospect. He held the cat exactly the way an unknown cat should be held; firm, a bit restrictive but not oppressively, and the loving was right. One thing he did not want was a red cat, he didn't like red cats. Because of his obvious cat handling ability I left the two of them in the middle room while I looked after someone else and was happily surprised to see him coming to the counter carrying a pleasantly feisty, you guessed it, red and white cat. The cat had a strong personality and suited the man perfectly.

As the adoption paperwork was prepared the cat was biting the bloke's hand, but not aggressively. The man continued to play with the cat's head but not in a way to incite the cat to anger or to really bite. Again, I felt the way the cat was being handled was an excellent sign that he would be well looked after and his dominant nature well matched with someone who understood and could happily cope.

A young man came in and quite quickly picked out a kitten and went to the bank to get the money. When he returned he apologised profusely and said he had decided not to buy the kitten, rather he wanted to get a cat as a kitten would have more chance to be adopted than an adult. I could have hugged him. Best of all, he looked in the cage we were standing next to, established immediate eye contact with a beautiful black girl who started purring and walked to the cage to be patted by him. When he held her she was relaxed and comfortable in his arms and I again saw a well made match.

A family of three came in to get a long promised kitten for their 6 year old daughter. This was late in the day and I was pretty well up on the suitable personalities. Mum wanted a small kitten but I had a better option. A kitten about 4 months old was pushing at the cage to talk to the little lass. I had held him earlier and he was an absolute sook. I handed him to the lass and she held him, as young children will, with legs dangling. The kitten's only response was to snuggle in closer. She lowered herself to the floor still holding him and the kitten's reaction was to snuggle in closer. Then she stood upright, never once jarring the little cat, but again, she was small and for her size he was heavy, and while she was not causing him discomfort, legs were everywhere. He only snuggled in closer. He never once made any attempt to get away, which would have been a typical and understandable feline reaction, or to use claws.

Mum still wasn't fully convinced but Dad and I were firm. This was the ideal kitten for a very young lady. And so another cat was homed.

We are supposed to close at 4pm but it has yet to happen. When there's a possible adoption the door stays open. Two young women came in announcing that one wanted a cross eyed cat. I did a double take. How many times do you see a cross eyed cat? We had one on hand. Not just cross eyed, but totally adorable. (He was my 'love of the day'). He was a gentle, laid back, stunningly-coated, ticked, spotted tabby. The young woman was renting with landlord problems, this was a cat that would not cause any problems. He was quiet, stayed away from the windows, did not disturb the office during his 4 hour office outing before she arrived, and loved being loved. She was taken with his looks and personality and resisted her friend's suggestions that other cats might do better. Although she did look at several others to placate her friend, she knew what she wanted and the cat was quite happy with her choice.

The hardest thing about volunteering at the Adoption Centre is the necessity to BE STRONG. Responsible cat ownership is knowing when you have enough and, for me, 3 is enough. But the temptation, the temptation!! I have so far said no to a brown tabby shorthair girl with a wonderful plumed tail and amber eyes; a silver classic tabby that carried her tail over her back instead of in the air; and, possibly the most tempting of all, the tabby with the slightly crossed eyes. I related to his personality and loved his looks. But the important thing is he has found a good home. That's what it's all about.

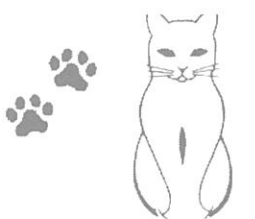
It is a bit sad, when you spend a day working with the cats, to see how many people only consider a kitten. You can talk till you are blue in the face but no young adult has a chance in their eyes. And yet, even a short working day is long enough to suss out the love and personality waiting to bloom when the cat has a stable and caring home.

I have come to look forward eagerly to the first Saturday of the month and a host of new cats and kittens to get acquainted with and, hopefully, find homes for some. It is fun and rewarding and, for me, a wonderful volunteer activity.



# Cat Protection Society 2001

# of New South Wales Calendar



January

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	1	2		4	5	6
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December

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Continued from Page 8

Case study 2: Maisie was a 15-year-old tortie who was taken to the vet by her whole family to be euthanased. They took her ashes home and gathered around her favourite sunbaking spot in the garden and told a little story about their memories. They then put all her favourite toys in a box and buried them with the ashes and put a little plaque on top. Six weeks later the family together chose a new kitten who is now well and truly established as a family member.

## Recovery

When you are grieving over your cat's death, you may wonder if the pain will ever go away. Many people feel that there is no "recovery" from grief, just learning to live with the emotion.

The question often arises of whether or not to get a new cat. This is an individual choice. Immediately acquiring a new pet comforts some people. Others feel they are not ready until they have grieved fully and some believe they will never get another. One thing is certain: a new pet cannot replace the old one. Each animal is unique. Never give a grieving person a new pet as a gift - the decision to have another cat should be theirs alone.

Dealing with your loss, by the ways suggested in this article, and the passage of time are the two best healers. You will never forget your cat but at some stage you will be able to look back without tears and remember all the happy times.

## REMINDER

### XMAS IS FAST APPROACHING

### Order Your CPS Xmas Cards NOW

See your complimentary sample card included in this Journal

Packets of 10 are \$10 if purchased from Enmore

Total cost for posted cards are:

1 x Packet	\$12
2 x Packets	\$23.50
3 x Packets	\$35.00

Send your cheque/money order with name and address details to: 103 Enmore Road, Enmore NSW 2042

## MANAGER'S REPORT



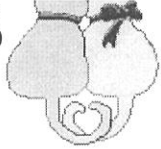
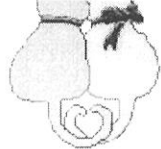
Over the past few months the CPS office cattery has been extremely successful with its adult cat rehoming program. In the absence of kittens we have managed to place 134 cats over the age of four months into loving homes between August and October. Several people who came in to adopt a kitten realised that an older cat was an option and would actually suit their lifestyle much better. Not to mention be far more rewarding than they had originally thought.

Our success with rehoming may be attributed to many factors. Firstly the appointment of Tara Millet as our new cattery assistant from Wednesday to Saturday and Natalie Tasker on Mondays and Tuesdays. Natalie and Tara have excelled in this position and have proven over a short period to be an asset to the Cat Protection Society, keeping our cats comfortable for the duration of their stay at the CPS cattery. I wish both Natalie and Tara a warm welcome and hope they are as pleased to be a part of the CPS team as I am to have them assisting in the cattery. Secondly, the purchase of a digital camera to take snap shots of our cats has allowed for visual publicity of our current cattery occupants. Their pictures appear on the CatMatch website, in The Leader newspaper and on posters displayed in the window of our Enmore cattery. These posters were also displayed at the Newtown Festival and proved to be a point of attraction for the general public. I would like to thank Lynda O'Grady (Admin. Assistant) for her time and patience photographing our little terrors.

Finally, the introduction of Pet Profiles giving the cat's name, age, sex, medical history, reason for surrender, current diet and various comments on the cat's personality. These profiles allow clients to get to know our cats and their details uninterrupted by members of staff as well as providing a useful piece of information to take home at the time of adoption. The quality of care for our cats has increased dramatically over the past few months and is commonly recognised by our clients who pass on the word of happier healthier cats available from CPS.

So why are the cats smiling? Well we now have hot water used to sterilise cat bowls and litter trays maximising hygiene in the cattery. The installation of a 9kg dryer allows bedding to be washed more frequently. Several new banks of cages have been purchased to accommodate the increased number of cats that are passing through the cattery. Another reason our cats are smiling is as the result of our volunteers who give their time so generously to stroke and groom willing animals. These people play a vital role in our cattery and are welcome at any time. Amongst our volunteers are a special group of foster carers who take underweight kittens into a home environment and rear them until they become large enough to rehome.

Peta Edwards



## Mahomed Ali

Over 20 years ago when I lived in London in a small terrace house, in the very cold winter month of February, I noticed a very skinny ginger and white cat passing through our garden, again and again, looking very hungry and nervous. I felt sorry for him and offered him a little snack. Well that was it. I found a new friend! He was waiting for me first thing in the mornings when I got up and just hung around for more and more little nibbles. Slowly he became really friendly and moved into our house and of course made himself comfortable on the best furniture which we could supply for him. We took him to the vet for a check-up and desexing, since we did not want any unwanted kittens, especially since he got larger and larger in size.

But to our surprise, the Vet pointed out that she is a male, about 7 years old and already desexed - obviously someone's abandoned pet! After a couple of months he was a really happy cat, enjoying his new home. But he was also a real alley cat, punching and chasing away all of the other cats in the neighbourhood. So we decided to call him Mahomed Ali, just like the great American boxer!

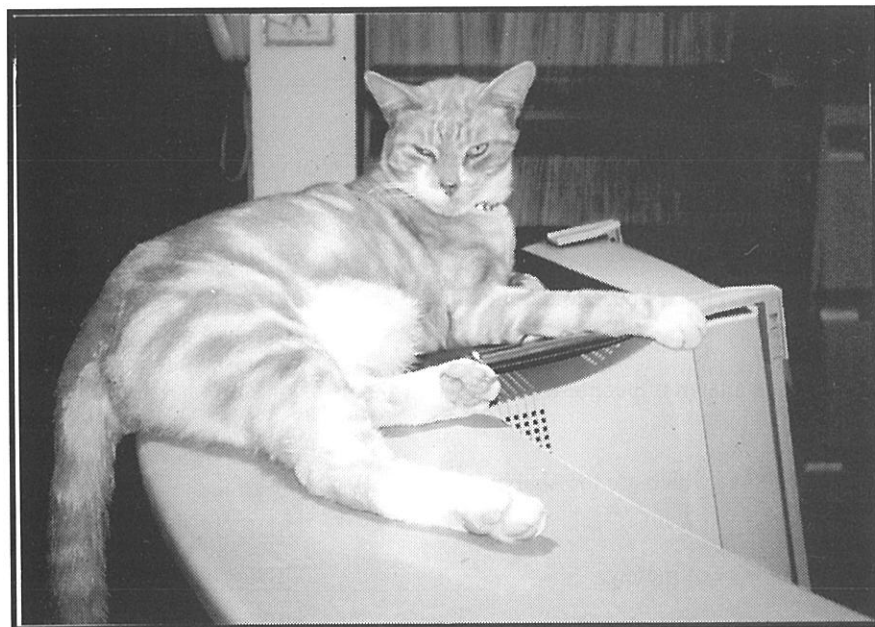
Another month passed, and one afternoon the doorbell rang and a strange looking young lady, dressed all in black, asked if I had seen a ginger and white cat with a spot on his back. I answered that I had a cat just like that and showed her Ali. She said that he was her cat and insisted on taking him home. You can imagine, I was in tears! But the next morning, guess who was at the backdoor. Ali! He moved right in with us, as if nothing had happened the day before. But I knew the girl would come back and ask for him again, so I took him back to his old home which was just around the corner from our house. Well, Ali would not stay with his old owners. Whenever they let him out, he came back to our place and so it went on for some weeks. Finally, the girl in black came back and asked me if I wanted to keep Ali permanently as they were moving away and her brother, who was in charge of feeding Ali, was too busy to look after him.

So Ali was finally our cat. We immigrated shortly after that to Australia and when he came out of quarantine, he moved into his new home and large garden and of course he loved it. All that space and sun. Well it was time to retire, so he hung up his claws and decided to enjoy his new life in his new country.

Angelika Elliott



## The Hard Life of a Working Cat



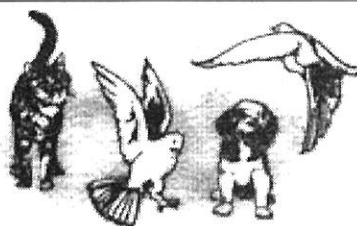
Life is hard when you're on the job 6 days a week. I'm a Clinic Cat. Several years ago I tired of being at the bottom of the pecking order in a house over abundantly supplied with felines. No sense being silly about it all ... I carefully perused my neighbourhood, in and out of a lot of backyards, a lot of market research, but someone's gotta do it. In the end, Top of the Pops was a shady backyard on Horden Street at the Newtown Osteopathic Clinic. I decided that a gracious announcement that I was now theirs might be a bit TOO forward, so I just settled on their patch and called it home. The Clinic was quick to note my potential and the food and love (and homeopathic treatments for some minor ailments) were poured on and I fitted right in. This was meant to be.

I have now been resident cat for several years and my needs are lovingly attended to and I am a favourite with a lot of the patients.

No-one gets too aggro with paw prints on the bonnet of their warm cars, or cat fur on their dark slacks. For my part, I earn my keep by being a readily available 'soother', by keeping a cat's eye on the reception desk, and ensuring that not too much heat from the top of the computer monitor escapes into the atmosphere. It's a life requiring constant dedication but these people need to be kept in line so the clinic functions properly and I do my best to see that it all happens.

I'm always available for pats and I love raw chicken wings. You can meet me and greet me at the Newtown Osteopathic Clinic, 2 Horden Street, Newtown.

Ginge ... The Clinic Cat (Lee Wright)



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## HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT OUR OP SHOP?

### Try This Quick Quiz

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Q1. The Op Shop is the greatest fund raiser for CPS.   | TRUE OR FALSE |
| Q2. Because all our goods are donated, the profit is 100%.   | TRUE OR FALSE |
| Q3. The local council (Marrickville) collects all our rubbish on the regular household collection day.                       | TRUE OR FALSE |
| Q4. 20% of the donated goods are discarded as unsuitable to sell.  | TRUE OR FALSE |
| Q5. It's OK to donate broken or damaged goods because we have a team of people who can repair them ready to sell.            | TRUE OR FALSE |
| Q6. The Smith Family bin in our backyard (where we put the clothes which are too shabby or too old) is emptied once a month. | TRUE OR FALSE |
| Q7. Takings of \$600 per week is excellent, whoopee! We made a lot of money.   | TRUE OR FALSE |
| Q8. The sales staff are the shop's only volunteers.  | TRUE OR FALSE |
| Q9. The shop co-ordinator's job is a "piece of cake".  | TRUE OR FALSE |

**So, how much do you know? Turn to Page 20 for the answers.**



## Sagittarius

23 November - 21 December

**ELEMENT:** Fire  
**COLOURS:** Purple  
**KEYWORD:** Self-projection  
**RULER:** Jupiter  
**CHARACTER:** Optimistic, arrogant  
**COMPATIBLE STAR SIGNS:** Aries, Leo



Congratulations. You've just met up with possibly the most independent yet friendly sign. Sags love everyone and love to play! Rarely lazy these pets are true little fire-balls.

You can't help but fall in love with this clown. Pretty accident-prone, they're usually charging into life at full speed and don't take the time to look out for things like walls and table legs. They are very intelligent animals, but do lack quite a bit of common sense. Training them is fairly easy, but make it fun and they'll learn faster. Once learned, they don't usually forget, but there are times when they're so caught up in the moment they don't hear you yelling to stay away from the ant nest....so keep an eye on them!

They love to hear people laugh...and are even happier when they're the ones making them do so. They also need lots of space. If not outdoors, they will turn your home into a race track. Expect to find them running like the wind around dining room tables and down hallways. They are quite energetic.

All in all, Sag pets are a joy to own. A bundle of love, laughs, they will keep you smiling for many years.

## Capricorn

22 December- 20 January

**ELEMENT:** Earth  
**COLOUR:** Green  
**KEYWORD:** Self-Mastery  
**RULER:** Saturn  
**CHARACTER:** Headstrong, clever  
**COMPATIBLE STAR SIGNS:** Taurus, Virgo, Leo



They seem shy and reserved at first. You just brought this little pet home and she doesn't want to have anything to do with you. A few days later, however, she is following you around and helping with the chores and amazing you with her intelligence.

Your little Goat isn't truly shy. What's really going on is that she likes to size up the situation before making her move. Once she feels comfortable, she can be herself. One of the more intelligent of the Signs, she will plot and plan anything before jumping into it.

She may seem a little tough, but deep down she does need your love. Most of the time she will seem to be a bit snooty and the other animals may ignore her. Yet, once in the mood, she loves to play, too. One remarkable thing about a Capricorn pet is their uncanny tendency to act younger as they grow older. It's almost as if they keep their young hearts still until they're old enough to be wise.

They're also sticklers for routine. Try to feed them at the same time every day as this will keep them well-balanced.

A well-adjusted, smart, playful, and sweet pet. Who wouldn't want to bring a Capricorn into their home?

## Aquarius

21 January - 19 February

**ELEMENT:** Air  
**COLOUR:** Electric Blue  
**KEYWORD:** Enlightenment  
**RULER:** Uranus  
**CHARACTER:** Independent, Temperamental  
**COMPATIBLE STAR SIGNS:** Libra, Gemini, Aries



We are living now in the Age of Aquarius. This means times have changed and things have gotten, well, sort of weird. That's because Aquarians are, well, sort of weird.

Aquarians are a bit eccentric and like to do things "their own way". They love everyone they meet, and will have many friends. They like affection, naturally, but too much will tend to make them feel smothered. They're quite independent.

Aquarians are okay with being left home alone, as long as it's not for too long. They are adept at keeping themselves busy.

Aquarians are more like humans than any other Pet Zodiac Sign. They love to share in your interests and make you feel like the most special person in the world. Of course, if anyone else comes in the room, they get as much love as you, but know that you are first and foremost in your Aquarian's little heart.

If you'd like a pet a little on the eccentric side, totally unconventional, loving yet independent, and always fun...then go out and get yourself an Aquarian right away!

## Pisces

20 February - 20 March

**ELEMENT:** Water  
**COLOUR:** Pale Green  
**KEYWORD:** Unification  
**RULER:** Neptune  
**CHARACTER:** Sensitive, dreamy  
**COMPATIBLE STAR SIGNS:** Cancer, Scorpio, Virgo



Sensitive, mystical, caring, gentle - Pisces is the pet to get if you're looking for one to be with you 'til the end. As long as you're happy, they are happy. They seem so shy and delicate. Ah, the old Piscean charm is working its spell on you! Pisces can take care of himself just fine...but they are masters at getting others to do things for them. This little pet will have you wrapped around his claw.

Master Thespian, the Pisces is a born actor.. He loves to please you. However, Pisces isn't one to work much. This sign is inherently lazy...and why not, when you do everything for them?

These pets love peace and harmony and get quite upset in a raucous, noisy environment. Don't yell or scream at your Pisces when they've done wrong. Calmly explain to them why you're mad. Pisces will know what you're saying. You're looking at the "old soul" of the Zodiac Pets, and he is far wiser than any of us know.

Caring, sensitive, gentle, loving, easy to please Pisces is a welcome addition to any home. This soul knows the true meaning of love, and they will give all of theirs to you.

# Report on AGM

**A successful Annual General Meeting was held on 15 October at the Society's premises in Enmore. The following is a brief summary of the main issues that arose on the day for the benefit of our members not in attendance.**

**Keith Edwards**, President, spoke about achievements in the last 12 months and possibilities for the future, including the following:

- **Office** remains busy with people looking to adopt; phone calls; desexings; providing information and implementation of the GST.
- **CPS Cattery** in Enmore now opens 7 days a week, which is proving to be a great success. It facilitates finding homes for more cats and kittens and gives CPS a higher profile.
- **Cat Adoption Centres.** Proving to be very worthwhile in finding homes for kittens.
- **Operation Cat.** This popular desexing/microchipping scheme was launched in October 1999 in conjunction with local Councils who are finding the scheme an easy way to achieve practical animal welfare outcomes.
- **Companion Animals Act.** Councils are still not dealing well with cats after more than a year of implementation. Problems include lack of a standardised treatment of cats resulting in some Councils avoiding the issue while others are being over zealous and impounding large numbers of cats.
- **Cattery.** Almost certainly we will redevelop the Enmore site as our new cattery. Our original view of purpose-building a new cattery or purchasing an existing vet practice have proven impractical due to lack of suitable sites, high costs and zoning issues. Also, CPS is well known in Enmore and our cat and kitten sales have increased dramatically at this site. Architects have been engaged to help us pursue the option of redeveloping this site.
- **Thanks.** Acknowledgments made to those who make the Cat Protection Society the success it is. Thanks to Coordinator Sue Matysek and all her staff working in the field and the office. Working at Cat Protection is not easy for anyone when the pressures of sometimes difficult clients are combined with the very stressful nature of the welfare work we undertake. Acknowledgments also to the many volunteers in varied roles including; Grace Ayling and her workers in the Op Shop; those helping to care for the cats; members of the Council for all their contributions especially Nita Harvey and Nance Iredale; and Suzanne Jenkins who has taken over from Lee Wright as editor of *Cat Affairs*.

**Sue Matysek**, Coordinator, spoke about issues arising in the day-to-day running of the office, including:

- One of the biggest changes this year has been the numbers of people now coming to the CPS Cattery in order to adopt an adult cat since the renovations last October. Over the last financial year the CPS overall rehomed a whopping 1928 cats/kittens.
- **Staffing.** Sandy Moss and Tania Curran continue as our welfare staff and do this important job well and compassionately. Unfortunately Jenny Saba had most of last year off the road due to an accident. Her area was covered by our ever flexible office staff Judith Levitt and Carina Bentos. Welcome extended to Lynda O'Grady (Admin Assistant), Peta Edwards (Cattery Manager) and

Tara Millett (Cattery Assistant). With their dedicated care our cats are happier and healthier than ever before and this has been reflected in increased cat adoptions.

- **Glenhaven Boarding Cattery.** Since May this year, we have been utilising the services of Julie and Adrian Schulz at Glenhaven Boarding Cattery to hold up to 20 CPS cats and kittens for adoption.
- **Promotions.** A segment on Animal Hospital showing 2 staff members rescuing a cat; articles in local newspapers on Operation Cat and Cat Adoption Centres; talks on CPS activities at local community clubs eg. Golden Wing Club, and the Spastic Centre; stalls at Pet Expo at Homebush, Mardi Gras Fair, Pat-A-Cat day and Companion Cat day at the Easter Show, Marrickville Festival and Newtown Fair. **Thankyou** to all the staff who have worked so hard and so well in making Cat Protection a haven for cats. In addition I would like to Nance Iredale our Vice-Pres for all her work in the office over the last year and Nita Harvey our Treasurer for her assistance with implementing the GST and doing all the hard yards with MYOB.

**Peta Edwards**, Cattery Manager, gave a report on the latest cattery innovations which have lead to increased efficiency and more personal care for the cats passing through. Among the many improvements, anyone now adopting a CPS cat or kitten now receives a follow up phone call from staff to check that the cat/kitten is settling in well and that any problems are addressed; numbering and paper collar identification system; daily health/feeding chart; new diet of tinned Whiskas kitten food and Advance dry food for growing kittens; new caging in quarantine area; separate isolation area; a cat 'playroom'/interaction room for potential adopters complete with TV and scratching posts.

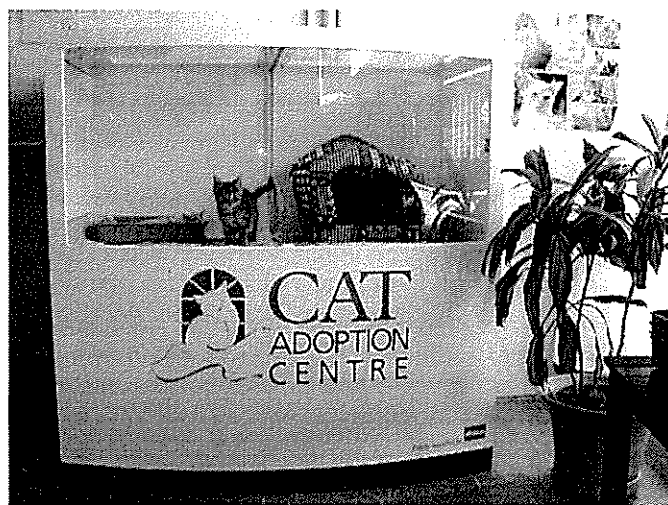
## Financial report

Treasurer, Nita Harvey, presented a report on the state of our finances. Higher expenditure on staff wages due to weekend opening and new staff this financial year. However, income on cat sales and merchandising has greatly increased. Donations and legacies have been gratefully received and the financial year ended with a surplus. Members thanked for their continued support and generous donations.

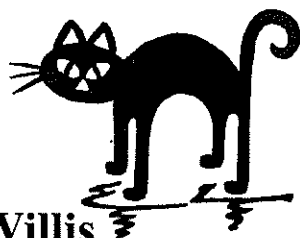
## Elections

The office bearers were then elected for the new year. These are listed in the front of your journal.

**Danielle Parkinson** Program Coordinator for Cat Adoption Centres spoke on the success of Cat Adoption Centres. CPS was approached last year to supply kittens to around 10 vet clinics who were part of the program. The program has since been set up in most other states and by the end of 2000 they hope to have 100 centres. Cat Adoption centres are keen to continue to work with the CPS and congratulate them so far in supporting the scheme.



# Black Cat Pottery



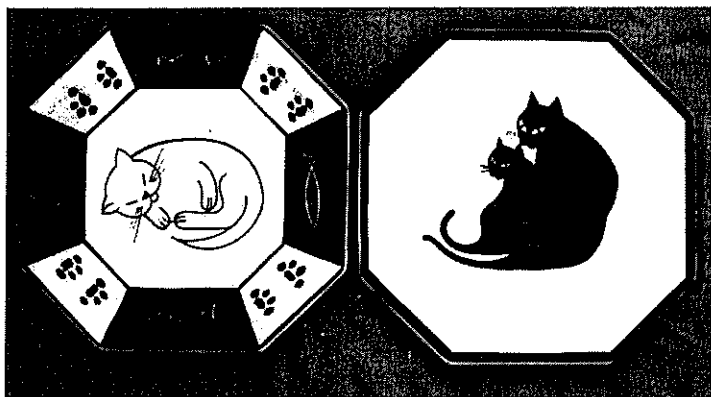
## Janice & Barbara Willis

Cats have always been a large part of our lives. As young children we had "Tim", our black and white playmate followed by "Tim 2" some years later. Tim 2 was a half wild black kitten rescued from some thugs at the local brickyard who had planned to end Tim's life in one of the kilns. All his life Tim was a bit wild and loved pranks such as jumping out at you from under a hedge on a dark night, then vanishing. Our signature cat has a resemblance to Tim. In more recent times, our cats have been companions in our working environment and have inspired all our cat pieces.

Janice's beautiful black boy 'Cosmo' who posed for our range of the same name, lives with her while two of his sisters, 'Sheba' and 'Lucy' live with Barbara. Our studio is at Barbara's house and the two black cats are usually in charge.

Lucy's antics resulted in her being the model for our Signature range, and together with Sheba she posed for our Classic cats. Sheba's favourite place is reclining on a piece of strategically placed carpet under our main kiln. During winter when the kiln is firing, it is a very pleasant 35°C - 40°C around the kiln. On a cold day Sheba has been found in the kiln shed waiting impatiently for the burners to be lit.

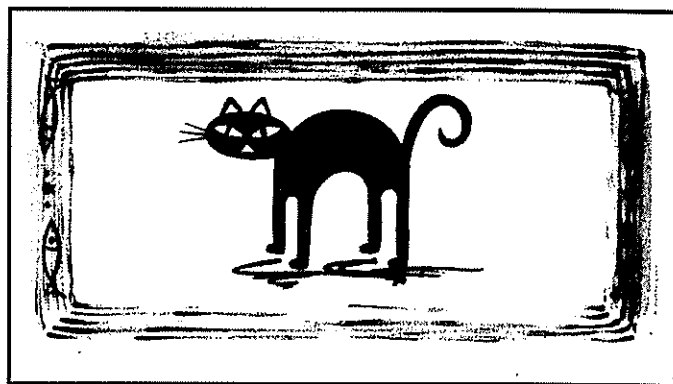
Being sisters working in a partnership we find that sharing the workload makes it easier, with Janice doing the slabwork and decorating and Barbara performing the wheelwork and kiln firing. We have complete control over our products - starting the process with a lump of raw clay, working this to the desired shape and then decorating, glazing and firing the ware.



After potting for some years, we started to create cat plates. That initial design has now developed into a large range of functional ware that we are constantly enlarging. It seems that whatever we add to the range by way of new shapes and designs become popular with cat lovers and potting people.

We occasionally have the opportunity to attend cat shows to display and sell our work, and while we admire all the beautiful pedigree cats, none can quite compare with our own companions.

We manufacture a very large range of cat pottery, and selections may be found at the following outlets; Pots and Presents, Miranda Fair & Birkenhead Point; Articles Art Gallery, Stanwell Park; Beach Art, Thirroul; The Pottery Place - Wollongong; Quarry Crafts, Kiama; Berry Art Gallery, Berry; or call us direct on (02) 4257-1896.



## BOOK REVIEW

Lee Wright

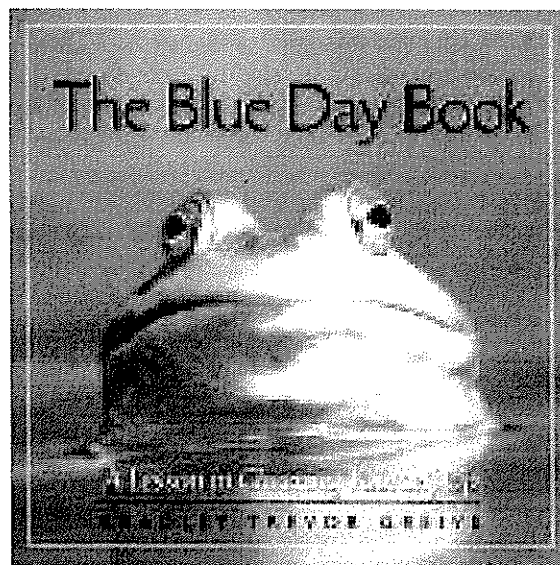
**THE BLUE DAY BOOK** by Bradley Trevor Greive, Random House \$14.95.

Feel blue? Feeling hardly done by? Then this little gem is a definite cheerer-upper. 90 superb black and white photos of a huge range of animals (including cats!) in an incredible array of poses which highlight photo captions that take the reader from all ways of feeling sad to how you look when you feel great.

The author is a Tasmanian with a great idea. He looked through over 10,000 photos to find the ones in the book.... his choices are wonderful!!

If you, or someone, anyone in your life needs a 'hug', receipt of The Blue Day Book assures them of a laugh, a smile and just knowing that someone cares. At \$12.95 it is very well priced for that special gift or multiple gifts. To my way of thinking, you could do all your Christmas shopping on one shelf of the book store!!

*Highly recommended*



## New Members (July – October 2000)

Ms E Alexander  
Ms V Allen  
Ms D Atkinson  
Mrs G Ayling

B Barbour  
Mrs M Bartlett  
Mr R Blackburn  
Miss M Bourke  
Mr H Cameron  
Ms L Casey  
Ms I Custerson  
Ms M Davies  
Miss C Dundas  
Mrs K Fitzgerald  
Ms S Furneaux  
Mrs J Gleeson  
Ms S Godeny  
Mr & Mrs C & J Greenway

Mrs Y Gurusinghe  
Miss A Hutchins  
Ms S Iatridou  
Mrs D Jerrems  
Ms B Jovanovic  
Ms C Kane

Lane Cove  
Sylvania Heights  
Enmore  
Ermington (Life Member)  
Neutral Bay  
Kings Langley  
Lugarno  
Brighton Le Sands  
Stanmore  
Enmore  
Stanmore  
Kogarah  
Orange  
Carramar  
Leichhardt  
Double Bay  
Leichhardt  
Glenorie (Life Member)  
Castle Hill  
Blackheath  
Drummoyne  
St Ives  
Darling Point  
Willoughby

Ms B Kountouris  
Ms F Leigh  
Mr D Longshaw  
Ms S Longworth  
Ms B McGuire  
Ms T Millett  
Ms W Moore  
Ms S Phillips  
Miss M Purcell  
Ms SE Rae  
Mrs A Rooke  
Mrs J Schultz  
Mr A Schultz  
Ms J Shead  
Mr J Sulima  
Mrs GB Sulima  
Mr G Talianas  
Miss K Talianas  
Miss RS Tallon  
Mrs JA Trimble  
Ms LM Tunks  
Miss H Van Zaane  
Ms B Watt  
Ms A Walker  
Ms J Whitebrook

North Parramatta  
Earlwood  
Granville  
Ultimo  
Newtown  
Enmore  
Banksia  
Fairlight  
Ryde  
Penrith  
East Lindfield  
Glenhaven  
Glenhaven  
Punchbowl  
Lindfield  
Lindfield  
Taren Point  
Sans Souci  
Katoomba  
Bundaberg  
Arncliffe  
Goulburn  
West Ryde  
Petersham  
Davistown

**Their lives are  
in our hands.**



## OP SHOP QUIZ ANSWERS

**How Much Do You REALLY Know?**

(From Page 16)

### The Answers:

- Q1. TRUE
- Q2. FALSE. The shop has high overheads. The profit is closer to 65%.
- Q3. FALSE. We don't qualify, because we are not residents. We have a private contractor to collect our rubbish at a cost of \$8.80 per bin. With 3 large bins emptied weekly, this amounts to \$26.40 a week or a whopping \$1,372 per year! This expense is second only to the rent for the premises.
- Q4. FALSE. A rough estimate of unsaleable goods is closer to 70%
- Q5. FALSE. We have nobody, these goods are consigned to the bins.
- Q6. FALSE. The Smith Family bin is emptied weekly sometimes with many extra bags because the bin is crammed full. 70% of the clothes are not suitable to sell! Too dirty, too worn, too old. The service is free but there is a price to pay: the back-breaking, dirty work, done with hardly a complaint by our sorters, most of whom are past middle age. Hard work that should not be necessary if the donors would think carefully of the standard of clothes they are donating.
- Q7. FALSE. \$600 is very acceptable, but shop expenses amount to \$360 per week. Fortunately, we have weeks when a much higher amount is taken, so it usually balances out. And those expenses? Rent, rubbish removal, telephone, power, public liability insurance are just some of them.
- Q8. FALSE. There are staff who do sorting only (and we have too few of them), and mobile volunteers who use their own cars to collect goods from the homes of those who are unable to get to the shop themselves.
- Q9. ABSOLUTELY TRUE!! Because she has a great team of sales persons, sorters and collectors to keep the Op Shop rolling smoothly along! (and more volunteers are always needed Phone: 9638-7364).

## SO HOW WELL DID YOU GO IN THIS QUIZ?

- 12 Correct - You're Kidding! There were only 9 questions!
- 9 Correct - Excellent
- Less than 9 correct - Also excellent, you took the time to do the quiz and now know a lot more about our Op Shop.

**FOOTNOTE:** *The quiz was for fun only, but the answers are facts.*





Raisa & Cyrus (Diane Elias)



Roger (top left), Dinah (right), Sylvester (foreground) (Diane Elias)



**STOP! Don't throw this Journal out. Please help spread the word on CPS and maybe entice some new members. Pass this issue on to your doctor, dentist, hairdresser or vet.**

## DONATION FORM

The Secretary, 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/Ms/Miss \_\_\_\_\_ Surname (Block Letters) First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Suburb \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

### FORM OF BEQUEST

To persons who wish to assist our Society, the following forms of bequest are suggested:

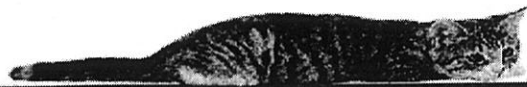
**Where a specific amount of money or a specific asset is to be bequeathed the form would be:**

I (insert full name and address) give and bequeath to Cat Protection Society of NSW, the registered office of which is 103 Enmore Road, Enmore, NSW, 2042, the sum of ..... dollars (or a complete description of the asset). I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said 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 situated to 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 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.



# Cats in the news



## Coffee the Cat

In March 2000, John Chislett from Warrington, Cheshire, UK was woken by his 2 year old cat Coffee. Mr Chislett had fallen asleep with the chip pan on the cooker. When the chip pan caught fire, Coffee bit his sleeping owner's nose and butted him until he woke him up. The veterinary surgeon who treated Coffee for breathing problems nominated him for the Brave Pet of the Year award which he was awarded in April in York.

## Cat And Mouse

In July 1999, Ouan, a two year old black and white cat, became famous for his unusual friendship. Ouan, owned by Jaranai Nanongtoom from Phichit, North Thailand quite happily shares her milk bowl with Tua-Lek a field mouse. She bathes her with her tongue and lets Tua-Lek cuddle up in her fur when it's time for the mouse to take a nap. Tua-Lek used to live in a paddy field until she found her new friend.

## Bunny Surprise

In May 1999, Bob Black of East Denton, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK got a surprise when he opened his rabbit hutch. Inside were not only his rabbit, but a mother cat and four kittens. The kittens were very young as they still had their eyes closed, but the rabbit was sitting next to the kittens and their mother, one year old Bunny, as one happy family.

## 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 2000.  
All persons joining from January 2000 remain financial until June 2001.

Subscription	\$1,000.00	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 ..... TOTAL \$ .....

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

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss SURNAME ..... FIRST NAME .....

Address: ..... SUBURB ..... POSTCODE .....

Pension Number: ..... Signature: ..... DATE .....

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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

Surname (block letters please) ..... First Name .....

New Address ..... Postcode .....

Previous Address ..... Postcode .....

# The Joys of Motherhood

Justine was just 10 days old when I took her from the CPS office one day following a Council Meeting. I had attended a late morning meeting and went back to work but couldn't stop thinking about a litter I had seen at the CPS office and whose fate I had unfortunately enquired about. After thinking carefully about it and then checking with my boss whether it would be OK if I brought a kitten to work for a few weeks (fortunately I had a very nice boss and he agreed) I phoned CPS and asked Nance Iredale if I could take one of the kittens (having never reared a kitten that young before, I decided one would be all I should take). Nance agreed and she picked out a kitten for me (I couldn't bear to choose for myself, knowing the fate of those who I couldn't take home). So I raced back to CPS and collected my tiny bundle of furr. It was only 3pm by now and as it was a work day for me I had to take her back to my office (not far from Enmore). She was in a very small box and she was so small. She created quite a stir at my office, as most of my colleagues had never seen a kitten that small before.



Justine then (2 weeks old)

That afternoon on my way home I took Justine (who was nameless at this stage) to the vet to have her checked and to get some formula - she got the all clear. That night I tried desperately to get her to drink from my newly purchased doll-size bottle but she wouldn't have anything to do with it. In a panic, I phoned Nance who gave me some advice and words of encouragement. However, Justine didn't want to eat that first night so eventually I had to give up. Her first night at home with me also presented a problem of where should she sleep? I decided to keep her in the box and put her in the kitchen and closed the door so my other cats couldn't get into the kitchen and disturb her. (I would later realise that my existing cats were not in the least interested in her because at this stage she posed no threat and was almost inanimate). This kitchen arrangement worked fine for about 2 minutes when I lay in bed wondering whether she was OK. That was it. I decided to go and get her and tiny as she was, she would sleep with me. To ensure she was safe, I made a 'nest' for

her from soft hand towels, placed her in the middle of the towels and put her next to me on the bed - she wasn't going anywhere. This arrangement worked beautifully and this would be the sleeping arrangement until she was old enough to decide for herself where she would sleep. The next day, although she slept well I was so worried as she hadn't eaten for well over 12 hours. I got up early and had to wake her up and tried the bottle again. Well, she sucked like crazy and never looked back. I could now relax. However, even at her tender age, Justine's personality was already developing. When she had had enough milk, she would stretch out her little stick arms and block the bottle with paws which were barely the size of my little fingernail and amazingly it was quite impenetrable. For four weeks I took Justine to work with me until she was reluctantly weaned and could then stay at home. It was a relief when she could eat solids but there was also a tinge of sadness on my part as I had so enjoyed caring for her and feeding her. I felt very maternal.

She was then, and is now, as bright as a button. Each morning when I went to get breakfast for the household I would discover Justine already up on the kitchen bench and this puzzled me for a long time as she was way too small to jump from the floor to the bench. One day, I discovered her secret, she was using the handles on the draws in the kitchen as a ladder and would scoot up to the top of the bench in a second. I thought this was so clever.

However, I soon realised as Justine's personality began to develop that food was not high on her list of priorities. Playing, bird-watching, ambushing me and generally having a good time were all that mattered and this is still the case. She is usually too busy to eat, she has better things to do. Hanging from curtains and racing around the place like a lunatic are high on her agenda.

These days, Justine keeps pretty much to herself only coming to me for a pat on special occasions. She loves playing with my little Alice and the two of them have a wonderful time. Justine graces me with her presence sleeping on my bed most nights and still prefers having a good time to a meal. She completely does as she pleases which is just fine by me, as long as she's happy.



Justine now (3+ years old)

Suzanne Jenkins

