

SUMMER 2002

The Journal of the Cat Protection Society of NSW

# Cat Affairs

Tips for keeping  
your cat cool  
in Summer

**XMAS CARDS  
NOW AVAILABLE**

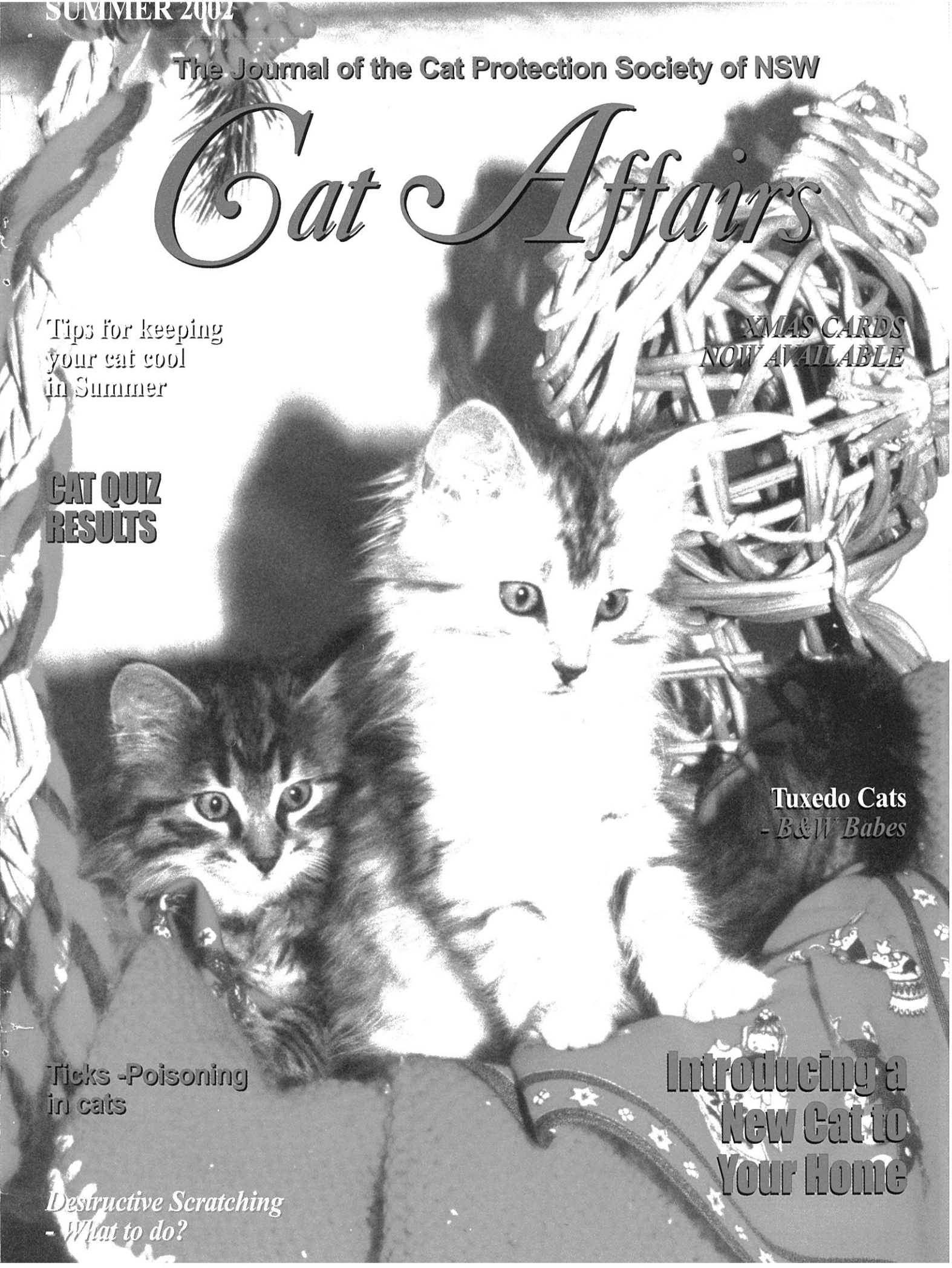
**CAT QUIZ  
RESULTS**

**Tuxedo Cats  
- B&W Babes**

Ticks -Poisoning  
in cats

*Destructive Scratching*  
- *What to do?*

**Introducing a  
New Cat to  
Your Home**





# THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW

A.C.N. 001 604 815

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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 . . .**

The past year has been another successful year for the Cat Protection Society. For those of you who attended our Annual General Meeting in October, you would have heard reports on the year's operations. For those of you who didn't make it, we'd love to see you next year. Here are some of the highlights of the year's activities.

The year was one of consolidation of the improvement made in recent years as our committed staff and volunteers have worked towards improving an already fine organisation.

In terms of finding new homes for cats, we have continued our move to put resources into our Enmore site. We now have a veterinarian come to the premises on a weekly basis to carry out health checks and vaccinations. The housing for the cats has been modified to minimise cross infection between the cats and this has resulted in much improved health for our cats as they await their new homes.

We are open 7 days a week, and this has meant we have been able to find more homes for cats from these premises. This has particularly been the case with adult cats, traditionally the most difficult to re-home. The increase has been dramatic and many lives have been saved that would otherwise have been lost. During the last winter period, almost all of the healthy, friendly adults that have come to us have found homes. This is a very positive step. It is not only saving lives, but we are showing people the value of adult cats as companion animals. We homed close to two thousand cats and kittens over the year.

We have also had desexed, or arranged the desexing of, slightly more than two thousand cats for the year. This activity is critical, as each cat desexed may mean many lives saved.

We have continued our positive relationship with the Cat Adoption Centres. While the CACs still take kittens from us, many of the CACs are now sourcing their own kittens which saves our staff time and resources in moving kittens to different parts of Sydney. The kittens that the CACS take are now being re-homed in their own areas.

Over the year CPS has moved ahead dramatically in the area of computerisation. Microsoft has donated over \$8,000 worth of software for use in the office, and we have also had three computers donated through Ingo Ostreich, who has also been instrumental in helping us set up and network these computers. We now have computerised our records of members, volunteers and jobs as well as information on all our cats. However, there is still much more to do.

The year also saw the Cat Protection Society become established on the internet. The site features pictures of all the cats currently in our cattery and information about them. The site also provides information about CPS and about responsible pet ownership.

The year has seen a big increase in revenue raising from two important sources. Firstly, the Op Shop had record takings for the year thanks to the tireless work of many volunteers. Secondly, the sale of merchandise, including toys, litter, food, beds and scratching posts, has resulted in another large increase in income.

So, as you can see, much has been happening at CPS. You are always welcome to become more involved.

On behalf of the Council of CPS, I would like to wish you and all your human and non human family members and friends all the very best for 2002.

**Keith Edwards**

### **Mention of a product or service does not constitute an endorsement by CPS.**

All photographs remain the property of CPS.

### **VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED FOR OPPORTUNITY SHOP**

**FRONT COVER:** Sylvester (left) Sylvia (right) (photograph: Frances Kaukereit)

**CENTREFOLD:** Tuxedo Cats Collage

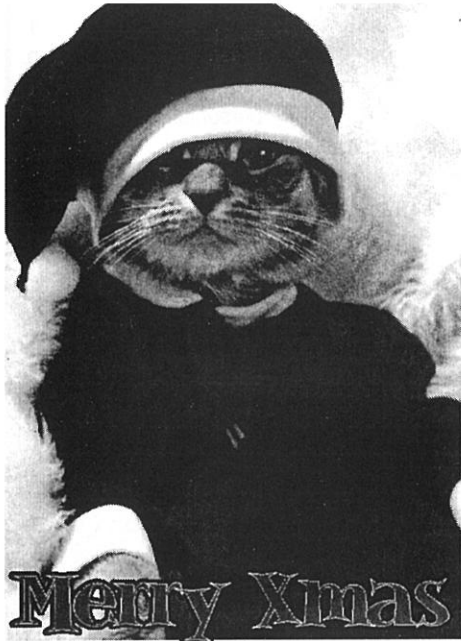
**BACK COVER:** Powchie (photograph: Maria Martin)

# NEWS FLASH - Pets Don't Cause Asthma - NEWS FLASH

CATS and dogs have won a reprieve with evidence showing they do not cause asthma in children as believed.

Research published this month in the Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology has found that cats and dogs actually may help prevent children from developing asthma. Dr Guy Marks from the Institute of Respiratory Medicine at the University said it was good news.

*The Daily Telegraph, Thursday, October 11, 2001*



**Merry Xmas  
from  
Santa Claws**



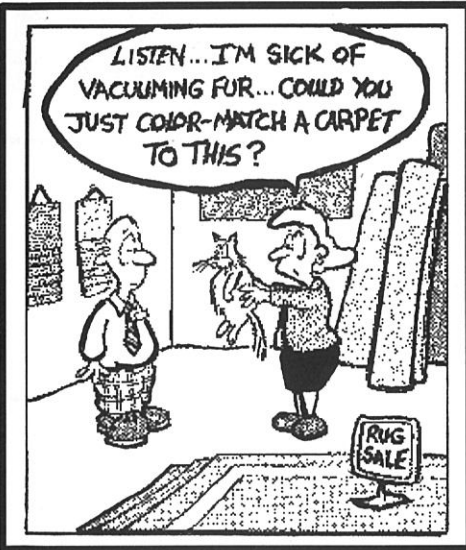
So far today,  
God, I've done all  
right.

I haven't gossiped,  
haven't lost my temper,  
haven't been greedy, or grumpy,  
nasty or self-centred.

I'm really glad about that. But in a  
few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed,  
and then I'm going to need a lot of help.

Thank You.

(author unknown)



### Attention: Contributors!

If you wish to send a contribution to the Journal you can E-mail me at my E-mail address:

Suzanne\_Jenkins@hotmail.com

or send contributions care of the Enmore office.

Please write your name and address on the back of any photographs.

## Congratulations to:

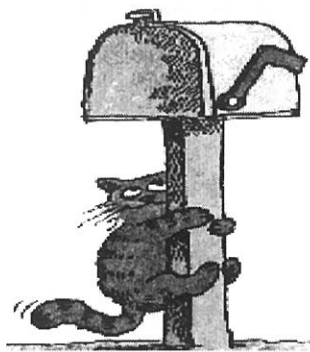
Dorothy Robinson of  
**BLAXLAND**

who is the winner of our Winter Journal Ailurophile (cat lover) Quiz.

**Dorothy wins a porcelain cat coffee cup.**

*See Page 16 for the correct answers*

# The **SCRATCHING** Post



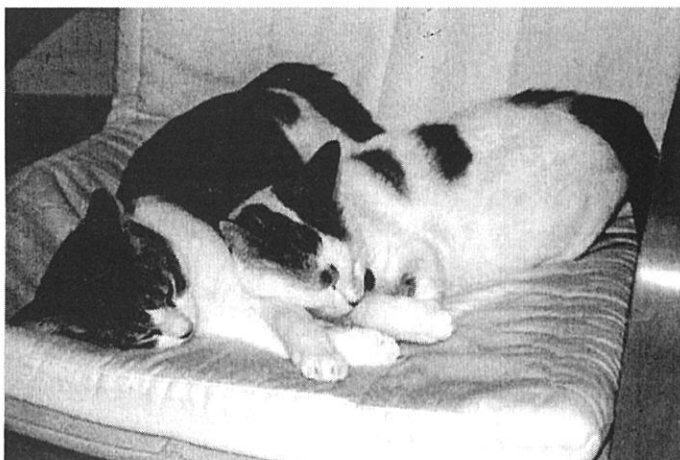
Susan Burchill of Darlinghurst sent us this picture of her Gwendolyn who was just 4 months old when she picked her up from CPS in August. Susan says Gwendolyn is now ruling the roost and has the most delightful personality - extreme naughtiness one minute, devoted affection the next. Susan says "she gives me so much pleasure, I cannot explain, so thanks for helping bring Gwennie the rascal into my life."



... I just wanted to let you know how well they are doing since we rescued them and thought I'd send you a few pics of them. They're very settled now and seem to enjoy their new lives and they even bring us lizard tails back as presents!

Regards,

Helen Cavill



**Poppet and Rascal**

**Norma Gray dropped us a short note saying how "thrilled" she was to see her pride and joy as a centrefold in the last journal.**

*We thought Tammy was a very worthy subject. - Ed.*

**This is Smoky Boy who, thanks to Dot McDonald, has now found a home after she found him roaming the streets.**



This is Gemma Edwards who lives with CPS member Lorraine Edwards of Macquarie Fields. Lorraine believes they were "meant to be together" and have now been together since Gemma was seven weeks old. She is now seven years old and has been a constant source of joy to Lorraine.



I'm sorry I haven't written sooner but it has taken time to put paw to computer. You may not remember me but I left you on 21<sup>st</sup> April. At that stage my name was Zeek. A family took me home with two young boys to a home in Summer Hill.

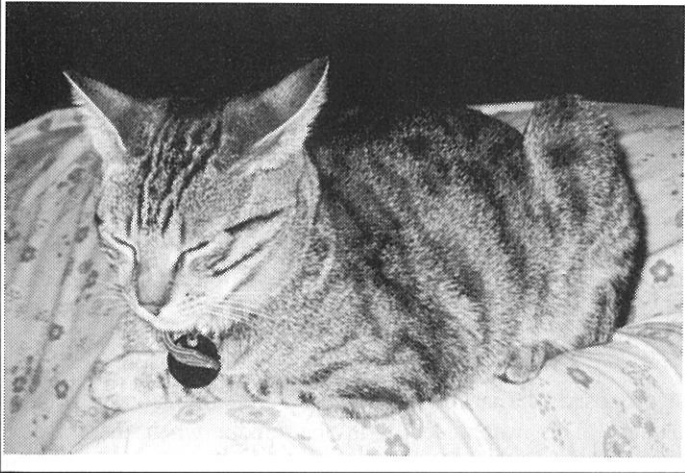
I was very nervous when I arrived home and ran round in circles. The boys were so excited that they went and told all the neighbours. We live in a dead end street so everybody knows everybody else. Before you knew it, everyone had come to see me and we all ended up having a coffee afternoon with lots of cake. I fell asleep on my neighbour's lap and my family realised that I wasn't a scaredy cat at all.

The boys are great fun. They play with me all the time and when Dad is cooking in the kitchen he gives me special treats. I have a great life. I would like to thank CPS for all the things you did for me. My family really loves me and I know I am very lucky thanks to you.

By the way, my best friend in the street is a cat named Fred so my baby-boomer parents thought that my new name would make sure Fred and I stayed friends, and it worked. Thank you for my start in life.

Yours sincerely,

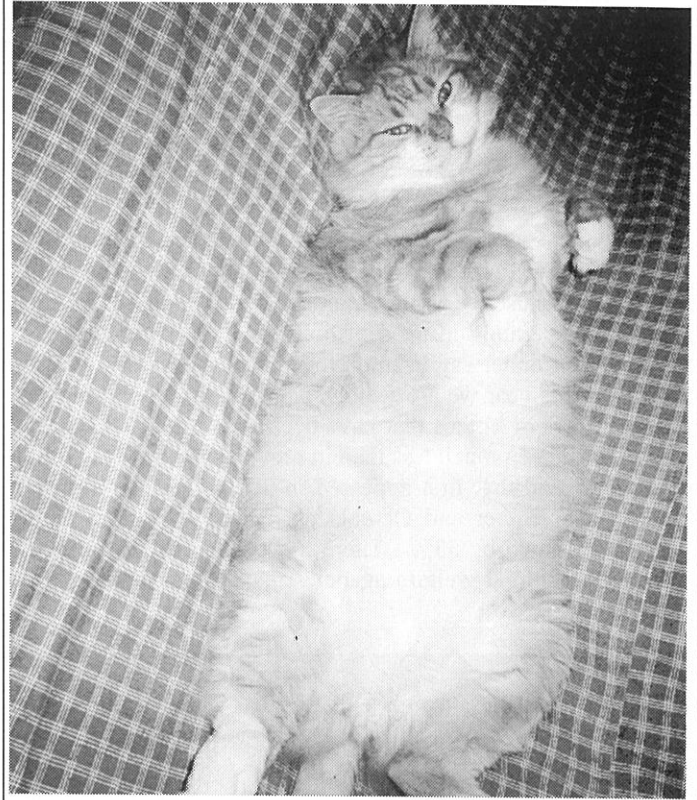
Barney Rubble Foulkes



Beautiful "Blue Bell" proudly sent in by Mrs Alisa Paterson of Charlestown

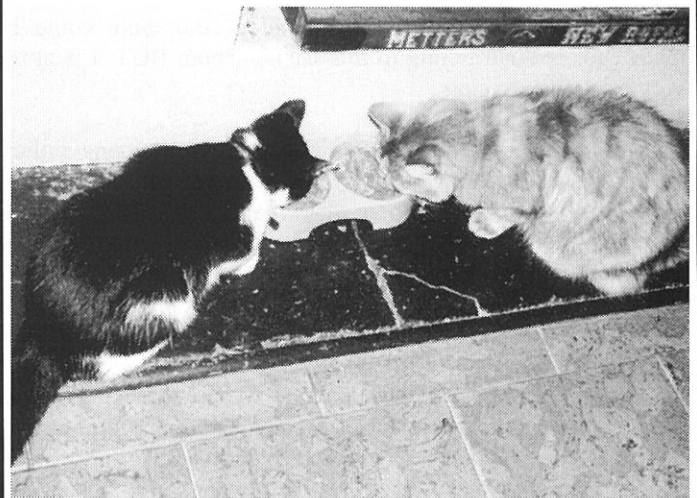


Mrs Maria Martin of Punchbowl sends us this picture of the lovely Ginger. Ginger's friend, Powchie, is on our back cover.

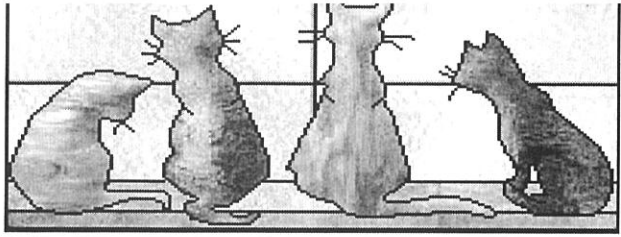


Karlene Dimbrowsky of Castle Hill sends us this picture of her two much loved cats who both came from CPS catteries although that, she says, is where the similarities end.

Karlene writes "Sasha, the beautiful blue-cream Tortie, was adopted from Parklands nearly nine years ago and Sherman, the cheeky black & white came from Glenhaven last Christmas. Sasha hated her new brother on sight. Then came the hissing, chasing etc. etc. ... Just when we were at wits end and looking up cat psychologists in the Yellow Pages - hey presto - breakthrough! I caught the two cats eating harmoniously from "little Miss Hissy-fit's" bowl. They will never be the best of friends but at least they are learning to live together quite peacefully and even sleep on the same couch (at different ends of course!).



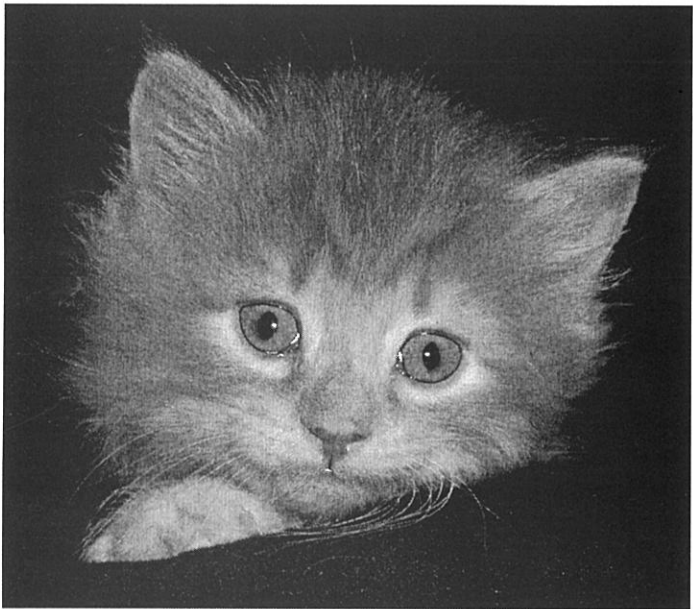
Sherman (left) and Sasha (right)



# OFFICE TAILS



The winter months are what are referred to as the “quiet” months by Cat Protection staff. This is not because we are not busy, but because we are not inundated with hundreds of kittens that are desperately in need of homes. The “kitten season” is usually well underway in mid November (the time of writing), however, this year we are seeing something a little bit different. The numbers of kittens that have been arriving at our surrender points have been much less than in previous years. This follows a similar trend that first appeared in 2000. For the months of August, September and October surrenders of kittens to CPS have been down by 33%. There has been verbal confirmation from other animal welfare agencies that this is similar to their experience.



**One of the first kittens of the Season**

Obviously it is way too early to say that the numbers of unwanted kittens is genuinely declining, and there could be many factors contributing to this phenomenon, BUT it is at the very least encouraging.

Recently we received some criticism of our desexing policy, saying that by desexing so many cats we were contributing to a large decrease in the numbers of available cats and kittens. If only this was the case! The small changes that we have noticed this year are very encouraging but do not yet make a pattern. Despite the fact that more and more cats from affluent areas such as the North Shore are being desexed and microchipped, the changes are slow to affect other parts of Sydney. We find that a large number of the cats that we are desexing in our mobile desexing scheme have already had one, if not more litters, so even if the cat is eventually desexed she has already added to the cat population. Also, the numbers of unowned cats that are breeding on the streets show no signs of decreasing. As the majority of these kittens grow up without significant human

contact they are either euthanased or stay on the streets leading less than healthy lives and continuing to produce kittens. While I can only hope and pray that the desexing schemes of welfare agencies such as Cat Protection are making a genuine impact, I do feel that there is no evidence that the war has been won. There is certainly no room for complacency. At Cat Protection we see desexing as the most important part of our work, and will continue to offer inexpensive desexing and microchipping and a pick-up service to help those without transport.

Cat issues have been in the news recently with the lenient sentencing of animal cruelty offenders and a proposed “Cat Curfew”. Luke Park is a 29 year old who tortured a kitten. He was charged and the case against him was proven, however, he was only given a six months suspended sentence. Many CPS members rang our office in horror, as the issue gained momentum in the media. Thanks to a significant outcry from the public it does seem that some changes may come. The RSPCA could be given the power to hand out “on the spot” fines and magistrates could gain the power to stop offenders from owning pets again in the future. These proposed changes to the law, however, are only a first step and as yet have not been enacted so there is still a need to keep the pressure on the government and decision makers. At CPS we have organised a petition against lenient sentencing in animal abuse or neglect cases. This can be signed at our Enmore office or at many vet surgeries around Sydney. If you would like to add your name please contact our office during working hours and we can give you the details.

A proposed “cat curfew” is always a contentious issue with cat owners. This was recently in the media when there was a suggestion from the Department of Local Government that this may be phased in. A legal curfew is virtually impossible to enforce so people should not panic. However, keeping cats indoors, especially at night, is something that all cat owners should consider carefully for their cat’s safety. Our recent article on “Indoor Cats” received attention from a small number of people who felt that keeping cats indoors is cruel. At Cat Protection we believe that keeping cats indoors is in the cat’s best interest, and that with a thoughtful attitude from the owner, a cat kept indoors can lead a fulfilled, healthy and longer life. If you missed the article on “Indoors Cats” it can be viewed on our website (details Page 19). Almost all of the staff at Cat Protection keep their cats indoors (myself included), because we see through our work the dangers that cats regularly face and we know from experience that cats can live very happily this way. Of course, we do not advise forcing a cat that has lived all his/her life outdoors to live inside permanently, but we do encourage people to think about the options and the dangers, particularly when bringing home a new kitten. We are always happy to offer people advise by phone or in writing.

**. . . Continued on page 19**



# CATTERY MANAGER'S REPORT

Over 300 cats and kittens have been successfully re-homed in the past few months from the Enmore premises alone! Such an achievement is only made possible because of the dedication shown by staff and volunteers alike. Thanks to all who contribute their time and effort into making each and every cat's stay here as enjoyable as possible! I would also like to extend a warm welcome, on behalf of the CPS team, to Georgina Smith who replaced Tara Millet as cattery assistant earlier this year.

Kittens, after a late start to the 'season', are now appearing from all directions, which unfortunately means that sales of the 'more mature' felines have slowed down. However, more positively, several adult pairs have been sold recently which is great news! Although we try and do our very best for all the cats that pass through the cattery, the re-homing process is undoubtedly one of the most traumatic times of their life. Because of this, cats that have lived together are, where possible, re-homed as a pair – providing a little continuity!

Mooning (black) and Mooninging (ginger) were both big boofy brothers and 5 years young. It's hard to adopt out 5 year olds anyway, but as a pair we were worried that it would take a while to find them the right home.

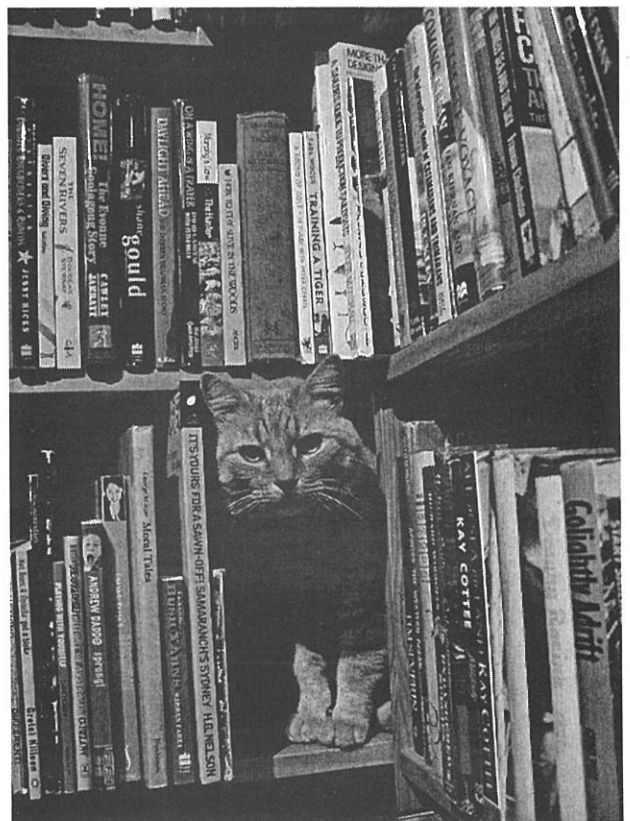
Luckily, a lovely lady who had been into the office several times looking for two cats with 'heaps of personality' to reside in her bookshop fell in love with the boys! They now have the run of *Sappho Books* in Glebe, entertaining the customers with their antics; and have since been renamed Moomin and Snufkin, (after two of the lady's favourite characters from a children's book).

Each staff member has their personal favourites and we all frequently have the feeling '...if only I could take this one home...'. Having moved out from the UK just prior to starting work at the CPS, I was at first 'cat-less'. However, it didn't take me long to take one poor 'hard luck story' home! When I first started, there was a 2-month old grey tabby and white little girl who had been found in a gutter in Ashfield. She was a very friendly little lass who unfortunately fell ill with flu. After several vet checks and many a course of antibiotics, the future was not looking too rosy. None of the medicines that the vets prescribed seemed to be working and she was getting depressed. We were not going to be able to keep her at the cattery because she was contagious and a risk to the other cats. They said that she was always going to be a 'chronic snuffler' because having the flu at such a young

age had damaged her nasal bone structure. The chances were that she was going to be prone to sickness for the rest of her life. I had two choices - one was to have her humanely put to sleep by the vet, the other was to take her and see if a home environment would cheer her up and trigger a recovery. I chose the second option! It was only ever to be until she recovered enough to be rehomed to someone else, but needless to say she is still with me and has since been named 'Snuffles'!

One problem we initially had was that she urinated on my bed when I was at work. Having studied animal behaviour at university, I knew that the underlying cause was that of insecurity, but I was at a loss as to how to tackle the situation. So I set about to research and conquer the problem! In conjunction with the many phone calls I received in my first few months at CPS, I realised that I was not the only one to suffer a 'solvable' feline problem and that there was a need to educate fellow cat owners on basic cat behaviour and offer advice as to how to improve their own situation. This led me to develop a series of information sheets, an extract of one is seen on pages 14 and 15. (These can be found on the CPS web page, along with a Question and Answers section).

Many of the kittens that come in to us are very young and need fostering for a few weeks before they can be 'put up for adoption'. We have been fortunate in recruiting several new foster carers for this season and my sincere thanks go to all of them for their hard work and generosity. It is never easy returning the kittens and saying goodbye - but the farewell is hopefully made easier by the knowledge that all the kittens will be de-sexed, vaccinated and microchipped ready for their new family and that CPS staff are very discerning about who takes our cats and kittens home!



Mooningingchecking out good spots for napping in his new home!

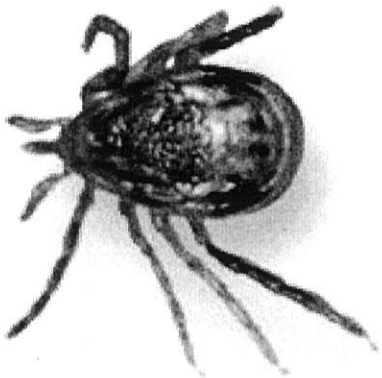
Emma Hughes

# Tick Poisoning in Cats

Dr Terry Collins  
BVSC MACVSC (Feline Medicine)  
Seaforth Veterinary Clinic

I have used the word "Poisoning" in these notes rather than "Paralysis" as the latter word does not fully describe the range of symptoms cats can present with, when affected by the tick *Ixodes Holocyclus*.

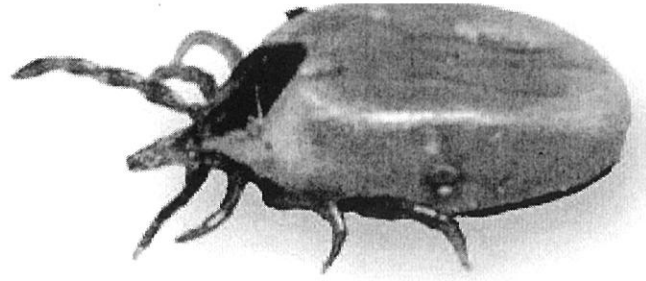
There are many species of tick in Australia affecting all types of animals from cattle to cats. *Ixodes Holocyclus* is unique to Australia and occurs especially along the eastern seaboard. It is rampant in the beachside suburbs of Sydney from September to December but can cause poisoning all the year round. The tick's natural host is the bandicoot so areas of bush and other scrubby areas harbouring these animals make them especially dangerous for cats to invade.



*Ixodes Holocyclus female, before engorgement.*

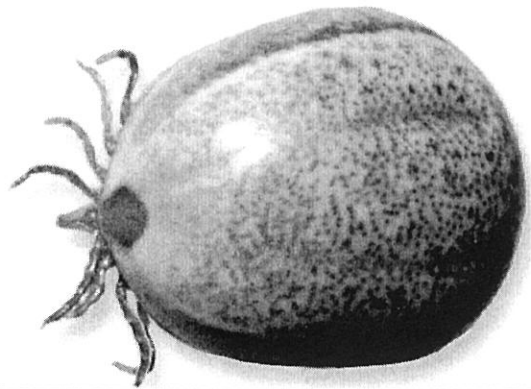
The three classical signs of tick poisoning in cats are weakness in the hind legs, voice changes and dilated pupils. The weakness soon progresses to paralysis and respiratory difficulties. Without removal of the tick and appropriate veterinary treatment death can follow. Death is caused by paralysis of the respiratory muscles and pulmonary hypertension, which causes a build up of fluid in the lungs leading to inadequate oxygen uptake.

Most people who live in a tick area are aware of the dangers and hopefully take some measures to prevent their cats being poisoned. Obviously stopping their cats from venturing into overgrown habitats is a first priority. A daily search for ticks is essential. The tick is not much bigger than a flea when she (females are the toxic ones) crawls on to the cat. It then attaches to the skin and begins to engorge with blood. Toxic effects in the cat don't appear until the third day. The vast majority of attached ticks are found from the shoulders forward where the cat can not use its teeth to remove it. Always



*Ixodes Holocyclus female, moderately engorged.*

I remove ticks with a fine pair of tweezers or tick hooks and don't apply any chemicals to the remaining hole (certainly not turpentine or other toxic chemicals). If your cat has any of the aforementioned symptoms seek veterinary attention *immediately*. Most veterinary practices have some after hours arrangement - if not find one. Your veterinarian, if you are in a tick area will be experienced in the treatment of such cases with drugs to lower blood pressure, prevent shock reactions to the anti-serum (which comes from dogs), oxygen tents, diuretics to clear lungs and antibiotics etc.



*Ixodes Holocyclus female, fully engorged and gravid, ie. bearing fertilised eggs.*

**Prevention:** Despite the introduction of many compounds over my 35 years in practice which make claims to prevent ticks attaching to cats I still don't rely 100% on any of them. Daily searching of your cat when ticks are prevalent is essential. The mere ownership of a long-haired cat in such areas is flirting with trouble. Many such cats in my practice have a haircut in early spring.

Frontline Top Spot or spray is recommended by the manufacturers, every two weeks in dogs (but we extend this to cats ourselves). Proban tablets or liquid every second day has been available for years but in my experience are often unreliable perhaps due to owner non compliance. Various tick collars are available for dogs but the active ingredients are mostly toxic to cats. Some flea rinses eg. Fidos make claims to kill ticks but compliance is often a problem as cats don't like it.

**In conclusion:** go over your cat daily with his collar off.





# Cat's Twelve Days of Xmas

**On the first day of Christmas**, my kitten ruined for me ... A batch of my special hand-print cookies. I had turned my back to grab the cookie sheet sitting on the stove. In that micro-second, Sara climbed onto the table, poked her paw into the delightfully kneady mixture and, suddenly off-balance, fell into the cookie dough. Net loss? Six cups of flour, four cups of sugar, three sticks of butter.... Of course, it would have been cheaper to remove the feline ingredient, pick out the hairs, and just rename the recipe Paw Print Cookies.

**On the second day of Christmas**, my kitten accompanied me ... On a trip to the vet clinic. Who knew that skinny curling ribbon has feline taste appeal? I didn't. Damages: \$28.00 for the office visit, \$36.00 for anaesthesia so the veterinarian could take \$55.00 X-rays in case Sara had taste-tested any other Christmas decorations, and a heck of a lot of embarrassment when the vet removed the 5cm curly tail in slightly less than two seconds by tugging at it with a pair of tweezers.

**On the third day of Christmas**, my kitten wrecked for me...13 ornaments on my Christmas tree. My mistake was forgetting to chain the decorations to the branches. My other error was leaving the room to go to the bathroom while Sara feigned sleeping under the tree. How was I to know she was actually measuring its climbing potential? Value of broken bulbs? \$7.50 plus GST.

**On the fourth day of Christmas**, my kitten broke for me ... A statue in my Lenox Nativity. Would you believe two Wise men plus a head? Lenox nativity figurines: \$55.99.

**On the fifth day of Christmas**, my kitten scratched for me ... The kid across the street who collects for charity. It was an accident. She merely wanted to reach out and touch someone. Unfortunately, she used a unsheathed claw to do so. I settled out-of-court for the cost of a jacket to replace the boy's blood stained one and a hefty donation to the charity of their choice. Although the amount must remain secret according to our settlement, let me put it this way - you haven't seen many

Think: Major Windfall!

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

**On the seventh day of Christmas**, my kitten lost for me ... The earrings I bought for my sister Mary. Actually, it was one earring but since Mary doesn't have a hole in her nose or navel, a pair of matching earrings does make a more appealing gift. Sale price: \$29.95 plus GST.

**On the eighth day of Christmas**, my kitten helped me ... Replace my E and G guitar strings. Would you believe a kitten could fit into the itty-bitty hole in the centre of my Yamaha guitar? Neither could I, but Sara thought so. And she succeeded once she got those rascally strings out of the way. Unfortunately, her little rear end couldn't get out the way it went in. After paying through the whiskers for her previous escapades, I would have been willing to leave her in the guitar for the duration of the holiday season, except that she chose to get stuck two hours before I was due at the nursing home for our annual Christmas carol sing-a-long. Set of steel guitar strings: \$12.95; jar of petroleum jelly: 79¢.

**On the ninth day of Christmas**, my kitten destroyed for me ... My Christmas card list when she walked across my computer's delete key. Cost for call to Computer Country's 1800 help line: \$17.50. And I still don't know what happened to the listings of B to H.

**On the tenth day of Christmas**, my kitten hid from me ... The remote control from my 13-inch TV. This wouldn't be such a disaster if she hadn't previously stolen the power knob. I missed a week's worth of Christmas specials, including my all-time favourite, "It's a Wonderful Life." Subsequent rental of "It's a Wonderful Life": \$2.00; purchase of book: "Good owners, Great Cats": \$24.95. Unfortunately, it never mentions the psychological profile of kittens with kleptomania.

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

**On the twelfth day of Christmas** ... Sara rested. And so, thank goodness, did my VISA card.



# Cat in Heaven

One day a cat dies of natural causes and goes to heaven. There he meets the Lord Himself. The Lord says to the cat, "You lived a good life and if there is any way I can make your stay in Heaven more comfortable, please let Me know." The cat thinks for a moment and says, "Lord, all my life I have lived with a poor family and had to sleep on a hard wooden floor." The Lord stops the cat and says, "Say no more," and a wonderful fluffy pillow appears.

A few days later, six mice are killed in a tragic farming accident and go to heaven. Again, there is the Lord there to greet them with the same offer. The mice answer, "All of our lives we have been chased. We have had to run from cats, dogs and even women with brooms. Running, running, running; we're tired of running. Do you think we could have roller skates so we don't have to run anymore?" The Lord says, "Say no more," and fits each mouse with beautiful new roller skates.

About a week later the Lord stops by to see the cat and finds him snoozing on the pillow. The Lord gently wakes the cat and asks him, "How are things since you got here?"

The cat stretches and yawns and replies, "It is wonderful here. Better than I could have ever expected. And those 'Meals On Wheels' you've been sending by are the best!"



## Ooops! Did you forget to order your Cat Protection Society Christmas cards this year?

### To Order:

Please send your name, address and phone number to the address below. Include the number of packets you would like, and a cheque, money order or credit card details for the full amount.

**If you have any questions, please phone our office.**

1 x packet (10 cards)	\$11.00
Plus postage/packing & GST	\$4.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
2 x packets (20 cards)	\$22.00
Plus postage/packing & GST	6.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28.00</b>
3 x packets (30 cards)	\$30.00
Plus postage/packing & GST	7.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$37.00</b>

Cat Protection Society, 103 Enmore Road, ENMORE NSW 2042  
Ph: (02) 9557-4818; Fax: (02) 9557-8052

**HELP!!!**

Volunteer drivers  
needed!!!



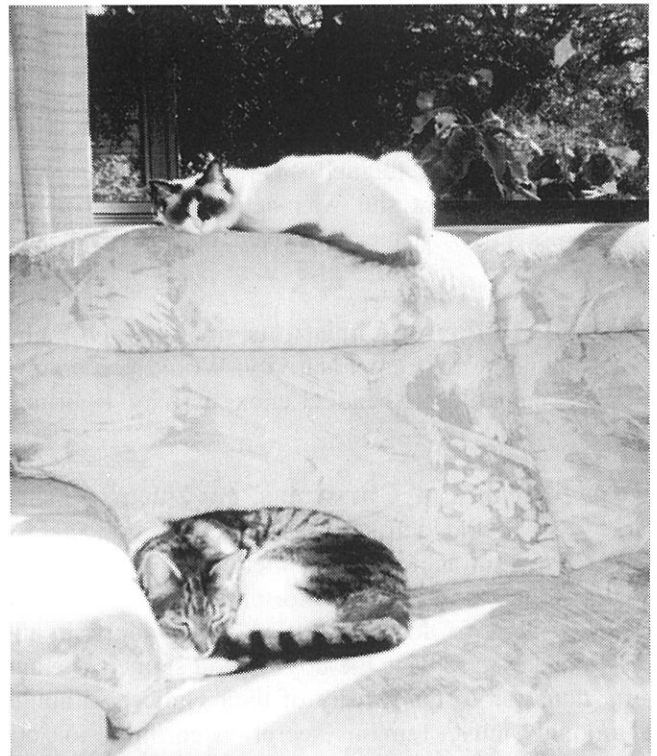
**The CPS Op Shop provides a lot of funding towards the work that we do, but it is only with donations of goods that we can continue to stock our shop.**

**We often get calls from members or the general public to come and pick up items from their homes, however, at present we are having to turn people away due to a lack of volunteers to do these pick-ups. We mostly take clothes and household goods, so there is very little lifting involved.**

**If you can spare a couple of hours a month and have your own car, please call Kim Thompson at the office on 9557 1011 for information on how you can help.**

Council member and CPS Treasurer, Nita Harvey sends us "Dolly" (top), pictured with her friend "Hana". Nita says, "Dolly came to us two years ago. She was surrendered to CPS because her elderly owner felt she could no longer care for her effectively.

She had a much more exotic name before joining our family. As well as Hana there is Kumquat, a tortie and Gus, a labrador dog. Compared to our two 16 year old moggies, Dolly was like a petite little doll - hence the name. She is a very funny little cat and we love her dearly", says Nita.



# Boarding your Cat

For many people, it is necessary to make arrangements to board their cat while they are on holiday. All boarding establishments should be inspected by you and, if possible, you should visit the premises before booking your cat in and check that the accommodation is clean, dry and hygienic. Ask friends and other owners if they can recommend a cattery in your area.

Check that all the cages and gates are secure and in good repair. Ideally there should be an arrangement of double doors in the buildings to prevent any opportunities for escape.

Most catteries require that boarders are fully vaccinated against the common diseases and will ask to see their current vaccination certificate. If this is not a requirement then you could be putting your cat at risk from others.

If you are boarding your cat, you might wish to enquire whether cats are housed separately from dogs since the sound and presence of dogs may upset some cats.

Once you have chosen a suitable premises you should book your cat in well in advance of your departure date - summer and public holidays can be exceptionally busy. Make sure all vaccinations are up to date - don't forget that some vaccinations may take a week to fourteen days to become effective, so always ask your veterinary surgeon for advice.

Let the cattery know if your cat is on any medication, or a special diet. Most will be happy to continue any prescribed treatments. Leave the address and telephone number of your own veterinary surgeon and find out what arrangements the kennels have made for emergency treatment in your absence.

Most cats adapt well to boarding, especially if they are first introduced to it at a relatively early age. You can make your own cat's stay a little more comforting by providing something familiar for him or her such as some toys or bedding that he or she uses at home. Make sure that these are easily identified as yours, though, so that they do not get lost during the stay.

Of course, an alternative to boarding is taking your cat with you! However, many cats become stressed when placed in carry cages and this is something you will need to consider. If your cat though is a good traveller, a new book titled "Holidaying with Cats" by Kate Harte may give you some ideas on 'cat-friendly' holiday destinations and accommodation.



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## Healthy Cat, Sick Cat

### Signs of a Healthy Cat

- bright eyes
- shiny fur
- good appetite
- normal weight (2 - 4 kilos for adults)
- well-formed stools
- purring
- alertness
- playfulness, energy



### Signs of a Sick Cat

- vomiting
- diarrhoea
- loss of appetite
- lacklustre fur
- dull eyes
- eyes obstructed or semi-closed
- running eyes and nose

- dry, hot nose
- coughing, sneezing
- pitiful crying
- lethargy, listlessness
- restlessness
- scratching
- head-shaking

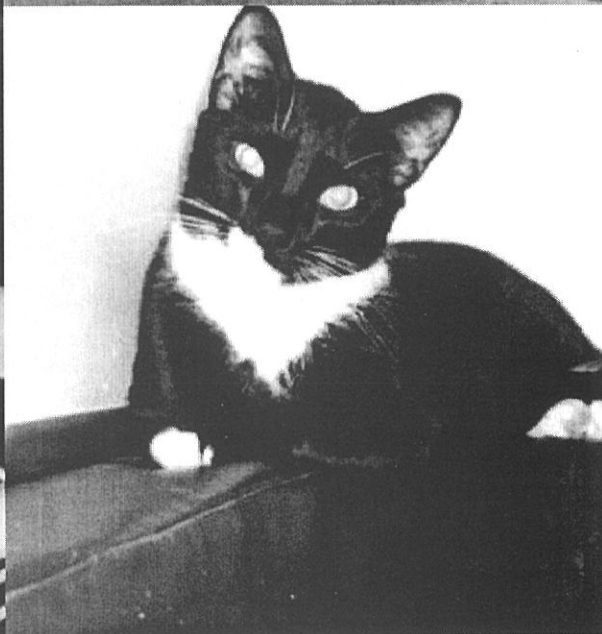
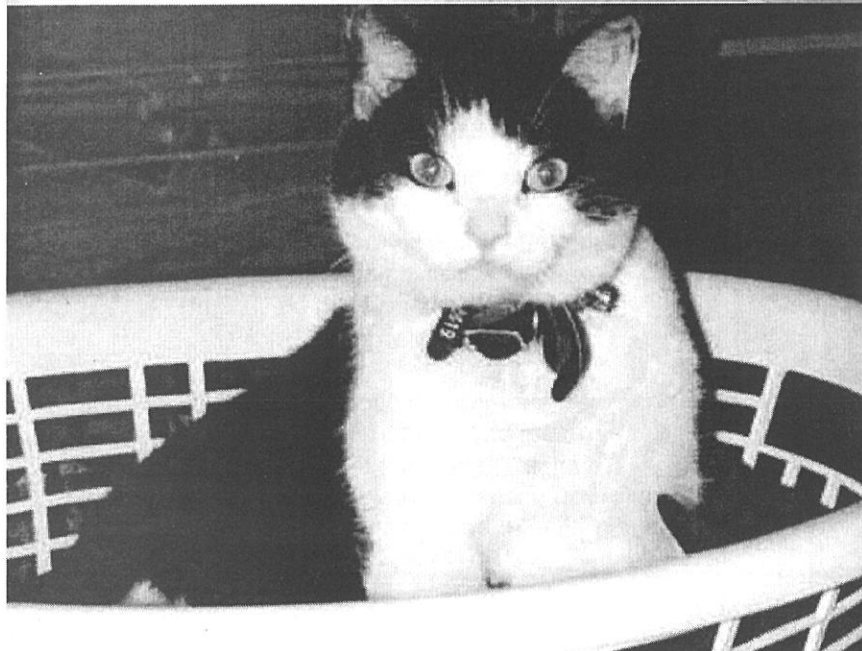
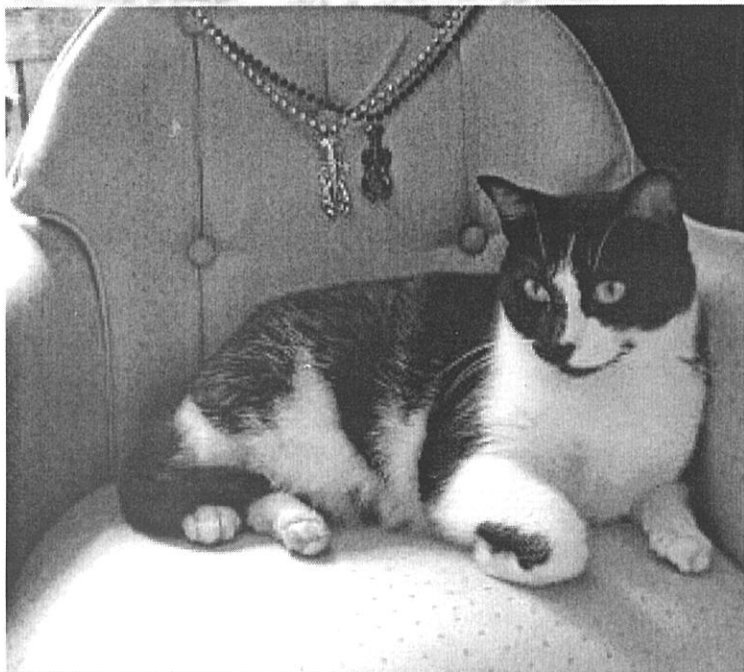
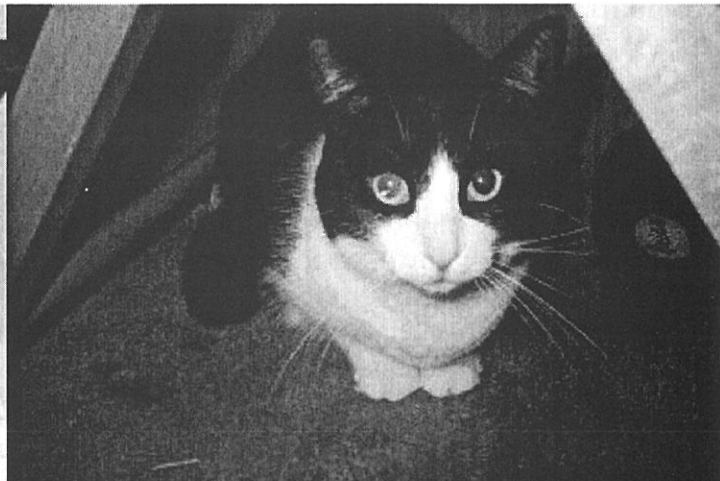
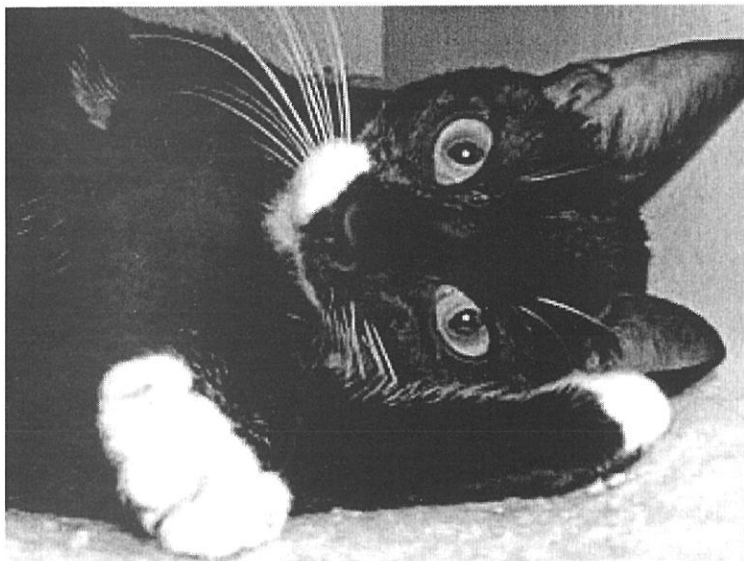
### What Your Vet Should Check

On a standard annual physical/examination, your vet should check:

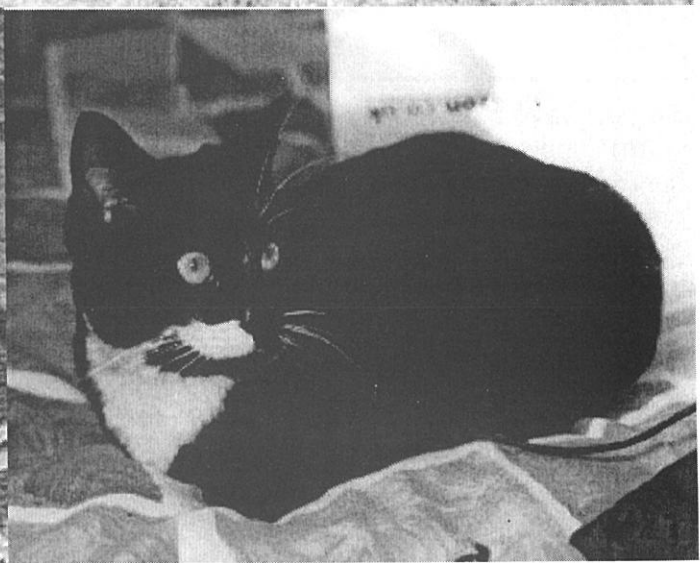
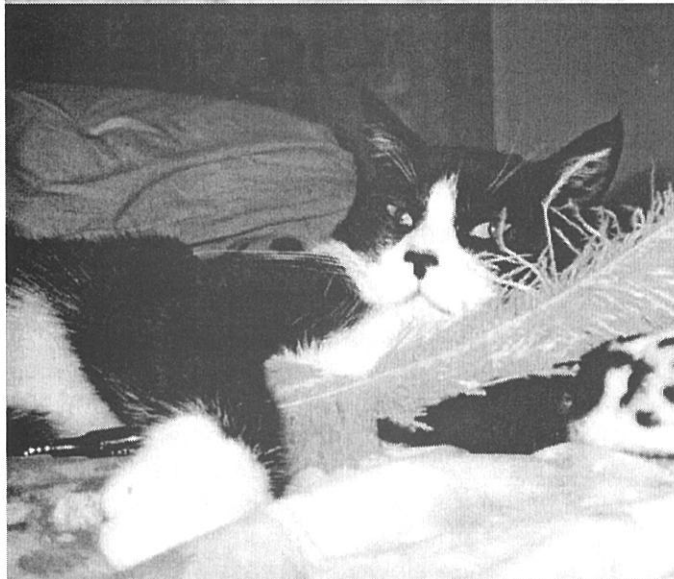
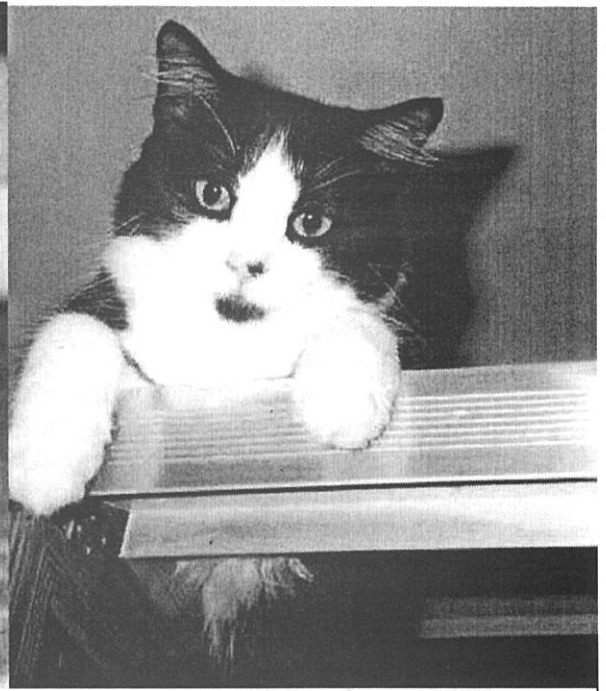
- teeth for tartar/gum swelling
- ears for ear mites and fungal problems
- body for ringworm (with black light)
- faecal exam for worms
  
- eyes for normal pupil response and normal retinal appearance
- weight, heart rate, temperature

Finally, you should ensure your vet administers the annual Feline III booster shot

*CATS ARE LIKE CHIPS, YOU CAN'T JUST HAVE ONE !!!*



# BLACK & WHITE BEAUTIES

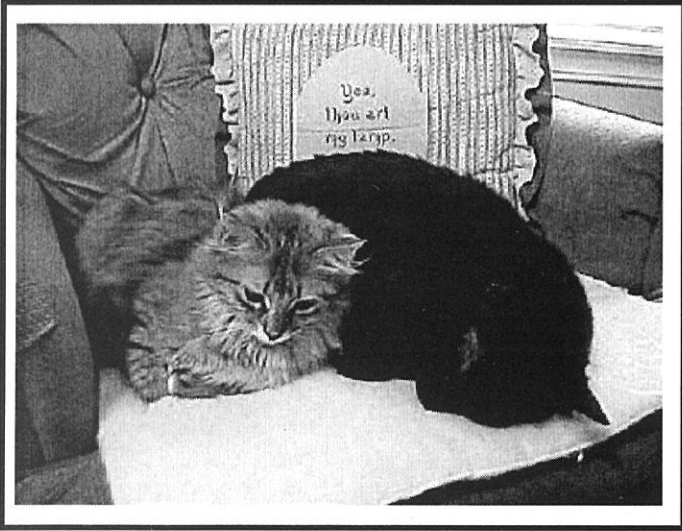


# INTRODUCING A NEW CAT TO YOUR HOME

**Question:** I want to buy a new cat but I already have a couple of pets at home. Can you give me some advice on how I should go about introducing them to each other?

Expanding your family by bringing a furry feline home can be one of the most rewarding decisions you ever make. Cats are great companion animals in today's ever-busy society. They suit all types of people - young working couples, families with children, and the elderly. The new relationship you enter into, however, is a partnership. Cats are individuals and thus have individual needs and wants. We need to take these into consideration when making the decision to bring a cat or kitten home so that everyone benefits!

Assess what environment you are 'offering' - do you live in a unit, or do you have a house? Do you work away from home every day? Do you have children or resident pets? Although we can never predict what will happen, it is important to consider taking a new cat home only if you believe that you can offer him/her a secure future.



## ***So you have a resident cat?***

Bringing a new cat home and introducing him/her to your resident animal/s can be quite a nerve-racking undertaking - you want them all to get on well and have the new feline welcomed into the house but this seldom happens easily! A well thought out plan for careful introductions can help smooth the way towards a harmonious merging of animals; and an acknowledgement that things may take time is needed. However, if the introduction is done well then bringing a new cat into your home can be a wonderful experience and rewarding to everyone!

Before you bring a second (or even third) cat into your home you should ensure that you are familiar with basic cat behaviour and training principles! Here are some tips on making the new arrival's introduction into your home a success!

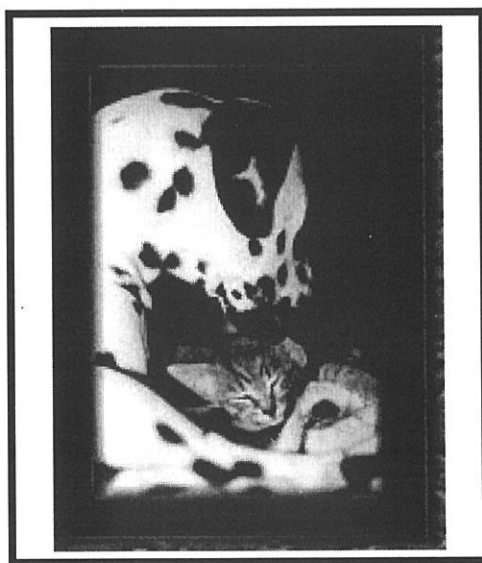
- Don't ever force an introduction! This will only put the cats on the defensive and seriously threaten the bonding process.
- A kitten can be easier to introduce than an adult because he/she is still sexually immature and perceived as less of a threat by the resident cat with regard to territory and food. A neutered kitten of the opposite sex is most likely to be accepted - welfare charities and some vets will desex kittens from 8 weeks of age so even if you plan to get a very small kitten there is no reason not to get a neutered one!
- Choose a quiet time when the household is calm - avoid festivities!
- Have a friend bring the new arrival in to minimise the resident cat's jealousy.
- For their own safety, CPS recommends keeping cats indoors. However, if you must allow them outside, keep the resident cat inside for the first week and the new arrival inside for at least a month (kittens should not be let out unsupervised until 6 months of age). Also, ensure that all doors and windows are closed as cats are notorious escape artists!
- For a successful introduction, use either a secure pen, carry cage or a separate room. If using a pen, place the new arrival inside it in a quiet room, with his/her bed, food, water and litter tray. Let the resident cat into the room, just before feeding time, once the new cat has settled. Leave the cats in the same room for about an hour or for as long as you think both cats are 'happy' with the situation. For the rest of the time, separate them in different parts of the house. At each new feed time, move the bowl of the resident a bit closer to the pen (at a distance both cats are happy with: i.e. still eating!) and slowly increase the time the resident cat is in the proximity of the new cat. Don't rush it! If using a carry cage for initial introductions, place it above ground level so that the cats are not forced into direct contact with each other. Obviously you are limited to the length of time they are in contact this way, as a cage is too small for the new arrival to stay in for lengthy periods.
- Let the new cat get used to one room at a time, locking the resident cat into another room - preferably the one the new arrival has immediately vacated so that the cats can mix scents without coming into direct contact with each other. Do this over a period of days, letting the new cat feel secure in one room before moving him/her to another.

Remember smell is the most important of the cat's senses! Try and integrate the new cat into the home by mixing the smells of the cats. You can do this by stroking each cat alternately without washing your hands, concentrating around the head and 'wrist' regions. Another way is to rub some damp litter from one cat onto the fur of the other and vice versa.

- When you think the time is right for both cats to meet in the same room (without the security of a pen/carry cage) do so in a room where both cats have the opportunity to escape and hide from each other if necessary. The hardest judgment call is to know when to step in if they are behaving aggressively towards each other and there is no easy answer. By observing your cat's behaviour - the position of the ears, the tail, or the size of the pupils, you can attempt to judge the seriousness of the threat to each other. If you do need to intervene, do so by redirecting the aggression towards food or toys rather than by picking either or both of the cats up. This could be harmful to the development of bonds between the cats, not to mention physically harmful to you!
- You cannot force cats to like each other but you can help by making the conditions of their meeting as non-threatening as possible. If there is no competition for food or safe sleeping places as in most good homes, cats should at the very least learn to tolerate each other and may even become very good friends!

### **Introducing the dog!**

It is usually a great deal easier to introduce a new cat to a resident dog, as they do not see each other as direct competition. Sometimes a bitch will relate to a kitten rather like a puppy - even to the extent of offering him/her protection.



Again, prior to bringing the new cat home, sit down and try to analyse your resident pet's personality. That way you can try to predict how

introducing the new cat into the home. Remember, some breeds such as greyhounds and terriers are more likely to need calm reassurance than other breeds of dog.

Take the dog for a long walk prior to the 'meeting' and make sure he/she is well restrained on a leash when initially introduced to the cat. Have the family member that the dog relates best with stroke the dog and talk quietly to him/her.

You can use a pen, cage or separate room for the introduction as described in the 'resident cat' section - the process is similar. Get both animals used to each other's smell and presence before leaving them together alone - this can, as with two cats, take several weeks. Do not rush the process! Short frequent meetings are better than prolonged ones as they are less stressful to all concerned.

Remember to make sure the cat's food and litter area are 'dog free'. Cats also need places up high where they can 'escape' from the attention of the dog!

### **What about the kids?**

Children are often more of a threat to the cat or kitten than the other way around! It is the responsibility of the parent to teach their child that the new pet is not a toy but a sentient animal with feelings.

We recommend that families with young kids get slightly older kittens (4-8 months of age) that are young enough to adapt and grow up with the children but big enough to protect themselves.

The same applies to older children who have not experienced pet ownership before. The cat must be allowed to have 'time out', where he/she can be alone. Feed time and the litter tray area must also be stress free.

We wish you all the best with your new housemate! Cats are wonderful companions and really make a family complete!

Emma Hughes

(Extracted from CPS Behavioural Handout Sheet 2).

**Please see website for further details.**

### **REFERENCES:**

#### **Dr Jim's Animal Clinic for Cats**

Jim Humphries DVM, Howell Book House /New York (1994)

#### **Cat Watching**

Desmond Morris, Jonathan Cape /London (1986)

#### **Do Cats Need Shrinks?**

Peter Neville, Mackays of Chatham PLC /UK (1990)

#### **Claws and Purrs**

Peter Neville, Billing & Sons LTD /UK (1992)

#### **Living with Cats**

Dr Hugh Wirth, Griffin Press LTD /Australia (1997)

#### **Feline Advisory Bureau**

<http://www.fabcats.org/is12.html>

# WHO WANTS TO BE AN AILUROPHILE?

## ... QUIZ ANSWERS (from CPS Winter Journal 2001)

### 1. An ailurophile is:

- a) cat collector
- b) person with a cat phobia
- c) cat doctor
- d) cat lover

An ailurophile is a cat lover. Famous ailurophiles include Eartha Kitt, Doris Day, Cleveland Amory, Abraham Lincoln, Ernest Hemingway, and Albert Schweitzer.

### 3. "Polydactyl" means:

- a) too many white blood cells
- b) extra-sensory perception
- c) multiple toes
- d) multicoloured fur



"Polydactyl" means "many toes." Perhaps the most famous polydactyl cats were those raised by Ernest Hemingway, who had over 60 of these big-pawed charmers at his home in Key West, descendants of a 6-toed cat given him by a sea-faring captain.

### 5. Cats' normal body temperature is:

- a) 38.6 (101.5°)
- b) 37.7 (99.8°)
- c) 38.1 (100.5°)
- d) 37.8 (100°)

A feline's normal body temperature is 38.6 (101.5°), give or take a few 10th of a degree difference. A reading of 38.89 is considered feverish, and 40 or higher should be cause for immediate action.



### 7. How many teeth does a full grown cat have?

- a) 32
- b) 28
- c) 26
- d) 30

An adult cat has 30 teeth. Kittens have baby teeth which are replaced by permanent fangs at around seven months of age. It is as important to care for your cat's teeth as for your own. Regular brushing and professional cleaning will help your cat live a better life.

### 9. Tapetum ludicum is:

- a) is the small webbing between a cat's toes.
- b) is a rare bacteria which can cause paralysis in kittens.
- c) is the collective name for the final six vertebrae in a cat's tail.
- d) lies behind the retina and increases the cat's ability to see in near dark.

The tapetum is a shiny green surface that lies behind the retina and bounces light back, making it easier for cats to see with available light. It is also the source of the shiny green orbs you see when a faint light hits a cat's eyes in the dark.

### 11. A cat is pregnant for about how many days?

- a) 58-65 days
- b) 65-70 days
- b) 70 - 80 days
- d) 80-90 days

A cat is pregnant for about 58-65 days. If left to her own devices, a female cat may have three to seven kittens every four months. This is why population control using neutering and spaying is so important.

### 2. White blue-eyed cats are:

- a) always female
- b) prone to skin cancer
- c) always deaf
- d) Sterile, if males

Although many blue-eyed white cats are deaf, not all are. However, white cats are often prone to skin cancer, especially on their noses and ears.

### 4. Sphynx cats are:

- a) completely hairless
- b) allergen-free
- c) maintenance-free
- d) are descendants from a Siamese litter in Canada

These delicate cats descended from a litter of otherwise normal Siamese kittens in Canada, in 1966, although other cases have occurred in Australia, Morocco and France. They have very short, fine hair resembling down, giving a "hairless" look. Sphynx cats are sensitive to cold and dampness, and need regular care to protect their skin and fragile coat.

### 6. A "nictitating membrane" is:

- a) a thin membrane covering a cat's anal sacs
- b) a third eye-lid that protects the eye from dryness or damage
- c) both B and D
- d) a sign that your cat is ill when its presence accompanies lethargy

The nictitating membrane, or third eyelid lies in the inner corner of the eye and is sometimes seen partially covering the eye as the cat goes to sleep. The presence of the nictitating membrane could indicate that your cat is sick, and veterinary advice should be sought immediately.

### 8. The Somali cat originated in?

- a) Somalia
- b) Ethiopia
- c) North America
- d) Great Britain

Although the breed may have started in Canada, as longhaired kittens popping up in Abyssinian litters, the Somali was first named by an American breeder. The breed was derived from the Abyssinian, and Abyssinia (Ethiopia) is near Somalia, hence the name.

### 10. Where are cats' Jacobson's organ located?

- a) in their feet?
- b) in their stomachs
- c) in their nose?
- d) in their mouth

The "Jacobson's organ" is located in the upper surface of their mouths. Besides their noses, cats smell with their Jacobson's organ. This is what cats are using when they scrunch up their eyes and open their mouths after sniffing something intently.



### 12. The eye colour of all kittens when born is?

- a) green
- b) blue
- c) black
- d) amber

When the eyes open, they are always blue at first. They change colour over a period of months to the final eye colour.



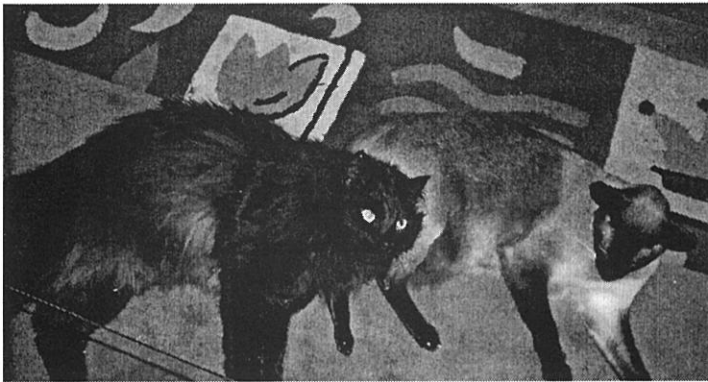
Turn to back to page 3 to find out the winner of our quiz.



# ♥ Miracle Of Love

## (and modern medicine) ♥

I wanted to share a story and picture of our gorgeous cats. The dark chocolate long-haired is Chez. We suspect he has Chinchilla and or Maine Coon in him. He is 4 years old, and is really the most handsome, smart, loving-natured cat one could ever wish for. He and I have a special bond, I just love him to death and I know he loves me! We live on the 13th floor of an apartment building in Sydney City, rooftop. The huge corner terrace (3m wide, and 10m long one end, 15m long the other!), is packed FULL of potted plants, big and small. The cats love the "jungle" outside on the terrace, just as much, if not more than at ground level where we moved from two years ago. The cats even have a catpark, with big cages, tunnels and doors which lead to the inside of the apartment.



Ches (left) and Chloe (right)

Our siamese, Chloe, is now nearly 16 years old. She is a miracle cat, in that she has beaten a cancerous lympho in her nose, and has completed a full 18 month chemo-therapy regime at the University of Sydney. She finished the dosage about 2 years ago.

It all started when my vet told me that Chloe had three weeks tops. Going into automatic drama-queen mode, the phone calls started. I must have called every vet practice in the country, refusing to give up on Chloe. She deserved better. Three days later, and the phone bill budget up in smoke, in the desperate attempt to save my cat's life, I spoke to a vet somewhere on the North Shore. She told me about the Uni, and its treatment. INSTANT HOPE!!!! The next morning, I was there, with Chloe. Very sick Chloe.

Surprised, we found a full working veterinary practice, with the doctors being able to boast being world leaders in "cat chemo-therapy" and assuring us that there was a protocol for the treatment, and it was not at all experimental. I was still sceptical though, I must say.

I had spent the last 2 weeks at home, with her, wiping her nose every 10 minutes or so, and making her as comfortable as you would a human in the same situation. We took her in and saw the doctor, who in turn prescribed a dosage for her. The doctor finished his magic, and we took her home to make her comfortable again. Within 8 hours of being administered with her first dose of chemo, she was a different cat. The change was nothing short of AMAZING, I kid you not. She had gone from a cat that was on the verge of death, to her old self again. All signs of the cancer, being only a discharge, were completely gone.

All throughout the 18 month chemo regime, she had virtually NO side effects from the chemicals that were killing the cancer. None at all. If anything, her appetite improved somewhat. She is still going strong, the old girl, let me add this though, chemo-therapy is expensive, you've got to really love your cat to go through with it. For us, there was absolutely NO question whatsoever . . . I would do it all over again. Both Chloe and Chez are two of the most well adjusted, happiest cats you could come across. We look after them better than most people look after their children, and I adore them both to bits!!!

Mark Hindle (and Rick Kirkby)  
SURRY HILLS



## Shirley Butler

**Around 1985 the CPS started selling cats and kittens from Parkland Boarding Kennels at Parklea.**

**I was the welfare officer who usually took the cats out there and so I met and became firm friends with Shirley Butler. She was the manager there (joined later by her new husband, Ron) and lived on the premises. Because Shirley was passionate about animals (and also liked a nice wine) we had at least two things in common. We spent many long hours discussing the plight of the animal world and wishing we could change things. In 1996 Shirley and Ron decided to retire and moved to Coffs Harbour with their two dogs and two cats. We still corresponded on the phone and had the occasional visit.**

**Shirley died suddenly on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August this year. It was quite a shock to all her friends and family and I miss her greatly.**

*Sandra Moss*

# DESTRUCTIVE SCRATCHING IN CATS

Adapted from an Article by the Cat Care Society, Lakewood, USA



## WHY DO CATS SCRATCH?

It is normal for cats to scratch objects in their environment. Cats scratch because:

1. It conditions the claws by removing the dead outer layer or sheath.
2. It is a way of marking territory by leaving both a visual mark and an odour or scent (cats have scent glands on their paws).
3. It is a way of stretching the entire body and flexing the feet and claws.
4. It is used during play.
5. It may be that cats communicate dominance by scratching in front of other cats.

Because scratching is a normal behaviour, and one which cats are highly motivated to display, it is unrealistic for owners to try to prevent their cats from scratching. Instead, the goal in resolving scratching problems is to redirect the behaviour onto objects acceptable to humans.

## HOW CAN I TRAIN MY CAT TO SCRATCH ACCEPTABLE OBJECTS?

- 1) You must provide objects for scratching which are appealing and attractive from the cat's point of view. If your cat is scratching unacceptable objects, observe the physical features of these items:
  - a) Where are they located? (prominent objects, objects close to sleeping areas, and areas near the entrance to a room are often chosen).
  - b) What type of texture are they? (soft, coarse, etc.)
  - c) Are they horizontal or vertical objects?
  - d) How tall are they? At what height does the cat scratch?

The answers to these questions will help you understand your cat's scratching preferences and help you come up with suitable alternatives.

- 2) Substitute similar but acceptable objects for the cat to scratch on (carpeted, corrugated cardboard, or sisal posts or possibly a log). These objects should meet the criteria determined in Step 1. Place these objects near the inappropriate objects that the cat is already using. Make sure the object is stable and won't fall over or move around when the cat uses it.
- 3) Cover inappropriate objects with something the cat will not find appealing such as double-sided sticky tape, aluminium foil, sheets of sandpaper, old bed sheets, plastic carpet runner with the point side up, or attach cotton balls with perfume, a muscle rub, or some other unpleasant odour. Be careful with odours

you don't want that nearby acceptable object to smell unpleasant!

- 4) When the cat is consistently using the appropriate object, it can be moved very gradually (about 2.5cm's/day) to a location more suitable to the owner. It is best to keep the appropriate scratching object as close to the cat's preferred scratching location as possible.
- 5) Do not remove the unappealing coverings or odours until the cat is consistently using the appropriate objects in their permanent location for several weeks or a month. They should then be removed gradually, not all at once.

## SHOULD I SCOLD MY CAT FOR SCRATCHING?

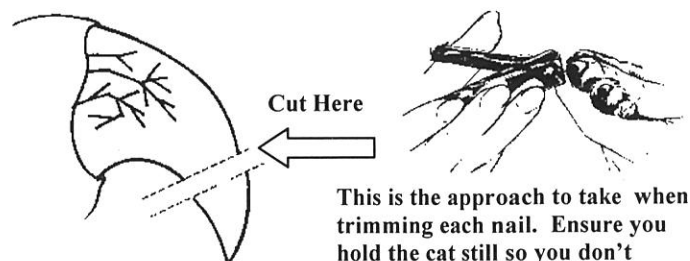
Scolding or punishment can be used only if the cat is caught in the act of scratching unacceptable objects. If used by itself, however, punishment is not going to be effective in stopping scratching problems because it does not teach the cat where to scratch instead.

If you do catch your cat scratching inappropriate objects, remote punishment is best, in which you do not directly interact with the cat. Ideas for remote punishment include making a loud noise (whistle, drink can filled with rocks, or slap the wall). If punishment is interactive, your cat will likely learn not to scratch in your presence because punishment will occur, but will learn it is OK to scratch when you are absent, because punishment does not take place. NEVER HIT A CAT either as this can cause your cat to be afraid of you and create far worse behavioural problems than scratching.

## HOW DO I TRIM MY CAT'S NAILS?

Before trimming your cat's nails, get him used to having his paws handled and squeezed. Begin by gently petting the cat's legs and paws while giving him a treat, making this a pleasant experience. Gradually increase the pressure so that petting becomes squeezing, as you will need to do this to extend the claw. Continue with the treats until your cat will tolerate this kind of touching and restraint.

Apply a small amount of pressure to the cat's paw, with your thumb on top of the paw and your index finger under the paw, until the claws are extended. You should be able to see the pink or "quick", which is a small blood vessel. You DO NOT EVER cut into the pink portion as it will bleed and be painful for the cat. Cut off just the sharp tip of the claw which will dull the nail and prevent extensive damage to household objects and to skin. The nails can be trimmed weekly. You can use pet nail trimmers, or your own nail clippers. If a nail clipper is used it is important to keep it perpendicular to the claw so as not to crush it (see diagram below).



This is the approach to take when trimming each nail. Ensure you hold the cat still so you don't accidentally cut into the quick.



Donation received from Mrs S. Grogan in memory of "Salem", 20 years old.

In memory of our darling Sam who died 26th September 1999. So sorely missed everyday. (Donation received)  
Barbara Young

Dble Gd Ch Fremotau Koman. Red Point Siamese, 17 years. Put to sleep 11 March 2001. Joined in cat heaven with Skippy, Sasha, Ming & Lotah. Very sadly missed by Socks & Krystal.  
J.A. Miles

Don't look back with sadness. Cherish the times spent together and remember them fondly.



## A PET'S PRAYER

*If it should be, that I grow frail and weak,  
And pain should keep me from my sleep,  
Then, you must do what must be done,  
For this, the last battle, can't be won.*

*You will be sad, I understand,  
Don't let your grief then stay your hand,  
For this day, more than the rest,  
Your love and friendship stand the test.*

*We've had so many happy years,  
What is to come can hold no fears,  
You'd not want me to suffer, so,  
When the time comes, please let me go.*

*Take me where my needs they'll tend,  
Only, stay with me to the end,  
And hold me firm and speak to me,  
Until my eyes no longer see.*

*I know, in time you will see,  
It is a kindness you do to me,  
Although my tail its last was waved,  
From pain and suffering I've been saved.*

*Don't grieve it should be you,  
Who decides this thing to do,  
We've been so close, we two, these years,  
Don't let your heart hold any tears,  
Smile, for we walked together, for a little while.*



On to lighter matters, The Cat Protection Society has been spreading the message of responsible cat ownership at a number of fairs and events throughout Sydney. We have recently been involved in the Sydney University Open Day and the Newtown Festival, and have had a number of Operation Cat days in Bankstown and Blacktown with more to follow soon in Warringah and Pittwater.

Our new website has been a big success with many people logging on to find out about the Society and also to get details of the beautiful cats looking for homes. Each cat has a picture and details including his/her age, background and likes and dislikes for people to view. This is being updated every few days so is very accurate. It is really encouraging to have people ring the office asking for our cats by name! We have recently added a "Cat of the Month" page and we also have a "Volunteer of the Month" to honour our dedicated volunteers. To view our website go to '[www.catprotection.org.au](http://www.catprotection.org.au)'. We will be adding articles and details all the time, so it is well worth checking the site regularly for "Cat News".

Our Christmas Cards are now available and they look great. With Christmas nearly upon us, you will just have time to place an order. See details on page 10.

Best Wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year,

Lynda O'Grady

Seasons Greetings to all our Members



## Survivors of Terror

*Reported in The Sunday Telegraph, October 28, 2001*

**A family of cats is pulled out of a collapsed NY tower alive after 38 days**

Vets believe a cat gave birth to her three kittens while trapped in the debris-strewn basement of a restaurant at the site.

Despite having nothing but water from puddles to survive on, she managed to produce enough milk to keep her newborns alive. When astonished rescue workers tumbled across the crying animals, the mother was painfully thin, suffering from pneumonia and had an eye infection from the debris.

Vets are convinced she would have died within 24 hours if she had not been found - and her babies another 24 hours after that.

Now all four members of this miracle family are showing great improvement - and are being cared for by a carer until they can be adopted.

# Ensure Your Cat Keeps Cool in Summer



During the hot summer months, cats can easily become dehydrated from the heat. It is important to keep your cats cool and following are some hints and

ways you can prepare for the long, hot days and help ensure your cat stays comfortable.

- Ensure your cat is provided with fresh water daily, preferably in a ceramic bowl, and the water should be placed in a cool area. In addition, you can freeze large blocks of ice to add to the water dishes, so the water stays cool for as long as possible.
- A cat's appetites can be affected by the heat so, if possible, feed smaller meals more often and also you should also ensure the food is kept in a cool area.
- Get several of the freezer packs (available in department stores) and freeze them. Each morning wrap one in a towel and leave it on a cool tile floor, or even in the tub. Your cat will discover how handy it is, and will use it when he/she needs it. It will stay cool for about twelve hours, or longer if in a cooler room.
- Keep the shades drawn, but leave the windows open a little to allow for a cross breeze.
- Using a large esky, create an ice cave with the Blue Ice. Because heat rises and cool air sinks, you can build a "pool" of cooler air with a box or esky.
- On hot days keep your cat inside where it is cool or provide a cool shelter such as a laundry, bathroom or shady patio.
- Cat-owners should avoid travelling with their pet in the car in hot weather. If your cat is panting or appears distressed contact your vet immediately and in the meantime wipe the cat with a cool damp cloth.

Warning signs to look out for

*An increased heart rate, dehydration, lack of appetite, listlessness, excessive panting, vomiting, seizures and disorientation are all signs of varying levels of heatstroke.*

*If any of these symptoms are apparent contact your vet immediately. In the meantime wipe the cat with a damp cloth and offer fresh water.*

The key to recovery is early recognition and treatment. Severe heatstroke can be life threatening and is an emergency.



# HOW OLD IS YOUR CAT?

In general, cats live longer than most dogs. An average life span might be 14 to 16 years, with some cats reaching 20 and more. A cat's longevity depends on whether or not he/she lives indoors or is allowed outdoors (outdoor cats live an average of eight years), genetics, feeding, environment, veterinary care and some other factors. The general consensus is that at about age seven a cat can be considered "middle-aged", and at age 10 and beyond - old.

It was once generally thought that one year in the life of the cat was equivalent to seven years of a human life. A new scale of equivalents is now recognised: after the first two years, the cat's life proceeds more slowly in relation to human life and each feline year is approximately four human years.

Use the chart below to determine your cat's age in relation to a human's.

Cat's Age: ...	Human's Age:
6 months.....	10 years
8 months.....	13 years
10 months.....	14 years
1 year.....	15 years
18 months.....	20 years
2 years.....	24 years
4 years.....	32 years
6 years.....	40 years
8 years.....	48 years
10 years.....	56 years
12 years.....	64 years
14 years.....	72 years
16 years.....	80 years
18 years.....	88 years
20 years.....	96 years
21 years.....	100 years



## OP SHOP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- ◆ Do you have even just one day you can spare a month?
- ◆ How about helping out in the Op Shop?
- ◆ It's fun and you will sleep well knowing you have given a helping hand.
- ◆ Give it a go over the Xmas holidays!

**PHONE THE OFFICE IF YOU CAN  
HELP ON: (02) 9557-1011**

# Cattitudes:

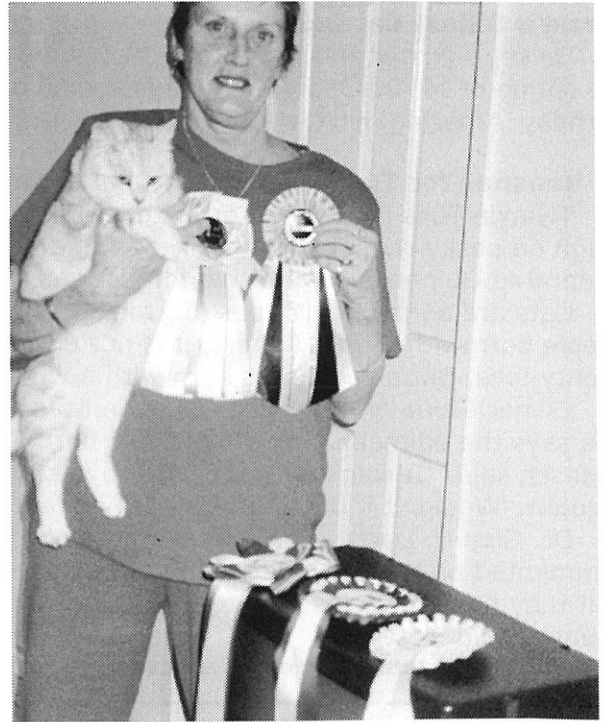
- Play with your food
- Leave no new furniture unscratched
- Disappear every once in a while
- Scatter your kitty litter around
- Take time to eat the flowers
- Play with the garbage
- Act surprised when you break things
- Nap on warm, clean laundry
- Show affection only when you want something
- Harbour NO GUILT!!

## Cats - the ultimate stress reliever.



# CPS CAT IS SHOW CHAMP

Mrs Joan Haub sends us a picture of herself with 'Avalon' whom she got from CPS in 2000. Avalon competes in shows and has earned herself a title "Champion Companion Cat Avalon Silver Mink". She has also placed as high as 2<sup>nd</sup> and had two other lower placings as well as two rosettes for "Judges Choice". Joan says the judges love Avalon and think she's a fairly well bred Burmilla!!!



## 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 \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname (Block Letters)

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



## World's Oldest Cat Dies

Spike, a ginger and white tom cat (who was featured in this Journal a few months ago), was born the spring of 1970. Sadly, he died following a stroke Wednesday, July 11th - two months after his 31st birthday. Amazing, isn't it? You will be missed dearly, Spike.

## 25 Reasons for Twinkle Toes the Farm Cat to Make Guinness Records

Twinkle Toes is a lot like any other cat you might see on a farm: fuzzy, clean-conscious, frisky, and tough on pesky rodents. However, don't be fooled - this little tiger cat has what it takes to make the celebrated Guinness Book of World Records!

Cats are born with 18 toes (10 toes on the front paws and 8 toes on the hind paws). Similar to people born with eleven fingers, it is not uncommon to come across a cat that has nineteen or even twenty toes. But a cat that is born with a whopping twenty five digits is something to check out.

Owner Gloria M. Boensch, 49, submitted vet records to the Guinness committee as a joke at first. She says the animal is "a plain old cat" born in a barn next door. "I said, 'Oh my God, she made it,' " Boensch said. "It was more of a joke to see if she was good enough. We just threw the idea around and thought, 'Wouldn't it be kind of cool to have a cat in Guinness?' "

Dr. Glen N. Darrow, a Frankenmuth veterinarian who examined Twinkle Toes for the record book, commented on this polydactyl (multi-toe) phenomenon: "The cats always appear real healthy, it's just that they have huge feet. Better for snow travel." In fact, Twinkle Toes "walks like she has booties," Boensch said.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

I apply for membership or renewal of membership of the Society for the year commencing June 2001.

All persons joining from January 2001 remain financial until June 2002.

Subscription	\$1,000.00	Life Governor	Pensioner Membership	\$15.00
	\$250.00	Life Membership	Junior Membership	\$10.00
	\$20.00	<b>Annual Membership</b>	(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 \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pension Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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

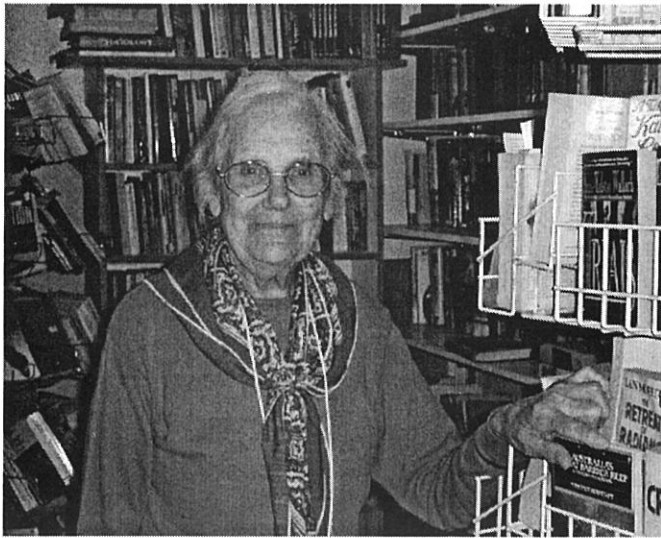
Surname (block letters please) ..... First Name .....

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

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

# MISS JUDITH EASTON

## - HONORARY LIFE MEMBER



At the CPS AGM in October, Miss Edith Easton was made an Honorary Life Member of the Cat Protection Society of New South Wales. Our Constitution only allows for us to have fifteen Honorary Life Members at one time so making this list is the highest honour the Society can bestow.

Edith is one of the original Op Shop Volunteers being a member of the cleaning team as well as serving in the shop. Her involvement dates back to 1980 and you could probably count on one hand the number of times she has missed her turn in the Op Shop. You can see her there every second Thursday.

Of course Edith has always had cats and always welfare cats, as is her present lovely tabby "Tommy". She is also a great protestor! She lines up with the picketers at Parliament House, participates in marches and writes letters too. She's the knitter who supplies us with little toy balls which sell so well in the Office and Op Shop. In place of ping-pong balls which drive us mad with their noise, we give the knitted balls to our cats in waiting as they are so quiet. Edith also knits dolls clothes for dolls handed in at the Op Shop and these sell very quickly.

Edith thinks she belongs to every animal society in Sydney but she has other interests as well. She has a lovely singing voice and belongs to a choir that sometimes sings at nursing homes.

She knits mittens and beanies for street kids in such large numbers that she was recently asked to thank the members of her Society for the large number of articles it had made for these kids. However, she alone is the whole society!

Further, after the last war, Edith went into the homes of migrants to teach English to wives who would otherwise have had little opportunity to learn English quickly. Edith herself immigrated from England after the war where she worked in munition factories.

As you can see, Edith is a more than worthy recipient of the Honorary Life Member title. To mark her appointment, Edith was given an attractive certificate which will be framed for her.

## Welcome New Members

Ms M Adams  
Ms L Anslow  
Ms P Barracough  
Mrs G Blair  
Ms N Bradley  
Mr DM Bray  
Mrs J Britt  
Miss T Bush  
Ms J Catt  
Ms C Cawthorn  
Mrs N Christie  
Ms Coll  
Ms NS Cooke  
Ms T Cooke  
Ms A D'Arcy  
Mr SA Decke  
Ms D Edwards  
Mrs N Forrest  
Mrs B Franklin  
Ms M Funke  
Ms N Head  
Ms P Heggie  
Ms J Hood  
Mrs T Hooper  
Mr M Hubert  
Ms J Jackman  
Ms M Joslin  
Ms D Kellahan

Ms K King  
Mr M Lewis  
Miss CJ Lyons  
Ms L Maber  
Ms G Mair  
Ms K Marshall  
Miss C Mason  
Ms C Meta  
Miss E O'Meara  
Ms J Moore  
Ms S Nedwich  
Mr I Ostreich  
Ms R Perkins  
Ms N Pickering  
Ms D Potter  
Ms U Quinn  
Miss D Rohr  
Mrs E Rose  
Mrs CB Surtees  
Ms C Terry  
Ms L Thompson  
Ms C Turner  
Ms L Vahrenkamp  
Ms C Williams  
Ms K Williamson  
Ms CM Wilson  
Mrs P Wood  
Ms A Young

**Thank you to all our members - those just joined and established members - your help in enabling us to continue to be able to help cats in need is appreciated.**



# STOP!

**Don't throw this  
Journal away.**

**Please help spread the word on CPS and perhaps even entice some new members by passing this Journal on to your doctor, dentist, hairdresser or vet or anywhere where there is a waiting room where magazines are kept.**



