

Cat Affairs



SUMMER 2004

THE JOURNAL FROM THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW



ACN 001 604 815

Registered Office and Postal Address:

103 Enmore Rd Newtown 2042

Welfare Office: Ph 9519 7201 Fax: 95578052

Adoption Centre: Ph 95574818

Website: catprotection.org.au

E-mail: info@catprotection.org.au

Opportunity Shop:

87 Enmore Rd Newtown 2042, Ph 9516 2072

Patron

Professor Charles Birch,
FAA

OFFICE BEARERS

President

Mrs Nita Harvey

Vice President

Ms Suzanne Jenkins

Secretary

Ms Lynda Gordon-Squires

Honourary Treasurer

Mr Tony Puren

Councillors

Ms Angelika Elliott

Ms Rhonda House

Mr Keith Edwards

Ms Danielle Van Den Bosch

STAFF

Executive Officer

Lynda O'Grady

Adoption Centre

Manager

Tara Dethridge

Office Coordinator

Cate Kerr

Customer

Service Officer

Jasmin Cox

Adoption Centre Staff

Georgina Smith

(Deputy Cattery Manager)

Sascha Perry

Kim Grassi

Kaytlin Taylor

Welfare Officers

Nerida Atkin

Charmaine Best

Andrea Watkins

Journal Editors

Cate Kerr

Lynda O'Grady

Alice Young

Journal Art & Design

Clare Rickell-

Black Moggie Graphics

Honourary Life Members

J Chapman

S Cozens

H Dockrill

N Harvey

E Easton

P Gauley

H Graham

N Iredale OAM

E Larsen

G Luton

S Pickler

J Thatcher

J Tomkin

Dr P Waters

Life Governors

F Best

Prof C Birch

Dr I Bownes

L Braby

M Breust

A Carolan

M Chambers

S Cozens

Dr M Credland

J Cummings

J Dawson

A Dorward

A Elliott

Dr JH Hirshman AM

A Galbraith

J Holdup

N Iredale OAM

Dr L Lloyd-Williams

L Loveday

V McLeish

S Pickler

D Podesta

D Silins

E Strachan

G Tiley

S Watson

PJ Weir

C Smith

G Cottle

Front Cover, Centerfold & Back Cover ~

Photographs Courtesy of Marcus Mok

The Cat Protection Society would like to thank the volunteers who kindly give their time and skills to help produce this journal

NOTE: The views in this journal are those of individuals and not necessarily those of CPS. Mention of a product or service does not constitute an endorsement by CPS.

Council Report

By Nita Harvey

The Annual General meeting was held on 16th October. Those who attended learned about the operations of Cat Protection over the past year and our plans for the future.



The Council for the next twelve months was elected.

Thank you to the outgoing Council for all their hard work and a warm welcome to new Council members.

Thank you to Lynda O'Grady and her staff. The Cat Adoption Centre and our welfare work, which included "Operation Cat", would not have been as successful without their care and dedication to our furry friends.

One of our long time Op Shop volunteers, Barbara Levian passed away on 24th September. Barbara was a compassionate lady who loved cats. She will be sadly missed.

With Christmas so close I hope you have "stocked up" with our lovely Christmas cards and 2005 Calenders. The Council of the Cat Protection Society wish all our members and friends a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season. 🐾

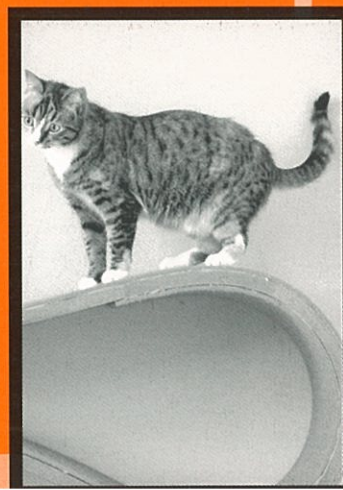
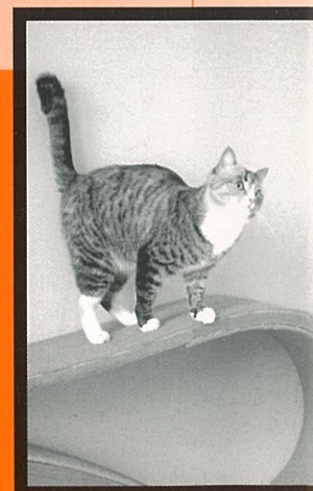
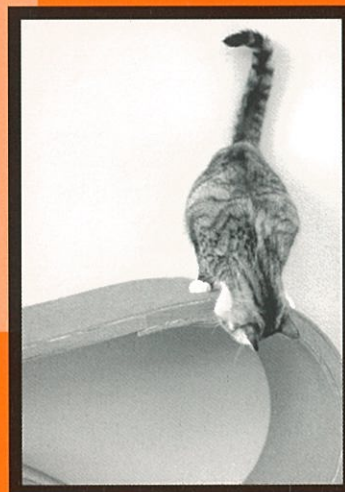
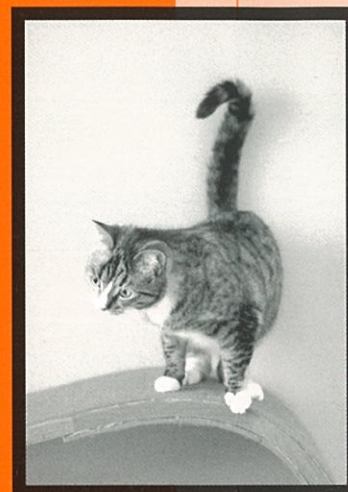
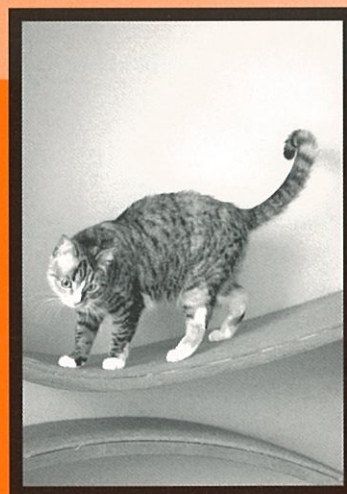
Yours.

NITA HARVEY
President

Contents

Page 2	Society Details
Page 2	Council Report
Page 4	Scratching Post
Page 5	Scratching Post
Page 6	Office Tales
Page 7	Ask the Cattery Manager
Page 8	The Flea and it's Lifestyle
Page 9	The Flea and it's Lifestyle
Page 10	2006 Calender
Page 11	Cats and Homoeopathy
Page 12-13	Centerfold
Page 14	Caring for Your Cat in Summer
Page 15	Xmas Cards
Page 15	Donation Form
Page 16	Book Reviews
Page 16	Membership Form
Page 17	Day in the Life - Executive Officer
Page 18	Disaster Planning for Your Pet
Page 19	Disaster Planning for Your Pet
Page 20	Volunteer Spotlight
Page 21	Volunteer Spotlight
Page 22	Good Samaritan
Page 23	Forget-Me-Not
Page 23	Thank You

The Art of Play



Photos by Marcus Mok

Scratching Post

Rehomed cats

Dear Cat Protection Society

Just a quick note to let you know how well we are doing with our wonderful little cat Izabelle that we picked up from you on 3 July.

As you can see she is already quite at home in our two bedroom flat.

She is a totally indoors cat, (as she strongly refuses to entertain any idea of a harness and leash), except for very tightly held hugs on our balcony.

From the very first day she was happy to sit in our laps on the couch or perch atop her scratching post and keep an eye on things. Since then she has also learnt about the wonders of sitting in the window (closed of course), sleeping at the end of our bed and just generally going anyway she wants to because we love her so much. She has loads of toys, a bed and blanket but her favourite thing seems to be her own tail which keeps her endlessly amused.

We are pathetically proud cat-parents. We cannot believe we have such a good looking cat, and it is marvellous how we managed to end up with Izabelle, whose personality is such a great match to the both of us.

So can we say a great big thank you to everyone at the Cat Protection Society for making Izabelle's adoption such a success. You have a wonderful facility and equally wonderful staff and as a result we are lucky enough to have a wonderful cat.

With Best Wishes

MIRANDA PURNELL AND CAMERON MELKIE

Jazz

We adopted Jazz on the 12th of March.

After a day or so she settled right down and is now boss of the house. She sleeps on the bed with us and demands the heater be put on when Garry gets in from work.

We love her dearly and thank you so much for letting us take her home.

PAM MERCER

Hello

On the 5 June, a couple called Brendan And Karlie came in and picked ME from all the kittens that you had. They called me LuLu and I wanted to send you a message to let you know how I was going.

I have settled indoors in my new home in Cremorne and I am very happy.

I have decided to let Brendan and Karlie sleep in the bed with me overnight, and I also love lying in front of the heater on my own rug, watching the sun come up so I can sleep in a sunny spot and playing on the scratching pole they gave me. I also love chasing and climbing everything, and I even climb up people's legs when I am about to be fed.

I wanted to let you know that I have met the nice vet at Cremorne where they took me to keep me up to date with my injections, and I am a healthy eater with a penchant for chicken and I like to drink kitten milk that has been warmed up.

I want to thank everyone at Cat Protection Society for looking after me and letting me go home with these two

Bye

LOVE LuLu

Hi...

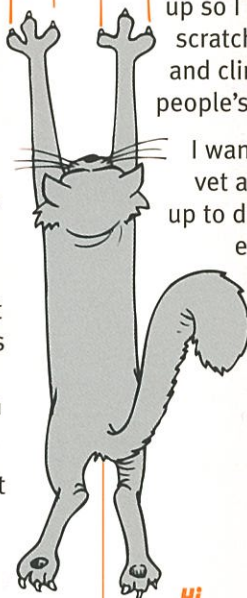
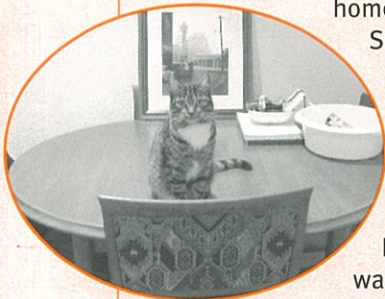
I adopted a ginger kitten last week and I guess everyone misses her a lot... here are some pictures of Lily (somehow my flatmate called her this name...) and Levis (our 9 month old kitten/cat...)

We still keep Lily separate from Levis when we are out due the size different (Levis is too big and we worry that he will invite lily to play flight, then Lily might get hurt).

Lily is so lovely and they shared food and even toilet...their relationship seems going well...

Regards

ROSALIE



Scratching Post

Rehomed cats

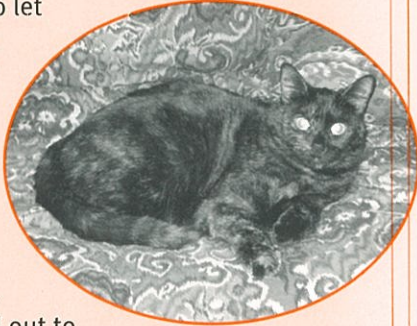
Dear Cat Carers,

I just wanted to let you know how "Crystal" (now renamed "Cocoa" to match her colourful coat) is getting on in her new home.

She has turned out to be a beautiful cat, very loving and loyal and perfectly behaved. She was very shy and nervous at first but soon claimed her new territory, which includes inside and outside in the garden (but not after dark). She likes exploring but does not stray too far from home. She loves to run madly through the house every now and again and is an active healthy cat with lots of personality. I brought her a scratching post which she uses exclusively and never scratches the furniture; in short she is an ideal companion.

I think we are both pretty lucky!

I hope the Society continues to provide happy homes for many many cats.

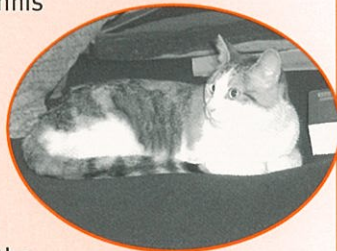


Hi Cat Protection Society

Here are a couple of pics of Lucy (who came from the factory site) happily settled into her new home. She spends her mornings demanding food, chasing tennis balls and tearing up bits of paper. After that, she settles down for a loooong sleep, either on the bed (where she is today, in front of a fan), under the coffee table where she's out of sight, or in the middle of the floor.

She loves to be brushed, sit at the window onto the balcony, and shows no interest in going outside.

She's just lovely, and so vocal she can actually say "Hello"!



Best Wishes,
JOHN CRAN

Cheers

/AN

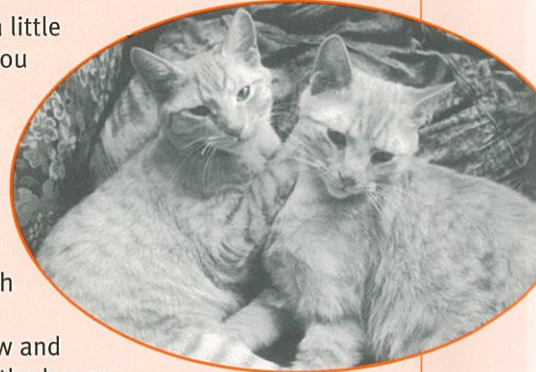
Dear Lynda,

Just dropping you a little note to say thank you for looking after us in our hour of need. We are now seven months and Vesna and Danny tell us every day how much we've grown! Well we've settled in now and we have the run of the house. We love it here. We get lots of treats and lots of love.

So thanks again. You and your team were great! We're off to nibble on our cat grass. Hope you like the photo. We're both as handsome as each other we think.

Lots of Meows,

BORRIC AND CALIS (EX PIPPIN & MERRY) 🐾



Letters

Dear CPS,

Just a short note to say 'Thank you' to the recently retired Sandy Moss.

During the Operation Cat Program in July/August 2001, Sandy had collected our much loved 'Tiger' for transportation to a local Vet for de-sexing & microchipping. It was evident Sandy had a strong love for cats and handled Tiger with the utmost care, returning him the following morning at the pre-arranged time.

He is now almost 2 years old and as you can see has grown into a very handsome boy.

Many thanks,

JAN-RAGNAR & PAM OS

To contribute to "Scratching Post"

email us at:

info@catprotection.org.au

or mail to:

103 Enmore Road, Newtown 2042

Office Tails

By Lynda O'Grady Executive Officer

Kitten season is now upon us and our Mother and Kitten rearing room is full with beautiful little babies as young as one day old.

We very rarely have kittens actually born on the premises, but last night a beautiful black cat, Gemma, gave birth in the early hours. On arriving at work this morning staff were greeted with three tiny little babies, two tabby kittens and one all black one. Mother and babies are doing fine. Gemma arrived at the CPS as a stray without anyone to care for her but now she and her kittens are in good hands. She will be transferred to our rearing room where she and her babies will be housed until the kittens are eight weeks old and ready for their new homes.

Tis the Season.....to Desex Your Cat

With kitten season now here it's time to think about desexing. If you are anyone you know has an un-desexed cat (over 8 weeks old) give us a call to arrange inexpensive desexing or take advantage of our pick up service.

We are now currently running a number of Operation Cat Month's. In November you can take advantage of the Operation Cat discount if you live in the following Council areas: Penrith Council, Randwick Council or Warringah Council. We have now desexed nearly 400 cats (and counting) with Operation Cat in 2004 making this our most successful year yet.

Call our office on 9519 7201 if you have any questions about desexing or would like to book in.

Cat Protection in the Media

The last few months has seen more publicity for the CPS. We have just had an Avant Postcard released to café's and businesses around Sydney. This is a free postcard which advertises the Society and it's work. Check your local café or pick up a card from our office. Alisha Stanley designed this stunning postcard and the picture was taken by photographer Penelope Clay. If you like this picture watch out for our April journal when we will have greeting cards available with a similar design for you to purchase.

In October the Society was featured in the first edition of an exciting new Magazine called Urban Animal. This is a free publication that is



available from pet shops, vets and other pet related businesses. It is produced with the urban animal lover in mind, and has some very interesting articles about pets and the role they play in our lives. Urban Animal will be available for free from the CPS office in Enmore.

Urban Animal is distributed through pet shops, vets and other animal related businesses. If you can't find a copy in your area check out the website at urbananimal.net or phone 9557 7766 to find out where your nearest distributor is. Subscriptions are available if you live outside Sydney.

Other publications you may have seen us in recently include, Australian Interiors Magazine, The Glebe and Inner West Courier and the Sunday Telegraph.

If you have been watching television you might have seen the Cat Protection Society community service announcement "Too Many Kitties". This is a cartoon that explains the importance of desexing and gives our details. The advertisement was imported from America so there was no cost to the CPS. It did, however, take a lot of work to get the advertisement into the Australian format and get it to air and this was done by our Vice President, Suzanne Jenkins. So far over 100 people have called us to get their cat desexed after seeing the ad.



The Facts On Cats

We have recently added a new feature to our own website. This is a selection of Fact Sheets that can be easily downloaded. Topics now available include: *Your New Cat or Kitten*, *Toxoplasmosis - The Facts*, *Moving House - A Cat's Eye View* and many more. We will be adding to these regularly so if you are looking for information on cat care check out our website or call our office and we can send you a Fact Sheet in the mail. 🐾

The staff at the Cat Protection Society wish you all a happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Ask the Cattery Manager

Q My female, desexed cat has recently started spraying near my back door. I am finding it very difficult to deal with and I am considering surrendering her. What causes her to do this and how can I stop her?

A The first thing you need to do is her cat to your vet for a check up, it may be that she has cystitis or some other type of urinary tract problem that is causing her to urinate where she is rather than in the litter tray. This may be very easily treated with a course of medication. It is important to establish whether the problem is physical or behavioural before you take any further action.

If the vet is unable to find a physical reason for her spraying you need to have a think about what may be causing your cat to feel insecure enough to mark her territory in this fashion.

Some common causes for spraying are:

- changes in the household dynamic, such as a new baby, partner, flatmate or feline,
- moving house or new, unfamiliar furniture coming into the existing home,
- a neighbourhood cat coming into the yard and spraying to mark it's territory,
- changing the litter you use, cats sharing litter trays or moving the litter tray to a different, less private place in the home, and
- a change in an established "pecking order" in a multi-cat household such as one cat being chased or "picked on" by other feline family members.

While this problem can be very frustrating for you it is important that you remember it is a natural cat behaviour to mark territory when feeling threatened or stressed and while it conflicts with our idea of appropriate and tolerable behaviour punishment is not the answer.

What can you do to help alleviate the stress?

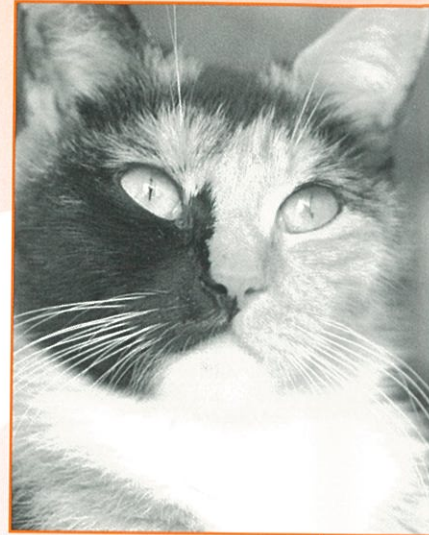
- Make sure the litter tray is in a quiet, private place. Being spooked while using a tray can create an aversion to it.
- In multi-cat households make sure you have one tray per cat plus one extra, change the litter at least every two days, scoop out solid waste daily and allow sufficient depth of litter to dig in. It also helps if the trays are large enough for your cats to comfortably turn around in. Litter trays with lids are usually very large and provide privacy.
- Multi cat households can be a cause for stress due to competition for food and attention, make sure all the cats in the home are given their own food bowls and plenty of love and playtime.
- Stop access to the particular places where your cat is spraying for as long as possible. This will help with breaking routine and allowing odour residue that the cat

may detect to dissipate.

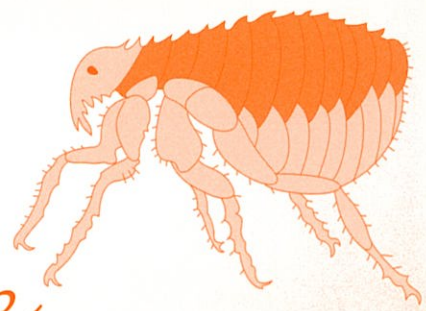
Confining your cat to a small room such as a laundry or bathroom with minimal furnishings (with food and clean litter) when you are not home to supervise will help. If your cat is happily using the tray in this area gradually reintroduce her to the rest of the house.

- Don't allow your cat to be anywhere unsupervised when you are at home, if you see digging, spraying or squatting in an inappropriate spot a quick spray with a water pistol to the top or back of the head will cause a small scare without your cat associating a punishment with you. Then redirect your cat's attention to the litter tray and when she uses it praise her, pat her or offer her a treat.
- If you think the problem may be neighbourhood cats coming into your garden, try to block their access and don't let your cat go outside until the spraying stops. Sometimes even seeing another cat in your garden can create enough stress to cause a bout of spraying so try to block your cats view of the garden too.
- When you are cleaning up inappropriate urination make sure you don't use ammonia based cleaner as this will attract your cat back to the same spot.
- Enzymatic cleaners or Bicarbonate of Soda work very well and don't leave any residual odour that your cat can detect.
- Placing food and water bowls in the "spraying zone" will discourage urination there. Cats are fastidiously clean creatures. Given the choice they prefer eating and toileting to take place a good distance away from each other.
- Your vet may even recommend medication to help with the initial stages of the retraining and behaviour modification.
- Desexing significantly reduces the likelihood of territorial behaviour.

The process of modifying your cats "inappropriate" behaviour can take many months and will involve a lot of patience and perseverance on your part. The main thing to remember is that cats do not act out of spite or attempt to upset us by doing things we don't appreciate such as spraying. More often than not a bit of detective work and empathy on your part can help to identify what is causing your cat to feel so stressed that she needs to spray in the first place. Once the "stress" is removed your cat will feel much happier and the behaviour in 99% of cases will cease. 🐾



The Flea & its Lifestyle



By Jessie Kalf

With the warmer weather approaching one little blood-sucking insect comes to most cat owners mind. The following article aims to provide information and insight into the secret life of '*Ctenocephalides felis*' (otherwise known as the humble flea.)

The flea is a wingless, bloodsucking insect, with powerful legs which enable it to jump considerable distances. Only the adult stage is parasitic, the other stages may develop on the ground or animal. Fleas can survive for long periods of time off your cat.

Adult fleas can be easily identified with the naked eye, and can be seen along the back, around the neck, and on the belly of your cat.

Flea dirt, looking like specks of dark, red/brown grit, may also be found on the skin. These consist mainly of dried blood and can be identified by being placed on a piece of damp cotton wool; a red/brown stain will spread out on the damp surface.

The Flea Colony



Fleas are sociable creatures and live in a colony, which takes one to two years to create. This flea colony occurs after many generations of fleas are allowed to develop because of a constant food supply from the pet. The fleas that we see on our pets come from the immediate environment that the pets live in. If these fleas are killed on the pet, other fleas from the same colony will replace them. Colonies can produce thousands of fleas each day!

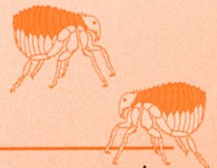
The flea colony will only develop where there is a dependable source of food, (often where the pet frequents, eg. bedding, food bowl.). Flea colonies prefer shaded and moist locations.

A flea actually has an innate knowledge of where its colonies location is, and will jump on a pet when it arrives at its colony, then jump off the pet only when it returns to that exact spot!

Flea Related Disease in Pets

Fleas not only cause discomfort to your pet, but can also be the cause of disease such as flea allergies, flea anaemia, haemobartonella and tapeworm. If you feel that your cat may show signs of the following diseases, immediate veterinary attention is recommended.

Flea Allergies



Allergies caused by the bite of the flea are common in cats and dogs, as flea saliva is very antigenic. It is important to note that flea allergic pets will not have many fleas as these animals are sensitive to the bite of fleas and will excessively groom themselves.

Treatment:

Complete eradication of fleas from the cat and environment. Your veterinarian may also administer anti-allergic medication to your pet. Hormone tablets or injections are also often used to treat this condition.

Flea Anaemia

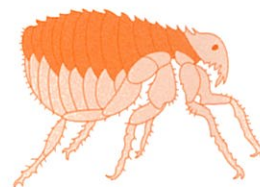


Fleas can be vicious bloodsuckers, and may kill a small cat very quickly. The very young, old, or ill are more likely to develop flea anaemia. Flea anaemia develops because of chronic blood loss that exceeds the animal's ability to replace that loss. Signs of flea anaemia include pale mucous membranes, weakness, Loss of appetite and rapid, shallow respiration.

Treatment:

All animals with severe flea infestations need to be evaluated for anaemia by your veterinarian. Always seek veterinary advice before using any flea products on your cat.

The Flea & its Lifestyle



Haemobartonella (Feline Infectious Anaemia)



Haemobartonella is a microscopic parasite that attaches itself to the surface of the red blood cells and is passed on by fleas. The body then, in turn, destroys these cells causing the cat to become anaemic. This illness is most common in multi-cat households, which have large numbers of cats and fleas.

Treatment:

Immediate veterinary treatment for the anaemia is a must (see above) as is controlling the flea population.

Tapeworm

Tapeworms are segmented worms that live in the small intestines of cats. Most tapeworm infections are symptomless but severe infection may cause abdominal pain, and an increase in food intake. Most owners discover that their cat has tapeworm when they notice dried up segments of the worm around their cat's anus (these segments resemble grains of rice). Fleas are a vital part of the life cycle of the tapeworm.

Treatment:

Your veterinarian will prescribe 'Droncit' worming medication to clear up the infestation and fleas within the environment should also be controlled. Tapeworm can also be passed onto humans, so effective control of this parasite is a must.

Flea Prevention or Eradication?

Flea prevention is a much easier and less time consuming process than flea eradication. Thus, before summer arrives and brings the fleas out of their

slumber, it is important to begin flea prevention on your feline friends.

The following are some simple tips to control fleas and have a feline friendly home this summer.

Because fleas spend a considerable portion of their time off the cat, total flea control depends on controlling the fleas both in the environment and on the cat.

Spot-ons



To remove and prevent fleas on puss 'Spot-on products' are recommended. Most 'spot-on' flea killers are applied onto your pet once a month. You simply part the cat's hair in an area between its shoulder blades, then drip a small amount of liquid onto that spot. Fleas that jump onto the animal are killed within a few hours. It's as simple as that!

Points to consider when treating fleas with a spot-on are as follows;

- Spot-on products are not water-proof immediately after application. The pet must also be dry when applying the product.
- All animals must be treated in the home for the product to be effective.
- Make sure that the liquid in the spot-on makes contact with cats' skin.
- Spot-ons are generally made with an alcohol base, as water doesn't

penetrate the flea's hard outer shell. This alcohol can irritate sensitive skin.

There are many products now on the market. The CPS uses Advantage. These products can be purchased from your local veterinarian, or at the CPS office in

Newtown. 🐾



Send in a photograph of your treasured pet, and let us turn your cat into a superstar in our **2006 calendar!***

Topmill is one of Australia's largest calendar producers. Our **2006 Cats Calendar** will feature hundreds of photos, and yours could be one of them! We invite you to submit your clearest and sharpest shots of your favourite feline(s), and who knows? — both you and your cat could become overnight sensations! Just imagine how great it would be to see your prized pet in print!

But you must hurry! Calendar production takes a long time, and we need your photos urgently so we can get started. So what are you waiting for? — get snapping!

Send your cat photos direct to Topmill Pty Ltd:
3/49 Derby St, Silverwater, NSW, 2128
Tel: (02) 9737 9450
Email: publications@topmill.com.au

How to submit your photos:

We accept prints, slides or electronic images (must be hi-res). To make sure your pictures don't get lost, please write your name, address and phone number, plus your cat's name on the back of prints and computer disks, or your name, phone number and cat's name on slide holders. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope for the return of your photos, and they will be sent back at the completion of the production process. *If one of your pictures is selected for publication in the calendar, a complimentary copy of the calendar will be forwarded to you when it becomes available in late 2005.

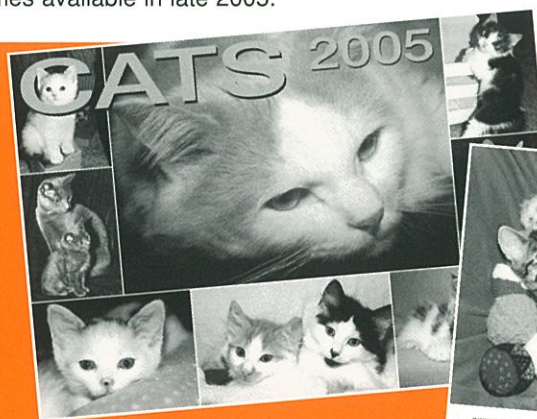
This is what our 2006 cat calendar will look like. Lots of cat photos!



Now Available! Cats 2005 Calendar!

For the last few years we've offered these top-quality calendars from Australian company, Topmill Pty Ltd. The superb new Cats 2005 Calendar is now available for purchase from the Society, and all proceeds go to help the Society in it's work with cats and kittens in need.

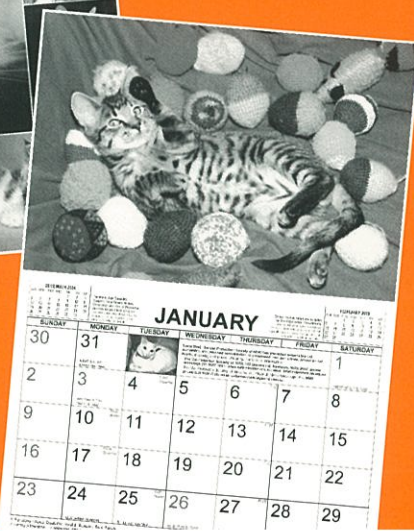
The Cats 2005 Calendar makes a great present for that special cat lover at home or abroad (it's a standard A4 size for easy mailing), or just as a treat for yourself!



Only
\$9.95^{ea}

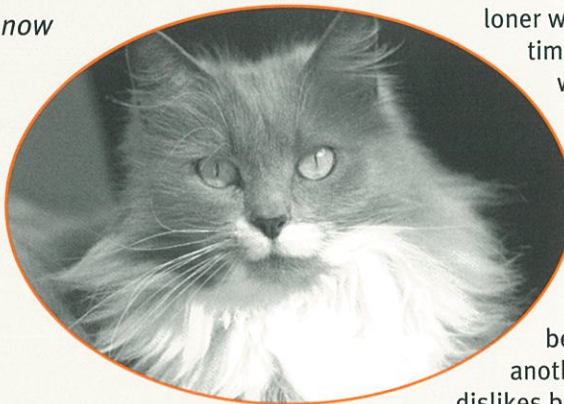
plus \$3 postage
per calendar.

Order direct from



Cats and Homoeopathy

Many pet owners are now turning to natural therapies to give the best outcome for their animal's health. I am a homoeopath with a strong interest in treating animals, and my own 3 cats have been treated homoeopathically for several years now.



Homoeopathy is a system of medicine which originated in Germany over 200 years ago. It has a very broad scope and conditions treated may be physical or mental. Homoeopathy has been used successfully over the years and around the world in such areas as infectious epidemics, accident and emergency, pregnancy and labour, depression and anxiety, palliative care, and many other conditions.

Some of the benefits of treating cats homoeopathically are:

- No traumatic visit to the vet with stressful examination and sharing the waiting room with dogs!
- No expensive drugs with possible side effects - homoeopathic remedies cost just a few dollars.
- The remedy is usually drops given in the cat's drinking water, so he doesn't even know he's being "medicated".
- Possible successful treatment of conditions which are "incurable" or not within the scope of a normal medical service.

Homoeopathy differs from conventional medicine in that whether treating a cat, a horse, or a human, we look for what is characteristic so we can match the best remedy for them. As there are over 2,000 remedies, this can be quite an involved process! There aren't homoeopathic remedies for asthma, anxiety, or any other ailment, there are just remedies for the people or animals with those symptoms.

The homoeopath will be interested in finding out as much as possible regarding your cat's physical health and medical history, and also just as importantly the kind of character the cat has, and what is distinctive about their behaviour and personality. For instance, is your cat cuddly and attention seeking, or more of a

loner who prefers to spend most of his time outdoors? Is the cat greedy with "addictions" to certain foods, or more of a fussy eater? Is he always fighting with the rest of the neighbourhood? Does he have any traits which are downright peculiar? One of my cats is very friendly and rather overweight despite not being that big an eater, whilst another is skinny, bad tempered, and dislikes being too far away from the fire

during the winter! This type of information is valuable to a homoeopath in selecting the best remedy for your cat, and those 2 cats need different remedies.

Homoeopathy can often work alongside treatment from a vet. For instance if your cat was injured in a car accident of course you would take him straight off to the vet. But homoeopathic remedies can still help the cat with the shock, trauma and pain, and can help healing occur more quickly, whether by acting on broken bones, bruised or damaged internal organs, or wounds.

One of the real beauties of homoeopathy is that we can use it to tackle situations which wouldn't warrant medical attention, for instance when a cat is traumatised by being re-homed, or jealous when a new pet arrives in the household, or maybe sad when a family member has died or left home.

You can often treat your cat yourself for simple ailments, just as you would treat your family with medicines from the bathroom cabinet rather than always having to go to a doctor or pharmacist. Simple acute ailments generally clear up fairly quickly, and chronic longstanding conditions will require longer treatment by a trained homoeopath.

Of course we are always going to need vets. Homoeopaths and other natural therapists are never going to be diagnosing conditions via high tech tests, desexing animals, or setting broken bones, to name just a few of the essential services vets provide.

Rebecca MacSwan is a homoeopath practicing in Stanmore NSW, treating both people and animals. She is registered with the Australian Homoeopathic Association, the Australian Register of Homoeopaths, and the Australian Traditional Medicine Society.



Caring for Your Cat in Summer

Suzanne Jenkins

Summer is a time for both you and your pet to enjoy the warmer weather, but along with the fun, Summer can also present problems which may endanger your pet. By taking precautions, you can decrease the chance of your cat(s) being at risk.

Shelter/Bedding

If your cat is allowed outdoors please ensure there is some shady shelter and fresh cool water available to your pet at all times of the day no matter where the sun is in the sky.

Holidays

If you cannot get someone to come to your house to feed your cat (the ideal situation from your cat's point of view) then ensure you only board him/her at a reputable cattery. If your cattery does not ask you to provide proof that your cat has a current vaccination, do not board your cat at such a place as you may expose your cat to non-vaccinated cats. It is a good idea to inspect any unfamiliar, potential boarding premises to ensure you are happy with the accommodation and conditions before you make a booking. Reputable catteries are happy for you to do this.

Grooming

Cats tend to shed their winter coats in late Spring/early Summer and you may need to help your cat along in the grooming process by removing excess hair with a daily brush or by patting your cat all over with a slightly damp hand, removing excess fur. Pay particular attention to the cat's underline and tail. This grooming process will also help combat the formation of fur-balls.

Hazards

- **Sunburn.** Pets can get sunburned too, and your pet may require sunscreen on his/her nose and ear tips if he/she has access to direct sunlight. Cats with light-coloured noses or light-coloured fur on their ears are particularly vulnerable to sunburn and skin cancer.
- **Cars.** Don't leave any pets in parked cars for any period of time, ever. They can die from heatstroke in a matter of minutes on a warm day.
- **Collars.** If your cat wears a collar, be sure your cat has a collar that it is not too loose (as it may catch on tree branches or other protruding objects). If you can comfortably insert two fingers between your cat's neck and collar, this is the right fit.
- **Fireworks.** Most pets are extremely frightened by fireworks. Ensure your cat is locked safely inside when you know fireworks are being staged. Whilst this may not stop him/her

being scared, it will ensure they do not run off and become lost.

- **Plants.** Cats should be prevented from chewing plants as many common garden or indoor plants are poisonous. Instead, provide a potplant filled with any or a combination of catgrass, catmint or catnip. Most cats love a bit of greenery to chew on.

Health

Fleas

Fleas can be a major problem for cats, especially in Summer when fleas are most active. There are numerous products to choose from which will help eradicate fleas and sometimes an integrated flea control program may be necessary to ensure your feline stays flea-free (ie. you may need to treat your cat and flea bomb your house). Cats can also pick up internal parasites through fleas and by eating bugs and other creatures. Regular worming every three months will help keep these parasites to a minimum. CPS uses "Advantage" as a very effective flea treatment.

Ticks

There are many different types of ticks in Australia, but it is the paralysis tick which threaten cats with death. The paralysis tick is found primarily in coastal areas on the Australian east coast.

Ticks can attach themselves to their host (often cats or dogs) and suck blood - while doing this the tick releases a toxin into the host. Cats (or dogs) become ill very quickly and it is important that you seek veterinary assistance as soon as you find a tick or have a cat with any of the following symptoms, unco-ordinated, muscle weakness, difficulty standing, difficulty breathing or swallowing, a change in voice or vomiting.

Examine your cat everyday using the "finger-crawl" technique. Run your hands over the cat feeling for ticks that have attached themselves rather than relying on sight. Don't forget to check under the collar, between paw pads and in the ears and mouth. Of course keeping your cat inside greatly reduces the chances of him/her coming in contact with fleas, ticks and bugs.

Diet

Apart from the normal balanced diet your cat requires, in Summer the main issue is water. Ensure he/she has access to plenty of cool, fresh water. Water can become very hot quickly and also evaporate in warm weather so ensure your cat's water bowl is kept in a cool, shady spot and change bowls frequently (a couple of ice cubes are a good idea in the water bowl to really give some relief to your cat on a hot day). For extra insurance, keep a couple of water bowls around in case one should get knocked over or evaporate. Large, sturdy bowls are the ideal option. 🐾

Xmas Cards

Don't Forget Your Cat Protection Society Christmas Cards!

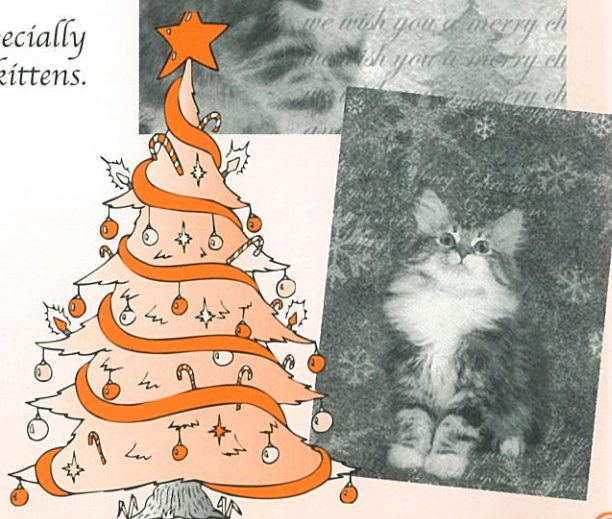
This year we have two stunning designs available, each with a specially commissioned picture of one of the many Cat Protection Society kittens.

Each card contains the simple message:

*Wishing You A Wonderful
Christmas & New Year.*

These stunning cards are offered in packs of 10,
with 5 of each design, for \$13.95.

Check out our website at www.catprotection.org.au
or phone 9519 7201 for order details.



Donation Form

To, Cat Protection Society, 103 Enmore Road, Newtown, 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 _____ First Name _____

Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

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 specific asset is to be bequeathed the form would be:

I (insert full name and address) give and bequeath to The Cat Protection Society of NSW, the registered office of which is **103 Enmore, Enmore, Newtown, NSW, 2042**, the sum of \$..... (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, Newtown, 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 bequest to the Society please contact the Secretary on (02) 9557 1011.



Book Reviews

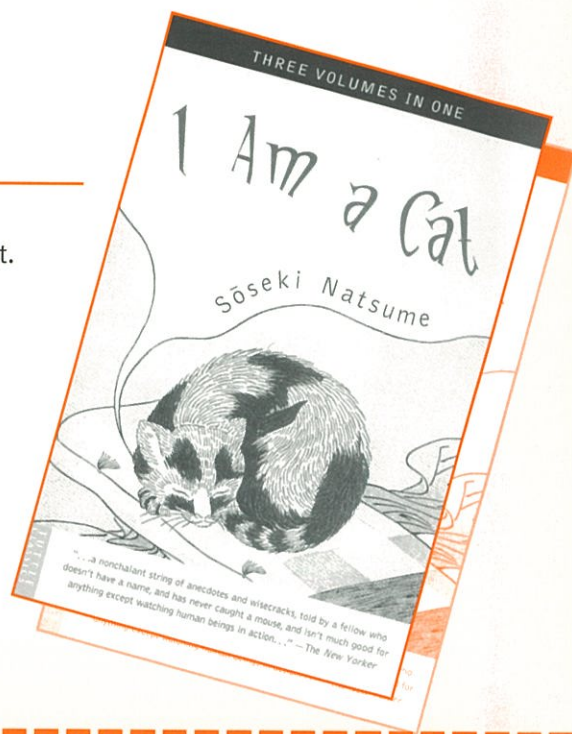
"I Am a Cat"

by Natsume Soseki.

This is a charming book written from the viewpoint of a former alley cat. "I Am a Cat" was written in 1905 by award winning Japanese author Natsume Soseki, during the Meiji era, when Japan was first opening its doors to the west.

This book chronicles the foibles of the narrator, a cheeky and at times irreverent cat, as well as those of the middle class Japanese family with which he lives. It provides a unique and humorous insight into the lives of people of this dramatic period in Japan's history, with the country's uneasy mix of western ideas and Japanese tradition.

"I Am a Cat" is an amusing commentary on human nature from the feline perspective. It is as much a social satire as it is a gem of a comic novel.



Membership Form

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

I apply for membership or renewal of membership of the Society for the year commencing June 2003.

All persons joining from January 2004 remain financial until June 2005.

Subscription ☐ **Life Governor** **\$1,000.00** ☐ **Pensioner Membership** **\$15.00**
Please tick ☐ **Life Membership** **\$250.00** ☐ **Junior Membership** **\$10.00**
 ☐ **Annual Membership** **\$20.00** (State Birthday) _____

Enclosed find a cheque/money order for membership \$ _____ + Donation of \$ _____ **Total \$** _____

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

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss Surname _____ First Name _____

Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact Phone No. _____ Email _____

Date _____ Pension Number _____ Signature _____

CHANGE OF ADDRESS INFORMATION

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

Surname (Block letters) _____ First Name _____

New Address _____ Postcode _____

Old Address _____ Postcode _____

Day in the Life - Executive Officer

Lynda O'Grady by Alice Young

As an organisation, the Cat Protection Society of NSW has gone from strength to strength, due in part to the dedicated and passionate individuals that form its core. Arguably one of the most influential of these has been CPS Executive Officer Lynda O'Grady who has been on board since mid 2000. In the four years since she joined, CPS has continued its evolution (ongoing) into a professionally run animal welfare agency, with new premises which help project that professionalism to the general public.

Originally with a background in publishing and bookselling Lynda was thinking "Where to next?" when she had what can best be described as a life-changing experience. On one of her many busy days driving across Sydney to work she was involved in a car crash, which whilst it left her physically unhurt, served the purpose of making her stop and think about what she really wanted to do in life.

Having been a life-long animal lover with a passion for cats, Lynda decided to apply for an Office Administrator role she saw advertised at CPS, and after an interview was offered the job. Having done her research she was prepared for a salary cut working in the not for profit sector, but not that prepared (!) and decided she couldn't afford to take on her dream job. However, a week later (having lost a lot of sleep) she decided she had to have the job and rang CPS who were still interested in her application. Thus the partnership began.

As with most organisations things change, and CPS has been no different. Lynda grew her role and started looking at improving some of the processes and when the then Manager of CPS left to go overseas the Board offered Lynda the job. After a couple of months as acting Cattery Manager she took up the role and has been a core team member ever since.



Lynda with Rani. Rani was a stray cat adopted from the CPS.

There have been plenty of projects to keep her busy in this time - the renovation of the CPS premises was a monumental effort and project managing that took a lot of focus and skills that Lynda didn't even know she had! Computers have been introduced, and now are networked so that all staff can communicate via email and the database.

One of Lynda's key areas of focus in these 4 years has been building a stable and committed team, which by Lynda's own admission are more like family than work colleagues.

Moving forward, Lynda's aim for 2005/2006 is to consolidate the good work of the team, and continue the gradual evolution of the organisation through refining the changes that have already been accomplished. She'd like to increase publicity for the organisation, and work on educational campaigns and programs to let the public know about the issues that are important to the well being of cats.

Lynda believes firmly in the ideology of the organisation, particularly the focus on de-sexing, education and responsible re-homing of suitable animals. She feels that re-homing should create a memorable experience for all concerned, with the ultimate goal being that it will be repeatable for the individual and that they will refer others to CPS.

Whilst the role is both extremely challenging and sometimes very difficult, Lynda's take-home message is that no matter how bad a day she's had, when a cat comes up looking for a pat and walks over her keyboard (sometimes deleting the current document!), it puts everything into perspective. And not many people are lucky enough to go to an office every day where next door are a room full of kittens!!! 🐾

NB: all comments and observations are the author's and not Lynda's - she is extremely modest about her achievements and I have taken creative license and used this as an opportunity to highlight some of them - thank you Lynda from all the members of CPS.

Disaster Planning for Your Pet

Lynda O'Grady

Last summer severe bush fires forced many people to evacuate their homes, in October this year floods ravaged communities in NSW, roads may be closed due to chemical spills, homes are destroyed by fire.... Every year people have to evacuate their homes for any number of reasons. Many of us have evacuation and emergency plans for our families and our businesses but not for our pets. As our pets are reliant on us for their safety in an emergency, it's essential to have an emergency plan in place.

Planning Ahead

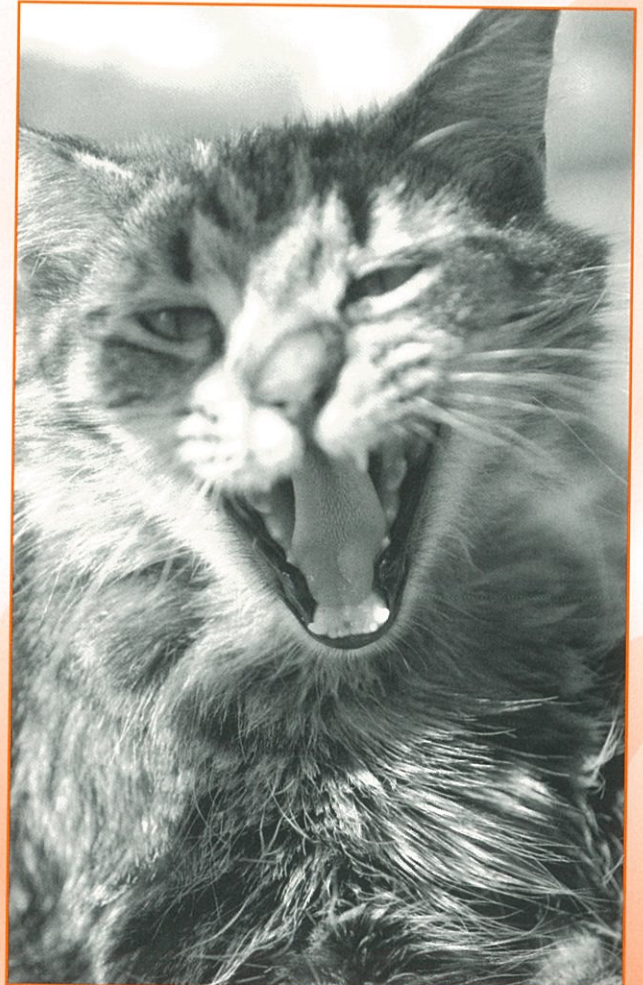
If you and your family have to leave your home in an emergency you should be prepared to take your cat as well. Even if your cat is used to living outdoors, they may be confused or disorientated as conditions around them change. You may believe that you are only going for a few hours, but if you can't get back to your home, your cat may have to go without food, water and medication for a prolonged period of time.

When making a disaster evacuation plan for your cat, be sure that you have considered the following:

- Keep a minimum three-day supply of your pet's food and medication. You will also need: bowls for water and food, a litter tray, litter, bedding, and plastic bags to dispose of cat litter. Make sure you take this when you leave.
- Keep a pet carrier for each cat in an easy to access place.
- Arrange for a trusted neighbour to take your cat if there is an evacuation when you are not at home. Disasters don't only happen when you are there. If there is a chemical spill or gas leak and your suburb is evacuated you may not be allowed back into your home for some time and your cat may go hungry or without vital medication.
- Find a safe place to go ahead of time. Check with family or friends or find out which local hotels and accommodation welcome cats. If you and your family need temporary accommodation you will need somewhere that you can take your cat as well.
- If you can't take your cat to a hotel, find out if there are boarding facilities in the local area that hold pets

in emergency situations. If your cat does need to be boarded you may need to have her fully vaccinated. You will need to bring your vaccination certificate, her medication and food if she is on a special diet.

- Make sure that your pets are wearing ID at all times if possible. Some cats don't like wearing a collar and tag but it's good to have one available for emergency situations. If your cat goes missing you will have a much better chance of getting her back if she is clearly identified.
- Make sure that your cat's microchip details are up to date on the Companion Animal Register at all times. Have a copy of your cat's microchip in a safe place.
- Have a clear photo of your cat in case he or she goes missing and you need to look for her.
- If your family must wait out a storm or emergency in your own home, identify a safe room in your home where both the family and pets can stay



Disaster Planning for Your Pet

Don't wait until the last minute

Sometimes an emergency situation comes out of the blue, but in many cases, there is prior warning that you may have to evacuate. Don't leave evacuation to the last minute. A wasted trip is better than leaving too late. If you do have some advance warning bring your cat inside as soon as possible. If your cat senses that something is wrong she may hide and when the times does come to evacuate she won't be easy to find.

Cats know when it's time to go to the vet and will often run and hide. In an emergency situation cats are likely to exhibit similar behaviour, especially when the cage comes out. You may want to keep your cat in the cage while you are waiting to go or in a small room like a laundry or bathroom, so that when the call to evacuate comes you do not waste precious minutes looking for your cat.

If for some reason you cannot take your cat make sure that plenty of food and water is available until you can return.

Transporting Your Cat

Keep a pet carrier, one for each of your cats, in a place that is easy to access in an emergency. You don't want to have to carry your terrified cat in your arms while you escape a burning building. When carrying your cat in the pet carrier, make sure you cover it with a sheet to reduce anxiety in your cat. Never let your cat out of the pet carrier until you are enclosed area. Your cat will be very scared and likely to run if she is let out. Make sure your cat is wearing a collar with your mobile phone number at all times when she is outside your home.

Who Will Look After Your Cat if You Can't?

Have you considered what would happen to you cat if you weren't around any more? Have you made prior arrangements with your family or friends to look after your cat? Don't just assume that they will be happy to do this. Check with them first and make it clear in your Will what your wishes are for your cat.

If family or friends cannot take the cat you may want to make arrangements with a welfare agency such as RSPCA or Animal Welfare League. Both of these agencies have legacy programs in NSW. Under these programs you leave a minimum amount of money in your Will and they undertake to look after the cat. You should make sure that this is clearly mentioned in your Will and the details checked by a solicitor and confirmed with the welfare agency in question. You can go and visit these facilities in advance to see if you are happy with the arrangements. 🐾



Volunteer Spotlight

Nancy Iredale has been a volunteer at the Cat Protection Society for over 20 years. She is really the true spirit of volunteering personified, giving so much of her time to help cats in need. Without Nancy the Cat Protection Society would not have become the organisation that it is today. Recently Nancy retired from the Board of the Cat Protection Society after many years of dedicated service. A small function was held in her honour to commemorate the work that she has done to improve the lives of cats in NSW. The following speech was given by Shirley Pickler, also a past Director of the Society, and the accompanying pictures were taken on the day by Nance's son.



Dedication to Nance Iredale

I am very happy to have this opportunity to pay tribute to Nancy for her many years of voluntary work. Nancy not only carried out the duties of Hon. Treasurer and Vice President during the major part of her continuous service on the Board of the Society but also was instrumental in establishing and maintaining the welfare service of the Cat Protection Society. This is the same welfare service that survives almost unchanged to this day. In recent years Nancy has devoted much of her time as an opportunity shop worker and is now one of the shop's co-ordinators. So you can see that she knows every facet of the society's business. Her contribution to its success cannot be over emphasised. Nancy has been the driving strength that has held us together through the good and the bad times.

Such was the high regard in which she was held by the fellow Councillors that in 1994 the then Vice President, Beverly Walsh, organised a submission to the appropriate authority that Nancy be considered for an Australian Medal for her community achievements. We were thrilled as was Nancy when she was given an Order of Australia Medal.

My association with Nancy goes back to 1980 when I was Hon. Secretary. She had been a member for some years and had run her own small "Cat Relief Service" with the help of Robin Warner and Sandra Siebert, responding to calls for assistance with stray cats. Nancy had heard about our intention to set up a cat

welfare service and approached our then President, Mr Bill Graham, offering her voluntary services to achieve this. I was delighted when she joined the Board and became the welfare Director as I felt she would be a great asset with her know-how and enthusiasm.

With our limited funds we started off with one ambulance and a paid driver Sandra Siebert. Nancy was joined in the office by volunteers Lena Larsen and June Chapman both of who had extensive experience in fieldwork with cats. These ladies were kept extremely busy taking phone calls, writing up all the jobs coming in and performing a multitude of clerical tasks. They still managed to do their fieldwork in the evenings when the stray cats appear. Nancy contacted just about every veterinarian in Sydney asking if they were prepared to do subsidised desexing of the cats owned by financially disadvantaged callers. Her own vet, Dr Paul Waters of Concord Animal Hospital was the first to agree and has been a staunch supporter of the CPS ever since. We owe him heartfelt gratitude for his unfailing help over the years.

With the arrival of legacies from time to time we were able to purchase more ambulances. Sandy Moss joined us as a driver 20 years ago and has been with us until her retirement in mid 2004. She trained each new welfare officer as they started work. Sandy has had to deal with many distressing situations including picking up injured cats and dogs and coping with belligerent people. This she has done with courage and composure.

As the years passed we were in the financial position to afford more paid staff. With the event of the computer age it was vital to have computer skills. Nancy still had plenty to do. She was Hon. Treasurer for many years and had to keep a watchful eye on our investments and outgoings to make sure that we did not over extend ourselves. She was also Vice President whenever needed, always declining to be the President, as she preferred to do the hands on work quietly in the background.

Throughout all this time Nancy was under constant pressure having to resolve just about every crisis that came up. But she took it all in her stride, even managing to have a good laugh about many of the situations we found ourselves in. Believe me, there was never a dull moment. I could always come to her for advice and valued her suggestions.

One of the aims of our Society had been to have our own cattery. After much time spent viewing premises that proved to be unsuitable it was finally decided we could

Volunteer Spotlight

renovate the entire building to suit a cattery as well as rooms for administration and board meetings. This building was very old when purchased by us in the late 70's and for a long time has needed extensive repairs.

Nancy retired as welfare Director and now uses her organisational abilities and her energy to her favourite interest - the Op Shop and is one of the co-ordinators. So we can expect to

see her there, we hope for a long time yet.

Nancy's skills and hard work has saved this Society thousands of dollars and we can never adequately thank her for her loyalty and dedication. I also wish to thank her personally for her support to me whenever I asked for advice and her willingness to listen. We salute you as a compassionate and really 'gutsy' lady. Enjoy your retirement Nancy. 🍷



Good Samaritan

Donkey Sanctuary

The Good Samaritan Donkey Sanctuary Inc ("GSDS Inc") is a non-profit, self-funded charitable organisation specialising in all aspects of donkey welfare. The dedicated people at GSDS Inc provide intensive care, refuge and protection for orphaned, abandoned, neglected, mistreated and rescued donkeys for the rest of their lives.

GSDS Inc was established in 1990 after decades of donkey welfare work and is the first 100% donkey only welfare organisation in Australia. GSDS Inc really understand donkeys and offer all their donkeys a happy, secure and carefree life.

GSDS Inc cares for up to approximately 150 donkeys at any given time and the donkeys have their own huge paddocks and even a large sheds in which to take shelter from bad weather.

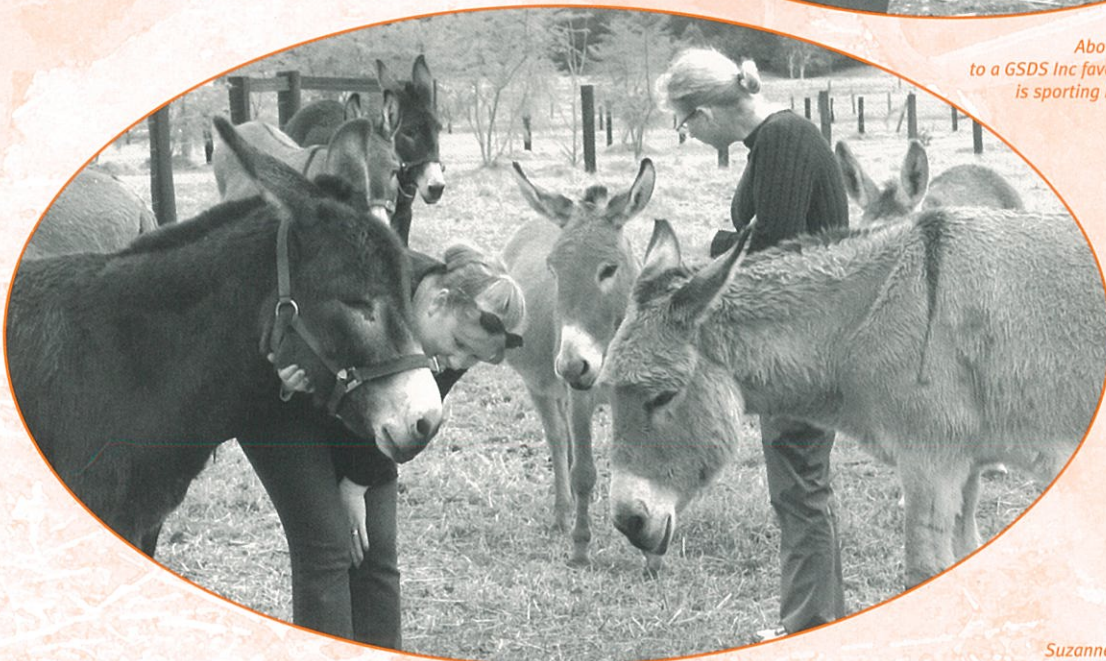


GSDS Inc have a donkey sponsorship program in place but all donations are gratefully accepted and can be sent care of GSDS Inc, care of Post Office, Clarence Town, NSW, 2321.

Visits to the GSDS Inc are welcomed by appointment during autumn, winter and spring. To arrange a visit, phone Jo-Anne Kokas on (02) 4996-5596. 🐾



Above: Jackie Rares saying hello to a GSDS Inc favourite, 50 year old Alice who is sporting her very smart winter jacket.



Left: Jackie Rares and Suzanne Jenkins working the crowd.

Forget-Me-Not



Dinah

October 1988 - 21st May 2004

Beautiful in nature as well as in looks

As a kitten Dinah was given a chance in life by the Cat Protection Society in 1988. For this I am so grateful as I am the beneficiary of many years of joy, friendship and affection which Dinah gave to me and her companion Merlin

Note: New play equipment was donated for the current CPS cats in Dinah's name, so she will bring happiness to many other cats in the future



Katrina

1990- 2004

For my beloved Katrina who gave me 11 years of friendship and love. You were 3 years old when you were given to me and straight away you 'took me in'. You settled in as if you were born in my home. Thank you, you were very special.

AUDREY TONKIN

Op shop volunteer

Thank You

The Cat Protection Society could not continue without the help of volunteers, those people who give their time and skills to help our cats and continue our work.

The Cat Protection Society would like to give a special Thank You to the following people and organisations:

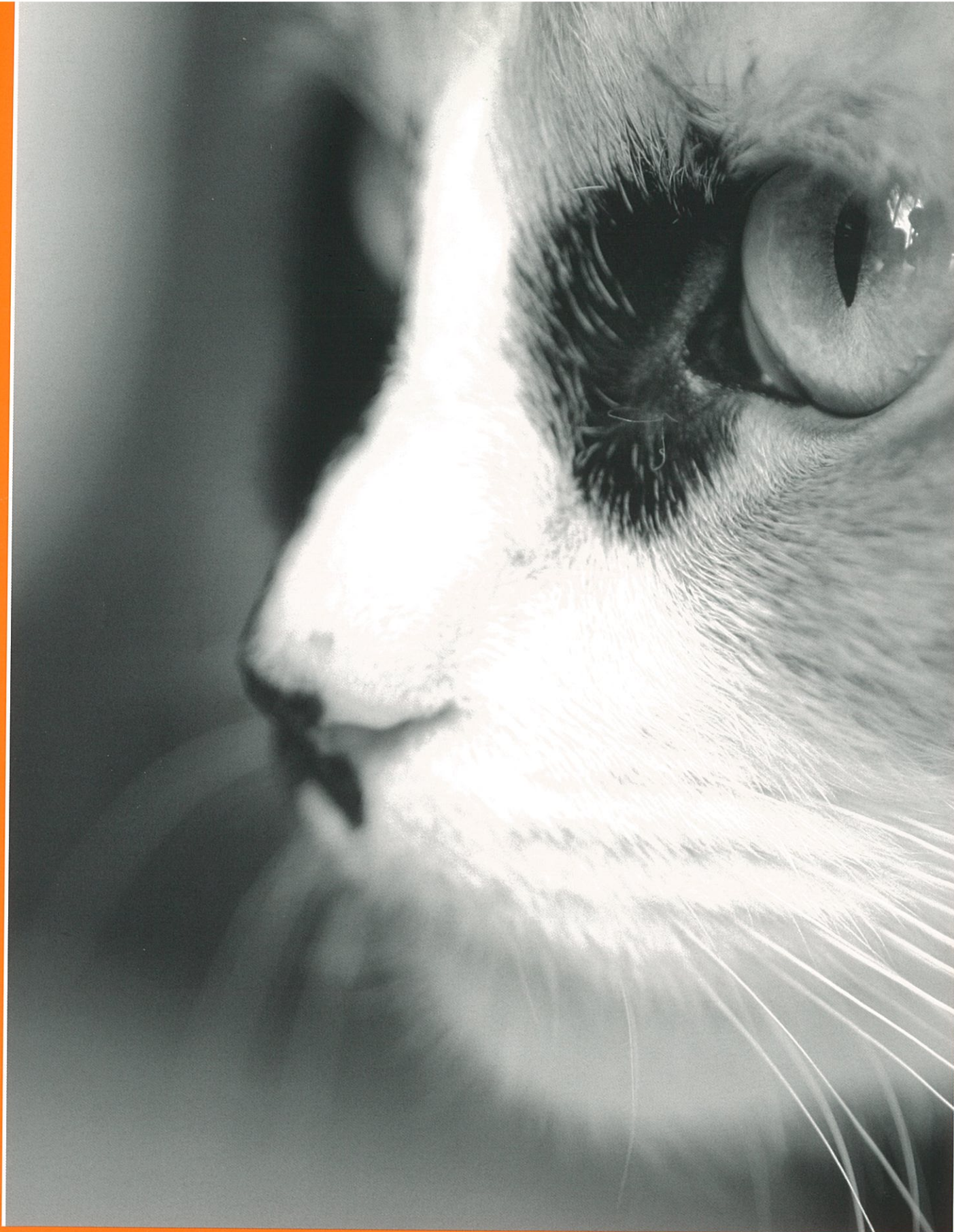
Avant Card - Thanks to the Avant Card people for sponsoring the Society and producing and distributing a free postcard for us.

Thank you also to Alisha Stanley and Penelope Clay who are responsible for the design and photography of our Avant Card. Alisha & Penelope also were responsible for our 2004 Christmas Cards.

Thank you to cartoonist Cindy Loughhead who has donated her wonderful cartoons for our journal

Thank to Marcus Mok, a professional photographer who has taken photos of our beautiful cats and kittens. Marcus's photos are on the cover, the back and the centrefold of this journal. Watch out for more of Marcus's photos in coming journals and on our website.

Thank you to Grace Widders and all at the Hunters Hill Quilters group who donated a beautiful cat quilt. The quilt was sold for \$300 and profits went towards our work



cat protection society
OF NSW



103 Enmore Rd Newtown 2042

Welfare Office

Ph 9519 7201 Fax: 95578052

Adoption Centre:

Ph 95574818

Website:

catprotection.org.au

E-mail:

info@catprotection.org.au

Opportunity Shop:

Ph 9546 2072