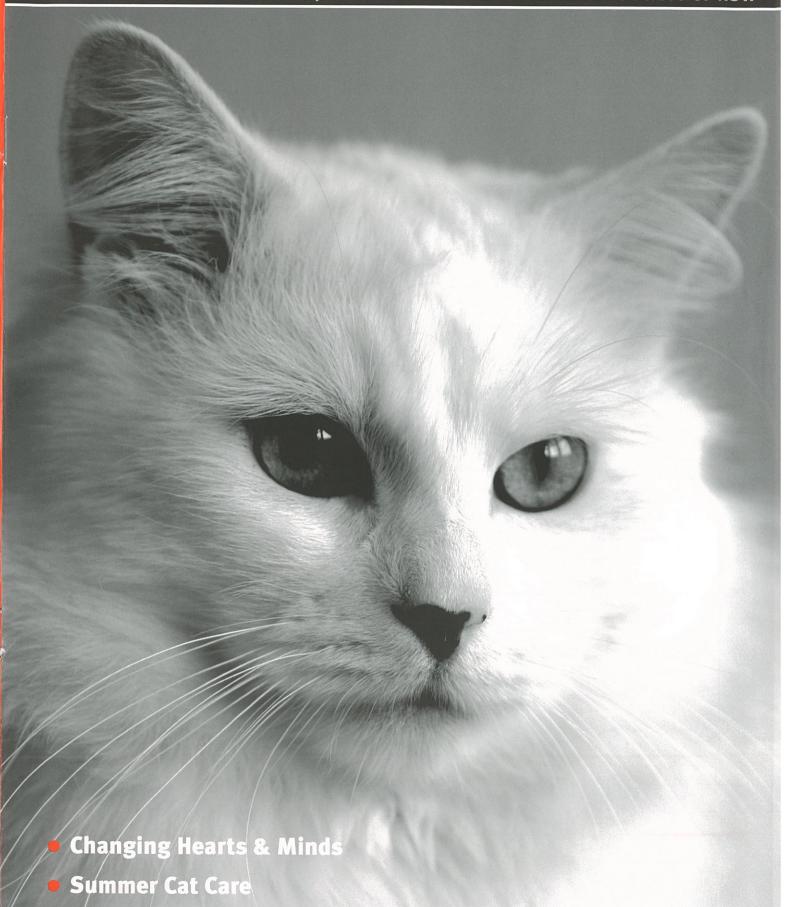
Cat Abbairs



SUMMER 2006

THE JOURNAL FROM THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW



cat protection society

ABN 81 610 951 615

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103 Enmore Rd Newtown 2042

Welfare Office: Ph 9519 7201 Fax: 9557 8052

Adoption Centre: Ph 9557 4818 Website: www.catprotection.org.au E-mail: info@catprotection.org.au

Opportunity Shop:

105 Enmore Rd Newtown 2042, Ph 9516 2072

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Front & Back Cover:

Photographs courtesy of Marcos 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

he AGM was held on 28 October. Thank you to those who attended. The Committee for 2005o6 was re-elected and is dedicated to makina 2007 a successful one for cat protection.

At the meeting, Nerida spoke about 'A day in the life of a welfare officer'. The welfare officers are vital to our aims in the coming year. We aim towards more cats being desexed (3,200 this year) and rehoming more of our adult cats. The kittens rehome themselves!

Mid-year our executive officer Cate Kerr relocated to overseas. We welcome Kristina Vesk to the position of chief executive officer. Kristina comes to us with a background in corporate, government and not-for-profit, and has big plans for Cat Protection particularly in the field of seeking sponsorship, donations and raising our profile. Welcome aboard

Georgina Smith took over as cattery manager when Tara Dethridge left us to work for Sydney City Council. Georgina has been with us for seven years, starting as a volunteer, then a casual and then full-time in the cattery. This experience will be invaluable in her new

Thank you to all our staff and the volunteers, particularly the Op Shop, who this year raised \$129,403!

In October the Op Shop moved from 87 to 105 Enmore Road - next door to our office. Congratulations to Lynda Gordon-Squire who coordinated the move and to the band of male and female volunteers who worked so hard moving all the Op Shop wares.

We wish all our members a safe and happy 2007.

NITA HARVEY PRESIDENT

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STOP PRESS

Our sincere apologies for the lateness of this issue of the journal. We experienced a number of 'hiccups' in late 2006 including plumbing, air conditioning and other building matters all against the backdrop of an incredibly busy kitten season. We hope you'll understand we put the needs of our feline friends ahead of journal production. We'll be back on track with the next issue.

Thank you for your patience.

A Big Thank You to Our Supporters!

he Cat Protection Society would like to thank all our members, donors and volunteers for your support throughout 2006.

We would also like to thank the following businesses:

Rydges Camperdown

9 Missenden Road Camperdown NSW 2050

T 02 9516 1522

www.Rydges.com/camperdown

for supporting our Board strategic planning day

Sydenham Cellars

292 Unwins Bridge Road Sydenham NSW 2044

T 02 9557 7022

for providing gifts for our volunteers

Darrell Lea

makers of sweet treats such as chocolate, liquorice and Black Cats! There are Darrell Lea stores and outlets throughout Australia

www.dlea.com.au

for providing gifts for our volunteers

Hill's Pet Nutrition

All our cats at CPS enjoy a healthy balanced Science Diet generously provided by Hill's. You can buy Hill's pet food at the CPS and good vet clinics.

www.hillspet.com

for providing food for our cats and kittens

Thank you to all our supporters!

You can show your thanks to our business supporters by choosing their products and services.



Kristina Vesk Chief Executive Officer

am delighted to have joined the Cat
Protection Society. Mine has been a lifetime
spent with cats, and to find myself now
working with them is simply wonderful.

Much has been written about people's relationships with cats and many artists have explored the beauty and mystery of cats. The respect of a cat is earned, and this is what makes them special to me. It's not a one-way relationship. They are great communicators when you learn to listen to them, and they are very loving when loved in return. They have a sense of humour and adventure. They possess a great dignity that more people should have. And of course, they are good looking, warm and lovely to pat.

Sadly, some people choose to abuse cats and kittens, taking advantage of their trusting nature and the fact that, unlike big dogs, they cannot fight back. There is a growing body of evidence linking the relationship between the abuse of animals and violence towards people. It has been estimated that about one-third of children exposed to domestic violence will act out their anger often against their own pets. Animal cruelty is often about power and control. The Humane Society in the United States confirms that researchers, the FBI and other law enforcement agencies have linked animal cruelty to domestic violence, child abuse and serial killing.

Psychology Professor Frank Ascione from Utah State University is a renowned academic who studies the links between people who abuse animals and people. In 2006 he told ABC radio program AM that "knowing someone has a history of animal abuse is a red flag that there may be other criminal activity separate from animal abuse present in that person's background."

In New South Wales, a police and animal welfare taskforce was established to help identify risk indicators. Mark Lawrie, chief vet with the RSPCA, told AM that the increased flow of information between police and the RSPCA was paying off.

But how do we try to prevent people committing animal cruelty in the first place?

The Cat Protection Society is proud to be working with the RSPCA on its humane education program, which has been developed for school children from Kindergarten to Year 6. Our Welfare Co-ordinator, Nerida Atkin, has been trained in the programs and will be delivering them to school children around Sydney in 2007. For more information on the program, see our story Changing Hearts and Minds.

Of course, it's not just children who need educating! Many rational adults have quite irrational views about cats.

We can help to educate the community in a number of ways:

- By being responsible cat owners keeping our cats curfewed at night, supervised or indoors in the day, desexed and microchipped - we demonstrate that cats and wildlife can coexist safely
- By telling friends, neighbours, colleagues about the need to ensure cats are desexed (as young as possible), microchipped and registered
- By writing letters to our local papers or raising animal welfare issues with our local members of Parliament.

Most people are reasonable and kind. Some people are thoughtless. A very small minority are cruel.

Animal cruelty is illegal.

Report cruelty to animals by calling the RSPCA's cruelty hotline on **(02) 9770 7555**. For more information, refer to their website,

www.rspcansw.org.au

Renewal Reminder_

If you have not yet renewed your Cat Protection membership, please do so, to help us continue our life-saving work.

Rates:				
	Annual Membership Junior Member		\$10.00 \$250.00 \$1000.00	
	New Member Renewal	\$		
	Membership	\$		
	Donation	\$		
	Special Cat donation	\$		
	Total	\$		
	/ Money Order make payable to Cat Protection S	Society of N	SW)	
Visa	Mastercard Bankcard			
Card No		/_		
Expiry Date	e / Name on Card			
	s/Miss Surname:			
Address: _				
Suburb:		State	Postcode	
Signature:				
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If you have	changed your name/address in t	he past yea	r please fill in this section	
	s/Miss Surname:			
	SS:			
Suburb:		State	Postcode	
Signature:				
Please send to: 103 Enmore Rd, Enmore, NSW 2042				
Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you require a receipt				

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If you would like to see this vital work continued you can:

♥ Become A Regular Donor

Becoming a Regular Donor means that a regular donation, of a nominated amount of money, can be debited from your credit card on a regular basis.

Regular Donors

Receive an official letter and a certificate; a yearly Thank You Letter; and update about how this money has been used.

Become a regular donor.

We have had a good response to our regular donations program.

Please return to: Cat Protection Society of NSW, 103 Enmore Rd, Newtown 2042 phone 9519 7201 f ax 9557 8052 website www.catprotection.org.au First Name: _____ Family Name: _____ Address: ______ Postcode: ______ E-mail: _____ Phone Evening: Date: Phone Day: Type of Donation: One-off Donation Regular Donor Program **Payment Method for One-off Donation:** Cheque/Money Order Visa Bankcard Mastercard Payment Method: Cardholder's Name: Cardholder's Signature:____ **Payment Authorisation for Regular Donation:** Bankcard Mastercard Credit Card Type: Card No _____/___/____/______Expiry Date ___/___ Interval for Regular Donation: Amount of Regular Donation:\$____ Monthly (12 Payments per year) Every Two Months (6 payments per year) Quarterly (4 payments per year) Duration of Regular Donation: 6 Months 1 Year 2 Years Until further notice

I authorise the deduction of the above amounts from my bank as a donation to the Cat Protection Society of NSW

Cats in the News

t the October conference of the NSW
Local Government Association, delegates
voted to support the compulsory
desexing of cats. However, it is the NSW
Parliament and not the Local Government
Association that makes the law, so the proposal
was largely symbolic.

It does show increasing support for the concept of compulsory desexing but the failure by so many councils to address the issue of unwanted companion animals suggests that the vote was more about 'passing the buck' than doing anything constructive.

On 28 October, CPS President Nita Harvey had this letter published in the Sydney Morning Herald.

"One cat and her offspring, breeding for seven years, can result in 420,000 cats. Tens of thousands of unwanted cats are euthanased each year. People need to work together to prevent this tragedy.

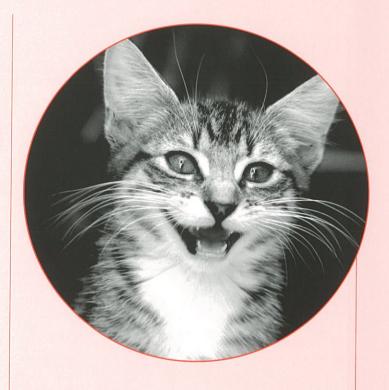
"The Cat Protection Society of NSW promotes the compulsory desexing of any cat not registered with a registered breeder, but we strongly believe community education and awareness are the keys to promoting responsible cat care.

"Experience shows that simply having a law making desexing compulsory would not achieve its aims unless supported by comprehensive community education, financial support for low income pet carers to have their animals desexed, and animal welfare services such as rehoming centres. Successful cat protection considers the needs of people as well as cats."

Kitten season started a few weeks late this year but since it began, the number of kittens at CPS has continued to grow. We told our story to The Sun-Herald who published "Paws and reflect before giving kittens as Christmas gifts this year" on 3 December. The article reinforced the messages about desexing and responsible cat ownership.

CPS volunteer, Susan Mullan, wrote a letter to her local paper in response to an article on feral cats. Unfortunately it wasn't published but we've reproduced Susan's letter here.

"I feel sympathy for the lady from George's Hall who was bitten on the hand by a feral cat and had to spend



time in hospital. Feral cats are a problem, however they are a direct result of totally irresponsible animal owners who do not have their cats desexed.

"A cat cannot take itself off to the vet and ask to be desexed, but its owner can. Unwanted cats turn into feral cats and the end result is much suffering. This is actually a problem caused by people. Pet shops who cater to impulse buying and sell undesexed cats and kittens are a cause. Backyard breeders who sell undesexed cats and kittens are a cause. Local papers who allow people to sell undesexed cats and kittens are a cause. These people are all motivated by profit and have no regard for the welfare of the animals.

"People must realise that these animals are part of our environment and it is up to us to protect and care for our environment. Even the poorest people have no excuse for not desexing their cats as there are many animal welfare organisations that do very cheap desexing, many times for free. Local councils need to take responsibility and make desexing compulsory and free. This is the way to end the unwanted cat population. Marrickville Council did free desexing for the month of October so it can be done.

"There are over 200,000 animals euthanased every year in Australia alone. This is a very sad reflection on a very irresponsible and uncaring society."



LOOKENA FOR A LONG-TERM S RELATIONSTON

he Cat Protection Society of NSW Inc. has many abandoned and unwanted cats and kittens desperately needing good homes.

If you are prepared to give a safe and caring home to a cat or kitten, and make a long-term commitment to a feline friend, then please contact our Adoption Centre:

Cat Protection Society of NSW Inc.

Adoption Centre 103 Enmore Rd Newtown NSW 2042

Ph: (02) 9519 7201 or (02) 9557 4818

Opening Hours

We are open 7 days a week.

Sunday to Friday 11am - 2.30pm Saturday 10am - 3.30pm

All cats and kittens are microchipped, desexed and vaccinated and are all \$130.

Please contact us on 9557 4818 or

info@catprotection.org.au

for more information on the lovely cats and kittens available for adoption.

www.catprotection.org.au

Scratching

Rehomed cats



Well, albeit that we have only just got home Tyrone has happily made himself very comfortable! No hiding anywhere! Was not interested in his bed but

promptly selected a comfy spot on ours! Just thought I'd let you know it appears that he is settling in well! Will keep you posted on his progress and update you with photos.

Thanks heaps for everything.

LAZ AND BLAS



Hi, I adopted Bam Bam and Christina, I forgot to send you these pics from a while ago They're doing really well. They're getting more and more grown up everyday. Thanks, they have been a lifesaver for

> Cheers, BRADLEY WONG

Hello,

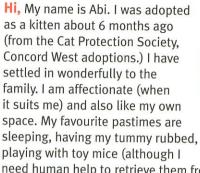
Here are some pictures of Polar Bear, now also known as "Mr Berry". He's a lovely boy, and we're having a lot of fun with him. Thanks and keep the good work going!

> Sincerely, GUILLAUME & MEGAN

Hi Georgie,

As promised here is a pic of my baby Moe - born approx. 29th July, he has brought so much joy to my life. Thank you everyone at the Cat Protection Society for all your support.

REGARDS, KATE NEWCOMBE



need human help to retrieve them from under the furniture!) chasing after pieces of ribbon that my 4 year old human "sister", Sophie, drags around the house for me, climbing trees and basically getting into anything and everything that's happening in MY household. A few weeks ago I got a skin condition on my neck and caused my owners much worry and grief. They had to give me some pills that my vet prescribed to make me better. I would fool them by pretending I had taken the pill and then spit it out when they weren't looking! Thank you, Cat Protection Society for saving me and finding me a home where I am loved and fit in purr-fectly!

ABI THE TABBY

Hi, I have been meaning to send you all an email for guite a while now and I have only just gotten around to it. About 4 months ago we adopted a beautiful pure white kitten with blue eyes who you had named Cleo and who you might remember because she is deaf. We chose her because she seemed really sweet natured and

I don't know, it just fitted. From the moment we got her home she was eager to explore and claim the house as her own. She has proved to be the perfect addition to our little family and gives us endless hours of amusement. She is a funny little cat because she loves to play and chase and pounce on us, but at the same time loves to come and cuddle up. She trusts us completely and all of our friends and family are very taken with her. Being unable to hear us doesn't seem to bother her, particularly because we live in an old semi with bare wood floors so I think she can always feel us coming. I have attached a picture of her so you can see what a stunning cat she has grown into. Thanks for taking such good care of her, I doubt she would be so trusting of our care otherwise.



PS - we renamed her Ophelia - we figured such a pretty girl needed a pretty name (and besides she is a little bit nuts and has a bizarre fascination with water).





me.





Scratching Post Rel

Rehomed cats

Dear Cat Protection Society

I adopted a lovely little tabby about two months ago and I was asked to send some

pictures so you can see how she is getting on. She was called Tama - and I decided that the name you gave her really suits her, so Tama she stayed. She was only with you for four days, so I am not sure if you will remember her.

Although shy on her first night, by day two, Tama was sitting on the sofa with me chatting about the television (she likes the new Doctor Who!) and by day three she was on my knee. Although she was a little sick in her first week (she had a cold, but the vet checked her out, it wasn't flu) this allowed us to get close. Tama didn't play much at first, she was just happy to sit and have pats, now she likes playing all the time - her favourite toys being her stuffed mouse (that gets ritually killed every night, then put under my nose in the morning) and her tunnel.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR LOVELY TAMA.

Hello

I wanted to give you an update on 'Cute' (now 'Rascal') who my partner and I adopted from you in July.

Rascal now rules the roost. He is very loved and probably a little bit spoilt as life really does revolve around him. He has settled in very well and seems very happy in his new home especially as he gets played with and patted on a very regular basis. We have 'built' a cat proof balcony which is now his - much to the strata's delight as he was a bit of a daredevil and threatened to jump off on a couple of occasions. He also loves his heated bed and following us around the house being quite vocal.

We feel very lucky that we found Rascal and wanted to say thank you for all your help on advising us of a suitable adoption. We were also really pleased to adopt an adult cat. Firstly, as I understand they are harder to rehome which is very sad but also because his personality from the moment we met him obviously suited ours and it has been a very easy transition for all of us because of that.

Thanks again and I will keep in touch.

LUCY AND RASCAL (CUTE)

Dear CPS,

Finally after 9 years I decided to send an email about Shiva. Better late than never!

On 28 January 1997 I thought to adopt a CPS kitten from Concord Vets. I had just lost my last cat so by taking on another cat, almost immediately, this would help in assisting with my grieving and at the same time, give some sad cat in a cage a loving, secure home NOW, to make room for another homeless. We would be helping each other heal.

There were cages full of cute kittens meowing out to me but none stood out like the black long haired adult cat, curled up in the kitty litter with her paw over her face, with only one beautiful open eye staring up at me. On the cage was a card with the words 'Nervous Cat. 1 yr old.' As we assessed each other I said, "Sweetheart, what are you doing here?" With that she gets up from her kitty litter and meows out as she approaches the front of the cage. I pick her up to have her place

her paws around my neck to start purring and licking my nose as I kissed her face.

"Nervous Cat?" I thought.

Paul Waters, the vet at the time, walked by while I held her in my arms. I noticed her eyes widen as if she was going to attack him. When Paul looked back at her she gave him the biggest hiss. I laughed and realised that this is my kind of cat, the kind with attitude.

I affectionately call Shiva my mummy cat, for she is the nurturer and protector. Shiva can fool any cat into thinking that she is almighty like her name suggests. Whenever I have been sick or upset, Shiva has been there for me by my side. Should I leave our territory to speak to neighbours, she meows out for me to come back home. If I ignore her, she comes to collect me. We love each other so much!

KANELLI XX

To contribute to "Scratching Post" email us at: info@catprotection.org.au or mail to: 103 Enmore Road, Newtown 2042

Summer Cat Care



ummer 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.

Hazards

Collars: If you 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. While this may not stop them 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 pot plant filled with any or a combination of cat grass, catmint or catnip. Most cats love a bit of greenery to chew on.

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.

Summer Cat Care

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.

Ticks

There are many different types of ticks in Australia, but it is the paralysis tick which can be fatal. It is found primarily in coastal areas on the Australian east coast.

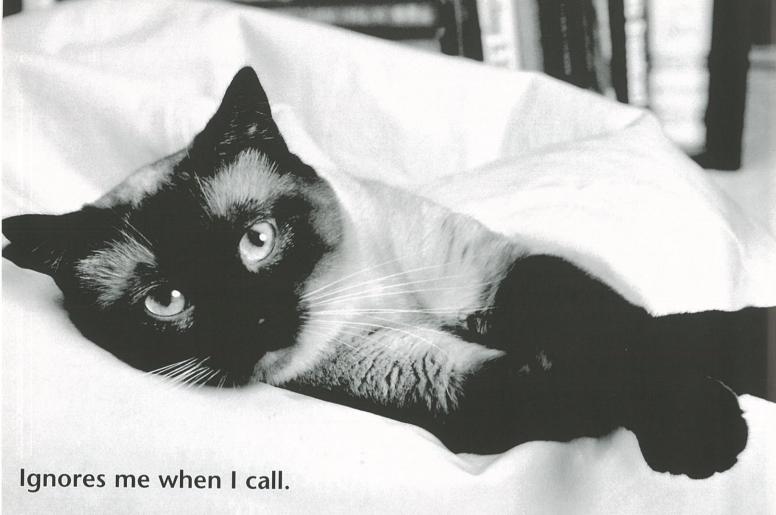
Ticks attach themselves to their host (often cats or dogs) and suck the blood – while doing this the tick releases a toxin into the host, they become ill very quickly and it is important that you seek veterinary assistance as soon as you find a tick or have a cat with any of these symptoms: uncoordinated, 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.



Water

Apart from the normal balanced diet your cat requires, in summer the main issue is water. Ensure they have 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 is a good idea in the water bowl). 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.



Immovable from her favourite spot.

Insists on being petted at midnight.



Comes running at feeding time.

And she's been this way since she was a kitten. For all the things that make her your cat, feed her Hill's* Science Diet* brand cat food. It's the only dry premium cat food that gives her the great taste she craves and the Superior Antioxidant Formula¹ she needs. After all, she is one of a kind and her food should be, too.



Available exclusively at premium pet food retailers RSPCA and veterinarians. For more information, visit www.ScienceDiet.com.au





Changing Hearts & Minds Changing Hearts & Minds

he RSPCA's Humane Education Program teaches kindness to animals and helps to develop empathy in students.

Already more than 20,000 infants and primary school children in New South Wales have enjoyed the program.

The Cat Protection Society is proud to be involved in this valuable initiative. Our Welfare Co-ordinator, Nerida Atkin - who was studying to be a teacher before she made the career change to animal welfare - has been trained to deliver the program and is looking forward to visiting schools in our area in 2007.

The program is linked to the curriculum, with four levels:

- Kindy/Early Stage 1 is the 'prevent a bite' program and helps children learn the correct and safe way to interact with dogs
- Years 1 & 2 are taught about responsible pet ownership and the role of animal shelters in society

- Years 3 & 4 receive our favourite program cat tales! This lesson looks at cats big and small, from the sabre-toothed tiger to the moggy as well as examining the relationship between cats and people throughout history
- Years 5 & 6 are involved in 'playing my part' which looks at the role of charities in our community, specifically focusing on animal charities and some of the campaigns to help animals.

The RSPCA has also published a series of children's books, RSPCA Tales linked to the schools curriculum. Based on true stories, the books show the impact of cruelty and neglect from the animals' points of view. Each book has a happy ending and highlights what people can do to better look after their animals.

These initiatives should contribute a great deal to how our future generations regard and care for their pets.

For more information go to www.rspcansw.org.au 👻

Helping Cats in the Community

ne of the vital aspects of our work at CPS is assisting cats in the community. Our welfare officers are on the road in their specially designed, air conditioned cat vans five days a week, travelling around Sydney picking up stray and unwanted cats, and assisting low-income cat owners with a pick-up and drop-off service to have their cats desexed. We have a wonderful network of veterinary clinics who assist us with discount desexing.

In their role, the welfare officers also provide essential information to cat owners about caring for their cats, offering advice and assistance. Our welfare officers have helped people who were 'cat hoarders' to reduce their number of pets to a manageable level, and they've worked with people living on housing estates with large populations of stray cats.

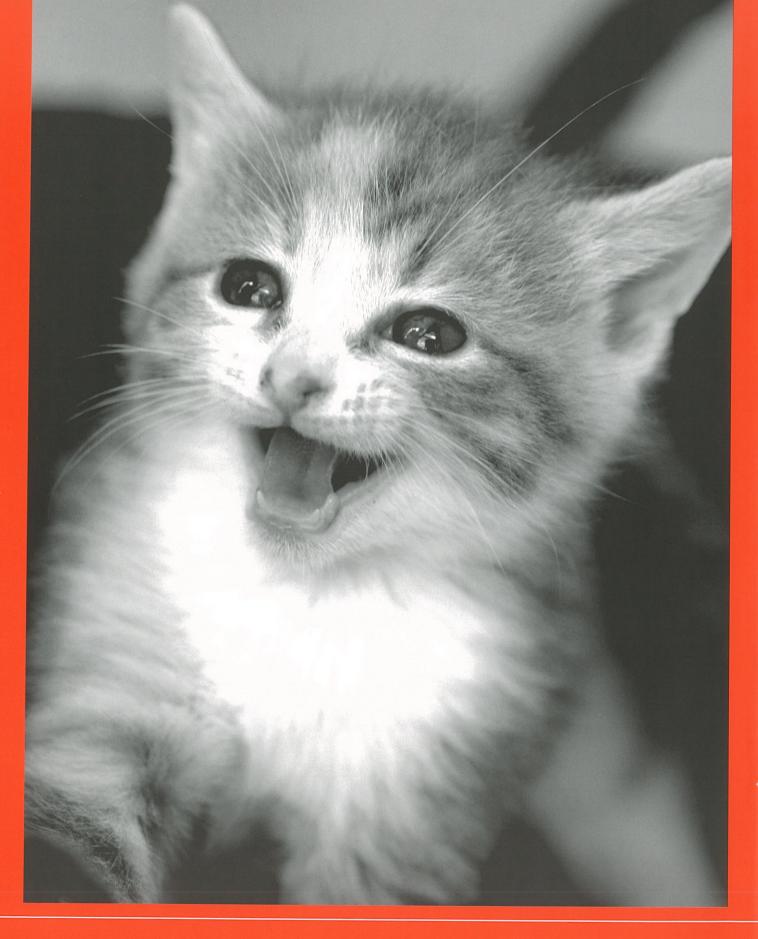
There are many wonderful people in the community who don't own cats of their own but take on the responsibility of cat welfare because they care. It is a real pleasure to work in partnership with them

to help reduce the suffering experienced by stray cats. One man encouraged the stray mother cats on his housing estate to come close to his home so he could feed them until the kittens were old enough for CPS to safely trap the mothers and kittens and assess them for re-homing. The generosity of this man was all the greater since he was not well-off.

The demand for our welfare services is always high and unfortunately this leads to waiting lists. We try to encourage people to find alternatives where possible, but we understand that not everyone can do this.

We're currently reviewing the way in which we deliver our welfare services, trying to see whether we can increase the volume of work we do without increasing our costs. As you can imagine, our costs are quite high, with wages, vet bills, petrol and even road tolls all contributing to expenses.

We regard our community work as high priority – and we know the more cats we desex now, the fewer unwanted cats there will be in the future.



cat protection society
OF NSW

103 Enmore Rd Newtown 2042

Welfare Office Ph 95
Adoption Centre:
Website: w
E-mail: ir
Opportunity Shop
105 Enmore Rd. Newtown

Ph 9519 7201 Fax: 9557 8052 Ph 9557 4818 www.catprotection.org.au info@catprotection.org.au

Ph 9516 2072